

Mount Forest – Woodland Pastoral Charge Annual Report 2023



People plan their path, but the Lord
secures their steps.
Proverbs 16:9

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MINUTES OF THE 2023 MOUNT FOREST UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 12, 2023
Fellowship Hall, Mount Forest United Church

Call to Order @ 2:10 pm

Welcome to Rev. Sue Campbell and lighting of the Christ candle

Reflection and Opening Prayer: Rev. Sue Campbell

Thoughts about the "Beloved Community" as shared by Bob McFarlane, Lene MacLean and Laurie Aitken, followed by table discussion in small groups about the beloved community.

Consent Document (one motion)

- To approve Rev. Sue Campbell as Chair
- To approve Laurie Aitken to take minutes
- To approve agenda as distributed
- To approve adherents/non-members as corresponding members with voting privileges
- To approve the minutes from February 29 2022.

Motion by Jack Watkin to accept the consent document. Seconded by: Norm Eygenraam. Motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes of February 29, 2022 – None

Motion to accept the Annual General Report. Moved by: Susan MacArthur. Seconded by: Bill Kreps. Motion carried.

Presentation of 2022 Financial Report and 2023 Budget Presented by Al Leach who reported that we are in a more positive financial position in 2022 despite projections of finishing the year over budget. 2023 budget reflects 6 months of lay ministers and 6 months for a temporary minister.

Motion to receive the financial documents for the year ending December 31, 2022, made by Roseanne Desmarais. Seconded by Daphne Rappard. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2023 budget made by Heather McLeod. Seconded by: Bill Kreps. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Financial reviewers, Bill Kreps and Bob McClure for the 2023 year made by Donna McFarlane. Seconded by: Jack Watkin. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee Report (Lene MacLean)

Chair: Co-Chairs Bob McFarlane and Laurie Aitken Vice Chair: Rick Sinnamon Secretary: Patty Sinnamon
Members at Large:

1st Member at large - Lene MacLean 2nd Member at large - shared by Daphne Rappard and Betty Seminowicz.

All other Leadership Team members will remain the same.

Motion to approve the members of the LT made by Shawn McLeod. Seconded by Donna Leach. Motion carried.

Motion made by Ellen Watkin to allow the Leadership Team to appoint new members to the Leadership Team and other committees as needed throughout the year. Seconded by: Norm Eygenraam. Motion carried.

Motion made by Donna McFarlane to accept Norm Eygenraam for the Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council. Seconded by: Karon Falk. Motion carried.

New Business:

Living Faith Story and Profile Presentation (Lene MacLean). A huge “thank you” is extended to the group who worked to create this excellent document: Lene MacLean, Betty Seminowicz, Bob McFarlane, Dan MacArthur, Marg Mitchell and Ron Harper.

Motion made by Bob McFarlane to approve the Living Faith Story and Profile. Seconded by: Virginia Byers. Motion carried.

Other New Business:

Norm Eygenraam made an acknowledgement of Lene MacLean’s overall contributions to our church functioning as we move through transition.

Acknowledgements of those who have served (Rev. Sue Campbell) Blessing

Motion to adjourn: Jack Watkin at 3:15 pm

Attendance: AGM

Rev. Sue Campbell, Neil Aitken, Laurie Aitken, Bob McClure, Ron Harper, Nancy Harper, Frank McLean, Lene MacLean, Bob Foscett, Susan MacArthur, Dan MacArthur, Wilma Crockford, Gerald Crockford, Mary Norris, Virginia Byers, Mary Allen, Bill Kreps, Daphne Rappard, Mary Ruth Job, Vern Job, Jack Watkin, Ellen Watkin, Donna Leach, Al Leach, Bob McFarlane, Donna McFarlane, Norm Eygenraam, Rick Sinnamon, Rose-Anne Desmarais, Bruce Chapman, Karon Falk, Betty Seminowicz, Klaus Seibert, Rhoda Seibert, Shawn McLeod, Heather McLeod, Janice Benson.

**MOUNT FOREST WOODLAND PASTORAL CHARGE
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023**

Present:

Mount Forest – Shawn and Heather McLeod, Patty and Rick Sinnamon, Nancy Harper, Kerry Hale, Donna and Al Leach, Bob McClure, Barb Schellenberger, Flora and Mike Burke, Brenda Harrison, Daphne Rappard, Yvonne Stewart, Mary Sivill, Isabel Patterson, Betty Seminowicz, Bob and Donna McFarlane, Laurie and Neil Aitken, Lene MacLean, Bill Kreps, Richard Straza, Myrna Penney, Vern and Mary Ruth Job, Dan MacArthur, Harold Wollis, John Moore, Bruce Chapman, Rose Anne Desmarais, Cynthia and James Croker, Jack Langenhuizen, Marion Officer, Wilma and Gerald Crockford, Alma MacRae, Annabelle Kelly, Barbara Hruska, Virginia Byers, Ann Allen, Barb Reeves, Dorothy Cook, Marlyn Howard, Jack and Ellen Watkin, Norm Eygenraam, (via zoom)

Woodland – Stan Harris, George Harris, Gerry Wilkinson, Diane Johnson, Marian Howes, Marg Mitchell

Bob McFarlane and Laurie Aitken chaired the meeting with Patty Sinnamon as recording secretary. Bob stated that the purpose of the meeting was to vote on the proposed position and salary of a new minister. Norm Eygenraam offered a prayer (via Zoom)

Bob applauded the search committee for their work to date and also thanked the worship committee for arranging pulpit supply for the past year.

Lene MacLean provided an update from the search committee. Bob then gave an overview of the proposed salary grid. The search committee is recommending Level 4 in the cost of living group, which is in keeping with the United Church of Canada remuneration policies. She also explained that the posting would be for a maximum of 40 hours per week for an ordained, diaconal or designated lay minister and that the terms could be negotiated with the candidate.

The following motion was put to a vote to the pastoral charge with Mount Forest voting separately in the fellowship hall and Woodland voting in the gymnasium. It was explained that the two congregations should be offered privacy during the deliberations and vote.

That the search committee post a vacancy for a maximum of 40 hours per week, for an ordained, diaconal or designated lay minister for the Mount Forest/Woodland Pastoral Charge at the salary range of Cost of Living Group 4 with flexible terms to be negotiated.

Discussion and questions ensued. Al Leach provided an overview of what the impacts are with the new salary grid and indicated that we will need to look closely at the numbers down the road. He indicated that our givings will need to increase to be sustainable, but also indicated that this is a vibrant, strong and healthy congregation and that the motion under consideration has some flexibility built into it.

Bob and Laurie remained in the fellowship hall with Mount Forest members and conducted the vote. Mount Forest congregation unanimously supported the motion.

Patty moved into the gymnasium with the laptop and the Woodland representatives. Via Zoom Norm explained the process and why the two congregations were separate. Patty left the room and Norm conducted the vote. Woodland congregation also unanimously supported the motion.

Bob and Laurie both thanked everyone for attending and for their support of the motion, noting that both congregations are in unanimous support of moving forward as per the motion.

Respectfully submitted, Patty Sinnamon, Secretary, Leadership Team

MOUNT FOREST UNITED CHURCH 2023 COMMITTEE AND GROUP REPORTS

Report from the Mount Forest United Church Leadership Team

Mount Forest and Woodland Pastoral Charges each have representation on our Leadership Team. Since the last Annual Meeting, we have been meeting on the third Tuesday of each month and will continue over the next year. Rev. Sue Campbell of Elmira United Church has continued to be our supervisor and provide guidance at our meetings.

A Wi-Fi connection for the church building has provided some freedom and flexibility for our Team as they can now join via zoom if needed. This also reduces the time and mileage of our supervising Minister. All committee chairs also have access for their meeting if they so choose. This also provides some flexibility for Klaus and the Media Team.

