

# **WINDSOR PARK UNITED CHURCH**

## **2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Annual Congregational Meeting  
February 22, 2015**

### **Mission Statement**

**“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”**

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## **IN MEMORY OF:**

Dolores Killeen  
George West  
Sheila Field  
Cecilia Rogers  
Ian Aird  
Sharon Field  
Ken Hodgson  
John Fraser  
Ralph Moss  
Douglas Wirth  
Joan Lewis  
Robert Muir  
Pauline Spicer-Bohonos  
Edith Shiells  
Grace Anderson  
Dorothy Cairns  
Gene Kidd  
Marion Mitchell

**This Annual Report is in memory of those who died in 2014  
and for whom our minister conducted the funeral.**

## **CHURCH STAFF**

Minister	Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson
Associate Minister	Patrick Woodbeck
Church Administrator	Luci Toews
Music Director	Laura Steidl
Organist / Pianist	Myrna Hagues
Custodian	Gina Grant

## **FROM THE STUDY**

2014 was an interesting year but, aren't they all? I browsed through my datebook and was amazed at all the events, the meetings, the counselling sessions, the visits and the people involved that form the picture of my year. The word, 'eclectic' probably best describes the Windsor Park congregation. The people and activities reflect the diversity of our community and city as well as the openness of our church family. It would be hard to put a label on WPUC and that is, perhaps, our greatest strength.

Over the course of the year we hosted an Alzheimer's workshop, marriage preparation classes, Fifth Step sessions, a book club, concerts, women and alcohol workshop, a series on Science and Religion, craft sale, AOTS BBQ, picnic, a mountain of lost and found clothes, Jesus Fatwah series, Tot Time, Art Group, Country Blend concert, chili supper and bonfire, cookie walk, golf, curling, hampers, Thinking of You baskets, plus creative, locally-designed worship throughout the year. This represents only the tip of the iceberg as we continue to reach out and open our doors to our neighbours.

Some of the milestones we achieved this year included the retirement of our Lift Fund, exceeding our objective for the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada, sending over \$6,000 to the preschool in Gonubie, South Africa, celebrating baptisms, confirmation, weddings and welcoming new members. It was with sadness and thanks that we bade farewell to several of our long time members. It never ceases to amaze me how this congregation embraces those in grief bringing light and hope in the midst of pain.

My work with Winnipeg Presbytery is a reminder of the importance of working together with our partners in other United Churches. As many struggle with large buildings demanding repairs and alterations, others wrestle with diminishing membership and dislocation from their neighbourhood. This year Patrick and I have engaged in a series of informal gatherings with other clergy interested in discussing ways to invigorate our churches. Sharing what we are doing locally helps us to grow in understanding and in collaboration.

This year included a sabbatical in August and September. I am so grateful for this block of time to read, reflect and plan for my future. It was also precious time to spend with Erin and Sam at their wedding in Kelowna. In September Rick and I travelled to mark our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary acknowledging that love is an

unexpected, priceless blessing. The year closed with the birth of our second grand-daughter.

WPUC has a unique culture. It is a place that invites and encourages participation and creativity. It is where the Holy Spirit has free rein to bring this faith of ours to life. Here we are challenged, tested and inspired to think and act with compassion and justice. We wrestle with what we believe and the action that proceeds from that faith. We generously make room for young and old, new and familiar, to lead us. This culture is nurtured by the wonderful, gifted staff who ensure that not a moment of my work day gets boring! Patrick, Laura, Luci, Myrna and Gina give their hearts and souls to our communal life which is nothing short of God's grace. So many of you support the staff team with countless hours of volunteer work that keeps this church humming on what is nothing short of an adventurous journey of faith and service to Christ.

As I so often say: As you have been blessed, make your life a blessing to others!

Blessings  
Sharon Wilson

### **RAMBLINGS FROM THE "OTHER" OFFICE**

The beginning of November marked my third anniversary with Windsor Park United church and it certainly has been a busy three years. Matthew chapter 18 tells us; "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Windsor Park United, as a place where we gather, is truly a place where God is present. As one who has been accepted into this community, I have been blessed by people who have supported me in my journey towards ordination, who have challenged me to grow in ways that I had not thought possible, and have embraced all who I am (including a sometimes silly sense of humour).

We have journeyed this past year, though pain and loss and the joy of celebration. But is that not what a community does? Ecclesiastes chapter 4 also tells us; "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken." A true community will stand together in those times of hurt and pain as

well as those times of joy and celebration. We have that strength of community here at Windsor Park United church.

It seems that there is an energy that permeates this place. A sense that whatever challenges may come we can face them together and come through the other side. We may not be the same when we exit, but we know that our love for each other will carry us through and in the end we will still be community. This can be exciting and scary at the same time. We understand that society is constantly changing but if we can hold on to our sense of community we can weather any change. I look forward to the future with hope as we continue to journey together.

