

HALIFAX REGION
United Baptist Association

ANNUAL REPORT BOOK

Saturday March 23, 2024
West End Baptist Church

Our Mission:

Encourage the Churches to obey the Great Commandment – “A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another (John 13:34).

Fulfill the Great Commission – Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:18-20).

Preserve the unity of the church – “Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to one hope when you were called – one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all” (Ephesians 4:36)

~The Association will fulfill this mission by being a fellowship based organization, providing resources, training and engaging staff appropriate to its Ministries, in cooperation with the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada. There are 31 churches in the Halifax Region United Baptist Association (HRUBA). We affiliate together to share in Ministry in areas of Chaplaincy, Camping, Home Missions and other forms of outreach.



Rules Of Order

- 1) Every sitting of the Meeting of the Association Body of Delegates shall be opened and closed with prayer.
- 2) Adequate time shall be allotted in the opening session for a devotional.
- 3) Persons invited to a seat may speak on all subjects under debate, but would have no vote.
- 4) Every speaker shall address the Chair and shall identify themselves and their Church.
- 5) No person shall speak for more than three minutes on any subject without permission of the Body.
- 6) No person shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission of the Body.
- 7) Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the Minutes unless so ordered at the time. When the Motion is not recorded, the Minutes shall note the subject of the discussion.
- 8) The government of the Body and the regulations of its proceedings shall be strictly in accordance with parliamentary usage so called.
- 9) When a Church is received into the membership of the Association the Moderator shall give the "Right Hand of Fellowship" to one of its Delegates.
- 10) At the commencement of each session, except the first, the Minutes of the previous session shall be presented and approved, and the Minutes of the final session shall be approved by Council.
- 11) Resolutions shall be presented in writing when so desired by the Moderator or the Clerk.
- 12) Immediately after the opening of the Meeting these rules shall be distinctly read by the Clerk.

HRUBA AGM 2024 Agenda

March 23, 2024, 9-1pm,
West End Baptist Church

Agenda

Welcome: Moderator - Dr. Frank Guinta Jr.

Worship: West End Baptist family

Call to Order: Dr. Frank Guinta Jr

Treaty Land Acknowledgement: Past Moderator/Clerk – Ann Taylor

We acknowledge that we are meeting in Mi'kma'ki (meek ma gee), the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. As we perform our work today, we commit to the work it takes to create a culturally safe, inclusive, and anti-racist culture within our HRUBA meetings and events. We acknowledge the equality of all communities and, we encourage respect and kindness toward these communities, in this meeting and in our daily lives.

Rules of Order: Clerk – Ann Taylor
Timekeeper: Moderator team – Rev Scott Kohler

Quorum Count:
Approval of the Agenda

Introduction of New Pastor: Erica Corbin, Faith
Derreck Thorne,
Matt Thomas, New Beginnings
Rev Pamela Estey, St Margaret's Bay
Rev Raphael Iluyomade, New Beginnings

Approval of AGM minutes of March 14, 2023

Vote to Receive all reports as distributed (excluding Finance, Nomination, and Licensing)

Finance/Budget Report: Linda Crilley – Financial Advisor

Licensing Report: Rev. Darren Millett - Chair

Nominating Report: Ann Taylor - Chair

Other Business:

- a) Ratification vote of Council decisions- re: Constitution
- b)

Announcements:

- a) Small Church Retreat @ Life Branch, Dartmouth – hosted by Hill Chapel (formerly SCCC)
- b)

Motion for Adjournment

Closing Prayer

Moderator – Dr Frank Guinta

Presentations:

- Hospital Chaplaincy – Rev Joe Green
- Bayside Camp – Joshua Throop

Closing word:

Dr Frank Guinta Jr

Luncheon Grace:

Rev John Purdy

HRUBA Minutes AGM 2023

(via Zoom)

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 @ 7pm (Chat at 6:45 pm)

Minutes

The Executive signed on at 6:30pm to be sure all was in order, for the meeting at 7pm. Delegates and guests started to sign on at 6:45pm.

Welcome and Call to Order by Rev Dr Frank Guinta—Moderator; thank you to all for attending the meeting, then instructions were given by Dave Gibson regarding voting, comments/questions, and being muted unless speaking.

The Treaty Land Acknowledgement was read by Lee Nicholas-Pattillo—Council Member at Large.

Devotion and Opening Prayer – Rev John Purdy

Frank led the meeting with a devotional time, as John Purdy was unable to attend. He read Eph 4:11-16, followed by a short talk on equipping leaders for the tough work ahead of them; about teaching others and equipping them for ministry and the message to the flock they are caring for. How they are to care for, communicate, affirm, and recognize the gifts and accomplishments of others. Must not dwell on weaknesses but work out of the strength from God. Give of their time and energy; maintain focus and take ownership, with God's help, of ministry. Become resourceful and make expectations of others, clear; eliminate unnecessary burdens. When leaders see others doing good, compliment them and encourage them in what they are doing. Devotions were closed with prayer.

Rules of Order (page 4 of Annual Report Book) were read by Ann Taylor—Past Moderator/Clerk.

Timekeeper: Council appointed Dave Gibson—Council Member. It was approved by the body.

Quorum count: (15 delegates of member churches plus 5 members of Council), was conducted by Dave Gibson.

- 33 delegates signed on to the meeting.
- 15 churches were represented.
- 8 Council Members – 5 representing Council with rest representing their church.
- 4 members of the Hospital Chaplaincy Committee were present plus 1 Chaplain.

Approval of Agenda: (Frank Guinta - Moderator)

Motion: That we accept the **agenda** as printed on page 5 of the Annual Report Book.

Moved by Ann Taylor; Seconded by Rev Marlene Knowles

Motion passed.

