



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

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CHURCH STAFF AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

| | |
|--|---|
| Minister | Rev. Cordelia Karpenko |
| Administrator | Catharine Ottaway |
| Director of Music | Lois Craig |
| Custodial Services Fee for Service Contractor – Gord Ottaway | |
| Chair of Congregation | Stuart McLean |
| Secretary of Congregation | Crystal Ojala-McLean |
| Chair of Church Council | Winston Pinnock |
| Secretary of Church Council | Crystal Ojala-McLean |
| Finance | Robert Hunt |
| Men’s Group Representative | Michael Morrison |
| Ministry and Personnel Committee | Katie Cronin-Wood Brad Sherwin, Cathy Mullen |
| Mission and Service | Helen Dowse |
| Presbytery Representative | Bill Sheaves |
| Property | Peter Tietze |
| Treasurer | Wendy Mason |
| Trustees | Dave Eagleson |
| United Church Women | Grace Sheaves |
| Worship and Music | Linda Westendorp |
| Envelope Steward | Dorothy Wilkins |
| Epistle Editor | Wendy Mason |
| Church School Coordinator | Jennifer Cree |
| C.G.I.T. | Martine Miller |
| Explorers/ Messengers | Alison Siefert |
| Lay Visitor Team | Stuart McLean |
| Prayer Shawl Ministry | Susan Reed |

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MINISTER'S REPORT

Dear Friends in Christ,

Welcome to the 2017 Annual Report.

This has been an eventful year for us here at St. Paul's.

January to June saw the Discernment Team continue their work, with their final report along with Council's Action Plan being presented at the June Congregational meeting. Both were endorsed.

The fall saw the beginning of the implementation of the some of the Discernment recommendations which included Council beginning to work towards a new model of Governance. You can read more about that further on in this Annual Report.

Throughout 2017 we celebrated Canada's 150th birthday with monthly historic worship services and special events courtesy of the Canada 150 committee.

There have also been times of sorrow as we said goodbye to several beloved members of our church family.

It is through the efforts of many, many hands that St. Paul's does God's work and I would like to extend my thanks to all those who have volunteered this year. St. Paul's would not be the church it is without you.

Throughout 2017 it all God has been with us, keeping us united as members of the family of God and guiding on the path that has been set for us. As we move into 2018 I have no doubt that God will be with us as we continue to move into the future.

Blessings

Rev. Cordelia

FROM THE CHAIR OF CONGREGATION

Colossians 3:16 *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”*

When I was growing up, I remember my elders telling me that time will start to accelerate as you get older. And as I continue to accumulate years, I think I can now see what they were referring to because I can't believe how quickly another year has passed by. It has now been 2 years since you so graciously extended your faith in my abilities to act as your Chair of Congregation. And I want to express my deepest appreciation and let you know that I couldn't be more honoured to continue acting in this capacity for our church.

As is our custom, we conducted 3 Congregation Meetings in 2017. And I wanted to thank everyone who helped me plan for and then conduct each meeting. Our goal was to always make sure we were sharing interesting, pertinent, and relevant information in order to keep everyone informed and make good use of your time. But please let me know if you have any suggestions on how we can improve the meeting experience and I'll gladly adjust accordingly.

I want to thank the Church Council for helping develop the Agenda for each Congregation Meeting and then providing me with content to project onto the large screen so everyone was able to see what was being discussed during each meeting. I want to thank the sound team for coming in early ahead of each meeting to setup the mics, and the UCW for lending their portable mic so everyone was able to hear the discussions taking place. I want to thank those who helped set up the chairs before each meeting, and those who helped put them away when each meeting was complete. I want to thank The Men's Group for hosting a Continental Breakfast before our Annual General Meeting in February, and I want to thank the Mission and Service Committee for hosting tea and coffee before our November meeting. And finally, I want to thank my lovely wife for capturing the minutes for each meeting as recorded in our Annual Report.

As you will read in our Annual Report, there are a number of activities taking place within our church on a daily basis. We continue to be a healthy, active, vibrant community in faith as we look to honour God, our church, and our community each and every day. But this level of activity requires an equal level of effort and dedication. So I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the people who offer up their time and talent in the Spirit of God, so that St. Paul's remains a cornerstone of faith within our community. Without our many volunteers we wouldn't have been able to achieve everything highlighted in this Annual Report. And in particular I would like to acknowledge efforts of the Discernment Committee who worked tirelessly over an extended period of time which culminated in the release of their Final Discernment Report which was reviewed in detail during our June congregation meeting. And I would also like to express my gratitude for the Canada 150 Committee who helped plan for

our Canada 150 services and hosted a number of very memorable events for our community throughout this past year. You are all truly an inspiration.

And as I mentioned at the start, I feel truly blessed to be your Chair of Congregation and I am looking forward to continuing working with all of you throughout 2018. And please feel free to reach out to me directly if you have any concerns you would like addressed, any topics you would like added to the agenda during one of our Congregation Meetings, or if you have any suggestions about how we might improve our meeting format going forward.

Blessing to all ... Stuart McLean, Chair of Congregation

IN MEMORIAM

Dedicated to the memory of the members and friends of St. Paul's United Church who passed away in 2016. We remember them with love and thankfulness.

Ruth Killin

Doug Grey

Bea Carleton

Reg Carter

Sandra Lawson

Marie Pos

Len Kisil

Cornie Tessman

Paulina Morgan

MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

**Annual General Meeting of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, Ontario
Sunday, February 12, 2017 10:30 a.m. Three Segments incorporated into Worship**

First Segment: Chair of Congregation, Mr. Stuart McLean, welcomes and calls the General Meeting in the Sanctuary to order at 10:45 a.m. to address the important key initiatives within St. Paul's United Church. He gives thanks for the following: Men's Group for providing our free continental breakfast prior to our Worship service commencing. Under Segment One, the following items are walked through after the Call to Order:

- Holy Manners, Meeting Guidelines by the Minister of St. Paul's United Church, Reverend Cordelia Karpenko, in keeping God at the center and in any actions that we take.
- Negative Permissions; Congregation reminded by the Chair of Congregation, Stuart, with the negative permission forms available for signing.
- Motion for All to Vote, Adoption of Agenda
- Prayers for Passed on Members to which the Chair thanks Reverend Cordelia for her devotion.
- Review of Annual Report to which the Minister provides her highlights; Top Four Picks - rundown of the year's activities, groups, and events. Thanks everyone for all their work! The Chair also echoes' the Minister's sentiments, thanking All the Committees!
- Editor-In-Chief, Susan Reed, again for this year for our official document of the church, the Annual Report; as well as Church Committees, Groups, recognized for, and in, the Annual Report – amendments addressed.
- Adoption of Minutes for 2016 Congregation Meetings.
- An issue raised to be teed up for the next Church Council Meeting.

Motion #1. Motion for All to Vote: Jeff Wood moves to allow adherents the right to vote during this meeting; since we are only covering topics of a financial or administrative nature. Seconded by Reg Lawrance. Carried.

Motion #2. Adoption of Agenda: Valerie Wilson moves to accept the agenda for the February 12, 2017 Annual General Meeting, as circulated. Seconded by Karen Strong. Carried.

Motion #3. Adoption of the Congregation Minutes as part of the Annual Report for 2016 Congregational Meetings: Crystal Ojala-McLean moves adoption of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of February 7, 2016, the Congregation Meeting of June 5, 2016, and Congregation Meeting of October 10, 2016, of the St. Paul's United Church, Ajax. Noted amendments clarified. Seconded by Steve Lomax. Carried.

Motion #4. Adoption of the Official Document of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, Ontario, the Annual Report 2016: Susan Reed moves to adopt the Annual Report 2016 with the two aforementioned amendments noted; clarified on page 22 of the report to correctly read, Mary

and Mike Nefjees. And Page 51 in the UCW Report corrected to having the UCW purchase one Dollie for the chairs. Seconded by Reg Lawrance. Carried.

Second Segment: Agenda items consists of the business of Finance, Discernment, and Mission and Service. Finance Chair of St. Paul's, Mr. Robert Hunt, walks congregants through the Finance Committee Report. Reverend Cordelia Karpenko, Chair, Stuart, pre-tested the technical status of the PowerPoint Slide Presentation and assisted in it continuing to work smoothly for the course of this meeting. Congregation Chair also recognized our sound technician, Steve Lomax, for his technical support here.

- Finance Chair, Robert, recognizes the Finance Committee, that meet regularly. Chair, Stuart, invites warm recognition through applause on behalf of all the work they do for us at St. Paul's!
- Chair, Robert, reviews our financial status from 2016 which showed that St. Paul's continues to support a solid financial position; as reflected in the 2017 Annual Report with the support donation numbers, rundown presented to St. Paul's congregants. And this, despite a few capital repairs that were needed throughout in 2016.
- Our Finance Chair, Robert, also reviewed the 2017 Budget proposal asking the congregants to support a modest 2.5% increase in givings, which was approved.

Re: Presbytery Fees: Reverend Cordelia and Presbyter Representative, Bill Sheaves, brings a reminder to this awareness of Presbytery changing the formula on how congregations are assessed. Past Presbyter, Wendy Mason, recaps St. Paul's congregants; informs that that may have changed the number because it is not assessed on a per member basis anymore. It is assessed on value of assessments. Ok, to address Jean's question more directly, receives Bill, Presbyter Rep, our Presbytery fees next year are going to be \$xyz to the number of identifiable givers in this church. He provides an example, so let's say that is xyz number of people, because the math's easy, that's, say \$30 each. So, if everyone sent in \$30 each, for the example provided in the stated number of people, that's all of us, that would cover 99% of our Presbytery fee. So if you want to put a note, an extra \$30 in the plate, put it in an envelope with your name on it, and what it is for. And get a tax credit. Yes, it goes into our operating account, receives Presbytery Rep, Bill, ok. So, \$30, that's the number to this example, recaps the Chair of Finance, Robert.

- Finance Chair highlights in speaking to the benefits of tax credits when give to St. Paul's; tax credits on your income tax – speak to your accountant. Motion carries. Chair, Stuart, thanks Finance Chair, Robert.

Motion #5. Finance Chair, Robert Hunt, moves to accept the Budget as proposed which includes all those expenses; and includes our intent to increase our givings by that 2.5% and we will have a wonderful year next year! Seconded by Treasurer, Wendy Mason. Carried.

Question from Susan, Congregation: Because there is now an amendment to those figures on that last page of the Budget, a request to have a retro-active addition to the amendment's page that includes what those changes are, or do we need to have a second motion for an additional amendment to the initial reference. Chair, Stuart, was going to say the same thing and addresses Chair, Robert, that he

will chase him for the updates that he had reflected and they will reflect them in future documentation, minutes, ok. Thanks Susan.

Discernment Interim Report Update: Discernment Committee Chair, Bill Sheaves, then walks congregants of St. Paul's through the Discernment Committee, D.C. Interim Report which was distributed prior to meeting. Next week the question that the D.C. will be asking St. Paul's congregants their answers to the questions: What are your faith needs? What are your spiritual needs? And how is, or can, St. Paul's meet those needs? Reverend Cordelia informs that the second thing that is coming up is that during Lent, you may recall that we do a spiritual practice of the day during each day of the Lenten Service. And so, this year, you will be learning, doing each week with Lenten service coming up, you will be learning a method of discernment and we will have an idea that we are playing with, or a question for you to practice. We are going to practice here in church every Sunday morning so we can all learn how to do it. And then you are going to be asked to take it home so that you can discern on that issue during the week and get your answers back. It is asked if the D.C. has a timeline to making recommendations to Council. D.C. Chair, Bill, answers that yes, they are hoping, working towards a May Council Meeting so that it can come before a congregational meeting in June. This D.C. report is just for information for the congregation, yes, to review. Chair, Stuart, thanks Bill, D.C. Chair. St. Paul's appreciation for the D.C. is shared, recognized. Some interesting highlights from the D.C. from the March Council Meeting will be coming forth shortly as to news of their keeping on track, thank you.

Mission and Service Report: On behalf of the national body of Mission and Service, M and S Committee members, Wendy Mason, and their committee chair, Helen Dowse, reviewed the chart of their breakdown of the M and S Fund for the National United Church of Canada in 2016. Provides a rundown of the efforts being supported by the United Church of Canada's national Mission and Service Fund. They receive the necessary approval from St. Paul's congregants to set the 2017 Mission and Service goal at \$17,000. Wendy shares, thank you so much! Chair, Stuart, thank you both, Wendy and Helen.

Motion #6. Wendy Mason moves that the target for the M and S for 2017 will be \$17,000 for the year. Seconded by Helen Dowse. Carried.

Third Segment: Chair, Stuart McLean, addresses remaining agenda items: Property Chair, Mr. Peter Tietze, informs to the security updates and that the work on the back door is now complete. Property and Church staff address any challenges or concerns that St. Paul's congregants may have with the latest security measures; as the back door is working though may need to experience it as it may be a little bit heavier with the added metal in there.

- Property Chair, Peter, informs that the church requires some maintenance on their heating system in the spring, here in warmer weather to address getting additional heat to the upstairs area; heat distribution. Chair, Stuart, thanks Property Chair, Peter, for this greatly appreciated added update.

St. Paul's Retirees Recognized: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko, Council Chair, Mr. Winston Pinnock, and Chair of Congregation, Mr. Stuart McLean, thanked Mrs. Gladys Snelling whom retired from two church committees; retired from the Lay Visitor's and the Blood Donor teams. St. Paul's United Church

Minister, Reverend Cordelia, thanked all congregants for their faithful work and support throughout the year for our various church committees and activities.

Election of Officers: Council Chair, Mr. Winston Pinnock, then led the election of officers where the Chair of the Board of Trustees, Chair, Mr. David Eagleson, and trustee members, Wilma Brown and Jewel Cooney were again affirmed for another year as trustees. As well as Mr. Gary Faulkner whom also agreed to act in the capacity in appointment as our Examiner. Council Chair, Mr. Winston Pinnock, also affirmed for another year, his final year in the capacity as our Chair of Council.

Motion #7. Winston Pinnock, Council Chair, moves to accept those Election of Officers nominated and to the close of the Election of Officers as noted. Seconded by Wendy Mason. Carried.

Motion #8. Wendy Mason also moves that Winston Pinnock is nominated for his final year as Chair of Church Council; for the rise of this 2017 Congregational meeting to the rise of the next one. Seconded by the Men's Group Representative, Michael Morrison. Carried.

Prayerful Consideration and Appeal for Open Positions: Congregational Chair, Stuart McLean, gave a brief appeal to have everyone give a prayerful consideration about appropriately filling the retiring terms and stepping into our opened positions coming available at the rise of the new year's Congregational Meeting 2018. As it is reaffirmed just to clarify, through Past Presbyterian, current Treasurer, Wendy Mason, that a Church Council Vice-Chair will have to be approved through Council and at a Congregational Meeting to which the Minister, Reverend Cordelia affirms, we can hold a special congregational meeting to meet that need when necessary, we can do that. Because all the other positions are basically just a volunteer position, clarifies Treasurer, Wendy Mason. Chair thanks Treasurer, Wendy.

Other Business: Two Items: 1. Fire Safety at St. Paul's United Church: Chair, Stuart, invites Volunteer Warden, Chair, Mr. Winston Pinnock, up to give an update on the Fire Safety Plan. Informs that 2016 was a very good year in terms of a lot of action items moved in terms of Fire Safety at St. Paul's; firstly, provides the highlights, in general, first thing we did was yes, we had a plan to approve the, about a fifty-page document that was put together. First it was approved by Council, and then most importantly approved by the congregation. So that plan is now held by the Ajax Fire Department, so really a good testament to our commitment to fire safety here, informs the Council Chair, Winston. And our Volunteer Warden, Winston, also gives St. Paul's congregation a recap with a PowerPoint Presentation, a thorough rundown on the important fire safety steps taken throughout the course of this fire safety journey that involved staff and warden training, training of the fire wardens on evacuation about the Fire Safety Plan. And a fire safety audit that took place in the fall to ensure all to fire code under the supervision instruction of the Ajax Fire Department, personnel member, Mr. C. Chair, Winston, also recognizes the Chair of Property, Peter Tietze's, for his ongoing support in his reviewing and inspecting for Fire Safety at St. Paul's on behalf of the Property Committee. The Chair and Fire Safety Volunteer, Winston, also recognizes the entirety of St. Paul's Fire Safety team. Great appreciation shared by the whole congregation.

