

HURON SHORES UNITED CHURCH

Annual Report



January 1 – December 31, 2022

Our Values

Faith/Love of God = BELIEVING

Community/Inclusion = BELONGING

Compassion/Compromise = INVITING

Our Mission Statement

“Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us, and helps make the world a better place.

We welcome and include everyone into congregational life.”

Vision Statement

We seek to make this community a reflection of God’s plan, to be a safe haven for ALL who seek peace, justice, freedom; a place where differences are celebrated and accepted as gifts; where new ideas and new ways are not feared but rather embraced as we learn to expand our hearts so that ALL are welcome.

We affirm that this includes persons of ALL sexual orientations, gender identities, races, abilities, ages, economic circumstances and talents. Jesus knew no boundaries. He reached out to all people, honouring ALL in their diversity.

We celebrate the richness this brings to our church. We are called to be a part of a ministry that welcomes and includes ALL, honours the gifts of each and recognizes that ALL receive God’s abundant grace.

PICTURE COLLAGES

Front Cover: January – April

Below: May – September

Next page: October - December





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Remembering Them – back page

Message from our Acting Chair of Council

Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

No doubt, 2022 will go down in the history of HSUC as a challenging year. A culmination of losing Rev Kate to a sick leave, a global pandemic and the realization that Rev Gail was not going to be a good fit all added to testing our strength as a church. The fact that we have come through this difficult time stronger than before is a credit to our Church Council, leaders, and faithful members.

I know that some of you have questions about what the nature of some of the conflicts we've had in Huron Shores, and why we have been focusing on healing as of late. We all have a vested interest in HSUC and as a result, share a sense of ownership. While the Council has made every attempt to be transparent, we hope that you understand that to give the details of these situations would put us in breach of the Privacy Act. I can guarantee you that every member of our Council is at the table giving many volunteer hours per week because they want to do God's work and to live our Mission Statement:

Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us,
and helps make the world a better place.

We welcome and include everyone into congregational life.

I wish to pay tribute to our former chair of Council Charles MacDonald. Many of you admired his dedication and passion to keep this ship afloat. Unfortunately, years of strain and some of us not able to reach his exacting standards or necessarily aligned to his thinking, hastened his resignation. I believe many realize it is because of his concerns expressed that heightened our need for change. The resulting ongoing work has been exhausting for some but beneficial to all.

Our search team consisting of Janice Sinker as chair, Steve Northey as chair of M&P, Mary McFadden, Roger Hyatt, Peter Challen and Joanne Barry need to be commended for their efforts to find a supply minister for our church. Finding a minister in these times has not been easy and there was a great deal of effort put into meeting the expectations as set out by our Region. Regretfully, in the end, Rev Gail's style of leadership was not a good fit for our weary and hurting community.

HSUC congregational visitors are a group of volunteers whose acts of compassion are without compare. Due to their commitment to confidentiality, we are not necessarily made privy to their incredible contribution to those who are suffering. Peter Challen, Roz MacDonald, Joanne Barry and Lynne Desjardine are often ministering angels that reach out to those in need in our congregation and community. They will be attached to our minister and in the meanwhile they are very fortunate to be able to reach out to our extremely competent pastoral supervisor Rev Nancy Knowles.

Message from our Acting Chair of Council (cont'd)

I wish to acknowledge the work of both M&P and Worship for filling our pulpit in a very effective manner. Thanks to Property for making our building inside and out look beautiful. New chair of Trustees Glen Miller, willingly shares his expertise and Fun and Fellowship are always thinking of ways to reach out to our extended community.

The Grand Bend Place Team is planning some exciting concerts in 2023 and our WOW reps keep us apprised of the Regions continued learning opportunities. We are continuously thankful for our always positive and always energetic secretary Mary McFadden and the Christian Development team for providing opportunities for children in our extended community. We wish to thank both Accessibility and Affirm teams for raising our awareness and truly living our commitment to ensure all are welcome. We have made the decision that these two teams will continue on as working groups. We are committed to ensuring that we are monitoring our words and actions to ensure we are always using an equity lens.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the Finance Team and in particular Chair Bryan Beattie. Bryan has acted as our treasurer for the past 30+ years. He has handled this position with great professionalism and tremendous expertise. We have been incredibly fortunate as a congregation to have benefited from this man's volunteerism. Now with his resignation effective the end of 2023, we are looking for a volunteer to train with Bryan for the remainder of this year and be ready to take over as Chair of Finance in 2024. If you are interested, please reach out to Bryan, a member of the Finance Committee or myself. Please join me in thanking this man for his dedication and service.

In the end, we have so many people to thank including our many teams and working groups. I firmly believe that we are on track to be stronger than ever and be able to offer our extended community a tremendous service.

So in closing, I pose a challenge to all members of HSUC. With the help of our extended community of faith we can truly do God's work and share our kindness and love with all those who will benefit. Our church is not just our Council. It is everyone doing what they can. Volunteer for a small job, support the volunteers who work tirelessly and trust that the governing body is doing the very best we can. Above all else, offer prayers for the wisdom and grace of your church leadership.

Submitted by
Deb Gill, Acting Chair of Council

Message from our Acting Chair of Council (cont'd)

Council Update

1. Grand Bend Place became a team of council with Janice Sinker sitting on Council as the GBP chair. Their finances will be held under the oversight of HSUC Finance. All payments and receipts will be managed by our bookkeeper.
2. Accessibility Team became a working group under the Property Team. I wish to thank Vince Bury for his leadership and hope he will continue on leading the working group.
3. Affirm Team became a working group under Fellowship and Outreach. I wish to thank Janice Sinker, Leslie Bella and Betsy Hanes for their leadership on this team.
4. Wilma Harris is resigning after many years of service as the Worship Team Chair and then Co Chair. We thank her for passion and dedication for making Worship great. Ruth Ann will continue on as chair and is counting on Wilma to remain on the team. The Worship team is being renamed Worship and Music.
5. Bryan Beattie is retiring as Chair of Finance. After more than 30 years in many leadership roles Bryan is looking forward to help transition a new Treasurer and or Chair of Finance. Steve Northey will become our Stewardship lead and a working group under our Finance Team. Also, Sherrie Smith is retiring as our bookkeeper and Rhonda Manore has accepted the position. Finally, our region is facilitating an external audit of our 2022 finances. This will be an excellent transition from the current Finance team and a fresh start to the new.
6. Glen Miller has become our new chair of Trustees. Thanks to Bob Illman for his many years of service as Chair of Trustees.
7. We are learning about how to offer Worship through Live Streaming. We have had a dedicated group of volunteers who have hosted Zoom pre and post worship, newly trained sound technicians and a group of folks willing to try learning about Live Stream. Up to this point we have not had consistent success. However, I am determined that we will receive outside training to be able to accomplish this endeavor in the near future.
8. This year, the Regional office of the UCC directed us to complete an external audit. This was also highly recommended by Luke Nagel who has completed a review with several recommendations for the Finance Team. In order that we may present a clear financial picture to the congregants, we have decided to temporarily withhold the Finance Report from the ACM until such time as an external audit would be complete. A part 2 of the ACM would be announced with two-week notice to present the completed Finance report at that time.

