

**THE UNITED CHURCH
OF CANADA**

**ELGIN – PORTLAND
PASTORAL CHARGE**

ANNUAL REPORT

2018



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, 2018

Tristen Alfred James Gordon, April 1, Portland

Claira Ann De Long, August 19, Elgin

MEMBERS WHO JOINED BY PROFESSION OF FAITH 2018

MEMBERS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER, 2018

SERVICES OF MARRIAGE, 2018

Stephen Douglas Lloyd and Sharon Kathleen Johnston, June 9, Westport, ON

Samuel John Jaspers-Fayer and Emmelia Alice Warren, July 18, Chaffey's Lock, ON

David Joseph Stewart and Jenni Henwood, July 28 near Athens, ON

FUNERALS CONDUCTED, 2018

Gordon Allan Baker – February 3

Thomas Bradley (T.J.) Perrin – March 5

Eleanor Marie Taylor – March 10

William Samuel French – April 17

Ruth Cheetham (Dickson) – June 26

Morley Norbert Hennig – August 10

Marian Verona Franklin – August 29 – Rev. Seeley

Loree Erma Smith – October 9 – Rev. S. Seaman

William Hayden Franklin – November 13 – Rev. S. Seaman

**Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Official Board – Annual General Meeting
Minutes of March 7, 2018
Elgin United Church**

In Attendance: Rev. Takouhi, Ted Brett, Margaret Martin, Cam McKay, Duncan Pickard, Sandra Smith, Larry Cochran, Connie Cochran, Jim Earl, Will French, Clint Halladay.

1. A/Chair Ted called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm there being a quorum present.
2. Margaret Martin offered the opening prayer.
3. A/Chair Ted called for approval/amendments to the agenda. There being none, motion to adopt agenda: Connie/Duncan: Carried
4. A/Chair Ted called for a motion that the Annual Reports of the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge be approved as published in the Annual Report, unless there were amendments to the reports.
Larry/Cam:
 - a. A/Secretary Clint stated that the minutes of the 2017 AGM, although published in the Annual Report, should be addressed separately.
Motion to approve as amended: Larry/Clint: Carried.
5. Minutes of AGM March 1, 2017:
 - a. Item 1.b: Correct spelling of "Aurel Hart";
 - b. Item 4: Correct spelling of "forward".Motion to approve minutes of 2017 AGM as amended: Sandra/Connie: Carried
6. Nominations and Elections/Aclamations:
 - a. Chair: Cam Mackay stood for Chair. There being no contention, the nomination was acclaimed;
 - b. Secretary: Margaret Martin stood for Secretary. There being no contention, the nomination was acclaimed;A/Chair Ted welcomed both Cam and Margaret to their new roles as members of the Official Board Executive.
7. Comments of Out-going Chair: A/Chair Ted stated that he enjoyed the role; however, his many hats and some of the challenges of the period were taxing. He is happy to return to Treasurer and Presbytery for 2018. He wished Cam and Margaret all the best and assured them they had a strong OB Team with them.

A/Secretary Clint thanked Ted for his service and commended him on a job well done.
8. Comments of In-Coming Chair: Chair Cam stated he was looking forward to the challenge and appreciated the Board's support. He acknowledged the good work of those that had preceded him.
9. Larry offered the closing prayer
10. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Minister's Annual Report with Sabbatical 2018 – AGM 2019

*"14 And you, beloved, are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. 15 Similarly it would be silly to light a lamp and then hide it under a bowl. When someone lights a lamp, she puts it on a table or a desk or a chair, and the light illumines the entire house. 16 You are like that illuminating light. Let your light shine everywhere you go, that you may illumine creation, so men and women everywhere may see your good actions, may see creation at its fullest, may see your devotion to Me, and may turn and praise your Father in heaven because of it." **Matthew 5:14-16 (The Voice)***

Beloved, what an amazing ministry we have had together in 2018... Beyond my imagination, beyond my comprehension. We are in this ministry together since February 1, 2013. Hence, 2018, marked the 5th anniversary of our accountable ministry together - What a joy!

In 2018 I was able to enjoy a period of a sabbatical from my daily ministry responsibilities and take time to **Rejuvenate; Refocus; Re-Evaluate; Re-Start and Re-Adjust**. My sabbatical was truly a time to reconnect with myself and my family and do ministry in different ways. The dynamic of our family changed for the better because my focus was not divided among many individuals and dedicated to them. I also learned so much from developing new relationships with other individuals, ministers who do the work of God oceans apart from here. I am ever grateful to God and to the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge. Moreover, I am grateful to God and to the amazing licensed lay worship leaders within the communities, along with the ministers who supported this journey for us (I will name these individuals in the Worship Planning Committee's Report).

Today, January 20, 2019, I am writing this report on the Sunday morning when we had to cancel church services because of the storm, however, this is a good opportunity for me to look back, on this quiet day, reflect on the year that we left behind and write this report with gratitude in my heart for the ministry we have together, through the Grace that leads us on.

Here is a glimpse of my journey's tapestry in 2018.

Life Long Learning Opportunities (Continuing Education): This is a very important aspect in my life, as it is not just an educational occasion, but also an opportunity to feed my soul at a different level – with colleagues and theologians/scholars.

- 1) **May 21-25, 2018 – Festival of Homiletics** – This year, this annual, week-long conference took place in Washington D.C. This event offers various styles and methodologies of preaching with lectures, worships and workshops. The conference theme this year was: **"Preaching and Politics"**. Many people separate religion and politics thinking they are two separate entities, not realizing that they both seek the wellness of the people; therefore, they are

equivalent. It felt like we were in the lion's den with the most recent political changes in the United States.

For the very first time I participated in a procession/march – **"Reclaiming Jesus"**, which was led by Bishops, Ministers, Priests and Theologians, such as Bishop Michael Curry, the Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann and many more. This required courage from within me and trust in God, as my Canadian Passport does say, *"Born in Lebanon"*; and fear played out many scenarios in my head, but courage won.

This year I was able to travel and share expenses with my colleague and sister The Rev. Jill Turnbull, as the expenses of this conference surpasses the present time lifelong learning allowance that is in place. However, attending this event is worthwhile. Besides the financial aspect of partnering up with Rev. Jill, it is a wonderful opportunity to be together. WE do live in the same town, yet because of our full schedules, we rarely see each other and fellowship. Collegial support is a rare commodity for ministers.

- 2) **June 7, 2018** – Completed a mandatory boundaries course that the United Church of Canada requires of all ministry personnel to complete every five years. The course was offered through the web (online) through United in Learning. All participants, over 200 ministers, video called and did the course through a virtual classroom.
- 3) **Books Read:** During my sabbatical, I was able to read the following books as part of my Life Long Learning:
 1. ***"Seeing with Our Souls: Monastic Wisdom for Every Day"***
By: Joan Chittister, O.S.B.
 2. ***"Praying the Psalms: Engaging Scripture and the Life of The Spirit"***
By: Walter Brueggemann
 3. ***"Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps"***
By: Richard Rohr
 4. ***"The Ten Commandments: Laws of the Heart"***
By: Joan Chittister
 5. ***"Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love"***
By: William H. Willimon
 6. ***"Wrestling with God: Finding Hope and Meaning in Our Daily Struggles to Be Human"*** By: Ronald Rolheiser

Being able to read six books within a 3-month sabbatical period is truly an accomplishment, as I manage to read 3-4 books a year, besides what I read for our V.I.B.E. group. I never had the chance to read in my younger days, in the war. Now, the more I read, the more I hunger to read, which is a gift in itself.

Pastoral Care:

Because of the impending sabbatical that was to start, I did my utmost to go and visit as many people as possible, as life changes rapidly in a split second. Our community has many caring individuals, however there is a huge need for regular pastoral care visits for the minister to do; and the demographics of our communities demand these visits more and more. Living in a rural area this makes long drives to Kingston, Brockville, Perth and Smiths Falls however the driving time is not wasted: I pray (with my eyes open 😊); I contemplate on the scriptures for the week, I listen to uplifting music or even listen to CBC Radio and find out what is going on in the world and in our backyard. Nevertheless, besides actual hospital, long term care facility, and home visits, I do continue to contact people through phone calls, texting, e-mail, and Facebook Messenger. As I have said before, and I will say it again, pastoral care has changed the way it used to be, there are more avenues to share Love and Care sincerely.

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, with his own professional camera, and Will French/Brad Gibson record and post 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 to God through this pastoral charge – we are so fortunate to have highly capable and dedicated individuals in our midst. When you see them, please extend your heartfelt gratitude.

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" by watching the video or listening to the audio recording. Even I was able to enjoy worship celebrations through our website while I was away. Moreover, a copy of the order of worship is posted weekly to the web site and the E-News is shared weekly via email, through our office administrator, it goes out regularly on Saturday morning to those who have their e-mail address on the distribution list.

Our website is not utilized just for worship services, it is also a tool for all those who want to partner up with us and give financial gifts "**Partner with Us-Donate Here**" for the different ministries that we carry out. Such as, 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. Speaking of **Peace through Education-Lebanon**, we raised about \$24,000 and there are still donations trickling in for this ministry – people from all over North America gave generously and I am ever grateful!

Websites may be looked at as a new avenue that not many of us are used to yet; and churches do not have enough experience with this area to 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 – and I truly hope in the future that we will cut down on paper use and print only a few things, such as AGM Reports, and be better stewards of our fragile environment.

The Wider Church - Presbytery, Conference, GC and Beyond:

- 1) **April 14, 2018** – Concluded the eight-month ministry of supervision work with Emma Pipes, who is serving Knox United Church, Caledon Village (Ontario).
- 2) **April 26-29, 2018** – The last CAM (Conference Annual Meeting) of the Bay of Quinte Conference took place in Napanee. The theme of the weekend was: **“This Much We Know”**. As we prepared our hearts and minds for the new chapter of UCC that will begin in 2019, from the four-court church to the three-court, we focused on the fact that no matter what changes take place, this much we know that God is with us. This is what I took from this very blessed conference, with the leadership of the President of Conference, The Rev. Wanda Stride.
- 3) **“Into the Promise”** – an experiment that started in 2017, was concluded in April 2018 and there were a few churches who found this experiment helpful with a focus of doing ministry “out in the streets” where God is also found. Many different pastoral charges have formed clusters and are working together even before the UCC changes take place in January 2019.
- 4) **June 19, 2018** – I was invited to share my life’s journey with the Upper Valley Presbytery, where I shared my journey so far and a look ahead to my sabbatical. Upper Valley Presbytery covered the mileage for that trip, as this was a special invitation on their part.

Preaching/Presentation/Other Opportunities and News:

- 1) **Sunday, March 4, 2018** - For the very first time in my life, I had the privilege of sitting in as a critic for the Portland Legion Public Speaking Competition. It was truly an honour to be present at this event and get to hear so many young individuals who spoke so eloquently about everything; it also gave me a chance to develop a relationship with students who participated with their parents. One of the students came to our Sunday morning worship celebrations and shared her speech. More about that in the Worship Committee Report.
- 2) **Sunday, March 18, and Saturday, June 30, 2018** – Held a Tupperware Fundraising party for **Peace Through Education** at our residence and besides raising funds of about \$500.00, we had a great time and got to know each other even better. Thanks to Ruth Duench for representing Tupperware and giving us lessons on how to prepare fast and healthy dishes.

