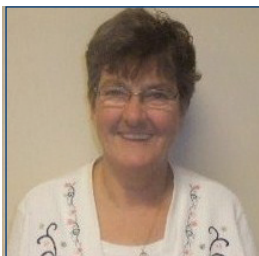


The CANADIAN MOTHERS' UNION NEWSLETTER

www.themothersunion.org

www.mothersunioncanada.ca

**Volume 6
Issue 2
Summer/Fall
2014**



I send my greetings and trust that you have enjoyed a restful summer and a time for a well-earned break from the hectic round of meetings which sometimes seem to take up so much time and energy.

The Canadian Council is busy with plans and preparations for the Biennial Conference that is fast approaching. I hope to have the opportunity to meet as many of you as possible at the conference. It will be a

time for, not only business, but learning, sharing experiences and also fun. All members are welcome to attend.

The important role that Mothers' Union branches play both in parishes and communities is getting more difficult to fulfill due to an aging membership and the difficulty in encouraging new members. If your branch has come up with any new and successful ideas for attracting new members, please send them to our newsletter editor.

The Mothers' Union Worldwide Council is in the process of developing a new Wave of Prayer to ensure that all dioceses are included. This will be sent out to you as soon as I receive it.

May I remind you that Make a Mother's Day cards are available year round. The funds generated by the sale of the cards improves the way of life for so many both here and abroad. Make these available to members of your congregation, families and friends, if you haven't already.

When planning your fall program keep in your prayers all those women and girls who suffer from violence. Support the White Ribbon Campaign. Take part in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, from 25 November to 10 December.

The Parenting Program has been very well received by those who have attended the course. Think about inviting those trained as facilitators to hold a course in your diocese.

Pray for those who are suffering from the torment of war, disease and weather related disasters. Give thanks for the blessings bestowed on us.

Love,
Margaret.

From the Editor

Thanks for reading!

In this issue you'll find more news from branches, information about the upcoming Biennial Conference, educational articles and some of the positive results of the Parenting Program.

This newsletter won't have reached you by the registration cutoff date for the November 7 - 9 conference, so I hope those who would like to attend have registered. If not, please contact me at (902) 579-3588 or contact the Registrar, Dawn Skene, at (902) 434-2232 or dskene2@gmail.com to find out if there is still space available.

Once the Biennial is over, we will turn our attention to the National Conference to be held in beautiful Cape Breton Island in 2016. We hope everyone is saving for this wonderful event. I can put a face to most of the names I read in submitted articles and emails because I've met many members at one of the three National Conferences I've been able to attend so far!

Elizabeth

In this Issue	Page
President's Message	1
From the Editor	1
Conference 2016 News	2
Snippets	2
Biennial Registration Form	3
Financial Statement	4
Diocesan News	5-9
Parenting Program News	9-10
Literature	10
Healing Waters	11
Wave of Prayer	12
Canadian Council	12

**Biennial Conference Nov. 7 - 9!
Register today! See page 3.**



Chaplain's Message



Rev. Marilyn sends greetings to all and is looking forward to seeing you at the Biennial. There will be another of her inspirational messages in the next issue!

"CATCH THE SPIRIT" We want you to "Catch the Spirit"the Holy Spirit of course, but also the "spirit" of Mothers' Union. We want you to come and experience a National Conference, if you haven't already been. For those of you who have never attended a National Conference, we want you to catch the spirit of Mothers' Union. Without attending a Conference, you may never realize or understand the full scope of Mothers' Union...but when you do, you come away with a totally different vision. A vision that rejuvenates...clears your eyes and your heart.

This was part of the message sent for the last issue of the newsletter, but the message is worth repeating! **Catch the Spirit** now, before the conference, and continue to pray for a new vision and renewed passion for the Mothers' Union in Canada.

Your 2016 Canadian Conference Coordinator, Rev. Debbie Strickland, has asked me to thank all of the branches that have sent Get Well cards and asks for your continued prayer for her recovery.

Elizabeth Court, on behalf of Rev. Debbie

Notice:

The Rev. Mary Wilkie and her husband, Raymond, moved in July to:

#5 Ramsgate Lane, Apt. #101

Halifax, N.S. B3P 2S6

(the telephone and email remain the same).

