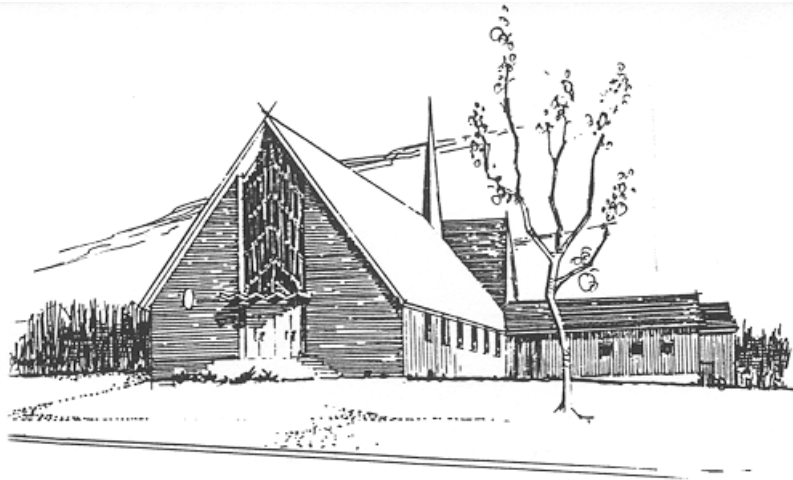




ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue
St. John's, NL A1B 1T9

Church Office: 722 -1881
Pager: 727- 4067

email: stjamesuc.org
website: www.stjamesuc.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Our Newest Members and Confirmands.....	3
Marriages and Transfers.....	4
In Memoriam.....	5
Church Council	6
Rev. Terrie Burry	6
Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald.....	7
Susan Sheppard.....	8
Christian Education.....	8
Worship and Sacraments	11
Statistical Report	12
UCW.....	12
AOTS Men's Club.....	19
Ministry and Personnel	21
Property	22
Administration and Communications	23
East District	25
Cemetery Report.....	25
Project Grace	26

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

NAME	DATE OF BAPTISM
William Parker Penny	January 6
Rebecca Brooklyn Stansford	January 6
Andrianna Felicia Hammond	February 3
Callia Aerin Seal	April 7
Abigail Elizabeth Stanley	April 7
Ashton Martin Lethbridge	May 12
Kate Pauline Bartlett	May 26
James William Bartlett	June 30
Kyleigh Elizabeth Selina Cook	July 7
Kourtney Lynn Goodyear	July 7
Lydia Dianne McNally	August 4
Kaitlynne Rayne Jewell	August 4
Peyton Anna Christine Adams	August 4
Rhyland Robert LeBlanc	August 4
Avery Natasha Gallop	October 13
Kolby Alexander Greene	October 13
Aimee Eilse Hall	November 3
Ava Jacqueline Grace Collins	November 10
Eric James Knight	November 24
Haylee Grace Erica Burke	November 24
Heidi Christine Belbin	December 29
Penelope Sierra-Anne Nancy Skinner	December 29

BY CONFIRMATION

Kate Pauline Bartlett
Daniel Sean Burke
Alexander Warren Masterson

BY AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

David Bishop
Frances Bishop
William Butt
Amanda Handrigan
Betty M. Langdon
Robert (Bob) K. Langdon
Keith Le Feuvre
Eric Paul
Stephen Pike
Sabrina Pilgrim
Frank Ramjattan
Carol Smith
Clifford Smith

Roberta Snow
Joan Stockley
Phyllis Thomas
Isaac Thomas

BY TRANSFER

Judy Bailey-Chafe
Dorothy Barnes
Cator Brown
Jean Brown
Stephen Chafe
Rev. William (Bill) Coish
Mary Daya
Herbert Mullett
Grace Mullett
Rev. Jim von Riesen
Godfrey Wedgwood

REMOVED BY TRANSFER

Bert Riggs (transferred out to Gower Street United)

MARRIAGES

James Nathaniel von Riesen and Ugurlu Aylin
Shawn Lloyd Drover and Donna Marie Menchinton
Ben Xu and Yichen Zhao
Matthew Cyril Frederick Adey and Jennifer Daphne Lannon
Jeffrey Williams and Kimberly Lam
Timothy Kevin Eddy and Emily Marie Maher
Shawn Michael Farrell and Joanne Melissa Butt
David Henry Frampton and Amy Victoria Humphries
Peter Frances George Stacey and Wanda-Lee Fitzpatrick

DATE OF MARRIAGE

January 18
June 29
July 13
July 12
July 27
August 24
September 6
September 14
October 18

CANDIDATE FOR DISCERNMENT 2013

Rebecca Pike

IN MEMORIAM

NAME	DATE DECEASED
Luke Gaulton	January 6
Erna M. Gard	February 6
Hope Darol Murphy	February 10
Everette M. LeDrew	February 20
Mary Gertrude Anthony	March 6
Harvey Arthur Tiller	March 15
Elizabeth Smith	March 21
Shirley Lewis	March 23
Sandy Templeman	March 25
Helen Mae LeGrow	April 5
Madeline Edra Dwyer	April 6
Edward Douglas Moores	April 13
Joanne Hapgood	April 19
Thomas Malcolm Ford	April 21
Roma Nellie Loretta Paul	April 27
Joyce L. Best	May 5
Melvin Nathan Worthman	May 11
Peggy Sturge	May 23
Edith Doris Miffen	June 4
Rev. Dr. Wallace Baker	August 8
Ivy Jean Skanes	September 23
Graham Bursey	October 8
Gordon Roy Williams	October 28
Elsie Cole	November 5
Mary Burry	November 8
Ruby Elizabeth Winsor	November 29
Charles Winsor Knight	December 6
Elizabeth Jean Bowring	December 17

St. James Church Council - Clyde Flight, Chair

It has been my pleasure to work with your council and members of St. James congregation during the passed year as we continue our journey through a time of transition and challenge. This report highlights our many accomplishments and is an opportunity to say thank you to the many people who have contributed to our success. We are so grateful for the contribution provided by our ministerial staff, our support staff, our adult groups, our youth groups, and our music groups throughout the church year. The various committees of Council have been tireless in their efforts on our behalf. I encourage you to read the detailed reports of these committees and offer them your support. It requires the work of many people to keep everything moving in the positive direction we have chosen to take.

As we read our In Memorium, it is so sad to realize the number of faithful and long-time members of our congregation who have passed away during 2013. As we reflect on the Church Year, we acknowledge with gratitude their commitment and contribution to the life and work of St. James United Church

We offer our thanks and appreciation to Rev. Bill Bartlett, Jennifer Adams and Philip Roberts for their work with us, and wish them well with future endeavours. They have each given us valuable service and as a congregation we are extremely thankful.

