



Regional Council 15
The United Church of Canada

Inaugural Annual Meeting
Sackville, New Brunswick
May 23 - 26, 2019

REPORTS TO REGION

Courage, creativity and compassion. Those words are touchstones for my ministry, along with words from the gospel of Matthew, “Take heart, it is I, do not be afraid.” I have held them close as we as a denomination have ventured into uncharted waters! I have been grateful to David Hewitt for his guidance and leadership in the first half of my presidency and to Faith March-MacCuish in the second half.

It’s been a privilege to serve as the last president of Maritime Conference and then the acting president of Region 15. I would encourage anyone to prayerfully consider taking on this role. I had opportunities that I couldn’t have imagined, and I wouldn’t have missed them for the world. Here are some of the opportunities I participated in as your president:

- Affirm Annual Meeting and Conference and participating in a public demonstration!
- General Council, overwhelming in some ways for this first timer, but would go again.
- Oasis, Baptist Annual Meeting in Wolfville, NS
- The United Church of Christ Maine Conference in Saco, Maine
- The Presbyterian Synod in Sydney, NS
- Four presbytery visits: Truro, Sydney, Woolastook and Pictou.

In participating with other denominational meetings, it was no surprise to discover that we wrestle with many of the same things: from anxiety about finances and the future, to how do we best organize ourselves to serve God and our communities. While there may be theological differences that divide us, we are united in wanting to continue Jesus’ ministry and share God’ love with a hurting world.

The Conference Executive worked diligently to wind up the business throughout the fall and then the Transition Commission, those folks elected from each presbytery, became the Regional Executive. We have been working very hard since the fall; we have met either by conference call or in person every two weeks. They deserve to be commended for the energy and dedication they have demonstrated in moving forward without familiar landmarks. This in-between time is full of challenges and opportunities for all of us: congregations, committees, staff at the regional office.

Let us take heart, as we live into a new way of being the church. Let us live with courage, creativity and compassion when our hearts are broken open by the poverty, sickness and violence in our world. Let us live with courage, creativity and compassion in loving one another. Because with every step we take, Jesus is with us, inviting us to keep our eyes on him and saying, “Take heart, it is I, do not be afraid.”

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Catherine MacDonald

INDEX

Chair's Message.....	1
Guidelines for Business Procedures.....	4
Regional Resource Persons.....	6
Representative of General Council	7
Theme Speakers	7
Music Leaders	8
Constitutional Motions.....	9
Regional Council Commission Report	10
Candidates for Ordination.....	13
Committee Reports	
Division of Finance and Administration.....	16
Property Committee	17
Regional Council 15 Funds, 2019-01-01	19
Incorporated Ministries Reporting	21
Incorporated Ministries Directory	21
Division of Regional Services and Support.....	23
Communications Committee	24
Faith Formation and Leadership Development Committee.....	24
Justice, Mission and Outreach Committee.....	24
Stewardship Committee.....	24
Youth, Children and Young Adult.....	25
Regional Council Annual Meeting Planning	25
Division of Community of Faith Support and Nurture.....	25
Faith Story Community Covenant Committee.....	26
Future Directions Committee	26
Association of Ministers Committee.....	26
Retiree Support Committee	26
Division of Ministry Resources	27
Pastoral Relations Committee.....	27
Licensing Committee	27
Nominations Committee	28
Region 15 Nominations Report	28
Directory of Divisions and Standing Committees	29
Tri-Region Staff Support Committee	33
Other Reports	
Atlantic School of Theology	34
Atlantic School of Theology Senate	35
Financial Services of The Maritime Conference of The United Church of Canada.....	36
Hunter United Church Building Fund.....	36
Mount Allison University Board of Regents	37
Pine Hill Divinity Hall	37
Tatamagouche Centre	38
United Church Home For Senior Citizens (The Drew Nursing Home/Tantramar Residences)	40

Conversations on How We Meet	41
Jubilarians	43
Retirees	43
Memorial Observances	43
Proposals Process.....	53
Draft Agenda	55

GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESS PROCEDURES

Regional Council 15

- 1. Motion: A Council may only pass motions for which it has the authority and which do not contradict the decision of the higher court. A motion contradicting a motion already passed at the same meeting is out of order, unless it is a motion to reconsider.**
 - The mover reads the motion.
 - The seconder is named.
 - The mover has the privilege of speaking at the beginning and end of the discussion of their motion.
- 2. Discussion:**
 - Start by identifying yourself (name, Pastoral Charge or Community of Faith)
 - All discussion should be directed to the Chair/President.
 - Each person may address the Chair/President only once about a motion, except the mover, who may speak both first and last.
 - All discussion should be clear and concise and deal only with the motion.
- 3. Amendments:**
 - Any motion to amend a motion must be dealt with before dealing with the original motion.
 - Any voting member, except the mover and seconder of the original motion, may make a motion to amend the original motion.
 - An amendment is a suggestion to change a motion slightly by:
 - i. Removing words and replacing them with others, or
 - ii. Adding or deleting words
 - An amendment cannot change the intent of a motion.
 - When all motions to amend have been dealt with, the Council may deal with the final form of the original motion.
 - A separate vote must be taken for each motion to amend.
- 4. Amendment to the Amendment:**
 - A motion to slightly change the amendment.
 - See above
- 5. Voting:**
 - Voting will take place by raising hands (Ballot Cards)
 - All those with voting privileges (members) are expected to indicate their vote by Raising of Hands (holding up their ballot card). Make sure ballot card is ready when voting is happening.
 - i. If there is a close vote, tellers will count.
 - ii. If there is a tie, the Chair/President will cast the deciding vote.
 - Secret Ballots will be used for the vote for President, President-Elect/ or other election as deemed necessary.

6. Motions that Interrupt the meeting:

At any time during a meeting, any voting member may make a motion to:

- Close discussion without a vote on the motion;
- Fix the time to adjourn;
- Adjourn;
- Take an immediate vote (2/3 vote required);
- Limit or extend limits of discussion (2/3 vote required);
- Postpone discussion and decision on the motion to a definite time;
- Refer the motion to another body or commission;
- Amend/change the motion; or
- Postpone discussion and decision on the motion indefinitely (without a specific time).

An original motion may be interrupted by any of the above motions.

While these motions are being dealt with, they may only be interrupted by a motion above it in the list.

7. How to Reconsider a Motion:

- A motion to reconsider a motion already passed may be made if no motion is under consideration. A motion to reconsider has the same priority as the motion to be reconsidered.
- Only a voting member who voted “yes” for the original motion may move the motion to reconsider. This motion must be seconded by a voting member.
- A motion to reconsider in an ongoing meeting must be approved by 2/3 of the voting members present.
- The revised motion may be reconsidered if a motion is changed on reconsideration and passed.
- A motion on which action has been taken may not be reconsidered.

8. Business Committee:

- To sort and clarify issues when things get bogged down in procedure wrangles or wording problems.
- To deal with changes to Agenda during the General Meeting.

9. Other:

- Other rules of Order are contained in the Manual. In general, the conduct of the business is at the discretion of the Chair/President. The Chair/President may seek the advice of the Business Table. Where the Manual is silent, Bourinot’s Rules of Order will be used.

REGIONAL RESOURCE PERSONS

President	Rev. Catherine MacDonald
President-Elect	Vacant
Executive Minister	Rev. Faith March-MacCuish
Annual Meeting Planning Chair	Rev. Donna Tourneur
Annual Meeting Planning Secretary	Ms. April Hart
Proposals Unit Chair	Vacant
Local Arrangements Chair	Mr. Donald Mackay
Worship Planning	Rev. Matthew Fillier
Head Teller	Rev. Melaney Matheson
Retirees & Jubilarians Banquet Host	Rev. Richard Bowley
Ecumenical Host	Rev. Ross Bartlett
Treasurer	Vacant
Office Manager/ Admin Support (Sackville Office)	Ms. Jennifer Whittemore
Office Manager Assistant/ Admin Support (Sackville Office)	Ms. Tracey Rose
Executive Assistant (UCC Regions East)	Ms. Jennifer Taylor

REPRESENTATIVE OF GENERAL COUNCIL

Catherine Rodd
Executive Officer, Communications
General Council Office
The United Church of Canada

Catherine Rodd is the Executive Officer, Communications in the General Council Office. She is a life-long United Church member, a former print journalist, television and multimedia producer. In her current role, she supervises the 20 staff who manage all the graphic design, editorial, web, social media, book sales, multimedia and e-meetings for all the resources produced by The United Church of Canada. She is also responsible for media relations as needed. She lives in Toronto with her partner and four grown children (who have all moved out!), cooks, gardens, skis, hikes, travels a bit, reads and loves music.

THEME SPEAKERS

Rev. Michael Dowd

Rev. Michael Dowd is a bestselling eco-theologian, sustainability activist, and pro-science evangelist whose book, *Thank God for Evolution*, was endorsed by 6 Nobel laureates and other science luminaries, including noted skeptics, and by dozens of diverse religious leaders. He has delivered two TEDx talks, a program at the United Nations, and has spoken to some 2,700 religious and secular groups across North America, gaining international media attention in the process. Rev. Dowd has also conducted two acclaimed online conversation series: “The Advent of Evolutionary Christianity” and “The Future Is Calling Us to Greatness.”

Emma Seamone

Emma Seamone is the descendant of the Friendly Protestant German Immigration to Nova Scotia and the United Empire Loyalists of New Brunswick- for generations formed by life on the unceded territories of Wabanaki Peoples. She was raised on Nova Scotia's North Shore by Three Harbours Pastoral Charge, the daughter of Penny and Warren Hebb of Wallace. Greatly influenced early on by the work of Tatamagouche Centre Emma has spent her career working with communities, and always asking who's voice is not in the room and how do we speak acknowledging their perspectives. Emma studied Environmental Science at Acadia University and went on to work for several Environmental non-profits in the Maritimes, she took on the role of convener of the Maritime Conference Environmental Working Group in 2012. Called to ministry Emma worked in Youth Ministry at Saint John's St. Mark's United Church for three years and received her Youth Ministry Diploma from the Atlantic School of Theology in 2018. Committed to Indigenous Reconciliation Emma served as the Education for Reconciliation Project Coordinator at St. Stephen's University in 2017, where she organized an ecumenical symposium for church leaders on the topic. For the past two years, Emma has joined youth and traditional Chiefs of the Wabanaki

Confederacy at the United Nations Permanent Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Emma Seamone is a candidate for ministry from Wesley United Church of St. Andrews NB, currently enrolled in AST's summer distance MDiv program and serves the Pastoral Charges of Upper Mills, Bocabec, and McAdam. She lives in St. Stephen NB with her husband Jason, and their cat Harley Quinn.

Shannon MacLean

Shannon MacLean lives a life that is in technicolour. She strongly believes the bumper sticker's wisdom that says, "the best things in life aren't things". She feels blessed to be surrounded by amazing people who constantly challenge her to be the best version of herself. She is mother to three awesome people who are working to be change makers in the world. She is host mother to two international students as well and is happiest when her house is filled with conversation, shenanigans and laughter. Her family tree is filled with United Church ministers and she feels called to "the family business". Shannon graduated from the Atlantic School of Theology with her M.Div. this month after choosing *the long and winding* educational path. She holds an MA in Counseling Psychology from Yorkville University and a BSc (Bio-psychology) from Mount Allison. Shannon loves her job. She has been working in the UCC for the past 15 years as a youth minister. She presently works at Woodlawn United where she is taking a short break from youth ministry to complete her Supervised Ministry Education (SME). She will be ordained in 2020, God willing. Aside from her family and her vocation, Shannon loves games nights, Thai food, doodling and unusual pets. She has a passion for social justice and believes we are all called to work to make the world a more equitable, just and loving place.

MUSIC LEADERS

Rick Gunn

Rick Gunn's call to ordained ministry in the United Church of Canada has been a musical one. With an undergrad degree in vocal jazz performance from St. FXU, Rick merged his passion for music leadership and composition with his religious call to be in Christian community worshipping, teaching, and preaching. For over 16 years he has lead children, youth and music ministries at Bedford United Church. Rick planned and led worship at the United Church's national youth and young adults gathering "Rendezvous" in 2014 and 2017. He also was on the design team for the More Voices hymnal supplement. He continues to compose choral and congregational music for the United Church with special emphasis on Christmas and Easter cantatas. Presently he is one year away from graduating with a Master of Divinity from the Atlantic School of Theology.

Peter Moorhouse

Peter Moorhouse is a musical jack of many trades and master of none. He was pushed into piano lessons at a young age, and later took up guitar, percussion, and finally worked up the courage to

start singing as well. After several years playing and singing in a band in his late teens, he took a brief (almost two decade) hiatus from music. Tapping into a multi-generational family history with the United Church of Canada, the music ministry at Bedford United Church provided the opportunity and inspiration for Peter to once again take joy in making music. He sings and plays in BUC's Celebration Choir, in a small ensemble, and sings in the Christmas Cantata each year. Outside of music and church, he spends his time driving his 15 year old son to and from curling tournaments, and in his day job as president and CEO for Atlantic Canada's Better Business Bureau.

Charlene Cable

Charlene Cable's work experience with music started early, regularly accompanying her high school choir and playing for a ballet school. Upon graduating from Teachers College she began a music teaching career which included choirs, ukulele and guitar groups, coffeehouses, concerts and community involvement, such as directing the local barbershop group and playing for Showcase Theatre in Amherst. During this time she was approached to be organist and choir director at Trinity United where she worked for 20 years, leading to Woodlawn United where she was musical director for 3 years. Presently Charlene is an accompanist for All City Music and is happy to be called upon to fill in at several churches in her community.

CONSTITUTIONAL MOTIONS

Regional Council 15

RE REGION ROLL

That the Roll of the Regional Council 15 be (Manual 2019 C1.1 and C.1.2):

The members of the Order of Ministry and Other Ministry Personnel who are:

- a) Members of the order of ministry within the bounds served by the regional council; and
- b) Other ministry personnel in a covenantal relationship with a community of faith within the bounds of the regional council.

And

The lay members who are members of the United Church who are not ministry personnel and who are elected by their Communities of Faith.