Our churches have been blessed with 3 Licensed Lay Worship Leaders and other individuals who have taken services over this past year and provided variety and continuity from the pulpit. We have also been blessed with talent and music leadership of Derek Moore, our choir and praise band.

Remit 1 was formally approved by our Leadership Team. The United Church of Canada had requested that the leadership of each congregation vote on granting our indigenous population the right to self-governance within the United Church of Canada.

Finance member on our Team, Al Leach, provided monthly reports on the financial status of our church in conjunction with Juliann at the church office. We have remained in a good financial position over this past year and Al and the finance committee will give a full review of this past year and bring forth the proposed 2024 budget at our annual meeting.

Our churches have relied on all committees to function to the best of their abilities and have kept our churches strong and viable. Many of these people fly under the radar and deserve appreciation for all the work they do. If you feel called, all of our committees need the injection of new and fresh ideas in order to provide support to our members and outreach in our community and beyond.

The members of the Leadership Team this past year have been: Bob McFarlane, Laurie Aitken, Al Leach, Betty Seminowicz, Diane Johnson, Norm Eygenraam, Gerry Wilkinson, Rick Sinnamon, Patty Sinnamon, Lene MacLean and Daphne Rappard. It has been a pleasure to serve and support both Pastoral Charges.

Respectively submitted, Bob McFarlane

Worship Committee

Over the past year the worship committee has continued to work hard to try to ensure that services continue to meet the spiritual needs of our congregations. It has been difficult sometimes, to be without the guidance of a minister who usually sits firmly at the head of this committee, ensuring that each Christian season and occasion is properly observed. We have been richly blessed to have three Licensed Lay Worship Leaders and several gifted speakers right within our congregation, who have made our task easier. We appreciate encouragement and suggestions from the congregation.

We are so thankful for Derek Moore and both the Choir and Praise Band as their participation in Sunday services and special occasions such as the Christmas Cantata greatly add to the Christian ministry in our church. It is of course, extremely important to ensure that especially our Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter services are special and deeply meaningful for all. We think Patty Sinnamon did an outstanding job with this year's Christmas services.

As we have done for many years we had a special gift for families attending our Christmas Eve early service. Fran Herriot, one of our committee members, made the wonderful suggestion to purchase silk poinsettias for the poinsettia tree this year. This worked out wonderfully. This change ensured that no dangerous maneuvers were needed during watering and it all looked beautiful from the beginning to the end of the Christmas season. I think we all agree that the poinsettia tree has become an important part of our sanctuary at Christmas and were so glad that it beautified the funerals of two valued congregational members.

Last year we didn't have a sunrise service on Easter Sunday. If you really missed this service, please speak to Donna McFarlane and our committee will consider preparing something this year. Our committee is also in charge of doing the "duty roster" that is for greeters, ushers, elevator operators and lay readers. Yvonne Stewart took on the task of preparing the last list and has done an excellent job of sending out reminders. That being said, there have been some conflicts on certain dates. If this happens, the kindest thing you can do is to speak to Yvonne or to call someone in the congregation to take over your job for a particular Sunday. We have eliminated the position of ushers and combined their duties with the "job description" of the greeters. This seems to be working well. Since no one has stepped forward to take on the flower ministry in the sanctuary and at the front and rear entrances, several of us are trying to work together to make sure things look nice. We continue to invite members to place memorial or tribute arrangements.

Our committee would love to add new members to the worship team, so if you feel you have new ideas please consider this. Most of all, let's keep praying that our new minister will be a reality soon!

Submitted by Donna McFarlane on behalf of the worship team. Bruce Chapman, Heather McLeod, Fran Herriot, Yvonne Stewart and from Woodland, Gerry Wilkinson and Marian Howes.

Ministry & Personnel

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is comprised of the following members; Al Leach (Chair Finance) Lene MacLean (UCW Pres), Mike Burke (Trustee), Flora Burke (Choir Rep), George Harris (Woodland Rep), Dan MacArthur (Committee Chair). Many thanks to the committee for their efforts during the past year.

Salary and any adjustments were done accordingly, based on approved budgets.

Our Custodial staff continue doing a good job at maintaining the required standards for our Church building. This contract was renewed at the end of December 2023 for another year.

In May, I was informed by Annette that she was intending to retire as our Office Manager/Treasurer and would be retiring as of August 21.

Many thanks from the M&P committee to Annette for all the years of service and dedication to Mount Forest United and Woodland United Pastoral Charges. Our congregations have been privileged to have Annette's dedication and work ethics for 20 plus years.

With Annette's retirement it has been possible for Juliann Ellis to assume the position of Office Manager/Treasurer. With her acceptance of this position, it has been a smooth transition as Juliann has been our Office Administrator for a number of years and brings experience from both the administrative side as well as financial. She has a strong working relationship with both Pastoral charges.

The search for a new Minister continues and there are two members of the M&P committee that are a part of the search committee.

The Church staff continues to work hard with our Worship Committee to provide assistance for our Sunday worship. Thanks to Worship for the hard work in keeping pulpit supply and services running smoothly.

As part of my ongoing commitment to our Church and the M&P Committee, I continually strive to keep lines of communication open. The committee will help when required with our Ministerial transition and to maintain communication going forward.

The Committee would like to thank Derek for our ongoing Ministry of Music, Juliann for keeping the Church office running smoothly, and to Vanessa and Corey for providing their services.

Respectively submitted,

Dan MacArthur, Chair

Membership & Fellowship

It has been a very quiet year for the Membership and Fellowship Committee. We have had our weekly coffee and supplied Bibles for the new incumbents to our church. Thank you to all that help with the committee and with the coffee hour, as they are very successful.

Our membership was Lene Maclean, Shawn McCloud and Jim Hilgartner. We could use some flesh blood, so look and see if we are the answer for you. Thank you.

Mary Ruth Job, Committee Chair

Pauline Brown Resource Centre

The Resource Centre has been very quiet in 2023. In the meantime, if anyone would like to borrow any books/materials, please contact Mary Allen at maryallendippel@gmail.com or 519-323-1934.

Submitted by Mary Allen

Christian Education Committee

Our Sunday School program is ALIVE and WELL. Rosters for a leader were scheduled for each Sunday during the service. The children made journals and each Sunday they attended, at least one page was added about the Bible story they learned that day. They also received an attendance star. The journals were distributed to the children in June (2023) at the end of the Sunday School season. During the summer there are bags of pictures, crayons, and stories available in the Narthex for children to use.

Easter Parade: Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023 saw the children participate in a Palm Sunday parade during the service in the sanctuary and then they proceeded to Sunday School.

Family Movie Night: Friday April 28, 2023 a movie night was held for children and families. It was well attended and everyone had fun.

Murphy Park Service: June 11, 2023 at the annual service at Murphy Park marked the end of the Sunday School season. The children received their journals to take home.

Harper Family Camp Out: In July 21-22, 2023, the Harper family again hosted a Community Family Campout for all ages.

Vacation Bible School: Another successful Vacation Bible School was held August 8-11, 2023, with 19 attending. The theme was "Kingdom of the Son" with an emphasis on The Lord's Prayer. The children were attentive and had fun.

Trunk or Treat: This annual event was very successful. We had 14 decorated vehicles and more than 244 children attend in their Halloween costumes. Congregational support (donations of candy and assistance) was appreciated.



Compassion Child: Our Christian Education Committee continues to sponsor a child in need through this organization. Our current sponsor child is a 10-year-old girl named Fernanda who lives in Guatemala. We are communicating with Fernanda by mail and the children made cards for her birthday in October and again for Christmas. She has sent back responses as well.

