

GRACE UNITED CHURCH
GANANOQUE



2020
MINISTRIES
&
FINANCIAL REPORT

INDEX

Behavioural Covenant.....	1
Minister’s Report.....	2
2019 Congregational Meeting	4
Members of the Official Board	7
Official Board Report	8
Board of Stewards Report	9
Session Report	10
Ministry & Personnel Report	12
Maintenance Report	13
EOORC Representatives Annual Report	14
Sunday School	15
Messy Church	15
United Church Woman	16
Choir & Music Program Report.....	17
Ways & Means	19
Mission & Service	19
Special Grace Mission	20
Trustees Report	21
Memorial Fund	22
2020 Financial	24
2021 Budget	25

In Remembrance

Members

Tom Leakey

Marilyn Humphrey

Wayne Laviolette

Bill Buttrey

Viola Bailey

Constance Budd

Bruce Brennan

O Vern Fielding

Marion MacKinnon Jennifer Lussier

Carol Thorburn

Norman Buist

*As I sit in Heaven
and watch you everyday
I try and let you know with signs,
I never went away.*

*I hear you when you're laughing,
and I watch you as you sleep,
I even place my arms around you,
to calm you as you weep.*

*I see you wish the days away,
begging to have me home,
So I try and send you signs,
so you know you're not alone.*

*Don't feel guilty that you have life,
Life that was denied to me,
Heaven is truly beautiful,
just you wait and see!*

*So live your life, laugh again,
enjoy yourself, be free
Then I'll know with
each breath you take,
you'll be taking one for me.*

all-greatquotes.com



Behavioural Covenant of Grace United Church, Gananoque ON.

We, the members of the Grace United Church Community of Faith, as disciples of Christ, covenant to put into practice the following behavioural principles, which are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ:

We will recognize and celebrate the contribution of each member of our church community.

We, as an inclusive community of faith, welcome and support all individuals with love and dignity regardless of gender identity, orientation, race, physical ability, age, or social economic status.

We pledge to respectfully listen to one another, always keeping in mind that the Holy Spirit works through each and any of us.

We will honour our commitments in carrying out the life and work of our church.

We will take ownership of our individual feelings and refrain from being critical or blaming others.

We will seek to reach consensus as much as possible on significant congregational decisions, but where it is not possible, we will seek to be loyal to the decision of the majority.

As an inclusive church community, we shall strive to create a safe atmosphere for openly expressing our own opinions, questions and feelings.

We will promote open, respectful communication in all aspects of the work of our church community.

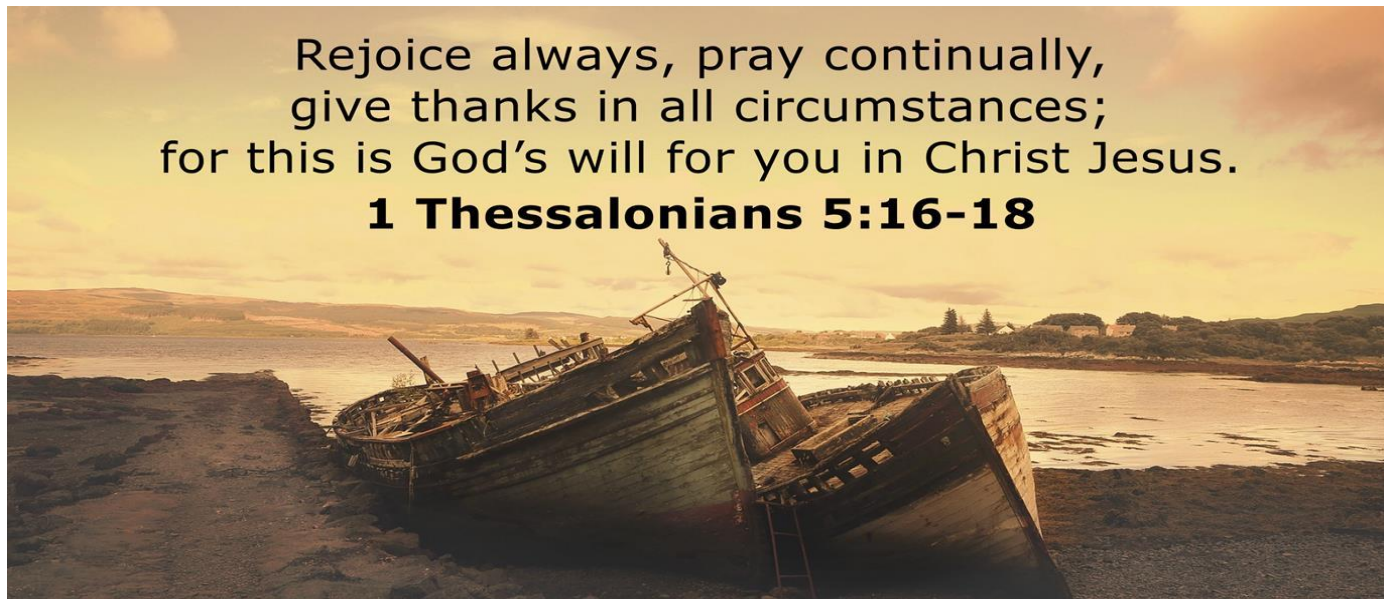
In acknowledging that conflict is natural and inevitable, we will strive to deal with differences in the most direct way possible (*as guided by Matthew 18:15-17*)

In dealing with matters of concern, which are unresolved, we covenant to work through the leadership of the church community in seeking an appropriate solution.

John 13:34-35 New International Version (NIV)

34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Grace United Church - Gananoque
Minister's Annual Report 2020 – AGM 2021

"14 And you, beloved, are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. 15 Similarly it would be silly to light a lamp and then hide it under a bowl. When someone lights a lamp, she puts it on a table or a desk or a chair, and the light illumines the entire house. 16 You are like that illuminating light. Let your light shine everywhere you go, that you may illumine creation, so men and women everywhere may see your good actions, may see creation at its fullest, may see your devotion to Me, and may turn and praise your Father in heaven because of it." **Matthew 5:14-16 (The Voice)**

Beloved, 2020 has been a year where the entire world needed Light, Love and Laughter. Kindness became a commodity that is needed more than ever. Moreover, I never thought I would answer a new call again, my plans were to retire from the Call I was in. God works in mysterious ways. In the middle of a pandemic God called me to Grace United. The Call was clear. I woke up on Saturday, June 27, with the voice in my heart saying, "Go check how far is Grace United from your house. I want you to serve this Community of Faith."

Here we are, January 2021, and I am writing a minister's report for Grace United Church in Gananoque – as your incumbent minister. Our covenant began November 1, 2020, on All Saints Day, one of my very favourite days of the year. It reminds me of the saints of the past, the present and the future, as we are all linked together by the Love of God. Maybe we have only been in ministry only for a few months, but it feels that we have been in ministry together forever – What a joy!