Congregation Chair, Stuart McLean, thanks all whom assisted and supported this time of meeting and our Church Council for helping him finalize our agenda. Also recognized our Minister, Reverend

Cordelia Karpenko, for her loan of her laptop to incorporate our materials into her slideware and support our presenters whom all did an amazing job sharing their respective church supporting agenda items. Greatly appreciated the sound system support and management again, recognizing Steve Lomax for his skillful guidance in this department of our church for everyone to better hear clearly what was shared here today. As well, thanks Crystal Ojala-McLean, the minutes taker, to document the minutes for this time of meeting. The Chair informs that feels so blessed to be part of this congregation and looks forward to supporting you and getting ready for our next meeting in this capacity for the coming year.

Closing Devotion: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko led the congregation in a Closing Prayer just before we adjourned the meeting with a following Hymn, "We Have This Ministry" supported by staff and senior choir under the skillful direction of our warm and wonderful Music Director, Lois Craig. As always, the music program here at St. Paul's is always welcome!

Motion #9. Wendy Mason moves to adjourn this time of meeting of the congregation at 12:45 p.m. Seconded by John Scott. Adjourned.

Next Congregational Meeting: Forthcoming, yet to be determined for June 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

*Recording, Secretary to the Congregation,
Crystal Ojala-McLean*

*Chair of Congregation,
Stuart McLean*

**St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, Ontario Regular Congregational Meeting
June 11, 2017 in the Gathering Place, 11:44 a.m.**

Call to Order: Congregation Chair, Mr. Stuart McLean, calls the meeting to order and welcomes everyone in the Gathering Place. Chair recognizes and thanks everyone who helped prepare for the meeting. Warm appreciation from congregants.

- Chair reminds to the publishing of the Negative Permissions waiver available for those who do not want your full name published in the Annual Report that gets on the website.

Opening Devotion: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko opens this time of meeting with Thanks in her opening devotion, "...as we gather to do the work of Your Church. ... In Christ's Name, Amen." Chair, Stuart, thanks the Minister, Reverend Cordelia, for her devotion.

Voting Rights: Motion #1. Motion for All to Vote: Cathy Mullen moves to allow adherents the right to vote during this meeting since we are only covering topics of a financial and administrative nature. Seconded by Karen Strong. Carried.

Motion #2. Adoption of Agenda: June Rueben moves to accept the agenda for the June 11th, 2017, Congregational Meeting as circulated. Seconded by Virginia Thorne. Carried.

Financial Reports: Finance Chair, Mr. Robert Hunt: Walks us through the PowerPoint Presentation of his committee's financial reports. Starts with a synopsis of what has been going on so far this year. Informs that in January through April thus far this year that our donations were much better than in 2016 which is really fabulous because what that means is that we forecasted a budget of an increase of 2.5% and we seem to be meeting that goal! Except that in May we seem to be below our budget for some reason. Our expenses were lower in May in 2017 than they were in 2016; which is really good. Not to forget all the people whom volunteer to work that would otherwise would have to be compensated (are spiritually, in His church to these supportive ways of course in keeping in balance). So, thinks we owe a thanks to all the volunteers! Warm appreciation given. Question from Louise Johnson inquiring to, Presbytery fees for this year, addressed.

- We are meeting all or most of our budget targets, and it looks like at the end of the year, our bank balance is projected to be \$2, 501 if the forecast was met.
- We are not sweating! So, things are looking good! Chair, Stuart, thanks Robert, Chair of Finance. Warm appreciation from St. Paul's congregants.

Minister's Update: Reverend Cordelia: Informs to what she has been up to since the last meeting in February:

- Reverend Cordelia continues to chair the Ministry of Vocations Committee where she supervises candidates for Ministry in our Presbytery, along with all of our Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, L.L.W.L. Informs that they just interviewed three new L.L.W.L. that will be licensed at their June Presbytery Meeting!
- Rev. Cordelia continues to lead Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Book Study on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. And they were reading the book entitled, Not in God's Name, and they are finished that now. Please note book resource: Hardcover book, Not in God's Name – Confronting Religious Violence by Rabbi Jonathon Sacks. Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. Hachette, UK. Publication date: June 11, 2015. Kindle Edition. Page count: 320. Publisher Schocken, First American Edition.
- They are now working through book, C.S. Lewis's book, Mere Christianity. Please note book resource: Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis. Paperback, page count 191 pages. Published June 1, 1996 by Touchstone books, Simon & Schuster, Canada. (First published 1952). Simon & Schuster Inc. Publishing company, a subsidiary of CBS Corporation, is an American publishing company founded in New York City in 1924 by Richard Simon and Max Schuster. Now, Reverend Cordelia informs that, our St. Paul's book club group has in fact grown in the last little bit and that she, Rev. Cordelia, is delighted that people seem to be enjoying it!
- Usual things like, Pastoral Care, Worship, Planning. Rev. Cordelia is currently working on the Worship schedule for 2017-2018.
- And of course Reverend Cordelia has been meeting with the Discernment Committee, D.C. every week; every other week at 5:15 p.m.
- That's roughly what she does, not counting the administrative stuff, sums up Rev. Cordelia. Warmly, any questions? Warm compliments shared for the St. Paul's Minister. Warm appreciation from St. Paul's! And Minister thinks she's now blushing.
- Question inquiring that you mentioned the hospice, do you still? Oh yes, Rev. Cordelia, she does visits to the hospital. And do you participate at the hospice in the Chaplaincy? Reverend Cordelia informs that she is not currently participating at the hospital Chaplaincy at this point. With the addition of the Discernment Committee meetings and a couple other things, it's just that, it was no longer the best fit at this time for these various reasons. Otherwise, Rev.

Cordelia, she's hoping maybe if things get slightly calmer to get back to that because its important work and she does find fulfillment in the work; but no, not at the moment. This did remind her of something to share however.

- Just a note if you or somebody else is in hospital, please do call her, Reverend Cordelia, as sometimes she does not hear until people are home again; then, well, she can not really visit them while they are in hospital. And thank you for all the compliments! Congregational Chair, Stuart McLean, thanks Reverend Cordelia Karpenko. Warm appreciation with audible applause received.

Unfinished Business: Open Positions Requiring Volunteers: Congregation Chair, Stuart McLean, reminds to vacancies and makes appeal for prayerful consideration for the following opportunities, well suited to put names forth, for the following placements: Vice-Chair of Church Council; Chair of Christian Education, C.E.; Chair of Communications Committee; Presbyter (two Positions); Chair of the Ministry and Personnel Committee, M and P, (three Positions approaching end of term); Recording Secretary Church Council/Congregation (approaching end of term; end of 2018 term officially); Fire Warden.

Final Report of the Discernment Committee, D.C.: Chair, Stuart, invites the Chair of the Discernment Committee, Bill Sheaves, to come forward to walk St. Paul's congregants through the Committee's D.C. Final Report. We asked our congregation to have an exploration of different calls - What does the church call you to? - What does church mean to you? - How do you think you can in the future in this congregation can go forward? And they came up with three different points in a Call to Explore:

1. Spiritual Mission – Keeping God as our Center of Spiritual Life first and far-most.
2. Becoming An Invitational Church.
3. Having a Quiet Contemplative Service.

You also said to us to Repurpose our Building; not get rid of it, but repurpose it. And also make us more Involved in our Community.

This is what you told us when we asked you the questions to Call to Explore.

- Revitalize Our Church Life: Increase our spiritual focus in all aspects of church life. We need to keep God as the center of everything we do; to redevelop our governance structure to become less committee oriented; actively become an invitational congregation and in doing so share The Good News as Christians; (a lot of requests for this one to have) to provide a quiet contemplative service.
- Repurposing our Property: To conduct a feasibility study with the objective of repurposing our property, to enhance our community outreach, that's a big one; to commit to the funding of a new lift, because we can not do too much outreach without a lift that works, as reliable; to investigate the ability of our building to commit to environmental and energy efficiencies; to engage in the services of a structural engineer; to review our rental application policy to simplify the process in gaining new tenants. Refers to page 16 in the report; it gives you an indication through how we compare with other urban churches in Lakeridge Presbytery and how they have their money to exist as a church. D.C. Chair, Bill, informs to these highlights that one of the items that we seem to be lower on in the general Presbytery is their Other Income. We are not doing too bad on our offerings but our other income is a lot lower compared to other churches in Presbytery.

- Enhance our Community Outreach: Investigate our ability with the Town of Ajax and other necessary agency institutes: 1) Programs for seniors and youth. 2) Seniors' Housing. 3) Affordable Housing.

And these were all recommendations that came from not just the Calls to Explore but from all the other questions that we asked you that we indicated in the brief Final Report. Reminds St. Paul's that this report is substantiated by your input; it's not something that the Discernment Committee got together to say let's fire these out just for the heck of it, this is actually based on your contributions. Are there any questions inquires the Chair of the Discernment Committee. Yes Lois, your question. You mentioned to this Quiet Contemplative Service, is it in addition to what we have? Or? Once a month, or? We have not decided how, to the extent that is, to have them as of yet, it is going to be, will be at least an additional he figures. We do not know that yet, answers Rev. Cordelia; at least, that is how we are tending to think, adds D.C. Chair, Bill. Stuart, Chair, asks everyone if all heard what the question was. Ok. Affirmed.

- Discernment Committee Chair, Bill, recognizes the following Discernment Committee members: Reverend Cordelia, Linda W., Sharon C., Karen St., Robert H., John S., Mike N., and Peter S. Warm audible recognition from the congregants of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, Ontario.
- D.C. Chair, Bill Sheaves, informs that the committee have given this Final Report with the recommendations to Council and Church Council will be talking to you very shortly about their end of it. Thank you. Congregation Chair, Stuart McLean, addresses D.C. Chair, Bill, just before he steps down, that the other thing that during the Church Council Meeting last week that Council did vote to disband the Discernment Committee at the rise of this June 11, 2017 Regular Congregation Meeting. So, again just wanted to share his thanks and appreciation for what this committee has done for the last nearly two years. Thank you, receives D.C. Chair, Bill, on behalf of his committee. Warm appreciation audibles from St. Paul's congregation.

New Business: Council Response to Discernment Report: Robert, Katie, Bill, Reverend Cordelia: Discernment Committee Co-Sponsor, Katie Cronin-Wood, greets St. Paul's congregants with an introduction in the capacity of the Chair of the Ministry and Personnel Committee, M and P, and as a member of Council, as is D.C. Co-Sponsor, Mr. Robert Hunt (Finance Chair). On Council's behalf that they both have been the Sponsors of the Discernment Committee. As Stuart said, they presented their report to Council; Council voted to accept their report, and now Robert and Katie, are here this afternoon to put before you a proposed plan from Council that we would like your endorsement, for feedback on.

- So, earlier this week Catharine (Church Administrator) sent out by the email a presentation, Hearing God's Call Discernment Process, Council's Response and Next Steps. We've been and the Discernment Committee, D.C., have been using as a reference document an excellent book that is footnoted here, (in PowerPoint Presentation here) And will restate for the purpose of the minutes here as well; the reference source for this presentation is "Holy Conversations - Strategic Planning As A Spiritual Practice For Congregations", published by Rowman & Littlefield, 2014 and is being used by St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, to support its own planning work. And so they are going to go through that presentation with you, now. As what they want to do is remind you of where we started. An informative reminder to the process of steps to this PowerPoint Presentation of slides, ensues.
- Immediate Recommendations: And Katie, Co-Sponsor, recognizes that Robert, Co-Sponsor, is right in terms of immediately, the Property Committee:

1. What Council is recommending, is that Property Committee will secure the services of a structural engineer to assess the health of the church building and the property, the piece of land that we sit on. And in the fall of 2017, provide Council with any recommendations on any challenges or opportunities.
 2. The Trustees will review the current church's facility practices and in the fall of 2017, identify any immediate opportunities to increase facility donations, (rental revenue) income for the church building.
- The Worship and Music Committee, to the Music Director's, Lois Craig's question earlier; will move forward to Introduce a Quiet Worship Service starting in the fall of 2017. So, you can see immediately three concrete steps.
 - Midterm Recommendations: Katie Cronin-Wood, M and P Chair, D.C. Co-Sponsor, speaks to the Midterm Recommendations; Council will be striking a Redevelopment/Environmental Efficiency Committee, R.E.E.C. So, it would be the responsibility of this committee to assess and act on any recommendations from the structural engineer, as appropriate. There are some resources that are there at the National Church. There is a body called Edge; who is a resource for advice, funding grants, all those different kinds of things. So, we would be engaging with them to seek any support that we would need to move forward with any of the recommendations from the structural engineer.
 - This group, this committee, explains Katie, M and P Chair, to St. Paul's congregants, this Redevelopment/Environmental Efficiency Committee, R.E.E.C., would also be responsible for reviewing Town documents (Town of Ajax), meeting with municipal employees to research zoning bylaws and planning opportunities related to the church property. Presents listed questions: What would be the potential if this property was to be repurposed? What's the box that we would be able to play in? What are the rules and regulations that we would have to take into consideration from the bylaw, regulation, and zoning perspective? And this group would also be responsible for looking at other church redevelopment models; specifically those that focus on supportive and assisted housing for seniors, and vulnerable populations. And to report back to the congregation in February 2018.

Also as a Midterm Recommendation: With facilitation provided by, supported by the Minister, Church Council will be developing a New Governance/Volunteer Model with the goal of moving forward with any outcome in February 2018. While we recognize where, that our strength lies with our volunteers, we also know in that Discernment Report that our volunteers are getting exhausted. And that there is a pool of people who are being called upon all the time. So, Council with the support of the Minister is going to look at a new way of governing our church and recruiting our support of volunteers to keep the life of our church going as well too.

And then Longer Term: Katie, M and P Chair, Council will be looking for leaders and disciples who would join them in developing a plan and a process to equip and empower the congregation to become Invitational. Sharing the Good News in the world. Bringing more people into the life of this church. The goal would be to conduct purposeful outreach to invite people to worship and support them to join in the life of St. Paul's United Church. Extending our spiritual practices and introducing new and needed programs into the wider community. So, addresses Katie Cronin-Wood, M and P Chair, those are the Immediate, Midterm, and Longer Term Recommendations (from the Final Discernment Committee Report) that Council has distilled from the Discernment Committee's Report. A healthy discussion ensues following to these proposed motions.

Motion #3. Katie Cronin-Wood moves that, “the Report, the Council Response and Next Steps as outlined, referenced in the Final Discernment Committee Report, as circulated be received, for implementation.” Seconded by Robert Hunt. Carried.

Motion #4. Katie Cronin-Wood moves that, “the Immediate, Midterm and Longer Term recommendations be approved for implementation and that Council report back to the congregation in the fall of 2017 and at the 2018 Congregational Meeting with their findings and/or recommendations.” Seconded by Robert Hunt. Carried.

This Redevelopment/Environmental Efficiency Committee is to investigate, research, on St. Paul's behalf in an appropriate assessment, understanding what is going on, immediately; in this assessing and research, and based on the Discernment Report, investigations from the Discernment Committee. So, the D.C. has been reporting at each Council Meeting of Discernment Process to keep us informed of that. So, just wanted to say that it's a process, it's a journey, of investigation and of faith, and trust in each step; step by step. Katie, M and P Chair, Co-Sponsor, thanks Crystal, minutes taker, volunteer. Alright, any other discussions? Inquires Chair, Stuart, addresses motions on the floor, following discussions here; carried. Katie, D.C. Co-Sponsor, M and P Chair, shares, thank you. Appreciation shared from St. Paul's congregants.

Property Update: Peter: Peter Tietze, Property Chair, reminds that we've signed onto a maintenance contract with a maintenance company for the furnace. They were out in March to do the first inspection however, not much really has been done at that point because so many gauges and valves need replacing. Peter, Chair, informs that he talked to them last week and they are still working on their summer schedule. So, sooner or later they will be back to the Property Chair, because it will be done; because they already ordered the parts. Those parts are \$1200, so they want to get paid. (warm humour) So, we will see some improvement with the furnace in the near future. Peter, Property Chair, informs to one more thing, as received feedback from a couple people concerned the pothole out here. As soon as it is dry, he is going to try and repair the pothole. Thank you! Warm appreciation through applause once again.

Canada 150: Linda: Stuart, Chair, invites our Liaison to Council from the Canada 150 Committee, Linda Westendorp, to talk to us about a maple tree! One of the ideas that was floating by the Canada 150 Committee, was to have a permanent reminder of Canada's 150th Anniversary on our property. You may have noticed the new stick that is posted on the front lawn. We are hoping that this will be the site for a new maple tree to replace the one that was removed several years ago. And as a result, Linda is coming to you today to speak on their behalf with a motion.

Motion #5. Linda Westendorp, on behalf of the Canada 150 Group, she moves that, “the congregation of St. Paul's support the purchase of a maple tree, and commemorative stone for the enhancement of our front lawn.” Seconded by Reg Lawrance. One abstention. Carried.

