

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH

473 King Street

Fredericton, NB

E3B 1E5

1-506-458-1066

wilmotuc@nb.sympatico.ca



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

Ministers Emeriti: Rev. Vic Moriarty, Rev. Cliff Moase and Rev. Bob Jones

Virginia Leiter - Organist

Marlene Phillips - Office Administrator

Chair of Council: Craig Frame

Rev. Ellen Beairsto

Steven Peacock - Choir Director

Randy Randall - Sexton

Secretary: Beverly Black

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Ministers	1
Message from our Office Administrator	2
Stats for 2014	3
Church Council	3
Trustees	5
Stewardship & Finance	6
Membership Secretaries	7
Ministry & Personnel	7
Pastoral Care and Health	8
Faith Formation Committee	10
Wilmot Seekers	12
Adult Bible Conversation	13
Worship Committee	13
Music Report	14
Information Team	15
Outreach Committee	16
Quilting and Fellowship	18
Seniors	18
Wilmot U.C.W.	19
U.C.W. Financial Report	21
Rural Cemetery Financial Report	22
Annual Meeting 2013	23
Envelope Stewards Report	28

FROM ONE MINISTER'S DESK

It has been a year of intentional reflection and substantial discernment here at Wilmot United Church. We've called this a time of Wilmot On The Move. As often happens, the process gets longer, and the task more complex once you start sifting through things!

Like many congregations, we have come to realize the very real resource challenges we face going forward, and now are working to find new ways to be faithful to our vision: namely, **to be open and welcoming presence in downtown Fredericton, putting our Christian faith into action to be a light in God's world.**

There has been a tremendous amount of work done by many people and groups so that the congregation might have more clarity regarding the tracking of expenses and also on the way we will now begin to do our budgeting.

Our Outreach programs and projects continue to make a real difference to many, and this ministry is very much part of the congregation's core identity.

Throughout the year, we have tried to find a workable balance between service-oriented programs, worship, pastoral care and faith formation, as we wonder what the future God is calling us to. Some of us have been part of larger gatherings such as the City of Fredericton's Age Friendly Cities symposium. We're also curious about Wilmot's place in the city's new City Centre Plan. So you can see we're looking inward and outward as we continue to discern.

Wilmot also values our connection to the wider church, being actively engaged with neighbouring United Church of Canada congregations, as well as serving in Woolastook Presbytery and Maritime Conference.

The ministry of Wilmot United Church is a shared ministry, and the entire congregation is encouraged to find a way to exercise the gifts God has given them for service to God's church. This gives rise to a great array of varied ministries!

We pray that God will bless us with wisdom, courage, insight and a strong sense of community as we explore the year ahead together in faith.

Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

FROM THE OTHER MINISTER'S DESK

Dear Friends,

As the Annual Report of 2014 was being prepared, I sat in my office and thought back over the past 12 months. Surrounded by teacups, VBS programs, Bibles, children's books, prayer shawls and the list goes on, I realized how much transpires in the run of a year. I feel so blessed and thankful that I have been called to be here at Wilmot. Serving as the minister of "Children, Youth and Pastoral Care" continues to answer the question, "What is God calling me to do?"

Mary Jo Leddy, in her book 'Reweaving Religious Life', wrote "If we grant that a vision, a shared vision, of the future must be discovered rather than constructed, where will it come from? It will

come from the deepest level of our lives, from the level where the communion with God coincides with our community with others.”

Discovering that shared vision has been and continues to be a part of our journey here at Wilmot. It has meant intentional listening, working together, reflecting, prayer and being open to God's guidance. I am once again overwhelmed by the ministry of our church standing proudly on the corner of King and Carleton. Things have changed over the years and Wilmot has worked so faithfully under the leadership of many to fulfill its calling to serve the people.

For me, this past year has been filled with so many sacred moments. Images flash before my eyes:

- a. the youth gathered around the kitchen counter in casual but powerful conversation
- b. a Confirmation weekend with 5 young people
- c. the sound of laughter as the children and youth join together for VBS
- d. the energy of the youth as they lead children in their music
- e. the gift of travelling to RendezVous with Laura, Lucie and Holly
- f. the services led by our children and youth – amazing

There are those sacred moments when I am not 'playing'. I am always inspired as a senior shares a piece of their life story. To be able to be in a person's home or chat with them on the phone or visit them in the hospital is a privilege. To laugh with the quilters or try my hand at knitting a prayer shawl, to see a team of all ages work together to lend a hand for others is awesome!

This past year has been filled with love, laughter, hope and grace. It has been a year of working together to witness the communion with God coinciding with our community with others. Thank you goes out to Rose-Hannah, Steven and Virginia along with Marlene, Randy and Dylan for all of their support over the past year. Thank you also goes out to you for all that you do to help make Wilmot a reflection of God's love and compassion. I look forward to the coming year with great anticipation.

Blessings.

Ellen

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Twenty-two and a half years Wilmot has been my “home base” and I have loved every year of it. Where else could I work that I would call members and co-workers “family”? Yes, come July I will have completed twenty-three years as Secretary/Office Administrator at Wilmot United! What changes I have seen over those years and survive these changes I did. I suspect 2015 will be no different - lots of changes but I will adapt to these also.

I sincerely have appreciated the support of ministers and the M&P Committee plus the understanding of everyone here at Wilmot as I fulfilled my duties as Moderator for the Presbytery of NB. This meant I was out of the office on several occasions tending to business for my home church. It was an exciting year for me, and especially for my home church, as we called a new minister.

Adjusting to a new treasurer has been easier than I expected. Bob Lutes

was very patient and understanding. I have discovered that Dale is very easy to work with and I think we get along quite well as we adjust to each other's "way of doing things". Graham Allen has also always been available when I have had questions, and I have had many concerning payroll postings!

Wednesday at Wilmot is definitely "on the move" and in a good way! So many people have been and continue to benefit from this program. Volunteers who support this program are to be commended for their commitment.

Being included in the social activities here at Wilmot continues to be a delight for me. I so enjoy our coffee and refreshment times together. Thank you for including me.

Once again I would like to say how much I appreciate the help of Peter Gough when it comes to spelling and grammar! He has an amazingly sharp eye and I appreciate every error he detects!

Marlene Phillips

STATS 2014

BAPTISMS:

Hadley K. V. Parker
Brady D. Chisholm
Tara Lynn Langlois - Adult
Jordan Serenya Woodcock-Adult
Cristin Janet Muecke Aalders - Adult

MARRIAGES: (Not all held at Wilmot)

Mark Burnett & Ashley Defazio
Akeame Musington & Emily Drake
Andrew McCloskey & Jennifer Hunter
Christopher Connor & Erica Parker
Kathleen Taylor & Stefanie Bouchard
Oliver Glencross & Katelyn Springer
Cody Reynolds & Lacey Dingley

DEATHS: (Not all held at Wilmot)

Russell Crowell
Ernest Faschoway
Charles Redfearn
Ethel Livingstone
Esther MacKay
Robert Anderson
Carol Harder
Alma Waldron
Carole Hopper
Jean Johnston
Warren Creelman
Phyllis Gaskin

TRANSFERS INTO WILMOT:

David Coon
Caroline Coon
Beverly Harper
Janice Harvey
Don MacFarlane
Bruce McMillan
Debbie McMillan
Darrell Mesheau
Derek Ness

TRANSFERS FROM WILMOT:

Peggy Scott

WILMOT CHURCH COUNCIL

Much of the work and success of the Council happens through the efforts of its committees. Council committees have decision making power within their respective mandates. Communication between the committees and Council is facilitated by the representatives that each committee elects to Council. These representatives report to Council on the work of their committee, bring forward issues beyond their committee's mandate for decisions by Council and report back to their committees on the work of the Council and other committees.

