

Grace United Church

Teamwork
Makes The



Dream
Work

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Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 19, 2017
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 21, 2016, and the Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, July 17, 2016.
6. Approval of the 2016 Annual Reports of Council, Committees and Groups, excluding Finance and Nominating Committees
7. Approval of Finance Committee Reports
 - a) Review and approval of the 2016 Financial Report
 - b) Review and approval of the 2017 Budget Proposal
 - c) Report of the Financial Review Committee
8. Nominating Committee Report
 - a) Appointment of the Financial Review Committee for 2017
 - 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 21, 2016

1. Opening Prayer – Rev. Brad Morrison
2. The meeting was officially opened and duly constituted by Lisa Valade at 12:20pm. There was a quorum with approximately 50 people in attendance, including the Ministerial Staff.
Motion: That adherents be allowed to vote on financial and administrative matters (as per Manual B.3.7.3).
Gord Walking/John Cooke. Carried
3. Approval of the Agenda
Motion: That the Agenda for the February 21, 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting be approved.
Nadyne Dell/Val Adamson. Carried
4. Approval of the Minutes of Congregational Meetings
Motion: That the Minutes of the Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, February 8, 2015 be approved.
Marv Bildfeld/Susan Mallard. Carried
5. Review and Approval of 2015 Reports
Motion: That the reports of Council, Committees & Groups be received, as printed in the 2015 Annual Report.
Bryce McGarvey/Bob Newman. Carried.
Motion: That the reports of Council, Committees & Groups, excluding the reports of the Finance and Nominating Committees, be approved.
Ian Adamson/John Cooke. Carried
6. Finance Committee Report
 - a) 2015 Financial Report, presented by Paul Cooper
With respect to 2015 actuals, Paul highlighted the following:
 - *Other* Income, particularly Rental Income, was up significantly.
 - There is a one-time savings in the Trustees expenses by switching the insurance payments from annual to monthly.
 - All committees did a good job controlling cost. Property, in particular, is commended for their expense reductions.With respect to the Outreach report, Paul highlighted that total Outreach givings are up substantially, primarily due to the Jack Cleave memorial donation and the response to the Refugee Committee.
With respect to the Fund Report, Paul highlighted the substantial increase in the Reserve Fund.

It was asked why the Rental Income was significantly increased in 2015. Lori Armstrong confirmed that the increase is likely permanent, and was due to the closure of another facility. It was asked whether FundScrip income was as much as expected. Paul Cooper explained that the FundScrip income is not as much as expected, and he would like to see an increase in 2016.

It was asked why Accounts Payable was high in 2015 vs. 2014. Bob Newman explained that this was simply money to be moved into the Refugee Committee Fund as at year-end. It was asked whether the giving's highlighted in the Outreach report are all included in the CRA report. Paul Cooper and Bob Newman explained that some but not all of the line items would be included in the CRA report. They will research the question further and provide additional explanation in the bulletin [or other church communication].

It was asked why the Communion Fund includes a donation to Lambton Centre. Brad Morrison clarified that while the fund is typically used for benevolent purposes (the historic purpose for such a fund), the mandate for this fund is broader. The expectation is to use the fund for benevolent purposes, but if the value of the fund grows beyond this purpose, the Congregational Care & Growth Committee will make donations to worthy organizations.

It was asked where the government funding to cover summer students appears in the report. Bob Newman clarified that the receipt of government funding for this purpose is shown as an "In" to the Youth Initiatives Fund. Student salaries are paid out of the Ministry & Personnel budget line, with a transfer from the Youth Initiatives Fund.

It was asked whether money can be transferred between the funds shown in the presentation. Bob Newman explained that some funds are "segregated funds", and have distinct accounts. Paul Cooper further clarified that each fund has a distinct mandate, and money cannot simply be transferred between funds.

Motion: That the 2015 Financial Report be approved as printed in the 2015 Annual Report.

Ian Adamson/Susan Mallard. Carried

b) 2016 Budget Proposal, presented by Paul Cooper.

With respect to the 2016 budget proposal, Paul highlighted the following:

- *Total Givings – Unified Budget* is not expected to increase due to the focus on the capital campaign.
- *Other Income* shows an increase matching expected growth in the FundScrip program.
- Ministry & Personnel expenditures are expected to be as shown. They were already adjusted to reflect the upcoming change in personnel. The assumption is that the church will

have a minister in Sue Browning's position for 6 months of the year, with some additional transitional ministry expenses.

- *Net Income vs. Expenditure* is proposed to be a deficit of \$4,355. This challenges committees to meet or come in below their budget proposal. A deficit can be offset by the Reserve Fund.

Motion: That the 2016 Budget [endorsed by Council, as printed in the 2015 Annual Report, with total expenditures of \$427,495.00] be approved.

Chuck Mallard/Ian McGuiness. Carried

7. Nominating Committee Report – George Pfaff

Motion: That Bryce McGarvey be added to the slate of candidates as the nominee for Vice Chair.

Nadyne Dell/Brad Mackay. Carried.

Motion: That Madeline McCaw and Christopher Cooke be the 2016 representatives to London Conference.

Marg Cameron/Marie Nicolson. Carried.

George Pfaff listed the slate of officers for 2015: Chair, Bruce Davies; Vice Chair, Bryce McGarvey; Past Chair, Lisa Valade; Secretary, Christopher Cooke; Treasurer, Paul Cooper. George noted that the both Presbytery Representative positions need to be filled.

Motion: That the slate of officers be approved.

George Pfaff/Marion Shaw. Carried

8. Ministry & Personnel Committee – presented by John Cooke

Motion: That Grace United Church requests that London Conference extend the appointment of Pat Morrison for the pastoral year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

John Cooke/Marg Cameron. Carried

Staff salaries were displayed for information according to the Salary Disclosure Policy.

It was explained that, per United Church of Canada requirements, upcoming changes to the salary grid will be implemented the next time a minister is hired OR in 2018, whichever comes first.

9. Introduction of the Chair

Bruce Davies introduced himself to the Congregation. He stressed his endorsement of a church that is an inclusive, intergenerational, community partner. He suggested that “2016 is brought to you by the letter ‘C’, where ‘C’ stands for Celebration, Change, the Capital Campaign, Community, Caring and Compassion and Connection.

10. Appreciations – Lisa Valade

Appreciations were offered to:

The Ministry and Staff for their tremendous service and all that they do.

Paul Cooper, Treasurer and Bob Newman, Assistant Treasurer for managing the financial issues.

Christopher Cooke, Council Secretary, for his support to the Chair.

Bob Newman, Envelope Secretary. Lori Armstrong and Doreen Lacourse, Envelope Recorders.

Lori Armstrong and all the Office Volunteers.

Lisa Valade, Chair (offered by Bruce Davies).

11. Adjournment – 1:10pm

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

Brad Mackay/Joanna Catterson. Carried

12. Closing Prayer – Sue Browning

Lisa Valade, Chair

Christopher Cooke, Secretary

Minutes Congregational Meeting

Grace United Church

Sunday, July 17, 2016

The meeting was held at Grace United Church at the call of the Chair of Council, and began at 11:10 a.m. There was a quorum. The meeting was chaired by Bruce Davies who also acted as secretary.

New Business

To receive the report of the Discerning Ministry Needs Ad Hoc Committee and take certain actions arising from the report.

Bruce Davies advised the congregation that the Discerning Ministry Needs Ad Hoc Committee had completed its work and presented the Committee's report which had been circulated in advance. The Committee found that the ministry needs of Grace United Church had been adequately met with a 2.5 FTE ministerial complement prior to Sue Browning's departure, but the current situation of 2.0 FTE supplemented by additional pulpit supply was inadequate.

Following an extensive consultation process with key stakeholders and the consideration of numerous alternatives, the Committee recommended that Grace apply to be approved to be a Supervised Ministry Education Site (also known as an Internship Site) for ministry students to serve an eight-month placement prior to ordination. Council endorsed that recommendation via Council Executive at a meeting in late June. Discussion ensued as to the merits of the various alternatives, the financial commitment involved and expectations for the future.

Motion:

- 1. That the congregation of Grace United Church receive and approve this report of the Discerning Ministry Needs Committee.**
- 2. That the congregation of Grace United Church request that Lambton Presbytery approve the following:**
 - One full-time Worship and Pastoral Care Minister**
 - One full-time Christian Development Minister**
- 3. That the congregation of Grace United Church request that Lambton Presbytery approve Grace United Church as a Supervised Ministry Education Site.**

John Robertson/George Vero. Carried.

Bruce Davies thanked the members of the Committee for their significant efforts on behalf of the congregation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adjournment: 11:30 a.m.

Bruce Davies, Chair & Acting Secretary

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Message from Pat...

2016 was a year for new partnerships and initiatives.

Having said that, ironically, and sadly, the year started with the news of Sue Browning's departure. We celebrate our time together with Sue, and we give thanks for her gifts of creativity, energy, and loving care. We miss Sue, and we delight that her new congregation will be blessed by her gifts.

