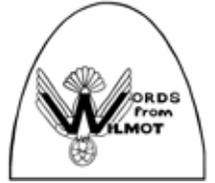




# Words from Wilmot

Wilmot United Church — Fredericton, New Brunswick



Volume 27 Issue 4

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES



**Advent 1** – Prepare the Way of the Lord.  
Nov 27, 11:00 am



*(Healing prayers following the service on the left front side of the sanctuary)*

**Advent 2** – Hanging of the Greens and White Gift Sunday  
Dec 4, 11:00 am

*White Gift Sunday*

**Advent 3** – “Wee Three Kings”  
Dec 11, 11:00 am  
Christmas  
Congregational  
Lunch following  
the service.



**Christmas Pageant**

**Advent 4**  
Dec 18, 11:00 am  
Special Christmas Music



Dec 21, 7:00 pm  
*(St Paul's and Wilmot combined – to be held at St Paul's)*



Dec 24, 4:00 pm – Journeying to Bethlehem (A special service for children. All ages are welcome!)

7:00 pm – Family Service

11:00 pm – Communion Service



Dec 25, 10:30 am – We are invited to join St Paul's for their **Christmas Day Service**.

November, 2016

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## Words from Wilmot

Volume 27, Issue 4  
Nov 2016

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## Words from Wilmot

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**Friday, Dec 2 (9:00 am to 1:00 pm)**  
UCW Bake Sale and New-to-You Table

**Saturdays (Noon – 2:00 pm)**  
**Dec 3, 10 and 17** Spiritual Circle Lunch  
and Advent Discussion

**Wednesdays (12:15 pm)**  
**Dec 7, 14 and 21** “*Come and Find the Quiet Centre*” (Contemplative Space for Advent in the Sanctuary)

**Wednesday (7:30 pm) Dec 7** Fredericton  
Advent Carol Festival at St. Paul’s

**Monday (6:00 pm) Dec 12**  
UCW Christmas Pot Luck in the parlour

**Tuesday (Noon) Dec 13**  
Seniors Buffet Lunch at Aggie’s, Fredericton  
Golf Course

**Thursday and Friday, Dec 15 and 16**  
Wrapping and distribution of hampers to  
MCAF families. (Volunteers needed!)

**Friday, Dec 16** – Our Annual Progressive  
Dinner (details to be announced)

## Christmas Hamper Program

Each year the Wilmot congregation provides Christmas Hampers for refugee families that have moved to Fredericton. This year our families are from Bhutan, Liberia, Congo DR, and Ethiopia. The families that receive the hampers, with 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 provide us with the family list and some donations. We always have help from others in the community but Wilmot people have always been very generous in supporting this project.



The mitten tree will be in the gym each Sunday, Nov. 20 – Dec. 4. There are paper mittens on the tree, each mitten provides information about a gift. The gifts range from toys, games, clothing such as indoor winter tops. We ask that the gifts be new and returned no later than Dec 6. 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.15 (gift wrapping) and Dec.16 (delivery). Sign-up sheets are available at the mitten tree.

Thank you for your support.  
© Elaine Kenyon and Rita Roach,  
Outreach committee

## Wilmot's Artisan Chris Colwell, Potter

Everyone at Wilmot knows Chris Colwell – at least to see him. His is the smiling face at the kitchen window on soup Sundays. Some of you will also know what his craft is because at the Creative Spirit Sundays of a few years back, he was the Pied Piper with the children crowded around his potter's wheel.

Chris got to pottery by a “circuitous route.” He was working as a graphic artist when at age 40 his life dissolved into turmoil: a divorce, his wife moving with their two children to Florenceville. Because he was floundering, he decided that it was a good time to start over. Could he become a teacher in the arts? As he had long been interested in crafts—always attending the Mactaquac Craft Fair for example—he thought he might turn that way. But which craft? Where to go to learn it? At first he decided on NASCAD, but as destiny would have it, he took a summer education course from UNB's Jennifer Paziienza, held at the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design. He was so happy with the atmosphere there that by fall he was attending the college. He had done some photography so thought he might opt for that. For the first semester students took four studio courses to help them choose: metal-working, textiles, photography and clay. After Christmas, the students had to settle down to two courses. When the pottery instructor Peter Thomas started to throw pots on the wheel, “I thought that's magical.” The wheel fascinated him; he was hooked.

