

Grace United Church

2013 Annual Report

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Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014
12:15pm in the Sanctuary

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
2. Constitution of the Annual Congregational Meeting
3. Motion to allow adherents to vote on financial and administrative matters.
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, February 10, 2013
6. Approval of the 2013 Annual Reports of Council, Committees and Groups, excluding Finance and Nominating Committees
7. Approval of Finance Committee Reports
 - a) Review and approval of the 2013 Financial Report
 - b) Review and approval of the 2014 Budget Proposal
 - c) Report of the Financial Review Committee
8. Nomination Committee Report
 - a) Appointment of the Financial Review Committee for 2014
 - b) Election of Officers
 - c) Election of Governing Body
9. Ministry and Personnel Committee
10. New Business
11. Introduction of Incoming Chair
12. Appreciations
13. Adjournment
14. Closing Prayer

**Minutes Annual Congregational Meeting
Grace United Church
Sunday, February 10, 2013**

1. Opening Prayer – Brad Morrison
2. The meeting was officially opened and duly constituted by Gord Walkling at 12:15 pm.
Motion: That adherents be allowed to vote on all temporal matters (as per Manual 113).
John Cooke/John Robertson. Carried.
3. Approval of the Agenda
Motion: That the Agenda for the February 9, 2013 Annual Congregational Meeting be approved.
John Robertson/Marie Nicolson. Carried.
4. Approval of the Minutes of Congregational Meetings
Motion: That the Minutes of the Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, March 4, 2012 be approved.
George Vero/Ellen Robertson. Carried.
5. Review and Approval of 2012 Reports
The Congregational Care & Growth Report was corrected to read “the 2013 members will be”, rather than “the 2012 members will be.”
Motion: That the reports of Council, Committees & Groups be accepted, as printed in the 2012 Annual Report (with the above correction), excluding the reports of the Finance and Nominating Committees.
John Robertson/Trevor Jordan. Carried.
6. Finance Committee Report
 - a) 2012 Financial Report
The significant increase in the Ministry & Personnel budget was questioned. Bob Newman, Treasurer, and John Cooke, Ministry & Personnel representative, explained the increase was caused by a combination of the regular cost of living increase, and changes to the employer portion of the pension payments. Together, they represent an increase of approximately five percent (5%).
Motion: That the 2012 Financial Report be accepted as printed in the 2012 Annual Report.
George Vero/Wayne Pease. Carried.
 - b) 2013 Budget Proposal
Gord Walkling and Bob Newman presented the 2013 Budget Proposal. Concern was raised regarding the low *Designated M & S*

Givings number. It was clarified that in 2012 the offering envelopes were changed to remove the extra givings line for the Mission & Service Fund. This has shifted givings from *Designated M & S Givings* to *Givings for Operating Budget*. Also, the budgeted givings to the Mission & Service Fund is found under the section, Committee Expenditures, and for 2013 is set at twenty eight thousand, two hundred dollars (\$28,200). Further, additional givings to the Mission & Service Fund are generated by special events, such as soup luncheons.

Gord Walkling described Council's plan to manage the deficit budget. He explained that our membership has remained level, but is engaged. Also, our income and expenses have remained level, but our givings to other funds and projects has been significant. Further, the church is clearly meeting its commitment to being a community partner. Thus, Grace United Church is not declining. In terms of growth, in 2013 Council will continue to cut expenditures where possible, and hopes to redirect givings from special funds and projects to the operating budget.

An individual strongly suggested that Grace United Church carry out a stewardship campaign targeting the Unified Budget (and the Mission & Service Fund).

An individual raised concern that Grace United Church is spending more money internally than it is giving externally in the form of outreach, particularly when considering that the M&S percentage budgeted was only seven and a half percent (7.5%). A target of fifty percent (50%) was suggested.

Others suggested that not all outreach is captured by the budget. For example, donations of physical goods are often made on behalf of Grace United Church.

Motion: That the 2013 Budget [endorsed by Council, as printed in the 2012 Annual Report, with total expenditures of \$428,700.00] be approved.

Pauline Henderson-Ferguson/Clint Sykes. Carried.

c) 2012 Financial Review

Since Gord Walkling was a member of the review team, he assigned Iris Murtha (Past Chair) to chair this portion of the meeting.

Gord Walkling presented the 2012 Financial Review for information. He stated the following:

It is the opinion of the reviewers that the bookkeeping and other financial procedures carried out by the Financial Team at Grace United Church in 2012 were appropriate and were being complied with. It is our opinion that there are reasonable safeguards in place in order to minimize the risk of error or fraud. Those involved, particularly the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Admin support are commended for their excellent work.

A question was raised regarding which funds were reviewed by the

committee. Bob Newman explained that some funds are administered separately, and would not form part of the review (ex. AOTS, UCW, etc.). Also, Gord Walkling explained that specific documents, such as charitable receipts issued or individual staff payroll records, were not reviewed due to confidentiality. However, when possible, the cumulative amounts handled were reviewed.

A question was raised regarding the process the Financial Review Committee would follow in the event a discrepancy was discovered. Gord Walkling explained that, as per the position description described in Appendix 2.2 of the Grace United Church Constitution, the committee is to “pursue discrepancies in procedures, records and minutes until satisfied.” The process is to consult with the treasurer, then the Finance Committee, then Grace Council (with irregularities reported in writing) and, finally, the congregation.

Bob Newman explained that he has investigated having an external audit performed, rather than an internal review. The cost estimate for such an audit would be approximately two thousand dollars (\$2,000). Additionally, the auditor would not be able to provide a certification, because the church handles cash (ex. cash offering donations).

7. Nominating Committee Report

It was explained that the intention of Council is for the Financial Review Committee membership to consist of three members, each serving a three year term. By having two experienced members and one trainee, the membership would rotate each year.

Motion: That Gord Walkling, Maureen Grimwood and Laura Black be appointed as the 2013 Financial Review Committee.

Iris Murtha/Bob Newman. Carried.

Iris Murtha listed the slate of officers for 2013: Chair, Joanna Catterson; Vice Chair, George Pfaff; Past Chair, Gord Walkling; Secretary, Christopher Cooke; Treasurer, Paul Cooper; Presbytery Representatives and Delegates to Conference, Marg Cameron and Madeline McCaw.

Motion: That nominations be closed.

George Vero/John Robertson. Carried.

Motion: That the slate of officers [as listed by Iris Murtha] be approved.

Pauline Henderson-Ferguson/Diane Werezak. Carried.

8. Ministry & Personnel Committee

Motion: That Grace United Church requests that Lambton Presbytery extend the appointment of Pat Morrison for the pastoral year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

John Cooke/Susan Mallard. Carried.

9. New Business
None.

10. Introduction of the Chair

Joanna Catterson introduced herself, and explained that she looks forward to leading a Council and congregation that are on “already mission.”

11. Appreciations

Iris Murtha thanked the following individuals and groups: The entire staff (Brad Morrison, Pat Morrison, Sue Browning, Lori Armstrong, Curtis Dixon and Glenn Parsons); Members of Council and its committees; Bob Newman, who is retiring as Treasurer; Peg Dawkins, Assistant Treasurer; all the volunteers who help with worship services, the running of the church, pastoral care of our members, fundraising and our mission in the community.

12. Adjournment – 1:15pm

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

Maurice Cameron/Bryce McGarvey. Carried.

13. Closing Prayer – Sue Browning

Gord Walkling, Chair

Christopher Cooke, Secretary

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Message from Pat

Wherever my church travels lead there are formal and informal discussions, panels, workshops, seminars, task groups, and articles on the subject of the future of the church. There seems to be great anxiety in the air about the viability of the church: our church at Indian and Cathcart, the United Church of Canada, and *the Church*. We are beyond the days of debating whether or not Christendom is in decline. The discussion has turned to forecasting what is to come and how to survive.

Douglas John Hall (the great Canadian United Church theologian), in his book “The End of Christendom and the Future of Christianity” reminds us that the church took a dangerous turn in the fourth century when it wed itself to the powerful Constantinian state. Expansion was its goal. Proximity to power was its strategy. The vision was of a world won over by the Christian church.

Even to this day, and at the micro level, “church growth” is a common phrase. We even comb the pages of this report looking for signs of success measured by healthy programs and givings, the metric that hints at our future, eases anxiety, and lets us believe that perhaps we are still a force, at least here in Sarnia. But expansion and power, as Hall warns, was a motivation of yesterday’s imperial Christendom.

Christendom tried large. Jesus called for small. Remember the mustard seed.

The 2013 Grace narrative includes dimensions that are difficult to capture in these pages. Gospel is enacted by the people of Grace in humble ways, motivated by nothing more than care for another. This report cannot fully qualify our connection to Community Living, Inn of the Good Shepherd, or Bridges Out Of Poverty. Our gospel narrative includes stories of teens affirmed and nurtured, even saved by shared conversation with a caring adult who join them in a difficult moment, and the spirit of healing in a pastoral visit with a family that has lost a loved one or dealing with the difficulty of marital fracture.

As we comb these pages let us look for signs of proximity to the powerless. Listen for conversations and accommodations motivated by the need of another rather than church growth. And let us agree that this is our election.

Thank you for allowing me to serve with you.

Message from Sue...

We have a great family ritual for New Year's Day. Everyone in the family shares their top five experiences of the year that has just ended. This year my entire list was comprised of things that I did on sabbatical; my visit to the Greenbelt festival in England, my side trip to Northern Ireland, my venture to Montreal and my friend Scott's church, my trip to Chicago where I visited the Obama's former church home and our family's exciting game of croquet on the beach of Shediach.

Once again I realized how blessed I was to have had a sabbatical and how very grateful I am to the Grace community for offering this gift of rest, reflection and renewal. But the other important gift of sabbatical was one that contributed significantly to the ease of my return. When I was on sabbatical I had the opportunity to visit many churches, to engage in ministry opportunities and to talk with many colleagues who work across this country and around the globe. All of these experiences helped me to realize what an amazing and wonderful community of faith we have in Grace!

Of course we have challenges – most of which are not so different than those that many churches and nonprofit organizations face. There are unpredictable revenues, shifting demographics, the occasional personality conflict, or heated debate. There are issues with the ebb and flow of programs and volunteers to run them. But we also have so many great things that are unique in this time of national church decline. We have a vibrant collection of children and youth, many new people who not only attend but offer their support to programs and events, we have folks who love to have fun together but who are not afraid to roll up their sleeves and get down to the hard work of doing justice and spreading compassion, love and healing into this world.

