

**THE UNITED CHURCH
OF CANADA**

**ELGIN – PORTLAND
PASTORAL CHARGE**

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



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 us;*
- 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, 2019

Hazel Aileen Cora Wright, January 27, Elgin
Anna Cynthia June Hoogendyk, April 14, Elgin
Mason Grahame Richard Schueler, April 14, Elgin

MEMBERS WHO JOINED BY PROFESSION OF FAITH 2019

Emily Gibson- Hoogendyk, March 10, Elgin
Tom Bonhpmmme, March 10, Portland
Carolyn Bonhpmmme, March 10, Portland
Elizabeth "LIZ" Church, December 1, Portland
Annette Dolores Clarke, December 1, Portland
Kathryn Helen Patterson, December 1, Elgin
Elizabeth Royce, Wright, December 1, Elgin

MEMBERS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER, 2019

Andrea Thompson, March 10, Elgin

SERVICES OF MARRIAGE, 2019

Amy Marie Mullin and William Gerald Connell, July 6, Shannonville ON
Diane Louise Warren and Rossie Adam Hawkins, July 20, Elgin, ON
Tessa Marie Elizabeth Grant, August 10, Perth Road Village, ON
Hannah-Marie Arenburg and Bryan Francis Fox, September 28, Westport, ON
Carlie Anne Zwiers and Roch Denis Lloyd Bigras, October 12, Mallorytown, ON

FUNERALS CONDUCTED, 2019

Gipson, Ronald Allan – March 19
Gipson, Helen Joan (Wilby) – May 31
Bond, Margaret (Peggy) Annette – June 29
Bond, Jeffrey Mark – June 29
Fraser, Robert Rountree – July 2
Kelly, Beryl Jean (Baxter) – July 6
Simpson, Paul Calvin – July 18
Maxwell, Anne Shirley (Dowsett) – August 3
McKinney, Alexander (Alex) Hugh – August 12
Herter, Grace Emliss – August 14
Henson, Dennis Ernest – August 17
Teepell, Carl Bruce – October 29
Weir, Viola Jane – November 23
Seeley, Rhea Marion (Adams) – November 29
Schwartz Margot Esther – December 5

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Official Board – Annual General Meeting
Agenda: March 27, 2019
Portland United Church

1. A/Chair Ted –to call the meeting to order at 7:00 pm there being a quorum present.
Chair Cam McKay was unable to attend.
2. Opening prayer.
3. A/Chair Ted to call for approval/amendments to the agenda.
4. A/Chair Ted to call 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.
5. A/Chair Ted to call for the minutes of the 2018 AGM, to be reviewed, and for a motion to approve, unless there are amendments.
6. Nominations and Elections/Aclamations. Are there any nominations?
7. Closing prayer.
8. Meeting adjournment.

Official Board: Regular Meeting

1. A/Chair Ted: opening remarks.
2. Approval of Agenda.
3. Minutes of regular meeting of Dec. 2, 2018 to be reviewed and motion for approval.
4. Business arising from the December 2nd minutes:
5. A/Chair Ted welcomes Rev. Takouhi to the board, post sabbatical. Minister's Report.
6. Ministry & Personnel Report. Motion to receive: Jan Haskin
7. Draft Budget. Motion to approve: Ted Brett
8. Reports from Council Chairs.
9. Motion to adjourn. Closing prayer. Next Meeting of O.B

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
AGM – 2020
Minister's Report for 2019

***“13 Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith;
be courageous; be strong. 14 Do everything in love.”***

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Dear Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge,

2019 was a difficult year, both personal and communal. However, the words of Apostle Paul kept on reminding me that when we stay grounded on the Rock, God, we are encouraged, strengthened, and supported.

Our pastoral relationship continues to be a rewarding learning curve. I pray that what I offer to you, as your servant-leader, helps you deepen your Faith, fills you with Hope on this journey and continues to make you an instrument of God's Grace. Also, what you offer to me does not only come in the form of remuneration, but also offers me growth in my own Personal Faith - trusting that God has equipped me to the task at hand and serve All the Children of God through this pastoral charge.

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

2019 has brought forth a brand-new beginning for our denomination. This United Church of ours has changed from a 4-Court System into a 3-Court one. What used to be, Pastoral Charges, Presbytery, Conference and General Council has become Pastoral Charges, Regional Councils and General Council. Hence, expanding our wider church community far and wide. Our Regional Council is called Eastern Ontario, Outaouais Regional Council (Region #12) and over 160 pastoral charges form this region, it was implemented January 1, 2019.

On January 31, I attended a one day gathering at Alexandria United Church (Ontario) with many ministry personnel of our Regional Council to have conversations with the UCC Moderator, the Right Reverend Dr. Richard Bott (2018-2021). It was a day for ministers to meet, greet, break bread, be nourished spiritually, share a Communion Worship at the end of the day and sent home blessed and encouraged. As much as congregants feel the pain of change, ministers are not free of those feelings either. Did you know that there are over 40 churches in Ontario alone who are looking for ministers to journey with? The demand is high, but the resources are low. We are NOT Alone.

In February I kept busy by preparing my reports for the year. I also helped host a youth event at Elgin United Church on February 16th; where over 30 youth attended accompanied with adults, enjoyed a concert by Turpin's Trail and pizza from Rideau Pizzeria. There were many who helped behind the scenes and I am ever grateful to them for stepping in and carrying the load. This gathering was organized by Rev. Heather McClurg-Murphy who has been working closely with youth leaders of what used to be called The Four Rivers Presbytery Youth and trying to continue those close-knit connections.

Saturday, March 2, the new Regional Council met for a one day gathering at Zion Memorial Church in Carleton Place to introduce the staff of the region, and a day to get to know each other, as a new entity of the UCC. I am glad to say that the Executive Secretary of our Region is The Rev. Rosemary Lambie, who has been part of my ordination journey since 2000. A few of you will recall that Rev. Lambie was our guest preacher at a combined service in Portland on August 4, 2013 - She also serves The East Central Ontario Regional Council. It is good to reconnect with those from the previous Montreal-Ottawa Conference where I was ordained.

During this gathering in Carleton Place (March 2) one of my colleagues asked if I would consider becoming the President Elect for the Regional Council in June - I laughed - Just like Sara laughed when she heard the news of a potential childbirth. However, in the month following this invitation, I wrestled with God about this and prayerfully surrendered to this Call to serve the Regional Council. After consulting about the responsibilities of this position with the Regional Council Executive and our M & P Committee, I let my name stand. However, not only God convinced me to let my name stand with the support of many around me, I was also nudged to offer to preach at one of the worship services during the gathering (June 7-9). Not even a day later, I got an e-mail accepting my offer to preach – as the person who was asked to preach had sent regrets by e-mail which had arrived a few minutes before my offer. God works in mysterious ways.

On March 8, I met the student minister, serving Arden Pastoral Charge, who has become the second student minister that I accompanied as a supervising minister. Being able to give back to other student ministers is truly a gift to me, to us, as we all know that student minister supervision is another form of ministry that churches do out of the generosity of their heart. I am grateful that you are indirectly in a ministry such as this – and the General Council covered the driving expenses for this ministry.

A new word has started to mingle with us since March 30th, and that word is "Clustering". With the initiative of Delta-Toledo Pastoral Charge, the neighbouring United Churches gathered at the Elgin Community Complex to discuss what the future looks like and how we can work together. The Rev. Kathryn Sarjeant-Powell, the Regional Council Person Jane Dawson, and Rev. Whitman Strong are the three who are leading this endeavour. A few of these gatherings took place during the year and they are anticipated to continue in 2020.

Lifelong Learning Opportunities (Continuing Education):

- Friday April 12 – Saturday April 13, with my colleague, Rev. Lynne Gardiner, attended a retreat, at the Ottawa Mennonite Church, led by a Canadian Singer Songwriter, Steve Bell – **"For the Journey: Refreshing Christian Faith and Spiritual Tradition for the Weary and the Wary "**. Sharing a hotel room with a colleague makes these lifelong learning opportunities affordable and profound as we make time to fellowship and be nourished with colleagues.

- In the same wave, the annual Festival of Homiletics that I attend in different cities of the United States, I get to travel with Rev. Jill Turnbull. Travelling together saves us both finances and have fellowship together. For those of you who know Rev. Jill, she lives a few minutes away from me, but we barely have the time to see each other during the busy time of ministry among our churches. So, we catch up on our travels together.

This past year the 27th Festival of Homiletics took place in Minneapolis, Minnesota (May 13-17) – The Theme was: "**Preaching as Moral Imagination**". We were reminded of the foundational role of preachers and churches, which is to shape the moral imagination of a community, a society, even a nation. And, we were encouraged to go back to basics, attempting to keep the vision of God of goodness and mercy to be back to the front and center of our churches. It was truly a time to learn and worship in an atmosphere that's dynamic, friendly, nurturing, and prophetic. Our days begin at 8:30 a.m. and often conclude after 9 p.m. We all know the worth of these gatherings and that is why we keep on going back even if it surpasses our annual continuing educational allowances. Continuing Education or Lifelong Learning is truly that – to nourish, the mind, the heart and the spirit – so that we can serve the churches better.

Pastoral Care:

- Pastoral Care is one of the demanding responsibilities that depletes energy for a minister or anyone who offers that ministry – however, God continues to strengthen me with my families support and love. 2019 was one of the toughest ever, as I officiated fifteen funerals and accompanied individuals with their family members. A few of our beloved members of the pastoral charge breathed their last breath while I was with them. This is a sacred and humbling moment in life that reminds me, life is fragile and short – we MUST handle it with Love, Respect and Prayer.
- Pastoral Care is not limited to just hospital, home visits, funerals or other losses. Pastoral care expands from e-mails to Facebook Messenger to telephone calls and run-ins in unexpected places of our daily lives.
- In December, I ran into an OPP Officer, at the Portland Post Office, where our conversation led to be an extension of God's Presence to those who are going through rough patches of life and the OPP is unable to help out.
- Another time, I met with the director of the Country Roads Medical Center and we discussed how the church events can be "a prescription" that some clients of the clinic need.
- Another facet of pastoral care is how Elgin United Church prepares **Christmas Goodie Bags** for the Elgin Food Bank Clients. And extends a pastoral care presence through Hot Chocolate, Candy Canes and other goodies in those bags.

- We cannot forget the **Benevolent Fund**. Your minister becomes the bridge between people in need and these two churches. In 2019, we have extended a helping hand with over \$3,000 – where we have paid for: Hydro; propane; food; back to school needs; clothing; , gas money to drive to appointments and other necessities of life... Thank YOU for your generosity there is a great need among us that not many are aware.
- Karen Earl accompanies me regularly to play the piano at **Maple View Lodge**, where we go every six weeks (Fridays) to bring “church” to those who are unable to go out. This is an ecumenical effort put together by the neighboring churches of Maple View Lodge. Every Friday one of the spiritual leaders from a participating church leads the service of songs and prayers...Often my sister Choughik accompanies us as well, and so does Bonnie Tackaberry and she blesses the residents with her beautiful voice.
- So beloved, pastoral care is an ongoing process, where numbers do not quantify anymore. I depend on others to let me know where my attention needs to be directed, as we do not have a Pastoral Care Team. However, individuals keep me posted and help me be informed. I tell those who are my bridge to the community, it is better for me to hear something more than once, than not know at all. So, I am grateful to all who are my ears and eyes out there. At the end of the day, the only thing that matters is Duty of Love and Care towards one another from all of us.

