

TOPSAIL
UNITED
CHURCH

2012 Annual Report

“The Church by the Side of the Road”

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CHURCH DIRECTORY 2012

Minister	Rev. Bruce Kearley
Congregational Designated Minister	Steven Rogers
Administrative Assistant	Lynn Mercer
Caretaker	Roger Richards
Organist & Choir Director	Nadine Hollett
Youth Band Leader	Brett Vey
Family Worship & Supply Organist	Andrea Deacy
Wedding Coordinator	Rosemary Richards
Webmaster (www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net)	Ken Corbett

OFFICIAL BOARD

EXECUTIVE

Chair	Gillian Corbett
Vice Chair	Judy Powell
Secretary	James Rowsell
Treasurer	Boyde Clarke
Minister	Rev. Bruce Kearley

MEMBERS

Paul Burt	Freeman Budgell	Cle Callan	Doreen Cave	Brad Cole
Solomon Davis	Rosalind Foley	Lloyd Hobbs	Denise Jacobs	
Leona Laundry (Feb – Aug)		Mitchell Moran	Jan Negrijn (Feb – Sept)	

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ministry & Personnel	Freeman Budgell and Lloyd Hobbs
Finance & Administration	Cle Callan
Pastoral Care & Membership	Valerie Howe and Genevieve Phillips
Outreach	Patricia Jones
Christian Development	Jan Negrijn (Feb-Sept) Sharon Deemer
Property & Trustee	Max Robbins
Worship & Sacraments	Rosalind Foley
175 th Anniversary	Eileen Green

CHURCH GROUP LEADERS

Men's Club	Bob Bennett
United Church Women	Doreen Cave
Sunday School Coordinator	Steven Rogers
Youth & Children's Choir Director	Rosalind Foley

EAST DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Delegates:	Bob Bennett/ Derrick Tuffin/Gillian Corbett
Burry Heights Contact:	Patricia Jones

CHURCH ROLLS 2012

BAPTISMS - 46

MARRIAGES - 13

FUNERALS - 17

Elfred Ford Avery

Norma Jean Feltham

Stanley Wilson Johnson

Claudia O'Connor

Harold Eugene Rossiter

Una Youden

Ada Maude Brown

Alexander Everett Goulding

Jeanne Miles

Douglas Osmond

Mary Elizabeth Seaward

Wilfred Youden

Eugene Lester Butler

George Jacobs

John Melvin Moores

Olive Viola Paul

Cyril William Squires

HISTORIC ROLL 2012 – NEW MEMBERS

NEW MEMBER BY CONFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Emilee Heffern

Sarah-Ann Heffern

Emily Howe

Benjamin Morey

Alexandra Moss

NEW MEMBER BY TRANSFER

Karen Alexander

Ruth Anthony

Arthur Penney

Evelyn Stockley

Margaret Thistle

Paul Alexander

Karen Duke

Vera Penney

Roy Stockley

Spencer Thistle

Edward Anthony

Robyn Lee

Wanda Saunders

James Radford

DECEASED MEMBERS

Eugene Lester Butler

Douglas Osmond

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Date of TUC Annual Congregational Meeting: February 26, 2012

1. **Call to Order:**

Reverend Bruce Kearley called the Annual Congregational Meeting to order at 12:10 pm on February 26, 2012, welcoming all those present.

2. **Opening Devotions:**

Rev. Bruce Kearley opened the meeting with "A Prayer for the Journey" #648 Voices United, the singing of "Follow, follow" and a reading from Mark ch.1 vs. 14 - 20. Devotions concluded with a prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

3. **Chair and Secretary for 2012 Congregational Meeting:**

Valerie Howe nominated Bob Jenkins as Congregational Chair. There being no further nominations, Bob was declared to be the Chair.

Cle Callan nominated Gillian Corbett as Secretary. There being no further nominations, Gillian 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. He also gave thanks to Valerie Howe, Board Chair for all her work and the Board also, for their contribution over the past year.

5. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved. The Chair noted that all reports would be presented and discussed except for that of the Finance Committee then there would be one motion to accept them all.

The Financial reports including the 2011 Budget would be approved in separate motions.

Church Directory pg. 1

It was noted that for the Annual Report 2012, as a paid employee, Youth Band Leader Brett Vey should be included with the staff listed at the top of the page.

6. **Church Rolls** pg. 2

It was noted that this year, in the interest of privacy, names were not included for Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals.

7. **Remembrance of those who passed away in 2011**

Rev. Kearley read the names of those who had passed away in 2011 followed by a moment of silence and a prayer of remembrance for them and their families as well as for other members of our church family who had lost loved ones during the past year.

8. **Minutes of 2011 Annual Congregational Meeting** pg. 3 – 11
There being no errors or omissions, the Chair moved that the minutes be adopted.
MOTION: (B. Jenkins/S. Baggs) that the Minutes of the 2011 Annual Congregational Meeting be adopted as presented. **CARRIED.**
9. **Minutes of Congregational Meeting April 10th 2011** pg 12 – 13
There being no errors or omissions, the chair called for their adoption.
MOTION: (B. Clarke/B. Jenkins) that the Minutes of April 10th 2011 Congregational meeting be adopted as presented. **CARRIED.**
10. **2011 Annual Reports** pg. 14 – 39
- a. **Minister** pg. 14-15
Rev. Kearley drew attention to his letter, highlighting the “journey” and our discipleship. He thanked the congregation for their help throughout the year and lifted up the pastoral needs of the congregation to maintain the presence of the church in the community. The Pastoral Charge is large and the immediate needs many, making routine pastoral visiting difficult. He hoped that a Lay Visitation program might be implemented in 2012.
Rev. Kearley made approximately 490 pastoral contacts over the year.
Rev. Kearley welcomed the addition of Christian Coordinator, Steven Rogers adding that one of the duties of this position is to reach out to new families.
Rev. Kearley also spoke of his service to the wider church community and as a Canadian Forces Chaplain. He sits on the Conference Book Store Committee and the District Education and Students Committee.
He concluded by saying that the year ahead would be challenging as we celebrate our 175th Anniversary and he thanked the Board, especially those who were leaving this year, the staff and Dianne for their continued support.
There were no questions.
- b. **Chair of the Board** pg. 16
Valerie Howe stated that she felt her report covered everything.
She highlighted the significant involvement of the youth over the year.
There were no questions.
- c. **Membership and Pastoral Care Committee** pg. 17
The Website was recognised in addition to the items in the report.
There was a question on the “Historic Roll” and its significance and a further question on what figure our District assessment was based on.
Gillian replied that the figure used was “Households under Pastoral Care”.
- d. **Worship and Sacraments Committee** pg. 18
There were no questions.
- e. **Organist/Choir Director** pg. 19
There were no questions.
- f. **Senior Choir** pg. 20
There were no questions.