Advent Children's Pageant: On December 10th, the children participated in presenting a pageant, "There is Always Room" during the service. It was fun for the children and the members of the congregation. The author of the pageant was our own NANCY HARPER (great work). Afterward the children had a pizza lunch in the Fellowship Hall and they were each given a copy of a nativity story colouring book for Christmas.

As we have children attending Sunday School almost every Sunday, it is encouraging this Committee to continue to engage the children and families in our congregation and community.

CE Committee Members: Mary Allen, Sharon Duncan, Nancy Harper, Jessica McFarlane, Jenn Vandepas

Submitted by Mary Allen

Mission & Service

Many thanks to our dedicated Mission and Service Committee members, Paula Solway, Janice Benson, Gerry Wilkinson, Rilla McRobb, Virginia Byers and to all others who have volunteered their time and efforts into our projects throughout 2023.

Our projects included several fund raisers and 2 community dinners. Starting in February, we made and sold approximately 315 turkey pot pies, a luncheon to raise funds for the Ukrainian Fund of the United Church, a spring and fall Community Dinner, in the fall an Apple Pie blitz (around 119), and we are now preparing for another turkey pot pie sale mid-February. Without our members and volunteers these activities would not have been possible.

With the proceeds of these ventures we have maintained helping to fulfill our goal of assisting programs of NEED in our own Community and Region. Donations were given to the Ukrainian Fund (as mentioned), the Community Garden Project, Christmas Bureau, Warm Winter Wishes, Stonehenge, Community Pantry, Victoria Cross Breakfast Club, St. Mary's Breakfast Club, Adopt A Family, Elora House, United Church M & S Fund, Ramoth House, Elsa Mann re Rural Community, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and M.F.U.C. Operating fund.

I wish to make special mention and thanks to Bill Kreps for providing us freezer space for our turkeys over the past several years and the Raw Carrot Program for the use of some of their freezer space at times and their utensils at turkey pot pie making time.

It is after much mental deliberation and debate that I have given up my role on Mission and Services. It has been an honor and joy to participate on this committee and as I have stated each year, I have had such wonderful support from my fellow members throughout the years as well as congregational support. All being well, I will assist when I can with any of the future ventures. Unfortunately, not only is the committee losing me but two others, Paula and Rilla, have resigned but are still willing if able, to assist. I guess this is also the joy of aging....and we all are....

Wishing only Blessings and God's guidance in the future of this committee.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia Byers, Chairperson

Raw Carrot Soup Enterprise

The Raw Carrot is a social enterprise that empowers people who face barriers to traditional employment to secure their own livelihoods through the dignity of work. (from the Raw Carrot website)

The Raw Carrot has just completed another successful year of providing "employment with purpose"! That's our new tag line. We are still making lots of soup, and have added granola and pancake to our product line. We are now also selling a breakfast gift box that did very well over the Christmas season. All this, of course, is to provide employment to people who don't fit into the "regular" work force because of a disability. We believe as Christians that the Raw Carrot helps work towards social justice for people with disabilities. Micah 6:8 says, "What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." We are doing this by providing the dignity of work and employment to people who otherwise would not be part of the work force.

At the Raw Carrot we are lovingly supported by a great group of volunteers, many of whom are members of our congregation.

Janice Benson is retiring as managing director. She will still act as liaison between The Raw Carrot and the Mission and Service Committee. Lynne Felkar is the kitchen manager, and we are seeking a new sales person.

Submitted by Janice Benson

Green Team



2023 was an exciting year for the Green Team. Having switched names from Mount Forest United Church Green Team to Mount Forest Green Team in November of 2022, our intention to attract more members from the community at large was realized. We still have a core of MFUC people, but now have the expertise and energy of younger people too!

We met approximately monthly throughout the year, still using the church as our base. Due to health concerns, Rhoda Seibert had to step down as chair halfway through the year, and Daphne Rappard filled in.

Our major accomplishments this year included:

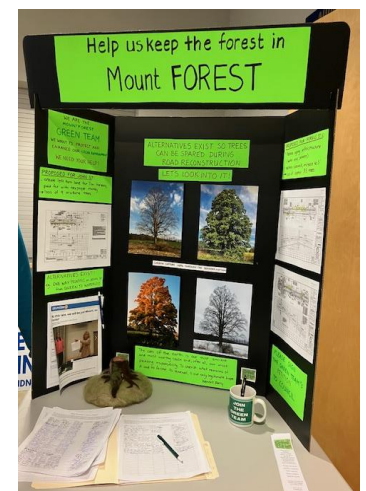
- Earth Day garbage cleanup at various locations in town.
- Planting 200 Green Legacy coniferous saplings on County property at the old dump near Angus Smith Park.
- Donating \$500 to the establishment of the new Mount Forest Community Garden.
- Starting an inventory of all trees on Municipal property, including the Mount Forest Cemetery, where we discovered the majority of the trees are probably 100+ years old, and so we are recommending Township Council to initiate planting Memorial Trees there for future generations to enjoy.
- Mounting a public awareness campaign about the Township of Wellington North 2024 reconstruction plans for Fergus St. N., which would see the loss of 35 mature trees, many of them majestic sugar maples, and John St, which would see taxpayers spending almost \$2 million on creating a left turn lane for Tim Hortons, and destroying another 9 trees. We presented a deputation at a Township Council meeting, also presenting a petition on behalf of concerned citizens, resulting in Council putting a hold on both projects to investigate alternatives.
- Urging Township Council to create Tree Protection Policies/Bylaws, as is required by the Municipal Act.
- Township Council has acquired a GIS (Geographical Information System) whereby we will be inputting our tree inventory data on a GPS linked App, subsequently facilitating the implementation of Tree Protection guidelines in the (hopefully near!) future.

The Green Team will be planting a white oak tree at the Holy Cross Cemetery, Mount Forest, in memory of Mary McIntee, a dedicated member of the Green Team, who passed away in June, 2023

Looking forward to 2024, we are excited that we have been asked to provide input to the Township of Wellington North with regards to construction alternatives, assessing tree health (we have two arborists on our Committee), and drafting municipal policies.

We will also be investigating the availability of grant money for environmental greening projects, such as the Green Municipal Fund and, within the United Church, the Faithful Footprints initiative.

Respectfully submitted, Daphne Rappard



Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees for 2023 consisted of Mary Allen-Dippel, Robert Harper Jr., Mike Burke, Paul Hincks, Chair, Laurie Aitken and the late Grant Lawson.

The Board met several times this last year to discuss board protocols and interest rates for current investments as well as bequests.

The trustees, as for all of the church committees, have faced unique challenges in 2023. As we search for a new minister we have continued to do the day to day work of the church.

Thanks to all of the Board members for their ongoing support of the Church, with special thanks to Juliann Ellis, our church office manager.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Aitken, Chair

Pastoral Care Team



Our members in 2023 were: Karon Falk, Jackie Holtom, Paula Solway, Gerry Wilkinson, Mary Allen (until Feb 2023), Bill Kreps (started April 2023), Daphne Rappard, Betty Seminowicz.

We held regular meetings in Feb, April, June, Sept and Nov and were happy to meet in person.

Our visiting was by phone, in person, by sending cards or emails. We are blessed to have these options as we continue to be cautious in preventing the spread of respiratory illnesses.

We had a member of Membership and Fellowship attend our June meeting and discussed ways we could work together. In September we had guests, Julie Martin Jensen from Hospice Wellington and Michele Ecker, Cancer Care coordinator join us and discuss community resources and common concerns.

Some of us were able to attend zoom webinars on pastoral care through the WOW group and Kathy Douglas, Faith Formation minister for WOW and other regions. It is good to collaborate and learn new ways to do the best we can at providing pastoral care, especially in this time without a minister.