- 3) **Saturday, May 5, 2018 – Shared a power point presentation of my life’s journey called - “This is My Story, this is My Song”** Presentation of my life’s journey this far to raise funds for the sabbatical partnership for education in Lebanon. Thanks to Ed Speers and Pat Greenhorn for coming up with this idea and for Marg Ross sharing her musical talents with us. At this event, my life’s journey presentation was intermittent with hymns that have played a part in my life’s journey. My sister Choughik (Morning Dew) and I sang the first verse of each hymn in Armenian and asked the attendees to join us for the rest of the hymn in English. The presentation was to be held in Elgin, however electrical issues in Elgin guided us to have this event in Portland.
- 4) **Sunday, June 3, 2018 – Shared the Word of Hope at the Halladay Burial Place Annual Memorial Gathering, in the afternoon. My reflection title was: “Death is NOT the end of our Story”.**
- 5) **Sunday, June 10, 2018 – With the help of Joanne McLean, my sister Ruth and many others, we had a wonderful Armenian-Lebanese Benefit Dinner for Peace through Education-Lebanon** at the Lion's Hall. It was a great success and my heart is ever grateful for all who helped, attended and many businesses and individuals who donated many different needs to make this a positive event. We raised about \$5,000.
- 6) **Friday, September 7 – Sunday, September 9, 2018 – I had the opportunity to be the Keynote speaker for the Bay of Quinte UCW at Quin-Mo-Lac. The topic for the weekend was, “Life’s Journey”.**
- 7) **Sunday, September 16, 2018 – Shared the Word of Hope, in Armenian, at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Nor Marash. This is the church where I was born and raised. What a gift it was to be able to preach in the church I grew up in.**
- 8) **Sunday, September 23, 2018 - Shared the Word of Hope at the Tripoli's National Evangelist Presbyterian Church, about 2 hours north of Beirut. The minister who serves this church is the very first ordained woman minister in the Middle East – The Rev. Rola Sleiman. I preached in English and she translated to Lebanese (Arabic).**
- 9) **October 28, 2018 – I had the privilege to be at the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, North Syracuse, New York where Lamont and Joan Hahn, summer members at Elgin United Church are part of this community.**
- 10) **November 18, 2018 – On my 51st birthday, I had the privilege to be the guest preacher at the Armenian Cilicia Evangelical Church in Pasadena, California, where I delivered the sermon for their Thanksgiving Sunday. This was my second time preaching at this Armenian Church.**

11) **December 3, 2018** – On this Monday, I had the privilege of participating in the swearing in of the Rideau Lakes Township’s newly elected councilors and mayor. This was a historical moment for me, as I had never participated for an event such as this. It was truly an honour and a humbling experience to help our new mayor, Arie Hoogenboom, as he assumed this position. Arie and Betty are dear and precious members of our pastoral charge, through the Portland United Church.

Beloved, every year when I sit down to write a report such as this, for our annual review meetings, I think back and realize how much God’s Blessings have poured down upon us. We might be found in small rural Ontario villages, but we work with the Mighty Love of God. Let us continue to be the lighthouse for the Light of Jesus. In 2018, we have literally been a lighthouse to the ends of the world – because of our Unity, and Readiness to make a difference in this wounded world, through our local and worldwide ministries. So, let us shine for God, no matter how small the light may seem. We live the Good News of Jesus, as we journey on.

Your Servant Leader,
Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro
Incumbent Minister since, February 1, 2013

REPORT FROM THE OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIR TO THE MEMBERS OF EPPC

During the past year your official board dealt with many issues regarding the behind the scene workings of your Church. The Manse rental which provides the Church with much needed income has been as issue, but appears to be running smoothly now thanks to Ted Bret and Jim Earl.

Margaret Martin has been diligent as Secretary in recording all happenings at our meetings to all members. This is a big position (among others she does) and we are very grateful for all efforts.

Ted Brett, as O/B treasurer, has done a yeoman job in arranging for visiting Ministers during Rev. Takouhi’s sabbatical leave. Not only financial arrangements but filling every Sunday with a suitable temporary replacement. Thank you Ted.

During 2018 Larry Cochran stepped down as Chair of the M&P committee. Jan Haskin has assumed this roll. Thank you to both Larry and Jan for their service to our Churches.

Cam McKay, Chair

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge

WORSHIP PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT WITH SABBATICAL 2018 – AGM 2019

***“We thank You, O True God. Our souls are overflowing with thanks!
Your name is near; Your people remember and tell of Your
marvelous works and wonders.” Psalm 75:1 The Voice (VOICE)***

Dearly Beloved, something happens beyond our imagination when we get together to Celebrate God’s Love. We all know deep down inside the healing power while we experience the Love of God through our Celebrations. Our hearts are filled with joy and courage and our minds are set on things that have infinite purposes – transforming power. Our Pastoral Charge’s Worship Planning Committee keeps these things in mind when we plan our weekly worships with the music leadership, Sacrament of Communion and Baptism, and through Christian Education for youth and adults. The more we work together, the more we are strengthened, transformed and transform the world.

Our communities are close-knit, apart and/or joint; and this love of unity and joy is displayed every time we are gathered. Our celebrations are of Word, Sacrament, Prayers, Lessons and Music. Speaking of Music, we are ministered to by both Choirs, Soul Purpose, Solos and Duets, along with the Portland Bell Choir who touches our hearts beyond lyrics can say or do, and we are so blessed to have such musical talents within our community – Thanks to ALL, regular church members or not, who share their gifts with all of us willingly.

This year, V.I.B.E. (Venturing In Biblical Education), celebrated it’s 5th Anniversary. V.I.B.E. was born out of the desire of individuals who wanted to go deeper in their Faith Formation through other books, videos, and studies and move away from the Lectionary Bible Study that had been taking place for over 40 years. This is not to say that The Lectionary Bible Study was not good enough, but many times we need to do things differently for us to grow deeper.

In 2018, we began our regular gatherings on April 25, 2018.

We journeyed through the year with the following studies:

- John Ortberg’s - “The Me I Want to Be”
- John Ortberg’s – “The Life You’ve Always Wanted”
- John Ortberg’s - “All the Places to go”

While I was on my sabbatical the groups continued to meet and go through John Ortberg’s – “When the Game is Over It All Goes Back in the Box”. I have been told that this study was the “cherry” on top of the John Ortberg series. It is also important to mention that on April 21, we watched a movie called, “The Promise” to have more insight to the Armenian Genocide, which is commemorated every April 24. The story line is factual, however the historical facts are real, as my father was a survivor of this genocide.

As we offered adult Christian Education for those who want a safe space to explore their faith deeper, through V.I.B.E. 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), and we are grateful for these individuals.

This year, July 2–July 6, we held our ninth annual pastoral charge’s Vacation Bible School at Portland United Church. This year’s theme was: “Love in Any Language”. We had an average of 12-15 children attend daily from the local community as well as Westport. We had 2 leaders join us from Quebec. One led us in music, Nazani Sevadjian, pianist composer from the Armenian Evangelical Church in Montreal. The other, Steven Bolduc, who is a special needs teacher in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. We are ever grateful to Cathy Ryan, Lynne Dimma, Kathleen Small, Cheryl Stoddard and many others who help regularly in this ministry and make a difference.

Our Lenten Journey’s Spiritual Focus for 2018 was: “The I Am Statements of Jesus”, Here are the weekly titles:

- “I AM the Bread of Life”
- “I AM the Light of the World”
- “I AM the Door”
- “I AM the Good Shepherd”
- “I AM the True Vine”
- “I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life” - Palm / Passion Sunday
- “If I am Your Teacher and Lord, then do as I do...” - Holy Thursday (PUC)
- “I Am with You Always” - Good Friday (PUC)
- “Good Friday: Where God Suffers...”
- “I Am the Resurrection and Life” - Easter Sunday

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 and Family! And like every year, we had a delicious breakfast following the Sunrise Service and this year our host was Elgin United Church.

It is also important to mention that during Lent we pay special attention to different missions to educate ourselves about other ministries around us and around the world. This is usually referred to as “Jesse Tree”, which is based on the Biblical reference to the father of King David, with the idea of how from the dead stump of a tree a new life came forward (Isaiah 11:1) – As Jesus came forth from the lineage of the Jesse Family.

We continued with the tradition of Hymn Sing Sundays, on every fifth Sunday of each month, where congregants decide what hymns to sing. This is a good way of reminiscing on our stories by singing the hymns that we grew up with. We had a few Sundays where we sang those favourite hymns and raised money for the M & S fund along the way.

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 Communion 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.

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) February 4 – Joint Worship Celebration (EUC). Where we celebrated our 5th Anniversary in Accountable Ministry together.
- 2) March 29 – Maundy/Holy Thursday Service (PUC) with Communion.
- 3) March 30 – Good Friday Service (PUC).
- 4) April 1 - Easter Sunrise Worship Service - Leggett Hill. Followed by hot breakfast at EUC, Worship Celebrations at each church at the regular times with Communion.
- 5) April 8 - Joint Worship Celebration (EUC) led by the combined choir of our pastoral charge.
- 6) July 1– Annual Picnic, Joint Worship Celebration at Hanna Park, Portland. This year our musical leaders were: Graham Lowe and Morgan Wright from the Elgin United Church Choir.
- 7) August 26 – Joint Worship Celebration before the start of our sabbatical journey, at PUC with Communion and potluck luncheon.
- 8) September 30 - Joint Worship Celebration at EUC, led by the combined choir of our pastoral charge.
- 9) November 18 – Joint Worship Celebration – Portland Pealers Hand Bell Choir
- 10) December 30 – Joint Worship Celebration at EUC, led by the combined choir of our pastoral charge.

Special Worship Guests:

- 1) May 13 – Special guest participation, Mikayla Johnston, who shared with both congregations her speech titled, “Leaving a Legacy”. One of the bright young individuals from the public speaking competition that I met on March 4, at the Legion. Who travelled all the way from Lansdowne to join us on this day.
- 2) July 8 – Joint Worship Celebration (EUC) in honour of Elgin Days. Gracenote was a special musical guest once again.

Ecumenical Gatherings:

- 1) Once again, Elgin United Church took part in Sharing the Light of Christ in Elgin – December 2. Where, Rev. Kathy Walton represented Elgin United Church and our pastoral charge.

Other Gatherings:

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

EPPC Sunday Worship Celebration Leadership through 2018 – Including Sabbatical:

- ✚ Barbara DeJeet; Bell Choir – Portland Pealers; Charlotte Hoy; EPPC Joint Choir; Graham Lowe
- ✚ Lynne Dimma; Margaret Martin; Mark Bee; Norma Wrightly; Pat Greenhorn
- ✚ Rev. Betty Sangster; Rev. Kathy Walton; Rev. Tom Walton

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 journey 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 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, until she moved back home to Sioux Narrows (North-Western Ontario), in September.

Here is a note from Rev. Kathy Walton for the time she shared in ministry with you, along with her husband, Rev. Tom Walton:

One of the highlights of this fall and winter for Tom and I was the time we spent with you folk at Elgin and Portland. Sharing Communion with you in the fall was a renewal of both faith and friendship for us. And Advent was special. Sometimes, when we are a little down, or facing times of uncertainty, it is so valuable to look back at where we have been and what has been accomplished. Advent always reminds me of how far we have come, how strengthening our faith is and how near we are to one another and to God's love. The Christmas Eve services we shared were memorable both for the spirit-lifting music and for the depth of feeling that was expressed in the faces of all who shared that special night. We both thank Rev. Takouhi and your Worship Committee for the opportunity to share our faith with you. Our love and friendship is with you all as you face a new year of challenge and opportunity.

Much Love. Rev. Kathy and Rev. Tom.

PS: Tom and I have started working with Westbrook United Church. They are facing quite a few challenges so as we keep EPPC in our prayers I hope you will keep us in yours. God bless the work

Kathy

Beloved, please join me to take a moment to look back and thank the Holy One for the gift of this community called The Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge; and extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who make the planning, preparation, and leading of our gatherings a Transformational Blessing. Our faith is shaped not just by Sunday morning worship celebrations, but also by how we live together in Unity, Harmony and Grace.

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

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - 2018

First Quarter 2018

1. Completed 2017 compensation agreements with Rev. Takouhi and Church Secretary with approval by the Official Board in January, 2018.
2. Began the process of planning for Rev. Takouhi's Sabbatical to begin in Sept. 2018.

Second Quarter 2018

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

Third Quarter 2018

1. Reviewed Rev. Takouhi's plans for vacation and detail plan for sabbatical leave.
2. We completed a new covenanting agreement with Rev. Takouhi with a completed vacation schedule and a plan for ministerial support for her sabbatical, which began in September 2018. Thanks to Ted Brett for his experience and wisdom guiding us through this process.
3. Jan Haskin stepped up to assume the Chair of M&P while Larry stepped down but not out – a good transition in leadership.

Fourth Quarter 2018

1. Job Description and Employment Contract for Norma Cummings have been completed with consideration for the new Fair Labour laws that took effect in January 2018.
2. We enjoyed the results of good planning with the Worship Committee for Rev. Takouhi as the visiting ministers "delivered the goods" in RT's absence. Special thanks for Rev. Kathy Walton's support above and beyond the call. Our charge is so fortunate to have the depth and strength of the ministerial support throughout the 4-month period. It was a joy-filled experience!
3. Thanks, too, to the choirs of E-P and the Portland Pealers handbell choir, for their contributions to services during Rev. Takouhi's leave.