After NBCCD he happily ran his pottery business for eleven years. I've been to his studio to choose beautiful blue mugs. But then misfortune hit again, and he had to sell his house with his pottery studio and kiln. He worked for a year at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, but a chance came up to go back to the Craft College as a pottery technician. He looks after the wheels, the kilns, the mixers, orders materials, and keeps a material inventory. “The best part of the job is that students see me as a non-



threatening source of information.”

In 2002 he felt the need for something more nourishing than just work. He checked out a few churches, but he had gone to Wilmot as a kid with his mother Jean

and finally decided it was the best option for him. “I suppose I was looking for community as much as anything.” To become more fully a part of the family, he thought he should join a committee. Outreach seemed the best fit.

How did he get into soup-making? He had no experience. At the time Ed Topolski was the soup man for the Outreach committee, and when he retired, Chris took over.

He describes his life: “Each thing I tried was a step into something new. When Steven started up the men's chorus, I thought that would be fun, even though I had never sung before.” One of the other members of the chorus, Sean Bower, invited him to join a Barbershop quartet.

By nature he has always been a teacher. When he had his pottery business, he taught one on one. Now he teaches night classes. “Some people can pick it up quick, some have trouble.”

His children live in British Columbia. Son Andrew is “a hands-on guy,” in construction and renovation. He and his wife divide their time between their house in Vancouver and their house in Whistler. Daughter Katie trained as a cook at Algonquin College and now works at a hostel in Victoria. “She's a free spirit, travels all over.”

Although he can perform magic on the potter's wheel and on Wilmot's stove, I found in interviewing him that his modest, unassuming nature is genuine.

© Nancy Bauer

## Our Young Chang Grand Piano

In 1989 our minister at the time, Reverend Ron Vincent, realized that the sanctuary piano, although a good one, an apartment-sized Yamaha, couldn't fill the large space. He put a notice in the bulletin to see if anyone had a larger piano they weren't using that they would be willing to donate. As it happened, Margaret Scott was looking for a way to honour her recently deceased husband James. She came to Ron to say that she would like to donate a piano. He asked how much she was planning to spend, thinking maybe a thousand or two. He was pleasantly surprised when she said \$10,000. Serendipity! It happened that Ron had been in Tony's Music Box a few days before and had seen a six-foot Young Chang grand piano marked down from \$14,000.

Ron told me, "I thought, this is our lucky day". He took Mrs. Scott to see the piano. She bought it. He suggested that it be put on a trolley because moving it about on its legs would be hard on it, and she donated one along with a quilted cover.

Reverend Ellen remembers the Sunday it appeared at the front of the sanctuary. "Ron Vincent left the pulpit and went down to play it."

That fount of all Wilmot knowledge—Peter Gough—writes about the piano, "Miss Margaret Ferguson was a long-time employee of the Fredericton School Board in the school board office. Her sister was married to James D. Scott. After Margaret's sister's death, Margaret married her sister's widower, James. After James' death, Margaret approached Rev. Ron Vincent on the matter of a significant donation to Wilmot. It is tuned and maintained as necessary, with tuning usually done before an event featuring the piano. For many years, our tuner was Dennis Johnston. The current tuner is John Clayden."

In 2011 Doreen Pridham Estey donated a padded and adjustable height piano bench. The dolly was repaired in 2015.

I've heard Deborah Park, Roger Lord and Ludmila Knezkova-Hussey, among others, play on it. Jazz pianist Peter Dent has played on it too.

