

TOPSAIL  
UNITED  
CHURCH

2011 Annual  
Report

**“The Church by the Side of the Road”**

P.O. Box 13010, Stn Topsail  
Conception Bay South  
NL A1W 2K1  
Phone: 834-4567  
Fax: 834-6200  
[www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net](http://www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net)



*Celebrating 175 Years*  
*1837 - 2012*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
<i>Church Directory</i> .....	1
<i>Church Rolls 2011</i> .....	2
<i>Minutes of 2011 Annual Congregational Meeting</i> .....	3-11
<i>Minutes of Congregational Meeting, April 10, 2011</i> .....	12-13
<i>Minister's Report</i> .....	14-15
<i>Official Board Chair Report</i> .....	16
<i>Pastoral Care &amp; Membership Committee</i> .....	17
<i>Worship &amp; Sacraments Committee</i> .....	18
<i>Organist/Choir Director</i> .....	19
<i>Senior Choir</i> .....	20
<i>Christian Development Committee</i> .....	21
<i>Sunday School</i> .....	22-23
<i>Children &amp; Youth Music Program</i> .....	24
<i>Ministry &amp; Personnel Committee</i> .....	25
<i>Outreach Committee</i> .....	26-27
<i>Food Bank</i> .....	28
<i>Mission &amp; Service</i> .....	29
<i>Property &amp; Trustee Committee</i> .....	30
<i>Men's Club</i> .....	31-32
<i>United Church Women</i> .....	33-35
<i>Harvest Festival Committee</i> .....	36
<i>175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee</i> .....	37
<i>Long Term Planning Committee</i> .....	38-39
<i>Finance Committee</i> .....	40-44
<i>Nominating Committee</i> .....	45

# CHURCH DIRECTORY – 2011

Minister	Rev. Bruce Kearley
Administrative Assistant	Lynn Mercer
Caretaker	Roger Richards
Organist & Choir Director	Nadine Hollett
Family Worship & Supply Organist	Andrea Deacy
Wedding Coordinator	Rosemary Richards
Webmaster ( <a href="http://www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net">www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net</a> )	Ken Corbett

## OFFICIAL BOARD

### **EXECUTIVE**

Chair	Valerie Howe
Vice Chair	Sharon Deemer
Secretary	Gillian Corbett
Treasurer	Boyde Clarke
Minister	Rev. Bruce Kearley

### **MEMBERS**

Anne Allen	Paul Burt	Freeman Budgell	Cle Callan
Rosalind Foley	Lloyd Hobbs	Mitchell Moran	Jan Negrijn
Judy Powell	Peter Upshall	Harry Whitehorne	

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ministry & Personnel	Anne Allen
Finance & Administration	Boyde Clarke
Pastoral Care & Membership	Gillian Corbett
Outreach	Patricia Jones
Christian Development	Jan Negrijn
Property & Trustee	Max Robbins
Worship	Rosalind Foley

## **CHURCH GROUP LEADERS**

Men's Club	Bob Bennett
United Church Women	Patricia Jones
Sunday School Superintendent	Jo-Ann Stone
Youth & Children's Choir Director	Rosalind Foley
Youth Band Leader	Brett Vey

## **EAST DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**

Delegates:	Bob Bennett/ Derrick Tuffin/ Freeman Budgell
Alternates:	Jan Negrijn/Gillian Corbett
Burry Heights Contact:	Patricia Jones

# **CHURCH ROLLS - 2011**

**BAPTISMS - 40**

**MARRIAGES - 18**

**FUNERALS - 11**

## **HISTORIC ROLL**

### **NEW MEMBERS**

#### **BY CONFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

Rebecca Anne Allen  
Stephen Alexander Harding  
Justin William Murphy  
Caroline Victoria Pinsent  
Zoe Soleil Vallee

#### **BY TRANSFER**

Solomon Davis	David Rideout	Pam Mercer	Carol Hedd
Phyllis Davis	Diane Rideout	Nancy Leawood	Frederick Hedd
	Donna Rideout		Gerald Hedd

#### **DECEASED MEMBERS**

Amy Penney

## **Topsail United Church Congregational Meeting Meeting Minutes - February 20, 2011**

**1. Call to Order**

Reverend Bruce Kearley called the Annual Congregational Meeting to order at 12:10 pm on February 20, 2011.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Rev. Bruce Kearley opened the meeting with a short reading entitled "If This is Not A Place" dealing with the idea of being open and understanding and working together, followed by a prayer entitled "A Prayer for The Journey".

**3. Chair and Secretary for 2011 Congregational Meeting**

Bob Bennett nominated Bob Jenkins as Congregational Chair, seconded by Rosalind Foley. There being no further nominations, Bob was declared to be the Chair.

Bob Jenkins nominated Anne Allen as Secretary. There being no further nominations, Anne was declared to be the Secretary.

**4. Acknowledgement and Thanks**

Bob Jenkins expressed on behalf of the entire Congregation of Topsail United Church our deepest thanks to Rev. Kearley for his Ministry and work over the past year and noted how truly blessed we are to have him here with us at Topsail United. Boyde Clarke gave special thanks to Valerie Howe who assumed the very important role of Board Chair at the start of the 2010 Board year. Valerie has done a wonderful job in this role and the Board itself as well as the Church as a whole are blessed to have benefited from her talents over this past year.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

It was suggested by Bob Jenkins that, as in previous years, we follow the practice of presenting and discussing all reports, except that of the Finance Committee, then having one motion to accept them all. Financial reports including the 2011 Budget would be approved in a separate motion. There was unanimous agreement. Bob Jenkins made note of the few in attendance at today's meeting. However, he also commented that with the detailed Annual Report available in advance to all members of the Congregation, the annual meeting may be viewed as a mere formality.

**6. Adoption of Church Roll**

As there were no errors or omissions noted in The Church Roll as presented in the Annual Report, the Roll was unanimously accepted as presented.

**7. Remembrance of those who passed away in 2010**

Rev. Kearley read the names of those who passed away in 2010 followed by a short prayer, a moment of silence, and the Lord's Prayer.

**8. Minutes of Last Congregational Meeting**

The Minutes of the 2010 Annual Congregational Meeting were included in the Annual Report. There being no errors or omissions, the Chair called for a motion to adopt these Minutes.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Bob Bennett and seconded by Max Robbins that the Minutes of the 2010 Annual Congregational Meeting be accepted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**9. 2010 Annual Reports**

**a. Minister**

Rev. Kearley drew attention to his letter “As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God” included in the Annual Report, pages 16 and 17. Rev. Kearley spoke on the theme of “worship” and the importance of worship as the foundation of all other Church activities. Rev. Kearley spoke on the importance of pastoral care as a part of worship and how he tries to respond to the pastoral care needs of this Congregation as soon as he can. He commented on how vital it is that he be made aware of any pastoral care needs and he drew special attention to the fact that with upcoming changes taking place at Eastern Health whereby denominational hospital lists will no longer be made public, it is very important that he be made aware of any person requiring pastoral care while in hospital. Otherwise he may not know about that fact and therefore not respond accordingly. Rev. Kearley advised that there were approximately 440 pastoral contacts made during the past year.

In 2010, Topsail United Church had 44 baptisms, of which Rev. Kearley estimates that 80% are from our local area, and the challenge we face as a Church is how to follow up with these families with hopes of seeing them become permanent members of our Congregation. Reverend Kearley stressed the need for additional resources in this area. Reverend Kearley also advised that in 2010 there were four confirmations, five transfers, eight marriages, and 17 funerals.

Rev. Kearley noted how fortunate we are to have three or four retired ministers as part of our Congregation, and how he relies on, and is very thankful for, their on going support, especially in times when he is absent. Rev. Kearley acknowledged and thanked those who assist with Worship, provide leadership in Christian education, provide administrative support, work on Committees, and to all staff for their hard work. He also offered thanks to the Board for their leadership and ministry. He welcomed new members joining the Board and thanked to those rotating off the Board.