An invitation into Lake Road Public School to animate the health and spirituality curriculum led to further invitations into schools to address issues related to girl drama, boy drama, and conflict resolution. This set the stage for a partnership with Melissa Dent to birth a new project at Lake Road School that focuses students on the concept of community, pairs them with adults who help them explore a community need or challenge then construct a response to that need. In 2017, the project culminates in an event here at Grace where students pitch their response to a room full of folks ready to resource and underwrite the project.

Grace youth partnered with Dunlop United Church, St. Luke's United Church, London Road West United Church, and St. Paul's United Church to collectively offer a March Break Day Camp. The program made affordable child care available to low income families, and offered Grace youth the chance to hone programming skills with the 50 children who attended. The program was a great success and will continue in 2017.

As we anticipate the effects of Remit 1, which will likely expand London Conference to a larger geographic region, a new partnership was forged with youth ministry colleagues in the Niagara region, and a new youth ministry initiative was birthed called the Niagara Youth Festival. Nine Grace youth attended as participants, and I served as worship leader with the Swell worship team, and Jordan Cantwell, moderator of the United Church of Canada. Plans are underway for the 2017 Niagara Youth Festival which will again include leadership from Grace youth.

My work at Grace brings amazing people into my life. I am privileged to build friendships with people like Sarah Yazdani Garcia and Morena Chiavassa, our two exchange students from Spain and Italy respectively, and with the amazing young people of Grace. Grace brings amazing people into the lives of Alison and our children—people who offer care and support during times of need. And my work at Grace places me in a team with a gifted staff. My thanks to Lori, Curtis, Glenn, and Brad for their excellence.

Message from Brad

2016 marked our 60th anniversary as a congregation. It was a busy year. Our operational "inbox" was stuffed full. After a demanding winter, spring, and summer, we cleared most of that "inbox." By late fall, the Pastoral Team shifted focus to the question: *How do we equip the congregation for evangelism and membership growth in 2017?*

The 1st quarter of 2016 focused on saying goodbye to Rev. Susan Browning. Sue B holds a special place in our hearts, and we were sad to see her leave. We will miss her inspiring energy and loving care. We know she is already a blessing to her new pastoral charge outside of London.

The 2nd quarter of 2016 focused on discerning ministry needs. A needs assessment committee consulted the congregation, resulting in the decision to become an internship site. Grace will continue its tradition as a teaching congregation to help to shape future United Church clergy. We spent the balance of the year fulfilling requirements to be approved as a "Supervised Ministry Site." An extensive application process included establishing a lay supervision team, and I completed the supervisor training in the fall. We look forward, in hope, to a first intern being assigned in September 2017.

The 2nd quarter also saw the development and strengthening of two key initiatives. The Affirming Committee and the Growth & Giving Committee have accomplished major milestones in their respective mandates this year. I encourage you not only to read their reports but also to celebrate with one another these successes.

The 3rd quarter of 2016 focused on the (boring) work of policy review. Needs assessments trigger reflection on policies and procedures. The Council inbox was overflowing with policy revisions, surveys, town halls, consultations, and applications: needs assessment, affirming audit, accessibility grants, internship site applications, remits, alcohol and gaming consultations, and insurance policy review. Many people worked to clear this inbox, but I want to give a special thank you to Bruce Davies who either led or advised on each file as Council Chairperson.

The 4th quarter of 2016 focused on seizing emerging opportunities and realizing outcomes: Sarnia Pride Alliance and TransPride Sarnia partnerships; monthly seniors drop ins; expanded Lunches for Learning (L4L); Growth and Giving projects; revitalizing Caregiver ministry.

Most importantly, clearing the 2016 inbox opened space and energy in the 4th quarter for the Pastoral Team to shift from operational to strategic focus. We invite the congregation to make this shift with us, beginning with evangelism and membership growth. 2016's inbox was filled with important and busy operational tasks. The Pastoral Team invites Council and congregation into a year beyond busy-ness and structural change—focused on *"Strength in Numbers: Growing Grace's Membership."*

Thank you to Pat, Glenn, Lori, Curtis, and the many leaders working to keep us an inclusive, intergenerational, community partner on mission for God in Sarnia-Lambton and beyond.

Message from the Outgoing Chair of Council...

It will be no surprise to anyone who knows me to learn that the first thing I did when I set out to write a message upon completion of my term as chair of Council was to look up what I wrote a year ago, and see what parts of that I could borrow for this year's message. And so, I quote:

“At Grace, we strive to be connected to people who, for whatever reason, are different from us (“inclusive”), connected to people of all ages (“inter-generational”), and connected to the places we live and work (“community partner”). I am constantly amazed at the many and multi-faceted ways this congregation reaches out and seeks opportunities to fulfill its mandate”.

A year later, I am even more amazed and proud of what this congregation has done and continues to do through the support we provide, individually and collectively, to organizations and projects around the corner and around the world. Reflecting and celebrating are not things we spend a lot of time doing, but pause for a moment and I'm sure you will think of things that wouldn't be done at all or wouldn't be done nearly as well without the people of Grace quietly but relentlessly going about the business of making the world a better place.

By way of illustration, in 2016 we celebrated our 60th anniversary as a congregation. When I canvassed some of the members of the congregation as to how we should mark the occasion, the consensus response was “let's have a cake after worship one Sunday”. There was no energy whatsoever for a splashy celebration – the focus was not on the milestone or patting ourselves on the back. There was, however, all sorts of energy for new initiatives such as the journey to become an “Affirming” congregation and thereby walk the walk of demonstrating inclusivity to a group which has often been marginalized or excluded from the life and work of the church. There was all sorts of energy around the successful “Growth & Giving Campaign” which continues into 2017. There was all sorts of energy around enhancing our partnerships with those less fortunate than ourselves in Sarnia via Lunches for Learning and Inn of the Good Shepherd. There was all sorts of energy to participate in surveys and “Town Hall” sessions about our ministry needs and how they should be filled and about our approach to gambling and the use of alcohol. There was all sorts of energy to help people in or from other countries by supporting a school building project in Kenya, welcoming refugees from Syria, and being involved in organizations like Rayjon with its extensive footprint in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. I have many more examples, but I think you get the idea. We'd rather look forward with excitement about what we can do next than look backward at what

we've done so far. And that is fundamentally what makes our congregation special.

I again repeat what I wrote a year ago - "We are truly blessed in Canada, within the United Church denomination, and specifically at Grace to be able to serve God in so many wonderful and disparate ways". May we continue to do so in 2017 and beyond.

Bruce Davies, Outgoing Chair of Council

Message from the Incoming Chair of Council...

First, I would like to thank Bruce Davies for his leadership of Grace United Church Council through 2016. Bruce's low-key style has been crucial for Council as it has strived to develop forward-looking plans on many significant fronts. I have learned much from Bruce over the past year, and thank him for his wisdom and focus.

Our family moved to Sarnia in 1998, and our first contact with Grace occurred, not surprisingly, through a community-based activity when Simone attended a Sparks group in what I now know is Room 1. Several years later, Colette, Celine, Simone and I attended our first worship service at Grace, and in the ensuing eight years, Grace United Church has been an important part of each of our lives. We have developed strong friendships and relationships within Grace that extend far beyond the walls of the physical building. As noted by many others, the Grace community is open to all and is welcoming to each person as they come as they are.

When I think of what Grace United Church is, it is the fact that together, it has developed innumerable strengths from the people who comprise the congregation. It began over sixty years ago, when a visionary group of people formed a series of teams and worked together with common purpose to construct and constitute Grace United Church. The Grace family has never been passive, and has taken leadership roles throughout its history: welcoming refugees into the community in the early years and again today; reaching out to community and international organizations that need our help; and most recently, leading the effort to become an Affirming United Church congregation.

The common theme through these few examples is that none of them happened because of a single person. Rather, teams of people rallied around issues, goals, and objectives for which they had a shared passion. Ideas and plans were developed, and the teams ultimately reached their successful conclusions, whatever the nature of the endeavour. I have no doubt that over the years, the most effective teams had clear purpose, enthusiastic members, and carried out their missions in supportive collaboration while having fun and enjoying fellowship throughout. If you have ever spent time in one of the kitchens preparing for, or cleaning up after a meal, spent time at a table at the

Fall Fair or one of the other fundraising events, you will appreciate that people are enjoying themselves while working on their mission.

The Bible teaches us that Christianity is the ultimate team activity, and that Jesus had the vision to assemble his teams of disciples and others to spread the good news and carry out God's mission. Whether at the corner of Indian and Cathcart, the community, or our homes, we are all members of the Grace United team. Over the next year, I encourage everyone to look for one group or team in the church and think about how your interests, talents and skills can be used as we work together as members of the greater Grace United team to keep ourselves on-mission for each other and for God.

