



# Words from Wilmot

October 2013

## EVENTS AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE — OCT 13th TO NOV 29th

Sunday, October 13 Thanksgiving Service  
 Friday, October 18 and Saturday, October 19 UCW Annual Fall Rummage Sale  
 Sunday, October 20 message from Rev. Ellen Beairsto  
 Sunday, October 27 message from Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin  
 Sunday, November 4 message from Rev. Bob Jones  
 Thursday, November 7 UCW apple pie making and pick up  
 Sunday, November 10 Remembrance Day Service  
 Saturday, November 16 Quilters Group Tea and Talent event  
 Sunday, November 17 Anniversary Sunday message from Rev. Isabel Black  
 Sunday, November 24 message from Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin  
 Friday, November 29 UCW Bake Sale and New to You Sale

### Inside this issue:

In Memoriam	2
Wednesdays @Wilmot	3
Anniversary Sunday	4
UCW Apple Pies	4
Social Work Interns	5
Rummage Sale	5
Thank God for Evolution	6
Tea and Talent	7
Council Chairperson	8
Wilmot Teleministry	9
Unknown Soldier	9
Vacation Bible School	10
Children And Youth Activities	10
UCW Bake Sale	11
Photo Directories	11
Creation Time	11

## We're Proud of Our Church Property

While there is a saying that it takes a village to raise a child, it is also true that it takes a whole community of dedicated and generous individuals to maintain an historic church! Just ask Peter Gough, who supports Wilmot's Property Committee and diligently tends to the physical integrity of our beautiful, old, downtown church. Rebuilt in 1852 following The Great Fredericton Fire, and with the gymnasium, kitchen and parlor added in 1965, constant diligence is required to keep the structure functioning and in good condition. Recent donations have generously augmented the annual capital maintenance fund to enable some large projects to be completed. Many of you may have noticed that Wilmot is looking especially well cared for lately.

Replacement of the roofing system has been made in the area over the Nursery and Sunshine Rooms. This work was done with

a single donation of just over thirty thousand dollars, designated specifically for this repair.

Now, all major roof leaks are resolved, and the ceilings in the choir room, upper hall, landing and Sunshine Room which suffered from water damage have been restored and painted.



A donation made by an individual made the replacement of the gym floor possible, and it now has new vinyl composite tile flooring at a cost of approximately twelve thousand dollars. Together with the cleaning and painting done in the gym following the Isaac's Way fire, this space is looking fresh and bright. The stage

## Words from Wilmot

Volume 24, Issue 3  
October 2013

### Ministry Team

Rev. Rose-Hannah  
Gaskin  
506-292-1680  
rose-hannah@  
wilmotuc.nb.ca

### Rev. Ellen Beairsto

506-784-7244  
ellen.beairsto2@  
gmail.com

### Organist

Virginia Leiter

### Music Director

Steven Peacock

### Church Office

Marlene Phillips  
506-458-1066  
wilmotuc@  
nb.sympatico.ca

### Church Sexton

Randy Randall  
Kitchen and Hall:  
506-452-0219

### Words from Wilmot

is published by the  
Information Team  
of  
Wilmot United  
Church

Web Site:  
[wilmotuc.nb.ca](http://wilmotuc.nb.ca)

## Words from Wilmot

is published several times a year by Wilmot United Church, Fredericton, New Brunswick. Opinions expressed in any issue of *Words from Wilmot* are the views of individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of the congregation.

### (Church property continued)

curtains were also given new life after being repaired, altered, restored and cleaned.

Another donation was made to replace the floor in the Nursery and that room is now looking like a new penny.

Peter notes that other recent improvements include the replacement of two washroom sinks, a Wifi upgrade and improved computer connections, and on the exterior of the building, new church parking sign posts and signs as well as new sod and curbing along the front of the Carleton Street parking lot made possible by three donors.

Making a donation for a specific project can make a positive and immediate impact on the church community. Everyone benefits and the donor can see the immediate results! Another way to contribute is by marking the capital maintenance fund line on your donation envelope. Only funds specifically designated in this way go toward maintaining the building.