Submitted by
Deb Gill, Acting Chair of Council

Nominations

The Nominations Working Group is presenting the following list of members who are willing to let their names stand for leadership roles in 2023:

Chair of Council: Debra Gill

Council Secretary: Mary McFadden

Trustees Chair: Glen Miller

Finance Chair: Bryan Beattie (Feb-Dec 31, 2023))

Property Management Chair: Debbie Procter

Ministry & Personnel Chair: Steve Northey

Christian Development Chair: Virginia Scott

Fellowship & Outreach Co-Chairs: Lynne Desjardine and Lois Gill

Worship Chair: Ruth Ann Eagleson

Grand Bend Place Chair: Janice Sinker

Western Ontario Waterways Regional Representatives.: Bob Illman, Rosalind MacDonald

Working Group Chairs

- Affirming: Betsy Hanes
- Accessibility: Vince Bury
- Right Relations: John Scott
- Stewardship: Steve Northey
- Nominations: Janice Sinker
- Embellishment: Mary McFadden

Submitted by the Nominations W.G.: Janice Sinker, Lynne Desjardine, Marilyn Beattie



Council Secretary

Just what does the Council Secretary do? Obviously take the minutes of Council meetings, any Special Congregational meetings and usually the Annual Congregational Meeting. In addition to taking the minutes, I work with the Council Chair (at present, Deb Gill) to create the agenda. About a week before each meeting, the team chairs send their individual reports to me (what the team has been up to that month and future projects). These reports are compiled into one document. A few days before the meeting, the agenda, the previous month's minutes, team reports and any other attachments are sent to the Council members by email.

Once the minutes are approved, they are printed along with the attachments and kept in a binder. They are also posted on our website (by the office administrator, Janna Oud).

That's it! Except to add that I am in total admiration of each member of Council. Our church is in good hands!

Submitted by Mary McFadden, Council Secretary



2022 Council Members

Back row: Debbie Procter, Bryan Beattie, Betsy Hanes, Bob Illman, Janice Sinker, Deb Gill, Steve Northey, Glen Miller

Front row: Lois Gill, Virginia Scott, Wilma Harris, Mary McFadden, Vince Bury

Below: Ruth Ann Eagleson, Rosalind and Charlies MacDonald, Lynne Desjardine



Ministry & Personnel

The Ministry and Personnel Team is the congregation's supervisor of staff. We ensure their jobs are being performed properly, that our people are satisfied with their positions and that you, the congregation, are confident with their work performance. To do that, we monitor their job performance throughout the year and ensure that any concerns raised and compliments received are properly communicated to each individual.

Our 2022 team consisted of myself as chair, Maxine Eveland, Ernie Lane, Peter Challen, Mary McFadden and Janice Sinker. Maxine resigned at year end for personal reasons. We are always seeking new members to join our team. Normally, we meet a few times a year or as needed, and do informal checks with staff regularly throughout the year. In December we perform job interviews/performance reviews. When it comes to budgeting, we recommend salary increases to Finance, in keeping with United Church of Canada guidelines.

2022 has continued to be a very different year for M&P due to COVID restrictions, and the absence of a full-time minister after Kate transitioned to long-term disability.

Rosalind MacDonald continued in the position of Lay Pastoral Minister until resigning from the position October 11, 2022. We were fortunate to have her in this role, especially during the absence of a full-time minister. After resigning, Rosalind continued to offer support through her role as a Congregational Visitor.

In 2021 a Pulpit Supply plan was put into effect for substitute worship leaders during Kate's sabbatical and short-term disability leave. Special thanks to Heather Mackechnie, Kate Monk, David Kai, Peter Challen, Rev Nancy Knowles, Rev Harry Disher, Rev Kevin Steeper and Rev. Marlene Britton for filling this role.

A new supply minister Rev. Gail Fricker was hired as of June 26th. Unfortunately, Rev. Gail had to seek medical leave in the fall and has since resigned from Pastoral duties with HSUC effective January 15, 2023. Council has a plan going forward to hire a new minister. This will be a supply position until Rev Kate's LTD term expires on or before January 15, 2024. Rev. Gail's resignation has meant that the Pulpit Supply plan mentioned above has been put into effect once more until a full-time minister is hired.

Our Bookkeeper Sherrie Smith is retiring in early 2023. Rhonda Manore who assumed the duties of Par/Envelope coordinator in April after Carey Eddy retired, has been hired and will add bookkeeping to her responsibilities.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to both Carey and Sherrie for their many years of dedication to HSUC. As well to Rhonda for assuming these duties.

Ministry & Personnel (cont'd)

Council plans to hire a Community Wellness Coordinator in 2023. A search team has been formed, advertising completed and a deadline of January, 12 established for applications.

Our Congregational Visitors Joanne, Lynne, Peter and Rosalind have been busy this year keeping in touch with many of our congregants by phone, emails and personal visits.

The staff have expressed their gratitude for all that we do to assist them in the performance of their jobs. We remind the congregation that they can provide input to the Ministry and Personnel Team relating to our staff. If you see a problem that is staff related, tell one of the Ministry and Personnel Team.

On behalf of the HSUC Ministry and Personnel Team, I would like to thank our staff: Janna, Elva, Bob, Sherrie, Carey, Rhonda, Rosalind, Peter, Lynne and Joanne for all they did for our Community of Faith in 2022.

Submitted by Steve Northey , Chair

Trustees

The HSUC 2022 Trustees: Glen Miller (Chair), Larry Taylor, Norm Harris, John Scott, Bob Illman.
The HSUC 2023 Trustees: : Glen Miller (Chair), Larry Taylor, Norm Harris, John Scott, Doug Kyle and Carey Eddy

The Trustees appointed our Grand Bend United Church Cemetery Board of Directors: Dan Gill, Donna Lovie (Secretary/Treasurer), Glen Miller, Matthew Miller, Doug Russell and Larry Taylor

The Trustees met on September 14, 2022.

The Facility Usage Guidelines and Fees document was discussed. Special Occasion Permits were also discussed and reviewed with new applications to be approved by the Trustees.

Submitted by Glen Miller,
Trustees Chair

Grand Bend United Church Cemetery

GRAND BEND UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY YEAR ENDING December 31, 2022

BANK ACCOUNTS & INVESTMENTS OWNED	OPENING BALANCE Jan. 1, 2022	CLOSING BALANCE Jan. 3, 2023	NOTES
Community Account	\$4,596.28	\$10,987.88	as per bank statement
#2 BMO G.I.C.	\$2,265.04	\$2,360.34	Matures 20 Mar. 2023
#3 BMO G.I.C.	\$3,067.52	\$3,048.84	Matures 20 Mar. 2023
#7 BMO G.I.C.	\$1,745.79	\$1,760.02	Matures 8 March 2024
#8 BMO G.I.C.	\$8,500.00	\$8,535.16	Matures 8 March 2024
#11 BMO G.I.C.	\$8,004.87	\$8,000.89	Matures 23 Jan. 2023
#12 BMO G.I.C.	\$8,053.52		
#14 BMO G.I.C.	\$13,521.24		
#16 BMO G.I.C. (Columbarium)	\$9,112.18	\$9,183.66	Matures 23 Oct. 2023
#17 BMO G.I.C.	\$12,000.00	\$12,081.87	Matures 18 Dec. 2023
#18 BMO G.I.C.		\$13,223.32	Matures 07 Dec. 2023
#19 BMO G.I.C.		\$15,251.57	Matures 29 Jan. 2024
	<u>\$75,902.16</u>	<u>\$84,433.55</u>	
Scotia Wealth Management	<u>\$58,826.00</u>	<u>\$52,963.00</u>	<u>Market Value</u>

During the year 2022 there were 15 burials –9 cremations and 6 full burials

Cemetery Board Members

Dan Gill	238-5871
Glen Miller	238-8259
Matthew Miller	237-3772
Douglas Russell	238-8283
Larry Taylor	238-8732
Donna Lovie	238-8395

Donna Lovie
Secretary/Treasurer

Western Ontario Waterways



Western Ontario Waterways (WOW) Representatives: Ruth Ann Eagleson, Bob Illman, Rosalind MacDonald, attended the Spring Regional Council (virtually) May 6th to May 7th, 2022 and Fall Regional Council (virtually) on November 18th to November 19th, 2022.

