

TOPSAIL
UNITED
CHURCH

2013 Annual Report

“The Church by the Side of the Road”

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CHURCH DIRECTORY 2013

Minister	Rev. Bruce Kearley
Congregational Designated Minister	Steven Rogers
Administrative Assistant	Lynn Mercer
Caretaker	Roger Richards
Organist	Beth Cranston
Choir Director	Andrew Cranston
Youth Band Leader	Brett Vey
Family Worship Pianist	Andrea Deacy (January – September)
Wedding Coordinator	Rosemary Richards
Webmaster (www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net)	Ken Corbett

OFFICIAL BOARD

EXECUTIVE

Chair	David Jones
Vice Chair	Judy Powell
Secretary	James Rowsell
Treasurer	Boyde Clarke
Minister	Rev. Bruce Kearley

MEMBERS

Paul Burt	Doreen Cave	Brad Cole	Solomon Davis
Rosalind Foley	Valerie Howe	Denise Jacobs	Mitchell Moran
Wanda Saunders	Bond Swain		

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ministry & Personnel	Gillian Corbett
Finance & Administration	Boyde Clarke
Fundraising	Mitch Moran
Pastoral Care & Membership	Valerie Howe and Genevieve Phillips
Outreach	Patricia Jones
Christian Development	Judy Powell
Property & Trustee	Paul Burt
Worship & Sacraments	Doreen Cave
Long Term Planning	Valerie Howe and Bruce Kearley

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	Derek Tuffin	Doreen Cave	Rosalind Foley
Burry Heights Contact:	Patricia Jones			

CHURCH ROLLS 2013

BAPTISMS - 36

MARRIAGES - 14

FUNERALS - 22

Ruby Mills

Ethel Somerton

Leonard Mercer

Stanley Wicks

Shirley Marie Jones

Muriel Roberts

Helen Isobel Burt

Elizabeth Ann Haley-Critch

Harold Garland

Anthony Noel

Charles H. Hood

Rick Rex Wilson Russell

Anna Marie Best

Heather Faye Morgan

Richard Todd Jennings

Catherine Button

Albert Humby

Victoria Bishop

Elwin Lloyd Hann

Chesley Dawe

Frederick Pierce Wicks

Spencer Geoffrey Leonard

HISTORIC ROLL 2013 – NEW MEMBERS

NEW MEMBER BY CONFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Erin Amelia Burt

Aaron Michael Butler

Shauna Eve Collins

Logan Jacob Power

Nicholas Jeremiah Thomas Wells

NEW MEMBER BY TRANSFER

Randy Shaw

Wanda Shaw

DECEASED MEMBERS

Leonard William Mercer

Ethel Somerton

Heather Faye Morgan

Albert Humby

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Date of TUC Annual Congregational Meeting: February 24, 2013

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Reverend Bruce Kearley called the Annual Congregational Meeting to order at 12:05 pm on February 24th, 2013, welcoming all who were in attendance. Seventeen (17) parishioners were in attendance.
2. **OPENING DEVOTIONS:** Rev. Bruce Kearley opened the meeting with the prayer "A prayer for the Reign of Christ" from Voices United, followed with a scripture reading from Ecclesiastes #39 and ended with a short story entitled "The Lesson of the Cracked Water Pot".
3. **CHAIR AND SECRETARY FOR 2013 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** Rev. Kearley called for nominations for the Chair and Secretary for the meeting. Mr. Robert Jenkins nominated Gillian Corbett for Chair, who graciously declined. Lloyd Hobbs nominated Robert Jenkins for Chair, who accepted. Robert Jenkins nominated Jim Rowsell for Secretary, who accepted. In each case, Rev. Bruce called three times for nominations and hearing none, declared nominations cease, after which he declared Robert and Jim elected to fill the posts and called them to the desk.
4. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND THANKS:** Robert Jenkins, on behalf of the entire congregation, expressed our heartfelt thanks to Rev. Bruce for his Ministry and his tireless hours of hard work over the past year, and noted that we are truly blessed to have him here at Topsail United. He also thanked Gillian Corbett, the outgoing Chair of the Official Board, for all her work and that of the entire Board in 2012. Regrets were received from Valerie Howe, Steven Rogers, Eileen Green, Nadine Hollett and Pat Jones.
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was unanimously approved. The Chair suggested that the 2012 Reports of Committees be presented and discussed, with the exception of the Finance Committee, and there then would be one motion to accept them all. The financial reports, including the 2013 Budget would be approved in separate motions. All in attendance agreed.
6. **CHURCH ROLLS:** It was noted that names of individuals were once again included in Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals, and it was pointed out that one new member by transfer had been spelled incorrectly – Vera Penney should have read Verna Penney.
7. **REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE PASSED IN 2012:** Rev. Bruce read the names of those who had passed away in 2012, followed with a moment of silence and the prayer 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus' for them and their families, as well as for other members of our church family who had also lost loved ones.

