

Words from Wilmot



Volume 24 Issue 4

Events and Worship Schedule for the 2013 Advent and Christmas Season

Sun. Nov. 24, 7:00 pm: Prayer and Healing Service with Ellen Beairsto

Fri. Nov. 30, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm: UCW Bake Sale and New-To-You Table
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm: Advent Retreat "Behold I Do a New Thing",
 St. Andrews United Church, Harvey with Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

Sun. Dec. 1, 11:00 am: First Sunday in Advent, White Gift Sunday and Communion
 Delivery of Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers Wreaths

Tue. Dec. 3: Seniors Christmas Buffet Lunch at Aggies

Wed. Dec. 4, 12:10 noon: Contemplative Space for Advent
 7:30 pm: Interdenominational Advent Carol Festival at St. Paul's United

Sun. Dec. 8, 11:00 am: Second Sunday in Advent, Hanging of the Greens
 4:00 pm: Carol Sing and Annual Community Christmas Dinner

Mon. Dec. 9, 6:00 pm: UCW Annual Pot Luck Christmas Dinner

Wed. Dec. 11, 12:10 noon: Contemplative Space for Advent
 6:00 pm: wrapping of gifts for Christmas/Holiday Hampers

Fri. Dec. 13: Delivery of Christmas/Holiday Hampers (time to be determined)
 Annual Christmas Progressive Dinner (locations to be determined)

Sun. Dec. 15, 11:00 am: Third Sunday in Advent, Sunday School and Youth and
 Frank T. Pridham Memorial Handbell Choir participation

Wed. Dec. 18, 12:10 noon: Contemplative Space for Advent

Sat. Dec. 21, 7:00 pm: Longest Night of the Year Service

Sun. Dec. 22, 11:00 am: Fourth Sunday in Advent, special music by Senior Choir

Tue. Dec. 24, 4:00 pm: Children's Christmas Eve Service
 7:00 pm: Family Christmas Eve Service
 11:00 pm: Christmas Eve Communion

Sun. Dec. 29, 10:30 am: Joint service at St. Paul's United Church with Kevin Bourque

FOR INFORMATION ON ALL EVENTS AND WORSHIP SERVICES GO TO
www.wilmotuc.nb.ca

November 2013

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Words from Wilmot

Volume 24, Issue 4
November 2013

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Words from Wilmot

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Wilmot's Church Bell



When Wilmot church was re-built in 1852 after it was destroyed by the fire of 1850, a new “rich-toned” bell was purchased for \$449.06 from the foundry of Messrs. Hooper & Son of Boston (Anita Jones, *The Story of Wilmot United Church*). The “Henry N. Hooper & Co. Boston” was a well-known manufacturer of “highly prized” bells, lighting fixtures, statues, and Civil War artillery. Hooper had been an apprentice of Paul Revere and purchased Revere’s foundry.



The Bell Ringer

The church bell chimes
A silhouette on the rope
calls us all to God

- *Edie Colson*

A Hooper bell of the same vintage is on display at the Zion United Church in Sandy Cove, NS, having had to be replaced because it had been damaged. This bell is one of the reasons that the Zion church was put on the Canadian Historic Register. Various websites list the locations of bells made by the company, most in New England but other places too, one in the Virgin Islands. One expert says that the bells were made of “bronze (78 to 80% copper and the remainder tin)”.

☺Nancy Bauer



Wilmot's Bell

Softly the bell calls
We hurry to Wilmot Church
for prayer and fellowship

- *Carolyn Atkinson*

New Fire Evacuation Plan

**WILMOT UNITED CHURCH
EMERGENCY EVACUATION**

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

Upon discovery of a fire do the following:

- . Pull a fire pull station
- . Get to a phone that is in a safe location and call 911
- . Report to (Area Evacuation Leaders) that you have called 911
- . Leave building immediately via nearest and safest exit
- . Go to meeting area outside shown on map

CAUTION:

- . When leaving the building please take care due to the arrival of emergency equipment.
- . If smoke is encountered in the stairway, use an alternate exit

Upon hearing the fire alarm do the following:

- . Leave Building via nearest and safest exit
- . Go to meeting area outside shown on map

REMAIN CALM! WALK DO NOT RUN!

Date: April 12, 2013

personnel items. If necessary, blankets will be provided. Please note that a quick and orderly evacuation will ensure everyone's safety.