Preaching/Presentation/Other Opportunities:

- March 20, 2019 - I had the honour and the privilege to be the theme speaker for the 7th Annual Meeting for the Lakeridge Presbyterial Gathering (UCW). The theme was: **“Roots of Our Faith, Journey of Hope”**. I was glad I did not have to drive all the way to Whitby on my own, Rev. Liz Church accompanied me on this day trip. Lakeridge Presbytery covered the mileage expenses for this blessed day.
- June 8, 2019 - Preaching at the inaugural meeting of the E.O.O.R.C. in Smiths Falls helped me share my understanding of how a new day is dawning. This opportunity also helped our pastoral charge not to have the burden of the mileage expense for the annual meeting. The Topic of the weekend was – **“A New Day Is Dawning”**
- July 21, 2019 – Led service at McKay United Church. They had been asking me to do this for the last year and a half, so, I took personal vacation time to share my faith with the wonderful people at McKay United. This is the community which Rev. Peter Woods serves in Ottawa.
- September 13, 2019 – I took personal vacation time and delivered the message through my life’s story to the women of Trinity Presbyterian Church (Carp, ON), at the Providence Spiritual Center in Kingston – **“This is My Story, This is My Song”**.
- September 22, 2019 – Took Personal vacation time and preached at the DMS Pastoral Charge (Denbigh, Matawatchan and Schut). Quite a drive from here, but it was a nice relaxing drive on a good sunny day with Gary by my side. Once again,

this pastoral charge had asked me back in September 2018 to be their guest speaker at their anniversary Sunday, but at that time I had to bow out, as I was going to be in Lebanon for my sabbatical journey.

- November 3, 2019 – without any voice, however miraculously, delivered the Word of Hope at the covenanting Service of my Colleague, Rev. Lynne Gardiner, with Bethel Rideau Ferry Road United Church.

Personal Life Events:

- January 2019 – My Father-in-law Bert was informed that he needs a back operation (spinal stenosis). After waiting for nine months for the date, he decided not to have the operation and live with the nerve pain and walk with a cane.
- March 29, 2019, my brother Jacob Demirdjian, passed away at the age of 65 in Pasadena, California. He was suffering from diabetes and heart complications; therefore, his departure was a blessing in disguise. More than ever, I am grateful to God for making it possible for me to attend his Celebration of Life and share a few words at his funeral. It just happened that the interim minister at that church, where the funeral was held, was the minister who had told me, back in 2004 “You cannot become a minister because you are a woman”. Here I was, the very first ordained Armenian woman minister in Canada, standing in this Armenian Brethren Church and sharing a Word of Hope. Even after his death, my brother still spoke Truth – as he lived his life like a prophet, speaking the Truth – even when people rejected him.
- April 24, 2019 – Gary, started receiving IVIG treatments at the Medical Day Unit at Perth Hospital for his neuropathy pain. He has been diagnosed with C.I.D.P. (Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy). However, he continues to help me and this pastoral charge with the website needs as much as possible with integrity and grace – and I am ever grateful for his dedication and support.
- April 28, 2019 – I had the honour to officiate the Baptism of my cousin’s baby boy, Asher, at the Armenian Apostolic Church of Cambridge. This was a historical moment. Female priests do not exist in the Armenian Apostolic Church, but miraculously, this priest allowed me to stand with him at the altar and participate in the Sacrament of Baptism.

So beloved, there is so much more I can share with you on how God has been clearly the Rock that I stand upon, the Courage that I draw from, and the Love that fills me up to share with all. But it will be negligent on my part if I do not thank all those who support me: My family, my colleagues, both congregations, and the M & P Committee of this pastoral charge, who is the bridge that covers the gaps of our relationship with love and support – THANK YOU!

Therefore, let us continue to stand firm in faith, be courageous and strong – Live Love – because whatever we do with Love is never in vain.

Because of Grace – Your Servant Leader,
Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro
Incumbent minister – EPPC, President-Elect – EOORC

COMMUNITY CLOTHING CO-OPERATIVE 2019

The Community Clothing Co-Operative fills an important need in our joint communities of Portland and Elgin. It is located in the rear of the Portland Community Hall in Portland and is open every Wednesday from 1-3 pm and Saturday from 10 to 2.

We are thankful to the communities for the donations of good used clothing that we sell for \$5.00 per small grocery bag. We are constantly amazed at how much money we are able to raise in a year that is then donated back to the community.

During 2019, the C.C.C. was pleased to make the following donations

Portland Food Bank	\$1000.00
Elgin Food Bank	\$1000.00
North Leeds Toy Drive	\$ 200.00
Cases of Caring	\$ 100.00
Dental Issues	\$ 100.00
Total Donations 2019	\$2400.00

2019 has been a difficult transition year for our group with the loss of one of our founding members and leader Paul Simpson who has been with the Co-op since its inception in 1996. We sorely miss him and his leadership.

A reorganization meeting was held in early summer. Helen Smith and Joan Kelly have taken on Paul's position. Our signing officers are Helen Smith, Joan Kelly, Clint Halladay and Emanuelle Fuldauer. Mireille Lavigne has taken on the task of staffing the hours the store is open.

We are grateful to the Portland Community Hall Board for the generous donation of the space we occupy. We are most appreciative of the approval and support of the Township of Rideau Lakes. A big thank you also goes to Portland United Church for sponsoring us as a part of their outreach program.

Lastly and most importantly, this venture would not be a success without our faithful volunteers who make this rewarding work possible in helping people in our community.

Joan Kelly and Helen Smith

Community Clothing Co-operative

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Worship Planning Committee Report for 2019 – AGM 2020

"God is spirit, and those who worship {God} must worship in spirit and truth."

John 4:24 (NRSV)

Dearly Beloved, God's spirit is always in and around us, and God's spirit becomes evident when we gather to Celebrate God's Love. Jesus said, "When two or three are gathered, I am there" (Matthew 18:20).

This Pastoral Charge's Worship Planning Committee (WPC) keeps busy in finding ways to make this Presence evident to all who attend our gatherings. Meeting three times a year, the WPC looks into the details of music leadership, Sacrament of Communion, Baptisms, Christian Education for youth and adults, topics that stir interest in all through sermons and V.I.B.E. (Venturing in Biblical Education) – so that as a Community of Faith we are strengthened, transformed, and continue to be an instrument of Grace to transform the world.

Our communities are close-knit, in different ways, however there is energy beyond our imagination that becomes evident when we worship together at combined services. Our celebrations are fulfilled through Music, The Word, Prayers, Lessons, and Sacraments. Speaking of Music, we are ministered regularly 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 talent within our community – Thanks to ALL who share their gifts with us generously.

This year, **V.I.B.E.** (Venturing in Biblical Education), gathered from May 1 – December 4, on Wednesdays at Elgin United (10:00 a.m.) and Portland United (7:00 p.m.). We explored two books:

- 1) **"The Bible Makes Sense"** By: The Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann
- 2) **"Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others"**
By: The Rev. Dr. Barbara Brown Taylor.

Average participation is about fifteen individuals from Elgin, Portland, Rideau Ferry, Smiths Falls and Kingston.

As we offered adult Christian Education through V.I.B.E. for those who want a safe space to explore their faith on a deeper level, we also offered youth Christian Education on Sundays, 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 5**, we held our tenth annual pastoral charge's Vacation Bible School at Portland United Church. This year's theme was: **"God Knows My Name: Calls Me Beloved"**. We had an average of 12-15 children attend daily from the local community as well as Westport. Our music director for the week was Nazani Sevadjan, from Quebec. She is a pianist and a composer, completing her Bachelor of Music at Concordia University. However, she also helped through the day to day preparations for

each day. We are ever grateful to Cathy Ryan, Kathleen Small, David French, Larry Cochran and many others who help regularly in this ministry and make a difference.

Our Lenten Journey's Spiritual Focus was: "**Lent - Roots of Faith: Journey of Hope**", and the Advent Season was: "**Advent: Learning to Walk in the Dark with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love...**"

It is also important to mention that during Lent we paid special attention to different missions to educate ourselves about other ministries around us and around the world.

We continued with the tradition of **Hymn Sing Sundays**, every fifth Sunday of each month, where congregants register their favourite hymns and we sing as many as possible.

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. This is an important reminder.

Throughout the year, we shared Communion almost every first Sunday of the month, or on special occasions, such as the First Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve, the First Sunday of Lent, Maundy Thursday and Easter. We alternate the sharing of 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 (Names of the baptized are found at the front of this booklet – along side those who joined this pastoral charge, the weddings and the funerals that I have had the honour to officiate).

Whenever we gather for a combined worship celebration, people approach me and express how wonderful it is to gather in one place, as they sense the Spirit's Presence even more. Here are the dates when we had the opportunities to celebrate combined worship services.

- 1) **April 18** – Maundy/Holy Thursday Service (EUC) with Communion – 6:30 P.M. to 7:15.
- 2) **April 19** – Good Friday Service (EUC) – 4 P.M. – The combined choirs of Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge presented - "**ONE SACRIFICE**"
- 3) **April 21** - Easter Sunrise Worship Service - Leggett Hill. Followed by hot breakfast at PUC, Worship Celebrations at each church at the regular times with Communion.
- 4) **June 30** - Combined Service – Church in the Park – Portland United Church became Hanna Park because of the inclement weather that brought fierce winds and rain to the lakeshore.
- 5) **July 14**– Combined Service at Elgin United Church – to Celebrate Elgin Days. Where I was able to share a synopsis of my sabbatical journey to Lebanon and Armenia from 2018. With guest musician: **Alan Androski**. After worship, we also heard a summary of the Festival of Homiletics, which I attend every May in the United States - (see minister's report).

- 6) **September 29** – Combined Service – Portland – As the EUC Sanctuary was utilized for the Festival of Small Halls – A different way of doing ministry in our midst.
- 7) **October 27** – Combined Service – Portland – Followed by a potluck luncheon to celebrate Norma Cummings' retirement as our pastoral charge's secretary for the last 10 years.
- 8) **December 22** – Combined Service – Elgin - The combined choirs of Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge presented - **"The Thrill of Hope"** - A Service of Lessons and Carols.
- 9) **December 29** – Combined Service – Portland - led by the combined choir of our pastoral charge.

Ecumenical Gatherings: For the very first time since its inauguration, about twelve years ago, *Sharing the Light of Christ in Elgin* was cancelled because of the inclement weather.

Other Gatherings:

- 1) **July 28** – Following Portland United Church Worship, we took time to dedicate a rock in honour of Peggy and Doug Bond for their unwavering service to God through these communities of faith.
- 2) **August 4 - 3 p.m.** – Portland United Church Cemetery's annual service of remembrance took place; however, only one individual attended this gathering, therefore we have decided to now have this memorial service every three years.

EPPC Sunday Worship Celebration supply leadership in 2019:

- ✚ **January 6, September 22, November 17** – Norma Wrightly (Lay Licenced Worship Leader)
- ✚ **January 13, May 19, September 15** - Barbara DeJeet (Lay Licenced Worship Leader)
- ✚ **March 17** – Mark Bee led Elgin Worship Service, as I needed to stay at PUC for their AGM
- ✚ **June 2** – Rev. David Spivey – Pulpit Exchange with Addison United Church
- ✚ **June 9** – Clint Halladay
- ✚ **June 23** – Rev. Betty (Sangster) Davey
- ✚ **July 21** – Rev. Walton
- ✚ **October 20** – Charlotte Hoy (Lay Licenced Worship Leader)
- ✚ **November 24** – Margaret Martin (Lay Licenced Worship Leader)

On January 20, and February 24, Mother Nature stopped us in our tracks and forced us to cancel worship services, due to the inclement weather.

Your Worship Planning Committee has met on these dates through 2019: **January 27, May 26, October 6.**

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 gratitude 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

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.

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.

Jan Haskin is doing a wonderful job for us.

Cam McKay, Chair

JOINT TRUSTEES COMMITTEE REPORT – 2019

2019 has been a different and busy year for the Joint Trustees of Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge. The Trustees have met more than usual because of major manse decisions and renovations.

In May the tenant occupying the manse advised us that they will be leaving the rental property, by the end of June. The Joint Trustees met, upon the call of the Joint Trustees Chair, Rev. Takouhi, to determine the next steps.