Congregation Chair opens the floor to discussion to this motion on the floor.

Healthy Discussion Ensues: Reg Lawrance informs to, the Town of Ajax's green initiative of expanding

canopy of its urban forest and makes inquiries to whether or not the Town of Ajax had been consulted regarding this issue. A question with respect to the stump, from Robert. At the present time, we have no plans to remove the stump, clarifies Linda Westendorp, Canada 150 Liaison, member. Mabel Spencer informs that she would like to donate \$1000 for the project. Oh wow! Warm appreciation through applause from St. Paul's United Church congregation. For the tree, the purchase, the planting, the removal, the watering, the whatever! Again, warm appreciation from St. Paul's United Church congregation through applause to Mabel's generous response to this project! A healthy discussion ensues. Linda informs that Sharon and her husband, Renzo, have done their due diligence as well, in bringing in people from the Town to assess the lines, like you would do for your own yard if you were to plant a tree, so you know where the lines are, the cable lines are, etc. And all of that has been done. And Sharon and Renzo are planning on doing this, before the summer, informs Linda, Canada 150 Liaison. And in addition to that, Linda, she would like to recognize, all their hard work as well as the support of the committee. Yes! Greatly appreciated!

- Along with this idea of a tree, Linda, Canada 150 Liaison, calls on our Minister: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko addresses that there may be some confusion as some of you may have heard that we are having a Bible burial by the tree planted. What this is, if you have old Bibles that you are not using anymore, that you don't know what to do with, and you would respectfully like to dispose of them. The method is the same as it would be for a (formal designated) flag. You either burn it, or you bury it, clarifies Reverend Cordelia. And so, Renzo has agreed to dig us a hole. And Reverend Cordelia, she has found some liturgy prayers to say. And so if you have a Bible which you would like to dispose of at our Worship Service on the 25th of June, 2017. Bring them. They will be disposed of, we will respectfully bury them. And we will give thanks to God for their use, for us.

Committee Reports: Worship and Music Committee: Linda: Summer Services 2017:

Linda Westendorp, W and M Committee Chair, would like to take this opportunity, as she does every year, in letting you know about our summer service schedule. Informs to the following:

- Summer hours of 10 a.m. start on Sunday, July 2nd, and continue until Sunday, of September 3rd,
- While Reverend Cordelia is away, the following Licenced Lay Worship Leaders, L.L.W.L., lead worship here in the church.
- On July 9th – Ruth Olley will be back for a visit.
- August 6th – Linda is pleased to announce that our own, friend to St. Paul's; Kim Lawrance, will be leading our worship that Sunday.
- August 13th – Linda announces our brand new Licenced Lay Worship Leader, L.L.W.L., Mark Sturman, will be leading worship.
- August 20th – And Ruth Olley will be back to lead our worship service on this Sunday, August 20th.
- During the month of July while Lois Craig, our Music Director, is on holidays, Donna Barber, whom performed at the Canada 150th Quintessential Concert, and Martine Miller will be providing the gift of music for us on those Sundays. So, please come out and support our visitors and also the people whom are providing music for a well deserved holiday! Greatly appreciative applause from St. Paul's congregants. Chair, Stuart, thanks Linda, our W and M Committee Chair. Any further comments before she steps down? Thank God for Linda!

Presbytery/Conference News: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko: Rev. Cordelia begins with informing that Conference was two weeks ago. And of course we had the wonderful occasion of Reverend Janelle Shaw being ordained. Informs that there wasn't a lot of big news that came out of that Conference Meeting, otherwise. And that's pretty typical in this time in the cycle. This time next year prior to General Council there will be a number of motions coming out of that.

Remits Update: Reverend Cordelia did wish to give a brief update on Remits. What a Remit is, is if the United Church of Canada, if the General Council of Canada would like to make substantial changes to the way the National Church operates, and to our founding document, The Basis of Union, it requires something called a Remit. And there are two types of Remit:

1. Category Two Remit: Which means that it must be voted on by every Presbytery in Canada.
2. Category Three Remit: Must be voted on at a congregational level; so, the governing body of every congregation in Canada, must vote.

Reverend Cordelia informs to, recaps to the following: Now, there were eight Remits coming out of General Council 42. Three of those were Category Two Remits; meaning that Presbytery voted on them. And the final results from those Remits are out:

1. The First Remit was asking if we would like to be in full Communion; which means that we are in a close relationship that allows for the free exchange of Ministers with the United Church of Christ in the States. And a couple other denominations that passed.
2. Candicy Pathways, which is the model of the ordaining Ministers that has been working on our Conference; if that, did we want that to become nationwide; that passed.
3. And finally a motion to begin to examine and change how membership in the church works; that also passed. The United Church has published a study document on models of membership, if you would like to read it and to respond to the questions asked; please be in touch with Reverend Cordelia and she will forward that document to you.

St. Paul's Council Results to Remits: The other five Remits were a Category Three Remits, meaning they had to be voted on by the governing body by each of the three thousand and some odd churches in Canada. And so, your Council got together in May she believes, for a morning to vote on that. So, Reverend Cordelia, she has the results for you:

1. The first one, was known as the Three Court Model; basically, what that means is, we currently have four levels of governance in the United Church of Canada. We would be removing one of those to make, three. And St. Paul's Council voted yes to that one.
2. Second one, was something called to create an Office of Vocation. What that would be is an arm's length body governing Ministers. Kind of like a college of teachers, or the college of nurses. Meaning we wouldn't always be disciplining each other, which could get a little, sketchy. And we voted yes to that.
3. A New Model of Finance, was also proposed; that was the third Remit and would have seen our assessments rise fairly significantly, and Council voted no to that one.
4. Next Remit was the Elimination of Transfer and Settlement. Basically it was the means at which Ministers could get set anywhere in the country. That stopped being mandatory about six years ago. And for the last few years no one, no Ministers, have offered themselves up for Transfer and Settlement; but no congregations have requested Transfer and Settlement either. So, basically we are just cleaning up the books to eliminate something that we are not on operating anymore. And we voted yes to that.

5. Final one is something called, One Order of Ministry. Currently, we have three types of Ministers:
 - a) There are Ordained Ministers, which is; Ordained to Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care.
 - b) There are Diagonal Ministers who are commissioned to work to Education, Service and Pastoral Care.
 - c) And there are Designated Lay Ministers whom are recognized to operate as Ministers in a local context only.

This proposal would have seen all of those Ministers lumped together into One Ordained Category with a few side notes for those whom were already Diagonal. And Council voted no to that Remit. The deadline to that is not until the 30th of June so we won't find out the results of the National Vote for those for some time; but Rev. Cordelia will certainly let you know when we do, informs Reverend Cordelia, Minister of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax.

Funding Model: Bill Sheaves, Presbyterian Member, informs to a Funding Model that was proposed in the Remit was that, instead of, right now, what we do is, our donations go to Conference and Presbytery. We do not donate anything to the Administrative Purpose of the National Church. What this Remit would have done, would have National Church do the tidying, for a lack of a better word, of all the churches; and all the money would go to the National Church for Administrative Purposes. Where as your Mission and Service, M and S, contributions would be strictly M and S contributions, where would have nothing to do with Administrative Purpose. But the fact is, clarifies Bill, Presbyterian, to run the National Church, where we do not do that now with directed contributions. Our charges would be that much more successful; it was like 10%, so, that's why Council decided not to vote for this type of Funding Model. A healthy discussion ensues.

New Business from the Floor: It is inquired, Chair, Stuart, so, is there any new business from the floor? Given a lot to digest, here, receives Crystal, Minutes Taker, none further to this time of meeting.

Meeting Close: Chair, Stuart, then invites our Minister to provide us with a closing prayer.

Next Meeting: (3rd Meeting Requirement y.t.b.d.) Yet to be determined in the fall 2017.

Motion #6. Wendy Mason with a signal of her hand raised provides the signal to adjourn at 1:10 p.m. Adjourned.

Closing Devotion: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko: O Holy God we give You Thanks for this time of meeting and for all the work that has been done by all of the people present. Grant that we might continue to be faithful disciples and we might show Your Love in a world so in need. In Christ's name. Amen. Amen, receives St. Paul's United Church congregants

Respectfully submitted,

*Crystal Ojala-McLean,
Minutes Taker Volunteer/Recording Secretary*

*Stuart McLean
Chair of the Congregation*

St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, Ontario
Regular Congregational Meeting, November 19, 2017
11:50 a.m. in the Gathering Place

Welcome and Call to Order: Congregation chair, Mr. Stuart McLean, calls the meeting to order, welcoming everyone. Recognizes and thanks everyone whom helped to prepare for the meeting and took the time out of their schedules in order to attend; looks forward to the updates of the numerous great things that are happening within St. Paul's United Church.

- Chair reminds to the Negative Permissions available to those whom do not wish for their full names to be published in the official Annual Report that gets published on the website.

Devotion: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko opens this congregational meeting with a prayer, "All for Your Glory" In Christ's name. Amen. Chair, Stuart, thanks Reverend Cordelia for her devotion.

#1) Motion: Motion for All to Vote: Jane Mitchell moves to allow all adherents the right to vote during this meeting since we are only covering topics of a financial and administrative nature. Seconded by Dorothy Wilkins. Carried.

#2) Motion: Adoption of the Agenda: Mr. Bill Sheaves moves to accept the agenda for the November 19th, 2017 Regular Congregational Meeting as circulated. Seconded by Linda Westendorp. Carried.

Financial Reports: Robert Hunt: The Finance chair walks us through the Finance Committee's financial reports via the PowerPoint Presentation provided, as well as highlights wish to share. Begins with a synopsis of what has transpired to this point, financially speaking. Chair, Robert, presents slide presentation which showed that our church is in a good financial position despite the 2017 vs 2016 Comparison graph chart, in terms of total donations; not bad, its good news. Comparison of Expenses to last year; greatly lessened at this stage. Outlines to, less in expenses; outlines amount in repairs.

- Highlights to the realized savings, watching pocketbook; so, thank you to the various church committees and groups working very well to manage their expenses on an ongoing basis. Total donations from all sources continues to come close to budget; tracking month by month to this time of year. Outlines to, Net Income, is to the good; so that's really great. Outlines from January 2017 forward to present status.
- Par Givings: Really important as keeps us away from using the line of credit, greatly appreciated. (Warm humour, shameless) Plug for Par. Addresses another key slide to St. Paul's United Church's financial status; chair inquires to any questions? None further, at this point.
- Presents next slide showing St. Paul's bank balance and to the projection at end of December 2017; and going into next year. Brings to attention to how much in funding, money in bank, will we have according to this number in the purple bar (graph). This being, highlights to the red bar number provided on display screen to St. Paul's congregants. Finance chair, Robert, having outlined to this projection, outside anything extraordinary.
- Presents rundown of the Operating Bank Balance, Capital Account, and informs to, pretty much on budget, and Par as to they usually are to this time of year.

- Mission and Service Committee, M and S Fund, tally is \$12, 597; a bit short of full target amount, yet not come to the end of year yet. Finance chair, Robert, explains to clarify to these bar graphs from the Finance Committee PowerPoint Presentation and inquires to any further questions. None further.

Minister's Update: Reverend Cordelia: Rev. Cordelia Karpenko explained what St. Paul's Council has surely but slowly put into practice; what Council is putting into practice and working to spread into church life is one of the recommendations that came from the Discernment Committee, is Increased Spiritual Focus. Hereby, Rev. Cordelia explains to a Renewed Spiritual Focus Exercise regarding where she observes, for example, church business on costs and liabilities etc.; whereby, recommends that the first question should be, How does this square with our faith? To evaluate from our spiritual focus. Then, ok, then onto logistics. Then also, asking the question, Where seeing God in our church lives? Where is God satisfying our spiritual needs? Rev. Cordelia works, with the supported recommendations from the, now disbanded Past Discernment Committee, in guiding St. Paul's United Church, its members, to this renewed spiritual focus, in Christ, going forward into every aspect of church life at St. Paul's United Church, Ajax. Our St. Paul's Minister, Rev. Cordelia, informs to, walks everyone through what she has been supporting since the last meeting in June with regards to our congregation, community, and Presbytery:

- Renewed Spiritual Focus; as exercise just explained.
- Reverend Cordelia continues to Chair the Ministry of Vocations Committee; supervising candidates for Ministry in our Presbytery, as well as our Licenced Lay Worship Leaders, L.L.W.L.
- Continues to lead Bible Study regularly; mid-week at its usual times.
- Also continues to lead mid-week Book Study; provides status update to what book currently reading and which one is up and coming to members excitement, as list's resource.
- Continues her usual tasks; like Pastoral Care, Worship, and Administrative on the New Governance Structure, work-back schedule, with regards to what had come out from the previous years of work with the Discernment Committee, Peter S., facilitator on the Discernment Process, at St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, Ontario.
- Informs to, continuing to visit at the hospital. Reminds if you, or somebody is in the hospital, to please call to inform her. Otherwise, she can not really visit them in hospital; as sometimes does not hear until people are out of the hospital and are home again, so really appreciates the notification, thank you.

Presbytery Update: Bill: Mr. Bill Sheaves informs to, the results that came from the initial workings initiated by the last General Council of 2015 and explains the outcome to the national structure. In the requirement that every Presbytery across the country from the United Church of Canada participated in the remits; Bill informs St. Paul's United Church to the remits which had passed, and which ones failed. Bill, Presbyter member, then informs everyone to our next General Council being held; to which, be there a change in legislation, then the outcome would ultimately impact a result in Parliament. Interesting too, it is brought forth that like the United Church of Canada, there-to is a Parliamentary connection origin also with another well-known organization, that which is the Canadian Red Cross.

Ongoing Business: Discernment: Structural Engineer Review/Environmental Assessment Committee, R.E.E.C., Peter Tietze: The chair of Property, Peter, informs to, had the structural engineer in to assess the health of our building; once in October, and once in November, 2017. And the

structural engineer would like to conduct one more site review in December when cold before submitting his final report; not to worry about crack in floor, as he did let Peter, Property chair, know that he felt the building is structurally sound according to his preliminary review thus far, and will provide a written report after his third site review in December 2017.

Review of Governance Structure: Reverend Cordelia Karpenko: Rev. Cordelia had been working with Council on a review of our church governance structure; another action identified as a recommendation from the Final Discernment Report. Rev. Cordelia reviews the proposed council mission statement and the Essential Tasks of Council, having incorporated the necessary points mandatory from the United Church of Canada Manual. Last week Council was introduced to a few models that are out there; and in 2013 the United Church of Canada Manual was changed to allow congregations more freedom in how they govern themselves, with Presbytery approval as long as the essentials are covered. The current Church Council model is the model we use, and Council will be looking at other models, with plans to develop a custom governance structure which will be put forth for feedback in December; so, will have something for the February congregational meeting. Rev. Cordelia clarifies the elimination of Presbyteries, won't come into play until January 2019 – if the remits pass the next General Council Meeting. Thank you, everybody shares St. Paul's United Church Minister, Cordelia. Alright, thanks Rev. Cordelia, shares Stuart, chair.

Committee Reports: Canada 150 Report: Susan Reed: Susan highlights to one year ago the Canada 150 Committee was given approval from Council to begin their celebratory journey through this anniversary year of marking Canadian history from its Confederation. Susan recognizes its five initial committee members, to the six major events and historic recollections of providing historic worship services throughout the course of this exciting adventure through the years. Susan also recognizes Reverend Cordelia enthusiastically joining the festivities with her many researching hours to being a confessed history buff herself and adding the historic reference source to what was happening in the United Church of Canada or during its founding churches, years, educating St. Paul's members with the support of most, if not all the church groups and committees whom were also caught up in the excitement of this Canada 150 Year!! Including the Music Director, Lois, whom Susan thanks along with Reverend Cordelia, in warm appreciation alongside St. Paul's congregants, whom stand to thank these significant efforts!! Linda Westendorp recognizes the nucleus of this Canada 150 Group, Susan Reed! Susan outlines to the exciting upcoming Canada 150 Events for the remaining month or so. So, as we look to our bulletins and Epistle article for December for an exciting jolly concert from the Young Singers Concert, will see what fun is in store, thanks to the Canada 150 Committee, staff's, volunteer's enthusiasm, makes for a terrific year end to close the season!

Christmas Scheduling: Linda: Chair of the Worship and Music Committee, W and M: Linda Westendorp, warmly outlines to the Advent December Services starting, and White Gift Sunday, and invites to consult your December Epistle church article; as well as the invitations in your worship bulletins, listed! As well as to the various services, programing taking place on Christmas Eve this year, as not wish to miss out! One last note, no Baptism service in December. Linda, W and M chair, informs to, lists pulpit supply; Canadian Girls in Training, C.G.I.T., no Vesper Service this December due to the considerable number of graduates last year; Friendly Reminder, Mitten Tree remains til the end of November. Stuart, chair, thanks Linda for these Christmas Season scheduling, updates.

