



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Faith United Church
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From the Minister's Study

It occurs to me that this will be the last annual report I will get to write for Faith United, as I have announced that I will be retiring from active pastoral ministry on June 30, 2024 after almost 17 years of ministry here. That reality has been weighing on me as I realize this is just another of a series of 'lasts' that I will experience this year. The stress of sharing the news with people has receded and is being replaced by a curious mixture of gratitude and sadness. And so, I offer this reflection of the year that was, from the minister's vantage point, with a poignant spirit.

2023 began on a somber note as Faith United was rocked by the loss of four long-time members in quick succession in January. Sadly, there were several more funerals through the year, far exceeding Faith's usual number, making the whole year feel tender with losses. Happily, there were some weddings, a baptism, and the welcoming of several new members to balance the ups and downs of life.

In the spring Faith engaged in a significant conversation about the possibility of creating a small housing development on the back acreage of the church's property. Strong views were shared, both in favour and opposed, and through dialogue, listening, and prayer the decision not to proceed at this time was made. It was a challenging conversation at times, but the congregation came through it with respect and love, as expected.

In the spring we also bid farewell to our long-time office administrator, Stacey Chicoine, as she moved on to a new position at the United Church head office, and we welcomed our new admin Matthew Larcombe.

At the end of May, we had a special afternoon tea for our more senior congregants which was delightful. In September we had a big September Startup event welcoming old friends and new ones for a new season at Faith. Then there was a fall door hanger campaign, the return of just about all our in-person events and practices (like coming forward for communion), and we even celebrated a 100th birthday with our friend Dot.

On the personal front, the big news of 2023 for my family was our kitchen and ensuite renovations (which look fantastic). I did a big piece of work for the 'Region' by chairing the Region's strategic plan creation, but didn't get to finally present it because I was waylaid by Covid in October (an unhappy repeat customer). Although, I made myself feel better by acquiring lots of guitar pedals through the year.

Now, as our attention shifts to the coming year, it will be a momentous one for Faith United as I take my leave and a new era begins. This spring will see a series of conversations and surveys to discern the congregation's hopes and dreams and priorities for the future, as a renewed vision is cast, and the process of searching for a new minister begins. I have every hope that this new vision will be the catalyst for a strong new season of ministry for Faith United, and that the coming years will be filled with faithfulness, outreach, and most importantly love, love, love.

As you read through this annual report you'll see how strong the ministry is here at Faith, because it is so widely shared, and so passionately engaged in. This is a wonderful congregation, and I have been incredibly privileged to have served it. I trust your next minister will feel exactly the same way. Celebrate the year that was, and dare to dream about the years to come, as you enter this year of transition, and always remember, "Surely God is in this place!"

Shalom,
Rev. Larry

Church Council

In preparation for this report, I reviewed the 2023 Council meeting minutes and am happy to report that we have emerged from the dark cloud of COVID and have in many ways, returned to the church we enjoyed before 2020.

Examples of this can be seen in multiple ways:

- Physically, through changes to our building; such as the replacement of our old monocolour electronic sign with a modern coloured one, to better tell the community about Faith United.
- The kitchen renovations were finally completed and it is now in full use.
- We even upgraded the windows in the older part of the church.

Council also continued to adapt and respond as necessary.

We had to say goodbye to Stacey Chicoine, as she left to start a new full-time position with the United Church of Canada. But we welcomed Matthew Larcombe as our new Office Administrator.

Danny Bathgate joined Council as a Member-At-Large, replacing Michelle Jovel who resigned for family reasons. Thank you, Michelle, for your service.

Council updated the Handbook for Council Members. This was last updated in 2014. Thanks to Shirley Taylor for her leadership and work on this project. The Handbook is available for any Congregant to review and is a great resource to see what work our different committees do. Contact Matt in the office for a copy.

But the greatest change has been in our Programs and Outreach.

Mission & Service and Church Work in Durham exceeded their goals again this past year.

We had another successful well drilling fundraiser with Life Water Canada. A new well will be dug in Haiti. There are families in Haiti that will drink clean water today because of the generosity of the people of Faith United.

The UCW Bazaar returned after the COVID lockdown and was a huge success. Congratulations to Kathleen Pearce and her team.

We erected a Pride Banner in our parking lot and a Pride flag in our entrance way, so everyone can see we are an affirming congregation.

The Door Hanger program distributed 2000 information flyers to homes in Courtice. Thank you to all who distributed the hangers.

Tots on Tuesday and Family Fun Night have seen huge increases in attendance, thanks to some creative advertising by Chair Enid DeCoe. If you want to feel refreshed and invigorated, come out on Tuesday morning or the last Friday of the month and enjoy all of the energy.

This was my last year as Council Chair. Although I'm going to hang around a little while until the next Chair takes over. There are many people I have to thank for their support, encouragement and guidance. Thank you, Council members, for your hard work and dedication. To the Council Executive; Debbie VanLonden, Council Secretary; Diana Chappell, Treasurer; Pat Long, Past Council Chair and Reverend Larry, a special thank you.

Church Council (continued)

Next year will have new challenges for Faith United. We are redefining our Faith Life Story (Visioning) to determine our direction and focus for the next few years. Reverend Larry has announced his retirement. We will have to eventually find a new minister to replace him. And our expenses continue to grow faster than our fundraising. But I am confident that with our faith in each other and in Jesus, we will find our way; for surely God is in this place. Help us notice.

Shalom

Respectively submitted,

Steve Shanks
Chair
Faith United Church Council

Auditor's Report

An auditor's report has been submitted to the Finance Committee by Barry Dearborn. The review did not identify any major areas of concern.

The Finance Committee would like to thank Barry for all his hard work and expertise in completing this audit.

Board of Trustees Report

Members - John DeCoe, Alex Scott, Larry Bignell, Al Turney, Gail Minacs, John Sylvestervich, Steve Shanks, Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle

The Board of Trustees review and monitor our insurance and investments.

Thank you to all who serve on the Board of Trustees.

John DeCoe
Chair of Trustee Board

Finance and Administration

Another year in the life of our church has come and gone. We have not fully recovered our impetus but continue to struggle to rise up and restore our full support of our congregation. Although Covid has not completely left us, it appears to have calmed down to a somewhat manageable state of affairs for the majority of the people.

COVID may have shut the physical doors of Faith United, but our Faith Family continued to meet in a hybrid manner via online and in person for the bulk of the year. We met online for learning, coffee, and fellowship on a consistent basis and during the spring, summer and fall months, many of our members worked outdoors maintaining and upgrading our Church gardens and extensive property. Food drives were held monthly to assist in feeding people in need.

We are extremely grateful for the continuing financial generosity of our congregants. Your donations have allowed us to continue to meet our ongoing financial obligations, including programs, staff, property maintenance, insurance, taxes, utilities, technology upgrades and UCC assessment fees as well as multiple capital expenses that include among them the replacement of the roof. A big thank you to the men in our church that have taken on the load of a number of upgrades/repairs/replacements both inside the building and outside on our property on a regular weekly basis.

The Federal funding for COVID financial support funding was paid back to them as per our original agreement with them for the funding minus the \$10,000 that was forgiven for the timely payback.

COVID continued to be a large factor in precluding most of our fundraising events, a traditional source of income at Faith. It also prevented the rental of spaces in the church throughout the year, another traditional source of income for the church. Once again, however we want to thank all of you for being so supportive in helping us reach much of our financial goals for outreach in our community and abroad through Mission and Service, Church Work in Durham and Lifewater.

We are prayerfully anticipating a full reopening of our building sometime this year. This will facilitate fundraising and rental of church spaces, which will in turn boost our financial resources. As with all areas in our life, the expenses to maintain our church and do repairs is an ongoing necessity. As such, it would be extremely helpful if members of the congregation could possibly add an additional offering monthly in their givings to aid in maintaining our programs and operations as well as the many outreach activities we fund.

A big thank you is extended to Matthew Larcombe, our church office administrator, Diana Chappell, our Treasurer and Shirley Taylor, our Chairperson. Under their watchful eyes and through their diligent efforts, we have a very precise picture of finances at Faith United.

I cannot reiterate it enough- a huge THANK YOU to our Faith Family, who have continued their very generous support of Faith United. As God shepherds us through this uncertain time, through trust and faith in Him, YOU are engaged in the journey, and we continue to support each other.

We pray steadfastly for the good health of our Faith United family, and we are thankful to have returned to in-person worship in 2023.

Thank you and may God's blessings be showered upon you.

Respectfully submitted.

Elaine Rennie

Secretary, Finance and Administration Committee

Finance and Administration (continued)

Balance Sheet (as of December 31, 2023)

ASSETS		
Current Assets	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2023
Bank of Montreal - Operating Account	\$32,480	\$62,525
Bank of Montreal - Designated Funds	\$10,130	\$22,540
TD Canada Trust - credit card collateral	\$2,539	\$2,549
Total Current Assets	\$45,150	\$87,614
Fixed Assets		
Building - Property	\$3,109,020	\$3,109,020
Land - Property	\$255,000	\$255,000
Total Buildings and Property	\$3,364,020	\$3,364,020
Investments		
Asset Replacement Fund	\$19,409	\$1,701
Designated Investment Account	\$129,808	\$129,808
Undesignated Investment Account	\$207,180	\$63,811
Total Investments	\$356,397	\$195,320
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,765,566	\$3,646,954
LIABILITIES		
CWID Payable		\$12,356
Lifewater Payable	\$6,131	\$6,056
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$6,131	\$18,412
BALANCE (Assets - Liabilities)	\$3,759,435	\$3,628,542

Note: The liabilities shown in the above table represent the funds collected in 2023 for Lifewater and CWID, but not dispensed until January 2024. The distribution of funds for CWID is listed in the report found on page 37.