The Council itself also tries to look at issues important to Wilmot but which are broader in nature than the work of any one Council committee. The Wilmot on the Move work that was begun after the 2014 annual meeting was one such initiative. The goal of this committee was to help Wilmot address its current financial and human resource challenges. Stabilizing the church's fiscal situation will allow us the time and energy to examine our vision for Wilmot and make the necessary changes to sustain the ministries that grow out of that vision.

Wilmot United Church continues to be a vibrant faith community with a variety of strong ministries. Worship is central to our faith community whether it is led by our own clergy, Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin and Rev. Ellen Beirsto, guest speakers such as Lieutenant Governor Graydon Nicholas, Rev. Steve Bérube, or Rev. Dr. Peter Short, services led by Wilmot's youth or involving our children or shared worship with St. Paul's. Wilmot continues to be enriched by the music leadership offered by our organist Virginia Leiter and music director Steven Peacock as well as many talented guest musicians and members of our congregation. The variety and quality of the music we experience at Wilmot makes our worship so much more meaningful.

There were so many opportunities for fellowship, service and faith development at Wilmot during 2014. Examples are the various book studies, the retreat, the auction, rummage sale, soup luncheons, coffee and conversation, Seniors Group, vacation Bible school, quilting, Rainbow Brunch, youth attendance at Rendez-Vous in Winnipeg, Wednesdays @ Wilmot and Saturday night Drop-In programs, handbells, Words From Wilmot,

Sunday School and pre-natal classes. The list is so much longer and I hope you will read all of the various reports in this annual report to get a more detailed account of the wonderful work that is done by the people in our faith community.

Wilmot is truly blessed by the presence and work of our clergy and staff. Rev. Rose~Hannah Gaskin and Rev. Ellen Beirsto provide spiritual guidance and leadership through such ministries as weekly worship, small group study, youth and children's groups, work with various committees, pastoral care and the administrative operations at Wilmot.

Our church secretary, Marlene Phillips, is the glue that holds our church office together. She works hard helping to make so many activities within Wilmot run smoothly. Randy Randall, our sexton, and Dylan Sweeney, our supervisor, make sure our building is clean, help out when asked and do so with a smile and friendly manner.

Wilmot is an open and welcoming presence in downtown Fredericton. Our history, programs and activities are a testament to that. The Council looks forward to a rich and fulfilling year in 2015 as we actively work with the congregation to grow in our understanding of what it means to be a church that welcomes diversity, provides a safe place for all to explore their Christian faith and continues to serve our community in a sustainable and faithful way.

Members of the 2014 Church Council:
Craig Frame, Chair, Wilmot on the Move
Beverley Black, Secretary
Dale Chase, Treasurer
Rev. Rose~Hannah Gaskin, clergy,
Trustees
Rev. Ellen Beirsto, clergy

Judy Coates, Ministry and Personnel,
Wilmot on the Move
Norm Laverty, Presbytery
Elizabeth Savoie, Presbytery, Affirming
Diversity
Nancy Chase, UCW, Pastoral Care and
Health
Lynn McKinnon and Terri MacLean,
Outreach
Anne Colpitts, Worship
Kathie Goggin, Wilmot Information Team
Maggie Clarke, Stewardship and Finance
Derek Ness, Faith Formation

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Frame, Chair
Beverley Black, Secretary

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees held 8 regular meetings in 2014.

The Capital Maintenance fund provides funds for maintenance and upgrades to the Sanctuary, Wilmot Hall, and the Dr. G. M. Young Hall.

Maintenance work in 2014 included repairs to the fire alarm and sprinkler systems, repairs to the heating system, replacement of ceiling tiles in the Parlour (funded by a donation from UCW), repairs to walls and ceiling in stairway at back of choir loft, extension of WiFi network and replacement of two toilets in G.M. Young Hall.

Major repairs to the G. M. Young Hall gym roof were started in November at a cost of \$67,095 after increasingly frequent roof leaks.

The Investments Committee worked to provide better documentation of our

investment funds. Our investment funds invested with Fiera Capital (UCC Fund) were moved to TD Waterhouse Wealth Management due to changes being made to smaller accounts at Fiera Capital. Fiera Capital was moving smaller accounts from institutional to retail accounts with higher management fees. The move of our funds to TD Waterhouse will provide better access to our funds with local management. Interest from the Biggs Fund will be moved to the Operating Account for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 on the recommendation of the Financial Planning Working Group (Biggs Fund Advisory Committee), and the subsequent approval of Council.

The Cemetery Committee had a busy year with the ongoing maintenance and care of the Fredericton Rural Cemetery. In 2014 there were 78 burials (73% cremations). Four cremation lots and 14 Columbarium niches were sold. Work is continuing on the transfer of cemetery records to a computer database. UNB's ground sonar technology was used to identify open spaces available in the cemetery.

The rental agreement form was updated and rental rates were updated effective October 24, 2014 to include the cost of custodial work. The revised agreement includes a clause that specifies the need for \$2,000,000 of liability coverage

The Old Manse Committee continued to spend many hours dealing with maintenance issues in the Old Manse and meetings with tenants. Windows on the first and second floor of the Old Manse were replaced as per our rental agreement. Now, all windows have been replaced. Trustees did a substantial amount of work

in discussions and meetings concerning the possible sale of the Old Manse. These discussions included the possible acquisition of the old Isaac's Way property on Carleton Street for an increased parking area. The discussions ended in the fall with no agreement made for the sale of the Old Manse, due to the City of Fredericton's refusal to consider the lot for parking purposes.

Trustees had discussions as part of Wilmot On The Move regarding changes that could be made to reduce our operating costs. The payments for our utility (Irving and NB Power) and insurance bills were moved to equal monthly billing. New thermostats will also be installed.

A decision was made to request the removal of our Provincial Heritage Place designation. If the designation remains, we will need a permit and approval to change or update any character-defining elements of the church. This could result in increased costs for any changes or maintenance upgrades we need to make in the future. Due to the change in Provincial Government, no decision has been made regarding this request to date.

A Summer Tour Guide was hired last summer with the help of the Canada Summer Job Program.

Members of the Board of Trustees in 2014:

Graham Allen	459-5297
Blaine Atkinson	363-2576
Doug Beirsto	457-0747
Greg Black	454-5546
David Chisholm	459-5452
Rev. R-H Gaskin (Acting Chair)	292-1680
Blair Kennedy	453-9302
Andy MacDonald	459-7569

Paul Munro	450-9155
Norm Sheen	457-7099
Ron Vaughan	454-2103
Gordon Young	472-7721

Submitted by
Doug Beirsto
Secretary

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

"The goal of our stewardship ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents and finances God has entrusted to them."

The Stewardship and Finance Committee meets the first week of the month. As always we had a busy and fruitful year.

