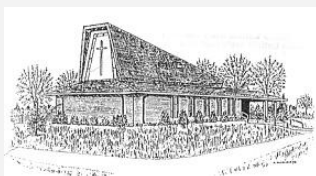




Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson

Highlights

Finance and Stewardship	2
Outreach Council	3
Membership & Pastoral Care	3
Bible Adventures	4
WPUC Garden Club	4
Our Church Family	4
Ramblings from the Other Office	5
United Church Women	5
Congregational Involvement	6
WPUC Art Group 0000000000	6
Thursday Morning Study Group	6
Events and Property	7
Church Membership	8
Moms 'n Tots	8
Trustees Report	9
Religion & Science	9
Distinguished Alumni	10



From the study

The blazing spring sun is shining through my window reminding me that we are on the cusp of a new season full of light and warmth. After the winter we have endured this year, we are all in need of a reason to hope.

Easter is the most significant day for Christians. In spite of the way toy manufacturers and greeting card companies have championed Christmas, in terms of our faith there is nothing to match Easter.

This year we have journeyed through Lent guided by Derek Flood's recent book; Healing the Gospel. In it he challenges us to look at the life, death and resurrection of Jesus in a radically different way. Digging deep into our scriptures he discovers a God of love who rejects rules where they get in the way of compassion and common sense.

Flood invites us to see Lent not as a season of darkness

but as a time of emerging light and understanding. Contrary to what most of us have known in the past, we are encouraged to let go of our preoccupation with sin, guilt and shame and, instead, revel in the wonder of God's grace.

Just as surely as the robins return and the crocuses burst from the ground in these early days of spring, so too does God stand with us in the hard, dark times of our lives to restore us to new life and joy. This is worth celebrating!

Please join us for the special services of Holy Week including our Easter Breakfast.

As we look ahead, the Quiz Night is a perfect time to gather some friends for an evening of good fun...and a bit of competition!

In May I will be facilitating four evenings of study around a most interesting video series, "Religion and Science: Pathways to Truth". The series is hosted



by Dr. Francis Collins who was director of the Human Genome Project, a physician and a committed Methodist. We'll meet on each Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and bring a friend!

We are blessed at WPUC with a community that celebrates Easter throughout the year in words and actions that embody the very heart of the Gospel: grace, compassion, fellowship, forgiveness and service to others.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1: 18)

Wishing you a life inspired by the miracle of the empty cross!

Sharon

EASTER 2014
At Windsor Park
United Church



PALM SUNDAY
April 13th at 10:30 am

GOOD FRIDAY
April 18th at 10:30 am

EASTER
April 20th at 10:30 am



Finance and Stewardship



**“40-for 40
for 2014.”**

As promised at the Annual General Meeting we said we would report on our financial state.

The report is we have a deficit of \$11,935.98 as at March 31, 2014 and are on track to have a year-end deficit around \$16,000.00 which we cannot afford.

The more immediate issue is we are in danger of running out of cash over the summer to pay our bills. Our cash position will be published every month with our regular Financial Report.

We have seen a slight increase in givings and one more person using PAR but now we need a serious commitment.

We need 40 of us to pledge to give an extra \$40 per month to the General Fund for the next 12 months starting this month.

The term '40-for-40 for 2014' has been coined to describe this commitment. With this commitment our deficit this year will be much closer to zero and next year's budget will look a lot better.

We are also on track to have the Lift loan paid off in November of 2014. A motion was passed at the AGM which will direct any excess funds received after the loan is paid to be directed to the Boiler Fund unless the donor provides other instructions.

Please let Luci <officewpuc@mymts.net> know that you have made the '40-for-40 for 2014' commitment or any other commitment amount so that we get past this thorny issue.

I will be providing regular updates of our financial position and the consequences of that position.

Thanks for your prayerful consideration,

Doug Waldron,

Chair, Finance and Stewardship

Financial Report <u>General Operating Fund</u>	YTD <u>March 31, 2014</u>	YTD Budget <u>March 31, 2014</u>	Over (Under) <u>Budget</u>
Local Givings	\$ 45,318.93	\$47,680.00	(\$ 2,361.07)
Other	<u>2,873.61</u>	<u>2,149.98</u>	<u>723.63</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$48,192.54	\$48,829.98	(\$1,637.44)
EXPENSES	<u>(\$60,128.52)</u>	<u>(\$59,555.00)</u>	<u>(\$573.52)</u>
Financial position (Deficit)	(\$11,935.98)	(\$9,725.02)	(\$2,210.96)

In order to eliminate our projected deficit, local givings as at March 31 should have been \$5,736.86 greater.