It was a busy year with many serious illnesses and deaths in our congregations. Supporting people through these difficult times is challenging, but also rewarding. We have assisted several people with the gift of a prayer shawl, lovingly made by members of the congregation. Casseroles continue to be well used and appreciated in times of illness, or other stressful situations. Many prayers were shared privately and in person with our visits.



We also had meaningful conversations with each other (which sometimes made for long meetings!) about how we practise self care and recognize signs of burn-out.

Our group believes in maintaining respectful relationships and confidentiality. We continue to be so thankful for the support of you, the congregation. Together we keep our church family thriving.

Respectfully submitted, Betty Seminowicz and Daphne Rappard, co-chairs

Property

Property Members: Guido Gardin, Bill Kreps, Neil Aitken, Dan MacArthur, Scott Vandepas and Carolyn Bye.

- Arbro Excavating has been retained again this year for snow removal services.
- Rural Routes pest control attends to the property quarterly to keep the mice problem at bay.
- Many of the locks at both the Church house and the Church have been replaced or re-keyed.
- The gardens around the property are being maintained.
- The boiler has required some service by J.J. McLellan.
- Thank you to Dan for looking after the boiler system.
- The defibrillator battery was replaced, thank you to Neil for looking after that.

Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Bye, Chair

Finance and Stewardship



Financially, the Church finished 2023 with expenses exceeding revenue by \$9,700. However, the Church received a generous donation of approximately \$30,000 in early January 2023 to put the financial picture into a positive position to start the year. This financial position has remained positive throughout 2023 due to a number of factors, not the least of which was significant savings of approximately \$34,000 in the Ministry & Personnel budget due to the Church being without a minister for all of 2023. Despite the lack of a Minister during 2023, we were blessed with some excellent speakers at our Sunday services including three “Licensed Lay Worship Leaders,” members of our own Mount Forest United Church.

In addition to the savings in the M&P budget, a number of Church committees were also underspent in their 2023 budget cumulatively by approximately \$13,050. While a few Committee expenditures exceeded the projected budget by approximately \$11,600, the net result was an under expenditure of approximately \$44,100. Worship Committee expenses obviously exceeded budget projection because of the need to use more Ministerial supply/Lay Ministers. Heating expenses for both the Church and Church House exceeded projected budgets.

As a summary, the MFUC Church ended the fiscal year with revenue exceeding expenses by approximately \$48,800 compared to a projected 2023 budget surplus of \$14,700. Approximately \$30,000 of this surplus was the result of a one-time donation received in January 2023. This is a positive financial position to start 2024, as the Search Committee continues the process of looking for a new Minister.

Of note, the use of a “Head Counter” and two “verifiers” for Sunday collections was discontinued throughout 2023 due to generally smaller collections and the fact that numerous members are using the PAR option to support the Church. To date there are approximately sixty-five (65) members using the PAR remittance program. This regular monthly remittance program also makes the Treasurer’s work lighter as a monthly tally sheet is received for these donations. The use of the PAR donation program is open to all members and ensures that your support of the Church is there every month even if you are unable to attend Church on a regular basis. Anyone wishing to sign up for the PAR program, need only speak to Juliann, the office manager/treasurer.

The use of the Benevolent Fund from the Church House was suspended due in part to the lack of a minister to monitor these gifts and also after the theft from the Church House in the spring of 2023. This theft necessitated the need to re-key all the doors in the Church and Church House and the recommendation that we keep the doors at the Church House locked while office staff are working. Those requesting assistance were directed to contact the Mount Forest Community Pantry.

The committee would like to express its thanks to both Annette Connelly (now retired from MFUC) and Juliann Ellis, who replaced Annette as the Office Manager/Treasurer for their continued due diligence and support.

Al Leach, F&S Chairperson

John Moore, F&S Committee Member

Senior Choir

Tremendous gratitude from our group to Derek Moore, who keeps inspiring us in worship through music.

We have been fortunate this year to add several new singers to our choir, and also a number of additional voices came on board and participated in the Christmas choir. We are truly blessed. If you would love to add your voice to our group, we would welcome you!

Sadly, we lost two of our longstanding singers and talented musicians. Dorothy Brown passed away December 2022, and Grant Lawson passed in October 2023. We were invited to participate in their celebrations of life, and were grateful to be there for these very moving services of remembrance. They are dearly missed.

We were able to present two special concerts this past year, our spring concert in May and also our Christmas Cantata on Friday December 8, 2023. We also participated in a gospel concert at First Baptist Church in support of Cancer Patient Services. Free will offerings from choir events support the ongoing music ministry in our church.

Many of our choir members also participated in the North Wellington Community Choir cantata, presented both in Mount Forest and in Arthur. An occasion not to be missed! Free will offerings at this event supported the communities' food banks.

RECEIPTS

Dues received from members - \$280.00
 Balance in Choir chequing account as at 31 Dec 2022 -\$ 32.65
 Total \$312.65

EXPENSES

Memorial donations/gifts/cards - \$234.05

YEAR END

Balance as at 31 December 2023
 Chequing account - \$ 57.65
 Petty cash on hand \$ 20.95

Respectfully submitted, Kelley Eves
 (on behalf of the Mount Forest United Church Senior Choir)



TRANSITIONS 2023

Funerals, Committals and Memorial Services

Gone but Not Forgotten

Ethel Gillies (January 6)

*Verna Batenchuk (February 7) **

*Bob Young (March 13) **

*William Cockburn (July 20) **

Mary Reeves (October 14)

*Joan McIntyre (November 1) **

*Luella Cormack (November 6) **

*Brian Padfield (December 31) **

Robert Copland (January 30)

Reta Rawn (February 23)

*Elfreda Rae (July 4) **

*Anna Rae (September 4) **

*Grant Lawson (October 28) **

*Marie Andrews (November 4) **

*Judy Hilgartner (December 29) **

* Member



Memorial Donations

Donations were received in loving memory of the following people:

William Cockburn, Luella Cormack, Grant Lawson, Joan McIntyre, Anna Rae,
Maatje Van'tFoort, William Wagner

Baptisms

Kayson Jay Gowing

MOUNT FOREST UNITED CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORTS

Balance Sheet – December 31, 2023

ASSETS	2023	2022
CURRENT ASSETS		
General Account BMO	\$127,643.83	\$210,708.03
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		
Woodland	2,057.06	3,989.34
G.S.T. Rebate	418.60	446.29
Provincial Tax Rebate	1,626.03	1,550.58
Subtotal Accounts Receivable	4,101.69	5,986.21
Subtotal Current Assets	131,745.52	216,694.24
FIXED / OTHER ASSETS		
EQUIPMENT		
Office Equipment	0.00	540.48
TOTAL ASSETS	\$131,745.52	\$217,234.72
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Mission & Service Payable	\$1,737.17	\$6,367.17
Payable - Trustees	53,599.45	177,854.69
Accounts Payable - Misc	1,140.00	1,090.00
Subtotal Current Liabilities	56,476.62	185,311.86
TOTAL LIABILITIES	56,476.62	185,311.86
OPERATING FUNDS		
General Fund Balance	\$51,509.45	\$7,866.11
Benevolent Fund	3,355.01	3,315.27
Grant Funded Projects	4,163.57	4,300.61
Office & Media Equip Fund	1,617.25	1,617.25
Subtotal Operating Funds	60,645.28	17,099.24
NON-OPERATING FUNDS		
Retained Camp Funds	7,544.94	7,544.94
Refugee Sponsorship	432.18	432.18
Strategic Planning	3,588.27	3,588.27
Skill Sharing	(55.72)	(55.72)
Green Team	3,113.95	3,313.95
Subtotal Non-operating Funds	14,623.62	14,823.62
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	75,268.90	31,922.86
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$131,745.52	\$217,234.72