Themes of the conferences were “Our Words Matter” and “Where Two or Three are Gathered”. The focus for both regional meetings was 'connecting, supporting and transforming'.

The spring meeting is generally operational report and sessions pertaining to “Our Words Matter” with breakout rooms to discuss and after to summarize as a group.

The fall meeting is for reporting of a year’s work; An Executive Accountability Report, Commission Reports (Covenant, Human Resources, Mission and Discipleship) and the 2023 Proposed Budget.

There is a General Council 44 Proposals report and one was initiated by Huron Shores United Church, the following was the General Council’s response.

How might the General Council respond to the issue?

General Council could clarify expectations regarding the faith of Ministry Personnel, and develop procedures to provide a mechanism to review the faith of Ministry Personnel.

For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council: Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council Meeting, May 26, 2019

MOTION Kate Crawford / Lynn Hamilton

That Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees with Huron Shores proposal.

CARRIED [16 Opposed]

This proposal was considered in partnership with others on Essential Agreement.

Way Forward 13: CS02, WOW01, CW01 Essential Agreement

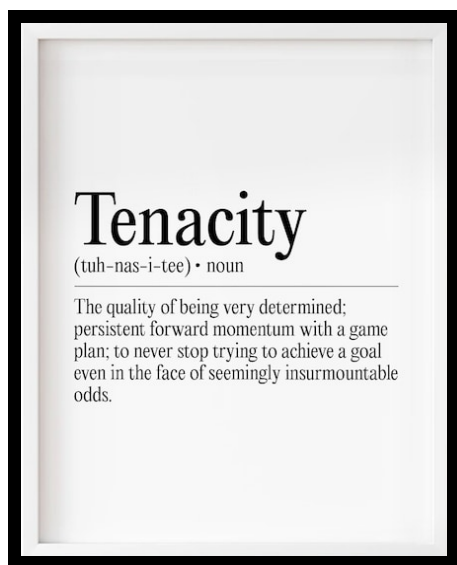
The majority of groups did not support this proposal or could not reach consensus or did not discuss it and there were no comments or suggestions from discussion groups that would suggest a way forward.

That the 44th General Council, 2022 take no further action on proposals CS02, WOW01, CW01.

The regional council is a valuable for the benefit of looking forward at current issues worthy of consideration and continued support of our church.

Submitted by Ruth Ann Eagleson, Bob Illman and Rosalind MacDonald,
Western Ontario Waterways (WOW) Regional Council Representatives

Office Coordinator

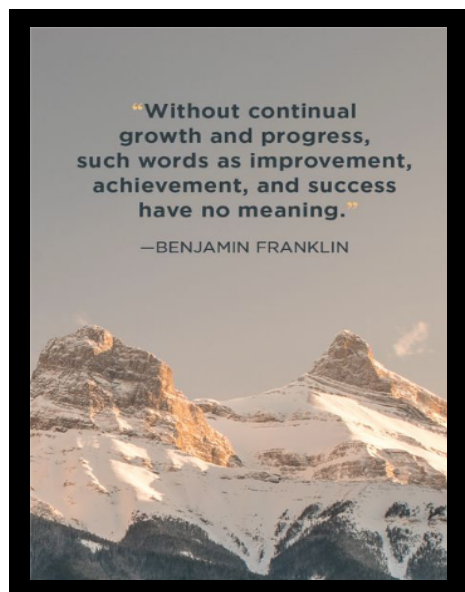


Another less than boring year for HSUC!!!!

2022 saw us “sort of” coming out of covid times and back to seeing other human faces and finally getting back to in-person services. It is nice to see “life” back in the quiet & empty church. And I must say the décor has hit yet another amazing level of greatness and it’s a welcomed freshness we have needed. The interior is smiling 😊

As always, I worked behind the scenes sifting and sorting countless emails, print jobs and Shorelines to keep me busy. Shorelines is the social beacon of HSUC which I enjoy compiling weekly and finding creative ways to share all of our information in **COLOUR!!**

This world is moving FAST and being involved in technology will help us even more to reach out to the darker corners of the community that don’t ask for help. Technology is what I like to call “Beauty and the Beast”when it works it’s AWESOME – when it doesn’t it is a BEAST. I hope HSUC can hang in there in 2023. I truly believe it will be completely worth it in the end. Show me another church that branches out to the community and tries as HARD as we do!! Pat yourself on the back for showing up and being connected.



I for one am very proud of the things that HSUC has achieved not only for the congregation and its self, but mostly for the olive branch we share with the community and for the donations we pay forward to those in need.

I was saddened when Gail departed, yet I am hopeful that 2023 will bring HSUC patience and flexibility when it comes to working with others. May we treat one another kindly and work **with** and not against. **Change** is what will set us apart from the others. Change is steadfast and inevitable.

As always, thank you to Mary McFadden for still allowing me to utilize her knowledge of past know how to always answer my questions. And a huge thank you to her for tackling the council reports and Annual Report this year.

In closing, I look forward to another year of working together with a great group of people and I look forward to seeing what Grand Bend Place will knock out of the park for its concert season for 2023. Keep up the good work folks!! Be Proud!

Submitted by *Janna Oud*

Membership

New Members by Transfer: 3 – Tom Ward, Judy Riley, Carolyn Brophy

Transfers out: 0 zero

Marriages: 1

Baptism: 2

Funerals: 1

Deaths: 13 – see “Remembering Them” on back page

Worship by Phone

Our Community of Faith began providing Huron Shores by Phone in the summer of 2021. Every week since then Leslie Bella has edited a sound file of the Sunday worship service to between 20 and 30 minutes, and loaded it on Sermon by Phone for access on our dedicated toll free number (1 800 758 7563). Each week Leslie also forwards the file to Janna, together with a paragraph introducing the service. Janna loads these for access through our website or through Shorelines. So now we have "Huron Shores by Phone and on Line". Until recently the recordings came from zoom, but are now provided to Leslie through the live streaming technology. This provides higher quality sound, but has been a frustrating transition.



Users of Huron Shores by phone and on Line have included people with limited mobility; people without access to a tablet, iphone or computer; those away from home and those kept home by illness or bad weather; and those wanting to access a live streamed service but were prevented from doing so by a technological glitch at the sanctuary. Over the last month sixteen people phoned into Huron Shores by Phone, with 11 of those listening to all or most of the service. More have accessed the edited recording on line.