In January we began with a Stewardship Education Program directed by Wendy Topolski reviewing Conventional Giving, Memorial Fund and Benevolent Fund. In February, with heartfelt thanks we bid farewell to our Treasurer, Bob Lutes, who filled the big shoes of that position for the past 10 years. We welcomed Dale Chase as our new Treasurer in March.

Many changes took place throughout the year regarding our finances in our operating account as well as the investments under the leadership of Blair Kennedy from the Trustees. We switched to Quick Book on Line the beginning of 2015, and the Outreach set up their own bank account with the TD bank. With the view of using the Narrative Budget process for our 2015 budget, nine committee members participated in a UCC Narrative Budget Workshop in May.

Fundraising centered around *Scott Woods Concert* in April; *Four Men Sing*, a

M&S Fundraiser in May; a successful 2014 Auction in November; and *Sounds of the Season* in December.

In the fall we were faced with replacing the roof over the gym and was able to withdraw from the Jane Foster Bequest for the major part of the costs as well as some donations from the congregation.

I salute our team members, Dale Chase (Treasurer), Jeff Beirsto, Peter Curtis, and Shirley Cleave for sharing their wisdom and leadership. As well to Wendy Topolski and Anne Stewart for joining us for part of the year. A special thank you to Rose-Hannah Gaskin for her spiritual guidance.

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Clarke, Chairperson

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES

At this juncture, Wilmot's membership list has been refined to the point of being ready to be transferred into the software program. The list is comprehensive and accurate as possible at this point. Almost weekly, we continue to receive new membership information from Marlene and Ellen -- additions of new people, changes of addresses and/or phone numbers and names of members who had just died. Most of this year, our work has been geared toward making the Membership List useful. To this end, the two membership secretaries have had many discussions -- via email, telephone and meetings as needed. Further, we have had help and input from our clergy, the executive of our Church Council and various church members - and without naming names, we gratefully acknowledge this assistance.

Two big "tasks" remain:
- to transfer the current list to the Church Watch program (with Craig's help) and make adjustments and updates as appropriate. This we are ready to do now.
- to draft protocols for gathering, receiving and safely maintaining information.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Trites
Twila Buttimer
Membership secretaries

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

1 Corinthians 12 4-7 *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good*

The M&P committee met regularly starting April 30, 2014. It was very helpful to begin our tenure together by attending the informative Presbytery M&P training workshop April 5. "Keeping the pulse of the pastoral relationship in its entirety " is what the Ministry and Personnel Committee is all about!

Guided by the '***M&P Trinity of Trust, Honesty, and Confidentiality***,' M&P is a conduit for communication.

M&P is a mandatory committee required by the by-laws of the United Church of Canada to oversee relationships within the pastoral charge, particularly the roles and functions of paid leaders and

employees. We do not have decision making authority but report to and can recommend actions to Wilmot Council.

The committee reviewed all staff job descriptions with each staff, making sure they reflected what each staff was currently doing and writing each using the same format. This was an important piece of work accomplished. M&P has worked closely with 'Wilmot on the Move' committee this past year and responded to Council's request to look for efficiencies. Towards the end of August, our Sexton, Randy Randall requested to work reduced hours. This provided an opportunity to begin to examine efficiencies which resulted in Randy working 22 ½ hr per week beginning Sept 1, 2014 on a split shift schedule, eliminating door supervisors for our evenings and hiring Dylan Sweeney to work 10.5 hrs as a part time Sexton position for Monday and Sunday. This arrangement has proven satisfactory to all involved. Continuing to review efficiencies and being cognisant of Wilmot's financial situation, M&P have discussed possible changes with staff and a recommendation has been made to Council that will help to reduce staffing expenses. Although any staff reduction will carry consequences, M&P believe these will not impact too seriously the delivery of our Wilmot ministry. They will necessitate some changes to how we operate in light of less staff time. Discerning Wilmot's ministry and staffing needs is an ongoing process. It is M&P's intention to be more intentional about conducting annual performance reviews with our staff.

Wilmot received a Canada Summer Jobs federal student employee grant in 2014. This allowed Wilmot to hire a student for 8 weeks to primarily carry out Tour

Guide & Door supervisory duties as well as cover sexton duties during Randy's vacation time.

M&P has a dual role: to be a consultative and supportive agent for staff as well as for members and adherents of the congregation. To this end, your M&P committee printed articles about M&P role in the bulletin and Words for Wilmot during 2014. We hosted a dinner for our staff and M&P Committee back in Sept (which often feels like the start of the church year) – a chance to begin our year in fellowship and celebration.

In the United Church, we describe ourselves as "being in ministry together." Thus, we are all responsible for ministry. Please feel free to chat with your M&P committee members at any time... we each have valuable ministries to carry out as well as need pastoral care from each other. **Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing.** [Rollo May](#)

Serving our staff and congregation, your 2014 M&P committee members were: Chair - Judy Coates (contact - judycoates@rogers.com 454-5631) Lois MacDougall, Deb Bradbury, Shirley Cleave, Susan MacLeod, and Beverly Harper.

Submitted by,
Judy Coates

**PASTORAL CARE AND HEALTH
COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

Our role is "to help us all tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under

compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it". (**1 Peter 5:12.**)

Over the past year many of the various ways in which Wilmot reaches out and gives pastoral care to our congregation and beyond have been recognized and have come together under the umbrella of Pastoral Care and Health. Their reports are included here.

Prayer Circle:

The Prayer Circle offers prayer daily for those placed on our Wilmot Prayer list. Requests may be for physical, emotional, mental, spiritual or family and relationship challenges. Names and prayer intentions are treated as strictly confidential.

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting and at times sewing have been combined into a prayerful ministry which reaches out to so many in need of comfort as well as in celebration and joy. These prayer shawls and prayer pockets have found a place in many homes and hospital rooms here in our area and beyond - from coast to coast to coast. And with each went our prayers and our blessings.

Teleministry:

"Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is attention, especially if it is from the heart" Rachel Remen,

The concept of **teleministry** is to phone each family in our church to let them know we are thinking of them and seeing if there is some way we can be of help. This Ministry has continued to mature and grow.

It has been very successful in reaching many people 1-2 times a year and fostering a feeling of a community.

Prenatal Classes:

This ministry recognized a major unmet need in the Fredericton area amongst women who did not qualify for subsidized prenatal classes and could not afford others. Kelly Ebbett organized and delivered 2 classes in 2014 **and send our thanks out to Kelly for her excellent work..** We would **also** like to thank Sue MacLeod for her help with lunches and all those who donated food. It made it a true example of a warm and welcoming community.

Parish Nursing Ministry:

This has been placed on hold for now but we do feel that it is a Ministry that deserves serious consideration as we move forward.

The Committee has received the reports from Wilmot On The Move and will review our role evolving in light of their work.

We have been blessed by the work of the Rev. Ellen Beirsto and the Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin who continue to cheerfully bear the heavy workload in this aspect of our Ministry. We would also like to thank everyone for their hours of service extending their care to others in so many different ways. As a Committee we feel privileged to serve and help to "tend the flock of God".

Respectfully submitted
Dana Hanson, Chair

FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE

The Faith Formation Committee was formed two years ago as a result of the new Council governance model. The Committee's duties and responsibilities include the development, encouragement, oversight and, when called upon, the delivery of faith formation programs fostering fellowship and engaging the spirit of the Wilmot Community.

