

Memorial United Church

Grand Falls-Windsor Pastoral Charge

P.O. Box 454, 13 Church Road
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL
A2A 2J9



Annual Report 2013

Annual Meeting - February 23, 2014

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord - Joshua 24:15

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Minister's Message 2014

Greetings to all as we end 2013 and enter 2014 together!

It has been a great joy to walk with this congregation through the past year – we have laughed and wept, danced and sat together in silence...and we have grown! We have grown together in our spiritual lives and we have grown in numbers. We have grown in love and in acceptance, in tradition and in change, and it is good!

Change, while a normal part of life both within and outside of the church, can be a difficult thing to embrace. While change simply for the sake of itself is unhealthy, so is maintaining tradition simply for the sake of tradition. My goal as we work and worship together is to blend the two – honouring the old while embracing the new – and in so doing, expanding our Christian love! From the bottom of my heart I thank you for bearing with some of the changes you have noticed in the past year.

To help keep the changes and the traditions in perspective, I offer you a prayer that I personally use on nearly a daily basis... it was written by Oscar Romero and is called “A Future Not Our Own.”

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about:

We plant seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,

an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

Amen. May the coming year be fruitful and beautiful and full of God's love. Be well,

Rev. Kim Waite

Official Board

On behalf of our Official Board and the congregation of Memorial United I would like to thank everyone who helped make 2013 another exciting year. There are so many dedicated members of our church family who continue to work tirelessly toward the fulfillment of our mission.

Under the ministry of our Rev. Kim we have been blessed with the stability of her leadership and hope of future growth.

We were especially blessed in 2013 by growth and development of our Sunday School Program. We really appreciate the commitment of our Sunday School Leaders and helpers.

As I finish my term as Board Chair I am very proud to pass this leadership task to Greg Forward.

I know he is faced with challenges. But I am sure he will have (as I did) the strong support of the Official Board to deal with those challenges.

As the congregation of Memorial United looks to the future there will be more challenges, but with our growing strength we can also be sure of continued blessings.

Thank you for all your support.

Official Board Chair
Ralph Angel

Session

The Session of Memorial United Church meets the second Tuesday of every month from September to June unless otherwise deemed necessary.

The primary responsibility of the Session is to oversee the spiritual needs of the congregation, members of the session are called Elders, and an elder serves the term of three years.

Members of the Session are as follows:

Minister, Rev. Kim Waite, Clerk of Session, Ray Penney, Sharon Stoodley, Paulette White, Christine Jayne, Crystal Cater, Terry Hann, Lanny Raines, Neil Rowe, Marilyn King, Eileen Butt, Vince Christian, Megann Orendorff, Vera Shapleigh, Roseline Mouland (representing Sunday School) and Andrew Cater (representing the Youth). As a congregation may God's blessing be on each one of us as we continue to work for the good of our church.