As difficult it is to do ministry in a new covenant, COVID-19 has made it easier and more difficult all at the same time. In seminary school, they did not teach us about film production. The "regular" way of ministry has been flipped upside down and calling ministers and lay leaders to look at things in a new way. Through all these difficult patches of life, we know that God sends the right people in our lives to carry God's Mission. Therefore today, my heart is full of gratitude for all the right people in my life,

both at home and at this Community of Faith. We are bending with the path ahead of us and doing things differently than what we are used to and imagined, but the unseen Presence is keeping us connected even outside the walls of our sanctuaries.

I am grateful to all who help us get this ministry carried out even while we are apart. From our secretary, to our custodian; from the Session to the newly formed Worship Planning Team; from our Music Director to our Lay License Worship Leader in training, and Pastoral Care. I am encouraged to have such a wonderful group of human resources who work and walk with me in this ministry. I cannot name every single individual who makes a difference through this Community of Faith, because Every Single Person makes a difference with their own gifts – **Thank YOU!**

As of October 17, 2020, I covenanted with the E.O.O.R.C. (Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council) as the current president. Our Annual gathering via Zoom was different, yet sitting in my home office, the Spirit was ever present. Spirit bumps were alive, and tears of grief and joy were overflowing.

Earlier, I mentioned, with COVID-19 things feel a little weird and disconnected, but I have been able to connect with people in different ways than before. Facebook has become a good avenue, e-mail and of course the good old telephone. May 28, 2021, it will be the 10th Anniversary of my ordination into the Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care. I cannot remember any Christmas Eve Day that I have made pastoral care phone calls. On December 24, 2020, early afternoon, for a good two-hours, I had the privilege of conducting pastoral care phone calls, especially to those who are not virtually connected. With COVID, in-person pastoral care visits are off limits, however the phone conversations, e-mails and Facebook connections do wonders, not just to the person on the receiving end, but to me as well.

Beloved, the vision and the mission of God is clear in and through GUC, we just need to be **patient, persistent, and persevere**, as we wait for this dark cloud, COVID-19, to move away. In the meantime, we will continue to spread the Love and the Light of God as we are able, wherever we are found. A few days ago, I found a note in my nightstand, as I was cleaning it. There is no date on this small post-it-note, but I am certain that it is at least three or more years old. My note says, "Live Your Life in such a way that everyone's lives depends on yours."

2020 may have kicked us out of our comfort zones and changed the way we do ministry, and so many other things, but I do believe deep in my heart that the trajectory of our lives remains the same – **Live the Mission of God, be Light no matter where you are found**. Therefore, do not be dismayed, because the One who was hovering over the formless and empty earth, where darkness was over the surface of the deep (Genesis 1:2), is still hovering and moving, not only over us but also in us and through us. Promising to make something beautiful out of the ashes that we submit to this Eternal, Unchanging Love – **Take Heart! Something Beautiful is on the horizon**.

Your Servant Leader,
Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro
Incumbent Minister since, November 1, 2020

Grace United Church
Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday February 2, 2020

Immediately following morning worship service

Present: Leeanne Crawford, Helen Johnston, Joan Sword, Bev Gibbs, Merna Price, Ted Brett, Gary Seidl, Betty Matthews, Donna Norman, Tom Marlor (guest), Diane Kirkby, Doreen Wilson, Bruce Wilson, Elaine Davidson, Cliff Edwards, Tony Maroni, Julie Demacio, Steve Demacio, Paul Harding, Vicki Leakey, Dianna Grier, Murray Roantree, Rhea Roantree, Joan Shaw, Catherine Mills, Kate Harding Smith, Marilyn Belbin, Cheryl O'Leary, Linda Brooks, Brian Brooks, Raymond Shea, Pamela Shea, Angus Fergusson, Tammy Fergusson, Colleen Harding, Christina Kaya, Dick Abrams, Nancy Abrams, Marg Worth, Diane Nuttall, Gayle Hutcheson, Joan Simpson, Rosemary Burgess, Colleen DeWolfe, Marjorie Clark, Shirley Clark

There was a quorum in attendance.

Motion by Marg Worth to appoint Brian Brooks as chair and Diane Nuttall as secretary for the meeting. Seconded by Nancy Abrams. Carried.

Marg Worth was thanked for her role as chair in previous years.

Call to order: Chair Brian Brooks called the meeting to order.

Opening prayer was led by Donna Norman.

Adherents: Moved by Marg Worth to accept adherents as full voting members on all issues for all of 2020. Seconded by Linda Brooks. Carried.

Approval of Annual Meeting Report: Elaine Davidson moved to accept the report of the Congregational Annual Meeting held on February 3, 2019. Seconded by Pamela Shea. Carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Vicki Leakey reviewed the financial statement of 2019, which showed a favourable year end. Although there was a decline in offerings, fundraising was successful, raising \$16,111.

The transfer from the Trustees was less than in previous years.

An estate fund of \$20,000 was received.

To date 2019 receipts are \$189,262, expenses \$176,726, leaving a bank balance of \$12,536.

Budget:

The proposed budget for 2020 is a balanced budget, relying on funds from Trustees. Operating expenses are budgeted at \$198,200.

Monies for the minister's salary and casual supply will depend on when a new minister is hired.

The Special Grace Missions was created in 1990. However, it serves the same outreach as the Memorial and Outreach Fund.

Vicki Leakey moved that the Special Grace Missions be amalgamated with the Memorial and Outreach Fund at the end of 2020. Seconded by Marilyn Belbin. Carried.

Trustees:

The closing balance of the Board of Trustees on December 31, 2019 was \$1,052,367. There are 2 restricted funds: an estate donation of \$567,228 and Sunday School funds of \$2,769. A dedicated restricted Trustee fund set up years ago has now grown to \$189,791. Since other restricted funds now total more than this, it is time to remove this restriction.

Vicki Leakey moved that the restriction be moved from the Trustee fund of \$189,791. Seconded by Linda Brooks. Carried.

Officers of the Official Board:

The following are the nominees for the Official Board for 1 year:

Chair: Brian Brooks

There were no nominations from the floor.

Linda Brooks moved that this nomination be accepted. Seconded by Marg Worth. Carried.

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson

There were no nominations from the floor.

Linda Brooks moved that this nomination be accepted. Seconded by Elaine Davidson. Carried.

Secretary: Diane Nuttall

There were no nominations from the floor.

Linda Brooks moved that this nomination be accepted. Seconded by Joan Shaw. Carried.

Treasurer: Vicki Leakey

There were no nominations from the floor.

Linda Brooks moved that this nomination be accepted. Seconded by Colleen Harding. Carried.

Members for Boards and Committees.

Brian Brooks thanked those who had completed their terms: Gary Seidl, Nancy Abrams, Christina Gordon, Diane Kirkby and Joan Simpson.