8. **MINUTES OF 2012 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** There being no errors or omission, it was **MOVED by Freeman Budgell/Boyde Clarke that the Minutes of the 2012 Annual Congregational Meeting be adopted as presented. CARRIED.**
9. **2012 ANNUAL REPORTS:**
- 9.1 **Minister:** Rev. Bruce brought attention to his letter, highlighting: the wonderfully successful 175th Anniversary Celebrations, the wonderful variety in Worship that we enjoy at Topsail, the challenges we all must face in our daily devotions, the interest and high involvement of our Youth, the good work of our CD Minister, Steven Rogers, the fact that the 46 Baptisms this year brings his career total to approximately 600 children. He commented that this year would see his retirement from the Canadian Armed Forces as Chaplain. He thanked the congregation for freely sharing their gifts and talents and thanked the Church staff and the outgoing and incoming Board members for all their help. He ended his remarks by reading from a newspaper article that had been written about the 175th Anniversary. There were no questions, however, Wanda Saunders, thanked Rev. Bruce for his personal caring in such a large congregation.
- 9.2 **Chair of the Board:** Gillian Corbett, outgoing Chair of the Board, submitted her report. There were no questions.
- 9.3 **CD Minister:** Steven Rogers was absent due to illness, however, Robert Jenkins acknowledged Steven's active participation and vision which has resulted in successful programs and increased participation of our youth. Rosalind Foley commented that she has found working with Steven a wonderful experience.
- 9.4 **Membership and Pastoral Care:** Gillian Corbett expressed her thanks to Valerie Howe, whose work has resulted in more than 140 being placed on our email lists, thereby enabling the Church to better communicate with everyone.
- 9.5 **Worship and Sacraments:** Rosalind Foley had nothing to add to the report. The Chair commented that we are truly blessed to have Lorraine and Harry in our congregation, able to fill in for services on short notice.
- 9.6 **Organist/Choir Director:** Allan Parsons brought a question as to the training we have been providing to Nadine this past year. Lloyd explained that some training was provided in 2012 as part of her contract, and that while some of that training needs to be completed in 2013, there has been no decision on further training at this time.
- 9.7 **Senior Choir:** No questions.
- 9.8 **Christian Development:** During the year, Jan Negrijn stepped down and Sharon Deemer was appointed as the new Chair. Gillian Corbett commented that the committee is currently reorganizing.
- 9.9 **Sunday School:** Gillian Corbett commented that the Sunday School has seen the addition of many new members over the past year. Freeman Budgell commented that while the Sunday School is not primarily Steven Roger's responsibility, he has done quite a bit of work reorganizing it.

- 9.10 Children and Youth Music Program:** Gillian Corbett commented that there is an ongoing challenge to find meeting times that are acceptable to all young persons. Rosalind Foley commented that it seems that with so much going on in their lives, it seems organized activities no longer hold a high priority in our youth's daily lives. She added that her choir had 17 members last year, and she thoroughly enjoys working with them.
- 9.11 Ministry and Personnel:** Lloyd thanked all the Church Staff for their help in 2012, with special thanks to Rev. Bruce and Lynn Mercer.
- 9.12 Outreach:** No questions. Rev. Bruce commented that the local food bank is finding operations much harder since they were forced to move locations to a place where the rent is approximately three times what it had been.
- 9.13 Property and Trustee:** Installing new roof shingles had been a major expense last year and some fundraising is planned. Work on redoing the downstairs bathrooms is in the planning stages.
- 9.14 Men's Club** No questions.
- 9.15 United Church Women:** It was mentioned that a conflicting practice for the World Day of Prayer Service resulted in many members not being able to attend the Congregational Meeting today. No questions on the report.
- 9.16 Harvest Festival:** Gillian Corbett pointed out that this church function involves participation from all committees and groups within the Church.
- 9.17 175th Celebrations:** The Chair commented that these celebrations had been a complete success.
- 9.18 Long Term Planning:** No questions/comments.

10. ADOPTION OF REPORTS:

MOTION: It was Moved by Freeman Budgell/Mitch Moran that the Reports 9.1 to 9.18 be accepted as submitted. CARRIED.

11. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Boyde Clarke reviewed the report, highlighting the fact that Topsail United has the highest percentage of families on PAR of any church in Newfoundland and Labrador, and has resulted in the Church not having to borrow to get through the summer months, as it has had to do in previous years. He also noted the incorrect spelling of his name on page 37.

The Chair questioned whether the fundraiser for the roof repairs should be more 'visible' and 'pushed' to be more successful. Allen Parsons questioned the need for fundraisers at all if we have this much money in the bank. Boyde responded that notwithstanding our current finances, if we do not continue to be vigilant and responsible, we could easily find ourselves back in a poor financial situation.

Bob Bennett asked where the large bequest from last year would be used, suggesting that it be earmarked for the rehabilitation of the downstairs, which could possibly cost in the vicinity of \$110,000.00 - the Church borrowing the balance. He further suggested that a memorial plaque recognize its use. Freeman Budgell and Bob Jenkins both commented that due to the fact that there were no set conditions attached to the bequest, they felt that the decision as to the disposition of the bequest rests with the decision of the Official Board.

MOTION: It was MOVED by Boyde Clarke/Lloyd Hobbs that the Finance Committee report be accepted as presented. CARRIED.

12. BUDGET FOR 2013

Boyde Clarke then reviewed the Budget for 2013, noting that Steven Roger's hours had been increased from 20 to 30 hours per week resulting in an increase in budget for Ministry and Personnel Operating expenses. Allan Parsons expressed his concern over the amount spent for printing the Annual Report. Gillian responded that the difference between printing it ourselves and getting it printed at Blackwood Printing was very little and we receive a much better product. It was **MOVED by Boyde Clarke/Lloyd Hobbs that the 2013 Budget be accepted as presented. CARRIED.**

13. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The report of the nominating committee was brought forward. The Chair called three times for any other nominations to the Official Board. Max Robbins and Allan Parson were both nominated, but declined. Lloyd nominated Wanda Saunders, who accepted. It was **then MOVED by Gillian Corbett/Max Robbins that the slate of members submitted, with the addition of Wanda Saunders, be accepted as the Official Board for 2013. CARRIED.**

14. ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

The Chair thanked all for coming to the meeting. It **was MOVED by Freeman Budgell/Mitch Moran that the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED.** Rev. Bruce gave the Benediction.