Borrowing a phrase from a United Way Day of Caring slogan that has stuck with me over the years:

TEAM: Together, Everyone Achieves More

Bryce McGarvey, Incoming Chair

COUNCIL STRUCTURES - 2016

***Chairperson *Representative to Council**

Chair	Bruce Davies	519-541-1159
Vice-Chair	Bryce McGarvey	519-542-1542
Secretary	Chris Cooke	519-491-6801
Treasurer	Paul Cooper	519-542-9237
Assistant Treasurer	Bob Newman	519-542-9890
Past Chair	Lisa Valade	519-542-6763
Christian Development	C Shirley Willis	519-332-5729
	R Colette McGarvey	519-542-1542
Communications	C Chris Cooke	519-491-6801
	R Chris Cooke	519-491-6801
Congregational Care & Growth	C Iris Murtha	519-344-7809
	R Iris Murtha	519-344-7809
Finance	C	
	R Alternating	
Lay Presbytery	R Vacant	
Ministry & Personnel	C Alternating	
	R Vacant	
Outreach	C Paul Cooper	519-542-9237
	R Earle Kilner	519-542-4759
Planning	C Leanne Kember	519-918-0224
	R Kirk Wilson	519-908-9642
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	
Ministers	Rev. Dr. Brad Morrison	519-541-1336
	Pat Morrison	519-542-0475

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The role of the committee is to work with the ministerial team to organize and coordinate the weekly worship services, as well as special services, as required. We review and approve requests for use of the sanctuary and chapel for non-routine worship and non-worship events that serve our congregation and/or our community.

Communion is an important event in the worship calendar. Joyce Rawson, who led the preparation of communion elements for many years, announced that she is retiring from this important ministry. At time of writing, a replacement has not been identified. Servers are also critical to communion celebrations and the committee acknowledges the commitment and efforts of all those who assisted throughout the year. New volunteers are always welcome to join the team and assist when they are able. As in previous years, communion was offered using both seated and intinction options, depending on the time of year.

In 2016, a continuing effort was made to maintain the involvement of children and youth in our worship services. Brad, Glenn, and Cecily worked with youth in the congregation to develop a series of “family services”, in which youth-based involvement throughout the service was used to augment the sermon-replacing messages from the pulpit.

Several children from the congregation participated in the Advent 3 “Joy” service that was integrated into the regular worship service. Thanks to Cecily Chiles and Glenn Parsons for their efforts in choreographing and arranging the music, and leading the children in this service.

Music is an important element of Sunday morning worship services at Grace and continues to be offered through several diverse avenues. The Grace Choir and A Band Called Mule (formerly Piper’s Pen) were the primary providers of the musical diversity. Additional singers and instrumentalists from inside and outside of Grace also contributed to worship leadership. Thank you to Pat Morrison, Valerie Schmidt and Rick Armstrong for arranging for singers and instrumentalists from various local and visiting musical groups to attend and enhance our worship services. The Grace congregation continues to benefit from the involvement of its members in a wide range of organizations in the Sarnia-Lambton community.

Pat Morrison along with his family (Alison, Anna and Lauren) led the family-oriented Christmas Eve service.

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. The Guild is always looking for additional help with choosing thematic decorations for the sanctuary and for placing the items in the various spaces as

we pass through the various liturgical seasons. New volunteers are always welcome to share their talents.

In this year of transition as Sue Browning departed for new pastoral charges, Brad, the Worship Committee, and others worked to maintain continuity in the weekly services. Several congregation members, including Leanne Kember, Gord Walkling, Bob Newman, Joanna Catterson, Bryce McGarvey, Heather Smith, Hannah Cattran and Sam Watson took lead roles in presiding over services and delivering sermons. Outside guests were also invited to preach to the congregation throughout the year.

Bev Walkling, Trish White, Daulphine Smith, Nick Monsour, Anne Eastman, Eleanor Ritchie, and Shirley Batte are thanked for taking on the leadership role for a number of the nursing home services that Grace United is committed to leading.

Thanks are extended to the Growth and Giving Committee, Steve Siklosi (project leader), and members of the congregation for their efforts in upgrading and replacing the sanctuary lighting. This seemingly simple task is nothing of the sort, and requires significant planning in order to execute it safely and efficiently.

Innumerable individuals contribute to our weekly worship services throughout the year: these include 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. Thanks to all for your efforts.

Each of the aforementioned activities requires a stable of volunteers to make the services run smoothly, and each group is always in need of additional help. Please consider helping out with any of these activities on a regular or casual basis. Any of the committee members can help to put you in contact with the appropriate team leaders.

The 2017 committee members will be: Val Adamson, John Baxter, Bryce McGarvey, Glenn Parsons, Sheila Scott, 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.

A replacement Paschal Candle was purchased in March.

We participated in the dedication of memorial gifts, given to remember and honor, past and present members, and friends of Grace United Church.

Our sincere thanks go to Lori Armstrong for her careful recording of all memorial gifts and to Madeline McCaw for updating the memorial book.

Joan Guthrie

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 tableclothes, wall hangings, swags, ribbons, antependia, and floral arrangements.

The 2017 Sanctuary Guild members will be: Becky Clarke, Karen Cooke, Sharon Melanson, and Ellen Robertson. 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.

Sharon Melanson

GRACE CHOIR

The Grace Choir rehearses every Thursday evening from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Rehearsals are a time of fellowship and preparing music for worship services. Music for worship includes learning new hymns and preparing anthems. A love of ensemble singing is the key requirement for singing in Grace Choir.

This past fall, the choir welcomed composers Nancy Price and Don Besig to conduct a choral workshop and concert at Grace. The weekend was filled with singing and ended on the Sunday afternoon with a wonderful concert, enjoyed by all.

The dedication of Grace Choir members is exceptional. They are to be applauded for their fine efforts throughout the year. Members of Grace Choir are: Ian Adamson, Barbara Bell-Leaver, Laura Black, Ron Buxton, Cecily Chiles, Vernon Chiles, Brian Eagleson, Anne Eastman, Donna Elie, Avelina

Estoesta, Joan Guthrie, Jan Leckie-Fraser, Lorne Longley, Sharon Melanson, Ian McGuiness, Lois McKay, Marian McLean, Al McLean, John Moore, Eleanor Ritchie, Sheila Scott, and Lindsay Smith.

Glenn Parsons, Director of Musical Ministries

A BAND CALLED MULE

A Band Called Mule, formally known as Piper's Pen, is a group of musicians who enjoy putting a contemporary spin on music for worship services. The band material covers a wide variety of musical genres and they are always looking to expand on their range of musical styles.

In October 2016, the band took part in the choral workshop and concert presented at Grace. They accompanied a mass choir on two different numbers which were part of the Sunday afternoon concert.

A Band Called Mule consists of Stefan Jackson, Pat Morrison, Paul Smith, Dave Ashdown, and Glenn Parsons.

Glenn Parsons, Director of Musical Ministries

INREACH MINISTRIES

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND GROWTH COMMITTEE

The Congregational Care and Growth Committee met eight times in 2016, promoting spiritual growth and Christian care and fellowship within the congregation.

The committee oversaw the approval for persons requesting baptism, confirmation, profession of faith, transfer of membership, and weddings, as well as maintaining an up to date membership roll.

Bob Newman 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 members who had experienced bereavement in the past year. Ninety stamped envelopes were given to the chaplain at the Sarnia Jail for him to assist the inmates to write 2 Christmas letters to family members. Five hundred dollars was donated to a fund for Sarnia Jail's chaplain ministry needs, such as hair cuts for inmates or education registration. Three hundred and fifty dollars was donated to the Lambton Centre's Bursary Fund to assist with camp registration fees for a needy child.

Rose Lanning headed the Prayer Shawl Ministry, arranging the knitting and distribution of prayer shawls to those requiring comfort.

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.

Supported events included Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, WidowCare, Mothers' and Babies' Coffee Group, Seniors' Drop-In, and Beer and Carols at Two Amigos.

Alice Minty scheduled volunteers to provide refreshments after worship.

An Affirming Committee was formed to go through the process of Grace becoming an affirming congregation. Activities included: An educational event in April; Candle Light Vigil; Canada Day Parade; The movie *Pride*; A Transgender Remembrance Service; Rebound sponsored a dance; and a second movie night.

Committee members for 2017 will be: Margaret Cameron, Rose Lanning, Madeline McCaw, Alice Minty, Iris Murtha, Bob Newman, Bev Walkling, and Diane Werezak, and the Ministerial Team (*ex officio*). New members are always welcome.

The committee thanks Rev. Dr. Brad Morrison and Lori Armstrong for providing a pastoral care report for each meeting and for being resource persons to the committee.

Iris Murtha, Chair

2016 Records

Membership as of December 31, 2015

Resident Members	366
Non-Resident Members	<u>70</u>
Total Membership	436

	Received	Removed
Members received through profession of faith	7	
Members received by certificate of transfer	5	
Members added by returning to resident status	1	
Total received	<u>13</u>	
Members removed by death		8
Members removed by transfer		2
Members removed by other		<u>0</u>
Total removed		10

Membership as of December 31, 2016

Resident Members	362
Non-Resident Members	<u>77</u>
Total Membership	439

Number of baptisms	1
Number of marriages	4
Number of funerals	10

Jim Wicks, Roll Clerk

AFFIRMING COMMITTEE

In December 2015, Council passed a motion approving that an ad hoc group of Congregational Care and Growth Committee be formed to begin a discernment process of reflection and study to consider becoming an Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada. Affirming congregations publicly and intentionally commit to justice, care, and support for LGBTQ people in the congregation and community.