Are you wanting to make an individual donation and wondering how it could be designated? Still needed is a new roof over the gymnasium entry hall. The estimate for this project is six thousand dollars. Another possible area to place your gift is toward improved acoustics in the gymnasium. Currently the poor sound quality prohibits its use for certain events. Several individuals have suggested that this space could be utilized more fully by the church and larger community, making the space more enjoyable to use and enhancing the amount of rental revenue that could be generated. A sound analysis study could determine the placement of baffles to decrease echo and improve sound quality. Wouldn't it be great to host

social and musical events in the gym and perhaps see the wonderful curtains on the stage used again?

If you have any further suggestions or would like to make a donation talk to Peter Gough or a member of the Board of Trustees.

☺ Kathie Goggin

## In Memoriam

Dorothy Snodgrass, whose memorial service was held at Young's Cove United Church this past summer, was a faithful member of and regular attendant for worship services at Wilmot Church and, during the summer, at Young's Cove United Church.



Dorothy was very involved with CGIT at Wilmot as well as giving encouragement and support for CGIT at

Presbytery and Conference levels. She participated in planning for the inauguration of UCW and travelled widely to support and encourage the start up of these groups, urging all women to share in this new venture of the church. She was the daughter of a Methodist minister. She is survived by Roscoe, her husband of 70 years, and was predeceased by their son Hudson.

Dorothy shared generously in the provision of the furnishings for the parlour of Wilmot's Dr. G. M. Young Hall when it was built in 1964. She maintained a keen interest in the work of Camp Wegesegum (an inter-denominational camp for boys and girls near Chipman).

Her obituary noted that she will be remembered for her kind and generous heart and merry laugh. Dorothy's friends say "She dearly loved her church".

☺ Clifford Moase

## Wednesdays@Wilmot

In a letter to the church, our moderator Gary Paterson quotes Marge Piercy's poem, "To Be of Use." The first lines are "The people I love the best/jump into work head first/without dallying in the shallows/and swim off with sure strokes almost out of sight." This perfectly describes the members of the Outreach Committee under the leadership of Judy Coates. One of the divisions of the committee is the newly re-envisioned Wednesdays@Wilmot, coordinated by Beth Paynter and Rita Roach.



Every Wednesday morning from ten to twelve, Wilmoteers gather to provide food vouchers for twenty people of our community. Sometimes twenty more will have gathered but have to be turned away.

Vouchers are given until the volunteers run out of money. The clients come in the rain and in frigid weather; they come with their children in tow; they come when they are sick. As the result of a generous gift, the amount given out has been increased this year. Once every three months a single person can be issued a voucher for \$25 and a family be issued a voucher for \$35 worth of food at Victory Meat Market. No ID or means test is required.

This is not the only ministry happening on these Wednesday mornings. A convivial atmosphere is created with church members chatting and hostessing. While the clients are waiting, they are served coffee along with cookies and fruit. Sassi Grace often makes sandwiches. Regular

volunteers include Sally Grace, Elizabeth Savoie and Lynn McKinnon. Two social workers from the Partners for Youth and the Community Health Clinic attend. These two can provide information on how to apply for available housing and how to access other programs, for example one that provides transportation. During the winter student nurses attend to take blood pressure and blood sugar count. Church members donate boots, jackets, socks and hats.

The money for this important ministry is provided by donations to Wilmot's Benevolent Fund. Fund envelopes are included in the bulletins once a month and on special days. A great way to donate is to add a regular contribution to your PAR account.

Beth Paynter wistfully describes the possibility of providing for other needs: medications, diapers, bus tickets, school supplies, steel-toed boots for a man who could get a construction job if he had a pair. Many clients have serious health issues. Many are desperate to find a job. Wednesdays@Wilmot hopes to offer workshops on cooking nutritious but inexpensive meals and on making a budget.