In 2014, Committee members included Rev. Ellen Beairsto, Ann Kennedy, Bob Breen, Jilanna Eagles, Elaine Kenyon, Steve MacKenzie, Derek Ness, Elizabeth Savoie, Holly Hagerman and Greg Black.

Faith Formation is fostered through a variety of activities and nurtured by many committed individuals and ministries. At Wilmot, Faith Formation is enriched by our worship, Bible and faith studies, prayer groups and any time we get together as a church family or in the silence of our own meditations.

Wilmot's children and youth have benefited greatly again this year from the joyful leadership of Rev. Ellen Beairsto. She nurtures the spirituality of our youngest community members and in 2014 provided the following programming to them:

Children

Sunday School / Nursery: This fall a team of five youth and young adults was created to teach Grades 1-3. Their enthusiasm, creativity and leadership have certainly been enjoyed by the children. This team

allows for more flexibility for the leaders as they study for exams, involved in team sports, work, etc. At least 2 of the team are present each week

Christmas Pageant: 'The Fumbly Bumbly Angels' was indeed a success. The combination of children and youth made the 'production' move along with such ease. The sound of their voices as well as the piano, organ, clarinet, guitars, handbells and chimes made that Sunday a great way to begin the Christmas season! Thanks to all who step forward to work with the children.

Vacation Bible School: The theme was "Workshop of Wonders." VBS was a combined effort of St Paul's, Nashwaaksis, Forest Hill United and Wilmot with children, youth and leaders coming from all three churches as well as their daily snacks. Drop by any morning of VBS week to feel the excitement, the energy and the enthusiasm and watch the youth teach the young children their action songs.

Youth:

There were two youth groups this year, one for Middle School and the other for Senior Youth. These groups usually meet every other week during the school year.

RendezVous 2014: In August, two of the senior youth, Lucy Vezina and Laura Coon, and a young adult, Holly Hagerman, traveled along with Ellen to RendezVous 2014 which was a gathering of youth, young adults as well as their leaders from United Churches across Canada. It was held at the University of Manitoba in

Winnipeg. This was a busy few days with lots of singing, worship, workshops and many friendships formed. In the fall, a Youth Sunday Service was held in which the RendezVous attendees joined with other youth in sharing their gifts as well as their learning from the RendezVous gathering.

In the fall, another youth event was held in **Debert, Nova Scotia** which saw Ellen loading her van with 6 youth from the area United Churches including Lucy Vezina from Wilmot.

Confirmation Weekend: In May, five youth, **Matthew Chase, Laura Coon, Nathan Gorey, Rose Messenger, Kelsey Shaw and Marisa Shaw** came together for a Confirmation Weekend which was based on a series of YouTube videos produced by Maritime Conference. Weekend activities included group conversation, bread making, visiting with the Rev. Cliff Moase, attending a movie that sparked conversation around "Where is God in our world? What are we being called to do as disciples of Christ?" On Sunday, the group attended St. Dunstan's Roman Catholic Church where Father Bill Brennan welcomed them. Here they became aware of the similarities as well as the differences with their Sunday liturgies. On June 8, these 5 youth were confirmed into the United Church of Canada becoming members of Wilmot. They then proudly participated in the serving of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Graduation Sunday, June 15, recognized 17 graduates from high schools, community college, and universities.

Other Faith Formation activities

Sleigh Ride: A winter fellowship event was organized and hosted by the Faith Formation committee at Oakland Farm Lodge. This event was well attended by all ages, with participants contributing dishes for a pot luck meal and musical talents for a sing-along. Carolyn Holyoke accompanied the group on keyboard and led the group with support from Ian Stewart and others.

Progressive Dinner: In December, the Committee organized another Progressive Dinner. Dozens of people benefited from the hospitality of Lorie and Flemming Nielsen, Gillian and Kirby Keyser and Barb and George Cross.

Wilmot Retreat: In November, thirty- eight people from the Wilmot community participated in a Retreat under the leadership of Peter and Sue Short. The group spent a meaningful weekend together at Camp Beulah, exploring the theme "Listening to Your Life" through a variety of spirit-filled activities. Feedback from the Retreat was overwhelmingly positive with some constructive comments noted for future planning. Wilmot membership has already asked about another Retreat in 2015.

Rainbow Brunch: Rainbow Brunches are organized and hosted by an informal group of LGBT members of Wilmot, and are open

to friends and allies. The potluck brunches have been held four times a year, the second Saturday of every second month beginning in the fall. These are times for fellowship in a supportive atmosphere. They welcome others to join them for this social time.

Wilmot members also participated in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and a Celebration of Faith & Diversity at Saint Thomas University.

We are grateful for the leadership and continued dedication of those who support the Sunday Morning Lectionary group, Adult Bible Conversations, Rainbow Brunch, Men's Breakfast, Seniors, Cuba Committee and so many others who support the Faith Formation of our community. We remain committed to the development, delivery and oversight of faith formation programs for all ages of our Wilmot family.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Breen

WILMOT SEEKERS GROUP

The Wilmot Seekers are a group of curious people who are constantly looking for deeper and broader ways of knowing about God, understanding the human spiritual journey, and comprehending the world. Generally we use a current author and book to help us with that conversation, with occasional use of video material to fill it out when that helps.

This church year, in Fall 2014, we used a book The Rebirthing of God: Christianity's Struggle for New Beginnings, by John Philip Newell. Newell thinks that *"the walls of Western Christianity are collapsing and in many parts of the world that collapse can only be described as seismic. In another twenty-five years, much of the Western Christian household, as we have known it, will be no more. ... There are three main reactions or responses to this collapse. The first is to deny that it is happening. The second is to frantically try to shore up the foundations of the old thing. The third, which I invite us into, is to ask what is trying to be born that requires a radical reorientation of our vision. What is the new thing that is trying to emerge from deep within us and from deep within the collective soul of Christianity?"* Newell proceeded to offer eight ways we can reconnect and participate in the rebirthing of God, and the Seekers considered these through the Fall.

A second book, which we are in the midst of discussing now, is Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most by Marcus Borg. Borg goes back over his life to identify some of the key elements of his experience which contributed to the crystallization of his view of the Christian way. In doing so he speaks to many of the questions which exercise Christians today, seen in some of his chapter headings: *"Salvation is more about this life than an afterlife"; "The Bible can be true without being literally true"; Jesus' death on the cross matters...but not because he paid for our sins"; "To love God is to love like God", and so on.* Marcus Borg died, after a long

and fruitful life, in the middle of our consideration of this final book of his. It gave our reading a special intensity and focus.

“Being Christian isn’t primarily about having a correct theology by getting our beliefs right. It is about a deepening relationship with God as known especially in Jesus Christ”in grateful remembrance.

Submitted by
Don MacDougall

|**

ADULT BIBLE CONVERSATION

Adult Bible Conversation meets Sunday morning weekly 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Board Room.

We use the lectionary readings of the day as the center of our conversations, which usually are the biblical lessons read in church. These often serve as the focus of the sermons as well. So our conversations often serve as a warm-up for the worship service. We try to do “deep background” on the readings of the day, their origin, intent, original meaning, and how they speak to us now. We connect these stories with our own experience as much as possible, either starting with the biblical stories and exploring our own interpretations, or starting with our own experience of the subject matter and relating it with the scriptures. Sometimes it fits together and sometimes it doesn’t, but it’s always interesting. For those engaged in these conversations over the long-term, 36-40 times per year, they serve as an ongoing adventure in learning together about the

Christian story and its relevance for now. No right or wrong answers, only thoughtful opinions generously expressed. Starts with where we are, and goes from there.