Our joint search committee concluded its work during the spring and on July 1st we welcomed Rev. Terrie Burry as she joined our Ministerial team as our full time minister. Rev. Terrie has received a warm welcome from all members of our congregation, and we look forward to her vibrant Ministry with us. We also welcomed SuAn Randall as our office Administrator and Christine Tiller as our organist.

Our young people represent the future of our church, but in a very meaningful way they are our Church of today. We need to encourage efforts such as Project Grace, Rendez-vous and the Go Project. We need to reach out to young families under our pastoral care and encourage them to participate in the programs we offer. Membership in our UCW and AOTS has to be encouraged as a way to ensure long-term viability of these valuable organizations in the life and work of our Congregation.

Thank you to all who have supported St. James and the National Church both financially and otherwise thus contributing to the success of the past year. Our financial contribution to the Mission and Service work of our church has once again been outstanding. We look ahead with optimism to the coming year as we continue to fulfill our mandate to do God's work in our community and around the world.

Rev. Terrie Burry

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8: 12 (NIV)

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5: 14-16 (NIV)

It is interesting to me that during the months of January and February, the dark and cold time of the year, that the season of epiphany falls- the season of light and revelation. Perhaps it is during this time that we need

light and revelation the most, immediately before Lent, when we are called to reflect on our own Christian life pilgrimages in order to prepare ourselves for the empty tomb of Easter morning. It seems appropriate, then, that annual report time falls during this season! This time gives us a chance to reflect on the ministry of the past year in the church community, to hold it up and invite us to wonder together: what will this year bring for us? How can we faithfully continue this ministry together? What is God calling us to do as a community and family of faith here at St. James?

I have not yet been here for a full calendar year, however, I certainly have witnessed the dedication, commitment and care that so many of you put into your service back to this faith community and into the broader community through our ministry here. It is encouraging to witness at a time when we are constantly being reminded that we are living in “changing times,” that the church is “in a transition period,” that the future of the church as we have experienced it to be is in question. We know from experience that St. James has recently gone through a time of transition- the calling of a new full-time minister and organist, the search for a choral scholar and now assistant organist, as well as the search for a solution to problems with the sound system, just to name a few. Change is never easy, but as a church, living out our call to serve God’s world, we are blessed to know it is the light of Christ that guides us through this difficult and exciting times.

In my almost eight months here at St. James- where does the time go? - I have spent a significant amount of time visiting people in their homes and at the hospital not only to share in that ministry of pastoral care with Pam, but to begin getting to know everyone here- given the number of families at St. James, this could take a while! Along with traditional service planning, sermon writing, marriages, funerals and sacraments, I’ve also been working closely with Susan on the contemporary services which we this past fall decided to make weekly instead of every second week. We have book/bible studies regularly- beginning with my Bible Study on the book of Revelation, followed by Susan’s study on Walter Brueggemann, then on to the Gospel of John which recently ended. Studies like these make it so much easier to learn and grow together in community. I have also appreciated the opportunity to interact with the various committees and groups in the church- I have been invited to both UCW and AOTS meetings, which has been an absolute blessing. These groups, along with the many other groups at the church, ensure that we are able to work as a unit to move forward together. I am personally so thankful for all of you who take the time, with your already busy lives, to serve this church.

I’d also like to share my gratitude for the staff and ministry personnel at St. James. This place could not run smoothly without them- Dave, Linda, Keith, SuAn, Susan and Pam, thank you for all that you do. Thank you for your support and guidance in my first year here and I look forward to continuing to grow in relationship with you as we all come together to participate in the ministry at St. James.

Blessings to you all as we continue our Christian pilgrimage together. May we go forth shining light where there is darkness, and may we continue to seek out the one in whose name we live and move and have our being.

Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

I want to begin my annual report this year reflecting on St. James’ ministry to the Escasoni Complex. While our ministry amongst the residents who make Escasoni their home may be short in terms of the hours spent there, I believe it is one of the very important outreach ministries of our congregation.

Just this past December we were gathered for our Christmas Service on the second Tuesday of December. That particular worship service was a special one as I asked the members of the AOTS to come along with Doreen Brown, their choir director. As well, I asked Glenda Winsor to share her beautiful voice in our music ministry. Half way through the service as I was helping a resident find the correct page in her hymnbook she leaned over

and said to me.... "I love this community....." After the service was over another regular attender said to me with tears in her eyes, "I have no family and no one to visit me....today you put Christ back in my heart." Often as worship comes to a close residents will say to me, "it's (worship) over already?.....or I wouldn't miss this time for anything!"

I have been travelling to Escasoni at least once a month over the past 8 years for worship and often times I even wonder myself does it really matter?.....Do we make a difference in their quality of life?.....Do we make a difference in their spiritual life? Can we awaken or bring new life into the spirits of those with which we minister at Escasoni. Yes, Yes, Yes.....there are signs of God's good work through our ministry whenever we gather.

It is also important to note that St. James United is the church that has the greatest number of volunteers for ministry at Escasoni. What a great reputation to be building through our regular worship, Christmas Carolling, Memorial Services once a year, and the guitar group joining us for worship on occasion. Thank you to all who volunteer your time to the ministry at Escasoni; transporting residents from their rooms to our worship space, leading in worship through song and word, providing leadership, and sharing a smile with those whom we minister are very much appreciated. A special thank you also to all who play the piano during worship, especially Phil Saunders. I thank all of you for your ongoing support !!

I also sit on the Pastoral Care committee for Hoyles/Escasoni under the chairmanship of Rick Maher, Pastoral Care Manager for Eastern Health. We meet at least four times a year for concerns and business arising as well we gather once a year for a retreat day in the city.

I am also on call for the Escasoni home and besides visiting members of our congregation who reside there I often provide pastoral care in emergency and crisis situations such as sudden sickness or even death. In providing this ministry our congregation reaches out to the community at large, or even province as I meet residents and their families from all over St. John's and even NL.

Congregational visiting continues and my list of congregational members who are sick and shut-in is ever evolving. There are many congregational members who I visited in their homes over the past years, and now reside in nursing homes or personal care facilities. It is good to be with these members and their families as they make these transitions in their lives.

I do bring the Sacrament of Holy Communion to those who request it. If you wish to have Communion brought to your dwelling place, please let me know through the church office. Also, if you would like to receive a visit or know anyone who is in need of pastoral care, please let me know. I have a roster that I work through month by month and would be glad to add anyone to the list. I endeavor to visit the nursing homes every 3-4 months and those in their homes at least twice a year. Of course, if there is an emergency or if extra care is needed due to circumstance, spiritual care to that individual and family becomes my top priority.

I continue to prepare and preside at worship in the absence of the full time clergy as well as preside and provide pastoral care around the passing of loved ones. It is also good to share in worship with Terrie and Susan at different times through the church year.