Respectfully submitted  
Patrick Woodbeck

**Windsor Park United Church  
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes  
March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014**

**Present:** Craig Gibb – Margaret Gibb – Anne Whyte – Darlene Scott – Elaine Ramcharan – Ginny Lindberg – Kal Kneeshaw – Gord Whyte – Eleanor Danchuk – Diena Rodd – Maxine Pattle – Betty Andrews – Bert Andrews – Bob Mann – Major Rodd – Calvin Pattle – Wayne Baldwin – Wilma Hunnie – Don Hunnie – John Lwiwski – Doug Waldron – Bert Johnson – Joan Beveridge – Bob Harrison – Edna Erickson – Jan Carmichael – Lloyd & Chris Smith – Debra & Howard Ashdown – Thelma Mallard – Paulette Cote & Peter Czehryn – Madeline Dean – Yvonne Schneider – Helen Smallwood – Neil & Gladys Laird – Brian Nazarko – Jan Nazarko – Bill Belsham – Georgina Backman – Morris Deveson – Joyce Deveson – Bill McQuat – Gloria Waldron – Nancy Sulkers – Pat Lumsden – Laura Steidl – Patrick Woodbeck – Alana Davis – Lillian Aird – Sharon Wilson – Alice Hastings – Dale Napper – June Kaan

**- Call to Order**

Gloria Waldron called the meeting to order at 12:10pm.

**- Opening Prayer**

Sharon Wilson opened the meeting with prayer.

**- Motion to confer voting privileges**

**MOTION: moved by Doug Waldron; seconded by Paulette Cote**

**To confer voting privileges to corresponding members**

**Motion carried**

**- Approval of the 2013 Annual Report**

**MOTION:** moved by Howard Ashdown; seconded by Gordon Whyte

**To approve the 2013 Annual Report as circulated**

**Motion Carried**

**- Approval of the Minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 Annual Congregational Meeting**

**MOTION:** moved by Alana Davis; seconded by Nancy Sulkers

**To accept the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of  
March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013.**

**Motion carried.**

**- Business Arising from the Minutes**

None

**19/14**

**- New Business**

**- Nominating Committee** - Gloria Waldron

Audit Committee

Major Rodd volunteered to Chair the Audit Committee

Finance Council

Doug Waldron added the following people to the Finance Council.

- Kent Stewart – Paulette Cote – Kevin Sitka – Peter Czehryn

Christian Development Council

This Council requires seven (7) members – at this time there are **NO** members.

Worship Council

This Council requires eight (8) members – at this time there are two (2)

Congregational Involvement & Communications Council

This Council needs more members as this is the Social Council i.e. Annual Congregational Dinner, the Spring Picnic – the Advent Bonfire, etc.

There are eight (8) Councils/Committees that are in need of volunteers.

**- No Chairperson** – Gloria Waldron

Gloria has made a number of pleas via phone and in person with no success. This position is urgently needed to be filled.



**- Lift Closure – Doug Waldron**

The Lift will be paid for sometime this summer.

The General Fund will be in need of funds sometime this summer.

**Motion: MOVED by Doug Waldron; seconded by June Kaan  
To redirect any Lift Fund money received after the  
Lift has been paid for to go to the General Fund.**

**- Discussion:-**

The church will need to replace the boiler shortly therefore the excess Lift Fund money could start a Capitol Fund for a new boiler.

The Finance Council will re-instate the 40X40 initiative.

Form a committee to look into getting a grant for a boiler.

**20/14**

**AMMENDMENT TO THE MOTION: moved by Major Rodd;  
seconded by Bill McQuat**

**Any funds remaining for the Lift Fund be diverted to a Boiler Fund**

**Majority voted for the motion with four (4) votes opposed  
Motion carried**

**Discussion:-**

Those people who have pledged funds to the Lift Fund should be contacted for direction regarding their pledge .

**- Approval of the 2014 Budget**

**MOTION: moved by Doug Waldron; seconded by Bill McQuat  
To accept the 2014 Budget as circulated**

**Discussion:-**

It was suggested that a budget for advertising be considered.

**Motion carried.**

**-Chair's Comments – Gloria Waldron**

Gloria thanked everyone for their co-operation during her term as Chair and stressed the need for a Chairperson to come forward. This could be shared position.

**- Passing the Gavel**

**- Date of next Annual Congregational Meeting - March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

**- Closing Prayer - Patrick Woodbeck**

**21/14**

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Trustees:** Sylvia Mann, Robert Harrison, Angela Moodie, Cal Pattle, Morris Deveson, Derek Read, June Kaan.

- 1) Informational meeting held May 4, 2014 to discuss duties of the trustees according to Trustee Handbook 2004 / United Church Manual 2013.
- 2) Investment Policy Statement reviewed, amended and adopted at the January 18, 2015 meeting.
- 3) Adequate property and liability insurance coverage and in good order.
- 4) Necessary signatories in place.
- 5) Child Abuse Registry kept up to date and updated every 5 years.
- 6) Preparation and distribution of 2014 - 3/4 statements and full year tax receipts.

The 5 year terms / renewals for trustees are up for Robert Harrison, Cal Pattle, Angela Moodie and Sylvia Mann.

Angela Moodie will stay on another year as secretary. Derek Read will be the new chair. Sylvia Mann will stay one year as past chair.

The following church members have agreed to let their names stand for acceptance as trustees at the Annual Congregational Meeting February 22, 2015. Bunny Reid, Lillian Aird and Bill McOuat.