It was decided that it is appropriate for us to hire a property manager who is experienced in this field. Keith Wilson's name came to us highly recommended. Mr. Wilson was interviewed, and the Joint Trustees made a unanimous decision to hire him, as he has experience in managing hundreds of properties, and will never match the experience that we all have collectively. With a monthly remuneration of \$100, Mr. Wilson accepted this position on behalf of Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge, as the property manager to conduct the necessary steps to find tenants, and be the person bridging the gaps between tenant and landlord.

Once the tenant moved out the manse, it was inspected by the property manager, and the Joint Trustees were presented with a list of necessary renovations. Here are a few: The carpet in the living room was not salvageable, the other floors were not much better, the walls needed painting and the outside doors couldn't be repaired.

The Joint Trustees decided that these major repairs had to be done in order to attract a decent tenant and get a better rent, in this high demand market of rental properties. Some of the work that was done included replacing the living, dining room and hallway floors with laminate. All the inside walls were painted. Both outside doors were replaced. The stove was replaced with a respectable used unit. The garage doors were replaced with new ones, this being our biggest expense and has been an eyesore for quite a while. There was a problem with lack of return air getting to the furnace, so a new cold air return was installed in the basement. The bathroom had some repairs done and lighting was replaced, etc. The manse was cleaned from top to bottom including the windows. Some of the deck boards on the back deck had to be replaced. A total of \$12,848 was spent on the building.

The OB account had a bit of a surplus in the Charge account because we didn't spend as much on the 2018 Sabbatical as we had expected. Members of Joint Trustees themselves donated just over \$3,000 towards the repairs of the Manse. Moreover, the members of Joint Trustees put in a lot of time and effort to help save on labour costs.

We officially borrowed \$4,000.00 to meet the expenses with permission from the O.B. Some of that still must be paid back in this year's 2020 budget.

All this to say, that we now have a new tenant in the manse paying a monthly rent of \$1,400.00 and so far, everything seems to be working.

Thanks to all the Trustees who work diligently to be good stewards of what has been "trusted" to their care. Exceptionally, this year, there were individuals who helped financially and/or by working on the manse as well and for that we are deeply grateful.

Submitted on behalf of the Joint Trustees:

Ted Brett

OB Treasurer and Elgin United Church Trustee

Rev Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro

Incumbent Minister of EPPC &
Chair of the Joint Trustees-EPPC

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - 2019

Your Ministry and Personnel team, Maureen Bee, Larry Cochran, Pat Greenhorn, Arie Hoogenboom and me (as Chair) has worked together to become familiar with the responsibilities M & P brings.

We have met with Rev. Takouhi to update ourselves on both the good things happening in our Charge and whatever concerns arise.

One of our major tasks this year was to renew Rev. Takouhi's annual covenant, and it was during this process that we realized many in our congregations are not familiar with the terms within that covenant. A goal is to keep our congregations educated and informed, which resulted in an article in the Spring newsletter. We will continue to do our best in this area.

Another major task was to search for a new EPPC secretary upon Norma Cummings' retirement. Although Norma isn't going anywhere, she decided it was time to vacate the office, and we welcomed Annette Clarke at the end of October.

The congregations celebrated with Norma in the usual style...a potluck luncheon with terrific food!

The members of M & P encourage you to ask questions when you need answers and pass along compliments when they are deserved.... We appreciate all opportunities to keep the channels of communication open.

Jan Haskin, Chair

ELGIN/PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Another successful year is underway at South Crosby Public School with three dedicated volunteers (Elizabeth Wright, Jane Simpson and Cathy Ryan) with the Breakfast Program. The routine has changed slightly this year with the new times of school so numbers maybe down since outside play first thing in the morning seems to have lowered our numbers to approximately 12-14 per morning with Tuesday being our day to be on deck. Mr. Belfour, the new principal continues to support this program recognizing how important breakfast is to better concentration and learning. Breakfast consists of cereal, milk and juice and most of all "A Big Smile" and interactions while these precious little ones as they fill up their tummies.

Submitted by Cathy Ryan

FOUR RIVERS CLUSTER YOUTH REPORT

Wow! 2019 has been another year of having the pleasure to travel and witness the many gifts and talents of our young people in these communities. Over the past five years our numbers in total have grown from five to approximately 30 ages 9 to 18 that have joined in the fellowship, activities and various trips not only to the local churches, but to Smiths Falls, Prescott, Inverary, Battersea and to Niagara Falls.

Alex Price has certainly been a shining star with sharing her gift of music not only in her own congregation of Elgin, but received a standing ovation at our first new Regional Meeting in Prescott where she sang to 200+ adults "How Great Thou Art" She has also had two opportunities to share her voice with Battersea and Inverary United Churches at their youth service. Emily and David French also accompanied her on one occasion where they shared pictures and stories of their trip to El Salvador which Alex as well had travelled the year before with Pauline French.

GST REBATE	\$	682.99	
Donation Canada Helps	\$	2,368.65	
Donation receipt by EPPC	\$	10,539.72	
Peace Through Education	\$	1,073.35	
PHOTO COPIER USE	\$	162.48	
ELGIN-PORTLAND ASSESSMENTS	\$	103,100.00	
Propane Income	\$	550.00	
MANSE INCOME	\$	11,300.00	
Manse donations receipt by PUC/EUC	\$	2,500.00	
Loan		\$4,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$	<u>147,312.77</u>	<u>\$ 147,312.77</u>

FUNDS ON HOLD

Manse Last Months rent	\$	300.00	
Canada Helps Lebanon Project	\$	1,809.05	
EUC A/V fund	\$	2,662.03	
Total Funds on Hold	\$	<u>4,771.08</u>	<u>\$ 4,771.08</u>

Amount to be carried to 2018	\$	8,445.04	
Minus funds on hold so working cash	\$	<u>3,673.96</u>	<u>\$ 3,673.96</u>

M&S

Portland United Church UCW	\$	2,400.00	
Portland United Church	\$	9,396.65	
Elgin United Church	\$	4,940.00	
Total for M&S	\$	<u>16,736.65</u>	

Treasurers report 2019 EPPC

EPPC EXPENSES FOR 2019

EMPLOYEE WAGES AND BENEFITS

MINISTER	\$ 71,163.05	
CRA	\$ 1,722.05	
COMMUNICATION ALLOWANCE	\$ 1,800.00	
SECRETARY	\$ 11,101.89	
Pulpit supply	\$ 2,160.00	
TOTAL	<u>\$ 87,946.99</u>	<u>\$ 87,946.99</u>

OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES

EDUCATION	\$ 1,500.00	
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	\$ 1,000.00	
MILEAGE	\$ 4,610.19	
PARKING	\$ 130.00	
EOOR Conference	\$ 75.00	
WSIB	\$ 355.81	
TOTAL	<u>\$ 7,671.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,671.00</u>

MANSE EXPENSES

Hydro	\$ 178.48	
Propane	\$ 660.77	
INSURANCE	\$ 1,494.72	
TAXES	\$ 666.25	
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	\$ 12,848.20	
PROPERTY MANAGER	\$ 600.00	
TOTAL MANSE	<u>\$ 16,448.42</u>	<u>\$ 16,448.42</u>

OFFICE EXPENSES

PHONE	\$ 1,243.56	
INTERNET	\$ 1,571.82	
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 2,183.76	
PHOTO COPIER USE	\$ 1,590.40	
TOTAL OFFICE	<u>\$ 6,589.54</u>	<u>\$ 6,589.54</u>

OTHER CHARGE EXPENSES

Loan Payment	\$ 1,500.00	
BANK SERVICE CHARGE	\$ 15.25	
Gifts Given M&P	\$ 175.01	
BULLETINS	\$ 156.42	
A/V Upgrades EUC	\$ 2,337.97	
EVANGELISM	\$ 1,557.90	
WORSHIP	\$ 1,224.63	
EUC Challenge Donation	\$ 5,000.00	
Canada Helps Payout	\$ 1,797.60	
MUSIC LICENSE	\$ 207.00	
UCC Assessment	\$ 6,240.00	
TOTAL OTHER	<u>\$ 20,211.78</u>	<u>\$ 20,211.78</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 138,867.73**

**Elgin United Church
Annual General Meeting
Sunday March 24, 2019**

In attendance:

Sandra Smith, Ted Brett, Clint Halladay, Jim Earl, Alex Price, Pat Greenhorn, Leighton Coatsworth, John Carley, Joanne McLean, Heather Gribben, Marian Steacy, Frank Allan, Charalee Smith, Brian Blowes, Rev. Takouhi., Ed Speers, (chair). Margaret Ross, Donna Bennett, Paul Simpson, Barb Rowat, Karen Earl, Sean Price, Jane Simpson.

Regrets: Mark Bee

In the absence of Secretary Mark, Margaret Ross recorded the proceeding.

Opening comments - chair (Ed) - Welcome

Opening prayer and lighting the Christ candle - Rev T

Remembering the Saints of the Past - (3 inadvertent omissions) Verona Franklin Aug 29, Bill Franklin Nov 13, Loree Smith Oct 9

Call for any additions to agenda - none

Approval of agenda - Motion Clint, 2nd Paul, CARRIED

Approval of minutes - correction - typo Reb. changed to Rev. Takouhi Motion Jim, 2nd Paul CARRIED

Discussion of reports: All reports are considered moved by the writer. Motion by Paul to approve all reports at end of discussion, 2nd Ted CARRIED

Christians Youth and Young adult (CYAYA) - Pat G - report as submitted. Alex has volunteered to help out when needed. June 5 - inaugural meeting for Youth in new region

Membership and Sacraments - report as submitted - (no representation)

Music report - Jim E. - as written - Clint commented we are blessed to have such a great music program. Ed likes to play "name that tune" with music played during offering.

Property - Jim E. - as written - questions? Sandra asked about the tree beside the Centennial hall. Has interfered with the septic system. Jim will try to manage. Decided to keep it. Clint: Kudos to Jim for all the work he does with the property.

Audio/Visual report - Marg R. - as written - Sandra: more kudos to Brian and team for keeping it running smoothly.

EDCNS (Nursery School) - Jim E - as written - questions? re: relocation. This is not happening, instead they are adding programming in the former flower shop space.

Profit loss (should read Income and expense) - Joanne - she is using a new format for detailing.

Joanne is encouraging PAR to provide more consistent giving habits. Offerings are not enough to support the operating expenses. Can anything be cut back? Telephone - this is necessary. Re: envelopes - Sandra asked if envelopes are needed when people are using PAR. Minimum order is 150 even though we need far less. Ted - could we combine with Portland for ordering to manage cost? Conclusion - not much can be cut in the way of expenses.

World vision child - not showing on the income and expense. Should be total income from Jessie Tree and total paid out for World Vision to be more clear.

Snow removal also should be itemized as an expense on the Income and Expense report (has been looked after by Jim E.)

Pat G - thanks to Joanne for doing all the work of treasurer.

Social committee - Joanne - as written. Only 2 dinners in 2018 (Fish Fry and Feast of Stephen), neither of which were as profitable as in the past. Comment from Paul - because we have smaller numbers to help, the food is not as good as in the past. Not as much homemade any more. He suggests less meals, better quality. Ed suggests we discuss at a council meeting how we to deliver this in future.

Jim E - 2nd accepting all reports as written. CARRIED

New business – none

Rev T. thanked all for the time she had for sabbatical.

Elections/acclamation –

A. Chair - Ed continues for 2nd year with Charalee as assistant chair

B. M & P EUC rep - Pat G is considering

Clint moved we accept nominations/acclamations. Ted 2nd. CARRIED.

Remarks of outgoing chair -

Ed was considering giving up the chair position and running away. Instead, he tuned in to YouTube (thanks to Brian) and realized all the love and support he had here and decided to continue.

Even though the books show a deficit, we managed to stay afloat. We were down significantly in our fund-raising and he thanked Joanne for stepping forward in organizing some events for this coming year. The main problem is that we don't have enough coming in through offerings.

