

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**NEW GLASGOW, NOVA SCOTIA**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

(year ending December 31, 2020)

**MINISTERS SINCE 1786**

Rev. Dr. James MacGregor 1786-1830

Rev. Dr. David Roy 1830-1871

Rev. Dr. E. A. MacCurdy 1871-1891

Rev. Dr. James Carruthers 1892-1904

Rev. G. Ernest Forbes 1904-1917

Rev. Dr. E.H. Ramsay 1917-1925

Rev. John A. Sutherland 1926-1928

Rev. Dr. Norman D. Kennedy 1929-1942

Rev. Dr. Lloyd MacLellan 1943-1955

Rev. Hugh M. Creaser 1955-1971

Rev. Robert Cruickshank 1972-1979

Rev. Evelyn Carpenter 1980-1988

Rev. Marian A. Patterson 1995-2000

Rev. Dr. Glen Matheson 1989-2016

Rev. Dr. Kenneth MacLeod (interim) 2016-2018

Rev. Dr. Morley Shaw (supply) 2018 -2019

Rev. Andrew MacDonald 2019 - present

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**MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of First Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow, was held in the Upper Hall on Sunday, February 23, 2020, beginning at 12:30 pm and ending at 1:15 pm.

It was moved by Brenda Tutty, seconded by Kent Williams that Jane McDow act as Secretary for the meeting. Motion Carried.

Rev. MacDonald acted as Chairman and Jane McDow acted as Secretary; meeting opened with prayer.

Rev. MacDonald indicated that FAIR Hearts needs a church to be involved with the support group in the sponsorship process of a family from Iraq. After discussion about what was required and confirmation that there were no financial obligations, it was moved by Kent Williams, seconded by Berma Marshall that First Presbyterian Church would agree to be involved in the sponsorship process.

Rev. MacDonald indicated that Session has requested that there an election of additional new elders and that ballots would be distributed to the congregation shortly.

It was moved by Sheila Dempster, seconded by Jennifer Thibeau, that the Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 2019 be received and considered as printed. Motion carried.

The 2019 Annual Report was reviewed including reports the Minister’s Report, the Session Report, and reports form the Choir, Circle of Friends, Catherine Mair AMS, Greg Reid/Elsie MacKay AMS, the Finance, Maintenance & Stewardship Team, the Worship & Music Team, Insurance Coverage, the Auditors’ Report and the Trustee and Church financial statements.

It was moved by Phoebe Fraser, seconded by Sheila Dempster, that the 2019 Annual Report be adopted. Motion carried.

It was moved by John Zinck, seconded by Jennifer Thibeau that the Presbytery and Synod Allocations in the 2020 budget be approved. Motion carried.

The motion from Session respecting the Presbyterian Sharing goal for 2020 was reviewed. It was moved by Elder Phoebe Fraser, seconded by Elder Russell MacIntosh that the Presbyterian Sharing goal of $8,000 be adopted in principle. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jackie Ross, seconded by Kent Williams that the Camp Geddie allocation in the 2020 budget be approved. Motion carried.

The balance of the 2020 budget was reviewed. After review and discussion of the budget items and the need to start considering ways to increase revenue and decrease expenses, it was moved by Clarice Campbell, seconded by Gary Ross, that the 2019 budget be adopted as printed. Motion carried.

It was moved by Gary Ross, seconded by Larry MacLeod that the Nominating Committee Report outlined on page 2 of the 2019 Annual Report be received and considered. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jennifer Thibeau, seconded by Russell MacIntosh that the recommendations of the Nominating Committee be approved. Motion carried.

The need for additional revenue sources to operate the Church were further discussed. Rev. MacDonald indicated that Session was looking at potential fundraising opportunities and it was suggested that Session be approached to form a Fundraising Committee.

There being no further business, it was moved that the meeting adjourn. Rev. MacDonald closed with prayer.

Jane McDow, Congregational Secretary

**MINISTER’S REPORT – 2020**

To the Congregation, Members, Adherents, and Friends of First Presbyterian Church New Glasgow:

The year 2020 has brought us several challenges and struggles. The year began with so much hope and opportunity for all of us. I know I was looking forward to my first full year as your minister, having arrived in February 2019. There was so much hope and promise for 2020, and the excitement for this new ministry to get underway. Unfortunately, the hopes and excitements were replaced with fear and uncertainty with the intrusion of the COVID-19 virus. It has been over 100 years since the world had faced a similar pandemic with the influenza outbreak in 1918. But humanity is nothing if it is not resilient, I am especially proud how we at First Church New Glasgow have rallied and adapted to the continued changes, with the Opening Committee who closely watches the regulations and implementing the safety protocols so we can worship together safely. For our Organist and Choir Director, Lloyd, who continues to provide music for worship, despite the many challenges.

