

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH

Fredericton, NB

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

Rev. Bob Jones

Minister Emeriti: Rev. Vic Moriarty and Rev. Cliff Moase

Organist Emeritus: Eric Tennant

Virginia Leiter - Organist

Steven Peacock - Choir Director

Marlene Phillips - Secretary

Randy Randall - Sexton

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

This year has been one I'd characterize by the word 'stabilizing'. Lots of good work has been done to improve the way our committees and internal communication function. It is a great joy to work with the leaders and committees of Wilmot. Everyone appears to want the best for our congregation.

We started too to widen our understanding of the challenges for the church at this time in history through reading books and articles which we discuss in our committee meetings. It is a great way to learn and grow together.

Worship continues to be a weekly time together where many people contribute to the final offering. This is as it should be; after all, the word "liturgy" means 'the work of the people'. The abundance of gifts in this congregation is astounding!

We've also begun to look realistically at who we are and our downtown Fredericton context. The world around us is changing constantly, and so we must be intentional about keeping ourselves up to date.

Several projects have born fruit:
* we are ready to launch a new Pastoral Care and Health Committee,
* We are ready to begin the process of filing a new half-time vacancy with responsibility for pastoral care and Christian education,
* Two members of our congregation are well into the Parish Nursing course and will start their practica at Wilmot in January 2012,
* a Stewardship program is also ready to go in January 2012.

Last summer we played a leading role in a Vacation Bible School in partnership with St. Paul's. For the second year in a row, this

was a great success thanks to the leadership and work of many.

We also established a Transition Team to work as a support and sounding board for the minister as Wilmot begins the task of discerning where God is calling us now. This group will meet over the coming year as we try to get the 'big picture' or what some writers call, "the view from the balcony". This is a helpful exercise which can offer a new perspective on a congregation's challenges and growing edges.

Stewards began to wonder if we might empower our mission through partnership with another group or groups who share our values and vision. Trustees and the Official Board though it would be worth asking the question so work has gone on to prepare to ask for "expressions of interest" from the wider community.

I am very proud of the many and varied ministries at Wilmot, and honoured to be a part of the congregation in my particular role as your minister. I see many signs of a vibrant, courageous and faithful community of faith. I see more trust than fear; more life than death and a refreshing openness to the winds of God's Holy Spirit.

May God continue to lead us forward. May we continue to strive to make a difference in people's lives. May we be intentional about letting our light shine through our words and actions that others might know of God's love for the world.

With gratitude,
Rev. Rose~Hannah Gaskin
BN MScN MDiv STM

FROM OUR SECRETARY

2011 was indeed a year of change for me and a year which I could not have survived without the love and support of you dear friends at Wilmot United.

The year started out great - Donnie and I enjoyed our second winter vacation in Florida with our daughter, her husband and their two precious children. Memories were made which we will always cherish. A sincere thank you is extended to the volunteers who filled in for me in the office.

It was a busy year at Wilmot but one which flew by very quickly. I have now completed nineteen years as Secretary at Wilmot United. I cannot believe it myself!

I had taken the month of August off while the church was sharing worship services with St. Paul's United. How good it was that I was not working that month because that is when Donnie took sick and therefore I was able to be with him during his stay at the DECH and Saint John Regional Hospital. I consider it a blessing that we had that month together to prepare for the outcome of his illness. I truly feel I was blessed in that we were able to have conversations which we may not otherwise have had and we were able to make plans together. My M&P Rep, Richard MacTavish was a wonderful support and I sincerely thank him. He encouraged me to take whatever time was necessary both during Donnie's hospital stays and following his death. Richard continually advised me to take care of myself. I tried, and because I knew things were being handled very well at Wilmot Church Office during my absence I did not have any worries there! I returned to work knowing that my days would be filled with your support and it continues to this very day. Some days were not good days and occasionally, some days are still

not so good. You seem to sense that and an encouraging word will come my way and pick me up.

The role of Church Secretary is a rewarding and yet challenging one. Every day is different and every day I meet people from all walks of life. It is not always easy to keep a smiling face in the midst of a thousand tasks and yet I try to do so. The bookkeeping aspect of my job is a challenge and I thank Bob Lutes for his patience.

Randy continues to keep me supplied with coffee and seems to know when a second cup is needed!

Thank you to my proofreader, Peter Gough. He catches most of my errors! I do appreciate his help.

I look forward to continuing in my role here at Wilmot United Church for a few more years yet!

Marlene Phillips

STATS for 2011

Baptisms

Jacob Luke Chisholm
Abigail Alexis Drummond
Keira Anne Langille
Bobby Denis Melanson
Kaiya Jade Mattinson
Taegan Kelly Young
Margaret Hilary Young
Kate Nicole Livingston
Alyssa May Clement
Keirsten Leigh Clement
Jake William Gorham

Marriages

Kyle Sacobie & Liza Papazian
Jonathan Parker & Colleen Vautour
Christopher MacLean & Tara Whittaker
Gregory Short & Tara Trobak
Sassimint Grace & Sally Drummond
Douglas Pare & Kelly Gorman
Darren Clark & Emily Atkinson
Brad Arsenault & Justine Robinson
Charles Spencer & Marci
Allingham-Anderson
Christopher Warren & Ashley Gill
Kelsey Nason & Krista Matchett
James Doherty & Tammy Pettigrew

DEATHS

Robert Young
Marvin Springer
Geraldine Clements
Lawrence Garvie
Marjorie McFarlane
David Griffiths
George Betts
Dora Seymour
Lena Henderson
Carl Boulter
Patricia MacKinney
Phyllis Macfarlane
Bertha (Carrie) Guyett
Walter Fulton
Ross Parker
Jeanne Somerville

OFFICIAL BOARD

The Official Board is the decision-making body of Wilmot United Church. The board is comprised of members of Stewards, Session and Trustees with representatives from M&P, United Church Women, Information Team and Outreach. The Steering Committee of the Board may meet between meetings of the Board to deal with emerging issues that are then reported back to the Board.

Wilmot United Church has had a busy year in 2011 focusing on a wide variety of topics that both enrich and impact the life and work of the congregation. As you read the committee reports of 2011, it is evident that many people have dedicated their time and talents to ensure that the programs and the mission of Wilmot United Church are furthered within the church, the community and the world. The efforts and interest of the many volunteers who contribute in any way are appreciated and recognized as a basic component of the success we have achieved.

This report will focus on some of the primary issues dealt with by the Official Board of Wilmot United Church in 2011.

Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC)

Craig Frame, chair of the JNAC, regularly updated the Official Board on the progress and challenges they faced as they discerned the ministerial needs of the congregation following the resignation of Chris Levan. Their recommendation that Wilmot seek a half time position was approved by the congregation at a Congregational Meeting on May 15, 2011. After the report was edited to provide some further clarification, it was accepted by Presbytery at their November 2011 meeting. Due to the timing of both these actions, Rev. Bob Jones was asked to continue in his role in Pastoral Care until June 30, 2012. Presbytery has now declared a .5 vacancy for Wilmot United, which is an increase of .25 from our current staffing configuration of 1.25. Wilmot owes a huge debt of gratitude to the members of the JNAC- Chris Colwell, Hillary Drain, Craig Frame (chair), Elizabeth Savoie and Joyce Trites for all their work.

The intent is to fill the vacancy for one year by an appointment (i.e., time limited) rather

than by the issuing of a call (i.e., indeterminate time). The process to locate a suitable candidate will begin early in 2012 to ensure that someone will be in place by June 30, 2012. An Appointment Committee was established by the Official Board at their January meeting consisting of Bob Breen, Jilianna Eagles, Elaine Kenyon, and Richard MacTavish, plus a representative from Presbytery.

Working Group on Church Security

This group was formed to study the best practices to ensure that the church be more secure for both the staff and the congregation. It was considered a critical point that this security be provided while also maintaining the integrity of Wilmot as an open and welcoming church. This committee presented 4 recommendations to the Official Board in June. Later in the year, the Steering Committee met to consider how these recommendations could best be implemented. As examples, evening and weekend supervision is now provided by a smaller group of adults who have received individual orientation sessions and rooms are kept locked when they are not in use.

Parish Nurse Ministry

Karen Watson and Kelly Ebbett expressed interest in taking a course on Parish Nursing being held in Fredericton. Their interest received the support of Session, the Pastoral Care Review Committee and the Official Board. The first of two courses has been completed, and they are presently beginning their practica within the Wilmot congregation (January-August 2012). During this time they will each serve 100 hours in their practica, and will be in contact with the congregation in various activities. This is certainly an excellent complement to the work of the present ministerial staff within the church. The congregation has

been invited to consider the role that Parish Nursing could play at Wilmot United Church.

Stewardship Matters

Throughout the year Official Board wrestled with some financial concerns as actual givings were below budgeted amounts. Bob Lutes, our Treasurer, helped the Board to understand the situation and the implications for the ministry and mission of the church. As the Stewards report will show, unexpected revenue from a number of sources helped to balance the budget for 2011. Wendy Topolski provided leadership and resources that helped the Board and other committees within the church to reflect on our understanding of stewardship and what it means to be good stewards. We need to begin with an attitude of gratitude for all that we have been given.

Exploring Potential to Enhance our Ministry by Sharing our Facilities

The Official Board endorsed a proposal developed by the Board of Stewards to enhance our ministry by having others partner within our space. It is hoped to attract partners who have a vision complementary to our own, and who could benefit from the use of space within the walls of our church. Expressions of Interest from anyone with a compelling vision of how to better use the church building in furtherance of our vision: "Wilmot United Church is an open and welcoming presence in downtown Fredericton, putting our Christian faith into action to be a light in God's world."

Two Open Houses will be held in February so that any organizations or agencies can view the property and consider if they have an interest in sharing our space and mission.

Transition Team

A small group intended to assist in envisioning and working through a period of change within our church was formed in mid 2011. The group has agreed to a one-year term to assist the minister and church leaders in the development of a growing, healthy congregation. The term Transition Team has been adopted, and the mandate has been approved by the Official Board. The mandate of the Transition Team is to facilitate a process to guide our congregation through a period of change and renewal. In the fall, the Team provided information about our church finances and plans for ministerial staffing during a worship service and hosted a spaghetti supper as a fellowship opportunity for the congregation.

The members of the Transition Team are Jeff Beirsto, Rod Campbell, Shirley Cleave, Craig Frame, Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Ann Kennedy and Susan MacLeod.

Recognition of Our Staff

During 2011 Wilmot has continued to be blessed and enriched by the faithful and wise ministry of our ministry team. Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin has been at Wilmot for about 18 months and has found herself in a very different ministry than either she or the congregation expected. We have been blessed that she feels called to ministry among us during this time of transition. Her insightful leadership, her willingness to adapt and think outside the box, and her thorough reflections in her messages and worship services have been critical as we discern what God is calling Wilmot to be and do in this time and place.

In so many kind and caring ways, Rev. Bob Jones has shared our lives, both personally and collectively, and has offered his support, advice and genuine concern for each of us as we journey together. We are

very grateful for his contributions to the life of the church- either through his ministry or his friendship.

Our worship services are enriched by the ministry of Music, which is provided by Virginia Leiter, our Organist, and Steven Peacock, our Music director. Every week Virginia helps bring us into worship with the prelude, supports our singing with her accompaniment, and sends us out with the postlude. Under Steven's leadership as choir director and handbell choir director, choir members discover that they can do more than they thought possible as he cajoles and challenges the choirs with good humour and patience. His contributions as a classical guitarist and the guest musicians he invites add diversity and richness to our worship.

Marlene Phillips, our Secretary, and Randy Randall, our Sexton, have each been hugely involved in every detail of the life and work of the church. Every favour or request is accommodated to the highest level, and we express our sincere thanks to them for thorough and thoughtful assistance to the many individuals and groups who contact them daily. Your efforts, either personally or professionally, are most appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Cleave, Chair
Susan MacLeod, Secretary

SESSION

April 2011- January 2012

Session oversees the activities related to the spiritual life of the congregation of Wilmot United Church (WUC). Under this mandate numerous groups function; the Worship Committee, the Sanctuary Committee, the Congregational Life Committee and the Faith Formation/ Christian Development Committees. In 2011 these groups were responsible for numerous social activities,

fund raisers, and educational activities. A taxi voucher and tape/CD ministry was also provided.

Session is made up of Elders who not only work at the committee level, but also participate in worship services providing communion and assisting with baptisms. They keep in touch with members of the congregation and are a resource to those who do not come to services regularly.

Some of the work that has been done through Session over the past year includes: co-coordinating a shared ministry with St Paul's United Church through the summer months and at Christmas, including a shared vacation bible school; organizing several special services; organizing coffee and conversation each week; approving baptisms, weddings, and transfers for WUC; keeping regular contact with our inquirers and candidates; approving use of the church buildings; creating a booklet to use as a guide for those preparing to have their wedding at WUC; updating and reorganizing the Elder lists; discussions on how to be an Elder in the 21st century; creating the new Pastoral Care and Health Committee; and providing support to the new Parish Nursing Candidates.