Ray Penney
Clerk of Session

Married

Edward Charles Roberts & Peggy Lorna Cole

June 15, 2013

Clarey Richard Weir & Tina Marie Rowe

July 21, 2013

Christopher Thomas Edward Stubley & Sarah Lois Stoodley

July 27, 2013

Eric Robert Todd Adams & Joanne Marie Byrne

August 3, 2013

David Hayward Rogers & Sherri Noel Raines

August 10, 2013

Burials

Emily Lois Stoodley – January 16, 2013

Donald Bowes – January 19, 2013

Mona June Arnold – January 21, 2013

Gwynneth Mary Mouland – February 3, 2013

Patricia Claire Baker – February 5, 2013

Mona Mabel LeDrew – February 7, 2013

Edward Butt Hudson – April 28, 2013

Ruth Madelyn Janes – April 29, 2013

Barry Lee Au – June 24, 2013

Lionel R.T. Sooley – July 13, 2013

Edith R. Dean – July 25, 2013

Wilson George Stuckless – August 30, 2013

Blanch Valendo Lacey – September 14, 2013

Stella Ivy Clayson – September 30, 2013

Baptisms

Jacob Quinn Manuel – April 7, 2013

Son of Trent Norman Manuel & Jennifer Lynn Manuel

Isabel Page Dobson – January 6, 2013

Daughter of Peter & Nicole Dobson

Marion Elaina Orendorff – April 7, 2013

Daughter of Edward & Megann Orendorff

Logan Scott Richard Antle – May 19, 2013

Son of Justin Richard Antle & Tiffany Lori Daniele Luscome

Ruby Grace Philpott – June 30, 2013

Daughter of Matthew & Deidre Jane Philpott

Kole Randell Anthony – August 11, 2013

Son of Rodney & Dianna Anthony

Karli Mary Louise Thomas – October 13 2013

Daughter of Kenneth & Andrea Thomas

Haylie Kelsey Lydia Kirk – November 17, 2013

Daughter of Kevin Kirk & Jenny Jenkins

Barry Easton Oake – December 29,2013

Son of Neil Oake & Keshia Stuckless

Mayuri Vedha Mammen – December 29, 2013

Son of Cherry & Anoo Kartika Mammen

Ministry and Personnel Committee

The Ministry and Personnel Committee's mandate is to liaise with all paid church employees, assess their needs and working conditions, and make recommendations to the Official Board as to any and all changes to be made. It is the responsibility of this committee to resolve, where possible, any conflicts that may arise between paid staff or staff and congregation members. In this light it is very important to remember to address any complaints in a signed written format to this committee.

The Committee is made up of the following members. Harry Parsons, Charlie Pittman, Merv Baker, and Marilyn King. All of these members have given a commitment to remain on this committee for as long as it takes to resolve some long term issues currently being worked on. However there are open positions for two more members should anyone wish to volunteer.

This committee has met on a regular basis as well as several informal meetings as we discuss ways and means to accomplish our tasks.

Annual reviews will proceed in February as per our mandate.

Harry Parsons
Chair

Annual Property Report

2013 saw a number of small issues addressed under Property.

A new vacuum cleaner was purchased to replace the 25 year old workhorse.

A new dishwasher was installed in the kitchen. This high temperature dishwasher is able to wash a load in less than a minute and saves hours for those cleaning in the kitchen.

New software for tracking church donations was installed in the office computer.

Bricks above the vestibule were sprayed with waterproofing. This is needed every 2-3 years to prevent water leaking through the bricks and damaging the ceiling in the vestibule.

Cleaning & Painting of the parking lot was contracted. Due to mechanical breakdown this job was not completed and will need to be addressed in the coming spring.

Painting of the parking lot drew attention to some of the faults in the asphalt on the parking lot and discussions about repaving were begun. One quote was received for several scenarios for repaving. This will need to be looked at again in the spring to get other quotes for resurfacing before the painting is completed.

Issues were identified with the Handicapped Parking zones. Two Handicapped/No Parking signs were purchased to place in the appropriate areas to discourage other than handicapped people from parking in the designated spots.

A Defibrillator unit was donated to the church. A display case for the unit was purchased and installed. Discussions are underway for training in use of the unit.

An automatic fire response dialer was purchased and installed. This device will be triggered by the fire alarm system and will automatically dial the fire station with an emergency code. In conjunction with the dialer, a lockbox was installed near the front entrance, which will facilitate entry to the building for the Fire Department.

A storage cabinet for supplies was purchased to free up space in the caretaker's storage room.

Minor organ repairs and tuning were done as per the normal yearly maintenance.

One section of a pew in the sanctuary was removed to allow space for 2 wheelchairs.

A new wheelchair/transfer chair was donated to the church.

As a result of increased registration in the Sunday School, the Nursery has been relocated to the choir room. Materials that were stored in the choir room have been relocated to the previous nursery.

A door annunciator was purchased and installed. This device will allow visitors to ring the office when the outside doors are locked and speak to the secretary to gain admittance to the building.

Annual Property Report - Continued

The annual fire inspection brought forward several minor issues which were remediated.

In the past, the church has used Bell Alliant and Rogers as service providers for phone and internet services. With the recent competition between the two companies we have been able to get a new contract with one provider at a significant cost saving.

The lamp on the light pole by the ramp in the parking lot was a cause for concern because it was not working consistently. After many phone calls and several service calls the lamp has finally been repaired.

David Stoodley
Chair

Stewardship

1. Financial Updates

Several times during the year, the committee provided updates on givings in the Operating, M&S, and Maintenance areas.