Rev. Kearley addressed his service to the wider church community. He spoke on his work with District and the Military. He spoke of his involvement with The Last Post Fund which is a non-profit organization whose primary objective is to ensure that no Veteran is denied a dignified funeral and burial due to lack of sufficient funds.

Rev. Kearley highlighted the work of our Youth Band, Children's and Junior High Choirs. He noted how thankful we are to be able to enjoy their talents and commented that he is amazed by just how willing they are to share those talents with the Church as a whole. Our finances are healthy and we are consistently exceeding Mission and Service Fund giving's objectives. Rev. Kearley noted that now as we are preparing for our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, we should celebrate our many blessings.

He concluded by saying that we have a challenging year ahead as we continue to grow and thanked everyone for their support.

There were no questions.

**b. Chair of the Board**

Valerie Howe stated that her report covers everything she would like to speak on. She offered thanks to her fellow Board members and all involved in the Church.

There were no questions.

**c. Organist/Choir Director**

Eileen Green passed along regrets from Nadine Hollett as she had a commitment with the Kiwanis Festival.

There were no questions.

**d. Christian Development Coordinator**

Rosalind Foley advised that her report covers everything she would like to speak on.

There were no questions.

**e. Christian Development Committee**

There were no questions on the presented report. Reverend Kearley noted the importance of Christian Development/Education to both adults and youth.

There were no questions.

**f. Harvest Festival Committee**

Bob Jenkins commented that 2010 was a good year for the Harvest Festival.

The Committee continues to review the Jiggs Dinner given the drop in numbers attending this event. It is likely that after the 2012 Anniversary Year, the Committee will replace the Jiggs Dinner with another event.

There were no questions.

**g. Men's Club**

The Men's Group saw another successful year. Bob Bennett stated that the Men's Club has approximately 34 members with an average attendance on a monthly basis of 16-20.

There were no questions.

**h. Ministry and Personnel Committee**

It was noted that the Ministry and Personnel Committee is responsible for issues related to Human Resources and Conflict Resolution and is used as a sounding board for any staff issues.

There were no questions.

**i. Outreach Committee**

The Outreach Committee report is presented in the Annual Report. It was noted by Bob Jenkins that while the Outreach Committee contributed monies to Topsail United Church during the year, they maintained a significant bank balance at year end. Bob Bennett commented that bank balances held by various Church groups – the Men's Club, Outreach, UCW, Sunday School and Youth Group, totalled over \$10,000 which is significant in total.

Boyde Clarke noted that while there are balances held by various church groups, TUC's current financial position is strong and there is no need for funds to be consolidated at this time.

There were no further questions.

**j. Membership and Pastoral Care Committee**

The Committee's report is included in the Annual Report.

There were no questions.

**k. Property and Trustee Committee**

Derrick Tuffin noted one correction to this Committee's report on page 30; in the first line, reference to the installation of a new Church "tower" should read a new Church "steeple". Rev. Kearley noted that this Committee has looked after a lot of work this year at the Upper Gullies Cemetery and Max Robbins advised that while further work will be completed this year, e.g. a new gate, this site is ready and is very beautiful. The site has been designated as a Heritage Site by the CBS Town Council.

Bob Jenkins inquired about the status of the Topsail Cemetery. Bob Bennett advised that there are approximately 30 plots remaining.

**l. Senior Choir**

The report from the Senior Choir is included in the Annual Report.

There were no questions.



**m. Sunday School**

The report from Sunday School is included in the Annual Report. It was noted that there continues to be a need for additional teachers.

There were no questions.

**n. United Church Women**

The report of the UCW showed another busy and successful year.

There were no questions.

**o. Worship and Sacraments Committee**

The Worship and Sacraments Committee report is included in the Annual Report. Doreen Cave noted that the Committee has new members including a Youth member.

**p. Youth Group**

As noted in its report, the Youth Group is not functioning as it traditionally did. However, it is noted that with the expanded role of the Youth Band and the addition of the Junior High Choir, the youth still continue to take an active role in Church activities. The challenge is to continue to offer Youth Programs to those youth who do not participate in music driven activities.

There were no further questions.

**q. 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

The Committee's report is included in the Annual Report. Eileen Green noted that Sharon Deemer has agreed to take on the task of developing an historical booklet highlighting the history of Topsail United Church.

There were no questions.

**r. Written History Report**

The report is included in the Annual report.

There were no questions.

**s. Long Term Planning Committee**

Valerie Howe provided an update, advising that the Congregational Survey phase of this project has been completed and that the Committee is currently working on a Report and Long Term Plan for Topsail United Church. Rev. Kearley thanked Valerie Howe for all her leadership and hard work dealing with this matter and noted that it is the Committee's overall hope to develop a plan that will see this Church grow and move forward into the future.

There were no questions.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Freeman Budgell and seconded by Lloyd Hobbs that reports 9a through s be adopted and approved as submitted, with the noted changes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**t. Finance Committee**

Boyde Clarke presented his report.

**a. 2010 Financial Statement**

The actual results for 2010 were reviewed and the following items were highlighted:

- ❑ Surplus of \$9,766 with over \$50,000 in bank.
- ❑ The Building Loan was paid off in February 2010, the Organ Loan will be paid off in February 2012 and the new Steeple Loan has very favourable interest and repayment terms.
- ❑ The Special Fundraising items for 2010, relating to three events – Hurricane Igor Relief, Pakistan Flood Relief and Haiti Earthquake Disaster, saw almost \$6,000 raised by our Congregation which is very generous.
- ❑ While significant work has been completed at the Upper Gullies Cemetery, the Cemetery Fund still has a balance in excess of \$13,000. Further work will be completed this year at both the Upper Gullies and Long Pond sites.

Bob Jenkins discussed the fact that we now have 97 families on PAR and that we lead other United Churches in the province. Some thoughts were raised wondering whether a very healthy bank account (as we currently have) may be in part due to the fact that we have so many families providing regular support to the Church through PAR.

**MOTION:** It was motioned by Rosalind Foley and seconded by Bob Bennett that the Financial Statements for 2010 be accepted as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**b. Budget for 2011**

It was decided to review and discuss the 2011 budget first without considering the addition of the proposed Christian Development Coordinator Position. That item would be discussed separately.

Boyde Clarke discussed the fact that budgeted figures for 2011 are very comparable to 2010 budgeted figures. Budgeted Operating Income for 2011 totals \$204,450.00 compared to the 2010 total budgeted figure of \$204,800.00. Budgeted Operating Expenses for 2011 totals \$196,250.00 compared to the 2010 total budget figure of \$204,010.00. For 2011, there is a projected surplus of \$8,200.00 (before the proposed Christian Development Coordinator Position).

### **Steeple Loan**

Boyde Clarke indicated that repayments on this loan are included in the 2011 budget.

### **Organ Loan**

Boyde Clarke indicated that repayments on this loan are included in the 2011 budget and noted that this loan will be repaid in February 2012.

### **Church Hall Rentals**

Boyde Clarke explained that 2011 Budgeted Church Hall Rentals of \$13,000.00 relate to two confirmed bookings for Tai Kwon Do and Tai Chi. It was noted how fortunate we are to have these new groups making use of our Hall and thus providing an increase in income to the Church.

### **Appendix to 2011 Budget – Proposed Christian Development Coordinator**

Lloyd Hobbs, on behalf of the Ministry & Personnel Committee, explained that this proposed position does not have anything to do with the services currently provided by Rev. Kearley. This proposed position is for additional services, i.e. over and above what Rev. Kearley does. The proposal is for additional programming in the area of Christian Development, therefore, resources must be added to provide this new programming.

