

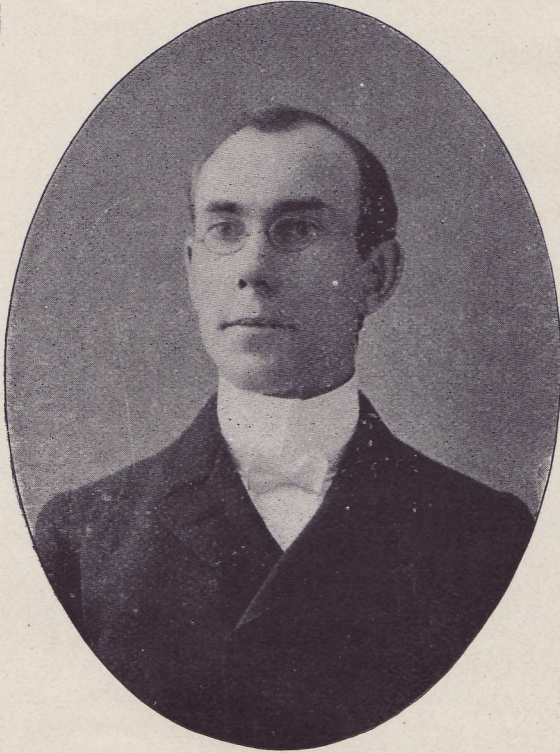
St. John Church,

STELLARTON, N. S.

Annual Reports
for Year Ending
December 31st,
1906 : : : :



1907 :
FREE LANCE PUBLISHING COMPANY,
WESTVILLE, N. S.



REV. D. M. MATHESON

Office Bearers for 1907.

TRUSTEES.

John McQuarrie, Angus McKay, William Sutherland, Alex. Stewart
Dan. Fraser, James Sutherland, Charles Ross, John J. Fraser.

USHERS.

Amos Conway, Lawrence Fraser, Ross McKay, Wm. Mason.

SESSION.

MINISTER.—DONALD M. MATHESON.

ELDERS

Robert Fraser, Alex. Stewart, John Urquhart.
James D. McKenzie, Representative Elder for 1906-07.
Daniel Cameron, Clerk of Session.

CHOIR.

LEADER.—Mr. James W. Henderson.

SOPRANO.—Miss Vena Stewart, Miss Annie Keith, Miss Ella Fraser,
Mrs. Charles Stewart, Mrs. J. W. Henderson, Mrs. H. R.
Munro, Mrs. L. R. Purvis, Mrs. J. G. MacDougald, Mrs.
Charlotte Sutherland.

ALTO.—Miss Mary Fraser, Miss Pearl Purvis.

TENOR.—Mr. Wm. Fraser, Mr. George Conway, Mr. Amos Conway,
Mr. H. T. Begg.

BASS.—Mr. J. W. McDonald, Mr. H. Murray, Mr. C. R. Stewart, Mr.
Trueman Cook, Mr. James Fraser, Mr. E. Purvis, Mr. L. R.
Purvis.

ORGANIST.—Miss Margaret E. Fraser.

VIOLINIST.—Miss Mamie Murray.

BASS VIOLINIST.—Mr. Harris Murray.

SEXTON.—Mr. William Mason.

ST. JOHN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORTS.

Minutes of Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the congregation was held on January 9th, at 8 p. m., with the Pastor presiding. Sixty persons were present. The reports of the various Officers and Societies were read and adopted, (as submitted in detail elsewhere in this pamphlet). On motion it was unanimously agreed that our Church Organist shall hereafter receive \$5.00 a month for her services. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to the Choir with special reference to the Leader, and those who play the instruments. Officers were elected for the ensuing year.

The Pastor was granted four weeks' vacation.

An interesting discussion with regard to re-modeling our church building or, if need be, build a new one, took place.

DANIEL CAMERON, Clerk.

Calendar.