Submitted by  
Sylvia Mann, chair

## **FROM THE OFFICE**

### **We congratulated the following on the occasion of their marriage:**

Daniel Militere and Stacey Mestery (February 8, 2014)  
Brown Graeme and Craig Gibb (June 7, 2014)  
Wesley Unger and Tanya Tulyk (June 28, 2014)  
Denis Durand and Michelle Bottrell (July 19, 2014)  
Derrick Proctor and Leanne Mann (August 2, 2014)  
Adam Slovinsky and Taylor Wakeham (August 15, 2014)  
Brent Bacon and Alana Gallagher (August 31, 2014)

### **We welcomed the following by baptism:**

Reena Quinn Saurette (Aug. 17/13) daughter of Joel and Ashley  
Hunter James Frank Welbers (July 23/13) son of Bradley and Kandis  
McKenna Avery Sernowsky (Mar. 29/04) daughter of Dwayne and Candace  
Blaikley Arlene Jamie Shidel (Nov. 10/13) daughter of Tony and Krista  
Ella Kimberley May Shidel (Nov. 10/13) daughter of Tony and Krista  
Maxim Edouard Gregory Jobin (Aug. 4/14) son of Remi and Jennifer  
Abram Kye Morales (Aug. 15/14) son of Leo and Sharla  
Katrina Ann-Marie Faith McKnight (Nov. 23/05) daughter of Kevin and Courtney  
Michael Austin Jett Woloshyn (Mar. 26/14) son of Kevin and Courtney  
Paxton Derek Reece Meilleur (April 3/14) son of Ian and Amber  
Brenden Kai Sookhoo (April 23/14) son of Ronald and Leanne  
Brooklyn Lauren Will (June 16/13) daughter of Shawn and Sandra  
Hailey Mae Lashek (July 21/14) daughter of Derek and Cheryl  
Milo Andreas Caporicci (Aug. 19/14) son of Mario and Coleen

### **We extended our sympathy to:**

The Killeen Family on the passing of Dolores at the beginning of 2014  
The West Family on the passing of George on February 21, 2014  
The Field Family on the passing of Sheila on February 25, 2014  
The Rogers Family on the passing of Cecilia on February 26, 2014  
The Aird Family on the passing of Ian on February 27, 2014  
The Field Family on the passing of Sharon on March 27, 2014  
The Hodgson Family on the passing of Ken on April 6, 2014  
The Fraser Family on the passing of John on May 26, 2014  
The Moss Family on the passing of Ralph on May 31, 2014  
The Wirth Family on the passing of Douglas on June 9, 2014  
The Lewis Family on the passing of Joan on August 11, 2014

The Muir Family on the passing of Robert on August 24, 2014  
 The Spicer-Bohonos Family on the passing of Pauline on August 24, 2014  
 The Shiells Family on the passing of Edith on November 8, 2014  
 The Anderson Family on the passing of Grace on November 10, 2014  
 The Cairns Family on the passing of Dorothy on November 20, 2014  
 The Kidd Family on the passing of Gene on December 5, 2014  
 The Mitchell Family on the passing of Marion on December 20, 2014

**We received by Confirmation:**

Amber Cechvala Cottreau  
 Allison Hilliker

**We received by Transfer:**

David and Cathie Campbell  
 Patricia Todd  
 Jennifer Jobin  
 George and Muriel Haight  
 Donald and Karen Gundrum

**Summary**

Number of Marriages	7	(5/13, 8/12, 7/11)
Number of Baptisms	14	(10/13, 12/12, 18/11)
Number of Funerals	18	(8/13, 9/12, 25/11)

**MEMBERSHIP ROLL**

<b>Total at December 31, 2013</b>	<b>390</b>
Added by Baptism/Confirmation	16
Added by Profession of Faith	0
Added by Transfer	8
Removed by Death	18
Removed by Board Action	0
<b>Total at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>396</b>

## **MINISTRY & PERSONNEL**

Windsor Park United Church is enjoying the benefits of a vibrant team ministry.

The Committee is working on transitioning to a new ministry in the near future.

Performance reviews with each of the staff are currently underway.

I truly appreciate all of the support and work of Margaret Gibb, Eleanor Lwiwski, Betty-Anne Orr.

Eleanor, Betty Ann and myself, wish Margaret a fabulous retirement and thank her for all her hard work and support over the last three years.

Submitted by  
Sue Turley, chair

## **PROPERTY**

Snow clearing for the year was within budget.

The gas hot water tank was replaced with a larger electric tank.

New taps were installed in the men's basement washroom.

A great year... as our loan for the Lift and Parking Lot was paid off!

Submitted by  
Bill Belsham and Wayne Baldwin

## **GARDEN CLUB**

W.P.U.C. Garden Club meetings were held Tuesday evenings at 07:00 in the church basement beginning March 04 thru to May 20 for a total of 12 meetings.

Membership - the numbers decreased from 22 (2013) to 10 (2014), we were trusting that a few more would join us in the first few weeks but that did not happen so we decided to carry on for one more year with our club of 10, 3 women and 7 men.

As mentioned in the 2014 Fall SouthWinds that if the membership numbers continue to decline, we will have to assess the continuation of the Garden Club for 2015.

With consultation with the ten 2014 members and members from previous years the membership consensus was that the Garden Club had run its course and it was time to disband. All agreed.

Budget Report 2014 - Balance carried over from 2013,	\$185.35
Dues 2014, 8 x \$20.00	\$160.00 (2 waived)
Sale of fertilizer	\$ 4.00
Balance	\$349.35
Expenses (seeds-soil- misc.)	\$134.79
BALANCE 2014	\$214.56

There will be a notice in the Spring SouthWinds regarding the dispersement of the Garden Club articles, e.g. grow lights - heating mat - florescent lights - etc., which will provide more space for other church projects.

***DON'T CRY BECAUSE IT'S OVER... SMILE BECAUSE IT HAPPENED***

Submitted by  
Ken Craig

### **WORSHIP COUNCIL**

Our fall was very busy this year. On All Saints Sunday, we lit a candle and had a moment of silence in remembrance of loved ones. For World Wide Communion, Patrick performed the sacrament in the Syrian tradition. We had an overwhelming response to Thanksgiving Day Sunday and World Food Sunday. These much needed food items were donated to West Broadway.

