

2023 Annual Report

Cambridge Street United Church

Lindsay, Ont.

Our Mission Statement

We, as members of Cambridge Street United Church, seek to follow Jesus Christ through word, music, and social action; thereby nurturing our personal faith and supporting the faith journey of others. We promise to be stewards of our living earth, to share with those in need, and to be welcoming to all.



Our Affirming Covenant

Cambridge Street United Church's Affirming Covenant is a call to action to create a just and caring Community of Faith and safe space with a continuing commitment to publicly, intentionally and explicitly welcome and celebrate people of all diversities, including but not limited to, age, colour, racialized experience, culture, ethnicity, economic circumstances, gender identity, sexual orientation, Indigenous heritage, physical and mental health and ability, spiritual affiliation, and marital or family status. We aspire to include and support the full participation of people of all diversities in all aspects of the life and work of our ministry.



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REPORTS — UNDER SEPARATE COVER after review by BDO Canada LLP:

General Fund Balance Sheet, Operating Statement - Revenue and Expenses, Trust Funds Report

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES**Sunday, January 15, 2023 – 11:50 a.m. (approximately)**

Sanctuary and via Live-streaming

Present: Jo-Ellen Abercrombie, Les Agnew, Wanda Agnew, Jo Alberti-Olan, Barb Alldred, Cathy Alldred, Wayne Alldred, Elizabeth Alton, Maxine Anderson, Ruth Barrett, John Bennett, Maria Bennett, Larry Bowen, Lisa Bowen, Heather Brown, Irwin Brown, Pam Burt, Alvira Copping, Fred Copping, Craig Donnelly, Dawn Donnelly, Margaret Davies, Eleanor Davis, Mert Davis, Erich Dawson, Brenda De Koker, Lynne De Saulnier, Dennis Eaton, Dianne Elson, Richard Elson, Judy Gillis, Bruce Glass, Carole Glass, Brian Gowan, Vicki Gowan, John Harris, Mary Hill, Don Holbrook, Don Huff, Margaret Hughes, Alex Istchenko, Marg Istchenko, Joanne Johnson, Garth Mackay, Elaine Kell, Carl Kimmett, Blaine Kitchen, Carol Lindsay, James Lindsay, Carol MacNaughton, Karen Martin, Bob May, Brenda McNeely, Paul McPherson, Freda McWilliams, Elaine Murray, Keith Olan, Nancy Payne, Kathleen Pearce-Holbrook, Wanda Percival, Dennis Peterson, Wanda Peterson, Jim Phelps, Doug Plaunt, Cathy Puffer, Mike Puffer, Pam Putman-Kimmett, Walt Radda, Andrew Rafton, Nora Reynolds, Jon Roberts, Jean Robinson, Martin Scott, Nicholas Shea, Doreen Sinclair, Joan Smiley, Angelique Stroobach, Erwin Stroobach, Patricia Teskey, Carole Tully, Jim Tully, Bill Walden, Eleanor Walden, Floyd Walden, Murray Walden, Dave Warren, Jan Warren, Judy Warren, Vivian Warren, Christine Willock, Joanne Winter, Kirk Winter, Chris Yu, Teresa Yu, (plus two names that were illegible on the attendance sheet). Total 96

Opening: Rev. Craig Donnelly called Alex Istchenko forward to chair this meeting. Patricia Teskey came forward as recording secretary.

Alex Istchenko stated the purpose of this congregational meeting: to vote on Cambridge Street United Church amalgamating with Queen Street United Church. As background, he stated that historically, the United Church of Canada has had two congregations in Lindsay; but Queen Street United's membership has dwindled and they are officially ending as a congregation at the end of this month, January 2023. Queen Street United's members are looking for a new church and have already voted in favour of amalgamation with Cambridge Street United Church. We are hoping they will strengthen us as a congregation and we will be stronger than ever. They still have some tidying up to do. There have been discussions between leaders of both congregations. Rev. Craig Donnelly, Rev. Paul Reed, Speaker of the Assembly of Elders for the East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC), and Darren Liepold, a staff person at ECORC, have certainly helped make these discussions go smoothly.

Question: Who can vote today? Rev. Craig replied that anyone who is a member of Cambridge Street United Church can vote. Adherents can vote if that is agreeable to the members. An adherent is defined as someone who is not a member of our congregation but contributes financially and by their presence and involvement to the life and work of Cambridge Street United Church.

Motion: *That the members of Cambridge Street United allow adherents to vote at this congregational meeting. Moved by Joanne Winter. Seconded by Jan Warren. Carried.*

Motion: *Alex Istchenko then read the motion and moved that the congregation of Cambridge Street United Church agree to welcome amalgamation with Queen Street United Church. Seconded by John Bennett.*

Alex Istchenko then asked for questions from the congregation:

Question #1: Are there any terms to this amalgamation?

Alex Istchenko replied that this is basically a process of Queen Street United winding down. The process is basically a merger, but we are using the word "amalgamation" because the constitution of the United Church of Canada uses the word "amalgamation" but has no wording for a "merger".

Alex Istchenko added that there is no impact on Cambridge United Church except that we are losing

Queen Street United's rental income and, hopefully, their members will be a strength to our congregation when they come over.

Later in the meeting, Rev. Craig added that financial contributions from members of Queen Street United would now be coming to Cambridge Street United, and trust funds would also be coming over.

Question #2: How many people are coming over?

Alex Istenchko said that it's up to each person in the congregation of Queen Street United to decide whether or not to transfer their membership. Rev. Craig added that there may be about 40 people, but he confirmed that each individual must decide independently to transfer their membership. We will invite those who come to transfer their membership.

Question #3: What will happen to Queen Street United's worship set up in the lower hall?

Alex Istchenko replied that it is up to their trustees to decide how to disperse their property. This matter has already been part of the conversation between leaders of the two congregations. Rev. Craig added that channels of communication are constructive.

Additional comment: Rev. Craig spoke of his experience as a member of the Covenant Support Team for East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC). Many congregations can't agree to start talking about amalgamation even when they have been part of the same pastoral charge for many years. Therefore, it's a "little miracle" that talks are moving forward between Queen Street United and Cambridge Street United. There is some paperwork still to be done, but we have two good people on the regional council on our side: Rev. Paul Reed and Rev. Darren Liepold, who is now leader of the Covenant Support Team.

Motion: Alex Istchenko repeated the motion on the floor and called the vote: *That the congregation of Cambridge Street United Church agree to welcome amalgamation with Queen Street United Church. Motion by Alex Istchenko. Seconded by John Bennett. Carried.*

February 5 Worship Service: Rev. Craig informed the congregation that there will be a special worship service to welcome members of Queen Street United Church to Cambridge Street United Church on Sunday, February 5. Our worship team will be meeting with some of their worship committee to plan this special worship service. Rev. Craig also asked that we move the start time of our Sunday worship service back from 10:40 to 10:30 a.m. effective February 5, 2023.

Motion: *That we move the start time of our Sunday worship service back from 10:40 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. effective Sunday, February 5, 2023. Moved by Brenda De Koker. Seconded by Martin Scott. Carried.*

Closing: Rev. Craig Donnelly thanked the congregation for coming, Alex Istchenko for chairing this meeting and Patricia Teskey for taking the minutes.

Ajournement: *Mike Puffer moved that this congregational meeting be adjourned. Seconded by John Bennett. Carried.* Alex Istchenko, as chair, then declared the meeting adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:07 p.m.

Alex Istchenko, Chair

Patricia Teskey, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES**Sunday, March 5, 2023**

Cambridge Hall (the gym)

Present: Jo-Ellen Abercrombie, Les Agnew, Wanda Agnew, Jo Alberti-Olan, Maxine Anderson, Ruth Barrett, Milton Battersby, John Bennett, Maria Bennett, Mary Benson, Diane Bernard, Larry Bowen, Lisa Bowen, Don Brown, Elinor Brown, Pamela Burt, Artemis Chartier, Bryan Clark, Nathan Copeland, Anne Coutu, Luc Coutu, Margaret Davies, Brenda De Koker, Lynne DeSaulnier, Craig Donnelly, Dianne Elson, Richard Elson, Dianne Gallagher, Bruce Glass, Carole Glass, Brian Gowan, Vicki Gowan, Jim Hall, John Harris, Don Huff, Don Hughes, Marg Istchenko, Joanne Johnson, Carl Kimmett, Joan Kirkpatrick, Jack Kyle, Jean Kyle, Carol Lindsay, Margaret Locke, Michael Locke, Garth Mackay, Wayne MacLeish, Karen Martin, Norma Martin, Joan Mashinter, Sharon McCrae, Mary McKay, Alex McLeod, Brenda McNeely, Freda McWilliams, Lisa Morasse, Elaine Murray, Bernie Nickerson, Bill Nimmock, Lorna Nimmock, Keith Olan, Nancy Payne, Wanda Percival, Dennis Peterson, Wanda Peterson, Jim Phelps, Doug Plaunt, Pam Putman-Kimmett, Walt Radda, Alex Richardson, Debbie Richardson, Carol Russell, Ralph Russell, Martin Scott, Doreen Sinclair, Angelique Stroobach, Erwin Stroobach, Patricia Teskey, Carole Tully, Jim Tully, Eric Waddilove, Dave Warren, Derek Warren, Jan Warren, Judy Warren, Vivian Warren, Christine Willock (Total: 85)

Welcome - Alex McLeod, church council chair:

- welcome everyone -great turnout
- extremely important year with some wonderful things accomplished
- thank you to UCW for the wonderful lunch
- thank you to staff of CSUC this Sunday and everyday – over and above what asked to do
- thank you to church council and team members – lots of behind-the-scenes work on a monthly and weekly basis
- special announcement re. church envelopes and Cambridge Chronicle newsletter: please pick up your copy to save the cost of mailing them out
- if you wish to speak, please use microphones in the centre of the room, or raise your hand to ask for a portable mic from John Harris. Say your name before starting to speak.

In Memoriam and Opening Prayer – Rev. Craig Donnelly:

- glad to see so many people
- on behalf of Cambridge Street United Church, welcome to former Queen Streeters now *Cambridge Streeters*
- Craig then read the names of people in our church family who passed away during 2022 (from list on page six of the 2022 Annual Report) and offered a prayer.

APPOINTMENTS (Rev. Craig Donnelly)

Chairperson for this meeting: Motion: *That Alex McLeod be appointed as chair for this Cambridge Street United Church annual meeting. Moved by Brenda De Koker, seconded by Milton Battersby. Carried.*

Secretary for this meeting: Motion: *That Patricia Teskey be appointed as recording secretary for this annual meeting. Moved by Jan Warren, seconded by Wanda Percival. Carried.*

Alex McLeod then took the role of chair and Patricia Teskey as recording secretary.