Mary was Canadian President from 1977 to 1982, having served two terms before the change in the Constitution to a four year term. Mary and Raymond celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on May 29th and while life has changed in some regards for both of them, they still enjoy their church, family involvements, and life in general. Mary just stepped down as Branch Leader of Emmanuel Mothers' Union, after some years of leadership, and along with much help from other members, the branch is still strong and celebrated their 50th anniversary in February, 2013. Mary is a Charter member. Barb Patterson, as of this September, will take over the helm as Branch Leader, for which Mary gives thanks!!!!

2016 Canadian Conference

Who - All Mothers' Union members

When - June 1-5, 2016

Where - Inverary Inn, Baddeck, Nova Scotia, on beautiful Cape Breton Island

What – Sharing, Learning, Praying, Celebrating with fellow Mothers' Union members

Make A Mother's Day!!

Give a gift anytime - not just on Mother's Day. You'll make their day! The next newsletter will feature gifts for Christmas! The previous issue has gift descriptions, prices and the order form so that you may purchase one of these thoughtful gifts anytime!

Coming in the next issue:

**MAMD Gifts for Christmas
Fun with Outreach at Church of St. Andrew
and much more!**

CATCH THE SPIRIT!

Canadian Mothers' Union
Biennial Conference November 7 - 9, 2014

Branch Name: _____ Branch Number: _____
Diocese: _____
Name: _____ Voting Delegate? Y N Proxy? Y N
Address: _____
City: _____ Prov.: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I prefer a single room @ \$325 _____ I would like to attend as a day delegate @ \$150 _____

I would like to share a room @ \$260 _____

I would like to share a room with: _____

Mobility needs: _____

Dietary requirements: _____

Day/Time of Arrival: _____ Flight #/Airline: _____

Day/Time of Departure: _____ Flight #/Airline: _____

I plan to extend my stay and would like some tourist information: Y N

My Conference Fee is enclosed: _____

Day registration is available at a rate of \$150 for those who do not wish to stay at the hotel. All meals, meeting, workshops, social time and worship is included. Pool, sauna, fitness areas will not be available to day delegates.

Registration Deadline extended to Sept. 15, 2014. Late registrations may be considered based on availability. Make sure your branch has a voice -- send your branch leader or a proxy!

Please make cheques payable to Canadian Mothers' Union and return your completed registration form and cheque to the Canadian Treasurer:

**Dawn Skene
109 Dorothea Drive
Dartmouth, NS B2W 2E7**

***Please join us for Worship, Fellowship, Learning, the Business
Meeting and Entertainment! See you there!***

Airport transportation may be provided depending on your flight times;
there is also a shuttle directly to the hotel at a cost of about \$20.

Location of Conference:

**Atlantica Hotel Halifax
1980 Robie Street @ Quinpool
Halifax, NS B3H 3G5**

Amenities:

Complimentary Wi-Fi/high speed
Complimentary Local Calls
Complimentary Newspaper
Triple Sheeting
LCD Flatscreen TV/Cable
Clock Radios with iPod Connection
Aveda Bath Products
Hair Dryer, Coffee Maker

Friday night dinner will be on our own; try one of the many restaurants in the area!

Saturday Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, and Sunday Breakfast are included in your registration fee.

The hotel also has a pool, sauna, whirlpool and fitness area.

For more information contact Elizabeth Court at secourt@bellaliant.net or (902) 579-3588.

