

Words from Wilmot

2014 FALL SCHEDULE

OCTOBER



Sunday, Oct. 12
With Communion



Sunday, Oct. 19 Special Speaker, Steve Berube, Ecumenical Accompanier with World Council of Churches in Palestine and Israel 2013



Friday and Saturday, Oct. 24/25



Sunday, Oct. 26
“Rendez-Vous 2014”
(Soup Luncheon following worship)

NOVEMBER



Sunday, Nov. 2
Afternoon Concert of Piano, Violin and Guitar



Thursday, Nov. 6
UCW Apple Pie Making Fundraiser

Sunday, Nov. 9



Friday to Sunday, Nov. 14 - 16
Wilmot Retreat



Saturday, Nov. 22
Wilmot Biennial Auction

Friday, Nov. 28
UCW Fundraiser



Sunday, Nov. 23
Anniversary Sunday
Special Speaker
The Very Rev. Dr. Peter Short
(Soup Luncheon following worship)



Saturday, Nov. 29
Sounds of the Season
2014 Concert

Sunday, Nov. 30



Friday, Nov. 14: Deadline for contributions to Advent 2014 *Words from Wilmot*

Oct. 2014

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Words from Wilmot

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and do not necessarily
represent the viewpoint of
the congregation.

Our Bicentennial Quilt

During this season of Thanksgiving, take some time to look at the Bicentennial quilt which hangs in our church parlour, a constant reminder of the life and journey of



our faith community. Designed and completed in 1990, the year leading up to Wilmot's 200th anniversary, the quilt records our rich and vital history.

The project was carried out under the capable hands of Carolyn Atkinson and Lynda Johnston, and from my conversation with Carolyn, it is evident it was a labour of love at a time when Wilmot was bursting with enthusiasm and activity centered around the anniversary celebrations.

"As early as 1989 the 200th Anniversary Committee started making plans for 1991," explains Carolyn. "At that time a quilt was suggested along with many other ideas. Lynda and I met and started planning the project. We went to many church groups to get ideas about what and who should be on the quilt blocks. We spent many hours going over church lists."

Carolyn turns the pages of her carefully kept journal and points out entries about

the quilt. "We started in mid January of 1990 so that the quilt would be ready for Alpha Night, the beginning of our anniversary year. We decided on five by five inch blocks of white fabric to best show the designs, with a border of pleasant blue, similar to the blue in the sanctuary. We purchased the fabric at Stanley Delong's Dry Goods Store. At one point, interest was so high in the quilt that we ran out of fabric and had to go back for more." Quilt blocks were given out to individuals and families to personalize with their own design. Instructions were given along with the blocks.

In addition to church members both past and present, there are blocks with the names of our ministers over the years, and there are five very special large blocks which depict the physical structure of the church from its beginning as a small group of Methodists who met at the home of Duncan Blair on King Street, to the present day church building as we know it at the corner of King and Carleton Streets. Archival research went into this aspect to make the quilt accurate, and historical photos of the buildings were found. Ted Colson was asked to design these blocks and they were then transferred and hand embroidered.

Congratulatory blocks signed by dignitaries of the time, such as Brian Mulroney, then Prime Minister of Canada and his wife Mila, Lieutenant Governor Gilbert Finn, beautifully embroidered by his wife Jeannine Finn who was an active member of the Fredericton Guild of Fiber Artists, Premier Frank McKenna, Governor General Ramon Hnatyshyn can be found. Rev. Rod Sykes was minister at the time and the block representing his family is especially noteworthy.

There are also blocks commemorating Judge Lemuel Wilmot, Tom Morrison (organist) and a tribute square to those who served in the wars with the inscription *Lest We Forget*. Alex Colville, who selected the

colours for the sanctuary, is also represented. Organizing and completing the quilt involved many long hours for Lynda and Carolyn, with some meetings lasting well into the early morning hours. Many phone calls were made, letters written, trips taken to use the Wilmot photocopier, and follow-up thank you notes were sent out. "It was a wonderful time," says Carolyn, "as there were so many visitors to my house to drop off completed quilt blocks and it was an exciting day when finally the completed quilt blocks were laid out on my living room floor. Then once we had the design figured out, Lynda was able to sew the blocks together."