He would like to see more people in the pews and get the offerings up. This problem is not unique to EUC or EPPC. It is happening across the world and particularly with the United Church. He believes we have a great thing going here and he looks forward to coming each week. We can look at this as a problem or as a new and exciting challenge

going forward. We are about 3 generations past the time when everyone went to church. We have an obligation to try and promote the love that we find here and that sustains us. Saturday March 30 there will be a meeting with area rural churches to try and share ideas about moving forward and how we can work and grow better together. He thanked everyone for the support and looks forward to working together for the coming year.

Closing Prayer - Rev T.

Adjourned - 2:25 pm

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES 2019

Change. That continuous, evolutionary, often frightening, always eventful constant that shapes our future and draws us to action. 2019 has certainly been such a year; politically, environmentally, socially and spiritually. There have been monumental occurrences that must be considered with reflection for 2019 and prayer for 2020.

I have stated previously that in a world that measures everything by indices and algorithms, we must take care to not reduce the work of the church to a series of numbers: number of members, number of attendees at worship, number of volunteers, number of children, number of baptisms, number of patrons lost, amount of giving's, etcetera. Although these are important statistics, the story of Elgin United is far more than a column of figures. It is an incredible breadth of experiences shared sometimes with special friends, sometimes in our own solitude. Experiences fostered by our relationship with God and His Grace. We are, and continue to be, a welcoming congregation. As such, Council has voted unanimously to begin our exploration of the journey to become an Affirming Church.

Looking through the lens of sharing and inclusivity, Elgin United has been busy. Our regular worship services are inspirational and reasonably well attended, although there is always room for more! Our music program goes above and beyond, proving over and over that great things do come in small packages. We have held amazing community dinners, hosted an awesome Festival of Small Halls concert, hosted a Some Kind of Choir concert, sold scrumptious Easter Eggs, held our first community family Christmas Potluck with Santa Claus and gifts for the children, packed some 30 bags with items for the Elgin Food Bank, made building repairs, and supported both distant and local missions, to name just some of our undertakings. I am sure I have inadvertently missed some. A big thank you to all those who planned, led and contributed to the success of these ventures. Why? Because our fundraising is a way and means of supporting ministry to ourselves, to others and to the planet, helping us share God's Grace at home and beyond.

We undertook a successful fundraising campaign which improved our financials, and thanks to the generosity of a specified donor we have replaced our aging analog mixer/soundboard with a state of the art digital one. Also, as part of the specified donation, we are at the decision stage of purchasing a new camera for videoing and streaming worship services and events. Thank you to all who stepped up. These tools are yet another way for us to share the wonders of God beyond our four walls.

Further details concerning Elgin United are found in the various reports comprising this Annual Report of Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge. Please read them carefully and be buoyed by the joy and wonders of God's work. May the Grace of God be the pathway of our journey.

Yours in Service,

Clinton Halladay,

for Chair Elgin United Church Council

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT 2019

There is lots of learning and growth happening in Sunday School, even though our numbers are small, with one to three children weekly. We used the "SPARK -Activate Faith" curriculum this past year, which includes lots of discussion and activities in each lesson. The program also reflects the church calendar, so we covered New Testament and Easter stories in the winter and spring, and Old Testament lessons leading up to Advent.

During Lent, we engaged in a joint project with Portland congregation to raise funds for students at the Iglesia Baptista school in El Salvador, which some of our youth and adults visited on mission trips. The generous support of the congregation resulted in \$1,385 in donations and allowed us to sponsor three students for primary school for a year. This will be life changing not only for these students but will have a positive impact on the whole community as these children become future leaders.

In May, Kayleb and Ella created artwork for bookmarks that were given out to all the women in the congregation on Mothers Day. It was our way of letting them know how special and loved they are. In June, we gave out small chocolate basketballs to all the men on Fathers Day, to show how thankful we are for them (and to celebrate the Raptors win!). I have organized a children's basket including activity packs, books, and Play-Doh that is available at the back of the church for visitors or for children who wish to remain in the service. It is delightful to see Michaela to go and pick out her supplies each week! If you have any children's Christian books, or have time to pick up markers or crayons, I welcome any donations you might have for the 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 2019

In 2019, the Membership and Sacraments committee provided the elements for communion for the congregation of Elgin United Church.

The first Sunday of each month is usually a communion Sunday, with special consideration made for the first Sundays of Lent and Advent, Easter Sunday, and Christmas Eve. Again, this year, we alternated between intinction, and serving directly to the congregation.

Gluten-free bread is used for intinction services and provided as an option when the elements are served.

Again, my sincere thanks to all those who willingly agreed to help serve and clean up. It is very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta McKinney

2019 EUC MUSIC ANNUAL REPORT

Music Director: Margaret Ross

Pianists: Margaret, Charalee Smith & Karen Earl

Organists: Margaret & Charalee

Margaret provided anthem and service music leadership from the piano & electric piano and directed the choir. Charalee and Karen were assistant accompanists.

Senior Choir:

<u>1st Soprano</u>	<u>2nd Sopranos</u>	<u>Altos</u>	<u>Tenors</u>	<u>Basses</u>
Michelle Knapp	Mary Carbino Karen Myers Kathryn Patterson Marion Steacy	Karen Earl Charalee Smith Maureen Bee	John Carley Jim Earl Sandra Smith	Gordon Earl Graham Lowe Adrian Overdulve Morgan Wright

We welcomed Kathryn and Maureen in September. We invite everyone who enjoys singing to consider joining our choir. Rehearsals are Thursday nights, September through June, from 7:30 to 9:00pm, to provide anthems and choral support for service music.

Librarian / Resource Persons: Charalee & Margaret. Charalee continues to develop our music library database with help from Lydia and Margaret, facilitating her mission to harmonize choir music with worship liturgy.

Assistant: Marion Steacy

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

Duets: Ysabella Ross & Lydia Smith

Percussion: Charalee, Sandra, Rasa & Jamie

Guitar: Sean Price/acoustic & Jamie Hodgson/bass

Flute: Jaime Burt

Choir Director for Joint Choirs: Margaret Ross & guest director Tim Stiff

Pianist/Organist for Joint Choirs: John Duperron & Margaret

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

Soloists and Groups who supported our summer music program:

Soul Purpose

Alan Androski

Portland Pealers

Alex Price

Michelle Knapp

Mariana Bell

Soul Purpose Ladies

Rasa Krokys

Charalee Smith

Special Services & Occasions:

- April 13 – Some Kind of Choir Concert (Westport Community Choir) with members from Portland and Elgin choirs. Soul Purpose and The Westport Connection (five seniors with stringed instruments) were guest performers. Proceeds for RDHS music program
- April 19 – Joint Good Friday Service at EUC
- April 28 – Joint Low Lay Music Service, PUC, led by Liz Church

- May 12 - Mother's Day: Men's Chorus – Mark Bee, Gord, Graham, John, Morgan, Adrian, Leighton Coatsworth & Jim
- June 16 – Father's Day: Ladies Chorus – Marion, Mary, Sandra, Charalee, Karen E., Maureen Bee, Michelle, Roberta McKinney, Pat Greenhorn, Anne Overdulse, Lydia, Ysabella & Andrea Thompson
- June 30 – Joint Hanna Park Picnic Service (PUC due to rain) Graham & Morgan were lay music leaders.
- Sept 29 – Joint Choir at PUC
- Oct 27 – Joint choir at PUC for Norma's retirement celebration
- December 1 – Westport Knox Presbyterian Advent Candlelight Service, directed by Joanne Lambert, 7:00 pm: Michelle, Charalee, Karen E., Graham & Jim were members of this Ecumenical Choir. Margaret was accompanist. Several Portland choir members also participated.
- Dec 15 – PUC Portland Peelers – music ministry with chimes.
- Dec19 – Joint choir practice and choir party
- Dec 22 – Joint Cantata at EUC: The Thrill of Hope with guest conductor Tim Stiff.
- December 27 – Joint Low Lay Music Service, PUC, 10:00am: Cantata excerpts, directed from the piano by Margaret. Service preparation & Worship Leader – Charalee

Choir Parties: June 23, hosted by Margaret & Dec 19 joint EUC/PUC in conjunction with joint cantata rehearsal at EUC

Music Director:

- Salary: Monthly salary increase – yr two of three Sunday honorarium for alternates to Margaret
- Holidays: March 3 (Charalee), June 30 (Graham & Morgan)

Committee Meetings:

- Margaret represented Music Ministry on the PC Worship Committee

Instruments:

- Organ: The organ has been removed from service in order to improve the location of the Julianna piano relative to the choir. The electric piano can duplicate the organ experience in addition to other instruments.
- Julianna grand: Continues to provide quality music. It was tuned in April.
- Yamaha piano: This piano is no longer used on a regular basis but requires continued tuning. Council has authorized us to offer it for sale.
- Yamaha keyboard: In September the 2013 Silver model was traded in for a new, lighter Black model that has improved sound and is more portable for singing opportunities outside the church. Margaret purchased this keyboard for use by EUC.
- Electric Piano: Margaret makes this instrument available to the church to compliment the Julianna.
- Percussion Instruments: Margaret provides an assortment of drums and shakers.

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

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

Jim Earl, Chair

2019 EUC PROPERTY ANNUAL REPORT

Needing Attention:

1.Sanctuary lath & plaster – repair cracks and paint: No Action

2.Lower Hall – further floor tile restoration plus concrete spot repairs and repainting, resulting from high ground water table: Minimum Action.

A May quote to install ‘waterproof click vinyl plank’ from Duncan Peer was \$8,000.00. Taping and mats were interim solutions.

3.Fellowship Room roof - shingle maintenance: No Action.

A spring 2020 assessment/quote from CW Roofing has been requested.

4.Repointing – regular maintenance of exterior stonework: No Action.

A major restoration by Gordon Norwood Masonry was undertaken in July 2011. All necessary repointing was completed, with no structural issues identified. The cost was \$17,000. The recommendation to budget \$5000 every five years for maintenance has not been met. There are maintenance issues requiring attention.

5.Vision for reconfiguring choir loft/piano-organ orientation continues: Action.

In 2018 the rear third riser was removed and the pew was replaced with brown cloth chairs, the organ was disconnected and moved to the front wall adjacent to Bell Tower door, and the piano was shifted nearer the centre of the loft. In 2019 the remaining first and second row pews were replaced with brown cloth chairs. The next phase envisioned could be to expand the first riser at the chancel to accommodate larger groups of performers.

6. Mature Maple in east yard adjacent to propane tank: Spring pruning of roots between the church and manse to protect the manse septic tank.

7.Centennial entry porch requires restoration: No Action due to cost over-run for tower louvers.

The contractor booking for restoration in 2019 was deferred. The Nursery School offer to apply for a grant was transferred to the higher priority Hall flooring opportunity.

8.Centennial entry door latch - damaged – partial stabilization: No Action

9.Centennial sidewalk – leveling: No Action

10.Reseeding of west lawn: No Action

11.Carpet replacement at Main and Centennial entries: No Action. Nursery School funding possible.

12.Proper platform for Promotional Yard Sign and purchase additional letters: Additional letters purchased in December. No Action re platform. Lighting repair required.

13.Restore Church Yard Sign: No Action. Lighting repair also required.

14.Handicap sidewalk railing – paint: No Action

15.Sanctuary rear ceiling fan – clean: No Action. Fan runs intermittently so use has been terminated.

16.Wooden Park Bench – Paint: No Action.

17.Maintenance of Sanctuary carpet. No Action.

Routine Actions in 2019:

1. Winter Months: Control sidewalk ice with winter sand and limited de-icer.

With paid help from two eager primary students residual 2018/19 winter sand blanketing the sidewalk and street curb was swept up and stored in pails for use during 2019/20 season.

2. Annual January fire extinguisher inspection/maintenance: Service or replacement of certain units.

3. June 27: Annual maintenance of propane furnaces: They are 9 yrs old and assessed as needing parts replacement. \$339.00

4. Spring/Fall: Exchange of window screens and storms. Frames are caulked for both seasons to prohibit wasp access and heat loss.

