

# *Milestones in Ministry Celebration*



*The United Church of Canada  
First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council*

*Annual Meeting 2021*

*Virtual Celebration on Zoom  
Saturday, May 15, 2021*



## *Thank you for your Ministry*

### *Retirement*

*Mr. William Matchem  
The Rev. Rachel Robinson*

### *Anniversaries*

<i>The Rev. Hubert A. Mercer</i>	<i>65 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Joseph G. Burton</i>	<i>62 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Boyd L. Hiscock</i>	<i>61 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Theodore C. (Clem) Rodgers</i>	<i>61 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. C. Jack Mercer</i>	<i>55 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Dr. Clarence R. Sellars</i>	<i>50 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Karen E. Bursey</i>	<i>40 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. David Guzzwell</i>	<i>40 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Eric G. Hillier</i>	<i>40 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Ernest H. Feltham</i>	<i>35 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Lee E. Michelin</i>	<i>30 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Nancy L. Warder</i>	<i>30 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. William N. Williams</i>	<i>30 Years</i>
<i>Mr. Raymond L. Clouter</i>	<i>25 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Joan Y. Conrad</i>	<i>25 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Wendy N. Cronhelm</i>	<i>25 Years</i>
<i>Ms. Lorraine Jarvis</i>	<i>25 Years</i>
<i>Mr. T. Russell Lodge</i>	<i>25 Years</i>
<i>The Rev. Lisa Potter</i>	<i>25 Years</i>

*Admissionand*

*Rev. Limon Daka*

*Commissionand*

*Ms. Rebecca Pike*

*Candidate for Ordered Ministry*

*Ms. Stephanie Rose*

*Candidates for Designated Lay Ministry*

*Ms. Heather Cronhelm*

*James L. Martin-Carter*

*Mr. Keith Wiseman*

*Admissions Applicant*

*Rev. Edison Wiltshire*

*Leaving*

*Rev. Sharon Earle-Marshall*

*Rev. Gordon Flint*

*Rev. Lynda Goy-Flint*

*Rev. Myles Vardy*

*Acknowledgement*

*Rev. Dr. John H. Young, General Council Representative, Retirement*

*Farewell*

*Laura Hunter, Minister for Justice, Mission, and Outreach*

## *Retirement*

### **Mr. William George Matchem, DLM**



Bill Matchem was in his later years when God called him into ministry. He was and continues to be a member of his home church Heatherton United where it all began. Prior to discerning his call into ministry, Bill held different positions in administration both in the local church and St. George's Pastoral Charge.

After discerning for a year and a half, Bill had his interview with the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference Interview Board and was placed in his first Learning Site on the Green Bay South Pastoral Charge. Bill studied and trained there from December 2011 to June 2017.

Bill graduated from St. Andrew's College in 2015 and was recognized as a Designated Lay Minister in June of 2016.

In July of 2017, he was appointed to the Campbellton Pastoral Charge, where his four-year term will end June 30, of this year.

One of Bill's favourite scripture readings is John 15:1-17: *The vine and the branches*. Bill says "I solemnly believe that I am indeed a branch of the vine, and all throughout my ministry, I have been nourished aplenty by the garden owner, who saw something in me, and brought me to where I am today. I've always been mindful of everyone's contribution to serving God no matter in what form of discipleship, and I've shown appreciation for this all throughout my ministry life."

"Individually we recognize signs that we need to slow down, step back, and enjoy the rest of our lives, with less responsibility and commitment." Bill and Jean will be moving back to Heatherton, and are looking forward to spending time with their daughter Candace and son-in-law Kyle and their two grandchildren Lydia and Willow.

## *Retirement*

### **The Reverend Rachel Robinson, B.A., M.A., M.Div.**



Rev. Rachel Robinson received a Master's degree in Mission Studies & Interreligious Dialogue from St. Paul University in Ottawa and a Master of Divinity with a concentration in Restorative Justice from Queen's Theological College.