By September 26th the quilt was ready to be put on the quilting frame to be hand quilted by the Wednesday Morning Out Group. This phase was top secret with the quilt being kept under wraps when not being worked on. There were strict "No Peeking" orders to the congregation! A video of the surreptitious quilting was made by Rick Atkinson, and I wonder if it still exists today. On November 14th an entry in Carolyn's journal states, "The quilting is finished and the quilt brought home, now all that remains to be done is the binding!"

Finally, on Dec 29th 1990 the quilt, ready for its unveiling, was hung from the balcony. It was unfurled with great anticipation on December 30th to mark Bicentennial Alpha Night.

Following this, the quilt hung for a time on a rod in the parlour until Peter and Jamie Atkinson constructed the special wood and plexiglass case where it is displayed today. "It's a good thing we stopped when we did," says Carolyn. "If the quilt had been any larger the frame wouldn't have fit through the door!"

Upon reflection, Carolyn says, "The quilt project was all about the congregation and their desire to be remembered for their love of Wilmot Church. Lynda and I simply delivered."

Please take some time during Coffee and Conversation or when you are visiting Wilmot to view the quilt. See if you can find: musical notes; a beaded square representing Maliseet heritage; a piano keyboard; a wee bit of Scottish tartan; an old fashioned car; balloons; the words *I Love Wilmot*.

Also notice some of the many different creative forms on the quilt—embroidery, stenciling, hand painting, appliqué, hand written signatures, stitching with gold and silver thread, and beadwork.

We can be thankful not only for the many hands that made it, but also for our long history and the support of Wilmot's larger community. The many individuals and families that make up this community we call Wilmot are truly a blessing.

☺Kathie Goggin



Friday, November 28th -- Annual Bake Sale & New-To-You Table

UCW members once again will be contacting all households in the congregation looking for donations of baking, fudge, preserves and any other goodies for our Bake Sale.

If you are not a baker we also need items to stock our New-To-You table. For those not familiar, we welcome any new or nearly new items you might have received as a gift or purchased for yourself but never found a use for. We would love to take them off your hands!

Thanks-a-million for your support in the past, and we look forward to working with you this fall on our fundraisers!

IMAGE CONSCIOUS

Nancy Bauer's Article in October *Observer*

Wilmoteer Janice Harvey wrote to *The United Church Observer* suggesting Freeman Patterson as a subject for the magazine and recommending me as the



writer. When the editor, Caley Moore, asked me, I agonized over whether I was up to doing it, but I said yes and am glad I did. The article was to be the featured "cultural essay" in their October issue, 1000 words, the emphasis

on Freeman's 2013 book, *Embracing Creation*. I've been involved in various activities with Freeman and his gang of artists living around the Hampton area. I once gave a creative writing workshop at Freeman's home at the request of this same gang. Some of you will remember the inspiring weekend workshop he gave here at Wilmot several years ago.

The man who keeps Jack Oudemans and me on the straight and narrow, Joe Fowler, drove me down to Shamber's Bluff to visit Freeman. I meant to stay only an hour, but I was having such a good time that I stayed two. Caley Moore made me work awfully hard revising, adding things that seemed impossible in the 1000 words, but in the end she seemed pleased. I breathed a sigh of relief.



FREEMAN PATTERSON



Embracing Creation

For my regular Telegraph Journal column, *State of the Art*, I wrote about the trip to see Freeman. He showed me two books which looked so interesting that I immediately ordered them from Westminster Books. One of them, *Beauty: The Invisible Embrace*, inspired two other columns.

My photograph for the Observer's contributor column comes from Wilmot's photo directory, supplied to me by Garth Caseley, who also created my website where you can see the three columns inspired by the Observer job. Garth kindly posts my weekly columns there. So thank you Janice. Thank you Garth. Thank you Lucille who edits this newsletter. Thank you Jack for sending me Joe.

