

**THE UNITED CHURCH
OF CANADA**

**ELGIN – PORTLAND
PASTORAL CHARGE**

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



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, 2023

Kimberley Anne Ingram & Caleb Jesse Ingram February 12, 2023

NEW MEMBERS JOINED BY CONFIRMATION, 2023

NO NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER, 2023

NO NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED BY PROFESSION OF FAITH 2023

SERVICES OF MARRIAGE, 2023

FUNERALS CONDUCTED, 2023

Albert (Ab) James Overton Emmons March 18, 2023 (Inurnment Halladay Burial Place, Elgin)

Elizabeth (Betty) Hewitt, April 22, 2023 (Inurnment Halladay Burial Place, Elgin)

Daniel (Danny) Leon Burns, April 6, 2023 (Internment Halladay Burial Place, Elgin)

John Carman Eyre, July 1, 2023 Inurnment Halladay Burial Place, Elgin)

Bill Carbino, October 20, 2023 (Inurnment TBA)

Jesse Franklin James (Frank) Allen, November 8, 2023 (Inurnment TBA)

Irene Martin, November 13, 2023 (Inurnment Opinicon Cemetery)

Olga Baker – April 22, 2023 Portland (Funeral in Church)

Larry Cochran – September 21, 2023 Portland (Funeral in Church)

ELGIN PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISOR REPORT 2023

It seems hard to believe that a whole year has passed since writing my last annual report, but what a busy and fruitful year it has been for each church and the charge as a whole. My role as pastoral charge supervisor in 2023 has been largely to provide support for your councils as they continue to lead your congregations with confidence and positivity, and it remains my pleasure to do so. You have shown a willingness to embrace change, face challenges, and move forward while maintaining the things that make your churches unique and special, and for that, I commend you all. I look forward to seeing what 2024 will bring, knowing that you are well-positioned to make the very best of the opportunities that will unfold in the coming year.

Blessings to all.

JoAnne Fletcher
Pastoral Charge Supervisor
Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES APRIL 19, 2023

Note: These minutes are posted on the Pastoral Charge website as draft. They will be reposted as approved/amended following the Annual General Meeting.

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Official Board- Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, April 19, 2023, 7pm
Portland United Church

Present: Jim Earl (Chair), Will French, JoAnne Fletcher (Pastoral Charge Supervisor), Clint Halladay, Norma Cummings, Liz Church, Pauline French, Connie Cochran, Katy Gibson
Regrets: Maureen Bee, Duncan Pickard
Guests: Elizabeth Wright, Andrea Thompson

An Appreciation Ceremony was led by JoAnne Fletcher to thank the Profile Committee for their contributions.

Call to Order and Welcome: Jim Earl

Opening Prayer: Liz Church opened the meeting in prayer

Annual Reports of the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge approved by Clint Halladay and seconded by Liz Church

Slate of Officers:

Chair: Jim Earl

Portland UC Council Chair: Duncan Pickard Vice-Chair: Katy Gibson

Elgin UC Council Chair: Clint Halladay

M&P Maureen Bee

Treasurer: Ted Brett

Pastoral Care: Liz Church
Secretary: Andrea Thompson
Joint Trustees: Will French
Pastoral Charge Supervisor: JoAnne Fletcher
Pulpit Supply: Norma Cummings & Ted Brett

There being no further business, Chairperson Jim Earl declared the meeting adjourned

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CARE COORDINATOR REPORT FOR 2023

What a blessing to write to you, my friends. Without a doubt, this has been a year of ups and downs for us all. With confidence of faith in a mighty God, know with certainty that you have been carried to the Throne of Grace, in prayer, many times.

I, in particular, would send out heartfelt thanks to each of you who support me in the ministry to which I have been called. As Pastoral Care Director there have been many opportunities to share with you. I have been particularly blessed with having been able to fill in for Pulpit Ministry. While I am not sure exactly how many times this has happened, you can be assured that each time I have considered it a privilege.

Christmas services this past year were for sure a highlight for me. During that six-week time frame we shared communion, celebrated with traditional themes as well as a few new ones. The extra work put in by musicians, decorators, readers, Audio/Visual, secretarial, and others, is to be commended. Thank you each one.

Pastoral Visitation continues for both congregations. It is helpful when I receive calls from members of the congregation so that I am aware of those who need visits. If you need anything, please feel free to contact me at: 902-441-5357. This is my cell number and you will be aware that phone companies no longer change your area code when you move. So please take note of this number and don't be afraid to pick up when you see it flash across your call display. I am also available through my email at: lizchurch1@hotmail.com. You may also call the office at 613-272-2022. You can leave a message and I will return your call as promptly as possible.

Your church office continues to supply those with an email, weekly updates on the happenings at the church. Go to our Website: <https://eppc-ucc.com>. There you can subscribe to our weekly newsletter and other updates.

I have continued to write my weekly devotional. If you are not connected via Internet, we can mail/deliver you the information so that you continue to feel part of the church community. Please let us know by calling one of the above numbers and we will update your information in our database.

May you know God's presence and joy as you move through these days.

Liz Church – Pastoral Care – Elgin/Portland United Church

Ephesians 4: 16 New Life Version

**Christ has put each part of the church in its right place. Each part helps other parts.
This is what is needed to keep the whole body together.
In this way, the whole body grows strong in love.**

ELGIN PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE TRUSTEE REPORT 2023

Joint-Trustees of the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge are all members of either Elgin or Portland United Church. In all, the Joint-Trustees continued to monitor the operations of our Charge in 2023. We are primarily tasked with ensuring proper Insurance is in place and oversight of the rental of the Manse.

Insurance on the Clothing Cooperative, as operated out of the Country Roads Community Health Centre, is carried by The Bay of Quinte Mutual through Rideau Insurance. See further details in the Clothing Cooperative Report within. Directors and Officers Liability continues to be carried by Hub International through the United Church of Canada.

Insurance on the Manse is provided by Brokerlink in Perth. Rental on the Manse is received at \$1,400 per month. A new asphalt shingle roof, complete with new sheathing, was placed in the fall of 2023 with funds secured from past rent. Keith Wilson served the first part of 2023 as Property Manager before moving away.

In addition, the Joint Trustees held two social gatherings for the Charge. The first was a fish fry held at the Loonie Curling Club in the Spring. Many thanks go out to Roberta McKinney for allowing the space to be used and to Adrian and Anne Overdulse for organizing the food. In August, we celebrated the many volunteers of our Clothing Cooperative and specifically, the many years of dedication by their leader, Joan Kelly. A BBQ and time of fellowship, led by Jim and Anne Barton, was shared with about 20 volunteers and several congregants at Portland United Church.

Please reach out at any time to the following Joint-Trustees: Ted Brett, Anita Cox, Norma Cummings, Jim Earl, Katy Gibson, Roberta McKinney, Sandra Smith, Adrian Overdulse or Will French

In Christ,

Adrian Overdulse, Secretary of the Joint-Trustees and Will French, Chair of the Joint-Trustees

COMMUNITY CLOTHING CO-OPERATIVE 2023

The Community Clothing Co-op has had a very successful year in our new location at the Country Roads Community Health Centre. The community has been very generous in their donations of used clothing. This year we have been able to donate the following back into our community.

Portland Food Bank	\$1250
Elgin Food Bank	\$1250
Elgin Lions Toy Drive	\$ 300
Flex Fund CRCHC	\$ 300

Our volunteers have faithfully sorted and shelved our donations and manned the store during our open hours. We are open:

Wednesday from 1 to 3
Friday from 1 to 3
Saturday from 10 to 12

We could not operate without their help. We are also most grateful to Penny and Barry Haskin for picking up the clothing that we are unable to use. A big thank you to Mimi for organizing our volunteers.

We look forward to an equally successful year in 2024 under the new leadership of Judy Harting.

Joan Kelly
Mireille Lavigne

bjkelly@kingston.net
mlavigne123@mailcom

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE
WORSHIP PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT 2023

On January 1 we brought in the new year with an excellent joint service in Elgin, capably led by Mark Bee, Pat Greenhorn, Clint Halladay and Cathy Ryan and the EPPC Choir. This was the first of 52 more thought provoking Sunday services led by a variety of worship leaders.

Rev. Kathy Walton helped lead us to Easter at which time we thanked her most sincerely for all the times she had led us in worship over the years. She is staying closer to home now for pulpit supplying – lucky Kingston! We were very pleased to have Rev. Shaun Seaman return to lead services on 13 Sundays in the warmer months (despite knee surgery.) Rev. Doug Powell led four services in his engaging manner (one on very short notice) and, also offering a Fall session Bible Study based on the book “God Is Closer than You Think”. As well as doing Pastoral Care, our Liz Church led services on Good Friday, 8 Sundays from January to November, and then all the services through Advent and Christmas to December 31 offering us lots of inspiration and music. Other Sunday services were very ably led by Rev. Nancy Clarke, Clint Halladay, and LLWLs Norma Wrightly, Barb DeJeet and Charlotte Hoy. We appreciate the messages that all of these worship leaders offer us – it is up to us to follow through.

Portland United held funeral services for two very special people: Olga Baker, on April 27 with the worship service led by Rev. Jill Turnbull and Larry Cochran, on September 29 with worship led by Rev. Takouhi.

Elgin United lost dear friends as well: Ab and Elsa Emmons, joint service on July 22 with a service led by Liz Church in the church, Frank Allen, service in Scotland’s Chapel on November 18, and Irene Martin, service in the church on November 25 led by Rev. Takouhi.

“It was a dark and stormy night” . . . when the worship committee met in August to do some planning. Ted Brett, Liz Church, Norma Cummings, Pauline French, Will French, Roberta McKinney (Anne Overdulse, backup) and Morgan Wright are on the committee.

