



CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
PORT COLBORNE, ON
ANNUAL REPORT 2017



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AGENDA

Opening Prayer

Words of Welcome

Children Adjourn

BUSINESS MEETING

In Memoriam

Acceptance of the Agenda

Acceptance of the minutes of the last Annual Meeting, February 5, 2017, as printed

Motion that adherents be allowed to vote on the business of the meeting

Recommendations from Church Council

Reports: It is recommended “that all 2017 reports, except the Treasurer’s Report be accepted as printed”.

Treasurer’s Report

NEW BUSINESS

Report from the Nominating Committee

Election of Council Members

Presentation of the 2018 Budget

Resolution re Borrowing

Appointment of Auditors for 2018

Other New Business

Closing Remarks

Adjournment Motion: “That this meeting adjourn, and the Church Council and its Executive be given power to act in all necessary matters until the next Annual Meeting to be held early in 2019, date to be set by Church Council.”

**CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2017**

The meeting opened at 12:10 pm following a Crock Pot Lunch. Chair Darlene Sherk gave a few words of welcome, thanking (1) the Program Committee for organizing the lunch and bringing the “crock pot food” (2) all others who had donated to the lunch, and (3) church family members who were in attendance for the meeting.

Church Council Secretary, Kate Brown was unable to attend the meeting.
Moved by Chris Wilson, seconded by Cathy Rubocki, that Donna Tuck be appointed secretary for the meeting. Carried.

Donna Howlett led a short Memorial Service honouring and remembering those who had passed away in 2016.

Moved by Ross Tuck, seconded by Kurt Rauscher that the agenda be accepted as printed. Carried

Moved by Marilyn Robinson, seconded by Nancy Sloan that the minutes of the last Annual Meeting January 31, 2016, be accepted as printed. Carried.

Moved by Joel Longfellow, seconded by Lori Smith that adherents be allowed to vote on the business of the meeting. Carried.

There were no recommendations from Church Council to bring to the meeting for discussion.

Moved by Lesley Rickard, seconded by Lorne Kempley, that all 2016 reports, except the Treasurer’s Report, be accepted as printed. Carried.

Treasurer’s Report

Chris Wilson, Chair of Finance Committee, presented the Treasurer’s Report. He acknowledged and thanked Treasurer Sandra Frame for her expertise and hard work as Treasurer. He also recognized the work of Envelope Secretary, Marie Feduck, who assumed that role following the passing of Calvin White. During an update of the office computer in the spring, all data was lost and Marie had to redo the entries. Chris also thanked Donna Tuck who continued to issue cheques and keep things organized while Sandra was away during the winter months.

Chris, in referring to the yearend Financial Report, pointed out that givings were up this year. Other funding received was re the construction of the new steps at the main entrance to the church: \$15,000 from the Extension Council of Niagara Presbytery, \$5000 from the estate of Madeline Bauer and \$13,000 from the Memorial Fund. It was noted that it was not necessary to move any money this year from the Trustee Accounts. Disbursements for Property were higher than budgeted due to the replacements of the steps, the cleaning of the organ (money raised with a special fund raising project) and unexpected plumbing expenses.

Staffing costs are lower, reflecting the changes that were made in staffing at the beginning of 2016. Salaries for ministerial staff now include the housing allowance. Revenues for both the Local Outreach Fund and the Mission and Service Fund were up from the previous year, indicating that we are a church looking outward to the needs and concerns of others.

Moved by Chris Wilson, seconded by Marilyn Robinson that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Report

Donna Tuck presented the report of the Nominating Committee listing those willing to be nominated for the various positions on church council, as well as those willing to sit on the various committees of church council. She asked three times for further nominations from the floor. There were none.

Election of Council Members

Moved by Donna Tuck, seconded by Kurt Rauscher that the slate of officers for Church Council be accepted as presented. Carried.

Presentation of the Budget

Chair of Finance, Chris Wilson presented the Budget for 2017. There are few changes in the budget other than a slight increase in the salary line. Salary grids for ministerial staff are set by the United Church of Canada.

Chris reported that we are facing two big capital projects – restoration of the tower, due to deterioration of the brickwork, and replacement of the elevator which is now 30 years old and becoming almost impossible to repair. Discussion took place re the financing of these projects through grants from the Extension Council of Niagara Presbytery and the Ontario Trillium Foundation. For both of these grants to be realized, fundraising by the congregation would need to take place.

Chris also reported that an anonymous donor has given a substantial gift to the church, and that the donation be matched with contributions from the congregation. The funds are to be used for the building and it had been suggested that our worship space “needs work”. Cathy Boggio and Jane Danch-Roy have been recruited to work on this project. Members of the congregation are encouraged to help develop a vision and a project for using this generous and thoughtful gift. Any suggestions or “dreams” on how this money could be used should be directed to Cathy or Jane.

Moved by Chris Wilson, seconded by Tony Roy that the Budget for 2017 be accepted as presented. Carried

Resolution re Borrowing

Moved by Joel Longfellow, seconded by Cathy Rubocki that the Church Council be authorized to borrow up to \$50,000 for the operation of the church, if and when needed. Carried.

Appointment of Auditors for 2017

Moved by Chris Wilson, seconded by Kurt Rauscher that Larry Boggio be appointed auditor for 2017. Carried.

Other New Business

1. Barb Rauscher pointed out that her husband Kurt needs help with the myriad of tasks that he undertakes around the church. There was unanimous agreement! Kurt spoke and said that there are a list of jobs ahead; window frames around the stained glass windows need repair; eaves troughs and downspouts need attention; ongoing painting which is happening thanks to Kurt, Jim Cloughley and Ron Jackson.

2. Lesley Rickard pointed out that the elevator project would be best suited to application for funding by the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the other capital projects are better suited to application for funding by the Extension Council of Presbytery.

3. Donna Howlett congratulated the congregation on the great job that they have done in getting grants. She commented “Writing applications for grants is an art – and this council has it!”

We, as a congregation, are encouraged to rise to the challenge of matching funds donated to the church.

4. Darlene Oord spoke to the need of getting volunteers. Generally, people do not sign up for projects. The human touch of a personal approach is more successful....plan a specific project, set a date, get a team by approaching people personally, involve family members who may or may not attend worship.

Closing Remarks

In closing, Chair Darlene Sherk expressed her gratitude to the council and church family, and to Kate Brown who is retiring as Council Secretary. She welcomed Bev Roseboom to that position, and also welcomed Lesley Rickard as Vice Chair. She also spoke of her hope that there is an increase in volunteerism and encouraged all not to hide their talents!

Moved by Ellyanna Roseboom, seconded by Theresa Gunn that this meeting adjourn and the Church Council and its Executive be given power to act in all necessary matters until the next Annual Meeting to be held early in 2018, date to be set by Church Council.

Respectfully submitted
Donna Tuck, Acting Secretary

MINISTER'S REPORT

Recently my husband Brian and I had dinner with a close friend and his new girlfriend, if that's the proper term for someone in their 60s. This woman is a bright, well travelled, educated professional who was raised in the United Church but has had little, if any church involvement as an adult. As the conversation naturally turned to my work, it became clear that she assumed that I must be the Minister of yet another dying congregation as, in her mind, all churches are on their way to closing. It was fascinating to me to see the confusion, if not shock on her face when I explained to her, just a few of the ministries that are a part of this most vital congregation. Sadly, this conversation is not isolated. In meeting someone new I'm often asked, with an accompanying look of pity, if my church has a choir. Again, they are shocked when I explain that Central has **four** choirs and numerous dynamic outreach ministries!

The need to pause occasionally and remind ourselves of the extensive and varied ministries of this congregation was highlighted for us on January 14th as our Central family was blessed with an unique worship experience. Thanks to a wonderful pictorial presentation we both heard and saw our faith in action as we were taken on a tour of just a couple of our mission ministries. Along with all who were gathered that day, I too was awe struck as details of the work that is carried out regularly on behalf of our congregation were recounted.

In a large congregation like this it is impossible for any one of us to be involved in all aspects of our ministry. As is human nature, we can easily forget, or are simply unaware of the wide and varying impact our church has in the Port Colborne community and well beyond. With that in mind, I would invite you to look through the pages of this report, to not only take in the facts and figures but to search out the stories that are being told....stories of love and caring for the lonely, stories of meeting the physical needs of clothing and shelter, stories of a celebrating a strong sense of community while strengthening our faith as we worship or share a meal together.