For myself, I am enjoying the challenges within this ministry, from my Midweek Messages to the broadcasting of Sunday services on YouTube and Facebook. Through this, we have been able to reach out to an audience that we would not have been able to tap into before, and we can reach out to our members who can still worship from the safety of their own home. We have also restarted making audio recordings of the services, burning them to CDs, they are made available for distribution to any who request them.

I am also extremely proud of the Missional work this church is doing in partnership with Fair Hearts. Together we are working towards bringing to our community, a family of 6 who have been living in a Turkish refugee camp for the last seven years. Jesus told us to stand up for those who are in need, to be the voice of those who have no voice, and to be stewards and caretakers for those of our brothers and sisters who are suffering. We have realized the suffering that is going on in the world, and I am so thankful for all the participation and cooperation of our church community and the community at large in supporting these efforts.

The motto of the Presbyterian Church in Canada is “Nec Tamen Consumebatur” which means “Yet it was not consumed”. Referring of course to the Burning Bush, though it was on fire, it did not become consumed by the flames. This is the foundation of our denomination and speaks to the character and determination of the church. Though we are facing hardships and trials, the church will remain, we will not be destroyed, we will not be consumed by the fires. **We will** carry on, **we will** persevere, **we will** survive!

As Presbyterians, we are a part of the reformed tradition, we are now in a state of transition and adaptation. This is essential for our survival. What the church might look like in a few years, I don't know, but the church will still be here as a light of Christ, shining through the darkness for all who need it.

I pray that 2021 will be a better year for you and your families. And until we can all be together again safely, remember; be good to one another, care for one another, comfort one another, and always remember to love one another.

Yours in Christ,



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS:**

**FEBRUARY 2021**

Congregational Secretary (one year term) - Jane McDow Feb.2022

\*Board of Managers Secretary (three year term) - Francis Savage Feb.2024

**Worship and Music Team**

**Members & Term Expiry**: Gary Ross\*\*, Brent MacQuarrie Feb.2022

Jennifer Thibeau, Diane Haggart, Andrew Alcorn Feb.2023

Sara Fullerton, Sharon Mason Feb.2024

Reverend Andrew MacDonald, Lloyd Maclean---(Ex Officio)

**Pastoral Care Team**

**Members & Term Expiry**: Chet Fleming, Patrick Young Feb.2022

Phoebe Fraser\*\*, Jackie Ross Feb.2023

Russell MacIntosh, Jane McDow, Jennifer Thibeau Feb.2024

\***Board of Managers**

**Members & Term Expiry**, Keith MacDonald, \*\* Murray Biggar Feb.2022

Keith Cruickshank Feb.2022

Ruth-Anne MacIntosh, Gary Ross Feb.2023

Larry MacLeod, Chet Fleming, Shirley MacDonald, Fran Savage Feb.2024

Brenda Tutty Feb.2024

**Congregational Life and Christian Education Team**

**Members & Term Expiry:** Joan MacIntosh Feb.2022

Lynn Ann MacLellan Feb.2023

Mark Thibeau \*\*, Jane Williams, Alison MacIvor Feb.2024

**Mission, Outreach and Hospitality Team**

**Members & Term Expiry:** Clarice Campbell\*\* Feb.2022

Marilyn Johnstone, Teela Billington, Shirley Cruickshank Feb.2022

Keith Cruickshank Feb.2022 Jean McComb Feb.2023

Edna Fraser, Sheila Dempster Feb.2024

**First/Kirk Co-ordination Team**

**Members and Term Expiry:**  Mark Thibeau\*\* Feb.2022

Clarice Campbell Feb.2023

Sharon Mason Feb.2024

**Board of Trustees**

**Members and Term Expiry:** John Zinck Feb.2022

Gary Ross\*\*, Larry MacLeod, Gary Baudoux Feb.2023

Kent Williams Feb.2024

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**Treasurer**: Brenda Tutty (three year term) Feb.2024

**Press Secretary**: Sara Fullerton (one year term) Feb.2022

**Auditor**: Marni Anderson CA (for the 2020 Annual Report) Feb.2022

**Nominating Committee for 2021**

Gary Ross\*\*, Cathy Lewis, Russell MacIntosh

\***Previously identified as ‘Finance, Maintenance and Stewardship’ Team**

\*\* **Denotes Team Leader**

Respectfully Submitted by Gary Ross

**2020 YEAR IN REVIEW**

Jan. 5 Celebrated Holy Communion

Jan. 12 Service cancelled due to storm

Feb. 23 Annual Meeting was held. The congregation voted to accept an invitation to work with FAIR Hearts as the official sponsor of refugees, the Al Qass Matte family, from Iraq. Emma Campbell was honored on her 95th birthday and recognized for her long time service to the church

