

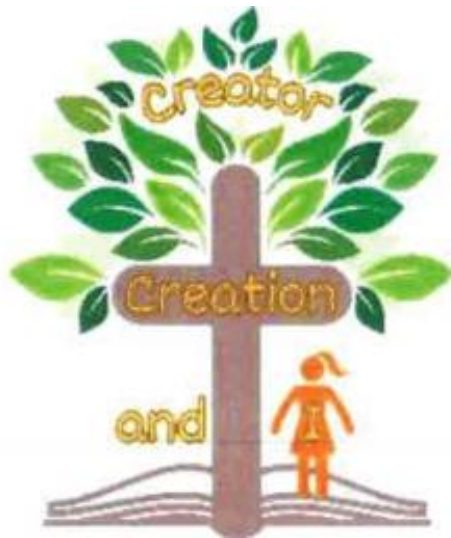
MARITIME UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

ANNUAL MEETING

April 24, 25 & 26, 2025

Hosted by Westen NB

Nashwaaksis United Church, 46 Main Street, Fredericton, NB



Creation, Creator and I

“In His hand is the life of every creation and the breath of all mankind.”

Job 12:10 NIV

Theme song: “This is God’s Wonderful World.” 296 VU

Theme speaker: Alice Finnamore

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Presidents of Maritime(Conference) UCW 1962-present * denotes no longer living

<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRESBYTERY/DISTRICT</u>
1962-1964	Lily C. Moores*	Fredericton, NB
1964-1966	Hilda M. Vail*	Halifax, NS
1966-1968	Ida Moyse*	Prince Edward Island
1968-1970	Jean M. Bone*	Halifax, NS
1970-1972	Jean Howatt*	Prince Edward Island
1972-1974	Martha A. Walker*	Valley
1974-1976	Verna Gass*	Prince Edward Island
1976-1978	Barbara Stewart	Miramichi
1978-1980	Madeline McGowan*	Truro
1980-1982	Dorothy MacNeill*	Woolastook
1982-1984	Irene Godfrey*	Prince Edward Island
1984-1986	Melcora Brown*	Chignecto
1986-1988	Ruth Boothroyd*	Chignecto
1988-1990	Emma Miller*	South Shore
1990-1992	Gwendolyn MacRae*	Chignecto
1992-1994	Paula Harding	Halifax and Truro
1994-1996	Norma Ellis*	Miramichi
1996-1998	Barbara Rafuse	South Shore
1998-2000	Dorothy Stewart*	Miramichi
2000-2002	Ruth Gamble	Chignecto
2002-2004	Reta Manuel *	Halifax
2004-	Mary MacRae-Bellevue*	Chignecto
2004-2006	Elizabeth Ramsay*	Prince Edward Island
2006-2008	Ruth Rudderham*	South Shore
2008-2010	Letha Mowatt *	Truro
2010-2012	Sharon Moyse	Prince Edward Island
2012-2014	Anna Peters	Chignecto
2014-2016	Catherine MacLean	Sydney
2016-2018	Sarah Goodfellow	Woolastook
2018-2020	Ruth Kennedy	Woolastook and PEI
2020-2022	Elaine Burrows	Prince Edward Island
2022-2024	Marilyn Bubar	co presidents
	Debbie Hawkins	Western NB
2024-2026	Betty Ann Watts	Eastern NS
2026-2028	Ann Piper	Chignecto

United Church Women - Biennial Gatherings 1990-2028

Purpose:

1. To conduct the business of Maritime UCW (MUCW)
2. To provide a spiritual experience for the participants
3. To provide a learning experience for the participants
4. To provide an opportunity for fellowship, fun and sharing for the participants

The MUCW is traditionally held the last full week-end of April with each District taking its turn hosting the event.

Maritime United Church Women Annual Gatherings

A motion was passed at the last of our Biennial meetings that, MUCW will hold an annual meeting to be compliant with the guidelines of the UCW handbook as well as a means of leadership to the UCW units. MUCW annual meetings will try to uphold the traditional gathering dates to be the last full week end in April each year. Effort will be made to rotate meetings between Regions. Meeting planning will be through the MUCW executive in conjunction with representatives from the hosting district and Community of Faith

Year one we will gather for 2 days (one over night) to:

1. provide a spiritual experience for the participants
2. provide a learning experience for the participants
3. provide an opportunity for fellowship, fun and sharing for the participants
4. conduct any essential business

Year two we will gather for a 3-day event (2 overnights) to:

1. provide a spiritual experience for the participants
2. provide a learning experience for the participants
3. provide an opportunity for fellowship, fun and sharing for the participants
4. conduct business including budget approval, setting membership fee amount, installation of new executive members etc.

President's Report MUCW Annual Meeting April 24, 2026

The mystery of our being, the creation of this plant earth and all that lives or can be found on it, in our oceans and waterways, above us or under its surface has baffled thinkers and scientists since the dawn of time. We and those of every nation and creed agree on our belief in a Creator or creators of various shapes and forms. All with

supreme power over the earth. As we gather here today and recite a land acknowledgement, we are reminded that to be indigenous is to be one with the earth, one with creation.

The Old Testament gives us stories of creation and gives to humankind dominion over all the earth. There are many ways to interpret “dominion” and for those in the industrial world powered by capitalism and the protestant work ethic it was permission to take everything of value to the society of the day without consideration of the harm left in the wake of the taking

Yes we all benefitted from innovation, warmer homes, improved transportation, health care, education and the like but at the same time industrial greed led to more and more destruction of our air and waterways, forests, and the ground beneath our feet. Concurrently urban growth moved millions of people away from their connection to the earth. We came to care more for instant gratification than the fallout of our consumer-centric lifestyle. We have lost our oneness with many of the physical elements of creation.

We have seen courageous individuals, forward thinking communities, creative and innovative corporations, and sometimes governments provide a new definition of “dominion”; that of stewardship-caring for the planet, working to heal the wounds and reconnect us all to our earthly sustainable life source. Unfortunately, their actions and visions are being undermined almost daily with the reduction and removal of environmental protections and funding for supportive activities.

Nonetheless, I believe in God’s definition of ‘dominion’ Caring for our home is a responsibility he has given all of us. As we say when we recite **A New Creed...***We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation....*

This weekend we will learn more about our connections to creation and how others are working to amend some of the harm we have done often unknowingly and unwittingly. You will also have opportunities to be creators and share ideas through the various workshops.

Our theme “Creator, Creation, and I” is an attempt to open our eyes and minds to the gifts of creation and to discern how we, in our own small way may use our gifts to give back with thanks and love through our everyday actions.

As I step down and pass the gavel to your new president, I will take the opportunity to thank everyone for the wonderful journey of my term as your MUCW President especially the executive members who have always been willing to step up when needed to ensure that the MUCW and your units are able to serve the UCW purpose. I have had the opportunity to meet and work with a great many dedicated, creative and faith-filled women. Women who when faced with challenges always find a way to work around them and most importantly to support each other and their faith communities in the process.

I am truly grateful to all of you for inviting me to share in the wonderful spirit filled work you do in your communities of faith and the wider world and for enriching my faith at every encounter.

I leave you with the words of VU 590: **A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar**—verses three and four

*Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten, and unheard, derided and forbidden,*

the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire, on free and slave descending,

can tumble our dividing walls, our shame and sadness mending.

The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls by Love's divine ordaining,

The friends we need to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.

The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls, from women, men, and children,

the friends we need to serve and lead. Rejoice and make them welcome.

I urge you all to welcome the Spirit that calls us to join together in faith and purpose to create a better world for all of creation.

Blessings, and may our Creator find hope and sanctuary in your hearts always.

Betty Ann Watts

Maritime U.C.W. Annual 2025 Meeting Minutes

Friday April 25th and Saturday April 26th, 2025

Bedford United Church

3:00 p.m. Registrants gathered to check in and receive their welcome packets in "The Porch" of the BUC facility. Snacks and beverages were provided and many greetings, hugs and smiles could be seen as women got acquainted or revisited with UCW friends.

4:05 p.m. We gathered in the sanctuary welcomed by Ann Piper who played the piano for us accompanied by Jocelyn Langille on percussion as we were led by members of BUC in singing, I The Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am Lord) VU #509, There Is Room for All MV#62, and I Feel the Winds of God VU#625

Lee-Anne Boulet welcomed everyone. She is the District Manager as well as a leader and member of UCW at Bedford United. She reviewed the necessary housekeeping information like fire escapes, elevator and bathroom location. We were informed we would be eating meals in the hall and there would be no assigned seating so mingle and make new friends or visit with old friends the choice was ours. Lee-Anne then introduced Natalie Moyes who would be leading us in activities throughout the two day event.

Betty Ann Watts President of Maritime UCW (MUCW) welcomed us, thanked us for coming in a busy time. Easter has come and gone renewing our faith, and hoping our gathering of United Church Women this week end will be a source of renewal for us as well. Betty Ann acknowledged our special guests Faith March-MacCuish, Tri-Region Executive Minister, who was present and Barbara Davison, National President for UCW who will be joining us later via video conference as she, due to health reasons, was not allowed to fly from Alberta.

Betty Ann lit the Christ candle asking that Christ's light shine upon us to guide our deliberations, study and worship and be with us as we enjoy the fellowship of women led by faith, a desire to share His Word and to be His hands

and feet here and around the world. May his light shine as a beacon of love for the duration of our gathering this week end and always.

Betty Ann led us in the land acknowledgement: As we gather here in Bedford we acknowledge that we are privileged to gather on the un-ceded territory of the Mi'kmaq but more than this we acknowledge that as members of this settler nation of Canada we must strive to live in harmony with all indigenous peoples and cultures on Turtle Island. To be indigenous is to be one with the earth and all creation.

Let us today pledge to strive to walk in peace, mindful of the need for continuing acts of reconciliation and with profound respect and love just as Creator planned for all humanity.

Our president Betty Ann Watts then lead us as we repeated in unison our Regional UCW purpose.

We then moved into the business portion of the meeting with President Betty Ann Watts declaring the business portion open with the strike of the gavel. Fran Harding was thanked for her years of service as the Newsletter Editor. She was unable to attend this meeting so a motion was passed at our last executive meeting, that we make a \$500 donation to the ESTRL(Eastern Star for Training in Religious Leadership) an organization dear to her heart. The attendees were asked for a show of hands who receives a paper copy, with a majority of hands raised. We were then asked if this was a worthy endeavour and most nodded and agreed with someone saying "Keep it going".

Roll call by district was recorded as the following:

Bermuda – 0 Chignecto – 7 Western NB – 3 Cape Breton – 2 Miramichi – 0 PEI - 5

Halifax – 18 with 5 more to come on Saturday South Shore/Valley – 2 Eastern NS - 13

Our parliamentarians for the meeting were Anna Peters and Elaine Burrows.

It was moved by Anna Peters and seconded by Myra Thiemann that those present that are not members be made corresponding members for the meeting. Motion carried.

It was moved by Phyllis Munroe and seconded by Marilyn Bubar the agenda be accepted as circulated. Motion carried.

Hearing no errors or omissions, it was moved by Liz Birch and seconded by Mary Louise Mills that the minutes of the last annual meeting be accepted as circulated. Motion carried.

Sharon Moyse presented the reports.

President's report page 6 of the booklet. Betty Ann Watts added to her report: In the book of John Jesus dies and is resurrected. The Disciples didn't know what to do with themselves so they decided to go fishing and were catching nothing. A person called from the shore to cast their nets on the other side of the boat and their nets would be filled. Betty Ann suggested we be brave and cast our nets on the other side and try new things.

Archives pg 65 – Sharon added she is no longer a member of the Archives committee at the Regional Council level as her term she has been informed has ended.

Newsletter – Page 67

Social Secretary – Page 13 Michèle Ashby added she would like to hear from more people if there are condolences and would really like to know happy celebrations like milestone birthdays, special celebrations etc. Her contact information is in the booklet. Please email or call.

Recording secretary – nothing more to add other than it has been a lot of work but we seem to be in a good position for contact information for all the units in Maritime UCW.

It was moved by Sharon Moyse and seconded by Jocelyn Langille the reports be receive for information. Motion carried.

Debbie Hawkins reported on the nominating committee:

Those present were Ann Piper – Vice President, Myra Thiemann – recording /media secretary, Anna Peters – Member at Large FSLDW. A call to the floor for nominations yielded no one therefore these positions were elected by acclamation.

There was a call for nominations for Newsletter Editor or Co Editors. Hearing none the position remains open.

Marilyn Bubar nominated Pauline Luker as Member at Large for FSLDW, seconded by Michèle Ashby. Motion carried.

It was moved by Myra Thiemann and seconded by Ann Piper that Heather MacDonald be accepted as Member at Large for Bermuda Nova Scotia. Motion carried.

There were calls made to the floor for Contacts for the following districts: Cape Breton, Miramichi, South Shore Valley and Eastern NS. No one was nominated or volunteered. These positions remain open and the Nominating committee will continue to search.

Treasurer's report was presented for information. There was one typo on the line for expenses, donation ordinands should read \$240 and error in retyping. Phyllis Munroe moved the adoption of the report for information. Seconded by Lee-Anne Boulet. Motion carried.

It was moved by Dale Crawford and seconded by Marilyn Bubar that the power be given to the executive including financial to act on behalf of the members of Maritime UCW until the next annual meeting. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Michèle Ashby the business portion of the meeting be adjourned.

At this point a power point was shared while Ann Piper played the violin. Sharon Moyse presented our outgoing secretary, Ruth Kennedy, with a bouquet of pussy willows that represented a service berry tree that had been ordered to be delivered to her home along with a gift certificate to purchase the necessary ground and fertilizer for the tree and a book written by Robin Wall Kimmer entitled "The Service Berry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World". Those gathered then sang a song written just for Ruth entitled "Thank You". Lee-Anne Boulet presented Ruth a cross necklace and prayer shawl made by Margaret Embree from Halifax UCWRuth thanked everyone for the thoughtfulness.

Lee-Anne Boulet led us in Grace. We then moved to the hall for dinner.

18:40 We gathered back in the sanctuary for more singing lead by pianist Caitlin Bowers and the BUC women. We sang It's A Song of Praise to the Maker MV # 30, Deep in Our Hearts MV # 154, Let Us Build A House MV # 1.

Jocelyn Langille gave us a short intro to Berwick Camp and invited us to come and join in UCW Day or for the full camp.

Ann Piper then invited Natalie Moyes to lead us in a couple of ice breakers entitled "Big Fat Head" and "Colourful Questions". Ladies could be seen around the sanctuary in discussion in their groups.

Our National President Barbara Davison and National Treasurer, Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle joined us via Zoom. Marilyn Bubar introduced Barbara and Carolle. We were pleased to hear Barbara's ideas and dedication for and to UCW. We were honoured to have Barbara install the newest members of our executive, namely Ann Piper, Myra Thiemann, Anna Peters, Sharon Moyse, Lois Budd, Lee-Anne Boulet, Liz Birch, Jocelyn Langille, Heather MacDonald, Michèle Ashby and Pauline Luker. Barbara and Carolle remained on the Zoom call to enable them to be part of our memorial and communion services.

A lovely and touching memorial service was presented by Michèle Ashby representing St James United Church, with assistance from Sharon Moyse, Marilyn Bubar, Elaine Burrows and Ann Piper. Hymns sung during the memorial service Abide with Me, O God Our Help in Ages Past, and Blessed Assurance. A candle was lit for all those who passed away in 2024.

The memorial service was followed by communion, led by Rev. Katie Aven.

We were reminded to submit our ballots for our choice for offering, door prize, and to not forget our offering, bible, stone and markers for tomorrow.

Ann Piper invited everyone for a social time in "The Porch" with refreshments available.

Saturday April 26th, 2025

We gathered at 9 a.m. singing selections Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness VU # 375, Will You Come and Follow Me VU # 567, Called by Earth and Sky MV # 135, led by Caitlin Bowers.

Ann Piper welcomed us for today's meeting. She announced the morning offering will be presented to Hospice Halifax although the choices were all worthy choices.

There was a question about our 5-year National UCW special project "The Healing Fund". There have been a few programs funded through our givings and more to come to support Women and Children Initiatives. As of February 2025, UCW have raised \$63,359.76.

It was announced the crosses were made by Brian King. He is not selling them today but you can make an order. Browse by his table in the Porch.

The money from our offering today will go to Hospice Halifax

Worship was presented by BUC UCW team. Mary Louise Mills offered the land acknowledgement. Scripture 1 Samuel 3:1-10 was read by Lee-Anne Boulet. Isobel Fleming led us in a reflection on 100 years ago and we say today "Here I Am" We sang "Here I Am Lord" from Voices United. Offering was received while we sang a "Jazzy

version” of the hymn What Can I Do? We were lead in prayer followed by singing “The Church’s One Foundation”. Caitlin Bowers was thanked for her music leadership. We closed with a benediction.

9:45 a.m. Elaine Burrows introduced Rev. Faith March-MacCuish Tri Region Executive Minister for a time of reflection and updates. Faith spoke about a song by Alicia Keyes entitled “We Are Here” – Justice everywhere, family struggle- people divided. Let’s make it a better place. We Are Here. Why are we here? Our souls were brought together so we could love each other, sister. We Are Here. Alicia Keyes has founded 12 Not for Profit organizations.

Faith asked us to think about our why, then proclaim it. Turn and look at your sister and tell her I see you and I am grateful for you. In UCW what is our why? Name your purpose, your why. From your why comes your call. We’re in a season of Easter, let’s make it expansive and ongoing. Who, in your life, influenced you? Who are you laying the foundation for? You have leadership. How do you influence your church? How do you influence your community? This is our time to lay foundations

The United Church of Canada is at crossroads. We need to lay foundations there as well. We have faithful leaders in our church. We see you as you are leaders to each other and leaders in the church. As a church we need to ask how and why?