ATTENDANCE RECORD: Alex McLeod asked for the attendance record to be circulated and for everyone to please print their name clearly for recording purposes.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion: *To approve the agenda as presented. Moved by Carl Kimmett, seconded by John Bennett. Carried.*

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2022:

Motion: *That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting for Cambridge Street United Church held on March 6, 2022 be approved as printed and circulated. Moved by Jim Phelps, seconded by Milton Battersby. Carried.*

REPORTS:

Alex McLeod referred the congregation to the reports printed on pages 10 to 25 of the 2022 Annual Report and on pages 2 to 4 in the separate package attached to today's agenda and issued today. He will not be going to go through each one unless the team leader wishes to speak. Please direct any comments or questions by using the microphone.

Motion: *That the reports contained in the 2022 Annual Report be received. Motion by Joanne Johnson, seconded by Pam Burtt. Carried.*

Comment: Noted that Brian Nicholson's contract as Pastoral Care Associate has been extended for the remainder of this year until Dec. 31, 2023.

Comment and Question:

The Stinson Lecture Series seems to have stopped. Would like to see it started again. Is there still money in the fund? Rev. Craig replied that the most recent Stinson lecture speaker was David Phillips, the Weatherman (October 2017). We still have money in the fund, but the series was stopped because of COVID. Will probably start again in the near future. Wanda Percival added that there is a cost to putting on the lecture and it is a lot of work for the committee, but there is money in the fund and will be more lectures in the future.

Treasurer's Report (Wanda Agnew/John Bennet)

Alex McLeod referred the congregation to the "Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited)" and the "Statement of Operations (Unaudited)" on pages 2 and 3 of the separate package attached to today's agenda.

Motion: *That the 2022 Financial Statements of Cambridge Street United Church be accepted and approved as presented. Moved by Ralph Russell, seconded by John Bennett. Carried.*

Alex asked if there were any questions for Wanda Agnew as treasurer. None received.

United Church Women (UCW) (Dianne Elson)

During COVID, the UCW was not able to raise money. However, 2022 was very good, with successful rummage sales and Joys of Christmas. The UCW would like to transfer \$10,000 to Cambridge Street United Church. The members of the congregation applauded in appreciation. Rev. Craig thanked the UCW.

NEW BUSINESS:**Voluntary Associate Ministers** (Rev. Craig Donnelly)

-Rev. Craig expressed appreciation for the three ordained ministers who are members of Cambridge Street United Church and the help they give him with various functions, such as funerals. The United Church of Canada is encouraging the role of Voluntary Associate Ministers.

Motion: *To approve as Voluntary Associate Ministers (VAMs) for Cambridge Street United Church: Michael Locke, Jim Phelps, Wayne Reed. Moved by Craig Donnelly, seconded by Jim Hall. Carried.*

Licensed Lay Worship Leader (Rev. Craig Donnelly)

-Rev. Craig also expressed appreciation for the pulpit service provided by Nancy Payne, as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL), to Cambridge Street United Church and to other communities of faith.

Motion: *To approve support for Lay Licensed Worship Leader (LLWL) Nancy Payne from her home church Cambridge Street United Church. Moved by Sharon McCrae, seconded by Pam Putman-Kimmitt. Carried.*

ACTION ITEMS:

Election of the Council, Team Members and Board of Trustees:

Motion: *That the slate of names presented be approved by the Cambridge Street United Church congregation effective March 5, 2023. Moved by Bruce Glass, seconded by John Bennett. Carried.*

- Rev. Craig asked, following the vote, that his name be removed as ex-officio member of the Congregational Care Team and Brian Nicholson's name be added as ex-officio member.

Amendment to the motion: *Alex McLeod asked the mover and seconder of the previous motion if they were in agreement with this amendment to the motion. They were in agreement.*

-Alex McLeod mentioned that volunteers are welcome.

-Looking for expressions of interest for positions of chair and vice-chair

Appointment for Review of Financial Statements:

Motion: *That BDO Dunwoody be appointed Financial Reviewer for the financial year ending December 31, 2023. Moved by Wanda Agnew, seconded by Wanda Percival. Carried.*

Presentation and Approval of the Budget for 2023:

Motion: *To approve the 2023 Budget as presented. Moved by Milton Battersby, seconded by Wayne MacLeish. Carried.*

Question:

Why is there no budgeted item for management of the trust funds, which costs about \$19,000 per year? Is this amount included under expenses in the line for salaries?

-Wanda Agnew replied that an amount for management of the trust funds is not included in salaries or any other expenses. Management fees are not in the budget at all.

Comment:

It was noted by a member of the Finance/Stewardship team that investment income is not budgeted either.

REMARKS FROM CHAIRPERSON OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL:

Focus on two aspects of being a member and associated with Cambridge Street United Church: Cambridge Street United Church provides for extraordinary, all inclusive, representation in the community. Everyone who walks in these doors is made to feel they're part of the community.

REFLECTION AND BENEDICTION: (Rev. Craig Donnelly)

- thanked the UCW, the staff and Pam Burt for producing the 2022 Annual Report
- a wonderful church to be in ministry – so many wonderful things happening
- Rev. Craig then offered a prayer.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Brenda De Koker made a motion to adjourn. Alex McLeod, as chair, then declared the meeting adjourned. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Alex McLeod, Chair

Patricia Teskey, Recording Secretary

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, April 30, 2023 – 11:30 am
Sanctuary and via Live-streaming

Members present: Jo-Ellen Abercrombie, Les Agnew, Cathy Alldred, Wayne Alldred, Maxine Anderson, Milton Battersby, John Bennett, Maria Bennett, Mary Benson, Steve Bickle, Ruth Bovie, Larry Bowen, Lisa Bowen, Don Brown, Elinor Brown, Heather Brown, Irwin Brown, Brenda Burns, Pam Burt, Bryan Clarke, Alvira Copping, Fred Copping, Anne Coutu, Luc Coutu, Charlie Currie, Ina Currie, Margaret Davies, Erich Dawson, Brenda De Koker, Lynne DeSaulnier, Dennis Eaton, Dianne Elson, Richard Elson, Dianne Gallagher, Judy Gillis, Bruce Glass, Carole Glass, Brian Gowan, Vicki Gowan, Jim Hall, Mary Hill, Sandra-Lee Hobbs, Don Huff, Don Hughes, Mag Istchenko, Joanne Johnson, Jack Kyle, Jean Kyle, Gloria Langille, Carol Lindsay, Margaret Locke, Bill MacAlpine, Garth Mackay, Marian Mackay, Ruth Marquis, Dale Martin, Norma Martin, Joan Mashinter, Bob May, Freda McWilliams, Elaine Murray, Janis Neuland, Bill Nimmock, Lorna Nimmock, Bill Olan, Marguerite Olan, Clinton Parcels, Rose Parcels, Nancy Payne, Wanda Percival, Carol Peters, Grant Peters, Dennis Peterson, Wanda Peterson, Jim Phelps, Doug Plaunt, Cathy Puffer, Barbara Quibell, Walt Radda, Sarah Repka, Ivan Reynolds, Nora Reynolds, Tarja Reynolds, Carol Russell, Ralph Russell, Doreen Sinclair, Eric Smeaton, Sue Smeaton, Joan Smiley, Larry Stevens, Jane Stewart, Shannon Stewart, Erwin Stroobach, Kim Teatro, Patricia Teskey, Carole Tully, Jim Tully, Bill Walden, Eleanor Walden, Floyd Walden, Murray Walden, Elaine Walling, Vivian Warren, Iris Whiteside, Gillian Willcocks, Vera Wood, Chris Yu, Teresa Yu

The following announcement was published in the April 30, 2023 Church Bulletin:

HELP SHAPE THE SEARCH FOR A MINISTER

The committee starting the important work of finding a new minister is keen to hear from you on this question: *What do you want in a minister and what do you want that person to help Cambridge Street United become?* Your response can be as short or as long as you wish. You are welcome to speak with anyone on the committee: John Harris (705) 928-3771 and Alex Istchenko (705) 324-7087 (co-chairs), Seamus Agnew (705) 928-3501, Abby Boehme, Brenda De Koker (705) 324-9410. Bruce Glass (705) 324-4266, Nancy Payne (705) 340-2815, Sarah Repka (705) 928-5574, Nora Reynolds (705) 328-5674, Aaliyah Rowe, Eric Smeaton (705) 879-2242 and Joanne Winter (705) 934-0239. You can also email your thoughts to csucsearch@gmail.com However you choose to respond, please do so by Monday, May 15.

Motion: Moved by Larry Stevens, seconded by Carol Tully that the Committee as identified in the April 30, 2023, Church Bulletin Announcement be approved. CARRIED

Adjournment:

Doreen Sinclair made a motion to adjourn. John Harris, as acting chair, then declared the meeting adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:01 pm

John Harris, Acting Chair

Wanda Percival, Recording Secretary

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, June 18, 2023 – 11:45 am
Sanctuary and via Live-streaming

Members present: Jo-Ellen Abercrombie, Les Agnew, Wanda Agnew, Maxine Anderson, John Bennett, Maria Bennett, Diane Bernard, Steve Bickle, Ruth Bovie, Larry Bowen, Lisa Bowen, Heather Brown, Irwin Brown, Bryan Clarke, Eileen Cockburn, Paul Cockburn, Linda Cook, Anne Coutu, Luc Coutu, Erich Dawson, Brenda De Koker, Lynne DeSaulnier, Dennis Eaton, Dianne Elson, Richard Elson, Dianne Gallagher, Judy Gillis, Brian Gowan, Jim Hall, Pat Harkot, Janey Hill, Mary Hill, Don Holbrook, Kathleen Holbrook, Marg Istchenko, Alex Istchenko, Joanne Johnson, Jack Kyle, Jean Kyle, Carol Lindsay, Jim Lindsay, Margaret Locke, Michael Locke, Faye Marquis, Ruth Marquis, Karen Martin, Bob May, Christie May, Sharon McCrae, Mary McKay, Alex McLeod, Brenda McNeely, Paul McPherson, Elaine Murray, Ron Neale, Bob Noble, Yvonne Noble, Bill Olan, Marguerite Olan, Joy Parliament, Nancy Payne, Wanda Percival, Grant Peters, Donna Poelzer, Walt Radda, Patricia Reason, Sarah Repka, Nora Reynolds, Jean Robinson, Chris Scott, George Scott, Bruce Stainton, Margaret Stainton, Angelique Stroobach, Erwin Stroobach, Carole Tully, Jim Tully, Bill Walden, Eleanor Walden, Floyd Walden, Murray Walden, Christine Willock, Gillian Willcocks, Joanne Winter, Helen Young, Chris Yu, Teresa Yu

Motion: *Cambridge Street United Church Congregation approves the Living Faith Profile, the Financial Viability Review, and the Position Profile as the basis for its search for a permanent full-time minister*

Moved by Nora Reynolds, seconded by Carole Tully. CARRIED

Adjournment:

John Bennett made a motion to adjourn. Alex Istchenko, as acting chair, then declared the meeting adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:03 pm.