Advent service dates and Christmas service times were decided as well as the following Communion dates for the rest of 2023 and into 2024:

- October 1, Worldwide Communion
- November 26, 1st of Advent
- December 24, Christmas Eve
- February 18. 1st of Lent
- March 28, Maundy Thursday
- March 31 – Easter
- and probably one in June

Communion Service styles will vary depending on who is leading them.

Following a productive meeting all left into the wind and pouring rain. Please feel free to speak to a committee member if you have a worship service idea that you would like to bring forward.

Respectfully submitted, Ted Brett, Norma Cummings

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The Ministry and Personnel Committee acts as a liaison resource between the paid employee(s) of the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge (EPPC) and the members of the congregations, and reports to the EPPC Official Board. At this time, we have one paid employee - our Charge Secretary, Annette Clarke. There are five members of M & P: two from each church and one Chair. Elgin Representatives are Pat Greenhorn, Michelle Knapp and Maureen Bee - Chair, and Portland representatives are Arie Hoogenboom and Pauline French.

Annette continued to be a stable contact for our charge throughout 2023. We are pleased to confirm her employment contract was renewed for 2024 by the Official Board. Our heartfelt thanks to Annette for all her hard work and dedication to our Charge over the years. We look forward to having her with us through 2024, and hopefully many more years to come.

Many thanks to the members of M&P - your continued support to the Charge is invaluable and much appreciated.

Maureen Bee, Chair

EPPC YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT REPORT FOR 2023

2023 has been another year that has challenged the re-establishment of the Youth and Young Adults of our churches, but the Spirit does live on and has brought not necessarily youth inside the church, but in the community many opportunities where we have served our young people through the generous grant from the Vision and Transformation Team of the United Church of Canada filtered through the Elgin United Church to North Leeds Youth Council. We have continued to be a driving force economically for the work that has continued to be done through our local high school, five feeder schools, local municipal council events, the Village of Westport, the Rideau Lakes Library – Elgin Branch, Keys, Foley Mountain Conservation Area- Westport, local food banks, outdoor rinks, art classes, a movie license, and the Angel Coalition- Christmas gifts that St Luke's Anglican Church distributed at Christmas time.

Spreading the love of Jesus comes in many forms and outreach to these communities is what God is calling us to be. A voice in the wilderness, a helping hand, a tool to help meet not only the Spiritual needs, but the physical and emotional needs of our youth and young people. Our young people have had opportunities to share their many gifts, through music, assisting with Sunday School and various parts of the worship service.

As we go forward, we can once again to apply for the remainder of our grant of another \$5000.00 from the Vision and Transformation Team -United Church of Canada EOORC and we have met our part of the process in educating and embracing other forms of financial revenue to continue to be viable in our communities. Thanks to the Lion's Club – Westport, Rideau Pastoral Charge, St Luke's Anglican Church, St Mary's Anglican Church, and the Rideau Swans, we have been able to embraced the opportunities to support the programs that involve our youth.

The Four Rivers Cluster is once again in the planning phase and approximately every q 2 months activities have been arranged by Rev Heather McLurg Murphy who is also offering opportunities for our youth to participate not only in fun events that includes worship, music, some drama and arts and crafts, but in community building. Due to other commitments, we have only attended one other event in 2023

and that was puppet making that took place at Battersea United Church. For 2024 there is an upcoming overnight retreat for 13–18-year-olds- Feb 16-17 in Ottawa and plans to attend Rendez Vouz in St Catherine’s July 3-6, are underway with the help of Dana Ducette. (Ministry of Youth and Young adults EOORC).

Elgin United also had one young adult that attended the EOORC AGM in Brockville and was part of the visioning of the rural church. I continue to believe that the voice of our youth and young adults is so important but are we willing to listen. Maybe that is our challenge for 2024.I have been very blessed to work with many of our youth who now are our young adults over the past few years and as we go forward in 2024 I continue to trust the Spirit to guide and direct the Region as I sit on YAYA’s Committee, the various churches, the parents, young adults and youth. Standing together we will Embrace the Spirit and the love of Jesus and the Holy Spirit will become even brighter.

Blessings to All
Catherine Ryan

ELGIN/PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

INCOME

OPENING BALANCE	\$ 25,774.85	Includes Funds on hold.
GST REBATE	\$ 904.30	
DONATION INCOME Canada Helps	\$ 6,512.38	
Food Bank Donation	\$ 800.00	
MANSE RENT INCOME	\$ 16,800.00	
ELGIN-PORTLAND ASSESSMENTS	\$ 50,400.00	
PROPANE INCOME	\$ 1,555.00	
	<u>\$ 102,746.53</u>	

FUNDS ON HOLD

MANSE LAST MONTHS RENT	\$ 300.00
	<u>\$ 300.00</u>

M&S REPORT 2022

Portland United Church UCW	\$ 2,400.00
Portland United Church	\$ 11,000.80
Elgin United Church	\$ 2,677.00

\$ 16,077.80

Treasurers Comments

Not much to comment on this year. With using Pulpit supply instead of a full time minister we saved half of the costs. My biggest expense was the manse roof which is now done.

Thanks to the two church treasurers, Joanne and Anita that kept the payments coming and us solvent.

With my thanks

Ted Treaurer EPPC.

ELGIN/PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

EXPENSES

Employee Wages and benefits

Pastoral Charge Supervisor	\$ 1,215.00	
CRA	\$ 2,984.34	
Pastoral Care Coordinator	\$ 10,955.00	
Secretary	\$ 8,753.47	
Pulpit Supply	\$ 15,160.00	
Total	<u>\$ 39,067.81</u>	<u>\$ 39,067.81</u>

OTHER Employee Expenses

Mileage	\$ 3,774.87	
WSIB	\$ 42.56	
Total	<u>\$ 3,817.43</u>	<u>\$ 3,817.43</u>

MANSE Expenses

Insurance	\$ 2,792.88	
Taxes	\$ 713.63	
Repairs		
Propane and service	\$ 2,066.25	
Property Manager	vacant	
Roof and other repairs	\$ 25,757.11	
Total	<u>\$ 31,329.87</u>	<u>\$ 31,329.87</u>

Office Expenses

Telephone	\$ 1,386.84	
Internet	\$ 2,439.36	
Office supplies	\$ 2,146.29	
Photo Copier Use	\$ 1,235.53	
Total	<u>\$ 7,208.02</u>	<u>\$ 7,208.02</u>

Other Charge Expenses

Gifts Given	\$ 75.00	
Bank Service Charge	\$ 95.00	
One License	\$ 354.00	
A/V Upgrades EUC	\$ 72.98	
Zoom	\$ 226.00	
Co-Op BBQ	\$ 97.90	
Canada Helps Payout	\$ 6,320.00	
Food bank Portland	\$ 800.00	
UCC assessment	\$ 6,319.00	
	<u>\$ 14,359.88</u>	<u>\$ 4,359.88</u>

\$ 95,783.01

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE BUDGET 2024

		<u>INCOME</u>	
Opening Balance		\$ 6,663.53	
Funds on Hold	Last Months Rent	\$ 300.00	
Total		<u>\$ 6,963.53</u>	
Operating OPENING BALANCE		\$ 6,663.53	
GST REBATE		\$ 2,200.47	
Income from Manse		\$ 20,300.00	
ASSESSMENT FROM ELGIN AND PORTLAND		\$ 51,600.00	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 80,764.00	\$ 80,764.00

EMPLOYEE EXPENSES

Pastoral Charge Supervisor	\$ 2,000.00
Pastoral Care supply	\$ 13,000.00

SUPPLY MINISTRY	\$ 18,000.00	
SECRETARIES PAY	\$ 14,079.00	
SECRETARY EDUCATION AND MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 400.00	
TOTAL EMPLOYEE PAY AND BENEFITS	\$ 47,479.00	\$ 47,479.00

**EMPLOYEE
EXPENSES**

Mileage	\$ 5,000.00	
WORSHIP		
WSIB	\$ 300.00	
TOTAL EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 5,300.00
TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS		\$ 52,779.00

**MANSE
EXPENSES**

Property manager	\$ 1,800.00	
INSURANCE	\$ 3,000.00	
TAXES	\$ 750.00	
MAINTENANCE	\$ 4,000.00	
TOTAL MANSE EXPENSES		\$ 9,550.00 \$ 9,550.00

**OFFICE
EXPENSES**

Bank Charges	\$ 125.00	
PHOTO COPIER USE	\$ 1,600.00	
PHONE	\$ 1,500.00	
INTERNET	\$ 2,600.00	
OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES	\$ 2,685.00	
Web Hosting & other internet expenses	\$ 1,000.00	
OTHER CHARGE RELATED EXPENSES		\$ 9,510.00 \$ 9,510.00

BOOKS AND LICENSE FOR MUSIC	\$ 375.00	
Gifts Given	\$ 100.00	
BULLETINS	\$ 450.00	
	\$	
UCC & EOR dues	8,000.00	
Total Other		\$ 8,925.00 \$ 8,925.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$80,764.00

The monthly assessment for each church would be 2150.00 per month payable by the 25th of each month and increase of \$50. per month. The increase is mainly because of the 6.3% increase in the cost of living for ministry personnel. We don't have a minister but we do have ministry people in our pulpits every week and they get that raise.

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
REPORT OF COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON 2023

Throughout the pages of this, the 2023 Annual Report, you will find a virtual plethora of information, data and accomplishments. Last year I commented in my report: “We fail to take in the wonderment of our lives, to be in awe of the miracles around us. Think about it, is not everything in our world, even beyond, a miracle!”. I am going to stick by that comment because I firmly believe it to be true, worth repeating and even more so, worth believing!

Therefore, I am going to refrain from showering you with the long list of activities and accomplishments that are all well documented in the following pages. It is the people, their solidarity, vision, talent, effort and faith that requires your attention, not my rehashing of happenings and outcomes.

