

WOODLAWN UNITED CHURCH

54 Woodlawn Road, Dartmouth, NS B2W 2S1

www.woodlawnunited.ca

T: 902-434-8302



Welcome
Back
B

Back in 2009, a movement began in North America known as "Back to Church Sunday." It started as a call to action and invitation – action for the church, invitation for the world. A single-day event focused

on extending the invitation of love, peace, and hope to our friends and neighbours. It came about as church leaders began to look for ways to involve their congregations in reaching out and inviting friends, neighbours and coworkers to come back to, or try church for the first time. Participating churches are encouraged to be a welcoming, inviting environment for all. As we find ourselves in the waning days of summer and moving into the weeks ahead, let us do our part to say not only "Welcome Back!" to old friends but "Welcome" to visitors and newcomers. Now, more than ever, many people need a caring community where they can belong, grow and flourish. A community rooted in the way of Jesus.

Woodlawn's official "Welcome Back" Sunday is September 11. Sunday school registration begins, the choir will be singing and members of our Stewardship Team will be offering refreshments after the service. So "welcome back Woodlawners!" It's time to love again, serve again, and hope again – by Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner

HEARTFELT THANKS FROM THE SAMS FAMILY

Heartfelt thanks to our Woodlawn United Family for your cards, letters, phone calls, visits and prayers during Ralph's illness. Your support was comforting and uplifting. Covid made a difficult time even more challenging, thank you for helping us get through it. Thanks also to those who made donations to the Accessibility Fund in recognition of Ralph's 90th birthday. ~ The Sams Family

www.woodlawnunited.ca

FEATURES THIS MONTH

OUR STORIES

BAPTISMS

FROM DARTMOUTH WITH LOVE

The story of a Ukraine host

WORD IN MY HEART ~ REV. MARY LYNNE

HOPE HAPPENS HERE

Plans to give you hope

MUSIC NOTES

The Sound of Fall

MONTHLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

RENTAL GROUPS RETURN

Matthew 25: 31-40.

"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

CONTACT US



Woodlawn United
Church

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ORGANIST

Gus Webb

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YOUTH COORDINATOR:

Maggie Healy

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GETTING INVOLVED

Within WUC there are Ministry Teams which are responsible for different areas of Church Life.
If you would like to know more or get involved with one of these please email the contact person.

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COMMUNITY OF CARE: Jerry Jackson
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MUSIC NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome back, Woodlawn! Our Woodlawn Choir will resume rehearsals on Thursday, September 8, at 7pm. If you like to sing, we have a spot for you! Come and bring a friend. Woodlawn is developing ideas for a variety of musical endeavors for all ages throughout the year, so stay tuned for details. If you have suggestions or questions about our music program, please call June Rigden (902)233-9379.

RALPH & DOROTHY SAMS

ENGRAVED BRICK ORDERS We are now accepting orders for engraved bricks. The order form and directions are on our website under donations. We hope to complete this order by mid-Sept. This is an excellent way to honour a relative or close friend. We also have a builders section for

those just wanting to support the Accessibility project. More than 100 bricks are already laid on our walls. Please stop by the main hallway to view. If you have any questions, please contact Ralph (902) 434-7786 or email ralphsams@ns.sympatico.ca Thank you for your continued support.



WOODLAWN'S FAMOUS FISH CHOWDER RETURNS!

Summer break can often feel like forever when it comes to missing Woodlawn's famous fish chowder! But have no fear, it's back and we can't wait to celebrate fall with our first fish chowder, on Saturday October 1st. This will be a drive through-take out fish chowder lunch featuring all the same delicious ingredients, as only Ralph would approve! The Chowder order form will be sent out on September 22nd, and will also be available on the website, so

watch for it. Chowder pick up times will remain the same. You can look forward to chowder, rolls from the Fancy Lebanese Bakery and dessert choice of pumpkin or apple pie, or the more recent offering – carrot cake. The most popular lunch in Woodlawn!

