



# St. Paul's United Church

## 2021 Annual Report

*Glorifying God through Worship, Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and Serving others in Christ's name*

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## Church Staff

Minister ----- Rev. Michelle Armstrong  
Organist/Choral Director ----- Dr. Sharon Pond  
Office Administrator ----- Meghan Roebuck  
Custodian ----- Rusty Blakely

## Board & Committee Chairs

Board of Directors ----- Jane Blakely  
Worship Committee ----- Roger Miller  
Property Committee ----- Patty Trail  
Music Ministry Committee ----- Sharon Pond  
Christian Education Committee ----- Mary Staples  
Outreach Committee (Food Programs) ----- Lois Walker  
Ministry & Personnel Committee ----- Ann Krause  
Trustee Committee ----- Andrew Steeves  
Heritage & Resource Committee ----- Jennifer Petryshen  
UCW Committee ----- Donna Chauvin

## In Memoriam 2021

*Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23:6*

Donald (Don) Leonard – Jan 7, 2021

Marguerite Louise MacAlpine – Feb 4, 2021

Charles Edward Patterson – Feb 8, 2021

Anna Dawn Goddard – Mar 2, 2021

Gertrude Annie 'Grace' Donald – May 11, 2021

Velma Ruth Beirsto – May 22, 2021

Allison (Al) MacPhail – July 17, 2021

Michael Richard Crowther – July 20, 2021

Margaret Iris Allen – July 21, 2021

Malcolm 'Red' Victor MacFadyen – July 31, 2021

Carol Irene Veysey – Aug 4, 2021

Gracie Fay (Edwards) Campbell – Aug 13, 2021

Mary Lynne (McDowell) Naugler – Aug 21, 2021

James William (Bill) McCarthy – Sept 2, 2021

Ralph Bartlett – Sept 23, 2021

Paul Watson – Sept 27, 2021

Barbara Elizabeth (Tracey) Fletcher – Dec 27, 2021

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. – Isaiah 43:19*

## Message from the Desk of Rev. Michelle

When I think about the past year, I think of change. For the first half of 2021 I was still on maternity leave, watching and supporting Ella in her daily discoveries of the new things she could do. Learning to crawl, how to pull herself up, saying mama, dada and brother for the first time. All of these changes were exciting as she came into herself and blossomed before our eyes.

Coming back to work at St. Paul's brought a whole new set of changes and discoveries. Coming back not into the team ministry that I had left meant some major shifting in how I navigated life here at St. Paul's. Chief amongst was the reality that what was done in 80 hours a week will never be done in 40. I have spent a good part of the second part of 2021 evaluating what is my work and what can and should be done by others. This clarification of rolls has been dictated in part by the question: what are the things that only I can do? Followed by what is the most important thing God is calling me to that will help move St. Paul's forward? These two questions have played an important role in shaping 2021 for me.

With each ending and beginning there is change, and in each change opportunity. In 2021 there was significant change starting the year off without Rev. Richard and rotating pulpit supply for worship, then we said goodbye to Eric. We welcomed Melissa, for a few months she brought her calm and engaging personality, along with varied skills. Then when she left to spend more time with her family, we welcomed Meghan, who has been indoctrinated by fire joining the team at Christmas and year end. As we get to know her more the blessing she will be to St. Paul's will become clearer. We also said Goodbye to Perry as custodian and welcomed Russel into the roll. Thankfully care of the building is not new to him, having worked as a summer student for several years under Joe. I am looking forward to fostering and supporting our new team as we seek to use the gifts God has given us to server this congregation.

Layered on all this change has been COVID, which continues to shape and impact our lives. We have navigated the changes created in our work and worship as public health regulations shift. Thank you all for your flexibility as we make our way through this COVID landscape and thank you for continuing to do your best to care for this community. As we deal with the "new" reality that COVID leaves in its wake, let us remember we do not face it alone, God is at work, helping us to see what doors are open before us and what we are to do with these opportunities. As we continue the journey into the 190<sup>th</sup> year of the congregation of St Paul's the way may not look the same as it did in the past, but when we follow God faithfully there will always be a way forward. Finally, thank you for all who have worked hard giving their time and resources so that God can continue to carve a new path for us together as St Paul's. I am looking forward to walking through 2022 with you.

