



# WOODLAWN

## UNITED CHURCH

Annual Report 2017



Sunday February 25, 2018



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FINANCIAL REPORTS ARE FOUND IN THE ADDENDUM



## Remembering Our Loved Ones IN MEMORIAM 2017

NAME	DATE OF DEATH
Jack Connell	January 19, 2017
Cecil Boutilier	February 12, 2017
Douglas Eisener	March 15, 2017
Vera Parks	April 28, 2017
Ellen Pohlmann	April 30, 2017
Mary MacMillan	June 22, 2017
Louise MacLeod	July 4, 2017
Marial Sunny Ashford	July 12, 2017
Graeme Hill	July 17, 2017
Edith Robertson	July 20, 2017
Robert Cole	July 22, 2017
Janet Perry	August 27, 2017
Sigrid Isobel Brown	September 3, 2017
Carol Hartley	August 31, 2017
Wilfred Dillman	September 8, 2017
Ross Osborne	October 18, 2017
Christine Polley	November 4, 2017
Josiah Claude Lane	December 15, 2017
Christina Fitt	December 17, 2017



# MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 2017

February 19, 2017

## Constitution of the Meeting

The annual congregational meeting was incorporated into our morning Worship service and was called to order by Helen Dixon. It was moved by Ray DeRoche and seconded by Peter Woods to elect Diane Avery as the meeting secretary.

## Temporal Matters

It was moved by Shirley MacLeod and seconded by Ray DeRoche that all those present and not members of Woodlawn United Church be extended the privilege to speak and vote on temporal matters.

**Motion carried.**

## Agenda

It was moved by Linda Hill and seconded by Janet Major that the order of worship be the agenda for this meeting.

**Motion carried.**

## Minutes of Last Congregational Meeting

It was moved by Peter Woods and seconded by Fred Evans that the 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes be approved as circulated with the following amendment:

Under **Temporal Matters** *Page 3* - the paragraph should read, "It was moved by Ray DeRoche and seconded by Barry Zwicker that all those present and not members of Woodlawn United Church be extended the privilege to speak at the meeting and vote on Temporal Matters."

**Motion carried.**

A **memory candle** was lit to remember those members and loved ones of our congregation who are now at peace and within Your nearer and loving presence as follows:

Charles MacDonald	Reginal Arthur Coombes	Barry Wayne Mayo
Mary Kathleen (Molly) Hamilton	Doreen May Harriott	Joseph Hecimovich
Garnet Adamson	Marshall C. Spears	Audley Elroy Lowe
Diane Simpson	Susan E. Connolly	Winnifred Marie Knox
Gordon Robert Woods	Lt. Charles Frederick Donkin	Margaret "Peggy" Norton
Gordon Ingram	Barbara Isabel Johnstone	William Colin "Bill" Walker
May Elizabeth Corkum	Glenna Marguerite McKenna	Kathryn Anne Dickens
Roy Cyril Faltenhine	Jessica Rose Dares	Jessie Appleby Miller
Doreen Taught Smith	Carol Ida E. Saunders	Dr. Wylie Foster Verge
Frances Hazel O'Brien	Josie Esther Zwicker	Dorothy "Dolly" Zinck
Marilyn Patricia DesRochers	Gerald "Roy" Pond	
	Dennis Stephen Doyle	

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

It was moved by Adelia Holloway and seconded by Brenda Mathieu that there is no new business arising from the minutes.

**Motion carried.**

### **Written Reports**

It was moved by Brian Moors and seconded by Shirley MacLeod that the written reports for 2016 be accepted as presented.

**Motion carried.**

### **Recruitment Report and Nominations**

Adelia Holloway thanked everyone for their leadership and involvement in the Church committees and presented the following report on recruitment and nominations:

Council Co Chairs - Helen Dixon and Cathy Kay

A&M Co Chairs - Todd Ellis and Barry Zwicker

Budget Coordinator - Ivan Richardson

Community of Care Co Chairs - Nancy Allen and **vacant**

Communication Co Chairs - Lachlan Riehl and **vacant**

M&P Co Chairs - Don Trider and **vacant**

Presbytery Reps (4) - Jerry Jackson (PR), Jane Twohig (E&S) and **2 vacancies**

Program Co Chair - Brian Moors and Don Trider

Stewardship Co Chairs - Teri Giannou and Fred Evans

Trustees Co Chairs - Dennis Dean and Jim Allen

Youth - Susan Cuthbertson and **vacant**

Accessibility - Ralph Sams

It was moved by Ray DeRoche and seconded by Keith Musselman that the above slate of officers be accepted and authority given to Council to fill vacancies as required.

**Motion carried.**

### **2016 Financial Report**

The financial report was presented by Nikki Hilton. It was moved by Adelia Holloway and seconded by Don Trider to accept the 2016 financial statements as presented.

**Motion carried.**

### **Presentation of 2017 Budget**

It was moved by Ivan Richardson and seconded by Fred Evans that the 2017 budget be accepted as presented.

**Motion carried.**

## **New Business**

### **Mission and Service**

It was moved by Ivan Richardson and seconded by Adelia Holloway that the 2017 target for the Mission and Service fund be \$69,000.00.

**Motion carried.**

### **Appointment of Auditors**

It was moved by Barry Zwicker and seconded by Peter Woods that Nikki Hilton be appointed as auditor for 2017. **Motion carried.**

### **Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC)**

Don Trider provided an overview of the process required to fill the vacancy created by Rev. Valerie Kennedy's retirement. He explained that the first step is to form a committee (JNAC), consisting of representatives from Woodlawn United and Halifax Presbytery to create a snap shot of our pastoral charge and make a recommendation for our future ministry.

Three members agreed to join the committee: Faye Gunter, Kathy Dean and Diane Avery.

### **Online Donations**

Todd Ellis introduced a new QR Code for donations. It will be located in the weekly bulletin to facilitate donations via smartphone.

### **Courtesies**

Helen Dixon thanked the ministry staff, office staff, council members, committee members and all volunteers that contribute to the success of Woodlawn United Church.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Gerry Gunter.

### **Annual General Meeting Attendance – February 19, 2017:**

Kennedy, Rev. Phillip	Brown, Pam Christie	Dixon, Fred
MacLean, Shannon	Burrows, Marie	Dixon, Helen
Rushton, Bob	Charlebois, Faye	Doswell, Carolyn
Adams, Jean	Cole, Rebecca	Doyle, Deborah
Adams, Wes	Coleman, Dawn	Ehrhardt, Bus
Aisthorpe, K.	Coley, Nicholas	Ehrhardt, Inez
Aisthorpe, Lois	Connell, Pat	Eisener, Eileen
Allen, Jim	Creighton, Nancy	Ellis, Alan
Avery, Diane	Cunningham, Carl	Ellis, Mona
Awalt, Belinda	Cunningham, Edna	Ellis, Todd
Barro, Diane	Cushing, Jane	Evans, Fred
Barro, Terry	Boudreau, C. Dawn	Evans, Marion
Boutilier, Beatrice	Dean, Dennis	Fitch, Wendy
Bracken, Carloyn	Dean, Kathy	Forbes, Marion
Bracken, John	DeRoche, Ray	Forbes, Wilfred
Brown, Agnes	Dickey, Bert	Fraser, James
Brown, Ken	Dickey, Joan	Fraser, Shirley

Freeborn, Della  
Giannou, Teri  
Gill, Janet  
Godden, Heather  
Godden, Stephanie  
Goodwin, Bob  
Gunter, Fay  
Gunter, Gerry  
Harlow, John  
Harlow, Marie  
Hawkins, Kathy  
Heatley, Elizabeth  
Henderson, Helen  
Hermanson, Janet  
Hill, Darrell  
Hill, Don  
Hill, Linda  
Hill, Vivian  
Hilton, Nikki  
Holloway, Adelia  
Howes, Agnes  
Innes, Bernice  
Jenkins, Eva  
Jones, Isobel  
Josey, Nancy  
Josey, Paul  
Joycey, Dulcie  
Joycey, Gordon  
Kay, Cathy  
Khan, Aruna  
Kramers, Donna  
Kramers, Maarten  
Kyte, Sandy  
Lacey, Bert  
Lacey, James  
Lacey, Shirley  
Lindsay, Bob  
Lindsay, Dorothy  
Lynch, Bev  
MacIsaac, Al  
MacIsaac, Brett  
MacIsaac, Cole

MacKenzie, Barbara  
MacKinnon, Anita  
MacKinnon, Jack  
MacLeod, Shirley  
Major, Janet  
Mallett, Nell  
Manak, Sheila  
Marcus, Haroldine  
Marshall, David  
Marshall, Sally  
Martin, H.  
Mathieu, Brenda  
May, Vicky  
McPhee, Shirley  
Mikkelsen, Joan  
Mitchell, Don  
Mitchell, Jean  
Moors, Brian  
Moors, Marilyn  
Morash, M.  
Morash, Myrna  
Morrison, Connie  
Morrison, Murdock  
Moulton, Harry  
Musselman, Keith  
Nauffts, Karen  
Nicholson, Belle  
Nickerson, Betty  
Nickerson, Ernie  
Osborne, Mary  
Osborne, Ross L.  
Perkins, Betty  
Perkins, Dwight  
Pettipas, Carolyn  
Pond, Shirley  
Prier, Bob  
Reid, Callum  
Richardson, Sheila  
Sams, Juanita  
Sams, Ralph  
Sanderson, Heather  
Sinclair, Linda

Stewart, Ruby  
Street, Muriel  
Swan, Isobel  
Sweet, Betty  
Thouless, Kathy  
Todd, Gerry  
Todd, Janet  
Trider, Don  
Warwick, Grant  
Warwick, Sharon  
Watt, Bob  
Weatherbee, Marg  
Webber, Evelyn  
Webber, Susan  
White, Carol  
Whitman, Sylvia  
Williamson, Laura-Jean  
Woods, Maureen  
Woods, Peter  
Zwicker, Barry  
Zwicker, Shirley



## REPORT FROM NOMINATIONS 2017

Thank you to the recruitment team which consists of Teri Giannou, Vivian Hill, Brian Moors, Shirley MacLeod, Rev. Phillip Kennedy, Shannon MacLean, and Adelia Holloway, We met three times and communicated by email. We approached many individuals to find co-chairs and members for committees. We were unable to find two co-chairs for Christian Development, or a co-chair for Community of Care, a co-chair for Ministry and Personnel, a co-chair for Communications/Public Relations/Audio Visual relations, or two more presbytery representatives. We continue to actively recruit for vacancies in 2018. The membership of committees will be posted on our website in 2018.

Submitted by Adelia Holloway

## NOMINATIONS 2018

Council Co Chairs	Cathy Kay	Diane Avery
A&M Co Chairs	Barry Zwicker	Keith Musselman
Budget Coordinator	Ivan Richardson	
Community of Care Co Chairs	Nancy Allen	_____
Communication Co Chairs	Don Hill	
M&P Co Chairs	Helen Dixon (Post JNAC)	_____
Presbytery Reps (4)	Jane Twohig (E&S) Helen Dixon	Barry Zwicker _____
Program Co Chair Christian Development	Brian Moors _____	
Stewardship Co Chairs	Teri Giannou	Fred Evans
Trustees Co Chairs	Dennis Dean	Jim Allen
Youth	Susan Cuthbertson	
Accessibility	Ralph Sams	





## MINISTRY TEAM'S REPORT Rev. Phillip Kennedy

2017 felt like a year of transition for me. There were all kinds of great things to celebrate and yet the whole context of our lives seemed a bit more anxious and uncertain.

While my personal health has much improved and I have been excited to get back to doing educational events like TGIT that had been put on hold in 2016, it was hard to be immune to the state of the church and the world.

The powers in control of the Empire to the south have been unpredictable to say the least and the impact of the decisions made there do not stop at the border. The national United Church of Canada continues its restructuring even without a clear plan for all the changes. It feels like we have decided to follow Moses out of Egypt with no clear path through the desert to the Promised Land. Faith in God, in the sense of trust that God is with us on the journey, is needed more than ever!

Here at Woodlawn, while many positive things are happening and relationships with God and each other are strengthening, the loss of so many souls through death in 2016 and 2017 is not without its sadness and impact.

It has been awesome to work with Rev. Holly Edsall and Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte, but I think everyone will feel better when the current JNAC and Visioning process is over and the permanent staff and vision are in place going forward. Valerie and I are still adjusting to her not being part of our common life here at Woodlawn United.

Having set this context, I now want to focus a few of the good things that have happened in 2017. Firstly, I continue to feel privileged to work with such a wonderful staff! While we all have lead responsibilities, we try to work as a team! Thank you Mary Lynne, Shannon, Shelley, Bob, and Ruth! The same may be said for the faithful souls that have given of their time and talent in offering lay leadership on Council and in the teams that provide mission and ministry. This place could not function without you! Thank you!

Valerie's retirement brought about a major change for all of us. I celebrate her 9 years ministry and our team of many years. Personally, I am still adjusting to this new reality.

Rev. Holly Edsall was with us for 10 hours a week until the end of August and then Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte joined us at the first of October. Thanks to them both for the ministry offered and the sharing of the work load.

Valerie's departure seemed like a good time not only for a JNAC but to begin thinking and reviewing everything. It has been 10 years or more since Woodlawn has done a Visioning exercise. One of the things which spurred this on was attending a continuing education event with Rev. John Pentland based on his book, "Fishing Tips". Like the image in the Biblical story, we were encouraged to "cast our nets on the other side of the boat" and try something new.

At the time of writing, we are in the midst of reviews of almost everything from policies and procedures to aspects of worship. These things began in 2017 and continue. It's good to update.