Session:

New member: Tammy Fergusson. Returning members: Charlie Donevan, Dianna Grier, Bill Lussier, Donna Norman, Rhea Roantree, Paul Scott, Joan Shaw, Shirley Clark, Colleen Harding, and Marg Worth. There were no nominations from the floor.

Shirley Clark moved that these nominations be accepted. Seconded by Colleen Harding. Carried.

Stewards:

New members: Christina Gordon and Diane Nuttall. Returning members: Vicki Leakey, Caroline Scott, Mary Haussler, Tony Maroni, Eileen Thomson, and Linda Brooks. There were no nominations from the floor.

Vicki Leakey moved that these nominations be accepted. Seconded by Merna Price. Carried.

Trustees:

New appointees: Marg Worth and Angus Fergusson. Returning appointees: Vicki Leakey, Brian Brooks and Marilyn Belbin. There were no appointees from the floor. Bruce Wilson moved that these appointees be accepted. Seconded by Murray Roantree. Carried.

Pamela Shea has submitted her resignation from the Trustees.

Vicki Leakey moved that this resignation be accepted. Seconded by Tammy Fergusson. Carried.

Ministry & Personnel:

No new members. Returning members: Elaine Davidson, David Charles, and Nancy Abrams.

Regional Council Representatives:

No new members. Returning members: David Charles and Donna Norman.

Profile Committee Report

Presented by Angus Fergusson. The members of the Profile Committee met nine times during the fall of 2019. The EOR Profile Review Commission reviewed and approved the report. It was also approved at the Official Board meeting held on January 21, 2020.

Murray Roantree moved that this report be accepted. Seconded by Steve Demacio. Carried.

This will now be posted online on the Church Hub, for viewing by ministry personnel who are searching for a new pastoral relationship.

Prayer of Remembrance:

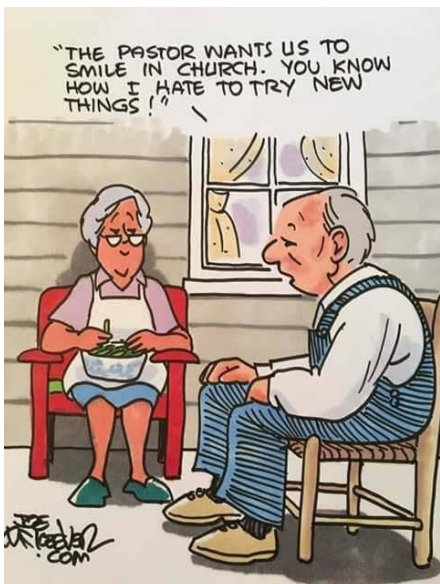
Donna Norman remembered those who passed away in 2019.

Membership:

Pamela and Raymond Shea were received into membership in Grace United Church via transfer in January/February 2019.

Benediction was led by Donna Norman.

Motion to adjourn: Shirley Clark



2020 Members of Grace United Church Official Board

(The Official Board is comprised of all members of the Board of Stewards, Session and appointees from the other boards.)

Official Board Chair: Brian Brooks

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson

Clerk: Diane Nuttall

Committees of the Official Board

Session

Chair: Paul Scott
 Clerk: Joan Shaw
 Vice Chair:
 Shirley Clark Fielding
 Colleen Harding
 Marg Worth
 Charlie Donevan
 Dianna Grier
 Bill Lussier
 Donna Norman
 Rhea Roantree

Board of Stewards

Vice Chair: Carolyn Scott
 Clerk: Mary Haussler
 Treasurer: Vicki Leakey
 Tony Maroni
 Eileen Thomson
 Linda Brooks
 Diane Nuttall
 Christina Gordon
 Denise Wood

Official Board Appointees

U.C.W. – Marilyn Belbin
 Adult Group - Vacant
 Men’s Fellowship – Vacant
 Maintenance: Murray Roantree
 Memorial Fund: Carolyn Scott
 Ways & Means – Vacant
 Trustees: Vacant
 Treasurer: Vicki Leakey
 Ministry & Personnel – Dave Charles
 Messy Church: Cheryl O’Leary
 M&S Treasurer: Laurie Cadue
 EOORC Reps – Dave Charles & Donna Norman

Trustees

Vicki Leakey
 Marilyn Belbin
 Brian Brooks
 Marg Worth
 Angus Fergusson

Ministry & Personnel

Chair – Dave Charles
 Nancy Abrams
 Elaine Davidson

Memorial Committee

Carolyn Scott
 Vicky Leakey

Handbook Committee

Nancy Abrams
 Dave Charles

Other Committees

Maintenance Committee

Chair – Vacant
 Murray Roantree
 Brian Bass
 Brian Brooks

Ways & Means Committee

Chair - Vacant
 Dianna Grier, Diane Kirkby, Paul & Carolyn Scott
 Vicki Leakey, Laurie Cadue, Eileen Thomson
 Tom & Carol Currie, Merna Price, Betty Matthews
 Marg Worth, Joan Shaw, Diane Nuttall

(Note: To be on Session, Stewards, Official Board, Trustees or Personnel, you must be a full member of Grace United Church. To be on other committees, such as Ways & Means, Maintenance Committee full member ship is not required.)



OFFICIAL BOARD REPORT – 2020

As I look back on 2020, it has been a year unlike any other. It was a year that brought unprecedented challenge and change for all of us - both within our Community of Faith and out. We have and continue to face difficult physical distancing. This means not seeing some of our family and friends and for a good part of the year not being able to worship in our beautiful Grace Church. In many cases it has put significant strain on individuals and families and to some extent our Community of Faith.

The pandemic has forced much gloom and doom upon us. At Grace however, we have enjoyed a great portion of sunshine.

Through the diligent work of Paul Harding, Dave Charles and Gary Petro plus others too numerous to mention, we have not gone without seeing many services - whether virtual or in the sanctuary.

The efforts of Session members and in particular the "Fill the Pulpit Committee" made sure that we were never without someone to conduct services, whether online or in the sanctuary. Much thanks are owed to Donna Norman, Tammy Fergusson and the numerous guest ministers and lay ministers who conducted our services. Not to forget our church administrator Laurie Cadue who keeps all the balls that are needed to run our Church, in the air.

The excellent work of the members of the Profile Committee and in turn the Search Committee brought to us Reverend Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro - our very own ray of sunshine.

Colleen Harding and the Opening Committee insured that we remained safe when, for what seemed a brief moment, we were allowed to worship in the Church. Hopefully we will need their help again, in the very near future.

2021 has not started off as a banner year. I truly believe however, that there is light at the end of the tunnel. The Covid vaccine is here and within the next few months will be available to us all. Our Church has and will survive this pandemic for the simple reason that we have such strong members who believe without reservation, in our Community of Faith

To All – stay safe and remember you are not alone.
We are a family!