All of this work has been done in partnership with our clergy and we hope has been helpful to move WUC forward in it's service to the church both at a congregational level and in the wider community.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Oxner Clerk of Session

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees held 5 regular meetings in 2011. The Capital Maintenance Fund provides the Trustees the monies to

maintain and provide upgrades to the Sanctuary, Wilmot Hall and the Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall. Of the \$40,000 budgeted by the congregation for 2011, donations were \$36,147, 90% of the budgeted amount.

The Fredericton Rural Cemetery trust account had a balance of \$791,085.84 as of December 31, 2011. Over the past years new buildings have been constructed, water and sewerage have been installed and in 2011 a new columbarium and a new tractor were purchased.

Our investments performed well in 2011 despite the upheaval in the financial markets. Please see the financial reports for more details. At the November meeting a motion was passed to open a new account for "designated funds" which allows members with a special project to donate monies that will be used for that purpose alone.

The tenants of the Old Manse continued their renovations of the building in 2011. They are receiving a reduced rent to cover the cost of the renovations. They live on the top floor, their offices are on the second and a shop is planned for the first floor.

In November a motion was passed to proceed with the choir memorial stained glass window. The decision was made to only have the stained glass on the upper part of the window fed by natural light. The bottom part will have panels to blend with the existing wood. The glass and installation will be done by the McCausland Studio of Toronto with a completion date of late summer of 2012.

Other projects completed in 2011 included the refinishing and re-upholstering of 16 armchairs, a new adjustable piano bench, emergency lights in the parlour and hall entry, new counter top and lights in the

kitchen, new vacuum cleaner and floor polisher/scrubber, chair for the minister, wireless microphone for sanctuary sound system and a new printer for the office.

Alterations and adjustments to the burner of the main sanctuary furnace were also made. Heat and controlled ventilation in the furnace room was completed. Choir loft ceiling bulbs were also replaced. Going forward many more projects need to be considered including painting and plaster repairs, new flooring in Wilmot Hall and kitchen and a drop ceiling in four rooms of Wilmot Hall.

Under risk management the decision was made in November to require all "outside" user groups to have their own liability insurance as of January 1, 2012. At the end of June 2011, several of our evening and special event supervisors moved on, but the four remaining ones are able to cover the supervision required. The running of the sound system in the sanctuary is no longer a responsibility of the supervisors. Other volunteers are looking after the system.

As you have seen, 2011 was a busy year for the Trustees. It is expected 2012 will be no different.

Submitted by,
Bob Willis, Chair

BOARD OF STEWARDS

The Board of Stewards meet the first Wednesday of the month. 2011 was a very busy year for the Stewards.

Several successful fund raisers were held this year. In February a Spaghetti dinner was held under the capable leadership of Bill MacLeod with a profit of \$875.00. As

well a Pancake Supper was held with a profit of \$713.00. In September we hosted the Scott Woods Band co-ordinated by Lois Campion and Maggie Clarke realizing a profit of \$2,970. In December we hosted a Christmas concert, featuring Derrick Paul Miller, Kathleen Gorey-McSorley and Carolyn Holyoke realizing a profit of \$2,143.60!

Starting in September 2010 our envelope givings decreased by 12 - 14%. To identify the reasons for the shortfall in our 2011 budget, an analysis of the envelope givings was carried out in May. As a result of the findings two initiatives were brought forward. One being a "Celebrate Stewardship Program" in the new year co-ordinated by Wendy Topolski and an invitation to like-minded non-profit ministries for Expression of Interests (EOI) to make effective use of the Wilmot United Church buildings co-ordinated by Jeff Beairsto. We were pleased to note that in the fall of 2011 givings started to increase from earlier in the year.

In May the Stewards began a study for the first hour of the meetings, on the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*: Radical hospitality; Passionate worship; Intentional faith development, Risk-taking mission and service and Extravagant generosity. This proved to be a spiritual growth experience for the committee members.

My heartfelt thanks to the members of the Board, Bob Lutes (Treasurer), Jeff Beairsto, Peter Curtis, Loana Davies, Kal Hasan, Dave Moore, and Wendy Topolski, for sharing their wisdom and leadership. Last but not least, to Rose-Hannah Gaskin for your spiritual guidance.

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Clarke
Chairperson

**MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE**

The Ministry and Personnel Committee reports to the Official Board on matters related to personnel issues concerning the ministry personnel and support staff. We make recommendations to the Official Board who must approve them before they become effective. We are also in the process of overseeing the cemetery staff.

On November 2, the M&P Committee recommended to the Official Board that the current terms of engagement for the Reverend Bob Jones (with his approval) be renewed until June 30, 2012.

We continue to keep the doors of communication open with our staff and support them in their work.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy MacDonald

Richard MacTavish (co-chairs)

MUSIC REPORT

It's been another successful year for Wilmot's two principal ensembles--the Wilmot Senior Choir and the Frank T. Pridham Memorial HandbellChoir--and for our organist, Virginia Leiter, our music director/choir director/guitarist, Steven Peacock, and for a number of talented soloists and ensemble musicians of all ages drawn from the Wilmot family and from the larger community, such as Sunday School students and members of the Fredericton Male Chorus.

The Senior Choir, a New Brunswick Choral Federation member choir, has presented an anthem at all but one regular Sunday worship in 2011, and at a number of extra services, notably at Christmas and Easter.

Regular membership has remained steady

at about 35 singers. In addition, the Senior Choir has performed at the Advent Carol Service and at the 20-voice Fredericton Male Chorus final concert, as well as being a presence in the choir loft for eight funerals this past year.

The Handbell Choir has provided music for a total of eight services of worship in 2011, and in addition has performed in concert at Windsor Court and Gibson Street memorial United Church, always to much acclaim. There are twelve ringers in the ensemble, with two-thirds of the membership drawn from the Wilmot congregation.

Soloists drawn from the larger community to enhance our Sunday worship have included violinist Nadia Francavilla, guitarist Gerry Van Wart, soprano Angela Birdsell, trumpeter John Tickner, flutist Sally Wright, and organists Peter Waterhouse and Willis Noble. Equally important are the solo performances by Wilmot members, including Dorothy Frazier, Neil Thorne, Claire Vézina, Heather Neville and Matthew Chase, to name only a few.

Many thanks for the many and varied musical opportunities that have come my way in 2011!

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Peacock

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are having a wonderful and exciting Sunday School year.

We are using the Seasons of the Spirit curriculum, costing \$1434. for the 2011-2012 school year. We also had material and police record check costs totaling a few hundred dollars.

