



Living faithfully in the Spirit of Christ to make a loving difference in the world.”



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

March 27, 2022
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PROPOSED AGENDA

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
SUNDAY, March 27, 2022 - 2:00 PM

1. Opening Prayer
2. Appointment of Secretary
3. Appointment of Chairperson
4. Extension of voting privileges
5. Adoption of Agenda
6. Minutes of the meeting held on April 25th & June 28th, 2021
7. Presentation of Riverside United Church Annual Reports as printed
8. Statement of Accounts for 2021 — Riverside United Church
9. RUC Budget for 2022
10. Nominations Report
11. New Business
12. Review time of worship being 10:30 A.M.
13. Appreciation of Staff
14. Close with prayer

Please register your attendance by signing the book which will be circulating during the meeting.

United Church Polity

The congregation or pastoral charge must meet annually. This meeting must be held as early as possible in the calendar year. The congregation or pastoral charge may also decide to meet more often than annually.

At the annual meeting, the congregation or pastoral charge is responsible for:

1. electing a chair and a secretary of the annual meeting;
2. receiving the annual reports from the governing body, committees, and other groups in the congregation or pastoral charge;
3. electing the governing body and the regional council representatives;
4. and considering and making a decision on the draft annual budget.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, April 25th , 2021

The Riverside United Church Congregation gathered on Zoom, the newfound gathering space through COVID times. Meeting attendees were admitted into the meeting, by Paul Dillman and the group was focused to the meeting at 2:05pm. It was explained that attendance will be taken through screen shots and those who's Zoom frames included more than one person were encouraged to show their shining faces to be counted. The mission and vision statement of Riverside United Church were recited as the unity candles were lit. Regrets were received for Dorothy Belluz and Samantha Wilson-Clarke who had previously indicated they would not be able to attend the congregational meeting.

1. Opening Prayer

Paul Dillman led the congregation in prayer, inviting everyone into this place, recognizing the challenges that this year has presented, and highlighted the new ways we have managed to stay connected, and reside with unchanging commitment.

2. Appointment of Secretary

Motion: Moved by David Gray, seconded by Norm McLeod that Christine Rhodes be appointed Secretary for the meeting. **Carried.**
Christine Rhodes assumed the position of secretary.

Paul Dillman explained how voting would be conducted throughout the meeting. All who are voting in the affirmative are to raise their hand, therefore all were invited to turn on their cameras. The congregation would be asked if there are any objections and those who object will have the opportunity to highlight the issues.

3. Appointment of Chairperson

Motion: Moved by Karen Ogston, seconded by Joan Sirrs that Dave Bell be appointed Chairperson for the meeting. **Carried.**
Dave Bell then assumed the position of Chairperson.

The Chair opened with a few remarks about how nice it is to see people, even on camera. This is a different experience. He further explained that we will go through the agenda, for which motions and seconding will be required. The Chair requested that those moving and seconding speak their name clearly. For voting, the Chair reiterated that all will have the opportunity to raise their hands to vote in favour of the motion, but also encouraged to speak loud for any objections to be noted. It was also requested that any comments be preemptive with the speakers name to aid in accuracy of minute taking.

4. Extension of Voting privileges – Adherents

The Chair asked the Congregation if it was agreeable to extend voting privileges to all those in attendance.

Motion: Moved by Mary Shaw, seconded by Karen Ogston, that all those in attendance had the right to vote on motions. **Carried.**

5. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair asked the Congregation to examine the proposed agenda with the Annual Report. The Chair asked for any additions. He suggested the addition of two items, to be brought forward for information:

- a) Chancel update
- b) Freedom Mobile Tower update

Motion: Moved by Norm McLeod, seconded by Gail Christy, that the agenda be adopted as amended. **Carried.**

6. Minutes of the meeting held on February 23rd 2020

The Chair asked the Congregation to examine the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting held on February 23rd, 2020, page 6-Page 12 in the Annual Congregation package. No items were raised for discussion or correction

Motion: Moved by Wendy Graham, seconded by Morag Pearce, that the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting held on February 23rd, 2020 be accepted. **Carried.**

7. Presentation of Riverside Churches Annual Report as printed

The Chair introduced this section as an extension of information for which no voting is required. The Chair will name the report, ask the submitter if there are any additions, or any questions, and move through the list of reports. He encouraged those in attendance to ask questions if there are any items that were not understood.

8. Presentation of Riverside United Church Annual Report as printed

Annual congregation report, including global pandemic and Ending Our Building/Ministry partnership

- There was nothing to add to the report.

- Joan Sirrs asked if Karen Ogston was the author of the 'Coming Back Strong' document
 - o The Chair clarified that Gail Christy, Richard Williams and the team were the authors and complimented the team on their thorough document.

Ministers Report – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Council Report – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Board of Trustees – There was nothing to add to this report.

- Charles Barrett informed that there are a few governance items that will be addressed in 2021.
- The Chair thanked Charles Barrett for the work that he and the team has done in moving away from the Riverside Churches of Ottawa, into Riverside United Church as a sole entity.

Listing of Users of the Building/Property – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Building Partnership Team Ministry

- Mary Shaw commented that she was not the sole author of the report and the Chair asked of the Congregation if there were any additions or comments on the programs noted in the report. No additional comments, questions or additions were raised.

1. **Amnesty International** – There was nothing to add to this report and no questions.
 - The Chair commented that there were many successes witnessed through the Amnesty International effort and that this work is extremely important.
2. **Center 507** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.
3. **Collection of Gently-used and Warm Winter Clothing** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.
4. **Heron Road Emergency Food Center** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.
5. **Hunt Club Riverside Park Steering Committee** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.
6. **Mission and Service** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.
7. **Multi-faith Housing Initiative** – There was nothing to add to this report or questions.
 - Charles Barrett commented that there was annual meeting recently and they have received a lot of success this year.
8. **Partnership between RUC, Ottawa and Providence Methodist Church, Kingston, Jamaica** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.
9. **Refugee Committee** – There was nothing to add to this report or questions.
 - Norm McLeod commented that things are ongoing and pending but nothing to add against what we know now.
10. **Riverside Grannies** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.
11. **Thexton Garden Report** – There was nothing to add to this report or questions.
 - John Dixon reminded the Congregation that since it is now almost May, the planting would be scheduled close to the 24th of May. 16 volunteers are needed around the May 24th weekend and 12 pairs of people would be needed during the summer to do watering. If interested, people can send

their names to Paul Dillman who will collect and forward the list to John Dixon. Last year produced 27 deliveries!

- The Chair commented that food capability /security is very important in times like these.

12. **World Day of Prayer** – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Caring for one Another – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

- The Chair thanked Peg Brandon, Wanda Maurais and this Pillar for their continuous commitment.

Nourishing Our Faith – There were no questions.

- Wendy Graham added that an additional Ministry of Music report had been circulated to the congregation and should be included within this report.
- Wendy Graham also mentioned that there was a lot of help provided to draft this report. Patty Dixon, Paul Dillman and Wanda Maurais were large contributors.
- The Chair expressed gratitude for the dedication of this Pillar who kept things going throughout the year.

Affirming Ministry Circle – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Communications Committee – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

FundRaising – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Book Nook – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments.

- David Biggs asked about donating books to Center 507. This has been a need in the past, is it a current need?
 - o Morag Pearce committed to ask center 507 and would be happy to take books down if required.
- The Chair thanked the Book Nook as it helps to make money throughout the year.

Christmas Bazaar – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

- The Chair mentioned that some of the materials and special items sold at the Bazaar are being sold through the Organic Farmers Market timeslot, which has been quite successful.

Grocery/Gift/Cash Cards – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Quilting and Crafts – Louise Madaire mentioned that there was no official submission with regard to this group, but spoke about this circle and provided an update. There is one large beautiful quilt being worked on. As COVID times have evolved, and restrictions made it harder for gathering, Georgina Gray continued to make progress on the quilt.

- There were no questions or comments arising from the verbal report provided.
- The Chair thanked Georgina and those who continue to do beautiful work.

Membership and Rolls – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Ministry and Personnel Committee Report – There was nothing to add to this report and no comments or questions.

Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council – Paul Dillman provided a verbal report and shared that it is a very different year. There was one meeting on Zoom and an annual meeting is scheduled on Zoom within the next 2 weeks.

- The Chair thanked Bob Christy and Charles Barrett and Molly Colwell for their continued support and representation.

9. Statement of Accounts for 2020 – Riverside United Church

The Chair explained that the reviewers have taken a look and performed an audit Ellis Lindsay and Don Squire were the reviewers and the Chair thanked them. The Chair asked Ken Smith if there was anything to add.

- Ken Smith added that the first few pages show a merging of the two churches and the result is the format of that merger into a single view from an accounting perspective, which took a lot of work.
- The Chair thanked Ken Smith and the group for their work.
- Joan Sirrs asked where the 1 year of rent from COR was represented and where?
 - o Charles Barrett explained that it was received in December and on the advice of Colin Avery, it was not treated as current income but as a capital item, in the equity. The \$26,000 that the trustees held was included in the deposit from COR
- Joan Sirrs suggested to add a note that the money was received and where it was reflected.
- Joan Sirrs asked if the \$29,000 under Royal Bank item infers that at the end of year the trustees account only had \$4,000?

- o Charles Barrett clarified that it was because we had paid an insurance premium paid on behalf of Riverside United Church. As a result of the change in governance Riverside United Church is responsible for the sole coverage.
- The Chair thanked the team.

10. RUC Budget for 2021

Motion: Moved by Louise Madaire seconded by Bob Garrow, that the operating budget for 2021 for Riverside United Church be accepted as presented.

Discussion:

- Joan Sirrs observed that the total expenses are lower but one of the expenses is the Janitorial salary. For awareness, Joan Sirrs made this comment so that people were aware that this is something that Riverside has taken on fully.
- Paul Dillman commented that the big change in numbers from last years' Operations Budget to this years Operations Budget is the insurance costs.

Motion: Carried.

11. Nominations Report

The Chair summarized the nominations committee report submitted by Karen Ogston and Bob Garrow. There was no questions or comments from the congregation on the report presented. The Chair instructed that the report needs to be approved.

Motion: Moved by Gwen Bell, seconded by Bob Garrow that the Nominations report be accepted as presented and **Carried.**

- The Chair thanked those who are continuing with the work of the church and those whose term has ended.
- Wendy Graham asked if the Investment Management Committee was still looking for members.
- Paul Dillman answered that the committee is structured for 5 people, including the Minister and Treasurer. Originally, the committee was set for two Trustees, a Finance and two Ministers. The committee is still looking for someone.