Unfortunately, the ill-informed impression that all churches are dying is all too common. This makes our calling of sharing the Good News all that more urgent. There is good news to share and Central church is one of those uplifting stories. Perhaps I need to repeat that. It is not "*boastful or arrogant or rude*" to quote the apostle Paul. Central is a strong congregation that has been blessed with significant resources and is positioned to move forward in confidence and certainty. We each need to guard against the subtle poison of negativity and to be vigilant in countering the wide spread, media fueled, impression of churches.

In closing, I would like to offer my deepest heartfelt thanks as I consider it a most timely blessing to have had the opportunity to act as Lead Minister at Central for much longer than had been originally anticipated. I feel truly honoured to have been surrounded by such talented and dedicated servants of Christ in our 3 years together that provides the most wonderful send off as I transition into retirement. I will be forever grateful.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Donna

FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

Another year has come and gone and every year we ask ourselves, where did the time go? 2017 was such a year.

Central Casting plays a huge part of my Sunday and there is always some sort of prep during the week leading up to the day. Our Central Casting crew are wonderful. Always full of energy and questions. How blessed we are to have young people involved at Central.

If you ever tired or out of breath, stay after church on a Sunday and watch our youth in action. They never stop! These young people want to serve, here at Central and in the community. What a treasure these young Christians are. Visiting Portal Village before Christmas I was asked if we could go back and stay longer. You can't beat that enthusiasm. This year we were lucky to have a sleep over during the Christmas holidays. This allows our youth to connect with other Christians, have fun together and it breaks up the long holiday break.

Summer Adventure Camp (formerly Vacation Bible School) was a huge success! After a not so well received VBS of 2016 which was run by the Presbytery, I led the 2017 team through a successful week. For the first time we offered Afternoon Adventures, an answer to many parent's request for full day activities to cover day care. It was a huge success and hopefully will be back in 2018. Huge thanks to Cheryl Leroy-Audette who volunteered her time in the office, Cathy Rubocki and Jo Ashby for their time during the week, and Donna Tuck and Connie Ford for their registration experience and Central's FABULOUS teens who gave up sleeping in and came and helped. Without volunteers such as these people, I could not run any sort of program.

Pastoral care and visiting is such a wonderful time for me. It's filled with stops here and there and cups of tea, but I love getting to visit, even if it's brief with many of our seniors and shut-ins. Some weeks there just isn't enough time as there is a huge need to visit. If you know of someone who would like a visit, or you would like to come along to visit, please see me.

Did you catch a slight glimmer of a camel or three in 2017? What fun our Holy Hands Puppet ministry is! Don't get me wrong, it's hard work at times, but really rewarding. When we visit the retirement homes here in Port and see the smiles on the residence faces, we know it's a job well done. Selecting music and practicing does take time, but the fellowship during the practices is priceless, especially when the puppets get up to no good. Not to worry, we have a hand on it (lol-get it, puppet humour).

As 2018 slowly moves on, I try to remind myself to stop and enjoy my surroundings. I'm starting to look up to our teens since they have grown taller than I. I welcome the questions that all the youth present during Central Casting and their energy as they volunteer to read or help hand things out. I listen and try to learn the lessons being told

to me when I visit our many seniors that are home bound. Lessons I'm sure my Mom would be telling me if she were given the chance and yes mom, I do listen. But what really gives me my energy is being part of a congregation that refuses to just sit and wait for things to happen. The number of volunteers we have in our numbers blows me away. Central is such a strong volunteer core, we are blessed. I just can't wait to see where the road leads us.

2017 ran like clock work because Central has been fortunate to have Rev. Donna at the helm. Her guidance, suggestions, teachings and ministry have given us strength and allows us to look to the future with confidence. So, Donna, thank you good and faithful servant. You are welcome here anytime.

In God's service

Heather Filson

CHAIR OF COUNCIL REPORT

It seems like yesterday I was asked to consider taking the position of Chair of Council. Now I will pass the job onto Leslie Rickard, someone very familiar with council in a previous roll. I have been blessed to work with what I call "The Dream Team", a group of knowledgeable people coming together to make the best decisions we can for the present and future of Central. We have accomplished many large projects over the last three years which I am very proud of. I will be forever grateful to council members for their expertise and professionalism. I feel we have made lasting friendships and have grown along the way together. I know I have. While several churches are closing or barely hanging on, we continue to beat the odds due to hard work and perseverance. We have rolled up our sleeves and put on two successful clothing boutiques, a spaghetti supper and pie auction, estate and garage sale, ham and scalloped potato supper, pie making, organ concert, fashion show, bazaar, made gift bags for our clients at Out of the Cold, and participated in the shoe box collection. We have in addition to our food bank boxes, have participated in donating to the Sleeping Children Around the World, United Church of Canada Extreme Hunger Appeal, and locally the Reach Out Centre for school supplies and backpacks. We provide regularly to several outreach programs within Port Colborne, McKay's breakfast program, and Out of The Cold. Our Worship, Mission and Outreach Program service the community with their book table, with proceeds going to our World Vision children. We provide other outreach programs with Cookies in Christ, Wheels to Meals, and the Holy Hands Puppet Team, which I am proud to be a member. The Program Committee and Soup Sunday ladies provide nutritious meals usually 11/12 months of the year where fellowship is enjoyed. The prayer shawl group has taken off like wild fire, bringing comfort to folks in need with their lovely handiwork. Ross Brown has been a godsend organizing the landscaping and

keeping the grass watered until it was firmly rooted in the ground. We have had a wonderful group of people cutting and trimming the lawn. I have enjoyed puttering in the flowerbeds, keeping the plants trimmed and weeded. Heather ran a very successful VBS and afternoon Adventure Camp with kids wanting MORE. We are a busy congregation with great leadership at hand. The UCW have been busy helping with the two dinners, having guest speakers at their meetings, donating generously to the library, putting on the fashion show, and busy with the bazaar. I'm not sure if everyone realizes that Central is one of the last churches in Port that offers luncheons following funerals. These are organized by our UCW and along with other volunteers from the congregation, we can still maintain this ministry. Look how blessed we are to have folks roll up their sleeves, pitch in and help. If you are sitting on the sidelines, please consider becoming a helper. You will always come away getting more out of it than you put in. Carrie does a wonderful job with the overhead projection every week. Her cute pictures and captions keep everyone up to speed with the weekly events. She is greatly appreciated in her other capacity as Custodian, keeping things tidy and organized. Darlene Oord, what an unbelievable talent! She manages four fabulous choirs, adult, youth, teen and bell. She has enhanced our Remembrance Day service with a special quest pipe major.

We could be like other churches without Rev. Donna and Heather. Donna is deep in faith, courage, perseverance, and hard work. We were in a compromised state before Donna's arrival and she with her extensive knowledge, gentle disposition and kindness put us back to a place Central has always been, kind, generous and caring. Bitterness disappeared, replaced by genuine care for one another. Sitting on the sidelines were replaced with jumping in and helping out. Unkind words were replaced with kind words. This is the first time in along time I have not heard gossiping or negativity in any form. Donna has brought back the goodness in all of us. Her weekly messages are inspiring, making us think about the lives we want to live. Time is moving quickly, so it is important for us to be the best we can be and she is leading us in that direction. She is reinforcing our statement "To know Christ and make Him known." It has truly been a memorable experience working by her side. I look at her not only as our Minister, but a friend. You should too. I look forward to my new position as Vice Chair continuing our mission with Donna at the helm.

Heather, alias Wonderwoman! I know I will reiterate about Heather, but she is unstoppable! Our Lay minister, Youth Leader, Puppet Leader, Bazaar Co-Ordinator, VBS Leader, Church Secretary, and Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator at Northland Pointe. She handles each position with finesse, Grace dedication and expertise. She has mastered the office duties and is enjoying the job, as it is shown weekly with the informative bulletin. The children and youth adore her which was reflected by the successful VBS and Adventure Camp. I know as a puppeteer, she is tolerant of our goofing around during practice, as she knows we are young at heart and will eventually settle without too much reprimanding. She is very professional when she needs to be,

and youth friendly to the children. To me, she has been a true friend, confident, and a sister. She has guided me in church business, growing my knowledge of the church. Heather is well respected at Northland Pointe and when the puppet team is performing at various ventures. She is becoming a well-known fixture in Port Colborne. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful forever friend. Through laughter and tears, she has been there.

Several property projects still in limbo would have made my term ending more complete, but Doug and Kurt have been relentless in trying to firm up quotes and workers. Their work will carry on under Leslie's realm.