- g. **Christian Development Committee** pg. 21
The need for Sunday School Teachers was highlighted. There were no questions.
- h. **Sunday School** pg. 22 - 23
There were no questions.
- i. **Children & Youth Music Program** pg. 24
The enthusiasm of the young people was recognised and it was noted that the Family Worship program had come a long way over the past year. There were no questions.
- j. **Ministry and Personnel Committee** pg. 25
The effort put into the hiring of the C.D. Coordinator was recognised. There were no questions.
- i. **Outreach Committee** pg. 26-29
There were no questions.
- j. **Property and Trustee Committee** pg.30
Chair, Max Robbins thanked those who had given freely of their time to the cemetery work of the committee and also donated paint. He said that the leaks in the basement wall, steeple and new extension roof were being addressed. There were no questions.
- k. **Men's Club** pg. 31 -32
There were no questions.
- l. **United Church Women** pg. 33-35
There were no questions.
- m. **Harvest Festival Committee** pg. 36
There were no questions.
- n. **175th Anniversary Committee** pg. 37
There were no questions.
- o. **Long Term Planning Committee** pg. 38 -40
Valerie said that it was important to see the Strategic Plan 2011 as a living document and that the upcoming work of the committee would be to see that Board committees stayed focused on assigned L.T.P. tasks. There were no questions.

11. Adoption of Reports

MOTION: (F. Budgell/V. Howe) that the reports a – o (pg. 14 -40) be accepted as submitted. **CARRIED.**

12. Finance Committee pg. 40

Boyde Clarke reviewed the report and the following points were highlighted:

- ❑ Congregational givings were up \$10,000
- ❑ The Organ Loan is paid off as of this month February 2012 and the Steeple Loan will be paid off by July 2013.
- ❑ There are now 106 families on PAR providing regular support to both the church and the Mission & Service Fund.

2011 Financial Statements pg. 41 -44

MOTION: (B. Clarke/ B. Jenkins) that the Financial Statements for 2011 be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

13. Budget for 2012 pg 41 - 44

It was noted that this was a deficit budget mainly due to the fact that a staff position has been added and extra funds are needed by the Property & Trustee Committee to keep the building in good shape.

MOTION: (B. Clarke/B.Jenkins) that the Budget for 2012 be approved as presented. **CARRIED.**

14. Nominating Committee Report pg. 45

There was a call for other nominations for the 2012 Board. Brad Cole and James Rowsell accepted nomination.

MOTION: (V.Howe/B.Jenkins) that the slate of members submitted with the addition of Brad Cole and James Rowsell be accepted as the Official Board for 2012. **CARRIED.**

15. Adjournment and Benediction

Lloyd Hobbs thanked Bob Jenkins for chairing the meeting.

Wanda Saunders thanked Topsail United for the warm welcome that she and the other former members of Trinity United had received on transferring to the congregation.

MOTION: (B. Clarke) that the meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED.**

Rev. Kearley gave the Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Jenkins, Chair
February 26, 2012

Gillian Corbett, Secretary
February 26, 2012

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH *"The Church by the Side of the Road"*

**God of every song, every story,
God of every captive set free,
God of every dance, every footstep,
You bring joy to me.**

Dear Friends:

Greetings in Christ's name. 2012 was a very busy year at Topsail United (*The Church by the Side of the Road*) as we celebrated our 175th Anniversary. The theme for the year was "**A Time to Rejoice**" based on the well-known and well-loved passage of Scripture recorded in Ecclesiastes 3. The passage assures us that God is with us in all of life's journeys. The activities of our 175th Anniversary gave us the opportunity to celebrate past and present blessings of our faith and look, with joyful anticipation, to our future journey of work and witness as people of God. The activities included an old fashioned concert, a tree planting, dinner theater, participation in worship by former clergy and those who have entered ministry from our congregation, Sunday School picnic, a special Anniversary banquet and a booklet, researched and written by Dr. Sharon Deemer, depicting the history and current ministry of our church. All of these activities culminated with a special Anniversary service on November 18th.

The Anniversary service was indeed a very uplifting experience and was, for our congregation, "**A Time to Rejoice**" as all of our choirs and special guests led us in special music, song and reflection. Special guests at the service were the Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador, The Honourable John C. Crosbie and his wife Jane Furneaux Crosbie. Mr. & Mrs. Crosbie enjoyed being with us and the Lieutenant Governor made special mention of the service in his annual New Year's address to the province with the following words: "...participated in an outstanding church service at the 175th Anniversary of the Topsail United Church on November 18th, when an outstanding service was performed by several choirs, ministers and people generally – an uplifting experience!"

The Anniversary celebrations were a wonderful part of our church's life and work during 2012. I want to thank the congregation for your support of this event and a special and big thank you to the Anniversary Committee (*Chair: Eileen Green and Members: Bonnie Robbins, Lorraine Jarvis, Margaret Clouter, Rosalind Foley, Bob Bennett and Larry Grandy*) whose commitment and hard work enabled every activity to be a special memory. Our celebrations gave us the opportunity to reflect upon the fact that God is a **God of every song, every story, God of every captive set free, God of every dance, every footstep, You bring joy to me.** ("More Voices" #40 – "Never Ending Joy")

Our Congregation in 2012 welcomed Mr. Steven Rogers in the position of "Congregational Designated Minister". Steven is directing our Christian Development ministry and, along with the dedicated work of our lay people involved in Christian Development, has developed new programs for Sunday School and continued to build and enhance our youth

music program and has recently started a Rhythm Band, in addition to our Children's choir, youth choir and youth band to lead in Sunday worship and on other occasions throughout the year. We are very glad to have Steven with us and are truly blessed and inspired by his ministry.

The Annual Report gives an account of the life and work of our congregation for 2012 reflecting God's love and guidance in our witness. It is with praise to God and a thanksgiving to you, the members of this congregation, that this report is compiled and made available. 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 indicate that God walks with us in the joyful moments of life and becomes 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.

It is difficult to write a letter for the Annual Report and not make reference to finances. The many projects we do are dependent upon the support of financial contributions. That being said we celebrate the fact that in 2012 we were able to maintain a healthy financial standing despite some unexpected property repairs. *(Please take a look at the report from our Finance Committee and our Property and Trustee Committee for more detail)*. Again this year we met our local budget and our Mission & Service budget and because of this we have continued to help our church provide its ministry locally, nationally and globally. This is also cause for celebration.

