

Canadian Mothers' Union

National Newsletter



Autumn/ Winter 2025
Volume 75, Number 2

More Than Just a Trip, It's a Calling - We Wish to See Jesus! Bwana Jesu Asifiwe!

After more than three years of communicating, and praying, my mother and I were humbled to experience the movement of the Holy Spirit in Biharamulo, Tanzania, East Africa for two intense weeks with the support of almost 50 different people, agencies, and organizations including the Anglican Diocese of Toronto, the Anglican Church Women (Toronto), the Anglican Foundation of Canada, and the Canadian Mothers' Union. We learned from and ministered with the Diocese of Biharamulo Mothers' Union Bi-Annual Conference and the Diocese's anniversary, where people encounter God's love and experience His transformative power in leading and helping the community place Christ at the center of their lives. My mom and I were treated as family when we arrived in Tanzania. We ate local food, meat, watermelon and our favourite - egg fries (chips mayai). We made and have developed authentic lasting relationships with clergy and lay leaders, young and old. There were deep discussions, jokes, and laughter. We took two suitcases of supplies to give to our host courtesy of many of our sponsors, family and friends.

We participated in the Mothers' Union Diocesan Conference with 650 others. I encouraged my mom's vocation of storytelling and sharing during the conference. She presented "The Essentials of the Gospel" which was well received. We both returned with a

renewed sense of mission. I was surprised to feel and experience the tenacity, determination, and creativity as the Spirit moves in the Diocese of Biharamulo which has doubled in size and grown to 150 churches, 30 parishes, and 8 deaneries in 8 years! It is one of the fastest growing dioceses in the Communion. Their goal for the next 3 years is to plant 20 new parishes and 3 new deaneries.

We were blessed to witness the presence of the Holy Spirit at this vibrant Mothers' Union Conference. There was a joy, energy, and vibrancy which we do not see in our Canadian churches. The spirit of God was present during the weekend. There was a lot of music and dancing. We taught them an English contemporary chorus, and they translated it into Kiswahili for the group to sing together. An Australian missionary assisted our presentation and helped to adapt it to the culture. Women's ministry is vibrant, with lay canons and evangelists, which impacted me the most. They were inspirational, passionate and preached from the heart. They spoke to



Marion and Denise Byard at the Anglican Church of Tanzania Diocese of Biharamulo's Campus on the first day of the Diocesan Mothers' Union Conference.

the spirit of the mothers. We saw the Holy Spirit moving like wildfire in the hearts and lives of the people there. We attended a presentation about church entrepreneur ministry initiated by the mothers and bank partnerships as well as listened to some great choirs. During my curacy, I am looking forward to improving my skills as a preacher to feel

Continued on next page

free to share the Word as passionately as they do.

The believers in the Anglican Church in Tanzania have an amazing love for the Lord yet are lacking many of the resources that we take for granted. Water infrastructure is vital. Seventy percent of the population is under the age of 30. Life spans are short due to poverty, the hard life and lack of medicines/vaccines. One of the pastors who hosted us contracted malaria the week that we left. My mom and I had the privilege of taking a daily preventative medication so that we did not have any major illness incident. Yet, that is not their reality.

Our host told us that we left a lasting impact with our questions, presentations, and sermon. This trip taught me to trust God and depend on Him. God granted us safety for the trip, strength-

ened us for ministry and gave us the grace and anointing to do what we were called to do. The whole process and experience were a learning opportunity from start to finish – planning, preparation, logistics, schedules, accommodations, transportation, expectations, risk, patience, and purpose. It opened our eyes to a whole different world. It was a great occasion to see how God is moving in the newest diocese in the Communion, especially through the women's ministry. We worked with others to spread the news of the Kingdom of God. Living missionally is about discerning and joining God's work in the world to be a witness to God's kingdom on earth. This trip confirmed that as a child of God, my calling is to inspire people to become closer to God as an eyewitness and representative of the endless, impactful, and active Good

News. We look forward to seeing how and where the Lord will lead us. We gained a deeper understanding of global needs as well as an appreciation of God's mission in Tanzania as we encouraged and supported diocesan and lay leaders.

We continue to communicate with the leaders in the Diocese. My mom and I meet on-line weekly with a few of the leaders to pray for our Dioceses. They have a wish list of what they hope and pray for. There are many practical ways to assist and encourage them. Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information and/or to join us in prayer for this Diocese.

Submitted by The Rev. Denise Byard, Assistant Curate, St. John's, Ida and St. Luke's, Peterborough

ttdbyard@hotmail.com

World Gathering of the Diocese of the West Indies

The first ever Province of the West Indies Gathering 2025 was held from July 16-20 in Antigua. I was so excited to be invited by Valerie West, Provincial President of the Province of the West Indies, and to have the opportunity to meet our Mothers' Union sisters from other parts of Zone B. In order to prevent travelling to multiple airports in the USA, I chose to take the direct flight from Toronto that only went Sunday to Sunday and enjoyed a personal holiday for the first 3 days. I had never been to the island of Antigua (pronounced "Antiga" I was taught) and I was eager to enjoy their beautiful beaches and warm hospitality.

