# BRIDGENORTH UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2020



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# Contents

2021 BUC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA
Minutes: BRIDGENORTH UNITED CHURCH AGM – February 23, 20204
A Word from Reverend Bob7
Treasurer's Financial Report
Council Chair Report
Board of Trustees
Ministry and Personnel10
BUC Search Team
Worship Committee11
Reopening of Bridgenorth United Church12
Outreach & Justice Committee and Food Bank13
Property Committee
Communications16
Nominating Committee
Membership and Pastoral Care16
UCW and Women's Coffee Hour17
Presbytery Report
Cemetery Financial Report19
Envelope Stewards Report20
Choir Report
Prayer Shawl Group21
Appendix 1: Financial Statements22

## 2021 BUC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER; Chairperson; Steve Kirton

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. Bob Root

ELECTION for Recording Secretary for AGM

ELECTION for Chairperson for AGM

Motion of Acceptance of Voting Members/Adherents

ACCEPTANCE of AGENDA

APPROVAL of Previous Meeting Minutes (found in Annual Report)

REPORTS of Committees Under Church Council:

CHAIR: We invite the chairperson of the following committees to bring forward their report. If any Committee members wish to add information to their Chairperson's report, please feel free to raise your hand after your Chairperson has delivered their share of the report.

1. Finance Committee: Lane Vance - Treasurer's Report, Envelope Steward, Memorial Fund

2.Church Council Report: Steve Kirton

3.Board of Trustees: Lois Moore

4. Ministry and Personnel Committee and Minister Search Team: Sue Pettersone

5.Worship and Faith Development: Sharon Baptie

6.Outreach and Justice: Patty Latour/Anna Thompson

7. Property: Jim Thompson

8.Communications: Dennis Craig

9.Nominating Committee: Barb Jinkerson

10. Prayer Shawl Ministry: Sybille Sterling

11.Membership and Pastoral Care: Sandi Deslauriers

REPORTS of INDIVIDUALS UNDER CHURCH COUNCIL

United Church Women: Jane Kirkwood

Presbytery Representative: Ian Deslauriers

Archives: Beth Chambers

Changes in the Church Family: Rev. Bob Root

Minister's Message: Rev. Bob Root

CHAIR: Acceptance of Reports; I now bring a motion to the floor to have all the above reports accepted as given. Second motion.... Those in favor....

Motion for Adjournment

Benediction

Thank You

## Minutes: BRIDGENORTH UNITED CHURCH AGM – February 23, 2020

**Present:** Susan Pettersone, Barry Petersone, Randy Wilson, Gloria Piercey, Clay Piercey, Sharon Baptie, Ian Deslauriers, Sandi Deslauriers, Beth Craig, Wayne Guppy, Linda Guppy, Jean Winters, Margaret Barber, Peggy Ross, Larry Ross, Les Fickling, Beth Chambers, Carol Forsythe, Yvonne Hunter, Cathie Sproule, Effie Deslauriers, Shirley Cole, Lois Barclay, Stew Purdon, Patty Latour, Joe Latour, Jack Christopher, Diana Christopher, Paul Bodrug, Anne Gowans-Blinn (Rev), Walter Artymko, Joanne Artymko, Sibylle Sterling, Karen Weir, Barb Jinkerson, Jane Kirkwood, Lorraine Fedosoff, Marilyn Lackey, Bonnie Henderson, Steve Kirton

#### Call to Order – Chairperson

Steve Kirton welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order (12:15PM).

#### **Recording Secretary for AGM**

Joe Latour served as Secretary for this meeting in absence of Sue Dennison.

## Approval of Previous AGM Minutes (found in Annual Report)

Motion to approve minutes of the 2018 AGM minutes made by Paul Bodrug. Seconded by Sibylle Sterling. Carried.

## Search for New Minister – Susan Pettersone

Susan is working on completion of a "Community of Faith" profile with input from the congregation. We have been assigned a United Church contact from East Central Ontario Regional Council, however we have not formally engaged with this individual at the present time. Next step will be the striking of a Search Committee.

#### **Reports of Committees under Church Council**

Please refer to the 2019 ANNUAL REPORT booklet for details

#### 1. Finance – No Representative

Refer to Treasurer's section of the Report (pages 23 - 32). Any questions, please contact Lane Vance, Treasurer.

A question was raised regarding possible sale of the manse. Ian Deslauriers advised that the proceeds of sale would probably go to BUC, but we need United Church Regional Council approval to sell the manse. It was suggested that the issue of a potential sale of the manse be referred to the Trustees for review.

Steve Kirton noted that offerings are trending down and asked that we consider our current givings.

## 2. Board of Trustees - No Representative

Refer to Annual Report.

#### 3. Ministry & Personnel – Sue Pettersone

Thanks to Rev. Anne, Wendy Dunits and Don Fluke for a job well done.

#### 4. Worship & Faith Development – Sharon Baptie

Refer to Annual Report.

#### 5. Outreach & Justice – Patty Latour

Refer to Annual Report.

#### 6. Property – Stew Purdon

Roof repairs for the church and manse required. Fund raising is needed.

#### 7. Communications – Paul Bodrug

Paul advised again that he is stepping down. We need a replacement, so please contact Paul if you are interested in taking on this role.

#### 8. Membership and Pastoral Care – Sandi Deslauriers

Looking for new members. All are encouraged to provide input for organization of events and recommendations for those in need of visits.

#### 9. Nominating Committee – No Representative

#### 10. Prayer Shawl Committee – Sybille Sterling

We have a nice supply of shawls.

#### 11. Refugee Committee – Steve Kirton

Our sponsor family have moved to London, Ontario and are nicely settled into their new homme. They seem very happy.

#### **Reports of Individuals under Church Council**

• Women's Coffee Hour – Sandi Deslauriers UCW members have joined. Great discussions.

#### • UCW – Jane Kirkwood

Refer to Annual Report.

Upcoming events – Plant sale in Spring, with support of Johnson Nurseries.