COMMUNITY BARBECUE The Woodlawn Residents Association will be holding a community barbecue on Saturday September 24th, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM in the Woodlawn United Church parking lot, next to Morash Pond. This event will feature many community partners including the HRM Fire department (fire truck), Canadian Red Cross, Woodlawn Public Library, and a local dance school. For more information please visit their website at woodlawnresidents.ca

ELLIS BROTHERS We will begin our fall season of concerts on Sunday, September 25 at 2:00 PM with a concert by the Ellis Bros. Don Hill had seen these folks perform last spring and highly recommended them. We are delighted to have them booked for this show and another in December. Ticket info and posters available early September.

OUR STORIES

SUMMER BAPTISM On Saturday, August 14th, James Christopher Allen Webb, son of Gus and Lisa Webb, and Annie Elliott Allen, daughter of Nick and Emily Allen, were baptised at Woodlawn. Both are grandchildren to Jim and Nancy Allen. Special thanks to those involved in the tech and music that day - Steve Rigden, June Rigden, Paul Whyte, and Steven Heisler.



MY INTERNATIONAL SUMMER

A STORY OF COMPASSION & FRIENDSHIP

By Joan Mikkelsen



"I felt I had to do something..."

- Joan Mikkelsen

Joan's story

Before I tell my story of hosting a woman from Ukraine, I first want to say I was overwhelmed with the support from friends, family, and especially my Woodlawn United Church family. You have been so caring, and so generous with your donation of items to help Tania (Tetiana) set up in her new apartment, which she is sharing with another Ukrainian woman who arrived in Canada a week before she did. Thank you so very much.

After seeing news coverage of the horrific events happening in Ukraine, I woke up one morning feeling very blessed to live in Canada and thought I just had to help. I thought about my paternal grandparents who received support when they immigrated to Canada from Denmark 110 years ago, and now it was my turn to help.

Ukrainians have been fleeing from their war-torn country and are arriving in Canada with what they can carry. It is unimaginable what some have witnessed and have been through. Along with the need to feel safe, when they arrive in their new country they have many basic needs that we take for granted. I sent my application to host to the Ukrainian Canadian Congress NS Branch. However, a Facebook friend who was hosting a Ukrainian woman (now Tania's roommate) suggested I join the Atlantic Canada hosts for Ukrainians Facebook group. I did, and as they say, the rest is history.

I joined the group late Monday night and immediately saw a post from Leanne of Bridgewater (who had been corresponding with a Ukrainian woman) looking for accommodations in Dartmouth on a bus route. Leanne set up a group chat and sent Tania a message that she would receive when she woke up on Tuesday morning. The three of us chatted virtually, and by that afternoon I had committed to be her host. She would be arriving the following week, and would be starting a job two weeks later.

To say it was quite different with someone in the house, after having the house to myself for several years, would be an understatement. However, things have gone amazingly well.

During Covid I had become the queen of hermits, so I experienced some culture shock getting back out into the world. The first week there were lots of things to do, such as getting a SIN number, MSI card, driver's license, bank account, bus pass, and medical exam, and putting a variety of other applications in order. And of course, just getting to know one another.

I dusted off my tourist director's hat, and we visited many beaches, Peggy's Cove, toured the south shore as far as Lunenburg, took the ferry to PEI and saw the *Anne of Green Gables* performance in Charlottetown, and attended the International Tattoo. We had a lot of fun. Hopefully we will see the fall colours around the Cabot Trail in October. Hosting has been a very rewarding experience. I am extremely glad I jumped out of my comfort zone and got involved. Tania is now a part of my family.

Joan Mikkelsen

Tania's Story

It took me 3 months to get to Nova Scotia, Canada and it was definitely worth it.

When the war began my parents and I recognized there is no safe place in Ukraine to live anymore. My mom insisted I leave Ukraine and start a new life abroad, and it was a difficult decision to make. I felt despair and powerlessness. Honestly, I didn't want to leave my country, family, friends and the life I had. But, unfortunately, the war made adjustments in every Ukrainian family.