Remembrance Day services were comprised of stories from WWI in recognition of its 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

During Advent our three choirs joined together in a concert. We also had our annual Blue Christmas service.

This January we transferred new members to the congregation.

This March we look forward to hosting a jazz concert.

During Lent we will be looking at where your God is.

Respectfully submitted  
Linda Stewart, chair

## **MUSIC**

During 2014, the Worship Choir provided music leadership each Sunday from January to June 15 and then from September 14 to December. Throughout the past year the Worship Choir has been in a period of transition and regrowth. In March/April, we were devastated by the loss of two long-standing, faithful members, Sharon Field and Ken Hodgson. They both had many gifts that they generously shared with our congregation and they will continue to be missed. On behalf of the members of the Worship Choir, Praise Team and Joyful Noise, I would like to thank everyone who supported us during this very difficult time and throughout the year as we have struggled to readjust to our musical life without them.

Members of the Worship Choir during 2014 were: Brenda Barnes, Arlene Carswell, Sarah Closen, Morag Fisher, Ken Hodgson, Bob James, Heather Karavas, Joe Kellner, Virginia Lindberg, Eleanor Lwiwski, John Lwiwski, Haruko Miyata, Angela Moodie, Flo Olson, Lynda Paul, Gloria Saindon, Janie Schroeder, Erna Schultz, Helen Smallwood, Dale Will, and Myrna Hagues (accompanist), with an average weekly choir size of 14-16 singers. Singers who were able to join us for the Advent season were: Isabelle Foster, Gordon Sargent, Eric Schroeder, Catherine Smallwood and Patrick Woodbeck.

This fall, the Worship Choir also led contemporary services on September 28<sup>th</sup> and November 16<sup>th</sup> - thank you to the musicians who shared their instrumental talents with us: Heather Karavas, Sharon Wilson, John Lwiwski, and Myrna Hagues. A high point of the year was our Christmas Concert in December, where the Worship Choir, Joyful Noise and Praise Team were able to share beautiful seasonal music. Monies raised were donated to reduce the deficit. The Worship Choir also led the music at the 7 p.m. Candle-light Christmas Eve service. Music at the 11 pm Christmas Eve service was provided by Kelsey Shiaro, Jan Harding-Jeanson and Joanne Draayer.

From January to June, our children's choir, the Joyful Noise, continued to sing under the leadership of Sheryl and Chanel Cale. We sadly said farewell to these two ladies who, over the summer decided to give up the Joyful Noise to pursue other interests. In October we welcomed Jessica Steidl and Alex Czehryn as our two new leaders. As well as singing anthems in church, the Joyful Noise sang at the Christmas Concert and led the music with the Praise Team at the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service. We are pleased to have the following children as regular members of the groups: Trista Closen, Kelsey DeWiele, Megan Falconer, Sofia Karavas, Brady Paten, Chris Paten, Kathleen Stewart, Freya Timmerman, Casera Viveiros and William Viveiros.

During 2014, the Praise Team continued to offer leadership and music with a more contemporary Christian flavour. Praise Team services were held on January 19, March 2, April 20 (joint leadership with the Worship Choir for Easter Sunday), and May 25. The musicians for these services were: Amber Cottreau, Alex Czehryn, Nick Czehryn, Myrna Hagues, John Lwiwski, Courtney Maertens, Karen Maertens, Alynne Morin, Janessa Morin, Gordon Nazarko, Chris Saindon and Jessica Steidl. In September we were pleased to welcome Rebecca Wilson to the group. The fall season had contemporary services on October 19 and November 23. The Praise Team also sang at the Christmas Concert and provided musical leadership for the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service. A special thank-you goes to Eleanor Lwiwski and Janessa Morin for their work in managing our sound board. The purchase of a new, larger sound board in December now makes it possible to have both the singers and instruments channeled through one board, giving us more control over the balance of the sound.

In addition to the Christmas Concert, all three of our regular musical groups sing together as a "choir family" periodically throughout the year. It is wonderful to see the support and enjoyment that each group has for the others.

As we continue into the age of technology, we have been pleased to continue to offer a regular feature on our website - the weekly "Notes on the Notes." When you go to this page (or subscribe to WPUCs website via e-mail), you are able to see what we will be singing on Sunday, read through the poetry of the words and learn about the music. At times you may also be able to watch or listen to video/audio clips of the music we will be using in Worship. Our hope is that this site offers an added depth of understanding of the music we share in worship each week.



At Windsor Park United we have been blessed to have a congregation that loves music and that places so much value on singing their faith. We are blessed to have many talented people who have found a place to share their gifts. In finishing this report, I would like to once again thank everyone who participates in or supports the music programs at WPUC. This vital service to the church congregation would not be successful without you!

Respectfully submitted  
Laura Steidl, Music Director

## **MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE COUNCIL**

Statement of Mission:

"The Membership and Pastoral Care Council shall be responsible for managing the Congregation's caring resources, people, lists and records in such a way that membership is seen to be important, and that participation in the life and work of Windsor Park United Church involves people in a Community of Faith in which they may expect both to be cared for and to have their own ability to care for others valued and exercised."

I joined this committee in November 2014, I've taken over sending out the cards to those in need from Derek Read and NOW I am the chair of this committee! Now that's what I call getting your feet wet right off the hop! Judy Kuffner's term was over in March.