#### • Regional Council – Ian Deslauriers

Presbytery is now known as Regional Council. We are attached to East Central Ontario Region. Some growing pains, but progress is being made.

#### • Archives – Beth Chambers

Refer to Annual Report.

## • Changes in the Church Family – Rev Anne

Please refer Annual Report.

## Changes to Reports

Add Heather Sanders to Library Committee; Delete Edith Bell and Gloria Piercey.

Refugee Committee contact is **Candra** Penny (not Cassandra Penny).

Add funeral for Sue White to the Changes to Church Family (page 2).

## Acceptance of Reports

Motion to Accept reports made by Jane Kirkwood. Seconded by Joanne Artymko. Carried.

## Closing Prayer – Rev Anne Gowans-Blinn

## Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Ian Deslauriers. Seconded by Jane Kirkwood at 1:00PM. Carried.

Minutes by Joe Latour

## A Word from Reverend Bob

### Dear Friends

Wasn't that a party? 2020 has been a year in the life of Bridgenorth United Church that you will always remember! It was a year of change and challenge, of growth and possibility.

First, the announcement of Anne's retirement. As much as you may have known that it was coming, it's always a shock when someone you love leaves "the family." Anne served you so well during her nineteen years as your minister and the announcement of her retirement signaled the beginning of a large shift in the life and ministry of Bridgenorth United Church.

Then, the pandemic - yikes! Not only was there grief about Anne's leaving; there was concern about the future such as - Who will come? What will happen? How will we manage? There was also the ripping away of community as you could no longer gather in the known and familiar ways. But, with what I have come to understand as Bridgenorth Resiliency, you met the challenge and began to broadcast online. You keep in touch in countless small, kind ways. You take good care of one another. Your goal was to keep the community together and you have done that in such a good way.

Anne's farewell sendoff was a great event - even during a pandemic, you showed creativity, gathered folks (safely of course!), and most importantly, showed love to Anne and a commitment to continue the good work of ministry after her leaving.

I arrived Sept 1 as a part-time, retired-supply appointment from the East Central Ont. Regional Council. Because I've been in the area for many years, I knew well the good work that emanates from this congregation, so it was a joy to come and serve. My role has mostly been virtual - preparing and leading worship with a great team of folks, a few in-person meetings, many Zoom gatherings, and lots and lots of emails and phone calls. It has been a growing experience for me to get to know folks when we can't be together. We had lots of fun through the Fall and Advent and the happily created "Home for the Holidays" stable which welcomed all comers!

Quietly in the background, the Search Team did their work - managing all the transitions of technology (not always easy!), working with the Regional Council (thanks to Kathleen Whyte for her assistance), using the good input you supplied to create a position description, and then the work of receiving resumes, listening to the Spirit, and arranging interviews. That search has had a happy result and you will welcome Cathy Gradante on May 1 as your new, full-time, permanent minister! That will be a happy day.

We carry all the moments from the past into the future - God's future. Each prepares and strengthens us for the work to which we are called as friends and disciples of Christ. You can safely enter this time of newness, challenge and possibility with hopefulness because God is with you. I will leave my time with you grateful to have shared a small part of the journey.

Blessings on your faithfulness,

Bob

## Treasurer's Financial Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

#### Notice to Reader

The guidelines as established in the United Church of Canada Financial Handbook have been utilized in preparing this report.

See Appendix 1 for the 2021 financial statements.

Thanks are extended to Wendy Dunits and Joe Latour with respect to cash receipts processing and ongoing e-mail communications. As well, the support from Joe Latour and Ray Render and their availability for cheque signing is appreciated. Wendy Dunits continues to serve as the Envelope Steward for the pastoral charge.

Special thanks are extended to my friend and long serving BUC Finance team member Stew Purdon. Stew has been a great supporter of our work here at BUC and I am going to personally miss his calm demeanour, humour and his solid support.

An annual financial review has been successfully completed and all financial matters related to these statements are in order. Thank you to Joe Latour and Erica Cavanagh for their time to review the finances; current and future. The congregation and Bridgenorth community has responded with great support in response to the challenges of the COVID19 pandemic. Monetary support for the Food Bank has been exceptional throughout the year. The givings in Advent have been particularly heart warming and have allowed the church to finish up the year in good shape and ready for the challenges ahead in 2021. Thank you to all contributors of time, talents and monetary donations. The Treasurer's Financial Report is respectfully provided to the Congregation of Bridgenorth United Church for their review and acceptance.

R. Lane Vance

#### **Council Chair Report**

2020 was the 178th year of operations for BUC, a milestone that gets more impressive with each passing year. After 20 years, Rev. Anne officially retired in June and the church embarked on a search for her replacement. A search committee headed by Sue Pettersone was struck that orchestrated the search in conjunction with the United Church of Canada. Anne's gone from the pulpit, but not from the church, and certainly not from our hearts.

Of course it's already old news that this search was an unqualified success, initially with the appointment of Bob Root as interim minister, and followed up with the hiring of Rev. Cathy Grandante as his permanent replacement beginning in May 2021. On behalf of the BUC congregation let me convey my gratitude to Bob for graciously filling in as we searched for

Cathy, and also to Sue Pettersone for her stellar effort and leadership in captaining the search committee.

Lest readers be misled into believing that conducting a ministerial search in the middle of a pandemic was easy, well; actually Sue and the committee made it look as though it was! This in no way is to diminish the effort however. Really it was a combination of great leadership, great organization and a touch of divine intervention that enabled the committee to find Cathy and successfully pen an agreement with her in an expeditious fashion. Also I'd be remiss in not acknowledging the superlative assistance from Kathleen Whyte, the United Church rep assigned to mentor us through the procedure. Kudos to her and to all who participated, and a big "Welcome to BUC!!!" to Cathy.

Our food bank volunteers supported by a very generous local community kept the show running most successfully during the pandemic through a combination of goods from Kawartha Food Share, supplemented through many monetary and in-kind donations. Bridgenorth Value Mart has also been a supporter worth mentioning and we are grateful for it.