Wilmot has 56 children registered from birth to high school. We have 4 separate classes and a nursery.

The Sunday School coordinator is Krista Wong working with a Sunday School Advisory Committee made up of Kelly Ebbett, Jilanna Eagles, Rose-Hannah Gaskin and Krista Wong.

We have 13 teachers/nursery workers and one craft coordinator all having a police record check (\$11.30 each).

Kelly Ebbett led Vacation Bible School at St. Paul's in August. We had many children from both churches, and had lots of fun.

We decorated cupcakes and a welcome banner on Welcome Sunday.

At Christmas we decorated and sold Christmas cookies. In Advent we took part in a 4-week activity in the Sanctuary which involved the song Hope is a Star for the Introit. Kelly Ebbett created a Christmas Cantata for all ages of the Sunday School to take part in.

We created the Wilmot Family Cookbook that made \$1260 for Wilmot.

Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin spent one service so far this year with the children, that went over very well with a story, music and flying whale.

Kelly Ebbett gathers all the children together for music throughout the year.

We have been working on a Mission and Service project all year that started last year with the high school group making a paper-mache pigs for each classroom.

Submitted by,
Krista Wong

WILMOT INFORMATION TEAM

(WIT)

In 2011 the Information Team published two issues of *Words from Wilmot* including a limited number of large print copies, on April 8th and September 20th.

With Marlene's help we put together Newcomers' kits for Welcome Sunday (September 11th).

The most important effort was the Group Photo Directory, WELCOME TO WILMOT'S GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES: 2010-2011, given out on Welcome Sunday, which gave information about committees and other activities, and, thanks to remarkable work by Jack Oudemans, had photos of all their people he could get.

In addition to regular notices of services, special notices for the services alternating with St. Paul's, Welcome Sunday, Anniversary Sunday, Christmas, and Holy Week were published in the Daily Gleaner.

Garth Caseley has continued as webmaster of our site, www.wilmotuc.nb.ca which is very useful.

Submitted by,
Ted Colson, Chair

Members: Owen Washburn, Rick Patterson, Carolyn Atkinson, Jack Oudemans, Lucille Caseley, Nancy Bauer, Rose-Hannah Gaskin

SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

The members of the Sanctuary Committee in 2011 were: Elizabeth Bastin, Diana Hall, Barb Frame, Betty Shore, Ellen Sherren, and Gisele LeBlanc.

The Sanctuary Committee is responsible for things behind the scenes. We are like stage hands in a theatre production. We hang the crosses and tapestries, change the

bookmark and table runners, arrange flowers and blow out candles just to name a few. The committee helps to enrich the Sunday morning worship service by adding their own creative touch.

The Sanctuary Committee wishes to thank all the members of the congregation for their support and donations to each and every Sunday in their own way. We would also like to thank Diana Hall for her years of serving on this committee and the decorating talents she shared with the members and the congregations.

Respectfully submitted,
Carlinda Daigle

PRAYER AND HEALING MINISTRY

Wilmot's Prayer and Healing ministry continues to be active and engaged in the life of our congregation and beyond. The list of confidential prayer concerns and intentions is steadily at 100 plus. Prayer requests are received from members of the congregation and from those outside our faith community for concerns related to physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual issues or family relationships and transitions. Prayers are offered daily by members of the Prayer Circle. The group meets monthly or bi-monthly as an opportunity to share updates and pray together. Each month the group invites the congregation to join them in prayers of support for the various ministries of Wilmot. In 2012 we are exploring new ways to meet together for spiritual support and education. Requests for confidential Prayer are made through Guy Vezina (455-6174) and Karen Watson (366-5432).

WILMOT QUILTERS AND MORNING-OUT GROUP

2011 was an outstanding year for the quilters. We picked up a challenge from the

Cuba Committee: to sort the left-over fabric that had been donated by the congregation and others, and then use that fabric to make quilts, therefore, raising additional funds for the cause.

At the end of the 10-month project--and using additional fabrics from our own stashes--we were able to not only donate \$2,000 to the Cuba Committee, but also, were able to present \$4,000 to Rose-Hannah to use at the Stewards' discretion for the good of Wilmot Church.

Beyond that, we contributed to The Salvation Army and the Buy-A-Night Campaign. We have kept a balance of slightly over a thousand dollars from our project in order to finance some improvement to our parlour or kitchen area at Wilmot--to be decided in the near future. And, then, of course, we keep a bit of petty cash for thread and other needed supplies.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of our year was the process by which the quilts were sold. After showing our quilts and sewing projects for a month of Sundays in October, we finalized our silent bidding process on Saturday, October 29. We, with the help of many of our Wilmot friends, set a beautiful buffet table; and, in a cafe-style atmosphere, decorated in autumn finery, served tea and lunch as we awaited the final bids. What a cheerful, relaxed day for Wilmot comradeship and visitation! For the success we are able to celebrate, we thank you.

The balance of our earnings, from quilting projects and weekly voluntary collections from our members, will continue to support the traditional causes that our ladies have supported for years--and some new ones, as our membership sees fit.

Wednesday morning quilting has expanded to an all-day affair. Quilting classes were held for ten months, on Wednesday

afternoons and on Thursday evenings, to encourage new crafters to try their hand at the art of quilting. And so, we have welcomed new members during the year, at least doubling our membership. New quilters are always welcome. But, you need not be a quilter in order to join us for a morning out. Perhaps you would like to work on another craft of your own choice. Or, perhaps you would just like to stop by for tea and conversation mid-way through the morning on Wednesdays. We have welcomed and enjoyed your company, and, look forward to continuing this tradition--so do drop by.

Submitted by
Anne Stewart

WILMOT SENIORS

We welcome any Senior to our meetings and outings. It was another successful and enjoyable year for our group in 2011! Over the last year, we met 16 times and our average attendance for meetings was 22 and for outings was 41. Our total attendance in 2011 was 368.

