

**THE UNITED CHURCH
OF CANADA**

**ELGIN – PORTLAND
PASTORAL CHARGE**

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



Mission Statement:

A growing, caring Christian community working together, striving to make a difference by God's grace.

Vision Statement:

The Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada, is a growing, caring Christian community that works together striving to offer people a welcoming space and resources to explore their faith, enrich their lives and empower themselves by God's grace and inclusive love.

Value Statements:

As a Christian community, we, the members of the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge value:

- 1. Christian love as the root of all values, demonstrated through respect, affection, benevolence, goodwill and concern for the welfare of others and ourselves;*
- 2. Kindness to and respect of each other, the welcoming of new people, the support of each other through difficult times and the celebrating of good news;*
- 3. The educational pursuit of equality and inclusivity regardless of gender, race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, social or economic status;*
- 4. Courage in facing challenges, overcoming personal fears and making a stand for what is right;*
- 5. Justice through fairness, the cessation of discrimination and the caring for the weak, poor and disadvantaged regardless of perceived "deservedness";*
- 6. Generosity and thankfulness, the offering of something to someone in need and the thankfulness for God's love and His care for us;*
- 7. Striving for truthfulness in sharing our convictions and associating with others, being honest and faithful to oneself and walking with others who seek to make informed moral choices;*
- 8. Forgiveness and reconciliation by not bearing grudges or seeking revenge, by repairing damaged relationships and seeking conflict resolution;*
- 9. Service and stewardship through putting the needs of others ahead of our own selfishness, and the taking of responsibility to use, not abuse, the resources of whatever nature we have been given;*
- 10. Spiritual and material⁽¹⁾ security through the sense of well-being for the whole of creation in the context of peace with God and the positive harmony and healthy relationships with people.*

Note 1: "Material" refers to the participation in and/or support of programmes and initiatives such as, but not limited to, Clothing Co-Op, Food bank, Dental Issues Group, Mission and Service.

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THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM, 2017

Alex Andrea April Price, June 4, Elgin
Ella Eugene Jennie Price, June 4, Elgin
Lily Brooks Brereton, September 3, Portland
Linda Janine Baker-Peck, October 1, Portland
Madisyn Janine Peck, October 1, Portland
Jeremy Kenneth Alexander Peck, October 1, Portland
Grayson Daniel Peck, October 1, Portland

MEMBERS WHO JOINED BY PROFESSION OF FAITH 2017

Robert and Mary Jane LeBlanc, April 16, Portland
Halle Bruton, May 14, Portland
Emily French, May 14, Portland
David French, May 14, Portland
Logan Welch-Turner, May 14, Portland
Leah Welch-Turner, May 14, Portland
Alex Andrea April Price, June 4, Elgin
Linda Janine Baker-Peck, October 1, Portland

MEMBERS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER, 2017

Hansen and Kathy Downer, April 16, Portland
Pat Greenhorn and Leighton Coatsworth, April 16, Elgin

SERVICES OF MARRIAGE, 2017

Ronald Clarence Roger Gipson and Anne Katherine Strickland, February 25 at Delta, ON
Taylor Grahame Barr Wright and Brittany Brenda Young, May 27 at Perth, ON
Luke Nicolas Mamacos and Stephen John Howlett, June 17 near Portland, ON
Quinn Joseph Campbell and Kc Buder, June 24 near Portland, ON
Benson Daniel Smith and Sarah Diane Beggs, July 22 in South Frontenac
Jason Mark Chant and Andrea Melissa Bridges, July 29 at Shannonville, ON
Hillary Fay Mustard and Cristian Quintero Vargas, September 3 near Lyndhurst, ON
Jelmer Schuurman and Laura Stephanie Coatsworth at Opinicon Resort, Elgin, ON

FUNERALS CONDUCTED, 2017

William Kenneth Derraugh – January 6
H. Douglas Good – March 20
Goldie Elizabeth Dewey - May 6
Gary Earl Hanna – July 27
Jonathan Mainse Watters – October 7
Gisela Henneberry – October 14
David Wiley Scotland – November 6
Delbert Arden Welch – December 8
Howard Graham Serson Martin – December 29

**Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Official Board
Annual General Meeting
DATE: March 1, 2017
TIME: 7:00pm
PLACE: Elgin United Church**

Attendee: Katy Gibson, Jim Earl, Margaret Martin, Ted Brett, Mark Bee, Gary and Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro, Kim Hoogwerf, Clint Halladay, Betty Hoogenboom, Larry and Connie Cochran, Duncan Pickard, Norma Cummings

Regrets: Sandra Smith, Doug Bond, Joanne McLean

Call To Order:

Mark Bee called the meeting to order

Opening Prayer:

Mark opened with a prayer of strength and power

Approval of Agenda:

Clint Halladay

1. Official Board AGM from 2016 should be reviewed
 - a. Mark read the Meeting Minutes
 - b. Clint wanted to clarify if Oral Hart was acknowledged
 - c. Clint wanted to confirm that Presbytery had been given a report

Motion: Katy Gibson

2nd : Ted Brett...CARRIED

Approval of Annual Report 2016:

1. Mark Bee – noted that Maureen's name be changed from Tye to Bee
2. Norma – questioned discussion of the paying of unsalaried people because a statement coming from Elgin Council asking how is this handled. Clint explained that a policy might be needed to make sure how to clarify going forward.
3. Clint questioned are: Communication are part of M&P?
Larry explained that it is not an ongoing of M&P but because of the hands on from everyone, it was put in there
4. Clint questioned: Job Descriptions and Employee Contracts – were there any changes on the descriptions and had the board approved them?
Larry answered that he will issue them and forwards them to the Official Board to approve at the next meeting.
5. Norma questioned the communications that the printing of reports was not provided. What was the intention and what is the plan going forward.
Answer: we will ease into it for everyone to be comfortable with going forward in a technical world.

Acceptance of Reports:

Motion: Ted Brett

2nd Connie Cochran....carried

Open Nominations:

Official Board Chairperson:

Official Board Secretary:

Insert will be added to the bulletin and council members will take it back to the churches.

AGM – Adjourned motion by Ted Brett

RECORDER: _____

CHAIR: _____

MINISTER: _____

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE **MINISTER’S REPORT 2017 – AGM 2018**

*“Since we are joined together in this ministry as a result of the mercy shown to all of us by God,
we do not become discouraged.”*

2 Corinthians 4:1 – The Voice

Just when I am tired and weary, I receive a card in the mail, a telephone call, an e-mail, a text, or a personal greeting that lifts me up and reminds me that the work I do, we do together, is never in vain – And that is how the Spirit of God works.

Here are a few of the things that I was involved in 2017, by God’s Grace.

Life Long Learning Opportunities (Continuing Education):

- 1) **February, March, and May** – the second half of the Ministry of Supervision course sessions continued online and on **May 4th, 2017** I was certified to be a Supervising Minister within the Bay of Quinte Conference. I am very grateful to **Lynne Dimma** for offering to meet with me regularly and be my supervisee for this educational experience and growth.
- 2) **March 9-16 – Mission Trip to El Salvador** – I always consider Mission Trips a lifelong learning opportunity. I learn immensely from our brothers and sisters in other countries, in this case, El Salvador. It is amazing to see the creative ways they promote peace and reach out to all ages. They share abundantly in their scarcity. A great reminder to us all.
- 3) **May 15-19 – Festival of Homiletics** – San Antonio, Texas. Where an annual, week-long conference offers various styles and methodologies of preaching to renew and refresh the faith of the attendees through dynamic worship, lectures and workshops. The conference theme this year was: **“Preaching on the Borders”**. We find the marginalized at the borders, and we are called to go to them and extend a helping hand, and a word of Hope. This year, it just happened that Bob and Mary-Jane Leblanc were passing through San Antonio and we had the opportunity to meet up. What a joy it is to meet up with church members, even miles away.

- 4) **September 29 – Children’s and Youth Ministry in the Way of Jesus** – Hosted by the United Theological College in Montreal, Quebec. The facilitator of the workshop was Dr. Dave Csinos, Assistant Professor of Practical Theology at the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He also serves as founder and president of Faith Forward, an ecumenical organization for innovation in ministry with children and youth. My thanks go out to the Four Rivers Presbytery’s Congregational Life and Christian Growth Committee who covered the expenses of this important one-day workshop, for me and for Emma Pipes, the supervisee student minister within our presbytery, who I am journeying with from September 2017-May 2018.
- 5) **November 3-4 - Preaching as Leadership**, annual KJ Campbell Preaching Workshop at the United Theological College in Montreal. Facilitator: The Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis, Associate Professor of Preaching and the Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching, Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minn. It was wonderful to see Rev. Lewis, as she is also one of the regular leaders/speakers at the Festival of Homiletics that takes place in the month of May.

Pastoral Care:

There is a myth that tells us that pastoral care needs grow daily in our community of faith and the wider community as population ages; however, the pastoral care for our maturing youth and younger youth are becoming more and more evident as well, as we get connected more through social media and other electronic devices...

There is major pastoral care that goes on regularly through phone calls, texting, e-mail, and Facebook that no one would have thought about ten years ago. The church and her needs are no longer between walls as we knew it, but also through the internet and other virtual connections. I keep in touch with many individuals across Canada, who are connected to these communities. Yes, you read correctly, virtual pastoral care. On the other hand, pastoral care also takes place in the doctor’s office, dentist’s waiting room, even grocery stores – ministry is 24/7, indeed.

I also consider the Food Bank efforts that take place in Elgin and Portland communities as pastoral care. For the fifth year in a row, on **December 15, 2017**, the fifth-grade students of The South Crosby Elementary School helped Elgin United Church prepare Christmas Goodie Bags for forty-five families for the Elgin Food Bank. This is truly a pastoral care/outreach event that takes place because of a couple’s vision to donate over \$1,000.00 worth of goodies for the less fortunate. This year, Hugh Colton, from the Hinton Auto Group, joined us once again and reported this to the greater community, as part of the Build a Mountain efforts in our greater neighbourhood.

The World Wide Web:

Our Presence on the World Wide Web and social media is becoming more and more evident. Brian Blowes records and posts a full video of the Elgin Sunday Morning Worship Celebrations on YouTube, and Will French records and posts audio of the Anthem, Scripture Readings and the Sermon from the Portland Worship Celebrations to the web site. Of course, Gary Petro continues to monitor and develop the pastoral charge’s website. These individuals work as volunteers and they give their best – we are so fortunate to have highly capable and dedicated individuals in our midst.

Many of our members who go south for the winter or miss a Sunday morning service because of inclement weather, illness or other commitments, truly appreciate the gift of joining the community virtually. Even a copy of the order of worship is posted weekly to the web site and the E-News is shared weekly via email, thanks to our administrator, Norma Cummings.

For different reasons, many make use of the “**Partner with Us-Donate Here**” button and donate to our pastoral charge. We have received numerous online donations for fundraising efforts for the Sabbatical Project in Lebanon (**Peace through Education-Lebanon**) or for Memorial donations in memory of a loved one, and even for the Food Banks that this pastoral charge supports.

The web may be looked at as a new avenue that not many of us are used to yet. Churches do not have proper protocol on how to sail through these new horizons; however, as we try our best to go to these uncharted territories, we are doing our best to practice church without borders, walls or fences – The Web can be the gate where a stranger can feel comfortable enough to walk in and be part of the family. Do not ignore the future that is already here.

The Wider Church (Presbytery, Conference and GC):

- 1) For the second time, since 2014, I had the honour and privilege to join the delegation from the Bay of Quinte Conference and visit our brothers and sisters in El Salvador. **March 9-16**. I participated as one of the youth leaders. All together we were 24 individuals. Even though this was my second visit to El Salvador, more than ninety percent of the trip was discovering new places, new communities, and new learnings. This trip is truly a time of learning from our brothers and sisters in El Salvador, as I mentioned above, part of my Life Long Learning section.
- 2) **May 25-28** - CAM (Conference Annual Meeting) of the Bay of Quinte Conference took place in Brockville. The theme of the weekend was: “**Think on These Things**”, based on **Philippines 4:8**. This is a great opportunity to meet other colleagues and church members, celebrate the work of ministry and fellowship, as much as it is a time to do our annual business. The Youth of our Conference also meet at the same time. A few of our youth participated in this event and I had the opportunity to be with the youth at times and one evening, by God’s Grace, late in the evening, I offered the evening vespers – A time to wind down and reflect on God.
- 3) **June 20** – The Four Rivers Plenary meeting took place at Christ United Church in Lyn, where my term as Chair was completed and Joanne Fletcher took the baton as the Chair. I am still part of the Executive of the Presbytery, as Past Chair until June 2018.
- 4) **August 16-19** – for the first time ever I attended Rendez-Vous 2017, in Montreal, as a home group leader. This event takes place every three years and it is the gathering of ALL youth and youth leaders from across the United Church of Canada. This year the theme was “**Be the Church**”. This was a great event not only to be inspired but to also go to Concordia University where I graduated in 2007. After the conference the 2 youth members (Victor & David) of Emmanuel Baptist Church of El Salvador, came to Portland for 2 days and continued on to do a short tour of Bay of Quinte Conference, before they returned home to El Salvador.
- 5) I continue to be part of the leadership team of “**Into the Promise**” of our Conference, through conference calls and e-mails, we are all attempting to find God in the neighbourhood. This experiment will be concluding in **April 2018**, and we will see how the participating churches want to carry on what they have started, explored and learned.