Finance and Administration (continued)**Capital Projects:**

Item	Cost
PTZ camera	\$3,183
Roof	\$308,709
Kitchen counter	\$3,955
Air conditioner	\$40,386
Streaming computer	\$1,942
Dossal drapes cleaning and repair	\$3,271
LED lights	\$886
Sunroom heater & electrical upgrade	\$6,903
New windows	\$26,214
Prayer room remediation	\$12,311
New soundboard	\$1,750
Electronic sign replacement	\$7,119
Sanctuary lights and choir microphone	\$1,671
Total	\$418,302

Over the past 18 months, we have had to invest considerable sums into repairs to the building, some of which were due to the aging of the building and some were upgrades to lower our energy costs. As well, we added some components to the sanctuary audiovisual system to improve our live streaming capacity. The repairs made to the main kitchen were mostly covered by our insurance. The only expense that we had was the deductible of \$500 and the upgrade of the island counter to stainless steel for \$3,955.

We received funding to assist with these costs from special donations, a Faithful Footprints grant and a bequest. The net cost to the church was \$253,645 which was taken from our capital replacement and undesignated investment accounts.

Investment Accounts:

Fund	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Asset Replacement ¹	\$10,070	\$16,024	\$12,572	\$19,409	\$2,135
Undesignated Investment ²	\$356,867	\$331,783	\$426,986	\$207,180	\$124,252
Designated Investment ³	\$145,124	\$144,854	\$158,304	\$129,808	\$140,213
Total	\$512,061	\$492,661	\$597,862	\$356,397	\$266,600

Finance and Administration (continued)

In addition to our capital needs, we also withdrew \$87,402 in 2023 to cover operating shortfalls and to repay \$30,000 of our federal Covid Emergency loan.

¹The asset replacement account holds all donations made to capital expenses.

²The undesignated fund can be used for whatever purpose is required. This is the fund that we have drawn on most heavily in the past two years for both capital and operating needs.

³The designated investment account holds funds that are set aside for a specific purpose such as the former Manse fund which contributes to the minister's salary and M&S donations.

Expenses

We have changed how we record expenses by breaking down some categories so that we can identify the various costs associated with each line item. Some expenses have also been reallocated to other cost centres to reflect more accurately the purpose of an expense.

ADMINISTRATION	2022 Actuals	2023	2023 Actuals	2024 budget
ADP fees	\$351	\$360	\$380	\$400
Bank/Credit Card Fees ¹	\$2,692	\$2,600	\$2,162	\$3,000
Books, Subscriptions, dues ²	\$1,699	\$1,750	\$1,133	\$700
Office Supplies ³	\$990	\$500	\$2,364	\$1,500
Postage, Mailing Service	\$567	\$700	\$344	\$350
Printing & Copying	\$4,945	\$5,000	\$4,867	\$5,000
Telephone & Internet ⁴	\$266	\$280	\$803	\$1,500
National Assessment Fees ⁵	\$12,521	\$10,981	\$10,981	\$10,793
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$24,031	\$22,171	\$23,035	\$23,243

¹Bank/Credit Card Fees now include PAR costs, the debit machine, and Canada Helps fees.

²Funds flowed through Faith to Broadview subscriptions have been moved to designated other expenses. Only subscriptions related to administration (Zoom, Office 365, Remote PC, and web hosting) are included here.

³Office Supplies is higher in 2023 due to all Staples bills, including those for paper towels, toilet paper and PPE being allocated here. These costs have been moved to Property for 2024.

⁴All telephone and internet costs are now included as administrative costs and are no longer included with technology (program budget).

⁵Our National Assessment fee is less this year as it is based on the 2022 budget.

Finance and Administration (continued)

HUMAN RESOURCES	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals	2024 budget request
Payroll Expenses ¹	\$208,742	\$180,950	\$185,037	\$196,695
Speakers, honorariums ²	\$13,606	\$2,800	\$2,526	\$2,800
Staff Allowances	\$300	\$300	\$55	\$55
Total Human Resources	\$222,648	\$184,050	\$187,619	\$199,550

¹The recommended salary increase by the United Church for ministry staff in 2024 is 6.3%.

²The minister is entitled to 8 Sundays off with the UCC pulpit supply set at \$247 per Sunday. The music facilitator is entitled to 4 Sundays off with substitutes paid \$150/Sunday, additional funds if also covering choir rehearsal. The UCC travel allowance is \$0.55/km

PROGRAM	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals	2024 budget request
Faith Journey Committee ¹	\$1,301	\$1,150	\$213	\$250
Joyful Noise				\$150
Family Night Expenses	\$388	\$500	\$531	\$800
Nursery Expense ²	\$484	\$100	\$1,151	\$1,760
Tots on Tuesday	\$0	\$80	\$83	\$100
Youth Group	\$33	\$600	\$128	\$100
Programme Calendar	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400
M&P Committee	\$489	\$675	\$736	\$500
Promotion Communication ³	\$2,249	\$2,000	\$1,314	\$1,200
Technology ⁴	\$1,124	\$1,200	\$1,842	\$2,000
Wellness Ministries	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$200
Worship Committee ⁵	\$816	\$500	\$255	\$1,400
Instrument Repairs/Tuning	\$265	\$2,000	\$255	\$2,000
Music	\$0	\$600	\$0	\$500
Total Programme Expenses	\$7,149	\$10,055	\$6,507	\$11,360

¹This line includes the video licence as well as other miscellaneous expenses.

²Nursery expenses have increased with the weekly honorariums for nursery helpers.

³This covers the cost of advertising church activities excluding fundraising events, e.g. door hangers, flags and signs, and posters for free events.

⁴Technology includes expenses related to maintaining all church technology, e.g. cables and switches and excludes higher cost items such as microphones which are capital costs.

⁵Included in the Worship committee budget are all costs associated with worship, including chancel and communion supplies and worship software licences.

Finance and Administration (continued)

PROPERTY	2022 Actuals	2023	2023 Actuals	2024 budget
Alarm System Expenses	\$943	\$1,000	\$1,052	\$1,200
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	\$3,528	\$2,500	\$1,204	\$1,200
Equipment Purchases ¹	\$429	\$500	\$1,242	\$1,250
General Maintenance & Repairs ²	\$2,980	\$2,500	\$9,390	\$5,000
Contract Services ³	\$19,442	\$29,500	\$26,300	\$30,000
Property Taxes ⁴	\$1,671	\$1,700	\$1,391	\$0
Insurance ⁵	\$13,496	\$10,062	\$11,277	\$12,414
Heating Expense ⁶	\$6,816	\$7,000	\$9,166	\$9,400
Hydro Expense ⁶	\$6,177	\$6,200	\$7,219	\$7,500
Water Expense ⁶	\$6,557	\$6,800	\$6,829	\$7,100
Total Property Expenses	\$62,039	\$67,762	\$75,070	\$75,064

¹These purchases include cleaning supplies and paper products (paper towels, toilet paper).

²The 2023 expense was over budget due to the cleaning of the dorsal drapes in the sanctuary. Funds have been allocated for the annual system testing as well as for tree service and paper products (previously charged to Administration).

³Outside contract services includes the cleaning service and snow plowing. The cleaning company has not indicated an increase in cost for 2024. Snow plowing has increased and the budget reflects a similar increase for November and December.

⁴There should be no property taxes in 2024 due to the approval of our appeal last year. We should also be receiving a rebate for taxes paid in 2023.

⁵This is the actual amount on our contract for 2024.

⁶Utility expenses have been increased by the expected increases published by each supplier.

OTHER EXPENSES	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals	2024 budget request
Fundraising	\$3,000		\$699	\$1,000
General Expenses	\$192	\$100		\$100
HST Expense ²	\$8,377	\$7,500	\$23,597	\$7,500
Total Other Expenses	\$11,569	\$7,600	\$24,488	\$8,600

Finance and Administration (continued)

¹Fundraising expenses are the costs associated with a fundraising project such as food purchased for a dinner or posters to advertise an event.

²Our HST expense in 2023 was much higher than budgeted due to the number of capital projects. A portion is recovered each year and noted in Recovered Expenses (below).

Operating Income:

ENVELOPE OFFERINGS	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals	2024 budget request
Envelope Offerings, Operations ¹	\$188,080	\$200,000	\$211,581	\$215,000
In Memorium Envelope Offerings	\$1,990	\$2,000	\$8,235	\$5,000
TOTAL ENVELOPE OFFERINGS	\$190,070	\$202,000	\$219,816	\$220,000
OTHER INCOME				
Fundraising Income	\$7,952	\$12,500	\$5,178	\$10,000
Fundscrip Rebates	\$673	\$700	\$197	\$500
Copying and Misc Income			\$15	
Donations, Non-receipted & non-designated	\$2,601	\$3,000	\$3,400	\$4,000
Earnings on Investments	\$34	\$5,000	\$9	\$5,000
Facility Rental	\$6,934	\$7,000	\$8,228	\$10,000
Recovered Expenses Income	\$4,960	\$6,550	\$11,160	\$6,550
Programme Income ²			\$266	
Other Income				
bequest	\$55,000		\$29,026	
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$78,154	\$34,750	\$57,479	\$36,050
TOTAL INCOME	\$268,224	\$236,750	\$277,295	\$256,050

¹This line includes donations made to the church by UCW members individually and is receipted and some of which is a separate donation by the group and is not receipted. This information is not available at the time of printing this report and may affect the accuracy of the 2023 actual income from envelope offerings.

²Programme income in 2023 was from donations made at Tots on Tuesday and Family Fun Night.