In addition to a games day every month, we enjoyed several outings and guest speakers. This year five guest speakers included Carol Anne Daigle who travelled to Swaziland with the Stephen Lewis Foundation; Kal Hasan on the horrors of Trans Fats; Cameron Gunn about his recently published "Ben and Me"; Peggy Scott and Michael Quinn, the province's Chief Electoral officer, speaking about Elections Canada and Seniors; and Flemming Nielsen on his autobiography "On Course for Adventure". We also enjoyed a Hymn Sing under the leadership of Chris Freeman following our mid winter pot luck lunch. In September, we held another pot luck lunch which we were pleased to share with our ministers. After our lunch we enjoyed being entertained by Neil Thorne

and his group "Maple Syrup". Three outings were also a part of our year's activities. In June we took part in a Mystery Tour which included lunch at the Moonlight Restaurant in Prince William followed by a visit to the Old Schoolhouse in Keswick Ridge with tea hosted by the Keswick Ridge Historical Society, and a sing along with Ralph Stephenson on his accordion. In October we traveled to Lakeville Corner for a delicious "Lunch with Lena" hosted by members of the Sheffield Pastoral Charge. Our Christmas dinner was held at Aggie's and was followed by a carol sing led by Ian Stewart. At this gathering our 45 members brought gifts to be given to the Men's Shelter in Fredericton. We also made financial donations this year (\$125) from the offering collected each week.

Many thanks to our ministers, to Marlene and Randy and to all of you who made the year a great one. We are a group of Seniors, married or single, who like to spend a couple of hours, usually twice a month with other Seniors, to talk, laugh, visit and enjoy a nice cup of hot tea and a light lunch before we head for home. If anyone is interested in joining us, just drop in any time the 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons between September and June. You'll be very welcome. It's a nice way to meet other seniors who like to call Wilmot Church their home!

Submitted by
Susan Breen

ADULT BIBLE EXPLORATIONS

(Lectionary Group)

Adult Bible Explorations is a ginger group which meets for one hour before the service every Sunday morning 9:30-10:30 September through May. Between personal stories and jokes we discuss the "lectionary" readings of the day, which normally serve as the basis for the scriptures read in

church. Background, origin, history, authorship, dates, authenticity, meaning, of the various books of the Bible are considered as we decide whether to keep them or throw them out. We connect these stories with our own experience as much as possible, either starting with our own questions and going to the readings, or starting with the scriptures and relating them to our experience. Either way it is usually a dust-up. Attended by six to eight people on a morning, beginners through old hands. Open discussion. All opinions welcome. Long-term adult learning for life.

WILMOT SEEKERS

Seekers in the early church were hangers-on, people who were always seeking a clearer and deeper way, and went wherever it might be found. They tend to infest the edges of the church and get on your nerves because they are always asking questions. Wilmot Seekers is something like that, trying to know "God" better, never satisfied with their thinking today, always looking for new insight, constantly turning over rocks to get a fresh view of the world. The Wilmot Seekers do this by considering chapters of a recent book on some theme of faith, or with the assistance of DVD clips with various talking heads ... current scholars or commentators ... discussed, usually, in a reasonably amicable manner. This year the book was "Speaking Christian" by Marcus Borg. Meets once a month, 3rd Thursdays, 4:00-5:30. Six to twelve people. Led by Don MacDougall.

YOUTH GROUP

In September 2011 Laura Scott (B.Ed. student at UNB) stepped forward and made plans to rekindle the Wilmot United Church Youth Group. As plans become solidified for the start-up of the group in mid-October, I

put my name forth as willing to help lead the group.

On October 21st, the Youth Group met for the first time under the new leadership.

The group successfully met three times over the course of late October and early November; however, due to both low attendance and many changes in leadership and advisory counselling the group ceased to meet until such a time as both of these issues could be resolved.

An Advisory Committee was formed for the Youth Group in early November, consisting of Peggy Scott, Greg Black, Andrea Black, Guy Vezina, and Ann Colpitts.

In mid-November we learned that Laura was not going to be with us any longer as she was moving back to Ontario for personal reasons. Around the same time, Amy Bourne stepped forward and offered her help to the leadership of the Youth Group.

I am very excited for the time to come when we can again rekindle the Youth Group because I strongly believe that it is an important part of the spiritual development of our youth.

At this time, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of those who have helped to make the progress that we did have with the Youth Group possible and look forward to working with you in the future.

Submitted Sincerely in Faith,
Derek A.J. Ness

Youth Programming Co-coordinator

CUBA COMMITTEE

During 2011 the Cuba Committee worked in various directions in support of the focus of the committee. The premise of "community", keeps coming up as the yard stick to measure our projects and commitments against.

The projects that we engaged in for 2011, included;

1. Scholarships for students in our community here in Fredericton and Cuba. Two scholarships were provided to individuals who are in attendance at the Theological Seminary. One scholarship was provided to a student attending UNB who has a background and association with the Seminary.
2. Funding support for the Theological Seminary in Cuba. This funding was provided in lieu of the funding revenue that would have been received by the seminary if a trip was completed by participants from Wilmot Church.
3. Cost sharing support for members of Wilmot Church to attend a Mission Trip Leader Seminar. This seminar involved delegates from around the world and Canada. The delegates came together for the purpose of developing understanding around methods to develop effective mission programs.
4. The Cuba committee rolled dough and made hot cross buns for the larger Wilmot community. This activity brought people from around the world together for a common goal of making bread and growing in friendship.
5. The continuing understanding and development of a project in Bolivia, Cuba will focus on improving access to programs for people who are physically challenged and others in this community.

6. The Committee provided fabric to the Quilters who then took up a project to sew these special pieces together and make a wonderful collection of quilts and other articles. These items were then auctioned off and a donation was made to the Committee to further its work.

A special thank you is extended from the Committee to everyone who supports the ongoing efforts. Your time, your thoughts, your patience and support come together to benefit the various communities linked to the efforts of this Committee.

Respectively submitted,
Greg Black
Chair of Cuba Committee

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Several ongoing activities happen over the year under the auspices of the Outreach Committee. These are varied in time, duration, focus/goals, and people involved. Each activity/ project has come about to address a need or social justice issue in our community, country, or world. We aim to provide educational content and learning as well as action. The Outreach Committee consists of about 6-8 people who meet monthly (1st Wed. of the month) to review ongoing activities and deal with any new business, projects, or issues that arise.

Wilmot Community members are essential to the success of our endeavors. You can be involved in one or several Outreach activities as your time, interest, and skills allow.

