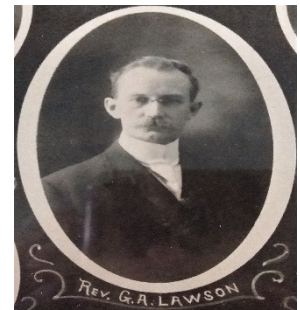




West End Baptist Church traces its roots to a missionary vision in a private home on Chestnut Street in October 1885. A year later, the Baptist Mission erected a building at the corner of Quinpool Road and Preston Street. In 1890, the Quinpool Road Baptist Church was organized with a membership of thirty one; most of whom came from the First Baptist Church, the North Baptist Church and the Tabernacle on Brunswick Street. A year later, the name was changed to West End Baptist Church. The Rev. Josiah Webb was the first Pastor.



Across the street was an old water pump where the community came together for gossip and to quench their thirst. In 1905, under the leadership of Rev. George A. Lawson, West End decided to move to our present site and erect a new building. The water pump gave way to worshippers. The doors opened on November 5, 1905.



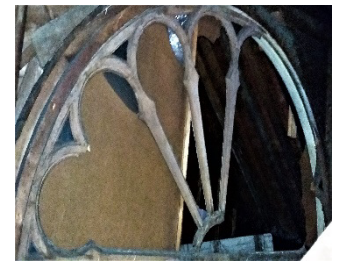
Owing to the growth of the bible school, the church began building an extra wing in 1907. It was a time of triumph; which was dashed when the building was destroyed by a great fire on the night of October 23, 1907. At a prayer meeting that night, amid a discouraged congregation, Pastor Lawson provided inspiration of hope and courage amid calamity, to rise up and rebuild at once.



This, they did, and the dedication of the splendid new building was celebrated on July 5, 1908.

West End has been a valued partner with the Quinpool Road community and beyond since its inception

After the Halifax Explosion, December 6, 1917, when so many building were rendered unfit for use, space in the Vestry was rented on week days to the Halifax Ladies College, the Halifax Chorale Society, the Halifax School Board and other organizations. Because Oxford Street School was used as a morgue, its classes met in the church basement. For those who wish to venture into the church attic, the



remnants of a damaged window is a present day reminder of the disaster.

West End was also instrumental in founding Birch Cove Baptist Church in 1959 and Calvary United Baptist Church, Spryfield in 1960 and Bayer Road Baptist Church in 1956. West End's church planting extended to Newfoundland, by way of a financial contribution to



purchase property for West End Baptist Church of St. John's. Rev. Winston Clarke, our Pastor from 1981-89, was instrumental in starting an airport chaplaincy at the Halifax International Airport. It was during this time, that the West End Baptist Christian Pre-School was organized and the new congregation of the Chinese Alliance Church began holding their worship and fellowship services at West End.

West End's long history of missions work and supply of church leaders continues today. In recent years, the church has supported many local and global missions, including supporting



the work of other local churches and a team in Croatia, children in Albania, a missionary in Serbia, a team to Israel and Germany, a tour to Hong Kong and families in Belgium and Mozambique. Our Canadian Baptist Mission partners are Jeff and Deann Carter and family in the Czech Republic and Aaron and Erica Kenny and family in Kenya. Aaron Kenny served as our Associate Pastor in 1997-98.

The triumphs during the past 126 years propel us into the future with a continuing sense of mission and service. Following the footsteps of the early members of West End, we will look upward, care inward and reach outward.