On my second day there, I was very pleased to be invited to attend a lovely reception hosted by the Bishop of the Diocese of North East Caribbean and Aruba, the host Diocese of this event. This was supposed to be for the organizing committee but I was kindly included, as well as Jenny and Chris Beaney, a couple who were both MU members and invited international guests from



Discussion panelists Susan Watson, Sheran Harper, and the Ven. Valentine Hodge.

the Rochester Diocese in the UK. It was a great opportunity to meet many of the ladies ahead of the conference. I had been asked to be on a Discussion Panel during the conference and was fortunate to meet one of my fellow panelists and was able to discuss some of the format

with him.

The Gathering began on Wednesday with a "Meet and Greet" at the hotel in Saint John's. I was introduced to MU members from islands all over the Caribbean and Guyana. The Provincial

Continued on next page

President of the USA, Evelyn Alleyne, was present, as well as several other ladies from the USA, many of whom had family ties with the Diocese of the West Indies. It was nice to get to know Evelyn on a more personal level, as we are often on Zoom calls together and had previously met at our National Conference in Halifax in 2024.

On Thursday morning we travelled through town to a historic Cricket Club in Coolidge where we would be holding the Gathering. We began with a worship service which was followed by a moving address from the Minister of Foreign Affairs. I certainly wish our elected officials could speak so freely about their faith and God's role in everyday life! This was followed by our Panel Discussion on the topic "The Future of Mothers' Union: the Way Forward". I was equally nervous and excited to participate in this first public address outside my own diocese especially with Sheran Harper as a fellow panelist. It was interesting and informative and we had many questions and comments from the audience. This was followed by an amazing assortment of local foods for lunch. Our afternoon presentation was on Cybersecurity and was given by a Mothers' Union member who is a



Pigeon Point Beach, one of Antigua's beautiful beaches, where we had lunch and a swim.



The MU ladies of Antigua dancing in national colours and outfits.

Forensic Scientist for cybercrimes. The information shared was very important and relevant to these current times. In the evening many gathered to play dominos and various other games. I enjoyed a game of Boggle for the first time in many years.

The next day we had a tour of the island of Antigua, more delicious local food and some time at the beach. We

learned a lot about the history and culture of the island and we certainly enjoyed our swim in the crystal clear waters of one of their 365 beaches. This is one of the "claims to fame" of Antigua, that they have a beach for every day of the year, and can even find an extra one for leap

year! The Gathering organizer, Lyneth Freeland, loved to tell us this. In the evening everyone presented something about their island or country and many dressed in national dress or colours. I wore a Canadian Team hockey jersey and talked about hockey. They are all big cricket fans there, and hockey was pretty foreign to most except those with family in Canada and the USA.

On Saturday morning there was worship followed by a presentation on Flourishing Families and Safeguarding. We were later taken to the main pier area of Saint John's, where cruise ships dock and we were able to spend a few hours shopping and dining. I was able to get to know more of the ladies and enjoyed spending time with them in an informal setting. Some of the participants then left for flights while others remained until Sunday morning. All in all, this was a wonderful experience and I absolutely loved having the opportunity to connect with more of our wonderful MU sisters, as well as a brother or two!

Submitted by Susan Watson

Message from our Mothers' Union President

As I write, my mind is constantly drawn to images of the devastation in Jamaica from Hurricane Melissa. I have been praying for days for our Mothers' Union members and their families and churches. I am especially praying for those lovely Jamaican women I met this summer in Antigua. I cannot imagine what they are enduring, but I know they are relying on God's mercy and blessings to push them through it. I am confident that once they are able, they will unite to help each other and to assist others in need, because that is what Mothers' Union members do.

Over the summer I met virtually with Jeanette Lawrence from Mary Sumner House to discuss and finalize our Canadian Affiliation Agreement. This has been signed and we have agreed that next year we will increase our contribution by \$1.00 per member. There will not be any increase to our dues at this time; the extra will come from the Canadian Council account.

This fall I have been calling Branch Leaders to identify how communication with Canadian Council is going.

I wanted to make sure information is being passed along and to get a sense of the numbers planning to attend our Mothers' Union 150th anniversary celebrations next year in London and South Africa.

I attended the Worldwide Council meeting virtually on October 9 where we received specific information on the two upcoming celebratory events. The first will be in June in London and the second in Durban, South Africa in late September and early October. Dates and themes are now confirmed and planning is well underway. The latest information on these events can be found at <https://www.mothersunion.org/event/global-gathering-2026/> and <https://www.mothersunion.org/event/150-celebratory-service/>

With respect to Durban, the dates are now confirmed for September 30 to October 3, 2026. Those on Worldwide Council, which includes me, need to arrive by September 26 for our meetings which start on September 27 and end on September 29. There will be events planned for Mothers' Union members

who arrive early with their Provincial Presidents. The conference will take place at the Durban International Convention Centre. Hotels in close proximity have been blocked off for our use and transportation to the convention centre will also be provided. Flights and prices will be sent once they are available.