Introduction of New Pastors:

1. Pastor Terry Henderson – 1st Baptist, Hammonds Plains
2. Scott Kolher – Bedford Baptist
3. Rev Dr Elias Mutale – Interim South End Baptist
4. Rev Joe Green – new Hospital Chaplain

Approval of AGM Minutes of Tuesday, March 22, 2022, as printed in the Annual Report Book pages 6-11.

Any errors or omissions: None

Motion: That the Minutes of the AGM Tuesday, March 22, 2022 be adopted as printed and circulated.

Moved by Lee Nicholas-Pattillo; Seconded by Linda Crilley

All in Favor please raise their hand. Those Opposed please raise their hand. Motion passed.

Vote to receive all other printed reports in the Annual Report Book excluding Finance/Budget, Licensing and Nominating.

Motion: That the Annual Reports of the Moderator and Committees of Council be adopted as printed.

Moved by Wanda Matthews, Bethel Baptist; Seconded by Lic Raphael Ibryomade, New Beginnings.

Any comments or questions: None

Motion passed.

Finance/Budget report and vote: Linda Crilley - Treasurer

Presentation of the Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2022, page 12 of the Annual Report Book.

Motion: That the Financial Report for 2022 be approved as printed on page 12 of the Annual Report Book.

Moved by Linda Crilley; Seconded by Wanda Matthews, Bethel Baptist

Any comments or questions: None

Motion passed.

Presentation of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 by Linda Crilley-Treasurer, page 13 of Annual Report Book

Motion: That the Budget for 2023 be adopted as printed on page 13 of the Annual Report Book.

Moved by Linda Crilley; Seconded by Wanda Matthews, Bethel Baptist

Any comments or questions: Linda mentioned that “Dues is HRUBA’s main revenue stream to support the ministries we do better together; there would be no increase for 2023 but that an increase was coming and would be announced in the Fall.

Inquiry about St Margaret’s Bay/Birchy Head churches? In Transition; be in prayer for them; HRUBA to offer help.

Motion passed.

Licensing Report: Rev Darren Millett-Chair

Presentation of the report from the Licensing Committee found on page 22 of the Annual Report Book.

Motion: On behalf of the Association Licensing Committee, I move the adoption of the recommendations found on page 22 of the Annual Report regarding the approval of Licenses to minister and Lay Licenses to Minister.

Moved by Rev Darren Millett - Chair; Seconded by Rev Joe Green, Hospital Chaplain

Any comments or questions: None

Motion passed.

Nominating Committee Report: presented by Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

Presentation of the report found on page 23 of the Annual Report Book

Motion: That the Report of the Nominating Committee be adopted as printed on page 3 of the Annual Report Book and that the HRUBA Council be authorized to fill any vacancies for Officers, Members of Council and Members of Committees, subject only to a ratification vote at the next AGM.)

Moved by Lee Nicholas-Pattillo; Seconded by Wanda Matthews, Bethel Baptist.

Lee talked about the vacancies now and coming up (pages 24-26 of the Annual Report Book); all ages needed for Council; job shadowing encouraged, especially for executive positions.

Question asked: Wondering what happened to 3 Vice Moderators? Not enough volunteers.

Comment: Executive members have been in their positions longer than the 1 year term outlined in Constitution; Executive/Council members willing to walk with new members; council has done many great things despite the Pandemic; church support is good; people investment is needed.

Any further nominations: None

Motion passed.

Ratification of Council Decisions

1. Appointment of new members to the Halifax Baptist Hospital Chaplaincy Committee (Alan Barkhouse)

Motion: That the decision of the HRUBA Council to appoint the following new members to the Halifax Baptist Hospital Chaplaincy Committee be ratified:

Rev. Wayne Desmond – South Shore

Steve Baker - AUBA

Lic Sharon White - Amherst

Moved by Alan Barkhouse, seconded by Rev Joe Green.

Support coming from all over NS; more from outside HRUBA. Thank you to the new Committee members for volunteering their time and expertise to this work.

Motion passed.

2. February 2, 2023 Revisions to the HRUBA Policies and Procedures Manual (Dave Gibson) – Ratification by member churches.

Motion: That the decision of the HRUBA Council to adopt the changes to the HRUBA Policy and Procedures Manual as noted in the June 1, 2021 revision be ratified.

Moved by David Gibson, seconded by Linda Crilley.

Discussion or questions: None

Motion passed.

Other business and Announcements:

1. Small Church Pastors Event: March 25, 2023 (in person) – at Life Branch, Dartmouth; 50 or less in membership; time of encouragement; Harry Gardner to close retreat; 25 registered.

2. Encounter with Terry: April 15, 2023 (in person) – postponed due to health issues; Rev Dr Garth Williams is the Point person till such time as Rev Dr Terry Atkinson is able to return or term is up.

3. Fall Fellowship Event: Date TBA (in person)

4. HRUBA Website: needed to be updated, revised, and revamped. This has been done. Please check it out and give feedback to David Gibson.

Other Business from the floor: Beth Drummond sent a message about retirement celebration for Peter Reid, late May, or early June, in Moncton; ticketed event. Another one will happen at Oasis for all. CBAC Council meet in April; this will be on the agenda; announcement shortly after that meeting.

Motion for Adjournment: (Frank Guinta)

Moved by Rev Linda DeMone, Uniacke Baptist

Motion passed.