Motion: Moved by Louise Madaire, seconded by Bob Garrow that authority be given to council to approve nominations throughout the year, as corrected.

Carried.

The Chair added that a Property Management Committee would replace the Joint Use in Management committee and a Trustee should be added to council.

Motion: Moved by Gail Christy, seconded by David Gray. **Carried.**

12. New Business

a) Chancel Update

- Paul Dillman started to explain that there has been a sub-group working on this made up David Gray, Richard Williams and Paul Dillman. At the last meeting, before COVID everyone was ready to move on the plan with the support of two congregations, the funding was in place. COVID happened. The Church of the Resurrection left. This project went on hold but there is still a hope to move forward.

There are many benefits:

- o Accessibility
- o Moves the choir and organ and Music Director to the east side of the chancel
- o Removes a 6 inch platform for the communion table to make it more adaptable and flexible
- o Adds an audiovisual component, sound system, projector capable of streaming services – which is now a firm requirement

There had been past disagreement on where to put the screen. This was discussed at length and discussed in early March at the Congregational Meeting.

- Paul Dillman mentioned that he saw a screen shot from a church in Regina with two monitors: one mounted on the wall at each side of the church, which has been priced, discussed with an AV company and we now have this data. We do not know what our financial capability is. We are waiting on this.

This past Wednesday, Riverside met with the extension committee of Regional Council who support capital improvements. We think they are prepared to offer a \$10,000 grant or a loan to complete the project.

- Richard Williams referred to the report explaining the rationale and cost estimates for everyone to review. We need to start to think about making a decision for timing as there is an opportunity to do this while the church is not being used, within the context of COVID.
- Paul Dillman showed an adaptive vision that David Gray continues to evolve.
- The Chair thanked Paul Dillman, David Gray and Richard Williams and asked if they would need a congregational meeting on this decision.
- Paul answered it is the direction of Council that it would be best to be able to decide on this together when we all can gather. The sense is that we all want to move on this but it is unknown when we should start congregational engagement for fundraising.
- Joan Sirrs asked about the placement of the organ and if it would be placed on the platform or moved freestanding on the floor.
- o Richard Williams answered that they are not convinced that the organ can be moveable. They are looking for confirmation from organ specialists if it can be moved.
- o David Gray added that the requirement for cords would be almost more expensive.
- Wendy asked if the cross is still visible. There might be an option of covering the cross for people who rent the church and it might make the space more rentable.
- o David Gray answered that groups that have been coming to the church seem to accept that there are Christian symbols within the building. One group did make their own arrangements to obstruct the view of the cross.

b) Freedom Mobile Tower update

- Charles Barrett explained the current situation is that there seems to be some ambiguity on the decision that was made a year ago. The minutes of the congregational meeting indicate that we would be bringing this issue back. The negotiations of the lease are in effect complete and ready to go. We should be clear that we have the concurrence of the congregation.

Motion: Moved by Charles Barrett, seconded by Gail Christy, that the congregation endorse the lease agreement with Freedom Mobile and the construction of the tower.

Discussion

- Paul Dillman reminded the congregation that there were diagrams that described the location of the tower and steeple. In August, a team from Freedom provided a recommendation on where to put the steeple, how the technology would be disguised and the look from all angles surrounding the church. This went through final discussions and was approved by the trustees. The 20 year term lease was approved by EOORC.
- The Chair asked for clarification on timing.
- Paul Dillman answered that they thought it would take about a year due to Freedom Mobile processes and consultation with immediate neighbours.

Motion: Carried

13. Appreciation of Staff

The Chair introduced this item by reflecting on the difficult year the staff has had to keep our faith alive and the church moving forward, especially with the Church of the Resurrection leaving. The Chair thanked the staff for their caring diligence. The Chair thanked the volunteers and people on committees, acknowledging that the church cannot stay alive without people that serve selflessly.

14. Closing Prayer

Paul Dillman prayed and gave thanks for our community's gifts and contributions that have allowed us to gather. He acknowledged those who cannot gather today for various reasons and gave thanks for the legacy of faithfulness.

Adjournment

Motion: Moved by Peg Brandon, seconded by Wanda Maurais that the meeting be adjourned at 3:19 p.m. **Carried.**

RIVERSIDE UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JUNE 28, 2021 – 7:00 P.M. – ZOOM Video conferencing

1. Call to order

The Chair called the Special Congregational meeting to order at 7:06 and welcomed new council members. Logistics for voting on Zoom were discussed and two items were outlined for discussion; the chancel renewal and meeting times for church services.

2. Prayer from Paul Dillman

Paul Dillman offered a prayer with those that gathered expressing gratitude for our usage of technology to continue to make important decisions for our church.

3. Chancel renewal

The Chair explained that three items were to be discuss under chancel renewal:

- 1) Concept and design
- 2) Approval to start fund raising
- 3) Budget

Richard Williams discussed the chancel renovation proposal distributed in the fall and provided highlights including accessibility, updating AV basics to allow for streaming and to meet spiritual needs of the congregation such as the placement of the Cross and projection screen and use of the projector to enhance the service experience.

Motion: The Riverside United Church congregation approve and move forward with the proposal put forward and discussed in the special congregational meeting.

Moved by: Karen Ogsten

Seconded by Charles Barrett

Questions and Discussion:

Christine Rhodes asked when we can start and when it will be finished

Richard Williams explained the COVID period has introduced challenges in work and materials.

Contractors have identified to Riverside that they would be able to start between 2-4 months. The accessibility phase would be 4-6 weeks. The AV component would take 4 weeks for the projector.

Assuming the contractor is aligned, the full project may take about 6 months.

Ted Colwell asked if the television screens would be visible for the choir.

Richard Williams explained that there would be 1 big screen and a few smaller screens around. It was suggested to have movable screens lower so that the minister and choir could see and would not interfere with what the congregation would see on the big screen,

Norm McLeod asked if the building would be accessible to the congregation during construction, assuming there are no delays.

Richard Williams responded that there would be some limitations. It will be messy but this wouldn't prevent access. There may be some sections blocked off as the renovations take place.

Jane Griffith recalled that there was a discussion last week about the future of the church after what we've experienced through COVID and the usage of Zoom. Some things that were brought up from that meeting might affect the current plan, such as seating. How do we integrate the people on zoom with the people in person?

Richard Williams invited these suggestions to be put forward. He explained that the planning group was very open to any suggestion and close consideration would be given to all options.

Bob Christy asked if the curtain would be replaced.

Paul Dillman explained that the curtains will be taken down. The plan is to make things moveable.

John Dixon noticed that there were two contractors cited and asked if one had been selected.

Richard Williams answered that no decision had been made. There is a request for best and final offer made to the contractors before Riverside will make a commitment. Richard also noted that neither have responded.

Motion: Carried

The Chair moved on to discuss the second item for discussion under chancel renewal: Fundraising.

Motion: The congregation of Riverside United Church grant approval to begin fundraising immediately for this project through a combination of:

- 1) A special congregational giving program to directly support the Chancel Renovation project
- 2) Incremental support from our Capital and Property Management Fund Budget to be repaid eventually through targeted fundraising
- 3) Application for Federal and/or, provincial subsidiaries and grants and/or United Church of Canada development grants to fund this project.

Moved by: Karen Ogsten

Seconded by: Charles Barrett

Question and discussion:

Ted and Molly Colwell asked if there was a memorial fund that can be used as part of the fundraising project.

Paul Dillman explained the endowment fund could be used for the operations of the congregation and if the congregation agrees it can be used.

John Dixon asked what the long term viability of our church is as we have 31 people online and this is a large amount of money being requested.

Dave Bell commented that he's been reviewing the financial statements and things seem very sustainable.

Charles Barrett explained that John has raised an important issue. In terms of the long term longevity of the congregation, we are very well situated. There is a significant amount of money in the endowment fund.

We've been very well able to provide as we need for items in the past such as washroom, and Quilting and Crafts has already donated

Gail Christy asked if we have someone that is interested in looking into grants as there are quite a few grant opportunities within the United Church?

Paul Dillman responded that no one specifically has identified themselves to research these grants. Paul has done this in the past and reached out to MP Dalton McGuinty's office and an accessibility office. Two sources of funding within the United Church are available;

- 1) vision and technology fund for which Charles can provide more information
- 2) Church extension fund, which Riverside has borrowed from before and have already discussed that this might be a suitable fund where we can get a grant or a loan

Motion: Carried

Charles Barrett introduce pricing background by explaining the ballpark potential price range is around \$80,000 for the construction and AV. That is subject to verification by people who are bidders. We will need to include some contingency and recognize it might come in higher than that.

Motion: That the congregation approve up to \$100,000 for Chancel Renovation project

Motioned by: Charles Barrett

Seconded by: Bob Garrow

Questions and Discussion

Roger Ellsworth asked what would happen if the total project went over \$100,000, Where would the extra money come from?

Charles Barrett responded that would depend on the circumstances, either scale back the project to keep the limit or go back to the congregation to seek approval for more money. Given there are two items in the scope there is opportunity to adjust as needed.

Motion: Carried

4. Worship timing

The Chair introduced the second major agenda item of worship timing and invited David Gray to provide background.

David Gray reminded the congregation that the current service time is 10:30am for virtual services.

During the November 2020 Council meeting the discussion included the following points:

- 1) With COR no longer having services, RUC has the freedom to move its church services at a different hour than 11:00 a.m.
- 2) There are residents of seniors' residences that have to leave an 11:00 o'clock service before the end, or immediately after the end of the service to get back to the residence for lunch.
- 3) There are also those that feel that an 11:00 o'clock service robs them of the chance of doing anything else in the morning or in the early afternoon.
- 4) Joint summer services with COR were, long time ago, at 9:30 a.m. But wintertime joint services and the more recent summer services have been at 10:00 a.m.
- 5) Initially at that council meeting, 10:00 a.m. was suggested. However, it was pointed out that some parishioners are late risers, and others cannot arrange for transportation that early in the morning.
- 6) It was also considered that having the church service at the same time all year long, including summer, would be beneficial. Daylight savings and going back to standard time has always been a challenge
- 7) A compromise of 10:30 was deemed appropriate, if a change at all. However, it was felt that input for the final decision by Council was needed from the congregation e.g., at the AGM.

Council's Motion at that time was that for the period of Epiphany (in 2021) through to the AGM, that the church service be held at 10:30 as a trial period, with the decision to adopt formally that hour, or not, to be made after receiving input from the congregation at the AGM.

Now that Epiphany and Pentecost are now over and the AGM has come and gone without the topic presented at the AGM, Council revisited the topic at its June 2021 meeting.