RE QUORUM AND BOUNDS

Quorum

"That the quorum be as indicated in Section C.4.3 of The Manual 2019;

- b) at least 20 members and c) that there be at least one ministry personnel and one lay member who is not ministry personnel present."

Bounds

"That the Bounds of the Regional Meeting be the Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre, the Sackville Legion and Mount Allison University".

RE CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

“That representatives of General Council; representatives of United Church organizations; ministry students not serving a pastoral charge; the active and retired Lay Overseas Personnel; ecumenical delegates and observers; the President of the Atlantic School of Theology (or their designate); and the Executive Director of the Tatamagouche Center (or their designate); and any other registered visitors to the Regional Council meetings be Corresponding Members of this Council.”

RE AGENDA

“That the agenda as printed and distributed be adopted as the agenda for this meeting Regional Council 15, subject to such changes as may be adopted and such Orders of the Day as may be determined, by the Council.”

RE REPORTS

“That all reports to the Regional Council Meeting which do not require other action be received for information.”

RE RULES OF DEBATE

“That the initial time allocated for the mover to address the motion be limited to three minutes and that all subsequent speakers limit their time to two minutes, including any reply by the mover of the motion.”

REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMISSION REPORT

When it became clear that the church, through its remits, wished to move in a new direction a Remit Implementation Task Group was formed to help the church move forward into the new structure. The Remit Implementation Task Group proposed that commissions be appointed for each regional council to do significant planning prior to January 1, 2019. This would enable the regional councils to be functional on that date, and to have a governing structure.

The process for appointing a transitional commission was laid out in a letter from the General Secretary to Conference Presidents/Presidents-Elect/Leading Elders, presbytery chairs and secretaries, and co-chairs of the Aboriginal Ministries Council on April 4, 2018:

“There will be 16 commissions in total, one for each regional council. Each Conference worked in its own way to name the members of their respective commission.”

The Commission Members chosen by the Maritime Conference for Region 15 were:

Regional Council #15: Krista Anderson; Ross Bartlett; Anne Cameron; Alicia Cox; William Drysdale; Derek Elsworth; Alison Etter; Ruth Gamble; Elaine Gray; Peter Hardy; April Hart; David LeBlanc; Catherine MacDonald; Beverley McDonald; Donnie Morrison; Carol Smith; Fay Smith; Janet Sollows; Donna Tourneur; Joyce Wylie

The names of the commission members were forwarded to the General Secretary and the Remit Implementation team, and the commission were asked to begin their work immediately. The Commission for Region 15 began meeting in June of 2018 as a transition committee to help evaluate what was needed in order to fulfill its mandate.

At the General Council in July 2018, when the final vote on the remits took place, the Commission was formally named and the Commission was then the body to set up the new Regional Council and to make sure it had what it needed to begin functioning on January 1st, 2019.

The commissions were mandated to:

- a) **function as the Executive of the regional council from January 1, 2019 until such time as the regional council meets and elects a new Executive; and**
- b) **make decisions on such items as in the commission's opinion are necessary to allow for the immediate functioning of the regional council on January 1, 2019;**
- c) **make decisions on the following items:**
 - **any required actions regarding staff who will serve the regional council;**
 - **a regional council budget for 2019;**
 - **mission support grants for 2019;**
 - **a preliminary Memorandum of Understanding between the regional councils being served by a single Executive Minister;**
 - **a plan for how the Executive Minister will come to know the regional councils;**
 - **whether to have a getting-acquainted gathering in 2018 (optional);**
 - **property matters formerly done by presbyteries or Conferences, with the regional council serving as the successor to the presbytery, and performing the functions of the presbytery, in all property transactions involving congregations and pastoral charges within the bounds of the regional council;**
 - **a date and organizing a founding meeting for the regional council not later than June 30, 2019;**
 - **any unfinished business from presbyteries/Districts, including approval of final minutes and Records of Proceedings;**

and propose plans for addressing the following potential topics:

- **a vision for the regional council;**
- **the composition of the regional council's governing body;**
- **a process and timeline for determining the longer term governance of the regional council following the interim period filled by the commission;**
- **nominations policies;**
- **frequency and times of regional council meetings;**
- **a process for selecting a name for the regional council;**
- **a plan regarding current resource centres, if applicable.**

The Regional Commission needed to make the changes necessary to comply with the decisions made by the church through remits and approved at General Council in July 2018. It is understood that the governance structure designed by the Commission is a working document and as the new

executive takes over at the rise of the Regional Council meeting it can and will make changes as necessary.

Staffing decisions were made and communicated and all staff began their positions in January of 2019. The 2019 budget was developed and approved by the Regional Council Commission and we have been operating with that budget since January 2019. Mission Support Grant applications were received and approved accordingly. Those ministries who received money from presbyteries/districts were contacted and encouraged to submit an application for Mission Support Grants knowing district/presbytery money would not be available in the regional system. It was our hope to make sure that ministries did not feel the repercussions of the change in church structure.

In October of 2018, the three Regional Council Commissions gathered in Sackville, New Brunswick to do some further work; meet new staff people; hear about the possibilities that the staff have for their new positions; and develop a Memorandum of Understanding between the three Regions and their shared staff. We spent time with a Mr. George, an Indigenous PhD student, who taught us about systems built on colonial values, and gave us food for thought as we continued to develop our governance structures.

The Regional Council Commission set the date for the Regional Council inaugural meeting and provided the committees necessary for its planning.

The Commission has operated as the Executive of the Regional Council, receiving requests for all matters that came before it, in the hope that no decision was delayed, especially with respect to pastoral relations and property matters. The Mission, Vision, and Core Values statement were developed from work done by the Commission, facilitated by Laura Hunter and will be discussed at the Regional Council meeting.

In naming the Region, we have solicited name suggestions for our Region and will be selecting a name at the Regional Meeting. The Nomination policy and process is up and running and we are currently looking for people to fill our Divisions and Committees and ask people to prayerfully consider serving where you feel your gifts and skills can be best used.

The Regional Council is responsible to meet annually, but how we do that is up to the Region to decide. While we are in the midst of change, we are recommending that the Regional Council have full Regional meetings for the next three years, 2019, 2020, 2021. This will provide an opportunity to build relationships between our Regions and our Communities of Faith. Future directions will need to be decided, and we will begin discussions at this meeting about the possibilities.

The Nominations Committee will be presenting the names of the Regional Council Executive at this inaugural meeting. At the rise of the Regional Meeting, the Council will give the Executive the power to act until the next Regional Council. The Regional Council, through the Division of Finance, is currently working on a new property policy and once complete will be forwarded to all Communities of Faith.

There has been a tremendous amount of work, time, and energy put forward by your Regional Council Commission. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their faithful dedication and exemplary leadership. The Commission will be disbanded and the new Executive will begin its work at the end of these meetings. A special thank you to our staff who, in the midst of uncertainty, have worked tirelessly with competence and grace to enable the transition into the new reality.

Congratulation Regional Council 15, for the journey thus far!

Faith March-MacCuish
Executive Minister
Regional Council 15

ORDINANDS

Peter Anthony



It began with a phone call.

My wife, Debbie, and I had just moved into a new community. We had scouted out the churches in the neighbourhood and found a beautiful small country church of the Anglican persuasion. Being persuaded by the Anglicans was nothing new for us or, for that matter, for me.

My life started in a small community called Mill Village on Nova Scotia's South Shore, not more than 15 minutes from Liverpool. As a child, Mom and I attended the Anglican Church until there came a time when there was no rector for the Parish.

We turned toward the United Church. I was Baptized and went to Sunday School and my mother was a teacher.

After High School I went to Nova Teachers' College and taught in most of the schools in Queens County for 28 years.

Church has always played an important part of my life, at times it played frequently, other times not so much.

That phone call I mentioned. It was from an elderly gentleman inviting my wife and I to join the Bible Study group at that little country church we discovered. Our decision to do so changed my life forever.

My journey since that day when we said yes to Bible Study opened a whole new road before us.

My involvement with the United Church was also because of a phone call. A teacher friend phoned me to ask if I might be able to provide pulpit supply for a few Sundays. That was 2007. And here I am being ordained.

Katherine Aven



Katie came to the United Church of Canada after many years in ministry in the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). She is a certified Specialist in Pastoral Care and Counselling (CASC). She grew up in California, and lives in Halifax with her husband and daughters. Katie has accepted a call to ministry at Bedford United in Bedford, Nova Scotia. She enjoys making all kinds of things, the smell of clover in the summer and watching things connect.

Kim Curlett



It took a Hindu mantra and a yoga mat to finally open my heart to God's call to ministry in this United Church of ours. To say that was all it took would be misleading because anyone that has answered a call of any kind knows that it often takes years of denial to get to this point! I am so very thankful for the many times and ways that God has poked and prodded to get me here. God does not give up!

Ministry was not my first choice for a career. In fact, it wasn't on my radar. I have been an active member of the United Church of Canada my whole life, but minister? I never assumed I was suited for such a thing, so I went about living my life. I graduated as a Medical Laboratory Technologist in 1994 and worked in that field until 2009 when I opened a yoga studio in Dartmouth. After hearing my call to ordained ministry in 2012, I set to work on selling my studio while attending Saint Mary's University. I graduated with a degree in Philosophy and Religious Studies in 2015 and later that year started studying at Atlantic School of Theology. I graduated with a Master of Divinity in 2018. I have served in ministry as a student in many United Churches in the Maritimes. I have been the student minister to Rawdon Hills United Church since January of 2018 and I also currently serve as the minister of spiritual care at Cole Harbour Woodside United Church. All of these opportunities and learnings prepared me to accept a call to Elmsdale Cooperative Ministry and I will be their full-time minister on July 1!

I am a single mom to two incredible kids named Lillian and Leela. They are active members of Woodlawn United Church. My mother and father, Maureen and Peter Woods, raised me in that church and it is a joy to watch my children being formed there too. The list of folks I need to thank is too extensive to list here, but I couldn't have done it without you all. If you know me, you have been a part of this journey and I thank you. I would like to specifically thank my children, my parents, my grandmother, Betty Feltmate, and my co-parent, Ian Curlett, for your love, patience, and unending support of me and my call. I love you all.

Angela Jean MacLean



I am the daughter of James Lynk and the late Sandra Lynk (MacDonald). I was raised in the small community of Big Ridge, Cape Breton, NS. Growing up in Bethel United Church, Marion Bridge was a large part of my childhood and as such I am grateful for the seeds of faith that were planted within me at such a young age.

Those seeds took root and really began to sprout at my home congregation of St. Luke's United Church in Upper Tantallon, NS. My call to ministry grew as I experienced a greater awareness of God at work in my life through a number of ways: prayer, motherhood, serving alongside the wonderful people of St. Luke's, and establishing relationships with new friends who find themselves on the margins of our society. In 2011 I began the journey into discernment for ministry. In 2014, I graduated from Cape Breton University with a BA in Community Studies. In 2018, I graduated with my M.Div. from the Atlantic School of Theology. During these years I had

the fortunate experience of serving Waverly Pastoral Charge, Stairs Memorial United Church in Dartmouth, and Fairview United Church in Halifax.

I am thankful for all the wise and remarkable people that I have met on my journey to ordination: my St. Luke's United Church family, especially my discernment team, my lay supervisory team from both Waverly Pastoral Charge and Fairview United Church. I also want to extend my gratitude for the professors and staff at the Atlantic School of Theology and new friends made along the way. I give special thanks for Rev. Matthew Fillier, Rev. Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis, and Rev. Dr. Ross Bartlett. Your mentoring, friendship, and teaching have inspired and challenged me. Finally, I thank my husband, Paul MacLean, and our three children Erica, Matthew, and David. You are my greatest source of encouragement and joy. Without your love, patience, and sense of humor I would not be here today.

I am happy to say that I have been called by Fairview United Church in Halifax.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DIVISION OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Status of Division:

At the time of writing this report we can say that we have at least one person on each of the underlying committees except for the Incorporated Ministries Committee. I want to thank Alison Etter and the nominating committee for difficult job of trying to fill all of these necessary positions.

I want to take the opportunity of thanking those that have stepped forward to take on a Chair position for one of our committees. Ron Patterson is Chair of our Property Committee, Mac MacLeod is Chair of our Investments and Trusts Committee and recently Harvey Guillon has stepped forward to take on the Chair position of Finance Accountability and Consultation Committee and also a big thank you Fay Smith for agreeing to be secretary for the division as well as the property committee.

Upon being approved as Chair of the division we have been working on mostly dealing with property Issues. Often times these matters cannot wait. We have dealt with many property issues that revolve around expansion, sale of Manses or churches and grant applications for repairs and upkeep. We have also outlined the process for Communities of Faith to access the Hunter Fund when doing renovations to their facilities.

Also, we have reviewed the position description for the Treasurer of Region 15 but to this date we do not have a candidate that is willing to take on that role. This individual will work closely with the division and be available for consultation with our other committees if necessary.

Because the new structure is so new, we are not yet well equipped to tracking spending. The GCO is only at this time able to give us totals for Governance and Mission Support. We hope that this will be resolved shortly. We have prepared a budget based on the expectations of the monies

flowing to the Region from the National Office with some additions for inflation and Cost of Living Allowances for staff. Monies that were to flow to the Region from the Maritime Conference have yet to be completely resolved so that may give us some buffer for future years.

We understand that there have been discussions about where the Regional Office should be, whether that means sharing space with Region 14 in Sackville or moving to a location in Nova Scotia. As a Division we have asked the Commission executive to consider using the remainder of this year and the first part of 2020 to do an in-depth evaluation of the potential move so that we can prepare an appropriate budget for the Annual Meeting in 2020.

We continue to seek members to join our committees and look forward to people coming forward to help make Region 15 successful. We will also be discussing the feasibility of amalgamating some of the responsibilities if we are not able to recruit the numbers that we need.

Have faith it will take time.

Blessings,

Jane McDonald, Chair

Division of Finance and Administration

Property Committee

On January 1, 2019, the United Church of Canada began operating under a new governance structure. We in Nova Scotia have been designated as Region 15 and together with New Brunswick/Gaspe, region 14 and Newfoundland and Labrador Region 16 now report to Executive Minister Faith Marsh-MacCuish.

