



ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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Our Newest Members – By Baptism

February 2, 2014

Alex Christopher William Day - Son of Suzanne Rae Pike and Donald Chad Day

Emily Renee Foote-Cull - Daughter of Samantha Foote and Eric Cull

Corey Edward Branton - Son of Melissa Paula Branton and Matthew Edward O'Brien

April 6, 2014

Brody Brandon Chafe - Son of Megan Amanda Nolan and Patrick Austin Chafe

May 4, 2014

Kendra Danetta Grace Earle - Daughter of Crystal MacKey and Chad Earle

June 1, 2014

Odin James Oakley - Son of Courtney Alisha Loveless & Curtis Darius Oakley

Preston Kaleb Vincent - Son of Ashley Marie King & Chesley Tony Vincent

June 8, 2014

Brian Ramjattan – (Adult)- Son of Molly Rumduas and Frank Ramjattan

Jennifer Dawn Bartlett – Daughter of Janet (Fewer) Bartlett and Trevor Radford Bartlett

July 6, 2014

Liam James Walter March - Son of Vanessa Gail Marie Drover March & Jeffrey Albert March

Hunter Nathan Davis - Son of Dakota Fabian Davis & Tiffany Anne Mersservey

Jack Allan Derek Harvey - Son John David Harvey & Kiersten Danielle (Hiscock) Harvey

Blake Clayton Blackmore - Son of Samantha Ashley Gaulton & Stephen Matthew Blackmore

August 3, 2014

Christopher James Ivory - Son of Linda Michelle (Daniels) Ivory and John Richard Maxwell Ivory

September 14, 2014

Preston Gary Milley - Son of Jillian Laura Milley

Lauren Isabelle Taite - Daughter of Anne Theresa Gough and Brian Richard Arthur Taite

November 2, 2014

James Daniel Joseph Moss - Son of Suzette Marie (Noseworthy) Moss and Bradley Joseph Moss

December 7, 2014

Zoe Janet Eliza Rose – Daughter of Tanya Leanne (Ennis) Rose and Michael William Rose
Allyanna Michelle Vivian Hammond – Daughter of Jessica Arden Barrett and Donald Ross Hammond

Jasmine Elizabeth Margaret Seydell – Daughter of Marsha Maria Seydell and Michael Christopher Seydell

Our Newest Members – Confirmation

PROFESSION OF FAITH:

June 8, 2014

Ada (Horwood) Lamswood

CONFIRMATIONS:

June 8, 2014

Nicholas Adams

Jennifer Bartlett

Madeline King

Daniel Penney

Jacob Ryan

Eric Thomas

Jenna White

Brian Ramjattan - Adult

Our Newest Members – By Transfer

George Squires

Arthura Squires

Removed By Transfer – Not applicable

Marriages

Craig Andrew Allen and Carolyn Ryung Sook Cho

January 1

Frank Grendful Guy Boone and Michele Lynn Gillingham

May 17

Michael Thomas Dooley and Sheri Leigh Anderson

June 14

Christopher Wayne Milley and Ashley Louise Butt

July 19

Adam Squires and Melissa Barrett

August 14

Timothy Joseph Paul Buchanan and Stephanie Dianne Davis
Neil Graham Tucker and Doreen Marie O'Reilly
Stephen Glen Bown and Tracey-Lynn Anne Waddleton
Dwayne Kevin Hackett and Amanda Dawn Tiller
Matthew Charles Long and Tiffany Michelle Hanames

August 23
August 23
August 30
September 26
October 18

CANDIDATE FOR DISCERNMENT 2013-14

Rebecca Pike

Statistics 2014

BAPTISMS	20
TRANSFERRED IN	2
TRANSFERRED OUT	0
PROFESSION OF FAITH	1
CONFIRMATION	8
MARRIAGES	10
CANDIDATE FOR DISCERNMENT	1
DEATHS	24

In Memoriam

David Gerard McKinnon	January 7
Basil Howard Jamieson	January 15
Mercedes Stella Batton	February 6
Mamie Pike	February 9
Sharon Sheppard	February 26
Harold James Sparkes	March 29
Sylvia Martin	April 19
Janice Sharpe	April 23
Percy Surelte	May 4
Jason John Schamper	May 13
Ruby G. Pennell	May 20
Philip George Cole	May 26
Elizabeth M. Newhook	May 29
Carman Cooze	June 1
Emily Doris Garland	June 30
Alphonsus Newhook	July 27
Elsie Cole	July 30
Judy M. Driscoll	August 25
Ian Ramjattan	September 19
Edith Reid	October 1
Violet Hodder	October 18
Leila Clase	November 8
Eric Paul	November 21
Ruth Mary Alcock	December 19

Message from the Chair of St. James Church Council, Clyde Flight

It has been my pleasure to work with your council and members of St. James congregation during the past three year as we continue to do God's work during these challenging times. 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. The Pastoral Oversight Committee from East District made an official visit to St. James on Wednesday, October 1, 2014. As yet no report has been presented and the process is ongoing. This is due, in part, to the unfortunate passing of the Rev. Mary Harris, who served as Chair of Pastoral Oversight.

As we read our In Memoriam, it is so sad to realize the number of faithful and long-time members of our congregation who have passed away during 2014. 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 were blessed with great musical leadership over the past year. Ms Christine Tiller offered yeomen service during her time with us. Christine resigned her position at the beginning of the summer, and we took the opportunity at that time to offer thanks for her excellent leadership. We were grateful for all those who offered their services in summer relief, and in the fall, we welcomed two very talented and enthusiastic young musicians, Amy Dalziel and Sophia Werden-Abrams. We are enjoying their musical leadership and feel so blessed to have them both as part of our Church Family. We are delighted to see our young people offering liturgical dance during our worship service, and as a Congregation, we embrace this expression of their faith and its contribution to our worship.

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. We are so grateful for their continuing support of our Church.

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. It requires the work of many people to keep everything moving in the positive direction we have chosen to take.