A special thank you to all the staff at St. James, including our choral directors, for your dedicated service. As well, the many volunteers in all aspects of our church life. It is your fine work and dedication that give St. James a thriving pulse through your energy and enthusiasm. A sincere thank you to Rev. Bill Bartlett for his ministry and friendship and also a huge welcome to Rev. Terrie Burry. It has been great getting to know and work with you. It is hard to believe that Susan and I have been part of the ministerial team here at St. James for over 8 years!!

I cannot write this report without mentioning the wonderful expertise that SuAn has brought to the administrative position. Her gentle spirit, warm and welcoming smile and sense of life and love have truly made the office area a wonderful place to be and work, especially when times are hectic and even filled with grief. Her calm and gentle demeanor continually spills over into all facets of the office and her ministry amongst us is much appreciated.

May we continue to discern our purpose and call as a community of faith.

God's Blessings,
Rev. Pamela

Susan Sheppard - Minister of Christian Education and Youth

I have never written a message for the Annual Report or the Visitor which has been from me. I have always written reporting on either CE Committee, GO or some other event. This year I feel I have to write and express my gratitude to the congregation for the wonderful opportunities I have been afforded over the past number of years due to your trust in hiring me back in 2004.

Since then I have grown in ways I could never have imagined. I went back to school and earned a Certificate in Youth Ministry and a Masters in Theological Studies. I've attended many United Church learning events and heard many of the leading thinkers and preachers with the United Church and beyond. I've become a Godly Play Storyteller, done guest lectures at my school, Queen's College, and been a camp chaplain. For the past two years I've been part of the planning team for a national United Church youth gathering called Rendez-vous, which will be held in August of 2014 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

This past year has been exceptionally exciting as I was recognized as a Designated Lay Minister in the United Church of Canada during the Spring meetings of East District in May. I was interviewed for two separate articles on Children and Youth Ministry which appeared in the United Church Observer, and I was chosen as one of the Newfoundland delegates to travel to Britain with the Moderator for the 40th Greenbelt Festival in August. More exciting than all of that, however, is the everyday being part of the lives of children and youth here at the church. Telling stories during Godly Play, remembering dolls names, going to camp and on retreats, watching an AH HA moment occur during confirmation class, being with the GO Project each summer, leading a blessing of the Drivers' Licence ceremony, being a reference for a first job or application to a faculty of study, or just having a long chat with a young adult because 'they were in the area.' These are the things that make my time here special.

I look forward to more years of everyday specialness as we go into the future together.

Susan Sheppard

Christian Education – Susan Sheppard

It has been a busy year once again for Christian Education.

Sunday school numbers are down considerably from even five years ago. There are increasing pressures on families from sports, dance and birthday parties on Sunday mornings and parents' work schedules which keep many families from regular attendance. That said, there is a strong core of children who attend and enjoy Godly

Play and crafts. The older children worked very hard all fall to rehearse and present a wonderful Christmas Play during the December 15 service. Thank you to all our Sunday school staff and parents who make wonderful things happen in this program.

Over the summer we were able to purchase over \$2000 worth of new story materials for our Godly Play room with funding from the Memorial Fund. It is hoped that in 2014 we can train some more storytellers. Messy Church unfortunately did not succeed in getting established. This is a wonderful outreach ministry opportunity to families in our local geographical area, but due to lack of volunteers to run the program we had to sadly discontinue the monthly two-hour program.

The annual Pancake Supper was held in February. Thank you so much to the Men's Club who help us out each year by doing the cooking for this event.

In February, we held a youth event called Church, Mission, Worship and ME? Our guest presenter was Michael Shewburg of the GO Project. The event was held at Cochran Street and Gower Street United Churches, as there was no room available at St. James. (We are a busy place.) Twenty-seven youth and leaders for St. John's, Mount Pearl and Norman's Cove congregations took part. The weekend was used as a part of the requirement for youth in our confirmation program.

We had three youth confirmed as members of St. James this year, and a large number of adults joined the congregation by Profession of Faith and Transfer.

Our youth group continues with its programs. They were able to help out the Gower lunch program during Christmas and Easter school breaks, held a sliding party at Susan's house in February and held many fundraisers to help members of the group take part in the Go Project. We are always grateful for your continued support of the youth of the congregation.

The 2013 Go Project season saw 14 of our youth and leaders take part. Four of our group attended GO St. John's with 16 other youth and leaders from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec, Ontario and Nova Scotia. The remaining 10 St. James' youth and leaders attended GO Halifax.

As part of the Go Project, we fundraised for and purchased 30 camp cots so that participants coming to GO St. John's would not have to bring air mattresses and pumps which take up significant amounts of space and weight in luggage. These cots are, of course, available for use by others having overnight events in the building. The Liturgical dance group has taken part in four services over the past year (Easter, Sunday school closing, Anniversary and Christmas). The group attempts to interpret music as prayerful movement.

Two Bible Studies were held between September and December. Rev. Terrie Burry led a six-week study on the Book of Revelation, and Susan Sheppard led a study using materials by Walter Brueggemann entitled Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture.

The year closed out with our annual Sunday school Christmas Party/Coffee Hour (December 15) with a visit from Santa who made a special effort to join us (thank you again, Santa); the Winter Solstice service on December 22 which was held in Susan Sheppard's front yard; and the Christmas Eve Family Service when we were delighted to have one of our newest members, Eric Everard and his parents Bethany and Charles, play the Holy family.

Many exciting things are in the planning stages for 2014, including a winter youth retreat, GO Project, and Rendez-vous 2014 to be held in Winnipeg, more Bible studies and more. Keep your eye on the weekly bulletin for information on upcoming events, and consider joining us on the education journey.

Worship and Sacraments – Michelle Skinner

Worship and Sacraments has had a busy and productive year. The members have worked together with a commitment to upholding the worship of St. James. Our focus has been to provide a welcoming and inclusive environment, incorporating members of the congregation and various musical groups as much as possible. There was a change in chairmanship. Trevor Bartlett stepped aside after several years of service to explore other opportunities on the Stewardship committee. Our sincerest thanks to Trevor for his dedication and leadership. Michelle Skinner assumed the role. Rev. Terrie has taken her place on the committee. Otherwise, membership and roles within the committee have remained the same.

David Hapgood had ushering well in hand. Various groups and individuals came forward through the year to ensure each month was covered. The ushers provide a very important role in the worship service, and we thank all those who gave of their time. The role of Chief Usher is vital to St. James and we cannot thank David enough for his dedication to this role.

While we were sad to see Phillip Roberts leave, we were fortunate to welcome Christine Tiller in the position of full-time organist and choir director. Christine's gift of music has been a wonderful addition to our worship services.

2013 found us successful in securing a new full-time minister in the person of Rev. Terrie Burry. Rev. Terrie has proven to be a great fit for the St. James family.