Rather, my focus for this report is to express my deepest and heartfelt thanks to each and every supporter of Elgin United Church as both a centre of worship and a Christian light in the community. No matter if you are a committee chair, committee member, occasional event helper, regular church attender, sometimes attender or someone who supports in any other way, you matter. I could not be prouder of your efforts and accomplishments in fulfilling our purpose within the United Church of Canada, Elgin United Church and our wider community through the lens of Christianity. Jesus mingled with the people, He was out and about: in a boat, on a donkey, on a mountain side. He met the people where the people were. Our tag line: “Community Committed, Community Strong”, is so very appropriate.

As Chairperson of Elgin United Church Council, gratitude holds a deep meaning for me. It is a recognition of the pivotal role you play in our success, regardless of your involvement. Our committee chairpersons draw together individuals to make things happen. You and your committees are the cornerstones of a positive church culture. We share an interconnectedness in the service of God. Building Our Future United!

Thank you, blessings,
Clinton Halladay
Chairperson,
Elgin United Church Council

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MARCH 26, 2023

In Attendance: Clint Halladay, John Carley, Michelle Knapp, Morgan Wright, Maureen Bee, Mark Bee Sandra Smith, JoAnne Fletcher (Pastoral Charge Supervisor), Mackayla Gordanier, Morgan Gordanier, Cindy Carbino, Ted Brett, Jane Campbell, Karen Myers, Jim Earl, Liz Church, Dave Alderdice, Mary Lynne Alderdice, Anne Overdulse, Adrian Overdulse, Elizabeth Wright, Jane Simpson, Barb Rowat, Roberta McKinney, Pat Greenhorn

Regrets: Joanne McLean

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm by the Chairperson, Clint Halladay, there being a quorum present.

Territorial Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that we are gathered here on unceded land of the First Peoples of Turtle Island. We acknowledge the harm that was done, is being done, to our

Indigenous Brothers and Sisters by the Settler Community. And so, we now pledge to do better, and we humbly commit ourselves to the just pursuit of Truth and Reconciliation. For Christ's help with this promise to the First Peoples, we pray. Amen. (Excerpt from writing by Frayne McCarthy)

1. Opening Prayer Elizabeth Wright opened in prayer, citing that little things done add to the greater good.
2. Tribute to the Deceased Anne Overdulse read the Tribute to the Deceased for the past year: Earl McFadden, Ron Dobson, Harry Seeley, Steven Seward, Art Gordanier, Ron Tinkess, John Lesage, Sharon Halladay.
3. New Member Ella Price joined by confirmation.
4. Voting Motion Mark Bee motioned that for the purpose of business conducted at this and all 2023 congregational meetings, all adherents be granted the right to participate and vote. Our Pastoral Charge Supervisor, JoAnne Fletcher, pointed out that this would not apply for the appointment of a new minister nor the selling of a building. Pat Greenhorn seconded the motion. APPROVED
5. Agenda No changes. Maureen Bee motioned that the agenda be accepted. Roberta McKinney seconded the motion. APPROVED
6. Minutes of AGM 27 March 2022 A motion to adopt the minutes of the 2022 AGM was entered by Sandra Smith. Elizabeth Wright seconded the motion. APPROVED
7. Presentation of Reports

The reports were presented in the same order as printed in the 2022 Annual Report, and start at page 19.

 - a. Council Chair (Clint Halladay): As written;
 - b. Trustee Report (Adrian Overdulse): As written;
 - c. Sharing and Caring (Pat Greenhorn): As written;

- d. Membership and Sacrements (Roberta McKinney):
As written;
 - e. Music Report (Morgan Wright, Michelle Knapp): As written;
 - f. Property (Jim Earl): As written;
 - g. Treasurer (Joanne McLean): As written;
 - h. Audio-Visual (A-V Team): As written; and
 - i. Social and Community Partnership Report Cindy Carbino);
 - j. All reports were considered to be moved by the applicable committee chair/presenter. Mark Bee seconded. APPROVED
8. Nominations & Vacancies
- a. There were no new nominations;
 - b. All incumbents agreed to continue to fill their existing positions; and
 - c. The Council Vice-Chair position is Vacant. Trustee Ab Emmons has passed away. A trustee replacement will be a Trustee decision.
9. Election of Council Members & Trustees
- a. Pat Greenhorn made a motion to approve the Elgin United Church Council as per Item 7b above. Roberta McKinney seconded. APPROVED
 - b. John Carley motioned that the present slate of Trustees be approved. Elizabeth Wright was the seconder. APPROVED
10. Call for Further Business Nil.
11. Remarks of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor JoAnne Fletcher cited a long list all of the things we were amazing at. She asked the congregation for our temperature, and the immediate response from Elizabeth Wright said it all, "We're a miracle!".
12. Remarks of Council Chair Clint Halladay told us "If opportunity didn't show up, we made one!" He sincerely thanked everyone for making us a community committed, community strong, United Church.

Mark Bee thanked Clint on behalf of the entire congregation for his strong, insightful, and compassionate leadership.

On behalf of the congregation, Clint presented a prayer shawl to John Carley (for John and for Joanne McLean).

13. Closing Prayer Roberta McKinney sent us home with a closing prayer.
14. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 12:44 pm.

EOORC (EASTERN ONTARIO OUTAOUAIS REGIONAL COUNCIL) 2023 ANNUAL REPORT FROM ELGIN CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE

This year I did attend the in person AGM in May at The Brockville Memorial Center. It was a 2 day meeting starting Friday morning until late Saturday afternoon. A lot of business of the region was discussed with a good guest speaker. This year it will be in Ottawa at Trinity United Church on the last weekend in May.

I am still active on the Church Extension committee and do get asked advice on how to apply for grants from churches within the old Presbytery area. Both of our churches have been able to access money from these grants in the couple of years. After 3 years they can apply for grants again up to \$25,000.

These meetings will remain on zoom because of the distance most of have to travel which I like because all of them are held in Ottawa saving almost 4 hours in driving time.

I am also still on the property committee consulting on the sale of churches and repairs. These meetings are once a month and on zoom again saving driving.

Ted
Elgin United Church Rep. EOORC

Note: These minutes are posted as draft on the Pastoral Charge website. They will be reposted as approved/amended following the Annual Congregational Meeting.

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH TRUSTEE REPORT 2023

The work on the roof continued throughout the year and based on current projections the work will be finished by December 2023 depending on weather conditions.

During the year we applied for a OTF grant but were rejected. We need to work on our financial statements. We are addressing this issue and plan to re-apply early January 2024.

The RELC enrolment has a waiting list and Clint has been addressing some mechanical issues with the drain pump and the dishwasher.

Work has started to clean the choir room and the Furnace room is pretty well cleaned out as well thanks to the help of Ted Brett, John Carley and Clint Halladay.

Hopefully this gives an overview of the trustees' activity.

Adrian Overdulse
Trustee Chair Elgin United Church.

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH RIDEAU LAKES EARLY LEARNING CENTRE REPORT FOR 2023

The rental agreement entered into in 2022 by Elgin United Church (EUC) and the Rideau Lakes Early Learning Centre (RLELC) is proving, as expected, to be very positive for both parties and the community.

The RLELC has been able to expand, reducing the wait list for nursery, day-care and after school, parents have local care for their children, and the church is being used five days a week rather than only for a couple of hours on Sundays or periodically in the evening for meetings. Open communication and flexibility by both the church council and the RLELC leadership have avoided any issues with overlapping times, such as concert set-up, weekday funerals, etc.

Normal maintenance is addressed regularly and quickly, see the EUC Property Report for details. EUC applied for an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant to replace the floor in the basement great room. Our request was declined; however, we did receive a constructive debrief pointing to the two responsible issues: proof of ownership of the building and our financial statements were not signed by a certified accounting firm. We are applying again and have corrected these two factors. We remain positive.

To reiterate we thank the RLELC for approaching us at the onset and EUC Council and congregation for seeing the benefit of the liaison and supporting the initiative.

Community Committed, Community Strong!

Respectfully Submitted
RLELC Liaison

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH 2023 PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY REPORT

The Elgin Pastoral Care Group: Pat Greenhorn, Elizabeth Wright, Cathy Ryan, Mary Lynne Alderdice, Mark Bee and Clinton Halladay, has been very busy throughout 2023, our first full year of operation. We continue to evolve and explore innovative ways to provide support and spiritual care to our congregation and community. At our regular meetings we discuss, in confidence, cases of concern, and share practices and ideas discovered during research and visits.

Some of our highlights for 2023 are:

- Numerous in-home, hospital and LTC visits
- Regular telephone contact with shut-ins
- Email updates to those with technology
- An active prayer shawl ministry
- Uplifting card ministry (greeting, thinking of you, sympathy, thank-you, etc)
- Provide Pastoral Care & lead worship services at a Long Term Care Home
- Hosted a dementia education workshop based on GPA principles

- Benevolent Fund assistance to four families experiencing loss/tragedy

Our vision for 2024 is to continue to hone our visitation and support skills. We continue to research and purchase relevant and helpful books to establish a lending library, have planned a second dementia education session, and are working on advanced care planning and ageing in-place workshops.

We look forward to further developing and providing this much needed ministry for the congregation and community.

Respectfully
The Pastoral Care Group
Elgin United Church

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge Young at Heart Breakfast Club 2023

It was a pleasant Tuesday in mid-June and two seniors met at the Junction Restaurant to trade stories over eggs and sausages. On the way out they remarked to each other, "this was fun, we should do it more often" and so it was decided, then and there. No plan, no preconceived idea, no purpose other than to get together and share the company of others, and of course food.

At that moment the OFBC, you figure it out, came to life. The last Thursday of the month was chosen, others were invited, and after input from "members", there is no formal membership, the name was changed to the Young at Heart Breakfast Club to better reflect the inclusivity of the group.

