

# The Salt

The Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Church Family,  
Sackville NB



Vol. 16 No. 2, Thanksgiving/Anniversary 2016

## Samuel Murray and the Presbyterians in Sackville

**A**s we celebrate our anniversary in the Fall, I often like to share a piece of St. Andrew's history in *The Salt*. For this year I thought I would share the story of Samuel Murray and his connection with the Presbyterians in Sackville. Now, given that my son's name is Samuel Murray I should clarify that the Samuel Murray of this story lived from 1857 to 1945.

It was in the 1870s that several branches of Presbyterianism that came over from Scotland united to form The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Since the church in Sackville was part of the Covenanter tradition it was more or less outside of this new movement toward union, although there was some pressure on the Covenanter churches to join in.

Concerning the church in Sackville, "Rev. Joseph Hogg, a Moncton Presbyterian, wrote in 1881: 'After a little care is bestowed on Sackville, they might form together [with others] and join the Presbyterian church.'"<sup>1</sup> This is where Samuel Crothers Murray comes in, as he was the one to offer the care that Hogg had in mind.

When Samuel resolved to become a minister he attended Mount Allison to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree, graduating in 1881. After graduation he went to Princeton Theology to prepare for ministry in the Presbyterian Church. While at Princeton, Murray wrote: "In the spring of '84 I applied for a mission field in Saint John Presbytery and was selected for Dorchester and Rockland, only forty miles from home."

In Murray's account of his time in Dorchester he wrote: "Before I left [Dorchester] I visited the Presbyterians of Sackville, a small group that still adhered to the Reformed Presbyterian Church (Covenanters). I induced them to cast in their lot with the Canadian Church [The Presbyterian Church in Canada]. I preached three Sundays and from that time forward, the Sackville Presbyterians were associated with the Presbyterian Church."

I was delighted to receive the story of S. C. Murray this past spring from Dr. Eldon Hay as it does shed some new light on that part of our history. Our current accounts of this period suggest that we joined The Presbyterian Church in Canada during the union of 1875, but from Murray's account it may have been nine years after the union that the Covenanters in Sackville joined the Presbyterian Church.

So along with the many anniversary dates that this year marks for us, from the gathering of the congregation in Middle Sackville to erecting a building on the corner of Bridge and Squire, we can add celebrating 132 years of our union with The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Happy Anniversary!

*Rev. Jeffrey Murray*

<sup>1</sup>All quotes and parts of the story come from Eldon Hay's "Student S.C. Murray: The Right Man at the Opportune Moment," published in the New Brunswick Genealogical Society South Eastern Branch's *News and Notes*, 14 May 2016, 2-3.

## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

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## Our Purpose

*To see Christ more clearly,*

*Love Him more dearly,*

*Follow Him more nearly,*

*day by day.*

### Clerk's Corner

**W**elcome to fall! After a beautifully warm and sunny summer, fall has hit us with its usual bang as activities all start up again at once!

We celebrated with joy the completion of our elevator project, which is now fully operational and was dedicated to the glory of God on Sunday, September 18th. Pauline Atkinson cut the ribbon following a service of dedication conducted by Rev. Murray. We have an opportunity to expand our ministry to the community, as our church is now accessible to everyone. Many thanks to Art Miller and his team!



On that same day, we welcomed to our pulpit the Rev. Ian Ross-McDonald, General Secretary of the Life and Mission Agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. This agency oversees all the major work of the Church, including International Ministries, Canadian Ministries, Justice Ministries, Ministry and Church Vocations and Stewardship.

Since the last issue of *The Salt* at Easter, we have been saddened by the deaths of two of our members. Cairine Heughan died on Monday, May 23rd and Cecil Hicks on Saturday, September 10th. We will remember them both with great fondness and will keep their families in our thoughts and prayers.

A new Bible study has begun on the first and third Sunday mornings of the month at 9:30 a.m., which will run until December 4th. Rev. Murray is leading us in the study of Paul's letter to the Romans. Inserts about this study have been placed in the weekly bulletins, and we welcome all who would like to join us.