The 9:30 services have been so well received that a decision was made in the fall to hold them every Sunday. Attendance at these services continues to be strong.

Rev. Bill Bartlett's commitment to providing interim ministry was greatly appreciated.

There have been a number of special services throughout the year.

The covenanting service for Rev. Terrie, Rev. Pamela and Susan was held on September 26, with a time of fellowship following the service. Susan Sheppard's designation as minister was recognized and celebrated on June 8th. We are blessed to have Susan as part of our ministerial team at St. James.

Our first ever Blessing of the Animals was held on October 6th. The event was great success by all accounts. Youth of the GO project held two services. The team working from St. James held a service in late July. The team that travelled to Halifax held a service later in the fall.

We were treated to a number of guest performers throughout the year; the PWC choir, a Festival 500 choir, the Watoto Children's Choir from Africa. We hosted a concert by the group Infinitely More in October. This was also a fundraiser for GO.

Rebecca Pike applied for and was accepted into the discernment process. We wish Rebecca every success in her future endeavors and that she go forward knowing the support of the St. James family is solidly behind her. After many years of devoted service, Mary Hood has stepped down from being in charge of communion. She left large shoes to fill and Karen Brown has stepped into them admirably. Many thanks to Mary for her service and to Karen for continuing to ensure the communion needs of St. James are fulfilled.

Gillian Burry stepped down as assistant organist in December. Many thanks to her for the time she devoted to the various groups and the music of St. James.

Music and Liturgy devoted most of the fall to drafting a terms of reference for a Choral Scholarship. The intention of the scholarship is to fill the senior choirs need for a Soprano.

Statistics 2013

BAPTISMS	22
MARRIAGES	9
FUNERALS	28
CONFIRMED	3
TRANSFERS IN	11
PROFESSION	17
REMOVED BY TRANSFER	1

The members of the Worship and Sacrament committee are a devoted group people. The quality of worship at St. James are held to the highest standards. Concerns of the congregation are duly noted, and if enhancements to the worship are possible, changes are made. Consideration is given to the diversity of the congregation and we strive to have the worship be welcoming and inclusive to all.

Moving forward with this committee, I would like to thank each of them for their support and patience as I find my way as chair.

Michelle Skinner

Communion – Mary Hood

Seven years ago I agreed to take over the task of preparing the table and the servers for Communion at St. James. I had no idea what was involved but I knew that Bill Parrot was no longer able to do it. He had given 10 years to the task and now it was time for someone new. After meeting with him and discussing how things were done I went home wondering how on earth I was going to do this job. In short, I was a bag of nerves!

I soon learned that the wonderful people of St James can be relied upon to answer a call when it is made. Time after time during the past seven years when I would call, the answer was a resounding yes from people of all ages. It has been a time of blessing for me as I have gotten to know the people of our congregation. The wonderful group of young people that has grown and developed within our church family has given me new insight into what it means to be a person of faith in the world today. They manage to live their faith day by day in a world that can be bewildering. Somehow they remain centered and it is a wonderful thing to see. Their presence is a gift. Their help to me invaluable.

We have seen many changes in our church life during the past seven years. One of these has been an increase in the number of services conducted by modified Intinction. Last year Communion was served in the pews 5 times and seven times by Intinction. For those who do not know, modified Intinction is when the people come forward to partake of the elements. They meet face to face with the servers and are individually greeted; a personal and intimate event.

As usual, on Confirmation Sunday, Communion was served by the previous year's confirmands. World Wide Communion Sunday saw us participating in a service that presented different breads from different countries and a reflection on differences and similarities between the countries of the world.

Early morning Easter Communion and late night Christmas Eve Communion are very special services. Perhaps it is the earliness and lateness of time, or perhaps it is the smallness of the congregation but whatever the reason, those who attend experience a deep sense of the Spirit's presence.

It was not my intention to make this such a long report but I did not want to leave this task without letting the people of St James know how very thankful I am both for the support you have given me and the opportunity to serve. It has been a blessing. Now Karen Brown has agreed to take over and I know that you will give her your same support. She too must be wondering how on earth she will manage.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Mary C. Hood

Statistical Report for 2013

	2012	2013
Baptisms	41	22
Marriages	10	9
Funerals	33	28
Members Received: Confirmed	7	3
Members Received: Transfers	1	11
Members Received: Profession of Faith	0	17
Members Removed: Transfers	1	1
Number of Families (under pastoral care)	591	591
Number of Supporting Families	455	455
Persons Under Oversight ^a	1319	1319

Note^a This number is derived by multiplying number of families under pastoral care by 2.9 which is considered to be an average family.

PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)

Historically, faithful contributors to St. James United Church have given weekly through offering envelopes. Approximately 70 families currently use PAR. We encourage you to consider PAR as a method of consistently supporting the ongoing work of St. James. As the cost of goods and services is constantly increasing, so there is an increase in the cost St. James incurs monthly. If you have been using PAR, why not take this opportunity to consider increasing your PAR contribution to the many worthwhile programs of our church.

United Church Women – Vera Marshall and Jean White (Co-Presidents)

The UCW continues to be quite active and productive. We, together with the congregation, successfully held our two annual fundraisers. Both the “Spring Tea” and “Fall Sale and Morning Coffee” were well attended and supported. As a Christmas Outreach project, we have been purchasing grocery and department store gift cards for our clergy to have on hand for families who find themselves in desperate financial situations at Christmas and throughout the year. Our members gave thank offerings and money in lieu of gifts for each other to this project. Over the years, the clergy have appreciated being able to help individuals and families in need.

Our worship and programs have been quite interesting. Thanks go to Glenda Butt, Maxine Rose, Phyllis Thomas, Betty Pilgrim, Daphne Coish, Vera Marshall, Jean White, Sheilah Beckett, Barbara Butt, and Rosemary White who willingly volunteered to prepare the Worship and Program feature for each meeting and include other members

to help present it. There were timely worships with appropriate themes for each month, e.g. Valentine Trivia, A Lenten Table Conversation, April Showers Bring May Flowers, the Beautiful Women in Christ, and a Christmas Candle Lighting Service. In May, we were thrilled to have the St. James Guitar and Accordion Group entertain us at our closing dinner. In October, Susan Sheppard, our Youth/Christian Education minister, spoke to us of her experience at the Greenbelt Festival in the United Kingdom.

Edna Bemister and Betty Winsor make sure that all is ready for the usual cup of tea following our meeting. This provides the opportunity to mingle and chat.

Our interest groups attract those who like to bowl, do crafts or sing. Our choir, under the capable direction of Doreen Brown, leads in the singing, usually once a month, at the Sunday morning worship.

The UCW meetings begin at 7:30 on the second Monday of each month. New members are always warmly welcomed.

