

Doaktown Pastoral Charge Community Profile #1

Doaktown is situated along the Southwest Miramichi River which is known for its salmon fishing. The village has a population of approximately 1000 people. The main industries are lumbering and recreational fishing. Two large mills – a sawmill and a finger joint mill – provide work for a large number of people. Others are employed in the woods or trucking industries. Some people work at the many sporting camps in the area, while others serve as guides to visiting fishermen and bear hunters. A Call Center in the village also offers opportunity for employment to the area.

Education is readily available for students from kindergarten through high school. The High School has a gymnasium, and Access Center and a Community library. Doaktown is about 80 kms from Miramichi City and 95 km from Fredericton. The University of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University are located in Fredericton. Both cities have Community Colleges and other opportunities for advanced education.

In our community we have many services to offer to residents and visitors. These include a department store, grocery store, hardware store, convenience stores, post office, fishing tackle shop, 2 car-repair shops (one offers retail parts), and 1 gas bar, a bank, drug store, flower shop. Sears order office, and a funeral parlor are also located in the village. Those who wish more variety travel to the malls in the cities of Fredericton or Miramichi. In the past year we are fortunate to have added a furniture store, car dealership with a small equipment rental shop and car maintenance. For those who like to eat out, we have four restaurants and a Tim Hortons that is open 24 hours per day. If overnight accommodations are needed, this village can more than adequately look after those needs with several top quality lodges/cottages. For personal care we offer several hair shops, and esthetician/massage therapist.

Our health care is provided at the Community Health Center which is staffed by one doctor, 2 nurse practitioners, several nurses and an x-ray technician. Other services such as dietician, physiotherapist, foot clinic, etc. are available at the Clinic. Specialists also come to work at the clinic on a regular basis so patients don't always have to travel to Fredericton. One other doctor works in the area. Doaktown also has a Dental Clinic with a full-time dentist.

For those who are interested in recreation, we have a curling club, an ice arena and a nine-hole golf course. Minor hockey, senior hockey and figure skating attract many people during the winter months. In the summer softball teams use the ball diamond. The New Brunswick Trail system runs through Doaktown. It is ideal for biking, walking and hiking in summer and snowmobiling, skiing in the winter months. Canoeing, hunting, cross-country skiing and fishing are favorite pastimes of many. For the golfing enthusiast, the nine-hole golf course is known in the golfing world as one of New Brunswick's best kept secrets. A recent addition to the community that is very popular is the women's gym, which is open 6 days per week.

A Self-Help Center in the village meets the needs of many who are experiencing financial hardship. Here clients can obtain groceries and purchase clothing cheaply. We also have the Royal Canadian Legion, an RCMP office, Southwest Miramichi Ambulance, a volunteer Fire Department and Forestry station. A nursing home is located in Boiestown, about 30 km away and there is a Senior's housing unit within the village.

Besides the United Church, there are 9 other churches in the area: Anglican, Roman Catholic, 2 Baptist, Wesleyan, 2 Pentecostal churches, Wesleyan Methodist, and Southern Baptist.

The Atlantic Salmon Museum and the Doak Historic Park attract many tourists each summer.

Most of the village is served by a water and sewer system. The water source is an excellent spring, formerly the property of the CNR, where a reservoir is located. The sewer system leads to a treatment plant and adjacent lagoon.

Doaktown, which has a mayor and four councilors, is a supportive, caring community. Many benefits (concerts, dances, etc) are held for those who have unexpected medical expenses or those who suffer other setbacks such as a house fire. We are proud of our community and feel we have a lot to offer others.

Pastoral Charge Profile (#2)

The Doaktown Pastoral Charge consists of two churches: St. Thomas in Doaktown and St. Augustine's in New Bandon. Both churches are located along Route 8 and are about 8 miles (13 km) apart. New Bandon is a small community situated along Highway #8. In addition to a United Church, it

has a funeral parlor and Women's Institute Hall. The Charge has a manse, which is located in Doaktown, almost across from the Church. The minister's office is located in the basement of the church.

Our faith community can best be summed up by our Mission Statement:

“Keeping our eyes upon Jesus, through prayer and praise, we aspire to be a welcoming, friendly, caring, loving community; a community which works together, one in the Spirit for the good of all; which reaches out beyond ourselves to our larger community and our world, which respects, honors and cares for all of God's Creation.”