Finance and Administration (continued)

DESIGNATED FUNDS	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals	2024 budget request
Mission/Service ¹	\$33,453	\$30,000	\$35,096	\$30,000
Church Work Durham ¹	\$22,626	\$18,000	\$28,488	\$23,400
Bursary Fund Offerings ²	\$0	\$500	\$204	\$500
Other Outreach Offerings ³	\$8,114	\$5,900	\$6,056	\$6,000
Other Designated Offerings ⁴	\$625	\$900	\$2,719	\$2,000
TOTAL DESIGNATED	\$91,229	\$70,300	\$109,276	\$76,900

¹Both CWID and M&S exceeded their budgets this year. In the case of CWID, the Christmas donations that normally would have been angel bags or turkey vouchers, were received as financial donations instead. There were also monetary donations to the food bank drives which increased the total. Regarding M&S, in addition to donations received through envelope offerings, there was also the sale of note cards, recipe books and the outdoor market as well as special donations for Ukraine, Turkey, Food for the North, and World Development and Relief. The total in the M&S report also includes donations directly from the UCW and not through the church.

²The bursary fund had a balance of \$1,544 as of the end of December.

³Other outreach offerings is our Lifewater project.

⁴Other designated offerings includes funds donated for the UCW, the gardens, chancel and music expenses and Broadview subscriptions flowed through the church office.

Bright Ideas Fundraising

This Committee was inactive during Covid and only last spring started hosting events:

- Yard Sale in May
- Catered a wedding in November
- Happy Harmony Choir in December

Our main purpose is to raise funds for the Operation of the church. Even with the slow start to the year, we raised \$3,015.65 towards the operation of the church. We have already started planning many more events in 2024. We thank everyone in the congregation who assist and help us make these events possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Walsh,
Chair, Bright Ideas

Property

The repairs to the kitchen have been completed. Some additional work has been required on the wiring for the stove in the kitchen for safety and to keep the stove working. This work has been completed.

A new electric wall mounted heater has been installed in the Sunroom.

The Sound Booth has been expanded for safety reasons, and made easier to access the equipment used inside. Also many unused wires have been removed.

The Sanctuary drapes were taken down for cleaning and then reinstalled.

The work on the new roof was completed in May.

Fourteen new windows have been installed in the Church.

We also cut acres and acres and acres of grass.

I would like to personally thank everyone who has helped with these projects throughout the year.

Terry Fitzgerald
Property Manager

Gardening Cooperative

This year was successful in so many ways. New members during the summer months were so welcomed and were invaluable as we grew food for the food bank and provided a welcoming feeling to our Church home. We were able to continue our mission to remove invasive species and have made great strides in introducing native plants for the health and well-being of our gardens while providing an opportunity for fellowship and exercise. The front east bed has been renovated to reflect our focus on native plantings to support our pollinators. In addition, a weeping redbud was planted in the front west bed, thereby providing colour, in tandem with the Oakleaf Hydrangeas, through the Spring and Fall in the gardens. In the Spring, we had a prosperous plant sale which enabled us to take on a couple of new projects in the garden while remaining financially independent from the church budget. We planted a native white pine tree in memory of our dear friend, Fred Bull. We raised funds for the new Durham Hospice building project, and we were able to purchase a small illuminated star for the upper garden to brighten up the front of the church during the Christmas season.

Our overall Mission is to provide habitat for native pollinators, mammals, amphibians, etc., in keeping with God's plan for a healthy Earth. All newcomers are welcome. We look forward to starting up again in April 2024.

Kathleen Pearce, MG

Ministry and Personnel

The year 2023 started with joy and exuberance as we all really began to somewhat "relax" again with the threat of the COVID virus slipping further and further behind us. Face masks became an "Option", the Choir returned and we could sing again, and our once a month Communion Celebration returned albeit with caution. All signs that life was returning to a "New Normal" – Halleluiah!!!!!!

Ministry and Personnel (continued)

The Ministry and Personnel Committee continue to actively support our staff and congregation as and when needed.

The Technical/Communications Team , continued to guide us through “Life in the Hybrid World” – still an adjustment for some, but we live in a different world now, and we have got used to “Live Streaming” along with our “In House” church services on a Sunday. Reverend Larry’s input and expertise has most certainly been such a huge asset in this regard, and we sincerely thank him for all of his efforts.

This year we welcomed our new Office Administrator, Matthew Larcombe, who joined us in April, bringing an abundance of knowledge, and a new vision to the Church Office. Transitions always create challenges, but everyone involved managed to “guide the ship” resulting in a very smooth outcome.

In June, a long standing congregant, Larry Bignell retired his volunteer position in the Audio Booth where he worked diligently every Sunday for some 20 years. We celebrated all of his efforts over that period of time, and we thanked him sincerely for all of his efforts, he will be missed in that “hot seat”!

November brought us the wonderful experience of celebrating a 100th birthday for the oldest member of our congregation, Dot Farr. It was such an exciting day for her, and all of us who attended her party at the church.

Our Musical Facilitator, Kristine Dandavino continues to enhance our musical program with never ending encouragement and expertise. Apart from directing our Choir with some amazing anthems, she has a special interest in developing a Children’s Choir, and that has resulted in our being able to enjoy witnessing some lovely children’s solos a few times this year. In December, she organized a very successful Christmas Concert that was immensely enjoyed by all who attended. We are very grateful for all of her efforts, and feel very fortunate to have her as part of our Faith Family.

As this year came to an end, we were very saddened to hear that our Minister, Dr. Rev. Larry Doyle will be taking a **much earned** retirement in June 2024. Of course, our best wishes will go with him, but it will be a challenge to replace him, and all that he has brought to Faith United Church during his tenure here. Specifically the obvious devotion to preaching with his uplifting sermons that “shake you down to your boots” some weeks! And then, his ability to move us with his ministry in music – that too will be greatly missed, for sure! Faith United will not be the same without his leadership, but the Good Lord will definitely help us to find a replacement. We will stand on his mantra **“Surely God is in this Place, Help Us Notice”**, and we will have faith that God leads us to a good outcome.

On behalf of our Ministry & Personnel Committee, I would like to extend sincere thanks to Rev. Larry, our Office Administrator, Matthew Larcombe, Our Treasurer Diana Chappell, the whole Finance Committee, our Property Manager, Terry Fitzgerald and his group of men who continue to work diligently to keep the building in good repair, and make themselves available to support our much needed rentals with doing “Set Ups”, Steve Shanks our Council Chair whose strong leadership skills are such an asset to our church, our wonderful UCW ladies who work so hard in the kitchen and all the other Committees working quietly behind the scenes, just know that your efforts, along the way most definitely do not go unnoticed. As Rev. Larry always reminds us – “Surely God is in this Place”. We are all working in God’s ministry!

Blessings,

Joyce O’Connell
Chair, Ministry & Personnel

Nominating

Minister	Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle	
Council Chair	Steve Shanks	
Past Chair	Pat Long	
Vice Chair	VACANT	
Secretary	Debbie Van Londen	
Treasurer	Diana Chappell	
Trustees	John DeCoe (Chair)	Alex Scott
	Larry Bignell	Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle
	Gail Minacs	Allan Turney
	John Sylvestervich	Steve Shanks
Members at Large	Beth MacEwan	Dorothy Shrigley
	Dan Bathgate	

Accessibility Standards Customer Service Committee

Donna Bignell (Chair)	Debbie Duncan
Shirley Taylor	Eric Buss

Church Work in Durham

Sheila Ellis (Chair)	Elizabeth Valliant
Donna Bignell	Larry Bignell
Alex Scott	Carolyn Boyd
Maria Upton	Hazel Naegelkramer

Communications

Advertising	Mark Hunter	Jim Ellis
	John Sylvesterviich	Debbie Duncan
Social Media	Jim Ellis	
Tech Team	Debbie Duncan	Roger Pearce
	John Sylvestervich	Mark Luckasavitch
	Diana Chappell	Tyler Muir
	Jim Ellis	Mark Hunter

Faith Journey Resources

Enid DeCoe (Chair)	Jim Ellis
Sheila Ellis	Marlene Haslett
Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle	Leigh Bolger
Beth MacEwan	Linda Barry
Ashley Muir	Nancy Phillips

Nominating (continued)

Joyful Noise teachers	Enid DeCoe Marlene Haslett	Linda Barry Sheila Ellis
Library	Elaine Rennie	
Nursery staff	Libby Robertson Ella Callery	Enid DeCoe (Backup)
Scout Group Liaison	Beth MacEwan	
Program Calendar	Diana Chappell Jim Ellis	Pat Long Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle

Finance & Administration

	Shirley Taylor (Chair) Elaine Rennie (Recorder) Gail Minacs John DeCoe Diana Chappell Matthew Larcombe	Donna Bignell Dave Hubbell Suier Richardson
Bursary Award	Eric McFarland (Co-chair) Ruth Goodfellow (Co-chair) John DeCoe	
Stewardship	Diana Chappell Gail Scott	Steve Shanks Donna Bignell
Auditor	Barry Dearborn	

Ministry and Personnel

Joyce O'Connell (Chair) Calvin Watts	Mary Ellen Nicholishen
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Mission and Service

Gail Scott (Chair) Donna Bignell (Treasurer) Tanya Bignell Liz Wade Dorothy Shrigley	Maria Upton Karen Bihun
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Nominating

Pat Long (Chair)	Beth MacEwan
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Nominating (continued)

Property	Terry Fitzgerald Sandy Allin Paul McDonald Alex Scott John DeCoe	Larry Hurren Allan Turney Roger Pearce Frank Blake Steve Shanks (contact)
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Regional Representatives	Shirley Taylor	Donna Bignell Pat Long
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Wellness Ministry

Pastoral Care/Visiting Team	Dorothy Shrigley Maria Upton Pat Long Jim Ellis Mary Ellen Nicholishen	Donna Bignell (Chair) Gwen McMillan Sandra Fletcher Carolyn Boyd Sheila Ellis Rev. Larry Doyle
Welcoming	Liz Wade (Chair)	Carolyn Boyd
Membership	Gail Minacs (Chair) Roz Bull Beth MacEwan	Carolyn Boyd Don McMurtry
Wellness Education	Sandy Allin (Chair) Kay Hurren Hailu Lockyer	Dan Bathgate Larry Hurren Deborah Van Londen

Worship and Music	Elizabeth Valliant (Chair) Diane Howarth Debbie Duncan Rev. Larry Doyle (Minister) Kristine Dandavino (Music Facilitator)	Dan Bathgate Karen Bihun
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Chancel Guild	Donna Bignell Carolyn Boyd	Gail Minacs Tanya Bignell
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United Church Women

Pat Long (President)
 Joyce O'Connell (Vice President)
 Kay Hurren (Secretary)
 Elaine Rennie (Treasurer)
 Diane McMahon (Catering Co-ordinator)
 Carolyn Boyd (Corresponding Secretary)

Faith United Church 2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2023

This Congregational meeting was held in person and via live streaming on YouTube.