There are no dues, no attendance records, no agenda, and no minutes, just a congenial atmosphere of chatting with friends, neighbours and probably someone you haven't seen in a while, all over good coffee and a great breakfast menu.

Everyone is welcome. All we ask if you let us know if you are planning on attending, so we can inform the restaurant to be "ready" for us! There are always diners and conversationists from each congregation and community. We have had as few as four people, to as many as 16, about 12 is pretty consistent.

For 2024 breakfasts will be **9 am** the **third** Thursday of each month, starting January 18th, at the Junction Restaurant, the corner of Hwy 15 and 32. Watch the bulletin and e-News for reminders and any changes.

Come out and enjoy.

Respectfully Submitted
Ted Brett
Clinton Halladay

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH SHARING AND CARING REPORT 2023

Our congregation, although small, continues to make a difference by caring for our community and sharing with the global community.

Locally, we have partnered with other service groups to care for the most vulnerable in our community, and also supported local community health by donating to the Flex Fund at Country Roads Community

Health Centre. This program supports low-income families by providing for extra health care needs that are not covered by provincial funding.

In December, we provided Goody Bags filled with special treats for thirty-four families in our community. These were added to the Christmas hampers they received from the Foodbank and brought smiles to the faces of one hundred individuals as they opened their Goody Bags!

We continue to support our World Vision sponsor child Zyra Joy in the Philippines. She is now fifteen years old, and has sent us thanks for the education, school supplies, and leadership training that she has received. Our donations have also helped World Vision provide access to education for over 3,000 children in her community and supported one hundred and thirty families in starting small businesses to provide for their children.

During the season of Lent, we focused on our Jesse tree fundraiser for our World Vision child in the Philippines, and your generous donations raised enough for another 16 months of sponsorship for Zyra Joy and support for her community. Your generosity continues to change lives in our local and global community. Bless you and thank you for your ongoing donations and support.

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 23:40

Yours in faith- Pat Greenhorn

EUC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT 2023

There is lots of learning, growth and excitement happening in Sunday School, even though our numbers are small. There were seven children registered in 2023, ranging in age from three to seven. 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. Each week we try and create a craft or take-home item that reflects our story and theme for the day. The children welcome the opportunity to share their projects and interact with the congregation, so please feel free to visit our classroom, or to ask them a few questions after the service.

There is a children's basket with activity packs, books, and Play-Doh available at the back of the church for visitors or for children who wish to remain in the service. In the coming year, the basket will be replaced by a mobile cart for better organization and access, and we also hope to create a bookshelf and 'Kid's Corner' with perhaps a beanbag chair. If you have any children's Christian books, or have time to pick up markers or crayons, we welcome any donations.

My deepest appreciation to Cindy Carbino, who assists on a regular basis in Sunday School. Her enthusiasm and rapport with the children enhance our time together.

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 faith-
Pat Greenhorn

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
MEMBERSHIP AND SACRAMENTS 2023

Communion services in Elgin United Church continued to follow our Covid protocols for most of 2023. People collected their communion elements when entering the church and kept them until needed during the service. The first Sunday of Advent was a return to our pre-Covid routine, and the elements were served to congregants during the communion service. This will continue as long as possible.

Three communion services were conducted during the year leading up to the first Sunday of Advent. Our Christmas Eve service also saw communion served. No new members joined Elgin United Church in 2023.

Respectfully submitted.

Roberta McKinney, Chair, Memberships and Sacraments

EUC MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT (EPPC) 2023

We would like to thank EUC and PUC for the opportunity to provide music leadership and accompaniment for EPPC worship services in 2023, including the Easter and Christmas joint services and joint choirs.

The following report is in point form, and it is our opinion, that each categorized initiative, is essential in setting the stage for a renewal of a vibrant Ministry of Music for both EUC and PUC within our 2-point charge. EPPC report as follows:

PUBLIC/PRIVATE EVENTS:

- 1 Small Halls Festival Show "Mikael Laxton (Champion Clint Halladay)
- 1 Piano performance offered by : Zoe Dudzinski (student)
- 2 Benefit concerts called "A Tribute to Canadian Women in Song";
 - \$1200 to ONWA (Ontario Native Women's Association)
 - \$0850 to St.Lukes Coalition of Angels
 - \$0296 & 60 lbs of food to Elgin Food Bank
 - \$1000 to "Building Our Future United campaign"
 - 1 bag of Winter clothing for Kids presented to RLELCC (daycare)

Outreach proceeds raised : \$2346.00

Campaign proceeds raised: \$1000.00

Total Proceeds Raised: \$3346.00

3 MEMORIAL / FUNERAL SERVICES

*Ab & Elsa Emmons
Irene Martin*

MUSIC EDUCATION: Open to recent suggestions of a youth choir and or a guitar club

PERSONNEL:

Music Director - Morgan Wright

Choir Director- Michelle Knapp

Supply accompanist- Bonnie Bilton & Tanya Hawkins

Music Ministry guest performances by: Jim & Anne Barton, Rasa Krokys, Sean & Alex Price .
AV Techs – Ted Brett, Adrienne Overdulse, Clinton Halladay.

CHOIR:

Choir resumed Friday October 28th.

Moved practice from Thursdays to Friday nights.

Initiated a de-cluttering of the choir room (Scheduled for February 2024)

MUSIC RESOURCE LIBRARY:

Searching the music catalogue for anthems has produced some great finds, as a greater variety of music is now available to EUC Choir, offering more variety to Our Music Ministry. Performances of said music to commence in 2024.

Utilizing "one license" (champion Ted Brett, Joan Simpson)

MUSIC TECH:

Cleaned and organized all P.A. Cables, monitors, microphones, stands (music/mic's)

Purchased music stand lights for candlelight services and annual concerts.

Comments:

A Special Thank You to all volunteers who helped make this our "CWIS" concerts a complete success.

Maureen / Karen/ Mark Bee , John Carley& Joanne McLean, Roberta McKinney - Refreshments

Ted Brett – Chief of Security (Attendance)

Clinton Halladay – Promotion, A/V Tech.

In closing we are looking forward to providing a vibrant experience for our music members and congregation.

With Thanks.

Prepared by: Music Director -Morgan Wright

Choir Director - Michelle Knapp

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
PROPERTY ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The main focus of 2023 was the installation of a new steel roof replacing the deteriorating asphalt shingles. This was completed in December along with selected sections of soffit, fascia, and eaves troughing. A difficult, time-consuming job, well done.

In addition to the roof, several other property repair and maintenance tasks were completed:

- Both furnaces were cleaned and inspected.
- A new condensation pump on furnace 1 was installed.
- The water filtration outflow drain was relocated.
- A new discharge pump was installed in the kitchen.
- An electrical outlet in the kitchen was repaired and an additional one installed.
- The dishwasher was recalibrated and a new thermostat installed.
- Extra dishes were donated to the Greater Good in Brockville
- The furnace room was cleared of clutter.
- RLELC covered four of the boardroom chairs. More to come.

- The septic filter was cleaned and the tank checked, will be pumped in the spring.
- The storm window in the choir room was removed for the summer and replaced this fall.
- Thank you to Pat Greenhorn, Mark Bee and Clinton Halladay for grass cutting.
- Thank you to Damian Benson for raking and bagging 19 bags of leaves.
- Snow removal contract renewed with Adam Daye.

We look forward to the surprises of 2024.

Respectfully Submitted
Property Committee

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH

Income and Expenses

January 01, 2023 to December 31, 2023

RECEIPTS	2022	2023
Tithes & Offering	\$51,614	\$50,546
Inrerest Earned	106	unknown
Fund Raising		
Online Auction	2641	2,454
Social Committee	1693	
Concerts	809	950
Elgin Days		1,917
Vendors		425
Building Fund	485	730
A A	450	820
Hall Use	480	114
Nursery School	8800	22,000
HST Rebate		706
Benevolent		160
Jessie Tree		938
Bldg Our Future United Campaign		26,845
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$67,078	\$108,605
EXPENSES		
Advertising	317	
Benevolent paid	500	500
PAR service charge	116	87
Bursary RDHS	250	250
Insurance	5429	5,248
Envelopes	237	279
EPPC Assessment	23300	25,200
Music Director	3618	7,000
Music Expense	135	50
Pastoral Care supplies		598
Outreach	398	66
Sunday School		341

Office Supplies	213	710
Janitor	1233	1,020
Repairs General	4236	6,655
Telephone	831	730
Utilities	12054	
Utilities - Hydro		4,869
Utilities - Stinson		8,580
World Vision		564
AV Expense		316
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$52,867	\$63,063
NET	\$14,211	\$45,542

Memorials \$315

Monies received and dispersed to

Elgin Food Bank	\$1,575
ARCH	\$305
Mission & Services	\$2,530

Bank Balances as at December 31, 2023

Bank	\$77,498	Includes roof monies and grant monies
United Campaign Balance	\$39,187	
Pastoral Care Grant Balance	\$3,990	
Operating Balance	<u>\$34,321</u>	
G I C	\$10,700	
Benevolent	\$668	

Total Donations and Grant received for Roof \$89,187

Grant for Pastoral Care \$3,990

Two advances have been paid to Jason Earl for roof
from United Campaign May 23rd \$50,000
from operating account Aug 18th \$30,000

HST Rebate	Jan 01 to	
Jun 30		113.24
	Jul 01 to	
Dec 31		112.47

Bank Balance December 31, 2022 \$111,929

Submitted by Joanne McLean

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
AUDIO VISUAL REPORT 2023

When the audio/visual realm is running smoothly, everything hums along and there is very little attention paid, but when something goes amiss, everyone notices. Well, we are happy to say that for 2023 hardly anybody noticed anything. A/V should be seamless to worship.