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 alternatives. 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, *Steven Rogers* for their support, expertise, help and guidance to me and our congregation.

We recently were introduced to a new song in worship entitled: *"Over My Head"* (*"More Voices" # 88*). The song assures us that, as we face the realities of daily living with its celebrations and struggles that God is there. The assurance that God always walks with us is my prayer for you as we begin 2013. My wife Dianne joins with me in wishing you God's blessing for the year ahead.

*Over my head, I hear music in the air.
Over my head, I hear music in the air.
Over my head, I hear music in the air.
There must be a God somewhere.*

Blessings,



Rev. Bruce

OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIR REPORT

I invite you to take a look at the names of your Official Board Members as listed on the Church Directory page for this past year. Each one has contributed enormously to the life and work of the congregation. This year ten Official Board Meetings were held to receive reports from all committees and sub-committees and to consider and act upon their recommendations.

As you read through all the Reports of the Committees you will appreciate the many volunteer hours given on your behalf to support the life and work of another year in the life of "The Church by the Side of the Road". As noted throughout this Annual Report Book this 175th Anniversary Year has been one of celebration with added events to commemorate this special milestone in our history. The Anniversary Committee report provides a list of all the highlights.

Meanwhile, the day to day work of the church continued, making for a very full year.

- Steven Rogers joined our staff in the new position of Congregational Designated Minister enabling improvements in all aspects of Christian Development programming.
- Improvements were made to the sound system and it has been moved to the rear of the Sanctuary.
- The organ loan has been paid out.
- Successful fundraising events were undertaken by the Board, the Men's Club, U.C.W. and OutReach.
- Ongoing problems with the leaking of the church roof made it necessary to completely re- shingle the whole roof in the fall.
- A campaign to cover the cost of the roof has now officially opened and we will keep you informed monthly of the donors and total amount received.
- Plans are underway to improve the washroom area and provide better storage facilities.

Topsail United is truly blessed in many ways and I thank Rev. Bruce who binds us together in this congregation through his Pastoral Care for all and his gifted worship leadership. He, together with our competent staff members ensure that the church runs smoothly from worship, to the programs, the administration and the upkeep of the building. My thanks to the Board and to all of you, the members, who volunteer on committees, support our staff, lead our young people, play music, sing in the choirs, fundraise and financially support Topsail United as its vital ministry continues into the next 175 years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gillian M. Corbett

CONGREGATIONAL DESIGNATED MINISTER REPORT

Greetings!

I write this letter with a deep sense of gratitude for the many blessings that have been bestowed upon Topsail United Church. This past year has been a time of challenge and celebration. We celebrated the 175th anniversary of our congregation and we explored new opportunities. I was glad to be part of this journey with you.

In January 2012, I joined Topsail United Church as your new Congregational Designated Minister with responsibilities in Christian development, youth ministry, outreach and education. Throughout the year, we were blessed with many talented and dedicated individuals who volunteered much time and effort to these ministries. Together we initiated considerable change and experienced growth.

In the winter, the Youth Group engaged in a series entitled “The Hunger Games and the Gospel” that focused on the themes of justice and power as found in the Bible and the Hunger Games Trilogy. In the fall, we explored global issues such as immigration, pandemic diseases and saw how some teens have advocated on these issues with reference to the parable of the Good Samaritan. The Children’s Choir and Youth Band provided beautiful music to our Family Services that were held on the 3rd Sunday of each month. The Men’s Club donated a new drum set and percussion instruments to the Youth Band and these are greatly appreciated. A new Rhythm Band was formed in the fall to allow opportunities for boys and girls to learn performance skills in hand drumming and other musical techniques that are beneficial in our worship services. These hand drums were also donated by the Men’s Club. We were fortunate to have both laity and clergy to lead the meetings of our Adult Study Group in both the winter and autumn seasons. You will find details regarding the Sunday School in a separate report. These programs have a very positive impact on our congregation and community.

I would like to thank Rev. Bruce for his support and encouragement throughout the year. He is a real benefit to the United Church and it is a joy to be in team ministry with him. I also send a big thank you to the staff, committee members, board members, and congregation members for all the work and contributions you’ve made this past year. When I arrived in January 2012, you gave me a very warm welcome. Since that time, I have been moved and inspired by your kindness and faithfulness many times over. As I conclude this letter, I leave you with an old Irish blessing:

*May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home.
May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam.
May peace and plenty bless your world with joy that long endures.
May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours!*



Congregational Designated Minister

PASTORAL CARE AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Welcome to all who have found a church home here at “The Church by the Side of the Road” over the past year and thank you those who continue to support our church community.

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 2012, **5** new members were added by Confirmation, **14** new members were added by transfer and **2** members were removed by their death. The Historic Roll currently lists **503** members. Please call the Church Office if you need information about Transferring your Membership or wish to confirm your baptismal vows.

Invitations to come to Sunday School were sent to 27 children living in the Pastoral Charge who were baptized here and started kindergarten in September. Our church records for 2012 list **46 Baptisms**, **13 Marriages** and **17 Funerals** conducted at Topsail United Church throughout the year.

Supporting Families List: A new Membership Information Form was distributed with the 2012 financial reports. We would appreciate the return of these forms so we may update our information. In 2012 there were **335** listed families financially supporting the church and a further **103** 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. 149 people are now receiving their Newsletter by email.

Neighbourhood Contacts: We could not possibly get our Newsletters out without the help of this dedicated group of 28 volunteers. Many thanks to all of you who have delivered the Newsletters this year.

“Meet and Greet”: The Committee continues to sponsor “Meet and Greet” each Sunday following worship (except for Family Worship, which is sponsored by Outreach). This social gathering provides the chance to meet new people and have a chat. We encourage everyone to attend.

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,
Valerie Howe

WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair:	Rosalind Foley
Secretary:	Barbara Brown
Members:	Steven Rogers, Doreen Cave, Jacqueline Perry, Sharon Deemer, Rev. Pearce Penny, Heather Cronhelm, Nadine Hollett, Marie Burt, John Pinsent, Brett Vey
Ex-Officio:	Rev. Bruce Kearley

Summary of Activities:

Worship and Sacraments met on four occasions during the past year. The Sunday worship schedule for the year was established and business related to worship in the sanctuary was conducted.