**Contribution Range Report for
2014 & 2013**

Range	Number of Contributors	
	2014	2013
0	131	131
1 - 100	56	68
101- 200	54	37
201 - 300	66	52
301 - 400	41	37
401 - 500	26	41
501 - 750	70	71
751 - 1000	32	40
1001 - 1500	41	38
1501 - 2500	14	20
2501 - 5000	16	11
5001 +	4	6
Total	551	552

Rev. Terrie Burry

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

*a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.*

What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it.

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-14

Grace and Peace to you all, in the name of Jesus Christ!

Another year has passed and what a gift it is to have spent another year with the St. James community of faith. 2014 was a year filled with milestones and causes for celebration, both vocationally and personally for me. I finished my first full year of ministry with this community and began to form relationships, really getting to know many of you - beyond simply learning first names! What a blessing it is to serve this church along with Pam and Susan, as well as SuAn, who I like to call the St. James "Office Ad-MINISTER." It has been a busy year and at the same time a wonderful year.

In addition to my regular duties at St. James - leading worship, presiding at sacraments, visiting, pastoral emergencies, weddings, funerals, attending meetings, planning with the newly-formed worship team (who are amazing!), planning programs/events/workshops, etc., with Pam, Susan and SuAn, I also have been working away on my responsibilities to East District. This past year the East District Program and Agenda Committee transitioned into a Conference Committee as my term ended as chair. I now sit on East District Education and Students, a discernment committee for a local inquirer, the worship planning committee for the 200th Anniversary of Methodism, Pastoral Oversight as chair and the East District Executive. I received a bursary in May to travel to the Holy Lands, a trip that I plan to make next spring. I was also invited to attend and present a workshop at Rendez-Vous in Winnipeg last August. I was happy to be a part of this wonderful conference and spent my time there connecting with other ministry personnel and youth from across the country, attending workshops, hearing great speakers as well as leading my own workshop, "Is It My Story or the Way I Tell It?" on the art of storytelling and the Gospel.

On a personal note, it was so touching to feel the support and heartfelt congratulations from the community this past year upon my engagement to Richard. We are getting very excited for our upcoming wedding here at St. James in June and are delighted at how so many of you have extended best wishes and welcomed Richard as part of our church family.

When “Annual Report Time” comes around each year, I will admit it can be very difficult to know exactly what to say about a whole year that has passed. How is it possible to sum up all of those things that happened, all of the work that many dedicated volunteers completed, all the worship services, bible studies, committee meetings, conversations had, celebrations of life and death? How do we reflect on where we have arrived after another year of service, community and ministry, to best decide where to go next from here?

These questions got me thinking about the Ecclesiastes reading I’ve included above. I’m sure we have all heard and read this so many times before, usually at funerals. It is a piece of scripture that truly does provide some peace and comfort when we acknowledge “endings.” It encourages us to recognize that though things come to an end, this ebb and flow, the good and bad, all are held by God. They are all a part of the path on our journey Home. This piece of scripture reads like the summary for an “end.”

However, I think as we begin another year at St. James, we can use this piece of scripture as a lens to look forward. As a reminder to us that regardless of what we encounter on our pilgrimage forward, everything that is to come- the new life and death, healing and brokenness, dancing and weeping, joy and disagreements... none of these do we experience in isolation. Yes, there will be causes for celebration, yes there will be times of trial. And yet, these are all held by God as we, too, are all held by God. For, we are told, no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. Let us continue to share in God’s mission in the world, to play our part in all the things that God is doing.

Many blessings,

Rev. Terrie Burry

Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

As I sit and reflect on the year that has past many things come to mind.

One aspect of ministry here with you that especially stands out is the warmth of hospitality that is shown as I make pastoral visits to the sick and shut-in of the congregation. Many times I have been referred to as family when I visit and this is indeed a privilege and honor. To be afforded that very aspect of hospitality when a loved one or family member is shut-in, sick or even dying is a great part of ministry with you.

With this being said I continue to visit the sick and shut-in of our congregation. This list is always evolving and I want to deeply thank those active members of the congregation who continue to keep me up to date on the needs of those who are not well or mobile. In reading this

report if you know of anyone who would like a visit or who wish to receive Holy Communion in their place of residence please let me know.

While most of my visiting takes place in a place of residence I often can be found on the telephone catching up after someone has had a medical procedure, or just to say “hi” I will be by soon. Pastoral Care through the “tely” continues to be an important part of the ministry of visitation.

I visit many nursing homes in our city and surrounding communities. Again, congregants places of residence continually change with levels of health and it is most welcome when family members keep the office up to date of any changes. Over the years we have had congregational members in almost every nursing home in the city and it too has been a great pleasure to visit members as they adapt to life changes in their new home.

This year has also been a huge year of transition for the residents of the Escasoni/Hoyles Complex (the new Long Term Care facility). It is a very important part of the outreach ministry of St. James United Church and has been for many years. Many congregational members helped the pastoral care team with the actual physical transition of patients to the new facility by being on hand if they needed to talk or just needed a friendly face.

We continue to work out a few glitches as the facility is physically much larger than the old facility. Since the move to the new facility we are also finding more patients worshipping with us on the second Tuesday of the month. Help is continually needed and I encourage you to become a volunteer through ministry at the new long-term care facility (Escasoni/Hoyles Complex). Transporting residents to and from worship includes pastoral care through conversation and fellowship. As well as the physical presence during worship is extremely valuable and important.

Thank you to all the volunteers who continually give of their time with this ministry. We have had to begin earlier on Tuesdays to get all residents down to worship and this is greatly appreciated. All patients who come to worship with us so enjoy our time together. They find it spiritually moving and the level of fellowship experienced through our ministry is really wonderful. Thank you to Phil Saunders who plays the piano regularly for our worship and also to Doreen Brown, the AOTS Men’s Group and all others who come when asked. The St. James Guitar Group worshipped with us in February and serenaded us with some classic gospel favorites as well as many “love” songs for Valentine’s Day.

I continue to sit on the Pastoral Care Committee at this complex as well as visit patients on an on-call emergency basis.