The United Church is in rematriation as it has been 40 yrs of Apology to Alberta Billy and First Nations peoples. The Regions are now in the final stages of an evaluation of the first 5 yrs since the change in structure. We have co-operative and shared ministries. We have presented Health, Joy and Excellence – For ministers Practicing Your Call was done. Nurture and Build Minister skills. The Regions have started cluster gatherings as a way to connect. There is wonderful Regional staff. Kendall Harrison passed away suddenly so his position is vacant at present. Seyi Adeyemo is the office manager. First name pronounced Shay-ee. The next stage at Regional council is with the Mi’kmaq women – Tatamagouche Center has a MOU to transfer the lands to the Women of First Light.

Upcoming work of the Regions is Leadership, Mission, Action Plans for Regions. General Council gave permission to experiment with Co-operative ministries. There are Centennial Celebrations. Place at the Table, a Big Service in St John’s Newfoundland on June 8th. BNS and FSLDW President and President Elect will be representing their regions. There is a grant for 2 others to go. Faith ended saying “ Please know we see you and are grateful for you.”

We then had a nutrition break in the Porch.

10:45 We were lead in gathering music by Caitlin Bowers. “I Am The Light of the World” VU #87, “Spirit Open My Heart” MV # 79 and “Dance with the Spirit” MV # 156. Caitlin was thanked for her help with the music and presented an envelope.

Betty Anne Watts led us in “the Blue Sphere” exercise grounding us by closing our eyes and deep breathing to help connect to self, others and those before us, to become spirit filled.

It was announced the offering raise \$613.85 will be sent to Hospice Halifax.

Natalie Moyes led us in a faith building exercise called the Value tree.

We moved to the hall for lunch after being led in grace by Isobel Fleming.

1:00 p.m. We gathered back in the sanctuary lead by Ann Piper as our pianist and the BUC singers to sing three selections: Go Make a Difference MV # 209, I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me MV # 575, Christ Has No Body Now but Yours MC # 173

1:15 p.m. we were led by Marilyn Bubar in an exercise entitled "Love Overflowing". We were each given a stone in our welcome packet. At the front was a pedestal bowl filled with blue water. Everyone was asked to come forward and place their stone in the bowl. As we listened to the song "It Only Takes a Spark" we watched as the stones were placed how the bowl overflowed with only the ripple of one small stone.

Following this exercise, we listened to Natalie Moyes as she explained the history and reasoning for Bible Art Journalling. Engage with the scripture. Keep it simple. Be creative. We then moved to the hall to put in to practice what we just learned with supplies in buckets on the table.

Our meeting ended with wrap up by Debbie Hawkins. We thanked the kitchen staff for the lovely meals, Brian King and helper for the sound and Anne Levo Harrop for advancing the slides. All were given envelopes. We thanked Natalie Moyes who was given a glass flower...she loves plants but live ones struggle under her care. The two winners of the door prizes were Bev Lynch and Bette-Joan Knowles. Debbie led us in prayer. Safe travels home and we will see you next year in Fredericton NB.

Ann Piper moved the meeting adjourned and invited us for refreshments in the Porch before we head home.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kennedy Outgoing

Betty Ann Watts - President

Media/ Recording Secretary

I joined UCW at Trinity Oxford, NS, in 2019 and have enjoyed the sisterhood of faith that was waiting for me.

I became a Member at Large with the MUCW in 2023 and learned how business was conducted at that level. I accepted the position of secretary in 2025 and this has been a year of growth for me. This past September, I travelled with Betty Ann Watts, Ann Piper and Anna Peters to the National meetings in Toronto. Again, there is so much to learn. I am so thankful for the help I received from our Executive this past year and continue to receive. It is comforting to know that if (and when) I need help, all I need do is ask. I *'tip my hat'* to Ruth Kennedy who did this job for many years and made it look so easy.

One of the best parts of doing the Statistics is reading each and every report that was forwarded and learning what other folks are doing. I have learned many names and am really looking forward to putting faces to those names at the AGM.

Blessings to you all.

Myra Thiemann, Media/ Recording Secretary, MUCW

Social Secretary Report for MUCW AGM Meeting on 25 April 2026

Throughout 2025, 30 cards were mailed and 2 were sent electronically due to the postal strike.

Sympathy – 27; Get Well – 0; Milestone Birthday – 3; Milestone Anniversaries – 2

I'd like to thank Phyllis Munroe for her assistance and prompt reimbursement of my expenditures.

If at all possible, when sending me a request, please include the contact information for the person to whom you'd like the card sent. Often, I have to send cards to the Funeral Home to forward to the family. Due to privacy concerns that means I frequently have to send the card within a second envelope, increasing our costs.

I continue to receive periodic thank you notes from some of the families I've reached out to. And in one delightful instance, I spoke with the sister of a veteran and UCW member who lives on her own at 102. She was quite chatty and happy to tell me about her sister – a lady from a nearby community whom I knew slightly through the Legion! Most of these women have interesting life stories and have been strong community advocates. It's a pleasure to learn about them and their work with their UCWs.

And I'm happy to state that I have a new computer so my email issues are a thing of the past. Where easier however, contact can still be made by phone. I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue this outreach.

Respectfully submitted,

Michèle Ashby (she/her) Living in Mi'kma'ki, ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

Statistics Maritime UCW

District	Total Members	Ind	Units	Life mem	Deaths
Chignecto	218	4	17	4	23
Miramichi	51	1	5	1	1
PEI	259	4	23	4	41
Western NB	307	1	21	6	17
Cape Breton	90	4	11	3	2
Eastern NS	301	1	25	0	10
Halifax	265	1	10	4	7
South Shore – Valley	204	0	21	2	2

8 Districts 1,695 Members 16 Ind 133 units 24 Life member pins awarded 103 deaths

Maritime UCW Nominating Committee Report For Annual Meeting 2026

Welcome UCW members to our 2026 AGM. Thank you to each one of you for taking the time this weekend to come, support your MUCW Executive and reconnect with your UCW Sisters from New Brunswick, PEI and Nova Scotia. We are so glad you are here! Your Maritime Executive have had a productive two years under the direction of Betty Ann Watts. This spring will be a time of transition with the completion of Betty Ann's term as our President and Phyllis Munroe's as our Treasurer. Phyllis has served for the past 10 years (completing two 5-year terms and we are so grateful for the many hours she has put in to keep our financials in order. Betty Ann will continue as past president as Ann Piper steps into the President chair. We look forward to their continued leadership. We will also welcome to the executive Halifax District President Joanne Cochrane from Coles Harbour United Church. Joanne takes over for Lee-Ann Boulet who has served as District President for the past 5 years. Thank you, Lee-Ann, for your dedicated service to the Halifax District. It has been a pleasure to work with you. Many thanks to our secretary Myra Thiemann. It's not an easy job taking over for our past secretary Ruth Kennedy.

THANK YOU to all our Executive and to all who take leadership positions and serve in your local units, your dedication is so valued! As highlighted in February newsletter, "UCW cannot operate without member participation. It takes many United Church Women to share the workload. The work of the UCW across the Maritimes is important work, and it has been important work since before our United Church was formed. Work is only a small part of the benefit of participating in MUCW, the fellowship, the laughter and the support in times of trouble, the celebrations in times of joy, and simply spending time with other women are all reasons to become involved. (And the food we share is always tasty!) "

Our Executive currently sits at 17 members and at the time of writing this report and we are still needing nominations for several key positions which will be called for during our meeting.

President Elect - Do you know of someone that would make a great leader? Perhaps you would be willing or know someone you would like to work with and share the position.

Treasurer – Are you good with finances? Do you know of a treasurer of a local unit who would be willing to join the executive?

We continue to look for a **Maritime UCW Newsletter Editor**. We are so grateful to those who made sure the news got out in 2025; to Ruth Kennedy for the Spring Issue, and to Ann Piper and Betty Ann for the Summer, Fall and most recently the February 2026 edition.

Contacts are needed to collect and share news from Cape Breton, Eastern NS, South Shore/Valley.

Have questions, would like to volunteer for any of these positions, or know of someone we should reach out to, please come see us at the meeting.

Blessings,

Debbie Hawkins, Marilyn Bubar, Sharon Moyse; Nominating Committee

CONTACT LIST MARITIME UCW EXECUTIVE

April 2025

President (2024-2026)

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President Elect (Vice) – (2024-2026)

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Co Past President (2024-2025) / Western NB Contact (2022-2024,2024-2026)

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Co Past President (2024-2025)

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Fundy St Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council Rep: (2022 – 2023, 2024-2026)

Elaine Burrows 309 – 55 Roy Boates Drive Summerside PE C1N 6V2 Ph; 902-436-1443
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Bermuda Nova Scotia Regional Council Rep: (2024-2026)

Ann Piper 20 Bayview Dr. Amherst NS B4H 4E7 Ph: 902-614-4066 apiperrpn@outlook.com

Recording/Media Secretary (2025-2027)

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Treasurer (2016-2020, 2021-2026)

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Archives/Alumni: Sharon Moyse 154 Spring Street Summerside, PE C1N 3G3 Ph: 902-436-5157

moysegirl3@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Vacant

Nominating : (past president)

Christian Life and Growth: (2024-2026)

Jocelyn Langille 1322 Hwy 2 Brentwood NS B0N 1C0 Ph: 902-956-0212 jalangille55@gmail.com

Berwick Camp: (2014 -) Joan Fraser P.O. Box 1496 174 Faulkland St Pictou NS B0K 1H0 Ph: 902-485-4771 joanfraser9@gmail.com

Social Secretary: (2024-2026) Michèle Ashby 11172 Highway 4, Havre Boucher NS B0H 1P0 Ph: 902-232-3473 timich@ns.sympatico.ca

FSLDW

Chignecto: Lois Budd – President (2025-2027) - 8 Smith Rd. Colpitts Sett. NB E4J 1J3 506-372-4357
loisethelbudd@hotmail.com **Member at Large FSLDW:** Anna Peters (2025-2027) - 190 Carson Drive Unit
1118 Moncton NB E1C 0S4 Ph: 506-383-1479 arpeters460@gmail.com
Miramichi: Diane Ellis – email Contact only diane@sireldon.com

Member at Large FSLDW - Elaine Stewart (2023-2025) 13840 Rte 425 Boom Rd. NB E9E 1G4 Ph: 506-625-4158 elainedstewart1@gmail.com

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Marilyn Bubar Contact 654 Rte 104, Burtt's Corner NB E6L 2B8 Ph: 506-363-2553 jnmbubar@gmail.com

Bermuda-NS

Bermuda: Contact thru MUCW recording/media secretary

Halifax: Lee-Anne Boulet – President 100 Springfield Lake Rd. Middle Sackville, NS B4E 3B1

Ph: 902-865-1039 laboulet57@gmail.com

South Shore/Valley Contact through MUCW recording/media Secretary

Cape Breton: Contact thru MUCW recording/ media Secretary

Member at Large Heather MacDonald, heatherblackadar1@gmail.com, PO Box 552, Oxford, NS B0M 1P0 902
447-2590

Eastern NS: Contact - Krista Stott-Jones scouterkrista@gmail.com

Member at Large FSLDW or Bermuda-NS: Vacant

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council Report

(PEI, NB and parts of the Gaspé Coast)

As your representative on the Fundy St Lawrence Dawning Water Regional Council, I have attended many meetings on your behalf. For each meeting, I have to present a MUCW report.

Video conference #1: The information video conference was held on the evening of **May 20, 2025** which reviewed orientation to the meetings, procedures for voting, committee reports, nominations, needed forms, Holy Manners, and Equity Self Monitoring.

Video conference #2: Saturday May **24, 2025** (from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) dealt with the region's business conducted by Sue LeMaistre, president of FSLDW. The call to order was followed by acknowledgement of place, constitution of the regional council, Holy Manners, introductions and greetings were followed by check-in using break-out rooms. Following the opening worship, there were the Equity Team remarks and the opening motions, We started with the Financial and Mission Services report which included the 2024 Audited Statements and the 2026 Budget. There were the President's remarks followed by the nomination of a President Elect, who is Rev. Rachel Campbell. After lunch, the Executive Minister for the three eastern regions, Rev. Faith March-MacCuish presented her remarks. Expect to hear more this year about T2035 (Toward 2035). **united-church.ca/toward 2035** Ministry Candidates were introduced. Reports: Children, Youth and Young Adults, Affirm, Board of Vocation, the Atlantic School of Theology. Time was spent on the regional evaluation report, followed up by the Equity Team report and the closing motions.

In-Person May 30 to June 1, 2025 (Sackville, NB)

Fundy St Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council and Bermuda-Nova Scotia Regional Council held their annual meeting together at Mount Allison University and Tantramar Veteran's Memorial Civic Center, Sackville, NB to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada. Each region held two video conferences prior to this in-person gathering.

Friday morning, there was a celebration of life service for Kendall Harrison who died suddenly during the winter. He had been at the regional office for a number of years.

All meetings start with eight Self-Monitoring questions presented by the Equity team as FSLDW is an affirming region. Youth forum attended joining the overall meeting twice during information sessions. They also presented a lively part of the closing worship with singing and dancing.

Friday afternoon began with worship and the first of three Celebration Plays. Each celebration plays included drama and video/pictures from the different decades of the United Church. Friday afternoon included the first of the 5 presentations by the Theme speaker Janet Gear: Theme Session #1 The Language Faith Speaks. Her second presentation was in the evening. The evening ended with the President's reception.

Following early morning worship (at 7 a.m.), breakfast and gathering music, there was the second Celebration Play. Janet did her third presentation called "One and Not the Same" followed by lunch and choir practice.

After lunch, Janet presented session #4: Table settings. After worship, she presented Theme Session #5: We Made of Difference. This was followed by Celebration Play #3. The Youth led worship followed by the equity support team report, and then the Ecumenical guest report, courtesies, announcements and grace. At supper on Saturday, we celebrated the Retirees and Jubilarians with a special meal, along with speeches, and/or video presentations from the retirees and Jubilarians. A kitchen party followed.

On Sunday June 1 at 10 am there was the Celebration of Ministry service and the closing of the regional councils gathering.

The minutes and all the reports for the 2025 annual meeting are available under the 2025 annual meeting heading on the FSLDW website.

The theme speaker was **Janet Gear**, a theological educator and ordained in the United Church of Canada. She is the author of the book: ***Undivided Love*** which is a book about faith: how it is expressed and what it communicates.

Through Theological Lenses, she identified **five types of service**: evangelical, ecclesial, missional ecumenical, and spiritual. Through her lectures, short videos, small and larger group discussions, we considered where we might fit, and where our home communities of faith might fit. We, and our churches may fit into more than one category and this may change over the years. The information below comes from sheets given out by Janet Gear in Sackville during her five sessions. Session 1: The Language Faith Speaks. Session 2: Seeing is Believing. Session 3: One and Not the Same Session 4: Table Settings. Session 5: We Made of Difference.

If you google her name, you may be able to find more information on these topics.

1. **Evangelical (messenger)** is sharing Jesus with others, sharing the gospel, and identify as the messenger. The relationship with God is praised in song, shared in prayer, and made known through testimony. Their strength is intimacy.
2. **Ecclesial (servant)** is worshipping and learning about God together. The presence of Christ is revealed through the baptized and gathering community, sacraments, and ministries. This lived faith begins with welcome and hospitality, and expresses itself in bringing people together in service and love to pass from one generation to the next. Their strength is commitment.
3. **Missional (neighbour)** is a community-based or outreach faith.. It happens in and out of the building through acts of service and compassion among the most vulnerable. Their orientation toward love of neighbour as a way of life means they are not only community volunteers and also the helping professionals in your congregation. Their strength is concrete action.
4. **Ecumenical (partner)** is enacting hope through justice, peace, and reconciliation. They are Christian activists whose primary faith community is comprised of those with whom they share the work of justice-seeking in organizations and agencies within and beyond the global church. Their strength is the scope of their concern and analysis.
5. **Spiritual (pilgrim)** is their walk on the inward or contemplative journey into the heart of the divine. Spirituals can be healers and artists, and wisdom seekers. They are open to the intersections of Christian faith with other wisdom traditions and intellectual disciplines including science. Their strength is

discipline.

- June 17, 2025 Zoom meeting of the executive
- October 27 & 28 In-Person meeting in Sackville, NB
 - Responding to the evaluations of the region
 - Presentation on Toward 2035 [united-church.ca/toward 2035](https://united-church.ca/toward-2035)
- December 2, 2025 Zoom meeting of the executive
- February 23, 2026 Zoom meeting of the executive
- March 26, 2026 Zoom meeting of the executive
- Each executive meeting last around three hours.
- All the **minutes** of the meetings can be found on the FSLDW website. Go to **about** and they are near the bottom of the list.

Communication

- Expect to hear more about **Toward 2035**.
- To keep up with the news from the regional council subscribe to the **weekly announcements**.
- You can get Bermuda-Nova Scotia and/or Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters announcements each Wednesday evening.
- There is regional facebook page.
- The UCW has a page on the FSLDW web page. Look under ministries.
- **Do you ever need a prayer?** Go to the UCC web page, and go to the very bottom of the page- click on prayers --- there are all kinds there.

Elaine Burrows

MUCW UCW representative Fundy St Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council

CHIGNECTO DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2025

This being my first year as president of Chignecto UCW I found it interesting, busy, challenging and yet I am glad I listened to my nudge and took this leap of faith to give this position a try. I challenge anyone who is thinking they can't do something like this be it at a local level, a district level or a provincial level; to remember you are not alone in this stepping out, you all have wonderful and knowledgeable women at all levels who will guide and uplift you as they did for me and it can be very rewarding and exciting. So, lift up your hand and say yes to the unfilled positions and keep our UCW strong with leadership at all levels.