Harry Whitehorne commented that from his time assisting Reverend Kearley last year when Rev. Kearley was away on sabbatical, he can attest to the fact that the Minister's job here at Topsail is too much for one person to do. Harry asked Rev. Kearley for his opinion as to whether this position would be of any assistance to him, as Harry wondered if it would. Rev. Kearley explained assuming this position works independently from his position as Minister (i.e. that Rev. Kearley would not be expected to provide supervision to this new position) Rev. Kearley stated that he will be involved with the programming and will provide oversight. He explained that he does not do a lot of Christian Development work; rather, that is left to the volunteers at Topsail United. So by adding this position, current work would not be taken away from Rev. Kearley. The one exception to this may be dealing with Family Services and confirmation classes whereby this new position could take over the total responsibility for these areas and thus Reverend Kearley would not be involved. Having explained this, Reverend Kearley went on to explain that he believes that Christian Education, especially dealing with Youth, is of vital importance to the growth of our Church. Rev. Kearley then expressed a wish that part of the hours of this new position be devoted to pastoral care, especially in the area of pastoral visits. If that were to occur then it would result in a direct benefit to Rev. Kearley. Rev. Kearley explained that a person providing pastoral visits does not have to be ordained. Anne Allen advised that this aspect could be added to the proposed position.

Harry Whitehorne expressed concern that if the Church hires a part-time person to look after Christian Development then a second minister will never

be added. Bob Bennett added that at last year's Congregational Meeting he made a motion to include funds for a half-time ordained position and also motioned for a joint needs assessment. Both these motions were not passed. Bob Bennett said that this proposed position description does nothing to help Rev. Kearley and is therefore not what is needed. He also expressed concern over the lack of office space for any additional position. Bob noted that the last time a needs assessment was completed at Topsail was eight years ago. He indicated this assessment should be done every three years. It was also questioned whether we had the forum to make this decision with only 15 people present at this Congregational Meeting.

Valerie Howe explained that the recent Congregational survey was very much like a needs assessment. Valerie also advised that the surveys were very positive and did not show that the Congregation feels we need a second minister at this time. Lloyd Hobbs also added that from his work in reviewing the survey results, it showed that the Congregation is very pleased with the Ministry provided by Rev. Kearley and that while there is a feeling that Rev. Kearley should be provided with additional resources to help with his work load, the survey results did not show that those additional resources should come in the form of a second ordained Minister. With this in mind, this proposed position description was developed by the Ministry & Personnel Committee in accordance with East District guidelines and was subsequently approved by East District in June 2010.

Bob Jenkins suggested that the funds for an additional position be approved as presented in the current 2011 budget, but that the actual position description itself be sent back to the Board for further work. The Board needs to take into consideration the feelings expressed at this Congregational Meeting in the development of a revised position description.

**MOTION:** It was motioned by Boyde Clarke and seconded by Bob Jenkins that the 2011 Budget be accepted as presented, including an allocation of funds for the addition of a new position. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION:** It was motioned by Boyde Clarke and seconded by Bob Jenkins that the Board reassess the position description for this new position, taking into consideration comments raised at the 2011 Congregational Meeting, and the position description be finalized by May 2011. At the completion of this process, the new position description will be brought to the Congregation for approval at a Special Meeting of the Congregation. **MOTION CARRIED.**

10. **Nominating Committee Report**

The report of the Nomination Committee was accepted as presented in the Annual Report.

There was a call for other nominations for the 2011 Board. No nominations were made.

**MOTION:** It was motioned by Valerie Howe and seconded by Max Robbins that nominations cease. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2011 Board Members for Topsail United Church

Members in their third year – Anne Allen, Boyde Clarke, Sharon Deemer, Valerie Howe and Peter Upshall.

Members in their second year – Freeman Budgell, Cle Callan, Gillian Corbett, Lloyd Hobbs and Jan Negrijn.

Members in their first year – Paul Burt, Rosalind Foley, Mitchell Moran, Harry Whitehorne and Judy Powell.

11. **New Business**

No new business was raised.

12. **Adjournment and Benediction**

**MOTION:** It was motioned by Lloyd Hobbs and seconded by Derrick Tuffin that the meeting be adjourned at 2:10 pm. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rev. Kearley offered thanks to Bob Jenkins and Anne Allen and gave the benediction.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bob Jenkins, Chair  
February 20, 2011

Anne Allen, Secretary  
February 20, 2011

## **Topsail United Church Congregational Meeting Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2011**

**1. Call to Order**

Reverend Bruce Kearley called the Congregational Meeting to order at 12:15 pm on April 10, 2011.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Rev. Bruce Kearley opened the meeting with a short prayer.

**3. Chair and Secretary for the April 10, 2011 Congregational Meeting**

In the absence of Bob Jenkins, Chair for 2011 elected at the Annual Congregation Meeting on February 20, 2011, Bob Bennett nominated Boyde Clarke as Congregational Chair, seconded by Gillian Corbett. There being no further nominations, Boyde was declared to be the Chair. Anne Allen, Secretary elected at the Annual Congregation Meeting on February 20, 2011, continued to act as Secretary.

**4. Quorum**

As there were only 18 members present at the meeting, the Chair adjourned the meeting. Then upon the call of the Chair, the meeting was immediately reconvened with a quorum of 18 present.

**5. Approval of Amendments to the Topsail United Church By-Laws (Constitution)**

This document as presented at the meeting and available to all members of the congregation has been approved by East District and now requires the approval of the congregation. There were no questions or comments on the document.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Bob Bennett and seconded by Mitchell Moran that the Amended By-Laws be accepted and approved as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**6. New Christian Development Coordinator Position Description**

This position description was sent back to the Board following the Annual Congregation Meeting on February 20, 2011. The position description was amended slightly and once again passed by the Board in March 2011. There was a brief discussion on the requirement for office space. After no further questions or comments a motion was made.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Lloyd Hobbs and seconded by Sandra Baggs that the Christian Development Coordinator Position Description be accepted and approved. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**7. The Topsail United Church Strategic Plan 2011-2012**

Valerie Howe gave a brief presentation of the Strategic Plan. The Plan and its recommendations have already been approved by the Board and the presentation was for informational purposes only. Following a short discussion it was noted that it is important that we work hard and continue on with what we have accomplished so far and not lose our momentum.

Reverend Bruce Kearley expressed thanks, on behalf of the entire Congregation of Topsail United Church, to Valerie Howe for all her long hours and efforts involving the development the Strategic Plan.

**8. Adjournment and Benediction**

**MOTION:** It was motioned by Bob Bennett that the meeting be adjourned at 12:40 pm. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rev. Kearley offered thanks to Boyde Clarke and Anne Allen and gave the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Boyde Clarke, Chair  
April 10, 2011

Anne Allen, Secretary  
April 10, 2011

# TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

## “The church by the side of the road”

**from the minister’s desk...**

“

**Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus.  
Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus.  
Anywhere, everywhere I will follow on.  
Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus.  
Anywhere he leads me I will follow on.**

Dear Friends:

Greetings in Christ’s name. As I write this letter for 2011 Annual Report there is a snow storm raging outside. I heard a little poem a number of years ago that states: *“Whether the weather be cold, or whether the weather be hot, we’ll weather the weather, no matter the weather, whether we like it or not.”* That is a simple little rhyme but, in many ways, depicts the journey of life. We all know that life has its moments of celebration and moments of challenge. Yet, despite these realities we still strive to move forward to enjoy the celebrations and learn from the challenges. The chorus I chose to begin this letter *“Follow, follow I will follow Jesus”*, while, again, a simple little rhyme, acknowledges that as we journey each day, Jesus walks with us in our celebrations and our challenges. This indicates that faith is a daily walk. There is a lovely Bible verse that reflects the assurance of God’s presence with us each day. It is found in Psalm 119: 105 – *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”* There are many ways, as people of faith, we experience the presence of God among us. The annual report, while it is filled with many statistics, it is an account – a picture – of the ministry of this Pastoral Charge as we seek to walk with God each day. As we read through this report let us do so, therefore, with a deep sense of gratitude for God’s blessings and God’s guidance throughout the year.

God’s blessings and guidance indicates that God walks with us in the joyful moments of life and a place of refuge during the difficult moments in life. It is with this in mind that I express on behalf of myself and the entire congregation our deepest sympathy to those who have lost loved ones and friends over the past year and assure you of our continued support and prayers.