I started my research of the countries I would like to live in. I was "exploring" Romania, Sweden and once I heard about the Canadian governmental program for Ukrainians (CUAET), I had no doubts Canada is the country I want to start my new life in. I applied for visa online and the next step was to proceed with my biometrics. Due to the war, all embassies and visa centers were closed across the country and the only way to complete my biometrics was to go to nearest European country. I made an online appointment and, in a week, I was in Poland.

It took three more weeks to be approved for the visa and two weeks to "stick" my visa in my passport. All that time, day and night I spent "online" investigating Canada provinces and programs. My first choice was Newfoundland and Labrador, because their representatives were promoting the province very actively in Poland. They provide support and free flights for Ukrainians. A week before the flight, I changed my mind. I had a feeling

that NL is not my place. There were 2 main reasons why I changed my decision and came to Nova Scotia – IKEA and the ocean, where you can swim in summer. Sounds silly, but I am so glad that I made a right choice.

During this time I was also looking for a job in Canada. I sent my CV and went through a couple of interviews. The other step I had to complete was to find a host family. I joined FB group Atlantic Hosts for Ukrainians and found a host family in Liverpool, NS. I had a few video calls with Leanne (a host), and was pretty sure I will go there. So, I bought a ticket on a flight and planned to arrive on June 14.

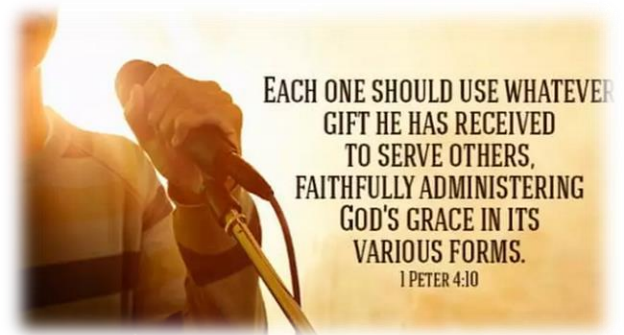
A week before the flight, I got a job in Dartmouth! I can't believe it happened! It was like a sign for me! I told Leanne about the "surprise" I received, and she made a post in FB group to see if we can find someone in Dartmouth, not far away from the work. And the next day, early morning I saw a message from Joan. It was just unbelievable, and I couldn't believe it happened with me again. It looked like God had some plans for me to come to Dartmouth and be hosted by Joan. I packed my 23 kg luggage and, in a week, I arrived in Halifax.

Since the day I arrived, I feel safe, happy and blessed, thanks to Joan and all Canadians. It could not be "better match" than me and Joan. Now I call her my "Canadian grandma". Joan shared with me not only her house, but also her kindness and love. She took me on trip around NS, and I fell in love with nature and people. We went to PEI, explored beaches around Dartmouth, and had a great time watching evening news. She became a part of my family, and I hope one day she could visit Ukraine, and my home town.

I want to thank all the people who helped me to settle in my new home, especially Woodlawn United Church community. I got so much support and help from you! I am writing this letter the night before I move to my apartment, and this couldn't be possible without your help! There are no words which can describe how thankful I am to Joan and all people who helped me on my way. My new life is just beginning...

Tetiana Buchko

Do you have a special story to share or an adventure or experience you enjoyed over the summer (OR ANYTIME)? Or maybe an upcoming special event? Please send your information or photos to Shelley at office@woodlawnunited.ca.



DANDELIONS (POEM)

Bright yellow in the morning light.
Dandelions.

A field chock full of them.

Beautiful!

What a year for dandelions!

A flower that opens wholly,
holds nothing back.

Exposed and vulnerable,

it offers all it's got;