The anniversary of our worship here at St. Andrew's will be celebrated on Sunday, October 23rd, with the Rev. Iona MacLean as our guest preacher.

*Sylvia Harris*, Clerk of Session

**Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
**Income Statement Overview: January 1-August 31, 2016**

Total Revenue, all accounts*:	\$75,635
Total Expenditures, all accounts:	<u>\$80,763</u>
Net gain/loss:	(\$5,128)
Total Budget, all accounts:	\$117,642
% of Total Budget spent:	68.65%
% of Year gone by:	66.67%

\*See below for Elevator Account report. The \$5,128 net loss reflects the SRRC money leaving our accounts in March. Otherwise, the percents are all about on track.

**Breakdown by Account, January 1-August 31, 2016**  
**Operating Account**

Revenue:	\$69,080
Expenses:	<u>\$68,213</u>
Net gain/loss:	(\$1,757)
Budget (Revenue):	\$112,642
% of Budget raised:	61%

**Building & Reserve Account**

Revenue:	\$4,872
Expenses:	<u>\$1,456</u>
Net gain/loss:	\$3,416
Budget (Expense):	\$5,000
% of Budget spent:	29%

The money in these two accounts run the church. At this point, the net gain in B & R covers the net loss in Operating. Please maintain or raise your donations to these two accounts, with emphasis on "Local."

**Memorial Account**

This account has a balance of under \$5000, of which \$700 is reserved for the Benevolent Fund. The rest of the funds in the account are held in trust for Session-sanctioned use.

**Elevator Account (May 1, 2016-September 30, 2016)**

Total donations, congregation:	\$26,048
McBain-Barker Bequest (national church):	\$10,000
Presbytery of New Brunswick:	<u>\$7,500</u>
Total donations & grants:	\$43,548
Total debentures, congregation:	<u>\$14,500</u>
Total raised:	<b>\$58,048</b>
Total cost of elevator:	<u>\$54,360</u>
"Excess" (moved to B & R after Aug. 31st):	\$3,688

*Anne Miller*, Treasurer

## Anniversary Sunday Guest Preacher

St. Andrew's will be holding its Anniversary Sunday service on Sunday, October 23rd. This year our guest preacher will be the Rev. Iona MacLean. Iona grew up in Halifax NS, the daughter of the Rev. Randolph and Ruth MacLean. She is a graduate of Dalhousie University, Knox College (Toronto), and the Royal Conservatory of Toronto. Iona was the first woman in the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces to be ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacraments, and since her ordination in 1977 she has served charges in Ontario and Nova Scotia. She retired in November 2015 after almost 24 years as minister of First Presbyterian Church, Pictou.

Rev. MacLean has served the wider church on various committees, including convener of the International Affairs Committee of General Assembly, and is a past moderator of The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces. She was married to the late Rev. Glenn Cooper, former Clerk of the Synod. Iona lives again in Halifax and continues ministry through pulpit supply and committee work in Synod and General Assembly.

## The Elevator Project

On Sunday, September 18th, St. Andrew's marked the completion of the Elevator Project with a service of dedication. The occasion marked the fruition of many discussions, meetings, and walks around the church. To assist the congregation in its discernment of this project a graphic of the projected structure was posted alongside a paper version of the elevator to give us a sense of the space the new structure would occupy. It was at the February 2016 Annual Meeting that the congregation came to the unanimous decision to proceed with installing a Vertical Platform Lift. After the congregational meeting pledges were made and significant donations and debentures started to come in.

To seek funding assistance for the project we applied for a grant from the McBain-Barker fund through Canadian Ministries of the Life and Mission Agency. The purpose of this fund is to support small communities, such as St. Andrew's, Sackville. As a result of our application the elevator project was supported in part by a bequest to The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Presbytery of New Brunswick supported our grant application to Canadian Ministries and they also generously offered a grant to support the project. These gifts from the National church and the Presbytery certainly helped us out, yet the success of this project depended greatly on the sacrificial giving of the people in this small congregation. At the dedication we celebrated the success of our efforts and we gave thanks to God from whom all blessings flow.

During the dedication service Pauline Atkinson took part in the celebration by presenting the elevator on behalf of the congregation requesting that it be dedicated to the glory of God.