What can I do to help? you ask. You could come on a Wednesday morning to help in the registration, make coffee, serve refreshments. You could donate cans of coffee, bananas and grapes, sandwiches, cookies. You could make sure your Benevolent Fund donations are regular and substantial. Jesus urged us to feed the hungry: "*Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*"

**You Are Invited...!**  
**Wilmot celebrates Anniversary**  
**Sunday**  
**on the 17th of November 2013**  
**at 11:00 am Worship**  
**followed by a reception**  
**with Anniversary cake**  
**in the Dr. George M. Young**  
**Memorial Hall**

It has been the tradition for Wilmot United Church to hold an annual Anniversary celebration to recognize the people, past and present, who contributed to the presence of our church in the heart of downtown Fredericton, and acknowledge all that our presence stands for in this place.

There are so many things to celebrate: 222 years since the first Wesleyan (Society) congregation met at the home of Duncan Blair, a Scottish soldier and his wife Mary, on King Street; 203 years since hardy and hopeful souls built the first Wesleyan chapel, before a spacious wooden church was erected on the present property 181 years ago; and 161 years since the present building rose from the ashes of the Great Fredericton Fire and was dedicated in 1852. It has been 88 years since our congregation joined with Congregationalists, other Methodists, and 75% of Presbyterians to become part of The United Church of Canada. Such notable and rich history brings to mind the many individuals who have touched our lives, held steadfast through difficult times and expressed hope for the future through their leadership, faith, encouragement and outreach.

This year Rev. Isabel Black who was our minister from 2000 to 2005 will be our guest for the Anniversary service. Isabel and her spouse Maurice Lewis upgraded a lovely home and garden on Charlotte Street while they were in Fredericton, and when they left us they began again re-modelling their new



home on Hinchy Ave in Ottawa's vibrant Hintonburg neighbourhood. Isabel's dream of being closer to grandchildren and time to enjoy gardens and friends was partially realized, but she could not withhold her call to the church for long. She

entered into an interim ministry with the folks of Williamsburg United Church, south of Ottawa, and now offers her gifts to the Knox United Church congregation at Edwards, within the greater Ottawa area.

When I talked with Isabel by telephone she had just finished a half marathon run the day before with 22,000 other runners in the 2013 Canada Army Run, which is an opportunity to run with Canadian Forces personnel to express solidarity with those who sacrifice through their employment and deployment on our behalf. She said she was none the worse for wear except a bit sore in the leg muscles. She expressed her eagerness, along with Maurice, to reunite with their friends in the east in November, and to bring the Anniversary message to Wilmot.

© L. Caseley

## UCW APPLE PIES

Thursday, November 7



Place your order now at Coffee & Conversation after worship or by contacting any UCW member.

You can also help by volunteering to prepare piecrust, peel apples or assemble and package pies.

© UCW

## Wilmot's Social Work Interns

On September 15th the Wilmot community welcomed three very keen social work interns who will be with us until December 6th. Now in the last semester of their Social Work degree program at St. Thomas University, the students will be engaged in a Social Action project at Wilmot.

During the service we were introduced to Jamie Frazier from Guysborough, Nova Scotia, Christa Blizzard from Devon, and Beth Anne Dolan from Saint John.

Chatting with them during Coffee and Conversation, I learned that all three interns selected Wilmot United Church as their top placement choice out of a possible field of twenty, due to our strong sense of community and commitment to outreach initiatives. "The people here are so friendly and we have received such a warm welcome. People here are so willing to respond to what we are doing and to talk to us. Right now we're exploring the many opportunities at Wilmot and narrowing down our areas of research. We really want our time here to be meaningful."

Under the supervision of Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Dr. Gayle MacDonald and Dr. Suzanne Dudziak (St. Thomas University), they will be participating in Wednesdays@Wilmot and other outreach activities. As highlighted in the September 15th worship service bulletin, their combined interests include working collaboratively with the congregation, social justice, poverty reduction, community outreach and exploring needs and programs.

As part of their internship they are required to provide a final document that will summarize their experience and any recommendations. They are hopeful that



this document will be a valuable tool for program development and future directions.