The annual report highlights the many areas that our Church provides its ministry within the congregation, the community and the wider church. The reports herein indicate the full scope of Topsail United’s ministry. We have had a full year of activity. There were many highlights and it would be hard to mention one over the other because each activity brought something unique and special to our experience of being associated with this wonderful community of faith. I am very grateful for the deep commitment that you have for the ministry of our Church. The expression of that commitment that blesses me the most and touches me very deeply is your “willingness” to share your time, talents and gifts to make this congregation a beacon of light in this community and beyond. Thank you for doing what you do so willingly and lovingly.

It is difficult to write a letter for the annual report and not make reference to finances because the many projects we do are dependent upon the support of financial contributions. That being said we celebrate the fact that in 2011 we were able, again, maintain a healthy financial outlook. *(Please take a look at the report from our finance committee for more detail)* Again this year we met our local budget and exceeded our Mission & Service budget and because of this we have given extra help for our church to provide its ministry locally, nationally and globally. Indeed cause for celebration.



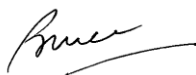
But while we are very pleased about this we realize that we need to maintain our level of financial support by making regular contributions and maybe even increasing if possible because (as you know) the cost of running things rises with each new year. The method by which you can maintain regular contributions is by using weekly envelopes, monthly envelopes or by contributing through PAR (pre authorized remittance). Our church office can give you information on any of these ways. Thank you for your generous financial support.

I also, on behalf of myself and the congregation, want to express deep appreciation to our other church staff. Thank you to *Lynn Mercer, Roger Richards, Nadine Hollett, Andrea Deacy, Brett Vey, Rosemary Richards* and our newest staff member, *Steven Rogers* for their support, expertise, help and guidance to me and our congregation.

The snow storm outside is still raging but after writing this letter and realizing, once again, the special way all of you share your faith assures me that as we begin 2012 (our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year) we will continue to maintain our faith in God as we face the joys, challenges and struggles that 2012 will surely contain. My wife Dianne joins with me in wishing you God's blessing for the year ahead. I conclude this letter with the words of a Hymn from our wonderful Hymn book, Voices United.

One more step along the world I go,  
One more step along the world I go,  
From the old things to the new,  
keep me travelling along with you.  
And it's from the old, I travel to the new;  
Keep me travelling along with you.  
(VU - #639)

Blessings,



Rev. Bruce

## OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIR REPORT

The year 2011 has been another wonderful year of fellowship and worship at Topsail United Church. Reverend Kearley continues to inspire us with each encounter and is a constant support to both the spiritual growth and pastoral care of our growing congregation and community. Our *Church by the Side of the Road* is fortunate to have exceptional support from its staff, volunteers, Committees, and members. I would like to both congratulate and thank each and every one for your leadership, time and talents in delivering quality programming and pastoral care to our congregation and community.

The current Official Board held nine regular meetings since taking office in February 2011. There are many successes to be thankful for during the past year. Highlights from 2011 include the celebration of the support of Topsail United Church in Rev. Kearley's service to the Canadian Naval Chaplaincy; congregational approval of new church By-Laws; commencement of the discernment process for Rosalind Foley; replacement of the church steeple in June; upgrading at the Upper Gullies Cemetery; completion and approval of the Strategic Plan for 2011 to 2013; a successful Pastoral Oversight Visit in June 2011; 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee planning; and audio visual improvements in the sanctuary.

I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of our children and youth along with the staff and volunteers who lead this programming for Topsail United Church. Thanks to our volunteer Choir Director, Rosalind Foley, and pianist Andrea Deacy, in leading the Children's Choir. This group of young children work very hard to master new material for each monthly service and for special events and add a new level of enjoyment to our worship each time they perform. The addition of the Junior Choir and Band in the fall under the direction of music instructor Brett Vey and volunteer Rosalind Foley has expanded our Youth Program and adds an exciting new element to our Family Worship service each month. The Senior Band continued under the direction of music instructor, Brett Vey, and volunteer, Sharon Deemer, and regularly led the congregation with a contemporary music element. As the new year begins, we welcome our new Christian Development Coordinator, Steven Rogers. We look forward to Steven's leadership in this new role at Topsail United Church.

The Topsail United Church Men's Club, United Church Women, and Outreach Committee continued their efforts in 2011 in support of the church's work, its congregation and the local community. A number of successful social events and fundraisers were held in 2011 and your contributions, both financial and spiritual, are greatly appreciated.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the Official Board and to all sub-Committees of the Board for your support and guidance throughout 2011 and during my two years as Official Board Chair. As my term on the Official Board ends, I look forward to supporting the growth and development of Topsail United Church as I continue my work as Co-Chair of the Long Term Planning Committee, as a member of the Membership and Pastoral Care Committee, and through other volunteer activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Howe, B. Comm., MBA

## PASTORAL CARE AND MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

**Chair:** Gillian Corbett  
**Members:** Anne Pinsent (Baptism Sponsor)  
Lynn Mercer (Administrative Assistant)  
Cle Callan, Rosalind Foley, Genevieve Phillips  
**Ex officio:** Rev. Bruce Kearley and Valerie Howe

**Welcome** to all Members and Adherents, who have found a church home here at “The Church by the Side of the Road” over the past year.

**Invitations** to come to Sunday School were sent to 23 children living in the Pastoral Charge who were baptized here and started kindergarten in September. The church records are kept by the Administrative Assistant, at the Church Office. Due to the United Church Policy on Privacy, we will no longer list the names of those Baptized or Married in our Pastoral Charge. Our church records for 2011 list: **40 Baptisms, 18 Marriages and 11 Funerals.**

**Historic Roll:** This Roll contains the names of all those who have joined Topsail United by confirming their baptismal vows, or by profession of their faith or by the transferring in of their membership. The Roll should only contain the names of those members who **reside in the area and who continue to have an active interest in the life and work of the church.** Membership is subject to review by the Official Board. In 2011, **5** new members were added by Confirmation, **10** new members were added by the Transferring in of their Membership and **1** member was removed by their death. The Historic Roll currently lists **484** members. Please call the Church Office if you need information about Transferring your Membership or wish to confirm your baptismal vows.

**Supporting Families List:** The list is updated as information is provided – please let us know any change of address or telephone number. We have also asked for email addresses of those who wish to share them. In 2011 there were 336 listed families financially supporting the church and a further 80 families listed under our Pastoral Care.

**Newsletter:** All those on our Supporting Families list receive the Newsletter, which was published in the Spring and Fall. 44 people have requested to receive their newsletter by email.

**Neighbourhood Contacts:** We could not possibly get our Newsletters out without the help of this dedicated group of volunteers. Many thanks to all of you who have delivered the Newsletters this year.

**“Meet and Greet”:** The committee has continued to sponsor “Meet and Greet” each Sunday following worship (except for Family Worship, which Outreach sponsors). It provides the chance to meet new people and have a chat.

**Pastoral Care Team:** Discussion is ongoing on the viability of training volunteers for visiting our seniors who can no longer get out to church, but would appreciate such a visit in addition to their visit from Rev. Bruce.

Respectfully submitted,

Gillian Corbett

## WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Chair/President:** Rosalind Foley  
**Secretary:** Barbara Brown  
**Members/Executive:** Jacqueline Perry, Colin Perry, John Pinsent, Sarah Nurse, Sharon Deemer, Rev. Pearce Penney, Doreen Cave, Nadine Hollett, Brett Vey

**Ex officio:** Rev. Bruce Kearley

### Summary of Activities:

Our committee met on four occasions in 2011 to plan the worship schedule for the year and conduct business related to the same.

During the past year, we were pleased to have Rev. Bruce lead us through many inspiring worship experiences. In his absence, we were fortunate to have guest clergy from our church community – Rev. Bill Williams, Rev. Harry Whitehorne, Rev. Pearce Penny and Lorraine Jarvis keep church. We extend our sincere thanks to each of them.

As well as our Sunday services, we also celebrated God's presence with two special services "Moving into Lent" and "The Longest Night" – with harpist Ed Kavanagh. Also, there were three services on Christmas Eve again this year.