Respectively Submitted,

Robert Jenkins, Chair
February 24, 2013

James H. Rowsell, Secretary
February 24, 2013

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK



**He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
What-e'er I do, where-'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me! He leadeth me! By his own hand he leadeth me!
His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me!**

(#657 - Voices United - Joseph Gilmore, Author)

Dear Friends,

Greetings in Christ's name. 2013 was a very busy year at Topsail United (*The Church by the Side of the Road*). As I was preparing to write this annual letter my thoughts began to focus on the many ways we think of God and how God leads us each day. Truly God has led us though 2013 in worship and church activity and in our commitment to witness and celebrate God's presence with us. The image of a helping hand is one that attests to God's leading. The beautiful hymn; "*Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands*" (#570 in Voices United) reflects the gentle presence of Jesus with us as we strive to become the helping hands of Jesus to those around us. The first verse of this beautiful hymn acknowledges the blessings of Jesus on our lives and the second verse asks us to share those blessings with those around us as we witness to our faith each day.

***Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,
Healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,
Washing tired feet and saving those who fall,
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.***

***Take my hands O Jesus, let them work for you,
Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do,
Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too,
Till my hand are kind hands, quick to work for you.***

The verse at the beginning of this letter demonstrates it is God's hand that leads us daily. The words "*what-e'er I do, where-'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!*" offers the assurance that whatever we face in life, God is there. I realize this is easier said than felt especially if the pathway we have trod is uncertain.

There are members of our congregation who have walked a difficult pathway this year because of the death of loved one or some other uncertain happening in life. I cannot take away the hurt you have felt but I want you to know that, as a congregation, our continued support and prayers are with you. My favourite Bible verse is Isaiah 49: 15-16. It states: "... Yet I will never forget you, I have carved you in the Palm of my hand; ..." May knowing that you are held in the palm of God's hand bring a sense of comfort and assurance on the difficult paths of life.

God's blessings and guidance also indicates that God walks with us in the joyful moments of life. This year has held many moments of celebration and joy in the life and work of our congregation. They are too many to mention in the confines of this letter but I do want to mention a few. We are always blessed by the presence of our youth and the leadership and ministry they provide. I first want to thank all of the youth and leaders for your commitment and ministry. It is truly a blessing for our congregation. The closing of Sunday School for the summer break gave us all the opportunity to celebrate the thread that keep us all together as a worshipping congregation. The gathering was given the opportunity with the use of ribbons to weave that connection of togetherness and the various colours of ribbons enabled us to celebrate the different gifts and talents that all of us bring to the life and work of this congregation. Our youth, once again, led us as they presented a very touching and profound telling of the Christmas story entitled, "*Would You Like to Hold the Baby?*" We are very blessed to have these young people with us and we thank them for so willingly sharing their time, talent and commitment. Truly, through them we see the hand of God leading and blessing us. Thank you.

This year we also welcomed Beth and Andrew Cranston as our Organist and Choir Director, respectively. Their musical and choral talent and leadership have enabled our choirs and congregation to express joy in worship through music and song. Their ministry with us is truly a blessing. Each anthem the choirs present is a wonderful blessing but a highlight for me and our congregation occurred just before Christmas as our mixed choir, under the direction of Beth and Andrew, shared their talent for singing by participating with other local choirs and singers in a Christmas Cantata entitled: "*When Love was Born!*" at the Manuel's River Interpretation Centre. Thank you all for your ministry of music.

As I mentioned earlier there were many highlights in this past year and, along with the few I have mentioned, the Annual Report gives an account of the entire life and work of our congregation for 2013. 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.

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 2013 we were able to hold our own with the reality of rising operating costs (*Please take a look at the report from our Finance & Administration Committee for more detail*). Because of your generous support we have been able to pay congregational expenses and support the larger work of the United Church of Canada through our Mission and Service Fund. This is cause for celebration and I want to express my heartfelt thanks. Your commitment to sharing your time, talent and financial support is a ministry in itself and without your presence the overall ministry of our congregation could not happen. I thank you for your support and for your continued support in 2014.

Our church office can provide information on the various ways you can contribute to the life and work of our congregation.

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

I end my letter with "A Prayer for the Journey" (#648 in Voices United.) May this be our prayer as we continue our journey of faith together in 2014. My wife, Dianne, joins with me in wishing you God's blessing for the year ahead.

**God of the way,
You are the road we travel,
And the sign we follow;
You are bread for the journey,
And the wine of arrival.**

**Guide us as we follow in your way,
Holding on to each other.
Reaching out to your beloved world.**

**And when we stray,
Seek us out and find us,
Set our feet on the path again,
And lead us safely home.**

In the name of Jesus, our companion, we pray. Amen.

Blessings,



Rev. Bruce

OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIR REPORT

This past year has been a good one for Topsail United Church. Our Church is strong. Thanks to the leadership of our Minister and staff, the work of the Board and its Committees, and you, the Members and Supporters of this Congregation, we have met all of the goals and objectives (including the financial ones) that we set for ourselves this past year.

The Strategic Plan that we put in place three (3) years ago has served us well. Now, as we enter this coming year, with your help and support, we will put in place a new Strategic Plan that builds on the strengths of the old one, and that sets out our goals and objectives for the next three (3) years. Doing so will require the engagement and support of our Members and Supporters, so when you are asked to help, however small or great that contribution may be and in whatever form it takes, and as you are able, please respond positively. Our future is in our hands. It is our time to shine and be counted.

The purpose of this plan will be to see our Church continue to prosper and grow spiritually and financially so that it can continue to be, as it has been for over 175 years, a beacon of light and hope and a place of support and comfort in our community that uplifts all those who enter our doors and come into contact with its people and programs.

There will no doubt be challenges as we move ahead, but if we remain committed to the principles of caring and sharing; of reaching out to and also being touched by those we come into contact with; of keeping faith with those Christian principles on which our Church is based; while remaining fully engaged in our community and offering meaning to those whom we serve, so as to blend the best of our past with the hope of our future, then in my mind there is no doubt that the future of *The Church by the Side of the Road* and its people will continue to be a bright one indeed.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Jones
Official Board Chair

CONGREGATIONAL DESIGNATED MINISTER REPORT

Greetings!