I could not let this report pass without thanking the congregation through the Ministry and Personnel Committee for affording me the opportunity to take a sabbatical for the months of July, August, September and October. It truly was a time of renewal and refreshment, not only in my professional life but in my personal life as well. As many of you know this past April the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference of The United Church of Canada cancelled funding on Memorial University and Marine Institute United Church Chaplaincy. I had been the chaplain at

MUN since 2001 and transitioning out of that ministry was a challenging part of my professional life. Being on sabbatical was able to help me discern my feelings and thoughts with that part of my professional journey ending as well as the overall Conference's decision to end that vital and important outreach ministry of the United Church in this province.

In saying this, it was wonderful to be able to read at leisure, and spend the summer months with my children, Julia, Nathan and Sophie, as well as Scott, my husband. I spent many glorious hours in my garden at home. I thoroughly enjoyed spending more time on Gambo Pond at our cabin. Sabbatical hours and days are a gracious gift of life in ministry. Thank you for that. I came back to work extremely thankful and very grateful for that time away.

Attending to worship and other aspects of ministry when Rev. Terrie is absent keeps ministry new and always challenging. I want to say a heartfelt thank you to the ministerial staff for a continued great team experience. While we are always in transition and discerning who we are as Christ's people in this day and age, it is good to be doing that with Susan and Terrie. Thanks to all others who support in any way from committee members and chairs to other staff at St. James. A special thank you to SuAn for her patience with me and my lack of computer skills☺, for continually booking visits, and for her gentle, giving spirit.

May God bless us all as we journey into the future together.

Rev. Pamela

Christian Education 2014

As always, things have been busy with programs for children, youth and adults throughout the year.

Our Sunday school now offers 4 weekly programs: Nursery for infants – 3 years, Godly Play for ages 4-7, Connect for ages 8-13 and Echo for teens. We also took time to work on presentations such as the Easter Drama led by Brenda Nyatanga and the White Gift play led by Rebecca Pike. The Sunday school also collected seeds for the Sunflower Project in High River, Alberta.

For the adults we held a Bible Study presented by Rev. Terrie on the book of John and three other studies (Embracing Emergence Christianity, Embracing an Adult Faith and Animate: Bible) with Susan. For those who like to move, there was also a session of Sacred Circle Dance as well as Yoga with our Office Administrator, SuAn.

We held our annual fundraiser, the Pancake Supper, on Shrove Tuesday to start the Lenten season. Thank you to the AOTS cooks for helping us yet again. Maundy Thursday found us gathered in the Multi-purpose room with youth and other members of the congregation to watch Jesus Christ Superstar followed by a discussion and an Agape Meal. To end Lent, we continued our tradition of the Good Friday Walk.

In 2014, 7 youth and 1 adult confirmed. There are 8 youth and 3 adults in the class preparing for confirmation in 2015.

The Liturgical dance program continued and in September expanded to two groups. The monthly movie nights have returned as part of our programming and a new Young Adults group started.

Over the year, we held two Youth Retreats. January found us at the Rotary Sunshine Park for a two-night retreat. Ten of our younger youth attended this event. In October, we pulled off an event on very short notice when the planned Conference Youth Forum had to be cancelled at the last minute. This event featured guest speaker David Csinos founder of the Faith Forward Conference for Children and Youth Ministry.

Over the summer 4 of our youth participated in the GO project in Stratford, Ontario and Rebecca Pike was hired to be Site Staff for the Go Projects in Stratford and Toronto. Here at St. James, we were GO Project hosts to 16 youth and leaders from across the country in early July. August saw us sending 5 youth and young adults to Winnipeg for the national gathering of United Church Youth known as Rendez-vous. One of our youth, Chelsea Skanes, presented two workshops at the event as did Rev. Terrie. Susan Sheppard was part of the organizing committee for the event and was to have presented workshops as well but could not attend due to illness.

2014 was indeed a busy year and 2015 is promising to be the same. Thank you for your support of the programs and work of CE, especially the GO Project.

Susan Sheppard

UCW ANNUAL REPORT 2014

United Church Women - Barbara Adams and Betty Pilgrim (Co-Presidents)

The 2014 year was another busy one for the UCW. Although our numbers are dwindling and we are all getting older, we're still a strong, committed and energetic group. Our two major fundraisers for the year were the *Spring Tea* and the *Fall Sale and Morning Coffee*. Both were very successful and our *Fall Sale* was the most financially successful sale ever. We are very grateful to those who contributed to the Sales and to those who supported them. We were very pleased to donate \$8600.00 to the church for the roof fund from the joint proceeds of our two Sales. In February, our group supported the Telegram's *Warm Hearts* campaign by knitting or crocheting over 100 squares that would be sewn together to make blankets and donated to Iris Kirby House. In December, monies from our Thank Offering and our Christmas collection, in lieu of exchanging gifts, were used to support our Christmas Outreach project of giving a donation to the clergy for the support of needy individuals and families.

Our two social events of the year were the UCW closing dinner in May and the Christmas dinner in December. Both were catered by Pat, Mary and Sue, with whom we have developed a good relationship because of their good food and their friendly service. In both May and December the after dinner entertainment was the St. James Guitar Group. The music was lively and the women all enjoyed a jolly sing along.

Our monthly meetings always include a worship program and a social time. At the end of 2014 we started to rotate responsibility for program planning among UCW members so that more women could become involved. Worship programs were themed around a special event of the month such as New Years, Valentines, Easter, etc. and often include group participation. We would like to thank all those who coordinated the programs in 2014 and those who assisted in the programs. Our meetings end with a social time, aptly organized by Betty Winsor and Edna Bemister, with help from UCW members.

We always welcome new members to our UCW group. We are sure that you will find the friendliness and fellowship in the UCW as we do. It is a wonderful group to be a part of. The meetings take place on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The 2015 Executive and Committee Conveners are:

Executive

Past Co-Presidents: Vera Marshall and Jean White
Co-Presidents: Barbara Adams and Betty Pilgrim
Recording Secretary: Glenda Butt
Treasurer: Donna Downey
Assistant Treasurer: Sheilah Beckett
Corresponding Secretary: Ruth Baker
Honourary Member: Shirley Bursey

Committee Conveners

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

UCW 2014 REPORTS

Membership Report for 2014:

I'm pleased to say our membership is a very dependable and hardworking group. They attend meetings whenever possible! They also work diligently to raise funds for the Community and needs and work of our Church. So in that sense, it was a very successful year. The average attendance at meetings was 34.