It is said, that to sing is to pray twice. We are fortunate to have a Ministry of Music that helps us do just that. Rev. Bruce, Nadine Hollett, Brett Vey and Andrea Deacy together with Senior, Men's, Youth and Children's Choirs, and Senior and Youth Bands have given voice to our prayer and praise at Worship. Our UCW join with the Senior Choir once each month and our Men's Club /Choir together with their instrumentalists presented a wonderful Gospel Music Celebration. We are grateful to all of those who volunteer their time to practice and to sing each Sunday; it provides an expression of the heart that can only be felt through music.

We are grateful for our Ushers who are here each Sunday, ready and waiting for our arrival and to those who read the Scripture and serve Communion. We would like to add new people to our list of those willing to volunteer and would welcome you coming forward to do so. Our choirs are welcoming new members, if you like to sing, speak to one of our choir or check your bulletin for our practice schedule and come join us.

We have added a projector to our sound/electronics system this year and we hope to use it more effectively as soon as we are able to purchase and install a larger screen.

We appreciate all who help to make worship at Topsail United a more meaningful experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalind Foley

## ANNUAL REPORT FROM ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

This past year, we again enjoyed the Anniversary Hymn Sing Service which was held in November. The Combined Choirs and UCW participated in the service and it was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all who took part and listened. We were also very pleased with the funds that were raised for our Church which were over \$2,000.00. The Combined Choirs and U.C.W. also participated in Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Christmas Eve Services.

Regarding new choir members, there has gradually been an increasing number of UCW members since October of 2009 that have been singing with the Senior Choir during the fourth Sunday of each month. As previously mentioned, the UCW has also participated in this past year's Anniversary Hymn Sing, Christmas Eve service, and Easter services and will hopefully continue to participate in the special services that happen throughout the coming year. This new addition has been wonderful and the extra voices are greatly appreciated! Of course, new members are still needed for both the Senior Choir and the Men's Choir. In particular, even though membership in the Senior Choir has not decreased, it has only increased by a small amount. Consequently, the Senior Choir is in need of more new members. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to continue to invite anyone who would like to be a member of either the Senior Choir or the Men's Choir to contact me and experience the joy and fulfillment that we experience. The Senior Choir practices on the first, third, and fourth Thursday of each month from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Men's Choir practices on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. If anyone can make a commitment and is interested in singing, we would be delighted to have you join us!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Madeline Parsons and Mr. Bob Bennett for their ongoing support in helping me personally with the Senior Choir and with the Men's Choir, respectively. Finally, I would also like to say thank-you to the Senior Choir, the Men's Choir, and UCW as we continue to work with the congregation in providing music and song for worship services.

I look forward to the challenges presented and ask for your continued prayers and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine Hollett, B.A., M.T.A., M.Mus.Ed.  
Organist/Choir Director

## SENIOR CHOIR ANNUAL REPORT

**Secretary:**                      **Madeline Parsons**

Membership Statistics:	NUMBER AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	10
	NUMBER AT YEAR END	11
	NUMBER OF MEETINGS	27
	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	85%

Summary of Activities 2011:

- Sang at regular worship services with the exception of Men's Choir and Family Services. Special Services included Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve.
- Participated in Anniversary Hymn Sing service in effort to raise funds.

Thank you to those members of the UCW who have agreed to join us at least one Sunday per month.

New members are always welcome.

Many thanks again to our organist, Nadine Hollett.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeline Parsons  
Secretary

## **CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

**Chair:** Jan Negrijn  
**Committee Members:** Sharon Deemer, Rosalind Foley, Mona Morey, Nicole Morey (Youth Representative), Jo-Ann Stone

### **Summary of Activities:**

- Provided feedback to the Congregational Survey and adopted strategies to address some of the comments.
- Jo-Ann Stone continued to provide leadership for the Sunday School but there continues to be a need for additional teachers.
- Although there is a Sunday morning class for preteen/teens and a music program, there was not a Youth Group for other young people to participate in.
- Met with the newly appointed Christian Development Coordinator, Steven Rogers to outline our priorities and concerns and to assure him of our ongoing support.
- The Lenten Study group session was conducted in the spring, however; it was lightly attended owing to prior commitments of the regular members. There were not enough numbers to have a fall adult study.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Jan Negrijn

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

**Superintendent:** Jo-Ann Stone

**Treasurer:** Anne Allen

### Membership Statistics

#### **Registration:**

Preschool (age 4 and under) = 9

Kindergarten and Grade 1 (age 5&6) = 8

Grades 2&3 (age 7&8) = 4

Grades 4&5 (age 9&10) = 3

Grades 6 and up (age 11&up)= 2-3

**Average attendance overall = 15**

### Summary of Activities during 2011

Topsail United Sunday School was again fortunate to have a team of dedicated teachers working with the children in 2011. The teaching staff was as follows:

Preschool: Robyn Alcorn and Charlotte Ackerman

Grades K&1: Mona Morey

Grades 2&3: Jo-Ann Austin and Heather Slade

Grades 4&5: Gen Phillips

Grade 6&up: Sharon Deemer

During 2011, the preschool and K-1 groups worked with the Bible Quest Curriculum while all other groups had the Seasons of the Spirit Curriculum.

Teachers are still supplementing the provided Curriculum with their own ideas and materials from time to time and the program is running well.

Family services we also have Andrea Deacy playing the Piano. We also make regular use of commercially produced CDs which have instrumental versions of popular Sunday school songs for those Sundays when no musical accompaniment is available.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

Description	Income	Expenses
Opening Balance January 1, 2011	\$977.47	
Weekly offerings (January to December 2011)	931.45	
Interest earned (Jan to Dec 2011)	2.26	
Sarah Budgell Guatemala Trip		\$175.00
Guatemala Sponsor Child c/o UCW		70.00
Donation to World Vision Canada		100.00
Totals	\$933.71	\$345.00
<b>Total Year End Balance in Account (31/12/11)</b>	<b>\$1,566.18</b>	

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Ann Stone, Superintendent

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

### Summary of Activities:

Aldous Huxley once wrote *“After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music.”* Through music, those who express through voice or instrumentation and those who listen, each have the opportunity to come closer to the spirit of God within us. We at Topsail United have in our worship experience the occasion to do that, and we are grateful.

This has been a very exciting year. Our Children’s choir now has 17 beautiful voices, all willing to express their joy at a moments notice. We meet each Wednesday from 6:30 – 7:30 to prepare for Family Sunday. When the opportunity arises they like to sing for special events and this year we sang for the Anniversary Hymn Sing , Camping Sunday and at the 4:30 service on Christmas Eve. We would like to thank Andrea (Deacy) for constantly supporting us with her beautiful accompaniment.

The Jr. Youth Choir and Band meet each Wednesday from 7:30 – 8:30. We have 6 members and each week we divide our time between singing and instrumentals. They learn new hymns and secular music in keeping with our theme. The band director arranges music suitable to our ability and instrument - guitar, violin, drums, and recorder or flute.

Our Senior Band and Youth Band/Choir often work together in planning and presenting the family service. The Senior Band has 5 -7 members and meet on Wednesday from 8:30 – 9:30. While our Family Service is often presented by either the Junior or Senior Group, on occasion they combine to make beautiful music. In December they presented a Christmas Sing-along for our Christmas Luncheon and on Christmas Eve, they worked together to present the 6:00 o’clock service, with a beautiful prelude of old and new Christmas music.

We are extremely proud of our children and youth and are so happy that they chose to share their talent with us.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Vey and Rosalind Foley

## MINISTRY & PERSONNEL ANNUAL REPORT

**Chair:** Anne Allen

**Members:** Freeman Budgell, Lloyd Hobbs, Patricia Jones, and Doreen Hart.

In keeping with this Committee's role it met with all Church staff in support of their work on an as needed and required basis during this past year. The Committee also met with various members of the Congregation in the discharge of its work. We are happy to report that flowing from those meetings there were no issues within the mandate of the Committee that need to be reported to the Congregation at this time.

During 2011, a hiring Sub-Committee was formed to carry out a search for a Christian Development Coordinator. This new position was highlighted as being a need for our Church following the Long Term Planning process and the position was formally approved by the Congregation at the annual meeting held in February 2010. It is a pleasure to welcome Steven Rogers who has joined our Church in this position as of January 2011 and we all look forward to the year ahead.

