

Rockwood and Stone United Churches Annual Report 2020

Stone United Church

Annual Meeting
February 7, 2021



The Little Church with a Big Heart

*“Jesus is our Saviour and our example.
Through the love and forgiveness of God,
we are empowered
at Stone United Church
to grow spiritually, to love and serve
those in our family, church, community
and the world.
We will express our faith
by serving needy families.”*

Rockwood United Church

Annual Meeting
February 14, 2021



Live, Love, Laugh

*“We are the body of Christ,
chosen to live together in peace.
Shaped by our love of God,
nurtured in the life of Christ
and embraced by
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we welcome all to God’s family.
Come and live simply, love generously,
and laugh freely.”*



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Letter from Minister Heather Leffler

Friends in Christ,

Had we been told at the beginning of 2020 that many of us would not see each other face to face for 10 months, I can't imagine how we would have planned for this unusual year in the life of our churches. What I do know is that even before the pandemic closed our buildings, the Spirit was guiding us at Rockwood and Stone to care for each other, to stay connected and to continue to serve God faithfully.

The Spirit turned casual conversations with William Stiles and Melanie Running and the input of our Worship and Christian Education Committees into Contemplation and Conversation. The first reflection sent on the second Sunday in January was intended to offer busy families and students who were away at school a spiritual practice when they couldn't attend church. Thanks to people like the Bakers, who print and deliver copies of these reflections to folks who are not able to worship with us online, a sense of togetherness has been maintained during the pandemic.

Our regular activities carried on in January, February and early March. In addition, Rockwood hosted a delightful Robbie Burns dinner on a very stormy January evening. The Spirit inspired the Outreach Committee to deliver delicious meals to people who couldn't attend and sowed the seeds for Food Fixes, Breakfast for Dinner and Take-Out Dinners that would become so important later in the year.

In March, when larger churches closed because of COVID-19, the Spirit nudged us to meet for one last Sunday. It was an unusual morning with people standing distanced from one another wondering what was ahead. Taking time to talk after worship about how we could care for each other and stay connected through the coming weeks, which turned into months, the Spirit birthed Circles of Care. I spent the next two weeks with the help of phoners from Stone connecting with most of you by phone or email. It was a gift to talk with you. It continues to be a gift when you reach out with stories of how your calls turned into video chats or singing together; when you call to share concerns about someone in our congregations or when you contact me with suggestions for our ministries.

Your responses to the invitation of the Spirit have been amazing. You took the risk and learned Zoom ... shared your gifts of music online for our worship services and in person to support families saying goodbye to loved ones at graveside funerals ... planned and participated in fun fundraisers ... helped build a teaching lodge and wampum path at Anishnabeg Outreach ... took part in the spring clean up and renovations in the Jeanne Jackson room at Stone, and made improvements inside and outside at Rockwood ... and joined in outdoor worship at Ray and Ellen Thomson's and in the Stone cemetery – all masked and socially distanced events designed to care for each other. Regular activities moved online or were reimaged.

When people expressed a longing to see our sanctuaries, the Spirit guided our conversation and our amazing volunteers to create Advent candleholders for our church families to help us feel connected.

While other churches spent a lot of time and energy opening their buildings in the fall, those of you not on Zoom assured us that you were comfortable with staying safe at home. This meant we could focus our energy on decorating the outside of our churches; gathering items for the foodbank in a unique way; and sending a flyer to our communities to share what we have been doing and wish them well.

This has not been the year we imagined, and we would never have wished for it, but I am deeply gratefully that we have journeyed through it together. I trust that we have been held by the Spirit and will come through the pandemic with many learnings that will help us grow in deeper relationship with God and each other.

With thanks and blessings,



Rockwood Stone Pastoral Charge Committee Reports:

Pastoral Charge Board

Submitted by Brian Mack, Chairperson

The Pastoral Charge Board met three times in 2020. The following highlight actions taken by the Board:

- Approved the Rockwood-Stone website and domain be moved from Weebly to Chris Barlow hosting them
- Accepted the following statement of principles to guide the work of the Rockwood-Stone Pastoral Charge

Principles that Guide the Work of Rockwood-Stone Pastoral Charge

The Pastoral Charge Board believes that the work of the charge at all levels should be deeply intentional with a focus on ministry in its many forms. Emphasis should be placed on developing, empowering, and releasing people to engage in meaningful ministry in keeping with their individual gifts.

Approach to Governance

Committed to growing and living as disciples and followers of Jesus, we believe in an approach to governance that mirrors the teachings associated with the gospels. Discussions, decision-making, and actions taken at any level of governance should be made in a safe, nurturing atmosphere characterized by the following:

- **Healthy relationships**
- **Honest, constructive dialogue leading to consensus**
- **Regular prayer and discernment**
- **Growth in understanding of The United Church's mission, guiding principles, focus, and culture ...**
- **Enhancement and celebration of inclusivity and diversity**
- **Permission granting rather than permission withholding culture**
- **Emphasis on the future rather than day to day management**
- **Growth in the understanding of mandated tasks (especially Board/Councils and those which may be easily delegated)**
- **Dedication to being good stewards of God's world**
- **A willingness to evaluate ministries of the congregations on a regular basis**

This is a living document.

- Approved that Worship and Christian Education, and Pastoral Care and Fellowship be committees in both our congregations
- Approved a New Discernment Circle and New Initiatives Policy
- Adopted the following policies as living documents: Terms of Reference for the Pastoral Charge Board, the Finance and Stewardship Committee, the Ministry and Personnel Committee, the Worship Committee, and the Trustees
- Amended Position Descriptions for Board Chair, Board Secretary, and Pastoral Charge Treasurer
- Approved the following meeting schedule for the Board, our Councils and Combined Committees effective September 2020:

- **two meetings of Board in May and November**
 - **two meetings of Councils in January and September**
 - **two meetings of Finance and Stewardship in April and October**
 - **three meetings of Pastoral Charge Worship in January, April and September**
 - **Annual Meetings the first and second or third Sundays in February depending on Family Day**
 - **all Committees to meet as needed to fulfill their mandates**
- Approved the following new Rockwood-Stone Board and Council Structure effective September 2020

Rockwood-Stone Board and Council Structure

Pastoral Charge Board – 18 members

- Chairperson (1)** – elected from Board
- Secretary (1)** – elected from Board
- Treasurer (1)** – elected from Board
- Rockwood and Stone Council Chairpersons (2)** or designates
- Rockwood and Stone Treasurers (2)**
- Ministry & Personnel Chairperson (1)** or designate
- Pastoral Charge Trustees Chairperson (1)** or designate
- Congregational Committee Chairperson** or designate
 - Worship and Christian Education (2)**
 - Pastoral Care and Fellowship (2)**
 - Outreach or UCW (2)**
 - Property and Finance (2)**
- Minister (1)**

Members and adherents are welcome to attend and speak at Board meetings
but only the above positions vote.

Congregational Councils – 9 members

Rockwood Council

- Chairperson (1)**
- Secretary (1)**
- Treasurer (1)**

Stone Council

- Chairperson (1)**
- Secretary (1)**
- Treasurer (1)**

Committee Chairperson or designate

- Worship and Christian Education (1)**
- Pastoral Care and Fellowship (1)**
- Outreach (1)**
- Property and Finance (1)**
- Trustees (1)**
- Minister (1)**

- Worship and Christian Education (1)**
- Pastoral Care and Fellowship (1)**
- UCW (1)**
- Property and Finance (1)**
- Trustees (1)**
- Minister (1)**

Members and adherents are welcome to attend and speak at Council meetings
but only the above positions vote.

- Approved the establishment of a Church Reopening Commission with the following members: Brian Mack, Bill Allen, Jack Ward, Liz Guthrie, Steve Thomson, Sherol Steinberg, Rosslyn Bentley, Barbara Eley, Kay Mathies, Marcia Haworth, and Rev. Heather Leffler. According to United Church policy, the commission has the power of the Board and reports to the Board for information only.

The Commission was tasked with the responsibility to research what needs to be done before our churches can safely reopen, to put together a plan for reopening, to communicate the plan to the congregations, and to put the plan in place.

- Created a Zoom Worship Discernment Circle – members added following the Board meeting were Rev. Leffler, Lisa Leffler, Ed Nagel, and Chris Arbuckle
- Endorsed the purchase of a new designated laptop for the use of the church secretary
- Discussed and endorsed the proposed Pastoral Charge budget as a living document
- Adopted the Terms of Reference for Pastoral Charge Board Nominations
- Approved spending of up to \$150 to create Advent wreaths for each active household in the Pastoral Charge

As the above outline indicates it was a very fruitful year for the Pastoral Charge Board especially in the area of reviewing policy and updating procedures. As a governing body, we are especially indebted to Brian Mack, Bill Allen, Heather Leffler, Heather DeJonge, Sherol Steinberg, and Sarah Leffler who formed the Governance Discernment Circle. This group was given the task of examining the model of governance which had been in existence since 1989, streamlining it to better conform to the current requirements of the Manual and to provide detailed terms of reference in line with existing and future needs of our charge.

Looking forward to 2021, the Board will continue to receive reports as to the further work of the various on-going committees, the Reopening Commission, the Governance Discernment Circle, the Affirming Discernment Circle and the Zoom Worship Discernment Circle. A workshop regarding governance led by Bill Allen is anticipated.

As a people of faith, we give thanks to God for:

- *Our Committees and Councils of Rockwood and Stone*
- *The on-going work of Ministry and Personnel, Combined Worship and Christian Education, and Combined Finance and Stewardship*
- *The on-going work of our various discernment circles*
- *The work of Sharyn Southworth on our behalf as church secretary*
- *The record keeping efforts of Carol Smelsky*
- *The on-going work of Bill Allen and Amanda Hunter as our Church Treasurers and Roy Steinberg as Pastoral Charge Treasurer*
- *The ministry of Reverend Heather Leffler and the congregations of Rockwood and Stone*

In closing, it is my hope that the collective determination, co-operation and togetherness which exists in our Pastoral Charge will remain as our touchstone in the coming year as we seek to discern God's will and to chart our path accordingly. In everything that we do, may we continue to acknowledge God and to continuously offer him praise as instructed by the following words of scripture from Psalm 66:1-3a:

*“Shout joyfully to God, all the earth;
Sing the glory of his name;
Make his praise glorious.
Say to God, ‘How awesome are thy works!’”*

Thanks be to God.

Affirming Discernment Circle

Submitted by Lisa Leffler

Members: Rockwood – Marion Bascom, Barb Eley, Brent Stiles,
Stone – Liz Guthrie, Lisa Leffler, Brian Mack

The Affirming Discernment Circle met in person at the start of the year. We took a break when the pandemic hit because at that point not all our members had internet at home, and we decided it was important to meet as a whole group. We were able to resume regular meetings in September and November via Zoom.

Throughout the year members of the Affirming Discernment Circle participated in webinars and events to help expand our understanding of what it means to be affirming. This includes but is not limited to the ***Becoming a Trans Ally*** webinar by United in Learning (www.united-in-learning.com/index.php/webinars/recordings/336-becoming-a-trans-ally), a concert by the Waterloo-Wellington Rainbow Chorus – a community choir that welcomes members of all genders, sexualities and gender expressions and allies of the LGBTQ+ community, and an Autism and the Church workshop led by Grant Macaskill.

In order to share some of these learnings with the congregation, the Affirming Discernment Circle has added a section in Contemplation and Conversation. This section has included reflections and links to information provided by the Affirming Discernment Circle as well as videos and articles shared with us by congregation members. If you see an article or video that you think would be of interest to our congregations, please send it to Lisa at lleffler@live.ca. We also offered the opportunity to discuss these reflections, videos and/or articles after worship. We had one discussion group in the fall and hope to have more in the new year.

We will be leading worship the second Sunday in January. For the message portion of the worship service, Marion Bascom graciously agreed to share her story of her daughter coming out. If you have a coming out story or a story about how racism, sexism, ageism, ablism (or any other “ism”) has impacted your life that you are willing to share with the congregation, please contact a member of the circle so we can discuss options of how that can be done.

We look forward to hosting workshops and conversations in the new year as we explore ways to ensure that Rockwood Stone is and continues to be a safe place for everyone to worship together.

Eramosa Ensemble

Submitted by Barbara Eley, Director

Members: Rockwood – Chris Arbuckle (viola), Chris Barlow (violin), Barbara Eley (director, flute),
Stone – Liz Guthrie (clarinet)

The Eramosa Ensemble continues to meet and rehearse, whether it's outside, inside (distanced and with masks and shields) or virtually. Many thanks go to Chris Barlow for his generous donation of time and expertise in recording and editing music with the ensemble, and to Chris Arbuckle for hosting Zoom rehearsals.

Highlights

January 5 – Provided music for the combined worship service at Stone.

January 18 – Along with Rosslyn Bentley, provided music (instrumental and vocal) for the Robbie Burns Dinner at Rockwood. It was a wonderful evening!

December 6 – Spent November rehearsing and recording music for the annual Carol Sing, which was held on Zoom. The music and slides were then posted on the Rockwood Stone YouTube channel. The ensemble pieces were also used as special music at other services.

December 24 – Flute music for the Readings and Reflections service was recorded ahead of time, allowing Rev. Leffler and Lisa Leffler time to add images and readings. The service was posted on the Rockwood Stone YouTube channel.

It is a blessing to be able to continue to make music together, and we look forward to a time when we can enjoy the energy of live group performance once again.

Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun

Submitted by Heather Leffler, Minister

Throughout the year, 33 people of all ages attended Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun. In February and March, we met at Rockwood. Thanks to Kevin Anthony for setting up the tables and Ollie and Lou Darcie for setting tables and preparing beverages. In June and December, we gathered on Zoom.

We enjoyed dinners of pork and sauerkraut, chili, turkey and dressing, with pigs in a blanket, vegetables, and salads thanks to the Lefflers and delicious desserts thanks to Ollie Darcie and Kay Mathies. In June, Lefflers and Darcies delivered take-out meals. In December, everyone prepared their own supper to reduce the risk of COVID-19. Through quizzes, conversation and worship, we explored how we are called to be salt and light; the meaning of the cross; why words matter with prayers from the Indigenous Day of Prayer; and talked about Christmas trees. Crafts included making candle holders out of tin cans, matchstick crosses, water painting meditation boards and star Christmas trees.

