

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
2020 ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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***OUR MISSION - To be an open,
Christian community seeking spirituality and
loving relationships***

***OUR CORE VALUES - A loving and engaging
community with diverse and open spirituality
and with a respect for all creation***

Year ending December 31, 2020

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Message from the Chair of the Official Board – Zena Pendlebury



To sum up 2020, I would say that during the Covid-19 pandemic, we had to throw out the rule book and find different ways to conduct the work of the church. And so we did - and in a real hurry.

We were able to switch to virtual services, virtual meetings, and where virtual was not feasible, our staff created a great network of contacts by phone or print and engaged many tireless volunteers to keep the St. Paul's family connected.

Thank you to all members, adherents and friends for your financial support for the work of the church. Your generosity enabled us to be the church in troubled times; uplift and support people with our weekly services, continue to support front-line organizations financially and help those in need in our community and beyond. Despite the prevailing uncertainty, the financial position of the church is sound.

My term as Chair of St. Paul's Official Board is up. It has been an honour to serve and a great opportunity to work with a motivated, efficient and forward-thinking Board and staff, all of whom are truly committed to our role and mission as a Christian Church. Our Board has a "can do" approach in dealing with whatever comes our way; now, this is faith in action!

St. Paul's is blessed with exceptional staff. Everyone has had to make adjustments to their work to meet new demands and they have all risen to the occasion - most notably, working from home, virtual choir, virtual Discovery Kids!

So, thank you Louise, Victoria, Colleen, Rebecca, Glenn, Sonya.

I want to particularly thank Rev. Karen for all her good work under very challenging circumstances as well as her leadership, for supporting me in the chair's role and her guidance in matters of church governance.

Thank you to all who volunteer at St. Paul's. Thank you to all who chair or sit on committees, sing in the choir, contribute baking, serve coffee or meals, plant the flower gardens or are greeters and visitors - just to name a few. Your work is appreciated beyond words. You make a difference to people's lives, to St. Paul's and to our community.

In closing, I'd like us all to remember and pray for all who have died during the Covid-19 pandemic, those who are sick and perhaps face uncertain times

because of the virus. Remember those who have lost loved ones during this time and have had to grieve alone.

Let us all hope that we will soon be able to gather again and worship together as a church family. I certainly am looking forward to that!

**Shalom,
Zena Pendlebury, Chair, Official Board**

Minister's Report – Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam



I hardly know where to begin in this accountability report for 2020. January and February were on course for a normal year. Then on March 13th, it was decided that we would not worship together in our sanctuary that coming Sunday, March 15th. The impact of the Covid-19 virus that was being felt around the world had arrived in Canada and in Ontario. On March 16, 2020, the province declared a state of emergency and we went into our first lockdown. No one imagined that it would last this long. It looks like it will last over a year at the rate we are going. All staff in all workplaces were ordered to work at home where possible. Hence, six of our seven staff started working from home, with three of us going to the church only to livestream worship on Sunday mornings. Our custodian went on the government's emergency leave program as the building was officially closed. But like the dandelion that makes its way up through the pavement, the work and ministry of Christ does not stop. The spirit of God is tenacious. We knew that the building was closed **but the church was still open**. The church has never been a building. The church is its people. We grappled with and found new ways to do ministry.

Our worship services and even some funerals went virtual and our numbers started to increase, as others in different parts of the country and around the world found our YouTube channel. Zoom was no longer the sound of a young child with a toy car but rather video conferencing. At first there was a reluctance to gather by Zoom but then the Discovery Kids started gathering this way every Sunday morning. By the fall, the Bible Study group, the Theological Studies group, Grief groups and many of our committees were meeting by Zoom and they continue to do so. There were also some very helpful Zoom meetings provided by the United Church of Canada to assist congregations. These meetings provided us with updates and information and encouraged us to seek new ways to be the church. I have experienced a huge learning curve



with technology and this dinosaur is working hard to get caught up, as there really is no other option. I am grateful to have been given a new computer, as my old one did not have a camera and was literally coming apart.

Pastoral care was done by phone, outdoor socially distanced visits of no more than five people and by video conferencing. I have spent many hours on the phone. The congregation was asked to be part of the pastoral care work by reaching out to others in isolation. The Pastoral Care Team stepped in and started increasing their calls and personally delivering the weekly update and worship bulletin to our 39 folk who are not online. Our prayers went out to those with Covid-19, their families and those whose loved ones had died, not just in our own community but around the world. We continue to pray for all essential workers who continually risk their own health and the health of their families when they step out their door to go to work.

The Official Board discovered new ways to continue the work of the church and set up a "Transition Steering Team" to guide us through all the federal, provincial and local health guidelines and regulations. This team worked to ensure the safety of our congregation. Lots of things were happening behind the scenes thanks to the work and commitment of your leadership team. I am grateful to our lay leaders and staff for all that they did to steer the ship and keep us seaworthy in these very challenging times.

My time got stretched and divided in new ways. Worship had to change and change quickly. Music had to be done in new ways and different technology had to be engaged as we could not have the full tech team on board.

Understanding how to do worship differently took time and imagination. We grieved that we could no longer worship in person with our beloved congregation and feel engaged with you.



Initially, when the expectation was that the worst of the pandemic would be over soon, folk who had lost a loved one to death decided to wait and have a memorial service later. At one point I had over 20 funerals pending. Then as the summer began and people started to realize that this would not be over any time soon, many of the services went forward with limited numbers at the graveside. We had three families choose to do virtual services and all three were amazed at the number of people who joined them virtually or watched the service later.

Grief is experienced very differently in a pandemic, as family and friends cannot gather. Being isolated during a time of grief is very difficult. I still have a number of families who have decided to wait until this pandemic is

over to have an in-person memorial service so we can celebrate their loved one's life and can grieve together in person. Elsewhere in this report you will see a list of those associated with St. Paul's who have passed away. We will miss them very much. Please continue to keep them and all who mourn in your thoughts and prayers.

What can I say?? This past year has taught me so much as I grieved the isolation from others and found new ways to be your minister. I am determined that our church will continue to be vital. I pray and trust that the spirit of God will guide us, and that St. Paul's will be stronger. I also trust and pray that our members and adherents will return once the worst of this pandemic is over and that we will all see new ways of being the church in the future.

I want to thank Zena Pendlebury, our Chair of the Official Board, who guided us through this past year with grace and wisdom. She cares deeply for our wellbeing and has done so much these past two years. Her term of office is tentatively to end at the Annual General Meeting however we are not sure how that will happen. Thank you, Zena!

To our lay leaders who found new ways to continue the work of the church, I want to say thank you! Behind the scenes, you reached out and saw what needed to be done and made it happen. You also knew that other things would be left for another day. It takes wisdom to do that. It takes many to be the church.

I want to thank our staff. Victoria Warwick went from a choir that met on Thursday evenings to sing, to creating a virtual choir with our own singers and others across the country. Our work relationship changed as we became more of a team than ever before, as things were changing so rapidly. I am grateful that we have Glenn Erwin on staff. He researched and found new ways to do things so that our worship online could be creative. He has volunteered endless hours over and above the time he is paid for, as have most of our staff. Glenn and his now much smaller Tech Team have been vital to worship.

Louise Therrien, our Administrator, kept us all informed of all the changing government and health regulations. She worked from home and accepted reduced hours to enable us to increase Glenn's hours. Her flexibility and sense of humour made a difference. Colleen Gareau never stopped. She worked her way through the Church Directory several times, calling, texting, having socially distanced outdoor porch visits in the summer and writing to folk to stay in touch. She gathered the Pastoral Care Team



and together they reached out to the most isolated and vulnerable. Her compassionate and cheerful nature is like a ray of sunshine.