- 9) Council recognizes that it has the mandate to decide on the hours for Sunday services but does want to hear why members of the congregation have those preferences, before making its decision.
- 10) Again concerns about personal health challenges, arranging transportation, fixed hours for meals at residences, activities in the afternoon and others were all raised at June Council. How important these concerns are overall is unknown to Council.
- 11) Council recognized that ZOOM gatherings set different time parameters upon members' daily schedule than do in-church services; therefore, it broke the search for information into two motions; namely, for ZOOM gatherings and in-church services.

Motion #1: That the congregation recommends to Council that the start-time of ZOOM gatherings on Sundays continue to be at 10:30 a.m.

Moved by David Gray

Seconded by Patricia Ryan

Motion #2: That the congregation members advise Council of their wishes for a start-time for in-church services and to provide the reasons for those wishes.

Moved by: David moved

Seconded by: Karen Ogsten

Discussion:

Karen Ogsten asked that people share their preferences and its not necessary to explain why someone prefers one time over another.

Molly Colwell asked if something could be included in the next newsletter to remind people that Karen is waiting for this information.

Paul Dillman added that its important to get the feedback. There are external factors that might affect this decisions such as a rental partner.

Helen Hunter commented that we've been on a trial for Zoom at 10:30 not the actual Church services in the building. Helen asked if there would be a continued trial of the time when we get into the building? How would we know if it was a good option as we've never worshiped in person at that time?

Dave Bell clarified that the council is seeking information, and will take that back to make the decision.

Motion: Passed

5. Closing prayer

Paul Dillman led us in another prayer giving thanks for the continued conversations.

6. Adjournment.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:59

2021 Annual Congregational Report

Introduction

The 2021 year has continued to be a year of changes in the life of Riverside United Church. As we have adjusted to the adaptations that our church has had to make as the Global COVID-19 Pandemic and its variants continued to sweep in five waves through the world and other changes that we have needed to make to adapt to the loss of our church partner congregation, The Anglican Church of the Resurrection after over 50 years of ecumenical worship. During this year, Riverside United Church adapted to being the sole church responsible for our place of worship.

With regard to COVID-19, fortunately vaccinations in two doses and with a booster vaccination for elderly and immune compromised populations were developed that lowered the risk of death for vulnerable populations and for all.

We continued to follow our new model of worship using Zoom technology for the full year, even though we were able to meet in the summertime, first outside, and then inside the church for short periods of time in the fall, much to the joy of many. Even with the changes, our congregation has continued to find ways to worship, even though surprising shifts were needed quickly at times, but due to the ingenuity and creativity of many in our church, our congregation continued to thrive in a newly enriching way.

Our Worship During a Global Pandemic:

Our year began with the virtual services we had come to appreciate, with Reverend Paul Dillman continuing to provide us with weekly Reflections on YouTube, still including a welcome lighting of our worship candles, with the Christ Candle in the center of our circle of figures symbolizing our congregation, and our Rainbow candle, the symbol of our being an Affirming Church. A bible reading followed, recorded by a member of the congregation, a meaningful Reflection on the bible reading and its implications in our lives by Paul Dillman, and occasionally by Patricia Power, in her student placement role with us from the Atlantic College of Theology, ending with music by video or by our Music Director, Wayne Irschick and members of our choir. The production team of Richard Williams on Zoom and our producer, John Gingerich put each service together. Services moved from 11:00 AM to 10:30 AM on a trial basis. Last spring we were able to have coffee time during the week outdoors, a few worship times outdoors, including all those who could not be present on Zoom. A few of our wonderful youth helped with filming and joining us. Finally as the Delta Variant waned, we were able to come back to in person worship, to sit in well-spaced chairs, after ensuring that vaccinations status was checked and we did not have any symptoms. Our Music Director could play the organ and piano again, and one soloist from the congregation could sing. The rest of the congregation sang in their hearts. Those on Zoom could still attend thanks to a Monitor placed in the sanctuary. As the Advent season progressed, we were able to be there in person for the presentation of the 12th church banner, Cathedral Windows, created by Georgina Gray (as were the previous 11 banners) hung for the December 12th service and be admired by all.

Then unexpectedly due to the Omicron variant, we could no longer worship at the church, and our White Gift Sunday pageant was modified to be on Zoom, as we could no longer meet due to health restrictions. Our Quiet Christmas Service and our Christmas Eve services were on Zoom and our final service of the year was a live streamed Cluster Service with Rideau Park and Emmanuel Church.

Telephone contact with members who could not be there continued as part of our Ministry.

The legal reality of our loss of the 51-year partnership of the Church of the Resurrection (COR) through their disestablishment was fully realized as January 2021 began. This meant that the responsibilities of the Corporation of Riverside Churches and the Joint Holding Committee were taken over by the Trustees of Riverside United Church, expanding their responsibilities. Our Custodian of over 30 years, Marc Godin, is now part of the staff of Riverside United Church. We were fortunate to be able to respond to The Meeting House's request to rent our church spaces for worship on Sunday afternoons and rent spaces for meetings as needed as of October, 2021 until August 30 2022. We also continued to rent space to the Organic Farmer's Market on Saturdays. The Andrew Fleck Riverside Park Nursery School continues to offer their program in our meeting rooms, making the church a vibrant place, even in a Pandemic. With these partnerships and the generosity of our congregation, we remain financially sound. We enjoyed midweek outdoor coffee times, Mini-Bazaars on Farmer's Market days outdoors and indoors when possible, which proved to be popular and lucrative, a Quiz-Night to support Multi-Faith Housing, collections of donations for The Heron Road Food Bank, Centre 507, Serenity House, and the Mitten Tree were possible.

Sharing worship on Zoom, and a virtual Jamaica Night with the our partner church, Providence Methodist Church, in Kingston, Jamaica added to the many unique and valuable activities that kept happening in the life of our church, and that you can read about in this report. We are fortunate to be blessed with a wonderful congregation and wonderful church staff to keep our church so rewarding to be a part of.

Karen Ogston,

Chair of Riverside United Church Council

Minister's Report

I begin with a story that reflects part of what characterized 2021 for me. On Thursday, March 12, 2020, I was having tea and goodies with the Quilting and Craft Group and I was given a pair of hand knit socks by Dorothy Belluz. I thanked her and told her I would wear them to church on Sunday. In that moment I did not know that the response to COVID-19 would happen so rapidly that we did not gather for church on Sunday, March 15, 2020. And we didn't gather again in the sanctuary until Sunday, October 17, 2021. I kept my promise and I wore those socks even if they were waiting for 83 Sundays to be revealed. Unfortunately we had to suspend in person worship in mid December and so I will wear those socks again when we are able to resume!

2021 was defined in most ways by the reality of COVID and its restrictions and its opportunities. I give thanks for the resiliency and adaptability of the Riverside congregation as we have discerned how to be church in ongoing and creative ways. We took the slow and steady approach to returning to in person worship in October. We offered a couple of outdoor services in the summer to test out comfort levels and how to's of technology. We continued to gather on Zoom to worship, to plan, to make decisions and to care for one another.

Through 2021 we continued to adjust to the reality of the closure of the Anglican Church of the Resurrection and assuming full responsibility for the management of the building. We were pleased to welcome The Meeting House congregation as a rental group and continue good relationships with the Ottawa Organic Farmer's Market and Andrew Fleck Childcare Services as they operate Riverside Park Nursery School. The building has been able to open through the year with varying levels of activity.

Throughout 2021 we have continued to be a learning site for Patricia Power as she takes part in the Distance Education Master of Divinity Program at the Atlantic School of Theology. We are grateful that she is a keen learner and a gifted minister. A word of thanks to those who have served on her Lay Support Team.

I have some responsibility to contribute to the work of the wider United Church and as a member of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council I am a member of the Financial Review Team. I have continued to serve on the Board of United Theological College (UTC) in Montreal. In the first half of 2021, UTC sold its building and worked on a strategic alliance agreement with the Anglican college. That alliance process is working its way towards amalgamation of the colleges.

One of the COVID realities of 2021 was that I delayed my sabbatical by a year and so I look forward to having that time in 2022.

As I serve in my 19th year with Riverside, I continue to be thankful to be part of this community of faith and give thanks for the ways that we have found to continue to be church in this pandemic reality. (I do look forward to when we can gather and share a meal together!)

Submitted by Paul Dillman

Council Report

During the 2021 year, Riverside United Church (RUC) refined its processes and procedures to be the sole proprietor of the church in which we worship. Over this year, COVID-19 and its variants have required Council to respond to changes in the worship for our congregation based on several changes to Government Health mandates. After several months of closure, the church office was able to be open part time as of February 4, 2021 with restrictions being that all persons wear masks and respect physical distancing guidelines of being 6 feet apart. A hand sanitizing and contact tracing system was put in place. Council Meetings took place virtually using Zoom technology throughout the 2021 year. Even when some services could also be attended in person in the fall of 2021, Zoom services continued throughout the year.

The 2020-21 Council first met on January 20, 2021 to approve the decisions in December required to finalize the independence of RUC from joint management of the church with COR. Council approved the Come Back Strong document prepared by the Vision and Transition Team for distribution electronically and by mail to the congregation and discussion at a Town Hall meeting and ACM. (Appendix A) Council also approved a Virtual Town Hall Meeting for the Congregation to take place on March 3. On February 17, 2021, Council met and approved the budget for the coming year be presented at the ACM for approval. (Appendix B) Council approved a Governance change such that the Trustees were empowered to form a Property Committee, which had been a previous responsibility of the Joint Holding Committee. Also approving that the Annual Congregational Meeting would take place on April 26, 2021.

The new 10-member Council first met on May 26, 2021. Patricia Power's ministry student placement renewal was approved. Council met again on June 9. At that time, Council approved the change of time for Sunday services from 11:00 AM to 10:30 AM, effective June 20, 2021 first implemented during the Zoom Services. Council meet on June 24 to make decisions about recommending the approval of the Meeting House rental of RUC for services during the July 28, 2021 Special Congregational meeting. This was approved, as was the Chancel Renewal plan based on RUC Council's recommendation and the return to indoor worship in the fall.

On September 9th Council met to approve a COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for RUC, such that those attending Riverside United Church indoor services show proof of being fully vaccinated with two vaccine doses. Wearing masks and disinfecting hands and respecting physical distancing where appropriate would be required during services. Names and phone numbers were to be kept for contact tracing purposes at each service. This meant that our church could resume indoor services when authorized in addition to the outdoor summer services that were held when possible.