I have thoroughly enjoyed this invaluable experience as Chair. I have grown spiritually, knowledgeable, and personally. I hope I have made my hero and mentor Donna Tuck proud of the way I have conducted myself. It has been my pleasure to welcome you to our weekly service and always a pleasure to see new faces amongst us. It has been my passion to make sure we are a welcoming church family and I think by the response of the Celebration of Christian Community, we are achieving that. I have enjoyed getting to know folks a little more than just their name and I look forward to continuing that. I thank the congregation for welcoming me as Chair and being patient while I was growing into the position. There is much more to learn, and we are in good hands with Lesley who has years of council experience. I know you will embrace Lesley as your new Chair, and I look forward to more good things happening at Central.

With heartfelt thanks to all.

Darlene Sherk

CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES 2017

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair	* Darlene Sherk
Vice Chair	* Lesley Rickard
Past Chair	* Donna Tuck
Treasurer	* Sandra Frame

FINANCE COMMITTEE	*Chris Wilson (Chair)
<i>Treasurer</i>	*Sandra Frame
	Marie Feduck
	Tony Roy

WORSHIP, MISSION & OUTREACH

*Carroll Castle (Chair - until May 2017)
 * Bev Roseboom (Co-Chair June 2017- Feb. 2018)
 Marvin Ingebrigtsen
 Jane Danch-Roy
 Seyenne Cunningham
 Lori Smith (Co - Chair June 2017-Feb. 2018)

PROGRAM &

FAITH DEVELOPMENT	*Marie Feduck (Co - Chair)
	*Mary Jane Bankes (Co – Chair)
	Darlene Sherk
	Gail Etling
	Carrie Dunn
	Kate Brown
	Wendy Davies
	Linda Traver

PROPERTY

*Doug Frame (Chair)
 *Kurt Rauscher
 Ron Jackson
 Don Hemauer
 Paul Rubocki
 Dave Rogers

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

*Jim Cloughley (Chair)
 *Barclay Walker

Sandra Frame
 Carol Suess
 Lesley Rickard

**PASTORAL CARE &
 VISITATION**

Jennifer Parker (Portal Village)
 Carrie Dunn (Senior's Day Coordinator)

UCW

*Joanne Hemauer

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE *Ellyanna Roseboom

NIAGARA PRESBYTERY DELEGATES Vacant

TRUSTEES

*Chris Wilson (Chair)
 Julia Gibson
 Bert Johns
 Terry Suess
 Lorena Saxton

MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE

The Chairperson of Council	*Darlene Sherk
The Chairperson of Property	*Doug Frame
The Chairperson of Worship, M&O	*Carroll Castle (Feb.- May 2017) Bev Roseboom/MJ Bankes (June 2017 - Feb. 2018)
The Chairperson of Finance	*Chris Wilson (Chair)
Members of the Board of Trustees	Bert Johns

Life Members

Donna Hall, Jim Hall

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Chairperson of Council	*Darlene Sherk
Vice Chairperson of Council	*Lesley Rickard
Past Chairperson of Council	*Donna Tuck

Note: *Denotes member of council.

CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS REPORT

The following is a record of baptisms, funerals and weddings conducted through the ministry of Central United Church and recorded in our registers in 2017

Baptisms

Brennan Richard Christopher Wilson – May 14, 2017

Funerals

Logan Sager MacDonald – January 3, 2017
 Margaret Suzanne Weaver – January 20, 2017
 Jean Doris Austin – February 18, 2017
 Donna Noyes – February 24, 2017
 Sharon Russell – March 21, 2017
 Michael Bauer – March 29, 2017
 Harllom James Traver-Wade – May 22, 2017
 Sylvia Whynot – June 3, 2017
 Lois Irene Noxel – June 8, 2017
 Mina Lee – August 15, 2017
 Doris Helen Lacharity – August 29, 2017
 Gary Walter Ruch – August 31, 2017
 Andrea-Lynn Robinson – October 17, 2017
 Florence Rose Marie Semley – October 18, 2017
 Steve Danch – December 27, 2017

Weddings

Robert Justin Leslie & Kyley Elizabeth Chymko – September 9, 2017

Transfer of Membership

To Central

From Central

Brooke Visser
 Kelly Elg
 David Elg

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

I am very pleased to say that have little to report. Our staff has had an amazing year. We have found our stride so to speak. As a staff we found ways to support each other at times when the world seemed so difficult to understand. We set aside individual needs at times in order to do the right things for the betterment of the church as a whole. We worked together to accomplish more of the vision that our leadership has laid out before us. We have overcome some difficulties individually and collectively but it seems that we haven't lost sight of whom and what we are as a House of God. We would not have accomplished what we have were it not for the energy, dedication and the professionalism of the staff here.

Having said that we are where we are and we do what we do simply because we have volunteers who give and then give more. No matter how good and how dedicated the staff and leadership are nothing happens without the volunteers. They are the ones who enable Central United Church to attain great things. Our church is only as strong and as successful as it is because of the volunteers who show up when we need them the most.

It is our volunteers that breathe life into our outreach programs and our international efforts at helping where we can. Our local outreach programs have grown to become very important parts of our community's ability to help and support some of the less fortunate citizens in the Port Colborne area. I'm thinking about our boutiques that help provide warm clothing in the cold weather and the "Out of the cold" program which helps to feed those who don't always have enough to go around for their tables some nights. Our contributions to the breakfast programs provide help for some kids who don't start the day with a full stomach. The puppets bring joy to the hearts and faces of young and old alike. The prayer shawls that we give away tell the recipients that we care a great deal about whom they are and what they are going through. The shawls are a great comfort to many. The Cookies and Christ program is really important for our seniors and helps to keep many of them connected to some spiritual base or foundation they may have.

There are so many things that happen at CUC that many of us aren't aware of—they just get done somehow. Flowers appear and decorations go up and coffee gets made and casseroles appear not to mention some of the best brownies ever created. Consider the difference we make in the "bigger picture." We support international efforts like world vision and our 5 kids who have a much greater opportunity to know parts of the world that were truly foreign to them before. We helped to put some gift bags together with sleeping bags in them and health items through the generosity of Mr. Dave Dryden. The light, love and good will that emanates from 30 Delhi Street, Port Colborne, On. is truly amazing, One of the reasons that Hammie and I joined CUC back then was the music program. We really enjoyed the choirs and that continues today. We have a great music

program here that continues to uplift us every Sunday. My hope is that we stop and thank all those who are not only behind the scenes but are upfront as well each working to make it all happen.

I apologize for not mentioning everything and everyone who gives so generously of their talents and their time. Without our volunteers doing what they do best none of this ministry would happen.

One of the many things that I am grateful for here at Central is the relationship we have with one another. The staff works on behalf of the congregation; the volunteers represent CUC in the community and how we all have decided to work together for the glory of our Lord and our Saviour, Jesus Christ
Thank you for a most satisfying year.

Blessings and all the best,
Jim Cloughley
Chair of the Ministry & Personnel Committee

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT 2017

Program Committee had another active year in 2017 with two well received fundraiser dinners and summer lunches the last Sunday of May, June, August and September.

In April we held a very successful pasta & meatball dinner/pie auction. This event was very well received for the second year. In October the dinner was ham/scalloped potatoes and again was a hit with lots of compliments from those attending. Not only are these dinners a good fundraiser but a very nice social gathering for all those who attend.

The committee is also responsible for the summer lunches as well as coffee hour the last Sunday of each month from May to September. We did pizza, burgers/hotdogs, salads and beef on a bun as well as various desserts. Due to low attendance during July (the height of vacation time) we did not have a lunch that month.

For the Bazaar and Silent Auction, we also took care of the soup luncheon with members of the committee and congregation providing some delicious soups. We also served apple crisp and rhubarb crisp.

We look forward to similar events in 2018.

Committee members are - Kate Brown, Carrie Dunn, Darlene Sherk, Linda Traver, Gail Etling, Wendy Davies, Mary Jane Banks (co-chair) Marie Feduck (co-chair), Heather Filson

WORSHIP, MISSION & OUTREACH REPORT

The Worship, Mission and Outreach committee chairperson, Carroll Castle moved in June to be closer to family. Her quiet support, her strong faith, and her unbeatable leadership, is missed. With her guidance we had 3 special offerings this past year- collected from the congregation- Easter-Sleeping Children around the World, Thanksgiving- Habitat for Humanity Port Colborne build & Christmas- our World Vision children. View the financial part of this report to see the opening of your hearts and purses for these worthwhile organizations.

Minute for Mission is shared on a monthly basis with the congregation. It is meant to educate us all on the many facets of Mission and Outreach. We hope you have enjoyed our sharing....we can definitely say we have learnt a lot.

We have all enjoyed learning (and eating) to make chocolate. We will be making and selling chocolate for Valentines and Easter. More details will follow.