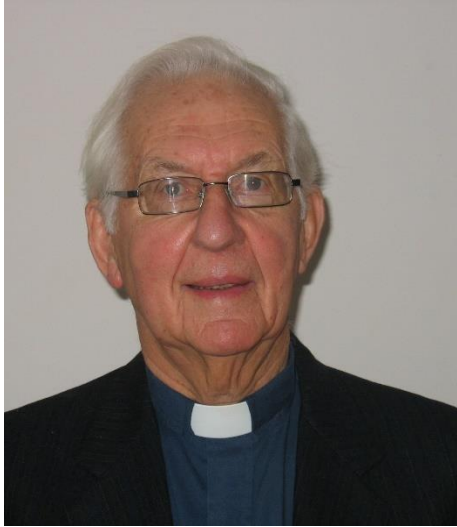
She worked for several years as a Community Chaplain in Kingston, within the Correctional Services of Canada Prison Chaplaincy Program prior to ordination.

Rachel was ordained in 2010 and settled in Cartwright, Manitoba. She also served in Hamiota, Manitoba before moving to Newfoundland and Labrador in 2014, where she served in Botwood from 2014-2017 and Springdale from 2017-2021.

Rachel has four grown children who all live in Ottawa, but she prefers the quieter lifestyle of Newfoundland and Labrador and plans to retire in Springdale with her dog Wilson. She enjoys gardening, reading, walking, and getting together with friends.

## *65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Hubert A. Mercer, B.A.**



Hubert was born in Bay Roberts on January 4, 1930.

After receiving a First Grade Teacher's Certificate from the former Memorial University College, he taught school for two years in Channel-Port aux Basques where he offered himself as a candidate for ministry.

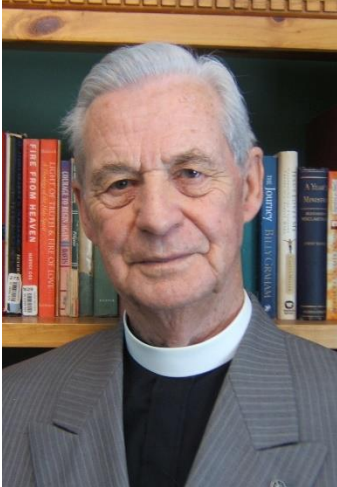
After spending four years at Mount Allison University and two years at Pine Hill Divinity Hall, he was ordained to the Christian Ministry at Bonavista on June 13, 1956.

Hubert served Pastoral Charges at Glovertown, Heart's Content, Humber, Shoal Harbour-Milton, First United in Corner Brook, Oakland and Gower Street United Church.

He retired in 1991 after serving at Gower Street United Church. Hubert and Lily reside in St. John's. They have three daughters and five grandsons.

## *62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Joseph G. Burton, B.A., M.Div.**



Rev. Joe Burton was born in Glovertown, NL. He committed his life to Christ at the age of 17 and subsequently received a call to full-time ministry. He taught school for two years and served as candidate supply at English Harbour, Trinity Bay for two years. He then attended Mt. Allison University in Sackville, NB and Pine Hill Divinity Hall in Halifax, NS. Prior to ordination, he served summer charges in Alberta and Saskatchewan, where he met his wife Carole. They have three sons, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Joe served United Church Pastoral Charges of Burin, King's Point, Twillingate and Bay Roberts, serving the latter for 17 years. He retired from full-time ministry in 1992, then returned to serve in Twillingate as retired supply for three years.

Since full retirement, he and Carole live in Clarke's Beach in a home Joe built on property bordering on South River. He enjoys gardening, reading, fly-fishing and carpentry, with occasional speaking engagements. He attends Clarke's Beach United, where he is a member of the Men's Fellowship and Male Choir and is Minister Emeritus.

During his ministry, Joe conducted 30 evangelistic missions and has spoken at many renewal events and men's camps. In the 70s, he was part of the United Church's special program of evangelism utilizing 30 United Church evangelists from across Canada. He chaired various presbyteries and served as President of Newfoundland and Labrador Conference in 1974-75.

## *61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Boyd L. Hiscock, B.A., M.Div.**



Boyd's Privileges - a capsule of my 60 years since Ordination:

✝ To meet Clem Rodgers at a Youth Rally in Winterton and then at Pine Hill to prepare for ordination together, friends for life with Clem and Robin.