3. It is important that EVERYONE, not just parents and children, go to the designated safe meeting place so that all can be accounted

In the event of a fire at Wilmot Church during typical weekly services, the following key actions should be followed.

1. The Sunday School children will be led immediately by their teachers and the trained evacuation leaders to a safe place. This safe place is the empty space across Carleton Street between the Royal Bank and the NB Power building. This is the meeting area where parents can retrieve their children. Parents should not attempt to retrieve their children during the evacuation because this will cause a bottleneck and confusion. With everyone's cooperation, the children will be whisked out of the building quickly.

2. When the fire alarm goes off, the members of the congregation should leave the building by the nearest exit and follow the instructions of the evacuation leaders. The evacuation leaders will ensure the orderly evacuation of the building. You should take time beforehand to familiarize yourself with the evacuation floor plans posted all over the building and always be sure to note where your nearest exit is. Don't attempt to retrieve your coat or other

for. There is plenty of room there. The firemen will be onsite quickly and they will be informed of anyone who may be left in the building and unaccounted for.

4. Please note that the elevator will not be in service during an evacuation of the Church. Evacuation leaders who are not stationed at specific stations will provide assistance to those persons requiring assistance. Members of the congregation who are able should provide assistance to those persons requiring assistance to aid in their evacuation.

We thank Greg Black for his expertise and experience in pulling this plan together.

If you have questions or suggestions to improve the plan, please contact Greg Black (454.5546). If you would like to have a complete copy of the evacuation instructions, please contact Marlene in the office. We were reminded of our vulnerability as we noted the first anniversary of the fire next door in the Isaac's Way building.

Congratulations to Derek Ness



Derek is a twenty-three year old adherent of Wilmot United Church who recently graduated from UNB with his Bachelor of Education degree. This is Derek's second degree as he also holds a Bachelor of Arts from UNB. In

addition to receiving his diploma, Derek was presented at the UNB Student Union Recognition Banquet with a Gold Participation Award for his work on the student union council. Being sight impaired, Derek was active as the student representative on the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Derek has been attending Wilmot since 2010 and finds it to be a very welcoming congregation. At his home in Belleisle, Derek was a member of a much smaller church. "Wilmot is quite different from the small church I came from," he says, "where everyone had known everyone else for years. I am still learning who people are here at Wilmot." He can often be found passing out bulletins prior to Sunday service. "This is a good way to meet people."

Like all recent graduates, Derek is looking forward to the next phase of life, finding employment. "There are added challenges for someone with limited vision, but I am capable of doing a lot. I live independently and get around very well using public transportation." Derek has adapted well to life in a bigger city and "knows the bus routes and schedule better than most of the city bus drivers."

While a student, Derek worked for UNB on fundraising campaigns making calls to potential donors. During the summer he worked for four years with Provincial Archives where he listened to audio files and summarized them for the archival

database in order to facilitate easier research for clients.

Now he is ready for the next challenge. "I need someone to believe in me and see my capabilities, not my limitations, someone who has the insight to realize visually impaired people can be a real asset. With just a few modifications I can do most anything." Wilmot wishes this friendly, articulate new graduate all the best in his future endeavours. Congratulations, Derek!

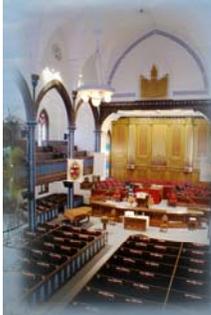
☺Kathie Goggin

Nativity Crèche



Children of Wilmot have enjoyed the Nativity Crèche for many years, and fondly remember it when they return to Wilmot from faraway places at Christmas time. The history of our Crèche is not recorded, but it is imprinted in the memories of many as the years go by.

Is Christmas losing its meaning for you?
Are you looking for some peace and tranquility?
Come and Find the Quiet Centre
offers sacred moments
of contemplation and renewal
during the Advent Season.



Wilmot United Church
Corner King and Carleton
Wednesdays at 12:10 - December 4, 11 and 18
30 minutes of silence, candlelight, music and word

Council Chairperson Craig's Comments...

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.



This vision statement serves to guide how Wilmot's Council and Committees go about their work.

At its last meeting, Council agreed

to establish a steering committee to help the congregation examine what it would be like to be truly open and welcoming, celebrate the ways in which we already achieve that, and help us to move further towards that goal. While this group will begin its work over the next several months, I see this as an exciting opportunity for the congregation to do some self-reflection and learning over the next few years.

