

*St. Matthews Maryland  
Community Ministry*



*The Story of Our Year  
2014*

Artwork by Anne Shirley Clough, Artist's Circle

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# Partners

2014 marked the 42nd year of presence and service to the community of the West Central area of Winnipeg, for St. Matthews Maryland Community Ministry. We have witnessed many changes in the neighbourhood around us, and also in the wider community that supports the Ministry.

This report marks some of the highlights we celebrate, and all that brings hope, compassion, and advocacy to our West End neighbours through the hands and hearts of our staff, board, and volunteers.

Through some of the challenges and loss that the Ministry experienced in 2014, the Board has responded in faith and is forging a vision that will see a revitalized sense of mission as we move ahead in 2015 and beyond.

Since it began, the Community Ministry has been a cooperative venture of The United and Anglican Churches, first through the vision of St. Matthew's Anglican Parish and Maryland United Church, later taken up by Winnipeg Presbytery when the congregation closed. This past year, the Anglican Church community support was broadened to five parishes (named below). This Consortium, along with Grain of Wheat Community, provide regular financial support to the Ministry, as changes in St. Matthew's Parish made it difficult for them to continue this support on their own.

In addition to the Consortium, the Ministry is supported by the Alpha and Omega Cluster of United Churches in the Presbytery. These 14 parishes and congregations are committed to praying for our work and our guests.

## Our Partners in Mission

*Anglican Consortium (Diocese of Rupert's Land): St. Paul's (Fort Garry) Anglican Church, St. Peter's Anglican Church, St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church, St. Mary's (Charleswood) Anglican Church, St. Matthew's Anglican Church*

*Alpha Omega Cluster (Winnipeg Presbytery): Augustine United Church, Charleswood United Church, Crescent Fort Rouge United Church, Crestview United Church, Headingly United Church, Fort Garry United Church, Kirkfield Park United Church, St. Charles United Church, Silver Heights United Church, Sturgeon Creek United Church.*

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# New Partners

Our Partners in Mission raise awareness about the Ministry and our needs and contribute generously. Representatives come to the drop-in on a rotating basis to serve as hospitality volunteers and to lead Nutrition Bingo and other activities. Others serve on Committees and Boards. Our Emergency Food Cupboard is primarily stocked by the donations from these supporting churches.

Donations of food and periodic support for special events comes from a wider circle of parishes, including St. Andrew's (Woodhaven) Anglican Church, St. Anne's Anglican Church, St. Francis Anglican Church, St. Martin's Anglican Church.

We continue to celebrate the strong  
ecumenical nature of the Ministry.

In 2014, the WestEnd Commons, home to the Ministry, also became a home to 26 families. The building, formerly belonging to St. Matthew's Anglican Church, now owned by a not for profit housing society, has undergone extensive renovation over the last few years as the upper level was converted to apartments and a modest congregational space. As the reworking of the lower level, the Neighbourhood Resource Centre (NRC), came to a completion it marked the end of the relocation transitions required of the Ministry. While unavoidable, the changes added stress for all those using the space.

We are looking forward to new ways we can partner with WEC and other tenants in the NRC.

Our relationship with 1JustCiy (formerly 1Hope Winnipeg), an initiative of Winnipeg Presbytery, has continued to evolve. 1Just City serves as an umbrella organization for the 5 member ministries and seeks to strengthen and sustain social justice work in Winnipeg. A fund developer, Tessa Blaikie Whitecloud began part time work, moving to full time in 2015. Her role includes raising core funding to replace the loss of revenue as the United Church's capacity is decreasing. Representatives of the members and the presbytery are working to discern what other shared functions 1Just City could perform and what structure could best facilitate that.

See [1Just City.ca](http://1JustCity.ca) to learn more.