All three interns speak with one voice, urging us to get to know them and interact with them. "Please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with us. All input will be helpful. We look forward to meeting and talking with you."

☺ Kathie Goggin

## WILMOT FALL RUMMAGE SALE



Friday, October 18, 3 – 7 pm  
Saturday, October 19, 9 am to 12 noon  
Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall corner  
of King & Carleton Street

Good quality used clothing, household items, toys, games, books and novelties!

Volunteers are needed for set up on Thursday and Friday, for customer service on Friday and Saturday, and for clean up on Saturday.

If you can help call or email Linda Gough at 459-3706 or [lgough@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:lgough@nbnet.nb.ca)

☺ UCW

## Thank God for Evolution

The following is not a trick question: *What happens when a scientist marries a theologian?* The answer can be found in *Thank God for Evolution: how the marriage of science and religion will transform your life and our world*, the book that Wilmot Seekers Group is discussing this fall.

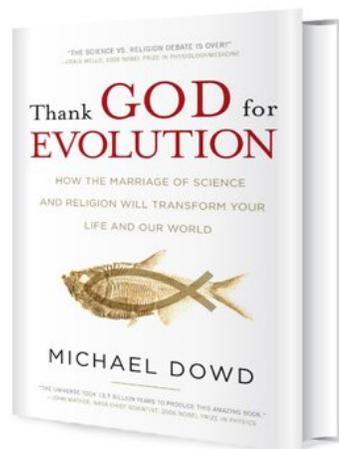
Rev. Don MacDougall facilitates Wilmot's Seekers Group which meets once a month, usually on the third Thursday of the month at 4:00 pm, with folks from our church community along with others who want to share the questions that inform our life journey who come when they are able, or drop in when they are drawn to the topic under discussion. There are no right or wrong answers, only deeper understandings through sharing.

Michael Dowd, the author of *Thank God for Evolution*, has built his theology upon his life journey from a Roman Catholic childhood to "born again" Pentecostalism, trained in a Baptist Theological Seminary, ordained a United Church of Christ pastor, served in Unitarian Universalist Fellowships, married Connie Barlow, an acclaimed science writer and self-proclaimed atheist naturalist, and now they are an evolutionary evangelistic team. He is passionate about sharing the 14 billion-year history of everything and everyone in ways that offer both practical guidance and spiritual inspiration.

This book is part of a new trend in theological thinking and writing based on what is called Deep History or the "Epic of Evolution". Dowd uses the latter term to describe our twenty-first century scientific reality that who we are goes beyond the history of civilization as we were taught in history class in school, back to what has been discovered about our cosmic beginnings. It includes not only the cosmic reality of the universe but is a comprehensive synthesis of evolutionary

psychology, biology, sociology and theology that makes up our reality today in the here

and now. From this we cannot help but be in awe, and tentatively grasp at humanity's larger questions of where we belong in all of this.



I think of a quote ascribed to Henry David Thoreau about

the New England Pilgrims of 1620, who gave us the tradition of our Thanksgiving celebration, *They thought they brought God to the wilderness when all the while God was here waiting for them if only they cared to look.*

We are all Pilgrims in our faith journey. Thank God we have been given the intellect to care to look.

☺ L. Caseley

YMCA Peace Medallion  
2013 Recipient  
Norm Laverty

## Save the Date

When: November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013      Where: YMCA of Fredericton



**PEACE**  
**WEEK 2013**  
NOVEMBER 16-23

ymcainspirepeace

Each year the YMCA presents the YMCA Peace Medallion to people and groups who, *without any special resources, status, wealth or position*, have demonstrated a commitment to building peace within their community or in communities elsewhere in the world.

## You Won't Want to Miss the Quilters Tea and Talent Event



The Wilmot Quilters are organizing an event celebrating the love of afternoon tea and good food, and the appreciation of our many Wilmot talents on

Saturday, November 16 in the Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall. They are asking for your participation, first to share and sell your talents, and then to purchase from the wide selection that will be available on that day.

