

OUR PURPOSE

• To unite women in a fellowship of worship, study, and offering which will deepen and strengthen their own spiritual lives, and lead them into Christian service in parish, community, diocese, nation, and world.

• To work for and sustain an informed interest in the mission of the Church.



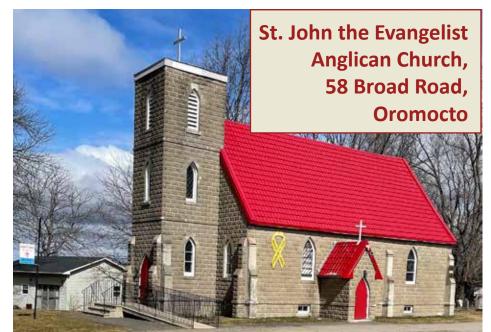
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Diocesan Anglican Church Women Volume 14, Issue 4 — April 2024 Diocese of Fredericton

ACW Launching Out



CATHY LUTES PHOTO

ACW Annual Meeting "All things bright and Tuesday, May 7 beautiful St. John's Anglican Church, Oromocto 9 a.m - registration 10 a.m. - Service Registration 11:15 a.m. - Business meeting details are on 12 noon - Lunch page 6. 1p.m. - Guest speaker New this year: 2 p.m. - Business meeting e-transfer your 5 p.m. - Banquet registration fee

Launching Out is posted on the Anglican Diocese of Fredericton website (anglican.nb.ca.) Members, please post or circulate this newsletter in your ACW branches as you are able to do safely.

World Day of Prayer



St. Gertrude's Roman Catholic Church in Woodstock hosted the World Day of Prayer Service on March 15. Two ACW members from Woodstock took part, Jean Collicott and Ann Tait. The service was written by Palestinian ladies, which was especially meaningful this year.

Photos show Ann Tait (left), Jean Collicott (right) and the ACW group (below).





Book of Remembrance - Roll of Honour -

Please submit names by April 1

Our Book of Remembrance/Roll of Honour custodian is Maureen Gill. Please notify Maureen and your Deanery representative with the names of those who should be entered into the Book of Remembrance. If you would like to



put a member on the Roll of Honour, please contact Maureen at 506-386-3011; email: gill.jones@ bellaliant.net

ACW Launching Out

First published September 2011 E-Newsletter of the Anglican Church Women Diocese of Fredericton Published September, November, February, April

> President: Jill Stewart < jilandrob@hotmail.com >

Submit articles up to 600 words. Articles may be edited as necessary for length and clarity. Please send to: Gisele McKnight, editor, < gmcknight@diofton.ca > 12 Spruce St., Sussex, NB E4E 1L9



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The fostering closet in Woodstock is a must-see!

At our February ACW meeting, Lynne Slipp (an active member) gave a presentation about Fostering Closet New Brunswick.

As there are several Fostering Closets in our province. We hope this article may encourage other ACW branches to support them.

The idea of Fostering Closets came about from a foster mom in Woodstock who saw examples in other places, mostly the U.S.

When a foster family is called upon to take a child, it could be at any time of the day. As well, sometimes kids leave their homes with only what they're wearing.

And of course, when babies are put into foster care, they need an entire suite of equipment and supplies, and stores aren't open 24/7.

In Woodstock, foster mom Brittany Porter began collecting items for just these situations. She runs the foster closet out of her house and usually has clothing, shoes, jackets, toys, books, book bags, bottles, cribs,



Members of the Woodstock ACW learned about fostering closets during their February meeting. They are seen above. Other photos show what can be found in a fostering closet.

and other baby items. All are given out as needed, without cost.

"The goal is to have items on hand for all sizes — preemie to medium adult," she said.

How can you help? By donating gently used children's clothing and child-based items you no longer need.