During the absence of Rev. Bruce, worship was conducted by clergy from our congregation, Rev. Harry Whitehorne, Rev. Bill Williams and Ms. Lorraine Jarvis. We are extremely grateful to each of them for their willingness to serve. During the past year Rev. Harry moved to the West Coast and took up an interim position in Corner Brook. We miss him and wish him well.

Together with our Sunday services, our congregation worshipped together on the "Longest Night" with harpist, Ed Kavanagh; Rev. Bruce and Emily and Ashley Howe providing the music.

This was a year of celebration as we at "The Church by the Side of the Road", celebrated our 175th Anniversary. We began by hanging a beautiful banner in the sanctuary reminding us that this was "*A time to rejoice*". In January, there was a concert with our choirs, band, UCW and others of our congregation coming together to remember and celebrate. One Sunday of each month, former clergy of our church brought the message as we worshipped together. One of the highlights of the year was our Anniversary service in November with all choirs uniting to sing in praise and thanksgiving for 175 wonderful years as Topsail United Church. The service was beautiful with The Lieutenant Governor, Mr. John Crosbie and his wife, Ms. Jane Furneaux-Crosbie among our many guests. His honour so enjoyed the service that he mentioned it in his year end address to the province.

Our Children and Youth Choir and Band held a concert fundraiser in support of our music program early in the year that was well attended and enjoyed by our congregation and others. Linnea Good held a workshop for all interested members of our congregation, with a special emphasis on music and worship. She spent an hour with the Children's choir, surely the highlight of their year. Our Christmas Pageant, one of the many treasured events of our church year had to be cancelled this year due to poor weather.

We are blessed to have many musicians in our congregation who support and lead us in our worship. A sincere thank you to Nadine Hollett, Andrea Deacy, Steven Rogers, Brett Vey, Cle Callan and Rev. Bruce for their ministry of music. They, together with our choirs - Senior, Men, Combined, UCW, Children, Youth and Youth Band add greatly to our prayer and praise.

Ready to greet us each Sunday morning with a welcoming smile, our ushers are always in place and awaiting our arrival. A special thank you to them and to those who read and serve communion during the church year.

Steven Rogers, Congregation Designated Minister joined us in January and we are blessed to have his ministry of leadership in Christian Development and music. His leadership has added a new dimension to our family worship.

Our sound system has been moved to the sanctuary and has greatly improved the quality of our worship experience. If you would like to assist with sound production, please see Steven Rogers. We welcome your contribution.

A sincere thank you, on behalf of the Worship and Sacraments Committee, to all of you who make our worship experience more meaningful. A very special thank you to Rev. Bruce for his leadership and continuous spiritual and pastoral care throughout the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosalind Foley

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR REPORT

This past year, we again enjoyed the Anniversary Hymn Sing service which was held in November. The year 2012 marked the 175th Anniversary of Topsail United Church. The Combined Choirs and UCW participated in the service and it was a tremendous success and enjoyed by all who took part and listened. We were also very pleased with the funds that were raised for our Church which amounted to over \$3,000. The Senior Choir participated in the Good Friday service. The Combined Choirs and UCW participated in the Easter Sunday service, the Lessons and Carols service, and the Christmas Eve service. All services were very successful.

Regarding choir membership, since October 2009 there has been a gradual increase in the number of UCW members that have been singing with the Senior Choir during the fourth Sunday of each month. As previously mentioned, the UCW also participated in this past year's 175th Anniversary Hymn Sing service, Christmas Eve service, and Easter Sunday service. We look forward to their continued participation in the special services that happen throughout the coming year. Their involvement 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. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity 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. I would also like to add that you do not have to be a senior to be in the Senior Choir! 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 the Men's Choir, respectively. In addition, I would 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.

Finally, I would also like to say thank-you to Topsail United Church for their support of my ongoing training on the organ with Mr. Stephen Candow. It has been a very successful and rewarding experience thus far and I anticipate that my continuing work with Stephen will be equally as successful and rewarding.

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 REPORT

Membership Statistics	
Number at beginning of year	11
Number at year end	12
Number of meetings	26
Average Attendance	80%

Summary of Activities:

- 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 the 175th Anniversary Hymn Sing service.

Thank you to those members of the UCW who have agreed to join us on the fourth Sunday of each month.

New members are always welcome.

Many thanks again to our organist, Nadine Hollett.

Respectfully Submitted,

Madeline Parsons
Secretary

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair/President: Sharon Deemer, Jan Negrijn
Members/Executive: Rosalind Foley (Secretary), Mona Morey (Secretary),
Nicole Morey, Judy Powers, Joanne Stone

Ex officio: **Steven Rogers, Rev. Bruce Kearley**

Summary of Activities:

The Committee has met several times this year with the major focus of helping Steven Rogers get settled into the new CD Coordinator position. There has been a great deal of effort on his part to fulfill the mandate of the position which is not an easy task starting with a new group of people. The Committee is grateful for his dedication.

All parts of the Christian Development program were carried out this year including Sunday School, Youth Group, Adult Study, Lent Study, Youth Music, and Children's Choir. In the spring a new Youth Group program was held that was well attended although this autumn scheduling proved to be more difficult. The Youth Group is probably the most difficult part of the program to develop right now and options are under discussion.

There is always room for growth in the Christian Development programs and in particular we would like to see the Youth music program and Youth Group grow. The participation of youth with their energy, talent and creativity adds much to our community. The Adult Study program would enjoy new participants as well because new points of view add to the discussion. If you are an adult with a study group interest please let a Committee member know about your interest.

In terms of volunteers, we have many people helping but there is a special need for help with administering the Sunday School program. The traditional role of Superintendent is being redefined now with the CD coordinator in place and will be a more manageable task. Again, anyone wishing to help please ask a Committee member or Sunday School teacher for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Deemer

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

Sunday School Coordinator: Steven Rogers
Treasurer: Anne Allen

Membership Statistics	
TOTAL REGISTERED	61
Kindergarten	7
Grade One	7
Grade Two	8
Grade Three	6
Grade Four	5
Grade Five	5
Grade Six and up	11
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	25 (lowest 11, highest 42)

Summary of Activities

Topsail United Sunday School was fortunate to have a team of dedicated leaders in 2012 including: Jo-Ann Stone, Robyn Alcorn, Charlotte Akerman, Mona Morey, JoAnn Austin, Heather Slade, Genevieve Phillips, Sharon Deemer, Marvin Chaulk, and Tonya Pelley.