I know our thanks must go out to the members who visit or call our Home Members. I'm sure we all feel this is one of the most important parts of our work. I'm sure we all look forward to our monthly phone calls and at other times when necessary. We have to thank our faithful Phoning Committee for that; they are Helen Crummell, Joan King, Muriel Baker, Nina Abbott, Rita Dawe, Florence White and Shirley Bursey.

A sincere thank you must go out to each and every member of our U.C.W. , for what would our group be without you all.

God Bless and Keep You; all the best in 2015.
Respectfully submitted by Shirley Bursey.

Annual Report from the Kitchen Convenors:

Once again it has been a pleasure to serve as Kitchen Convenors. It wasn't difficult. Edna and I were always assisted in preparation and cleaning up by members who brought along food for the meeting.

Actually, no matter what the occasion, members were always ready to lend a hand. It became much simpler when we knew in advance who was providing food for the next meeting.

Edna and I would like to thank you all for your support.

God Bless.

Respectfully submitted by Betty Winsor.

St. James U.C.W. Sick/Shut-In Visitation Report - 2014

*“Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads,
and I will give you rest”*

~~Matthew 1 v 28~~

The purpose of this type of visit to our home/sick and shut- in members is to reach out and minister to those who cannot come to church because of their health. This ministry provides fellowship, simply listening, holding hands and praying with them.

In 2014 there were 10 members, some homebound, assisted living centers or, residents of nursing homes. A total of 33 (thirty three) visits, 2 (two) telephone calls were conducted, and a number of “Thinking of You” greeting cards were sent out to a home member out of province.

All members were visited over the Christmas season, the team mark this occasion as extra special. This year the UCW purchased beautifully wrapped gifts of chocolates, Christmas and prayer cards and presented them to each member during the Christmas Visits. These gifts are very much appreciated, the expressions on their faces tell it all.

Sad to report we lost three (3) of those members during the year. Marie Pike (French), Sylvia Martin and Violet Hodder. We will remember them always with caring thoughts and prayer.

Rev. Pamela is kept abreast of any illness or hospitalization of those members and will visit them once notified.

We have a team of 4 (four) volunteers who are dedicated to the ministry of visitation. The goal of this ministry is to get to know those wonderful women, to keep them abreast of what is happening at UCW and the church, and let each of them know that they are still a cherished part of our church family. We offer warm smiles and hugs which always brightens their day.

The team members make regular visits, bringing along a Sunday bulletin, cookies, candy, a greeting card, prayer card and sharing a prayer with them before leaving. We indeed have to be tactful as we never know what could occur during the visit.

There are times when a family member may be visiting at the same time and that gives us an opportunity to chat and seek facts on the health of their loved one. An expression of gratitude is often passed on to us by the family for our dedication and love.

At this time I wish to acknowledge the team members, Jean White, Vera Marshall and Rosemary White. A heartfelt "Thanks" and gratitude for your unwavering support to me over the years, the love, dedication and support towards our home members. I also want to thank Rev. Pamela for her understanding, commitment and support to me since taking on this role.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Butt

Annual Report to Church Council from UCW for 2014

Our two main fundraising events, the Spring Afternoon Tea and the Fall Morning Coffee, were very successful again this year. We are very grateful for the support that we continue to receive from the congregation and our friends at each of those events. This year we were very pleased to make two significant donations to St. James, totalling \$8,600.

In April, we raised \$80 for the Chaplaincy Fund. We also hosted the monthly Coffee Hour. In May, our UCW provided the ushering for each of the Sunday Services.

In June, our choir once again provided music and refreshments for the Birthday Party at the Agnes Pratt Nursing Home for the clients celebrating their birthdays in June.

In September, several of our members attended the UCW rally at George Street United Church. In October, our UCW conducted the Church Service on Laity Sunday.

Our UCW Choir continues to be very active under the leadership of Doreen Brown. The Friendship Group, who meet every second Wednesday, continues to provide a wonderful service of fun and fellowship for our seniors.

Our Visitation Committee continues to visit our valued members who can no longer attend meetings. Those visits are very much appreciated by our 'Home' members. Presently, we have 54 active members and 5 home members.

Respectfully submitted,
Menetha Dyke, UCW Rep.

Ministry and Personnel Committee

Annual Report – 2014

During 2014 the Ministry and Personnel Committee consisted of three members: Heather Hickman, Brenda Kelleher-Flight and Jim Von Riesen, chair.

As chair of the committee, I want to express my deep gratitude to Brenda and Heather. 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.

Since March of 2014, Dave Hapgood, Jr., has been off on Workers' Compensation due to back difficulties. We hope he will be able to return to continue his valuable work for St. James.

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, Bruce Winsor and

Lorne Hollett (who have been filling in so ably for Dave

Hapgood this past year), Linda Martin, and Keith Davis

Organist/Adult Choir Directors: Amy Dalziel and Sophia Werden-
Abrams

Choir director for youth, men and women: Doreen Brown

Treasurer: Jean Thompson

And, as well a big thank you to the all 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 completed the task of conducting performance reviews for the staff. In 2015 that cycle will begin again.

Our task of developing a Management (or Personnel Policies) Document to provide consistent guidelines for our employment practices was completed and approved by Council in February.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Von Riesen

Property Committee 2014 Annual Report - St James United Church

This Property Committee report presents the maintenance activities for the year and the actions that we have taken to preserve our asset, utilize our own human resource expertise, and seek to stay within the \$5000 maintenance budget approved by Council. This past year the Committee stayed within the budget that was provided at the beginning of the year.

No major projects were undertaken in 2014. We did receive a quote of \$1600 to fix the potholes and other asphalt areas but the work was not completed due to budget restraints. UC Conference office and MUN have been contacted for parking lot financial or other support to carry out repairs during the summer of 2015 which has been favourable to date.

