

Bells Corners United Church 2017 Annual Report



Bells Corners United Church

REJOICE, RENEW, RESPOND, REACH OUT

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Office Information Bells Corners United Church

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CDM	Lorrie Lowes	lloves@storm.ca lorrie@bcuc.org	820-8103
Music Director	Abe TeGrotenhuis	music@bcuc.org	820-8103
Office Administrators	Ellen Boynton Nancy Meyers	office@bcuc.org	820-8103

2017 CHURCH BOARD

Minister	Rev. Kim Vidal
Chair	Jordan Berard
Past Chair	Sue Morrison
Chair Elect	
Secretary	Norm Pound
Ministry & Personnel	Alex Culley
Financial Management	Bill Johnson
Members at Large	Will Wightman Ellen Boynton
Presbytery Representatives	Nicole Beaudry Desna Sulway Sue Morrison Joyce Williams
Youth Consultation	Elly Crow
Young Adult Consultation	Lorrie Lowes

Sunday Worship Services

Worship Service at 10:00 am with Youth Group, Sunday school programs and Crib Nursery.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Crib Nursery:	0, 2 year olds
Preschool:	3, 4 year olds
Beginners:	5, 6 year olds
Primary:	Grades 2, 3
Junior/Intermediate:	Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Youth Group:	Grade 9 & higher; confirmation & post-confirmation

Sacraments and Other Special Services

Communion: 4 to 5 times per year.

Baptism: Held during Sunday service. The Minister meets with the families involved and an orientation session is held.

Joining the Church: Joining the Church family is accomplished by the following methods: Transfer of Membership On profession of faith, after attendance at confirmation classes or discussion with the Minister, by, or in the case of inactive membership, by Profession of faith.

Weddings: Couples will meet with the Minister twice during the period of preparation and may attend Marriage Preparation Course offered by the Presbytery.

Celebration of Life: Families may have funerals or memorial services in the church or the Minister will conduct the service in the Funeral Home.

Pastoral & Spiritual Care: Visitation of members and friends of the church, in hospital, retirement homes and long-term care facilities or home by the Minister, CDM and Friendly Visitors.

Pastoral Counseling: The Minister and the Congregational Designated Minister may offer pastoral counseling as required.

Youth Confirmation: One of the high points in the worship life of our congregation is Confirmation Sunday, when the new members publicly confess their faith and are welcomed to the fellowship of our church. Confirmands meet to explore issues of faith and church life as background to their decision. For more info please speak to the Minister or CDM.

Scouts/Venturers: Wednesday at 6:30 pm

UP (United People): The Youth Group meets Sunday mornings and participates in monthly activities.

CHOIRS

- **Christian Generation Singers (CGS):** Kindergarten - Grade 5, Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m.
- **Bell Canto:** Grade 6 and up, Thursday - 6:40 pm
- **Choir:** Thursday - 7:10 p.m.
- **Grace Notes:** Wednesday - 9:30 a.m.
- **Men's Chorus:** Sunday mornings

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW)

Unit 1 Leader: Rotational; Meet from time to time.

Unit 2 Leader: Ellen Boynton, 828-3820 Meet the second Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m. in the homes of members.

Unit 3 Leader: Jean Watson, 829-3463 Meet the second Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m. in the homes of members.

Unit 4 Leader: Joan Hicks, 820-3276 Meet the second Monday of each month, evenings in the homes of members.

Adult Learning: A variety of groups announced throughout the year which meet to develop fellowship and biblical awareness and social concerns. This includes a weekly lectionary group, adult membership class, advent & lent studies.

Adult Dancing Spirit: Liturgical dance group meets monthly on Sunday evenings at the church.

Friendship Club: A gathering for seniors. Meets every Monday for lunch at noon and an afternoon program.

Coffee & Friends: Thursdays 9:15 - 11:15 a.m. Fall & Winter sessions are held, each eight weeks long. It offers a varied program to help you meet some new friends, learn some new skills, resolve some problems, belong to a group of caring people.

Men's Club: Meets once a month for an evening meal and guest speaker and for coffee mornings.

Book Club: Meets on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month.

Victoria's Quilts: Meet on the last Wednesday of the month in the evening and every second Monday of the month in the afternoon.

Minister's Message

Dear friends at BCUC,

What an incredible 2017 we have had together! We are eager, in many ways, to acknowledge that there has been so many blessings, visible to us in many different ways. We have lived by the famous saying that the church is the people and not the building. And even though our church building is the visible sign of our mission statement at Bells Corners and in the city of Ottawa, our hands, our hearts, our feet, our eyes, our voices, our bodies themselves are very much at work in the local and global worlds.

In 2017, I felt God's leading in the best possible ways: to close some unwanted doors, to train us in new ways, to encourage our creativity, and to open us to new possibilities for how we might live and serve each other and the our wider community. With God's blessings and inspiration, programmatic shifts that we'd envisioned took place in our church life together toward greater awareness and transparency, more robust community-building and intimacy, and deeper service to those in need. We are worshipping as one strong body, in worship styles that incorporate the wide use of our time, talents, treasures and creativity. Worship attendance has been steady all year with new babies baptized, young people confirmed, new members welcomed and new faces that come to our doors. But we also grieve the loss of some prominent leaders in the congregation such as John Burrows, former chair of the Ministry & Personnel Committee and Cynthia Watson, former chair of the Pastoral & Spiritual Care Team.

With the able leadership of the ministry team and staff, the Board, the various committees, the many volunteers and individuals who give life to this faith community, we have provided a wonderful avenue of faith formation, pastoral and spiritual care, outreach and worship to name a few. We had an exciting stewardship season, marked by greater openness and generosity according to God's hopes for us. Another motivating new program that came in place in 2017 is the interfaith connection with the Jami Omar Mosque. Thanks to the members of SOSA with the able leadership of Alison Bridgewater for organizing and planning programs and events that formed close friendships and solidarity between the two houses of worship.

Friends, over the past four years we have learned so much about each other and built so much friendship and trust. We have moved further out from our individual "silos" to the wider circle we call church family. On behalf of Ken, Justin and Jacob, I look forward to 2018 inspired by the creative, life-giving, joyful and meaningful ministry we have together in this beloved church community. Let us continue dreaming together and making those dreams come true.

"Learn from the past. Live in the present. Prepare for the future!"

Blessings and prayers,

Kim

Congregational Designated Minister

The Spirit is alive and well at Bells Corners United Church!

Just taking a walk through the pages of this annual report will show you some of the many places that the Spirit is working in our midst. This is a vibrant, healthy faith family that not only takes care of itself but spreads Christian love into the surrounding community. We can be proud of this beautiful building. It is well maintained and constantly full of life. We can also be proud of outreach efforts from Advent and Lenten projects, to food bank support, to bridge-building activities with our neighbours at the

mosque. The energy is high and our hearts are open. In the days where church attendance is dwindling and doors are being closed, BCUC is a rare jewel.

All of this is made possible by members who take their Christian commitment seriously. The work you do not only benefits the community but also builds “family” ties right here at home. In my mind, this is one of the most important roles of the church today.