Brian Brooks – Board Chair



Board of Stewards - 2020 Annual Report

The most important and most significant item in this year's annual report is a heartfelt thank you to the members of our congregation for their continuing support throughout the year, both financially and personally. In spite of the turmoil of Covid-19 and the change to online worship services we have been able to maintain a feeling of community and maintain and increase our level of giving. Your continued support decreased the amount of funds that needed to be transferred from the Trustees compared to last year.

Fund raising has been an issue this year because of the Covid-19 restrictions. Hopefully by the summer we may be able to follow through with some of the ideas that have been placed on the back burner this year.

We wish to extend a sincere thank you to all those involved in the pie making during the pandemic. Their hard work has raised close to the \$5000.00. Once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted somewhat we plan to continue with the pie making.

Special Grace Missions has distributed over \$2000.00 to assist three families in need as well as the Food Bank, Toys for Kids and winter clothing.

We wish to again extend our thanks to all the members of our church family who give of their time, talents and resources to continue our vibrant and spiritual worship.

Take Care,
Carolyn Scott
Board of Stewards



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

2020 Session Annual Report

This has been a year like no other! In February, Session was planning for an active year arranging for worship leaders, planning social interaction events and we even had four weddings on the books. But before our March meeting could be held, the church was locked down as a worldwide pandemic spread throughout our land. And the scramble was on to create a whole new type of worship experience over the internet using Facebook and YouTube.

Thankfully the challenges of creating a new virtual worship experience were successfully met by a small group of dedicated volunteers. The learning curve was steep, but within a week of the closing, organist and choir director Paul Harding became a talented video editor who not only created the music on his computer, but also knitted together video clips from other participants who recorded and forwarded their parts of the service to him. Donna Norman created meaningful prayers and thoughtful worship meditations which kept us worshipping together while having to stay apart.

During July and August, we were fortunate to be able to alternate the weekly online worship services with our friends at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. From March onward we had 27 weeks of virtual services online. The Re-opening Committee went to work and established COVID-19 protocols which allowed us to re-establish in-person services in early October all the while continuing to provide online worship for the next 10 weeks until closing once again on Dec. 20.

In order to help keep our church family together, Session launched a monthly newsletter in April with Paul Scott and church administrator Laurie Cadue assuring it reached over 100 parishioners including those who do not have a computer and are therefore not hooked up to the internet. Again, this could not have been possible without the positive support of so many who agreed to write articles and provide photo images.

Session members also continued to reach out to our church family through the Phone Tree initiative which gave folks living alone a person to talk to.

Throughout the pandemic, Session has continued to meet over the internet via the Zoom Meeting app. In addition to his weekly Minute for Mission, we thank David Charles for walking us through this new Zoom technology. Throughout our 20-month transition, the Fill the Pulpit committee ensured we had talented worship leaders to conduct services when we were open for business. Our Regional representative Ted Brett also provided support and advice.

But the most important event of the year was welcoming our new minister Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro to our pulpit. It was a blessed Advent season for us this year!

Our year ended with two Spirit of Giving opportunities which were organized by Nancy Abrams and Colleen Harding. White Gift Sunday on Dec. 6 supported the Food Hamper program for Gananoque Food Bank with funding received for 77 hampers. On December 27th the Baby Shower for Jesus supported Interval House, our area shelter for abused women and children. Through the generosity of our church family these Spirit of Giving opportunities provided \$4,925 in financial support and included several large

containers of children’s clothing, infant supplies and craft materials – an outstanding response for those in need!

It was a busy year for Grace United Session and we must thank the following: Paul Scott, chair, David Charles, Shirley Clark, Charles Donevan, Tammy Fergusson, Christina Gordon-Charney, Dianna Grier, Colleen Harding, Paul Harding, Bill Lussier, Donna Norman, Rhea Roantree, Joan Shaw and Marg Worth. This year we bid adieu to Shirley Clark, Dianna Grier, Colleen Harding and Marg Worth and thank them for their dedicated service to Grace United.

Blessing to all,
Respectfully,
Paul Scott
Chair of Session



Weddings

None

Baptisms

None

Transfer/New Members

Removed: Fred Willison
Neta deVette
Steve & Julie Demacio
Gord & France French
To be Added: Gary Petro
Bert Petro
Choughik Dimirdijan
Faye Trimble
Gord Trimble

(Note: Transfers of members has been delayed due to COVID19 shut downs)

Session Fundraising			
Amount	Carried	Forward	\$ 389.13
	Deposit	Expense	
Soup & Bun	\$ 661.75	\$ 661.75	0
	\$ 661.75	\$ 661.75	\$ 389.13

Note: Session money from fundraising that is carried over is held in the Operating Bank Account

Grace United Church Ministry and Personnel Committee Annual Report 2020

The Year 2020 certainly supplied a large number of challenges for M&P. First, we thank Laurie Cadue, Paul Harding, Donna Norman, and Connie and Steve Thompson for their flexibility, creativity, and ability to learn new skills as the COVID-19 pandemic stuck us in March 2020. Very quickly they adapted to the situation by keeping our church building safe and clean and by providing alternative worship and education sessions through various internet and computer tools. Many of us became Zoomers, YouTubers, and FaceBook Live practitioners.

Working with our Treasurer Vicki Leakey and financial advisors in the United Church General Council and Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) we managed to maintain normal compensation and benefits to all church personnel.

We would also like to acknowledge the Search Committee who, working with Ted Brett and Wayne Harris from EOORC, were diligent in seeking out and calling our new Minister Rev Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro to Grace United Church. They also helped guide us through a smooth transition from Rev Takouhi's previous pastoral charge Elgin – Portland. Also, as we end the year, we would like to recognize the leadership and compassion of Donna Norman who completed her assignment as the Education and Pastoral Care Coordinator in September. Donna did an amazing job filling the gap as our spiritual leader as we awaited the call to Rev Takouhi.

Nancy Abrams, Elaine Davidson, and I thank you for your support for and confidence in the Ministry and Personnel Committee. Also, we thank the entire Grace Community of Faith for their financial support and countless hours of service. As Paul Harding put in many of the online worship services, "Grace United Church is not closed. In fact, we have never been more open!"

Blessings,
Dave Charles, Ministry and Personnel Chairperson

Submitted January 18, 2021

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Monthly inspections of the fire extinguishers, emergency lighting and fire alarm system continue. 401 security annual inspection was completed in November, with the need to replace one fire extinguisher.