These evenings offer an opportunity to get to know our Rockwood and Stone church families and friends and share in a time of informal worship.

Finance and Stewardship

Submitted by Heather Leffler, Minister

Members: Pastoral Charge – Rosslyn Bentley (M&P Chairperson), Peter Guthrie (Treasurer of Pastoral Charge Trustees), Brian Mack, (Chairperson), Roy Steinberg (Treasurer); **Rockwood** – Property and Finance – Kevin Anthony, Amanda Hunter (Treasurer), Sherol Steinberg (Chairperson); **Stone** – Property and Finance – Bill Allen (Treasurer), Ed Nagel, Tom Parker, Edie Ward (UCW), Jack Ward (Chairperson); Heather Leffler (Minister)

At the outset of the pandemic in March, a letter was received from the national church concerning finances in a time of crisis. In response to this letter, a message was drafted, edited by email, and sent to our congregations outlining how people could continue to donate through postdated cheques, PAR, e-transfers and Canada Helps. Thanks to Chris Barlow for setting up dedicated emails for our treasurers to receive e-transfers – rockwooduc.treasurer@gmail.com and stoneuc.treasurer@gmail.com.

The committee met in April by Zoom. Bill had correspondence from a law firm specializing in church and charity organizations. After reviewing the information provided concerning the risks associated with church operations in a pandemic, the committee discussed how we would respond if the lockdown lasted for an extended period of time. Ensuring the well being of our church members was of utmost importance. Heather had purchased a Zoom license for her personal use and offered to use it for the Pastoral Charge for this year. We recommended and the Board, in turn, accepted Chris Barlow's gracious offer to create a new website and host it.

In subsequent months, a number of committee members continued to view the weekly webinars Erik Mathiesen, Chief Financial Officer of the United Church, offered for treasurers. These were very helpful in the beginning, especially relating to the 10% Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers. Roy worked with ADP to access this benefit and explored the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy. Thanks to the continued support of our members, we never qualified for the second subsidy.

The Operation Haircut fundraiser was planned to provide support for our churches. Heather's offer to have the congregations vote on whether she should shave her head with 80% of givings going to local, 10% to M&S and 10% to Outreach in the congregations was accepted. Sherol Steinberg and Lisa Leffler organized the fundraiser and publicity. People received one vote for every \$10 they donated. Following worship on May 3, Heather's head was shaved. \$1970 was divided as she had requested.

Throughout the summer and fall, our treasurers and minister met regularly to ensure that both congregations were able to meet their expenses. We added a podcasting license to our One License account. In the fall, a letter offering ways to support our churches was sent to members who had not been supporting our churches financially since the beginning of the pandemic.

At our meeting via Zoom in October, it was decided that we would send a Christmas flyer to the community celebrating and offering thanks to the wider community for our various successful projects throughout 2020 – Operation Haircut, Anishnabeg Outreach, Garden Tour, Take Out Dinners, CFGB Project, and the Food Fix. The flyer also highlighted on-going activities and extended an invitation to the Carol Sing and Christmas Eve services. As our secretary has been using her own computer when working from home and the church computer is close to 10 years old, we recommended to the Board that a laptop be purchased for the office. This recommendation was accepted, and software was purchased through Tech Soup. \$4,000 was transferred from the Manse Fund to the General Fund. The committee offered input for the proposed 2021 Pastoral Charge budget.

In November, Bill Allen, Heather Leffler, Brian Mack and Sherol Steinberg took part in a four week Called to be the Church – Stewardship Best Practices module. Dave Jagger, Western Ontario Waterways Stewardship and Gift Officer, led the webinars.

The committee is very grateful to our treasurers Roy Steinberg, Bill Allen and Amanda Hunter-Anthony for their ongoing commitment and the extra work they did this year because of the pandemic.

Ministry and Personnel

Submitted by Rosslyn Bentley, Chairperson

Members: Rockwood – Rosslyn Bentley, Frances Jamieson, Ellen Thomson,
Stone – Brian Mack, Peter Guthrie, Randy Dewey

Rosslyn Bentley and Brian Mack met with Heather in September 2020 to complete her annual review. Heather was thanked for the flexibility and creativeness of her response and leadership both initially and ongoing during the COVID emergency. We feel so blessed for Heather's ongoing leadership and wisdom.

The M&P Committee met on November 8, 2020 and recommended to the Pastoral Charge Board that the minister and secretary receive the 2.2% cost of living increase mandated by the United Church.

Our church secretary, Sharyn Southworth, continues to work from home throughout the COVID response. A new laptop was recommended by the Finance and Stewardship Committee to facilitate her work. In compliance with church policy, Sharyn provided a current Annual Declaration in December

2020. (After an initial police record check, the United Church now has staff make an Annual Declaration of Criminal Charges.)

In 2018 Heather was called as a commissioner to General Council 43 in Oshawa. The GC43 met twice during COVID. Heather mentioned the important upcoming work of becoming a racialized church.

The Circles of Care have been reaching out to try to ensure those who are unable or do not want to participate via Zoom remain connected.

Along with the other church staff, our two church organists Liz Guthrie and Heather Blair have ably adapted to the COVID emergency with weekly music along with the Eramosa Ensemble and many individuals and families who have provided wonderful special music to support our virtual worship.

As people of faith, we are so accustomed to the companionship of regular worship and prayer, meeting virtually is a pale imitation of the close companionship that enforces our close bonds. Yet it is this testing time that reveals our ability to sustain and create true fellowship. Our two churches have never been closer. As a church we are drawing closer together, we are paying attention to how we connect and how we hold each other and our community with love. So many people are struggling and yet we are succeeding to change, even just connecting by Zoom or phone is something new and fruitful.

Thank you to the members of the M&P committee for your faithful service. Everyone on the committee provides service to the churches in many different ways and has been on the committee for many years and we are so grateful.

Thank you all for your service and faithfulness: being a people whose outreach is so key in the health and spiritual growth of our community, especially at this time. Let us celebrate how we have continued to offer a pathway to God together. Let us continue to open our churches to all who want and need to be in relation with a faith community.

Minister's Report to Ministry and Personnel for 2020

Submitted by Heather Leffler, Minister

Worship – Working with our combined Worship and Christian Education Committees and our amazing musicians, we were able to move from worshipping in church to worshipping online in a few short weeks. The gathering time before and after as well as conversation in worship has helped to keep us connected and gives opportunities to deepen our faith. I am grateful to Lisa Leffler, the Foodgrains Committee and Worship and Christian Education Committee for leading worship when I was off.

Pastoral Care – It was a gift to speak with so many of you when I set up the Circles of Care and I look forward to touching base again soon. I have appreciated the many phone calls I have received since the beginning of the pandemic. Hosting Coffee Connections and Tea and Talk most weeks on Zoom and meeting with the women outside at Ollie Darcie's for social distanced visits in the fall have been opportunities for me to connect. Helping with the Advent candleholders, sending cards, emails and Christmas cards continues to keep you in my heart.

Children and Young People – Gathering online gave me the opportunity to meet with our children at Rockwood and young people at Stone this fall. One Saturday morning a month, we have had Kids Time where we have explored the stories of Moses and the Christmas story with crafts, activities and videos. Conversations with the young people from Stone one Sunday evening a month have been about sharing how we are and where God is active in our lives. Megan Thomson and Amanda, Heidi and Emma Smits imagined the special music and retelling of the Christmas story out of our time together.

Christian Education – Our Bible Study group has been studying the Epistles and moved online early in the pandemic. In our conversations, we wrestle with Paul’s writings that have shaped the Christian church for 2,000 years and how they impact our lives and faith. In the fall we moved to Tuesday evenings so that I could take Monday as a day off. I appreciate being able to participate in the Genesis Book Club; Spiritual Saturdays organized by Lisa Leffler and Heather DeJonge; and sharing in the planning of this year’s Lenten Study with Karen Richardson and Lisa Leffler.

Outreach – It has been an exciting year to work with Rockwood Outreach and the Stone Foodgrains Committee as they planned the many creative activities to support Mission and Service, Anishnabeg Outreach, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, East Wellington Community Services and the Rural Women’s Support Program. I am glad to support them through sharing ideas, helping to publicize their activities and by sharing their stories in worship. I was very grateful to help with building Anishnabeg Outreach’s teaching lodge and two row wampum with members of our congregations.

Discernment Circles – I have valued the prayerful work of the Governance Discernment Circle drafting terms of reference for our Board and Pastoral Charge committees and position descriptions for church leaders. These were adopted by the Board in June. In 2021, we will be taking policies to our Councils for their approval. I have offered some support to the Affirming Discernment Circle and have been very grateful for their leadership in worship and the creative ways they have found to help us all reflect on how we can ensure our churches provide safe space for all people. The pandemic offered a time to continue making the Jeanne Jackson Reading Room a more inviting space. Thanks to all the volunteers who worked on moving the washroom door, dry walling, painting, cleaning and organizing the room. I am very excited to work with our Zoom Worship Circle. Not only are they helping improve our worship now, they are also exploring the technology we will need to have a blended worship when we return to our buildings.

I meet with our Board, Councils, Committees and Discernment Circles as I am able to offer support and co ordinate activities. I am especially grateful for the work of our Finance and Stewardship Committee encouraging stewardship, and the Reopening Commission for their prayerful decision making to keep our congregations safe this year. Working with Rockwood’s Trustees this fall has been a gift as they imagine the future for our church property.

Administration – I am grateful to our board and councils for continuing to employ our staff through the pandemic. Our secretary Sharyn Southworth came into the office on Thursdays until the middle of March but has worked from home since then. In November, she spent a day at the church copying Christmas flyers. I pick up the mail each week. I am very grateful to our treasurers for their help with the annual statistics. I enjoy preparing the Annual Reports and newsletters and am grateful for Brian Mack’s suggestions and everyone who helps with writing and editing. I prepared and sent the activity pages for the photo directory to IPC late in the spring. Carl Baker, Ellen Thomson and I approved the final draft in the summer, but the printing has been delayed because of COVID-19.

Continuing Education and Self Care – My continuing education included time reading and attending the Festival of Homiletics virtually. My ministry continues to be enriched by meeting with Guelph clergy for coffee once or twice a month. Meeting my support group and my spiritual director monthly helped to keep me grounded in this challenging year.

Cluster – It was a gift to worship with Erin and Ballinafad United Church when Rev. Felicia Urbanski and I exchanged pulpits in January. Barrie Hill members took part in the Pumpkin Growing Competition. The pandemic prevented new activities with our neighbouring churches.

Rockwood Ministers – I have been meeting monthly with the Rev. Diane Boyd, the Presbyterian minister in Rockwood, and Fr. Mark Morley from Sacred Heart. We covenanted to pray for the Rockwood community each Friday.

Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council (WOW) – I completed my term on the executive of WOW but after much prayer let my name stand again and was elected for another term. Thanks to Liz Guthrie at Stone and Sarah Leffler at Rockwood for representing us online for the WOW Annual Meeting in October. I continue to serve as the pastoral charge supervisor for Ebenezer United Church while Carolin MacMillan continues her studies. I also continue to serve as co-chairperson of the Week of Guided Prayer Network which feeds my spirit.

Goals for 2021 – To continue to engage with our children and youth outside of Sunday mornings; to work with our Discernment Circles and Committees to build on the learnings from the pandemic; and to help us find safe ways to reconnect.

Trustees

Submitted by Heather Leffler, Chairperson/Minister

Trustees: Stone – Randy Dewey, Peter Guthrie (Treasurer), Paul May, Eileen McDougall;
Rockwood – Rosslyn Bentley, Frances Jamieson, Darryl Nichol, Christine Wenger
 Heather Leffler (Minister)

The Trustees did not meet in 2020. The Rockwood Stone Pastoral Charge Manse Fund is invested with Canoe Financial. Signatories on Account #20578126 are Peter Guthrie and Heather Leffler. \$4,000 was transferred from the Manse Fund to the Pastoral Charge to be used for the minister’s Housing Allowance. Thanks to Peter Guthrie who monitors our investments.

Rockwood Stone Trustees Financial Report for 2020

Submitted by Peter Guthrie, Treasurer

Assets December 31, 2019		
Canoe Financial shares	\$142,240.20	
Total		\$142,240.20
2020 Income		
Canoe Financial Income Distribution	\$5,436.83	
Canoe Financial Fees Rebate	\$767.55	
Change in Market Value Canoe Financial	\$4,566.08	
Total Income	\$10,770.46	\$10,770.46
2020 Expenses		
Housing allowance to General Fund	\$4,000.00	
Total Expense	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Income less expenses	\$6,770.46	
Assets December 31, 2020		
		\$149,010.66
As per Generally accepted accounting principals, Canoe Financial Investments are valued at the lower of cost or market value		

Worship

Submitted by Barbara Eley, Rockwood Chairperson and Liz Guthrie Stone Chairperson

Members: Rockwood – Barb Eley, Bev Johnston, Brent Stiles, Carol Smelsky,
Stone – Heather DeJonge, Randy Dewey, Liz Guthrie, Lisa Leffler, Brian Mack, Barb Parker
Heather Leffler (Minister)

Combined Worship and Christian Education Committees from Rockwood and Stone met together on January 14, and via Zoom on April 16, May 19, October 1 and November 5, 2020.

Our Worship services continue to be via Zoom at 10:00 am and will be until such time that it is safe for us to be back in our churches.

Thank-you to:

- *Heather Leffler for learning how to use Zoom technology to keep both Rockwood and Stone Church members connected for Worship, Bible Study, Christian Education, Pastoral Charge meetings, Council and Committee meetings, Book Club, Youth meetings, and Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun.*
- *Scripture readers*
- *Those providing special music/videos: Christine Wenger, the Eramosa Ensemble, Lisa Leffler, Brent Stiles, Chris Barlow and Ros Bentley, Patty Lancaster and Liz Guthrie for their duets, the Thomson and Smits families for videos depicting hope, peace, joy and love during Advent, and the Christmas Eve video telling about the birth of Jesus.*
- *Everyone who has met the challenge of learning Zoom, chatting in the “breakout room”, muting/unmuting, and starting/stopping video.*
- *Everyone who prepared their own bread and juice at home to celebrate communion virtually on April 26, October 4, November 29 and December 24.*
- *Lisa Leffler, who led Zoom Worship on May 10, May 24, June 7 and June 28, prepared the Advent liturgy and organized the Magi March.*
- *Tom and Barb Parker, Murray Oliver, Ray Thomson, John, Heather, Lisa and Sarah Leffler for preparing Advent wreaths for church families. Also, thanks to those who delivered the wreaths. It truly helped us to feel connected to each other during the Advent season.*
- *The Eramosa Ensemble who pre-recorded music for the Annual Carol Sing and everyone who shared Christmas tree stories on December 6 at the virtual Carol Sing.*
- *All those who participated in the Magi March to support East Wellington Community Services.*
- *Barb Eley for her flute music, Heather Leffler for reflections and Lisa Leffler for pictures and video for the Christmas Eve virtual Readings and Reflections.*
- *Heather Blair and Liz Guthrie for recording music for our church services.*

Worship Highlights

March 22: No church due to Public Health restrictions for COVID-19.

