

Canadian MOTHERS' UNION National Newsletter

Autumn 2017
Issue 2

New Canadian Council Members Commissioned



Left to right, back row: Shara Golden, Vice President; The Rev. Canon Tom Stradwick, Chaplain; Kathleen Snow, Representative to the North; Alice Kennedy, President; Susan Colpitts-Judd, Newsletter Co-Editor; Lilian Ketch, Conference Coordinator; Margaret de Carvalho, Past President.

Left to right, front row: Sandra Jorgensen, Lone Members' Coordinator; Debbie Fice, Historian; Maxine Simpkin, Parenting Program; Ruth Corston, Link Coordinator; Bonnie Greenwood, Newsletter Co-Editor; Ann Leland, Literature and Marketing Coordinator; Deanna Morrison, Corresponding and Recording Secretary.

By Gisele McKnight

(Story and photos reprinted with permission from the New Brunswick Anglican, June 2017 edition.)

The Rev. Canon Tom Stradwick had never heard of Mothers' Union until a few years ago, when a cheque for \$900

arrived in the mail. It was from the Mothers' Union, part of their Northern Clergy Family Fund initiative, and the Stradwicks were grateful.

Perhaps this is Tom's way to repay that generosity. On Saturday, April 29, as part of the diocesan Mothers' Union annual rally, he was commissioned as chaplain of Mothers' Union in Canada.

The rally took place at St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in Riverview. About 85 members and guests attended.

Several others were commissioned as members of both the diocesan and Canadian Mothers' Union councils. Bishop David Edwards led the commissioning, which included Joanne Ham as the incoming diocesan president.

The day began with the commissioning during the Service of Holy Eucharist, where Tom preached on Matthew 14:22-33, which was read by the Rev. Caleb Twinmatsiko, headmaster of Bishop McAllister College in Uganda. The story is of Peter's ill-fated walk on water.

"Peter's eyes were on Jesus and it was all going great," said Tom. "But when he took his eyes off Jesus he started to sink.



The Rev. Canon Tom Stradwick, Chaplain

He started going down."

How does this relate to our lives, he asked? We're in the boat of life, floating across the sea, discerning what God wants us to be.

"We are not called to stay in the boat," said Tom. "We're called to be on the water, to take risks, to venture out.

"If we keep our eyes on the Lord, we'll be fine. We'll be more than fine," he said. "We'll do amazing work to further God's reign."

The offering of \$570 was split between the Northern Clergy Family Fund and the two diocesan camps, Brookwood and Medley.

Margie Milner introduced guest speaker Nancy Hartling, a new senator who lives in Riverview. She applied to be a senator under new rules last year, and in October, got a surprise call from



Senator Nancy Hartling of Riverview, NB

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau asking for permission to forward her name to the Governor General for recommendation as a new senator.

Many years ago, Nancy was a single parent looking for resources and ended up creating Support to Single Parents, an agency she led for more than 30 years. She has earned many awards and accolades over the years for her dedicated advocacy for women.

She described how she came to be a senator and what she's experienced in her first six months in Ottawa. When she was told she had not been spending all the money allotted to her office, her response was, "but I come from the non-profit world!"

She has chosen to focus on two areas as a senator: human rights and social affairs.

Her advice to Mothers' Union members was to keep up with the current trends in society. For example, our one-child families are the norm now, but refugees coming into the community often have four or more children and they will need strong family support.

"I'm very pleased your group does so much for children," she said.

The other guest speaker was Hope Twinmatsiko, who, with a Masters in psychology, is a lecturer at Kampala University. She is the mother of two teenagers and is married to the Rev. Caleb.

Bishop David Edwards, far right, led one of the rally discussion groups.





Hope Twinmatsiko, a Mothers' Union member in Uganda and a rally guest speaker

"I am a very, very active member of Mothers' Union," she said. "My mother was a Mothers' Union member. She was a very encouraging mom and I love her for that."

Mothers' Union began in Uganda in 1908 and has become "everything" to the Ugandan church, she said. They clean the church, cook, organize and lead many events and groups. They make clothing, knit and teach people to sew. They mentor young woman about to get married, support wives of clergy, and teach parenting skills.

She talked about the issues of mental health, abuse and drug and alcohol addictions, things she deals with at work and in her community. Girls, she said, especially need guidance, and it is Mothers' Union that often gives that guidance.

"We encourage stable families," she said. "We walk together, pray together, offer encouragement to families facing challenges."

She has voluntarily mentored many girls over the years, because, she said, "I am a Mothers' Union member."

The day ended with the group splitting into several breakout groups to discuss the day's speakers, Tom Stradwick, Nancy Hartling and Hope Twinmatsiko, and how they, as Mothers' Union members, can mobilize in outreach and ministry for the benefit of others.

Joanne Ham was pleased with how the day unfolded.

"Overall, I was thrilled. I felt it was full of energy and promise. It may sound a bit corny, but I was most pleased by the Mothers' Union members themselves," she said. "These are wonderfully giving women, and yes, a few men. I feel very blessed to be a part of the Mothers' Union together with them."