Closing Prayer: Lic Raphael Ibryomade

Respectfully submitted by

Ann Taylor, Past Moderator/Clerk

Financial Report 2023

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Halifax Regional United Baptist Association					
Statement of Revenue and Expenses 2023					
		Budget 2024	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022
Revenue	Operations				
	Canadian Baptist of Atlantic Canada	\$ 1,500.00	\$601.51	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,319.70
	Dues*	\$ 27,000.00	\$27,776.90	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 25,168.61
	Home Mission				
	Interest	\$ 250.00	282.08	\$250.00	\$ 189.27
	Offerings and Donations	\$ 1,000.00	\$11,170.60	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Designated gift from other Reg charity		\$1,700.00		\$ 200.00
Total Revenue		\$ 29,750.00	\$41,531.09	\$ 38,750.00	\$ 32,877.58
Expenses	Operations				
	Bank Service Charges	\$ 100.00	\$70.64	\$ 100.00	\$ 60.00
	Oasis Delegates	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,033.47	\$ 500.00	\$ 212.50
	Bayside Fall Banquet	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	Honorariums			\$ 650.00	
	Administration	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,052.31	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 923.28
	Dalhousie Studentsuppers		\$500.00		
	Education & Development	\$ 1,500.00	\$1,459.90	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,223.00
	Wild Fire Relief		\$1,500.00		
	CBAC Donation		\$1,000.00		
	Sub-Total	\$ 4,100.00	\$7,116.32	\$ 4,250.00	\$ 3,918.78
	Bayside Mortgage	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Bayside Operations	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Chaplaincy	\$ 20,000.00	\$26,200.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 17,700.00
	Home Missions	\$ 3,500.00	\$3,125.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
	Refugee Fund			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Total Expenses		\$37,600.00	\$46,441.32	\$43,250.00	\$36,118.78
Net Income		-\$ 7,850.00	-\$ 4,910.23	-\$ 4,500.00	-\$ 3,241.20
Cash balance beginning of year Scotia bank		\$ 8,028.20	\$ 13,220.51	\$ 13,220.51	\$16,650.98
ABF investment account beginning of year		\$ 9,027.01	\$ 8,744.93	\$ 8,744.93	\$8,555.66
Total		\$ 17,055.21	\$ 21,965.44	\$ 21,965.44	\$25,206.64
Cash Balance End of year Scotia bank		\$ 178.20	\$ 8,028.20	\$ 8,470.51	\$13,220.51
ABF investment end of year		\$ 9,277.01	\$ 9,027.01	\$ 8,994.93	\$8,744.93
Total		\$ 9,455.21	\$ 17,055.21	\$ 17,465.44	\$21,965.44
Trade Account	Established in 2022 to enable HRUBA to receive donations by transfers of publicly traded stocks or cash				
Opening balance Jan 1 2023		\$ 10,426.00			
Donated Shares 2023		\$ 10,272.25			
Donated Shares 2023		\$ 4,757.20			
Sales of shares loss		-\$ 6.74			
Cash Transfer to HRUBA operating fund		-\$ 10,000.00			
Dividends		\$ 493.00			
Dec 31 2023 Share Value		\$ 16,388.75			
Dec 31 2023 Cash in Account		\$ 759.51			
	Balance Dec 31 2023	\$ 17,148.26			

Membership and Dues

Membership and Dues			
\$16 Per Resident Member	2023		2022
	#	Dues Rec'd	Dues Rec'd
Bayers Road	113	\$ 1,712.00	\$1,808.00
Bayside	24		
Bedford	203	\$ 3,104.00	
Bethel	36	\$ 640.00	\$576.00
Birch Cove	163	\$ 2,608.00	\$3,280.00
Birchy Head	36		\$576.00
Elmsdale	26		
Faith	106	\$ 1,700.00	\$1,700.00
Life Branch (1st Dartmouth)	156	\$ 1,250.00	\$2,500.00
First Halifax	311	\$ 3,482.90	\$2,662.61
Foundation	17		
God's Army Community Fellowship		\$ 300.00	
Hammonds Plains (1st Baptist)	40	\$ 640.00	\$640.00
Immanuel	16	\$ 256.00	\$256.00
Jeddore	27		
Aurora NEP (Mulgrave)			
New Life	53	\$ 900.00	\$850.00
New Beginnings	160	\$ 5,120.00	
Regal Heights	66		\$3,168.00
Sackville United Baptist	52	\$ 656.00	
Sackville Christian Fellow	25	\$ 400.00	\$400.00
St. Margaret's Bay	100		\$1,600.00
Shiloh Community Church	29	\$ 464.00	\$464.00
South End	60	\$ 960.00	\$960.00
Spryfield Christian Community	5	\$ 96.00	\$80.00
Stevens Road	87	\$ 1,376.00	\$1,392.00
Timberlea	38	\$ 496.00	\$608.00
Uniacke	28	\$ 448.00	\$448.00
West End	73	\$ 1,168.00	\$1,200.00
TOTAL	2,050	\$27,776.90	\$25,168.61

Home Missions

Home Missions 2023			
Churches	2024 Budget	2023 Actual	2023 Budget
1st Baptist, Hammonds Plains		\$ 625.00	\$ 2,500.00
Gods Army Community Fellowship	\$2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Spryfield	\$650.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Unallocated Funds	\$850.00		\$ 2,000.00
Total	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 7,000.00
Bayside Camp Mortgage	\$5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,000.00

HRUBA Moderators Report

February 2024

Each year the Lord gives me a life verse or scripture passage to live by. This year I have had the joy to think on Jeremiah 29:10-14.

This is what the Lord says: (“*You will be on Mission for several years*”) But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again. ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² In those days when you pray, I will listen. ¹³ If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. ¹⁴ I will be found by you,” says the Lord. “I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land.”