©Nancy Bauer

Congratulations to Carolyn Holyoke on being chosen as a 2014 Music New Brunswick Nominee in 3 categories for her



CD *Collage*: Collaborative Musician of the Year, Roots/Traditional Recording of the Year and Instrumental Recording of the Year. The MNB Awards Weekend is held in Fredericton Oct 16-19, 2014.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CORNER

Ellen & her children and youth



If you had dropped by the church the last week of August, you would have been greeted with the sound of joyous children and youth – singing, laughing and just having fun. The youth helpers (at least 11 of them) were fantastic. They led us in some incredible singing complete with actions, helped out with the games, lent a hand in the classrooms and were there to do whatever was needed.

The leaders, including those who worked in the kitchen preparing the snacks and those who donated, made VBS an incredible success. We had great Bible stories, science experiments (even made lava lamps), went to Officer's Square, painted, laughed and just had a fun time.

The leaders and youth, along with the 22 children came from St. Paul's United, Nashwaaksis United, Forest Hill United, Brunswick Street Baptist and of course Wilmot, as well as others areas (St. Stephen, Miramichi and Halifax). Their interest in the program was great. It is so refreshing when you hear them say, "I can't wait to come again next year."

**WILMOT, THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT.**

"Winnipeg, here we come!" was the cry that was heard at the Fredericton Airport at 5:45 am on August 13 as Lucie Vezina, Laura Coon, Holly Hagerman

and I checked our bags to begin our trek to Rendez-Vous 2014. Excitement was mounting and to think that we would be there at 10:00 am local time.

Unfortunately, we did not arrive until 7:30 pm ...but that is another story.

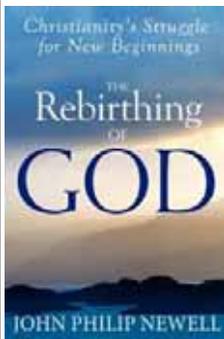
Over the next four days we met many youth, young adults and leaders from across Canada. We worshiped together, sang, danced, laughed and listened to stories of faith. We learned that the "church is alive and well" but many are "battling the same issues as we are". "We learned what it meant to be part of the United Church." We met "so many new faces from across the country, each with their own story." We attended a vast



array of workshops. We met the Moderator of the United Church, the Right Rev. Gary Paterson and heard Kofi Hope, Wab Kinew and Nicole Marquez tell their very powerful stories.

Now we want to **"SHARE! CONNECT! and GROW!"** We want to **SHARE** with you – music, pictures, stories and videos so we are planning a **YOUTH SERVICE** on **NOVEMBER 2**, so mark your calendars. We want to continue to **CONNECT** with the youth / young adults from across the country as well as those who live right here. We want to **GROW**, to be involved. And we want to say **THANK YOU!** because without your overwhelming support this would not have happened.

☺Rev. Ellen Beirsto



The Rebirthing of God Book Review

The Rebirthing of God is the book that members of Wilmot Seekers Group, with the guidance of Rev. Don MacDougall, will be discussing this fall.

The author, John Philip Newell, is a scholar, teacher, retreat leader, author and motivational speaker. Celtic spirituality, a revivalist movement that embraces a contemplative practise and an attitude of reverence toward the natural world, is the central theme of his books and ministry. He was born in Chatham, Ontario and educated in Canadian schools including a BA in English Literature from McMaster's University. He received his theological education at the University of Edinburgh and was ordained by the Church of Scotland.

One reviewer of *The Rebirthing of God* calls the book a "hopeful work". Newell asks Christians, and indeed people of all faith traditions, to "dream together of a reborn [spirituality] that might again carry great blessings for the world and usher in the emergence of a new well-being for the earth." To rebirth God is not to *return* "...to something that was. The invitation is to *recover* an inner stance of listening that will equip us to move forward into new beginnings we may not yet even be able to imagine."

He shares the wisdom of intimacy with the natural world with a long list of "modern" prophets: Thomas Berry, Aung San Suu Kyi, Mary Oliver, Bede Griffiths, Thomas Merton, Mahatma Gandhi, Carl Jung and Simone Weil. He quotes the poet, Mary Oliver, on seeking the divine that is deep

within us, "The light of God is not simply a feature of the universe. It is the essence of the universe. If this light were somehow extracted from the body of the cosmos, everything would cease to exist." Newell reflects that the author of John's Gospel speaks of '*the Light that enlightens every person coming into the world*' (John 1:9). One of the features of the rebirthing of God is reconnecting with this Light. It is the Light at the heart of every newborn child. It is the Light at the heart of all life."