The following took place during the past 12 months:

1. A complete replacement of the overhead and wall lighting bulbs in the Sanctuary. The new bulbs are all LEDs, making for a brighter setting and significant saving in our electricity use.
2. Inspection of elevator system by Schindler Elevator Corporation discovered some water and oil mix at the bottom of the elevator shaft. After a thorough inspection no cause was found. Speculation is that water, as a result of the Pine Street reconstruction may have seeped into the shaft. The bottom of the shaft was cleaned and repainted by Schindler. Subsequent visit by Schindler personnel found no further seepage.
3. Battle with the birds nesting over the Tower door entrance was won when bird spikes (with no harm to the birds) were placed on the ledge over the door. So far so good.
4. Road work to reconstruct Pine Street was completed during the year. A new sidewalk was constructed from Stone Street to the walk way leading to the Pine Street doors. This included a concrete pad next to the Stone Street sidewalk on which we will place the bench previously on Pine, in the Spring. Also, a major portion of the walkways leading to the former roadway were removed and replaced with new concrete. All a no cost to the Church
5. A parking spot, for the Church Minister, was constructed on the lawn at the east side of the Church. The Town and Mulrone Construction employees were a great help in getting this project completed before Winter set in.

No major expenses are planned for the upcoming year. The committee will continue in their efforts to get more grant funds to replace all the lighting in the rest of the Church with energy and cost saving bulbs. Although we have seen little activity in the Church during this past year, Connie and Steve Thompson continue to do an excellent job in keeping our Church both inside and out, clean and safe.

Submitted by Brian Brooks
& Murray Roantree



Grace United Church EOORC Representatives Annual Report 2020

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Grace United Church participated in many activities and consultations with the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council in 2020. We attended plenary meetings at Glen Cairn United Church in Ottawa in February and via Zoom in October. The October meeting was of particular interest and pride to Grace folks as our new Minister Rev Takouhi Demirdjian - Petro was installed as the President of EOORC.

The EOORC Pastoral Relations Committee provided resources in Ted Brett and Wayne Harris to guide us through the newly revamped Pastoral Search process. We were one of the first congregations in Canada to use the ChurchHub online website to lead us through the Community of Faith Profile documentation steps, candidate search, interviews, selection, and call documents needed to have Rev Takouhi come to Grace UC.

As we approached March 2020, we consulted with EOORC leadership on guidelines for safe management of the church during the pandemic and for maintaining staff salaries and benefits. We used the EOORC website to communicate our worship services and to seek other activities going on in the Region. Our "Tech Team" (Dave Charles, Paul Harding, Angus Fergusson, Gary Petro, and Brian Blowes) applied for and received a \$5000 Vision and Transformation grant from EOORC that will be used to upgrade our Audio / Visual / Internet capabilities at the Church. We received assistance from Gary Petro (now Grace UC) and Brian Blowes (Elgin UC) on defining our requirements for equipment upgrades and methods for improving our online broadcasting.

EOORC continues to run the Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) training and we are pleased that our very own Tammy Fergusson will complete this program this spring. Well done Tammy. We love your services.

Even though the Regional organizational model is only in its second year, we are quickly developing relationships amongst the Communities of Faith and EOORC staff to look at ways to share resources and ideas. We are particularly excited in the areas of Mission and Service, church facility management, energy conservation, youth programs, and Christian Education and Worship. Lots of good things ahead!

Blessings,

Dave Charles and Donna Norman
EOORC Representatives

Submitted January 24, 2021



Sunday School Report

In 2020 our Sunday School program was doing well with the help of Vicki Leakey and others who were working to prepare lessons for the children. With the Lockdown in March, everything was put on hold. Online lessons for children were offered, but the feed back from parents was that children were already spending enough time on computers. As soon as the guidelines are loosened, we will start up our programs again. All ideas and volunteers are welcome.

Messy Church Report 2020

After a successful fall program in 2019, Messy Church was well underway for 2020 when the COVID pandemic hit Canada. Our original plan had been to continue our once-a-month sessions from January through May 2020, and then re-evaluate the program before the fall of 2020.

We held sessions in January and February on the themes of Jesus and Friendship, and The Golden Rule. Our monthly attendance had been between 30 – 40 people, encompassing all ages. Our March session on The Cross had been ready to roll on March 23, however we cancelled shortly before that when the first COVID health guidelines were issued, limiting numbers and close contact. Shortly afterward, the church was closed to this type of gathering. We had hoped to return later in the year, but that proved impossible as the health guidelines became increasingly stricter.

Our monthly sessions were held from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the last Monday of each month. The program consisted of: Snacks and Themed Video, followed by Crafts and Games, then a Themed Story with Songs, and culminated in a Shared Meal. Participation was enthusiastic, and appreciative. We were somewhat short of volunteers, though.

We hope to be able to return to Messy Church at some point in 2021, depending on what the current health situation may be, and the availability of volunteers.

Submitted by Cheryl O'Leary

Messy Church Financial

Opening Balance, December 31, 2019	\$ 1,170.89
2020 Donations	\$ 0.00
2020 Expenses	(\$ 97.79)
Closing Balance, December 31, 2020	\$ <u>1,073.10</u>



(Note – the funds for Messy Church are held in the operating account)

Submitted by Laurie Cadue

Grace United Church Women 2020 Year End Report

As with many other church groups, due to Covid19, the Grace United Church Women report for the year 2020 will be short.

We had two meetings last year, January and February. We did not meet in March due to the COVID-19 outbreak and have not resumed meeting since that date.

Our main focus for January and February was providing a, once a month, afternoon of singing and socializing with refreshments, free to anyone who wished to attend, but aimed at welcoming those suffering from Alzheimer's or Dementia, allowing their caregivers to have a place where they could bring a loved one for an afternoon of pure enjoyment. The songs were from an era they would remember and they loved to sing along. This effort proved to be a very successful event for our community. We look forward to having it back in the future.

Our other main event was helping provide coffee and refreshments for before and after church service on Sunday mornings. Again, this was an effort well received and much appreciated by our church congregation. This too, is something we look forward to resuming in the future.

Two of our ladies helped with the World Day of Prayer Service, which was held in St. John's Catholic Church on March 6, 2020.

Early in the year we lost, through death, a dearly loved member of our UCW family, Marilyn Humphrey. She is sorely missed and fondly remembered by each one of us.

In June, most of our group met together, in a carefully controlled setting, for a social afternoon.

In December, we sent Christmas cards to our seniors in Retirement/ Nursing homes wishing them a safe and happy season.

Now, as we head into a new year

Thankful for a love that knows no ending

Grateful for a hope that gives us courage

We look forward to a day when we, again, can do our part

In a world so in need of God's care.



Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Belbin
President: Grace United Church Women

United Church Women – 2020 Financial Report

Receipts		Disbursements	
Offerings	\$ 52.05	UCW Dues	\$ 56.00
Lenten Offerings	\$ 185.00	Bank Charges	\$ 4.80
		Stamps/ Mileage	\$ 54.17
		Gift	\$ 25.00
		Flowers	\$ 45.20
Total	<u>\$ 237.05</u>	Total	\$ 185.17
		Balance as of 12/31/19	\$ 139.76
		Receipts	\$ 237.05
		Withdrawals	<u>\$ 185.17</u>
		Balance as of 12/31/20	<u>\$ 191.64</u>

Submitted by Marg Worth, UCW Treasurer

Choir and Music Program Report

Grace United Church Senior Choir provided musical leadership in worship on 11 Sundays during the year 2020. In the absence of our Organist for his holidays in February and early March, Doug Gifford provided capable musical leadership.

