

# FONTHILL UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2023



## MISSION STATEMENT

Words inspire us. Music uplifts us.  
United in God's love,  
we strive to be an inclusive community,  
learning together and supporting others with compassion.

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# *In Memoriam*

*Those of our Fonthill United Church family  
whose lives we celebrated in 2023*

Eleanor Hughes	May 12
Peter Mansfield	June 18
George Rooke	July 8
Jim Meloche	November 15
Ruth Rae	November 18
Lois Outred	December 11
Udo Kupper	December 19

*In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us. We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.*

## **Membership Statistics**

	<u>December 31, 2022</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>
Total Membership, Resident & Non-resident	158	112
Non-resident Membership	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>
Resident Membership	146	110
Activity in the year:	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Received by Profession of Faith	0	0
Received by Certificate or otherwise	0	0
Removed by Death	10	4
Removed by Certificate or otherwise	0	42

**1.0 Opening:**

Sheila Laundry thanked all those who attended in person and on Zoom then opened in prayer. She thanked Aiden Stock for running the Zoom services. She read the “In Memoriam” to remember those of the church family who died in the past year. She thanked Council and staff for working so hard and said she was sorry to see Nancy Curran resign from Council. She welcomed Diane Rawsthorn to Council.

**2.0 Consent Docket:**

Moved by George Dewar and seconded by Sharon Middleton that Fonthill United Church approve the following:

- 2.1 Accept the agenda as printed,
- 2.2 Receive the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes as written,
- 2.3 Appoint Gail DeKoning as corresponding secretary,
- 2.4 Approve voting privileges for supporting adherents, and
- 2.5 Accept all of the written reports as printed except for the Financial Report. **Carried**

**3.0 Financial Report:**

3.1 Jim Bradley thanked his committee then went over the 2022 Operating Fund statement. Congregational givings in 2021 were \$169,000 and in 2022 were \$162,000. Jim was pleased it was only \$7,000 difference with all the deaths and people moving. He thanked the congregants for increasing their givings. 2022 rentals increased. There were no government grants this year. We do more locally now through Outreach instead of giving to world organizations.

\$9,400 was transferred to the Operating Fund. Jim went over the fund balances. The parking lot plowing fees were increased so the school will contribute towards the plowing costs. \$135,000 Term Deposit is coming due this year as it was extended by one year.

It was moved by Jim Bradley and seconded by Sandra Harding to adopt the Financial Operating Statement for 2022 as presented. **Carried**

3.2 Budget for 2023 - Jim went over the budget and said the contributions budget is conservative, and the rental budget might be a little low but he said we do have some more rental inquiries. Interest earned of \$6,000 is expected. There will be a 3.4% increase in ministerial salaries, mandated by the United Church of Canada, as of July 1, 2023.

Jim Bradley moved and Janet Hamilton seconded to adopt the 2023 Budget with total expenditures of \$245,607. **Carried**

**Property:**

Jim said the Pelham Garden Club is doing a good job maintaining our gardens. The flat portion of the roof will cost approximately \$20,000 to \$22,000; he will get 3 quotes, then will decide. There was a meeting with the Montessori School; they said they are very pleased to be here. The extra rental helps the church. The school stated that they would like to use more space. Jim said we are still a church and we need the space but if they increase their student enrolment, we would revisit the contract.

Jim thanked the church secretary for her continued and speedy work.

**4.0 Election of Officers:**

Gail DeKoning presented the following list of nominations for 2023:

**4.1 Nominations for Church Council**

Jim Bradley (Treasurer)	Rich Miller
Gail DeKoning (Secretary)	Alvin Penner
Betty Garner (UCW representative)	Diane Rawsthorn (Trustee representative)
Janet Hamilton (Outreach Chair)	Joan Rigg (Pastoral Care representative)
Sandra Harding (M&P Chair)	Lyn Taylor (Chair)
Heather Jesik (Worship Chair)	Sheila Laundry (Past Chair)
Pat Tooley (Regional Council Representative)	Pastor Robert Lawson (Minister)

There were no new nominations.

**4.2 Nominations for Committees**

**Ministry & Personnel:**

Sandra Harding (Chair)	Nancy Curran	Alvin Penner
Gaye Meloche		

**Worship & Membership:**

Heather Jesik (Chair)	Helen Wismer	Joan Wells
Judy Crysler	Beryl West	George Dewar
Bill Outred (ex-officio)		

**Pastoral Care:**

Marleene Kretchman	Joan Rigg	Sheila Laundry
Trudy Pickersgill		

**Finance & Property:**

Jim Bradley (Chair, Treasurer)	Ralph Watters	Ron Kretchman
Ken Brydon	Keith Rae	Richard Miller

**Outreach:**

Janet Hamilton (Chair)	Gail DeKoning	Margot Fraser
Sharron Bradley	Lyn Taylor	Sharon Middleton

*(The minister is an ex-officio member of all committees except Ministry & Personnel)*

*(The Chairperson of Council is an ex-officio member of all committees)*

Moved by Joan Rigg and seconded by George Dewar to elect those nominated to the Church Council and Committees as presented. **Carried**

**4.0 Election of Officers: (cont'd.)**

Gail DeKoning presented the following list of nominations for 2023:

**4.3 Nominations for Board of Trustees**

Diane Rawsthorn (Chair)	Lyn Taylor (Secretary)	Keith Rae
Marvin Myhre	Wilton Boyd	Bob Laing

**4.4 Other Appointments**

Moved by Brian McDonald and seconded by Ralph Laundry that those named be elected as the Fonthill United Church representatives to the following:

**Nominations for Regional Council Representatives**

Sheila Laundry, Pat Tooley

**Nominations for Extension Council Representatives**

Jim Bradley, Sheila Laundry

**Nominations for Cave Springs Camp Representative**

Alvin Penner

**Nominations for Town Square Manor Representatives**

Alvin Penner	(first year of a third 2-year term)
Janet Hamilton	(second year of a second 2-year term)

**U.C.W. (NOT FOR ELECTION)**

Trudy Pickersgill (President)	Dora Drennan (Treasurer)
Betty Garner (Secretary)	Janet Hamilton (Special Events)
Ruth Rae (Goodwill)	

Sheila thanked the Nominating Committee:

Sheila Laundry (Chair of Council)  
Sandra Harding (Chair of M&P)  
Jim Bradley (Chair of Finance & Property)  
Heather Jesik (Chair of Worship & Membership)

Sheila Laundry introduced Lyn Taylor as our new Chair of Council. Lyn was also on the Search Committee for a new minister, Outreach, Refugee Committee and Strategic Planning. Sheila thanked her for her hard work on the Strategic Planning Committee.