We raised the front monitor and attached it to the wall thereby eliminating the stand and returning space to the front of the church. Both monitors are working well, sound was pretty good, and the microphones worked most of the time.

Now to explain, our multi-talented Music Director, Morgan Wright, has tweaked, (an official tech term), some of the sound board settings to provide a more enriched listening experience to attendees. Although we have more to do, it is noticeably improved, thank you Morgan.

On the input side, our 20+ year old Lavalier microphone began only working part-time. The model we had is no longer in production and was not repairable. We were able to purchase a new Samson unit at a very favourable price and can happily report it works wonderfully.

In the coming year or beyond, we hope to replace the large A/V desks with smaller more appropriate units and continue with improving cable management.

Thank you to all who support the audio/visual side of technology and its role as complimentary to our worship services.

Yours in technology
The A/V Team

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP REPORTS
FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR ELGIN UNITED CHURCH 2023

The year of 2023 Community Events

We had a slower start this year, but we have a very productive year.

Our first event was held with the Lovely Ladies the Swans of Rideau Lakes when we held a Farmer's Breakfast on Saturday, April 29th at the Elgin Community Complex. This saw our two groups come together along with our friends Mark Sly and Greg Carbino to help prepare for the Event. Our very first attempt saw us serve 82 people within our community.

May 19th saw us host another successful Fish Fry right on our lawn of the Church. Thanks to Adrian and Anne Overdulse for organizing the cooks and taking care of all the ordering of the Fish, Fries, and coleslaw saw us serve well over 100 people again with Take out Fish and Chips dinner. Thank you goes to all those involved in cooking, serving, taking of the cash, setting up and taking down, and taking care of the garbage. Without all of your help, this event would not be as successful as it has been the last 2 years. We will see you all again in May of 2024.

ELGIN DAYS WAS A BUSY DAY FOR US AT ELGIN UNITED.

Our Bake Table has always been a huge success that day, so plans were to keep that in place. Many of our members went to work and as Usual, our Bake Table was a huge success.

We also set up for year two of our Raffle Table. This year the table saw many of our Church Family come together and donate all items for the Table. Many made baskets or purchased items for the table. We had 12 items for people to place their tickets in the item they wanted to win. That day saw us team up with The Rideau Lakes Early Learning Centre to hold a BBQ and Smoked Meat Canteen for the Village. Being the only Canteen in town it didn't take us long to sell out of all The Burgers, Smoked Meat Sandwiches, and most of the Cold Drinks. What a busy day for all involved. It takes a village.

October was another very busy night for our Church with 3 big events.

Kicking it off was the Festival of Small Halls on the Friday October 13th followed by our 3rd Annual Fall Craft and Vendor Market Saturday, Oct 14th followed by our Women in Song Concert organized by Morgan Wright on October 21st. Our Market saw us register 22 Vendors this year along with It Takes a Village Dog Rescue, The Girl Guides, and The U-18 Girls Soccer team who are fundraising for their Trip to Sweden in the Spring of 2024. With sickness and some no-shows for Vendors, our market was a little quieter this year and we will be looking at making that a little better this year.

With Christmas fast approaching it was time to focus our sights on our 4th Annual ON-LINE AUCTION. As you know we share our proceeds with other non-profit organizations within our Area. This year we chose "Mumma's Here Now Neonatal Animal Rescue" located in Elgin because we are all children of god and The "Arch" program Aiding Rural Community Health helps with Providing Assistance to low-income Families within the Leeds Grenville for rides to medical appointments and support for medical devices not covered by OHIP. Once again, this Community never ceases to amaze me with the generous donations that we received. We posted 92 items to be Auctioned off and every item received a bid. Another huge and Successful Event.

Thanks to the many people who donated and placed bids and to the many who helped to organize take pictures, pick up items, and were there on the day of pick up.

"Building Our Future United."
Community Committed and Community Strong.

Yours in Faith

Cindy Carbino
Community Partnership Coordinator

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH
CHAIR OF COUNCIL REPORT 2023

As I look back on my two-year term as Council Chair, I am filled with gratitude for the support which all have given me. It has made the role a relatively easy one and I believe the future is bright.

My term began as our church started to revive from the impacts of Covid 19. In 2022 most of the “regular” church activities recommenced. Council, with support of the congregation, decided to continue without the services of a regular minister. This was partially due to limited supply of potential ministers, partially due to Norma Cummings and Ted Brett’s success in attracting numerous presenters, partially due to the congregation’s appreciation of the diversity these presenters brought, and finally the cost differential between temporary and fulltime ministers.

It should also be noted that Liz Church completed her course to become a Sacramental Elder and this allowed her to conduct sacraments for the congregation as a whole.

John Wanless has become a regular music director and his dedication in leading the choir and providing music is a great source of energy.

With the church activities underway and the decision on our minister behind us, 2023 promised to be a good year.

Two gaps appeared because of the decision to go without a full-time minister - Spiritual education and Pastoral care. As we end 2023 and start 2024, I am happy to say that a bible study group started in the fall and is meeting regularly at the church. We also benefited from Rev Powell conducting a multi-week study session in each of 2022 and 2023. Pastoral Care is still recognized as an opportunity and under Liz Church’s direction will be further addressed in 2024.

The Go Green Project was by far PUC’s largest physical project in 2024. With the help of a Church Extension grant at the regional level and a Faithful Footprints grant at the national level, PUC tackled a multi-pronged project to lower our overall usage of energy by weatherstripping, caulking and converting the fluorescent tubes to LED. To reduce our dependence on fossil fuels an electric heat pump was installed in the Friendship Room and to significantly reduce the cost of operations a Solar Array was installed on the roof. It will generate over 50% of our remaining electrical needs.

This project not only lowers our cost of operations but shows PUC’s dedication to stewardship of this land and hopefully will help lead the way for others to take steps to help protect God’s green earth.

The largest challenge I see as I look forward is harnessing the ‘human energy’ of the community. The congregation is small and aging but very committed. The need in the coming years will be to attract the larger community to further expand the influence of the church. The Food Bank, Clothing Co-op, Rideau sewers, and the UCW all are examples of Church activities which involve and benefit the community beyond the congregation.

PUC will continue to be an expanding beacon if the plan can continue to be developed and executed to include community members in doing God’s work.

Thank-you for the faith you put in me over the past two years.
Duncan Pickard , PUC Chair

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES FOR THE YEAR 2023 APRIL 3, 2023 DRAFT

ATTENDEES:

Members were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER: Duncan Pickard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:30

OPENING PRAYER: Liz Church offered the opening prayer. tribute to those who passed away in 2022, and tribute to the Indigenous Land and Spiritual Acknowledgment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved: Connie Seco n d Liz Carried

APPROVAL OF THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES: Add Portland Food Bank
Moved with changes: MF Joan Kelly ; Carried

Motion to allow all present, adherence and members: Will Joan Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Reports were discussed in the order they appear in the 2022 Annual Report book. Following are the committees and the authors of the annual reports.

Chair	Report stands as submitted
Trustee	Report stands as submitted
Sunday School	Report stands as submitted
United Church Women	Report stands as submitted
Property Outside:	Report stands as submitted
Inside:	Report stands as submitted
Music	Report stands as submitted
Portland Pealers	Report stands as submitted
Portland Food Bank	Report stands as submitted
Sharing and Caring	Report stands as submitted
Rideau Sewers	Report stands as submitted
Fundraising	Report stands as submitted
Cemetery	Report stands as submitted
Finance	Report stands as submitted

Letter from John Noble to confirm the financial activities accurately reflect the 2022 activities of the church.

Motion to Adopt Annual Report as Presented: Moved: Bonnie Tackaberry **Second:** Annette Clarke **Carried**

Goals for M&S \$8,000 and Flex Fund 2023 \$2,500: Moved: Jan Haskin **Second:** Liz Church **Carried**

Vibrant Ministry, variety of interpretations and styles from the pulpit: JoAnne Fletcher

Unanimous show of hands to continue operating with a group of vibrant presenters and not search for a regular minister at this time.

Grants: Duncan gave a presentation 'A Changing World' – information about our carbon footprint and how we can reduce it. He opened the floor to questions.

Vacant Positions: None

Next PUC council meeting: April 5, 2023, 7:30 pm

Closing Prayer was offered by Katy Gibson

Adjournment: moved by Will 2nd Joan

Meeting adjourned at 11:30.

EOORC (EASTERN ONTARIO OUTAOUAIS REGIONAL COUNCIL)
2023 ANNUAL REPORT FROM PORTLAND CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE

This year, the Regional Council has had opportunity to meet in person and continue also with ZOOM meetings. These are held on average, once a month.

There was a semi-annual meeting held in Brockville in May, and also one in Ottawa in November. Preparation for these meetings took up many hours of co-ordination, especially since we had not had an in-person one for several years.

It was my privilege to actively participate in these gatherings. One of the positions I held was as a member of a special team that was formed, called 'Setting Our Sights'. This team was tasked with preparing a strategic plan for the Region. Focusing on Scripture from Ephesians 3: 16-21 this working group of nine people met weekly for a number of months during which time a proposed plan was drafted and presented in Brockville in May at the Annual Meeting. Following this process there were 2 online consultations as well as 4 in person events in Cornwall, Ottawa, Pembroke, and Perth. The strategic plan focus was centered around six strategic objectives: Growth, Justice, Climate, Leadership, Indigenous Pathways, Common Good. Each objective was then discussed and a strategic Plan was formed. Copies of this Strategic Plan can be made available for any who wish to have this. It is exciting and well worth the read so that you can see the church of God is still active and moving forward.

One of the training sessions for 'Setting Our Sights' was held in Portland United Church. I was the host for this. It was a full day for our working group but well worth the effort.