You will take note that I have taken the liberty to interpret from the tenth verse the words “in Babylon” and have inserted “on Mission for several years.” The Moderatorship of HRUBA has indeed been a mission for me. It has been a challenging mission offering opportunities to engage several associational gatherings of leadership within our 30 churches. These events have been both instructive and rewarding, helping us to connect our churches in a unique fellowship that potentially gives us the opportunity for collaborative ministry. I'm grateful that you have given me this privilege, that you have worked with me bringing advancement in the areas of our governance, our policies, our relationships with Bayside Camp and the Hospital Chaplaincies as well as bridging relationships with CBAC.

This past year we have seen several changes in the leadership of the Executive and Association Council. It is with gratitude that I extend heartfelt gratefulness for the collaboration I have received from leaders like Ann Taylor, David Gibson, Linda Crilley, John Purdy, Darren Millett, Scott Kohler, Raphael Funwa Iluyomde, Russell Sketchley, Alan Barkhouse, Tim Cheprasov, Josh Throop, and Joe Green. Each in their respective roles have served us well and have helped us advance the Mission of HRUBA.

This coming year we have the potential of a very effective leadership. It is young, creative, and energetic willing to take on the responsibility of ensuring the Association will remain strong, innovative, and progressive. Please pray as we vote these new leaders in that God will richly use them to move our mission forward. We are offering you as Executive John Purdy, Scott Kohler, Tim Cheprasov, Russell Sketchley, Raphael Funwa Iluyomde and on Council Darren Millett, Alan Barkhouse Josh Throop, and Joe Green.

We are saying farewell to Frank Guinta as Moderator, Ann Taylor as Clerk, Linda Crillery as financial advisor, and David Gibson as Communication Director. These people have served for a very long while. We are very grateful for their dedicated work within the Association and wish them well as they now go to other ministries and home activities that need their attention.

A description of our activities is recorded in the Report Book. We offer these reports as our way of being held responsible and accountable to the mission with which you have entrusted us. It has been a joy to serve you.

Blessings

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Guinta Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Rev. Dr. Frank Guinta Jr.
HRUBA Moderator

Halifax Baptist Chaplaincy Committee Report

For the 2023 Fiscal Year



As we present our Report for the 2023 Fiscal Year, we have much for which we are thankful!

We have three new members of our committee: Rev. Wayne Desmond who pastors in the African United Baptist Association (AUBA), Pastor Steve Baker from Queens County NS, and Licentiate Sharon White from Cumberland County NS (presently on an educational leave of absence).

The last three years have been full of change and challenge—both for the Hospital Chaplaincy Ministry and for the local churches and associations that give us their support. Fortunately, during COVID-19, our chaplains were considered “*essential workers*” in our hospitals and were welcomed even when local pastors were not.

Our new full-time chaplain, the Rev. Joe Green, completed his first year with us, working primarily at the QEII Halifax Infirmary and Victoria General sites.

On April 18, 2023 we received notice from the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care that Joe had been awarded the designation CASC/ACSS Certified Spiritual Care Practitioner. We celebrate with Joe!

About once each month Joe has been visiting local churches and associations to either speak about the Hospital Chaplaincy Ministry or to preach a guest sermon. This year, Joe also offered short “visitation workshops” for local pastors covering topics such as infection control, confidentiality and best practices that a number of pastors have found very useful. Please contact Joe directly (joe.green@nshealth.ca) if you would like him to visit your church, would like to attend one of the workshops, or to suggest a topic for a future workshop.



The Hospital Chaplaincy Committee has endorsed Joe’s participation in the training of the next generation of chaplains through delivery of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) courses and supervision of the students as they do their practical work in the hospitals. This has helped to educate theology students from Acadia Divinity College and from the Atlantic School of Theology. The students assisted Joe in visiting our Baptist patients and families.

We are also blessed by the continuing ministry of the Rev. Dr. Ida Armstrong-Whitehouse, our part-time chaplain, who works an average of 12 hours per week primarily at the QEII Victoria General site, the IWK Health Centre and the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation and



Arthritis Centre. Ida's compassionate ministry brings peace and solace to many.

With the increasing number of patients desiring chaplaincy visits and the limited availability of local pastors from distant locations, Joe and Ida are in heavy demand.

Joe describes a typical morning. It begins with printing off a list of all registered Baptists in our hospitals. This morning that was 53 patients who have identified from within our denomination. We take note of not only their presenting issue for admission but we also note from where they come from in the region. Today a little more than a third of the patients come from outside of the HRM. We prioritize those in ICU and those patients from much

farther away as they may not have their support systems with them while in Halifax. For those within HRM on this day, 30% come from the Bedford/Sackville area, 45% come from Halifax, and the remaining 25% are evenly split between Dartmouth and rural places in HRM. Many of these HRM folk are connected to our HRUBA churches and we value the partnership and communication from the churches to enable us to effectively come alongside patients and their families.

We are thankful that financial support for the chaplaincy enables us to continue to supplement Joe's full time ministry with Ida's part time chaplaincy. Ida's stats for the 2023: 689 visits to patients and their families, 94 calling cards and greeting cards to patients, 203 interactions with staff, 83 charting. This is a significant additional ministry!

Ida notes that because of the nature of their team work with staff, our chaplains are in a unique position to do follow-up with medical staff following a visit with a patient. If that is not feasible, to chart, with the patient's permission, on the patient's binder some area of distress and gratitude. This helps the patient to have a more holistic healing experience.

For example, when our chaplains discovered that a patient was having cancer treatment and had to be enclosed in a mask, she was claustrophobic. The chaplains were able to let staff know and, in turn, staff were able to assist the patient in her distress.