Mar. 11 The World Health Organization (WHO) announced COVID-19 a global pandemic

Mar. 15 Session made decision to close the church Mar. 22nd and 29th as precautionary measure

June 3 Session approved a plan developed by Ella Russell to resume her yoga classes. Her plan initiated conversation on re-opening the church and consequently a “Re-opening” team was formed

June 9 First Session meeting was held since March 15, following all mandatory protocols

July 5 A trial run, and following strict gathering guidelines, we held our first service after the 3 month “stay at home” orders of the provincial Department of Health,

July 26 Final summer service held until September.

Sept. 1 Session ratified a 5-year contract with Lloyd for the use of his baby grand piano. Welcomed our new office administrator, Jane Taylor, replacing our retiring office administrator, Sheila Dempster

Sept. 13 Celebrated our 234th Anniversary Service

Oct. Hosted Pictou County Council of Churches and Pictou Presbytery. Photo sessions were held to prepare a new church directory

Oct. 4 Celebrated Holy Communion

Nov. 11 Welcomed members of the New Glasgow Legion as we observed Remembrance Day

Nov. 29 Celebrated Holy Communion

Dec. 21 Rev. Andrew conducted a Blue Christmas service on line

Dec. 24 2 Christmas Eve services were held; 1 at 2 p.m., the 2nd at 4 p.m.

Dec. 27 Celebrated Holy Communion

**REPORT OF PASTORAL CARE TEAM 2020**

The Pastoral Care Team met on Sunday, January 26, 2020 following church service.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss re distribution of Elder Kathy Lewis's District. She indicated she was stepping aside. Following a team discussion names on her District were distributed to other Districts. We were later informed Kathy would continue to visit her District.

During 2020 four transfers were received. Two persons requested their names be removed from the roll.

Due to COVID 19 no other meetings were held in 2020.

Rev. Andrew met with Committee chairpeople in December requesting all members submit their date of retirement. I submitted the following:

Phoebe Fraser, Chair....2 year term - 2021 and 2022

Chet Fleming…1 year term - 2021

Patrick Young...1 year term - 2021

Jacquie Ross…2 year term - 2021 and 2022

Russell MacIntosh....3 year term - 2021, 2022 and 2023

Jane MacIntosh ....3 year term - 2021, 2022 and 2023

Jennifer Thibeau ....3 year term - 2021, 2022 and 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Phoebe Fraser

**MEMBERS WHO DIED IN 2020**:

* John Ross Wilkes, DoD – Feb. 12, 2020
* Elizabeth “Betty” Fraser – DoD – Feb. 17, 2020
* Harold Roy Alexander, DoD – Mar. 27, 2020
* Kenneth Rector – Dec. 13, 2020

**NEW MEMBERS**: No new members in 2020

**TRANSFERS**:

* Clyde F. MacDonald – Mar. 4, 2020
* Lori Caughey – Mar. 12, 2020
* Beverly Mingo – Nov. 9, 2020

**BAPTISMS**: No baptisms in 2020

**MARRIAGES:** No marriages in 2020

**2020 … the Best of Times/the Worst of Times!**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF SESSION**

2020. It started out much like any New Year … full of promise and hope! Our organist was able to return to organ and choir duties after surgery. What better way to begin a new year, than with the celebration of Holy Communion on January 5? Little did we realize at the time; it would be our last as we would know it! January 12, church was cancelled due to an ice storm!

Session met monthly January, February, March, June, July, September, October, and November, 2020. Holy Communion was served January 5, October 4, November 29 and December 27. Covid- protocol Communion is still a work in progress! Our modifications were not the easiest to carry out but we will continue to adapt as best we can.

In February, the congregation voted at the Annual Meeting to accept an invitation to First Church to act as the official Sponsor, working with WARM Hearts (later known as FAIR (**F**riends **A**ssisting **I**raqi **R**efugees) Hearts, to bring six members of a Christian refugee family to Canada. At this time, the Al Qass Matte family had been refugees in Turkey for the past 6 years. This was most welcome news! MANY, many thanks to the congregation, for giving their support to help this family!! It was hoped the immigration process would be completed in a year or so.

January 25, marked the first confirmed case of the coronavirus in Canada in, a patient returning to Toronto from Wuhan, China. In March of 2020 a global pandemic was declared.