We prepared the 'Thinking of You' baskets in December, which I was pleased to be a part of along with numerous other volunteers. Many of who, I cannot even remember their names.

Please contact me if there is a special card you would like me to send out. My phone number is 204-269-2542 or [ptodd1@mymts.net](mailto:ptodd1@mymts.net)

Next year's report will be longer once I've had a chance to understand what I'm doing.

Respectfully submitted  
Patricia Todd

## **FUNERAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE**

This year we catered for 12 funerals.

The families, mine included, were grateful to the ladies in the kitchen who prepare and serve the lunch and clean up. This year we have two new ladies who have offered to help and they both have their Food Handling Certificate. This is a great help as the kitchen should always have one person working who has taken the course.

We have raised approximately \$5,000 this year. The profits go to the General Fund. This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> year that we have been offering our service to the church and the extended community. Thanks to a great group of ladies.

Lillian Aird  
Coordinator

## **CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

In August of 2014, the Christian Development Council reformed with co-chairs Paulette Cote and Laura Steidl. Currently on the council we also have: Patrick Woodbeck, Pat Lumsden, Heather Burnett and Melissa Horbas. The Christian Development Council is the council who oversees activities nurturing the faith journey of children, youth and adults.

The council met twice in the fall. The Christian development council oversees the following areas: Bible Adventures, Library, Technology (supporting the council and groups we oversee), Confirmation, Christian Vocation, Youth Group, Intergenerational Events, Tot Time, Baby Fold and Adult Education. Each area has a liaison who is contacting and developing a relationship with the people currently working in these areas and offering support where needed.

Highlights for 2014:

- Bible Adventures started on September 14<sup>th</sup> with a full complement of teachers and many eager children. On November 30 we hosted a breakfast meeting for the teachers and the Bible Adventures coordinating committee. We are very grateful for their commitment to the children of the church! Classes are grouped by age and meet each Sunday, with the exception being Praise Team contemporary services and special events, when the children meet as a large group.

- The church library is an ongoing project. Jan Shiaro is our current librarian and we thank her for her work in keeping this ministry going! We have begun to reorganize and cull the library so that out-of-date books can be replaced by current ones.
- The website has been updated. There is a new tab for Bible Adventures which had regular postings for the children during the season of Advent.
- The Youth Group/Intergenerational Corn Maze Event was a success with over 30 participants. The youth group has begun to meet regularly, approximately every 2 weeks.
- The congregational carolling event at St. Boniface Hospital on December 21 was very successful with 22 participants of all ages.
- A "meet and greet" event was held after church, during coffee time, on Dec. 7. There was positive feedback about the opportunity to chat with new people.
- Tot Time (formerly Moms and Tots), and Thursday morning Study Group started up for the fall season in October. There continues to be a need for volunteers to help share the leadership of the Tot Time group. The adult education group, "The Jesus Fatwah," started in November and was facilitated by Patrick.

Respectfully submitted by  
Laura Steidl and Paulette Cote (co-chairs)

## **BIBLE ADVENTURES**

Bible Adventures had a very full and exciting year. We began with a very cold and wintery January which continued right into February. We averaged around 20 children per week. We continued holding our own communion service downstairs which the children really enjoy. Spring session was run by Gordon and Chris taking grade 1 and up and Alex, Jessica and Amber taking the nursery 3/4 year olds and kindergarten. This worked very well and we will continue with this module for the coming year. September came upon us quickly and we were back in full swing on September 14th with some brand new teachers. We welcomed back Mavis, Janessa, Chris, Gordon, Alex and Jessica, and new to the teaching team was Amber, Allison, Keeley and Jillian. We continue to average between 20-25 children per week and they are very eager to learn. We continue to have music with Eleanor and Laura and now hold our own worship services every 6 weeks downstairs complete with our own bulletins and prayers.

The volunteer teachers of Windsor Park United Church Bible Adventures are a pleasure to work with and continue to amaze us with their talents and ideas.

We look forward to another year of exciting things coming from the basement!

Respectfully submitted  
Gloria Saindon  
Coordinator

## **STUDY GROUP**

Our group has grown in numbers this year. We have been blessed with a few new people making our discussions very interesting and with the addition of Patrick Woodbeck as our technical advisor, make our discussions very interesting.

Who comes – anyone interested in learning about our neighbors customs and traditions.

When to come – Thursday Mornings - from 9:30 until 11:00 am - starting after Thanksgiving until May long week-end.

Where to come – Bible Adventures Room downstairs – (follow the aroma of coffee)

What to expect – DVD presentations on the large screen.

– caring people who are open and accepting of one another.

We started last fall with a DVD presentation “Religions of the World” narrated by Ben Kingsley. It was a look into how each religion’s customs and struggles changed history. There were six religions presented:- Buddhism – Hinduism – Islam – Judaism – Protestantism and Catholicism. There were a few weeks after finishing and Christmas break. We decided to refresh our memories by replaying a couple of the presentations. It is really amazing with a second look at what you have missed.

In January and February we are learning about Native Spirituality and their close bond with nature. We have learned that it is a calling to be a Medicine person – Spirit Doctor – their great respect for water as it washes away the hurts. They learn from their elders about whom they are and it is up to the elders to keep ceremonies alive and strong. When they are sent to the city to complete their education, they seem to lose the connection with nature and are usually too shy to ask for help.