We do still 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 has been carried out on the windows to determine the leak location and rectify same. It appears as if the window design is not the best at the junction where the small opening windows meet the fixed window frame and a solution has been developed to repair same and carry out a full recaulking on the outside.

A number of zone valves for heating the church are giving us a little heartburn with the 50 year old valve for the church Sanctuary scheduled to be replaced with a modern design this upcoming summer. We did have an electrical inspection carried out with no major issues identified except the older electrical panels in the church and auditorium which are still functional and safe. It was recommended that separate light switches be installed for the lighting in lieu of using the panel circuit breakers as switches. One of the main electrical junction boxes within the commercial stove in the kitchen malfunctioned in December and had to be replaced at a cost of \$850.00.

Your Committee, along with Council and the Ministers, will be looking at the stained glass window initiative for the church Sanctuary windows. Further dialogue /information will be forthcoming to the congregation in the summer of 2015.

It is proposed that we relocate the baby barn on the church property in the summer of 2015 to take care of our maintenance equipment and storage and make it easier for our maintenance personnel to move equipment.

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

The gull problem on the church roof is still a little nuisance re aesthetics and will be reviewed again in the coming summer. The proposal from the professional firm ORKIN in the amount of \$9600 has been reviewed by Council and was not within our financial capabilities in 2014. A cheaper solution such as the bird on a flex wire, presently being used by Mile One, is being considered.

The snow clearing /ice control agreement in place with MUN for the past year has progressed very well without any major difficulty to St James or its congregational members. A number of passes are available for special occasions and MUN vacates the parking lot for St James funerals and other special functions. New parking lot lines and asphalt repairs, a priority, will be carried out early summer of 2015.

The budget for the operation and normal maintenance appears to be sufficient to keep the operations moving forward in a positive direction. The heating cost during 2014 was a little less than normal for the weather encountered and should be reduced significantly for 2015 if the price of oil remains low.

The difficulty arises in maintaining the budget amount when the Church requires a major capital expenditure or an allowance for unknown emergency expenses.

The Property Committee also thanks those who assisted with the flower beds this past year and we will be seeking assistance from the congregation to help with the planting and maintenance of the flower beds and trees around the church during the coming summer.

The Committee's goals for 2015 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 and to seek our own resources to assist with related work that require attention.
- To provide assistance with the preparation of the annual operational budget, and provide input into any capital expenditures required for 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, Oliver Wellon, Bruce Windsor, Lorne Hollett, Linda Martin, Charles Pelley and especially SuAn

Randall with 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 is 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 be involved in a full-time committee.

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

Best regards,
Bill Legge on behalf of the 2014 Property Committee

Administration and Communications – Janice Winsor

As SuAn Randall, our office administrator, completes her daily tasks, she follows the church calendar, planning ahead for each season. For the past year, a very large work-in-progress involved, when time permitted, the gradual documenting of her daily duties for use in preparing a procedures manual. This manual will help us in our planning for supplies and assistance required to complete these tasks.

Most weeks SuAn prints 160-200 bulletins for the Sunday service, but this number changes with the seasons. Because the services are projected on PowerPoint, we are hoping to produce fewer copies and save on paper and copier costs. Please feel free to share your bulletin whenever you can.

After finalizing a new contract for our photocopier in 2013, we started working on figures for a new telephone system. In May, Rogers installed new telecommunications hardware to bring our system completely up to date to make us more efficient, and now you can call us and select the party you wish to speak to and leave a message for that person without going through the main office. We get one bill for both our telephones and internet, with a reduced monthly rate.

During the summer all the computers in the church offices were updated with the same operating system and Microsoft software.

This summer Annie Brown and Joel Le Feuvre were hired under provincial and federal grants. Annie helped SuAn look after the office and update our family database and historical records, and Joel worked on archival files and made a database of all the music in the church. Annie and Joel were quite engaged in their tasks and did a great job of bringing us up to date with special projects identified during the year.

After many years of dedication as our Archivist, June Jones has stepped down and Noah Morrith has kindly agreed to continue her work. Noah and June recently met with members of MUN Archives and the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives to discuss policies and procedures and projects that will need to be done in the next year.

In November our committee offered to find a way to involve more families provide assistance and food for our coffee hours. We made phone calls to 50-75 families in our zone mail list but we were very disappointed with the response. We contacted only about 20 percent of the people we called, and many of those weren't able to assist us at the time. So we are kindly asking you to call SuAn if you would like to provide some food for coffee hour at least one time during the year. Coffee hours are held on the third Sunday of every month, excluding July and August.

We published the Visitor three times and continue to send it to you via email or in hard copy, as you wish. Prior to last year we printed more than 600 hard copies of each publication and our zone captains brought them to your door; we now print less than 350 and email the rest, resulting in considerable savings to paper and copier costs. If you would like to receive an email copy, please call SuAn.

We administer 58 zones to distribute paper copies of our communications to you, and we use Canada Post to mail to 30 members. Our zone captains are committed to getting church information to you, and we are very appreciative of their dedication. As you know, postage rates have doubled this year. Please help us reduce postage costs by arranging to pick up mail instead of having us mail it to you.

Thank you to my committee members. Although we have very few face-to-face meetings, we share information and ideas through email and get the work of the committee done. Thank you especially to Glenda Winsor as she continues to maintain the website www.stjamesuc.org. Also, many thanks to SuAn who works tirelessly to respond to all your requests.

2014 ANNUAL REPORT ST. JAMES AOTS (MEN'S) CLUB

INTRODUCTION:

During 2014 our AOTS (Men's) Club maintained an active role in the life and work of our St. James congregation through outreach, congregational worship support, stewardship, and volunteer support. Our regular monthly dinner meetings, with the dedicated support of our kitchen helpers, were well attended and we welcomed a number of guest speakers who spoke on issues of member interest. Several new members were welcomed during the course of the year.

OUTREACH:

The Club assisted Rev. Pamela-Jones Fitzgerald with her regular monthly services at the Hoyles-Escasoni Complex and later in the year at the new Pleasantville Seniors' complex. Pre-Christmas visits, including a carol program, were made to the latter complex, to Tiffany Village, and to Kelly Brook Seniors' Apartments. These visits were deeply appreciated by residents and staff.