# Programs

In April of 2014, we marked the conclusion of First Steps to Employment, our short-lived but highly successful pre-employment preparation program. Over its 2 year span, FS2E saw five groups of participants move through the 13 week program and develop practices that enhanced self-esteem, built employment training readiness and crucial life skills. A number of First Steps graduates went on to advanced training and some achieved paid employment as a result of solid work performance in work training sites. While the core Provincial funding necessary to continue this vanguard program beyond the two year pilot was not available, the program was viewed very favorably by our funders and other evaluators. The model served to inspire two other agencies to follow a similar program design. We are grateful to funders Neighborhoods Alive!, Winnipeg Foundation, Cropo Foundation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

We acknowledge appreciatively the vision and leadership of Claire Micheljohn (Winnipeg Regional Health Authority) and Genny Funk-Unrah (Klinic) along with Juanita Lowe, and thank the three fine staff who lead the program; Marianela Avendano, Sherrie Winstanley and Paul Schmidt.

Core Ministry programs continued through 2014 . A brief summary follows and more information on them can be found at [stmatthewsmaryland.ca](http://stmatthewsmaryland.ca).

**The Drop-in**, four afternoons a week with average attendance of 60 people a day.

**The Food Supplement Program**, on Mondays and Fridays, serving 90 families a week, in partnership with Winnipeg Harvest

**Pastoral Care** support along with the **Emergency Food Cupboard** on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Artist Circle** every Thursday afternoon, managed by volunteer Katie Goth.

**Income Tax Assistance**, led by volunteer Ruth Booth, with 235 returns done in March and April.

**Summer Recreation** and outings, including Community Barbecues, Winnipeg Beach trip, strawberry picking, as well as ticket

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distribution for Goldeyes games, managed by volunteers Rhonda Gates and Joyce Pereira.

University of Manitoba **Nursing Students**, Kristin Swenarchuk and Samantha Classen, who created a West End Food Map.

**Nutrition Bingo**, hosted once a month by a partnering congregation.

Occasional **special events**, including Lenten 'Dinner and a Movie'.

The popular **Christmas Store**, where parents and children have the dignity to choose gifts, continues to be appreciated by the community, and was well supported by church donations and by many volunteers.

In gratitude we acknowledge  
those we serve among.

In 2014, the ministry had to do a major reassessment of our ability to have full time staff, due to clear challenges for long-term financial stability, brought to a head when the First Steps program was not re-funded.

Regrettably, the terms of the Pastoral relationship had to be changed, and as a result Juanita Lowe resigned her position effective the middle of September. A hearty celebration of her ministry among us was held, and we thanked her for her 9 years of devoted and compassionate care for the community. Juanita accepted a call to a ministry in Surrey, British Columbia.

On an interim basis, programming was supported first by Gwen McAllister, and then by Norah McMurtry for six months, ending in April, 2015.

A Joint Needs Assessment Committee involving Anglican, United and community representatives worked to develop a plan to assess the future and to engage in important wider conversations with our partners.

Through Winnipeg Presbytery and its Church Development Inc., funds from the capital of the Maryland Trust ensured we met obligations in 2014. Added commitment to the 2015 and 2016 budgets made possible the development of a one year, full time ministry position. The job description has an emphasis on transitional leadership, while supporting the core programming. United Church Diaconal Minister, Caryn Douglas, was hired into the position in May, 2015.

# People

Our Community Minister, Juanita Lowe would often say, “The interruptions are the heart of the job.” Volunteers, as well as staff, work adeptly at being responsive to the emerging needs, holding the balance between appropriate boundaries and working with openness and affirmation.

Volunteers, too many to name individually, are essential to this ministry. They serve coffee, distribute food, listen with hearts and ears open, play games, prepare sandwiches, teach one another, plan outings, sign petitions, raise money, keep records, answer the phones, write cheques, pass policies, hire staff, clean the facilities. They model acceptance and they work through their differences to become a better community. Consciously or not, they are the hands and feet of Christ in an aching world.