Wednesdays @ Wilmot is one of many ministries where we put our Christian faith into action to be a light in God's world. The goal of this ministry is to make a meaningful difference in the lives of people in our community who are in need. It is as successful as it is because of the shared ministry of a small number of dedicated volunteers, support by the broader congregation, and outside partners. However, as those involved in organizing Wednesdays @ Wilmot will tell you, there is an underlying tension to this ministry. The need within the community seems to get bigger every year and Wilmot's ability to maintain, let alone increase, our current level of support is difficult.

This same struggle exists for the broader administration of Wilmot United Church. In the past year, Council has been unable to find individuals willing to fulfill several key volunteer positions within the church. People lead busy lives, our congregation is aging, and many members are away for significant portions of the year. The challenge here is to adapt these positions and or committee structures to enable people to volunteer without feeling overwhelmed.

While we do well at keeping our expenses within budget, the revenue for the Operating Fund does not meet our expenses. This fund is used to pay staff salaries, keep the church building open, and various programs running. In our budget, approved at the 2013 AGM, we withdrew money from a bequest in order to produce a balanced budget. This is not a problem by itself as the bequest was intended to support the kind of activities for which we needed the funds. However, we can only do this for so many years before we exhaust that source. The challenge here is to develop a plan to more specifically match Wilmot's ministry with our ability to provide some security in its funding.

Council and its Committees are working to develop a path forward that looks beyond just the next year. The answers to these problems are complicated and must involve everyone in our faith community working together to discern where and how God is calling us to act. Please feel free to share your hopes and ideas as we look for ways to support the much needed ministry that is Wilmot United Church.

☺Craig Frame

Two Wilmot Musicians Launch CDs Just in Time for Christmas

Carolyn Holyoke

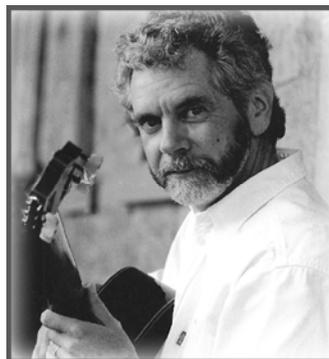


“*Collage*”, a new Celtic CD recording released this fall by Carolyn Holyoke, brings together talented instrumental and vocal artists with whom she has collaborated. Derrick Paul Miller, Kathleen Gorey-McSorley, Susan Kennific and Steven Peacock are just a few of the musicians included on the 15 track album. “*Collage*” features Carolyn’s original material along with traditional folk/roots favourites. The album was recorded at Outreach Productions in Fredericton and Lakewind Sound Studios in Point Aconi, NS.

For information on this project visit www.carolynholyoke.ca.

Carolyn’s CD will be sold on two Sundays (Nov 24th and Dec 1st) during Coffee & Conversation at the Fair Trade Cupboard, with \$5.00 from each CD going to Wilmot’s Outreach projects.

Steven Peacock



Wilmot’s music director, Steven Peacock, will soon be releasing *Luminosa*, his tenth full-length CD release as a classical guitarist. A two-guitar project also involving Gerry Van Wart, *Luminosa* (a Spanish word that translates as “bright” or “luminous”) explores the theme of affirmation in music across many styles, traditions and periods—from the baroque voices of Handel and Weiss to the 20th-century voices of Pujol, Carlevaro, Domeniconi and Zárate. There’s also a place for a selection of folk arrangements from Latin America and for brand-new arrangements by the performers themselves of four folk songs from Atlantic Canada. *Luminosa* will be available the first week of December.

©Lucille Caseley

Advent Carol Festival



United Church will host the 24th annual Advent Carol Festival. The festival is an occasion when a number of church and community choirs join together to present music of the season along with carols for everyone to sing.

There is no admission fee, but an offering will be taken with all proceeds going to support the Fredericton Community Food Bank. Since its inception in 1990, the Carol Festival has raised over \$100,000 for the food bank.

Come along and bring a friend!