Newell moves beyond Christianity by encouraging us to "open to the treasure of wisdom in traditions other than our own. Not only have they much to teach us, but they also hold the key to unlocking depths within our own religious inheritance that we know nothing of as yet."

This book is written in a non-academic style but stretches our minds to embrace creation as a focus for amazement and the rebirthing of a new concept for the word "God".

Wilmot's Seekers Group meets one Thursday afternoon each month to discuss current theological writings, and is open to anyone who wants to build upon their own faith experience in a non-critical venue. Go to Wilmot's website www.wilmotuc.ca to check for the next session for Seekers.

☺Lucille Caseley

Helen A Young Memorial Scholarship Application Deadline October 10th

Applicants must be currently enrolled in a post-secondary learning institution (university, college, trade school, etc.). Application forms are available from the church office, Monday to Friday 9:00 am-4:30 pm.



Worship at Wilmot

Greetings from your Worship Committee co-chairs, Kelly Ebbett and Anne Colpitts.

Just before the Worship committee met in September we sat down together to explore why we chose to sit on this committee, what we found enriching in our worship practices at Wilmot United and how we would envision worship at Wilmot in the coming weeks, months and years. Kelly has a passion for music and has a dream of more congregational participation in the music of our worship services. Anne has a vision of more input in prayers and liturgy planning with members of the congregation. We both feel worship is a dynamic experience—a chance to consider how we can grow in our understanding of what it means to be a Christian in Fredericton today and to share our desire to learn and grow in our faith community.

We have been learning how much background work goes into each worship service, from the greeters at the doors, to the ushers, to the sound system, to decorating the sanctuary and then the service itself – prayers, music, scripture reading, sermons, time with the children and communion. So much thought and care goes into that one hour every Sunday when the entire community of Wilmot United has an opportunity to come together in worship.

We are looking forward to working together with our fellow committee members, Nancy Bauer, Peggy Brodie, Ted Colson, Barb Frame and Wendy Topolski over the coming months. Please share your ideas for worship with any of our committee members.

☺Anne Colpitts

A Tour of the Holy Land



Reminiscences of Ted and Edie Colson

On May 5th 18 people met together and flew from Toronto to Israel on a tour led by Chris Levan. Five of us were from Wilmot: Darrell Mesheau, who works with Chris on other tours, Maynard and Betty Shore, and Edie and myself, Ted Colson.

We stayed in two wonderful places, eight nights at Over the Rainbow Villa near Caesarea, and two nights at the Jerusalem Hotel, with its 140 years of atmosphere. At the Villa we had a kitchen and dining room where Chris provided scrambled eggs and other goodies for breakfasts. Each day we had picnic lunches where the Spirit moved us (which included facilities for human needs), and we dined in some fine restaurants in the evenings. Darrell and Chris drove in two vans, assisted in navigation and radio contact by Wendy Graca and Chris's wife, Ellen.

I had not originally wanted to go to the Holy Land, but it was a revelation for me. My first impression was of the remarkable flowers that won't grow in Canada, above all the blue blossoms of the Jacaranda tree. My second impression was of the precipitous up and down landscape. It's part of the Great Rift Valley from Syria to Lake Tanganyika in Africa.

There is a central plain which first struck me as like England's green and pleasant

(Continued on Page 8)

land, but that greenery is provided by irrigation, of myriad plastic hoses. Mount Zion is *up*, surrounded by chasms. Nazareth and Bethlehem in Palestinian territory are hill towns with a vengeance, and traffic that tested the driving genius of Chris and Darrell. Darrell found parking places!