Looking Ahead Through 2019

Within the role of M&P we will:

1. Continue to work with the Worship Committee to ensure we have good ministerial resources when needed;
2. Support the development of new leaders within the church;
3. By December, complete the compensation and contract agreements for Rev. Takouhi and Norma Cummings, Secretary of the EPPC.

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

FOUR RIVERS PRESBYTERY FINAL REPORT

This is a wrap up of my time as a presbytery representative for Elgin United Church.

I became a member of Four Rivers Presbytery about 5 years ago. Became Chair of The Resource and Communication Committee about a year later. We had 10 people on the committee pretty well equally split ladies and men. We approve any church improvement or repair programs over \$10,000.00. We approved the sale of manses and set new policies on how the money could be used from the sale of any manse even in the past. We looked after the web page and planned the meeting schedule.

We oversaw the selling and closing of four churches within our presbytery. Not a pleasant chore but we basically walked congregations through the process. I have heard the expression the church is only a building but to the people losing their church it's "Their Building".

We managed the Development Fund and once we finally figured out what Conference would allow us to do with it. We created a grant application and gave away just over \$80,000 in grants. The presbytery treasurer being a member of the committee we assisted him with his budget and any other financial matters that came up.

The last regular Plenary meeting we had a lot of requests for funds. Some organizations we hadn't even heard of so a lot we just refused but we did get approval for some we thought worth while like a donation to the Old Hay Bay church.

The final meeting of Four Rivers Presbytery was on the 20th of November, held at Seely's Bay United Church. That is where Four Rivers Presbytery started so we figured that is where it should end. We changed our usual format and had the closing service at the end of the day after all the business of the day had been completed. We did have one executive conference call in December to wrap up the left-over business.

Margaret and I have put in an expression of interest to become members of the new Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region.

I was asked as early as last June if I would carry on as they want people that know the area to carry on for a while at least in the property area.

I have no idea where we go from here but by being a part of EOOR I will have a better chance of knowing and be able to pass it on what I find out.

I actually enjoyed my time on presbytery, even with being busy, as it was a new learning experience.

Ted Brett

2018 COMMUNITY CLOTHING CO-OPERATIVE

The Community Clothing Co-Operative continues to fill an important need in the Elgin/Portland area and beyond.

In 1996, a group of church volunteers from Elgin and Portland United Churches came together looking for a joint project to help their neighbours that might be living in difficult times. Through those early meetings, it became clear that there were people in the area that did not have adequate clothing, while at the same time, others had closets that were full of things that were never worn. From this the Community Clothing Co-Operative was born. Our original intent was to accept donations of clothing and make them available to those in need for little or no cost. Shortly after opening, it became clear that people like a bargain and we became busier than expected with people that had not been our target customers. This brought some pleasant surprise benefits in that there was now no stigma to shopping at the second hand store, and some funds were generated that allowed us to buy needed supplies as well as make some donations to other worthwhile groups.

We first opened in an old warehouse-type building on Harlem Road. We had to do a major clean up of the space and we managed to get and build various shelves and racks through volunteers and donations. While this set up got us up and running, it was pretty rustic and with no heat, we were only able to operate for the summer months. While we did not pay rent, we were responsible for the hydro used in the building. This cost was considerably more than we thought it should be and with the building not really being adequate, we decided we had to find other accommodations or shut down.

From there we moved to 35 Main Street in Elgin, to a modern building with heat, hydro and lights. It was about that time when we significantly added to our volunteer group and became a truly ecumenical group with volunteers coming from throughout the region and with various faith backgrounds. With the new location and set up, we became much more like a "real store." We did pay rent there, but the landlords were very generous in providing the space at considerably below market value. This allowed us to continue raising funds and donating them back to other charitable community groups, as well making as one-time donations to families in crisis, such as fires or major medical problems. This went along well until the building was sold in December, 2004 and we found ourselves homeless.

While we had to shut down, we did not quit, and several of us, from time to time, lobbied various individuals and groups looking for space.

Finally, in January, 2008, we received approval from the Portland Hall Board and the Township of Rideau Lakes to set up shop in our current location. We do not pay rent at this location, and our expenses are limited, so we continue to raise funds that we donate back out to other groups.

A number of years ago we made a conscious decision to try to direct our donations to other groups in our area that support the same people we do. For the most part, we have stuck to this, but we do spread our wings a little further. Our income varies from year to year and so do our donations. The Elgin and Portland Food Banks are always at the top of our list, followed closely by the North Leeds Toy Drive. We have also been regular contributors to the Country Roads Community Health Centre's Dental Issues Group and Martha's Table, which is a restaurant in Kingston that provides low cost meals and other services to people living on the street or in other low income

situations. There is a group of people in Portland known as Cases of Caring. They buy material with fun patterns and then sew it into pillow cases, which are then donated to young children at the Children’s Hospital of Easter Ontario. The children get to pick their pillow case and keep it. We try to make an annual donation to this group as well. We have made donations to other groups, but our funds will only stretch so far.

This year’s donations were as follows:

Elgin Food Bank.....	\$450
Portland Food Bank	\$450
North Leeds Toy Drive	\$200
Dental Issues Group	\$100
Cases of Caring	\$100
Martha’s Table	\$100
<u>Fire Victims</u>	<u>\$150</u>
2018 Donation Total.....	\$1,550

Since our humble beginnings in 1996, we have made donations to various groups totaling in excel of \$31,000. In addition to this, we paid roughly \$4,000 for rent and hydro during our Harlem Road and Elgin years. That’s not bad for a small group of volunteers at \$5/bag.

Our current hours are Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.. More volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to join us once a week or once in a while, please contact Joan Kelly at 613-272-3134.

The success of this organization would not be possible without approval and generous donation of space by the Portland Community Hall Board and the Mayor and Council of the Township of Rideau Lakes. For this we are grateful. We also owe a thank you to Portland United Church for allowing us to fall under their umbrella, sponsoring us as an outreach program of the church.

Finally and most importantly, we thank God for the volunteers and their will to do His work in helping our friends and neighbours.

Paul Simpson,
Community Clothing Co-Operative

JOINT TRUSTEES COMMITTEE REPORT – 2018

Dearly Beloved, 2018 has been a calmer year for the Joint Trustees of Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge, compared to 2017. This year, I have not much to report except gratitude to all the dedicated Joint Trustees members, who continue to be entrusted with the assets of the Pastoral Charge, from the bottom of my heart.

Therefore, with this very short note, I invite you 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

SOUTH CROSBY PUBLIC SCHOOL
ELGIN/PORTLAND BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Once again, a body of volunteers has stepped up to the plate to help with a community base group of volunteers to provide breakfast to students at South Crosby Public School with each group being responsible for one day a week. The process may have changed a little, but the principle remains the same which is providing juice, milk and cereal, a friendly smile and an opportunity to let Jesus shine through us. This year we have been visiting regularly the Grade 1 French Immersion Classroom where we even get to pick up and use a little French with our interactions with the teachers, education assistant and this special group of children. We have welcomed this year Elizabeth Wright which has added greatly to our small group. It may be only a couple of hours a week, but the return for our time helps feed us Spiritually through their smiles and sharing. Thank you to the pastoral charge for their prayers and continued support of providing volunteers to be connected to our neighbour South Crosby Public School.

Prayerfully submitted,
Cathy Ryan

FOUR RIVERS PRESBYTERY/ CONFERENCE YOUTH EVENTS

News Flash! Our youth are certainly very much alive and active representing Portland/Elgin Pastoral Charges well. Over the past year the youth from the age of ten to eighteen have had the opportunity to participate and travel to some exciting events. In the spring Alex Price, Emily and David French, along with Pauline French, travelled to El Salvador with other youth and leaders from the Bay of Quinte Conference for an amazing, life changing experience.

We had representation at the final Bay of Quinte Conference in May in Napanee where we were able to travel thanks to the support of the Four Rivers Presbytery that supported the bus. The focus was on, "What do we know", in the face of all the changes coming to the United Church. Alex Price got the opportunity to sing with Turpins Trail who provided the music for Conference for the weekend. In June Leah Welch-Turner (Portland) travelled to London, not to visit the Queen, but to be a part of the celebration of the ordination of Emma Pipe, who was the youth leader hired by Four Rivers Presbytery to organize and carry out the planning and events for the Four Rivers Presbytery. Allison Gibson and her dad Brad had the opportunity to try out bubble soccer sponsored by Battersea/ Inverary United Church and Presbytery. In October, Alex Price attended the closing celebration of the Bay of Quinte Conference in Peterborough and represented the youth from our Presbytery. Our most recent event was a trip to Niagara Falls to a province wide event with 250 youth from across Ontario. Portland and Elgin had representation from Leah Welch- Turner and Alex Price. Fellowship, music, workshops, Niagara Falls, an amazing water park, church floors and new friendships rounded out a great weekend. Even a greater blessing was the opportunity for our youth to meet and travel together on the bus with our Newboro youth as well as youth and leaders from Belleville, Bomanville, Pickering and Port Perry.

Just to round out the year we had a very successful Presbytery event that Ella Price and Allison Gibson attended at Portland United Church in November where 20 youth and leaders had the

opportunity to play hand bells, bomb sticks and chimes and learned to play two songs led by Jan Orr from Lansdowne. Other events that day included card making led by Jan Haskin, a pizza party and a trip to Delta Park for caroling while enjoying the Festival of Lights.

They can't wait for the next event! Thanks for your blessings and support.

Prayerfully submitted by Cathy Ryan

Youth Leader for Four Rivers Presbytery and Bay of Quinte Conference

THE OFFICIAL BOARD OF THE ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018

I have been trying to figure a way to complain without whining but haven't, so there may be a bit of whine in here. I did realize to start with that with the sabbatical the year would be busy, then with the addition of Peace Through Education it became even busier, probably 3 times my normal workload. Just to say this is my first and it will be my last sabbatical that I work through.

Because of a money shortage we were not able to hire part time Ministry for the entire 20 weeks but we did have full time ministry for December and Licensed Lay Worship Leaders for most of the time. We had one service put on by the joint choirs, one by the Portland Pealers Handbell Choir and Pat Greenhorn a lay leader did one service. From the feedback that I got I think that the variety of people speaking from the pulpit was well received and I think that both churches survived quite well and we didn't overspend our budget. I'm sure the worship committee will have more to say on this.

Speaking of budgets, we are starting to put together this year's budget. I realize that both churches are running in the red so I will attempt to keep it as low as possible.

The tenant in the manse has been good about paying their rent so currently no problems there.

The property manager, Marian Cooper resigned in April and hasn't been replaced as I'm looking after the rent and Jim Earl has been keeping an eye on the building and recommending or doing repairs as he sees necessary, saving us \$1200.00 a year.

Our employees may have to use some restraint in their spending habits to keep costs as low as possible and, believe it or not, we need to start putting money aside for the next sabbatical now.