March 29: Chatting via Zoom. How can we use this platform for church services?

April 5: Palm Sunday service. Some were able to connect via Zoom while others connected by phone. It was comforting to see faces and hear familiar voices. We learned quickly about the phenomenon of lag time between the playing and singing of music via Zoom.

April 12: Zoom Easter Sunday service.

May 31: The themes of Pentecost/Communion/Water were used for our Pastoral Charge picnic via Zoom. We either wore red for Pentecost or blue to represent water. Water was used as part of communion. Using the white board, Barb Eley and Barb Parker coloured the picture of Moses striking the rock. A scavenger hunt had us looking around our house or yard for items we use with water. Others drew pictures of favourite water places.

June 14: The Honourable Senator Robert Black was guest speaker for Rockwood's 153rd Anniversary. His thoughtful message ended with the reading of "Oh, The Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss. He personalized the reading with family names from the congregation.

July 5 to September 6: Summer services were led by Heather or Lisa Leffler with the exception of July 5, when we were invited to join other churches for their services.

August 23: Bill Allen, Barb and Tom Parker from the Stone Foodgrains Committee led worship.

October 18: Henry Reinders, guest speaker at Stone's 158th Anniversary, showed us how the Canadian Food Grains Bank is helping farmers in India. Pictures of the Great Pumpkin weigh-off were shown after the service.

November 8: Our Remembrance Day Service included a video about those that have fought in wars and have been remembered along the Highway of Heroes.

November 29 to December 20: During the four Sundays of Advent, we were invited to wear red, green, Christmas hats and all of the above on December 20. We each lit candles on our wreaths at home, then reflected on Hope, Peace, Joy and Love in breakout rooms.

December 12: The Magi March was a new way of picking up donations for East Wellington Community Services. After meeting under the huge pine tree at Stone United Church on a rainy Saturday for instructions, the Magi followed directions to five different locations. Number of stars were counted, a task completed, and donations picked up. Eventually all participants brought their donations to Rockwood United Church.

December 24: The Christmas Eve Readings and Reflections service was posted on the Rockwood Stone YouTube channel. At 7 pm, the Zoom Christmas Eve Communion Service included a wonderful video of the birth of Jesus created by Megan Thomson with song, word and drama thanks to the Thomson and Smits families and the children from Rockwood.

It has been a year of change in our churches. While we have worshipped using Zoom since the beginning of April, it continues to be a learning experience. Church members have blessed us by sharing their video production skills, and we have also used videos provided by the United Church, particularly for Mission and Service.

Everyone is appreciative of being able to see and hear each other. We can't sing together because of time lag, but we do sing the hymns in our homes.

We have become familiar with Brian's cats and Paul and Dianne's birds. We have come to know our friends at both Rockwood and Stone in new ways. COVID-19 has opened new doors for us all. It will be interesting to see how we continue to change and adapt worship in the future and how we will continue to find blessings in challenging times.


Rockwood Stone Pastoral Charge Financial Reports

Annual Report for Year Ended December 31, 2020

Submitted by Roy Steinberg, Treasurer

2020 Receipts and Expenses compared to Budget				2021 Approved Budget		
	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	Variance Favourable (Unfavourable)	2021 Budget	Notes	% change from 2020 Actual
Cash Receipts						
Transfers Rockwood	\$ 48,207.80	\$ 49,423.32	\$ (1,215.52)	\$ 51,400.20	1	6.62%
Transfers Stone	\$ 48,207.80	\$ 49,423.32	(1,215.52)	\$ 51,400.20	1	6.62%
Rockwood UCC Assessment	\$ 4,002.12	\$ 4,002.12	-	\$ 4,172.12	2	4.25%
Stone UCC Assessment	\$ 4,157.88	\$ 4,157.88	-	\$ 3,764.88	2	-9.45%
Transfer from Manse Fund	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	-	\$ 4,000.00	3	
Receipts Other	\$ 2,431.04	\$ -	2,431.04	\$ -	4	
Total Receipts	\$ 111,006.64	\$ 111,006.64	\$ (0.00)	\$ 114,737.40		3.36%
Expenses						
Salary, Minister	\$ 72,395.04	\$ 72,395.00	\$ (0.04)	\$ 73,988.00	6	2.20%
Housing Allowance	\$ -	\$ -		Included	7	
Minister Automobile Mileage	\$ 874.02	\$ 2,520.00	1,645.98	\$ 2,255.00	8	158.00%
Minister Telephone Allowance	\$ 420.00	\$ 420.00	-	\$ 420.00	9	0.00%
Office Phone and Internet	\$ 958.80	\$ 987.60	28.80	\$ 996.12	10	3.89%
Worship-Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 1,290.00	210.00	\$ 1,834.00	11	
Church Secretary	\$ 4,845.36	\$ 4,845.22	(0.14)	\$ 4,951.96	12	2.20%
Employee Benefits (CPP, EI)	\$ 3,847.88	\$ 4,244.82	396.94	\$ 4,669.80	13	21.36%
Church Pension & Benefits	\$ 11,740.32	\$ 11,740.16	(0.16)	\$ 13,034.53	14	11.02%
Continuing Education	\$ 1,137.79	\$ 1,442.00	304.21	\$ 1,474.00	15	29.55%
Minister - Minor expenses	\$ -	\$ 200.00	200.00	\$ 200.00	16	
Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ 150.00	150.00	\$ 100.00	17	
Copier	\$ 237.86	\$ 500.00	262.14	\$ 400.00	18	68.17%
Bulletins	\$ 715.43	\$ 650.00	(65.43)	\$ 200.00	19	-72.04%
Bank Charges	\$ 566.83	\$ 590.00	23.17	\$ 642.00	20	13.26%
Joint Pastoral Charge Projects	\$ 1,225.35	\$ 1,200.00	(25.35)	\$ 1,500.00	21	22.41%
Marketing Costs	\$ 665.99	\$ 400.00	(265.99)	\$ 800.00	22	20.12%
Miscellaneous	\$ 110.70	\$ 200.00	89.30	\$ 200.00	23	80.67%
Audio and Copyright Fee	\$ 548.75	\$ 380.00	(168.75)	\$ 537.00	24	-2.14%
Annual Report	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	25	
United Church Assessment	\$ 8,160.00	\$ 8,160.00	-	\$ 7,937.00	26	-2.73%
PST & GST & HST PAID	\$ 341.87	\$ -	(341.87)	\$ -	27	
Total Expenses	\$ 109,871.99	\$ 112,314.80	\$ 2,442.81	\$ 116,139.41		5.70%
Receipts Less Expenses	\$ 1,134.65	\$ (1,308.16)	\$ 2,442.81	\$ (1,402.01)	28	
Balance Start of Period (Excluding Sabbatical fund)	\$ 6,222.72	\$ 6,222.72	-	7,357.37		
Balance, end of the period	\$ 7,357.37	\$ 4,914.56	\$ 2,442.81	\$ 5,955.36		-19.06%

The original books of record were reviewed by Jack Ward representative from Stone Church and David Smelsky representative from Rockwood Church


 Jack Ward

 David Smelsky

Notes for 2021 Budget	
1	Church expense transfers budget proposed to increase 4% for 2021, in line with increase in expenses. Change from board meeting in November due to advancement of laptop purchase and other reductions in 2021 expense budget items. Maintains target of year end balance of \$4k plus (approximately one payroll cycle). 2020 Actuals lower due to
2	United Church Assessment fees based on our 2019 reported financial statistics. Split for 2021 is 47.43% Stone and 52.57% Rockwood based on the congregational financial statistics for 2019.
3	Manse fund withdrawal is proposed same as 2020 at \$4000. June 2020 investment value ~\$130,000
4	For 2020, "Other Revenue" includes Federal Government Temporary Wage Subsidy from March to June and a special donation received toward Affirming Discernment Circle costs. Amount offset from church expense transfers in Dec.
5	
6	Minister Salary based on 2.2% increase per UCC Guidelines and M&P recommendation
7	Housing allowance under 2017 compensation model is included in salary line - it can be separated for payroll for CPP as housing allowance is not pensionable.
8	UCC recommended mileage rate \$0.41 /km for 2021. Budget assumes 5500 km annual which is 500 km lower than pre-pandemic levels on the expectation of lower mileage for Q1 2021. 2020 Mileage lower due to fewer in person meetings.
9	Minister's Telephone allowance same as 2020. Note we currently benefit from Rev. Leffler's family discount on home
10	No change expected to rates - 2020 rates carried through 2021.
11	Note no mileage costs in 2020 Pulpit Supply expenses. For 2021 increased to 7 weeks from 5 in 2020 per M&P (historically had budgeted for 6 wks). Budget based on UCC minimum rate is \$221 / week plus 100 km round trip
12	Secretary wages increased 2.2% as per UCC guidelines and M&P recommendation.
13	CPP and EI rates and multipliers updated. 2020 underrun due to benefit of housing allowance and base \$3500
14	2021 benefit rates from UCC applied for 2021. Increase of ~7.5% from 2020.
15	Minister Continuing Education: Per UCC guidelines. 2020 expenses low due to pandemic impact on events.
16	Minister's minor expenses - no change. No expenses in 2020
17	Office Supplies - reduced to \$100 in line with annual expenses in 2018. No expenses in 2019 or 2020.
18	Copier - reduced \$100 on expectation of on line services for Q1 2021 (no bulleting printing expenses). Expected a higher Q4 2020 cost due to printing of public newsletter for marketing but still historically low without bulletin printing.
19	Bulletins: 2021 budget reduced to 1/3 of annual costs as we have stock available which was not used from April to December 2020
20	Bank charges include ADP payroll costs - budget based on current rates for 6 months. ADP system upgrade brings a fee increase some time after Feb. 2021 - assumed mid year. (Note ADP completed the upgrade in December 2020)
21	Joint Projects: Affirming Discernment Circle costs are deferred from 2020 to 2021; Historic \$200 plus \$300 for additional COVID sanitation materials. Web site costs are now covered generously by donation from our new hosting company. Note office laptop purchase completed in 2020 taking advantage of year end prices and budget underruns.
22	Marketing costs increase due to new housing developments in Rockwood - 2019 cost for Christmas mailer was \$600; 2020 cost \$650.
23	Miscellaneous - no change proposed - 2020 costs include Calendars and Year Book set.
24	Audio copyright license same rate as 2020; Zoom license added; Video copyright license renewal is due mid year and has not been included for 2021 due to low use in 2020.
25	Annual Report - no costs expected - place holder for possible future needs
26	2021 United Church Assessment - based on 2019 financial statistics
27	Unbudgeted HST on various items
28	Projecting a deficit of \$1,402 for 2021; Planning target is to have ~\$4500 year end balance which is sufficient to cover one payroll cycle. 2020 year end above that target and carries through.

Stone Annual Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2020

95th Annual Meeting for the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Present: Bill Allen, Carl Baker, Marg Baker, Charles Michael Benham, Gwen Brander, Susan Carothers (Recording Secretary), Margaret Duffield, Joyce Duffield, Murray Duffield, Liz Guthrie, Heather Leffler, John Leffler, Brian Mack, Don Martin, Diane May, Paul May, Eileen McDougall, Ed Nagel, Eva Oliver, Murray Oliver, Barb Parker, Tom Parker, Karen Richardson, Tammy Smits, Betty Storey, Ron Storey, Steve Thomson (Chairperson), Edie Ward, Jack Ward

Opening

Chairperson Steve Thomson called the meeting to order. The Annual Meeting took place in the Jeanne Jackson Reading Room and the Chair welcomed everyone in attendance. Rev. Heather Leffler opened the meeting with a prayer, following which she introduced everyone to the United Church's new on-line site called Church Hub on which are listed all United Church ministers and churches. Eventually, this Hub will include each church's living faith story. Heather invited attendees to give some thought during the meeting about how they would answer the question "If you had to tell someone one or two things about your church, what would it/they be?", for example, something exciting, memorable, a meaningful friendship and so on. More on this at the end of the meeting.

1. Voting Procedures

Moved by John Leffler that voting be made by a show of hands, unless voting by ballot is requested by one person. Seconded by Jack Ward. Carried.

Moved by Liz Guthrie that visitors be made corresponding members. Seconded by Brian Mack. Carried.

The United Church policy changed in 2018 to allow congregations to let adherents vote on all matters, not just temporal matters. ***Moved by Carl Baker that adherents be eligible to vote on all matters at this meeting. Seconded by Eva Oliver. Carried.***

2. Minutes from the Annual Meeting for the year ended December 31, 2018

Moved by Edie Ward to accept the minutes as printed of the 94th Annual Meeting for the year ended December 31, 2018. Seconded by Murray Duffield. Carried.

3. Business from the Minutes

Heather thanked Brian Mack for his leadership of the Pastoral Charge Board, and during her sabbatical adding "It is wonderful to have his leadership".

4. Correspondence

Heather advised there was nothing to report.

5. Review of Annual Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2019

a) **Pastoral Charge Reports** (Report of the Board, Affirming Discernment Circle, Eramosa Ensemble, Faith/Food/Friendship/Fun, Finance and Stewardship, Ministry and Personnel, Minister's Report, Sabbatical 2019, Trustees and Trustees' Financial Report).

i) **Affirming Discernment Circle:** Liz Guthrie, participant in the Circle, shared that the two-year process is ongoing and members of both Rockwood and Stone congregations will receive progress updates from time to time.