The video about a healing ride with 38 Natives on horseback crossing the prairies the week before Christmas was re-enacting a forced march their ancestors did. They were received in the small towns along the way with celebrations of food and shelter for both people and animals. As a thank you the Natives shared some of their life experiences and customs. With this coming together, a trust was developed. There are more DVDs lined up to explore the culture and customs of the Native Communities. The end of February will be a session with photographs and video of the ancient Sun Dance Ceremony.

We will be finishing up the year with the Jesus Fatwah DVD presentation that Patrick Woodbeck did Wednesday evenings this winter. He very generously agreed to do it again during the morning Study Group as many of us find evening is not a comfortable time to venture outdoors.

There is always room for more at our table so come, join us Thursday mornings.

Respectfully submitted  
Alice Hastings

## **TOT TIME**

2014 has been a wonderful year with an increase in the number of Moms attending the program to 17. This has been a year with lots of activity and a great deal of laughter. We have 14 delightful little ones downstairs and 8 babies upstairs.

The moms planned all of their own activities and always enjoy the coffee and conversation. They take turns bringing snacks for the group and also for the children. Some of the activities included decorating cupcakes, a crockpot day where they brought in a food sample and also the recipe. They made bracelets, Easter crafts, enjoyed a breakfast out and exercised with Gail. The year finished with a potluck breakfast that was shared with all of the caregivers and presented each caregiver with a lovely gift of a special bread for us to bake.

Thank you to Carol Nichol who runs the program up stairs 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 thank you to Cathy Hall for her amazing gift of storytelling.

Our fall program began on October 15th with 14 moms 13 children downstairs and 5 babies upstairs. We have a total of eight volunteers that help with the babies and eight volunteers that entertain the children downstairs.

The moms have enjoyed time to get to know each other as well as a day of card making, painting pottery, breakfast out, a guest from McNally Robinson, crafts and a Christmas potluck. Thank you to Hilary Dueck for taking on the leadership of this group.

The children play with toys puzzles, play dough, games, stories and crafts. They love their time interacting with the caregivers, story time with Cathy and the visit with Santa.

To be more inclusive, the church suggested we change our name. After much debating the moms selected the name "Tot Time". Please look for us under our new name.

Since Christmas we have had one new baby and we also have another mom that would love to come out. We cannot accommodate her as we would not have a volunteer to look after her new baby. Please consider becoming a caregiver and give this lady a chance to be a part of this group. We also need two volunteers to fill in for 2 weeks in February as some of our caregivers are going to be away for Holidays.

I leave you with a quote from one mom who has returned to work. "I had a great time coming to Moms and Tots. You are a great group of people who are warm and welcoming to newcomers like me. I enjoyed the loud and enthusiastic conversations! I felt like I got a small insight into stay-at-home mom culture, and felt like an honorary stay-at-home mom when I was with all of you. You were part of the fun I had during my year at home. Thank you Ruth for coordinating such a great group. Thank you Carol and the upstairs "Grandma" volunteers for playing with and taking such good care of my daughter".

You can and do make a difference. As a volunteer at Windsor Park United Church you are appreciated."

Submitted by  
Ruth Klein  
Coordinator Tot Time

## **LIBRARY**

There have been a number of new additions to the library because of the many donations of books from members of the congregation. Some older materials have been culled to make room for the new titles. Over the next few weeks more books will be added. The new additions are recorded in the blue library binder and are arranged by category. Do not forget to check out the mobile shelf unit in the narthex if you cannot find what you are looking for on the library shelves. Borrowers are reminded to sign out books by using the library card at the back of the book, and leaving it in the appropriate basket on the library counter. Return books by leaving them in the other larger basket. Please try to return books in a timely manner. If you have never borrowed a book from our library, now is a good time to peruse our shelves.

Respectfully submitted  
Jan Shiaro

## **ART GROUP**

The art group has had another fun year. We appreciate the use of the church basement Tuesday afternoons. It provides us with a place to get together to relax, share, and for some of us come up with some wonderful work. Some of the group participated in the craft fair and sold art cards and jewelry. Others have had their work featured in local galleries. We learn from each other, videos and paid guest artists/instructors. A nominal fee is charged to cover these costs. Most afternoons are spent working on our own projects. We range from beginners to local "artists" so all are welcome with no experience necessary. This February we're going to try our hand at portraits with an instructor.

Submitted by  
Diena Rodd

## **CONGREGATIONAL INVOLVEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL**

March we held our annual Curling Bonspiel, with several churches participating and approximately 40 people for a lasagna dinner afterwards.

In April we had the Spring Dinner and we continued our new food delivery method, table service/family style dining, which was very successful. We chose

not to have an auction but for next year we are planning entertainment as the evening was not as interactive as we had hoped.

June came and we hosted the Picnic, again on our parking lot/side grass. I would like to see this event moved up 1 week if possible to have more children at the event as the last couple of years their numbers have declined sharply. We chose a better wiener which was enjoyed by all but it bit into the budget and we actually lost money (-\$31)

September was chaotic to say the least; we hosted coffee time after church, Welcome Back Luncheon, the Golf Tournament, and a Craft Sale. The golf event had the usual 20 or so participants and we served lasagna, caesar salad and garlic bread.

This year we held our 2nd Craft Sale, and the response was wonderful as far as crafters, although we had better weather the turnout was less than optimal (we were competing against High Steppers garage sale) More signs and longer exposure are needed. Also had a 'canteen' with hot dogs and pizza as well as the muffins which raised an additional \$51.

Yours in Faith  
Judi Olson Chiswell

## **OUTREACH**

On behalf of the WPUC Outreach Council, I am pleased to provide the following update on our activities during 2014.