**5.0 Strategic Planning Committee:**

5.1 Lyn Taylor presented her report on Strategic Planning. (see attached)

Lyn thanked Sheila on behalf of all Fonthill United Church congregants for keeping us going during trying times. She said we all appreciate Sheila's service and presented her with a small token of appreciation.

5.2 Outreach – Janet Hamilton (see attached)

The Bandshell Concert was a success and fun and we all wore our Fonthill United T-Shirts, which everyone seemed to love.

**FONTHILL UNITED CHURCH**  
2022 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2023

**6.0 Expressions of Thanks:**

Lyn Taylor presented Gift Certificates to Mary Rivers, Sybil Daboll and Helen Wismer, on behalf of Harland Young.

**7.0 Discussion:** None.

**8.0 Motion to Adjourn the Annual Meeting:**

Pat Tooley moved and John Donald seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

**Carried**

Pastor Robert closed in prayer.

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Sheila Laundry, Chair of Council

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Gail DeKoning, Secretary of Council

## Church Council Membership 2023

Jim Bradley (Treasurer)	Richard Miller
Gail DeKoning (Secretary)	Alvin Penner
Betty Garner	Diane Rawsthorn
Janet Hamilton	Joan Rigg
Sandra Harding	Lyn Taylor (Chair)
Heather Jesik	Pat Tooley
Sheila Laundry (Past-Chair)	Rev. Robert Lawson (Minister-to May 20)
Rev. Dr. Gordon Crossfield (Supply Minister-from Sept. 1)	

## Church Committees 2023

### **Ministry Committees:**

Worship & Membership: Heather Jesik (Chair), Helen Wismer, Beryl West, Joan Wells (to August), George Dewar, Judy Crysler, Bill Outred (ex-officio)

Pastoral Care: Sheila Laundry (Chair from March 21), Marleene Kretchman, Joan Rigg, Trudy Pickersgill, Wendy Crossfield (from September)

Outreach: Janet Hamilton (Chair), Gail DeKoning, Lyn Taylor, Margot Fraser, Sharron Bradley, Sharon Middleton, Annie Mazmanian

### **Administrative Support Committees:**

Finance & Property: Jim Bradley (Chair, Treasurer), Ken Brydon, Ralph Watters, Keith Rae, Ron Kretchman, Richard Miller

Ministry & Personnel: Sandra Harding (Chair), Gaye Meloche, Alvin Penner, Nancy Curran

Amalgamation Working Group: Lyn Taylor (Co-Chair), Sheila Laundry, Jim Bradley, Gail DeKoning

### **Board of Trustees:**

Diane Rawsthorn (Chair), Lyn Taylor (Secretary), Bob Laing, Keith Rae, Marvin Myhre, Wilton Boyd

*(The minister is an ex-officio member of all committees except Ministry & Personnel.)*

*(The Chairperson of Council is an ex-officio member of all committees.)*

## Other Group Representatives

Horseshoe Falls Regional Council: Sheila Laundry, Pat Tooley

UCW: Trudy Pickersgill (President – to June 30)

Maxine McPhail (President – from September 1)

Dora Drennan (Treasurer)

Town Square Manor: Alvin Penner, Janet Hamilton

Cave Springs Camp: Alvin Penner

Extension Council: Jim Bradley, Sheila Laundry



## Minister's Report

I have often joked that the one word that comes to mind when I think of these last four months of being retired supply at Fonthill United Church is 'meetings.' Besides the regular Council and committee gatherings, there have been amalgamation meetings as well. This has been a great opportunity to get to know more people more quickly. Many have been re-acquaintances after 29 years when I was pastor between 1988 and 1994.

I must say that the meetings have been easy and informative due to excellent leadership and whole-hearted participation of members.

It has been interesting to try to establish continuity in worship because of periodic joint services with Fenwick and illnesses that re-emerged throughout the Advent/Christmas season, but I am impressed by the flexibility of everyone who has become accustomed to different styles of worship leadership over the years, anchored by our choir and Bill's inspiring musical accompaniment. Your helpful feedback is so appreciated.

Zoom services introduced during Covid continue to keep people connected on Sunday thanks to Aiden Stock, and we managed to offer Communion services at Lookout Ridge which we plan to continue.

Even as we welcome some new and returning members, sadly, there have been a couple of significant good-byes to two old friends, George Rooke and Ruth Rae. I felt privileged to have been able to conduct their celebration of life services.

How grateful we are for our Administrator, Patrice working quietly in the background. The spiritual gift of administration comes from the Greek meaning "to steer the ship."

A colleague of mine, describing the task of helping a congregation trying to find a new direction, used the image of turning a huge freighter. It is a slow, careful, skillful process. And so, we come to the end of another challenging year still in the midst of conversations about what our relationship with Fenwick United will look like in 2024.

We turn to the wisdom of Proverbs 3:5,6 (NIV)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight."

Our checklist for all our important decisions is simply, Is this God's Will, God's Way and according to God's Timing?

Thank you for the opportunity and privilege of serving Our Lord with you.

*Gordon*

## Chair of Council's Report

2023 was a year of upheaval and uncertainty for Fonthill United Church. Pastor Robert Lawson left to pursue other opportunities and we have been in amalgamation discussions with Fenwick United Church. We were very fortunate to have the support of three experienced, wise and 'well-known to us' ministers who helped us navigate these unsettling times. A big thank you goes out to Rev. Dr. Garry van Bruchem who was the first to step in, Rev. Kim Wright who filled in for the summer and then to our current supply minister, Rev. Dr. Gordon Crossfield.

We are also blessed with a dedicated, hard-working Church Council to whom we owe a debt of gratitude: Jim Bradley, Rich Miller, Sheila Laundry, Alvin Penner, Joan Rigg, Gail DeKoning, Betty Garner, Pat Tooley, Janet Hamilton, Sandra Harding, Heather Jesik and Diane Rawsthorn. Pat Tooley is leaving Council this year, and we wish her well and thank her for all she has done for Fonthill United. Despite the uncertainty, this dedicated team remained steadfast and committed to supporting our church. The work of our church just carried on as normal and we continued to focus on our vision of: ***A confident, vibrant congregation honouring God, encouraging diversity and partnering with our community and others for social justice.***

I would also like to thank the following special people who do so much to support us: Bill Outred, Aiden Stock, Leslie Hoffman, Sherry Rusin and Patrice Walker.

A special thank you goes to Jim Bradley, Sheila Laundry, Gail DeKoning and Rev. Gordon Crossfield who joined me on the amalgamation working team. They have dedicated many long hours working on this initiative.

Although this has been a time of disruption and uncertainty, it presents us with an opportunity to move toward being transformed. We have a choice to make. We can stay the course, maintain the status quo and continue to decline OR we can discover together what plans God has for us which we do not yet see. We need to be intentional about thinking through what we do next. How can we create the energy and enthusiasm to attract and grow? This is work for us all. While it may seem daunting, God said in Isaiah 41:13, "Fear not, I will help thee."