"My favourite part of the rally was very simple. It was the beginning of

the church service when the Mothers' Union banners were being paraded into the church with all of our members joyfully singing 'Lift High the Cross.' As a Mothers' Union member, that is a powerful moment, you truly feel a part of something special."

She hopes for three points to remain with members.

"The first is that they became inspired with renewed energy to continue the work of the Mothers' Union in their churches and communities.

"Secondly, that they felt the community and support that comes with being a member of Mothers' Union.

"Finally, a sense of pride in being part of a larger organization which upholds and works towards such important objectives. I know that when I went home from the rally I felt, well tired, but I also felt each of these things."



Members of the Fredericton Diocesan Council Mothers' Union were also installed at the rally in Riverview. They are, left to right, back row: Patricia Margison, Historian; Susan Crawford, Treasurer; Susan Colpitts-Judd, Lone Members' Secretary and Press Secretary; Heather Miller, Literature.

Left to right, front row: Ginny McEwen, Link Secretary; Joanne Ham, President; the Ven. Wandlyn Snelgrove, Chaplain; Lilian Ketch, Past President; Cindy Derksen, Vice President; and Ann Leland, Secretary.



Hello Mothers' Union Canada!

The season of summer is here and almost over in Canada, although depending on where you live, the weather might not be summer-like temperatures. As this report will be published in the autumn, we will be looking at fall and winter activities in our parishes.

First, I would like to share a bit about myself, your new President for the 2017-2020 term. I grew up in a small coal mining village in New Brunswick. There were 18 nationalities in the community where I attended public school. Needless to say I was exposed to many cultural traditions and languages. This unique childhood has given me, I think, a wonderful perspective on what it means to be Canadian.

My husband retired but then decided to take on a one year contract. He continues to work as I begin my life as a retiree. We have twin girls in their thirties pursuing their careers. They do not live close by so I cherish my time with them when we get to visit. We also get to see them when we chat over the computer. Thank heavens for technology!

Summer is a time to relax, take holidays and recharge. Often groups go on hiatus as we enjoy long summer days and play time. As I retired from my paying job the end of April and worked on house renovations, I fell and broke my ankle. My friends laughed and told me God was just getting me to slow

down. I am now mobile and I can see how the sofa time was a rest I needed. I had chosen my mantra for my term as, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). We have lots of work to do with the Canadian Mothers' Union and we would like input from members across the country.

Please send us your thoughts on how we can improve communications. Technology can bind us together but it can also make us apathetic. We can ignore emails and other forms of connecting. Your input is greatly appreciated. How can we all feel connected to the national Mothers' Union? What does that future look like for you?

In March I attended a meeting in Ireland and connected with other Mothers' Union Presidents from around the world; the Mothers' Union worldwide has been divided into several zones which plan on-going meetings to discuss our future. We worked towards creating relationships with our Provincial Presidents in our Zone. Canada is in Zone B, which also includes the USA, West Indies, Argentina and Brazil.

I have several events I should attend as your President. Normally, these meetings would happen over my 4 year term and here they have arrived in the first 9 months! The conversation at the last council meeting referred to this as the "perfect storm". You will see the travel budget is empty and due to these events, money has been used from the General Fund to help with my travel costs.

I did miss the ACW gathering in June because of my broken ankle, but our Vice President, Shara Golden, was able to attend and deliver a workshop for Mothers' Union. Shara provides a report on her experience in this issue. She has some exciting news to share with us!

In August I represented The Canadian Mothers' Union at the MU USA Conference. This was a first rate event with a very full agenda. The MU USA are doing wonderful work in their communities! I was part of the initiative to supply new brassieres to women affected by human trafficking.

In September there is a meeting for Zone B delegates in the Barbados to vision the next 10 years for Mothers' Union. This is a follow-up to the meeting I attended in March. I will provide updates on our progress and any comments or feedback you have would be appreciated. Please send these ideas to: info@canadianmothersunion.ca

Coming up in the calendar is Thanksgiving. We are truly fortunate to live in this country. We have much for which to be thankful! After Thanksgiving we work on the 16 Days of Activism. Your Branch leader received an invitation from Mary Sumner House to complete a survey, "Mothers' Union member questionnaire for the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women 2018". In Canada we have a White Ribbon Campaign from 25th November to 6th December to raise awareness about gender violence. Perhaps your Branch can help your parish and community reflect on this injustice.

The calendar then moves on toward Advent and Christmas. It is hard to think about such things as the sun shines and the tomatoes are ripening in the garden. As the new Canadian Council takes leadership, we hope to hear from you all regarding traditions in your homes and parishes. How can we spread the gospel in our world today? Christmas is such a wonderful time to share our good news story!

Many Blessings,
Alice Kennedy, President

National Gathering of Anglican Women Ancaster, Ontario, June 15-18, 2017

I arrived in Ancaster during the early morning hours of June 15th. Well, 7:00 am is early for me! I was greeted by Marion Saunders, Convenor and Host, who delivered me straight to the registration desk and then helped me to find my room. Our dorm sat in the middle of a beautiful tree-shaded area at Redeemer University College, just a two minute walk from the main building.