Ida notes a particular problem with the IWK hospital, where the chaplains do not have the same access to a computerized registry of Baptist patients. They work on a referral basis only. This makes it difficult if they do not know when a child has been admitted and the child or family might need their services. Recently, the chaplains received a difficult referral. A five week old infant was flown in from a neighbouring province with cardiac arrest. The parents of the child spoke very little English but their faith was very important to them. Through technology, chaplaincy was able to provide a dedication service that the parents requested. They were very appreciative of this ministry as it reminded them of God's presence in the midst of such heartache. Please help us to know when a child has been admitted!

Our chaplains have a particular message to local churches. “Church is Key to Care”: As you can imagine, a number of our patients are elderly and are often widowed and living alone. One of the central themes the chaplains attempt to address is loneliness and belonging. Recently, our chaplains were supporting a patient where these themes became apparent. They hadn’t been to church in over 50 years, but read their bible and were eager to learn more. The patient really craved relationship and connection. As they were able to say these things out loud and felt heard about them, they engaged our chaplains on how to connect to a local church. Our chaplains were able to print off some information from a couple of churches in the patient’s neighbourhood. At the patient’s request, our chaplains connected them with a local pastor. This was important to the patient as it helped to meet their needs and brought some reassurance that their loneliness may be addressed once they were discharged. This is one way in which local churches can partner in our compassionate ministry.

Two things are apparent to our chaplains in this kind of moment. First, that while in hospital, when a patient is supported well they heal better. Second, those who are supported in community and have a faith connection have lower levels of distress on the whole. Churches and our partnership with them is a key to the overall level of care we can offer patients and to walk well with them as neighbours.

Our chaplains have two important items to relay to our HRUBA Congregations. First, upon admission, front line staff should ask the patient about their religious affiliation. When they do, if the patient identifies as “Baptist”, then the patient will appear on the chaplain’s daily lists and can be supported during their time in hospital. The other important thing our chaplains do is try to assess the layers of support that patients have. If it is clear that they are connected to a church then the chaplain will often ask if they would like them to contact their pastor. This can help church leaders to know how to support a congregant either in hospital or when they get home. Conversely, it is always helpful for chaplains to know if a pastor is coming in to visit someone as they will spread out their visitation to support the local pastor’s. Hospital visits by local pastors and support from local churches is important.

Our chaplains are always happy to have someone call them to say that a patient is coming to one of the Halifax hospitals. Contact information for the chaplains and a brochure that can be given to those anticipating a hospitalization is on the Hospital chaplaincy page of the HRUBA Website, <https://www.hruba.ca/ministries/hospital-chaplaincy>. Patient referrals from the local churches help to ensure that no one is missed.

As we look to the future, we recognize the challenge of keeping the Hospital Chaplaincy Ministry fully funded. The cost of providing the chaplaincy ministry has increased and so our financial support must also increase. Every donation helps and the support of local churches will help to meet our budget continuing to provide a full level of service to Baptists in Halifax hospitals. Faithful prayer and financial partners are so important to sustain this caring ministry and we give thanks for each one of you!

Unfortunately, in 2022, we had a significant shortfall in our fundraising, leaving us with a deficit of \$16,973 which significantly reduced our reserve funds. We were particularly concerned because we realize how difficult it is in these times for many churches to maintain the same level or to increase their financial support.

In 2023, we were right on target with expenditures and although at \$9,999 we had a larger deficit than what we had estimated in the 2023 Budget, it was down considerably from the 2022 deficit. Additionally, we were able to absorb the \$2,649 inflationary increase in expenditures we had budgeted for 2023. The 2023 Halifax Baptist Hospital Chaplaincy Statement of Revenue and Expenditures is on the following page. It includes comparative data from the previous four years.

Our success in 2023 was entirely due to an increase in donations. In fact, revenue was up by \$11,226 year over year. The first \$2,500 of this was an increase in the grant from HRUBA and another \$2,500 was an increase in the grant from the Atlantic Baptist Foundation.

Without these critical supports, we would be in a precarious position. However, we are also starting to get donations from several Baptist Associations in other Regions, the first earnings from the Endowment Fund, and an uptake in "personal" and "memorial" donations. So, we are broadening our sources of income, with beneficial results.

Clearly, there is more work to do in 2024--with Regional Baptist Associations, with the Endowment Fund, and with continued efforts to increase awareness among our supporting churches and individuals. We are also examining the possibility of support from Acadia Divinity College and the Atlantic School of Theology in consideration of our chaplain's work instructing and supervising Clinical Pastoral Education in the hospital for Divinity and Chaplaincy students. The broader we can make our sources of revenue, the more secure the ministry will be.

Going forward, it will only be with the prayerful support of all our financial partners that we will be able to maintain the present level of our shared Chaplaincy Ministry to our Baptist patients and families. For each local church, association, foundation and individual partner that is able to help us we give thanks!