Our longtime treasurer Lane Vance, although officially NOT our treasurer anymore, continues to fill the role by graciously offering to keep the books up to date from the comfort of his home. In fact he and the rest of council and the respective committees have all become "Zoom" experts of late, with all meetings conducted virtually for almost a year now.

Naturally, to suggest the pandemic has altered all other activities of BUC as well would be a profound understatement. More than anything the glue that has proven to bind us together during these times consists of the pre-recorded Sunday services produced by Jim Thompson, and featuring Reverend Bob, Wendy Dunits, Sue Liczkowski, Ian Deslauriers, some days Tanna Edwards, and a variety of readers. I'm sure I speak for everyone in heaping abundant accolades onto them for their efforts. Finally a big THANK YOU as well to all our other council and committee members that help keep our building and church family running smoothly all through the year in spite of it all. I can say with humility that I continue to learn from you all and will look forward to a continuing discourse in '21, hopefully minus the masks!

Respectfully submitted, Steve Kirton - Council chair

#### **Board of Trustees**

Well, this has certainly been a "Different Year" for us all. Yet even so, it has been another eventful and successful year for our church and cemetery.

We have proven that we can work together very successfully, even without being together in person; and that is a true accomplishment. I think everyone from all of the boards, committees and whole congregation are to be commended and I wish to thank everyone who has continued to support our church community in any description.

We are happy that Trent Child Care is now back using our church facilities again and we are happy for the financial benefit. The community is delighted they are open since it is a much-needed requirement for working parents.

Our Insurance continues with HUB, and our policy has been reviewed and recently updated. All necessary forms and requirements are completed. Thank you to Lane Vance for help in this regard.

The cemetery has added our third columbarium and installed a pedestrian gate at the newest end of fence line, and some graves have been sold in the newer area as well.

Bill Sarginson has resigned from the Trustees Board and we thank Bill for his past support

Thank you as well to all Trustees for the continued service to the church and cemetery.

Respectfully Submitted

Co Chair Lois Moore and Raymond Render

#### **Ministry and Personnel**

It has been an eventful year for your M&P committee.

We supported Rev. Anne as she moved into retirement. What a joyful sendoff she received with the car parade and social time in June and we continue to wish her the best in this next chapter.

Many thanks to the people who stepped up and led the worship services over the summer – you embraced the challenge and provided very meaningful and impactful services as we awaited the arrival of Rev. Bob Root.

Rev. Bob joined us in September. He and the worship team continue to uplift us with inspiring messages and music, and we are grateful that he has joined our BUC church family.

Now we are preparing for the arrival of Rev. Catherine (Cathy) Gradante in May. Her orientation and onboarding has begun and we will work with her to ensure she is supported as she joins us.

As Covid-19 impacted our world, our custodial requirements changed. First we closed completely, then the day care reopened with very stringent sanitizing requirements that they decided to manage themselves. That altered our existing arrangement with them and left the church with minimal cleaning needs, ie: not enough to require a fulltime custodian. By mutual agreement, we cancelled our contract with Don. M&P is working to determine what custodial needs we have and how to meet that demand. We will keep you posted. Thanks to the food bank folks for cleaning up after their work is done, to the volunteers who respond to needs as they arise and the day care for their support to ensure the narthex and office areas are cleaned weekly.

Wendy has made amazing adjustments to our music program! Ian, Sue and Wendy work very closely with Rev. Bob to integrate the music and the results are wonderful. Wendy also continues to provide administrative support to the church family and all of her contributions are greatly appreciated.

M&P has provided 2021 salary recommendations to Lane for budget purposes.

Finally, many thanks to Paul, Karen, Deb and Barb for your hard work this challenging year. You are a pleasure with whom to work!

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Pettersone.

## BUC Search Team

I feel like you have been swamped with information from your search team as we worked hard to engage 2 ministers in the space of 10 months! While technically the search team remains in place until Rev. Cathy has her covenanting service in May, most of our work is complete. So it seems like the appropriate time to say -

## THANK YOU!

- To the members of the search team Tanna Edwards, Sue Liczkowski, Steve Kirton, Paul Bodrug, Barb Jinkerson, Sharon Baptie and our Regional Liaison Kathleen Whyte for the sense of camaraderie, fun, willingness to do your part and commitment to our task, our team was wonderful.
- To you, the congregation for support of our work, providing your input and embracing our decisions
- To Rev. Anne for your years of service and love in Bridgenorth and giving us our mission
- To Rev. Bob for agreeing to lead us as pulpit supply as we navigate a new path
- To Rev. Cathy for accepting our call it is so exciting to anticipate our upcoming journey together
- To the grace of God, who's spirit brought us two gifted ministers we are blessed

Respectfully submitted Sue Pettersone

#### Worship Committee

The year 2020 certainly has been very memorable! It has made us all realize what is truly important in our lives! As crazy as it has been, it has showed us how strong our Church and our church family are!

January and February started out fairly normal, with Rev. Anne's wonderful services in the comfort of our sanctuary. That quickly changed in March, and Rev. Anne and our dedicated "Worship Team" started taping our services so that we could watch them in the safety of our homes. Lent and Easter services were all done by video.

Rev. Anne's final year with our church family certainly wasn't what anyone expected. With Anne's dedication and caring ways, along with Ian (and his guitar) and Jim (with his video camera) we were able to continue our services by video.

We were able to help Anne celebrate her anniversary of her Ordination May 24th with a drive by and distance visit outside Anne's home (by members of the Church Council), and we presented her with a beautiful stained-glass window from the congregation. Anne's last Sunday on June 28th was celebrated with a huge drive by parade (by most of the congregation) and we were able to present her with a cheque (\$\$ donated by members of the congregation) that could perhaps go towards a long awaited to trip to Scotland?!

Before Rev. Anne's departure, she graced us with many wonderful video church services, including a beautiful Easter service. We will never forget her dedication to Bridgenorth U.C. and her love for her congregation; we wish her all the best in her retirement!