Rev. Michelle Armstrong

# St. Paul's United Church

## 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

Annual Meeting March 28, 2021 (over Zoom)

1. Constitution of Meeting: Jane called the meeting to order. Opening Worship/Devotions offered by– Rose-Hannah.
2. Consideration of Draft Agenda: Motion to amend agenda (Tammy C, Donna C) to allow Daye Kelly to present earlier in the agenda (Financial Statements).
3. Motion to accept amended agenda. (Kelly, and?) So moved.
4. Motion to Adjourn 2:30pm (Kelly, Roger). Motion carried.
5. 2020 Memoriam – Rose Hannah provided the memoriam to members who passed in 2020.
6. Consideration of Financial statements Presentation of for 2020 by Jill from Daye Kelly.  
Motion to Accept Financial Report (Ron N, Ann Kraus). Motion Carried.
7. Consideration of Annual Report
  - a) Heritage and Resources
  - b) Property Committee
  - c) UCW: Donna provided an update on current activities. Fundraiser with Value Village – waiting for totals. Maritime UCW women are having a Zoom meeting on April 19. We are looking at an online auction sometime in the future, and a takeout dinner. We sent Easter cards to shut ins, and members who could use a morale boost.
  - d) Worship: Small group helping with most Sundays, with greeting and ushering.
  - e) Pantry: Increase in clients.
8. Motion to adopt the Annual report (Donna, Roger)
9. Motion to adopt the 2020 minutes (Alana, Tammy C)  
Business arising from the 2020 meeting minutes – Patti T has been in discussions with other city United Churches, and discussions are ongoing.
10. Correspondence: No Correspondence received.
11. Trustees: Andrew provided an update on the proposed Foundation and correspondence from the Shining Waters group based on Polity of the United Church. Trustees will now work with Jill Stairs and Daye Kelly on accounting structure instead of by legal means
12. Adoption of 2021 Budget as presented by Jane Blakely. Motion to Adopt (Carol, Louis). Motion carried.
13. Nominations:  
Board - Nominee: Janis Violette, Roger Miller  
M&P: Three vacancies, Nominees: Ann Krause, Lois Walker, Blaine Irving  
Treasurer – Nominee: Ron Naugler until April 2022  
Worship – Nominees: Tammy Landry, Kris Grant, Janis Violette

Property - Nominees: Ron Yateman,

Regional Representatives (3): Jennifer Petryshen, Ron Naugler (to be appointed to the Finance, Mission & Service Committee at the Regional annual meeting), Jane Blakely

Committees/ Positions with vacancies and no nominations: N/A

Heritage and Resources - Nominee: Kelly Simpson

Christian Education – Nominee: N/A

Motion to accept nominations as presented (Patti T, Jen P)

14. Motion to appoint Day Kelly for 2020 (Tammy, Kelly) Motion carried.

15. Set date for next Congregational Meeting – Motion to hold the fall meeting in October (Tammy C, Kelly S).

16. Motion to empower the board to act on behalf of congregation on all matters within their jurisdiction (Carol, Alana) Motion carried.

Motion to close meeting (Jane). Closing Prayer by Rose-Hannah.

## Congregational Board Report

2021 has come and gone and once again, the COVID pandemic has dominated our lives at St. Paul's. It has nevertheless been a very busy year with unprecedented change. Throughout the pandemic, attendance has been sparse and the concentration of responsibilities amongst a very small group of dedicated volunteers continues to be a great concern to the Board. When I wrote this report last year, I was holding out hope that the Community of Faith report (attached) would shine a light ahead and show us a path towards the future.

You can read the report yourself and decide what you think: to the Board, it highlighted the need for an organized visioning effort and the exploration of bold alternatives including discussions with our UCC neighbours at Wilmot. This will require an infusion of energy and effort from everyone.

At this juncture, I would like to finish off my term as Chair by saying thank you everyone who got us through this year:

Worship Committee - who delivered almost six months of "fill in" worship that was meaningful, smooth and varied. Now that Rev. Michelle has returned, the committee continues to look for ways to improve the worship experience at St. Paul's.

M&P - who with the departure of Church Manager Eric Hotte hired part time custodian Rusty Blakely, an excellent new manager, and then an equally excellent newer manager. Welcome aboard Meghan - you are a wonderful addition to our little team. M&P continues to liaise with and support our staff team.

Sharon - who adapts and adjusts, pulling the choir together when the safety rules permit, organizing soloists when they don't and every week providing a beautiful escape into her artistry.

Rev. Michelle - who came back from maternity leave in June and hit the ground running. Michelle provides leadership and support in every aspect of the church's operation and continues to reach out to all of us to offer support and spiritual guidance.