From January to March 2016, members of Affirming Committee met and reviewed material from Affirm United and developed an action plan. Listed below is that action plan for 2016:

March

- developed Affirming Ministry blog on Grace website

April

- guest speaker night with community members
- developed LGBT history, glossary and biblical interpretation

June

- sponsored West Indian Association dinner fundraiser for Orlando Pulse victims

July

- youth and ministry staff participated in Canada Day parade with Sarnia Pride Alliance

August

- attended TransPride Sarnia boat cruise
- sermon by Hannah Cattran on being an ally

September

- LGBTQ guest preacher

October

- developed and distributed an Affirming Assessment Tool to all committees and groups at Grace to identify organizational barriers to becoming inclusive to the LGBTQ community
- sponsored and prepared Thanksgiving dinner for TransPride Sarnia event
- began film series with screening of "Pride"

November

- sponsored Pride Prom held by Rebound at Grace
- sponsored Transgender Day of Remembrance service held at Grace

December

- screened "Beyond Gay - the Politics of Pride"

The 2017 committee members will be: Barb Baxter, Hannah Cattran, Julie Drope, Ken Ferguson, Pauline Henderson-Ferguson, Dave Kember, Diana McClure, Colette McGarvey, David Murray, Regan Pfaff McDonald, and the Pastoral Team (*ex officio*).

Barb Baxter, Chair

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 25 active members who share their many gifts in service projects and enjoy the club programs. Our focus is slanting towards fellowship, reflecting the club demographics.

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 2016 outreach/inreach included:

- Support to the Unified Budget.
- Sponsorship of "Tim's in the Gym" on Sunday mornings.

Our 2016 fundraising activities included:

- Fertilizer sale in March.
- Hamburg/hot dog sales at the Spring Fair & Plant Sale, the Flea Market & Trunk Sale, and the Fall Fair.
- Chili sales at the Last Chance Christmas Sale.

Our members also enjoyed opportunities for fellowship and spiritual growth including 8 Sunday morning breakfasts and a barbecue in June. Breakfast guest speakers were Al Grimwood (Lord Beaverbrook exhibit), Bill Scott (Egypt travels), Barb Hall (Circles), Brad (Huron College teaching ministry), Lauren Morrison & Shirley Willis (Kenya School project), Maria Muscedere (St. Joseph's Hospice), Jorge de Guzman (Migrant Workers ministry), and Gary Locke (Bowman Institute).

AOTS administers and contributes to the Ken Plumley Award that is presented to qualified graduating secondary school students. The 2016 recipient was Monica Morrison. Several families contributed to the fund in 2016. Thank you for your support and generosity.

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. Jim Wicks and Dave Ashdown provided musical accompaniment and entertainment at the 2016 Round-up

Grace AOTS is associated with the National United Church A.O.T.S. Men's Clubs. John Cooke is the President-Elect and Paul Cooper is the Central

Region VP of the National Executive. The National AOTS Camp Improvement Project awarded 4 grants totaling \$6,100 to United Church camps in Newfoundland, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

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. Please feel comfortable to join us for a breakfast meeting or one of our special events.

AOTS Executive members are Paul Cooper, Marv Bildfell, John Cooke, John Goodwin, and 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. We started as a twenty or thirty-something group and now we are ... something-different, but we still enjoy our gatherings.

At the end of October, we were called upon once again to assist with the Household Hazardous Waste Day at Clean Harbours. We are traditionally invited to assist with the final collection for the year because it tends to be a very busy day. It also can often be chilly this time of the year, but we are a hardy and experienced crew and about a dozen people answered the call. Having received payment for this year as well as some payments that were in arrears, the group has a healthy bank account and will be looking to donate to a few worthy causes in the new year.

Our perennial travelling Christmas dinner was once again a highlight. New members are always welcome. If you are interested, please contact Gord.

Gord Walking

U.C.W. (United Church Women)

There are nineteen active members participating in two units at Grace United; Unit A (The Helen McKay Unit), and Unit C. Each unit held meetings each month.

Some of our members took part in the World Day of Prayer service held at Sacred Heart Church on March 4. Also in March, the ladies of the Helen McKay Unit decorated shoe boxes, and filled them with useful toiletries and gifts for the Women's Interval Home.

Members Dorothy Plumley and Doreen Lacourse were presented with a plaque honoring our U.C.W. members' long-time financial support of the Student Nutrition Program through Lambton Public Health.

Our annual potluck luncheon was held on June 1st. It was well attended, and enjoyed by men and women alike. Our guest speaker was Vanessa Barnes of the Alzheimer Society, and her topic was "Mindful Music", which was accompanied by a video showing how beneficial music therapy is to dementia patients.

On Saturday, July 16th, three members; Dorothy Plumley, Helen West, and Ruth Kreibich, attended the Presbyterial Summer Event at Siloam United Church in London. It was an inspirational day filled with wonderful music, an uplifting message in the morning from the Rev. Maya Landell, and in the afternoon entertainment by the Thames Centre Community Choir.

Within the church this year, the U.C.W. made donations to the Growth and Giving Campaign, the General Fund, and Mission and Service.

In November, the U.C.W. mitten tree was again decorated by our church family with mittens, scarves, hats, and toys for the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program.

Ruth Kreibich, Secretary

GRACIOUS QUILTERS

The Gracious Quilters is a group of seven ladies who meet at the church to quilt on Monday and Wednesday mornings from September until June.

During the past year, they have quilted three large quilts, and assembled and quilted seven crib quilts which were sold to church members and/or friends.

Proceeds from the quilting are donated to the church for special projects.

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, and

- c) communicating other international initiatives (including urgent disaster relief response requests)
- d) sponsoring other community groups who wish to use the Grace Church facilities

In 2016, the Outreach Committee hi-lights included the following;

Grace was a key member of the Lambton Presbytery Refugee Committee who, in April, welcomed the Almudeer family from Syria to Sarnia. Together with our community partners (like Lambton College and the Sarnia Presbyterian Churches), the family has made significant progress in adapting to their new home including enrolling in schools and ESL classes. Many challenges remain and we are thankful to everyone at Grace who has provided much needed assistance to the family, and to our wonderful drivers Peg Dawkins, Diana McClure and Shirley Willis.

Community Living continues to occupy and maintain the Grace United Church Manse as a residence and respite location for their clients. The Grace Youth Group continue to sponsor regular dance events in the gymnasium.

In 2016, Grace continued to support the Circles (Bridges Out of Poverty) program. This unique undertaking has the ultimate goal of breaking the cycle of continuing poverty in our community. Barb Hall, a 'Circle Ally' from Grace, has been our contact person. As a committee, and with support from other members of the congregation, Grace also hosted a supper meal at a regular 'Circle' meeting.

In 2016, Grace continued our partnership with Brigden United on a Canadian Foodgrains Bank "Forget-Me-Not" grow project. Our soup luncheon donations assisted with 'seed' funding for the project. The soybeans were harvested in the fall and when matched 4:1 by CIDA, over \$66,000 was raised by this project, a wonderful contribution to world food aid. Plans are already in place for another project in 2017.

The Grace congregation was very generous in 2016 with support for the United Church Mission and Service Fund. In addition to the support provided through our operating budget, other donations were received for Syrian Refugee camps.

Outreach also sponsors a significant number of community groups that regularly use our facilities; it's great to see our building busy all the time. Two examples in 2016 were the migrant farm workers coordinated by Jorge de Guzman for basketball and Zumba, and the India Canada Association who had a fundraiser in June for Fort McMurray fire response, and in July for the victims and families of the Orlando Pulse Nightclub shooting.

The congregation very generously supported the soup luncheons held in 2016 – seven were held during the year. The following organizations benefited from our soup luncheons:

Rayjon Share Care
 Canadian Foodgrains Bank with Brigden UC (donations matched 4:1 by CIDA)
 Inn of the Good Shepherd
 St. Clair Child & Youth
 Rayjon for Hurricane Mathew emergency response
 Sarnia Lambton Circles program
 Kenya School Project (led by Lauren and Shirley)

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 at least 12 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!