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE
January 1 – December 31, 2023

INCOME	2023	2023	2022	2024
OPERATING		Budget	Actual	Budget
RECEIPTABLE				
General Contributions	\$156,325.96	\$170,000.00	\$190,594.10	\$160,000.00
Initial Offering	210.00	200.00	187.00	200.00
Choir Concerts	2,233.00	1,250.00	1,610.00	1,500.00
Easter	860.00	750.00	600.00	750.00
Christmas	2,960.00	2,500.00	710.00	2,500.00
Anniversary	810.00	1,000.00	1,180.00	1,000.00
TV Ministry	600.00	1,300.00	1,350.00	500.00
Benevolent	1,300.00	2,500.00	2,045.00	1,500.00
Sunday School General	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
Bulletin Dedication	350.00	0.00	25.00	300.00
Memory Garden	0.00	600.00	0.00	500.00
Fundraising	0.00	0.00	625.00	0.00
Subtotal Receiptable	165,648.96	180,100.00	199,026.10	168,750.00
NON-RECEIPTABLE				
Loose Offering	2,540.81	1,500.00	1,439.00	1,800.00
Benevolent Loose	0.00	0.00	220.00	0.00
Woodland Expense Contrib	1,542.09	5,082.36	8,909.27	5,100.00
Use of Building	3,355.00	1,500.00	3,350.00	3,000.00
General Fundraising	74.87	1,500.00	2,201.04	0.00
Choir / Concerts	245.00	500.00	574.95	250.00
Tax Refunds & Subsidies	0.00	0.00	1,663.32	0.00
Sunday School - Loose	40.00	0.00	130.00	0.00
M&S Fundraising	7,347.40	3,250.00	3,953.60	4,000.00
Raw Carrot Shared Expense	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00
UCC Foundation	29,971.65	29,970.00	0.00	0.00
Bequests (Pending)	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
Subtotal Non-receiptable	45,616.82	43,802.36	23,441.18	39,650.00
Subtotal Operating	211,265.78	223,902.36	222,467.28	208,400.00
NON-OPERATING				
RECEIPTABLE				
UCC M & S	14,551.04	14,000.00	14,642.04	14,000.00
Green Team - Memorial	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
Subtotal Receiptable	14,551.04	14,000.00	14,667.04	14,000.00
NON-RECEIPTABLE				
Green Team (NR)	0.00	0.00	130.00	0.00
Visioning&Strategic Plan	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
Subtotal Non-receiptable	0.00	0.00	155.00	0.00
Subtotal Non-operating	14,551.04	14,000.00	14,822.04	14,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	225,816.82	237,902.36	237,289.32	222,400.00

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE – JANUARY 1 to DECEMBER 31, 2023 (CONT.)

EXPENSE	2023	2023 Budget	2022 Actual	2024 Budget
OPERATING EXPENSE				
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL				
Minister - Salary	\$0.00	\$28,800.00	\$51,963.82	\$50,778.00
Minister - Cont Education	0.00	771.50	1,272.91	1,367.00
Minister - Telephone	0.00	250.00	416.70	456.00
Minister -Travel	0.00	420.00	587.94	834.00
Minister - Moving Expense	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
undefined Ministerial	91.66	0.00	0.00	0.00
Employment Insurance	758.03	1,380.00	1,982.70	2,500.00
Canada Pension Plan	1,650.21	3,402.00	4,545.50	5,000.00
Group Pension	2,103.29	4,668.00	7,012.35	7,500.00
Group Insurance	2,137.82	5,130.00	7,732.13	8,000.00
Payroll Admin Fee	320.73	312.00	338.73	400.00
Office Manager	26,431.65	23,000.00	25,950.00	28,500.00
Administration Assistant	7,288.00	12,000.00	10,446.63	10,000.00
Custodial - Church	24,000.00	24,000.00	22,000.00	24,500.00
Custodial - Church House	411.50	840.00	412.50	850.00
Choir Director / Organist	24,462.92	24,762.99	23,202.84	25,500.00
Subtotal Ministry & Personnel	89,655.81	130,736.49	157,864.75	167,185.00
WORSHIP COMMITTEE SERVICE				
Ministerial Supply	6,248.00	3,000.00	2,788.00	3,500.00
Ministerial Supply Travel	539.14	300.00	161.60	300.00
Bulletin & Advertising	109.55	75.00	71.40	75.00
Guest Speaker	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
Worship Supplies	3,338.30	2,500.00	2,242.14	2,800.00
Anniversary Sunday	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
Gathering Subscription	103.94	80.00	25.98	80.00
Subtotal Service	10,338.93	6,455.00	5,289.12	7,255.00
CHORAL				
Sheet Music	514.84	300.00	149.89	300.00
Choir Supplies&Equipment	710.42	200.00	92.60	300.00
Dues, Fees & Copyright	0.00	475.00	472.00	475.00
Organ & Piano Maintenance	706.78	650.00	0.00	700.00
Guest Musicians	0.00	100.00	75.00	100.00
Subtotal Choral	1,932.04	1,725.00	789.49	1,875.00
Subtotal Worship Committee	12,270.97	8,180.00	6,078.61	9,130.00
PASTORAL CARE TEAM				
Resources & Supplies	107.74	200.00	11.42	200.00
Educational Events	75.69	719.80	762.77	720.00
Casserole Ministry	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
Subtotal Pastoral Care Team	183.43	1,319.80	774.19	1,320.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION				
Sunday School	0.00	150.00	39.44	150.00
Compassion Canada	871.00	614.00	553.00	600.00
Vacation Bible School	92.86	250.00	382.77	250.00
Grant Funded Projects	61.35	3,580.81	164.81	3,580.00
Christian Ed Programs	0.00	1,000.00	566.28	1,000.00
Resource Centre Programs	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00
Subscriptions	50.00	125.00	138.24	125.00
Subtotal Christian Education	1,075.21	5,869.81	1,844.54	5,855.00

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE – JANUARY 1 to DECEMBER 31, 2023 (CONT.)

EXPENSE	2023	2023 Budget	2022 Actual	2024 Budget
OPERATING EXPENSE				
MISSION & SERVICE				
Outreach	5,176.75	2,000.00	1,857.80	2,000.00
Supplies	2,170.65	1,000.00	941.50	1,500.00
Literature/Learning Mtrls	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Speaker Expense	0.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
 Subtotal Mission & Service	 7,347.40	 3,250.00	 2,999.30	 3,750.00
 BENEVOLENT				
Assistance Funding	1,260.26	2,500.00	2,501.74	2,500.00
MEMBERSHIP & FELLOWSHIP				
Printing	215.10	100.00	0.00	150.00
Membership Gifts	0.00	0.00	338.19	0.00
Baptism & Confirmation	191.88	200.00	280.79	200.00
Coffee Hour Supplies	183.91	600.00	343.01	600.00
Welcome Night Supplies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Cards, Supplies	0.00	100.00	354.63	100.00
Socials & Recreational	0.00	400.00	50.00	400.00
 Subtotal Membership & Fellowship	 590.89	 1,500.00	 1,366.62	 1,550.00
 MEDIA				
Communications	662.68	1,000.00	541.70	600.00
PROPERTY COMMITTEE				
CHURCH				
Water & Sewer	1,136.19	1,500.00	1,244.86	1,500.00
Heat	11,974.78	9,000.00	9,871.94	13,000.00
Hydro	3,337.90	4,500.00	3,273.33	4,500.00
Repairs & Maint - Church	8,817.76	7,500.00	5,345.81	7,500.00
Custodial Supplies Church	317.22	1,500.00	412.42	1,500.00
Cleaning Equip & Repairs	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
Maintenance Equipment	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00
Lift Maintenance/Licence	1,372.17	1,500.00	1,326.42	1,500.00
 Subtotal Church	 26,956.02	 25,900.00	 21,474.78	 29,900.00
 CHURCH HOUSE				
Heat	3,650.79	1,800.00	1,888.06	4,500.00
Utilities	2,408.79	2,400.00	2,346.83	2,400.00
Repairs & Maintenance-CH	340.28	300.00	232.18	500.00
Custodial Supplies CH	28.02	120.00	35.28	120.00
Rental Equipment	136.56	140.00	136.56	140.00
 Subtotal Church House	 6,564.44	 4,760.00	 4,638.91	 7,660.00
 GROUNDS				
Equipment Maint & Repairs	0.00	100.00	53.00	100.00
Grounds Expense	207.48	500.00	259.54	500.00
Snow Removal	5,012.49	9,000.00	10,373.21	9,000.00
Memory Garden	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
 Subtotal Grounds	 5,219.97	 9,900.00	 10,685.75	 9,600.00
 Subtotal Property Committee	 38,740.43	 40,560.00	 36,799.44	 47,160.00