If you are already working on a committee, thank you! If you haven’t yet found your niche, take a look through this report. Is there something there that piques your interest? Is there something new you’d like to try? You’ll find open ears and willing hands to help you.

Come in! Come in and sit down. You are a part of the family!

Shalom,
Lorrie

Church Board

What a year 2017 was at BCUC! We have much to be proud and grateful for as a congregation, and there are plenty of exciting new projects (and challenges) to look forward to in 2018!

The Church Board met regularly on a monthly basis throughout 2017 (except in July and August). Here is a brief overview of some of the larger projects that we focused on. For a more complete list of decisions and motions made by the Board, please consult the monthly minutes from this year’s meetings which are always available in the narthex and the Church Office.

- After a lengthy period of consultation with the congregation, the Board voted in favour of General Council’s **Remits #1-4** on behalf of the congregation. As you may recall, Remit #1 dealt with the Three Council Model, Remit #2 was about the Elimination of Transfer and Settlement, Remit #3 focused on the Office of Vocation, and Remit #4 approved Funding a New Model. These remits were also approved by a majority of the 84 voting presbyteries and 2,136 pastoral charges of the United Church. A HUGE “thank you” goes out to Nicole Beaudry for the incredible amount of time that she put into informing and educating our congregation and Board on these remits. The Board also voted on **Remit #6** (One Order of Ministry), and we await the overall results from General Council.

More information on the implementation of these remits, including changes to Regional Boundaries, can be found at this website: <http://www.united-church.ca/leadership/church-administration/remit-implementation>

- In consultation with BCUC committee Chairs and other interested parties, The Board worked on revisions to the **BCUC Handbook** in preparation for presentation and approval from the congregation at the 2018 AGM. Changes made to the Handbook reflect recommendations made by Rev. Gratton in last year’s Governance Review, clarify some of the language used to describe the current Board/Committee structure that operates at BCUC, and refocus the mandates of many of our committees and groups to better reflect the work that those committees are currently doing. Thank you to Norm Pound and Sue Morrison for leading the revision, and to all of the Committee Chairs and other proofreaders who participated and provided input.

- It was with great enthusiasm and encouragement that we watched funds allocated from the generous unencumbered **bequest** to BCUC from the estate of the late **Irene Stinson** begin to be put to excellent use in projects that both honoured Irene's memory and enhanced the life and programs of BCUC. Please see individual committee reports for a summary of how these funds were used in the past year.
- A **Special Congregational Meeting** about the **Roof** was held in September. Members of the Property Management Committee and the Board presented a summary of a recent visual assessment of the roof that was completed in July. As a result of this meeting, the PMC was given a better sense of the congregation's preferences for replacement of the roof and was able to continue their research accordingly. Strategies for fundraising were also presented from the Raise the Roof committee.
- The Board continued to work towards **improving communication** with and among committees and groups BCUC. This included collecting and circulating monthly minutes and reports from BCUC committees and groups, and inviting one or two committee representatives to provide updates at our monthly Board meetings.

Of course, these are just a few of the many activities that the Board was involved with this year and that make BCUC such an exciting place to worship! As we all know, BCUC is blessed with an excellent staff and ministry team, a long history of serving in Bells Corners, and with many active members and adherents who willingly provide resources of volunteer time and financial support to all aspects of our ministry. Again, sincere thanks to you all for another excellent year!

Jordan Berard
Chair, BCUC Board

Family Ministry

At the 2017 AGM, the congregation made an overwhelming commitment to support and experiment with new forms of family-centred worship and programming in order to attract and retain more young families to BCUC.

The decision to focus on Family Ministry was a response to feedback and information obtained through a series of roundtables, surveys and consultations undertaken by the EDGE team in 2016. It was a decision informed by the fact that our congregation needed to develop a serious and realistic solution to the reality of an aging core of donors and volunteers – that we needed to find a way of ensuring the viability of our Church Family as we continue to plan for the future.

With the congregation's permission to experiment with new forms of worship, our ministry team, committees and volunteers began the process of turning the EDGE Team's recommendation into a reality. And it has been fun to watch!

Family Ministry didn't just become an initiative, or a goal for this congregation last year – it became a mindset, a mentality that we've not only focused on, but embraced. It didn't just take the form of a few occasional events, but rather became one of the guiding forces for many of the decisions that our

committees and groups made this year. This ability and desire to focus on something to the extent that it just becomes a natural way of operating is impressive. We should be very proud of our work!

Though this list only scratches the surface, examples of Family Ministry at work at BCUC this year include:

- the art wall in the Christian Education wing that showcases our talented artists of all ages
- workshops about substance abuse and elder care
- the growing relationship between our congregation and the Jami Omar Mosque
- the purchase of an AED Defibrillator
- our custom-built Sunday school curriculum that is tailored to the needs of our young families
- pre-children's choir family dinners hosted by a variety of volunteers
- the purchase of tablets for Sunday School use
- monthly all-ages services and "Choose Your Own Adventure" Sundays
- an Embracing the Spirit grant and Presbytery-support for our Sunday Nite Lite program
- new furniture and renovations in the UP Room
- new cabinets in the Christian Education room and storage drawers in the gymnasium

All of these are examples of recent activities that demonstrate how *family* – in all senses of the word – is a central focus of our work and worship at BCUC.

A wise person once said that "Church isn't something you go to. It's a Family you belong to." Thank you for letting that thought guide our actions and decisions as a congregation – as a family – this past year!

Jordan Berard, EDGE Chair and Family Ministry Team Member



Worship/Christian Education Committee

Our purpose is to promote group participation in spiritual activities and meaningful worship; to develop knowledge of God, to provide instruction in the Christian faith and to promote participation in programs for spiritual growth and Christian living.

The worship part of the activity relates to regular Sunday worship, special seasonal and other services of worship and prayer.

Our regular Sunday morning services are held at 10am each week. This is a very special and meaningful time thanks to the capable and talented team leading us in the spoken word and music.

Rev. Kim, our most organized and competent ordained minister teaches us new understandings of the scriptures and makes them relevant. She enables us to think in progressive ways to keep up with today's challenges and she gives us comfort and hope to cope in our daily lives.

Lorrie Lowes, our able and talented congregational designated minister, assists in the service and leads the 'Time for the Young at Heart' which is meaningful not only for the children, but also for the whole congregation. Lorrie, assisted by Erin Berard, has again written the Sunday School curriculum for BCUC which is much appreciated.

Abe TeGrotenhuis, our multitalented music director, inspires us with his ability on the organ, piano or whatever instrument he plays, plus his directing of our super choirs. Erin Berard, the very capable flautist, musician and junior choir director plays a key role in our music as do Sandra Dean, guest organist and pianist, Leslie Wade violinist, plus the members of the 'band'.