Preaching/Presentation/Other Opportunities and News:

- 1) **April 3** – I was invited to speak about being a minister at the Rideau District High School for their career day. I was surprised that there were about 5 students and 1 teacher who were interested to hear about the how, and the what of ministry.
- 2) **April 11** – I was interviewed by Cogeco TV, regarding the El Salvador trip.
- 3) **April 19** – I had the privilege to be the speaker for The Four Rivers Presbyterial, which took place at Delta United Church. Here, the Four Rivers Presbyterial voted an astounding “YES”, to become Affirming.
- 4) **April 24** – I joined the Armenians from Montreal, Toronto, Cambridge, London, St. Catherines and many other places within and outside Canada, for the annual march in commemoration of the Armenian Genocide of 1915, which my father was a survivor of.
- 5) **August 25-27** – I took personal vacation time from my vacation allowance, as I had the privilege to be the speaker for the Montreal Ottawa Conference’s UCW’s annual Summer event, in Cornwall. It was a gift to be back in my original home conference where I was ordained, in 2011.
- 6) **September 17** – Bethel United Church had invited me to be their Anniversary speaker, in Lombardy. This was a great opportunity to be with the wider church, our neighbours not far away from us.
- 7) **October 22** – I had the honour to deliver the sermon, in the covenanting service of my colleague and friend, The Rev. Warren Vollmer with the Frankford United Church and Hills and Shores Presbytery.
- 8) **October 29** – I had the privilege to be with Edith Rankin Memorial United Church in Kingston, as their guest speaker. This was their Outreach Sunday. As someone who has been to El Salvador twice, they asked me to come and share firsthand the Joys and Concerns of our brothers and sisters in El Salvador. This was the Sunday away for my Life Long Learning for the week ahead. In the afternoon, I had the honour of leading the Prayers of the People, at the Four Rivers Presbytery Covenanting Service with Rev. Lynne Gardiner in Toledo, with Delta-Toledo Pastoral Charge.
- 9) **November 19** – Guest Speaker at the Armenian Cilicia Evangelical Church in Pasadena, California, where I delivered the sermon for their Thanksgiving Sunday. It was a first for this church to have an Armenian female ordained minister to preach from their pulpit.

Beloved, there are so many things I can write to you about. From Celebrating Fifty Years of Grace in 2017, surrounded with my friends and family in California; to celebrating Canada’s 150; and to the receiving of a handwritten note from our Governor General, the Honourable David Johnston, thanking me for sending him a copy of my very first book of poetry, prayers and blessings, “The True Gift Lives on”. Yes, there are many, many things and individuals we can praise God for, and I do, but there is not enough time and paper to count them all. However, in all things, it is clear, we need to keep on doing the best that we can for the glory of God, because everything we do with LOVE, makes a difference. As we look back, in hindsight, we are affirmed that this ministry in which we are all partners, is worthwhile, because we have experienced God’s Grace and Mercy first-hand.

Thanks be to God – Your Servant Leader,

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro

THE OFFICIAL BOARD OF THE ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE

TREASURER, ACTING CHAIR, ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

I tried to find a way to separate these two reports but just found they were intertwined so much I couldn't do it.

This has been a busy year for me. Mark finished his tenure as O.B. Chair in February and did not want to continue. We advertised for a chair, secretary and treasurer with no results. In May Clint and I decided that in order to keep the Official Board functioning and if we didn't get a volunteer we proposed to the O.B. that Clint would serve as A/secretary and I would serve as A/Chair and treasurer until the AGM this year. I had figured that it was only two meetings I would have to chair so no problem. Wrong!! With the problems with the tenant in the manse I called two emergency meetings of the O.B. at the request of the Trustees. One of them at 5:15 on a weekday and we almost had full attendance. The manse was a problem this year as just when we thought we were finished with our tenant he came up with more money. Eventually the family did move out leaving a large debt to us. The manse is currently occupied with a new tenant that I have hope for. They pay by e-transfer something I knew nothing about but have learned.

We have many people that are willing to volunteer to help out with an event but we seem to have problems filling chairs of committees. As far as time commitment goes our choirs and choir directors put in the most time with Thursday evenings and early Sunday mornings to put in. After that Treasurers have the next time commitment as bills come in continuously and those and employees and contractors need to be paid. Two of the busiest people are the property managers of our two churches. Chairs and secretaries of Councils and O.B. probably next with having to plan and run meetings along with day to day events that do come up; so it will take more time than just 4 to 6 meetings a year. Some committees take more of a time commitment than others but that is usually flexible. Planning and running an event, be it a concert or meal, also can absorb a fair amount of time.

Knowing what to do is not a problem as there are always people willing to help and guide. I know that at one O.B. meeting I stated the people on either side of me, Rev. Takouhi and Clint were bugging me when in actual fact they were guiding me.

With Rev. Takouhi's sabbatical this year it will provide more challenges for the rest of us as I reported in the fall newsletter but it should be interesting. The sabbatical will be a time of renewal for Rev. Takouhi and with the right attitude for us as well.

If you can possibility do it volunteer for one of the positions advertised in the bulletin and be a leader instead of a follower.

I have decided to carry on as Treasurer this year as with Rev. Takouhi away it will create more challenges for the treasurer which it would be easier for me to do than train someone else.

I would like to thank Clint, Rev. Takouhi, Duncan and Joanne for their help, guidance and cooperation.

Yours in Service:

Ted, Treasurer EPPC.

**ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE
WORSHIP PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2017**

*“1: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
2: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing...
4: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise...”*
Psalm 100 (New Standard Revised Version)

If there is anything in our weekly life that gives us full joy, it is gathering together as one family. May it be at a joint service or gathering at the two different points of our vibrant pastoral charge. There is a joy that surpasses all understanding and that is why the Psalmist speaks of the joy and the gladness that is found in celebrating God’s Love whenever and wherever we are found.

Your Worship Planning Committee aims to make this invisible love of God visible in our weekly worship, music, leadership and through Christian Education for youth and adults.

There is community within community of our pastoral charge. The Choirs of each point are truly a close-knit community, apart and/or joint; and this love of unity and joy is displayed every time we are ministered to by their amazing music.

This year, **V.I.B.E.** (Venturing in Biblical Education), gathered regularly. We commenced in March by completing the fourth part of the series from 2016 - **“Dream, Think, Be, Do”**. After which we explored a few of John Ortberg’s studies, until December, beginning with:

- **“Soul Keeping: Caring for the Most Important Part of You”**
- **“God is Closer Than You Think”**
- **“Who Is This Man? The Unpredictable Impact of the Inescapable Jesus”**
- **“If You Want to Walk on Water You’ve Got to Get Out of the Boat”**

As we offered adult Christian Education for those who want a safe space to explore their faith more deeply, we also offered youth Christian Education every Sunday, during worship. Dedicated individuals care for the Sunday School Children whenever there are children present (reports are submitted separately by each point), we are grateful for these individuals.

This year, **July 3–July 7**, we held our eighth annual pastoral charge’s Vacation Bible School at Portland United Church. This year’s theme was: **“Wonderfully Made by God”**. We had an average of 12-15 children attend daily from the local community as well as Westport and visitors from the U.S. We had 2 youth leaders join us from the Armenian Evangelical Church in Montreal to help us with music and games. I am ever grateful for all who help regularly in this ministry and make a difference. One of the families shared with us that their children had the choice to go to Upper Canada Village or come to VBS and they chose VBS. What a testimony for the ministry that is done in our midst.

Our Lenten Journey’s Spiritual Focus for 2017 was: **“Lent: Freedom from Control of Guilt, Fear and Insecurities...”**. Each week we followed the revised lectionary and our Life Lessons were: **“Faithfulness to God: Even in the Desert...”**; **“Thirsting for God...”**; **“From MUD to LIGHT...”**; **“Compassion: Radical Hope...”**; Palm / Passion Sunday – **“Silent No More...”**; Holy Thursday – **“Belonging and Washing”**; Good Friday - **“Good Friday: Where God Suffers...”**; Easter Sunday –

“Resurrection: Authorized for Risk...”. Once again, we had a beautiful Sunrise Service on top of the Leggett Farm (hill) in Crosby. We are ever grateful for this gift – Thank You Carl Leggett!

All our actions are not just routine, robotic work, they are planned thoughtfully by our worship planning committee. The song choices are prepared attentively, making sure we do learn new songs, without forgetting to still sing the familiar ones. We had a few Sundays where we sang favourite hymns recommended by congregants and raised money for the M & S fund along the way.

As much as the world screams that the church has no place in our world, the people who think that way stand corrected with all the Baptisms, Confirmations, and Welcoming of New Members that takes place in our midst. (Details are listed at the beginning of this booklet).

This year for the first time, I had the privilege to officiate the very first same gender wedding, in a private home setting. I also performed an emergency baptism at Portland United Church for a 2-month old baby whose parents and doctors were not sure if she would survive. All children are beloved, however, the parents felt it was necessary to do this baptism. Today, as I write this report, this little “Princess” is 8 months old and we continue to pray for her and her family.

Beloved, when we practice the Sacraments of Communion and Baptism, we remind ourselves that we are in communion with the Spirit of Jesus in the name of Love, with each other. I am repeating myself in sharing these words once again, but these are important reminders. Throughout the year, we shared Communion almost every first Sunday of the month, or on special occasions, such as the First Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve, the First Sunday of Lent, Maundy Thursday and Easter. We alternate the sharing of the Communion Celebration by serving the elements or receiving them by Intinction, so that all are pleased. As for the Sacrament of Baptism, every time it takes place, we are reminded that we are Beloved Children of God.

You have read the names of those who have been Baptized/Confirmed, who were officially welcomed to this pastoral charge, who covenanted in Marriage and also those who we have bid goodbye from this physical form. These are all part of the circle of life. As we journey on, we celebrate and we mourn, but we know that God is with us.

Whenever we gather for a Joint Worship Celebration, people approach me and express how wonderful it is to gather in one place. What a great reminder it is that we are truly one family living in two different buildings and nothing really separates us from each other and from the love of God.

Here are the dates when we had the opportunities to celebrate joint worship.

- 1) **January 8** – Joint Worship Celebration (PUC). Where we renewed our Baptismal vows.
- 2) **April 13** – Maundy/Holy Thursday Service at EUC, with Communion.
- 3) **April 14** – Good Friday Service at EUC.
- 4) **April 16** – Easter Sunrise Worship Service - Leggett Hill 6:00 a.m. Followed by hot breakfast at PUC, Worship Celebrations at each church at the regular times.
- 5) **April 23** – Joint Worship Celebration (PUC) led by the combined choir of our pastoral charge.
- 6) **July 2** – Annual Picnic, Joint Worship Celebration at Hanna Park, Portland. In honour of Canada 150, Glenn Foster shared songs of Canadian Artists. It was a combined leadership with Rev. Takouhi. The service was dedicated to the late Doug Good and Mike Carty (who passed away on March 10, 2017). Even though this gathering was held the

same day as the Forfar Strawberry Social, there were many in attendance from the wider community and it was a wonderful way of doing church without walls.

- 7) **July 9** – Joint Worship Celebration (EUC) in honour of Elgin Days. Gracenote was a special musical guest in our midst. In the afternoon Gracenote also offered a Benefit Concert for the Elgin Food Bank.
- 8) **December 31** – Joint Worship Celebration with a Cantata presentation at EUC, led by the combined choir of our pastoral charge.

Special Worship Leaders/Guests:

- 1) **Mark Bee** – January 15, March 12.
- 2) **Margaret Martin** – January 22, August 27, December 31.
- 3) **The Rev. Betty Sangster** – May 21.
- 4) **Elaine Farley** – May 28.
- 5) **The Rev. Shaun Seaman** – August 20.
- 6) **Ruth Sword** – September 17.
- 7) **Lynne Dimma** – October 29 (PUC)
- 8) **Charalee Smith** – October 29 (EUC)
- 9) **Paul Whiteley** – November 19
- 10) **Charlotte Hoy** – November 26

Ecumenical Gatherings:

- 1) **Elgin Ecumenical Gathering** – With the Anglican and United Churches of our area. At Elgin Community Hall – October 1– 4:00 p.m. followed by pot luck supper.
- 2) **Elgin United Church** took part in **Sharing the Light of Christ in Elgin** – December 3. Even though the Westport Community Choir took place at the same time in Westport; this was one of the most attended Sharing the Light of Christ ever. Thanks to Tanya Hawkins, from St. Columbanus Church, who stepped in and accompanied us on the piano while our members were offering ministry in Westport.

Special Worship Gatherings:

- 1) **June 4** – Multilingual Pentecost Sunday Celebrations at each Worship Celebration. (English, French, Dutch, Armenian).
- 2) **November 5** – All Saints Sunday – Where we remembered all those who have passed away from our immediate and wider community.
- 3) **November 12** – Remembrance Day Service.
- 4) **December 10** – Sunday of Peace – Advent 2 – Portland Sunday School brought the message of Christmas and the decorations.

Cemetery Worship Gatherings:

- 1) **August 6 - 3 p.m.** – Portland United Church Cemetery's Annual a service of remembrance.

Thanks to the many voices of our choirs and the leaders who make our Worship Celebrations exceptional. Adding to this wealth are also Soul Purpose (Elgin United Church's quartet), as well as the Portland Pealers. Music is a central part of our faith and we are so blessed to be surrounded by many musical saints.

Our gratitude goes out to all who made sure to fill-in the blanks when we needed a Sunday Worship Celebration Leaders, mentioned above.

I also would like to extend an extra special thank you to Lynne Dimma for taking the leadership of worship services at Maple View Lodge.

Dearly beloved, the one-hour worship service that we enjoy weekly comes with hours of preparation and this is not done lightly. Your Worship Planning Committee, along with the music directors and choir leaders, choose songs intentionally because we all want to offer our best to the Lord who is worthy of our praise and worship.