Rebecca Amadei, our Children and Youth worker, together with the Faith Formation committee found new ways to reach out. Zooming, phone calls and involving the children in various parts of worship took much of her time. We learned that she has a beautiful voice and plays instruments and she contributed to our worship music. She learned, like Victoria, to put together music on the computer.



Sonya Donahue, our custodian, was greatly missed when we had to close our building. With children at home, she was grateful for the government decision to allow folk to go on emergency leave. At this point, we have no idea when the building will be open again. We did open in the fall for three mornings a week and small groups were able to meet. The second lockdown changed all of that.

Lastly, I want to thank you the members, adherents and friends of St. Paul's, for continuing to be part of the congregation even when you feel so isolated from others. Thank you for your emails, calls and support. Thank you for remembering always that together we are the church and not even a pandemic is going to prevent us following Christ and living our faith. Like the dandelion breaking its way through the pavement, the spirit of God is giving us strength to break through this time to bring new life, hope and joy as God's people.

Karen

**St. Paul's United Church, Midland
Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, February 23, 2020. 11:30 a.m., in the Sanctuary**

Attendance - 76

1. Welcome and Call to Order - Zena Pendlebury

Opening Prayer - Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

2. Opening Comments - Zena welcomed those who stayed after worship for this annual meeting.

3. In Memoriam - Karen read the In-Memoriam list of St. Paul's members, adherents and friends who passed away in 2019.

4A - Congregational Chair and Secretary for 2020 - **Moved** by Fran Hill and **seconded** by Carol MacDonald, that the congregation of St. Paul's United Church Midland appoints Zena Pendlebury as Chair and Doug Drinkill as Treasurer for 2020 until our next Annual General Meeting in 2021. The position of Congregational Secretary is currently vacant. **Motion Carried.**

4B - **Moved** by Marlis Dupuis and **seconded** by Elizabeth Asmann, that the congregation appoints Zena Pendlebury as the Chair and Sheila Thompson as the Secretary of its February 23, 2020 Annual Meeting. **Motion Carried**

5. Permission for Adherents to Vote - **Moved** by Colin Whiteside and **seconded** by Norm Draper, that all adherents listed in the current Church Directory can vote on temporal matters at this meeting. **Motion Carried.**

6. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of St. Paul's United Church, Midland, held on February 24, 2019. **Moved** by Jim Sinclair and seconded by Louise Rachey, that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on February 24, 2019 be approved as circulated. (See pages 5-8 in the Annual Report.) **Motion Carried.**

7. Nominations Committee Report – (see pages 21 - 24 in the Annual Report.) Zena recognized and thanked the retiring Official Board members

for their time and commitment to St. Paul's.

7A - Slate of Officers, Members of the Official Board and Representatives to other bodies for 2020. **Moved** by Marlis Dupuis and **seconded** by Carol Morrison, that the congregation of St. Paul's United Church, Midland approve the Slate of Officers, members of the Official Board and representatives to other bodies as presented in the Nominations Committee Report on pages 21-24 with the following amendments: a) Norm Draper be listed as the Vice/Incoming Chair, b)Carolyn Hendry be added under the Worship Committee. **Motion Carried.**

8 - 2019 Annual Report of St. Paul's United Church, Midland (excluding financial reports) - **Moved** by Elizabeth Asmann and seconded by Sharon Foster, that the Annual Report for 2019, excluding financial reports, be accepted with the following amendments a)Page 11 under Marriages, Megan Melcher be changed to Megan Belcher b) Neil Foot be changed to Neal Foot c)Don Spratt be changed to Donald Spratt. **Motion Carried.**

9 - Board of Trustees Report- presented by Bruce Wilcox, Chair of the Board of Trustees. **Moved** by Bruce Wilcox and **seconded** by Doug Drinkill, that the Trust Fund financial statement from January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019 reporting \$491,095.50 in the Reserve Fund and \$120,664.62 in the Project Fund as of December 31, 2019 be accepted as printed. **Motion Carried.**

10 - Stewardship Committee Report and Financial Statements, see pages 33-37 (Stewardship Report - Terry McPherson, Financial Report - Doug Drinkill). Terry recognized Bill Playter, who passed away in the summer of 2019 for his dedication and commitment to the Stewardship committee and St. Paul's.

10A - **Moved** by Doug Drinkill and **seconded** by Terry McPherson, that the Mission and Service Congregational Pledge for 2020 be \$34,000. (World Development, \$1,000; M&S Congregation, \$28,000; UCW Donation, \$5,000.) **Motion Carried.**

10B - **Moved** by Doug Drinkill and **seconded** by Jim Sinclair, that the Cash Flow Statement for the period January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 be accepted as printed. **Motion Carried.**

10C - **Moved** by Tom Barber, **seconded** by Lenore Price that the 2020

Budget, as amended, and the latest copy prepared by the Stewardship Committee and recommended by the Official Board, be accepted as presented (an amended budget was distributed prior to the meeting and will be included in the minutes). **Motion Carried.**

11 - Update on the Hub - Bruce Wilcox spoke briefly about progress on the Hub project. St. Paul's is now equipped to share services, or parts of services with other churches, regardless of location. Currently, there has been little interest from other congregations, but senior United Church officials are spreading the word about this innovative project.

12 - Minister's Report - Karen presented her report, pointing out Bev Irwin's retirement and continued interest in St. Paul's, the team-work displayed by the staff, both new and old, how she appreciates our commitment to the community and each other and the support we provide. She thanked the church for recognizing her 35th anniversary of ordination.

13 - New Business - M&P Report. Louise Leck acknowledged the St. Paul's staff, Bev's retirement, Colleen Gareau moving into the new Visitor Co-Ordinator position, hiring of Rebecca Amadei as Children and Youth leader and Sonya Donahue as our new custodian, Office Administrator Louise Therrien and the leadership of Victoria Warwick and Rev. Karen.

14 - Karen led us in the Closing Prayer,

15 - Motion to Adjourn - **Moved** by Marlis Dupuis, **seconded** by Carol MacDonald that this meeting be adjourned at 12:30 p.m. **Motion Carried.**

In Memoriam

Members*, Adherents and Friends of St. Paul's United Church

Ross Cable – December 19, 2019
*Harold Heels – January 20, 2020
*Nelson Maheu – January 22, 2020
David Cable – January 31, 2020
*Arlene French – March 17, 2020
*Norma Graham – March 25, 2020
Raymond Mugford – March 30, 2020
*Morris (Bud) Wooldridge – April 10, 2020
*Ruth Sutherland – April 30, 2020
*Clifford Rudyk – May 08, 2020
*Annabella (Bunty) Baker – May 11, 2020
*Neil Gallichan – July 06, 2020
*Kay Robson – August 07, 2020
*Patricia Tinney – August 17, 2020
*Marjorie Hornsby – August 30, 2020
*Judy Hazel – November 27, 2020
Joan Hough - July 16, 2020
*Edith Bell - August 11, 2020

Community members who called upon St Paul's at their time of Loss

Barbara Preston – December 22, 2019
Donald Preston – January 02, 2015 (*family requested a dual service*)
Margaret Parliament – January 07, 2020
Douglas Parliament – December 21, 2017 (*family requested a dual service*)
Doris Burke – January 20, 2020
Margaret Duquette – February 16, 2020
Alice Clarke – March 22, 2020
Elizabeth Shepley – May 31, 2020
Gary (Pete) Hawke – July 07, 2020

MEMORIAL FUND REPORT 2020

Each year we receive donations to our church in memory of loved ones. These donations enable us to purchase various items for our work and ministry. Often these gifts are items we would not have been able to purchase within our regular budget and they enable us to do special things in memory of loved ones. We are thankful for those who gave generously. We are aware that those listed below are either people who have been members or adherents in our congregation and/or people who are very much loved by members and adherents. In 2020 we received a total of **\$2,306** in memorial donations. The balance unspent in memorial funds at

the end of 2020 was **\$6,917.36**. Due to the pandemic, we did not make any purchases from the Memorial Fund in 2020.