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE – JANUARY 1 to DECEMBER 31, 2023 (CONT.)

EXPENSE	2023	2023 Budget	2022 Actual	2024 Budget
OPERATING EXPENSE				
FINANCE ADMIN STEWARDSHIP ADMINISTRATION				
Postage	286.86	500.00	669.36	400.00
Telephone	983.54	950.00	942.68	1,000.00
Internet	1,412.79	900.00	851.19	1,000.00
Printing	1,584.11	1,200.00	1,833.16	1,650.00
Office Supplies	1,586.34	850.00	807.67	900.00
Support, Software, Website	393.73	300.00	365.23	400.00
Office Equipment & Repair	633.26	540.00	540.49	550.00
Bank Serv Charge/Interest	487.03	600.00	524.36	600.00
 Subtotal Administration	 7,367.66	 5,840.00	 6,534.14	 6,500.00
 WOW REGIONAL COUNCIL				
Denominational Assessment	8,400.00	8,400.00	12,077.00	8,400.00
Conference Expense	238.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
Supervising Minister	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
 Subtotal Wow Regional Council	 8,638.00	 8,400.00	 12,077.00	 9,650.00
 FUNDRAISING				
Advertising	0.00	100.00	155.91	100.00
Supplies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Administration	0.00	100.00	1,870.92	100.00
 Subtotal Fundraising	 0.00	 300.00	 2,026.83	 300.00
 Subtotal Finance Admin Stewardship	 16,005.66	 14,540.00	 20,637.97	 16,450.00
 Subtotal Operating Expense	 167,792.74	 209,456.10	 231,408.86	 255,500.00
 NON-OPERATING EXPENSE				
TRANSFERS/ DESIGNATED				
Summer Camp Bursary	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Green Team	200.00	400.00	940.05	400.00
Mission & Service	14,526.04	14,000.00	14,642.04	14,000.00
 Subtotal Non-operating Expense	 14,726.04	 15,400.00	 15,582.09	 15,400.00
 TOTAL EXPENSES	 182,518.78	 224,856.10	 246,990.95	 270,900.00
 EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	 \$43,298.04	 \$13,046.26	 (\$9,701.63)	 (\$48,500.00)

Statistical Comparison of Receiptable Givings (10 years)

Year	# of Families giving to:					# of Visitors giving to:								
	Receptable Operating Contributions	Restoration Contributions	Mission & Service	Designated Funds*	Total Receipts	Total # of families	Operating	Restoration	Mission & Service	Designated Funds	Operating	Restoration (Primarily Memorial)	Mission & Service	Designated Funds
2014	161,111	33,536	10,862	2,734	208,242	196	179	55	50	49	34	47	0	0
2015	155,123	16,553	11,974	20,078	203,728	190	172	43	57	61	23	16	0	17
2016	158,077	14,280	12,422	10,594	195,373	185	167	44	47	49	40	41	0	3
2017	169,278	38,210	12,790	8,570	228,849	183	176	32	60	47	19	13	0	5
2018	176,369	14,838	14,027	4,457	209,691	177	168	20	66	42	21	12	0	3
2019	188,096	17,214	15,593	15,689	236,592	169	158	38	69	52	27	31	0	81
2020	193,999	39,575	14,945	10,392	258,911	151	138	31	55	31	23	19	0	9
2021	157,777	149,650	13,838	5,085	326,350	134	116	39	47	35	22	34	0	20
2022	199,026	10,700	14,642	2,581	226,949	133	127	16	43	27	31	2	0	7
2023	165,648	10,100	14,551	1,812	192,111	121	114	24	43	26	31	2	0	1

* Green Team (MFUC Inc Stim) plus UCW & Raw Carrot

Operating Contributions Data – 2023			
Contribution Range	# of Givers	Total of	
		Givings	Average per giver
1 - 100.01	100	1,208.00	35.53
100.01 - 200.01	200	2,614.00	261.40
200.01 - 300.01	300	1,445.00	180.63
300.01 - 400.01	400	2,530.00	230.00
400.01 - 500.01	500	2,853.00	570.60
500.01 - 1,000.01	1,000	17,270.00	785.00
1,000.01 - 1,500.01	1,500	26,390.64	1,256.70
1,500.01 - 2,500.01	2,500	25,859.00	1,521.12
2,500.01 - 5,000.01	5,000	54,253.36	3,875.24
5,000.01 - 10,000.01	10,000	13,105.00	6,552.50
10,000.01 ---->	1	18,120.00	18,120.00
Total	145	\$165,648.00	\$1,142.40

This data includes receipted operating contributions only.
It does not include donations to the Mission & Service Fund nor any of the initiative specific funds

Year	Average Givings per giver to:			Overall Average Givings
	Operating	Restoration	Mission & Service	
2014	756.39	328.78	217.23	751.78
2015	795.50	280.57	210.07	889.64
2016	763.66	168.00	264.29	734.48
2017	868.09	849.12	213.16	1,064.41
2018	933.17	463.69	212.52	998.53
2019	1,016.74	249.48	225.98	1,042.26
2020	1,204.96	791.50	271.73	1,341.51
2021	1,143.31	2,050.00	294.43	1,717.63
2022	1,259.66	594.44	340.51	1,367.16
2023	1,142.40	388.46	338.40	1,247.47

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FINANCIAL REPORTS

BALANCE SHEET @ DECEMBER 31, 2023

ASSETS	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
TD / Canada Trust	\$20,591.95	\$20,581.66
Kindred Credit Union	18,144.77	18,092.10
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		
Restoration Contributions	361.70	24,618.74
Memorial Funds	1,365.00	2,630.60
Bequests	19,742.44	150,605.31
Interest	1,518.39	0.00
MFUC – Other	<u>30,611.92</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Subtotal Accounts Receivable	53,599.45	177,854.65
SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS		
Short Term / Cashable GIC	<u>284,725.43</u>	<u>305,611.92</u>
Subtotal Current Assets	377,061.56	522,140.33
FIXED / OTHER ASSETS		
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS		
Long Term GIC's	<u>149,388.08</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$526,449.64</u>	<u>\$522,140.33</u>
NON-OPERATING FUNDS		
Restoration Funds	\$194,931.99	\$183,396.99
Capital Reserve Funds	104,913.25	112,138.94
Bequest Funds	<u>226,604.40</u>	<u>226,604.40</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	<u>526,449.64</u>	<u>522,140.33</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u>\$526,449.64</u>	<u>\$522,140.33</u>

Trustee Investments

Guaranteed Investment Certificates:

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Principal</u>
Bank of Montreal	August 2, 2024	4.80 %	\$ 30,000.00
Bank of Montreal	November 2, 2024	4.80 %	\$ 50,000.00
Bank of Montreal	January 2, 2025	4.80 %	\$100,000.00
Kindred Credit Union	April 20, 2024	4.65 %	\$ 76,237.50
Kindred Credit Union	September 19, 2024	4.95 %	\$102,876.01
Kindred Credit Union	February 2, 2025	5.00 %	<u>\$ 75,000.00</u>
			\$434,113.51
<i>Other: Kindred CU Owner Shares</i>			\$ <u>279.95</u>
Total Investments:			<u>\$434,393.46</u>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FINANCIAL REPORTS

Statement of Income and Expense – January 1 to December 31, 2023

INCOME	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2022 Actual	2024 Budget
RECEIPTABLE				
Restoration Contributions	\$10,100.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,225.00	\$10,200.00
Memorial Contributions	<u>1,435.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>475.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
Subtotal Receiptable	11,535.00	11,000.00	10,700.00	11,700.00
NON-RECEIPTABLE				
Account Interest	662.96	80.00	81.27	150.00
GIC Interest	5,881.86	4,905.86	2,630.86	6,200.00
Canada Helps / Memorial	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Subtotal Non-receiptable	<u>6,544.82</u>	<u>4,985.86</u>	<u>2,762.13</u>	<u>6,350.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	18,079.82	15,985.86	13,462.13	18,050.00
EXPENSE				
CAPITAL				
INSURANCE				
Property & Liability Insurance	<u>\$13,770.51</u>	<u>\$14,345.35</u>	<u>\$14,597.79</u>	<u>\$14,350.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>13,770.51</u>	<u>14,345.35</u>	<u>14,597.79</u>	<u>14,350.00</u>
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	<u>4,309.31</u>	<u>1,640.51</u>	<u>(1,135.66)</u>	<u>3,700.00</u>

MFUC FINANCIAL REVIEWER'S REPORT

MFUC FINANCIAL REVIEWER'S REPORT 2023

We have reviewed the accounting documents and records and have made tests of the records and supporting evidence, as we thought necessary under the circumstances.

We have reviewed the following:

- The balance sheet (showing Assets & Liabilities of the Mount Forest United Church) as at December 31, 2023 and the monthly statements of income and expenses for the period January 2023 to December 2023.
- The balance sheet of the Mount Forest United Church Trustee Account as at December 31, 2023.

The above noted documents show a fair record of the Church's work during the year 2023.



Financial Reviewer, Bob McClure



Financial Reviewer, William Kreps

31st January 2024

Date

MOUNT FOREST UCW

UCW Financial Statement

Banking Summary MFUCW - 2023

2023-01-01 through 2023-12-31

2024-01-15

Page 1

Category	2023-01-01- 2023-12-31
INCOME	
Bazaar	6,022.80
Donations	550.00
Funeral - Luncheons	8,471.63
UCW Dinner	1,335.00
Unit Offering	1,823.70
TOTAL INCOME	18,203.13
EXPENSES	
Gifts	314.55
Groceries	1,486.49
Kitchen Supplies	24.13
Service Charge	0.00
UCW Dinner - Exp	1,400.00
WOW Membership Fees	80.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,305.17
Balance Forward	
Bal Fwd MT FOREST UNITED CHURCH W...	21,096.48
TOTAL Balance Forward	21,096.48
OVERALL TOTAL	35,994.44

TD Canada Trust Guaranteed Investment Certificate \$2,498.82 @ 2.70% due April 11, 2024

Reviewed this 20th day of January, 2024

Annabelle Kelly
Annabelle Kelly, Treasurer

Dorothy Cook
Dorothy Cook, Reviewer

WOODLAND UNITED CHURCH

Committee Members 2024

Organist: Lois Donald *Custodian:* Donald Harris
Treasurer: Bernice Hattle *Ministry & Personnel:* George Harris
Financial Reviewers: Brenda Rich & Marg Mitchell *Worship Committee:* Gerry Wilkinson & Marian Howes
Leadership: Diane Johnston & Gerry Wilkinson
Search Committee: Marg Mitchell & Diane Johnston
Mission & Service Committee: Gerry Wilkinson
Session Elders: Marg Mitchell, Stanley Harris, Shirley Love, Don Holbrough, Gerry Wilkinson
Trustees: George Harris, Donald Harris, Marg Mitchell
Stewards: George Harris, Chair, Ruth Mundy, Secretary, Bernice Hattle, Robert Harris, Sharon Harris

Woodland United Church Session

2023 has come and gone. Woodland Church meets at 9:15 a.m. and is so grateful that the Worship Committee has faithfully had a lay leader or interested person in the pulpit each week conducting the service. Thanks to the members for commitment and dedication for filling the empty ministers spot. As part of the Search Committee we certainly hope a minister will be occupying that vacant position this year.

Communion was celebrated twice in 2023 under the direction of Rev. Diane Eurig. Many thanks to Diane for being available to conduct these special services.

The 167th Anniversary of Woodland Church was held on August 27th, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Gavin Williams was our guest speaker. It was nice to have Gavin back as he was a supply minister when he was a student. Debbie Blanchard was our guest soloist. The Church Ladies provided a lovely lunch for all.

The Church Property is being well maintained by the Stewards. Each Sunday the Sanctuary is nicely decorated which makes it inviting and relaxing.

I wish to take this opportunity to "Thank" all the Members/Adherents for taking time to worship at our Church and for all their support financially or in 'person' to make Woodland a caring 'Family' church.

So as we move on let's Embrace 2024 with lots of Optimist and Happiness.

Respectfully submitted, Marg Mitchell, Clerk of Session

WOODLAND UNITED CHURCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Balance Sheet - December 2023

ASSETS	2023	2022
BANK ACCOUNTS		
Operating Account	\$ 5,052.03	\$ 3,922.51
INVESTMENTS		
Short Term GIC's	10,484.36	10,251.95
Long Term GIC's	<u>11,780.61</u>	<u>11,289.51</u>
Subtotal Investments	22,264.97	21,541.46
OTHER ASSETS		
GST receivable	270.54	205.23
PST Receivable	<u>1,079.29</u>	<u>790.40</u>
Subtotal Other Assets	<u>1,349.83</u>	<u>995.63</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$28,666.83</u>	<u>\$26,459.60</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
NON-ARM'S LENGTH		
Mount Forest UC	\$ 1,652.06	\$ 3,354.34
PASS THRU CONTRIBUTIONS		
M & S (receiptable)	<u>\$ 405.00</u>	<u>635.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,057.06	3,989.34
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED		
Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>\$26,609.77</u>	<u>\$22,470.26</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>\$26,609.77</u>	<u>\$22,470.26</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u>\$28,666.83</u>	<u>\$26,459.60</u>

INVESTMENTS

<u>GIC Issuer</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
TD Canada Trust	04-Aug-23	04-Aug-26	\$10,484.36	4.10%
TD Canada Trust	09-Nov-22	09-Nov-24	\$ 5,865.13	4.35%
TD Canada Trust	21-Dec-22	21-Dec-24	<u>\$ 5,915.48</u>	4.35%
			\$22,264.97	

Woodland United Church Income and Expense Statement – January 1 to December 31, 2023