a sign of life fully lived,

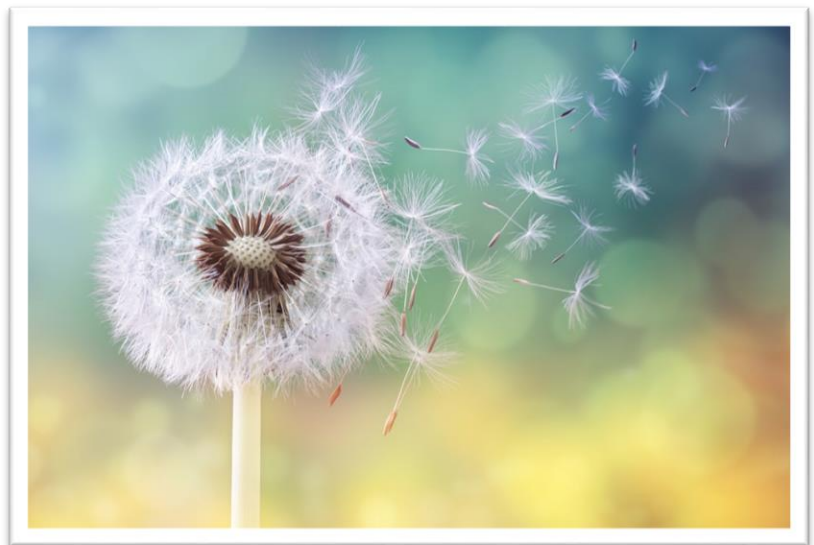
a pathway to the kingdom.

Dandelions.

Beautiful in the sunlight.

Smiling back at their Creator.

(by Paul Heppleston, from Bare Feet and Buttercups, a Wild Goose publication)



WORD IN MY HEART

Galatians 5:22-23 (New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised)

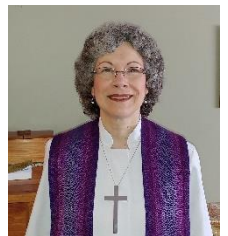
The Fruit of the Spirit

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he describes the fruit of the Spirit which are nine traits that Christians should be practicing throughout their lives in order to live by the Spirit. I remember one of my professors at the Atlantic School of Theology telling the class that we should always have this verse memorized so it will be on the tip of our tongues to remind ourselves of the Christian's demeanor, and that by living these traits each day, we might be a positive influence on others. May the Holy Spirit bless us as we walk the way of the Spirit to reveal a living faith.

Blessings,

Rev. Mary Lynne



HOPE HAPPENS HERE

By Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner



I believe we all love to have things in our lives that we can look forward to. Maybe a special anniversary, vacation, milestone and so on. Looking forward to such things gives us hope in the future. This can be especially important in an age when we feel we have less and less to look forward to. We see this all around us as people lose confidence in the future and exchange hope for things like anxiety and fear. To me, this outlook is the opposite of faith. I think of the

words of the prophet Jeremiah, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jer.29:11) or Jesus' many words of assurance to his disciples. One of the gifts of faith is hope. Hope has everything to do with the future.

As a part of the Church in our age, it can be difficult to believe in this hope. We look at the world around us and fear the worst when it comes to things like sickness, the economy and climate change. Then as we look inward at things like declining membership, financial uncertainty and organizational challenges we can wonder what exactly we have to look forward to? I do not have the answer to that question. That answer belongs to God and rests in an unknown future. I do know however that finding the road of faithfulness has a lot to do with getting to the future and having hope. Not just hope for ourselves but hope for others.

This past summer I participated in some small group sessions with some church leaders from the United States and Canada. These were times spent in reflection and conversation as we considered some of the aspects of what it takes to look forward as a church. What are some of the practices that keep us on the road of faithfulness? Three areas we focused on during our time together that morning were the areas of listening, hospitality and stewardship.

Listening is an essential spiritual practice. Listening is at the heart of effective communication and decision making. It is through listening that we create dialogue and build deeper relationships. Listening, that for us as a people of faith, begins with listening for God's voice in the midst of it all that we might hear again of God's plans to give hope and a future. The listening that for us happens when we seek to be present with others and acknowledge their presence and the life and community we share with one another. The kind of listening we engage in at meetings and gatherings, even when sharing a conversation over coffee after a Sunday morning service.