World Vision- The world vision book tables in the banquet hall continue to help us to send money gifts to our World Vision children during the year. If you have not yet had the opportunity to "shop" by donation at our book table, we hope you will stop by soon. We have fiction, nonfiction, current authors and some great titles from the past. We try and avoid the racier romance novels. If you are tidying your bookshelf at home, please feel free to donate any books you no longer want. This table is also enjoyed by groups using our banquet hall during the week.

Clothing Boutique- our committee has had 2 very successful clothing boutiques in 2017. Kathy McQuire, Jan Wilson and Lori Smith do it with YOUR help and generousities of time & materials. Donation of clothing comes from within the congregation and from families outside of our congregation. If you are donating clothing that is "out of season", don't worry. These donations will be held over until the next boutique or kept on "hold" in the storage room for cases where the church may be approached for help due to an emergency (everything has been lost in a house fire) by a local family. Some of the extra clothing is used in outreach programs reaching throughout the region. Donated money was used to purchase Christmas items for clients of our 'Out of the Cold' at Christmas time.

Samaritan Purse- The Central United Church congregation collected 102 Samaritan Purse shoe boxes in November 2018. Shoeboxes were taken to the regional depot in Welland.

Local Outreach- On our offering envelopes, there are 3 different lines that we can have our offering allocated to- our choice. Line 1 is called current church expenses. Line 2 is Missions & Outreach- our dollars that go to the United Church of Canada M&S fund. We would like to remind though that when we have a special offering at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, this does not replace your donation on line two intended for mission and outreach. It is giving you the opportunity if you wish to donate to the specific cause we are featuring at that time. The 3rd line is Local Outreach.

For 2017, the local outreach given by weekly offering's by the Central congregation have helped support Cave Springs Camp, the Dewitt Carter School Breakfast program, the McKay Public School breakfast program, Port Colborne High School breakfast program, Out of the Cold, and the Port Cares Emergency fund.

We thank you- our congregation- for helping directly with these local programs.

We are always open to listening to your Worship, Mission and Outreach ideas as well as your helping in wherever, whatever capacity your time & abilities are offered. Please come join us! We are a great group of fun people!

Bev Roseboom, Seyenne Cunningham, Jane Danch-Roy,
Marvin Ingebrigtsen, Lori Smith.

Worship, Mission & Outreach Committee

COOKIES & CHRIST (SENIOR'S DAY)

Cookies and Christ, Central's senior's day program, continues to be very successful. We go to the seniors at Northland Pointe and Portal Village. We alternate every Month and are usually there on the third Thursday of the Month. This program would not be a success without Reverend Donna Howlett and my wonderful volunteers. Our program consists of a short devotional service and hymn sing followed by fellowship with refreshments and goodies. The goodies are either store bought for Northland Pointe or homemade for Portal Village. All seniors are welcome to attend!! If you would like to volunteer your baking skills for our Months at Portal Village or to come out to help serve and socialize it is only about an hour once a Month.

Please call Carrie Dunn at [905-834-9774](tel:905-834-9774) or email carriedunn8@hotmail.com

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

There were a number of maintenance items needing attention in 2017, some minor but necessary and others that require a greater amount of time to plan and execute. A major step forward which will enable some of the major projects to proceed in 2018, was the identification of new sources of grants, through Council and headed up by Jim Cloughley and Leslie Rickard. Many of the larger projects we need to complete would not be possible without this financial help. Identification of more sources of funding will hopefully assist us in implementing much needed restoration and repair projects.

Here is a list of major items now in progress and their status:

1. Elevator Upgrading or Replacement

Quotes will be obtained by Ron Jackson early in 2018 for the upgrading or replacement of the elevator. While our elevator is safe as a result of quarterly inspections in accordance with government regulations, it is greatly in need of upgrading or replacement since parts are harder to obtain and the inspection costs are much higher than they would be with a more up-to-date facility. Our plan is to have this project completed in 2018.

2. Bell Tower Brickwork

Kurt Rauscher has been dealing with a restoration contractor in Ancaster who recently restored the tower at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Welland. The first step is for the contractor to deploy drones to thoroughly inspect the condition of the brick and stonework at the top of the tower and determine the extent of the repair required. It is not possible to safely climb to the top of the tower. Until the inspection is done by qualified people, it is not possible to obtain a quote which we expect will be considerable. If funding can be obtained, this work should be carried out during the warmer weather in 2018.

3. Sanctuary Window Repair

A contractor has been selected to reseal and repaint the sanctuary windows, although a quote has not yet been received. This work will include repair of any damaged wood frames as well. The contractor selected has done this kind of work at other area churches and his initial assessment is that our windows are generally in good shape. This work is being planned for the spring.

4. Carpet Replacement in the Lower Hallway

Arrangements have been made with Pro Style Flooring of Port Colborne to replace the carpet in the lower hallway, including rooms 1 and 2, in mid February. To prepare for this, Kurt Rauscher, Jim Cloughley and Ron Jackson will patch and paint the walls. The total cost will be approximately \$10,600, tax included. This will be a great improvement over the existing carpet which is not in good shape.

5. Outside Sign

Kurt Rauscher, with help from Ed Oord, has had a new sign built outside the church to replace the existing one that is old and corroded. The new sign will certainly give a more appealing impression of our church to passers-by and those coming to worship.

6. Improvements to the Wall in the South West Stairwell

Kurt Rauscher has patched and painted the wall that was damaged by water seeping in from a downspout due to an inadequate drainage arrangement. The outside work was completed earlier last year and the wall thoroughly dried out. The repainting has greatly improved the appearance of the stairwell.

Doug Frame, Chair of Property

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The Prayer Shawl Group is still growing, and all the knitters have maintained a high level of enthusiasm for this outreach program.

Of course, this group would not have been able to continue without the support of the congregation in their continuing donations of yarn, tissue paper and gift bags, for which everyone is most grateful.

For the year 2017, 64 Prayer Shawls were handed out, and since the group started in October 2016 until December 2017 a total of 79 Prayer Shawls have been handed out.

As all the knitters are so busy and enthusiastic, we were beginning to have more shawls than we could hand out, and by consensus of Donna, Heather and all the knitters, we now keep some 10 shawls on hand and Heather has made a few trips to the women's shelter in Welland and to the Rankin Cancer Clinic in St. Catharines Hospital and given them a batch of shawls as an outreach into the community.

Just a reminder that these shawls are available to anyone and everyone who is in need of comfort, no matter what tough times they re experiencing and not just folk who are experiencing an illness or death, and to know that people care.

May thanks to all for their generosity and especially to the knitters.

Respectfully submitted by

Landy O'Donnell

DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS GROUP

This group was started in the spring of 2016 and eventually ran its course in the late summer of 2017, when there was no longer a need for it.

When it was started it was never intended as a medical self-help group, but as a place where caregivers of a loved one with dementia could get together and just have an informal chat with others who have already experienced this.

Being a caregiver of someone with dementia is a very lonely experience and it's not the big thinkgs that get one down, it's the little nitty gritty aggravations that happen all the time that are very wearying on a person and just to be able to talk about it and laugh about it with people who have gone through it does help.

The Dementia Caregivers Group is now on hold indefinitely, but should the need arise in the future, it can always be restarted.

Respectfully submitted by

Landy O'Donnel

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH SENIOR CHOIR REPORT

The church choir had a spectacular start to the new year.

The Bell choir decided to start up again under the leadership of Darlene Oord, with the initial help of Marjorie Slinn from Stamford United Church in Niagara Falls.

Marjorie is an accomplished bell ringer and clinician in bell procedure, and she graciously agreed to help us over the hump until Darlene was proficient herself and felt up to the task.

Of course, we all knew that Darlene could handle it with a little practise.

Another choir member, Allan Tallman, set aside some time to head up a computer course for those of us who had many questions and no answers, and he did a splendid job of it too.

The Prayer Shawl activity group continues with Landy O'Donnell at the helm and is a rip-roaring success.

Our Christmas party of 2016 was delayed due to stormy weather until Feb. 22 at Green Acres in Fort Erie. Nevertheless, everyone had a good time. You see Christmas parties can be enjoyed at any time of the year, even after Valentine's Day.

At the beginning of the year Darlene asked the choir members to list their favourite anthems so that we could start off with the pieces we love most. Then at the end of January we led a hymn sing with old favourites of the congregation.

The Bell Choir had their first performance on Palm Sunday and the congregation loved the pieces we chose.

We had a practise with the Presbyterian Church choir serving goodies and enjoying fellowship with their members and then we got together with them for a Good Friday Service.