Canadian Mothers' Union Financial Statement - January 1 - July 15, 2014

Bank Balance	January 1, 2014		\$52,006.27
Receipts	Dues	\$9,978.25	
	Extra newsletters ordered	\$120.00	
	Travel Fund	\$354.18	
	Lady Day /Overseas Fund	\$1,169.60	
	Make a Mother's Day Campaign (MAMD)	\$2,428.35	
	Northern Clergy Families Fund (NCFF)	\$1,965.00	
	Northern Parenting	\$1,165.00	
	Diocese of Fredericton – Donation towards ToT expenses	\$2,000.00	
	Diocese of NS/PEI – Donation to Parenting Program	\$1,000.00	
	Donations	\$124.00	
	Donation to Mary Sumner House (MSH)	\$176.13	
	GST/HST Refund	\$136.99	
	Vancity – refund	\$10.00	
	Cheques not cashed #39, 41– stale dated	\$100.00	
	Interest	\$1.66	\$20,729.16
Expenses	Newsletter printing and postage	\$2,994.32	
	Tax Receipt books, postage	\$73.71	
	Lone Members Coordinator – cards, postage	\$148.41	
	NCFF expenses	\$97.75	
	NCFF – transfer of funds	\$1,900.00	
	MAMD expenses	\$50.59	
	Travel to CC meeting	\$335.00	
	President's Travel	\$2,626.97	
	Parenting Course Expenses – Easel, Photocopying, Markers	\$387.29	
	Cheque returned	\$25.00	
	MSH – Dues, MAMD, Overseas	\$2,478.00	
	MSH - Training of Trainers for Parenting Course (ToT)	\$5,917.00	
	2016 Conference Logo Design	\$100.00	
	Bank charge	\$2.80	\$17,136.84
Bank Balance	July 15, 2014		\$55,598.59
Allocation of Funds	General Fund	\$43,706.12	
	Dues to be sent to MSH (\$6 per member)	\$2,778.00	
	Travel Fund	\$1,138.12	
	NCFF	\$137.22	
	MAMD	\$2,428.35	
	Northern Parenting	\$1,840.00	
	Overseas Fund	\$1,169.60	
	Donation to MSH	\$176.13	
	Parenting Fund	\$1,286.70	
	Arctic Fund	\$938.35	\$55,598.59

Notes:

1. 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%.
2. Number of paid members for 2014 – 577

Diocesan News

Diocese of British Columbia

Lady Day Service at Courtenay

The branch at Courtenay celebrated Lady Day with a lovely service, providing a warm welcome to members from St. Peter's, Quamichan, and Chemainus.

A great message was delivered by Chaplain Deborah Rivet on 125 years of Mothers' Union in Canada. She spoke about the support she has seen strengthening families in her parish of St. Peter's Quamichan; baptismal shawls, bibles and crosses presented to the baptised by the Mothers' Union; St. Nicholas Sunday School party for new families; Mothering Sunday bouquets and simnel cake. This local support has helped to grow the Sunday School from two to thirty children. National support includes the Northern Clergy Families Fund, and on a worldwide scale there is the support given to Mary Sumner House.

These are a few pictures from the Lady Day event.

~ Penny Henderson, Chemainus, BC



From left: Branch Banners; Bring & Buy Table; Mary McArthur, Courtenay Branch; Lovely Lunch Settings for Lady Day.

Diocese of New Westminster

On June 15, 2014, St. James' Vancouver Mothers' Union put on its third Edwardian Strawberry Tea and raised almost \$600. Despite it being Father's Day approximately 60 people attended, not quite as many as the previous two years. The food of fancy sandwiches and strawberry shortcake with fresh BC strawberries and whipping cream was enjoyed by all. Our Rector's wife, Ruth, also a Mothers' Union member, sang a selection of Edwardian era songs accompanied by our organist, Gerald. The rest of the entertainment was a little different this year. Since 2014 is the 100th Anniversary of the start of World War 1, I did a slide show presentation and gave a short summary of the major theatres of conflict in this War. After this a member recited John McCrae's poem "In Flanders Fields" and another parishioner read Laurence Binyon's "For the Fallen" written September 1914. We finished with a sing-along of well-known WW1 marches and songs, with which everyone joined in enthusiastically.

~ Celia Dodds

Diocese of Rupert's Land

Members of the Mothers' Union in Rupert's Land have enjoyed many diverse programs during the past year. I will roll back the calendar pages and describe some of the highlights of the past 12 months.

As Doris Rugg seldom leaves her senior's residence these days, Margaret Steele of St. James Church suggested that we take our Mothers' Union meeting to her, so we did in April 2014. The large meeting room held about 25 members, from both St. James and St. Stephen branches. Marie Wilson, Branch Leader at St. Stephen's, led us through Form 1 from the blue service book. Doris cut the huge birthday cake supplied by St. James (Doris' parish church).