Be sure to mark your calendar for Wednesday, December 4th, at 7:30 pm when St. Paul’s

© Garth Caseley

2013 YMCA Peace Award for Norman Laverty



The 2013 recipient of the YMCA Peace medallion given in recognition to an individual or group who, without any special resources, works tirelessly and quietly to make the world a more fair, just and beautiful place in which to live, is Norman Laverty. Norman is known by members of the Wilmot community for his involvement in so many of our outreach initiatives. I recently interviewed Norman in our cozy parlour while the cold November wind carried the hint of snowflakes.

Kathie: First of all, congratulations on receiving the YMCA Peace Medallion. Many former winners of this award have also been Wilmot members. What do you think it is about Wilmot that fosters this kind of community involvement and recognition?

Norman: Thank you. Brian and Elaine Perkins McIntosh, Bob and Marie Young, Judy Loo and Judy Coates have also received this award. I think it is because there has been such a wide range of outreach activities here at Wilmot. (See *The Story of Wilmot United Church 1791-2002* by Anita J. Jones)

Kathie: How do you think that developed?

Norman: I think the practice of team ministry, beginning with Cliff Moase and Rod Sykes, was significant. A collaborative model developed between not just ministry staff, but ministry staff and churchgoers. We have extended this

model to include the larger community by partnering with other organizations over the years such as the YMCA, the Multicultural Association of Fredericton, the Community Kitchen, Breaking the Silence Fair Trade, etc. As a congregation we have also discussed the use of this building, and there has been a consensus that it is an important resource. An investment in its maintenance is an investment in our mission. We are very fortunate to have committees and individuals that focus on this investment.

Kathie: Can you give me some examples of how this building is being used by the larger community?

Norman: The Drop-In Centre is a fruit of discussions initiated by the Rev. Isabel Black and the Outreach Committee. Wilmot also has the Toy Lending Library, Parish Nursing, and the Legal Advice Clinic. There are various groups, such as Narcotics Anonymous, which have used the building. One recent example of team ministry within the building is the involvement of members of the congregation in the use of the Benevolent Fund during Wednesdays @ Wilmot.

Kathie: This building and team ministry are certainly important aspects of Wilmot.

Norman: Yes, this facility and the congregation along with the expertise of the Rev. Chris Levan allowed us to initiate conferences on theology and mission with leading world speakers such as Bishop Spong and Dominic Crossan. The presentations by Crossan led to a discussion about the structure of empire in our world today, which in turn led to us getting involved with the church in Cuba to get another point of

(2013 YMCA Peace Award continued:)

view. The minister who married America and I received his training at the seminary in Matanzas, which assists us in dialogue and travel to congregations, which are involved in similar activities as we have here Fredericton.

Kathie: I also recall we have invited speakers of note such as David Suzuki and Stephen Lewis to Wilmot.

Norman: Yes, study and learning is a major part of Wilmot United Church—the Bible Study group, the different readers groups, the writers group, the Seekers, the Lenten studies, etc. All of these contribute to the outreach of the church. The saying, “You can’t have action without reflection” certainly applies here.

Kathie: You are receiving the Peace Medallion. Would you say you are a peaceful person?

Norman: Not really. However, I do benefit from participating in a community that pursues peace and justice. This pursuit is not only within the walls of the Wilmot United Church building, but also in the wider community of Fredericton, and indeed in the world as a whole, whether it’s Cuba, Guatemala, or in Africa with Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers.

Kathie: What gives you the drive to keep being involved with people at the level you are?

Norman: A sense of the need for understanding and a feeling of adventure. I like finding new frontiers of things to do and puzzle over. That’s what keeps me young. That’s also the opening the church can offer to young people so that they can solve the problems of our world.

☺Kathie Goggin

La Tour Baroque Duo

“Music at the Time of Louisbourg”



An appreciative audience of about 75 enjoyed the concert “Music at the Time of Louisbourg” by the La Tour Baroque Duo on the evening of November 8. The concert cele-

brated the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Fortress of Louisbourg in 1713. Our sanctuary was a perfect place to listen to this seldom heard 18th century French music.

The Duo, Tim Blackmore on the recorder and harpsichord and Michel Cardin on theorbo, lovingly played the delightful esoteric music. Blackmore provided us with much interesting information about the music, the composers, the authentic instruments and the history of Fort Louisbourg. At the intermission members of the audience eagerly gathered around him to learn about the harpsichord and around Michel Cardin to learn about the theorbo, his lute-like instrument.