A personal highlight for me in January 2017 was the trip to Cardenas, Cuba to visit CCRD. It was great to begin forming relationships with this UCC M&S sponsored mission. I didn't go this year in January 2018, but I understand that the relationships continue to develop. Last year, it was mostly youth from JLOW. This year a couple of adults from the congregation also attended. This is an awesome program for Woodlawn that I hope will continue. Special thanks to Shannon for this.

We had several special services throughout the year. 2017 marked our turn to host the Good Friday service and it went well, I think.

Woodlawn continues to be terrific in its outreach programs to which Jane's report will attest, I am sure. We continue to develop these programs and have become more intentional at networking with others in the community to coordinate the meeting of needs. One new thing was the use of some benevolent funds to purchase school supplies for three local elementary schools. Thank you Shelley for this idea. The Thank God Its Thursday (TGIT) Thursday night gatherings have also been exciting. Among others, we have had presentations on understanding Islam, Indigenous peoples history via "The Blanket Exercise, a couple of sessions on Theodicy or ( Why do bad things happen to good people) and a few sessions on Transgender leading to Council approval for actions to specifically welcome transgender folks. All these things were terrific!

I was particularly excited by the blessings of babies in 2017. Together with our new sign and newcomers socials at the end of each month, blessings offered a great opportunity to connect with the public who might not otherwise connect with the church.

Looking ahead to 2018, I look forward to the positive results of our visioning and JNAC processes, doing a special focus on the theology of the cross (atonement) at two TGIT sessions, and becoming even more effective in getting our message out there to the curious; people who may benefit from our ministry and being part of an accessible community. In conjunction with this, I hope to lead a group interested in learning and practicing how to express their faith comfortably, using Rev. Dr. Ross Bartlett's little book: "On Holy Ground, You and your faith Story".

I pray that the Holy Spirit lead us as we move into our common future! I look forward with hope and anticipation in 2018!

### **MINISTRY TEAM'S REPORT**

**Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte**

After I arrived at Woodlawn on October 1<sup>st</sup> to begin an 11 month appointment, my husband, Paul, and I were warmly welcomed into the church family at every turn. It's only been three months, but I've enjoyed participating in an awesome Ministry Team with Shannon and Phillip, and thank them most sincerely for their timely help and guidance in getting me up to speed. The church staff; Bob, Shelley and Ruth, have been most welcoming and helpful in many ways, and are a joy to work with. It's also been great for both Paul and I to be part of Woodlawn's music ministry as members of the Woodlawn Choir under Bob's expert leadership. Warm thanks to Bob and the choir for making us feel welcome and very much at home.



Woodlawn is an extremely busy church which is a good sign of a healthy church. I'm pleased to have been part of the life and work of Woodlawn last fall by attending meetings for Worship, Stewardship, Council, Pastoral Care Team, and Staff, and, on behalf of Woodlawn, to have attended a Halifax Presbytery meeting.

Worship each Sunday has been a great joy. I'm thankful for the opportunity to be a part of the Ministry Team as we do our part in preparing and leading worship.

My Halifax Presbytery/Woodlawn covenanting service on the evening of November 19 was a very meaningful service and I appreciate those who participated in it, as well as those who put together the lovely reception afterwards. Many thanks.

I enjoyed organizing and attending my first Memorial Hymn Sing on the evening of November 26 and appreciated the many Christmas carols sung in memoriam along with the reading of various Christmas legends. My thanks to all who participated and to all who gave generously in memory of their loved ones.

Documentation for pastoral care was and continues to be updated and a handbook for pastoral care visiting was discussed with the intention to work on it in the future. A TGIT on Pastoral Care Visiting was offered in late November consisting of a PowerPoint presentation, verbal presentations by various Pastoral Care Team members, and discussion. The end result was five new people joining our ministry. My thanks to everyone on the team. Between the ministers and lay visitors last fall, many people were visited at hospitals as well as homes. Another form of pastoral care was offered in mid-December to Woodlawn members at Parkland (and any others who wished to attend) and that was a Communion service where Phillip and I plus many of our lay volunteers sang Christmas carols to piano and harp and enjoyed Communion together. It was a well-attended event at Glasgow Hall and I would like to thank the many volunteers who helped make this happen. Christmas caroling with the Couple's Club added another form of awesome pastoral care to Woodlawn shut-ins and was a very memorable and fun time. All in all, my three months last fall were filled with wonderful ministry opportunities that allowed me to see Woodlawn as the fantastic faith community it is.



## MINISTRY TEAM'S REPORT SHANNON MACLEAN, YOUTH MINISTER

As preparation for writing my report on 2017, I read last years, which began, *"Lots of amazing things have happened in 2016 that I feel grateful for. But it will go down in my personal history book as the "broken year".*" I was reminded of many of the challenges that were overcome last year. Still the year ended with hope for the future.

As I look back to 2017, I celebrate all the work being done by the Joint Needs and Assessment Committee (JNAC). It was at the annual meeting last year that the creation of that committee began and they have been working all year to survey the needs of our congregation as we move forward in replacing Rev Valerie's position. A huge thank you to the dedicated volunteers doing this work.

2017 was a year of change and intentional work in establishing how WUC can best live out our call as a part of the body of Christ in the world. In addition to the work of the JNAC, a larger visioning project began after a small group of us attended a workshop called "Fishing Tips". Rev. John Pentland shared the story of how his small, dying congregation grew into a large, vibrant group of people doing their best to follow Jesus. A spark was lit in us. We applied to Halifax Presbytery to receive a grant to do a visioning process to help us clearly name which part of the work for the Kingdom of God WUC is being called to. With Jerry Jackson as the lead person (thanks for this ministry Jerry), Dr. Rev Ross Bartlett has been hired to provide opportunities for all voices to be heard. Ross will create a report based on all the input! Although begun in 2017, 2018 will be a year of visioning and working to change our dreams into realities.

It was year of change for youth group, and Sunday School as well, as a large cohort of Grade 6 students moved to the youth program. We have had a lot of fun with the older youth taking on more leadership roles with the younger youth. Every time there is a change in the dynamic of the group, it means re-configuring the programs to fit. For example, our retreat to l'Arche in February had the largest group yet (12), but the December retreat had to be shortened because so many were unable to attend.

The Jr YG program has been held once a month since the fall and is doing very well. We have explored different images for God and talk about how our faith impacts our lives. It is difficult for the Sr. YG to meet because the youth are juggling part time jobs, intense school programs as well as extra circulars. But we still manage to get together for some time when we can. The Sunday morning group (combined Jr. and Sr.) has started to increase in numbers again, after a year with very small numbers, and the topics we have discussed has been diverse. The Justice League of Woodlawn continues to do great work in the community and globally as we work, learn and advocate for bringing God's justice to earth.

Sunday School continues to thrive. Each year there are new families ☺ It is a joy to watch the children grow. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> year the Sunday School design team (Jennifer Evans, Kim Hermanson, Marion Evans, Caron Eagan and myself) has been writing the rotation curriculum. That means we were able to borrow some of the ideas from the rotations we wrote five years ago! We have been really happy with how the curriculum we write has been aiding the kids on their faith formation. Thank you to all the people who volunteer to run the stations because they make our SS great. And a special thank you to Caron Eagan, Marion Evans, Jennifer Evans, Ian Curlett, Susan Riehl and Kim Hermanson, our dedicated Sunday School teachers who are there every week supporting the children.



A number of years ago, it became evident that ½ day Vacation Bible School (VBS) was no longer meeting the needs of families. I experimented with having Family Fun Nights in the summer with little success. However, what has been really fun is having family fun nights throughout the year. Trivia Night and Paint Night have been great ways to get our families connected in community. Unfortunately Bedlam in Bethlehem did not happen this year because of lack of participants. However, I truly believe it was because of the way Advent fell this year so am anxious to try it again next year.

It has been fun exploring lots of different topics through our new “Thank God it is Thursday” program. We have learned about the history of indigenous people in North America through the interactive blanket exercise, done prayer centers together, talked about adoption and explored many issues using a world café format!

2017 has been a year of change... lots of trial and error as we strive to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

We have been weathering all the change well. Thanks needs to be given to Cathy Kay and Helen Dixon for the roles as co-chair of council and all the other people who have taken leadership roles in the church. And none of this would be possible without the staff Woodlawn is blessed to have! Shelley, Ruth, Bob, Phillip and our newest member Mary Lynne... you people are awesome!

May God bless Woodlawn with an abundance and grace as we move into 2018! God is good... all the time.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

To say it has been a busy year would be an understatement. But it has also been an exciting and successful year. I would like to share some highlights with you. After a year and a half here, I have learned a great deal about Woodlawn United, its committees, and congregants. I have been made to feel very welcome by all. And I am grateful for the patience, assistance and support of everyone who comes through my door. After 18 months, it certainly feels like home!

From an administrative standpoint, Woodlawn is an actively engaged congregation. There is never a dull day. Woodlawn has many very busy committees, and members, thus the office is kept busy with many requests for support.

Over this past year delved into a lot of policy and procedure review to ensure that as our congregation and community needs changed, that our policies changed to reflect those needs. We have also made an effort to impact our carbon footprint by eliminating redundancy, and use less paper. As of November 2017, we were able to complete a review of the Rental policies, procedures, schedules, and fees, and make recommendations to A&M and Council. We also looked at the growing community around us to ensure we took those needs into consideration. We proceeded with a goal to ensure that the best interests of Woodlawn United were always at the forefront of our discussions. Ministry is the most important activity that takes place at Woodlawn. We also worked with the Worship Committee and reviewed and made changes to our Wedding Policy to reflect more current language and grammar, that we were collecting only relevant information, and the Application procedure to make it more user friendly with fewer pages. Again, we ensured that the entire process met the needs of both Woodlawn





United and those individuals wishing to be married at Woodlawn. I feel that, collectively, we did an amazing job. I'm grateful for all of the help and support given to me so that I had the opportunity to learn "The Woodlawn Way".

I spent the last year working on the new and improved Procedures manual. It is an ongoing project that is always changing. Sometimes policies and procedures are similar so there is often overlap that requires review of both policy and procedure. It is my hope to have a first final draft ready for review by early spring.

Summer is a great time to work on large projects. The archive storage room, that remained untouched since the move, received a thorough week long re-organization in July. It meant going through boxes (and boxes!) and filing cabinet drawers of old files, and historical documents making sense of chronology, and organizing them into appropriate archival boxes. We were then in touch with Sarah Wallace from the United Church Archives who drove down in August and we were able to forward to their holdings several hundreds of aged files. It was interesting to understand the process of archiving records, and to see the many decades of Woodlawn records being carefully incorporated into the history at the Archives. Only a couple of boxes of files remain with us.

I met with our new MLA, Tim Halman and his Constituency Assistant, to engage him (his office) in what Woodlawn United and its busy committees do, the programming that happens here, and the resources we have available. It was a good meeting, and I left feeling optimistic that the MLA will be supportive of our community outreach efforts. At the time of this report, Jane Cushing and I will have met with Mr. Halman, again, and other stakeholders in the community (such as the Community Health Boards, Educational Programming, Social Service organizations, etc), to see what programs and services we all bring to the table and can share in. There are so many needs to be met. The goal of this meeting is to be able to interact with other professionals in the community and hear some of their concerns and challenges, and renew our focus on people supported programming. Communication and engagement is vitally important to all communities and families. This would not be possible without the support of our staff at Woodlawn, for allowing me to reach out to other community based and advocacy organizations. Relationship building is a cornerstone of Ministry that gives us greater access to resources to help others.

I have updated our benevolence records to a computerized database. This allows us to more easily manage benevolence needs within our community. The office fielded over 50 benevolence calls in 2017. Many were repeat callers, many were single parents with children on income assistance, and individuals seeking work or going to school. The majority are simply families who are struggling to make ends meet. I have truly enjoyed this aspect of this job - meeting individuals and families in need in our community when they come in to meet with Ministry personnel.

I participated in a kitchen committee meeting in the spring of 2017 (myself, Ralph Sams, Fay Gunter, Kathy Dean, Teri Giannou, Dorothy Lindsay, and Nancy Grant). It was decided at that meeting that the kitchen would not be rented out to rental groups unless it is a special occasion such as a wedding and approved by the UCW/Kitchen Committee. From that meeting, we were able to produce a checklist of needs for the kitchen and arranged for a special deep cleaning. Also from that group, we were able to develop an inspection checklist for the entire facility. Every Monday morning I carry out that inspection to ensure that the building is clean, safe and welcoming, that appliances are turned off after rentals and that doors are locked. Rental groups and others are frequently reminded of their responsibilities in using our spaces.



You will notice that the Welcome packages on the table in the foyer have been updated and we now give out a package of popcorn with the packages. These were provided by our sponsored group, Boy Scouts! They were happy to provide us with popcorn to include in our welcome packages. We will tag it with "Thanks for Popping In", and give them to new visitors.

Spirit Connection is another area that continues to be worked on. It is an ongoing program that remains on my radar for 2018.

Bulletins and Newsletters are always the bread and peanut butter of office work. From Monday morning to Thursday afternoon the bulletin is a work in progress. The monthly newsletter is also always a work in progress. The monthly newsletter is published from September – June. The bulletin is a year round publication. I would like to thank everyone who provides weekly updates for the bulletin, from the Pastoral Care team to the UCW units, and a note of thanks to the Technical crew who also spends a great deal of time preparing slides for Worship.