Yours in Service

Ted

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2018

<u>INCOME</u>		
OPENING BALANCE	\$ 3,293.29	
GST REBATE	\$ 322.77	
Donation Canada Helps	\$ 2,165.19	
Transfer from Savings	\$ 8,090.34	
Peace Through Education	\$ 24,274.10	
PHOTO COPIER USE	\$ 43.25	
ELGIN-PORTLAND ASSESSMENTS	\$ 105,400.00	
MANSE INCOME	\$ 12,000.00	
Honduras	\$ 48.25	
Donation Lions Hall Rent	\$197.75	
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 155,834.94</u>	<u>\$ 155,834.94</u>
<u>FUNDS ON HOLD</u>		
Manse Last Months rent	\$ 1,000.00	
Canada Helps Lebanon Project	\$ 735.70	
Reserved for Manse Duct work	\$ 1,000.00	
Total Funds on Hold	<u>\$ 2,735.70</u>	<u>\$ 2,735.70</u>
Amount to be carried to 2018	\$ 11,035.58	
Minus funds on hold so working cash	<u>\$ 8,299.88</u>	<u>\$ 8,299.88</u>
SAVINGS ACCOUNT		
Balance	<u>\$ -</u>	The savings account was closed and funds moved to checking, Nov 23 2018
M&S		
Portland United Church UCW	\$ 2,600.00	
Portland United Church	\$ 9,662.75	
Elgin United Church	\$ 4,020.00	
Total for M&S	<u>\$ 16,282.75</u>	

<u>EXPENSES FOR 2018</u>		
EMPLOYEE WAGES AND BENEFITS		
MINISTER	\$ 70,430.38	
CRA	\$ 566.31	
COMMUNICATION ALLOWANCE	\$ 1,950.00	
SECRETARY	\$ 11,594.72	
Pulpit supply	\$ 3,635.00	
Full Time Pulpit Supply december	\$ 4,740.00	
TOTAL	<u>\$92,916.41</u>	<u>\$ 92,916.41</u>
OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES		
EDUCATION	\$ 1,616.08	
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	\$ 875.00	
MILEAGE	\$ 5,565.71	
PARKING	\$ 105.00	
B of Q Conference	\$ 362.55	
WSIB	\$ 551.88	
TOTAL	<u>\$ 9,076.22</u>	<u>\$ 9,076.22</u>
MANSE EXPENSES		
INSURANCE	\$ 1,456.92	
TAXES	\$ 666.45	
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	\$ 296.87	
PROPERTY MANAGER	\$ 400.00	
TOTAL MANSE	<u>\$ 2,820.24</u>	<u>\$ 2,820.24</u>
OFFICE EXPENSES		
PHONE	\$ 1,196.82	
Web Hosting	\$ 257.64	
INTERNET	\$ 1,544.40	
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 1,451.89	
PHOTO COPIER USE	\$ 1,447.59	
TOTAL OFFICE	<u>\$ 5,898.34</u>	<u>\$ 5,898.34</u>
OTHER CHARGE EXPENSES		
Peace Through Education	\$ 23,538.40	
BANK SERVICE CHARGE	\$ 32.01	
BULLETINS	\$ 508.76	
Computer purchase and set up	\$ 214.69	
EVANGELISM	\$ 1,229.49	
WORSHIP	\$ 1,012.07	
Canada Helps Payout	\$ 1,687.50	
MUSIC LICENSE	\$ 199.00	
PRESBYTERY DUES	\$ 5,666.43	
TOTAL OTHER	<u>\$34,088.35</u>	<u>\$ 34,088.35</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$ 144,799.56</u>

Elgin United Church Council
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
March 11, 2018 1:10 – 1:45 p.m.
Sanctuary

In attendance: Marian Steacy, Mary Carbino, Charalee Smith, Jane Simpson, Karen Myers, Maureen Bee, Mark Bee, Ed Speers, Pat Greenhorn, Leighton Coatsworth, Joanne McLean, John Carley, Ted Brett, Sandra Smith, Jim Earl, Deborah Jodoin, Paul Simpson, Elizabeth Wright, Barb Rowat, Jim Rowat, June Smith, Cathy Ryan, Sharon Halladay, Clint Halladay, Reb Takouhi
Regrets:

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm by the Chair, Clint Halladay, there being a quorum present.
2. Opening Prayer and Tribute to the Deceased: Rev Takouhi lit the Christ Candle, spoke of Jesus' telling us that He is the Light and we must shine also. She then read the roll as a tribute to those of our members who passed on in the last year.
3. Agenda: Paul Simpson motioned and Deborah Jodoin seconded that the agenda be accepted. CARRIED
4. Discussion of Reports: All reports were considered moved by the committee chair/presenter and a seconder was required for each report. Following discussion of all reports, the Chair will call for approval of the Annual Report:
 - The minutes of the last AGM, 19 February 2017, were authored by past council secretary Heather Gribben. John Carley seconded that they be approved;
 - The Note from the Chair was presented by Clint Halladay and seconded by Ted Brett;
 - The report of the Christian Youth and Young Adult (CYAYA) committee was presented by Charalee Smith. She reiterated her appreciation for Council's continuing support and Pat Greenhorn's help. Seconded by Sandra Smith;
 - The South Crosby Public School Breakfast Program was presented by Cathy Ryan. The committee is always looking for new volunteers. Joanne McLean seconded the presentation;
 - The Elgin Music Annual Report was submitted by Jim Earl. The Chair of Council commented on our excellent music program, Second to None! A major thank you to all involved. The submission was seconded by Charalee Smith;
 - The Property Report was submitted by Jim Earl and seconded by Sandra Smith. Sandra then thanked Jim for "stepping into the breach" and made note of Paul Simpson's strong support as well;
 - The Membership and Sacraments report was authored by Roberta and Alex McKinney. Paul Simpson seconded the submission. Rev Takouhi commented that she is encouraged to see the blessing of newcomers;

- The Audio Visual Report was penned by Marg Ross and Brian Blowes. The Chair gives cudos to the AV team and is impressed by the enhancements to our church services. He noted that we are receiving a good amount of hits on our You Tube postings. This is Outreach! Maureen Bee seconded the submission;
 - The Elgin and District Cooperative Nursery School (EDCNS) was submitted by our nursery school liaison Jim Earl. John Carley seconded; and
 - The Treasurer's Report was presented by Joanne McLean. There will be adjustments to the report – take off \$800 from PAR. Anyone wishing to make their offerings by PAR (Pre-authorized remittance) can talk to Joanne McLean, Sandra Smith, or Ted Brett. Change the "Interest Earned" line from \$82 to \$137. Our remittance to our pastoral charge increased from \$51,000 to \$52,800 because of upcoming sabbatical and pulpit supply costs. Because of the very cold winter, heating bills rose. We are \$3627 in the black. A couple of generous memorial donations helped, but remember that small increases by many people works! This budget is still a draft because of the missed council meetings due to poor weather. It will be addressed at the next council meeting.
5. Vote for the Annual Report: The call for the approval of the annual report was approved.
 6. Elections/Aclamations:
 - Chair of Council: Ed Speers volunteered and was acclaimed;
 - M&P: Maureen Bee will continue on the committee. Clint Halladay noted that Mary Lynne Alderdice was brought on board during the past year;
 - Sharing and Caring Coordinator: Vacant; and
 - Social Coordinator: Vacant.
 7. Remarks of the Outgoing Chair: Clint thanked ALL for their ongoing support. He expressed his admiration that we are a small but vibrant, dynamic group always moving forward. He stressed that we should constantly communicate amongst ourselves. As we move into a new governance structure and welcome new council members, Clint ended with a story of Maria and the Seven Wonders of the World. Her wonders are not physical objects, they are to Hear, to See, to Think, to Feel, to Touch, to Be Kind, and to Love.
 8. Welcome of Incoming Chair and Remarks: We welcome Ed Speers as the new Chair of Council. Ed humbly accepted his role. He is impressed with our mission and feels our love. He talked about stepping out of the boat and keeping afloat!
 9. Closing Prayer: Rev Takouhi offered our gratitude to our outgoing Chair Clint Halladay and welcomed Ed Speers to the Chair. She closed the meeting with a prayer.
 10. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

CHAIR OF ELGIN UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT – 2018

This year saw a new Chairperson for Elgin United Church with Ed Speers commencing those duties in March 2018. While a lot of the time it was like groping in the dark we managed to make it through another year.

Due mainly to a substantial shortfall in anticipated Sunday offerings, this year we experienced a deficit. The immediate fall out will be that we will need to have substantial programs in place for 2019 to increase secondary revenue. Elgin and surrounding area have always been very supportive of these programs in the past and so I remain optimistic that we can increase this revenues to a surplus situation.

I see this as a temporary solution but if we are to remain viable into the future we will need to see an increase in Sunday Offering Revenue. This can only come through growth of our faith community - more seats in the seats. While more seats in the seats will increase revenues our primary goal must remain to attract people who come to church because they want to be there. This is not a problem just for Elgin United but right across the whole United Church. Some individual United Churches are doing much better than others and so we will be looking to ideas from these churches on how to increase attendance.

Elgin United church has a number of annual events that continue to be very successful and well received within the community. We were the host Church for this years annual Pastoral July 1st picnic in the park and it went off very well despite the organizer, me, having no clue what he was doing. We hosted a successful fish fry in August and Feast of Stephen at the Elgin Lion's Hall. Our annual fall music concert in which we feature local talent was sold out delivering top notch musical entertainment.

We continue to contribute generously to such programs as Elgin Food Bank, DIG, and Outreach and rent space for groups such as the Elgin Area Nursery School thus playing an important role in the quality of life in the community.

We realize the challenges are there but I believe we have the will, the expertise and the desire to more than meet those challenges in 2019.

Yours in Service
Ed Speers
Chair Elgin United Church Council

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT 2018

Attendance at Sunday School ranges from one to four children weekly, and although our numbers may be small, I believe there is lots of learning and growth happening - for both the children and me! In the spring, we created special Easter bookmarks featuring the art of Ella Price and gave them out as gifts to the congregation on Easter morning. After a summer break, we started a new curriculum this fall called "SPARK - Activate Faith". We had previously followed a Lectionary based programme, but I felt the children were not hearing key Bible stories or understanding the flow and progression of the Old and New Testament. The SPARK lessons cover Old Testament stories in the fall, and New Testament stories in winter and spring. They reflect the church calendar year, with Christmas and Easter stories at the appropriate time, and include lots of discussion and activities.

We hope to do an outreach project for Lent, and I am also working on organizing a children's basket including activity packs, books, and puzzles that could be available for visitors or for children when I am away. I would welcome any donations you might have for this basket.

Please encourage any children you know in the community to attend on Sundays, and we would also welcome you to join us as a leader on an occasional or regular basis. What a chance to have fun and help our children grow in faith!

Yours in Christ-

Pat Greenhorn

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND SACRAMENTS 2018

The Membership and Sacraments committee functioned throughout 2018, with the gracious help from members of the congregation who willingly agreed to serve when asked. Our sincere thanks go to you all.

With communion, alternating intinction with service to the congregation continued through Rev. Takouhi's sabbatical. The Rev. Cathy Walton officiated at all these services.

A new procedure for communion continued for 2018, whereby the candles in the branched holders at the front of the church were left unlit for the months of May through September. This helps alleviate the build-up of heat that occurs around the communion table during the summer. This will continue.

Again, we wish to thank everyone for their assistance during 2018.

Respectfully submitted

Alex and Roberta McKinney

2018 ELGIN MUSIC ANNUAL REPORT

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

Margaret provided music leadership with the piano, organ, and clavinova, and directed the choir.

Choir Members:

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

We welcomed Megan, an RDHS Senior introduced to us by Karen Myers, for the first half of the year before she graduated and moved away to study dance.

We invite everyone who enjoys singing to join our choir. Rehearsals are Thursday nights, September through June, from 7:15 to 9:00pm to provide leadership for worship.

Librarians / Resource Persons: Charalee & Margaret
Assistant: Marion Steacy
Soloists: Charalee, Michelle, Karen E, Alex Price, Rasa Krokys, Rev. Takouhi, Morgan, Graham, Jim, Ysabella Ross, Lydia Smith, Mariana Bell, Valerie Wood, Reed McDonald, Megan Scott & Pat Greenhorn
Percussion: Sandra, Rasa, Morgan & Shaun Seaman
Guitar: Sean Price, Morgan & Graham
Flute: Jaime Burt
Director for Joint Choirs: Margaret Ross
Accompanist 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 1 – Joint at Hanna Park, Graham Lowe & Morgan Wright
July 8 – Duet – Graham & Morgan
July 15 – Joint at EUC, Gracernote
July 22 – Soul Purpose
July 29 – Rasa Krokys
Aug 5 – Trio – Pat Greenhorn, Karen & Charalee
Aug 12 – Morgan
Aug 19 - Mariana Bell
Aug 26 – Joint at PUC, Rev.Takouhi, Mariana, Janet McKeage, Combined Choir

Special Services & Occasions:

- Feb 4 – Rev. T's 5 yr anniversary celebration, Joint at EUC with Combined Choir
- March 30 - Good Friday Service, Joint at PUC with Combined Choir.
- April 8 – Joint at EUC with Combined Choir singing Cantata, **Redeeming Love**, read by Pat Greenhorn. Preparation and leadership, Charalee.
- April 14 – Some Kind of Choir (Westport Community Choir) Concert at EUC with members from Portland and Elgin choirs. Guest performers Alex and Sean Price. Proceeds to RDHS music program.
- May 13 - Mother's Day Men's Chorus – Mark Bee, Gord, Graham, John, Dave Burt, Adrian, Leighton Coatsworth, Jim, Morgan.
- June 17 – Father's Day Ladies' Chorus – Marion, Mary, Karen M., Sandra, Charalee, Karen E., Michelle, Maureen Bee, Pat Greenhorn, Ysabella Ross, Lydia Smith, Anne Overdulse. This was also the **tenth anniversary for our Juliana grand piano**, donated anonymously.
- July 15 – Joint at EUC with Gracenote
- Aug 10 – Celebration of Life for Morley Hennig at PUC with Combined Choir directed by David Irwin, accompanied by Margaret.
- Sept 30 – Joint at EUC with Combined Choir, **Old Time Religion**. Reader Katie Bond. Preparation and leadership, Charalee.
- Oct 27 - Concert - **Just One of Those Things** presented by Margaret and Friends, including Soul Purpose, Rasa, Graham, Morgan, Matt Irvine, Jaime
- November 10 – Celebration of Life for Loree Smith with Combined Choir, Soul Purpose, Jaime, Concert Ensemble
- December 2 – Light of Christ Ecumenical service in Elgin; EUC participated with Tanya Hawkins providing accompaniment
- December 2 – Westport Advent Candlelight Service. Margaret, Michelle, Charalee, Karen E., Graham & Jim participated, along with several PUC choir members
- Christmas Eve – special music by Alex, EUC Choir, Reed McDonald, and Ysabella and Lydia
- December 30 – Joint at EUC with Combined Choir, **Gifts of the Magi**. Read by Jane Pickard. Preparation and leadership, Charalee.