On September 16th, Council approved the renewed of the Organic Farmer's Market Lease for the period between September 2021 and August 2022. Council also authorized the signing of a contract to begin the Audio-Visual portion of the Chancel Renewal Project and approved that the Physical Renovation was to proceed when a contractor could be found. Paul Dillman also welcomed Patricia Power back for her second placement with our church. Paul also reported that he was now the Vice-Chair of the combined Anglican/United Theological College and Vice President of the Berwick Camp in Nova Scotia. Trustee Charles Barrett reported that the Legal Entity of Riverside Churches was formally closing as a Corporation, and in doing so, surrendered it's CRA Charitable Status. RUC would continue to have Charitable Status. Charles also reported that the Property Committee had been formed and was functioning effectively. The Affirming circle reported that it is working on adjusting the RUC Rental Agreement so that it would reflect our church's commitment to being an affirming church.

On the November 17th meeting, Council approved a formal Sick Leave Polity for Riverside United Church and approved salary coverage for a staff member's medical leave. A letter of thanks to Georgina Gray for her creation of the 12th church banner, *Cathedral Windows* was recommended and reviewed. During the January 19th Council meeting, planning for the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on March 27th, 2022, was approved. Discussions followed about upcoming celebrations of the 60th Anniversary of Riverside United Church in 2022, and honouring our 51 years of partnership with the Church of the Resurrection

Respectfully submitted, Karen Ogston

Chair of Council

Board of Trustees

Each congregation of The United Church of Canada is required to have a group of Trustees who hold the assets of the church, subject to trust law. At Riverside United the Board of Trustees has traditionally met on an as-required basis, but since 2020 we have needed to meet more frequently because of the changes brought about by the closure of The Church of the Resurrection. In 2021 we met on four occasions: Jan 15th, March 11th, September 16th, and December 9th.

The Trustees elected at the 2021 annual congregational meeting were Shirley Andrews, Charles Barrett, David Bell, Paul Dillman, Bob Garrow, Wendy Graham, Heather Smith, and Richard Williams.

The assets of the congregation under the stewardship of the Trustees consist of financial resources above and beyond that required for current operations, as well as real property held in trust for The United Church of Canada. On December 29, 2020, the title to the church property was conveyed from Riverside Churches of Ottawa Inc. to the Trustees of Riverside Congregation, Ottawa, of the United Church of Canada, based on standard United Church polity.

Insurance and contracts were amended to reflect the new ownership structure. The corporation has since applied to surrender its charter. The necessary filings have been submitted, and the corporation's charitable number has been voluntarily revoked as of November 2021. The only step remaining is to file the final tax returns

The Joint Use and Management Committee of Riverside Churches of Ottawa Inc., which formally was responsible for the day-to-day management of the church property, has been replaced by a new Property Committee of Riverside United Church, under the auspices of the Trustees.

Since 2014 the long-term financial assets of the church have been invested consistent with our investment policy statement. These investable funds are overseen by the Board of Trustees, subject to clear guidelines regarding the allocation of assets. As of December 31, 2021, Riverside United had \$353, 834.29 invested with the Canoe Asset Allocation Portfolio Series D, a socially responsible balanced mutual fund.

In December 2021 the Board of Trustees created a working group to monitor our investment performance and to recommend to the Trustees any changes in how funds are managed, as may be appropriate from time to time. This advisory group replaces the former Investment Management Committee, which was a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees. The Trustees have overall responsibility to the congregation for our investment performance, with the investment policy being the ultimate responsibility of the congregation through the Council and Trustees.

Respectfully submitted, Charles Barrett (Chair)

Property Committee First Annual Report

Upon the disestablishment of the Church of the Resurrection and closure of the Riverside Churches of Ottawa in December 2020, Riverside United assumed its role as the sole owner and operator of the Church and property at 3191 Riverside Drive. With this transition, the former Joint Use and Management Committee was disbanded and the Riverside United Church Council authorized the establishment of a Property Committee to assume many of the duties of the former committee.

This new committee was formed as follows:

Chair - Richard Williams (elected by members of the committee)

Property Treasurer - Charles Barrett

Minister - Rev. Paul Dillman

Members - Carolyn Gauthier, Hugh Moeser, Don Squire, and WJ (Bill) Smith

A terms of reference document (attached below) was created and circulated for review by members of the committee and Church Council and is considered in force.

This is a busy time for property management and operations at Riverside. Despite the lengthy period of virtual services, the church has remained in use and has required normal attention to the many maintenance issues that emerge due to the age of the facilities.

I would like to bring to your attention the following:

a. Progress on the Chancel Renovation. The Church has been advised of the plan to update the Chancel area by removing a layer of the front podium, add an accessibility ramp on the right side (facing the altar), remove and replace the current carpet (with either a new carpet or wood flooring - yet to be determined). This initial planning process has finalized the general design which has been put out for proposals. At this point in time, we plan to examine the only submission we understand is imminently to be submitted. This will be reviewed and passed to the Church governance process for consideration and approval.

b. Progress on the Audio-Visual Project. Council and the congregation has been approached a number of times to consider the addition of updated technology to improve the sound in the Chancel, add further tools to assist the hearing impaired, replace the projector and screen with large screen displays all operating under a new integrated system. A final proposed design using two large side mounted monitors with smaller units for the Minister, Organist and Choir (rather than a wall mounted screen) with a side wall mounted camera for Zoom and or YouTube coverage of services was approved by the congregation at last years annual meeting. Thereafter, a contract was finalized in Nov 2021 with CBCI Canada to design, deliver and install the system. We have held several meetings with the company but progress has been slow due shortages in the global electronics supply system. Nevertheless, we are hopeful that the system will be in place by summer of 2022 ready for our return to in-person worship [optimistically] in fall 2022.

c. Rentals continue to use our facilities. The Riverside Park Nursery School has continued to deliver its program throughout the COVID-19 period. As well, we have the regular Saturday morning Ottawa Organic Food Market. A new agreement has been reached with The Meeting House to use the facility for their services on Sunday afternoon plus weekday evening use as agreed. Finally, some regular rentals have returned to the church. In summary, we have additional usage of the church to support.

d. Committee management of regular maintenance. The committee has continued to support the full range of routine and exceptional maintenance and operations tasks including continuation of grass cutting, tree management (under Hugh Moeser's voluntary support to trim, prune and deal with our contractor support), parking lot ice and snow clearing, pathway snow and ice control (with a new contractor hired by the committee), and numerous smaller activities including addressing the intrusion of a raccoon into the garage area and major repairs to the church sign and lighting.

e. Workday Wednesday's. To handle many of the smaller or routine tasks affecting church condition, the committee led an initiative to create weekly volunteer morning work periods in the late summer and fall period when weather conditions permitted. This was well supported with normal turnouts of 5 or more church members. As a result, we were able to perform several critical tasks repairing the access road and parking lot asphalt, patching the roof and repairing the soffit on the garage, installing and modifying a new metal storage shed and performing major adjustments to use and storage in rooms 9 and 10. A summary note is attached below as well.

So what is planned for the future? First, we will have a major task overseeing the execution of the Chancel renovation and Audio-Visual projects. The roof of the garage will need attention in the near term once the spring weather arrives and we look to the restart of work sessions weather permitting. On the far horizon, we continue to monitor the condition of the parking lot asphalt.

We can always use additional members and solicit your support to keep the church in fine working condition to support our church services, gatherings and fellowship opportunities as well as providing our renters with top quality facilities.

Terms of Reference

Organization: The Property Committee (hereafter shortened to PC) is an authorized congregational committee responsible to the Board of Directors of Riverside United.

Mandate: The mandate of the PC is to organize, manage, oversee and evaluate activities that maintain, repair, operate and upgrade the building and grounds (including the portable, garage and outdoor play area) and supporting systems (such as electrical power, water, furnace, kitchen, lighting, air conditioning, telephone, office equipment, doors, windows, locks and audio-visual systems to ensure they are fit for purpose to support church services, activities and rentals.

Financial Authority: The PC is not a committee responsible for the financing of work under its mandate nor is it responsible to manage financial accounts and records. It will function with a set budget authorizing the expenditure of assigned funds to complete approved work and a funding limit to complete urgent activity. The PC will advance estimates and requests for funding beyond that approved or authorized to appropriate Church governing committees for their consideration and approval. The PC will control an “emergency fund” of an approved amount to immediately address urgent maintenance, repair or recovery actions that threaten the use and safety of the building and grounds eg. furnace breakdown, gas leaks, water leaks, electrical malfunctions.

Committee Structure: The PC will maintain a membership of no less than five (5) members including a designated Chair from the congregation approved by the Church in annual meeting. The PC will select a member to serve as the Secretary but this appointment will not require Church approval. The PC will contain ex-officio members including the Minister, member of the Finance Committee and member of the Trustees Committee. Such members may rotate amongst those organizations and their membership will not require Church Approval. The PC may designate a sub-committee of members to deal with an enduring issue spanning multiple meetings.

Members: The PC will be comprised of volunteer members of the congregation who wish to bring their varied expertise to a collective forum to contribute a broad set of skills and experience needed to consider the full range of issues within the committee mandate. The PC will not be expected to conduct the necessary work themselves but will consider a range of delivery options including congregational events (clean up days), contractors, or agents hired for specific tasks.

Quorum: The PC will develop a consensus on decisions under the authority of the Chair from attendance at regular meetings of no less than four (4) participants including the Chair, members and ex-officio members.

Meeting Frequency: The PC will normally meet in general session once per month on the First Tuesday and, subject to the call of the Chair, in special session to deal with urgent or emerging issues.

Meeting Structure: A normal meeting of the PC will comprise the following general agenda.

Authority of this Terms of Reference: The PC will endorse this TOR and submit to the Church Trustees for their approval. Amendments will be considered thereafter to be submitted by the PC and approved by the Church Trustees.

Date of Approval for this Terms of Reference:

xx June 2021



**RIVERSIDE UNITED CHURCH THANKS YOU
FOR SUPPORTING WEDNESDAY WORKDAYS**

- now enjoy your holidays

Tasks Accomplished

- o Asphalt Patching (many times)
- o Tree Pruning and Cleanup
- o Building the Shed
- o Defending the Garage from Marauding Raccoons
- o Moving the old shed
- o Putting up Disinfectant Holders
- o Moving the old COR Cupboard
- o Modifying the shed
- o Winterizing the air conditioners
- o Cleaning the road sign
- o [Trying to] Fix the road sign ballast
- o Tree cutting and removal
- o Fixing the Audio Cabinet and Cable
- o Church Cleanup



Respectfully submitted by **Richard Williams, Chair Property Committee**

Listing of Users of the Building/Property (Other than Congregational groups):

Daily/Weekly Groups:

Riverside Park Nursery School, The Meeting House, TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), Girl Guides, Scouts Canada, Ottawa Organic Farmer's Market. Other former groups did not meet due to COVID-19 restrictions (Atlantic Voices Choir only outside to co-ordinate music)

Monthly Groups: : did not meet due to COVID-19 restrictions

Celiac Association of Ottawa, Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Ottawa, Leukemia Association, Ottawa PC Users Group, Ottawa Valley Quilters Guild, Riverside Grannies, Riverside Park Community and Recreation Association.