The event was opened by our Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, who provided a full hour of information on the status of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He spoke about the role of our many Anglican people who give their time and talents around the world, and of our relationship with the Cuban and Jerusalem churches. He will meet with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in December and former Archbishop Rowan Williams will be in attendance. At this time he will be briefed on the status of the Anglican Communion and he will put forward his questions about how we are to proceed with our open and transparent Canadian walk with this world body.

The Primate also addressed the tragedy of human trafficking. He spoke of thirteen to fifteen year old girls being the most vulnerable in this heinous business and raised the issue of partnerships as the way to combat this crime. We need to break the misrepresentation that women and children are commodities to be bought and sold. Together we can work towards bringing these victims away from the grasp of the enemy and back to lives of dignity and worth.

We also heard a heart rending presentation from Suzanne Rumsey, Public Engagement Officer of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF). She spoke of our Canadian Anglican challenging response to the world through our Food Security

Campaign. PWRDF is also working to save the lives of mothers and babies through better maternity housing, vaccinations and the training of nurses to help mothers in their communities with birthing and raising their children. Bangladesh and Tanzania in particular have benefited from PWRDF's programs in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.



We also heard an interesting presentation entitled "The Mohawk Journey" which provided the history of the Mohawk people starting as early as 1609. Also, The Anglican Foundation honoured the ACW and its trust fund for Women in Ministry now and in the future.

We heard a presentation by Deborah Lonergan-Freakegave on the Council of the North whose work began in 1970. There are nine financially assisted dioceses in the North which receive \$1.8 million from General Synod to be divided among them. They cover 85% of the geography of the Anglican Church of Canada.

Our Keynote Speaker, Ann Veyvara-Divinski, described more than 50 Years of Women's Ministry. She asked us to consider where are we going when we

follow the Cross of Christ. When we started our walk, did we consider where we might be ten years down the road? Where did we end up and how did we get there? She advised that we "do something so that we can accomplish something to make a difference and show that we care". Following her talk, we were treated to a performance by the Liturgical Dance Group directed by Allison Wright.

During the morning of June 17th, I gave a talk about Mothers' Union to fifteen participants. I was there an hour before-hand and did not have a working computer and overhead projector until about three minutes to my start time. Alice Kennedy had prepared the presentation which I was able to use. I got quite a few laughs introducing Alice as the jumpstick in

my hand. Alice had done a lovely video of greetings which was well received by all. The one suggestion from the group was that we need to update our website. Several of the women are Mothers' Union members who have not attended meetings in a very long time. When they checked out our site they were disappointed that they were unable to find the information that they wanted.

In all, I believe we made a wonderful connection with the women at the ACW national gathering. I found that we have a lot in common, especially surrounding the care of women and families in the world. I can see that the ACW and the Canadian Mothers' Union could form a future partnership in this mutual area of our service.

Shara Golden, Vice President

Worldwide Mothers' Union Reps Meet in Ireland

By Gisele McKnight

(Story reprinted with permission from the New Brunswick Anglican, May 2017 edition.)

It would be a vast understatement to say that Kathleen Snow is fond of Mothers' Union.

"It's not a group I belong to," she said. "It's a way of life. A lot of my faith I attribute to Mothers' Union — the rallies, meetings, relationships with other members."

Kathleen has been a member of the Christ Church Cathedral branch since it began in 1988, although it was created in Britain in 1876. Her bond with the group is such that she has been diocesan president, the Canadian president, and now, a representative member for all zones outside Britain and Ireland.

She recently travelled to Ireland for its annual worldwide council along with provincial (Canadian) president Alice Kennedy of Hampton, and came back revived by the experience.

"There were more than 100 women from all over the world there," she said.

Their focus was on constitutional changes needed "to streamline who would be on the board and to reflect our globalized membership," said Kathleen. "We're getting rid of representative



Kathleen Snow, representative member and Alice Kennedy, provincial (Canadian) president at the conference.

members, so I voted myself out of a position."

Those changes will eventually go to Britain's Privy Council because of its royal charter. HRH Queen Elizabeth is the patron of Mothers' Union.

Mothers' Union had a strong presence in Canada before an executive decision meant the ACW would be the

only women's group of the Anglican Church of Canada. But in 1974, Elspeth Newton led an effort to re-establish Mothers' Union in this country.

While it has a mere 700 Canadian members, it is huge in the UK and growing throughout the world, with four million members in 80 countries. Africa and Indonesia in particular are seeing strong growth.

"In the UK it's the main women's group in the Anglican Church," said Kathleen. "Here in Canada it's the ACW, with their fundraising focus and generous support for missions. But the Mothers Union does not have that same focus."

The largest Canadian membership for Mothers' Union is in the Dioceses of Nova Scotia & P.E.I. and Fredericton, with smaller groups across the country. This diocese has 120 members.



MU Members from Africa and the Caribbean perform a song for the rest of the group.