## 2014-2015 Staff

Community Minister: Juanita Lowe  
until September 2014

Food Supplement Coordinator: Gwen  
McAllister, October 2014

Program Facilitator: Norah  
McMurtry, November 2014 - April  
2015

Community Minister: Caryn Douglas,  
May 2015 on contract to June 2016

First Steps to Employment: Training  
Coordinator, Marianela Avendano;  
Participant Coach, Sherrie  
Winstanley, until April 2014; and  
Paul Schmidt, Participant Coach  
until February 2013

The Ministry has benefitted from the  
generous contribution of the  
following who volunteer in what  
might otherwise be paid staff  
positions:

Book Keeper: Margaret Clarke

Food Supplement Program  
Administration: Rhonda Gates

Office Administrator: Brenda Baker  
(retirement September 2015)

Summer Program: Rhonda Gates and  
Joyce Pereira

## Board 2013-2014

Chair: Dianne Baker; Secretary:  
Joanne Kury; Treasurer: Amber  
Legal (resigned April 2014)

Members: Ruth Booth, Marilyn Boyd,  
Donna Cawker, Rhonda Gates, Anita  
Krohn, Gordon Taylor, Pat Ulliot,  
Maya Wheeler Wiens

## Board 2014-2015

Chair: Dianne Baker; Secretary:  
Joanne Kury; Treasurer: Rob Wilson  
(on leave April -October 2015)  
Acting Treasurer: Carol Frampton

Members: Ruth Booth, Marilyn Boyd  
(resigned February 2015), Donna  
Cawker, Rhonda Gates, Anita Krohn,  
Diane Panting, Gordon Taylor, Pat  
Ulliot





The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Urban Treats Garden Tour had another highly successful year. We are grateful to this committee for their strong efforts. They efficiently run a spectacular event every June.

Garden Tour Committee: Brenda Baker, Ruth Booth, Donna Cawker, Shirley Godkin, Lenore Linton, Denise MacRae, Helen Whetter

The Development Committee ran an innovative fundraiser called 'Prairie Stone Soup', which realized nearly \$3000.00 in profit. In the Stone Soup folk story, a hungry stranger uses cunning to get the community to share their individual resources and they are amazed that even in a time of scarcity, generosity improves their lot. Mirroring the Christian story of the loaves and fishes, we are reminded that we are called into giving and gratitude by faith.

Development Committee: Donna Cawker, Gordon Taylor, Pat Stewart



# Development



We acknowledge and thank all the individuals and the many congregations and parishes which generously support our ministry.

We also thank our Institutional Funders:

1Just City

Anglican Consortium, Diocese of Rupert's Land

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Grain of Wheat Community

Neighbourhoods Alive! (Province of Manitoba)

Winnipeg Foundation

Cropo Foundation

The United Church of Canada, Mission and Service Fund

Church Development, Inc.,  
Winnipeg Presbytery

For the generosity of our donors, for the gifts given with love by our volunteers, for the labour of hearts and hands which bring compassion to life in this place, we offer thanks to God, Creator and Sustainer, to Jesus, who models service and welcome, and to the Holy Spirit, who comforts, encourages and blows gentleness among us all.

Meegwetch

Thank you

The financial records were reviewed by Haworth & Company. June 24, 2015 they concluded, "Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements are not, in all aspects, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations."

The full report is available at the Ministry.

## St. Matthew's-Maryland Community Ministry

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31



	2014	2013
<b>Revenue</b>		
United Church of Canada	\$ 59,490	\$ 48,000
Donations	19,743	16,932
Hiring Credit for Small Business	-	500
1Hope Winnipeg	9,575	1,362
Interest income	13,376	10,736
Fundraising	2,255	553
Other	9,204	11,532
	<b>113,643</b>	<b>89,615</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Accounting and legal	3,181	2,394
General administrative	9,096	7,937
Honorarium	1,770	-
Programming	4,692	12,774
Rent	4,800	6,200
Travel	105	159
Volunteer development	211	53
Wages and benefits	52,807	77,217
	<b>76,662</b>	<b>106,734</b>
	<b>36,981</b>	<b>(17,119)</b>
<b>Other programs surplus (deficiency)</b>		
1st Steps to Employment Program (Schedule 1)	(21,189)	(7,822)
Summer Program (Schedule 2)	1,090	3,497
	<b>(20,099)</b>	<b>(4,325)</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses</b>	<b>16,882</b>	<b>(21,444)</b>
<b>Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>11,563</b>	<b>33,007</b>
<b>Unrestricted net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 28,445</b>	<b>\$ 11,563</b>