Choir Parties: June 24 at Smith Cottage; Dec 16 at Marg and Brian's home

Music Director:

- Salary: a. Salary increase – yr one of three
b. Honorarium established for supply musician when Marg is off
- Vacation: March 11 & 18: Charalee served as supply musician

Committee Meetings: Margaret represents Music Ministry on the EPUC Worship Committee.

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

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

Jim Earl, Chair

2018 EUC PROPERTY ANNUAL REPORT

Needing Attention -To Do List from 2017 annual report:

Sanctuary lath & plaster – crack repairs and paint: no action

Lower Hall – further floor tile restoration plus concrete spot repairs and repainting, resulting from high ground water table: In February Duncan Peer replaced broken tiles and re-glued lifting tiles. A quote for a new floor was requested and still pending.

Fellowship Room roof - shingle repair: no action

Repainting – regular maintenance of exterior stonework: no action

Hydro One Audit/Grant program to upgrade from incandescent to energy efficient bulbs: not eligible

Vision for reconfiguring choir loft/piano-organ orientation: rear third riser removed, pews replaced with brown cloth chairs, organ moved to front wall adjacent to Bell Tower door, piano shifted nearer the centre of the loft

Bell Tower - restoration of third floor louvers & trim (balance of quote - \$1,260): contractor hired in October; manufacturing replacement slats; wet weather prohibited any site work

Mature Maple in east yard adjacent to propane tank needs to be removed due to root penetration into church and manse septic systems: Nursery School requested preservation now that this area is a valued natural play area for children; will continue pruning roots

Centennial entry porch requires restoration: contractor booked to restore in 2019; Nursery School has offered to apply for a grant.

Attic ventilation – increase capacity: initial quote with no action; second opinion – adequate, no action required

Centennial entry door latch - damaged – partial/stabilized: no action

Centennial sidewalk – leveling: no action

Second reseeding of west lawn: poor outcome

Accomplished/Routine Actions:

January: Continue controlling sidewalk ice with cat litter rather than de-icer even though it's not very effective at times. In December sand and a salt/sand mix were inventoried for significant ice issues.

Annual fire extinguisher inspection/maintenance: service or replacement of certain units.

Lower Hall furnace re-installed following completion of in-floor duct cleaning.

March: Ontario Ministry 'Drinking Water System Profile' Information Form completed

May: Sanctuary ceiling lights: work with Clint and Paul to clean fixtures and change upper bulbs to LEDS. As requested by A/V all lights are relatively uniform and accommodate video requirements.

July: Annual maintenance of furnaces: 10 yrs old and needing parts replacement; added continuous high-speed fan switch for summer ventilation.

Spring/Fall: exchange of window screens and storms.

July: purchase second dehumidifier for lower hall

September: supervised the Nursery School grant funded fencing of the yard behind Manse – now a licensed space.

November: cleaned eaves troughs; C/W Roofing contracted to correct roof flashing along west side of south dormer.

Prior to Public Events: restore pew upholstery trim

Chair maintenance: replace missing footpads & tighten loose legs

Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors: replace dead batteries and expired detectors

Vacuum: repairs and maintenance

Notify Water Quality Management when UV system alarm occurs

Many of our stewards:

Decorating Group: Sandra Smith, Heather Gribben, Barb & Jim Rowat, Jane Simpson & Karen Earl

Exterior Decorations: Ted Brett & Jim Earl

Flower Beds: Karen Earl; Caring hands needed

Kitchen: Caring hands needed

Custodial Services: Jane Simpson with Lydia Smith as alternate during Nov/Dec while Jane was on Leave

Lawn-care: Aaron Gilbert

Snow removal: French's Trucking/Doug Morton (3rd year) contracted to plow shoulder parking. Aaron

Gilbert hired to shovel Centennial sidewalk. Front sidewalk snow removal - Jim

Consult Paul Simpson re system electrical & 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: Clint Halladay & Friends

Photocopier Supplies and Care: Friends

Candelabra maintenance: Alex McKinney

Defibrillator maintenance: Alex McKinney

Use of Facility Booking: Paul Simpson

Community Use of Facilities:

AA – Centennial and Fellowship rooms (weekly)

Potential for 'Small Halls' venue booking - sanctuary

Dave Irwin: Access to grand piano for rehearsals with RDHS band members

Nursery School: January Board Meeting, December Christmas Party and special occasions

Chamber of Commerce: March business meeting

Some Kind of Choir: April 14 Choral Concert with proceeds for RDHS instrument repairs

Cemetery - Sanctuary for June 3rd Annual Memorial Service if weather is inclement

Elgin Days public event - sanctuary

Country Roads Community Health Clinic: July 10 & August 14 Cooking Classes

Choir Workshop: Graham Lowe organized an EUC hosted regional workshop for church choirs on September 8

Red Brick School House – kitchen & hall to host a meal for 'Small Halls' entertainers in September

A/V Concert: presented by Margaret Ross and Friends on October 27

Needing Attention:

Regular maintenance of Sanctuary carpet

Carpet replacement at Main and Centennial entries; Nursery School funding possible

Proper platform for Promotional Yard Sign and purchase additional letters

Restore Church Yard Sign

Handicap sidewalk railing – paint

Sanctuary ceiling fan - clean

Jim Earl

2018 AUDIO VISUAL REPORT

The A/V team continued to provide technical support for our worship services and events throughout 2018.

In April, EUC once again hosted a concert by the Westport community choir "Some Kind of Choir" which also included performances by Alex and Sean Price and The Rideau District High School band. This, along with the second concert held the following week in Westport, were fund-raising events to support the instrumental music program at RDHS.

Brian was asked to provide audio support at the annual Westport Ecumenical Concert on December 2, 2018 at Knox Presbyterian church. Some of our equipment was used for this event.

The annual Feast of Stephen took place in November and we were fortunate to have Sean Price provide the equipment and audio support for the event. Following the dinner, entertainment was provided by Sean, Alex and Ella, Graham Lowe and Morgan Wright as well as the RDHS band.

On October 27, the A/V team held our major fund-raising event entitled "Just One of Those Things," celebrating music from the Great American Songbook. Attendance was at capacity and the evening sold out in advance. We made use of EVENTBRITE again to enable ticket purchases on line. This is a very successful and convenient way to buy tickets as well as managing attendees.

The proceeds of these events allow us to pay for piano tunings, music, equipment maintenance and improvement. This year, we purchased new speakers and monitors which have significantly enhanced the quality of the sound. This upgrade also means we no longer need any rental equipment other than lighting for concert events.

Recordings of Sunday worship services continue to be available on line through the EPPC website. We regularly receive positive feedback from folks 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.

Much gratitude to our team: Brian Blowes for his ongoing dedication, vision and leadership, Clint Halladay, Morgan Wright, Ysabella Ross and Lydia Smith for their technical support, and to Tim's brother Jamie Hodgson for filling in while Brian had a vacation. We are always looking for additional helpers, especially with the Sunday morning duties on the desk (experience is not necessary!)

Thank you to all for supporting these initiatives.

Margaret Ross
A/V chair

2018 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE ELGIN AND DISTRICT COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL (EDCNS)

EDCNS is a valued Outreach and an important Stewardship opportunity.

Facilities being utilized:

1. Access via Centennial entrance.
2. The lower room of the Centennial Hall for the classroom.
3. The Lower Hall for the play area*.
4. The two 'main building' washrooms.
5. Use of the kitchen for special occasions.
6. The south and east lawns were fenced to provide a licensed outdoor play area
7. The N/S occasionally requests use of church space for Board Meetings and special programs for the children.
8. Use of photocopier for small runs, and share the Bell Business Line.

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

Programming:

1. They have 11 children, eighteen months to five years of age, on busy days, both Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 – 12:00. The two teachers are Debby Kok and Crystal Scott. They are looking for a supply teacher. Their historic nursery school program has had another successful year. "The newly licensed outside area was a wonderful addition to the program last year".
2. Their new (Sept.2018) **extended day program expansion in South Crosby** was a success and they will continue to operate it as long as the numbers are there. "This is a before and after school for children who's parents/caregivers may need to drop-off or pick-up outside of school hours. The Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB) puts out an annual survey to families at schools to see if there is a need for on-site care. If there are enough families responding to needing care the school board is required to find a licensed child care provider to give care. As our nursery school program is licensed through the Ministry of Education (MOE) they approached us and we set up a program for the school. We provided child care from 7-9am and 3-6pm, Mon-Fri. We also offer child care on PA Days. Because of our licensing through the MOE this also offers families the ability to apply for child care fee subsidies".
3. "We're happy to officially announce that we have been approved for funding and will be opening a full-time child care facility in the former flower shop. The **full-time child care facility (Rideau Lakes Early Learning Centre)** will offer child care Mon-Fri, 7am to 6pm. We'll be licensed with the MOE and plan to have eleven to thirteen child spaces available. We plan to offer care for children birth to twelve years of age. As with all our programs child care fee subsidies are available. We're hoping to open September 2019".
4. The Nursery School is wondering if our Council might be open to their seeking funding from the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville (UCLG) for a face-lift around the entrance area? "Our business is growing and expanding and the Counties seem more than willing to provide funding to help the licensed child care programs with costs related to upkeep, etc".
5. "Thank you very much to the EUC Council for your continued cooperation and support".

Property related details:

Renewed funding allowed for an approved 2018 grant application to install the yard fencing.

Rent, paid by UCLG, was increased to \$200/month for the three mornings a week school program in 2017. Child numbers only warranted two mornings a week in 2018 but the addition of the licensed yard justified the continued rental rate.

Frustration with significant fee increases in 2017 for required water analysis was addressed with the hiring of a new service company.

Following flooded heating ductwork in 2017 use of the Hall during 2018 warm months, required additional dehumidifier capacity plus fans to manage humidity for an extended period. That flood also created ongoing deterioration of the floor tiles.

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

For further information visit their webpage at 'ElginNurserSchool.weebly.com.'