The Committee would like to acknowledge and thank Rosalind Foley for all her dedication and efforts working with our Children's & Youth Choirs. Rosalind continues to lead the Children's & Youth Choirs on a volunteer basis. For this we are truly blessed.

Again in the discharge of its mandate this year the Committee reviewed all contracts with staff and made recommendations to the Finance Committee and the Official Board regarding the salary increases contained in this year's budget.

As a group, we continue to be impressed with the professionalism and competence of our staff.

On behalf of the Committee and the Congregation, I would once again like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our Minister, Rev. Kearley and to all our other staff (Lynn Mercer, Nadine Hollett, Andrea Deacy, Roger Richards, Rosemary Richards, and Brett Vey) for all of their hard work and efforts during the past year. Their commitment to the work and life of this Church has greatly added to the success of this Pastoral Charge during 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Allen  
Committee Chair

# OUTREACH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Chair:** Pat Jones  
**Secretary:** Lynn Mercer

## **Committee Mandate:**

The goal of the Outreach Committee is to reach out to people in our community and around the world.

## **Summary of Activities:**

- Visited sick and shut-ins and provided postage costs for mailings to the shut-ins.
- Promoted and supported the Mission and Service Fund and provided “Gold Banks”.
- Promoted and supported Burry Heights United Church Camp.
- Promoted and supported the CBS/Paradise Community Food Bank
- Promoted and supported Emmanuel House and Naomi House.
- Promoted and supported the Guatemala Mission trip.
- Promoted and collected subscriptions for “The Observer” magazine.
- Organized the annual Outreach Christmas Dinner.
- Provided for Fellowship time following Family Worship
- Provided for social gatherings in the Hall following funerals, when requested.
- Organized two (2) Flea Markets, in Spring for the Church and in Fall for the Harvest Festival.
- Organized and led the morning “Play Group for Babies & Mommy or Caregiver”.

The Outreach Committee is committed to the activities listed above and appreciates your continued support.

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE FINANCIAL REPORT

### INCOME

Opening balance Jan. 1 2011	\$ 4,412.58
Spring Flea Market	3,479.75
M & S "Gold Banks"	1,137.00
Framed Pictures & Misc.	300.00
Bank Interest	.84
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$9,330.17</b>

### Donations & Expenses

Topsail United Church	\$3,500.00
T.U.C. "In Memoriam"	50.00
Mission & Service Fund (Gold Banks)	1,137.00
Guatemala project	200.00
Emmanuel House & Burry Heights	500.00
B & B Sales / The Hub	305.10
Misc.expenses	250.00
Bank Charges	16.75
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,958.85</b>

**Balance as of Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 2011** **\$ 3,371.32**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jones

# OUTREACH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

## Food Bank

Thank you for your support of the CBS/Paradise Community Food Bank through donations of both food and money during 2011. Please remember the first Sunday of each month is highlighted for donating to the Food Bank and you will find a list of items in short supply printed in the Bulletin. The Men's Club has been making regular Food Donations this year.

The Food Bank continues to be well supported by the community at large and again there was a tremendous response to the Christmas Hamper programme which was changed to monetary donations last year and is working really well. Our congregation donated monies in excess of the requested 40 Hampers. A total of 253 Christmas Hampers were prepared and they supplied food for 325 adults and 135 children. Some of our regular clients were looked after by other organizations such as "Single Parents" for their Christmas Hamper. All Christmas Hamper requests are filed with "Food Sharing" to eliminate duplications.

The majority of monthly Hampers are requested by people who are in receipt of government assistance. We know that there are others in need especially the working poor and those waiting to receive benefits. If you know of someone who is in need please let them know that the Food Bank is there for them. **No one is turned away.**

The Food Bank has been seeing a steady increase in regular clients during 2011.

The Food Bank continues to supply lunch items, on request, to schools in the CBS/Paradise area - to be given out as needed.

The Annual General Meeting of the Food Bank is held each May and is open to the general public.

### Congregational Monetary Support

Regular Monetary Donations.....	\$ 359.00
Christmas Hamper Donations.....	\$5060.00
<b>Total Donations .....</b>	<b>\$5419.00</b>

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

### Mission and Service Fund

Outreach is responsible for the promotion of the Mission and Service Fund within the congregation.

**The United Church of Canada, through the “Mission and Service Fund”, partners with local churches in Canada and around the world to bring immediate and appropriate help to people wherever and whenever there is a need.**

Each year we set a goal for our donations and we remit money to the National Church each quarter as it is received.

In 2011 there were also 2 special United Church Appeals for Disaster Relief funds to which members of our congregation responded:

“Japan Relief” (March) \$ 80.00

“Horn of Africa”( July) \$565.00

Thank you to Rev. Bruce for bringing the Mission & Service Fund to our attention each week with his reading of the “Minute for Mission” and thank you all for your wonderful response through your envelope, PAR and Gold Bank donations

In **2011** Topsail United donated **\$30,989.98** to the fund.

Summary of Donations:

#### INCOME

Individual Offerings (envelopes & PAR)	\$ 29,815.94
“Gold Tins”	\$ 1,392.25
Total	\$ 31,208.19

#### EXPENSES

<b>M &amp; S Remittance</b>	<b>\$ 30,989.98</b>
Bank/PAR Charges	\$ 218.21
Total	\$ 31,208.19

## PROPERTY AND TRUSTEE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Chair: Max Robbins**

**Members: Robert Bennett    Freeman Budgell    Paul Burt    Lloyd Johnson  
Roland Regular    Roger Richards    Derrick Tuffin**

### Summary of Activities:

The Property and Trustee Committee has the dual role of initiating maintenance and improvements to the Church property as well as being a Cemetery Committee overseeing the upkeep of our Church cemeteries. In both of these capacities some of the more notable activities this year have been the following:

- A sodded barrier was erected at the back of the Church parking lot adjacent to the bank overlooking the beach. A “No Dumping” sign has also been placed there.
- A new sign was done for the front of the Church.
- The windows in the Board Room were resealed and flashing installed to fix a leaking problem.
- Water problems around the Board Room door were alleviated with the installation of weather stripping, door sweep and flashing.
- New opening and closing hardware was installed to windows in the Board Room and Minister’s office.
- The Church bell received some repairs.
- Arrangements were put in place for snow clearing and cemetery maintenance.
- The final phase of upgrading of the Upper Gullies Cemetery was completed with the installation of fencing, a gate and a new sign. The cemetery is now ready for use.
- Letters were sent to families regarding necessary repairs to some headstones in the Topsail cemetery.
- Access to Topsail Cemetery was eased by having part of the parking lot curb removed.
- With financial assistance from the Town of CBS Heritage Society a cross was placed in Upper Gullies Cemetery to mark the location of the old Upper Gullies Church .

As one would expect in a Church as busy as ours many property challenges still face us in 2012. The most immediate is the provision of extra office space. As well, persistent leaking problems both in the roof and in the basement will have to be dealt with in fairly short order.

Many thanks are extended to all committee members for your many contributions and enthusiastic support during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Max Robbins



## MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL REPORT

The Men's Club Hold Dinner Meetings on the first Monday of every month excluding the summer months. The Election of Officers this year resulted in the following: Bob Bennett-President, Derrick Tuffin-Vice President, Bob Osmond-Secretary, and Boyde Clarke-Treasurer.