Charitable donations income tax receipts for the 2013 tax year will be provided for donations of \$20 or more from talent items sold by individuals. These funds will be used to support our Wilmot operating expenses.



Talent donation forms that ask for your name, contact information and a description of what you intend to contribute to the sale are being provided. These forms will be available at Coffee and Conversation after worship, and from the church office. You can return your form to the promotion table in the

gym on Sunday, to the Quilters Group on Wednesday mornings, or to the church office.

A master list of all the talents to be offered on November 16 will be on display at Coffee and Conversation each Sunday until the sale. To date there is already a promising merchandizing list for the most discerning of Christmas gift-givers: handcrafts, cozy quilts for every member of the family, tote bags, bright napkins and placemats, aprons, quilted purses, knit items, delicious treats, home decor, new and heirloom jewellery...and the list goes on. Please let the Quilters add your talent to the list. They will help you set up your space for the sale when the time comes.

The luncheon, they guarantee, will be scrumptious, the tea and coffee hot. Luncheon ticket proceeds will support Quilters' efforts toward fulfilling their charity goals. November 16 is going to be a fun Saturday. We will all enjoy the luncheon together and, of course, the opportunity to "shop 'til we drop" for Christmas. Best of all, we will share the satisfaction of knowing that we are supporting our church community in a unique and enjoyable way.

© Anne Stewart





## Council Chairperson Craig's Comments...

Council is a wonderful place to hear and discuss the various exciting aspects of Wilmot's congregational life. The list of activities is varied and long. Some examples: Outreach soup luncheons, teleministry, Bread of Life lunch, Anniversary Sunday, the UCW's pie making, bake and rummage sales, Wednesdays@Wilmot, bell ringers, Community Kitchen teams, our 3 social work students, Saturday Drop-In, Syrian Refugee Emergency Appeal, marriages, old manse repairs, the Quilter's Tea and Talent day, parish nursing, planned giving, fire evacuation planning. The minutes of Council meetings are posted on the bulletin board in the gym for you to read and Council and committee members are more than willing to talk about any of our activities.



Like many organizations Wilmot is struggling with two basic issues: finding enough volunteers to fill various roles and providing a secure cash flow to fund the various activities. The theological reflection time, led by Rev. Rose-Hannah



Gaskin, at the last Council meeting asked members to reflect on the idea of shared ministry.

We learned that shared ministry refers to all the various ways in which members of a congregation serve both their own faith community and the wider community. Congregations can create a culture of shared ministry by inviting and helping all members to participate in ministry. Shared ministry not only leads to personal fulfillment but can bring new life and energy to the congregation. Such a culture teaches us that all people have gifts and that each of us is called to use them. Shared ministry comes from a basic tenet of our Protestant faith and is reflected in Wilmot's vision statement: *...putting our Christian faith into action to be a light in God's world.*

It seems to me that the Council's work is to continue to build a shared ministry culture within Wilmot. Some of the initiatives that have already been put into place include the sessions on identifying your spiritual gifts held last winter, developing committee terms of reference, streamlining committees and meetings, and improving communication. At our last meeting the Council also began a process to develop and communicate a 5-year financial plan that will intentionally match Wilmot's ministry with our ability to provide some security in the funding of it.

As Rev. Ellen Beirsto put it, our Sunday bulletins should really list our two ministers as Clergy and the whole congregation as Ministers. Each of us is called to action: to share in Wilmot's ministry. How do you identify your gifts, your ministry? By exercising those gifts, God's promise of fulfillment, of being a light in God's world, awaits.

## Wilmot Teleministry

You may have heard the word “Teleministry” several times over the past months. Almost a year ago we learned about the “Teleministry” at Port Nelson United Church in Burlington, Ontario. It has been their passion for some 25 years and is their way of connecting with the people in their faith community by phone at least once a year. Their Teleministry Program offers support, a listening ear or assistance to meet needs. It is completely confidential and helps to connect the various church ministries.