5. June 13-July14: Bell Tower - Restoration of third floor louvers & trim that was started in October 2018.

Steve Collins was contracted. Manufacturing replacement slats commenced but wet weather prohibited any site work in 2018.

Steve's 2018 assessment did not result in any significant budget concern. Once restoration began in June 2019 it was clear that repairs would be significantly greater. Total cost for a comprehensive restoration was \$8,679.13. Noting that our 2016 annual report included a quote sourced by Paul for restoration of 2nd & 3rd level trim at \$7,000.00, the actual cost is not unreasonable allowing for three more years of deterioration.

6. Nov.5: Wind damage to shingles

C/W Roofing reattached ~15 sheets on the west side of the sanctuary south dormer lifted by strong winds. It was noted there is no tarpaper under the shingles. Shingles were attached by air gun nailer that does not recognize nails that hit gaps in the roof boards. Cost was \$293.

7. Nov. 27: 'No-heat' service call for Lower Hall - This furnace has not worked properly following the duct flooding on May 11 2017, occasionally tripping off. Repeated resets failed this time. A service call addressed the above 'Point 3' needed repairs and discovered an additional issue of restricted airflow. Reprogramming to limit the variable speed fan addressed much of the overheating issue. During testing they found that the north in floor duct was plugged again due to further duct liner failure from water damage. It was recommended we install ceiling ducting. This would probably require replacement of the furnace due to its design for in floor ducting. This would have to be done before any flooring replacement could proceed. Cost for service call was \$435.40

8. Routine Tasks:

Cleaned eaves troughs

Restore pew upholstery trim prior to public events.

Chair maintenance: missing footpads & loose legs

Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors: replace dead batteries and expired detectors, and test monthly.

Notify Water Quality Management when UV system alarms occur.

Many of our stewards:

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

Exterior Decorations: Ted Brett

Flower Beds: Caring hands needed

Kitchen: Caring hands needed

Custodial Services: Jane Simpson

Lawn-care: Jim Earl

Snow removal: French's Trucking was contracted to plow shoulder parking for the last three seasons.

Cost for 2018/19 was \$339.00. French's retired and Lynn Brothers Construction was contracted for the 2019/20 season at \$50 per event. Entry sidewalks snow removal – Jim, with occasional help.

Coffee Counter Coordinator: June Smith and her teams

Trustees: Adrian Overdulse, Ted Brett, Ab Emmons, Roberta McKinney and Jim Earl

Consult Paul Simpson re electrical & service/maintenance strategies.

Street Sign: Clint Halladay & Friends

Photocopier Supplies and Care: Friends

Candelabra maintenance: Alex and Roberta McKinney

Defibrillator maintenance: Alex

Use of Facility Booking: Paul Simpson and Clint Halladay

Community Use of Facilities:

AA: Centennial and Fellowship rooms weekly, plus Hall for special occasions or alternate if required.

Nursery School: Five days a week, 9:00 – 1:30; Centennial classroom, Hall, Lower Washrooms and backyard. This program parallels the Public School Calendar and involves one teacher and up to five children per day.

Some Kind of Choir: April 13 Choral Concert with proceeds for RDHS instrument repairs

Halladay Burial Place: June 2nd for Annual Memorial Service if weather is inclement

Use of Kitchen rental: Aug. 6

Festival of Small Halls': Sept. 29

Nursery School: Oct. 13 Board Meeting

Funeral Reception for Bruce Teepell: Oct. 29

Paint Night Fundraiser: Oct. 29

Country Roads Community Health Centre: Dec. 6, 2:30 – 9:00, Centennial & Fellowship rooms used for 'Volunteer Youth Training' and celebration party.

Public Christmas Party: Dec.15, Fellowship

Nursery School Christmas Party: Dec. 21, Hall

Property Committee

Jim Earl, Clint Halladay, Margaret Ross & Graham Lowe

2019 AUDIO VISUAL REPORT

The A/V team continued to provide technical support for our worship services and events throughout 2019.

EUC once again hosted a concert by the Westport community choir "Some Kind of Choir". This, along with the second concert in Westport, were fund-raising events to support the instrumental music program at RDHS.

In September, The Festival of Small Halls used our sanctuary for one of their concerts which featured Matthew Byrne, a singer/guitarist from the East Coast. Attendance was good and we were pleased to have the opportunity to showcase our space as an attractive venue for such events. Our aim is to promote this more going forward.

The annual Feast of Stephen took place in November. Equipment and audio support were provided by the A/V team for the event. Following the dinner, entertainment was provided by Alex, April and Ella Price along with Wayne Sly on guitar.

Brian was asked again to run the sound system at the annual Westport Ecumenical Concert on December 1, 2019 at Knox Presbyterian church. A number of EUC choir members participate. The A/V fund raising efforts continue to pay for piano tunings, music, equipment maintenance and improvement. This year we had the good fortune to receive a donation that enabled the purchase of a new mixing board. This is much smaller as well as being more user friendly. This generous donation will also be used for new video equipment to continue to make Sunday worship services available online through the EPPC website. The A/V team in conjunction with Gay Petro and Mary Daniels are currently examining suitable options. 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: Clint Halladay, Brian Blowes, Jamie Hodgson, Ysabella Ross and Lydia Smith for their technical support with sound and PowerPoint. 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

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
Income and Expenses
Jan 01, 2019 to Dec 31, 2019

2020

	2018	2019	NOTES	BUDGET
Tithes & Offering	59807	74148		70000
Challenge including donors \$5000		16756		_____
Fund Raising				_____
Paint night		588		
Yard & bake sale Elgin Days		709		600
Totes		88	still some on hand	
Easter eggs \$2581 - \$1357		1223		1200
Social Committee		3908	see Social report	5000
Audio Visual Grant	5000			
Audio Visual Income		1500	Addison CD's	2000
Audio Visual Grant used	-3605			_____
Music Donations	105	300		_____
A A	600	1000		1000
Nursery School	2000	2400		2400
U S Exchange	46			_____
TOTAL RECEIPTS	63953	102620		82200
Advertising		133	letters for sign	_____
Bank service charge	140	126	Par service charge	120
Bursary	250			
RDHS		250	from EUC memorial bursary	_____
Alex		2252	from EUC memorial bursary	_____
Conferences & Meetings	585			500
Decorating		300	palm branches/xmas tree	100
Envelopes	148	-91		100

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
Income and Expenses
Jan 01, 2019 to Dec 31, 2019

	2018	2019	NOTES	BUDGET
EPPC Assessment	44000	51500		54000

Insurance	3950	4922	Preauth fixed amt \$408.94	4900
Music Director	6037	10552		10560
Broadview (Observer)	126	125		200
Outreach	154	614		200
Supplies				
Coffee	140	193		200
Communion	25			100
Office	357	451		500
Paper towels, etc.		137		
Janitor	1510	1125		1300
Building	6391	1870		3000
Repairs for Louvres		8679	louvre expense by donation	
Telephone	793	747		840
Utilities	10308	10497	Hydro preauth fixed \$399	12000
Youth Group	850	70		300
AV Expense	1343	219		
Music Expense	110	1097	3 years	350
TOTAL EXPENSES	79235	97787		89270
NET	-15282	4833		-7070

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH REPORT CONT'D

\$11573 was received for memorials in 2019 in honour of the following giving us a balance of \$24636. Which includes the \$2000 which was transferred to EUC Memorial Bursery in 2019

Paul Simpson	Alex McKinney
Brian Martin	Bruce Teepel
Georgie Shanks	Marion Seeley
Betty Davison	Howard Martin

This gives us a balance of \$24636 which is included in the bank balance. However this has been borrowed against over the years to cover operating, I therefore consider our GIC's as Memorial Fund monies.

Monies received and dispersed to

Food Bank	1827.50
Dental Issues	910.00
Mission & Services	4865.00
Jesse Tree (El Salvador)	1385.00

Bank balances as of Dec 31, 2019

G I C	\$10,112	Haven't received T5 for interest for 2019
Benevolent	729	
Operating	\$25,701	

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH SOCIAL REPORT 2019

In 2019 we held 5 dinners

Fish Fry	Door receipts	\$ 1540
Chicken & Ribs	Door receipts	\$ 2102
Steak BBQ	Door receipts	\$ 2096
Harvest Dinner	Door receipts	\$ 1964
Feast of Stephen	Door receipts	\$ 1804
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$ 9506
Expenses for these dinners		\$ 6386

We also catered FOSH concert and refreshments	\$ 552
A funeral reception	\$ 275
Two paint nights	\$ 588
Kitchen rental	\$ 40

Kitchen supplies (two used chafing dishes purchased) \$ 80

Joanne McLean

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
March 17, 2019
Gathering Place of the Church

MINUTES TO BE HANDED OUT AT THE 2019 AGM

CHAIR OF COUNCIL REPORT - PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH

You Can't Walk on Water if You Don't Get Out of the Boat, I had attended a Christian Education Workshop/Retreat with Eleanor Glenn in Lyndhurst and prior to this I had been asked if I would consider being the Chair of Council. As listening and talking to Eleanor, this title came up and I had an "aha" moment, thinking I will never know what I can do if I don't step out of my comfort zone. Well, that was 5 years ago and through some ups and downs, I have proved to myself I could do it but I certainly couldn't have done it without the support of all the Council members and Rev. Takouhi.

I want to say thank you to the Community and the Congregation, we were able to be successful at our 2020 and Beyond Fundraising Initiative. I want to thank Will French and Duncan Pickard for all the hard work they did to make this a success.

I want to thank the UCW for their dinners, pie sales and everything they do and their support to our Church.

I want to thank all the Council members for the support I have received over the past year. I want to especially thank Duncan Pickard for taking such good care of our finances and who also has been a great support when I needed advice.

Writing this report is bittersweet as it is the last Council Chair report I will be writing as I hand over the Chair position to Hansen Downer.

Katy Gibson

2019 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. The Trustees joined with Council and other committees in helping campaign for '2020 and Beyond' - a one-time fundraising initiative to seek financial support from the community in the form of donations to our Long Term Investment Fund. Through the generosity of former and current members over the past years, and in conjunction with the almost \$35,000 raised through '2020 & Beyond', Portland United Church has a current Investment Fund of approximately \$151,000 - up from approximately \$114,000 on December 31, 2018. Our Investments are held by Canoe Financial.

In 2019, 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. Council in 2019 passed a motion to suspend withdrawing \$3,000 from the Investment Fund to support youth activities in the local area, but Council did draw on reserves from the \$3,000 withdrawn in 2018 to support Youth during 2019. The hope moving forward is that Council will ear-mark a fundraiser as specifically dedicated toward raising funds on an annual basis in support of area Youth activities. In addition, however, the Investment Fund also supported the General Operating Fund with an additional \$6,000. In all, the Investment Fund supported the works of Portland United Church with \$10,000.00 in 2019.

In 2019, Council passed a motion that would hold withdrawals from the Long Term Fund at 6% in any given year, or \$9,000 in 2020, to support the delivery of a Balanced Budget at the Congregational Annual General Meeting. The Trustees are very encouraged with this motion and the sustainability that should ensue with our Long Term Investment Fund.

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 and subsequently, Council, accepted the resignation of Pamela Cairncross in 2019. Remaining Trustees include Keith Haskins, Sheila McKeage, William French, Doug Bond and Bruce Haskin. William French acts as the Trustees liason with Canoe Financial. All trustees are members of Portland United Church.