- ii) **Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun:** Brian Mack reported that under Lisa Leffler’s capable leadership, his and other’s craft skills are improving.
- iii) **Sabbatical 2019:** Bill Allen commended Lisa Leffler on her excellent leadership in worship during Heather’s sabbatical.

Moved by Barb Parker to accept the Pastoral Charge Reports as printed. Seconded by Marg Baker. Carried.

- b) **Pastoral Charge Financial Reports** (Financials for the Year Ended December 31, 2019 and 2020 Budget with Notes): David Smelsky (Rockwood) and Jack Ward (Stone) were thanked for their efforts in reviewing these reports.

Bill Allen explained that due to continuing growth in the Manse Fund, \$4,000 has been budgeted to be transferred from this fund to the Pastoral Charge 2020 Budget (\$3,000 was transferred in 2019).

Moved by Bill Allen to accept the Financial Reports as printed. Seconded by Peter Guthrie. Carried.

- c) **Stone Reports:** *Tammy Smits moved that the Committee Reports be accepted as printed. Seconded by Liz Guthrie. Carried.*

- i) **Membership:** Heather asked everyone to take a moment to remember those who are no longer with us. We give thanks for every one of them for the ways they touched our lives and served our church – Norm Craigie, Jean Martin, Bernice Milson, Joyce Hartung, Nancy Thomson, Bill Rowley and Ed Parker.
- ii) **Bushels for Change Project:** Barb Parker clarified that she submitted information to Bill Allen, and Bill actually wrote the report.
- iii) **Pastoral Care:** Karen Richardson is diligently documenting changes in membership. Going forward, Heather advised that as changes occur, they will be communicated via email allowing members of the congregation to update their copies.
- iv) **Property and Finance:** Bill Allen congratulated Jack Ward on his management of the new windows project from leading the thought and planning process, obtaining quotes, hiring contractors to do the work, presenting the old windows for sale and finally, to successfully applying for and receiving a grant to offset the cost of the project from the United Church. Most importantly, Jack maintained regular communication with the congregation throughout. By the end of 2019, \$4,050 had been realized from the sale of the old windows and to date in 2020, another \$1,000 had been received, leaving a balance of around \$2,000. Congratulations to Jack who assured everyone that “all the old windows have gone to good homes.”

Jack reported that, as part of the repurposing/updating the Jeanne Jackson Reading Room, as per the Discernment Circle for the project, the Property and Finance Committee is reviewing quotes to move the door to the washroom 180 degrees from its current location in order to create a more usable space in the room.

- v) **United Church Women (UCW.):** Sincere “thanks” was extended to the UCW, whose members quietly look after many events the church hosts during the year.
- d) **Stone Financial Reports:** Bill Allen, Treasurer, reviewed the Operating Statement from January 1 to December 31, 2019, and the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2019. Key items were as follows:

- Weekly Givings at \$25,630 were down \$4,915.00 vs. 2018 at \$30,545
- PAR Givings were up \$4,352 at \$32,588 vs. \$28,236 in 2018
- Mission and Service donations (Weekly Givings, PAR Givings, UCW and Other) were slightly down by \$213.38 at \$11,715 vs. 2018, however, one late donation remains to be added.
- Foodgrains donations and fundraising have been very successful in the first year, netting at \$7,206.80
- Net Maple Syrup Sales were down slightly in 2019 at \$3,573 vs. \$3,770 in 2018
- the Chili Dinner saw net results down by \$263 in 2019 vs. 2018, partly because the Township did not waive the fee for the rental of Rockmosa Hall, as they had done in previous years. The explanation given by the Township was there had been a policy change. It was agreed that this matter required further follow-up with the Township.
- Interest earned from GICs in 2019 was \$976.50.
- the decrease in Church Operating Expenses for electricity and fuel oil can be attributed to the installation of the new furnace and, quite possibly, the new windows.
- Total Operating Expenses for 2019, at \$13,276.06, are down \$423.29 from 2018 at \$13,699.35.

In sum, Bill reported that Stone Church is in “extremely good financial shape”.

Eileen McDougall, who has so carefully maintained the Cemetery records and fund for many years, advised that we are not yet a ‘closed cemetery’ due to changes in burial laws allowing for more than one burial in a single plot. Eileen also advised that we receive donations from time to time for a burial. It was generally agreed that consideration should be given to levying a burial fee for cremated remains in future.

Barb Parker moved that the Stone Financial Reports as of December 31, 2019 be accepted as printed. Seconded by Ed Nagel. Carried.

- e) **Stone Nominating Report for 2020:** It was noted that, inadvertently, Carl Baker’s name was omitted from the Nominating Report for 2020 as the Broadview Representative. Carl continues in his role as an enthusiastic and diligent representative of this United Church of Canada publication.

Peter Guthrie moved the Nominating Report be accepted with this addition. Liz Guthrie seconded the motion. Carried.

Steve Thomson noted that all Committees have members, albeit Worship and Fellowship, Pastoral Care and Membership, Christian Education, and Property and Finance currently have some vacancies to fill for a full contingent. In addition, Susan Carothers withdrew her name as Recording Secretary, so the position of Secretary is vacant. To-date, no one has put their name forward for the position. Steve suggested that the time may have come for Council to review how many people are actually needed on various committees; that perhaps some committees could function with fewer members and those who wish to continue to serve might consider a move to another committee.

In the meantime, until the position of secretary is filled, members of Stone Committees and Council will fill the role on a rotating basis.

For the past year, a Governance Discernment Circle of the Pastoral Charge Board has been drafting position descriptions for various committee members and defining committee roles, as well as clarifying historical policies and procedures with the aim to updating these to maximize today's and future needs. The Governance Discernment Circle will convene one last time and meet with the Pastoral Charge Board to review the work undertaken, including designing a motto and writing a mission statement, for consideration of necessary/recommended changes to the Board structure.

All agreed that if someone has expressed an interest in participating on any committee, they should be encouraged to speak up.

6. New Business:

- a) Heather continued the conversation she began at the beginning of the meeting by handing out a form for each attendee to complete. The completed profiles will be compiled for inclusion on the Church Hub, and will be of assistance in any future search process for a minister. This will replace the "needs" process used in the past, as well as allow ministry candidates to search a church on-line and access the information and create a portal for anyone to learn about churches under The United Church of Canada umbrella.
- b) A query put forward by Peter Guthrie opened a conversation on Mission and Service (M&S). To clarify, the role of M&S historically was to pay missions as well as for all of the national Church's administration and staff, and a significant part of the Conference staff. Today, the national Church's assessment pays for all administration at the national level and for the Regional Councils. M&S is now used to pay for missions, including things like theological education, ministry support and vocation, and the staff that relate to the missions.

Bill Allen moved that Stone Church set its M&S budget for 2020 at \$12,000. Peter Guthrie seconded. Carried.

Bill Allen moved we have a \$20,000 target for all our outreach projects in 2020. Barb Parker seconded. Carried.

- d) Joyce Duffield thanked Gwen Brander and Betty Storey for coordinating lunch following the meeting.

Peter Guthrie moved the meeting be adjourned. John Leffler seconded the motion. Carried.

Before everyone adjourned to the dining room for lunch, Rev. Leffler said grace.

Per: _____

Steve Thomson, Chairperson

Per: _____

Susan Carothers, Recording Secretary

Stone United Church Committee Reports:

Membership

submitted by Karen Richardson

Number of Resident Members – January 1, 2020	85
Removed by Death	<u>-3</u>
Earl Osborne	
Murray Swanston	
Shirley Leslie	
Total Number of Resident Members	82
Number of Non-Resident Members – January 1, 2020	66
Removed by Death	<u>-1</u>
Jane Murison	
Total Number of Non-Resident Members	<u>65</u>
Total Number on Church Roll – December 31, 2020	147

Baptisms: 0

Weddings: 0

Funerals: 2

Murray Swanston on August 8, 2020 at Johnston Cemetery

Shirley Leslie on September 27, 2020 at Everton Cemetery

Burial: 1

Ed Parker on May 15, 2020 at Eden Mills Cemetery

In Memoriam:

Ed Parker died December 26, 2019

Jane Murison died March 15, 2020

Earl Osborne died March 28, 2020

Murray Swanston died April 17, 2020

Shirley Leslie died September 24, 2020

Statistics 2020

Submitted by Heather Leffler, Minister

Number of Financially Supporting Households	45	Other Group Memberships	
Number of Givers to Local Expenses	45	(includes anyone who has attended	
Number of Givers to Missions and Service	21	at least once in person, online	
Average Weekly Attendance for combined		or in writing)	
worship in October/November on Zoom	42	Adult Choir	13
Adherents (<i>includes children, youth and adults</i>	26	*Bible Study	14
<i>who participate in the life and work of our church</i>		*Genesis Book Club	16
<i>monthly</i>)		*Lenten Study	11
Children and Young People	Total	*UCW	12
12-18 years of age	14		

*Includes participants from both congregations.

Stone United Church Roll

Submitted by Karen Richardson

Bill Allen	Bradley Hawkins	Kerri O'Kane
Carl & Marg Baker	Michelle Hawkins	Murray & Eva Oliver
Joel Bandy	Gord & Jean Haws	Marion Neilson Osborne
Loren Bandy	Krista Hay	Stan & Helen O'Shea
Janet Bird	Andrew & Nadine Jackson	Mabel Parker
Don & Gwen Brander	Earl Jackson	Tom & Barb Parker
Josh Brander	Jean Jackson	James Patterson
Mary Brander	Sheila Jackson-Elder	John Patterson
Tyler & Debbie Brander	Heather Kidston	Randy & Rhonda Peart
Linda Brown	Leila Kingston	Christian & Trudi Poschung
Gord & Susan Carothers	Joanne Lacroix	Marianne Poschung
Arthur Churchyard & Matt Setzkorn	Ben Lancaster	Pierre Poschung
Norman (Jr.) Craigie	Larry & Patty Lancaster	Marion Prentice
Lou & Ollie Darcie	Matthew Lancaster	Karen Richardson
Abby De Jonge	John Leffler	Aaron Rietkerk & Jaclyn Hay
Rick & Heather De Jonge	Lisa Leffler	Jordan & Amanda Rietkerk
Chris Dewey	George Leslie	George & Leita Root
John Dewey	Gerald Leslie	Melanie Running
Randy & Cate Dewey	Graham Leslie	Reuben & Joanne Salmon
Peter Dewey	Sharon Leslie	Rachael Siderius
John Duffield	Brian Mack	Stan & Anna Siderius
Michael Duffield	Barb Marshall	Amanda Smits
Murray & Marg Duffield	Debbie Marshall	Mike & Tammy Smits
Steven Duffield	Don Martin	Shelly Steele
Joyce Duffield	Greg Martin	Frank & Janice Stokman
Claudia Etches	Ryan Martin	Glenn & Heather Storey
Evelyn Farr	Abby May	Ron & Betty Storey
Herbert Farr	Andy May	Tiffany Sutherland
Tom Farr	Paul & Diane May	Rob & Melissa Swackhammer
Carolyn Farrell	Sherry May	Marlynn Swanston
Shirley Fiebigler	Tim May & Kirsten Graham-May	Janine Taylor
Myra Freeman	Darrell McDougall	Abby Thomson
Wilma Fuller	Eileen McDougall	Brittany Thomson
Jack Gallin	Cheryl McQueen	Grace Thomson
Jennifer Gerber	Allan Millson	Margaret Thomson
Robin Grace	Ed Millson	Megan Thomson
Marie Graham	Gordon A. Millson	Steven & Sandra Thomson
Peter & Elizabeth Guthrie	Lloyd Millson	Lucille Turner
Nancy Halliburton	Murray Millson	Gary Walton
Laverne Hartung	John Murison	Jack & Edie Ward
Philip Hartung	Shirley Murphy	Lisa Ward
Bill Hartung	Ed & Heather Nagel	Christian & Cathy Wassermann
Tammy Hawes Cameron	Grace Nellis	Elaine Williamson
Marlene Hawkins	Steve Nyman	<i>List includes members and adherents.</i>
Ron & Donna Hawkins	Ken Oakes	

Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Submitted by Bill Allen

Members: Bill Allen, Paul May, Barb and Tom Parker

Stone United Church embarked on the second year of a Foodgrains Growing Project with strong participation from Rockwood and Barrie Hill United Churches. A pumpkin growing competition was featured again this year with over 30 families participating. The project wrapped up on October 17 with more than 25 pumpkins weighed, judged, measured, or dissected (to determine it was a legitimate pumpkin). The Benham family of Brian, Sarah, Flora and Hazel from Barrie Hill Church won the trophy for the heaviest pumpkin, weighing in at 150 pounds. Honourable mention went to Heidi Smits from Stone for the smallest pumpkin. Murray Oliver won for the longest pumpkin, Marcia Haworth for the best decorated and Lisa Leffler for the best carved. Thank you to all participants for a fun pumpkin challenge.

COVID-19 has resulted in an increase in the number of people, globally who are experiencing food insecurity. The Canadian Foodgrains Bank has been providing strong leadership and much needed funds in responding to this crisis.

The Stone United Church Project netted more than \$7,500. This is \$300 more than raised through last year's project. An amazing accomplishment given the challenges faced in 2020. Every dollar raised is matched by the federal government 3:1 for a total of \$30,000 from our project. Thank you to all of our generous donors who helped make this year's project a tremendous success.

Children of Bukati Financial Report 2020

Submitted by Peter Guthrie, COB Treasurer

Income

No income received in 2020 \$0.00

Total Income

Expenditures

Bank charges \$62.40

Total Expenditures \$62.40

Excess for the year (Income minus Expenditures) **-\$62.40**

Opening Bank Balance \$6,219.90

Closing Bank Balance \$6,157.50

Change in Bank Balance **-\$62.40**

Choir Financial Report

Submitted by Edie Ward, Treasurer

Income		
Balance forward December 31, 2019	\$1,145.37	
Collections and Donation	<u>\$ 105.00</u>	
Total		\$1,250.37
Expenses		
Gift	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	
Bank Balance December 31, 2020		\$1,200.37

Genesis Book Club

Submitted by Brian Mack

Members: Bill Allen, Marion Bascom, Rosslyn Bentley, Susan Carothers, Lou Darcie, Abby DeJonge, Heather DeJonge, Heather Leffler, John Leffler, Lisa Leffler, Liz Guthrie, Peter Guthrie, Patty Lancaster, Brian Mack, Barb Parker, Sue Vlietstra

“Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are.” – Mason Cooley

I don't suppose the author of the above quote envisioned COVID-19. What he did understand was the importance of books in our lives which allow us to travel to distant places, to experience different lifestyles, and to imagine ourselves as heroes or heroines. The books that we read in 2020 allowed us to escape our own reality for a few hours each month and provided for the enhancement of a common bond amongst all of us as we gathered mostly via Zoom to share our thoughts and to grow in our collective understanding of what it means to be human.