The Board members - who put in the time and effort to make decisions, keep an eye on the finances, look for options and answer questions. Our monthly meetings are focused, intentional and always rewarding, even on Zoom. I can't thank each one of you enough for your commitment.

You - whether you were doing tech or leading Sunday School or singing in the choir; donating Pantry items or giving them away; sorting out our investments or repairing our building or making a financial contribution; or one of 1000 other things that happened this year, each one of you is an irreplaceable part of the St. Paul's body and your good work does not go unappreciated.

At the annual meeting we will be looking for new leadership. What the future holds remains unclear - we will need to work together to seek God's guidance to find what comes next for St. Paul's. What and who will we be five years from now?

Blessings and thanks

Jane Blakely,

Board Chair

## Community of Faith Report – Summary of Responses

Context of the Community of Faith Survey: With the resignation of Rev. Richard, St. Paul's was to enter the process of creating a community of faith report (which replaced the JNAC process). A committee struck to survey the congregation. Below is the information that they collected from the congregation via both written survey and interviews. All members of the congregation had an opportunity to engage with this process. The committee chair was Derrick Grant members were Roger Miller, Blain Irving, Ann Krause, Janis Violet, and Erin Hayes.

**1. What makes you keep returning to St. Paul's? What makes Sunday worship valuable to you?**

**2. What do you see as the strengths of St. Paul's as a faith community?**

- Willingness to help greater community needs, low rent housing, Pantry, warming centre. (2)
- Music especially (choral concert in December to help community by raising \$\$)
- Pantry and brown bag lunch support (2)
- Windows, choir loft, stained glass windows and balcony
- The people are good living and Sunday service gives us positive guidance
- It's liberal approach and its diversity
- It is a gallery of faith
- Sanctuary is a feast for the eyes; inspiring setting with stained glass
- Pipe organ and grand piano make them conductors of peace and tranquility



- Counseling offered by the church
- Financial donations from the church, refugees, natural disaster support
- Home for me and always will be
- Beautiful building

**3. *What are some of the greatest needs of the greater community?***

- Food, shelter and structured activities for young people (3)
- Support of homeless and low rent housing (2)
- Helping young families with young children
- Invitation to all students, foreign, High School and College
- Loaning Fraser Hall for private teaching (dance studio and music lessons)
- Use our space for floor hockey, shuffleboard
- Companionship, guidance and positive confirmation
- Lack of jobs offering living wages
- Disconnect from the community, isolation of the homeless,
- Mental health needs

**4. *What are some of the first steps we need to take to make needed improvements?***

- Establish the actual size of the congregation, reach out to make sure we have what we have
- Assess St. Paul's resources, fixed and human, to look at potential
- Put a plan in place to build membership, focus on age distribution
- Identify niches in the community for fund providing based on resources
- Ensure the congregation is kept aware of these kinds of activities
- We need to get together to discuss the what and how we can improve
- Go back to the old system of committees, sessions and then decisions. Why? not knowing what is coming, feeling left out, my opinion is not required, some decisions made could be questioned
- Not sure, some causes of our issues are out of our control
- Effective and personal communication, many members uninformed due to lack of tech
- Be proactive, not reactive
- Coordination of contact and outreach

**5. *List possibilities God is calling St. Paul's into in the next 6 months? Next year?***

- Call will have to be interpreted in the context of rebuilding, adapt to new community needs and demands arising from Covid damage
- United we stand, divided we fall - call all united churches within 30 km to discuss attendance, cost of operating churches, maybe share ministry staff between churches? Present debt load vs, givings, future projections of cost and ways for churches to share expenses.
- We have to consider amalgamation or closure

- Not sure
- We need to be on the lookout for signs that God gives us
- Seniors' Homes---new members?
- Improve Sound System---perhaps have Doug Bearisto from Wilmot assess our Sound System to make improvements (excellent sound at Wilmot)
- Sing some of the older hymns which are more familiar to the congregation (we have a great choir, great pipe organ and a new grand piano)
- Excellent Library---raise the profile so it would be used more

**6. Do you have any concerns about the change from a 2 person ministry to a 1 person ministry?**

- None! Identify activities that were done with two ministers and assess carefully new ones that are proposed. Great finesse will be required to avoid loss of membership in this activity. Leadership skills are required!
- We can't afford two ministers at this time, members can assist the minister
- No (2)
- Our congregation is getting smaller all the time and people joining by Zoom due to Covid means less \$\$ contributed

**7. Do you have any gifts you believe would be helpful? How would you like to participate more in the church?**

- At our age we are what we do is fair and adequate (2)
- I am already involved on several committees
- My support is \$\$
- Yes, baking serving
- No, too many life challenges
- General maintenance
- No, I am not able
- Need to get the personal one on one invite, be invited to join groups etc...