Please join me to take a moment and thank everyone who makes our worship gatherings joyous, comforting, and challenging to help us shape our faith for the glory of God and to transform this world. My heartfelt gratitude goes to the ushers and the counters, readers and the leaders, singers and the servers, decorators and organizers, and certainly ALL who participate in making a joyful noise to the Lord, by worshiping with gladness and singing. Thanks be to God for ALL of you who make a difference.

I remain humbly because of Grace,
Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro
Chair of Worship Planning Committee

JOINT TRUSTEES COMMITTEE REPORT – 2017

The Joint Trustees met more than usual in 2017, as the needs of the pastoral charge's assets, the manse, to be specific, needed more attention than usual.

The Joint Trustees have stepped up to the plate and with the agreement of the Official Board, have found new tenants and are putting in practice what we have learned from our previous experience.

I am ever grateful for the hard-working members of the Joint Trustees, and more than ever, I would ask the entire pastoral charge to join me in thanking them for carrying their responsibility as good stewards for the good of all people.

On Behalf of the Joint Trustees Committee of EPPC -
I remain humbly your Servant-Leader,
Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro
Chair – Joint Trustees Committee

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL 2017 COMMITTEE REPORT TO OFFICIAL BOARD 25 JAN 2018

First Quarter 2017

1. Completed compensation agreements with Rev Takhoui and Church Secretary with approval by the Official board in January.
2. Began the process of planning for Rev Takhoui's Sabbatical to begin in Sept 2018.
3. Participated in a Ministry and Personnel Workshop presented by the Pastoral Relations Committee of Four Rivers Presbytery in March.

Second Quarter 2017

1. Continued working with the Worship Committee and Rev Takhoui to develop strategies for supply ministry coverage during RT's sabbatical period.

Third Quarter 2017

1. **Began work with Norma on how to support training with new computer and epuc website and determine options for improvements in her workload.**
2. Reviewed Rev Takhoui's plans for vacation and updated plan for sabbatical leave.
3. Created training manual for Website support for weekly epuc newsletter production and distribution.

Fourth Quarter 2017

1. Job Description and Employment Contract for Norma have been completed with consideration for the new Fair Labour laws that took effect in January 2018.
2. We completed a new covenanting agreement with Rev Takouhi with a completed vacation schedule and a plan for ministerial support for the 3-month period of her sabbatical beginning in September 2018.

Looking Ahead

Within the role of M&P we will:

1. Continue to work with the Worship committee to ensure we have good ministerial resources for the period of Rev Takhoui's sabbatical and vacation period in 2018.
2. Support the development of new leaders within the church;
3. Complete Rev Takhoui's 2019 compensation agreement before the end of Aug 2018 prior to departure on sabbatical and vacation leave beginning in September
4. Welcome a new Elgin member to the M&P Committee;

On Behalf of the M&P Committee:

Maureen Bee, Jan Haskin, Arie Hoogenboom, Rev Takouhi,
Larry Cochran

COMMUNITY CLOTHING CO-OPERATIVE 2017

The Community Clothing Co-operative had another good year in 2017 and continues to fill an important need in our joint community.

Our original goal back when we started in 1996 was to get good clothing out of closets and into use by those in our communities that might otherwise have difficulty clothing themselves. The clothing is donated to us and because of generosity of our donors we get some very good quality items which we can then sell for very low prices. Although it was not planned, the store generates a significant amount of funds that we can then donate back to other worthwhile organizations within our home areas.

We have approximately 15 to 20 volunteers from throughout the Portland and Elgin areas. Included are some folks from Smiths Falls and Westport as well. These volunteers work together and have fun while making this a truly ecumenical community effort. More volunteers are always welcome and needed and need only to commit a couple of hours (or more if desired) per month. If you would like to help your friends and neighbours please contact Gail Simpson (613-359-5196) for more information.

During 2017 the CCC was pleased to make the following donations:

- Portland Food Bank \$ 600
- Elgin Food Bank \$ 600
- North Leeds Toy Drive \$ 250
- CRHC Dental Issues Group \$ 250
- Cases For Caring (CHEO) \$150
- Martha's Table \$150
- Elgin and District Nursery School \$100

TOTAL 2017 Donations - \$2,100.

The CCC had an opening bank balance of \$1355.21 on January 1, 2017 and a closing balance of 1081.06 on December 31, 2017

The store is located at the Portland Community Hall and is currently open on Saturdays from 10AM to 2 PM and on Wednesdays from 1 PM to 3PM. While being open for sales this is also the time when good quality in season clothing can be dropped off. Unfortunately, we cannot accept footwear or undergarments due to health and space limitations.

Thank you again to the Township of Rideau Lakes Council and members of the Portland Community Hall Board for support and use of the space.

For all those involved and the opportunity to help our fellow men and women we give thanks to God.

Paul Simpson
Community Clothing Co-operative

FOUR RIVERS PRESBYTERY REPORT

Ted Brett and Margaret Martin

With 2017 closed and 2018 beginning, it is a good time to communicate to you what we see as some of the changes at the wider level of United Church, as we anticipate. You will be aware already that our pastoral charges and our presbytery have voted on proposals that have come from the last General Council of 2015. There were five remits, voted by pastoral charges - (1) Three Council Model: this has passed which indicates that major restructuring is underway. We have represented this pastoral charge for a number of years at Presbytery, and by virtue of that were voting delegates at the conference annual meeting (Bay of Quinte Conference). With this affirmative decision the structure of our church denomination now proceeds to include three levels of 1] pastoral charges (and various communities of faith), 2] regional council (new), and 3] general council. The new structure will involve fewer representatives. You will most likely no longer have a face you know sitting at a table of discussion and decision.

We are familiar with the local Presbytery providing oversight through a visit to our charge about every three years, with an intention to understand the current state of the health of our ministry, and the pastoral relationship with a called minister. The presbytery committee of Pastoral Relations walked through along with ministers and pastoral charges through difficulties and through a change in call. These functions will no longer be mandated locally. However, there will (I hope) be an oversight mechanism and recourse for a pastoral charge or a minister in any difficulty. Our understanding is that this will be facilitated at the level of the region and be assisted by professional personnel of the church. Presbytery and Conference have had responsibility for many other functions of accountability and discipline. Pastoral Charges in a position to be searching for a minister will be experiencing how the church is changing as needs assessment and search processes are different. The new regional boundaries have been proposed. In our immediate area, if these proposals go forward, we will be in a region that is essentially our Bay of Quinte area, minus the Lanark Country pastoral charges and several others north and west of us. Presbytery met Jan. 16 regarding this boundary decision. There was a motion to petition the boundary commission to consider placing all of current Four Rivers Presbytery within the bounds of the Ottawa region. As to local area-wide ministry opportunities of mission and education, we anticipate that we will develop informal clusters and networks, to augment our growth in the work of the church for individuals and communities. We think that this will be a challenging hurdle, but potentially a positive opportunity for all of us.

Other remits: (2) Elimination of Transfer and Settlement, (3) Office of Vocation, (4) Funding a New Model, and (6) One Order of Ministry. Of these, (6) one order of ministry failed to pass here, and at our presbytery.

The elements of change are in place. The new funding model will have some impact at our pastoral charge. We believe that the assessment annually will go up, but be manageable.

We will continue to represent you as our congregations, until the bodies of Presbytery and Conference dissolve later in 2018.

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2017

INCOME

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | \$ 4,665.68 | |
| GST REBATE | \$ 827.07 | |
| Donation Canada Helps | \$ 988.93 | |
| Transfer from Savings | \$ 900.00 | |
| Small Business Credit | \$ 239.54 | |
| PHOTO COPIER USE | \$ 90.65 | |
| ELGIN-PORTLAND ASSESSMENTS | \$ 102,000.00 | |
| MANSE INCOME | \$ 7,450.00 | |
| Profit O.B. Supper | \$ 26.30 | |
| TOTAL INCOME | <u>\$ 117,188.17</u> | <u>\$ 117,188.17</u> |
| FUNDS ON HOLD | | |
| Manse Last Months rent | \$ 1,000.00 | |
| Canada Helps Lebanon Project | \$ 289.30 | |
| Total Funds on Hold | \$ 1,289.30 | <u>\$ 1,289.30</u> |
| Amount to be carried to 2018 | \$ 3,293.29 | |
| Minus funds on hold so working cash | <u>\$ 2,003.99</u> | <u>\$ 2,003.99</u> |
| SAVINGS ACCOUNT | | |
| Balance | <u>\$ 8,090.34</u> | |
| M&S | | |
| Portland United Church UCW | \$ 2,600.00 | |
| Portland United Church | \$ 11,164.25 | |
| Elgin United Church | \$ 5,227.00 | |
| Total for M&S | <u>\$ 18,991.25</u> | |

EXPENSES FOR 2017

EMPLOYEE WAGES AND BENEFITS

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| MINISTER | \$ 66,867.20 | |
| HOUSING ALLOWANCE included above | | |
| COMMUNICATION ALLOWANCE | \$ 1,800.00 | |
| SECRETARY | \$ 10,411.24 | |
| Pulpit supply | \$ 1,835.00 | |
| TOTAL | <u>\$ 80,913.44</u> | <u>\$ 80,913.44</u> |

OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| EDUCATION | \$ 1,644.51 | |
| COMMUNITY OUTREACH | \$ 1,000.00 | |
| MILEAGE | \$ 4,678.68 | |
| PARKING | \$ 49.50 | |
| B of Q Conference | \$ 105.00 | |
| WSIB | \$ 526.45 | |
| TOTAL | <u>\$ 8,004.14</u> | <u>\$ 8,004.14</u> |

MANSE EXPENSES

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Propane | \$ 522.08 | |
| Hydro | \$ 48.64 | |
| INSURANCE | \$ 1,476.70 | |
| TAXES | \$ 666.44 | |
| MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS | \$ 1,831.27 | |
| PROPERTY MANAGER | \$ 1,200.00 | |
| TOTAL MANSE | <u>\$ 5,745.13</u> | <u>\$ 5,745.13</u> |

OFFICE EXPENSES

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| PHONE | \$ 1,145.36 | |
| Web Hosting | \$ 257.64 | |
| INTERNET | \$ 1,530.84 | |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$ 2,041.39 | |
| PHOTO COPIER USE | \$ 1,299.94 | |
| TOTAL OFFICE | <u>\$ 6,275.17</u> | <u>\$ 6,275.17</u> |

OTHER CHARGE EXPENSES

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Transfer to Savings | \$ 2,000.00 | |
| BANK SERVICE CHARGE | \$ 26.25 | |
| BULLETINS | \$ 1,045.22 | |
| Computer purchase and set up | \$ 1,396.86 | |
| EVANGELISM | \$ 1,372.88 | |
| WORSHIP | \$ 561.37 | |
| Canada Helps Payout | \$ 699.63 | |
| MUSIC LICENSE | \$ 188.36 | |
| PRESBYTERY DUES | \$ 5,666.43 | |
| TOTAL OTHER | <u>\$ 12,957.00</u> | <u>\$ 12,957.00</u> |

| | | |
|----------------|--|----------------------|
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | <u>\$ 113,894.88</u> |
|----------------|--|----------------------|

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2017

The Annual Meeting of Elgin United Church was held in the sanctuary, with a quorum present, following a soup and sandwich lunch held in the upstairs Centennial and Fellowship rooms. We were called to order at 1:20 PM by Chair Clinton Halladay.

1. Reverend Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro opened the meeting with prayer and a tribute to our deceased.
2. Agenda - remove # 9 remits and add as "#1- Briefing on 42nd General Council Remits" to new agenda for Special Congregational Meeting #1 to be held immediately following the Annual Meeting.

Motion by Marion Cooper, seconded by Mark Bee to adopt the modified agenda.

CARRIED

3. Discussion of reports as presented in the Annual Report pages 14 - 26. All reports were considered moved by the chair/presenter and following presentation/discussion of all reports, there was one motion to second and adopt the reports. Comments, questions and amendments were invited as each report was introduced:

- Annual Report - Chair Clinton Halladay - thank you to the congregation and members was expressed. Thanks to those members who are stepping down
 - Joanne McLean - social, Deborah Jodoin - Caring and Sharing, Anne Babala - Fair Trade Coffee, Heather Gribben - Council Secretary
- Social Committee - Joanne McLean reported that though the money raised is low, the events are good outreach projects.
- Memberships and Sacraments - Roberta McKinney. No additional report.
- CYAYA - Christian Youth and Young Adult - Charalee Smith expressed her concern that this very worthwhile and important part of our church has no budget line. World Vision is a significant part of our church life and it is crucial that CYAYA have its own budget. Charalee assured the Chair that so far she has not had to cover expenses on her own.
- Music - Jim Earl noted that the music program had a full, fun and talent filled year.
- Property - Jim Earl acknowledged Paul Simpson as past property manager for all the work that he did. Work that most of the congregants were not even aware of. He just did it! Looking after this old and historic building is very involved and Jim thanked Paul for his past work and for the assistance he is now giving Jim. Thank you Jim and Paul.
- Audio/Visual - Margaret Ross. No additional report.

- Strategic Plan 2016 - Clint Halladay reported that our 2016 goals were accomplished and that we continue to move forward with 2017 goals.
- Nursery School - Jim Earl noted the special outreach opportunities with the Nursery School and that it has been in place for forty one years.
- Treasurer - Joanne McLean spoke about the benefit/need to use a portion of the memorial fund for building repairs. Clint Halladay thanked everyone for past and present donations to the fund.