The descent of the land from Galilee to the desert wastelands of the Dead Sea must have inspired mad prophets (some of them divinely) and some mad tyrants. It is “*Holy*” because the main monotheistic religions mash together here. For Christians, Jesus’ presence looms. At all of these sites the guides said we don’t know absolutely that Jesus did something here, but it’s possible, or likely. Herman Melville’s stepfather provided money for Melville to go to the Holy Land, but it didn’t encourage his belief. It did mine. However stretched, inconsistent, the Gospel stories are, He was a man who made decisions: the baptism in Jordan, the wandering in the horrific desert of Moab we saw on the other side of the Dead Sea, the beautiful Mount of the Beatitudes. We saw the first century boat that was found and preserved—the *kind* of boat Jesus sailed in. And the way of the cross. The New Testament writers convey that Jesus knew what he was doing.

The places, the *spots*, that thousands of people thought Jesus touched are made sacred by belief—the consensus of literal touching by their hands. The decorations might be vulgar, but Jesus was never put off by vulgarity. Other than the beauty maybe the best parts were the meals, the picnics. On the way to Cana. *Really*.

May was the best month of the year to visit Israel—for weather and beauty and peace. Now war has erupted, again. Again and again and again. What are we learning?

Sounds of the Season

Saturday, November 29, 2014
7:30 pm Wilmot United Church



Wilmot United Church will come alive with songs, instrumentals and dance in a Celtic Christmas show entitled “Sounds of the Season”.

The evening will feature Carolyn Holyoke (piano, accordion), Katherine Moller (fiddle, cello) and Tom Richards (vocals, guitar) along with special guests Susan Kennific (vocals), Sarah Clarke-Rowinski (dance), Saint John native Marilyn Inch (Tin Whistle), Oromocto teen band Sona and Ron Buck (narrator).

Spirited melodies, haunting arrangements and memories of Christmas past combine to make for ‘a more than pleasant’ evening of entertainment. Mark the date on your calendar and get the season off to a joyful start.

With support from the Wilmot congregation in past years, this show has been able to make a substantial donation to the church, a tradition we hope to continue. Pass the word on to family and friends in the church and Fredericton community.

Tickets are \$20; students with ID \$15; and children 12 and under \$10. They will be available at Westminster Books, the church office or at the door.

♪Carolyn Holyoke

Where Prayer Shawls End Up After They Leave Their Knitting Needles

I had a wonderful month growing closer to God. The first of June, I had a Re-Affirmation Ceremony thanks to Rose-Hannah. It was even more meaningful than I thought it would be.

Little did I know then that by the end of June I would have learned a lot about myself including: I can do more than I ever thought I could. But more importantly, I would feel God's touch guiding me to where I needed to be.

In late June, Ellen gave me a "Mini or Pocket" Prayer Shawl when she learned I was going by myself to Washington DC, Maryland for a medical test.

The morning of my test I made my way to the state of Maryland believing I would be there almost two hours early for my appointment. As things happen, I kept missing the bus transfers, so I gave up on that idea and tried to hail a taxi. The few taxis that went by didn't stop. So I quickly walked over to a store and asked a few people to call a taxi for me (since my phone did not work in the US). I heard a lot of, "Ma'am, you don't call cabs in Washington, Maryland". They said they could find a drive for me but I was not comfortable getting into a car with someone I did not know.

Behind me, over my right shoulder, my mother was there and started talking to me. I know I told you I went on this trip by myself, so how is it that my Mom was talking to me? Her hand was on my right shoulder—she was actually touching me! She told me, "Stay calm, don't panic and it will be okay." I remember turning my head and nodding to her that I heard her. (Yes, I actually nodded my head to my mother!) After that she kept talking for a few

minutes but at that point I heard all I needed to know.

I took a deep breath and I looked up— from out of nowhere came two young "Mother Therasas"

walking toward me. They wore white with blue trim, just like Mother Theresa. I stepped up to one of them and I asked if she would help me. She said, "Yes, of course." I told her I needed to get to a medical appointment and I was late and I asked her to get a taxi for me. (She also asked the young men but they told her the same thing as they had told me.)

There was no conversation between the two nuns but the one that I was talking to said, "Sister said she has to pick something up at the store but we will drive you after that."