Since this project's inception Leslie has reported to the worship committee, but now includes Bob Illman (re technology) and Deb Gill (as chair).

Submitted by Leslie Bella

Worship

‘The priesthood of all believers’ is a familiar tenet of the United Church of Canada and of Huron Shores United Church in Grand Bend, Ontario. Nowhere is it more obvious than here. Every person named on this page adheres to that belief. Here is where we mention them, honour them and thank them.

The Worship team met monthly under the title of “Let’s Talk Worship.” Attendees vary from month to month depending on who is involved in upcoming services. During 2022 that included Charles MacDonald (Council chair), Rosalind MacDonald (Lay Pastoral Minister), Elva McIntyre (Music director), Janice Sinker (keyboard and vocals), Mary McFadden (Décor), Chip Styles (slide preparer), Karen Etherington (Readers), Deb Hinz (Communion set-up), Pat Lane (Zoom liaison), Virginia Scott (Christian Education), John Scott (Indigenous Service), Peter Challen (frequent worship leader), Deb Gill (now acting Council chair) and of course Ruth Ann Eagleson and Wilma Harris, the co-chairs of Worship.

We specially thank the choir members who work hard and present anthems for us weekly. Also, thanks to Paul Seagrave for accompaniment and vocals. Doug Procter tracks our copywrite usage and is greatly appreciated. Debbie Procter, now acting Property chair, takes care of details that few of us are aware of and we thank her sincerely. Bob Stewart makes sure our sanctuary is clean and shiny and his efforts are appreciated.

Guest worship leaders carried us through the months from January through June. We are grateful to the following for their time and effort to provide thoughtful services: Peter Challen, Kate Monk, Heather McKechnie, Rev. Marlene Britton, Rev. David Kai, Rev. Nancy Knowles and Rev. Kevin Steeper.

Our friendly greeters and ushers welcome everyone. Thanks to Jim and Sharon Neville, Mary McFadden, Roger and Lori Hyatt, Chris and Joanne Barry and Dan and Lois Gill. Bell ringers who make our presence known in town and gather us for worship include Larry Taylor, Ernie Lane and Marla and Barry Nichols. We thank Vince Bury for being there to assist people who need a lift.

Some of the special themes for services were: Dr. Kate Crawford’s Transition service, Black History, AGM, Holy Humour, Covenanting of Council, Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, Earth Day, Mothers and Others, Fathers and Others, Affirming Service and Indigenous Heritage. On June 26, Rev. Gail Fricker was welcomed in a special service with all teams participating and presenting gifts. Themed services through August to November included Canada Day, Summer Picnic, Prodigal Son, Dreams Come True guest performers, God Winks, first Jazz Vespers, Earth, Air and Water, Thanksgiving, Anniversary and Remembrance Day. As of November 20, we returned to welcoming guest worship leaders when Rev. Fricker began medical leave.

Worship (cont'd)

November 27 was first Sunday in Advent with Rev. David Kai and the theme of Hope. Peter Challen guided us through Advent services of Peace, Joy and Love. Janice Sinker prepared a Christmas Eve special service which was not to be due to snow storms and road closures. Kudos and special thanks go to Leslie Bella who records and edits services to be provided on our telephone ministry each week.

The Tech Team continues to grow and meet the challenges of ongoing changes. We appreciate and thank them all. Those who have given their time in the past year are Charles MacDonald, Rosalind MacDonald, Bob Illman, Dennis McIntyre, Chris Bregman, Vince Bury, Pat Lane, Leslie Bella, Melodie Northey, Donna Frim, Will VanderLinden, Dan Gill, Doug Kyle, Lori Hyatt and Nelson Anselmo.

The congregation and the community are aware of the gifts of time, effort and talent that these many people contribute to make our church what it is.

Submitted by Wilma Harris and Ruth Ann Eagleson

Affirming

The Affirming Team met less frequently during 2022. Returning to formal meetings after two years of Covid-19 limitations certainly had its challenges.

The team put together an Affirming service in June of 2022 which included participation by church members who are not members of the Affirming Team, but wholeheartedly support our projects and vision.

Leslie Bella created beautiful rainbow stoles for our Affirming Service participants. They will be used for future Affirming events.

We purchased 100 rainbow window clings to sell to congregants and friends of Affirming. This project will move forward in the Spring of 2023

Our team will also be making inquiries in 2023 to the Municipality of Lambton Shores regarding the future inclusion of LGBTQ+ lamp post banners for downtown Grand Bend.

Our Affirming Team has had the leadership of Janice Sinker, Leslie Bella and Betsy Hanes as chairs during this transitional period.

As of January, 2023, this team has now become a Working Group, reporting to the Fellowship & Outreach Team.

Submitted by Betsy Hanes

Property Management (January – October)

In 2022, the Property Management Team experienced post COVID rejuvenation. While we are still experiencing pandemic aftershocks, it was time to blow off the cobwebs and make our building shine. Thanks to the Embellishment Working Group under the leadership of Mary McFadden, not only did we shine but the whole church inside and out looked beautiful with seasonal decor. I am always thankful for how much my worship experience is enhanced thanks to this group of talented women.

Spring saw the Construction Working Group of Debbie Procter, Bob Illman, Ron Holmes and DanGill use the Faithful Footprints grant that allowed us to put in new sanctuary windows. Thanks to some generous donors in our congregation, we were able to refurbish and hang the stained glass as well. Special credit goes to Dan Gill construction and his crew and our resident painter Doug Kyle. It was greatly satisfying for the whole team to feel the completion of our building project at long last.

While house cleaning a number of our storage spaces we began planning for an open house in early June to celebrate our Community Living Room. We were finally able to safely gather and together with local politicians and our extended community on a beautiful Saturday morning we cut a rainbow coloured ribbon that represents 'all are welcome'. A special thanks to the green team who watered, hoed, raked and generally kept our gardens front and back looking beautiful.

Mid-summer we once again, with some benevolent donors, were able to hang a sun shade in our Green Cathedral space. This definitely helped with sunshine during summer worship services. Everyone agreed it was a beautiful addition and we likely need more! Soon as funds allow, I would think we will purchase two or three more!

Late October I assumed the role of acting chair of Council with the resignation of Charles MacDonald. Thankfully, the very capable Debbie Procter took over in my stead.

Submitted by Deb Gill,
Property Management Chair until October 2022

Property Management (cont'd)

(October – December)

The Property Management Team is made up of the Operations Team, the Embellishment Team, the Green Team, the Kitchen Team, the Technical Team, and the Facility Usage Team each having their own team chairs.

Over several months during this past year, the Property Management Team compiled a HSUC Handbook with pictures and a written explanation for the Water Shut off Valves, HVAC system, the operation of the Queen Ave and Main St. lifts and how to release the lifts in the case of an emergency, Emergency Medical Procedures like our AED and the Naloxone Kit, the Fire Evacuation Procedure, the Fire Panel, the Hydro Panel and the operation of all equipment in the kitchen. Now each member of Council will know how each system works. They were also given their own copy for reference. A copy for our building was also posted on the bulletin board in the office hallway for others to view. Thank you to Janna, our office administrator, who put it all together for us.