MINISTERIAL/CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT:

Under Doreen Brown's continuing leadership our Men's Choir participated actively in our congregational services during the year. Our Club also conducted the spring laity service. In addition we also provided financial support to the 2014 Youth Forum co-ordinated by Susan Sheppard and also assisted with other congregational and youth project activities.

STEWARDSHIP/PROJECTS:

Our Club undertook a number of stewardship related projects during the year to meet our \$2500 commitment to the St. James 2014 budget. We also provided \$500 to M&S and made a contribution to the Burry Heights fall fund raiser. We extend sincere appreciation to our congregation members and friends for their support of various projects, including our fish dinners.

SOCIAL/VISITATION:

Our 2014 Christmas social was well attended and we thank Ron Robbins for the coordination of this annual event for members and special guests. During the year our Club through the dedication of Rev. Bill Coish maintained a regular visitation program for members with health challenges.

MEMBERSHIP:

As of December 31, 2014 there were 36 active members in our club.

CLUB EXECUTIVE 2014/15:

President:	Leslie Dean	Treasurer:	Aubrey Hill
Vice-President	Eric King	Projects/Kitchen:	David Hapgood/Albert Styles
Past President:	Carlson Emberley	Outreach:	Ron Robbins
Visitation:	Rev. Bill Coish	Men's Choir:	Bruce Hunt

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

The financial statement of revenues and expenditures for the St. James AOTS Men's Club for 2014 is appended and is an integral part of this annual report. It shows a bank balance of \$2054 at December 31, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie J. Dean, President

St. James AOTS Men's Service Club

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures

For period ended December 31, 2014

Bank Balance as of January 1, 2014			\$ 3,062
Revenues			
Dinner meetings			
Revenues	1,065		
Expenditures	<u>823</u>		
NET		242	
Catering			
Revenues	1,580		
Expenditures	<u>297</u>		
NET		<u>1,283</u>	
Fish Dinner			
Revenues	5,089		
Expenditures	<u>1,486</u>		
NET		<u>3,603</u>	
Donations/In Memorial		<u>695</u>	
TOTAL REVENUE			5,823
EXPENDITURES			
Donation Church (Roof)		2,500	
Mission & Service Fund		500	
Clergy Breakfast		93	
Guest Speaker		200	
Mike for Mens Club		204	
Payment Church (Drama Group Funds)		1,544	
Equipment for Church		115	
Burry Heights		100	
Donations		25	
Kitchen Equipment & Supplies		495	
Christmas Dinner		626	
Miscellaneous		165	
Bank Charges (Cheques)		64	
Youth Forum		<u>200</u>	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			6,831
Revenues over (under) expenditures			(1,008)
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2014			\$ 2,054

WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS REPORT - 2014

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH

Worship and Sacraments has continued to be busy behind the scenes upholding and enhancing the quality of worship at St. James.

September saw the formation of the worship team, led by Marilyn Adams. This team has provided cohesion between the different facets of our worship, improving both communication and coordination.

Karen Brown has admirably assumed the duties of Holy Communion. She puts much thought and effort into the execution and presentation.

Karen has also taken on the responsibility of folding the bulletins each week for service. We extend our deepest appreciation to Karen for assuming these duties.

David Hapgood continues to look after the ushering needs for the various services happening at St. James. Thanks to David's expertise and commitment things continue to run smoothly. After a polling of the congregation, July and August 2014 saw a trialing of 10:00am versus 11:00am services for the summer months. This has met with mixed reviews and we are reviewing for the coming summer.

December saw a change to the Christmas Eve format. It was a learning experience for all involved but was met with a very positive response. Both services were very well attended with the earlier communion service allowing younger families to partake.

Terms of reference for "In Memorials" {formally Memorial Fund} have been finalized and copies are available at the office.

Susan Pike continues her role as Clerk of Session and works diligently on our behalf.

We welcome Rev. Pam back from her sabbatical and trust she returns to us invigorated to continue her wonderful ministry. We are blessed at St. James to have such a wonderful complement of clergy, so dedicated to the spiritual well being of their congregation. Rev. Terrie, Rev. Pam and Susan – may you feel our prayers, support and thankfulness going forward into a new year and new challenges.

As Chair, I would like to express my deepest appreciation for all members of the Worship and Sacraments committee. Volunteering their time and talents, they have been invaluable to me as I continue to learn and grow as committee chair.

Michelle Skinner, Chair, Worship and Sacraments Committee

Music and Liturgy/Worship Team

From January to September, the Music and Liturgy Committee continued to schedule regular services guided by the Lectionary and including the various choirs and musical groups who provide exceptional music ministry to our congregation.

Our Music Program has seen significant changes in 2014. Membership, especially in the soprano & alto sections of our Senior Choir has been a concern for some time. (We are very fortunate to have a significant number of male voices). In January, we were pleased to secure approval to hire a Choral Scholar, a soprano. Sheila Aucoin was subsequently hired and provided tremendous support to our soprano section until May, 2014.

Christine Tiller, our Organist and Choir Director, tendered her resignation in May. We sincerely thank Christine for her dedication to the Ministry of Music at St. James and her commitment to the Senior Choir. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Throughout the summer we availed of a number of musicians from our community, including Bob Rose, who agreed to provide support while we advertised for a replacement. Of particular mention is Mian Chen, a student at MUN, who is also pursuing certification to the Canadian College of Organists. Her skill and ability on the organ enthralled all those who had the pleasure to experience her talent. We were extremely fortunate to have two very qualified applicants for the advertised position which resulted in the development of co-Music Director positions currently occupied by Amy Dalziel and Sophia Werden-Abrams. We look forward to continuing on our exciting journey in the Ministry of Music with these Directors.