## Trustees Report

**Introduction.** The Trustees at St. Paul's are responsible for managing the financial and physical assets of the Church including the sanctuary, hall and, jointly with the Provincial Government, two social housing properties.

**Vision.** In our deliberations, the Trustees are guided by a vision which we call St. Paul's 250. In this vision our sanctuary and hall are in excellent repair and in regular use for worship, concerts, plays, lectures, and other community activities when the church celebrates its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2082. This vision is not fixed and can incorporate future development (such as social housing) and partners (such as the New Brunswick government).

**Members.** The Trustees who served in 2021 were Frank Goddard, Mary Jacobs, Alanna Palmer, Carole Peacock, Lois Walker, Bill Paterson, and Andrew Steeves. Carole Peacock and Lois Walker were new Trustees whose appointments were approved by the congregation at the fall 2020 congregational meeting and Bill Paterson as a non-voting member who joined Trustees after the 2020 congregational meeting and was approved by the Board and congregation at the fall 2021 congregational meeting.

New to the Trustees in 2021 was the Investment Sub-Committee. They were created at the request of the St. Paul's Board, the Sub-Committee took on responsibility for the management of the church's financial investments (funds, trust accounts). Alanna Palmer was Chair of the Sub-Committee. Bill Paterson and Andrew Steeves were the other members.

**Meetings.** During 2021, the Trustees' activities were somewhat curtailed by restriction arising from the COVID 19 pandemic:

### Trustees Only

- January 28<sup>th</sup>
- February 25<sup>th</sup>
- March 19<sup>th</sup>
- March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- August 26<sup>th</sup>
- November 17<sup>th</sup>

### Investment Sub-Committee

- January 12<sup>th</sup>
- February 1<sup>st</sup>
- April 12<sup>th</sup>
- May 13<sup>th</sup>
- July 5<sup>th</sup>
- November 16<sup>th</sup>
- December 14<sup>th</sup>

### Joint Trustees with Board Members

- December 9th  
Joint Trustees with Property Committee
- August 26<sup>th</sup>
- November 17th

Minutes of the Trustees meetings and Notes of the Investment Sub-Committee have been submitted to the Church Office.

**Summary of Trustees Actions and Discussions.** During 2021 four topics dominated Trustees deliberations and actions.

1. *Negative effects of COVID-19 restrictions upon church attendance, offerings, and participation.*
2. *Simplifying financial reporting.* As noted by our Auditor in the 2019 and 2020 financial reports, St. Paul's finances are complicated and quite confusing to non-accountants. During the year the Trustees worked with the Board, our Treasurer, office staff and our auditor to simplify the accounts for easier understanding and great transparency. Progress was made.
3. *Expanding Trustees' responsibilities to include investment management.* The Trustees' new Investment Subcommittee, chaired by Alanna Palmer with Bill Paterson and Andrew Steeves as members is currently working with representatives of BMO Nesbitt-Burns to simplify accounts, set investment milestones and improve reporting.
4. *Ensuring the longevity of the St. Paul's Sanctuary and Hall and maintaining our social housing (with our Provincial Government partners).* At present our church's Sanctuary, Hall and social housing units are well-run and maintained. The Trustees congratulate the Church Board and staff on their stewardship of St. Paul's. We offer special thanks to members – current and past – of our Property Committee for exceptional contributions.

However, as Trustees of heritage structures, we face major expenditures over the medium and long term. For example, the repair and rehabilitation of the York Street façade of the Sanctuary has been estimated at well over \$500,000. This work will likely be required within the next 20 years.

Currently we do not have the financial assets to pay for this or any other big project. This situation is not sustainable.

To achieve our Vision 250, Trustees are convinced that St. Paul's needs to create a financial plan for the future. One option is a dedicated reserve/sinking fund of several hundred thousand dollars to pay for repairs and renovations. To this end, the Trustees, over the last several years, investigated the creation of a separate, legal entity (the 'St. Paul's Foundation') to serve as a means for raising, growing, and administrating the segregated funds for the maintenance and repair of the church sanctuary and hall. This new charity would have been governed by a Board comprised of St. Paul's Trustees and would have annually reported to the Trustees and through them to the St. Paul's Board. Any reporting to the United Church of Canada would have been through the St. Paul's Board.