4. Seconded by Ted Brett to adopt the Annual Report as presented. CARRIED

5. Nominations - Clint Halladay called for nominations for Social Coordinator and noted that this position will be divided into one-time events, Sharing and Caring Coordinator, Fair Trade Coffee Coordinator, and Council Secretary. Please speak to Clint if you wish to volunteer for any of these positions.

6. Goals for 2017:

- a) M&S goal will be \$6500
- b) Dental Issues Group will be \$2000

Motion by Carl Leggett, seconded by Jim Earl, that our M&S goal for 2017 be \$6500 and our DIG goal for 2017 be \$2000.

CARRIED

7. Visioning for 2017 - Clint Halladay noted that we are following our strategic plan and that the Official Board continues to work in the best interests of our church(es). Please talk to Clint if there is something you would like to see happen.

8. Closing - Clint Halladay thanked everyone for all they do and for being there today. John Carley made an announcement that the Citizens Democracy Forum would be meeting on Feb 22 to discuss federal and provincial funding for the guaranteed income initiative. All welcome.

9. Closing prayer - Reverend Takouhi

Submitted by
Heather Gribben

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL 2017 - A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

2017 was a truly impactful year. We experienced record breaking stock market indices, decline in ISIS and increase in terrorism, floods and hurricanes, resurgence of segregation and racism, broken government promises, the authentication of narcissistic and pathological liar tendencies by a free-world leader, approval of United Church of Canada remits (time will tell if that was the right thing to do), acceptance of many displaced refugees, and the list goes on.

Too often we measure our well being by what we consider to be significant events or occurrences. We often fail to recognize that happiness, success and fulfillment are rooted more often in the “little things” than the grandiose headlines. In our ever expanding digital world we tend to increasingly reduce “life” to algorithms. A binary progression of on and off codes, an Artificial Intelligence void of feelings, empathy or humanity.

In this same vane it is easy to reduce the work of the church to a series of numbers: number of members, number of attendees at worship, number of volunteers, number of children, number of baptisms, number of patrons lost, amount of givings, you get the picture. But the story of the United Church, the story of Elgin United, is far more than a column of figures. It is an incredible breadth of experiences shared sometimes with special friends, sometimes just our own solitude, experiences fostered by our relationship with God and His Grace.

It is an unfortunate fact that organized main-line religion is in decline, and the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge, including Elgin United, is part of that emerging trend. With this in mind, and given the changes forthcoming in the wider United Church, perhaps it is time to envision alternative means of governance: Unified Board and/or amalgamation internally or with neighbouring congregations or charges come to mind. Food for thought at least.

Right here at home we were not immune to this trend. In 2017 your Council at Elgin United decided to reduce our community volunteer participation because our volunteer pool was getting smaller and the active few were facing burnout. Sadly some of our faithful were overtaken by health issues. If you, if we, want things to happen, we must get out and participate. Our small base notwithstanding, we are blessed by those who contribute countless hours to augment worship and promote outreach be it by reading and ushering, pitch perfect music, managing sound, videoing, YouTube posting or keeping our website active. The volunteers that continue to step forward and keep Elgin United prominent in the life of the community are awesome. From dinners, to breakfasts, to concerts, to building maintenance each and every one of you, often toiling in obscurity, are “totally awesome”. THANK YOU.

I commend each and every one of you and refer readers to the pages of this Annual Report for a detailed view of the exemplary work and accomplishments of the people of Elgin United Church as we journey in faith with God as our guide.

Yours in service,
Clinton Halladay
Chair, Elgin United Church Council

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH CHRISTIAN YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT (CYAYA) REPORT 2017

This year, our Christian Education Program has welcomed a few faithful children and young people to engage in learning about Christ and His way. A welcomed volunteer, Pat Greenhorn, offered to provide leadership to our youth. We look forward to and appreciate her enthusiasm and willingness to offer programs to our youth during the Sunday morning worship service.

Our World Vision foster child, Zyra Joy Villegas from Sorsogon, Philippines, has been corresponding with us by mail, and the congregation has enjoyed seeing her pictures up on the screen and hearing about her life during announcements.

From time to time, our youth take an active role in the worship service, joining in Praise and Worship songs, sharing solos, ushering, and helping with special Sunday Services.

Our youth were also active in the wider Church, representing EUC at Four Rivers Presbytery and Bay of Quinte Conference events. We support and encourage our youth to get involved and participate in these worthwhile gatherings as they develop their own understanding of their faith.

We are thankful to have the opportunity to continue to learn and wonder along with our children and youth, and we encourage others to become involved in our CYAYA church community.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Earl and Charalee Smith

SOUTH CROSBY PUBLIC SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM 2017

2017 has once again been a successful year for the dedicated volunteers from both Portland and Elgin United Churches to reach out to the school and serve breakfast of cereal, milk and juice every Tuesday morning from 8:30 to 10:00.

This program continues to be funded through special grants and generous donations from the community. There is an average of 40 to 50 youth daily receiving breakfast five days a week at the school. That averages approximately four thousand breakfasts over the past five months. This very valuable program is meeting the need of approximately ¼ of the population of the school. It is a proven fact that better concentration and better academic performance results if our young people eat a good breakfast. Many of these young people are also supplemented with other nutritious snacks and hot meals during the week.

I have been so blessed to have worked with this dedicated team of volunteers from my right hand assistant Georgina Campbell, to Clint Halliday and Went Sharpe, and a special thank you to Karen Myers who has officially retired this year due to health issues, we miss you Karen.

If you have a passion for our youth and a couple of hours once a month to spare we would love to welcome you to our team. Please let me know.

Submitted by Catherine Ryan

2017 ELGIN MUSIC ANNUAL REPORT

Music Director: Margaret Ross
Pianists: Margaret, Charalee Smith & Karen Earl
Organists: Margaret & Charalee

Margaret provided service music leadership from the piano & organ, and accompanied/directed the choir. Charalee and Karen were assistant accompanists. Margaret served as alternate for John Duperron, Portland's new music director.

Senior Choir:

| <u>1st Sopranos</u> | <u>2nd Sopranos</u> | <u>Altos</u> | <u>Tenors</u> | <u>Basses</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Michelle Knapp | Mary Carbino Karen Myers | Karen Earl Charalee Smith | John Carley Jim Earl | Frank Allen Gordon Earl |
| | Marion Steacy | Sandra Smith | Morley Hennig | Graham Lowe Adrian Overdulse Morgan Wright |

In September we welcomed Morley Hennig to the tenor section. At the same time we said thank you to Frank Allen who retired from the bass section after 17 years. In April we said farewell to Tom Walton who moved with Cathy to Kingston. We invite everyone who enjoys singing to consider joining our choir. Rehearsals are on Thursday nights, September through June, from 7:30 to 9:00pm, to provide anthems and choral support for service music.

Librarian / Resource Persons: Margaret, Charalee & Jim.
On July 5th Charalee and Margaret took possession of the Music Library Index files and assumed responsibility for Sunday anthem selections. Jim retired, having taken on the responsibility of anthem selection following Gloria Blaine's retirement as Music Director on January 17th 2008.

Assistant: Marion Steacy

Soloists: Alex Price, Charalee, Michelle, Karen E, Rasa Krokys,
Rev. Takouhi, Morgan, Graham & Jim

Percussion: Sandra, Rasa & Shaun Seaman

Guitar: Sean Price

Flute: Jaime Burt

Choir Director for Joint Choirs: Margaret Ross

Pianist/Organist for Joint Choirs: John Duperron

Quartet – Soul Purpose: Michelle, Karen E., Charalee & Jim, with Margaret leading

Soloists and Groups who supported our summer music program:

July 2 - (Joint Service, Hanna Park)

Glen Foster w guitar

July 9 - (Joint service EUC) Gracenote,

Ladies trio from Ottawa

July 16 - Jim and Karen

July 23 - Soul Purpose

July 30 - Hymn Sing Sunday

Aug 6 - Mariana Bell

Aug 13 - Rev. Takouhi (Let it Be)

Aug 20 – Ysabella Ross

Aug 27 - Graham and Morgan

Sept 3 - Alex and Sean

Sept 10 - Charalee, Karen, Michelle

Margaret was accompanist for all but the July 2nd and 9th music ministries

Special Services & Occasions:

- January 8th – Joint Low Lay Service, PUC: Joint choir. John Duperron's first service as PUC's new Music Director
- April 14th – Good Friday Service, 7:30 p.m., PUC: Joint choir
- April 22nd – Some Kind of Choir Concert (Westport Community Choir) with members from Portland and Elgin choirs. Soul Purpose, and Alex and Sean Price were guest performers. Proceeds for RDHS music program
- April 23rd – Joint Low Lay Music Service, PUC; Margaret/Director, John/Organist-Pianist, Charalee/service preparation
- May 14th - Mother's Day: Men's Chorus – Mark Bee, Gord, Graham, John, Dave Burt, Adrian, Leighton Coatsworth & Jim
- June 18th – Father's Day: Ladies Chorus – Marion, Mary, Karen M., Sandra, Charalee, Karen E., Michelle, Roberta McKinney, Pat Greenhorn & Anne Overdulve.
- July 9th – Elgin Days: Afternoon concert by Gracenote
- Oct 1st – Ecumenical Service celebrating World Wide Day of Communion: Elgin Community Hall, 4:30. Five Clergy presided. Margaret provided music leadership on the keyboard for hymns.
- Oct 21st - A/V Concert - 'With a Little Help from my Friends', presented by Margaret and Friends, including Soul Purpose, Alex & Sean, Morgan & Graham.
- December 3rd – Westport Knox Presbyterian Advent Candlelight Service, directed by Joanne Lambert, 7:00 pm: Michelle, Charalee, Karen E., Graham, Morgan & Jim were members of this Ecumenical Choir. Margaret was accompanist. Several Portland choir members also participated.
- December 31st – Joint Low Lay Music Service, EUC, 10:00am: Cantata - The Living Crèche, directed by Margaret, accompanist - John, Worship Leader - Margaret Martin, Cantata Reader - Pat Greenhorn, Service preparation - Charalee

Choir Party: Dec.17th at Margaret's

Music Director:

- Salary: No change
- Holidays: Jan. 1st & 8th, July 2nd

Committee Meetings:

- Margaret represents Music Ministry on the PC Worship Committee
- Music brainstorming at Graham's, Feb. 28th

Thank you to all singers and musicians for contributing joyfully to our music ministry.

Thank you to the A/V committee for funding piano tunings, and helping us sound our best.

Jim Earl, Chair

2017 EUC PROPERTY ANNUAL REPORT

Needing Attention -To Do List from 2016 annual report:

Sanctuary carpet – stabilize seams – completed/contractor
Sanctuary lath & plaster – restoration & paint – repaired one section on Oct 5th/contractor
Attic ventilation – increase capacity – quote but no action
Furnace ductwork cleaning (quote of \$550) – completed/volunteers
Restoration of exterior trim (quote of \$6,660) – bell tower third level not completed
Bell Tower exterior door - clearance - completed
Centennial entry door latch - damaged – partial/stabilized
Centennial sidewalk - leveling – no action
May reseeding of west lawn – poor outcome

Accomplished/Routine Actions:

January - Start controlling sidewalk ice with cat litter rather than de-icer which is a water-table contaminant, and hard on concrete
January - Annual fire extinguisher inspection/maintenance – service or replacement of certain units
May – Annual maintenance of furnaces – very good condition
April - Shared cost with Cemetery for pruning one hazardous maple tree
Centennial Hall - Exterior cross was replaced compliments of Drew Larabie
Piano care – humidifier/dehumidifier maintenance
Spring/Fall - Exchange of window screens and storm windows
Summer – Successive failure of three dehumidifiers, required for the summer in the Lower Hall.
Acquired two loaners, then one purchase to finish the season
September – Park bench painted by Mary Lynn & Dave Alderdice
October – Ministry of the Environment/Provincial Drinking Water System/Regular Inspection: Good
October – New deck flooring for washrooms, and carpeting of steps adjacent to the Lower Hall.
Repair damaged/lifting tiles in Lower Hall and Centennial Room.
November – Assist the Joint Trustees in preparing the Manse for new tenants
December – Scoped the septic line to the tank: Excavated one section to remove a root blockage that caused septic backups on October 21st & December 3rd.
December – Lower Hall in-floor heating ducts cleared: Heavy April rains caused the ground water table to rise during May and flood the ducts. This caused the duct lining to disintegrate resulting in extremely restricted airflow.