Welcome

Tanya Bignell welcomed everyone and lit the Christ Candle and asked the congregation to repeat the Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory.

As an act of respect and reconciliation we at Faith United acknowledge that our church is on the unceded land of the Anishinabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat. We are treaty people living in the region of the William's Treaty.

Call to Worship

Chair: In the name of Jesus our Christ, the one true head of the church, this gathering is called to order, for worship and for work appropriate to its time. (taken from Sunday bulletin)

Mark Luckasavitch thanked Council for the opportunity to act as chair of the annual meeting.

Opening Motions: Mark Luckasavitch proposed the following motions:

That the chair for the meeting be Mark Luckasavitch and;

That the recording secretary be Gail Scott and ;

That adherents may vote on all matters before this meeting and;

That the agenda for the meeting will be the March 12, 2023 worship bulletin plus insert meeting items and;

That the minutes of the March 20, 2022 Annual Meeting be approved;

That adjournment shall follow the benediction with no further motion necessary.

Moved by: Sandy Allin

Seconded by: Eric Buss

Motions: CARRIED

AGM Minutes (continued)**Life and Work of the Congregation & Reports**

Mark Luckasavitch drew attention to the committee reports tabled within the annual report. They can be found on pages 4-45 included under the headings of Operations and Planning, Worship, Faith Development, Pastoral Ministry, Extended Ministries and Fellowship and Service. Excluded from these are pages 7-11 which will be addressed separately under Financial Matters.

If there are any questions about individual reports, please speak with the author for clarification. It was asked if there were any questions related to the annual report. No questions were asked.

Mark Luckasavitch thanked the Council Committee Chairs for their work and for the reports they submitted for the Annual Report.

**Acceptance of these reports was requested.
CONSENSUS OBTAINED**

Elections**Nominating Committee Report – pages 14-17**

Mark Luckasavitch referred to the Nominating Committee report identifying Chairs and Committee Members for the 2023 year.

NOTE:

Mark Luckasavitch thanked Pat Long for working as the Chair of the Nominating Committee and any changes to the current list of members should be forwarded to Pat. The position of Vice Chair of Council is still open.

Mark opened the floor for any other nominations for positions on committees identified in the report. None were received. Thank you to all who have let their names stand for committee work.

Please consider the report to reflect these changes.

Motion: To accept the Nominating Committee report to install the committee members identified in the report (with amendments) and to give direction to the Nominating Committee to continue to support additional membership to committees as needed until the next Annual Meeting 2024.

Moved by: Sandy Allin **Seconded by:** Shirley Taylor
Motion: CARRIED

Financial Matters

Mark Luckasavitch asked Treasurer Diana Chappell and Shirley Taylor to provide the summary of our financial information and budget on pages 7-11.

Diana presented the financial statement via slides. This took the numbers out of the discussion but presented the data in graph format which was a visual interpretation. Through these, it was stated that Designated Income went to Mission and Service, Church Work in Durham, and other outreach like the Lifewater project. These Designated income items have funds flow through without any administration cost. Additional income from rentals and fundraising were very low, given the pandemic situation and the inability to have social gatherings. Operating expenses are projected at deficit for 2023, this includes administration, Payroll, etc. It is hopeful that we will be able to have more fundraising opportunities this year to offset some of the increasing expenses.

AGM Minutes (continued)

Motion: To accept the budget for 2023. This is inclusive of the Mission & Service, Church Work in Durham and UCW budgets.

Moved by: Diana Chappell

Seconded by: Larry Bignell

Motion: CARRIED

New Business & Acknowledgements

Mark called upon Steve Shanks to express our thanks to our staff.

Steve Shanks (Chair of council) expressed thanks to all the volunteers, Committee Chairs and their members for their help and their commitment, who make it possible for Faith United to be a wonderful place to worship. They are the life blood of Faith. He also thanked Reverend Larry for being our beacon and rock. Thank you so much!

'For the work of all our staff we thank God for bringing the gifts and people together here.'

Rev Larry closed with prayer. **"Wherever we are, surely God is in this place"**.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Scott, recording secretary

Faith United Church Congregational Meeting November 12, 2023

This Congregational meeting was held in person and via zoom for online participation. The meeting followed the November 12, 2023, Sunday bulletin with the business portion being conducted after the time of the Pastoral prayer. See the church bulletin for the order of service.

Reverend Larry gave instructions to the online members on how to navigate to Zoom. He then ran the Zoom portion of the meeting from the sound booth.

Mark Luckasavitch thanked the council for the opportunity to serve as chair of this Congregational meeting. His appointment as Meeting Chair was approved at the March 12, 2023, Annual General Meeting and is in effect for one year.

Opening Motions: Mark proposed the following motions:

That the recording secretary be Gail Scott and ;

That adherents may vote on all matters before this meeting and;

That the agenda for the meeting will be the November 12, 2023, worship bulletin plus insert meeting items.

Moved by: Pat Long

Seconded by: Gail Minacs

Motions: CARRIED

Elections

Mark L. – At this time, we will consider the election for the open position of Member-at-Large for Church Council.

Congregational Meeting minutes (continued)

Thanks to Dan Bathgate, Gerry Bihun, and Ken Young for letting their names stand for this position. Ballots were distributed to everyone upon entering the church. Choices were indicated and put on the offering plates as they were passed. Rev. Larry explained to the online participants how to vote both in person and online.

Mark L. – Board of Trustees member, Brien Page has moved away. Brien has submitted a letter of resignation, which has been reluctantly accepted. The Board of Trustees have reviewed candidates and would like to recommend Steve Shanks for the Trustee position. Steve has agreed to serve in this position.

Motion: To accept Steve Shanks as a new Trustee.

Moved: Joyce O'Connell **Seconded:** Dave Hubbell

Motion: Carried

Financial Matters

Mark L. – Called upon Treasurer Diana Chappell to provide an update on our current financial status.

Diana – Diana presented Faith United's financial situation with graphs as a pictorial representation of the numbers. See the Financial Presentation submitted as part of the meeting minutes for details.

Diana reviewed the following:

Operating Income and Expenses – Diana covered the sources of income from envelopes, PAR, Canada Helps online donations, fundraising, rentals and other income such as bequests. It was noted that fundraising was down in large part due to covid restricting the ability to run in person fundraising events. She did note that the years that fundraising was higher seemed to be a result of many different groups offering fundraising events. There has been a drop in the rentals since Covid as outside groups have found other means to hold their gatherings, rather than renting physical spaces. Our nonprofit renters are not charged as much as other renters, so our income is reduced. In some years we managed to receive federal income supplement benefits. Unfortunately, our income is no longer keeping pace with our expenses.

Capital Expenses – Over the last 18 months we have had to invest considerable sums into repairs to the building, as it ages. Our total cost of repairs was \$416,631. Special donations towards the roof and air conditioning and a Faithful Footprints grant from the United Church as well as a bequest helped to reduce the cost to \$251,974. This amount had to be drawn from our investments.

Current Investment Reserves - We have three investment accounts. The Asset Replacement Account holds all donations made to the capital expenses. The Designated Investment Account holds funds that are set aside for a specific purpose such as M&S donations and the former Manse fund which contributes to the minister's salary. The Undesignated Account funds can be used for whatever purpose is required. We have been drawing funds from both the Asset Replacement fund and the Undesignated fund to cover capital costs of the past 18 months.

Congregational Meeting minutes (continued)

Projected capital needs – A list of potential costs for over the next 5-10 years was generated as a result of church council brainstorming, to try and anticipate things that may arise that need attention, with the potential of an additional expense of about \$220,000.

In summary Diana noted:

- Our income is not covering our expenses;
- There is potential for more capital expenses, as the building ages;
- Our financial reserves are being depleted;
- It will be necessary to make careful budget decisions going forward.

Mark L. - The vote was tallied and the new Member-At-Large is Danny Bathgate

The agenda being completed, Mark declared this Congregational Meeting adjourned. The remainder of the service followed the bulletin.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Scott, Recording Secretary

Communications

Members: Diana Chappell, Debbie Duncan, Larry Doyle, Jim Ellis, Mark Hunter, John Sylvestervitch.

Technical support: Tyler Muir, Mark Luckasavitch, Jonathan Sylvestervich, Cynthia Doyle

Faces of Faith (*Our on-line congregational Registry*): This document is **pass-word protected**. Pictures of new-comers and updated pictures of others, are taken and uploaded to Faces of Faith regularly. On-line access to FOF has been made more readily negotiable by our Office Administrator who has also reconfigured this file, so that the address, phone number, and email address accompany each picture.

Live streaming: Diana Chappell and Mark Hunter set up the livestream apparatus prior to each service in which it is in use. Audio settings for several microphones, location of the person or group currently 'on camera', insertion of slides or videos, etc. are all managed from the Control Booth at the rear of the sanctuary. This requires two or three personnel, and is provided by a rotation of members of the Committee and others. We were especially pleased to have a high school student [Jonathan Sylvestervich] join us this year.