2020 Memorial Donations were received in memory of:

Norman Brunne
Arlene French
Dietmar Lintner
Annette Cyr
Mary Martin
Bunty Baker
Clifford Rudyk
Ruth Sutherland
Stephen Howard
Margaret Parliament
Tom McCullough
Arlene French
William Heeley
Sharon Kolopack
Judy Hazell
Neil Gallichan

CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS

Marriages

Norman Draper and Lynn Holden – March 07, 2020
Alisha Steele and Evan Lamoureux – June 06, 2020
Whitney Faragher and Andre Sanche – July 11, 2020

Baptism

Colton Ray Louis Sauve-St. Amant,
son of Real St. Amant and Ashley Sauve
Oct. 23, 2020

Historical church roll statistical report as of December 31, 2020

Total members as of January 1, 2020	249
In year 2020	
Members joined by Profession of Faith or transferred in	0
Members/Transferred removed	2
Member's deceased	13
Non-Resident	3
Resident Members	231
Total membership as of December 31, 2020	234

Official Board Committee Members 2020

Ex-Officio on All Committees (except Ministry and Personnel)

Minister: The Reverend Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Chair of the Official Board: Zena Pendlebury

Official Board Members:

Chairperson: Zena Pendlebury

Past Chair: Marlis Dupuis

Incoming Vice Chair: Norm Draper

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Doug Drinkill

Members: All Official Board Committee Chairs or/rep
Chairperson of the Board of Trustee
Choir Rep – Gail Wilcox
Shining Waters Rep – Victoria Tovell
President/Rep – UCW – Sharon Foster

Members at Large: Don Penrose
Sue Sauve
Colin Whiteside

Accessibility Committee:

Co-Chairs: Christina Strong
Pat File

Members: Elizabeth Asmann
Cam Bonner
Fran Hill

Congregational Life Committee:

Chairperson: Sheila Thompson

Members: Sandra Flint
Ron Neville
Sharon Penrose
Jean Stainton
*Colleen Gareau – Staff Resource

Faith Formation Committee:

Chairperson: Lynne Angus

Members: Kim Belfry
Pat File
Chris Karges
Sheila Thompson
*Colleen Gareau – Staff Resource
*Rebecca Amadei – Staff Resource

Ministry and Personnel Committee:

Chairperson: Louise Leck
Members: Elizabeth Asmann
Argyle Gallichan
Doreen Gunson
Byron Metzgar
Carol Morrison

Outreach Committee:

Co-Chairperson: Lois McQuirter
Karen Ptolemy-Stam
Members: Norm Draper – Monday morning Drop-in
Pat File – Social Justice
Debbie McGrory
Fran Hill – Guest House Meals, Foodgrains Bank
Joan Lavin - Meals on Wheels
Debbie McGrory – Christian Island Christmas Hampers
Barb Nicholls – Member at large
Sharon Penrose – Foodgrains Bank
Zena Pendlebury – Guest House Meals
UCW Representative - Vacant
*Karen Ptolemy-Stam – Staff Resource

Monday Drop-In Centre Volunteers

Rick Dell (co-ordinator)
Gabriella Dell (co-ordinator)
Jerry Broome
Linda Colamatto
Harry Campbell
Norm Draper
Jim Sinclair

Property Committee:

Chairperson: Bruce Wilcox
Members: Tom Barber
Cam Bonner
Hans Mueller
Floyd Tilson
Colin Whiteside

Stewardship Committee:

Chairperson: Murray Lockhart

Treasurer: Doug Drinkill
Members: Murray Lockhart
Don Penrose
Terry MacPherson
Pat File
*Louise Therrien - Staff Resource

Technology and Social Media Committee:

Chairperson: Fran Hill
Members: Cam Bonner
Rick Dell
Colin Whiteside
Bruce Wilcox
Linda Wilcox
*Glenn Erwin – Staff Resource

Worship Committee:

Co-Chairs: Cathy Metzgar & Victoria Warwick
Members: Jean Brockelbank
Antje Clarke
Mary Jane Deacon
Sandra Flint
Julianna Shaw
Donald Spratt
Colin Whiteside
Sharon Whiteside
Carolyn Hendry
*Karen Ptolemy-Stam, Staff Resource
*Victoria Warwick, Staff Resource

The Board of Trustees Members

Chairperson: Bruce Wilcox
Secretary: Neal Foot
Treasurer: Peggy Wallace
Members: Tom Barber
Shawn Leis
Don Penrose
Karen Ptolemy-Stam Ex-Officio

The United Church Women Executive

Executive Leader Sharon Foster
Annual Reports and Newsletters Eleanor Hunter

**Regional Representative
Secretaries**

Joan Goodfellow
Elizabeth Asmann
Sharon Whiteside

**Executive Treasurer
Unit Treasurer
Funeral Teas**

Helen French
Diane Marr
Helen French
Lenore Price

**Correspondence
Sleeping Children
Foster Child**

Iris Williams
Jean Kerr
Helen French

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE – Sheila Thompson

Well, wasn't that a year!! When some of us were grumbling about composing an annual report for our committees, the consensus seemed to be that due to the Covid-19 restrictions, we didn't have much to report. Karen suggested that maybe we should relate how the pandemic required us to think things a little differently and more creatively i.e. outside the box.

Twelve months ago, the Congregational Life committee was coordinating and sponsoring Social Hour following Sunday worship, hosting Food and Fellowship dinners, planning a St. Patrick's day party, working with our Visitors' Team and looking forward to providing two summer-time communion lunches for our seniors and shut-ins.

Abruptly in mid-March, everything changed. We had been able to host the January dinner, but the increasing risk called for cancelling the dinners that would follow. During the early fall, we did some 'alternate thinking' and planned a take-out dinner. We prepared ham and scalloped potatoes, hot vegetable, coleslaw, roll and dessert for nearly 80 take-home meals. This was almost too successful and we learned that we can do our best job with a cap of 60 dinners. We will continue with these meals when we are able to again, noting the success of ham and scalloped potatoes - that may be our regular fare.

The St. Patrick's Day party wasn't feasible as the musical group we had used in 2019 wasn't available, a big disappointment. Maybe another time?

Something else we couldn't go forward with were the summer communion lunches and this was regrettable for both our committee and for our guests.

In early March, the last Sunday that we were all able to go to church, Congregational Life hosted a soup luncheon. What a success!! We served home-made soup to nearly 100 church folk and garnered \$500 in free-will offerings! We didn't take long to decide that this event was a winner and were planning on repeating the luncheon later in the year. Perhaps 2021?

The Visitors' Team, under Colleen's enthusiastic and expert leadership, worked near-miracles in keeping our church family connected. She will have her own submission elsewhere in this report but I wish to say thank you to her and all the visitors who visited on porches, patios, lawns and in garages, made phone calls and sent e-mails and hand-delivered Karen's weekly message and Sunday bulletins. Your dedication is appreciated by all involved at St. Paul's. A new category of church folk had to be created, those who had been active in our church until the outbreak and have opted to step back and stay home. We named this group our 'At Home Faithfuls' and we continue to communicate with these friends on a regular basis.

Our other new venture was the Car Rally. We held our first such event on a lovely Sunday in September with about 50 folks eating a bag lunch on the church lawn and driving a planned route through North Simcoe looking for churches and barn quilts. Response from the participants was very positive and we will plan another one, hopefully in the spring of 2021.



Karen and Colleen's Grief Groups met, adjusted, tried different formats and locations and did very well, all things considered. Currently, they are on hiatus, and hope to be able to meet again soon.