Hospitality is also a spiritual practice that is at the heart of our common life and the way of faithfulness. A hospitality that not only offers a warm hello to a newcomer, but a hospitality that seeks a relationship so that strangers become friends. It is the kind of hospitality and welcome that

makes others feel as if we want them to be a part of what we do and share our life as a community of faith. Hospitality that may include things like signage that clearly states who we are, what we do and when we do it. Hospitality that is constantly seeking to make those around us feel welcome and wanted, whether they be new or longstanding members and adherents. Hospitality that seeks to engage different ages, abilities and needs. Hospitality that invites and informs and opens the door to deepening relationships. Not that we seek to please everyone, but that we seek to make hospitality a way of being. We include others in the same way Jesus sought to include and welcome the ones no one else wanted.

Stewardship as a subject is one that not many want to address in the life of the church. So often we see stewardship as “the money we give to the church.” We see stewardship as that which we are called to give up. But in faithfulness, stewardship is about “how we use that which we have been given by God.” As we considered stewardship we spent time considering how to address the importance of congregational giving as we recognize that the church has financial obligations and bills to pay. Yet we also understand that connected to stewardship is mission. We appreciate that the church has a mission. A mission that goes back to those first two topics of listening and hospitality. A mission that seeks to allow us to live faithfully and invite others to share in this mission that seeks to build Christ-like relationships. Thus stewardship is about using our gifts for mission. When we practice good stewardship, we should be able to point to the ministries we support and share as a congregation. To do this, many churches have begun to use what is called a “narrative budget” that complements an annual financial budget. Although it can include a balance sheet and dollars and cents, a narrative budget tells the story of how we use our gifts and resources. When we can tell the story and see the bigger picture of our ministry as a people of faith, we can begin to see the value in what we are and help others see this too. It’s not about what we give up, it’s about what we get to do by the grace of God.

As we move forward and transition as a church into the future, I encourage you to continue to discern ways you can make a difference through listening, hospitality and stewardship. It is through this kind of service and leadership that opens us to living out the hope God has for us and others that we may look forward together.



In a world where so many around us are searching for hope, may we of Woodlawn United Church be a people who declare through our actions and words that “*hope happens here!*”

WELCOME BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY RENTAL GROUPS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SUNRISE GROUP

1ST WOODLAWN SCOUTS AND 1ST BROOKHOUSE GIRL GUIDES

FUNG LOY KOK TAI CHI

MAYFLOWER QUILTERS GUILD

DARTMOUTH COMMUNITY CONCERTS ASSOCIATION

NEW HORIZONS BAND

NOVA SCOTIA WOODCARVERS ASSOCIATION

STAGECOACH PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL NEW (see below)

and ... **OSTOMY HALIFAX NEW** (see below)

Ostomy Halifax is a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to supporting all people with an ostomy and their families since 1973. The group holds monthly meetings (except during covid) where people living with an ostomy can meet, share stories, listen to speakers and offer support. It is the largest ostomy support group in Canada with over 200 members.

Some of our members have completed a nationally certified Visitor Training Program and visit people in hospital or at home to help them adjust to their "new normal". An ostomy is created usually after cancer, Crohns, Colitis, a traumatic accident or even a birth defect. Surgeons take a piece of healthy bowel and create a tube from either the bladder or the intestine to the abdomen. The person then voids their bowel or bladder through the tube into a pouch placed on their belly. (Bladder cancer is the fifth most common cancer in Canada)

Most ostomates live a full and healthy life and many have a better quality of life than before their surgery as they no longer experience the pain and restrictions of having to be constantly close to facilities. In addition to supporting ostomates and their families on a day-to-day basis, Ostomy Halifax also sends 8 to 10 children to ostomy camp each summer to help them make friends, build self confidence and learn that they are not alone.

You can learn more about Ostomy Halifax at ostomyhalifax.ca

Stagecoach Performing Arts is one of the longest running and most successful children's performing arts network in the world and are proud to bring our award winning performing arts program for children and teens ages 4-16yrs to Woodlawn United Church in September. We offer a rounded performing arts education, teaching your child life skills to build confidence and stretch imaginations. Class sizes are kept small, and each class is taught by a highly trained and experienced teacher who will cater to each child's unique needs and potential.

Our team is ready to nurture and develop your child's talents, building confidence through our creative and compelling acting, dancing and singing classes. All of our programs include all three disciplines in one - for a complete musical theatre experience.