We reviewed our plan with the St. Paul's Board and met with several committees and groups within St. Paul's to describe the proposal. The concept received wide support and received approval in principle from the congregation (July 2020), Trustees proceeded to discuss options with the United Church of Canada Foundation and were preparing to introduce motions of acceptance and implementation at the 2021 Annual General Meeting in March. However, in February 2021 Trustees abandoned the Foundation option when Regional (Fundy, St. Lawrence, Dawning Waters) told the Trustees that support was not forthcoming. Further, Trustees were advised that, as owner of the St. Paul's properties, the UCC would not support the creation of an independent fund.

So, on to other options. The Trustees have not given up and, thanks to suggestions from Rev. Michelle, are now investigating, with the Board, a partnership with a new entity within the United Church of Canada (UCC) called the United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC):

“The UPRC is a new corporation created by The United Church of Canada to bring professional real estate expertise to communities of faith (congregations) to provide them with all of the information needed to make faithful decisions about their real estate.

“Churches can access the services of UPRC at any stage in their property deliberations. Our team will guide and advise as you assess options and make decisions on how to best use your real estate assets to renew your mission and sustain a lasting legacy in your neighbourhood. We offer a range of services as a one-time consultation, a full package, and everything in between.” (text from UPRC webpage)

Trustees are hoping to explore options with our Board and the UPRC this year. As with the 'Foundation' model, the Trustee's goals would remain to create a real estate structure:

- which would support the social and worship goals of the St. Paul's congregation and
- which would generate income streams for maintaining and sustaining the existing infrastructure.

As year 2021 ends and we enter 2022 we continue our quest and mandate to put St. Paul's physical assets on a strong fiscal foundation.

- Andrew Steeves, Acting Chair
- Alanna Palmer, Secretary, Chair of Investment Subcommittee

## Property Committee Report

2021 was a busy year for the Property Committee. Committee members are: Patty Trail, Greg Morton, John Gaskin, Kyle Mather, Walter Bidlake, Derrick Grant, Ron Yateman, and Raymond Redbourne. They worked tirelessly to address work needed on our aging structures and interiors following a year of Covid-19 and no custodian. Their gifts of time and energy saved our church family many dollars because our committee members use their skills to do the work. However, one of the pillars of our committee, Harold Raper, has retired from years on the Property Committee and John Gaskin will be moving in 2022.

Due to Covid-19, we lost several of our room rentals for 224 York St. building and most of the parking space rentals. As restrictions decreased, we recovered rentals of our assigned parking spaces, but currently only have three tenants inside in the church building. Ads have been placed on Kijiji and on our website. We continue to provide a room free of charge to the GED program but AA moved from St Paul's due to their need for a larger room.

Work completed in 2021:

224 York St. - Indoors: Installed a new door for York Street entry; Addressed the issue of Bats in the belfry; Repairs to heating system; Replacement of destroyed tiles office; Repaired carpet bubble front sanctuary; Addressed leak in sanctuary; Removal of stored Scouting and AA items and clean-up of storage areas; Desk issues in office (lowering front office desk and moving large desk to book keepers office); Removal of clothing in Memorial Hall cloak room and moved to Grace House and Men's Shelter; Replacement new taps ladies washroom; Moving of extra desks to Salvation Army Thrift Store; Repair of furniture ladies parlour; and some water proofing has been done to the stained glass windows east wall; addressed a second leak in the sanctuary.

224 York St. - Outdoors: Missing Copper roofing added to the steeple; Spring Clean-up; Repairs to front step George Street; Addition of safety tape on steps off York Street and Charlotte St. entrance stairs; Fall clean up; Repairs to Asphalt in parking lots; Change mercury vapour light in George St. parking lot; A new No Parking sign has been replaced at Charlotte St. entrance; A warning sign re snow falling from the roof has been affixed to the side of the church George St. parking; and the gardens around the church were cleaned.