Anita, our pianist, asked Doris for a list of her favourite hymns, which were sung quite lustily by all present. Doris was thrilled and moved by our presence on her 98th birthday. We, however, were honoured to share this milestone occasion with a gracious lady who is one of our many Canadian Mothers' Union treasures.

Our April meeting featured our annual baby shower, an event supported by the parish of St. Stephen. The "Thelma Wynn Project" is named after the Anglican lady who started collecting layette items for newborns of needy mothers in the Diocese, those referred by Social Services. A downtown church (St. Matthew's) receives, sorts and packs thousands of items provided by other churches and organizations who hold similar showers throughout the year. Each year Marion Lepinsky organizes a group of about 12 ladies who meet weekly to create a bountiful harvest of baby layette items for young mothers-to-be. The end result is many dozens of baby blankets, quilts, sleepers, shirts, all sewn with much love. Attendees at the shower also donate countless packages of disposable diapers, gently used baby clothing, car seats, etc. Members of our branch applaud Marion's sewing skills and leadership in heading up this special project, enabling mothers to assist other mothers, also fulfilling at least one of Mothers' Union's Objects. For several decades St. James Mothers' Union branch has hosted the annual Lady Day service in their church. For the past two years, we have opted to hold our service in the beautiful Lady Chapel of All Saints' Church. It is the church which our Chaplain, the Rev. Barbara Shoomski, serves, and also happens to be the church where the first Canadian Dominion and Diocesan Councils were formed in the early 1900s. So on March 24, 2014, Bonnie Main led the service and Rev. Barbara was the Celebrant. (Our Chaplain received a singular honour this year; more in the next issue.)



Diocesan Council, Rupert's Land: Standing, L to R, Bonnie Main (Dioc. Pres); Rhoda Eadie (Treas.); Sharon Gray (Lit); Barbara Shoomski (Dioc Chaplain); Betty Moore (IMPC); Marie Wilson (St. Stephen's Branch Leader). Seated L to R, Marion Lepinsky (Area Rep); Doris Rugg; Jenny Carter (Secretary).



Left, Canadian Mothers' Union 125th Anniversary celebration at the Diocesan Wave of Prayer Service



Doris Rugg



Left, beautiful quilts; Above, Back row Center - Marion Lepinsky; Front row 2nd and 3rd from left - Marie Wilson and Betty Duncan

There is one last flip of the calendar pages to late October 2013, the week that Rupert's Land Diocese is listed on the World-Wide wave of prayer sheet. St. Stephen Mothers' Union has observed this date for about forty years (since I became a member). Because we marked 125 years of Canadian Mothers' Union in 2013, Bonnie as Diocesan President was adamant that we celebrate this occasion before the year elapsed. She requested fancy sandwiches and dainties and, of course, we complied. (St. Stephen's also celebrated its centenary in 2013 so some members donned costumes and hats/fascinators worn during celebrations for the Wave of Prayer service, as seen in the photo.)

Bonnie led us through the many varied prayers appropriate for the occasion when we pray for our world-wide links. Following the Eucharist service, the Celebrant, friends and guests adjourned to the parish hall to enjoy a high tea. At evening's end as we said the Grace together, we could feel the "fellowship of the Holy Spirit".

Since Doris Rugg was our guest at that particular Christmas get-together, I have included a December 2012 photo of the Diocesan Council. Most members have been on Council since 1983. Therefore, meetings and social occasions are important.

~ Jenny Carter

Diocese of Niagara

Niagara Spring Rally- Saturday April 26, 2014, Church of Epiphany, Oakville

Our spring rally was a celebration of our road forward in Niagara. Beyond the fellowship, we worked on our "Dreams for the Future" in a morning workshop led by Linda Kelloway. Our conversation included topics of themes or ideas for rallies and retreats, special diocesan meetings versus council meetings, ideas for branch meetings and special Eucharist services. As expected, the conversation also drifted to memories and laughter.