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

In Christ,

Will French
Portland United Church Trustees Chair

Portland United Church Christian Education Treasurer's Report-2019

Income Statement

For the period 1/1/2019 to 12/31/2019

REVENUE		
	40000	Tax-Received Gifts
	40101	Received transfers cyaya
		274.00
	40102	Received transfer foster child
		335.00
	40103	Received transfers El Salvador
		320.00
		TOTAL Tax-Received Gifts
		929.00
	42000	Non-Received Gifts
	42100	non received transfers cyaya
		18.75
	42103	non received transfer El Salvador (Elgin)
		1,385.00
		TOTAL Non-Received Gifts
		1,403.75
	45000	Interest Income
		0.04
TOTAL REVENUE		2,332.79
EXPENSE		
	55000	Charitable Contributions
	55010	Plan Canada
		504.00
	55030	El Salvador
		1,705.88
		TOTAL Charitable Contributions
		2,209.88
TOTAL EXPENSE		2,209.88
NET INCOME		122.91
Starting Bank Balance		639.10
Net Income For Period		122.91
Direct Transfers		0.00
Ending Bank Balance		762.01

PORTLAND SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

This past year has seen many changes to the way in which we strive to involve the children and youth in our worship services.

In May, we said farewell to our dear friend and long time teacher, Peggy Bond, who devoted herself to connecting with the children and youth of our congregation. Her sincerity and commitment was an inspiration to us all.

This fall, in lieu of weekly Sunday School classes, we created a basket of learning and colouring resources for our youth and young visitors to enjoy in the sanctuary during Sunday services. The nursery area continues to be available in the Friendship Room as needed. Children and youth have had fun learning and worshipping together through a variety of activities including Vacation Bible School in July and various regional youth events throughout the year.

We continue to reach out to our foster children through the Plan International program and the Iglesia Bautista scholarship program in El Salvador. We thank the congregation for your support of these mission efforts, and ask for your continued prayers for the children and youth of our church family and community, that they will continue to grow in the knowledge and understanding of God's gracious Love.

In Christ, Pauline French

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH WOMEN ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019

We welcomed Liz Church this year so now have twelve active members and we are always looking for more. Our executive consists of Connie Cochran, President, Cheryl Stoddard, Secretary, Mary Jane Leblanc, Treasurer, Cheryl Stoddard, Friendship Committee and Sheila McKeage, Social Convener.

We assisted the families of Peggy and Jeff Bond, Grace Herter, Beryl Kelly and Brian Martin with celebrations of their lives.

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. We added a turkey dinner as a specific fund raiser for the 2020 and Beyond Campaign as well as a concert featuring The Grateful, We're Not Dead and both were very successful.

These events generated enough funds to meet our M&S goals, Presbytery dues, help with church expenses, including the major fund raiser 2020 and Beyond, provide support to area mission work such as the local charities, including Portland Food Bank, Cases of Caring, 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.

On behalf of the Portland UCW I would like to thank everyone that helped with the events for 2019. We have an amazing congregation and community that steps up to work with us for all our fund-raising efforts.

Connie Cochran
President

U.C.W. FINANCIAL REPORT 2019

UCW FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Dec. Year End Financial Report

Period:

December 2019 Year End Financial Report

January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

INFLOWS

Opening Balance		\$	2,242.89
March Beef Dinner		\$	853.00
AGM Luncheon		\$	171.00
	Sales		
Cookbook Sales	(4)	\$	130.00
Interest		\$	0.21
Offering		\$	567.00
Pie Sales		\$	6,035.50
Fund Raisers		\$	3,529.66
Donations		\$	<u>1,436.60</u>
Total Inflows		\$	14,965.86

OUTFLOWS

Mission & Service		\$	2,400.00
Claire French		\$	500.00
Presbyterial Dues		\$	91.00
Friendship (Cheryl)		\$	113.40
Cookbooks (10)		\$	199.00
Kitchen Supplies		\$	2,850.90
Bank Charges		\$	4.00
2020 Fund Donation		\$	4,000.00
Calendars		\$	52.50
DIFFERENCE		\$	55.70
Food Bank		\$	500.00
Benevolent Fund		\$	200.00
Christmas Gifts		\$	300.00
Cases for Caring		\$	150.00
PUC General Fund		\$	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Outflows			\$13,416.50

Currant Balance **\$1,549.36**

NOTE: UCW has \$300.00 cash on hand

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH PROPERTY REPORT FOR 2019

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 the Sanctuary has been enhanced with hi-efficiency units.

Outside, a new drained pipe was installed at the back of our Church to enhance the efficiency of our new eaves troughs.

Our Portland United Church sign which took a direct hit from half a falling maple tree last year as now been repaired.

Weekly vacuuming and dusting by Carolyn Mustard and Family.

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

Snow shovelling of walkways and lawn mowing by George Wicks.

We are in the process off receiving quotes for replacing the shingles on the roof over the Friendship Room.

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.
- We will coordinate with Mill Bay Court for the line painting in the parking lot

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHOIR REPORT 2019

Music plays an important part in our church life and we the choir members love to sing. This year has been one of change for us. Our organist/choir director, Jean-Yves Duperron directed us for 9 months and was followed by longtime summer organist, Fred Sneyd, and Karen Earl while we searched for a replacement. The first Sunday in November, we welcomed Seamus Kelly, a 17 year old high school student from Perth who is an accomplished organist and pianist.

In addition to singing every Sunday, we enjoyed Hymn Sing Sundays and joint choir services with Elgin. At Easter, we sang a cantata, One Sacrifice, and at Christmas, A Thrill of Hope with guest conductor and soloist Tim Stiff.

Several musical evenings were enjoyed over the year

1. Grateful We're not Dead in June
2. Mary's Merry Minstrels in August
3. Country Road 44 in September
4. Musical Evening with Sharon Adams on organ and piano and soloist Shawna Elizabeth in October

Choir Members

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Basses
Brontie Smith	Michele Sled	Cam McKay	Hans Downer
Vicky Zwiers	Joan Kelly	Duncan Pickard	John Noble
Bonnie Tackaberry	Liz Church		
Sheila McKeage	Katy Bond		
Anita Cox	Jan Brophy		
Helen Smith	Margaret Martin		
Christian Kelly			

Soloists/duets during the year

Kim Perrin, Hans Downer, Janet McKeage, Helen Smith, Joan Kelly, Liz Church

Our practice is every Thursday night at 7:30. We would encourage anyone who loves to sing to come and join us.

Joan Kelly and Helen Smith



Portland Pealers (a.k.a. Portland Handbell Choir)

The beginning of 2019 was a bit shaky for the Portland Pealers, as some of our members had unexpected personal challenges. Our numbers fluctuated from having only enough ringers to play Twelve Bells or two octaves, to (by year's end) having a full, three octave choir. Regardless of how many we have, ringing is our joy, and we continue to meet every Thursday evening. It is the Director's privilege to choose music, and it's such fun to introduce new music and hear, "We'll never be able to play this!" to "It's not so bad," to "When can we play this for the congregations?"

Our goal of taking the bells into the church services on a regular basis didn't quite get met, however, we were still a busy group!

In March, many of us attended a full-day workshop at Trinity Presbyterian in Carp. This was sponsored by the Roundtable of Handbell Directors of Eastern Ontario (of which Jan is a member), and included technique workshops, sight-reading music, and a fabulous concert provided by The Bronze Foundation from Toronto. We learned, rang, ate, and listened---and thoroughly enjoyed this day of camaraderie with other bell ringers.

Building on the workshop experience, Jan joined with choir members from St. Paul's Handbell Choir in Perth and Edith Rankin ringers to attend Ontario Guild of English Handbells Ringers (O.G.E.H.R.) bi-annual Festival in London, Ontario. It was the first time Jan attended a Festival, and, with the next one scheduled for Kingston in 2021, won't be the last!

In June we were invited to provide the entertainment at the annual meeting of the Lions Club in Elgin. With gaps still in the line-up, we were able to borrow the talents of Erma Seabrooke, Betty Davey and Karen Boese – life-savers, all! ...and because what goes around, comes around, three of us were able to help out Glenburnie's bell choir.

Then, at the end of June, the Pealers had the privilege of providing music for Peggy Bond's memorial. It was an emotional time as Peggy had been involved with the bells for years. At the end of July, the chimes were heard during the church service, following which we took them outside to enhance the dedication of the Peggy and Doug Bond rock you see as you enter the Friendship Room.

Peggy was a staunch supporter of the bells, and her loyalty to practices and performances was every Director's dream! We still smile when we drag out music that hasn't been played in a while and see the green and yellow pencil notes: Peggy's "signature" markings. She is sorely missed.

Our aim coming into September was to once again take our music into a church service, and when we discovered that the "Joy" Advent Sunday's bulletins featured bells... We chose to play the chimes and attend both Portland and Elgin services on the same Sunday, as it is much easier to transport chimes than bells.

Our third annual Luncheon and Treasure Table in December was our most successful yet! Proceeds from this day enabled us to donate just over \$1,200 to the general fund of PUC. Other monies that have been donated over the year have supported the purchase of new music and performance shirts—watch for them; it won't be hard to see us coming!

Our continued challenge is recruiting ringers who would be willing to fill a gap on occasion. You do not have to be a professional! As I continue to emphasize, every note an occasional ringer provides is one more than we would have without that help! ...and the beauty of being an occasional ringer is that you have the option of declining if you are not available. Please give it a thought and contact me (at the e-mail address below or in person) if you are at all interested.

Members of this wonderful choir are Went Sharp, Bruce Haskin, Margaret Martin, Cathy Ryan, Norma Cummings, Jane Pickard, Kathy Downer, Patti Evans, Katy Gibson, Carol Husband and Liz Church. They are the Portland Pealers, and I thank them all for making our practices and performances so much fun!

Finally, it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the support—both moral and financial—from the churches of the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge. Without that support, the Portland Pealers would not exist. THANK YOU.

Jan Haskin, Director

janh.acorncottage@gmail.com

PORTLAND FOOD BANK YEARLY REPORT

Another busy year at our Portland Food Bank. Our Client List has undergone so many changes this year due to a number of reasons. One of our long time clients has entered a nursing home, one family unit as moved from the area, two of our families were using another Food Bank as well as ours and pursuant to our rules we no longer offer them our services, two other families have changed Food Banks from us to Smiths Falls as they live in it's catchment area, and one family has returned to us after a year's absents So, we are left with 14 households (24 Adults and 7 Children). Each of these families receives a Good Food Box from the Country Roads Community Health Centre. The Food Boxes are ordered monthly and paid for by donations received by the Food Bank. Our clients also receive from us a Gift Certificate for bread, milk, eggs etc. as we have no refrigeration.

Donations for 2019 are over the top!! The Build a Mountain of Food Campaign alone brought in \$15,848.23 plus a new record of poundage of non-perishable food goods. The donations for 2019 totaled \$20,661.78. There were a number of Community events throughout the year attended by our Volunteers. These events brought in additional funds and food goods.

On a personal note, I would like to thank from the bottom of my heart **Louise Martin** and **Bob Tutt** , our Volunteers, for taking over the reins of our Food Bank in 2019 and will be doing so until my return.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about our Food Bank.

Cheryl Stoddard
Manager

PORTLAND FOODBANK FUNDS REPORT – 2019

Portland Food Bank as at December 31, 2019	Bank	Petty Cash		Consolidated
as at December 31, 2018			15,609.21	15,707.56
Petty Cash			98.35	
Donations			20,661.78	
			618.65	
Groceries	7,699.76	246.31		7,946.07
Gift Certificates - Gordanier	5,647.45	325.00		5,972.45
Good Food Box - CRCHC	1,775.00	465.00		2,240.00
Bank Fees	150.25	0.00		150.25
Misc		13.90		13.90
Mileage		100.00		100.00
Office Expense	55.00	22.25		77.25
Petty Cash	460.00	460.00		920.00
Total Outflows:	15,787.46	1,632.46		17,419.92
Bank Balance as at Dec 31, 2019			20,483.53	20,488.07
Petty Cash			4.54	

SHARING AND CARING COMMITTEE REPORT 2019

Our newsletter is produced twice a year and was ready June 2nd and November 24th. Our dedicated team delivered it to the door of our congregation along with a friendly visit.