Deputy Clerk, Larry MacLeod, ably carried out the duties of the Clerk during her visit to Australia Feb. 21 to March 13. Thank you, Larry! March 15, all international travel was banned and government-imposed lockdown measures were issued to try to stem the rapidly spreading virus. Returning to Canada from Australia, the newly imposed regulations made it necessary to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival back in Canada. Thankfully all was well and no virus came home with me!! However, our lives and the world as we had known it, were forever changed due to this virus!

Concern for public safety and the increasing spread of the virus, Session made the decision to cancel worship services March 22 and 29. The Emergency Health Act, activated by the government of Nova Scotia, was reevaluated every 2 weeks. Needless to say, the Act has been extended every two weeks since and remained in place for the entire year of 2020.

2020! So promising and now, So Hard! Our church locked down! The country locked down; businesses locked down; schools closed. No one allowed to gather together any more. No one was allowed to sing for fear of spreading the virus! How do we go about doing what the church does?? How do we worship? How do we pay our bills and employees? How do we keep in touch? How do we cope?? ...

… Deep Breath! Strong learning curves! LOTS of prayers! Support from our governments and finding new ways to do things and still obey all the rules! I must say, God worked graciously through the people of First Church! Even though we couldn’t gather together as a congregation for worship, or gatherings of any kind, you remained faithful with your financial support and support for one another. Rev. Andrew and Session worked hard to keep us together and able to worship … albeit virtually now, through Rev Andrew’s favourite phrase “the miracle of modern technology”. Every week he recorded Sunday worship services and mid-week messages from an empty sanctuary or his office and posted them online and made CDs for those without computers. Lloyd contributed with organ accompaniment and arranged for guest musicians that were recorded separately and then edited into Rev. Andrew’s recorded services. Then we realized a silver lining to a very dark cloud! All of a sudden, our closed doors were opened up to a whole new group of people not even affiliated with First Church! We were spreading the “good news” of Jesus Christ far beyond our church building!

But it was LONELY ... and so far from the fellowship of a personally gathered church family! So many events and projects had to be cancelled or put on hold for most of the year.

As people complied more with the health act recommendations, COVID-19 cases began to ease a bit. The gov’t began to modify restrictions. June 9, we were able to hold our first Session meeting since March 15; sanitized hands, masked and six foot distanced, in the upper hall. It was the first time a group of **10 people only** could actually gather together for a meeting. We were excited! We could finally make some plans and deal with issues that needed attention. Meetings with masks and 6 feet apart are not fun nor are they easy … but we were adapting to our new “normal”.

The top priority was getting First’s sponsorship for the Al Qass Matte refugee family organized and keeping the congregation up to speed on what was happening with that.

After much discussion, Session approved a request from Ella Russell for permission to restart her yoga sessions in the lower hall that had to be cancelled in March due to the virus. She had prepared a gov’t approved reopening protocol for fitness and yoga studios. Since the church was still closed, the risk to the congregation was minimal. These 6-week sessions went very well. Ella was now ready and prepared to restart a COVID-19 –regulated registration in the fall. To year end, there were no incidents of illness. Well done, Ella and your yoga students!

This sparked a suggestion that Session should have a basic reopening plan in place for faith gatherings. A reopening team was formed and applied the government approved guidelines to our church building. Another silver lining! We are so blessed to have such a large sanctuary and upper/ lower halls! We were able to social distance a rather large seating capacity in the sanctuary. Prior to the pandemic, First and St Andrews had agreed to share summer worship when their ministers took vacation time. First would be open in July and St Andrews in August. Since we were confident the reopening team’s COVID-19 plan was effective, we decided to have a trial run and open the church for worship for the month of July. We were unsure just how many people would feel comfortable gathering for worship with all the regulations and the virus still so strong in our world. I could say … oh ye of little faith … but again, Session was very pleasantly surprised by the number of people that came! Some even came from St Andrews. The protocol ran smoothly with very little tweaking needed. Attendance at every service during the weeks of July ranged in the mid to high 50s and low 60s. When we joined with St Andrews for August, we were back to online worship again with Rev. Joon Ki Kim, as St Andrews did not plan to reopen at this time.

However, in September, we were more than ready and anxious to reopen the church for worship once again. The same COVID-19 regulations were in place, but along with the posters, sanitizers, masks, 6-foot markings on the floor and pews; a beautiful, gleaming, stately baby grand piano had found a home in our sanctuary! Talk about silver linings!! Session had finally ratified the contract and was able to accept the generous offer of a 5-year loan for the use of his piano; made to us by our organist, Lloyd MacLean. Lloyd, you have no idea what a remarkable addition this was to our worship and vision for the future! (...or maybe you did!!? 😊) THANK YOU! The choir and congregation were still not permitted to sing in worship but the music ministry offered through Lloyd and this instrument lifted worship to another level.

