

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH

473 King Street

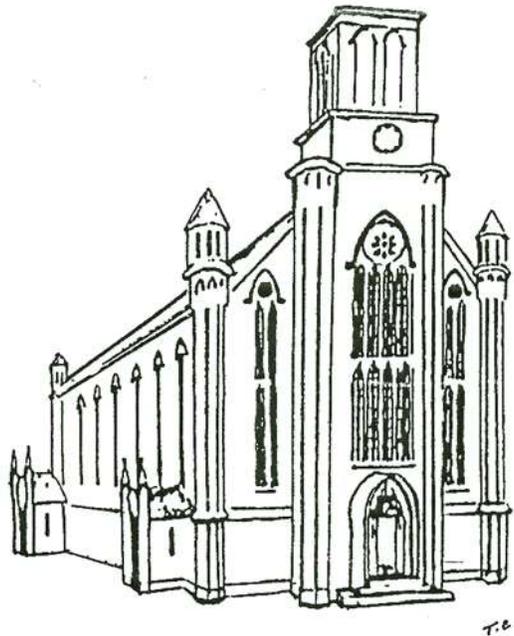
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2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Very Rev. Dr. Peter Short

Rev. Ellen Beirsto

Ministers Emeriti: Rev. Cliff Moase and Rev. Bob Jones

Organist/Pianist: Margaret MacDonald

Music Director: Steven Peacock

Office Administrator: Tanya Mullin / Kathy Aubin

Sexton: Randy Randall

Wilmot United Church - Vision Statement

***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. We welcome all into the life and ministry of our faith community, including persons of any age, ability, race, ethnicity, place of origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, family configuration, and social and economic circumstance.*

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MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Ministry Team: Ellen Beirsto and Peter Short

Ellen Writes

Dear Friends,

The year has once again slipped by much too quickly. When the year began, we were all so hopeful that we would see our community of faith – children, youth, seniors, and everyone in between – worshipping together as one. We were so hopeful that we would see:

- the choir fill the loft and the handbells play on a regular basis.
- the little ones sitting and listening to storytime and then skipping off to Sunday School.

We would join together as a congregation supporting the baptism of several little ones. We looked forward to the Pancake Supper, the Progressive Dinner, the Auction with music, laughter and friendship being heard in every corner of the sanctuary and in the hallways. But it wasn't to be. At least not the way that it was pre-Covid.

But having said this, so much was accomplished in a whole new way. We continued to send our services out to the wider church. Music was such an important part of every service and thanks to Steve, Margaret and all our soloists & musicians, it continued to be. There were even some Sundays when those present could join in the singing. The children and youth met on ZOOM, and we were able to do a few Youth Services by pre-recording. The quilters sat around their most recent endeavor many weeks and the various committees met in-person a few times.

Carefully distanced and masked, Peter and I confirmed four of our youth into the United Church – Mya McAllister, Loic Enriquez, Jamie Heard and Jacob Ebbett. What a privilege. Our volunteers for Wednesdays at Wilmot and Saturday Night Drop-In worked tirelessly to support the vulnerable community while adhering to the restrictions.

The mission and ministry that goes on within and outside the walls of Wilmot continued and is such a positive example of how to be Christ's disciples. When Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Philippi, he said *Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.* (Philippians 2:5)

In spite of COVID, many wonderful images of the year surface for me:

- A little one anxiously awaits at their door for their craft bag for Friday Night ZOOM Sunday School to be delivered.

- With the help of some talented hands 48 Christmas bags are filled for the children and 20 for the youth (and delivered).
- The King Street door opens for the Wednesday or Saturday programming and the people are welcomed with such warm hospitality.
- The sounds and faces of our children and youth come right into our homes for their Christmas Concert.
- A baby is baptized in the quiet sanctuary and then the parents turn towards the sanctuary camera and proudly hold their bundle of joy up so those attending via live stream can see the smile.
- The table is set throughout Lent as part of the services with a place for all.
- The sun rises on Easter morn on the banks of the St. John River, and many gather together watching the “Lighting of the New Fire.”
- The Newsletters - a mixture of thought-provoking wisdom and show-and-tell - proved to be a good balance. We even journeyed around the world. (Thanks Peter & Rick for your support)

So many memories – some filled with silence, some with singing, some with tears and some with laughter. Wilmot is a great place to be!

For me, this report marks the conclusion of an AMAZING 8+ years of ministry here at Wilmot. I can’t begin to tell you what you mean to me or how much I have loved serving with you. The years have been filled with so many wonderful moments - but I would be remiss if I didn't mention the joy, the energy and the pure delight I received from spending time with your children, youth and young adults. They are a gift. A few years ago, I wrote: *In a world that so often shows us the darker side of humankind, our young people continue to remind us of the light within the world – a light that shines brightly.* How true!

I encourage you to read carefully through the pages of this report describing the various ministries at Wilmot. Thank you goes out to my gifted colleague in ministry, Peter, as well as to Steven, Margaret, Tanya, Kathy, and Randy for all of their support over the past year. I also want to thank Jeff, John and Doug for their time recording the many services. And thank you goes out to you, the congregation, for all that you do to help make Wilmot a reflection of God's love and compassion. I am honoured to have been a part of your ministry.

Blessings, Ellen



MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Although I only joined Wilmot United in April 2021, I certainly feel the warmth of your welcome and am grateful for the support I have received while “figuring things out” (still!). Thanks to all who contributed to my training. I’d also like to say a special thank you for your kindness during my father’s illness and death. Your compassion and understanding helped me through a difficult time. Wilmot is a wonderful place to be. I look forward to meeting many more of you as Covid restrictions are eventually lifted.

STATISTICS 2021

MARRIAGES

1. Brian Fraser LeBlanc and Hannah Amy Meneley
2. Joshua Levi Lowell Steeves and Tasha Dawn Bonnar

BAPTISMS

1. Oliver Irving Green
2. Caelan Theodore Joseph Kloosterman
3. Ava Margaret Noseworthy
4. Rowan Richard MacTavish
5. Cooper Boyd MacTavish
6. Gavin Patrick Rainn Geddes
7. Isabella Jane Cassista

DEATHS

1. William Douglas Haggart
2. Hannah Keiley
3. John Daniel (Dan) Hubert
4. Marjorie Pauline Ann Grant
5. Rev. Garth Caseley
6. Cecil “Todd” Whitlock
7. Mrs. Mary Jean Smith
8. Mavis Sturgeon
9. Nancy Ellen Feres (nee Jarvis)
10. Lorne James Butler
11. Lydie Mawhinney
12. Carolyn Elsie Dalzell
13. Muriel Elsbeth Gibson

TRANSFERS INTO WILMOT

1. M. Travis Lane
2. Malinda Irving
3. Jordan Arthur Green

CONFIRMATIONS

1. Mya McAllister
2. Loic Enriquez
3. Jamie Heard
4. Jacob Ebbett

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Council met by Zoom on January 27, March 24, May 26, September 23, and November 24. Executive met three times on January 20, April 21, and May 13. A Congregational Meeting was held on December 5.

We adapted to the various phases of Covid throughout the year including in-person and video worship.

The situation for the homeless was discussed as there were delays in obtaining safe accommodation for them at the City Motel. Eventually the Motel was able to open and offer units for the vulnerable population in Fredericton.

Our church was able to offer in-person worship again at Easter according to the guidelines established through the Covid Committee.

The Search Committee reported to Council as they met many times in the search for a new Ministry team for Wilmot. Covid has certainly affected this process as applicants were unwilling to commit to a move during this time.

Tanya Mullin, our Office Administrator, offered her resignation and moved to a position with the Government of NB. We were able to find a qualified replacement and Kathy Aubin moved into the position in April.

The Heritage Report addressed structural work for Wilmot Church and the budget requirements to begin the work. Council approved \$300,000 from unrestricted funds to be used for the structural work that was required as laid out in the Heritage Report. Greg

Black will continue to give the Council reports on the ongoing work; we thanked him for his participation in this project.