With Pat Tooley's resignation, we need to find a new Vice-Chair of Council. If you are interested in joining Council and would like to step into this role, please let me know.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Lyn Taylor, Chair of Council*

## **Worship and Membership Committee Report**

It was a year of changes and uncertainty.

I am so thankful to be working with such a dedicated Council and Committee. Everyone is so giving of their time and talents. My committee is there early every Sunday to make sure the sanctuary is ready for Sunday service; glimmering candles, greeters to welcome you and a sanctuary always dressed appropriately for the season. Memorial poinsettias and daffodils filled the front of the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter. The carillon was programmed with songs for the season.

Thank you to the “Christmas Decorating Team” for all your hard work in the set-up and take down of Christmas decorations. It is a lot of work, but with many hands it makes it lighter.

The Worship and Membership Committee, together with Bill Outred and the Minister, provided special services throughout the year. We were privileged to have talented musical guests join us. Our Communion services were switched back to the traditional way of serving. We also developed Joint Services with Fenwick United Church and made sure all the needs were met for these.

As Chair, I arranged and coordinated ministerial and pastoral care coverage over the spring and summer months and moving forward, over the fall and winter.

We are blessed to have two such talented and caring former ministers so willing to step in and help us through this period of transition.

We are a generous congregation. We have given back to our community by having Food Drives throughout the year and a Toy Fundraiser at Christmas, all for Pelham Cares. By holding successful food drives we are meeting the needs of our community and strengthening our community ties.

A new Photo Directory was produced and delivered. I hope everyone is pleased with it. After the completion of the directory, I focused my attention on updating the Membership and Adherents Roll which is now complete and up to date.

Let us focus on what we can do moving forward, as a strong congregation with varied gifts and abilities graciously given by God, together, with experienced, dedicated Ministers helping us through this.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Jesik, Chair of Worship and Membership Committee*

## Outreach Committee Report

Committee consists of: Janet Hamilton (Chair), Sharon Middleton (Secretary), Gail DeKoning, Lyn Taylor, Margot Fraser, Sharron Bradley, Annie Mazmanian and Rev. Dr. Gordon Crossfield (ex-officio).

**A note:** We were very happy to have Annie Mazmanian join our committee this year.

At the end of a year you try to remember your accomplishments; that is when you realize how much work and time have gone into making the Outreach program a success. I am going to list our achievements.

**Nightlight:** The knap sacks are still being filled with personal hygiene essentials. The need has grown as more young people find themselves without a home. We filled 50 knap sacks with a cost of \$25.00 per bag. *We are assisted financially by the Niagara Extension Council to make this program work.*

**Harvest Dinners:** At the beginning of the year we were preparing approximately 80 – 90 dinners a month. This labour of caring was being done by a small group. Dick and I were doing all the buying and Gail and Rich were joining us on the Sunday to prepare and serve. When the call went out that Dick and I could no longer do all the lifting, buying, transporting and storage, we were delighted to have Judy Crysler and Aiden Stock step in. Judy, according to her grandson, loves to shop for food and Aiden is young and strong and said he would help her with all the lifting. We now have teams to take turns with the Sunday dinners. This is what outreach is! Team work and working together within the Church and the Community. *We are assisted financially by the Niagara Extension Council to make this program work.*

**The Band Shell concerts:** The band shell concert was a challenge due to weather. Our concert was cancelled but we were invited by Meridian Credit Union to participate in the next one. Our draw allowed us to get a list of email addresses. We have used this list to contact and invite people in the community to join us for special events and Sunday Service.

**The Huntington Society Amaryllis Campaign:** We sold over 50 bulbs this year to raise awareness and money for the Huntington Society. It was a great success.

**Pelham Cares:** The Worship and Membership Committee held drives for food, toys and funds and the result of their efforts was astounding in the amount of \$5,825.00 plus all the products donated.

**Donations:** This year we were able to give to **Hospice Niagara** a donation of \$1,500. This has always been a cause that Paul Owen has supported. We were also able to give the **Huntington Society** a donation of \$1,500.00. Gail DeKoning has worked hard since 1981 with this organization and we were proud to be able to give a cheque for \$1,500.00 towards their local Chapter. It was a pleasure to be able to support organizations that mean so much to our own Church family members.

We were also able to present **Wellspring Niagara** with a donation of \$1,000.00.

The Church put out the call for donations to the Red Cross for wildfire relief, and to the Red Cross for earthquake relief in Turkey. The total collected for the two calls was \$3,685.00.

The Book Club, led by Joan Wells, has discussed books that were interesting and varied in their content. It has been a great way to be introduced to new authors and to share time with one another.

**Community Awareness:** This event is taking place in 2024, but the preparation has been in the making for over a year. It is a joint effort with Pelham Community Church. We hope it will bring information to those who do not know where to find the help they need.

One of the greatest pleasures in life is to be able to give because we want to. Our Church family has done just that and we can all be very proud. *Your donations to the Outreach program make it possible for us to be generous.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Janet Hamilton, Chair of Outreach Committee*

## **Pastoral Care Committee Report**

The Pastoral Care Committee continues to be actively supporting the pastoral needs of the congregation. With the departure of Pastor Lawson, we were well served by Rev. Garry van Bruchem. In July, we were pleased to welcome Rev. Gordon Crossfield as our pastoral minister before he became our part-time supply minister in September. He quickly responded to concerns and introduced himself to members of the congregation through phone calls and visits. We also welcomed Wendy Crossfield who led us in a good discussion about prayer chains. We are fortunate that Marleene Kretchman, Joan Rigg, Trudy Pickersgill, Wendy Crossfield and I will continue to support the congregation in times of illness and bereavement with visits, phone calls and cards. We would be pleased to welcome others to join our group.

*Submitted by Sheila Laundry, Chair*

## **Amalgamation Working Group**

It is general practice that reports for the 2023 Annual Meeting refer only to events from 2023 – a snapshot in time of things that affected the congregation during the year in review.

In this case, as of the writing of this report, the congregation already knows the end result of the work of the 2-Church amalgamation working group, although no conclusion was reached until early 2024.

In about March of 2023, Sheila Laundry, Jim Bradley and I began meeting with representatives of the other two Pelham churches, looking for ways we could collaborate and identify synergies for working together. This eventually evolved into discussions around a possible amalgamation.

In June 2023 we had a meeting with Lynne Allin, the Horseshoe Falls Region Minister for Congregational Support. She shared her experience and thoughts with us and provided us with a resource to help guide our discussions. The group met once again in July and because all three churches had Council Meetings in September, we decided to have discussions with our councils before meeting again.