We have all been challenged with developing policies to govern the administration of our Church one of which is the Property Handbook.

The introduction to the property handbook includes the following dialogue:

"We are called to be the Church." As such, we need to exercise faithful stewardship, including stewardship over any property entrusted to us. Over the course of the lifetime of a congregation, the Church is responsible for all decisions related to property acquiring, renovating, selling or otherwise disposing of it. Though any and all of these processes might appear ordinary in the secular business world and would not have a spiritual dimension, ultimately when we carry out these tasks faithfully, we enable the mission and ministry of the Church to be fulfilled.

This booklet has been prepared to provide information on church property matters to the many volunteers (lay and ministry personnel) within The United Church of Canada in Regions who are called to carry out these often-difficult and time-consuming tasks.

Fortunately, “we are not alone,” and within The United Church of Canada, the local church council (or “Official Board” or “Session and Stewards”) has the resources of its Region and, through "The Manual" and other assistance from the General Council. The United Church of Canada is a **conciliar** church, which is to say that in our system the local congregation does not exist in isolation. The local church Board (a *court* within the United Church) is related to other governing bodies, which are called Regional Council and General Council. When this system works as it is meant to do, congregations are helped to protect their own welfare and also challenged to remember that they are part of a nation-wide community of churches.

In matters of property decisions, in fact, it is because we are a *conciliar church* that it is the Region, with few exceptions, that needs to give final approval for:

- acquiring church property
- erecting a new building
- leasing of the church building or property
- renovating church property
- selling church property

In all of these matters, it is very important for the Congregation to be in touch with the Region at the earliest stage.

The property handbook is still a work in progress and it is our hope to present the final version to congregations/communities of faith via workshops around the Region later this fall.

Your current Region 15 property committee consists of:

Chair Ron Patterson

Secretary Fay Smith

Gary Wilkie

Bob McArel

Executive Minister Faith Marsh-McGuish. .

Our committee reports to the regional division of finance and administration where final decisions to most property related issues are made.

This committee has representation of the area between Amherst and Halifax but is in need of new members other areas of our Province. If you have an interest in property, related issues please consider joining us as we endeavour to do our best to help in the transition to our new model of governance. One particular issue we have to deal with is creating an inventory of manses and carrying out a condition assessment of each.

Respectfully submitted

Ron Patterson, Chair

Property Committee

Regional Council 15**Funds**

Balances as at January 1, 2019

W. E. “Ed” Aitken (1997).....	\$2,500.00
Amount expected to be available.....	\$667.02
*Support of ministry candidates.	
*See “Application for Vera Dickey Bursary Assistance & Rev. W.E. Aitken Memorial Fund” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Dickey-Aitken-Bursary-Application-2018-2019-updated.pdf	
William A. Crawford (1935)	\$987.50
Amount expected to be available.....	\$705.64
For any purpose the Region deems wise	
Unrestricted	
*See “Bequest Fund Application” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Bequest-Fund-Application.pdf	
Vera Dickey Bequest (1989)	\$9,908.77
Amount expected to be available	\$1,353.43
*Support of ministry candidates	
*See “Application for Vera Dickey Bursary Assistance & Rev. W.E. Aitken Memorial Fund” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Dickey-Aitken-Bursary-Application-2018-2019-updated.pdf	
Lisson/Robb Fund for Social Ministry	\$557.52
Amount expected to be available.....	\$557.52
*For use in social ministry; to be decided by the Region.	
*Contact the Regional office for more details.	
Mary MacRae-Belliveau.....	\$4,070.28
Amount available	\$7,713.09
*To assist Lay Ministers In Training (LMIT) and Licenced Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL) on their educational journey.	
*Contact the regional office for more details.	
Edward Jost, Senior, Bequest (1984).....	\$8,000.00
Amount expected to be available.....	\$1,751.64
*To support needy missions in Nova Scotia with no mission to receive aid, from these funds, after having been established ten years.	
*See “Bequest Fund Application” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Bequest-Fund-Application.pdf	

Annie V. King Bequest (1960)	\$23,000.00
Amount expected to be available	\$9,152.86
*Interest to be used for United Churches in Nova Scotia as the church may determine.	
*See “Bequest Fund Application” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Bequest-Fund-Application.pdf	
Guy R. King Bequest (1973)	\$75,330.71
Amount expected to be available	\$17,354.46
*Interest to be used for United Churches in Nova Scotia as the church may determine.	
*See “Bequest Fund Application” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Bequest-Fund-Application.pdf	
Edith MacPherson Bequest (1983)	\$5,000.00
Amount expected to be available	\$3,680.35
*Interest from this fund to be used to assist small United Churches in Nova Scotia.	
*See “Bequest Fund Application” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Bequest-Fund-Application.pdf	
Metzler Bequest (1902)	\$411.00
Amount expected to be available	\$161.48
For the cause of Christ	
Unrestricted	
*See “Bequest Fund Application” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Bequest-Fund-Application.pdf	
Wesley Memorial Fund (Aitken/Dickey)	\$1,000.00
Available	\$340.14
*To offer financial assistance to theology students in the region.	
*Contact the Regional office for more details.	
James Oscar Young (1967)	\$19,500.00
Amount expected to be available	\$5,295.57
*Anywhere within the Region	
*For some purposes to be determined by the Region for its benefit.	
Unrestricted	
*See “Bequest Fund Application” at the following link: https://marconf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Bequest-Fund-Application.pdf	
Camping Ministry	\$96,941.76
*Support to camping ministries within the Region.	
*Contact the Regional office for more details.	

Internship Sites.....\$37,000.00

*To support educational site ministries throughout the Region.

*See “Funding for Ministry Learning Sites Application” at the following link:
<https://marconf.ca/committee-news/ministry-personnel-education-2/maritime-conference-funding-ministry-learning-sites/>

Youth Opportunities.....\$33,032.50

*To foster spiritual growth and faith development by providing financial assistance to youth and young adults in the Region enable them to participate in expressions of Christian faith and gatherings of the wider church, primarily, but not limited to, participating in national and international events or ministries.

*Contact the Regional office for more details.

Incorporated Ministries Reporting

Name	Constitution/ Bylaws	Liability Insurance	Directors Report	Last Financial Report
Arthur Kidston Memorial Camp	2011	2018	2018	2018
Atlantic Christian Training Centre (Tatamagouche Centre)	Revised 2013	2019	2018	2018
Brunswick Street Mission	2015	2019	2018	2018
Church Extension Board - Halifax Presbytery	Revised 2016	2019	2018	2018
Financial Services of the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada	1992	2019	2018	2018
Hunter Church Building Fund	NR	NR	2018	2018
North Dartmouth Outreach Resource Centre	1996	2019	2018	2018
Pine Hill Divinity Hall	Revised 1986	2019	2018	2018
Sherbrooke Lake United Church Camp	Revised 2003	2019	2018	2018
St. Paul’s Family Resources Institute	1985	2018	2017	2017
United Church Camp Meeting Association (Berwick Camp)	1885	2019	2018	2018

List of Incorporated Ministries Directory**Arthur Kidston Memorial Camp – Not received at time of reporting****Atlantic Christian Training Centre (Tatamagouche Centre)**

Michael Henderson

Peter Hough

Lauren King

Karen MacNeill

Jim Wicks

Brunswick Street Mission

Grace Beasley
 Sandra Keefe
 Walter Hayward
 Barbara Baker
 Heather Bagnell
 Geoff Lewis
 Wayne Marsh
 Sandra A. Nicholas

Brenda Munro
 Ruth Bona
 John Beveridge
 Elaine Gunn
 Carol Smillie
 Susan MacQuarrie
 Margaret Casey
 Faith March-MacCuish

Church Extension Board – Halifax Presbytery

Alan Ellis
 Diana Dalton
 Rev. Catherine MacDonald
 Rev. Elroy McKillop
 Don Stonehouse

Stephen Pace
 Ron Cochrane
 Re. Roland Murray
 Wayne Doggett

Financial Services of the Maritime Conference of The United Church of Canada

Rev. Lloyd Bruce
 Rev. Heather Manuel
 Terry Mathews
 Kevin Dingwell
 Rev. Doug Cosman
 Alex MacClure
 Rev. Kenley MacNeill
 Lloyd Penney
 Anne Thompson

Paul Wood
 Maxine Smith
 David Morison
 Richard Boulter
 Jack Logan
 Re. David Maclean
 Rev. Tom Woods
 Kimberley Douglass

Hunter Church Building Fund

Ross Hallett
 Blake Caldwell
 Louise Gosbee
 Rev. Vincent Ihasz
 Re. Elroy McKillop

Charles Baxter
 Harriet McWhirter
 Sandra Barss
 Rev. Trent Cleveland-Thompson
 Rev. Carol Smith

North Dartmouth Outreach Resource Centre

Gordon McKeen
 Sylvia Anthony
 Gordon Macaskill
 Martin Walker
 Dale Knox
 Helen Carpenter
 Carl Day
 Sam Schwartz

Tom Clarke
 Sarah Mackay
 Betty Kemp
 Frances Hunter
 David Kaiser
 Gerry Irwin
 Lynn Loder

Pine Hill Divinity Hall

Bonnie Fraser
 Bob Carter
 Susan MacAlpine Gillis
 Brenda Munro
 James Shaffner
 Bob Carter
 Mac MacLeod
 Ross Macintosh
 Roger Janes
 Kevin Latimer

Mary Taylor
 Michael Mugford
 Catherine Stuart
 Roxanne Sperry
 Ross Bartlett
 Lesley Hamilton
 Heather Donnelly
 David Griffiths
 Yvette Swan
 Emma Seamone

Sherbrooke Lake United Church Camp

Denise Beaulieu
 Morgan Book
 Chloe Clark
 Cooper Dominix
 Jack Logan
 Kelly Moores
 Shyanne Mossman
 Norman Phinney
 Terry Skidmore
 Ronald Walker
 Matthew Whynott

Ross Blakeney
 (Lorraine) Helen Burch
 Sandra Creaser
 Julia Lawrence
 Timothy Miner
 (Vivian) Leslie Moores
 Dawn Pelley
 Amy Pothier
 Jillian Vardy
 Rachel Wamboldt

St. Paul's Family Resources Institute – Not received at time of reporting**United Church Meeting Association (Berwick Camp)**

Tim O'Neill
 Susan MacAlpine-Gillis
 Dawn Wood
 Brian King
 Michael Mugford
 Eric Schurman

Christine Crooks
 Margaret Wood
 Janet Sollows
 Brian DeLong
 Sara Campbell

DIVISION OF REGIONAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT

April 12, 2019

The mandate of this division is to provide oversight, leadership and guidance to Communities of Faith within the Region. The members of the division committee are:

Chair, Donnie Morrison

Secretary, Mike Henderson

Communications Committee Chair, Kevin Cox

Faith Formation and Leadership Development Committee Chair, not appointed at this date

Justice, Mission and Outreach Committee Chair, Anne Hoganson

Stewardship Committee Chair, Shauna MacDonald
Youth, Children and Young Adult Committee Chair, Mat Whynott

Regional Council Annual Meeting Planning Committee Chair, Donna Tourneur
The Staff Support for our division is Regional Minister David Hewitt

The Division has met once since its inception. That meeting was on April 4. We should have all chairs in place by action of the next regional executive meeting on April 16 and we are excited to have all committees up and running.

The mandate of the **Communications** Committee is to provide leadership, oversight and guidance to the Region, and to communicate effectively internally between the Region and the Communities of Faith and externally between the Region and The United Church of Canada and the general public. The Communications Committee has not yet reported to the Division. The Staff Support for this committee is the Office Manager.

The mandate of the **Faith Formation and Leadership Development** Committee is to provide leadership and resources compatible with United Church ethos to Communities of Faith within the bounds of the Region. The Chair of this committee will be nominated at the April 16 Regional Executive meeting. The Staff Support for this committee is the Regional Minister.

The mandate of the **Justice, Mission and Outreach** Committee is to seek to live, not just as individuals but as community. We are called by Christ to love and serve others, to seek justice, to live with respect in creation, to work with faith communities to act with compassion in a timely manner in our neighbourhoods and the world. The Staff Support for this committee is the Justice and Mission Minister.

The JMO Committees of Regions 14 and 15 met in February, via a phone meeting chaired by the outgoing Chair of the Church in Action Committee. Out of that discussion came a proposal to the Regional Executives of both Regions that the two Regional Committees work together as “the Joint Committees”, while maintaining lines of accountability to the separate Regions. They will meet together in person at the Regional meetings in May. Working groups that were formerly part of the Maritimes Church in Action Committee remain actively engaged in various justice issues. The following working groups are part of the Region 15 JMO Committee: Mining and Environment, Just Peace for Palestine and Israel, Refugee Matters, and Mental Health.

The committee members passionately believe that God is calling us to strive for just peace and equality in our world and in our relationships. If you are interested in joining one of the working groups, or forming a cluster focusing on an area of local concern, please contact Anne Hoganson at annehoganson@gmail.com and she will be pleased to help you become involved.

The mandate of the **Stewardship** Committee is to provide leadership and resources compatible with United Church ethos, to Communities of Faith within the bounds of the Region.

The Chair for this committee has just been appointed on April 2, so this committee is just getting underway. The Staff Support for this committee is the Stewardship and Special Gifts Minister.

The mandate of the **Youth, Children and Young Adult** Committee is to encourage children, youth and young adults to become more involved in their Communities of Faith and their church as a whole. Further, the mandate is to support and encourage youth, young adults, and their leaders in learning, discerning, and living a Christian faith, experiencing and celebrating God's presence, living with respect in creation, loving and serving others, seeking justice and resisting evil, and to know the foundational narrative of Jesus' life and works.

The committee has met to talk about priorities for the committee and to approve funding to help support congregations who are hosting "The GO Project". There are several sub-groups within the committee, which include the Outdoor Recreational Ministries (ORM) Network, BE, and Youth Forum (YF) & Intermediates at Conference (IAC), all of which are continuing to work across Region 15 and Fundy St. Lawrence Drowning Waters regional boundaries. ORM is planning a combined planning session with all five United Church camps in the first week of June, bringing the boards together.

As in the past, YF and IAC events will happen at the Annual Meeting. The Staff Support for this committee is the Youth and Young Adults minister.