Alex Istchenko, Acting Chair

Wanda Percival, Recording Secretary

2023 IN REVIEW

January 8 Soup Fest following the service
 January 15 Congregational Meeting following the service
 January 24 Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon
 February 5 We warmly welcome and amalgamate with Queen Street United Church
 February 12 Communion Service – Observing Black History Month
 February 19 Scouting Sunday Service
 February 26 New Members Sunday
 February 28 Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon
 March 1 Noon Hour Concert – Trio Tromba
 March 5 Annual General Congregational Meeting following the service
 March 8 Noon Hour Concert – Escape to Paris
 March 15 Noon Hour Concert – Singalong hits of the 50s, 60s and British Invasion
 March 22 Noon Hour Concert – Downeyville Fiddlers and Friends
 March 26 Baptism Sunday
 March 26-May 14 Canadian Foodgrains Soybeans Growing Project
 March 28 Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon
 March 29 Noon Hour Concert – Love Songs
 April 2 Palm Sunday – Communion
 April 7 Good Friday
 April 9 Easter Sunday
 April 16 Pulpit: Rev. Wayne Reed
 April 23 Pulpit: Robert Bennett, LLWL
 April 29 High Tea Fundraising Event
 April 30 Pulpit: Nancy Payne, LLWL with the Congregational Care Team
 Congregational Meeting following the service
 May 2 Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon
 May 6 Spring Rummage Sale
 May 12 & 13 Desserts with Disney
 May 14 Baptism Sunday
 May 27 Youth Choral Extravaganza featuring Central Sr P.S. Choir, New Amsterdam Boys
 and Girls Choir and Voices of Victory
 May 28 Worship service - music by VOV and the New Amsterdam Boys and Girls Choir
 June 1 & 2 Mental Health Workshop
 June 11 Pride and Affirming Celebration Service – Nancy Payne, LLWL
 June 13 UCW Unit Potluck and Meeting
 June 18 Baptism Sunday
 Congregational Meeting following the service
 June 25 Farewell Retirement Reception for Rev. Craig Donnelly
 July 2 Pulpit: Karen Cartmell, LLWL – Music: David Litt
 July 9 Pulpit: Rev. Campbell Rayment – Music: David Litt, Brian Gowan (bagpipes and
 ukulele), Eric Smeaton (drums)
 July 16 Pulpit: Rev Paul Reed – Baptism Sunday
 July 23 Pulpit: Dylan Robichard
 July 30 Pulpit: Rev. Wayne Reed
 August 6 Pulpit: Karin DesChamp
 August 13 Pulpit: Evelyn Chambers, LLWL – Music: Bob May with Nicole Corley
 August 20 Pulpit: John Blyth – Music: David Litt, Ruth Fallding, Hunter Peeters
 August 27 Pulpit: Rev. Janet Stobie – Music: David Litt, Ruth Fallding, the Robertson Family

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|------------------------|--|
| September 3..... | Pulpit: Rev. Wayne Reed |
| September 10..... | Pulpit: The Worship Team – presentation with Kara Burke and Ellia Perdue on the Climate Motivators’ Initiative |
| September 17..... | Pulpit: Dylan Robichard - Welcome Back BBQ Lunch |
| September 24..... | Pulpit: Nancy Payne, LLWL and the Affirming, Diversity and Justice Team in Observance of Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples |
| September 30..... | Fall Rummage Sale |
| September 28..... | Faith Development Team Trip to the Petroglyphs |
| October 1 | Pulpit: Rev. Paul Reed – Worldwide Communion |
| October 8 | Pulpit: Rev. Darren Liepold – Thanksgiving Sunday |
| October 15 | Pulpit: Roger Robertson |
| October 20 | Used Book Sale Roast Beef dinner |
| October 22 | 191 st Anniversary – Welcome supply minister Rev. Sharon Campbell Rayment |
| October 24 | Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon |
| November 3 | Trio Tromba concert |
| November 5 | Remembrance Sunday |
| November 18 | The Joys of Christmas |
| November 26 | Children’s Sunday – Baptism |
| Nov. 30 & Dec. 1 | Healing Pathway Training – Phase 1 |
| December 3..... | Advent 1 – Hope – Communion A Christmas Festival concert with CSS, VOV and La Jeunesse Youth Orchestra |
| December 5..... | Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon |
| December 10..... | Advent 2 – Peace |
| December 17..... | Advent 3 – Joy – Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with orchestra |
| December 24..... | Living Christmas Pageant Service 7:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service 10:00 pm |
| December 31..... | Pulpit: Robert Bennett, LLWL |

OUR CHURCH FAMILY 2023 MEMORIAL LIST

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Evelyn Reedman..... | February 19, 2023 |
| Ellen Bush..... | March 12, 2023 |
| Ron MacLean..... | March 28, 2023 |
| Greg Nisbett..... | April 25, 2023 |
| Linda Waddilove | May 7, 2023 |
| Norman Reeds | June 11, 2023 |
| Gladwyn Bailey..... | June 12, 2023 |
| Marilyn Kee | July 23, 2023 |
| Eva Balogh..... | August 4, 2023 |
| Ron Sharman..... | September 3, 2023 |
| Nama Tummon | October 19, 2023 |
| Joyce Finney..... | October 20, 2023 |
| Jean Learn | November 18, 2023 |
| John Pickering | November 29, 2023 |
| Ila Reeds..... | December 8, 2023 |
| Bill Nimmock..... | December 28, 2023 |

CHURCH COUNCIL March 2023 – April 2024

The Church Council consists of the Minister, Chair, Treasurer, Recording, Secretary, Team Leaders, and a representative of the U.C.W., the Board of Trustees, Regional Council and Youth.

Minister: Rev. Craig Donnelly (retired June, 2023)
 Supply Minister: Rev. Sharon Campbell Rayment (eff. Oct. 17, 2023)
 Council Chair: Alex McLeod
 Vice Chair: Bruce Glass (eff. January 2024)
 Past Council Chair: Brenda De Koker
 Recording Secretary Wanda Percival
 Church Treasurer Wanda Agnew

AFFIRMING, DIVERSITY AND JUSTICE TEAM**Leader: Patricia Teskey**

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Elizabeth Alton | Nancy Payne |
| Artemis Chartier | Nicholas Shea |
| Meryka Currie | Joan Smiley |
| Sandra Lee Hobbs | Joy Wilson |

BOARD OF TRUSTEES**Chair: Joanne Winter**

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Wanda Agnew (Treasurer) | Stephanie Harwood-Jones |
| Luc Coutu | Eric Waddilove |
| Alex McLeod (Ex-Officio) | |
| Keith Olan | |

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM**Leaders: Mary Benson**

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Ellen Huether | Nora Reynolds |
| Myra Marquis | |
| <u>Librarian</u> | |
| Joan Smiley | |

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM**Leaders: Doreen Sinclair**

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Maria Bennett | Norma Martin |
| Luc Coutu (Associate) | Nora Reynolds |
| Dianne Gallagher | Jean Robinson |

FAITH DEVELOPMENT TEAM**Leader: Jim Phelps**

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Elizabeth Alton | Paul McPherson |
| Carl Kimmett | Patricia Teskey |

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP TEAM**Leader: John Bennett**

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Wanda Agnew (treasurer) | Doug Plaunt |
| Alex Istchenko | Alex Richardson |
| Wayne MacLeish | Larry Stevens |
| Bernie Nickerson | |
| Wanda Percival | |

REGIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Carl Kimmett | Patricia Teskey |
|--------------|-----------------|

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

| |
|-------------|
| Elaine Kell |
|-------------|

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL TEAM**Leader: Alex Istchenko**

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Bruce Glass | Cheryl Nagel |
| John Harris | Floyd Walden |
| Alex McLeod (Ex-Officio) | Elaine Walling |

OUTREACH TEAM**Leader: Maria Bennett & Pam Putman-Kimmett**

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mary Benson | Debbie Roberts |
| Kathleen Holbrook | Doreen Sinclair |

PROPERTY TEAM**Leader: Martin Scott**

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Luc Coutu | Mike Puffer |
| Erich Dawson | Andrew Rafton |
| Keith Olan | Kirk Winter |

WORSHIP TEAM**Leader: John Harris**

| | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Lisa Bowen | Jon Roberts |
| Jim Lindsay | Christine Willock |

MUSIC COMMITTEE**Leader: Erwin Stroobach**

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Jo-Ellen Abercrombie | Jim Lindsay |
| John Harris | Bob May |
| Margaret Hughes | |

TEAM LEADERS AND MEMBERS RETIREMENT DATES

- Team leaders can hold office for a maximum of six consecutive years, but Council may approve a longer term of one additional year for the Team leader if required (*Team leader).
- A team member's term begins on the date of the AGM or at which time their name was first approved by the congregation.
- A team member is initially elected for a two-year term, which may be renewed twice for a maximum of six years. A team member may choose to retire after two years, or after four years, but must retire after six years. It is recommended that a one-year break be taken before entering into a new position and renewed terms of office. After their one-year break, former members of a team are encouraged to join a different team than the one they previously served on. Any team member may resign at any time. The process for submitting a resignation is outlined in the Constitution, page 7.

| Retiring 2024 | Retiring 2025 | Retiring 2026 | Retiring 2027 | Retiring 2028 | Retiring 2029 |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| AFFIRMING, DIVERSITY AND JUSTICE TEAM | | | | | |
| | | Nicholas Shea | Elizabeth Alton | Nancy Payne | Artemis Chartier |
| | | | Meryka Currie | Joan Smiley | Sandra Lee Hobbs |
| | | | Jim Phelps | Patricia Teskey* | Joy Wilson |
| BOARD OF TRUSTEES (serve a three-year-term, with the right to be elected for a second consecutive term) Member: Wanda Agnew (treasurer) – no designated retirement date | | | | | |
| Joanne Winter* | Keith Olan | | Eric Waddilove | Luc Coutu | |
| | | | S.Harwood-Jones | | |
| CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM | | | | | |
| Elizabeth Alton (resigned 2023) | | | Patty Carlson (resigned 2023) | Joan Smiley (library) | Mary Benson |
| | | | Kim Perdue * (resigned 2023) | Myra Marquis | Ellen Huether |
| | | | | | Nora Reynolds |
| CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM | | | | | |
| Dianne Gallagher | Jean Robinson | Norma Martin | Maria Bennett | | Nora Reynolds |
| | Diane Bernard* (resigned 2023) | Doreen Sinclair* | | | Norma Martin |
| FAITH DEVELOPMENT TEAM | | | | | |
| | Jim Phelps* | Carl Kimmett | Patricia Teskey | | |
| | Paul McPherson | Elizabeth Alton | | | |
| FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP TEAM: Member: Wanda Agnew (treasurer) – no designated retirement date | | | | | |
| Bernie Nickerson | Wayne MacLeish | Alex Istchenko | John Bennett* | Wanda Percival | Doug Plaunt |
| | | | | Alex Richardson | Larry Stevens |
| OUTEACH TEAM | | | | | |
| Kathleen Holbrook | Pam Putman-Kimmett* | Doreen Sinclair | Linda Cook (resigned 2023) | | Mary Benson |
| | | Maria Bennett* | | | Debbie Roberts |
| PROPERTY TEAM | | | | | |
| | Keith Olan | Andrew Rafton | Mike Puffer | Martin Scott* | Luc Coutu |
| | | Erich Dawson | Kirk Winter | | |
| WORSHIP TEAM | | | | | |
| Jim Lindsay | Scott McLeod (resigned 2023) | Christine Willcock | Lisa Bowen | Jon Roberts | |
| | Laurie McLeod (resigned 2023) | John Harris* | | | |
| MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL TEAM | | | | | |
| Term of office: Elected at annual meeting. Term set by governing body. A balance of consistency and new Energy is desirable. <u>Members:</u> Alex Istcheno*, Bruce Glass, John Harris, Cheryl Nagel, Floyd Walden, Elaine Walling, Alex McLeod (Ex-officio) | | | | | |

FROM THE MINISTER

Cambridge St. United will always hold a very special place in my heart. I feel truly blessed that I was able to enjoy six wonderful years ministering alongside you. COVID presented many unforeseen hurdles, but the staff and congregation rose to the challenges, and carried on faithfully with “being the church” in creative ways.