Our executive for 2014 is:

Past Co-presidents: Vera Marshall and Jean White
Co-presidents: Barbara Adams and Betty Pilgrim
Recording Secretary: Glenda Butt
Treasurer: Sylvia Cole
Assistant Treasurer: Sheilah Beckett
Corresponding Secretary: Ruth Baker

Committees:

Flowers: Betty Winsor
Friendship Group: Winona Kelsey
Membership: Shirley Bursey
Social: Edna Bemister and Betty Winsor
Visitation: Barbara Butt
Church Council Representative: Menetha Dyke
Finance Committee Representative: Rosemary White
Honorary Member: Shirley Bursey

Committee reports and our financial statement are attached.

Visitation - Barbara Butt

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others,
Faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms: --1Peter 4:10—*

Visitation at St. James UCW continues to be a rewarding ministry to our sick and shut-in home members. There are currently nine home members, some living in a nursing home, a retirement centre and one member fortunate enough to remain in her own home with a caregiver.

Our Visitation Committee is made up of four members, who have been committed over the last four or five years. This past year there were a total of 23 visits and 13 telephone calls. There were times when visits could not be conducted due to viruses and shutdown of the nursing facilities; however, our team stayed connected with a telephone call.

All of these home members have made their mark with our church family and have contributed generously to the success of the UCW in their time. For those who have serious memory loss or cognitive limitations, they can still enjoy a visit, even if they don't remember it later.

We, as a team, feel that our time, however limited, is quality time spent with them, holding hands by their bedside or chair, joining them in an activity or party held by the retirement centre or nursing home, reminiscing about the "good old days" and always a prayer at the conclusion of our visit. What is a visit without bringing a treat as a small token of our appreciation to their dedication to the UCW in past years. Every Christmas each of these women is presented with a Christmas gift, card and of course plenty of hugs.

We, as visitors, indeed need to have a sense of humor, wit and tact. A smile and a pleasant reply to a thoughtless remark helps avoid an unpleasant situation (it does happen occasionally).

A sincere "thank you" to team members Jean White, Rosemary White and Vera Marshall, so again thank you all for your unwavering support to me and the vital part of this ministry! I would be remiss if I didn't pass along my gratitude to Rev. Pam who was always receptive to my call, so thank you, Rev. Pam.

Membership - Shirley Bursey

Our UCW Group presently has 54 active members and 9 home members. We were pleased to welcome several new members over the past year.

As in the past few years, we were saddened again to lose four treasured members. They were Helen LeGrow, Roma Paul, Jean Skanes, and an earlier member, Jean Bowering. They and their support and work for our group will long be remembered. We certainly miss them.

We were pleased again this year to bestow five Life Membership pins on deserving members. They are Barbara Adams, Barbara Butt, Irene Bursey, Florence Head, and Betty Winsor. God bless you all.

Again as always, thanks must go out to our faithful phoning committee. They carry out their duties willingly and promptly whenever called upon to do so. They are Helen Crummell, Joan King, Murial Baker, Nina Abbott, Rita Dawe, Florence White, and Shirley Bursey. And now thank you must go out to a very important part of our UCW group: "the membership." What would our group be without your willingness to attend meetings whenever possible, your support to the executive and doing whatever is asked of you. God bless you all. Well done, good and faithful servants. All the best in 2014.

Friendship - Winona Kelsey

Our Friendship Group continues to do extremely well. Our members seem to enjoy the group, and we love being with them every 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon. It is a relaxing and fun loving group who, we hope, look forward to each meeting.

Our format remains the same for each meeting, starting with the Senior's Prayer and ending with the Lord's Prayer. After their card game, they are encouraged to walk around the auditorium for exercise...if they so choose. This follows with a nice cup of tea and lunch with everyone gathered around the table, thus ending another pleasant afternoon.

We enjoy a special meal at Christmas time and again in the spring when prizes are awarded and another fun afternoon follows.

We were saddened by the passing of one of our faithful members, Helen LeGrow, this year. Helen will long be remembered by her friends in our group.

The Friendship Group is a happy and youthful group of ladies who are a pleasure to be with. No doubt about it ...this group is, indeed, here to stay!!!

Menetha Dyke - UCW Representative

During the past year I attended nine Church Council meetings. I reported back to UCW items of common interest at each of their monthly meetings. Likewise, I reported items of interest back to Church Council to keep them informed and up to date.

This past year St. James hired three new staff members. In February SuAn Randall was hired as a part-time Office Administrator, and in July Christine Tiller was hired as our Organist and Choir Director. Also in July, we were fortunate after two years of job searching to welcome Rev. Terrie Burry as our full-time minister. On June 8 we hosted a Children's Choir from an orphanage in Uganda. The Wototo Choir presented a very lively 'Concert of Hope' that was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Reaffirmation of Faith sessions were held in January and May for those adherent members who wished to become official members of St. James United Church.

In September, we held a Covenanting service to welcome our three ministers. A coffee hour followed. In November we celebrated our 55th Anniversary. Church Council hosted a Dinner and Silent Auction at the Canadian Legion Hall. The event was well attended, and we were very pleased with the \$6,500 that was raised. In December, a fundraiser was held to support the new Protestant Cemetery. This was a group effort supported by many of the city churches where boxes of Florida fruit were sold in conjunction with the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Profits from our orders will come to St. James to be donated to the cemetery fund.

UCW Financial Statements

**ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH WOMEN
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES**

Year Ended December 31, 2013
With Comparative Figures for 2012

RECEIPTS	2013	2012
Envelope Collection	2,051	1,956
Thank Offering	249	341
Birthday Barrel	37	37
Loose Collection		49
Pennies for Eyesight	39	96
Spring Tea	3,907	3,969
Fall Sale	6,654	6,857
Closing and Christmas Dinner	1,193	1,185
Morogoro Project		441
East District "News to Use" Subscriptions	24	
Donations to Needy Families	307	395
Donations	125	350
Annual Pin		90
Total Receipts	<u>14,585</u>	<u>15,766</u>

**ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH WOMEN
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES**

Year Ended December 31, 2013
With Comparative Figures for 2012

EXPENDITURES	2013	2012
Mission & Service	4,320	4,320
Morogoro Project		440
East District – Membership Fee	620	602
East District – “News to Use” Subscriptions	24	32
East District – Chaplaincy	100	
East District – Annual Meeting	36	30
St. James Church: Operating Fund	6,000	6,000
Kitchen Stove		4,500
Memorial Fund	200	50
GO Project	50	500
Life Membership Pins	240	280
Anniversary Pins	60	90
Spring Tea	73	65
Fall Sale	102	146
Audit Fee	100	100
Christmas Donations – Needy Families	521	580
Honorarium & Recognitions		200
Closing & Christmas Dinner	1,380	1,380
Donations: Burry Heights	50	40
Operation Eyesight	50	100
Bridges to Hope	100	100
Purchase Table Cloths	441	
Miscellaneous	240	213
Service Charges		<u>3</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>14,707</u>	<u>19,771</u>
Receipts over/(under) Expenditures	<u>(122)</u>	<u>(4,005)</u>

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH WOMEN
STATEMENT OF CASH POSITION
Year Ended December 31, 2013
With Comparative Figures for 2012

	2013	2012
Cash in Bank January 1	\$ 3,076	\$ 7,081
Receipts over/(under) Expenditures	(122)	(4,005)
Cash in Bank December 31	<u>\$ 2,954</u>	<u>\$ 3,076</u>

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the Statement of Cash Position of St. James United Church Women as of December 31, 2013 and the Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenditures for the year ended. My Examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of accounting records as I considered necessary in the circumstances beyond accounting for the receipts in the books.