The Spark Workshop Rotation curriculum was initiated in 2012. This new curriculum allows children to engage in various workshops (such as art, cooking, science, music, video, skills and games) as they explore the themes of Bible stories. This curriculum is augmented by 'Godly Play' storytelling sessions that use special props donated by the UCW and Outreach. The Junior/Senior High class continues to use the lectionary-based 'Seasons of the Spirit' curriculum. A special guest from the Easter Seals delivered a disability awareness presentation entitled "I Can Too!" Each Sunday School session begins with music and movement accompanied by piano, accordion, and/or guitar.

Students of the Sunday School made a butterfly craft that was displayed in the sanctuary during Easter and artwork that was displayed during the 175th Anniversary. They also made candles for newly baptized infants and participated in special events such as the Palm Parade, Christmas Pageant, and Year-End Picnic.

A new online registration and record-keeping system was also implemented.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

Description	Income	Expenses
Opening Balance January 1, 2012	\$1,566.18	
Weekly offerings (January to December 2012)	971.25	
Interest earned (Jan to Dec 2012)	2.84	
50% of Recycling Cheque	104.90	
Sarah Budgell re Guatemala Trip		\$175.00
Beeswax for Baptism Candles		106.14
Donation to World Vision Canada		100.00
Educational Resources		162.34
Supplies		67.43
Donation to Mercy Ships Canada		100.00
Guatemala Sponsor Child c/o UCW (for 2013 costs)		81.50
Totals	\$1,078.99	\$792.41
Total Year End Balance in Account (31/12/12)	\$1,852.76	

Respectfully Submitted,



Steven Rogers
Sunday School Coordinator

YOUTH GROUP FINANCIAL REPORT

Description	Income	Expenses
Opening Balance January 1, 2012	\$711.65	
50% of Recycling Cheque	104.90	
Food Supplies - Youth Group meetings		\$189.02
Totals	104.90	189.02
Total Year End Balance in Account (31/12/12)	\$627.53	

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Allen
Treasurer, Topsail United Church Sunday School

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM REPORT

Summary of Activities:

In the autumn a new Rhythm Band was formed. Under the direction of Steven Rogers, children learn performance techniques in various percussion instruments such as djembes, maracas, claves, wood blocks, bongos, cymbals, snare drums, glockenspiels, and other instruments. We are pleased that this ensemble has attracted both boys and girls who attend regularly and participate in worship services. The Rhythm Band currently has seven (7) members and continues to grow. At a recent Family Service, the Rhythm Band performed an instrumental piece during the offering and accompanied the congregation during the offertory chorus and closing hymn. Their music was a great addition to the service and was greatly appreciated. Registration in the Rhythm Band, Children's Choir, and Youth Band is on-going and interested individuals can join at any time from September to June.

The band program under the direction of Brett Vey and Rosalind Foley has a regular active group of seven (7) members. This program gives band members opportunity to learn core instruments including: bass, guitar, violin, piano, percussion, recorder and voice with focus on both preparation and participation within the family services. We are very pleased with the addition of new band equipment and sound system changes over the last season.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosalind Foley, Steven Rogers, Brett Vey

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Co-Chairs: Freeman Budgell and Lloyd Hobbs
Members: Anne Allen, Valerie Howe, Doreen Hart and Patricia Jones

This committee is responsible for the role of overseeing all staffing requirements of the church and assisting staff in ensuring the efficient and responsible use of church resources while making sure that the work of the church meets the needs of the congregation. This requires us to identify areas of church life that need attention and seeing that staff responds accordingly.

Topsail United Church is fortunate to have a dedicated group of individuals working for the congregation that go above and beyond the call of duty and this has made the work of this Committee that much easier. As with any organization there were some unforeseen staffing issues due to illness that we were able to deal with internally during the fall. Our office manager Lynn Mercer was forced to take some sick leave but we are now back to our normal complement and thank God for his continued blessing of all who do the work of our church. Andrea Deacy and her husband had a new baby this year and we congratulate them.

This was the first full year with our new Christian Development Coordinator. Steven Rogers has been filling this half time position and has had a positive impact on our church, particularly in our children and youth involvement. There remain needs that we are hoping to address in 2013 as we hope to expand the role of this position.

As with any employment relationship, the Committee met with all staff during 2012 to discuss individual contracts and concerns, compensation and needs. We feel we have been able to address most, if not all, of these within the limited resources of our church.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Rev. Bruce Kearley for his leadership and spiritual guidance again this year. We feel truly blessed to have him with us. We would like to thank all the other members of this team, Lynn Mercer, Nadine Hollett, Steven Rogers, Andrea Deacy, Roger Richards, Rosemary Richards and Brett Vey. Together they have ensured the day by day success of Topsail United Church in 2012. There are many volunteers who put in countless hours working side by side with staff. They do not come under the responsibility of the Ministry and Personnel Committee, but we would like to thank them for their support as well.

We look forward to another successful year in 2013 and ask for the continued support of the congregation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Freeman Budgell and Lloyd Hobbs

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Patricia 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 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 church hall following funerals, when requested.
- Organized two (2) Flea Markets, in spring for the Church and in fall for the Harvest Festival.

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

OUTREACH COMMITTEE FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

Opening balance January 1, 2012	\$ 3,371.32
Spring & Fall Flea Markets	8,433.50
Christmas Dinner	1,357.94
Bank Interest	.29
Total Income	\$13,163.05

DONATIONS & EXPENSES

Topsail United Church (incl. Harvest Festival)	\$ 7,702.50
Guatemala project	200.00
Emmanuel House	400.00
Sunday School – Godly Play Materials	238.70
Christmas Trees – Sanctuary	473.59
Christmas Dinner at S.U.F. Hall	1080.00
Miscellaneous expenses	500.00
Bank Charges	40.25
Total Expenses	\$10,635.04

Balance as of Dec. 31st 2012 **\$ 2,528.01**

OUTREACH COMMITTEE FOOD BANK REPORT

Thank you for your support of the CBS/Paradise Community Food Bank through donations of both food and money during 2012. 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. Thank you to the Men's Club for their additional donations of food throughout the 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 program, which was changed to monetary donations in 2010 is working really well. Our congregation donated monies in excess of the requested 40 Hampers. A total of 240 Christmas Hampers were prepared. Some of our regular clients were looked after by other organizations such as "Single Parents" for their Christmas Hamper. All Christmas Hamper, as well as regular 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 again during 2012.

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

At the end of October the Food Bank was advised that it would have to move from the premises in Chamberlains. It is now located behind the Mary Brown's in Manuels. Rent and services have increased threefold which is putting added pressure on the financial situation. The Food Bank Board must deal with this in 2013 and we may be asked to contribute more money on a regular basis.