Appearing with Symphony New Brunswick, Knezkova-Hussey played Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto no. 1 B-flat minor with great passion. Spectacular. The piano must



Pictured at the piano is Virginia Leiter, Wilmot's organist since 2008. She earned a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Organ Performance and Church Music at Indiana University. She directed the Maritime Conference Choir for 2 years and has accompanied several choirs and various soloists. She also works as a library technician at UNB's Harriet Irving Library.

have been very happy. It's widely known to be one of the better sanctuary pianos in the city.

Kathie Goggin writes, "A few years ago I was in the balcony looking down on the sanctuary and my mind wandered and I could visualize that instead of the plain cover it has now, one of our artists could design a beautiful piano cover and the quilters could sew it. Isn't it nice of me to think up projects for other people when I should be paying attention to the sermon!"

Lucille Caseley remembers "that Doris Peacock used to do piano duets with the organ, in particular when Eric Tennant was organist."

Our organist, Virginia Leiter, says about the piano, "It is a pleasure to play. It's great to have such a good quality piano in the sanctuary as it allows for a bigger variety of music styles than just using the organ all the time."

The small Yamaha piano now graces the parlour.

## An Affirming and In-SPIRE-ing Celebration

In the life of any congregation there are landmark decisions that must be made. Change is a vital component of the spirit; it brings renewal, freshness, vitality, breath. Some decisions are easy, others more difficult.

On May 6, 1974 Wilmot made the painful decision to take down the steeple which supported the iconic wooden hand spire pointing toward heaven. It was a Fredericton landmark and an important symbol for the congregation, but to maintain and repair the steeple was too costly and complicated. “Despite community support in the media and the establishment of a “Save the Finger Fund” by the Fredericton Heritage Trust Foundation, the steeple and hand were removed on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1974 and the roof area was capped.” (Anita J. Jones *The Story of Wilmot United Church 1791-2002*). It was a sad day.

On October 2, 2016, Wilmot had the opportunity to celebrate a happier decision, and to me at least the banner on the King St. side of the church proudly displaying the Affirm United logo as a beacon of welcome to all, felt figuratively at least, that our spire had been restored.

The Latin word for spire is spiritus, which means breath, soul or courage and refers to the breath of life. Certainly a new and strong wind was blowing on this day and God was pointing us in a new direction.

The Right Reverend Jordan Cantwell, Moderator of The United Church of Canada encouraged us by saying, “Once God starts to open your heart there is no shutting it down—this is just a step on the journey. Your hearts, your walls, your community will all get bigger. We have become a congregation where there are no strangers, only relatives.”

I think anyone who was in attendance at the Affirm celebration would agree it was an in-

spirational, colourful and joyous occasion. It felt like “Wilmot got its groove back.” Outside, the way-side pulpit and banner announced



Elizabeth Savoie receives a certificate of recognition from the Right Reverend Jordan Cantwell

the celebration. Inside, the church was packed. The Daily Gleaner ran a front-page feature story, the CBC aired a radio interview for their morning program, and CTV provided evening television news coverage. There were familiar and new faces in the pews and balcony. Many congratulatory messages were sent to the congregation.

For the celebration the planning committee decided to “go big or go home.” They held the event on a Sunday, and not just any Sunday, but World Communion Sunday, invited the Moderator to speak and St. Paul’s congregation to join us. Mary Lynn Cameron made a special runner for the communion table, a rainbow candle, purchased from the L’Arche Homefires was lit, and Jilanna Eagles presented Rev. Cantwell with a prayer shawl also made by Mary Lynn and rainbow mittens knit by Kellie Jones. At the end of the service a balloon drop from the balcony surprised everyone.

Rev. Ellen Beirsto set the tone for the celebration during the children’s story when she told about a little girl who answered the question “Why does God use the rainbow as a sign of hope?” when she replied, “because God doesn’t want a world that is black and white.” Following Rose Messenger’s beautiful rendition of MV #138 *My Love Colours Outside the Lines*, Rev. Rose~Hannah Gaskin assured us of God’s love by leading us in a prayer connecting our hearts to our longing for

(Continued on Page 6)

where our true home is, in the unconditional love of God. She invited us to a moment of silence to find “the place of deep love in our hearts.”