As I reflect on the many challenges and blessings of 2013, I am reminded of the words written by the hymnist R. Deane Postlethwaite:

The care the eagle gives her young, safe in her lofty nest, is like the tender love of God for us made manifest. As when the time to venture comes, she stirs them out to flight, so we are pressed to boldly try to strive for daring height. (Voices United #269)

At Topsail United Church, we are blessed with many talented and dedicated individuals who strive for daring heights through their service and ministry. Our Sunday School leaders volunteer much time and energy as they continue to improve and expand our curriculum. I was pleased to lead our Sunday School teachers in a number of Godly Play training sessions in the Summer of 2013. We continue to learn and grow together as we deliver an exciting program for children and young families.

Over the past year, our congregation has benefited greatly from the involvement of our youth. During the “Sacred Bodies” event, we explored various body images as portrayed in popular media and compared these with body images found in the Bible whilst discussing the theology of a healthy body image. This event was a joint gathering with our confirmation class and much camaraderie was enjoyed amongst the participants. In the Fall, youth met regularly to rehearse choreography for a dance that was later performed under black light during the Christmas Eve service. They played an important role throughout the year in reading scripture, leading worship services, distributing bulletins, setting up sound equipment, controlling the sound mixer, and assisting in the leadership of Sunday School cooking classes. The leadership of our youth was clearly evident during the very successful fundraising concert in May and in the ‘Messy Church’ year-end celebration in June.

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 Rhythm Band continued to grow to total of 10 members and their music adds great energy to our worship whenever they perform. We were fortunate to have both laity and clergy participate in a special Lenten study entitled “Word for Lent”. Using video, scripture, and the image of a stained glass window, the study group explored a different theme for each week of lent. In the autumn season, we enjoyed three special presentations led by study group members: Religious Fundamentalism & Politics; Christian Mysticism; and The Social Gospel: Rev. Oliver Jackson & The Great Depression.

I would like to thank Rev. Bruce for his support and encouragement throughout the year. I also say thank you to the staff, committee members, board members, and congregation members for all the work and contributions you’ve made this past year.

Blessings,
Steven

PASTORAL CARE AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

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

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

Historic Roll: The Historic Roll contains the names of all those who have joined Topsail United by confirming their baptismal vows, 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 2013, **5** new members were added by Confirmation, **2** new members were added by transfer and **4** members were removed by their death. The Historic Roll currently lists **504** members. Please call the Church Office if you need information about transferring your Membership or wish to confirm your baptismal vows.

Church Records: Church records for 2013 list **36 Baptisms, 14 Marriages and 22 Funerals** conducted at Topsail United Church throughout the year.

Sunday School: Invitations to attend Sunday School were sent to 27 children living in the Pastoral Charge who were baptized at Topsail United Church and started kindergarten in September 2013.

Confirmation: Invitations to attend Confirmation Classes were sent out (for the first time) **to those who turned 12 in 2013.**

Supporting Families List: In 2013 there were 300 families financially supporting the church with annual donations of over \$50.00 and a further **150** families under our Pastoral Care.

Newsletter: All those on the Supporting Families list receive the Spring and Fall Newsletter 171 Newsletters are delivered by email; 100 Newsletters are mailed; and 160 Newsletters are hand delivered by 22 faithful “Neighbourhood Contacts”.

“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.

Pastoral Care Team: Discussion is ongoing on the viability of training volunteers for visiting 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:	Doreen Cave		
Secretary:	Barbara Brown		
Members:	Marie Burt	Andrew Cranston	Beth Cranston
	Heather Cronhelm	Sharon Deemer	Rosalind Foley
	Allan Parsons	Rev. Pearce Penney	Jacqueline Perry
	Steven Rogers	Wanda Saunders	
Ex-Officio:	Rev. Bruce Kearley		

Summary of Activities:

The Worship and Sacraments Committee met five times during 2013. Sunday worship schedules were established for the Church year and business related to worship in the sanctuary was conducted.

This has been a year of change in our adult choir. Beth and Andrew Cranston took on the role(s) of Organist and Choir Director. The Youth and Children's choirs and bands continued to provide musical leadership for Family Sunday worship.

There was a musical workshop open to all members of the congregation presented by Ron Klusmeier which was well received by all who attended. Included in the workshop was a short evening concert with members from our church forming the choir. Another aspect of this workshop covered projection technology. Rev. Kearley attended this session and a subcommittee was struck to look into details of what resources would be needed to implement a projection system in our sanctuary.

The Topsail United Church Senior Mixed Choir joined the community choir, Coastal Sounds, in a Christmas Cantata "When Love Was Born" presented at the Manuals River Resource Centre in December with Rev. Kearley narrating. We also had guest choirs, Coastal Sounds and The Anchormen, contribute to worship during 2013. The Longest Night Service and three services on Christmas Eve proceeded as usual. Flower Services were held in Topsail and Long Pond cemeteries during the summer.

There are many people who contribute to our worship. Thanks go out to those who replace Rev. Kearley when required. Thanks also to our music leaders who spend endless hours preparing for services; to the ushers and greeters; to those who take part in worship by preparing and helping serve communion; and to those who read scriptures. We are indeed "the church". Special thanks to Rev. Kearley and Steven Rogers for their leadership in worship.

Thank you all for sharing your talents and faith with the congregation of Topsail United Church.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doreen Cave

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR REPORT

It has been an absolutely spectacular first year for us and we are so pleased that both choirs have grown in size to a point where they can be a driving force for worship in the church. We continue to seek out new music for both groups, as well as program old favourites for both the choirs and the congregation, and we have many plans that will hopefully continue this positive growth.