Social Hour has always been a big part of our mandate and I believe we all miss that hour or so following worship, where we sit and visit with our church friends and enjoy light refreshments. Again, sometime soon...

Well, by the looks of this report, 2020 wasn't such a lost year. We managed to achieve our responsibilities as a church and provide some of the support our church family needed. This looks to be a challenging year as well, but we will all continue to work toward providing care, comfort and whatever else our St. Paul's folk need.

Sheila Thompson, Chair, Congregational Life

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE – PASTORAL CARE – Colleen Gareau



The year 2020 has been both challenging and rewarding in the area of Pastoral Care for our congregation. Little did we know that “two weeks of isolating” in March would lead to the rest of the year (and beyond), inventing new ways of connecting and caring for the folks of St. Paul’s United.

The first thank you must go out to Karen, Victoria Warwick, Glenn Erwin and the sound volunteers for never missing a step. Karen returned from a week of study leave to learn that Sunday service would move online and that only five people would be allowed in the building. From that day on, the Worship Team has connected us week after week with inspiring and uplifting Sundays, making us feel that even though we are not “in the building” we are all still a part of our church community. Many congregants who had never streamed services or even used computer technology dedicated themselves to learning these new skills.

Members of the Pastoral Visiting Team stepped up to the challenge. Since we were not able to visit individual homes, retirement homes or personal care homes, we needed to choose alternate ways of connecting. Many thanks go out to the team for learning to Zoom, making hundreds of phone calls, and for volunteering to deliver the weekly emails and bulletins to those in our congregation without internet. The difference they have made in the lives of our members and adherents during this unprecedented time will never be forgotten.

During the summer and fall months, the Women’s Grief Support group gathered under the trees at Little Lake Park with masks and distanced lawn chairs. Many of the women are grieving the loss of a loved one while others are experiencing Covid-19 grief. We moved indoors for the months of October and November before the restrictions for groups was once again put in place.

The prayer shawl ministry has been extremely busy throughout the past months, especially as those who have lost a loved one or have been ill have not been able to enjoy the personal visits they would normally receive. With much gratitude to Cathy Metzgar and her group of dedicated knitters, Karen and I have been able to drop off shawls on doorsteps so that these individuals know they are being thought of.

We also greatly appreciate Rebecca Amadei and the Discovery Kids who provided us with lovely homemade valentines to deliver to our “At Home Faithfuls” and folks in personal care homes. Plans are already underway for another delivery this coming Valentines’ Day.

I have also taken some time for further education and have participated online in several workshops and groups through the Askennonia Seniors' Centre, Hospice Huronia and the North Simcoe Muskoka Hospice Palliative Care Centre on the topic of grief during COVID times.

Thank you also to Sheila Thompson and the Congregational Life Team who have succeeded in carrying on their duties, be it by phone, Zoom, email, or a very noisy fall meeting on the church lawn while the construction vehicles were on the street. Together we have done the best we could under very difficult circumstances.

Respectfully submitted, Colleen Gareau

FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE – Lynne Angus

Looking back on 2020, the year started out like any other year for our Faith Formation committee. There were three regular youth group meetings in January, February and March where our young people were involved in a variety of activities such as learning about Black History Month and being volunteers at the March soup luncheon. Our Discovery Kids explored a new storytelling approach using wooden figurines and storyboards to teach our Sunday school curriculum. The congregation was also involved in an evening of fellowship at the bowling alley in Penetanguishene in February. This was a new venue and all that attended had a great time.

Then the world changed. Since then, the Faith Formation committee has done its best to go virtual. While the committee changed to having their meetings via Zoom, we looked for ways to stay connected with our youngest members of St. Paul's. The families helped by making recordings of their children lighting the Christ candle for use in our services, but Rebecca took the lead with most of this. She had some in person hikes and porch visits with the youth. The children took part in virtual crafts and volunteer projects. Thanks go out to Kim Belfry for all the prep she did for the Christmas votive candle craft. Most importantly, Rebecca offered weekly Discovery Kids lessons on Sunday mornings through Zoom. These sessions included some singing, storytelling, crafts, and visits from Karen through her Theme Conversations.

At Christmas time, the children once again filmed themselves acting out parts of the Christmas story and then Rebecca, Karen and Victoria found a way to provide a different kind of Christmas Eve service that still had as many people involved as possible. Our children had the opportunity to have

a porch visit with Santa since he was unable to visit them at the church. Thanks go out to Santa for volunteering to make this happen!

The Faith Formation committee will continue to run their meetings through Zoom for the foreseeable future but hopefully will be able to resume some outdoor face to face activities as the year progresses.

Members of the Faith Formation committee are Lynne Angus, Sheila Thompson, Pat File, Kimberly Belfry, Chris Karges, Rebecca Amadei, Colleen Gareau and Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (M&P) – Louise Leck

The M&P Committee has continued to function during 2020, using virtual means for our meetings after the March lockdown by the provincial government.

Our staff, except the custodian, continued to work from home from March 14 until September 2020, when staff were permitted to come back into the building as needed. In mid-December 2020, local outbreaks of Covid-19 and rising provincial infections drove M&P to once again recommend that staff, except the custodian, return to work from home.

We recommended to the Official Board that our custodian be placed on Infectious Disease Emergency Leave (IEDL) as of April 1, 2020 after the building was closed and had been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. On September 9, 2020, after the Official Board agreed to a limited re-opening of the building, the custodian was brought back from leave to clean and sanitize the building, working until December 24, 2020 when the building once again closed to staff and other users.

We want to acknowledge how helpful Shining Waters Region of the United Church of Canada has been to M&P Committees, providing templates for letters placing staff on IEDL , and by advising about legal processes which must be followed by M&P Committees and Official Boards

The M&P Committee also recommended to the Official Board (with the Minister's support) that in lieu of the Minister's sabbatical (three month leave (available every five years, due in 2021) that we approve extra time off of four weeks each year for the next three summers (2021, 2022 and 2023), giving her a longer summer break during those years, but not leaving us with an extended break just when we hope to be preparing for re-opening later in 2021. The Board unanimously approved this request.

The M&P Committee commends the efforts of each of our staff for their excellent contributions during this unusual pandemic year. **Sonya Donahue, our custodian**, kept our building spotlessly clean and sanitized when she was able to work. **Louise Therrien, our Administrator**, moved the office to her home and seamlessly provided administrative services from there. At one point she agreed to work fewer hours, with some of those scheduled on Tuesday-Thursday mornings and others to be used flexibly when needed. We appreciate her flexibility and adaptability as well as her many other administrative skills. **Colleen Gareau, our Pastoral Care Coordinator**, has coordinated efforts to keep in touch with congregational members, working closely with Karen, assisted by volunteers. We are very appreciative of all her outreach. **Glenn Erwin, our Technical Services Coordinator**, has provided wonderful support (much of it volunteer) to Karen and Victoria in their preparation and delivery of on-line Sunday services and funerals. His expertise has ensured that our on-line church services, seen by many outside our own community and indeed outside Canada—are presented in a highly professional and very enjoyable manner. We are very fortunate to have his level of expertise at our disposal. Before the pandemic, who knew that **Rebecca Amadei, our Youth Coordinator**, is an exceptionally fine singer? In addition to Zoom Discovery Kids outreach to children and families, her musical contributions to Sunday services have been enjoyed by everyone. **Victoria Warwick, our Director of Music**, has been learning new skills as she adapts to on-line service delivery. In addition to the music she plays herself, she has found many additional musical resources to keep our services interesting. She has kept St. Paul's choir members in close communication during the pandemic, helping to keep their spirits up as they long to be together again in song. Every Sunday, we once again are impressed by the teamwork we observe between Victoria and Karen as they together weave together words and music in a spiritual manner. **Karen Ptolemy-Stam, our Minister**, has worked tirelessly with Victoria and Glenn to deliver outstanding on-line services which by all reports are highly appreciated within and beyond our congregation. She acknowledges that it takes three times longer to prepare and deliver these quality services; on the upside, they are reaching a wider group of people than ever before. In addition to giving leadership to worship service development and delivery, she has spent endless hours attending to pastoral care needs and giving leadership to St. Paul's staff throughout this



pandemic. We are pleased that she will have a little extra time off during the next three summers.