We thanked Peter Short and Ellen Beairsto for their ministry with Wilmot as we continued our search for clergy. Peter finished his term on May 1st and Ellen agreed to continue with us in 2022. We are very grateful for their continued ministry with us at Wilmot.

A generous bequest was received from Fraser Campbell Steeves which will be used for the structural work required by the Heritage Report. This includes foundation repairs, surface repairs and repairs to the bell tower.

Craig Frame finished his term as Treasurer, and we thanked him for his many volunteer hours in this role and the training he has given to our Office Administrator for completing the budget and financial work at Wilmot. Our new Treasurers are Gerhard Dueck, Blaine Atkinson, and Alan MacNaughton.

Housing First presentation was made by Marilyn Luscombe and John Leroux to Council. The project will renovate the second and third floors of the Old Manse and convert this space to four small apartments which will be rented as supported subsidized units. Financial support for this project was received from Saint John Human Development Council/Reaching Home (federal funding), and Fredericton Housing First/Central United Way. The tenants will be receiving community support in a variety of ways to ensure their successful transition to this accommodation. There will be a continuing return to the church from the rental of these units. This will also mean a reduction of taxes for the Old Manse in this new business model. Council made a motion to support the renovations and to ask Trustees to seek approval from the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Property Committee.

At a Congregational Meeting on December 5th, 2021, the Search Committee gave the recommendation of their candidate, Rev. Mary Tingley for the full-time minister position. The congregation supported their recommendation, and the Search Committee will make the offer to Rev. Mary Tingley. Upon acceptance she will begin her duties at Wilmot. We are fortunate to have her as our new Minister.

As always, we extend our thanks to all at Wilmot who volunteer for the many committees and projects at Wilmot. We could not continue to work at Wilmot without their assistance. Wilmot United Church continues to be a positive place to worship and participate in activities and to provide support for the vulnerable population.

Shirley Cleave, Chair

Terri MacLean, Secretary



Housing First Project

Our Housing First Project will see the top two floors of the Old Manse converted into 4 supportive housing units as part of the community’s initiatives to address the homeless crisis in Fredericton. In the spring we were notified of potential funding from Housing First (United Way) and Reaching Home (Federal funding). John Leroux undertook to develop appropriate plans for the necessary renovations and secured quotes from two local contractors. Unfortunately, there were delays and we did not receive confirmation of the requested funding (\$446,722) until October. By this time neither of the two contractors that had been contacted were able to undertake the work. In addition, due to COVID, construction costs had risen significantly. John Leroux contacted other contractors and prepared a revised budget for the project (\$515,321). Fortunately, as of January, we have received a generous gift from a local donor and additional federal funding which will cover the additional costs. The project is being submitted to the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Water Region Property Committee for approval so we can proceed.

Since these four units will be subsidized housing, Marilyn Luscombe has been working with the Department of Social Development to confirm the rent subsidies and the appropriate tax rebate. These ensure that this project is financially sustainable.

This has been a challenging year for this project, but due to the hard work of many people and the support of the community, Wilmot’s Housing First project is set to move forward.

John Leroux, Marilyn Luscombe, Shirley Cleave



COVID Team

As we lived through the second year of the COVID pandemic, safety of our members, guests, staff, and other users continued to be our top priority. The COVID Team continued to monitor the evolving situation as New Brunswick moved in and out of various levels of restrictions. Protocols for worship, meetings, and other activities in the building were updated as necessary to ensure compliance with Public Health mandates. We would like to commend the congregation and others for their cooperation in following the changing protocols and their willingness to pivot as necessary to ensure we could continue to carry out our mission and ministry during these challenging times.

COVID Team: Greg Black, Judy Coates, Craig Frame, Beth Paynter, Ellen Beairsto, Peter Short, Shirley Cleave



Pastoral Search Committee Report

Results of the Search Committee for 2021

- We have met over 40 times since starting in 2020.
- We have reviewed applications and conducted interviews with several candidates.
- We called Reverend Mary Tingley to our 1 FTE position starting January 1, 2022, which was approved at the Congregational meeting on December 5, 2021.
- We continue to search for the best match for our .5 FTE position for Wilmot United Church.

In the new year we plan on reaching out through our networks for additional applicants to consider.

Wilmot Search Committee

Mary Lynn Cameron, Guy Vezina, Nancy Chase, Deb Bradbury, Dana Hanson, Reg Sherren, Haley Keyser



Wilmot Growing Together

While COVID has hindered work on a number of the initiatives identified in our Wilmot Growing Together project, significant progress has been made in others. See separate reports in this Annual Report for Housing First and Radical Hospitality. While COVID has certainly resulted in many changes to our Worship Services, now that the Rev. Mary Tingley has been called as our new minister, the Worship Committee, the Music Team, and Mary will explore other possibilities. No specific work was undertaken this year on Greening of Wilmot, Volunteer Coordination, or Engaging the Community initiatives. We anticipate moving forward on these as COVID subsides.



FINANCE AND INVESTMENTS

2021 saw a continuation of the pandemic which began in early 2020 and had a continuing impact on Wilmot's operations. We also had turnover in the office with Tanya's departure and the subsequent hire of Kathy Aubin in late spring as office administrator. Also, we transitioned the Treasurer role from Craig Frame to Gerhard Dueck, who is supported by Blaine Atkinson and Alan MacNaughton - sort of a "Treasurer Team". Everyone had to

undergo an extensive learning process of Wilmot's finances, operating procedures, and our software tools.

Fortunately, with the improved procedures and virtual access for all concerned, our financial situation remained strong throughout the year, even with only periodic phases allowing for in-person worship during the changing pandemic status.

Significant progress occurred with two major projects at Wilmot during 2021. Firstly, the Housing First project has been successful in design work being completed, contractor bids reviewed, and nearly all the required funding has been secured. This could begin early in 2022 and may not have to draw on much, if any, of Wilmot's funds to launch. Secondly, the Heritage Preservation Project was advanced with more detailed engineering work completed, phases identified, internal funding approved, and a contractor selected for the initial carpentry repairs phase. A fundraising campaign will also be launched in 2022 to raise funds to replenish our unrestricted investment funds.

Therefore, Wilmot's financial situation remains healthy at the end of 2021 due to the generosity of our faith community and other community partners. The Finance and Property committee continues to oversee our invested funds. Our investment person meets regularly with our advisers at TD Wealth Management and manages the intake of bequests and transfers of unrestricted funds or earned interest to the operating fund.

A special thank you to the thoughtfulness of the late Fraser Campbell Steeves who generously remembered Wilmot with an Unrestricted Bequest of some \$105,000. This Bequest will accompany other Unrestricted Bequests and Gifts that Wilmot has received over the past years to provide funding for the Heritage Project.

Bequests and Gifts that are Unrestricted provide Wilmot with the much-needed capital and earned income to carry out its Ministry at the corner of King and Carleton.

Gerhard Dueck, Treasurer and Blair Kennedy, Investments

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL

Scriptural groundings for these roles are: "And [Jesus] said to them, "Take care!" (Luke 12:15) "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." (Galatians 6:10) "And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in

order to wait on tables. Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task.” (Acts 6:2-3)
Your M&P Committee continued to carry out several significant responsibilities, activities & decisions during another ‘COVID Pandemic year’.

We were pleased to have Rev. Peter Short & Rev. Ellen Beairsto renew their appointments for 6 months until our joint worship services began with St Paul’s UC for July & August 2021. Ellen continued to work with Rev. Michelle Armstrong from St Paul’s sharing the summer worship leadership. Peter was off for 3 months and in August, he informed us that he was ready to retire (again) as staff from Wilmot. He did want to stay active as a volunteer & regular member. Ellen renewed her appointment until Dec 31, 2021, always indicating she’d stay as long as appropriate and needed while the Clergy Search Process was active. Over the fall M&P organized pulpit supply utilizing our own members/groups, Lay Licenced Worship Leaders & guests. These resources covered worship & pastoral care while Ellen was recovering from a dislocated shoulder as well as provided monthly relief.