A few weeks before the end of my sabbatical people in my life started conversations with notable tones of concern in their voices, "What's it going to be like when you go back to church? How are you going to get used to all the demands of your job and all the driving back and forth?" Soon their questions wove doubts into the fabric of my own thoughts. "Am I the right person to be at Grace? Is it time for me to leave? Maybe I can't re-adjust to the requirements of ministry?"

But then, by chance, I met with someone who was dreading a return she was about to make to a job she hated. I walked away from our discussion and suddenly my fears evaporated and were replaced by the solidity of this thought, "Wow! I'm going back to a place I love, to people I love, and to work that I love! How great is that?!"

Thanks to all of you for the many gifts that you bring to our church family and to my wonderful colleagues Brad, Curtis, Glenn, Lori and Pat who bring an ocean of talents and an endless stream of laughter and love to all the work we do

together! I feel so deeply grateful that God has put us all together for this exciting work of ministry and mission. May God continue to give us the resources to grow into a future that is already securely planted upon the foundation of God's grace, faithfulness and love!

Message from Brad...

Grace's mission strategy – to be an inclusive, intergenerational, and active community partner – continued to guide my 2013 goals. I thank the congregation, pastoral team and staff for your ongoing willingness to explore and experiment.

Inclusive. In response to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), Congregational Care and Growth Committee established an ad hoc Accessibilities Committee. After an extensive assessment and congregational survey, the committee identified building and program areas needing improvement. This work is ongoing, and I thank the committee members for their patient work. I ask that the congregation keep this important work in mind as building projects come forward.

Intergenerational. During Susan Browning's sabbatical, I experimented with ways to involve children and youth in worship leadership. We revised the order of service to allow a Junior Leader to lead the Lord's Prayer, Passing of the Peace, calling forward the children for the Swell, and co-presiding at Communion. Some of the Jr. Leaders gathered with the choir for prayer prior to processing into the sanctuary. Thank you to Lori for recruiting our Jr. Leaders.

Community Partner. A pub may seem like a strange community partner, but in 2013 we experimented with some fun events at Two Amigos: a pool tournament and Beer & Carols. Typical church partnerships include social service agencies, other faith communities, and volunteer organizations. We know how to partner with these organizations because they are a regular part of our lives – we understand how they work and how to identify a common mission.

The pool tournament arose from the question, "Where are Grace's members doing ministry that Grace is reluctant to go?" I was inspired early in 2013 to see a couple of our Grace members meet weekly at Two Amigos to support a friend dying of cancer. It was a beautiful thing to observe. Two Amigos was a place for a ministry of care.

Through the summer, I published a ten chapter short story sermon to explore the relationship between parish and pub. It is a different kind of partnership, and I wondered how a pub would respond to a request to hold a church event. (Perhaps more than I wondered how Grace would respond to a pub event.) The experiment began with the pool tournament in early August, which was

well attended by participants and spectators (and won by Iris Murtha, I add for the record).

When Pat returned from his Greenbelt trip in late August, we debriefed his experience of Beer and Hymns. From that conversation was born our experiment with Beer and Carols at Two Amigos. Again, I wondered how the pub would respond to the request more than how Grace would respond. I was pleased to see over 100 participants, including other congregations, invited friends, and unsuspecting patrons – all singing about Christ's birth in a public space where the church is reluctant to go.

Door into the Community. For the past few years, the “Already Mission” idea has celebrated the ways the people of Grace serve the community. As 2014 unfolds, I look forward to developing this theme further to explore how Grace serves as a doorway into the Sarnia community. I've started this exploration through my approach to Sunday morning announcements.

Thank you for your ongoing support for Grace's ministries in our community and beyond. Thank you to Curtis, Glenn, Lori, Pat, and SueB, for partnering with me in this ministry.

Message from the Outgoing Chair of Council...

When I took on the role of Chair of Council I decided not to establish a theme for my tenure as I felt that Grace already had a strong vision and mission under the banner of being “Inclusive, Intergenerational, and a Community Partner” and we didn't require another layer of language to cloud that message. I am really attracted to that vision and the “Already Mission” concepts that this church espouses and I thought that it was important that Council upheld these ideas as we made decisions and communicated to the congregation over the year.

After a year in the position I continue to believe that this statement sums up very well what we as a congregation believe and do on a daily basis. I am constantly amazed by the dedication and passion people have for this church and how it affects the lives of so many. As I look around at the people who surround me every week I see how they live out the challenge of being “Inclusive, Intergenerational, and a Community Partner” and those are just the ones whose stories I know!

I see inclusivity in action every week as we strive to provide people with what they need to access our services, whether it is through listening devices, the provision of a nursery and a pager system, large print bulletins, help with wheelchairs/walkers, gluten free options for Communion, and services taped for those who can't attend in person. I am sure there are countless other acts of inclusion that happen on a day to day basis that most of us aren't even aware of.

Grace seems to do “Intergenerational” very well in the sense of not only having opportunities for all ages but opportunities between ages. I have always loved the fact that our children bless us and we bless them in return as they leave for junior worship. As a mentor for the Confirmation class I appreciate the intentional way that activities are structured so that learning occurs and relationships are built between teens and caring adults. There is research around resiliency in children and teens that indicates that having caring adults in their lives is an important safeguard for positive mental health. As the mother of a teen just launching into the world, I truly appreciate this aspect of Grace’s ministry. From music selections to events to groups, Grace does an excellent job of supporting and welcoming those of all ages.

Outreach is dear to the hearts of many in our congregation and can be defined in a number of different ways. For some it is faithful givings and support for the Mission and Service Fund, for others it is serving on boards of charitable and community organizations. For still others it is time and labour given to support a cause or leadership in a group. For some the outreach is close to home in our local community and for others it is around the world. In whatever way you choose to affect the world positively, you are embodying Grace’s mission to be a Community Partner. Grace has formal relationships with many community partners such as the Inn of the Good Shepherd, Rayjon, and Community Living and through the congregation has an impact on many more. So many of Grace’s members are directly involved in mission through these and many other community and wider world pursuits and I am honoured to belong to an organization that wants to support its members as they act as God’s light in the world.

The past two years as Vice-Chair and Chair of Council have been times of learning for me. I have gained a greater appreciation of all the work that happens to make this congregation a vibrant, caring, and thriving place where people of all types can come together to worship, celebrate, and act out their faith and our collective mission. We are blessed with a talented, dynamic, and wise ministerial team, a dedicated staff, and a network of volunteers. I have witnessed the passion and concern of people for this community of faith as they make decisions and struggle with the realities of ensuring that we continue to be a place that truly is “Inclusive, Intergenerational, and a Community Partner.” May God bless us as we continue in that work.

Joanna Catterson, Outgoing Chair of Council

Message from the Incoming Chair of Council...

I am honoured to accept the role of Incoming Chair for Grace United Church Council and serve this inspirational community that has provided so much for our family. Our church community has helped us to celebrate in our joys as

well as supported us in our sorrows. We were drawn to Grace six years ago when we moved to Sarnia by the welcoming and supportive culture, talented staff, and active and diverse community. We knew this was a community where we could contribute, grow and be a part of a nurturing environment for our growing family.

I am inspired by the contributions of the members of this community that range from international development and disaster relief, defending those who have been marginalized, breaking the cycle of poverty, responding to the needs of those in Sarnia Lambton, mentoring youth development and leadership and just providing kind words for those in need. Grace is the type of community we want to raise our family in because we know the values that Grace and its members instill in our children will make them better people.

All actions that contribute to helping others in need, regardless of scale and scope, makes the world a better place and I truly believe that Grace needs to, and does, provide an environment to nurture these thoughtful and inspirational acts. We are fortunate to be involved in a community that values and supports this type of personal growth and passion for improving the world around us. This matters and it needs to be encouraged, supported and nurtured.

This role will be a great learning opportunity for me, as I consider myself relatively inexperienced with the administrative aspects of the United Church, but I am looking forward to working with the talented and gifted people of this community to build and nurture the inspiring work that happens here at Grace.

“Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.”
(Matthew 5:48)

George Pfaff, Incoming Chair

COMMITTEE STRUCTURES - 2013

***C**Chairperson ***R**Representative to Council

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Chair | Joanna Catterson | 519-541-0217 |
| Vice-Chair | George Pfaff | 519-541-0360 |
| Secretary | Chris Cooke | 519-491-6801 |
| Treasurer | Paul Cooper | 519-542-9237 |
| Assistant Treasurer | Peg Dawkins | 519-491-1447 |
| Past Chair | Gord Walkling | 519-542-9872 |
| Christian Development | C Shirley Willis | 519-332-5729 |
| | R Colette McGarvey | 519-542-1542 |
| Communications | C | |
| | R Chris Cooke | 519-491-6801 |
| Congregational Care & Growth | C Iris Murtha | 519-344-7809 |
| | R Diane Werezak | 519-542-2779 |
| Finance | C | |
| | R Alternating | |
| Lay Presbytery | R Marg Cameron | 519-336-9785 |
| | R Madeline McCaw | 519-542-2790 |
| Ministry & Personnel | C Alternating | |
| | R Nadyne Dell | 519-542-3935 |
| Outreach | C Paul Cooper | 519-542-9237 |
| | R Earle Kilner | 519-542-4759 |
| Planning | C Leanne Kember | 519-918-0224 |
| | R George Pfaff | 519-541-0360 |
| Property | C Alternating | |
| | R | |
| Special Events | C | |
| | R Brad Morrison | 519-541-1336 |
| Trustees | C Pete Melanson | 519-332-4914 |
| | R | |
| Worship | C Bryce McGarvey | 519-542-1542 |
| | R Val Adamson | 519-542-5808 |
| Nominating Cttee | Always Past Chair of Council | |
| A.O.T.S. | C Paul Cooper | 519-542-9237 |
| | John Cooke | 519-869-2908 |
| | R Bill Palmer | 519-541-0267 |
| U.C.W. | C Marilyn Hamilton | 519-542-8143 |
| | R Alternating | |
| Ministers | Rev. Dr. Brad Morrison | 519-541-1336 |
| | Rev. Sue Browning | 519-681-3521 |

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the various requests for use of the sanctuary and chapel for “non-routine” worship and non-worship events that serve our congregation and/or our community. In addition to this the committee sponsors projects to improve these facilities.

Communion is an important event in the Worship calendar. In 2013, the Worship Committee decided that it would be appropriate to include gluten-free wafers as options for the communion services. The response from the members of the congregation regarding the inclusion of the gluten-free option was positive. The Worship Committee acknowledges the efforts of all those who serve communion during our services and to Joyce Rawson and her team who prepare the elements.