Sometimes, it feels as though only a moment has passed since my retirement, while on other days, six months can fill up with many adventures and activities. I always look forward to hearing news from *little ol' Lindsay*, as I liked to affectionally refer to it during our time together, a town with a big heart!

Most of all, I experienced God's love in our church community and relationships. We achieved so many significant milestones in our mutual spiritual journey as a congregation. The staff team and lay leadership are second to none. Everyone is willing to roll up their sleeves and work shoulder to shoulder, to accomplish God's loving intentions for one another and the world.

Dawn and I are settling into life in Orangeville. It's a day to day discovery of what this new season may have in store for us, as the future is far from being mapped out neatly like a paint by number set. Isn't that wonderful? I know many have gone through these transitions before us and we rely on this collective wisdom.

Finally, I continue to hold you in my thoughts and prayers. I know God has new and exciting things in store for you. If you are ever heading Orangeville way, a town a little bit larger than Lindsay, but not by much, don't hesitate to reach out for a visit. We would love for our paths to cross again. The lyrics of the song, written by Michael W. Smith, that was shared at my final service at Cambridge St. United, beautifully remind us:

*Friends are friends forever
If the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say never
'Cause the welcome will not end
Though it's hard to let you go
In the Father's hands we know
That a lifetime's not too long
To live as friends*

Submitted with sincere gratitude - *Reverend Craig Donnelly*

FROM THE SUPPLY MINISTER

My dear friends in Christ! It has been my utmost pleasure to be at Cambridge St. United Church for the past few months. I am especially thankful that I came just before the Christmas season. What an amazing experience to see the Live Nativity and celebrate Christmas Eve with you!

I have felt the Essence of God's love in this place in conversations, visits, and of course in worship, which you may have guessed is my favourite time of the week. It is a time to celebrate God's presence and love in our lives and as Paul stated in Philippians 4:4 “Rejoice! Rejoice! I will say it again rejoice! Let your gentleness (*faith and love*) be known. God is near.”

I base my Ministry on Romans 12:15: “Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” (NIV) It is my greatest honour to walk with you through times of celebration and in times of difficulty

and change. I believe Brian Nicholson and I are working together very well to share those pivotal moments with you.

I want to thank you for the wonderful welcome that Doug and I have experienced. And of course, Maisey, my wee pug as well, who has worked her way into many hearts. She is often with me when I am in the office. Please stop by to share with me your experiences at Cambridge St., your faith journeys, or just share a coffee or tea together!

May God continue to bless us on this journey of faith together as we worship and share the Essence of God's love together!

- Reverend Sharon Campbell Rayment

PASTORAL CARE ASSOCIATE

Visiting & 'The Donut Club' - In mid-December the donut club celebrated it's first anniversary – Yes, and on that day, we had a slightly enhanced menu. We feasted on perogies, BBQ meat balls - thank you Karen, a myriad of cheeses, crusty bread, crackers, shortbread, and of course the **revered donut**. We played some trivia games and we tried to estimate the number of donuts we had eaten over the previous year. We settled on **650**, knowing of course that the actual number was higher. It was a great celebration. Collectively we look forward to changing the donut types, especially as the new donut at 'Timmy's' is **Blueberry Fritter!** Donut club is every Tuesday 10 – 11am, rain or shine. See ya there.

I enjoy meeting the folk from Cambridge St. United when I visit in their homes. I appreciate the welcome I receive; the conversation, the stories and memories that are shared. It is a privilege to serve in this way. In the fall we began monthly communion services at Lakeland Extencicare, Adelaide Place, and Frost Manor. A privilege indeed to stand with God's people as equals where bread is broken and wine is poured and once again the mysteries of Christ flow to us and through us. Thank you for these opportunities to serve.



Offered with thanks to Norma Martin and Mary Benson for preparing tea and coffee to go with the donuts, and to Maria Bennett for preparing communion elements for Adelaide Place.

- Brian Nicholson

CHAIRPERSON OF CHURCH COUNCIL

After three years serving as the Cambridge St. United council chair, I am both grateful and humbled by the vast community of institutions and individuals that continue to work together focused on the overall success of the church. It has been a particular joy of mine to see the almost seamless transition from complete shut down to joyful in person attendance at both the service and operational level. Thank You!

There is much to celebrate, but we also have challenges that require our attention and care. Transitions are challenging, and we have experienced many transitions throughout 2023, the most significant is the introduction of a new (and incredible) minister. Through the generosity and kindness of

our congregational family it is my hope that we can move forward together towards increased prosperity.

Over the past three years I have most often been asked, “How can I/We be more supportive?” After careful consideration, I have an answer. “Connect”. Whether it be through volunteering or attending Sunday service, the strength of the bonds between congregational members and the entire Cambridge St United family will directly correlate with the overall success of Cambridge St. United Church.

- Alex McLeod

EAST CENTRAL ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Representatives: Carl Kimmitt and Patricia Teskey

For the last several months there has been continued discussion on the General Council proposal of Remit #1 to create an autonomous National Indigenous Council within the United Church of Canada (UCC). There are 66 communities of faith that could benefit from more autonomy within the UCC overall structure.

All regions and pastoral charges within the UCC were asked to vote before March 31, 2024, on this remit to change the Basis of Union (the UCC Constitution). Cambridge Street United Church pastoral charge and the East Central Ontario Regional Council have voted YES to the remit. At this point we are all unsure of just what changes or response will occur at General Council level.

Cambridge Street United Church has done its homework and we have studied these issues to attempt a proper understanding. On September 24, our Affirming, Diversity & Justice Team hosted a worship service to observe the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Orange Shirt Day, and on October 1, provided a Lunch 'n Learn, with Rev. Paul Reed leading discussion, for the congregation to learn more about the remit. Patricia Teskey researched further information for council members to review. At the November 14 council meeting, on invitation from our church council, Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley, ECORC's minister of Respectful Relationships and Indigenous Justice, attended to discuss the remit further with council members before we voted.

All of this broadened our understanding of issues of importance to First Nations Peoples. In addition, in March, our Faith Development Team led a book study on ‘The Knowledge Seeker’ by Blair Stonechild, outlining the spirituality of First Nations in the prairie provinces, and in September, organized a field trip to Petroglyphs Provincial Park to gain insight into ancient rock paintings and carvings.

The January 8, 2024, ECORC online newsletter contained an expression of concern about the lack of voting by pastoral charges across Canada. As of that date, only 10 percent of all pastoral charges had voted. A non-vote counts as a NO vote. It was noted that *“it may be hard to see an entire branch of the Church take this bold step, some may see an unravelling but we also have to have trust in others.”* So now we wait with the confidence that we have done our homework and will continue to be supportive to those Indigenous communities of faith within our regional council area.

- Submitted by Carl Kimmitt

Goals for 2024 and beyond:

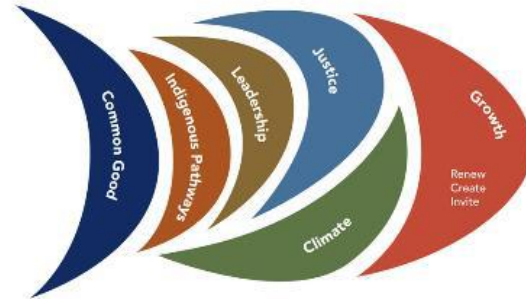
Discerning Currents: ECORC's Strategic Plan, 2024-2028:

In the Spring of 2023, the East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) formed a task group to draft a strategic plan framework for the next five years. Building on some areas of focus offered by the General

Council, and with feedback from your regional council representatives, ECORC adopted as an organizing principle the 'fish' diagram you see above. Inspired by 'the fish', the task group named itself '**Discerning Currents**'."

The fish diagram consists of these categories:

- Growth (Renew, Create, Invite)
- Justice
- Climate
- Leadership
- Indigenous Pathways
- (the Church's) Common Good



On April 19-20, 2024, Cambridge Street United Church will be the venue for the East Central Ontario Regional Council's spring meeting. As United Church members, you all are welcome to register and join in the discussions on the Discerning Currents strategic plan as well as on any other topic that interests you. This is your opportunity to have your say!

- Submitted by Patricia Teskey

THE UNITED CHURCH WOMEN



Purpose: *To unite all women of the community of faith for the total mission of the church and to provide a means through which they may express their loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service.*

Our UCW Unit meets monthly with approximately 25 attending to enjoy speakers, worship and fellowship.

In 2023 we catered the AGM lunch, Rev. Craig's retirement lunch, 80th and 100th birthday parties, a number of funerals and communion service clean-up duties. Three UCW women have taken the Food Handler course.

The UCW participated in the World Day of Prayer in March. Some members also attended the Kawartha Highlands Presbyterial General Meeting and Rally.

The Spring and Fall Rummage Sales were very profitable along with several fruit pie sales. The Joys of Christmas Event was enjoyed by all as we welcomed the Advent season.

Successful fundraising allowed us to meet donations to Cambridge St. United, M&S, outreach organizations and to our Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Additional projects this year included new floral arrangements for the sanctuary and a shadow box UCW Bulletin Board that features a memorial to a past UCW member, Lillian Nickerson.

We are pleased that our UCW Unit is growing and we are able to continue following our Vision as women of faith.