Over the past year, we upgraded the live streaming computer, replaced the soundboard which failed mid-year as well as the aging lighting system and control panel, and updated other minor components in the sanctuary audiovisual system. We also extended the wifi system throughout the building and set up a Zoom meeting space in the Living Room.

On-line participants are encouraged to tune in via **YouTube** and use the Chat option to communicate with each other. This also allows personnel in the Control Booth to receive feedback from the on-line audience.

Website: Adjustments continue to be made on our website which was redesigned recently by Rev. Larry.

Communications (continued)

Social Media: Faith United communicates information about our activities on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. A link to the Sunday service via Livestream is also provided.

Worship & Music

Worship

The primary goal of the Worship Committee is to provide in-person and online, congregants and viewers a meaningful place to grow your relationship with God. We, too, are responsible for:

- planning and overseeing worship services according to the liturgical season and special liturgical Sundays,
- communion preparation and the serving of it,
- finding substitute ministers and musicians,
- reviewing the music program with the music Facilitator
- overseeing the maintenance of the instruments
- overseeing the copyright licensing reporting
- through the chancel and atrium guild adorn the chancel for the liturgical season and any special Sunday
- oversee the decoration and general maintenance of the atrium.

For those who attend in-person, you will notice that we have returned to pre-Covid communion practices, with slight modifications. With the council's approval, the policy concerning who can serve the elements changed to include full members and adherents (a person who regularly contributes to the life and work of the congregation but is not a member or full member). If you feel a nudge to participate in preparing or serving the elements, please speak with any of the worship committee team members. Communion occurs on the first Sunday of every month.

An order of service change occurred by moving the time of announcements from the beginning of service to the offering time. The change reflects Faith's understanding that the life and work of the church is one aspect of our offering. In addition, we were thinking of our online viewers who may appreciate this format better.

Rather than having praise and hymns within the service, we offered a service with all praise songs. This service was well received and occasionally will return. You may have noticed that while Rev. Larry was away, he recorded the message and pastoral prayer while another gave the remainder of the "order of service." We would like to hear your thoughts about this.

As you read this report, we will begin or have begun our Lenten journey as we did during the 2023 AGM. Our Lenten journey culminated with celebrating Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Pentecost. As we moved into the long season of ordinary time, we celebrated our affirming ministry, being public, intentional, and explicit towards the inclusion of persons who identify as LGBTQ2S+, sang our hearts out on Hymn Sing Sunday and celebrated the life and work of the church. Rev. Carol Gillard provided pulpit supply during Rev. Larry's July vacation.

Worship and Music (Continued)

After the summer break, we celebrated Creation, Thanksgiving, and Remembrance Day. We finished the calendar year with Lighting the Dark/Blue Christmas Service, two Christmas Eve Services, Family and Carol, Candles and Communion, and Christmas Day. We, too, celebrated with those who participated in the covenanting and baptismal services.

You may notice that our scripture is read either in-person or via video. For those online, this is a way to participate from afar and a lovely way to share your faces with the in-person viewers. We were delighted that Sagid Amaya from Mexico participated in our service this way.

Our Sunday services cannot run without our dedicated volunteers. Thank you:

- Scripture readers and recorders;
- Communion Servers and Danny Bathgate for preparing the bread;
- Darryl Peacock for his service and representing the veterans and active service members on Remembrance Day;
- committee members Danny Bathgate, Donna Bignell, Karen Bihun, Enid Decoe, Debbie Duncan and Diane Howarth for offering your talents;
- Donna Bignell, Tanya Bignell, Carolyn Boyd and Steve Shanks, for dressing the chancel;
- Kathleen Pearce and Tanya Bignell for keeping the atrium plants alive;
- Our hosts, Tanya Bignell, Cynthia Doyle, Pat Long, and Steve Shanks;
- Church Work in Durham and the Mission & Service Committee for leading worship services this year;
- Donna Bignell for looking after the Easter butterfly tree and ensuring our nativity moved towards the chancel during the Advent season;
- and the audio-visual team who accepted the challenges that the Gremlins, legendary creatures who caused mischievousness, caused and did a fantastic job keeping the microphones, speakers, screens and broadcasting running.

Lastly, worship services could not happen without the strong leadership and spiritual guidance of Rev. Larry and the talented gift of music Kristine Dandavino offers us.

The Worship Committee looks forward to hearing from you in 2024 about how we can make your worship more meaningful.

Blessings,
Elizabeth Valliant
Worship Committee Chair

Music Ministry

In 2023, the Music Ministry continued to explore new skills and opportunities to support worship via music. Our Youth Song Group was created to support children and teens who wish to learn how to sing. This group has learned a lot of new skills, such as finding hymns in a hymnal, team building, confidence, and supporting each other. Singing can be fun. However, it can also be intimidating for younger singers, and the goal was to welcome everyone. When there is a desire to learn, everything else is easy.

Worship & Music (Continued)

The adult choir also welcomed new members as well as visiting members. During the summer months, we started the Musical Surprises (virtual and in-person), which were fun and inspiring. The Musical Surprises gave us the flexibility to include everyone in musical worship as well as guests who might not attend our church.

In Fall 2023, the choir returned stronger in skills and louder, if I may say. The choristers have been patient in our “musical chair,” playing games to optimize sound within the sanctuary and online. Similarly, the piano and digital piano played “musical chair” to support the IT team as well as the choir. It seems to be working well, and for this, I am grateful.

In December 2023, we had a Christmas Concert that was well attended. Similarly, virtual performances were included. The choir, soloists from our congregation, as well as music students from my private studio joined to celebrate love, peace, Christmas, and friendship. Students from my studio enjoyed learning about church activities and loved the loving environment of our church.

Lastly, we learned an Anthem from “Then Let Us Sing!,” the upcoming new hymnal, and a final report was sent to this organization. The Anthem was well received. Unfortunately, several selections were “too short” for our worship style. However, I am certain that some of these selections could work for other churches. In 2024, the goal is to continue to expand the choir’s technical skills and provide a nurturing, supportive, and positive environment to learn worship music. Some new selections will be reviewed, and we shall raise our voices with love and care.

Shalom,

Kristine Dandavino
Music Facilitator

Choir Treasurer’s Report

Balance Forward Dec. 31, 2021	\$1,225.61
Fees not collected for 2022	

Expenses:

C. Boyd Stamps	50.00
Gifts	<u>144.76</u>
Total	194.76

Balance in account	<u>\$1,030.85</u>
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Donna Bignell, Choir Treasurer

Funds remain in Faith United Church Designated Account.

Faith Journey Resources

Faith Journey Resources is an umbrella committee consisting of representatives from Joyful Noise, The Nursery, Tots on Tuesday, The Youth Program, The Learning Calendar, Family Fun Night and the Library. We are responsible for the Church Celebration Day in June and the Advent Event the first Sunday of Advent. Our members are: - Diana Chappell, Enid DeCoe, Rev. Larry Doyle, Marlene Haslett, Linda Barry, Ashley Muir, Renate Belzing, Libby Robertson, Beth MacEwan and Jim and Sheila Ellis. Elaine Rennie is our librarian.

Joyful Noise

Joyful noise is coordinated by Marlene Haslett and consists of a number of volunteers who teach one or more Sundays.

The teachers either follow suggestions from the curriculum or teach on a topic of their choice.

Church Celebration Day

In June, celebration day consisted of teachers being thanked during the children's time followed with a pot luck lunch and games for the children.

Start up Sunday

Start up Sunday was held the second Sunday in September to welcome children and families back. Chimes were rung out and lunch was hot dogs and ice cream. We had activities such as, a jelly bean jar, a bouncy castle and races to name a few. Our afternoon concluded with a monarch butterfly release, thanks to Jim and Sheila Ellis.

Our Advent Event

The Advent Event was held the week before advent due to a previous booking of the church. A pot luck lunch was held after church followed by members of the congregation decorating the church.

Nursery

Libby Robertson supervised the nursery. Occasionally, we had one or two children in attendance.

Tots on Tuesday

The Tots program consisted of children from birth and school age. The activities included playing, painting, hearing stories, doing crafts, playing musical instruments and having a snack. We have staffed the Tots program all fall, but have only had one or two children attend.

Family Fun Friday

Family Fun Night started in September and has been held the last Friday of each month with the exception of December. It was reasonably well attended.

Program Calendar

The Program Calendar committee consists of Rev Larry, Pat Long, Jim Ellis, and Diana Chappell. The program calendar includes something for all ages and stages of life.

Library

We are thankful to have Elaine Rennie as our new Librarian.

Scout Group Committee

Beth MacEwan is our new liaison with the Cubs and Scouts.

Wellness Education Team

No activity in 2023, but there are plans for CPR recertification in 2024.

Welcoming

Welcome to everyone at Faith United.

Welcome to all the new members who joined our Faith family over the past year.

Thank you to everyone who have helped and volunteered to welcome at the door on Sunday mornings. I invite all members to sign up and take a turn.

If anyone requires a nametag (new or replacement) please let me know and I will see you get one.

Liz Wade

Welcoming Chair

Prayer Shawl Ministry

A big thank you to all who knit and crochet prayer shawls. This ministry is a big part of Faith United. We give prayer shawls to friends, and/or members of Faith United. They are given to anyone experiencing health issues, loss of a loved one, going away to school, or moving from the church. If you know about any of these things, someone will deliver one and have a visit. A prayer shawl is a way for the congregation to have a part in recovery and show friendship as well as to add warmth, as you wrap yourself in one of these shawls. They are blessed by the congregation on a Sunday morning during service and kept at the church or at my home. Please let the office 905-433-8953 or any member of the visiting team if you would like to be given one. I can be contacted at any time as well 905-728-7749

Thank you to everyone who prepares these shawls.