If you have a chance, please consider reading any of the following works of fiction or non-fiction. If you want some background information, please feel free to ask the person who suggested the book for our consideration.

Out Stealing Horses by Per Petterson (Marion Bascom)

Born A Crime by Trevor Noah (Heather Leffler)

Stardust, Being A Romance within the Realms of the Faerie by Neil Gaiman (Lisa Leffler)

The One Man by Andrew Gross (Lou Darcie)

The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris (Bill Allen)

Spindle Fire by Lexa Hillyer (Lisa Leffler)

We Contain Multitudes by Sarah Henstra (Brian Mack)

From the Ashes by Jesse Thistle (Bill Allen)

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (Peter Guthrie)

For a change of pace in December, Liz Guthrie challenged us to read and discuss articles from the November and December issues of Broadview. If you are not currently a subscriber to Broadview, you are encouraged to add this magazine to your reading repertoire.

We give thanks to God for:

- *the leadership of Peter Guthrie and the record keeping of Susan Carothers*
- *the fine wordsmiths we encountered this past year*
- *the technology that allowed us to gather together while remaining in the comfort of our own homes to discuss the works of many authors in a safe, invigorating, and encouraging environment*

“You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me.” – C.S. Lewis.

Pastoral Care and Fellowship

Submitted by John Leffler, Chairperson

Members: Marg Baker, Patty Lancaster, John Leffler, Karen Richardson

At the beginning of the year, we arranged for greeters each week. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help make our church family and guests feel welcome.

In the spring of 2020, we helped Heather set up the circle of care which has allowed folks to have a regular check in with our Stone Church family. In the fall members of the committee met for a socially distanced meeting outside at Stone to review our members list, talk about the phone tree and offer Heather suggestions for revisiting the Circle of Care. The members of the committee delivered Advent candleholders to each Church family and many thanks were received for the candleholders.

Thank you to the Stone Pastoral Care members for sending cards, keeping the phone and membership list up to date and keeping in touch with our minister to keep her informed of life events within our congregation.

Property and Finance

Submitted by Jack Ward, Chairperson and Caretaker and Bill Allen, Treasurer

Members: Bill Allen (Treasurer), Don Martin, Ed Nagel, Tom Parker, Edie Ward (Secretary), Jack Ward
Stone United Church Property and Finance Committee has had another busy year even during COVID-19. Thanks to all who helped with snow removal and special thanks to Paul May for clearing the parking areas.

Property

The annual Maple Syrup Fund raiser was very successful. Thanks to everyone involved in organizing, taking orders, picking up and making deliveries. Instead of our Annual Beef Dinner in October, Marg Baker, Liz Guthrie, Edie Ward and Barb Parker planned a series of take-out dinners. Dates were July (ham dinner), August (pulled pork), October (roast beef) and November (chili). Great response from everyone.

Water samples were done in January and again in July (just before first take-out dinner) and October.

Yard cleanup was attended by 17 people with social distancing.

The Church Reopening Commission developed instructions for safe entry to the church by individuals. The procedure has been adopted successfully at Stone. Sign-up sheets, hand sanitizers, gloves, wipes, cloths, and cleaning solutions are on the table inside the side door.

Volunteers took the opportunity with the church building closed to renovate the Jeanne Jackson Reading room. The door to the accessible washroom was moved and drywall installed to create an informal meeting area. The panelling on the remaining walls was painted as well.

Quotations were received to install insulation on the addition portion of the church. With Council approval by year end, work will commence in 2021. Thanks to Tom Parker and Don Martin for obtaining these quotes.

Finance

Although the Stone UC was closed most of the year to Sunday physical gatherings, members continued faithfully supporting the Church's ongoing operations and several outreach activities. Twenty families donated monthly through PAR, while others contributed through mailing cheques, e-transfers and CanadaHelps donations. This strong support resulted in a **\$8,124** operating surplus, **\$12,099** in support of Mission and Services, **\$7,508** to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and **\$1,175** for Anishnabeg Outreach. A special thank you to the volunteers who prepared and distributed the take-out dinners in lieu of our Annual Beef dinner, raising **\$4,200**.

There were significant contributions to the Memorial Fund totalling **\$10,005**. These donations were in memory of Ed Parker, Earl Osborne, Murray Swanston, and Shirley Leslie as well a donation from the estate of Douglas Sanderson.

All Property and Finance Committee members are thanked for their help and input throughout the year, as well as members of the congregation who are always willing to lend a helping hand.

United Church Women (UCW)

Marg Baker, President

Submitted by Edie Ward, Secretary

Due to COVID-19 no meetings were held in 2020.

Flowers were sent to Jean Jackson for her 95th birthday.

Mimosa Church hosted the World Day of Prayer Service March 6, 2020 that some of us attended.

In December, Marg Baker suggested a newsletter that each of our UCW members could contribute to. We were asked to email a new recipe, a good book we had read recently, a poem that inspired us or memories over the years. The newsletter would be sent out to our group and ladies of the church who support our volunteer work and social times.

See the UCW Financial Report for income and donations made over the year. We were able to contribute to the Nutrition for Learning Programs at Rockwood Centennial, Eramosa and Ecole Harris Mill Public Schools, Mission and Service, the East Wellington Community Services, Canadian Food Grains, Anishnabeg Outreach and general funds at Stone Church.

Weekly and annual cleaning was arranged by the UCW executive but as of March 15 Stone Church closed. When we reopen in the future, we will carry on as before.

UCW Financial Report
Submitted by Edie Ward, Treasurer

Income

Collections	\$870.00		
Bakeless Bake Sale			
Caterings			
HST Refunds	<u>\$1.56</u>		
Total Income		\$871.56	
Chequing account as of January 1, 2020		<u>\$1,796.30</u>	
Total			\$2,667.86

Expenses

Caterings			
Miscellaneous Flowers and Gift	\$113.56		
Mission and Service Allocation	\$400.00		
Mission and Service Extra givings			
East Wellington Community Services	\$200.00		
Stone Church General Funds	\$200.00		
Stone United Church - Canadian Food Grains	\$250.00		
Stone United Church - Anishnabeg	\$200.00		
Eramosa Public School Nutrition program	\$50.00		
Rockwood Centennial Public School Nutrition program	\$50.00		
Ecole Harris Mill Public School Breakfast Club	\$50.00		
UCW WOW assessment for 2020	\$56.00		
Stone United Church - syrup for future weddings	<u>\$16.00</u>		
Total Expenses		\$1,585.56	
Chequing Account as of December 31, 2020		<u>\$1,082.30</u>	
Total			\$2,667.86

Worship and Christian Education
Submitted by Liz Guthrie, Chairperson

Members: Heather DeJonge, Randy Dewey, Liz Guthrie, Lisa Leffler, Brian Mack, Barbara Parker

Thank you to:

- Heather Leffler for leading us for Worship, Bible Study and combined meetings
- Scripture readers
- Choir members

Worship Highlights

January 5/20 – Our Combined Rockwood Stone Worship service was held at Stone Church. Topic of conversation was: *Where have you needed to take sanctuary?*

January 12/20 – The practice of Contemplation and Conversation has begun. Today the question is: *What does being baptized mean to you?*

January 19/20 – Stone Church was cancelled due to a snowstorm.

January 26/20 – Rev. Felicia Urbanski, Ballinafad/Erin United and Rev. Heather Leffler exchanged pulpits.

February 23/20 – The choir sang, “Jesus Bids Us Shine”. Little did we know that due to the COVID-19 virus we would not sing together again for a long while. Conversation: *What mountaintop experience have you had?*

March 1/20 – Stone Worship Committee led the service using World Day of Prayer materials. Lenten season begins.

March 3/20 – The Worship and Christian Education Committees at Stone have amalgamated.

March 8/20 – Communion was celebrated.

March 15/20 – Our last service together before social distancing due to COVID-19. It was a time of wondering about the unknown, when we would meet again and saying good-bye.

September 27/20 – Stone Church members met in the church cemetery for an outdoor service. Music from the Stone Choir CD was enjoyed by all.

Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council

Submitted by Liz Guthrie

- Western Ontario Waterways was unable to hold its Annual Meeting in Port Elgin in May due to COVID-19. So, from October 15 to 17, 150+ executive, ministers and lay people met via Zoom for pre-set 1 1/2 hour time slots to manage the business of the Regional Council. President Gary Clark, Executive Minister Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa and staff support were set up at Stratford United Church.
- Theme: “Honey from the Rock” from Psalm 81:16
- Breakout times to discuss how our congregations are doing.
- Antler River Watershed, Western Ontario Waterways and Horseshoe Falls are all Affirming Regional Councils.
- The Ordinands all told about their journey into ministry.
- PowerPoint presentations honoured retirees.
- Bruce Dickson from Dublin Street United Church presented the work of the Mission and Discipleship Commission. Andrew Hyde talked about supporting students at the Ecumenical Campus Ministries, University of Guelph. Camps Bimini, Menesetung and Silver Lake are all looking at ways to raise funds.
- Dave Jagger reminded us of all the resources available for Mission and Service.
- Ann Harbridge told of how the Covenant Commission provides staff support, and oversees yearly Community of Faith Profiles, Self-Assessment and Rural Connect.
- Moderator, Richard Bott, in his video presentation, said, “We are in a virtual space, but worship is real.” “Amazing things are happening.”
- The 2021 budget was passed and
- Price Waterhouse Cooper were appointed as auditors.
- Micol Cottrell told us that the Human Resources Commission supports healthy pastoral relations in part through a programme called United Fresh Start. A resource team trains, supports and offers licensing for Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL).

- Mark Laird was elected to be the next president for WOW in 2022.
 - Remit: “The order of ministry be open to persons of all gender identities and the basis of union be amended”. Passed.
 - The Jubiland List honoured six people who have served in ministry for 50 years.
 - An In Memoriam reading of names remembered those who have passed away.
 - Disbandments include Marsville, Walters Falls, Holland Centre, and Emanuel Sebringville
- The meeting was well planned. Some little glitches happened, but solutions were found right away.

Stone United Church Financial Reports

Stone United Church Cemetery Fund
Submitted by Eileen McDougall, Treasurer

Reviewed and found correct as presented
 the following Stone Church Reports

<u>Income</u>	
Bank Balance January 1, 2020	\$ 306.57
Interest on Perpetual Care	113.50
Bank Interest	0.08
GIC Maturity	2,500.00
	<u>\$ 2,920.15</u>

<u>Expense</u>	
GIC Renewal	\$ 2,500.00
Cash for Grass Cutting	200.00
Bank Fees	0.60
Bank Balance December 31, 2020	219.55
	<u>\$ 2,920.15</u>

GIC Investments **\$ 9,519.00**

- Property and Finance
- Memorial Fund
- Choir Fund
- Sunday School Account
- United Church Women
- Mission and Service Fund
- Cemetery Fund
- Trustee's Report

Jack Ward and Carl Baker, January 2021




STONE UNITED CHURCH
Operating Statement for 12 Months Ending December 31, 2020
Submitted by Bill Allen, Treasurer

INCOME	2020 Actuals	2019 Actuals
General Operating Fund		
Weekly Givings	\$ 28,186.00	\$ 25,630.00
PAR Givings	33,512.00	32,588.00
Loose Collection	177.00	1,002.10
Corporate Givings	-	3,000.00
Other Donations	430.00	150.00
UCW Donation	200.00	3,000.00
Total General Operating	\$ 62,505.00	\$ 65,370.10
Mission & Services		
Weekly Givings	\$ 3,965.00	\$ 4,549.00
PAR Givings	6,700.00	6,055.00
UCW	400.00	800.00
Other	1,033.65	311.00
Total Mission & Services	12,098.65	\$ 11,715.00
Foodgrains Donations	\$ 5,810.00	5,220.95
In-Kind Donations	\$ 188.03	
Foodgrains Fundraising	318.25	1,985.85
Foodgrains Lebanon Relief	1,380.00	
Project Expenses	(188.03)	
	7,508.25	7,206.80
Anishnabeg Outreach		1,665.00
Other Outreach		350.00
Maple Syrup Sales	\$ 10,760.00	11,781.00
Maple Syrup COGS	7,509.00	8,208.00
Net Maple Syrup Sales		3,573.00
Take-Out Dinners Revenue	\$ 4,795.00	
Take-Out Dinners Donations	222.00	
Take-Out Dinners In-Kind	384.37	
Take-Out Dinners Expenses	(1,205.50)	
Net Income Dinners		4,195.87
Beef Dinner		\$ 4,885.51
Chili Dinner		649.00
Rental Revenue		300.00
Interest Earned		1,706.10
In-Kind Givings		119.96
Other Revenue		-
	525.00	525.00
Total Income	\$ 93,734.83	\$ 97,003.91

STONE UNITED CHURCH
Operating Statement
For 12 Months Ending December 31, 2020

EXPENSES	2020 Actuals	2019 Actuals
Transfer of Mission & Services	\$ 12,098.65	\$ 11,715.00
Other Transfers	9,033.25	9,346.80
Pastoral Charge Expenses		
Operating Expenses	\$ 48,207.80	\$ 49,423.27
Assessment	4,157.88	4,238.64
Total Pastoral Charge Expenses	52,365.68	\$ 53,661.91
Church Operating Expenses		
Electricity Expenses	\$ 973.80	\$ 1,247.08
Fuel Oil	1,431.86	1,978.51
Propane	1,184.76	2,316.81
Maintenance & Repairs	732.96	926.96
Water Tests	163.41	214.70
Organist/Pianist	1,280.00	1,620.00
Caretaker	500.00	500.00
Lawn Cutting (Stone Part)	500.00	500.00
Property Insurance	4,025.00	3,732.00
Other Operating Expense	240.00	240.00
Total Operating Expenses	10,791.79	\$ 13,276.06
Administrative Expenses		
Postage	\$ 112.47	\$ 99.00
Bank & Other S/C	100.91	50.92
PAR Service Charges	115.50	112.50
CanadaHelps Fees	27.38	-
Office Supplies	39.99	-
Other Admin Expenses	24.29	48.96
Other Expenses	\$ 420.54	311.38
UC Broadview (Net)	\$ 310.00	\$ 267.48
Resources (Books etc.)	-	-
Gifts	300.00	500.00
Study Support	-	-
HST Expense	290.64	369.12
Total Other Expenses	900.64	\$ 1,136.60
Total Expenses	85,610.55	89,447.75
Net Surplus or (Deficit)	\$8,124.28	\$7,556.16