Both congregations can be described as aging and caring with many enthusiastic volunteers. We would like to see more young people/families attend and become involved. We are involved in worship and devotional leadership. We have an active worship team who handle the service in the minister's absence. As we are kept informed about church mission, support is readily given for the Mission and Service Fund, emergency appeals, grieving families and other local situations. Groceries collected at the churches are taken monthly to the Self-Help group.

Our ecumenical work is done mainly with the Anglicans and Roman Catholics. Together we plan some services and events such as: the World Day of Prayer, and a service and torchlight parade during advent.

St. Thomas United Church, which started as a Presbyterian church, celebrated its 125th anniversary in June 2007. Services are held each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. with an average attendance of 35. Greeters welcome people to the service and pass out bulletins. Communion is celebrated 6 times a year. Since few children attend church, there are no regular Sunday School classes. We celebrate the birthdays of members of the congregation most weeks. We ask them to put money in a Birthday Bank – a penny for each year of their age – and give them a pencil. Money collected is given to the Mission and Service Fund.

St. Augustine's United Church celebrated its 97th anniversary in 2007. The congregation consists of 8 families, mainly seniors, who work hard to keep the church going both spiritually and financially. Services are held each Sunday, alternating between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. The church is usually closed during the coldest months of winter. Each service begins with a hymn sing. Average attendance is 8 – 10 people. Communion is celebrated once a month.

Statistics:

Households under pastoral care	76
Resident members	88
Active members	50
Non-resident members	34
Adherents	13
Marriages during 2007	3
Funerals during 2007	9
Baptisms during 2007	2

Ministers:

Rev. Heather Froats	2001 – present
Rev. Carol Mullen	1995 – 2000
Mrs. Joyce O'Brien	1992 – 1995
Rev. Harold Kingston	1989 – 1992

Resources Profile (#3)

The Doaktown Pastoral Charge consists of two churches: St. Thomas in Doaktown and St. Augustine's in New Bandon. St. Thomas has a finished basement and twelve stained glass windows which add to its beauty. Attached to the church is a hall with a fully-equipped kitchen. It also has a stage which provides an opportunity for drama. The insured value of the church and hall is \$509,796. A two-story manse, located in Doaktown across from the church has a garage connected to it. The insured value of this asset is \$156,000. St. Thomas also has a ten-acre woodlot with an assessed value of \$17,000.

Most of the income for the two churches comes from weekly envelopes, donations, and special offering envelopes (Easter, Anniversary, Thanksgiving and Christmas). While 50 boxes of envelopes are in circulation for 2008, some donors are regular contributors and others only give when they attend. We do not ask individuals or families to pledge each year.

The largest percentage of our expenditures involves ministry personnel with smaller amounts for maintenance, part-time staff, administration, etc. (see report)

Our Pastoral Charge has a number of faithful volunteers who help with the mission of the church. These include choir members, UCW members and those who serve on committees.

Committees

	St. Thomas	St. Augustine's
Session	6 (plus honorary)	3
Board of Stewards	9	4
Ministry and Personnel	3	1
Trustees	4	2
Manse	4	1
Building	3	-
Cemetery	5	3
Nominating	1	1
Decorating	3	-
Worship Team	6	-
Scholarship	5	-

Individuals are encouraged to participate in the work of the church by assisting in services, lectionary reading, ushering and greeting.

The members of the Board of Stewards attend to the finances of the pastoral charge. They supervise the receiving and spending of funds and prepare the annual budget (see budget of 2007)

The Building Committee is responsible for the maintenance and care of the buildings.

Part-time staff at St. Thomas United Church consists of:

Treasurer: Maureen Betts

Organist: Janice Price

Janitor: Margaret Munn

The treasurer keeps a record of all money received, maintains bank accounts, issues receipts, pays salaries and operating expenses and prepares financial

reports involved with the pastoral charge. It's difficult to assess the vast number of hours the Treasurer accumulates throughout the year, and the congregation is very grateful for the dedication of this volunteer.

The organist works approximately 5 hours a week for music preparation and choir practice. There are 11 members in the choir (3 men and 8 women), who are very faithful, singing at church services as well as the occasional community concert.

To aid in the ministry of music, St. Thomas has an organ with chimes. The hymnals we use regularly are: Songs for a Gospel People and Voices United. A public address system can be used both indoors and out. Sacred music is played outdoors before the service each Sunday. The speakers in the church also benefit those with hearing difficulties. There is a piano in the hall as well.

The janitor works approximately 2 ½ hours per week. However, she is available for extra work when needed. She cleans one day a week, adjusts the heat, and does some snow removal in winter.