230 York St. (Turner House) - Addressed repair of step and creation of lawn in front of Turner House with removal and return of steps from the veranda to the sidewalk; Repair step fire escape Turner House and repair of the fire escape door; Replacement of fire alarms Housing and check on their function, Staining of Turner House veranda, Veranda roof of the Turner House has been replaced; shrubbery around the Turner House was trimmed twice last summer

242 York St. (Manse) – Addressed the damaged roof shingles Manse; repair of light bulbs and repair blocked sink Manse; staining of railings at Manse; New outdoor light fixture on Apartment 1 of the Manse; shrubbery around the Manse was trimmed twice last summer

Some of these repairs have been financed by the trustees; the replacement of the York Street door and addition of screening in the belfry to stop entry of birds and bats. As well, the housing issues do not impact our property finances. If any of our church family are interested in participating on the Property Committee, please contact any of our members.

Patty Trail, Property Committee Chair

## Worship Committee Report

Chair: Roger Miller, Committee members: Khris Grant-Secretary, Ann Raper, Tammy Coughlan, Lynne Naugler, Rev. Michelle Armstrong, Janis Violette and Florence Bartlett.

The past year has been a challenging one for everyone, with quite a few challenges for our St. Paul's family.

Changing Covid-19 Rules meant that our attendance was way down. Many of us learned to worship via Zoom, and those that attended needed to social distance, and wear masks. Then we had to require proof of vaccination. A big thank you to everyone that handled these restrictions willingly, and without complaining.

Also, a big thank you to Sharon Pond, Alexis Ervin, the soloists, and the choir (when allowed) for their gift of wonderful music and song.

With the departure of Rev. Richard Bowley and Rev. Michelle's maternity leave it was necessary to obtain supply preachers for the 5 months. A big thank you for the great job done by Bev Sharpe, Mike Bravener, Heather Donnelly, Kimberley Douglas, Rev. Bill Randall and Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin. Also, a big thanks to Brad Green, who agreed to be ready to step in at the last minute, which luckily was not necessary.

We also had to obtain people to look after Pastoral Care. Thank you to Rev. Bob Jones, Rev. Peter Short, Rev. Ellen Beirsto, Rev. Kay Clowater, Rev. Nathan Wright and Bev Sharpe for looking after this for us.

In addition, we had to have Lay Presiders, and a big thank you goes out to the following for a great job: Brad Green, Beth Henderson, Jane Blakely, Ann Krause, Derrick Grant, Lynne and Ron Naugler and Mike Berry.

Also, I want to thank Eric Hotte for his great help in organizing the supply ministers smoothly.

The job of greeting became more complicated during the pandemic, and we want to thank our dedicated group of greeters. They were Tammy Coughlan, Dean Jones, Khris Grant, Linda and Rob Burton, Ann and Harold Raper, Donna Chauvin, Carole Peacock, Patty Trail, Ann Krause, John Gaskin and Ron Yateman.

After Rev. Michelle returned from Maternity leave, she asked if we could try Dramatic Reading of the scriptures. At first, I thought it would be hard to find readers, but I was wrong!! The response has been amazing. I want to say how much I appreciate our readers enthusiasm and great job. Thanks so much to all of you: Ann Krause, Carole Peacock, Alanna Palmer, Donna Chauvin, Khris Grant, Patty Trail, Jane Blakely, Gracelyn Godin, Jane Banks, Deborah West, Greg Morton, Derrick Grant, Ron Naugler, Ann Raper, Andrew Steeves, Rev Michelle and Barbara Cull-Wilby.

On Nov 7 we held our annual Remembrance Day services with Ann Raper reading "In Flanders Fields" in memory of her dad. Kastriot Axhami did a wonderful performance with his trumpet. A special thanks to Derrick Grant who agreed to read "The Names" at the last minute.

We held three services at Christmas, which went well, but the low attendance at the 11:00 pm service will lead to discussion next year on whether we will continue to hold three services.

The Memorial service was well received and will be continued.

All these services would not have occurred without the terrific job of the people doing the sound, again much appreciation to John Davis, Patty Trail, Greg Morton and Rob Burton.

You will notice each holiday, Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving and Remembrance Day, and other special occasions, the wonderful decorations that adorn our church. These are done by Douglas Warman. We wanted to tell Doug how much we appreciate his work over many years, making our church look great for special occasions.

Thank you to the Worship Committee members for all their help, and Rev. Michelle's help and wonderful leadership, and great attitude, was much appreciated.

Also, a big thanks to Rev. Richard for his help in locating supply ministers and pastoral care providers.