Jim Earl – Liaison

EUC PROFIT LOSS 2018 WITH 2017 COMPARISON

		Jan - Dec 18	Jan - Dec 17
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
	EUC Memorial Bursary	1,285.00	0.00
	U. S. Exchange	99.99	83.07
	Hal Use	50.00	50.00
	Tithes/Offerings	59,807.37	74,158.27
	Building Fund	890.00	655.00
	Mem orial Fund	5,843.50	3,023.00
	Benevolence Offerings	554.75	851.10
	Offerings to be dispersed		
	Sabbatical Project	0.00	340.00
	Hurricane Relief	0.00	0.00
	El Salvador Funds	100.00	0.00
	Food Bank	1,803.25	2,410.10
	Dental Issues Group	1,208.00	1,123.00
	Mission and Services	4,292.25	4,465.00
	Total Offerings to be dispersed	7,403.50	8,338.10
	Challenge re Donation	0.00	20.00
	Fund Raising		
	Paint Night	0.00	387.00
	Social committee		
	Social Committee Income	3,210.60	6,146.55
	Social Committee Expense	-2,526.75	-3,166.11
	Kitchen Expenses	0.00	-107.49
	Total Social committee	683.85	2,872.95
	Audio Visual		
	Audio Visual - Grant Proceeds		
	Grant monies used	-3,604.57	0.00
	Audio Visual - Grant Proceeds - Other	5,000.00	0.00
	Total Audio Visual - Grant Proceeds	1,395.43	0.00
	A V Fund Raising	2,080.00	2,520.00
	AV Fund raising expenses	0.00	-1,230.43
	AV Technical supplies	-1,417.22	-394.36
	Audio Visual - Other	0.00	10.00
	Total Audio Visual	2,058.21	905.21
	Total Fund Raising	2,742.06	4,165.16

		Telephone Expense	921.82		705.60
		U S Exchange	-45.94		0.00
		Utilities	12,082.42		10,186.78
		Youth Group	850.00		470.00
		Offerings dispersed			
		Mission and Service	4,292.25		4,243.00
		World Day of Prayer	0.00		37.00
		Dental Issues Group	1,208.00		1,143.00
		Food Bank	1,783.25		2,465.00
		Total Offerings dispersed	7,283.50		7,888.00
		Total Expense	98,600.20		90,053.40
		Net Ordinary Income	-16,021.76		4,412.30
		Net Income	-16,021.76		4,412.30

**PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
February 25, 2018
Gathering Place of the Church**

**MINUTES TO BE HANDED OUT AT THE 2019 AGM
Minutes have been attached as Appendix A**

CHAIR OF COUNCIL REPORT - PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH

As I hear quite often, the older you get the faster the time goes, if that is the case I am in trouble as like other years, I feel this year has gone by very quickly!!

We are so fortunate to have awesome people who work together for the better of our Church and our Community. We have had some wonderful concerts and we were successful in our fundraising for our eaves troughs. I want to thank the UCW for all the work they do over the year, from putting on dinners to making numerous pies.

Again I want to thank the members of the Council for all their hard work during the year and for their support. Your support makes my job easy.

I also want to thank Rev. Takouhi for her love and support. She was missed during her sabbatical but we were very fortunate to have wonderful pulpit supply and great joint services.

God Bless
Katy Gibson
Council Chair

2018 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 \$114,000 - down from \$136,000 on December 31, 2017.

In 2018, 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 \$12,000 and \$2,500 toward the purchasing of Chimes which was then reimbursed back to the Investment Fund. In all, the Investment Fund supported the works of Portland United Church with \$21,500.00 in 2018.

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 in both the Church office and with Trustee Bruce Haskin.

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 UCW ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018

We welcomed Bonnie Tackaberry and Kathy Downer so now have fourteen active members this year. We are always looking for new members. 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:

Bill French in April
Morley Hennig in August
Loree Smith in December

In addition to the celebration of life events we hosted the Irish Stew Dinner in March. The Spring and Fall pie sales continue to be a great fund-raising event and we have added Tourtiere pies to the mix in November.

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

On behalf of the Portland UCW I would like to thank everyone that helped with the catering events for 2018. We have an amazing congregation and community that steps up to work with us for our fund-raising efforts.

Connie Cochran

U.C.W. FINANCIAL REPORT 2018

Balance from 2017 **\$3,210.33**

Income

Offerings	633.50	
St. Paddys	949.00	
Memorial receptions	1,048.80	
June pie bee	2,195.00	
Apple pie bee	1,270.00	
Tortieres	1,070.00	
Cookbook sales	100.00	
GIC	101.99	
Interest	<u>0.26</u>	
	7,368.55	1,0578.88

Outgo

Church	3,000.00	
Chimes for bells	1,000.00	
French family	200.00	
Donation	200.00	El Salvador
Mission&Service	2,400.00	
World Dev. &Relief	200.00	
Portland Food Bank	500.00	
Cases Of Caring	150.00	
Gifts	300.00	
These Days subscription	110.00	
Friendship	100.00	
4 Rivers dues	84.00	
4 Rivers AGM	24.00	
UCW pins (3)	26.00	
Calendars (10)		
Morley reception	40.00	
Bank charges	<u>2.00</u>	
	8,336.00	\$2,242.88

Assets

RBC	1599.49
Petty	<u>643.39</u>
	2,242.88

Peggy Bond

Whew! After many hours of getting estimates, etc., Portland United Church is now confidently “heating with gas!”, Well, propane actually. I sincerely hope that we now have a system that will give us dependable heat for many winters to come, AC for summers, auxiliary heat in the cold corner of the Gathering Place and back-up baseboard heat, if needed. And a high-tech thermostat that has Wi-Fi connection!

Tri-monthly water testing thankfully and consistently reads 0 – 0.

Fire extinguishers and defibrillator have received annual checks and smoke detector batteries have had annual replacement.

You may have noticed that the lighting in our Gathering Place has been enhanced with hi-efficiency units and a new exterior sensor light has been installed making it easier to find the lock on the entrance door on wintery evenings.

A retractable Infant Change Table is now handy when needed in the upper washroom.

Outside, our new oak fascia has been installed, painted and holding our new eaves troughs, complete with screening to eliminate the need for annual removal of leaves. The new troughing is working well but some of the drain piping will need attention, come spring.

Our Portland United Church sign took a direct hit from half a falling maple tree. The other half of the stately old tree has been felled. Amazingly, the plexiglass front of the sign survived this insult and will be united with a new metal box, posts and LED lighting when warm weather comes in spring.

Weekly vacuuming and dusting 2017 – 18 by Carolyn Mustard.

Snow plowing for winter of 2017-18 by Rob Dunfield. Sanding of ice by Terry French when needed.

Snow shovelling of walkways 2017-18 by George Wicks.

Professional cleaning of Friendship Rm. carpet in October by Bonnie Bakker.

To-Do List for foreseeable future – Complete replacement storm window over stained glass with Lexan.

- Add insulation to Friendship Rm. ceiling.
- Replace asphalt roofing on Friendship Rm. with metal roofing.
- Reconfiguration of belfry step being researched.

D. Bond, Property, January 24th, 2019

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHOIR REPORT - 2018

2018 was rather quiet and uneventful, musically speaking that is. No special events, fundraisers or concerts. Quite the opposite to the preceding year. Unfortunately, at least five choir members have been missing in action throughout the year, due to work scheduling conflicts, personal illness or illness in the family, or the need to take an indefinite break. Some are still out of commission as we begin 2019.

There were plans to explore new music, and possibly even push the envelope by learning some beautiful and challenging new songs, but because of the lack of regular attendance to weekly practices and overall uncertainty as to which members would attend from week to week, these plans have been relegated to the back-burner for the moment. When you are out five out of sixteen it makes a noticeable difference in the "sonic" qualities of a choir.

On the plus side two new members joined in near the end of the year: Liz Church and Michele Sled, both altos, have joined the ranks (now if we could only get more men to add to the bottom end we would be in good shape).

As usual the Low Sundays following Easter and Christmas, which bring together and combine the choirs from Elgin and Portland were a success and added an extra musical touch to the holidays.

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 10 more singers, ideally more men joined up, then the optimal number of between 20 to 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, Liz Church, Margaret Martin, Michele Sled, Rasa Krokys, Sheila McKeage and Vicky Zwiers.

Jean-Yves Duperron - Portland United Church Music Director

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND REPORT 2018

D. Bond January 2019

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 a couple decades ago through a generous donation by Merv Mills in memory of Claire.

This past year, Memorial funds have been directed toward updating the lighting in our Gathering Place. Thanks to many generous donations, we now have hi-efficiency lighting to assist our dedicated Portland Peelers for practice and the many others that regularly meet in our Gathering Place for feasting and festivity. We are presently looking for better microphones for our choristers to further improve our sound and recording system and LED spot and floodlights for our Sanctuary.

Special thanks must be given to Will, Brad & families for skillfully putting our 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 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – 2018

The children of Portland United Church enjoy connecting with the congregation each Sunday, as well as spending time together in the Friendship Room to learn and grow in faith together. This past year, Allison Gibson has stepped forward as a helper, spending time with our youngest members during the service. Throughout this past year, the Sunday School has participated in a variety of ways, including:

- Palm Sunday and Easter activities
- Jesse Tree fundraiser in support of our foster child, Koto, through the Plan Canada Program
- Participation in the 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 the first service of Advent, including a piano presentation, readings, and the setting up of the nativity, followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon
- White Gift Sunday

As we enter a new year, we ask that you continue to keep our children and youth in your prayers, as they grow in faith and servanthood.

Submitted by Pauline French

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TREASURER'S REPORT – 2018

Income Statement

For the period 1/1/2018 to 12/31/2018

REVENUE		
40000	Tax-Received Gifts	
40101	Received transfers cyaya	82.00
40102	Received transfer foster child	445.00
	TOTAL Tax-Received Gifts	527.00
42000	Non-Received Gifts	
42100	non received transfers cyaya	467.95
42101	non received transfer foster child	55.00
	TOTAL Non-Received Gifts	522.95
TOTAL REVENUE		1,049.95
EXPENSE		
55000	Charitable Contributions	
55010	Plan Canada	504.00
	TOTAL Charitable Contributions	504.00
TOTAL EXPENSE		504.00
NET INCOME		545.95
Starting Bank Balance		93.15
Net Income for Period		545.95
Direct Transfers into or out if the fund		0.00
Ending Bank Balance		639.10

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



This is a wonderful group of ringers, who enjoy making music on handbells and choir chimes. They have made our Thursday practices a joy and are dedicated and enthusiastic about trying new techniques and music. As Director, I appreciate and value their support!

We were able to take our ringing to Elgin and Portland services, and (in March) to Newboro United Church. In July, three of us were invited to participate with the Glenburnie U.C. bell choir in Rev. Betty Sangster's wedding. This involved several trips to Battersea U.C. for evening practices. Jan, Norma and Jane then donned their wedding finery (including fascinators) for the service on July 7. How nice to be able to play with another bell choir. We hope to invite the Glenburnie choir to join with us at some point.

Workshops are valuable for bell choirs. The camaraderie of playing and learning with other ringers is rejuvenating. They are also a huge help to beginning ringers.

- In April, Katy, Jane and Jan attended a weekend workshop presented by Alloy Fusion in Cobourg. We took part in individual workshops then joined with approximately two hundred other ringers in a massed choir. It was amazing!
- In October, we were pleased to welcome Lynn Boothroyd, Director of the St. Andrews Presbyterian Bell Choir in Ottawa, and Chair of the Handbells Directors Rountable of Eastern Ontario, to Portland. Lynn put us through our paces, practising techniques and learning how to dissect a new piece of music. By the end of the day, our new ringers were feeling much more comfortable, and we were able to play the new piece!
- Jan attends monthly meetings of the HDRT, which provides networking and resources, and opportunity to bounce problems and ideas off other directors.

In November, while Rev. Takouhi was on Sabbatical, the Pealers took responsibility for a combined service in Portland. The service was based on Brian Pilkington's book, *Trolls—Philosophy and Wisdom*. The hymns, readings and reflections were all based on the book, and the music was provided by the Pealers. Many, many thanks goes to Jane, Norma and Cathy for coordinating the service.

One of our goals this year was to learn and play Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah* for our congregations. Along with being so well known, *Hallelujah* has a wonderful chime part, and we wanted to show how much we valued the monetary support we received from Portland United Church Council, the Portland U.C.W., our congregations and the wider community which made the purchase of a three-octave set of choir chimes possible. We were able to place our order in May and take delivery by the beginning of June. This allowed us to have them on hand for September, and feature the piece as the anthem during the *Troll* service.



Our ringers have also willingly taken on the task of doing our part to raise funds towards the purchase of the chimes and new music. Two Saturdays (and prior prep days) were given up to catering the U.C. Presbytery and our second Soup and Sandwich luncheons in early December. The success of these events allowed us to not only contribute towards the purchase of the chimes, but also, in turn, donate \$1,000 to the coffers of P.U.C. We are so pleased to be able to "give back."

Every year we plea for "supply" ringers, and this year is no exception. It is always our aim to include the bells in services as often as possible, but there are times we need that extra body to help us out, particularly for practices. If you are interested in filling in on occasion, please be in touch! We are a friendly bunch and would welcome you.