The United Church Women's group at St. Thomas is actively involved in church events. It has a membership of approximately 25 and meets twice a month. They make monthly visits to the Central N.B. Nursing Home in Boiestown, provide lunches after special services, funerals, etc. They provide sponsorship for 2 adopted Grans in Jamaica and Haiti through Help-the-Aged. Funds are raised through the sale of quilts and a major fundraiser - the Christmas smorgasbord and craft sale. They contribute to various charitable organizations throughout the year and are responsible for the maintenance and care of the Manse. They oversee the collection of cash donations for the Breakfast Program at school.

Some secretarial services are available for the pastoral charge on a volunteer basis. To assist in this work, we have a computer and photocopier. We also have a TV and VCR which can be moved from place to place.

Position Profile (#4)

A questionnaire was given/sent to members and adherents of the Pastoral Charge who are under pastoral care. 38 surveys were returned with the majority of responses from people aged 50 years and over.

From the responses we received we are able to determine that we are looking for a full-time ordained minister who is willing to work with the people of the congregations and is able to adapt to life in a small community/village.

The minister will be expected to:

- prepare and conduct worship services
- arrange and conduct the sacraments of baptism and communion
- preside at weddings and funerals
- conduct visitation – especially to shut-ins, hospitals and those suffering through crisis situations.
- have an interest in children/youth and try to involve them in church activities
- provide children’s time in worship when there are children in attendance.
However, the “children at heart” also enjoy these stories so we would welcome this as a weekly feature.
- provide opportunities for Bible study
- support and encourage the mission and outreach of the pastoral charge

Skills Profile (#5)

To satisfy the requirements of the congregation, the minister should:

- have a friendly, outgoing personality
- be able to relate to people of all ages
- have good communication skills – be a good speaker and listener
- have good preaching skills
- be able to meet the spiritual needs of the pastoral charge
- be a good administrator
- be willing to participate occasionally in community activities

Accountability

The Minister will work with the Official Board and other organizations of the Pastoral Charge and should co-operate with the Ministry and Personnel Committee in all matters within their area of responsibility.

Terms Profile (#6)

Salary	as per DMC guidelines
Housing	a manse is provided
Travel	\$.39 per KM

Moving	As per DMC guidelines
Phone	basic service & cell phone
Study & Book Allowance	\$1,200
Secretarial	volunteers
Office equipment	computer, photocopier
Pension, Insurance, CPP, EI	as per schedules and guidelines
Regular Hours	40 hours per week
Vacation	4 weeks, 5 Sundays
Study Leave	3 weeks, 3 Sundays
Disability	as per DMC guidelines
Sick Days	as per DMC guidelines
Maternity/Paternity leave	as per DMC guidelines
Compassionate Leave	as per DMC guidelines
Presbytery, Conference General Council	expected, in consultation with Ministry & Personnel Committee
Community Work	expected, in consultation with Ministry & Personnel Committee

Doaktown Pastoral Charge Budget 2008

Pastoral Charge:

Ministers salary	\$	34,918.00
Travel allowance	\$	4,500.00
Study leave & book all.	\$	1,200.00
Church pension	\$	3,421.92
Group insurance	\$	3,239.28
EI premiums	\$	879.96
CPP premiums	\$	1,614.60
Phone	\$	1,200.00
Hydro	\$	1,800.00
Fire insurance	\$	500.00
Water & sewer	\$	400.00
Presbytery allocation	\$	1,650.00
Office supplies	\$	800.00
Bulletins & church envelopes	\$	500.00
Pulpit supply	\$	600.00
Conference	\$	150.00
Misc.	\$	100.00

TOTAL **\$ 57,473.76**

St. Augustines 8% **\$ 4,597.90**

St. Thomas Expenses: St. Thomas 92% **\$ 52,875.86**

Janitor	\$	800.00
Organist	\$	3,380.00
Guest speakers	\$	200.00
Church & hall:		
Fire insurance	\$	1,400.00
Hydro	\$	1,700.00
Water & sewer	\$	400.00
Fuel-church	\$	2,500.00
Fuel-hall	\$	1,500.00
Building fund expenses	\$	1,000.00
Christian Development Fund	\$	50.00
Plowing	\$	1,000.00
Decorating Committee	\$	200.00
Emergency Fund	\$	300.00
Misc.	\$	400.00
Bank Charges	\$	350.00

\$ 68,055.86