Sue Short gave a powerful and emotional scripture reading from Genesis, John and Galatians, emphasizing that we are ALL children of God through faith. Her reading captured the heartfelt and deep-seated joy we were collectively feeling at this special and much anticipated moment in our history and we reached for our Kleenex.

Craig Frame then introduced guest speaker the Right Rev. Jordan Cantwell and provided some background on her personal life and her journey of faith to become the Moderator in August of 2013.

Rev. Cantwell is a warm, funny, articulate and engaging speaker. She began by modeling the rainbow mittens and sincerely thanking the congregation for the prayer shawl, as she told us she was “held up in the role of Moderator by the prayers of the church”.

A good speaker is a good storyteller. Jesus spoke in parables to deliver his message and it is these stories that we remember and carry with us. Rev. Cantwell told a story that she has been unable to forget, about Sheldon, a member of the congregation of Fisher River in northern Manitoba. He is a man with strong traditional roots who at one time felt bitter toward Christians for forcing their values and beliefs upon his people and his culture. He found that in his heart he despised Christians and felt he needed to know them as neighbours in order to forgive them. Getting to know them,

he believed, was the only path to reconciliation and love. Knowing leads to understanding, acceptance and inner peace. And in the case of Sheldon, it also led to becoming a member of the Property Committee!

Rev. Cantwell concluded by congratulating Wilmot on the decision to openly discuss, confront fears, soften our hearts and turn strangers into relatives.

Tony Burnett on behalf of Affirm United read messages of congratulation from Woolastook Presbytery and Maritime Conference and presented the Affirming Certificate to Terri MacLean and Lynn MacKinnon, current co-chairs of Council. A Certificate of

Recognition from The United Church of Canada was presented by Rev. Cantwell and received by Elizabeth Savoie on behalf of the congregation. The Sacrament of Holy Communion was then served. The balloon drop was a colourful celebratory ending before we made our way to the gym for a luncheon of sandwiches and sweets, hosted by the UCW and the Outreach Committee. I have never seen the tables laden with such abundance before!

Congratulations to all of those who worked so hard to make this a special event. Many, many people contributed their efforts and talents.

If you weren't able to attend, or if you would like to hear this service again, click on the Wilmot website [www.wilmotuc.nb.ca](http://www.wilmotuc.nb.ca) and follow the link Worship at Wilmot to the October 2 podcast.

© Kathie Goggin



The Rainbow of Colours Banner made by the children of the congregation

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CORNER

Where do the weeks go? It seems as if the school year has just begun for our children and youth and here we are heading at an incredible speed towards Christmas. The Sunday School has settled nicely into their weekly routine with numbers gradually growing, thanks to parents and grandparents who faithfully bring them each Sunday. To see the faces on the children as they listen to the stories or as they watch a youth become a translator for two young boys who have just arrived from Mexico is certainly heartwarming. What a privilege for me to work with people of all ages. The leadership of our classes are not only amazing but very committed. Their commitment has allowed us to expand our classes to include a Youth Class. AWESOME!



Left to Right: Dr. Jessica McMillan holding Sigourney Jessica, proud grandmother Debi McMillan, Dr. Kate McMillan holding Claire Emily, on baptism day, November 6, 2016. Sigourney and Claire are daughters of Dr. Kate McMillan.

On **October 2**, the children and youth participated directly or indirectly in our wonderful celebration of becoming an affirming congregation. To watch the faces of the little ones as they created the banner "*Our Love Colours Outside the Lines*" was a gift. To see our youth serve Communion to friends and strangers alike was uplifting. On **October 30**, the youth conducted the service of worship and as usual brought faith-filled energy to us all. On Sunday, **December 11**, we will have our Christmas Children and Youth Service with our Christmas Pageant, "*Wee Three Kings*", being a part of it. It is the story of two siblings who accidentally turn on a time machine that

transports them from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century back to Bethlehem as they await the birth of the Christ Child. Mark your calendar and be sure to join us.