In closing, I offer a personal note of thanks for your ongoing support. I feel I learn something new each day, and I feel blessed to have gotten to know so many people who contribute so much of themselves to Woodlawn United to make it the family that it is. **And a special thank you to Ruth, my administrative partner, for her support, reliability, for her unending patience, and for her gift of laughter. She is a joy to work with, and I feel grateful to have her as an administrative partner in this role.**

### CO-CHAIRS OF COUNCIL REPORT

The year 2017, for the most part, was a great year at Woodlawn United Church. There were many goodbyes to one of our most loved Ministers, Valerie. Although we will miss her here at Woodlawn we respect her decision. Rev. Valerie's retirement celebration was enjoyed by all that attended. Good luck Valerie in your future endeavours.

Woodlawn was blessed to have Rev. Holly Edsall take on the supply ministry to complement the Ministry staff. A huge Thank you to Holly from Woodlawn United. A Joint Needs Assessment Committee was created to take on the responsibility of identifying the on-going Ministerial needs for Woodlawn. A report and recommendation will be forwarded to Council and then onto the Congregation early in 2018.

In August a search committee brought forward a recommendation to Council to approve Mary Lynne Whyte as the successful candidate to be the interim Minister. Mary Lynne joined Woodlawn in October and has become a valuable addition to the Woodlawn pastoral charge.

In 2015, the 42nd General Council passed motions that required five remits occur in congregations and 3 in presbyteries over the next year or so. Remits are necessary in the United Church of Canada when General Council proposes a change to the Basis of Union (the founding doctrine of the UCC). Remits are voted on by the governing body of each congregation and at Woodlawn this is the Church Council.

In 2016, Woodlawn completed Remits 1 & 2. In 2017 Council voted YES to Remit 3 which stated the presbytery/pastoral charge agreeing that(a) a denominational office of vocation be established in the structure of the United Church. Council voted YES to Remit 4 asking presbytery/pastoral charge if they



agreed to a new funding model for the United Church with the budget process guided by principles laid out. Council voted NO to Remit 6. Woodlawn Ministry staff provided detailed information to Council on remit 6 around does the presbytery/pastoral charge agree that there should be one new order of ministry encompassing the present categories of recognized lay ministers, diaconal ministers and ordained ministers, with ordination to the ministry of word sacrament, education, service and pastoral care as the single rite of entry, and with provision for the continued identity of the diakonia within the ordained ministry.

There were many items brought forward producing lots of discussion and thoughtful decisions made at Council. Some examples were the approval of changes on an experimental basis to do church announcements a few minutes before Worship, the approval of a Conflict Resolution Policy, an opportunity for some Council Members and the Ministerial staff to attend a 2-day workshop "Fishing Tips" with a report summarizing the workshop presented to Council.

As well an opportunity presented itself in that Woodlawn was able to apply for a Revitalization Grant being offered by Halifax Presbytery which could provide funding in the amount of \$5,000. As a result of the amount being approved Council discussed the opportunity for Woodlawn to go through a Visioning Process that would take us into the next five years. Council approved the hiring of a Visioning Consultant to help us with the process which is underway and will be working into 2018. A report will be provided to the Congregation of the findings from this work.

As Co-chairs of Council, we were involved in a number of activities over the past year. We chaired the Annual General Meeting, participated in the service held for Valerie, the covenanting service for Mary Lynne, and the dedication liturgy blessing of special gifts.

There are so many dedicated and passionate volunteers around the council table that give freely of their time, knowledge and expertise in areas that support the work of the church to make it the best church for Woodlawn. Each member brings a unique skill set and collectively Council works to ensure Woodlawn is supported in making the right decisions financially, legally and safely.

As with each year, members leave and new members join Council to do the work of ministry. The end of 2017 will see the resignation of our Council Co-chair, Helen Dixon, M&P Co-Chairs, Don Trider and Allan Eddy, and A&M Chair, Todd Ellis. A huge Thank You goes out to each of them for their contributions of work and support over the past year(s).

Cathy Kay will continue as Co-chair with Diane Avery who has accepted to take on the role of Co-chair of Council. We would like to say thank you to Diane for her past work as Council Secretary.

In closing, we wish to thank each member of Council and the congregation for their ongoing support in making the best decisions with God's blessing and guidance for our Woodlawn United Church Family.

Submitted by  
Helen Dixon & Cathy Kay



## ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE

**Friends of Accessibility** had another very successful year contributing \$25,302.00 to the Accessibility Fund, \$500.00 toward dishwasher repair and \$416.00 toward the purchase of a new stove for the kitchenette. That brought our total raised in 2017 to \$26,200.00, a record year for us. This was raised via 11 chowder luncheons, 6 concerts and a book launch.

Many of our volunteers not only work almost every chowder but many are involved in other fund raising activities like the UCW Turkey Dinner, UCW Chowders, Couples Club Lobster Dinner and Auction, UCM Dessert Party, etc. These are very busy and dedicated folk and great ambassadors for our church.

Customers come from many denominations and walks of life making this an ecumenical event. For seniors it is a very affordable outing where they meet with friends old and new. They are always greeted with smiles, sometimes hugs and even kisses by our servers. It is heartwarming to watch the interaction.

A half dozen of us arrive at the church in the dark and cold of Friday morning to begin cooking. Within 10 minutes jokes are being told, teasing has started and the weather outside is quickly forgotten as we laugh and work our way through the morning.

As we look to 2018 we have 7 chowders and 3 concerts booked for the first half. Our concerts begin on Friday, February 23 with John Campbelljohn and Mike (Cam) Campbell doing Fiddle 'n Blues. On Sunday evening, April 22 it will be Roxeen and Dalrymple and on Friday, June 22 the North Street Singers will fill our choir loft with approximately 60 performers. We are hoping that you will fill the pews for this exciting evening. We will be working on our fall schedule shortly.

### **Other activities:**

The Lawton's program continues to contribute, earnings in 2017 were over \$3200.00. This is a painless way to contribute to the Accessibility Fund. Our monthly loan payment on principle is \$2084.00, interest approximately \$500.00 which means the Lawton's contribution will fund one month principle and two months interest payments. What a great contribution to the project.

When we first approached Lawton's we would have been excited with a onetime contribution of perhaps \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00. Little did we expect this ongoing contribution. Alan Ellis is the contact for this program, if you are not on board why not contact Alan to learn more.

These activities plus the generous support of the congregation through memorials, pledges and continued giving have allowed us to not only meet our loan payments but make significant lump sum payments on the principle.

*Our loan was taken out in January of 2014 in the amount of \$500,000.00, at the end of December 2017 the balance stands at \$144,136.00. Heartfelt thanks from all of us on the Accessibility Committee for your ongoing support of this project. It has indeed been a remarkable 15 year journey.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Ralph Sams, Chair of Accessibility / Friends of Accessibility



## ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT (A&M)

### Committee:

Barry Zwicker – Co-Chair

Todd Ellis –Co-Chair

Ivan Richardson – Budget coordinator and accounting administrator

Kathy Hawkins – Secretary and payroll service provider

Bev Wicks – Rental and office support

Joan Mikkelsen – Envelope Steward, Par Administrator and keeper of the church roll

Malcolm Morash – Trustee representative

Keith Musselman– Teller Co-coordinator and scheduler

Rev. Phillip Kennedy and Shannon MacLean – Ministers representative

Grant Warwick – Past Chair

I would like to take time to thank each of the members of my committee for their support and assistance along with their energy and effort that they bring to their roles. It has been my pleasure to work with you in 2017 and looking forward to 2018.

2018 was a year like many others filled with its challenges and opportunities. Woodlawn has seen many changes in this period of growth. We have invested in our future to move forward, to allow for a more accessible church for its congregation and its community. I am confident with our continued stewardship and time and talent we again have laid the foundation for the future generations that will attend Woodlawn.

Some highlights from 2017 are as follows:

**Budget:** We have concluded 2017 with a deficit of \$4,233. We had projected a deficit in 2017 of (\$26,115) so I am very pleased that we ended the year in a more positive position. To begin 2017 had many financial challenges that were front and center.

**General revenue** over the past four years has decreased 2014 \$325,568, 2015 \$321,154, 2016 \$314,960 and 2017 \$309,655. This could be as a result of demographic changes in our congregation, allocation of giving's towards designated funds instead of operating, access to technology (people don't carry cash).

**Our congregation** felt the loss of our ministerial staff over the 2017 year as well.

These amounts were mainly offset by three main areas, which totaled \$65,530: Rental Income, Salaries and Property Expenditures.

**Rental Income** we saw an increase mainly due to our rental income in 2017 adding \$28,038. A special note and thanks to all that contributed as we had considerable input and consultation to continually improve on our rental agreements to facilitate our ability to provide space to rent for our Woodlawn community.

**Salaries** had a reduction under the Restorative Care Plan and partial compliment of ministerial staff, which offset projected salaries by \$19,881.





**Property Expenditures** I was impressed to see the hard work of our trustees in managing the costs of our operations. With all of our capital improvements we have managed to be under budget in 2017 by \$17,611

Woodlawn is a generous church and our goal was to see how we could impact our operating budget to return to a balanced operating budget.

Looking forward there are key areas that we believed would have immediate impact to our bottom line in 2018:

1. Ideas on increasing the size of our congregation.
2. Increasing our rental income
3. Giving's Kiosk and expanding our applications for donations
4. Stewardship Campaign

For 2018 we are forecasting a deficit in the amount of (\$52,162). I am personally not in favour of deficit budgets and although it appears necessary through this period of growth we need to be mindful of the impact it has on our reserves as stated on our balance sheet.

I am very confident through our stewardship, participation from our generous congregation, time and talent and leadership in ministry we have set the groundwork for a successful year ahead.

In closing on behalf of my committee take time to especially thank Ivan for his countless hours and dedication he devotes. It doesn't go unnoticed and it is with our gratitude and appreciation.

Submitted by Todd Ellis and Barry Zwicker

### **A&M Rental Committee Report**

The mandate of the Woodlawn United Rentals Committee is to oversee, manage and maintain contracts, usage, and relationships with tenants renting space at Woodlawn. The committee consists of Bev Wicks, Shannon MacLean, Shelley Clee, and Kathy Dean.

The Office Administrator is the first contact for potential renters for information about the spaces we rent, contracts, keys, and conditions of and procedures for usage. 2017-2018 contracts for recurring rentals were reviewed and renewed by the committee in August of 2017 for the new school year start up, which is also our start up period following the summer months. A great deal of work and time went into renewing our policies and tenant contracts for the upcoming year, with a view to completing future years more efficiently.

2017 also saw a complete review of our rental policies and procedures as well as insurance requirements and fees. To comply with Canada Revenue, rentals are charged the same fee for church members and non-members. In addition to the contract and conditions of rental, renters are provided with our Fire and Alcohol Policies.



## 2017 Revenue for Pure Rentals:

### Recurring Tenants: \$23,450.00

Sunrise AA Group  
Bryan Blue Martial Arts  
Dartmouth Community Concerts  
Girl Guides  
Special Needs Dance  
You Gotta Sing Concerts

Alanon/Alateen  
Canadian Blood Services  
Tai Chi  
IODE  
YMCA

### One Time Rentals: \$2,497.51

Private Birthday Party  
Dartmouth East NDP  
Elections Canada  
Mad Science  
Ellenvale School Band  
Royal LePage Xmas Party

Woodlawn Cemetery Company  
HRM Planning Meeting  
Nova First Aid  
NS Special Olympics  
Al Anon AGM  
Shearwater Pipe Band

### For a total of \$25,947.51

- We have one rental due in the amount of \$1400 to be collected to complete the 2017 year.
- We lost one rental group in July, who opted to run the program from a private residence. Shelley is currently addressing the vacancy to attempt to attract a new rental contract.



### COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Like most units of volunteers within the church, the C/PR Team has had a busy year fulfilling the various aspects of its mandate.

#### **Equipment Repairs/Additions:**

Installation of a new computer for Recordings has been in addition to a new power amp. These purchases were made possible by a donation from Couples Club, for which we are very grateful to have received. New shock mounts were also installed for the pulpit and lectern microphones. In addition, anti-static mats were added at the pulpit and lectern microphones to reduce shocks when touching the microphones in cold and dry weather. A new monitor was installed this past year, in both the lobby and in Meeting Room D on the lower level. These two installations were made possible from donations of sales for Hugh Townsend's book.

#### **Audio/Video Operations Team:**

A huge thank-you to everyone who participated in the audio/video aspect of our church services this past year. This service greatly contributes to the success and accessibility of our Sunday worship. We are always looking for additional members for both audio and video functions. Training and support is provided for any interested individual.

#### **Chimes:**

The outdoor chime system at Woodlawn United Church is now fully functioning. Speakers were installed around the exterior of the church allowing Woodlawn to reach out musically to the surrounding neighbourhood. The equipment tower that houses the amps for the chime system still needs to be secured to the wall and one additional speaker for the system may also need to be installed on the driveway side of the new addition. If installed, this additional speaker would alleviate the only "dead" spot around the entire church. This project was generously funded by a combination of Donations from Fran Essex and a reallocation of funds from our Trustees.

#### **Basement Communications:**

Some members of the congregation have commented on the poor quality of communications in the basement at events and concerts in the hall. A proposal to improve this system by upgrading the current speakers and audio amplifier and adding additional speakers in the basement ceiling will be submitted in 2018.

#### **Technology Surveys:**

Three surveys were conducted in the fall of 2017 on i) the sound system, ii) the projection system and iii) the Internet services. The survey results have been analyzed and the following conclusions and recommendations have been identified:

#### **Conclusions:**

- 1) The congregation is generally quite happy with the sound clarity and quality and there is little appetite for costly upgrades
- 2) There is strong support for a better system to address the issue of connectivity to hearing aids
- 3) There is strong support for maintaining the screen projections during worship. There is lesser support for projecting the announcements and less support still for enhancing abilities in camera or background images.