Many of our stewards:

Sanctuary decorating group: Large group led by Sandra Smith
Exterior Decorations: Ted Brett, Dave Cooper & Sandra Smith
Flower Beds: Caring hands needed. Margaret & Charalee provided basic care of the front beds. Two memorial plaques were restored, compliments of Drew Larabie
Kitchen: Caring hands needed
Custodial services: Began with Marian Cooper and Deborah Jodoin, then taken over by Jane Simpson
Summer students for Lawn-care: Ryan & Matt Bilton (2nd year)
Contractor to clear snow from parking areas: Terry French Trucking/Doug Morton (1st year)
Sidewalk snow removal: Jim
Consult Paul Simpson re system electronics & service/maintenance strategies
Coffee Counter Coordinator: June Smith and her teams

Trustees: Adrian Overdulse, Ted Brett, Ab Emmons, Roberta McKinney and Jim Earl
Street Sign: Heather Gribben & Clint Halladay
Photocopier Supplies and Care: Donna Bennett and others
Sharing in the care of the manse: Marian Cooper & Jim Earl
Candelabra maintenance: Alex McKinney
Use of Facility Booking: Paul Simpson

Community Use of Facilities:

South Crosby Recreation Committee – committee meeting
Red Brick School House – kitchen & hall
Presbytery – meetings & meals
Cemetery - sanctuary for June Annual Memorial Service if weather is inclement
AA – Centennial and Fellowship rooms (weekly)
Citizens Democracy Forum - sanctuary, for public meeting with projection service
Elgin Days public event - sanctuary
Potential for 'Small Halls' venue booking - sanctuary

Needing Attention:

Sanctuary lath & plaster – crack repairs and paint
Lower Hall – further floor tile restoration plus concrete spot repairs and repainting, resulting from high water table
Fellowship Room roof - shingle repair
Repointing – regular maintenance of exterior stonework
Hydro One Audit/Grant program to upgrade from incandescent to energy efficient bulbs
Vision for reconfiguring choir loft/piano-organ orientation
Bell Tower - restoration of third floor trim (balance of quote - \$1,260)
Centennial sidewalk leveling
West lawn reseeding
Mature Maple in east yard adjacent to propane tank needs to be removed due to root penetration into church and manse septic systems
Centennial entry porch requires restoration

Jim Earl

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH MEMBERSHIPS AND SACRAMENTS - 2017

In Elgin United Church, communion for 2018 was offered once a month, on average, alternating Intinction with the elements served to the congregation in the pews. This sometimes changed when needed, as on Christmas Eve, when it was also served. Grape juice and gluten-free bread are used for Intinction, and regular bread and gluten-free bread are used, with grape juice, when served to the pews.

Due to heat problems, the communion candles near the altar were not lit from May 1st to October 1st, but were used the rest of the year.

Many thanks to members of the congregation who graciously accepted our requests to assist with communion. A special thanks to Anne Overdulse who stepped in when we were away.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta and Alex McKinney

2017 EUC AUDIO VISUAL REPORT

The A/V team continued to support and enhance our church services and events throughout 2017.

In the spring, EUC hosted a concert by the Westport community choir "Some Kind of Choir" which also included performances by Alex and Sean Price and Soul Purpose.

In celebration of Elgin Days in July, Gracenote from Ottawa joined us for the morning church service as well as a fund-raising concert in the afternoon.

Brian was asked to provide audio support at the annual Westport Ecumenical Concert in December at Knox Presbyterian church. Some of our equipment was used for this event.

The Feast of Stephen took place in November and we were fortunate to have Morgan Wright and Graham Lowe take charge of the audio requirements for this event, using Morgan's own equipment. They performed as well following the dinner along with the RDHS band.

On October 21, the A/V team held our major fund-raising event "With a Little Help from my Friends," celebrating the music of the Beatles. Attendance was at maximum capacity and resulted in a worthwhile profit. For the first time, we made use of EVENTBRITE to enable ticket purchases on line. This was very successful as a convenient way for getting tickets as well as managing attendance.

The funds allow us to pay for piano tunings, music and other equipment maintenance and improvement.

And, of course, the services continue to be available on line by accessing the recordings through the EPPC website. We receive positive feedback from many who cannot get out to the services, live at a distance (especially our summer visitors), or those who are Snowbirds and like to keep in touch.

We are always looking for better ways to do things and technology does not stand still.

Many thanks to our team: Brian Blowes for the vision and leadership, Clint Halladay for the technical support, Gary Petro for back-up support and consultation and Ysabella Ross and Lydia Smith for filling in when needed on the PowerPoint and sound board.

"It takes a village".....

Margaret Ross
A/V chair

**2017 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE ELGIN AND DISTRICT COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL
(EDCNS)**

EDCNS is a valued Outreach and an important Stewardship opportunity.

Classes parallel the Public School year with Tuesday to Thursday morning classes offered to children from eighteen months to five years of age. Of the four expansion opportunities envisioned during 2016, a Summer Camp was implemented this year.

Facilities being utilized:

1. Access via Centennial entrance.
2. The lower room of the Centennial Hall for the classroom.
3. The Lower Hall reverted from a combined classroom-play area back to a play area
4. The two 'main building' washrooms.
5. Use of the kitchen for special occasions.
6. New this year was the use of the south and east lawns for the inaugural Summer Camp – Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 1:00, during July & August. This involved creative containment, but afforded fresh air and cool shade.

* EDCNS has full use of the Lower Hall but is responsive to requests for use by the church.

Property related details:

Jan – Limited funding from grant application for facilities upgrades/maintenance

Jan 21st - Invested in their own vacuum cleaner

Feb 9th - Rent increased to \$200 for the established '3 mornings a week' school program

Mar 23rd – EDCNS shared their frustration with significant fee increases for required water analysis

March Break - Staff gave the classroom walls a fresh coat of paint. EUC paid for the paint.

Apr & June - N/S Board chair met with council to share ideas for future programming.

June 10th - Celebrated 40th Anniversary with an afternoon Alumni Party

June to Dec - Class interruptions during heating and septic repairs

Jul 2nd – Received approval from Council to advertise PA Day camps and March Break camps in the Township's Fall/Winter Leisure Services book.

Aug - Phone and Internet interruptions

Sept - New teaching staff

Oct 4th - Well Supply Drinking Water Inspection - passed

Nov. 27th - Fundraising event

Dec 15th - Christmas Potluck

It is a pleasure to facilitate the EDCNS in serving our community.

For further information about this program you can visit their webpage at '[ElginNurserSchool.weebly.com.](http://ElginNurserSchool.weebly.com)'

Jim Earl – Liaison

**ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT**

Page 1

JAN 01, 2017 TO DEC 31, 2017

| | 2016 ACTUAL | 2017 BUDGET | 2017 ACTUAL | 2018 BUDGET |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| INCOME | | | | |
| Donation by Envelope | \$70,115 | \$65,000 | \$36,529 | \$40,000 |
| Donations by Par | | | \$38,500 | \$40,000 |
| Donations loose change | | | \$3,059 | |
| Christian Education Offering | | | \$107 | |
| Benevolent | \$3,588 | | incl in envelopes | |
| U S Exchange | \$588 | | \$83 | \$100 |
| Hall Usage | \$2,150 | \$3,000 | \$705 | \$750 |
| Rent | | | \$2,500 | \$2,500 |
| Interest Earned | \$235 | \$250 | \$82 | \$85 |
| Social Committee Income | | | \$6,471 | |
| Social Commit Expenses | | | -\$3,274 | |
| Audio Visual Income | | | \$2,520 | |
| AV Fund raising expense | | | -\$1,240 | |
| AV Technical supplies | | | -\$394 | |
| | <u>\$13,531</u> | \$12,500 | <u>\$85,648</u> | |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$90,207 | | \$85,648 | |
| EXPENSES | | | | |
| CONTRACTORS | | | | |
| Music Director | \$5,800 | \$5,720 | \$5,687 | \$5,700 |
| Janitorial | \$1,970 | | \$1,692 | \$1,600 |
| Snow Plowing | |) | \$610 | \$750 |
| Landscaping | \$1,065 |) | \$475 | \$500 |
| GENERAL | | | | |
| EPPC Assessment | \$48,000 | \$50,000 | \$51,000 | \$51,000 |
| Insurance | \$4,435 | \$4,500 | \$4,652 | \$4,500 |
| Heat & Hydro | \$8,468 | \$9,000 | | |
| Hydro | |) | \$5,987 | \$5,500 |
| Propane | |) | \$4,199 | \$5,500 |
| Telephone | \$291 | \$750 | \$706 | \$700 |
| Bank Charges | \$86 | \$75 | \$182 | \$175 |
| Postage & Office Supplies | \$107 | \$125 | \$381 | \$375 |
| Offertory Envelopes | \$148 | \$150 | -\$73 | |
| Bursary | \$250 | \$250 | \$250 | \$250 |
| Youth Education | \$464 | | | \$500 |
| Dues & Subscriptions | \$51 | | \$51 | \$51 |
| Observer | \$108 | | \$155 | \$150 |

| | 2016 ACTUAL | 2017 BUDGET | 2017 ACTUAL | 2018 BUDGET |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| TREASURER REPORT | | | | |
| | Page 2 | | | |
| Outreach | \$1,312 | \$1,500 | \$1,724 | \$1,500 |
| Benevolent Paid | \$4,155 | | \$1,100 | |
| Conference | \$383 | \$450 | \$75 | \$100 |
| General Maintenance & Repair | \$3,074 | \$3,500 | \$2,423 | \$2,000 |
| | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$80,167 | \$81,276 | |
| | NET | \$10,040 | \$4,372 | |

COLLECTED FUNDS DISPERSED TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Mission and Services | 5,177 |
| Dental Issues Group | 1,143 |
| Food Bank | 2,465 |

BANK BALANCES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Benevolent Fund | 829 |
| G I C'S | 9,986 |
| Current account | 21,519 |

Included in the Current Account Balance

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Building | 14,987 |
| Memorial | 11,219 |
| Left for Operating | -4687 |

There was a significant increase in the Memorial Fund and \$5,000 was used toward major exterior repairs.

**PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
February 25, 2017
Gathering Place of the Church**

ATTENDANCE:

33 attendees plus Rev. Takouhi, Katy Gibson, Chair, Patti Evans, Secretary
Quorum Obtained

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Katy Gibson called the meeting to order at 10:30 am

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. Takouhi opened the meeting with a prayer and tribute to deceased.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved: Larry Cochran **Second:** Duncan Pickard **Carried**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM: Add asterisk to Robert William Steacy on In Memoriam **Moved:** Cam McKay **Second:** Arie Hoogenboom **Carried**

CORRESPONDENCE: None received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Katy Gibson, Chair, thanked everyone for all their support throughout the year.

Trustees: Will French sends regrets; no report submitted

Choir: No report submitted

Sharing and Caring: looking for one or two new members.

Pealers: Jan Haskins would like more members and would like to play more at church services.

Memorials: reported no change to status.

Property Report: report as-is. A sincere thank you to Doug Bond for all the work on the property accomplished during the year.

Christian Education: Report as-is. Thank you to Jan Haskins. Money collected and reported by the Sunday School – passed along to Norma for Banking.

UCW: The sign from the Anglican Church is being used to advertise our events. Bert Petro has been made honorary member of UCW “a delightful addition to our group”. Duncan Pickard thanked the UCW for all they do.

Friendship Committee: a very sincere thank you goes to Cheryl Stoddard for tending to the distribution of cards to parishioners.

Outreach: Thank you to all.

Historical: minor change: \$400 Portland; \$400 Elgin

Food Bank: Three households added since report issued. Gift certificates increased for milk and bread. Preparing larger food baskets. Bank balance healthy. Very optimistic for this year! Great Team.

Cemetery: Cemetery memorial service will be held August 6, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. Please try to attend whether you have someone there or not.

Fund Raising: thank you Norma for fundraising. Scheduled for April 1, 2017, music, bells, and a play (comedy). Norma is requesting assistance – ushers and refreshments.

Finance: Duncan Pickard presented and explained the year-end financial report for 2016. He elaborated on the budget set for 2017 and explained the increase in operating costs. Challenges are to: revitalize givings and hold more fundraisers.

Sincere thank you to Duncan Pickard for all that he does.

Our presbytery has contributed >\$250k to M&S

Motion to Accept Annual Report: Moved: Betty Hoogenboom **Second:** Connie Cochran **Carried**
New Business:

a. Remits:

Margaret Martin presented the 4 remits (proposals). It should be noted that, Official Board votes on Remits, congregation provides input.

Remit #1: Congregation accepts

Remit #2 Congregation accepts

Remit #3 Congregation accepts

Remit #4 Congregation accepts

Margaret thanked the attendees for input to Remit decisions.

b. Goals for M&S: Motion to keep at \$14,000 **Moved:** Jan Haskins **Second** Larry Cochran **Carried**
DIG: Keep at \$2,000 **Moved:** Arie Hoogenboom **Second:** Larry Cochran **Carried**

Closing Remarks: Thank you all for attending. Blessed to have all our people. Jan Haskins offered a huge thank you to Katy Gibson for her role as Chair.

Closing of meeting: Reverend Takouhi offered the closing prayer and blessing.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

FROM THE CHAIR OF PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL

“Church is not Something you go to, it’s a family you belong to” I love this quote and I truly believe it about Portland United Church.

I first want to say thank you, thank you, thank you to all Council members for all the work you do for the Church and for the support that you have given me this year.

We have a few Council positions that should be filled so if you could spare a little time to help out with the behind-the-scenes work of your church, we would love to have you.

Thank you to all who organized fundraisers this past year, not only were they fun but they raised money that was much needed. We are always looking for fundraising ideas, if you have an idea please do not hesitate to let one of the Council members know.

As always, I want to thank Rev Takouhi for her leadership, her inspirational Sunday Services, and the love she shows to everyone.

Thanks again to all for your support again this year.

Katy Gibson

2017 PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH OUTREACH REPORT

On the fourth Tuesday of every month (except December) Portland United Church hosts our Community Lunch. Different people organize one (or two) of the luncheons during the year which gives a great variety to the menus. These luncheons are open to everyone with a just “pay as you are able” policy, providing a good meal and social time to those who attend. Attendance varies from 20 – 40, the number mostly dependent on the weather. The luncheons were not intended to make a profit but they generally do and the monies raised go to the Dental Issues Group (D.I.G.) through Country Roads Community Health Centre. Over \$2,000 was raised for D.I.G. in 2017 via the luncheons and private donations. Preparing a meal for 30 or 40 people may seem a little daunting to some, but with a big kitchen to work in (with a dishwasher) and others to help, it works out quite well and can be fun. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the meals this past year and we look forward to sharing more food and fellowship in 2018.