2. Cash Drive

The committee organized this and would to thank those who assisted, especially Rochelle and the delivery people. We did not do a follow-up to non-contributors and we did not reach the budgeted amount for the Cash Drive. This suggests the importance of a well organized follow-up. After last year's follow-up, we increased our income by over \$3,500.00.

3. M&S Fund

Publicity for fund raising comes mostly from the bookless "Minutes for Missions". The committee arranged for weekly readings from this source. The congregation, in its givings to M&S exceeded the budgeted amount (\$18,000.00) by \$2,739.00. The committee expresses its gratitude.

We also express thanks and appreciation to the Sunday School students and teachers for their active involvement in M&S and for their fund-raising efforts which realized well over \$1,200.00.

4. Money Matters, General

- (i) Please look at and think about our givings charts. Where do you stand relative to others? Can we all do better in the givings areas?
- (ii) Can you think about going on PAR if you are not already there?
- (iii) If you are not on PAR and have no plans to do so, could you contribute monthly rather than weekly? This would greatly reduce the work on the counting committees and the secretary.
- (iv) In your estate planning, could you arrange to leave something from your bank account life insurance or RRIF to your church? (Planned givings)
- (v) In your givings planning, please keep in mind "household income" not just the income of the highest earning partner.

Thank you very much for you continuing co-operation and your support of your church and for having given us the honour of serving you.

Committee members:

Howard Barnes, James Dobson, Doug Sanger, Carson Saunders, Walter Scott and Rev. Kim Waite (ex-efficio)

Stewardship Report – Continued

Detailed Information Contributors \$1000 +						
<i>Amount</i>	<i>Givers 2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>
\$1000-1099	9	12	9	14	11	12
1100-1199	15	11	14	9	8	12
1200-1299	14	24	10	7	15	6
1300-1399	6	7	8	10	7	9
1400-1499	7	4	8	4	7	6
1500-1599	3	6	6	3	1	4
1600-1699	8	3	2	7	3	1
1700-1799	2	1	2	4	6	5
1800-1899	2	4	3	5	4	4
1900-1999	4	2	4	4	3	3
2000-2499	10	9	10	5	6	5
2500-2999	4	3	2	3	3	5
3000-3999	2	1	2	1	1	2
4000-4999	1	1	1	1	1	1
5000+	1	1	1	1	1	0
Total	88	89	82	78	77	75

Stewardship Report – Continued

2004-2012 Givings Chart									
<i>Amount Contributed</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>
\$1-99	79	58	68	60	98	50	58	46	49
100-199	31	49	39	41	37	32	21	33	31
200-299	42	33	34	26	27	27	35	22	30
300-399	31	31	29	34	30	28	29	33	22
400-499	21	18	13	17	27	23	22	20	21
500-599	32	21	27	20	29	35	29	25	33
600-699	26	25	16	25	26	26	28	26	21
700-799	15	17	21	20	12	14	20	18	15
800-899	11	17	16	11	18	14	10	16	16
900-999	12	9	12	16	7	9	11	8	9
1000-1999	59	54	77	73	71	65	67	67	62
2000-4999	12	15	12	17	15	15	10	12	13
\$5000+	0	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Total Contributors	371	372	365	361	398	339	341	326	322

Memorial United Church Women

The purpose of the United Church Women is “To unite all women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a medium through which we may express loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian Witness, Study, Fellowship and Service.”

UCW Executive for 2012-2013:

President Eileen Butt

Past President Shirley Down

Recording secretary Loretta Osmond

Corresponding secretary Alice Pittman

Treasurer Bonnie Angel

Assistant treasurer Alice Cater

CONVENORS

Friendship & visitation Lucy Janes

Carmelite visiting Faith Champion & Diane Kelly

Program Shirley Down

Social Marilyn Oldford, Rosaline Mouland & Ann Hull

Flowers Shirley Cole

Church in Society Louise Gillingham

Stewardship & Literature Jean Cater

Membership Betty Budgell

This year the UCW had one new member—Lorraine Gidge—bringing our total membership to 80 with 104 adherent members. During our Christmas Dinner an Aloe Vera plant was presented to Lorraine and The Act of Remembrance for ten of our departed members was done by Alice Cater and June Oldford. The UCW continues to visit the sick and shut-ins, The Seniors Homes and The Carmelite House. This year 297 visits were done.