The Youth continue to be such a vital part of our life here at Wilmot. They come together as a group but also lend a hand where needed. Just this month, **Laura Coon** attended the Fall Youth Forum in NS. In May some of our youth will attend Children at Conference or Youth Forum in Sackville, NB. In August, a few will be heading to Montreal for RendezVous 2017 – a gathering of United Church Youth and Young Adults from across the country. Keep those redeemables coming in – we really appreciate your support. Thank you.

Checking in with a few of our Young Adults:

**Claire Vezina** – Claire started Irish dancing when she was just 6 years old and over the past 13 years has participated in Competitions in the Maritimes, Québec, Ontario, Maine and Boston. A couple of weeks ago, Claire travelled to Toronto to compete in the Eastern Canadian Regional Oireachtas where she placed 5th in her category, qualifying her to attend the **World Championships 2017** in Dublin, Ireland. CONGRATULATIONS, CLAIRE!

**Patrick Cameron** - Patrick is really enjoying his courses at the University in Lyon, France. His family just returned home after a great visit with him. Also visiting Switzerland, Italy as well as walking around the old city of Lyon enjoying the food (especially the crêpes,) was a wonderful experience! Patrick has also visited Holland and Hungary and after finishing his exams the third week of December, he will set off to hike the Camino Trail before returning to Canada.

**Emma Secord** - Emma is now living in Calgary, where she was just in a musical production of "*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*" with a local community theatre group. She decided to be a substitute teacher this year rather than taking a full time contract so that she could sample different districts, schools and grades. She is discovering that Grade Four may well be her area. Emma says hello to all her friends at Wilmot.

Let us continue to keep all our children and youth in our prayers over the coming months.

☺ *Thank you and Blessings,*

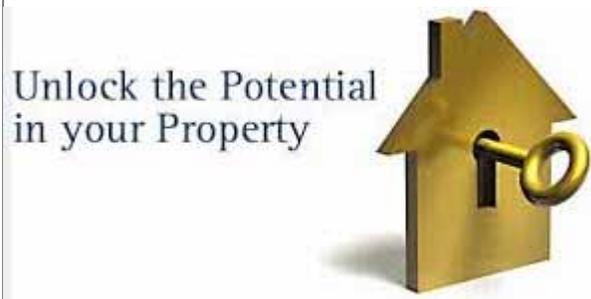
*Ellen and Wilmot's children and youth*



### Wilmot Church Property Development Committee

At the March 20, 2016 congregation meeting, Wilmot United Church approved the formation of a group to actively lead the congregation in exploring some form of property development. This ad hoc committee of Council is composed of Angela Wrobel, Guy Vezina, John Leroux, Dana Hanson, David Coon, Andy Secord, Richard Scott, Kathleen Cruttenden, and Craig Frame. Lorie Nielsen unfortunately had to withdraw her membership and the committee wishes to thank Lorie for sharing her input and time. Both ministers also continue to work with the committee in our information gathering.

Our committee has met four times since May. We began by assessing the various programs and ministries that happen in Wilmot with respect to their space requirements. We created a document that illustrates the various high level development options that we think might be available for us to consider. In discussing these options we looked at supporting and enhancing Wilmot's current and future mission and ministry, specifically

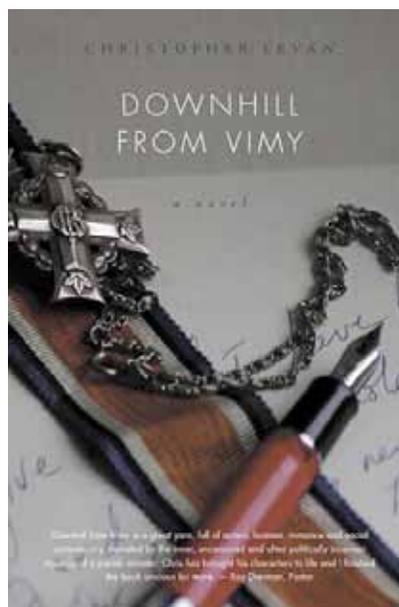


with respect to worship, pastoral care, outreach, Christian development, fellowship and stewardship.