Due to COVID-19, March 15th was the last service in Grace United Church until we returned in limited numbers on October 4th. During this period, virtual services were created by Donna Norman, Tammy Fergusson, Dave Charles, Laurie Cadue, and countless others of our congregation. Greetings, readings, prayers, sermons and Mission and Service messages were recorded in homes and sent via cyber-channels to our Director of Music. Hymns and other service music were created in my home studio and edited into a service which was published on YouTube each weekend. A self-taught crash course in video editing provided me with the tools to create and publish 28 of these services. Compiling, editing and publishing these services took an average of 50 hours on my part per week.

Besides the hymns, special music was provided, using existing audio recordings of Grace United Church Choir as well as YouTube videos of strangers who graciously gave their permission for us to use their videos. We heard music from musicians as diverse as the soprano soloist at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC to a pharmacist in Indiana who has published a catalogue of dozens of sacred quartets, singing harmony with himself.

Musicians more familiar to our Grace Church family – Maryanne Wainman, Alison MacDonald, Nayeli Abrego, Ramona Gilmour Darling, Gillian MacDonald and Kate Harding Smith – shared their talents with us by recording their voices and instruments at home, accompanied by musical tracks created in my studio.

We have been meticulous in ensuring that we have complied with copyright regulations, and have special licenses both for printing the words of the hymns and for streaming music in online services. *To a person*, those we have asked for permission to use their videos have graciously granted that permission and wished us well in our endeavours. Just this week I received a lovely note from the Rector at Melton-Mowbray Anglican Parish, just south of Nottingham in the UK, granting permission to use *anything* from their YouTube library that might be of use to us. So it has gone for 10 months.

When we moved back into the church in October, under strict COVID-19 safety protocols, we began streaming our services live in real time on Facebook. Then, later on Sunday, the service was published on YouTube. Now that we are virtual-only again, we are sharing our service Sunday mornings at 10:30, simultaneously on Facebook and YouTube. During this period, we welcomed our new minister, Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro, to the pulpit. I look forward to a wonderful working relationship with her.

Our Christmas Eve service gave us our first opportunity to turn editing duties over to Gary Petro, who has infinitely more experience in such matters than do I. We look

forward to his continuing in this role in the New Year and we are very grateful for his help.

I dearly miss my choristers and the pleasure we share in preparing for and serving in our weekly worship experience. It is sad to think of our empty choir loft and our idle pipe organ. We can look forward to the day when, once again, we can join together and raise our voices heartily in praise of God and his Son, Jesus.

My thanks to Grace United Church for your support and to all those who have, in any way, had a part in making our virtual worship experiences meaningful for our viewers.

Stay safe; stay well; stay home.

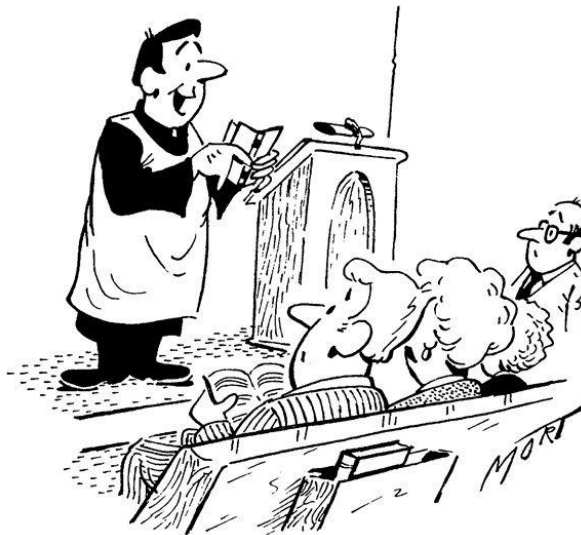
Paul Harding
Director of Music

**GRACE UNITED CHURCH
CHOIR REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Funds carried forward January 1, 2020	\$ 1,397.15
**Donation received	<u>1,000.00</u>
Funds on hand December 31, 2020	<u>\$ 2,397.15</u>

Prepared by:
Dianna Grier

Note: The \$1000 donation is held in the Church Operating Account



© 1986 Cliff Anderson, from the cartoonists' journal and cartoons

"We'll sing the first verse, hum the second,
and lip-sync the third."

2020 Fundraising Report

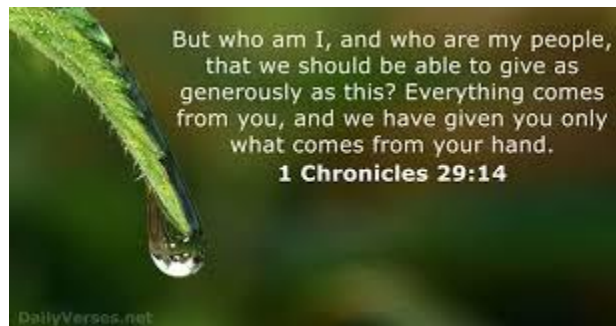
During 2020 for obvious reasons, our fundraising efforts were a challenge. That being said, we were still able to raise over \$7,000.00. The majority of this was through our pie sales and the amazing "Pies for God's Sake Team." This team gathered together at various times through out the spring, summer and fall, following strict guidelines by the Health United and COVID protocols.

	Income	Expenses	Net
Pies	\$ 9,127.05	\$ 2,148.97	\$ 6,978.08
Pancake Supper	\$ 587.05		\$ 587.05
	\$ 9714.10	<u>\$ 2,148.97</u>	<u>\$ 7,565.13</u>

Mission & Service



2020 Mission & Service			
	Month	Donations	Payout
	January	\$ 688.50	\$ 688.50
	February	\$ 823.50	\$ 843.50
	March	\$ 448.00	\$ 448.00
	April	\$ 206.00	\$ 206.00
	May	\$ 767.00	\$ 767.00
	June	\$ 533.00	\$ 533.00
	July	\$ 713.00	\$ 713.00
	August	\$ 553.00	\$ 433.00
	September	\$ 581.00	\$ 581.00
	October	\$ 1,031.00	\$ 1,031.00
	November	\$ 1,065.00	\$ 1,036.00
	December	\$ 780.00	\$ 809.00
	Totals	\$ 8,189.00	\$ 8,089.00 **
** \$100 missed will be issued in Jan 2021			