The UCW have expressed their sympathy throughout the year to members who have lost loved ones or have been ill by preparing food, sending cards, visiting and making donations in their memory to the Maintenance Fund.

UCW Report – Continued

UCW participated in:-

- World Day of Prayer
- Reading of The Proclamation
- Seniors Home visits with Lay Readers
- Advent Vesper Service
- Bible Study with Rev. Kim
- Ushering in June
- Evening of Fellowship at Windsor Pentecostal
- Decorating of Church for Thanksgiving and Christmas
- UCW Retreat West Haven

The UCW Choir joined in an evening of music with The Tapestry of Love Choir.

Social Functions:

- UCW AGM Potluck
- Congregational Meeting Potluck
- Salmon Festival Brunch
- Sunday Coffee Time
- Catering for Catholic Women's League
- Prepared food for Cancer Relay Team & Loon Bay Camp
- Hosted ladies from Badger, Buchans, Millertown and Bishop Falls
- Hosted UCW Rally
- Hosted Birthday celebrations for Jean Snow and Joyce Brain on their 90th Birthdays and visited Blanche Lacey on her 106th.
- Plaques were placed on the wall in the vestibule to acknowledge those celebrating their 90th birthdays.

UCW Report – Continued

Donations of time & money:

- Stella Burry Foundation (Naomi Centre & Emmanuel House)
- Carew Lodge
- Labrador Fund
- Mission & Service Fund
- West District Allocations
- Foster Parents Plan
- Hospital Auxiliary
- Operation Shoe Box
- Benevolent Fund (White Gift)
- Canadian Diabetic Association Children's Camp
- EVI Breakfast Program
- Daily Bread
- In Memoriam Hymn Sing
- Collected pop tabs for The Robert Hampson Tabs for Kids Fund
- Arranging, caring and purchasing flowers for the Church
- Hosannas' Children

Some UCW members continue to purchase The Sharing Magazine

This year the UCW contributed money to offset the purchase of a new dishwasher for the kitchen.

At the annual Jumble Sale a portion of the proceeds were given to The Boy Scouts to offset the cost of their trip to National Jamboree.

Our Program Committee were busy again this year preparing events for The General Meetings.

In November the UCW had their annual Fall Sale with members continuing to make fudge, puddings, fish cakes, home made goods and knitted items.

Under the leadership of Shirley and Bob Down the children of the Church again enjoyed Breakfast with Santa.

At our annual Christmas Dinner, Life Membership Pins were presented to Rosaline Mouland and Marilyn Oldford. Emily Stoodley's Life Pin was transferred to her daughter-in-law Sharon Stoodley as per her request.

Our Church in Society convenor helped supply food and clothing for a family in need.

The United Church Women under the leadership of Eileen Butt and her executive have had another rewarding year and look forward to working together with Eileen the new members of the executive to continue to focus on the UCW Purpose.

Recording Secretary
Loretta Osmond

Sunday School Report

It has been a wonderful and exciting year for the children in our Sunday School. Our numbers are growing with 52 children registered. This is a 25% increase over last year and with the exciting events we have been able to offer, a large number of children are attending regularly. We are fortunate to have two regular leaders and ten others taking turns. I would like to thank all of our Sunday School leaders for their dedication to the children of our congregation this past year.

We recently relocated our nursery area from where it was to the space formerly occupied by the choirs. The choir room is now where the nursery used to be. We decided to proceed with the move because of the large number of nursery children (parents) regularly attending. We presently have 14 nursery children registered.

Last February, the grades 4 to 6 had their 3rd Annual Cupcake and Craft sale to raise money for the Mission and Service Fund. Under the leadership of Debbie Sheppard and the help of parents and Sunday School leaders, they raised \$640.00. Last May, for Mother's Day, the class took on a new project. They hosted a Café and Desert event to raise money for various causes they personally chose from the "Gifts with Vision" booklet. The children enjoyed preparing and presenting their causes to the congregation and, thanks to your great support; they raised just over \$1000.00. A few weeks later, the children were very excited to receive a letter from David Armour, Director of Philanthropy with the United Church of Canada Foundation, congratulating them for their efforts. They can certainly be proud of themselves. Sunday School concluded for the summer on June 2nd with a picnic at Church Road Park.