The mandate of the **Regional Council Annual Meeting Planning** committee is to provide leadership, planning and facilitation of effective and respectful meetings of the Region which balances worship, business and education. This Committee organizes the annual meeting of the Region and recommends to the Regional Council Executive an agenda, a prospective meeting site, dates, speaker(s), reports, election process for Commissioners as required and other details for the annual meeting for approval as necessary.

This committee has been very active for the past several months organizing the first Region 15 annual meeting to be held in Sackville, NB on May 23 to 26. The theme is "Faith Forward". More information is available on the Maritime Conference website. The Staff Support for this committee is the Executive Minister.

Respectfully submitted
Donnie Morrison, Chair

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY OF FAITH SUPPORT AND NURTURE

Report to Regional Council - May 2019

Mandate: To provide leadership to and coordinate the activities of the Communities of Faith Covenants, Faith Stories, Future Directions, the Association of Ministers, and Retirees Support Committees.

Our Division is in a state of development. Our first meeting was held on April 11th. At that meeting, we spent time gathering, organizing and getting to know each other. Both David Hewitt and Faith March-MacCuish were present to guide us and welcome the new members. We considered our division agreements with regard to how we will work together. We reviewed agendas, considered how we will deal with minutes, methods of meeting together, group covenants, and how we would deal with correspondence and decisions.

From the Region 15 Handbook, we reviewed the terms of reference for our committees along with any concerns and hopes the division members had. In discussing the question, ‘what do you need for support to get up and going?’ it was soon clear the first order of business is populating our committees with engaged and creative individuals. **Please consider offering your time and talents for one of our committees!**

Our committee’s responsibilities fall into supportive and nurturing roles.

The Faith Story Community Covenant Committee: Provides leadership and resources to Communities of Faith with respect to non-financial aspects of Annual Reports. This committee will maintain contact with Communities of Faith and provide acts of covenant. They also offer leadership and resources with respect to creating and maintaining new Living Faith Stories. This committee is seeking members! (Annika Sangster, Chairperson)

The Future Directions Committee: Provides future directions, suggestions, oversight, leadership, and guidance for the Communities of Faith within the Region. This includes encouraging Communities of Faith in clarifying, strategizing, and acting on their current and possible new visions for ministry in the United Church of Canada, in their neighborhood, community and social context. They will provide guidance, analysis, feedback and assist when boundary changes, closures or amalgamations are needed. Collaboration with liaisons from the pastoral relations committees will be instrumental for much of this work. This committee is seeking members! (Vacant, Chairperson)

The Association of Ministers Committee: Will explore and develop possibilities for an Association of Ministers within the understandings of the United Church. They have met a number of times and will have their inaugural region wide meeting in advance of the May Region 15 meeting in Sackville NB. There, they will start the process of developing a framework, principles and process in consultation with ministry personnel. They have been communicating about their meeting and have queried through email suggestions from ministry personnel on ways an Association might benefit them. Of great interest will be the creation of collegial circles or clusters. Accompaniment and support for colleagues undergoing difficulties, and development of mentor linkages are specific activities we may see come from their work. (Ross Bartlett, Chairperson)

The Retiree Support Committee: Will provide guidance, support and oversight for retirees of the Region. This committee will have knowledge of pension and benefits and assist retired ministry personnel with administrative issues. The hope is that this committee will contact retired ministers at least once per year to help them stay connected with the Region and will help to set up clusters/networks for retirees in geographical areas. Ideally, retirees will receive pastoral care through their home Communities of Faith, complemented as needed or requested by the committee. This committee is seeking members! (Ruth Gamble, Chairperson)

We look to the future with hope and are creatively excited to engage our tasks - breathing spirit into the work of our division.

Respectfully Submitted,
Krista Anderson, Chairperson and Rick Fullerton, Secretary

DIVISION OF MINISTRY RESOURCES

The Mandate of this division is to provide leadership, oversight and guidance to the activities of the Committees that support Human and Ministry Resources in the Region.

The members of this division are:

Chair - Anne Cameron

Secretary - Nan Corrigan

Chair of Pastoral Relations - Tom Woods

Chair of Nominations - Alison Etter

Chair of Licensing - John Moses

At least one Ordained, Diaconal and Designated Lay Minister must be on the Division. If not represented in the above, then absent designation is to be added to the Division membership.

The Staff Support for this Division is Regional Minister - David Hewitt.

The Division has met four times since its inception. Those meetings were via telephone conference calls and held on March 15, March 29, April 12 and April 26th. The Division is meeting every two weeks to deal with matters coming before it in a timely manner.

The Regional Minister, David Hewitt reported that there are 139 pastoral charges in Region 15, 19 pastoral charges in Faith Story prep, 21 in Search process, 37 appointments in place. To date the Pastoral Relations Committee has recommended the approval of 26 calls and appointments and received for information the appointments of 3 Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

Pastoral Relations Committee

The Mandate of the Pastoral Relations Committee is to provide guidance and oversight to the Region and Communities of Faith with respect to human resource employment practices, and pastoral relations. The members of this Committee are:

Chair - Tom Woods

Secretary

6 Designated Individuals

A trained pool of Liaisons, each reporting to a designated individual from the Pastoral Relations Committee.

The Staff Support for this Committee is Regional Minister - David Hewitt

The Chair of Pastoral Relations, Tom Woods and Regional Minister, David Hewitt have been busy receiving and processing calls and appointments for ratification by the Division.

Licensing Committee

The Mandate of the Licensing Committee is to receive, review and recommend appropriate action on requests for designation and licensing outside the Candidacy Pathways process. The members of this Committee are:

Chair - John Moses

Secretary

At least one of each:

Diaconal Minister

Ordained Minister - Helene Burns

Designated Lay Minister

A person qualified in Supervision

Members at Large -David Forbes

The Staff Support for this Committee is Executive Minister - Faith March-MacCuish

The ground work continues to be laid for this committees work.

Nominations Committee

The Mandate of the Nominations Committee is to recommend appointments for the Regional Council Executive, Divisions and other Committees, boards, task groups, or United Church representatives, as requested by the Regional Council, its Divisions, its Executive, or the Executive Minister. The members of this Committee are:

Chair - Alison Etter

Secretary

One member of the Regional Executive (named by Executive) - Alicia Cox

2 Designated Individuals not serving on the Executive

Ruth Gamble DLM, Tony Orlando

The Staff Support for this Committee is the Executive Minister B Faith March-MacCuish

This Committee has been busy and their Nominating Report for 2019-2020 is attached to this report.

We look forward to the future with faith, hope, and love, trusting the Holy One to show us the way.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Cameron, Chair

Nan Corrigan, Secretary

Region 15 Nominations Report

It has been an honour to serve as the chair of the Nominating Committee during this time of transition. I want to offer sincere thanks to all those who said YES when asked to serve in a new role, in a new structure. Your willingness and your efforts are significant and appreciated.

This year has been a challenging year for the Nomination Committee. Because we are in a new structure, we had to fill many more vacancies than normal, starting fresh with all our committees. We began our work by contacting members of the former presbyteries to ask for recommendations. We were provided with the names of many gifted and dedicated presbytery members. Many of you have already agreed to serve on a committee. Others felt they would like to focus on other areas of church work at this time.

If we have not contacted you, please contact us! Due the large scope of our task this year, there are names we have overlooked or missed. *You do not need to be appointed by your Community of Faith as a Region 15 representative in order to serve on a committee. Anyone participating in a United Church in the region is eligible.*

There are many current VACANCIES. Please have a conversation with me or with Alicia Cox during the Annual Meeting. We would love to speak with you about how your gifts and skills might best serve our region.

The Directory of Divisions and Committees does not represent the full scope of work that Region 15 members are undertaking for the wider church. Many of our members are engaged in other tasks including:

- pastoral liaisons: trained individuals who work with communities of faith, especially in times of transition
- community of faith supervisors
- board members for Incorporated Ministries
- United Church representatives on external bodies
- General Council committee member
- members of a committee of the Office of Vocations
- members of the Maritime Conference UCW
- those working to establish clusters and networks

Thanks to those serving in these roles, and to everyone who has contributed in any way to the work of the United Church in our region.

I want to make a special mention of Bermuda Synod. We have chosen not to place members of the Synod on committees at this time, pending further discussion. We have, however, asked Synod to name a member to serve on the Regional Executive. In future, according to the wishes of the Synod, we are looking forward to appointing members from Bermuda to many of our committees.

I want to offer special thanks to the members of the nominating committee Tony Orlando, Ruth Gamble, and Alicia Cox, who will now step into the role of chair. It has been a pleasure to work with you and I couldn't be more thankful for your hard work and effort these past months.

Warmest wishes to everyone as we continue the work of the church together.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Alison Etter

DIRECTORY OF DIVISIONS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

May 15, 2019

Terms lengths are normally three years, renewable for one year.

An effort will be made to stagger the terms.

Regional Executive

To be elected by the Annual Meeting:

President

President-Elect

To be approved by the Annual Meeting

Treasurer

Chair of the Division of Finance and Administration

Chair of the Division of Regional Services and Support

Chair of the Division of Community of Faith Support and Nurture

Chair of the Division of Ministry Resources

Staff Committee Liaison

Members at Large

1. Mr. Peter Hardy
2. Mr. Max Martin

Ms. Jane McDonald

Mr. Donnie Morrison

Rev. Krista Anderson

Ms. Anne Cameron

Rev. Lesley Hamilton

Previously appointed:

Past President Rev. Catherine MacDonald

UCW Representative Ms. Ruth Kennedy (beginning in May)

Division of Finance and Administration

Chair Ms. Jane MacDonald

Secretary Ms. Fay Smith

Financial Accountability and Consultation Committee

Chair Mr. Harvey Gullon

Members at large

1. Mr. Alan Davis
2. Mr. Geoff Lewis

Incorporated Ministries Committee

Chair VACANT

Members at large

1. Ms. Brenda Munro

Board of Trusts/Investments Committee

Chair Mr. Mac MacLeod

Members at large

1. Mr. Barry Zwicker

Property Committee

Chair Mr. Ron Patterson

Secretary Ms. Fay Smith

Members at large

1. Mr. Henry Elsworth
2. Mr. Gary Wilkie
3. Mr. Henry Elsworth
4. Mr. Rob McArel
5. Rev. David LeBlanc

Archives, Records, and History Committee

Chair Ms. Joyce Wylie

Members at large

1. Ms. Heather MacLean
2. Lesley Burrows
3. Mr. Shane Doucette

Division of Regional Services and Support

Chair Mr. Donnie Morrison

Secretary Rev. Mike Henderson

Communications Committee

Chair Rev. Kevin Cox

Members at large

1. VACANT

Faith Formation and Leadership Development

Chair Ms. Kim Curlett

Members at large

1. Rev. Sharon Lohnes
2. Rev. Don Sellsted
3. Ms. Margie MacIntyre
4. Ms. Carolina Tucker
5. Ms. Karen Crowley

Child, Youth, and Young Adult Committee

Chair Mr. Mat Whynott

Members at large

1. Ms. Emma Taylor
2. Ms. Terry Skidgmo
3. Ms. Paige Fraser
4. Mr. James O'Connell
5. Rev. Penny Nelson
6. Rev. Linda Yates
7. Ms. Dana Pardy

Stewardship Committee

Chair Ms. Shauna MacDonald

Members at large

1. Ms. Margaret Ann Dodson

Mission, Justice, and Outreach Committee

Chair Rev. Anne Hoganson

Members at large

1. Ms. Kathryn Anderson, Diaconal Minister

2. Ms. Linda Scherzinger
3. Ms. Lenora Timmons
4. Rev. Sarah Raeburn
5. Rev. Penny Nelson
6. Ms. Bev MacDonald
7. Mr. Art Jensen

Annual Meeting Planning Committee

Chair Rev. Donna Tourneur

Secretary Ms. April Hart

President of the Region

Designated Individuals:

1. Rev. Stephen Mills (Proposals Coordinator)
2. Mr. Donald MacKay (Local Arrangements Coordinator)

Division of Communities of Faith Support and Nurture

Chair Rev. Krista Anderson

Secretary Mr. Rick Fullerton

Community of Faith Covenant Committee

Chair Ms. Annika Sangster, Diaconal Minister

Members at large

1. Rev. Sheila Redden-Smith

Future Directions Committee

Chair VACANT

Members at large

1. Rev. Carol Smith

Association of Ministers Committee

Chair Rev. Ross Bartlett

Members at large

1. Rev. Linda Yates
2. Mr. Bill Drysdale, DLM
3. Ms. Lori Crocker, Diaconal Minister

Retiree Support Committee

Chair Ms. Ruth Gamble, DLM

Members at large

1. VACANT

Division of Ministry Resources

Chair Ms. Anne Cameron

Secretary Ms. Nan Corrigan, Diaconal Minister

Pastoral Relations

Chair Rev. Tom Woods

Members at large

1. VACANT

Licensing Committee

Chair Rev. John Moses

Diaconal Minister VACANT

Designated Lay Minister VACANT

Qualified Supervisor Rev. Helene Burns

Members at large

1. Mr. David Forbes

Nominations Committee

Chair Rev. Alicia Cox

Members at large

1. Mr. Tony Orlando

Other Appointments**Region 15 Representatives to the Staff Support Committee**

1. Rev. Lesley Hamilton (Liaison to the Executive)
2. Rev. Derek Ellsworth

Affirming Ministries working group

Members at large

1. Ms. Shannon MacLean
2. Rev. Ivan Gregan
3. Ms. Sandra Nimmo
4. Rev. Mike Henderson
5. Ms. Miranda Newhook
6. Ms. Arlene Richardson

Tri-Region Staff Support Committee

The participating Atlantic Regions agreed to jointly form a Regional Staff Support Team with two elected representatives from each of the three Regions. The assigned individuals will act as a supportive committee to the staff in the regions. One of the two chosen by each Region will be a reporting member their Regional Council Executive. Staff will be asked by the Executive Minister if it is helpful to have a liaison person and the Committee will make those arrangements. The Executive Minister, who is staff support, will also report to Regional Executive periodically on the work of the Staff Support Team.