In September, the Worship Team replaced the Music and Liturgy committee. This team, is comprised of the Ministers, all music Leaders, a representative from the Worship and Sacraments Committee and two persons representing the congregation. The purpose of the Team is to develop the schedule of worship services; provide support and assistance to the Ministers in planning, preparing and presenting worship services; coordinating the Ministry of the Word with the Ministry of Music; including intergenerational and other alternative participation to ensure the congregation is experiencing a meaningful and spiritual worship. The Team meets as is necessary, but at least once a month to discuss and plan the services for weeks in advance. We are currently working on the Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Services as well as finalizing the worship schedule through to October, 2015.

Communion Report

A year ago I started preparing the Communion table and arranging for servers to serve Communion. I was a bit apprehensive at first but knew that they were having trouble finding someone to carry on the job that Mary Hood had been doing for the past seven years. So I decided to give it a try and I am so glad that I did. Mary spent a fair bit of time preparing me for the job. She walked me through everything. She also has been available anytime for me to call and ask questions. She had everything written down for me so I could have it to refer to if needed. I am so very thankful and appreciate all she has done, she has made the transition so much easier. I enjoyed the time spent learning from Mary and feel blessed to have gotten to know her better.

We have always served Communion in two ways at St. James, in the pews or by intinction. During most of the winter months we serve Communion in the pews and in the summer and during Christmas and Easter we serve by intinction. I like to use bread and roll mix for the bread when serving in the pews because it gives me enough bread for the loaf of blessing as well and cuts down on cost. For intinction, I use pocketless pita because when cut it doesn't split apart and I can cut it longer so that it can be dipped into the grape juice without causing contamination. We also serve gluten free alternative for Communion. I was using rice crackers but they were a bit too crunchy so now I use rice cakes instead. I have Rev. Terrie and her mom to thank for the suggestion.

Everything has been going smoothly for the most part. Of course, whenever starting something new there is bound to be a few hiccups along the way. I have been just going with the flow, learning from these little mistakes and sometimes laughing at myself. For instance, forgetting to uncover the elements. However, some of these mistakes become happy accidents. There was one particular Sunday that I forgot to slightly cut the loaf of blessing for ease of breaking, like I usually do. Afterwards Rev. Terrie said that she felt that it was much more symbolic to leave it uncut and just break it by hand. I have been leaving it uncut ever since.

It has been a very rewarding and enjoyable year. It has been wonderful to get in touch with the members of the congregation. I have never been good with names but I am getting a little better. I have enjoyed the time spent with those that have volunteered to help. Chatting as we work together has been a lot of fun and a wonderful way to get to know people a little better. My goal is to get more people involved in serving Communion. Besides serving Communion, there is a fair bit of work involved in the clean up afterwards. So it is wonderful to have help with this. As they say, "many hands make light work." I would like to thank all of those who took part in serving Communion this year, I couldn't have done it without them.

I would like to encourage the servers and the congregation to find Communion a pleasant and happy experience. I like to see lots of smiles and people sharing this beautiful experience in a friendly manner.

I encourage anyone who is feeling like they would like to do some sort of volunteer work at the church, but feels too nervous, to give it a try. It is a very rewarding and worthwhile experience and there is always someone to help you along the way.

It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to prepare the Lord's table for my faith community this past year and I hope that I will be able to successfully continue for many years to come.

Karen Brown

East District Delegate Report 2014

East District Spring Meeting was held at Cowan Heights United Church, St. John's, NL, from May 23-25, 2014. The special speaker was Rev. Rob Fennell, Associate Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at the Atlantic School of Theology. He spoke on the theme: "If not us, then who?" The main point of the conversation concerned the Gift of God calling to us in this time to be the people of God in the world. If we do not receive and take up the challenge of serving the Christian mission, who will? Rev. Fennell discussed a few troublesome issues in our life together as a Church, such as time spent on nonessential issues, and things we like to bicker about such as fund raising. He offered seven functions that we should be concerned about:

1. worship;
2. teaching the faith;
3. serving others;
4. bearing witness;
5. building community;
6. proclaiming the faith;
7. reconciliation.

Patti Talbot, General Council Representative, gave a report on M&S and also showed slides of her trip to the Philippines after the super typhoon in 2013. \$1.6 million was raised by the United Church.

Highlights

Finance: Effective 2015, the assessment formula will change from the number of households under pastoral care to 5% of the total funds raised by the congregation givings, less M&S, exclusive of UCW, with a process available to consider exceptions on appeal.

Comprehensive Review and Models of Ministry, Task Group Report: The UC churches and congregations are changing. All have challenges; churches are getting smaller, amalgamating or closing. Diminishing resources, both financial and human, are all affecting our ability to make a difference in God's world. The Task Group heard that:

1. our church needs to change;
2. a sense of denominational identity as an open, welcoming and justice seeking church is needed, as well as a yearning to share that identity more clearly and publicly;
3. there is a need for governance that is simpler and more effective.

The Task Group has spoken with committees and other groups and is now turning to districts and General Council that will meet in August 2015 for the wisdom and expertise, experience and responsibilities that they are able to offer.

New models of ministry will be needed to meet the needs of a changing society. It is important for congregations to be informed of this decision making if they are to support the new mission as it unfolds.

The following issues were also discussed: Mission & Service, PAR, legacy givings, gifting, RRSP, RRIF, bequests, annuities. These gifts will ensure that the United Church will be there for future generations.

Notable Events: Moderator Rt. Rev. Gary Patterson visited NL from October 17-19, 2014. A celebration was held at Cochrane Street United Church with our St. James Guitar Group performing.

The 42nd General Council will meet in Corner Brook, NL from August 8-15, 2015. More information may be obtained from the UCC: www.unitedchurch.ca

This has been a learning experience in our United Church that is very important at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Baker, delegate

The General Protestant Cemetery Report

As your representative on The General Protestant Cemetery Board, I present to you my Annual Report for the year 2014.

Again this year there was an increase in Burials. Fifty-nine percent were Cremations. All Niches in the present Columbarium are sold. There will be a new one installed early in the spring.

This was a very busy year for the Board with the New Cemetery (Memorial Gardens) taking up a lot of time. Glad to report, that the construction of the new building is now complete, but for a few minor items. The total cost was over \$300,000.00.