The focus of Mothers' Union has always been on encouraging and nurturing healthy Christian families. They do that with various programs, including a literacy program that is of great value in Africa, for example.

"We teach women how to read, write and do math," said Kathleen, to help in the creation of small businesses run by women.

They also run family life programs that examine relationships, and a parenting program, for which Kathleen is a facilitator.

"It's a group of parents who get together to discuss experiences and learn from one another what works and what doesn't," she said.

While the Mothers' Union focus is definitely on family, membership is not limited to mothers, Anglicans or even women.

As with so many western organizations, declining membership is a challenge. There is a struggle to make the group relevant in the 21st century, and that has led to innovative means of attracting members.

"Some Mothers' Unions meet in coffee shops," she said. "There's a Mothers' Union men's parenting program in the UK that meets in a pub! They're not doing the traditional things anymore. We have to do things differently."

"It's a challenge. Many young people are not joiners. Historically we got our membership from the congregation, but that's not so anymore."

While the group is trying to change with the times, there are still some traditions they hold onto. One happens on March 25 — Lady Day, the celebration of the Feast of the Annunciation. Money is collected from members and sent to headquarters for distribution to overseas funds. This is one of the few times the Mothers' Union fundraises.

"Mothering Sunday is big historically. People in England would go to their mother church," said Kathleen. Held halfway through Lent, Mothering Sunday this year was on March 26. Simnel



An Grianan, which means Sunny Place in Irish, is a beautiful Edwardian manor house situated on 88 acres of park land with mature trees and a gentle path to the nearby sandy beach near Drogheda, north of Dublin, Ireland. An Grianan is a residential centre of friendship and learning with many activities and courses on offer.

cake — a fruit cake with almond icing — is baked and served to the congregation. Usually members will participate in the service.

Kathleen has no doubt that Mothers' Union changes lives. She points to her own, but also to the many women in developing countries who have benefitted from literacy training and the communal support of parenting programs to enhance and uplift families.

Her time at international Mothers' Union events certainly bolsters that belief.

"You meet mothers from so many other cultures and see that we all have the same beliefs and values," she said. "Some don't even speak English. But even with the language barrier, the ethos is the same. It's a most amazing society."



Representative Members Group at the meeting in An Grianan in Termonfeckin. Representative Members are elected to represent their zones on WWC for a three year term.

(Note: Helen Davis, back row on the right, in the colourful sweater, was well in February but diagnosed with liver cancer in June and opted for no treatment. Helen died on September 21, 2017. She is survived by her husband, Simon, an Anglican Priest, and three young adult children.)

Kathleen was appointed one of the two Zone B Regional Trainers for the Parenting Program. She and the other trainer, Lena Edmondson from Guyana, will travel to Papua New Guinea in 2018 to train facilitators.

The MU USA Conference, Baltimore, Maryland August 11-14, 2017

It is hard to summarize the impact that the MU USA conference had on me. From the moment I arrived at the 4 H center in Baltimore, I was made to feel very special. The event was first class from my perspective. Doreen Wakely from the Diocese of Niagara also attended the conference.

We met for spiritual services each morning and evening. Every day at noon we said our Mid-day Prayers. Our days started at 7am and finished at around 9pm.

The Worldwide President Lynne Tembey was the guest speaker. She gave a presentation on the new Zone alignment and what Mary Sumner House hopes to achieve with the visioning gatherings. She also spoke on her travels and the constitution. She gave a lovely speech at the banquet with encouragement and hope for all in attendance.

The spiritual advisor for the conference, the Rev. Kim Coleman, led several workshops. The theme for Saturday was Human Trafficking. Dr. Kimberly Mehlman-Orozco gave the presentation. What an eye opener it was for me! She spoke on how young women and the vulnerable are targets and how the people who prey on them are very good at brain washing. For more information, check the website for Blue Campaign (One Voice. One Mission. End Human Trafficking) www.dhs.gov/Bluecampaign. Also check out the article in the September Anglican Journal.

USA President Annie Beckley, Worldwide President Lynne Tembey, and Conference Chaplain, the Rev. Kim Coleman



Saturday afternoon was spent in service to people who are in need and centred around two projects. The first one involved adding personal notes of encouragement to new brassieres that would be distributed to victims of human trafficking. This was a joint effort with the ECW which is the equivalent to our ACW. The other activity was to fill bags with toiletry items for people who would be appearing in court.

Saturday evening was devoted to hearing reports from conference guests. The work being done is amazing! MU USA has branches in Florida, New York, New Jersey, Georgia, Virginia, Maryland and Massachusetts. Just like here in Canada, they are very



Alice Kennedy with the Conference Coordinator Rita Johnson and the other Canadian Delegate Doreen Wakely

busy with their branch work.