- Elaine Kell, President

U.C.W. Financial Statement 2023

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| General Account Balance - December 31, 2023 | \$20,714.55 |
| Income: Donations..... | \$ 1,685.00 |
| Funerals | 3,300.00 |
| HST Rebate..... | 9.84 |
| Joys of Christmas | 6,491.95 |
| Other Catering Events..... | 2,250.00 |
| Pies | 3,360.00 |
| Rummage Sales..... | 7,238.22 |
| Unit Givings..... | <u>1,522.80</u> |
| Total Income: | <u>\$25,857.81</u> |
| Expenses: Community, Friendship and Flowers | 74.23 |
| Events and Mileage..... | 109.75 |
| Funeral Expenses | 615.44 |
| General Kitchen Expenses | 246.11 |
| General Expenses | 1,017.71 |
| Joys of Christmas | 613.55 |
| Other Catering Events..... | 438.00 |
| Pies | 797.39 |
| Rummage Sales | 83.59 |
| Special Donation to Cambridge St. United | 10,000.00 |
| Commitments: National U.C.W. Resource Fund | 200.00 |
| Presbyterial Expense | 250.00 |
| Camp Quin-Mo-Lac..... | 200.00 |
| Golden Lake Camp..... | 200.00 |
| Home Church Commitment..... | 6,000.00 |
| UCW Bursary..... | 200.00 |
| Mission and Service | 5,000.00 |
| Donations: A Place Called Home..... | 200.00 |
| Five Counties Children's Centre..... | 200.00 |
| Women's Resources | 200.00 |
| Other Donations | <u>300.00</u> |
| Total Expenses | <u>\$ 26,945.77</u> |
| Net Income (Loss) | \$ <u>-1,087.96</u> |
| General Account Balance December 31, 2023 | \$ <u>19,626.59</u> |
| | |
| Project Account Balance as of Dec. 31, 2022 | \$ 5,914.89 |
| Expenses: Memorial Project | 271.31 |
| Total Expenses: | <u>\$ -271.31</u> |
| Project Account Balance December 31, 2023 | \$ <u>5,643.58</u> |

- Submitted by Dianne Gallagher, U.C.W. Treasurer

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

I believe this to be my 23rd annual report. It tells me that I have been at Cambridge St. United for quite some time, or that I'm getting old, or probably both! The years do fly by, but the one thing I'm consistently thankful for are the amazing people that give up so much of their time and talents to support our music ministry.

2023 has been an interesting year, where we really wanted to finally put Covid behind us, only to have two waves go through the choir leading up to Christmas, first in the tenor section and then later in the sopranos. Thankfully, cases now for the most part are mild, and we just carry on with our new normal.

Some of the year highlights include:

- The best ever attended Noon Hour Concert series (see Music Team report for more details)
- Voices of Victory and Friends *Desserts with Disney* shows on May 12 & 13.
- Youth Choral Extravaganza on May 27 with our guests New Amsterdam Boys and Girls Choir from East Harlem, NYC who also joined us the next day for Pentecost Sunday.
- *A Christmas Festival* concert with La Jeunesse Youth Orchestra on Sunday, Dec. 3. We also performed with them in Port Hope the day before.
- The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Dec. 17 with orchestra.
- The Living Christmas service with so many of our VOV alumni joining.

A special thanks to our instrumentalists who play with the Worship Band and those who join us for our special Easter and Christmas services and other services throughout the year. Thanks to our bell ringers who keep rehearsals interesting and entertaining. And thanks to all our singers in our Cherubs, Voices of Victory and Cambridge St Singers choirs, plus our guests who join us for Easter and Christmas.

But not everything is rosy. Voices of Victory continues to struggle to re-establish itself again. Our numbers are down and fewer involved are actually from Cambridge St. United. That in itself is not a bad thing, actually it's quite wonderful having more joining us from other churches and the community but getting the necessary commitment from everyone continues to be a struggle (which has been an issue for many years). The Cherub Choir has been slowly growing again which is awesome. Hopefully the forward trends are positive so that we can continue to offer this amazing choral experience for our children and youth. But please don't take it for granted.

I am privileged to be able to work with a wonderful staff. Angelique also does so much to support our music as well. I couldn't do without her! We also hold those who are struggling with health issues in our thoughts and prayers. May all we do be worthy of the God who created us.

- Erwin Stroobach

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Members: Joanne Winter (chair), Wanda Agnew (treasurer, ex-officio), Luc Coutu, Stephanie Harwood-Jones, Keith Olan, Eric Waddilove, Alex McCloud (ex-officio)

Celebrations/Accomplishments/Challenges in 2023:

After a few shaky years for all investors, things are beginning to look up. We are pleased to say that we finished the year with a 4.32% rate of return on our investments. The last quarter was particularly good, with a 6.5% return. We continue to have faith in our financial investment advisor from RBC Dominion Securities. He does an excellent job watching the markets and looking at forecasts to invest defensively for us in down times and less so when the markets are looking up.

I would like to thank all the members of the Board of Trustees for taking the responsibility of this position seriously. They pay close attention to what our advisor says, they ask excellent questions and keep themselves informed. They do not make decisions lightly. Cambridge St. United's trusts are in good hands. I am excited to announce that Linda Cook will be returning to the Board of Trustees this year after a brief hiatus. She is also well-informed and concerned with the well-being of our church. I am retiring from the Board of Trustees in 2024, and Eric Waddilove will be sitting in the Chair. He will do an excellent job keeping tabs on the trustees and our financial position, and he will be a good new voice on Council. Thank you, Eric.

As always, in all things related to Cambridge St. United, I have to thank Pam Burt. In the case of the Board of Trustees, she takes excellent minutes, sets up Zoom links when necessary, and keeps me on track. She also is an informal advisor on so many issues, including the Trustees. Thank you, Pam. I cannot imagine doing any of the things I have done with the church without your friendly help.

- Joanne Winter, Chair

AFFIRMING, DIVERSITY & JUSTICE TEAM

Team members: Patricia Teskey (leader), Elizabeth Alton, Artemis Chartier, Meryka Currie, Sandra-Lee Hobbs, Nancy Payne, Nicholas Shea, Joan Smiley, Joy Wilson

Celebrations/Accomplishments/Challenges in 2023:

In 2023 the Affirming, Diversity & Justice Team provided our congregation with opportunities to learn and grow in faith together by living out our promise in "Our Affirming Covenant" to support full inclusion and justice for people often marginalized in the church and society:

- **February 12** – We hosted a worship service to honour **Black history month and the United Church of Canada becoming officially anti-racist**. Readings and short videos told of the historical slavery, discrimination and segregation of Black people in Canada. The congregation sang verses of *Deep in our Hearts* (MV 154) between readings and videos. Rev. Craig Donnelly led the worship. Readers included Don Hughes, Nancy Payne, Joan Smiley, Angelique Stroobach and Patricia Teskey.
- **June 11** – Our annual **Pride & Affirming Celebration Service** marked the fourth anniversary of becoming officially Affirming for both Cambridge Street United and the former Queen Street United Church. Led by Nancy Payne, LLWL, the worship service was enhanced by a diversity of musicians, singers and readers from our congregation, including Les Agnew, Shaylyn Agnew, Artemis Chartier, Christelle Chartier, Pierre Chartier, Nathan Copeland, Don Hughes, Atticus North, Patricia Teskey and Joy Wilson. Led by Christelle Chartier, the children (and adults!) enjoyed learning American Sign Language for a song, *Love is a Flag*. After the service, the congregation enjoyed a celebratory cake with ice cream and a gluten-free, sugar-free dessert option in the gym – joyfully decorated in Pride colours by Artemis, Sandra-Lee Hobbs, Patricia and Joy. Special thanks to the children, Sabastien and Kolton Nielsen, who blew up a gazillion balloons to help their mother, Sharon, and Artemis and Christelle decorate the sanctuary, and to Anne and Eva Alton-Shea who helped their parents, Elizabeth and Nick, serve at the dessert table.
- **September 24** – We observed the **National Day of Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day** with a worship service led by Nancy Payne, LLWL. Many in the congregation, including the choir, wore orange to express solidarity with the slogan, "Every Child Matters". Nancy's moving message acknowledged the hard truth of the United Church of Canada's complicity in the treatment of Indigenous children in residential schools, which resulted in the deaths of thousands of Indigenous children, the breakdown of families, loss of language and culture, and intergenerational trauma. This truth was followed by Don and Margaret Hughes' powerful reading of *The Apology*, which was originally spoken to the Indigenous Peoples in 1998 by the Very Rev. Bill Phipps, then Moderator of the United Church of Canada.

- **October 1**– We organized and hosted a **Lunch ‘n Learn workshop** (gluten-free, sugar-free and vegan options) for the congregation to watch a video explaining the remit proposing the creation of an autonomous national Indigenous organization within the United Church of Canada – which our church council had been asked to vote on. Much thanks to Rev. Paul Reed, the guest pulpit speaker that Sunday, who stayed for lunch to answer our questions and lead a discussion. About 50 people attended. Feedback we received from this event: it was well organized and very informative. One person commented, gratefully, that this was the first church event at which they had been offered sandwiches on gluten-free bread.

Photos: The Pride & Affirming Celebration Service, June 11, 2023

(All photos by Dennis Eaton)



Top left: Christelle Chartier (centre) teaches the children (and adults) to sign a children’s song in American Sign Language with backup from her parents, Artemis Chartier (left) and Pierre Chartier (right).

Top Right: Nathan Copeland reads a children’s story.

Bottom left: Soloist Shaylyn Agnew is accompanied on guitar by her dad, Les Agnew.



Some Goals for 2024 and beyond:

- To support the minister in providing three justice-themed worship services throughout the church year, including a Pride & Affirming Celebration service;
- To develop an equity policy for Cambridge Street United Church based on the equity policies of the General Council of the United Church and our regional council (to be presented to Cambridge Street United Church council for approval);
- To continue taking steps, such as providing educational materials, to make our church building an Affirming, just and safe space for all who enter;
- To work with organizations in our wider community on goals we have in common.

- Patricia Teskey, Team Leader

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM

The Christian Education Team resumed meetings in the late fall of 2023. At present, we have three members: Ellen Huether, Nora Reynolds, Mary Benson.

Bethany Swinerd will be attending our meetings and will be asked for a monthly report concerning her programming, planning and concerns.

The Christian Education Team will arrange to receive annual reports from representatives of Scouting, the Library, and Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheon. We are also still supporting one foster child.

Sunday School has become Kids Corner due to the decreased number of children attending. We have discussed the need to have an adult volunteer(s) in order to begin to offer nursery options again.

Bethany reports that there is a lack of interest in Youth Group. Many of our former members have left for university and some of the other youngsters have become involved in other school and community activities. We are proposing that we begin a Tween Youth Group for the younger kids. Bethany has some plans for activities that they could pursue, including baking activities because they have expressed an interest in doing that.

Goals for 2024 and beyond:

- to offer events and programs that will enhance the likelihood of children becoming more involved in church activities again;
- to discuss and hopefully implement family events such as a Pizza and Games or Pizza and Sports Nights which were successfully tried in the past;
- to investigate whether it would be possible to, once again, offer PA Day Programs;
- to acquire a ping pong table, pickle ball equipment and possibly badminton equipment to facilitate sports nights, and to make it available for all ages.

We now know what our annual budget is and will be able to draw up a formal budget plan in the coming weeks. Hopefully, we will also find a couple more people who would be willing to serve on this team.