Sadly, we lost one of our most valued members when Lynne Naugler went to Heaven. We want to express our gratitude for all the hard work Lynne did for our committee, and the numerous other committees she was a member, and great contributor to. She will be greatly missed.

Respectfully Submitted by

Roger Miller

## Ministry & Personnel Committee Report

**Scriptural groundings for M&P roles:** "And Jesus said to them, Take care!" (Luke 12: 15) "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." (Galatians 6:10) "And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, friends, select from among you seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task.'" (Acts 6:2-3)

Your M&P Committee began their work in February, 2021 when we met with Janis Violette of the previous M&P team. We appreciated Janis' help in giving us an orientation and a little update on M&P. From there, we formed our team, began reading the manuals and started to get familiar with the responsibilities of M&P. We met with each employee of St. Paul's to introduce ourselves and gather information for each of their roles (Rev Michelle Armstrong, Eric Hotte, Sharon Pond, Perry Anderson). Our nominations (Lois Walker, Blaine Irving, and Ann Krause) were approved at the 2021 Annual Meeting on March 28/21.

We were sorry to receive Eric's notice of moving on to a different job; we wished him good success in his new position. M&P posted the job and prepared for 2 rounds of interviews. Melissa Howard was hired for the Office Administrator position on August 30, 2021. Unfortunately, Melissa resigned in December due to challenges balancing work and family life. We were grateful to Melissa for staying on into December to assist with transitioning a new hire. Meghan Roebuck was hired on Nov.26<sup>th</sup>, 2021; Meghan had moved to N.B. from Ottawa. Her experience as Executive Director of Carleton Place and District Youth center in Ottawa has helped her navigate through the steep learning curve at St. Paul's alongside the Covid Pandemic and continually changing protocols. Her adaptability, office skills, interest and knowledge in accounting, initiative and personable nature made her a strong candidate for the position. Perry Anderson, Church Custodian, resigned in September 2021. We were sorry to receive his notice; we had an exit interview with him and wished him well with all future endeavours.



Rusty Blakely was hired in October 2021 to be our Church Custodian. Rusty's previous work at St. Paul's, his calm temperament and his knowledge of the building and property made it a very smooth transition for him. We are very pleased to have Rusty on the team. We certainly had a lot of staffing changes at St. Paul's; that along with the Pandemic has changed things for all of us. We had to learn and develop new ways of meeting and we had to deal with lots of changes in our operating procedures. I am very grateful for all the help provided during these challenging times:

1. Judy Coates, my counterpart at Wilmot United has been a tremendous help. We have discussed mutual responsibilities and resources available to assist us in doing our jobs.
2. TEAM St. Paul's stepped up in so many ways: **Volunteers** in the Church Office (Cathy Davis, Chris Grant, Debbie Allison and Patty Trail). We couldn't have done it without you!
3. Lois Walker and Blaine Irving were ready to meet and help me with the staffing changes.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Krause, Chair of M&P Committee

## United Church Women (UCW) Report

2021 was a year of challenge to fulfill the UCW Purpose of Christian Witness, Study, Fellowship, and Service. With only 3 official meetings (April, Nov, Dec) we connected by email, telephone, and unofficial gatherings in the kitchen, the parking lot, and coffee shops. We remembered our Shut-ins with cards and visits at Easter and Christmas. We have revised our Visitation list. If you know of anyone who should be added, please let us know.

In a year of change, we tried some new projects - the FunDrive with Value Village, Spring and Fall Take-out dinners, selling trays of Christmas sweets. Even with our limited funds, we made donations to the Salvation Army (\$150), the Red Cross for local projects (\$150), and St. Paul's (\$4000).

The World Day of Prayer Service prepared by the Women's Interchurch Council (WICC) was by video in March 2021. Our rep is Ann Raper. In the video there was representation from New Brunswick by a choir in Moncton and an interpretative dancer on the banks of the Bay of Fundy. There will be services by video prepared by the WICC head office in Toronto for viewing in March 2022. Our local representatives of Maritime UCW, Marilyn Bubar and Marie Hawkins from Keswick, keep us well informed of the UCW activities in the Maritime provinces. They are currently preparing for the 60th Anniversary of UCW with a gathering in Membertou (Sydney) NS for July 2022. They are still hoping to be able to gather in person.