Submitted by
Don MacDougall

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee encompasses all aspects of Sunday morning worship including planning of worship services, music program, sanctuary committee, sound system and recording of Sunday services, organizing ushers and greeters for services and planning and coordinating communion services usually six times per year. This last task involves preparation of communion elements, coordinating of servers, training servers and striving to provide a meaningful sacrament on those given Sundays. We also receive and review all requests for baptism and marriage at Wilmot. This past year we have tried to be more intentional about soliciting feedback from members of the congregation regarding meaningful worship experiences for members.

The following list of special services held over the past year illustrates the wonderful diversity present and active in the congregation of Wilmot United Church:

- March 5 – Ash Wednesday Service
- March 23 – Lenten Communion Service
- April 13 – Palm Sunday
- April 18 – Good Friday Service
- April 20 – Easter Sunrise Service

Easter Service with communion
 May 11 – Christian Family Sunday
 May 18 – Earth Day Sunday
 June 8 – Pentecost and Confirmation
 June 15- Graduation Service
 June 23- Worship in the park
 Sept 14 – Welcome Sunday
 Sept 14 – Oct 12 : Creation Time theme
 Oct 5 – Guest Speaker
 Hon. Graydon Nicholas
 Oct 12 – Thanksgiving and Service of
 communion
 Oct 19 – Guest speaker
 Rev. Steve Bérube
 Nov 2 – Youth led Service
 “Rendez vous 2014”
 Nov 9 - Remembrance Sunday
 Nov 23 – Wilmot Anniversary Sunday
 with guest speaker
 Very Rev. Dr. Peter Short
 Nov 30 – Advent 1
 Hanging of the Greens
 and White Gift Sunday
 Dec 7 – Communion Service
 Dec 14 – Children and Youth Sunday
 School Pageant
 Dec 24 – 4 pm Children’s Service
 “Journeying to Bethlehem”
 7 p.m. Family Service
 11 p.m. Communion Service

A worship workshop was held on
 October 4.

The music program included several
 guest musicians as well as more members
 of the congregation sharing in the Sunday
 worship music offerings especially during
 Advent. The Senior choir and Handbell
 choir remain an integral part of Sunday
 worship.

The worship committee was given an
 opportunity to review suggestions gathered
 from Wilmot on the Move sessions. We
 have and will continue to use these
 suggestions as a starting point to allow
 Sunday morning worship to better meet the
 needs of a very diverse congregation.

The committee was co-chaired by
 Kelly Ebbett and Anne Colpitts. Sanctuary
 is led by Carlinda Daigle. Music program is
 led by Steven Peacock. Sound system is
 organized by Ted Colson. Ushers and
 greeters are organized by Lois Campion
 and Phyllis Hanson. Sincere thanks to the
 many people who make up this very active
 committee

Respectfully submitted
 Anne Colpitts

REPORT FROM
THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

2014 has once again been a strong
 year for the two music ensembles for which
 the Director of Music is responsible--the
 Wilmot Senior Choir and the Frank T.
 Pridham Memorial Handbell Choir--as well
 as for the community-based Fredericton
 Male Chorus, which rehearsed at Wilmot
 until its final concert in May. It was this
 FMC's season-ending concert, incidentally,
 which brought the two choral groups
 together in another successful fundraiser
 for Chrysalis House and Fredericton Big
 Brothers/Big Sisters.

The 38-voice Wilmot Senior Choir, a
 four-part (SATB) chorus, continues to be a
 very important part of all of our services of
 worship here at Wilmot. The Senior Choir

performed 42 choral anthems in 2014 (and helped enormously in facilitating the congregational hymns and the worship services generally) in a range of classical and contemporary sacred styles, and this year, thanks to new and returning choristers in the bass and soprano sections in particular, continued most gratifyingly its musical evolution. We were able in 2014 to purchase new (and long overdue) choir gowns, which have been in use as of December, at a cost of \$5500, which we raised mostly internally but with some notable help from members of the congregation (and the community) at large. My I extend a huge thanks to the singers on the Choir Gown committee, and in particular to its chair, Joan MacDonald. The Senior Choir also assisted at 8 funeral services during 2014.

The Frank T. Pridham Memorial Handbell Choir performed at 7 services of worship in 2013, in addition to several performances outside of this context. The Handbell choir is currently preparing for a joint performance with the UNB Chorale in April of 2015. Like the Senior Choir, the 12-member Handbell Choir rehearses faithfully on Thursday nights (except during the summer) and consists of ringers drawn primarily from the Wilmot congregation but also from the wider community--the sort of musical outreach which I feel is a valuable addition to the musical life of Wilmot United Church.

It continues to be a huge privilege and a great pleasure for me to collaborate with our esteemed organist Virginia Leiter; she is a rich and generous resource who is

an integral part of every aspect of our music mission here. I might add that, beyond the instrumental support which Virginia and I are able to provide for worship, Wilmot was blessed in 2014 with several instrumental soloists from beyond our walls, notably Nadia Francavilla (violin), Sally Wright (flute), and John Tickner (trumpet)--all professional musicians whom we greatly value as colleagues. In addition, there were three Wilmot Concert Series performances in 2014: a concert in March with Sally Wright, Virginia and me; the Fredericton Male Chorus concert in May; and a trio concert in November involving me, Nadia Francavilla, and pianist Deborah Park.

Respectfully submitted,
 Steven Peacock
 Director of Music

WILMOT INFORMATION TEAM

The Wilmot Information Team collects and distributes news about activities and events within the congregation of Wilmot United Church and helps tell the story of the church beyond our faith community to the community at large.

Committee members do this in a number of ways:

- print and distribute *Words from Wilmot*, the congregational newsletter, four times each year;
- encourage congregation members to read *Words from Wilmot* online at <http://www.wilmotuc.nb.ca> and to circulate the web address to friends and families who live elsewhere;

- design advertising of special events in the life, work and witness of the congregation, including weekly participation in the composite United Church ad in *The Daily Gleaner*;
- post recent news reports of events in the lives of Wilmoters on the bulletin board at the Carleton Street entrance;
- monitor (with Marlene's and Randy's assistance) content of the Wayside Pulpit, our exterior church sign at the corner of King and Carleton Streets;
- produce Welcome Kits for newcomers to Wilmot, with up-to-date information about the church and its members;
- maintain the Wilmot United Church web site at wilmotuc.nb.ca.

The Information Team met formally five times in 2014. One of these was a special meeting dedicated to sharing information with the Wilmot on the Move committee.

Leadership and guidance from our staff representative, Rev. Ellen Beairsto, is gratefully acknowledged.

Wilmot Information Team members:
 Nancy Bauer, writer and committee secretary; Rev. Ellen Beairsto, staff representative; Garth Caseley, committee chairperson and web site minder; Lucille Caseley, writer and editor of Words from Wilmot; Kathie Goggin, writer and Church Council representative; Jack Oudemans, photographer; Rick Patterson, Words from Wilmot compositor.