Donna Bignell/Co-Ordinator

Pastoral Care & Visiting Team

The Pastoral Care team met regularly during the year. In 2023, we held our first Seniors Spring Tea. This was enjoyed by many of our members, who are not able to attend church as often as they would like, some who are in retirement homes and any others who are on our list. If you were missed on the list, an apology is given, we will be sure and add your name. This team makes regular phone calls, visits, mails or delivers Easter Cards, Thanksgiving Cards and Poinsettias and Christmas Cards. We try to keep all members informed of church happenings. We are always ready to add new names, so please let us know if you would like your name added or you know of someone who could use a friendly visit or phone call.

Thank you to the committee members, who are a part of this ministry.

We always have room for more committee members. Let me know, and I will invite you to the meeting.

Donna Bignell/Chair

Membership

*With grateful thanksgiving we remember:
In Memoriam*

Fred Bull	January 11, 2023
Jim Lyon	January 13, 2023
Hans Meinen	January 23, 2023
Bruce Selby	February 25, 2023
Shirley Lemon	April 8, 2023
Celia Ricker	July 24, 2023
Gordon Flett	August 4, 2023
Bessie Milgate	September 5, 2023
Lloyd Martin	October 19, 2023
Phyllis Selby	October 28, 2023
Ron Lambert	October 29, 2023
Betty Campbell	December 10, 2023
Shirley James	December 27, 2023

New Members

Katherine Jovel	Profession of Faith	April 9, 2023
Gwen Bevan	Reaffirmation & Member Transfer	April 9, 2023
Leigh Bolger	Reaffirmation & Member Transfer	April 9, 2023
Kristine Dandavino	Reaffirmation & Member Transfer	April 9, 2023
Marlene Haslett	Reaffirmation & Member Transfer	April 9, 2023
Dave Hubbell	Reaffirmation & Member Transfer	April 9, 2023
Sue McCormick	Reaffirmation & Member Transfer	April 9, 2023
Julie Lemire-Kubien	Reaffirmation & Member Transfer	April 23, 2023
Ken Young	Baptism	April 23, 2023

Baptism

Ken Young	April 23, 2023
Delilah Jaye Sigalas	May 28, 2023

Membership (continued)**Marriages**

Samuel Rogers Kuthapalli-Andrews and Shivani Gaur

March 21, 2023

Gaetano Scala and Kathryn Elizabeth Cherry

October 14, 2023

Total confirmed membership, resident and non-resident, as of December 31/19 – 246

Total confirmed membership, resident and non-resident, as of December 31/20 – 242

Total confirmed membership, resident and non-resident, as of December 31/21 – 238

Total confirmed membership, resident and non-resident, as of December 31/22 – 231

Total confirmed membership, resident and non-resident, as of December 31/23 - 189

Total active adherents – 40

Transfer in – 7

Transfer out -1

East Central Ontario Regional Council Report (ECORC)

East Central Ontario Regional Council meets twice a year, in the Spring and in the Fall. There is an opportunity to meet on ZOOM as well as in person.

The meetings are a day and a half and at a different location each time. 2023 was in Cobourg and in Odessa. They consist of a worship with communion service, business coming from all the committees, policy changes, covenant with new personnel, covenant with Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL) and all other business of importance to the pastoral charges.

A Covenanting service with Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly the newly hired Executive Minister happened at the Spring meeting.

Pat Long & I attended a workshop on Anti-racism, Interfaith & Intercultural held at Kingsview United Church in November.

Remit 1 – Establishing an Autonomous Indigenous Organization was introduced in 2023 and to be voted on before March 2024. Faith United has done this.

If anyone is looking for more information on meetings, job openings, joining committees etc. check the ECORC web-page.

If anyone has an interest in becoming involved in the wider church, talk with the reps and get more information.

Donna Bignell - Representative and member of the Covenant Support Team Committee

Pat Long - Representative and member of the Assembly of Elders committee

Shirley Taylor - Representative

Bursary Award

The Faith United Bursary Committee communicated several times during the year email. There were no changes adopted to the guidelines set out in the Faith United Bursary Award Guiding Principles document. There were no changes adopted to the fundraising options being used currently.

Only one completed application was submitted by Sophie Goodfellow. The package was reviewed by the committee and it was determined that all success criteria had been met for the award. Arrangements were made to have the award presented to Sophie in October of 2023 at Faith United.

The financial break down for the Bursary Committee this year is as follows:

Opening Balance Jan. 1, 2023	\$1840.00
Income 2022	
Deposits made Jan 1, 2023 to Dec 31, 2023	\$203.90
Account Total	\$2043.90
Expenses 2023—one bursary awarded	\$500.00
Total Expenses	\$500.00
Balance Bursary Award Dec. 31, 2023	\$1543.90

Report completed by

William Jovel - Secretary

Mission and Service

The Mission and Service Fund Committee (M&S) met the first Thursday of the month, when called by the chair, at the church. Our meetings often were both in person and via zoom.

We endeavoured to keep the congregation informed, aware and involved with the Mission and Service work both locally and globally, via monthly stories. Joyful giving has been evident, with gifts offered to the Mission and Service Fund this year.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your continued support of the Mission and Service Fund. A big thank you also goes out to the United Church Women for their continued support this year.

Our Fundraising efforts included blank note cards depicting summer, winter, and Christmas scenes, many of the photos taken around Faith United church. We also took on the task of creating a 'Meet Us at The Table' cookbook. Two quilts were donated for sale with funds to go to the M&S fund. One of the quilts sold at the bazaar.

As part of our Loonie/Toonie drive, we managed to send to Gifts with Vision – Food for the North, \$1,105.20

Several requests for support of the people of Turkey brought \$680.00 from donations and investments. The Israel-Gaza Disaster appeal raised \$1,000 being donated from the November M&S congregation donations.

The World Development and Relief fund is used to support those suffering from natural disasters and our support this year was \$2,105.00 which included a UCW donation of \$500.00.

The M&S committee participated in the November 19th M&S Sunday 'M&S stories' service with members presenting portions of the service and the message.

This year our Life Water campaign funds were designated for the wells project and totaled \$6,055.55.

The Mission and Service goal in 2023 to support the United Church was \$30,000. We received from donations and fundraising, \$36,270.89 which includes the UCW support of \$3100. Including all our M&S and designated projects mentioned above, we contributed \$44,611.64. The goal for M&S in 2024 is \$30,000.

The M&S committee, along with the United Church House, extend our heartfelt thanks for the continued and generous support by the congregation and the United Church Women (U.C.W.) in funding the work of Mission and Service.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Scott, Chair/Secretary, Donna Bignell, Treasurer.

Mission and Service Financial Report

Congregational Offerings	\$27,786.45	
Note Cards	712.85	
Soup & Sandwich Lunch	500.00	
Pot Luck dinner	184.95	
Quilt & other sales	395.00	
Cook Books	<u>1,486.64</u>	
TOTAL	\$31,065.89	\$31,065.89

United Church Women	\$3,000.00	
In Memoriam UCW	<u>100.00</u>	
TOTAL	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00

World Development and Relief	\$2,105.00	<u>\$2,105.00</u>
(Includes UCW \$500.00)		
TOTAL		\$36,270.89

DESIGNATED TOTALS:

Turkey appeal from Investment	\$500.00
Turkey appeal from congregation	180.00
Middle East Crisis (Congregation)	1,000.00
Food for the North	1,105.20
Life Water	<u>6,055.55</u>
	<u>\$8340.75</u>

\$44,611.64

Budget for 2024	\$30,000.00
Investment	\$16,500.00

Donna Bignell/Treasurer

Church Work In Durham Committee

Committee members

Donna and Larry Bignell, Alex; Scott, Maria Upton, Elizabeth Valliant, Carolyn Boyd, Hazel Naegelkraemer, and Sheila Ellis.

We are so pleased to call your attention to the fact that we have two new people who have asked to join the committee. Following the talk during the morning service in September about the purpose of the committee, Carolyn and Hazel asked to join us in this ministry. We happily welcome their help and look forward to their membership being approved at the Annual General Meeting.

C. W. I. D. Sunday

On September 24, the committee led the morning worship service, with several members taking part. Speakers from two of our agencies spoke enthusiastically and deeply about the work of their agency and expressed their gratitude to the congregation for their generous support. Marian Timmermans spoke about the new Marigold Hospice being built in Clarington, and Amanda Armbruster shared movingly about the work of the Refuge.

Sheila continues to meet with the CEOs/EDs of various agencies as she is able, to nourish the interpersonal connection with the agencies, as well as to keep our information about the agencies current.

The committee met in October to review the budget and to plan the Christmas outreach program.

During this past year, as Canada has continued to emerge from the Covid epidemic, our church has reopened and people have begun to return to in-person worship. In spite of the smaller number of people present in person, the people of Faith have been very generous, as always, in supporting the work of C.W.I.D. Thank you SO much!

Food Drives

On the first Tuesday of every month, CWID offers the people of Faith and the surrounding community, the opportunity to donate to a food drive, in support of the Simcoe Hall Settlement House and the Back Door Mission on alternate months. The list of items most needed is posted on our church website by Gail Scott and our new administrator Matthew Larcombe. Alex Scott parks his pickup truck in the church parking lot from 9-12. Gail and Sheila receive the food and thank the donors. As inflation and food prices have continued to soar this past year, so the numbers of people needing to access food banks has increased exponentially. People who have never needed to ask for help have had to do so this year. So, your loving generosity has been even more appreciated! Special thanks to Alex and Gail for their help in doing this!

Budget

Thanks to the amazing generosity of our people, the committee once again met its annual budget target, so Donna, our treasurer, was able to send all the agencies their biannual cheques. Attached you will find her financial report for 2023 and the budget for 2024.