Since that meeting I have been focusing on organizing the trip to

England. What a milestone! I am pleased to share that a large number of Canadian MU members are planning to attend and Mary Sumner House is holding 30 tickets just for us for the June 10-11 event. I have been in contact with the members who have expressed an interest in attending and many of us have booked our flights and plan to travel and stay together for the week of June 8-15. I have purchased 22 tickets to the service at St. Paul's Cathedral for the group attending so far. We still have room so please let me know if you wish to 'Join Us, Join In!'. I will be booking accommodations soon.

I have participated in MU Live training with Jeanette Lawrence and am now able to submit reports of activities going on across our Province of Canada. Please let me know if you want any of your projects highlighted for 2025. There is a small amount of paperwork required that I will work with you to complete.

We will soon be entering the season of Advent, and Christmas is just around the corner. In all the clamour associated with our preparations, it is important to keep our focus on the true reason for the season. In Luke 1:46-49, Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name." May all that we do for our families and communities during this Advent and Christmas season be reflective of the great things our Lord and Saviour has done for us. My prayers will be with all of our branches and members. May God bless you and all you do to further His Kingdom.

*With many blessings and prayers for the work of Mothers' Union,
Susan Watson, President*



Jenny Beaney, member of Mothers' Union in the Rochester Diocese in the UK; Valerie West, Provincial President of the Province of the West Indies; Sheran Harper, Past Worldwide President; and Susan Watson, Canadian Provincial President.

Message from our Mothers' Union Chaplain



Greetings in the name of our Lord to all Mothers' Union members and friends,

My wife Esther and I grew up in New Brunswick, and I was ordained in the Diocese of Fredericton and served for 10 years in New Brunswick. After a 25 year hiatus in the Dioceses of Ontario and Toronto we have recently retired back in New Brunswick. We are happily settled on Grand Manan Island in the middle of the Bay of Fundy.

When we are in mainland NB we often run across old friends, many of whom we have not seen in years. It is typical when saying goodbye that we will add the offer of hosting them for a visit to enjoy the beauty of the island, saying "We have lots of room and we would love for you to visit."

Well as it happened, I received a phone call from someone whose voice I did not recognize. I was out of luck because he did not introduce himself. After saying hello he went pretty much straight to "Is the offer to stay with you still open?" I was too proud to ask him who he was, so the conversation quickly became kind of horrifying. I had no idea if he was married or had children who would be joining him. For that matter

he could even have been a mass murderer.

Before I knew it, without gaining any insight into who he was, I had booked him and whoever else he might be bringing with him for the last weekend in August. I was not looking forward to telling Esther what I had done.

In a last desperate attempt to discover his identity, I suggested he text me when he knew what ferry he would be arriving on. Finally, my fortunes improved because he said he did not have a cell phone, but he would give me his e-mail address which just so happened began with his name, John Macaulay@this and that.

I was so relieved to finally know the identity of our upcoming guests that I let out an enthusiastic "Esther and I would be delighted to have you and Rosa stay with us." Not only was I no longer anxious, but I was also happy that we would be catching up with dear friends from a long time ago. In fact, I baptized John and Rosa's son. The final weekend in August was lots of fun.

This horrifying/funny story highlights the importance of our identity. As Mothers' Union members, and of course as followers of Jesus, our identity rests upon Him and His great love for us. In our Baptism we become members of Christ, children of God and inheritors of the Kingdom of God. That is an amazing identity.

One of my favourite stories is of George Washington Carver who was an African American agricultural scientist and inventor during the early part of the 20th century. One time he was invited to make a presentation at a means and ways committee along with other scientists. He was the only black person present, and he was to speak last. He suffered many racial slurs waiting his turn. These cruel words were so awful he almost left before speaking. But Carver

persevered and stayed put, eventually being allowed to speak, because he recalled that his identity was not in these hateful slurs but in the love of Christ for him. He knew he was a member of Christ, child of God and an inheritor of the Kingdom of God. His presentation was so inspiring, that when he ran out of time, the chair asked if he could be given more time and the meeting voted for him to be able to continue.

As Mothers' Union followers of Jesus this great news, that in Christ we are beloved eternally, is the most wonderful news we seek to share with others. Our ability to share this love of Christ, and to invite others to join the Church of Christ and Mothers' Union will be impacted by the identity we radiate into everyday life.

We let the light of Christ shine forth from us. As St. Paul wrote in his letter to the Galatians, we who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature and we are to live by the Spirit identifying ourselves with the fruit of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

When I learned the identity of the man wanting to stay with us, anxiety turned to peace and joy because I knew that John and Rosa are wonderful loving people who clearly know God's love and manifest in their lives the fruit of the Spirit. I was happy have them join us for a weekend.