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.....	\$ 296.00
Christmas Hamper Donations.....	\$ 3,157.50
Total Donations	\$ 3,453.50

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

MISSION AND SERVICE FUND REPORT

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. Our goal is \$20,000.00

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 **2012** Topsail United donated **\$17,471.42** to the fund. This is considerably less than the amount in 2011, but a large “one time” donation was given last year which boosted our totals. Also, the “Gold Bank” total for 2012 will show in our 2013 accounts.

Summary of Donations:

INCOME

Individual Offerings (envelopes & PAR).....\$ 17,673.03

EXPENSES

M & S Remittance.....\$ 17,471.42

Bank Charges.....\$ 39.36

PAR Charges.....\$ 162.25

Total.....\$ 17,673.03

PROPERTY AND TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Max Robbins
Members: Robert Bennett, Freeman Budgell, Paul Burt, Lloyd Johnson, Roland Regular, Roger Richards, Derrick Tuffin

Summary of Activities:

As indicated in last year's annual report, a main focus of the Property and Trustee Committee in 2012 would be to tackle the problem of persistent leaks in the building. To achieve this we first of all dealt with the problem in the church hall and, under the supervision of Freeman Budgell, a contract was let to repair cracks in the concrete wall, which to date seems to have solved the problem. The second major problem was the leaks occurring through the roof. It was determined that piecemeal efforts would not be successful in solving this problem so the Board decided to completely reshingle the building. Through the initiative of Paul Burt we obtained a very favourable contract and the work was completed in a timely fashion.

A second priority for the past year was to make some improvements to the washroom and nursery area. To this end we spent considerable time during the spring and summer consulting with an architect. We received a report that covered extensive renovations as well as upgrades to the hall that he felt were necessary. The quoted cost, however, was felt to be excessive and no action was taken on the recommended alterations. Our washroom area, therefore, continues to be a concern and one that should remain a priority for the coming year.

Other projects that members of our Committee assisted with during the year include

- The provision of office space for our Christian Development Coordinator. For that we are appreciative of the efforts of Freeman Budgell.
- Moving the sound board to the back of the church. The woodwork involved in this project is a testament to the talent of Lloyd Johnson and Roland Regular.
- Providing the means of safer access to the steeple from the vestibule. Again we are indebted to Freeman Budgell for his efforts in this regard.

In its role as the Cemetery Committee of our church the Property and Trustee Committee again put in place a summer maintenance program for our three cemeteries. In addition, at Upper Gullies the parking area in front was extended and all the painting was completed; in Long Pond the necessary repairs to the fencing were made; and in Topsail we applied for and received a Town Heritage Grant to replace the gate which will be in place in the spring.

Many thanks are extended to all Committee members for your continued support and willingness to contribute whenever called upon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Max Robbins

MEN'S CLUB REPORT

President: Bob Bennett
Secretary: Bob Osmond

Vice President: Derrick Tuffin
Treasurer: Boyde Clarke

This past year we are sad to report that we lost three long time members of the Men's Club: George Jacobs, Doug Osmond and Les Butler.

Activities:

- The Men's Club hold dinner meetings the first Monday of every month, excluding the summer months. We welcomed new members again this year.
- This has been an exciting year for the Men's Group as we participated in the 175th Anniversary events at our Church, helping start the celebrations in early January with a Ham and Bean Supper with Dessert.
- We held our annual Flipper Dinner in May. This event was sold out as usual. It is one of the largest fundraisers for the Men's Club for the year. Thank you again for all who helped in any way with this meal, to our Cooks Tony and Ray Rogers who prepared the meal, those who helped clean vegetables, set up and clean up the hall.
- We held a Bowling Night in April. Thank you to Pearce for making all the arrangements.
- The Men's Club continues to support our Church with our annual donation of \$2500.
- We made a donation of food to the CBS Food Bank. Our help was much appreciated.
- We held a successful Moose Stew Meal in March. Thank you to all who helped make this a success.
- Our Easter Breakfast was cancelled due to a snow storm at the end of March.
- The Men's Club was very happy to make a \$500 Donation to the arms of Jesus Mission. Sarah Budgell helped build a house with our Church name on it in Guatemala.
- We held our year end outing in June at the Outport Restaurant in Paradise. We had an excellent meal with fun and fellowship. Thank you again to our musician's.
- The Men's Club helped again with our annual Harvest Festival celebrations. We had a very successful and well attended breakfast at Thanksgiving. Thank you again to all the members who came along on Monday, helped in the kitchen, served the meal, and helped clean up. As you can see by the Annual Report the financial results speak for themselves.
- We made a donation of \$500 toward the Youth Band for the purchase of a new drum set over the summer.
- Members of the Men's Club and Men's Choir along with Rev. Bruce were invited to Clarke's Beach in October to hold an evening worship service.
- We donated \$150 to Street Reach.
- We donated \$250 to the Arms of Jesus Mission, to be used toward the two families our Church built houses for. Thank you to Sarah Budgell for her help with this.

All men of the Congregation are invited to attend the Men's Club Dinner Meetings. We meet the first Monday of every month.

I again 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
Balance as at January 1, 2012	\$6,089.65
Fundraising	
Breakfast with Santa	\$1,573.76
Easter Breakfast	(213.70)
Moose Stew Supper	650.75
Flipper Dinner	2,793.55
Net Fundraising	4,804.36
Contributions/Donations	
Annual Contribution Topsail United	(2,500.00)
TUC Youth Band	(771.20)
Guatamala Project	(750.00)
Stella Burry	(125.00)
Street Reach	(150.00)
TUC Hymn Sing	(50.00)
In Memoriams	(300.00)
Total Contributions/Donations	(4,646.20)
Other	
Fellowship Dinners	182.18
Lapel Pins	(271.20)
Bank Charges	(134.78)
Kitchen Supplies	(235.47)
Miscellaneous	(97.94)
Total Other Expenditures	(557.21)
TOTAL INCOME less EXPENSES	(399.05)
Balance as at December 31st, 2012	\$4,690.60

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW) REPORT

President:	Doreen Cave
Vice-President:	Rosalind Foley
Secretary:	Ruth Jesseau
Treasurer:	Madeline Parsons
Social/Program Convener:	Mildred Coles

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.