- 4) There is a significant split in congregational views on the screen location, with large support for both the current and new locations.
- 5) There is a mild appetite for spending to increase screen projection services, but cool support for maintaining expensive equipment.
- 6) There is support for the current Internet services.
- 7) There is no strong support for live-streaming services.
- 8) While there is support for expanding Internet services to the Heritage Centre and the basement, there is very soft support to pay for it.

### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that Woodlawn United Church:

- 1) Investigate the feasibility of enhanced sound services for the hearing impaired
- 2) Invest limited money to maintain the current sound quality and minimize technical glitches.
- 3) Maintain the current screen projection service during worship and announcements.
- 4) Invest in expanding the Internet to the entire church property, but only if it can be done for a low cost (2/3 of the respondents were not willing to invest over \$1000 to expand services).

Many thanks to Stewart Sampson for compiling the results of the surveys and writing the accompanying report. Please note that copies of the Survey Report can be obtained by contacting Stewart Sampson via email [stewartsampson@gmail.com](mailto:stewartsampson@gmail.com).

In response to the conclusions and recommendations made by the technology survey report, our team is in talks with Ted Tupper regarding expanding the Wi-Fi signal in the church using two "Wi-Fi access points". Ted is also looking into a solution for expanding Wi-Fi to the Heritage Centre. A cost sharing agreement may be possible between us and the Food Bank as they have inquired about obtaining Internet access in their area of the Heritage Centre.

Lachlan Riehl  
Communications and Public Relations Chair



## COMMUNITY OF CARE

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

*"It makes me feel so warm and cared for." "I keep it close to me at all times." "It felt like God was wrapping arms of love around me." "As my fingers traveled over the knitted loops, I felt the warmth, love and support of my church family."*

These are but a few of the comments that have been received from prayer shawl recipients during the last few months. Amid smiles, hugs, and often many tears, words of gratitude and appreciation have been expressed for the ladies who have crafted these shawls of *Care and Compassion*. Reactions such as these have helped fuel the drive to continue this very important volunteer ministry of Woodlawn UC. Sending prayers in the direction of someone in need is the very essence of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Working mostly at home, our ladies have taken up the challenge of reaching out to those in need of comfort and solace during times of illness, grief, loneliness and other difficulties. Praying into their creations as they knit/crochet, they bring their finished products to church where a special Prayer Shawl Blessing is conducted by Rev. Phillip or Rev. Mary Lynne before being presented to those in need.

You too can be a part of this ministry by knitting/crocheting a prayer shawl; making a financial donation to the Prayer Shawl Ministry to cover costs of yarn, or by bringing forward a name of someone whom you think would benefit from receiving a shawl. If any of these methods have touched your heart to want to help, please contact me at 902-434-2482, email [vivian.hill@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:vivian.hill@ns.sympatico.ca) or the Church Office, 902-434-8302. We would love to hear from you.

*"A prayer shawl wraps someone in a hug that is the accumulation of thoughts and prayers for them."*

Respectfully submitted,  
Vivian Hill,  
Prayer Shawl Ministry Coordinator

### Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care at Woodlawn UC is exercised in many ways. There is that care offered by the clergy staff and by lay people on the PC Committee who visit those confined to hospital. Another aspect of pastoral care is provided to those living in retirement and long-term care homes, and to people who don't get out much from their private homes.

In addition, there is the care provided by members of the congregation to one another in a more informal way because we know and care for people in groups to which we belong.

**HOSPITAL PASTORAL CARE UNIT:** The ministry staff provides crisis care as required, in home, hospital or office. Ministry staff and members of the Hospital Pastoral Care Visitation Unit regularly go to the hospitals in both Dartmouth and Halifax, checking the patient lists for the names of Woodlawn-connected folk. We always appreciate it when people contact the Office and advise when they or family members are/will be in hospital. Efforts are made to make sure no one is missed. However, when a





person is in hospital for only a short stay, it is possible for that to occur between visits of Woodlawn visitors.

When we visit people in hospital, we not only bring a friendly face, greetings and concern, but also ask if the patient's name may be shown in the bulletin. We always try to have a bulletin of a recent service to leave with the patient to help them stay connected with Woodlawn. We are also pleased to join the patient in prayer. The lay hospital visitors report back results to the other unit members, the clergy staff and the Office.

**HOME VISITATION UNIT:** This group carries out visits to people in their own homes or place of residence, and try to do so at least once in each six week period. They bring church service bulletins, a friendly face and a listening ear. A goal is to, at least once a year, bring communion to the homes of those who cannot get out to church. The need for this kind of ministry continues to grow and welcomes more volunteers to assist in its fulfilment.

This past November, Pastoral Care members offered afternoon and evening sessions to acquaint people with the process and to invite them to consider joining this ministry. We were pleased that a good number of people attended and many of them "signed up"! We hasten to say that there is still room for more volunteers to participate in this important ministry!!

Respectfully submitted by Don Hill

### **Kindred Spirits**

Kindred Spirits meets the second Wednesday of each month in Room B, at 11:30 am. We have a short program followed by tea and a light lunch. This group is a great way to stay connected. Our focus is to provide a safe, social atmosphere for those of us who have lost our spouses and would like to connect with and engage with others in the same or similar circumstances. Widows of any age or stage are welcome to join in.

Submitted by Bea Boutilier and Reta Erskine

### **Fellowship**

Fellowship time is a social time after most church services where coffee, tea and juice are served in the hall. We also enjoy the leftover sweets and breads from the Forest Hills Tim Hortons store. Each week, usually two volunteers, pick up the sweets and prepare the beverages. They also serve and clean up afterwards.

This year we served coffee etc. 40 times and had 50 different volunteers doing the preparations. The money that is raised goes to buying the supplies and to the church's general fund.

Thank you to all the willing volunteers who make this fellowship time possible. I especially want to thank James Lacey who does the dishes most of the time and Jean Adams who returns the bins to Tims whenever possible.



This Tim Hortons store has been doing this for approximately 20 years. Please support them when you need a coffee break.

Submitted by Shirley Zwicker  
Fellowship Committee

### **Statistics**

Our Congregational Roll at year end (2017) stood at 639 households and 1525 individuals under pastoral care. During the year (2017), 37 individuals were added to our Congregational Roll and 65 were deleted for various reasons (relocated, deceased, unable to locate).

During the year (2017) 2 individuals were added to our Historical Roll (by transfer in) and 19 individuals were removed from the Historical Roll (1 by transfer out and 18 as deceased).

Submitted by Joan Mikkelsen

### **Widower's Group**

This group of men meet every 1 to 2 months. Philip makes contact with men who have lost their spouses. They meet for coffee to connect and engage with others experiencing similar circumstances.

Submitted by Philip Kennedy

## **MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

### **Introduction**

The 2017 Ministry and Personnel Committee (M&P) consisted of Stephanie Dagnall, Ken Brown, Hugh Townsend, and Don Trider (Chair).

### **Role of the Ministry and Personnel Committee**

The key role of the M&P committee is the requirement to be a consultative and supportive body for the members and adherents of the congregation and for our staff. Our committee reports to the Church Council regarding our activities.

Our official duties are spelled out in the United Church of Canada manual and many of the matters we address are found within United Church of Canada policies, the Terms of Call, and contracts with our ministry team.

There is always a requirement to ensure open, healthy, and respectful dialogue within the church and one of the tasks of the Ministry and Personnel Committee is to facilitate such dialogue between staff and the congregation.

### **Our focus for 2017**

Your Ministry and Personnel Committee held many meetings this past year to address matters pertinent to its mandate. Perhaps the most important was undertaking a performance review process for each



staff member. While Shannon carried the work load for this task for Shelley and Ruth, the committee members carried the work load for Rev. Phillip, Shannon, and Bob.

We reviewed the United Church suggestions for undertaking an annual review for Ministry personnel and staff and we discussed several options for collecting information. We created groups of approximately 15 members of the congregation for the purpose of collecting objective feedback. These individuals were handpicked from names suggested by the M&P committee and staff. Each group included five members of Council drawn at random.

We created a simple data collection questionnaire that asked for input on what each staff member does that members wanted to see continued, what they wanted to see stopped, and what new approaches they wanted staff to consider. The responses were compiled into a useable format and presented to respective staff members.

A second task of the committee for 2017 was supporting the Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) as they undertook their role to address the vacancy created by Rev. Valerie's retirement. In this regard we undertook a review of the job descriptions for the Minister of Congregational Development, Administration, and Worship Sacraments; and, the Minister of Pastoral Care, Spiritual Development, Worship and Sacraments.

As Chair of Ministry and Personnel I was asked to join with Brian Moors and Jerry Jackson to recruit staff to fill the vacancy until such time as the Congregation received and acted on the JNAC report. This activity resulted in Council approving the appointment of Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte as Minister of Pastoral Care, Spiritual Development, Worship, and Sacraments.

The third task of the M&P committee was to focus on ensuring open, healthy, and respectful dialogue between staff and the congregation with a specific focus on conflict resolution. In any organization where people are involved conflict is inevitable. Most conflict is not conflict at all; rather, it is a disagreement over an action or opinion. In these instances it is reasonable to expect the parties to meet on their own to seek a resolution.

In other instances the conflict can be much deeper in its impact. Physical contact, verbal confrontation, and anonymous threatening letters, are examples of conflict that can cause deeper, lasting wounds. It is this kind of conflict that we wanted to address and Council subsequently approved our policy proposal. The process is essentially aimed at getting the parties together in a formal setting to review the facts and arrive at an understanding and a resolution.

### **Thanks to our staff**

The M&P committee acknowledges the work of our staff; work that is undertaken within a very complex environment. We are blessed to have a strong ministry team in Shannon, Mary Lynne, and Phillip and we thank them for their dedication and commitment. Of course we provide a special welcome to Rev. Mary Lynne who joined us in October. Their leadership in so many areas has created a variety of programs and, equally as important, has created a friendly and spiritual environment.

We offer special thanks to Rev. Valerie Kennedy who this year officially retired from her role as Minister of Pastoral Care, Spiritual Development, Worship and Sacraments. Rev. Valerie provided many years of compassionate pastoral care, creativity, and, of course, hugs as she served the congregation. We wish her good health and best wishes in the years ahead.



We continue to rejoice in having Robert (Bob) Rushton as our Organist and Choir Director. The congregation regularly applauds his musical selections, the contributions of our choirs, and their music generally. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of June Rigden, and Jim Farmer as valuable contributors to the Music ministry we have here at Woodlawn.

Within this annual report we acknowledge with thanks the participation of Rev. Holly Edsall who provided pulpit supply and pastoral care until Rev. Mary Lynne joined us in October.

We also are thankful for the dedicated work of our Office Administrator Shelley Clee and our office support person Ruth Boutilier. They are often the first contact we have in our roles as volunteers and congregants and we certainly appreciate their pleasant welcome and attention to detail. We are very proud of our entire team.

Respectively Submitted:  
Don Trider, Chair

### **PRESBYTERY REPORT**

Elected delegates from Woodlawn in 2017 were Jane Twohig & Jerry Jackson. We have two vacant lay positions. Rev Phillip Kennedy, Rev Mary Lynne Whyte and Shannon are also members of Presbytery. During the past year the full Presbytery met 6 times, every second month. The executive meets on alternate months, and when circumstances require. Our Chair of Presbytery this year was Rev Heather Fraser from Fairview United. The Secretary of Presbytery was Rev. Stephen Fram from Grace United in Dartmouth. The Presbytery dealt with its' regular staple of responsibilities including supporting students, working with congregations on joint needs assessment committees & joint search committees, as well as triennial reviews and assisting congregations in crisis. In addition, presbytery dealt with a number of Remits, a comprehensive review of the governance and restructuring of the church. Students in process from Woodlawn are Kim Curlett & Shannon MacLean. The Nominating Committee of Presbytery is always seeking members to all the various committees and boards. Learn more about the very important work of Halifax Presbytery by checking out their website; [www.halifaxpresbytery.ca](http://www.halifaxpresbytery.ca)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jerry Jackson Presbytery Rep Woodlawn United



### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Program co-chairs provide oversight for the Worship Committee, the Outreach Committee and CD. As well the Program chair is responsible for Pulpit Supply when staff is on vacation or otherwise unavailable ie. study leave, illness, conference.

The Worship Committee met this year under the capable leadership of Dodie Covert. This group oversees all parts of worship and needs of the sanctuary. This involves subgroups who take care of Communion, ushers, greeters, sound, music, chancel decor, banners, storage, baptism and funerals, and others I may have missed. Suffice to say many volunteers come together to make the services happen at Woodlawn United Church and this varied group are co-ordinated by and report to the Worship Committee .

Part of the Committee's oversight is to review policies. This year The Duties and Responsibilities of the Worship Committee were reviewed and revised, as was the Marriage Policy. A survey of the congregation was conducted to understand the congregation's response to starting church early with a hymn sign and announcements. Based on the responses, changes were made for 2018.

Some other changes include: new railings installed on the Chancel steps, repairs made to the carpet in the Chancel, the mobile Communion Table is now placed on the left side of the Sanctuary and a new Christmas Tree for the Sanctuary was purchased.

There were sixteen funerals conducted by the Woodlawn Ministry Team this year.

Thank you to all the volunteers and team members who dedicate themselves to this work at Woodlawn United.