STONE UNITED CHURCH
Operating Statement
For 12 Months Ending December 31, 2020

Jeanne Jackson Room Renovations			
Supplies	\$	583.45	
Hired Labour		586.48	
Total Expenses		1,169.93	\$ 1,169.93
In-Kind Donation	\$	586.48	
Memorial Fund		583.45	
Total Off-Set		1,169.93	\$ 1,169.93

Church Funds 2020			
Memorial Fund			
Beginning Balance		\$ 4,958.03	
Donations	\$ 10,005.00		
Expenditures	(583.45)		
Change in Fund		9,421.55	
Memorial Fund Balance			\$ 14,379.58
UCW Fund			
Beginning Balance		\$ 1,796.30	
Revenue	\$ 870.00		
Expenditures	(84.00)		
M&S Contributions	(400.00)		
Other Contributions	(1,100.00)		
Change in Fund		(714.00)	
UCW Fund Balance			1,082.30
Choir Fund			
Beginning Balance		\$ 1,145.37	
Collections	\$ 105.00		
Expenditures	(50.00)		
Change in Fund		55.00	
Choir Fund Balance			1,200.37
Sunday School Fund			
Beginning Balance		\$ 602.23	
Money In	\$		
Expenditures	(400.00)		
Change in Fund		(400.00)	
Sunday School Fund Balance			202.23
Faithful Footprints Grant Holdback		\$ 1,000.00	
Current Portion of Oakes Fund			20,165.90
General Operating Fund			12,610.84
Total Account Balance			\$ 49,641.22

STONE UNITED CHURCH
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2020

Submitted by Bill Allen, Treasurer

ASSETS

Current Account

General Fund	\$ 12,610.84	
Memorial Fund	14,379.58	
UCW Fund	1,082.30	
Choir Fund	1,200.37	
Sunday School Fund	202.23	
Oakes Fund - Current	<u>20,165.90</u>	
Total Current Account		\$ 49,641.22

Other Current Assets

Acc Receivable	\$ -	
HST Receivable	325.72	
UPI Fuel Oil Account	<u>1,676.00</u>	
Total Other Current Assets		2,001.72

Investments

General Fund

GIC (Apr 21) 1.88%	\$ 20,000.00	
GIC (Sep 21) 2.15%	<u>20,000.00</u>	
Total General Fund Investments		40,000.00

Oakes Fund

Mutual Fund Portion	\$ 28,445.70	
GIC (Apr 21) 1.99%	<u>25,000.00</u>	
Total Oakes Fund		<u>53,445.70</u>

Total Assets

\$ 145,088.64

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Accounts Payable		\$ -
Deferred Revenue (Broadview)		50.00
Beginning Equity	\$ 127,422.05	
Surplus or (Deficit) Operations	8,124.28	
Surplus or (Deficit) Other Funds	9,362.55	
Gain or (Loss) on Investments	<u>129.76</u>	
Total Equity		<u>145,038.64</u>

Total Liabilities and Equity

\$ 145,088.64

Stone Nominating Report for 2021

Submitted by Steven Thomson, Council Chairperson

COMMITTEE	NOMINATED FOR 2021	APPOINTED IN 2020
Worship and Christian Education (was <i>Worship and Fellowship</i>) (5+ appointed)	Brian Mack ²⁰¹² (1) Barb Parker ²⁰¹⁶ (1) Randy Dewey ²⁰⁰² (1) Heather De Jonge ²⁰¹³ (2) Lisa Leffler ²⁰¹⁸ (2)	Liz Guthrie ¹⁹⁸⁹ – Organist Heather Leffler – Minister
Pastoral Care and Fellowship (5)	John Leffler ²⁰¹⁶ (1) Patty Lancaster ²⁰⁰⁶ (1) Karen Richardson ²⁰¹⁸ (1) Marg Baker ²⁰¹⁶ (1) _____ (2)	
Outreach Outreach is being done by small groups and the UCW and overseen by the Council.	Anishnabeg Outreach	
	Canadian Foodgrains Bank	Bill Allen ²⁰¹⁹ , Paul May ²⁰¹⁹ , Barb Parker ²⁰¹⁹ , Tom Parke ²⁰¹⁹ r
	Children of Bukati	Cate Dewey ²⁰⁰⁷ , Peter Guthrie ²⁰⁰⁷
Property and Finance (5+ appointed)	Jack Ward ²⁰⁰⁷ (1) Don Martin ²⁰⁰⁴ (1) Tom Parker ²⁰¹⁷ (2) Ed Nagel ²⁰²⁰ (1) _____ (2)	Bill Allen ²⁰¹⁷ – Treasurer Edie Ward – ^{pre2010} UCW Jack & Edie Ward – Caretakers
Nominating (1+ appointed)	Paul May ¹⁹⁹⁹ (1)	Council Chairperson Council Secretary
Ministry and Personnel (3)	Peter Guthrie ²⁰¹² (0) Randy Dewey ²⁰¹¹ (1) Brian Mack ²⁰¹³ (1)	
Trustees	Eileen McDougall ²⁰⁰⁹ Randy Dewey ²⁰⁰⁹ Peter Guthrie ²⁰¹¹ Paul May ¹⁹⁸⁸	Heather Leffler – Minister
Chair of Council	Brian Mack ²⁰²¹	
Secretary of Council	Tammy Smits ²⁰²⁰	
Treasurer	Bill Allen ²⁰¹⁷	
UCW Representative	Marg Baker ²⁰¹⁴	
Financial Reviewers	Jack Ward ²⁰⁰⁹ Carl Baker ²⁰⁰⁹	
Chair of Pastoral Charge Board	Randy Dewey ²⁰²¹ (2)	
Broadview Magazine Representative	Carl Baker	
Mission and Service	Peter Guthrie ¹⁹⁸⁹	
United Possibilities Fund of Waterloo Presbytery Extension Council Representative	Bill Allen ²⁰²⁰	
WOW Regional Council Representative	Liz Guthrie ²⁰¹³	

Rockwood Annual Meeting Minutes – Sunday, March 1, 2020

Submitted by Carol Smelsky, Secretary

Present: Sherol Steinberg - Chair, Carol Smelsky - Secretary, Rev. Heather Leffler, Scott Jamieson, Elsa Hore, Jean Southwell-Croft, Mark Southwell, Chloe Southwell, Kay Mathies, Colleen Baeumler, Amanda Hunter-Anthony, Brent Stiles, Marcia Haworth, Ellen Thomson, Ione Cox, Harry Doyle, Heather Blair, Phyllis Bayne-Puchyr, Marion Nichol, Ollie Darcie, Lou Darcie, John Arbuckle, Chris Arbuckle, John Leffler, Barbara Eley, Rosslyn Bentley, Cees Braamse.

11:30 am: Sherol Steinberg welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

Opening: Rev. Heather Leffler led us in prayer.

Motion that voting be made by a show of hands, unless voting by ballot is requested by one person: Scott Jamieson / Kay Mathies. Carried.

Motion that visitors be made corresponding members: Collen Baeumler / Ellen Thomson. Carried.

Motion that adherents be eligible to vote on all matters at this meeting: Colleen Baeumler / Ellen Thomson. Carried.

Motion to accept the Minutes as printed and circulated for the Annual General Meeting on March 3, 2019 (pages 35-36): Elsa Hore / Scott Jamieson. Carried.

Motion to accept the Pastoral Charge Reports (pages 4-11) as circulated: Scott Jamieson / Elsa Hore. The reports include Board Chairperson, Affirming Discernment Circle, Eramosa Ensemble, Faith/Food/Friendship/Fun, Finance and Stewardship, Ministry and Personnel, Minister's Report, Sabbatical 2019, Trustees and Trustees Financial Report. Carried.

Rev. Heather Leffler expressed her gratitude for the work of the members of the Affirming Discernment Circle.

Motion to accept the Pastoral Charge Financial Reports (pages 12-13) as printed: Elsa Hore / Kay Mathies. The Pastoral Charge Financial Reports are Financials for the Year Ended December 31, 2019 and 2020 Budget with Notes. Carried.

Rev. Heather Leffler expressed her thanks to Roy Steinberg for help with the printing size.

Rev. Heather Leffler also expressed her thanks to David Smelsky and Jack Ward for reviewing the Pastoral Charge Financial Reports.

Motion that the Rockwood UC Committee Reports (pages 37-43) be accepted as circulated: Ollie Darcie / Elsa Hore. Rockwood UC Reports including Membership, Statistics, Chimes Choir, Choir, Country Breakfast, Outreach, Pastoral Care, Property and Finance, Rentals, Trustees, Worship and Christian Education. Carried.

Rev. Heather Leffler wanted to let Pastoral Care know that the cards that they send out are greatly appreciated.

Motion that the Rockwood UC Financial Reports for 2019 (pages 44-47) be accepted as circulated: Ollie Darcie / Scott Jamieson. Carried.

A huge thank you was expressed to Amanda Hunter-Anthony for the Rockwood UC Financial Reports.

Motion to accept the Rockwood UC Nominating Report (page 48) as circulated: Marcia Haworth / Amanda Hunter-Anthony. Carried.

Appreciation was expressed for the "Snow and Salt Fairies", the Breakfast Volunteers, the Committee members for all the work they do, and to Mark Southwell for setting up Day Hall for the Breakfasts, repairing chairs and posting the hymn numbers.

Rev. Heather Leffler led us in a moment of silence and prayer for those who have gone before us as we reflected on the loss of Eugene Ferguson and others who we have lost this year.

New Business:

Motion that the Mission and Service goal be \$12,000 for 2020: Marcia Haworth / Kay Mathies. Marcia Haworth explained that the M&S goal of \$13,000 for 2019 was not met; \$11,919 was donated to M&S in 2019. Marcia Haworth also explained that this shortfall was due to members moving away. Outreach does not do specific fundraising for M&S. It is just donations that are collected. Carried.

Correspondence was received from the United Church of Canada regarding our Living Faith Story. Members were asked to complete a worksheet about their faith and how they see it reflected in Rockwood UC's initiatives. Some of the items mentioned were our Community, Affirming Discernment Circle, Anishnabeg Outreach, Indigenous Outreach, Faith/Food/Friendship/Fun and Country Breakfasts.

Next Meeting: The Rockwood Council will meet Sunday, March 29, 2020 after worship. Members are asked to bring a brown bag lunch. The meeting will be in the sanctuary as Day Hall and the kitchen are booked for Community Use.

Many thanks to everyone who submitted reports and supported our congregation and Pastoral Charge.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Sherol Steinberg, Chair

Carol Smelsky, Secretary

Rockwood United Church Committee Reports:

Membership

Submitted by Heather Leffler

Number of Resident Members – January 1, 2020	101	
Reinstated by Council	<u>1</u>	
Marie Milne		102
Removed by Death	<u>-1</u>	
John Kearns		
Total Number of Resident Members		101
Number of Non-Resident Members – January 1, 2020	16	
Total Number of Non-Resident Members		<u>16</u>
Total Number on Church Roll – December 31, 2020		117

Baptisms: 2

Hazel Charlotte MacDougald, daughter of Mallory Lemon and Andrew MacDougald
on January 12, 2020

Brynn Kathleen Campbell, daughter of Megan and Mark Campbell
on January 12, 2020

Weddings: 0

Funerals: 6

Margaret “Eleanore” Kelly on January 17, 2020 at Memory Gardens Funeral Home & Cemetery, Breslau

William “Bill” Gee on July 27, 2002 at Lounsbury Funeral Home, Cambridge

John Kearns on August 5, 2020 at Rockwood Cemetery

Peter Puchyr on August 27, 2020 at Rockwood Cemetery

Dorothy Musselman on November 7, 2020 at Erb and Good Family Funeral Home, Waterloo

Catherine Woolner on December 30, 2020 at Erb and Good Family Funeral Home, Waterloo

In Memoriam:

John Kearns died July 30, 2020

Peter Puchyr died August 15, 2020

Statistics 2020

Submitted by Heather Leffler

Number of Financially Supporting Households	41	Other Group Memberships	
Number of Givers to Local Expenses	40	<i>(includes anyone who has attended</i>	
Number of Givers to Missions and Service	23	<i>at least once)</i>	
Average Weekly Attendance for combined		Chimes Choir	6
worship in October/November on Zoom	42	Senior Choir	15
Adherents <i>(includes children, youth and adults</i>	29	*Coffee Connections	11
<i>who participate in the life and work of our church</i>		*Tea and Talk	17
<i>monthly)</i>		*Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun	33

Children and Young People	Total
Under 3 years of age	0
3-5 years of age	1
6-11 years of age	4
12-18 years of age	1
Teachers	3

*Includes participants from both congregations.

Chimes Annual Report for 2020

Christine Wenger, Chimes Choir Leader

Unfortunately, while the troupe practiced early in the year, there were no chimes performances in 2020.

Members this year were Chris Barlow, Rosslyn Bentley, Heather Blair, Barb Eley and Sherol Steinberg. No money was spent on the purchase of new music for the troupe.

Country Breakfast

Submitted by Marcia Haworth and Sherol Steinberg, Breakfast Coordinators

Because of the pandemic our breakfast season was very short, starting in January and ending in February. However, we made good use of our left-over supplies, donating boxes of sausage and bacon to EWCS Foodbank as well as maple syrup for their Christmas hampers. In addition, all our pancake mix plus 2 gallons of maple syrup were gratefully received by the Guelph Drop-in Centre. As the Country Breakfast is a fundraiser for the general fund, we re-imagined it in the form of Breakfast for Dinner in which a hearty meal was auctioned by email on a monthly basis. This proved to be very successful and we extend a warm thank you to our generous bidders and cooks.