### Activities:

- We held 9 Dinner Meetings for the year with an average attendance of 25. We have welcomed new members again this year, which is great to see.
- We held very successful and well attended Breakfast Fund Raisers at Valentine, Easter Thanksgiving and especially at Christmas time. We would like to thank all people who came out and supported the Men's Club at those times and we invite others from our Church who has not yet attended these functions to come out and enjoy the fun and fellowship at those events and help the Men's Club to continue to support our Church.
- We donated \$500 to the Youth Band toward the purchase of an Electronic Drum set.
- We held our Annual Flipper Dinner in May. This event was sold out with a waiting list of people looking for tickets. Thank you again to all who helped in any way with this meal, to the Chef Gordon who prepared the meal, those who cleaned vegetables, help set up the hall and clean up after the meal.
- We were invited to be a part of the Musical Spiritual Journey service that was held at Cowan Heights Church in May. This service was well attended with the proceeds going to Burry Heights Camp and The Diabetics Camp for Children.
- We applied for a Charity Moose License and thank you to Norm and Randy Snelgrove for getting the moose for us.
- We held a Great Bowling Night in the spring, Thank you to Pearce for doing the arrangements.
- Thank you for all the men who helped with the Harvest Festival. The Financial results speak for themselves.
- The Men's Club continues to support our Church with our annual donations. We have passed over \$2500 to the Church Again this Year.
- We made a donation of Food to the CBS Food Bank in early November. The People at the Food Bank were very Thankful for this Donation.
- Donation to Radio Station VOWR.
- Donated \$500 toward Sarah Budgell's Trip to Guatemala.
- We held our Year End Outing in June at The Outport Restaurant; we had an Excellent Meal and Tremendous Fun and Fellowship. Thank you again to our Musician's for providing the Music.
- We have kept in contact with Shut in Members and have made visits with them.

A thank you is extended to all Men's Club Members for their work done in the Kitchen in modifying the Counter and for the installation of the soap dispenser.

All men of the congregation are invited to attend Men's Club Dinner Meetings. They involve fun and fellowship.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to all members of the men's club who help out in so many ways. Our Church is truly blessed to have such a group of dedicated Men.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Bennett

## MEN'S CLUB FINANCIAL REPORT

DESCRIPTION	NET
<b>Balance as at January 1, 2011</b>	<b>\$3,176.94</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>	
Breakfast with Santa	\$1,506.77
Easter Breakfast	872.31
Valentine Breakfast	859.70
Flipper Dinner	3,032.44
<b>Net Fundraising</b>	<b>6,271.22</b>
<b>Contributions/Donations</b>	
Annual Contribution Topsail United	(2,500.00)
CBS Food Bank	(150.00)
TUC Youth Band	(500.00)
Guatamala Project	(500.00)
VOWR	(100.00)
TUC Hymn Sing	(50.00)
In Memoriams	(100.00)
<b>Total Contributions/Donations</b>	<b>(3,900.00)</b>
<b>Other</b>	
Fellowship Dinners	(66.86)
Bank Charges	(71.40)
Kitchen Supplies	(304.24)
Miscellaneous	(166.01)
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>(608.51)</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME less EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,762.71</b>
<b>Balance as at December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011</b>	<b>\$4,939.65</b>

## UNITED CHURCH WOMEN ANNUAL REPORT

President	Patricia Jones
Vice-President	Rosalind Foley
Secretary	Ruth Jesseau
Treasurer	Madeline Parsons
Social/Program Convener	Mildred Coles

Our members enjoyed a year of work, fun and fellowship in 2011. We started our year January with 14 members and ended our year in December 2011 with 21 members.

Activities during the year include:

- Several members participated and others attended the Ecumenical World Day of Prayer service March 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Edward's church in Kelligrews.
- Hosted Paddy's Day luncheon March 16<sup>th</sup>, providing meats, rolls, tea, coffee and desserts. Anyone attending brought along a salad. UCW provided prizes for the event.
- Provided baked lasagne, salads, rolls and desserts for approximately 30 members attending an East District workshop hosted at Topsail United March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Purchased new trolley, coffee pot and aprons for use at Topsail United.
- Provided fish cakes, baked beans, homemade bread and desserts for Good Friday Luncheon April 22<sup>nd</sup>, proceeds donated to Topsail United.
- UCW member Mildred Coles had an Easter Egg sale again this year. Mildred made a donation to the Organ Fund in memory of past UCW members and in Thanksgiving for present members.
- UCW member Sarah Budgell returned to Guatemala with the Arms of Jesus Children's Mission (headquarters Pickering, Ontario). UCW, with the help of Topsail United members raised \$1500 for work in this poverty stricken country.
- Rosalind Foley and Doreen Hart attended UCW East District Annual Meeting in Shoal Harbour in May 14<sup>th</sup>. Theme for this year was "Journeying Together in Faith".
- Provided soup luncheon with rolls and desserts October 10<sup>th</sup> and assisted with other functions throughout Harvest Festival.
- Contributed monies to "Buy a Net for Malaria Prevention", saving lives in 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries where there are Malaria carrying insect.
- Contributed monies to "Friends of the Observer Fund".

- Some of our members joined OutReach group once a month when Worship and Sing-a-longs were held at various Retirement Centers in CBS.
- Assisted with providing items for prizes at OutReach Dinner and items for Stella Burry Foundation
- Formed a UCW planning committee for 175 Anniversary of Topsail United.
- In November we adopted a little girl through The Arms of Jesus Children's Mission. Our little girls name is Elida Roxana Chacach Sajmolo and she lives in the village of Parramos in Guatemala. In the New Year we hope to have our Sunday School children assist with corresponding to Elida.
- UCW members still join the senior choir on the forth Sunday of the month to share in the ministry of music.
- Held a Pot Luck Dinner at Madeline Parson's house December 13<sup>th</sup> before Christmas break.

Our purpose as UCW is to unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a medium through which they may express their loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Jesseau  
Secretary, UCW Topsail United

## Topsail United Church Women Annual Financial Report - 2011

Opening Balance at January 1, 2012 \$1,416.80

### Income:

April 2011 Good Friday Luncheon	\$1,230.57
April 2011 St. Patrick's Day Luncheon	456.60
May 2011 East District Luncheon	310.00
2011 Membership Fees/Collection	168.85
2011 Interest	<u>.53</u>
 Total Income	 <u>\$2,166.55</u>

### Expenses:

Jan 2011 "Get Well" gifts members	\$ 62.30
Jan 2011 TUC in memory of Betty Jacobs	50.00
Mar 2011 East District Fees	252.00
Mar 2011 Quilt Expenses	26.98
May 2011 Guatemala Fund	500.00
May 2011 Cart for Kitchen	222.61
May 2011 East District Luncheon	188.01
May 2011 St. Patrick's Day Luncheon	18.58
May 2011 Donation to Church	1,200.00
Nov & Dec 2011 Foster Child	<u>70.00</u>
 Total Expenses	 <u>\$2590.48</u>

Balance at December 31, 2011 \$ 992.87

Respectfully submitted by:

Madeline Parsons

# HARVEST FESTIVAL ANNUAL REPORT

**Committee Members:**    **Bob Bennett**                    **Mildred Coles**                    **Gillian Corbett**  
   **Pat Jones**                            **Mitch Moran**                            **Max Robbins**  
   **Derrick Tuffin.**

The Annual Harvest Festival in October was a great success thanks to much hard work by many willing hands.

All the usual events went ahead as planned on the Thanksgiving Weekend. The Men’s Club organized the Saturday Breakfast and served at the Jiggs Dinner with Derek Tuffin in charge of the kitchen. There were many donations for the Sale and the Outreach Committee arranged the Soup Lunch. The Flea Market, headed up by Pat Jones and the OutReach Committee and the Auction headed up by Max Robbins, were held later in October. The Auctioneer was Boyde Clarke and Visa/Mastercard services were again supplied by Boyd Slade “The Source”.

Financially all was very successful. It should be noted that the numbers for the Jiggs Dinners were up a little over last year and included quite few “take outs”. We reduced the amount of salt beef ordered and the number of people cooking dinners.

Very many thanks to all who helped - it really takes a combined effort to pull it all off and we did it again!

Income:	
Breakfast, Sale, Lunch, Dinners.....	\$ 6,050.60
Flea Market.....	\$ 3,587.92
Auction.....	\$ 7,888.80
Donations.....	\$ 478.00
Total.....	\$ 18,005.32
Expenses.....	\$ 2,366.04
<b>Net profit.....</b>	<b>\$ 15,639.28</b>

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

## 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Chair:** Eileen Green  
**Members:** Bonnie Robbins                      Rev. Lorraine Jarvis                      Rosalind Foley  
                  Rev. Bruce Kearley                    Rev. Harry Whitehorne                  Bob Bennett  
                  Larry Grandy                                    Margaret Clouter

To commemorate our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the committee has worked diligently over the past two years to plan meaningful events to help celebrate this milestone in the life of Topsail United Church, The Church by the Side of the Road. We hope that this journey together throughout the year 2012 will provide opportunities for all of us to thank God for our church and ministries, rekindle fond memories and friendships, and honour and learn more about our past as we look forward toward the future of serving Christ together in our community of faith.