Photo: Anne Miller (Treasurer) and Art Miller (Board Chair) were thanked for their work in overseeing the Elevator Project. Pauline Atkinson and Rev. Jeffrey Murray joined them in front of the new lift following the dedication service.

## Board of Managers Update

The 2016 year has involved several projects undertaken for the maintenance and enhancement of the Church's buildings and grounds:

- Roofing repairs were conducted on several occasions as a result of wind damage
- A storage shed was purchased to house lawn mowing and gardening equipment
- Outdoor water spigots were installed in the front and the rear of the Church

Thanks to donations and debentures from the congregation and friends of the Church, grants from the Presbytery of New Brunswick and the McBain-Barker fund (Presbyterian Church in Canada), the Elevator Project was culminated with a dedication on September 18th. This project included installation of the elevator, painting of the Narthex and portions of the basement Church hall, and installation of an additional hand rail leading from the Narthex to the basement.

The Board wishes to thank all those who have contributed to lawn mowing during the summer months, and to those who assisted Michael Capper's efforts with the garden.

*Art Miller*, Board Chair

## Becoming a Member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Today when we think of membership it often corresponds with having certain benefits, discounts or services. We have our shopping memberships, our gym memberships, etc. However, membership in a church is different as it expresses our commitment to serving God through the church and with that comes the ability to exercise certain rights and privileges within The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

### *Why should I become a member?*

The Bible reveals to us that our God is a covenant-making God. Membership is a way of expressing our commitment to God and to the church, the people of God. When we become members we confess faith in God and commit ourselves to a covenant with God and, at the same time, with each other.

### *What's the difference between being a member or an adherent of a congregation?*

They are very similar and adherents are often as dedicated to the ministry of the congregation as members, sometimes even more so. However, members promise to live in a covenantal community with God and one another. There are also times in the life of the congregation when it does make a difference. When parents wish to have their child baptized at least one parent should be a member of the church. Only a member can be ordained an elder or vote for an elder. Only members can sign a call for a minister (although adherents do have the opportunity to sign a concurrence to a call).

### *How can I become a member?*

There are three ways to become a member: by Profession of Faith, Certificate of Transfer from another Church in which one was a member, or by Resolution of Session if a certificate of transfer is not possible.

The above information is very brief and may lead to more questions than answers. If you have any questions about the Presbyterian Church or about membership, Jeff will be happy to discuss these matters with you.

## Help Wanted: New Editor for *The Salt*

It is hard to believe, but this is the 40th issue of *The Salt* that I have edited since joining the newsletter team in January 2005. It has been a privilege and a joy to serve God in this service to St. Andrew's. After that many issues, though, that many years, and having other responsibilities within the church, I'm ready to turn the task over to someone else.

If you'd like to be our next Editor, then please get in touch with any member of the Publications Committee or the Nominating Committee. I'll be staying on as Chair of the former, so the new editor will only be taking on the task of gathering submissions and assembling the newsletter twice a year (Easter and Thanksgiving). Experience with Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Word, or other publication software would be an asset

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those who've helped produce and distribute *The Salt* during my time as editor: Julie Comeau, Susan Dales, Anneke Houtsma, Mona Meldrum, Linda Musgrave, Jean Scobie and Eileen Smith, as well as the great many people (too numerous to name!) who've submitted pieces for publication; it has been a pleasure working with you all.

With thanks,

*Elizabeth Millar*, Editor

Publications Committee: Julie Comeau, Mona Meldrum and Elizabeth Millar

Nominating Committee: Barb Jardine, Lindsay Murray and Linda Trentini

"Vegetables are a must on a diet. I suggest carrot cake, zucchini bread, and pumpkin pie."

~Jim Davis

## Church Community Garden

As many of you will have noticed, we have had a green and successful garden this past summer. As usual, it was planted by the Sunday school children plus volunteers at the time of the church picnic. Excellent crops of green and yellow beans have been produced as well as a good crop of the experiment of pole beans planted by Jerry. Peas produced well and tomatoes are now coming in. I expect only a fair crop of squashes to be hiding in the grasses in front of the garden. As usual, the crops were almost free to produce as I managed to sprout the plants that were planted from leftover seed. Soil for them to grow in came off the town compost heap.