In September, Pelham Community Church told us they had decided the timing was not right for them to consider amalgamation. They are interested in collaborating on projects but at that time were not prepared to consider amalgamating. Fenwick and Fonthill agreed to continue discussions on our own. Gail DeKoning joined our group at that time. Each church was represented by four members plus the minister.

Our process has been very thorough. We contracted with Kindred Works, requesting they give us an opinion on which church building would be best suited for the joint congregation. After both churches provided a great deal of information regarding many aspects of our congregations and church buildings and conducting an in-person inspection, we received a report which was unanimously rejected without payment. The report did not provide what was expected and was flawed in many ways. We then undertook to have both buildings inspected by Colliers International Niagara Ltd. in order to obtain a letter of opinion on the value of each church property. The finance people on our committee also prepared detailed financial projections and we all worked on identifying the pros and cons for each possible option.

Many thoughtful and earnest discussions took place, trying to come to an agreement of what building should be the location for the newly formed congregation. By this time you all know how it ended. On February 4, 2024, Janet Rutherford and I gave our group consensus decision that we end amalgamation talks at this time. We agreed to focus our efforts on finding ways to work together and save costs while each congregation keeps its own home. We have enjoyed getting to better know the leaders from our sister churches. We have worked hard, thought about this challenge from every possible angle and were steadfast and committed to the task we were entrusted to explore on behalf of our church family. This was a difficult decision and we understand there will be some who are disappointed, but the joint working group felt it was the right one for each of our congregations.

*Lyn Taylor, Co-Chair, Amalgamation Working Group*

## Strategic Planning Committee

We had many distractions in 2023 and some areas of our Strategic Plan were, quite frankly, neglected. It was hard to focus on all our goals with so many pressing issues and distractions.

The Council conducted a review and prepared a progress report in September and the following is a recap of our findings:

1. We felt it was important to ensure we were being true to our values and that our actions aligned with our key priorities which should help us achieve our goals. We felt focusing on the tactics that were originally suggested was not working so the tactics were eliminated from the plan.
2. As we said from the outset, the plan is not perfect. It is meant to be a living document designed to provide a roadmap and direction to help us stay focused on the future. As circumstances change, we need to amend our plan.
3. We agreed the values, key priorities and goals were still relevant.
4. We always knew some things would be easier than others to achieve and our progress reflects that fact.
5. Council members felt confident in saying our learning, service, caring, generosity and community values are quite evident. It was felt it was harder to identify strength in our diversity and inspiration values.
6. In terms of our five key priorities, we have made very good progress in three of five areas. Our weakness is centred on diversity and confidence. While there is evidence in some areas of confidence which is tied to competency, we seem to lack confidence in our ability to get support for new initiatives.
7. Much work has been done toward achieving our financial goals, strengthening community ties and maximizing our building potential. There is much ongoing work in these areas as well. Two goals that we have not made progress toward are “To promote and foster a diverse and inclusive church culture” and “Drive progress toward environmental sustainability and social justice.”

This is a three-year plan, and it runs until May 2025. We need to find ways to make more progress and we need everyone’s help with this. The Council is here to listen to your ideas and will work with you to develop and promote your ideas. The status quo will not work, we must find new ways. Please reflect and give this some prayerful consideration. What can you do to help our church move forward?

*Respectfully submitted,  
Lyn Taylor, Chair of Council*

## Ministry and Personnel Committee Report

During the 2023 year, the Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee members included Nancy Curran, Gaye Meloche, Alvin Penner and Sandra Harding (Chair).

The committee meets and communicates with one another on a regular basis. Areas of discussions include operations, emerging issues, job descriptions as well as annual goals. Several members have also taken additional training to assist in the roles and responsibilities of the committee.

During 2023, Fonthill United Church had a change in Ministerial leadership. As with any change, there was a transition period followed by a plan to provide ongoing leadership. Many thanks are extended to Lyn Taylor, Heather Jesik, Sheila Laundry, Pat Tooley and other church members for assisting with this change, as well as Rev Dr Garry van Bruchem, Rev Dr Gordon Crossfield, and Rev Kim Wright for quickly filling in and covering this essential role during the summer months. A special thank you is extended to Rev Dr Gordon Crossfield for assuming this role during the fall and winter months.

As a church, we have so much to be grateful for in terms of staff, contracted workers, and volunteers: Patrice Walker, Administrator, who supports our church leadership, as well as the congregation, effectively and efficiently, and Bill Outred, Music Director, who leads the choir and fills the sanctuary with delightful music on Sunday mornings among many other things. Leslie Hoffman ensured that our church was clean and sparkling for most of the year, as she has done so in the past. Aiden Stock makes sure the Zoom platform runs smoothly for those attending services virtually, is quick to make changes when necessary, and continues to attend to this task every Sunday. In addition, many thanks are extended to those who assist with coverage during vacation time and other absences of our Minister and staff and our many volunteers who keep the church running smoothly each and every day. As a committee, we have so many to be thankful for.

During the year, consideration was given to the Strategic Plan and how staff and the committee support and contribute to this in everyday practices. In addition, attention was given to this in terms of future planning.

Further to this, amalgamation discussions have made us pause to reflect on the future direction of Fonthill United Church, what possible outcomes may look like and how this will impact staff. With so many unknowns, we are taking it one day at a time.

For the 2024 year, we look forward to another productive period and a year of possibilities.

*Respectfully submitted by,  
Sandra Harding, Chair, Ministry and Personnel Committee*

## **Finance Committee Report**

Detailed statements for all accounts are included at the end of the annual report.

While we had hoped “things” would get back to normal in 2023, we were faced with some unexpected challenges with the sudden resignation of Rev. Lawson in May 2023. However, under the leadership of Lyn Taylor, as Council Chair, and with guidance from Rev. Garry van Bruchem and Rev. Gordon Crossfield, we seem to have put many issues behind us. The greatest acknowledgement, however, is to our membership. Contributions in 2023 amounted to \$161,434, well above our budget of \$145,000, which was adjusted to reflect specific known conditions at that time. It is so gratifying to see givings at this level, which are well in line with pre-Covid numbers, keeping in mind 19 members have passed away over the last 2-3 years. THANK YOU for your wonderful support and generosity.