The Mothers' Union theme for 2025 is 'Join Us, Join In!'. I think if folks see us and discover our identity in Christ and experience the identity of our outward lives as folks who live by the Spirit people will indeed join us and join in!

So I pray for us that we will be identifiable as followers of Jesus full of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

*Blessings,
Rev. David Smith, Chaplain*

Branch Raises Awareness with Gender-Based Violence Campaign

With the unanimous support of our Parish Council, the Mothers' Union at the Church of St. Andrew in Cole Harbour, NS, launched an awareness campaign on the subject of Gender-Based Violence/Intimate Partner Violence this past year. Our Red Chair Campaign began on February 2, 2025, when Archdeacon Katherine Bourbonniere explained the symbolism behind the red chair during her sermon. I have included the information sheet from our services that appeared in our bulletin that day. There is also information on The Red Chair Project available on-line.

The sign on the chair reads as follows: "This empty chair is the symbol of a woman killed through Gender-Based Violence. She might have chosen to worship with us today, but her choices were taken from her. Please be respectful and do not sit on her chair."

There is a box on the chair containing information cards on how to

obtain help for any victim, or for anyone aware of someone who is a victim, of abuse or violence.

Monthly there has been something placed in our bulletin to raise awareness and remind us all of this horrible atrocity. These have been submitted by Rev. Marian Lucas-Jefferies, who has been our Ministries Coordinator for mission, social justice and outreach at St. Andrew's. There are other branches who have done wonderful work to spread awareness on this topic and some also have red chairs. We pray that all of our efforts will help to end these despicable acts toward others.

The red chair is moved around to different locations in our church each Sunday. "She" has even joined the choir from time to time. This was intended to have been a one year endeavour but I suspect this project will continue.

*Submitted by
Laurie Eakin,
Branch Leader*



LOOK FOR THE RED CHAIR

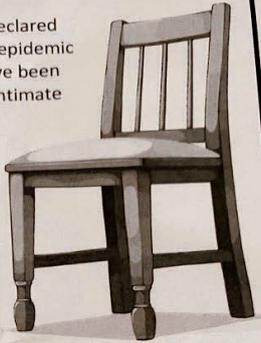
The Nova Scotia government has declared intimate partner violence to be an epidemic in the province, and six women have been killed by men in cases considered intimate partner violence since October.

The Mothers' Union is committed to supporting healthy and flourishing relationships. One of the greatest threats to individuals, families and societies around the world, is violence and abuse carried out against women and girls. Because of their gender, women and girls are affected disproportionately.

As part of our ongoing work to end gender-based violence, the Mother's Union is committed to supporting those who have been affected by intimate partner violence by supporting individuals and communities, and encouraging and advocating for change at local, national and international levels.

The Red Chair Project is an international campaign that was developed in France by Valerie Duval-Poujol. It has spread across the globe.

This year, we will be providing information each month on intimate partner violence. Look for the red chair in our church. A reminder that too many people are affected by intimate partner violence.





Archdeacon Katherine Bourbonniere, our rector at the Church of St. Andrew.

St. James' Vancouver Branch Celebrates 50th Anniversary



Front row, from left to right: Shirrin Theopoulous and Louisa Farrell. Second row, from left to right: Amaka Favour; Dianne Wood; Mother Amanda Rushton, our new Priest; Anne Kennedy; Rev. Christine Rowe; Linda Adams. Missing from the photo are Mary Hamilton and Lynn Wilson.

St. James' Mothers' Union in Vancouver celebrated our 50th anniversary at the church. During the service, I spoke to the congregation, giving a brief history of MU, as well as its many accomplishments worldwide. I also focused on our own group and the things we have done, as even though we have only 9 members, we do our best to support a number of charities with our bake sales and MU card sales at Christmas.

We hosted a high tea after the service. With everyone seated, Rev. Christine Rowe showed two short films on Mothers' Union as well as displaying



some literature for those interested in reading more at home. Mary handled the painstaking job of applying MU stickers to all the blue napkins on the tables. Anne made the small blue flower arrangements for the tables which were lovely. We all contributed food and our time to set up the church hall in preparation for our big event. We made plates of assorted sandwiches, quiche, cookies and squares.

We finished the high tea with a decorated cake that I made especially for



the occasion. It was well attended and everyone left with a good knowledge of Mothers' Union, both worldwide and within our own diocese.

And on another note, we would also like to report that we will be making white ribbons for the church and congregation to wear as part of the movement to end violence against women and girls. We will offer them and give people the opportunity to donate. The money raised will be used to support "Warriors Against Violence", an organization that strives to change the lives and mindsets of men (and women) who have engaged in violence towards a significant other. I will be writing a piece in the church bulletin that will run for the duration of the campaign, citing statistics in our own city.