M&P look forward to working with Rev. Mary Tingley who began her call to Wilmot Jan 2/22. It was determined with Rev. Ellen Beairsto that she will officially retire (again) from Wilmot Sun Feb 13, 2022. Her dedication and work with Wilmot since July 2012 has been tremendous and sincerely valued. We look forward to celebrating her ministry with us in the near future.

We were sorry to have our relatively new Office Administrator Tanya Mullin, leave us April 1, 2021, for a government communications position which we recognized as an important move for her career. However, she did leave our office with several valuable improvements making it much easier for our new employee to step into this position. A hiring committee was again set up, office coverage arranged, and we were fortunate to hire so quickly, Kathy Aubin who started April 26, 2021. Kathy came to us from a UNB office administrative position. Her adaptability, office skills, interest & knowledge in accounting, initiative and personable nature has helped her navigate through the steep learning curve alongside the COVID PH protocols.

Our staff team consisting of Randy Randall (sexton plus), Arik Cornish (door supervisor), Steven Peacock & Margaret MacDonald (music) are to be commended for adapting to the various Public Health and church COVID protocols over the year. They along with the clergy and lay leadership kept Wilmot UC functioning to carry out our Wilmot mission & worship services utilizing video taping, live streaming, email newsletters, masks, physical distancing and zoom zoom zoom meetings!

The pandemic also resulted in some adjustments to our staff’s employment hours and responsibilities. We are pleased that we again this past year didn’t have to lay off any of our permanent staff. We were able to acknowledge and thank them concretely at year end.

The Wilmot Photo Directory Project was completed by spring 2021 with the distribution of an electronic issue to everyone who wished it and several hard copies that were purchased for a small fee.

Although we received a Federal Government Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) Program grant for 2021 to hire a youth to redesign our website, we had no appropriate applicants and decided to decline the grant. The website advisory committee that was formed for this project is on hold for now. Tanya our former office manager's departure from our employ was a factor in this decision as well, since her IT skills were lost, and our new office administrator need time to learn the job responsibilities.

M&P continued communication with other Fredericton United Churches by hosting 2 zoom meetings (June & August follow-up) inviting M&P members, clergy, leadership representatives to share what is happening in their church and discuss possible areas for collaboration. There was some information shared about some activities/programs that participants from other churches could be invited to attend. Over the summer, M&P chair also had several conversations re: understandings of our mutual M&P responsibilities and shared resources with Ann Krause who was a new M&P chair at St Paul's UC. This relationship as well as the communication among the joint UCC in Fredericton, is worthwhile as we all work to be a valuable presence in our congregations & community

It is with much gratitude that I thank the committee members for their time and valuable contributions. Committee members are Terri Maclean (Office Administrator rep), Ruth Breen (rep for our door supervisors & sexton), Susan MacLeod (rep for Rev Ellen Beairsto), Gordon Cameron, Kirby Keyser & Graham Allen (M&P financial matters). We say a special thank you & goodbye to Susan MacLeod who is 'retiring' from M&P.

M&P would like to have at least 2 more members - someone to 'shadow' the work that Kirby Keyser and Graham Allen do managing & overseeing the financials of M & P; a music representative for our music staff & we will need a liaison once a part time clergy staff member is hired.

Over 2022, M&P will continue supporting our staff, listening & connecting to the congregation, preparing budget submissions, and providing letters to the staff outlining compensation, roles, and responsibilities for 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Coates, Chair M&P Committee



FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE

The Faith Formation Committee is committed to the development, encouragement, oversight and, when called upon, the delivery of faith formation programs fostering fellowship and engaging the spirit of the Wilmot Community.

The 2021 committee members included: Ellen Beairsto, Greg Black, Mary Lynn Cameron (chair), Jilanna Eagles, Elaine Kenyon (Council representative), Susan Kulesza, Don MacDougall, Darla MacNaughton (secretary), and Elizabeth Savoie.

The committee met exclusively via Zoom in 2021.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Conversation continued each week under the leadership of Don and Lois MacDougall. This group relates the Bible to life and life to the Bible using the lectionary readings of the week. Conversation starts where we are, not where we should be. It is for people who are interested, curious, and want to deepen their faith and understanding through an open and unassuming conversation. Don reports that this is a dedicated group of individuals who produce a lively and open conversation each week. The conversation allows each participant to share their interpretation of the selected passages and all interpretations are heard and accepted as heard.

The Adult Faith Formation Development Group (a subcommittee of Faith Formation Committee) developed and carried out 6 Spirit Conversations. The Spirit Conversations were mediated by Jilanna Eagles and Marilyn Luscombe and were titled:

- 1) What will you take forward from the COVID experience and 2020?
- 2) How has the pandemic made you more aware of what you have and what you need?
- 3) What is it about Wilmot as a downtown city church, its outreach programs, and social justice orientation that connects to our spirituality and spiritual development?
- 4) How can we open our hearts to help make Wilmot and our community places of welcome and belonging for everyone? How does work/action around inclusiveness connect with whatever you consider to be your spirituality? What is spirituality anyway?
- 5) What can we do at Wilmot and in our communities to help foster connections and a sense of belonging? How does that work connect to whatever we consider is our spirituality?
- 6) Fresh air and the beautiful outdoors – what does it do for your spirit?

We continued to work closely with the Cuba Connection group with the support of Greg Black. Matanzas Evangelical Theological Seminary has been hit extremely hard by the COVID pandemic and the decline in tourism revenue. Despite these roadblocks the seminary is maintaining its daily Seniors group and other community mission work.

There were a number of youth services this year. A Youth Service on February 14, 2021 was very well received. A Confirmation Service was held on May 30, 2021. Graduation Sunday, June 13, 2021, honoured 15 graduates from high school, community college, and university. These services were prerecorded and saw many youth participating.

Unfortunately, due to COVID concerns, there were some cancellations in 2021. The Family Picnic in June, VBS in July, and Rendez Vous in August were all cancelled. The committee looks forward to supporting these wonderful events whenever they are able to safely resume.

Sunday School took place entirely via Zoom in 2021. It is held on Friday evenings at 6:30pm. A craft bag is delivered on Friday afternoon that ensures all children have the necessary supplies to participate. During their time together, the children hear a Bible story from Ellen or a guest reader and then receive instructions on how to complete their craft after Sunday School. A special highlight from this past year was the surprise baby shower thrown for Jacqueline Connors on February 5, 2021.

Youth Group continued for middle school and high school students via Zoom and whenever possible, in accordance with Public Health Guidelines, in person. It is a time of conversation, mentorship, and fellowship. In person activities included walks on the walking trail, planting flowers outside the church, and bike rides.

The Seekers Group is an open group that accepts new members at any time and provides a safe space to raise faith-based questions. It is a forum for deepening faith and broadening the understanding of Jesus' way in the 21st century. The group meets under the guidance of Don MacDougall and the conversations are based on the current book study which raises central questions about the human journey in Christian perspective. The two books studied in 2021 were: **Between Heaven and Hell: A Dialogue Somewhere Beyond Death** by Peter Kreeft and **The Greatest Prayer: Rediscovering the Revolutionary Message of the Lord's Prayer** by John Crossman.

The Children and Youth Christmas Concert took place on December 12, 2021. It was a prerecorded service that featured the faces and talents of many of our children and youth. Many positive comments were received after the service.

Thank you to the many volunteers who support the various projects and activities planned by this committee!

Respectfully submitted,
Darla MacNaughton



Adult Spiritual Formation Subcommittee

This is a report of efforts to establish an intentional adult spiritual formation dimension and program in the life of Wilmot United Church, guided by the Faith Formation Committee and Rev Ellen Beairsto.