Respectfully submitted,



Chair: Alan Barkhouse

Secretary: Rev. Dr. Marlene Knowles; Treasurer: David Gibson

Members: Rev. Wayne Desmond, Rev. Steve Baker, and Lic. Sharon White

Chaplains: Rev. Joe Green and Rev. Dr. Ida Armstrong-Whitehouse

HALIFAX BAPTIST HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

2023 Fiscal Year Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

		Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	Year ended December 31	2023	2022	2021	2020	2020	2019
Revenue					(COVID-19 Reduced)	(COVID-19 Reduced)	
Donations from Churches							
PEI		\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,100		\$ 2,000
New Brunswick			1,250	750	750		1,500
Halifax Region		12,760	9,420 *	15,146	13,302		17,729
Rest of Nova Scotia		22,821	22,791	25,791	24,239		24,777
Donations from Churches Subtotal		36,831	34,711	42,937	39,391		46,006
Grants and Special Donations							
HRUBA Budget		20,000	17,500	17,500	17,550		17,500
Other Associations		2,650					
Atlantic Baptist Foundation		12,500	10,000	10,000	10,000		10,000
Christie Fund							2,000
Earnings from Endowment Fund		760					
Personal and Memorial Donations		8,308	1,812	1,056			
Chaplain Retirement Donations			5,800				
Grants and Special Donations Subtotal		44,218	35,112	28,556	27,550		29,500
Total revenue		81,049	69,823 *	71,493	66,941		75,506
Expenditures							
Full-time Chaplain: Salary and Benefits		70,972	63,102	58,395	43,955		56,405
Chaplain Retirement			5,000				
Part-time Chaplain: Salary and Benefits		17,531	16,698	13,138	12,780		15,495
Chaplains Subtotal		88,503	84,800	71,533	56,735		71,900
Membership Fees		1,037	532				
Professional Development							
Supplies, Advertising, and Travel		1,508	1,464	469	820		1,069
Total expenditures		91,048	86,796	72,002	57,555		72,969
Excess of revenue over expenditures		-9,999	-16,973	-509	9,386		2,537
CBAC Accounting reconciliation		-1	-1		-1		-37
Cash balance, beginning of year		38,897	55,871	56,380	46,995		44,495
Cash balance, end of year		\$ 28,897	\$ 38,897 *	\$ 55,871	\$ 56,380		\$ 46,995
* Corrected by \$-3,104 to reverse a deposit incorrectly made to the this account							
Updated 20240211							

Bayside Camp and Retreat Centre

Report for ministry year 2023

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

Operations continue to grow quickly each year since 2022. Particularly in our off-season where we experienced a very full schedule in 2023 and look forward to a completely booked fall of 2024 already. Summer camps are also filling up quickly again in 2024 after a record number of 654 campers in 2023.

We continue to expand our partnership with CBAC SOZO Center for Soul Care with Cheryl Ann Beals in order to accommodate more Pastors and Lay leaders for spiritual formation retreats.

In June 2023 we hosted our first Family Camp in many years. We had Dan Pyke from CBAC Youth and Family Department as our speaker. We had 35 Family campers and look forward to growth in 2024.

2023 by the Numbers:

- 654 Summer Campers
- 75 Summer Staff and Volunteers
- 40 Men's Retreat Participants
- 35 Family Campers
- 33 CORE Leadership Grads
- \$25,000 in outside Camper Sponsorships
- \$16,000 in Bayside Financial Aid
- \$120,000 raised in Donations
- Over 900 School Group Day Campers
- Over 1000 Guest Group Participants

We continue to appreciate both Cheryl Throop who coordinated our two special events this fall and Linda Crilley who faithfully serves as bookkeeper/treasurer.

We also thank Bernie Levy who came alongside me to coordinate the new lodge roof which was completed in 2023! We had over 25 volunteers over the fall of 2022 and spring 2022 who helped with this project!

We so appreciate and welcome your continued prayers and support. Please feel free to reach out to joshua@baysidecamp.org or 902-868-2267.

Thanks so much!

Joshua Throop

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Throop', written over a white background.

Executive Director

Communications Committee Report

For the 2023 Fiscal Year

This is the first annual Report from this committee that was established earlier this year. An update to the Policy and Procedures Manual, with Terms of Reference for the committee, was approved by the HRUBA Council at its June 22, 2023 meeting. See pages 17 and 18 of the P&P Manual: [Establishing Terms of Reference, Rules of Procedure \(hruba.ca\)](#).

The purpose of this committee is to work with the Council Executive and Association Council, coordinate the communications efforts of the Association, including hard copy and electronic communications, maintain lists of contact persons, and maintain the HRUBA Website.

By the end of the 2023 Fiscal Year, the contact lists of HRUBA Churches and HRUBA Pastors were updated and a number of emails and attached documents circulated to churches and pastors. These came from the HRUBA Executive, Council, a Committee or Ministry, or a Member Church.

The HRUBA Website has had a major re-work.

- Home Tab: has a welcome and information on important current events, such as the Annual Meeting, a link to the March 7, 2023 Letter to Member Churches and advertising several special events. It also now has three pull-down menu items, each with their own content:
 - About HRUBA: with introductory information, our Mission statement, Baptist Distinctives and a link to our brochure which includes HRUBA Objectives, Ministries and Contact Information;
 - From the Desk of the Moderator: under development; and
 - HRUBA Council: with information about the legal and operational framework of our organization, a list of current Council members, and a link to use for contact with Council, including Officers and Committee Chairs.

- Churches Tab: has been updated to include current contact information for each HRUBA Member Church.

- The Website has also been expanded to include a new Tab for Ministries, each with their own page, with current information and links to documents:
 - Bayside Camp and Retreat Centre;
 - Home Missions and New Membership;
 - Hospital Chaplaincy;
 - Pastoral Licensing; and
 - Refugees.

- News and Events Tabs: These tabs have been separated. Both have the capacity to include HRUBA content and content provided by member churches. The Events content is

linked to a Calendar which is also accessible from an UPCOMMING EVENTS side bar button.

- Documents Tab: has been created with pull down menu items for:
 - Our Governing Documents: including background information and hot links to our Memorandum of Association, By-Law #2 and Policy and Procedures Manual;
 - Annual Reports: hot links for 2022 and 2023 and Minutes from those meetings;
 - Letters to Member Churches: hot links for 2022 and 2023 Letters; and
 - Record of Events: Brief descriptions and hot links for Association special events, Annual Meetings, etc.

- Employment Tab: provides an opportunity for Association Ministries or Member Churches to post a job advertisement.

- Contact Tab: Direct email hotlinks are provided for the HRUBA President, Vice Moderator, Past Moderator and Clerk. HRUBA Committees and Ministries may be contacted through the hot link for the HRUBA Council.