The Outreach Committee under the leadership of Jane Cushing works diligently to understand and seek answers to poverty and injustices here in our local area as well as worldwide. Members attend meetings and work on committees in many organizations in the community.

The Christmas outreach program is a major effort by the committee. This program has many facets: a Mitten Tree, Back Packs, Shoe Boxes, Sleeping Children Around the World as well as supporting families in need with gifts, food and a food card to purchase protein for their Christmas meal. To put this all together at such a busy time of year is a huge task helped by the congregation's generosity and many motivated volunteers. Many inspiring stories of love and gratitude are shared and treasured by all the volunteers. Thank you to all the folks who help this outreach effort. The committee is reflecting on new projects and ideas in which to become involved in 2018. It should be an exciting year.

CD, Christian Development, does not meet as a Committee because no one has accepted the responsibility of chairperson. However Shannon MacLean, our youth minister, continues with many volunteers to offer Sunday School for children, a tweens group, a Youth group and TGIT group which discusses, debates and gives information on a variety of interesting topics on Thursday evenings. The above is a brief outline of youth involvement in our congregation. Retreats, projects, unique youth led church services and trips to Cuba to visit and support CCRD in Cuba.

With the retirement of Rev. Valerie Kennedy early in 2017, Rev. Holly Edsall did Pulpit supply and visitation on a part time basis until September. Her ministry was appreciated by many congregants. In





October Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte joined our ministry team on a full time appointment until September 2018. Rev. Mary Lynne brings a wealth of musical ability and knowledge which she shares with the congregation. Rev. Roland Murray, Jerry Jackson and Jim Farmer also led us in worship this year. A personal 'thank you' to all of the above for their commitment and ministry to Woodlawn United Church. Don Trider has been a co-chair of Program for a couple of years and rotates off the committee this year. I thank Don for his help, counsel, and friendship as we worked together to support the programs of the church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brian Moors, Co-Chair Program Committee

### **Christian Development (CD) (No report as Chair position is currently Vacant)**

#### **Couples Club**

Couples Club has had a successful year with approximately 27 couples taking part. We began the year in Feb. with our annual Bingo game with the seniors at Oakwood Terrace followed by supper at Boston Pizza. We have as much fun as they do with all the prizes, snacks and good conversation.

In March we met at church and made plans for the lobster supper and auction followed by a card game called Golf. I am pretty sure there were snacks involved here too.

A chili supper and more planning for the auction and dinner took place in April.

Our big fundraiser was the lobster dinner and auction on May 27. This takes a lot of preparation but we seem to have the formula down pat now. We raised \$8000 which were dispersed as follows.

Accessibility fund -\$3500

Trustees for shrubbery and scaffolding -\$1000

Sound system improvements -\$1000

Camp Kidston -\$1500 to be donated at a later date for a particular project.

The book sale which started at the lobster supper and has continued on a cart in the church foyer with people giving donations for a book whenever they wish has raised approximately \$300 to date.

We resumed in the fall with a corn boil and campfire at Jim and Nancy Allen's backyard. This is also a potluck event with lots of good food.

In Oct. we opened our meeting to the congregation and had Jessica Lyle come speak to us about estate planning. She was very informative and many people attended.

Our Dec. event which brings cheer to many of our shut-ins is an afternoon of caroling. This year we spent time at Parkland, Oakwood Terrace and several private residences. Then we enjoyed pizza back at the church. On Christmas Eve a few of our members served hot cider to the congregation after the 10:00 service. This was a beautiful evening and a great way to end the year.



### **Coffee House**

The Coffee House began 20 years ago to service the Special Needs youth (ages 16 years and up) and adults in our community and surrounding areas with a safe, welcoming and inviting place to socialize and met new friends. We hold the coffee house once a month on a Saturday evening from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. It is usually held on the last Saturday of the month. We hold theme based events such as the Halloween party, Christmas potluck and carol sing, Easter party, 50's dance and spring ice cream social. There are approximately 25-40 participants each month. The evening consists of games, crafts, music and lots of laughter.

This venture would not be possible if not for the support of the Outreach Committee, the UCW and of course, Woodlawn United Church itself. Thank you on behalf of Brenda Blair, Donna Jackson, and all of the participants of the Coffee House.

Brenda Blair and Donna Jackson  
Co-coordinators of The Coffee House

### **1st Woodlawn Scout Group Committee**

Woodlawn United Church's Scouts had an adventurous 2017! We are still the largest group in Nova Scotia and continue to offer quality programs in the Beaver, Cub, Scout, Venturer and Rover Sections. At the end of the 2017 we numbered 91 youth and 24 Scouters for a total membership of 115.

Here are some of the highlights.

Last summer Nova Scotia hosted the 13th Canadian Scout Jamboree '17 to which many of our Scouts, Venturers and Scouters had attended and left with great memories.

The fall saw a few volunteers with long service leave us to take on other challenges. We thank Mrs. Gail Shea, Mr. Donald Sanford and Mrs. Sarah Dorey for their many years of dedication to our youth and their fellowship.

Our prospects for 2018 look good. All of our Sections are active and looking forward to attending planned Section hikes, camps and their favourite annual Area Scout events.

Please note that that we welcome all inquiries about our program and are always happy to take on new members and volunteers throughout the year.

On behalf of the Youth and Scouters of 1st Woodlawn Scout Group,

George Mawko, Group Comissioner



### Girl Guides

The January to December 2017 guiding year has been a very exciting year. Girl Guides of Canada Brookhouse District consists of 12 units which meet at Iona Presbyterian Church, Portland Estate School and both buildings at Woodlawn United Church. There are 31 Leaders and 95 girls meeting at Woodlawn weekly. The groups that meet at the Woodlawn brick church consist of 1 Spark unit, 2 Brownie units and a Girl Guide unit. On Tuesday night Spark and Brownies share the facility and on Wednesday night the other Brownie unit and the Girl Guide unit share the facility. This provides our units an excellent opportunity to bridge with each other. The groups that meet at the little white church are 1 Spark unit, 1 Pathfinder unit and 1 Trex unit.

Over the past 2017 guiding year, the leaders have been working very hard to provide their unit's with the guiding program, camping experience, community service projects, challenges and many fun filled craft, games and activities. Here is an outline of some of the activities that each branch has been working on throughout the 2017 calendar year.

The two Spark units have been very busy working on program, crafts, indoor campfires, playing indoor and outdoor games, attending 4 camps, paint night, movie night. They completed 2 challenges: Cookie Challenge and Snowflake Ball. They had Valentine's, Easter, Halloween and Christmas parties. They also took part in the District Thinking Day event at Cole Harbour Place, Area's Pink Explosion, Clay Café, Enrolment and Fly-up to Brownies.

The two Brownie groups embarked on many exciting learning adventures by completing five Keys and as a group earning a total of 35 badges. Some of the highlights included 4 camps and 2 sleepovers, many parties which included Valentines, Thinking Day, Easter, End of The Year party, District Fly Up where the 2<sup>nd</sup> year girls move up to Girl Guides, Halloween and a Fall Enrolment. Throughout the guiding year, they participated in outings, hikes at Shubie Park, crafts, were visited by 5 guest speakers and were involved in 2 community service projects. They also hosted a career night where they invited friends, families and other guiding units. They also complete 3 challenges: Cross Canada, Girl Empowerment and the Hersey Chocolate Challenge. In November they made Valentines for the Vet at Cole Harbour Place.

The Girl Guide unit had a very busy year with planning and going to one winter camp and spring camp, outings a trip to the Discovery Centre and The Nova Scotia Art Museum, completed several challenges including the Cookie Bites Nova Scotia Challenge, Halifax Explosion Challenge and the WAGGGS Challenge. They had guest speakers from Let's Sprout which is an environmental service organization, St John's Ambulance and Dalhousie Let's Talk Science. They completed several service projects from Margaret's House, helped out at the Food Bank and picked up litter in the church yard.

The Pathfinders and Trex unit have also been very busy hosting several parties during the year and organizing and inviting the Sparks and Girl Guides to attend. They attended four camps, two that took place in the spring, one winter and fall camp. They attended a special event where they went to the movies and watched Hidden Figures. They worked on a community service project for Feeding Others of Dartmouth. They planned a Wizard of Oz Enrolment and had a visit from a roller derby team. They completed the Accessibility Challenge and the Canada 150 Challenge. Also, five Pathfinders had completed their Canada Cord, which is the highest award at the Pathfinder level.



I want to take this opportunity to thank Woodlawn United Church for providing the five branches of guiding a place for the girls to learn, develop and have fun. Without your generous support, we would not be able to provide this opportunity to our girls. We greatly appreciate all you do for the guiding movement.

Yours In Guiding

Denise Roberts Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada  
Brookhouse District Commissioner

### OUTREACH REPORT

Once again, the Outreach Committee ended the year on a high note with the whole hearted support of the White Gift program by the Woodlawn United congregation. From mid-November until Delivery Day on December 20, members of the Committee were busy with phone calls, shoe boxes, back packs, special gifts, donations of toiletries, toys, clothing, games, books and lots of mittens, scarves, hats, and new personal wear.

Arrangements were made with Baker Drive Sobey's and Dave's Market for grocery and fresh produce orders. December 20 was a beautiful sunny day and, with the willing assistance of many volunteers, all of the gifts, food, mitts and underwear were soon in the homes of the 24 families who were pleased and showed their appreciation with Thank You cards. Christmas would come to them and their children.

During the year, the Committee met monthly to hear reports on the school Breakfast program (now a Grab and Go brown bag), Feeding Others of Dartmouth (FOOD), Phoenix Youth, East Dartmouth Christian Food Bank, Face of Poverty Consultation and the Dartmouth East Community Health board. These programs fall under the general umbrella of the Outreach committee and to which we make donations but they are run independently.

The Benevolent program also reports at Outreach meetings. The ministers now meet with those requesting funds to better understand their needs and how to be of assistance. Face of Poverty provided staff with links to the Good Neighbour Energy Fund and Heating Assistance Rebate Plan. Funds were donated for school supplies to area schools, which were much appreciated.

A project to arrange transport for people to come to church resulted in few volunteers but a Buddy System of those who know each other has emerged. We supported an entertaining evening by Project ARC (Action, Responsibility, Choice) put on by a group of teens who also perform at local schools. We are still exploring how to set up a social group for new Moms who can share tips and discuss their concerns of raising children with others. A public health nurse is willing to lead some classes.

An ongoing project is a study of our Mission Statement to see if it accurately reflects the work we do. We discussed the meaning of Outreach—what is Outreach, who does Outreach and to whom do we reach out? Outreach is done by the Committee and also by members of the congregation who volunteer at schools, hospitals, seniors' homes, teaching Sunday School, knitting mittens, making chowder lunches and feeding others. Donations are made to youth projects, for overseas needs, for the homeless, and in response to emergencies. Woodlawn United church is well represented in the community by the work of the congregation. Our facilities are used for meetings of service groups, youth groups, the Canadian Blood Services, Alcoholics Anonymous, discussion groups which are open to the public, Time Out for



Crafts, Time Out for Seniors, Tai Chi and education evenings such as a Forum on Racial Discrimination and a Blanket Exercise sponsored by KAIROS. Woodlawn United church is a welcoming and caring community, both in our immediate area and in the world.

Money received from the White Gifts and from the Kiwanis this year has gone to Feeding Others of Dartmouth, the Coffee House, East Dartmouth Boys and Girls Club, sent a camper to Camp Kidston, for Phoenix Youth snacks, Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre, Brunswick Street Mission, Metro Community Living and Among Friends Social Club, and to assist in mail-outs by the Stewardship Committee, as well as supporting the 24 Families at Christmas. Woodlawn United is a generous church community as well.

Once again, many thanks to each member of the Outreach Committee and to the congregation who allow us, through your donations and support, to be the hands of Christ in the world.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Cushing

### **Dartmouth East Christian Food Bank**

2017 was a successful year at the EDCFB. We supplied product to 1966 families which would include approximately 4500 souls. Some of these folks come monthly to the food bank, some only once, but all suffer food insecurity. With the help of our five supporting churches; Iona, St. Thomas More, Woodlawn United, St. Lukes and Stephens Road Baptist as well as the community as a whole, we were able to raise funds in excess of \$30,000 to supplement the items donated and delivered to us by Feed Nova Scotia. Our board consists of two directors from each church as well as two members at large. The board has been very busy this year searching for a person or persons to shadow Pat Rodenhiser so they could fill in when Pat steps aside for a day or a longer period of time. The board realizes succession planning is an important part of the ongoing success of the food bank. Anyone who feels a calling to help with this process, please contact the undersigned.

The board also invited leaders from Feed Nova Scotia to attend our fall meeting and help us with some ideas to improve our efforts. One of the items that came forth was computerization of our roll as well as follow up visits. Involving ourselves as a food bank in more than food insecurity and supply for our clients was another shared idea. These are goals the board will be working toward in 2018 along with the Outreach / Mission Committees of each church.

Due to the hard work of the trustees at Woodlawn, renovations have taken place to make our food bank accessible to clients with mobility challenges. Doorways were widened to allow for wheelchairs and a ramp was built to allow access. As well, a loading dock was made as part of the ramp structure which allows for safer discharge of the Feed Nova Scotia truck, both for the volunteers and the truck. This work continues with a goal to make the washroom fully accessible in 2018. A huge thank you to all who formulated and worked on this project.

The food bank is fortunate to have dedicated volunteers from all the churches and the community who come each Wednesday and or Thursday to unload product, store it and then distribute it. Many hands make for light work. We can use more volunteers who can lift items as some of the tasks require this skill. A couple times a year this group goes for lunch at a local restaurant. It is for me a chance to meet our many volunteers and thank them personally for their efforts, as we just could not operate without



them. Again this year Pat Rodenhiser captained and steered the “ship” in the right direction. Pat, we thank you for your continued passionate leadership.