Occasional Groups: did not meet due to COVID-19 restrictions

Condominium Association annual meetings, Voices in Harmony, Music recitals and other community events, Polling station (in election years), Councillor R. Brockington, Ward 16 – River Ward, City of Ottawa.

Building Partnership Team Ministry

Team Lead: Mary Shaw Co-Lead: Morag Pearce

Our mandate: To actively pursue partnerships based on the values of mutuality, hope and respect. Ongoing partnerships and new ones with faith and community groups ensure sustainability for the church, and fill social needs close to home and in the wider world.

As pandemic restrictions persisted, several of our ministries continued to modify how they carried out their mandate, while others were again unable function at all.

Out-of-the-Cold, the winter Saturday evening meal program at Southminster United Church was still in hiatus, so our folks were again unable to volunteer their services for one night.

Partner Offerings (formerly called Reverse Offerings) did not happen quite as usual. We were unable to have one until late fall, when we made a request for items to be donated to both Heron Emergency Food Centre and Centre 507. A list of the most needed items for both agencies was suggested. As always our congregation responded to the call, and considering that not everyone felt able to come to church to drop off their donations, we did receive a substantial amount. Other folks responded by giving cash donations which are always most welcome.

Riverside Grannies: The Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmother to Grandmother campaign is ongoing but the local group, for a second year, were unable to hold any fund-raising activities. Individual members, however, supported the cause with personal donations.

White Gift Program: Instead of us supporting 2 or 3 separate organizations with a variety of needs, we concentrated on Serenity House, a neighbourhood residential program for men dealing with addictions. One item on their 'wish list' was home baking, and of course our bakers gladly responded. 11 bags were assembled and among the other included contents were Mitten Tree donations, personal care products, puzzle books and chocolate bars.

World Day of Prayer: For the first time there were no in-person services in Canada. On March 3rd a national on-line event was held, with participants drawn from across Canada. The content of the service was prepared by the women of Vanuatu – a collection of over 80 islands in the South Pacific Ocean, with the theme “Build on a Strong Foundation”.

We are hopeful that the time will soon come when we can once more fully support these initiatives and others, and go forward with this Ministry.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Shaw

1. Amnesty International

Ongoing cases: Our writing group participates in campaigns through the Amnesty International Urgent Action Network. Cases arrive every 3 or 4 weeks and target countries where human rights abuses are occurring. It is to be noted that Amnesty does not adopt individuals or groups who have either used or advocated the use of violence in the expression of their ideas. We express our concerns to the authorities through emails, faxes or regular mail. Where appropriate, we send copies of our appeals to the ambassadors of the targeted countries. Amnesty estimates that we have a positive effect in about 1/3 of the cases we adopt.

The annual **WRITE-FOR RIGHTS** campaign: Held on December 11, 2021, we addressed the issues of 10 individuals and groups whose basic human rights - rights we take for granted - were being abused by the authorities in their countries. In 2021, AI reports that there are about 75,000 letters written on the 10 cases in Canada. We had 25 letter writers who wrote 180 messages - some to the authorities, the ambassadors and also, solidarity letters to the prisoners and human rights workers. We did return to

having a writing campaign in the church, despite Covid, 8 writers joining us. Help was also available on Zoom and many of our writers chose to write from home, addressing the cases online. Amnesty wants to keep track of how many letters are written to each country as they approach the country directly pointing out the number of letters of concern that have been written on cases involving that country.

Many thanks to all who joined us in person, on-line, or individually from home for the Write-a-thon and to those who write regularly on the ingoing cases.

Respectfully submitted Pat & Norm McLeod

2. Centre 507

The Centre continues to operate their breakfast and lunch programme 5 days per week, and also serves an evening meal one night per week. The need is great especially during these difficult and challenging COVID-19 times. Staff works diligently to assist participants with access to appointments and housing needs. During Advent this year our congregation responded with a large number of toiletry items, a large donation of hats, mitts and socks were also delivered which was part of our Partner Offering requests and those items were delivered to the Centre before Christmas as well as a large and generous donation of monetary gifts. Many thanks to everyone who has so generously supported the Centre this past year, it is much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted, Morag Pearce

Christmas Offering Projects:

a) The Mitten Tree - A huge thank you goes out to David and Gwen Bell for enabling the mitten tree to happen for so many years. In 2021, our 20th year, the tree was put up in the narthex and an invitation was extended to other groups using the building to make donations. There were lots of hats, mittens, scarfs, socks and gloves donated and there may have been more if activities hadn't closed down in mid December. The items were distributed to: Serenity House, Centre 507, Heron Emergency Food Centre (children's items), Bayview Public School, and Recovering Hope.

b) Serenity House - Christmas donations were also used to provide a gift bag for 11 residents of Serenity House (addiction treatment centre in the neighbourhood) who would be at the house over Christmas. Each bag had some home made baking and about \$30 worth of "stocking stuffers".

Submitted by Paul Dillman

3. Collection of Gently-used Warm Winter Clothing

This year despite the fact that we were closed during the winter there were still generous donations of clothing given to Centre 507. Many thanks to those who donate and deliver those much needed items to the Centre.

Respectfully submitted, Morag Pearce

4. Heron Road Emergency Food Centre

Located in the Heron Multipurpose Centre, HEFC has a mandate to provide a 3 day supply of food to individuals and families within its South East Ottawa catchment area. Because of increased donations

and grants this past year, they have been able to give recipients 7 days worth of food, and other essential items, each month.

Grants are given by the City Of Ottawa, with the Ottawa Food Bank (OFB) supplying both food and funding. In 2021 money from Ottawa Community Funding was also applied for and received. Cash donations were received from corporations, organizations, churches, directly from individuals and from people who gave through Canada Helps. Revenue was also generated from Wilson's Independent grocers, with our congregation being responsible for \$370 of that, by submitting \$37,000 worth of receipts. The annual Christmas Concert fundraiser was again virtual and added to the revenue. Giant Tiger is a big supporter of HEFC and in the past year donated 2,775 lbs of various types of meat. Because of the overall generosity of the people of this city, the OFB was able to supply the various centres with extra food and also money.

This abundance of cash enabled the Board to authorize the purchase of grocery gift cards at various times during the year. These cards, when available, were distributed in addition to the food supplied, and enabled folks to purchase items of their choice, and allow them some feeling of autonomy.

The number of visitors to the Centre did decrease during the first year of the pandemic, but as more people are being impacted the numbers are rising again. Being located in a very culturally diverse area, there was a fear that some in need of food were being missed. Advertising posters in 6 different languages were created and distributed in various places. Although many who come are new Canadians, there is evidence that more locally born folks are coming now. In December 496 households were served, 23 of which were new visitors. Altogether 1667 hungry souls, including 638 children were given food that month.

Because the OFB was supplying more food, our Buyer was able to purchase other non-food items e.g. laundry soap, bar soap, toilet paper, female hygiene products. Folks who have food insecurity are often unable to afford these other essentials.

Although RUC has not been functioning as usual our members have still been contributing. In the spring when the call went out for egg cartons, collectively you gave 172 of them. Come summer, vegetables in the Thexton Garden were lovingly grown, harvested and delivered to the Centre. The recipients truly appreciated and enjoyed the wonderful fresh produce. During Advent when we held the Partner Offerings, grocery and other requested items were dropped off at the church. Due to the abundance of children's hats and mitts placed on the Mitten Tree, we were able to take some of them to HEFC, and keep some little hands and heads warm. Many of you have continued to give monetary donations, and for that we are most grateful. If you wish to contribute you may visit the website at www.hefc.ca and donate through Canada Helps or by mailing a cheque directly to HEFC.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and everyone involved, I say a great big thank you for your continued generosity in supporting our less fortunate neighbours.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Shaw, RUC Representative to HEFC Board

5. Hunt Club Riverside Park Steering Table

The community network of helping organizations in this area of the city was not able to meet regularly. There was one meeting but Southeast Ottawa Community Health Centre staff were focused on other priorities. With some of the connections made in that group, an initiative for support for seniors has emerged. It is based on a model in the United States called "the Village". A few preliminary discussions have occurred about finding ways to support seniors to be able to stay in their own homes.

Submitted by Paul Dillman

6. Mission and Service

Riverside United Church continued a strong commitment to support the Mission and Service Fund of The United Church of Canada, with contributions totaling * \$29,599.68 for the 2021 year. This money is used by the national church to provide funding to various outreach projects, support for theological colleges, programming in the regions and support for international partners. Thank you for making M&S a part of your offering.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Dillman.

7. Multi-Faith Housing Initiative

Riverside United is a member of the Multi-Faith Housing Initiative (MHI), a not-for-profit organization with strong faith community participation. MHI was established in 2002 to bring more affordable housing to Ottawa. In 20 years MHI has grown into a coalition of over eighty faith communities including Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindu, Unitarians, Baha'i, and other faiths from across the city.

Clearly the availability of affordable housing in our city remains a major challenge. Currently, MHI owns a total of 139 units, housing between 300 and 400 people, at five different property sites: Blake House, the Haven, Kent House, Somerset Gardens, and most recently Veterans' House: the Andy Carswell Building, designed specifically to address the needs of homeless veterans in the Ottawa area,

Veterans' House was officially opened in 2021. United We Stand: the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) Campaign for Veterans' House has been a partnership between the United Church of Canada's EOORC and MHI. The campaign, which concluded in June 2021, raised \$115,000 for the project, with United Church donations matched by the Commissionaires Ottawa. Riverside United contributed more than \$3000 to the campaign.

MHI has recently announced two new projects, one in Le Breton Flats, and the second a partnership with the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa to build affordable housing at the site of the St. Julian of Norwich Parish on Merivale Road.

Respectfully Submitted by Charles Barrett

8. Partnership between Riverside United Church, Ottawa, and Providence Methodist Church, Kingston, Jamaica

There has been a partnership between the two churches since 2004. At Riverside we raise funds to support two outreach programs of Providence Methodist Church – the Home Visitation & Nursing Programme at Providence in Kingston, and the Mission House Methodist Basic School in Gordon Town, Jamaica. So the funds go to assist in the fields of health and early childhood education. We receive reports from Jamaica on the work and finances of both projects.