The Duo took its name from Charles de La Tour, Lieutenant-General of Acadie in the 17th century, stationed for awhile in Saint John. Rose-Hannah had heard the Duo and wanted to sponsor them at Wilmot as a gift to the community. At the end of the evening, a member of the audience, not a Wilmoteer, said to me that he was thankful to Wilmot for such a great concert at such a reasonable price. The music was indeed a gift and made for a memorable evening. This is the first in a series of concerts presented at Wilmot this year.

☺Nancy Bauer

Lois MacDougall Receives the 2013 George Wakeling Award



A well-known member of Wilmot has been recognized for her dedication and commitment to improving the lives of New Brunswick seniors. The 2013 George Wakeling award was presented to Lois MacDougall in recognition of her work with Folks on Spokes, a recreational biking group for people over fifty.



“I have biked most of my life,” says Lois, “and when I retired from nursing at age sixty-four, a student at UNB who was doing a masters degree on aging wanted to know what I was going to do. I wanted to bike, but I wanted people to do it with. I approached Colleen Hannah at the Stepping Stone Senior Centre and we put up a notice to start a biking group. That was in 2000. Initially there were a handful of members, now there are almost forty! We bike on the trail system and alternate between the north

and south sides. We also go on longer trips occasionally.”

Lois is enthusiastic about biking and recognizes the benefits. “Biking is a wonderful way to get outdoors, enjoy nature and be part of the changing seasons. We meet at the visitor center at the end of the walking bridge on the north side at 10:00 a.m. every Tuesday morning, beginning the last week of April to the first week of November. We encourage safety on the trails and provide support for seniors, along with friendship.” For Lois, aside from the exercise and enjoying the outdoors, the joy of companionship is the reason she stays involved. “I have no family here aside from my husband Don. The kids have grown up. I used to bike by myself but it is much more fun and safer to go with others.”

Lois is also a member of the Silver Dolphins swimming group, the Fredericton Trails Coalition that oversees 85 kilometers of trails, and has served on the Fredericton Active Transportation Committee. It is thanks to their lobbying efforts that bike racks have been added to Fredericton city buses and that bike lanes are now marked on city streets. She has also been a longtime member of the Wilmot choir.

We all join in saying “Congratulations, Lois!”

☺Kathie Goggin





Annual Progressive Christmas Dinner

The Faith Formation Committee wishes to invite members of the congregation to participate in the Progressive Dinner as a means of fellowship to celebrate the upcoming Christmas Season. The dinner will be held on Friday, December 13th.

The success of the dinner in past years has caused us to rethink our locations. It was decided that the main course would be held in the church gymnasium but we are looking for others to offer their homes to host the appetizers and dessert. (Remember that it is pot luck so all we need is a location.)

Anyone who is interested in hosting appetizers or dessert can contact Ann Kennedy at 453-9302.

Further information regarding more specific details will be shared closer to the date.

☺Ann Kennedy

Winter

Sheltered by pine boughs
Chickadees are contented
Watching the snow fall
- Carolyn Atkinson

Fresh Evergreen Wreaths Sold by Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers Group



Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers is a Fredericton based organization working with the Stephen Lewis Foundation and the Help Lesotho Group to raise awareness of the desperate plight of 13 million grandmothers in Africa raising children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. Money raised by the Fredericton organization will help these grandmothers with a variety of resources including food, school fees, medicines, counselling, and even coffins to allow for a dignified burial of loved ones.

They are taking orders for beautiful, fresh evergreen wreaths at Coffee and Conversation after worship during Sundays in November for delivery on December 1st. Twelve inch undecorated balsam fir wreaths are \$12.00 while decorated ones are \$14.00. Contact Susan Breen @ 450-4072 or Susan MacLeod @ 459-7066.

“*Celebrate the Season*” note cards with Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers wreaths on Wilmot church’s main doors, designed and printed by Garth Caseley, are available from him at 457-2642 or garth@caseley.net with all proceeds to Wilmot United Church.

For further information about GHG visit: grandmothershelpinggrandmothers.ca.

☺Lucille Caseley

United Church Launches Emergency Appeal for the Philippines



The United Church of Canada has issued a church-wide appeal for donations in response to the super typhoon that devastated much of the Philippines on November 8. Funds donated will be distributed to United Church partners in the Philippines and ACT Alliance for relief and reconstruction efforts.