As I continue to be one of your Commissioners on the General Council, I will tell you that we have met twice in 2023 and will meet again in 2024. Amazing events are planned and I will work at keeping you all informed.

You will know that our new moderator, Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, has been travelling throughout Canada and sharing the news about 'Flourishing Communities'. I was privileged to attend one such event in October. It was held in Kingston. Exciting news about the resurgence of churches and how we can make it happen was shared.

I have attended numerous workshops, held in Ottawa, that were training sessions on learning and sharing understanding with the indigenous members of our United Church. A special 'Blanket' ceremony was conducted at the end of the day. Very spiritual and thought-provoking.

I am sure I have missed other planning meetings, services, etc. that have been both inspiring and encouraging.

Thank you for these opportunities and occasions for learning and growth that you afford me as your EOORC representative.

Liz Church (Regional Council Representative)

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH TRUSTEE REPORT 2023

The Trustees of Portland United Church continued to monitor the operations of our Church in 2023. We are primarily tasked with ensuring proper Insurance is in place and handling financial bequests, investments and memorial initiatives. We continue to thank Trustees Anita Cox and Norma Cummings who continue with the primary responsibilities of maintaining the Memorial Book in our Sanctuary and sending out Thank You notes to donors. Anyone wishing to discuss leaving a bequest to Portland United Church is encouraged to reach out to myself or any of your Trustees.

Portland United Church has a current Investment Fund of approximately \$233,000 on December 31, 2023 - up from \$220,000 on December 31, 2022 (6%). Our Investments are held by Canoe Financial. Will French and Norma Cummings act as the liaison with Canoe Financial.

In 2019, Council passed a motion that would hold withdrawals from the Long Term Fund at 6% in any given year to support the delivery of a Balanced Budget at the Congregational Annual General Meeting. None of these funds were required to be withdrawn during 2023. Of this investment, \$5000 (and accumulated interest) is on behalf of our UCW from December 2021. This was a 3 year agreement and matures in December 2024.

Insurance on the Church and its subsidiary activities at the Country Roads Community Health Centre 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 Katy Gibson. United Church of Canada policies on abuse and harassment continue to be made available in the Friendship Room for all to read.

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 oversee the Rental of the Manse. Please see the enclosed Joint Trustees Annual Report to the Official Board.

Portland United Church Trustees are all members of Portland United Church. Please reach out at any time to the following Trustees: Anita Cox, Norma Cummings, Katy Gibson or Will French.

In Christ,
Will French
Chair, Portland United Church Trustees

**PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TREASURER'S REPORT 2023**

Income Statement	General Fund	FWD: \$530.78
	For the period 01/01/2023 to 12/31/2023	
REVENUE	NO REVENUE	
EXPENSES	NO EXPENSES	
END OY YEAR BALANCE:		\$530.78

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH - CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The Christian Education focus at Portland United has embraced some new initiatives throughout 2023, offering several opportunities to connect with God through Scripture and fellowship. Whether through the weekly devotionals published in the E-news by Liz Church, the book study led by Rev. Doug Powell in the fall, or the Bible Study led by Jim Barton this winter, our congregation has been blessed by opportunities to learn and grow together in our faith.

We continue to support Luz Mariela, a student at the Colegio Bautista Emanuel school in San Salvador. If you wish to share a donation towards the costs of her education, please mark "El Salvador" on your donation and it will be directed accordingly.

We thank those who have provided leadership throughout this past year, and we look forward to more opportunities to connect and nurture our faith together in 2024.

Submitted by
Pauline French

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH WOMEN ANNUAL REPORT 2023

2023 was a very productive year for our United Church Women.

A warm invitation is extended to anyone who would like to enjoy the fellowship of the UCW and contribute to our Church and community's well-being. We are looking to fill the Social Convener position in 2024. That role has been shared in 2023. It is worth mentioning here that we have a number of men who assist us with our events as well as dedicated volunteers from the community that are not members of our church and we are very grateful for their help.

Our pie sales continue to be our greatest source of fund raising and encompass the whole community in the efforts, not only members of the Church.

Our annual commitment to the greater United Church Mission and Service fund has again been met to a total of \$2,400.

In January we gave a donation to the church General Fund of \$1,000

Two separate donations were made to Rideau District High School totalling \$2,500

In conjunction with the Portland CEC we hosted a breakfast/fund raiser for the playground and the shared profit was \$417 for the CEC and \$417 to the UCW.

We gave \$2,000 to the Portland Food Bank

Christmas in the Village expenses were \$98.39 with many donations of food, etc.

We sponsored a Family for Christmas through the Food Bank - \$688.47 plus many donated items

We hosted a Celebration of Life for Olga Baker in April and for Larry Cochran in November.

As part of our Outreach Program we work hard to include members of the community in our pie making events (which are always a good time), as well as again this year organizing Christmas in the Village, bringing a lot of new village members into the church.

With God's grace we will continue to make a contribution and wish you all a Happy, Healthy 2024.

Connie Cochran
 President,
 Portland United Church Women

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH U.C.W. FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

UCW FINANCIAL YEAR END STATEMENT

December. 2023

Period: January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

INFLOWS

Opening Balance	\$	7,223.42
Meals	\$	1,370.00
Bank Charges Reversed	\$	9.00
Interest	\$	0.45
Offering	\$	357.00
Pie Sales	\$	8,622.00
Fund Raisers		
GIC		
Donations	\$	1,158.60
Total Inflows	\$	18,740.47

OUTFLOWS

Misssion & Service	\$	2,400.00
Fund Raising Expenses	\$	1,289.83
Presbyterial Dues		
Friendship/Decore	\$	118.00
Cookbooks/Calendars	\$	157.78
Pie Supplies	\$	2,360.99
Bank Charges	\$	99.45
Subscriptions		
Donations	\$	3,572.95
PUC General Fund	\$	1,459.67
Food Bank	\$	2,000.00
Benevelant Fund		
Gifts	\$	2,841.25
Cases for Caring		
Float	\$	-
Total Outflows		\$16,299.92
Currant Balance		\$2,440.55

UCW has a float of \$53.75 at year end

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH **OUTSIDE PROPERTY REPORT 2023**

The main project in 2023 was the installation of the solar panels, acquiring permits and the interior work to feed our excess generated electricity back into the Hydro One grid. This was completed with the help of significant grant money that was available for this project. This also included removal of the propane-fired basement heater and replacing it with a modern interior wall mounted heating/cooling heat pump unit. Also required was the caulking of most of the exterior windows and the grouting repairs to the basement stone wall.

The cedar plank exterior Friendship Room doors were badly damaged in August but successfully repaired with the help of a local carpenter.

The main projects for 2024 are painting of exterior railings and some necessary tree trimming.

Bruce Haskin (Chair of Outside Property)



PORTLAND UNITED **CHURCH GO GREEN** **PROJECT**

PHOTOS BY LINDA NOBLE



Portland United Church's (PUC) Go Green project started in Aug 2022 with a discussion around the benefits of Solar power and the Hydro 1 Net metering program.

By November, PUC council gave the go ahead to investigate. A group of four individuals, Bruce Haskin, Brad Gibson, Peter Cox and Duncan Pickard was formed and our first contact with Faithful Footprints (FF) was made. Fortunately, FF insisted we do an energy audit. This opened our eyes to the much broader impact of PUC's use of energy in general, and the use of Carbon-based fuels in particular. Building on an energy audit and actions performed in 2011 by PUC, the current audit allowed us to prioritize the following.

- Weatherstrip all external doors and recalk doors and windows
- Convert all fluorescent tubes to LED
- Remove a Propane Space heater in our Friendship room and replace it with a ductless heat pump
- Install a solar array to reduce our cost per kwh of electricity which will eventually allow a complete conversion to electric heat

With these priorities in mind PUC started costing the actions. The payback on weatherstripping was so compelling that by early February 2023, Blaine Tackaberry seized the initiative and completed this portion of the project without grant approval. In April the Church Extension grant was remitted and by

May our Faithful Footprint \$30,000 grant was approved. With financing secured, PUC transferred \$20,500 from the General Fund into a dedicated GO Green Fund. and the work to complete each of the above priorities started. All aspects of the project were completed during December 2023 within budget.

The congregation recognized the need to financially support the project and organized a number of fund raisers including 3 concerts and a Farmer's Breakfast organized by the UCW and the CEC. These activities, plus direct contributions, totaled over \$2,000.

The congregation of Portland United Church is not only excited to start receiving the financial benefits of completing the GO Green project but also proud of leading the way in a small tourist town by showing how we can all help reduce our negative impact on the environment.

We thank The United Church of Canada, through the **Faithful Footprint program**, and The Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region through the **Church Extension program** for helping United Church congregations in general and Portland United Church in particular on our journey to help protect the lands on which we live while expanding Christ's influence.

Go Green Committee

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH INSIDE PROPERTY REPORT 2023

Annual inspections have been completed on the elevator, AED device and the fire extinguishers. Monthly checks are done on the AED device and fire extinguishers as well. Repairs have been completed to keep the lift in good working order. Water testing is completed regularly as required. Several improvements have been made to the caulking and weather-stripping to improve the efficiency of the new heating/cooling system which is working very efficiently and is welcomed by the frequent users of the church.

Annette Clarke is doing a fabulous job keeping the church clean and reports any repairs that are required.

As a result of the Portland Community Hall being no longer available several community activities are taking place in the Church. The weekly Chit Chat coffee group gathers on Thursday mornings from 10:00 to noon with an average of 15 people attending regularly. For the use of the Church basement the Township pays a minimal amount that is invoiced monthly. In addition to the above events, the Church provides space to the Sewer's Group and Pillowcase Group. In December the Christmas in the Village event was held in the basement of the Church and was well attended.

We welcome the Community to use the Church as a gathering place whenever possible.