So as I waited, I turned to the young men and asked if I could use someone's phone. I called to tell the clinic I was on my way. They were having so much fun I had to walk away from them to hear the phone. Then the phone owner made a joke and I gave him a few dollars for his help.

A few minutes later the two nuns returned and we walked to their van. A young lady appeared and said she was glad I found a drive and that she could not leave until she knew I was safe and was on my way to my appointment.

On the way I learned a bit about the two missionaries. The driver, the woman I was dealing with, was from Quebec and the other from India, and they worked all over



(Prayer Shawls continued from Page 9)

the world. The woman from India was giving directions to the driver. The driver kept saying to the other, “Sister, how do you know where to go? You have never been there.” There was never an answer from her! I offered money to the nuns but they would not take it. But I knew what I could offer. I quickly told the two that our church has a Prayer Shawl Ministry and I wanted them to have the “Mini” Prayer Shawl. They said that I needed it more than they did. I thought later that I wish I had said, “No, I needed the two of you and there you were!”

They stopped one building off and after thanking them I ran next door but fell down the little grass hill (something my Mom would also do—so perhaps she gave me a little push! ☺), but at the time I didn’t even realize I had hurt my wrist.

The little green shawl with a cross knitted into it is in the cup holder of the two missionaries’ white van in Maryland USA—and who knows where it will end up in this world!

Thanks, Wilmot and the Prayer Shawl Ministry Team.

☺Krista Wong



UCW Fall Rummage Sale
Fri. Oct. 24th & Sat. Oct. 25th

We offer a great selection on Fall & Winter clothing, linens, toys, puzzles, books, furniture and household items. Check your closets for items you no longer use and drop off on the stage in the gymnasium during office hours. We will also be looking for volunteers to sort, sell and clean up. Watch your Sunday Bulletin for further details.

FALL RETREAT

LISTENING TO YOUR LIFE

The theme of this year’s retreat is taken from a quotation by Frederick Buechner: “listening to your life.” The participants will step back from their normal private lives, remove themselves from the usual way they do things, and in an unusual setting look at themselves from a new perspective. They will leave as much of their everyday lives behind as they can bear. “You will hold your breath for three days”, says retreat co-leader Peter Short, “not come dragging your life with you.” Peter emphasizes that this is not an escapist adventure but instead is an opportunity to work at finding a fresh look at your life.

Three steps constitute the way to this goal: Stop, Look and Listen. You will pay attention to your life in a special way. “What you are hoping to arrive at is to discover—not invent—what is already there.” You hope to meet the stranger in your psyche. You will listen to the voice of the stranger; you will discover in order to give you a new energy. The ultimate goal is to learn to love your own story—not necessarily everything in it—but with a new wisdom and internal energy so that you can go back to your regular existence in a different space with new eyes.

Sue Short is the co-leader of the retreat. Good food, rest, stargazing, silence, the St. John River will reinforce the theme, but it is not all about the theme—there will be time for play. Because the retreat is brief, it is too much to expect that you will achieve everything you come for, but Peter and Sue hope that a new door will be opened to you.

Ellen Beirsto, Ann Kennedy, Bob Breen, and Krista Wong are on the committee.

(Continued on Page 11)

(The Retreat continued...)

THE PRACTICAL

The retreat takes place at Beulah Camp in Brown’s Flat from 5 PM Friday November 14 until after lunch Sunday November 16. You bring your own sheets, pillowcases, and towels, but blankets and six meals are provided. The cost varies with the accommodation you choose, from \$150 to \$225—\$50 for students. For financial assistance or transportation contact Ellen Beirsto. Register after church or with Marlene.