Jan Haskin, Director

PORTLAND SHARING AND CARING ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The Sharing and Caring Committee Team is a friendly and caring group who enjoy visiting our church family. They deliver our newsletter to your door twice a year. It's a great way to get to know your sisters and brothers in our church.

Our team members are: Rev. Takouhi, Sheila McKeage, Vicky Zwiars, Jan & Bruce Haskin, Louise Martin, Norma Cummings, Jane Pickard, Phillis Bell, and Betty Hoogenboom. I'm happy to welcome, new to the team this year, Anita Cox, Joan Horsfall, Liz Church, and Janice Brophy. New members are always welcome!

Our newsletter is also mailed to those who have moved away but like to know what is happening at PUC.

Thank you so much to all of our committed team members and a special thanks to those who have resigned from the team: Olga Baker, Carolyn Long, Shirley Bryden, Pat Evans, and Lynne Dimma. Your time and dedication is 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 caring members.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Hoogenboom, Sharing and Caring Committee Chair

PORTLAND FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 2018

A number of greetings etc. were forwarded in 2018 as follows:

With Sympathy	10
Get Well	8
Thinking of You	4
New Baby/Grandchild	3
Christmas	<u>4</u>
Total:	29

If you would like a card to go out to someone please let me know.

Cheryl Stoddard,
613-205-1340,
cstoddard1@cogeco.ca

Friendship Committee Recap of Funds

Balance as at January 1 2018		\$ 36.80
Cost of Cards	\$69.00	
Postage	<u>\$30.10</u>	
Total Paid Out	\$99.10	
Funds Paid In		<u>\$100.00</u>
Balance on Hand		<u>\$ 37.70</u>

2018 PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH OUTREACH REPORT

The Portland Community Lunches continue to be our most visible regular outreach project. On the fourth Tuesday of every month (except December) a lunch is hosted by volunteers and offered to anyone in the area with just a “pay as you are able” policy. With different people hosting each month, a variety of food is guaranteed and those attending enjoy a social time as well. Any ‘profits’ from the luncheons are donated to D.I.G. (the Dental Issues Group) through Country Roads Community Health Centre. 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 2019.

Following the direction of the Trustees \$3,000 from the investment fund was again designated to support youth activities in the area.

The congregation helped provide school supplies, small board games, computers, sports equipment, etc. for El Salvador when David, Emily and Pauline French (along with Alex Price - EUC) made the Mission trip with the Bay of Quinte group in March. The congregation also helped financially support the Jardin de Gracia (Garden of Grace) School in Siguatepeque, Honduras via Claire French who went there on a mission trip for 5 weeks in April/May.

We continue to collect our “empties” with the refunds going to our Portland Food Bank.

Two groups that meet on the church hall are The Cases of Caring sewers and the Rideau Lakes Sewers. Cupboard space for supplies has been provided for both these groups.

“Cases of Caring” are decorative pillowcases that are made for CHEO (Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario) by a group of friendly, dedicated women from several local communities in Rideau Lakes Township. The sewing bees are held from 9 a.m. to noon on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Portland United Church throughout the year except for July and August. Not a sewer? People who can cut fabric, pin the bands to the body, iron the fabric or the finished product, or sew the labels onto the pillowcases are also needed. This initiative was started over a decade ago by Lynne Evans, who is still the convenor of this group. Each month, we send at least 35 pillowcases to C.H.E.O. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated so that we can continue to buy fabric.

Please feel free to join us for a fun and productive time! For more information, call or e-mail:

Jane Pickard, 613-272-2524, jpick@kingston.net or Joan Kelly, 613-272-3134

***The Rideau Lakes Sewers** meet several times a year and thanks to the Portland United Church there is a great place to gather. They are a team of dedicated sewers who get together to create attractive and comforting quilts that are donated to the Perth and Smiths Falls Hospitals. These quilts are given to patients undergoing kidney dialysis, cancer treatments and palliative care.*

There is always room for one more! If this initiative tugs at your heart strings, join us! Jane Pickard or Gail Bury will gladly provide more information. Jane Pickard, 613-272-2524, jpick@kingston.net

Along with supporting Rev. Takouhi’s “Peace Through Education in Lebanon” and Mission & Service, other forms of outreach continue and are included in the various reports. 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.

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH HISTORICAL REPORT 2018

As usual, PUC was a busy place in 2018, with much activity as we attempted to fulfil our mission of sharing, caring and making a difference.

We had a baptism, April 1st, Easter Sunday. Tristen Alfred James Gordon.

We celebrated worship with our sister church, Elgin United:

Feb. 4th, in Elgin.

July 1st, at Hannah Park.

Mar. 29th, at 6:30 pm, in Portland, for Maundy Thursday.

Mar. 30th, at 7:30 pm, in Portland, for Good Friday.

April 1st, for the sunrise service, at 6"30 am, at Leggett's hill.

April 15th, in Elgin, for a Cantata, Redeeming Love.

July 15th, for a service in Elgin, led by the youth which also included Gracenotes.

Aug. 26th , in Portland, for a 2 hour Bon Voyage service as Rev. Takouhi heads off for her sabbatical. Pot luck luncheon followed the service.

Sept. 30th, in Elgin for a service led by the combined choirs.

Nov. 18th , in Portland for a service led by the Portland Pealers.

Dec. 30th, in Elgin, for another service led by the combined choirs.

In addition to the excellent worship services Rev Takouhi offers, we enjoyed hearing from various visiting clergy and worship leaders:

Rev. Myra Garvin on Feb. 18th.

Rev. Betty Sangster on April 29th.

Norma Wrightly on May 27th, and Oct. 21st.

A special speaker, Mikayla Johnston, Leaving a Legacy, May 13th.

Margaret Martin on June 10th, Oct 21st. And Nov. 11th.

Mark Bee on June 17th.

Barb Dejeet on Sept. 2nd and Oct 28th.

Lynne Dimma on Sept. 9th and 16th.

Charlotte Hoy on Sept 23rd.

Rev. Kathy Walton on Oct 1st, Nov. 4th, Dec. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 24th.

Pat Greenhorn Nov. 25th.

There were some special services:

May 20th, a multilingual service for Pentecost.

July 29th , a hymn sing.

Nov. 11th , Remembrance Service

Dec. 2nd, a much reduced Sunday School Christmas presentation follow by a soup and sandwich luncheon.

Dec. 9th, White Gift Sunday.

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Communion at 4 pm.

We had various outreach initiatives:

Peace through Education - Lebanon which raised funds through:

Cooking for Peace March 18th.

This is My Story, This is My Song May 5th.

A benefit dinner June 10th.

Fiddlers Concert Sat Aug. 18th.

A silent auction of 5 painting by Margaret Martin.

El Salvador - David, Emily & Pauline French making the journey Mar. 8th-15th .

The Jesse Tree to raise funds for the Sunday School Foster Child.

Claire French headed to Honduras April 28th for 5 weeks.

Natural Disasters Asia Pacific.

And our usual DIG, Mission & Service fund, Food Bank and Cases of Caring.

We held many other successful Fundraisers”

The Eaves Troughs, Storm Protection for Stained Glass Window and Insulation.

Some music: July 7th with County Rd. 44 Bluegrass Band.

Oct. 5th with Grateful We're Not Dead concert.

Lapel pins for sale for M& S.

Returning our empties to profit the Portland Food Bank..

St. Paddy's Dinner Fri. Mar 16th.

UCW pie sale June 29th, apple pie sale Oct 8th, and tortiere sale Dec 8th.

Church bake sale and Bell luncheon and treasure table Dec. 8th.

The 4 Rivers Presbytery organized some Youth events:

Jan. 23rd on Battersea.

Mar 3rd in Newboro.

Mar 31st in Portland.

Set 15th , Bubble Soccer in Inverary.

Dec. 15th in Portland.

Also Bay of Quinte Conference held a Niagara Youth Festival Oct. 26th - 28th.

& youth retreat Oct 26th - 28th, at Quin-Mo-Lac .

We had some UNUSUAL Events in 201:

Church was cancelled twice because of freezing rain, Feb. 25th, April 15th .

Rev. Takouhi's sabbatical blogs.

OPP using the church, community hall etc for a training exercise, in May.

Handbell workshop Oct 27th.

Movie night at the Petro's to view The Promise, Fri. April 20th .

The sewing group, Cases of Caring moved into the church basement.

We hosted a Presbytery Workshop Nov. 24th .

The Presbytery is now Eastern Ontario, Outaouais Region or EOOR.

A tree fell during a storm in Oct. destroying our lawn sign.

Of course there were our USUAL events:

AGM March 4th followed by lunch. Graham Lowe took the Elgin service.

Community luncheons on the 4th Tuesday of the month, thanks to volunteer hosts, a free-will offering and any profits directed to DIG.

VIBE (Venturing into Biblical Education),
The Me I Want to Be.
The Life You've Always Wanted.
All the Places to Go.
When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box.

Annual Vacation Bible School July 2nd - 6th .
Love in any Language
Newsletters: Spring and Advent. Thanks to Jan Haskin.
Celebrated Lent and Advent seasons.
Sharing the Light of Christ, in Elgin Dec. 2nd.

There were meetings: council, official board & trustees, UCW, Worship com. M&P & Caring and Sharing. There were choir practices and hand bell practices. There was Sunday School. There was Fundscrip. And of course our weekly worship services including a spiritual focus, uplifting hymns, thoughtful time with youth, inspiring life lessons, Minute for Mission readings, amazing anthems, heartfelt prayers and monthly communions.

We rejoiced at a wedding, were saddened by the loss of good friends, Bill French, Morley Hennig and Loree Smith. We welcomed new parishioners. We supported each other in good times and bad. And many talented people stepped up to the plate to keep the church a vital entity, even as our minister was on sabbatical.

Peggy Bond

FUN-DRAISING FOR PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH - 2018

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. Order on the first Sunday of the month and receive your cards the following Sunday. Or, if you bank on-line, you can order the cards yourself once registered. Last year the church "earned" over \$600 and that is mostly from a few dedicated purchasers. We could do a lot better if more people took part. Think about it.

Our big fundraiser for the year was the Eaves Troughs Fundraiser to pay for new eaves troughs, protection for our stain glass window and additional insulation above the Friendship Room. Our goal was \$7,000 to be added to the \$3,000 already in the Building Fund. Thanks to the UCW and some other very generous donations the new eaves troughs went up in the late fall and the other two projects should happen this spring/summer.

County Road 44 Bluegrass Band returned in July and once again played to a full house. They donate their time and talent and the audience was very appreciative. The Grateful We're Not Dead band entertained us just before Thanksgiving and we were very grateful! Both these groups seem to enjoy entertaining us as much as we enjoy them so hopefully we will be hearing them again.

On December 8, it was a big combined effort: the choir organized the Bake Sale for the church coffers (with a little UCW advice), the UCW sold their tourtieres, and the Portland Pealers ran their Soup and Sandwich luncheon and added Treasure Tables. It was a successful day all around.

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 – 2018

Our Food Bank has been rather busy this year and our shelves have been full with thanks to all who have given donations, not only during the Build a Mountain Campaign but also throughout the year.

Our volunteers: Ilona French, Joan Kelly, Louise Martin and a new addition to our Food Bank, Bob Tutt and his wonderful spreadsheets that keeps us up-to-date on our supplies. Thank you all for your time and caring attitude, we could not do all we do for our clients without you.

We presently have on our Client List 20 households that include 41 adults and 7 children. We are open twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday from 10:30 till noon and we are available by telephone if anyone needs us in an emergency. In addition to groceries, our clients also receive a \$20.00 gift certificate on each visit from Gordanier Freshmart in Elgin for milk, eggs, and bread. Our clients also have access to the Clothing Cooperative free of charge.

One of our households includes a darling little girl named Olivia who requires fortified formula each day. One case of this formula, which lasts only five days, costs between \$45.00 and \$52.00 depending on any sales the stores occasionally put on. Our congregation really hit the ball out of the park when a request was made of them to help towards the cost involved in having this formula readily available for Olivia. A whopping \$520.00!!! was donated by you and we thank all of you very much.

Our 2018 Build a Mountain of Food Campaign was a great success bringing in 6000 pounds of food and over \$13,500.00 in cash and cheques as well as a \$1300.00 donation paid directly to The Garden Market for future purchases and Gifts in Kind of \$1,315.55. Our next question was “where do we put all this food”. Well, leave it to Larry Cochran to come to our rescue by coordinating the construction of shelving for us in a safe, clean and cool storage area in the Community Hall. Thank you Larry & Connie for all your help.