In 2023 we incurred a deficit in the operating fund of \$28,072 which was well below our projection of \$55,032. Detailed below are some of the reasons for this variance:

- Contributions were \$16,434 over budget and only \$1,503 below 2022.
- Rental income increased from \$13,255 in 2022 to \$27,275 in 2023. This is due to a full year of rent from the Montessori School. All rents were increased as of September 1, 2023.
- With the departure of Rev. Lawson, total salary and benefit costs were \$9,516 below budget. Under our contract we paid Rev. Lawson up to August 18, 2023. During this time, we also engaged part-time ministers until September 1, when Rev. Crossfield was officially appointed as supply minister. His contract has been extended into 2024 and details are included in the budget.
- Building costs amounted to \$59,160 or \$55,299 if we exclude the one-time, non-recurring consulting fee of \$3,861. These expenses are very close to 2022, keeping in mind one-time expenses last year. You will note there are some slight increases in some categories which are offset by savings in others. As an example, general maintenance costs exceeded the budget by \$1,313 whereas snow removal costs were \$1,674 below budget.
- Total expenses for 2023 were \$234,936 vs. budget of \$245,607 and expenses of \$236,204 in 2022. Please note in 2023 we incurred one-time consulting fees of \$3,861. These related to property uses for amalgamation discussions. Expenses are monitored closely, and price checks are completed on many supplies/services.
- Details of Outreach funds are included in their report.

In keeping with Church policy, we obtained approval from the Horseshoe Falls Region to use \$25,000 of the Restricted Manse Funds to cover a portion of the operating loss. For cash purposes, the deficit balance of \$3,072 will be covered by a transfer of undesignated funds from the Memoriam Fund. The balance in that fund after the transfer will amount to \$4,007.

In June, and to cover the costs of repairing the flat roof over the east side door, we obtained a loan from the Extension Council for \$9,100. This loan is payable over 5 years at an interest rate of 4%. While we are responsible to cover the full amount of interest over the life of the loan, once the principal is reduced by 50%, the balance will be forgiven. To this point we have only drawn \$6,200 and the balance is being held to cover repairs in the Narthex if additional funds are required. It should be noted that for the past two years we were making a monthly fund transfer of \$125 to the Building Fund. These funds are now allocated to cover the loan payment, consequently there is no impact on the actual cash position.

At year end our reserves include \$189,591 in Restricted Manse Funds and \$22,448 in the Enduring Gifts Fund. According to Church policy, restricted funds should only be used for capital purposes. Congregations may request they be used to cover operating deficits, however approval is not guaranteed.

We would like to think, for the most part, that Covid is behind us and in many ways it is. It is well known that a major challenge is our aging congregation which restricts our ability to undertake many new initiatives. However, and through your continuing generosity, we can and do financially support several Outreach Projects that have been well received in the Fonthill community. The question becomes, how do we continue to focus and support this work when the cost of carrying our property, building repairs, etc. continues to increase? These were some considerations we reviewed when preparing the budget for 2024.

As you will observe, we are projecting a budget which includes total expenditures of \$215,453 and an operating shortfall of \$22,248. 2023 actuals were \$234,936 and \$28,072 respectively. Some highlights include:

- Contributions are projected at \$150,000 vs. an actual of \$161,435 in 2023. This number reflects the responses we received from the Stewardship letter and other known statistical information.
- Rental income is projected at \$27,000. This is pretty much the same as last year. At this point we are being very selective on any new rental requests to ensure we can accommodate all church activities.
- Total compensation payments are projected at \$123,015 vs. actual \$145,423 last year. The budget for 2023 was \$154,939. Included in the salary component is an amount sufficient to cover part-time ministry for the year based on the current contract. It should also be noted, salaries were increased by 6.3% in January as per Church guidelines.
- Our cost to cover staff benefits, pension plan contributions, etc. are included under "payroll taxes, UCC benefits." The reduction from 2023 is due to the fact we do not have to pay some of these costs for retired ministers.
- Other costs are based on previous expenses in those specific areas and known increases.

Of course, these projections could/will change depending on the outcome of our discussions with Fenwick. In the meantime, we will continue to monitor all expenses and welcome any comments you may have which could increase revenue or reduce costs.

As Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, I want to acknowledge the tremendous input and value I place on having Ken Brydon, Ralph Watters, Ron Kretchman, Keith Rae and Rich Miller as members of this committee. Fonthill United is blessed to have these individuals on board. In addition, and like all other committees, we are privileged to have Patrice Walker on our staff. Her work ethic is incredible and all reports, etc. are completed on a timely basis.

Finally, to all members of Fonthill United Church, THANK YOU for your continuing generosity and support.

*Jim Bradley, Chair of Finance and Property*



## **Property Committee Report**

We can report the overall state of our property is in good condition, and we are at a point where we decline rental requests on a weekly basis. The number of requests we receive is based on our location. All new rental requests are reviewed in detail and approvals are granted based on space availability and current church activities. Over the past year, many requests have been declined as we want to make sure adequate space is available for all church activities including committee meetings.

In September, the Montessori school expanded their needs to include the former nursery, near the board room downstairs, and this transition has been seamless. Most committee meetings are scheduled in the afternoon or early evening, and these can all be accommodated.

In June of 2023, we completely replaced the eastern-most flat roof of the church at a cost of \$5,600. There has been no evidence of leaks since. We obtained a loan from the Extension Council to cover this cost and for full details, please refer to the finance report. The western-most flat roof was repaired in 2016 and that work appears to be holding. At this point there are several capital projects we could consider such as renovating the kitchen, renovating lower hall washrooms, updating the Friendship Room, etc. but no action is being considered pending conclusion of our amalgamation discussions with Fenwick United Church.

Property operating costs for 2023 amounted to \$55,299 (excludes one time consulting fees of \$3,861) which is \$2,801 below budget and \$4,868 below 2022 actual costs. Snow removal costs were down because of less snow last spring.

The Pelham Garden Club continues to look after the flower beds. The Scouts conduct the annual spring cleanup. In keeping with the Strategic Plan completed in 2022, we had a “best use” study completed on our property which is being held in abeyance pending amalgamation discussions with Fenwick. We can confirm there were no surprises in this report.

Again this year, Rich Miller has acted as our “handyman,” and over the year completed numerous jobs/repairs which have saved us a lot on money if we had outsiders do the work. In many cases the job is too small for some trades and having Rich is very helpful. Thanks, Rich, for all you do.

Finally, each year many of you volunteer to work on sundry projects around the property and your support and contribution is very much appreciated. Thank you for your continuing support.

*Jim Bradley,  
Chair of Finance and Property*

## **Town Square Manor**

Town Square Manor is a life lease apartment building located at 55 Pelham Town Square in Fonthill, consisting of spacious one and two bedroom units. The nine member Board is made up of three residents and two congregants from each of Fonthill United, Holy Trinity Anglican and Fonthill Baptist churches. This Board operates as a non-profit. In consultation with Cannon Greco Management Limited, the Board manages the finances, sets policy and procedures, and oversees a part-time staff.

In 2023, Alvin Penner completed the first year of a third two-year term as a Board member, and Janet Hamilton completed the second year of a second two-year term as a Board member.

Town Square Manor is an excellent facility which offers much for the seniors of Fonthill. Anyone wishing further information might check out the website: [www.townsquaremanor.ca](http://www.townsquaremanor.ca) or contact Peter Greco – Life Lease Transfers at 905 687-6933.