1. Public Worship every Lord's Day at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.
2. Sabbath School at 2.30. Men's Bible Class at the same hour.
3. Y. P. S. C. E. Service Sabbath evenings at 8 o'clock. (No service in July and August).
4. Session meets every Sabbath morning at 10.45 for prayer and at call of Moderator.
5. Prayer Service Wednesday evening at 7.30 o'clock.
6. Choir Practice " " at 8.30 o'clock.
7. Ladies' Visiting Society meets Wednesday at 8.30 p. m., after the First Thursday in each month.
8. Ladies' Aid Society meets at the call of the President.
9. The Lord's Supper is observed in January, April, July and October
10. The W. F. M. S. meets the first Monday of each month at 7.30 p. m.
11. The Mission Band meets the first Friday of each month at 3.30 p. m.
12. Offerings every Sabbath, for support of the Church, in white envelopes; for Missions in blue envelopes.
13. Annual offering for the Bible Society (collectors).
14. Trustees meet at the call of the Chairman.
15. Annual meeting of the congregation in January.
16. Cases of sickness, change of residence and new residents should be reported to the minister at once.
17. Strangers are most cordially invited to all the services.

ST. JOHN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORTS.

Report of the Session.

In the year just closed the Lord has manifested His goodness to us in large measure, for which we are profoundly thankful. Not a few of our people, who had become careless, for reasons best known to themselves, have been quickened to new zeal both in their attendance on the means of grace, and in their support of the gospel. At the Sabbath services the presence of so many young people is very encouraging. Equally glad are we to see an increase of new faces at the mid-week prayer service. And while we have not the modern appointments which we hope to have before another annual meeting rolls round, yet many of the strangers coming to our town find it pleasant to make their church home with us. At present there are 145 families connected with our congregation. Nineteen families of this number were added in the last year (1906). The Session sincerely hopes that they may feel much at home with us.

As in former years the Sacraments of Baptism and of the Lord's Supper were dispensed; 15 children were baptized. In order to impress upon our minds that baptism is neither a device to suit our convenience, nor yet a mere ceremony to be thought lightly of, the Session have most unanimously agreed that hereafter Baptism, like the Lord's Supper, shall be administered in the church, and not in the home. Twelve united with the church by letter, and 50 on confession of their faith. Removals by letter were 4; by death 9; while 8 families, non-communicants, removed to other parts.

The congregation in June of 1906 adopted the weekly system of contributing to the schemes of the church. We are happy to report that our people have heartily embraced this system; and while a few have not yet adopted it, the few are becoming fewer each week.

For the loyalty of our young people, as well as that of the fathers and mothers, we wish to sound a note of appreciation. In the Sabbath School, the young people's Society and the various activities of the church, are found at the post of duty, with an unbroken regularity, and unabated devotion, workers whose effort have a higher recognition than that of any church session.

The societies organized in the last year are the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Visiting Society, and the Mission Band. The details pertaining to each society you will find in the various reports presented.

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The Bible Society was remembered by a special offering being taken. The amount was \$39.00.

As our figures show, the shadow of death fell upon many homes, and in some cases very suddenly. To the bereaved the Session extends its heartfelt sympathy, and their prayer is that the consolation of the Master may abound toward them all.

We should be very thoughtless and ungrateful, however, if we were to close this report without expressing our due appreciation of the service rendered by the choir to beautify the services of the Sanctuary. Mr. Henderson, our choirster, deserves more than a passing word of praise. Although others have made efforts to secure his services on salary, he has remained with his own church without remuneration. We look on this free-will offering of our leader as a large contribution to our revenue, which otherwise would have to be paid out. Here, however, we have entered into the deep waters, and we may not be able to swim. For we also recognize the services rendered by Miss Margaret Fraser, organist; by Miss Mamie Murray, violinist; and by Mr. Harris Murray, bass; violinist as well as many others who have given of their time and talent to place the music of this church on a very high plane.

We would remind parents to keep the altar fires in the home burning brightly. Forsake not the assembling around the family altar for home is the conservatory in which the tender plants of conscience and righteous passion are kept pure and healthy.