- Mary Benson, Team Leader

Church Library

The mission of our Church Library is to serve as a resource and reference centre, offering materials brought together, to help enrich our lives and deepen our spiritual understanding of our faith journey. We have been blessed by the addition of another bookshelf so that we are able to add more relevant books and resource materials.

We are most grateful for all the donated books received and thank Rev. Craig Donnelly for the contribution of his personal library upon his retirement.

The library is open daily for your convenience. Our holdings include materials for all ages and stages. If you have not visited the library in the past, I would encourage you to do so. When signing out a book, please sign the index card at the back of the resource. Place the card in the card box located beside the 'Returned Books' box.

If you have any suggestions for the library, please don't hesitate to leave a note for our consideration.

- Joan Smiley

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Joining the Cambridge St. United family this June was an exciting and busy time. It took a while to feel out where laid possibilities for the youth. With a lot of discussion, trial and error and brainstorming, I have a set plan to move forward with. I truly feel the Lord guiding us in a great direction in 2024.

The connections that have been made are strong and run deep and I'm truly thankful for each one. Sunday school has been successfully rebranded as Kids Corner, and we are seeing a small but reoccurring group of children weekly.

Junior Youth Group has been put in motion! Moving forward, the curriculum topics will be child-led, following their spiritual needs. We will be meeting Wednesday nights once a month in the Queen St Hall and one of the adjacent rooms. The next steps will be arranging our designated space in a way for the group to operate successfully. Once this is achieved fundraising events can be put in place.

The goal impressed upon my heart is to have the children and youth know the church is a safe place and to have a sense of belonging. In an ever growing world that's filled with fear and worry, this corner of the world is truly theirs to grow and find themselves. The love of Jesus Christ will be ever present in this space.

May the love of Christ be felt by any child in our presence.

- Bethany Swinerd

CLIMATE MOTIVATORS

In the spring of 2023, a youth member of our congregation, Ellia Perdue, 17, applied for a summer job as one of several Climate Motivators with the General Council of the United Church of Canada. (UCC) Her friend, Kara Burke, 18, who attends Fairview Baptist Church in Lindsay, also applied.

Both girls' applications were successful on condition that Cambridge Street United, as their community of faith, would agree to sponsor them and work with them on local climate justice or environmental needs, and at least one adult member of our congregation would mentor them. Our church council voted in favour of sponsoring them. I was happy to volunteer to be their mentor.

Ellia and Kara were hired for the months of July and August, along with 15 other youth across Canada, to participate in the United Church of Canada's first-ever Climate Motivators program. The program is co-led by three young adult climate coordinators and supervised by the GO Project in partnership with the General Council Office. All coordinators and motivators are funded through the Canada Summer Jobs Program.



A goal of the program is to engage youth in climate awareness in a way meaningful to them, and to support them in taking leadership within their local community of faith. In early July, the Climate Motivators connected with one another online and gathered in person to learn about the job. Later in the summer, they gathered at a camp in British Columbia for two weeks to worship, be in nature, act for

change, and influence church policy. One of these weeks was spent with UCC Moderator, Carmen Lansdowne, as they shared their work and insights with one other and with her.

Back home at Cambridge Street United, Ellia and Kara met with me to discuss a project they could work on with Cambridge Street United. I introduced them to Martin Scott, leader of the Property Team. On Martin's advice, they decided on a fundraising project to raise \$500 to pay for Styrofoam sheets that would be placed behind radiators to reduce heat loss through the exterior walls of our church building in cold weather.

As we can all appreciate, July and August are not the best months to launch a fundraiser at our church as many people in our congregation are away on vacation. So, even though their positions officially ended at the end of August, Ellia and Kara waited until the September 10 worship service to present their project to our congregation and appeal for funds. They set up a table, with information and a donation box, in the gym during refreshment time after the service. People donating \$20 or more were offered an income tax receipt. A total of \$405 was placed in an envelope in the church office and labelled as a donation to the Property Team Styrofoam Project.

Although the amount they raised was slightly shy of their goal, Ellia and Kara are very thankful to all those who donated. As their mentor, I evaluate their experience as priceless: they learned to engage with climate change in a meaningful way, and, as youth, to take leadership within their community of faith by organizing and carrying out a fundraising project to help us reduce heat loss and be environmentally friendly.

- Patricia Teskey, mentor for our Climate Motivators

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

Team Members: Norma Martin, Dianne Gallagher, Jean Robinson, Maria Bennett, Brian Nicholson, Nora Reynolds, Doreen Sinclair

Celebrations/Accomplishments in 2023

- Qi-gong Balance In Motion continues to grow with active participation on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We hosted a Christmas Lunch where 28 participants enjoyed food and fellowship.
- Our Healing Pathway Ministry is now successfully in our second year of operation adding 3 new members following the two-day training workshop. We now have 12 dedicated trained practitioners who offer 30 minute sessions in the Queen Street Hall Wednesday evenings, Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings. Although the sessions are offered at no charge, we gratefully accept donations to support our ministry.
- The Donut Club is well attended and offers weekly fellowship opportunities.
- The Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheons continue to be well attended.
- We appreciate our drivers on Sunday mornings who provide rides to church.
- Thank you to our monthly Caregiver Mental Illness Support Group.
- We are pleased to support Brian Nicholson as he now offers communion to residents at Adelaide Place and Lakeland Village/Extendicare.
- Much appreciation to our Card Writing Group. Your carefully written notes are always thoughtful and very much appreciated by recipients.

- Doreen Sinclair, Team Leader

2023 CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ROLL

| | |
|---|----------|
| MEMBERSHIP ROLL, January 1, 2023..... | 394 |
| <u>Added During the Year:</u> | |
| By Certificate of Transfer | 5 |
| By Profession of Faith | 8 |
| Amalgamation with Queen Street United | 53 |
| From Inactive | <u>1</u> |
| | 67 |
| | + 67 |
| | 461 |
| <u>Removed During the Year:</u> | |
| By Certificate of Transfer | 1 |
| Deceased..... | 9 |
| Removed by Inactivity | 5 |
| Removal by Request | <u>0</u> |
| | 15 |
| | - 15 |
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, December 31, 2023 | 446 |

Members: 446 (including 7 Non-Residents) Adherents: 56

- **Members** of the church are those who, on a profession of their faith in Jesus Christ or by transfer of membership, have been received into full membership and whose names are on the roll of the church. Members are entitled to vote at all meetings.
- **Non-Resident Member** means an official member in good standing who has moved such a distance from the congregation that they cannot attend regularly but still contribute to the life and work of the church.
- **Adherent** means a person who is attached to a congregation and who contributes regularly to its life and work while not being an official member.

MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Number of Members | 446 | 394 | 399 | 425 | 432 |
| Total Number of Services..... | 56 | 55 | 55 | 49 | 51 |
| Total in-person attendance..... | 7,478 | 4,872 | 2,537 | 2,327 | 8,726 |
| Average in-person attendance | 133 | 89 | 77 | 106 | 171 |
| Live-streaming viewers | 3,822 | 4,449 | 6,504 | 8,273 | 40 |
| Average live-streaming viewers..... | 68 | 81 | 118 | 169 | |

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry had another busy year. In 2023 we handed out 29 items consisting of shawls, blankets and baptism blankets. Since we began in 2007, we have given out a total of 439. The Prayer Shawl Circle meets on the second Sunday of each month, excluding July and August. Wrapping up in the warmth of a gift from the Prayer Shawl Ministry



reminds the recipient not only of God's love but also of the prayers and love with which the item was made. They are tangible symbols of hope and comfort and a reminder they are not alone.

We encourage anyone who needs a prayer shawl for a family member, friend or co-worker to contact us. Recipients need not be members of Cambridge Street United. Most items are blessed during our monthly Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting and a few are blessed in a beautiful ritual as part of our regular Sunday church service. They are then distributed to shut-ins, those who are ill, or people experiencing a loss in their lives. We also gift prayer shawls to celebrate marriages, births, and baptisms. We also make small Prayer Patches which can easily fit into a purse or pocket and give people something to hold on.

We have been blessed with donations of yarn and received funds through the UCW and the Congregational Care Team to purchase yarn. We are always looking for people who like to knit or crochet and who would like to create these shawls or blankets. If you would like to join this ministry by coming out to the meetings, or sponsor it by making shawls and blankets, please call the church office 705-324-3547 or email csuc61@gmail.com. Knitting and crochet patterns, and yarn, are available from the church office or at a meeting.

- Pam Burt

Walter Auld Fellowship Group

Team: Maxine Anderson, Dianne Gallagher, Lynn DeSaulnier, Elaine Murray, Diane Bernard, Cathy Aldred, Heidi Kaphengst, Brenda De Koker/Jim Hall, Finances, Joan Mashinter and callers

Celebrations/Accomplishments/Challenges in 2023:

We restarted our luncheons in December 2022 and ended in December 2023 with great success. The food catered by Wholesome Foods was enjoyed by all. The fee of \$15 became a challenge when food prices were continuously rising. Not only did we buy the drinks and the UCW provided tea and coffee; but we also paid the tax for each meal. We managed but knew that there would be another price increase in 2024.

After lunch events appreciated and enjoyed:

- Speaker from Women's Resources C. Fox
- Presentation - Trip to the Passion Play by Maria and John Bennett
- Irish Music by The Pint of Blarney
- Presentation by Silverlight Senior Services with real estate issues by Alicia Stroobach
- CSUC Healing Pathways demonstration.
- Christmas Music Sing-Along

We are so proud of our Volunteers who work tirelessly behind the stage and in front, from callers, Kitchen staff, Servers, dishwashers, money collectors etc. They are truly committed to the cause. A roster list exists to draw from, should someone be unable to help. We are proud of all those who continue to be there for the six luncheons of the year.

To organize these six luncheons per year and to find speakers and entertainers can be a daunting task. Therefore, Heidi is looking for a helper to share some of the load. Please get in touch with her at 705-328-0109 or cell 705-875-2043.

Goals for 2024 and beyond: to find a helper for Heidi with the organization. Continue to grow the roster of standby volunteers.

- Heidi Kaphengst

FAITH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Team Members: Elizabeth Alton, Carl Kimmett, Patricia Teskey, Paul McPherson, Jim Phelps.

The purpose of the Faith Development Team is to offer adults opportunities to learn and grow in their Christian faith. This may be enriched by such things as gaining an appreciation of other faith traditions or becoming informed about timely issues of public concern.

During the Lenten Season we conducted a study series, using as our resource the book, “The Knowledge Seeker: Embracing Indigenous Spirituality” by Elder and Professor Blair Stonechild. This book tells the story of the developing Indigenous-run education movement and offers understandings of central aspects of Indigenous spirituality. I think it would be fair to say that those who participated also felt their own spirituality reflected upon and nurtured.

In the Fall we invited anyone interested to join an arranged group visit to the Petroglyphs Provincial Park, north of Peterborough. By the date of the excursion (Sept. 28) a few had to drop out, but eleven enthusiastic people participated. Two very well-informed guides gave us background about “the teaching rock,” then shared spiritual and cultural meanings of specific carvings. This provided us with some understanding of ancient practices that are still meaningful for contemporary Indigenous communities. And thanks to Joy Wilson for writing about this experience in her recent Cambridge Chronicle article.