Sunday was tour day. First we attended the morning service at the Washington National Cathedral, with all of the traditional pomp and ceremony. We then toured the city, seeing the Martin Luther King statue, the War Memorial, Abraham Lincoln statue, and the Vietnam Memorial Wall. We visited the newest Smithsonian museum, The National Museum of African American History and Culture, which opened in 2016. We had an afternoon reception at the Virginia Theological Seminary which is where the Rev. Kim had studied. The garden there features a statue of



The bronze statue, "Mary as Prophet", was created by artist, Margaret Adams Parker. Dedicated in 2015 by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the 48" high sculpture depicting Elizabeth greeting Mary, sits in the garden of the Virginia Theological Seminary.

Elizabeth greeting Mary. We were given a list of questions to reflect on, which would be further explored at workshops the next day.

The information and discussions on the topic of race at the Monday afternoon workshops were enlightening. I think we have similar issues in Canada, only in different forms. We discussed various terms and what they meant to us; it was easy to observe that certain words were internalized differently among the participants. The sculpture of Elizabeth and Mary was created with the women representing the black race. We discussed our observations and were then assigned the task of creating a collage reflecting on how the conference so far had impacted us. We worked both individually and in groups. The final workshop I attended was a continuation on the issue of racism. We explored topics of colour and heard personal testimonies. Also, a wonderful video clip was shown, just to confirm much

of society's current stereotyping. Check YouTube for "The Lunch Date":

www.youtube.com/watch?v=eputZigxUY8

The day ended with a beautiful banquet where everyone was dressed in their best! They had a photo booth set up and many crazy poses were taken. I even have a photo with pink hair!

The conference ended at noon on Tuesday but Doreen and I left early to catch our flight back to Canada. The part I did get to hear was about reflecting on your own life and who or what made an impact on you. How can you take that into the world today and make your mark?

Many thanks to the Canadian Council who were adamant that I must attend this conference, despite the funding issue in our budget. It was a top notch event!

In Peace,

Alice Kennedy, President

Message from the Chaplain

We are so blessed to live in a country like Canada where we celebrate God's beauty and wonder with the changing of the seasons. The Fall season is my favourite season of the four. Fall allows us to experience God's abundance in the harvest as we prepare for the long winter.



The question I have is how do we experience God's abundance in the harvest? As a child growing up in the Niagara Region of Ontario, I have to

admit I experienced God's abundance of the harvest through the excitement and fun that harvesting of grapes brought with harvest on my grandparent's grape farm. I don't believe I contributed much to the work that accompanies the harvest, but it was great fun riding on the tractor with Grandpa. The Niagara region harvest consisted of many types of fresh fruits that allow us to experience God's blessing.

As a newly ordained Priest serving in the Muskoka Region of Ontario, the harvest was encompassed in a broader sense, not just sharing in the bounty of the land. In the Muskoka area it is the turning of the leaves. God is painting his landscape with bright colours of orange and red. This beautiful scenery brought an abundance of tourists from all around the world. Tourism brought abundance to the local economy. In

both situations we give thanks, as you could say there is an obvious situation for which to be thankful.

There are situations that are not so obvious or easy to give thanks for, when life seems to be difficult or life poses the question, "Why me God?" These, as well, are times to be thankful for because in these times we grow in faith. It is in our reliance on our faith that we find God's grace to guide us through.

The Fall season calls us to take time out and give thanks for all God's blessing in our lives, whether that be an experience of an abundant harvest or difficult times in life. I ask you to take time out of your busy life and give thanks for all of God's blessing in your life.

The Rev. Canon Tom Stradwick

Mothers' Union in Barbados!

MULOA - Mothers' Union Listening, Observing, Acting

Submitted by: Lilian Ketch, Kathleen Snow, Alice Kennedy, and Joanne Ham

In March 2017, Mothers' Union Worldwide Trustees and Provincial Presidents from around the world met at An Grianan in Termonfeckin, Ireland to discuss how to co-create the vision of Mothers' Union beyond 2020. Alice Kennedy (Diocese of Fredericton, Hampton Branch) attended this meeting in her role as Canadian Mothers' Union Provincial President. There was unanimous agreement to roll out this process to all worldwide members; a series of regional/zone meetings was consequently planned to reach this goal. These meetings would allow Mothers' Union leaders to come together for a series of workshops focusing on how to become equipped with skills to listen and to gather information from members and the communities in which they work. The goal was to mobilize Mothers' Union worldwide.

The initial pilot meeting was held September 10-14, 2017 in the Barbados, West Indies with 28 Mothers' Union members from Zone B in attendance. Zone B includes members from the Americas – North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. Those in attendance at this meeting hailed from Canada, Argentina, Peru, Guyana, Anguilla, Trinidad and Tobago, Barba-



From left to right: Megan Torfe, Ginny McEwen, Joanne Ham, Gael Page, Beverley (Bev) Jullien (CEO of Mothers' Union), Alice Kennedy, Kathleen Snow, Mary Stone, Lilian Ketch.

dos, Bahamas and Jamaica. Each diocese sent two representatives. There were also two members from the Solomon Islands and South Korea (as observers in order to facilitate the workshop in their respective countries).