Current adult spiritual formation programming began in the early 1990s with the formation of the Adult Bible Conversations (Lectionary Group) followed later by the Congregational Retreat, small group Lenten Book Studies, spiritual practice with the Labyrinth, and the Seekers Group. (Reports of all these programs can be found in Annual Reports of the Congregation).

In November 2019 the Faith Formation Committee established a working group to develop A Vision for Adult Faith Formation at Wilmot, and that group submitted a report by that name to the committee which was accepted on Jan. 24, 2020. It states that *“An adult faith formation program offered by Wilmot would provide individual and communal learning opportunities to help adults grow in their relationship with God by taking seriously Jesus and his way of love, compassion and justice in all aspects of contemporary life”*, with four dimensions: *“deepen faith, broaden belief, inspire commitment, and drive action”*. The Report recommended that *“a Sub Committee for Adult Faith Formation of 3-5 people be formed which would develop and refine this view of adult faith formation over time to fit emerging circumstances, and develop and support leadership for implementation”*.

The Subcommittee began to meet immediately but ran into the realities of the Covid 19 outbreak and was largely confined to working on line using ZOOM to this date. Some of above continued on line as possible, and learned to include people from a wider geographic area than previously.

In response to the relative isolation of people to the Covid 19 situation, the group also experimented with an online pilot program Spirit Conversations with the intent of linking spirit and daily life within the limits imposed by Covid 19. Initial inroads were made into significant conversations about this matter, forming a small online community of interest to engage it, and about the use of online means like ZOOM for the purpose.

Suggested recommendations for Adult Spiritual Formation forward from here:

- continue development and refinement of the 2021 Vision, its fit with the congregation and ministry staff, and development of leadership for ongoing implementation
- change the name from adult faith formation to “adult **spiritual** formation”, since social awareness and interpretation of the human spiritual journey have shifted in this direction.
- form a small working **Council for Adult Spiritual Formation** of 2-3 interested volunteer adult educational practitioners with faith backgrounds to guide this vision

forward, with a member of the ministry staff as needed, which would report to the Faith Formation Committee

- further develop the use of small voluntary adult spiritual formation **Leadership Teams** of 2-3 people for specific adult spiritual formation programs which would report to the Council, and offer them assistance for ongoing leadership development for their specific purpose

The “Vision for Adult Faith Formation at Wilmot” speaks of four dimensions of adult spiritual formation: deepening faith and trust, broadening belief and understanding, inspiring and focussing commitment, encouraging and driving action. Interested adults tend to start in one or other of these dimensions, such as in deepening faith or in taking action, and will usually need to broaden their perspective and practice over time to include the full spectrum of these four dimensions for servant leadership to be fully effective.

PASTORAL CARE AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Care Committee has focused on the Teleministry program during these COVID times. It has proved to be effective in maintaining communication and support during these difficult times.

The Prayer Circle continues doing their essential work.

Prayer Shawl Knitters and the Quilters have continued their Ministries while adhering to the various COVID restrictions.

The Circle of Care has a continued its behind the scenes support in many caring ways.

Respectfully submitted
Dana Hanson

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship committee continues to meet monthly either in person or on Zoom. The committee reviews services, makes suggestions and receives/approves baptism and wedding requests. We enjoyed worshipping together back in the sanctuary although very scaled down due to Covid restrictions. Our thanks to the Sanctuary committee for ensuring

our space is always beautifully decorated. Services were still available live streamed and on You tube for those wishing to view from the comfort and safety of home.

The committee wishes to thank all those involved with the successful production of these services:

Thank you to Steven Peacock and his team for the lovely music they provide each week.

Many thanks to Doug Beirsto, Chris Colwell, Don Daye, Craig Frame, Peter Gough, and Reg Sherren who are behind the sound system. We send our appreciation to Peter Gough for his many years of support on sound as he prepares to step back.

Doug Beirsto along with Kristie Heard and Yessica Enriquez have been able to live stream the Sunday services as well as baptisms and funerals. Three of our youth, Jamie Heard, Mya McAllister and Tait Leroux have also been trained but are waiting for fewer Covid restrictions. Our thanks go out to Doug for his time and expertise in being there for both sound and the live streaming. Because of this entire team, our services reach beyond our own congregation to people across Canada and beyond.

And finally, many many thanks to our ministerial team of Peter Short and Ellen Beirsto who led us in worship with continued hope, faith, and eternal optimism. They both deserve to enjoy their retirement.

Going ahead, we are looking forward to working with the Reverend Mary Tingley in 2022.

Angela Wrobel, Chair

On behalf of the Worship Committee: Nancy Bauer, Peggy Brodie, Pam McDermid, Ellen Sherren and Derek Ness (Co-ordinator of ushers/greeters)

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

2021 was another difficult year for the performing arts generally, and certainly 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.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the Wilmot Senior Choir, a four-part (SATB) chorus of 32 voices pre-pandemic, was this past year able to rehearse on only seven Thursdays in November and December and to contribute to our weekly services of worship (and with a much-reduced number of choristers) on only four Sundays during Advent. The Senior

Choir, singing music in a range of classical and contemporary sacred styles, had been showing much promise pre-pandemic in terms of a continued musical evolution, thanks to new and returning choristers in the soprano and tenor sections in particular, but it remains to be seen where the choir will be once our regular rehearsals and worship participation resumes. Still, we were able to acquire two new titles for our music library in October 2021, thanks to Carolyn Munro's generosity. And during the Advent services, singing from the floor with piano accompaniment and using our two large-diaphragm "area" microphones and new digital soundboard resulted in an improved live-streamed and live choral sound. Here's hoping we'll be able to resume our rehearsals and Sunday-morning worship participation sometime in 2022!

Despite the pandemic, the 11-member Frank T. Pridham Memorial Handbell Choir had 16 rehearsals and performed at 5 services of worship in 2021 (twice during Lent and three times during Advent), though without our tables, which helped to ensure social distancing but necessarily reduced the technical difficulty of the repertoire. Still, the group has continued to improve both technically and musically. Unlike the Senior Choir, the Handbell Choir was able, following Wilmot's COVID-19 Committee's guidelines, to hold rehearsals in March and April as well as in October and November.

I was directly involved in 52 services of worship in 2021, with extra services at Easter and Christmas balancing the five summer services (June 27th and the four Sundays in July) for which the music team at St. Paul's, together with clergy from both St. Paul's and Wilmot, took primary responsibility. These services were either videotaped or live-streamed (often with an in-person congregation), and as in 2020 my energies as Director of Music changed focus; there was often no Senior Choir or Handbell Choir to direct, but I needed to coordinate vocal soloists (many of whom came from the ranks of the Senior Choir) and play a much-expanded role as a soloist/accompanist/composer/arranger and in planning (with Margaret MacDonald and with Peter Short, Ellen Beirsto and a number of guest ministers and lay leaders) the musical elements of our services. My heartfelt thanks go to our vocal soloists--Heather Neville, Carolyn Munro, Amy Foster-McAllister, Brian MacDonald, Amber Bishop, Neil Thorne and Rose Messenger--as well as to our many musically-inclined Youth participants who blessed us with their support on several occasions. In many services we were able to involve two soloists singing in harmony (not to mention the congregational voices during in-person services), reminding us of the importance of vocal polyphony in worship, something the pandemic has made all too rare.

Throughout 2021, Margaret MacDonald performed her duties on organ and piano with much-appreciated skill, creativity, flexibility and professionalism, and it continues to be a great privilege and pleasure to be her colleague. In addition to the instrumental support on organ, piano, classical guitar and djembe which Margaret and I have been able to provide for worship, including the youth-oriented services at various times in our Wilmot calendar

which we coordinated with Ellen Beirsto, we were happy to welcome cellist Emily Kennedy as a guest musician for two of our live-streamed services this past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Peacock
Director of Music

RADICAL HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Radical Hospitality Committee is to foster a welcoming and all-inclusive environment amongst our Congregation and the community it serves. The work of the Radical Hospitality Committee is supported by event champions, as well as the help of other committees that we work together to implement events with. We strive to meet the community where they are, not only at the Church or organized events in a fixed location. In 2021, following a motion at our Annual General Meeting, the Hospitality and Affirming Diversity Committees joined forces to form the Radical Hospitality Committee and we will continue to work together in the coming year.