✝ To attend Memorial and find, in the library, not only the great writers but the beautiful Library Assistant, Ruth Trickett, who eventually agreed, as Dr. Max Dawe said "to go from one draft old parsonage to another" and raise a family of four, who have produced seven grandchildren and one great grandchild, and counting.

✝ To get to know and serve wonderful people at Red Bay, Dunville and Portugal Cove as a student; Fortune, Glovertown, Deer Lake and Churchill Falls after ordination.

✝ To hear the humbling compliment, "Your prayers don't leave anyone out", and try to be that inclusive in every aspect of Ministry: a remarkable Hi-C group in Fortune; shut-ins who received Communion at home; Twillingate Presbytery Fall Youth Rallies; four congregations who would get a service every Sunday; Teens who had their questions answered honestly in High School assembly and in Religion Class; young people who crowded Deer Lake Church Hall for their own Sunday program; people of many backgrounds at Churchill Falls; students at Coughlan College; our people in small churches and large.

✝ To see the Church move from a system dominated by St. John's Lay and Clergy elite (all good people, of course) to a system where everyone is someone.

✝ To help organize and stabilize finances and encourage their use for the camps and Candidates and provide each retiree and ministry widow with a Christmas gift that says each one is remembered and appreciated.

✝ To serve many offices at all levels of our Church, and promote changes that were deemed good for as much of the future as could be envisaged; share that service with good friends, wonderful staff, both Support and Professional; and to be paid in full at retirement with a cheque for \$0.00.

✝ To do Interim Ministry in Ontario, keeping membership back home.

✝ To serve 40 years as President of Island Furniture with its commitment to people living with challenges.

✝ To fish salmon with Joe Burton and hunt moose with Big Alec Smith, and engage in a few other sports along the way.

In Ontario, Ruth got us started in golf, bowling and curling. Now, life is good, helping her with her crafts, and living with our son, Bill.



## *61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Theodore C. (Clem) Rodgers**



Clem was born at Green's Harbour, Trinity Bay on August 18, 1931, to parents, Theophilus and Lily Rodgers.

Clem completed Grade XI at Green's Harbour United Church School and went on to attend Memorial University College, where he obtained a teaching certificate. He then took a teaching position at Norris Point, Newfoundland and Labrador, and when the incumbent Principal resigned, due to illness, Clem became Principal. He taught Grade XI students, and nine out of ten of his students passed their C.H.E examinations that year!

The following year, Clem became a candidate for the United Church Ministry, and was enrolled as a theological student at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick. Clem graduated from Mount Allison University and went on to attend Pine Hill Divinity Hall, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, graduating from there on May 4, 1960. He was ordained into the United Church Ministry on June 7, 1960.

As a Student Minister, Clem served Saskatchewan Summer Mission Fields at Carruthers, Old Wives and Crooked River, and at Grand Manan, New Brunswick, and in Newfoundland and Labrador at Random Island, Ship Cove and Baie Verte.

Following ordination, Clem served the Pastoral Charges of Musgrave Harbour: 1960-1962; Old Perlican: 1962-1969; Oakland Congregation, Corner Brook: 1969-1971; and Fortune: 1971-1977. From 1977 to 1992, Clem served as the Conference Personnel Minister. He completed his pastoral ministry as Minister of Visitation at Gower Street United Church from 1992-2002.

On September 13, 1958, Clem married Robin Drover, also of Green's Harbour, and they have three children: Christine, Paul and Jill, and four grandchildren: Jasmine, Adrienne, Anthony and Cristian. Clem's life experiences as a pastoral minister, both in spiritual and practical terms, have been richly rewarding and fulfilling to himself, and to the many lives he has been a part of through the years.

## *55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend C. Jack Mercer, B.A., M.Div.**



Born in New York, Jack came to St. John's, NL at age seven where he continued his education. He attended Acadia University in Wolfville, Mount Allison in Sackville and Pine Hill Divinity Hall in Halifax.

After ordination in 1966, Jack served at Happy Valley, Springdale, Memorial United (Corner Brook), Pasadena, and Topsail. After retirement, he filled in at Hillview and Old Perlican on a part-time basis.

Jack is married to the former Marie Kirby. Marie ministered for ten years and Jack assisted when needed. Jack and Marie have two children, Kirby and Karen, and two grandchildren, Kelsey and Kaitlyn.