In 2013, Sue Browning completed a sabbatical leave during the summer. During Sue’s leave, ministerial coverage was provided by Gord Walkling, Rev. Dr. Bob Gibson, and Rev. Sally Shaw.

This year we have made a concerted effort to have more involvement of children and youth in our worship services. In Lent this year, youth in our congregation taught us spiritual practices each week during our Lenten ritual. In the summer Brad had a child or youth share in the liturgy with him each week. Throughout the season of Advent, children and youth in our congregation painted pictures of hope, joy, peace and love and led us in the Advent candle lighting. They invited us to draw our own reflections on these gifts and each week our pictures were collected and put up on boards in the narthex for the season of Advent.

On Advent 3 this year, we replaced the traditional Children’s Christmas musical with a worship service called “Ode to Joy”. The service featured many musical talents like Valerie Schmidt and the Nightingale Chorus, the Celebration Singers, the Grace Choir, Andris Evans and Monica Morrison, Gabrielle Drapeau, and Piper’s Pen. In the centre of the service was a Christmas cantata performed by the children and conducted by Cecily Chiles and Glenn Parsons and narrated by Noah Cattran and Sue. This featured the story of Jesus’ birth and how it has inspired many people and cultures throughout the ages including the Aboriginal Huron tribe in Canada.

On December 29 Celine McGarvey came back to Grace to preach a sermon and also lead the worship service, sharing her experiences of working at Annunciation House in Texas this year. These are just some of the ways that our youth and children have enriched our worship experiences.

Music is an important element of Sunday morning worship services at Grace and continues to be offered through several diverse avenues. The Grace

Choir, Celebration Singers and the Pipers' Pen are the primary providers of the musical diversity. Additional singers and instrumentalists from inside and outside of Grace also contributed routinely or occasionally to worship leadership. Thank you to Pat Morrison for arranging members of Starbright, and to Valerie Schmidt and Rick Armstrong for arranging members of the Nightingale chorus for our worship services. These are examples of how worship services at Grace are inclusive of many different members of the greater Sarnia community.

Members of the Sanctuary Guild and Memorial Fund continued to support the activities of the Worship Committee through their decoration of the sanctuary to reflect changing liturgical seasons and funding of sanctuary-related activities. In particular, the previous candelabras were replaced in 2013 with electrically powered replacements.

Many other individuals contribute to our weekly worship services: these include the greeters, communion preparation and servers, members of the Sanctuary Guild, sound operators, videographers, lay readers, liturgists, dramatists and dancers, those who prepare the sanctuary for worship, the indoor "gardeners" who look after flowers, those who clean up the sanctuary afterwards and maintain it week after week, and those who help to coordinate all this work. It is through the effort of this large and committed group that our weekly worship experiences continue to be so inspiring.

If you are interested in helping out with any of these activities on a regular or casual basis, please let one of the committee members know.

Committee membership was stable in 2013. The 2014 committee members will be: Val Adamson, John Baxter, Bryce McGarvey, Glenn Parsons, Sheila Scott, Marsha Vero, Gord Walkling, and the Ministerial Team (ex officio).

Bryce McGarvey, Chair

MEMORIAL FUND

The members of the Memorial Committee are Karen Cooke, Joan Guthrie and Dorothy Plumley.

During 2013, the committee purchased a brass candle lighter/snuffer for the sanctuary. We also replaced the candelabra with electrified, brass floor candelabra, cleaned the brass followers and reused them. The Paschal candle was replaced at Easter. As well, we participated in the dedication of Memorial gifts on All Saint's Sunday.

The committee thanks Madeline McCaw for updating the Memorial Book. We thank George Vero and Gerry Toulouse for looking after the electrical work for the new candelabra. Thanks goes to Lori Armstrong for all the record keeping associated with the many memorial gifts received by Grace.

SANCTUARY GUILD

The guild decorates and appoints the sanctuary to enhance the visual and aesthetic experience of worship. We mark each of the liturgical seasons with a change in décor, colour, flowers and/or theme. Every year the Sanctuary Guild observes these seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Creation, and Ordinary Time. We access the guild's repertoire of table cloths, wall hangings, swags, ribbons, antependia, and floral arrangements.

This year Lauren Clark lent two of her sky paintings to hang during Advent in the gallery at back of the sanctuary. Thank you, Lauren for sharing your gifts.

The 2014 Sanctuary Guild members will be: Karen Cooke, Diana Fisher, Jan Leckie-Fraser, Sharon Melanson, Sarah Morrison, Ellen Robertson and Shirley Willis. We welcome new members to bring talents or gifts to its work. If you are interested in joining please contact one of our members or the church office.

Sarah Morrison

GRACE CHOIR

The Grace Choir are a dedicated group of people who share a joy for singing. They meet every Thursday from 7:00 till 9:00pm. During that time, they prepare anthems and service music to assist in a leadership role for the Sunday morning worship service.

The ability to read music is not a prerequisite for joining the choir. Many of our choir members do not read music but all share in a love of music. The choir welcomes anyone who enjoys singing, to join with them in leading worship and to experience the joy of ensemble singing. If you need more than a warm welcome from the choir, I encourage you to google "the benefits of singing in a choir". There you will find many articles on singing and a multitude of health benefits associated with ensemble singing.

This coming fall we welcome back to Grace, Don Besig and Nancy Price for a choral workshop weekend. The time will include a Saturday rehearsal with a mass choir and a Sunday choral concert shared with the Lambton Youth Choir.

Choir members are:

Joyce Allen, Barbara Bell-Leaver, Sharon Melanson, Jan Leckie-Fraser, Eleanor Ritchie, Bernice Rogers, Norma Waun, Avelina Estoesta, Sheila Scott, Lindsay Smith, Diana Fisher, Lois McKay, Donna Elie, Joan Guthrie, Marian McLean, Laura Black, Mary Humphreys, Al McLean, Clint Sykes, Ted West, Lorne Longley, Ian Adamson, Vernon Chiles, John Moore, Ian McGuinness.

CELEBRATION SINGERS

The Celebration Singers are a solid group of currently 12 members who provide contemporary-style anthems to our congregation approximately once a month and also occasionally provide a Worship Ministry outside of our congregation. Besides the 12 singers, we have three equipment technicians (roadies), and myself on keyboard. We work with the Worship Committee and Grace staff to coordinate themes and schedules.

Let me take this opportunity to introduce the Celebration Singers: Betty Carson, Paul Cooper, Jane Janes, Sharon Melanson, David Motherwell, David Ritchie, Sheila Scott, Al Shaw, Leo Spence, Gord Walkling, Bev Walkling, and Bill Yates. I (Marsha Vero) am usually at the keyboard. Our “roadies” are Pete Melanson, John Scott, and George Vero. They provide not only the muscle to move our equipment, but the know-how to making us sound good.

This year we provided worship service anthems in January, February, March, April, May, June, October, November, and December. We’ve already begun work on our line-up for the new year including some old favourites as well as some new songs.

Though not visible every Sunday during the church services, we are definitely hard at work every week. Practices are held every Sunday morning in Room 9 from 8:45 to 9:45am. Consider joining us...we would love to have you!

We look forward to another fun-filled year as we express our faith through our music ministry.

“We cannot keep from singing!”

Marsha Vero, Music Director, Celebration Singers

INREACH MINISTRIES

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND GROWTH COMMITTEE

The Congregational Care and Growth Committee met eight times in 2013, promoting spiritual growth and Christian care and fellowship within the congregation.

A funeral policy was developed and a final draft was submitted to Council where it was approved.

Donna Tanton monitored the Communion Fund that was used to help several people in need as well as to send flowers and cards to shut-ins and those

members celebrating special occasions. Easter flowers were delivered to 33 members who were shut-in or had experienced bereavement in the past year.

Donations were made to St. Joseph's Hospice and to the Inn of the Good Shepherd. Two hundred stamped envelopes were given to the Chaplain of the Sarnia Jail so that the inmates could each write 2 Christmas letters to their families.

Supported events included Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Friends Meeting Friends' Luncheon, WidowCare, Mothers' and Babies' Coffee Group, Pool Tournament and Beer & Carols at Two Amigos.

Refreshments were made available after morning worship.

The committee oversaw the approval for persons requesting baptism, confirmation, profession of faith, transfer of membership and weddings.

Diane Werezak coordinated the District Visitors who are responsible for delivering Grace Notes and overseeing the well being of people in their districts. We continued to email Grace Notes to those who requested it.

The committee reviewed and supported a report submitted by the Accessibility Task Group outlining how our church could be more accessible to those with disabilities.

Committee members for 2014 will be Jack Lewis, Madeline McCaw, Alice Minty, Iris Murtha, Bob Newman, Donna Tanton, Diane Werezak, and the Pastoral Team (ex-officio). New members are always welcome.

The committee thanks Lori Armstrong for providing a pastoral care report for each meeting. Thank you to Brad Morrison and Susan Browning for being resource persons to the committee.

Iris Murtha, Chair

2013 Records

Membership as of December 31, 2012

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Resident Members | Used for Presbytery Assessment | 442 |
| Non-Resident Members | | 118 |
| Total Membership | | 560 |

| | Received | Removed |
|---|----------|-----------|
| Members received through profession of faith | 4 | |
| Members received by certificate of transfer | 1 | |
| Members added by returning to resident status | 0 | |
| Total received | <u>5</u> | |
| Members removed by death | | 10 |
| Members removed by transfer | | 1 |
| Members removed by other | | 0 |
| Total removed | | <u>11</u> |

Membership as of December 31, 2013

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Resident Members | Used for Presbytery Assessment | 432 |
| Non-Resident Members | | 122 |
| Total Membership | | 554 |

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Number of baptisms | 11 |
| Number of marriages | 4 |
| Number of funerals | 11 |

Jim Wicks, Roll Clerk

ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The format for the year remained the same as well as our membership. Again this year the executive divided the members into four groups. Each group was in charge of one in church program and one out of church meeting.

We were able to return to Forest where we enjoyed a roast beef dinner and the movie "Quartet" with Maggie Smith.

The Stratford Theatre trip to see Fiddler On The Roof was a winner. So many of us went that we had to get a larger bus.

This year our members provided support to the church by hosting receptions for new members, Oktoberfest, the bake table at the Fall Fair, and sponsoring the Scott Woods production in Nov.

The in church programs were most educational and well received with speakers from Habitat for Humanity, and a wonderful ukulele concert on St. Patrick's Day with a group from the Strangway centre.