Ministry and Personnel Committee: Katie: Co-Chair of the M and P Committee, Katie Cronin-Wood: Outlines to, going through a bit of transition as end their seven years on the committee as their terms come to an end. Katie, co-chair, recognizes, blessed by, Valerie Grant, as wished to seek on the committee's behalf, greatly appreciated her support and recruitment initiative to find three new members whom have joined in partnering with M and P. Thanks and recognizes, current co-chair in this transition, Elisabeth P. As well as Brad S. and Cathy M. to the team, then going into New Year 2018, as wish for you all to know about this transitioning, informs Katie, co-chair. And lets people know to, Jane M. looking for feedback to a matter of interest. Nancy offers, thanks Katie for her leadership!

New Business from the floor: None further to this time of meeting other than the following: Congregation Chair, Stuart McLean, would like to specifically thank the Mission and Service Committee and Sound Team for their assistance during this time of meeting, which feels so blessed to be a part of this congregation. Refreshments of tea and coffee provided by the M and S Committee this morning was greatly appreciated as well as to the Sound Team ensuring our microphones were fully operational, thanks again! And thanks to our Men's Group Representative, Michael Morrison, for his leadership, and suggesting at the close of our meeting, suggesting everybody able to lift up your chair to securely place back, thank you!

Closing Prayer: A devotion request is made, courtesy of Robert, chair of Finance/Past D.C Co-Chair, to which it is answered from the floor, not need to, (for sake of time, thank you, suggests Wendy, Treasurer/Epistle Editor M.) Ok, then. Chair encouraged to call for adjournment. Alright.

#3) Motion to Adjourn: Signal acknowledged to move to adjourn, received at 12:35 p.m. Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting in February 2018 (time, location y.t.b.d.)

Respectfully submitted,

*Crystal Ojala-McLean,
Recording/Secretary to Congregation*

*Stuart McLean,
Chair of Congregation*

THE WORK OF OUR CHURCH

ARCHIVIST REPORT

The history of our church, and congregation, is housed in a specific cabinet now located in the small meeting room adjacent to the Fellowship Room.

There remains a wealth of information and memories for the congregation to enjoy in the future.

*Respectfully submitted by
Wendy Mason, Archivist*

BALLYCLIFFE & HARWOOD MANOR MISSION

Again, last year, we continued with our church services at both places every other month. Because of health concerns, holiday schedules, and staff changes at both locations, several services were cancelled. We have satisfactory attendance, but it would be helpful to have additional volunteers from the congregation to assist with the singing of hymns.

*Respectfully Submitted by
Mary and Mike Neefjes*

BAPTISM

My thanks to Marie Nesbitt for her help this past year for representing the Congregation at our baptism services.

During the 2017 calendar year, we baptized 5 babies, ranging from a few months old to three years old and one adult baptism.

It continues to be my pleasure to serve St. Paul's as a member of the Baptism Committee.

*Submitted by
Wendy Mason, Chair*

BENEVOLENT FUND

The Benevolent Fund is a discretionary fund used by the Minister and Office Administrator to assist people who need help in an emergency situation. It is funded through special offerings on communion Sundays and special donations from members of the congregation.

In 2017 we responded to 15 requests for emergency funds for groceries, medicine, clothing and transportation.

Along with the donations of cash from the congregation, the Christmas Families Campaign is funded through the Benevolent Fund. President's Choice gift cards were purchased with the donations in the special green envelopes from the congregation to cover the cost of groceries. Walmart gift cards were purchased with some of the money in the Benevolent Fund so the parents could purchase a special gift for the children.

In total we were able to provide President's Choice and Walmart gift cards for 12 families which included 35 children who came to us for help at Christmas time.

We also sent tins of cookies and boxes of clementines to Joanne's House, Herizon House and Scott House.

Thank you to everyone for your generous support.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Catharine Ottaway*

BIBLE DISCUSSION

It was another good year for Bible Discussion.

We read numerous books including Paul's Letter to the Romans and Genesis and both provided many topics for discussion.

Meetings always included great conversation and a lot of laughter as the group grappled with the passage of scripture for the day and the questions it raised.

It was with sorrow that we said farewell to Cornie Tessman who was a long-time member of Bible Discussion. He will be greatly missed.

*Respectfully submitted by
Cordelia Karpenko*

VOLUNTEERING FOR CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES

Throughout 2017, twelve members from St Paul's have continued to support the Blood Donor Clinic currently held at Ajax Community Centre. As volunteers, our job is to greet and welcome donors, making sure that they move to the correct area as they wait to donate blood. When donors are finished

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donating blood, we provide refreshments, always keeping a watchful eye on their well-being.

The Canadian Blood Services are thankful for our participation and continue to rely on us for our commitment and dedication.

*Respectfully submitted by
Diane Fleming*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The current Board of Trustees consists of the following members of St. Paul's United Church.

| | <u>Term of Service</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Jewel Cooney | Jan. 2018 |
| Wilma Brown | Jan. 2018 |
| Dave Eagleson (Chair) | Jan. 2018 |

As a general statement, the Trustees are responsible for the administration of all real and personal property which is held in trust for the use and benefit of the congregation.

Insurance Information

Insurance coverage for the period June 1, 2017 - June 1, 2018 was arranged on the following basis:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Property (building & contents) | \$ 3,682,000 |
| Boiler and Machinery | \$ 3,682,000 |
| Comprehensive General Liability | \$ 2,000,000 |
| Excess Liability | \$ 3,000,000 |
| Directors' & officers Liability | \$ 10,000,000 |

Investments

The original investment fund was established on June 29, 1988 in the amount of \$162,492.93 which represented the proceeds from the sale of the manse. The current portfolio consists of the following investments held in an account at CIBC Wood Gundy.

| | <u>Description</u> | <u>Market Value</u> |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Mutual Funds | Fidelity Income Allocation | \$ 76,451 |
| | TD Income Advantage | \$ 36,376 |
| | Manulife Strategic Income | \$ 54,741 |
| Total Market Value at December 31, 2017 | | \$167,568 |

During the year, a total amount of \$4800 (housing allowance) was transferred to St. Paul's general account.

*Respectfully submitted by
David Eagleson
Chair, Board of Trustees
Examined by Wendy Mason*

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Book Study met again this year on Wednesday nights at 7 pm in the Flo Churchill room. Our books covered a variety of topics and included Jonathan Sacks "Not in God's Name," C.S. Lewis "Mere Christianity" and "Jesus: First Century Rabbi" by Rabbi David Zaslow.

All three books provided good for thought and the small group that meets each week had some excellent discussions. We look forward to 2018's books.

*Respectfully submitted by
Cordelia Karpenko*

CANADA 150

In January 2017, a small group of dedicated workers, Catharine Ottaway, Gary Faulkner, Linda Westendorp, Madeline Oswald, Sharon Castellarin and Susan Reed met with the purpose of organizing spiritual and social activities at St. Paul's United Church that would celebrate the 150th anniversary of Canada that would be open to both the congregation and the neighbourhood.

The result was a two-prong approach that involved church services and community events.

With the support of Rev. Cordelia, Lois Craig and the choir, an historic service was prepared for each month that explored the social/cultural/historical characteristics of a particular era in Canadian history and was complemented by a church service designed to replicate a service from the same era. The music reflected hymns written in the era or that were popular during the era. The choir and Rev. Cordelia readily embraced the idea of wearing red and white or dressing in period costumes. After service coffee time featured special Canadian treats of Joe Louis and Maple Syrup and Chapman's Ice Cream.

The first event of the year was a Victorian Tea hosted by the UCW in April. Over 100 people were served High Tea in the decorated Gathering Place. In May the Quintessential Canadian Concert celebrated the Canadian Music Scene with St. Paul's musicians, Lois Craig, Gary Faulkner, Cordelia Karpenko and Rachel Wood as well as musicians from St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church, Dunbarton-Fairport United Church, Greenwood United Church, St. John's Anglican Church and the Young Singers. In June, a Hard Times Party served a buffet community dinner and featured the fiddle music of Michael Jack and the Senior Moments. Stuart McLean, Gary Faulkner, Susan Reed and Marie Nisbett told

stories that reflected life during the 1930s.

The Men's group, Stewardship Committee and Canada150 collaborated in October to present the Cowboy Steak Dinner and Square Dance. The evening featured a barbecued steak dinner, silent auction, raffle, live auction and a square dance led by Barry Clasper.

The Exercise Group sponsored a Canadian Movie Event in September. Based on the votes of the congregation, the winning movie, The Grand Seduction, was shown at a matinee and evening performance complete with popcorn and treats. The SPARCs organized the St. Paul's Great Canadian Buttertart Contest in October where judges tasted the entries before declaring Diane Fleming and Cath Miller the grand champion butters tart makers.

In November a Wreath Making workshop was led by Joanne Fleming (a retired floral designer) who in addition to teaching us what to do, provided many of the decorations and made beautiful bows for everyone's wreath. A concert by the Young Singers and reception of apple cider and Christmas cookies in December completed the year's celebration.

Canada150 thanks all who participated in the various events and church services. A special note of recognition goes to Mabel Spencer who sponsored the planting of the Canada150 Maple tree in front of the church which will serve as a reminder of the roots of our past, the present strength of our church and the glories that will present themselves in the future.

The events of Canada150 were designed to be revenue neutral. Over the course of the year the events generated a profit to Canada150 of \$1160. The group decided that \$330 would be donated to both the Mission and Service Fund and the Benevolent Fund. The remaining \$500 will be kept on hand for a group to use to continue the community events at St. Paul's in 2018.

*Respectfully submitted by
Susan Reed*

C.G.I.T. (CANADIAN GIRLS IN TRAINING)

The year 2017 was packed with activities. In February we held several devotional nights that inspired great conversation within the group on topics such as 'The Masks We Wear' and also 'Just Say No: Drugs'. In April, we enjoyed an Easter Craft evening that was led by our Junior Leader Olivia Daniels. We also worked to construct an Easter Story board, with the girls illustrating all the major points of the Easter Story. When the nicer weather hit at the end of April we spent an evening on a walk around the neighbourhood, and enjoyed the fresh air after a long winter in the Church basement! As is spring tradition, we rounded out the year with an evening of bowling and celebrated the year end with a Wakeover. At the beginning of June, we ended our year with a graduation service and said goodbye to graduates Brooke Frankland, Gabby Chillman and Moorea Gates.

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I would like to insert a special note of thanks at this point, to Junior Leader Olivia Daniels (and her mother Diana Daniels) as well as Senior Brooke Frankland, who took it upon themselves to plan a surprise baby shower to celebrate my pregnancy. At the end of May, all the girls and mothers gathered in the Church basement and surprised me when I walked in the door! It was a fun evening and I'm grateful and touched that all the girls helped to make it happen.

After much thought and prayerful consideration, I decided not to return as leader in the fall. I'm taking some time out from volunteering so I can spend some time with my daughter in her infancy. Luckily, Martine Miller has decided to take over Leadership of St. Paul's CGIT, and I'm thankful to her for keeping the group going. I know she will make a great Leader, and the girls will be happy to have her.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped our group this year, especially our members, their families, and our congregation. A special thanks also goes to **John and Janette Scott**, for helping us stay financially fit, year after year. As well, I would like to thank **the Staff of St. Paul's** for all their continued support and guidance.

We are eagerly looking forward to 2018 as we continue to be guided by our CGIT Purpose... **Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God and Serve Others.**

*Respectfully submitted by,
Sonja O'Brien
Leader*

CGIT

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Opening Balance January 1, 2017 | | \$346.23 |
| Income | \$344.05 | |
| Expenses | \$145.00 | |
| Closing Balance December 31, 2017 | | \$545.28 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Additional Information | Unpaid Expenses | \$ Nil |
| | Outstanding | \$ Nil |
| | Receipts | |

*Submitted by John Scott
Examined by Dave Eagleson*

CHURCH COUNCIL

Discerning the Way Forward

*"Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,"
Ephesians 5:20*

2017 will prove to be a historical year in the life of St Paul's United Church. This was a year where our many groups, committees, volunteers, leaders and most importantly our members provided a warm and welcoming place for all to worship. St. Paul's is truly "The Church with the Open Arms". We celebrated the 150th Birthday of our Nation in style through many events, we supported the spiritual needs of many families through our weekly services and we also continued to be a steward and much needed staple in the life our community.

Under the guidance of our spiritual leader, Reverend Cordelia Karpenko, our Council met monthly to review the operations, finances, spiritual path and various outreach services conducted. The Discernment Committee as charged by Council, created a final report with recommendations for the future. This Report was created through the tireless efforts of Bill Sheaves, Linda Westendorp, Steve Lomax, and Robert Hunt.

Researching New Governance Structures for St. Paul's was a major focus in Fall 2017. This was one of immediate recommendations of the Discernment Report. At the time of this writing, a full vote is pending to determine the future Governance structure for St. Paul's. Council also analyzed and discussed the Structural Engineer's report which thankfully was positive and confirmed that we have a healthy and sound building.

Financially speaking, we were pleased month over month as we maintained a stronger than expected financial position. Through effective budgeting, cost controls and most importantly through your givings, we were able to end 2017 without going into our Line of Credit. There are still financial concerns that lay in the months ahead as we come to terms with lowering attendance numbers. 2018 will be a year when Council in partnership with the congregation will need to focus on new ways to increase attendees, creative endeavours such as possible fundraising and increased contributions. As we discern the way forward, change will be a constant. Over the last year, Council has changed as we welcomed Helen Dowse as the new Chair of Mission and Service. We thank Helen for a very strong year and congratulate her on her 1 year anniversary! New additions late in the year are Cathy Mullen and Brad Sherwin our New Co-Chairs of Mission and Personnel. Brad and Cathy are transitioning into the role over time as Katie Cronin -Wood, prepares to retire as the Chair of M&P. Katie's guidance and leadership has been an integral part of not only M&P but also in all aspects of Council life. While we wish Katie all the best as she retires from her post, Council remains unified in our wish to have her remain as a "Chairman" or "Mentor" of sorts who we can still call on for her vast knowledge and wisdom.

Council always starts sessions with prayer. These prayers include wishes of hope and strength for

members of the congregation and their families. We also pray for guidance from the Lord as we carry on the work of the church. New this year was reflective prayer that happened throughout the meeting and at the conclusion as we “listened for the Lord’s presence”. This was a new practice brought forth by Reverend Cordelia and it really helped to center us as we let God guide us through the many decisions made during the year. I look forward to more of this type of reflection in 2018.

Council meets on the first Sunday of every month from September to June, except for February when we have the annual congregational meeting. Each Council Meeting is attended by the leaders of the Church’s various committees and groups. Visitors are often present and the meetings are open to all. This year was an especially busy year with various action items that came out of the Discernment report however as always, Council was able to work together, to efficiently and effectively move important topics forward.

Thanks to all of the 2017 council members who are identified as follows:

Robert Hunt, Chair of Finance

Wendy Mason, Treasurer

Katie Cronin Wood, Chair of Ministry & Personnel

Cathy Mullen, Co-Chair of Ministry & Personnel

Brad Sherwin, Co-Chair of Ministry & Personnel

Crystal Ojala-McLean, Secretary to Church Council and Congregation

Helen Dowse, Chair of Mission and Service

Grace Sheaves, President of UCW

Linda Westendorp, Chair of Worship & Music

Dave Eagleson, Chair of Trustees

Catherine Ottaway, Administrator

Michael Morrison, Men’s Group Representative

Peter Tietze, Property Chair

Respectfully submitted,

Winston Pinnock,

Chair of Church Council

CHURCH COUNCIL – NEW GOVERNANCE MODEL

In June of 2017 the Congregation of St. Paul’s United Church received the Discernment Report and approved the Action Plan recommended by Council.

One of those recommendations was that Council begin working towards a new model of governance that was less volunteer heavy and that functioned better in the current church and societal environment. In September Council began working towards that goal.

The first stage was to go back to first principles and look at what the underlying purpose of a church governing body was. Council developed a purpose statement, which was put in front of the congregation for feedback. Based on that feedback the statement was revised and the final version of the statement created. It is as follows:

Council Purpose Statement

"To effectively serve as collaborative leaders, providing oversight of the spiritual, financial and environmental health of St Paul's United Church, so that the congregation and the wider community can live out their calling as people of God in the world."