Our goal is to develop our committee's understanding of the possibilities that would be available for Wilmot to consider so that we might assist the congregation in reviewing and choosing the option(s) that would be right for our church community. We are still actively pursuing more information and hope to get back to the congregation in the new year.

One important thing that we have learned, or had reinforced, is how blessed we are as a congregation with where we are located and the physical space that we have. We have many assets and when it comes to considering development options this will definitely work in our favour. It is an exciting time to be part of our ministry at the corner of King and Carleton and we look forward to lots of interesting conversations in the future.

© Craig Frame



### Downhill from Vimy (Book Review)

I think that anyone who knows Chris Levan has to be amazed by his energy – from making huge amounts of hot cross buns to taking men on canoe trips on the Tobique River, to having great theologians talking at Wilmot United Church, leading discussions on everything, and even preaching with gusto. Some from Wilmot went on a tour he led to the Holy Land. He's written nonfiction books, such as *God Hates Religion*. So no one should

be surprised that he has written an ambitious fiction about Canada and war and mainline churches failing, and sex and love and terror. The writing is excellent: a good read.

It is written from the point of view of a United Church minister named Chris Levan – but the central character is his great uncle Gordon, who was ready to go to Wycliffe College to study to be an Anglican priest, when he was persuaded to join the army and the first World War. In Montreal he falls in love with an Anglican bishop's daughter, Jo (Johanna). They make love before he leaves. The description is graphic. Jo's father, the bishop, loves a Madame with a heart of gold who wants to act as Jo's mother. Some of the priests sexually harass boys. This book is not kind to churches.

The novel is not chronological. It jumps from 1916 to 2014 and many dates in between. Gordon is a medic; after surviving Vimy he is wounded at Passchendaele, and arrives in Halifax where he is supposed to meet Jo – the day of the explosion. Insane and pointless suffering everywhere.

Jo had written to him April 17, 1917: "The editorials are calling Vimy Ridge our day of Independence. When we broke free of the British yoke. . . . And yet since that battle, it seems like all the news is downhill from Vimy."

The mystery is why when he comes back to Canada Gordon becomes silent for three quarters of a century in hospitals, credited with what we now call PTSD. Chris finds him in a nursing home, and manages to talk with him – some. When Chris is trying to think of what to say at Gordon's funeral, he says "Let's be open, God. We see no purpose in dying. Why did you ordain that all things must perish?"

I find better exploration of life's problems in novels than in non-fiction – the mystery of existence.

☺ Ted Colson

## Church Lady Pie

*'Neath the crust of the old apple pie  
There is something for you and for I  
It may be a pin that the cook has left in  
Or it may be a wee little fly.*

*Oh, it may be a rusty old nail,  
Or a piece of a puppy dog's tail  
But whate'er it may be  
It's for you and for me,  
'Neath the crust of the old apple pie.*

(Sung to the tune of "In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree")

I think of this tune taught to me by an elderly gentleman who loved to sing and play the harmonica when I am eating apple pie made by the women of the Wilmot UCW. Delicious



"church lady pies" as my daughters used to call them. They looked forward to them every year and still check the freezer when they are home. While the pies may be made "for you and for me", you can be assured there are no pins, nails, or puppy dog's tails, only fresh apples in flaky pie crust.

Pie making at Wilmot United Church has been a November tradition since 1993 when "made from scratch" mincemeat pie filling using venison and moose meat donated by hunters in the congregation was made. Mincemeat pies followed and apple pies were soon added. Both baked and unbaked pies were sold. Over time, the mincemeat was phased out and now large and small apple pies, unbaked and ready for the

(Continued on Page 10)

freezer are made. “Everyone likes to have a pie on hand to take out of the freezer if someone comes to the door,” says Irene Forbes. And who doesn’t like the smell of a fresh apple pie baking in the oven?

Making the pies is a true team effort. For several years Lois Champion has been in charge of purchasing the apples from Vincent Kelly’s Fernhill Farm on the Woodstock Road. “Cortlands make the best pies,” says Lois. I get five bushels of apples and have most of them washed Wednesday afternoon. They are all ready for “the peelers” who arrive at 9:00 am on Thursday morning.