Some highlights, besides our regular Sunday morning services which are for me highlights in themselves, included:

1. January 28 – dedication of forty pew cushions which were well received and now well used.
2. February 12 - Hymn Sing Sunday of peoples' favourites.
3. February 26 – Intergenerational service – 'A Celebration of Light' with 8th generation story teller, Jackie Dutoit.
4. April 16 – Easter service with Wendy Morrell and her liturgical group 'Movements' to Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" with Easter Words.
5. May 7 – Anniversary Sunday and the confirmation of nine (9) young people with an inspiring choir concert in the evening.
6. June 18 – Aboriginal Sunday with guest speaker, Jolene Saulis Dione.
7. October 29 - Homecoming Sunday with special music and 'band'.
8. November 5 – Veterans attending the Remembrance Day service lead in by the skirl of Denis Watson's bagpipes.
9. November 19 – *Rendez-Vous 2017* – youth and adults who had attended the event at Concordia lead the service. The music and info through videos much appreciated.
10. December 10 – Choir concert Sunday – Most uplifting!
11. December 24 – the pageant written by Lorrie, who, along with Nicole Beaudry, had lead roles accompanied by a wonderful cast of 'stars' from the Sunday School.
12. December 31 – Joint service with Glen Cairn United Church at BCUC.

The Christian Education portion of this committee plans, organizes, coordinates and promotes the education program of the congregation, activities such as Sunday School, confirmation classes, support for the UP (United People) youth group, midweek and other study groups, workshops dealing with specific issues, maintains education resources such as libraries of books, videos, CD's, DVD's, etc., to be used by the congregation.

We are fortunate to have an active Youth Group, led by Kim and Alex Culley, who meet each Sunday from September to June for study and discussion, as well as enabling numerous activities for fun and outreach throughout the year. Participating in *Rendez-Vous 2017* in August was especially memorable.

Some of this year's highlights included:

1. February 3-5 – Confirmation preparation weekend with Rev. Kim, Lorrie, confirmands and mentors.
2. February 26 – Family Celebration in the gym with story teller, Jackie Dutoit.
3. Mid-march (winter break) Karen Morrison and Arcadie Gagne joined Navan United Church for a Mission Exposure Trip to Nicaragua.
4. July 24-28 Camp Awesome at which our employed Summer Student, Elly Crow, assisted Tamara Glanville. Elly also helped with Sunday School each Sunday during July and August.
5. August 16-19 – *Rendez-Vous 2017* youth gathering with youth and adults from BCUC attending.
6. November 27 – Advent study began on Gretta Vosper's book, "With or Without God". The first four chapters of stimulating discussion lead by Rev. Kim had a total of twenty-six participants. The last three chapters are to be studied during Lent 2018.

The Worship/CE Committee is made up of a remarkable and dedicated group of people. They are: Rev. Kim, Lorrie Lowes, Abe TeGrotenhuis, Ellen Boynton (secretary), Erin Berard, Kim Culley, Tamara Glanville, Ian Howes, Eithne Barker, Sue Morrison.

A heartfelt vote of thanks goes to them and to so many who make this place at BCUC so special and vital in our community. An extra thank you goes to our efficient office administrators, Nancy Meyers and Ellen Boynton, who keep our activities running in an orderly manner. Thank you! Thank you!

David Donaldson

Music Director

Another special year in music it has been!

- The BCUC Choir prepared many anthems to lead worship most Sundays and had fun doing it
- The Grace Notes (the new name for the Women's choir) led worship about once per month and sang for Friendship group on April 10th and Extencicare Medex on May 31st
- Both choirs welcomed new members this year!
- The Men's Chorus sang in service Feb 12th, June 18th & Dec 17th
- Memorial hymn service was held in February with participation from all groups
- "Gathering music" now also takes favourite hymn requests about once a month
- May 7th "3 Cheers" concert featured all our choirs and special guests Hazel Smith, Trio Vino featuring Hana Dureckova and Erin, Lowes & Bram! About \$800 went to General and A/V funds
- Thank you Sandra Dean and Erin Berard for providing music leadership during summer break.
- Thank you for special summer music from: George, Susan Katrina & Heidi, Jane & Bernice, Eithne & Charles, Erin & Leslie C, Keith, Vernon, Ellen, Bernice & Jane, Ian, Leslie W. & Sarah
- The Homecoming service returned again October 29th. Thanks to the "band": Kim, Erin, Phoenix, Raven, Wendy & Will
- We were very sad to have to say good-bye to our accompanist and friend Cynthia Watson.
- Denis played his bagpipes at a difficult time for Remembrance service on Nov 5th
- Our new "Rendez-Vous" worship team led service for the first time on Nov 17th to share the music and energy of the Rendez-Vous youth conference we attended in Montreal in August. This team is meeting regularly before choir practices every Thursday to prepare for All-Ages services.
- Sandra Dean led Christmas carolling along with David Donaldson before services in Advent
- Dec 10th concert featured all our choirs, Erin, Arcadie, Phoenix, Raven and Staff. Over \$1200 was raised for Hein House, Ruddy Shenkman Hospice Advent project
- Sandra Dean, Erin, Leslie, a combined choir with Glen Cairn and the Rendez-Vous team participated in our Joint New Year's Eve (Dec 31st) service at BCUC
- A/V updates: A separate sound system, not dependent on the sanctuary is now operating in the main hall while full range speakers were installed in the sanctuary to improve sound there
- Thanks to the Howes, the Boynton's and the Brew Table for hosting choir parties 😊

Thanks to so many of you for sharing your talents and enthusiastic Spirit with BCUC:

All in the Choir, Grace Notes, Men's Chorus, Rendez-Vous band, Bell Canto & CGS. Erin particularly for all her volunteer work with the children's choirs. Sandra for happily playing the organ. Leslie, Erin, Wendy for violin, flute, drum and dance. Marion for continuing to accompany the Grace Notes. A very supportive ministry team with musical gifts, A/V operators and yes, the water glass folks too!
...and the entire congregation for your joyful participation and support of our efforts.

2018 plans include ~ more music and community connections ~ improvements to our projection abilities
~ Pipe organ updates via digital technology

Musically submitted, Abe TeGrotenhuis, Bells Corners United Music

Music for Children and Youth

We are blessed to have many dedicated young singers and instrumentalists at BCUC! The Christian Generation Singers (CGS) for JK-Gr.4 and the Bell Canto Singers for Gr. 5 and up participated in short, but busy rehearsals Thursday evenings from 6:00-6:40 (CGS) and 6:40-7:30 (Bell Canto) from January through the end of May. Each group sang in the Worship 1-2 times per month throughout the Epiphany, Lent, and Easter seasons and sang in the May concert. We enjoyed opportunities to socialize at a fun Valentine's Day party, as well as an end of the choir year with a pasta party and games at the church for the choristers and their families.

In the Fall, both the CGS and Bell Canto groups continued regular Thursday evening rehearsals. The CGS consisted of nine members, and we were pleased to double the size of the Bell Canto group to six members. Each group contributed to worship service biweekly, and came together for special joint pieces on All-Age services. We enjoyed a dress-up Halloween party in October. The CGS and Bell Canto Singers shared their talents at the Christmas Concert as well, performing individual and combined choir numbers.

Under Abe's direction, the youth and other instrumentalists, particularly those who attended *Rendez-Vous 2017* in Montreal, began meeting regularly before the Bell Canto rehearsal in the Fall of 2017 to learn and review music from that event and other worship songs not included in our hymn books. They shared their talents at All-Ages Services.