Jack and Marie celebrated their 69<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 26, 2021. They presently reside in Mount Pearl.

## *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Dr. Clarence R. Sellars, B.A.(Ed.), M.Div., M.Th., D.D.**



Clarence was born in Western Bay, Conception Bay, the son of the late Samuel and Myrtle (Stanford) Sellars. He received his early education at Western Bay and graduated from Memorial University, Pine Hill Divinity Hall and the Atlantic School of Theology. Prior to ordination in 1971, he served the Pastoral Charges of Moreton's Harbour and Norman's Cove and while at Pine Hill, served the Rawdon Pastoral Charge. Following ordination, he served the Pastoral Charge of Wesleyville, Valleyfield, Newtown.

In 1978, Clarence started working with the Avalon North Integrated School Board, first as a High School Religious Education teacher and then at the District Office as a Program Coordinator responsible for Religious Education and Family Life Studies. He left this position in 1995 to accept the position of Executive Secretary of the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference, a position he held for seven and a half years and which he describes as extremely challenging, rewarding and very fulfilling. He retired on December 31, 2002.

Clarence is married to Gloria Eveleigh and they have one daughter Lisa (Shawn) and two sons, Christopher (Jackie) and Robert (Marie). They have four grandchildren: Christoph, Joshua, Shaunessy and Quinn, all living in Alberta. In 2004, Gloria and Clarence moved to Alberta where Clarence did Interim Ministry on the Hanna Pastoral Charge and where they were close to their grandchildren.

They now call St. John's home but spend time in Alberta and the winters in Osoyoos, British Columbia. Gloria enjoys quilting and painting and Clarence uses every opportunity to golf and salmon fish. Both enjoy their garden in St. John's.

## *40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Karen E. Bursey, B.A., B.Ed., M.Div.**



“In the days leading up to our ordinations in 1981, my classmates and I considered what kind of ministers we would be. We had practised with our peers on part-time placements and summer internships. We heard stories to warm our hearts and curdle our blood from our mentors and future colleagues. There had always been a supervisor of some sort but in a few weeks, we would be on our own.

I had been blessed with a varied education in faith from family, from the loving folks at Cochrane Street United Church and from the Atlantic School of Theology. I had hands-on experience from part-time student work with Halifax congregations, and from internships in La Fleche, Saskatchewan and Shoal Harbour, Newfoundland. However, all the training in the world could not have prevented the wave of butterflies in my stomach the first day I woke up in Old Perlican and realised the pastoral care of the charge and basically all my neighbours was now my responsibility.

Luckily for me, my first Pastoral Charge, Old Perlican and Grates Cove, had often been settled by new ministers and the congregations were well versed in the care and feeding of ordinands.

Since then I have been blessed with a wide variety of opportunities and challenges in ministry in cities, towns and round the bay, special opportunities in full-time and volunteer chaplaincies at MUN, many hospitals and the Correctional Centre. I have had two periods of sabbatical; the first focussing on CAPE units in Columbia, South Carolina and the second on Bible Study at Memorial University.

As the years passed, I found myself returning to Pastoral ministry. I love the experience of meeting people wherever they are on their journey and walking with them for a while.

Together we find God’s presence in a multitude of moments:

- in the mundane task of washing up together after a UCW pot luck,
- in discussing difficult questions with the confirmation class,
- preparing couples for the wedding and the marriage,

introducing new parents to the rich meaning of baptism,  
exploring the scriptures in depth with the Bible Study group,  
discerning and applying the lessons of faith in spoken and lived sermons,  
listening to the glories of a moving anthem,  
finding the words to say goodbye.

Ministry has led me to some strange activities from packaging cold plates as 3:00 am for morning delivery, to digging up the posts of the entrance to the Grates Cove Cemetery, to Bible reading marathons. I particularly enjoyed it when asked to explain a point of scripture, faith or practice at 'non-churchy' activities like working on pieces at the ceramics studio or while hooking rugs at the library or waiting for aerobics class to start.

After 18 years of going solo, Graham Bursey came back into my life and was the best clergy husband anyone could ever ask for. On leaving one Pastoral Charge, the common sentiment was that they could always get another minister but they might never get another Graham.