We are truly blessed to have such a talented and dedicated staff!

Submitted on behalf of the Ministry and Personnel Committee,
Louise Leck (Chair), Byron Metzgar (Secretary), Elizabeth Asmann, Argyle Gallichan, Carol Morrison and Doreen Gunson

OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Lois McQuirter

With the pandemic arriving last March, we were not able to continue our Monday morning Drop-In program due to the restrictions that were imposed. It is certainly our hope that we will be able open our doors once again to feed the hungry in our community sometime in 2021 when it is safe to do so. We did continue to do some outreach through our benevolent fund. This year we sent \$500 to the Salvation Army Community Foodbank. Louise Therrien, on our behalf, checked in with them every two months to make sure that they were not running low of funds or food. We sent \$250 to the Gift of Grace Soup Kitchen, to help with their program to feed the hungry during Covid-19. We also worked with the Guest House Shelter. Due to the pandemic, they had to shelter the homeless in local hotels and deliver meals and continue to do so. We purchased food containers and supplies needed to assist them with meals, for a total of \$270. Additionally, as the monthly actual meals could no longer be provided by our team, funds to cover the cost of these meals have been provided by a donor. Thank you to Zena Pendlebury for taking the lead in this area.

We delivered our annual Christmas food hampers to Christian Island. We work closely with the Beausoleil First Nations Social Services Department and this year we were asked to provide 44 food hampers (31 family hampers and 13 single person hampers). A local grocer donated turkeys to Christian Island families in need. Hence, we were asked to purchase hams instead, which we did readily. Thank you to Debbie McGrory and Jim Sinclair for making this happen. We reached out to others in need and provided financial assistance from our Benevolent Fund. We are grateful for your ongoing support of the Benevolent Fund.



Thanks to your generosity, we were able to give \$31,706.41 to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada, which reaches out to Canadian and global partners to assist in programs that truly make a difference in people's lives. In this endeavour, we join with our sister churches across the country to reach out to communities around the world. We were not able to reach our goal of \$34,000.

This year we went ahead with our annual Foodgrains Bank, raising 11,937.38 which included \$2,500 in matching from our Trust Funds. The donations are also matched 4:1 by the Canadian Government. This money goes to feed the hungry of the world, give them tools to grow the food themselves and help with projects that truly make a difference.

Though we were not able to do as much as we would in normal circumstances, St. Paul's Outreach program was still present in our community and the world around us.

Lois McQuirter,
Chair of the Outreach Committee

Benevolent Fund Financial Statement for 2020

Balance as of December 31, 2019	\$7,967.63
Donations to Benevolent Fund in 2020	<u>\$4,916.00</u>
Total Benevolent	\$12,883.63
Expenses	
Bank Charges	96.00
Assisting those in need	\$1460.10
Drop in Centre Expenses (much lower in 2020)	\$ 336.36
Food Vouchers	\$ 491.32
Christian Island Christmas Hampers	\$811.72
Salvation Army Food Bank	\$500.00
Gift of Grace Soup Kitchen	\$250.00
Guest House Shelter	\$270.07
Total Expenses	<u>\$4,215.57</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2020	<u>\$8,668.16</u>

PROPERTY COMMITTEE – Bruce Wilcox

What a year this has been! It started out full of promise and projects until the pandemic hit. The church building was shut down in mid-March due to Covid-19 and did not reopen until early September, to small groups and the nursery school. Not much inside work was done during the lockdown but outside, a small band of volunteers cleaned out, replanted and maintained the church gardens all summer and fall. Our thanks go out to Carol MacDonald who led this mighty band and kept a watchful eye on the gardens all summer. These volunteers included Max Wagg, Harry Campbell, Don and Sharon Penrose, Tom Barber, Ivan and Lenore Price, Dennis Shannon, Bruce Wilcox and Colin Whiteside. Several other members of our congregation kindly donated plant and bulb



material for the gardens. The gardens have never looked so good and there are plans to make them even better next year.

This past Christmas was different from the ones we normally have here at St. Paul's but we did manage to get the Nativity Scene out on the lawn during the Christmas season, thanks to the usual crew of Dennis, Cam, Colin, Tom and Bruce.

A new defibrillator was installed outside of the Ministers study. The old one had lived beyond its expiry date. We hope to get at some inside repairs to some of the walls and ceilings during the winter in preparation for our return to our building, whenever that may be.

Members of the Property Committee include Hans Mueller, Tom Barber, Colin Whiteside, Floyd Tilson, Cam Bonner and Bruce Wilcox. New Members are always welcome.

Bruce Wilcox, Property Committee Chair

TRUSTEES REPORT 2020 – Bruce Wilcox

Members of the Board of Trustees at St. Paul's for the year 2020 include Tom Barber, Shawn Leis, Neal Foot, Peggy Wallace, Don Penrose, Rev. Karen and Bruce Wilcox (Chair)

Property and Liability Insurance provided to the United Church of Canada by Hub International was renewed for 2020. Property of Every Description coverage in the amount of \$5,844,190.00 contained an adjustment for inflation. The premium for the coverage was \$11,228.28 (tax excluded) which was an increase of 19.15% over the 2019 premium. The increase was much higher, but we managed to have it reduced because of our monitored fire alarm. Please note that Officers & Directors coverage is also included.

Following is a list of withdrawals and receipts from trusts during the year 2020:

WITHDRAWALS

To St. Paul's Choir re: Estate of Gary Price	\$ 1,976.15
To General Account Re: 2019 Interest Transfer	\$ 8,000.00
To General Account Re: Matching Funds for Food Grains	\$ 2,500.00

RECEIPTS

Phase 2 Donations for 2020 and received in early 2021	\$ 180.00
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Proceeds from the Estate of Gary Price \$ 3,952.30

Proceeds from the Estate of Robert (Bob) Black \$10,000.00

In early 2021, if required, \$8,500.00 will be transferred to the General Fund. This represents the interest earned on the Reserve Account in 2020. The trustees express their sincere appreciation to the custodial staff and the Property Committee for their devotion to the continued care and maintenance of St. Paul's facilities.

K. Bruce Wilcox, Chair Board of Trustees

Trustee's Financial Report

Value of Trusts and Estates as of December 31, 2020 \$625,685.33

Trusts, Estates and Interest Re-invested

RESERVE ACCOUNT

Home Trust Co.	\$100,000.00	0.880%	July 09 /21	\$100,421.92
General Bank of CDA	\$100,000.00	0.790%	Sept. 22/21	\$100,216.44
CDN Western Bank	\$22,564.00	0.800%	July. 09/21	\$ 22,650.55
Equitable Bank	\$85,000.00	0.630%	Oct. 14/21	\$ 85,114.44
Laurentian Bank	\$ 56,911.00	0.700%	Sept. 24/21	\$ 57,017.96
LBC Trust	\$100,000.00	0.700%	Sept. 24/21	\$100,187.95
Mutual Fund				\$ 39,148.13
Cash Account				\$ 9.92
Total Reserve Fund				\$504,767.31

PROJECT ACCOUNT

CDN Western Trust	\$ 20,000.00	0.800%	July 09/21	\$ 20,076.71
KEB Hana Bank Canada	\$ 96,451.00	0.830%	July 09/21	\$ 96,834.82
Scotiabank GIC	\$ 1,047.18	2.15%	Feb.25/20	\$ 1,047.18
RBC Investment Savings				\$ 2,947.91
Cash Account				\$ 11.40
Total Project Fund				\$120,918.02

K. Bruce Wilcox, Chair of the Board of Trustees

SOCIAL MEDIA/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – Fran Hill

Who knew what a crazy year we would have! A real 'proving ground' for our Tech Team, who rose nobly to all the challenges that social distancing and lockdowns brought to worship. We started with live streaming our Sunday worship service and moved to pre-recording the service in order to comply with numbers allowed to congregate. While Karen claims to be a 'dinosaur' when it comes to technology, she has more than risen to the challenge that the Covid-19 pandemic presented, in finding ways to enhance this new form of worship. Glenn has been a real star in making all those pre-recorded parts come together for our service and while not part of the Tech Team, Victoria has worked her magic in finding and creating music, both with our own choir and musicians but also adding outside 'friends' and YouTube guests to join us in our worship.