The next stage was to determine what the essential tasks of the governing body were. This includes both those functions laid out in the United Church of Canada Manual 2015. The current task list is as follows:

Essential Tasks of Council

- *to hold the property for the use and benefit of the congregation as part of the United Church through the **Trustees***
- *to ensure the **Spiritual Health** of SPUC and that it is fulfilling its mission of being the Church with the Open Arms*
- *to oversee relationships within the pastoral charge ministry, particularly the roles and functions of paid leaders and employees through **M&P***
- *to manage the operational and capital finances through the Finance Committee*
- *to manage the physical property through the **Property** Committee*
- *to support volunteers, paid leaders and employees in their **Outreach & Evangelism** activities*
- *to identify opportunities and mitigate any risks to working together*
- *to provide the governance **Structure and Balance** to guide the workings of the church*
- *to lead the communication and coordination of the life of the church.*

The next stage was to look at how our council currently runs, and what models other congregations were using.

Council is currently made up of the chairs of Worship and Music, Mission and Service, UCW, Trustees, Finance, Ministry and Personnel, Property, Men's Group, Christian Education, Communications, along with the Treasurer, Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Minister.

One model that some congregations are using is the **Mission Team Model**. The Mission Team structure consists of three teams that reflect the three areas of responsibility essential to congregational life and work:

- Spiritual leadership team: Motivates, equips, and trains leaders for effective ministries in and beyond the church. The work of visitation and pastoral care is assigned to this team.

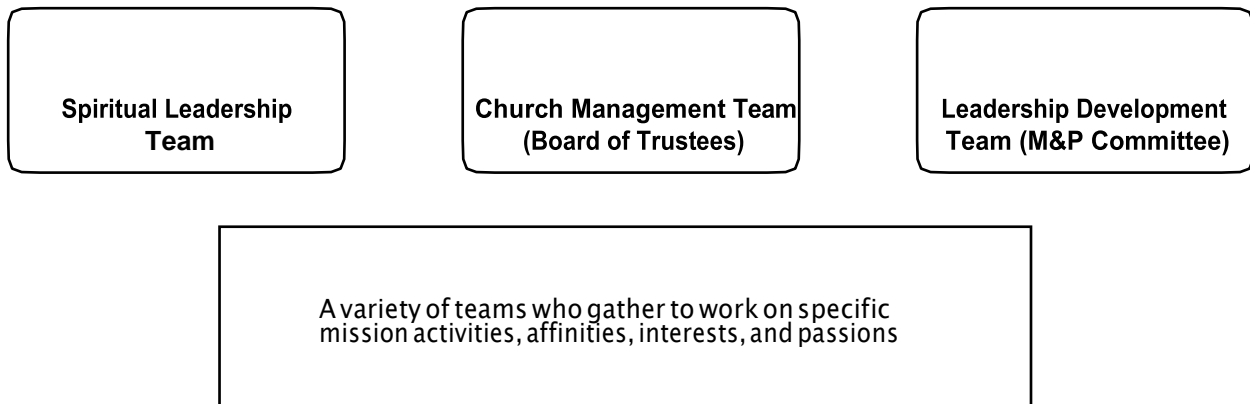
- Church management team: Deploys the resources of the congregation to facilitate the ministries of the congregation. The work of the Trustees is assigned to this team.
- Leadership development team: Nurtures volunteer and salaried participants to discern gifts and callings and to work together responsibly in healthy relationships. The work of the Ministry and Personnel Committee is assigned to this team.

Ministry personnel serve as a resource to all three areas of the Mission Team model.

Together, the members of the three teams, the ministry personnel, and presbytery representatives make up the Church Board. This model of board governance is oriented toward policy development and long-term planning. Mission discernment, design, and implementation are delegated to the various ministries.

The Board consists of a chairperson, secretary, and treasurer. For a quorum, the Board requires the attendance of the ministry personnel or, where no minister is settled or appointed, the Pastoral Charge Supervisor.

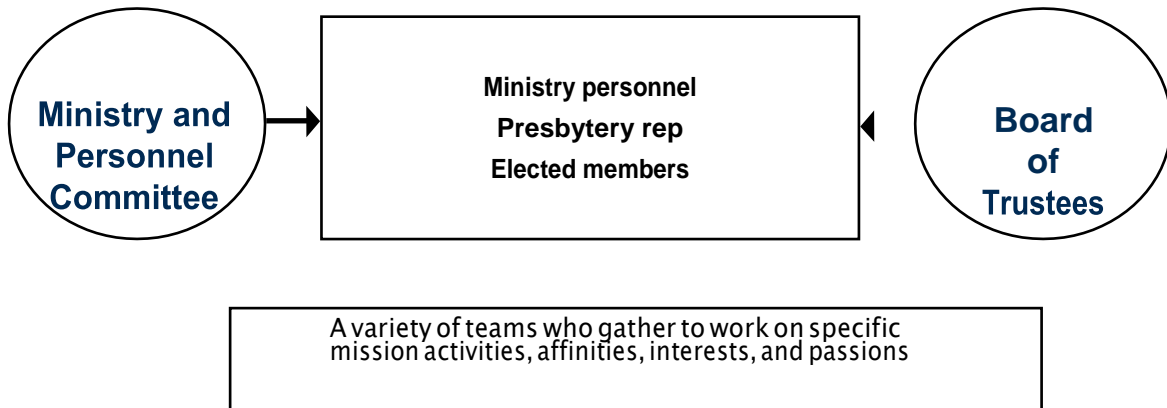
Typical Mission Team Model



Other Congregations are using the **Simplified Board Model**. This model is usually much smaller than the Unified Board or Church Council. Those who serve on the Board do not have to serve on any particular group, and those who serve with a group or team do not have to attend Board meetings.

The streamlined Board empowers mission teams by providing overall directions and boundaries for action while freeing teams to manage their mission as they see fit. The Streamlined Board discerns mission, forms policy, develops strategies, deploys leaders, and monitors progress. Staff and participants have freedom and authority to act, guided by the congregation's purpose and core values and the parameters of each leader's role.

Streamlined Board



The Board consists of a chairperson, secretary, and treasurer. For a quorum, the Board requires the attendance of the ministry personnel or, where no minister is settled or appointed, the Pastoral Charge Supervisor.

A third model is known as the **Kenora model**, pioneered by Knox United Church in Kenora Ontario.

Leadership Team

The Leadership Team is mandated by the congregation to oversee the life and work of the congregation. The ministries of the church are expressed through the faith-guided efforts of Committees, Interest Groups and House Groups that are accountable to the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team consists of seven members or adherents of the congregation who serve in the following roles:

- ←Chair
- ←Past Chair
- ←Vice Chair
- ←Representative from the Ministry and Personnel Committee
- ←Church Treasurer, and
- ←Two Members-at-large

The Congregation's Called or Appointed Minister or Pastoral Charge Supervisor or an Appointee of the Presbytery is present whenever the Leadership Team meets.

The Church Secretary acts as Recording Secretary for the Leadership Team (Non-Voting).

Each of these seven Leadership Team members is in their position description, given responsibility as liaison with selected Committees, Interest Groups and the House Group Co-ordinator in order to establish goal-setting, reporting, accountability and to offer support.

The Leadership Team receives Committee and Interest Group budget requests in December and a reporting of their year's work in January, prior to the Annual Meeting. The meetings of the Leadership Team are open to the congregation.

The approved Minutes of the Leadership Team meetings including financial and other submitted reports are available to the congregation monthly.

Committees and Interest Groups Committees

There are two committees – Trustees, and Ministry and Personnel.

These follow their mandate as outlined in The Manual of the United Church of Canada. The Leadership Team may appoint ad hoc committees as necessary to carry out its work. All other activities of church life may be formed out of interest into...

Interest Groups

"No interest, no group" is the guiding principle for Interest Groups. An Interest Group may be one individual or the whole congregation. Anyone at Knox who expresses an interest in a topic or initiative is encouraged to express it. They may wish to invite others or simply seek permission to offer an initiative. Each Interest Group is approved by the Leadership Team based on alignment with the vision and mission of Knox United Church.

There is no outside nominations process for these Interest Groups; however, if an Interest Group vital to the ongoing life and ministry of the congregation ceases to function, the Leadership Team may take the responsibility of nominating new members or may make alternate recommendations to the congregation to ensure that the organization and activity of a ministry continue.

Interest Groups are accountable to the Leadership Team through an assigned Leadership Team Member.

House Groups

All households identified through the Neighbourhood Contact list (list of all members and known adherents) are assigned to a "House Group". Each House Group is assigned to one month only of the service year. House Groups are responsible for short-term tasks that enhance the life and work of the congregation.

Through this structure, the physical needs of Sunday worship are met, including ushering, greeting, communion serving, scripture reading, offertory collection, coffee and cookie time etc. (Detailed responsibilities and opportunities for service are described in The Knox Policy and Procedures Manual). Intergenerational participation is strongly encouraged in all tasks and a widening invitation to lesser- / newly-involved people have been emphasized. Both have been measurably achieved through this programming.

A House Group Coordinator oversees the organization of the House Groups. This individual is elected to serve a three-year term with a possible one-year extension after which a one-year break is taken

before accepting further election or appointment. The responsibilities of a House Group Coordinator include...

1. a review and update of job descriptions by September;
2. coordination with the Church Office to ensure that House Group ~~is~~ are kept up to date;
3. a yearly meeting of the House Group Leaders for the purpose of encouragement and review.

The House Group Coordinator is linked with a member of the Leadership Team for the purpose of reporting, support and accountability.

Members of council have been tasked with prayerfully considering the purpose statement, tasks and models and to create their dream model to present at the next meeting of the council. We are asking you to do the same. All of these ideas will be gathered together and will become the basis for a draft model which will be presented to the congregation for feedback.

Please feel free to contact Rev. Cordelia if you have questions.

*Respectfully submitted by
Cordelia Karpenko*

CHURCH OFFICE AND STATISTICS

I spend quite a bit of time speaking to members of the congregation and people from the community helping with wedding, baptism and funeral arrangements as well as talking to those who come to us requesting assistance.

It is a pleasure to complete the register and to prepare the certificates, scrolls and Teddy Bears for the children who were baptized this year. There were 6 children baptized in 2017.

One of the nicer aspects of this position is speaking with couples who would like to be married at St. Paul's or by Rev. Karpenko. There were 2 wedding ceremonies performed by Rev. Karpenko.

Sadly we lost some very special people in 2017. There were 7 funeral services performed by Rev. Karpenko, who were members or friends of St. Paul's.

I sent out a total of 17 cards for sympathy, get well, encouragement, thinking of you, new baby, new grandchild, anniversary and birthday to members of the congregation and others in the community.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Christmas Families gift card campaign this year. This was the third year we collected cash instead of groceries and it made the whole process much smoother. I was able to purchase enough President's Choice gift cards with the funds donated and used some of the money in the Benevolent Fund to purchase Walmart gift cards for the children's toys. The families were very grateful for the gift cards and continue to agree this is the better way to go.

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Please see the Benevolent Fund Report for details. I also purchased treats for Herizon House, Joanne's House and Scott House.

The Mitten Tree was a huge success, I "stripped it down" to make room for more twice. We were able to give new warm mittens, hats, scarves or gloves to South Side Worship Centre Food Bank for distribution.

Thank you to Jean Severs, June Martin and Maureen Ruben for coming every Friday to fold and distribute the bulletins. Thank you to Doris Tietze, Valerie Wilson, Arlene McKnight, and Shirley Bruce for getting the Epistle ready for distribution. Thank you to Helen Dowse for filling in during my holidays.

Thank goodness I have Richard Cooke to rely on for technical assistance. He is always available and willing to help.

Finally I wish to thank June Martin, Cathy Mullen and the rest of the M & P Committee for assisting with any concerns that come up.

Thank you for making St. Paul's such a pleasurable work environment. My door is always open and I love to have people pop in for a visit.

CHURCH STATISTICS

| Membership – December 31, 2016 | Resident | | Inactive | | TOTAL |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Total 2016 | 197 | | 21 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Membership Increase/Decrease in 2017 | Inc | Dec | Inc | Dec | |
| Received in 2017 by Transfer | 1 | | | | |
| Received in 2017 by Profession of Faith | 3 | | | | |
| Total Resident Members Added | 4 | | | | |
| Resident Members Removed during 2017 | | | | | |
| By death | | 7 | | | |
| By Other | | 3 | | | |
| Total Resident Members Removed | | 10 | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Total Resident Members | 191 | | | | |
| Total Inactive Members | | | 21 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Membership – December 31, 2017 | | | | | |
| 2017 Resident Members | 191 | | | | |
| 2017 Inactive Members | | | 21 | | |
| Total Resident and Inactive Members 2017 | | | | | 212 |
| Adherents | | | | | 97 |
| Baptisms | | | | | 6 |
| Weddings | | | | | 2 |
| Funerals | | | | | 7 |

*Respectfully submitted by
Catharine Ottaway*

CHURCH SCHOOL

St. Paul's Sunday School group has had another busy year. On a weekly basis we can have 3 children attending regularly and 3 that attend occasionally. Our group tends to be the older children from 8 years old and up. We have 3 children that come down and play in the nursery during service. Jennifer Kumar has been overseeing the nursery children on a weekly basis.

In 2017, we continue to use the Seasons of the Spirit which is a lectionary-based resource created in the community with congregations from different denominations around the world. This curriculum has programs for all ages, but we continue to use the multi ages curriculum. Each week covers a bible story and activities that the teacher can use to help the children remember the story. The Seasons of the Spirit resources are divided into four seasonal packages, following the cycle of the seasons of the Church year. Each year's materials begin with Season of Creation, Pentecost 2 and continues with the following schedule:

- **Season of Creation, Pentecost 2*** (1st Quarter, September—November)
- **Advent, Christmas, Epiphany** (2nd Quarter, December—February)
- **Lent, Easter** (3rd Quarter, March—May)
- **Pentecost 1** (4th Quarter, June—August)

The children had the opportunity again this year to participate in the Palm Sunday service in April and White Gift in November.

A special thank you to Karen Strong, Alison Siefert, Colleen McLaren, Heather Owen, Margaret Stiver and Jennifer Kumar who have helped lead Sunday School over the last year. Thank you also to the parents.

*Respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Cree*

Church School Financial Report

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Opening Balance: January 1, 2017 | | \$ 673.26 |
| Income: | \$ 94.00 | |
| Expenses: | \$ <u>25.00</u> | |
| Closing Balance: December 31, 2017 | | \$ 742.26 |

There are no unpaid expenses or outstanding receipts.

*Submitted by:
Marie Nesbitt
Examined by:
Dave Eagleson*

COMMUNICATIONS

A variety of communication tools have been used to provide on-going communications with members of the congregation and the outside community.

Church Office: Through Catharine Ottaway the members of the congregation are provided weekly church bulletins, monthly church calendars, and occasional mass emails.

Newspaper Advertising: Annual ads for the Christmas and Easter services were published in the News-Advertiser.

Website: Managed by Stuart MacLean, the website includes monthly Epistles, coming events, church policies and weekly webcasts of the Sunday morning service.

Epistle: The Monthly newsletter of the church is distributed by email and print versions to the members of the congregation. The Epistle contains updates from the various groups within the church, coming events, articles and notes and greetings from various people. Wendy Mason continues as the editor of the newsletter.

Newsflash: The NEWSFLASH, edited by Susan Reed, is a weekly email message sent to all members of the congregation that outlines the events of the week at the church and upcoming events as well as the Scripture readings, challenges and prayer requests from the Sunday service.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

In 2017, St. Paul's United Church maintained a variety of partnerships with local community groups. Some of the groups have entered into a contract with the church whereas other groups meet on a monthly basis. We welcome each of the groups that use our building. In 2017, the groups sharing our building were: AA, B'Nai Shalom V'Tikvah Synagogue, Brain Tumour Support Group, Durham West PROBUS SNAPPED Camera, Birders and Garden Clubs, Probus Book Club and Sunshine Nursery.

DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE

During the year, the Discernment Committee composed of Linda Westendorp (secretary), Rev. Cordelia Karpenko, Sharon Castellarin, Karen Strong, John Scott, Robert Hunt, Mike Neefjes, Peter Spratt and I as chair, met most Wednesdays and delivered our final report to the congregation in June. While I hope that you have had the opportunity to read the whole report I will reiterate the recommendations here.

The Discernment Committee through its research and with conversations with the members of St. Paul's United church, formulated the following recommendations in accordance with the mandate set

by the Council.

Revitalize Our Church Life: Increase our spiritual focus in all aspects of church life. We need to keep God as the center of everything we do. We need to redevelop our governance structure to become less committee oriented. We must actively become an invitational congregation and in doing so share the good news as Christians. We need to provide a quiet contemplative service.

Repurposing our Property: We need to conduct a feasibility study with the objective of repurposing our property to enhance our community outreach. We need to commit to the funding of a new lift. We need to investigate the ability of our building to commit to environmental and energy efficiencies. We need to engage the services of a structural engineer. We need to review our rental application policy to simplify the process in gaining new tenants.