Thursday night choir dinner continues to be an asset to many families, nourishing body and soul with delicious meals and great conversation! A child-friendly meal is brought in and a free-will donation is collected from participants each week. Members of the congregation were encouraged to provide a meal and share in the fellowship with the families, and we are grateful many have taken up the opportunity. Thank you to Monica Peck and other volunteers who make this family ministry initiative happen.

I am thankful for the dedicated young people that make up our choirs, and all those who support us through rides to rehearsal and services, financial donations, instrumental accompaniment, and encouragement.

Respectfully submitted, Erin Berard

Grace Notes

Grace Notes is a group of approximately 18 women under the direction of Abe TeGrotenhuis. We sing once monthly at the Sunday Worship Service and practice at 9:30 on Wednesday mornings in the choir room. Several times a year we have extra commitments where we sing at various seniors' residences or for other groups who invite us. We usually sing a combination of spiritual and secular tunes. Recently we have had the privilege of singing for the "Friendship Club" here at the church. We also enjoy being included in the music concerts at BCUC.

We are grateful to have Marion Routledge as our accompanist. Although she has battled illnesses and injuries, we are thrilled to have her back at our piano. Although our primary mission is that of service, we enjoy socializing after our practices, either in the choir room over coffee and snacks, or at the local McDonald's.

We have plenty of room for more singers, so if there are women who would be interested in joining us, please email Abe music@bcuc.org or call the church office.

Faithfully, Sheryll Highstead

The BCUC Choir

As always we have changes in choir membership. This past fall we welcomed the return of Leslie Wade and the arrival of Ruth MacKenzie and Sheryll Highstead who decided to become part of our choir as well as singing with Grace Notes. Lorrie Lowes decided to sing with us as well, all welcome additions! But we had to say goodbye to Jane Nimmock as she returned to Sudbury in pursuit of work and in October we sang at the Memorial Service for Cynthia Watson whose wonderful musical talent had supported our choir over many years. We are often asked to sing at funerals/memorials and are pleased to offer this source of comfort for grieving families.

We continued to sing three Sundays a month as well as participating in a May 7 'Canada 150' Celebration Concert '3 Cheers!' along with guests Trio Vino. Revenues were directed to the AV & Operating Funds. Again at Christmas time we participated in the December 10 Music of Christmas Concert when more than \$1,200 was raised to support the Advent Project of funding a room at Hein House, Ruddy Shenkman Hospice, Kanata.

Our usual summer and winter choir parties were enjoyed by choir members and spouses. We gather at member's homes for a potluck and time to get to know one another better while sharing a meal and fun together.

We continue to enjoy Abe's talented and capable musical direction. Now in his third year, we are prepared for whatever new idea he might wish to try out on the congregation with us in a supporting role. Erin Berard and Leslie Wade deserve a 'note' of thanks for their addition of flute and violin so willingly and capably provided. We also enjoy the piano and organ support happily provided by Sandra Dean. BCUC is blessed with a wealth of musical talent for which we are most grateful.

Ellen Boynton

Service, Outreach and Social Action Committee (SOSA)

Purpose: to promote the work and needs of the Mission and Service fund: to coordinate and participate in programs that proclaim the mission of the Church through service and outreach: and to strive to inform the congregation on issues of human rights, social justice and care of God's creation occurring locally, nationally and internationally.

In support of this purpose the SOSA committee:

- publicizes the work of the Mission and Service Fund on a regular basis and takes action on any appeals issued by the national church for money or action;
- keeps informed on local community needs and plans, coordinates and participates in local outreach programs through designated resource people on the committee;
- publicizes and supports human rights, social justice and care of God's creation events and workshops held in the community;
- presents all three aspects to the congregation through regular Minutes for Mission, the *BellRinger*, the SOSA noticeboard, on the TV at church and Sunday bulletin announcements.

In 2018 the SOSA committee recommends continued financial support for the following outreach ministries:

Ottawa West End Community Chaplaincy (O.W.E.C.C.): August 2017 marked the first anniversary of the rebirth of OWECC. The chaplaincy under the leadership of Steve Zink has been offering three main programs: a study cum support group at Regina Towers, a martial arts program for youth in different locations and individual pastoral counselling. In addition Steve conducts special services in response to requests (e.g. a Blue Christmas service). Steve is also a part time Baptist minister so he can only offer the equivalent of two days a week to the Chaplaincy. However, in 2018 the board hopes to expand some programs with the help of volunteers. **Peggy Aitchison**

Refuge N.O.W.: Our refugee family from Syria arrived in Canada in November, 2016 and the formal sponsorship has just ended. During this time members of the committee took the family to get the documents they needed, registered the children for school and linked the family up with health care and financial resources. A lot of time was spent on financial management. Over the summer committee members involved the children in some recreational activities.

The parents have experienced difficulties over the year, and it is hoped that these will be resolved. Communication has been a problem, as their English continues to be very limited, but a new member of the committee, who can speak Arabic, has provided invaluable help. The children have done very well, learning English rapidly and adapting to school, even when they had to change schools because their first school was closed. A new baby is expected by this family very soon, and we wish them well, and will keep in touch even though the official sponsorship has ended. We are looking forward to our next sponsorship. **Bridget McNeill**

Multi-faith Housing Initiative (MHI): The mission of MHI is to help people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness by providing and promoting well maintained, affordable, rental housing in a safe neighbourly environment. Currently MHI owns and provides affordable and supportive housing for 41 low income families in Blake House, Kent House, and Somerset Gardens. There is full occupancy and a waiting list for the 98 units at The Haven, which houses over 350 tenants. MHI is partnering with other agencies to build 40 supportive housing units on the former Rockcliffe Air base for homeless Veterans. Construction is expected to begin in 2018. Funding campaigns will continue to support this project, as well as maintain the existing units. In 2017, 73 faith communities and faith-based organizations paid an annual fee of \$100 to be principal members of MHI. Bells Corners United Church is one of those members as well as additional financial support of \$3000 through SOSA's 2017 budget. Ottawa Presbytery surpassed its goal of raising \$100,000 towards MHI's goal of \$1,000,000 capital campaign. From SOSA's budget, \$500 was donated to the Presbytery campaign. Presbytery hoped to double the number of United Church congregations who are members of MHI from 10 to 20. There are currently 24 United Church members of MHI. The MHI Annual General Meeting was held on March 26, 2017 at Barrhaven United Church with Councilor Jan Harder as guest speaker. As a member of MHI, BCUC is entitled to a vote on any proceedings. This event was attended by four of our SOSA members. Updates were given on The Haven and Veterans House. The Tulipathon, an annual walk to fundraise for MHI was held on May 7, 2017 which conflicted with other events taking place at BCUC. However, a group of SOSA participants and friends did the walk in Andrew Haydon Park and raised \$1,385 from pledges for MHI.