Meanwhile our Facebook page and our website have also been updated more frequently, despite having fewer events to promote, as we believe it is important to keep that link with everyone as current as possible. Thank you to Linda Wilcox who manages to keep the Facebook page interesting.



The Website - As mentioned last year, our website provider, E-zekiel, has partnered with a company called ShareFaith and we were being encouraged to switch to the new entity. We had decided to defer a decision to switch to the new entity. After considering the benefits and price differences for the services we are currently getting and the ones being offered against what we believe we need, we decided that we should start to consider alternatives. We looked at this again in the fall and realized that a redesign and new provider would serve us better in the long run. With this in mind, we again reviewed the things we need and began the search for a new web design company. Countless searches of United Church of Canada websites (and others) have us looking close to home and gathering quotes and getting a report ready for the Official Board.

The electronic sign notices were not updated while much of the rebuild of King Street was underway, as there was no vehicle traffic and very little foot traffic. With the reopening of King Street, Louise Therrien is once again maintaining the sign for us.

We continue to work to comply with our Accessibility Policy, to ensure that everyone who visits our website can navigate to the topic or page that interests them as easily as possible.

Please remember that this will always be a work in progress. I hope that we are helping you to navigate these very different and often difficult pandemic days a little more easily and invite you to contact me with your comments.

Fran Hill, Committee Chair, Social Media/Technology

A message from Glenn Erwin, our Technical Services Co-ordinator:

It's been quite a year to say the least. But along with the challenges we have all faced, there have been many opportunities for growth. This has been especially true for all those involved in putting together our service.



When the church first closed to the public we had to scramble and decide how to proceed. At first, we went with a hybrid service, partially pre-recorded and partially live-streamed. Although this worked well, we finally decided to go to a totally pre-recorded service. Although this format requires far more time to put together, we felt it would allow us to create a more polished service for all to enjoy at home. It also required us to learn new skills such as video and audio editing, among other things. The team size has been greatly reduced out of necessity, but I look forward to getting the whole team back together.

Some HUB news: we have been actively moving ahead with the Hub project. Our remote units are now operational and we are experimenting with another church using this system. We also have a weekly Zoom meeting with other Hub users from across the province to share problems and solutions. This is proving to be a great learning opportunity for all involved.

Now for some statistics- we tech people love those. Since the start of the pandemic, we have had over **22,215** views. When you think that usually people are watching together, this is truly an impressive number. Although most of our viewers are in Canada, we do have an international reach. Australia, United States, the United Kingdom, Jamaica and the Netherlands are some of them. Most people are now watching the service on their computers. This is a shift from last year when most watched on their phones. I could go on and on, but I think that's good for now. Let me close in wishing you all the best and looking forward to gathering again soon.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – Murray Lockhart

Another church year has ended and who would have thought it would be like this? The Covid-19 pandemic has created many challenges, not only at St. Paul's. Our sister churches faced the same obstacles and dilemmas. We were not alone.

St. Paul's was already set up for virtual services that were viewed by many people, thanks to our amazing technology. With our doors closed, Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam, St. Paul's staff and the Worship Committee, along with our guest minister, the Rev. Lois Brown of Unity United Church in Vasey, prepared live-streamed services for each Sunday. This proved to be very successful and viewing numbers grew each week. As the year progressed, Rev. Brown held small services in Vasey.

With our building closed, would we have enough income to meet our financial needs? Our congregation never let us down. We were able to keep all our staff on with the exception of our custodian. We qualified for some federal wage subsidies for those staff who did continue to work.

Our church committees had planned special projects to raise extra funds, but these fundraisers had to be cancelled. However, we had several special angels working within our midst that made several things happen to offset our financial needs; a car rally, pie sales, takeout dinners and Christmas goodie boxes, just in time for the holidays. Thank you to our angels for your work to help carry us through these challenging times.

The Stewardship Committee met monthly by Zoom. Our financial position remained strong throughout with the help of government grants that we qualified for and with your generous support.

Looking forward into 2021 and the vaccines that will be made available, hopefully we can soon meet inside St. Paul's doors. We will have to continue to follow the guidelines set forth by our health experts and this pandemic WILL be behind us. **There is a light at the end of the tunnel held in God's Hands.**

I want to acknowledge our committee members for their hard work and commitment to St. Paul's: Doug Drinkill, Treasurer, Pat File, Terry McPherson, Don Penrose, Zena Pendlebury, Chair of the Official Board, Louise Therrien, Office Administrator and the Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam. Thank you for your dedication to the ministry of St. Paul's.

Murray Lockhart, Chair, Stewardship Committee

CONTRIBUTION RANGE REPORT 2020

Range	# of Contributors	Total Given	Average
0.00 – 100	31	\$ 1,564.00	\$ 50.46
100.01 - 200	9	\$ 1,435.00	\$ 159.45
200.01 - 300	20	\$ 5,217.00	\$ 260.85
300.01 - 400	7	\$ 2,410.00	\$ 344.29
400.01 – 500	10	\$ 4,603.36	\$ 460.33
500.01 – 750	30	\$17,711.54	\$ 590.39
750.01 – 1,000	14	\$12,206.25	\$ 871.88
1,000.01 – 1,500	31	\$40,310.40	\$1,300.34
1,500.01 – 2,500	33	\$65,291.00	\$1,978.52
2,500.01 – 5,000	16	\$52,950.00	\$3,309.38
5,000.01-,20,000	10	\$77,010.00	\$7,701.00
	211 Contributors	Total \$280,708.55	

These figures include contributions for Mission & Service, Camp Simpresca, Food Grains, Benevolent fund, Accessibility donations etc. which are designated funds and not reflected in General Fund in the table below.

Cash flow 2020 vs. 2021 Budget forecast

	<u>Jan - Dec 2020</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Contributions			
*General Funds	244,126.52	222,000.00	-22,126.52
Loose Offerings	<u>919.25</u>	<u>0.00</u>	-919.25
Total Contributions	245,045.77	222,000.00	-23,045.77
Fundraising			0.00
Fundraising Income			0.00
Car Rally	610.00	0.00	-610.00