Summary of Activities:

- To start the 175th anniversary year of Topsail United Church our UCW group took part in a “kick off” event on January 23rd by dressing in period costume and presenting readings of our church history in 25 year intervals.
- Several of our members participated in the World Day of Prayer service which was held at the Salvation Army in Long Pond on March 11.
- The UCW hosted a Paddy’s Day Luncheon on March 14th, providing meats, rolls, tea, coffee, and desserts while people attending brought along a salad. The UCW group provided prizes for the event.
- The UCW hosted the Good Friday Luncheon, providing fish cakes, baked beans, homemade breads and desserts, proceeds from luncheon were donated to Topsail United Church.
- A donation was made to the Diabetic Association for Camp Douwanna Newfoundland and Labrador area. This was done to assist with a camp program for children with type 1 diabetes in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- The UCW continued to support our foster child program (in Guatemala) and, along with the help of our coffee group members, held a muffin drive in aid of Sarah Budgell’s trip to Guatemala in June. Monies went to the continuing help for our foster child, her family and their community. We also provided monies for a Christmas Hamper for our foster child with assistance from our coffee group members. This was done as a free will offering.
- Homemade gift bags and dishcloths were provided for the 50th Anniversary celebrations of UCW which took place in Lewisporte in September.
- A luncheon of soup, sandwiches and desserts was provided for Cochrane St. United Church retreat. This retreat was held at Topsail United in September.

- The UCW provided a soup luncheon, with rolls, desserts, tea and coffee and assisted with other functions throughout Harvest Festival.
- The UCW provided funding, along with other groups, in purchasing “Godly Play” items for our Sunday School children.
- UCW members participated in the Anniversary Service on November 18th and all members hosted a luncheon after the service.
- Doreen Cave, our President, attended the East District meeting on November 19th and provided the group with an event overview at our December meeting.
- Along with coffee group members, UCW provided prizes for the Outreach dinner which was held in December.
- UCW members continue to join the Senior Choir on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Our 19 members enjoyed a year of work, fun and fellowship in 2012. Along with members of the Coffee Group we concluded our year with a pot luck supper at the home of Rosalind Foley.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Jesseau
Secretary, UCW Topsail United

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW) FINANCIAL REPORT

Opening Balance at January 1, 2012

992.87

Income:

St. Patrick's Day	461.31
Good Friday	1134.22
Cochrane St U. Luncheon	100.00
Foster Child Donations Christmas	170.00
Monthly Collections	216.15
MS Fees	105.00
Sunday School Donation Foster Child	70.00
Bank Interest	0.07
Total Income:	2256.75

Expenses:

Observer	50.00
Foster Child	420.00
East District	245.00
News to Use	8.00
Reading Materials	20.95
Sara Budgell -Guatemala (inc. Christmas)	692.59
Topsail United Church Donation	1200.00
Can. Diabetes Association	100.00
Godly Play	238.70
Total Expenses:	2975.24

Closing Balance at December 31, 2012

274.38

Respectfully Submitted,

Madeline Parsons,
Treasurer

HARVEST FESTIVAL REPORT

Committee Members: Bob Bennett, Cle Callan, Doreen Cave, Mildred Coles, Gillian Corbett, Denise Jacobs Pat Jones, Lynn Mercer, Mitch Moran, Max Robbins, Derek Tuffin

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

All the usual events went ahead as planned on the Thanksgiving Weekend.

The Men's Club organized the Saturday Breakfast - attended by 210 people - and served at the Jiggs Dinner with Derek Tuffin in charge of the kitchen. The Sale went really well with donations of a large amount of baked goods and preserves. There were some knitted goods left and we donated them to Emmanuel House and the Food Bank.

90 people were served at the Soup Lunch organised by OutReach and 140 Jiggs Dinner tickets were sold, it was pretty close on the meals but no one was turned away. It was great to see our young people help out waiting on tables.

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 supplied by Andrew Corbett - Maverick Sports & Collectables. Both events were well supported by donors and buyers.

Financially all was very successful. It should be noted that the numbers for the Jiggs Dinners are keeping steady at around 140 and this included quite few "take outs".

Very many thanks to all who helped - it really does take a combined effort on behalf of the whole congregation to hold all these Harvest Festival fundraising events in the space of month, but once again the success can be measured in the funds raised.

Income:

Breakfast, Sale, Lunch, Dinners.....	\$ 5,551.55
Flea Market.....	\$ 4,217.50
Auction.....	\$ 8,063.00
Donations.....	\$ 2,335.12
Total.....	\$ 20,167.17

Expenses.....	\$ 1,509.30
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Net profit.....	\$ 18,657.87
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Respectfully Submitted,

Gillian Corbett for the Committee

175TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson: Eileen Green

Committee Members: Rev. Bruce Kearley (ex officio), Bob Bennett, Larry Grandy, Lorraine Jarvis, Bonnie Robbins, Margaret Clouter, Rosalind Foley

Let us rejoice! It's hard to believe that the year has come and gone and is now behind us marking another special event in the life of Topsail United Church. It was a time of celebration and serious reflection and also a time to look to the future with renewed vision, hope, confidence and commitment.

Our logo for the year was *"A Time to Rejoice"* (Eccl: 3 – 4).

The celebrations for the year went smoothly and the Committee is very pleased with the overall celebrations for the year. From a financial perspective, total income from Anniversary events totaled \$15888.75. Total expenses related to the Anniversary year totaled \$12,168.94. The balance remaining was \$3,719.82. Please note that Anniversary Booklets are still available at a cost of \$6.00.

Highlights from the 175th Anniversary celebrations include:

- Invitations to eight former clergy, Rev. Pearce Penney, Rev. Lorraine Jarvis, Rev. Myles Vardy, Rev. Jack Mercer, Rev. Mel Ralph, Rev. Scott Parsons, Rev. Harry Whitehorne and Rev. Ralph Taylor who participated in different Sunday services throughout the year.
- The year began with an Old Fashioned Bean Supper and Variety Concert which was a huge success. Special thanks to the Men's and Ladies Groups for putting this together for us.
- At our first anniversary Sunday service in January we unveiled a beautiful banner which was designed by the committee and printed for us by Stagg Signs in Grand Falls. The banner hung in the sanctuary during the year reminding us of the 175 years of history at Topsail United Church. A special thanks to Richard Sparkes for his photography work on this banner.
- Lapel Pins were designed by the Committee and they made a very nice souvenir item for purchase during the year. This was a successful project.
- Bookmarks were designed by the committee and given to people as a souvenir item of the year.
- The Dinner Theatre by Spirit of Newfoundland in June was a sold out event. It was a fantastic evening at the Masonic Temple in St. John's.
- The Church/Sunday School picnic in June had a small turnout but those present enjoyed the gathering and the entertainment by Terry Reilly. This was held at Topsail Elementary School grounds.
- During the month of May a beautiful Spruce Tree was planted in front of the church as a permanent marker for this year. It is very healthy and weathered Tropical Storm Leslie very well. A plaque has been affixed to the area giving details regarding the planting.