You can contact Brittany (506-323-2662) for more information. *Submitted by Jill Craig, ACW president, Parish of Woodstock.*



Branch Treasurer's Report Form Please read information carefully before completing the form.	
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Date:	Deanery:
Church:	Place:
Divinity Scholarship Fund	
Social Action Fund – At least \$25 per Bra	anch
Diocesan Camps Projects	
Camp Medley	·····
Camp Brookwood	
Paul Jeffries' Stipend	
Bishop McAllister College, Uganda	
Helen Burton Fund	
PWRDF	
Council of the North	
Threshold Ministries (Church Army renamed))
Kara and Nelson Mejiaj-Honduras	
Anglican Foundation of Canada - ACW T	rust Fund
Other	
TOTAL:	
	Phone#
Postal Address:	
E-mail:	
PLEASE make cheque payabl and mail to: Cathy Lutes, Diocesan ACV 87 Venus Crescent, Hanwell, NB E3C 1 (E-mail: <u>lutescathy@hotmail.com</u>) Phone	V Treasurer N1

Diocesan Treasurer's Report - April 2024

Well, the first quarter of 2024 is quickly coming to an end as I'm writing this close to the end of March. It's been a busy three months here.

With our Deanery, Fredericton/York, hosting the AGM in Oromocto in May, Peggy Boucher, Elaine Hood and I have been helping Donna Mulhollan, president of St. John's ACW, with the planning of this event.

I hope you are planning to go to Oromocto to attend this 1-day event full of good times, interesting speakers, great food and most importantly, spiritual companionship.

Earlier in March, the executive met at St. John's, Oromocto to show our support to Donna. At this meeting, I presented a proposed budget for 2024, which I will be presenting at the AGM and you will be voting for or against.

Rosemarie Kingston said that the three Bishop McAllister students who we supported last year were still attending. This year we are giving \$525 tuition for each student.

Two students are writing exams at \$100 each and we also send \$50 spending money for each. This totals \$1,825.



Cathy Lutes

There will be enough in Social Action and the Fanny Billings Fund to cover this amount.

At last year's AGM, it was motioned and passed that we will not be replacing all the students currently being supported, but we will try to support no more than two.

This may change depending on the number of active branches sending their social action dues this year.

With the decrease in the number of branches sending in their dues, doubling the dues, \$100 for Administration and \$50 for Social Action, may be considered and voted on during the AGM. There were 31 branches who sent in their dues in 2023. The Extra-Cent-A-Day grant of \$2,500 was given to the Parish of Kent, Brown's Yard, Shediac Deanery.

The Executive was very happy to have the opportunity to help the Parish of Kent with improvements to their rectory.

This year, there will be another \$2,500 grant from ECD to offer another parish. I will be letting you know in the fall when and to whom you should apply.

In order to receive the grant, you need to submit your request with quotes for the improvements needed. Let your Vestry know that we offer this grant.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the AGM on May 7th at St. John's, Oromocto.

The registration form and all the info you'll need are in this issue of Launching Out.

The Branch Treasurer Form is included and I'll have forms available at the AGM.

In closing, let us say a prayer for Katherine, Princess of Wales: *God, we pray for complete healing for Katherine, Princess of Wales, as she undergoes treatment for cancer, in Jesus' name, Amen.* **Your sister in Christ,**

Cathy Lutes, Diocesan Treasurer



Does your branch want to add a name to the Book of Remembrance or the Roll of Honour this year? If so, you are in danger of missing the deadline, which is April 1. Contact Maureen Gill ASAP at 506-386-3011; email: gill. jones@bellaliant.net to see if the deadline has passed.



NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO BANQUET TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING.

DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS: From Trans Canada (route 2) take Exit 303. Turn south towards the river at the end of the ramp; go straight through at the 1st traffic circle, but take a right at the 2nd one, turning onto Restigouche Road (route 102). At the end of this road, turn left onto Broad Road. Continue to #58, on the right. Backup parking is available in the hospital's lower parking lot on Winnebago Street across from the church. HOTEL: Days Inn, 60 Brayson Blvd, Oromocto; (506) 357-5657. \$120, 2 Q beds





The sheep and the goats

"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained from the world." (James 1:27)

hile I was struggling to navigate the Government of Canada website recently - filing my income tax return and applying for the New Brunswick Workers Benefit - neither of which I could do without the guidance of my son-in-law, I started to think about how challenging it is for many seniors to get the services they're entitled to.