We are looking for more opportunities for the choir to spread their ministry not only in different places in the church, but in the greater faith community beyond it as well. Last Christmas the choir took part in both a performance with Coastal Sounds at the Manuels River Centre and in a mass choir Cantata that was, by all accounts, very successful. There will be another mass Christmas Cantata planned for 2014 and we are hoping this event will take place in Topsail United Church so that we may make use of the organ. The Men's Choir prepared a Gospel service for the church in June 2013 and then this service was recreated to much acclaim in Norman's Cove. We are hoping to have another Gospel evening event in the coming months (most likely in May/June) that will involve all the musical ensembles in the church and also be an opportunity for fundraising for the church.

One of the most successful components of our Cantata concert in December was the fact that we were able to hire additional teaching support in the form of section leaders for the choir, this aided in speeding up the rehearsal process. This is a format we plan to explore for the future.

We are committed to looking for ways to improve the choir programs, actively seek out feedback from both groups to do so, and work on creating additional performance opportunities to allow these groups to share their gifts with the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew and Beth Cranston
Organist / Choir Director

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH MIXED CHOIR REPORT

Membership Statistics	
Number at beginning of year	12
Number at year end	25
Number of meetings	26
Average Attendance	95%

Summary of Activities:

- Sang at Regular Worship Services, with the exception of Men's Choir and Family Services.
- Special worship services included Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve.
- Participated in the Anniversary Hymn Sing service.
- During December the Mixed Senior Choir joined with Coastal Sounds, members of the Anchormen Chorus and Afterglow to perform a concert at the Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre, Conception Bay South.
- Participated in the Christmas celebrations at the Masonic Lodge, CBS.

We had a wonderful year. New members are always welcome.

Many thanks to Beth and Andrew for all their guidance during this past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Madeline Parsons
Secretary

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair/President: Judy Powell
Members/Executive: Charlotte Akerman (Secretary) Joanna Tucker
JoAnn Stone Rosalind Foley
Bond Swain Sharon Deemer
Ex officio: Rev. Bruce Kearley, Steven Rogers

Summary of Activities:

The Christian Development Committee met in the Spring and Fall of 2013. As Steven Rogers has now settled into his role as Christian Development Coordinator/Congregational Designated Minister, the focus of the Committee was to act as a resource to Steven to provide feedback and guidance, as well as provide an oversight role with respect to the Christian Development Program.

All aspects of the Christian Development Program were carried out successfully this year including Sunday School, Youth Group, Adult Study, Lent Study, Youth Music, and the Children's Choir. The Youth and Children's Program continue to be a major focus of the Committee as we strive to continue to improve and grow the program. One of the major challenges is the scheduling of events to be compatible with the many other extra-curricular activities in their schedules. One of the approaches that worked successfully was the planning of special events where the time commitment was shorter and manageable in their schedules. This approach will be used again for future events.

A new ministry introduced for Adult Study in the Spring of 2013 was rug hooking. The classes were well attended and the feedback was very positive. The end of year service for Sunday School held in June was also very well received. The service was held in the hall downstairs and incorporated special performances by the children and youth.

Members of the Committee organized and maintained the nursery area so that it could be more effectively utilized for children during Sunday School, including a private area for Godly Play.

Even though we have many wonderful volunteers assisting with our Children, Youth and Sunday School Programs, we are always in need of additional help. If anyone is interested in volunteering in any way, please contact a Committee member or Sunday School teacher.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Powell
Chair

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

Sunday School Coordinator: Steven Rogers
Treasurer: Anne Allen

Membership Statistics	
TOTAL REGISTERED	65
Preschool	18
Kindergarten	9
Grade One	1
Grade Two	8
Grade Three	6
Grade Four	6
Grade Five	3
Grade Six and up	14
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	25

Summary of Activities

Topsail United Sunday School was fortunate to have a team of dedicated leaders in 2013 including: Jo-Ann Stone, Charlotte Akerman, Mona Morey, Heather Cronhelm, Genevieve Phillips, Sharon Deemer, Marvin Chaulk, Rosalind Foley, Tonya Pelley, Sabrina Callan, Nancy Leawood, Sarah Coish, and Joanna Tucker.

The Spark Workshop Rotation curriculum, initiated in 2012, continued in 2013 after much positive feedback from children, parents, and leaders. This 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. In summer 2013, a donation from the UCW and Outreach enabled us to purchase additional 'Godly Play' materials so that Godly Play storytelling sessions are offered nearly every Sunday in tandem with the Spark Workshop curriculum. The Junior/Senior High class studied the lectionary-based 'Seasons of the Spirit' curriculum along with YouTube videos and other media focusing on current affairs. An intergenerational Christmas Pageant entitled "Would you Like to Hold the Baby?" was performed in December involving children, teens, adults, and various musical ensembles and soloists. Students of the Sunday School made a colourful craft that was displayed in the sanctuary during Easter. They also made candles for newly baptized infants and participated in special events such as the Palm Parade. A special year-end celebration was held in June in the "Messy Church" style with various intergenerational activities incorporated as part of the worship service. The congregation particularly enjoyed 'Weaving the Prayer of Jesus' – an activity involving tying of ribbons between congregants.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Rogers

SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

Description	Income	Expenses
Opening Balance January 1, 2013	1,852.76	
Weekly offerings (January to December 2013)	815.63	
Interest earned (Jan to Dec 2013)	3.33	
Beeswax for Baptism Candles		79.94
Supplies		111.22
Year End Party		75.66
Donation to Graysen Power (made Jan 2014)		100.00
Guatemala Sponsor Child c/o UCW (for 2014 costs)		76.50
Totals	818.96	443.32
Total Year End Balance in Account (December 31, 2013)	2,228.40	

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Allan
Sunday School Treasurer

YOUTH GROUP FINANCIAL REPORT

Description	Income	Expenses
Opening Balance January 1, 2013	627.53	
Coins from the Men's Group	64.17	
Food Supplies - confirmation class		52.16
Pizza for Youth Group		30.50
Totals	64.17	82.66
Total Year End Balance in Account (31/12/13)	609.04	

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Allan
Sunday School Treasurer

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Gillian Corbett
Members: Anne Allen Freeman Budgell Lloyd Hobbs
Valerie Howe Doreen Hart Patricia Jones

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is responsible for 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.