MHI hosted their Annual Housing Day celebration at Ottawa City hall on November 19, 2017. Dr. Lindy Samson, Chief of Staff and Chief Medical Officer at CHEO, spoke about the importance of affordable housing for health and well-being and the role non-profits, such as MHI, play in helping this need. As individuals, we too can contribute to helping MHI accomplish its mission. Donations may be sent to Multi-faith Housing Initiative, 209-404 McArthur Ave., Ottawa, K1K 1G8, or by donating online at www.multifaithhousing.ca There is always a need for volunteers. More information can be found on the website. **Barbara Bole Stafford**

FAMSAC – Family Services Association of Churches: 2017 was another challenging year for FAMSAC. Having just settled and organized in a storefront location, we were compelled to move into another unit. We are now located in unit #8, 2006 Robertson Road. There were no water facilities so we had to install a bathroom and sink at a reasonable cost and with the help of many volunteers we established ourselves.

FAMSAC supplied 880 food orders during the year, and distributed 220 Christmas hampers. The clients adjusted readily to our new venue and now come to the storefront to pick up the food orders and appreciate being able to choose the food items. Since this new system was initiated we have been able to provide fresh produce and dairy products. Deliveries are made to clients who are unable to get transportation to our site. Due to the generosity of individuals, businesses, clubs, churches etc. we are in a stable financial position. Donations amounted to over \$20,000 from these various organizations. The OC Transpo project provided an abundant supply of food items, plus \$1400 in cash. Many schools in the area had food drives, which has also helped to stock our shelves. FAMSAC is currently in a healthy situation both financially and with food supplies.

Since a social media presence has been developed for FAMSAC, volunteers are coming forward more readily. Of course we welcome anyone who offers assistance. Thanks to everyone who helps with this local mission. With your dedication and hard work FAMSAC is able to fulfil its mandate, to provide food to many needy families in our community. **Glenna Jackson**

Interfaith Bridge Building: In March 2017 a new initiative between Jami Omar Mosque and BCUC was started with the purpose of reaching out to our neighbours and developing an understanding of each group and forming friendships. BCUC and Jami Omar have had a history together when BCUC permitted members of the mosque to use our facility for prayers whilst the mosque was being built. More recently the Imams and members of the mosque have participated in our Christmas Eve service. The new group intend to have joint meetings three times per year. We had a very successful potluck supper in July at BCUC with almost 100 in attendance (50 from BCUC and 50 from the mosque). This was followed by an educational event entitled Substance Abuse in Youth with Dr Ferrukh Faruqui, a medical doctor, and Dr Andra Smith as guest speakers. This was followed by presentations by Rev Kim Vidal and Imam Owais Tilly on Family Values in each religion. In 2018 we will start with an educational event possibly about pilgrimages in the Christian faith and in Islam. We plan to have the potluck dinner become an annual event and will round out the year with another educational event.

Alison Bridgewater

Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team

At BCUC, we are blessed to have dedicated members of our Pastoral & Spiritual Care Team composed of: Ronalie Abbey, DeeAnn Champagne-Vaughan, Suzanne Ogden and Bill Wilson who work in partnership with our ministers, Rev. Kim Vidal and Lorrie Lowes. The team's main purpose is to coordinate and offer pastoral care visitation to members and adherents of the congregation. Along with designated friendly visitors, the team encourages and supports home, hospital, and retirement/nursing facilities visitations, while providing a nurturing environment for both the visiting volunteers and those being visited. Here are some of the highlights of our team's accomplishments in 2017:

FRIENDLY VISITORS

In addition to the members of the team, visits are made by friendly visitors (this includes members of the Men's Club, UCW and other volunteers) within our circle of care to those living at home, in long-term care facilities, or retirement homes.

PASTORAL CARE TRAINING

Barbara Bole, DeeAnn Champagne-Vaughan and Nancy Meyers took the advanced pastoral care training course offered by the Ottawa Pastoral Care Training last fall.

PRAYER CHALICE/ PRAYER CIRCLE

Every Sunday, the congregation is encouraged to submit prayer requests as an avenue of extending prayer and support to those who are in need of healing. Our ministers, with members of our team, respond with prayer to those requests in a Prayer Circle held (at each pastoral care team meeting or the last Wednesday of the month.)

HOSPITAL VISITS

The Ministers, with the assistance of some trained members of our team, offer visits to those in hospitals.

SENDING OF CARDS

Get well, sympathy, milestone celebrations and personal thought cards are sent by a sub-team composed of Ronalie Abbey, Pat Stoate and Judy Mann as the need arises.

LEARNING EVENT

On October 26, our team, together with the UCW, hosted a learning event intended for caregivers and vulnerable seniors on the topic of overcoming isolation. We were delighted to have Megan Richards from the Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre come and offer a comprehensive slide show presentation underlining the many factors that can contribute to loneliness and isolation among seniors with thoughtful, practical tips on how to prevent this and offer support to each other. There was a free-will offering with proceeds divided between the UCW and roof fund with a charitable donation given to WOCRC and thank you gift to Megan.

TEA AND SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOPE

On December 13, members from our congregation and from the wider community joined the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team to have tea and conversation in the Main Hall. Those who attended had an opportunity to listen to encouraging, comforting words of hope from our guest speaker, Judith Campbell, and experience first-hand meditative techniques designed to promote self-care and healing through connecting with memories and nature. This was followed by a service of Hope and Healing in the Music Room. Additionally, there was an opportunity to walk the candle-lit labyrinth. An honorarium was given to Judith, acknowledging our thanks for providing comfort and care to all of us who are experiencing grief or loss during the holiday season.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team would like to remind everyone to please phone the office, or contact Rev. Kim or Lorrie if you know of anyone who is in need of a pastoral visit or phone call. We would like to thank Ellen Boynton and Nancy Meyers for their supportive role in relaying important, sensitive information in a confidential manner to the appropriate person for follow up. We really count on and appreciate everyone's input. We rely on so many in our congregation to help our team out. Over the years we have seen members come and go and are most grateful for the time and talent each one brings; do consider joining us if you are moved by the spirit and called to do so.

Our continued thanks go to Rev. Kim and to our CDM, Lorrie Lowes, for their boundless devotion in faithfully tending to the flock while also providing this team with such caring support.

Suzanne Ogden, Chair of the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Team

Membership

2017 Statistics	Baptisms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baptisms 3 • Marriages 2 • Funerals/Memorial Services 9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easton John, son of Edmund Cairns & Kristy Murray • Rae Lyn Gardiner, daughter of Nicholas Fox & Lyndsay Gardiner • Griffin-Daniel Alfred, son of Jennifer Bell

Marriages

- Kaitlyn Doxtater & Scott Price – May 2017
- Lyndsay Scharf & Gary Huhtanen – September 2017

Died in 2017 – BCUC Members	Died in 2017 – BCUC Adherents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doris Lawton • Janie MacDonald • Cynthia Watson • Lois Saunders • Claire Cummings • John Burrows • Roberta Hudson • Helen Webster • Jean Jenkyns • Bruce Williams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Les Griffith • Betty Switzer • Norman Walls

BCUC Friends (Funerals for non-members)

- Hubert Burrill – February 18, 2017
- Bertie Coombs – August 5, 2017
- Laura Gillett – November 30, 2017

Memorial Gift Donations

Janie MacDonald Jean Jenkyns Carol Dawson Gwen Dillenbeck Frank Ault Les Griffith Roberta Hudson	Bertie Coombs John Burrows Claire Cummings Lois Saunders Cynthia Watson Tom, Ruth & David Crocker Joyce & Gordon Scott
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“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” John 14.27

Property Management Committee

During 2017, several projects were undertaken by the Property Management Committee in addition to the regular activities such as overseeing the cleaning contract, paying utility bills, maintaining the grounds and infrastructure and performing minor repairs.