In August we thanked David and Lindsay Smith for their excellent service as presidents of the group and welcomed in Don and Anne Eastman.

The final event of the year was a Christmas Dinner held at the Sarnia Golf and Curling Club. The good food was interspersed with lively music from our talented musicians Bruce Ritchie and Dave Ashdown.

We are open to new members and welcome anyone who would like to join us. Watch the church Sunday bulletin for announcements of meetings.

John Robertson, Secretary.

A.O.T.S. (As One That Serves) Men's Club

A.O.T.S Men's Club is dedicated to fellowship, spiritual growth and service. We are fortunate to have 33 active members who share their many gifts in service projects and enjoy the club programs.

We appreciate the financial contribution that the congregation makes to our fundraising activities. We dedicate these monies to support youth camping, youth/young adult development and projects within Grace. Our 2013 outreach/inreach included:

- Support to the Operating Budget.
- Sponsorship of "Tim's in the Gym" on Sunday mornings.
- Contributions to the Lambton Centre.
- Support to Rayjon.
- Support to St. Joseph's Hospice.

Our 2013 fundraising activities included:

- Fertilizer sale in March
- Hamburg/hot dog sales at the Spring Art Show & Fair and the Fall Fair
- Chili sales at the Last Chance Christmas Sale
- Beef Dinner in September

Our members also enjoyed opportunities for fellowship and spiritual growth, including:

- 7 Sunday morning breakfasts with guest speakers
- Ladies Night in February
- Annual Golf outing & barbecue hosted by John Cooke in June.

AOTS administers and contributes to the Ken Plumley Award that is presented to qualified graduating secondary school students. The 2013 recipients were Sarah Baxter, Amanda Norris and Laura Valade.

Paul Cooper is Chair of the 4-County (Southwestern Ontario) Regional AOTS group. Dave Bonk is the Treasurer.

A few men from Grace attended the Ontario Spring Round-up at Jackson's Point Salvation Army Conference Centre for a time of spiritual renewal, fellowship and relaxation. We were honoured to have our own Rev. Susan Browning present the theme presentation "What's Next". Jim Wicks provided musical accompaniment for the weekend.

Grace AOTS is associated with the National United Church A.O.T.S. Men's Clubs. Marv Bildfell serves as the National Treasurer and John Cooke is the Central Region Vice-President. John, Marv and Paul Cooper attended the AOTS National Biennial meeting at Gander, NL in August. The National AOTS awarded 4 grants totaling \$15,000 under the new Camp Improvement Project. One of the grants was awarded to Five Oaks.

The AOTS Men's Club is open to all men of the church and is a rare opportunity to participate in fellowship, spiritual growth and men's ministry. We would welcome your participation, new ideas, or suggestions for new projects. Please feel comfortable to join us for a breakfast meeting or one of our special events.

AOTS Executive members are:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Paul Cooper (Pres) | Dave Bonk (Treas) | Marv Bildfell |
| John Cooke | Jack Cleave | John Goodwin |
| Bill Palmer | | |

John Cooke

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club's objective is to reach out and share fellowship with people having common interests and commitments. Our focus is on fun and friendship, with some involvement in supporting church activities.

Events this year have included the Silent Auction Booth at the Fall Fair on October 19, the Household Hazardous Waste Day on October 26, and our 29th Annual Travelling Christmas Dinner on December 6 which was another great evening with 25 members attending. Thank you to all who support these events.

Although the Friendship Club seems to be a bit quiet, it is very much alive and has proven to be an active supporter of needs within our church and out in the world. Recent donations have been \$500.00 to the Typhoon Haiyan Relief, and \$500.00 to Jorge de Guzman for his work in the Philippines.

New members are always welcome to join us – we'll look for you at our next event!

Marsha Vero, Treasurer

U.C.W. (United Church Women)

Monthly meetings were held by the Helen McKay Unit and Unit C. There are 18 active members participating in the two units. There were three executive meetings held during the year.

Grace U.C.W. members took part in the World Day of Prayer service held in March at St. Giles Church.

Our annual potluck luncheon was held in June. Our speaker was Jean Clark from S.O.D.A. (Sarnia Organ Donor Awareness)

The U.C.W. are no longer looking after funeral receptions for Grace. This is now being done by Pat Edwards of Watford.

We supported the Lambton United Church Centre, the Student Nutrition Program, the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program (mitten tree), and Medical Electives Overseas Program. Within our church, we supported the Mission & Service Fund, and the Property Committee.

Donna Tanton, Secretary

GRACIOUS QUILTERS

The Gracious Quilters had a successful year in 2013. This group of ladies meets two mornings a week during the quilting season. In 2013 we quilted eight quilts and one table cover.

Donations were made to Grace Church for various projects including the dishwasher and donations were made to Jorge deGuzman to assist with his overseas work.

Donna Longley, Secretary

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Outreach Committee has a mandate to engage the Grace United congregation in;

- a) local outreach activities (usually in sponsorship with a local organization)
- b) providing a focal point for the United Church Mission and Service Fund (M&S), and
- c) communicating other international initiatives (including urgent disaster relief response requests)

In 2013, Outreach activities included organizing soup luncheons, supporting special M&S appeals, helping prepare and serve a monthly meal at the Inn of the Good Shepherd, hosting dinners to support Circles (Bridges-out-of-Poverty), supporting the Habitat for Humanity build, partnering with Brigden United Church to sponsor a Canadian Foodgrains Bank 'Grow' project, and continuing our partnership with Community Living.

Community Living continues to occupy and maintain the Grace United Church Manse as a residence and respite location for their clients in addition to holding regular dance events in the gymnasium. We are indeed fortunate to continue to benefit from this ongoing association.

In 2013, Sarnia continued to expand the **Circles (Bridges Out of Poverty)** initiative. This is a unique and challenging undertaking with the ultimate goal of breaking the cycle of continuing poverty in our community. David Motherwell has become a 'Circle Ally' and provides a focal point and source of information for Grace and the Outreach Committee. Measurable progress (exiting social assistance programs, increasing employment earnings and obtaining additional educational qualifications) continued to be made in 2013. Sarnia is now the 'National Training Site for Circles in Canada' and provides leadership as additional communities startup their own programs. As a committee, and

with participation from other members of the congregation, Grace hosted supper meals at the regular 'Circle' meetings to show our support. As additional circles are established, we hope that members of the congregation will decide to get involved in this significant outreach activity and add to the amazing support being provided from all sectors of Sarnia-Lambton.

In 2013, Grace continued our partnership with Brigden United on a **Canadian Foodgrains Bank "Grow"** project. The soybean crop was harvested in the fall. Financial results are still to come; however, plans are already in-place for another project in 2014. Our soup luncheon donations assisted with funding for the project led by two local farmers. In addition, Grace hosted a CFGB regional meeting in November. Although inclement weather impacted the program, a good information exchange was held to share progress and activities.

In November of 2013, the **Habitat for Humanity** Euphemia Street build (sponsored by the United Churches of Lambton Presbytery and done in partnership with Community Living) was completed. Grace provided funding (through soup luncheons) and also provided meals and refreshments for the Habitat workers over the duration of the build. As noted in the HFH year-end newsletter, "now four acutely disabled young adults have the purpose-built, fully accessible home that they both need and deserve".

You, the Grace congregation, were very generous in 2013 maintaining our support for the **United Church Mission and Service Fund**. In addition to the support provided through our operating budget, special donations were received at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Following the catastrophic impact of Typhoon Haiyan on the Philippines, significant funds were donated to provide emergency and ongoing relief (to be matched by the Canadian Federal Government).

The congregation was very generous in supporting the **Soup Luncheons** held in 2013 – seven were held during the year. The following organizations benefited from our soup luncheons in 2013:

Rayjon ShareCare
Canadian Foodgrains Bank (donations matched 4:1 by CIDA)
Typhoon Haiyan Emergency Relief (donations matched 1:1 by the Gov't)
St. Joseph's Hospice
Grace Youth Relay for Life Team (Canadian Cancer Society)
Habitat for Humanity
Harmony for Youth

Many people in the congregation support this activity by supplying the excellent soups that everyone enjoys on these designated Sundays. We also appreciate those who assist in other ways – setup, serving and cleanup. A listing of the soup providers has been included in this report as the Outreach Committee's way of saying thank you. We also appreciate Sue Wicks calling

everyone to coordinate the soup donations. We are always interested in gaining additional volunteer soup makers; given that 13 different soups are provided for each soup luncheon, with a lengthy list we hope to only call upon you once or twice per year.

Very Important People – Our valued soup makers!

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Fran Cleave | Edna Dent | Karen Motherwell | Betty Simpson |
| Alice Minty | Val Adamson | Jackie Kilner | Joyce Rawson |
| Estelle Bennett | Madeline McCaw | Erma Baird | Barbara Kilburn |
| Lynn DiMuzio | Ruth Kreibich | Diana Fisher | Margaret Billings |
| Carol Shelton | Sharon Toulouse | Carrie Brescia | Betty Carson |
| Donna Elie | Bernice Sykes | Chris McGuiness | Jan Leckie |
| Elaine Bennett | Noah Cattran | Karen Cooke | Cecily Chiles |
| Pat Holloway | Joan Guthrie | Jan Jordan | Lorna Cooper |
| Marion McLean | Mary Harmon | Christine Murphy | Jane Redmond |
| Debbie Kafford | Marnie Kearns | Maggie Rochon | Susan Shaw |
| Gloria McLeod | Ruth Mitchell | Doreen LaCourse | Fay Pole |
| Jessica Desrosiers | Lyn Bower | Sue Wicks | Peggy Hall |
| Jean Wanner | Karen Rutledge | Colette McGarvey | Sue Mallard |
| Valerie Schmidt | Rick Armstrong | Julie Drope | Ellen Robertson |
| Jane Janes | Leah Kember | Amanda Norris | Carol Guthrie |
| Diana McClure | Carol Burkhart | Sharon Melanson | Lynda Ruston |
| Eleanore Sich | Earle/Gail Kilner | George/Nicola Pfaff | |
| Doug/Marj Greenough | | Al/Maureen Grimwood | |
| Pam/Joel Eagleson | | Shelley/Stefan Jackson | |
| Yvonne Vanderbeld & Bill Yates | | Laura, Lisa & Thomas Valade | |
| Heather, Sarah & Barb Baxter | | | |

Inn of the Good Shepherd

Volunteers from Grace serve one meal each month at the Inn of the Good Shepherd. The need at the Food Bank and the Soup Kitchen continues to increase. In 2013, we served an average of 100 people each month.