The members of the Committee are:

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters: Scott Stuart (Reporting Member) and Martha Vickers

Regional Council 15: Lesley Hamilton (Reporting Member) and Derek Ellsworth

First Dawn Eastern Edge: To be added

The Committee's responsibility is:

- to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of this model, including how the cost-sharing arrangements are working and help to identify improvements in this arrangement from time to time
- Share experiences and insights about transitional work, including the possibility of any other shared projects.
- Provide support for all staff employed by the Regions and work with the Executive Minister in regards to working conditions and responsibilities.

A Memorandum of Understanding was developed and approved by the three Regional Commissions. The Staff Committee will recommend updates and changes, as needed, to the Executive.

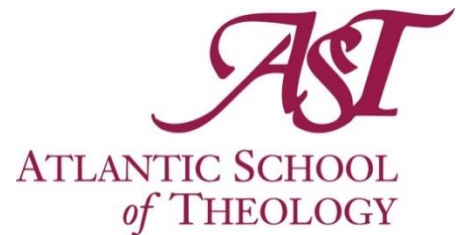
Once the committee has its full membership, it will plan its inaugural meeting and begin working on its mandate.

OTHER REPORTS

Atlantic School and Theology

Greetings from Atlantic School of Theology!

You might already know about us: we are a small ecumenical university in Halifax, NS, founded in 1971 when three theological schools merged together: Pine Hill (United Church of Canada); King's College (Anglican); and Holy Heart (Roman Catholic). We continue our close relationship with the United Church, and two-thirds of our degree students are United Church members. People from across Canada (every province) study with us.



In 2018-19, we continued to have a 'steady' enrolment pattern with 156 students. We offer the M.Div. (residential) degree; M.Div. (summer distance) degree; M.A. (jointly with Saint Mary's University); Diploma in Youth Ministry; Diploma in Theological Studies; and Diploma in the New Evangelization (a Roman Catholic initiative). As a full-integrated ecumenical theological university, we delight in the growth and graces we enjoy through constant contact and shared learning with peers from other Christian traditions. United Church of Canada students (from any Region) who are preparing for ministry enjoy a full tuition bursary for all years.

Continuing Education is an important aspect of what we do. This past year we offered a unique Social Enterprise Symposium and an online Feminist Spirituality course, for example. An increasing number of ministers are taking our M.A. degree (online or on campus) to further their learning.

A few campus renovations have been taking place, including the construction of Halifax Hospice on our property. We're happy to get to know this new neighbour and partner as they fulfill their important mission.

AST was a co-founder of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs, and has been involved for many years with its work. This year, in response to CCEPA's desire for increased autonomy, AST withdrew from the governance aspect of CCEPA, and CCEPA moved off our campus. We will remain active in their programming.

Like everyone associated with the United Church, we are adjusting to the new polity and structures that have been approved—for example, we have adapted the terms of reference for appointments to our Senate, and we are learning how best to relate to the new Candidacy Boards. If you have advice or suggestions for us, please get in touch any time. Our central aim is to serve the church, and we deeply value the partnership we share with you.

Respectfully,
Rev. Dr. Rob Fennell, Academic Dean
rfennell@astheology.ns.ca

Atlantic School of Theology Senate

Another year of serving on the AST senate has passed. It is always an interesting experience to pop into the world of AST and be invited to vote on decisions. Sometimes I feel completely inadequate in that responsibility, as the world of a minister can become quickly removed from the world of academia. Luckily I am not alone. Senators hear reposts from all the departments, and get a sense of what is happening in term of registration, in all programs, about the physical plant and the changes, made there, about partnerships, and staff, and the work that connect the Atlantic School of Theology to the partnerships that have been forged over the years.

This year the work included making many upgrades to the physical plant, including reclaiming library space for offices, and reworking some of the other space on campus. AST is located on prime real estate in Halifax, and maximizing its potential in order to offset costs has been one strategy in self-sufficiency.

A major grant from the Anglican church has helped with energy efficiency and providing solar panel to maximize the use of electricity.

Awarding honorary degrees and thinking about who we might be a likely candidate for the next year is another task. I have had the privilege of being in on some of those conversations as well.

The faculty and staff are always ready to invest fully in the life of the community and find opportunities to extend the work into the mainstream world, making theological connections and finding ways to interest graduates in continuation education.

It's been my pleasure to contribute in some small way from time to time.

Financial Services of the Maritime Conference of The United Church of Canada322

Report not received at time of printing.

Hunter United Church Building Fund

The Trustees of the Hunter United Church Building Fund have completed another busy, but very satisfying year. We have been able to continue to financially assist many Churches as they have had to deal with building repair emergencies, or, make necessary renovations to their church buildings to meet the new challenges in their respective ministries.

The Trustees continue to meet three times a year, in May, October, and December. We have accepted the resignations of the Rev. Vivian Moores, and, The Rev. Dr. Robert Mills and thank them for their service. We welcome the Rev. Carol Smith as the newest member of the Board.

19 grants were awarded during the year totalling \$218,678.00 (two hundred eighteen thousand, six hundred and seventy eight dollars.) More grants were approved but to date have not yet been completed.

As we enter a new year, we will be dealing more directly with the staff of Region 15. Application forms for Hunter Grants can be obtained by going to the Region 15 Webb Page (applications). The Property Committee, (a sub-committee of the Finance Committee) will receive and review all applications before they forward them to the Secretary of the Hunter Fund with their recommendations.

In other words, the Region will now carry out the function previously carried out by the Presbyteries. Applications, both Regular and Special, will continue to be received and considered in 2019.

Rather than going into more detail in this report, I would gladly personally respond to any questions regarding the correct procedures as we move forward. We recognize the many challenges, congregations (communities of faith) are facing in carrying out their ministries. We, as a ministry, will attempt to work with you in the days ahead as we have in the past.

An audited Financial Statement for 2018 will be forwarded to the office of Region 15 when it has been completed by our Chartered Accountant.

Present list of Trustees:

Mr. Ross Hallett, (Chair)

Rev. Blake Caldwell, (Secretary)

Louise Gosbee

Rev. Vincent Ihasz

Rev. Elroy McKillop

Mr. Charles Baxter, (Treasurer)

Harriet McWhirter

Sandra Barss

Rev. Trent Cleveland-Thompson

Rev. Carol Smith

Respectfully Submitted,

(The Rev. Blake Caldwell) Secretary, Hunter United Church Building Fund

Mount Allison University Board of Regents

Report not received at time of printing.

Pine Hill Divinity Hall

Greetings! It has been my privilege to serve as Interim Chair of the Board of Pine Hill Divinity Hall since the resignation of Reverend Catherine MacDonald in June of 2018. Reverend MacDonald was elected President of Maritime Conference, a position which requires a great deal of her time. We offer our thanks to Catherine for her work as Chair of the Board and wish her the best as the newly formed regions discern their form.

Pine Hill Divinity Hall, one of three founding parties of the Atlantic School of Theology, endeavours to represent the United Church of Canada's interests in theological education for clergy and lay persons with United Church connections. Over the past year, Pine Hill has worked to understand the implications of the restructuring which is taking place within the United Church. It has been part of our work to remain a calm presence where members of the Board, faculty, staff, and students can share information, concerns and observations as to how the changes in structure resonate in for in each person's case.

Pine Hill Divinity Hall continues in its mission to build the Body of Christ through supporting the education of persons called to ministry. Pine Hill Divinity Hall supports the continuing education of clergy and lay persons through providing assistance for provision or attendance at Continuing Education courses, lecture series and other initiatives which aim to be of benefit to the wider church.

As Chair, I was in attendance at the two meetings of the Founding parties. Pine Hill hosted the first early morning breakfast in the fall with The Anglican Diocese hosting the winter meeting. In the fall there was representation from Maritime Conference, Conference President, the Rev'd Catherine MacDonald; University of King's College; the Anglican Dioceses of NS & PEI, and Fredericton; and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Halifax & Yarmouth. At the winter meeting Maritime Conference representation was replaced by Rev'd Faith March-MacCuish, Executive Minister for Regions 14, 15, and 16 in the newly structured United Church of Canada.

A highlight of the year was the signing of the Recovenanting document by all three Founding Parties and President of AST Rev'd Neale Bennet. We are thankful for the work of Dr. David Griffiths around the Memorandum of Understanding and in the construction of a document which reflects the spirit of a union meant for the betterment of our place in the universe.

Work continues on the new hospice facility which stands in the place of the two grey houses. Campus Renewal sees the Library undergoing renovations and The Founders were treated to a tour of the construction site during our fall meeting. The 1898 building is still being viewed with an eye to restoration and it becoming a focal point of the campus. The administrative office area in the residence buildings will be repurposed. All in all, this year as Chair has been an extremely

positive experience as Pine Hill and the other Founders partner in supporting a “happening place – AST”.

Tuition support for the year is in excess of \$186,000 for UC students in both lay and ordered streams of ministry. This ratio of MDiv. summer distance/ on campus students is 29/8. There are 47 students in total with the remainder as Seekers. The Seekers Bursary is being advertised more widely and we are in hopes that all who are in a position to speak to possible candidates will spread the word.

Pine Hill wished Rev'd Dr. Sally Shaw a fond farewell and all the best as she left the position of United Church Formation Director to answer a call to congregational ministry. Pine Hill also carried out the search for a person for a term position while they established the terms of a permanent position. The Board was pleased to have Rev'd Dr. I. Ross Bartlett fill both the term and the succeeding permanent position.

Pine Hill was saddened by the health issues which required Margaret Arklie to be relieved of her duties as Treasurer. It is with great thanks that we welcomed Robert (Bob) Carter back to the Board as Treasurer, *protem*.

The Board also accepted, with regret, the resignation of Martha Martin who has been called to a ministry position in Ontario. We are pleased that a new member to the Board on the Finance Committee, Mr. Mac MacLeod, has agreed to serve on the AST Board in Martha's stead.

A resignation was also accepted from Andrew Scollick for personal reasons. Student Representatives Patrick Woodbeck and Kim Curlett left the Board on the happy occasion of their graduations. The student representatives are now Roxanne Grace Sperry and Emma Seamone. The Board continues to appreciate the input of the students.

The Nominations Chair, Rev'd Catherine Stuart, has been diligent in seeking members for the Board. We have attempted to keep gender, ministry/lay, and regional representation in balance. Finding volunteers to fill positions continues to be a struggle in a world which seems less and less called to volunteerism. We are blessed to have the Board members who are willing to share of their time, skills and efforts in making Pine Hill Board a positive, forward moving organization.

It has been a privilege to serve on the Board and I wish to thank Brenda Munro for all she does for Board members, students, staff and faculty as she goes above and beyond her job description.

Blessings in the journey;
Bonnie A Fraser, Rev'd

Tatamagouche Centre

For over 60 years, Tatamagouche Centre has been an important place for spiritual growth and renewal. People from all walks of life have been able to join together to deepen their faith and seek guidance and clarity on how to live out the call to love in justice and peace within God's creation.

The Centre through its programs and outreach has developed people's knowledge, skills, and leadership capacities both within the Church and within the broader community of like-minded people. The Centre has been important for people in the Maritimes particularly as it has sought to build bridges with the First Nations and with those often excluded at the margins of our communities. The Centre has an important heritage to both preserve and to build upon in its future work.

2018 was the year that Tatamagouche Centre was able to bring back the programming that has set it apart over the years, including the Social Justice Youth Camp and the ASPIRE Education Design program. The Centre also started some new programs that have welcomed many new and returning faces. No programs were cancelled. A candle-lit Courage to Lead retreat made history as the first full program to run in the midst of a 24 hour blackout.

With the support from our volunteer fundraising committee the Centre was able to exceed our fundraising goal of \$100,000 in 2018. It means a great deal to us to feel supported by those who believe in our work of Building Peace, Growing Justice, and Living Welcome. These donations have meant that we can make our programs accessible to new participants, regardless of economic circumstances, while remaining responsible stewards of the land and buildings. Thanks to the UCWs around the Maritimes, we have also been able to replace our bedspreads for a more comfortable and modern look.

The Centre was also able to add a part-time position to our staff team, significantly increasing its ability to fulfill its mission in the world. In 2019 this position became full time, greatly increasing our capacity in program coordination, promotion, fundraising, and network building. Under the leadership of Josie Baker the Centre has a wonderful staff team that make the Centre a truly inviting and welcoming place.

The Centre has also continued to achieve its crucial financial objectives, generating a modest surplus for the fourth year in a row. This ongoing success in meeting our financial goals gives the Board and staff confidence as we move forward with more ambitious programming goals. Looking forward to 2019 the Board is excited to see that the Centre's focus has moved from financial survival to these programming objectives.

The Centre has long made a contribution to the life of the Church and the broader community and looks forward to continuing to do so. At this time when the Church is in transition the Centre looks forward to making an important contribution through our programs. They can play a key role in providing skills, knowledge, and tools to successfully navigate the challenges ahead. Please keep the Centre in your prayers, but also, consider taking the opportunity to participate in the Centre's programs or to use the Centre's hosting services for your group's retreat or event. We would also like to invite you to participation in the Centre's Annual General Meeting on June 15.

Respectfully submitted
Peter Hough, Chair
Tatamagouche Centre Board

The United Church Home For Senior Citizens, Inc.
Drew Nursing Home - Tantramar Residences



The board of directors and the management team feel that it has been a busy and productive year at The United Church Home For Senior Citizens, Inc. A new Strategic Plan for 2018-2023 was adopted by the board in June. The plan focuses on areas of Human Resources, Recruitment and Retention and implementation of the Eden Philosophy of care. The management team has attended the initial training on the Eden Philosophy and directors are very excited to move forward on this initiative. The Eden Philosophy is a “person-directed” approach to care.

In April, the Home took over coordination of the Meals to Seniors Program in the Sackville and surrounding area. This service provides a hot and nutritious meal five days a week and in some cases meals are subsidized by Social Development.

As the demographics change and the number of senior’s increases, we are all looking for the best options for caring for our most vulnerable population. The home has also been closely involved with the Memory Café as well as helping to make Sackville an Age Friendly Community.