With the exception noted in the previous paragraph, I report that in my opinion the accompanying Statement of Cash Position and Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenditures present fairly the Cash position of St. James United Church Women as of December 31, 2013 and the results of its cash transactions for the year than ended, on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Aubrey C. Hill, Certified Management Accountant

ST. JAMES AOTS MEN'S CLUB – Les Dean

Introduction

This past year was a most active year in the life and work of our congregation for the St. James AOTS Men's Club. Eight regular dinner meetings were held with an average attendance of 25 members; three successful fundraising projects were undertaken; two outreach services to outlying pastoral charges were conducted; our outreach support program at Escasoni and private seniors' complexes was maintained; and our congregational support activities including laity service, the Men's Choir, and ushering were provided throughout the year as well as Kiwanis Music Festival volunteer support.

Outreach

On June 16, we were provided the opportunity to conduct the morning service at Portugal Cove Memorial United Church, and on November 3 we were invited to conduct the afternoon service at Burnt Point Memorial Church on the Lower Island Cove Pastoral Charge. We were warmly welcomed at both services. In addition to assisting Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald with her monthly Escasoni services, the Club also participated in a special Escasoni memorial service and a regular Christmas carol visit. Unfortunately, weather conditions prevented Christmas visits to Kelly's Brook and Tiffany Village seniors' complexes. We were especially pleased to assist with the meal preparation associated with the Wototo Children's Choir performance at St. James.

Ministerial and Congregational Support

Throughout the year the Men's Choir provided musical support at a number of our services and also conducted the Laity Sunday service in early June. Again, we are so much appreciative of Mrs. Doreen Brown's leadership of our Men's Choir. We were especially pleased to welcome Rev. Terrie Burry to our October 16 meeting at which time she spoke on issues and challenges facing our church as a whole and on her new ministerial commitment to St. James.

Project Activity

Our Christmas social was well attended, at which time we welcomed five spousal guests of deceased members as well as church staff and ministerial personnel. During the year the Club undertook three fundraising projects which realized net revenues of \$4,675. Our fish dinners continue to be very popular. In addition to providing \$2,500 towards the roof project, the Club also contributed \$500 to the Missionary and Service Fund; \$500 towards the GO Project; \$500 for Youth Choir book shelving; and approximately \$110 towards the cost of a new office shredder. Our financial net balance at December 31 was \$1,518. Special thanks are extended to our project and outreach support members for their commitment during the year.

Membership

As of December 31, our roll was comprised of 42 active members. We welcomed two new members, Stephen Chafe and Cator Brown, to our Club in 2013. We were deeply saddened by the passing of long-time members Everett LeDrew and Rev. Dr. Wallace Baker on February 20 and August 8, respectively. Their membership commitment is deeply missed. The recent passing of another devoted member, Basil Jamieson, on January 15, 2014, is likewise another sad moment in the life and work of our Club.

Club Membership

Leslie Dean	President
Eric King	Vice-President
Carlson Emberley	Past-President
Aubrey Hill	Treasurer
Rev. Bill Coish	Visitation
David Hapgood/Albert Styles	Project/Kitchen Co-Ordinators
Ron Robbins	Outreach Co-Ordinator

Bruce Hunt
Leslie Dean

Men's Choir Co-Ordinator
Secretary (Acting)

Financial Statements

The 2013 financial statements of the St. James AOTS Men's Club are an integral component of this annual report and are appended.

St. James AOTS Men's Service Club

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures
For period ended December 31 , 2013

Bank Balance as of January 1, 2012 \$ 3,912

Revenues

Dinner meetings		
Revenues	1,059	
Expenditures	<u>704</u>	
NET		355
Catering		
Revenues	1,600	
Expenditures	<u>339</u>	
NET		<u>1,261</u>
Fish Dinner		
Revenues	4,450	
Expenditures	<u>1,602</u>	
NET		<u>2,848</u>
Donations/In Memorial		<u>210</u>
TOTAL REVENUE		4,675

EXPENDITURES

Donation Church (Stove/Roof)	2,500	
Mission & Service Fund	500	
Clergy Breakfast	66	
Go - Project	500	
Book Cases (Junior Choir)	500	
Equipment for Church	102	
Donations	225	
Kitchen Equipment & Supplies	123	
Christmas Dinner	692	
Miscellaneous	<u>317</u>	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		5,525

Revenues over (under) expenditures -850

Bank Balance as of December 31, 2013 \$ 3,062

**NOTE: Our balance of \$ 3,062 includes an amount of \$1,544 belonging to the Drama Group for 2010 & 2011.
The Net balance for the club is 1,518.**

Ministry and Personnel Committee – Jim von Riesen

The Ministry and Personnel Committee began 2013 with 4 members: Heather Hickman, Brenda Kelleher-Flight, Michael Ralph and Jim Von Riesen, chair. During the year Michael Ralph needed to resign due to time commitments, so we are currently a committee of three people.

As chair of the committee, I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the committee. Their exceptional abilities, dedication to the task (which has involved many hours of meetings and work between meetings) and commitment to the St. James congregation are deeply appreciated and have made it possible for the committee to accomplish what it has over the past year.

On behalf of the congregation of St. James, our committee wants to express our gratitude and appreciation to the following who serve St. James with dedication and hard work. Their various ministries help make St. James the place and congregation it is.

A big thank you to:

Full-time Minister, Terrie Burry
Minister of Visitation, Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Christian Education and Youth, Susan Sheppard
Office Administrator, SuAn Randall
Maintenance/Janitorial team, David Hapgood, Linda Martin, and Keith Davis
Organist/Adult Choir Director, Christine Tiller
Choir director for youth, men and women, Doreen Brown
Treasurer, Jean Thompson
And the other folk who help out from time to time.