The plans are to move into Memorial Gardens located at 25 Reservoir Road, Southlands in St John's, early in the Spring. This will bring with it extra Operating Expenses.

The Memorial Service at Mount Pleasant was well attended, however, donations were down. We also continued to have a Memorial Service at the General Protestant Cemetery. We now have a Fundraising Committee in place, consisting of five people, chaired by Mr. Jeff Peters.

We are still not receiving financial support from all 18 Member Congregations. I want to say a big thank you to our Congregation. I am proud to be a member of St. James.

Our Cemetery staff is very dedicated. They operate six days per week, sometimes under very difficult and challenging situations.

Respectfully Submitted by Robert Barnes



Project Grace

Year 3 of the Project Grace After-School Music Program at St. James United Church is well under way and what a great year it is!

In 2014, Project Grace was lucky to be the recipient of two major grants – an \$8,000 grant from TD MusiCounts and a \$9,999 grant from United Way Newfoundland and Labrador. Both of these grants were specifically designated to help Project Grace purchase the necessary instruments needed to run the program as it is, and to set it up for the planned expansion in the 2015-16 school year. Thanks to MusiCounts & United Way, Project Grace now owns 5 cellos, 18 violins, 4 flutes, 4 trumpets, 2 trombones, 4 sets of drum pads and 4 keyboards with stands and benches.

The Project Grace After-School Music Program has grown this year. We now offer 4 days of programming (Monday through Thursday between 2:45 and 4:15pm at the church), the students play in orchestra together, and from January to April all students have been invited to join our Chamber Music program! Additionally, the PG orchestral program now has a sister group, the Patricia Young Youth Choral Academy, which rehearses on weekends at Cochrane Street United Church.

The first performance of our Project Grace Youth Orchestra happened in December at our annual Fall Semester Showcase! Together the children performed Jingle Bells which was specifically arranged for our orchestra by MUN Composition student Jenny Griffoen.

Students in the chamber music have been working together to learn music for small groups – duos, trios and quartets – with various instrumentation. They've also been treated to the opportunity to work with one of Newfoundland's most renowned classical groups, Duo Concertante. Over the course of the rest of this semester, Chamber Music participants will get to work with other faculty and graduate students from the Memorial University School of Music.

Further successes for Project Grace in 2015 include being recipient of a second grant (\$4,500) from the Newfoundland & Labrador Arts Council, to support our teaching artist staff, and a grant of \$5,000 from the United Church Mission and Support Fund, given to the PG choral program at Cochrane Street United Church.

Project Grace now has 7 members on faculty, a team which we are looking forward to adding 2 new members in September 2015. Students have an exciting spring semester coming up, including a concert in the first week of June and summer music camps to follow in July and August. The semester showcase for the winter months will happen on the last weekend of March. Please stay tuned for details!

As always, Project Grace is grateful for the support of the St. James United Church staff and congregation. The church continues to be a safe and enjoyable space for our students to participate in their music lessons, and we are proud to be members of the St James family. For many of these students, without the free tuition and loan of instruments provided by Project Grace, community music making would not be possible. Project Grace is grateful to all those

who have supported the program. Any donation -whether it is an instrument, volunteer time, or a financial contribution – is always greatly appreciated.

If you wish to support Project Grace, please visit our website or contact our Executive Director. If you would simply like to see the program in action, we welcome you to visit us on any Monday through Thursday afternoons between 2:45 and 4:15pm!

Questions? Contact:

Gillian Sheppard, Executive Director projectgracenl@gmail.com

Please visit us at www.projectgrace.ca; like us on facebook and follow us on twitter:

@ProjectGraceNL

Bridges To Hope 2014

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff at Bridges To Hope I would like to thank you for your generous support and continued commitment to Bridges To Hope. Your contribution of food, funds and volunteer time throughout 2014 has enabled Bridges To Hope to continue its very important work in the community.

In 2014 the Bridges To Hope Food Pantry served over 8,200 people and 1,800 of those served were children. With your support we were able to provide each client with nutritious food hampers that contained fresh fruit, homemade bread (from our community kitchen), milk and other food items necessary for health and wellness. Those food hampers are a lifeline for persons who are facing extraordinary challenges in their daily lives.

Our Food Pantry was staffed with volunteers from throughout the community, and community service organizations such as Canada World Youth, Elaine Dobbin Centre for Autism, Skills Link and Partners for Workplace Inclusion, to name a few.

The Community Kitchen has been very busy, offering health and wellness cooking programs to clients who include persons with physical and mental disabilities, socialization issues, persons who are elderly, youth who are homeless and /or at risk, expectant mothers, low income - employed and unemployed persons, families on assistance. Your support has ensured, that we are able to offer help to everyone – regardless of their life circumstance. Our Community Kitchen also prepares food for the Food Pantry including fresh baked bread, soup, stews and other home cooked meals.

Other programs offered by Bridges To Hope include education support initiatives such as **Bag To School** and **Passion For Projects**. In 2014 the Bag To School program provided over 900 students with curriculum based school supplies and book bags for students K-12 and in Adult Basic Education. The Passion for Projects initiative provided students with high quality school project (heritage fair and science fairs) supplies. Significant funding for Bag To School was obtained from the United Church Gifts with Vision fund.

The community has always been the cornerstone of support for the work being done at Bridges To Hope. This commitment was evident at the **2014 Chair'ity Dinner and Auction** held at the Sheraton Hotel in November. The event was a tremendous success with over 200 guests and significant funds raised to support Bridges programs. Special thank you to all those who contributed to the beautiful Church baskets that were auctioned at the event.

Bridges To Hope also welcomed a new Program Director, Heather Elliott. She comes to us after a successful career with CBC, the Liquor Commission, and Habitat for Humanity. Her tremendous enthusiasm has been infectious and is felt by both Staff and the Board.

To cap the year off, Bridges To Hope partnered once again with the Rotary Club of St. John's for the annual Christmas Hamper Campaign. Over 450 hampers were distributed to individuals and families from St. Andrews Presbyterian Church on Saturday, December 20th.

Stephen Jones
Chair, Bridges To Hope