Three new email addresses, linked to the website, have also been created: council@hruba.ca, registrar@hruba.ca and hospitalchaplaincy@hruba.ca. These allow for archiving of communications and attached documentation and each has email distribution lists associated with its use, which greatly improves contact with Member Churches, Pastors and ministry supporters.

Finally, I am very pleased to report that we have now found a Chair for the Communications Committee, the Rev. Scott Kohler, who will be taking over this responsibility as of January 1, 2024. Please contact Scott at scott.kohler@bedfordbaptist.ca if you have an event or other information that you would like to have circulated to our HRUBA Member Churches and Pastors or placed on the HRUBA Website, or if any of the information about your church on the Website needs to be updated.

Respectfully submitted,

David Gibson, 2023 Interim Chair

HRUBA Home Missions Report

For the 2023 Fiscal Year

For the 2024 Ministry Grant Year one Church received approval in 2023 - Spryfield Christian Community Church (Pastor: Rev Pauline Coffin). The Spryfield grant's major focus this year will focus on an initiative to small church effectiveness in ministry, that is planned for later this year. Also, efforts continue in updating church structure within their current needs.

The Atlantic Baptist Mission Board (CBAC) is our major partner in encouraging mission initiatives at the local level within our Association. Discussions at the ABMB, and with mission partners, over the last year has highlighted the need for grants to be more outreach oriented. In the years to come Churches of CBAC will need to be intentional in designing ministry initiatives with this in mind. We invite all the Churches of our fellowship to be in prayer for one another and the leading of the Holy Spirit. The Grant application process begins in mid-fall each year and culminates with submission to The Atlantic Baptist Mission Board by the end of November.

The Commission participates with the Council of HRUBA to continue the work of revisioning and renewal within our Association. Let us keep our member Churches in prayer as we seek to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ together.

In Jesus and for His Kingdom,

Rev John Purdy

Chair

HRUBA Missions Commission

HRUBA Licensing Committee

For the 2023 Fiscal Year

The Association Portion of the Licensing Committee is composed of:

Rev. Dr. Vance Arbeau, Rev. John Purdy, Rev. Darren Millett (chair).

Interviews for license to minister and lay license to minister take place in the spring and in the fall.

This year, the Association Licensing Committee did not meet for spring interviews as there were no requests for licenses or the renewal of licenses.

In the fall interviews were held, resulting in the following recommendations -

1/ It was recommended that the Council of Halifax Association approve the renewal of license to minister for:

Kevin Jolly (Aurora North End Parish)

2/ It was recommended that the Council of Halifax Association approve a license to minister for:

Nathan Sullivan (New Life Community Church)

3/ It was recommended that the Council of Halifax Association approve a lay-license to minister for:

Mennie Alba (God's Army Christian Fellowship)

Submitted by:
Darren Millett
Licensing Chair.

Nominations For 2024/2025

Officers

<u>Moderator Team:</u>	Rev. John Purdy	2024/25
(shared role/duties)	Rev Scott Kohler	2024/26
	Pastor Raphael Iluyomade	2024/26

Treasurer	Russell Sketchley	2024/25
Assistant treasurer	-----	
Clerk	Ann Taylor to retire	2024
Financial advisor	Linda Crilley to retire	2024

Financial Team

Treasurer		2024/25
Assistant Treasurer		

Council Ministries & Missions

Home Missions	Rev. John Purdy, Chair	2024/25
Licensing	Rev. Darren Millett, Chair	2024/25
Constitution	-----	2024/25
Hospital Chaplaincy	Alan Barkhouse, Chair	2024/25
Nominating	Past Moderator, Chair	
Refugee		

➤ Note: Committee Chairs are responsible for finding members for their team.

Council Members-at-large	Pastor Raphael Iluyomade - <u>Note taker</u>	2024/25
	Rev Tim Cheprasov	2024/25
CBAC Connector	Rev Dr Frank Guinta Jr	

Members Appointed to Other Organizations

Rep. to CBAC Examining Council	Rev. Dr. Frank Guinta/Rev. John Purdy	2024
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Executive Team

Moderator team
 Clerk
 Treasurer
 Members-at-Large

Respectfully submitted by



Ann Taylor, Chair as Past Moderator

Constitution Committee Report

For the 2023 Fiscal Year

Over the past year there have been no suggested amendments to the Memorandum of Association or to By-Law #2, which were both adopted at our Annual General Meeting on April 20, 2021 and subsequently approved by the Office of the Registrar, so these documents remain unchanged.

The Constitution Committee continued work on updating the Policy and Procedures Manual, making it consistent with the changes in the Memorandum of Association and By-Law #2 and adding detail. Changes to the Policy and Procedures Manual were adopted by HRUBA Council and ratified at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Association Body of Delegates, held on March 14, 2023.

Since then, work continued on updating and adding detail to several other sections of the Policy and Procedures Manual, especially with regard to policy and procedural changes that occurred with the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada that will affect our ministries and our partnerships with them. The Section on Licensing Committee has been significantly updated, including the new HRUBA/CBAC process for License to Minister and License for Lay Ministry and updated roles for the local church and for the HRUBA.

Other sections of the Policy and Procedures Manual have also been updated, including the section on Refugees, and a new section on the Communications Committee.

During the next months, further work will be required on the section Home Missions and New Membership as a result of changes being made by CBAC regarding its process for giving Home Missions Grants.

With the updating and expansion of the HRUBA Website, a webpage for our governing documents has been set up. Copies of approved documents can be found there, and notice of proposed amendments or updates to these documents will also be posted. Please see [Halifax Region United Baptist Association - Our Governing Documents \(hruba.ca\)](https://hruba.ca).