*Submitted by
Louisa Farrell,
Branch Leader*

Save the Date for the Canadian Mothers' Union Biennial Conference

The Canadian Mothers' Union Biennial Conference will be held from June 25-27, 2026 at Villa Madonna Retreat Center near Saint John, New Brunswick. Villa Madonna is a wonderful place to work, pray and play - <http://www.villamadonna.ca/>

The theme for the Conference will be "Join Us, Join In! - Celebrate 150". Canadian Council encourages you to make this a residential event so you will not miss any fellowship. However, if this is not possible, a day rate is available. \$300 (covers accommodation, meals and all sessions) or \$200 (covers meals and all sessions - no accommodation). Registration begins Thursday, June 25 at 3:30pm and the conference will wrap up with lunch on Saturday, June 27.

Villa Madonna is close to the Saint John Airport or you can also fly into Moncton, which is about a 90 minute drive from the venue.

Past Canadian Presidents, all members of the Canadian Council (by-law #3B), and Branch Leaders of each parochial MU branch (or designated alternates to any of the above positions), constitute the National Organization of the Canadian Mothers' Union and have voting privileges at a Biennial Conference. If you intend to send a proxy (alternate), please pass this information on to this person.

Please watch your e-mail in the coming weeks for the official Registration Form which will also include a tentative agenda and the link to the Biennial Conference Registration Form. Please note the deadline date is April 15, 2026. Please encourage representation from your area.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am really looking forward to our time together.

*In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.
In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find.
His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.
Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.
In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are joined as one
throughout the whole wide earth.*

Written in 1908 by
John Oxenham (1852-1941)

Submitted by
Lilian Ketch, Conference Coordinator
506-476-9128
lilian_parker54@yahoo.ca



The Canadian Mothers' Union Biennial Conference June 25-27, 2026

 <p>150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION Join us, Join in Lighting the way for generations to come</p>	<p>Canadian Mothers' Union Biennial Conference Villa Madonna Retreat Centre - June 25-27, 2026</p> <p>REGISTRATION FORM</p> <p>*if not completing form electronically, please print clearly CLICK TO REGISTER</p>	 <p>150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION Join us, Join in Lighting the way for generations to come</p>
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION		
Name:		
Branch Name/Number (if known):		
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	
Email:		
Mailing address:		
City:	Province:	Postal Code:
Emergency Contact:		
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	
ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE INFORMATION		
Arrival Date/Time:	Airline/Flight #	Airport
Departure Date/Time:	Airline/Flight#	Airport
If travelling by car, estimated time of arrival:		
VOTING STATUS		
I am a voting delegate	YES:	NO:
I will be the designate proxy for the following delegate:		
Name:		
<p>Please remember to include the proxy form with your registration and carry a copy of the proxy with you to the general meeting. If you require a form, please contact Lilian Ketch at lilian_parker54@yahoo.ca</p>		
SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS		
I have the following medical concern:		
I have the following food allergy:		
Other information we should be made aware of:		
NOTE: THERE WILL NOT BE A BANNER PARADE - DO NOT BRING YOUR BANNER		
REGISTRATION FEES		
<input type="checkbox"/> OPTION A: \$300 – Residential (Includes all conference sessions, meals and accommodation)		
<input type="checkbox"/> OPTION B: \$200 – Non-Residential (Includes all conference sessions, meals only – NO accommodation)		
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2026		
Complete this form for EACH attendee and mail with full payment to:		
<p>Diane Nash, Mothers' Union, Canadian Treasurer 60 Menzies Drive, Hanwell, NB E3C 1MC Etransfer: cctdnash@gmail.com Phone: 506-455-9698</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation will be reserved for voting delegates initially. All other MU members are welcome to register • Email Confirmation will be sent to you once registration and payment has been received. 		

Treasurer's Report: March 31 - September 30, 2025

Submitted by Diane Nash, Treasurer

Canadian Mothers' Union Financial Report

Bank Balance	March 31, 2025		\$74,391.69
Receipts	Dues (2025)	2 Lone members	\$70.00
	Dues (2026)	1 Lone member	\$35.00
	General	Received from a few branches as well as a regular monthly supporter	\$235.80
	NCFF		\$546.50
	MAMD		\$593.00
	Lady Day		\$872.50
	Literature	Includes \$5150 from previous council	\$6,018.00
	Travel	Transfer from General Fund	\$5,000.00
			\$13,370.80
Expenses	General	\$5000 Transfer to Travel Fund, Newsletter Expenses, other expenses	\$8,190.80
	Travel	Reimburse President for travel to Kathleen Snow's commissioning	\$1,575.75
	NCFF	\$5573.38 Transfer to the NCFF specific account	\$5,573.38
	MAMD	Correction for an Insufficient Funds cheque received	\$100.00
	Literature	Purchase of new items, plus correction for an insufficient funds cheque received	\$257.24
			\$15,697.17
Balance	Sept 30, 2025		\$72,065.32