For example, I accompanied a friend to an appointment with the ophthalmologist last week. What for me would have been a simple onehour trip turned out to be an all-day expedition.



SAM CARTER/UNSPLASH.COM

She uses a power chair and has to book her transport in advance with a specialty bus service.

If she is delayed by a few minutes because of an emergency trip to the bathroom or if the nursing home is short-handed (which it always is) she could miss her ride.

On this particular day, the dispatcher for the bus made a mistake, and she was a few minutes late for her appointment because the driver had been sent to the wrong departure point.

We encountered another complication after we arrived, when, in spite of the technician's best efforts, his corneal examining equipment was unable to accommodate my friend's chair.

It was impossible to do the examination because her wheelchair could not be lowered enough for her eyes to be seen properly.

She had to book another appointment in a month's time, and arrange to have a different wheelchair for the transport.

After that, the drive back to the nursing home was delayed because the bus driver had to make two deliveries, and one client had mistakenly booked the wrong time.

My companion remained cheerful, and I had to admire her fortitude. The drivers were friendly and compassionate, making the best of circumstances over which they had little control.

So all this has got me thinking about how our society treats "widows and orphans."

The manufacturers of the device used to measure a person's cornea

didn't take into account that one size doesn't necessarily fit all.

The New Brunswick government and the Revenue Canada website don't seem to make allowances for those who may not be at ease with navigating internet websites, or in some cases may not have a computer at all.

I've had many clients and friends over the years whose profile doesn't fit what would be considered "the norm."

And as I get older, I am more aware than ever of how many seniors are feeling overwhelmed by the need to use technology in order to receive basic services that could have, at one time, been handled by a phone call.

I think it's wonderful that we have volunteers who do income tax returns for many who are bewildered by it all.

My heart is warmed by the patience and kindness I have observed in those on the front lines in our hospitals and in public transit. There are many ways to practice "religion that is pure and undefiled."

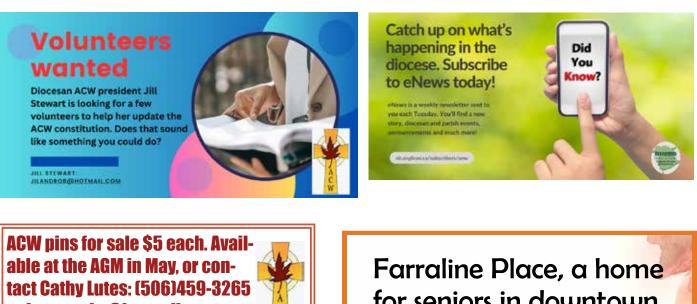
Over the last few months I have made friends with those who volunteer at the Under the Tent ministry to unhoused people on the streets of Fredericton. I am humbled by their generosity and friendliness.

Their smiling faces and open-hearted welcome to all who come for that little bit of shelter and comfort is good for the soul.

What a difference a smile, a friendly face, and a warm hug make! No one is judged by their appearance or state of cleanliness. No one is made to feel that they don't belong.

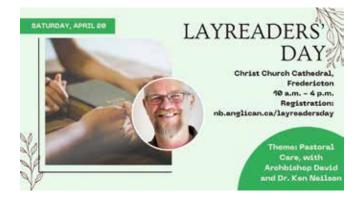
Isn't that what Jesus meant in the parable of the sheep and the goats, when he said that whenever we welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned, or feed the hungry, it's as if we were doing it for him?

I thank God for all those sheep out there responding to the needs of others. *Blessings, Eva*



or lutescathy@hotmail.com





for seniors in downtown Fredericton, has several vacancies. Please spread the word.



Reminders from Launching Out

• The deadline for submissions is always the 22nd of the month before publication: Aug. 22 for September; Oct. 22 for November; Jan. 22 for February and March 22 for April.

· Launching Out needs your news! Please consider sharing your news so it can be included in the next publication of Launching Out. Don't hide it under a bushel let it shine! Send to: gmcknight@diofton.ca



pray for our royal family

Both King Charles III and his daughter-inlaw, Catherine, Princess of Wales, are undergoing treatment for cancer. Please keep them and their family in your prayers.