The services of the Nursing Programme have been limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but basic needs are still being met, as much as possible. The nurse continues to visit people in their homes, groceries are given out regularly, and people are assisted with the cost of medications, diagnostic tests, etc. The high cost of living and the pandemic have created increased problems for people in need. Also, there is a shortage of the COVID-19 vaccine in Jamaica.

The Mission House Methodist Basic School in Gordon Town has continued to operate during the pandemic. Most of the time the children have been working at home on line, with the teachers assisting the parents with lesson materials. Only the families who have computers can do this, and it is most difficult for the youngest children (3 year olds). The number of children participating has been about 30 or so. Computers are too costly for some families to own. And there were two tropical storms in the winter which caused flooding and severely damaged the road through Gordon Town. It was closed for months. However, they persevere, and the teachers continue to assist parents and children.

Our main fundraiser for these projects has been the annual Jamaica Night. The virtual presentation of Jamaica Night last year was very successful. We raised almost \$8,000. This October, the 18th Jamaica Night, Jamaica Night Goes Virtual was on You Tube Sunday, October 24, 2021. The theme this year – “Working Together For A Better Tomorrow”. And speaking of togetherness, on World Communion Sunday, the two churches, Riverside and Providence, joined together on Zoom for a joint communion service.

There was another very generous response to our video again in 2021. Funds were sent to Providence Methodist Church early in January, 2022 – (Can.\$5,232.49.), U.S.\$3,983.32.

Thank you for your continued generosity. It is greatly appreciated. When sending donations, please indicate that the funds are for outreach work in Jamaica. Receipts for income tax will be sent for donations of \$20 and over. Many thanks to the congregation of Riverside Church and to the Jamaican community in Ottawa for the continued interest and support.

Members of the Jamaica Partnership Committee - Rev. Paul Dillman, Rae Finley, Marjorie McLean, Jean Peart, Fay Jarrett, Edith Ngoye Allen, Marie Hackett.

Respectfully submitted, Marie Hackett

9. Refugee Committee

In 2020 we started working on an application to sponsor another Syrian family. This application was made more difficult because of the ongoing COVID crisis and various resulting delays. We were delighted to receive an email in January 2022 confirming that Riverside United Church's sponsorship application had been approved by ROCO (Resettlement Operations Centre in Ottawa). The file is now being transferred to the appropriate IRCC (Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada) office abroad where a decision will be made on the refugees' application for permanent residence. It will be some time before we know if this family will be allowed to come to Canada but a least progress is being made.

As the Constituent Group for Riverside United we have agreed, on behalf of the congregation, to support and help this family get settled successfully in Ottawa. We are working with two co-sponsors, family members, who are providing the financial support.

Respectfully submitted, Pat & Norm McLeod, Riverside United Church Refugee Committee

10. Riverside Grannies No report due to COVID-19

11. Thexton Garden Report

This past summer was our third growing season. It was another successful season with weekly and sometime twice-weekly deliveries to the Heron Road Food Bank. They were very appreciative.

Each year we have faced challenges. COVID restrictions have been the biggest challenge with planters, waterers and harvesters working in isolation. Thank you to all the volunteers (30+ individuals) who came out (in pairs and at specific times) to plant seeds in May and to the those who took on the task of watering on a week-by-week basis throughout the summer. Harvesting and maintenance through the growing season was done by Ken Smith, John Gingerich and John Dixon.

The question at the end of each season is what we would do differently next year. Soil fertility, rotation of crops, crop selection are all considerations. What crop would be most appreciated by the families who use the Food Bank? Our most prolific crops this year were Swiss chard, tomatoes and potatoes. The green beans were decimated by the Japanese beetle and cucumbers vines by a fungus. Always fun and always a challenge.

Report submitted by: John Dixon

Caring for One Another

Functions/Responsibilities:

Congregational social and connecting events

Funeral/Memorial Services Hospitality

Welcoming newcomers

Peg Brandon - Chair

Wanda Maurais - Co-Chair

Helen Hunter - Member-at-Large

Bob Garrow - Member-at-Large

Elizabeth Barclay - Card Ministry

Marie Hackett - Visitation Ministry

Molly Colwell - Welcoming

Ted Colwell - Welcoming

Mary Shaw -

Patricia Power - Ministry Liaison

Over the course of 2021, the Caring for One Another Ministry marked time as many of the functions that we would normally have been involved in organizing or coordinating did not take place due to ongoing COVID-related restrictions.

What did continue was outreach to members of the congregation through a phone and card ministry.

The phone ministry built on work done in late 2020 where every member of the congregation was contacted. Some of the people we spoke with during that survey indicated a wish for regular contact from the church. This was delivered on a monthly basis by:

- Wanda Maurais
- Mary Shaw
- Molly and Ted Colwell
- Bob Garrow
- Peg Brandon

In addition, Marie Hackett continued her Visitation Ministry by telephone, connecting with people who had not been able to physically go to church in the years before COVID restrictions.

Elizabeth Barclay continued sending cards for birthday and anniversary celebrations as well as sympathy, thinking of you, and get-well cards. Marsha Fairfield prepares the cards sent out for children's birthdays.

On behalf of the members of the Caring for One Another Ministry, I want to thank members of the congregation who keep us informed about those whom we may be able to assist. I also want to thank those in the congregation who, even though they are not "officially" members of the Caring for One Another Ministry, fulfil the mission of this ministry by regularly checking in on those who live alone, by printing and delivering copies of newsletters and reflections to those who are not electronically connected, and by nourishing a connection with others in the congregation. I know you do not do this for thanks, but we are grateful to you as you spread God's love to others in the congregation.

With God's help, may we continue to care for one another.

Respectfully submitted, Peg Brandon and Wanda Maurais

Nourishing Our Faith

Well, it seems unnecessary to mention that we've lived through another year of ups and downs with the COVID pandemic. However, that's our reality, and it has shaped worship, gatherings, experiences, personal journeys, music experiences, connections and lack thereof, and most other aspects of each of our lives.

Several planning meetings were held; some to discuss programming and content and music, and others on the intricacies of various technologies and how to integrate them into a future of hybrid worship.

Worship service time on Sunday mornings was changed to 10:30 a.m. from 11:00, as a trial for a few Sundays. We were able to do that since the Anglican congregation was no longer sharing the building. Our minister, Rev. Paul Dillman, asked for feedback, and it seemed to be a popular time, so it has remained.

Throughout the year, worship services and experiences have been made available at various times through Zoom, Facebook, and YouTube. Many, many thanks for the technical expertise, vision, dedication and problem-solving abilities of John Gingerich, Paul Dillman, and Richard Williams.

Worship when restrictions are in effect consists of Paul sending an e-mail with news, the text of the reflection, plus a YouTube link to the reflection, scripture reading and some music. Then on Sunday mornings, there is a Zoom gathering with a theme conversation or perhaps a video clip, prayer and music, followed by 'coffee time', when people have general conversation.

It is a sad reality that not everyone is able to participate as much as they might like, but we also continue to be grateful for the opportunities that have opened up participation by folks from far away. For those

not linked to our technologies, kind folks are printing the reflection and delivering it to those who have no other way to receive it.

A highlight of the year was when restrictions were lifted enough so we could have a few outdoor social and worship gatherings, and then several inside worship services. The music aspect of these services is detailed under the ‘ Ministry of Music ‘ report. All COVID safety protocols were in effect at all times.

Amazingly and wonderfully in these restricted times, participation by congregational members continues enthusiastically. We have more than 34 people who have read scripture and several musical folks who have contributed to the music program. Others have acted as screeners, attendance recorders and ushers at our in-person services, and figured out a safe way for the chairs to be spaced. Then of course we have David Gray, who continues to illustrate the scripture readings with pictures, John Gingerich who faithfully records the reflection and assembles the Youtube videos, and Richard Williams, our technical manager. Many thanks to all three.

Undaunted by restrictions, we observed our usual landmark traditions, on line, with the celebration of :
World Day of Prayer - Island nation of Vanuatu,

Pie Day- (Public, Intentional, Explicit),

Palm Sunday, with folks being creative in finding something to wave in lieu of a palm branch;

Picnic Sunday and Recognition of Grads, with people invited to have a picnic lunch ready and to participate in Zoom games;

virtual World-Wide Communion Day,

celebration of Riverside’s 59th anniversary and the annual Memorial Candle Lighting, including an Act of Remembrance, with people invited to have a candle ready to light at home;

Lessons and Carols Service (last year’s wonderful service offered again),

the Christmas Pageant,

Quiet Christmas; and 2 cluster services shared with other nearby congregations, (virtually, of course).

A few of the subjects addressed under Paul’s leadership during the year were: a conversation with a heart transplant recipient, Rev Guy Matthews; the legacy of the Residential Schools; and observation of Orange Shirt Day. His reflections are based on the Narrative Lectionary.

Our Student Minister, Patricia Power, led us in worship during August while Paul was on vacation, with a theme focussing on the “Bread of Life” discourse from the Gospel of John.

We are grateful that our congregation, under the inspiring leadership of Paul, has remained steadfast, enthusiastic and connected, and that our hearts and souls are together as a community of faith, even if our physical beings are scattered.

Respectfully submitted, Wendy Graham

Adult Learning

Book Club

It was very meaningful to share our Book Club discussions in this time of isolation. We had hoped that a safe time for an in-person meeting might present itself, but that proved elusive.

Nevertheless, we were able to dissect *Akin*, by Emma Donoghue, *A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles, *Braiding Sweetgrass*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer, *the Salt Path* by Raynor Winn and *a Town Called Solace*, by Mary Lawson.

Learning Circles

Spring Faith Exploration Discussion Group: Beginning in April, a weekly discussion group was held on Zoom - "A Song of Faith" - a statement of faith adopted by the United Church of Canada in 2006. This discussion was open to anyone and it would serve as preparation for anyone interested in confirmation or adult baptism.

Lenten Worship: Paul led a 6 week Thursday night Lenten worship and reflection series ending with a Maundy Thursday service. The theme was Geographical Metaphors of Faith, and the theme carried over into some of the Sunday Zoom gathering conversations.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Graham

Affirming Ministry Circle

MEMBERS: Wendy Graham (Chair), Wanda Maurais (Secretary), Christine Rhodes, Helen Hunter, Joan Sirrs, Alyssa Suthertown, Heather Moir and Paul Dillman

New members are always welcome.