The workshop was planned by the Head of Development and Policy, Nicola Lawrence (Mothers' Union headquarters - Mary Sumner House), and Sheran Harper (Mothers' Union Trustee from Guyana). Cathy James (external consultant) facilitated the four-day

workshop, assisted by Kathleen Snow, (Diocese of Fredericton) Zone B Regional Parenting Trainer and Facilitator. The delegation from Canada included: Alice Kennedy, Provincial President; Lilian Ketch, National Conference Coordinator; Joanne Ham, Diocese of Fredericton President; Ginny McEwen, Diocese of Fredericton Link Secretary; Mary Stone, Diocese of Nova Scotia/PEI President; Gael Page, Diocese of Nova Scotia/PEI; Megan Torfe, Diocese of Algoma.





The goal of the MULO process was to answer three core questions:

1. **WHO** - Whose lives are we touching (and could we be touching)
2. **WHAT** - What difference are we making (and could we be making) in people's lives
3. **HOW** - How do we become equipped to listen to the people we serve

Four full days were spent immersed in participatory activities involving Bible studies, large and small group discussions listening to God and to each other. We learned to listen with our head (to facts and ideas), to the heart (through feelings and emotions), and to the feet (by motivation and intentions). The Bible study about Blind Bartimaeus was a powerful lesson in change. Time was also spent on prayer and fellowship with amazing women, making instant friends as we worked at answering the three core questions.

At the end of the workshop we developed a shared understanding of our God-given purpose and how Mothers' Union affects lives around the world. We brainstormed and heard first-hand stories about how to become more effective in making a difference in our church and community. We were challenged to think about who we can currently and potentially partner with, to make a difference in God's world.

Subsequent to the conclusion of all of the regional/zone meetings, MULO aims to provide worldwide members with resources for a common approach to put our faith into action. This goal

will be achieved by supporting and strengthening existing initiatives. Confidence will be built among all members when answers to the three core questions are shared. MULO will assist in identifying key areas of focus that can demonstrate the impact of Mothers' Union when speaking to supporters, donors, governments and existing members.

At the end of the four-day session, with the aid of many flip chart sheets created and posted around the room, the group summarized and decided on a framework of how to take MULO forward to their respective Provinces/Dioceses. The Canadian Mothers' Union has identified the following three priorities and will work with each Diocese

and its Branches to:

1. Increase awareness of and hold Parenting Program sessions.
2. Explore partnerships (i.e. within the church and/or community).
3. Explore ways to nurture and support its branches and members.

Even though the four days involved a lot of thinking and strategizing, our evenings were free for relaxing. Many of us escaped to the meeting room as it was the only room on the college campus that was air conditioned. Most days had a humidex of 46-48 degrees which is far different from the heat to which we are accustomed, during our New Brunswick summers.

Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."—Mark 10:27

Soup's On!

The All Saints Marysville, NB branch meets monthly and their main outreach project for the past twenty-five plus

years has been to make a huge pot of soup which they deliver faithfully to the Fredericton Community Kitchen.



Left to right: Sheila Staples, Sherry Pope, Donelda Kolijn, Yvonne Lyons, Mavis Jones, the Rev. Canon Kevin McAllister, Edith Holland and Wendy Banks

Good-bye to our Mothers' Union Friends

Kelly Eleanor Smith-Duffett (1966-2017)

On June 22, 2017 our dear friend Kelly passed away after a long and always courageous battle with cancer.

Kelly was an active member of our Mothers' Union branch and within our church community for many years. Her involvement with MU dated back to when her two daughters, Leah and Hannah, were young active participants in the Mothers' Union playgroup and we watched them grow through their teenage years into young womanhood.



Kelly was our branch leader for several years and brought to that role a quiet, strong, very organized leadership that we all enjoyed.

Kelly spoke fondly of her time as the Canadian Mothers' Union Newsletter Editor. She enjoyed that role and found that her skills helped our newsletter become a tool

to help bond our Mothers' Union members across the country. She treasured the relationships she made with the other members of the Mothers' Union

Canadian Council.

Kelly's Memorial Service, personally planned down to the last detail, was held at St. John the Baptist Church in Riverview, New Brunswick. It demonstrated her love of God, family, friends, music, and the Mothers' Union. Many Mothers' Union members from our branch and across our province attended to pay our respects to a remarkable woman who will be missed and always remembered by those who had the privilege to know her.

*By Joanne Ham
President, Diocese of Fredericton MU*

Beatrice Alice Shaw (1927-2017)

It is with a sad heart that I share the news that Bea Shaw, Mothers' Union member since November 16, 2003, has gone to be with her Lord. She was a true Christian and loved Mothers' Union and all it stood for. She enjoyed attending our annual Rallies, where she would never fail to make at least one new acquaintance who would later comment about what a delightful person she was. As a long time member of Saint George's Church in Saint John West, she persevered through all the changes which led to the formation of the current Westside

Anglican Mission. She was a faithful servant to the end, attending Bible study and services when she could at Westside Anglican Mission, and she also helped out with several Vacation Bible Schools. Bea loved children and as recently as a couple of years ago, she helped out with the PALS literacy program, reading with a young boy after school. She became a Cursillista in 2011, but even a few years before that she faithfully joined us at our local Cursillo gatherings, eagerly waiting for us to have a Cursillo weekend. She continued to attend and enjoy our

Cursillo Ultreyas until they were no longer held here in Saint John.