I thank the people of the Pastoral Charges I have been blessed to serve in since ordination (Old Perlican-Grates Cove, Whitbourne, St. James, Cochrane Street, Blackstock-Nestleton and Clarenville) for the support and opportunities you have given me. It has been a wonderful journey."

## *40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Eric G. Hillier, B.Th., B.A., B.Ed.**



Eric Hillier was born in Main Point, NL and received his early faith grounding in the United Church in that community.

As a Student/Lay Supply, Eric served the Pastoral Charges of Petites, Campbellton, Northern Arm, Norman's Cove and also several short-term summer student charges.

Following an eight-year stint as a teacher, he attended the Atlantic School of Theology and was ordained at Cochrane Street United Church 1981. After ordination, Eric was appointed to the Green's Harbour Pastoral Charge. From there, he served Humber United Church, Cochrane Street United Church, Burin Pastoral Charge, Grand Bank United Church and the Pouch Cove Pastoral Charge.

Eric retired from Pouch Cove in 2001. Following retirement, he continued to serve Pastoral Charges either full or part time and twice as Intentional Interim Minister. There are those who are counting the number of times he has retired! However, when one enjoys ministry, as Eric does, it becomes difficult to say 'No' when asked to fill in for a while. He also remembers Dr. Stella Burry who once said, "One never retires from God's work".

Eric is married to Marion (Williams) and they have two children, Scott (Wendy) and Kelly and two grandchildren, Matthew (deceased) and Daniel. Since retiring, Eric and Marion have made Pool's Cove their permanent home even though they occasionally live elsewhere.

## *30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Lee E. Michelin, Asc.A, B.Th.**



Lee Michelin was born in North West River, Labrador, the third child of Alvin and Floyde (White) Michelin. Around 1943 when the Allied Forces were building the base at Goose Bay, his father decided to give up trapping for fur and take a job with the construction company building that facility, so he moved his family to Happy Valley. Lee grew up there with that community. He did his high school in Happy Valley and after attending tech school, took a job in the electrical shop with the American Air Force where he worked for 10 years. While there, Lee enrolled with the University of Maryland, an American university that was contracting with the Air Force for young service people who may like to further their education and, in 1974 received a degree in arts, business administration.

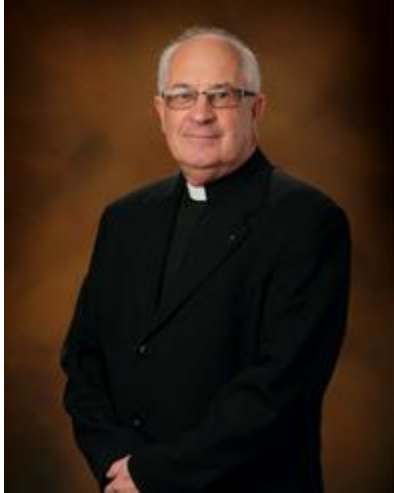
Lee left the Air Force to take a job with Bell Canada and, after 18 years, resigned to fulfill his lifelong dream of becoming a United Church pastor. He enrolled with the Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax in 1988 and was ordained in 1991. He is the first native born Labradorian (Labrador Métis nation) to be ordained in The United Church of Canada.

Lee served as student minister in Windsor, NS and Shawville, QC before ordination. Following ordination, he was settled in Clarke's Beach and served that congregation for seven years. He then answered a call to serve the Lewisporte Pastoral Charge and again served there for seven years. He retired in 2003. Following retirement, Lee answered calls to serve needy congregations in Red Bay, Happy Valley-Goose Bay (his home congregation), Twillingate Pastoral Charge, Brigus-Cupids Pastoral Charge and Coley's Point Pastoral Charge. Since retirement, Lee was offered and accepted an invitation to remain with Coley's Point Pastoral Charge as Pastor Emeritus.

Lee is married to Shirley (Lethbridge) of Lethbridge, NL. They had three children; Nichole (Haighton) in Ottawa; Avalon, presently living in Alberta; and Myrna (deceased). They have six grandchildren; Rachel, David, Mary and Joanne (children of Nichole and Peter) and Ashtin and Adlee (children of Avalon and Rhianne). Lee is very grateful for the time he has had to serve the Lord in The United Church of Canada and extends thanks to the many, many people who made this journey possible. He is presently retired and lives with his wife Shirley in Clarke's Beach, NL.