Christmas Outreach

Again this year, the manager of the Gate 3:16 asked for the donation to be in the form of money or \$25.00 gift cards for No Frills. The committee decided that it would be easier for our congregation to simply donate money. The Settlement House requested money to go to pay for the Christmas meals for families. This year, you generously donated \$3141.95 to the Settlement House and the Gate3:16. With additional monetary donations, on the days of the food drives,

CWID (continued)

The staff at these agencies expressed their deep gratitude for the kindness of our people. The new, young receptionist said to me “I’ve learned there really are kind people in our world!”

Mitten Tree

Donna set up the mitten tree in the foyer of the church. She collected 77 pairs of mittens, 33 hats, 47 pairs of socks, as well as assorted other items. She delivered the items to the children of Queen Elizabeth, Sunset Heights, Bobby Orr, S.J. Phillips, David Bouchard schools, and to the special needs class at G.L. Roberts High School in Oshawa. A special thank you to all of you who spent hours lovingly creating these items for the children in need.

Reverse Advent

There was a huge response this year to the Reverse Advent program. The idea is that, instead of taking a candy etc. out of an Advent calendar each day, we put into a box one non-perishable food item per day. Many beautifully decorated boxes piled up in the lobby. Carolyn and Alex packed up and delivered them to the Simcoe Hall Settlement House on December 18.

Clothes

Throughout the year, many of you have donated beautiful, clean, “like-new” items, which have been delivered to the appropriate agencies, to the delight of their staff, and certainly, of the people who receive them. Thank you so much for thinking of our agencies, when downsizing your homes and closets.

The Trail

Alex continues to work faithfully on making the trail a welcoming, peaceful place for both church and community folk. You will find his report on the Trail attached to this report. Many thanks to Alex for his dedication to this beautiful spot!

The garden for the AIDS Committee of Durham Region (ACDR)

This has been a more difficult year than the first one. The staff with whom we worked to create the garden moved to Ottawa. The young woman who took his place on staff is delightful. However, due in part to the resignation of a few staff and the death of two of the clients who were helping, the support for her has not been there. Sheila has met with the CEO of the agency to discuss the situation and plan this year’s garden ministry. In spite of this, every Tuesday, produce was harvested and delivered to the agency, so that it was available to the clients at the agency’s Wednesday food bank. The clients were overjoyed to have fresh produce!

The Church Pantry

The church pantry in the basement had been faithfully tended to by Don Winston. However, when Covid hit and the church had to close, we emptied out the pantry, since we had no idea how soon we would return to the building and didn’t want the food to go to waste. Recently, we have had a couple of requests from the community, for help with food. The committee discussed this and has decided to reinstate the pantry. Non-perishable food may be left in the foyer. The children of the church have happily agreed to be involved in the checking of the “best before” dates and the organization of the food on the shelves. The committee will oversee this venture.

However, it is you, each one of you who has contributed in any way – money, food, and clothes – that has made the work of this committee possible! Thank you for every evidence of your love, the love of God, poured out upon people whom you will never meet, but who are nevertheless, immensely grateful for your gifts! Thank you!

CWID (continued)

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Ellis

Chair, Church Work in Durham Committee

Church Work in Durham Financial Report (2023)

Congregational Givings	\$22,975.92
Food donations	\$2,090.00
Christmas	\$3,141.95
School Supplies	<u>\$280.00</u>
TOTAL DONATIONS	\$28,487.87

Disbursements:

Aids Durham	\$1,450.00
Back Door Mission	\$2,160.00
Bethesda House	\$1,150.00
Denise House	\$1,350.00
Women's Residential	\$1,150.00
Gate 3:16	\$1,800.00
Lakeridge Chaplaincy Oshawa	\$2,000.00
Lakeridge Chaplaincy Bowmanville	\$1,500.00
Participation House	\$1,050.00
Durham Outlook for the Needy	\$1,585.00
The Refuge	\$850.00
Boy's & Girls Club	\$950.00
Luke's Place	\$950.00
Children's Aid Society	\$950.00
Footprints 4 Autism	\$950.00
Durham Youth	\$950.00
Frontenac Youth	\$1,050.00
Settlement House	\$550.00
Clarington Hospice	\$750.00

Church Work In Durham Committee - Continued

Christmas Gifts:

Gate 3:16	\$1,195.98
Settlement House	\$1,945.97
School Supplies	\$280.00
Speakers for CWID Sunday	<u>\$150.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$26,716.95

Total Remaining in account	\$1,770.92
Emergency fund	\$1,000.00
New Agency	<u>\$400.00</u>
Remaining Balance	<u>\$370.92</u>

Church Work In Durham 2024 Budget

Aids Committee Durham
 Back Door Mission for Relief of Poverty
 Bethesda House
 Denise House
 Women's Residential Treatment Centre
 Gate 3:16 Outreach Centre
 Lakeridge (Oshawa) Chaplaincy
 Lakeridge (Bowmanville) chaplaincy
 The Participation House Project
 Durham Outlook for the Needy (St. Vincent's Kitchen)
 The Refuge Youth Outreach Centre
 Boys & Girls Club
 Luke's Place
 Durham Children's Aid Foundation
 Footprints 4 Autism
 Durham Youth Services (JoAnne's Place)
 Frontenac Youth Services
 Clarington Hospice

The above is a list of all the agencies supported by the CWID committee plus the Emergency Fund and an allocation for a new agency.

Contributions made by the congregation in 2024 will be divided equally for all of these agencies; therefore, the budget is set as:

Congregational givings (regular offering):	\$20,000
Designated amounts:	
Christmas Baskets	\$2,000
Food Bank Donations	\$2,000
School Supplies	<u>\$300</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$24,300</u>

Faith Trail Report

It is our quest to continually improve access to our natural world in our own backyard.

This year we constructed a Trail Cart that will allow those who are unable to negotiate the trail on foot, to enjoy the experience.

We gathered all the parts. The frame and front facia from an old skidoo trailer, the box (cab) and axel assembly from a little box trailer and fitted it all together. We secured an old, upholstered boat seat in fabulous condition on Kijiji. It was very satisfying for our group to assemble our project.

We asked our good friend of Faith, Jerry Pannekoek, to work his welding skills and metal magic. Then abracadabra it was done.

The trail has expanded both in length, with new trails and width to accommodate the cart.

New Butterfly Gardens have appeared on both entrances to the trail with the time and talents of Sue McCormick and Nancy Philip. The plantings were magical as pollinators visited the beautiful blossoms giving life to all they touched. We thank you for your gifts (Sorry about the Poison Ivy that crept in).

The trail is well used by young and old alike. It is wonderful to see and hear children playing, enjoying nature and making memories. It also makes the heart leap to see entire families bonding in shared experiences.

Happy trekking.

Shalom Alex

United Church Women

Faith UCW met monthly with the exception of July and August 2023. Our meetings January thru March were by Zoom and beginning April were resumed in-person. All women are welcome to visit at meetings and if you wish, join our UCW and participate in our monthly meetings, outreach and fellowship.

Our meetings begin with a welcome by the President to guests and members. The Christ candle is lit followed by a reading, the Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory Lands and Treaty and the UCW Purpose. We have a time of Devotion following which reports are received including Minutes and the Treasurer's report. Business is discussed. There is usually a Program. This could be a guest speaker, bible study, a skit or game, etc.

Meetings are closed with the UCW Prayer.

We have some 30 members with attendance usually 15-18

Our major Fund raising this year consisted of a return of the bazaar which I am ecstatic to report was a HUGE success (treasure's report attached). We were very grateful to be able to reach our Outreach commitments as well as those to our own church operations.

We welcomed Elaine Rennie as our new Treasurer and are delighted to have kept her busy.

Donna Bignell, as well as others, continues to make calls to those who cannot get out to meetings, or who just enjoy a friendly call.

We remember and acknowledge with gratitude those members we have lost this year. For their commitment and service, we honour: Shirley Lemon, Phyllis Selby, Shirley James, Betty Campbell.

Carolyn Boyd, our corresponding secretary has kept in touch with special birthdays, thinking of you, special occasions, sympathy cards and donations to Faith for UCW members, spouses and children.

Faith UCW hosted the World Day of Prayer this year in place of Maple Grove UCW with the planning inclusion of Ebenezer UC, the Free Methodist, and Anglican and Catholic Church ladies.

Gail Scott reported the quilting group donated a quilt on behalf of our UCW to the Clarington Hospice which due to the size (Queen) may be auctioned as a fund raiser by them. Many thanks Quilters!

In March we had a speaker, Heather, from Durham Outlook For The Needy, formerly St. Vincent's Kitchen. We have two of our UCW members as well as a congregant, volunteer once a month with volunteers from Westminster Church congregation. Meals are offered 365 days at a cost of \$1.50 if able to pay although no one is ever turned away and the average served is 200 per day.

The kitchen refurbishment was completed in April and passed the Health Department Inspection. Three of our ladies, Diane McMahon, Elaine Rennie and Deborah Van Londen have completed and received their food handling certificate as it is recommended that someone with the food handling certificate should be present at catering events.

UCW (continued)

We held the UCW Sunday Service on May 21st with Betty Turcott as our guest speaker. This was Betty and Debbie Duncan's last Sunday before their move to Kanata and a luncheon in their honour was held after the Service. The Presbyterial UCW President, Karen Faux was in attendance and offered best wishes on behalf of Lakeridge Presbyterial. Our UCW presented Betty with a gift of an "angel" pin while the Tech team presented Debbie with a plaque for her service to them.

Our June meeting was held at the home of Pat Long and Elaine Rennie where the ladies enjoyed BBQ and a host of pot luck salads and desserts. 19 attended.

UCW provide snacks for the Euchre's attended to by Jim and Allana Wright and the proceeds are donated to our UCW. We are very grateful for their support and dedication as are our congregants and community members who attend this pleasant afternoon. Thank you both.