Throughout the year, we provided supplies and people-power to support West Broadway Community Ministry (WBCM). Shirley and Gord Goossen transported donations of grocery and hygiene items regularly to WBCM to keep their pantry stocked. Our friendly mascot, Bill McOuat, recruited volunteers to bake cookies, cook and serve meals, and visit with the guests at WBCM each month. We are especially grateful to Lil Aird for directing donations made in memory of her husband, Ian, to Outreach. Thus far, the funds have covered costs of three special lunches for the WBCM folks who greatly appreciate the warm, hearty meals and change of menu!

In April, some members and loyal friends of Outreach pitched in to supply, prepare and serve items for the meal served at the WBCM. We held a



Volunteer Appreciation supper. When summer rolled around, we doubled our efforts to provide bi-weekly lunches for the guests at WBCM. We also began planning and shopping for the Christmas Hampers! In October, we cooked turkeys and desserts to support the Fall Supper fund-raiser at Rainbow Ministry.

In December, our members were able to pack 20 hampers for families in the community who had registered with the Christmas Cheer Board. Besides perishable and non-perishable grocery items, we were able to include gifts for all members of those families. We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the congregation for their donations of time, muscle, and financial resources. We also want to thank the Sunday School staff and children, as well as UCW Units 2 and 5 for helping us purchase gifts for all members of the families. A surplus of funds remained so we are planning to use this to prepare some Spring Hampers in 2015 for two refugee families.

Donations of winter clothing that were placed on the Mitten Tree were gathered after Christmas and delivered by Laura Steidl to a local school for distribution to children in need. The kindness of our congregation surely warmed those children as much as the clothing did.

As we look back on the projects undertaken, we are greatly encouraged by the efforts of our small, but hard-working council and by the consistent, amazing support of our church family. We plan to continue and extend our support of the West Broadway Community and Rainbow ministries in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted  
Gwen Polak  
Outreach Co-Chair

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

This is to advise that the 2014 financial review has been completed by the Audit Committee. The financial portion of the review covered a review of the year with special emphasis on the months of September and December, 2014.

The scope of the financial review covered receipts and disbursements, balance sheet, bank statements, government reporting requirements, and minutes of the Executive Team and Official Board. We are pleased to advise that no material discrepancies were discovered during the course of the review.

We wish to thank the Treasurer for his assistance during the audit.

Respectfully submitted  
Wilma Hunnie  
Edna Erickson  
Major Rodd

## **UCW AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The UCW is made up of Unit 2, Unit 5, and the YAH's that meet separately for monthly meetings. In 2014 there were 62 active members.

In January the ushers, greeters and liturgists were UCW members.

World Day of Prayer was hosted by St. Bartholomew Anglican Church on March 7, 2014. The program was written by the women of Egypt.

A rummage sale was held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Many UCW members were involved in the organizing of this event but members of the congregation were willing workers also.

In July, the UCW Executive provided lunch for 50 volunteers at the Habitat for Humanity build on Foster Street. Members of the congregation provided dainties. Coffee & Conversation happened on Wednesdays during July and August. Unit 5 organized the event but with help from other unit members and the congregation via a sign-up sheet for individual Wednesdays.

On September 27<sup>th</sup> UCW had two tables of baking at the Craft Sale. During the month of September we provided coffee and dainties after worship.

The Cookie Walk, coordinated by Unit 2, was held on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Both UCW members and the congregation participated in this successful fundraiser.

Throughout the year the units take turns cleaning both kitchens. Unit 2 and YAH's provide a delicious home-cooked meal for our members of the AOTS, six times a year.

West Broadway and Agape Table have been recipients of UCW members' outreach. As well, the Christmas Cheer Board hampers held gifts donated by UCW members, a rolling cart to hold the rectangular tables, 2 cushion mats for

the kitchen, cutting boards, silicone oven mitts, and cork trivets were purchases made by the UCW Executive.

The UCW Executive members are: Gloria Saindon, Past President; Dena Rodd, Treasurer; Margo Baldwin, Secretary; Maria Kehler and Stacy Bosak, representatives from the YAH's and President; Alana Davis.

# WINDSOR PARK UNITED CHURCH WOMEN TREASURER'S REPORT for the year 2014

<b>Balance on Hand, December 31, 2013</b>	<b>\$21,721.99</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>	
Cookie Walk	1,709.05
Rummage Sale	861.26
Units : Unit 2	600.00
Unit 5	500.00 **
YAH's	300.00
Least Coin	94.86
Bake Sale (trade show)	254.40
Interest	<u>134.96</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 4,454.53</b>
<b><u>Disbursements</u></b>	
Bake Sale (trade show)	50.00
Cookie Walk	98.75
All Native Mission	100.00
Manitoba & North West Ont. Bursary	100.00
Camp Wasaga	100.00
UCW Dues MNWO	150.00
Least Coin	94.86
Windsor Park U.C. - Gen. Func	1,500.00 **
Table cart	225.99
Kitchen supplies***	280.17
Habitat	117.66
Miscellaneous*	<u>2.52</u>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>2,819.95</b>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b><u>\$23,356.57</u></b>
5yr GIC	<u>15,000.00</u>
<b>Available Funds</b>	<b><u>\$8,356.57</u></b>

Respectfully submitted  
Alana Davis

## **AOTS**

Our A.O.T.S. chapter continues strong and vibrant. Our members work hard in most areas of church activities. You will find one of our members on almost every committee and board. We work at West Broadway and Riverview Health Centre.