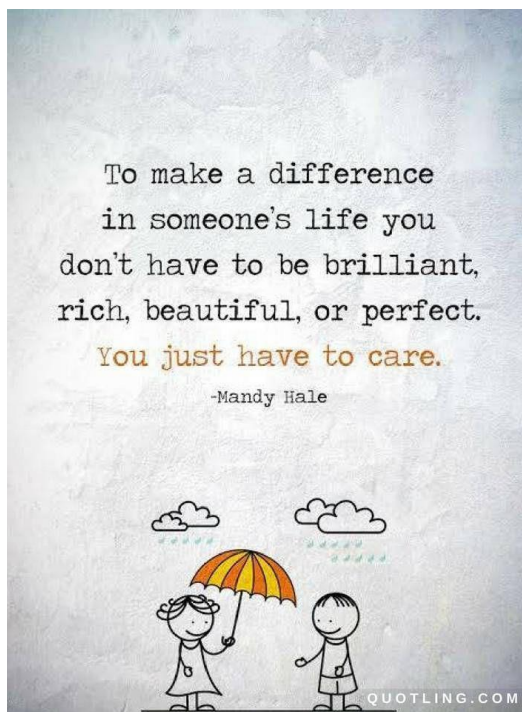
Grace United Church - Special Grace Mission Statement 2020

As At December 31 2020

Receipts:	O/S	DEP
Dec-19		\$ 212.50
Jan		\$ 147.50
Feb		\$ 167.50
Mar		\$ 127.50
April		\$ 107.50
May		\$ 127.50
June		\$ 97.50
July		\$ 197.50
Aug		\$ 141.50
Sept		\$ 97.50
Oct	\$ 302.50	
Nov	\$ 397.50	
Dec	\$ 368.50	
Donations	\$ 1,068.50	\$ 1,424.00
INTEREST		
Total		\$ 1,424.00

Disbursements:		
63	Family in need	\$ 250.00
64	Family in need	\$ 250.00
65	Gan Food Bank	\$ 1,000.00
66	Family in need	\$ 500.00
67	St. Joe's (Coat)	\$ 100.00
68	Christmas for Kids	\$ 500.00
69	Food Bank	\$ 500.00
Total Disbursed		\$ 3,100.00

Bank Balance December 31, 2019	\$ 5,711.87
Deposits 2020	\$ 1,424.00
Sub total	\$ 7,135.87
Disbursed 2020	\$ 3,100.00
Bank Fees	\$ 12.50
OS Cheques	
Bank Balance	\$ 4,023.37
OS Deposits	\$ 1,068.50
Account Balance	\$ 5,091.87



**GRACE UNITED CHURCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINANCIAL REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

1. Investments of Grace United Church

RECEIPTS

Opening investment balance, January 1, 2020 **\$ 1,052,167**
 Net investment income recognized in 2020 - \$28,347

Total receipts \$ 28,347

DISBURSEMENTS

Transfer of funds to operating (\$ 60,000)
 Closing investment balance, December 31, 2020 \$ 1,020,514

Closing balance of investments

INVESTMENTS

	Book Value	Market Value
Cash and Money Market Mutual Funds	\$ 93,227	\$ 93,227
Canadian Preferred Shares	\$ 320,000	\$ 275,768
Canadian Bond Funds	\$ 207,739	\$ 211,314
Foreign Bond Funds	\$ 245,480	\$ 265,215
Asset Allocation/Balanced Funds	\$ 32,546	\$ 35,708
Canadian Equity Mutual Funds	\$ 82,017	\$ 98,609
Foreign Equity Mutual Funds	<u>\$ 39,505</u>	<u>\$ 46,219</u>

Total portfolio \$1,020,514 \$1,026,555

(full copy of the investment statement is available)

An estate donation restricting expending to income earned on the endowed funds of \$567,228 and Sunday School funds of \$2,769. These restricted funds total \$569,997, representing funds held for specific purpose. The Trustees will monitor appropriate disbursement of funds held without restriction which totals \$450,517, as future needs occur.

Prepared by: **VICKI LEAKEY, TREASURER**

Note: Our invested capital since 2012 (deposits less withdrawals) is \$814,301. This has grown since 2012 to stand as of December 31, 2020 at \$1,026,385. With the volatility of 2020 investment markets, Grace United investments increased by 4.23% in the 12 months and had a forecast annual income of \$57,694, which is reinvested. The account has changed in value by \$212,083.64 since Jan. 1, 2012.

**GRACE UNITED CHURCH
MEMORIAL AND OUTREACH FUND
FINANCIAL REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

RECEIPTS

Opening balance, January 1, 2020	\$ 40,404
Donations	\$ 1,180
Interest - Bank	298
	<u>1,478</u>
	\$ 41,882

DISBURSEMENTS

Transfer to operating for video equipment	\$ 5,000
Admin	64

Closing balance December 31, 2020 \$ 36,818

INVESTMENTS

BMO Variable GIC, 2.05% due January 2021	\$ 23,951
BMO Bank Account -	<u>\$12,867</u>
	\$36,818

Prepared by: Vicki Leakey, Treasurer

Note: For 2020, Special Grace Mission is now included in the Memorial & Outreach Fund above

Grace Church Memorial Fund & Outreach Bank Account 2020

Balance Dec. 31, 2019	\$ 16,748.30
<u>Receipts</u>	
Memorial Donations	1,180.00
<u>Disbursements</u>	
Stamps	0.00
Bank Charges	48.00
Transfer to operating, re video equipment	5,000.00
My Tribute Gift Charges	13.60
Balance Petty Cash	<u>1.90</u>
	\$ 5,063.50

Balance, December 31, 2020 **\$ 12,864.80**

Memorial Donations were received in loving memory of Tom Leakey, Vern Fielding, Marilyn Humphrey and Wayne Laviolette.

Submitted by Carolyn Scott

Grace United Church – Financial Statement as at December 31, 2020

OPERATING RECEIPTS	2020 BUDGET	December	2020	2019 To Date
Offerings	\$ 82,000	\$ 8,065	\$ 79,661	\$ 75,699
Weddings				
Outside Groups	\$ 700		\$ 400	\$ 980
Session Fundraisers			\$ 662	\$ 389
Fund Raising	\$ 12,000	\$ 132	\$ 9,714	\$ 16,046
Tax Rebates	\$ 2,500		\$ 2,501	\$ 3,221
Gov Rebates (CEWS)			\$ 17,551	
Receptions	\$ 500			\$ 450
Transferred from Trustees	\$ 32,500		\$ 32,500	\$ 47,000
Investment Proceeds	\$ 23,000		\$ 27,500	\$ 23,000
Messy Church	\$ 300			\$ 834
Misc (See Note)		\$ 5,000	\$ 10,868	\$ 1,712
Estate				\$ 20,000
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 153,500	\$ 13,197	\$ 181,357	\$ 189,331
MISSION RECEIPTS	ANNUAL BUDGET	December	2020	2019 To Date
Mission & Service Fund	\$ 9,000	\$ 780	\$ 8,189	\$ 9,039
Special Grace Missions	\$ 3,000	\$ 438	\$ 2,280	\$ 3,715
White Gift		\$ 2,805	\$ 3,685	\$ 225
Total Mission Receipts	\$ 12,000	\$ 4,023	\$ 14,154	\$ 12,979
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 165,500	\$ 17,220	\$ 195,511	\$ 202,310
OPERATING EXPENSES	ANNUAL BUDGET	December	2020	2019 To Date
Personnel	\$ 81,200	\$ 11,033	\$ 88,931	\$ 100,870
Office	\$ 9,350	\$ 1,747	\$ 9,602	\$ 8,597
Maintenance	\$ 47,500	\$ 7,478	\$ 47,673	\$ 47,693
Capital Projects				
Congregation Expenses	\$ 6,850		\$ 6,433	\$ 6,837
Session	\$ 2,950	\$ 100	\$ 2,703	\$ 4,488
Messy Church	\$ 750		\$ 98	\$ 772
Stewardship	\$ 4,900		\$ 7,679	\$ 7,793
Mission Expenses**	\$ 12,000	\$ 4,891	\$ 14,054	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 165,500	\$ 25,249	\$ 177,173	\$ 177,050