Edna Dent co-ordinates the serving of the meals with the assistance of Betty Simpson. Donna Moore co-ordinates the meal preparation. Donna and Tom Moore continue to sort and deliver the food brought to the church for the Inn. David Motherwell also works in the Food Bank.

We are grateful to the many people who help with these activities as well as those people who make monetary donations to help pay for the food.

Meal Preparation

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Don/Ann Eastman | Peg Dawkins | Joan Guthrie | Ruth Kreibich |
| Donna Moore | Stacy Smith | Pauline Henderson-Ferguson | |
| Bob/Maggie Rochon | | | |

Salad Preparation

Lori Armstrong

Karen Cooke

Joan Guthrie

Desserts

Karen Cooke
Ruth Kreibich
Peter Litt

Patricia David
Evelyn Green
Marg Cameron

Caroll Guthrie
Valerie Schmidt

Jane Janes
Shirley Batte

Serving meals and cleaning up

Stacy Smith
Paul Cooper
Karen Rutledge
Ken Ferguson
David Motherwell
Betty Simpson
Pauline Henderson-Ferguson

Lindsay Smith
Nadyne Dell
Jackie Sands
Ruth Kreibich
Iris Murtha
Jeff Scott

Betty Carson
Sylvia Rose
Carol Shelton
Chris/Ian McGuinness
Maggie/Bob Rochon
Brad/Sarah Morrison

Daphne Clarke
Sharon Toulouse
Angela Baxter

Guest Helpers

Ron Henderson Sharon (Adamson) and Kevin
Chelsey, Ian and Sean MacKinnon

We welcome new volunteers - no experience is necessary. If you wish to help prepare meals, call Donna Moore, or to make dessert, call Edna Dent. The sign-up sheet to help serve is on the bulletin board next to the gym window. We serve one meal each month on the fourth Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:30pm.

The Outreach Committee recognizes that many members of the congregation and other committees are involved with significant outreach activities. This is an active demonstration of the involvement by Grace United Church people in the community around us. We hope to continue to learn and help publicize these activities.

The 2014 members will be: Fran Cleave, Jack Cleave, Lynda Ruston, David Motherwell, Ruth Kreibich, Edna Dent, Sue Wicks, Earle Kilner, Deb Kafford, Carol Shelton, Paul Cooper, Maggie Rochon, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

The Outreach Committee welcomes new members who may feel called to participate in this rewarding activity at Grace. We meet, as a committee, at 7:00pm on the first Monday of the month in the Friendship Room. You are welcome to attend as a way of getting to know the Outreach Committee, to participate in one or more of the many activities underway or to initiate a new Outreach activity to energize the congregation. Please approach any member of the committee at any time for more information.

Paul Cooper, Chair

TEACHING MINISTRIES

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Christian Development Committee continues to work with Pat to generate ideas and plan for Grace ministries that nurture the congregation. We looked for opportunities to provide growth through study, worship, prayer, and service to others. We are continuously visioning and dreaming, looking for creative ways to meet our mandate under the current financial constraints. It is our focus to equip our children and youth as leaders so that they might serve as a gift to the greater church.

- The Shrove Tuesday pancake supper was a huge success in terms of volunteers and number of attendees. The money raised went toward funding the summer student placement.
- We applied for and received an HRDC Grant that funded the second summer student placement responsible for the campfire program.
- Summer Campfires continue to be a successful program sponsored by the CD Committee. They offered opportunities for our young leaders to hone their skills and deliver an exciting program for children and their families. This program continues to grow and attract more community members who look forward to it each Friday in July. Each campfire was created and delivered by Thomas Valade and Duncan Gibson-Lockhart along with an enthusiastic group of talented young people. They worked each week to come up with the theme and entertaining ways to deliver their message.
- The Youth Group continued to meet monthly to create and deliver highly active recreational programming for kids in grades four to eight. The Jolt program continues to serve as an effective means for drawing kids into the church for a shared positive experience. They also submitted a team for the 24 Hour Relay for Life and did fundraising toward this initiative. The Youth Group has also come up with creative fundraising ideas to help fund some of their programs. One such idea was to sponsor youth dances at Grace for young teens. We would like to thank Rick Armstrong for his enthusiastic support of all these youth initiatives.
- Gord Walkling, Dave Kember, Stefan Jackson, Jim Wicks and Colette McGarvey gifted us with the leadership of the High School students on Sunday mornings. They find youth relevant topics to engage the youth each week.
- KinderWorship, Children's Worship, and Splat! continue to run successfully every Sunday as well due to our faithful volunteers.
- The Youth Initiatives Fund helped underwrite The Swell in London and two SuRF Weekends at Lambton United Church Centre.
- The Lay Leadership Development Fund help support a small group book study on "What's the Least I Need to Believe to be Christian" and

- supported a workshop hosted by Jorge de Guzman on his work in the Philippines.
- Under the leadership of Pat, Brad, and Sue, Grace offered a Swell service in London, incorporating over forty volunteers. The success of this youth service has caught the eye of the United Church Mandate Magazine who will feature this service in an upcoming issue.
 - Pat led two SuRF Weekend retreats that were attended by the youth of London Conference, with a focus on creating content for upcoming Swell services.

There are many people who give their time and resources to Christian Development programs at Grace. The CD Committee extends a deep thanks to the many volunteers. We are grateful for the hands and hearts that worked to share God's love in the congregation and beyond.

The 2014 Committee Members will be: Shirley Willis (chair), Colette McGarvey, and Pastoral Team (ex officio)

Shirley Willis, Chair

YOUTH WORSHIP

Financial

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Opening Balance (cash in bank) Jan. 1, 2013 | \$ 397.76 |
| TOTAL amount received from all sources | <u>\$ 1,728.97</u> |
| | \$ 2,126.73 |
| TOTAL Expenditures | \$ 1,102.76 |
| Local Expenses (supplies) | 852.76 |
| Mission & Service | 80.05 |
| Honorarium | 250.00 |
| Closing Balance (cash in bank) December 31, 2013 | \$ 1,023.97 |

*Susan Mallard
Youth Worship Treasurer*

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA

As I write my report for Guiding at Grace this year, it is one year after the death of Jillian Keck in a pedestrian/car accident at Cathcart and Murphy. One of the big moments of our Guiding year this past spring was when we, with the assistance of DeGroot's Nurseries held a tree planting ceremony in memory of Jillian. There were a large number of community members in attendance and

decorated rocks were laid at the base of the tree. It was very moving and healing for all of us. Those interested in seeing the tree can find it adjacent to the church looking left from the parking lot. It is a Pin Oak tree.

This fall it was decided to switch the Brownie meeting night to Monday evenings in the old Montessori rooms. This means that all Guiding units at Grace meet on the same evening which allows for better interaction between age groups. This allowed us to hold a joint enrollment ceremony in the sanctuary in October where Sparks, Brownies, and Guides all made their promises and received their pins.

In Sparks this year we have 4 leaders and one youth volunteer (Emily Mackey from Grace). There are also 23 girls registered. Brownies have 3 leaders and one youth volunteer as well as 13 girls. Guides have 4 leaders and 21 girls registered.

All units participated in the Grace Fall Fair. Guides ran the tea and muffin room which raised \$205. Brownies and Sparks raised \$160.00 with their sales of cookies and brownies.

Before Christmas, Canadian Tire money was pooled along with cash donations and Guides made a trip to Canadian Tire where we spent approximately \$280.00 on gifts for the needy. Plans are currently underway for a Winter Camp week-end in February and a trip to a Sting game around Thinking Day. Most of the units have also held sleep-overs at Grace.

Grace has once again hosted special events for Sparks and Brownies with plans for a Guide level event still to come.

Registration is ongoing throughout the year for Guiding and new members are welcomed. New leaders are also welcomed and will no doubt be needed for the coming year. For information contact Bev Walkling, 519-542-9872.

All of the units are very thankful for the warm welcome we receive at Grace.

Bev Walkling, Community Guider

32nd SARNIA GROUP COMMITTEE REPORT- SCOUTS CANADA

Membership

This year our group has 22 Beavers/8 Beaver leaders, 17 Cubs/4 Cub leaders, 10 Scouts/3 Scout leaders, 5 Venturers/2 Venturer advisors for a total of 54 youth members and 17 leaders.

Glenn Kilner continues as our Group Committee Chair and has moved up to the Scout section. The remainder of our executive remains unchanged from last year: Dave Aldrey, Treasurer; Norma Shortt, Fundraising; Julie Drope,

Secretary; Glenn Kilner, Scouts; Tony Westlaken, Venturers; Meghan Fraser, Beavers; Rob Tower, Cubs; Jeff English, Popcorn Co-ordinator.

The greatest membership challenge for the 32nd is finding leaders for our programs. We have a core of leaders who have been with us for years, mainly with Scouts and Venturers. Each year we turn away Beaver aged children because we lack leaders. This year was an exceptional year, as our Cub pack almost folded due to lack of leaders. Thankfully a few parents stepped forward at the urging of Glenn. The Point Edward Cub pack folded last year and with the additional leaders we were able to accommodate these children to our section. Point Edward's Scout troop folded at the end of 2013, so we will get one new Scout and a Scout leader as well. We are always looking for potential leaders!

One of our long-time leaders, Steve Young, passed away in October. Steve started with the Beaver Colony over 10 years ago with his two sons, and moved up to Cubs and Scouts along with his boys. He was an integral part of the two Scout trips to Haliburton Scout Reserve and was a positive influence to many of our youth. We have established a trophy for the Cub Car Races in his memory. Steve is missed by many.

Activities

- Our annual Baden-Powell dinner in February is held as part of Baden-Powell week activities. The sections prepare skits for an appreciative audience of parents and siblings. The potluck dinner is a hit with kids of all ages.
- The annual Hike for Hunger for the Inn of the Good Shepherd was held in mid-February. Cubs, Scouts and Venturers collected canned goods, with the Cubs winning the contest for most pounds collected. They got a pizza party for their efforts.
- All four groups attended various camps at Camp Attawandron throughout the year, including the winter Klondyke Camp and spring Can-Am camp.
- Our group participated in the Annual Kinsmen Christmas Parade in December, entering a float with a "Christmas Wonderland" theme.
- Grace United held the Tri-Shores Award Ceremony in the spring to award the Chief Scout and Queen's Venturer Award. Over 450 people attended this event.
- The Venturers have volunteered at the Inn of the Good Shepherd twice so far and plan to make this a regular event.
- In November, the Cubs and Scouts participated in Trees For Canada, planting trees at Heritage Park. The trees were planted in the shape of a cross in remembrance of all soldiers who gave their lives during the various wars. Next year a plaque will be placed on a tree in honour of a soldier who gave his life.
- We purchased a new aluminum racing track for the cub and scout races, replacing our worn-out wooden track. Grace 32nd will be holding the regional races in February 2014 in the Grace gym. The Beaver Buggies

will race in Room 1 on the same day (run by St. Bart's 23rd). We expect 300 people to attend.