Topsail United Church is fortunate to have a dedicated group of individuals working for the congregation and this makes the work of this Committee that much easier. There have been some changes during 2013:

- The hours for Steven Rogers, Congregational Designated Minister with responsibility for Christian Development, were increased to 30 hours per week which was a more realistic reflection of the work being accomplished in this area.
- The contract with former organist Nadine Hollett was not renewed and through a hiring process we welcomed the music team of Beth and Andrew Cranston as Organist and Choir Director, respectively.
- Andrea Deacy was unable to continue as Family Service Musician due to her return to work and arrangements have been made with Brett Vey to take on her responsibilities in 2014.
- Office Manager Lynn Mercer took sick leave from October to December. Special thanks to Andrew Cranston who stepped into her position on short notice. We are pleased to welcome Lynn back with us again for the new year.

The Committee met with all staff during 2013 to discuss individual contracts, concerns, compensation, and other 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 thank all our staff, Steven Rogers, Lynn Mercer, Beth and Andrew Cranston, Roger Richards, Rosemary Richards and Brett Vey. A very special thank you to Rev. Bruce Kearley for his continuing leadership and spiritual guidance, we feel truly blessed to have him with us. Thank you also to the 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 also like to thank each one of them.

We look forward to another successful year in 2014 and ask for the continued support of the congregation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gillian Corbett

OUTREACH COMMITTEE 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:

- Arranged visits to Personal Care Homes for devotion and music.
- Provided postage costs for mailings (Bulletins & Daily Devotion Books) to members who are 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 the work of "Stella's Circle" which includes Emmanuel House and Naomi House.
- 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, one in Spring for the Church and the other in Fall for the Harvest Festival.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Jones

OUTREACH COMMITTEE FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

Opening Balance Jan. 1 2013	\$ 2,528.01
"Gold Banks" for Mission & Service Fund	\$ 1,136.50
Spring & Fall Flea Markets	\$ 8,145.00
Christmas Dinner	\$ 1,574.00
Bank Interest	.35
Total Income	\$13,383.86

DONATIONS & EXPENSES

Topsail United Church (including Harvest Festival)	\$ 6,500.00
Burry Heights Camp	\$ 100.00
M & S "Gold Banks" (remitted to Church)	\$ 1,136.50
Mission & Service Fund	\$ 1,000.00
CBS/Paradise Food Bank	\$ 500.00
" " " Men's Club purchase of food	\$ 100.00
Christmas Dinner - S.U.F. Hall	\$ 1,080.00
Emmanuel House - Christmas	\$ 500.00
Miscellaneous (Flea Markets, picture frames, gifts, cakes etc.)	\$ 844.05
Bank Charges	\$ 36.50
Total Expenses	\$11,797.05

Balance as of December 31, 2013 **\$ 1,586.81**

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 2013. Please remember the first Sunday of each month is highlighted for donating to the Food Bank but you may bring items at any time. 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. Our congregation donated monies in excess of the requested 40 Hampers. A total of 254 Christmas Hampers were prepared. Some of our regular clients are 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 again in regular clients during 2013.

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

The move from the premises in Chamberlains to Manuels (behind "Mary Brown's") continues to put added pressure on the finances. The Food Bank Board has appealed for financial help from businesses in both communities and continues to seek increased financial help from the member Churches. Fundraisers are being held and we ask for your support whenever possible.

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.....	\$ 437.00
Christmas Hamper Donations.....	\$ 4,490.00
Outreach Committee.....	\$ 500.00
 Total Donations	 \$ 5,427.00

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

Summary of Donations:

INCOME

Individual Offerings (envelopes & PAR).....	\$ 17,230.75
“Gold Banks”	\$ 1,279.50
Outreach Committee.....	\$ 1,000.00
Total	\$ 19,510.25

EXPENSES

M & S Remittance.....	\$ 19,297.52
Bank Charges.....	\$ 51.11
PAR Charges.....	\$ 161.62
Total	\$ 19,510.25

PROPERTY AND TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair:	Paul Burt		
Members:	Robert Bennett	Lloyd Johnson	Roland Regular
	Roger Richards	Max Robbins	Derrick Tuffin
Ex officio:	Rev. Bruce Kearley		

Summary of Activities:

Paul Burt assumed the role of Committee Chair on March 12, 2013 after the Committee accepted the resignation of Max Robbins from this position. Max continues to sit on the Property and Trustee Committee and along with Bob Bennett, continues to perform the role of Cemetery Convener. On behalf of the Committee and the congregation, I wish to express our gratitude to Max for his many years of service to Topsail United Church as Chair of the Property/Trustee Committee. The Committee also received and accepted the resignation of Freeman Budgell from the Committee during this meeting. We also express gratitude to Freeman for his lengthy tenure on the Property/Trustee Committee.

2013 was a very active year for the Property/Trustee Committee with the following projects representing just some of the issues dealt with by Committee members during the year:


- Shingle repair following damage from a severe windstorm.
- Siding/soffit repair on the steeple.
- Repairs to the chain-link fence at Topsail Cemetery following damage from snow clearing efforts.
- Replacement of the main gate at Topsail Cemetery and replacement of the metal railing located at the front entrance to the church. Special thanks to David Rideout for the donation of his time and expertise in these two significant projects.
- Repairs to the boardroom ceiling from water damage that occurred prior to the roof being re-shingled.
- Replacement of the Anniversary tree near the front entrance.
- Repainting of all exterior trim/concrete.
- Provision of a locking cabinet for the nursery area.
- Grading of the rear section of the church parking lot.
- Replacement of ballasts/bulbs throughout the church hall and nursery. Special thanks to Brad Landry for the donation of his time and expertise in this project.