As I took this position knowing I had Anna Peters as my contact with MUCW I decided the year ahead would be learning how to be a Chignecto UCW President and getting ready for those meetings and fun gatherings would be enough for me and as I am still working with my daughter my free time can be limited.

Therefore, I only attended one Zoom meeting of MUCW but sent in a couple of reports from Chignecto. January 2026 Chignecto UCW Executive met to formalize plans for our Annual Meeting on March 21st 2026 ,with a storm date of March 28th and change dates for our proposed fall Rally.

We also welcomed our new Treasurer Susan Copeland with her first treasurers report after she stepped up for us when our friend and treasurer Ruth Anne Waddy passed away in September.

Our planned Chignecto UCW Fall Rally will now be a spring Rally on May 23th, in Sackville.

Jean Smith now has our 2025 Stats forms returned and is busy getting our Annual Booklet ready with an agenda for our business meeting. Jean also keeps us up to date with an e-news shared twice a month and a Chignecto UCW Facebook page. If anyone is interested in either reaching out to Jean Smith or myself and we will add you to our email list. Our Facebook page is an easy find, search Chignecto UCW on FaceBook.

Over the past two years a committee has been working on updating our Chignecto Guidelines and Policies which have now gone to print and out to our locals by way of emails. We will bring this updated document forward for approval at our Annual meeting in March.

I extend an invitation to ladies from MUCW to join us at our Chignecto Annual "Dare to Dream" gathering and or our Chignecto UCW Spring Rally " Hope Continues to Bloom".

Submitted by Lois Budd, Chignecto UCW President

Highlights from your District in 2025

Chignecto UCW ended 2025 with 19 active UCW groups from locations in Cumberland County, Nova Scotia, and Albert, Kent and Westmorland Counties in New Brunswick, with membership recorded as 218 members, of which 18 are considered inactive or associate members still on the rolls. Statistics reports show 10 new members were added in 2025, and 17 members deceased. One group, the Dulcie Cook UCW of Advocate United, disbanded, removing five members. Chignecto UCW presented life membership to four members.

Chignecto UCW met for three General Executive meetings during 2025, on January 10, May 12, and October 12. The winter and fall meetings were hosted by Anna Peters in the commons room in the complex of her residence in Moncton, NB. The spring meeting was hosted by Mount Royal UCW at their church in Moncton, NB.

The 58th annual meeting of Chignecto UCW was held March 15, 2025, at the United Church Regional Building in Sackville, NB., using the theme "Here I Am". MUCW President Betty Ann Watts brought greetings from the Maritime UCW executive and at the close of the afternoon installed the incoming 2025-2026 officers. Anna Peters moved into the position of Past President, and Lois Budd begin her first year as President. Anna Peters led in a time of worship, giving an inspiring message on "Here I Am" as we answered calls throughout our UCW history and remembering the earlier women's groups in the United Church, as we celebrate our Centennial Year as a denomination. Our morning offering went to support Camp Ta-Wa-Si, as did the many items collected in the "kitchen shower" for camp use during the summer. Rev. Ellie Hummel, Multi-Faith Chaplain at Mount Allison University, led us in a thoughtful

exercise of reflecting on five Christian values: generosity, curiosity, gratitude, compassion and hospitality. Communion and memorial service naming our deceased members was led by Rev. Hummel. A donation was made to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church as a memorial to our parted members.

Seven women from Chignecto UCW attended the Maritime UCW Annual Meeting “Here We Are” at the Bedford United Church, NS, April 25 and 26. Three of our members have position on the MUCW executive, Ann Piper, Anna Peters and Lois Budd.

Ann Piper, a first-year Berwick United Church camper, was designated as Chignecto UCW representative there. She led in the organizing and presentation of UCW Day, using “Life is a journey to celebrate” as the day’s theme. Lois Budd and Jean Smith also attended the 10-day camp.

Several Chignecto UCW groups used the National UCW 100th Anniversary resource in worship services for their UCW groups and led in a Sunday service for their congregations.

A Fall Rally Day, Hope Continues to Bloom, was schedule to go on September 27, but was cancelled. It has since been rescheduled to happen in the spring of 2026. Chignecto UCW received the news of the unexpected and sudden passing of their long-time treasurer Ruth Anne Waddy of Colpitts Settlement, NB, and her funeral was arranged to be held on the scheduled rally day. Ruth Anne had looked after the finances for Chignecto UCW for 22 years, and she was a wonderful person, and will be missed. Several Chignecto UCW members attended her funeral service held in home church.

Chignecto UCW’s outdated Policies and Guidelines document has been updated by a committee of four meeting three times over the past two years, and the recreated document will be recommended at the annual meeting for acceptance as the new revised handbook for Chignecto UCW.

ADVOCATE, NS - DULCIE COOK UCW– The Dulcie Cook UCW of Advocate United Church, NS, did not operate in 2025 year. On November 12th of 2025, Gail Morris, our president, met with Lois Robarts, the secretary/treasurer, and Hilda Fletcher and the UCW has been disbanded as of that date. The funds in our account were distributed to local community organizations.

(Contributed by Lois Robarts, lois.robarts@gmail.com)

AMHERST, NS - TRINITY-ST. STEPHEN’S UCW– (36 Active Members, 8 Associate Members.) The three remaining Units come together monthly for devotion and new business at a General UCW meeting, and in June and December for a social event. The Units meet individually monthly, some for study and some for socializing, but each having a time for devotion, new business and financial contributions. The various UCW activities are supported and carried out during the year by members of all the Units. These activities in 2025 have included: welcoming Sunday worshippers, taking part in the UCW church service, placing unscented flowers in the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter, making donations of time, items and finances especially for the Food Bank and Christmas Cheer as well as other town organizations requiring support throughout the year, planning and taking part in a retreat day, hosting and taking part in the town World Day of Prayer event, cleaning the church kitchen, taking a turn in the kitchen for coffee cleanup following Sunday service, participating in the Christmas in the Air event, organizing and taking part in two rummage sales. Support and fellowship were visible with Souper Sunday and the Muffin Morning, a noon take-out meal available to purchase in September, presentation of hand-knit prayer shawls at times of unexpected personal need, remembering shut-in members of the congregation especially at Easter and Christmas with cards,

those members from the age of 90 received a birthday card each year and forwarding cards to members of the congregation at times of joy and sorrow. Our UCW saw the members of one of our long-standing Units deciding to join with another Unit allowing the Unit's members to remain active on a less demanding basis. Even with change, all members continue to try to carry out the words and actions of the UCW Purpose.

(Contributed by Jean Thompson, TSS UCW Secretary gjthompson@ns.sympatico.ca)

MCKEE'S MILLS - ZION UNITED LADIES AID – As we look back on 2025, not much has changed from the previous year. Our three ladies continue to support the Ladies Aid, in a different looking role from past years, within the church. Although we do not meet regularly, we continue to have “conversations” after worship on Sundays, E-mails or phone calls when we need to discuss business. We place lilies in the sanctuary at Easter and presented all the ladies in the congregation with carnations on Mother's Day. We were able to tour the Archives at the Regional Office in Sackville in October when we took a document to have stored there, and we went on the Amherst for lunch and discussed plans for the Advent season. We hosted the McKee's Mills/Rexton Pastoral Charge at Zion as we celebrated the official retirement of the Rev. Claudia Keller on October 26th. She was presented with gifts from the charge, and we enjoyed a lovely lunch and time of fellowship in the church basement. She was also given a poinsettia in December as we remembered her birthday. During Advent, on behalf of the church, we purchased gifts from the Gifts with Vision catalogue. The Ladies Aid donated to the Karing Kitchen, Moncton Pregnancy and Wellness Centre and Community of Hope. We also presented our supervising minister with a poinsettia as well and poinsettia was placed in the sanctuary in memory of a past member Elizabeth Kay. Of course, we contributed goodies to many of our fellowship times throughout the year. We continue to send cards to our members of the congregation throughout the year when needed and the weekly bulletins are sent to a senior who is unable to attend worship. We were able to visit with one of our seniors at her residence and share a time of fellowship. We continue to receive the E-Newsletter twice a month, which keeps us up to date on what is happening in our area of the UCW. We thank Jean Smith, Chignecto UCW E-newsletter manager for this feature and to Brenda McFarlane for keeping us informed through E-mails of the work of the UCW. We do feel that the little touches we contribute to the life and work of the church are important and do add to the sense of fellowship at Zion United. So, we will bravely head into 2026 and continue the work of our committed group of three.

(Contributed by Karen Mitton, rmitton@bellaliant.net)

MONCTON, NB - CENTRAL UNITED UCW – President Laura Whitmee reports that they have one active and two inactive units along with the group of hand quilters who operate under the UCW banner. The Berridge Unit met each month in homes and enjoyed a meal out in June and December. Birthdays and recognitions are celebrated, and we have speakers, programs and an annual Bring and Buy Sale. The UCW continues to support the Church as well as M&S. In the community, the UCW contributed to the Greater Moncton Pregnancy and Wellness Centre, Crossroads for Women, and the Y Reconnect Program with mittens and outerwear items for the winter months. Baby hats were also donated to Moncton Hospital. The quilters donate a quilt each year for a Christmas raffle which is a great fundraiser. We support the collection of pop tabs, eyeglasses, greeting cards and stamps, as well as toilet tissue and paper towel rolls for Resurgo in Moncton. At Christmas, a plant and treats are taken to our shut-ins. With increasing age and dwindling numbers, we realize we can only do so much, however, we continue in the spirit of UCW enjoying friendship and fellowship. (Contributed by Laura Whitmee, pwhitmee@nb.sympatico.ca)

MONCTON, NB - MOUNT ROYAL UNITED UCW – UCW held 10 meetings with an average attendance of 14 members. We remember the passing of long-time members and their contributions: Joyce Bremner, Nadine

Nicholson, Maureen Linney and Shirley Howatt. Donations were also given to the memorial fund to honour the passing of Gil Webb, Vincent Burgess, Donna Oke, Norman Bremner, Helen Payne and Wayne Barkhouse. Sunday coffee and refreshments continue to be served by a small group of dedicated volunteers, and two funeral receptions were catered, and we continue to collect pop tabs, eyeglasses, and stamps. Ilene Maund continues to knit baby hats for the NICU at Moncton Hospital. March was the spring closing for the Marathon Bridge Group and sandwiches and sweets were prepared for each table. In April, we sent cleaning supplies to Crossroads for Women and dishcloths and scrubbies were donated to Camp Tawasi. Hot Cross Buns were purchased and served on Palm Sunday. In May we celebrated the United Church of Canada 100th Anniversary, as well as hosted a Chignecto UCW meeting. A parting luncheon was held for Rev. Audrey Louder after her time with us in the spring. There was a request for pajama pants for youth and children at Moncton Hospital and numerous pairs were delivered along with acrylic paints and paper to the Pediatric unit. The Bridge Marathon resumed in October and Sandra Forman-Webb coordinates the players and schedules. The Halloween Coffee and Muffin party was held on Oct. 28 and at Christmas the dedicated staff of Mount Royal were given thank you gifts. Hot cider and sweets were served on Dec. 21 and cookie tins were delivered to 40 members of the community as well as staff. We would like to thank "Women Unite" for their support.

(Contributed by Tracy Parrott, tracy.e.parrott@gmail.com)

MONCTON, NB - MOUNTAIN VIEW UNITED UCW – Two UCW units at Mountain View joined forces in January and with two new members, Jean Marshall and Elsie MacLean, they have a membership of 17. A long-time member, Barb McGill moved to P.E.I. Nine meetings were held this year led by Deborah Ellison with devotions by Barb Groundwater. A Valentine Tea was held on Feb. 12 and we assisted with the March Yard Sale and provided cake for Volunteer Sunday in May. In June we hosted the 65th Anniversary UCW Tea and sponsored a fundraiser for the Sunday School Curriculum and \$295. was raised. We also staffed tables at the Fall Fair. In the Fall, Lois Budd, Chignecto UCW President accepted our invitation to come and present two Life Membership Pins to Deborah Ellison and Carolyn Smith. We had Krista Rietzel, president of Berwick Camp visit and gave us an overview of what is available at the nine-day summer camp. As part of the 75th Anniversary of Mountain View, the UCW hosted a potluck on Nov. 19. The Christmas Stock Fundraiser raised \$1,055. and a mitten tree in the Narthex gathered many useful mittens, hats and scarves that were delivered to local schools. A Christmas potluck was held at the home of Joan MacLeod and Ilene Maund was our special guest. Baby layettes were brought in and delivered to Moncton City Hospital. (Contributed by Deborah Ellison, ellisdj25@gmail.com)

MONCTON, NB. - ST. JOHN'S UNITED UCW – The UCW group of 20 members meet seven times throughout the year on the last Monday afternoon of the month. We had a special speaker in March and this year we welcomed Shannon Berry, representing the Y Reconnect Program bringing us up to speed on the work they do. Members deliver devotions each month and time is spent planning for our five annual fundraisers. We held two Basement Sales (spring and fall), a Silent Auction and Dessert Extravaganza, Fall Fashion Show and Dessert evening, and the Fall Bazaar and Coffee Party. In all, just over \$14,000 was raised and at our Annual Meeting in November, we disbursed the funds to the Church and 10 agencies around the city. A large donation of goods is taken to the Moncton Hospital Neo Natal unit, twice annually, which includes baby hats, receiving blankets, burp pads, and gently used baby clothes. This year a special donation of 20 new hand-knit baby afghans was dropped off and were greatly appreciated by the staff. (Contributed by Brenda McFarlane, brejea47@gmail.com)

MONCTON - VISIONS UNITED UCW - We meet monthly over the noon hour, bringing our lunch and sharing in a time of devotion and fellowship. We do not engage in any fundraising, other than our offerings, which allowed us to

contribute to the M&S Funds and meet our congregational goal. Individuals are encouraged to lead the devotion, and we began by using Betty Turcotte's book for a study of some of the less familiar women of the Bible. We had a Christmas theme in November, and members were invited to share favorite Christmas memories. Our group keeps up to date on events in Chignecto as well as MUCW and National UCW and we participate as we are able. We were able to donate to the Healing Fund this year as well as Inclusion Advocacy. (Contributed by Anna Peters, arpeters460@gmail.com)

NAPPAN, NS - NAPPAN/MACCAN UCW – (11 members) The Nappan/Maccan UCW had another successful year in 2025. We held two successful yard sales, one in May and one in October. During the week before each yard sale, and at the end of each morning enjoyed a cup of coffee and tea and some chit chat. In June, following our church service in Fenwick, the congregation enjoyed cupcakes and punch, celebrating 100 years of the United Church of Canada. Everyone received a booklet highlighting the history of our local churches: Brookdale, Fenwick, Maccan and Nappan. In December, the church was decorated for the Christmas season by members of the UCW. Our church looked very festive and welcoming at this special time of year. We hosted the Christmas performance "A Living Christmas Tree" in early December. Even with the snow fall earlier in the day, the performance was well attended. It was an event to remember. The choir in their red capes and lighted candles, and the musicians on keyboard, guitars and drums delighted everyone with Christmas songs, new and familiar, while a storyteller entertained us at intermission. It was a wonderful way to start the Christmas season. Proceeds from the performance were donated to the church. In mid-December, we hosted our annual Christmas community dinner. Everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck buffet followed by a singsong with Linda Allen Moore on the keyboard joined by Cadence Morris playing guitar. Before Christmas, fruit baskets were delivered in the Nappan/Maccan community. We made donations to the Amherst Food Assistance Network, the Cumberland Hospice, the River Hebert District Christmas Hamper Fund, the Salvation Army and Coats for Amherst. The UCW continued to support church maintenance and upkeep as well as lawn care at the church and cemetery in 2025. On a sad note, Marily Kohout, a life member of the UCW and president for 25 years, passed away in March. Marilyn was instrumental in many activities of the UCW over the years, including the pancake suppers, often making the pancakes herself, turkey dinners, a memorial hymn service and the many yard sales held at the church. (Contributed by Coral Harris, cdharris@eastlink.ca)

PORT GREVILLE, NS - GRACE UNITED UCW– Grace UCW met from April to December. We held a Valentine Tea, Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, A Strawberry Salad supper and Christmas Tea and Sale. We also catered to five funeral receptions. Donations were made twice a year to the breakfast programs at both the elementary and high school in Parrsboro, and a donation to the Christmas food hamper. We collected for Autumn House during Advent and April McCully delivered the items. Fruit baskets were made and delivered to those over 80. We also decorated and clean the church as needed. We ended our December meeting with lunch at the Salty Spoon in Parrsboro. Many thanks to our UCW members and the congregation who are always there to help.

(Contributed by Sandra Field, Secretary, Grace UCW, field@ns.sympatico.ca)

PETITCODIAC, NB - SAINT JAMES UCW (15 members) Our dedicated group of ladies held 10 meetings in 2025. We stay strong in attendance (14 full members and 1 inactive member), averaging 12 per meeting. We follow a formal meeting structure with members taking turns to offer devotions, interesting programs and of course an enjoyable lunch and social time. Throughout the year we continued to support members of the congregation in many ways: sending cards, memorials, delivering fruit baskets, reach out with phone calls and caring visitations. This remains so important as Saint James church no longer holds weekly services. We were also able to provide charitable

assistance to our community: gift cards were purchased for the local pharmacy to offer help with prescriptions, baby layettes were put together and given to our local medical center for new parents in need, a donation was issued to cover the cost of a camp registration to Camp Ta-Wa-Si and in December we donated grocery gift cards to a father in our community with both serious health and financial struggles. (Saint James filled his oil barrel.) In the fall, we collected Kraft dinner for the local Baptist church that serves Kraft dinner every Wednesday to the Petitcodiac High School students. Also, in December our group organized a Christmas luncheon for all members and adherents of Saint James. A delicious catered lunch accompanied with beautiful harp music and a brief candle lighting memorial was enjoyed by all in attendance. At this gathering our ladies brought Christmas cards which were delivered to residents at the Jordan Life Care Center.