It was a lovely service with both choirs sharing their talents and we served Hot Cross Buns after for coffee hour. A sombre service on Good Friday led to a Glorious Easter Sunday.

May 3 the choir participated in Choir Night put on by the Port Colborne Festival of the Arts. Also involved were the Presbyterian Church Choir, Robert Wood Singers and the Harbour Lite Singers.

June 22 we enjoyed a Summer dinner at Betty's Restaurant in Chippawa with 22 in attendance with good food, fun and fellowship.

June 25 was Canada Day Service with all Canadian music. This ended the official season for the choir, but many members contributed musically with solos, duets and quartets. Sheila Brown substituted for Darlene in the summer so that she could take

a well-deserved rest.

Starting back in Sept we were all refreshed and ready to plunge in.

Oct. 29 was a fantastic afternoon of music by Andrew Elliott Henderson who graced us with his talent and Rev. Donna re-dedicated the organ after it's cleaning the previous June to give us the best sound the pipes had to offer. It was spectacular. The funds raised (almost \$6,000) will help maintain the tuning of the organ for years to come.

November Remembrance Day service was a beautiful service with Pipe Major Tim Woodhead leading the way with his glorious piping. The Royal Canadian Legion members also joined us for the service.

Continuing to the winter and Christmas Season we were able to have our Christmas Party on time, on schedule and in town to avoid the possibility of stormy weather. The Flying Squirrel, newly opened was our place to enjoy refreshments and fellowship with 30 in attendance. Again, our choir family enjoyed good food, good fun and good fellowship.

The bell choir played Dec 17, playing the Prelude, the Offertory music and the Closing music, to round out the service and share their music of Christmas with the congregation.

Christmas Eve day and Christmas Eve services were well attended and enjoyed by all generations, young and old, something for everyone.

Of course, New Year's Eve service was the last of our year of services, leading with the Introit, an Anthem and the Closing Music to end the year on a positive note.

The senior choir has taken some time off at choir practises but still share our music with the congregation on Sundays. We look forward to a New Year, new music, and sharing with new members. Come and join our choir Thursdays from 7:30pm until 9pm with our absolutely super talented choir director and organist Darlene Oord. And speaking of Darlene, a big THANK YOU from all the members for everything you do to make our practises and Sunday mornings a joy . And of course, giving the congregation the pleasure of listening to our newly cleaned and dedicated organ playing glorious music to fill their day with song.
God Bless!

Senior Cub Reporter,
Marilyn Robinson

YOUTH CHOIR—TEEN CHOIR 2017

Our church is rich with the musical sounds of youthful voices.

The Teen Choir of nine members and the Youth Choir of six children inspire us, and also strengthen our faith in God.

These dedicated choir members serve musically in our morning worship services. The choirs contribute regularly with important messages through song.

The parents and grandparents of these youth are to be commended for such consistent support.

I would encourage more children to become part of these choirs at anytime. Please call the church office to get started.

-Darlene Oord

Director of Music & Organist



SOUP SUNDAYS

Soup Sundays are held on the last Sunday of the month 6 times a year - from January to April, and in October & November. 2017 marked the 7th year that we have held this popular event and they have been wonderful!

We have sampled some delicious soups, rolls/bread and desserts, shared lunch with old friends and made new friends. All this happens because of the wonderful soup makers who provided the soup, and the many others who brought rolls/breads and goodies for dessert. The proceeds from “passing the basket” are 100% profit – and in 2017 we brought in \$1811.10. There were times that we had to set up more tables (and say a quick “loaves and fishes” prayer) – and we loved that! A special thank you goes out to all – to you who provided lunch – and to you who came out to enjoy lunch. We also thank our custodian Carrie Dunn, who sets things up each month and makes life easier for the rest of us!!

If you have never joined us for Soup Sunday, make sure that you try it out in 2018!

Darlene Oord
Donna Tuck

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH REFRESHMENT HOSTS 2017

The friendships and hospitality of the Central United Church Congregation continue after **each** worship service as all are invited to share coffee, tea, cold drinks and conversation.

Approximately forty four volunteer men and ladies extend their efforts and share their time to make this work each Sunday. Some members of this team go beyond doing their fair share donating additional times to help this program run smoothly. We all owe them a big **"Thank You"**.

Would you like to join in this task one or two Sundays a year? If you could lend a hand, please call me or leave a note in the church office. I would be happy to hear from you. Many hands make light work! In scheduling these fine members, I have been lucky to acquire good friendships and meet new people, too.

The Refreshment Hosts are certainly well respected members of our church family and community.

— Darlene Oord

FLOWER / DECORATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2017

January has hit us this year with its full force! The work of taking down the Christmas decor throughout the church is behind us. We have added a few new decorations to the banquet room replacing Christmas with "Winter" The sanctuary is also showing some winter decor. We thank our auxiliary ladies who help us with the big job of putting up and taking down Christmas. Many hands makes the job so much easier and the fellowship is great! Thanks To Hammie Schilstra, Judy Brennan, Jan Wilson, Carol Marko and Nancy Sloan who augment our team.

Our committee continues to be busy all year long as we display seasonal flowers in the sanctuary each week.

Our memorial flowers at Easter and Christmas added to the beauty of our sanctuary as we remembered our loved ones. This is the only source of income for the flower committee and we are grateful for your support. As a thank you to those who supported us we remember someone every Sunday as flowers are placed in their memory. Our memorial flowers are provided by our local business "The Mill".

This year we will be adding a few more decorations in the banquet room to mark the months of February (Valentine's Day & Heart month) and March (St. Paddy's Day).

Anyone who might be interested in being a part of our team please contact one of us.

Submitted by the 2017 Flower/Decor Team consisting of Cathy Boggio, Stephanie Brown, Ann Elise Bull, Cheryl Bull, Joan Koudijs, Donna May, Darlene Tuck and Cathy Rubocki (chairperson)

UCW FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance Brought Forward Jan.1, 2017		\$ 10,824.40
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Funeral Receptions	\$ 2,950.00	
Wheels to Meals	\$ 1,400.00	
Bazaar	\$ 4,022.00	
Catered Lunches	\$ 1,660.00	
Fashion Show	\$ 700.00	
Offerings	\$ 768.30	
Niagara Regional Exhibition	\$ 68.80	
Interest	<u>\$.85</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 11,569.95	<u>\$ 11,569.95</u>
		\$ 22,394.35
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>		
Funeral Receptions	\$ 37.14	
Fashion Show	\$ 40.00	
Catered Lunch	\$ 300.14	
Kitchen Supplies	\$ 113.92	
Bazaar	\$ 47.57	
Donations	\$ 1,564.30	
Mission and Service Fund UCC	\$ 700.00	
Library	\$ 350.00	
Transfer to CUC General Fund	\$ 10,000.00	
Gifts	\$ 200.00	
Niagara Presbyterial	\$ 165.00	
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 152.47</u>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 13,670.54	<u>\$13,670.54</u>
		<u>\$ 8,723.81</u>
BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2017		<u>\$ 8,723.81</u>

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW) REPORT

As always, the ladies have been working very hard again this year. They always amazed with all that they do over the year. The funerals and the out of the cold, the fashion show, the bazaar and the luncheons. Winning the Caroline Cutler award at the Niagara Regional Exhibition was humbling, but GOOD JOB ladies.

I want to thank all of you for your support and look forward to the next year.

Vicki Fretz, President

UCW SILENT AUCTION REPORT

The 2017 silent auction raised 1480.80 this year leaving us a balance of 2007.42. we have donated 1500.00 to the general fund at central united with the remainder to be held for youth programs this summer.

Judy Wylie, Convenor

LIBRARY REPORT

Business in the library has been slow, but I hope it will pick up once the nasty days start and folks are house-bound. I have a wonderful selection of adult fiction-Amish, Romantic, Mystery (our local Author, Sandra Orchard from Fenwick) Historical and a wide selection of Chicken Soup for the Soul. For the young, a good series of biblical and light-hearted stories. I am working to improve our Youth section, thanks to the help of Ellyanna Roseboom. I am keeping up to date with the latest Christian DVD's and Heather has had a few movie theatre nights featuring the latest book releases this year. Please take the time to stop in and I will direct you the best I can for a good read. You just need one to get you hooked!