The task of making between three and four hundred pies is divided between work teams. The peelers sit at tables in the parlour and peel and quarter the apples. Lois keeps their bowls replenished with fresh apples. Then, the apples go to the kitchen where they are sliced in a food processor. Pastry makers add the wet ingredients to the flour and lard and mix the pastry.

Then there are the “holy rollers”. Six to ten workers roll out the piecrust on the long kitchen counters. The bottom crusts are placed in aluminum pie plates and passed to the “fillers”. “Mixers” have already mixed the apples with a top-secret sugar and spice recipe known only by Marjorie Atkinson. According to sources, she is the keeper of the “secret sugar mix.” Once the filling is placed in the pie shell a dab of butter goes on top before the top crust is added. The “baggers” bag the pies, place a label with cooking instructions on the top and then they are placed on tables in the gym ready for pickup. Tables laden with hundreds of fresh pies are quite a sight to behold. It is a full day process from start to finish with many flour-covered hands involved!

While it is a lot of work it is also “a good social event,” says Irene. “Many people enjoy pie-making day.” When I ask her what makes them taste so good she says it is “the fresh local apples and the sugar and spices.” Linda Gough says they always use Tenderflake lard and the pastry recipe on the box which includes flour, egg, vinegar, salt and ice water. One box of lard

will make three double-crust pies. “In 2015 we made 279 large 10” pies and 77 small 6” pies. Large pies are \$8.00 and the small are \$5.00 for a total of \$2,622.00. Out of that, expenses totaling \$578.00 were deducted for lard, flour, eggs, butter, sugar mixture, pie plates, plastic bags and labels.

Twelve pies are set aside every year for the Christmas dinner — and who knows, there may be a pie or two in the auction this year. Be sure to bid.

*’Neath the crust of the old apple pie,  
There is something for you and for I,  
It may be a diamond ring  
that the auctioneer has slipped in?*

Well, we can dream! But if it is “church lady pie” you know it will be delicious.

© Kathie Goggin

## **Our Syrian Refugee Family Update**

The Ramadan family is settling into life in Fredericton. The parents, Mesbah and Wafaa, are attending English Language classes daily at the Multicultural Association (MCAF), their 3-year-old son, Madj, goes with his parents to the child minding centre at MCAF, and their 15 year old son Luay is attending classes at Fredericton High School. This week our Nancy Bauer will be starting tutoring sessions with the parents in their home one day a week.

In October they attended the Wilmot rummage sale and had a great time shopping for winter clothes, household items and toys. A “Meet and Greet” reception to welcome the Ramadan family to our community was held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> hosted by Forest Hill United Church. This was well attended by people from our three congregations: Forest Hill, St. Paul’s and Wilmot. The Ramadans were very pleased to meet all who came.

Thanks to all for your continued support and donations for the family as they settle into a new life in Fredericton. Thank you!

© Elaine Kenyon

## Ministry and Personnel

### The Role of the M&P Committee

Keeping the pulse of the pastoral relationship in its entirety is what the Ministry and Personnel Committee is all about! The *'Trinity of M&P' is Trust, Honesty, and Confidentiality!* With this 'Trinity' M&P is a conduit for communication. M&P is a mandatory committee required by the by-laws of The United Church of Canada to oversee relationships within the pastoral charge, particularly the roles and functions of paid leaders and employees. M&P has a dual role: to be a consultative and supportive agent for staff as well as for members and adherents of the congregation. We do not have decision making authority but report to and can recommend actions to Wilmot Council.

The specific role, functioning and responsibilities of M&P are laid out in detail in the 39 page M&P Guidelines document.