We are now entering into 2019 with confidence that we will be able to assist people who are less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you all for your donations and your support of this worthy cause. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cheryl Stoddard
Manager

PORTLAND FOODBANK FUNDS REPORT - 2018

	Bank	Petty Cash		
Portland Food Bank				
January 1 to December 31, 2018				
				Consolidated
Balance as at January 1, 2018		14,899.13		\$15,014.23
Petty Cash		115.10		
Donations	17,552.10	125.00		
**Outstanding Deposit	1,100.00			
Total Donations	18,652.10			
Outflow				
Groceries	7,486.45	425.27	7,911.72	
Gift Certificates - Gordanier	5,679.03	345.00	6,024.03	
Good Food Box - CRCHC	2,565.00	25.00	2,590.00	
Bank Fees	117.00	0.00	117.00	
Office Expense	33.89	53.64	87.53	
Mileage	0.00	200.00	200.00	
Misc.	0.00	53.49	53.49	
Petty Cash	960.65	-960.65	0.00	
 Total Outflows:	 16,842.02	 141.75	 16,983.77	
 Bank Balance as at December 31, 2018		 15,609.21		 \$ 15,707.56
Petty Cash		98.35		
 ** Deposited on December 31/18 but transferred on January 3/19				
 Gift in Kind i.e. grocery donations		 \$1,315.55		
Donations given to The Garden				
Market BAM 2018		\$1,300.00		

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY REPORT 2018

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

We had four (4) interments this year and the sale of two (2) plots.

Our Cemetery Service was a success again this year and plans are underway for the coming service tin 2019 (August 4, 2019).

Financial Statement

Opening Balance \$ 9,450.48

Receipts:

Bank Interest \$ 3.32

Interest from the Public Guardian 85.83

Donations 1,485.00

Interments 1,795.00

Sale of Plots 700.00

On account for Bereaved
Authority of Ontario 150.00

4,219.15

Expenses:

Grass cutting \$ 800.00

Bank Fees 10.00

Excavating for Interments 475.00

Cornerstones 200.00

New Flower Bed 126.71

Total (1611.71)

Balance \$ 12,057.92

Blaine Tackaberry
(Chair person for Cemetery Committee)

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH

Total Income Statement

	2018 Actual	2017 Actuals	Difference 2018/2017	2019 Budget
General Fund Revenue				
Sunday Givings	67,328.85	70,438.21	(3,109.36)	69,390.00
Fundraising	2,816.57	6,768.02	(3,951.45)	3,000.00
Fundraising costs		(1,351.09)	1,351.09	
Property Use Fees	710.00	700.00	10.00	600.00
TOTAL General Fund Reve	70,855.42	76,555.14	(5,699.72)	72,990.00
General Fund Expenses				
Charge assessment Expense	52,800.00	51,000.00	1,800.00	53,200.00
Outreach Rev	(20.00)	(60.00)	40.00	0.00
Outreach Exp	283.35	601.27	(317.92)	600.00
Observer Exp	574.89	650.00	(75.11)	0.00
Sharing &Caring Exp		98.48	(98.48)	100.00
Decorating Committee	36.28	0.00	36.28	0.00
Music Director Expense	12,480.00	12,240.00	240.00	12,480.00
Piano and Organ Maintenance	143.44	187.09	(43.65)	200.00
Worship Exp		486.55	(486.55)	500.00
Elevator Exp	700.00	1,043.80	(343.80)	900.00
Snow and Grass	2,944.14	4,005.91	(1,061.77)	3,000.00
Recurring maintenance Exp	1,914.19	2,222.53	(308.34)	1,933.00
Custodian Expense	3,678.00	3,419.50	258.50	3,660.00
Insurance Expense	2,558.52	2,311.66	246.86	2,600.00
Hydro	4,279.90	7,308.87	(3,028.97)	4,300.00
Propane	5,241.95	3,514.84	1,727.11	5,000.00
Office expense	392.48	372.01	20.47	400.00
Envelopes and Par Exp	296.45	345.02	(48.57)	340.00
Other	40.00	265.46	(225.46)	300.00
TOTAL General Fund Expense	88,343.59	90,012.99	(1,669.40)	89,513.00
Net General Fund Income	(17,488.17)	(13,457.85)	(4,030.32)	(16,523.00)
Net Designated Fund Income				
Benevolent	404.55	921.25	-516.70	
Building	1,138.82	-3,759.56	4,898.38	
Memorial	840.51	1,039.44	-198.93	
Youth Support	-1,892.88	-3,000.00	1,107.12	
Choir	44.00	242.00	-198.00	
Mission works	-150.00	-47.25	-102.75	
Bell Choir	1,956.67	391.78	1,564.89	
Net Designated Fund Inconr	2,121.67	(3,992.36)	6,114.03	
Total net Income	(15,366.50)	(17,450.21)	2,083.71	
Support from Long Term Fund	19,000.00	21,000.00	-2,000.00	

Notes

For a breakdown of Designated Fund revenue and expenses please see the Balance sheet comparison

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

Cemetery
Food Bank
CYAYA

Portland United Church also collected and distributed monies for the following Missions

Mission and Service	9,660.75
Dental Issues Group	1,472.95
El Salvador+Honduras	1,845.25
PTEL	10,128.78
Total	23,107.73

Revenue Comments

General Fund

Overall General funds collection declined by \$5,700 or 7.4% this is the result of a 4.4% decline in regular givings to the General fund and a \$3,000 or 58% decline in fundraising activities .

Expense Notes

Our energy bill was down by approx \$1300 as the effects of the new furnace started to take hold

Designated Funds

The congregation grew its support to Peace through Education in Lebennon by \$9908, the Food bank with an increase of \$2550 and our Bell Choir with increased support of \$3,203 With such generous support for the afore mentioned Missions givings to M&S, DIG suffered slightly

PUC needed to draw on the Long term Fund as denoted below .

Support from Long Term Fund

Interest Income	\$4,000
Youth Initiative	\$3,000
General Fund Operating loss	\$12,000
chimes support	\$2,500
Repayment of chimes support	(\$2,500)
Net Long term Fund Support	\$19,000

Donation Breakdown

Non Receipted	\$ 24,813.00
Donations by Par	\$ 30,857.08
Donations by Envelop	\$ 56,559.92
Other donations Receipted	\$ 28,423.00
Receipted Donations	\$115,840.00

Portland United Church Balance Sheet Comparison

	Ending Balance 12/31/2017	Income +Trans In	Expenses +transfers out	Ending Balance 12/31/2018
ASSETS				
General Chequing Account	11,270.01	156,698.69	152,765.00	15,203.70
Federal Sales tax Recoverable	278.67	476.24	568.27	186.64
Provincial Sales Tax recoverable	626.09	1,067.32	1,273.48	419.93
TOTAL ASSETS	12,174.77	158,242.25	154,606.75	15,810.27
LIABILITIES and FUNDS				
General Fund	(1,497.70)	87,855.42	88,343.59	(1,985.87)
Designated Funds				
Benevolent Fund	2,089.64	2,059.55	1,655.00	2,494.19
Building & Furnace	4,366.07	7,424.00	5,785.18	6,004.89
Memorials Fund	4,563.71	8,235.00	7,227.49	5,571.22
Youth Support Fund	0.00	3,000.00	1,892.88	1,107.12
Choir Fund	1,198.80	179.00	500.00	877.80
Mission works	551.72	0.00	150.00	401.72
Bell Choir	682.53	4,729.50	4,072.83	1,339.20
M & S Fund	0.00	9,660.75	9,660.75	0.00
DIG Fund	0.00	1,472.95	1,472.95	0.00
El Salvador +Honduras	0.00	1,845.25	1,845.25	0.00
PTEL	220.00	10,128.78	10,348.78	0.00
* Cemetery	0.00	1,950.00	1,950.00	0.00
* Food Bank Fund	0.00	18,652.10	18,652.10	0.00
* CYAYA	0.00	1,049.95	1,049.95	0.00
TOTAL Designated Funds	13,672.47	70,386.83	66,263.16	17,796.14
TOTAL LIABILITIES and FUNDS	12,174.77	158,242.25	154,606.75	15,810.27

*See separate page for Operating Statements and Bank balances of Cemetery, Food Bank, and CYAYA

Long Term Fund

	Dec-13	Dec-14	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18
	\$140,694	\$141,790	\$140,764	\$146,064	\$136,700	\$114,865
Withdrawals	\$6,870	\$16,150	\$8,124	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$21,500
Additions				\$4,000		\$2,500
Investment	\$23,786	\$17,246	\$7,098	\$8,300	\$11,636	(\$2,835)
Est. Return	19%	12%	5%	5%	9%	-2%

As can be seen the long term fund has shrunk in both of the last two years .

This is a result of delining offerings being directed to the general operating of the church and in this past year declining returns from the Long term fund .

This could become a major challenge to our viability in the coming years if action is not taken to stem the flow

APPENDIX A

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 2018

March 4, 2018

ATTENDANCE:

30 Attendees plus Rev. Takouhi, Katy Gibson, Chair, Patti Evans, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Katy Gibson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. Takouhi opened the meeting with a prayer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved: Connie Cochran **Second:** Cheryl Stoddard **Carried**

APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES: Moved: Margaret Martin **Second:** Duncan Pickard **Carried**

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you note received from Lyndhurst Church Council for the gift of the classic organ.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Reports were discussed in the order they appear in the 2018 Annual Report book. Following are the committees and the authors of the annual reports.

Trustee: Will French unable to attend, however, report submitted.
Congratulations to the trustees for solving the manse rental issue.

United Church Women: Connie Cochran – thank you to UCW for keeping us going.

Property: Doug Bond not available but report submitted. Sincere thanks to Doug Bond for his unrelenting devotion to the church.

Choir: Jean-Yves Duperron

Memorial Fund: Doug Bond not present but report was submitted

Christian Education Fund: Duncan Pickard reported diminishing fund with plan Canada. May amalgamate with general fund.

Portland Pealers: Jan Haskins. Plan to do more concerts at church. Trying to raise money to purchase a set of chimes.

Sharing and Caring: Betty Hoogenboom

Friendship Committee: Cheryl Stoddard

Historical: Peggy Bond not in attendance; report submitted

Fundraising: Norma Cummings.
Attendees were asked to bring any and all ideas forward for fundraising in 2019.
It should also be noted that Norma Cummings has resigned as envelope steward and Cheryl Stoddard has taken over this responsibility. Thank you, Norma for your work and thanks Cheryl for taking on the task.

Food Bank: Cheryl Stoddard will forward the financial report to Norma for Inclusion in the Annual Report document.

Cemetery: Blaine Tackaberry – report submitted

Finance: Duncan Pickard presented and explained the financial report. All financial reports were reviewed by B. Martin and certified to be accurate. Thanks Brian Martin.

A. Hoogenboom thanked Duncan and said Duncan is to be commended for his detailed reports. Lay persons can understand – such a great job!

Chair, Katy Gibson, gave special thanks to all committee chairs for all the hard work carried out in 2018. Without them the church could not serve the community as well it does.

Motion to Adopt Annual Report as Presented: Moved: A. Hoogenboom **Second** Jan Haskins **Carried**

Vacant Positions:

Chair - no one applied therefore Katy Gibson agreed to continue until there is someone to take the position.

Vice Chair – new position; no one applied the position remains vacant

Finance Chair: Duncan will stay in position until someone volunteers to take over.

Outreach Chair: – this position remains empty

New Business: none

Goals for M&S and DIG for 2019: After discussion it was **moved** by Connie Cochran and **seconded** by Cheryl Stoddard that the goal for M&S be \$10,000 and DIG \$2,000. **Carried** Funds to remain as last year.

Closing remarks: Katy Gibson thanked all attendees for participating. She commented that the help and support in this Church is awesome. Jan Haskins gave special thanks to Katy Gibson for continuing her role as chair.

Closing Prayer and Grace: Rev. Takouhi offered the closing prayer and grace. Rev. Takouhi thanked everyone for all they do.

Adjournment: **Moved** by A. Hoogenboom that the meeting be adjourned. **Carried**
Meeting closed at 11:50 noon and lunch was enjoyed by all.

Katy Gibson, Chair

Patti Evans, Secretary