Crops were harvested on Tuesday mornings and then delivered to the Sackville Food Bank. All fresh produce at the food bank is gone in the first 45 minutes of the arrival of their clients.

I thank the church and its numerous volunteers for their continuing support of this garden as I feel it is absolutely part of our mandate as a Christian church to aid in feeding those who are hungry.

The compost heap is happy to continue to receive contributions at any time you are so moved.

*Mike Capper*, Project Coordinator

## Calendar of Events *continued from page 8*

### Sunday 4 December – White Gift Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. – Romans Study: Conclusion, Rom. 15:14-16:27
- 11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

### Sunday 11 December

- 5:00 p.m. – Congregational Potluck

### Saturday 24 December– Christmas Eve

- 5:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Family Service
- 11:00 a.m. – Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service

### Sunday 25 December– Christmas Day

- 11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

## Gratitude

I still miss those I loved who are no longer with me but I find I am grateful for having loved them. The gratitude has finally conquered the loss.

~ Rita Mae Brown

## Library Books

Tada, Joni Eareckson, Kay Marshall Strom and Kay Strom, *Ordinary People, Extraordinary Faith*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2001.

**S**tories of ordinary people exercising their faith in unusual, often difficult, circumstances are sure to be uplifting and encourage again. But Joni has more than just one feeling good in mind. She wants you to see yourself in these stories. She wants you to know that these are people just like you, whose challenges have not only revealed their faith, but have given that faith the opportunity to grow. And she wants you to know that when you face hard times, your faith can help you not only to overcome, but to encourage those around you.

Let these twelve stories of extraordinary faith focus your heart and mind on Jesus and His wisdom, knowing that you, too, can be a light of hope to everyone around you.

Olsen, Sylvia and Ron Martin, *Which Way Should I Go?*, Winlaw, BC: Sono Nis, 2014.

**J**oey and his grandmother have a special way of doing things. With a song and a dance, they meet the choices they face each day with joy. Should Joey eat applesauce with cinnamon or ice cream? Should he go to soccer practice or stay inside? There's always something to choose, and a fun way to choose it. Well... almost always. When Joey's grandmother dies he can't imagine what kind of choice he's been given in the matter. Angry and sad, Joey needs some time before he finds a way to embrace his grandmother's lesson (and her song and dance) once again (from the Sono Nis Press *Teachers' Guide*).

This is an uplifting story about a cherished relationship and the lasting power of wisdom and love.

Submitted by *Beth Cockburn-Savoie*

## Calendar of Events

Every first Sunday	11:00 a.m.	– Food Bank Sunday
Every Monday	7:00 p.m.	– Ladies' Study Group
Every Thursday	9:00 a.m.	– Rev. Murray at Church (to 11:00 a.m.)
Every Thursday	9:30 a.m.	– Parents and Tots
Every second Saturday	10:00 a.m.	– Atlantic Mission Society

### Sunday 16 October

- 9:30 a.m. – Romans Study: Liberation from Sin, Rom. 5:12-8:39
- 11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

### Thursday 20 October

- 6:10 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday 23 October – Anniversary Sunday

- 11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship, Guest Preacher: Rev. Iona MacLean

### Wednesday 26 October

- 7:00 p.m. – Board of Managers Meeting

### Thursday 27 October

- 6:10 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday 30 October – All-Saints Day

- 11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship  
– Sacrament of Holy Communion

### Sunday 6 November

- 9:30 a.m. – Romans Study: God's Freedom, Rom. 9:1-11:39
- 11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

### Monday 7 November

- 3:00 p.m. – Session Meeting

### Thursday 17 November

- 6:10 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday 20 November

- 9:30 a.m. – Romans Study: Transformed Community, Rom. 12:1-15:13

### Thursday 24 November

- 6:10 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday 27 November – First Sunday of Advent

- 11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship  
– Sacrament of Holy Communion  
– AMS Craft and Bake Sale

*Continued on page 7*