Food & Fellowship	3,164.00	0.00	-3,164.00
Misc. Fundraising Projects	<u>487.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	-487.00
Total Fundraising Income	<u>4,261.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	-4,261.00
Total Fundraising	4,261.00	0.00	-4,261.00
Other Income			0.00
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	19,356.02	0.00	-19,356.02
Government 10% Wage subsidy	4,060.59	0.00	-4,060.59
Miscellaneous Income	844.23	750.00	-94.23
Trust Fund Interest Transfer	8,000.00	8,500.00	500.00
Use of Space Donations	<u>7,931.66</u>	<u>2,500.00</u>	-5,431.66
Total Other Income	<u>40,192.50</u>	<u>11,750.00</u>	-28,442.50
Total Income	289,499.27	233,750.00	-55,749.27
Expense			0.00
Administration			0.00
COVID-19 Expenses	371.04	0.00	-371.04
Bank Charges			0.00
Payroll Service Charges	396.93	439.73	42.80
Bank Charges - Other	<u>1,292.01</u>	<u>1,300.00</u>	7.99
Total Bank Charges	1,688.94	1,739.73	50.79
Miscellaneous	710.00	750.00	40.00
Office Expense	8,135.56	10,300.00	2,164.44
Panic Button Fees	311.80	340.00	28.20
UCC Assessment	11,568.00	12,135.00	567.00
Telephone Expense	<u>1,863.54</u>	<u>1,875.00</u>	11.46
Total Administration	24,648.88	27,139.73	2,490.85
Building Expenses			0.00
AED (Defibrillator)	2,051.20	0.00	-2,051.20
Covid-19 expenses	168.42	200.00	31.58
Building Maintenance Expense	7,605.20	12,000.00	4,394.80
Electric PUC	3,453.99	4,000.00	546.01
Enbridge Gas	9,021.17	10,000.00	978.83
Insurance Expense	10,615.10	11,232.00	616.90
Water & Waste Expense	<u>581.92</u>	<u>600.00</u>	18.08
Total Building Expenses	33,497.00	38,032.00	4,535.00
Committee Expenses			0.00
Congregational Life	582.07	1,500.00	917.93
Faith Formation Committee	458.05	2,000.00	1,541.95
M&P Committee	0.00	250.00	250.00
Music, Choir & Organ Expenses	537.75	1,000.00	462.25
Social Media - Technical	7,184.86	500.00	-6,684.86
Worship Committee	<u>1,283.03</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	-283.03
Total Committee Expenses	10,045.76	6,250.00	-3,795.76

Employer Expenses			0.00
Tech Co-ordinator wages	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
Children & Youth Leader Wages	4,572.14	5,854.32	1,282.18
Pastoral Care Wages	11,628.54	11,942.88	314.34
Administration Wages	26,491.49	21,315.84	-5,175.65
Custodian Wages	10,135.33	9,964.50	-170.83
Organist Wages	19,959.50	20,397.48	437.98
Minister Salary	83,831.40	86,779.56	2,948.16
Pastoral Care Travel	897.96	950.00	52.04
CPP Expense	4,889.20	4,865.00	-24.20
EI Expense	2,912.52	3,490.00	577.48
Minister Dev. & Book Allowance	705.89	2,000.00	1,294.11
Minister Travel Expenses	1,113.84	1,150.00	36.16
Pension & Group	19,678.15	23,847.12	4,168.97
Workers' Comp	765.40	876.10	110.70
Total Employer Expenses	<u>187,581.36</u>	<u>197,032.80</u>	9,451.44
Total Expense	<u>255,773.00</u>	<u>268,454.73</u>	12,681.73
Net Ordinary Income	33,726.27	-34,704.73	-68,431.00

Due to some generous donations, reduced wages, government wage subsidies and lower than forecasted committee expenses in 2020 due to Covid-19, we achieved a surplus of \$33,726.27 in 2020.

We are forecasting a lower givings budget in 2021, as several members have passed away, while others have had to reduce or cancel their givings. Our income will also be affected by the lack of fundraising activities and use of space income due to Covid-19. We are forecasting a deficit of \$34,704.73 in 2021.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE – Cathy Metzgar

Cheers from the Worship Committee. Our members are Victoria Warwick, Sharon and Colin Whiteside, Mary Jane Deacon, Julianna Shaw, Donald Spratt, Carolyn Hendry, Karen Ptolemy-Stam and Cathy Metzgar.

Thank you to Sandra Flint for her time and input while she was a member of our group. Due to other commitments and volunteerism elsewhere in our church, she has stepped down from our committee.

The year 2020 turned out to be unforgettable, much like the work and teachings of Jesus. Due to the pandemic, many activities including gathering for Sunday service stopped. Our lives changed. Netflix, books, hobbies and stay at home orders took the forefront. Zoom meetings and virtual church became our norm. Our lifestyles resumed in very different

ways with masks, sanitizer and hockey stick social distancing. Ordering food and other necessities online became the norm. Toilet paper became worth its weight in gold. Resiliency blossomed. Homemade masks appeared, wineries started making hand sanitizer, manufacturers retooled to make ventilators. How many times have the faithful endured adversary? Hardship, loss and uncertainty have always tested Christians.



As a Worship committee, we adapted along with the other committees. Our Sunday services continued virtually, initially being livestreamed on Sunday mornings. In September, we pre-recorded the services to take some of the stress off the Tech Team. Solos, group singing, pageants and celebrations continued virtually, which created a lot of extra work for our Music Director, who had to learn to use new computer technology to make this happen. We had our first virtual baptism and virtual communion services. We embraced funerals differently. We welcomed Unity United Church from Vasey into our realm from March to the end of August, as they did not have the technology at that time to do virtual worship.

As a faith community we laughed, cried, celebrated, kept in touch with each other and glued our fellowship together with prayers, peace, hope, joy, and love. Volunteers read scriptures and welcoming prayers. Our young people lit the Christ candle, and friends decorated the sanctuary for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Thank you to Karen, Victoria, Lois (part-time), the Tech Team led by Glenn Erwin, Rebecca (Discovery Kids), Louise (Office Administrator), Sonya (Custodian). Thank you to the volunteer teams who sat by the door to welcome and direct all who came into our building when we partially opened in the fall. Lastly and most importantly, thank you to you who faithfully watched our Sunday worship services. Nothing can stop this group of believers.

**Blessings to all,
Cathy Metzgar Chair, Worship Committee.**

CHOIR REPORT – Victoria Warwick



Like everyone, St Paul's choir certainly experienced a very DIFFERENT year, but through persistence and optimism, we told the pandemic to TAKE THAT!

We enjoyed presenting a unique Christmas cantata in virtual format titled "A New Birth, A New Beginning" by John

Purifoy. This project, and other virtual projects, were possible through the creation of the "St Paul's and Friends Choir" which included choristers from St Paul's Choir, Unity United Choir, Wasaga Beach United Choir, Serenata Choir and from others outside of our area including Peterborough, Barrie and Vancouver. Thank you to John McCullough and Dan Donaldson for their wonderful narration. The cantata has been a Christmas season highlight for many years and we were so delighted to carry on that tradition despite the lockdown.

In addition, we were able to create the fourth annual children's musical titled "Sheep in Heavenly Peace". Like the cantata, the musical took on a very different 'look' since it too, was a virtual production. A big thank you to Shayla Brown for her work as co-director. This group of young people worked so very hard on this and the biggest difference is that they never actually were together for rehearsal! Everything was done from their homes, which is more proof of our adaptability.



YOUTH CAST

Jennifer Kasunick – **Maxine**
Brennan Bielefeld – **Heywood**
Shayla Brown - **Gabby, Assistant Director**
Madeline Rice – **Enoch**
Ava Todd – **Vivian**
Alina Todd – **Mackenzie**
Charlotte Heffernan – **Piper**
Rochanaa Mekala – **Wolfgang**
Victoria Warwick – **Riley, Assistant**
Chris & Allen Klaamas – **Nick & Nick's Son**
Rebecca Amadei – **Gabriel**
Mary & Joseph – **Rebecca Amadei & Ryan Spooner**

St Paul's Bell A'Peal Handbell Choir: In the fall of 2020, the Bell A'Peal Handbell Choir of St Paul's was able to gather for rehearsals, physically distanced and masked, and enjoyed gathering weekly to ring and 'catch up'. A group of optimistic and adaptable women, this choir was able to create a number of virtual productions that were included in Worship Services through Advent and Christmas, 2020.