In closing, we thank God for the manifest favor of the Spirit's presence in our midst. Along with other blessings He has kept us in perfect harmony; not a discordant note is heard. Should we not, in view of these facts, with yet greater zeal "Undertake great things for God, and expect great things of God."

DONALD M. MATHESON, *Moderator.*
DANIEL CAMERON, *Clerk.*

ST. JOHN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORTS.

Report of Y. P. S. C. E.

Officers.

PRESIDENT—Miss Vena Stewart.
VICE-PRESIDENT—Mr. George Conway.
SECRETARY—Miss Kate McDonald.
TREASURER—Miss Margaret Fraser.

Conveners of Committees.

Prayer-meeting Committee—Miss Lena Fraser.
Social Committee—Miss Bessie Fraser.
Look-Out Committee—Mr. James Ferguson.
Music Committee—Miss Margaret E. Fraser, Miss Mamie Murray.

While there is no age limit and all are welcome to attend our meetings and become members of our society, yet as a matter of fact, our Society is composed entirely of young people.

For the purpose of meeting each other informally, five Home Socials and one Concert were held.

Apart from July and August, when our meetings are suspended, the Sabbath evening meetings, following the regular service, have been well sustained in attendance and interest. The average attendance being 60. The smallest attendance was 35, and the largest 105.

The Society purchased 60 copies of the "Book of Praise," for Church use.

KATE McDONALD.
Secretary Y. P. S. C. E.

Financial Statement.

RECEIPTS.

Received from former Treasurer by cash in Bank.....	\$80.65
Handed over by the former Treasurer, by cash.....	6.22
Collections.....	4.02
Proceeds from Social.....	9.45
Interest.....	1.40
Total Receipts.....	\$101.74

Expenditures.

Paid to Treasurer of the Church towards the Debt Fund.....	\$100.00
Balance on Hand.....	1.74

MARGARET FRASER.
Treasurer Y. P. S. C. E.

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St. John Mission Band Report.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT—Mrs. D. M. Matheson.

VICE-PRESIDENTS -Mrs. John McQuarrie, Mrs. (Dr.) Munro.

SECRETARY—Miss Kate McDonald.

TREASURER—Miss Vena Stewart.

The Mission Band was organized on October 5th. It has now 53 members enrolled. Meetings are held monthly and opened with devotions, followed by a talk on some missionary topic. The average attendance is 40. 35 mite boxes were given out. A box of Christmas toys and reading matter was sent to Rev. A. M. Thompson, Trinidad. Recently the children have undertaken to sew for missionary purposes.

KATE McDONALD,
Secretary M. B.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As the Band is only newly organized I have very little to report. The only revenue which has come into the Band thus far is from dues. Total amount \$1.40.

VENA STEWART,
Treasurer M. B.

Report of The Presbyterian Record

There are now twenty-four families in connection with our congregation receiving the Presbyterian Record. I wish that every family of this church would order it for the coming year. The price (twenty five cents) is within the reach of any family. Read it and keep posted. Your Record as it arrives will be put in your pew.

ROBERT FRASER.

Report of Ladies' Visiting Society

This Society was organized in December, 1905. Its sole aim is to make monthly visits on every family connected with the congregation, and to report to the pastor families or individuals who, for various reasons, may be in need of pastoral care. As a Society, it has no fund and handles no money. Its function is primarily social. The congregation is divided into 16 sections, each section numbered. 16 ladies, each

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one numbered, undertakes, and accomplishes it to, to visit every family in the congregation in one and the same afternoon. The first month of the year, on the first round of calls, the lady's number and the section's number corresponded. On the second round of calls No 1 lady took No. 2 section. Thus she continues to take the next number of section above her every month, so that at the end of the year she shall have visited no family more than once, while each of the others following in like succession overtakes those she left behind. Thus the endless chain runs until the sections are all visited, then No. 1 lady begins again with No. 1 section, etc. This systematic visitation has proved to be of great service in our congregation, and while some of the women took it up with forebodings, all are now delighted with the work. The Society made in all 2120 calls last year.