Last fall was also a very busy time for all of our Sunday School children as they prepared for the Advent season. They participated in the Hanging of the Green Service on the first Sunday of Advent. Because of our large numbers, we decided to present two programs. On the third Sunday of Advent, the Nursery to Grade 4 children took part in the White Gift Service by performing a play called "The Royal Gift". On the forth Sunday of Advent, the older children of our Sunday School also prepared a play called "What? No Angels?" Both groups did a marvelous job with their presentations that taught us important Christmas messages. Everyone enjoyed both programs.

This past fall we moved on to a new Curriculum. We are now using the Gather 'Round program and so far, it is very much enjoyed by leaders and children alike. The older children have again this past year taken part in the scripture reading during the Sunday morning services. Thanks to all the readers for your participation. Finally, I would like to thank all the children and their parents for your continuous support to our Sunday School as we all learn how to live in God's way.

Roseline Moulard
Sunday School Superintendent

Memorial United Church Men's Choir

Our Men's Choir were very active again this year. The weekly practices under the direction of Glen Moulard and accompanist Wallace Robinson, were well attended and very enjoyable. We all appreciate their dedication to our choir.

Our Choir members were deeply saddened by the passing of our new, and very dedicated choir member, Wilson Stuckless.

Several choir members supported a number of community activities this year including: the Kiwanis Music Festival and services at the seniors' homes. We also entered a team in the Cancer Relay for Life again this year. 2013 was the eleventh consecutive year that our Men's Choir has entered a team in this event. We have raised over \$60,000 over the eleven years of our participation in this project. We recognize Howard Barnes for coordinating this project and on behalf of all team members we would like to thank everyone for their continued support as we look forward to entering this event again in 2014.

The Men's Choir gave support to our Lay Readers with regular monthly visits to Golden Years Hollett's and Twin Town Senior's Homes.

In 2012 we sponsored a number of successful fund raising activities enabling us to continue our financial support to our congregation:

During the town's Winterlude in February we held our Lumberjack Dinner. Volunteers from the Choir served Baked Beans, Bologna, touts and molasses buns, and entertainment by our UC5 Croup.

In December catered to the annual United Church Women's Christmas Dinner.

Our Closing Social took place in late May at the Odd Fellows Hall, a fun evening was enjoyed by all.

2013 was another active and enjoyable year for all members, new members are always welcome.

We would like to thank the congregation for their continued support.

We would also like to thank the men of our congregation who assist the choir with their projects.

The Men's Choir Committee
Finance Report attached

Memorial United Church Men's Choir 2013 Balance Sheet

JANUARY 1/13 - DECEMBER 31/13

Balance Forwarded From 2012	\$3432.67
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Revenue For 2013

Interest	0.42	(BMO)	
Projects	2713.00	(LumberJack Special)	
Catering	1344.00	(UCW Christmas Social)	
Socials	630.00	(Tickets sold for year end social)	
Donations	<u>400.00</u>	(Funerals)	
	\$5212.42		+\$ <u>5212.42</u>
			\$8645.09

Expenditure For 2012

Projects	903.79	(LumberJack Special)	
Catering	605.67	(UCW Christmas Social)	
Socials	1533.96	(Year End Social at ODD Fellows Club/Gifts/Fruit Tray)	
Donations	4000.00	(Memorial United Church/4th Grand Falls Scouts)	
In Memoriam	<u>50.00</u>		
	\$7093.42		- \$7093.42

YEAR END BALANCE FOR DECEMBER 31, 2013	<u>\$1551.67</u>
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E. M. Osmond
Treasurer (2013)

4th Grand Falls Scouts

2013 proved to be yet another fantastic year for the youth in the 4th Grand Falls Scout troop (ages 11-14), Cub Pack (ages 8-10) and Beaver Colonies (ages 5-7). With more than 80 youth and 29 leaders using the CE Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, our church is a busy spot. Our group of fantastic leaders have made the 4th Grand Falls the envy of groups across the province. While other groups strive to maintain their status quo, we seem to have no problem attracting youth and leaders to our program. The leaders meet regularly to develop a program that excites and challenges the youth. In the Scouting movement youth should be taken at a young age and molded to become leaders. I am proud to say that I can see that happening in our groups. Our older youth are planning their own meetings and adventures, making their own rules, and operating their own Court of Honour. Plans are also underway to start a Venturer Company (ages 14-17).