The M&P Committee acts on behalf of the congregation of St. James United Church to carry out the following (and other) responsibilities:

- Support communication between the congregation, ministry personnel and staff
- Review salaries, benefits, working conditions, etc. with all staff and make appropriate recommendations to the Church Council
- Clarify responsibilities and lines of accountability with all staff
- Review position descriptions with ministry personnel and staff and recommend changes, as necessary, to the Church Council
- Consult with ministry personnel and staff regarding continuing education needs and plans and make recommendations to the Church Council to ensure time and money are made available
- Conduct regular performance reviews of ministry personnel and staff
- Work to resolve conflict at the earliest possible stages.

Over the past year, the M&P Committee has carried out performance reviews for several of the staff and will continue that task into 2014.

Our major focus this year has been the development of a Personnel Policies Manual to provide consistent guidelines for our employment practices.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Von Riesen

Property Committee Report – Bill Legge

This Property Committee report presents the maintenance activities for the year and the actions that we have taken to preserve our asset, respect for our human resources, and maintain the objective to stay within the budget approved by Council.

No major projects were undertaken in 2013. Tenders were received for a new sound system for the church and approved by the Congregation for implementation as soon as possible. The new sound system will cost in the order of thirty thousand dollars which includes the low tender bid by Audio Systems Ltd and an amount for potential extra work. This project was coordinated through a special committee chaired by Trevor Bartlett with representatives from the St James church end users of the system. Trevor and his committee are to be commended on their time and efforts in seeking a professional tender document with the end result, God willing, a modern electronic sound system for the enjoyment of all.

We do have a nagging leak issue with the windows on the west side of the church that will be looked at when weather permits. An infiltration test will be carried out on the windows to try to determine the leak location, reason and rectify same.

Your committee along with Council and Ministers will be looking at a stained glass window initiative for the church windows. Further dialogue /information will be forthcoming in the summer of 2014.

It is proposed that we will build another small Shed /baby barn on the church property in the summer of 2014 to take care of our maintenance equipment and storage of miscellaneous items that we have to move from the church.

The ongoing and reoccurring building maintenance and inside cleaning, lawn mowing, snow entrance / exit doors, office management of property which were also performed for the most part by hourly paid staff.

The Gull problem on the church roof is still a nuisance and will be reviewed again in the summer 2014. The proposal from the Professional firm ORKIN in the amount of \$9600 will be reviewed by Council and other cheaper solutions will be investigated.

The snow clearing /ice control agreement in place with MUN for the past year has progressed without any major difficulty or heartburn to St James congregational members. We did have a snow plow issue with the Accessibility ramp area with a number of posts and handrail length being damaged. The damage will be repaired by others and not to the account of St James.

The budget for the operation and normal maintenance appear to be sufficient to keep the operations moving forward in a positive direction. The heat bill is for the most part higher than usual in the last quarter of 2013 but understandable due to the cold weather. The difficulty arises in budget preparation time when the Church requires a major capital expenditure or an allowance for unknown emergency expenses.

The Property committee will also be seeking; assistance from the congregation to help with the maintenance of the flower beds and trees around the church this summer of 2014.

The committee's goals for 2014 are the following;

- To maintain St James operated facilities to the standards that will provide safe, long-term viability for staff, congregational members and external rental users.

- To research and remain current on new products and equipment use in the maintenance and operation of the buildings.
- To assist with the preparation of the annual operational budget and provide input into any capital expenditures required in the buildings within the next 5 years.
- To ensure all work is performed in accordance with workplace health and safety standards, Risk control Guidelines and that all procedures required by the Provincial Government is adhered to.

I would like to thank the direct members of the committee: David Hapgood Jr, Keith Davis, Dillon Matthews, Oliver Weldon, Linda Martin, and especially SuAn Randall for assistance with booking and invoicing, rental schedules and other property related requirements along with her regular duties. A note of thanks is also extended to others who assisted in other aspects of keeping the facility and grounds in good condition, plus special note to the church elders and especially Phil Saunders for the continuous assistance, recommendations and support along with our own St James Ministers who keep us in tune and who also assist in property matters.

The Property Committee are always looking for new members either to serve on a task report or just for an individual repair that has been identified. This would provide the opportunity for congregational members to support the church through assisting with a task /repair and not have to involve in a full-time committee.

Let's look forward to another successful year with the St James family of friends and beyond.

Best Regards
Bill Legge on behalf of the 2013 Property Committee

Administration and Communications -- Janice Winsor

One of the duties under our purview is to foster general support and supervision of the church office. In the last year we looked at paper costs and changed suppliers for paper and encouraged use of fewer bulletins at our weekly services when the program is being projected. We renewed our agreement with our photocopier supplier, reducing our monthly costs significantly, and updated our database so that we can send the Visitor and announcements via virtual communications. Through a government program, we acquired a colour printer, complete with several toners that will do us for a couple of years. This will cut down on our colour copy costs until all those toners run out. After that, we will use our new copier for colour printing. All these endeavours will reduce our paper and photocopy costs.

We are also looking to reduce our costs with internet and telephone systems. We have a three-year contract with Bell Aliant until March 2015. Then we must replace all our telecommunications hardware to bring our system completely up to date and to make us more efficient, with a reduced monthly rate.

We published the Visitor three times; and in October, thanks to the work of our summer student, Rebecca, we sent the Visitor via email and received positive comments about the quality of the pictures and the convenience of being able to read it on line. At Thanksgiving we printed 363 full copies and emailed 249; at Christmas we printed 359 copies and mailed 254. Please let us know if you decide to receive communications online. SuAn will be happy to add you to our list.

Our office computer is being backed up regularly to a server to avoid any loss of information. It does an incremental backup every day for the "My Documents" directory and the Power Church directory. Then, on each Friday, it does a full backup of each of the directories.

Thank you to AOTS for replacing our paper cutter and shredder. Blessings to you all.

We have 70 members who give monthly through Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR), and we have just ordered 420 boxes of envelopes for 2014. If you would like to give through PAR, please call the office.

With expansion to the City and outlying areas, the committee is working on preparing a double-sided brochure to invite new families to visit our church and take advantages of the services provided. We know we need to work harder at welcoming new families.

In September, we held information sessions on Comprehensive Review so you could be informed of the Task Group's mandate. In October, we participated in a web session and gave our input. Please visit www.united-church.ca for updates from the Comprehensive Review Task Group where you will find a **report** based on conversations with United Church Communities of Faith about our future. The task group is also encouraging people across the church to read and engage in a discussion paper "Fishing on the Other Side" by joining the online conversations at www.unitedfuture.ca. If you do not have access to a computer, let SuAn know and we can print the documents.

We want to thank Al and Minnie Penney who were our Observer contacts for many years and also Barry Cutler who is now our new contact. Please don't hesitate to contact Barry through the church office when it is time to renew your subscription or if you wish to order the Observer.

Our website www.stjamesuc.org is administered by Glenda Winsor. Our newest acquisition is a "donate now" button through PayPal, although you may have to email us to tell us which account to credit your donation. Please feel free to navigate our website and join us in worship.