In closing I would like to thank the board members for their support and encouragement over the year. I feel we have achieved a lot in 2017. You have been a great group with which to work.

Respectfully Submitted ,  
Brian Moors, Chairperson  
EDCFB

### **Kiwanis Club of Woodlawn**

The association between the Kiwanis Club of Woodlawn and the Woodlawn United Church has now been ongoing for 33 years and it's anticipated that this arrangement will continue for the foreseeable future. The Kiwanis Club of Woodlawn would like to express its appreciation to the executive of Woodlawn United Church and its members for allowing our Club to meet weekly throughout the year in their buildings. The use of church property and furnishings for our Tuesday's Senior Card Social (Time out for Senior's) is greatly appreciated. Our support of the East Dartmouth Christian Food Bank and Time out for Senior's continues to be popular with the membership. We are also active in the delivery of library books to shut-ins, Information Desks at the IWK, and Breakfast for Learning at Col John Stuart Elementary School plus mentoring at a leadership camp for mid-teens. We support the Boys and Girls Club of East Dartmouth in their programs Inc. their nutrition program, and summer camp program. Recently we have added Alderney Elementary as a school that needs support. On the global scene we support the eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus around the world. New members are always welcome. Contact Ray at 902 434 2819.

Respectfully submitted  
Ron Burbidge, Secretary, Kiwanis Club of Woodlawn for,  
Bob Anthony, 2017-18 Club President

### **Time Out For Crafts**

Time Out is an outreach project open to anyone in the community. All teachers are volunteers, as well as two in the kitchen who provide tea and coffee every week. The fellowship is great, along with learning a new craft or perhaps just keeping with an old one, so come on out and join us. We welcome new members.

We had two sessions in 2017, with a registration of 50 in January and 59 in September. At the end of each session we have a display of our crafts, along with tea/coffee served with an assortment of goodies. All are invited to come and join in the fellowship. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. Registration takes place about the second week of January and the second week of September. Fee is \$20.00 for ten weeks of instruction.

Courses offered were: Crochet, Knitting, Quilting, Needlework of various kinds, Decorative Painting, and Bridge. We have been very lucky in having teachers who keep coming back year after year, some over 30 years. Our thanks this year go to: Elizabeth Crawford, Cindy Crane, Norma Hemming, Rita Erskine,



Dorothy Sams, Violet Ore and Joanne Kane. We were saddened by the passing of one of our Tole Painter teachers, Joan MacDougall in April. She is greatly missed.

Committee members are: Thelma Ernst, Jean Romkey, Joan Angus and Dorothy Sams. Thanks certainly go to the ladies in the kitchen – Thelma and Aruna Khan. Please come join us on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. to register. We would like to have some new classes. If you have a new craft you would like to lead, such as Scrapbooking, Rug Hooking or another not listed above, please phone Dorothy at 434-0989 or email at: dfsams@gmail.com.

### **Financial Statement:**

Carried forward from 2016: \$00.00

#### **Receipts:**

Registration fees \$2170.00

**Total: \$2170.00**

#### **Disbursements:**

Woodlawn United Church \$1100.00

Woodlawn Accessibility \$ 730.00

UCW for tea urn \$ 250.00

Supplies - tea, coffee, photocopying, etc. \$ 90.00

Total Disbursements: \$2170.00

**Balance on hand end of December 2017: \$ 00.00**

*Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Sams*

### **Time Out for Seniors**

The Kiwanis Club of Woodlawn provides an opportunity for the seniors (and others at home alone) in our community to get together for an afternoon of bridge or cribbage. With 115 registered players, between 40 and 60 friends gather weekly at the Woodlawn United Church hall on Tuesday afternoons (early September – end of June) for fellowship and a light snack - and of course a hand or two of cards. The games usually begin at one o'clock in the afternoon, but the set-up crew is there an hour before that, so don't be shy about coming a little early and getting out of the cold. The proceeds (\$3.00 per) from this event are used for a number of community programs, and in particular Woodlawn United Church received \$2800 for their outreach programs (Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>).

Respectfully submitted

Ron Burbidge, Secretary, Kiwanis Club of Woodlawn for

Bob Anthony, 2017-18 Club President





### RECRUITMENT

The Recruitment Team consists of Teri Giannou, Vivian Hill, Brian Moors, Rev. Phillip Kennedy, Shannon Mac Lean, Shirley MacLeod and Adelia Holloway. We have had three meetings in 2016 and continue and correspond by email. We have approached many members about various positions and have had success with building the teams with new membership. We are so pleased and encouraged that some of our new WUC members have joined committees. We continue to search for Chairs and Co-Chairs for the vacant positions listed on the Recruitment Report and Nomination List 2017. Thank you to the team for their ongoing work on this project.

Adelia Holloway, Recruitment Team

### WORSHIP TEAM

2017 was a busy year for your Worship Team. We began the year with Jerry Jackson and Dodie Covert as co-chairs. In March Jerry elected to leave the chair and Dodie agreed to continue on as chair. Many of the matters we are asked to deal with come from input from you, the members of the congregation and we are always open to anything you wish to tell us.

Acknowledgment of Mi'Kmaq land: This is part of the Peace and Reconciliation work. Most of the churches in HRM, at Conference and Presbytery meetings and at Berwick Camp make this acknowledgement and we have begun to do the same at Woodlawn this year.

Handrails: It had been observed by many that many people were having difficulty navigating the steps to the Chancel. A request was made to trustees and we now have handrails to assist.

Scripture: Now shown on the screen – to allow people to follow along more easily as some had difficulty hearing the readers

Automatic External Defibrillator (AED): Purchased and presentation to congregation made by Jan Jensen with many thanks

Education: Phillip Kennedy has been periodically giving 10 minute education sessions to the Worship Team members during a few of our meetings. This year we had a session on Communion and another A Reflection on Funerals.

Ushers: Alan Ellis continues to arrange for ushers. In the Fall we did a phone survey to determine who on our list still is able and wants to usher. We found that we have over 40 fewer people able to serve as ushers. Anyone interested is asked to please come forward to Alan and offer your services

Worship Assistant: Numbers are also down. We try to limit the number of Sundays served to 3 a year. Call Dodie at 902-434-4620 if you would like to assist with this service to your church

Policy Updates: This year Worship has reviewed and updated

- Worship Team Responsibilities



- Wedding Policy and Wedding Application
- Funeral Policy to be reviewed in 2018

Hymn Sing and Announcements Survey: After trying out hymn sing every Sunday at 9:40 followed by announcements at 9:50 a survey was conducted. Results showed that the majority did not want the Hymn Sing every week so it has been changed to once a month. The majority liked the announcement before the service but as there were other comments about people missing them if they came to church at 10 and the minister no longer being able to speak with congregants and pray with the choir as he used to before the service the timing of the announcements was changed to 5 minutes before the service and people are being asked to keep any announcements less than 2 minutes and /or put them in the bulletin.

Christmas Eve Services: As Christmas Eve was on a Sunday this year Worship decided that there was no need for 4 services. Therefore, we eliminated the 7 pm service for this year only.

Prayer requests: As it was observed that some people do not feel comfortable shouting out prayer requests from the pews, an alternative method was instituted in which prayer requests can be written out, attached to a board and the ministers receive them before service begins.  
Funerals and Baptisms under separate reports.

I would like to thank all those people work so tirelessly to fulfill their role – be it getting ushers and ushering, hanging banners, looking after the Chancel, getting greeters and being greeters, reading scripture, creating power points, manning the sound booth and serving as Worship Assistants. Without the many hands offering to do the work it would not get done.

Bless you all.

Respectfully submitted  
Dodie Covert, Chair of Worship



### Chancel Report

We continue to try to make our sanctuary a welcoming place in which to worship God. During 2017 we did our best to try to provide a pleasant environment and still match the Church's liturgical seasons. Thank you to everyone who helped us achieve our goal by helping out on special occasions, such as decorating for Christmas and Easter. We are lucky to have a dedicated group of people who are willing to regularly come to help whenever I call on them, and I can't tell them how much I appreciate their assistance.

Thank you also to those who brought food to add to our donation of food for the food bank at Thanksgiving and to those who carried the food over after the service.

We purchased a new "lighted" Christmas tree this year and it made our decorating much easier. I hope you enjoyed seeing it. Thank you, too, to all of those who donated the lovely memorial pointsettias over the Holiday season. Their beautiful foliage is such a lovely addition to the Sanctuary at this time of year. Please keep us in mind if you are moving or have no further use for vases, florals, etc., as they might be able to be used in the Sanctuary.

If you have any questions about our Committee or would like to be involved with us, please contact me at (902) 462-2261.

Submitted by Carol Fulmer,  
Chair, Chancel Committee



## Funeral Report

	Name	Date of Death	Date of Visitation(s) Held at WUC	Date of Funeral	Clergy	Liaison Coordinator	Funeral Home staff present re *pre Funeral or Funeral at WUC	UCW Reception -No.'s booked	Funeral Held at Funeral Home or Other Location
1	Connell, Jack	Jan 19 2017		Jan 24 2017	Rev. Phillip	Myrna	*Serenity (L.A.)	150	
2	Boutilier, Cecil Weldon	Feb 12 2017		Feb 15 2017	Rev. Phillip	Myrna	Atlantic	80	
3	Eisener, Douglas	Mar 15 2017		April 8 2017	Rev Holly Edsall	Sheila	Mattatall's	250	
4	Parks, Vera	April 28 2017		May 2 2017	Rev. Phillip				Atlantic
5	Pohlmann, Ellen Margaret	April 30 2017		May 4 2017	Rev. Phillip	Sheila		75	
6	Ashford, Marial Marguerite	July 12 2017		July 18 2017	Rev. Phillip				Atlantic
7	Hill, Graeme Earl	July 17 2017		July 28 2017	Rev. Phillip/Rev. Roland Murray	Sheila	J.Albert Walker	300	
8	Robertson, Edith Margaret	July 20 2017		July 25 10'7	Rev. Phillip/Rev Ivan Gregan	Sheila	Atlantic	100	
9	Cole, Robert Jack	July 22 2017		July 29 2017	Rev. Phillip	Myrna	*Serenity (L.A.)	150	
10	Perry, Janet Maude	Aug. 27 2017		Aug. 30 2017	Rev. Phillip	Nell		75	
11	Hartley, Carol B.	Aug 31 2017		Sept 4 2017	Rev. Phillip/Rev. John Harley	Myrna		150	
12	Brown, Sigrid Isabel	Sep 03 2017			Rev. Phillip				Woodlawn Cemetery
13	Dillman, Wilfred Anthony	Sep 08 2017	Sep 13 2017	Sep 14 2017	Rev. Phillip	Nell		300	
14	Osborne, Lloyd Ross	Oct 18 2017		Oct 23 2017	Rev Phillip/Rev Ivan Gregan	Sheila	Mattatall's	250	
15	Polley, Christine Bell	Nov 4 2017		Nov 13 2017	Rev Mary Lynne W.	Myrna		100	
16	Lane, Josiah Claude	Dec 15 2017		Dec 18 2017	Rev Mary Lynne W.	Nell		50	
Report Respectfully submitted on behalf of Funeral Liaisons by Nell Mallett									



### MUSIC DEPARTMENT 2017

At Woodlawn United Church we are blessed with a strong and dedicated group of musicians who support us each Sunday morning by sharing their talents in worship. Praising God through music has long been an accepted practice throughout Christendom. Singing is a form of prayer, and the addition of instrumentalists from time to time has enhanced our worship services, as well as creating both spiritually and culturally enriching experiences for many.

In addition to our regular Sunday musical offerings by all Woodlawn ensembles, highlights would include the massed choir Good Friday plus Easter Celebrations, Remembrance Day observances, our traditional combined Salvation Army and Woodlawn Choirs concert which this year recognized 30 years of fabulous concerts and finally our multitude of performances at the year-end Christmas celebrations.

As always, we have been fortunate to have performances from the *Woodlawn Choir*, *Polyphony*, *Mitzvah*, *Tapestry*, *Vocal Impact*, the *Men's Quartet*, *Women's Choir*, *Men's Choir*, and the *youth and children's choirs*. Overall our membership in these ensembles remains stable and I would like to thank each and every loyal chorister, as well as my musical partners,

Jim Farmer, June Rigden, Dodie Covert, Krissy Jupp, and Caron Eagan. I would also like to recognize the support and incredible work of our Ministry Staff (Rev. Philip Kennedy, Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte and Shannon MacLean) along with the patience of our office personnel Shelley Clee and Ruth Boutilier. In addition, it is important to recognize the tireless efforts of our music librarians, Dodie Covert, Mona Ellis, Sheila Richardson and Linda Sinclair, whose work "behind the scenes" is so very much appreciated.

Looking towards the future, I would like to enhance and encourage further development within the music programs at Woodlawn with the addition of a chime choir. These instruments could be used by Woodlawn members of all ages, from Sunday School children to senior members. Hand chimes add a unique beauty to musical offerings, require little rehearsal, and would, from time to time, expand the number of people in our musical family.

Respectfully submitted:

*Robert E. Rushton*, Director of Music  
Woodlawn United Church

### STEWARDSHIP

Another year has come and gone with lots of positive things happening with the Stewardship Team. We endeavor to try and promote the 5 T's of Stewardship which are Time, Talent, Treasure, Tissue and Terrain.