The most important project was preparing for a new roof. This involved hiring a consultant to assess the status of the current roof and predict its useful life. Following that, a report was prepared that outlined the various options with their costs. This report will be presented to the congregation early in 2018 for their decision about proceeding with re-roofing projected for the summer of 2018.

The original gym cupboards were in very poor condition and were completely replaced along with the baseboards. Each storage unit now has a pull-out bin on wheels that makes loading and unloading much easier. The committee worked with the UP Group to upgrade their meeting room. Paint was provided to them and the existing useful furniture was moved; the rest was sent for disposal.

The CE Office was cleaned up and the existing cupboards were replaced by IKEA units. It is now a useful meeting room.

With the financial assistance of the UCW, a cardiac defibrillator was installed and training was given to some members of the staff and congregation.

Equipment for improved building security has been purchased but installation has been delayed into 2018.

Ross Brown/Neville Reed, Co-Chairs Property Management

Ministry and Personnel Committee

During 2017 the composition of the Ministry and Personnel Committee was: Alex Culley, James Eaton Lyn Hall and John MacFarlane. Alex performed duties of Chair, James the finances, Lyn was secretary and John coordinator of reviews from January to June 2017.

Abe TeGrotenhuis completed his second full year as Director of Music and continues to exceed expectations with great reviews. Sandra Dean also filled in several times during the summer and provided Sunday music.

Rev Kim Vidal, advanced a level in her career progression, Lorrie continued taking courses and both were very much appreciated by the Church community. Support from the office staff, Nancy and Ellen, was again vital to the functioning of many great activities and routine administration.

In late October, M&P conducted annual reviews with the staff. The main finding was that once again Kim, Lorrie, Abe, Ellen and Nancy, the five employees, were working well together as a team. In addition to these formal reviews, M&P staff regularly interacted with staff to identify successes and challenges.

During 2017, replacements for Rev. Kim Vidal (vacation and study leave) were Lorrie Lowes and Rev. Angela Bailey.

Alex Culley
Chair, Ministry and Personnel

Men's Club

The Men's Club is a group operating within the bounds of Bells Corners United Church with the intent of promoting fellowship among the men of the church by providing an opportunity to get to know each other on an informal basis. Monthly activities consist of either morning coffee time, a dinner with a topical speaker, or a planned outing. The group is managed by an executive, which consists of David Stafford (President), Dale Jarvis (Past-President), Bob Noyes (Secretary-Treasurer), Ron Knox (Program), Bob Boynton (Technology), Jim Maxwell and David Beard (Communications), and Ross Mutton (Dinners). The group is self-sufficient with no financial encumbrance to BCUC.

During 2017, the Men's Club held several morning coffee spots with an average twenty people attending. Dinners, prepared by chef Ross Mutton, were held January 17 with Jim Oban of the Ottawa Heart Institute; March 8 with Navan Parekh, Canugan Support Devices; May 16 with Constable Williams of the Ottawa Police Services; September 26 with Doug Smith former NHL player and motivational speaker; and November 28 with John MacFarlane, DND Historian.

During the year, Ross Mutton, Chef Supreme of the Men's' Club Dinners called it a day by indicating that his availability would be on an ad hoc basis

A financial report shows revenue from ticket sales of \$1,495 and total expenses of \$1,212.36, which includes costs of food, speaker appreciation (usually a \$50 Chapters card); bank expenses of \$23.40; a donation of \$200 to the BCUC Memorial Endowment Fund. The Club bank balance at year end (2017) was approximately \$1,647.01.

A Survey conducted during the fall of 2017 indicated members were quite happy with the current format of coffee time once a month and occasional dinners. Members are not averse to dinners out or day trips; however, unanimity against overnight trips was firm. Planning for 2018 is underway with monthly coffee dates.

If anyone has questions or concerns, please contact David Stafford in person at 613-592-0296 or at davidstafford@sympatico.ca

Respectfully submitted, David Stafford, President

Communications

Since springing to life again in 2016, our team of congregants continue to update and improve BCUC's various communication tasks. We are enjoying the challenge of prioritizing goals for BCUC in this area. We are looking forward to maintaining momentum in the year ahead!

Within BCUC

The Communications Committee has extended the use of the TV monitors in the foyer. Office staff are now updating the monitor used to advertise Church programs. The second monitor shows photos of Church life and/or nature submitted by various congregants.

We continue to rework the bulletin boards in the foyer. The goal is to have a more modern appearance. Communications Centre is now affixed to the wall permanently outside the office. Plans are underway to replace the second shelving unit with a wall-mounted display.

We have designed a template for weekly information emails, which will be implemented in early 2018. Two large banners were purchased for the exterior of the building, to promote recurring Church events. To further acknowledge the talented congregants of BCUC, an Art Wall has been put in place. Congregants young and old are encouraged to share their art with others there.

The Communications Committee also covered the expense of office supplies as requested by the office staff.

In the Community

Much work was done in the updating of the Church website. A professional website designer, congregant Connie Davidson, joined the Communications Committee and has designed a much improved new website for BCUC. The website will be launched at the AGM in March 2018.

An updated information brochure was handed out to visitors to the BCUC Bazaar, which included information about BCUC programming.

Olly Chuchryk, Chair

Finance

The Financial Management Committee (FMC) is responsible for the management of the Church's finances on behalf of the Church Board in accordance with the overall objectives of the Congregation.

The major activities consist of:

- managing the annual financial planning and implementation cycle by preparing an annual general budget including forecasts of expenses and revenues for approval by the Board and Congregation;
- tracking, recording and safeguarding the financial transactions (income and expenses) throughout the year for the operating, committee directed and capital funds;
- organizing and presenting monthly reports to the Church Board;
- issuing tax receipts for donations; managing banking services; initiating the annual financial audit; preparing the annual charity tax return and coordinating with stewardship campaigns.

Tracking and recording the multitude of BCUC financial transactions involves many volunteers backed up by a professional bookkeeper (Carolyn Whitley) who keeps a computerized record in the Sage 50 system that is vital to an effective year-end audit review. The key volunteer roles include the Sunday tellers (organized by Bob and Barb Noyes); the event treasurers (example Mary Jones and Betty Graham for the Christmas Bazaar), the Directed Fund Coordinator (Bob Boynton), the envelope secretary (Karen Morrison who keeps track of all donations for tax receipt purposes using Church Watch), the PAR Coordinators (Gail and Ross Mutton), the Securities Coordinator (Brian Durno) and the Gift Certificate Program Coordinator (Alan Bentley).