Following the direction of the Trustees to support youth activities in the area, \$1,000 was given to Rideau District High School Music Department, \$500 each to the township libraries in Elgin and Portland, \$500 to the Elgin and District Cooperative Nursery School, \$250 to South Crosby Public School and \$250 to Sarunas Veselka for his award trip to Italy for operatic studies.

Many other forms of outreach continue and are included in the various reports. As well there was additional support for Mission and Service by selecting hymns for hymn Sundays (thank you Lynne Dimma) and for Cases of Caring (for CHEO). Whether we are raising money for a particular cause, providing food and comfort, lending a hand, providing a place to meet, or just entertaining, we try to give support to all.

2017 PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH TRUSTEE REPORT

The Trustees of Portland United Church continued to monitor the operations of our Church. We are primarily tasked with ensuring proper Insurance is in place and handling financial bequests and investments. Through the generosity of former and current members over the past years, Portland United Church continues to have a current Investment Fund of approximately \$136,500 - down from \$146,000 on December 31, 2016.

In 2017, the Portland Trustees continued to follow a 2015 motion at Council which saw an annual amount of \$4,000 withdrawn from the Investment Fund toward general operating expenses and \$3,000 withdrawn from the Investment Fund to support youth activities in the local area. In addition, however, the Investment Fund also supported the General Operating Fund with an additional \$10,000 and \$4,000 toward the final completion of the propane furnace upgrades and propane related projects. In all, the Investment Fund supported the works of Portland United Church with \$21,000.00 in 2017.

Insurance on the Church continues to be carried by The Bay of Quinte Mutual through Rideau Insurance in the amount of \$775,000. Directors and Officers Liability continues to be carried by Hub International through the United Church of Canada. A written record and a digitally prepared record of belongings is maintained on file.

The Portland Trustees continue to work with the Elgin Trustees to oversee the Manse as a rental property. Joint Trustees and designated Trustees continued to meet re the Rental of the Manse. Please see the enclosed Joint Trustees Annual Report to the Official Board.

Portland United Church Trustees include Keith Haskins, Sheila McKeage, Pamela Cairncross, William French, Doug Bond and Bruce Haskin. The trustees' treasurer and secretary is Pamela Cairncross. All trustees are members of Portland United Church.

Please be in touch with any of your trustees with questions or concerns.

In Christ,

Will French
Portland United Church Trustees Chair

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH PROPERTY REPORT FOR 2017

Once again, it has been a busy year in “property” here at Portland United Church. Between our Treasurer and myself, many trips and hours have been consumed meeting with a wide range of trades. It has been a 2 year ordeal but finally we can say that Portland United Church is not only “cooking with gas” but heating with gas (actually propane), with back-up baseboard heaters, if and when necessary and with heat-pump and AC option. When trenching for propane lines, Barry Baker with his back-hoe did some long-overdue sculpting of our lawn to facilitate drainage from our parking lot and did some improvements to drainage on our north side that will hopefully resolve those occasional surprise floodings of our Gathering Place carpet. With this investment in time and capital completed, hopefully we can tackle some of the ongoing property projects like eaves troughs, storm windows, adding insulation and eventually a new metal roof protecting our Friendship Room.

Through the winter months of 2017, George Wicks did a commendable job of shoveling snow and ice from our walkways and stairs. Rob Dunfield and crew have dependably cleared the parking lot, esp. on Sunday mornings. Terry French sanded our parking lot on a couple occasions when ice was “lethal”.

Outside, this past summer, George kept our lawns in trim both here and at the Cemetery. Mark Herlehy, brick and stone mason of Westport has expertly completed restoration of several deteriorated sites in our façade’s matrix. Reconfiguring our stone steps awaits finding a suitable slab of sandstone. An annual coat of anti-slip preserver has coated the exterior stairs. We owe much appreciation to R. Bedore and Son for their meticulous raking, removing more than 300 bags of autumn leaves from beneath our prolific trees. Approx. 36 bags now protect our septic tank from frost. These will be removed come springtime. Calvin Baker’s memorial spruce tree is brightened on wintery evenings with LED Christmas lights.

Carolyn Mustard has kept our church home in neat order from week to week. Supplies of paper products (towel, toilet and tissue), soaps and assorted garbage bags are maintained and two vacuum cleaners have been tuned up. On two occasions, leaks in our kitchen plumbing have been resolved (thanks Larry) and a fresh supply of cleaning and rinsing agents for our dish washer maintained. A retractable infant change table has been installed in our accessible washroom. Fire extinguishers have received their annual November check-up and certification. Monthly, the smoke alarms are tested, the defibrillator is checked and batteries are replaced according to protocol. A diverse supply of batteries is maintained for various sound systems equipment, emergency lights and clocks. Our most recent PUC test of our well water by Eurofins was 0 – 0. Be assured that it has been 0 - 0 every three months since mandatory testing began several years ago; an assurance worth the quarterly trip to Kingston and the \$56.00 per test.

Along with routine opening-up and walk-through each and almost every Sunday morning at 7:30, it has been a busy and productive “property” year here at Portland United Church.

Doug Bond, Property Chair
Portland United Church

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHOIR REPORT - 2017

The year began with a hint of anticipation and trepidation as a new Music Director was appointed in January, but with a tremendous amount of help, support and guidance from choir members and the church secretary, the period of adjustment and level of nervous anxiety on the part of the new director were quickly reduced. Special thanks should be extended to Helen Smith and Joan Kelly, a.k.a. "the music police", and Katy Gibson, Margaret Martin and Norma Cummings for their help with procedural and technical matters, as well as guidance through the thousands of music titles filed away in the church basement. The recently installed and impressive Johannus digital organ was immediately put to work supporting the choir during the weekly services, and proved particularly effective for the Prelude and Postlude portions of the music.

The rapport between the choir and director had no choice but to develop quickly with the advent of the first fundraising concert of the year on April 1st, immediately followed by preparations for the Good Friday, Easter and Low Sunday celebrations of the year. The concert included an eclectic mix of choral songs, vocal solos and piano solo music, from jazz to movie classics, Chuck Berry to Charlie Brown, and even Monty Python. Some of the solos included the usual comic routines by Rasa Krokys and what I believe may have been the first solo effort by Margaret Martin. The evening was organized and hosted by Norma Cummings and turned out to be a great success. The dust had barely settled from the Easter celebrations when the second fundraising concert of the year took place. This time it was to raise funds for Rasa Krokys' son Sarunas, who was off to Italy to attend a masterclass in Opera over the summer months. Solos, duets and trios performed by the family featured music ranging from Baroque opera to Broadway musicals. A good time was had by all.

The choir lost a member this year as Morley Hennig opted to defect and join the Elgin forces, but then we gained a new one as Janice Brophy, formerly from Delta United, joined the group. She stepped up and performed a duet with Chris Whitty, a guest also from Delta United, during a summer Sunday service, at which time the choir is off for the season. Other special guest soloists during the summer months included Kim Perrin and Janet McKeage, and our own baritone Hans Downer performed a great version of a Leonard Cohen classic on the final Sunday of the summer. Reverend Takouhi sang the Beatles hit "Let it Be" and Rasa performed "Wade In The Water", and Helen and Joan sang a beautiful duet version of "The Stranger of Galilee". Other special music contributions were provided by the Portland Pealers and, Morgan and Isaac Finlay. Throughout the year, the choir members stepped up to provide musical support for two "Celebration of Life" ceremonies following the loss of both Doug Good and Gisela Henneberry, stalwart supporters of the Portland community.

Despite arctic cold conditions outdoors on December 31st 2017, the year came to a heart-warming close as both choirs joined forces in Elgin in a performance of a Christmas Cantata titled "The Living Creche", with Portland music director Jean-Yves Duperron at the piano, and Elgin music director Margaret Ross conducting both choirs and soloists. It capped the festive season with a special message of Christmas tidings to all.

Below is a list of all choir members. They remain a devoted and hard-working part of the Portland United Church family. They elevate the spirit to new heights each and every Sunday throughout the liturgical year, and so can you. Come and join the choir. If only 8 more singers, ideally more men, joined up, then the optimal number of 24 choristers would form the best choir Portland has ever

enjoyed. Drop in on the choir practice on Thursday evenings at 7:30 and realize how much fun you're missing out on. And don't worry ... just bring your voice and the choir members will be glad to help you blend in. We would love to have you join us!

Anita Cox, Bonnie Tackaberry, Brontie Smith, Cam McKay, Doug Bond, Duncan Pickard, Hans Downer, Helen Smith, Janice Brophy, Joan Kelly, John Noble, Katy Gibson, Margaret Martin, Rasa Krokys, Sheila McKeage and Vicky Zwiens.

Jean-Yves Duperron - Portland United Church Music Director

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – 2017

Each week, the Sunday School is blessed to be able to connect with one another through both the upstairs service, as well as our downstairs lesson time. While the group is small, God's love continues to shine through our time together, providing opportunities for the children, youth and leaders to grow in our faith and our walk with Christ. The community of our Church family continues to provide a wonderful place to grow and learn.

Sunday School Volunteers over the course of the year have included: Peggy Bond, Sue Peebles and Halle Bruton, Katy Gibson, Emily, David and Pauline French.

Some of the Sunday School and Youth activities throughout 2017 have included:

- Palm Sunday processional and Easter activities
- Participation in Mission Awareness Trip to El Salvador
- Sharing Mother's Day and Father's Day wishes with the congregation
- Youth events with the Four Rivers Presbytery
- Participation in Family Sundays through scripture reading and ushering
- The 12 Symbols of Christmas presentation, followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon
- Advent Giving Jars in support of the Portland Food Bank
- White Gift Sunday
- Financial support of our foster child through the Plan Canada program

We thank you for your support of the Sunday School through words of encouragement and friendship, as well as support of our local mission initiatives for the Food Bank this past Advent season. We ask that you continue to keep each our children and youth in your prayers, as they grow stronger in faith day by day. We pray that God's love will be made visible in their lives, and that they will always feel the warmth and support of their Church family as they grow in Him.

Submitted by Pauline French

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TREASURER'S REPORT – 2017

Income Statement

**Christian Education
For the period 1/1/2017 to 12/31/2017**

REVENUE

Tax-Receipted Gifts

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| General Fund Income Received | 50.00 |
| TOTAL Tax-Receipted Gifts | 50.00 |
| Interest Income | 0.00 |
| Other Revenue | 0.02 |

TOTAL REVENUE 50.02

EXPENSE

Supplies and Expenses

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Supplies | 84.25 |
| TOTAL Office Supplies and Expenses | 84.25 |
| Charitable Contributions | |
| Plan Canada | 486.00 |
| TOTAL Charitable Contributions | 486.00 |

TOTAL EXPENSE 570.25

NET INCOME (520.23)

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Starting Bank Balance: | 613.38 |
| Net Income for period: | (520.23) |
| Direct transfers into or out of the fund: | 0.00 |
| Ending Bank Balance : | 93.15 |

PORTLAND SHARING AND CARING ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The Sharing and Caring Committee Team is a friendly group who enjoy visiting our sisters and brothers in our church family. Our newsletter is hand delivered twice a year along with a friendly chat.

Our team members are: Rev. Takouhi, Olga Baker, Phyllis Bell, Shirley Bryden, Norma Cummings, Lynn Dimma, Pat Evans, Jan & Bruce Haskin, Betty Hoogenboom, Carolyn Long, Louise Martin, Sheila McKeage, Jane Pickard, and Vicky Zwiers. Phyllis and Pat are new to our team this year. New members are always welcome!

Many newsletters are also mailed to those who have moved away but still like to keep in touch with PUC.

Thank you to all of our committed team for your phone calls and visits. Sometimes a little visit is wonderful and uplifting. You are appreciated.

If you would like to join our team or would like a visit or just a chat on the phone please contact one of our members.

Respectfully submitted by
Betty Hoogenboom, Sharing and Caring Committee Chair Ph. 613 402-7707

PORTLAND PEALERS
(a.k.a. Portland Handbell Choir)

The Pealers, under the direction of Minna Cornelisse, have had a good year. Minna has taught us a lot about enhancing the nuances of the music, and the choir has improved under her leadership.



We were able to take our music to the Elgin and Portland congregations, and have plans to do so on a more regular basis. We also were able to accompany the choir for one anthem and will explore more such opportunities.

There are our favourites (*Ring Jubilee*, *All Night All Day*, and *Suite for Bells*, to name a few) and some new music to spark our interest, for example, *How Can I Keep from Singing*. We will continue to add to our repertoire as our funds permit.

In April, on April Fool's Day, we took part in *April Daze*, an evening of fun and frolic. Flying mallet balls and the fast-paced *Old MacDonald Had a Farm* sent us all into fits of laughter!

We were offered an opportunity to raise some money for our music coffers, so along with our UCW we took on running the canteen for the Leeds Plowing Match on August 19. Other church members also helped out (as they always do) with the BBQing, helping run the canteen and providing baking. It was a learning but profitable experience and raised over \$500 in total.

In December, we took advantage of the timing of the U.C.W. Bake Sale and Build a Mountain of Food to put on a Soup and Sandwich lunch. It was very successful, thanks in no small part to the support of not only our church, but our wider community. It is our aim to build a fund to replenish music on a regular basis and to purchase a two-octave set of chimes. Chimes add to the depth of the music and challenge our ringers...we can't wait to master them and present them to our congregation!



Through thick and thin, the enthusiasm of our members in practices and performances hasn't changed. It's a wonderful group of dedicated players, who have made our Thursday practices a joy!

Do we still have room for more players? Absolutely! Can't play on a regular basis, but would consider a role as a spare? Contact us! You would be welcome!

When all is said and done, none of this would be possible without your support: we thank you!