(506) 455-6443

farralineplace.com

January executive meeting minutes

The executive meeting was held via Zoom on Thursday, January 25, 2024. President Jill Stewart welcomed those attending: Rosemarie Kingston, Cathy Lutes Gisele McKnight, Maureen Gill, Nancy Robinson, Elaine Hood, Linda Fury, Diane Radford and Diane Todd. Regrets received from Barb Haire and Peggy Boucher. The ACW Members Prayer was recited in unison. Jill thanked Rosemarie for setting up the meeting.

Devotions: Nancy Robinson led the devotions with a New Year's message. She shared a few scripture verses to renew and refresh us for the work ahead including "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, and plans to give you hope and a future. Jer.29:11.

Rosemarie said a prayer for our Prayer Partner, the Diocese of Calgary.

Minutes: It was moved by Cathy Lutes, seconded by Nancy Robinson the minutes of the October 26, 2023 meeting be approved as printed. Motion Carried.

Business arising from the minutes._Rosemarie is still waiting to hear from our prospective diocesan chaplain. She also is still working on setting up a Facebook page for our Diocesan ACW.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$59,762.06 as at the end of December 2023. Cathy reported she has received yearly commitments from 32 churches as opposed to 36 churches last year.

She also reported St. Mary's, York ACW has closed. She is waiting for a final tuition amount for our Bishop McAllister students.

The Extra-Cent-A-Day grant of \$2,500 has been given to the Parish of Kent. The amount of next year's grant will be voted on at the annual meeting in May. It was moved by Cathy seconded by Rosemarie the financial report be accepted. Motion Carried.

Deanery Reports

Fredericton-York: The Diocesan Annual Meeting will be held at St. John the Evangelist Church in Oromocto on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Plans are underway for another successful meeting and more information will be forthcoming in Launching Out.

Kingston-Kennebecasis: St. Paul's, Rothesay reported they usually have 12 members at their meetings. They held their annual meeting in January and participated in ACW Sunday by doing readings and taking the collection and held a bake sale after the service.

They are hosting the World Day of Prayer Service for their area in March.

Trinity Church, Sussex held their annual meeting in November. They took part in a project called Love Atlantic and coordinated a collection of items for 27 men and delivered them to two special care homes.

They supplied lunch for clergy members attending 12-12-12. They served at two funeral receptions and in December delivered 30 cookie tins with home baked cookies to shut-ins.

Members ironed choir gowns for the living manger at St. Mark's and sang in the choir. They had four new members join this year.

St. Luke's, Gondola Point is still quilting to raise funds. They do Swedish weaving, knitting and jewellery making and have a book club which meets once a month.

They support Canon Paul Jeffries, tuition for a Bishop McAllister School student, Farraline Home, Camp Medley, KV Outreach, St. Luke's Loaves & Fishes, Saint John, Council of the North, student support at Quispamsis Elementary and Middle School and KV High School.

Shediac: St. John the Baptist, Riverview held their annual meeting in January. They did not elect a president and are working with a four-member committee. In December they held a successful Christmas luncheon and bazaar. They also made 27 Christmas baskets.

They participate in Blessings in a Backpack, a unique program that feeds school children that may not have enough or any food on the weekend.

St. Mark, Parish of Westmorland, filled Christmas stockings for sick and shut-in parishioners. They have very few numbers but continue to quilt on a weekly basis.

Woodstock: St Luke's ACW, Woodstock has been very active in the last few months of 2023. We welcomed one new member to our group in the fall.

On Oct. 24 seven members were able to attend our Deanery meeting in Florenceville. It was a great experience hosted by the ladies of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Our group supported Farraline Place by donating funds and participating in their event on Oct. 21.

At our November meeting members answered roll call by giving a donation or item for Hayward House to support their mission.

Donations were made to the church in memory of three ladies who had passed away this year.

On Oct. 21 six members attended a tea at St. Gertrude's Catholic Church to commemorate their 90th anniversary.