Submitted by
 Garth Caseley

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Philippians 2:4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

The Outreach Committee would like to sincerely thank the congregation, staff and other supporting groups for the significant financial and in-kind gifts over the past year. Without doubt, Wilmot Outreach would not be as responsive to the needs of our community without your ongoing commitment.

As in past years, Outreach coordinates a variety of activities within Wilmot and in our community. Each activity/project addresses 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 officially consists of 6-8 people who meet monthly to review ongoing activities and deal with any new business, projects or issues that arise. However, many other volunteers actively involved and are key to our ability to be involved in our church and community. New members and volunteers are always welcome as time, interest and skills allow.

Wilmot Outreach continues to support the legal advice clinic by providing space and coordination. The clinic offers afternoon and evening sessions and is staffed by pro-bono law students and volunteer lawyers. Special thanks to Gail Wylie and Norm Laverty who continue to champion this initiative.

The Christmas Hamper program, done in partnership with the Multicultural Association of Fredericton provided hampers to 27 refugee families who arrived in Fredericton over this past year from Bhutan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Burundi, Congo DR, Cote D'Ivoire, Myanmar, Jordan and the Ukraine. Included in the hampers were grocery gift cards, gifts of warm clothing for each family member and toys for children. The gifts, monetary donations from individuals and groups, and efforts and support by many volunteers who helped with gift wrapping and hamper delivery all contributed to make this program a success. You have helped to make 27 new refugee families feel welcome in our community. Thank you!

Wednesdays at Wilmot, coordinated this year by Rita Roach and Beth Paynter, and supported by a number of volunteers is definitely a light to the marginalized and low income individuals in our city. This past year, we assisted approximately 600 individuals and families with food vouchers totaling over \$15,000 mostly received from Wilmot donations to the Benevolent Fund. As valuable, we provided attendees with help to connect to other services. W@W worked with community partners- social workers from Partners for Youth and the Community Health Clinic. In the fall, nursing students provided blood pressure testing, blood sugar tests and provided personal hygiene items and health counseling. In December, we received a generous grant from the Fredericton Community Foundation to help W@W offer a more comprehensive program that includes

education, information and support for meeting basic needs and health well being.

The Fair Trade booth is operated during coffee hour by Janice Harvey, Laura Coon and Claire and Lucie Vezina. Gayle MacDonald orders product and helps out occasionally. Outreach very much appreciates the responsibility taken on by this team! Stay tuned for further Fair Trade news and check out the product line. Products are bought with proceeds from the Debbie McIntosh fund and profits from sales are returned to this fund. Fair trade coffee is served at Sunday and Conversation and supports a cooperative in Guatemala.

The Saturday Night Drop In, through the commitment of volunteer teams and coordinators, Chris Colwell, Norm Laverty, Jon Sweeney and Ron O'Brien, continues to provide a social environment for individuals struggling on low incomes and living mostly in the down town area. We are so grateful to Jason and Tina Lejeune (owners of Isaac's Way restaurant) who provide delicious food for the 25-40 participants of the Drop In program every Saturday night. The Drop In budget for the year is approximately \$4000 which covers additional snacks, beverages and a summer outing. Wilmot continues our direct involvement in the Community Action Group on Homelessness (CAGH) supporting the concept of 'Housing First' as a basic need to resolving many problems. We continue to recognize the needs of seniors and how Wilmot can support these needs. And, Outreach is also implementing many suggestions resulting from a recent

project working with St. Thomas University Social Work students who were supervised by Gayle MacDonald.

When funds are available, the committee supports community organizations which require financial assistance from our fundraising efforts (including soup luncheons).

Other ongoing Outreach activities include: soup lunches, fellowship / fundraiser; Community Kitchen teams of volunteers; Interchurch Refugee Committee; education and work on social justice issues as well as connecting to community groups and like minded organizations.

The Outreach committee welcomes your participation any time and invites you to join Chris Colwell, Elaine Kenyon, Gail Wylie, Beth Paynter, Terri Maclean, Norm Laverty, Gayle MacDonald, Melva Curtis, Holly Hagerman, Judy Coates, Rita Roach and Lynn MacKinnon on the Outreach committee.

Submitted by
Terri MacLean and Lynn MacKinnon

QUILTING AND FELLOWSHIP
(Learn to Quilt)

We quilters have had a busy year – sometimes having three framed quilts simultaneously being hand quilted. We helped newcomers learn the art of hand quilting, and, taught each other new skills by introducing new sewing projects.

After buying necessary quilting supplies, our labour earned a net income of \$1,533.24. Our group decides each year how we will donate our earnings—leaving enough to buy the few supplies that we might require for a project.

The Wilmot Quilters were pleased to donate a quilt that we pieced and hand quilted to the auction last fall raising around \$500 for Wilmot.

Our group has decided to move our quilting/social time to Thursday mornings this year. This change allows all those using Wilmot facilities on Wednesdays free space in our kitchen, parlour, and parking lots, and, to better support the Wednesdays at Wilmot Outreach Program.

Each Thursday morning throughout the year the Wilmot Quilters/Morning Out group meets in the parlor to quilt, enjoy lunch and tea together, or, just to share a time of friendship. Show and Tell is always an exciting part of our morning; as is the sharing of ideas, helpful hints, and the teaching and learning of new sewing ideas.

We would love to have you join us any Thursday--beginners, long-time quilters, and, anyone who simply wishes to enjoy our social time—all are welcome.

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 2014!

In addition to a games or Bingo day every month, we enjoyed several outings and guest speakers. This year five guest speakers included: Dr. Dana Hanson who spoke about his time with the Canadian Medical Association and the World Medical Association; Kathy Goggin who told us about the "Writers in the Schools" programme; and Reg Springer who spoke about his travels to Russia with the Y's Men's Club. We also enjoyed our mid-winter pot luck lunch when our special guests were Bill and Susan MacLeod who took us on a visual tour of Ecuador, In September, we held another pot luck lunch which we were pleased to share with our ministers. After our lunch we shared in a "Show and Tell" of interesting items from our own personal histories. Three outings were also a part of our year's activities. In June we took part in a Mystery Tour to Woodstock where we enjoyed an English High Tea and tour at the Connell House Museum. On our way home, we stopped for tea and sweets hosted by Blaine and Anne Marie Atkinson at their home, and were treated to a wonderful performance by David Nielsen. Our Christmas dinner was held at Aggies and was followed by a carol sing led by Steven Peacock. At this gathering our members brought gifts to be given to the Men's Shelter in Fredericton. We also made financial donations to the church this year from the offering collected each week, provided clergy lunches on our outings, and made memorial donations in honour of members who passed away.

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 watch the bulletin or 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

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Thirty-two members and eight associate members make up our Wilmot U.C.W. We meet in the parlour on the second Monday of each month, except for July and August. A noon meeting, including lunch, takes place in January, February and March. The rest are evening meetings with a dinner out in June and a potluck in December. Programs for each meeting include devotions, business and a light lunch prepared and served by members who also take turns with the devotions program.

Programs include a Foodless Food Sale in February, a Bring and Buy Auction in March, Thank Offering in April and October, Rummage Sales in April and October, Pie Sale/New to You Sale and Bake Sale in November and Mitten Tree/White Gift in December. Along with these fund raisers, we also catered to six funeral receptions, birthday and anniversary celebrations as well.