The Home is very fortunate to have many dedicated volunteers. Volunteers are priceless to us in so many areas such as musical entertainment, church service, special events and resident visitation. A luncheon was held in April 18, 2018 to thank the volunteers for their dedication to the Home. The volunteer luncheon has become an annual event in which our volunteers look forward to each year.

Interdenominational services are held on a regular basis. Other spiritual services include; visitation, communion, and involvement of clergy, lay volunteers, and church groups.

The annual service of remembrance was held May 15, 2018. Family members, residents, staff and community are invited to attend. This service honors the memory of all residents, cottagers and staff who passed away in the previous year. The service is organized by the activity department and this year was conducted by Rev. Lloyd Bruce.

In Closing, on behalf of the board and staff of The United Church Home For Senior Citizens, Inc. will continue to work towards our mandate and ensuring quality of life is provided to our residents living at the Drew as well as the tenants of Tantramar Residences.

Linda Shannon
Executive Director

**Fundy St Lawrence Dawning Waters and Region 15
Regional Meeting Planning Committees**

CONVERSATIONS ON HOW WE MEET

Background

With the rapid approach of the Inaugural meetings of our two regions, the two regional meeting planning committees, who have been acting as a single committee for this year's meeting, are faced with an important question... what about next year?

At the final meeting of Maritime Conference, the message that came from the gathered was clear – we want to meet together again next year. The commissions appointed to the two regions agreed and plans were put in place to meet at the usual time in the usual place allowing for individual Regional meetings to take place to deal with such issues as budget and polity and elections.

With 2019 planning accomplished, the committees need to consider two clear possibilities – meet together again in 2020 using the same format or say our farewell's this year and meet individually as separate regions.

Implications

The final decisions will be made by the individual gathered regions. In order to make informed decisions, it was agreed by the two committees that some information had to be shared to allow for joint and individual conversations.

Financial

A big consideration for the planning committees is financial. Each Region has budgeted \$65,000 dollars for the regional meeting. This budget includes but is not limited to rental, technical services, shuttle service, receptions, worship expenses, speakers and an estimated 10 cent per kilometer travel allowance for those attending. With each region working with a \$325,000 administrative budget, this means that 20% of that budget is being spent on the three day annual meeting. Here are some of the questions around finance...

Would it be more cost effective to meet separately?

With reduced numbers (2019 registration sits at 359 currently – both regions have churches that would accommodate 200), could the meeting be held in a church rather than renting space?

With reduced numbers, would the technical services required be greatly reduced and would a church already have the necessary sound and visual equipment that is currently rented?

Would having a meeting more central to a regional topography make attendance more attractive to delegates from communities of faith who are more distant?

What are the spiritual and relationship costs of not meeting together?

Mission and Vision

As Maritime Conference, we shared a common mission and vision. As individual regions, that may not be the case. While we continue to have many things in common at this time, will that change over time? What are the implications for the executives of the individual regions as they move the church forward into the future?

Ordination

Regional Commissions are being asked to rethink how and when ordination takes place. The service of ordination has been an intricate part of the Conference but, if the request from the Office of Vocation is agreed to, this may no longer be the case. Does this change how you feel about meeting together?

Timing

Maritime Conference has continued to meet for three days while other Conferences have changed how, when and for how long they meet. For example, should each region only meet in person every three years in the year the Denominational Council meets? Should the region meet for only one day? Is one day adequate for the business that rightly comes before the delegates?

Youth

The strongest voices at Maritime Conference in 2018 asking that we continue to meet together were the voices of the youth. We have a wonderful tradition with IAC and Youth Forum at Maritime Conference and having the future leaders with the elders at these meetings has been a very strong and hopeful presence. Can this tradition continue in the smaller gathering? Will the youth still come and participate with a changed dynamic if the meetings are a different times and in different places? How does the change affect those who plan the activities with the youth? Will youth continue to meet in the larger group separate from regional meetings but without the free transportation that they currently count on (coming to and from the meeting with clergy and delegates)? If youth are meeting at other times, how do they learn about the work of the region and the responsibilities of the delegates?

Conclusion

These are just some of the questions that have come up with respect to the meetings and the planning of them. There are probably many, many more that we haven't considered. We will take some time to talk about this together on Friday and separately on Saturday to provide information to your planning committees on how to move forward.

Blessings!

Regional Meeting Planning Committees of Region 15 and Fundy St Lawrence Dawning Waters

**Regional Council 15
Jubilarians**

Name	Anniversary
Donald M.A. MacQueen	50
Roland Raymond Murray	50
Alfred F. Woodworth	50
Foster B. Jenkins	55
Emily F. Keirstead	55
Victor A. MacLeod	55
Carolyn M. Palmer	55
Ronald W. Porter	55
Fred Archibald	60
Louis Ihasz	60
Ralph E. Johnston	60
Robert S. Latimer	65

**Regional Council 15
Retirees**

Debbie A. Aitken
 Robyn Brown-Hewitt
 Nan Corrigan
 Rosemary Godin
 David A. LeBlanc
 Gary MacDougall
 Norma Mills
 Wade Reppert

MEMORIAL OBSERVANCES

**Reverend Margie Cameron-Whynot
1944-2018**

Rev. Margie Cameron-Whynot (nee Slauenwhite), 73, passed away on 24 May 2018. Born 27 July 1944 in Middlewood, Lunenburg Co. NS, to the late Mary “Mamie” (Connolly) and Herbert Slauenwhite. Margie is survived by her soulmate, helpmate, playmate, best friend and wife – Norma Cameron-Whynot; her greatest and best accomplishments - her sons - Shannon (Joy) Whynot and Scott Whynot; her pride and love - her grandchildren - Courtenay (Oreste) Rimaldi, Matthew (Leanne) Whynot; and her great grandchildren, Lorenzo, Bella and Joey; brothers, Jim (Joan) Slauenwhite and Bobby (Barbara- deceased) Slauenwhite; Brother-in-law, Ken Cameron. Margie will be remembered fondly by many family relatives, friends and colleagues. A graduate of Hebbville Consolidated '75, Bachelor of Arts at Mount Allison University '82, Atlantic School

of Theology Masters of Divinity '85, Ordained by Maritime Conference, United Church of Canada '85. Margie served as a student minister at Vaughan's United Church '82, Grace Memorial UC-Mountainview- Windsor PC, Vancouver BC '83, St John's PC United Church '84. After her ordination, Margie served at West bay PC, CB (85-92); Salt Springs- Lyons Brook- Scotsburn, Pictou Co. (92-96); and Rawdon PC, Hants Co. (96). Throughout her ministry, Margie was an advocate for social issues concerning sexual and domestic violence. She turned personal experience into a strength helping others. Margie served on the first Board of Directors of the Service for Sexual Assault Victims, in Halifax. Known for her love of life and laughter, Margie had a fantastic sense of humor, loved by all. The color yellow reminded Margie of the joy in sunshine amidst the clouds. The beaches of Nova Scotia's South Shore brought clarity and peace for Margie. Margie's struggle with MS advanced to the point that she had to relinquish the chosen vocation in Ministry which she enjoyed and loved. Margie's final 4 years were with our extended family at St. Vincent's Nursing Home, Halifax, a community where "everybody knows your name". The staff became familiar faces, then trusted caregivers, then friends and finally family. Margie, Norma, and our families couldn't thank you enough for touching our lives so deeply with empathy, compassion, support, and love. We will always remember your caring spirit and endless efforts. Bless you all.

A celebration of life was held on 28 May 2018, Snow's Funeral Home, Halifax, NS.

Lawrence Meredith "Larry" Davis

1942-2019

Lawrence Meredith "Larry" Davis of Turnstile Lane, Pembroke, Bermuda, passed away in his 77th year on 09 March 2019. Beloved husband of Madeleine, loving father of Lisa Siese (Martin) and Craig (Laura); stepfather of Nicki O'Connell (Declan) and Craig Smith. He also leaves to cherish his memory his grandchildren Owen, Nicholas, Emily and Sarah, step-grand child Aisling, and many cousins and friends in Bermuda and overseas. Larry was predeceased by his first wife Susan.

A celebration of life was held on 14 March 2019, Wesley Methodist Church, Hamilton, Bermuda.

Reverend James Herman Hicks

1926-2018

Rev. James (Jim) Hicks, 92, of Dartmouth, passed away surrounded by family on 05 June 2018. Born in Port Clyde, N.S., he was the third son of Herman McLeod Hicks and Ruby (Murphy) Hicks. Jim enlisted in the military in 1944 at the age of 18 and served as an instructor with the Royal Canadian Artillery at Hartlen Point. After the war, he attended Mount Allison University where he met and married his beloved Beverly. In 1952, he graduated from Pine Hill Divinity College (Atlantic School of Theology) and became an ordained United Church Minister. During his career, he served the pastoral charges of Harcourt and Riverview, N.B. and Wallace, Kingston, LaHave, Sambro and Shelburne, N.S. Jim was a gentle, loving man and a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He was an incurable optimist with a relentlessly silly sense of humour. He had a child-like sense of wonder and delighted in engaging young children in conversation. He was intensely curious about life, science and all things spiritual. He loved

spending time in nature and exploring the woods around rural Nova Scotia with his dog, Panda. He had a deep and quiet faith in God and in the essential goodness of everyone he met. Jim is survived by his wife of 69 years, Beverly (Trueman), his children Larry (Ilana), Cathy (Ralph Jacob), Tim (Diana) and Chris (Debbie); his grandchildren Daniel (Tessa), Matthew (Jones) and Aviva Hicks; Gregory (Carla) and Paul Jacob; Sean and David Hicks and great grandchildren, Jada and Marlowe Hicks and Liam and Maddison Jacob. He is also survived by his brother Allan and sisters Helen Hankinson, Nancy Whiteside and Barb Taubman. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by brothers Stanley, Cecil, Ernest, Robert and Clarence.

A celebration of life was held on 13 June 2018, Cole Harbour Woodside United Church, Dartmouth, NS.

Lana Belle MacLean

1957-2018

Lana Belle MacLean, 60, Port Hastings, Inverness Co, passed away on 06 September 2018, in the Strait Richmond Hospital, Evanston. Lana was born on 09 December 1957 and was raised in Point Tupper. As an adult, Lana lived in many Atlantic communities and spent most of her career as a Librarian at the Nova Scotia Community College in Port Hawkesbury. She was a lifelong learner and very proud of her four degrees. She earned her B.A. and B. Ed from Mount Allison University and a Master Library Science from Dalhousie University and Masters of Divinity from Atlantic School of Theology. Even at the age of 60 she was a student in training with the United Church of Canada, Northern Arm Pastoral Charge in Newfoundland. She had made Newfoundland her home and dearly loved the people there and her ministry. Lana was predeceased by her parents, Archibald and Lillian (Langley) MacLean; brother, Billy. She is survived by cousins, Jack Langley, Kathy and Gerard MacIntyre and their children, Brent (Amanda) MacIntyre, Jacqueline (John) Ferguson and their grandchildren, Brooke and Maxwell and also by cousin, Ruth Sanders. She is also survived by cousins, Marilyn (MacDonald) Erickson and her husband OJ, California, John William MacDonald, California. She is also survived by very special friend, Patricia Bird and dear friends, Ruth Laskey and Marie Langley and her family. Lana loved the church and was devoted to giving to her congregations the joy and comfort she found within her faith.

A celebration of life was held on 10 September 2018, St. Mark's United Church, Port Hawkesbury, NS.

Reverend James (Jim) Campbell Martell, BTH.

1934-2018

Rev. Jim Martell passed away 21 June 2018. He was born in Halifax 29 March 1934 and was the sixth child to be born to Annie (Campbell) Martell (predeceased) and Jim Baker (Predeceased). Due to family circumstances, Jim was raised in foster homes in the Halifax area and although his childhood was difficult, he always expressed positivity. His most fond memories were living with his last foster family, including his dog Tony, where his favorite foster father was the grounds keeper of the Public Gardens. Jim attended St. Patrick's and Queen Elizabeth High School, Pine Hill Divinity College, ordained into the United Church of Canada (1964), Bachelor of Theology

Degree (1970). Jim's faith mentor was Rev. Milton Fraser; a friend's father who showed him the love of God, how to love himself and others, as well as how to be a man, husband, father and pastor. Jim's first and only girlfriend, and love of his life, was Marjorie Sawler (predeceased 2002). She was his wife, best friend and ministry partner, using her music to teach others about God, alongside Jim. They were married 17 June 1961 at West End Baptist Church in Halifax. Jim's calling in ministry lead them to many United Churches throughout Nova Scotia. He ministered to thousands of people in Collingwood, Sambro, Springhill, Timberlea, Goodwood and Halifax, all while supporting their lives and faith journey. Jim's passion was to help others, doing this through his gift of listening with his heart. His values of giving and caring for others were instilled in his children; Kathy (Bob Stevens) Collingwood NS, Karen (Dr. Clyde Hourtovenko) Sudbury ON, and Kendall (Janice Oliver) Spryfield NS. Over his years of ministry, Jim and Marjorie made everyone feel welcome in their home. They together supported their congregations, committed to all through leadership, music, church groups, choirs, youth activities, festivals of faith, gatherings at the church manse, and always displayed an open door, a meal, a place to stay and a big hug. Jim was always known for his zest for life. He loved people and it showed through his smile and affection. He had great love and respect for many in the community, as shown by the ongoing connections over the years. Jim loved to visit his friends and congregation members, enjoying tea and a biscuit or cookie, as his favourite saying was always; "put the tea pot on!" He listened to any and all problems, while offering support at any time of the day or night. Jim truly loved his family. His life changed with the loss of Marjorie, one year after his retirement, as she succumbed to cancer. He never stopped loving or missing her. Over the years his own health challenged him, yet never kept him away from his calling, as he continued to care for others until his mind no longer could. He was proud of his three children (Kathy, Karen and Kendall), grandchildren (Cody, Chad (Brooke), and Amy Stevens; Lauren, Tayler and Cameron Hourtovenko; Troy, Phoenix and Diamond Martell) and great grandchild (Cassidy Stevens). One of the biggest challenges in his life was to find his birth family. With the help of Marjorie, he was able to find who they were and was able to connect with two siblings; Peter and Gordon Martell, before their passing. He also found out about other siblings; Walter, Gerard and Cecelia, who had already passed. Jim was thrilled to find a great niece, Rene (Vic Boymook), who lovingly called him "Uncle Jimmy." Later in life, he found nephew Peter (Ellen) Martell (and his family; Steve, Christy, Ashely, Geoff, and Greg, whom he was not able to meet in person due to the condition of his health. He was so grateful to find family, which was of high importance to him, as not knowing who he belonged to was a major life challenge. He is now at peace and has "gone home" to be with "my Margie," where he had longed to be since her passing. He is in God's loving arms, undoubtedly singing and at the tea party that Marjorie has had planned for him. Jim will be profoundly missed by his children and grandchildren, sister-in-law, Beryl (Harold Andres), great nieces and nephews (Debbi, Pam, John, Andrea and their families), friends from Springhill, Timberlea, Goodwood and Halifax who has stayed connected over the years, friends Norma MacPherson, and Bill Hale and the "Boys from Halifax" as well as his dog "Squeaky," who gave him unconditional love to help heal his broken heart. Predeceased by his wife (Marjorie), Mother-in Law (Erma (Giffen) Sawler), Father -in- law (William Sawler), Mother (Annie Campbell Martell), siblings; Walter, Gerard, Gordon, Peter, Cecelia Martell, foster parents Winnie and Richard Griffiths, foster-siblings Jean Morris (Eddie Morris) and Ken Griffiths, and life-long friend Bob MacPherson. As Jim closes his final service on earth, his benediction and blessing to you all: "And now may Grace, Mercy and Peace, from God our Father, to Christ our Savior, and in the strength of the Holy Spirit, abide with us, both now and forever more, Amen."