With the Faithful Footprints Green Energy Audit, there is still one final step to be completed. All the bristle weatherstripping and Kawner spring loaded mohair must be replaced. This will be completed in the near year to finalize our Faithful Footprints Grant requirements.

A new wall clock was installed at the back of the Sanctuary/Gathering Place in September. In October, a new high-definition projector and screen were installed in the sanctuary/gathering place from generous donations from a Lambton Shores Grant, Sunset Cinema, the Rotary Club and the Lions Club. In October, a new flagpole was installed for Every Child Matters Flag. In early December, the County of Lambton County Public Health Unit inspected our kitchen, and we received a Pass.

As the temperatures started to change, thoughts turned to snow removal. Our old snow blower had quit last spring and it was decided we needed to find a good used one. We advertised for one in Shorelines and thanks to two generous anonymous donations, we were able to purchase a brand-new snow blower. Our snow removal contract with Brian Steeper has been renewed for the 2022-23 season.

All maintenance and servicing of our mechanical equipment has been completed for 2022. Our building is in good shape with no building concerns.

Debbie Procter, Acting Chair of Property Oct. – Dec. 2022

Property Management (cont'd)

(October – December)

The Green Working Group: The gardens did well this past year with the help of a team of volunteers to water and weed them. The watering task has been reduced by the addition of an irrigation system for the Main St. gardens. Funds for this came from the grant that saw the Community Living Room come into being. The CLR was officially opened in June.
Ron Holmes, Chair of the Green Team

The Embellishment Working Group: Carey Eddy, Debbie Procter, Karen Etherington, Lois Gill, Ginger Weber, Mary Marg Prowse, Jacqui Kretch and myself make up our working group – which really should be known as the “Fun Group”! It is an absolute pleasure to work with such willing, delightful and talented women! Hey, and we never have a meeting!! But we meet at the beginning of each season (and when requested) and decorate inside and sometimes outside. These woman (don’t let this fool you – we would welcome men to join!) really deserve a huge thank you. I just send out an email asking for help on a certain day and whoever can show up does with smiles and enthusiasm and great ideas!

The Tech Working Group: I am reporting on behalf of the Tech WG to advise our Community of Faith of the technical capabilities of our facility. It has been quite a journey since opening in 2018 and with Covid-19 has been both a plus and a minus. Our audio and video technical capabilities are in place and active. The pluses were the ability to learn the technology which never seems to have a light at the end of the tunnel. The other was that we were able to secure grant funding to build our system beyond our original design and providing our COF and community with the technology to help our communities back better! I do not have to report the minuses, we have all lived them.

PRESENTATION OPTIONS

- Audio
- Audio and Video
- Laptop
- Live Streaming and Recording
- Hearing Impairment Capabilities
- PowerPoint
- Projector/Screen/Audio
- Visual Impairment Capabilities
- Zoom Hybrid

SPACES

Sanctuary/Gathering Place

- All presentation options.

Fellowship Hall (FH)

- Audio/Laptop/Streaming
- Video
- Video feed from the GC

Green Cathedral (GC)

- Audio/Laptop/Video
- Video feed from the sanctuary

Thanks for your support and patience, your Tech Team: Nelson Anselmo, Bob Illman, and Dennis McIntyre

Accessibility

First accomplishment was to increase our team size by one. We put out word that we wanted someone who would have new ideas for accessibility and we were given Donna Frim, a women with new ideas.

1. We started looking at grab bars for the opposite side of the toilets. We found some at MEDI-OX, priced them and notified council. We asked Christine Bregman to write a Sunset Community Foundation (SCF) grant. She is quite good and we succeeded in landing a grant of \$2500.
2. With Donna, came the availability of a wheelchair. Next was to consider was the insurance. What does wheelchair insurance cost. Who is at fault if someone hurts them self while using the wheelchair or assisting in helping in the use of it. Well, we need two people to operate the wheelchair at all times. We haven't heard who would be at fault if one or both of these people take a tumble. The wheelchair is now available for use, including, the appropriate signage up about the rules of operation.
3. Headphones were discussed early on, but we had wer under the impression that they to be purchased with an FM system. After speaking with Dennis, we learned this wasn't necessary and included headphones in the SCF grant request. Three sets have now be purchased are in use with good results.
4. We checked out higher chairs for those that can't sit in the lower chairs. The chairs would need to be purchased from the same manufacturer as the existing chair so that we can get same the material and same colour. The manufacturer is moving and won't be available until late spring of 2023. This is on hold till late spring of 2023.
5. We are checking out an Evac-Chair. Anyone in a wheelchair could need one in an emergency evacuation. However, since we don't shut the lift off in an emergency we can take people down in that. The Evac-Chair is on hold until fire regulations are changed.
6. "Person Walking With Cane" signs for the five parking spots on Queens Avenue were discussed. The chair of council advised the team to proceed. With the assistance of Ken Eagleson cutting out the wood, and Janna McFadden placing the decals on the cut wood, the signs are ready for installation.



Submitted by Vince Bury, Chair

Grand Bend Place

Grand Bend Place welcomed performers, audiences and community groups once again in 2022 after a disappointing two year hiatus due to Covid -19.

Grand Bend Place is an outreach program of Huron Shores United Church. The facility serves as not only a church, but as a concert venue and a meeting place for a wide variety of community groups and activities.

The concert hall stage welcomed the following performers in 2022:

- Cher & Bette Midler Tribute
- Dan Hill
- Elton John Tribute
- Sharon Beeler
- Pavlo
- Toronto Mass Choir (at another location)

All performers were thrilled to perform in our venue and many are looking forward to returning to our stage.

The stage is set for an exciting “Grand” season in 2023!

Community groups also returned to Grand Bend Place for meetings and events as it became safe to do so.

The Grand Bend Place Working Group became a Team of the HSUC Council in the Fall of 2022. Grand Bend Place will run its finances through Huron Shores United Church directly, just as all other teams of Council do. Reports will be made available to Council on a regular basis.

The Team developed a comprehensive Vision Statement for GBP which is on the next page.

Submitted by Janice Sinker, Chair

Grand Bend Place (cont'd)

Reaching Out With Joyful Music

VISION STATEMENT - Grand Bend Place, a team of Huron Shores United Church

Gone are the days that church buildings came to life for a few hours on weekday evenings and on Sunday mornings. To live our mission, and to be sustainable in an increasingly secular world, we are reaching out, building community by inviting people to use our beautiful spaces seven days a week.

When Huron Shores United Church undertook its two-million-dollar renovation, this concept drove many of the decisions. How could we create a truly welcoming and accessible space and encourage its use by diverse community members? How could we respond to the need in our small town for a year-round meeting place? How could we counter the problem of social isolation by giving our full-time residents opportunities to gather and share special experiences?



Grand Bend Place (GBP) is the answer to those questions. Under the GBP banner, Huron Shores has thrown wide the doors to our community, providing a warm welcome to community group meetings, exercise and meditation classes, a shared learning group, social gatherings, film screenings, and more.

We have gone a step further, planning a series of concerts with broad appeal. Offered from September to June when the town becomes quiet, they are an opportunity for concertgoers to catch up with old friends, meet new ones, and enjoy the uplifting gift of music. They encourage Grand Bend residents, many of whom are older adults at risk of social isolation, to engage with their neighbours. They introduce people to Huron Shores United Church in a comfortable, non-threatening way.