- A Commemorative Book went on sale in November at a cost of \$6.00. Sales have been lower than expected but we will continue to have these books available in the front vestibule on a regular basis. Special thanks to Sharon Deemer the excellent job she did compiling this historical book for us.
- The final event of our year was the Anniversary Banquet on November 17th which was held at the Royal Canadian Legion in Kelligrews. Numbers were lower than expected with 124 in attendance. It was a beautiful evening with inspiring talks by all our guests as well as many positive comments from the people in attendance. A special note of thanks has been sent to Max Robbins for the great job that he did as Master of Ceremonies for the evening.
- The conclusion to our exciting year was on Sunday, November 18th with Rev. Ralph Taylor as our guest clergy. Special guests at this time were His Honour Lt. Governor John Crosbie and Her Honour Jane Furneaux-Crosbie . All choirs participated in this service and as one visitor remarked “It was an awesome choir presentation for such a small church.” Personally I was very moved by the music on this Sunday. The work that went into this service was very evident and all choir members are to be commended for their efforts. Without an Organist and Choir Director(s), this could not have happened, so, on behalf of the Anniversary Committee I personally would like to offer our gratitude for your leadership during our closing service of the anniversary year. It was indeed spectacular.
- A beautiful banner commemorating this special year now hangs in our sanctuary and it was dedicated at the anniversary service. A special thank you goes to Lorraine Jarvis for this work of art.

I am in the process of organizing a photo album of the year’s events and this will be placed in the church archives. A special note of thanks has been sent to Richard Sparkes for all his help with the photos for the special events.

It has been a very busy two years as the Committee have sat and planned all these events. We held twenty four meetings (not to boast) but to illustrate the work and dedication of our committee who worked extremely well together over this time. This was a very first time for me to Chair such an event and I am very grateful to the Committee for all their help.

The very fact that Topsail United Church has continued through 175 years of ministry and faith says something very fundamental to the world; where two or three are gathered together in Christ’s name, God’s presence is assured.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Green, Chair

LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Committee Background:

- The TUC Strategic Plan document for 2011 to 2013 was approved by the Official Board on March 22, 2011.
- The implementation of the recommendations in the Strategic Plan is the responsibility of the various sub-Committees of the Board, TUC staff, and other groups.
- The Long Term Planning Committee's role is periodic review of the implementation of recommendations.

Strategic Plan Recommendations Implemented in 2012:

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 2012 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 2013" is available upon request from the Committee or as a download from the TUC website.

1. Financial Information Communication
 - ✓ Reinstated Fundraising Committee
2. Programs for Families
 - ✓ Coordinated strategy to increase family participation in all church programs
3. Pastoral Care
 - ✓ Improved audio system in sanctuary
 - ✓ Updated pastoral care list
 - ✓ Improvements to website
4. Children and Youth Programming
 - ✓ Enhanced programming for all age groups
 - ✓ Enhanced coordination between Sunday School and the worship service

Music Offerings

- ✓ Established Children's Rhythm Band
- ✓ Ongoing organ training for Organist/Choir Director
- ✓ Included other Choirs when appropriate during worship

5. Clergy and Staff

- ✓ Evaluated staffing requirements

6. Worship Services

- ✓ New banners for Pentecost
- ✓ Provided more information on social action and outreach to the congregation during worship

7. Property and Infrastructure

- ✓ Improvements for Easter and Christmas decorations
- ✓ New set up for audio control system
- ✓ New seating for Children's Choir and new band instrument set up
- ✓ Reshingled roof and installed a new ice/water shield
- ✓ Planted Anniversary tree
- ✓ General clean-up and removal of unnecessary items around the church

8. Topsail Cemetery

- ✓ Installed new gate

Committee Objectives for 2013:

1. Continue to 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.
4. Consider the requirement for a new Strategic Plan document for 2014 and beyond.

The Long Term Planning Committee is very pleased with the progress made in fulfilling the recommendations presented to the Official Board in March 2011. We offer our thanks to the many Committees and groups who have been supportive of this process and who continue to work to meet the expectations laid out by the congregation during the information gathering stage.

We are now in the last year of the Strategic Plan and are determining how we refresh this important document to ensure that the needs of our growing congregation continue to be met. If you would like to get involved in this Committee or have suggestions for the next planning phase, please contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Howe,
Co-Chair and Secretary

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Cle Callan
Treasurer: Boyce Clarke
Members: Don Allen Sandra Baggs
 Bob Bennett Lynn Mercer

Highlights – 2012

- Surplus of \$35,120 compared to a Budgeted Deficit of \$13,916, primarily due to/despite the following:
 - Congregational givings (all categories) over Budget by nearly \$14,000
 - Special Bequest of \$48,680
 - Extraordinary repairs to the roof of \$23,625
- Without the Special Bequest and the expense of roof repairs, would still have generated a Surplus of around \$10,000
- Combined surplus for 2012 and 2011 nearly \$63,000!
- 175th Anniversary Celebrations resulted in net revenue of around \$3,700
- Organ Loan paid off February, 2012
- Steeple loan balance = \$5,600 at December 31. Payments are \$1,667 per calendar quarter. To be paid in full July, 2013
- Bank account balance at year-end = \$112,924
- 109 families on PAR

Budget Submission – 2013

- Budgeted increase in revenue of approximately 3% over regular non-recurring 2012 revenue
- Budgeted Deficit of \$9,479 primarily due to provision for Capital Expenditures by Property and Trustee of \$10,000
- Accumulated surpluses allow this year's Budgeted Deficit to be absorbed without impacting upon the current financial position

Respectfully Submitted,

Boyde Clarke

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee - Retiring Board Members:

Freeman Budgell, Cle Callan, Gillian Corbett, Lloyd Hobbs

Ex-officio - Rev. Bruce Kearley

It is recommended that Board members serve 3 consecutive years.

2012 Committee Members eligible for re-election in 2013:

3rd year Paul Burt
 Rosalind Foley
 Mitchell Moran
 Judy Powell

2nd year Doreen Cave
 Brad Cole
 Sol Davis
 Denise Jacobs
 James Rowsell

Nominees 2013 - Boyde Clarke
 - Valerie Howe
 - David Jones
 - Bond Swain

Nominees may be accepted up to the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 24, 2013.