The following are events we hosted and participated in throughout 2021:

- Sun Mar 14th – Hosted a virtual Coffee and Conversation event to celebrate PIE DAY (3.14), where we talked about our efforts to be Public, Intentional, and Explicit, a spin that was suggested by a committee member. At that event, we also shared our favourite pie recipes. Committee members baked and delivered slices of pie to members of the Congregation in advance of the event
- In May, two of our committee members, Deb Bradbury and Maureen Toner, participated in a panel discussion with Quispamsis United Church to discuss our experiences in becoming an Affirming Congregation; since then, Quispamsis United Church has become an Affirming Congregation
- Sat Aug 21st – Participated in the Fredericton Pride Parade
- Sun Sep 26th – Prepared and handed out Orange Ribbons to the Congregation in preparation for marking the 1st Truth and Reconciliation Day, which was marked on Sep 30th
- Sun Nov 28th - Held a virtual storytime with gingerbread and cider, with Rod Campbell as our storyteller. Members of the committee and volunteers from the Congregation baked and delivered gingerbread and cider to members of the Congregation who were planning to attend
- Mon Dec 6th - Held a St. Nicholas Day Christmas conversation.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all the volunteers and committees who have helped to make the radical hospitality events a success in 2021. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Rev. Ellen Beirsto for her guidance and support over the last several years; while we will miss her leadership as she retires, we wish her all the best in this next chapter of her life. It is wonderful to witness a strong sense of hospitality within our Wilmot Community; without volunteers it would be a challenge to extend the warmth of fellowship amongst our networks.

We are looking forward to the coming year as we continue to work towards a variety of events that promote inclusive and accessible hospitality and fellowship with the hope of reaching the interests of all congregational demographics. We are always welcoming of new committee members or event champions/coordinators.

Here's hoping that COVID-19 will lighten its impact on our daily lives in the months ahead and allow us to get back to a time of gatherings, activities, and fellowship in person.

Respectfully submitted,
Derek Ness, Committee Chair

Committee Members

Derek Ness – Chair	Deb Bradbury	Maureen Toner
Lynn Fullarton - Secretary	Elizabeth Savoie	Norman Laverty

WILMOT INFORMATION TEAM

Rick Patterson, Lucille Caseley, Ellen Beirsto, Nancy Bauer

Wilmot Information Team is such an important part of our church – getting information out there to both Wilmot's faith community as well as the larger community.

Because of COVID, the team met only once in person but continued its work via phone and email. Although we only put out one Words from Wilmot this year, Rick Patterson assisted Ellen Beirsto and Peter Short with their weekly newsletter that were well-received. We continued to put Easter and Christmas ads in the Gleaner to let the world know we were still in business. In the past we have also put ads in for Welcome Back Sunday and our Anniversary service. The Wayside Pulpit has proven to be an important way to announce our activities.

Nancy continued as the WIT representative on the Worship Committee. Ellen was our representative on the Church Council. Nancy was also a member of the website committee led by Claire Vezina, with Derek Ness and Kirby Keyser and with the help of Shirley Cleave and Judy Coates. The committee met many times in person. For now, this is a sub-committee of the Information Team. For many years, Wilmot Information Team (WIT as it has become known), led by the late Garth Caseley, focused on the website. Unfortunately, it is now out of date. The church has advertised for a technician to construct a new one but so far has not been able to find anyone.

We were able to publish one *Words from Wilmot* online for Advent, the office printing only a few copies for those not online. Because of the pandemic, we would not have been able to distribute paper copies but moving it to mainly paperless has been a good move - cost-wise and more environmentally friendly. In the future we will continue to publish the newsletter online, printing only a few when needed.

The office administrator, Kathy Aubin, and Judy Coates have answered the Facebook inquiries. Nancy is the team member. This arrangement will need to be reorganized in 2022.

Our chair has been Ellen Beairsto, and as her last day as our minister will be February 13, we will need a chair and a representative to the Church Council.

Great Committee – Consider joining us!

Respectfully submitted, January 24, 2022, Nancy Bauer

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Despite a full year working within the health protocols of the New Brunswick Department of Health and Wilmot's Covid-19 Committee, the Outreach Committee succeeded- with staff (especially Randy and Kathy), members of Wilmot congregation and the community - to offer various programs and activities for those in need of our assistance. A special note of gratitude and 'best wishes' to both Peter and Ellen who have so actively supported Outreach efforts during their time with Wilmot. We also very much appreciate the generosity of our Wilmot congregation and others who support our efforts – **thank you!**

The committee continued to adapt what we do. Generous support allowed Outreach to continue to provide **Wednesdays@Wilmot (W@W)** and **Saturday Evening Drop In (Drop In)** for most of the year. W@W provides lunch, bus tickets, haircuts and food

vouchers to people who are living in difficult conditions. Drop-In provides adults a safe place to gather and a light meal. The annual Drop In summer excursion was not offered, unfortunately, due to the pandemic restrictions.

On a limited basis, we continued the **Fair Trade booth**, selling a range of products including tea, coffee, olive oil and chocolate on Sunday mornings or by special arrangement. Thanks to the congregation, the annual program to support newcomers through providing a donation to the Multicultural Association of Fredericton continued. Various **social justice and environmental** initiatives continued to be encouraged and monitored. The **Community Kitchen** continued its adaptation of its meal service and volunteers, coordinated through Wilmot, continued to support this program where possible.

Funds to support activities were provided through donations to the **Benevolent Fund**. Again, in 2021, the after-church soup luncheons had to be placed on hold. However, Outreach continued to be richly supported by the congregation, corporate, faith and community sponsors including the Abbey Café for Drop-In; the Fredericton Direct Charge Co-Op and Victory Food Market for the W@W program. Special pandemic funding through national programs helped provide fresh food for participants of W@W. We continued to enjoy an excellent relationship with St. Dunstan’s parish who have also provided financial contributions, largely towards bus tickets for participants of W@W. Several Y’s Men’s groups of Fredericton have donated funds towards the purchase of seniors’ bus passes. As well, the Downtown Community Health Clinic’s student nurses are available to do minor health tests and outreach workers from the John Howard Society often attend Wednesday@Wilmot. A vaccination clinic was organized in October.

We welcome new members to any our activities or the committee. Please contact Lynn MacKinnon or Sally McAllister, if you would like further information.

Appreciatively, Sally McAllister and Lynn MacKinnon, co-chairs.



Outreach Committee Annual Financial Summary

January 1, 2021 Outreach Committee Bank Statement opening balance: \$30,142.31

Projects:	Income	Expenditures
Transportation	0.00	81.00
Campus Ministry	670.00 (fr: Biggs Fund bequest)	670.00
Saturday Night Drop In	0.00	1,593.00

Projects:	Income	Expenditures
Fair Trade (Debbie McIntosh Investment Annual Interest)	1,557.10 216.11	1,983.00
Wednesday @ Wilmot: -Benevolent donation/ memorials -Community Donations -Investment interest (Perkins/ Perley)	18,129.76 500.00 40.52	16,304.02 (Victory Meat gift cards) 350.00 (senior bus passes)
Grants: -Fredericton Co-Op 2020 (remaining balance) -Fredericton Co-Op 2021	6,000.00	3,605.00 4,488.00 (food, haircuts, bus tickets)
Second Harvest Emergency Food Security Fund	8,000.00	8,000.00
United Way Emergency Community Response Fund (4 month grant – Nov-March 2021)	(funds received in November 2020)	4,943.02 (food, bus tickets, phone cards)
General A/C	0.00	2,881.00 (bus tickets, food, admin expenses)
FMCA-Mitten Tree	585.00	585.00
TOTALS:	\$35,698.49	\$45,483.04

Forwarding Balance for January 2022

\$20,357.76

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QUILTERS AND FELLOWSHIP

The quilters have been able to continue quilting following COVID protocols with masks on and social distancing. This meant that we would have 2 or 3 quilts on at a time.