We celebrated the Eucharist that included a renewal of membership vows, the installation of new officers and the enrolment of Rev'd Canon Sharyn Hall, our chaplain, as a Mothers' Union member. What a wonderful start to our future journey. Going forward, we anticipate the implementation of our new structure to maintain and enhance the communication to Canadian Council and among our Niagara members. Here are our new Niagara officers:

- **Chaplain- Rev'd Canon Sharyn Hall**
- **Treasurer- Ginny Cummings**
- **Niagara Communications Secretary- Linda Kelloway**
- **Niagara Diocesan Rep to Canadian Council- Doreen Brown Wakely**
- **Lone Members Secretary- Brenda Moss**
- **Literature Secretary- Laurie Kondo**
- **Historian- Sandra Jorgensen**

~ Laurie Kondo

Pictures clockwise from top: Maxine Young, Nativity Mothers' Union; Sandra Jorgensen hugging Jean Conway with Sharyn Hall; Rev'd Canon Sharyn Hall with Laurie Kondo and Linda Kelloway; Nancy Storey and Nancy Blackie, Epiphany Mothers' Union; Linda Kelloway, workshop leader.



Church of the Epiphany was also pleased to host a special Eucharist service to celebrate our 30th anniversary. Members were fully involved in the service and hosted a reception following the service. Many thanks to those members from across Niagara who joined us for this celebration, including Rev'd Canon Dr. Sharyn Hall, our Mothers' Union Chaplain. Laurie Adamson, one of our founding members, cut the ceremonial cake.



Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

Mothers' Union Spring Rally

St. John the Evangelist Mothers' Union, Parish of Sackville, NS hosted the Spring Rally on May 4, 2014 for the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Seventy members enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship and worship.



Our guest speaker was Maggie Whittingham-Lamont from the Mission to Seafarers. Maggie is the Seafarer Coordinator and is responsible for the care and attention of visiting Seafarers to the port of Halifax, NS. Mothers' Union branches volunteer at the Mission's Monthly Luncheons throughout the year.

Following the presentation and time to place bids at the Silent Auction, our banners were paraded to the church for the Eucharistic Service presided over by Rev. Norma Mitchell. Rev. Joan Helpard, a Mothers' Union member, delivered the sermon. An offering of \$562.80 was collected and donated to the Mission to Seafarers.

Following the service, members returned to the church hall for a pot luck supper. At this time, St. John's branch was pleased to recognize their own member, Lila Dobbin-Comeau, who was presented with her 50 year Membership Certificate by Diocesan President Debbie Fice.

Many positive comments and notes of appreciation have been received from those who attended. Hats off to Ruth Gamble and all who helped and participated in any way to make this event such a special one!

In the picture at left, L - R: Evelyn Perry (Co-Branch Leader), Lila Dobbin-Comeau, Ruth Gamble (Co-Branch Leader), Lily Mahar and Cathleen Brigley.

~ Debbie Gascoigne

Diocese of Montreal

Our Mothers' Union Branch members celebrated "Mothering Sunday" on March 30, 2014. Canon Joyce Sanchez was the celebrant and preacher. It was cold, with lots of snow, but we braved the extreme weather for a very memorable occasion. Following the service, "Roses" were distributed to all the mothers who were present. We were also blessed with two Simnel Cakes; one was made by one of our members and the other by a church friend, there was great fun and fellowship for all present.

On a sad note, one of our members, Mrs Phyllis Maureen Blackett-Odude passed away on May 25, 2014. Phyllis was one of our most dedicated members, she last participated on Easter Sunday April 20, 2014, during the Sunday Eucharist, by reading. She will surely be missed. May her soul rest in peace.

~ Sylvia Braithwaite



Kyren Skinner, one of our members, shows off one of our cakes.

Diocese of Ottawa

On June 13, 2014, St Mark's Ottawa Mothers' Union joined together to celebrate the life of members and friends who had recently died. We gathered in the church hall for a memorial English tea for Joan Knight, who died May 28, 2014, in her 92nd year, and for Johanne Barnum, who died May 17, 2014 in her 82nd year.