## **Board of Trustees Report**

Board of Trustees Membership: Diane Rawsthorn (Chair), Wilton Boyd, Bob Laing, Marvin Myhre, Keith Rae, Lyn Taylor

In June, the trustees met with Ryan Lindsay, our agent through BrokerLink Insurance, and renewed our policy with Ecclesiastical Insurance at a premium of \$10,643.00.

A risk assessment inspection was a condition of the renewal of our policy. The trustees met with Dinis Clara, a risk control specialist with Ecclesiastical Insurance, in August to conduct the inspection. His Risk Management Report was received in October.

No critical recommendations were cited in the report which is a testament to the dedicated efforts of the Property Committee in maintaining the building. A few recommendations were suggested as strategies to help us improve our existing risk management practices. These are things that can be addressed as money and manpower are available or as the situation arises.

The Risk Management Report recommends the minimum replacement cost of the church for insurance purposes be \$5,197,524.

The trustees have identified a need to update the inventory of the church contents. As we prepared to do this, it became clear that storage within the church is both a challenge and a concern. In October, the trustees received support from Church Council to update the inventory and systematically review storage in each area, room and space of the church. Work on this has begun and will continue through 2024.

*Respectfully submitted by,  
Diane Rawsthorn, Chair*

## **Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Report**

During 2023 there were two HFRC meetings held in June and October, in person and online. Our Tri-Regional meeting, which will be held online and in person, will be held at Port Elgin from May 24-26, 2024.

In June, an evaluation on the Tri-Regional Councils in Southwestern Ontario (regions 7, 8 and 9) was presented. Part two of this report relates to Horseshoe Falls and while it is only a summary, it is quite lengthy. All councils are encouraged to read and discuss since it contains a number of observations from lay representatives, ministry personnel, and the regional council executive.

A number of online training sessions were made available including an Indigenous journey through history entitled "Home on Native Land." This is particularly relevant as the vote on Remit 1 is to be completed by this spring (Fonthill United has already voted on this.) Other racial justice training was made available including a session for Indigenous and racialized ministry personnel and one for white personnel. These were particularly helpful as resources for discussion groups led by ministry personnel. Pastoral Care Committees also benefited from training sessions. Moving forward it is planned that the Pastoral Relations Minister will be leading training sessions for M&P Committees as well as the current Search Team Committees.

Stewardship remains an important role and Rev. Brenna Baker has a blog which may be of interest. She can be reached through the UCC website.

Looking forward to 2024: the 2024 Manual is now available and a training course to become a Pastoral Charge Supervisor is now available, however, there is a cost involved.

*Pat Tooley and Sheila Laundry,  
Regional Council representatives*

## Friendship Group Report

The past year was a very quiet year for the Friendship Group. Sixteen people attended the Port Colborne Operatic Society production of Cinderella at 2:00 pm on Sunday February 26. An enlarged group gathered afterwards at the Welland Swiss Chalet for a meal and refreshments.

This is a very informal group which welcomes and invites all others who are interested in joining with us in anything that we do.

*Submitted by,  
Bob Laing, the undeclared secretary*

## Choir Report

There are fourteen people in the Fonthill United Church choir. Even though our numbers are down from previous years, we still have one of the largest church choirs in the area and produce a well-balanced sound. The choir sings one anthem each Sunday and helps lead the congregation with the singing of hymns. This year we joined other United Church choirs at the Good Friday service held at Wesley. We have also combined choirs with Fenwick at several joint services. The annual carol sing was cancelled because of a Covid outbreak.

Bill Outred is an inspiring Director. He chooses our anthems to match the theme of the sermon and challenges us each week with new hymns and anthems. The choir performed a well-received cantata in December, which was made up of readings and music selected by Bill.

Music plays a vital role in our worship services at Fonthill United. Bill continues to amaze the congregation each week with his playing and singing ability. We greatly enjoyed the times that Bruce Morrirt joined Bill in very intricate piano/cello duets. Whitney Augustine did a great job filling in for Bill when he was on holidays.

If you enjoy singing, please consider joining the choir. We would love to have additional voices, and you will be made most welcome.

*Submitted by John Donald*

## Choir Financial Statement

Fund Balance at January 1, 2023:		\$2,047.93
Donations received:	0.00	
Disbursements:	<u>28.05</u>	
Fund Balance at December 31, 2023:		<u>\$2,019.88</u>

## United Church Women - Treasurer's Report 2021

Balance at January 1, 2021: 2,781.34

### Receipts:

Offerings for 2021 2,642.00

Total: 2,642.00

5,423.34

### Disbursements:

Mission & Outreach \* 1,950.00

Church - repairs to Quiet Room 500.00

Conference Assessment 75.00

**Miscellaneous** (kitchen expenses) **81.00**

2,606.00

Balance at December 31, 2021: 2,817.34

### \* Mission & Outreach disbursements:

Hope Centre 1,200.00

Pelham Cares 100.00

Women's Place 150.00

Children Believe 500.00

1,950.00

Respectfully submitted by Dora Drennan,  
Treasurer



2023 was a great year for all of us who love Cave Springs Camp and its enduring ministry. Our Program Director, Lance Wright reports that we hosted 2798 students on school field trips. Our summer camp registration increased to a total of 814 campers. Attendance at our summer overnight camps increased by 177 campers, compared to 2022.

Our staff is busy in 2024, with many groups renting our year-round building. I want to commend Ryan Anderson, our property manager with many improvements around the site. If you want to hold an event at camp, please contact Anita Philpott at 289 501-3743.



With our year-round Conference Centre and newly heated cabins, we have significantly expanded our year-round ministry. We ran a March Break Camp, a Youth Halloween event, a Theatre Camp, and an event for local Youth Groups. Our partner groups have included Community Associations, Church Groups, Scouts, Knitters, and Sports Teams. After spending time at Cave Springs, we often hear guests say the noise of the busy day decreases while the voices of nature and Divine Spirit increase.

These are ways you and your congregation can support Cave Springs Camp:

- You can sponsor campers up to age 15, for a week at camp.
- You can encourage youth to apply as counsellors for a summer of teamwork, fun and growth. Our counsellors grow even more than our campers.
- We also offer the Servant Leadership Program for a small number of young leaders who might be counsellors next year.
- Your congregation can name two members to our Corporation. Our Corporation AGM is in April. The corporation elects up to 20 volunteer board members who meet all year.
- You could also choose to serve on a committee without being a member.
- You may book a UCW visit, church picnic, Board retreat or family retreat or community event, or join the Mindfulness Retreat on February 17.
- You could arrange monthly donations by emailing: [donations@cavespringscamp.on.ca](mailto:donations@cavespringscamp.on.ca)
- You could name the camp as a bequest in your will.