We welcomed Rev. Bob Root in September and have been so blessed with his many special video services. Bob was booked for an unexpected knee surgery in Dec. so he video taped many parts of the Advent and Christmas Services ahead of time; and with Jim Thompson's expert skills these taped portions of the services were added to all of the many services throughout the Advent and Christmas season.

We were extremely fortunate to have Tanna Edwards take part in the video services, during the time that Rev. Bob was off. We were able to enjoy the Christmas Calm service, stories with Granddad, a Christmas Eve service, and we were also blessed to have a private baptism that was video taped and added to the Christmas Sunday service.

During the Christmas season, we had many special events to help pass the "Covid time" and keep our congregation together. Ruth Dalton helped organize the Secret Pal programme, we had our stable outside (with many Home for the Holidays pictures, posted to the Facebook and website page) and the Reverse Advent Food Calendar with items donated to our food bank. Hopefully all of these events helped make our church family feel like we are still a big part of our church.

We have been so fortunate to have such an amazing Worship Team that video tapes our Sunday services each week. A tremendous Thank you, goes out to: Jim Thompson, Rev. Bob, Ian Deslauriers, Wendy Dunits, Sue Liczkowski, Tanna Edwards and the many Mission in Service and Scripture Readers, the choir and Sandi Deslauriers, who has decorated our sanctuary since Sept.

In May we will be welcoming our new permanent minister Cathy Gradante, and we look forward to new beginnings!

For a year like no other at Bridgenorth United Church, you can see that we are still a very busy and caring congregation. Thank you to everyone for your part in this, and we pray that soon we will be together again. Stay safe and God Bless us all.

Respectfully Submitted by Sharon Baptie- Worship Chair

Committee Members: Rev. Bob Root, Sharon Baptie, Sue Liczkowski, Moira Vance, Sandra Stewart, Ruth Dalton, Wendy Dunits, Heather Sanders, Tanna Edwards

#### Reopening of Bridgenorth United Church

To the Congregation of BUC:

Our committee has met many times since the Spring of 2020. The United Church Of Canada has determined that we should come up with a detailed reopening plan which follows the Peterborough Health Unit safety protocols. The plan was developed, along with a seating plan (we can only have 40 people in church at one time).

Once Covid 19 has settled down, we will be in touch with the congregation as soon as possible. At that time, we will inform you of the important protocols that we **<u>must</u>** follow, to be able to attend our church services in person. These detailed plans meet all of the Public Health safety protocols, to ensure our church family is protected. We take your safety very seriously!!

We hope and pray that everyone stays safe! I know that all of us are looking forward to being back in our beautiful sanctuary!! Watch the website for any new and upcoming information regarding our Reopening!

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Baptie, Chair of the Reopening Committee

Reopening Committee Members:

Sharon Baptie, Steve Kirton, Patti Latour, Sandi Deslauriers, Heather Sanders, Ruth Dalton and Wendy Dunits

## **Outreach & Justice Committee and Food Bank**

The activities of the Outreach & Justice Committee and food bank workers were at times defined throughout 2020 in response to the challenges presented by the covid-19 virus. Essential services including the food bank began to be re-designated Friday, March 13, 2020 for the province of Ontario. Thank you to our food bank workers through whose efforts we are able to keep our food bank open during the covid-19 outbreak. We are thankful for all the donations of money, food and gift cards from our very generous community.

The 6 members of the Outreach & Justice Committee in 2020 were Sandra Forsey, Linda Guppy, Donna Mackey, Deb McCutcheon and co-chairs Patty Latour & Anna Thompson.

Clay Piercey drove to Kawartha Food Share (KFS) to pick up fresh foods each Tuesday morning. Link2Feed computer data input workers were Ann Baston, Paul Bodrug, Len Cotton, Sandi Deslauriers and Joe Latour. Other workers assisted as greeters, coordinators, valu-mart Gift Card distributors and food bank hamper distributors. Food bank workers were Dianne Bartley, Lynsey Cotter, Lynne Cotton, Denise Davidge; Sandra Forsey, Linda Guppy, Yvonne Hunter, Patty Latour, Bev Lawrence, Donna Mackey, Deborah McCutcheon, Joy Panabaker, Clay Piercey, Anna Thompson, Margo Vanderland, Susan Wilson and Linda Younger. On Tuesdays in January, February and until March 10, BUC secretary Wendy Dunits took any excess fresh produce to One Roof Community Centre on Brock St.

Every second Friday afternoon, Steve Kirton did a pickup of the non-perishable foods (canned and packaged) as were ordered by Patty Latour, from Kawartha Food Share (KFS). Bruce Forsythe, Joe Latour, Patty Latour, Clay Piercey, Sam Proctor and Margo Vanderland unloaded, sorted and shelved items from KFS at the food bank.

For Covid-19 Procedures: Our workers are wearing masks while distancing at least 6 feet between each other and using two 6-foot tables outside. The clients are social distancing 6 feet apart outside. A worker fills in the client's information on a clipboard, eliminating the need for clients to use a pen. Surfaces are sanitized on an ongoing basis.

Grocery bag hampers (non-perishables) were assembled in advance of Tuesday food bank hours (hours are 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm) by Patty and Joe Latour. Hampers consist of four grocery bags of non-perishables to be distributed to food bank clients, in place of the previous practice in which

clients and food bank workers would prepare grocery bags to meet the clients needs inside the food bank space. Tuesday workers assisted as able according to potential risk to their health.

Joe Latour managed the KFS Link2Feed software program for the food bank, including entering input for the annual KFS March Hunger Count. Weekly input for Link2Feed was by Sandi Deslauriers and Ann Baston. KFS uses this information to report on the number of people who are food insecure in Peterborough County. A big thank you goes to Wendy Dunits and Joe Latour for managing monetary contributions to the food bank throughout the months.

As our Committee's primary Outreach and Justice activity, the food bank served an average of approximately 34 households, 80 family members per month.

Warm hats and mitts were offered to our clients in preparation for winter weather starting in November. Many thanks to everyone who knitted or donated. Thank you letters were sent to community members, organizations and businesses for their financial and non-monetary contributions, some on a regular basis.