	General Acct	Dues	Extra Newsletters	Travel Fund	NCFF	MAMD	
Balance Mar 31/2025	\$40,203.06	\$9,684.00	\$0.00	\$2,296.74	\$5,248.38	\$1,653.20	
Income	\$235.80	\$105.00	0	\$5,000.00	\$546.50	\$593.00	
Expenses	\$8,190.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,575.75	\$5,573.38	\$100.00	
Balance Sept 30/2025	\$32,248.06	\$9,789.00	\$0.00	\$5,720.99	\$221.50	\$2,146.20	\$50,125.75

	Northern Parenting	Rev Debbie Strickland Fund	Overseas Fund (Lady Day)	Parenting Program	MSH	Conference	Literature Items/Sales	
Balance Mar 31/2025	\$11,454.34	\$1,799.00	\$385.00	\$2,197.48	\$224.86	\$0.00	-\$754.37	
Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$872.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,018.00	
Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$257.24	
Balance Sept 30/2025	\$11,454.34	\$1,799.00	\$1,257.50	\$2,197.48	\$224.86	\$0.00	\$5,006.39	\$21,939.57

NOTE: Sarah Marshall Fund Principal of \$4000 was reinvested on January 28, 2025

\$72,065.32

Total paid up members to-date for 2025: 375

363 Branch members plus 12 Diocesan/Lone Members

A Note from our Treasurer:
Please include an explanation and details when sending a cheque or e-transfer so that the funds are allocated to the desired fund/purpose.

The 2025 dues and other appropriate funds will be transferred to Mary Sumner House shortly.

E-transfers can be sent to:
cctdnash@gmail.com or cheques mailed to: Diane Nash
60 Menzies Drive, Hanwell,
New Brunswick E3C 1M6
Thank you!

A Breath of Fresh Air!

Christ Church Cathedral Branch, Fredericton, NB was blessed by the enrolment of 4 new members in 2025, the youngest being 18! Alex Pope is most definitely a breath of fresh air, always eager to work with the Branch on any outreach projects.

Alex became passionate about creating awareness for domestic violence after she attended a service at St. Paul's Church in Hampton, NB. Their priest had created a brochure on how to observe the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence in their community. When Alex noticed this in the information stand she brought a copy to our group in Fredericton. She agreed to create a generic version of the brochure for Mothers' Union in a format that would also allow individual branches to edit and reference local resources. She then assisted Alice Kennedy and Shara Golden in presenting and speaking about the information at the annual Mothers' Union Spring



Rally held at St. Mary York in Fredericton on April 26, 2025.

Alex also has a passion for curling and competed at the 2025 U18 Curling Nationals for Team New Brunswick this past year. She volunteers with the Kidney Foundation of Canada and was recently named the Kidney Foundation of Canada's 2025 Young Philanthropist, recognizing her contributions to this community across Canada. She is a greeter at Christ Church Cathedral and served on the Fredericton High School Student Representative Council. She also worked for the Women's Equality Branch with the Government of

New Brunswick.

Alex isn't sure what her future goals are. She's attending Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB and is pursuing her BA in political science, but also enjoys her courses in religious studies and Canadian history. She is attending St. Paul's Anglican Church in Sackville during her first semester away from home.



Alex with Kathleen Snow at the Diocesan Rally in April.

The Christ Church Cathedral MU Branch celebrated Alex's grade 12 graduation with a gathering at a local restaurant and presented her with conference swag from the Canadian Conference held in Halifax in 2024. I feel confident in saying that you will have an opportunity to meet Alex in person at our next conference.

Submitted by Lilian Ketch



Back row, from left to right: Michele LeBlanc; Rosa V. Macaulay; Susan Watson; Lilian Ketch; Kelley Hall; Diane Radford; Cindy Pope. Front row, from left to right: Bonnie Greenwood; Alex Pope; Isabel Cutler; and John DosSantos.

Annual Blanket Project Outreach Warms Individuals in Need

One of our outreach projects at the Church of Saint Andrew's Mothers' Union Branch in Cole Harbour, Nova

Scotia is our Blanket Project. Eight-by-eight inch squares are knitted by parishioners, friends and relatives throughout

the year. Forty-eight squares are then stitched together by Mothers' Union members and friends to make beautiful warm blankets. We also receive blankets fully completed by generous parishioners and family members. Each fall they are blessed at our Thanksgiving service and then our Mothers' Union group delivers them to Margaret's House, a community soup kitchen in Dartmouth. They are then distributed to individuals in need to help keep them warm. On average we donate around 40 blankets each year. It truly is a team effort that continues to grow each year!