If you would like to have a Camping Sunday for morning worship, with leadership from the camp, please contact Lance Wright at 905 563-8487.

Cave Springs is a place where children and youth overcome fears, grow in faith and thrive in an outdoor environment. They discover that they CAN spend a day or a week without a screen and they discover that they are capable of more than they thought. With your support and investment, thousands of lives have been enriched and strengthened at Cave Springs Camp.

We thank you for your support, as Camp cannot happen without you. Camp is a growing youth program in the United Church of Canada.

*Your servant,  
David Duffus, President of the Board*

For the 2023/2024 Scouting Year we have 19 leaders (aka scouters); some attend more regularly than others but all helping where and when they are available. We have 56 active scouts through all sections (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers). Also some attend more frequently as many are also involved in sports that sometimes conflict with meeting nights and outings.

### **Beavers**

The Beavers have had a great start to the year.

We started with our swim up, a ceremony where the Beavers who are now old enough for Cubs say goodbye to their Beaver leaders and are welcomed into the Cub Pack.

Had a night hike with the cubs at Short Hills.

Invested the new Beavers in scouting, a ceremony where the youth is welcomed into the local as well as worldwide scouting organization.

Visited the fire hall.

Participated in apple day.

Made apple crisp with some of the leftover apples.

Learned to identify some trees.

Learned some campfire songs to sing in our formal campfire with all the other sections.

Had a Halloween party.

Indoor all-sections campfire with skits and songs.

Made some Christmas cards for the Pelham town competition.

Did a Lego challenge night where we built steps up to a zip line for our Lego people to zip down.

### **Upcoming:**

Visit Pelham Cares and help at the food drive where possible.

Beaver Shiver – winter outdoor day event at Camp Wetaskiwin to learn some outdoor skills.

A space night to learn about some constellations.

Santa Claus Parade and a Christmas party to look forward to finishing off this year.

In the new year we will be building, decorating and racing Beaver Buggies, a movie night, some outdoor winter fun as well as other new adventures still to plan.

Spring outdoor clean up at the church.

### **Cubs**

Halloween dress-up meeting and First Aid, and with the Venturer sections, a volunteer injured Zombies.

Indoor all-sections campfire with skits and songs.

Night hike – Lathrop Nature Preserve.

Spring outdoor clean up at the church.

Build and race cub cars.

### **Scouts**

Weeklong camp at Haliburton Scout Reserve, with canoeing, many including the leaders experienced sailing for the first time.

Trash clean up in Marlene Stewart Streit Park.

Learn to tie fishing flies and cast with a fly rod.

New scouts worked through their knife permit and fire permit.

Fall camp at Camp Wetaskiwin in St Catharines.

Archery.

Tree and plant identification.

Hikes in Lathrop Nature Preserve.

Apple Day Fundraiser.

Plant trees with the town.

Invasive species removal at Camp Wetaskiwin.

Learned about a compass and how to use it.

Pumpkin carving at Halloween.

Indoor all-sections campfire with skits and songs.

Help with Pelham Cares food drive.

First Aid with Fonthill Firefighters.

Winter Truck build camp – At night 13 scouts slept in tents at the North Pelham Youth Hall to test their winter gear in preparation for February Iceberg Klondike winter skills challenge camp. During the day they designed and built their Trucks to show and race in late February.

### **Upcoming for the rest of the year**

Winter camp at Blue Springs (near Guelph) mid February.

Trash clean up in Marlene Stewart Streit Park late spring.

Stove and lantern permit.

Axe and saw permit.

How to tie and use knots.

More hikes.

Tarp shelter.

More invasive species removal at Camp Wetaskiwin.

Orienteering.

Spring outdoor clean up at the church.

Spring camp with tree planting in Camp Wetaskiwin.

Weeklong summer camp back at Haliburton Scout Reserve.

Plus, a bunch more yet to be planned.

### **Venturers/Rovers**

One Venturer and one Rover attended Haliburton with the troop and Scouters.

Camp at Wetaskiwin in September went well, lots of new archers and knife permits earned.

Despite timing conflicts, we had a great turnout for Apple Day, and the overnighiter was a success.

Venturers and Rovers supported our Cubs overnighiter. Also dressed up as the victims to help with zombie first aid, for the Halloween meeting with the Cubs.

Our Rover and Scouter attended Zoo Moot in Oshawa. Travelled by GO train, which was a first, and city bus from Burlington.

Venturers attending Genesis Ventmoot with 1st Port Dover in Dorchester.

Indoor all-sections campfire with skits and songs.

Tree planting with the town in late November.

Plan on helping with the Pelham Cares food drive, and the Pelham Christmas parade.

Having an OAS games night in early January, before exams start.

Building and racing scout trucks in the new year and attending snow moot in February.

Spring outdoor clean up at the church.

Lots more in the spring, and hoping to expand our contingent of active members to attend Haliburton this summer.