As this may be my last annual report for St. Paul's UCW, I would personally like to thank all the UCW members for their tireless dedication and devotion to our service to others. Our number of active members is slowly fading and we welcome others to join us. We also thank those who have stepped forward for individual events, SOOOOO much appreciated! Another year has come and gone, and we continue to cherish our beloved St. Paul's..... always a pleasure!! Donna D Chauvin UCW President

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Grant, Treasurer – UCW

## UCW 2021 Financial Report

### Receipts

Envelope Donation	\$1,406.00
Revenue Project	\$261.87
Catering	\$3,753.05
Total	<u>\$5,420.92</u>

### Disbursements

Programs	\$48.00
Kitchen	\$671.38
Catering	\$415.63
Cards & Stamps	\$30.35
Donations & Gifts	\$4,450.00
Total	<u>\$5,615.36</u>

Disbursements in excess of receipts (\$194.44)

Bank Balance January 1, 2021	\$2,670.67
Disbursements in excess of receipts	<u>\$194.44</u>
Bank Balance December 31, 2021	<u>\$2,476.23</u>

## Music Ministry Report

It has been another challenging year for music. I am grateful for the support given to me by the loyal choir members and the whole of St. Paul's as I took over the role of organist and choir director. It was wonderful to get back together with the choir in the fall. I look forward to us being able to start singing together again soon. I hope we will be able to bring back the children's choir and handbell choir in the near future and restart our recital programs.

Dr. Sharon Pond  
Organist and Choir Director

## Christian Education Committee Report

Members: Brad Green, Cathy Davis, Mary Staples, Rev. Michelle Armstrong.

**Role of CE Committee:** is the coordination of the Sunday School curriculum and events, the engagement of the youth of the church through faith-focused gatherings and the exploration of new opportunities to learn and grow in faith through adult programs.

**Sunday School:** Erin Hayes was welcomed as a new Sunday School teacher in September. Other teachers included Cathy Davis, Donna Chauvin and Jennifer Sutherland Green.

The Whole People of God is the curriculum in use. Again this year, Covid-19 impacted attendance at Sunday School but it continued when allowed by the Covid-19 protocols.

In December a successful craft sale was held with items made and donated for sale by the students and teachers. With the generous support of the congregation, the goal of \$150 for mission projects was tripled. Proceeds went for mission projects internationally and locally.

Cathy Davis sent digital greeting cards on behalf of St. Paul's to the children.

**Adult Bible Study:** Rev. Michelle led an adult Bible study, using the lectionary text. Sessions were well attended on Wednesdays.

**Advent calendars** for adults and families were enclosed in the Advent newsletter.

**Campus Ministry:** St. Paul's continued to take an active role in Campus Ministry by providing financial support and through the Fredericton Council for Christian Ministry on Campus. Rev. Michelle served as the Council's chairperson, and Brad Green served as the other representative from our congregation. Campus Chaplain Rev. Mike Bravener had a busy year despite the restrictions caused by Covid-19. He maintained regular office hours, had an active presence on social media, worked on special events, and invested considerable time building relationships on campus and with Fredericton area churches. He remains a valued member of the Student Services team at UNB.

CE Committee annual report 2021  
Submitted by Mary Staples

## Outreach Committee Reports

### Pantry – Food Program

With COVID still with us we are carrying on as previously. There are 3 volunteers working every Wednesday morning. One answers the York Street door, asking all the COVID questions. If they are vaccinated they are allowed in, one at a time to do their shopping. If they are not vaccinated they must wait outside, give their order to the volunteer who goes to the Pantry and picks up what is on their list and hands it out at the door to that client. In inclement weather those clients who are vaccinated are allowed in to the gym and can sit and wait on chairs 6 feet apart.

At the end of 2021 we were serving 29 single women, 21 single men, 8 couples, 16 single parent families, 14 two-parent families. These families account for 71 children.

The Pantry has been fortunate in receiving gift certificates from the congregation as well as other financial help. Many donations of food from the congregation is very much appreciated.

In late October George Street Middle School had a contest between grades 6 and 7 to see how much food each class could collect for the Pantry. They brought us several boxes of food. They did this a few years ago as well. St. Paul's is the "go to" place in case there is an emergency at their school. All the students would come to St. Paul's. This is their way of showing their appreciation for being welcome to come to our church.

Our clients appreciate very much our service and they all thank us when they leave.

All the Pantry volunteers wish to thank this very generous congregation for all their donations over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Walker, Chair, The Pantry

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### Brown Bag Lunch Program

On the average, 30 bags were given out each month. Beginning January 2022, the Brown Bags are looked after by the Pantry.

Submitted by Maude McNamara