On Nov. 1 seven members attended an autumn tea and devotion hosted by the Richmond Corner Mothers' Union.

Several members joined other parishioners to decorate the church for Advent on December 2. Our branch planned an event to support our church Sunday school. We held a Christmas craft event after church on Dec. 10. Approximately a dozen children participated in two

Minutes continued on page 10

January executive meeting minutes, continued

Minutes continued from page 9

hours of fun, making crafts, eating homemade mini pizzas and decorating Christmas cookies.

The ACW members voted to provide a card and small gift to newly baptized or confirmed members. One baptismal and one confirmation gift were given.

They also voted to support a deanery donation for the purchase of a solar incubator through a PWRDF project.

In December we held a food sale and raised over \$1,000 to support our work in the coming months. We also organized the mitten tree event in our church to support the Salvation Army Christmas project.

One member completed the repair of the Christmas banner for Christ Church in Lower Woodstock.

We finished up the year with a delicious Christmas luncheon on Dec. 12 hosted by Rosalie Brown. The Church of the Good Shepherd,

Florenceville-Bristol: Held a very successful annual winter clothing give away late October. Purchased new tablecloths for our church hall.

Helped out a family in need after a car accident. Supplied refreshments, in November, at Chase McLean's presentation on his trip to The Holy Lands.

Our cookbooks have arrived. Sales have been very good.

Organized and took part in Advent and Christmas decorating of our church. Gave Christmas gifts to our nursing home residents.

Gave to the PWRDF chicken incubator fund raiser. Took part in our parish's annual Christmas outreach. Christmas potluck supper, early December, for our members and their significant others with special guests Rev. Bob LeBlanc & Rev. Bonnie LeBlanc. Rev. Bob provided Christmas music.

Helped serve at a wedding reception in December. Provided new winter clothing for a new family at our church.

Bishop McAllister College: Rosemarie reported that Canon Paul Jeffries' mother is not well so he has been back and forth a lot recently. Headmaster Joseph has been doing a good job looking after the college.

The new semester begins in February. She also reported they are operating on a shoestring budget as costs of everything have skyrocketed since Covid.

Book of Remembrance: Maureen reported she has seven names for the Book of Remembrance and one name for the Honour Roll to date. She asked that names be submitted as they are available and not wait to submit them all at once.

Each branch secretary should forward their branch's departed members' names, date of death and the church they attended.

Farraline Place: Cathy reported that things are going well but they do have empty rooms. Gisele will put an ad in Launching Out to this effect. Also it was noted that Farraline Place has a Facebook page and advised members should check it out for updates.

Launching Out: Gisele reported she is still having trouble getting reports from branches and getting them in a timely manner. Please send a report of any activity your branch is doing and pictures are always welcome.

She also would like an up-to-date list of member's email addresses so she can forward the link to the latest *Launching Out*. She will put a preliminary notice of the Annual Meeting in February's edition.

Pickett-Scovil: Rosemarie reported the new committee has been in place for a year. Things are going well and she will have a complete report at the Annual Meeting.

Mother's Union: Diane Radford submitted the following report: At the world wide level the current mantra is Rise Up, which is a call to action for more peaceful living.

On the Canadian level, they are

planning the next National Conference which will be held at Mount St. Vincent's in Halifax June 5–9, 2024. To that end they are seeking members for the new Canadian Council which will take office at the Conference.

This Council moves around the provinces and this time it is the turn of New Brunswick. They also encouraged branches to participate in the 16 days of action against gender-based violence held each year in November.

At the diocesan level, quarterly meetings continue as a mix of virtual and in person. The annual Spring Rally will be held in Riverview on April 27th.

At a branch level, most branches have been meeting with a mixture of virtual and in person.

Example of some activities at the Cathedral branch are: Participated in the Fredericton Food Bank Reverse Advent program where they gave food items for each day of Advent.

They have also partnered again at Christmas with Campus Ministry for their "Pause" program where food and drink and words of encouragement are provided for students during exam time.

They maintain a food cupboard situated in New Maryland and have two more cupboards made with location sites to be determined.