The biggest adventure undertaken in 2013 was organizing to attend, fundraising for and attending the 12th Canadian Scout Jamboree in Sylvan Lake, Alberta. Even the leaders who attended came back home exhausted but renewed in ways they had never anticipated. It looks like their next big planning project will be attending the 2015 Haarlem Jamborette in the Netherlands! How's that for an ambitious group of 11-14 year olds!

We were sorry to hear that Jack Sheppard passed away recently. Jack, a Scouter of 63 years, will certainly be missed at our table during our Annual Banquet.

We are very pleased once again to have Memorial United Church as our sponsoring body. This sponsorship gives us a comfortable, spacious and reliable meeting and activity home. We also appreciate the financial support the church provides. In 2013 Memorial United Church gave the Scouts \$1000, the UCW gave \$1000 and the Men's Choir gave \$500. These funds were used to help youth who have difficulty with registration costs, help programming expenses and help purchase outdoor equipment that will stay with the group and benefit the youth as they move up through the various levels of Scouting.

David Stoodley
Group Chair

Beaver Colonies:

The 4th Grand Falls Beaver Colony currently has 2 groups participating at the Memorial United Church. We have 40 Beaver Scouts registered and 11 registered leaders.

To date we have had the following activities:

Popcorn Fundraiser, Apple Day Fundraiser, Halloween Party, Remembrance Day Parade, Wild West Theme, Wrote letters to a Canadian soldier, Attend and took part in the Christmas Parade, Held our Christmas Party, Had a Show and Share in the New Year, and Upcoming is our Annual Winter Sleepover

4th Grand Falls Scouts - Continued

Cub Pack:

2013-14 4th Grand Falls Cub Scout activity report (September –January)

It's been another busy beginning to the cub scouting session. After a July that saw 9 of our cubs scouts be invested as scouts and attend their first national scouting Jamboree in Sylvan Lake Alberta, we began September with a excited new pack. Twenty-six cubs were registered, including 16 new tender pads. We also added 2 new leaders, giving our pack a total contingent of 10 full-time leaders.

After the usual introductory meetings and investitures we quickly took part in our first cub camp of the season. What is becoming a biannual activity, a central area Cuboree proved to be a great opportunity for building our cubs' spirits. The 4th Grand Falls group, along with groups from Springdale and Gander joined with Fogo for a 70+ youth camp. Unlike our last Loon Bay Cuboree the weather proved exceptional for a fall camp and all activities went off as planned. We were also joined by two guiding groups from Grand Falls-Windsor and our own Scout troop. It was a great camp, and a quick way to get to know our pack.

Our pack has taken part in two major fundraisers already this year. Thanks to the public of Grand Falls-Windsor and the members of Memorial United Church we have seen banner returns from Apple day and Popcorn sales. The group subsidized youth membership fees to the tune of \$2500 for all sections of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts (based on participation and need). Cubs also took part in a vegetable sale fundraiser with the Scouts to fund the scouting equipment improvement fund.

Our pack has been active in our weekly meetings as well. We attempted a fall hike in late September that was postponed because of torrential rains. Two weeks later we left from Ibex fuels and hiked the Corduroy Trail to Gibson's Field only to discover that beavers (actual ones) had backed up stream water through much of the trail. Cubs and leaders returned very wet after leaders tried to take a shortcut across the flooded trail line. It will be long remembered. We had a First Aid badge session held by a town First Aid trainer in which the youth learned age appropriate first aid skills. The youth took part in the Remembrance Day memorial parade as well as the Santa Claus parade. We have completed the Guide badge which required youth to find local landmarks on maps such as police, hospital, churches and homes. We tried to build some science and fun into a "protect the egg" challenge which ended in 3 dozen broken eggs and some shiny leaders (a definite highlight for the cubs). Recently we have been working on our Kub Kars, went swimming for our Christmas gathering, and went sliding during the power conservation periods. Our program is planned up until March 5th, including our Scout Guide week activities, all of which have been vested with our sixers' council (5 sixers, and 5 seconders) who have great power to drive our program in the direction the youth choose. We are also looking at some linking activities with the Beavers in the coming weeks and at least 2 more camp opportunities before the summer break. Perhaps the Watercraft badge will be on the youth's demands, as rafting is always a hot idea.