If you would like additional visits or a chat on the phone, please contact one of us. Our members are: Phyllis Bell, Joan Horsfall, Jane Pickard, Janice Brophy, Betty Hoogenboom, Anita Cox, Norma Cummings, Louise Martin, Vicky Zwiers, Liz Church, Sheila McKeage, Jan & Bruce Haskin, and Rev. Takouhi. Thank you to each team member for your time and caring as you reach out to our church family.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Hoogenboom, Chair
Phone 613 402-7707

RIDEAU SEWERS – LAP QUILTS

On the second Wednesday of each month 12 to 20 experienced and new quilters gather at the Portland United Church to cut and sew lap sized quilts and to enjoy creating together.

These quilts are provided to palliative care and cancer patients and those on dialysis at the Smith Falls and Peth Hospital Campus locations and occasionally to those who are gravely ill at home.

The quilts are created at the Church as well as the homes of various members who do “homework” on behalf of the organization.

Fabric and donations come to the group from a variety of service organizations and/or individuals and the hall is donated by the church.

In 2019, the group delivered 36 such quilts to provide warmth and comfort to those in need.

We thank Portland United Church for making this space available to the group every month and, for the ongoing provision of storage space.

Jane Pickard and Gail Bury
613-272-2524
Coordinators

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH HISTORICAL REPORT
(A “Cole’s Notes” version of 2019 in Portland)

Combined Services

We joined with our sister church, Elgin UC, for various services:

- April 18 - Holy Thursday, in Elgin with Communion,
- April 19 - Good Friday Service at 4 p.m., Choir Cantata “One Sacrifice”
- April 21 - Sunrise Service – 6 a.m. on Leggett’s Hill followed by Breakfast in Portland
- April 28 - Combined Service – in Portland led by both Choirs
- June 30 - Church in the Park Combined Service 11 a.m. with music leaders Graham Lowe and Morgan Wright followed by picnic – this year changing to sandwiches rather than having a BBQ
- July 14 – Elgin Days Weekend – combined service in Elgin
- September 29 – Combined Service – Portland (Elgin preparing for a “Small Halls” concert
- October 27 – Special Combined Service – Portland followed by a potluck lunch ‘celebrating Norma Cummings’ retirement from being our Pastoral Charge Secretary for the past 10 years
- December 22 – Combined Service at Elgin with the Choirs performing the Cantata - “The Thrill of Hope”
- December 29- Combined Service in Portland led by the Choirs

Special Services

- August 4 - Portland Cemetery Service
- July 28 - near the end of the service we went outside for the Dedication of The Rock – in honour of Doug and Peggy Bond for their dedication to the church.
- November 3 - we remembered the “Saints” who had departed from our community during the last 12 months
- November 10 - Remembrance service
- December 8 - White Gift Sunday followed by a Soup and Sandwich luncheon organized by the Sunday School
- December 24 - Christmas Eve Service at 4 p.m.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion was offered on Feb 3, March 10, April 18, April 21, June 16, July 7, August 4, Sept 1, October 6, November 3, December 1, and December 24

Guest Worship Leaders

During the year, in addition to those led by Rev. Takouhi, we enjoyed services led by other Ministers, Licenced Lay Worship Leaders and Lay readers:

- January 6 - Norma Wrightly
- January 13 – Barb DeJeet
- April 7 – Liz Church (while Rev. T went to California for her brother’s funeral)
- May 19 – Barb DeJeet
- June 2 – Rev. Spivey – from Addison UC - pulpit exchange
- June 9 – Clint Halladay (Rev. Takouhi at E.O.O.R. inaugural meeting weekend)
- June 23 – Rev. Betty (Sangster) Davey
- July 21 – Reverends Tom and Kathy Walton
- September 13 – Barb DeJeet
- September 22 – Norma Wrightly
- October 20 – Charlotte Hoy
- November 17 – Norma Wrightly
- November 24 – Margaret Martin
- December 29 – Charalee Smith and Music teams

Organists

On September 1 we said farewell to Organist Jean-Yves (John) Duperron. Karen Earl played one Sunday and September 14 we welcomed former summer organist Fred Sneyd who played some Sundays until Thanksgiving. On October 20 Carol Husband played. Marg Ross played for the combined services on September 29 and October 27th. Seamus Kelly began as our new Organist/Music Director in November.

Soloists and Special Music

We enjoyed many wonderful anthems from our choir and as well various people enriched our services with their musical talents:

Jan 6 - Margaret Martin
April 28; May 26, July 28, December 15 – Portland Pealers
July 7 - Duet: Helen Smith and Joan Kelly
July 14 - Rev. Takouhi (Combined Service - EUC)
July 21 - Kim Perrin
August 25 - Duncan Pickard
November 10 - Hans Downer
December 24 – Janet McKeage, Suzy Chrysler

Cancelled/Changed Services:

January 20 – cancelled due to extreme cold, and Feb 23 because of bad weather
Sunday, July 7 - Portland enjoyed an evening service at 7 p.m. due to a planned Hydro outage in the morning.

Portland Council met – Jan 23, April 17, June 25, August 29, November 1

Fundraisers

Various fundraising activities were held throughout the year by various groups:

March 2 - UCW Gourmet Beef Stew and Chili Dinner
May 18 - Yard Sale – renting tables and space
June 22 - “Grateful We’re Not Dead” band concert
June 28 - UCW Pie Sale
July 12 - UCW Cold Supper – (for 2020 and Beyond)
Special Fundraising ongoing for “2020 and Beyond” to help replenish the long-term fund.
August 10 - Portland Yard Sale – Arie Hoogenboom (for 2020 and Beyond)
August 17 - Fiddler’s Concert – Mary’s Merry Minstrels
September 21 - County Road 44 Bluegrass Band
September 27 - UCW Annual Apple Pie Sale
October 5 - UCW Harvest Dinner (for 2020 and Beyond)
October 26 - Organ Concert with Sharon Adams and Soprano Shawne Elizabeth
November 22 – UCW Tourtière sale
December 7 – We supported the Build a Mountain of Food for the Portland Food Bank, and held a Bake sale organized by the choir and Luncheon and Treasure Table organized by the Portland Pealers (Bell Choir)

Year-round we purchased FundScrip cards and donated our empty bottles and cans to support the Food Bank with the refunds.

Other Events held at the church

Eleanor Glenn’s Message of Hope Tour – Feb 20
Portland AGM – March 17
Official Board AGM – March 27
Vacation Bible School – July 2–5
UCW Presbyterian meeting held in Portland – May 29

We welcomed new members Tom and Carolyn Bonhomme, Liz Church and Annette Clarke but had to say a very sad goodbye to many special people including Peggy Bond, Jeffery Bond, Beryl Kelly, Grace Herter, Marion Seeley and Margot Schwartz as well as good friends at Elgin.

V.I.B.E. (Venturing in Biblical Education)

Wednesdays - starting – May 1 “The Bible Makes Sense” book by Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann and starting August 14 - “Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others” book by Barbara Brown

The church was kept in good repair and looks better sporting its new eavestroughs. The yard sign damaged in the windstorm was repaired and a tree damaging the roof was removed.

Community Luncheons: We hosted 10 luncheons - with such main dishes as Chili, Beef Stew, Pulled Pork on a Bun, Meat Loaf, hot Chicken Sandwiches, and Beef and Pasta Florentine - and supported the Dental Issues Group at the same time.

Pastoral Charge Secretary

Linda Wilcox was the Supply Secretary starting Jan 23 for 3 weeks while Norma was recuperating from back surgery and a fractured wrist. Norma retired on October 31 and on November 3 we welcomed Annette Clarke as the new Pastoral Charge Secretary (effective November 6).

Pastoral Church Newsletters

Approximately 150 Spring/Summer and Advent editions were either delivered to many members by the Caring and Sharing committee or mailed. Thank you to Jan Haskin as Editor.

We updated our “King and Country” memorial lists with the names of others who served but had not been included on our list.

Church Use: We welcomed The Rideau Lake Sewers and they and the Cases of Caring Sewers each use the church one Wednesday a month

The Sunday School continued to support youth in countries much less fortunate than ours with the “Jesse Tree” fundraiser for the El Salvador scholarship programs as well as funding their foster child.

Four Rivers and then Regional Youth Events:

Feb –	Elgin UC
March 12 –	Trinity UC in Smiths Falls
April 27 –	10000 Islands Boat Cruise
June 8 –	EOOR Inaugural Meeting – Smiths Falls Community Centre – Converting Vision and Connection into Faith and Action
Sept 7 –	Lansdowne UC
October 5 –	Regional Fall Meeting – United Youth Event – The Changing Church – St. Paul’s UC Prescott
October 25-27 –	Ontario Youth Gathering in Niagara Falls

And to quote Peggy Bond, who previously always did this report (and was much better at it!):

“Indeed, [it] was a busy year. The fellowship of the Portland United Church family supported each other through hard times and times of grief. We also shared many happy times and laughter. We pray for each other, share with each other and care for each other. May it ever be so.”

Thank you, Peggy.

Norma Cummings

FUN-DRAISING FOR PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH - 2019

We continued with our FundScrip Retail Gift Card program raising just under \$600. This could be so much more if more people took part as we have only five or six fairly regular supporters. 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 and purchased for gas, groceries, specialty stores, restaurants – all sorts of major retail businesses including Wal-Mart, Dollarama, Ultramar, Independent and Food Basics. Order on the first Sunday of the month and receive your cards the following Sunday.

The major fundraiser for the year, “2020 and Beyond” was organized by the Trustees and Treasurer and was to raise money to replenish our long-term investment fund. This was supported by many, both within the congregation and beyond, but especially by the U.C.W. who, along with all their usual fundraising events held two suppers to support this initiative. Other supporting events included a yard sale with Arie Hoogenboom at the helm and “Mary’s Merry Minstrels” fiddlers concert in August.

The “Grateful We’re Not Dead” band entertained us on June 22 and “County Road 44 Bluegrass Band” returned in September, both groups playing to very appreciative audiences. The bands donate their time and talent and we certainly enjoy the results.

In October we held an Organ Concert with Sharon Adams and Soprano Shawne Elizabeth. The audience was small but very impressed with the quality of the music performed.

On December 7, it was again a big combined effort: the choir organized the Bake Sale for the church coffers (with a little UCW advice), and the Portland Pealers ran their Soup and Sandwich luncheon and Treasure Tables. It was a successful day all around.

We continue to collect “empties” (empty wine and liquor bottles and beer cans) which are then returned to the store for refunds which are given to the Portland Food Bank.

Although more of an Outreach activity, the Portland Community Luncheons were held ten times on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Any profits from the donations received for these meals goes to support the Dental Issues Group (D.I.G.).

Many quietly support our Portland Food Bank, or in various ways help within the church and in the community.

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!

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY REPORT 2019

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

We had 2 interments, and the sale of 3 plots this year.