Fundraising

- All sections participated in October's city-wide Apple Day fundraiser. For the first time Apple Day was moved from the weekend before Thanksgiving to the weekend following. Beavers each had one 2 hour shift, and Cubs and Scouts contributed 4 hours to this important fundraiser. The Ventures helped with apple distribution and money counting. All of the money raised is used by the sections for activities and camps.
- The annual spring flower and poinsettia sales were once again very successful. The Group Committee is very appreciative of the continuing relationship with Prail's Greenhouses. Mr. Prail continues to be a strong supporter of the 32nd Sarnia Group. We appreciate the support of the Grace community for our various fundraisers.
- Our group has received grants from Imperial Oil and Bluewater Power through their corporate employee volunteer programs. These funds will be used to obtain equipment and provide leader support. Our group also received a grant from ChemFab to purchase materials for the Christmas Parade float and the truck and float was donated by Woody Woudstra. Pat Morrison donated his time to set up his sound system for Christmas music on the float.

Cabin

All sections continue to enjoy the Delmar Ellis Cabin at Camp Attawandaron. For those who are new to Grace, Delmar Ellis was a long-serving member and a founding 32nd Grace Scout leader. His wife, Maxine, who passed away a few years ago, financially supported the cabin upkeep. Jeff English is the contact person for rental of the cabin as well as canoes.

*Glenn Kilner, Group Commissioner
32nd Sarnia Group Committee*

PROCLAMATION MINISTRIES

PROCLAMATION & SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Proclamation & Special Events Committee's purpose is to plan special events that connect the community with Grace. Our events raise funds for special projects, build friendships, and nurture Grace as a community partner proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. A core leadership team (Pauline Henderson-Ferguson, Bruce Ritchie, Yvonne Vanderbeld, Bev Walkling, Bill Yates and the Pastoral Team) supported various working groups to organize the following:

Ron Klusmeier

Grace United was pleased to host Ron Klusmeier's "Tour of a Lifetime" on Sunday, February 3, 2013. Similar concerts were held in over 200 communities throughout North America. This retirement tour included afternoon music workshops and concluded with an evening concert.

Unfortunately, the bleak weather which moved in the weekend of the concert kept the attendance and participation down. Ron, in spite of the lower numbers presented an outstanding concert.

Twenty five percent of the funds that were raised were contributed directly to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Adullam Summer Choir Concert

On Thursday, August 23, 2013 the Proclamation & Special Events Committee of Grace United Church was once again pleased to support and host the Adullam Choir Camp Concert. This anticipated annual summer evening of music has been steadily growing in popularity.

A mutually beneficial partnership has been developing between the folks of Adullam and Grace United. Included in this relationship is the Lambton United Church Centre that hosts the Adullam ministry and their 100+ members each summer.

This concert cannot be looked upon as a fund-raiser. Our objective remains simple. The funds raised by a goodwill donation hopefully cover the costs of bussing our guests from the Centre to Sarnia. We met this objective this year.

Thanks is once again extended to Yvonne Vanderbeld, and Bill Yates for continuing to organize and promote this marvelous music ministry. They in turn wish to show their appreciation to John Scott and Curtis Dixon for their efforts in setting up the sanctuary in preparation for the concert.

Spring Fair and Art Sale

This year it was decided to remove the attic treasures from the event and set up another fundraiser utilizing the parking lot as well as the building. Plant sales were moved into the gym to give them a more prominent location. Special thanks to John and Ellen Robertson and Chris and Ian McGuiness for organizing and selling the plants. More vendors participated this year and children's activities were added. With the event being only 3 hours long it was difficult to have vendors and artists commit. Thanks to AOTS for the BBQ and Adult Fellowship for the bake table. Adding an art contest and inviting the public to make submissions could increase community participation.

Flea Market and Trunk Sale

Held the first Saturday in June, this new event had lots of activity in the parking lot attracting buyers. Parking spaces were sold to vendors and anyone wishing

to sell garage sale items. BBQ and music was provided by the Face of Grace Relay for Life Team, giving them an opportunity to fundraise outside of Grace. This event has the potential to grow with more vendors, live music and possibility of more revenue with an earlier start and serving/selling breakfast as well as lunch.

Ladies Day Out

This new event was held twice, in February and June with a third September date cancelled as practitioners were not available. This event attracted new people to Grace in the form of practitioners, vendors and participants. Special thanks to Ruth Ann Levak and Tina Levak for all their assistance with Ladies Day Out. Without their assistance, the events would not have happened. While the events raised close to \$1500.00, the number of volunteers needed exceeds the number available to assist. Future Ladies Day Out events need to be reviewed before committing to continuing.

Last Chance Christmas Sale

This was the event's third year and despite the snowy weather, feedback was positive. Vendors felt the event was well advertised, well organized and there was a good variety of vendors. Many new vendors participating sold handmade items. The addition of the tea room was well received and enjoyed by most of those who attended the sale. The silent auction did very well, with most of the items donated by the vendors. Warm cookies made by Ken Ferguson and served by Paige Ferguson were greatly appreciated and added to the festive atmosphere.

Fall Fair

Lawn signs advertising the event and holding the event from 9:00am to 1:00pm were some of the changes made to the Fall Fair. Book sales and silent auction were moved to give them more space to set up and display items. Thanks to Trish White and Lorna Cooper for their leadership in these areas. Horse and wagon rides ran from 10:00am to 12:00pm and were enjoyed despite the rain. Children's activities were moved indoors and Thomas Valade adapted the games as needed. Thanks to Maggie and Bob Rochon for their assistance with all the planning, Bev Walkling for the advertising and involving the Guiding Groups, AOTS for the BBQ, Adult Fellowship for the bake table, Edna Dent and Diane Werezak for the Freezer Foods and the Face of Grace Relay for Life Team for the Pizza Sales.

Recommendations

All of these events and many more at Grace would benefit from an investment in more tables and chairs. Renting the tables would help offset the initial investment and increase future revenue. Another freezer would increase revenue as more baking and freezer foods could be made. A sound system that could play music and make announcements throughout the building would

make activities in the various rooms feel more connected and allow information to be shared with everyone in the building.

Thanks to all those who supported these activities. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Bob Newman, Paul Cooper and Gord Walkling, thanks so much for taking care of the accounting side of these projects. Thanks to Lori Armstrong for all the office support.

Pauline Henderson-Ferguson

Under consideration for the upcoming year is whether P&SE continues with 2 spring events or recombining them and going back to what we used to have with one event in May that combines the elements of both. Your input would be appreciated.

The P&SE Committee looks forward to 2014. We encourage everyone in the congregation to become involved and to support those activities that you find of interest.

Remember

Please don't wait to be asked Volunteer! Please share your ideas and suggestions for special events to any member of the committee.

The 2014 committee members will be: Pauline Henderson-Ferguson, Bruce Ritchie, Yvonne Vanderbeld, Bev Walkling, Bill Yates, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*).

Bill Yates, Chair

GOVERNANCE & SUPPORT MINISTRIES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees for 2013 consisted of Peter Melanson (chair), Rick Armstrong, Alexia Gladdy, Lorne Longley, Neil Holloway (secretary), Madeline McCaw, Ray Phillips, Meredith Orr, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

2012-2013 Insurance Summary

PROPERTY INSURANCE

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Property of Every Description (Church Building and Contents) | \$4,378,533 |
| Broad Form/ Replacement Cost Basis \$2,500. Basic Deductible | |
| Subject to Willis Coverage Extensions | |
| Extra Expense/Church/Income | \$ 500,000. |

CRIME INSURANCE

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Employee Dishonesty | \$ 100,000. |
| Basic Loss of Money | \$ 25,000. |
| Nil Deductible | |

BOILER AND MACHINERY COVERAGE

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Sudden and Accidental Break Down – All Boilers | \$4,378,533. |
| Pressure Vessels, Electrical and Mechanical Equipment | |
| \$1000. Deductible | |

COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL LIABILITY

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Bodily Injury/ Property Damage | \$ 7,000,000. |
| Including Umbrella Liability | |
| Deductible | - \$ 1000 |
| Umbrella Self Insured Retention - | \$10,000. |
| Abuse Cover | \$ 2,000,000. |
| Counselling, Errors & Omissions Cover | \$ 2,000,000. |
| Directors & Officers Liability | \$ 2,000,000. |
| \$1000. Deductible | |

COST

INSURER: Marsh United Church Group Program

Underwritten through: Ecclesiastical Insurance & Boiler Inspection Company

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 year Premium 2012/2013 | \$5,114.00 |
| Ontario Sales Tax | \$ 409.12 |
| Policy Fee | <u>\$ 100.00</u> |
| | \$5,623.12 |

Meredith Orr, Trustees

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The committee membership for 2014 is Christopher Cooke (Chair), Yvonne Vanderbeld (Secretary), Rob Christopher, Julie Drope, Marnie Kearns and Greg West.

Ted West retired from the committee late in 2013. Over the years, he has served the committee as chair, was the go-to person for purchasing new computers, laptops and audio/visual equipment, maintained the chimes computer, maintained the website, drafted the committee budget and performed the office administrator annual review on many occasions. His support and efforts will be missed.

Marnie Kearns served as committee chair in 2013. It takes time out of the day to organize committee meetings and stop into the church to sign invoices, and this effort did not go unnoticed by the committee. Marnie retired as chair in

November, but will continue as a regular member.

A warm welcome to Rob Christopher who joined the committee in late 2013. The committee looks forward to your input and support.