*"For everything there is a season, a time for everything under the heavens".*

2012 will be "A Time to Rejoice" and this is the theme we have chosen for the Anniversary Year. A special Anniversary Banner, unveiled at the church service on January 8<sup>th</sup>, will hang for the whole year in our church sanctuary. A second banner is being designed by Lorraine Jarvis and it will have a permanent spot along with all the other beautiful banners in our church.

Lapel pins have been designed by the committee and will be available for purchase at \$3.00 each. Special thanks to Larry Grandy for his help in getting this memorial souvenir for us. A Commemorative Booklet designed by Sharon Deemer will be a lovely souvenir to purchase later in the year. A special thanks to Sharon for taking on this project. A souvenir bookmark will also be available later in the year.

Former clergy will participate in monthly services beginning in January with Rev. Pearce Penney. February (Rev. Lorraine Jarvis), March (Rev. Jack Mercer), April (Rev. Mel Ralph), May (Rev. Miles Vardy), September (Rev. Harry Whitehorne), October (Rev. Scott Parsons), November, the Anniversary month, we will have Rev. Ralph Taylor.

Special events throughout the year will include:

1. Bean Supper and Variety Show in January
2. A tree planting in May/June depending on weather.
3. Dinner Theater hosted by Spirit of Nfld (June 8<sup>th</sup>)
4. Church Picnic in June
5. Anniversary Dinner in November (Royal Canadian Legion in Kelligrews)
6. Smaller events to be announced.

Costs for these events will be at a price to cover the expenses only.

We trust that you will make this time even more special by joining us in the celebrations of our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Special thanks to the committee members who have worked together to plan this special year in the life of our church. May God bless you all as we continue to execute the plans we have in place.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eileen Green, Chairperson

# LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Co-Chair:** Rev. Bruce Kearley  
**Co-Chair and Secretary:** Valerie Howe  
**Members:** Don Allen                  Freeman Budgell      Gillian Corbett  
                         Sharon Deemer          Bob Jenkins

## **Committee Accomplishments 2011:**

- The TUC Strategic Plan document for 2011 to 2013 was completed. The document detailed the results of the congregational survey along with recommendations for improvements and changes across church functions, programs, and infrastructure.
- The Strategic Plan was approved by the Official Board on March 22, 2011.
- The Strategic Plan was made available to the TUC congregation as a download from the website or upon request from the Committee in March 2011.
- The Strategic Plan was presented at a Congregational meeting on April 10, 2011 and questions from the congregation were addressed.
- The Committee prepared and circulated a summary of relevant recommendations to each sub-Committee of the Board for implementation.
- The Committee's future role is focused on periodic review of the implementation of recommendations by sub-Committees of the Board, TUC staff and other groups.

## **Strategic Plan Recommendations Implemented in 2011:**

It should be noted that the process of implementing recommendations from the Strategic Plan is ongoing. In addition, during the process of implementation other initiatives may be identified by the sub-Committees of the Board, TUC staff and/or other groups which may add to the recommendations already outlined in the Plan.

The following accomplishments during 2011 have been organized according to the areas impacted by the initiative and not necessarily by the sub-Committee, staff or group responsible for the implementation. A more detailed summary entitled "Topsail United Church Strategic Plan 2011 – 2013, Implementation Report, February 2012" is available upon request from the Committee or as a download from the TUC website.

1. Financial Information Communication
  - ✓ Financial updates added to Newsletters
  - ✓ PAR forms added to TUC website
  - ✓ Additional information provided to congregation on PAR
2. Programs for Families
  - ✓ Hired Christian Development Coordinator
  - ✓ Expanded pastoral care program to ensure contact with new families in pastoral charge



3. Pastoral Care
  - ✓ Coordinated special transportation program, where needed, for Sunday worship and special events
  - ✓ Large print bulletins available for Sunday worship services
  - ✓ Prepared visitation list
4. Children and Youth Programming
  - ✓ Hired Christian Development Coordinator
  - ✓ Enhanced programming for youth in Grades 6 to 8
  - ✓ Provided children opportunities to actively participate in worship services
  - ✓ Facilitated coordination between Sunday School and the worship service
  - ✓ Sub-Committees of the Board added youth members where and when appropriate
5. Music Offerings
  - ✓ Expanded offering by including violin accompaniment during prelude at non-family worship and during special services when possible
6. Clergy and Staff
  - ✓ Hired Christian Development Coordinator
  - ✓ Updated contracts where required
7. Worship Services
  - ✓ Continued existing worship program schedule and format in line with congregational preferences
  - ✓ Improvements were made for Good Friday (purple banners made by Youth) and Christmas (Advent candle wreath, large wreath at front, Poinsettias, stars)
8. Property and Infrastructure
  - ✓ Refurbished United Church sign at front of church
  - ✓ Installed secure intercom access system
  - ✓ Clean up and ongoing maintenance in nursery
9. Topsail Cemetery
  - ✓ Repaired fencing
  - ✓ Improved accessibility

**Committee Objectives for 2012:**

1. Monitor the implementation of the recommendations by sub-Committees of the Board, TUC staff and other groups on a quarterly basis.
2. Report on the progress of implementation to the Official Board at year end.
3. Update the Strategic Plan document as required.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Howe, B. Comm., MBA  
Co-Chair and Secretary

## FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Chair: Boyde Clarke**

**Members: Don Allen  
Cle Callan**

**Sandra Baggs  
Lynn Mercer**

**Bob Bennett**

### Operating Results – 2011

- Surplus of \$27,791 compared to a Budgeted Deficit of \$8,175, primarily due to the following:
  - Congregational givings (all categories) over Budget by nearly \$10,000
  - CD Coordinator position not filled in 2011 resulting in Budgetary savings of \$16,375
  - Media Initiative deferred from 2011 resulting in Budgetary savings of \$6,000
- Organ Loan balance = \$883 at December 31. To be paid off February, 2012
- Steeple loan balance = \$10,400 at December 31. Payments are \$1,667 per calendar quarter. To be paid in full July, 2013
- Mission & Service Fund givings up over 63% from 2010!
- Bank account balance at year-end = \$78,163
- 106 families on PAR! One of the highest (if not the highest) rate of PAR participation among congregations in the Province.

### Budget Submission – 2012

- Budgeted Total Income up over \$11,000 from 2011 Budget
- Budgeted Deficit of \$13,916, primarily due to the following:
  - Budgeted Salaries, Contracts and related costs are nearly \$23,000 over Actual 2011 expenses due to CD Coordinator position being filled for 2012, as well as incremental pay increases and increased benefit costs
  - Property and Trustee Committee Budget up over \$10,000 to accommodate necessary repair, maintenance and capital expenditures, including installation of an air conditioning system in the office area and repairs to the roof and basement wall
- The bank account balance at the beginning of the year allows this year's Budgeted Deficit to be comfortably absorbed without endangering the current financial position

Respectfully submitted,

Boyde Clarke

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

**Committee: Anne Allen    Boyde Clarke    Sharon Deemer    Valerie Howe**

It is recommended that Board members serve 3 consecutive years.

2011 Committee Members for re-election:

3<sup>rd</sup> year:    Freeman Budgell  
                  Cle Callan  
                  Gillian Corbett  
                  Lloyd Hobbs  
                  Jan Negrijn

2<sup>nd</sup> year     Paul Burt  
                  Rosalind Foley  
                  Mitchell Moran  
                  Judy Powell

Nominees – may serve 3 years - 2012, 2013, 2014:

Doreen Cave  
Leona Laundry

Nominees may be accepted up to the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 26, 2012.