Jan Haskin

PORTLAND UCW ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

We have eleven active members of the UCW this year. Our executive consists of: Connie Cochran, President, Cheryl Stoddard, Secretary, Peggy Bond, Treasurer, Cheryl Stoddard, Friendship Committee and Sheila McKeage, Social Convener.

Our events included the following Funerals/Memorials receptions:

Doug Good
Gary Hanna
Jonathan Watters

In addition to the celebration of life events we hosted the Irish Stew Dinner in March; Doors Open brunch in August; served the Armenian Lunch and made sandwiches for the Parkinson's Walk in September; and helped with Phyllis Bell's birthday in November. The Spring and Fall pie sales continue to be a great fund-raising event and we have fun doing it too!

These events generated enough funds to meet our M&S goals, help with church expenses and provide support to area mission work such as the local charities, including Portland Food Bank, Cases of Caring, the Four Rivers Presbytery UCW Bursary Fund as well as funds to those in need in the community. We were able to purchase a new convection gas stove and install the hood fan (with Microwave) that was donated by Janet McKeage.

We continue to provide our Prayer Shawl Ministry and are grateful for all donations received. We give First Prayer books to children at their Baptism.

Members of the executive attended the Fall Rivers Presbytery 5th Annual Meeting in April at Delta, the Fall Rally at St. Paul's United Church in Perth as well as regular Presbyterial meetings. The UCW celebrated its 55th Anniversary in 2017.

On behalf of the Portland UCW I would like to thank everyone that helped with the catering events for 2017. We have an amazing congregation and community that steps up to work with us for our fund-raising efforts.

Connie Cochran

FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT - 2017

Our Friendship Committee sent a total of 34 cards in 2017 with our love and prayers as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Thank you | 1 |
| 80 th Birthday | 1 |
| Sympathy | 16 |
| Thinking of you | 6 |
| Get Well | 6 |
| New Home | 1 |
| Xmas | 3 |

If you think of someone who needs a smile, a prayer or support please do not hesitate to contact us.

Phone Cheryl Stoddard 613-205-1340; email: cstoddard1@cogeco.ca

U.C.W. FINANCIAL REPORT 2017

Balance

1,360.23

Income

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Offerings | 736.30 |
| St. Paddy's profits | 1,175.50 |
| Bake & pie sales | 5,414.50 |
| Memorial receptions | 950.00 |
| Catering | 1,326.42 |
| Memorial donations | 180.00 |
| Sale of stove | 350.00 |
| Cookbook sales | 60.00 |
| Ornament sale | 10.00 |
| Calendar sales | 20.00 |
| Bank interest | <u>.13</u> |
| | 10,222.85 |

11,583.08

Outgo

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| M&S | 2,400.00 |
| World Dev. & Relief | 200.00 |
| Church | 2,000.00 |
| Portland Food Bank | 500.00 |
| Cases of Caring | 150.00 |
| presbytery dues | 120.00 |
| Sheila - kitchen | 120.00 |
| Friendship | 100.00 |
| Propane stove | 1,430.24 |
| Benevolent donation | 200.00 |
| Watters reception exp. | 55.00 |
| UCW AGM reg | 40.00 |
| Fall rally registrations | 20.00 |
| 8 UCW pins | 35.71 |
| Donna for cleaning | 317.82 |
| 10 cookbooks | 198.98 |
| Calendars (10) | 61.00 |
| Bank charges | 4.00 |
| Luncheon | 120.00 |
| Gifts | <u>300.00</u> |

8,372.75

3,210.33

Peggy Bond

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH HISTORICAL REPORT 2017

It has been another busy year at Portland United Church.

On Sunday January 1st, our sanctuary was dark and the doors closed but there was a service available on the net.

When Rev. Takouhi was away we enjoyed many very able worship leaders:

Mark Bee on January 15th and March 12th,
Margaret Martin on January 22nd and August 27th,
Rev. Betty Sangster on May 21st,
Elaine Farley of the Old Hay Bay Church on May 28th,
Rev. Shaun Seaman on August 20th,
Ruth Sword on September 17th,
Rev. John Ortberg on September 24th,
Lynne Dimma with a hymn sing on October 29th,
Paul Whitely on November 19th,
Charlotte Hoy on November 26th.

We welcomed our new and highly skilled music director John (Jean-Yves) Duperron, January 15th.

We worshipped with our sister church EUC:

Maundy Thursday, April 13th in Elgin,
Good Friday, April 14th in Elgin,
Easter Sunrise Service on Leggett's Hill, with breakfast in Portland,
Hymn sing service April 23rd, with Lynne Dimma leading, in Portland,
Worship service and picnic, Hanna Park, Portland, on July 2nd,
July 9th, in Elgin featuring Gracenote,
December 24th, 10 am in Portland,
Dec. 31st in Elgin, when the combined choir presented *The Living Creche*.

Some special services :

Pentecost Sunday with French, Dutch, Lithuanian and Armenian, Apr. 23rd,
Hymn Sing Sunday, July 30th,
Portland Cemetery Service, 3 pm, August 6th,
Blessing of the backpacks, September 10th,
World Wide Communion, Oct 1st.
Ecumenical Worship Service, Elgin Municipal Complex, 5 pm, Oct 1st.
All Saints Sunday, November 5th,
Remembrance Services, November 12th,
Christmas Eve Service at 4 pm.

We received new members;

April 16th: Hansen and Kathy Downer
Robert and Mary Jane (Bob and M.J.) LeBlanc
May 14th: Emily French and David French,
Logan Welch-Turner and Leah Welch-Turner,
Halle Bruton,
October 1st: Linda Baker-Peck

We had some baptisms:

September 3rd, Lily Brooks Brereton.
October 1st, Linda Baker-Peck, Madisyn Janine Peck, Jeremy Kenneth Alexander Peck and Grayson Daniel Peck.

V.I.B.E. had some interesting discussions after viewing:

Dream, Think, Be, Do.

Soul Keeping.

God is Closer Than You Think.

Three Days that Changed the World.

If you Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat.

For the Bible Tells Me So.

Who is This Man.

Cases of Caring sewed 150 pillowcases for CHEO in a 150 celebration sewfest Wed. May 17th.

The bell choir, Portland Pealers, played at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Perth; Rosebridge Manor, Easton's Corners; Elgin United church as well as Portland United.

For fun and/or fundraiser:

Friday March 17th, UCW St. Paddy's dinner.

Sat. April 1st, music and comedy with *The Rosewood Art Society*.

Donini Chocolate just in time for Easter.

Travel the World with Music, Saturday May 20th. (Sarunas Veselka)

Sat. June 3rd, Bluegrass Concert.

Sun Zone Sunscreen Lotion.

Portland on-line auction, Aug. 4 - 16.

Canteen for the Leeds Plowing Match, August 19th.

Singing for M&S.

The Armenian Retreat Sept. 16th.

Card workshop with Cheryl Stoddard, Nov. 18th.

Lots and lots of pies and baking.

Collecting empty bottles for the Food Bank.

4 Rivers Presbytery organized 4 confirmation classes - Jan. - April as well as a youth event Sat. Oct. 14. Bay of Quinte Conference held a Youth Fall Retreat, *Living Faith, Living Well*, Fri. Nov 3 - Sun Nov. 4 at Grace United, Napanee.

Claire and Emily French, and Rev Takouhi joined others in a second mission trip to El Salvador.

The annual Vacation Bible School was held July 3rd - 7th.

There was/were:

- a spiritual focus each week and a community luncheon each month.
- Lenten, Advent and the occasional Minute for Mission readings.
- newsletters, spring and fall.
- a couple of trips to the Old Hay Bay Church.
- participation in Build a Mountain of Food for the food bank, Dec 9th.
- Many inspiring anthems.

The church family was there to share the joys and sorrows of our congregants. We said goodbye to far too many old friends but hello and welcome to new friends. We praised God. We prayed for us all. We learned about homiletics. We supported the food bank, the clothing co-op, DIG, Cases of Caring and Mission and Service fund of the United Church. We cared about each other. We enjoyed that special fellowship of the Christian community. As we now must prepare for Rev. Takouhi's sabbatical, we look to 2018 with hope, joy, peace and love that our faith provides.

Peggy Bond

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH FUN-DRAISING - 2017

The year 2017 saw fundraisers for Portland United church and for beyond the church.

The year-round fundraiser that happens fairly quietly, is the **FundScrip Retail Card Program**. The purchase of these “gift” cards gives the church a percentage of each sale without costing the buyer an extra dime. Once a month cards can be ordered/purchased for gas, groceries, specialty stores, restaurants – all sorts of major retail businesses. Norma sends the order in the first Sunday of the month, Duncan transfers the deposited payments, Norma picks up from Purolator in Smiths Falls and purchasers receive their cards the following Sunday. Or, if you bank on-line, you can order the cards yourself once registered. Last year the church “earned” \$630 and that is mostly from a few dedicated purchasers. We could do a lot better if more people took part. Think about it.

The fun part of fun-draising was definitely evident in the **April Daze** concert on April 1 as the Sanctuary became our Concert Hall. This evening of entertainment “to celebrate April Fool’s Day” had music, theatre, and musical theatre. Portland’s choir sang some contemporary songs accompanied by our (new at the time) musical director Jean-Yves, “John”, who also played four piano solos and accompanied everyone else; a one-act play, “The Rosewood Art Society”, by Peter Paylor featuring six of Portland’s best actors; vocal soloists; and the Portland Pealers Bell Choir. Besides being successful in raising approximately \$850 it was great fun – some parts of the evening are still being talked about almost a year later.

On May 20th we hosted a fundraising concert to help a young man attend a month’s opera training in Italy. Rasa Krokys organized an evening of opera and music from the Broadway stage with “**Travel the World with Music**” in support of her son Sarunas Veselka. With Rasa, Sarunas, Mercedes van Noppen (a friend of Sarunas) all accompanied by Portland’s musical director Jean-Yves, the Sanctuary was filled with wonderful music and generous donations were received. Carolyn Long acted as the host for the evening and as usual there were lots of delicious treats.

Saturday, June 3 the of distinctive sounds of bluegrass music could be heard in our Sanctuary as the **County Road 44 Bluegrass Band** donated their time and talent and played to a full house. The audience was very appreciative and \$1,000 was raised.

From August 4 to 16 we held our first online auction “**Summertime and the Bidding Is Easy**” via Facebook under the experienced and very capable direction of Brenda Campbell (Jean-Yves’ wife). Donations for the auction came from our church community as well as some businesses in the area – we had over 100 items. Brenda photographed each one, recorded it with a description and put it online. Each person who registered to bid was also recorded. Then it was “Go” time. It was very interesting to watch the bidding and see which items took people’s fancy. When the auction was over, it was add up, pack up, pick up and deliver time. It was a lot of work for a few but very successful as almost \$2,000 was raised. So, thank you again Brenda and special thanks also to Duncan Pickard who was a main crew member.

Cheryl Stoddard again organized and ran her popular **Card Workshop** on November 18. Cheryl supplies all the materials and equipment needed to make these beautiful cards as well as all the “how to” required. Thank you, Cheryl – over \$200 was raised.

On a smaller scale, we sold Donini chocolate for Easter treats and later had SunZone Sunscreen Lotion for sale.

We continue to collect “empties” (wine, liquor and beer bottles and beer cans) which can be placed in the box near the entrance to the Friendship Room. Bert Petro picks these up takes them in for the deposit return with all monies going to the Portland Food Bank.

We thank everyone who was involved in any way with these fun-draisers and especially the congregation(s) for supporting the activities – by helping, buying and most of all by ATTENDING, getting the word out, and bringing friends and neighbours. THANK YOU!

Submitted by Norma Cummings

PORTLAND FOOD BANK REPORT 2017

It has been a busy year for the Portland Food Bank with our fluctuating number of households that require our help. As of January 1st 2018, we are assisting 20 households (41 adults and 5 children). We started out in January of 2017 with a healthy bank balance thanks to the Build a Mountain of Food Campaign (2016) and many generous donations from our community. We spend approximately \$1700.00 per month on food, the Good Food Boxes from CRCHC (which we pay for) and Gift Certificates for bread and dairy products. Our clients also benefit from the Clothing Co-op at no charge.

The 2017 Build a Mountain of Food Campaign brought in \$12,613.90 in cash and cheques and 5005 pounds of food. Every year our good friends at Len’s Cove provide Christmas to one family or two seniors including everything from a complete Christmas dinner, frozen food items for the following weeks, bread, dairy products and personal gifts. Thanks again to Len’s Cove. There are so many people to thank and we have reached out to all who donated with our appreciation.

“The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.”

Proverbs 22, Verse 9

As we enter 2018 we are grateful that we can continue to provide the less fortunate in our community with food and clothing. We cannot do this without the continuing generosity of our community.

THANK YOU!!!

From the Volunteers at the Portland Food Bank

Ilona French, Louise Martin, Joan Kelly, Went Sharp and Cheryl Stoddard

Submitted by Cheryl Stoddard

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Portland Food Bank | | |
| Bank Balance as at Dec. 31, 2017 | | \$ 15,014.23 |
| January 1 - December 31, 2017 | | |
| Balance as at Dec 31, 2016 | | \$ 13,632.08 |
| Donations | | \$ 18,817.35 |
| Groceries | \$ 8,057.41 | |
| Gift Certificates - Gordanair | 6,538.72 | |
| Good Food Box - CRCHC | 2,250.00 | |
| Bank Fees | 105.03 | |
| Misc. | 479.04 | |
| Petty Cash | 5.00 | |
| Total Expenses | | \$ 17,435.20 |
| Bank Balance as at Dec. 31, 2017 | | \$ 15,014.23 |

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY REPORT 2017

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the upkeep of our cemetery and also thank those who made donations to the Cemetery Fund..