A summer maintenance program was put in place for the three cemeteries maintained by the church and snow clearing efforts at Topsail were also coordinated.

As was indicated in the 2012 report, the Long Term Planning Committee and the Official Board have determined that the washroom facilities in the Church Hall are lacking in both appearance and functionality for Church users. A broad-based renovation to the nursery/washroom area has been deemed to be too expensive to be undertaken at this time so a “refresh” of both washrooms with the goal of improving the appearance and accessibility for physically challenged users will be undertaken. This project was intended to be completed during 2013 however due to difficulties in procuring a contractor; the target date for these improvements has been pushed forward to the current calendar year.

I would like to thank all Committee members for their continued support and dedication to the time consuming process of maintaining our church buildings and cemeteries during the past 12 months and, in particular, I would like to recognize the efforts of Bob Bennett for his role in coordinating several of the more significant projects listed above.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Burt', with a stylized, cursive script.

Paul Burt

MEN'S CLUB REPORT

President: Bob Bennett
Secretary: Bob Osmond

Vice President: Derrick Tuffin
Treasurer: Boyde Clarke

Summary of Activities:

- The Men's Club hold Dinner Meetings on the first Monday of every month, excluding the summer months. New members are always welcome.
- A bowling night was held in the spring at Paradise bowl, thank you to Pearce for making the arrangements.
- The Men's Club continues to support the Church with an annual donation of \$2500 and also contributed \$1000 to the Roofing Fund in 2013.
- We had a successful Easter Breakfast. Thank you to all who supported us and helped in any way to make this a success.
- We held our annual flipper dinner in May. This event was sold out and continues to be our largest fundraiser for the year. Thank you again to all who helped in any way with this meal, to our cooks Tony and Ray Rogers who prepared the meal, those who supported it, helped clean vegetables, set up and clean up the hall.
- Two separate donations were made to the CBS Food Bank in 2013.
- We paid for a subscription to the Klusmeir website for Choir music.
- A digital recorder was purchased for the Sanctuary and a Yamaha mixer for the Hall.
- We helped with the purchase of food and volunteered for the Celebration Sunday held on June 16.
- We held a Gospel Concert on Sunday, June 9, and in the same evening members of the Men's Club and Men's Choir along with Rev. Bruce were invited to Norman's Cove United Church to do a Gospel Service.
- We held our year end outing with our spouses at Tiny's Restaurant in Kelligrews. A special thank you to Rev. Bill and Lillian Williams for their thoughtfulness.
- We had a special speaker in October, Mr. Ralph Barrett came and spoke on fossils.
- Members helped with our Annual Harvest Celebrations. Thank you to all who came out and supported the breakfast. Thank you to all the members who came along on Monday and helped in the kitchen, served and cleaned. As you can see by the Annual Report the financial results speak for themselves.
- We made a \$400 donation to East District Chaplaincy.
- At our December meeting we invited our spouses and we had a delicious turkey meal. Thank you to the men who helped prepare this meal. A special thank you to Steven for providing the entertainment.
- We had a very successful Breakfast with Santa. I believe this may have been the highest number of people ever attending. Thank you again to all who came out and supported this event. Any food items that were left over were donated to the CBS Food Bank.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to all members of the Men's Club who help out in so many ways and who do so willingly. Our Church is 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, 2013	\$4,690.60
Fundraising	
Breakfast with Santa	\$1,580.73
Easter Breakfast	1,188.00
Flipper Dinner	2,502.31
Net Fundraising	5,271.04
Contributions/Donations	
Annual Contribution Topsail United	(2,500.00)
TUC Roofing Fund	(1000.00)
TUC Choir	(150.00)
TUC Hymn Sing	(100.00)
East District Chaplaincy	(400.00)
CBS Food Bank	(100.00)
Total Contributions/Donations	(4,250.00)
Other	
TUC Audio Equipment	(1103.18)
Fellowship Dinners	(51.33)
Sunday School Picnic	(120.19)
Bank Charges	(71.40)
Honorarium	(250.00)
Ron Klusmeir Copyright	(100.00)
Miscellaneous	(50.00)
Total Other Expenditures	(1,643.44)
TOTAL INCOME less EXPENSES	(622.40)
Balance as at December 31st, 2013	\$4,068.20

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:

- Donation from the Youden family was given to UCW. This was used to assist with the purchase of a Life Pack Defibrillator unit for the church hall.
- Several of our members participated in the World Day of Prayer service which was held at Faith Pentecostal Church in Foxtrap, February 28, 2013.
- Hosted a Paddy's Day Luncheon on March 13th, 2013 providing meats, rolls, tea, coffee, and desserts while people attending brought along a salad. UCW group provided prizes for the event.
- Hosted the Good Friday Luncheon March 28th, 2013 providing fish cakes, baked beans, homemade breads and desserts, proceeds from luncheon were donated to Topsail United Church.
- Several members attended the AGM for East District which took place May 28th, 2013.
- Assisted with Youth Group Concert which took place May 15, 2013 by setting up, serving luncheon and refreshments, and cleanup after the event.
- Assisted with preparing for and helping out at the Flea Market on June 1st, 2013 and Plant Sale on June 8th, 2013.
- Two members attended Burry Heights Day which was held September 21, 2013. Sales items, baked goods, and auction items were sent along for this event.
- Provided a soup luncheon, with rolls, desserts, and coffee and assisted with other functions throughout Harvest Festival. Member of the Ladies Coffee Group and UCW worked on homemade items after coffee on Wednesdays through the year and these items were donated to the Harvest Festival sales.
- We continued to support our foster child program (in Guatemala) 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. The Sunday School children and our Coffee Group assist with the support for our Foster Child Program.