Enhance our Community Outreach: Investigate our ability and with the Town of Ajax and other necessary agencies institute: Programs for seniors and youth; seniors housing and affordable housing.

*Submitted by
Bill Sheaves
Chair, Discernment Committee*

DURHAM MENTAL HEALTH POINT IN TIME COUNT

On February 15 Durham Mental Health conducted a Point in Time Count to conduct a survey of homeless people in Durham Region in order to provide an estimated snapshot of the extent and nature of homelessness in Durham region.

St. Paul's was approached to act as a base location for the Ajax area count. Volunteers were called to make and serve soup, sandwiches, coffee and cookies for the volunteers that were out conducting the count.

Thank you to Sharon Castellarin, Madeline Oswald, Catharine Ottaway, Elisabeth Perlikowski and Dorothy Wilkins for preparing and serving food and staying up late to clean up and close the building after the people conducting the survey completed their debriefing session. The warm building and hot food was certainly appreciated by them after being out in the cold for several hours.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Catharine Ottaway*

ENVELOPE STEWARD

Summary of Number of Identifiable Givers to St Paul's:

The number of regular givers has declined slightly from 121 to 116.

Over the year we have gained 1 new weekly envelope user and 1 new PAR donor.

However our losses have been much greater. Sadly six of our long-time PAR givers passed away this year.

We gladly welcome those who have joined us, celebrate those who continue with us and miss those who are no longer here.

| Year | Regular Envelope Givers | | | Regular Givers | Other** | Total |
|------|-------------------------|----------|------|----------------|---------|-------|
| | Weekly, | Monthly, | PAR* | | | |
| 2013 | 49 | 19 | 72 | 140 | 49 | 189 |
| 2014 | 44 | 19 | 75 | 138 | 80 | 218 |
| 2015 | 35 | 16 | 79 | 130 | 60 | 190 |
| 2016 | 34 | 14 | 73 | 121 | 33 | 154 |
| 2017 | 33 | 14 | 69 | 116 | 29 | 148 |

* Pre-authorized remittance

**includes occasional givers, visitors, participants in fundraisers and anonymous donations.

Summary of Amounts Received through Envelopes: (See "YTD Totals by Code")

Despite the loss of some regular givers, our givings have remained strong in all areas of service. The average givings to each category was higher in 2017 than 2016.

Confidence in St Paul's appears strong. There was good support for the M&S and Capital accounts. Our contributions to the Benevolent fund and the Christmas hampers was high and investment in our groups such as Canada 150, Explorers/Messengers, the Men's Group, SPARC, and UCW was strong. Our auction and raffles were very successful. A number of individuals invested time and money into refurbishing our minister's office, and the structural engineer hired to inspect the church, requested only a tax receipt for his fee of \$2034.

| Year | Local | M&S# | Capital Fund | Outreach |
|------|------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 2013 | \$137,901.26 | \$15,921.60 | \$3,015.42 | \$5,791.92 |
| 2014 | \$136,646.99 | \$14,945.50 | \$8,295.00 | \$4,619.13 |
| 2015 | \$153,984.63 *** | \$14,639.95 | \$7,384.44 | \$4,223.25 |
| 2016 | \$137,410.00 | \$14,098.00 | \$6,242.00 | \$4,200.15 |
| 2017 | \$134,049.30 | \$14,243.45 | \$7,973.00 | \$4,999.35 |

*** includes \$20150.40 donated to Defeat the Deficit

Envelope givings is one of the sources for the M&S Fund

Total Charitable Donations: \$172,741.83 (see "Annual Report Envelope Summary")

This was a remarkable year with total charitable donations increased about \$5800 from 2016. Although the number of givers had declined, the average monthly gift for Weekly, Monthly and PAR donors was increased by more than 2.5% when compared to 2016. This is a tribute to the dedicated support of our congregation for all aspects of life at St Paul's.

Thank you to Robert Hunt, Wendy Mason, David Eagleson and Rev Cordelia for their strong support. Thanks to Pam George and John Gutsell who helped count collections. Thanks also to the usher coordinators and their teams who ensure the monies are properly collected and passed on for safe keeping.

It was a pleasure to serve St Paul's in 2017.

*Respectfully submitted by
Dorothy Wilkins
Envelope Steward*

*Annual Report Envelope Summary
Year 2017*

| | | <i>Qty Env</i> | <i>Wkly</i> | <i>Mthly</i> | <i>PAR</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 0 - 499 | \$ 0 | 3 | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| | 1 - 9 | 3 | | | | \$12.75 | \$12.75 |
| | 10 - 24 | 9 | | | | \$130.00 | \$130.00 |
| | 25 - 50 | 4 | \$80.00 | | | \$80.00 | \$160.00 |
| | 51 - 99 | 2 | \$70.00 | | | \$75.00 | \$145.00 |
| | 100 - 199 | 12 | \$767.00 | | \$355.00 | \$659.00 | \$1,781.00 |
| | 200 - 299 | 14 | \$1,261.00 | \$264.00 | \$980.00 | \$850.00 | \$3,355.00 |
| | 300 - 399 | 6 | \$320.00 | \$662.00 | \$950.00 | | \$1,932.00 |
| | 400 - 499 | 5 | \$893.60 | | \$896.00 | \$400.00 | \$2,189.60 |
| 500 - 999 | 500 - 599 | 6 | | | \$3,218.00 | | \$3,218.00 |
| | 600 - 699 | 8 | \$1,241.95 | \$609.00 | \$3,115.00 | | \$4,965.95 |
| | 700 - 799 | 3 | \$779.00 | | \$1,572.00 | | \$2,351.00 |
| | 800 - 899 | 4 | \$1,640.00 | | \$1,704.00 | | \$3,344.00 |
| | 900 - 999 | 4 | \$920.00 | \$960.00 | \$1,940.00 | | \$3,820.00 |
| 1000 - 1999 | 1000 - 1099 | 5 | \$3,156.25 | | \$2,090.00 | | \$5,246.25 |
| | 1100 - 1199 | 3 | | | \$3,452.00 | | \$3,452.00 |
| | 1200 - 1399 | 14 | \$4,041.00 | \$3,776.00 | \$10,076.98 | | \$17,893.98 |
| | 1400 - 1499 | 5 | \$1,451.00 | \$1,425.00 | \$4,375.00 | | \$7,251.00 |
| | 1500 - 1599 | 3 | \$1,515.00 | \$3,063.00 | | | \$4,578.00 |
| | 1600 - 1799 | 2 | | | \$3,266.05 | | \$3,266.05 |
| | 1800 - 1999 | 7 | \$1,819.00 | \$1,830.00 | \$9,164.00 | | \$12,813.00 |
| 2000 - 10000 | 2000 - 2999 | 13 | \$4,582.00 | \$2,649.00 | \$18,931.83 | \$4,149.00 | \$30,311.83 |
| | 3000 - 3999 | 4 | | \$3,007.57 | \$10,200.00 | | \$13,207.57 |
| | 4000 - 4999 | 4 | | | \$8,635.00 | \$9,560.85 | \$18,195.85 |
| | >5000 | 5 | | | \$29,122.00 | | \$29,122.00 |
| Grand Total | | 148 | \$24,536.80 | \$18,245.57 | \$114,042.86 | \$15,916.60 | \$172,741.83 |

YTD Totals by Code

Database Year 2017

| <i>Description</i> | <i>Local</i> | <i>MS</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>In Local</i> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| | \$122,535.75 | \$14,243.45 | \$0.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B Benevolent | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,814.35 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C Capital | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$7,943.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CT Canada 150 Team | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$75.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E Easter | \$2,333.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| ES Engineering Services | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,034.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| EX Explorers/Messengers | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$135.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F Food Bank | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$495.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FG Flower Guild | \$65.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| I Initial | \$171.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| K Presbty Fee | \$90.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| L Loose | \$3,034.55 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| MG Men's Group | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$80.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MR In Memory/R. Carter/Capit | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| O Observer | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$345.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| R Relief & Rehabilitation | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$245.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| RM Refurbish Minister's Offic | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,267.75 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| S Church School | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$94.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SP SPARC | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$70.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| T Thanksgiving | \$1,835.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| U U.C.W. | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$5,392.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| W White Gift | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$90.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| X Christmas | \$3,985.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Y Christmas Family Special | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,800.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Z Talent Auction | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,538.98 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Subtotal</i> | \$134,049.30 | \$14,243.45 | \$24,449.08 | |
| <i>Grand Total</i> | | | \$172,741.83 | |

Local = givens to local + givings in Other classified as local

MS = givings to M and S

Other = givings with codes not classified as Local

Submitted by,
Dorothy Wilkins, Envelope Steward

EXPLORERS and MESSENGERS

Our theme in 2017 continues to be social action in the United Church and globally.

In early 2017, we assisted the UCW in collecting milk bags, which are donated to the Ajax Baptist Church and turned into bed mats and pillows. We also spent an evening at the Ajax Baptist Church to learn how to weave milk bags into bed mats and make pillows. We learned that not only are these bed mats delivered to third world countries, they are now being using in hostiles in downtown Toronto due to their durability, and bug and mold resistant qualities! The girls presented their bed mat and pillow to the congregation during our annual bake sale. Overall, it was quite an experience!

As a group, our weekly activities included sharing our experiences and having group discussions on various topics, skating, swimming, bowling, hiking, baking, games, and crafts. We also celebrate Valentines, Shrove Tuesday, Easter, Halloween, and Christmas.

We began September 2017 with 4 Explorers. In addition, both Jennifer and her sister Jessica Kumar graciously volunteer their time to our group, assisting in programming, as well as weekly meetings. Their assistance has been a blessing. Thank you girls!

As a group, the girls created two beautiful terrariums, biblically inspired, and donated them to our St. Paul's United Church silent auction. They also created a variety of Christmas decorations, which were donated to the St. Paul's United Church bazaar. Great work girls!

Our programming for this group is supported through various fundraising activities that our group holds throughout the year, such as our bake sale, our United Church calendar sales, and our Easter Vandermeer flower sales. We would like to send a heartfelt 'Thank you' to the congregation of St. Paul's United Church for your continued support of our various fundraising activities.

*Yours very truly,
Alison Siefert, Your Messenger & Explorer Leader*

**MESSENGERS
and EXPLORERS**

| | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| Opening Balance January 1, 2017 | | \$369.59 |
| Income | 1361.09 | |
| Expenses | 1333.80 | |
| Closing Balance December 31, 2017 | | \$395.88 |
| Additional Information | Unpaid Expenses | \$ Nil |
| | Outstanding | |
| | Receipts | \$ Nil |

*Submitted by John Scott
Examined by Dave Eagleson*

FLOWER GUILD

Remembrance and Celebrations

The Flower Guild is in its seventh year of dedication. A member of the congregation may request a rose be placed on the Communion Table in memory of a loved one, in celebration for an anniversary or birthday. A single red rose will be placed on the Communion Table on the Sunday that you have requested. Forms are located in the Narthex and can be filled out and placed in the offering plate. Your request is noted in the Sunday bulletin and shared with the members of St. Paul's.

We hope through prayer and acknowledgement, the Flower Guild will bring comfort to you or brighten your day.

*Respectfully submitted by
Sharon Castellarin*

FUNDRAISING

VANDERMEER CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER

The annual fundraising from our local nursery provided fresh greenery and plants for purchase for the Christmas season. Total sales were \$772.00, with a profit of \$196.28 going to the Mission and Service Fund. Thank you to all who participated in support of St. Paul's United Church.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Castellarin*

GIFTS ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Planned Giving Fund

There were no bequests or other contributions to the Fund during the year.

Investments

| | <u>Description</u> | <u>Market Value</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Fixed Income | Brookfield Asset Management 3.27%, Mar. 31/19 | \$11,707 |
| Mutual Fund | Manulife Strategic Income Fund | <u>\$ 6,863</u> |
| Market value at December 31, 2017 | | \$18,570 |

During the year, an amount of \$2250 was transferred to St. Paul's general account.

*Submitted by Dave Eagleson,
Examined by Wendy Mason*

JUNIOR CHOIR

During 2017, the Junior Choir had 6 members.

They sang several times with the Senior Choir, including the Church Anniversary, Easter and for the Caribbean Mass.

Unfortunately there were not enough members available to continue the group as of September.

There will be another attempt to restart the group next September, so if you know a child that might interested in joining, please read the following -

The Junior Choir welcomes boys and girls age 6 and older.

Our goal is to have fun, learning songs that will add to the worship service.

Practice is after Sunday School for 40 minutes.

After a snack, we learn songs for 30 minutes and spend our last 10 minutes learning how to read music.

Tracks are sent via computer, so if a practice is missed, the member can keep up with the group.

If you know a boy or girl age 6 or older who likes to sing, please encourage them to try our Junior choir.

For more info, call Lois at 905-427-3800, or email her at lcraigbflat@gmail.com

LAKERIDGE PRESBYTERY

Lakeridge Presbytery has been a busy place again this past year. Rev. Cordelia and I attended eight meetings representing our congregation. Rev. Cordelia is chair of the Ministry Vocations committee and I sit on the Pastoral Oversight committee.

The year began with a discussion of Remit #6 from General Council #42. This was about "One order of Ministry". After some excellent discussion, Presbytery defeated the remit. We were also informed that this year Simcoe Street United and Cedar Dale United were celebrating their 200 years and 90 years of ministry respectively.

April saw Presbytery enact its annual Pulpit Exchange program. Rev. Cordelia and I went to Blackstock United to hear their celebrations and lamentations. Every year it is an exciting proposition.

In May, Rev. Cordelia and I attended at the Bay of Quinte Conference annual meeting in Brockville. While there, we witnessed our own Janelle Shaw and Ned Wells ordained. I was also elected as a Commissioner for the upcoming General Council #43 to be held at Oshawa's University of Ontario Institute of Technology.

In June we found out that Nestleton United church was closing its doors and the members would

worship at Blackstock United. As an aside, I have been appointed to assist Blackstock and Nestleton amalgamate.

September saw Presbytery affirm the amalgamation of Greenwood and Mt. Zion United churches into the Mount Zion United church of the Greenwood Pastoral charge.

In October, St. Paul's hosted Presbytery where Rev. Cordelia led us in worship. We found out that Pickering Village United church is celebrating its 200th birthday on October 29th.

Being a member of Presbytery has been a worthwhile pursuit for me. It is a joy working with the other congregations of our presbytery and socializing with such a great group of people. Our meetings are a mix of worship and business and are never dull. With St. Paul's numbers of membership, our congregation is allowed to have three presbyters. I hope that you may give your prayerful consideration in being one of them.

*Submitted by:
Bill Sheaves*

LAY VISITORS TEAM

Acts 20:35: "In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

The divine focus for The Lay Visitor's Team remains unchanged; to extend the spirit of God's love to those who are no longer able to attend church on a regular basis. Our dedicated team of volunteers makes regular visits either in person or via the telephone, to bring words of encouragement to those who are shut-in and no longer able to attend worship. This is not only a source of comfort and spiritual connection back to St. Paul's for those being visited, but for their family members as well.

On 4 occasions throughout the year, we take the elements from the Communion Table, and share them with those who wish to receive it. This always proves to be a very moving experience for both the person being visited, as well as for the member of The Lay Visitor's Team who is delivering the Communion message.

We utilize funds entrusted to us by the congregation to purchase a card as well as a suitable gift for each person being visited during the Easter and Christmas seasons. This is an easy way of letting them know that they are in our thoughts and our prayers, and that we wish them all the best over each holiday season. These small tokens serve as visible connections back to "the church with the open arms", and are always sincerely appreciated by those being visited.

There is currently a roster of 7 people who we make an effort to visit with on a regular basis. Each member of the Lay Visitors Team has the privilege of visiting specific people in order to maintain a sense of familiarity and develop a sense of camaraderie during each visit.

The Lay Visitors team is comprised of 6 dedicated individuals who include Louise Johnson, Mary Younie, Stuart McLean, Helen Turner, Shirley Bruce, and June Martin.

If you know of anyone within the congregation who you think would welcome pastoral care from The Lay Visitor's Team, please contact Stuart McLean, the church office, or any member of the Lay Visitor's Team and we will do our best to accommodate your wishes.

Also, if you are interested in joining The Lay Visitor's Team, please contact Stuart McLean (905-619-2079) and he will gladly add you to our team of dedicated volunteers.

And finally, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the congregation for your prayers and financial support, because without you we wouldn't be able to fulfill this very important form of ministry.