The visitors were :—Mrs. Robert Keith, Mrs. Nettie McKay, Mrs. J. D. McKenzie, Mrs. Janet McDonald, Mrs. James M. Henderson, Mrs. Dan Fraser, Mrs. David Reynolds, Mrs. (Dr.) Munro, Mrs. J. A. Fraser, Mrs. Charles Stewart, Mrs. John McDougall, Mrs. Robert Fraser, Mrs. John McQuarrie, Miss Lizzie Fraser, Mrs. James Fraser, Mrs. Sutherland Munro.

The W. F. M. Report.

OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT—Mrs. Nettie McKay.

VICE-PRESIDENT—Mrs. James A. Fraser.

SECRETARY—Mrs. John B. Conway.

TREASURER.—Mrs. James M. Henderson.

The Women's Foreign Missionary Society of this church was organized in September, with a membership of 26. Meetings have been held on the first Monday of each month, at 7.30 p. m., with an average attendance of 12. As in other societies, the meetings are opened with devotions, followed by missionary discussions and such business as may come before the meeting. The Society collected and shipped two large boxes of heavy clothing to the Rev. R. G. Scott, Sifton, Manitoba. There were in all 125 garments, some of which were of high value, and all of which were very good. The boxes were valued at \$100.

MRS. JOHN B. CONWAY,
Sec. W. F. M. S.

Financial Statement, W. F. M. S.

As our Missionary Society is young, therefore our funds are low. We have at present cash on hand, \$12.51.

We hope by another year to be able to show good cause why we should exist.

MRS. JAMES M. HENDERSON,
Treasurer W. F. M. S.

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The Ladies Society

OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT—Mrs. Robert Fraser.

SECRETARY—Mrs. Angus McKay.

TREASURER—Mrs. John McQuarrie.

COLLECTORS—Mrs. Janet McDonald, Mrs. Sutherland Munro, Mrs. Angus McKay, Sr., Mrs. J. M. Henderson, Mrs. John Urquhart, Mrs. J. A. Fraser.

The Society has a membership of 100. Five meetings were held during the year in the Church vestry. The object of the Society is to help the church financially, and lend a helping hand to the needy. Some such help was cheerfully given and gratefully received. With regard to aiding the Church, the ladies furnished the pulpit with a new Bible and Book of Praise, purchased chairs, stove, curtains, etc., for the vestry, together with \$100 contributed toward the debt on the Manse.

The working fund of the society is maintained by yearly "dues," which is collected every three months; sometimes the fund is enlarged with proceeds from concerts. Any lady may become a member by giving her name and quarterly dues of twenty-five cents to the Treasurer—Mrs McQuarrie.

Mrs. Angus McKay, Secy.

Financial Statement of Ladies' Society.

RECEIPTS.

Jan. 1, 1906 Balance on hand.....	\$77.67
March 21, Proceeds of quarterly meeting	26.25
May 23 By cash for articles left over from sale ..	.75
June 20, Proceeds of quarterly meeting	27.50
Aug. 30, By cash for articles left over from sale	1.25
Sept. 10, Proceeds of quarterly meeting	20.00
Dec. 19, " " "	21.75
March 7, Special Collection	5.64
Interest from B. of N. S.....	3.02
Total Receipts	\$183.83

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Expenditures.

Jan. 13	Paid market for meat and groceries for needy	\$ 1.51
July 10	Paid T. J. Reid for curtains and towels for vestry	2.25
July 17	Paid G. Robinson for pulpit Bible	7.65
July 12	Paid Union Association, sundries for vestry	2.83
Aug. 21	Paid H. A. McQuarrie commode for vestry	4.50
Aug. 24	Paid " " 25 chairs " "	8.75
Aug. 24	Paid Campbell Bros, Stove for vestry.....	9.00
Dec. 13	G. Robinson, pulpit hymnal	2.70
Dec. 22	Christmas gift to Miss Margaret E. Fraser	15.00
Dec. 22	" " " Mamie Murray	10.00
Dec. 26	" Daniel Cameron, Treasurer of Congregation, for Debt Fund.....	100.00
	Total Expenditure.....	\$166.64
	Balance on hand.....	\$ 17.19

MRS. JOHN MCQUARRIE, Treas.