Val Adamson	Patricia Aldrey	Barb Baxter
Margaret Billings	Carrie Brescia	Carol Burkhardt
Carolyn Callaghan	Betty Carson	Lisa Cattran
Joanna Catterson	Cecily Chiles	Karen Cooke
Lorna Cooper	Edna Dent	Lynn DiMuzio
Pam & Joel Eagleson	Donna Elie	Maureen & Al Grimwood
Joan Guthrie	Dick Hagle	Peggy Hall
Pauline Henderson-Ferguson		Pat Holloway
Stefan & Shelley Jackson		Jane Janes
Jan Jordan	Debbie Kafford	Marnie Kearns
Barb Kilburn	Gail & Earl Kilner	Jackie Kilner
Ruth Kreibich	Doreen LaCourse	Jan Leckie
Danielle Mackey	Gloria MacLeod	Susan Mallard
Madeline McCaw	Diana McClure	Colette McGarvey
Chris McGuinness	Marian McLean	Sharon Melanson
Alice Minty	Alison Morrison	Sarah Morrison
Christine Murphy	George & Nicola Pfaff	Joyce Rawson
Ellen Robertson	Maggie Rochon	Lynda Ruston
Karen Rutledge	Valerie Schmidt	Susan Shaw
Carol Shelton	Betty Simpson	Eleanore Sich
Delbert Snelgrove	Bernice Sykes	Lisa Valade
Yvonne Vanderbeld & Bill Yates		Bev Walking
Joanne West	Brian White	Trish White
Sue Wicks		

Inn of the Good Shepherd (IOGS)

Volunteers from Grace prepared and served one meal each month at the Inn to an average of 112 people each month.

Edna Dent coordinates the serving with the assistance of Betty Simpson. Maggie Rochon coordinates the meal preparation. Pauline Henderson-Ferguson and Paul Cooper sort the food brought to the church on the first Sunday of each month. Food suitable for preparing meals for the Inn is kept at the church, and the remainder is delivered to the Inn.

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

Meal Preparation

John & Carolyn Callaghan	Betty Carson	Paul & Lorna Cooper
Ann & Don Eastman	Joan Guthrie	Pauline Henderson-Ferguson
Ruth Kreibich	Ian & Chris McGuiness	
Bob & Maggie Rochon		

Salad Preparation

Lori Armstrong	Karen Cooke	Alice Minty
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Desserts

Pauline Henderson-Ferguson	Carol Guthrie	Peter Litt
Gloria McLeod		

Serving and clean up

Betty & Bill Carson	Daphne Clarke	Paul Cooper
Chris D.	Nadyne Dell	Edna Dent
Michelle D`Ziver	Betty Fletcher	Pauline Henderson-Ferguson
Julie Henry	Debbie Kafford	Ruth Kreibich
Diana McClure	Colette & Bryce McGarvey	
Chris McGuiness	Mary Mellon	Michelle Murray
Maggie Rochon	Sylvia Rose	Lynda & Deana Ruston
Karen Rutledge	Jackie Sands	Carol Shelton
Betty Simpson	Stacey Smith	Gord Walking
Lindsay Wilde		

We welcome new volunteers. It is a great way to get to know others in the congregation. If you wish to help prepare meals, call Maggie Rochon; or to make desserts, 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 - 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 about and help publicize these activities.

Members of the Outreach Committee in 2017 will be: Paul Cooper, Edna Dent, Pauline Henderson-Ferguson, Pat Holloway, Deb Kafford, Earle Kilner, Ruth

Kreibich, Alice Minty, Maggie Rochon, Lynda Ruston, Karen Rutledge, Carol Shelton, Sue Wicks, and the 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

L4L (LUNCHES FOR LEARNING)

2016 was a year of expansion for L4L. In January 2016, the program started in Queen Elizabeth II Public School. From January to June 2016, L4L served lunch to 75 students every Friday at Lansdowne or Queen Elizabeth. In the fall, the program received two grants, totaling \$4454 from the Sarnia Community Foundation and the United Church of Canada Foundation. This provided for the addition of one more school, High Park Public School.

For the last 10 years in October, Fiery Faces organizer Cheryl Veary, tries to set up as many jack o lanterns as she can and raise money for a local, lesser known charity. In 2016 she selected L4L. She donated \$3067 and became a new volunteer. She was welcomed with open arms, as she likes to do dishes.

Fundraising dinners continue with a core of dedicated diners. Efforts continue to draw in more, new diners. L4L catering continues to provide services for funerals, weddings, meetings, and other functions. Lakeroad Public School held their grade 8 graduation dinner at Grace. Sarnia Trans Pride held a Thanksgiving dinner. Special thanks to the Grace Affirming Committee, who personally donated the entire meal.

Volunteers are the foundation of L4L. There are now over 40 people who volunteer their time and resources to the program. Volunteers include members from Grace, retired LKDSB employees, school parents, and members of the public who have seen L4L information in the media. If it were not for the support and dedication of these volunteers, the program would not be thriving and expanding as it has. Not only do these volunteers donate their time, they donate baked goods and then buy tickets to the dinner they help prepare, serve and clean up. I am truly humbled by your kindness and generosity.

*Pauline Henderson-Ferguson
L4L Coordinator*

TEACHING MINISTRIES

CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

During 2016, the Christian Development Committee worked with Pat to generate ideas and plan for Grace ministries that nurture the congregation. It was our focus to equip our children and youth as leaders so that they might serve as a gift to the greater church. We are continuously visioning and dreaming so we can meet our mandate in creative and fresh ways.

- The Shrove Tuesday pancake supper was a huge success in terms of volunteers, number of attendees, and connecting people of all ages. We would like to thank Carrie Brescia for facilitating this event. The money raised went toward funding the summer student placement position.
- We applied for and received a Canada Summer Jobs Grant that funded a summer student placement. A second student placement was funded from the Youth Initiative Fund. The two summer students, Monica Morrison and Hannah Cattran, ran a very successful campfire program. Campfire continues to be a favorite with many in the congregation and draws others from the community. It offers opportunities for youth to develop leadership skills and offers a space for families of all generations to connect.
- The youth are a very active group at Grace. Youth Group offers teens a safe place to share a meal, fun, intimate conversation, and serve their community. The youth continue to plan and deliver highly active recreational programming for kids grades 4-8 through JOLT. They also sponsor a child through World Vision and run the Sarnia District Community Living Dances once a month.
- Gord Walkling and Colette McGarvey are the very capable leadership team of the High School students' Sunday morning program. They find youth relevant topics to engage the young people each week.
- KinderWorship, Children's Worship, and Splat continue to run successfully every Sunday with the support of many leaders.
- The Lay Leadership Development Fund had no applications in 2016. CD will endeavor to keep this fund before the congregation.
- Under the leadership of Pat and Brad, Grace offered two Swell services again this year. The Good Friday Swell was held at Grace for the first time in many years. This event had a sleepover component that allowed the fun and fellowship to continue after the service. The Christmas Swell was in London at Wesley Knox, and many people braved the ice rain to attend. It stands out as an important youth event. It is a unique service for youth with themes that are relevant to their lives.
- We continue to offer a deep, spiritual two year confirmation program that engages teens in intergenerational discussion and exploration of the New Creed and basic tenants of the Christian faith.
- Parent Connection is a new and successful CD initiative offered on select Sundays that provides seminars and discussion on current parenting topics and offers time for young families to connect.

The Christian Development Committee is grateful to all the many volunteers who give of themselves to nurture and mentor our young people. God has richly blessed us here at Grace to have so many who recognize and celebrate the gift of children and youth in our congregation. God is indeed at work among us.

The 2017 committee members will be: Shirley Willis (chair), Colette McGarvey, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

Shirley Willis, Chair

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA

The 2016-2017 **9th Sparks** year has been a great one so far. We have 22 girls enrolled, and this year we are fortunate to continue to have six leaders. Erin Canino is the new contact Guider and we are very glad to welcome Jamie Bell to the leadership team. Our youngest Girl Guides are enjoying their introduction to the Guiding world. They have been busy with field trips to the Animal Farm, helping to sell baked goods at the Fall Fair, enjoying the Halloween Campfire at Grace, marking Remembrance Day and making Christmas cards for and then singing carols to the residents at Afton Park Long Term Care Home. In the next month or so, they will work on Colour Me Healthy with a night in the gym and singing the anthem at a Sting Game in February. Another night will be OuterSpace night. Plans are also underway for another sleepover in the spring. Thanks very much to the members and leadership of the Grace United Church for allowing us to use your facilities.

33rd Sarnia Brownies are once again the largest unit at Grace. Emily Turner remains as the contact Guider, but three new Guiders have joined her and 28 girls are registered and actively participating. Activities thus far have included joint ones such as the Halloween Campfire at Grace, Remembrance Day activities, cookie sales, camping near Goderich along with 32nd Guides, and will include shortly an overnight trip to the Children's Museum in London.

32nd Sarnia Guides

This year we have three new leaders and one returning leader and 23 girls registered. With so many newcomers, we have been trying different things to bond as a group. Our recent enrollment had a candyland theme and the girls participated in making pinata's which were stuffed with the badges they had earned thus far. One of our early meetings was a hike of Suncor Nature Trail with a scavenger hunt which was well received by all. We participated in the Grace Fall Fair, running the Tea & Muffin Room, participated in the group Halloween campfire at Grace, did Postcards for Peace, including some sent to local younger veterans and watched the movie Blue Tattoo which led to a stimulating conversation about bullying. Using Canadian Tire money and donations we purchased Christmas gifts for those less fortunate (to the tune of more than \$300). The unit also spent a weekend camping at Camp Klahanie near Goderich with the Brownies. Many thanks for the use of the facilities at Grace.