This year we again worked with Mary Osborne, Woodlawn's Mission & Service (global) enthusiast and we looked after Woodlawn's Mission & Service (local) minute talks at the church services. Local had talks on Outreach work, PAR, AGM, Trash to Treasure program, Food Bank, 133 Anniversary, as well as the Face of Poverty. Please see Mary's report that follows.



### MISSION AND SERVICE ENTHUSIAST REPORT - 2017

When we listen to the Minutes for Mission, or watch the videos presented during worship services during the year, it is exciting to learn how our gifts to Mission and Service bring hope, healing, and justice to the world. It adds to the vitality of a faith community to be part of something bigger than ourselves. What we do together through Mission and Service none of us could do alone. I would like to thank all those who so willingly presented the "Minutes".

In 2017 Woodlawn congregation generously gave \$2,500 through the Lenten "Toonies for M & S" project in support of Mission and Service. As your Enthusiast I thank each of you very, very much for your gifts.

On June 4th Woodlawn hosted "The Four Men" who presented "Songs of Love, Hope, and Inspiration". This was a lovely musical evening which raised \$440. for Mission and Service as well as \$440 for the Accessibility Fund.

In 2017, 199 members of the congregation supported Mission & Service. If Mission & Service giving is not already a regular part of your life, please join me in making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Osborne

**Narrative Budget:** At the AGM we had two pie chart inserts in the annual report showing the budgeted revenue and expenses for 2017. The expenses were shown in four categories: Worship, Caring, Reaching Out and Learning. Pictures were shown on the screen during the offering of the past years events. Thanks to all who helped with this.

**Time & Talent:** This past year for Time & Talent we put a small paper in the bulletin for about 15 weeks called Spirit Connections. Each week the paper would briefly tell about a different activity or group in the church such as choir, UCW, tellers, greeters, and so on. The contact would be on the sheet or you could put your own name and number on it and pass it in. We did connect a number of new people to groups through this method. We are discussing how we will do Time & Talent this year.

**Newcomers:** Newcomers meetings were held most months on the last Sunday of the month this past year in Room B following the church service. It is a chance for anyone new to the congregation to meet with one of the ministers and some members of the Stewardship committee. After a short meeting newcomers are taken down to fellowship time to make introductions there. Special thanks to Karen Strang, Craig Finney, and Marion and Fred Evans for looking after most of these events this year.

**Mail outs:** We did three mail outs, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. It is one way to reach all of our church families. Letters were available to be picked up two weeks before they were mailed out to save on as much postage as possible. Thanks for the Outreach committee for their support in helping with some of the postage. The amount of money that is received from the envelopes that are returned from these mail outs more than pays for the postage.



**Trash to Treasure:** This is an ongoing program that involves three local depots: 365 Portland, 99 Woodlawn Road and 897 Main Street. All you have to do is drop off your refundable recyclables to one of the depots listed and ask them to credit Woodlawn United Churches account. Thanks to Murdock Morrison for getting the information on this program in the bulletin periodical and on the church website. Over \$400 has come in from this program. Thanks to all who are participating and please consider being part of this program if you are able.

**FundScrip:** This is a monthly fundraiser that gift cards are ordered the first Sunday of the month and are then given out the following Sunday. There are order forms on the table by the offices and the forms are also emailed out the week the order is going to be placed. Supporters of this program pay for their shopping (groceries, gas, clothing, home & garden, entertainment, restaurants, and much more) with gift cards. When you buy the gift cards from the church, the church makes a profit, anywhere from 2% per card and some are up to 10% and you get the full value for the money you paid for the gift card. This year we made over \$2,000 from this. The more people involved the more the church will make. Thanks to Diane and Scott Avery and Adelia Holloway for looking after this every month.

**Welcome Back Event:** On September 10 we served barbequed hotdogs following the service. Baked goods were provided by Shannon MacLean and her youth group and we thank them for that. Thanks to Brian Moors for doing the barbequing.

**Golf Event:** The third annual Golf & Supper Fellowship event was held at the Links of Montague on Sunday afternoon on September 24 with 16 golfers and 4 additional guests for dinner. Thanks to Barry Zwicker for looking after this event. Mark your calendar for event again this year on September 23, 2018.

**133 Anniversary Party:** On Sunday, October 22 we had a potluck supper to celebrate our anniversary this year. Over 100 people came and enjoyed an evening of fellowship and karaoke entertainment. Thanks to both Peter Woods who helped to organize this and Guy Hermanson who came and looked after the sound system and Karaoke. Also thanks to Fred Evans who was the MC and all the others who helped with the set up and the cleanup. Plans are underway for our 134 anniversary party which is set for Sunday, October 28, 2018.

**Welcome Table:** The welcome table in the new entrance way seems to be in a good spot. When people come on Sunday morning there is more room in this area especially when some of us are doing FundScrip, handing out the boxed envelopes, income tax receipts and the three letters that the Ministers prepare each year. Thanks to Nancy Allen for helping to organize the people that look after the welcome table each week. Thanks to Darlene Brown, Faye Charlebois & Kelly MacNeil for being such welcoming ladies to all the new people who come through our doors. If you are interested in being a welcome person please contact one of us or the church office.

**Memorial Christmas Hymn Sing & Tree Lighting:** This was held on November 26 at 7 p.m. with a good attendance. Special thanks to Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte for preparing and leading this service. Although it was a rainy right again we did go outside and watch the lights come on our Christmas tree and sing, O Christmas Tree. Thanks to Dennis Dean and Jim Allen for getting the lights fixed up on the tree and making sure they were ready to go.

**Join Us On Our Journey:** Don Trider got us going on this idea in the spring of this year. We discussed at a number of meetings how to grow our congregation and to provide more programs. This is where the idea came to do a Welcome back to Church in September. We did a presentation at one of the services





and asked those in attendance to put their ideas on the papers that were provided. Thanks to all those that helped out with this. We will continue to work on these ideas in the coming year.

**On line donations:** We received 10 donations for 2017 which was made up of 6 donations to our General Fund (\$255.50), 3 donations to our Accessibility Fund (240.50) and 1 donation to our Building Fund (\$28.80) for a combined total of \$524.80. The majority of donations were made in memory of past members. This past year we had two different groups making donations as well, which was a first. [www.woodlawnunited.ca/Donations/CanadaHelps](http://www.woodlawnunited.ca/Donations/CanadaHelps) submitted by: Wendy Fitch

**Special Acknowledgements:** Thanks to Ivan Richardson who again this year comes to our Stewardship meetings and keeps us up to date on our financial status each month. We appreciate all he does! Thanks to Joan Mikkelsen who is our envelope steward/records clerk. If you have any questions about how to go on PAR (preauthorization remittance), if you need envelopes or have any questions on your givings please contact, Joan at [info@joanmikkelsen.com](mailto:info@joanmikkelsen.com) or by phoning her at 902-435-6296.

We are so pleased that this year Kelly MacNeil, Alan Eddy and Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte have joined our group. Sad to say that Shirley Zwicker is not on our team now but want to thank her for her time and talent that she shared over the past number of years. A very special thanks goes out to Rev. Valerie Kennedy for her great dedication and her enthusiasm that she brought to our team. She had such great ideas and was always there to help with whatever project we took on.

Thanks to the entire team who come faithfully to our meetings and help with the work that needs to be done. Our team consists of Nancy Allen (chair of Community of Care), Darlene Brown, Ray DeRoche, Alan Eddy, Todd Ellis (co-chair of A&M), Craig Finney, Shirley MacLeod, Kelly MacNeil, Christine McGinnis (secretary), Joan Mikkelsen (records steward), Brian Moors (Chair of Program), Murdock Morrison, Mary Osborne (M&S Enthusiast), Ivan Richardson (accounting administer & budget coordinator, Karen Strang, Don Trider, Rev. Phillip Kennedy, Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte & Shannon MacLean. Some of these listed do not attend the meetings but get the notes so they are kept informed of what we are doing and can help out when they can.

Respectively submitted,  
Co-chairs, Fred Evans & Teri Giannou



## TRUSTEES REPORT

Dennis Dean - Co-Chair, Jim Allen - Co-Chair, Kathy Dean - Communications, Art Theuerkauf & Grant Warwick - Manage Investment Portfolio, Fay Gunter – Kitchen Representative, Chris Riehl – Insurance, Malcolm Morash and Burnell Field – Historians and maintenance support, Rev. Phillip- Ministry Representative

2017 has been another busy year for the Trustees as we continued to maintain the various areas of the property both interior and exterior. There were many projects accomplished and challenges met while continuing to work along with all the various Council Teams to help manage all the day to day requirements to help Woodlawn united continue to be a vibrant, active church in the Woodlawn community. Below is a list of accomplishments for 2017:

### Exterior Projects:

- 1) **Landscaping & Gardening** – This summer we redeveloped the space next to walkway on the pond side of the church. Additional shrubbery and perennials, some we purchased and some were donated from Joan Mikkelsen's garden but all coming together add to the welcoming appearance of our property. Thank you to the Couple's Club contribution of \$500. towards the costs of new shrubs and flowers. With the diligence of Fran Essex in maintaining the flower gardens and doing the watering and weeding, our gardens continue to flourish. We want to extend a very big thank you to Fran for all her time and talent.
- 2) **Painting front doors of the Sanctuary** – The front doors of the Brick Church have been sanded and repainted to give a much improved look to the exterior of these doors. Work was completed by Decotec Design & Construction Company.
- 3) **Timers for the Exterior Lights** – New timers have been installed to control the exterior lights of the Brick Church. The timers operate on a latitude and longitude method which does not require manual adjustments throughout the year. It adjusts automatically to the time of day.
- 4) **Chime - Outdoor speakers** – This past summer we had a member express an interest in reviving the outdoor chime system They wanted to donate to a memorial fund to help make this a reality. Don Hill, Steve Rigden, Peter Woods, Jim Allen & Dennis Dean took on the project to explore the equipment requirements and develop a plan to make this happen. In November, the exterior speakers were installed and early in December we completed the installation and placement of equipment inside to complete the operation of the chimes in time for the dedication on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Fran Essex made the memorial donation in memory of her husband John Essex. Many thanks to all those who contributed financially and with time and talent to see this project to its completion. What a wonderful addition to the welcoming feel that this gives the exterior of our church.
- 5) **Heritage Centre Ramp** – In the spring, with Ernie Nickerson's and Shelley Clee's help, the Trustees were able to secure a grant from the Provincial Government to build an Accessible wheelchair ramp at the Heritage Centre and an addition of a Truck level delivery dock for the Food Bank. We have already received \$5000. with an additional \$5000 to come upon completion of the project. The Grant will cover 66% of the \$18,000 project to a maximum of \$10,000.

Two quotes were obtained and the project is being constructed by Byron of Decotec Design & Construction Company. (Byron is also a member of Woodlawn's Polyphony Choral group.) By end of December, we have completed the wheelchair ramp and the much safer loading dock for Food Bank.



The area is complete with lighting. A new accessible door is being installed to the food bank which will allow for accessible access to the Heritage Centre for all participants of various programs offered in this building.

Repairs to the roof over the main entrance to the Heritage Centre have also been completed.

In April, Trustees approached the Tulloch Family for permission to sell a portion of the Scotiabank shares which were a bequest from their parents up to the value of \$50,000. We suggested that these funds be used solely for the purpose of renovating and improving the Heritage Centre's appearance. With the support of relatives Mary & Ross Osborne, the Tulloch family gave the Trustees approval as requested in August. With these funds, it is intended to supplement the Accessibility Grant received to develop new Accessible washrooms in the Heritage Centre in 2018. The funds will also be used to complete the construction of the Settle room in the basement of the Heritage Centre

### Interior Projects:

- 1) **Heritage Basement** – a Grant from the Hunter Fund of \$9487. was realized late in December 2016 and with some volunteer labour, we completed most of the necessary work. The work completed include the following:
  - insulate with blown in insulation
  - Strip, level & replace flooring in basement main area
  - Repaint wall heaters and re-install.
  - install wall board, paint and complete trim throughout basement.
  - install double sliding doors, complete with necessary hardware.
- 2) **Brick Church Sanctuary** – New oak hand rails were installed on both sides of the stairs leading up to the choir loft. This really helps those with walking issues approach the choir loft more safely.
- 3) **Carpet** in the center between choir loft seating was fixed to remove the rippling carpet problem making it safer for all who use this area.
- 4) Dennis & Jim worked closely with the Communications Team to improve the placement of wiring for the Audio & Visual equipment. This remains work in progress as we make every effort to ensure our systems work to supply and enhance the many styles of ministry we all experience here at Woodlawn.
- 5) **Kitchen Committee** – In summer of 2017, a Kitchen Committee was formed to put new policies in place to help ensure the kitchen is maintained as required to meet Health and Safety standards. Fay continues to represent Trustees on this Committee.

Woodlawn has seen an increase in rental opportunities of our facilities. The Trustees will continue to work closely with A&M to review the contracts, rental rates, insurance implications and security concerns that come with outside renters.

Chris Riehl continues to look after the review of insurance coverage and take the lead on the relationship with the insurance agent. Thank you Chris.



Grant & Art continue to look after the Investments Portfolio and we thank them for their expertise and advice regarding this matter. Grant & Art reviewed the Scotia Bank Share Value for the portfolio which are not included in designated funds. These shares were purchased in March, 1963 and in January 1970 and have grown from splits and value of \$33,032. These shares were always shown as one lump sum with the Tulloch shares and dividends from all the shares were donated to Mission & Service. There was a motion moved and passed to identify these shares separately from the Tulloch family shares on the 2017 AGM report. Motion was made by Grant, seconded by Chris. The Trustees approved the allocation of 408 shares of the Scotia Bank resulting from the growth of 9 purchased shares of Bank of NS stock. The 408 shares will be designated as Trustees Investment with dividends being currently donated to M&S. The 408 shares have always been recorded together with the original 120 shares donated by the Tulloch Family with all dividends currently going to M&S.