GBP is a team of Council – like other teams, fully accountable, well organized, and aligned with everything HSUC stands for.

As we establish ourselves as a popular concert venue, we believe that the concert series will also provide significant financial support to the church.

Grand Bend Place Financial



December 30 2022

Opening Balance	\$2,339.21
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REVENUE

Ticket Sales		
	Local	\$511.14
	Ticketwindow	\$40,348.76
Refreshments		\$1,386.50
Donations (Projector & misc)		\$1,358.90
Facility Usage Donations		\$3,595.00
HSUC Float		<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$54,539.51

EXPENSES

Event Entertainment	\$28,380.81
Ticketwindow	\$2,111.90
HSUC	\$10,411.58
Rider Expenses	\$2,900.94
Marketing	\$1,631.10
Intermission Expenses	\$1,665.12
Administrative (Socan, licensing misc)	\$1,263.35
Sound	\$1,809.10
Bank Charges	\$116.70

TOTAL	\$50,290.60
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BALANCE	\$4,248.91
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Fellowship & Outreach

Fellowship and Outreach has many working parts and working groups! Our team manages Hospitality, Cards of Care, Caring Casseroles, Foodbank, the Parking Project and this year, the Jingle Bell Group. Under the umbrella of Fellowship and Outreach are the Working Groups: Right Relations, the Free Store, Prayer Shawls, Mission & Service Fund and Congregational Visitors. The Congregational Visitors have been established under Ministry and Personnel for 2023. Also in 2023, we welcome the Affirming Working Group under our umbrella.

Hospitality: Volunteers from our group have helped with cookies and coffee after church, Grand Bend place concerts, and a Vespers concert.

Cards of Care: Cards continue to be sent out throughout the year to our Community of Faith members who have been ill, celebrated special milestones, thank-yous, and various other reasons. Thank you Lynne Desjardine (Co-Chair, F&O) for continuing this outreach.

Caring Casseroles: We have had a total of three frozen meal making sessions in our beautiful church kitchen, Friday, June 3, Friday, October 7 and Friday, December 16. Over 50 meals/casseroles have been delivered to people in our community of faith and beyond who may have needed some kindness and care.

This program has continued due to generous sponsorship (donations) and gift cards and the volunteers who help make the dinners. Thank you! We thank the Congregational Visitor team for helping to organize and deliver meals. This comes from a recipient of freezer meals and angel tree gift, "I am so grateful to everyone who put this together at a time of year when you feel hope fading....It's your Church that holds me together..as I pass it daily and think of the kindness that enters..."

Foodbank: Rev. Gail initiated a Mayor's food bag challenge for "World Food Day" on Sunday, October 16 whereby a challenge was issued to our Community of Faith to bring food or donate funds and bring/send to church to be donated to local food banks:

• Huron County Food Bank	\$435.00 plus food
• Inn of the Good Shepherd	\$250.00
TOTAL	\$685.00

The Jingle Bell Group: we worked with the "Jingle Bells" group in town as part of the "Light Up Grand Bend" events program held throughout November. A carol sing and open house were held on Saturday, November 19. There were beautiful nativity scenes, a huge Christmas village and our decorated trees to admire. Hot apple cider, hot chocolate and cookies were served.



Fellowship & Outreach (cont'd)

Parking Project/Local Outreach: 2022 was another successful year! Parking boxes were erected several years ago in front of the Queens Avenue parking areas. People can voluntarily donate funds if they happen to park their car there from May to September. Total collected for this year is \$3,817.45. These funds go to local outreach and were distributed as follows:

• GBAHC "We can help program"	\$2000.00
• Huron County Food Distribution Centre	500.00
• Huron Women's Shelter(2cnd stage)	500.00
• Local Heart and Stroke chapter	100.00
• Camp Bimini (child sponsorship)	250.00

Total distributed	\$3350.00
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Balance kept on hand for urgent local community needs	\$ 467.45
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Thank you to Lynne Desjardine and Diane Mooney. for collecting and depositing these funds.

It has been a busy year at HSUC and we are looking forward to 2023!

Submitted by Lois Gill (Co-Chair of Fellowship and Outreach)

Fellowship & Outreach Working Groups

Free Store: Two very successful Free Stores took place this year in May and October. Since the Free Store began in June 2013, there has been a steady increase in the number of visitors this year with the past fall Free Store at near pre-Covid numbers. With 178 visitors attending it certainly indicated there is a definite need in the area.

Advertising and word of mouth have been successful in promoting our "Free Store" and we feel that we were able to generously help people in our community and beyond including Kettle Point and London.

The Free Store is for everyone and with the 3 R's REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, many items can be re-purposed and not end up in landfill sites. A Ukrainian family was able to attend and choose items that they needed to set up their new home. We stress that items are free but donations were received and our team decided these funds go towards our local community outreach. Items not chosen by shoppers were gratefully accepted by "Blessings" in Zurich. Many volunteers came out to help with both events. Thanks to all those who generously donated items.

With the generosity of our church community and the hard work of our volunteers, we will proceed in 2023 with the Spring Free Store on Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6 and the Fall Free Store on Friday, October 13 and Saturday, October 14.

Submitted by Ruth Ann Eagleson and Joanne Barry

Fellowship & Outreach (cont'd)

Right Relations: Our goal is to strengthen our relationships between indigenous and non-indigenous cultures as we share the land through truth and reconciliation supported by the United Church indigenous programs direction and funding.

What did the right relations group achieve in 2022?

- Read and discussed many indigenous subject books by various authors at our zoom meetings.
- Installed indigenous section of our Community Living Room, installed a Kettle Point history storyboard (G.B. Historical Society).
- Erected an “Every Child Matters” flag with a new flagpole at the front of the church.
- Sold “Every Child Matters” T-shirts and held an “Every Child Matters” walk to help finance the new flag and pole project.

Plans for next year:

- Installation of the indigenous “Gathering Prayer” plaque in the Indigenous Garden.
- Partnering with Kettle Point/Stony Point neighbours on several subjects such as teaching the Ojibwe language and history, indigenous foods and natural medicines as well as indigenous art.
- We will be able to use the generous grant (\$6700) recently received from WOW to help cover the cost related to supplies and instruction by the Kettle Point elders who will be instructing classes at either Kettle Point or HSUC. Our intent is to also partner with “The Gord Downie Foundation” using indigenous spaces at the Lambton Heritage Museum for all interested to learn together.

One new member has recently joined the Right Relations Team.
“Miigwech”

Submitted by John Scott (Right Relations Chair)



The Mission and Service Fund: Thanks are extended to the Huron Shores Community of Faith for their ongoing support of the United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund. Through monthly Minutes for Missions, we have tried to share with you stories from across the breadth of work that these M&S dollars support. In addition, proceeds from the spring “Free Store” were forwarded to the Ukrainian Appeal as a part of Mission givings. Thanks again for your support.

Submitted by Roger and Lori Hyatt – M&S Enthusiasts

Fellowship & Outreach (cont'd)



Prayer Shawls: Our prayer shawl group started to meet back in person again early this year. We had a few ladies who joined us in the beginning but after our summer break, we welcomed five new members to our group and more of our members felt comfortable coming back in person. We decided to meet every other Monday in the morning from 10:30 to 12:00 noon. This was a decision made by the group and it seems to be working out well for our members.