## *30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend William N. Williams, B.Th.**



During the registration service in September 1988, Bill lit a Matriculation candle officially beginning his three years of study at the Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax. Three years later, Bill shared in delivering the Valedictorian address at the completion of his studies followed by ordination on June 2, 1991 at Cochrane Street United Church.

Bill is truly grateful to God for his call to ministry offering him the opportunity to serve the Pastoral Charges of Springdale-Little Bay 1990-1993, Pouch Cove-Bauline 1993-1998, Clarenville-Deep Bight 1998-2008 as well as minister at Trinity United Church, Mount Pearl and chaplain at the Agnes Pratt Home, St. John's. During his retirement, Bill offered his ministry conducting services to countless numbers of Pastoral Charges.

In his spare time, Bill wrote and self-published four books. He also enjoyed being a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Art Association painting mostly Newfoundland and Labrador land and seascapes.

Bill would like to express his gratitude to the Newfoundland and Labrador Regional Council and all who supported him on his faith journey.

Bill is married to Lillian and they have three children, Vicki (Darren), Denise (Scott) and Billy (Tina), three grandchildren, Samantha (Charlie), Caroline (Brandon) and Tyler, and a precious great-grandson Bentley.

Bill and Lillian are enjoying retirement in Conception Bay South.



## *25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **Mr. Raymond L. Clouter, DLM**



Raymond was born at Carmanville, Notre Dame Bay, May 24, 1941, son of the late Lemuel Gordon and Nora May Clouter. He attended elementary school in Carmanville and high school at Stephenville. Raymond moved to Ontario in 1964 and worked for 14 years in the automotive industry. He relocated to Newfoundland and Labrador in 1978 and ventured into business.

Throughout the years, Raymond was very much involved in various aspects of the local church wherever he lived. He served the church in the ministry of music and on various church boards, committees and choirs. He was also organist and led worship within the local congregation and other congregations in the immediate area as well as the seniors' homes.

Raymond entered the Lay Pastoral Ministry in Training Program in 1993 and completed his training in June 1995. Raymond served the Pastoral Charges of Northern Arm, Epworth, Gambo, Bonne Bay and King's Point before retiring in 2008. He then continued to serve the Stoneville-Change Islands Pastoral Charge as retired supply.

Raymond is married to the former Grace Grey. He is very grateful for the love and support of all his friends and family and so grateful to his church for the opportunity to serve.

## *25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Wendy N. Cronhelm, R.N., S.C.M., M.Div.**



Wendy was born in Croydon, England in 1934. Wendy's first vocation was nursing. In 1960 she immigrated to Canada to work with the International Grenfell Association in Northern Newfoundland. There she met Dr. John Cronhelm. They married and together brought up their four children in St. Anthony.

Wendy returned to studies after answering her call to ordained ministry within The United Church of Canada. She earned her Master of Divinity at the Atlantic School of Theology. During her M.Div. studies, she was a student minister at Rockingham United in Halifax and St. James United in Dartmouth.

Wendy served the Green's Harbour Pastoral Charge during her internship and was ordained in 1996. During her years in ordained congregational ministry, Wendy served the St. George's Pastoral Charge and George Street United in St. John's.

Chaplaincy was also an important part of Wendy's ministry. Prior to ordination, Wendy provided chaplaincy care at Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital in St. Anthony as well within hospitals in Halifax. As an ordained minister, Wendy served as chaplain for the Agnes Pratt Home in St. John's. She also provided chaplaincy within Eastern Health hospitals in St. John's.

Wendy retired in 2000 and enjoyed many retirement years with her beloved husband John, truly sharing life in sickness and in health. During his last stages of cancer, Wendy was fully devoted to providing John's nursing care.

Wendy lives in St. John's. She has five grandchildren. Wendy now finds verbal communication very difficult but is always touched when past congregation members and clergy reach out to connect. She remains keenly interested in hearing about their present joys and concerns.

## *25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **Ms. Lorraine Jarvis, DLM**



Lorraine Jarvis's ministry began as a young girl with her involvement in Topsail United Church choir, leadership in an Explorer's group, Vacation Bible School and the Women's group.