Learning by reading and listening are important initial steps on the Truth and Reconciliation path. In consultation with our church librarian, Joan Smiley, we placed two particular books in the library to augment the library’s collection of resources about Indigenous spirituality and culture, also Prof. Stonechild’s analysis of colonial history and its legacy.

Next, in a series of short Sunday screen announcements of “Recommended Reading” we will encourage the congregation to benefit from these resources.

- Jim Phelps, Team Leader

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Team Members: John Bennett, Wanda Agnew, Wanda Percival, Alex Istchenko, Wayne MacLeish, Bernie Nickerson, Doug Plaunt, Alex Richardson, Larry Stevens.

Celebrations/Accomplishments/Challenges in 2023:

For most of the past year, the Finance/Stewardship Team has conducted its monthly committee meeting via Zoom. Commencing in January, 2024, in-person meetings will occur.

In March 2023 we welcomed new members from Queen Street United Church (QSUC). Throughout the year, several individuals worked diligently completing the financial aspect of the merger of the two congregations. Appreciation is extended to Luc Coutu for his assistance throughout the process.

Our focus this past year was to ensure the orderly merger of the finances of CSUC and QSUC. The aim was to have all transactions completed by the year end, to be reflected in our accountant prepared financial statements presented at the Annual General Meeting.

While givings remained strong during 2023; we continue to rely on the earnings from Trust funds to meet our expenses. This continues to be an on-going challenge as the earnings from the Trust funds are not sufficient to meet the short fall.

PAR (pre-authorized remittances) is a convenient way of donating to our church and arrangements to convert to PAR can be made by contacting Pam Burt in the office. We now have more than half of our regular contributors using PAR which assist us in reducing administration with the handling of weekly cash and cheque donations via envelopes.

Finally, a big thank you to members of the congregation for your continued financial support.

Goals for 2024 and beyond: Achievement of a balanced budget.

- John Bennett, Team Leader

OUTREACH TEAM

Team Members: Maria Bennett and Pam Putman-Kimmitt as co-chairs. Deb Roberts, Mary Benson, Kathleen Holbrook, Doreen Sinclair

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers at Cambridge St. United who worked diligently to complete projects through our committee this year.

The Soup Kitchen at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church provides hot soup to those in need 3 days a week with Cambridge St. United volunteers serving each Friday.

Two very faithful teams of Cambridge St. United cooks are providing lunch weekly for students at King Albert Public School (KAPS) the Wrappers Team and Nacho Team have a joyful time as they prepare lunches in our church kitchen. A hot turkey dinner was prepared and delivered to students and staff the week before Christmas. Tins of Christmas cookies was a welcoming surprise for all at the school.

Luggage has been collected for the Children's Aid Society and A Place Called Home. Any contributions for these organizations may be left at the church for distribution. These items are very much appreciated by recipients.

Baskets at the Bond St. and Cambridge St. entrances continue to collect your donations of food for Kawartha Lakes Food Source. Thank you for your continued support of this worthwhile project.

The Outreach Team members, with the generous donation from an anonymous congregant, was able to support a family of 4 for Christmas through Women's Resources. It was fun playing Secret Santa.

Outreach Sunday is the last Sunday of each month when home-made cookies are available after the church service which includes a message for Mission and Service. We thank the contributors for their wonderful baking skills and the generous donors who enjoyed every morsel. Our community donations were made on behalf of Cambridge St. United as follows: \$500 each to Five Counties Children's Centre, Kawartha Lakes Food Source, St. Andrew's Church for soup kitchen, Food for Kids Breakfast program, A Place Called Home, Hospice and Big Brothers & Big Sisters.

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank celebrated its 40th anniversary this year with many celebrations and special projects to recognize their mission to end world hunger. The theme was "til all are fed". Cambridge St. United undertook a project to raise awareness of the ever increasing food insecurity around the world by partnering with the pastoral charge of Utica – Epsom, near Port Perry, and, in particular, Rob Ashton, who has organized a Foodgrains growing project in his community for 38 years. Rob lead us through a growing season for soybeans where we learned the many steps required to bring a crop to harvest. Funds were raised to contribute to the seeding and care for 7 acres of soybeans. After combining, our net proceeds from investment was \$5,315.00. The Federal Government matches

donations 4 to 1 for designated growing projects so making a donation to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank produces amazing results in teaching third world countries how to improve their farming methods and increase production. Thank you for being a part of this Outreach project.

- Maria Bennett and Pam Putman-Kimmitt, Co-Team Leaders

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL TEAM

The year certainly presented the congregation of Cambridge St. United with a few challenges. As the year began, we were thrilled to welcome Rev. Craig back after his recovery from serious medical treatments. However, three months after his return, Craig and Dawn announced their desire to retire and move back to their hometown of Orangeville. This move would occur effective June 30, 2023. The congregation was saddened by this announcement, as they would both be greatly missed. We wished them good health and a happy retirement.

John Harris, Leader of the Worship Team, has been fantastic at organizing pulpit coverage with the help of Rev. Darren Liepold, our Pastoral Support from ECORC. A search committee has been struck to look for a full-time senior minister to serve Cambridge St. United. They hired an Interim Replacement Minister in the fall, and Rev. Sharon Campbell Raymond began service with us in late October. Sharon has been well received and is contracted with us until the end of June.

We have also welcomed Bethany Swinerd as a part-time Youth Coordinator. Our hope is to rebuild the Sunday School and youth programs post COVID.

In mid-December, we also retained a part-time helper, working Fridays for 6-8 hours to assist Walt with cleaning duties. Martin Scott and John Harris found Ashley Dawson for this duty. Hopefully this will help Walt, as his efforts spent on the tech support for the live-streamed services have been largely put in outside his work time.

Staff reviews occurred in late Nov. and Dec. and were well received.

Our membership has been enriched with the new members joining us from Queen St. United Church. I truly believe that together we will be stronger.

Thank you to our team of Bruce Glass, John Harris, Cheryl Nagel, Elaine Walling, Floyd Walden, and Alex McLeod (ex-officio). Some of us will be leaving the team this year, but fortunately a good core group plans on staying. We thank the congregation for supporting the great staff at Cambridge St. United.

- Alex Istchenko, Team Leader

MEN'S COFFEE GROUP

In January 2023, Rev. Brian Nicholson assisted a small group of men towards the goal of having a Men's Coffee Group. The objectives were to have good coffee, discussion topics of interests to men, no fund raising duties, and be welcoming to all men with a church interest. We meet the second Thursday each month and we have averaged 10 to 12 men per meeting. The topics are varied and come from the membership. We have some very meaningful discussions and hope to continue as we are.

- Carl Kimmitt

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Our Music Team hosted its 20th season of Noon Hour Concerts, and with a fabulous lineup of performers, we had by far the best turnout ever!

Performers for the 2023 concert series included:

- March 1 – “Trio Tromba” featuring Roy Feuerherdt, Martin Neuland and Margaret Wolf
- March 8 – “Escape to Paris” featuring Gael Morrison, Liana Cooper, Barb Hilts and Quin Lang
- March 15 – “Singalong” with Bob May, Margaret Hughes and Jo-Ellen Abercrombie
- March 22 – “Downeyville Fiddlers & Friends”
- March 29 – “Love Songs/Chansons d’Amour” – Artemis and Pierre Chartier

The team also helped organize the return of Trio Tromba for an evening concert on Friday, November 3, titled “Our Favourites for You”. Tim Birtch also joined them for the evening.

Our amazing Music Team members include Jo- Ellen Abercrombie, Donna Poelzer (welcome to our newest member), John Harris, Margaret Hughes, Jim Lindsay, Bob May, Erwin Stroobach, and Derek & Jan Warren (honorary members). A big thanks to Don Hughes for doing posters for our Noon Hour Concerts and Angelique Stroobach for the posters and programmes for the Trio Tromba concert.

- Erwin Stroobach, on behalf of the Music Committee

Keep Your Brain Young with Music: Aging Well Age-Related Depression, Mood and Stress Maintaining a Healthy Mind as You Age - If you want to firm up your body, head to the gym. If you want to exercise your brain, listen to music. There are few things that stimulate the brain the way music does. If you want to keep your brain engaged throughout the aging process, listening to or playing music is a great tool. It provides a total brain workout. Research has shown that listening to music can reduce anxiety, blood pressure, and pain as well as improve sleep quality, mood, mental alertness, and memory. – John Hopkins School of Medicine
<https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/keep-your-brain-young-with-music>

PROPERTY TEAM

Team Members: Martin Scott, Kirk Winter, Mike Puffer, Keith Olan, Andrew Rafton, Luc Coutu, Erich Dawson

Celebrations/Accomplishments/Challenges in 2023:

- **January:** The doors at the main Cambridge St. entrance were taken down, pulled apart, oiled the locks, re-assembled and reinstalled. All locks now work properly. Two defibrillators were received from Queen St. United and they were inspected and batteries were replaced. The boiler continued to shut down and LCD Mechanical was called to analyze the problem.
- **February:** The Team was working on getting quotes for A/C in the sanctuary and electrical upgrades, and the water issue in the basement furnace room. The team also was trying to source new insurance through KRG, Stewart Morrison, United Church of Canada, and Self-Insurance Program.
- **March:** The boiler continued to shut down. We received a \$2,000 donation for a new snow blower and Walt Radda will shop around for one in the fall. Received approval to proceed with A/C installation and electrical upgrades. The UCW approached us to have a new display case built and installed in the Bond St. hallway near the gym.
- **April:** The Team met for a morning of work on the church grounds which included raking, collecting garbage, down spout repairs, and moving a piano from lower hall to the Music Room. We were

looking into a back-up team for the Sunday audio visual equipment.

- **May:** The A/C and electrical upgrades were installed and completed. Dyson Alarm's deficiency and recommendations report were completed. Defibrillators were upgraded and Council approved Andrew Rafton's placement suggestions. The UCW display case was installed.
- **June:** New faucets were installed in both of the washroom in the Bond St. hallway. The two new defibrillators (from Queen St. United) were installed.
- **July/August:** The basement was waterproofed and was drying out nicely. The two dehumidifiers were running and continually draining into the sump pump. Brenda De Koker was looking into new bookshelves for Rev. Craig's books in the library.
- **September:** The Bond St. entrance brick work and stairs was completed. The ECORC grants we sought out to help pay for the new A/C units and electrical upgrades was not available to us. The funding was for short-term loans and endangered congregations where a physical issue could mean closing the church. We were still looking into alternative insurance possibilities. Three fire extinguishers were installed to address Dyson Alarm's deficiency report. A new vacuum was purchased through the Christmas Wishlist Fund and the old one was going to be repaired and used as a spare.
- **October:** The boiler was checked out for the new season and one steam leak was repaired. The Cambridge St. main front doors (1 of 2 doors) was fixed and locks properly. We were looking into hiring someone to help with custodial duties.
- **November:** Walt Radda purchased a snow blower from Home Hardware with donations received. The new bookshelves for the library were built and installed. We interviewed people for custodial duties help. The foot lock on the Bond St. doors was dismantled, cleaned, oiled and installed for better security.
- **December:** We hired a new staff to help with custodial duties. At the request of the choir and minister, a new monitor was installed on the front of the sound booth so that they can see the live-streaming of each service.