The Easter and Thanksgiving season food drives at valu-mart did not take place in consideration of Covid-19 protocols. Significant fundraisers which took place included the Ennismore Curling Club 'Curl for a Cause' Bonspiel in February, which raised \$5,000 for our food bank. All the proceeds from the Silent Auction and Raffle Table were donated to the food bank. The Curling Club also collected bins of food donations before and during the curling bonspiel. With the donation, the food bank purchased a new refrigerator/freezer for \$1,094.97 to replace the old freezer in our storage area.

The 'Winter is Coming' food drive in November 2020 organized by MPP Dave Smith's office collected groceries for our food bank on November 13th from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm at John's valumart in Bridgenorth. Dave Smith brought his van and tent and greeted customers entering valumart. Other examples of generosity from the community include John's valumart in Bridgenorth which donated \$10 valumart cards and Paulmacs in Bridgenorth donating dog and cat food.

The Minute for Mission is currently being read by various members of the congregation participating in the pre-recorded weekly Sunday service as available by email and the Bridgenorth United Church Facebook page.

The food bank's food shelving area has been augmented and renovated thanks to the efforts of Bev Lawrence, Clay Piercey, Larry Ross and Gil Sperry while Trent Child Care was closed over Christmas.

Each volunteer with the Bridgenorth United Church (BUC) food bank is required to do a Police Vulnerable Sector Check (PVSC) with their local O.P.P. office. Their PVSC is renewed annually with a signed Attestation on a five (5) year rotation.

The annual payment of \$300.00 for Kawartha Food Share (KFS) membership is due in March 2021.

Respectfully Submitted Patty Latour and Anna Thompson Co-chairs, Outreach & Justice Committee

#### Property Committee

While the Church Council has been able to meet virtually, most of the Property Committee members do not have computers or internet access, so the Property Committee has not held meetings since the pandemic lock-down. However, we are in regular contact by phone the property maintenance has continued. Some of the issues dealt with are:

-In preparation for Rev Bob's arrival the Minister's offce was repainted and carpets cleaned by Jim Thompson, Sue Wilson and Wayne Dennison.

-Larry Ross and Gil Sperry replaced failing florescent light fixtures in the basement of the Chapel building with simple light sockets with LED light bulbs. Additional fixtures will need to be replaced.

-Manse roof was leaking over the rear addition so Larry Ross, Gil Sperry and Randy Wilson installed a tarp until Feeney roofing replaced the shingles on the problem area in December

-The Chapel furnace failed to run 4 times starting in October. Sayers Heating was called when the furnace could not be restarted on November 16th and everything is warm.

-Trent Childcare replaced the dishwasher in Sept.

-Trent Childcare provided a Hand Sanitiser dispenser and Jim Thompson fabricated an oak stand to match the oak trim in the Church Narthex.

-Jim Thompson installed a secure mailbox at the front entrance to the church.

-Feeney Roofing replaced the shingles on the east side of the Chapel Building in December 2019. In October informed us that they provided this service and supplied the materials at no cost to BUC.

-Most of the Manse Garage roof blew off and will need to be replaced in 2021.

- The branch circuit providing power to the condensate pump on the Manse furnace failed, resulting in water on the basement floor. Jim Thompson connected an extension cord to the condensate pump to allow it to be connected to another outlet. Sayer Heating fixed the thermostat in January when the Manse furnace stopped working.
- Larry Ross and Gil Sperry worked over the holidays to rebuild the Foodbank space in the basement of the Chapel Building.
- Wayne Dennison, Steve Kirton, Randy Wilson, Jim Thompson and Larry Ross repaired a section of flooring in the Friendship Hall where the vinyl tiles had come loose.
- Jim Thompson replaced the UV system lamp on the Water System and determined that the Controller/Ballast had failed. Bridgenorth Home Hardware provided the replacement parts for \$400 and Trent Childcare has agreed to pay for the parts. Jim Thompson installed the parts in February.
- The Septic system high level alarm went off a few times in January. Jim Thompson pulled the pumps and the effluent tank pumps to test them. The effluent tank pump was replaced by Jim Thompson.
- The installation of the "Home for the Holidays Stable" was planned and coordinated by Jim Thompson, with Gil and Larry building the basic frame, Walter Artymko created 2 sheep, a cow and a manger. Ruth Dalton painted the sign and Jim Thompson finalized the setting and posted the #buchomefortheholidays photos on the church Facebook page.

- Jim Thompson has also been busy with service recordings, editing and posting to Facebook and website. Provided Jim's camera and computer keep working, it looks like this will continue for the next several months.

Submitted by Jim Thompson

### **Communications**

More of a heads-up than a "report" - I have taken over Communications from the capable hands of Paul Bodrug. Cavernous boots to fill for sure. . .but, here goes (1) This (bare bones) Annual Report is my first "job". . .hope you like it!

Please join me in thanking Paul for his diligent work and long-time service.

Dennis Craig

## **Nominating Committee**

Here is the list of chairs of the Committees for 2021:

Members of Council

Chair: Steve Kirton

Vice Chair: Barb Jinkerson

Treasurer: R. Lane Vance

Communications: Dennis Craig

Trustees: Ray Render/ Lois Moore

Property: Jim Thompson

Membership & Pastoral Care Sandi Deslauriers

Presbytery: Ian Deslauriers

Worship & Faith Development: Sharon Baptie

Ministry & Personnel: Susan Pettersone

Outreach & Justice: Patty Latour/Anna Thompson

Respectfully Submitted

Barb Jinkerson

#### Membership and Pastoral Care

Membership and Pastoral Care Committee was able to have three meetings before the Covid shutdown. It has been difficult keeping in touch with our entire membership during these times as a number of our members do not have computers.

We set up phoners to make contact with all the church members and adherents that we were aware of to find out how they were doing, did they have computers and if they did, made them aware of our Sunday services on line.

Through these phone calls we were also able to find who would like hard copies of the reflections.

The UCW with the direction from Jane Kirkwood made contact with those who we know didn't have computers.