32nd Sarnia Pathfinders

This is a unit which is new to Grace this year and which grew out of a dream by past Guider Lynn Reed and Brownie leader Emily Turner to provide a unit at Grace for the rather large group of girls moving up from 32nd Sarnia Guides. They were joined by RaeLynn Burgess who is also contact Guider for 32nd Sarnia Guides and meetings were scheduled for Wednesday evenings. Eight girls are currently registered. All of them have been learning about the Pathfinder program together, and all three leaders were able to take advantage of trainings such as Outdoor Leadership & Skills and also Super-Pathfinder training in Toronto. Their girls have done bridging with 33rd Brownies to lead some activities and have also done some bridging with 38th Sarnia Pathfinders to help with Christmas on the Farm cookie decorating. They participated in International River Crossing and were led in a Remembrance Day meeting by Bev Walkling. They did cookie sales on a rainy First Friday in downtown Sarnia and have been camping including a camp where they changed plans at the last minute (due to inclement weather) and had an at-home sleepover camp experience. More camping and other activities are planned for the coming months.

Thank you also to Grace for being so open to providing space to Guiding for trainings and sleep-overs to other units. The accessibility of this building is wonderful and we really appreciate all the support.

*Bev Walkling
Community Guider*

32nd SARNIA GROUP COMMITTEE REPORT- SCOUTS CANADA

Membership

This year our group has 23 Beavers/8 Beaver leaders, 10 Cubs/3 Cub leaders, 10 Scouts/3 Scout leaders, for a total of 43 youth members & 14 leaders.

Glenn Kilner continues as our Group Committee Chair and leads our Scout section. The remainder of our executive includes: Dave Aldrey, Treasurer; Meghan Fraser, Beavers and Fundraising; Rob Tower, Cubs; Jeff English, Popcorn Co-ordinator & Scouts.

Scouting at Grace continues to be popular, especially with the younger children. We encourage boys and girls to participate in our activity-based programs, particularly camping and outdoor activities at Camp Attawandaron.

Activities

- Our annual Baden-Powell potluck dinner in February was held as part of Baden-Powell week activities. Each section prepared skits for parents and siblings.
- The annual Hike for Hunger for the Inn of the Good Shepherd was held in mid-February. Cubs and Scouts collected canned goods and delivered

them to the Inn. This year the Scouts set a goal of each Scout bringing in 25 lbs of non-perishable goods. The Scouts earned the money to buy food by doing extra chores around the house.

- All three groups attended various camps at Camp Attawandaron throughout the year, including the winter Klondyke Camp and spring Can-Am camp. The Scout group decided to try out at least one new Scout camp that they have not attended before. This past year the Scouts chose Scout camp Cataraqui which is located on Lake Erie, approximately 1 1/2hr away.
- The 32nd hosted the Regional Kub Kar Rally at the end of February, hosting over 103 youth and their parents in Grace gym. Once again, our high-tech race track was the highlight of the event. The Beaver Buggy Races were also held at Grace, hosted by the 23rd Scouts (St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church). Hosting the race day required many volunteers from the 32nd. We plan to host this again in 2017.
- The area service team (including group commissioners) has been using Grace United Church's facilities to hold monthly meetings.
- In October, the Scouts and leaders assisted with the clean-up of the annual Oktoberfest dinner held in the gym at Grace United.
- All three sections participated in the annual Postcards for Peace program, for Remembrance Day. Each member of our Scouting group wrote a note on a postcard for a veteran.
- Our group participated in the Annual Kinsmen Christmas Parade in December. The 2016 theme was The Wonder of Christmas. This year our float won the award for Best School/Youth Entry float. This is the 10th year in a row the 32nd Sarnia Scouts have entered a float in the parade; we are the only Scouting group that's participated over this time period. This year we had a new business donate the truck and float for our parade. We would like to acknowledge Preferred Towing and the driver, Kyle, for donating his time and equipment. We would also like to thank Pat Morrison for once again setting up the sound system on the float.
- The Beavers did extra chores during the month of December to buy Christmas presents for children. Myles Vanni, Executive Director of the Inn of the Good Shepherd, came to pick up the presents and explain to the Beavers the importance of these presents and what they mean to local children living in poverty.

Fundraising

- All sections participated in October's city-wide Apple Day fundraiser. Beavers each had one 2-hour shift and Cubs and Scouts contributed four hours to this important fundraiser. All of the money raised is used by the sections for activities and camps.
- The annual spring flower and poinsettia sales were once again successful. The Group Committee is very appreciative of the continuing relationship with Praill's Greenhouses. Mr. Praill continues to be a strong supporter of the 32nd Sarnia Group. As well, we appreciate the support of the Grace community for our various fundraisers.

- Additional donations were received from Investors Group, Neil Holloway and a former scouter from this area.

Cabin

All sections continue to enjoy the Delmar Ellis Cabin at Camp Attawandaron, just south of The Pinery. The cabin is also used by outside groups at a reduced fee or no cost, depending on the group's financial situation. We will be using the donation from the soup luncheon (from fall 2014) to repair front door landing and fix an accessible ramp which is rotting out at the top of the existing ramp. Due to a busy year, this task was not completed last year.

*Glenn Kilner & Julie Drope
32nd Sarnia Group Committee*

PROCLAMATION MINISTRIES

PROCLAMATION & SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE (P&SE)

Quarter Auction

The second quarter auction was held in April. Again, it was well attend by many people outside of the Grace community. The second one planned for November was cancelled as there was not another suitable date the gym was available. Since then, the city of Sarnia has stopped issuing licenses for quarter auctions and warned that fines will be issued for those held without.

Spring Fair

The focus this year was shifted to children's activities by bringing in Memorable Moments. This company set up on the lawn in front of the large kitchen a bouncy castle, games and prizes. Despite the questionable weather, all went well. Vendors continue to bring in revenue, as well as the silent auction, admissions (which includes the tearoom), books and plants. Thanks to AOTS for the BBQ.

Flea Market and Trunk Sale

Big thanks to Yvonne Vanderbeld for coordinating the indoor flea market. Even more parking spaces were sold outdoors to vendors and anyone wanting to sell items. Once again, the BBQ was provided by AOTS. This event continues to grow.

Fair Fall

Grace's largest fundraiser could almost run itself. Thanks to those who make it happen: Trish White - book sales, Lorna Cooper - silent auction, Maggie and Bob Rochon - horse and wagon rides, Bev Walkling - advertising and the Guiding Groups, AOTS - BBQ, Adult Fellowship - Bake Table, and Freezer Foods - Edna Dent, Diane Werezak and Alice Minty.

Last Chance Christmas Sale

This sale continues to be one of the favourites of many vendors who attend. Despite another sale being moved to the same day, 35 vendors came to sell and many of them donated to the silent auction. Thanks to all the volunteers who donated their time during a very busy time of year. Thanks to AOTS for the chili, soup, and chili dogs.

Special events are among my favourite things to do and that's why I do so many. I get the unique opportunity to meet dedicated people who donate their time, talents, and energy to make Grace and our community a better place. Thank you to all of you. I appreciate all your efforts and support.

The 2016 committee members will be: Pauline Henderson-Ferguson, Yvonne Vanderbeld, Bev Walkling, Bill Yates, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*).

Pauline Henderson-Ferguson

GOVERNANCE & SUPPORT MINISTRIES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees for 2016 consisted of Peter Melanson (chair), Rick Armstrong, Alexia Gladdy, Neil Holloway (secretary), Lorne Longley, Madeline McCaw, Bill Palmer, Ray Phillips, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

	<u>Present Insurance</u> <u>Dec. 1, 2015/2016</u>	<u>Proposed Renewal</u> <u>Dec. 1, 2016/2017</u> (showing updates only)
PROPERTY INSURANCE		
Property of Every Description (Church Building and Contents)	\$4,925,254	\$5,073,012
Broad Form/ Replacement Cost Basis \$2,500. Basic Deductible		
On Premises Extensions	\$1,000,000	
Off Premises Extensions	\$ 500,000	
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	\$4,925,254	\$5,073,012
On Boiler, Pressure Vessels, Electrical and Mechanical Equipment \$2500 Deductible		

COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL LIABILITY

Bodily Injury/ Property Damage	\$7,000,000.
Including Umbrella Liability	
\$1000 Deductible	
Abuse Cover	\$2,000,000.
Counselling, Errors & Omissions Cover	\$2,000,000.
Non-Owned Automobile Liability	\$2,000,000
Directors & Officers Liability	\$2,000,000.
\$1000. Deductible	

COST

2015– 2016 Term		2016-2017 Renewal Term	
One Year Cost	\$5,786.00	One Year Cost	\$5,916.00
ON Sales Tax	\$ 462.88	ON Sales Tax	\$ 473.28
	\$6,248.88		\$6,389.28

Peter Melanson, Trustees

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The committee membership for 2017 will be: Christopher Cooke (Chair), Julie Drope, Greg West, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*).