The overall 2017 financial results for BCUC remained strong as indicated in this brief summary of the actual revenues and expenses by major fund categories compared to the budget plan for 2017 (unaudited):

	<u>Summary Actual 2017</u>		<u>Budget Plan 2017</u>	
	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Operating Fund (*) (**) (pre-audit)	\$ 408,126	\$414,404	\$ 405,700	\$ 413,850
Building Maintenance & Repair (+)	\$ 6,200	\$ -1,533	n/a	n/a
Committee Directed Funds (#)	\$ 40,860	\$ -26,27	n/a	n/a
Capital Directed Funds (##)	\$ 29,528	\$ -1,951	n/a	n/a

(*) Operating expenses include \$41,000 allocated to M&S; there were additional donations to M&S in 2015 from a Committee Directed SOSA Flo-thru Fund and from the UCW directly.

(**) Operating Fund had a small deficit in 2016 (unaudited estimate = \$-8,497).

(†) Building Mtc. & Repair Fund revenues include dividends from investments (\$1,316) and donations (\$3,500); the balance in the Fund on December 31, 2016 was \$11,442.

(#) Committee Directed Funds: for details, see report "Status of Directed Funds as of 2016/12/31".

(##) Capital Directed Funds: for details, see report "Status of Directed Funds as of 2016/12/31".

The Gift Certificate program produced a surplus of \$3,273. The BCUC fund raising events (Spring Garage Sale, Christmas Bazaar and other events) brought in a total of \$23,465. Rental income and fees amounted to \$47,243 from all sources.

The securities held for the Operating Fund were valued at \$40,523 on November 30, 2016. The dividends earned (\$1,888.25) go toward funding the annual Moodie Scholarship (\$200), the Building Mtc & Repair Fund (\$1,316) and securities held on behalf of the Roof Fund (\$270).

The Auditors Report for the year ending December 31, 2016 is a separate report that will be released together with the 2017 budget documents on February 26, 2017 (one week prior to the AGM).

I thank the many volunteers who supported the Financial Management Committee with their dedication of time and hard work, and the Congregation for its continuing strong financial support of BCUC's activities and programs.

Bill Johnson, Chair Financial Management

Garage Sale

Again this year the May 13 Garage Sale was well supported and realized a profit of \$4,860 for the Operating Fund. The usual sales areas were provided with almost all coordinators returning for the sale. Experienced people, assisted by newer congregation members, enable sales areas to run smoothly. Having as many newer members involved as possible gives them a chance to become known to the BCUC family. Encouraging younger congregation members to help with the children's toys sales area is a good way to engage youth.

Having 'UP youth' group provide a BBQ and drinks area adds significantly to the day's pleasure. Kim's spring rolls are also a very popular addition! Youth fundraising goes to their projects. Kim's spring rolls profits were directed to the August *Rendez-Vous 2017* event in Montreal.

Leftovers mostly go to Salvation Army. Books are always a challenge but several destinations have been found for the many remaining boxes of books and it all works out in the end.

Many people work together to prepare for, provide and clear up the garage sale. With so much cooperation the job of being coordinators is not overwhelming. It is a good day to open the doors to the community and to share fellowship among members of the congregation.

Bob & Ellen Boynton, Coordinators

Christmas Bazaar

The CBC manages and coordinates BCUC's annual Christmas Bazaar in the best interests of the Congregation and in keeping with the overall objectives of the Church. Each year, the Financial Management Committee identifies in the budget (line item) a dollar amount that the Christmas Bazaar is expected to achieve. This number is based on receipts over the past 10 years. This year the Christmas Bazaar made a profit of \$12,789.

In 2017, the CBC managed and coordinated BCUC's annual Christmas Bazaar, including:

- identification of table coordinators and financial officer
- liaised with the Church office for coordination of advertising and other work and issues as they arose in preparation for the Bazaar
- coordinated the set-up of the Bazaar two days prior to the Bazaar date.
- arranged for disposal of leftover goods.
- arranged for decoration of the Church for the holiday season and took down the decorations in the new year.

Committee Chairs for 2017: Mary Jones, Betty Graham

Presbytery

Ottawa Presbytery had a busy year under the guidance of Phyllis MacRae until the summer and the Rev. Steve Clifton since then. Their commitment and dedication is a fine example for us all.

The proposed restructuring of the UCC has again been at the forefront of the business this year.

Meetings were held at Woodroffe, Knox, MacKay, St. Paul's Richmond and St. Paul's Eastern United Churches in the first part of the year and Rideau Park, Orleans, Woodroffe and Emmanuel United Churches in the second half of 2017.

The Montreal and Ottawa Conference held its AGM at Wyman Memorial Church in Hudson PQ on May 27th 2017. This year again the proceedings of the conference were made available by video link to other sites. City View UC was chosen as one of these sites and Rev. Kim Vidal, Nicole Beaudry, Sue Morrison and Joyce Williams attended the proceedings at this Ottawa location. It was a very informal atmosphere centered around the theme of "Journey of Hope". Unfortunately this year there were many technical difficulties, and the linkup did not go smoothly, especially with the voting procedure, which led to a less than satisfactory experience.

The eight remits from the 42nd General Council have been studied in detail and workshops were held to enable the members of Ottawa Presbytery to make an informed vote. Nicole Beaudry made an excellent brochure which clearly explained what the remits were all about for our own Church Board and congregation. A vote on all of the eight remits has now been completed by Ottawa Presbytery and remits 1-5 and 7-8 have all been passed. Remit 6 (One order of Ministry) was NOT approved by the vote taken at the December 12th 2017 meeting. The results of the nationwide vote on ALL of the remits is still to be reported. However it is noted that with the passing of Remit 1 (Three council model) and Remit 2 (New Financial model) significant change in the United Church is certain, with January 1st 2019 as its official start. Ottawa Presbytery, in its present structure, will cease to exist on December 31st 2018. Nicole Beaudry has been appointed as one of the nine commissioners to the UCC Boundary Commission and this committee is hard at work on proposals for the new Regional Boundaries across the country. A workshop on the proposed regional boundaries was held on October 14th and input from this meeting was part of a submission from Presbytery to the Boundaries Commission. This was presented to one of the commissioners on November 9th in Montreal. At the November 14th meeting of Presbytery a decided preference for an Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region was confirmed.

The Capital Campaign for Multifaith Housing for the Haven project in Barrhaven was completed during 2017. The goal of \$100 K was exceeded and the 98 unit housing complex is now occupied.

After the successful visit to Zambia of Hazel and Doyle Smith in 2016, another trip to Zambia in Spring 2018 is in the planning stage. Lorrie Lowes (BCUC) will be one of the participants along with Hazel and Doyle and they will visit places including the Chipembi Girl's school and the local United Church of Zambia congregation.

Continuing support of the efforts at reconciliation with the Indigenous people of Canada has been seen at the Presbytery level in the active participation in events and workshops by Kairos. A call and petition in 2016 to the Ontario government for an increase to the minimum wage contributed to this being implemented to begin January 1st 2018.

On October 18th there was the triennial visit of three representatives of the Presbytery Pastoral Care and Oversight team to BCUC. They met with the Rev. Kim, then members of the Board and the congregation to hear of our activities, concerns and future plans. A favorable report to the state of BCUC was received.