Outreach

Submitted by Marcia Haworth and Kay Mathies, Co-chairpersons

Members: Colleen Baeumler, Marion Bascom, Marcia Haworth, Darlene MacPhedran, Kay Mathies, Phyllis Puchyr

As we reflect on this year of unprecedented events our thoughts are somewhat mixed. On the one hand, we on Outreach are truly thankful for our wonderful supportive and generous congregations. This year has been exceptional with so many responding in the most big-hearted way, enabling us to increase support to the folk we hope to help. On the other hand, the needs of many have increased significantly. Recently I read an essay suggesting that we are all free to choose whether to view this pandemic with optimism or pessimism. If only it were so simple. When we consider the plight of our Indigenous brothers and sisters with their tragic history, or the women and children living in abusive situations from which there is no respite during lockdown, or the local folks who, at the best of times struggle to put food on the table, we know this is absolutely not so.

This is how your support helped our neighbours both near and far.

Mission and Service (M&S): This year we are thankful that we received \$11,292 of our \$12,000 target for M&S. It was not unexpected that we would fall a little short given that we were unable to hold our planned Lenten fund raiser. Since beginning Zoom church services, we have enjoyed watching M&S

videos that keep us informed of the amazing difference gifts to M&S make both at home and around the world.

Rural Women's Support Program (RWSP): At Christmas time two Rockwood women receiving counselling through our local Rural Women's Support Program each received a \$75 Walmart gift card, and a child received a \$25 gift card to help them over the season. A donation of \$2000 will be made to Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis, the parent organization of RWSP which has experienced a huge increase in demand for help during 2020.

East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) Foodbank: We are in touch with the foodbank on a regular basis and have responded to several specific requests this year. We have filled the freezer four times with nutritious foods, spending over \$1200 on this undertaking. At Thanksgiving, we purchased hams and at Christmas, we provided items for the food hampers, including bacon, sausages, muffins and maple syrup. During the Advent Magi March, everyone donated items from EWCS "much needed" list. As we continue to strongly support facilitating individual choice in food selection; prior to Christmas, we gave each adult a \$75 gift card for the grocery store of their choice plus a \$25 gift card for each child.

Anishnabeg Outreach: In February, we delivered a cheque for \$2500, and in the spring Rockwood and Stone decided to help AO with their Spirit Bundle Offerings with which they provided food, clothing and cleaning supplies to hundreds of urban Indigenous families. One component was gifting bicycles to each family member. Out of this the big Bicycle Bonanza was born. Thanks to social media and word of mouth the entire Rockwood-Eramosa community embraced the idea and 130 bicycles, trikes and other ride-on toys were dropped off at our collection location. Along with this we purchased 15 helmets, collected Canadian Tire money and donated \$500 Canadian Tire gift cards to fund more helmets. In addition, AO asked for masks for the Spirit Bundles, and immediately a cottage industry sprang up within our two congregations. About 6 or 7 skilled sewers produced and donated at least 400 masks. In August, some of us along with other members of Rockwood and Stone participated in laying a two row Wampum at the AO centre, laying two rows of pathway linking the Teaching Lodge and the Pollinator Garden. Recently we learned of a new AO Thrifting Program which requires funds to purchase sewing machines. These will enable AO to teach Indigenous women how to repurpose and upcycle clothing for themselves and their families and will also include a new prison day release program. The money raised from our Christmas arrangement sale plus Advent donations has provided the \$1000 needed for a machine, plus an additional \$100 for sewing supplies. Happily, an additional machine arrived having been donated by a friend of an Outreach committee member.

Special Requests: Outreach continues to ensure we can respond to the needs of drop-ins that ask for assistance by having a supply of grocery and gas cards available in the narthex.

The Guelph Drop-In Centre: They were the recipients of a large quantity of pulled pork which Sherol Steinberg had prepared for the cancelled RUC concert, and we added funds to purchase buns.

Outreach Fund-Raising Activities

Fortunately, a month before lockdown we held a wonderful **Robbie Burns Dinner**, albeit during a full-on winter storm. Outreach and friends made the dinner and decorations while the Eramosa Ensemble delighted everyone with an outstanding musical program. We had a piper and a splendid Scot who addressed the haggis with appropriate pomp and ceremony. Half of our profits of over \$1300 were donated to the general fund. Following that, our fund-raising happened while masked, sanitized and physically distanced. Keeping everybody safe being of paramount concern. The **Food Fix** started in May and ended in September with home-made meals being auctioned weekly via email. Next came **Feeding Our Flock**. Using chicken donated by Maple Lodge Farms we made and sold many meals, as well as

home-made gift-boxed preserves and shortbread cookies. The combined total from these two fundraisers was over \$4200.

In July, we organized a **Garden Tour** with help from the six generous families from Rockwood and Stone that opened their gardens with little notice, and also from Heather who produced a professional brochure. Even a weather event on the Sunday did not deter us! It was a tranquil and safe event with folk enjoying being together-apart. The total raised was \$635 shared between our churches. Have the seeds for a new summer tradition been planted?

The end of November found us making and selling outdoor Christmas arrangements with beautiful fresh greens, kindly donated and delivered by Cees Braamse, raising \$420.

After distribution of our raised money, we have a balance of \$1000 which we plan to hold over into 2021 to ensure we have sufficient funds on hand to respond quickly to any emergency needs. For a detailed financial record of how all the Outreach funds were distributed please see the year-end Operating Fund included in the 2020 RUC Financial Report.

Our hard-working committee members have been fearless in responding to the challenges of a year of global pandemic with enthusiasm and energy. We are grateful to the “friends of Outreach” that help us out in so many ways. Once again, we are so grateful to all the members of both RUC and Stone congregations who helped make it all happen. We thank you again, Heather, for your unfailing support and wisdom, and for your computer wizardry. Very many thanks also to Sharyn and Amanda for being who you are and for doing what you do with patience and humour.

We continue to be united in a common cause to walk humbly with God as we demonstrate love and support for each other.

Pastoral Care and Fellowship

Submitted by Ellen Thomson, Chairperson

Members: Lou and Ollie Darcie, Ian Pasmore, Ellen Thomson

Although our intentions were to meet early in the year, time slipped away from us during this unpredictable year of COVID-19. On Wednesday, December 23, we met by Zoom and/or telephone to review the following:

Circle of Care/Church Roll: Throughout the year from March, a weekly phone call or email was suggested and set up by Heather Leffler. Some people appreciated the calls, some chose not to participate, others dropped out, the cost of long-distance for some was a concern, and the length of the COVID-19 pandemic proved to be taxing. In the new year this will be reviewed.

The committee reviewed the directory and have lifted up the connections that have been made. Kids Time on Zoom and the sending out children’s activities on Sunday mornings has helped to connect younger families. Advent wreaths were delivered by the members of the committee.

Heather sent Christmas cards to all families for whom we have mailing addresses; others receive email cards. When people change to cell phones, we do not always receive the new number.

Ian has asked that people let him know if someone should receive a card. Thank-you, Ian, for the cards you have sent.

Photo Directory: We have sent back two drafts of our directory. IPC was closed during the spring lockdown and is behind because of the pandemic.

Baptism: We have received a request for a baptism but have suggested to the family that we wait until we are worshipping in person or until spring when we could offer an outdoor worship. (It may be Autumn before we are back in the building.)

Pastoral Care and Fellowship Terms of Reference: It was noted that our committee is now responsible for 'fellowship'. Thank-you Ollie for hosting 'Tea and Talk', Lou for 'Coffee and Conversation' and Heather for 'Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun'. These activities help build community and relationships among one another.

Workshop: We are gathering questions to help plan another series of workshops, later in 2021, about end of life, living wills, funeral planning as we did in 2013. If you have a question or concern, please forward your idea(s) to anyone on the committee.

Property and Finance

Submitted by Sherol Steinberg, Chairperson

Members: Kevin Anthony, Amanda Hunter-Anthony, Scott Jamieson, Darryl Nichol, Colleen Baeumler, Carol Stiles

This is a year like no other, so embracing that sentiment I am changing up Property and Finance Report by sharing:

When this is over, may we never again take for granted

A handshake with a stranger

Full shelves at the store

Conversations with neighbors

A crowded theater

Friday night out

The taste of communion

A routine checkup

The school rush each morning

Coffee with a friend

The stadium roaring

Each deep breath

A boring Tuesday

Life itself.

When this ends

may we find

that we have become

more like the people

we wanted to be

we were called to be

we hoped to be

and may we stay

that way — better

for each other

because of the worst.

Laura Kelly Fanucci <https://motheringspirit.com/2020/03/a-month-that-changed-the-world/>

I would like to thank the members of this committee for their unflagging enthusiasm and willingness to embrace change and challenge in this year already full of change and challenge.

House of Joy

Fall 2020, East Wellington Community Services decided to relocate, and the mortgage held by Extension Council was up for renewal. The Trustees recommended that the church sell the parking lot and keep the house with a plan to demolish the house and create a new parking lot. This decision was ratified by Council.

Please join me in thanking those:

- *who helped with the initial renovations to the house to make it a welcoming place for our Sunday School*
- *who were instrumental in bringing in East Wellington Community Services*
- *who helped prepare the house for occupancy by East Wellington Community Services*
- *who worked so hard over the years maintaining and improving the house as needed*

It is through the hard work of these people, and through the forethought of those who saw the wisdom in purchasing the parking lot that we are now in a position to have options on moving forward in a viable way.

The committee is going through the house, and when it is time, will have recommendations on items for salvage or sale. Thanks to those who have been helping sort and pitch things that have accumulated in the basement and the garage. When the Trustees have confirmed the paperwork is in order, we will move to disconnect the water and gas.

Church

Goetz Construction used the church parking lot during construction on Harris Street – in return they paved the minister's parking spot, the house driveway, and regraded, added gravel and recycled asphalt to the parking lot.

The large bathroom has been painted and the outside narthex stonework has been repaired. The water heater in the kitchen has been repaired and a myriad of small projects completed.

Projects coming up include replacing the fans in the sanctuary, renovating the narthex and improving accessibility. These projects are on hold until there is a firm timeline on selling the parking lot.

A huge thank you to Kevin Anthony for organizing volunteers to do snow removal for 2020-21. We are not clearing the entire parking lot as there has been limited use of the facility this year, so parking is not required.

We are working with the Reopening Commission to keep Rockwood United a safe place.

We have people going into the church and the house twice a week for insurance purposes while there are no in person activities.

We organized outside Christmas decorations at the church and were very pleased with the results and received lots of positive feedback. We will be storing the stable for use again next year. Thank you to all who came by and helped-it was truly special.

Finance

Thank you for your continuing generosity of money, time and talent- all contributions are necessary for the work of the church to continue. We are pleased to announce that we are now able to accept monetary donations by cash, cheque, credit card (through Canada Helps) and e-transfer.

We have participated in the infamous Hair Fundraiser, Feeding Our Flock fundraiser run by Outreach and Breakfast for Dinner – all with some monies going to the general fund. We are also hoping to have a fundraiser in the spring-stay tuned!

Rentals

Submitted by Kay Mathies

Members: Marcia Haworth, Kay Mathies, Sherol Steinberg, Sharyn Southworth

There were no rentals at the beginning of the year.

In March 2020, how we did rentals changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To do this a Reopening Commission was struck, and Property and Finance Chairperson Sherol Steinberg was asked to be the contact person during the pandemic. This was to ensure that all pandemic protocols were adhered to.

Rentals to Rockwood were suspended in March. In the summer AA met distancing in the parking lot and in the fall moved to the sanctuary as it would accommodate more people, and this continued through the fall. Girl Guides also submitted a plan and were granted permission to use the facility when their governing body allowed them to meet. Early ON suspended their program in the spring and did not resume. When our Region moved to the Red Zone, AA and Guides were informed that the facility would be closed due to the indoor meeting limitations in the Region set by Public Health. There is currently no approval for use of the facility, and we continue to monitor the COVID-19 response as it pertains to our church.

Trustees

Submitted by Rosslyn Bentley, Chairperson

Trustees: Rosslyn Bentley, Frances Jamieson, Heather Leffler, Darryl Nichol, Christine Wenger

Trustees held socially distanced meetings July 17 and August 6 in the church parking lot and August 26 in Day Hall because of weather. They met on October 14 and 28, November 11 and 25, December 9 and 23 via Zoom. Christine Wenger agreed to be the corresponding secretary for the committee beginning October 14. Heather Leffler takes the minutes.

The main focus of the Trustees activities in 2020 related to our property. Decisions to buy, sell, take out mortgages, leases, make major renovations, demolition or construct a new building are the decisions of the Council based on the recommendations of the Trustees. These decisions need to be approved by Western Ontario Waterways (WOW) Regional Council Covenant Commission. Sherol Steinberg as Chair of Rockwood Council was invited to join the Trustees meetings for these discussions.

East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) had been leasing the House since November 15, 2015. With their lease coming due in November, they gave notice on June 11, 2020 to end their lease on September 1, 2020. Improvements EWCS made to the House, including the air conditioner, and generator, remained with the building. It is planned to retain the generator for church use. The other assets can be disposed of once the final timelines are fixed.

Options Explored

Leasing the House: Initially Trustees considered leasing the house for one year. After consulting with realtors, the cost of renovating the house and rezoning the property to residential seemed prohibitive.

Selling 107 Harris St.: In 2008 when the Sunday School was growing, purchasing the House was a good investment for the future of the church. Waterloo Presbytery Extension Council purchased the property for RUC to allow time for us to get our deed in order. In 2015, Extension Council granted us \$50,000 towards the initial purchase as well as all the lease payments up until the purchase was finalized. They continued to hold the mortgage. Selling the House would involve a zoning change and severance costs. While we would realize a healthy profit, we would not honour the vision of purchasing the property.

Selling the Parking Lot: The parking lot was purchased in the 1970s and has served us well. Traffic continues to grow heavier and faster on Harris St. The lot is used by heavy trucks to turn around which increases the wear and tear on the surface. Selling the parking lot and developing a new lot beside the church would make parking safer and the church more accessible. It would also leave more options for development of our property in the future. There would still be funds remaining to help us continue to serve. The parking lot will not be sold until we have permission to demolish the house.

