

UCW Report to WUC Council – Jan. 2009

UCW continues to fulfill its purpose here at Woodlawn and throughout Halifax Presbyterial. In this report, we will highlight some of our more recent activities.

At the AGM of Woodlawn UCW on Dec 1st, 2008, Vivian Hill and Dorothy Sams were installed as Presidents of this marvelous organization, a role we will try to fulfill with our utmost dedication and ability. At that event, which also incorporated a Pot Luck Supper and Worship Service, 107 members and guests (Staff and Funeral Reception contributors from the congregation) were in attendance. Once again, several men of the congregation took care of the kitchen duties in fine style, while Rev. Phillip served punch and asked the Blessing, and Rev. Valerie presided over the installation of officers of the in-coming Executive.

Money Tree Donations were dispersed as follows:

Brunswick St. Mission: \$263.33
EDC Food Bank: \$154.34
CMHA “Among Friends”: \$83.33

During the meeting, the women voted to disperse surplus funds in the following manner:

Dartmouth East Food Bank:	\$500	Camp Kidston:	\$500
WUC Benevolent Fund:	\$500	WUC General Fund:	\$850
Caledonia Home Ec. Project:	\$300		
Dartmouth General Hospital Transition Care Unit:	\$100		

A new venture for us this year was the N.S. Mass Choir Concert on Dec. 6th/08. Thanks to the capabilities and enthusiasm of Beth Udby and her dedicated team of workers, 390 tickets were sold to an up-lifting evening concert of Gospel Music, bringing in a net profit of \$2027.27. Well done to all concerned! Thanks to all who attended for supporting this event!

Our UCW Units once more joyfully shopped and provided Christmas gifts and dinners for many families whose circumstances required them to reach out for assistance. This has been a project of UCW for a great many years and our hope is that it will continue as long as we are able.

Since our last report, UCW has provided receptions following 5 funeral/memorial services, including that of our own beloved Eva Staples, a long-time UCW member. We are always saddened to lose members of our church community, and are only too willing to provide this service to those who grieve. We are extremely grateful to members of the congregation who continually support us in this endeavour. However, due to the ever-increasing demand (and our ever-increasing age), at our recent Executive meeting, our members voted to approve the following motion that *Woodlawn UCW only do funeral receptions for people who have been historically or are currently affiliated with Woodlawn United Church.*

An expression of concern around several safety issues on the church property led to the support of sending a letter to the Trustees voicing these concerns and recommending improvements. After their discussion, the Trustees agreed that sensor lights, outdoor railings, up-graded walkways and additional parking places for the disabled are needed and work will be done when weather and finances will permit.

One of our up-coming projects is to host the UCW Presbyterial AGM on Feb. 21st. This is a day-long event which includes: memorial and communion services, devotions, music, book display, business meeting and a guest speaker, Sue Lahey, who will speak on her recent visit to China. At the Installation of Officers, our own Dorothy Lindsay will assume the role of President of Hfx. UCW Presbyterial. It has been many years since Woodlawn has hosted such an event and our planning team intends to make it a rousing success. We are grateful to Rev. Valerie who will preside over Communion, and to the WUC - UCM who will make and serve our lunch (complete with set-up and clean-up). With the enthusiastic support of UCW members from Woodlawn and the other churches of the Presbytery, we will meet our goal.

The season of Lent is soon upon us and with it comes our ever-popular Fish Chowder Luncheons. We have agreed that the price of the meal (chowder, rolls, biscuits, and home-made pie for dessert) should be increased to \$8 (an increase of \$1). The dates for the Chowder Luncheons are:

Feb. 27th: Connie Clarke Unit, assisted by Marion MacDonald Unit
Mar. 6th: Naomi Unit, assisted by Miriam Unit
Mar. 13th: Woodlawn UC Men's Group
Mar. 27th: Friends of Accessibility, assisted by Rebecca Unit
Please Note: March 20th and April 3rd are still open. Any takers?

We are pleased that UCW activity continues to flourish at Woodlawn, but we recognize that the passing years take a toll on this, and feel a need to broaden our membership base to enrich our experience and assure its continuation.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Hill and Dorothy Sams
Co-presidents of Woodlawn UCW