The committee has many people to thank for their support in 2016:

- Thank you to Bev Walking for updating Facebook with fresh content and responses to private messages. It takes significant dedication and creativity. Bev’s efforts are greatly appreciated.
- Thank you to Bev Walking and Yvonne Vanderbeld for baptism/confirmation/event photos.
- Thank you to Maggie Rochon for providing summer coverage for the office administrator. The church office is quite busy, and effective coverage is much appreciated.
- Thank you to the office volunteers for all their work throughout the year. The church office simply would not keep up with all the phone calls, requests and tasks without their assistance.
- Thank you to Al McLean and Curtis Dixon for their efforts in maintaining the outdoor sign. It’s the best advertising available.
- Thank you to Claude Valade for assisting the staff with computer and technology issues.
- Thank you to Julie Drope for her continued efforts producing Grace Notes.
- Thank you to Christopher Cooke for managing the website and other on-line services.
- And a big thank you to Lori Armstrong for all the work she does on behalf of the committee. Having a competent and reliable office administrator is a very real blessing for the church.

While the chimes system has not been in operation for most of 2016, the committee expects to have it fixed in early 2017. A replacement speaker and speaker cable has been made available.

The committee's operating budget pays for many recurring expenses, such as the phone bill and copier maintenance. However, the committee also makes use of various special funds. In 2016, special fund use covered the purchases of a new wireless access point (\$299.36), a replacement wireless access point (\$175.09), a replacement battery for a battery back-up (\$49.88) and replacement parts for the office chair (\$149.16).

Christopher Cooke

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (M & P)

The Ministry & Personnel Committee convened for ten meetings in 2016. Activities and business of interest included:

- We appreciate the vacation relief support provided by Maggie Rochon (for Lori).
- A recognition lunch was held for Carolyn Callaghan and Nadyne Dell to celebrate their contributions to the committee.
- We supported Curtis through his wife's illness in 2016. He was offered compassionate leave when necessary and his duties were covered by volunteers.
- The responsibility for communicating with ADP regarding salary changes was transitioned from the Treasurer to the M&P Committee.
- Recognition luncheons for staff and the volunteer group were held at year end.
- The United Church of Canada implemented a new compensation model for Ministry personnel in 2015. Grace will transition to the new model in 2018.

The 2017 M&P Committee members will be: Laura Black, Joanna Catterson, John Cooke, and John Scott.

John Cooke

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The chair person was shared on a rotating basis for 2016. Starting this year 2017 the Chairperson for the Property Committee will be Steve Siklosi.

Some of the work completed in 2016 is as follows

- Continued repair of loose tiled areas in the gym
- Replaced roof over north side of Friendship Room

- Replaced entire flat roof system over kitchen area and offices
- Installed new signage throughout church to assist with navigating the church interior
- Replaced sink in large kitchen and faucets in both small and large kitchen
- Replaced all lighting and fans in sanctuary
- Assisted with the Friendship Room renovations
- Assisted with the chapel renovations
- Worked with Bob Rochon with accessibility, including new ramp and rail on north side of sanctuary
- Purchased (donation) a new janitorial cart for custodian
- Formulated an up to date HVAC replacement proposal
- Had all carpets cleaned throughout entire church interior
- Planted new trees and shrubs throughout church grounds

We received with regrets, the resignation of Jim Kearns and David Smith as members of the Property Committee. We would like to thank them both for their hard work and years of service on the Property Committee.

Going forward for 2017, we are in the midst of re-organizing the committee with the assistance from the pastoral team. We are in need of new members to strive to maintain our large building that needs ongoing attention and repairs. With the new organization, this may mean that volunteers may not have to put in a full-time commitment to the committee. They could assist with certain projects or functions throughout the year. This would help ease the work load to the group. If this is something that may interest you please see Brad Morrison or Steve Siklosi for more information.

As it stands, the 2017 Property Committee members will be: Steve Siklosi (chair), Glenn Kilner, and the Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

Steve Siklosi, Chair

KITCHEN COMMITTEE (Ad-hoc committee to the Property Committee)

The Kitchen Committee, under the auspices of the Property Committee, continues to meet about three times through the year to clean the kitchens and sort through things. Our job has become easier as everyone is taking ownership for cleaning up after usage of the area(s), and taking home their leftovers. Many thanks to everyone for their cooperation.

Members: Diane Werezak, Chris McGuiness, Alice Minty, Ellen Robertson, and Lindsay Smith.

*Submitted on behalf of the Kitchen Committee
Lindsay Smith*

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The 2017 Planning Committee members will be: Barb Baxter, Joel Eagleson, Leanne Kember (Chair), Incoming Chair (*ex officio*), Kirk Wilson (Council Rep), and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

The Planning Committee did not meet this year while the Growth and Giving Campaign was underway. The committee will resume in 2017.

Submitted by Leanne Kember

GROWTH & GIVING CAMPAIGN

The Growth & Giving Campaign was officially launched in January 2016 with the goal to raise \$150,000. We are pleased to report that, to the end of 2016, we've raised \$125,000. This income includes profits from 3 promotional events, Besig & Price Weekend proceeds, and donations from ~100 families.

Sharing our facilities is an important way that we share our gifts with the larger community and reach deeply into the lives of many other people. The funds raised in the campaign are dedicated to a series of projects designed to improve and sustain our facilities. Total spending to the end of 2016 was \$88,000. Our progress to date includes:

- ✓ Friendship Room refurbished.
- ✓ Sanctuary lighting and overhead fans replaced.
- ✓ Accessible entrance door installed at the main kitchen entrance.
- ✓ Sanctuary entrance ramp and handrail installed.
- ✓ One sanctuary pew was modified.
- ✓ Roofing replaced over the narthex, the Friendship Room, the office wing, and the main kitchen.

Several other projects are in progress:

- ⌚ Improve accessibility (modify the family washroom, automatic door into the sanctuary, and automatic door at the main east entrance).
- ⌚ Developing plans to refurbish Room 4 & 10.
- ⌚ Plans for replacing the Sanctuary HVAC units are ready to implement when equipment reaches end of life.
- ⌚ Developing plans to repair or replace the Gym floor.
- ⌚ Developing plans to replace the Gym roof.

We anticipate wrapping up the fundraising activities in June 2017. The project implementation will likely continue to the end of the year.

We thank everyone who has contributed to the financial campaign for your generous donations. We are also grateful to several members of the congregation for project planning and implementation including: John Kafford,

Bob Rochon, Jim Rutledge, John Scott, Steve Siklosi, Dave Smith, Leo Spence, George Vero, Jim Wicks, and Shirley Willis.

The Growth & Giving Team is an ad hoc committee of Grace Council. Current members are: Val Adamson, John Cooke, Paul Cooper, Brian Eagleson, Brad Mackey, Brad Morrison, Bob Newman, Bill Palmer, Danielle Simmons, and Kirk Wilson.

John Cooke, Chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is responsible to effectively manage the church finances, to regularly provide updates to the congregation, and to communicate issues and proposed resolutions to Council.

2016 was a good year financially for Grace. The Operating Budget had a small year-end deficit of \$3270 (which was better than our approved budget deficit of \$4355). Operating cost reductions more than offset givings that were less than planned. Given the significant donations made to the Growth and Giving Campaign in 2016, this is a tremendous accomplishment.

Some members chose to make their contributions early in the year which enabled the Finance Committee to avoid using the line of credit or Reserve Fund in 2016.

Special events (e.g. spring sale and fall fair) make a significant contribution to church revenues. We appreciate the many volunteers who support these events and, of course, Pauline Henderson-Ferguson, for providing the essential element of leadership.

Financially, the congregation also made significant contributions to a number of Outreach initiatives as well as to funds that exist to support specific ministries at Grace (see the summaries in the Annual Report).

In 2016, there were significant donations directed to the Sarnia Community Foundation (SCF). Total funds invested now exceed \$45,000 with the following approximate investments;

- funds to support youth initiatives [Tom Murray(\$8,000), Gwen Hopper bequest(\$26,000)]
- Ken Plumley Youth Scholarship (\$8,150)
- Tom and Donna Moore Fund (\$1,000)
- General Grace Fund (\$1,920)

2017 will again be a challenging year for the operating budget with the Growth and Giving Capital Campaign scheduled to conclude on June 30th. There are a number of key initiatives that will result in financial success;

1. Committees will again be asked to achieve costs at or below budget numbers to eliminate a proposed budget deficit.
2. The congregation is encouraged to support and participate in the various special events held at Grace to ensure these are successful.
3. FUNDSCRIP continues to be an opportunity to raise additional funds. Details are published periodically in the bulletin.

Proposed members of the Finance Committee for 2017 are; Neil Pole, Ian McGuinness, Marv Bildfell, Bill Scott, Bob Newman, Paul Cooper, and Pastoral Team (*ex officio*)

We would welcome new members. It's a great way to learn more about church finances and to get to know other members of the congregation.