In the fall, we were able to purchase some new yarns for our group thanks to a generous donation made to the Prayer Shawl ministry as well as money allotted to our group by the Church. We search for bargains, for as you may know, yarn can be quite expensive. We are very appreciative for this assistance, as our ladies have been purchasing yarn on their own to make shawls and other items to be given out.

We also reached a milestone just before Christmas. We gave out our 1000th recorded shawl and since then our numbers continue to grow. New recipients this year who requested some of our handiwork have been:

- Huron County Crafters for Caregivers - shawls and hearts
- Migrant Worker Ministry - Lake Huron Catholic Family of Parishes - hearts which were given out at a funeral for a migrant worker
- Gianna Home for Unwed Mothers - Sarnia - shawls and baby shawls and hats
- Women's Interval Home in Sarnia - hats, mitts, scarves and slippers

All of our handmade items are stored on the shelf in the Greenway Chapel. We invite you to check it out and if you know of anyone in need of anything there, please feel free to take it with you. Please sign the book with your name, date, what you took and the recipient.

If you would like to join us on a Monday morning, we would be happy to have you. If you like to knit or crochet but do not feel that you can attend our meetings, we do have members who like to work at home but are still a part of our group. We have no expectations other than you enjoy doing what you can and you are willing to share your work with others.

Thank you to all the members of our Prayer Shawl group for continuing to create beautiful memories for others.

Submitted by Trish Murdock and Sharon Soldan

Fellowship & Outreach (cont'd)

Congregational Visitors: 2022 started with two Congregational Visitors, Joanne Barry and Lynne Desjardine. When Peter Challen rejoined in the summer, and Rosalind MacDonald transitioned from Lay Pastoral Minister to Congregational Visitor in October, the number rose to four.

Early in the year, because of Covid, the main vehicles for communication were telephone calls and emails. As restrictions lessened, more in-person visits occurred in homes, in hospitals, or wherever there was need. “Caring Casseroles”, produced by our Fellowship and Outreach Team, and items created by our Prayer Shawl Ministry, were delivered. The responses were heartwarming.

Congregational Visitor training for personal growth, and to be good listeners and care givers, occurred through the United Church's Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council, through the Grey-Bruce Health Services, and through the Grand Bend Community Health Centre. Congregational Visitors continue to be held to the highest standards through police checks and confidentiality agreements. If there is need of a confidential talk, don't hesitate to contact one of these Congregational Visitors. Contact information is regularly available in *Shorelines* and on the Huron Shores United Church *website*.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Barry, Peter Challen, Lynne Desjardine and Rosalind MacDonald

Social Media

Huron Shores has a Facebook page. Do you follow it? I hope so! HSUC's Facebook page is maintained by one – me. It goes without saying that social media is a great tool for representing who we are. This is an area that I am hoping will grow with more administrators, postings and promoting wider community events, news from the wider church and spiritual content. Grand Bend Place has their own Facebook page managed by members on their team. See you on Facebook!

Submitted by Mary McFadden



Huron Shores United Church



GRAND BEND PLACE
Centre for the Living Arts

Christian Development

Family Picnic & Service: It was decided that we would hold in on July 17th at Ruth Ann and Ken Eagleson's Farm. A big Thank you to the Eagleson's for hosting us at their farm. Due to Covid 19, it was decided that everyone would bring their own lunch, dishes, and chairs. Rev Gail was the worship leader with her family helping with the music. Julie arranged to have some games that were for adults and children. Everyone had fun and it was well attended.



Death Cafe: It was decided not to this, this year.

Children's Camp: It was decided not to do this, this year, however, plans are in the works for 2023.

Baptism/New Members: We had a few baptisms this year and some new members.

Sunday School: There are no regularly attending Sunday School students at this time. In order to supply children who may come to church with activities, a Sunday School box was created. The box contains books, toys, colouring and activity sheets, and 2 newly purchased tablets. Julie Ciufo and Ann Russell provide support to children and their parents who may attend and want to use activities in the box on the table at the rear of the Sanctuary. Julie Ciufo continued to provide the youth message on some Sundays and Rev. Gail did it on some Sundays.

Julie Ciufo, Sunday School Supervisor

Angel Tree: The Angel Tree this year was a combination of helping families through the Grand Bend and Area Medical Community Health Centre Social Work Department and suggestions made by the Community Care Committee. The generosity of the congregation made it possible to provide Christmas wishes for more than 6 families in our local area.

Submitted by Ann Russell

Lenten Garden: Once again this year, some members of our community of faith participated in a Lenten Garden project. Kits (approx. 10) were assembled which included all supplies needed to make a resurrection garden and handed out in March to those who wanted to participate to celebrate the season of Lent. People were asked to submit photos of their gardens to be put in "Shorelines". Those that were able to, brought their gardens for display on Easter Sunday with the stone rolled away.

Submitted by Lois Gill

Christian Development (cont'd)

Adult Education Opportunities for 2022:

Community Bible Study: Our numbers are small but those numbers are consistent. We study the following Sunday's verses and try to guess the minister's, or speaker's, message. We also try to get in at least a minute each; I don't think we have ever succeeded in a minute; of what our week has been like. We also get off topic quite often with one Bible verse leading to another, to another, to another. We work with different versions of the Bible to get the most out of a set of verses and that will lead us into questions that we could send off to a minister to be answered. That's not always possible right now, so they go unanswered or answered the best we can. We enjoy our time.

Submitted by Vince Bury

Grand Bend Vipassana Meditation Group: continued meeting through 2022 using Zoom. As the risk of Covid seemed to diminish, the group discussed whether we might return to meeting in person, but decided that online sessions more clearly met the needs of the members. Our contact list is 15 people strong with an average participation rate of approximately 8 people attending each Tuesday at 1:30 pm. We do take a short break at Christmas and again over the summer months. Members continue to benefit from meditation in a variety of ways including: improved self-awareness, calmer demeanour, improved sleep, an increased ability to relax and an overall more settled presence. New practitioners are always welcome. We are grateful to Huron Shores United Church for continued use of their Zoom account. Each year, members are encouraged to practice gratitude through a donation to a worthy charity or to Huron Shores United Church.

Submitted by Karen Hodgins

Autumn Rambles was also held during the Fall and was well attended.

The members of the Christian Development Team are Dan Gill, Julie Ciufo, Sunday School Supervisor, Ann Russell, and myself Virginia Scott. More members are always welcome. It is greatly appreciated that Lois Gill, Karen Hodgins, Vince Bury, and Ruth Ann Eagleson help with our groups.

Submitted by Virginia Scott, Chair

Choir



“You know what MUSIC is? God’s little reminder that there’s something else besides us in the universe; harmonic connection between all living beings, everywhere, even the stars” Robin Williams

Over the past year, it may have seemed like our harmonic connection was ‘on again - off again’ as we continued to navigate the pandemic with Zoom from home, then Zoom from church with singers and now finally back in the sanctuary with a full choir.