Mission & Service Fund	\$6,235.10	\$5,800.00	\$436.10
Original Amount of Barrier Free Project Debt			\$150,000.00
Balance Owing March 31, 2014			\$12,046.36

Operating Cash has decreased from \$19,700 as at January 1, 2014 to \$7,993.36.

As at March 31, 2014, based on the budget our operating cash will be depleted by July 31, 2014. If you would like to receive a complete financial statement every month, please email with your request to be put on our email list. finance@windsorparkunitedchurch.com

Outreach Council

In January, some elves with an abundance of Christmas spirit gathered together the wonderful winter accessories from the Mitten Tree and delivered these to a school in the area for distribution to children in need.

Throughout the winter, donations of food and hygiene items were picked up and delivered weekly to West Broadway Community Ministry. On the third Thursday of each month, lunch has been prepared and served by WPUC volunteers – and Bill, our friendly mascot- to the guests of Broadway at Crossroads. While the numbers vary, as many as 200 guests arrive. Your contributions of coffee and lunch supplies, as well as the home-baked goodies, go a long way to keeping food on their plates and smiles on their faces.

The generous support of WPUC congregants allowed us to make and deliver 20 hampers at Christmas AND to purchase perishable/non-perishable items for 2 Easter Hampers. In mid-April, these hampers will be given to refugee families sponsored by WPUC.

In May, Outreach volunteers will be assisting with the set-up, food preparation, and clean-up involved in the annual Volunteer Appreciation Supper at West Broadway Community Ministry.

Continuing a tradition that began several years ago, we plan to again provide and serve bi-weekly lunches to the guests at WBCM during the summer months. Their staff particularly appreciate this service being offered at a time of year when support tends to decrease.

We wish to express our appreciation to the family of Ian Aird for the suggestion that donations be made to the Outreach Council in his memory. As we select community projects in the coming months that honour Ian and reflect his concern for the welfare of others, we will keep you informed.

We also wish to recognize with sincere thanks the support that Dena Rodd has given to the Outreach Council during the past three years. Through her attention to detail, shopping savvy, and organizational skills, she did much to ensure the success of projects big and small. We are very grateful for the time and talents that she contributed so generously.

Respectfully submitted by
Gwen Polak, Outreach Co-Chair

Membership and Pastoral Care



Even on the coldest days of winter our volunteers and council have been trying to warm peoples' lives.

Our visitation volunteers continue to keep in touch with members unable to attend worship, through phone calls and visits.

A volunteer visitation luncheon is being planned for the spring.

Cards are being sent to let people know we care.

In November, we were fortunate to have Karen Viveiros teach the Mental Health First Aid course. Lots of helpful information and interesting discussions were shared.

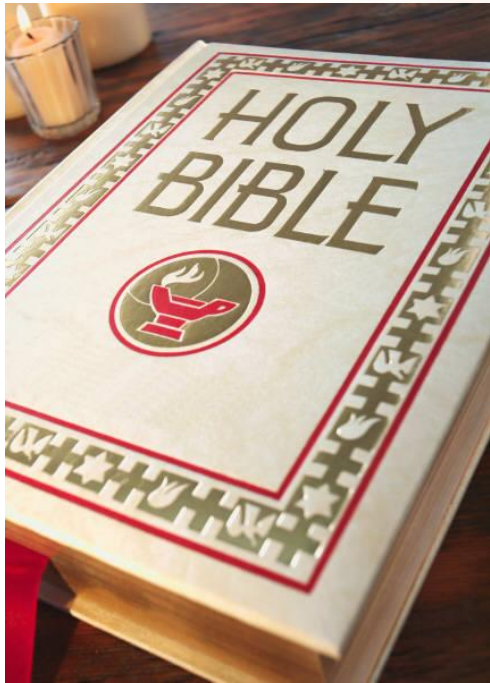
All year is important but December is special as our council hosted the Blue Christmas Service.

And with the help of our congregation we prepared and delivered The Thinking of You Baskets. Once again, the baskets were filled with delicious baking and treats.

February saw Jennifer Licardo from the Alzheimer's Society present a workshop on Keeping the Aging Brain Active. This event drew a large crowd even after being cancelled once due to a storm.

In November we officially celebrated Volunteer Day with cake and coffee, but every day we continue to be thankful for all our volunteers at WPUC.

Respectfully submitted by
Dawn Sherritt



Bible Adventures

Well it's hard to believe its Spring out there with all the snow still covering much of the ground. With Easter just around the corner we should really be seeing something with more color other than white.