Finally, thank you to all members of the congregation who have contributed financially to the operating budget, specific funds, and outreach causes throughout 2016. Without your generosity, Grace could not exist.

Paul Cooper, Treasurer

	2015	2016 Budget	2016	2017 Budget
Givings for Operating Budget	\$ 388,306.84	\$ 388,300.00	\$ 365,331.20	\$ 375,000.00
Designated M & S Givings	\$ 5,659.92	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,761.42	\$ 5,700.00
Total Givings - Unified Budget	\$ 393,966.76	\$ 394,000.00	\$ 371,092.62	\$ 380,700.00
Other Income				
Rental	\$ 13,888.81	\$ 13,900.00	\$ 13,015.15	\$ 14,000.00
Donations	\$ 1,940.00	\$ 1,940.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00
Interest	\$ 106.28	\$ 100.00	\$ 302.31	\$
Special Events	\$ 11,183.47	\$ 11,200.00	\$ 9,411.12	\$ 11,200.00
Grace Ministries	\$ 289.19			
Other Income	\$ 1,022.49	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,768.19	\$ 2,000.00
	\$ 422,397.00	\$ 423,140.00	\$ 397,239.39	\$ 409,650.00

Committee Expenditure								
Congregational Care and Growth	\$	245.69	\$	1,000.00	\$	935.02	\$	1,000.00
Outreach (M & S)	\$	36.51						
Christian Development	\$	1,565.74	\$	1,420.00	\$	1,649.59	\$	1,420.00
Worship	\$	1,215.58	\$	1,625.00	\$	608.78	\$	1,625.00
Communications	\$	7,506.48	\$	8,300.00	\$	9,163.02	\$	8,550.00
Ministry and Personnel	\$	321,950.08	\$	319,000.00	\$	300,126.05	\$	306,400.00
Trustees	\$	1,054.51	\$	6,300.00	\$	5,058.45	\$	6,000.00
Property	\$	36,985.34	\$	43,500.00	\$	36,430.48	\$	43,500.00
Finance	\$	3,359.63	\$	3,500.00	\$	3,487.68	\$	3,500.00
Lay Presbytery	\$	13,454.87	\$	13,200.00	\$	13,371.32	\$	14,000.00
Council	\$	31.91	\$	100.00	\$	32.38	\$	100.00
M & S	\$	29,800.00	\$	29,550.00	\$	29,550.00	\$	27,825.00
Total Expenditure	\$	417,206.34	\$	427,495.00	\$	400,412.77	\$	413,920.00
Net Income vs. Expenditure	\$	5,190.66	-\$	4,355.00	-\$	3,173.38	-\$	4,270.00
Transfer to Reserve Fund	\$	5,190.66						
Transfer from Reserve Fund			\$	4,355.00		3,173.38		4,270.00
	-\$	0.00	\$	-	\$	0.00	\$	-

Grace United Church - Operating Account

Assets	2015	2016
Royal Bank Chequing	\$ 41,262.15	\$ 19,769.16
Royal Bank Savings	\$ 500.12	\$ 500.12
Investment Account #001603885	\$ 58,003.59	\$ 118,305.79
Petty Cash	\$ 185.96	\$ 185.08
Southwest Credit Union Shares	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Southwest Credit Union Ass'n account	\$ 113.25	\$ 181.96
Scotiabank Chequing		\$ 25,877.85
Scotiabank GIC		\$ 20,000.00
Accounts Receivable	\$ 5,678.44	\$ 9,013.75
Total Assets	\$ 105,768.51	\$ 193,858.71
Liabilities and Equity		
Accounts Payable	\$ 20,180.64	\$ 583.36
Church Funds		
Refugee		\$ 46,594.50
Growth and Giving		\$ 40,835.78
Reserve	\$ 30,536.69	\$ 59,191.31
Audio-Visual Equipment	\$ 2,347.53	\$ 4,857.53
Youth Initiatives	\$ 5,120.69	\$ 4,779.82
Office Equipment Fund	\$ 552.05	\$ 163.90
Lunches for Learning	\$ 7,332.14	\$ 11,494.54
Inn of the Good Shepherd	\$ 807.78	\$ 1,085.62
Youth Worship	\$ 2,819.70	\$ 3,440.51
Betty Sykes Fund	\$ 4,718.03	\$ 1,718.03
Capital Replacement Fund	\$ 19,745.68	\$ 509.92
Benevolent Fund		\$ 1,097.52
UCW		\$ 5,898.79
	\$ 73,980.29	\$ 181,667.77
General Fund	\$ 11,607.58	\$ 11,607.58
Total Funds	\$ 85,587.87	\$ 193,275.35
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 105,768.51	\$ 193,858.71

Schedule of Accounts Payable	2015	2016
Church Key Deposits	\$ 255.00	\$ 260.00
VISA	\$ 8.14	
Refugee Fund	\$ 19,817.50	
Memorial Fund	\$ 100.00	
Affirming Committee		\$ 323.36
	\$ 20,180.64	\$ 583.36
Schedule of Accounts Receivable		
HST	\$ 5,678.44	\$ 9,013.75
	\$ 5,678.44	\$ 9,013.75

Grace Segregated Funds - December 31, 2016

Fund	Balance	
	Thurs., Dec. 31, 2015	Sat., Dec. 31, 2016
Memorial	\$ 18,623.92	\$ 19,266.24
Ken Plumley	\$ 1,886.94	\$ 1,676.54*
Leadership Development	\$ 9,426.87	\$ 9,352.58
Inspiration	\$ 18,294.01	\$ 17,550.77
Total	\$ 48,231.74	\$ 46,169.59
	*Note: See also Sarnia Community Foundation Report	
Bank Accounts		
Investment Account 582304325	\$ 20,410.86	\$ 20,942.78
Investment Account 582304333	\$ 27,720.88	\$ 26,903.35
Bank Total	\$ 48,131.74	\$ 47,846.13

2016 Outreach Report

United Church of Canada Missionary and Service

Givings from Unified Budget	\$	29,550.00
UCW	\$	2,000.00
Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas M and S	\$	1,995.00
Subtotal	\$	33,545.00

United Church of Canada Disaster Relief Appeals

Red Cross - Fort McMurray	\$	55.00
Subtotal	\$	55.00

Soup Luncheons

Rayjon	\$	1,966.00
Brigden Foodgrains	\$	2,427.00
Inn of the Good Shepherd	\$	1,565.00
St. Clair Child and Youth	\$	1,492.25
Circles	\$	1,137.00
Rayjon - Hurricane Matthew	\$	3,576.00
Free the Children	\$	2,047.00
Subtotal	\$	14,210.25

Other Donations

Brigden Foodgrains	\$	175.00
Lunches for Learning	\$	10,122.80
Subtotal	\$	10,297.80

Other Grace Groups	
Youth Group	World Vision \$ 480.00
UCW	Alzheimers's Society \$ 50.00
UCW	Lambton Student Nutrition \$ 295.00
Adult Fellowship	Multiple Sclerosis \$ 50.00
Adult Fellowship	Rebound \$ 150.00
Adult Fellowship	Women's Interval Home \$ 100.00
Adult Fellowship	Huron House Boys' Home \$ 100.00
Adult Fellowship	Kids on the Block \$ 100.00
Adult Fellowship	Inn of the Good Shepherd \$ 100.00
Adult Fellowship	Lambton Centre \$ 100.00
Adult Fellowship	St. Lukes - Hub \$ 200.00
Communion Fund	Needy Family Assistance \$ 600.00
Communion Fund	Lambton Centre \$ 350.00
Communion Fund	Stamps - Jail \$ 90.00
Communion Fund	SIMCA \$ 500.00
AOTS	Alix Art Gallery \$ 100.00
AOTS	Circles \$ 100.00
AOTS	Free the Children \$ 100.00
AOTS	St. Joseph's Hospice \$ 100.00
AOTS	George de Guzman \$ 100.00
Subtotal	
	\$ 3,765.00
Fair value manse rental	\$ 61,873.05
	\$ 16,800.00
Total	\$ 78,673.05

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee had one position to fill this year which was the position of Vice Chair of Council. At the time of printing, this position is still open. The following are the people who have volunteered to give their time to serve on Council:

Chair:	Bryce McGarvey	Vice Chair:	Vacant
Past Chair:	Bruce Davies	Secretary:	Chris Cooke
Treasurer:	Paul Cooper	Financial Reviewers:	Gord Walkling Laura Black

Members of the Nominating Committee were Lisa Valade (Past Chair), Bryce McGarvey (Vice Chair), Jim Wicks (Roll Clerk), Peter Melanson (Trustee), Bill Palmer.

Lisa Valade, Past Chair of Council

CHURCH STAFF

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

In Memoriam (2016)

John Newton	March 9
Mona Heath	April 17
Lucy Duncan	May 9
Tye Aiken	May 19
Betty Hoover	June 6
Bill Gilchrist	June 16
Ray Ferguson	August 19
Marg Holden	September 2
Alleen Wilcox	October 5
Carol Murray	November 4
Don Nimetz	November 30