As always, we are grateful to St Paul's and to the congregation who continue to be supportive of the music at St Paul's! We cannot foresee the future, but

we stay optimistic that we will be able to gather again in worship soon. In the meantime, please take care of yourselves until we can gather again.

Respectfully submitted, Victoria Warwick

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW) – Sharon Foster

The year 2020 was certainly challenging for all of us. The March lockdown brought a halt to our regular monthly meetings as the church closed. Many protocols were put in place for the re-opening of our church in late September, which included limiting the number of people that could gather at one time to ten. With much thought and conversation with members, I was a bit reluctant to resume meetings in October, but we concluded that we would try two meetings on our regular second Tuesday of the month – a meeting at 10:30 a.m. and another meeting at 1:30 p.m. We considered having a Zoom meeting, but many members were not comfortable doing that.

As we support many organizations and groups within our community and elsewhere, it was not financially feasible this year as we were not able to have some of the larger fundraising events that we normally undertake. We did however have a very successful sale of homemade pies in November and in December another successful event was the sale of Christmas goodie boxes, loaded with homemade cookies and squares. Thank you to all who provided baked goods and to those who made donations. We couldn't have done it without you!!



With the second wave of Covid-19, we have once again been mandated to suspend our in-person meetings. Hopefully with the vaccine arriving, we will all be able to meet again soon.

Sharon Foster, President UCW

UCW FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2020

Balance on Hand December 31, 2019		\$ 5,929.01
Receipts:		
General Offering	\$ 1,651.00	
Projects	170.00	
Baking	1,700.00	
Transfer from Sleeping Children	160.00	
Total		\$ 3,681.00
		<u>\$ 9,610.01</u>

Disbursements:

Allocation to M&S	\$ 5,000.00	
Guest House	400.00	
Salvation Army	300.00	
Habitat for Humanity	200.00	
St. Vincent de Paul	300.00	
Presbyterial dues	162.00	
UCW Speaker	25.00	
Children Believe	700.00	
Gift Certificates (Staff)	315.00	
Bank Charges	25.00	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$ 7,427.00</u>
Cash on hand	61.37	
Balance as of Dec 31, 2020	<u>\$2,244.38</u>	

Helen French, Treasurer

Nominations for the Official Board Members 2021
and Official Board Committee Members 2021

Ex-Officio on All Committees (except Ministry and Personnel)

Minister: The Reverend Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Chair of the Official Board: Zena Pendlebury

Official Board Members:**Chairperson:** Zena Pendlebury (acting, seeking new chairperson)**Past Chair:** Marlis Dupuis**Incoming Vice Chair:** Vacant**Secretary:** Vacant**Treasurer:** Doug Drinkill**Members:** All Official Board Committee Chairs or/rep

Chairperson of the Board of Trustee

Choir Rep – Gail Wilcox

Shining Waters Rep – Victoria Tovell

President/Rep – UCW – Sharon Foster

Members at Large: Don Penrose

Sue Sauve

Colin Whiteside

Accessibility Committee:**Co-Chairs:** Christina Strong

Pat File

Members: Elizabeth Asmann

Cam Bonner
Fran Hill

Congregational Life Committee:

Chairperson: Sheila Thompson
Members: Ron Neville
Sharon Penrose
Jean Stainton
Colleen Gareau

Faith Formation Committee:

Chairperson: Lynne Angus
Members: Kim Belfry
Pat File
Sheila Thompson
*Colleen Gareau – Staff Resource
*Rebecca Amadei – Staff Resource

Ministry and Personnel Committee:

Chairperson: Louise Leck
Members: Elizabeth Asmann
Argyle Gallichan
Doreen Gunson
Byron Metzgar

Outreach Committee:

Co-Chairperson: Lois McQuirter
Karen Ptolemy-Stam
Members: Norm Draper – Monday morning Drop-in
Pat File – Social Justice
Debbie McGrory - Christian Island Food Hampers
Fran Hill – Guest House Meals, Foodgrains Bank
Joan Lavin - Meals on Wheels

Barb Nicholls – Member at large
Sharon Penrose – Foodgrains Bank
Zena Pendlebury – Guest House Meals
UCW Representative - Vacant
*Karen Ptolemy-Stam – Staff Resource

Monday Drop-In Centre Volunteers

Rick Dell (co-ordinator)

Gabriella Dell (co-ordinator)
Jerry Broome
Linda Colamatto
Harry Campbell
Norm Draper
Jim Sinclair

Property Committee:

Chairperson: Bruce Wilcox
Members: Tom Barber
Cam Bonner
Hans Mueller
Floyd Tilson, honorary member
Colin Whiteside

Stewardship Committee:

Chairperson: Murray Lockhart
Treasurer: Doug Drinkill
Members: Murray Lockhart
Don Penrose
Terry MacPherson
Pat File
*Louise Therrien - Staff Resource

Technology and Social Media Committee:

Chairperson: Fran Hill
Members: Cam Bonner
Rick Dell
Colin Whiteside
Bruce Wilcox
Linda Wilcox
*Glenn Erwin – Staff Resource

Worship Committee:

Co-Chairs: Cathy Metzgar & Victoria Warwick
Members: Mary Jane Deacon
Julianna Shaw
Donald Spratt
Colin Whiteside
Sharon Whiteside
Carolyn Hendry
*Karen Ptolemy-Stam, Staff Resource
*Victoria Warwick, Staff Resource

Transition Steering Team (Ad-Hoc Committee of the Official Board during the Pandemic)

Chairperson: Louise Leck
Members: Sharon Penrose
*Louise Therrien, staff resource
*Karen Ptolemy-Stam, staff resource
*Victoria Warwick, staff resource
Zena Pendlebury
Norm Draper
Bill Byrick
Bruce Wilcox

The Board of Trustees Members 2021

Chairperson: Bruce Wilcox
Secretary: Neal Foot
Treasurer: Peggy Wallace
Members: Tom Barber
Shawn Leis
Don Penrose
Karen Ptolemy-Stam Ex-Officio

The United Church Women Executive 2021

Executive Leader	Sharon Foster
Annual Reports and Newsletters	Eleanor Hunter
Regional Representative	Joan Goodfellow
Secretaries	Elizabeth Asmann Sharon Whiteside

Executive Treasurer	Helen French
Unit Treasurer	Diane Marr
Funeral Teas	Helen French Lenore Price

Correspondence	Iris Williams
Sleeping Children	Jean Kerr
Foster Child	Helen French

SCOUTING

A belated happy New Year! Like everyone else, it has been a challenging year for us with lots of learning on how to run virtual meetings. Our numbers are much lower than normal, as some youth are just not interested

in more computer time, while others jump at the opportunity to connect with their scouting friends.

We are currently running successful Troop (scouts) and Pack (cubs) virtual meetings every 2nd week. The focus is not so much about scouting but having fun and just getting to be a kid. For both sections, the youth tend to be interested in science, technology and being able to build things. We have done some porch drops with bags of little treats, a special crest and a water bottle. We are in the process of arranging more drop offs with some hands-on activities for the youth.

The Travelling Moose have been somewhat active too. This is the group that had planned to go to an International Jamboree in Essex UK for 2020 but due to COVID, it was cancelled. They then set their sights on Norway 2021, as no one really knew what the future was going to bring. Well of course, that has been cancelled as well so now the plan is Denmark 2022. They could have also gone to Finland where all the meals would have been catered. Nope, not this group. They heard that in Denmark all meals will be cooked on an open fire and saw that as a challenge to be had.

On Family Day, we offered our members an opportunity to sit back and relax, as they were treated to a one-hour virtual performance by Scott Hammell – a magician entertainer and four-time Guinness Record Holder.

We all miss being at the church and seeing the members. We look forward to the spring with the hope of some form of normalcy beginning to take place.

**Yours in scouting,
Katherine Faulkner
Group Commissioner 4th Midland Scouting**