☺Nancy Bauer



At the Cenotaph

Poppies...on every heart
 Cathedral...quarter-hour chimes
 Kids...on dads’ shoulders
 Babies...in strollers
 Applause...for ailing vets
 Old soldiers...lips quivering
 Mounties, Scouts...marching
 Brownies, Beavers...out of step
 Bagpipes, Bands...O Canada
 Bare trees...touching sky
 One gull...circling high
 And men...removing their hats
 for
 the
 Reading
 of
 the
 Dead

☺Carolyn Atkinson



**Piano, Violin and Guitar Concert
 Wilmot United Church
 November 2nd**

Please join pianist Hyun Hee Park, violinist Nadia Francavilla and guitarist Steven Peacock at 3 pm on Sunday, November 2nd for a fascinating and diverse program featuring these three instruments in various combinations. A Spanish influence, such as in works by Rodrigo and Marchelie, informs many of the mostly-modern but strongly melodic music to be presented, but Eastern European works by Stravinsky and Boutros, as well as evocations of Atlantic Canada and of New England, will round out the program.

Tickets at the door are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

♪Steven Peacock



Council Chairperson Craig's Comments



Two *Wilmot on the Move* events were held on September 20th and 21st giving the congregation an opportunity to share their dreams for a re-imagined Wilmot. Eighteen people who had agreed to act as facilitators worked with the fourteen participants to answer questions related to Wilmot's ministry. Despite the small numbers participating there were good discussions at both events and I believe all those that attended thought it was worthwhile.

The discussion at the events took place after gaining an understanding of our faith community's current situation. In one sense Wilmot is a vibrant community serving a community in desperate need. Were you present at the ministry fair during Welcome Sunday to see the amazing variety of programs running at Wilmot? Have you seen the work of our dedicated Wednesdays @ Wilmot and Saturday Drop-In volunteers as they try to meet a continually growing need in our downtown community? Did you see the excitement of Rev. Ellen Beirsto and the three young women who attended the United Church youth event *Rendez-Vous 2014* in Winnipeg this summer? Listing everything here would require much more space than *Words from Wilmot* has available.

Unfortunately, in another sense we are a community with some significant

challenges ahead. Declining and aging membership, reduced participation of members in church administration roles, significantly reduced envelope offerings and constantly rising costs are a factor for our church like many others. We have been living beyond our means for many years. We have done this by borrowing from ourselves (covering annual costs by spending money from reserves set aside for future work), using unrestricted bequests and in very recent years using earnings from our investments when the financial markets did better than expected. The warnings that this could not continue indefinitely have been there.

Our 2014 operating budget reduced envelope offering expectations by \$25,000 from 2013 in recognition of reduced givings. Currently we are \$12,000 short of that reduced expectation and it seems likely this shortfall will grow larger by year end. In addition, 2014 operating costs have been higher than budgeted. For example, our heating costs are already about \$10,000 higher than our annual budget and we still have a number of cold months yet to go this fall. In addition, the Trustees will be replacing the gym roof which has been leaking badly of late and is well past its life span. This project will cost approximately \$75,000. This year's combination of events has now finally eliminated any financial cushion. Developing the 2015 budget will mean grappling with a number of very difficult decisions.

Doing more of what we are currently doing is not an option if we are to grow as a faith community, living into our mission and vision. The participants at our September events discussed ideas such as increased partnerships with other churches and surrounding businesses, alternative uses for parts of our building and alternative worship styles. Some ideas are easily implemented immediately and will be forwarded to the appropriate committees

(Craig's Comments continued from page 12)

for their consideration. Others will require more thought and investigation. The *Wilmot on the Move* committee will spend the next month sifting through the ideas raised and provide feedback to the congregation at another event planned for the weekend of November 1st and 2nd. The subsequent decisions and implementation planning from this event will then be used to inform the 2015 budgeting process. Your voice in this continuing discussion is important so please consider participating. Our goal should be to work as a congregation to re-imagine how our Wilmot faith community will respond to God's call through the responsible use of all of our resources. As Frederick Buechner said, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

☺Craig Frame



NOVEMBER

New ice floes in the river
 In the changing light,
 The sun goes down.
 No mind or speech
 Can articulate the meaning
 But zillions of photons articulate
 This calm scene, whereas
 Chickadees, nuthatches, goldfinches
 Zip through the dusk to and froing
 As dusk comes down.
 As dusk comes down.

☺Ted Colson



2014 Wilmot Fall Auction

It is that time again, Saturday, November 22nd. We have already received many interesting items. The quilters are busy on a



quilt for the auction, so please stop by the parlour and watch the progress. As always we are asking the various groups in the church to donate to our silent auction.