The number of Bank of Nova Scotia shares on the December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 Investment Statement will show 4,152 shares as being attributed to the Tulloch Family (648 shares were sold to raise \$50,000 for improvements to the Heritage Church) and at current value of around \$80 this equals \$332,160. The current quarterly dividend was recently increased to 79 cents and at this rate the total annual dividend on 4,152 shares will total \$13,120 for Mission & Service in 2017.

Budget items have been submitted to A&M for their preparation to Council. Trustees will continue to look for grant opportunities to help cover larger projects or fund raise to help lessen the burden of the current deficit. The following a list of projects we will proceed in 2018 with costs being covered by the funds which are in the Budget as well as Grants and Building Fund:

- 1) **Heritage Centre** – \$50,000 + 10,000. Project  
Expenditures and commitment costs so far - \$27613.  
Additional Projects for discussion:
  - Accessible Washrooms
  - Strip and refinish both hardwood floors on main level ( sanctuary & hall )
  - Ceiling repairs in hall and bathrooms
  - paint certain areas of the centre as needed
  - roof repairs facing Woodlawn Road
  - new ramp to basement of the Heritage Centre. Upgrade and renovate the
  - Dun-Gen area for healthier space.
- 2) **Replace lighting in the Brick Fellowship Hall** - for discussion  
- Look into possible Efficiency Nova Scotia program for subsidies & payment plan (no interest)
- 3) **Painting of Sanctuary** - will need to be done sooner than later. There are sections of the ceiling which require repairs before painting.
- 4) **Upgrade of lighting in Sanctuary** - shades are beginning to breakdown and only a matter of time before needs replacement. Lights were last replaced in 1992. (having lights on dimmers needs to be considered)
- 5) **Repainting of Lines in parking lot** – entire lot has not been done for about 10 years. After this winter we will need to assess the need. We also need to change the front Accessible parking space from three to four spaces.
- 6) **Air Conditioning in Sanctuary** - will look at possible options and costs.



- 7) **Change fans in the Sanctuary** to reversing fans - obtain prices for fans and installation
- 8) **Discussion held about Solar Panels** for the roof and continuing to look for ways to reduce energy costs. This has been explored by Barry Zwicker in the past and we will continue to look for cost effective ways if possible.
- 9) **Upgrade the old Men's & Women's washrooms** in the Fellowship Hall.
- 10) **New Ramp for choir loft in the sanctuary** or revamp of Chancel area.
- 11) **Remove carpet** and replace with new hardwood floors in the Choir area.
- 12) **Review of Trustees Investments Portfolio for 2018** – Trustees had discussion about this and decided to stay status quo.
- 13) **Possible Grants** – Ernie Nickerson will continue to look for possible grants and as well monitor the possible funding opportunities from various Halifax Presbytery funds in 2018.
- 14) **Replace folding doors** in the fellowship hall of the Brick church. These doors are the original doors of the construction of the church and are difficult to operate (last quote was \$12,000.).
- 15) **Heating, Air Conditioning and Air Exchanger duct work in Room D** in the basement of the new addition to be completed.
- 16) **Ceiling completed in Room D** once the ventilation system is complete.

Many Thanks to Ernie Nickerson for all the time he has spent making applications on behalf of the Trustees for grants to supplement the various projects. We appreciate your dedication to Woodlawn and realize there are many projects which would not have taken place without the funding that was generated by you.

A huge thank you to all the members of the Trustees and many other congregants for their support and participation during 2017. Your contributions of time and talent are too numerous to mention but you have helped immensely with the day to day operations of Woodlawn United and its continuation of being the active and vibrant church it is today.

Respectfully submitted:  
Kathy Dean on behalf of the Trustee Committee

**WOODLAWN UNITED CHURCH MEN**

United Church Men are alive and well in Woodlawn United Church.

Our Dartmouth Christian Men's Fellowship Breakfast Prayer group met 9 times this year at the Dartmouth Seniors Center and in December at Woodlawn United. We attracted men from several denominations, a number of congregations and from both sides of the harbour. Our speakers have been and continue to be; challenging, interesting and often heart tugging. Rev. Mary Lynne shared some of her inspiring faith journey at our Dec. breakfast. Leadership, since its beginning in 1983, has come from men of Woodlawn United, truly an outreach ministry.

For the sixth year we hosted a chowder luncheon to coincide with our annual MS Carnations of Hope sale. Not only was the chowder very successful but the carnation sales were our highest yet. Folks from the MS Society office attended the luncheon and were most appreciative of our efforts. John Weare, Graham Holloway, Brian Moors, Paul Josey and Joe Mathieu are the men who turn out at 7:00am on chowder day to produce that delicious chowder for Friends of Accessibility, UCM and one UCW unit. That was 13 chowders in 2017.

The 18th annual Sweet Evening with the City of Lakes Barbershop Chorus was a sold out event once again. Puddings by the Kings, sauces by Jack Cameron, music by the City of Lakes Chorus and the Polyphony Group of Singers made this the perfect way to get into the Christmas spirit.

Income this year came from three events; a fish chowder luncheon, the City of Lakes Dessert Party and the December Men's breakfast. From these activities we raised and spent as follows:

<b>Income</b>		<b>Disbursements</b>	
Chowder	2147.50	Accessibility Fund	1262.50
Barbershop Cabaret	1175.50	Woodlawn Gen. Fund	1000.00
Men's Breakfast	239.50	East Dart Food Bank	800.00
		Dishwasher repair	500.00*
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3562.50</b>		<b>3562.50</b>

**Bal. Dec. 31, 2016**

**NIL**

**Bal. Dec. 31, 2017**

**Nil**

\*Our dishwasher, that has served us faithfully for more than 30 years, needed an expensive repair. Our sincere thanks to those who baked, worked at events, purchased tickets or helped in any way.

We welcome men to any of our activities, if you require further information or would just like to chat please call Don @ 434-2482, Bob 434-3438 or Ralph @ 434-7786, [ralphsams@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ralphsams@ns.sympatico.ca) ***Don, Bob and Dwight Perkins are involved in planning a day long Men's rally in Amherst in late April. This is always a meaningful day, please watch for details and plan to attend.***

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Sams

Secretary / Treasurer  
Woodlawn UCM



### WOODLAWN UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Once again the Woodlawn UCW has had a very busy and fulfilling year with seven units and over 100 active members. The units are Connie Clarke, Farquharson, Marion MacDonald, Miriam, Naomi, Rebecca and Tabitha. Each unit meets monthly on the first Monday or Tuesday in the afternoon or evening except for the summer months either at the church or at one of the members' homes. The executive of the UCW used to meet every third Monday of the month but have made some changes during the last year to have fewer meetings and so it's usually every second month now. We have also changed our AGM from the first Monday night in December to the first Sunday afternoon in December starting at 3 p.m. We have six areas of interest on the executive: Church in Society, World Outreach, Membership, Dun-Gen//Clothing Store Report, Social, and Funeral Reception.

Jane Twohig convenor for **Church in Society** with the generous support of members looked after providing pies to Margaret House for Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving as well provided bath towels, winter gloves and two bags of used clothing. Used greeting cards that were collected from members during the year were given to Growing Place Daycare. Toiletries were collected and given to Bryony House, school supplies were collected for Ian Forsythe Elementary School and a variety of items such as diapers, gift cards, shampoo, blankets, toys, and knitted hats were given to SHYM (Supportive Housing for Young Mothers).

Mary Osborne convenor for **World Outreach** along with Dorothy Lindsay helped plan the World Day of Prayer service that was held on Friday, March 3 at 7 p.m. at Saint Thomas More church with the theme, "Am I Being Unfair to You" written by women of the Philippines. The Ingathering of the Least Coin took place at Bayer's Road Baptist church on October 16. The Fellowship of the Least Coin is a worldwide ecumenical movement of prayer for peace and reconciliation. "Least Coins" are given at the unit level during their meetings.

**Membership** convenor, Marion Evans looks after presenting candles at the baptisms and also presents an invitation to the mothers to join a UCW unit. This year there were two baptisms. Marion also looks after the presentation of life memberships at our Spring Fling which is held the first Sunday of May in the afternoon where all ladies of the church are invited to attend. After the life memberships are presented we have a time of fellowship with desserts and tea and coffee. This year the following dedicated and faithful members were presented with their life memberships: Cheryl DeRoche of the Naomi unit, Jane MacKenzie of the Tabitha Unit and Carol MacKay of the Rebecca unit. Congratulations to these ladies. If interested in learning more about UCW please contact Marion Evans at 902-463-1811. New members are always welcome.

**Dun-Gen/Clothing Store** is looked after by Myrna Morash, Pauline Levy, Rhoda Marshall, Eva Jenkins, Isobel Jones & Jane MacKenzie. 2017 was a booming year for the Dun-Gen in sales, donations of clothing and miscellaneous items. Many bags of clothing were delivered to Holy Trinity Emmanuel Anglican Church for free distribution to their clientele and also delivered to Willow Hall at the Nova Scotia Hospital. Four Rag Cutting Bees were held and these rags are then sold for cleaning rags to local businesses. The Dun-Gen provides a time of fellowship for our patrons as they love to chat with one another while browsing. It's open to everyone most Thursday and Saturday mornings from 9-12 and is staffed by two members from a unit each time. This provides a very worthwhile service to the community at large.





Linda Sinclair and Jane Cushing are the convenors of **Social** for the UCW executive. This year they purchased such items as cutlery, water glasses, saucers, butter dishes, soup bowls as well as two new tea urns and a utility cart. Also two fruit and vegetable dishes to be used at funeral receptions and/or any other function they are needed for. They help out with setting up for the UCW AGM and the Spring Fling. Thanks to the men that help out at our AGM with the food and for Bob Watt for serving the punch. They also helped Naomi unit cater the Dartmouth community Concert Association on their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a luncheon for Rev. Stephen Fram and members of Presbytery. Tabitha unit purchased 20 new larger white table cloths and 30 stainless steel labeled tea and coffee urns as well as a cart to store them on and Rebecca unit purchased 12 small tables.

Many thanks to the faithful dedication of our **Funeral Reception coordinators**, Bev Lynch, Nancy Grant and Dorothy Lindsay. This is a very important ministry at our church. Special thanks to Shirley MacPhee and Jamie Lacey who assist at every reception with set up and clean up. This year receptions were organized for 11 families. Thanks to the continued support of unit members of the UCW and the faithful forty women of the congregation that provide food and beverages when requested. There have been eight women from the congregation who have joined and offered their assistance to work at these receptions since 2016. If this is something that might interest you please contact one of the coordinators or contact the church office and they will pass your name on to them.

The seven units individually support a wide variety of causes such as F.O.O.D., Sleeping Children Around the World, Mental Health Christmas Party, Edward and Brockwell Houses, Phoenix House, Prayer Shawl Minister, Ian Forsyth school supplies, collected items for young moms and babies that participate in SHYM, and Christmas families to name a few.

Some fundraisers that were done were Fish chowder luncheons, dessert card social, and a fashion show. Our biggest fundraiser is the annual Turkey Dinner. Thanks to Fay Gunter for coordinating again this year and for decorating the hall for this event and the Christmas season. This event would not be possible with all the assistance and support of many of the church congregation and we want to thank each and every one of you for helping and supporting this event.

Unit members continue to support each other in whatever way they can and as well as any family members. We all try to keep in touch with our members who are housebound and now cannot take part in our meetings or activities. As one unit president said, "we continue to laugh, pray and weep together while caring for each other and those around us."

This coming year I'm pleased to say that Adelia Holloway will be joining me as co-coordinator of UCW Executive. I look forward to working with her and with all of the other executive and the unit members. It is a wonderful caring group of women and I'm proud to be a part of it. Please let us know if you would like to join us.

Respectively submitted,  
Teri Giannou  
UCW President



### YOUTH REPORT

This past year has been a busy one for the youth at Woodlawn United Church. We continue to be thankful to have Shannon MacLean as Youth minister, as she connects with and inspires our young people, leads them in their faith journey, and encourages them to stand up for social justice.

2017 started with the return of JLOW members and their leaders from the CCRD in Cuba. It was an incredible experience for all and the participants shared their stories with the members of the church. JLOW continues to be an important part of the youth ministry here at Woodlawn. It has been focusing on climate change, was involved in two food collections for the Phoenix Drop In Center and had about 13 members attend We Day.

Attendance at Sunday morning youth group dropped a bit this year as several of our youth grew up and moved on to university etc. It is so exciting to now see such a large group of kids in grade 6 and 7 getting involved in the youth programs at Woodlawn. Junior youth group meets once a month. It is well attended and they have been exploring our church and faith through story, games, crafts, and science.

There was an awesome youth trip to Cape Breton to visit L'Arche, which was meaningful and fun too. Three of our youth also attended IAC/Youth Forum at Maritime Conference. This was an amazing experience, and a wonderful way to grow in faith, meet new friends and share lots of laughter.

The pancake breakfast with Santa was a success with the best turn out in years. The year ended with an intergenerational trip back to the CCRD in Cuba. Six of our youth were part of this trip and learned lots before departing for Cuba with a large collection of donations to help the local people there.

As chair of the youth committee I remain thankful for the vibrant youth ministry that is such an integral part of Woodlawn United Church.

Submitted by:  
Sue Cuthbertson