Faith UCW is hosting the East Central Ontario Regional Conference (ECORC) UCW AGM on April 23, 2024. This will be an all-day event using the whole of the church from 0900 am to 2-3 pm. We will be serving morning refreshments and 2 sittings for lunch. We have secured Rev. Dr. Larry for communion, Diana Chappell for sound and Kristine Dandavino for music. UCW ladies will cater lunch and Ebenezer and Maple Grove will help with supplying the morning muffins, etc. Our ladies will be helping with directions, (book room, Fair Trade, Displays) quiet space (Living room) washrooms, etc. We are expecting approximately 80+ registrations. All volunteers are prayerfully accepted.

Your UCW would like to thank the congregation for your total support in the success of the bazaar this year, the coordinator, Kathleen Pearce, the Property Committee, the Music, the donation of apple cider, and every other wonderful contributions you have made. You are awesome!

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Long,

President Faith UCW

UCW Bazaar

This year's bazaar was a resounding success due to the ongoing efforts of all the women and men of Faith United. It truly was a group effort. This is the first bazaar following the COVID pandemic, so it presented some challenges.

Person power was a bit limited by some members being ill, and some members not being comfortable facing the public. Despite these obvious challenges, we were victorious. Our volunteers included some new members of the congregation and as well we had many family members. This truly is a community event.

Early preparation for this event is essential. Sorting, pricing, cleaning. As our UCW membership has declined, so have the volunteers to help with these tasks. It fell to very few women to make this happen, so I highly recommend that more women step up and offer, and if they cannot do it themselves, perhaps they can recruit family or neighbours to help in their place.

I attempted to reduce or eliminate pinch points entering the different areas and thereby reduce exposure to potential viruses. I had limited success, primarily, I believe, because of lack of support. Additional measures to mitigate COVID exposure included having an ample supply of masks on hand and having multiple hand sanitizers at each station. I would highly recommend that these protocols be continued for all UCW events per Public Health Ontario.

UCW Bazaar (continued)

Advertising will need to be done differently and earlier next year. Our local newspaper ceased operations and this was our primary contact. We contacted the radio and television stations and posted flyers and handed out personal sized advertising. Our electric sign was not functioning, although this has since been repaired. I do believe that having our message on the electronic sign for the entire month of October is essential. A huge thank you to Erin McCarthy Poirier for designing our advertising materials. Your talent is limitless. Our materials were fresh and modern and really added to our overall professional image. Thank you to our office manager, Matt for all the copying, phone calls, orders of supplies, and general availability for anything I needed. Included with our advertising efforts, we need additional signs for the guys to put out on the street on the day of the event. Terry mentioned that we will need an additional 20 signs. (They mysteriously disappear while they are out). Diana Chappel was very helpful with the music for ambience and ensuring that it played without a hitch. Thank you, Diana. We used every single table in the church for the bazaar and I was asked for additional ones. Unfortunately, I had none to offer. Perhaps a discussion should happen about acquiring more 6- foot tables.

Elaine Rennie and John Decoe. Thank you for handling all the money. What a frustrating surprise you faced when our e-banking failed us. You kept your cool and kept us on track. The seemingly endless hours of money counting was done without complaint and we can't thank you enough. Thank you to Cynthia for lending us your e-banking access and helping us to not miss sales.

Enid and Dan. A big thanks for greeting our visitors and making them feel welcome right from the front door. Your contribution is essential to ensuring people come back year after year.

The lunchroom had a new seating plan which included tables for four on one side and tables for 6 (prior was 4) on the opposite side with a larger pathway between them. This was accomplished by moving the silent auction area closer to the stained- glass window by about 30 inches. Being able to seat more people at a time meant shorter waiting time for guests. The food was as wonderful as usual. A big thanks to Linda Walsh and the kitchen elves for keeping us fed and watered.

The Christmas table set the tone for the bazaar as usual. It was bright, well organized, and abundant. Thank you, Beth, and your team. The crafting group, while limited in numbers and time, pumped out an amazing amount of product that dazzled and bedazzled our guests. Well done. They have asked for an advance of \$200 to source product to make their works of art for the next bazaar. The crafting group will be starting up again in February by Kathleen P.

Our baking table was a big success, in no small part to Diane McMahon's experience and hard work. Thank you, Diane, and your team.

The knitting/sewing table was filled with all sorts of wonderful things. Thank you to Donna and your team for keeping it all organized. Some suggestions for new products have been put forward by Libby Roberston for discussion. Please speak with her directly.

The silent auction tables were a big hit again this year. I would like to recommend that additional effort be put into this area by the members of the UCW. In particular, perhaps Community Care could be approached to supply a gift basket as well as additional local businesses. All the work fell to Kay and Larry Hurren and, while they did an exceptionally good job, it was a lot of work for just two people. A big thank you to Kay and Larry. Well done!

Jewellery. Well, need I say more? Bonnie and Roz and Joyce sorted, cleaned, appraised every piece that came in. We were all spoiled for choice. I know that this was a huge undertaking, so we thank you all for your hard work.

UCW Bazaar (continued)

Jams and Preserves. Liz did an excellent job, as usual. I'm not sure that anything was even remaining at her booth by noon. Thank you, Liz.

Books and games. Being located under the coat racks seemed to work well and meant that all the books didn't need to be lugged up to the living room. Dorothy and Maria and team made everything look appealing and organized. They were flexible with their space and made it cozy and festive with their own décor and signage. Well done.

Granny's attic was in the nursery this year and was a big hit with our visitors. My personal family was thrilled with the bargains on offer. Thank you to Sandy and Debbie and your team.

The girl guides were very happy with their new location just inside the Sanctuary doors. They sold all of their wares and would like the location again next year, if possible, with 2 card tables instead of just one.

Our men. Boy our men!! By helping us set up earlier on the Tuesday before the event, it meant that our stress levels were drastically reduced. It gave us three extra days to set up, price, organize, and really spend time together before the event. Our men moved boxes, tables, signs, furniture, over and over and without a single complaint. We thank you, men, from the bottom of our hearts. You are the best.

One final thank you is to Coffee Time at the corner of Courtice Road and Hwy 2. They donated a large amount of fresh coffee, cream, sugar for the Friday prior to the bazaar for the workers to enjoy. If it hasn't already been done, and I believe it has, a thank you note should go out to them. Thank you, Terry Fitzgerald for arranging the coffee.

I would like to thank the UCW for putting your faith in me, once again, to coordinate the Bazaar 2023. I enjoyed working with all of you and I thank you all for your hard work and dedication. I am honoured to be part of the Bazaar team. I wish Beth much success in coordinating the Bazaar for 2024 and trust that you will all show her the same kindness and fellowship, and trust, that you have shown me over the years.

This is Kathleen Pearce, Lead Elf, signing off

UCW Financial Report

Opening Book Balance	January 1, 2023		\$2,488.38
<u>Income</u>			
Bank interest		\$1.11	
Least coin		\$71.00	
Church calendar sales		\$114.50	
Christmas Cake Sales		\$1,204.45	
Men's BBQ paid out to Faith operations		\$446.56	
Yard sale—split ucw & faith operations		\$1,947.45	
Euchre donation		\$300.00	
Bazaar		\$13,919.14	
Catering		\$5,334.00	
Offerings		\$3,420.55	
Total		\$26,758.76	\$29,247.14

UCW Financial Report (continued)

Expenses

Yard sale & Bazaar start-up floats	\$920.00	
Flowers and gifts	\$992.95	
Faith United cooler repairs	\$354.93	
Faith United -operations	\$5,000.00	
Faith -men's bbq & yard sale	\$1,627.45	
Faith – in memoriam	\$320.00	
Community care - Luncheons	\$939.57	
Bazaar exp baking & tearoom	\$759.08	
Kitchen-food handling certificates	\$111.52	
Kitchen -supplies	\$970.47	
Speaker	\$100.00	
World day of prayer offerings	\$360.00	
Bank charges	\$63.99	
Kitchen misc.	\$2,991.82	
O/S cheques from December 2022	\$2,500.00	
Total Operating Expenses	\$18,011.78	\$18,011.78

Outreach budget item		
UCC-Mission and Service	\$3,000.00	
In memoriam	\$100.00	
World Dev. & Relief	\$500.00	
Presbyterial and Conference assessment	\$660.00	
Indigenous Fund	\$500.00	
National UCW fee	\$75.00	
Sandy Saulteaux spiritual centre	\$400.00	
Hearth Place	\$300.00	
The Refuge	\$350.00	
Rose of Durham	\$200.00	
YWCA	\$100.00	
Camp Quin-Mo-Lac	\$300.00	
Sleeping Children	\$200.00	
Back Door Mission	\$1,000.00	
CNHA Bowmanville	\$300.00	
Because I am a Girl Plan	\$500.00	
Durham Hospice	\$500.00	
Durham's Child Nutrition Project	\$500.00	
Least Coin	\$100.00	
Poinsettias for seniors	\$157.88	
Total expenses for December 2023	\$9,742.88	\$27,754.66

UCW Financial Report (continued)

Book Balance	\$1,492.42
Bank Balance as per statement	\$11,848.18
Less outstanding cheques	\$10,355.76
Bank Balance	\$1,492.42

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Rennie
Treasurer, UCW

Quilters Report

The quilting group meets each Tuesday morning. Our group has grown to 6 members this year.

Our members managed to complete twelve quilts, one being a wall hanging which sold at the bazaar along with two others. Four quilts were cross stitch patterns that a family requested to be completed. They generously donated \$300 for the completed quilts, which was donated to the U.C.W, as are most quilt sales. We have three baby quilts remaining for sale.

Two large lap quilts were donated with the funds being requested to go to the M&S fund. One was sold at the bazaar, and one remains for sale.

Contact Gail Scott if you are interested in a quilt.

Come join us, we will be glad to help you get started.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Scott

Meals on Wheels Report

Thanks to all who helped to fulfill our M-o-W's requirements this past year. I sincerely appreciate everyone who helped get the job done. Carolyn Boyd