We quilt on Wednesday and Thursday mornings with 3 to 7 quilters attending. We often have staff and W@W volunteers join us for tea around 11a.m. We were able to finish four quilts during 2021.

In April we had a special tea to say goodbye to Tanya Mullin, our office administrator, and staff were able to join us. In November with W@W we celebrated Randy's 50th birthday.

In September we had a sewing day to put together a couple of quilt tops that had been donated to us. We measured, cut, sewed, ironed, sewed some more, and of course had tea and lunch.

In November we participated in the material and yarn sale organized by Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers and St Paul's Quilters. Our share was \$726.25.

We started 2021 with \$3,909.61 and ended the year with \$5,127.50.

We have wonderful mornings of fellowship and sharing of individual projects, and welcome anyone to join us. Come when you can and leave when you must! We look forward to a time without COVID and social distancing.

CUBA TWINNING COMMITTEE

A) Background

Since 2006, there have been visits back and forth between Wilmot and Seminario Evangélico de Teología (SET), in Matanzas Cuba, with a variety of interests: medical education, education of the mentally challenged, work with the handicapped, services to seniors, sewing groups, musical education and instruments, access to justice, the Cuban government and Canadian companies in Cuba, environment and agriculture, dairy farming, meeting and living with "real Cubans", etc. Although we take resources down to Cuba, cloth, medicines, toiletries for their social projects, Canadian dollars, etc., our relationship with the Cubans is more for our education than charitable outreach. Thus, the twinning committee is a part of the Faith Formation Committee rather than with the Outreach Committee. Cubans who have visited us here remark on the ideas that they have taken back to their communities. Rev. Orestes Roca Santana and his wife Wanda Hernandez Murga, who minister at the Baptist Church in the centre of Matanzas visited Wilmot one winter. They credit our congregation for the manner that they involve children in the worship service. Their congregation operates the Kairos Centre, a social service to whom Wilmot brings medicines, toiletries, etc. Wilmot has had from time-to-time similar relations with congregations and student ministers in Ciego de Avila, Bolivia (Cuba), and

Cuatro Esquinas a point in the parish of los Arabos, where Jennifer Redman of Wilmot served for several months.

After the Spanish American War, Cubans who had become protestants during exile returned to their nation of heritage. (Elsewhere in the Caribbean, Protestantism had its roots in the efforts of British missionaries.) Although the Spanish word for protestant is “evangélico”, their theology and practice was not only an alternative to the hierarchical structure of the Roman church, but also closer to the social gospel than to the dogmatism of fundamentalism. As the Rev. (retired) Noel Fernandez, who represents Latin American work with the handicapped within World Council of Churches, puts it: “We focus more on what is happening on Earth than in heaven.” The ecumenical (SET), with which Wilmot has a twinning relationship trains its students not only in the Word and Sacraments, but also in community development.

As a support for the twinning relationship, but also as a free service to the wider community, the Committee has offered Spanish sessions. The level of Spanish is suited to the variety of people who participate, whether beginners, experts, or native speakers, by exploring a blend of social and cultural interests.

B) Covid19

In February of 2020, the delegation from Wilmot returned from the latest physical visit to Cuba to be greeted in Pearson Airport by a plentitude of medical masks. Since then, it has been next to impossible to carry on visits. Since travel to Cuba or to any other Spanish-speaking areas is at the very least not advisable, cultural and language activities would lack some of the *raison-d’être*.

However, Wilmot has cooperated with a similar committee in Toronto, called Cubability, which draws its members from St. Georges-Eglinton and College Street United Churches. They have focused on sending Canadian dollars and over-the-counter medical supplies to the Kairos Centre in Matanzas. Also, the Wilmot Committee has exchanged news about the pandemic with contacts in Bolivia and Ciego de Avila. It has kept up to date with the Kairos Centre with missionary couple from west North Carolina. Experience with the disease in Cuba, both good and bad, has been very similar to New Brunswick, but better than the neighbouring Dominican Republic.

C) Future Possibilities

Although physical travel is not advisable at the moment, the Committee would appreciate ideas and questions from the congregation and from the greater Fredericton community or the Maritime area, whether your interest is community projects, Cuban society, Latin American theology and general outlook, music, health, seniors, cooperatives, ecology, food, sharing stories, or just making Cuban friends.

Also, Wilmot's experience with virtual communication during the pandemic has shown that language and cultural activities are possible if there is some interest in preparing in advance when travel (in either direction) becomes possible.

Finally, the Twinning Committee always welcomes new members. Please contact any member of the Committee to explore any of these ideas.

Submitted by: Cuba Committee, Norm and Mecca Lavery and Greg Black

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

As with everyone the year began very quietly, and we were unable to hold our meetings till March.

Our membership has continued to thrive with approximately 18 to 20 meeting regularly, we lost two members, one passed away and another moved away. And we have gained four new members.

A group of us had distributed our Foodless Food Sale envelopes all under COVID protocols. We were so happy to meet once more restrictions were lifted enjoying the fellowship of our members and that always welcome cup of tea! We have continued meeting regularly for programs given by members of our group followed by a business meeting, mainly to organize our fund raisers in this time of COVID. We held Spring and Fall rummage sales, our Apple Pie Days, our Bake and New-to-you sale, not forgetting our contribution to the Book sale and the Quilters Fabric and Yarn Sale (along with St Paul's quilters and Grandmothers helping Grandmothers). It was a busy time!

We do thank all our generous members of Wilmot and community for helping with donations and in person, we need many hands to arrange to safely distance! As you can see from our financial statement attached, we raised more money again this year and we are indeed very grateful to be able to support the work at Wilmot, and its contribution to Mission and Service as well as local charities.

The Helen A. Young Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Colton Gough, attending Mount Allison University.

Over 100 cards were sent out to members of our Wilmot family – for special birthday celebrations, anniversary and birth announcements, for sickness and bereavement – and at Christmas remembrances were made to many senior members of Wilmot with a card and small gift.

Thank you again for all your support and donations. COVID has made our plans more challenging, but you have all made it very successful.

Respectfully submitted,
Gillian Keyser, Secretary UCW

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UCW Financial Report

Balance on Hand January 1, 2021		\$13,964.42
Receipts:		
Monthly Offering	2,447.00	
Foodless Food Sale	4,240.00	
Spring Rummage Sale	3,446.70	
Fall Rummage	3,785.20	
Booksale	2,161.20	
Pies	3,586.15	
Bake Sale & New To You	3,390.20	
Bring & Buy	232.00	
Donations	2,010.00	
Least Coin	55.00	
Catering Revenue	600.00	
Cook Book	10.00	
Total Receipts		\$25,963.45
Disbursements:		
Wilmot Church/General	3,500.00	
Wilmot Church/M&S	3,200.00	
Wilmot Church/Capital	3,000.00	
Fredericton Community Kitchen	800.00	
Transition House	500.00	
Hospice Fredericton	500.00	
CWC Cares/Metal Health	500.00	
Spring Rummage Sale Expenses	100.00	
Fall Rummage Sale Expenses	100.00	
Catering Expenses	299.87	
Pie Expenses	840.03	
Help Project/Gifts	526.39	

Maritime Membership	136.00	
Sundry/Postage	403.92	
Bank Charges	25.41	
Youth Group	75.00	
Total Disbursements		-\$14,506.62
Total UCW as at December 31, 2021		\$25,421.25
Held for Quilters		\$5,127.50
Bank Balance as at December 31, 2021		\$30,548.75

Please Note: Funds are being held in reserve for the old manse project, sending delegates to the UCW National Conference & capital projects in 2022.