They had a presentation for "Under the Tent," a ministry that provides beverages and food from a food truck downtown several times a week and made them the recipient of our Christmas party collection.

They also made white and purple ribbons for members to wear during the 16 days of action against gender based violence.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Past president Linda Fury will head up the nominating committee. She will get in touch with deanery presidents

March executive meeting minutes

The executive meeting was held at St. John's Church, Oromocto on Thursday, March 14, 2024. President Jill Stewart welcomed those attending: Rosemarie Kingston, Peggy Boucher, Cathy Lutes, Diane Radford, Elaine Hood, Barb Haire, Gisele McKnight, Donna Mulholland and Diane Todd. Regrets were received from Maureen Gill, Nancy Robinson and Linda Fury. A prayer was said for Nancy as she was not feeling well.

Minutes: It was moved by Diane Todd seconded by Cathy Lutes the minutes be approved as read. Motion Carried.

Business arising from the minutes: After some discussion it was moved by Donna Mulholland seconded by Peggy Boucher the executive formulate the procedures for closing a Branch. Motion Carried.

A prayer was said for all branches in the Diocese of Fredericton. Rosemarie said a prayer for our prayer partner, the Diocese of Calgary.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$46,222.90. The tuition for our three Bishop McAllister Students is \$1575 plus \$100 for exam fees and \$150 for discretionary spending for a total of \$1825.

Cathy presented a proposed Our Fair Share Budget, which will be voted on at the Annual Meeting. It was moved by Cathy Lutes seconded by Barb Haire the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Motion Carried.

Deanery Reports

Fredericton-York: St. John's, Oromocto will host the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. More information to follow.

Kingston-Kennebecasis: St. Luke's Gondola Point will host the Deanery Meeting on September 26, 2024.

Shediac: St. John the Baptist, Riverview report their meetings are going well with their new Executive Council which consists of four council members, a treasurer and a secretary.

In January they had a combined monthly meeting and annual meeting. In February they met at Shannex, Parkland which allowed several of their members who reside there to attend a meeting. The meeting went well and was enjoyed by all.

St. Mary's, Hillsborough has eight very active members. They had very successful Christmas bazaar. They will host the deanery meeting on Oct 2, 2024.

Woodstock: The Church of the Good Shepherd discussed the annual meeting at the December and January meetings. In February members visited the Riverview Manor and provided cake and ice-cream for the residents celebrating February birthdays.

One special guest was resident Jean Kinney aged 97, our former organist. The Revs. Bob & Bonnie LeBlanc provided special music.

On March 15 they will host their annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon fundraiser. In April they will be hosting a Baptism luncheon in honor of the six newly baptized from Easter Sunday. They will provide bibles and/ or small gifts for each candidate.

St. Luke's held their AGM in January with no changes to the executive

Minutes continued on page 12

January executive meeting minutes, continued

for their input. We need a vice-president and a secretary.

Camps: Linda went around the group and asked them what knowledge they had of the Anglican camps in New Brunswick. There was a wide variety of knowledge. While some knew very little about the camps, others were quite familiar.

Camp Medley – In Upper Gagetown, lots of renovations including new lighting and heat pumps, landscaping has be redone, meetings and family camps have been held there, excellent food and wonderful staff.

Camp Brookwood – Near Florenceville, smaller and more rustic than Medley, has a long history and many sponsored children have attended from around the province.

St. Michael's Youth Conference – A one week conference aimed at teenagers in the Maritime provinces, participants learn about traditions of the Church through worship, study and recreation, held at Camp Wildwood near Bouctouche; the bishop, priests and professors lead the group.

Branch closures: Some branches have been looking for clarification on how to close a branch. In minutes from 2018 we have found procedures for closures.

This will be further discussed at

our next meeting and possibly some changes will be made.

Book of Remembrance: There has been some question as to what names should be placed in the Book of Remembrance. This will be on the agenda for the Annual Meeting in May.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Thursday, March 14th at St. John the Evangelist Church, Oromocto.