*Submitted by Nancy Gilmore
and Ada Heatherington*



Another Successful Summer Breakfast Program Wraps Up

St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in North Sydney, Nova Scotia has just concluded another successful Summer Breakfast Program. We serve a free continental breakfast on Monday, Wednesday and Friday in July and August. It is run totally by Parish volunteers and is for anyone who cares to drop in on those days between 10:00am and noon. We serve people from ages 5 to 95 - whoever wants to come and for whatever reasons. Our job is not

to judge. This past summer we served 700+ patrons with a smile and enjoyed every minute of it. We even met some new friends! We received many thanks and appreciative comments. Please God we will be back again in 2026 to pick up where we left off on August 29. GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!

*Submitted by Phyllis Reno,
Breakfast Coordinator and
Mothers' Union Branch Leader*



Good-bye to our Mothers' Union Friends



Theresa Wilhelmina Pelley
1939-2025

Theresa, also affectionately known as Billie, passed away at the Northside General Hospital in North Sydney, NS on April 10, 2025 at the age of 85. She is survived by her best friend and love of her life Walter, sons Bob and James and daughter Christine. She is also survived by several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Theresa trained as an X-ray Technologist and worked at various hospitals in the area from 1959-1998. Co-workers saw her as energetic, sensitive, kind and compassionate, with a witty sense of humour. She loved being outdoors and embraced every season. She enjoyed tea and late night conversations at the kitchen table with her kids and whatever friends were around. She was an avid reader, accomplished painter as well as a seasoned traveller and music lover.

Theresa was a longtime active member of St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in North Sydney. She was a Cub Master with the Boy Scouts, was active in the church choir and was a longtime member of Mothers' Union. Rest in peace, dear Theresa.

Submitted by:

Phyllis Reno, Branch Leader, St. John the Baptist Anglican Church, North Sydney



Cassie MacLeod
1935-2025

Cassie passed away at the Northside General Hospital in North Sydney, NS on July 15, 2025 at the age of 89. She is survived by her daughters Sandra and Denise as well as her five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and one step great-grandchild. She was predeceased by her loving husband of 70 years, Cecil MacLeod, in May 2024, and her infant daughter Sharon Ann.

Cassie held various jobs over the years, including the Canada Post Office in North Sydney, department stores and gallery boutiques. She managed the Jean Gallery Shop in the North Sydney Mall for many years.

Cassie's true passion was art. She was a talented oil painter who created many beautiful works and shared her gift with others by holding painting classes in her home. Many of her paintings hang in local homes to this day. She also enjoyed knitting and crocheting.

Cassie was a lifelong member of St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in North Sydney and was involved for many years with Mothers' Union. Rest in peace, dear Cassie.



Florence Gwinn
1935-2024

Florence (Flo) Gwinn passed on to eternal life on June 4, 2024 at the age of 89. She is survived by her children Dale, Tina, Kathy, Lorrie, James, Wendell, Kim, Margie, and Amy. She was predeceased by her first husband Courtney Hayden, her second husband Fred Gwinn, and her son Bobby Hayden. She is also survived by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

Flo was a dedicated member of St. John the Baptist Anglican Church in North Sydney, NS where she was a member of Mothers' Union, the church choir and the Thursday morning Doolahs. She will be remembered for her outrageous sense of humour, epitomized by her cheeky Christmas character, Flossie the Elf, who kept people all over the world laughing for the last ten years. Rest in peace, Flo, and enjoy your place in God's heavenly choir.

A Note from our Historian:

Members are reminded to please send obituaries to me so that they can be included in our archives and Book of Remembrance. *Thank you.*

Megan Torfe, 2627 Valour Place

Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5T6

807-627-9331 megantorfe@gmail.com

Order your Mothers' Union Name Tag

The Diocese of Fredericton Mothers' Union will continue to order name tags for Mothers' Union members. They are a pewter colour with our logo in blue and can have either a magnetic or a pin back. **Please note anyone with a pacemaker should not wear a magnetic tag.**

Orders must be prepaid. The price is \$22.00 with shipping costs (if mailed) added at time of processing.



Payment is by cheque to Adele Knox, 5 Ruby St, Fredericton, NB E3G 7T1 or by e-transfer to spitfireadele@gmail.com

Please note that a second line can be added to your name tag which could be ONE of the following:

- * the Branch you belong to
- * the Diocese you belong to
- * the Position you hold

For example: Adele Knox
St. Mary York
or Diocese of Fredericton
or NCFE Coordinator

Name (As it will appear on the pin)	Branch, Diocese, OR Position (As it will appear on the pin)	Address	Magnet or Pin back	Amount Paid
Total Paid				

Cooking 101

As I look out my living room window I can see the vibrant colours of the trees. What a glorious sight! I was driving and thinking how God must have a vivid imagination to give our area of the world such a display of colour. I had never given much thought to the fact that other parts of the world do not get to enjoy the same riot of colour. We are blessed for sure! Next week we will observe Thanksgiving and the Christmas season will soon follow.