I have had so many heart-to-hearts with her over the years, and I can tell you that her love for others shone through in all she did. She is finally getting a well deserved rest and our loss is heaven's gain.

*By Deanna Morrison
Saint John, NB*



Left to right: Dianne Cormier and Deanna Morrison with Bea Shaw in 2016.

Sanna Jeanne Crowther (1959-2017)



On August 14, 2017 Sanna Jeanne Crowther of Fredericton passed away peacefully in her sleep, surrounded by her family. A sister to the Ven. Wandlyn Snelgrove, she was a wonderful mother to her children: Neil Hayter, Alyssa Vandervalk, and Lionel Hayter. The epitome of love, strength, and beauty, her voice now joins the angels in eternal praise.

Sanna was one of the founding members of the Cathedral Branch of the diocese of Fredericton in January 1988.

Treasurer's Report

Canadian Mothers Union
Treasurers Report June 6, 2017

Bank Balance	March 30, 2017	\$13,074.76
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Activity	Cheques		Deposits	Balance
General Fund			\$964.85	
CC Expenses		395.62		
Dues 2017			20,964.65	
Lady Day offering			846.30	
Travel Fund		121.80	3,082.27	
NCFF			6,585.00	
MAMD			285.00	
Northern Parenting			8,114.70	
Debbie Strickland (Project) Memorial Fund			955.00	
Parenting Program			1,095.46	
Extra newsletter			10.00	
Literature		142.60		
Installation		167.44		
Bank Fee Refund			68.90	
Bank Fees		23.30		
Total Activity		\$850.76	\$42,972.13	
Bank Balance	June 6,2017			\$55,196.13

Bank balance (Former Council) deposited \$40,000.00
 remaining \$2,000.00

The bank balance does not include the Sarah Marshall Trust Fund (NCFF) in the amount of \$4000.00.

Term deposit matures October 17, 2018. Interest rate 3.00%.

Number of paid up members for 2017: 478

Allocation of Funds	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
General Fund	\$10,059.27	\$30,557.31
Dues to MSH - 478(2017)+2(2016) members x \$ 6	\$1,956.00	\$2,880.00
Travel Fund	\$765.47	\$3,725.94
NCFF	\$0.00	\$6,585.00
MAMD	\$0.00	\$285.00
MAMD Northern Parenting	\$35.50	\$8,150.20
Rev Debbie Strickland	\$0.00	\$955.00
Lady Day(Overseas fund)	\$258.52	\$1,104.82
Parenting	\$0.00	\$1,095.46
MSH	\$0.00	\$0.00
Literature	\$0.00	-\$142.60
Balance as of March 30, 2017	\$13,074.76	\$55,196.13

Submitted By Elaine Robichaud, Treasurer

The Back Page

"How can we all feel connected to the national Mothers' Union? What does that future look like for you?" Alice Kennedy, our new Canadian MU President, poses these questions in her inaugural message on page 4 of this newsletter. As your Co-Editors, it is our opinion that our newsletter is a vital link in the chain of communication among our members. We want you to take ownership of this publication because its future success depends on your contributions.

To accomplish this goal, we need to hear what our Canadian branches are doing to improve lives through their outreach. At our national conference in Baddeck in 2016 we learned about the impact that various MU branches are having on improving the quality of life of the people they serve in their churches and communities.

These are the stories that move us when we understand how people's lives are touched by the hands-on work of the Canadian Mothers' Union. Since we all can't be present at our conferences, we have an ideal forum in our newsletters to share details of our endeavours. Our connections to each other will deepen and our lives will be enriched immeasurably as we are inspired to collaborate with one another to do God's work.

Please submit articles and photos about your branch's current projects and we will work with you to tell your amazing stories to your Mothers' Union sisters and brothers across this country and beyond.

God's blessings to you all,

**Susan Colpitts-Judd and
Bonnie Greenwood, Co-Editors**

Canadian Council 2005-2008 together again in 2017

A recent bittersweet gathering of nine members of the 2005-2008 Canadian Council, took place at the funeral of Kelly Smith-Duffett. As we got together to honour her, alongside her family and many friends, it was hard not to smile when we reminisced about the good times that we had shared and particularly the great kitchen party that Kelly organized at the 2008 conference held in Sackville.