No experience or audition required, just a desire to create, play and have fun! Not sure if Stagecoach is for you? We offer a two week trial so you can come along and see if it is a right fit. Classes in Dartmouth are from 4:30 - 7:30 every Friday and start on Friday, September 23rd.

<https://www.stagecoachschools.ca/halifax-ca> OR <https://www.facebook.com/StagecoachHalifaxNS>



Celebrating You!

Are you celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, and would like to share that with your Woodlawn United Church family? We would love to celebrate your special day with you.

Please call (902) 434-8302 or email Shelley or Ruth office@woodlawnunited.ca with your birth date information or your Anniversary date, and we will publish that in our weekly bulletin. There are many other special celebrations to share such as a graduation, adoption, marriage, birth of a child, retirement, purchase of a new home, perhaps you have received a special award, or job promotion. We would love to celebrate you by recognizing your special occasion, because your Woodlawn family cares about you.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
Psalm 98:4

**In Nova Scotia,
public schools go
back on
Wednesday
September 7th.**



UNITED CHURCH MISSION AND SERVICE

WWJD? Here's One of the Church's Best Answers



The question "What would Jesus do?" often shortened to the acronym "W.W.J.D." has graced wrist bands, T-shirts, and bumper stickers since the 1990s. And while it might sound like an overused cliché, it's a question that can lead our spirit and, by extension, our lives to profound transformation.

What did Jesus do? He crossed a lot of boundaries. In fact, when we think about the boundaries that separate people—things like money, gender, education, culture, religion, and class—Jesus crossed them all.

He struck up a conversation with a Samaritan woman in a culture where it wasn't socially acceptable for men and women, much less Jews and Samaritans, to speak to one another. He healed the bodies and souls of people suffering from a variety of diseases when it was sinful to have anything to do with them. He visited the homes of tax collectors and sex trade workers and advocated for the rights of widows, orphans, and those living in poverty. He not only valued children in a time when they were considered such drains on society that they were abandoned on roadsides, but he also told his followers that unless they were more like children they wouldn't enter the kingdom of heaven.

In the same way, our generosity through [Mission & Service](#) breaks down walls that divide and builds bridges that draw us together.

Your generosity supports organizations like hospitals, counselling centres, drop-in circles, and homeless shelters that are there when people need them most. Your gifts sustain education programs that teach farming skills, provide job training, and help remove obstacles so children can remain in school. Your generosity stands up for victims of human trafficking, ensures workers and children know their rights, and advocates for those persecuted because of their sexual orientation, gender, or beliefs. It fosters anti-racism, supports healing and reconciliation, and deepens spiritual practice.

Through Mission & Service, the arms of your generosity stretch wide, reaching into schools, camps, hospitals, shelters, prisons, and churches with three main goals: to help transform lives, deepen meaning and purpose and build a better world.



Mission & Service is one of our church's best answers to the question "What would Jesus do?"

Thank you for your support. For more information about Mission and Service, please contact your M&S enthusiast, Mary Osborne.

Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults



A Practical Guide to Help Plan, Respond and Recover

As heat warnings continue across Canada, let's not forget that seniors are often the most impacted by emergencies such as the ongoing heat waves, the wildfires that have forced entire communities out of their homes in Manitoba and Newfoundland, and the severe storms that recently rocked parts of Ontario and Quebec.

Emergency preparedness is essential to the health and safety of our communities and especially their most senior members, so it's crucial for individuals and families, especially those with older adults, to be prepared before an emergency happens. In collaboration with the National Institute on Ageing (NIA) at Toronto Metropolitan University, the Canadian Red Cross has developed new resources to help seniors be prepared for an emergency.

Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults: A Practical Guide to Help Plan, Respond and Recover details how to assess older adults' medical, physical and cognitive needs that may affect their ability to respond to a disaster or an emergency. It also highlights the importance of identifying helpers and building a support network of family, friends, neighbours, care providers and health professionals who can assist during a disaster or emergency.