We celebrated our 234th Anniversary Service on September 13, 2020. Rev. Joon Ki Kim accepted our invitation to be our guest speaker and St Andrews congregation joined us for worship as well. Thank you Joon Ki. We appreciated you and your congregation’s presence very much!

We welcomed our new office administrator in September as well!! Jane Taylor was the number one choice of the hiring committee and she accepted! Jane is a wonderful addition to our office staff and First family! Welcome Jane, we are glad to have you! Thank you to retiring administrator, Sheila Dempster, and for the great job orienting Jane to our office.

We had been unable to gather for Easter and Holy week but we looked forward now to Thanksgiving and hopefully Christmas in the sanctuary; but always aware that the virus could close us down at any time!

As many churches in the county had still decided not to reopen, and we have the benefit of such a large and social distanced sanctuary, we were host to the Pictou County Council of Churches and Pictou Presbytery for their October meetings. Photo sessions for our new Congregational Directory were no longer postponed and able to be held in October in the upper hall and parlor.

FAIR Hearts also was given permission to hold their Thursday night monthly meetings in the upper hall. Anyone interested in joining these meetings is more than welcome.

Members from the New Glasgow Legion were special guests for our Remembrance Service in November and special musical guests. Rev Andrew conducted a Blue Christmas service on line and led two Christmas Eve services; one at 2pm and one at 6pm. These were very much learning curves! Attendance was by advance reservation only, to make sure we didn’t over flow our seating capacity. Again, we were very thankful protocols in place were effective. Just a few tweaks needed for next year if the health regulations are still in place. 🙁

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the Alcorn family! Both Christmas Eve services were beautiful, due, in great part to the planning of Rev Andrew, the Worship and Music team, the reopening team, Lloyd, and the music offered by our guest singers and musicians: Janice, Robyn and Jodi and Andrew Alcorn and Brent MacQuarrie on trumpet. We are so grateful for your participation! Thank you doesn’t seem enough! We owe such a debt of gratitude to Lloyd and the many guest musicians that helped us make a joyful noise in worship this year when the choir and congregation were silenced! And to the readers through Advent and the Christmas services. Our caretaker, Michael Fraser, did an outstanding job of sanitizing and made sure our building and sanctuary always maintained sanitized standards and protocols. A HUGE job and Well Done, Michael!

In hind sight, we were blessed in MANY ways throughout this dreadful year in so many other ways! So grateful for the tireless efforts of the reopening team to keep on top of the ever-changing safety protocols and to you, the people of First Church, for your cooperation, faithful support and help. We made it through TOGETHER! There are still many things on hold, still much to do and more ways to learn to adapt and cope with the ever-changing virus situations. Even during the worst of times, we have the assurance that we are not alone. We have Immanuel, God WITH us as we look forward to a season of recovery, healing and relief!

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Mason

Clerk of Session

**MEMBERS OF SESSION – 2020**

**Moderator:** Rev. Andrew S. MacDonald (began March 3, 2019)

**Clerk of Session** Sharon Mason

**Deputy Clerk:** Larry MacLeod

**Representative Elder:** Gary Ross

**Alternate Rep. Elder:** Teela Billington

**Active Elders by year of Ordination** **Inactive Elders: by their year of ordination**

Donald Johnstone (1973) Alvin Sinclair (1966)

Ralph Foote (1977) Wilfred Marshall (1977)

Russell MacIntosh (1977) Leroy Taylor (1984)

Larry Ingham (1992) Philip Avery (1985)

Larry MacLeod (1984) Bob Kowalski (1990)

Joan MacIntosh (1992) Ray Webster (1992)

Kent Williams (1992) Norman MacLeod (1995)

Clarice Campbell (1999) Sandy MacIntosh (1999)

Phoebe Fraser (1999) Bill Mason (1999)

Brent MacQuarrie (1992/1999) Jamie Stewart (2013)

Keith MacDonald (1999)

Sharon Mason (2005)

Keith Cruickshank (2005)

John Zinck (2005)

David Johnstone (2005) **Lost due to death in 2020**

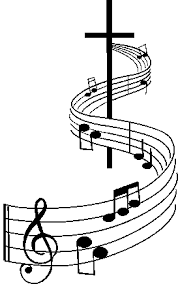
Jack Marshall (2005) Ken Rector (1999) (dec’d Dec.13/20)

Teela Billington (2013)

Cathy Lewis (2013)

Gary Ross (2013) **Elder Emeritus**

Mark Thibeau (2013) Gordon MacNeill (1995) Died 2017



**2020 – CHOIR REPORT**

Contrary to other years, the choir has been on hiatus since mid-March. The first couple of months started out as usual with church services, practices etc., but not now.