Your current committee members are Shirley Cleave, Susan MacLeod, Richard Luton, Debbie Bradbury, Judy Coates (chair) [judycoates@rogers.com](mailto:judycoates@rogers.com). We are fortunate to have Kirby Keyser and Graham Allen do the committee's financial responsibilities. *Please feel free to talk with any of us at any time.*

© Judy Coates

### UCW Events



October and into November have been busy times indeed. Our Rummage Sale made \$1,705.00 and, as always, we send out a huge thank you to the congregation for their donations, their work shifts and their purchases. The

Pie Day sale made \$1,940.40. This day is very work intensive and again we thank the congregation for their participation in every way: time, energy and purchases. We sold 294 large pies and 91 small ones. That's a whole lot of work and so much appreciated.

The next event is our Food Sale and New-to-You Sale on Friday, December 2 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will be making phone calls to the congregation toward the end of November requesting donations of baked goods, fudge, preserves, etc. as well as donations of items that you aren't using but someone would like to buy. Anything you would like to do would be welcome.



Our annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner is being held on Monday, December 12 at 6:00 pm in the parlour. Any women of the congregation who would like to enjoy a time of fellowship (Is there any such thing as womanship?), conversation, yummy food and laughs, please call me or get in touch with any UCW member. Our next regular meeting will be January 9, 2017 at 1:00 pm in the parlour. We welcome newcomers with smiles, warmth and more womanship.

Message for the Day: *Physical strength is measured by what we can carry; Spiritual strength by what we can bear.*

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WE'RE ON THE  
WEB AT  
WILMOTUC.NB.CA

HAVE YOU CHECKED  
LATELY?

This newsletter  
can also be read  
in colour  
online on our  
web site.

### Words from Wilmot

is available in

**LARGE  
PRINT**

for those with  
impaired vision.

These will be  
available  
for each issue.

If you would like to re-  
ceive the LARGE  
PRINT edition, please  
ask your Sunday  
Morning Welcomer.



### Wilmot Seniors

We are a group of Seniors, married or single, who like to spend a couple of hours, usually once a month with other Seniors, to talk, laugh, visit and enjoy a nice cup of hot tea and a light lunch before we head for home. If you are interested in joining us, just watch the bulletin and come along on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday afternoons between September and June. You'll be very welcome. It's a nice way to meet other seniors who like to call Wilmot Church their home!

Coming up soon is our Christmas celebration at Aggie's. This year we are going to Aggie's location at the Fredericton Golf Course on **Tuesday, December 13 at 12 noon**. It's going to be a great party with stories, door prizes, a Christmas Carol sing and of course, a delicious buffet lunch. All this fun for only \$17! As in the past, we will be collecting wrapped gifts to be donated to the Men's Shelter. Please let Susan (450-4072) or Brenda (363-3388) know if you would like to join us for some fun and fellowship. Need a ride? No problem, we can arrange one for you very easily. You are very welcome to be a part of our festivities as we celebrate Christmas together.

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### Remit Process at Wilmot United Church

Over the next year, all Pastoral Charges are required to participate in a series of remits or votes that will help

shape the mission and ministry of The United Church of Canada in the future. Lucille Caseley provided a very good introduction to remits and the situation facing the United Church in the fall edition of *Words from Wilmot*. If you missed this, you can find it on the Wilmot website.

A series of information sessions are being held regarding the various remits. The first two sessions for Remit 1, "Moving from a Four Court to a Three Council Structure" were held in early November. There was good conversation and discussion at each of these. Information sessions will also be held as follows for four more remits:

**Remit 2:** Elimination of Transfer and Settlement (ways new ministers enter ministry)

Sunday, January 22 after church and Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm

**Remit 3:** Office of Vocation (to oversee training, acceptance, oversight of ministry personnel)

Sunday, April 23 after church and Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 pm

**Remit 4:** Funding a New Model  
September 2017 – final dates to be determined

**Remit 7:** One Order of Ministry

Please plan to join the discussion for one of the sessions connected to each remit. Further information on all of the remits can be found on the United Church Website <http://gc42.ca/remits>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shirley Cleave [scleave@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:scleave@nb.sympatico.ca) or Rose~Hannah Gaskin [rosehannahwilmot@gmail.com](mailto:rosehannahwilmot@gmail.com).

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