*Respectfully submitted by
Stuart McLean, Lay Visitors Team Coordinator*

MEN'S GROUP

Well another year starts again and last year saw the Men's Group volunteered for setting up various events at St. Paul's, fixing things around the church and running the Pancake Supper and the Cowboy Steaks dinner and square dance. The Men's Group will be running the Pancake Supper again this February 13th starting at 5 pm and running to 7 pm. And, as usual, a free will offering and enjoy as much pancakes and sausages as people want.

It is amazing to me that the men of the Men's Group continue to do great things at St. PAUL'S and I hope that you are all aware that these men just come for breakfast once a month to share food and fellowship.

*Respectfully submitted,
Michael Morrison*

MEMORIAL FUND

This year donations to St. Paul's Memorial Fund were made in memory of: Ruth Killin, Robert Turner, Mrs. Castellarin, Reg Carter, Marie Pos, Cornie Tessman and Annie & Ammon Davis.

The names of contributors and those in whose memory the donation was made is recorded in the Memorial Book.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, Bank of Montreal Account

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Opening Balance: December 31, 2016 | | | \$ 913.62 |
| Income: Donations | \$ 930.00 | | |
| Expense: Account Fees* | | \$ 27.50 | |
| Closing Balance: December 31, 2017 | | | \$1816.12 |

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT | 2017

*In June 2014 the Bank of Montreal stopped paying interest and began charging Maintenance Fees on all Community Accounts. A search for a new bank with no charges was conducted. All banks are now charging fees on Community Accounts and the account I have been using is the best value.

The balance of the Memorial Fund is held in a high interest rate savings account at CIBC Wood Gundy. This account is managed by the Trustees.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, CIBC Wood Gundy Account

| | | |
|---|---------|--------------|
| Opening Balance: December 31, 2016 (corrected) | | \$ 10,589.90 |
| Interest Income: | \$94.10 | |
| Closing Balance: December 31, 2017 | | \$10,684.00 |

BMO Balance: \$ 1816.12

CIBC Balance: \$ 10,684.00

Total Memorial Fund \$ 12,500.12

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is a confidential consultative body that supports the staff of the church in managing their relationship with the congregation and each other.

St. Paul's United Church is fortunate to have such a talented and committed group of staff who ensure that the life of the church continues on a daily basis by providing the spiritual, musical and administration structure and support that guides our collective Christian journeys. On your behalf we say thank you to them all.

In the first eight months of 2017, M & P Committee members, Katie Cronin-Wood, Chair, Cathy Mullen, Sharon Castellarin and Nancy Longworth, continued to provide recommendations to Council on HR practices and to ensure that staff - Reverend Cordelia Karpenko, Director of Music Lois Craig, Office Administrator Catharine Ottaway and Fee for Service Contractor – Custodial Services Gord Ottaway - had the guidance and support they needed to provide ministerial and staff leadership to the congregation.

This included the annual development and monitoring of job descriptions outlining the key accountabilities of each position based on the needs of the church and its financial resources to support those needs.

Again this year Reverend Karpenko demonstrated her talent for preaching, ensuring that the voice of God came through in her sermons each Sunday and leaving us with a homework challenge to carry

forth into the coming week. She led Bible Study and Discussion Groups and launched the Quiet Service, an initiative from the Discernment Process and, with an organized approach to reach out to shut-ins and those in hospital, she also brought the support and love of SPUC to members of our church family who were challenged to attend Sunday services.

Director of Music, Lois Craig once again shared her vast musical talents both as a pianist, organist, conductor, composer and arranger in carefully selecting and leading very uplifting musical and choral presentations. Through the hymns, the cantatas, the Masses, carols and lessons, soloists and so much more, each piece has beautifully contributed to our Sunday experiences so that we are left with a peaceful feeling of joy when we head out to our communities.

In 2017 Office Administrator Catharine Ottaway took on an additional role as support to the Property Committee and she continued to keep the office running smoothly and ensuring that the church membership was informed and updated through the emails and bulletins. Fee for Service Contractor Gord Ottaway, based on a prescribed set of deliverables, continued to make sure that the church was clean and ready to receive its tenants, visitors and congregational members and welcomed the support of the Fall Clean up volunteers to tackle those areas not contained in the Fee for Service contract.

In September 2017 the committee welcomed three new M and P members who began taking on co-leadership roles as Katie, Nancy and Sharon prepared to step down after many years of service. Together the co-leads conducted annual evaluations of each staff's performance based on feedback received from the congregation and attended Council meetings to "learn the ropes."

The transition is now completed.

As of February 2018, Elizabeth Perlikowski will be the Minister's M & P representative, Brad Sherwin will be the Director of Music's M & P representative, Cathy Mullen will be the Fee for Service Contractor's M & P representative and June Martin will be the Office Administrator's M & P representative.

Brad and Cathy will be the co-Chairs of M and P, leading the group and attending Council as required.

As a confidential consultative body, the M & P Committee will continue to welcome any written and signed feedback from members of the congregation on how staff are carrying out their roles and responsibilities.

As departing and current members of this vital group we would like to thank everyone for their past, present and anticipated future support. As we look past February 2018, we look forward to working with staff and our Council partners to meet the challenges that God sets before us, as we head into our discerned future state.

Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:3

Respectfully submitted by the 2017 M&P committee,

Cathy Mullen Nancy Longworth Sharon Castellarian

Katie Cronin-Wood Brad Sherwin June Martin

Elizabeth Perlikowski

MISSION AND SERVICE COMMITTEE

As stated in the stewardship booklet,

"Mission and Service is the compassionate response by the people of the United Church of Canada to God's call to mission and healing for the world."

In 2017, the Mission and Service committee of St Paul's continued to raise awareness of various areas requiring assistance, and encouraged the congregation to help in these areas.

A Minute for Mission was read many Sunday mornings to inform the congregation about where the Church was helping people in Canada and around the world, and how our donations could improve peoples' lives.

We continued to call for donations for the local food bank. Your donations fill several bags every month, and the food bank really appreciates this. They say that the need is great all year long. Thank you to June Martin for taking on the delivery of the food items to the Salvation Army food bank in Ajax.

St Paul's tradition of White Gift Sunday continued, and the M&S committee sorted, packed and delivered a total of 8 boxes of gifts to three shelters: Herizon House (women and children), Joanne's House (youth) and Cornerstone (men).

Our Mission and Service Fund target for 2017 was \$17,000 and we almost reached it. At \$16,731 we can definitely call it a success. Thank you so much to all individuals and groups who donated. Thanks also to Wendy Mason, our M&S Enthusiast, who gave us monthly updates on our progress.

Your Mission and Service committee is Colleen McLaren, Gail Young, Marie Nesbitt and Helen Dowse (Chair).

*Respectfully submitted,
Helen Dowse*

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

This group, now entering its ninth year, meets on the third Thursday of each month in the fellowship room at the church. Fourteen ladies regularly come together in fellowship and prayer as they crochet or knit the prayer shawls and lap robes that are given to people in time of need or to celebrate a special occasion. This year we presented 29 prayer shawls or lap robes to members of St. Paul's, the surrounding community or to friends or relatives of our church family. These gifts of love sometimes travel far outside of our community; even outside of Canada. We continue to partner with Ajax/Pickering Hospital providing lap robes, preemie blankets and prayer shawls.

We were the recipient of donations of wool which has kept our wool coffers well stocked. Our current

balance for the Prayer Shawl Ministry is \$328.80; the same as last year as we have not had to purchase any wool this past year. All wool was either donated or the ladies purchased their own. We thank the UCW for their support in our ministry. We thank the members of St. Paul's who are dedicated to supporting our cause by knitting at home, donating wool and financial donations.

A gift of a prayer shawl or a lap robe is a way of letting people know they are loved and supported by the prayers of many. Our shawls are given to bring comfort in times of illness or grief. They are given to celebrate the birth or graduation of our young people and to welcome or say goodbye as people move among us. If you would like more information or know of someone who you think would find comfort in receiving a shawl, contact Susan Reed or Catharine Ottaway. Giving a shawl is not limited to someone in our church family or community. Our ministry is to support all who need comfort and a reminder of God's love.

*Respectfully submitted by
June Martin*

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The congregation was previously notified that the heating system was a major expense. It was inspected by Advantage Airtech Ltd. and various elements (boiler, circulating pumps suppressors, headers, fans and more) of the furnace needed to be repaired or replaced. This work was done at various times throughout the year. A final test was also done. For the furnace, authorization was granted to have a Maintenance Agreement signed.

Precision Elevator Ltd. inspected the elevator in the early spring and the yearly maintenance was done in the summer.

Victory Fire Equipment Inc., in early September, completed the annual inspection of the Fire Extinguishers. Later in September, the company performed the annual testing and inspection of the Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting Systems. Everything passed the Inspection.

After it finally stopped raining, I filled in the pot hole.

In the Spring, Cordelia's office needed and was refurbished, the funds coming from various sources – one included financial assistance from the UCW. However, in the summer, there was concern about the window; thus, authorization was granted for it to be replaced which was quite costly.

It was too much for me to re-finish the front door, but thanks to Sharon and Renzo Castellarin and Nancy Longworth who took over. Their hard work included finishing the sanding, removing kick plates, repairing major wood damage, painting, etc. Service rendered was much appreciated.

Mr. Tawhidi (P.E.,P.Eng.) a Licensed Professional Engineer provided structural engineer services. For the existing crack in the main floor on the rear side of the addition; in September, the engineer performed a visual site inspection; in October, from the ceiling below, an internal examination was

done; in December, (after the presence of frost) the last examination was completed. The final analysis, there is no immediate threat to the structural integrity of the floor. Recommendation is to periodically check for any changes in the existing crack.

Snow and ice removal was done in Jan., Feb., Mar., Nov., and Dec.

Frechette Lawncare provided spring, summer, fall fertilizing; grub and weed control. Lawn cutting was done May to October.

Waste removal is a monthly expense.

Blue Line Plumbing was called for a major plumbing issue in the men's washroom in the basement.

Other repairs done – a new screen for a window in the west hallway, new handi-cap sign for the outside entrance at the west door, replaced a dual light switch in the choir loft, fixed rad in the sanctuary, and the usual minor fixing of toilets. Other purchases include surge protectors, receptacles, bulbs, batteries, etc. Paper products, soap, and sanitizers are purchased from various companies. Other cleaning equipment and supplies are purchased from local merchants.

Some clean-up was done in previous months but a major one happened on Nov.25 and a lot was accomplished. Certain areas still need cleaning attention. A lot of gratitude to Grace Sheaves who was the major organizer of this Mission. Thanks to all the volunteers who worked at any of the these cleaning tasks.

Thanks to the team of Mike Neefjes, Bob Pellow, and Steve Lomax for their help and any other person(s) who volunteered their services during the year.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Peter Tietze, Chair*

SENIOR CHOIR /MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This past year was particularly memorable for many reasons.

In January the choir was joined by Amelia Soon who sang the Mandarin verse of the blessing May the Love of the Lord, found in More Voices.

In April's Palm Sunday service, the choir presented the musical Behold! God's Holy Lamb with the wonderful narrators Marie Nesbitt and Winston Pinnock and sound by Steve Lomax.

On Holy Humor Sunday, the Choir sang Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring. The comment of our guest Preacher summed it up perfectly – "Wow! That was beautiful!"

May's presentation of Donald Patriquin's A Caribbean Mass featured the Senior and Junior Choirs, Joy Lapps on steel drums, Zuzana Zacharova on flute and Liam Brown on drums. Each time the choir sings this rhythmic, uplifting music, it improves and becomes even more expressive!!!

Who could forget May's Variety Concert, sponsored by Canada 150! I had the pleasure of accompanying Rev. Cordelia, Rachel Wood, Gary Faulkner, and even myself as we all strove to sing quintessential Canadian songs.

On September 24, during the singing of Woke Up This Mornin', the new keyboard was unveiled. With it playing back the accompaniment I had played into its memory, I was able to conduct the choir. One member of the congregation made sure to come and speak to me after the service. He said how today's anthem had captured his attention and kept him in the moment, instead of thinking about work.

October's presentation of the Caribbean Mass featured the introduction of booklets for congregational participation. These booklets, which contain the music and words in a clear type, will be available for all future services of the Caribbean Mass.

Later in October, when St. Paul's hosted the monthly meeting of Presbytery, the choir was featured as they sang A New Creed and The Great Amen from A Caribbean Mass. What made it special, was the visitors had been given a copy of the music for the Creed. The Choir sang it once alone, and then it was repeated with all invited to join in! When they did, the sound was glorious!!!

Also in October, harpist Liane James accompanied the anthem The Lord is my Shepherd, which is the theme from The Vicar of Dibley. The choir was augmented by our Minister Cordelia, and several former members of the Junior Choir and Jennifer Kumar who was singing with us for the first time. Liane played beautifully and she commented how well the choir had sung!

In November the unaccompanied piece Here am I was sung. Several parishioners commented how much they enjoyed the "cappella" music. Later in the month when this song was repeated during the offering and dedication of intentions at the end of the Stewardship campaign, the congregation was invited to join in!

At the annual Legion Service, the leadership of the choir was felt once more. Gary Faulkner's solo, In Flanders Fields was powerful and appreciated.

In December the choir sang its Carols and Lessons with the help of 7 of St. Paul's best readers, including our Minister Cordelia. The eight "carols" featured many styles and showed the variety that this choir is capable of singing!

While on Christmas Eve St. Paul's was blessed with soloists Gary Faulkner, Rachel Wood and Christopher Miller.

I wish to thank the choir and any others who have sung with the group during the past year, for all their hard work and dedication. Thanks also to the readers and sound people. I am so fortunate to have this position. As I've told the choir on many occasions "I can't believe I get paid to do this – I love it so much! Don't tell M&P."

*Respectfully submitted by
Lois Craig, Music Director for St. Paul's*

ST. PAUL'S ACTION AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE (SPARC)

The SPARC group of Catharine Ottaway, Diane Fleming, Dorothy Wilkins, Jennifer Cree, Karen Strong, Linda Westendorp, Madeline Oswald, Wendy Mason and Susan Reed plans fellowship events and recognizes the contributions of our church members for the work that they do.

This year the SPARCs recognized the following groups with cards, Tim's gift cards or flowers: The Property Committee, the Men's group, Suzanne from Sunshine Nursery, the CGIT and Explorers, the M&P committee, the Sunday School teachers, the group that worked to update the front doors and gardens and the Canada150 group.

The Prayer Buddy program began last January when participants were assigned who they would be praying for throughout the year. In November, the prayer buddies and their partners were introduced at the Stewardship luncheon. Over 25 people had participated in the program. In February, the hockey lovers at St. Paul's once again headed to an Oshawa Generals hockey game.

The St. Patrick's Games night in March was a huge success as participants were grouped in teams to play 4 different games. The winning team of Tom Rosebush, Pat Reynolds and Steve Lomax were presented with the 'pot of gold' chocolates and the team that had the least luck but most fun (Stephen Barrett, Stu McLean and Gord Ottaway) received a box of Lucky Charms.

Twenty people gathered together for the annual St. Paul's Pub night and enjoyed an evening meal and lots of fellowship.

During the fall, church members were asked to acknowledge the things for which they were grateful by filling the Gratitude Jar. Twenty-four unique blessings were published in the Thanksgiving bulletin. The St. Paul's Book Club began in September. The Book Club meets on a monthly basis.

The SPARCs organized the St. Paul's Great Canadian Butterscotch Contest in October as part of the Canada150 celebrations. The judges, Wendy Mason, Linda Westendorp, Stu McLean and Bob Pellow awarded the championship tiaras to Diane Fleming and Cath Miller. The SPARCs supported the Stewardship Committee by decorating for the potluck luncheon, organized the Silent Auction for the Cowboy Steak dinner and helped scrub the church on clean-up day. The final event for the 2017 year was to present all members with an advent gift of hot chocolate and a candy cane on the first Sunday of Advent.

SPARC has had the support of the congregation who have contributed to the various activities through donations and participation in the events. SPARC was the recipient of income of \$85 through donations in addition to money carried forward from 2016. Our expenses totaled \$391.31 leaving a current balance of \$85.49.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Reed*

STEWARDSHIP 2017 – SING A NEW SONG

This year we were in the process of learning to sing a new song. Going in a new direction can be scary and difficult but the Bible suggests that praising God opens the way for us to receive His new song. It allows our faith to shine for all to see and helps us grow into the new life that He has for us.

We reviewed how our time, talents and treasure work for God's mission at St Paul's through four key areas; Worship, Christian Development, Pastoral Care and Outreach. We heard about the many activities in Canada and around the globe made possible by our support of the Mission and Service Fund. We also provided a guide to help you make a prayerful and meaningful commitment to God through your gifts to St Paul's. Rev Cordelia did not fail to challenge us each Sunday with her sermons and her "homework".