After learning about their program we decided that Wilmot might benefit from a similar program and Port Nelson United Church sent us a package to help us get started. I then met with Dr. John Price who gave me an insight into Hospice Fredericton, their concept, their training of the volunteers and once again valuable information was generously shared with us. A seven member team was set up here at Wilmot and we began meeting regularly to discuss “Teleministry at Wilmot”. We focused on a vast array of topics during our training: calling, grief, prayer, confidentiality, listening and the logistics of the organizing process.

On September 30 at 10 am, our first call was placed and Wilmot’s Teleministry began in earnest. Calls will be made to each household throughout the year. The person receiving the call may just want to say hello or they may want to update the caller on significant changes in their lives – sickness, change in their ability to function, loss, celebrations. Again the calls are confidential. The callers can determine from the person or family if there is



any way the church can be of support to them and if it appears that is so the caller can put the wheels in motion.

It is true that we are up and running but remember, it may be awhile before we get to your household. However, if you want a call sooner rather than later or if you think someone would benefit from a call, let us know by leaving a message for us at 206-1943 or send an e-mail to [ellen.beairsto2@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.beairsto2@gmail.com).

☺ Rev. Ellen Beairsto

## Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



Dark storm clouds shadow the grey stone.  
Warm tears meld into pelting rain  
to splash the tomb of the unknown,  
this bier placed here with care  
chilled now in raw November air.  
Wind lifts contrails of a regal plane  
that banks and dips one solemn wing  
while keen school children sing  
and broken families bring  
the wreaths of honour due  
past lives remembered now by few.  
Still thousands come who never knew  
and drop red poppies lately worn  
on breasts with beating hearts that warm  
this block of polished stone  
embracing bones of the unknown.

© L. Caseley  
November 2011

## Vacation Bible School

What a great time we had here at Wilmot as we joined together with St. Paul's for our VBS in late August. About 28 children and youth appeared each morning filled with such infectious energy and enthusiasm that it ignited a spirit within all of us as we moved through the morning. With leaders and helpers from both congregations, the program became a great success.

Our "Everywhere Fun Fair where God's World Comes Together" proved to be the perfect program for us as we visited 5 different countries in 5 days – Japan, Zimbabwe, United Kingdom, Australia and Mexico. We learned about being a neighbor through Bible stories – Sarah and Abraham, the Widow who gives so cheerfully, the Good Samaritan, and Zaccheus. Snacks, discovery time, memory verses, sign language, crafts, games and music complete with actions led by the youth were a part of every morning. The new gym floor proved exciting for the children as they ran, laughed and even played with a giant



parachute loaned to us by Big Brothers Big Sisters. It was indeed a success! We already have a young boy who wants to be sure his Dad signs him up for 2014! What more can one say! Until next year.

© Rev. Ellen Beirsto

## Children And Youth Activities

September is well past us and plans for our groups are well underway.

**Sunday School** has begun with the Nursery, 3 – 5 year olds as well as Grades 1 and up. We have been very fortunate this year to have many of our youth step forward to lend a hand as well as having Andrea Stewart as our Sunday School Coordinator. We are once again using "Seasons of the Spirit" with an introduction to "Godly Play". Our program begins with the Season of Creation and the question put to Job, "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?" We are examining our gift of creation from the forests to the seas to the stars and planets and much more. Caring for this gift is an important part of this section.

Christmas is just around the corner and we are already in the beginning stages of preparing a surprise for you. Stay tuned!

**Middle School Youth** have met a couple of times. It was so great to hear from them and when our schedules are determined, we will have a look at which night will work the best. I am so proud of their involvement in the tacking of the quilts for Jonathan and Adam (grandsons of Gord and Carol Young as well as Florence



Potts). Jonathan is undergoing treatment in Halifax. The quilts have been completed and delivered. WELL DONE, YOUTH!