March 14, 2021, we celebrated PIE Day, (Public, Intentional, Explicit). The reflection was on 'indifference'. During the service, we shared Ken Robinson's poem "Rainbow Blessing". Pie was 'shared' during our breakout room discussions.

April 28, 2021 was the second Anniversary of Riverside United becoming an Affirming Ministry. Paul shared a conversation during the service with Karen Oliveto, a gay bishop in the United States. We also showed a video from Rainbow Camp which is a short documentary about a camp that is open for one week to 35 LGBTQ+ youth. The camp offers a space for young people to discuss how difficult it is to find their identity, and to be with others just to have some fun.

In May, during a "Minute for Affirming", Wanda read an article written by a black woman, Adele Halliday, "What I Need from White People" during the service.

In October, we observed Orange Shirt Day by the wearing of orange shirts and with thoughtful conversation at the Sunday Zoom gathering.

In November, also during a "Minute for Affirming", Wendy read a story about a man's journey while dealing with his addiction.

Respectfully submitted by Wanda Maurais

Children's Ministry

Logistics: Coming back in fall of 2021, we had discussed that children (5-11 were mostly unvax'd at that time and under 5 didn't have a dose tested yet) would participate in outdoor only worship. I was very excited as I love being outdoors and most children have appropriate clothing for being outside for one hour. I brought a tarp structure (carport roof style) which we put up next to the Book Nook for rainy fall days.

Program: I receive a listing of the passages for the year from Paul, and from there I make the days activity in relation to that. After talking to Paul and also the participants, we agreed to keep the experience and experiment format where I choose appropriate science experiments that relate to the passage (for example, with a passage that relates to Samuel hearing God, we made tin can phones and tried various types of strings, explaining how sound waves work and discussion centred around how we communicate with each other and how God communicates with us).

Timing & Numbers: After the lockdown for the Christmas holiday, combined with the school that most children in worship attend having an outbreak just before the end of the December, it was decided that children's worship be suspended. It seemed in combination with dwindling numbers probably caused by outdoor worship (which is really too bad because it's wonderful to be outside at noon in appropriate clothing). As for numbers, we had two reliable families, one of which shares custody allowing children every second week: meaning numbers were 2 or 4 at maximum *this makes for excellent conversation, but it's difficult to look forward to a worship with only your sibling (or so my kids tell me☺).

Forecast for the future: -Room 5 has a max COVID occupancy of 4-5, this would work for the children currently, ideally we would use room 6 as it is a larger space.

-I would like to continue with the format of Experience and Experiment worship. This is a favourite among current worshipping children.

-I would like to do an invite-a-friend like they do at Girl Guides as it offers an opportunity to see your friends in safe spaces. The school most children in our congregation attend is a religious school (Georges Etienne-Cartier).

-I would like to do an activity for families, like a micro messy church for parent/grandparent & child in small groups. Maybe a break baking activity or something similar. I would begin with asking the most likely participants if the idea is approved (and numbers allowed confirmed).

-I'm most happy to participate in an Easter Messy Church or Messy Church kit depending on the COVID numbers and Health Canada recommendations and what is deemed best for our congregation by the Council.

Report completed by Catalina La Force, Children Worship Leader

Choir - No report due to COVID-19

Communion

Communion was celebrated on February 21, March 28, April 4, June 6, August 1, October 3 and December 24, solely on-line. On those occasions we were invited to have our own wine/juice and bread/cracker on hand, so that although apart we could partake together.

During World Wide Communion Sunday in October we were delighted to have with us on Zoom, members of Providence Methodist Church, Jamaica, with Rev Barrington Litchmore participating with Rev Paul. A total of 78 folks joined for this service. On November 28, the 1st Sunday of Advent, we did have 47 people present in church, along with 27 on Zoom and others live streaming. We adapted to fit the Covid precautions with folks being served in their seats, and the use of individual glasses for both the juice and pieces of gluten free bread.

Music: Plans were made to form a Music Program Coordinating Group. This was postponed until after the pandemic is no longer a threat.

Ministry of Music

It is now almost two years since our Choir has been able to participate all together in regular worship services. As was the case in 2020, during this past year several individuals or small groups have led the music. In the fall we were able to have 9 in-person services, but some of the music was still prerecorded. Rev Paul sourced many videos and audio recordings of hymns to be played on the Zoom gatherings and YouTube videos, however some of the musical offerings were recorded in-house.

In Lent, and again in May, Malcolm Wade's rich voice resonated on Zoom and YouTube.

Wanda Maurais and Mary Shaw harmonized hymns which were played on Zoom and YouTube in Lent, as well as again on Easter Sunday and Pentecost.

On Good Friday our Director of Music, Wayne Irschick (piano) with guest, Anna Backsheeva (violin) played a beautiful excerpt from Bach's St Matthew Passion.

On two Sundays in the Spring Ruth Bryce inspired us as she sang to her own ukulele accompaniment. During World Wide Communion Sunday in October, when we were joined on Zoom by members of Providence Methodist Church, our partner congregation in Jamaica, we were blessed to have the group "Regeneration Music" bring us their rendition of "Make Us One"

Although we opened for in-person worship on October 17th, it was still not possible to engage in congregational singing. Those present had to just follow along, or sing in their head, the words of the hymns on the screen. By the beginning of November we decided that it would be safe and beneficial to have someone singing up front, so those attending could listen to the words as well as follow along on the screen, and those watching on Zoom or YouTube could continue to sing along.

On November 7th – Remembrance and RUC Anniversary Sunday, with the Memorial Candle Lighting, Mary Shaw sang a few of the more poignant hymns. Over the next few weeks Malcolm Wade, Nicky

Texeira, Joy Vidal and Alyssa Suthertown brought the words to life in their lead soloist roles.

As Christmas approached it was decided to reprise last year's recorded Lessons and Carols segment when a number of our congregation gave of their musical talents, while Nicky sang some live carols.

Unfortunately by December 19th we deemed it wise to return to only on-line worship, so previously recorded in-house music was heard again on that day and at the Quiet Christmas service.

On Christmas Eve other previously performed recordings by Alyssa, Wanda and Mary, Joy with Gaby and Galvin Cubar, were enjoyed again while Aiden Russell wowed us with his live cello solo on Zoom. The service concluded with an ethereal vision of rural England and Gerald Finley's video rendition of "Silent Night".

Throughout the year Wayne Irschick has accompanied vocalists and musicians on organ and piano, as well as playing the organ for the in-person services, and on-line hymns.

The recording of many of the live and recorded musical items, and the editing of the on-line segments were again made possible thanks to John Gingerich. His technical expertise and patience are much appreciated, and we are very grateful to him.

We have continued to be challenged throughout 2021, but we have managed to keep singing, even if at times it has been silently. As we go forward we hope and pray that we will soon be able to say *Come in, come in and sit down* and *Make a joyful noise unto God!*

Respectfully submitted, Mary Shaw.

Communications Committee

Mandate: The mandate of the committee is to provide advice, support and guidance to Council, church committees, and event organizers in the production and release of church communications that inform the congregation, the community, and the media about religious, social, and recreational activities at Riverside United Church.

Members: John Gingerich, Ellis Lindsay, Ken Smith, Louise Madaire, and Theresa White

During the COVID pandemic, our focus has been on learning how to provide for an online presence which would allow us to maintain a sense of community while being unable to gather physically. We have settled on a format for worship consisting of weekly YouTube videos which include a scripture reading, a reflection/sermon by Paul (or Patricia) and a hymn. These videos are planned by Paul/Patricia and assembled for YouTube by John.

During times when we were allowed to gather in person, we maintained our 'live' online presence by streaming the Zoom feed of the service in the church directly to YouTube. Once again this required learning new skills which we continue to improve on with practice. Here we are grateful to Richard Williams for hosting those streamed Zoom services. This frees Paul to concentrate on leading worship.

Theresa and Paul continue to maintain our presence on Facebook. Louise, Ellis and John try to keep our website current, updating links and/or adding new content as needed.

The promised website update was once again put on hold as we anticipate further changes to our format with the addition of new audio/visual equipment and changing pandemic restrictions in the coming year.

Submitted by, John Gingerich, Communications Committee

Fund Raising

Fund Raising	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 20
Bazaar	9,117.35	2,792.80
Berries	0.00	560.00
BookNook	2,143.70	0.00
Garage Sale / Kijiji	2,086.00	720.00
Grocery Gift Cards	3,510.03	3,368.97
Grocery Card Purchase Rebate	1,050.80	780.10
Plant Sale	5.00	0.00
Recycle	33.00	0.00
Other Fund Raising	0.00	97.35
Women's Quilting and Crafts	0.00	1,000.00
Total Fund Raising	17,945.88	9,319.22

Book Nook

What a year to be holding on to lovely reading material which most could not easily access. We held some small summer openings to coincide with the fruit and vegetable market and then there were the two proper openings when we were inside to help people in their searches. The two mini Bazaar times brought in over \$800 just by themselves. With individual sales and other short openings, the Book Nook made \$2,143.70 for the year.

Though we haven't been seen to be open, the Team continues to go through new books which are donated, by culling those which we know we can sell and disposing of those we can't to other charities. We try to keep just the most recently published books or those that have withstood the test of time. We look forward to having better sales in 2022. In the mean time, keep off-loading on us your gently and recently read books.

Respectfully submitted by Daphne Biggs

Christmas Bazaar

The 2020 Christmas Bazaar was cancelled due to ongoing COVID restrictions. However some of the crafts and food products were sold at a table outside the church, in coordination with the Ottawa Organic Farmers' Market, which had begun to operate from RUC in November.

This approach was repeated twice in the spring of 2021, on Saturday March 27 and Saturday 3 April, the days before Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. The offerings included soups, baked goods, and several apple pies and crisps prepared especially for the two days.

Shortly after Easter the province raised COVID restrictions in response to increased caseloads and no further table sales were held in the spring.

Instead, the decision was made to hold two Mini-Bazaars in the fall. The first one was held on October 9th, the Saturday of the Thanksgiving weekend. The second was held on November 13th, around the time

the Christmas Bazaars had been held in pre-COVID times. The Mini-Bazaars were held in Rooms 4, 5 and 6 and included quilting and knitting, crafts, jewelry, frozen and fresh pies, frozen soups and apple crisps, china and collectibles, Kijiji items, baked goods and jams and jellies. The Mini-Bazaars were held at the same time as the Organic Farmers' Market and benefitted greatly from the traffic flow that the Market generated. Overall the proceeds from the two Mini-Bazaars were \$7200.

Our thanks to all those who:

- so generously contributed the many wonderful items for the Mini-Bazaars;
- participated in baking parties at the church for the apple pies and crisps;
- set up, operated and cleaned up various tables after the Mini-Bazaar, and took care of arranging the floats and counting the proceeds.