- *Matin Scott, Team Leader*

WORSHIP TEAM

Where did the time go? It seems like we just ramped things up for the fall and the next thing you know it's New Years Eve.

In January 2023, we welcomed the former Worship Team members from the Queen Street United Church. We gave an overview of what this team does on an annual basis. All of their members were very appreciative of the insight but chose to take a break from joining our team at this time as they had been serving on several committees for a long time.

Things took a different perspective in the spring as Rev. Craig announced he was retiring as of July 31. This meant we had some additional Sunday pulpit coverage in to fill over and above his normal holidays. We also arranged for coverage for Erwin while he was on holidays.

It is the responsibility of this team to arrange scripture readers for Sunday morning throughout the year. This fall we introduced a new initiative by having one of our youth, who are currently away at college or university, read the scripture remotely. This has gone over really well. We are looking at other ways to involve our youth and young families. Other responsibilities include decorating the sanctuary for Thanksgiving, decorating the two large Christmas trees and looking after Communion whenever it is part of the service. We have gone back to conventional Communion and people seem very happy with that.

This year Christmas Eve was very special as we had three services. Our regular morning service and our Living Christmas Pageant with 240 candles lit along four streets leading to the church. It was wonderful to see how much of the neighbourhood and other parts of the town have joined in this tradition with candles of their own. It is a terrific visible part of the outreach of Cambridge Street United.

This fall we welcomed the appointment of Rev. Sharon Campbell Rayment as supply minister to Cambridge Street United. We have had several meetings as we work together in shaping worship going forward.

Again, a huge thank you to all the members on this team: Jim Lindsay, Lisa Bowen, Christine Willock and Jon Roberts for all their help and support. It is a pleasure with this team to serve this congregation.

- John Harris, Team Leader

SPIRIT FUNDRAISING TEAM

Team members: Brenda Burns, Richard Elson, John Harris, Laura Hargrave, Alex Istchenko, Joanne Johnson, Wanda Percival, Mike Puffer, Marian Sweetnam and Joanne Winter

Celebrations/Accomplishments/Challenges in 2023:

The High Tea held on April 29 was very successful. Thank you to Laura Hargrave for organizing this first-time event and to all of the volunteers contributing to its success!

The 26th Annual Roast Beef Dinner held on October 20, was well attended and a big thank you is extended to Murray and Eleanor Walden for again donating the roast beef as they have done for each of the 26 years, to Marian Sweetnam and Cathy Puffer for overseeing the preparation and cooking of the delicious meal, and to Brenda Burns for organizing the many volunteers. Appreciation for the success of the event is also extended to the volunteers and those who purchased tickets for the dinner—thank you!

The Fundraising Team helped with the Desserts with Disney Concert and is very appreciative of the donation from this Voices of Victory event. The after-church barbeques held this year in May and September provided opportunities for fellowship amongst members of the congregation and when we hosted the Choir from Harlem in May. Each of these events contributed to the Spirit Fundraising Team raising \$9,384.75, surpassing its budget goal of \$6,800.

| Event | Net Earnings |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| High Tea | 2,015.91 |
| May & September Barbeques | 367.33 |
| Desserts with Disney | 800.00 |
| Roast Beef Dinner | 6,201.51 |
| Total | \$ 9,384.75 |

The team looks forward to organizing the following fundraising events during 2024:

- March 15 – Irish Concert featuring Pint of Blarney
- April 27 – High Tea
- September 22 – Welcome Back Barbeque
- October 18 – Roast Beef Dinner

Goals for 2024 and beyond: A tentative fundraising goal of \$10,000 has been set for 2024.

- Wanda Percival

Shopping Card Program - 2023 Summary

This program pays a percentage back to the church for every card sold, ranging from 2% to 12%. 2023 was a much better year than 2022 with the help of the cards being sold after Sunday services in the gym during the coffee time. Also, we were supported this year by two companies who used our shopping card program to provide Christmas gifts to their employees. Thanks to those who have been purchasing the cards over the last year, your continued financial support is greatly appreciated.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Balance Jan. 1, 2023:..... | \$ 7,490.86 |
| Revenue: Sales of cards | 40,245.00 |
| Expenses: Purchase of cards from vendors | (35,995.15) |
| Bank charges | (10.20) |
| Balance at Dec. 31, 2023..... | \$ 11,730.51 |
| Profit Gained in 2023 | \$ 4,239.65 |

This is the easiest way to raise money for the church. We all buy groceries, gas and other gift cards throughout the year. Why not buy them through this program? This will put money into the church budget and it doesn't cost you anymore than you were going to spend. Start out small with \$25.00 for your coffees at Tim Horton's and keep building on the habit.

| ELECTRICITY GENERATED FROM OUR SOLAR PANELS | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
| Dec22/2022-Jan24/2023 | 290 kWh | \$ 227.44 |
| Jan25-Feb22 | 600 kWh | \$ 476.06 |
| Feb23-Mar23 | 1,030 kWh | \$ 821.16 |
| Mar24-Apr24 | 1,370 kWh | \$1,093.33 |
| Apr25-May24 | 1,360 kWh | \$1,085.58 |
| May25-Jun22 | 1,480 kWh | \$1,182.06 |
| Jun23-Jul24 | 1,510 kWh | \$1,205.61 |
| July25-Aug22 | 1,190 kWh | \$ 949.48 |
| Aug23-Sep22 | 1,430 kWh | \$1,141.72 |
| Sept23-Oct24 | 1,160 kWh | \$ 924.91 |
| Oct25-Nov22 | 640 kWh | \$ 508.38 |
| Nov23-Dec20 | 330 kWh | \$ 259.93 |
| Total revenue | | \$9,875.66 |



MINISTRY STAFF OF CAMBRIDGE STREET UNITED CHURCH

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|---|---|
| 1832 | Rev. Conrad Vandusen | 2003-2007 | Rev. Dr. Janet Brigham-Turowski |
| 1833 | Rev. John Law | 2008-2017 | Rev. Paul N. Reed |
| 1834 | Rev. John Black | 2017-2023 | Rev. Craig Donnelly |
| 1835 | Rev. William Young | 2023- | Rev. Sharon Campbell Rayment (supply minister) |
| 1836-1838 | Rev. Cornelius Flummerfelt | | |
| 1839-1840 | Rev. Horace Dean | | |
| 1841-1842 | Rev. John Sanderson | <u>ASSOCIATES</u> | |
| 1843 | Rev. Herman Davis | 1960-1962 | Rev. Walter R. Auld |
| 1844-1845 | Rev. Gilbert Miller | 1962-1965 | Rev. K.G. Purdon |
| 1846 | Rev. William Young | 1966-1969 | Rev. J.F. Gertridge |
| 1847 | Rev. David Hardy | 1972-1975 | Rev. Wm. H. John |
| 1848 | Rev. C.W.M. Gilbert | 1976-1980 | Rev. Bessie Lane |
| 1849 | Rev. John Sanderson | 1981-1983 | Rev. Basil Long |
| 1850-1851 | Rev. Cornelius Flummerfelt | 1984-1990 | Rev. Vic H. Sanguine |
| 1852-1953 | Rev. Thomas Hannah | 1992-1996 | Rev. Ross W. Carson |
| 1854-1856 | Rev. J.C. Osborne | 1996-1999 | Rev. Marvin McDermott |
| 1857 | Rev. James Greener | <u>INTERIM/SUPPLY</u> | |
| 1858-1860 | Rev. D.C. Clappison | 1990-1991 | Rev. Gordon Postill |
| 1861-1863 | Rev. S.C. Philip | 1991-1991 | Rev. Floyd G. Howlett |
| 1864-1866 | Rev. A. Edwards | 1991-1991 | Rev. Bruce White |
| 1867-1869 | Rev. James Greener | 1991-1991 | Rev. Walter Murray |
| 1870-1872 | Rev. C. Freshman | 1997-1998 | Rev. David Reeve |
| 1872-1874 | Rev. James Brock | 2003-2004 | Rev. Paul Boughton |
| 1875-1876 | Rev. Charles Fish | 2008-2008 | Rev. Bobby W. Fillier |
| 1877-1879 | Rev. Wellington Jeffers | 2023- | Rev. Sharon Campbell Rayment |
| 1880-1882 | Rev. John S. Clarke | <u>PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY</u> | |
| 1883-1884 | Rev. W.H. Elmsley | 2000-2005 | Rev. David Reeve |
| 1885-1888 | Rev. M.L. Pearson | 2005-2011 | Rev. Walter Murray |
| 1888-1891 | Rev. W. Williams | 2007-2011 | Joan Smiley |
| 1891-1894 | Rev. T.M. Campbell | 2011-2012 | Rev. Bobby W. Fillier |
| 1894-1897 | Rev. S.J. Shorey | 2012-2012 | Rev. Janet Stobie |
| 1897-1902 | Rev. Thomas Manning | 2013-2018 | Nancy Payne |
| 1902-1905 | Rev. G.W. Henderson | 2018-2021 | Rev. M. Robin Thomson |
| 1905-1908 | Rev. George J. Bishop | 2022- | Brian Nicholson |
| 1908-1911 | Rev. J.P. Wilson | <u>CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY</u> | |
| 1911-1915 | Rev. S.J. Shorey | Ordained 1962 | Rev. Donald Raffan |
| 1915-1918 | Rev. A.H. Going | Ordained 1971 | Rev. John Matheson |
| 1918-1921 | Rev. E. Val Tilton | Ordained 1975 | Rev. Robert Arril |
| 1921-1925 | Rev. W.H. Barraclough | Ordained 1981 | Rev. Susan Sorensen |
| 1925-1928 | Rev. F.H. McIntosh | Ordained 2006 | Rev. Ceri Rees |
| 1925-1933 | Rev. T.E. Holling | Ordained 2019 | Rev. Daniel Reed |
| 1933-1946 | Rev. J.J. Black | <u>MINISTER EMERITUS</u> | |
| 1946-1957 | Rev. Harold B. Neal | March 2018 | Rev. Michael Locke |
| 1958-1965 | Rev. R.K.N. McLean | May 2023 | Rev. Jim Phelps |
| 1965-1969 | Rev. H.G. Pritchard | May 2023 | Rev. Wayne Reed |
| 1969-1986 | Rev. Lorne A. Dorsch | | |
| 1987-1990 | Rev. David Iverson | | |
| 1991-1997 | Rev. Ruggles C. Constant | | |
| 1998-2003 | Rev. Michael C.H. Locke | | |

Prepared for the Annual Meeting of the congregation on
April 14, 2024

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