Report of Sabbath School

Officers.

SUPERINTENDENT.—D. M. Matheson.

ASSISTANT SUP.—Robert Fraser.

SEC.-TREAS.—Harris Murray.

Teachers.

Mrs. Charles Stewart,

Mrs. John McQuarrie,

Mrs. Angus McKay,

Miss Mamie Murray

Mr. Robert Fraser,

Mrs. D. M. Matheson,

Mrs. J. D. McKenzie,

Miss Mary Fraser,

Miss Bessie Fraser,

Mrs. David Reynolds,

Mr. Angus Rankin,

Mr. D. M. Matheson.

Fifty-one Sessions were held in 1906. Total attendance 5,521. Average, 108. Total contributions, \$100.00—less than two cents per Sabbath per scholar.

Enrolled Dec. 31, 1906—Females, 93; Males, 60; total 153.

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Total Contribution by Classes.

PRIMARY DEPT.

Mrs Charles Stewart.....	\$10.66
Mrs. J. D. McKenzie (3 months)	4.00

JUNIOR DEPT.

Mrs. John McQuarrie.....	\$ 10.54
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INTERMEDIATE DEPT.

Miss Mary Fraser.....	\$ 7.72
Mrs. Nettie McKay (2 days).....	.21
Miss Bessie Fraser.....	10.19
Mrs. David Reynolds.....	8.91
Mr. Robert Fraser.....	3.68
Miss Mamie Murray.....	6.67

SENIOR DEPT.

Mr. Angus Rankin.....	\$ 7.32
Mrs. D. M. Matheson.....	13.66
Mr. D. M. Matheson (8 months).....	15.62

Total by all classes, \$100.00: total expend. \$84.86; balance, \$15.14.

Our Sabbath School is now in a healthy condition. Under God its prosperity is due to the unremitting toil and unabated interest in the work on the part of the teachers. Punctuality is among the teachers' strongest assets. Visitors have repeatedly told us that our school is one of the first in point of behavior. We think our boys and girls deserve this worthy commendation. The annual Christmas concert, in which the children so admirably took part, was satisfactory to all present. Following the exercises, gifts were given to the pupils in the Primary, Junior and Intermediate departments, and bags of candy to the whole school. Prizes for perfect attendance—a Bible each—were awarded to Cassie Hood and James Conway. The Great Teacher called one of our scholars to the Higher School—LIZZIE McDONALD. The bereaved parents have our sincere sympathy in the loss sustained. She was much beloved.

The school contributed \$10.00 to the Japanese Famine Fund, and \$30.00 to the Foreign Missions.

In closing we would ask the continued co-operation of the parents in helping their children to be punctual and to prepare their lessons, as well as to be liberal in giving.

Let us go forward for the year 1907.

DONALD M. MATHESON, Supt
ROBERT FRASER, Assistant Supt
HARRIS MURRAY, Sec.-Treas.

ST. JOHN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORTS.

Treasurer's Report

The year just closed is the best year we have had for the last 15 years. The average collection for Sabbath was \$27.19, there being 53 Sabbaths in 1906. The loose collections for the year amounted to \$287.25, and the envelope collection was \$1050.50. Besides this there was the communion fund amounting to \$41.00, together with \$62.50 of arrears on pledges which was paid this year. I also received from a special collection for the Bible Society \$39.00. Monthly collections for the Manse debt were in all \$237.30. Receipts from pew rent were \$33.44. The Treasurer also received from the Treasurer of the Ladies' Aid Society \$100.00, and from the Treasurer of the Y. P. S. C. E. \$100 toward liquidating the Manse debt. The sum of \$86.10 was received for missions since adopting the weekly envelope system

EXPENDITURES :