(Contributed by Heather Keith, St. James UCW Secretary, dale.keith@rogers.com)

RIVERVIEW, NB - ST. PAUL'S UCW (24 members). Before we know it, another year has come and gone. We still have two active units at St. Paul's – Phyllis Head is the leader of one unit, which consists of 13 ladies, who meet the first Tuesday of the month in the church parlour. The Royal Unit, led by Sheila Jack, with 18 plus ladies, meet the first Wednesday of the month in the church hall. We were busy as usual this past year. In January, Ann Clark and Dianne Humphrey set up a booth at the Volunteer Fair representing UCW and Sue Berube did a slide presentation. In February we held our New-to-You sale convened by Kitty Falconer. In March we took part in the World Day of Prayer service held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Our annual Yard Sale took part the end of April. It is a big project, and we could not do it without the help of the congregation. In May we held a Fashion Show with fashions by Madame Coates, and it was another remarkable success. October is our Fall Fair which is our last big event of the year and very profitable. Throughout the year we host coffee and conversation, alternating with the hospitality group. We held two general meetings, one in March and one in December. Our December meeting, hosted by the Royal Unit, started with a lovely lunch and our minister David-Roger Gagnon played his guitar and led us in a Christmas singsong. We also planned our year-end donations to organizations throughout the community that need financial support. In the past year we were sorry to report the loss of five members – Carol Hughson, Betty Audain, Carol Eldridge, Hilda Kennedy, and Ruby Tower. All these ladies will be missed. We continue to collect pop tabs, eyeglasses, the front of greeting cards and postage stamps. There is a collection box on the counter at the main church entrance.

(Contributed by Phyllis Head, St. Paul's UCW President, wph@nb.sympatico.ca)

ST. PAUL'S UCW, RIVERVIEW, NB (ROYAL UNIT REPORT). Ten gatherings were held in the hall at St. Paul's with an average attendance of 14. This year has seen big changes take place within our unit as there were several deaths and a few who are unable to attend due to health issues. The deaths of Hilda Kennedy, Betty Audain, Carol Hughson, Ruby Tower and Carol Elderidge left us with a deep loss. Several members have moved and find it difficult to attend our meetings – Betty Dykeman, Jean Marshall, Shirley Gibson, Joan Carson and Rena MacFarlane. We hold them in our prayers as they start on a new journey. We were entertained at our meetings with speakers: Lynn Duffy about her travels as a retired nurse and teacher in the south during winter months. Speakers from Spencer's Nursing Home and Becky from Shannex about the Nursing Home Without Walls program. Kitty Falconer showed us slides from her trip to Europe in the summer. Marilyn Wells talked to us about gluten free cooking tips and provided us with samples of her baking talents. David-Roger Gagnon, our minister, played his guitar and led us in a Christmas singsong in December. Our group took part and helped as were able with our New to You Sale in February, World Day of Prayer in March, the Yard Sale in April, the 100th anniversary church service in June, the 75th anniversary of St. Paul's in

November and our fall fair in October. We hosted (with the help and support from the Head unit) two general meetings and an annual meeting with Phyllis Head, our President, leading these meetings. The most important part of these gatherings is our devotional time and the social part with the afternoon tea and sweets and a lot of conversation to finish off our time together. Thank you to Betty Colpitts for helping set up and watching over our teatime. Also, many thanks to all who volunteered for devotions and supply us with sweets.

(Contributed by Sheila Jack, Royal Unit President, s.r.jack@icloud.com)

SALISBURY, NB – SALISBURY UNITED UCW (7 members). There were eight regular meetings held with an attendance of 6.6 people, and two special meetings in June and December with an average of 14, extra invited guests. No meetings in July and August. At our regular meetings we have a business meeting, Bible study which was on The Beatitudes this year, a devotion, and answer roll call with a Bible word for each month. We held three soup feasts after church during the colder months. Other months we had fellowship with tea, coffee and sweets after Sunday service. Cards are sent to sick and shut ins and people in the congregation over 80. Usually, a member tries to attend the Chignecto UCW executive. Several attended and enjoyed our Chignecto UCW Annual meeting and our MUCW Annual meeting. Donations were sent to Camp Ta-Wa-Si, to a Salisbury Highschool graduate, to Helping Hands Food Bank in Salisbury and other church events. The UCW helped our church with the yard sale in the summer, book sale and on-line auction. (Contributed by Janet Colpitts, Salisbury UCW Secretary, gcolpitts@bellaliant.net)

SHEDIAC, NB - TRINITY UNITED UCW – We continue to donate money three times a year to the Shediac Cape School breakfast program. We thank our member Nora who knits mittens for the school and preemie caps for the Moncton Hospital. We donate funds to Courage (resource) Centre in Shediac and to the local Villa Nursing Home. A special donation for Broadview magazine to celebrate the 195th anniversary of publication was also sent. Get-well cards, home visits and birthday cards are sent regularly. Myrna regularly attends the district executive meetings and enjoyed the MUCW annual meeting in Bedford, NS, in April. We were very saddened by the death of our Chignecto treasurer Ruth Ann Waddy and Myrna attended her funeral. We had a linen shower for Camp Ta-Wa-Si in March and a personal shower for clients at the Courage Center in May. We contribute to the Christmas requests for assistance for the Courage Centre clients. We assist with the spring and fall congregational fundraising flea markets and the Christmas Angel tree memorial event. In September we used our regular meeting to hold our own celebration of the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada. Each member shared as we used the service given by the Toronto office. In October we welcomed our Chignecto district president Lois Budd to present members Bonnie Wallace and Elizabeth Hyndman with life memberships. In November the Tantramar Senior College members who meet at our church invited us to a potluck luncheon. Our programs are informal. We have been doing a “get to know each other” time. Bonnie Wallace presented a very interesting program based on the doctrine section of the basis of union emphasizing the caring of one another as was central to the teachings of Jesus. Myrna does a monthly worship service, and members participate by reading the scriptures. We close the meeting with a time of fellowship over tea and treats. I would like to thank the members of the congregation and the unit, executive UCW members Bonnie Wallace and Sheri Cormier for their continued support. (Contributed by Myrna Ward, myrnai@hotmail.com)

MIRAMICHI

Carmel UCW, Napan, NB

We meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We gave donations to Mission and Service, Least Coin, Liposy, Special Box and Collection each month. We provide Daily Bread to church members and help pay dusk to dawn light at church. We helped provide lunch for Lenten Services in Miramichi. We hosted World Day of Prayer on march 7th with lunch and a collection of \$255.00 was sent to World Day of Prayer. We cater to funeral receptions and provide lunch every 4th Sunday after service in Church. We participated in Celebration of Thanksgiving for Re, David Allen at his departure. We participated in Napan Fall Harvest in Napan Hall with tables of baked goods, preserves and other items for sale. We made donations to Jeremy's Mission, Carmel Memorial Tree in memory of UCW members, and donated to 2025 White Gift.

Carmel UCW met nine times for monthly meetings and we attended the Annual UCW meeting in Miramichi. Our meetings are closed with the UCW Benediction.

Bethel United, Nash Creek

In February the UCW led the worship service, *Here I am*, prepared by the National UCW executive, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada.

In partnership with the local thrift store and the Pastoral Charge, the UCW worked closely with the Bathurst Warming Centre in collecting supplies, gift cards, and delivering homemade meals.

We held a soup and sandwich fundraiser which included delivering free meals to our shut-ins.

We recognized our 2025 graduates with a monetary gift.

A highlight of the year was our UCW Ladies' Christmas Tea with 94 registrations, our largest to date. The afternoon included worship, games and music. Lunch was provided by donation only yet we received a generous total of \$800. This money was used to purchase Christmas gifts for 8 children and 1 adult. Non-perishables were also collected for the local food bank.

Witney UCW

Our group meet monthly, unless interrupted by a storm. On average we have 9-11 at our meetings. We have monthly devotions and end meetings with luncheon and fellowship. Our unit participates in community friendship and outreach by sending get well, birthday (special years), sympathy, thinking of you and Christmas cards. Also, we do small gifts for shut-ins from our church Pastoral Charge at Christmas. As well, we donate a turkey to the Christmas family sponsored by St Philip's church. We participate in fundraiser like Jams, Jellies and preserves Sale and Bake Sale. We also bring in items for a 'Baby Layette' which is donated to the hospital. Our Unit participates in World Day of Prayer services as well. We give graduation cards and monetary gifts to graduates within our charge.

We sponsor a child through Compassion Canada and we have been doing this for a number of years.

Each of our meetings consist of devotions and a business meeting. Members have attended MUCW meetings as well. We also attend Hospital Auxiliary Teas in recognition of our participation and gifts to them. Lillies are placed in church in memory of deceased members. We made donations to all St Philip's churches as well.

This is a short review of some things we do throughout the year.

Western NB and Saint John

I am happy to be able to continue being the contact person for this part of the MUCW. My list consists of 51 UCW contacts throughout the above areas. If you are in this area and presently not receiving my emails, please contact me at jmbubar@gmail.com and I will add you to the list.

I distribute the two UCW newsletters as soon as I receive them. *Keeping In Touch*, the National news, and *Maritime UCW Newsletter* are each published three times a year. Prior to their deadline for publication, I remind units to send me news of upcoming events, special activities, Life Membership presentations, notable milestones for individuals within your groups who may be celebrating special anniversary or birthday. It is good to share this news with all. I also try to send any pertinent information that comes my way concerning upcoming events, news from the National UCW and on the *Healing Fund*.

It is also the responsibility of each person who receives my email to distribute to everyone in their group(s). It takes all of us working together to keep connected.

Blessings to all who read this, Marilyn Bubar, Contact for MUCW Western NB and Saint John Areas.

Wilmot United Church Fredericton, NB

We had our usual fundraisers through out the year –Foodless Food sale, two Rummage Sales, apple pie making, and Bake and New-to-You Sale. We provided refreshments for 6 funeral receptions of Wilmot families and helped with other receptions held at Wilmot. We conducted a special UCW service in March and several members attended the September UCW meeting at Keswick Ridge when they hosted the Maritime UCW President. At Christmas we help deliver small seasonal remembrances to our faith community shut-ins and elderly.

Harvey, NB

The St. Andrews United Church UCW has had an active and successful year. We strive to include the UCW foundational purposes in our meetings. We are grateful to be able to meet regularly but are missing lifetime members who have moved to new locations or facilities and include them as much as possible in our activities. Sadly, in March, we lost Rose Wilkin, a wonderful member of our UCW, our congregation and our community. She is missed by all.

Our UCW supports local, national and international groups through our outreach programs, including over \$13,000.00 to the local foodbank this year. We also support local seniors, shelters, and the care home with Christmas gifts for residents. Our projects are well supported by our congregation.

Monthly meetings include inspirational devotions coordinated by Shirley Mersereau, well prepared business meetings, interesting programs, and shared fellowship in lunch following our meetings. Programs, including meal packets for the foodbank, RCMP presentation on SCAMs, crokinole party, and participation in World Day of Prayer, have included congregation members as well as UCW members. Programs are developed and presented by individual members and guest speakers. We look forward to working together to continue to serve others in 2026.

New Maryland, NB

We do not fund raise for UCW initiatives, but our current members have been very generous in their monthly offerings to UCW during our meetings and we have been able to continue giving financial support in many areas that are near and dear to our hearts and that we have been supporting for a long time:

Donation to Families for Children, an orphanage in India that we have supported for years. Cheque to Transition House, a safe haven for women and their children in Fredericton.

Christmas treat bags for clients of the Christ Church Anglican Cathedral Outreach that we liaison with and have assisted for years

The purchase of all paper products, cleaning supplies and tea and coffee for our church use

Covering the cost of our New Maryland United Church website domain's biyearly renewal

We are a small but very dedicated group of women who thoroughly enjoy each others company, and are proud of the work we do to assist our church and the wider community, as best we can.

Unfortunately, none of our members are able to participate at the Maritime or National level of UCW, but please know we do appreciate the time, energy and commitment of all who serve at these levels of our organization.

With great thanks, Dorothy Webster; President of New Maryland United Church UCW

Nashwaaksis Unit 6

Unit 6 meets on the last Tuesday of each month. We meet in the church chapel to repeat our purpose and have devotion. We then proceed to the parlour for the rest of our meeting. Every January we have a potluck supper and Yankee Swap. Good food and fun... what a way to start the year! We plan our programs for the year. This year has once again been very busy. Some of our programs in 2025 were a Bring & Buy Sale (you bid on a wrapped item without knowing the content...fun), book exchange, Give Yourself a Point Game and a Bible Game. We had some lovely devotions entitled, New Day, The Church Potluck Mix-up, God's Other Way, My Mother's Hand, Fellowship, Thanksgiving and Gratitude, and A Tail of Woe of a Kitchen Worker in the 1800's. We added "Good News" to our agenda where each member can share their good news items. Always brings some smiles! We worked closely with Unit 3 at the church to cater various receptions including a wedding reception. UCW and the Special Events Committee hosted a Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper, and we assisted Special Events at the St. Patrick's Day Tea which was enjoyed by many. Donations were made to: Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Community Kitchen and Camp Wegesegum. We once again this year supported the Resident Christmas Gift Program at York Care with 13 bags of goodies and a cheque. We made donations to several charities in memory of loved ones. We continue to support Mission and Services and the Leprosy Fund. We provided Coffee Time after church two Sundays in April. We helped out UNB students in April with a Pause Table where they could stop by and get some refreshments between exams. We hosted two Bridge Luncheons, one in May and one in October. Our Annual Christmas Bazaar in November is always a huge success and is well supported by our congregation. We were able to make jam, jelly, pickles over the summer to add to our Bake Table and we brought back our Coffee Party this year as part of the Bazaar!! Looking forward to all 2026 has to offer!!

Nashwaaksis Unit 3

Nine meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 14 and a total membership of 24. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. and are opened with the UCW prayer and a devotion. We

are sorry to report the death of two of our members and welcomed one new member.

Our members continue to work with Unit 6 in catering to functions at the church. There were several funeral receptions, a wedding reception, pancake supper, coffee time following church, potluck luncheon and catered to a lunch for a meeting of the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters.

The Christmas Bazaar was supported with a new-to-you table, Christmas centerpieces and soup mixes were sold and members assisted with the Continental Breakfast.

Donations were made to the Outreach Committee, General Fund, Benevolent Fund, Leprosy Fund, Greener Village Food Bank, assisted with the purchase of the hymn book "Then Let Us Sing" for the choir and snacks were provided for the "Pause Table" at UNB during final exams. A donation was made to Crohns & Colitis Canada and to our Memorial Fund in memory of our two deceased members.

Members attended the United Church 100th Anniversary Service held at the Fredericton High School. The 100th Anniversary pins were ordered and were available for sale. Several members attended a meeting of the Keswick Ridge UCW in September when the President of the Maritime UCW was present

The prayer chain remains active and several prayer shawls were given out. Sympathy cards, get well cards, thinking-of-you cards and Christmas & Easter cards were sent out during the year. Boxes of Advent Christmas cards were delivered to two of our members in December.

Our members enjoy the fellowship we share at our monthly meetings and new members are always welcome.

Sandra Reed, Secretary

Westfield Two Rivers

Highlights of our year:

Held 5 meetings, mostly to plan and organize our 2 dinners - Cold Plate with Strawberry Shortcake - Drive Thru

- Remembrance Day Turkey Dinner - Eat in or take out

- Catered to 5 Funerals

-Made sandwiches for a Baby Shower

-Participated in the Local Harvest Garden Market

-Held our Annual Bake Sale in December

-Held our Christmas Communion Service to which the congregation was invited. Rev. Kate presided; Lynn Wack was our organist for the service.

I hope I didn't forget anything. I am terrible with technology in general!

Linda McCullough

Blackville UCW Report 2025The Blackville UCW consists of 9 members. Meetings were generally held at the home of President, Lois Grady.

Even though the group is small and composed of retired women, it is active in the life of the church. The group catered a dinner for the retired nurses and prepared plates and served a dinner for a wedding reception. Several funeral receptions were catered. The group also provided two "Soups On" meals. The menu at the winter dinner included baked beans, sausages, coleslaw, biscuits and ginger bread. In the fall we served sweet and sour chicken, oven baked rice, peas and apple crumble. Punch and cookies were made available to those attending the cemetery tours during the summer.

A donation was made to the firemen for the parade and to the Legion, for Remembrance Day. Flowers were placed in the church at Easter and Christmas. A \$50 bursary was provided to four graduates in June. Donations were made to the church in memory of deceased members and others. Also, a donation was made to the general fund account of the church and a donation was made to Operation Smile.

Members took part in the World Day of Prayer service held at St. Andrew's and provided a lunch following the service.

At Christmas, we gave cans of cookies and chocolates to shut-ins and some seniors. Also, at Christmas, gifts were given to two needy families. Other gifts were given throughout the year.

The UCW members met in December at Burke's for a chicken dinner and fellowship. The group would like to encourage other women of the church to join the UCW. Also, the group extends birthday wishes to president, Lois Grady, who will be 100 on Jan. 15, 2026.

Respectfully submitted, Penny Curtis

Keswick Ridge

Keswick Ridge UCW had a very busy and successful year. We held three meetings over Zoom during the winter months, and met in person for the following months, except for July and August when we take the summer break.