A celebration of life was held on 29 July 2018, St. Andrews Wesley United Church, Springhill, NS.

**Rev. Adams G. Archibald “Arch” McCurdy
1927-2019**

Rev. Arch McCurdy, 91, of Barrington, peacefully began his journey into the next life on 22 April, 2019 in Roseway Hospital, Shelburne. Born 29 June, 1927 in Truro, Arch grew up in Old Barns, the fifth child of the late Raymond and Margie (Crowe) McCurdy. Predeceased by his first wife, Phyllis (Hurley) McCurdy; sisters, Florence (Bob) Guild, Alice (Niels) Jorgensen, and Helen McCurdy; brothers, Earle (Lois), and Sherburne (Betty). Surviving to cherish his memory are his wife, Brenda; sons, Scott, Edmonton, Alta.; and Garth, Welland, Ont.; daughter, Kimberley-Ann (Rob) Jandl, Abbotsford, B.C.; grandchildren, Brooke (Herm), Rianna, Samantha (Kevin), Jason, Michael, Timothy, and Keanan; many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews. Arch was ordained into the ministry of The United Church of Canada in 1957. His ministry was varied and interesting: Canora Invermay a five-point pastoral charge in Saskatchewan, then Stettler United Church in Alberta. 1966 brought a move to Ontario when Arch was elected to the Board of Evangelism and Social Service of General Council in Toronto. Subsequently, he was one of the ministers of Church at the Crossroads, Erin Mills Church Campus (an experimental cooperative by five denominations in one building); chaplain at the provincial Court of Ontario (Criminal Division); Co-ordinator of Chaplaincy Services, Toronto Conference; chaplain at Bloorview Children's Hospital. After mandatory retirement at age 65, Arch continued in ministry as a supply minister in various congregations in Ontario, until finally "retiring" from ministry in 2010. Throughout his years in Ontario, Arch was involved in social action, peace and environmental organizations, most notably: the Christian Peace Conference, The International Pastoral Care Network for Social Responsibility, the National Coalition Against the Return of the Death Penalty, and the Multifaith Council of Religious and Pastoral Care. Arch was a born story-teller with a delightful sense of humour, a quick wit, a ready laugh, and a twinkle in his eye. He found joy in every day - from the sunshine in the morning to the moonlight at night, the changing seasons and ocean tides. An integral member of the family, he will be lovingly remembered. There are memories that time cannot erase; "Nothing is ever really lost to us as long as we remember it." (Lucy Maud Montgomery).

A celebration of life was held on 27 April 2019, St. James Wesley United Church, Barrington Passage, NS.

**Elizabeth Joan (Johnson) Murray
1933-2019**

Elizabeth Joan (Johnson) Murray, 86, of Truro, NS. It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Elizabeth Joan (Johnson) Murray on 10 February 2019, in Cedarstone Enhanced Care, Truro. Born in Middleton to the late J. Myron and Lilian (Henry) Johnson, Elizabeth was educated in Wolfville and Truro, at Acadia University and Provincial Normal College. Following graduation, she taught grade primary in Kentville and at Alexandra School in Halifax. She thoroughly enjoyed teaching this age group and took great delight in putting on plays and rhythm

band concerts with them. While in Halifax, she met and married Rev. Don Murray and actively supported his ministry in the United Church pastoral charges of Tabusintac and Edmundston, N.B., and Stewiacke, Tatamagouche and New Glasgow. She organized many events to aid in the financial support of these charges. It was always her intention to have a large family and so it is not surprising that she claimed her greatest accomplishments were her five children. Her expectations were high but her encouragement always brought out the best in them. She enjoyed many activities and was always very busy and involved as a mother, church member and community member, attending and leading several church camps and CGIT, and participating in Home and School Associations, Band Auxiliaries, and the New Glasgow Music Festival. She was a member and past elder of Brunswick Street United Church in Truro, and a life member of the UCW. Elizabeth was a crusader and a staunch supporter of the NDP. She frequently expressed her views to all levels of government and in newspapers on issues including anti-smoking laws and the banning of VLTs. By far, her favourite pastime was reading the newspaper(s), particularly the Chronicle Herald, which she did from age 15. She was famous for her clippings! She enjoyed playing the piano, especially with family at Christmas, skating and playing cards as a very vocal participant in countless games of 45s. But perhaps her greatest pleasure was dancing, which to her delight she was able to do into her 80s, despite complications from her broken hip. She loved to throw parties, especially for herself, and relished in surprising friends and family. She enjoyed baking bread and her famous pies, picnics, showing off her children's accomplishments, listening to the CBC, and eating fudge and chocolate. Surviving Elizabeth are her children, Deborah (Sandi Howell), Winnipeg, Man.; Patricia, Halifax; Joan (Stuart Smith), Summerside, P.E.I.; John (Paula Abarca del Rio) Vienna, Austria; Donald, Toronto, Ont.; grandchildren, Anna and Aidan Smith, Sean and Ian Murray Abarca; several nieces, nephews, cousins and other family members; many friends and faithful visitors. Elizabeth was predeceased by infant brothers, Arthur Myron and Ross Brian; and her companion in later years, Gordon Poole.

A celebration of life was held on 14 March 2018, Brunswick Street United Church, Truro, NS.

Reverend Jeanie Lee (Vautour) Oulton
1957-2019

Rev. Jeanie Lee (Vautour) Oulton while surrounded by the love and prayers of family and friends close to her bedside, and many around the world, the soul of Jeanie Lee (Vautour) Oulton passed into the joy of her Lord on 31 January 2019 from the palliative care wing of the Lennox and Addington General Hospital in Greater Napanee, Ontario. Born in Campbellton, New Brunswick on October 17th, 1957, Jeanie was the daughter of Dennis and Dawn (Irvine) Vautour and the eldest of five siblings. She is survived by her brothers Clayton (Charmaine) and Robert, her sister Isabel (Karl Larabee) and was predeceased by her brother Murray (LeAnne) in 2014. Jeanie's husband Michael had the joy and privilege of being married to her for over thirty-eight years and together they raised three wonderful children, Thomas, Sarah and Charles. Jeanie was tenacious in life and also in love for her children, family and friends. Jeanie's early life was spent living in Dalhousie, New Brunswick, where she developed a love of athletics, particularly volleyball, tennis and badminton which she played on teams from Dalhousie Regional High School. Despite orthopedic challenges that followed her throughout life, the pain of any moment was eclipsed by a will and indomitable spirit honed on the floors of the gym and court. Jeanie graduated from

Mount Allison University (1980) and the Atlantic School of Theology (1984) and was an ordained Minister of the United Church of Canada. She served Pastoral Charges in Sheffield, Oromocto and Boiestown in New Brunswick, Amherst, Nova Scotia, and Alberton, Wellington and Victoria West in Prince Edward Island. Following the families' move to Ontario in 1997, she served Charges in Westbrook and North Trenton. Jeanie also served as a chaplain at the Bay of Quinte Conference's Camp Quin Mo Lac in Tweed which she shared with Michael, while their children attended as campers, councillors and staff over ten years. Jeanie's faith was rooted in her love of Jesus Christ coupled with a passion for social justice in support of those whom society has neglected and abandoned. This passion was most visibly manifested in her call to serve as a chaplain in the Correctional Service of Canada which began as a university student participating in services at Dorchester Penitentiary. Jeanie completed advanced clinical pastoral education in 1991 at the Ontario Correctional Institute in Brampton and went on to serve as Metro Toronto Chaplain based at the Keele Center and later at the Millhaven and Joyceville Institutions. Her short story "The Sound of Being in Prison" was long-listed in CBC's "Canada Writes" competition a few years ago.

A celebration of life was held on 05 February 2018, Grace United Church, Napanee, ON.

Reverend Samuel Raymond "Ray" Purchase
1917-2018

Rev. Samuel "Ray" Purchase, 100, passed away on 10 June 2018. Rev. Purchase was born in Newfoundland on 23 September 1917. He married his wife Elsie in 1948 and they had three children, Elayne, Peter, and Joanne. Rev. Purchase obtained a Bachelor of Arts from Dalhousie University in 1947 and a Bachelor of Divinity from Pine Hill in 1949. He was ordained in 1949 by Newfoundland Conference. Rev. Purchase served various pastoral charges within Newfoundland Conference and Maritime Conference including Grand Falls, Bay Roberts, Newcastle, Woodstock, and Glace Bay. "One day when my journey is done, when by the power of the sun, I am carried forth as snow or rain from mountaintop, Then I will experience second birth. Another chance to renew the earth." Rev. S.R. Purchase (2001)

A celebration of life was held on 23 September 2018, Knox United Church Glacé Bay, NS.

Reverend Stewart Burgess Russell
1931-2018

Reverend Stewart Burgess Russell, 86, Truro/Bedford, died peacefully in the VG Site, QEII, Halifax, surrounded by his loving family on Saturday, 16 June, 2018. Born in Amherst, he was the son of the late Henry and Bertha (White) Russell. (Amherst Point) He grew up on the family farm and following high school, graduated from advanced farm class at NSAC and returned to work on the farm with his father. During that time he became a leader in farm, church and youth organizations, serving as president of Maritime Conference, Young People's Union (YPU). As a candidate for the ministry of the United Church of Canada, he attended Mount Allison University and Pine Hill Divinity Hall, served in student mission work and lay ministries, including a year in

Bermuda and time in Saskatchewan. In 1960, he married Elisabeth (Bette) Cook of Moncton, NB. They lived in Bear River, where he served the church, while continuing studies at Pine Hill Divinity Hall, Halifax. Following ordination in 1962, they moved to Ohsweken, ON, where Stewart was appointed to ministry on the Six Nations and New Credit Reserves. Returning to the Maritimes, he served as minister in Springhill, Liverpool, Oromocto (NB), Alberton (PEI), Clifton, and Campbellton (NB), retiring from St. James & St. John United Church in Miramichi (NB). Over the years, Stewart and Bette enjoyed summers at their cottages in Port Howe and later at Bayhead, eventually buying their retirement home by the waters of the Tatamagouche Bay. They appreciated community life in the Tatamagouche area where they resided for 15 years, after which they moved into Parkland Estates in Truro. Following Bette's death in 2015, Stewart moved to The Berkeley in Bedford where he resided until his death. Stewart enjoyed his ministry, giving the opportunity to worship, and work with people sharing the church's mission. He served on many committees and boards, particularly pastoral relations and church support, World Mission Division, Tatamagouche Centre and Pine Hill Alumni Association. He was an avid gardener over the years, and was also actively involved in community projects and organizations, such as the school board, family services and mental health. Stewart was well loved and respected in both church and community life. His patience and understanding made him a great role model to his family and will be greatly missed by all. Stewart is survived by his children, Miriam (Kevin) Fancey, Toronto, ON; John Russell (Isabelle Mélançon), Dieppe, NB; Ruth (Mike) Roberts, Bedford; grandchildren, Matthew and Sarah; Andrew and Amélie; Jillian and Ben; sister, Doris Lockhart; sister-in-law Marina Russell; several nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife Bette of 54 years, he was predeceased by sister, Frances (Lionel) Funt; brother, Keith Russell; brothers-in-law, Ches Lockhart, George (Gwen) Cook, David (Marion) Cook; nephews, Russ Lockhart, Graeme Cook.

A celebration of life was held on 21 June 2018, Old Barns United Church, Old Barns, NS.

Reverend William Dunlap Titus 1930-2019

Reverend William Dunlap Titus born in Saint John, NB on 20, November, 1930 and died on 26, April, 2019. Son of William Wentworth Titus and Consuelo (Dunlap) Titus. Graduate of Saint John High, Mount Allison and Pine Hill Divinity Hall. Served as a student minister in Saskatchewan for three summers. Ordained into the United Church of Canada 1954. Began his ministry in the multi-point Prince William, NB pastoral charge. Also served in Winnipeg, St. David's Rothesay and Quispamsis United Church, NB, Liverpool, Dartmouth and Halifax, NS. Cartoonist, artist and story teller, Bill loved history, social justice, politics and dogs. Known for his uncommon touch, humour, imagination and kindness. He treasured the mountains, lakes, rivers and forests of Canada, retaining his comfort and ease in a canoe into his final years. Beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend. Bill is survived by wife Molly (Puxley) Titus; children Claire (Daniel Downes) and Andrew (Kim Warner); grandchildren Gavin and Avery Titus Downes, Ocean and Brooke Titus and wider family connections and friends. Family and friends thank the staff at the Kings Way Care Centre for their amazing skill and generous love while caring for Bill and family in the last days, and during the time he lived there.

A celebration of Bill's life will take place in the summer.