Financial Statement

Opening balance:		\$12,057.92
Receipts:		
Bank interest.....	\$ 2.82	
Interest from Public Guardian...	\$ 107.63	
Donations.....	\$ 13,775.00	
Interments.....	\$ 415.00	
Sale of plots.....	\$ 1,950.00	
		\$16,250.45
Expenses:		
Grass Cutting.....	\$ 1,200.00	
Bank Fees.....	\$ 4.00	
Excavating for interment.....	\$ 300.00	
Paint.....	\$ 25.00	
Symposium.....	\$ 20.00	
Gravel.....	\$ 20.00	
Thor Mac (tree removal).....	\$ 800.00	
Pmt. to Public Guardian.....	\$ 650.00	
		(\$ -3019.00)
	Balance	\$25,289.37

Blaine Tackaberry
(Chairperson for Cemetery Committee)

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

<i>Income Statement</i>	2019	2018	Difference	2020
General Fund Revenue	Actuals	Actuals		Budget
Sunday Givings Rev	68,414.10	67,328.85	1,085.25	69,500.00
Concerts	1,051.00	1,390.15	(339.15)	
Bell Choir GF fundraiser	1,287.95	0.00	1,287.95	
Gift Card proceeds	560.69	603.42	(42.73)	
Other fundraising	695.75	823.00	(127.25)	
TOTAL Fundraising	3,595.39	2,816.57	778.82	5,000.00
Property Use Fees	275.00	710.00	(435.00)	0.00
TOTAL Finance and Admin rev	275.00	710.00	(435.00)	0.00
TOTAL REVENUE	72,284.49	70,855.42	1,429.07	74,500.00
EXPENSE				
General Fund Expenses				
Charge assessment Expense	51,600.00	52,800.00	(1,200.00)	52,800.00
Outreach Rev	0.00	(20.00)	20.00	
Outreach Exp	112.13	283.35	(171.22)	200.00
Observer Exp	525.00	574.89	(49.89)	50.00
Sharing & Caring Exp	91.75	0.00	91.75	100.00
Decorating Committee	0.00	36.28	(36.28)	50.00
Music Director Expense	10,680.00	12,480.00	(1,800.00)	8,000.00
Piano and Organ Maintenance	519.70	143.44	376.26	225.00
Worship Exp	281.19	0.00	281.19	250.00
Elevator Exp	700.00	700.00	0.00	800.00
Snow and Grass	3,090.00	2,944.14	145.86	3,100.00
Recurring maintenance	1,343.67	1,914.19	(570.52)	1,700.00
Custodian Expense	3,704.00	3,678.00	26.00	3,700.00
Insurance Expense	2,602.80	2,558.52	44.28	2,700.00
Hydro	3,425.11	4,279.90	(854.79)	3,500.00
Propane	5,520.36	5,241.95	278.41	5,400.00
Office expense	465.03	392.48	72.55	500.00
Envelope and PAR Rev	91.75	130.17	(38.42)	150.00
Envelopes and Par Exp	229.08	166.28	62.80	150.00
Other	0.00	40.00	(40.00)	100.00
TOTAL General Fund EXPENSE	84,981.57	88,343.59	(3,362.02)	83,475.00
NET INCOME	(12,697.08)	(17,488.17)	4,791.09	(8,975.00)
Net Designated Fund Income				
Benevolent	722.95	404.55		
Building	1,480.21	1,138.82		
Memorial	(2,020.66)	840.51		
Youth Support	(533.51)	(1,892.88)		
Choir	10.49	44.00		
Bell Choir	(355.10)	1,956.67		
Mission Works	0.00	(150.00)		
2020 and Beyond	1,000.00	0.00		
PTEL		(220.00)		
Net Designated Fund Income	304.38	2,121.67		
Total Net Income	(12,392.70)	(15,366.50)		(8,975.00)
Long term Investment Fund Support	10,000.00	19,000.00		9,000.00
Memorial Fund Support	5,000.00	0.00		

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 Bank accts

Cemetery, Food bank, CYAYA

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

Mission and Service	9,396.65
Dental Issues Group	1,198.95
El Salvador + Honduras	1,705.88
PTEL	100.00
Manse Repair	1,000.00
2020 & Beyond	33,655.75
Total	47,057.23

Revenue Comments

Overall revenue was up by 2%. General donations rose by 1.6% and Fundraising for the General Fund was up 27%. The increase in fundraising is attributed to the Bell Choir which had a very successful luncheon and Treasure Table event. Approximately \$1,300 was raised for the General Fund. Although it was the 2nd year for these events it was the first year the activity was in support of the General Fund. It should also be noted that the UCW activities not only contributed \$2,000 to our General Fund but hosted two suppers which raised \$4,000 for the 2020 & Beyond Campaign

Expense Notes

Overall expenses declined by 3.65% or \$3,114. The Pastoral Charge lead the way in expense control by reducing the Assessment by \$1,200. PUC augmented this assault on expenses with reductions in Property Expenses (\$930) Worship (\$931) and Outreach (\$109).

Dedicated Funds

PUC s major fund raiser this year was 2020 and Beyond where both the community and the congregation came together and raised \$34,655 for the Long-Term investment Fund. Of this there remains \$1000 to transfer into the fund. This money was raised to help ensure PUC is able to continue to support its Missions both in the local community and Worldwide. Again, in combination with the local community Donations for the Portland Food bank were up 6% or \$1,200. Despite the generosity to these 2 funds, mentioned above, the Benevolent, M&S and DIG donations remained flat in aggregate.

Thank-you to all who donate time and money to ensure PUC makes a positive difference to the world in which we live.

	2019	2018
Total Donations	165,568.00	140,653.00
Non Receiptable	22,110.00	24,813.00
Receiptable Donations	143,458.00	115,840.00
Par Donations	34,338.00	30,857.00
Donations by Envelop	61,358.00	56,559.00
Other donations Received	47,762.00	28,423.00

Portland United Church

Balance Sheet Comparison	12/31/2018	Income + transfers in	Expenses+ transfers out	12/31/2019
ASSETS				
General Chequing Account	15,203.70	150,933.81	148,090.84	18,046.67
Federal Sales tax Recoverable	186.64	322.77	376.79	132.62
Provincial Sales Tax recoverable	419.93	623.30	804.95	238.28
TOTAL ASSETS	15,810.27	151,879.88	149,272.58	18,417.57
LIABILITIES and FUNDS				
*** General Fund	(1,985.87)	87,284.49	84,981.57	317.05
Designated Funds				
Benevolent	2,494.19	2,422.95	1,700.00	3,217.14
Building	6,004.89	1,844.00	363.79	7,485.10
** Memorials	5,571.22	3,267.00	5,287.66	3,550.56
2020 & Beyond	0.00	34,655.75	33,655.75	1,000.00
Choir	877.80	230.00	219.51	888.29
Mission works	401.72			401.72
Bell Choir	1,339.20	969.00	1,324.10	984.10
Youth Support	1,107.12	100.00	633.51	573.61
M & S	0.00	9,396.65	9,396.65	0.00
DIG	0.00	1,198.95	1,198.95	0.00
El Salvador	0.00	3,451.07	3,451.07	0.00
Gift Card	0.00	5,960.02	5,960.02	0.00
PTEL	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Manse Repairs	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
TOTAL Designated Funds	17,796.14	64,595.39	64,291.01	18,100.52
TOTAL LIABILITIES and FUNDS	15,810.27	151,879.88	149,272.58	18,417.57

See separate income statements for these funds Food Bank, Cemetery, Cyaya

**\$5,000 of Expenses and Transfers Out was transferred to

General fund

***Includes \$10,000 transferred in from Long term investment Fund and \$5,000 from Memorial fund

Long Term Fund

	Dec-14	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19
	\$141,790	\$140,764	\$146,064	\$136,700	\$114,865	\$153,677
Withdrawals	\$16,150	\$8,124	\$7,000	\$21,000	\$21,500	10,000
Additions			\$4,000		\$2,500	33,665
Investment Income	\$17,246	\$7,098	\$8,300	\$11,636	(\$2,835)	\$15,147
Est. Return	12%	5%	5%	9%	-2%	13%

The **2020 & Beyond** fund raiser raised \$34,665 for the Long-Term Investment Fund. This puts the Investment fund at its highest level since Inception. Council has passed a motion limiting annual withdrawals to 6% of the previous years ending balance.

Appendix 1

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - 2019 GATHERING PLACE March 17, 2019

ATTENDANCE:

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

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Katy Gibson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Two items added under new business. Moved: Connie Cochran
Second: Arie Hoogenboom Carried

APPROVAL OF THE 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES: Change name of Christian Education. Moved: Cheryl Second: Betty Hoogenboom Carried

CORRESPONDENCE: None

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.

- Chair:** Report submitted and stands as written.
- Trustee:** Will French in attendance – report stands as submitted
- United Church Women:** Connie Cochran – thank you to UCW for keeping us going. UCW financial report shows how busy and generous this group is
- Property:** Doug Bond in attendance – report stands as submitted. Arie questioned if there was any insurance coverage for the loss of the church sign from the fallen tree. Doug responded that the deductible was too high to claim. Rev. T requested that the wording of the sign be changed – could the word divine be removed. Katy thanked Doug for all that he does.
- Choir:** Jean-Yves Duperron – report as submitted. Asking for more people to join the choir. Compliment given regarding the power of the small choir.
- Memorial Fund:** Doug Bond – report stands as submitted.
- Christian Education Fund:** Report stands as submitted.
- Portland Pealers:** Jan Haskin. This is such a fun group and we have a great time. Jan asked if anyone would consider joining even as a spare. Jan thanked everyone for their support. The pealers have purchased a coffee pot (same as the Friendship Room) for the Gathering Place.
- Friendship Committee:**
- Fundraising:** Norma Cummings. There are two concerts tentatively planned.
- Food Bank:** Cheryl Stoddard – since report issued we have six new clients (individuals). A new volunteer has been added to list of helpers. Busy but in good shape financially. Arie offered kudos to Hugh Colton for all his work in Rideau Lakes area.

Cemetery: Blaine Tackaberry – report submitted. Blaine would appreciate some assistance getting the cemetery data on-line.

Finance: Duncan Pickard thanked Larry Cochran for reviewing the financial reports. Larry submitted a letter to confirm all is in order. We do a lot of work. We help our contractors and subcontractors within the community as well as our giving to different groups. We are able to do this because of the “givings” of members. Our “givings” and fundraising incomes are lower and we have to look at ways to increase our income.

Positive in our expenses...energy costs are lower; we spent a lot of money over the years to improve our systems. In the first quarter we are down by approximately \$500 per month over last year. We have made the right move. The impact on our long term fund is a lower balance than two years ago. We need to focus on maintaining and increasing our LTF and maintain our influence on our local community as well as the worldwide community. Duncan welcomed everyone to join our next council meeting. Katy gave a thank you to Duncan for the stellar job he does taking care of all financial matters for the church.

Takouhi: A heartfelt thank you for 2018. Especially for giving her the opportunity to take her sabbatical and to be able to return to her homeland for the first time in 35 years. She couldn't imagine, as an 8 year old child hiding from the bombs, that she would have a place like Portland, and Canada to call her home.

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: Blaine Tackaberry **Second** Will French **Carried**

Vacant Positions:

Chair - no one applied therefore Katy Gibson agreed to continue until there is someone to take the position. Jan thanked Katy – again – for continuing this position for another year.

Vice Chair – Hans Downer will take on Vice Chair position and take over as Chair March 2020. **Moved** we accept the nomination – Jan Haskin **Carried**

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

Outreach Chair: this position remains empty. The position does not require that the individual be a full member of the church.

Goals for M&S and DIG for 2019: Katy explained that our money for DIG now is used to cover those families whose income is just over the provincial criteria but still cannot afford dental care. After discussion it was **moved** by Will French and **seconded** by Jan Haskin that the goal for M&S be \$8,000 and DIG \$2,000. **Carried**

Arie Hoogenboom encourages that more individuals go on PAR. By doing this the church is guaranteed a steady income. (If a church service is cancelled, money will still come in). Community lunches are not just for DIG...they are community outreach. Question if we should re-introduce the lunch and advertise again.

New Business:

Hand sanitizers – Cheryl requested hand sanitizers – Katy reminded they contain alcohol and have a scent. Norma advised that washing hands with soap and water is better than any other method.

Security in the church – Joan Kelly described a scenario from another church where individuals were found hiding. Joan is concerned about the doors being locked. Especially she is concerned about Norma being alone in her office. Norma said it would require a doorbell...she is content with the way it is now. Katy decided we will forward to council to discuss and to make a decision.

Closing remarks: Katy Gibson thanked all attendees for participating. She reiterated how proud and honoured she feels to be part of this church family. She commented that the help and support in this Church is awesome. Jan Haskin 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 Will French **Second:** Duncan Pickard that the meeting be adjourned.
Carried

Meeting closed at 12:00 noon and lunch was enjoyed by all.