We, along with the help of Rev. Bob, have tried to keep in touch with our shut-ins. Like Mem. And Past. Care, the Women's coffee hour was only able to meet twice before lockdown. Sandi is making arrangements to set up Zoom meetings for the new year starting in Feb.

We are arranging to keep up our Birthday Cards to our "over 80's", cards to be sent to those needing thoughts and prayers during illnesses, and we are sending out sympathy cards to those who have lost loved ones.

Our prayer chain has been very busy with many dedicated folks praying for those needing to know they are being prayed for every day during difficult times.

Marilyn Lackey has stepped down from our committee after many years of hard work and dedication, especially with our shut-ins. Our thanks for all her dedication and hard work and look forward to seeing her again when church reopens.

Submitted by Sandi Deslauriers

#### UCW and Women's Coffee Hour

UCW purpose - "To unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and provide a medium to which they may express their loyalty to Jesus Christ in Christian Witness, fellowship, study and service"

- members participated in Women's Coffee Hour.

- members attended the Annual UCW Presbyterian Annual Meeting at St James United Church, Peterborough.

- attended and contributed to World Day of Prayer which was held at St. Martins RC in Ennismore

- members organized the May plant sale with the help of Johnston's Greenhouse, Gary Johnston and Bruce Forsythe. The sale netted over \$900.00.

- The UCW closed its bank account and transferred the funds (\$1863.25) to the BUC general account. Any future fund-raising money will be given to the church and expenses will be submitted to the BUC finance committee for payment. Many thanks to the UCW treasurer Carol Forsythe for handling the transfer.

- Karen Weir and Jane Kirkwood organized one of the church's summer services on behalf of the UCW.

The UCW looks forward to the future working with our new minister and the congregation.

Respectfully submitted By Jane Kirkwood

## Presbytery Report

We are part of the new East Central Ontario Region of the United Church of Canada. The short form for this region is ECOR. Due to COVID 19 we have not met as a group during 2020.

We still continue with the usual activities that the old presbytery took on; management of lay and ordained ministers; ensuring churches maintain records of membership; assisting churches with the search for new ministers; Continuing education of ministers and lay leaders in church issues and activities.

A number of United Church activities and programmes have now been placed on line and I encourage members to check out their web site at <u>https://united-church.ca/enewsletters</u>. This site offers you the opportunity to keep abreast with what is happening in your Church communities.

Here is a list of the kinds of web sites available:

**E-newsletter** - a list of activities including updates on events, campaigns, actions, new resources, and more from the General Council Office and beyond.

**Embracing the Spirit** - Stay in touch with the Embracing the Spirit network, find out about new United Church ministry initiatives, and connect with the exciting, innovative work happening in faith communities around the country!

**God's Mission, Our Gifts** - This regular update from the United Church's Philanthropy Unit includes tips for fundraising, new initiatives and more. Sent about once a month.

**Intercultural Ministries News** - offers updates on intercultural initiatives, programs, and resources related to equity and diversity within and beyond the United Church. Published monthly, IM News has a particular focus on racial justice and disability ministries.

Living into Right Relations - Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice News from The United Church of Canada.

**United Action for Justice** - The United Action for Justice e-newsletter focuses on the justice work of the church. Published about twice a month, it shares worship and education resources, as well as news from church ministries, networks, and partners, including how they are taking action locally and globally.

Submitted by Ian Deslauriers

## **Cemetery Financial Report**

Bank Balance 2019	21,999.50
Expenses 2020:	
Scotia Care Fund 3245.00	
O&C Graves (1) Crem. (4) Niches (2) 2803.61	
Caretaker Grass 3856.24	
Donation to BUC for receipt	
Bereavement Assn. of Ont (Licence) 171.00	
Sec/Treasurer Honourarium/Expenses	
Inscription Niches(2)	
Corner posts(12 sets)1356.00	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Columb. Foundation2700.00	
Crane 3 <sup>rd</sup> Columb 736.00	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Columbarium 17,085.60	
Graves returned (-C&M/C/Ps)	
Printing/Supplies257.06	
Total	-36,307.51
	- 14,308.01

## Income 2020:

	Scotia Trust C & M (2020)	1895	.16
	Sale of Niche(4) Incl.C&M,	5000	.00
	BUC deposit (2 yrs)	1500	.00
	Sale of Graves (22) Incl.C&M+CP's,O&C's	15,34	14.00
	Open & Close of Graves(1)	650.0	00
	In Ground Cremation (2) Niche(2)	1775	.00
Total	Care & Maintenance Mon (5) Mark(1)		
rotal		.10	+26,714.16

Bank Balance Jan 11, 2021 ..... 12,406.15

## Respectfully Submitted by Lois Moore

Review to be completed before the annual meeting and confirmed at that time.

## Envelope Stewards Report

The following are statistics of those donating to the church through their church envelopes, PAR and/or other.

\$1 - \$100	\$101 - \$200	\$201 - \$300	\$301 - \$400	\$401 - \$500
15	6	6	3	2
\$501 - \$750	\$751 - \$1000	\$1001 - \$1500	\$1501 - \$2500	\$2501 +
9	10	20	17	15

In 2020 there were 48 households using PAR (**P**re-**A**uthorized **R**emittance) as their method of giving. We can arrange for you too to use this method as it assures the treasurer of a set offering each month. Great for when you are away as it is taken out monthly. Please speak to Wendy if you wish to have this method of "offering" set up for you. Your PAR giving can easily be changed by letting Wendy know any changes you wish to make.

## Please be sure to always use your correct envelope number and if you are unsure what that is then always put your name on the envelope. Those on PAR have a number also.

Also added to ways of giving - on line through "Canada Helps". These receipts have totaled \$3798.00 and are receipted by Canada Helps and not through the envelopes. We are very appreciative of all your givings. Thank you!

Income tax receipts will be ready for pick up at the <u>end of February</u> and those not picked up will be mailed. If you have any questions regarding your tax receipt please call the office at 705-292-9601 and speak to me.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Dunits, Envelope Secretary

#### Choir Report

Well!. . .Where do I start!. . .