This was followed by studies at Coughlan College, Lay Supply School, Atlantic School of Theology with Rev. Bill Lord and a 12-week class at the Waterford Hospital on clinical pastoral education. Lorraine also sat as a member of outreach on the United Church's national board.

Lorraine's first official call to ministry was to Gower Street United Church to assist Rev. Bruce Gregerson. She was responsible for visitation and Sunday evening services.

Then she answered a call to hospital chaplaincy.

From there she moved to First United Church in Mount Pearl with Rev. Cyril Chaulk to do visitation and conduct some services. While there, Rev. Chaulk requested that Lorraine work to establish a new congregation called Trinity United in the west end of Mount Pearl. They grew from six people to 132 families. Lorraine served that charge for 20 years.

Lorraine retired in 2009 and subsequently served a four-month term with the Bay Roberts Pastoral Charge as interim minister. She returned to her roots by regular attendance at Topsail United where she filled in for Rev. Bruce Kearley as needed.

Lorraine is so thankful for her journey in God's service.

## *25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **Mr. T. Russell Lodge, DLM**



Russell was born at Port Union, Trinity Bay, the younger son of the late Jane and Thomas Lodge. Russell received his early education at the United Church School at Port Union then went on to further his education in the field of electricity and received a diploma from Knowledge Industries at Montreal. He also received a certificate from Commercial Safety College, Masstown, NS in the field of hydraulics. Russell was employed with Newfoundland Light and Power for 30 years, retiring in 1993.

Before entering ministry, Russell served his local church in various capacities for a number of years. Feeling the call to ministry, Russell entered the Lay Pastoral Ministry in Training Program in 1993. In June 1995, he completed his training in Saskatoon, SK and was Recognized as a Lay Pastoral Minister in June of 1996. He was appointed to the Fortune Pastoral Charge for three years and moved on to serve the King's Point Pastoral Charge for eight years. He also served a number of other Pastoral Charges before retiring from the Hillview Pastoral Charge in June of 2004. Russell continued to serve in his home church at Port Union whenever the call came.

Russell is married to the former Marion White. He is very grateful for the love and support of his family and for the opportunity to serve the Church, God and God's people. Russell and Marion reside at their home in Port Union, NL.

## *25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### **The Reverend Lisa Potter, R.N., B.A., M.P.A., M.Div.**



Lisa (Grandy) Potter was born in Garnish, NL in 1941. Because her father was a United Church minister (Rev. Samuel Grandy), she lived during her youth in various Pastoral Charges in Newfoundland and Labrador.

In 1958, Lisa entered the General Hospital School of Nursing. Following graduation in 1961, she moved to The Victoria General Hospital in Halifax where she worked in the nursing profession until she married a young naval officer, Lt. Col. Glen Potter. She had 2 children, Mark who was tragically killed on May 12, 2009 at the age of 45, and a daughter, Joy, who lives with her family in Fall River, NS. Lisa has two grandsons and two granddaughters.

When her children were of school age, she returned to Saint Mary's University where she graduated with a BA. This was followed with a Master's degree in Health Administration from Dalhousie University. After several years of working in Health Administration, she answered the call to ministry that she had received years before while attending a worship service where she heard her father preach his last sermon entitled "Jesus, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow the same." In 1991, she went to the Vancouver School of Theology and enrolled in a Master of Theology degree. After completion, she finally answered the call to ordained ministry and enrolled in the Master of Divinity degree, graduating in 1996. Lisa was ordained to the Ministry of the United Church that summer and returned to the Maritime Conference and settled in the Gaspé Quebec Pastoral Charge. After 3 years, she returned to Nova Scotia and served for 5 years in the Kingston Pastoral Charge. Her desire to return to her Newfoundland roots brought her to Pouch Cove-Bauline Pastoral Charge in 2003 where her father had served from 1963-1967.

Over the years, Lisa served on several National, Conference and District divisions and committees including Chair of East District. Lisa also served a term as President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Conference from 2011-12. Since retirement in 2010, Lisa finished and published a book that she had been working on for years. It is entitled "From the Historical Jesus to the Cosmic Christ". In many ways, this is the culmination of her life's work and ministry.