Some of the highlights were 1. Presenting the 100 Anniversary UCW church service to our congregation on March 2nd and hosting a luncheon following for everyone who attended. 2. Two very successful fundraisers; a Plant Sale in the spring and our usual Fall Bazaar. 3. Hosting a special gathering of local UCW guests in September when President Betty Ann Watts and one of our Past Presidents, Anna Peters joined us for our meeting and time of Fellowship. 4. Planning Retirement Luncheon on the retirement of our minister, Rev. David Luker in June. 5. Our December meeting was in the form of a gathering of UCW friends as well as spouses for a lovely dinner, time of fun games and Christmas reflection. Continuing Outreach programs included, *Fredericton Community Kitchen*, *Greener Village Foodbank*, *Just Friends Food Bank in Stanley*, sponsored child *World Vision*, *Support for Grace House Women's Residence and St. John House Men's Residence in the way of Christmas Gift Bags*, *25 Baby Bags distributed through Greener Village Food Bank*, *Christmas Cheer bags for elderly and shut-in within our community*, *Angel Tree Outreach for local Christmas families* as well as continuing support when required for needs within our community throughout the year. We continue our Card ministry throughout the year as well. Each meeting begins with a devotional time, followed by our business portion and closing out with a program and fellowship. Programs this past year have included special guests over our Zoom meetings, including Nick Hawkins, local wildlife filmmaker and National Geographic Explorer. He shared his latest project with us of tracking the Atlantic Salmon's life cycle, a continuing work that has taken him from Greenland and back. It is planned that Nick will join us at the AGM in April for a Presentation. Other programs included a local couple who have begun a large orchard, flower producing farm near us called, *Laughing Apple Farm* taking us on a virtual tour of their establishment; A card making session where we produced over 20 cards to be used within our *Card Ministry*; *organizing a "sewing day"* at the church when ladies gathered, with their sewing machines and spent the day sewing their own crafty projects together; joining our oldest member (96) at her present home in Shannex for her birthday luncheon for our June closing outing; a special Christmas evening with special guests when we had a wonderful evening of fun games, dinner and a Christmas reflection in our beautifully decorated sanctuary. We are very grateful for a wonderful year of faith, fellowship and service together.

Kingsley – Birdton UCW

In 2025, we had six meetings, starting with repeating our Purpose, then devotions, which we all take turns preparing. Our business meetings consist mainly in discussing ways we can help with Fundraising for our church, Kingsley United. Our projects include preparing and serving meals for the local Seniors Group; making pickles for sales; preparing and delivering cookie and fruit trays for shut-ins. Our Christmas party consisted of dinner out at Swiss Chalet. In stead of exchanging gifts, we took up a donation for a church member who was receiving Radiation treatments. We conducted the service in June to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada.

In March we answered Roll Call with personal care products for women and children. This accompanied a generous monetary donation to Women in Transition House. We also donated to Fredericton Homeless Shelters, Dr Everett Chalmers Hospital Foundation and the Salvation Army. As always we enjoy the lunches and Fellowship of our meetings We are a small group but very supportive of each other!

On September 11, our group was invited to Keswick Ridge UCW to welcome our MUCW President, Betty Ann Wats. Also present were Anna Peters, MUCW Executive member and was President of Chignecto District. A wonderful time of fellowship, information and devotions. And, of course, a delicious lunch.

Respectively submitted, Nellie Wilson

St. Marks

Two of our seven meetings were potluck luncheons which we all enjoyed. Our members contributed \$280 to Mission and Service. One Sunday a month a member shares a M&S story with our congregation. We gave \$500 to our Brown Bag Lunch program, an outreach program which provides lunches for two of our local schools and to three non-profit agencies.

We launched our Treasured Mothers book on Mother's Day. It commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the UCC. The proceeds from the sales enabled us to make a donation of \$494 to M&S and 11 community groups each received \$400.

In January, we had two guest speakers, a registered nurse and a pharmacist, from the Market Place Wellness Center. They explained the various programs offered at their location.

In March, our guest speaker was a congregation member who is the Living Donor Coordinator for Horizon Health Network. She gave an informative talk on Living Kidney Donations.

In April, we had guest speakers, one from NB Lung Association and one from Radon Plus, who spoke on the concerns of radon and the importance of testing our homes.

For June 1, our UCW led the congregation in worship. Also in June, we hosted the Saint John Chorale Society's Spring Concert.

In October, our guest speaker was our churches 55+ Program Coordinator who spoke on all the new programs now offered at St. Mark's.

The evening of November 30, the First Day of Advent, we held our 14th Annual Service of Memories. This service gives people the chance to celebrate the memory of those no longer with us. Colored lights on our white tree are lit during the service when names are read. The tree remains lit during Advent. We received \$4,500 in donations in memory of loved ones.

In December, we hosted The Lift Community Concert. During the year, we coordinated receptions and prepared tea/coffee and juice for three funerals.

Upper Little Ridge UCW

The UCW of Upper Little Ridge met in 2025 for 12 regular unit meetings. Our Unit had three members (1 life member) at the beginning of the year. Sadly, our Life Member, Maybelle Pomeroy, passed away in January. The average attendance at meetings was 2. We enjoyed the company of a guest at one of our meetings.

Devotions presented throughout the year were taken from such Publications as 'Be the Miracle', the Heritage Book', Don't Sweat the Small Stuff', The Big Book of God's Little Instructions, and the Women's Inter-Church Council newsletter. Our Community Outreach Committee is active in the surrounding area. We sent greetings to 11 regular individuals and other community members on appropriate occasions.

We are a small group committee to our community and surrounding area. As a unit, we made financial contributions to 8 Not-for-Profit organizations, 2 local scholarship funds, 5 local appeals for special projects, made Memorial donations to Lincourt Manor and Scotch Ridge United Church Building Fund, 4 annual community events and 1 National Church Appeal.

Members participate in and /or contribute to our United Church Community of Faith, Fall Fair, Western Charlotte Volunteer Fire Department events, Kirk-McColl community take-out lunches, and fundraising activities at Lonicera Hall. As environmental concerns are important to us, members donate time and items to the Food Bank, Neighbourhood Works, Transition House, SPCA, the Boys and Girls Club, Lonicera Hall, Milltown Elementary School and various other appropriate local appeals.

Respectfully Submitted, Katherine Reid, Secretary

Hampton UCW

The Hampton United Church Women's group consists of 19 women who meet on a regular basis. Our meetings are well attended and this is not done as a duty but rather as a time that we cherish and look forward to being together. This year we are very pleased that our minister, Rev Gneid Lackey, has joined our group as an active UCW member. We welcome her participation and support.

We continue to support and care for one another as well as for members of the congregation through sending cards to mark celebrations as well as sympathy and get-well cards. We also purchase roses that are presented to parents and grandparents to welcome new babies.

Providing receptions following a funeral in our church is something that we feel called to do. There is no set fee for this as we consider it to be a part of our mission of service and caring for grieving families. Families often donate to UCW to help defray the costs of the reception.

We are a busy group! We have catered meals for outside groups meeting in our church, catered for an 80th birthday party and provided lunch at Vendor Markets. We have also provided lunch for the congregation after the church

service. These activities are not frequent events but we enjoy working together and the meals are appreciated by all.

The Quilting Group is an offshoot of UCW. Funds raised by this group go to the UCW.

We took part in the World Day of Prayer event this past year. There was a very good turnout from our church.

In the Spring we presented a church service for the congregation titled UCW Worship Service for the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. The theme of that service was "Here I Am!". The service provided for the use of UCW groups was adapted to allow all members of our group to have speaking parts so that we were all involved in this event.

As a result of our fundraising activities, we are able to support our church as we maintain a yearly commitment of giving \$2000 to the General Fund and \$1000 to Mission and Service. We are able to help out as other needs arise in our church as well as donating money to service groups and families in need in our local community. This year we were able to make significant donations to seven local groups that provide important services.

Due to rising food costs, our church now has a Sharing Shelf which is available to the public. As a UCW group, we have provided funds to help keep the shelves stocked.

We are indeed fortunate to have such a large group of women who so willingly and generously give of their time, talent and treasure. Working as a group, we know we are able to touch many lives and accomplish good things. We are thankful for the many women and men in our congregation who support our efforts with food, crafts, time and donations. This support makes our efforts possible and we would not be able to succeed without this assistance. Thank you to everyone!

St David's United, Rothesay, NB

The UCW unit at Saint David's United Church has had a very active and fulfilling year! There are currently 29 members, 25 of which are active members.

The new president Barbara Ryan was installed in March.

Many thanks to Margaret Prime, (the outgoing president) who served in the role for the past 10 years.

The focus this year has been on outreach and support within our own church community.

Monies (approximately \$5000.00) has supported two families in need, and monthly support to the Blessings Box. Purchases of underwear and toilet paper have been made for the Clothing Depot. Hats and mittens for the Mitten Tree and school supplies have also been purchased. A donation was also made to Sleep on Heavenly Peace for bedding.

The UCW has catered three funerals this past year, have had their annual Food Sale and Bring and Buy Auction.

In June, the UCW presented the church service commemorating the 100 years of the United Church of Canada. It was titled "Here I Am"

Also members have participated in World Day of Prayer.

St Paul's., Fredericton

The UCW are now working within a shared ecumenical ministry, partnering closely with others while focusing primarily on shared events and activities. This collaborative approach has strengthened connections across

congregations and allowed the UCW to continue its mission of fellowship, service, and outreach in meaningful ways.

Over the past year, the UCW organized and supported several shared events. These included a yard sale fundraiser, a Mother's Day Tea, a Christmas Bazaar, a rummage sale. And an annual mincemeat project. Each event reflected the dedication, teamwork, and generosity of the UCW members, as well as their commitment to working together in an ecumenical setting.

St James United, Woodstock NB

This year we had guest speakers from Canada Grains Food Bank and Nursing Homes Without Walls. We participated in the 100th Anniversary Celebrations by making a banner to represent our group, and raising money for the Canada Food Grains Bank. We continue to purchase condiments for after church social time, and support church activities by providing refreshments (eg. Sharing the Music Night and the Cantata)

We delivered Valentines to some church members; donated backpacks to the Food Bank for their homeless program; provided cake, ice cream, cards and arranged entertainment (ukulele group) for the Manor birthday party in October; coordinated two funeral receptions; and donated plants and maintained the memorial garden.

To raise funds we held a Fashion Show in May and November and a bring and buy auction at our Christmas party. Monetary donations were made to Canada Food Grains Bank, Valley Food Bank, Mission and Service, Stained Glass Window Fund, and to three local schools food programs.

In May we enjoyed dinner out with some of our senior UCW members and our Christmas gathering was held at Angela Young's.

Thank-you to others in the congregation who help make our events a success by donating their time, talents, and baking.

Submitted by, Gail Lawrence

St Stephen, Kirk McColl United

We held two potluck lunches in March and October and catered to seven funerals. We sold tickets on a gift card tree. At our September General Meeting, we had a guest speaker, Steve Backman who is Chair of the Hospital Foundation. He gave a very interesting talk with slide show about plans for the Charlotte County Hospital. On November 8th we held a successful Christmas Bazaar. We sold crocheted angels to place on a Christmas Tree in the foyer of the church. We delivered and mailed Christmas cards to shut-ins and older members of the congregation. We made donations to Santa's Helpers, the Hospital Foundation and Walk for the Cure. The Sunshine Unit collected baby items and cereal for the Food Bank.

UPPER LITTLE RIDGE UNITED CHURCH WOMEN 2025- ANNUAL REPORT The United Church Women of Upper Little Ridge met in 2025 for 12 regular unit meetings. Our Unit had 3 members (1 Life Member) at the beginning of the year. Sadly, our Life member, Maybelle Pomeroy, passed away in January. The average attendance at meetings was 2. We enjoyed the company of a guest at 1 of our meetings. Devotions presented throughout the year were

taken from such publications as "Be the Miracle", "the Heritage Book", "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff", "The Big Book of God's Little Instructions, and the Women's Inter-Church Council newsletter. Our Community Outreach Committee is active in the surrounding area. We sent greetings to 11 regular individuals and other community members on appropriate occasions. We are a small group committed to our community and the surrounding area. As a Unit, we made financial contributions to 8 Not-for-profit organizations, 2 local scholarship funds, 5 local appeals for special projects, made Memorial donations to Lincourt Manor and Scotch Ridge United Church building fund, 4 annual community events, and 1 National United Church appeal. Members participate in and/or contribute to our United Church Community of Faith, Fall Fair, Western Charlotte Volunteer Fire Department events, Kirk-McColl community take-out lunches, and fundraising activities at Lonicera Hall. As environmental concerns are important to us, members donate time and items to the Food Bank, Neighbourhood Works, Transition House, SPCA, the Boys and Girls Club, Lonicera Hall, Milltown Elementary School, and various other appropriate local appeals. Respectfully Submitted, Katherine Reid, Secretary

Bermuda Nova Scotia Regional Council

Regional council met in person on October 29th and 30th 2025 at Trinity United Church in New Glasgow. After devotion based on Luke 9, we got to work discussing Governance. Topics included: Understanding our roles, Key legal duties of Governors, Governance practices, and exploring tools and resources. We looked at the big picture to ensure our purpose is achieved. In smaller table groups we discussed, Who are we accountable to? Governance should be moveable and flexible, are we? Some questions that arose from the discussions. Do we sometimes use governance as a distraction from the real work? We are the visionaries, are we seeing the big picture? What can we let go of? Are we seeing ourselves as part of something bigger? How do we support the best and deepest frame of mind? As governors we need more communication with our congregations. We need to articulate the regions purpose, and ensure there is progress, while managing the risks and with full accountability. The purpose of governance is to enable the Region to live out God's call and vision for the church in the world. Things we still want to work on: Strategic Geographic planning; Improve communication from Governance to management to communities of faith; taking church out into the community. The second day we discussed what makes a church vital and how does it show vitality. We are seeking to realize a vision of vitality at the region. The remainder of the day was our regular business meeting. We discussed the Tatamagouche centre. The Women of First Light, need more time to obtain funding to be able to continue the Tatamagouche centre as a place of learning and healing. The buildings have been closed down for the winter with maintenance to ensure no further deterioration. Some of the buildings need renovations to bring them up to code for safety. One may need to be taken down. The plans for rematriation remain although delayed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Piper, MUCW Rep - BNS Regional Council

Prince Edward Island United Church Women 2025

Berwick Camp Cookies: UCW groups from across PEI supplied cookies (maybe 150 dozen) and \$720 in cash for the UCW cottage at Berwick.

Fall Gathering Trinity UCW members organized a fall gathering for 50 UCW members across PEI on Saturday October 4th. Louise Elder, musical director at TUC led the group with some hymn singing followed by a worship led by Elaine Burrows. Louise then introduced the group to several new hymns from the new music resource: "Then Shall We Sing." Corina Bolo from Northport, PEI had a presentation entitled "Lessons from Elephants." A soup, biscuit and apple crisp lunch followed. In the afternoon, Ann Piper (vice-president of Maritime UCW) and Myra Thiemann (secretary of MUCW) gave updates from MUCW and the national UCW meeting held in September in Toronto. The event wrapped up around 1:30 p.m.

October 17th Another fall gathering is planned for Saturday Oct. 17th at Trinity United Church in Summerside. More details to come.

Reports from PEI UCW groups:

Alberton-Elmsdale UCW – Alberton, PE

They lost two long-time members within a week in December. They participated in the World Day of Prayer service in Tignish last year, and will host the service this year. They conducted the noon Lenten service in Alberton. In August, 31 women of different denominations in the area were invited out to lunch at a local restaurant, a tradition that has gone on for over twenty years. Seven members attended the fall gathering in October in Summerside.. They conducted a Thank offering/100th anniversary service in October. In June and December, they invite women of the area to join them for worship and lunch. They support local groups with monetary donations, and remember those who are ill or in mourning.

Bedeque UCW #4 Bedeque PC, PE

The group catered to three funeral receptions, a Lenten lunch, and soup for a World Development event. They give financial help to anyone going to Camp Abby, and donate to Lights for Life.

Freetown UCW, Bedeque North PC, PE

With six members, they catered to a funeral reception, helped with the yard sale, did a bake sale and take-out meal. They donate to the food bank, and sponsor two children to Camp Abby, and make some local donations. Members knit prayer shawls for seniors and shut-ins.

Lot 16 UCW Bedeque North PC, PE

This group had 5 luncheon meetings, and made donations to a number of groups. Items needed for the kitchen and washrooms are donated. Mail sympathy cards, etc. Collect used greeting cards for homes for crafts. Collected mittens for Miscouche school. They hosted the 2025 World Day of Prayer service, and had a stay at home tea to raise funds for M & S. They welcomed a new member!

Lot 14 UCW - Bideford PC, PE

They said good-bye to Ruth MasLennan, a steadfast, caring and compassionate UCW member who left a legacy and example that they will try to continue. They met 5 times. In June they cleaned the church, and help look after the needs of the church. Decorations - angels and lights and candles and a Christmas tree remind those passing of the light that shines into the darkness. The Angel Tree service on Nov. 30th was well attended with choir and UCW members and others sharing in the memorial service. They donate to various causes. A small group but enjoy their fellowship and time together.

Central Queens United Church – Central Unit - Hunter River, PE

They supported and attended the church week-end at Camp Abby. Made cookies for Berwick camp., Supported a number of projects. Provide cheer boxes to sick and shut-ins at Christmas time. Attended the World Day of Prayer service at the Rosewood Residence. Members have devotion, Bible study and a circle of prayer at their meetings.

Central Queens United Church – Queen Unit - Hunter River, PE

The group met 6 times and had 4 joint meetings with the Central unit. They have evening meetings either at the church or a member's home. Meetings include worship, program, and other activities. There were presentations on the history of the UC, the anatomy of the UCC crest, along with a joint UCW meeting, and 100th anniversary cake. A variety of cards are sent out. Prayer shawls and lap blankets are knit or crocheted and given out. Baby blankets and Bibles are provided at baptism. Members attended the World Day of Prayer service at the Glasgow Road Presbyterian church. Two members provide leadership in the Sunday School rotation during the year. They attended the funeral for Joan Gail Bernard, a life member.