Our organist, Lloyd MacLean, has purchased a baby grand piano which he is making good use of in the sanctuary. He is also making good use of soloists, duets, violinists, and trumpets. Hopefully, we will all be back to normal before year’s end. Our officers are:

President - Teela Billington

Treasurer - Shirley MacDonald

Secretary - Emma Campbell

**CHOIR FINANCIAL REPORT**

Balance on Jan. 1, 2020 $1,466.89

**Receipts**:

Interest .60 .60

1,467.49

**Expenses**:

Music Festival 50.00

Service charge 1.25 51.25

Balance on hand as of December 31, 2020 $1,416.24

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley MacDonald, Treasurer



**CIRCLE OF FRIENDS – 2020**

Due to COVID, there were no activities in 2020. Circle of Friends did receive a generous donation from the VanVeld family. Thank you so much.

Flowers were sent to Berma Marshall on behalf of the group, Berma is now recuperating at home.

**Financial Report**

Balance as of January 2020. $ 4.15

**Revenue**:

Donation $230.00

**Expenses:**

Transfer to church

Operating account $230.00

Balance December 31, 2020. $ 4.15

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Johnstone

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH &**

**ST. ANDREW’S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (KIRK)**

**COORDINATION TEAM**

No meetings were held this year and no arrangements for Camp Geddie. A few from the Kirk attended the potluck supper in February.

MEMBERS:

Clarice Campbell – 1 year

Sharon Mason – 1 year

Mark Thibeau – 3 years

Respectfully submitted,

Clarice Campbell

**MISSION, OUTRACH & HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT – 2020**

On February 23rd, the monthly potluck luncheon was held in the lower hall. Because of COVID, there were no further functions held.

It was decided any catering will be done by the Circle of Friends, as most are members of both teams, this will save confusion.

MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE:

Clarice Campbell, team leader – 1 year

Teela Billington – 1 year

Keith Cruickshank – 1 year

Shirley Cruickshank – 1 year

Marilyn Johnstone – 1 year

Edna Fraser – 3 years

Jean McComb – 2 years

Sheila Dempster – 1 year.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarice Campbell

**CATHERINE MAIR AUXILIARY OF THE ATLANTIC MISSION SOCIETY**

The Catherine Mair Auxiliary (AMS) meets the first Monday of each month at First Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow. Our present membership is 5. New members are. always welcome.

Our study this year was “Stores of Missions” from the Presbyterian Message.

The group participated in the World Day of Prayer service at Trinity United Church on Friday, March 6.

Due to COVID-19 we were shut down March 16 through September.

During the year we financially supported The Dalitso "Blessings" Fund and the Presbyterian Message Fund.

Cards were sent to overseas missionaries and sick and shut-ins of the congregation.

Current officers are:

President - Phoebe Fraser

Secretary - Teela Billington

Treasurer - Emma Campbell

Message Secretary - Teela Billington

Respectfully submitted,

Teela Billington,

Secretary

**CATHERINE MAIR A.M.S. – FINANCIAL REPORT**

December 31, 2019 - Bank Balance $ 00.00

Offerings $ 177.00

Dues 15.00

In memoriums 40.00 232.00

Dec. 6 - Cheque 7743 to Pictou Presbytery 232.00

December 31, 2020 - Bank Balance $ Nil

Submitted by Emma Campbell

**CATHERINE MAIR A.M.S. – WORKING FUND**

Dec. 2019 balance $43.15

Sept. 20 Loose 10.00 53.15

Balance $53.15

**DELITSO “BLESSINGS” FUND**

Dec. 2019 balance $42.00

Feb. and March – Loose 25.00 67.00

Balance 67.00

**GREG REID AMS** (This group disbanded effective Dec. 31, 2019)

Dec. 2019 balance $79.25

Total Delitso Blessings Fund & Greg Reid AMS 146.25

Sept. 7/20 – Send to Presbyterian Church 146.25 00.00

Dec. 31/20 Balance $00.00

**THE ‘MESSAGE” FUND**

Oct., Nov. & Dec. Loose offerings 23.00

**FINANCE, MAINTENANCE AND STEWARDSHIP TEAM - 2020**

The Finance, Maintenance and Stewardship Team met six times during 2020 with an average attendance of eight members. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there were no fund raisers held in 2020.

**Maintenance and Repairs For 2020**

* the lock on the kitchen door was replaced
* the light at the Minister’s door was replaced
* the pews which were removed from the Sanctuary were placed in the Session room
* the wooden Advent to replace the wax candles were made and installed
* the furnace and steam boiler were checked by Grant & MacLeod
* Pictou County Glass checked the doors at the James St. entrance and made suggestions for future repairs

Thank you to Michael Fraser for maintaining our flower beds and planting new shrubbery.