The children have been busy with Lent and learning many ways a cross can be viewed. With voices raised they are practicing each week with Laura for Palm Sunday. Under the watchful eye of teachers, Alex and Jessica, Laura will be sure to hear their voices in Halifax on Palm Sunday!

We began a Lenten calendar and opened it up to the congregation, to deposit coins on each day into a baggie for certain items you may have around the house that other

less fortunate may not have. These monies collected will go to the preschool in Africa. These sheets are still available at the back of the church. We ask that all monies be in by April 27th.

With Bible Adventures winding down (May 6 being the last formal day), we have 2 eager teachers, Chris and Gordon who will be teaching the Spring session. This session will run from May 12- June 29. Watch for more details.

Always remember, you are welcome to stay and watch your little ones and that the coordinators, Leanne, Gloria, Maria and Patrick are available for any questions or concerns you may have.

WPUC Garden Club

WPUC Garden Club 2014 commenced on Tuesday March 4 at 7:00 pm and will terminate on Tuesday May 20, for a total of 12 weekly meetings being held.

Club membership was down to 10 very active members. With everyone taking part we will have seeded 21 varieties of flowers and 3 types of tomatoes, which will result in a lot of transplanting and daily watering to look

forward to. Just like real babies, they need a lot of babysitting.

Garden Club financial report balance as of April 01 is, \$191.90

Still not too late to join in with us.

Adult membership is \$20.00

Submitted by *Ken Craig*

Our Church Family

We extend our sympathy to:

The Wilson Family on the passing of Tom
 The Keddie Family on the passing of Bert
 The West Family on the passing of George
 The Field Family on the passing of Sheila
 The Rogers Family on the passing of Cecilia
 The Aird Family on the passing of Ian



We welcome by baptism:

Kason Everett Decker Razos
 (November 25, 2012) son of Alex & Sara

Katianna Layla Jace Hart (March 29, 2008) daughter of James & Karen

James Leslie George Chief (May 22, 2011) son of James & Karen



We congratulate on their marriage:

Richard Crozier & Diane Krasnianski on December 21, 2013

Dan Militere & Stacey Mestery on February 8, 2014



Ramblings from the Other Office

This has been a very busy spring, Is it actually spring? According to the calendar it is, but according to the snow banks it is not.

I saw an interesting picture on Facebook the other day of a beautiful mountain vista -- until they pulled back and you realized it was a close up picture of the snow piles at the St. Vital Centre parking lot. Mountains of snow, you bet, but we all hope that spring has finally sprung.

This past year has been a great learning experience and it is continuing.

The Youth Group had a meeting in February at the church and we have come up with a number of activities for the youth.

These youth have also challenged me to start working towards a youth group event twice a month, one time would be in the church and the next would be an outside activity.

They have come up with a list of fun outside activities, including laser tag, Air Zone (trampoline park), a BBQ at St. Vital Park, Vertical Adventure (rock climbing) and Fun Mountain. A great list and we hope to be able to grow the youth group to even larger numbers.

We have been averaging about 10 youth per event, which is good, but we hope to make it great.

I will also be going to Halifax again this year from the middle of June until the end of July as I am registered to take another 3 courses. I will work on blogging again this year, hoping to keep everyone informed about my school work and what I am learning.

I have begun to talk to the some of the young adults about what might make sense for them and we are looking at organizing a get together after some of the university students have

finished exams for the year and before they leave for summer jobs.

We have looked at meeting with the young adults twice a year, at Christmas after university exams and in the spring after exams.

We have thought about meeting a couple of times during each of these periods and helping this group foster a closer sense of community. We shall see how it all works out.

The sun is shining today and the snow is melting.

As I look out my office window I realize how blessed I am to be here with you all.

Peace,

Patrick Woodbeck



“They have come up with a list of fun activities....”

United Church Women

The UCW began 2014 by being greeters, ushers, liturgists and communion servers in January. We took part in the World Day of Prayer service held at St. Bartholomew Anglican Church on March 7th. The women of Egypt wrote this year's service.

There will be a rummage sale on May 23 and 24. So please remember the church when you are doing your spring cleaning. Toys, books, jewellery, small household appliances in good working order and other household items would be appreciated. More info will follow in Sunday bulletins. For those who wish to help out there will be a sign up sheet.

Summer is coming! Look forward to another Coffee and Conversation that will happen during July and August on Wednesdays from 2 to 4 pm. Everyone is welcome to come in for refreshments and good company.

Alana Davis, UCW president.



ANNUAL SPRING

DINNER, MAY 4TH

UCW RUMMAGE SALE

MAY 23rd & 24th

ANNUAL PICNIC

JUNE 8th

CRAFT SALE

SEPTEMBER 27TH

Congregational Involvement

Who can complain about the frosty temperature when you're busy with indoor ice! Our midwinter Curling event was a grand success with several churches coming together to curl and have a lovely meal.