Although all the activities are important that Outreach supports, a few noteworthy accomplishments over the year are:

- a) Wilmot Outreach has continued to support the "Access to Justice"

project which has formed the Access to Justice Coalition with community organizations in Fredericton, St John, Moncton, Miramichi and Caraquet. Networking contacts began at Wilmot, with the research by two STU Social Work Students and two UNB Law Students in fall 2010. The Coalition had a very productive meeting with the Minister of Justice, Marie-Claude Blais, in August and has followed up her invitation, by developing a proposal for a Working Committee that could provide ongoing consultation with government and other stakeholders on key Access to Justice issues. Our Access to Justice project has had positive feedback from the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. The Access to Justice Coalition was also highlighted by Prof. Julia Hughes in a panel presentation at UNB Law School's "Viscount Bennett Lecture" in October 2011, where the theme lecture by Supreme Court Justice Thomas Cromwell was "Access to Justice: The Way Forward". On February 24th 2012, the Coalition will host a one-day public forum "Access to Justice: Moving Beyond Ability to Pay", at Wilmot Church. The Forum is supported by Maritime Conference and by the generous gift of space at Wilmot! Everyone is encouraged to attend

Special thanks to Gail Wylie & Norm Laverty who continue to champion this issue.

b) Fair Trade product sales are steady with Breagh, Eris MacDonald Rahn & mother Gayle managing this social enterprise. Products are bought with the Debbie McIntosh fund & profits returned to this fund. This fund is paying for the coffee served on

- Sundays. 'Breaking the Silence' brand is our 'choice' Wilmot coffee supporting a coffee co-op in Guatemala.
- c) Norm Laverty & Drop In Coordinators organized an August excursion for the Drop In participants to Grand Manan.
 - d) Elaine Kenyon & Ann Price plus crew did a huge job organizing & soliciting support from all of Wilmot members who made the Holiday season special for 32 families (Newcomers to Fredericton) by providing gifts and grocery gift cards from Superstore and Victory and playhouse vouchers. This is a partnership with MCAF. The decision to use Grocery Store gift cards instead of providing food items was well received and better met the newcomer's needs.
 - e) Beth Arsenault and Monica Coll have raised the bar of hospitality and support offered to those who seek vouchers from Wilmot by providing a bulletin board of relevant community information, tea, coffee, refreshments, use of parlour and networking with outreach workers from PfY and other community services.
 - f) Wilmot continues our membership in CAGH and active role with Beth Arsenault serving on the Community Action Group on Homelessness (CAGH)
 - g) Participated in KAIROS' Roll with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples- Thanks to Guy Vezina and others a Banner was created and sent to Ottawa on the 'Banner Train.'
 - h) Donations totally \$3000 were provided to a variety of community service organizations and social justice activities.

We welcome your participation at any time.

Feel free to contact the Outreach chair–

Judy Coates judycoates@rogers.com

454-5631 or the following Committee

members & /or specific program

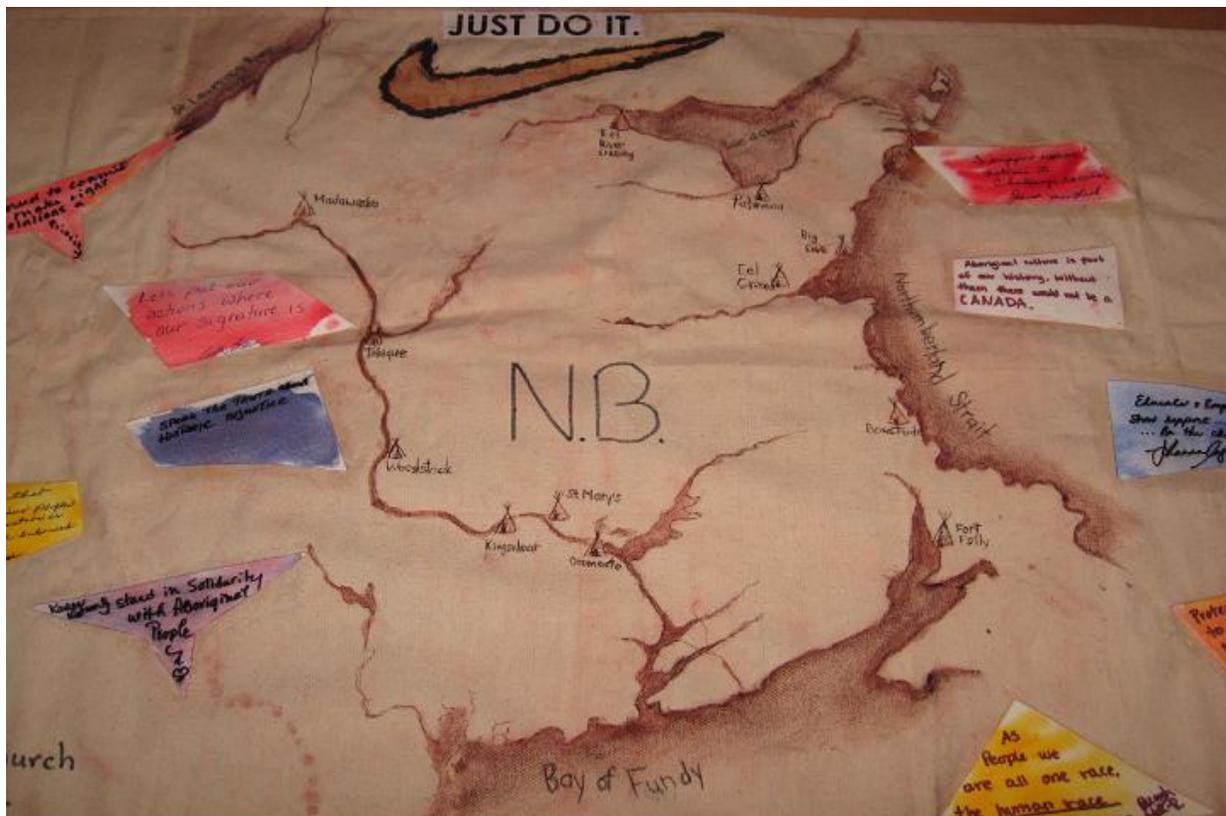
coordinators:

Chris Colwell, Elaine Kenyon, Gail Wylie,
Beth Paynter, Terri Maclean, Ruth Breen,
Norm Laverty, Gayle MacDonald, Eris and
Breagh MacDonald –Rahn, Melva Curtis,
Beth Arsenault, Rita Roach, Loana Davies

Other Activities not mentioned above

include:

- Soup Lunch Fellowship/ fundraiser
- Community Kitchen Teams of volunteers
- Interchurch Refugee Committee
- Saturday Night Drop In volunteer teams
- Education on social justice



Banner depicting First Nations' settlements in NB & messages to Canadian Gov't asking for actions to honour the Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

There were thirty-six members on the roll of Wilmot's U.C.W. for 2011 which met every second Monday evening in the Church Parlour, with the exception of January, February and March when we met at noon. Programs of each meeting included devotions, business and a light lunch with members taking turns with the program and lunch. Special programs were held at Easter, Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day and Christmas. Our June meeting was a "dinner out" at Jack and Andy's Restaurant and the Christmas meeting was a pot luck.