4th Grand Falls Scouts - Continued

Scout Troop:

The Scout section has twenty active youth and eight active adult volunteers. Since September we have already attended four camps, with another four to go before the program year-end. We have decided on an “emergency preparedness” theme for the year, which has already proved to be excellent timing given the power situation earlier this month. Over the summer we had 14 youth attend the Canadian Jamboree in Sylvan Lake, Alberta along with 7,500 Scouts and volunteers from across the country. Too many incredible experiences to summarize, but perhaps the most significant was that four of our youth actually had a two-way conversation with astronauts aboard the International Space Station! As we look ahead, our next big adventure will be a trip to Europe in the summer of 2015 to mark the 100th anniversary of World War I. Scouting is alive and well in Grand Falls-Windsor, thanks to the generosity of the congregation here at Memorial United Church!

We received \$2,600 from the church through direct contributions and church-led fundraisers, and an additional \$3,800 from fundraisers that we ran at the church, meaning the church was directly or indirectly responsible for \$6,400 towards our program!

The Exploits Valley Branch of the Canadian Bible Society

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to Memorial United Church for the privilege of serving as your representatives on the **Exploits Valley Branch of The Canadian Bible Society**. Tremendous effort of many volunteers make this a most rewarding experience.

The Exploits Valley Branch of The Canadian Bible Society is made up representatives from all the Churches in Grand Falls-Windsor and Bishop Falls. Our Branch continued in 2013 to successfully meet its mandate and mission to promote and encourage, without doctrinal note or comment, the distribution and use of scripture and related materials throughout the local region.

Our Branch continued to fund raise through the local Churches by declaring a **Bible Sunday**. A special service is held focusing on the Bible and monies are collected through a special envelope distributed to each congregational member. Memorial United Church held its Bible Sunday on April 27, 2013 with The Rev. Lorne Freake in attendance at our 11:00am service. Our best loved event, our **Annual Festival of Praise** is held in alternate Churches with each Church providing a Gospel selection. Our 2013 Festival of Praise was held at Evangel Pentecostal Church on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7:30pm. It was an honour to have The Rev. Dr. Lorne Freake, Director of Ministry Advancement, Maritimes in attendance. The Exploits Valley Branch was very pleased to present \$5,000.00 to The Canadian Bible Society at this special event.

From April 18, 2013 to April 27, 2013 Memorial United Church opened its door to all Christians in the Central area for an event called 'The Proclamation'. For ten days hundreds of people came through our Church doors to share in the reading out loud the whole of the Bible. It was a very moving and powerful way to share God's life-giving Word. Each day our readings started at 7:00 am in the morning to 9:00 pm in the evening. Our readers ranged in ages from six years to ninety years.

We continued again this year to distribute New Testaments to infants at their Baptism. Eleven New Testaments were presented at Memorial United.

Respectfully submitted,

Cora Randell & Gloria Raines
Memorial United Church Representatives

Loon Bay Camping Centre

In July and August 2013 there were five (5) youth camps, each four (4) days in duration, with a total of one hundred twenty (120) campers. The Camp was open from May to October, on weekends it was rented to Girl Guides, Air Cadets, Men's Groups and UCW groups.

A Camp Director, Camp Cook and Camp Caretaker were employed for the summer as well as Student Counsellors to lead the camping program. Grants were received to pay salaries of counsellors and 50% of the cook's salary. Other staff members were paid from camp funds.

Two Gospel concerts were held at the Camp raising some \$1682. Family Day in September raised another \$4294.

The buildings are in desperate need of repairs and maintenance and the Board is attempting to initiate some serious fundraising events and activities.

We thank you for your past support and hope that all congregations in the Loon Bay catchment area will continue to, and possibly increase, their support for the Camp.

John Elliott, Chair
Board of Directors