Committee activities in 2013 included the following:

- Yvonne Vanderbeld improved the outdoor sign by purchasing new letters and custom strips for the website address and phone number. This greatly simplified changing the sign each week, and improved its legibility.
- Yvonne Vanderbeld met with Lori Armstrong to complete the Office Administrator Annual Review. The review continued to highlight how fortunate this congregation is to have such a capable office administrator.
- Christopher Cooke redesigned the church website this year. The new design looks fresh and should be simpler to maintain.
- Marnie Kearns and Yvonne Vanderbeld continued to keep the bulletin boards up-to-date. They look great!
- Ted West, Yvonne Vanderbeld and Bev Walkling captured many of the photos that are displayed on the bulletin boards and the church website. These photos continue to highlight that Grace United Church is truly an intergenerational congregation.
- Julie Drope and Marnie Kearns once again pulled together and published Grace Notes. The publication reminds the congregation of the wide variety of activities taking place at the church, and continues to be an important connection for those who are unable to attend regularly.
- Ted West and Christopher Cooke maintained the chimes computer and helped troubleshoot computer and audio-visual issues on behalf of the staff. Computers are an important tool for ministry today, and it can be challenging when they are not working correctly.

The committee has many people to thank for their support in 2013:

- Thank you to Maggie Rochon for providing summer coverage to the office administrator. The church office is quite busy, even through the summer. Consequently, effective summer coverage from Maggie is much appreciated.
- Thank you to the office volunteers for all of your work throughout the year. The church office simply would not keep up with all the phone calls, requests and tasks without your assistance.
- Thank you to Bill Yates, who has been posting up-to-date event details and other news to the church website on a weekly basis since June 2009. It is a significant effort to stay on top of this consistently, and the committee has strongly appreciated Bill's dedication. Bill retired from this activity at the end of July this year.
- Thank you to Brad Morrison for assisting in the development of the church website's new look.
- Thank you to Al McLean and Curtis Dixon for their efforts in maintaining the outdoor sign. The outdoor sign is the best advertising this church has available.

While the committee operating budget pays for many recurring expenses, such as the phone bill and copier maintenance, the committee also makes use of the Office Equipment Fund to pay for unusual items. For example, a common use of the fund is to purchase new computers for the staff. In 2013, the Office Equipment Fund was used to pay for the following: a new External Hard Drive and USB Wireless Device (\$172.21), the outdoor sign letters and custom strips (\$169.50) and PDF Converter Professional 8 software for use by the office (\$56.49).

Chris Cooke

LAY PRESBYTERY COMMITTEE

London Conference has been selected as one of three pilot areas across Canada for a new procedure when a vacancy has been declared in a congregation. The trial period is for two years and will shift the responsibility for overseeing the process from the Presbytery to the Conference.

At the September meeting of Presbytery, Rev. Matthew Stevens, London Conference staff, said that London Conference had hosted the largest Youth Forum in Canada. He commended Pat, Brad and Sue for their contributions toward its success.

Grace United Church was well represented at the covenanting service for Rev. Adam Kilner and Dan Leaver.

Lambton Presbytery will be developing a Reconciliation Action Plan.

Grace will be hosting Presbytery on February 20, 2014.

Madeline McCaw and Marg Cameron are willing to be Conference and Presbytery representatives for 2014, pending congregational approval.

Marg Cameron, Lay Presbytery Representative

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (M & P)

The Ministry & Personnel Committee convened for ten meetings in 2013. Activities and business of interest included:

- Sue Browning's sabbatical leave was coordinated with Sue and other committees. Our application for Pulpit Supply support was rejected due to more pressing needs in other congregations. Thank you to those who assisted to make Sue's sabbatical leave successful.

- The “Harassment and Workplace Violence Procedure” was developed to ensure the church is in compliance with Bill 168.
- The “Occupational Health and Safety Procedure” was developed to ensure the church is in compliance with the Ontario Health & Safety Act.
- Sue Browning and Pat Morrison both attended the Greenbelt Festival in August.
- The committee was gratified by the vacation relief provided by Maggie Rochon (for Lori) and Blake Armstrong (for Curtis).

The United Church of Canada has developed a new compensation model for Ministry personnel that will be implemented by the middle of 2015. The salary will be a single amount with the housing allowance no longer separate. M&P is monitoring the rollout of this new model and, based on the current information, we expect minimal impact on future church budgets.

The 2014 Ministry & Personnel Committee members will be: Laura Black, Carolyn Callaghan, John Cooke, Vance Curry, Nadyne Dell and John Scott

John Cooke

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The chair position was shared on a rotating basis in 2013 and will continue in this manner for 2014. The chair roles for 2014 will be:

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| Jan/Feb | Gerry Toulouse |
| March/April | Glenn Kilner |
| May/June | Dave Smith |
| July/Aug | Jim Kearns |
| Sept/Oct | Don Eastman |
| Nov/Dec | Michael Bertleff |

Some of the work delivered during 2013 is as follows:

- completed tree removal and building repairs for damage caused by storm Sandy in late 2012
- replaced parking lot light
- replaced faulty transformer and relays for sanctuary lighting
- replaced urinal in the men’s washroom by the gym
- installed cupboards in the small kitchen
- installed book racks for the choir books
- installed dishwasher in the small kitchen
- installed hand rail at curb from sanctuary to large parking lot
- obtained quotations for snow removal and let contract to Bore
- submitted a number of project proposal requests
- painted curb and ramp access by large parking lot for improved visibility

The 2014 committee members will be: Michael Bertleff, Don Eastman, Jim Kearns, Glenn Kilner, John Moore, Dave Smith, Gerry Toulouse, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

Michael Bertleff/Gerry Toulouse

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Congregational Consultations

The Planning Committee strives to keep aware of, and challenge Grace United Church to respond to changes in direction occurring in the church at large and to consider where we are going as a faith community. This year, the Planning Committee held Congregational Consultations which asked participants the following questions:

What brought you to Grace?

When did you feel you belonged?

How do you see Grace living into being Intergenerational, Inclusive and a Community Partner?

We met with 6-8 people each session and enjoyed discussion, snacks and fellowship. Many commented that it was a rewarding exercise and was also a nice chance to better acquaint ourselves with the people we see each Sunday.

We plan on hosting another session this winter. Please contact one of the committee members if you are interested in attending.

Stewardship Education

The Planning Committee is also responsible for developing and implementing an ongoing financial stewardship strategy. Our 2013 "Stewardship Roadmap" builds on previous survey findings that there are multiple motivations for giving at Grace:

- when Grace adds value to personal or family life
- to support Grace's reputation for outreach
- to support special projects
- commitment to tithing or percentage giving
- when provided information about financial picture

In 2013, the Planning Committee developed a Givings Guide, available from the office and distributed to every household, describing average per household contributions and benefits. The Planning Committee provided consultative support for the Fundscrip initiative, which relates to our committee's call for alternative revenue strategies. The Planning Committee also supported pastoral team initiatives for stewardship education in the pulpit and Grace Notes.

Planned Giving

In 2013 we finalized an agreement with the Sarnia Community Foundation to facilitate our planned giving strategy. A Planned Giving Guide is available from the office for anyone considering a bequest or any large financial gift to Grace United.

Prioritization Process

Planning continues to receive Project Proposal forms. The committee scores each proposal and forwards recommendations to Council. The Project Proposal form is to be used by any established and recognized committee, organization, small group, and individual members of Grace United Church who wish Grace Council to consider undertaking a project that falls outside of, or apart from, the normal and routine operating expenses of the programs or ministry provisions approved annually by the Council in its operating budget. Forms can be found on the Grace website or through the church office.

The 2014 committee members will be: Barb Baxter, Joel Eagleson, Leanne Kember (Chair), Bill Palmer, George Pfaff (ex officio), Kirk Wilson, and Pastoral Team (ex officio)

Submitted by Leanne Kember

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financially, 2013 followed the annual trend of facing a very large deficit starting in the summer with generous donations starting in October through December reducing the deficit but still falling short of achieving the overall budget closure at year's end (deficit for 2013 was \$18,000). The deficit was covered by using part of the Reserve Fund and the remainder of the Legacy Fund (contingent upon congregational approval). Total costs were below budget as committees found new, innovative ways to achieve their goals. In addition, positive results from Special Events – including the Spring and Fall Fairs and Last Chance Christmas Sale – were a key factor on the revenue side. 2013 was expected to be a challenging year with costs that are imposed externally resulting in a 5% increase in budget versus 2012. (the Council-approved budget for 2013 was for a deficit of \$10,000).

Financially, the congregation also made significant contributions to Outreach initiatives (see the summary in the Annual Report) as well as to funds to support specific ministries. Various funds are available for directed donations (examples are the Capital Replacement Fund, Memorial Fund, Office Equipment Fund) for those members of the congregation who prefer to support these initiatives. The Property Committee, as an example, have a number of projects in the queue that would sustain and improve the building we all enjoy and that is heavily used by many community groups.

2014 will again be a challenging year. However, committees have accepted challenging budget targets which will keep costs at a 0% increase versus 2013. Continuing to support and expand special events and success of new fund-raising programs (like FUNDSCRIP) will enable us to achieve our financial goals. Your support for the special events that provide financial support for the church as well as the fellowship of working with other members

of the Grace community is appreciated. In addition, our Planning Committee is always searching for new ways of raising money so kudos to them.

Members of the 2014 Finance Committee will be: Helen West, Neil Pole, Ian McGuiness, Marv Bildfell, Peg Dawkins, Bob Newman, Paul Cooper, and the Pastoral Team (*ex officio*). We are in need of new members and a new chairperson.

Finally, thank you to all members of the congregation who have contributed financially to the Unified Budget, various funds, and outreach causes. Without your generosity, Grace could not exist.