Helen A. Young Memorial Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance January 1, 2021		\$778.28
Receipts:		
Bank Interest	1.29	
Interest on Investment	210.00	
		\$211.29
Disbursements:		
Matthew Chase/2020	250.00	
Coulton Gough/2021	250.00	
E-Transfer Fees	3.00	
		-\$503.00
Ending Balance December 31, 2021		\$486.57

RBC GIC Investment of \$15,000 @00.45%, Maturity Date of May 11, 2022.

Respectfully submitted
Brenda Cameron, Treasurer



FREDERICTON RURAL CEMETERY REPORT

Internments from May 13th, 2021 to November 29th, 2021

	Traditional	Cremation	Babies	Subtotal
McAdams	4	12	0	16
Bishops	0	15	0	15
York	3	4	0	7
Families & Out of Town	0	11	0	11
Totals + Grand Total	7	42	0	49

To add to these totals, we did 4 internments in the Columbarium's. This brings our totals up to 53 for the year. Our last burial for the season was on Nov. 29th. Our burials are dropping in the last few years. These totals tell us that we are at almost 87% cremation. "Our" total burials are down, the lowest in the last 36 years.

As you can see the cemetery is doing a lot of funerals on our own, with no funeral homes involved. Also, things have changed for funerals, mostly because of Covid, the size of gatherings permitted, this causing families to postpone to another year.

We sold 9 niches this year, 8 cremation lots & 6 traditional lots, not a bad year this way. The Insurance cheque finally came in after waiting over a year for it. This was for the accident that occurred in the Fredericton Rural Extension, this happened late winter of 2020. The cheque came in late, so monument replacement has not been done yet or cedar trees replaced in the hedge. This work will be done this year as monuments and trees become available.

This year we were able to level and straighten more monuments. We removed more trees, shrubs, that were overgrown or threatening the foundations of monuments. We did not place any extra heavy rocks along the river bank this year, an excavator is required to help move monuments out of the way and move them back after the rocks have been placed. We think this should be done in three more areas, about 15 more loads of rock required to accomplish this. We did not have high water this year, so very little damage occurred this year.

More maintenance on equipment, but no major break downs this year. All maintenance is still being done at the cemetery.

Summer Help

This year we chose again not to ask for extra help. Again, found it easier this way, like before, we came in earlier to beat the heat.

Winter Closure

Next year brings a new era to the cemetery. Douglas Cote has retired, giving us another year, he served the cemetery for 41 years. He will surely be missed! Thanks Doug!!

Compiled by
Gilbert Farris

Fredericton Rural Cemetery 2021 Financial Report

TOTAL REVENUE	
SALES AND SERVICE	\$75,674.00
FROM INVESTMENTS	47,000.00
INSURANCE PROCEEDS	15,274.15
GRANT/DONATION	200.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$138,148.15

TOTAL EXPENSES	
PAYROLL	\$95,070.00
WORKSAFE PREMIUMS	778.47
REIMB LOT PURCHASE	3,220.00
CLASSIC MEMORIALS	14,022.30
CAIN INSURANCE	953.00
REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE	4,760.59
RETIREMENT DOUG COTE	307.48
OFFICE EXPENSES	6,950.26
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	3,400.00
HST EXPENSES (2021)	5,648.28
BANK CHARGES / CERIDIAN EXPENSES	1,201.61
BELL ALIANT / INTERNET	1,401.60
ELECTRICITY / WATER	1,095.71
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$138,809.30

ENVELOPE STEWARDS REPORT

2021 Envelope Givings Report

Interval	Local			M & S			Capital			Total Givings					
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
1-99	9	17	33	23	13	16	17	28	31	34	15	21	22	23	21
100-199	9	11	27	20	19	22	31	23	23	20	18	17	18	21	23
200-299	9	10	13	17	17	17	14	18	16	15	11	13	19	17	22
300-399	11	11	13	15	14	13	10	12	9	14	14	8	16	19	14
400-599	21	17	22	27	29	9	11	11	13	12	11	19	8	5	9
600-799	18	18	24	23	23	3	4	5	5	6	6	5	6	6	6
800-999	23	20	21	22	23	2	4	4	4	4	1	1	3	4	7
1000-1499	30	32	37	35	34	4	5	8	7	7	5	2	2	0	2
1500-1999	19	22	9	12	16	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
2000-2499	10	15	10	7	7	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2500-2999	7	5	4	6	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3000-3499	4	4	2	4	4	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
3500-3999	5	6	5	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4000-4499	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4500-4999	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5000-5999	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6000-6999	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7000-7999	1	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
8000+	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
No of Envs	180	197	227	221	210	93	103	114	116	117	82	89	98	97	101
Total	\$230,674	\$250,997	\$235,188	\$224,863	\$224,022	\$52,050	\$53,052	\$56,795	\$61,045	\$68,967	\$20,239	\$32,242	\$33,172	\$32,253	\$35,913
Aver/Env	\$1,282	\$1,320	\$1,036	\$1,017	\$1,067	\$560	\$515	\$498	\$526	\$604	\$344	\$362	\$336	\$333	\$356

	Percentage Change 2021/2020			
	Local	M & S	Capital	Total
Total	-11.3%	-1.9%	-12.4%	-8.3%
Average/Env	-2.9%	6.7%	-4.9%	-2.1%

Number	Envelope Givings compared to the PAR method of giving			
	Local	M & S	Capital	Total
101	\$999	\$164	\$157	\$1,508 envelopes
89	\$1,458	\$398	\$139	\$2,174 PAR

Total givings include donations to all church accounts. In 2021, there were 24 such accounts to which donations were given.

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 Kathy Aubin who records the givings which have been received in several ways (envelopes, PAR, e-transfers, CanadaHelps, drop-offs, and mail).

Respectfully submitted
Craig Frame and Graham Allen

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

February 21, 2021
Meeting was held on Zoom

Present: Shirley Cleave, Kelly Ebbett, Jilanna Eagles, Craig and Barb Frame, Linda and Peter Gough, Phyllis and Dana Hanson, Sue and Peter Short, Valerie Moore, Guy Vezina, Lynn MacKinnon, Sally McAllister, Ann Marie and Blaine Atkinson, Deb Bradbury and Rita Roach, Marilyn Luscombe and Karl Wicks, Lois MacDougall, Derek Ness, Joan and Andy MacDonald, Margaret and Brian MacDonald, Ruth Breen, Marg Routledge, Lorraine Silliphant, Maureen Toner, Joyce Trites, Norman Sheen, Judy Coates, Gerhard Dueck, David Coon, Lynda-Jean Coffin, Susan MacLeod, Steven and Joan MacKenzie, Nancy Chase, Ron O'Brien, Nancy Bauer, Twila Buttmer, Gaily Wylie, Ron and Claire Buck, Ann and John Price, Irene Forbes, Pam MacDermid, Joyce Gallagher, Nancy Gilbert, Beth Paynter, Steven Peacock, Greg Black, Mary Lynn Cameron, Mary Ann Van Oostwaard, John Leroux, Gordon and Carol Young, Gillian and Kirby Keyser, Doug Beirsto, Ellen Beirsto, Elizabeth Savoie, Elaine Kenyon, Chris Colwell, Bob Willis and Terri MacLean.

Welcome by Shirley Cleave to our Annual Meeting. This has been an unprecedented year as we have dealt with the effects of Covid, but we have been able to continue with our mission and ministry due to the continuous support and work of our congregation and staff.

Opening Prayer: Ellen Beirsto gave the opening prayer. We have responded to the challenges and have been able to carry on the work of the church.

Opening Motions:

- a) **Appointment of Chair and Secretary:** Motion that Shirley Cleave act as chair of the meeting and Terri MacLean act as secretary for the meeting.
Moved: Lynn MacKinnon. Seconded: Sally McAllister. Carried.