All of March was cookies and coffee time for us, with 5 Sundays and

chilly winter weather, we were busy after church every week.

Hopefully the Canadian Geese are a good sign bringing us spring, because we've set MAY 4th as our annual Spring Dinner.

Great table games are planned for the Family 5pm. Volunteers are

welcome too! A sign up sheet is outside Lucy's office.

June 8 will be our annual picnic and watch for our 2nd CRAFT SALE coming September 27th!

Faithfully,
Judi Olson Chiswell

Congregational Involvement and Communications Council

WPUC Art Group

The WPUC Art group meets every Tuesday afternoon from September to May.

An annual fee of \$45 is collected in September from each member. This allows us to bring in guest artists occasionally to teach us new ideas. We also use

videos to explore the methods of various artists.

We mostly do watercolour but some try other media, e.g. acrylics, pen and ink, etc. Some attend workshops and then willingly share their

experiences.

We are a friendly, relaxed group and anyone is welcome to join us. Casual drop ins are also welcome.

Submitted by,
Carol Belsham

Thursday Morning Study Group

Study Group has had a few challenges to navigate this year. It was quite often Thursday mornings that "Old Man Winter" chose to have unreasonably cold, miserable weather and as a result we had to cancel Study Group a few times. It did not deter the enthusiasm of this group, as we soldiered on to finish the book – "Bad Girls of the Bible, Exploring Women of Questionable Virtue" by Barbara J. Essex. It was interesting to learn as an adult, about the lives of the women in the Bible that we grew up with in Sunday

School. Those free thinking women have left us with a legacy to work toward taking care of the people in our life and thinking through situations.

Faced with a short time for study, we meet until the second week in May; we opted for a member's book with the same title but a different author – Liz Curtis Higgs. This version has a few women's lives that were not included in Barbara J. Essex's book.

Liz Curtis Higgs' style of writing is

more along the lines of a short story. She starts each section in the book with a story in modern day language about a woman in similar circumstances as the woman in the bible. Then she retells the story making reference to the woman in the bible. It is interesting to read the interpretation of a bible story in modern day language. It reminds us that the more we change our ways, the more we seem to face similar situations. Either way it's food for thought.

Alice Hastings

Property

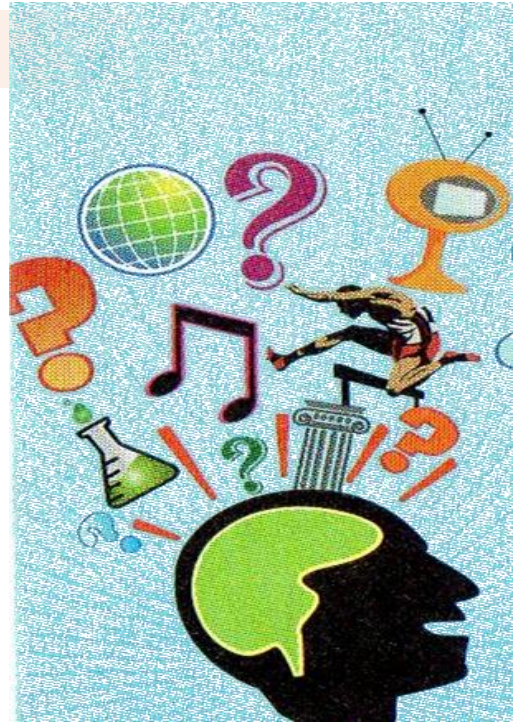
2014 has started off with only general repairs being done – lights, toilet repairs, new shelving in lieu of purchasing a new storage cabinet for youth group supplies.

As expected the snow clearing exceeded budget due to the frequency of snow storms.

We are still waiting for additional quotes for the boiler replacement and once they are received, we will be applying for grants and the Congregation will be involved.

At this time our council will continue doing general repairs as required.

Submitted by *Wayne Baldwin and Bill Belsham*



WPUC QUIZ NIGHT SATURDAY APRIL 26TH, 2014 At 7:00 pm

8 People per table (team)
We hope to have 10-15 tables.

Compete for bragging rights.

Bring your friends

Bring your family

Fun and laughter

Bring "loonies" for 5 - \$1 games

*Cost: \$15 per person
Or 2 for \$25*

Please bring your own snacks.
Refreshments will be served.