The congregation was kept informed through regular written updates in the weekly bulletin, a letter and newsletter, and verbally via Zoom in the weekly service. Following a physically distanced outdoor meeting on September 20 at the home of Ray and Ellen Thomson, the congregation had the opportunity to ask questions. The Council met that afternoon and on the recommendation of the Trustees agreed that the Trustees would seek WOW Covenant Commission approval to sell our current parking lot, demolish the House at 107 Harris Street, develop the property into a new parking lot, pay the mortgage on the property and use some of the funds to make the church accessible.

In October, the Trustees made the decision to try to sell the property privately for 30 days for \$720,000 and then use the Home Group as our realtor. Darryl confirmed, after approaching several local developers, that there is strong interest in purchasing the parking lot as a private sale from the church.

Western Ontario Waterways (WOW) Regional Council Covenant Commission: The Covenant Commission approved the listing of the parking lot for sale. The final sale is conditional on their approval. The Commission will also need to approve the use of proceeds from the sale. This will include paying the mortgage, demolition of the house, building the parking lot and accessibility in the church. We will need to name other ways the funds will be used.

Mortgage with Waterloo Presbytery Extension Council: The beginning balance for 2020 was \$151,505.82. Payments were \$550 per month and the mortgage was due for renewal in November 2020. Without lease payments, we were struggling to make payments. Extension Council approved the Trustees' request for a one-year mortgage at 2.7% with the condition that the mortgage is to be paid off in full on the sale of the parking lot before the house is demolished. The closing balance of the mortgage for 2020 was \$149,536.14 (which will be reduced by the contributions to principal from members of the congregation through 2020).

Investment with Frontier Capital Funds #20670253 was initially valued at \$17,956.41 on January 1, 2020. December 31, 2020, our investment balance was \$19,358.08. In an email poll in December the Council approved the Trustees' recommendation that the Trustees be allowed to use funds from the investment if needed to pay any upfront costs with regards to the sale of the parking lot, demolition of the house and construction of the new parking lot.

Insurance: Our broker is Colley Insurance. The House of Joy Policy No: 18879C02.3.0 is with Halwell Mutual. The church insurance is with Hub International Master Policy HUB1925 – 0836. There has been a 30% insurance increase in our insurance this year, reflecting unprofitable results in the industry and insurers stepping back from insuring old building.

Appreciation:

- *We were joined by Sherol Steinberg in role as Chair of Rockwood Council in the development of the options and in response to EWCS's departure and we thank her for her support.*
- *Thanks to Christine Wenger for negotiating our insurance, and mortgage repayments.*
- *Thanks to Frances Jamieson for meeting with Real Estate representatives to consider the value of the house and land sale and development opportunities.*
- *Thanks to Darryl Nichol for assisting EWCS in moving and cleaning up the property, working with the Township and developers in exploring the options and beginning to develop plans for the parking lot.*
- *Thanks to our Treasurer Amanda Hunter-Anthony and Stone's Treasurer Bill Allen for preparing the Balance Sheet requested by Extension Council.*
- *Thanks to Heather Leffler for supporting all aspects of the processes and especially for typing up the notes from all the meetings.*

The Trustees will continue to meet in 2021 to sustain this exciting development for our church. We thank the past Trustees who had the foresight to purchase the land for the car park and the congregation for supporting this and the purchase of the House of Joy that has allowed for these investments that in turn have provided this opportunity.

Worship and Christian Education

Submitted by Barbara Eley, Chairperson

Members: Barbara Eley, Bev Johnston, Carol Smelsky, Brent Stiles

For January, February and the first half of March, the committee continued to be responsible for organizing volunteers for the services to greet, make coffee, run media, read scripture and count donations. After our last service together on March 15, we have been gradually learning and adapting to worship online.

Worship Highlights

January 5: Combined worship service at Stone United, special music by the Eramosa Ensemble.

January 26: Pulpit exchange with Rev. Felicia Urbanski of Erin/Ballinafad. Kids' Church cancelled due to sick children.

February 23: Dianne Everitt preached while Rev. Leffler was at Stone's Annual Meeting. Kids' Church met to learn the story of Noah.

March 8: Communion was celebrated.

March 15: After worship, the congregation met briefly and decided to suspend worshipping in the sanctuary until it would be safe again to do so.

April 5: For Kids' Church, the story of Palm Sunday was emailed to the children, along with activities.

April 12: The Easter Story and activities were emailed to the children for Kids' Church.

September 20: Rockwood United Church members enjoyed an outdoor worship service at the home of Ray and Ellen Thomson.

Rockwood United Church Financial Reports

Annual Financial Report for 12 Months Ending December 31, 2020

Submitted by Amanda Hunter-Anthony, Treasurer

General Fund		
Balance as of December 31, 2019		<u>\$ 13,427.46</u>
Revenue		
Church		
Weekly Givings	\$ 5,571.26	
Loose Offerings	361.50	
E-transfers	9,450.00	
PAR Givings	<u>34,940.00</u>	
		\$ 50,322.76
House		
Rent – EWCS	9,668.12	
Mortgage		
-Weekly Givings	505.00	
- PAR Givings	<u>2,546.64</u>	
		12,719.76
Other Revenue		
Reimbursed from Pastoral Chg.	1,765.08	
Church Rentals		
- Other	280.00	
- Praying Hands	1,620.00	
- Community Resources	2,333.31	
HST	1,558.79	
Fundraisers		
-Breakfasts	2,602.15	
-Faith, Food, Fellowship	120.00	
-Variety Show	-	
-Robbie Burns	1,992.00	
-Operation Hair	1,358.82	
Baptism/Wedding/Funeral	-	
Memorial	790.00	
Donations		
- Non-Specific	100.00	
- Affirming Circle	500.00	
- Upper Grand Refrig	101.77	
- Anniversary	100.00	
- Food Grains (Stone)	350.00	
Other Donations		
- Cdn Online Giving (Benevity)	2,024.28	
- United Way	2,215.49	
- Canada Helps – Donation	480.00	
- Memorial	336.00	
Building & Improvement Transfer - In		
- R&M – Church	308.14	
- Grant from UCC	<u>500.00</u>	
		<u>21,435.83</u>
Total Church, House & Other Revenue		<u>\$ 84,478.35</u>

ROCKWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Annual Financial Report
For 12 Months Ending December 31, 2020

Expenses		
Pastoral Charge Expenses		
Operating Expenses	\$ 48,207.80	
Presbytery Fees	4,002.12	
Affirming Circle	500.00	
Total Pastoral Charge Expenses	<u>500.00</u>	\$ 52,709.92
Administrative Expenses		
PAR Service Charges	355.56	
Bank Fees	20.85	
Church Envelopes/Office Supplies	163.64	
Total Administrative Expenses	<u>163.64</u>	540.05
Church Expenses		
Reliance	440.53	
Union Gas	1,895.61	
Hydro	1,182.11	
Water	369.16	
Cogeco	1,083.36	
Guelph Business	448.27	
Landscape/Lawn Maintenance	587.60	
Snow Removal	140.29	
R&M - General	1,133.19	
- Building Fund	308.14	
- Covid-19 Supplies	382.39	
- Grant (Furnaces)	500.00	
Organist	2,040.00	
Church Cleaning	2,460.00	
Insurance	4,550.64	
Fundraisers		
Breakfast - Expenses	100.00	
Flanagan's	491.61	
Robbie Burns	1,328.00	
Operation Hair (MS/Outreach)	366.76	
Stone (Syrup/Food Grains)	562.00	
Broadview Magazine	400.00	
Decor & Flowers – Expenses	-	
- Moved to Choir Fund	200.00	
Kitchen Supplies	83.04	
Guelph Papers	129.02	
Anniversary Service	-	
Baptism/Wedding/Funeral	50.38	
Total Other Church Expenses	<u>50.38</u>	21,232.10
Total Pastoral Charge, Admin and Church Expenses		\$ 74,482.07
House Expenses		
Union Gas	\$ 1,032.17	
Hydro	1,006.30	
Water	411.41	
Insurance	331.10	
Mortgage Principal and Interest	9,082.00	
Total House Expenses		\$ 11,862.98
Total Pastoral Charge, Admin., Church and House Expenses		\$ 86,345.05
Balance as of December 31, 2020		\$ 11,560.76

ROCKWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Annual Financial Report
For 12 Months Ending December 31, 2020

Outreach Fund

Balance as of December 31, 2019 \$ 4,679.40

Revenue

M&S Weekly Givings	\$	1,279.00	
PAR Givings		9,880.00	
Operation Hair		133.38	
Outreach - Donation		510.00	
- Operation Hair		233.38	
Lenten – EWCS		125.00	
- Outreach		25.00	
- Women in Crisis		25.00	
Food Bank		450.00	
Feeding the Flock		2,265.00	
Silent Auction		40.00	
Festive Arrangements		425.00	
Food Fix		2,304.00	
Garden Tour		365.00	
Robbie Burns		1,588.00	
Anishnabeg Donations		480.00	
Sewing Machine Project		630.00	
RWSP		40.00	
Bank Credit		14.00	
Bank Interest		9.52	
Total Revenue		20,821.28	\$ 20,821.28

Expenses

UCC – M&S Weekly Givings	\$	11,292.38	
Food Bank & Gift Cards		3,637.97	
Food Fix		100.00	
Feeding the Flock		210.00	
Garden Tour – Stone		47.50	
Robbie Burns		924.00	
Guelph Drop In Centre		50.00	
Benevolence Fund		125.00	
Anishnabeg Outreach		3,281.94	
Women In Crisis		1,400.00	
RWSP		175.00	
Bank Fees		24.50	
Total Expenses		21,268.29	\$ 21,268.29

Balance as of December 31, 2020 \$ 4,232.39

ROCKWOOD UNITED CHURCH
Annual Financial Report
For 12 Months Ending December 31, 2020

Building and Improvement Fund

Balance as of December 31, 2019		\$ 6,125.20
Revenue		
Weekly Givings	\$ 336.00	
PAR Givings	1,500.00	
Grant from UCC	500.00	
Bank Interest	16.51	
Total Revenue	\$ 2,352.51	
Expenses		
Repairs - Church	\$ 308.14	
- House	-	
Total Expenses	\$ 308.14	
Balance as of December 31, 2020		\$ 8,169.57

Choir Fund/Decor Fund

Balance as of December 31, 2019		\$ 352.85
Revenue		
Choir Donation	\$ 250.00	
Bank Interest	0.82	
Bank Credit (Inactivity)	20.00	
Decor & Flowers	200.00	
Bank Interest	0.35	
Total Revenue	\$ 471.17	
Expenses		
Inactivity Fee – Choir	\$ 20.00	
Decor & Flowers	-	
Total Expenses	\$ 20.00	
Balance as of December 31, 2020		\$ 804.02

Sunday School Fund

Balance as of December 31, 2019		\$ 72.84
Revenue		
Bank Interest – School	\$ 0.36	
Total Revenue	\$ 0.36	
Balance as of December 31, 2020		\$ 73.20

The original books of record were reviewed by David Smelsky and found correct as presented.

January 23, 2021



David Smelsky

Rockwood Nominating Report for 2021

Committee/Position	Nominated	Appointed
Chair of Council:	Sherol Steinberg ²⁰¹⁴	
Secretary of Council:	Carol Smelsky ²⁰¹³	
Treasurer:	Amanda Hunter-Anthony ²⁰¹⁸	
Regional Council Representative:	Sarah Leffler ²⁰¹⁹	
Pastoral Care and Fellowship:	Ellen Thomson ²⁰¹⁹ (Chairperson)	
	Lou Darcie ²⁰⁰⁶	
	Ollie Darcie ²⁰⁰⁶	
	Ian Pasmore ²⁰¹⁵ (Cards)	
Outreach:	Marcia Haworth ²⁰⁰⁰ (Co-Chairperson)	
	Kay Mathies ²⁰¹⁰ (Co-Chairperson)	
	Colleen Baeumler ²⁰¹⁷	
	Marion Bascom ²⁰¹⁵	
	Darlene McPhedran ²⁰¹³	
	Phyllis Bayne-Puchyr ¹⁹⁹³	
Property and Finance:	Sherol Steinberg ²⁰²⁰ (Chairperson)	
	Kevin Anthony ²⁰¹⁸	
	Colleen Baeumler ²⁰¹³	
	Scott Jamieson ²⁰¹⁴	
	Darryl Nichol ²⁰¹⁴	
Worship and Christian Education	Barbara Eley ²⁰⁰⁶ (Chair/Choir Director)	
	Beverley Johnston ²⁰¹¹	
	Carol Smelsky ¹⁹⁹⁵	
	Brent Stiles ²⁰¹⁹	
Chime Choir Director:	Christine Wenger	
Financial Reviewer:	David Smelsky ²⁰¹⁴	
Nominating:	Ollie Darcie ²⁰¹⁴	Sherol Steinberg – Council Chair Ellen Thomson – Past Chair

Pastoral Charge Committees and Positions

Ministry and Personnel:	Rosslyn Bentley ²⁰⁰⁵	
	Frances Jamieson ²⁰¹⁴	
	Ellen Thomson ²⁰¹⁸	
Pastoral Charge Secretary	Carol Smelsky ²⁰¹⁴⁻²⁰²¹	
Pastoral Charge Treasurer	Roy Steinberg ²⁰¹⁴	
Trustees:	Rosslyn Bentley ²⁰¹⁵	Heather Leffler - Minister
	Frances Jamieson ²⁰¹⁸	
	Darryl Nichol ²⁰¹⁴	
	Christine Wenger ²⁰¹⁹	

Appointed Positions

Communion Co-ordinator	Pat McLean ²⁰¹⁷	
Country Breakfast Co-ordinators	Marcia Haworth, Sherol Steinberg	
Decorating Co-ordinator	Colleen Baeumler	
Offer Co-ordinator	Carol Stiles ²⁰¹⁴	
Website Host/Webmaster	Chris Barlow ²⁰²⁰	
Rentals	Marcia Haworth ²⁰¹⁶ , Kay Mathies ²⁰¹⁶	Sharyn Southworth
United Possibilities Fund of Waterloo	Heather Leffler	
Presbytery Extension Council Representative		

It has become our practice to check in with committee members each year to see if they are willing to continue serving, so we are no longer including an end date for new terms. With the exception of the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the Trustees, committees may add members throughout the year.

Thank you to all faithful our volunteers, especially those who are completing their term.