Connie Cochran (Inside Property Chair)

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHOIR REPORT 2023

The Portland United Church Choir under the direction of John Wanless has provided musical leadership and an anthem for us each Sunday. We enjoyed their singing and the prelude and postlude provided by John.

Choir members Sopranos - Alison Gibson, Sheila McKeage, Bonnie Tackaberry, Anita Cox; Altos - Katy Gibson, Liz Church; Tenors - Duncan Pickard, Cam McKay.

Additional music was provided by Janet McKeage, Liz Theobald, Pam Newton and Morgan Wright.

The Portland Pealers enhanced our regular services with a number of presentations during the year.

Joan Kelly
Music

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH FUNDRAISING REPORT

Musical fundraisers enjoyed over the summer months were performances by County Road 44, Mary's Merry Minstrels, and Mark One, Mark Mulrenin.

In addition, fundscrip continues to benefit both the congregation and the church. The foodbank is one off the major users taking advantage of lower costs, and convenience while benefiting the church.

Joan Kelly
Fundraising Co-Ordinator



PORTLAND PEALERS HANDBELL CHOIR 2023

The Pealers have worked hard on 2 octave music, 12 bell music (6 Ringers) and 8 bell music (4 Ringers) in order to share this variety in Sunday services, particularly at Easter and during the Advent Season.

In June, several choir members participated in the OGEHR (Ontario Guild of Handbell Ringers) Handbell Festival. The Festival traditionally takes place every two years and different communities across Ontario host the workshops and Saturday concert. This year was the first since Festivals had to be cancelled or postponed due to COVID, and we were thrilled that St. Lawrence College in Kingston was the chosen venue. The theme was, "It's About Time." OGEHR described it thus: "The Festival theme is ***It's About Time*** which speaks to our Time to ring bells together again, Time signatures and changes of Time in the themes of our chosen pieces. It is also Time to think of our relations with Indigenous peoples as we spend quiet Time near the waters of Lake Ontario." Noted Director and Composer Kath Wissinger agreed to be our featured director, with Ontario's own Lisa Kyriakides also taking a leading role. Although the camaraderie of ringers from across Ontario and the variety of workshops and learning opportunities was appreciated, the highlight had to be ringing in a massed choir of 250 other ringers! For those interested, a sample of the massed choir can be found at this YouTube link:

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=youtube+One+great+spirit#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:f8e73c2f,vid:wEQPdR3TJ6s,st:0>, or search **YouTube One Great Spirit** and click on the post of Emily Li.

As usual, this choir would not happen without the dedicated support of the ringers! My thanks to Cathy Ryan, Katy Gibson, Patti Evans, Joan Kelly, Jane Pickard, Lyn Hall, Bruce Haskin and Went Sharp for their continued enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the Portland Pealers.

Jan Haskin, Director
Portland Pealers Handbell Choir

PORTLAND FOOD BANK
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

Another exciting and very busy year at the Portland Food Bank. We first started the year with 22 families and by the end of the first quarter (March) we were supporting 24 families. Hoping that the Covid-19 Confinement was finally behind us, all programs were more or less back to normal e.g., Good Food Box (GFB), What's Cooking (Classes by CRCHC) and the Community Clothing Co-op (CCC). The big surprise was the constant increase in food prices, making it hard for families to make ends meet.

September marked our first anniversary at our new location (Country Roads Community Health Centre), we moved on September 12, 2022, and on September 20 we were ready to serve our clients. The move has allowed us to work closely with CRCHC and has been a successful one, so much that with the number of families we now support, we had to increase our hours without interfering with other CRCHC programs. Therefore, keeping it to the first and third Tuesdays of the month, we are now open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on the first Tuesday and from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on the Third Tuesday (GFB only available after 11:00 am).

We were also asked by CRCHC to take over the responsibility of the "Community Shelf Program" located at the Portland and Westport locations. CRCHC provided the funds and Norma and I did the shopping as well as displaying in on the shelves. We also had some meetings with CHCRC and the Rideau Lakes Food Banks Network to pursue opportunities to join various program e.g., Feed Ontario and United Way Food Security. Since these programs have strict rules to adhere to which are not in line with the way we do business, we opted out and decided to pursue our own opportunities in seeking additional funds without compromising Who we are and What we do!

We had a very productive year obtaining additional financial support from various groups: Leeds Grenville Fire Department Food Drive; the International Plowing Match & Rural Expo, Simpson Lodge, etc. Also realizing that many clients of food banks may have difficulty affording pet food we were approached by Julie of Kibbles for Paws asking if we would accept donations of pet food, (pet food returned from veterinary clinics and/or slightly expired). Our clients were thrilled since many have pets and every little bit helps.

Even though we started the year with a healthy bank balance it was an unpleasant realization that we did not have enough funds to finish the year the way we wished. Compared to last year we had seen an increase of 35% in the number of families we now support (28 instead of 21 last year and 17 in 2021) and no matter how frugal we tried to be, the skyrocketing food prices, and our increased client load have caused our monthly costs to be at least 60% more than last year.

Thanks to the support of our Congregation including Portland United Church Women (UCW) we were able to finish the year without borrowing too much from the 2024 budget (money raised during Build a Mountain of Food BAM). Therefore, in preparation for BAM we did radio interviews, posted announcements on various social media groups as well as sending letters to organizations outside our community to seek additional funding or for sponsoring "hot chocolate" for the people visiting us during our BAM Food Drive.

This year the 2023 Build a Mountain of Food Campaign was held on the second Saturday in December instead of our regular first Saturday. Regardless of the timing, the Portland Community was extremely supportive and generous and as of December 2023, the total donations were \$30,414 and 2,700 pounds of food. All donations received in November and until the end of December are included in this amount. In addition to the above donations, six Food Bank families were sponsored for their Christmas

celebration, including gifts for the entire family. Two families were sponsored by Len's Cove Marina, one family by the Portland Fire Association, one family by the Portland UCW and two families were sponsored by private individuals. The six families were overwhelmed by the gifts and food they received which surely demonstrated that the true spirit of Christmas is as much in the giving as in the receiving.

Our volunteers at the Portland Food Bank were: Norma Cummings, Joan Horsfall (Portland United Church and Céline Peladeau (Chaffey's Locks), the assistance of Connie Cochran and her team as well as the Gibson Family during BAM, and the assistance of the Portland United Church Members who always step up every time we need additional help and support. Also, a big thank you to Annette Clarke and the knitters at Mill Bay Court who knitted enough items to ensure that the Clients (not just the children) had new items in their Christmas hampers.

A challenge that remains is the recruitment of volunteers. In 2023 the Portland Food Bank had only 4 volunteers throughout the year, making it very difficult when volunteers are taking holidays. However, there is hope for 2024, with all the posting on various social media in December, we succeeded in raising awareness of the Portland Food Bank, and several people have expressed interest in volunteering, and we shall strongly pursue. Thanks to Cindy Crank from Morton (who used to be a volunteer) for all the postings.

In closing, I would like to say a special thank you to Norma who is always there for me and for holding the fort while I was away in Portugal, I certainly would not have been able to survive the year without her.

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

Louise Martin
Manager

FINANCIAL REPORT PORTLAND FOOD BANK – 2023

Opening balances - Jan 1/23

Bank account	28,774.81	
Petty Cash	141.55	
O/S transfer	350.00	
O/S cheque	-1,114.44	
Grocery Gift Cards on hand	2,017.70	\$ 30,169.62

Income

Donations – receipted & non-receipted	51,255.85	
Other cash donations	446.90	
Gift Cards donated	125.00	
	<u>51,827.75</u>	
Total Income		\$ 81,997.37

Expenses

Groceries	28,844.75	
Grocery Vouchers given to clients	20,268.92	
Good Food Box via CRCHC	3,255.00	
Bank Fees	139.89	
Mileage	240.00	
Office Expense	16.95	
Postage	87.33	

Adjusting entry -	132.00	
Total Expenses		<u>52,852.84</u>
Net Income		<u>\$ 29,012.53</u>
Balances as at Dec 31, 2023		
Bank Balance		\$ 1,843.60
O/S transfer in		26,350.85
O/S cheques		-2,775.51
Grocery Gift Cards – Balance on Hand		3,525.39
Petty Cash		68.20
TOTAL		\$ 29,012.53

Over 96% of the groceries purchased were paid for with FundScrip Gift Card purchased through the church's FundScrip program, thus bringing in some income for the church as well. The church community and the community at large, including local businesses, have been very, very generous again this year and for that, we, and the clients, are very grateful.

**PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH
SHARING AND CARING COMMITTEE REPORT 2023**

The Caring and Sharing group, as it was originally, has not been reestablished. While the goal would be to get this up and running again, I am open to new ideas that could be incorporated to have a successful Caring and Sharing Ministry.

Newsletters, greeting cards, telephone calls have all been happening throughout the year and by many individuals.

Thank you to all who participate. You are a blessing to many.

Liz Church
Sharing /Caring Committee

RIDEAU SEWERS – LAP QUILTS REPORT 2023

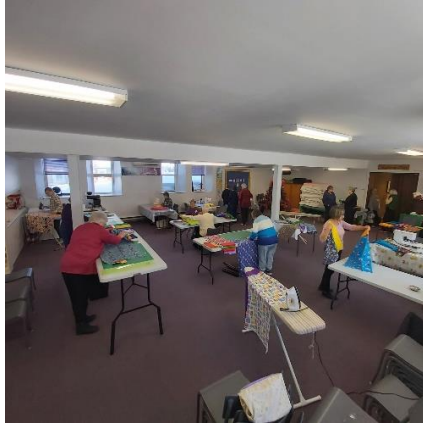
On the second Wednesday of the month, experienced and new quilters gather at the Portland United Church to cut and sew lap-sized quilts and to exchange information and to enjoy creating together. These quilts are provided to palliative care and cancer patients and those on dialysis at the Smiths Falls and Perth Hospital Campus locations and depending on the circumstances, sometimes to those in need in our immediate communities.