Coal.....	\$ 31 35
Pipe and fitting.....	4 00
Electric Light.....	59 27
Painting church fence.....	20 70
Insurance.....	16 00
Interest.....	10 00
Sexton.....	130 00
Rev. D. M. Matheson, to acct.....	900 00
Anthem books.....	10 00
Sundries for vestry.....	1 31
Sundries.....	1 85
Secy and Treasurer.....	20 00
Presbytery fund.....	4 00
Ballots and envelopes.....	2 10
Repairing and tuning organ.....	5 00
Envelopes.....	4 00
Labor at church grounds.....	3 00
Water rates.....	10 00
Sewerage (opposite manse).....	20 00
Communion supplies.....	6 00
Pulpit supply.....	40 00
Total.....	\$128 50

Report of Trustees

In presenting their annual report the Trustees desire to thank the congregation for the liberality that has been so well sustained during the past year. The monthly collections made for the reduction of the manse debt met with encouraging response.

ST. JOHN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Board desire to thank the Ladies' Society and the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor for their handsome donations of \$100.00 each toward liquidating the debt on manse. The present indebtedness on the congregation is \$303.79 as compared with \$870.00 on Dec. 31st, 1905. The Treasurer's statement accompanies this report and contains full information as to the standing of the congregation.

Your Board would urge that the above indebtedness be made up at an early date, and show a clean sheet. Your Trustees desire the congregation to join in thanking the members of the Choir for their regular attendance at the Sabbath and week services and valuable assistance rendered the church.

Respectfully Submitted,

JOHN MCQUARRIE, Chairman.

JAMES SUTHERLAND

ANGUS MCKAY

CHAS STEWART

WILLIAM SUTHERLAND

ROBERT FRASER

Trustees.

N. B.—Next year the Trustees intend to prepare a full list of the contributors and the amount which each contributes to the support of the church, and have same included and printed in the annual report.

Financial Summary for Year Ending 1906.

	Balance Dec. 31, '05	Received in 1906	Expended in 1906	Balance Dec. 31, '06
Ladies' Aid Society.....	\$ 77.67	\$ 106.16	\$ 166.63	\$ 17.19
Y. P. S. C. E.....		101.74	100.00	1.74
W. F. M. S.....		12.51		12.51
Mission Band.....		1.40		1.40
Sabbath School.....		100.00	84.86	15.14
Bible Society.....		39.00	39.00	
Schemes of the Church.....		86.10	86.10	
Debt Fund.....		237.30	237.30	
Church Revenue.....		1,474.69	1,474.69	
Total.....	\$ 77.69	\$2,158.90	\$2,188.59	\$47.98

According to the Treasurer's Report there was a balance, after all running expenses had been paid, of \$142.67. This balance was paid out in reducing the debt. Hence the reason for no balance in the above summary. The debt in December, 1905, was \$870.00. Of that amount \$566.21 was paid last year, leaving still a debt of \$303.79.

Baptisms.

James Alexander Fraser
Margaret Daisy Urquhart
Clarence Stanford Burden
Elmer William Campbell
Gertrude Lillian McKenzie
George Fraser Keith
Annie Baker
Charlotte Barbara Baker
David Conway
James Fulton McKeen
Willina Edna Urquhart
Mabel Sutherland.
Agnes Dyer Burden

Marriages.

Dr. Barry H. Calkin,
Margaret Ellen McKenzie.

H. F. Chabassol,
Jane Wilson Johnston.

Duncan Chisholm,
Mary Gunn.

James W. Bartley,
Georgina M. McKenzie

William Hatfield,
Margaret Hayman.

Robert Blackwood,
Jessie Childs.

Frederick D. Murray,
Addie Sutherland.

Albert Edward Yuill,
Elizabeth MacDonald

John G. Clark,
Lucy Cullen.

Duncan Kerr,
Agnes Allen.

IN MEMORIAM.

**Mrs. James Tupper
James Stewart, Sr.
Dan. Fraser
George Blackwood
Finlay Fraser
Mrs. James Hood
Mrs. McDonald
David Gunn
John McKenzie
Infant Son of Mr. and Mrs.
J. J. Fraser
Infant son of Mr. and Mrs.
Dan McKenzie
Lizzie MacDonald**