The Canadian government has said it will match, dollar for dollar, donations to registered Canadian charities, including the United Church, made between November 9 and December 8. Registered charities will be able to apply to the government's Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund to augment relief projects in the Philippines, although there is no guarantee that any project or charity will receive funding from the government's fund.



The United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) is one of The United Church of Canada's long-time partners in the region. UCCP has started to survey the damage brought by the typhoon in identified disaster areas in Leyte, including Tacloban.

"Tacloban is like a no man's land," lamented Bishop Dulce Pia-Rose of the UCCP East Visayas Jurisdictional Area, a few days after she led a team of UCCP disaster responders that arrived in the city. "My heart sank upon seeing the dead bodies lying in the streets and were beginning to decompose and the despair painted on the faces of hungry survivors that we met."

The National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) is another United Church partner that will serve as a key implementing agency of the international appeal.

Father Rex Reyes, General Secretary of the NCCP, recently in Canada visiting the United Church, says the NCCP "has launched an immediate response by dispatching basic necessities of food and water, has rapid assessment teams in the field making assessments of how to best direct needed support to affected communities, and has already began the process of planning its long term response effort."

To donate to The United Church of Canada's emergency appeal for the Philippines, please go to:
www.united-church.ca/haiyan.

©Lucille Caseley

Christmas Hamper Program



Each year Wilmot provides Christmas Hampers for refugee families that have moved to Fredericton. This year the families are from Bhutan, Myanmar, Iraq, Congo DR, Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, and Ethiopia. The families that receive hampers, including gifts and food gift cards, have left their extended families behind, along with the support network that extended families represent. So aside from the fact that they need the warm items that we provide for them, the warmth that they receive along with our gifts is very much needed and appreciated.

We work in partnership with the Multicultural Association of Fredericton to make this a reality. MCAF provides us with the family list and donation specifications. We always have help from others in the community but Wilmot people have always been very generous in supporting this project.



Mitten Tree

The mitten tree is set up in the gym on each Sunday: Nov 17 - Dec 1. There are paper mittens on the tree and each mitten provides information about a

needed gift. The gifts range from toys, games, clothing such as indoor winter tops. We ask that the gifts be new and brought to the church no later than Dec 5. Monetary donations also may be given through envelopes marked for the hamper program.

Volunteers are needed to help with the preparation and delivery of the hampers on Dec. 12th and 13th. Sign-up sheets for volunteers are available at the mitten tree.

Thank you for your support.

©Elaine Kenyon, Outreach Committee

Our Annual Community Christmas Dinner



Yes, we are going to have our Annual Community Christmas Dinner again this year! You are invited to come to the church at 4:00 pm for a Carol Sing as you await the opportunity to follow the aromas of turkey, ham and all the fixings in the Dr. George M. Young Church Hall.

Mark Sunday, December 8 on your calendars for some enjoyable fellowship and a wonderful banquet, organized by Terri MacLean and Andy MacDonald. Help will be needed to roast turkeys and hams, set up, kitchen and clean-up duties. All profits will go towards the Christmas Hamper Program. Watch for further details in the church bulletin and online at www.wilmotuc.nb.ca.

The “Big” Service



It was a quiet Saturday. I was all ready for my Sunday service at Wilmot. My intention was to take it easy so that I would be well rested for the big service. Preaching only occasionally is a double-edged sword: there’s lots of time to prepare but a long time before you can redeem yourself if you have a bad day.

My mid-afternoon peace was interrupted by a phone call from Doaktown. Margaret, age 100, had been taken to the DECH with a broken hip and had asked for a Communion Service. I couldn’t think of any good reason to refuse so made a quick change into clergy shirt. I decided to stay with slacks and sandals. After all, there was precedent for the footwear.

Then a quick stop at Wilmot. I remembered the location of the key to the communion cabinet and found an already opened bottle of Welch’s grape juice. Oh well, a little fermentation would just make the event a little more Anglican. I grabbed a silver paten and goblet and went on my way, arriving at the hospital to find a surprisingly healthy, alert lady of “100 years and 6 months” as she informed me.

For me, the visit and celebration was an uplifting experience. The interruption in my routine had no detrimental effect on my Sunday activity. In fact, there might be some question as to which was the truly “big” service.