A Few Tips on Taking a Good Photo

- Get close to your subjects. They should frame the photo. No sky, no ceiling, no road, no floor!
- Look at what's going on with a creative, fresh eye. What looks interesting?
- Take pix from different angles, looking down on the action, and looking up at the action.
- Take plenty, even of the same thing, so that at least a few are usable. There's always someone blinking!
- Look for people to shoot. Having people in photos is an almost absolute must.
- Candid shots are fine, but if you miss it, ask them to re-do what they just did, ex. serve a piece of pie, kick a ball, shake hands, flip a pancake. Take several of the same shot.
- TIP – it's more flattering to take photos of people when you are above them, like standing on a chair. Shooting from below gives everyone a double chin.
- All photos for the newsletter should be at least 1 MB in size.
- Many camera settings are set so the card holds tens of thousands of images, but that means they're often too small for use in our newsletter.
- Camera settings must be checked to be sure the camera will take the size needed.

With many thanks to Gisele McKnight, New Brunswick Anglican for sharing these tips.

The deadline for the next issue is December 30, 2017.

Submissions are subject to editing and cropping, for space considerations.

Questions, comments, or suggestions?
Please contact us.

We would love to hear from you!

Submit your articles and photos (electronically preferred) to:

Susan Colpitts-Judd
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New Brunswick E3B 7E1
506-459-3289
colpjudd@nbnet.nb.ca

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Canada Revenue Agency.
www.cra-arc.gc.ca/charities

themothersunion.org

mothersunioncanada.ca

Canadian Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer						
	January	February	March	April	May	June
1 st to 5 th	All Branch Chaplains	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. John the Evangelist Lower Sackville, NS	Canadian Mothers' Union Parenting Program Trainers and Facilitators	Diocese of Rupert's Land St. Stephen's Winnipeg, MB	Diocese of Fredericton St. Paul's Hampton, NB	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. Peter's Eastern Passage, NS
6 th to 10 th	Canadian Historian Debbie Fice	Diocese of Fredericton St. Mary's, York Fredericton, NB	Canadian President Alice Kennedy	Canadian Past Presidents	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Parish of French Village Tantallon, NS	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Church of St. Andrew Cole Harbour, NS
11 th to 15 th	Diocese of Ottawa St. Barnabas Deep River, ON	All Diocesan Members	Diocese of Fredericton Trinity Sussex, NB	Diocese of Niagara Church of the Nativity Hamilton, ON	Canadian Mothers' Union Parenting Program Participants	All Diocesan Councils
16 th to 20 th	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Parish of Musquodoboit, NS	Diocese of Algoma St. Paul & St. Thomas Thunder Bay, ON	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Parish of Christ Church Shelburne, NS	World Wide President World Wide Council	Members in the Diocese of the Arctic	Diocese of Fredericton All Saints Marysville, NB
21 st to 25 th	Canadian Secretary Deanna Morrison	Diocese of Montreal St. Paul's Montreal, PQ	Canadian Newsletter Editors Bonnie Greenwood Susan Colpitts-Judd	Canadian Conference Coordinator Lilian Ketch	Canadian Chaplain The Rev. Tom Stradwick	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Holy Trinity Liverpool, NS
26 th to 31 st	Diocese of New Westminster St. Cuthbert's Delta, BC	All Lone Members	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. John's Halifax, NS	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. John the Baptist North Sydney, NS	Diocese of Fredericton St. Mary & St. Bartholomew Saint John, NB	Representative to the North Kathleen Snow
	July	August	September	October	November	December
1 st to 5 th	Diocese of Niagara St. Alban the Martyr Glen Williams, ON	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. Luke's Dartmouth, NS	Diocese of Fredericton St. John the Baptist Riverview, NB	Canadian Mothers' Union Parenting Program Coordinator Maxine Simpkin	All Provincial Presidents	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island All Saints Bedford, NS
6 th to 10 th	Diocese of Fredericton Christ Church Cathedral Fredericton, NB	Diocese of Toronto All Saints Collingwood, ON	Canadian Lone Members' Coordinator Sandra Jorgensen	All Diocesan Presidents	Diocese of Niagara St. Matthew on the Plains Burlington, ON	Diocese of Rupert's Land St. James the Assiniboine Winnipeg, MB
11 th to 15 th	Diocese of Calgary St. Stephen's Calgary, AB	Canadian Literature and Marketing Coordinator Ann Leland	All Branch Leaders	Canadian Treasurer Elaine Robichaud	All Branches in Abeyance	Diocese of British Columbia Holy Trinity Sooke, BC
16 th to 20 th	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. John's Milton, PEI	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Church of the Holy Spirit Dartmouth, NS	All Diocesan Chaplains	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. James' Ardmale, NS	Canadian Northern Clergy Families Fund Coordinator Ven. Sarah Usher	Diocese of Ottawa St. Mark's Ottawa, ON
21 st to 25 th	Canadian Link Coordinator Ruth Corston	Diocese of Niagara Holy Trinity Hamilton, ON	Diocese of British Columbia St. Peter's Quamichan, BC	Immediate Canadian Past President Margaret de Carvalho	All Diocesan Representatives	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island St. Francis by the Lakes Lower Sackville, NS
26 th to 31 st	Diocese of Fredericton Parish of Richmond Richmond, NB	Canadian Vice President Shara Golden	Diocese of New Westminster St. James' Vancouver, BC	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Emmanuel Spryfield, NS	Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Christ Church Lantz, NS	All members worldwide