Central Trinity UCW Breadalbane PE

They catered to two funeral receptions, had a bring and buy sale, and donated to the local food bank. They donated towards Berwick cookies, and donated to several other groups.

Kensington United Church UCW – Kensington, PE

They meet 6 times a year with a breakfast/brunch in June and December extending an invitation to the women of the congregation. There is a Ladies retreat at Camp Abby which many members attend. Several attended the fall gathering in Summerside. They no longer cater to funeral or weddings, etc. Several dozen cookies and cash were sent to Berwick Camp.

Park Royal UCW – Charlottetown, PE

They lost 16 UCW members this year. The three units have a combined membership of 20. Many others in the church help out with events. The three groups meet four times a year with an annual meeting. They participate in the World Day of Prayer service and will host this year. They held two successful cookie sales. They contributed cookies to Berwick. They have a congregational pot luck at Park Royal nine times a year.

South Shore United – Tryon, PE

They have 4 individual members.

Southwest River UCW, Margate, PE

They had a guest speaker who showed slides and told of trip to Isreal and the Holy Land. They send out greeting cards, made pennants and banners to honour graduating students, hosted the World Day of Prayer service for the area. They led the service celebrating the 100th anniversary of the UCC. Had two supper meetings at a restaurant, donated to several groups, and catered to funeral receptions, and provided Christmas treats to those 80+”

Spring Park UCW – Charlottetown, PE

Their activities included donating paper products to Anderson House, hosting a tea party and social for UCW of the former 2, 3, and 4 united, hosting a strawberry and ice cream social in July, and supplying cookies to Camp Berwick. Unit 5 assisted with church projects: yard sale lobster supper, ice cream social, pickle making, soup lunch and the holiday market. They enjoyed lunch out in May and late November.

St Andrew's UCW Vernon Bridge, PE

This group of 16 members are very active with their church and community and are grateful for their social convener. 425 lobster rolls, salad and desserts were sold on May 31. They catered a lobster supper for 80. They continue their shawl ministry, a “Sunshine Basket” to those being baptized at St. Andrew's, have a card ministry, host funeral receptions. They clean the kitchen, decorate the church for the annual Thank offering service in October. They contribute to the general funds of their church, the memorial fund in memory of deceased members, and gifts for the minister and administrative assistant plus other groups.

St John's United UCW – Mount Stewart PC, PE

They had 3 meetings, but catered to 10 functions. Had their annual pot luck in June, and donated to a number of local groups (students, breakfast programs, QEH, Mission & Service.) There is gathering at Christmas, and gifts are collected for the residents of Gillis' Lodge.

Trinity United Church – Charlottetown, PE

They lost 7 members last year. Speakers included one speaking on her career, a senior navigator, the two ministerial candidates (who were each given a bursary), a yoga demonstration, environment and water management, and on Remembrance Day. They helped with the Lenten luncheon, the Christmas Fair, communion clean-up, and funeral receptions. They attended World Day of Prayer and the fall gathering in Summerside.

Trinity United Church UCW – Summerside, PE

Our numbers are shrinking and we can only do what we do with help from members of the congregation. We led two church services, one in April and the other in July. We meet monthly except July, August and December. We catered to 10 funeral receptions this year. We prepared and hosted a breakfast after the early Easter service. For the 100th anniversary, we organized a reception in the hall, and the welcome center at the back of the church. We made some cookies for Berwick camp and found a way to get them there. We provided refreshments for the adult VBS in August. We organized the fall rally in Oct. (see above), and provided refreshments after the Remembrance Day service. In November we teamed up with the Faith in Action team and prepared Jars of Soup (2 kinds) and Jars of Cookies (2 kinds) and prepared a soup lunch on Dec. 14. The jars were sold in minutes. We gathered up all the mittens, etc. and distributed them locally. It is not all work. On the third Tuesday of the month, UCW members and friends go out to lunch year-round. The only thing that stops us is a funeral reception or a storm. We go locally in winter, and a wander east or west in the bare roads season. Our numbers vary, and there is a different combination of people each time but it is good to get to know each other better.

Hillcrest UCW - Montague PC, Montague, PE

They meet regularly and many of their activities provide a community service or involve fund-raising working with the ways and means committee. They had five funeral receptions this year. On Feb. 15th, they had a tea complete with the fine China dishes for 90 people. On March 15th (almost St. Patrick's Day), they had a sit-in beef stew supper. In April, there was the annual on-line auction and donated 40% of the profit (\$2400) to the Southern Kings Food Bank. In May, they presented their newly ordained minister with a stole and celebrated with food! There was Alzheimer's walk (1st one) where they raised over \$1,000.00, and their annual bake and plant sale. May ended with a bridal shower. In June, members were involved with the eastern PEI 100th anniversary celebration of the UCC. A lobster/ham supper in June served over 200 meals. They had their "Basement Sale" in Sept., a popular stop on the 70-mile yard sale in eastern PEI. They had a bridal shower and a wedding reception in September. In November, there was a turkey and ham supper for 270. They have a variety of programs through the year. They are generous donations given to a number of groups in the area. They are a very busy group -planning for the next event before the current event has happened.

Cornwall UCW – West River PC, Cornwall, PEI

With 6 members, they meet monthly and donate to several groups. They oversee the kitchen, the parlour, and place flowers and change the liturgical colours in the sanctuary. They end their meetings using material from the Women's Inter-Church council and continue to give to that group even though the Fellowship of the Least coin has been discontinued. They will attend a World Day of Prayer service at the Presbyterian church. Rev. Doreen was the guest speaker at the 100th anniversary service with participation from members and former

members. They supplied cookies for Berwick, and cleaned up areas of the church. Their year-end gathering was cancelled due to the weather. They continue to witness through fellowship and service.

Victoria West UCW – Wellington PC

They had their annual 'Spring Fling' and "Fall Ball." They made a monetary donation to Berwick camp for cookies, donated items to Camp Abby, the Tyne Valley and area caring cupboard, the Ellerslie school breakfast and "snack' cupboard, and the Mary Bernard's Women shelter. In August, they led a worship service.

Winsloe UCW – Winsloe, PEI

Highlights were the UCW group going out for lunch, and their annual advent potluck service with the congregation. They collect gifts for the patients at Hillsboro Hospital in Charlottetown.

Central United Church, Dunstaffnage, York-Covehead PC

This UCW group organized a food drive for the local food bank, supported the cookies for Berwick camp with a monetary donation, and cookies for VBS. They provided biscuits and muffins for a church meeting and invited people of the charge to a mental health presentation. They helped with an on-line fundraiser for their church, and put up and took down the Christmas tree and prepared for the Hanging of the Greens service.

There have been guest speakers. Jane Baird, Sandy Webster, Rev. Alicia Wall and Lisa Tiller spoke on their areas of outreach.

Thanks to Andrea MacNeil for craft nights!

Also, there was games night where Bible Pictionary and Women's Ministry Bingo were enjoyed.

The social dinners out were enjoyed at Swiss Chalet and The China Wok. These outings were very well attended.

UCW is for all women of our congregation, and the door is wide open for all.

Meetings are held on the 3rd. Wednesday of each month, at 7:00 pm in the Church Parlour.

CAPE BRETON DISTRICT

MacMillan Unit UCW- First United Church, Louisbourg

2025 was another busy year for UCW. We started up with our annual Soup and Carrot Cake Take Out in February followed by a sale of Fishcake & Beans in April. Lots of hard work but both were successful. With everyone's support, our online auction was quite a success again this year. Thank you to all who supported this endeavour. Special thanks to Denise and Rev. Emily for the tech support. During the summer, we, once again catered to the Louisbourg Race Through Time. It's always an event we look forward to. A Roast Beef Dinner during Celtic Colours in October and a Christmas Tea and Sale in November rounded out the year.

The UCW is always pleased to help others whenever possible and 2025 was no exception. We provided gifts and treats for our Sunday School children and supported the Messy Church program. A Senior's Supper was held in December. A very sincere Thank You to Florian Bryan for donating the vegetables for this dinner and to

Mahon's Mechanical for their donation of turkey. Such generous donations!! It was especially nice to have Jack Ettinger join us and share his music with us.

'We always remember the sick and shut-ins at Christmas and other times through the year. We were pleased to be able to support an Adopted Child through the Children Believe. As in previous years, a treat of gingerbread cookies and candy canes were handed out on Christmas Eve.

We are always happy to support the church financially whenever possible. This year, we were able to give \$17,300.00 to the General Fund and \$578.90 to the Mission and Service Fund from the Taste the Rainbow Program.

One of the many great characteristics of our congregation is the willingness of the members to step up and help whenever needed. It is because of this that the UCW is able to do so many things. We always have a great group of young people who show up to help. Thank you all We look forward to this continued support in 2025!

Special thanks to Rev. Emily Duggan and Tim Kelly for their leadership and support in all our endeavours once again this year. It's so nice to have Rev. Emily present at our meetings guiding us as we carry out our regular activities and encouraging us to try new things. Thank you, Rev. Emily.

Our officers for 2024 were. President-Starr Price, Vice President/Secretary Caroline Pitcher, Treasurer-Dot Blanchard and will continue in 2026. Wishing everyone a healthy and safe 2026!

Starr Price, President UCW, First United Church

North Highlands, Dingwall

We had an online auction that took in \$9,000.00 as a fundraiser for our church. We also had a block draw that took in \$1,000.00 for our own UCW. We welcomed a new minister, Heather Cronhelm.

EASTERN NS DISTRICT

St Andrew's United, Truro Hilda Wright Unit

The Hilda Wright Unit of St Andrew's Church UCW was thrilled to be able to give \$3000.00 to our church during 2025.

We also gave \$500.00 to the Colchester Food Network.

We collected and delivered 54 pairs of warm socks during the winter to the Homeless Shelter.

We continue our ministry of providing funeral receptions when requested.

Middle Sackville , NS

Meetings 4 times

Conducted Worship service to honour the UCW Centennial

Fund raiser Fall Brunch & Auction

Christmas gift bags for selected congregation members

Ruth Bona

Hilden UCW

Had guest speakers from Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre and invited UCW from Old Barns to join us.

Great informative afternoon, great attendance and the Centre received many gift cards and items they could use, as they are a nonprofit organization and this will help them greatly in their work. We have had a few outstanding worships this past year.

Trinity UCW Annual Report, Oxford

In 2025 we started out the year with 13 members. The executive consisted of president Heather MacDonald, Secretary Nancy MacDonald, Treasurer Faye Wood. One of our members Mary LeMaistre has not been able to return. She had had a fall and broke her hip and has had a difficult recovery. However, Ethel Piercey has joined us full time. At the end of the year we lost a member Audrey Selkirk. Audrey was an avid supporter of UCW throughout the years serving on the executive as president or secretary for many years. She represented us at Presbyterial faithfully and took on many fundraising efforts for Trinity. She spearheaded the raising of funds for the repair of the stained glassed windows in the sanctuary and for the new metal roof. Audrey went above and beyond not only for the UCW but for the congregation of Trinity. She represented the UCW right up to the time of death in Dec, making sure that everything was set for our Christmas Tea and Craft Sale. Audrey had many struggles in the last few years but always maintained her faith in our Community of Faith. She will be greatly missed.

We started out the year by presenting the church service on Feb 9th in Rev Dale Skinner's absence. This year celebrates the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada and a service written especially for UCW groups was used.

We donated money to the general funds of the church twice, \$1500.00 and \$2500.00 respectively. Myra Thiemann has represented on the MUCW and is in fact their secretary. Heather MacDonald is also now a member at Large on the MUCW. Myra attended the National Conference for the UCW in Ontario. Heather and Myra also attended the Annual Conference of the UCW held in Bedford in the spring,

We catered to two Funeral Receptions by providing the Tea and Coffee, cold drinks. The food however was catered to by caterers found by the Funeral Home. The receptions were for Byron MacDonnell and Audrey Selkirk.

We had a successful Yard sale in the Spring raising \$875.00, and a Rock a Thon in the fall raising \$3515.00, and the Christmas Tea and Craft Sale raising \$926.00. With our successful year we were able to increase our contribution to Mission and Service from \$500.00 to \$700.00. We donated money also to the IWK Telethon, The Christmas Food Boxes and Light the Way with Cumberland Health. We continue to host the Luncheons after Church, send out cards to those who are unwell, and sympathy cards. Christmas cards were provided to the residents of Sunset Home. This year we provided cards for 63 residents. At each meeting we collected food items for the local Food bank. It has been a busy and productive year.

Respectfully submitted: Heather MacDonald(president)

Trinity United Church Women, Upper Onslow

At each meeting we opened with the UCW purpose followed with a worship and closed with the UCW prayer- A different member did the worship service.

An average attendance of 12•was present at each meeting. A program was also held at each meeting with different members participating,

We have had a busy fun-filled year. _____

Muffins and juice were served before the Easter morning Church service. Coffee and conversation were held twice following the Church service (May & December). Hosted by the UCW group. In May a Salad plate was served and in December a potato scallop and ham plate and hosted the retirement party for Rev. Glenn and Margie MacLean. For fund raising a penalty calendar was done each day for a month and a Christmas stocking was done from January to December with a verse inside the stocking and money put in for a year.

A Church service in July was done by the UCW on the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada.

The UCW sent out approximately 50 Christmas cards to seniors in the community 80 years and over with a verse and teabag inside.

We regret that one of our members passed away this year and was actively involved in the group. A moment of silence and prayer was given with a donation to the Church fund.

Donations during the year were made to the Church fund, the Mission and Service fund and the Christmas index program.

The Session had giving trees in the Church and the UCW gave to that project with approximately 150 scarves, mitts, socks, etc. distributed to different organizations.

Harmony- Camden

Our unit had a busy year once again in the year of 2025. ___Some of our activities included Secret Pals Exchange in February. Always a fun social time. A multicultural speaker regarding “How much do you know about our country, Canada?” A St. Patrick’s Day Tea – very well attended by our ladies in the community and beyond. We made Easter Hats and Fascinators to wear to church and also wore our Fascinators to a “High Tea” put on by the ladies of the local IODE branch. We made” Mother’s Day” corsages for the UCW members and others attending our church service. Several of our members visited at Berwick UCW camp day this past July. This year was in honour of Letha Mowatt, a former UCW member from Brookfield. We ended our year with a “Christmas Tea in Harmony”. Also, throughout the year we support the Third Place Transition House for women and children and Souls Harbour here in the Truro area.

Pat Mattatall, UCW President

UCW Friendship Unit CUC Annual Report 2025

The CUC UCW meets on the second Monday of the month from September to June. The meetings have both a worship, business and social component. We welcome new members at any time throughout the year. This year we have had two members pass away, Myrna Tozer and Janice Swan and their loss is felt in our group. On January 18, the UCW presented a Prayers for Peace service for local UCW members and others shared information on the Fellowship of the Least Coin, an initiative represented in Canada by the Women’s Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC). Participants were provided with information and left with challenge to follow this practice. A small but dedicated few provided funds for this work.

Our local World Day of Prayer service was hosted by the CUC UCW at Brunswick Street United Church on Friday March 7, 2025. The theme was “I Made You Wonderful” Psalm 139: 1-18. The materials were prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of the Cook Islands.

The three-day annual meeting of the Maritime UCW were hosted by the Halifax District and held at Bedford United Church on April 25-26, 2025. The theme was “Here We Are” and the theme speaker was Natalie Moyes. CUC UCW president, Krista Stott-Jones and Brenda Theakston from our unit attended.

On July 31st, Krista Stott-Jones attended UCW Day at Camp Berwick, Berwick, NS. There was a UCW service lead by Ann Piper with Guest speaker Karen Oliveto a retired Bishop of the United Methodist Church, USA who was minister in residence at Camp Berwick. She now resides in Pugwash NS. There was a gathering of memorial recognition of Letha Mowatt at the Cookie Cottage where her name will be on a plaque to honour her many years of dedication to the Cookie Cottage.

Our UCW unit felt it was time to change up our fundraisers for a new project. This year we held a Mother’s Day Tea on Saturday May 10. This was an eat in event with sandwiches and sweets and we were close to our limit of 100 attendees. The room was full of many ages with conversation and laughter filling the room. A gift basket was compiled with donations from UCW to be raffled off. We are grateful for support from Community United Church and Brunswick Street United Church congregation’s support for this fundraiser. With the profits realized,

we can continue to support so many outreach ventures in our church, community and beyond.

To the church community our UCW unit, sent out sympathy cards; birthday cards to those over 80 years old; gave care baskets to several members as they faced difficult events. Our past president Brenda Theakston resigned in fall 2025 and a card was sent to thank her for dedication to the UCW. A Mitten tree (also hats and socks) supported by the UCW, Outreach in BSUC and CUC and donations from Creation Café members. The items appropriate for school aged children are distributed to several local schools.

Our Unit has several initiatives to assist in our community. At our monthly meeting we rotate through providing donations to Third Place Transition House, Maggie's Place and the Foodbank. The Breakfast Programs at both Valley Elementary School and Redcliff Middle School are provided a monthly donation. In December the Unit provides a donation to our local Christmas Index and additionally individual members provide gift cards.

On 01 December 2025, the UCW Vespers service was held, followed by potluck supper and fellowship. Members of local UCW units, our congregation and friends were invited. It is lovely to have an evening service surrounded by Christmas decorations and lights in evening where the glow and warmth is more visible.

This year our unit donated to the UCW Memorial Fund in memory of Myrna Tozer (May 12, 2025) and we will also be submitting in memory of Janice Swan passing (December 13, 2025).

The Friendship Unit has included Mission and Service Fund and The Healing Fund with annual donation. We follow news from Maritime UCW and the National UCW.

Submitted by: Krista Stott-Jones, UCW Friendship Unit, President

Shalom, Shubenacadie

We are mostly a social group that raises money for various causes; however, we do have a spiritual part of our meetings. We led a church service in March for the 100th Anniversary. Our fund raisers (Penny Auction, Strawberry Shortcake sale and Pie Dough sale) were used to give funds to M & S and give gifts to four children from a Wish Tree at Christmas, among other causes.