- As part of our Outreach responsibilities, provided and served food and refreshments throughout the year for funerals when requested.
- Along with Coffee Group members, UCW provided prizes for the Outreach dinner which was held in December.

Our 19 members enjoyed a year of work, fun, and fellowship in 2013.

Along with members of coffee group we concluded our year with a pot luck supper at the home of Rosalind Foley. Members brought along items for Emmanuel House which were delivered before Christmas by Pat Jones and Gillian Corbett.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Jesseau
Secretary, UCW Topsail United

UCW FINANCIAL REPORT

Opening Balance at January 1, 2013 **\$274.98**

Income

St. Patrick's Day	\$487.51	
Good Friday - Fish Cake Dinner	\$1,306.97	
Foster Child Donation	\$34.50	
Foster Child Donation from Sunday School	\$70.00	
Monthly Dues	\$227.00	
Membership Fees	\$160.00	
Bank Interest	\$0.14	
Donation in Memory of Mrs. Youden	\$1,000.00	
Purchase Anniversary Pins	\$66.00	
Total	\$3,352.12	\$3,352.12
		\$3,627.10

Expenses

Foster Child monthly payments & Christmas (\$170.00)	\$590.00	
East District	\$304.00	
News to Use	\$8.00	
Topsail United Church	\$1,200.00	
Burry Heights	\$100.00	
Cochrane Street United Church Luncheon	\$75.00	
Bruce Birthday Gift	\$50.00	
Face Painting	\$64.34	
Marven Parsons-Defibrillator	\$948.35	
Anniversary Cake	\$57.99	
Total	\$3,397.68	\$3,397.68

Closing Balance at December 31, 2013 **\$229.42**

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 and served at the Jiggs Dinner with Derek Tuffin in charge of the kitchen. The Sale went really well with the donations of baked goods, preserves, and quilted items. A successful Soup Lunch was organized by Outreach and approximately 120 Jiggs Dinner tickets were sold – thanks go out to our young people who helped 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 Auctioneers were Boyde Clarke and Brad Cole. 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 dropped from last year and again there were 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 the Harvest Festival fundraising events in the space of one month, but once again the success can be measured in the funds raised.

Income:

Breakfast, Sale, Lunch, Dinners.....	\$ 5,603.05
Flea Market.....	\$ 3,500.00
Auction.....	\$ 7,747.51
Donations.....	\$ 2,785.00
 Total.....	 \$19,635.56
 Expenses.....	 \$ 1,608.29
 Net profit.....	 \$ 18,027.27

Respectfully Submitted,

Gillian Corbett, for the Committee

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

The Long Term Planning Committee is very pleased with the progress made in fulfilling the mandate of the Topsail United Church Strategic Plan 2011 – 2013. The Official Board, Church Committees and groups, staff, and members were all very supportive of the implementation of recommendations. The Church has realized many improvements over the past three years as a result of this planning effort.

The Strategic Plan now requires an update to prepare for the years ahead and to maintain the momentum of continuous improvement for the Church, its members, and the community. The Committee requires new leadership and members to prepare a plan for the next three years. Your talents and ideas are welcome so please get in touch with Rev. Kearley or Valerie Howe if you would like to join the Committee or have suggestions for the next planning phase.

Committee Objectives for 2014:

1. Recruit new Committee members.
2. Consult with Church Committees, groups, staff and members to gather information for future initiatives.
3. Prepare a Strategic Plan document for 2014 to 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Howe,
Co-Chair and Secretary

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Mitch Moran

**Members: Bob Bennett
Denise Jacobs**

**Gillian Corbett
Pat Jones**

**Cle Callan
Derrick Tuffin**

Ex officio: Rev. Bruce Kearley

Summary of Activities:

The fundraising committee met in September 2013 to discuss the Harvest Festival events and the applicable fees associated with each event, these fees were subsequently agreed upon for Harvest Festival week. Also discussed at the meeting was the Giant Annual Auction. Max Robbins, who was in attendance, notified the committee that approximately forty (40) contacts were outstanding in addition to the allotment of contacts already distributed. This issue was brought to the Official Church Board and the outstanding forty (40) contacts were distributed amongst those who volunteered to call people.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell Moran
Chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair/Treasurer:

Boyde Clarke

Members:

Don Allen

Sandra Baggs

Bob Bennett

Cle Callan

Brad Cole

Lynn Mercer

Highlights - 2013

- Deficit of \$7,328 compared to a Budgeted Deficit of \$9,479
- Congregational givings (all categories) under Budget by over \$4,000
- Capital expenditures and repairs under Budget by over \$9,000 due primarily to deferred renovations to washrooms
- Harvest Festival net of over \$18,000
- Steeple loan paid off July 2013
- Unfunded roof repairs from 2012 of \$14,055
- Bank account balance at year-end = \$51,984; GIC balance = \$50,000
- 120 families on PAR

Budget Submission - 2014

- Budgeted Deficit of \$11,369 primarily due to provision for washroom renovations of \$20,000

Respectfully Submitted,

Boyde Clarke
Chair/Treasurer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee is comprised of the following retiring Board Members:

Paul Burt Rosalind Foley Mitchell Moran Judy Powell

Ex-officio: Rev. Bruce Kearley

It is recommended that Board members serve 3 consecutive years.

2013 Committee Members eligible for re-election in 2014:

3 rd year	Doreen Cave Brad Cole Sol Davis Denise Jacobs James Rowsell
2 nd year	Boyde Clarke Valerie Howe David Jones Wanda Saunders Bond Swain
Nominees 2014	Glenys Moran Dale Butt

Nominees may be accepted up to the Annual Congregational Meeting on March 9, 2014.