Joan became a member of St Mark's Mothers' Union in 1989, a few years after her daughter Susan, and was a participating member right up until her death. She even had our June meeting on her calendar. Joan was our English Lady. She was also our Mothers' Union matriarch for 20 years. She quietly worked for Mothers' Union and the parish and Diocesan ACW, and even travelled to the North to see our ACW Bales-in-action. She also hosted a memorable summer retreat at her cottage. English tea, with all its trimmings, was a special way for us to remember Joan, just as we had celebrated with her a year ago, when our branch held a surprise tea for her 90th birthday. (See Spring 2014 newsletter - p7) Her Ottawa family, Susan, Will and Beth and granddaughter Tamar were also able to join us. We celebrated the past and the future, as we also congratulated her son Dr. Will-the-graduate. It had been his PhD convocation in the morning, a ceremony his mother attended for Beth, June 14, 2013, and would have dearly loved to have witnessed a year later - and maybe she did.

We also remembered Johanne Barnum, a former St Peter's, Ottawa Mothers' Union member, who joined St Mark's and our branch in 1996 when St Peter's church closed. Johanne had been an active member at St Peter's and, with her daughter Allison, led a Mothers' Union-sponsored summer Vacation Bible School for a number of years, both at St Peter's and St Mark's. Johanne was also a life-long chorister, and although hindered by a number of health issues in recent years, was still singing in St Mark's choir until her sudden death. In their memory, St Mark's Mothers' Union sent a \$100 donation to NCFE.

~ Margaret Lodge



Margaret, Gillian, Jenny, Penny, Pamela, Cynthia, Wanda, Will, Beth, Georgia, Susan, Margaret
inset: Joan Knight (left) and Johanne Barnum (right)

Parents Supporting Parents

Mothers' Union,

I am a Mothers' Union member and I had the opportunity to attend the course "Parents Supporting Parents". I met a diverse group of mothers with children of all ages. Strong women all struggling with different areas of parenting. I came away with such hope for all of the Mothers I met because no matter what they were going through their love for their children was ferocious!

I felt empowered and hopeful after each class. Such brave women...thank-you for sharing. Celia Dodds made a great facilitator. NO judgments were made and NO topic was discouraged.

Today's parenting challenges are very difficult and some things are hard to hear and discuss. I came away from this course feeling that there is a real need for support and discussion groups for all mothers.

*When you can talk about it out loud, in a safe space... maybe, just maybe there will be someone else going through similar struggles and you can find peace and comfort in their understanding of your pain

Many blessings, Nancy Angus.



Forever a Parent

It is hard to promote something that you don't know anything about – that is why I decided to attend the Parenting Program offered in our area in April. As a grandmother, I was a bit worried about how I would fit in with a group of young parents. But after about 5 minutes, I knew I needn't have worried. Everyone was very open and accepting and I ended up looking forward each week to our discussions.

The topics covered were timely and timeless and I found myself reflecting on my own parenting experiences and at the same time thinking about my four children now as parents themselves. My husband and I are very fortunate to have 9 grandchildren with 8 of them living in fairly close proximity. Many people thought it was amusing that I was enrolled in a parenting program – didn't I know enough about being a parent? I am always interested in parenting issues and concerns and I feel that there is always something to learn and new points of view to be considered. This program provided me with an opportunity to appreciate what these young women were dealing with in their lives and the challenges that they face day to day: it made me realize what my own children might be dealing with. There were some emotional times as well as much laughter as we talked and shared.

Due to a variety of things, like time constraints and busy schedules, we did not cover the full program but an abbreviated one. I feel like it was just the tip of the iceberg and that there is a lot more that could be discussed and in greater depth. Hopefully another program will be offered in the not too distant future – this time I will not hesitate to sign up and I hope others will consider coming along as well. Once I had made the time commitment it was easy to say, "I can't do that because I am part of a Parenting Program". It was exciting and a breath of fresh air to step out of my routine and engage in something quite different. I highly recommend it. One of the moms commented at the end of the last day, "This was great, we should do it again!" Another gal said, "It was wonderful to get together with a group of moms and talk about issues that we all have. I feel that I made a group of new friends with common parenting goals." It definitely was 'Parents Supporting Parents' – even grandparents!