The year at Presbytery ended on a positive note and we look forward to the new plans for reconstruction of our Presbytery and Montreal and Ottawa Conference within the UCC and a regeneration of faith.

Respectively submitted on behalf of the other Presbytery Reps. Sue Morrison (Pastoral Care and Oversight team), Nicole Beaudry (Ministries in French team), Desna Sulway (Church in Society team) and Joyce Williams (Global Partners team).

On behalf of all Presbytery Reps., submitted by Joyce Williams

UCW (United Church Women)

The UCW year runs from May 15 to May 14 which is convenient for elections and programme planning. We have four units, one of which meets in the afternoon. Each member pays dues, an amount chosen by their own conscience, which are submitted to our treasurer and spent on our annual list of charities and church/kitchen requests and needs.

The UCW calendar is very similar year over year. January we make turkey pies to sell to the congregation (usually about 750). Orders are taken for two Sundays before the three days of pie making. January is also kitchen clean-up when inventory is taken and items replaced. February all units meet together and have a common speaker. We participate in the Spring Garage Sale in May. We bake the cakes/tea biscuits and provide staff for the kitchen for the annual Strawberry Social in June. We helped staff and prepare the desserts for the fall Asian Dinner, usually in September, prepared by our minister Kim Vidal and her family.

In October/November the units each bake their contributions for the mid November Christmas Bazaar. In October we make turkey pies to sell at the Fair (about 230). Gift baskets are prepared, wrapped and priced on the Friday before the Bazaar. On Remembrance Sunday we host a Veteran's Breakfast for 35-40 Vets and their families.

2017 saw us host a birthday party for a special congregant off site. It was fitting recognition for all that this person has given to BCUC.

Each of the four units has their own activity to raise money and the recipient of these monies is a unit group decision which has nothing to do with UCW as a whole or with BCUC. This donation is made at our Christmas Potluck dinners. Our general meetings are May and September with a potluck supper at the church. The speakers are invited to join us for supper. At any time during the year we try to accommodate catering for funeral requests which we receive from members of the congregation. As our members get older it does get more difficult to make this happen.

Once a month, the unit on kitchen duty cleans the refrigerators of outdated items. Everyone should remove their own leftovers or label them appropriately for someone else to use. UCW takes care of the church kitchen by ensuring that supplies and equipment are always kept on hand. It is a well-used kitchen and much appreciated by groups who use our premises.

Our executive meetings are held in the Shalom Room the last Monday of each month, excluding December and summer. UCW is able to provide funds for church capital needs as well as making annual donations to the United Church Mission & Service Fund.

Nancy Lusk, UCW Secretary

Board of Trustees

TRUSTEES: Jan Pound, Bert Donnelly (Co-chairs), Bev Cromb, Ruth Howes, David Maxwell, Ross Mutton, Frank Pope.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES holds BCUC property in trust for the United Church of Canada. (UCC)

During 2017 the Trustees:

- (a) Provided oversight to the Memorial Endowment Fund,
- (b) Monitored investment performance of the Fiera Capital Funds we hold.
- (c) Promoted the donation of gifts to the Memorial Endowment Fund,
- (d) Declared a payout to the BCUC Board of Directors \$4,324 from investment earnings,
- (e) Negotiated annual insurance, currently with the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company,
- (f) Confirmed insurance for the Union Cemetery, (provided by Christ Church Anglican)
- (g) Mitigated risk through the implementation of the BCUC Risk Management Plan, Piloted with two committees. Implemented Covenant of Care form.
- (h) Completed an inventory of BCUC property for insurance purposes.
- (i) Submitted a Budget to the BCUC Board
- (j) Review and amendment of Use of Facilities Policy 12-6 and 12-2

Resources needed in 2018:

Liability Insurance for renewal of Policy November 29, 2017 of approximately \$ 8,277 excluding Ontario Tax

Report: Motion- approved by the Trustee Board Jan 4th 2018, Cromb/Maxwell Carried

Bells Corners Union Cemetery Board

The Cemetery, founded in 1853, is a joint responsibility of Christ Church Bells Corners (Anglican) and Bells Corners United Church. It is a heritage property and a registered charitable organization, operated by the Bells Corners Union Cemetery Board under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act 2002 of the Province of Ontario. Representing the Anglican Church on the Board are Bill Irwin (Treasurer), Colin Franklin and Peter Coffin while the United Church is represented by Frank Pope (Chair), Trevor Morrison and Peggy Smyth. Ex-officio members of the Board are a Minister from each congregation.

Revenue in 2017 (2016 figures in brackets) was \$6,015 (\$7,320) expenses \$3,527 (\$3,845). Donations were lower. There were four burials, two full burials and two of cremated remains.

Revenue and expense detail for 2017 is shown below:

<u>Revenue</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Donations	\$ 3,095	Grounds	\$ 2,500
Investments	2,020	Hedge trim	650
Interment fees	<u>900</u>	Administration	<u>377</u>
	<u>\$ 6,015</u>		<u>\$ 3,527</u>

A newsletter was sent out in April and it included a copy of the Annual Report for 2016. The Board met once during the year and otherwise kept in touch through email and telephone. Erin Dzioba, a summer student working under the federal government student assistance program, moved the information on our Access database onto another database called Crypt Keeper which is more accessible. She also reorganized our paper files.

The eleventh annual Memorial Service was held on September 17th, Reverend Kim Vidal of the United Church conducting the service. About 30 people attended the service, much the same as prior year. Notice of the service was, mailed in August to people on our address list, posted in the bulletins of both churches and posted in the Nepean Barrhaven newspaper.

Again this year the grounds were well kept by Glen Soubliere, subcontractor for Kare-Mor Ent. Co. Ltd. Richard Eade helped with work associated with burials.

Frank Pope, Chairman

Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee concentrated its activities on the annual Stewardship Campaign, which takes place in the last two weeks of January. In early December, the printed material for the campaign is reviewed for changes. Most changes occur in the Time and Talent listing, but the coloured brochure also needs annual updates. The church database CHURCHWATCH is accessed for member and adherent mailing information, and current activities. We do not use and do not have access to financial information. Individualized mailing envelopes, return envelopes, financial pledge (blue) forms and Time and Talent (pink) forms are printed, and as well as the listing of activities on the Time and Talent form. The folks in the Church Office print the coloured brochure. Then the material is assembled for delivery by Circuit Messengers and mailing in mid-January.

This kicks off the Stewardship campaign, and, two weeks later, we host a Soup and Sandwiches event after the morning service. This involves the preparation of 800 ounces of soup (25 quarts) and 360 sandwich quarters. The Stewardship returns are tabulated by Ron Prince and used by the Financial Management people for budgeting, and the Time and Talent forms are used to update the church database. Typically we send out about 375 Stewardship packages, and about half are returned. If a member or adherent does not return a package we assume that there is no change to their financial intentions or participation in church activities.

Committee members are Bob Boynton, Bob and Barb Noyes, Ron Prince, with help from minister Rev Kim Vidal and Bill Johnson of Financial Management, as well as the capable office administrators Nancy and Ellen.

We thank all members and adherents who participate in our Annual Campaign.

Bill McGee, On behalf of the Stewardship Committee