Rev. Gail Fricker joined us in June and led us through Summer Services. We enjoyed special music from Gail, her husband Blair and her son Gavin. We also had an awesome group of young people “Dreams Come True” who were there for an amazing outdoor service. Louise Dockstader and friends provided music one Sunday as did David Kai.

In the fall the choir started learning new music and anthems. In October we acknowledged Indigenous Sunday with Sharon Beeler. Then came Christmas and Christmas Eve. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate for Christmas Eve and it was cancelled. I guess we have next year’s music planned!

I would like to thank the choir for their continuing support and awesome singing. A special thank you to Paul Seagrave and Janice Sinker for their musical talents and support.

A big Thank you to Nelson Anselmo and all the members of the tech team. They do an amazing job!

As we move forward, the choir and I will endeavour to make our ‘harmonic connection’ even stronger.

Submitted by Elva McIntyre 
Director of Music

Grocery Gift Card Fundraiser

2022 was another record-setting year for our fundraiser. Our faithful participants purchased \$145,200 worth of grocery cards making **\$6,226** for our church. Although each individual order may not seem to provide a lot of benefit, when we all work together, a lot of these individual orders added together have provided a total of **\$58,715** for the church which we otherwise would not have. Every cent goes to the church; we do not deduct anything for expenses. It is really important that we receive at least \$5,000 in orders for each store each month. Otherwise, the profits are cut approximately in half – from 5% for Sobeys to 2% and from 3% for PC to 2%. That is why we encourage more participants to join up and for the rest of us to try to have an order each month. On several occasions, Debbie and I have ordered extra cards for ourselves to bring the total up to \$5,000. That's not a problem since we all buy groceries, and there is no expiry date on the cards.

About 20 of our participants have helped us out by using what I call PAP – pre-authorized payment. In our case, it means that you place one order at the beginning of the year (or any other time) with instructions to use that same order each month for the whole year (or a part of the year). A post-dated cheque is supplied for each month. This ensures that we will have an order from these families every month and has helped to maintain that \$5,000 order level most months. It is even used by participants who do not attend our church. Some may be deterred from this program because they prefer to get points on their credit card. The reality is that the charitable tax benefit very well may outweigh the value of credit card benefits. Besides, with gift cards your grocery purchases benefit the church. With a credit card, the benefit goes to the bank. Which do you prefer?

We would like to thank Steve Northey as well as Pat and Ernie Lane who have volunteered to deliver cards to those who live in Grand Cove, making it easier for those people to participate. Thanks to all participants. Keep the orders coming. Everyone eats.

Submitted by Doug Procter



Stewardship



Throughout 2022 Stewardship, reporting through the Finance team, continued to inform the congregation of ways they could support the financial needs of Huron Shores United Church and expressed gratitude to all for their contributions.

Once again, October was Stewardship Month. In conjunction with the month's spiritual messages of Thanksgiving, weekly announcements in Shorelines spoke of various methods available for giving such as Personal Envelopes, PAR (pre-authorized

remittance, encouraging year-round financial support), Special Envelopes, and Grocery/Gift Card purchases.

The congregation was informed as to how their contributions to Huron Shores United Church are used in general operations, as well as how they could assign portions of their donations to specific programs including Debt Retirement or the Mission and Service Fund.

Special envelopes were provided again this year in October to celebrate our 8th anniversary. Anniversary donations this year were gratefully accepted to assist our Debt Reduction program. Over \$6,800 was contributed.

A weekly announcement in Shorelines provides information on five ways to financially support HSUC during these unprecedented times.

A key part of the Stewardship program is 'gratitude'. Members and adherents of HSUC are greatly appreciated for their monthly financial contributions or whatever they can give to the ongoing support of the church's operations, internal and community projects. The Donor Wall outside the Sanctuary continues to be updated yearly and expresses gratitude to all those who financially contribute to the HSUC building debt.

We recognize that there are so many others in our community who contribute to our present and future, not only of monetary treasures but also gifts of their time, and talents. We extend our gratitude to those who make up our teams and working groups here at Huron Shores United Church. These individuals work very hard behind the scenes to make our Church such a vibrant Community of Faith.

Thank you to all supporters of Huron Shores United Church.

Submitted by Steve Northey

2022 Contribution Range Report

2022 CONTRIBUTION RANGE REPORT

Huron Shores United Church
For Period: 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022

Huron Shores United Church
Contribution Range Report
For Period: 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022

Contribution Range	# of Contributors	Total Given	Average per Contributor
0 -	0	20	0.00
0.01 -	100	59	3,341.00
100.01 -	200	13	2,185.00
200.01 -	300	10	2,667.50
300.01 -	400	4	1,449.00
400.01 -	500	8	3,910.00
500.01 -	750	7	4,415.00
750.01 -	1,000	14	12,260.00
1,000.01 -	1,500	17	22,035.00
1,500.01 -	2,500	16	29,644.45
2,500.01 -	5,000	22	75,896.75
5,000.01 -	10,000	5	38,413.14
10,000.01 -	15,000	1	10,768.00
15,000.01 -	25,000	0	0.00
Total	196	\$206,984.84	\$1,056.05

The 196 contributors are divided into the following groups:

Envelope Holders: **45**
PAR: **60**
Adherents & Supporters: **36**
Visitors: **55**

The Envelope & PAR Coordinator's responsibility is to record the church offering, enter the donation amounts into the computer and issue tax receipts. Occasionally, she deposits money received, that was not handled by the "Counters" on a weekly basis.

The arrival of the "pandemic" restrictions resulted in our church embracing technology, like Zoom, to ensure our community of faith would continue to have the ability to worship without putting themselves at risk. Our "Tech Team" is striving to improve this service because many are not ready to return to in-person meetings or find the new method more convenient. Sunday attendance in the church sanctuary is significantly lower than in the past!

As a result times have changed! Donations are being made in many different ways ... through traditional envelopes at church, by electronic transfers or PayPal and personal cheques mailed by Canada Post. In addition, contributions range from smaller weekly sums to large amounts a few times during the year. Therefore, envelopes will no longer be dated and the relevance of "envelope numbers" is primarily as a method of tracking donations (file number) in our accounting system for the purpose of issuing tax receipts.

Submitted by Rhonda Manore

Statement of Independent Review

To The Members of Huron Shores United Church

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The governing body of the pastoral charge is responsible for the fair preparation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal controls as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The governing body elects a treasurer from its members to oversee the maintenance of adequate records to enable preparation of fair financial control, and preparation of fair disclosure of financial matters to the pastoral charge, or the congregation.

Reviewer's Responsibility

The reviewer in this process primarily followed the guidelines as set out in section G.4.4.4 "Procedures for an Independent Review," in the UCC "Financial Handbook or Congregations 2017." This primarily consists of making inquiries of the Finance Committee Chair and others within the organization as appropriate and applying observations to evaluate the information obtained.

The procedures performed in the review are substantially less in extent and vary in nature from those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting practices. In addition, the reviewer is not a licensed practitioner. Accordingly, no audit opinion is expressed.

However, a detailed memorandum of the findings of the review has been given to the Chair of Council, should more detailed information be needed.

Submitted by Luke Nagel



Remembering Them

Marie Astle

Joan Eagleson

Dolores English

Rick Etherington

LeRoy Keyes

Puck Merkies

Ellen Smithers

Judith Trudgeon

Robert Wright