Programs for 2011 consisted of a Foodless Food Sale in February; Bring and Buy in March; Thank Offering in April and October; Least Coin in September; and a White Gift and Mitten Tree in December.

The Interchurch Council hosted the World Day of Prayer Bible Study at the Cathedral in February and March and Lucille Caseley, Nancy Gilbert and Jeanette Hall gave short readings. In April Wilmot hosted the UCW Spring Rally. We catered to Rev., Bob Jones' 80th birthday in May. In June we catered to the Presbytery luncheon. We willingly supported five bereaved families with refreshments following funeral services.

The UCW had a number of successful fund raisers in 2011. In April a Spring Rummage Sale; in September a Book Sale; October a Fall Rummage Sale; November a Bake Sale and Pie Sale. This allowed the group to make donations to the Transition House and the Community Kitchen. A contribution of \$8,000 was made to the Wilmot general funds, \$2,500 to M&S, as well over \$3,000 for new lights and counter top that were installed in the kitchen, and emergency lights that were installed in the parlour.

This year the Helen A. Young Memorial Scholarships were awarded to Kevin Gough, Loana Davies and Monica Coll. We wish them success in their future endeavours.

Cards were sent out to members of the Wilmot family, who were ill, shut-in, or just needed to know we were thinking of them. At Christmas we packaged and delivered approximately 50 Christmas bags to shut-ins and the elderly.

Anne Stewart designed and quilted a beautiful patchwork wall hanging that was displayed at Maritime Conference.

Our sincere and heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all those who volunteer their time and talents to make our fund raisers a success .."many hands make light work". To the congregation, it because of your generous support of our work that we are such a very successful working group.

We welcome and encourage women to come and join in our fellowship as we move forward into a new year.

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Clarke, Secretary

**Wilmot United Church Women
Audited Treasurer's Report
As of December 31, 2011**

Balance on hand – January 1, 2011 (includes \$62.95 balance for Morning Out Quilters)		\$11,418.82
Receipts		
Monthly Offering	\$2,028.86	
Thank Offering	\$180.00	
Donations	\$370.00	
Unit Projects	\$2,634.85	
Regular Projects	\$12,214.80	
Morning Out Quilters Deposits	\$7,697.30	
Transferred funds for Scholarship Fund	447.93	
Bank interest	<u>\$1.10</u>	
Total Receipts 2011		\$25,574.84
Disbursements		
Scholarship Fund (3 x \$200 each)	\$625.00	
Mission & Service Fund	\$2,500.00	
Wilmot United Church	\$8,000.00	
Gifts and Flowers	\$336.24	
Church Projects	\$3,595.00	
Morning Out Quilters Disbursements	\$6,594.74	
Other Projects	\$2,850.00	
Sundries	<u>\$1,143.95</u>	
Total Disbursements 2011		\$25,644.93
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2011 (Includes \$1,165.51 balance for Quilters)		\$11,348.73

Respectively Submitted,
Brenda Cameron, Treasurer UCW

Audited by, Carlinda Daigle

2011 Envelope Givings Report																				
	Local					M & S					Capital					Total Givings				
Interval	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
1-99	35	35	49	57	47	45	46	58	60	63	36	37	51	53	54	27	22	36	39	36
100-199	25	28	24	33	33	27	26	32	43	44	25	28	25	32	40	19	28	28	24	23
200-299	17	23	26	25	35	22	24	28	24	25	23	28	30	25	26	15	21	16	17	21
300-399	15	20	15	19	28	9	14	13	13	17	11	15	11	19	19	11	12	15	14	18
400-599	29	27	34	39	39	16	15	19	19	19	17	18	21	19	16	26	19	30	36	34
600-799	26	27	31	33	32	7	9	8	9	13	6	5	7	5	5	20	31	22	28	31
800-999	18	22	23	21	18	2	3	4	4	2	1	4	2	3	5	15	10	16	24	24
1000-1499	38	35	35	31	31	10	9	8	8	9	4	4	4	3		39	40	49	40	45
1500-1999	10	15	14	13	18	1	1	1	1		1			0	2	25	26	30	30	31
2000-2499	11	12	15	12	7				1	1			1	1	3	23	28	17	15	13
2500-2999	9	6	6	7	9	3	3	3	2	2	1	1				12	3	14	10	10
3000-3499		3	2		3											2	9	10	8	6
3500-3999	2	3	1	3	2											5	11	3	4	7
4000-4499	3	2	2	1												4	1	1		1
4500-4999			2	1	1											2	2	2	2	1
5000-5999	2	2	3	4	3			1	1	1						3	2	3	4	4
6000-6999	3	3				1	1									3	3	4	6	
7000-7999																3	3	3	2	3
8000+				1	1											3	6	2	3	6
No of Envs	243	263	282	300	307	143	151	175	184	196	125	140	152	160	170	257	277	301	306	314
Total	222495	236499	244006	238572	243414	55129	57696	59810	63638	64295	36678	40481	40838	40715	45860	370843	413307	394657	394031	449437
Ave/Env	916	899	865	795	793	386	382	342	346	328	293	289	269	254	270	1443	1492	1311	1288	1431
Percentage Increase 2011/2010																				
Envelope Givings compared to the PAR method of giving																				
Total																				
Average/env																				
Total givings include donations to all church accounts. In 2011, there were 27 such accounts to which \$389,420 was given.																				
Visitors (those who are identified and can receive tax receipts) brought \$13116 to our church in 2011																				
The table is a summary of donations received by those who have numbered set of envelopes and by those giving by PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance.)																				
Thank-you to all the tellers and teller organizer Peggy Brodie for their extraordinary effort each Sunday in tallying our givings and to Marlene Philips for her patience and energy that goes into keeping the envelope tracking system up-to-date.																				
respectively submitted																				
Graham Allen																				

**WILMOT UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
February 20, 2011**

The Wilmot United Church family gathered to begin the 2011 Annual General Meeting in the gymnasium. The meeting was a continuing celebration of all that has happened over the last year and all that we continue to do for our own community and the greater community.

Present: List attached.

Opening Prayer:

Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin led the opening prayer.

Opening Motions:

1. Appointment of Chair: **Motion:** Ann Kennedy moved that Shirley Cleave act as chair of the meeting. Seconded by Elizabeth Savoie. Carried.
2. Appointment of Secretary: **Motion:** Susan MacLeod moved that Terri MacLean act as secretary for the meeting. Seconded by Helen Creelman. Carried.
3. Permission for adherents to vote on temporal matters: **Motion:** Elizabeth Savoie moved for permission of adherents to vote on temporal matters. Seconded by Dana Hanson. Carried.