Photo: Elena Leya, Unsplash

These occasions are always celebrated with food. Last weekend my siblings and spouses celebrated a milestone birthday. My sister made us a turkey dinner, and she used the following

recipe for the cranberry sauce. It was divine and hopefully the beginning of a new tradition for us. As you enjoy your special meals for the holidays, let us give thanks that we live in this wonderful country and hope that memories of the glorious summer we just experienced will keep us warm this winter. Enjoy this twist to the traditional cranberry sauce!

Apple Cinnamon Cranberry Sauce

- 1 cup unsweetened apple juice
- 1/3 cup liquid honey
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 3 cups cranberries, fresh or frozen
- 1 golden delicious apple, peeled and chopped
- 1 cinnamon stick

In a saucepan, bring apple juice, honey and sugar to a boil. Add cranberries, apple and cinnamon stick. Reduce heat to medium for about 10 minutes and boil until until sauce is thick. Remove from heat, cover, and refrigerate for 1 hour until chilled. Discard cinnamon stick.

Merry Holidays!
Alice Kennedy

Canadian Mothers' Union National Council - 2025-2028

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Submit your articles and photos to:
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SUBMISSION DEADLINES:
April 1 and October 1

All submissions are subject to editing and cropping, for space considerations.

Canadian Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer 2025 (January - December)

	January	February	March	April	May	June
1-5	All Branch Chaplains	Diocese of NS and PEI St. John the Evangelist Lower Sackville, NS	Canadian Mothers' Union Parenting Program Trainers and Facilitators	Canadian Conference Coordinator Lilian Ketch	Diocese of Fredericton St. Paul's Hampton, NB	Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada Archbishop Shane Parker
6-10	Canadian Historian Megan Torfe	Diocese of Fredericton St. Mary York Fredericton, NB	Canadian President Susan Watson	Canadian Past Presidents	Diocese of NS and PEI Parish of French Village Upper Tantallon, NS	Diocese of NS and PEI Church of St. Andrew Cole Harbour, NS
11-15	Alongside Hope	All Diocesan Members	Diocese of Fredericton Trinity Church Sussex, NB	All Canadian Bishops	Canadian Mothers' Union Parenting Program Participants	Mothers' Union Diocesan Councils
16-20	Peace & Harmony in your Community	Diocese of Algoma St. Paul & St. Thomas Thunder Bay, ON	Diocese of New Westminster St. James' Vancouver, BC	Worldwide President Kathleen Snow	Mothers' Union Members in the Diocese of the Arctic	Diocese of Fredericton All Saints Marysville, NB
21-25	Canadian Secretary Susan Black	Diocese of Montreal St. Paul's Montreal, QC	Canadian Newsletter Editors Bonnie Greenwood & Susan Colpitts-Judd	World Earth Day	Canadian Chaplain The Rev. David Smith	Mothers' Union On-line Branch
26-31	Diocese of New Westminster St. Mary the Virgin Vancouver	All Lone Members	Diocese of NS and PEI St. John's Halifax, NS	Diocese of NS and PEI St. John the Baptist North Sydney, NS	Diocese of Fredericton St. Mary & St. Bartholomew Saint John, NB	Advisor on Gender-Based Issues
	July	August	September	October	November	December
1-5	CANADA	Diocese of NS and PEI St. Luke's Dartmouth, NS	Diocese of Fredericton St. John the Baptist Riverview, NB	Canadian Mothers' Union Parenting Program	Indigenous Archbishop of Canada Chris Harper	Students
6-10	Families on Vacation	Diocese of Fredericton Christ Church Cathedral Fredericton, NB	Canadian Lone Members Coordinator Norma Lawton	Mothers' Union Diocesan President Lilian Ketch	Diocese of Niagara St. Matthew on the Plains Burlington, ON	Zone B Worldwide Board Trustee Ephena Matthew
11-15	Anglican Church Women National President Janet Pike	Canadian Literature & Marketing Coordinators Alice Kennedy & Heather Miller	All Branch Leaders	Canadian Treasurer Diane Nash	All Members in Zone B	All Branches in Abeyance
16-20	Diocese of NS and PEI St. John's Milton, PEI	Diocese of NS and PEI Church of the Holy Spirit Dartmouth, NS	Mothers' Union Diocesan Chaplains	Diocese of NS and PEI St. James' Armdale, NS	Canadian Northern Clergy Families Fund Coordinator Adele Knox	Diocese of Ottawa St. Mark's Ottawa, ON
21-25	Canadian Link Coordinator Ruth Corston	Diocese of NS and PEI Holy Trinity Liverpool, NS	Every Child Matters Movement	Immediate Canadian Past President Mary Stone	Diocesan Representatives	Diocese of NS and PEI St. Francis by the Lakes Lower Sackville, NS
26-31	Diocese of Fredericton Parish of Richmond Richmond, NB	Canadian Vice-President Joanne Ham	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation September 30	Diocese of NS and PEI Emmanuel Spryfield, NS	All persons suffering from Gender-Based Violence and Discrimination	All Members Worldwide