Brookfield UNIT 7

Unit 7 met during the afternoons the first Tuesday of the month, with the exception of July and August. Sadly, two long-time and devoted members passed away during the year. Letha Mowatt and Lynn Matheson have been greatly missed.

In March we hosted the annual St. Patrick's Day Coffee Party, which has been an ongoing event in Brookfield for over 60 years. We had two informative programs with guest speakers — one from Hospice Society, and one by our fire Chief on Seniors Safety. Two Pot Luck lunches were enjoyed. At Christmas we filled a large Christmas sock for babies for the Christmas Index Program, and completed the Reverse Advent Calendar of dinner items for the Colchester Food Network.

Highlights from the Old Barns UCW Unit

Our UCW has a membership of 14 and we welcome visitors to join us. We meet the first Wednesday of each month in the Russell Room at 9:30 a.m.

Through out the year we had excellent guest speakers from the Alzheimer Society, the Wildlife Rehabilitation, , the Continuing Care Assistants and our journey with grief.

World Day of Prayer, written by the women of Cooks Islands, was held March 7 at Community United Church with five local churches participating. .

We learned about the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Women pray for justice, peace and reconciliation for girls and women anywhere in the world who are affected by gender-based violence and injustice. They contribute their countries "least coin" with every prayer.

We talked about the KAIROS Jubilee 2025 Movement and its initiative to cancel debt in low income countries and bring about global financial reform.

In June, we met at The Rustic Table for our June closing.

Kathy Hanna who enjoyed attending our meetings whenever she could, died in early July.

On September 21st, both Hilden and Old Barns UCW presented the worship service developed by the National UCW to celebrate the United Church's 100th anniversary in Old Barns.

It was decided we would make up ditty bags for women who are fleeing violence and are now in a safe shelter. We supported the Christmas Index program.

December 3rd, 19 women enjoyed a potluck meal and fellowship, ending with a candle lighting worship service. Hilden was unable to join us due to poor road conditions,

Twenty-four cookie trays were filled and delivered to those who needed some

Christmas cheer, due to recent surgery, illness or being house bound,

167 cards were sent out to keep in touch with those experiencing major life events.

The Healing Fund, our special charity for 2023 -27, which supports Indigenous families, completed a third project this summer. "Healing with Horses": healing grief and families impacted by substance abuse. As of September \$73,689, had been raised. A fourth project will be chosen in early 2026

Wesley St Matthew's, Pugwash

The Wesley St. Matthew's UCW hosted two worship services in 2025 including the United Church Women's-100th Anniversary of the United Church service and a service while the minister was on vacation.

We held two successful fundraisers and catered two funeral services.

We continue to provide financial support to the church general fund, benevolent fund, M&S, our elementary and High School (to assist students with needs identified by the administration). We also made a contribution to the NUCW special project Healing fund and Covenant House. In addition, we provided financial support to a Ukrainian family experiencing hardship due to a workplace injury.

We also had the pleasure of delivering tins of homemade treats and confections to several seniors in our community. We meet monthly for fellowship and study and host the coffee and conversation time following the worship service on the first of every month.

Ours is a small and aging but faith filled and dedicated group of women doing what we able within our community of faith and the wider community.

St James United, Antigonish

In 2025 we held regular meetings every two months. We were fortunate, in the spring to have a presentation from Kathryn Anderson, a representative of the Maritime Guatemala Breaking the Silence Network to discuss civil rights and economic realities of that region. We held an event in April - the Daffodil Luncheon; a fundraising meal open to the public. In the autumn we decided to change our schedule to just meet two or three times a year for business. As a result, we created a new position of social chair to coordinate any fun events that the women want to hold, as the women's group or for families. Our annual Holly Tea & Sale is our Christmas kickoff and takes place in November. This public fundraising event is always a huge hit in the church and the broader community. We ended 2025 with a luncheon for all the women in the church. We had 30 women in attendance and enjoyed a catered meal as a relaxing break from our personal Christmas prep.

St Paul's UCW Highlights ,Canso

Grab and Go breakfast at Stan Fest
Stanfest meal @ 20 people
Traveling apron for fundraiser for UCW funds go to support church
Last year UCW provided sizeable donation for roof repairs at the church
Summer Bean and Chili take out supper for \$10 a meal
Straw boot fundraiser
Turkey dinner towards end of the year
UCW contributes to foodbank through the year and provides turkeys for Christmas time.

Bethany United Church Halifax, NS

Bethany United Church has two active units: MacKinnon and Wilson Units

The MacKinnon Unit met every month except June, July, August and September. They have 15 members with an average monthly attendance of 12-13. Their meetings consist of worship, business and a programme offered by a member or sometimes an outside speaker. The Wilson Unit met four times in 2025. They continue to take over the organization of small Christmas gift bags that are distributed by our congregation Care Ministry Team and they hosted a very successful Jingle Brunch and Silent Auction in November.

HALIFAX DISTRICT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well time really flies. It is hard to believe that my term as your President has finally come to an end. I have enjoyed representing you in the district and on the Maritime level. I have attended every Maritime meeting, AGM's and Annual meeting. I have also been down to Berwick for UCW Wednesday every year, even the year there wasn't one due to Covid. We have managed so far to keep the district going but Joanne will have a challenging couple of years ahead trying to keep it going. I will be there to help, and I know our Maritime committee will help. Ann Piper will be our new Maritime president as of the end of April. She'll be sworn in at the AGM being held in New Brunswick. Please, as members, keep supporting your fellow units in the district. Bedford United loves to attend all of Fall River luncheons.

All three units have members that either dine in or take out. Bedford United will also continue to invite the other UCW's to their annual Candlelight Service in December. Last year it was also live streamed so members can watch it from home if they so choose. I would like to thank the district executive for all their help over the last few years. It hasn't been easy, but we've managed to keep going. We wish there were more of our area presidents or representatives able to attend district meetings, but we have managed to keep going with only five or six churches being represented. I will be still on the executive for the foreseeable future. Please give our incoming president your full support. Remember to invite her to events you may be holding. Woodlawn is great for this, but I know I would have enjoyed attending meetings or special events being held around the district. As president it lets you get to meet members from the other churches. Respectfully submitted, Lee-Anne Boulet, Halifax District President

Bedford United

The year started out in January with our annual general meeting where fifteen women attended. The Leadership for both the Lead Team and Units was introduced with Debbie Pryde continuing as the Team Lead and Sheryl Read as the rep for Fellowship. Towards the end of the year, due to family needs, Sheryl Read stepped down and Lynne Burrell joined as Fellowship's representative. Debbie Pryde provided the updated 2026 UCW Directory. Each of the Units had a busy year of worship, fellowship, fundraising, and socializing. Happy times were had by all. With happy times there are also some sad times. Sadly, Bev Deelstra's husband, Kais passed away in late 2025 after a short illness. The Lead Team had a busy year, meeting five times throughout 2025. The February meeting involved a broad overview of 2025 and what would be happening throughout the year. Main events scheduled to take place in 2025 were 1) World Day of Prayer (March 7th), 2) UCW Halifax area AGM (March 22nd), 3) Maritime UCW AGM (April 25-26th), 4) the spring worship & potluck dinner (May 5th), 5) UCW Fall Rally at St John's United Church (October 18th), 7) Christmas worship service & reception (December 3rd). The Lead Team made the decision, after ten good years an annual Unit rotation for the Team Lead a change was needed. Two options were proposed, 1) Debbie Pryde volunteered to be the Team Lead for a period of five years with a review after two years, 2) All units merge into one with the option to maintain the "old" unit individual events. For now it was voted to adopt option 1. 2026 is the beginning of the 3rd of 5 years for Debbie Pryde being the Team Lead. As noted in the 2024 annual report, the previous process of World Day of Prayer services in Bedford has also taken a change. The four main churches in Bedford no longer rotate hosting the service every four years. An alternate has not been presented; however, those who wish to can access various services on YouTube. The area UCW AGM was held on March 15th at Woodlawn United. Forty-eight ladies attended and enjoyed an interesting presentation by Ruth Kennedy. Bedford United was honoured to host the Maritime United Church Women AGM April.25-26th . The BUC UCW provided snacks, coffee and tea along with Friday's evening meal and Saturday's lunch. Over all, the event went well and no one went away hungry. On May 5th, we held our Spring Service. The service this year was presented by the Friendship Unit with Tony and the choir joining in. The collection, in the amount of \$210.00, went to Camp Kidston for their general funds. Fireside and Fellowship did their usual awesome job hosting the dinner part of the evening. The UCW Fall Rally was held on October 18th at St John's United Church. Jim Gunn and Karen Parnell representing Beacon House were the guest speakers. With the changes that have occurred at the church over the past couple of years it was decided not to have a UCW Sunday in October and the group would go all out at the annual Candlelight Service in December. Our Candlelight Service was held on December 3rd . Some cherished members of the choir joined the Fellowship Unit for a lovely worship service. The surrounding of the sanctuary in candlelight at the end of the service is always an emotional moment. This year the amount of \$433 was collected. This was donated to Beacon House. The service

was followed by fellowship in The Porch. Invitations went out to other UCW chapters in the Halifax area. We were happy to see new faces in the sanctuary, especially as the weather wasn't the greatest. Thank you to Fireside and Friendship for setting up and tearing down a joyful event. We would like to thank Heather Dickson for researching the purchase of new candles for our special services. It resulted in new beeswax candles being obtained. Although a bit more expensive they burn slower and are better for the environment. 2025 we said goodbye to our wonderful custodian, Brian Skelly. Over and above his scheduled work we were always able to count on him to help set up and tear down for the various events the UCW ladies held. These are big shoes to fill and will be working in 2026 to gather a group of wonderful volunteers who can do this task for us. BUC UCW had decided to take the lead of the WICC and no longer contribute to the Least Coin organization. It has come to our attention that, because it is beyond our control and knowledge exactly where the funds raised are sent, CRA could determine that this goes against the rules to maintain our charitable status. BUC UCW has not applied for charitable status as a group, however, the organization is closely attached to BUC and doing something to affect the churches status is something the group doesn't want to take responsibility for. To support both internal and external groups the Lead Team's monetary support: Halifax Presbyterial dues \$184.00; Camp Kidston general funds \$500.00; Brian Skelly retirement gift of \$100; Support of the Community Meal \$100; Support of the Social Team \$600.00; BUC general offering \$9,000; NUCW Mission & Service \$2000.00. 2026 Lead Team • Lead Debbie Pryde • Fellowship Lynne Burrell • Fireside Isobel Fleming • Friendship Sylvia Knox • Social Eleen Varner • District Lee Anne Boulet • Treasurer Ange Falkenham • In closing, I wish to thank the many people who volunteered for the good works provided by UCW over the year. Everything is greatly appreciated. Let's all look around and know that all involved with this wonderful organization are here because we want to be, because we are co-volunteers, because we are friends, because we are family.

Cole Harbour Woodside We participated in World Day of Prayer at Saint John XXIII. We continue to support the Finance Committee of CHWUC by giving \$2,500. We gave \$600 to Mission and Service and \$500 to the youth group to go to conference. We supported Phoenix House at Christmas by donating personal care items, clothing and gift cards. We supported our local Food Bank by giving \$600 to buy gift cards at Christmas. Fund raisers for the year were bake sales at Christmas and Easter. We hosted a Halifax District meeting in September. We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the United Church by doing a service in October. We dined out in June and December. It was a successful year. Thanks to all who helped make it possible living out their purpose.

Crossroads-St. James St. James UCW in Goodwood have 6 members. We have 2 honorary members that we stay in touch with, but they are unable to participate in our activities. So, despite our small numbers, and with help from our friends, we do keep very busy. Last year we conducted the service in the spring while our Minister was away. We had a successful apple pie fundraiser in the fall, made over 100 pies. We assist with our community outreach program, which is held once a month, yard and bake sale end of spring, assist in all our other fundraisers for the church and our highlight was helping to host our Christmas concert with collection of things to assist with the Brunswick Street Mission. Over the past year we assisted with the special project of a new huge front window for the church.

Crossroads-Trinity Met monthly sharing information and fun programs. Some members helped with a kitchen cleanup in the Spring. At Easter, we provided goody bags for 13 families (about 20 children) with candy and other treats to The Sunflower - Adsum for Women and Children. The residents were so excited to get the bags. We fund some organizations with small donations, but we did a couple bigger ones: we donated \$325 to Camp Kidston and \$500 to our Outreach Committee. Our very popular annual sweet boxes fundraiser at Christmas was cancelled in

2025 due to the high cost of baking ingredients. We had our usual June closing this time at East Foodies Chinese Restaurant and our Christmas potluck in our church hall in mid-December. A big highlight at the Christmas potluck was when Joyce Ward was presented with her life membership pin. She became a UCW member in 1966 and by 1990 her role expanded within the organization. Joyce has been a member with Trinity for only a couple of years, but we felt she was a very deserving member with her many years of active service, and she was thrilled with the recognition.

Fort Massey Fort Massey closed on December 28, 2025. We intend to have two final services in April/May so UCW will be involved with that. We are also doing coffee once in awhile at St Matthews. We will be involved in the shutting down of Fort Massey as a Church - we have a lot of cleaning and sorting to do. So, for now, we are maintaining our little unit - there are basically eight of us who do the actual work and two to three who support us. Eventually we will amalgamate with St Andrew's UCW and, of course, will have a brand-new name!! St. Matthews UCW closed many years ago. We would like to continue to receive news from Halifax District. Sally and I attended the last meeting at Bedford United and had a wonderful day.

St. Andrew's St. Andrew's UCW met eight times in 2025, and we welcomed three new members. We continue to invite members of Fort Massey UCW to attend our meetings. Four of the meetings featured a guest speaker or a presentation by a UCW member: • Louisa Horne of Epilog spoke about decluttering, organizing and downsizing. • Carolyn Slade led us in an exercise session. • Clara Miller and Gail Clarke spoke about the St. Andrew's Affirm Committee. • Janet de Saint Sardos and Elaine Gunn took us down memory lane as we looked through copies of women's magazines from the 1960s. Two meetings were primarily social in nature. We enjoyed a restaurant dinner in January, and in June, a catered lunch and our annual penny auction fund-raiser. During the year we organized receptions after three memorial services, supporting families at a difficult time while also raising money. We held Valentine and Christmas cookie sales on Sunday mornings, and in November we invited the congregation to participate in our annual Soup Challenge. In 2025 we took in about \$10,000 and made donations of about \$9,600, with the largest amounts going to the Brunswick Street Mission, the breakfast program at Joseph Howe School, St. Andrew's Operating Fund, Camp Kidston and St. Andrew's Sunday Suppers.

St. John's, Fall River St. John's United Church UCW continues to be a vibrant group striving to fulfil our purpose as UCW members. Our annual fundraising events included: a chowder luncheon on April 12th, 72nd annual Strawberry Festival on July 5th and Turkey-a-la-King Luncheon and Christmas Bazaar on November 29th. Other special events included: the annual potluck supper at the home of Barbara Graves in January, a Valentine's lunch for forty-five seniors, hosting the Halifax District UCW fall rally in October where thirty-two UCW members from Halifax District attended, we provided a meal to St. George's Soup Kitchen in May, our UCW closing dinner was held at the Turtleback in June, thirty-seven members of UCW and the congregation attended our annual potluck supper and candlelight service on December 9th. We held our May and November UCW meetings at Melville Heights at the home of Phyllis Fullerton. Our UCW group lead worship on August 17th and presented a service prepared for the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. During the year we catered receptions for six funerals/visitations. This year we lost one of our Life Members – Hazel MacLean. She served as President of our group for nine years. Hazel's famous brown bread and chocolate cakes will forever be missed! The UCW made donations during 2025 to: Alice House, St. John's M&S Fund, a donation of period products given to Beacon House, St. John's Tree of Lights, the Lion's Club Christmas drive, the Least Coin offering for Women's Inter-Church Council, Christmas gifts for staff in support of Beacon House, Gold Easter egg in support of KOGA, donation to KOGA to

attend a conference and Tatamagouche Centre for upgrades to the Centre. We made two donations to St. John's General Fund: in January we donated \$7,000 and in October we donated \$10,000 for a total of \$17,000. We also collected winter hats, scarves and socks for the Beacon House Shelter, provided bibles for the new confirmands, and Remembrance Day wreath for St. John's service of remembrance. We had three guest speakers for our winter meetings held on Saturdays. In January Heidi Carr spoke to us as a member of the St. John's Community of Faith Profile Working Team; in February, Amanda Beazley, a member of the Green Team spoke to us about green initiatives for St. John's and in March Rev. David Hann and his wife Marion spoke with us as we got to know them better. As we end 2025, we look forward to another exciting year ahead. Thank you to everyone who supports the work of the UCW at St. John's.