Reverend John Touchie
1927-2018

Rev. John W. Touchie, Amherst, NS, passed away 10 July 2018 at age 91. Born in Quarryville, New Brunswick, he was the son of Herman H. and Ruby (Jardine) Touchie. He was the grandson of Wheelock and Rose (Gerrish) Jardine, Quarryville, New Brunswick and John A. and Margaret (Jardine) Touchie, Renous, New Brunswick. John attended St. Mark's United Church, Quarryville, NB. In 1943 he moved from Newcastle, N.B. with his parents to 144 Highfield Street, Moncton, NB. where he attended Wesley Memorial United Church. He was recommended by the Session of the Church to the Moncton Presbytery as a candidate for the Ministry to the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada and was accepted by the Conference. He attended Mount Allison University in the Arts and Theology Programs prior to attending Pine Hill Divinity Hall in Halifax, N.S. He graduated from Pine Hill on 7 May 1958 and was ordained by the Maritime Conference in Sackville United Church on 15 June 1958. He and his wife Ruth were settled in the Wallace, Fox Harbour and Middleboro Churches by the Settlement Committee of Maritime Conference on 1 July 1958. The Malagash Pastoral Charge, along with St. John's in Wallace, formed the present Pastoral Charge, which is now known as Three Harbours United Church Pastoral Charge. John attended a Mission Field in Middlewood, Italy Cross and Danesville Churches where a new Church was built in Danesville, Queens County, after having bought the unoccupied Baptist Church in Pleasantville from Acadia University to be torn down and rebuilt in Danesville. It was 85% completed on the exterior and interior during the summer of 1957. John was the special speaker at the Church for their 35th Anniversary. The Church was fully occupied for the occasion. It is now part of the Petite Riviere Pastoral Charge, along with Middlewood and St. Andrew's United Church. John served as Minister for St. John's United in Wallace, Malagash United and St. Andrew's United in Fox Harbour. He accepted a call to St. Andrew's United in Springhill, N.S. in November 1961 and became President of the Springhill and area Ministerial Association. He was also President of the Amateur Minor Hockey Association for Springhill and area from 1961 to 1963. St. Andrew's and Wesley United amalgamated as one Pastoral Charge and still remains as such today. In September 1959 he joined the Masonic Lodge in Wallace, #76 AM-CM. In 2012 he received a gold medal in honor of 50 years, and was just recently presented with his 55 year Bar. John accepted a call to be Minister of Woodside Imperial United Church in Woodside, N.S. in 1964. In 1966 he advised Halifax Presbytery that he was making an application for a job in the Federal Government of Indian Affairs and Northern Development for the Maritime Provinces. He was successful and became the Welfare Officer for Saint John River Agency in Woodstock, N.B. He subsequently became the Assistant Superintendent for the Province of Nova Scotia (Indian Affairs Officer II). He went to Ottawa to compete for the position of District Manager for the Province of New Brunswick. He was successful and two years later he competed in Ottawa to occupy the position of Assistant Regional Director for Community Affairs in the Regional Office for the Maritime Provinces in Amherst, N.S. He was successful and held the position until he retired, due to his age of 65 years, as determined by the Federal Government. He served as Superintendent on Prince Edward Island for 13 months at which time he urged and supported the concept of closing the Indian Affairs Office on P.E.I. and have the Indian people provide leadership with the assistance of several senior staff members in education, economic development, administration and community affairs in the Amherst Regional Office, providing any services that were required. He strongly recommended the amount of \$1,000,000 in the Capital Fiscal Year Budget to build a Bridge from the Main Island to Lennox Island for safety

reasons. This project was approved by the Indian Affairs Headquarters in Ottawa, along with the Regional Office Headquarters in Amherst and the Bridge was completed and dedicated in the summer of 1973. The Indian Affairs Office in Summerside was closed in September 1971 and has remained closed to the present day. The Indian leadership and its people have supported the concept of the arrangements made in 1971 very successfully. John is survived by his loving wife of 63 years Ruth (Dewar), daughter Diane (Dennis Graves), Fredericton, sons John (Lisa Deyarmond), Truro and Andrew (Wanda Keirstead) Amherst, 4 grandchildren (Sara, Adam, Logan, Luke) and 3 great-grandchildren (Aidan, Cohen, Ewan). He is also survived by sisters Margaret Moore (Robert), Riverview, Doris Atkinson, Moncton, Ruth Johnston, Riverside, California, and Mable Goguen, Moncton. He was predeceased by sister Bernice Steeves and brothers Marshall (Buster) and Wilson, brothers-in-law, Rev. Bruce Atkinson, Lloyd Johnston, Fred Goguen, Hollis Steeves, sister-in-law Shirley Touchie. John was a very kind, patient and understanding husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was a testament to hard work, loyalty, and commitment, both serving as a Minister and doing his work with Indian Affairs, both of which he enjoyed thoroughly. He would never turn away a friend, family member or stranger in need. John also had a great sense of humour.

A celebration of life was held on 14 July 2018, Trinity St. Stephen United Church, Amherst, NS.

Reverend Dr. Robert “Bob” Wallace
1928-2019

Rev. Dr. Robert “Bob” Wallace, Wolfville, passed from this world to the next on 12 March 2019. During his 60 years in ministry with the United Church of Canada Bob lived and preached in communities across Canada and New England. He was pre-deceased by his wife Gwynneth and grandson James Jay. He is survived by his late-in-life love Shirley Margeson Wallace, and his children Dolly Lansdowne, (Alert Bay), Brenda Wallace-Allen, (Blomidon), Craig, (Princeton), TJ, (New York), and Mark, (Los Angeles). He also leaves his legacy as a grandfather to Robb and Carmen Lansdowne, Kris and Nathan Allen, Genevieve Hearn and Tovah Paglaro. The little ones who will remember him fondly as great grandpa include Asher, Burgundy and Weston Paglaro, Gabriel and Esperanza Escobar Lansdowne, Blake, Devan and Olive Lansdowne, Sophia and Connor Allen, and Kelton Hearn. He will be missed by his step-children, Greg and Dale Kavanagh and Shelley Fleckenstein. For six years Bob served as the United Church representative to the World Council of Churches. He authored many devotional books including one for pilgrims to the Holy Land. His young adult book on the life of Paul, *To Run with Courage*, was part of the United Church Sunday School curriculum in the 60s. He also published hundreds of articles and especially enjoyed writing movie reviews. Bob loved the written word and devoured writing of all genres. Bob was an avid birder, art collector and opera lover. He had a keen interest in sports as a participant, an observer and a very loud cheerleader for family members and the Boston Bruins. His joy of travel took him around the world and he carefully cultivated this in his children and grandchildren by introducing them to places he thought would kindle their fascination with travel. One of his great skills was forming friendships, some of which have spanned eight decades. His gentle nature, keen interest in hearing life stories and his commitment to helping others resulted in friends across the globe.

A celebration of life was held on 21 March 2018, Canard Community Church, Centreville, NS.

Proposals

A “proposal” is a formal request for a Council to take action. It is one way that a United Church member may raise an issue that is important to them and ask for the church to take action on it.

- A formal request for specific action within the jurisdiction of the court to which it is directed. Ideally a Proposal should be able to communicate an action (proposal) with explanation (background) on **no more than two pages**. A Proposal may be accompanied by a longer and more substantive report as required.
- In determining if something is the proper subject matter for a Proposal to General Council, consider whether it pertains to the whole church, whether direction from the General Council is required, and whether it suggests a new policy or direction.
- The court making the decision must have the necessary information for a sound decision. In communicating from one court to another court, it is important that the Proposal proposes an action and provides sufficient background to the emerging question, the consideration undertaken and the rationale for the proposed action.
- A well written Proposal guides the decision makers through the process of discernment; from framing the question to a reasoned and wished for response.
- An individual or group who wants its Proposal included in the business of the General Council needs to take it to their Session/Board/Council (if they are lay members) or Region (if they are members of Regional Council). If the proposal is initiated at Session/Board/Council, that body will transmit it to the Region. Once the Region has received the Proposal, or if the Proposal is initiated at Regional Council, the Region will make a decision on the agreement and transition.
- The Region may decline to transmit it to General Council, or may transmit it with or without approval. Any court transmitting a Proposal to a higher court may include its own recommendations along with the Proposal.
- The Proposal, in order to be voted on as an action, must be made into a motion. Once a motion is made, it is put to the court. The normal rules of debate and procedure then are applied.

Response by Council of Action

The council of action is responsible for making a decision on the proposal. It has the following options:

- a) taking the action requested in the proposal;
- b) taking the action requested in the proposal with some changes;
- c) taking different action on the same subject matter as the proposal;
- d) referring the proposal;
- e) receiving the proposal but taking no further action; or
- f) taking some other action that the council of action decides is appropriate.

See Manual 2019 (F.1 pg. 101-105)

[PROPOSAL NAME]**Origin:****1. What is the issue?** (describe in broad terms)

We believe God/Jesus/Holy Spirit is calling us to:

- do something about...
- engage the topic of...
- respond to the challenge of...
- etc.

Note: proposals for the General Council are for issues of denominational responsibility that go beyond the bounds of a Regional Council.

2. Why is this issue important?

What are the key underlying theological, ecclesiological, missional, or justice issues?

What is the history/background of this issue?

What are the principles informing this issue?

What would be the implications of taking no action on this issue?

3. How might the Council of Action respond to the issue?

Name a possible response that the Council of action might consider:

A. Study/Discussion of the issue

B. Action on the issue

This could include:

- directing that a policy/strategy be developed based on specified principles and parameters
- adopting a policy position/strategy
- encouraging/suggesting action by congregations and other communities of faith on the issue

The Council of Action could be asked to have a conversation about a particular issue as an end in itself without making a policy decision or taking other action.

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the Council of Action:

Are there comments, affirmations, suggestions you would like to make with respect to this proposal?

“Faith Forward”

Draft Agenda

**Inaugural Meeting of Regional Council 15
The United Church of Canada**

**Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre
Sackville, NB
May 23-May 26, 2019**

THURSDAY, MAY 23rd

- 11:00 Registration Begins (Civic Centre, Lower Level Lobby)
- 3:00 Introduction of Annual Meeting (Regional Council Office)
- 4:00 Presenters Check-in with Tech Team (Tech Table, Arena Floor)
- 5:15 *Supper at Jennings Meal Hall*
- 6:15 Call to Order (Civic Centre, main floor)
 - Opening Prayer
 - Acknowledgement of Place
 - Greetings from Indigenous Guest
 - Welcome from Mount Allison University
 - Celebration of the Work and Passions of Maritime Conference
 - Description of Process
 - Introductions & Greetings
 - Tatamagouche Centre
 - Atlantic School of Theology
- 7:30 Theme Introduction & Table Group Time
- 8:00 Worship and Memorial Observance
- 9:00 Announcements
- 9:10 Meet and Greet with Regional Leaders (upstairs Lounge)

FRIDAY, May 24th

- 7:00 *Breakfast*
- 8:30 Gathering Music
- 8:45 Worship
- 9:00 Theme “The Future is Calling Us to Greatness” and Table Group Time
- 10:45 Executive Minister, Faith March-MacCuish
 - Office of Vocation, Andrew Richardson
 - Stewardship and Special Gifts Officer, Roger Janes
 - Regional Minister, Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council, Kendall Harrison
 - Regional Minister, Regional Council 15, David Hewitt
 - Mission and Justice, Laura Hunter
 - Youth and Young Adults, Lauren King
 - Shared Staff, Sarah Wallace, Tracey Rose and Jennifer Whittemore
- 11:15 Office of Vocation Presentation

- 11:45 20x60
- 12:05 Announcements & Grace
- 12:15 *Lunch at Jennings Meal Hall*
- 12:30 *Choir Practice (Campbell Lounge)*
- 1:30 Presentation Pastoral Relations and Church Hub
- 3:30 Music Interlude
- 3:40 Military Chaplaincy Message
- 3:45 Conversation About How We Meet
- 4:25 General Council Executive
- 4:45 *Supper at Jennings Meal Hall*
- 6:15 Gathering Music
- 6:30 Theme and Table Group Time
- 7:30 Introduction of and Presentation to the Ordinands
- 8:00 Theme and Table Group Time
- 9:20 20x60
- 9:40 Announcements

SATURDAY, May 25th

- 7:00 Chapel, Richard Bowley (Sackville United Church)
- 7:00 *Breakfast*
- 8:30 Gathering Music and Worship (Regional Council 15, Arena Floor)
- 9:00 Welcome/Acknowledgement of the Land/Opening Prayer/Constitutional Motions
- 9:05 Report of the Regional Transition Commission
- 9:20 Introduction of Governance Structure
- 9:35 Presentation: Mission, Vision, Values of the Region
- 10:00 Naming the Region
- 10:25 Nominations
 - Explanation of Voting Process
 - Nominations for President
 - President Vote (*Ballot for President*)
 - Nominations for President-Elect
 - President Elect Vote (*Ballot for President Elect*)
 - Approval of Regional Council Executive for 2019-2020
- 10:55 Division of Finance & Administration
 - Budget 2020 Approval
- 11:10 Discussion: Meetings Moving Forward
- 11:30 Proposals
- 11:50 Thanks & Disbanding of Regional Transition Commission
 - Covenanting of Regional Council Executive for 2019-2020
- 12:00 Closing Motions
 - Announcements & Grace
- 12:15 *Lunch at Jennings Meal Hall*
- 12:45 *Choir Practice (Campbell Lounge)*
- 1:30 Gathering Music and Worship (Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council)
- 2:00 Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council – Business
- 2:00 Regional Council 15 – Workshops (Mount Allison)

- 5:00 *Supper*
Banquet for Retirees and Jubilarians at the Legion
(*pre-purchased ticket required*)
- 7:30 *Gathering Music*
- 7:45 Introduction of Retirees and Jubilarians
Book Room Closes
- 7:50 Report from the Ecumenical Guests
- 8:15 Worship
- 9:00 Introduction of Regional Leaders
- 9:15 Courtesies

SUNDAY, May 26th

- 7:00 *Breakfast*
- 8:30 Ordinand Rehearsal (Worship Stage)
- 10:00 Service of Praise and Celebration of Ministry
- 12:00 Closing of Regional Council