We had one (1) burial this year.

Our Cemetery Service was held August 6, 2017, and although small, was successful.

There are plans for this year's service to be held at the Cemetery August 5, 2018 at 3 p.m.

Financial Statement

Opening Balance \$ 9,646.33

Receipts:

Bank Interest \$ 3.27

Donations 810.00

Burial 191.02

Total \$ 1,004.29

\$ 10,650.62

Expenses:

Grass cutting \$ 1,200.00

Paint 127.00

Total \$ 1,327.00

Balance \$ 9,323.62

Blaine Tackaberry
(Chair person for Cemetery Committee)

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND REPORT 2017

Over recent years, our Memorial Fund has seen to updating and improving our lighting, sound and recording system in our church. This on-going project was initiated with a generous donation by Merv Mills in memory of Claire.

These many improvements include new speakers and more microphones to do justice to voice and music. At the back of the Sanctuary, we have a closable desk to house our hi-tech electronics. Sermons and anthems can now be directed to those in the Friendship Room and the Gathering Place. Thanks to the many generous donations to our Memorial Fund, we can now link our sound and sight system with up-to-date Wi-Fi and our hearing-assist system brings sermon and song to those who would benefit. Our modern spot and flood lights were purchased with Memorial funds several years ago and we are presently researching conversion to LED lighting in our Sanctuary to give us economy and intensity over many years; better suited to video recording. Special thanks must be given to Will & Son, Brad & Daughter and Gary for skillfully putting these modern facilities of sight and sound to the benefit and enjoyment of our community.

For a more complete list of those in whose names and memories these and many other improvements have been made to our church home, please refer to our Memorial Book located in the display cabinet near the front of our sanctuary.

D. Bond, Chair, Portland United Church Memorial Fund

Portland United Church

| Total Income Statement | 2017 Actuals | 2016 Actuals | Difference 2017/2016 | 2018 Budget |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUE | | | | |
| General Fund | | | | |
| Sunday Givings | 70,438.21 | 68,467.94 | 1,970.27 | 72,000.00 |
| Fundraising | 6,768.02 | 3,365.52 | 3,402.50 | 6,000.00 |
| Fundraising costs | (1,351.09) | | (1,351.09) | |
| Property Use Fees | 700.00 | 1,225.00 | (525.00) | 700.00 |
| TOTAL General Fund Income | 76,555.14 | 73,058.46 | 3,496.68 | 78,700.00 |
| Designated Fund Income | | | | |
| Benevolent | 1,491.25 | 1,963.45 | (472.20) | 0.00 |
| Building+Furnace | 8,433.00 | 9,485.00 | (1,052.00) | 5,000.00 |
| Memorial | 1,039.44 | 5,248.00 | (4,208.56) | 0.00 |
| Cases of Caring | 0.00 | 123.80 | (123.80) | 0.00 |
| Choir Rev | 295.00 | 455.00 | (160.00) | 0.00 |
| Mission works revenue | 347.60 | 415.00 | (67.40) | 0.00 |
| Bell Choir Revenue | 1,526.00 | 510.00 | 1,016.00 | 0.00 |
| Designated Funds For Redistribution | | | | |
| Mission and Service | 11,164.25 | 9,945.00 | 1,219.25 | 10,000.00 |
| Dental Issues Group | 2,050.30 | 1,945.00 | 105.30 | 2,000.00 |
| El Salvador | 5,067.75 | 13.00 | 5,054.75 | 0.00 |
| PTEL | 220.00 | 0.00 | 220.00 | 0.00 |
| * Designated Funds with separate Bank accts | | | | |
| Cemetery | 2,010.00 | 2,052.09 | (42.09) | 0.00 |
| Food Bank | 16,101.80 | 5,689.00 | 10,412.80 | 0.00 |
| CYAYA | 134.25 | 380.30 | (246.05) | 0.00 |
| TOTAL Designated Fund Income | 49,880.64 | 38,224.64 | 11,656.00 | 17,000.00 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | 126,435.78 | 111,283.10 | 15,152.68 | 95,700.00 |

* see separate report for financial impact of Designated Funds with separate accts

Revenue Comments

General Fund

Sunday givings including Par were up almost 3%

Fundraising was up \$3400 this is more than double the previous year

Designated Funds

Overall the generosity of our congregation supporting Missions is over whelming

Contributions to The funds were up 30%.

Despite these increases PUC needed the support of the Long term Fund as denoted below .

Support from Long Term Fund

| | | Donation Breakdown | |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Interest Income | \$4,000 | Non Receipted | \$ 15,296.00 |
| Youth Initiative | \$3,000 | Donations by Par | \$ 32,633.00 |
| General Fund Operating loss | \$10,000 | Donations by Envelope | \$ 46,916.00 |
| Supplemental Furnace | \$4,000 | Other donations Reciepted | \$ 32,403.87 |
| Total | \$21,000 | Reciepted Donations | \$ 111,952.87 |

Portland United Church

| | 2017 Actuals | 2016 Actuals | Difference 2017/2016 | 2018 Budget |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| General Expenses | | | | |
| Charge assessment Expense | 51,000.00 | 48,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 54,000.00 |
| Outreach Rev | (60.00) | 0.00 | (60.00) | 0.00 |
| Outreach Exp | 3,601.27 | 3,356.07 | 245.20 | 3,600.00 |
| Observer Exp | 650.00 | 580.00 | 70.00 | 0.00 |
| Sharing & Caring Exp | 98.48 | 86.58 | 11.90 | 100.00 |
| Decorating Committee Rev | 0.00 | 17.25 | (17.25) | 0.00 |
| Music exp | 0.00 | 140.00 | (140.00) | 0.00 |
| Music Director Expense | 12,240.00 | 7,531.51 | 4,708.49 | 12,000.00 |
| Piano and Organ Maintenance | 187.09 | 124.73 | 62.36 | 200.00 |
| Worship Exp | 486.55 | 85.34 | 401.21 | 500.00 |
| Heating System Repair | 0.00 | 362.24 | (362.24) | 220.00 |
| Elevator Exp | 1,043.80 | 1,514.16 | (470.36) | 1,300.00 |
| Snow and Grass | 4,005.91 | 2,856.08 | 1,149.83 | 4,000.00 |
| Recurring maintenance Exp | 2,222.53 | 2,005.49 | 217.04 | 2,200.00 |
| Custodian Expense | 3,419.50 | 3,261.28 | 158.22 | 3,500.00 |
| Insurance Expense | 2,311.66 | 2,566.08 | (254.42) | 2,400.00 |
| Hydro | 7,308.87 | 11,770.39 | (4,461.52) | 6,000.00 |
| Propane | 3,514.84 | 134.90 | 3,379.94 | 4,000.00 |
| Office expense | 372.01 | 389.91 | (17.90) | 450.00 |
| Envelopes and Par Exp | 345.02 | 334.77 | (104.00) | 340.00 |
| Other | 265.46 | 1,044.26 | (778.80) | 250.00 |
| TOTAL General Expenses | 93,012.99 | 86,161.04 | 6,737.70 | 95,060.00 |
| Designated Fund Expenses | | | | |
| Benevolent Expense | 570.00 | 1,632.24 | (1,062.24) | 0.00 |
| Building ,Furnace ,Expense | 12,192.56 | 8,104.90 | 4,087.66 | 5,000.00 |
| Memorial Expense | 0.00 | 115.42 | (115.42) | 0.00 |
| Cases of Caring Expense | 0.00 | 123.80 | (123.80) | 0.00 |
| Choir expense | 53.00 | 296.90 | (243.90) | 0.00 |
| Mission Works Expense | 394.85 | 524.00 | (129.15) | 0.00 |
| Bell Choir Exp | 1,134.22 | 631.67 | 502.55 | 0.00 |
| Designated Funds For Redistribution | | | 0.00 | |
| M&S Expense | 11,164.25 | 9,945.00 | 1,219.25 | 10,000.00 |
| Dental Expense | 2,050.30 | 1,945.00 | 105.30 | 2,000.00 |
| El Salvador Expense | 5,067.75 | 13.00 | 5,054.75 | 0.00 |
| Designated Funds with separate Bank accts | | | 0.00 | |
| Food Bank Expense | 16,101.80 | 5,689.15 | 10,412.65 | 0.00 |
| Cemetery Expense | 2,010.00 | 2,052.09 | (42.09) | 0.00 |
| CYAYA Exp | 134.27 | 380.28 | (246.01) | 0.00 |
| TOTAL Designated Fund Expenses | 50,873.00 | 31,453.45 | 19,419.55 | 17,000.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | 143,885.99 | 117,614.49 | 26,157.25 | 112,060.00 |
| NET INCOME | (17,450.21) | (6,331.39) | (11,118.82) | (16,360.00) |
| Support from investment acct | 21,000.00 | 3,000.00 | | 7,000.00 |
| Impact on Bank acct | 3,549.79 | (3,331.39) | | (9,360.00) |

Expense Notes

\$1,500 from the building fund expense is a deposit towards replacing eaves troughs . This money is at risk
 General Operating expenses were up \$7,000 .Charge assesment was up \$3,000 and Music was up \$5,000.
 Both of these increases had been anticipated . Other expenses were down
 Energy for the church was down \$1,000 this includes changeover costs to Propane

| Portland United Church Comparison | Balance Sheet | Starting Balance 12/31/2016 | Income +Transfers in | Expenses +transfers out | Ending Balance 12/31/2017 |
|--|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| ASSETS | | | | | |
| General Chequing Account | | 7,024.67 | 145,765.24 | 141,519.90 | 11,270.01 |
| Federal Sales tax Recoverable | | 441.55 | 585.89 | 748.77 | 278.67 |
| Provincial Sales Tax recoverable | | 1,158.76 | 1347.07 | 1879.74 | 626.09 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 8,624.98 | 147,698.20 | 144,148.41 | 12,174.77 |
| LIABILITIES and FUNDS | | | | | |
| General Fund | | (1,777.43) | 93,555.14 | 93,275.41 | (1,497.70) |
| Designated Funds | | | | | |
| Benevolent Fund | | 1,168.39 | 1,491.25 | 570.00 | 2,089.64 |
| Building & Furnace | | 4,125.63 | 12,433.00 | 12,192.56 | 4,366.07 |
| Memorials Fund | | 3,524.27 | 1,039.44 | | 4,563.71 |
| Cases Fund | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| Choir Fund | | 956.80 | 295.00 | 53.00 | 1,198.80 |
| Mission works | | 598.97 | 347.60 | 394.85 | 551.72 |
| Bell Choir | | 28.33 | 1,788.42 | 1,134.22 | 682.53 |
| M & S Fund | | 0.00 | 11,164.25 | 11,164.25 | 0.00 |
| DIG Fund | | 0.00 | 2,050.30 | 2,050.30 | 0.00 |
| El Salvador | | 0.00 | 5,067.75 | 5,067.75 | 0.00 |
| PTEL | | 0.00 | 220.00 | | 220.00 |
| Cemetery | | 0.00 | 2,010.00 | 2,010.00 | 0.00 |
| Food Bank Fund | | 0.00 | 16,101.80 | 16,101.80 | 0.00 |
| CYAYA | | 0.02 | 134.25 | 134.27 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL Designated Funds | | 10,402.41 | 54,143.06 | 50,873.00 | 13,672.47 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES and FUNDS | | 8,624.98 | 147,698.20 | 144,148.41 | 12,174.77 |

*See separate page for Operating Statements and Bank balances of Designated Funds with separate bank accts
includes internal transfer of \$262.42 from Feneral Fund to Bell Choir

\$1,500 from the building fund expense is a deposit towards replacing eaves troughes . This money is at risk

Long Term Fund

| | Dec-13 | Dec-14 | Dec-15 | Dec-16 | Dec-17 |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | \$140,694 | \$141,790 | \$140,764 | \$146,064 | \$136,700 |
| Withdrawals | \$6,870 | \$16,150 | \$8,124 | \$7,000 | \$21,000 |
| Additions | | | | \$4,000 | |
| Investment Income | \$23,786 | \$17,246 | \$7,098 | \$8,300 | \$11,636 |
| Est. Return | 19% | 12% | 5% | 5% | 9% |

Portland United Church
General Fund Income Summary

| | 2017 Actuals | 2016 Actuals | Year end Difference | 2018 Budget |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUE | | | | |
| General | | | | |
| Sunday Givings Rev | 70,438.21 | 68,467.94 | 1,970.27 | 72,000.00 |
| Fundraising | 5,416.93 | 3,365.52 | 2,504.41 | 6,000.00 |
| Finance and Admin rev | 4,700.00 | 5,225.00 | (525.00) | 4,700.00 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | 80,555.14 | 77,058.46 | 3,949.68 | 82,700.00 |
| EXPENSE | | | | |
| General Expenses | | | | |
| Charge assessment Expense | 51,000.00 | 48,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 54,000.00 |
| Outreach Committee | 1,289.75 | 1,022.65 | 267.10 | 1,400.00 |
| Worship Committee | 12,913.64 | 7,898.83 | 5,014.81 | 12,700.00 |
| Property on Going | 23,827.11 | 24,470.62 | (643.51) | 23,620.00 |
| Finance and admin | 982.49 | 1,768.94 | (786.45) | 1,040.00 |
| TOTAL General Expenses | 90,012.99 | 83,161.04 | 6,851.95 | 92,760.00 |
| NET INCOME | (9,457.85) | (6,102.58) | (2,902.27) | (10,060.00) |
| Long term Fund Transfers Included | 7,000.00 | 7,000.00 | | 7,000.00 |