Maggie Clarke is coordinating this project again this year and is actively looking for members on a steering committee. This will only amount to a time commitment of the month prior to the auction. Many hands make light work!

If you have items for the auction, please arrange to drop them off when Randy is available to ensure that they are logged in under your name.

☺Maggie Clarke

Sale of Garden Tea Lights Helps Children and Youth Program at Wilmot



Greg Black approached Rev. Ellen Beirsto with an idea for a project to raise money for the Children, Youth and Young Adult Program at Wilmot. He offered to craft solar garden tea lights from china teacups for sale to help with funds for projects such as sending our young adults to Rendez-Vous 2014 and other events for our Children and Youth.

Lucille Caseley wrote a poem to go with the tea lights, and Garth Caseley contributed a card with his photo of a beautiful garden to be attached to the elegant cup handles.

The garden tea lights sell for \$20 and are available from Ellen, any members of the Children and Youth program, and from the Church Office.

You can also contribute your own tea cups to have them made into tea lights so that you will have a sentimental gift to give to a relative or friend, or just to have as a keepsake. These make a unique gift for any occasion.

☺Children and Youth Program

Teatime in the Garden

Teatime in the garden
is an elegant affair.
This cup of light
is pure delight
as blossoms scent the air.

The saucer catches dewdrops
for ladybug and moth.
Some lemon thyme
and ivy vine
create a damask cloth.

The cricket and the robin
provide the strings and flute.
The hum of bees
and wind through leaves
form nature's chamber group.

Friendship blooms like flowers
when friends take time for tea.
So sit and sup
with a favourite cup
and fondly think of me.

☺L. Caseley
July 2014

Thursday, November 6th Pie Making Day



We will once again be selling Apple Pies! A great idea to stock your freezer for Christmas.

Those with talents in peeling, slicing, rolling, or packaging please stop by and help us out.



Fall 2014



October 5

October 19

November 23



The Honourable Graydon Nicholas Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick. His Honour spoke as part of our celebration of Creation Time worship series.



The Rev. Steve Berube Ecumenical Accompanier for World Council of Churches. Steve will tell us about his experience as part of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel 2013.



The Very Rev. Peter Short, Past Moderator of The United Church of Canada. Peter will be our Anniversary Guest Speaker for 2014.

WILMOT SENIORS FALL LUNCH OUT



Please join us for a beautiful drive down river and a delicious lunch on October 21 as we travel to Gagetown for lunch at the Creekview Restaurant. Lunch is \$15 (including tax and gratuity) and includes your choice of corn or seafood chowder, a half chicken or western sandwich, and delicious home made pumpkin, coconut cream or apple pie for dessert.

We will need your choice before we make the trip, so please contact Brenda Cameron at 363-3388 or Susan Breen at 450-4072, if you would like to be a part of this great day. Drives are available for all who need one.

All seniors and retirees are very welcome!





WE'RE ON THE
WEB AT
WILMOTUC.NB.CA

HAVE YOU CHECKED
LATELY?

This newsletter can
also be read online
in colour
on our web site

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 Sunday
Morning Welcomer.



OFFICE HOURS AT WILMOT (updated September, 2014)

DAY	HOURS	
Monday	9:00 am to Noon	Closed (for bookkeeping)
	Noon to 1:00 pm	Lunch
	1:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Open
Tuesday	9:00 am to Noon	Open
	Noon to 1:00 pm	Lunch
	1:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Open
Wednesday	9:00 am to Noon	Open
	Noon to 1:00 pm	Lunch
	1:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Open
Thursday	9:00 am to Noon	Open
	Noon to 1:00 pm	Lunch
	1:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Open
Friday	9:00 am to Noon	Open
	Noon to 1:00 pm	Lunch
	1:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Open

Sexton/Custodian's Hours (updated September, 2014) Randy Randall

Tuesday	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Thursday	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	6:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Dylan Sweeney

Sunday	Morning	
Monday	9:00 am to Noon	6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Note:

These office hours can also be found at the Wilmot
Website on the "Contact Us" page.