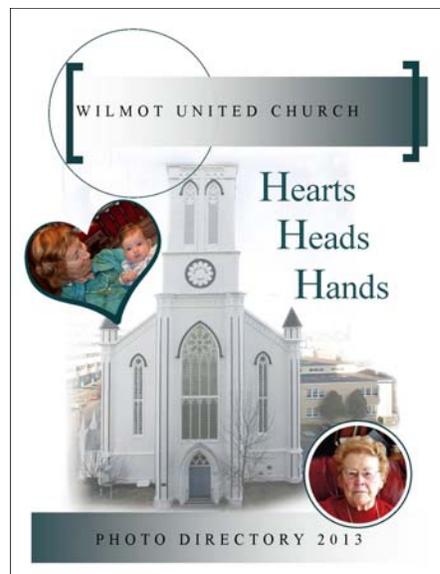
And, oh yes, I noticed an inscription on that beautiful silver paten. I took a closer look, expecting to see the name of some Wilmot benefactor of an earlier era. The words I discovered were:

“Winner of British Consols Trophy 1960”*. It has been redeemed to a better purpose.

*Trademark of Macdonald Tobacco Company

☺Rev. Bob Jones

2013 Wilmot Photo Directory



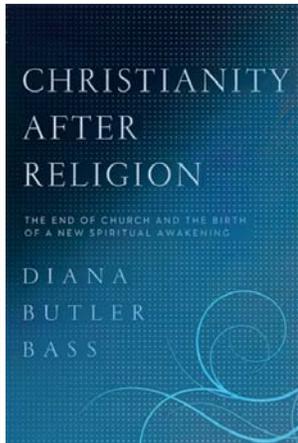
Thank you to everyone for participating in our new photo directory project and making it run smoothly. Special thanks to our “chief” photographer Jack Oudemans and to Garth Caseley for his design of the cover. Many hands make light work.

Note: Extra copies of our new photo directory are available at a cost of \$15 from Marlene in the church office.

☺Maggie Clarke

Christianity After Religion *The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening*

by Diana Butler Bass



Most of my reading during the past year has been focused on Native Culture & Spirituality. The past summer, while I was talking to a minister friend in New Glasgow, he recommended that I must read

the above mentioned book, and be sure to read it to the very end. Within a few days I had acquired the book and within a week or two had read the entire book.

The book was addressing the major decline that has been taking place in all mainline denominations in recent years. You may think it must have been depressing to read. On the contrary, the author was very encouraging as she helped the reader realize it wasn't the first time the church has experienced a decline or shift in focus. In fact she outlined a number of times in the history of Christianity when it had to undergo major change. I know I read the book far too fast but I came away feeling much more positive with the faith and the tremendous challenge that awaits all who long to see the faith held strong in the future.

Diana mentioned the struggles in the fifth century during the dark ages, in the 14th century, the time of the Protestant Reformation, and the 18th century during the Industrial Revolution. The most recent time, of course, began in the 1960s with the Civil Rights movement in the U.S. and continuing to the first century of the new millennium, which she calls "the

horrible decade" beginning with 9/11. Another large focus of the book centers on the importance of "spirituality" as opposed to "being religious".

I shall conclude this brief report with this quotation from the book:

"Just putting a bunch of people together in a church building doesn't make them a community. Community is about relationships and making connections. That's spiritual work and it may or may not happen in a church. The sad fact is that many churches are not very good at being communities. They answer the where question by saying, "At First and Main". They answer the who question by putting up a sign that reads, "St. Peter's Episcopal Church". Some churches think this is an adequate explanation of identity, when millions report they are searching for vibrant spiritual community."

©Gil Todd

Congratulations to Amelia



Congratulations to Amelia Secord, a third year Saint Thomas University student who is the recent recipient of the Faculty Association of the University of Saint Thomas (FAUST) scholarship for academic excel-

lence. Amelia is majoring in Psychology and combining arts and science courses with a goal toward the health field.

Amelia had a wonderful experience in Honduras last year with Global Brigades. She thanks everyone who supported her trip by purchasing cookies and cake pops during Coffee and Conservation.

©Wilmot United Church

CHILDREN AND YOUTH NEWS

The CHILDREN continue to be busy on Sundays but with the Christmas Concert coming we are going to be extra busy in the coming weeks. One afternoon in October, the Sunday School met at the Vaughans' Home on Golf Club Road. There were shepherds, wise men, angels and of course Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus posing in the barn, by their horses and on their lawn as we worked on a special treat for you for our Concert on December 15.