At the beginning of 2020 choir proceeded as usual on Thursday nights, working very hard together to bring our gift of music to our worship time on Sundays and to share God's message in song!!\_\_\_\_\_



We were also about to begin working on some new anthems and a especially a new anthem based on Rev. Anne's favourite psalm for her retirement celebrations. . .then along came covid19!!!!

Services continued thanks to Ian, Anne, Jim; and the folks who shared their gifts during the summer. We managed to gather a few choir members (due to covid restrictions) and brought a number wonderful anthems to the Advent and Christmas services. A special thank you to Sue and Ian as they continue in leading the music in services.

In case you haven't noticed Rev. Bob has introduced us to a number of new songs/hymns and we are very grateful for that - he works the worship team very hard!



We look forward to when we can all gather to worship & sing together and share in fellowship once again! It **will** be so!

I just want to thank all of the Choir Members who make "making music" so, so much fun! -

Walter Artymko, Beth Chambers, Dennis Craig, Ian & Sandi Deslauriers, Eleanor Harper, Jeff Julian, Sue Liczkowski, Nancy Paisley, Barry & Sue Pettersone, Barb Render, Anna & Jim Thompson, Heather Sanders, Sue Wilson

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Dunits

## <u> 🐼 🖉 🖋 Tarnished Angels 🛄 🌒 🔗 </u>

Our intrepid band has for the most part been on standby mode since last March, with members being socially responsible and **not** venturing forth unless necessary.

BUC Music Director and band member Wendy Dunits, along with fellow Angels Ian Deslauriers and Sue Liczkowski have worked tirelessly to keep a strong musical presence in our services. Due to their efforts with Rev. Bob, Eveready Bunny videographer Jim Thompson and Angel Sandy Deslauriers decorating the Sanctuary for every taping, our services have looked and sounded first class 🙄 🖚

During the summer members put on two services. . .the band as a whole took one service while Angel Sue Liczkowski put together a delightful kids-friendly service and presented it assisted by yours truly. Several TA's have also done reader and Christmas choir duty.

We all look forward to being able to get together again. . .the time will come.

Respectully submitted, Dennis Craig

#### Prayer Shawl Group

Prayer shawls are available. Since we are all locked in, there might be a need for some extra comfort. Please call the church office or contact Sibylle Sterling at: 705-292-1159."

We hope to gather in the near future to continue knitting and reaching out through this worthwhile ministry. In the meantime, our hands are busy at home.

Thanks to those that take part and have contributed throughout the many years we have gathered.

## Appendix 1: Financial Statements

## **Balance Sheet**

For the Period Ending December 31, 2020 (with comparative figures for 2019)

Details	2019 Actual	2020 Actual
Assets		
Bank-Local-Consolidated Other Funds GIC Total Cash	-113,735.45 153,167.67 7,108.40 46,540.62	-85,711.58 179,898.55 6,530.71 100,717.68
Inventory - Food Vouchers Accounts Receivable A/R - HST Rebates	2,000.00 0.00 2,157.28	2,300.00 0.00 1,380.54
Fixed Assets	1,427,095.00	1,427,095.00
Total Assets	1,477,792.90	1,531,493.22
Liabilities		
Accrued Expenses CCRA/UCC Employer Taxes Syrian Refugee Funds Other Funds Due to M&S Operating Fund Balance	9,249.96 1,736.65 348.06 153,167.67 0.00 1,313,290.56	1,090.00 1,642.15 0.00 179,898.55 0.00 1,348,862.52
Total Liabilities & Equity	1,477,792.90	1,531,493.22

## Local Operating Fund

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements For the Period Ending: December 2020 (with comparative figures for 2019)

Details	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Revenues:			
Offerings	111,780	132,297.09	109,066
Other Donations	1,579	145.69	295
UCW Contributions	1,000	1,863.25	0
Manse Rent	10,163	11,850.00	12,900
Facilities Rent	32,285	28,440.84	39,025
Fundraising	17,871	1,986.95	17,330
Federal Subsidies	0	2,131.63	0
Total Revenues	174,677	178,715.45	178,616
Expenses:			
Wages/Benefits/Employer Taxes	125,045	76,572.38	100,614
Worship	430	199.29	725
Music	1,450	899.03	1,249
Pastoral Care & Outreach	3,356	24,769.04	5,150
Church Council (Presbytery)	8,595	10,392.06	8,526
Trustees	750	750.00	750
Archives	0	0.00	25
Christian Development	0	0.00	250
Junior Church	11	0.00	250
Communications	704	327.35	1,065
Library	107	0.00	400
Church Office	3,029	2,552.86	3,664
Manse - Property & Maintenance	4,727 36,136	4,131.87	5,010 37,574
Church - Property & Maintenance Finance/Bank Charges	1,588	28,450.18 1,635.84	2,106
Fundraising	1,500	200.00	2,100
T unuraising	1,071	200.00	2,115
Total Expenses	187,599	150,879.89	169,473
Net Revenues (Expenditures)	-12,923	27,835.56	9,143
Interfund Transfers	155	7,736.40	0
Change in Fund Balance	-12,768	35,571.96	9,143

## **Building Fund**

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements For the Period Ending: December 2020 (with comparative figures for 2019)

Details	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Opening Balance	116,433	116,857.31	116,857
Revenues:			
Envelope offering Other Donations	5,901 3,130	5,785.50 8,261.40	6,000 3,000
Fundraising			
Total Revenues	9,031	14,046.90	9,000
Expenses			
Fundraising expenses			
Capital Projects Manse	0	1,818.95	9,095
Church (includes chairs/computers)	0	0.00	2,000
Church - capital maintenance	8,606	0.00	7,048
Total Expenses	8,606	1,818.95	18,143
Net Revenues (Expenditures)	425	12,227.95	-9,143
Interfund Transfers			
Transfers to Operating Fund	0	7,661.40	0
Transfers from Memorial Fund	0	0.00	0
	0	7,661.40	0
Total Transfers	0	7,661.40	0
Change in Fund Balance	425	4,566.55	-9,143
Closing Fund Balance	116,857	121,423.86	107,714