Paul Cooper, 2013 Treasurer

| | 2012 | 2013 Budget | 2013 | 2014 Budget |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Givings for Operating Budget | \$ 374,409.07 \$ | 390,000.00 \$ | 371,950.01 \$ | 380,000.00 |
| Designated M & S Givings | \$ 6,808.00 \$ | 10,000.00 \$ | 6,242.00 \$ | 6,000.00 |
| Total Givings - Unified Budget | \$ 381,217.07 \$ | 400,000.00 \$ | 378,192.01 \$ | 386,000.00 |
| Other Income | | | | |
| Rental | \$ 6,427.00 \$ | 6,500.00 \$ | 7,770.47 \$ | 7,500.00 |
| Donations | \$ 950.00 \$ | 1,000.00 \$ | 4,545.00 \$ | 4,500.00 |
| Interest | \$ 220.72 \$ | 200.00 \$ | 101.60 \$ | 100.00 |
| Special Events | \$ 10,098.39 \$ | 11,000.00 \$ | 12,136.37 \$ | 18,000.00 |
| Grace Ministries | \$ 100.00 | \$ | 101.40 | |
| Other Income | \$ 200.00 | \$ | - \$ | 5,000.00 |
| | \$ 399,213.18 \$ | 418,700.00 \$ | 402,846.85 \$ | 421,100.00 |

Committee Expenditure

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|
| Congregational Care and Growth | \$ | 342.16 | \$ | 700.00 | \$ | 279.73 | \$ | 500.00 |
| Outreach (M & S) | \$ | 10.69 | | | \$ | 25.10 | | |
| Christian Development | \$ | 2,518.30 | \$ | 1,850.00 | \$ | 1,359.80 | \$ | 1,870.00 |
| Worship | \$ | 1,035.79 | \$ | 1,525.00 | \$ | 992.46 | \$ | 1,525.00 |
| Communications | \$ | 9,978.83 | \$ | 12,000.00 | \$ | 9,938.45 | \$ | 10,550.00 |
| Ministry and Personnel | \$ | 304,626.73 | \$ | 320,000.00 | \$ | 317,629.74 | \$ | 324,000.00 |
| Trustees | \$ | 5,455.12 | \$ | 6,000.00 | \$ | 5,878.53 | \$ | 6,000.00 |
| Property | \$ | 37,488.74 | \$ | 41,000.00 | \$ | 41,550.62 | \$ | 41,000.00 |
| Finance | \$ | 3,011.98 | \$ | 3,400.00 | \$ | 3,181.24 | \$ | 3,000.00 |
| Lay Presbytery | \$ | 14,816.73 | \$ | 13,925.00 | \$ | 12,942.94 | \$ | 13,142.00 |
| Council | \$ | 125.97 | \$ | 100.00 | \$ | 61.91 | \$ | 100.00 |
| Debt Servicing | | | | | | | | |
| M & S | \$ | 28,200.00 | \$ | 28,200.00 | \$ | 28,200.00 | \$ | 27,000.00 |
| Line of Credit Interest | \$ | 158.98 | | | | | | |
| Total Expenditure | \$ | 407,770.02 | \$ | 428,700.00 | \$ | 422,040.52 | \$ | 428,687.00 |
| Net Income vs. Expenditure | -\$ | 8,556.84 | -\$ | 10,000.00 | -\$ | 19,193.67 | -\$ | 7,587.00 |
| Transfer from Devine St. Fund | \$ | 4,262.16 | | | | | | |
| Transfer from Reserve Fund | | | | | \$ | 8,841.36 | | |
| Transfer from Legacy Fund** | | | | | \$ | 10,352.31 | | |
| ** pending approval | -\$ | 4,294.68 | -\$ | 10,000.00 | \$ | 0.00 | -\$ | 7,587.00 |

Grace United Church - Operating Account

| Assets | 2012 | 2013 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Royal Bank Chequing Investment Account #001603885 | \$ 12,379.14 | \$ 8,309.70 |
| Petty Cash | \$ 16,884.54 | \$ 1 2,715.57 |
| Southwest Credit Union Shares | \$ 242.98 | \$ 322.27 |
| Southwest Credit Union Ass'n account | \$ 25.00 | \$ 25.00 |
| Accounts Receivable | \$ 358.53 | \$ 230.25 |
| | \$ 4,983.48 | \$ 14,712.85 |
| | \$ 34,873.67 | \$ 36,315.64 |
| Liabilities and Equity | | |
| Accounts Payable | \$ 1,744.24 | \$ 1,601.19 |
| Church Funds | | |
| Reserve | \$ 14,330.00 | \$ 10,925.31 |
| Audio-Visual Equipment | \$ 2,167.39 | \$ 2,061.48 |
| Youth Initiatives | \$ 5,767.36 | \$ 6,162.11 |
| Office Equipment Fund | \$ 368.27 | \$ 809.87 |
| Birdie Cole Fund | \$ 3,523.21 | \$ 1,604.41 |
| Inn of the Good Shepherd | \$ 903.35 | \$ 519.22 |
| Youth Worship | | \$ 1,023.97 |
| | \$ 27,059.58 | \$ 23,106.37 |
| General Fund | \$ 6,069.85 | \$ 11,608.08 |
| Total Funds | \$ 33,129.43 | \$ 34,714.45 |
| Total Liabilities and Equity | \$ 34,873.67 | \$ 36,315.64 |

Schedule of Accounts Payable

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|---------------|
| Church Key Deposits | \$ | 260.00 |
| Capital Replacement Fund | \$ | 20.00 |
| Ken Plumley Fund | \$ | 1,250.00 |
| VISA | \$ | 71.19 |
| | \$ | - \$ 1,601.19 |

Schedule of Accounts Receivable

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|----------------|
| HST | \$ | 4,325.54 |
| Legacy Fund | \$ | 10,352.31 |
| Memorial | \$ | 25.00 |
| Leadership Development Fund | \$ | 10.00 |
| | \$ | - \$ 14,712.85 |

Grace Segregated Funds - December 31, 2013

| Fund | Balance | | Balance | |
|------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| | December-31-12 | | December-31-13 | |
| Memorial | \$ | 20,741.62 | \$ | 17,581.84 |
| Capital Replacement | \$ | 10,614.37 | \$ | 7,586.58 |
| Ken Plumley | \$ | 7,490.35 | \$ | 8,563.24 |
| Leadership Development | \$ | 10,924.86 | \$ | 10,894.57 |
| Inspiration | \$ | 20,495.53 | \$ | 20,451.01 |
| Legacy | \$ | 10,288.57 | \$ | - |
| Tom Murray | \$ | 8,159.84 | \$ | 8,203.21 |
| Betty Sykes | \$ | 20,005.93 | \$ | 20,137.83 |
| Total | \$ | 108,721.07 | \$ | 93,418.28 |

Bank Accounts

| | | |
|------------------------------|----|------------|
| Investment Account 582304325 | \$ | 40,689.87 |
| Investment Account 582304333 | \$ | 61,845.72 |
| Total | \$ | 102,535.59 |
| Receivable from Grace | \$ | 1,270.00 |
| Payable to Grace | \$ | 10,387.31 |
| Total | \$ | 93,418.28 |

2013 Outreach Report

United Church of Canada Missionary and Service

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|------------------|
| Givings from Unified Budget | \$ | 28,200.00 |
| Easter M and S | \$ | 599.60 |
| Thanksgiving M and S | \$ | 415.75 |
| Christmas M and S | \$ | 640.60 |
| UCW | \$ | 3,500.00 |
| Subtotal | \$ | 33,355.95 |

United Church of Canada Disaster Relief Appeals

| | | |
|-----------------|----|-----------------|
| Typhoon Haiyan | \$ | 4,010.00 |
| Subtotal | \$ | 4,010.00 |

Soup Luncheons

| | | |
|----------------------|----|------------------|
| Rayjon | \$ | 1,906.36 |
| Brigden Food Grains | \$ | 1,857.45 |
| Habitat for Humanity | \$ | 1,956.00 |
| Cancer Society | \$ | 1,363.00 |
| St. Joseph's Hospice | \$ | 1,703.30 |
| Harmony | \$ | 1,148.00 |
| Typhoon Haiyan | \$ | 2,721.05 |
| Subtotal | \$ | 12,655.16 |

Other Donations

| | | |
|----------------------|----|---------------|
| St. Joseph's Hospice | \$ | 193.00 |
| Jorge DeGuzman | \$ | 170.00 |
| Subtotal | \$ | 363.00 |

| Other Grace Groups | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Youth Group | World Vision | \$ 480.00 |
| Youth Group | Cancer Society | \$ 1,837.00 |
| Widowcare | St. Joseph's Hospice | \$ 41.00 |
| UCW | Lambton UC Centre | \$ 800.00 |
| UCW | Lambton Student Nutrition | \$ 300.00 |
| UCW | SODA | \$ 50.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Huron House Boys' Home | \$ 100.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Women's Interval Home | \$ 100.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Kids on the Block | \$ 100.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Inn of the Good Shepherd | \$ 100.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Lambton UC Centre | \$ 100.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Rebound | \$ 100.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Habitat for Humanity | \$ 50.00 |
| Adult Fellowship | Buxton Historical Centre | \$ 50.00 |
| Communion Fund | Needy Family Assistance | \$ 555.00 |
| Communion Fund | Inn of the Good Shepherd | \$ 750.00 |
| Communion Fund | St. Joseph's Hospice | \$ 100.00 |
| Communion Fund | Stamps - Jail | \$ 161.03 |
| Friendship Club | Typhoon Haiyan | \$ 500.00 |
| Friendship Club | Jorge DeGuzman | \$ 500.00 |
| AOTS | Rayjon | \$ 100.00 |
| AOTS | St. Joseph's Hospice | \$ 100.00 |
| AOTS | Lambton UC Centre | \$ 100.00 |
| Subtotal | | 7,074.03 |
| Fair value manse rental | | \$ 57,458.14 |
| Total | | \$ 16,800.00 |
| | | \$ 74,258.14 |

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following individuals have graciously agreed to volunteer their time to duties of the officers of the Church Council for 2014:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chair | George Pfaff |
| Vice Chair | Lisa Valade |
| Past Chair | Joanna Catterson |
| Secretary | Chris Cooke |
| Treasurer | Paul Cooper |
| Presbytery rep | Margaret Cameron, Madeline McCaw |
| Trustee rep | Peter Melanson |
| Financial Reviewer | Gord Walkling |

Members of the Nominating Committee for 2013 were Gord Walkling, Past Chair; George Pfaff, Vice Chair; Jim Wicks, Roll Clerk; Peter Melanson, Trustee.

Gord Walkling, Past Chair of Council

CHURCH STAFF:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| PASTORAL TEAM: | Rev. Dr. Brad Morrison, B.A., M.Div., M.T.S., M.Th., D.Min. Rev. Susan Browning, BASc, M.Div. Patrick Morrison, B.Math, DLM. |
| MINISTERS EMERITI: | Rev Doug Greenough Rev. Harley Moore |
| DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: | Glenn Parsons, B. Mus. A. |
| CUSTODIAN: | Curtis Dixon |
| OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: | Lori Armstrong |
| OFFICE VOLUNTEERS: | Marilyn Hamilton, Doreen Lacourse, Debbie Mills, Ellen Robertson, |

In Memoriam (2013)

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Mary Hunter | January 21 |
| Joan Dowding | April 8 |
| Helen Soper | April 15 |
| Bernice Hines | June 28 |
| Lorraine MacLeod | June 28 |
| Anne Tizard | July 1 |
| Ray Beggs | July 7 |
| Toni Fithern | July 10 |
| Ken Young | August 30 |
| Ian Galbraith | September 28 |
| Eunice Cripps | October 9 |
| James Hope | December 1 |
| Clare MacDonald | December 12 |