We deliver Christmas hampers, Thinking of You baskets, as well as taking our turn at serving coffee after worship and volunteering for ushers, greeters and liturgists.

This year we were able to make a generous donation to West Broadway food program as well as Agape Table.

It was our pleasure to supply Christmas treats to Bible Adventures.

We meet on the forth Monday of each month. We begin with a very good meal supplied by either Unit 2 or YAH's of UCW. We have had a variety of interesting speakers to inform us on different topics. We have our business meeting, share a prayer and then go home. Our club continues to attract new members.

Our annual BBQ has turned into a real fun time and great fund raiser. It was an evening folks talked about for a long time.

The meaning of AOTS is "AS ONE THAT SERVES". That pretty well describes our members.

In Christ's service  
Gary Garvey  
Bill McOuat

## **A. O. T. S. - WPUC**

### **Financial Statement for year ending December 31, 2014**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>REVENUE:</b>		
WPUC - Devoted to you Ministry		685.63

Dinner Meetings - net		
Membership Fees	270.00	225.00
May BBQ	582.04	1,120.56
Interest Earned	0.11	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$852.15</b>	<b>\$2,031.19</b>

#### **EXPENDITURES:**

Memberships - AOTS National	315.00	270.00
S.S. Xmas / Easter		120.74
Coffee / Cookies		86.90
Dinner meetings	32.75	24.00
WPUC General Fund	500.00	
Age & Opportunity	25.00	
Agape Table	100.00	300.00
West Broadway	200.00	700.00
Devoted to you Ministry		800.00
Bank Expense (net)		19.46
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,172.75</b>	<b>\$2,321.10</b>
Revenue: over (under) Expenditures	<b>-\$320.60</b>	<b>-\$289.91</b>

#### **CASH**

Balance Cash on Hand Dec. 31, 2013	<b>\$888.60</b>
Expense over Revenue - 2014	<b>-289.91</b>
Balance Cash on Hand Dec. 31, 2014	<b>\$598.69</b>

NOTE - Cash on hand as at Dec. 31, 2014 includes \$225.00 membership dues owing to AOTS National.

Major L. Rodd  
Treasurer

## **FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP**

Last year's report included this line *"We will be writing another financial story in 2014 which will undoubtedly have another set of circumstances but as always there will be the ongoing theme of our amazing compassion and generosity."* 2014 started like 2013, attendance was down and givings did not meet our needs. Just after Easter we started another 40-for-40 campaign, and our goal was to have 40 people increase their givings by \$40/month for the next year. By June we had about 25 people make the commitment and 119 people on PAR. This allowed us to keep paying the bills over summer. A few generous angels gifted us early in the fall which allowed WPUC to retire the Lift Loan. By October it looked like we would have a deficit around \$9,000 which was better than the budgeted \$17,000 loss. We started to feel a very positive energy from the congregation as well as a \$3,000 profit from Country Blend. We were blessed with many more angels and on December 31<sup>st</sup> our **surplus was just over \$5,600**. More proof that we are an amazing, compassionate and generous church family.

We will still face financial challenges in 2015 for our General Fund. If you can find it in your heart to provide more to the General Fund it would be very much appreciated. Our Stewardship goal for 2015 is to complete the 40-for-40 campaign and have 125 people using PAR which will get us closer to no deficit at the end of 2014.

We continue to be outstanding with our M&S givings, the 2014 budget was \$24,000 and we provided \$24,283.

This chart below is known as a 'step' chart which shows how many contributors are on each step. The amount given is for all causes and from both Envelope and PAR – General Fund, M&S, and Lift Loan etc.

2014		# OF	AMOUNT	% OF	% OF
YEARLY GIVINGS		GIVER	GIVEN	GIVERS	Amount
\$0	\$50.00	34	\$1,026.00	10.97	0.4
\$50.01	\$100.00	20	\$1,699.85	6.46	0.66
\$100.01	\$200.00	33	\$5,531.35	10.65	2.13
\$200.01	\$500.00	68	\$24,605.86	21.94	9.49
\$500.01	\$1,000.00	75	\$55,408.24	24.19	21.35
\$1,000.01	\$5,000.00	77		24.83	53.93

			\$139,875.78		
\$5,000.01	\$10,000.00	1	\$9,200.00	0.32	3.55
	\$10,000 +	2	\$22,027.00	0.64	8.49
GRAND TOTALS		310	\$259,374.08	100	100
AVERAGE YEARLY GIVING PER PERSON			\$836.69		

Please remember that being a contributing member of WPUC is also about contributing your time and talent. All the councils need new members every year, including Finance and Stewardship. There are also opportunities throughout the year to assist with other activities – like Greeting, Ushering, Liturgists, delivering Christmas hampers and Thinking-of-You baskets, Tot Time, Coffee, Choir, and Counting.

In God's Service  
Doug Waldron



Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.

The good Lord didn't create anything without purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, middle of the road, and back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.

God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?

Peace starts with a smile.

We're called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.

Don't put a question mark where God put a period.

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

He who angers you, controls you!

Prayer:

Don't give God instructions -- just report for duty!

The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.





The friendly folk of Windsor Park United Church have such a great Women's Bible Study group that it's the envy of every man! So much so... they're starting to spot infiltrators!

**MEN ARE WELCOME ALSO... you don't have to go that far!**



**SERMON SURVIVAL TIP:** If during the sermon, you drift off to a peaceful slumber... and your wife/husband gently nudges you, pretend you were praying, and just quietly say... **“AMEN”**.