We administer 58 zones to distribute paper copies of our communications to you, and we use Canada Post to mail to approximately 40 members. Our zone captains are committed to getting church information out to you, and we are very appreciative of their dedication. As you know, postage rates will double in 2014. Please help us reduce postage costs by arranging to pick up mail instead of having us mail it to you.

The committee acknowledged the work done on the Library over the summer by Joel Le Feuvre and Sheldon Downey, summer students who moved all the books from Rev. Pamela's office to the multi-purpose room downstairs. This room is used by Sunday school where the books will be more likely used by the children. Doreen Wells came in during the fall to catalog a couple of boxes of books that didn't get done over the summer, and Betty Brett has agreed to work on the box of adult books. Thanks to the both of them. Thank you to June Jones, our current Archivist, and to Joel Le Feuvre who worked with June this summer to bring our archives up to date. Thank you to Eric Paul and Joel for helping archive the blueprints for St. James. June's plan for summer 2014 is to work on our picture collection, and she would appreciate help from someone to work under her guidance and to succeed her in the coming years. If you have some experience with records management and would like to work on our Archives, please contact us.

In conclusion, I thank my committee members, Rosemary White, Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray, Linda Babstock, and Glenda Winsor. And to SuAn Randall, our office administrator, who has become a valued member of our staff, thank you for keeping us on track in our day-to-day operations.

Delegate to East District – Ruth Baker

As one of the delegates to East District, I attended two meetings. The first was the East District Spring Meeting held at Memorial United Church, Bonavista pastoral Charge, May 31 – June 2, 2013. The theme was "Living the

Christian Life.” Table groups discussed “What does it mean to live the Christian Life?” New and interesting reports were communicated by webinars which included Ministry development, training events, etc. More information can be found at www.EDGE-United.ca.

2. National Comprehensive Review – Wilson Gonese’s Presentation contained “What makes the United Church unique?” and “Where do we see meaningful ministry emerging?” Other reports were from General Council, Conference and East District.

2nd meeting –Burry Heights – October 25-27, 2013 - The fall meeting was held at Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre. The theme was “Pilgrimage of Faith.” The Greenbelt Festival was a gathering in 2013 in Gloucestershire, England. 20,000 people of diverse backgrounds attended. They are a robust group that God is raising up at this time. They are seeking spirituality in various new ways. Other topics of interest were 1. General Council Remits which are votes on changes to the Basis of Union. Voted on by Districts and pastoral charges. 2. General Council is taking place in Corner Brook in 2015. 3. M & S Challenge – 2013 reduction in funding from the National Church to the Nil Conference Mission and Service Support Grants. One cost saving measure was the termination of MUN Chaplaincy April 20, 2014. 4. District meetings changed from Spring and Fall to only Spring meeting once a year 2014 – 2015. Two important items raised were church givings by means of PAR, and Estate and Legacy givings. Thank you for the opportunity to be an East District delegate.

Ruth Baker

General Protestant Cemetery Trustee Board Inc. – Robert Barnes

It is my pleasure to submit my annual report. There were a total of 218 burials, of which 53 percent were cremations. The Columbarium is now paid in full. Forty-eight of the eighty Niches are sold. During the year we are hoping to purchase a second Columbarium.

This again was a very busy year for the Board. We met a total of ten times. The Consecration Service for the New Cemetery (Memorial Gardens) took place on June 18. Our Minister at the time, Rev. Bartlett, took part in the service. Rev. Sue White from George Street United Church conducted the “Service of Consecration.” The Board was very disappointed with the attendance.

This new cemetery is not quite ready for burials. We need a service building, equipment, a water and sewer system and hydro. The total cost is estimated at approximately \$400,000.

All congregations were asked to do a special fund raiser to support our new cemetery. A big thank you to the Seventh Day Adventists who organised a Citrus Fruit Sale. They asked all other members to participate, some did and a cheque for \$8,300 was presented to the Board at the Annual General Meeting. Thanks to our members who took part; however, I honestly believe we could have done better.

We are still not receiving financial support from all 19 member congregations. To the St. James congregation, keep up the good work. It sure makes me proud to be a member of St. James.

In closing, I would like to give a big thank you to the dedicated staff at the Cemetery. They work six days a week, sometimes through difficult and challenging situations, especially during the winter season.

Project Grace by Gillian Sheppard

2013 was a fantastic year for Project Grace. The winter and spring months saw the completion of our first year of the after school music program. In year one, we were able to offer lessons in flute, violin, cello and trumpet. The Project Grace Teaching Artist team was made up of talented musicians & educators from our community, including one professor from Memorial University's School of Music, as well as the four members of the Suncor Energy String Quartet.

In August, Project Grace hosted the largest music camp in the history of the program. In its third year, the camp was attended by 18 children over the course of two weeks, in which they learned about a variety of musical instruments (including flute, French horn, trombone, and beat boxing!), made and decorated their own cardboard violins, participated in yoga based "movement and music" classes and even completed a unit on Igor Stravinsky's famous ballet/ orchestral work "The Rite Of Spring." Students even learned some of the tricky dance moves! At the end of the camp, all the students had a chance to perform and received a certificate for their efforts.

September 2013 saw the start of our second year of the after school music program. This fall, Project Grace introduced a new piano program, which has had much success. The after school program still offers lessons in trumpet, flute and violin. Enrolment for the 2013-14 saw a great increase and the fall program had approximately 45 students participating in the group music lessons taking place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Church.

The fall of 2013 also saw the launch of a very important and successful fundraising initiative for Project Grace. In November, through partnership with Carla Safrany of Avalon Belle Jewellery we launched the "Butterfly Necklace" – a Swarovski crystal butterfly charm (in lavender, turquoise, black or clear) on a sterling silver chain. Over 75 necklaces were sold with the proceeds coming back to Project Grace. Also in November of 2013, Project Grace launched its first community outreach program – "Experiencing Music" sessions for children with challenging needs. Our founder, Gillian Sheppard, along with Teaching Artists from Project Grace partnered up with Julie Brocklehurst and Andrew Boland of Little Tulips Family Child Care to deliver interactive music sessions to a group of young children with challenging needs. So far, there have been sessions on flute, violin and trumpet, with plans in the works for more sessions on other instruments.

Project Grace was the proud recipient of a five thousand dollar Community Arts Program grant from the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council, as well as receiving substantial donations from Coastal Dance Company and the Eastern Wind Ensemble. In addition to these financial donations, we have made strong connections with other community music ensembles, including the Quintessential Vocal Ensemble and Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, who have both offered discounted or free tickets for performances of the highest quality, to the families of Project Grace students.

Project Grace is very pleased to have such a successful first year of our after school music program and continued success with the summer music camp. We look forward to another great year in 2014.