- b) **Permission for adherents to vote:** Motion that adherents be granted permission to vote.
Moved: Derek Ness. Seconded: Brian MacDonald. Carried.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion that the Agenda as circulated be approved.

Moved: Steven MacKenzie. Seconded: Dana Hanson. Carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion that the minutes of the 2020 AGM held on February 23, 2020 be approved.

There is the addition of one name to those attending the 2020 AGM, Gail Wylie. The minutes will be amended to reflect this change.

Moved: Derek Ness. Seconded: Blaine Atkinson. Carried.

Celebrating 2020

Committee Reports:

Motion that the committee reports in the Annual Report be received for information.

Moved: Deb Bradbury. Seconded: Marilyn Luscombe. Carried.

We paused to remember those who have passed away in the past year, and the effect on their loved ones. It has been difficult for all as we have not been able to be together at their passing.

Dot Steen, Marion Scott, James Batt, Harry Pridham, Marguerite Patterson, Carvell Antworth and Edward Martin.

Financial Report:

Mary Ann took the time to lead us through the Financial Report and spoke about the effects of Covid on investments. Fundraising was not able to be done this year. Rentals were down as groups could not meet in public. Donations were up due to the support of the congregation. Investments reacted to market volatility so that income has dropped although it exceeded the past year. There were special donations from the Youth Group who were unable to attend a planned get together and they generously have given the funds that they raised (twice) to the church operating account. Thanks were expressed to the Youth Group for their thoughtful generosity.

Motion that the Financial Report as presented by Mary Ann Van Oostwaard be accepted.

Moved: Craig Frame. Seconded: Ann Marie Atkinson. Carried.

Recognition of Volunteers Completing Time:

Shirley thanked four individuals who completed their terms this year: Craig Frame (Treasurer); Jeff Beairsto (Finance and Property Chair & Trustee); Norm Sheen (Facilities Management); and Marilyn Beatty (Hospitality).

Recognition of Staff:

Judy Coates expressed gratitude to all our staff here at Wilmot for their dedication and being able to carry on with the Mission and Ministry of Wilmot United Church during this challenging year. Heartfelt thanks to all.

Enabling Our Mission in 2021:

Housing First:

Housing First is one of the initiatives to come out of the Visioning Phase of Wilmot Growing Together. John Leroux spoke to the group about the Housing First project which will renovate to build four rental units on the second and third floor of the Old Manse. This will require a lengthy timeline and they hope to have the units ready for people to rent by the end of this year. The government supports this project with funding from provincial and federal sources. We have received \$47,000 from Reaching Home to put towards the units' renovation and expect to receive more monies for this project. The people in these units will receive help from Social Services, Health and will be well supported as they make their transition into the unit. The church will receive a regular rental from the unit which will alleviate costs of maintaining the building through the years.

Motion that the Wilmot congregation and leadership support the renovation and refurbishment of the Old Manse into four 'Housing First' units on the building's upper two floors contingent on the approval by the Council on the recommendation of the Trustees of:

- a) a financial plan to fund the construction costs of the project based on a detailed costing analysis of the scope and design that is presently being prepared and
- b) an operational plan that is sustainable and fulfills the expectations of the Housing First approach.

Moved: John Leroux. Seconded: Phyllis Hanson. Carried.

Report from the Search Committee:

Guy Vezina spoke about the committee's work in finding new Ministers for Wilmot. They have advertised through Church Hub, a confidential site through the UCC. As well they have advertised on Indeed site and in Broadview magazine. They have applicants who will be interviewed in March. We thanked the committee for their work and look forward to the conclusion of the search. The committee met 17 times in 2020, and twice so far this year.

Radical Hospitality:

As recommended by the Visioning Phase of Wilmot Growing Together, the Hospitality and Affirming Diversity committees are working toward being a more welcoming church and finding ways to make all people who shown an interest in Wilmot to become comfortable and welcomed. At the end of two years, there will be a review within the committee to see if they have achieved their goal and to consider future directions.

Motion that Hospitality and Affirming Diversity committees work together as Radical Hospitality for a two-year trial.

Moved: Derek Ness. Seconded: Guy Vezina. Carried.

Nominating Committee Report:

Motion that the Nominating Committee report be accepted as presented and that Council have authority to appoint members throughout the year.

Moved: Derek Ness. Seconded: Jilanna Eagles. Carried.

Trustees:

Motion that the following be appointed as Trustees for Wilmot United Church:

Anne Marie Atkinson

Greg Black

Ann Colpitts

Peter Curtis

Craig Frame

Blair Kennedy

Peter Short

Moved: Lynn MacKinnon. Seconded: Susan MacLeod. Carried.

Finances for 2021:

Budget 2021:

Craig Frame, our Treasurer spoke about the challenges that we will face moving forward with additional expenses for new Ministers as we are saving money now on CPP, etc. since our present Ministers are retired, although continuing their work with us until we have a new complement of Ministry staff in 2021. We thank them for their work.

We have saved money due to the church being closed for so much of 2020 and now in 2021. As well, a milder winter has meant reduced costs for hydro and heat in 2021.

Craig thanked Tanya Mullin for her hard work and willingness to learn how to do the accounts and her support as they have brought on a new system.

Thanks were expressed to Craig for the two years that he has dedicated to the role of Treasurer, training of two Office Administrators and all the hours he has spent working on the accounts. We are very appreciative of his time and talents and express our gratitude for his work.

Jeff Beirsto will be returning as Treasurer later this year.

- i) Motion that the budget for Local Church Expenses for 2021 be accepted as presented.

Moved: Craig Frame. Seconded: Chris Colwell. Carried

ii) Motion that the Mission and Service goal for 2021 be set at \$60,000.

Moved: Marg Routledge. Seconded: Judy Coates. Carried.

Capital Projects Completed in 2020

<u>Projects</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Video Projector	\$ 1,821
Roof Repairs	\$ 1,362
Electric upgrade Sanctuary	\$ 412
LED Lighting Upgrade Wilmot Hall	\$ 9,614
Roof Replacement 4 Spires	\$13,340
Washroom floor replacement	\$ 575
Video Streaming project	<u>\$11,545</u>
Total	\$38,755

Capital Projects Projected for 2021

<u>Projects</u>	<u>Estimates/Pending</u>
Led Flood Light Upgrade Sanctuary	\$1,900
Roof Repairs	\$7,000
Wilmot Hall Sewer Repairs	\$3,500
Changing Tables in 2 Washrooms	\$1,000
Privacy Lock in Men's Washroom	\$ 230
Sanctuary Hearing Assist Upgrade	\$4,200
WiFi/Thermostat Upgrade Sanctuary	
Upgrade Exit Signs in Building	
Emergency Exits Replacements	
King St. Door Replacement	
Acoustics Upgrade in Gymnasium	
LED Lighting Upgrade in Various Areas	

Motion that the Capital Projects budget for 2021 be set at \$30,000

Moved: Greg Black. Seconded: Ron Buck. Carried.

Heritage Preservation Implementation Working Group – Greg Black

The committee consists of Blair Kennedy, Hilary Drain, Marg Routledge, John Leroux, Andy Atkinson and Greg Black. They are reviewing the Heritage Project Report which has recommended major expenditures totaling \$1.4 million. This type of expenditure requires careful consideration and fundraising to begin implementation of the recommendations over the next several years.

Last year when the Visioning Committee presented their report, it was felt by the congregation that they wish to stay in our present location which indicates their support for future renovations and projects to meet the requirements of the report.

Accountants:

Motion that Daye Kelly be appointed as accounting firm for 2021.

Moved: Craig Frame. Seconded: Linda Gough. Carried.

Adjournment:

Motion that the Annual Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Derek Ness. Seconded: Brian MacDonald. Carried.

Closing Prayer:

Peter led us in a closing prayer and reminded us of the mandate to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

Thank you to Shirley for leading us this year and at this meeting.

Shirley Cleave, Chair

Terri MacLean, Secretary