*Submitted by Kent Ratcliffe, Scouting representative*

**2023 OPERATING FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENT (ACTUAL & BUDGET) and 2024 BUDGET**

		Actual 2022	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Budget 2024
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
	Operating Fund Contributions	162,938	161,435	145,000	150,000
	Loose Offerings	580	611	750	400
	Special Contributions (2022: Energy Rebate)	1,317	0	0	0
	Offering Envelopes	103	58	100	0
	Church Rentals	13,255	27,275	24,500	27,000
	Solar Panel Generation	10,207	10,249	9,000	9,000
	Fundraising	4,043	0	5,000	0
	United Church Women transfer	0	500	0	0
	Interest Earned	3,662	5,661	6,000	6,355
	Broadview Subscriptions	225	200	225	0
	United Church of Canada Grants/Gifts	1,200	0	0	0
	Miscellaneous	275	875	0	450
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>197,804</b>	<b>206,863</b>	<b>190,575</b>	<b>193,205</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>					
<b>DENOMINATIONAL SUPPORT</b>					
	General Council Assessment	7,436	8,643	8,643	8,938
	M&S Fund Contribution	6,395	5,000	5,000	5,000
	TOTAL	13,831	13,643	13,643	13,938
<b>WAGES &amp; BENEFITS</b>					
	Salaries	111,605	110,740	118,247	105,454
	Contractual Labour (Zoom support; 2023 includes interim minister)	1,738	7,685	2,000	1,500
	Travel Allowances	1,434	1,440	4,940	3,540
	Study Allowance	1,500	1,256	1,500	984
	Telephone Allowance	720	755	720	900
	Personnel Miscellaneous	996	2,336	0	0
	Payroll Taxes, UCC Benefits	25,752	21,212	27,532	10,637
	TOTAL	143,745	145,423	154,939	123,015
<b>PROGRAMS</b>					
<b>WORSHIP</b>					
	Music, Maintenance, Licence	1,435	672	1,000	1,000
	Guest Preachers	2,329	3,299	2,000	2,000
	Organist Supply & Guest Musicians	1,250	900	1,500	1,500
	Decorating Fund (net surplus - formerly Chancel Guild)	-140	-12	0	0
	Miscellaneous Supplies	615	650	700	700
	MEMBERSHIP	281	68	450	450
	OUTREACH FUND RESERVE (For local community)	3,400	4,000	4,000	4,000
	STEWARDSHIP	96	0	125	150
	PASTORAL CARE	13	0	100	150
	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	98	165	500	500
	HARVEST SUPPERS	200	0	0	0
	TOTAL	9,577	9,742	10,375	10,450
<b>PROPERTY</b>					
	Maintenance (General, Custodial, Snow/Grounds)	29,784	23,205	25,000	26,150
	Utilities	18,305	19,479	21,000	21,000
	Insurance	10,579	11,115	10,600	11,000
	Building Consultants	0	3,861	0	0
	Capital Expense Reserve	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
	TOTAL	60,168	59,160	58,100	59,650
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>					
	Office Supplies, Postage, Technology	4,136	3,334	3,000	3,500
	Telephone	2,908	879	2,700	1,000
	Printing	504	1,343	600	1,460
	Bank Charges	1,105	1,163	1,020	1,200
	Broadview Subscriptions	230	248	230	240
	Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0
	Advertising	0	0	1,000	1,000
	TOTAL	8,883	6,968	8,550	8,400
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>236,204</b>	<b>234,936</b>	<b>245,607</b>	<b>215,453</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(38,400)</b>	<b>(28,072)</b>	<b>(55,032)</b>	<b>(22,248)</b>
	Year-end Transfer from Memoriam Fund (2022 & 2023)	9,400	3,072		
	Year-end Transfer from Enduring Gifts Fund (2022)	29,000	0		
	UCC-approved Transfer from Manse Funds (2023)	0	25,000		
	Operating Fund Surplus (Deficit) at December 31	0	0		



**FUND BALANCES at DECEMBER 31, 2023**

<b>BUILDING &amp; EQUIPMENT FUND</b>			
Fund Balance at Dec. 31/22			\$ 2,678.55
Receipts:			
Capital Expense Reserve	\$ 1,500.00		
Roof Repairs donations	\$ 4,425.00		
		\$ 5,925.00	
Disbursements:			
A/V Equipment	\$ 779.44		
Roof Repairs	\$ 6,537.76		
Extension Council Loan Interest	\$ 80.78		
		\$ 7,397.98	
Surplus / (Shortfall)			\$ (1,472.98)
<b>Fund Balance at Dec. 31/23</b>			<b>\$ 1,205.57</b>

<b>OUTREACH FUND</b>			
Fund Balance at Dec. 31/22			\$ 4,741.22
Receipts:			
Transfer from Operating Fund	\$ 4,000.00		
Contributions	\$ 600.00		
Harvest Suppers	\$ 1,110.00		
Turkey Earthquake Relief	\$ 2,485.00		
Bandshell Concert Donations	\$ 275.00		
Nightlight Youth Services	\$ 300.00		
Pelham Cares	\$ 5,825.00		
Wildfire Relief	\$ 1,200.00		
		\$ 15,795.00	
Disbursements:			
Benevolent Fund	\$ 807.96		
Bandshell Concert	\$ 982.40		
Nightlight Youth Services	\$ 557.63		
Strawberry Social	\$ 60.00		
Harvest Suppers	\$ 382.87		
Wellspring Niagara	\$ 1,000.00		
Red Cross - Wildfire Relief	\$ 1,200.00		
Huntington Society	\$ 1,500.00		
Pelham Cares	\$ 5,825.00		
Hospice Niagara	\$ 1,500.00		
The Hope Centre	\$ 1,000.00		
Red Cross - Earthquake Relief	\$ 2,485.00		
		\$ 17,300.86	
Surplus / (Shortfall)			\$ (1,505.86)
<b>Fund Balance at Dec. 31/23</b>			<b>\$ 3,235.36</b>

<b>MEMORIAM FUND</b>			
Fund Balance at Dec. 31/22			\$ 1,279.77
Receipts: Memorial donations		\$ 5,800.00	
Disbursements: Transfer to Operating Fund		\$ 3,072.49	
Surplus / (Shortfall)			\$ 2,727.51
<b>Fund Balance at Dec. 31/23</b>			<b>\$ 4,007.28</b>

<b>ENDURING GIFTS FUND</b>			
Fund Balance at Dec. 31/22			\$ 21,448.15
Receipts:			\$ -
Disbursements:			\$ -
<b>Fund Balance at Dec. 31/23</b>			<b>\$ 21,448.15</b>

<b>MANSE FUND</b>			
Fund Balance at Dec. 31/22			\$ 214,591.85
Receipts:			\$ -
Disbursements: Transfer to Operating Fund			\$ 25,000.00
<b>Fund Balance at Dec. 31/23</b>			<b>\$ 189,591.85</b>

*Fonthill United Church*

**BALANCE SHEET**

As at December 31, 2023

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
<b>CASH ASSETS</b>		
CIBC Chequing Account	35,971.97	30,136.72
Petty Cash	100.00	100.00
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>36,071.97</b>	<b>30,236.72</b>
<b>ALLOCATED TO:</b>		
<i>Operating Fund</i>	25,603.88	19,489.25
<i>Outreach Fund</i>	3,235.36	4,741.22
<i>Memoriam Fund</i>	4,007.28	1,279.77
<i>Building Fund</i>	1,205.57	2,678.55
<i>Choir Fund</i>	2,019.88	2,047.93
	<b>36,071.97</b>	<b>30,236.72</b>
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
IPC Securities - Term Deposits	0.00	25,650.00
Edward Jones Investments - Term Deposits	191,000.00	210,000.00
CIBC Chequing Account	20,040.00	390.00
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>211,040.00</b>	<b>236,040.00</b>
<b>ALLOCATED TO:</b>		
<i>Manse Fund</i>	189,591.85	214,591.85
<i>Enduring Gifts Fund</i>	21,448.15	21,448.15
	<b>211,040.00</b>	<b>236,040.00</b>
<b>RECEIVABLES</b>		
HST Receivable	1,760.90	2,400.82
Prepaid Insurance	4,789.35	4,410.00
Montessori Preschool	0.00	30.00
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>6,550.25</b>	<b>6,840.82</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>253,662.22</u></b>	<b><u>273,117.54</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Extension Council Loan (for repairs)	5,824.06	0.00
<b>LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</b>		
	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>5,824.06</u></b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>
<b>FUND BALANCE (Equity)</b>	<b>247,838.16</b>	<b>273,117.54</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>	<b><u>253,662.22</u></b>	<b><u>273,117.54</u></b>