~ Mary Stone

Biennial Literature Request

Our Biennial Conference is fast approaching. If you are planning to come to the Conference and want to place an order with me, I have a suggestion. Place your order early enough that I can order and receive it from England prior to the Conference and I will bring the order to the Conference to give to you there. That way you will be able to save on postage and handling. One of the items that I will have will be the Slim Diaries. Please check with your membership to see if there is anyone who would like to order a copy of the diary this year and then let me know, so I can get an idea of how many I need to order. The cost of the diary is usually not more than \$10.00. I will also have selections of Christmas Cards and Calendars. Along with the seasonal items, I also carry:

Jewellery:

Gilt and Enamel Lapel Badge \$6.00
Gilt and Enamel \$10.00
Gilt and Enamel \$8.00
Silver Studded Earrings \$12.00

Stationery:

Mothering Sunday Bookmarks \$1.00
MU Logo Stickers \$2.25
Assorted Pens Varies
Membership Cards \$1.80
Long Service Certificate \$2.00
MU Luggage Tags \$3.00
MU Car Window Sticker \$1.50

Dawn Griffith-Snyder, Literature & Marketing
Coordinator, Mothers' Union Canadian Council

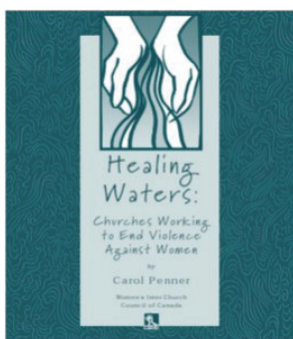
Cards:

Thinking of You (Boat at Sea) \$1.95
Birthday (Perfect Rose) \$1.85
Get Well (Tulips) \$1.95
Thank-you (Tweet-Tweet) Blank \$1.00
Just For You - Blank \$2.00
Wedding (Wedding Rings) \$1.95
Wedding Anniversary \$1.85
Birthday (Balloons) \$2.05
Sympathy (Calla Lilies) \$1.80
Birthday (Lilac Flowers) \$1.85
Retirement \$1.75
Mothering Sunday \$2.00
With Sympathy (Clematis) \$1.80
Thinking of You (Blue Wood) Blank \$1.80
Birthday (Someone Special) \$2.05

Healing Waters: Churches Working To End Violence Against Women

As members of Mothers' Union one of our objects is to help those whose family life has met with adversity; one of those all-too-common adversities is gender-based violence. At the worldwide level Mothers' Union representatives have been working hard through the UN Commission on The Status of Women to try to make a difference, to influence policy writing in this regard and to bring awareness to this issue. As local members of Mothers' Union we may feel at a loss as to how to meet these goals in our branches and dioceses. One of the key things to realize is that we need to become informed and to develop our own understanding and awareness of this very critical issue. It is certainly a global issue but it is also a very local one.

The WICC, Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada has produced a thorough and informative resource called Healing Waters: Churches Working to End Violence Against Women. The author, Carol Penner, is a freelance writer and chaplain with a doctorate in theology; her thesis focused on a theological response to violence against women. The following is an excerpt from the resource.



The Spirit of God's work for love and justice
flows like water,
Like never-ending streams:
Comforting the wounded;
Calling those who have wounded to
repentance;
Challenging traditions which are rigid and
violent;
Envisioning new relationships where every
voice is heard.
O Healing River, send down your waters!

As Christians we are part of God's healing river that is bringing love and justice to our world. We want to end the reality of women being abused by their partners. We want women and children to live without fear of being sexually assaulted. We want to create a society where women can live in peace and security.

Healing Waters explores the pervasive violence that is part of the context of women's lives. It provides theological background and reflection, as well as practical tools for dealing with a woman's experience of abuse. We believe it will be helpful in churches' work of compassion in worship, pastoral counselling, support groups, legislative action, and sanctuary. It contains both study materials and ideas for action.

Healing Waters is a 164-page practical guide to education and action. Its contents include:

- An historical overview of violence against women and the role of the church.
- Practical advice for recognizing and responding to a woman who has been abused.
- Helpful handouts on abuse, myths, shelters and needs of specific groups of women.
- Information on creating safe spaces in the church.
- Biblical and theological background, sermon guides and other practical resources for planning worship.
- Workshop outlines and Bible studies to use in your congregation.
- Community action ideas.

More information can be found on the WICC website - <http://www.wicc.org/programs-events/december-6th-service/healing-waters/> We are very pleased that copies of this resource will be available free of charge to branches attending the Biennial Conference in November.