Approval of Agenda: Motion: Joan MacDonald moved for the approval of the Agenda. Seconded by Kal Hasan. Carried.

Approval of the Minutes (21 February 2010): Motion: Nancy Gilbert made the motion for approval of the minutes of the 2010 AGM. Seconded by Nancy Oxner. Carried.

Approval of the Annual Report: Moved that the committee reports in the Annual Report be received for information. Moved by Joan MacDonald. Seconded by Maggie Clarke. Carried.

Remembrance for those members of the congregation who passed away in 2010. We were graced by their presence and remember them with sadness.

Celebrating 2010

Year of changes in staff, Rev. Chris Levan accepted a call to a church in Toronto and Rev. Murray McFarlane and Priscilla Geisterfer finished their terms as members of our staff team in June. Rose-Hannah arrived from Vancouver in July. Throughout this time, Bob Jones has been our consistent presence. We became aware over the summer that we needed to review our financial position before we began planning for additional staff positions. There were changes in lay leadership as Kitty Beal relinquished her duties, and Greg Black assumed the role

of Chair of Session and Nancy Oxner is now our Clerk of Session. Ann Kennedy stepped down as Chair of Official Board and Shirley Cleave has accepted this role.

During the fall, the Official Board approved the creation of three working groups focusing on various aspects of our congregation: Financial, Vision and Structure.

Financial:

Owen Washburn, Blair Kennedy and Bob Lutes were the members of this committee. They reviewed current financial operations, and made a number of recommendations to the Board including providing committees with individual budgets. Bob Lutes prepared a Q & A sheet explaining the church finances.

Visioning:

Craig Frame, Hilary Drain, Elizabeth Savoie and Joyce Trites worked on a visioning statement for Wilmot. They consulted with the congregation and drafted a vision statement that was presented to the Official Board in January.

Structure:

Greg Black, Anne Kennedy and Shirley Cleave worked on re-establishing the committee structure and reviewed internal communication structure.

During the summer, new leaders for the Sunday School program were Peggy Scott, Wendy Topolski and Joyce Trites. They recreated the SS program. Krista Wong has now assumed the coordinating role. Thanks need to be extended to these women for their leadership and to all the individuals who are teaching our children in Sunday School classes.

After some challenges faced during the summer with respect to safety and security, the Official Board created a Working Group to address these issues. The members of the group were Joan MacDonald, Bob Willis, Peter Gough, Ron O'Brien and Rose~Hannah Gaskin have been working diligently and will be reporting back in the spring.

Thank you to Maggie Clarke for organizing the Fall Auction. Along with many volunteers, Maggie organized the auction and it was very successful in raising funds for Wilmot. Thank you to all who were involved.

Reports from Committees:

These reports were received as submitted in the Annual Report.

Acceptance of Auditor's Review: Mary Anne van Oostwaard of Daye Kelly & Associates was present to give a review of the finances of Wilmot Church for 2010. The review is a statement of the financial operations of Wilmot United Church. On behalf of the congregation, Shirley Cleave thanked Mary Anne for the preparation of the report.

Income was higher than expected over the year. We had budgeted for a \$5000 deficit and instead we had a healthy surplus.

Motion: Sally MacAllister moved to accept the Financial Report as presented. Seconded by Graham Allan Carried.

Recognition of Services for those completing their terms – Susan MacLeod thanked all of those who have taken the time to serve terms in the various committees.

Recognition of Staff – Andy MacDonald recognized and thanked all staff members at Wilmot which included cemetery personnel, student workers, and tour guide, Bob Jones for his pastoral care and leadership at Worship, Chris Levan and Murray McFarlane for their spiritual guidance, Priscilla Giesterfer for her Sunday School leadership, and Rose~Hannah Gaskin for her leadership in worship as we go through a time of change. Thanks to Randy Randall and Marlene Phillips for their roles of support for Wilmot. Thanks to Virginia Leiter and Steven Peacock for their musical leadership.

Enabling Our Mission in 2011

Considering our Vision – Craig Frame

Wilmot United Church is an open and welcoming presence in downtown Fredericton, acting out our Christian faith to be a light in God's world.

This vision should be revisited every three to four years to make certain that it is still pertinent to the congregation and our ministry.

Staffing Options

JNAC will be reporting in a few weeks on our staffing situation. At the moment, we have Rev. Bob Jones as a part-time minister and Rev. Rose~Hannah Gaskin as full-time minister. We need to consider our ability to hire additional ministry personnel.

Operating Budget for 2011 – Bob Lutes spoke to this budget.

Motion: Sally MacAllister moved for acceptance of the budget for 2011. Seconded by Marjorie Atkinson. Carried.

Mission & Service Target for 2011 – Wendy Topolski spoke about the work that is provided through our donations to M&S and the importance of our support for this work.

Motion: Wendy Topolski moved that our 2011 contribution target to the Mission and Service Fund be \$68,500. Seconded by Helen Creelman. Carried.

Capital Maintenance Budget for 2011 – Craig Astle

Motion: Accept the Capital and Maintenance Budget of \$40,000 for 2011 contribution. Moved by Craig Astle and seconded by Cliff Moase. Carried.

Appointment of Daye and Kelly:

Motion: Moved that the appointment for the financial unofficial audit be Daye and Kelly. Moved by Maggie Clarke, seconded by Joan MacDonald. Carried.

Thanks were expressed to Sally McAllister and Bob Lutes for the hard work that they do on budget matters for Wilmot.

Nominating Committee Report: Susan MacLeod presented the report. Gratitude expressed to those who have served and a welcome to new committee members as well as those continuing members at Wilmot. It takes many committees and members of these committees to make things happen here at Wilmot. Your involvement is appreciated. The installation of officers for 2011 was concluded. There will be a covenanting service at a later date.

Recognition of Kitty Beal and Ann Kennedy for their work at Wilmot. A small gift was given to each.

Motion: Move the acceptance of the Nominating Committee Report. Moved by Susan MacLeod, seconded by Andy MacDonald. Carried.

Directory will be put together with names of committee members, e-mails and telephone numbers.

Appreciation was expressed to the Outreach committee for organizing a delicious soup lunch, thank you to Doug Beairsto for setting up sound system, to Wendy Topolski for organizing child care and to Randy Randall for setting up for this meeting.

General discussion among congregation members about the trust funds. We need to have a definition of how trust funds can and should be used by the church.

Closing Prayer: Rose~Hannah led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri MacLean
Secretary, Official Board