Older adults themselves should be empowered to reach out and connect with their peers, particularly those who are more vulnerable, supporting each other in anticipating and preparing for disasters. A list of items and documents to prepare in the case of evacuation, and what to do once the recovery process begins are outlined in the guide.

If you would like to receive a copy of this 15 page document, please contact Shelley or Ruth, in the office. A copy will also be posted on our bulletin board.

Thank you to Emily Masse for letting us know about this important community initiative.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE The Food Bank is still collecting needed school supplies. Every September the new school year brings excitement and lots of new goodies. With that brings the overwhelming demand on parents who are already struggling to make ends meet. The cost of supplies add up. In 2020 the average family spent over \$200 per student, just too much for many families. Every year, the East Dartmouth Christian Food Bank fills backpacks with essential supplies for local kids. These backpacks are distributed through the foodbank starting mid-August through the month of September and beyond. Please refer to your Sunday Worship bulletin for a list of the supplies that are needed to fulfill this ministry or contact Shaureen at 902-434-5819. Thank you.

Sunday School & Youth Group @ Woodlawn United Church

Sunday School

Ages 4 - 10

Youth Group

Ages 11 and up

For more info, please contact
youth.coordinator@woodlawnunited.ca
or come check us out! 10 a.m. every Sunday
morning starting September 11, 2022.
Registration is free and forms are available
online or in the church office.

UPDATE FROM YOUR COMMUNITY OF CARE TEAM

The Community of Care team has continued to work through Covid and throughout the summer. We continue to make calls and to reach out to people with cards of thanks, cards of sympathy, and cards of concern. We encourage the congregation to make the office and/or the Community of Care team aware of any issues you may have. We continue to do everything we can to stay in touch with all the members of Woodlawn United.

On behalf of all of the members of the Community of Care team we pray the remainder of your summer is a good one. Let's continue to look after one another.

Warm Regards,
Jerry Jackson & Dodie Covert
Co-Chairs Community of Care Team

RANDOM NOTES OF THANKFULNESS

We at Woodlawn realize that the church is the sum of its parts and the great work that each of us does for one another and for the community around us as we glorify God together. We also realize that we do not do this good work to be thanked but we do have the God-given opportunity to give thanks. With this in mind, each month will seek to offer a few well-deserved "random notes of thankfulness."

Thanks for those coming to the outdoor work/gardening day back in June.

Thanks to the members and friends of our UCW who extended the gift of hospitality to others by providing receptions for funerals over the summer months.

Thanks to everyone who has made an effort to get back to in-person worship in these past months. Being together in person means a great deal to so many. Let us continue to be hope for one another as we gather.

We realize we cannot thank everyone every month, but it is hoped we can raise up in a *Spirit of Thanksgiving*, a few well-deserving souls each month.

Thank you Woodlawn United Church for all you do!

HELPING OTHERS IN THEIR TIME OF NEED

When families are going through tough times, such as the loss of a loved one, our Woodlawn families and friends step up by providing sandwiches, and sweets, as well as their time to help out at the funeral reception. Your gift of serving others is a blessing that our families who are experiencing a loss need at such an important time in their grieving. The UCW cannot thank you enough, for your faithfulness to this important ministry.

This year and recent years, have been difficult in that we have lost a number of Woodlawn members who have been involved in the funeral ministry. What this means for Woodlawn United is that we must replenish our ability to continue to serve our families and take care of one another. Your gifts are a way to show your love and support for grieving families.

This is an urgent plea that we need your help. If you are willing to make and donate sandwiches, sweets, or give of your time at upcoming funeral receptions, we would like to hear from you so that we can add you to our call list when that time comes. The tasks that we have are not great commitments of time, rather, they are a few hours to help set up the hall (putting out tables and chairs), plating the food, replenishing the food tables, serving coffee and tea, and cleaning up after the reception. Your gift of time can be for one or more of these tasks.

If you feel you are able to support this Ministry, please contact Bev Lynch at 902-462-1553 or by email: bevlynch84@gmail.com to offer your name to support our Woodlawn families during these difficult times, or to ask any questions you might have. We are grateful to you for your consideration. Thank you.