For more information,
Contact Luci, 256-8792

Spring into action and
mark your calendars for
WPUC's
Annual Spring Dinner
on Sunday May 4, 2014 at 5 pm.
Join us for a family-style roast
beef dinner and games!
5 yrs. and under is free
Youth \$7
Adults \$15

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS
AND FAMILY!!**

A poster for the Annual Spring Dinner. The background is green with white and yellow flowers. The text is in various colors and fonts, including a large white font for the title.

Church Membership

I have been asked by the executive to write a little something about church membership.

As you are reading this in the SouthWinds, you have some connection to WPUC. Do you know if you are a member? A member is anybody whose name is on the roll of the church.

If you aren't on the church's roll, but are attached to the congregation and contribute regularly to its life and work, you are considered an adherent.

During most congregation meetings, members can vote to allow adherents

voting privileges. There are, however, certain issues that adherents cannot vote on. This includes a calling of a member of the Order of Ministry, a request to Presbytery for an appointment, the election of an elder or trustee, the order of worship, the discipline of the United Church, the union of local congregations, or property matters requiring Presbytery consent.

I have taken this all from the WPUC constitution. If you have been confirmed at WPUC or have had your membership transferred, you have nothing to worry about.

If you are unsure, though, whether you are a member or not, how can you check?

You can simply ask Luci at the church or Judy Kuffner, who is now the chair of the Membership and Pastoral Care Council (M & PC). They will be able to check the roll for you.

If you have any questions regarding this burb, you can also contact me.

Respectfully submitted

Gloria Waldron
Past Chair, Executive Team

"Do you know if you are a member of Windsor Park United Church?"

Moms 'n Tots

With only 4 weeks left in our Moms 'n Tots program, we are planning for our year end activities.

The Moms will be doing an Easter craft and making gifts for the caregivers. They will prepare a potluck breakfast on April 30th and share it with the caregivers.

The caregivers will have lunch at the Bistro in the Park on April 16th.

Over the next couple of weeks we will be taking pictures of the Moms and their children for our Photo Album.

We have had a wonderful year with an increase in the number

of Moms attending since Christmas, to 17. This has been a year full of lots of activity and lots of laughter.

We have 14 delightful little ones downstairs and 8 babies upstairs. Thank you to all the volunteers that enjoy spending time with these children. This program could not run without you.

Thank you to Carol Nichol who runs the program upstairs and to Chris Smith who comes out early each week to set-up the toys for the children downstairs. Thanks to Lillian Aird for preparing the crafts for the children and a special thanks to Cathy Hall for her amazing gift of storytelling.

We wish everyone a Happy Easter and a terrific summer.

The Moms 'n Tots program will begin the fall season on Wednesday October 15, 2014 at 9:30 am.

Anyone wishing to be a part of the fun and activity that this program provides, please contact Ruth Klein at 204-256-6390 or Luci at the church office at 204-256-8792

**Ruth Klein and
Maxine Pattle**



Trustees Report

The current trustees are as follows:

- Sylvia Mann (chair)
- Bob Harrison (past chair)
- Angela Moodie (secretary)
- Cal Pattle
- Derek Read
- Morris Deveson
- June Kaan

Our first meeting will be held on Sunday, May 4, 2014 between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm.

We will be discussing the responsibilities of the trustees according to the Trustees Handbook/Manual 2013.

Sylvia Mann

What do scientists and physicians think of religion?

Aren't they compatible? Would you be interested in learning more?

The video series, **Religion and Science**, is produced by the Wesley Ministry Network and features host, Dr. Francis Collins who directs the Human Genome Institute. It includes presentations on the famous atheist Richard Dawkins arguing that his work has been a disservice to science and religion. Other presenters look at the ethical mine field that is genetic research and explorations into the human brain.

We will meet on each Wednesday evening in May at 7 pm

If you are interested, please sign up or call Luci. For other questions, contact Sharon.

Religion and Science:

Pathway to Truth

Windsor Park United Church
1062 Autumnwood Drive
Winnipeg MB R2J 1C7

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Follow us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/pages/windsor-park-united-church

Join the conversation on
Twitter:
www.twitter.com/wpucwpg



We're on the Web!
See us at:
windsorparkunitedchurch.com

Distinguished Alumni

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson of Windsor Park United Church
has been named the
“Distinguished Alumni” this year by
The United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

She will be honoured at the Spring Convocation
On April 30th in Minneapolis.

She was nominated by
Dr. Barbara Anne Keely and Dr. Lance Barker
based on her contributions to church, community and academics.

About Our Organization

Windsor Park United Church *seeks to be a welcoming community
based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.*

*We nurture our faith and spiritual life by:
worshipping and learning together, caring for each other,
embracing our diversity,
reaching out to those who live around us,
and working together in service to Creation.*