Darlene Sherk
Librarian

PASTORAL CARE & VISITATION REPORT

Visiting our members throughout Niagara is an ongoing challenge. There is never enough time and once in someone's door, they never want you to leave. I'm very thankful that we have Jen Parker at Portal Village and Nancy Sloan at Northland Pointe. These ladies keep me current if there is a church member new in either facility or if anyone's health is in question. My goal is to try and visit as many people as possible and I have different days for different areas of the region. As I strive to achieve this goal I ask you, my congregation, if you know someone who would benefit from a visit, please let me know. If you'd like to come along with me to visit, I'd be happy for the company so please let me know.

Submitted by

Heather Filson

CENTRAL CASTING REPORT

Central Casting is always a fun place to be on Sunday Morning. Learning the teachings of Jesus and how they are still relatable today engages the children to no end. Our youth really do understand that God is central in their lives and that loving all people, no matter the circumstance, is how Jesus wants us to live. In September we started a new curriculum called Seasons of Seuss. Every week another Seuss story is read, and the moral of each story is then related to scripture in the Bible. From being your own person, everyone matters no matter their size, we are all created by God, are just some of the themes that have been touched on so far. Where Dr. Seuss takes us is anyone's guess, but the youth are enjoying themselves and getting the point to each lesson which is pivotal.

We were very fortunate to once again host our own Summer Adventure Camp (formerly Vacation Bible School). The children learned more about Jesus, did crafts that were theme based, enjoyed a couple science projects (rocket launching was epic!) as well as games and of course, snacks. There was very positive feedback which gives this outreach ministry a hopeful future. This year we also added Afternoon Adventures, where, for a fee, the youth could stay until 5 pm. This allowed many families the equivalent of day care for the week which had been a request for a couple years. I'm confident that this component will draw more youth in the coming years.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who gave their time, talents and patience to ensure the week was a success. Without volunteers, programs such as this wouldn't be possible!

Submitted by

Heather Filson

HOLY HANDS PUPPETS REPORT

2017 kept the puppet team busy. As well as participating in Central's church services here and there, we are a fixture at Portal Village and Northland Pointe for Easter, Christmas and their Family Day celebrations. As 2017 was Canada's 150 birthday, the party at H. H. Knoll Park was huge and we were one of the groups asked to entertain. Luckily, the rain held off long enough for us to get through our set and safely clear away our equipment. As always, we were at 84 West Street during Canal Days. With threatening skies over head, we bravely waited out rain, played sets between rain drops, all the while celebrating our love of God and country. In 2017 we did something we thought we'd never do. We had to cancel our gig at the Wainfleet Fall Fair due to puppet injuries. We were fortunate to acquire 5 new puppets that are the old style we really enjoy working with. The down fall with these amazing puppets is that they are so fragile. We are currently working on a way to store and transport them, so they last a good, long time. As we look forward to 2018 we continually seek out fresh new Christian based songs and pray that our music makes a positive impact.

Submitted by

Heather Filson

YOUTH REPORT

I don't think I'll ever admit to getting old, but this year, I seem to be our run by our youth group. They are all energizer bunnies! But what fun we have! This group loves to be together and they are really good at making sure the younger members are always included. What a great job the parental units have done with this group.

Our biggest job this year was fundraising at the 444 (thank you Kathy McQuire for the 'job'). We were in charge of collecting all the liquor and beer containers, so we could return them to the beer store. A 3 day weekend of miserable weather made for a wet group of collectors, but we were able to fill our bank account which in turn allows a little freedom to do activities such as going to the water park in Niagara Falls and have a sleepover. My goal with the youth is to allow them to bond as a group, be free to be the Christians that they are, and to have fun. This year, I truly believe the youth group was successful from start to finish.

Looking at 2018, my hope is that we can once again return to Kingdombound at Darien Lake, perhaps doing more fundraising (which covers parents always paying for 'this and that') and just continuing to grow with Jesus as our guide. Look out 2018, here we come!

Submitted by

Heather Filson

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT 2017

I am pleased to comment on some of the positive aspects to our financial report for 2017. We have received several generous capital gifts which are intended to finance at least in part some of the needed work on our church building. This work has started and will continue as our volunteers get projects underway. We are also pursuing and seeking other outside funding for some of the major work that may be needed as our infrastructure ages (tower repair, refurbishment of our elevator). However we are again showing a deficit in our general fund of some \$5,000 and our givings have remained static for the year but expenses have inevitably increased. I appreciate the many other “Fundraising” activities and the generous support of the UCW which reduced a very alarming deficit at the end of November to something much more reasonable. I know many of our members are on fixed incomes and do not have the ability to give more and this should never be a real or perceived barrier to participation in our congregational life. Undue emphasis on givings can make some of our number feel uncomfortable due to their circumstances.

Looking forward as we commence the process of securing a new lead minister, I doubt there is much to consider as a savings opportunity as our staffing complement has already been cut and the demands on them have not decreased. If you are able to increase your givings please consider this prayerfully. If registering for PAR would make your budgeting easier this is a great way to ensure your givings over the year are in keeping with your intentions.

Our Treasurer Sandra Frame has served for many years and has indicated she wishes to relinquish this position, so are on the recruiting drive. If you have bookkeeping experience and would be interested please speak to me as Chair of the Committee or to the Chair of Council. There is a small honorarium for this position. Sandra has been diligent, thorough and loyal for many years and the small honorarium was not indicative of the valuable service she provided to the congregation. I again thank Marie Feduck who serves as Envelope Secretary and know she anticipates a smooth year end.

We are called to be the Church and our mission does take our resources. Good Christian Stewardship is not a once a year activity but needs to be part of everything we do.

Respectfully submitted

Christopher Wilson,

Finance Committee, Chair

TRUSTEES REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

DONOR RESTRICTED FUNDS

1. HOWARD & ETTA RICKARD SCHOLARSHIP Established Jan. 3, 1967 **\$1,900.00** (\$10,000 added 2005):Up to two Scholarships annually to members graduating from secondary school, at least one from Port Colborne High School, pursuing post-secondary higher education.

Balance at DECEMBER 31, 2016	\$12,859.05
Scholarships to Jack Ingebritsen	(500.00)
Interest Earned to Dec 31, 2017	<u>\$ 275.27</u>
BALANCE	\$12,634.32
G.I.C. (752) 2.3% at C.I.B.C Due Oct 7, 2018	\$ 5,000
G.I.C. (906)@ Escl. at C.I.B.C Due Oct 11, 2019	\$ 4,000
G.I.C. (922)@ 0.6% at C.I.B.C. Due June 03, 2019	\$ 2,000
G.I.C. (574) Escl at C.I.B.C. Due Mar 12, 2022	\$ 1,500
Bank Balance December 31, 2017	\$ 134.32

2. BENNETT MEMORIAL FUND

Established Jan. 24, 1995 **\$10,000.00**

To be used for repairs and or replacement of sanctuary piano and general requirements of choir.

Balance December 31, 2016	\$13,633.49
Piano Tuning for 2017	(320.00)
Interest earned Dec 31, 2017	<u>188.00</u>
BALANCE	\$13,501.49
G.I.C(744) @ Escl at C.I.B.C. Due Jan. 28, 2018	\$ 5,000
G.I.C.(825) @ 1.6% at C.I.B.C Due Jan 28, 2019	\$ 5,000
Bank Balance December 31, 2017	\$ 3,501.49

3. MELVILLE MEMORIAL FUND

Established April 22, 1985 **\$1,000.00**

Income to be spent at the direction of the Choir Director.

Balance at December 31, 2016	\$2,373.42
Paid Bagpiper Remembrance Day Service	(200.00)
Interest earned Dec 31, 2017	<u>20.36</u>
BALANCE	\$2,193.78
G.I.C.(914) @ 0.55% at C.I.B.C. Due June 24, 2018	\$ 1,500
Bank Balance Dec 31, 2017	\$ 693.78

4. SAXTON MEMORIAL FUND Established Jan. 24, 1983 **\$1,000.00** Income to be used for musical treats for the congregation at the direction of the minister, choir director and organist.

Balance at December 31, 2016	\$1,436.00
Paid Soloist October 2017	(100.00)
Interest earned Dec 31, 2017	<u>23.00</u>
BALANCE	\$1,359.00
G.I.C.(779) @ 2.3%at C.I.B.C. Due Jan. 25, 2019	\$1,000
Bank Balance Dec 31, 2017	\$ 359.00

5. HARTLEY WALLACE ESTATEEstablished June 4, 2008 **\$5,000.00**

To be invested and the annual interest to be paid to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada

CIBC Full Service GIC due August 28, 2017 @ 2.37%	\$5,000.00
Transferred to United Church M & S (on instructions of Donor's family)	(\$5,000.00)
Balance	\$ 0.00

CONGREGATION ESTABLISHED FUNDS**1. WILLIAM AND LOUISE PINKSTON CRANE LEADERSHIP FUND**Established April 25, 1984 **\$10,000**

Interest to be allocated to pay the cost of leadership training or education of lay members of the congregation.

Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ 9,674.94
Interest Earned to Dec 31, 2017	<u>182.46</u>
BALANCE	\$ 9,857.40

G.I.C.(736) @ Esc at C.I.B.C. Due Jan 29, 2018	\$ 4,000
G.I.C.(817) @ 1.8% at C.I.B.C Due Jan 28, 2020	\$ 6,000
Bank Balance Dec 31, 2017	(\$ 142.60)

2. MILDRED CROSS BURSARY

Established December 1, 1991

Available for bursary or scholarship to be awarded to a candidate for the ministry from Central United Church.

Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ 1,675.66
Bank Charges	(29.80)
Bank Balance December 31, 2017	\$ 1,645.86

Trustees: Lorena Saxton, Julia Gibson, Bert Johns, Terry Suess, Christopher Wilson

Aggregate Bank Balance of all funds Dec 31, 2017	\$ 6,191.85
CIBC, Port Colborne	
True Balance	

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
Capital Endowment Fund for the Year Ended December 31, 2017

RECEIPTS	2017	2016
Investment Income	\$ 2,477	1,954
Shares/Gifts Received	<u>91,805</u>	<u>2,359</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 94,282	\$ 4,313
DISBURSEMENTS		
Transfer to General Fund Income	\$ 1,085	\$ 1,085
Transfer of Capital	6,053	
Sales Commission	<u>630</u>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 7,768	\$ 1,085
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	\$86,514	\$ 3,228
SURPLUS BEGINNING OF PERIOD	\$166,449	\$ 163,221
SURPLUS END OF YEAR	\$ 252,963	\$ 166,449
INVESTMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2017 at cost		
CIBC WOOD GUNDY 445-02200		
RENAISSANCE MONEY MARKET FUND (Market Value \$116,113)	\$ 204,986	
CIBC WOOD GUNDY 4452515*\$48,000.00 Royal Bank of Cda. Note Due Mar 12, 2018 @ 2.26%) Market Value \$48,493)	\$ 47,562	
Cash	<u>415</u>	
TOTAL	\$ 252,963	

\$166,349 of this fund represents the sale proceeds of the Manse in 2004 which pursuant to the direction of Niagara Presbytery is to be invested and the net income applied to the payment of ministerial staff salaries.

* This account pledged to the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce as security for the General Fund line of credit

2017 Memorial Fund Report
Central United Church
Port Colborne, Ontario

Balance On Hand – January 1, 2017 ----- \$22,362.19

Receipts for Year 2017

Expenditures 2017

Donations in Memory of:

Sue Weaver \$ 495.00
Mike Bauer 4000.00

Choir Music \$ 118.76
Bell Choir Covers 1496.52
Bell Choir Gloves 105.60
Library Books 140.87
Library Supplies 25.19

Bank Interest 8.15
TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 4503.15

Bank Charges 10.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$1896.94

Total Receipts 2017 44503.15

Total Expenditures 2017 \$1896.94

Balance On Hand December 31, 2017

\$24, 968.40

Respectfully Submitted by **Bert Johns**

t Johns



CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH

General Operating Fund

Financial Statement

For The Year Ended December 31, 2017

	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>			
FINANCE			
Offerings	\$170,000	\$ 159,326	\$ 160,270
Organ Fund	-	-	13,890
Investment Income	1,100	1,085	1,085
Interfund Transfer		1,300	-
Rentals	2,500	3,335	2,685
Tax Rebates	6,700	6,852	5,093
Fund Raising	4,000	6,508	5,196
United Church Women	6,500	10,000	7,900
Other Income		<u>2,374</u>	<u>33,984</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>\$190,700</u>	<u>\$ 190,780</u>	<u>\$ 230,103</u>
 <u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>			
FINANCE			
Bank Charges	\$ 1,300	1,036	1,245
HST	4,000	3,886	9,998
Office/Misc.	5,000	4,384	5,651
Presbytery	6,905	6,905	6,905
Stewardship	<u>100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Finance Sub-Total	<u>17,300</u>	<u>16,212</u>	<u>23,798</u>
 PROPERTY			
Church – Gas	6,600	4,712	4,506
Hydro	8,000	6,938	7,584
Water	2,700	2,260	2,795
Insurance	6,000	6,583	6,002
Repairs	12,000	6,677	53,631
Telephone	2,000	2,267	2,106
Caretaker Supplies	<u>500</u>	<u>699</u>	<u>392</u>
Property Sub-Total	<u>37,200</u>	<u>30,136</u>	<u>77,016</u>
 WORSHIP			
Advertising	50	69	-
Worship	<u>600</u>	<u>727</u>	<u>3,127</u>
Worship Sub-Total	<u>650</u>	<u>796</u>	<u>3,127</u>

	<u>2017Budget</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
PROGRAM			
Adult Education	50	-	-
Confirmation	50	-	-
Congregational Events	200	218	235
Fundraising	200	522	-
Library	100	-	-
Scouts	500	500	500
Youth	100	-	-
S.S. Curriculum	600	852	57
Vacation Bible School	<u>100</u>	<u>- 370</u>	<u>-29</u>
Program Sub-Total	<u>1,900</u>	<u>1,722</u>	<u>762</u>
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL			
Salaries & Benefits	140,750		
Ordained Minister		59,366	50,860
Designated Lay Minister		38,683	40,387
Music		12,120	12,000
Custodian		9,417	8,087
Office/Treasurer		2,400	4,348
Pulpit & Organist Supply		1,800	1,425
U.C. Pension & Benefits		14,407	13,559
Revenue Canada		6,481	6,416
Workplace Safety/ADP Costs		1,013	1,027
Travel		1,097	766
Continuing Education	<u>2,000</u>	<u>352</u>	<u>738</u>
Salaries & Benefits Sub-Total	<u>142,750</u>	<u>147,136</u>	<u>139,613</u>
PASTORAL CARE & VISITS	150	<u>36</u>	<u>87</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		<u>196,038</u>	<u>244,403</u>
(DEFICIT)SURPLUS, FOR THE YEAR		(5,258)	(14,300)
(DEFICIT)SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		<u>(7,184)</u>	<u>7,116</u>
(DEFICIT), END OF YEAR		<u>\$ (12,442)</u>	<u>\$ (7,184)</u>

**CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
Local Outreach Fund
Financial Statement**

For The Year Ended December 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Offerings	\$ 9,758	\$ 8,806
World Vision	1,123	813
Easter Offering	3,285	1,850
Thanksgiving Offering	840	1,030
Christmas Offering	<u>2,228</u>	<u>1,465</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$17,234</u>	<u>13,964</u>
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>		
Cave Springs Camp	1,401	1,230
Christmas Families	1,668	-
Clothing boutique	248	340
DeWitt Carter Public School Breakfast Program	934	820
Free the Children	-	1,850
Habitat for Humanity	740	-
Hannah House	-	1,030
McKay Public School Breakfast Program	934	820
Miscellaneous	58	-
Out of the Cold Program	3,286	2,460
Port Cares Emergency Fund	934	820
Port Colborne High School Breakfast Program	934	820
Santa's Helpers	-	1,230
Sleeping Children Around the World	3,285	-
World Vision	<u>2,385</u>	<u>2,040</u>
TOTAL	<u>16,807</u>	<u>13,460</u>
SURPLUS(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	427	504
SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>5,700</u>	<u>5,196</u>
SURPLUS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 6,127</u>	<u>\$ 5,700</u>

**CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
Mission and Service Fund
Financial Statement
For The Year Ended December 31, 2017**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Offerings	\$12,705	\$ 5,835
UCW	700	700
TOTAL	<u>\$13,405</u>	<u>\$ 6,535</u>
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>		
United Church of Canada	<u>\$13,280</u>	<u>\$ 6,535</u>

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
General Operating Fund
ANNUAL BUDGET
For The Year Ending December 31, 2018

RECEIPTS**FINANCE**

Offerings	\$170,000
Fund Raising	4,000
Tax Rebates	2,000
Investment Income	1,000
Rentals	2,800
Other	<u>6,500</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS**\$186,300****DISBURSEMENTS****FINANCE**

Bank Charges	1,000
HST	3,600
Office/Misc.	5,000
Presbytery	6,900
Stewardship	<u>100</u>

16,600

PROPERTY

Church – Gas	5,000
Hydro	7,800
Water	2,500
Insurance	6,500
Repairs	12,000
Telephone	1,750
Caretaker Supplies	<u>500</u>

35,450

WORSHIP

Advertising	50
Worship	<u>600</u>

650

PROGRAM

Adult Education	50
Confirmation	50
Congregational Events	200
Fundraising	200
Library	100
Scouts	500
Youth	100
S.S. Curriculum	600
Vacation Bible School	<u>100</u>

1,900

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

Salaries & Benefits	151,500
Continuing Education	<u>2000</u>

153,500

PASTORAL CARE & VISITS150**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS**

208,250

RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS**\$ (21,950)**

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH - FACILITY DESCRIPTION & FEE SCHEDULE

FACILITIES DESCRIPTION

Sanctuary: The sanctuary consists of the main floor area with an accessible lift at the rear. Seating is approximately 350 persons. The sanctuary is equipped with a full sound system. It has a Casavant two manual pipe organ and an upright Grand piano. The sanctuary is appropriate for worship, sacraments and recitals.