We have also been practicing our Fire Drill Route so that we will know exactly what to do when the time comes. And on December 1, after our "Time for the Young and the Young at Heart", the children and youth in Grades One and up are heading off to the Synagogue to meet the Rabbi just like Jesus would have done all those years ago.

The MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP continues to meet on the weekend. We have had lots of great discussions, games nights, gone swimming and even out to supper a couple of times. This energetic group of youth, although small in numbers, has been so faithful helping out with the

Sunday School. In the coming weeks we will be involved in the Christmas Concert as well as assisting with the delivery of UCW seniors' Christmas Bags and lending a hand on Christmas Eve. We are even in the planning stages for some great winter outings.

The SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP has officially begun! A few of the group gathered at the Pizza Hut for our first meeting but are "in touch" electronically for many more. Over the coming months we will be sharing in the Service of Worship from time to time, meeting here in the church as well as outside. On November 30, we are working together with Canada World Youth (CWY) to have a DESSERT FUNDRAISER & CULTURAL EVENT in support of *Giving Means* (see our ad below).

We are even looking ahead to August, when some of our Senior Youth will travel to Rendez-Vous 2014 to be held at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. This will be an amazing gathering of hundreds of United Church youth from across the country. There is much to be done in the upcoming months and we are pleased that our group is once again up and running.

©Ellen Beairsto

A DESSERT BUFFET & CULTURAL EVENT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30,

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Tickets - \$10

Wilmot United Church

Our Senior Youth will join together with **Canada World Youth (CWY)** in support of *Giving Means*. CWY offers international volunteer programs for youth between 17 and 25, enabling them to become active participants in the development of just, harmonious and sustainable societies. They link Canadian host communities with community based development projects in Ghana, Kenya, Honduras and Bolivia. Ghanaian youth volunteers will be leading several cultural performances throughout the afternoon.

Be sure to mark your calendars.



WE'RE ON THE
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WILMOTUC.NB.CA

HAVE YOU CHECKED
LATELY?

**This newsletter can
also be read online in
colour on our website.**

Words from Wilmot

is available in

LARGE PRINT

for those with
impaired vision.

These will be
available on a limited
basis for each issue.

If you would like to
receive the LARGE
PRINT edition, please
ask a Sunday Morning
Welcomer or pick up
one at the
church office.



A Heartfelt Thanks from the UCW

We would like to thank all who contributed in any way to our two fall fundraisers. Our Rummage Sale held in October was a huge success with proceeds of over \$1500! Thanks to all those who donated, sorted, sold and purchased.

The second of our projects was our annual Apple Pie Sale. Final figures are not in yet but once again, we had an excellent response and sold over 325 pies!

Our final project for the year is still to come: our annual Bake Sale and New-To-You Sale. This will be held on Friday, November 29th from 9 am to 1 pm.

In the next couple of weeks we will be contacting all families in the congregation to solicit food and give details as to when and where donations can be dropped off.

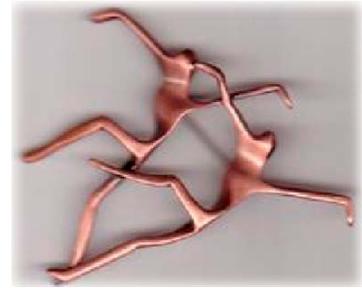
It has been a busy fall for sure and we would like congregational members to know how much we appreciate all the support you have shown. It is all of you who make these events possible.

While our reason for holding these events might be financial, we definitely enjoy the fellowship opportunities when many workers from our congregation get together.

Thanks-A-Million!

☺Wilmot UCW

Friendship Pins



Popular Friendship Pins are available from UCW members. The price is \$12.00 and they are the perfect gift for a cherished friend, which includes an original poem expressing gratitude for friendship.

Contact Nancy Chase at 450-2978 or dpc@nb.sympatico.ca.

UCW Annual Bake Sale and New-To-You Sale



On Friday, November 29th, Wilmot UCW will be holding its annual Bake Sale. Drop by from 9 am to 1 pm for a great selection of home baked goods, preserves, fudge and our famous "New-To-You" table. Come early for the best selection! Donations will be accepted anytime on Thursday and we will be staying into the evening to get items priced and ready for sale. Thanks to all who have donated and purchased in the past; we look forward to your support at this year's fundraiser!

☺Wilmot UCW