This has been a challenging year for everyone, we are looking forward to brighter days ahead in 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Savage, Secretary

**WORSHIP AND MUSIC REPORT**

The Worship and Music Team began 2020 expecting to pick up where it essentially left off in 2019. At that time, little did we know or realize what we, as a church would soon encounter. Covid 19 has altered plans, routines and generally affected most aspects of congregational life at First Church.

The cessation of Sunday services on March 15,2020 with closure in place till our reopening on July 5,2020 did bring about significant change. The Worship and Music Team stopped regular meetings until September when a return to an abbreviated form of regular church activity resumed. In the interim Reverend Andrew responded by providing Weekly Sermons and mid-week messages online. It was also decided to offer these sermons/messages in CD form to members of the congregation who may not otherwise have access to this information. Thinking back, it was quite amazing how our church has pulled together to find new ways of conducting worship and offering music without the presence of our church choir.

Our church choir and congregation, no longer able to sing due to the need to respect Public Health Protocols, brought forth a need to find alternate ways of having music during Sunday Service. Our church organist in lieu of a regular choir has worked hard at arranging for guest soloist and other musicians to sing during regular Sunday services.

The cancellation of a scheduled Gospel Concert for May 2020 for example, was a disappointing necessity as we realized the importance of the need to keep people safe and protect the health of our congregation and general public.

Earlier in the year the Worship and Music Team with the blessing of Session accepted a generous offer from Lloyd Maclean to loan his Baby Grand Piano to First Church. The Piano loan arrangement is for a five year period. This piano along with our church pipe organ will further enhance our Sunday Services as well as increase the possibilities for future musical opportunities within our church.

The combined efforts of Reverend Andrew along with other members of the Opening Team also found new ways of enabling our congregation to return to church in July. Presenting the church service program on screen for example (in the absence of paper copy), has not only worked well but could become a permanent addition to our regular church service. Sunday Church services will also be broadcast on the Eastlink community channel beginning in December2020.This will initially be introduced on a trial basis to determine interest and need.

The Christmas season which began with the traditional Sunday Advent services leading up to the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service required a significant rethink. Covid 19 combined with a concern for public safety produced two Christmas Eve Services (without full choir and candles) that only happened due to the hard work of our Minister, Church Organist, and a large group of church helpers.

While the challenges of Covid 19 have been many, we are viewing this unwelcomed event as an opportunity for positive change within our church. I thank members of the Worship and Music Team for their continuing commitment and desire to find new ways to make our church service and gatherings meaningful growing experiences.

Respectfully Submitted

Gary Ross

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH INSURANCE COVERAGE OVERVIEW**

December 15, 2020 to December 15, 2021

**Business Insurance/Business Interruption**

Limit of Liability Property of every description $ 4,287,381

Basis of settlement actual cash value/annual aggregate $ 4,287,381

Deductible per occurrence $ 2,500

**Machinery Breakdown**

Limit of liability per accident $ 4,287,381

Deductible per accident $ 2,500

**Crime Insurance**

Limit of liability any one loss $ 100,000

Deductible each and every loss Nil

**Commercial and General Liability**

Limit of liability per occurrence $ 2,000,000

with aggregate $10,000,000

Deductible per claim/occurrence (varies) $ 1,000

**Abuse Coverage**

Limit of liability bodily injury & civil defense cost $ 2,000,000

per occurrence/annual aggregate

Deductible Nil

**Directors and Officer Liability**

Limit of liability per claim/annual aggregate $ 2,000,000

Deductible per claim $ 1,000

**Cyber Incident Expense**

Limit of liability per occurrence/annual aggregate $ 25,000.00

**Statement of Values**

Building $ 3,362,245

Stained glass 329,972

Contents 311,082

Organ 284,082

**Total $ 4,287,381**

Note: Several policy sections have varying limits of liability coverage and deductibles. Base deductible has increased from $1000.00 from $2500.00. For coverage detail, the policy should be referenced.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Ross, Chairman