We were very pleased to receive 54 responses. Since all responses came from regular givers and there were 117 identifiable giving households, that means that almost half of our givers responded. Great news!!! Thank you for your participation. All your commitments were dedicated at the service on Nov 26th.

The final highlight was the "New Year's Eve" Pot Luck luncheon held on Nov 26th. Thanks to the SPARC's imagination and help it was a truly marvellous celebration of the end of the church year.

| Summary | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Stewardship packages | 235 | 171 | 186 | 172 | 171 |
| % of total members & adherents' households | 93% | 79% | 85% | 95% | 88% |
| Distribution: by email | 156 | 111 | 154 | 133 | 95 |
| by Canada Post | 79 | 60 | 32 | 39 | 74 |
| Response forms returned | 50 | 47 | 33 | 24 | 54 |
| % of total households contacted | 21% | 27% | 18% | 14% | 32% |

Very special thanks to Rev Cordelia, the Stewardship Committee, Susan Reed, Catharine Ottaway and SPARC for making all this possible.

Your Stewardship Committee – Robert Hunt, Wendy Mason, David Eagleson, Dorothy Wilkins and Rev Cordelia Karpenko

*Respectfully submitted by
Dorothy Wilkins*

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

HOLDING ACCOUNT FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017

Manulife Bank Account Number 05012 1300833

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Balance forward January 1, 2017 | | \$14,413.49 |
| Capital Fund Income (All sources): | | |
| Congregation | \$8,051.25 | |
| UCW | 500.00 | |
| Interest earned for 2017 | <u>137.65</u> | \$23,102.39 |
| Expenses: | | |
| All Capital account transfers | | -\$ 2,827.97 |
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | | <u>\$20,274.42</u> |

Included in the closing balance is \$300.41 being held for the Sr. Choir

MISSION AND SERVICE FUND GIVINGS AT
DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | | |
|----------------|--|--------------------|
| Givings: | | |
| Congregation | | \$14,243.43 |
| Fundraising | | 712.65 |
| UCW | | <u>1,600.00</u> |
| TOTAL FOR 2017 | | <u>\$16,556.08</u> |

FOR REPORTING PURPOSES ONLY

FOOD BANK GIVINGS AT DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | |
|---|----------|
| Givings for 2017 | \$685.00 |
| Cheque issued to the Salvation Army Food Bank | \$685.00 |

BENEVOLENT FUND GIVINGS AT DECEMBER 31, 2017

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Congregational givings (all sources) | \$1,812.85 |
| Christmas Hampers | <u>\$1,800.00</u> |
| TOTAL FOR 2017 | <u>\$3,612.85</u> |

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Finance Committee and the Congregation, to thank the UCW for their generosity in supporting the work of St. Paul's United Church and in particular, over and above the amounts noted in these reports, their donation of \$4,000.00 towards the General Working Account. Many, many thanks. You ladies are *awesome!*

Submitted by Wendy Mason
Church Treasurer

Reviewer's Statement

I, Gary Faulkner, have reviewed the financial records of St. Paul's United Church as at December 31, 2017 and the statements of Income and Expense for the year then ended. I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements do not accurately reflect the financial position of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, for the year 2017.

*Gary Faulkner
Ajax, Ontario
January 2018*

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Reflecting on the past year The UCW would like to thank the congregation for support in our activities and fundraising events. We hope you enjoyed them and we welcome feedback and suggestions on ways we can continue to serve.

This year was the first full year of scheduling our meetings at 1pm on the third Tuesday of every month.

Events at those meetings included speakers from Osteoporosis Canada and the Durham Child Nutrition Project, which we further supported with our Thank Offering. Behind the scenes, we maintained the kitchen, from supplies to the annual major cleaning, and maintenance/replacement of appliances.

Major events for the UCW this year included the Garage Sale, a Victorian Tea, and the annual Bazaar. The Victorian Tea came about from a suggestion from the Canada 150 committee that was scheduling events reflecting the past 150 years of Canada's history. Despite the learning curve of holding this particular event for the first time, it was a great success. More changes took place when the annual Bazaar was modified to increase the number of vendors to a mutually beneficial result. We were fortunate to have this group of women, who are committed and willing to put in the effort to make these events a success.

We welcomed some new members this year and would welcome more. If you are interested, please feel free to drop in for a meeting as a visitor.

The UCW leadership continued with the three past presidents (the three amigos) sharing duties, primarily chairing or attending the executive meetings, presbyterial (Bay of Quinte), and council meetings. As we look forward to a challenging new year, new ideas are already percolating.

*On behalf of St. Paul's UCW, thank you for your continued support.
Grace Sheaves UCW Past President*

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2017

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Financial Statement

Business Account

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Balance January 1, 2017 | 6262.67 |
| Transfer from Savings Account (closed) Now called Special Projects Fund | 3067.48 |
| Remaining from Special Projects Budget Special Projects Fund Balance | 1200.00 |
| | 4267.48 |

Revenue

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Offering | 5201.00 |
| Thank Offering | 186.00 |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin | 110.00 |
| Upper Room Donations | 20.00 |
| Bazaar Net | 4804.00 |
| Garage Sale | 1400.00 |
| Funeral Teas | 2625.00 |
| Dutch Auction/Bake Sale | 406.00 |
| Victorian High Tea | 1257.00 |
| UCW National | 35.00 |

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Total Revenue | <u>16044.00</u> |
| | 26574.15 |

Expenses

| | |
|---|---------|
| Church Council | 4000.00 |
| Mission and Service | 1600.00 |
| Capital Funds Project | 500.00 |
| Bank Charges | 254.41 |
| UCW National | 35.00 |
| Thank Offering - Durham Child Nutrition Project | 186.00 |
| Kitchen Supplies /Coffee Fair Trade | 289.55 |
| Stationary, cards, stamps | 20.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 119.93 |
| Presbyterial Expenses | 300.00 |
| Guest Speakers | 300.00 |
| Special Projects Fund | 1200.00 |
| Special Projects Fund Expenditures | 300.00 |
| Outreach | 1131.10 |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin | 120.00 |
| Social Convener | 100.00 |

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Total Expenses | 10455.99 |
|----------------|-----------------|

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance: December 31, 2017 | 16118.16 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|

| | |
|---|---------|
| Savings Account balance January 1, 2017 | 3070.47 |
| Bank Fees | 3.00 |
| Bank Interest | .01 |
| Transfer to Business Account | 3067.48 |
| Balance January 31, 2017 | .00 |

Submitted by Carole Perley, Treasurer
 Amended by Doris Tietze, Secretary
 Examined by Dave Eagleson

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Your committee is comprised of the following members: Lois Craig, Rev. Cordelia Karpenko, John Scott, Sharon Castellarin, Deborah Faulkner and Linda Westendorp (chair).

This was a very special year in the life of our church and across Canada as we celebrated our 150th anniversary as a nation. Our Canada 150 committee, under the leadership of Susan Reed, brought us interesting facts and figures once a month to guide us on an historical perspective of Canada's growth. Rev. Cordelia contributed information about the role of the United Church during those years, and Lois was able to provide the music for the hymns that were sung during that time. It made for a most engaging and enjoyable monthly service, and we appreciated the support of the congregation in wearing red and white on those days.

It is the responsibility of this committee to work together to provide a joyful and meaningful worship period on Sunday mornings and on special occasions. Many people work behind the scenes to assist the committee to make this possible. Thanks go out to June Martin who arranged for our greeters at the door, and our ushering captains who provide ushers for each service. They were Mike and Mary Neefjes, Val Wilson, June Gellatly, Peter and Doris Tietze and Marie Nesbitt. The sound system is operated under the leadership of Steve Lomax and several volunteers. If this is something you may be interested in, please get in touch with Steve. Catharine Ottaway is responsible for publishing our weekly order of service and we thank her for that important job as well. There was an increase in our donations of funds to support this important resource, so thank you. We would also like to thank the many volunteers who read scripture lessons each week.

Our minister, Rev. Cordelia Karpenko, has been here five years in January and continues to be a most welcome addition to our church family. Cordelia has been very busy within the walls of this building, but also took the time to visit many of our members in hospitals and nursing homes. She led the worship service at Ballycliffe Lodge and Harwood Place each month as part of ministerial outreach. Cordelia has been busy in her role as the chaplain of the Legion branch in Ajax, and led our special service on Remembrance Day. She is also part of the hospital chaplaincy program as well. Not an easy workload for a new member of clergy in Lakeridge Presbytery, where she serves on the student advisory committee.

Communion continues to be celebrated on a monthly basis during our regular worship service. Many volunteers served the elements to our congregation, using the two methods we currently employ. The Christmas Eve candlelight communion service is one that is treasured by many.

Our music program, under the leadership of Lois Craig, continues to be a source of inspiration and joy. New music in the form of anthems and cantatas are prepared and presented to the congregation with enthusiasm and energy. Many hours of hard work have paid off handsomely, and we thank Lois for all her efforts with both the senior and junior choirs.

We held our second Ash Wednesday service on March 1st, which was very meaningful. On Palm

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT | 2017

Sunday the choir presented "Behold, God's Holy Lamb" to heighten our anticipation of the Easter services. We shared our Good Friday service with St. Timothy's hosting us on Friday, April 14th. The Caribbean Mass, written by Donald Patriquin, was featured on May 7th with full instrumentation, and a lighter version on October 1st. Our service on the lawn in June kicked off our annual picnic. As a result of the recommendations from the discernment committee, a quiet contemplative service was offered on Saturdays starting in October. Those who attend find it most helpful. The Carols and Lessons which were shared on December 10th set the tone for the Christmas season.

Special holidays and services in our sanctuary require special attention in decorating and welcoming the various seasons. Thanks to the families and individuals who donate their time and talents to make the church sanctuary and narthex a welcoming and beautiful space to gather.

We welcome your feedback on things you would like to see included in the way we worship here at St. Paul's. Please contact myself or any other member of our committee at your convenience.

*Submitted by Linda Westendorp
chair*

APPENDIX: BUDGET

Annual Report 2018
from Your Finance Committee

| St. Paul's Annual Report 2018 | Actual 2017 | Budget 2018 | Difference |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Donations | | | |
| Facility Donation | \$ 18,904 | \$ 17,590 | -\$ 1,314 |
| Fundraising | \$ 6,268 | \$ 1,925 | -\$ 4,343 |
| In | -\$ 576 | \$ 2,185 | |
| Out | \$ 6,843 | -\$ 260 | |
| Capital Account Transfers In ** | | | |
| Investment | \$ 4,800 | \$ 4,800 | \$ - |
| Miscellaneous Income | \$ 7,529 | \$ 6,000 | -\$ 1,529 |
| VBS Income | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other incl bequest fund, GST/HST | \$ 7,529 | \$ 6,000 | |
| | | | \$ - |
| Offerings | \$ 134,069 | \$ 136,734 | \$ 2,665 |
| Envelopes | \$ 131,025 | \$ 133,544 | \$ 2,519 |
| Loose | \$ 3,044 | \$ 3,191 | \$ 146 |
| | - | | |
| UCW | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,000 | \$ - |
| Total Donations | \$ 175,569 | \$ 171,049 | -\$ 4,520 |
| | | | |
| Expenses | | | |
| Bank and Service Charges | \$ 1,740 | \$ 1,700 | -\$ 40 |
| Conf and Presb | \$ 4,604 | \$ 4,547 | -\$ 57 |
| Insurance | \$ 5,285 | \$ 5,500 | \$ 215 |
| Miscellaneous (incl. Archives) | \$ 80 | \$ - | -\$ 80 |
| Office | \$ 3,913 | \$ 5,300 | \$ 1,387 |
| General | \$ 727 | \$ 1,500 | \$ 773 |
| Photocopier | \$ 3,185 | \$ 3,800 | \$ 615 |
| Finance | \$ 198 | \$ 200 | \$ 2 |
| Non - Property Paid From Capital | \$ 2,074 | \$ - | -\$ 2,074 |
| Minister's Travel Expense | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Staff Travel | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Loan Repayment ** | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Minister Moving Exp. | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Discernment Committee | | \$ - | \$ - |

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2017

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Operating Group (Inc CE) | \$ 1,259 | \$ 2,380 | \$ 1,121 |
| Conference and Travel | | \$ 100 | \$ 100 |
| Communications | \$ 570 | \$ 1,080 | \$ 510 |
| Stewardship | \$ 274 | \$ 300 | \$ 26 |
| Envelope Steward | | \$ 600 | \$ 600 |
| Library, Photocopies | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Mission and Service | | \$ 200 | \$ 200 |
| Youth Group / Outreach | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Resource Training | \$ 99 | \$ 100 | \$ 1 |
| Photo Directory | | \$ - | \$ - |
| CE Operating | \$ 316 | \$ - | -\$ 316 |
| Five Oaks Confirmation | | \$ - | \$ - |
| VBS Expenses | | \$ - | \$ - |
| CE - Other | \$ 316 | \$ - | -\$ 316 |
| Other | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Property - Capital Projects | | | \$ - |
| Property - R&M | \$ 16,668 | \$ 16,000 | -\$ 668 |
| Elevator | \$ 928 | \$ 1,500 | \$ 572 |
| Furnace Repairs | \$ 3,349 | \$ 2,400 | -\$ 949 |
| Maintenance | \$ 7,320 | \$ 6,920 | -\$ 400 |
| Capital Repair Expenses | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Dumpster, Fuel Surcharge | \$ 1,528 | \$ 1,680 | \$ 152 |
| Snowplowing, Sanding | \$ 3,543 | \$ 3,500 | -\$ 43 |
| 0 | | | \$ - |
| Salary & Benefits | \$ 128,030 | \$ 132,090 | \$ 4,059 |
| Employee Benefits | \$ 18,545 | \$ 20,612 | \$ 2,067 |
| CPP | \$ 3,314 | \$ 4,190 | \$ 876 |
| EAP | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| EI | \$ 2,046 | \$ 2,195 | \$ 149 |
| Group Insurance | \$ 4,834 | \$ 4,698 | -\$ 135 |
| Pension | \$ 8,351 | \$ 9,153 | \$ 802 |
| Employer HST on Group | | \$ 376 | \$ 376 |
| | | | \$ - |
| | | | \$ - |
| Utilities | \$ 12,394 | \$ 15,702 | \$ 3,308 |
| Gas | \$ 5,907 | \$ 7,722 | \$ 1,815 |
| Hydro | \$ 2,609 | \$ 3,303 | \$ 694 |
| Phone | \$ 2,452 | \$ 3,147 | \$ 695 |
| Water | \$ 595 | \$ 735 | \$ 140 |
| Internet | \$ 831 | \$ 795 | -\$ 36 |

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2017

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | | - |
| Worship & Music | \$ 4,358 | \$ 5,300 | \$ 942 |
| Baptism | \$ - | \$ 50 | \$ 50 |
| Communion | \$ 49 | \$ 50 | \$ 1 |
| Music | \$ 1,034 | \$ 2,850 | \$ 1,816 |
| Guest Performers | | \$ 400 | \$ 400 |
| Junior Choir | | \$ 50 | \$ 50 |
| Piano and Organ Maintenance | \$ 716 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 285 |
| Senior Choir | \$ 319 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 681 |
| Licences | | \$ 400 | \$ 400 |
| Other | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Special Events | \$ 166 | \$ 300 | \$ 134 |
| Good Friday | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Pancake Breakfast | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Anniversary | \$ 88 | \$ 150 | \$ 62 |
| Thanksgiving | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Christmas | | \$ 150 | \$ 150 |
| Home Week Parade | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Child Care | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Other | \$ 79 | \$ - | -\$ 79 |
| "Christmas Carol" (See above "Music, Other") | | \$ - | \$ - |
| Worship | \$ 3,108 | \$ 2,050 | -\$ 1,058 |
| Bulletins & Supplies | \$ 1,024 | \$ 200 | -\$ 824 |
| Organist Supply | \$ 750 | \$ 625 | -\$ 125 |
| Pulpit Supply | \$ 875 | \$ 1,125 | \$ 250 |
| Sound System | \$ 10 | \$ 100 | \$ 90 |
| Worship - Other | \$ 449 | \$ - | -\$ 449 |
| Candles | \$ 52 | \$ - | -\$ 52 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 397 | \$ - | -\$ 397 |
| | | | \$ - |
| Ministerial Search/Support | | | \$ - |
| Sabbatical Relief | \$ - | \$ 2,783 | \$ 2,783 |
| | | | |
| Total Donations | \$ 175,569 | \$ 171,049 | -\$ 4,520 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 180,602 | \$ 191,501 | \$ 10,899 |
| Net Operating Position | -\$ 5,032 | -\$ 20,453 | -\$ 15,420 |