Stairs Memorial The Stairs Memorial UCW had a very busy 2025. We had nine general meetings with approximately eight members in attendance and one to two members attending by Zoom. We start off each meeting with a shared lunch, it's like a buffet, a pleasant gathering. For such a small group we are very busy starting the year with a bean and macaroni take-out supper with rolls and dessert. We also fundraise twice a year by selling tins of delicious homemade cookies, this is done for Easter and Christmas and is always well received. In June we have a turkey soup takeout supper that includes rolls/biscuits as well as dessert. In October we had our second annual vendors sale which includes bake table, homemade jam, crafts, new to you table, etc. These vendors are usually at the larger craft shows; therefore, we have to have this earlier so as not to interfere with that. We sell hamburg soup with rolls/biscuits and dessert. Twice a year we make meat loaves for Margaret's House, a food kitchen in Dartmouth. This is in March and April with about seven meat loaves each time. As well, on a monthly basis, we supply them with apple juice which is a long-time tradition for us. They are very appreciative of what we do for them. This year we did something completely different for us. We were asked by a church member to assist at their son's wedding reception in another location. Five UCW members were able to help out with this. In September a few of us were able to attend the district UCW Executive meeting at Woodlawn United Church in Dartmouth. Five members also attended the Fall Rally at St. John's in Fall River. Several times a year we put on our housewife caps and do a thorough cleaning of our kitchen. This seems to be a never-ending project. As well, in June, we had our second annual tea for our senior UCW members who are not able to participate in any of the fundraisers, but who diligently worked for decades in all UCW events. They always made sure that they taught us how to do things properly for when it was our time to take over. There was a lot of hugs, laughter, just like old home week. Such a fun time for all. Although this part is a year old, the first year we did this we brought out the old photo albums; hence, the laughter. God willing, we will do this again this year. We make time for ourselves with the shared lunches as well as go out to a different restaurant the last Friday of each month, usually being about ten times a year. So nice to get together and relax and just enjoy and, of course, just eat.

Woodlawn United I would like to pay respect to the four ladies that have passed away this year. Olla Ozon, Isobel Jones, Myrna Dykeman and Jean Mitchell. They will always be remembered, and our thoughts and prayers are with their family and friends. We held four executive meetings this year, February, and April by Zoom and in person in September and November. UCW had a table at the Woodlawn Expo called 'Shine Sunday' on March 2. We provided information about funeral receptions, Dun-Gen (and tours), UCW unit meeting times and other services and events we are involved with. World Day of Prayer was held on March 7 and approximately 14 UCW members attended. On March 22, we hosted the Halifax District UCW AGM meeting at Woodlawn that was well attended. Thanks to those that helped with this to make it a success. Carol-Ann Allen was the guest speaker who spoke and showed slides of her life in Liberia. Fifteen pies were delivered to Margaret House in April for Easter that were provided by the

executive members. We support Margaret House monthly with casseroles and other organizations financially, annually. Thank you to Fay Gunter who organized the UCW fish chowder lunch on April 5th serving two hundred people. Forty chowder lunches were delivered to Margaret House. Proceeds from this event were given to help with the Church's General Fund Budget line to raise \$15,000 from fundraising efforts in 2025. Congratulations to Pat Kent and Dawn Coleman who received their life memberships at our annual, 'Spring Fling' held on May 4th. Thanks to Sheila Richardson for her time and dedication to make this happen. In June we organized a day to clean both kitchens and we want to thank everyone who came and helped. Twelve trays of Hawaiian Casserole were made in July by executive members to provide food for Margaret House along with twelve pies that were provided for Thanksgiving. Thanks to Bev Lynch and Gayle Crooks for organizing the funeral receptions this year. To Linda and Bev our social Conveners, who are also just a phone call away and ready and willing to help with all events. Beth Udby continues to efficiently prepare our membership list. Thank you. The Dun-Gen had another successful year, thanks to Myrna Morash and her faithful team of helpers who continue to work each week faithfully to keep it organized. Thank you to Fay Gunter our treasurer who continues to keep our financial records and to John Weare who does the audit on them for us. To our three units' presidents, Myrna Morash, Donna Moore, and Gail Garway your leadership does not go unnoticed, and we appreciate all you do. To our executive secretary, Adelia, many thanks as she keeps our minutes and keeps me organized. We ended our year with our AGM on December 7 with 29 members in attendance and 28 guests who helped us in various ways throughout the year. We are extremely thankful for all their support during the year. All ladies of our congregation are always welcome to join or just come and attend any of our meetings. Bless you all and we look forward to 2026!

Southshore/ Valley

Lunenburg Central United Church

Our UCW held four meetings in 2025. In April we had a bake sale and a heat 'n eat table at one of our congregation soup luncheons. We did four funeral receptions with the help of the congregation for deceased members. In June we enjoyed a lunch at the Lunenburg Golf Club with all of our members in attendance. In December we enjoyed a catered turkey dinner. We continue to support several local and international outreach programs. This year with fewer active members and attendance at our meetings dropping significantly, we will be having a discussion as to how we will continue to function as a group and our vision going forward.

West Side United Church Friendship Unit Report 2025

The past year found our 17 members gathering on 6 occasions to attend to our activities. Members shared in times of Reflections and refreshments

We continued to gather during the Spring and Fall for a social time in a local restaurant.

Rachel Burriss from Souls Harbour spoke at one meeting about their program.

We continued to support congregational events and local charities with our time, talents and treasures.

* Church Service leadership during 40th celebration of our congregation

* Supported Dinner Theatres, Kitchen Shower and Indoor Yard Sale.

* In-Meeting Silent Auctions.

*Christmas Baskets to members of congregation who have mobility challenges. Baskets are a ministry of a member with Unit supporters

* Our Mitten Tree supported by our Unit and congregation provided knitted articles, groceries and treats for many organizations such as Food Bank, Souls Harbour Rescue Mission, Family & Children's Services. Riverview Enhanced Living.

"Coins for the Cause" invites members and congregants to save coins on an annual basis for a named charity. Barbara Rafuse , Leader

Cambridge, Woodville, Waterville

Each year in recent times we have two fundraising events: sale of cookie trays in early December and a St Patrick's Day Tea on March 17th. Funds raised are contributed to two nearby Food Banks and to our local Women's Shelter, Chrysalis House, in Kentville. I might add that the youngest member of our group is 77. We have others in their nineties so therefore the extent of our activities has limitations. We are thankful to be able to continue thus far however.

Bridgetown

Four meetings were held in 2025 which was fewer as some members dealt with health issues. Members participated in the World Day of Prayer Service held at the Salvation Army Church in Bridgetown. Members also attended the UCW Spring Rally at the Alysford United Church. Socially, we went out to lunch at a restaurant prior to Christmas. One member raised money for our group selling plants. That money along with members' collection at meetings allowed us make monetary donations to the Food Bank, the Angola Scholarship Fund and the Food Grains Bank.

Trinity United - Riverport

Our Unit meets monthly except for July and August. We had a soup luncheon in January. All proceeds including winter clothing and bedding went to Souls' Harbour Mission and food donations to the Food Bank. Monetary donations were also given. We had a spring luncheon, summer salad and strawberry shortcake event as well as a Victorian Tea. Our highlight in November was providing lunch for the Legion members and congregation attending the Remembrance service. Our Bake and Craft Sale near the Christmas season finishes off our year. We are pleased to support a number of charities as well as our church and the Mission and Service

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES/ALUMNI

I must admit that my mandate for ALUMNI Rep has been a bit confusing. I believed it to be to submit some news of Maritime Region Alumni of National UCW to KIT (Keeping in Touch) for each edition, including obituaries. My first submission was news of the passing of Letha Mowatt, for which I had gratefully received photos and anecdotes from our members - which I forwarded to the KIT editor. An edited version of my submission was included in the Spring '25 edition.

My collection of anecdotes from an alumna for the latest edition was not accepted or printed because it was 'old news'; however, in that same edition I was confused to read that she was asking members to submit stories or

anecdotes from their time on National Executive. I have reached out to her, asking for clarification on my mandate, but have not heard back from her.

In the meantime, please continue to contact me with any news of National UCW Alumni - deaths, change of address or status, etc.

As for ARCHIVES, UCW no longer has a seat on the Regional Archives Committee, but I wish to encourage members of Maritime Region UCW to preserve the history of their groups/units and forward these histories either to me for forwarding, or directly to Archives office in Sackville NB.

Reminder that church records are the property of the United Church Canada, and as such are to be preserved as stated above. Procedures regarding the closure of UCW groups/units, including the final disbursement of funds can be found in the UCW Handbook. Respectfully submitted, Sharon Moyse

MUCW NEWSLETTER

Ann Piper reported that the Newsletter is costing \$4.72 to mail and suggested that we should consider either raising the price or sending the Newsletter by E-mail only. **After much discussion, it was moved by Anna Peters and seconded by Marilyn Bubar that a recommendation be made at the Annual General Meeting that the Newsletter will be sent out electronically in the future. Members of UCW should print off copies for those who cannot receive it in electronically. Motion Carried.** Ann has received a few cheques for Newsletter subscriptions and will just hold onto them until after the AGM.

Berwick Camp

	2024	2025
Previous Year Balance	\$2120.35	\$2278.40
RECEIPTS		
Offering	\$359.15	\$300.15
Donations	\$278.05	\$363.70
Advance	\$250.00	\$250.00
Total Receipts	\$887.20	\$863,85
Total	\$3007.55	\$3142.25
EXPENSES		
Advance	\$250.00	\$250.00
Plaque for Berwick	\$120.00	
Name Plaque for Letha Mowatt		\$20.00
Healing Fund	\$359.15	\$300.15
Total Expenses	\$729.15	\$570.15
Total	\$2278.40	\$2572.10

Respectfully submitted,
Phyllis Munroe, Treasurer

MARITIME UCW FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance December 31, 2024	\$1,870.71
RECEIPTS:	
MUCW Dues	\$4,920.00
NUCW Dues	\$1,640.00
Healing Fund	\$200.00
Hospice Halifax	\$633.80
Leadership Grant	\$950.00
Newsletter	\$606.46
AGM Registration	\$4,144.00
Investment Transfer	\$3,000.00
Berwick Offering	\$300.15
AGM Sales	\$98.00
Donations (MUCW)	\$801.34
Advance (Berwick)	\$250.00
Financial Service	\$240.00
Donation (Berwick)	\$363.70
Total	\$20,018.16
EXPENSES:	
Bank /Office	\$102.42
Travel	\$2,798.82
President Expenses	\$714.44
Ordinands	\$240.00
Advance (Berwick)	\$250.00
Healing Fund	\$500.15
Honorarium (2024-2025)	\$800.00
Social Secretary	\$77.05
AGM	\$9,776.87
OES (in honour of Fran Harding)	\$500.00
Hospice Halifax	\$633.85
Newsletter	\$985.92
Name Plate (Letha Mowatt)	\$20.00
Miscellaneous	\$123.65
Total	\$17, 523.22
Balance on hand December 31, 2025	\$2,494.94

\$33,364.27 Invested with BNS

\$6,000.00 Invested with Maritime Conference Financial Services

Respectfully submitted,
Phyllis Munroe, MUCW Treasurer

MUCW Proposed Budget 2026 and 2027				
	2025 Actual	2026	2027	
Receipts				
MUCW Dues	\$4,920.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
NUCW Dues	\$1,640.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	
AGM Registration	\$4,144.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
Leadership Grant	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00	
BNS Financial Services	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$240.00	
2025 AGM offering	\$633.80	\$700.00	\$700.00	
UCW Day offering	\$300.15	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Donation Healing Fund	\$200.00	\$-	\$-	
AGM Sales	\$98.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	
Donations Berwick	\$363.70	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Investment Transfer	\$3,000.00	\$6,030.00	\$6,700.00	
Donations UCW	\$801.34	\$800.00	\$800.00	
Returned Berwick Advance	\$250.00	\$-	\$-	
Newsletter bal transfer	\$606.46	\$-	\$-	
Total	\$18,147.45	\$21,170.00	\$21,840.00	
Disbursements				
NUCW Dues	\$1,640.00	\$1,900.00	\$1,850.00	
AGM	\$9,776.87	\$12,000.00	\$13,000.00	
Travel	\$2,675.10	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
Ordinands	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$240.00	
Hospice Halifax AGM offering	\$633.80	\$700.00	\$700.00	
President Expenses	\$714.44	\$1,000.00	\$1,100.00	
Healing Fund (UCW Day+\$200)	\$500.15	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Bank Charges/ Office	\$102.47	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Berwick Advance	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	
Newsletter	\$985.92	\$400.00	\$-	
Honouraria	\$800.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	
OES(donation on behalf F. Harding)	\$500.00	\$-	\$-	
cookie ctg honouree name plate	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	
Social Secretary (postage)	\$77.05	\$100.00	\$120.00	
Misc.	\$123.65	\$150.00	\$150.00	
Total	\$19,039.45	\$21,170.00	\$21,840.00	

Program Presenters



Rev. Alice Finnamore

Alice’s journey in life has taken many turns and twists. It was in 2007 that she began moving toward ministry in the United Church of Canada. She already had obtained a Bachelor of Theology from Acadia Divinity college and a BA and MA in Psychology from the University of New Brunswick. Alice was Ordained in May 2019 after completing a Diploma in Ministry from Montreal School of Theology at McGill, following which she served in Prince William Pastoral Charge until she and her husband decided to retire in 2024 to “travel the world”.

But retirement was not the end of study for Alice. In 2025 she completed a two-year program in eco-spiritual direction, through the Centre for Wild Spirituality. She is passionate about meeting Sacred Mystery in place and landscape. She dives deep into soul and into the Wild, with fierce, playful, creative leadership to share story, metaphor and dream, as she companions those whom life brings her way.

Alice lives with her husband on the farm where she grew up in Scotch Settlement. She loves writing, reading, practicing yoga, creating textile art and taking long walks with the wild.....and of course, traveling.



Nick Hawkins, Wildlife cinematographer

above and below the surface brings a unique combination of ecological knowledge and technical expertise to a wide range of media projects. He specializes in ocean-based and underwater cinematography and has had the privilege of traveling extensively across the globe to document some of the planet’s most iconic wildlife. His work is driven by a passion for telling compelling stories of the natural world, with the ultimate goal of inspiring global audiences and promoting the conservation of the species and ecosystems upon which all life depends. Nick was born and raised just outside of Fredericton and now makes his home in

Douglas, NB with his partner Andrea and his daughter Gaia

NATIONAL UCW PRESIDENT



Barbara DeJeet

I am a mother of two wonderful children, Angie and Russell; have two granddaughters, Kayliah and Kendall; I am a great-grandmother of two adorable little girls Charlotte and Sophie. They are the apple of my eye. Became a member of United Church in 1995 and joined UCW later that year. At the first meeting I attended they told me I was the new President. SURPRISE!! I still am. I kind of had an idea about women’s groups because my Mother was the leader in her women’s group in her church. When attending some of the conferences, services and workshops held, I saw all these wonderful talented women and wanted to become me one of them. And the rest is history.

Rev. E.V. Faith March-MacCuish, B.A., M.Div.



The Rev. Faith March-MacCuish was appointed to the position of Executive Minister of the three eastern regions of The United Church of Canada on January 1, 2019. These regions are: Regional Council 15 (Bermuda and Nova Scotia), Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council (Gaspé region of Quebec, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island) and First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council (Newfoundland and Labrador).

With a Bachelor of Arts from Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador and a Masters of Divinity from Emmanuel College, Rev. Faith March-MacCuish has been an ordained minister in The United Church of Canada for thirty-four years. Faith served for fifteen years within Pastoral Charge ministry prior to beginning work with the (then) Newfoundland and Labrador Conference as Conference Personnel Minister, and Executive Secretary. Faith has served as Executive Minister for the past 5 years.

Rev. Faith has served at all levels of the The United Church of Canada, including General Council Executive. She has continued her education in the areas of change management, conflict management, supervision, and human resources. She has certainly felt fulfilled and blessed by her work in this United Church of ours.

Faith's partner, Ian, is also a United Church Minister, serving the First United Pastoral Charge in Mount Pearl. Faith and Ian have four wonderful adult children, Kyle, Dylan, Jody and Emily. The greatest joys in her life are being a mother and being able to serve the church over the years in many varying capacities. She is a Sunday School Teacher and a Youth Group leader in her spare time.

Agenda MUCW AGM April 24-26, 2026

Friday April 24th 2:30 pm **Registration Opens** in main Foyer

3:45 pm **Gathering Music in Hall**

4:00 pm **Meeting Begins**

Creation Story Dialogue Anna Peters and Laura Whitmee

Land Acknowledgement

Call to Order, Lighting of the Christ Candle, Opening Prayer, Recite Purpose

- Introduction of Parliamentarians
- Roll Call by District/Regrets
- Motion to approve corresponding members
- Approval of proposed Agenda as circulated
- Approval of the April 25-27, 2025, AGM Minutes
- Business Arising, Correspondence
- Offering Designation
- Reports and other business as time allows

5:45 pm **Business meeting adjourns** until 11:15 am Saturday April 25th

6:00 pm **Buffet Dinner - Greetings from Regional Council Presidents**

7:15 pm **Gathering Music in the Sanctuary**

7:30 pm **Greetings from National President Barbara DeJeet**

7:50 pm **Memorial Service**-Halifax District **Communion** Rev. Bowley

8:30 pm **Announcements & Good Night**

Saturday April 25th 8:45 pm **Gathering Music in Main Hall**

9:00 pm **Worship**-Nashwaaksis UCW

9:30 pm -11:00 pm **Keynote Address**—Rev. Alice Finnermore

11:15 pm **Treasurer's Report**

12:00 pm **Lunch**

1:15 pm **Reconvene Business Meeting** (remain in Hall)

- New Business, Nominations, Installation of Officers, Closing Motions

2:30 pm **Gathering Music in Sanctuary**

2:40 pm **Presentation** by Wildlife Cinematographer Nick Hawkins

3:30 pm **Workshops begin:**

Then Let Us Sing in the Sanctuary with Lynda Jean Coffin

Bookmarks main Hall (stage) with Anna Peters

Anniversary Quilt-in the pantry with Elaine Burrows

Broken Pottery in the parlor (lower level) with Betty Ann Watts

4:15 pm **Move to second workshop** (*Then Let Us Sing 3:30-4:30*)

5:00 pm **Free time**- Socialize or dress for banquet

6:00 pm **Grace/Banquet- Guest Speaker** Rev. Faith March-MacCuish

7:15 pm **Acknowledgements** and presentations

7:30 pm **Move to the Sanctuary—Entertainment** Golden Club Singers

Sunday, April 26th 10:30 am Worship Service