The committee continues to offer advice on governance issues to the HRUBA Executive and Council when new issues arise.

As my term is coming to an end, this will be my last report as Chair of this Committee. It has been my honour to work with the Executive, Council and Membership of HRUBA to develop and revise this family of governing documents, which reflect an active association.

Respectfully submitted,

David Gibson, Retiring Chair

HRUBA Family of Churches

Bethel
Life Branch
Foundation
Immanuel
Jeddore
New Beginnings
Regal Heights
Shiloh
South End
Stevens Road
God's Army Community Fellowship

Bedford
Head St. Margaret's
Birchy Head
Sackville
Elmsdale
Sackville Christian Fellowship
Faith
Uniacke
First Baptist, Hammonds Plains

Bayers Road
New Life
Birch Cove
Timberlea
Spryfield Christian Community
Aurora North Community Parish
First Baptist, Halifax
West End

Staying Connected:

1) Advertise your events on our **NEW** Website:

hruba.ca

2) Send your announcements to our **NEW** email address:

halifaxregionuba@gmail.com

We want to hear what is going on within your church and community. Also, if I am able, as Moderator, I would love to attend.

3) Please send all donations/written correspondence, etc to our **NEW** mailing address:

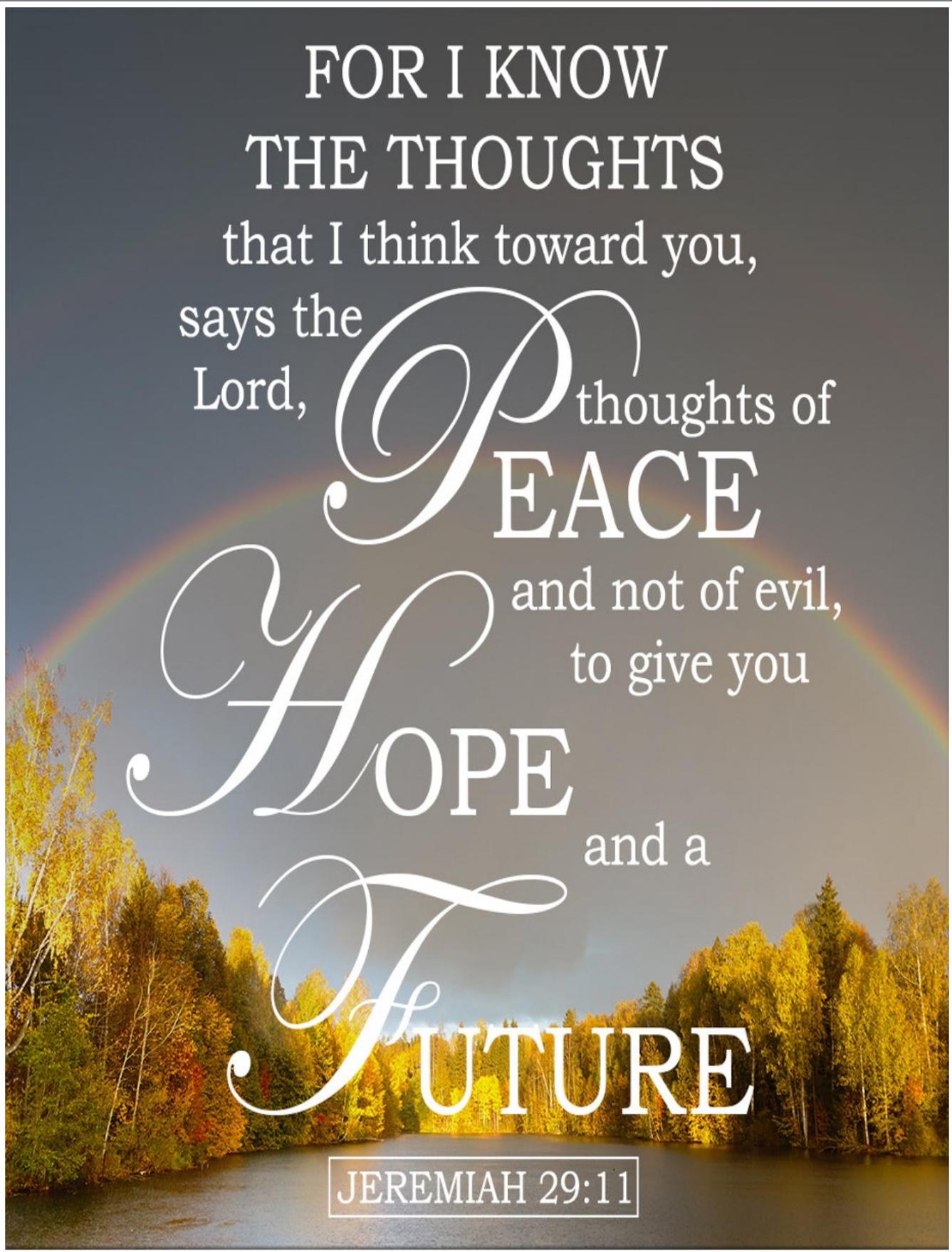
HRUBA PO Box 20034 Spryfield PO, Hfx, NS B3R 1V0

Also: Please make cheques payable to:

~HRUBA or Halifax Region United Baptist Association

4) **NEW** way to send dues/donations: [**giving@hruba.ca**](mailto:giving@hruba.ca)

Auto deposit has been set up and you will receive an auto message of direct deposit.



FOR I KNOW
THE THOUGHTS
that I think toward you,
says the
Lord, *P* thoughts of
EACE

H and not of evil,
to give you
HOPE
and a

F
UTURE

JEREMIAH 29:11