NOTE: MISC Revenue:

Memorial Fund Tr \$ 5000
 EOORC Grant \$ 5000
 MacKinnon (Tech) \$ 500
 BV & Name Tags 318
 Total: \$ 10,818.00

Operating Receipts to Date	\$ 195,511
Operating Expenses to Date	\$ 177,173
Receipts less Expenses	\$ 18,338
Bank Balance December 31, 2019	\$ 15,590
Bank Balance	\$ 33,928
Overdraft (Limit \$20,000)	
Book Balance, December 31, 2020	\$ 33,928
Bank Account Balance	\$ 33,928
Bank balance to this date in 2019	\$ 15,590

**Canada Helps Donation of \$100 to M&S missed, will be issued in January 2021

Grace United Church 2021 Budget

RECEIPTS	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Offerings (4010, 4012,4015,4016)	\$ 82,000	\$ 79,661	\$ 100,000
Weddings 4020			
Outside Groups 4030	\$ 700	\$ 400	\$ 450
Broadview 4050	\$ 200	\$ 350	\$ 200
Mission & Service Fund 4300	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,189	\$ 10,000
Special Grace Missions 4350	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,280	\$ -
Fund Raising Events 4060	\$ 12,500	\$ 10,376	\$ 15,000
Tax Rebate (CEWS included in 2020 Actual) 4070	\$ 2,500	\$ 20,051	\$ 3,600
Receptions 4045	\$ 500		\$ -
Transfer from Trustees 4080	\$ 76,500	\$ 32,500	\$ 74,000
Investment Proceeds 4081	\$ 23,000	\$ 27,500	\$ 20,000
Messy Church 4035	\$ 300		\$ 1,050
Outreach missions 4040		\$ 3,685	\$ 2,000
Estate/Trustees/TECH 4900	\$ -	\$ 10,518	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 210,200	\$ 195,510	\$ 226,300

Expense - Personnel			
Salaries (5600/5630/5650/5675)	\$ 99,500	\$ 72,419	\$ 108,300
Minister Phone & Travel 5606	\$ 1,000	\$ 545	\$ 2,000
C.P.P. & U.I. 5680	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,029	\$ 6,500
United Church Pension Fund 5690	\$ 9,000	\$ 4,191	\$ 9,000
Worker's Compensation 5700	\$ 700	\$ 332	\$ 900
Book Allowance & Study 5720	\$ 1,000		\$ 2,750
Vacation Pay 5730			\$ -
Casual Supply 5710	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,588	\$ 1,500
Supply Trav. 5705	\$ 500	\$ 392	\$ 500
Minister (urgent care) 5715	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,435	\$ -
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$ 125,700	\$ 88,931	\$ 131,450

OFFICE			
Telephone 5010	\$ 950	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,000
Office Supplies 5020	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,794	\$ 4,500
Advertising 5025	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,170	\$ 750
Bank Charges 5030	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,346	\$ 1,500
Internet 5015	\$ 1,000	\$ 942	\$ 1,200
TOTAL OFFICE	\$ 9,350	\$ 9,602	\$ 8,950

MAINTENANCE				
Repairs & Maintenance	5040	\$ 10,000	\$ 13,556	\$ 11,000
Heat	5050	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,992	\$ 8,000
Water	5060	\$ 1,000	\$ 878	\$ 1,500
Electricity	5070	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,328	\$ 6,000
Service contracts	5080	\$ 12,000	\$ 11,831	\$ 14,000
Insurance	5090	\$ 10,500	\$ 11,088	\$ 13,500
Prior Year Capital-Trustees				
Organ				
Capital Projects	5045			\$ 2,000
TOTAL MAINTENANCE		\$ 47,500	\$ 47,673	\$ 56,000
CONGREGATION EXPENSES				
UCC Annual Assessments	5200	\$ 6,850	\$ 6,433	\$ 6,850
Broadview	5210	\$ 200	\$ 185	\$ 200
Receptions	5220	\$ -		
TOTAL CONGREGATION		\$ 7,050	\$ 6,618	\$ 7,050
SESSION				
Choir & Music	5300	\$ 250		\$ 1,200
Special Events/Guest Musicians	5310	\$ 950	\$ 525	\$ 500
Worship Supplies	5320	\$ 500	\$ 591	\$ 500
Special Bulletins	5325			
Christian Development	5330	\$ 600	\$ 475	\$ 300
Children's Ministry	5400	\$ 200	\$ 56	\$ 200
C.E. Special Events	5410	\$ 200		\$ 200
C.E. Training	5420	\$ 50		\$ 50
Decorating				\$ 100
Outreach	(Fundraising included in actual expense)	\$ 100	\$ 871	\$ 1,250
Pastoral Care		\$ 100		\$ 100
Knitting		\$ -		\$ -
Messy Church	5331	\$ 750	\$ 98	\$ 750
TOTAL SESSION		\$ 3,700	\$ 2,616	\$ 5,150
STEWARDSHIP				
Program Expenses	5510	\$ 50		\$ 100
Fundraising	5515	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,149	\$ 5,000
Envelopes	5520	\$ 600	\$ 590	\$ 600
Search Committee	5525	\$ 250	\$ 684	\$ -
Approved Expenses	5530		\$ 4,257	\$ -
TOTAL STEWARDSHIP		\$ 4,900	\$ 7,680	\$ 5,700
TOTAL				
OPERATING EXPENSES		\$ 198,200	\$ 163,120	\$ 214,300

MISSIONS				
Mission & Service Fund	5910	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,089	\$ 10,000
Special Grace Missions	5920	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,280	\$ -
Outreach Mission	5930		\$ 3,685	\$ 2,000
United Church Mission Appeal	5925			
TOTAL MISSION EXPENSE		\$ 12,000	\$ 14,054	\$ 12,000
TOTAL EXPENSES				
		\$ 210,200	\$ 177,174	\$ 226,300