	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2022 Actual	2024 Budget
INCOME				
RECEIPTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS				
General Operating	\$ 13,085.04	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,390.04	\$ 14,400.00
UCC Mission & Service	\$ 1,560.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,665.00	\$ 2,000.00
Initial Offering	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 20.00
Anniversary	\$ 324.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,300.00
Memorial / Bequests	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,525.00	\$ -
Christmas	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 155.00	\$ 150.00
Subtotal Receiptable Contributions	\$ 20,029.04	\$ 17,470.00	\$ 18,975.04	\$ 18,870.00
NON-RECEIPT CONTRIBUTIONS				
Loose Contributions	\$ 1,730.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 1,800.00
INTEREST INCOME				
Banking Interest	\$ 1.00	\$ -	\$ 1.60	\$ -
Investment Interest	\$ 723.51	\$ 300.00	\$ 112.04	\$ 255.00
Subtotal Interest Income	\$ 724.51	\$ 300.00	\$ 113.64	\$ 255.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME				
Miscellaneous Income	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 214.81	\$ 100.00
TOTAL INCOME	22,483.55	\$ 18,280.00	\$ 19,813.49	\$ 21,025.00
EXPENSES				
STAFF COST				
Minister Salary Package	\$ -	\$ 3,804.00	\$ 6,813.94	\$ 5,000.00
Office Support	\$ 1,085.20	\$ 1,278.00	\$ 1,204.32	\$ 1,300.00
Bookkeeper	\$ 1,255.50	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,626.45	\$ 1,500.00
Custodian	\$ 2,540.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 3,000.00
Musician	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,390.00	\$ 1,400.00
Subtotal Staff Cost	\$ 5,680.70	\$ 10,982.00	\$ 13,234.71	\$ 12,200.00
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE				
Presbytery Allocation	\$ 756.00	\$ 760.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 830.00
Bank Charges	\$ 19.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 24.00
Office & Supply	\$ 283.93	\$ 300.00	\$ 328.62	\$ 300.00
Postage	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 30.00
Subtotal Administrative Expense	\$ 1,058.93	\$ 1,114.00	\$ 1,032.62	\$ 1,184.00
BUILDING & GROUNDS				
Hydro	\$ 542.50	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 701.88	\$ 1,000.00
Heat	\$ 1,541.69	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,048.70	\$ 2,000.00
Property & Liability Ins.	\$ 1,847.22	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,775.20	\$ 2,050.00
Custodial Supplies	\$ 12.45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 81.07	\$ 500.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00
Grounds & Supplies	\$ 77.95	\$ 450.00	\$ 353.59	\$ 450.00
Subtotal Building & Grounds	\$ 4,102.88	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 4,979.37	\$ 6,000.00
WORSHIP				
Supply Minister & Travel	\$ 5,418.60	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 1,396.84	\$ 3,250.00
Anniversary	\$ 450.77	\$ 500.00	\$ 318.18	\$ 500.00
Church Supplies	\$ 72.16	\$ 120.00	\$ 95.59	\$ 120.00
Subtotal Committees	\$ 5,941.53	\$ 3,770.00	\$ 1,810.61	\$ 3,870.00
Subtotal Expenses	16,784.04	\$ 21,616.00	\$ 21,057.31	\$ 23,254.00
TRANSFERS				
UCC Mission & Service	\$ 1,560.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,665.00	\$ 2,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 18,344.04	\$ 23,616.00	\$ 22,722.31	\$ 25,254.00
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$ 4,139.51	\$ (5,336.00)	\$ (2,908.82)	\$ (4,229.00)

Woodland United Church Financial Reviewer's Report

WOODLAND UNITED CHURCH FINANCIAL REVIEWER'S REPORT

We have reviewed the accounting documents and records and have made tests of the records and supporting evidence, as we thought necessary to verify the accuracy and completeness of the financial records of the Woodland United Church.

We have reviewed the following:

- The Balance Sheet and statement of Income and Expense of the Woodland United Church as at December 31, 2023, including supporting documentation for those statements.

The above noted documents show a fair record of the Church's work during the year 2023.

Mary Mitchell
Financial Reviewer

Brenda Kirk
Financial Reviewer

January 24/2024
Date

Woodland Cemetery Board

Receipts

Disbursements

Opening Balances, January 1, 2023:

General Account	\$ 4,038.98
Perpetual Care Account	5,914.57
Interest	134.10
GIC Maturities (Perpetual Care)	1,400.00
Plot Sales and Burials	890.00
Care and Maintenance fees	100.00
Memorial Donations	80.00

Caretaking	\$ 2,644.20
Bank Charges	30.00
WSIB	200.00
Safety Deposit Box fee	67.80
Insurance	30.00
Burials	100.00

Closing Balances, December 31, 2023:

General Account 2,040.08

Total \$ 12,476.65

Total \$ 12,476.65

GIC investments:

Bank of Montreal (Perpetual Care)	\$ 22,203.60
Total	\$ 22,203.60

*Report prepared by Brenda Harris
Reviewed by Juliann Ellis
January 15, 2024*

Western Ontario Waterways Regional Report

As your representative to the Region and thereby the larger church, the two main events each year are the Spring meetings (May 26&27) in Port Elgin and the Fall meetings (Sept. 26, 27 & 28) which this year were done over zoom.

The spring meeting theme was "Dreaming Dreams". The opening session centered around the process of Remit 3 which focused on the Indigenous part of the United Church becoming more autonomous. There was also much discussion on different ideas for collaborative ministry. As the shortage of ministers gets worse, there are more creative ways emerging for Communities of Faith to do church. 40% of the pastoral charges in our region are without a minister. The brain storming extended to the breakout rooms which we could participate in. There was also a report from the office of Vocation regarding the large number of Admit and approved ministers available that are waiting for a call.

Adam Creswell did a story on daring justice. He listed the many things this could and should include. Following the Spirit's lead of living into a whole new way of diversity. Jesus's justice and how that is so inclusionary as we build networks around our home churches. All the things that can be included in our digital ministry, all the things that are needed toward housing justice. All of the things that can be included with new innovative Christian partners. It was a thought provoking and challenging presentation.

One of the key takeaways from the stewardship report was surrounding the importance of asking from a position of abundance rather than scarcity. Even though our financial positions are often challenging, we have a lot to be thankful for and there are a lot of places that have less. The stewardship department is very intentional about their data gathering which they share at webinars.

The theme for the fall meetings was: We are One... Living into Right Relations.

John Bedell of Niagara talked about his participation in Habitat for Humanity. The focus has been on Canadian First Nations projects. Not only do they assist in building homes, but they really focus on training of First Nations' tradesmen so that they can continue the work even after the teams leave. I think he would be an excellent choice to speak at a future worship service.

There was an in-depth discussion of the Regional Council Executive evaluation. Jenny Stephens was one of the two involved in gathering information and doing the report. They came across a lot of frustration and complaints. This was definitely not from people not caring but rather with the complexity of the new church system and people not understanding it. I can assure you that the executive heard the complaints loud and clear and are treating things seriously.

We were given 9 topics and we could pick our own breakout room and were given an hour to discuss. The topic I chose was "Support to communities of faith searching for a new minister". I was able to put in a good word for the struggles of the MFUC search committee.

Doug Hayward gave a presentation on the work of the Human Resources Commission. They are also in in of more people to serve as liaisons with communities of faith in their transition period. It does not help that Micol Cottrel who was the chairperson moved to a new position and Doug Hayward is learning the work at the same time as everyone else is learning.

Saturday: this was the actual Truth and Reconciliation Day (Sept.30) The opening presentation was done by Terese Samuels (Minister for Right Relations) and Joyce Johnson (First Nations minister for Cape Croker) They honoured the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Their scripture focus was on how the body has many parts but all need to be honoured. There was a very moving rendition of Amazing Grace.

In closing, I would like to point out that all of the regional commissions are in need of extra volunteers. I am personally involved in the Pastoral Support Commission. The work is very rewarding and the relations created can only help in the work that is being done in Mount Forest.

Respectfully submitted, Norm Eygenraam (W.O.W. Rep.)