The quilts are created at the Church as well as the homes of various volunteers who do "homework" on behalf of this group. Fabric and donations come to the quilters from a variety of local service organizations and/or individuals and the hall is donated by the church. In 2023, this dedicated group completed a variety of colourful lap-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.

Joan Horsfall (613 349-9770) Jane Pickard (613 272-2524)
Coordinators

PILLOWCASE SEWERS – CASES OF CARING REPORT 2023



Cases of Caring began their regular monthly meetings in September after a long Covid- driven hiatus. For those not familiar with our project, we began in 2005 sponsored in name only by Portland United Church and named by Rev. Rodney Smith Merkley. We make pillowcases for CHEO which are given to patients from us. The family is responsible for laundering. We have received letters from families and patients in gratitude. We are financed by gifts from local Lions clubs, Retired Teachers, Portland UCW, Rideau Lakes Council and from discounts and gifts from quilt stores. Members also contribute with fabric and thread as well as sewing, pinning, ironing and labelling. We take approximately 35 cases per month to CHEO who is grateful for them. We straggled back after Covid but at our January meeting we appeared to be back to our regular number of dedicated volunteers with some newcomers. We are grateful to Portland United Church which has continued to support and welcome us with meeting space and facilities.

Sincerely,
Lynne Evans, Convenor.

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY REPORT 2023

This year I would like to thank the members of the cemetery committee for their dedication to the upkeep and improvements to our cemetery.

In July, after many delays, our columbarium was installed with further discussions on future plans. Also, there was a major improvement to our driveway thanks to a donation from an anonymous donor. In 2023 we had two burials and sold two plots. We were able to apply for a grant from Rideau Lakes Township and received \$442. We were also able to invest \$11,000 in a GIC at 5%.

Your committee members are Bruce Haskins, Brad Gibson, Jillian Bond, and Blaine Tackaberry.

Financial Statement

Opening Balance		\$21454.07
	Expenses	
Grass cutting.	\$ 950.00	
Tackaberry construction	\$ 532.25	
Opening and closing (January)	\$ 200.00	
Opening and closing (October)	\$ 150.00	
Columbarium.	\$ 6774.35	
GIC purchase.	\$11000.00	
Paper statements.	\$ 27.00	
	\$19633.60	(-) \$19633.60
Receipts		
Public Guardian interest	\$ 445.82	
Burial	\$ 750.00	
Donations	\$ 725.00	
Grant money	\$ 442.00	
Burial and foot marker	\$ 700.00	
Sale of plots	\$2480.00	
Anonymous donation	\$1032.25	
Bank interest	\$. 1.26	
	\$6576.33	(+) \$6576.33
Closing balance		\$ 8396.80

Thank you.

Blaine

PUC ANNUAL REPORT 2023
TREASURER'S REPORT

Portland United Church				
Designated Fund Balances				
Dec 31 2023				
FUNDS	12/31/2022	Revenue	Expenses	12/31/2023
General *	22,128.14	54,181.63	66,869.21	9,440.56
Benevolent	3,087.64	490.00	900.00	2,677.64
Building	2,722.02	810.00	0.00	3,532.02
Memorial Fund	6,617.28	2,204.37	0.00	8,821.65
M & S	0.00	11,030.80	11,030.80	0.00
Community Care	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Food Bank Fund	638.75	51,267.10	51,905.85	0.00
Media Fund	5,097.43	0.00	300.78	4,796.65
Choir Fund	712.08	0.00	0.00	712.08
Bell Choir	509.11	0.00	0.00	509.11
Youth Support	1,023.61	0.00	600.00	423.61
El Salvador	0.00	250.00	250.00	0.00
Gift Card	0.00	32,425.00	32,425.00	0.00
Cemetery	0.00	5,012.25	5,012.25	0.00
Go Green	0.00	22,560.00	16,293.01	6,266.99
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS	42,536.06	158,671.15	186,586.90	37,180.31
Notes:				
*General Fund Expense balance adjusted to reflect 2 transfers out \$8000 to Go Green and \$202 to the Community Flex Fund, actual year end expense total is 58,692.68				
Go Green fund revenue includes \$2,060 from donations, \$8,000 from the General Fund, and \$12,500 from Church Extension Grant				
The physical project was finished in 2023.				
Due to timing the accounting will be completed early in 2024.				
Cemetery includes \$800 transferred into General account from Cemetery for shared grass cutting contract and is not new revenue.				

Long Term Fund

	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20	Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
Ending Balance	\$114,865	\$153,677	\$161,737	\$216,726	\$220,733	\$233,826
Withdrawals	\$21,500	\$10,000	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	0
Additions	\$2,500	\$33,665	\$2,500	\$6,180	\$548	0
Investment		\$15,147	\$11,560	\$48,809	\$4,007	\$13,093
Income	(\$2,835)					
Est. Return	-2%	13%	7%	30%	2%	6%

Dec -21-23 Ending Balance includes \$5,000 of UCW investment.

Portland United Church

Income Statement	2023 Actuals	2022 Actuals	Difference	2024 Budget
General Fund Revenue				
Sunday Givings Rev	48,812.39	54,160.01	(5,647.62)	51,000.00
Fundraising				
Gift Card proceeds	831.82	590.63	241.19	800.00
Other fundraising	1,657.42		1,657.42	1,500.00
TOTAL Fundraising	2,489.24	590.63	1,923.61	2,300.00
Finance and Admin rev				
Property Use Fees	2,880.00	760.00	2,120.00	1,920.00
TOTAL Finance and Admin rev	2,880.00	760.00	2,120.00	1,920.00
TOTAL General Fund Revenue	54,181.63	55,510.64	(1,629.01)	55,220.00
General Fund Expenses				
Charge assessment Expense	25,200.00	23,300.00	(1,900.00)	27,000.00
Adult Christian Education (New)				100.00
Outreach Rev		(50.00)	50.00	
Outreach Exp		250.00	250.00	370.00
Broadview Rev		0.00	0.00	
Broadview Exp		50.00	50.00	50.00
Sharing &Caring Exp		0.00	0.00	
Decorating Committee Exp	70.63	22.63	(48.00)	100.00
Music exp		40.00	40.00	0.00
Music Director Expense	6,250.00	4,150.00	(2,100.00)	6,200.00
Piano and Organ Maintenance	1,126.53	0.00	(1,126.53)	500.00
Worship Exp	243.05	0.00	(243.05)	110.00
Elevator Exp	2,388.00	2,717.41	329.41	1,300.00
Recurring maintenance Interior	1,860.88	2,600.23	(739.35)	2,200.00
Custodian Expense	4,464.00	3,421.00	(1,043.00)	4,300.00
Hydro	3,804.94	3,750.64	(54.30)	2,500.00
Propane	3,083.10	4,517.51	1,434.41	3,000.00
Grass &Lawn	1,350.00	1,200.00	(150.00)	1,650.00
Recurring Maintainence Exterior	1,167.23	2,241.72	1,074.49	1,500.00
Snow	3,634.50	2,212.16	(1,422.34)	3,400.00
Insurance Expense	3,130.23	3,204.36	74.13	3,700.00
Office expense	393.24	442.29	49.05	500.00
Envelope and PAR Rev	(45.00)	(18.00)	(27.00)	(50.00)
Envelopes and Par Exp	392.58	421.03	28.45	450.00
Other	178.77	50.00	(128.77)	400.00
TOTAL General Expenses	58,692.68	54,374.18	(5,602.40)	59,280.00
NET General fund Income	(4,511.05)	1,136.46	(5,647.51)	(4,060.00)
Net Designated Fund Income				
Benevolent	490.00	340.00		
Building	810.00	890.00		
Memorial	2,204.37	125.00		
2020 & Beyond		548.60		
Youth Support		85.55		
Media Fund		5,200.00		
Choir Revenue		0.00		
Bell Choir		120.00		
Total Designated Fund Income	3,504.37	7,309.15		
Total Net income	1006.68	8445.61		
Transfer from Investment acct	0	0		

NOTES:

- The \$12500 grant from UCC was above \$48812.39, with the General fund showing \$61312.39.
- The grant funds were transferred directly to Go Green Fund.
- For a breakdown of Designated Fund Revenue and expenses please see the Balance Sheet Comparison earlier in report.
- Please see separate report for full financial impact of Designated Funds with separate Bank acctts. Cemetery, Food Bank and CYAYA (Christian Ed)

The General Fund Revenue was down 10.4% in 2023, our first full year of in-person worship service since 2019. This should be a concern. We did receive 12 months of property use fees during 2023 totaling \$2,880.00, but this amount will decrease for 2024, as one group has found other facilities in the community. The Food bank continues to make extensive use of the Fund scrip program providing the General Fund with continued fundraising potential. We did have the opportunity for additional fundraising with 3 wonderful music concerts held during the summer months and the UCW Farmer's Breakfast in June. We did not require a withdrawal from the LTF for the third year in a row) to meet our obligations during 2023.

General Fund Expense

The General fund Expense was up 6.2% over 2022, but still under budget by \$8,282.00. There were some large elevator costs once again, but to be expected as it is approaching 30 years in service. The organ also required an unexpected service visit in the autumn of the year. The General fund funded \$8,000.00 (after the tax rebate) towards the very successful Go Green project. All other funds for Go Green were through direct donation and grants provided through UCC.

Dedicated Funds

Portland United Church also collected and distributed to the following programs:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Mission & Service	11,031.00	5,271.00
Community Flex Fund	1,000.00	1,746.00
El Salvador	250.00	250.00

Also, it is important to remember that the congregation and greater community collected and donated \$51,906.00 for the Portland Food Bank.