The meeting closed with "May God's Blessing" sung in unison.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Todd, Recording Secretary

March executive meeting minutes, continued

or committee chair people. Birthday cards were sent to residents of Farraline Place for January and February. Four members attended the January birthday party at Carleton Manor. Emily Clark led in devotions & music and they passed out birthday cards, and served cake & ice-cream.

They supported Hayward House with donations of snack foods, toiletries and gift cards.

In February their education coordinator, Lynne Slipp, made a presentation on Fostering Closet, N.B., Woodstock branch, which allows foster parents to shop for free, gently used clothing, toys, books, backpacks and baby items for the children in their care.

She also highlighted the Planet Youth Project, a community led Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program being initiated in Woodstock over the next five years.

They increased their giving to the Diocesan Social Action and Divinity Scholarship funds. A memorial donation was made to St. Luke's in memory of Deacon Christine Greer.

On March 15 members will be participating in the World Day of Prayer Service being held at St. Gertrude's Catholic Church. They purchased copies of Our Daily Bread for their members and the parish.

In April they are looking forward to a presentation by Nancy English of St. Luke's and Joy Hanson of St. Gertrude's who made a pilgrimage last fall to Spain to follow The Camino de Santiago (The Way of St. James).

Bishop McAllister College:

Rosemarie reported things are going well at the school. They received the results for Senior Four National Exams and the students had the best results ever. Please keep Canon Paul's mother in your prayers as she is not doing well health-wise.

Book of Remembrance/Roll of

Honour: Maureen reported she only has a few names for the Book of Remembrance and Honour Roll. It is important that she receive the available names by April 1 in order to have them printed in the booklet.

Farraline Place: The Home has six vacancies and they are in dire straits financially. They are taking funds from their investments to cover daily expenses.

Launching Out: Gisele reported the deadline for the April issue is March 22. Please send any reports, events, or pictures. She also would like every member's email address so they can be notified when Launching Out is published.

Pickett-Scovil: Rosemarie reported things are going well with the fund. The new stipulations are in place and the clergy have been notified of the changes.

Mother's Union: Diane Radford, MU rep, reported on the Canadian level, the National Conference is in Halifax June 5-9.

I brought Rosemarie's question as to her invitation to the conference to the attention of our Diocesan Council who raised it with the Canadian Council. She will receive an invitation.

At the diocesan level, planning continues for the Annual Spring Rally in Riverview on April 27. The theme is "Our Helping Hands" and the speaker is from Shelter Movers, an organisation that aids those fleeing from domestic violence. There is always a fun activity and this year it will be based on the game show, Family Feud.

The 4th Sunday in Lent is Mothering Sunday, which in England is celebrated as Mothers' Day. Most branches take an active part in the services, after which, they serve the traditional English Simmel cake.

Our next project is again the Pause Table at UNB on April 15, where we provide food and conversation for students during exams. Rosemarie will be attending the National Conference and Jill will attend the Annual Spring Rally.

New Business

KIT – Keeping in Touch – Jill divided us into two groups to brainstorm ideas to keep branches in touch as well as those branches that have closed and those members who no longer can attend a meeting. Some ideas were:

• Sending *Launching Out* to those with email, and mailing copies to those without. Print copies and have them at the back of the church. Deliver copies to shut-ins and hospital patients.

• Offer to take members to events such as Quiet Day and the Annual Meeting.

There was further discussion on the ownership of Farraline Place. We referred to the May 6, 2021 minutes where chancellor David Bell (legal officer) informed us that Farraline Home is not owned by the ACW but by Farraline Home Inc., and is operated by a board of directors which includes members of the ACW.

St. Andrew's Deanery is next on the list to host Quiet Day. Jill will contact them to see if they are prepared to do this.

The Nominating Committee has no names for the offices of vice-president and secretary.

The annual meeting will be held May 7 at St. John's, Oromocto. More information and the registration form will be in the April edition of *Launching Out*.

Prayers were said for all ACW members.

Jill encouraged us to continue to pray. She closed with "If at night you can't sleep, don't count sheep – talk to the shepherd."

Meeting closed with the singing of "May God's Blessing." *Respectfully submitted*, *Diane Todd*, *Secretary*