**High School Youth** is just now being organized with the hope of having a Barbeque to begin our year. The Middle School schedule is difficult but High School holds a whole new challenge. However, we will work it out. We have our eyes set on attending Rendez-vous 2014 being held in Winnipeg. It is an awesome gathering of United Church youth from across the country. Check out the website when you have a moment. <http://www.uccrendezvous.ca/>

**\*\*\*IF YOU KNOW OF CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE MORE INVOLVED, GIVE ME A CALL (206-1943) or drop a line [ellen.beairsto2@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.beairsto2@gmail.com)**

© Rev. Ellen Beairsto

### **UCW Bake Sale and "New to You" table**



Friday, November 29, 9 am to 1 pm

Food donations received Thursday, November 28 from 1 – 8 pm.

A great event to stock up on Christmas baking!

© UCW



### **2013 Wilmot Church Directories**

Our Photo Directories from Universal Portrait Studios have arrived! Everyone who had a portrait made for the directory is entitled to a copy. If you did not receive yours at Coffee and Conversation you can pick it up from Marlene at the church office during office hours. There is a limited number of copies available for \$15.00 from the church office as well.

Thank you for participating in our photo directory project.

© Maggie Clarke

### **A New Season to Celebrate Creation Time**

In 2009, The United Church of Canada passed a resolution urging churches to celebrate Creation Time during five Sundays in the Pentecost season. The church year is divided into six seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost, and each season has a liturgical colour. Since Pentecost, the longest season from May until late November, has 29 Sundays, many denominations worldwide are now offering worshippers an opportunity to reflect on God the Creator and their relationship with the whole of creation. The colour orange is the chosen colour for this season, which represents a time of harvest and fruit-



This newsletter can also be accessed in colour online on our website [wilmotuc.nb.ca](http://wilmotuc.nb.ca)

### Words from Wilmot

is available in

**LARGE PRINT**

for those with impaired vision.

These will be available on a limited basis for each issue.

If you would like to receive the LARGE PRINT edition, please ask your Elder.



### (Creation Time continued)

fulness, the colour of fire and flame, and a symbol of endurance and strength. It is a bridging colour between yellow and red, the warmth of summer and the cold of winter.

For centuries, our theology, our ethics, and our worship have been oriented in two dimensions: our relationship with God and our human relationships with one another.

Now it is time to turn our attention to God's relationship with all creation and with our relationship with creation (and with God through creation). The "Season of Creation" website, [www.letallcreationpraise.org](http://www.letallcreationpraise.org), says, "We need the season of Creation to wake us up" and bring about "the transformation in consciousness we need to address the ecological problems we face today in God's creation". The United Church of Canada provides liturgical resources for congregations who wish to celebrate this season. The five Sundays are organized around the theme:

*"What is Creation Saying to Us?"*.



The logo for Creation Time is very appropriate for worshippers in Fredericton, "The City of Stately Elms". In the

foreground of the logo is an Elm Tree, recalling the two trees in the books of Genesis and Revelation. It

is a symbol of faithfulness. One of the larger trees in North America and living up to 300 years, the elm is marked by prominent root flares which are essential for the tree's very life. A few large upright limbs support many outwardly fanning branches and leaves. Elms appear strong and healthy but are under tremendous stress when surrounded by sidewalks, houses, power lines or polluted air.

In the logo, flowing outside the Elm tree is a blue Circle, a symbol of God's eternity. The blue circle, the colour of the sky and heaven, is symbolic of wisdom and clarity. A gold Cross fills the Circle, both within and outside the Tree. It is an *alisee patee* cross, recalling the consecration cross of the very ancient church and thus the holiness of life. It also reminds us of a Celtic cross whose spirituality maintains the intricate link between humanity and nature. The square at the intersection of the cross recalls God as Mystery. The four colors also represent the four elements of creation: earth (brown), air (white), fire (orange) and water (blue).

Wilmot United Church has many beautiful and historic banners and this new emphasis on the Season of Creation opens up an opportunity for talented artists and fabric craftspeople to create once more a symbolic gift for our church.

☺ L. Caseley  
with files from  
The United Church of Canada  
and The Season of Creation websites