The World Day of Prayer service took place on Sunday, March 9th, 2014 at Brunswick St. Baptist Church. The UCW Spring Rally took place Saturday, April 26th at Forest Hill United. Women's Interchurch Council Jubilee was a strawberry festival which took place at Old Government House with The Honourable Graydon Nicholas hosting the event.

Our sincere and heartfelt thanks are expressed to all who volunteer their time, energy and talent to make our fund raisers a success. With the generous support of the congregation, we were able to donate \$3,000.00 to Mission and Service, Help Project \$200.00, Community Kitchen \$1,000.00 and a total of \$7,000.00 to Wilmot United Church.

Two Helen A. Young Memorial scholarships in the amount of \$200.00 each were awarded to Claire Vezina and Samantha Landry as they pursue their education at U.N.B.

Cards were sent out to our Wilmot family who were ill, bereaved, having special birthdays and anniversaries, shut-ins or who just needed to know we were thinking of them.

We encourage and would welcome any women of the congregation to come and join our fellowship, work and fun as we move forward in 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorie Nielsen
Secretary

Wimot UCW Treasurer's Report -Dec.31, 2014

Balance on Hand January 1, 2014		\$12,207.76
Receipts:		
Offering	1771.35	
Annual Fundraisers	10632.18	
Unit Fundraising (Incl.Catering)	2537.50	
Donations	725.00	
Transfed In for Scholarships	400.00	
Least coin	14.73	
Bank Interest	<u>0.49</u>	
Total Receipts		\$16,081.25
Disbursements:		
Wilmot United Church	9000.00	
Wilmot United Church Kitchen	2224.75	
Mission & Service	3000.00	
Fredericton Community Kitchen	1000.00	
Transition House	250.00	
Memorial Transfers to Scholarship Fund	100.00	
Fundraising Expenses	795.75	
Scholarships (2x\$200)	400.00	
WICC	24.73	
Sundry	1013.39	
Total Disbursements		<u>-\$17,808.62</u>
Balance on Hand December 31, 2014		\$10,480.39
Held in Reserve for Quilters		\$1,533.24
Bank Balance December 31, 2014		\$12,013.63

Helen Young Memorial Scholarship Fund

Balance on Hand January 1, 2014		\$1,102.58
Memorial Donations		100.00
Memorial Transfers		100.00
Bank Charges		-0.80
Bank Interest		0.06
GIC Matured March 7/14		13,520.28
ReInvested In GIC		-14,000.00
Transferred for Scholarships		-400.00
Balance as at December 31, 2014		\$422.12

Held in GICs \$14,000.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Cameron
Treasurer

**Fredericton Rural Cemetery #12526770-Balance Sheet
For The Period Ending December 31, 2014**

Assets

Cash

Investment account	\$10,669.11
Petty Cash Account	\$74.57
Payroll Account	\$8,955.54
Other Account	<u>\$3,959.69</u>
Cash total	\$23,658.91

Investments

	<u>\$724,700.73</u>
Total	\$748,359.64

Statement of Operation

Revenue -

Sales and Service	\$74,595.00
Investment Income	<u>\$28,057.11</u>
Total	\$102,652.11

Expenditures-

Salaries	\$92,445.75
Purchases	\$27,793.71

HST-

Collected	-\$9,737.00	
Paid	\$3,404.22	
		Total
		\$113,906.68

NOTE:

- (1) All numbers used above for Sales of Service, HST were obtained from the quarterly HST reports.
- (2) All numbers used above for the assets and investment income were obtained from quarterly statements generated for the account.

**WILMOT UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
February 23, 2014**

The Wilmot United Church annual meeting was held on Sunday, February 23, 2014 in the sanctuary.

In attendance: Craig Frame, Chair, Beverley Black, Secretary, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Maureen Toner, Gayle MacDonald, Lois MacDougall, Tony Burnett, Steven Peacock, Virginia Leiter, Norman Sheen, Doris Peters, Maggie Clarke, Valerie Moore, Ted Colson, Edith Colson, Elizabeth Savoie, Elsbeth Gibson, Beverly Harper, Lorie Nielsen, Flemming Nielsen, Ian K. MacDonald, Virginia MacDonald, Florence Potts, Janet MacLeod, Betty Nicholson, Jim Nicholson, Ruth Randall, Garnet Randall, Barb Frame, Bert Jarvis, Jeanette Jarvis, Gregory Black, Norman Laverty, America Laverty, Ellen Beirsto, Jeff Beirsto, Graham Allen, Gill Keyser, Joan MacDonald, Andy MacDonald, Bob Lutes, Shirley Cleave, Judy Coates, Gordon B. Young, Carol Young, Bob Willis, John Beyea, Chris Colwell, Wendy Topolski, Gail Wylie, Twila Buttimer, Carolyn Holyoke, Dale Chase, Nancy Chase, Beth Paynter, Deb Bradbury, Andrew Lefrancois, Ian Stewart, Lois Champion, Holly Hagerman, Marjorie Atkinson, Linda Gough, Peter Gough, Ron Vaughan, Helen Creelman, Derek A. J. Ness, Lucille Caseley, Garth Caseley, W. Jack Oudemans, Ed Topolski.

1. The meeting was opened with a hymn.
2. ***Opening Motion: Norman Laverty moved that Craig Frame be nominated as Chair and Beverley Black as recording secretary for the meeting. Seconded by Derek Ness. Carried.***

Permission for adherents to vote on temporal matters.

Motion: Elizabeth Savoie moved that adherents are permitted to vote on temporal matters. Seconded by Gayle MacDonald. Carried.

3. Approval of Agenda.
Motion: Gordon Young moved that the Agenda as circulated is approved. Seconded by Ian Stewart. Carried.
4. Approval of Minutes – February 17, 2013.

Motion: Maggie Clarke moved that the minutes from the 2013 annual general meeting (February 23, 2013) be approved with two corrected name spellings (Mary Anne van Oostwaard and Flemming Nielsen). Seconded by Carol Young. Carried.

5. There was no business arising from the 2013 annual meeting minutes to be addressed.

6. Celebrating 2013.

1.

Reports from Committees

Motion: Judy Coates moved that all Committee reports be received for information as circulated. Seconded by Chris Colwell. Carried.

b.

Highlights of changes in 2013

- Gifts for roof repairs, replacing gym floor and outreach projects (pool table, voucher program, transportation, discretionary fund)
- Tele-ministry
- Pre-natal classes
- Fire safety plan and sprinkler system upgrade
- Church directory
- Social work students at Wednesdays@Wilmot.

Remembrance of those who died in 2013. Craig read the names of those who passed away in 2013 and asked us to reflect on the contributions they had made to the life and ministry of Wilmot Church.

b.

Financial Statement 2013 – Mary Anne van Oostwaard from Daye Kelly and Associates presented the report of our finances for 2013.

Motion to receive the report as amended with a correction under Other Givings (Pg. 9) – UCW actual givings for 2013 was \$3,000) by Maggie Clarke, Seconded by Wendy Topolski. Carried.

c.

Review Financial Situation – Bob Lutes, Treasurer

Bob recommended that we keep an eye on envelope givings going forward - top line sliding 4-6%. Investments did very well this past year. Salaries are the big item in the budget with an increase of about 20% over the past couple of years (most of which is handed down from the National Church). Deficit is getting better (\$12,000 this past year compared to \$256,000 in 2008). We are halfway through the lease agreement with the Manse – in two years the revenue will increase by \$3000 per month).

d.