## Memorial Fund

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements For the Period Ending: December 2020 (with comparative figures for 2019)

Details	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Opening Fund Balance	32,464	33,628.33	33,628
Revenues:			
Donations	1,375	2,215.00	0
Total Revenues	1,375	2,215.00	0
Expenses			
Receipts/fees/postage Sanctuary Improvements/Sound System	56 0	57.37	0 0
Worship Equipment/Books - Sanctuary	0	0.00	0
Total Expenses	56	57.37	0
Net Revenues/Expenditures	1,319	2,157.63	0
Interfund Transfers			
Transfer designated gifts to building fund Transfer designated gifts to operating fund Transfer designated gifts to M&S fund	0 155 0	0.00 75.00 0.00	0 0 0
Total Interfund Transfers	155	75.00	0
Change in Fund Balance	1,164	2,082.63	0
Closing Fund Balance	33,628	35,710.96	33,628

#### Note:

Please see the **Report on the Memorial Fund** for additional information. Bridgenorth United Church has been fortunate to be the recipient of numerous donations in memory of our members and adherents in 2020.

#### **Mission & Service Fund**

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements For the Period Ending: December 2020 (with comparative figures for 2019)

Details	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Contributions:			
Mission & Service Fund Donations	8,494	9,015.60	8,500
Total Contributions	8,494	9,015.60	8,500
Payments to the United Church of Canada	8,494	9,015.60	8,500
Balance	0	0.00	0

Note:

It is proposed that the congregational goal for 2021 will be \$8,700 This will be confirmed through resolution at the Annual General Meeting.

#### Notes to 2020 Financial Report:

1. Nature of Association

Bridgenorth United Church is a pastoral charge of the United Church of Canada.

Accounting Policies

Bridgenorth United Church uses fund accounting to track revenues and expenses. A consolidated bank account is used to manage cash flow and combines the following fund balances into one bank account at the local chartered bank.

Local Operating Fund reports on the Church's program delivery and administration.

Building Fund reports on matters related to significant building renewal projects, major maintenance and related equipment purchases.

Memorial Fund reports contributions made in memory of loved ones and gifts designated by donors.

Mission & Service Fund reports on contributions specific to initiatives under the United Church of Canada - Mission & Service Fund.

## Notes to 2020 Financial Report: (continued)

#### 3. Other Fund Balances

The following balances are included in the "Other Fund Balances" on the Balance Sheet.

Building Fund Memorial Fund Misc. Funds - Tarnished Angels	121,423.86 35,710.96 2,932.03
Food Bank - reserve (new in 2020)	19,831.70
Other Funds	179,898.55

#### 4. Financial Reporting and Information

Financial reports and supporting comments are provided to the Bridgenorth Church Council at their meetings periodically throughout the year.

In addition, members of the congregation are welcome to ask questions about the church finances at any point by dropping a note in the Treasurer's mailbox at the church.

#### 5. Fundraising Overview

Fundraising is an essential component of the financial program at Bridgenorth United Church. Our events of fellowship and fundraising were significantly impacted by the COVID19 pandemic and subsequent cancellations.

The following is a summary of net proceeds (funds received less expenses) for the typical fundraising events held in support of Bridgenorth United.

Event	Net Proceeds	
Vouchers Polarfest Supper & Music Ham Dinner Garage Sale Concerts Beef Dinner SA/Style Boutique Bulletin Support Misc. Specialty Food Sales	40.00 1,017.75 0.00 0.00 0.00 434.20 75.00 220.00	
Total Net Fundraising Proceeds	_	1,786.95

## Bridgenorth United Church Budget Year - 2021

#### Budget Introduction

The attached budget displays the three primary funds for BUC on one worksheet. This format is used in monthly reports to the Church Council on the financial status of the church and its various programs.

#### Budget Approach to Offerings

This budget reflects general offerings for the local and building fund that were achieved in 2020. To meet the givings targets we will once again require strong support from the congregation and the Bridgenorth community.

#### Budget Update

The operating expenses of the church are normally pretty consistent and include projected expenses based on good historical data. With the upcoming ministerial changes expected in 2021, the personnel expenses are based on solid information. With respect to all other expenses, best estimates have been used understanding that we are still operating in the midst of the COVID19 pandemic and related provincial orders.

The budget assumes a full resumption of services and fundraisers in the fall of 2021.

There are a number of significant building repairs and maintenance items that will need to be addressed in 2021. New shingles at the manse and the manse garage will draw on funds from the Building Fund. A number of interior building upgrades have been included in the budget and will be completed as operations and cash flow permits.

R. Lane Vance

### Bridgenorth United Church Budget Year - 2021 All Funds

Details	Operating Budget	Building Budget	M & S Budget	Total Budget
Revenues:				
Offerings & Donations Other Revenues Manse Rent Facilities Rent Fundraising Revenues	116,600 440 12,900 27,007 10,260	6,000 1,000	8,700	131,300 1,440 12,900 27,007 10,260
Total Revenues	167,207	7,000	8,700	182,907
Expenses:				
Wages and Benefits Worship Music Pastoral Care & Outreach Presbytery Assessment Trustees - cemetery Archives Christian Development Junior Church Communications & Outreach Library Church Office Property - Manse - all expenses Property - Repairs/Maint./Utilities Finance & Bank Fees Fundraising Expenses	87,472 1,685 1,635 10,600 9,026 750 25 250 250 1,035 0 3,984 5,237 40,986 2,386 1,887	1,500 9,300 5,500	8,700	87,472 1,685 1,635 10,600 9,026 750 25 250 250 1,035 0 5,484 14,537 46,486 11,086 1,887
Total Expenses	167,208	16,300	8,700	192,208
Net Revenues (Expenditures)	-0	-9,300	0	-9,300
Interfund Transfers	0	0	0	0
Change in Fund Balances	-0	-9,300	0	-9,300

Capital repairs for manse funded from Building Fund balance forward.