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| **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **To December 31, 2020** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2019 |  | 2020 |  | **2020** |  | 2021 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Actual |  | Budget |  | **Actual** |  | Budget |
| **Salaries and benefits** | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minister stipend | |  |  |  | $ 46,652 |  | $ 46,790 |  | **$ 28,539** |  | $ 47,258 |
| Housing allowance | | |  |  | 13,200 |  | 14,400 |  | **14,400** |  | 14,400 |
| Received from trustees | | |  |  | (1,367) |  | (1,300) |  | **(1,405)** |  | (1,400) |
| Interim moderator | |  |  |  | 1,124 |  | - |  |  |  |  |
| Pulpit supply | |  |  |  | - |  | 900 |  | **100** |  | 900 |
| Music supply | |  |  |  | 1,400 |  | 400 |  | **-** |  | 400 |
| Caretaker | |  |  |  | 14,968 |  | 15,297 |  | **8,899** |  | 15,450 |
| Organist | |  |  |  | 12,838 |  | 15,002 |  | **11,238** |  | 15,151 |
| Administrative assistant | | |  |  | 8,827 |  | 9,624 |  | **6,371** |  | 8,436 |
| Canada Pension Plan | | |  |  | 3,336 |  | 4,424 |  | **4,517** |  | 4,403 |
| Unemployment Insurance | | |  |  | 2,195 |  | 1,967 |  | **1,789** |  | 1,957 |
| Health Insurance | |  |  |  | 3,678 |  | 4,400 |  | **4,502** |  | 4,500 |
| Continuing education | | |  |  | 600 |  | 600 |  | **600** |  | 600 |
| Church pension | |  |  |  | 6,659 |  | 9,573 |  | **9,536** |  | 10,744 |
|  |  |  |  |  | $114,110 |  | $122,077 |  | **$ 89,086** |  | $122,799 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Manse expenses** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel |  |  |  |  | $ 1,766 |  | $ 2,500 |  | **$ 1,385** |  | $ 2,000 |
| Power |  |  |  |  | 1,596 |  | 1,800 |  | **2,891** |  | 2,800 |
| Telephone | |  |  |  | 2,277 |  | 2,650 |  | **3,463** |  | 3,000 |
| Water |  |  |  |  | 322 |  | 430 |  | **431** |  | 450 |
|  |  |  |  |  | $ 5,961 |  | $ 7,380 |  | **$ 8,170** |  | $ 8,250 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Church expenses** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Advertising | |  |  |  | $ 560 |  | $ 560 |  | **$ 140** |  | $ - |
| Bank charges | |  |  |  | 628 |  | 700 |  | **174** |  | 250 |
| Bulletins | |  |  |  | (135) |  | - |  | **-** |  | - |
| Cleaning supplies | |  |  |  | 358 |  | 500 |  | **147** |  | 500 |
| Computer costs | |  |  |  | 67 |  | 300 |  | **139** |  | 300 |
| Fuel |  |  |  |  | 18,937 |  | 19,200 |  | **13,442** |  | 16,500 |
| Insurance | |  |  |  | 4,943 |  | 5,000 |  | **5,676** |  | 5,800 |
| Miscellaneous | |  |  |  | 8,737 |  | 2,540 |  | **1,550** |  | 2,500 |
| Music & worship | |  |  |  | 400 |  | 400 |  | **2,286** |  | 1,000 |
| Photocopier | |  |  |  | 1,221 |  | 1,300 |  | **1,899** |  | 750 |
| Postage | |  |  |  | 306 |  | 300 |  | **247** |  | 300 |
| Power |  |  |  |  | 2,469 |  | 2,500 |  | **2,772** |  | 2,500 |
| Printing and stationery | | |  |  | 897 |  | 1,000 |  | **522** |  | 750 |
| Repairs | |  |  |  | 7,936 |  | 2,750 |  | **3,139** |  | 3,000 |
| Telephone & internet | | |  |  | 2,164 |  | 2,200 |  | **2,233** |  | 2,200 |
| Water |  |  |  |  | 472 |  | 475 |  | **191** |  | 400 |
|  |  |  |  |  | $ 49,960 |  | $ 39,725 |  | **$ 34,557** |  | $ 36,750 |

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| **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **To December 31, 2020** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2019 |  | 2020 |  | **2020** |  | 2021 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Actual |  | Budget |  | **Actual** |  | Budget |
| **Donations and dues** | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Camp Geddie | |  |  |  | $ 1,000 |  | $ 1,000 |  | **$ 1,000** |  | $ 1,000 |
| Presbytery | |  |  |  | 1,398 |  | 2,003 |  | **2,003** |  | 2,041 |
| Synod |  |  |  |  | 2,663 |  | 3,815 |  | **3,433** |  | 2,580 |
| Council of Churches | | |  |  | - |  | 100 |  | **100** |  | 100 |
|  |  |  |  |  | $ 5,061 |  | $ 6,918 |  | **$ 6,536** |  | $ 5,721 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sunday School** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Expenses | |  |  |  | $ - |  | $ 100 |  | **$ -** |  | $ 100 |
| Less: Offerings | |  |  |  | - |  | - |  | **-** |  | - |
|  |  |  |  |  | $ - |  | $ 100 |  | **$ -** |  | $ 100 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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