Recognition of Services

Craig asked all those who are ending their terms to stand for round of applause and recognition for hard work and contributions to Wilmot community.

Special thanks to Bob Lutes for his service as Treasurer for the past 12 years.

Norman Laverty moved a vote of thanks and appreciation to Bob Lutes for serving as Treasurer during one of the hardest decades. Craig Frame presented Bob with a token of Wilmot's appreciation.

e.

Recognition of Staff

Andy MacDonald, Chair of Ministry and Personnel Committee, commented that the committee's work with paid staff and congregation is both challenging and rewarding, but at the end of the day, we offer our thanks.

1. Enabling Our Mission 2014.

a. Affirming Diversity Process

Elizabeth Savoie shared a scripture reading which talks about hospitality and welcoming.

Tony Burnett gave a brief background on this process to date and read the motion approved by Council of a 2-3 year discernment process led by a Steering Committee. Gayle MacDonald commented that the committee seeks to be more inclusive and welcoming.

b. Report of Nominating Committee

Bob Willis presented the Nominating Committee report and commented that approx. 75 volunteers make up this report.

Motion: Flemming Nielsen moved that the Nominating Committee report be accepted. Seconded by Carol Young. Carried.

c. Budget for 2014

(i) Church Operating Budget – Craig Frame

Motion to appoint Shirley Cleave as chair during this item to allow Craig Frame to move a motion regarding discernment process – Maggie Clarke. Seconded by Derek Ness. Carried.

Craig reported that in order to present a balanced budget (without a \$37,600 deficit) Council has proposed that we utilize bequest funds available to us for this year only with

the intention that the congregation, Council and committees undertake a year of discernment with a short term goal of aligning revenue with expenses and volunteer time with required need for 2015. Revenue budgeted this year is based on actual givings from last year which have declined. Budget for fuel and utilities this year is based on actual expenditures last year. Semi-annual fundraising event is included in this year's budget, UCW budget amount is \$3,000 (not \$2,500 as listed).

Questions raised during presentation:

Does interest money from investments where donors have specified M&S benefit go to M&S Fund? Yes.

Why are not all trust funds listed and how funds are to be directed? The financial report presented is a summary and does not show each fund separately. There exists a report in the church office which details each separate fund.

Do the concerts that use our facilities generate enough revenue to cover costs? We have different rates for profit and non-profit groups. Trustees will revisit these rates.

Cutting expenses alone isn't the answer. We need to respond responsibly. Our goal is to present a 2015 balanced budget through this discernment process.

Motion: Craig Frame moved the approval of a 2014 balanced budget utilizing bequest funds with the understanding that the congregation, Council and committees agree to partake in the discernment process with the short term goal of aligning revenue with expenses and volunteer time with required need for 2015. Seconded by Maggie Clarke.

Discussion:

Suggested that the motion be separated into two motions – 1) operating budget; 2) discernment process. Further discussion resulted in the call for the question.

Motion carried.

(ii)M&S Target – Maggie Clarke, Finance and Stewardship

Motion: Maggie Clarke moved that the Mission and Service 2014 budget of \$60,000 be approved. Seconded by Wendy Topolski. Carried.

Comment: We benefit greatly from M&S Fund through National Office.

(iii)Capital Maintenance Budget – Greg Black, Trustees

Motion: Greg Black moved that the Capital Maintenance Budget for envelope and PAR givings be set at \$40,000 for 2014. Seconded by Gordon Young. Carried.

a.Appointment of Auditors – Maggie Clarke, Finance and Stewardship

Motion: Maggie Clarke moved the appointment of the auditing firm of Daye Kelly and Associates for 2014. Seconded by Derek Ness. Carried.

1. Other Business

a. Recognizing Isaac’s Way’s support of the Saturday Night Drop-In

Chris Colwell reported that Isaac’s Way has been a supporter of the Saturday Night Drop-In for several years by providing food in return for summer sidewalk privileges. Even after their fire in 2012, they solicited other restaurants to provide food.

Motion: Chris Colwell moved that we send a letter of thanks and appreciation to Isaac’s Way, its owners, staff and customers, for supporting the Wilmot United Church Drop In Centre by supplying a meal free of charge to the participants for each

Saturday evening that the Centre was opened. A letter will be sent by the Secretary of the Annual General Meeting and that this be printed in the Church bulletin. Seconded by Norman Laverty. Carried.

1. Announcements

Tax receipts and envelopes are available for pick up.

2. Courtesies – Craig thanked everyone who helped with and supported the annual meeting.

3. Closing Prayer – Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

4. Adjournment – Andrew Lefrancois moved to adjourn the meeting.

Craig Frame, Chair

Beverley Black, Secretary

2014 Envelope Givings Report																		
	Local					M & S					Capital					Total Givings		
Interval	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2014	2013	2012
1-99	22	28	35	35	35	33	35	39	45	46	31	29	32	36	37	24	28	31
100-199	18	18	17	25	28	32	27	31	27	26	22	27	28	25	28	10	15	20
200-299	13	19	20	17	23	16	19	15	22	24	23	20	25	23	28	10	11	9
300-399	21	19	17	15	20	10	15	14	9	14	16	14	13	11	15	9	11	10
400-599	27	17	24	29	27	12	8	14	16	15	11	14	15	17	18	23	18	19
600-799	19	22	26	26	27	7	7	8	7	9	5	9	8	6	5	30	23	23
800-999	23	19	20	18	22	3	5	4	2	3	4	3	2	1	4	7	11	17
1000-1499	29	39	33	38	35	7	7	6	10	9	2	3	4	4	4	38	37	36
1500-1999	18	15	14	10	15	3	2	2	1	1	1	1		1		24	28	25
2000-2499	8	7	10	11	12	1	2	2								21	21	22
2500-2999	6	6	10	9	6	2	1	2	3	3				1	1	7	12	14
3000-3499	4	3	2		3								1			6	3	5
3500-3999	2	3	2	2	3						1	1				4	1	2
4000-4499	2	2	3	3	2											4	4	2
4500-4999																1	2	4
5000-5999				2	2											4	3	4
6000-6999		1	2	3	3		1	1	1	1						2	2	2
7000-7999	1	1														1		1
8000+	3	1	1			1										7	7	6
No of Envs	216	220	236	243	263	127	129	138	143	151	116	121	128	125	140	232	237	252
Total	223538	210090	225067	222495	236499	55714	57096	57098	55129	57696	35582	39506	38360	36678	40481	379028	361206	381547
Ave/Env	1035	955	954	916	899	439	443	414	386	382	307	326	300	293	289	1634	1524	1514
Percentage Increase 2014/2013																		
Envelope Givings compared to the PAR method of giving																		
Local M & S Capital Total																		
Number Local M & S Capital Total																		
Total 6.4 -2.4 -9.9 4.9 % Envs 155 \$936 \$379 \$251 \$1,490																		
Average/env 8.4 -0.9 -6.1 7.2 % PAR 77 \$1,217 \$544 \$408 \$1,921																		
Total givings include donations to all church accounts. In 2014, there were 27 such accounts to which \$384,480 given.																		
Visitors (those who are identified and can receive tax receipts) brought \$9239 to our church in 2014																		
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.																		
respectfully submitted																		
Graham Allen																		