Chapel: The chapel is on the second level of the church and accessible by lift. It is suitable for services of 40 persons or less. It can be equipped with an electronic keyboard should it be required. It is suitable for very small weddings, memorial service or baptism.

Banquet Hall: The banquet hall is a large room suitable for meetings, receptions, gatherings, suppers and bazaars. The hall is handicapped accessible by a ramp from the street level. It has accessible washrooms in the immediate vicinity. A fully equipped kitchen adjoins the hall with a commercial range with two ovens and a commercial dishwasher. The hall has a supply of six foot long tables and ample chairs. There is a sound system available. An upright piano is located in the hall. The hall has a capacity for approximately 120 persons at tables and 200 persons on chairs.

Classroom 1: Classroom 1 is in the Christian Education wing of the church building and accessible by a ramp from the street. It has a white board and is suitable for gatherings of 40 people or less without tables and approximately 20 with tables.

Parlour: The parlour is located on the second level of the church and accessible by lift. It is supplied with a couch, love seat and 12 moveable armchairs as well as a supply of other stacking chairs. It is suitable for small, intimate capacity of groups of 30 persons or less. There is a small kitchen immediately adjoining with a stove and refrigerator.

Activity Room: The activity room is located on the second level of the church and accessible by lift. It is suitable for small gatherings and immediately adjoining the parlour kitchen.

FEE SCHEDULE

- A. Sanctuary - wedding or other event - \$300.00 for the day
- B. Banquet Hall - \$225.00 for full day, \$150.00 for half day or evening., fee waived for funeral reception hosted by the U.C.W. for a donation.
- C. Classroom, Parlour, or Activity Room - \$50.00 per day
- D. Weddings:
 - i. Sanctuary \$300.00
 - ii. Chapel \$200.00
 - iii. Minister \$200.00
 - iv. Organist \$150.00
 - v. Custodian \$ 75.00
- E. Other fees:
 - i. Use of kitchen with Banquet Hall \$ 50.00
 - ii. Use of upstairs kitchen with Parlour \$ 30.00

* Additional charges may be considered if linens, cutlery, dinnerware and dishwasher are used. The above rate includes use of coffee makers, counters and sinks.

 - iii. If sound technician required for sanctuary, fee to be negotiated.

CAVE SPRINGS CAMP ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Once again, Cave Springs Camp has been blessed with a great year of serving the kingdom in many ways across Hamilton Conference. The past year has been spent refining practices while also looking ahead to the future of Cave Springs Camp. The summer programs were successful and our numbers are gradually increasing. We were blessed with a good financial year during a critical time, as we gear up for a big fundraising campaign. We have been continually developing and maintaining the infrastructure of the camp facilities with the gracious support of the Church community. We are striving towards a more inclusive atmosphere at camp with congregational support.

Like last summer, we did have to overcome a number of challenges. The summer began with our head cook quitting one week before the summer start date and this forced the staff to work hard to create “Band-Aid” solutions from week to week. They were successful in finding a qualified person to run the kitchen each week, but it was not an easy process. Despite these challenges, our Day Camp program continues to grow. Furthermore, we added an additional Bridge week camp. We have found this program to be an excellent transition into overnight camps, and it has increased our overall camper numbers.

This summer we have engaged in the process of figuring out what it would mean to become an affirming community. This is a pilot program for camps, and our experience will be documented throughout to see if this is something that we could pursue moving forward. Niagara Presbytery has done a lot to support the camp with generous donations from congregations, individuals and the extension council. Part of these funds is currently supporting the installation of a gender-neutral bathroom at camp. A lot of these contributions also helped to send kids to camp via our bursary fund, which regularly sponsors 10-15 campers to come to camp for a week—an experience they may not have been able to afford otherwise. We are also looking to the future with the blessings that we have received, consciously putting away funds to ensure the future impact of camp, and for expanding to new horizons.

We continue moving forward with plans to build a new year-round lodge to replace the old (very old) Craft Hall and are at the point of launching a full fundraising campaign. We have hired a full time fund developer to aid in this process and have redeveloped our Legacy Hall committee to gain the experience of several external individuals with vested interest in the future of Cave Springs Camp. Through this opportunity, our team has revisited the original plans to establish a vision that will lead Cave Springs Camp into the future. These refined plans will allow us to honour the mission and ministry of summer camp programs through sustainable programming. The process has also helped us clarify the significance and impact of Legacy Hall for the camp, church and the community. With this new purpose and vision our \$750,000 project has quickly become a \$2.5 million dollar project – a goal that we are confident we can meet. This project has jump-started our major capital appeal to fund the new building and we will seek assistance from all our partners in funding this project. Please expect to hear more from us in 2018 and be ready to respond as you have in the past—generously and prayerfully.

With our thanks and our prayers for blessing;

Alex Sillett

President, Cave Springs Camp

CARRIBEAN WORKERS OUTREACH PROGRAM REPORT 2017

Thank you for your continuing support for the Caribbean Workers Outreach Project. In 2017 we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the project through which a small group of Christian volunteers in Lincoln and Niagara-on-the-Lake have ministered to Agricultural workers (mainly Jamaican), who come each year to assist in farm work to benefit Niagara farmers. Each spring hundreds of men (and a small group of women) leave family and home to travel to Niagara to work from 5 to 9 months, living on farms and saving or sending home their pay to support them and their families throughout the year. They cope with long working hours, extreme weather, isolation and loneliness. CWOP offers support to workers through five programmes:

Regular worship services are held in Lincoln and Niagara on Sunday evenings from late April to the end of June and both sides host a closing service at the end of August or early September. Each week volunteer drivers bring workers to services and return them to their farms. Local churches provide fruit, juice and pastries for the workers after each service. Visitors are welcome.

Each year two ministers from the United Church of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands come to Niagara for five weeks each, to lead worship and to visit workers on farms in the evenings to offer friendship and support, sharing news from home and prayer. We need volunteer drivers to help the ministers to travel from farm to farm and also to help workers get to Sunday evening services.

Each year we host workers from both sides for two events with friendly competition. A dominoes match in Lincoln on a Saturday evening and a Cricket Match in NOTL on a Sunday afternoon are highlights of the summer. Participants in the Cricket Match get teams shirts, and everyone shares in a special meal. There is no charge to workers for these events and transportation is provided.

We have a fund to provide benevolent support to workers who experience the death of a parent, spouse or child in Jamaica. This helps with the cost of airfare or funeral expenses. Support may be available at other times of crisis.

We host a breakfast early in June for ministers from Niagara and Lincoln churches to tell them about the programme, to offer an opportunity to meet with Jamaican ministers and to enlist their support in encouraging volunteers from their churches to sign up for our ministry.

This year we also prepared and hosted a 25th Anniversary celebration service at Mountainview United Church. Over

400 Jamaicans and Canadians attended the service. Everyone received an Anniversary t-shirt, through the sponsorship of Jamaica National and worship was joyful and spirit-filled.

Rev. Dave Pritchard (convenor) and Pastor Jim Wright serve on the Project executive. On the Lincoln side Rev. Anita

Spiller, Neil Ryckman and Annelies de Groot (treasurer) continue to be involved. On the NOTL side Nancy King, Donna Brown (secretary), Dave & Claudeen Bell and Carol Miller continue.

The Jamaican ministers who joined us this year were Rev. Norlene Jackson (May) and Rev. Wayne Wisdom (June).

We will be making some changes in the coming year and each side will have a different outreach, but we will continue to care for workers and share the love of Christ with our offshore friends and newcomers. We continue to look for leaders and helpers in Lincoln and Niagara-on-the-Lake who can assist us in our shared ministry. Please contact me (information above) to join us.

David Pritchard