I would also like to thank the members of the Bazaar Committee: Diana Desjardins, Patty Dixon, Jean Gingrich, Wendy Graham, Morag Pearce and Susan Wade. Their energy, enthusiasm and organizational abilities made it all happen.

Respectfully submitted by Peg Brandon

Grocery/Gift/Cash Cards

Profit for 2020 was \$4149

Profit for 2021 was \$4561

Through this second COVID -19 year the sales volume has remained relatively strong with a higher volume of \$250 cards being sold. Thanks to Louise Madaire and Paul Dillman for the sales through the office and Ken Smith for curb-side delivery. Thanks also to Karen Tippett for assistance in inventory control and her statistical record keeping and also to Joan Sirrs for purchasing the cards. The biggest thank you has to go to those of you that continue to buy cards and support this fund raiser.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Smith

Kijiji Sales

In December 2020, an idea to help raise money for the church was formed. We wondered if we could turn congregation donations of sale items into cash. We were not looking for garage-sale items, but items with more value (say \$25 and up). These items had to be of good quality because, as we have found out, customers are picky about the what they buy and the condition of an item.

Through 2021 we have sold several donated items - everything from skis to small pieces of furniture to kitchen appliances. In one year (December 2020 to December 2021) we have made \$2800.

Kijiji sales Team; Paul Dillman, John Dixon & Ken Smith

Report submitted by: John Dixon

Quilting and Crafts

The COVID epidemic has kept us all home for far too long and the group is hoping that we will be able to start meeting again in September should the prediction be accurate that this is the last wave.

Georgina continued to work on the quilt until September of 2021 and did a total of 137 hours of hand quilting between 2020 and 2021. The Quilting and Craft group received a cheque for over \$800 from Pat Sheahan, who had commissioned the quilting.

The group did make a donation to the Chancel Renewal project in the past year and is planning on making another this year.

Report submitted by: Lynda Barrett

Membership and Rolls – 2021 Changes and Revisions

MEMBERSHIP AND ROLLS

	31 Dec 2019	31-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2021
Members / Adherents	437	429	433
Non-Resident Members	18	15	19
Households under Pastoral Care	241	241	233
Baptisms Adult	0	0	0
Baptisms Child	0	0	0
Marriages	1	1	0
Funerals & Memorial Services	5	2	
Marriages by Volunteer			
Associates Ministers	0	0	0
Changes During the Year			
Members			
On by Profession Under age 18		0	0
On by Profession age 18 or older	0	0	0
On by Transfer of Certificate	0	0	0
On by Resolution	0	0	0
Adherents Added	12	4	3
Total	12	4	3
Off by Certificate (transferred out)	0	0	0
Off by Resolution	0	0	0
Address Unknown	1	2	0
Off by Death	5	4	3
Total	6	6	3

2021 Baptisms - NA

2021 Marriages - NA

2021 Deaths

Noreen Evans

Georgia Thompson

Don Waddell*

We also remember the life of others who died during 2020

***Indicates a member on the Historic Roll of Riverside United**

Respectfully Submitted, Louise Madaire, Office Administrator

Ministry and Personnel Committee

The purpose of the M&P committee is to be the human resources department of Riverside United Church. As such, we hire, write job descriptions, conduct performance staff reviews, assess working conditions, and follow current employment standards, recommend remuneration increases for staff to Church Council and provide support to staff. We are a mandated committee of the United Church of Canada and report directly to Council.

During 2021:

1. We managed to keep all staff from 2020 on payroll. Marc Godin, Caretaker, was added to the Payroll of RUC in January 2021, after his over 30 years of service in this position through the Joint Holdings corporation of RUC and COR. During the brief reopening of in-person church, all employees were able to perform their full duties. Cat La Force, who since mid 2020 volunteers her time as Children and Youth Worship Coordinator, provided regular outdoor children's programming.
2. The church office was open more, due to less stringent lockdowns in 2021. Temporarily over three weeks, Laurie Morrison voluntarily replaced Louise Madaire during a medical leave.
3. Performance reviews were postponed, due to online church, but are scheduled for spring 2022.
4. Staff appreciation for employees' many contributions and efforts in the face of COVID was held during the White Gift Service.
5. There were four M&P meetings by Zoom.
6. We recommended the cost of living increases in staff salaries to the Treasurer and Council.
7. There are proposed changes to the M&P committee, which are to be ratified at the AGM: Karen Ogston to take over as chair, Bob Garrow to retire after many faithful years and Peter Griffiths to join.

This report would not be complete without a big thank you to members of M&P for their continued advice, experience, and contribution to the committee: Bob Garrow, former chair; Susan Wade, Morag Pearce and John Gingerich, and especially to Karen Ogston, past chair, for all her support. I would also like to thank Paul Dillman, Ken Smith and Louise Madaire for their patience, guidance, and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Desjardins, Chair M&P

Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council

Introduction

Riverside United Church is a member of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council of the United Church of Canada. The Region consists of the Outaouais in Quebec and the area in Ontario bounded by the St. Lawrence River from the Quebec border to Gananoque, north to Petawawa and the Ottawa River.

All United Church clergy, both active and retired, are members of the Region. For Riverside, this includes Rev. Dillman as well as our retired clergy: Rev. Dr. Ken Robinson, Rev. Ted Colwell, Rev. Gail Christy, Rev. Jane Griffith and Rev. Janet Thompson. In addition, Riverside is entitled to three lay representatives who are, at the moment, Charles Barrett and Bob Christy with one vacancy. For many years, Molly Colwell served as an alternate lay representative.

2021 Activities and Meetings

Members of Region gathered four times during 2021.

1. Winter Meeting (online via Zoom)

On February 27, 2021, EOORC held an informational and educational meeting in which attendees could choose to attend one of three workshops:

Workshop 1 Cultivating Calm: When you can't normalize the situation, can you normalize yourself? – Leader: Diane Strickland

Workshop 2 Bypassing the Pandemic: Community Connection During These Times – Leaders: Rev. Eric Lukas and David Patterson

Workshop 3 Steps to Regional Councils Becoming an Affirming Ministry – Linda Hutchinson

2. Annual Meeting: “Rooted in Love”

The Regional Council held its traditional spring annual meeting on the mornings of May 7 – 8, 2021 (online via Zoom). On the first morning, the meeting:

- heard about anti-racism in the opening worship in which the Rev. Dr. Alydia Smith, Program Coordinator Worship, Music and Spirituality for the United Church of Canada, preached and the Rev. Marie-Claude Manga read scripture;
- participated in a break-out workshop, where Adele Halliday, Anti-racism and Equity Officer of the United Church, discussed how we are striving to become an anti-racism denomination; and
- heard greetings via video from the Moderator, Rt. Rev. Richard Bott.

The second morning of the meeting focussed on the business of the Region. In particular, the meeting:

- acknowledged ministerial milestones for clergy: Rev. Dr. Ken Robinson has been ordained for 65 years and Rev. Paul Dillman for 35;
- learned that two clergy from other denominations were being admitted to the United Church of Canada – Rev. Demanya (Kofi:) Akoussah who is serving at Eglise unie St.-Marc in Ottawa and Rev. Dr. Zacharia Mandara who is serving at Wesley United in Pembroke;
- considered a number of pastoral relation matters;
- elected Susan Hutton as President-elect;
- elected the Region's commissioners to General Council 44;
- watched a video about Affirming Ministry; broke into discussion groups and passed a motion to enter a discerning process to become an Affirming Region;
- dealt with the financial report and the budget.

3. Celebration of Ministries Service

Members of EOORC met again on the evening of May 28, 2021 for the annual Celebration of Ministries Service. During the service, Region:

- remembered the ministries of the following clergy who died during the year:
Rev. Cyril Cook who served many congregations in the Ottawa area during 54 years of ministry;
Rev. Dr. Ken Micklethwaite who served McKay;
Sue Taylor, a well known Diaconal Minister who was at First United for many years; Rev. Dr. George Hermanson and Rev. Thomas Kurdyla; and
- admitted Rev. Demanya (Kofi:) Akoussah and Rev. Dr. Zacharia Mandara to the United Church of Canada.

4. Fall Meeting (online via Zoom)

On November 27th, the Region held its Fall meeting entitled “Preparing The Way”. Essentially a business meeting, members of Region:

- approved the creation of a Camp Awesome director position and a three year pilot project;
- approved the 2022 budget and agreed to appoint an internal independent review committee to review and prepare the 2021 financial statements;
- received the Nomination Committee report for information;
- filled vacant positions on the Region’s roster of Commissioners to the 44th General Council meeting scheduled for 2022; and
- dealt with two pastoral relations matters – communication allowances and sacramental elder policy.

Submitted by Rev. Paul Dillman, Charles Barrett and Robert Christy

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Audited Statement

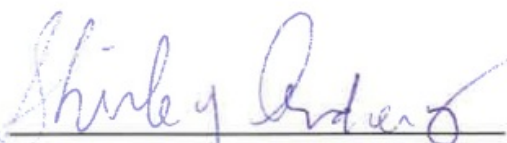
March 1, 2022

NOTICE TO READER


On the basis of the Information provided, we have reviewed the Income and Expense Statement and Balance Sheet for Riverside United Church, Ottawa, Ontario as of December 31, 2021 and for the 12 months then ended. This process has included a review of the account of the Trustees (building) and the account of the Program/Operations of Riverside United Church.

Our review consisted of a sampling of financial transactions for the period reviewed, a confirmation from external financial institutions that funds declared exist, and we have not found any items of concern in this process.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect to these financial statements and accordingly, we express no assurance thereon Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.



Shirley Andrews



Don Squire

RIVERSIDE UNITED CHURCH - 2021 Statement of Financial Position

Income/Expense Statement As of December 31, 2021

	RUC	Trustees	Total	2020
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Congregational Giving	185,878.67		185,878.67	171,519.74
Bank Interest Income	121.16		121.16	101.47
Weddings, Funerals				930.00
Directed Financial Gifts				500.00
Fund Raising	17,945.88		17,945.88	8,319.22
Property Account				
Donations				
Donations for Use of space		26,410.00	26,410.00	8,325.00
Grants	25,000.00		25,000.00	
Other Donations	38,394.78	0.00	38,394.78	330.00
Total Donations	63,394.78	26,410.00	89,804.78	8,645.00
Riverside Park Nursery School		13,900.00	13,900.00	13,800.00
Riverside United Church		0.00	0.00	27,600.00
Total Income	267,340.49	40,310.00	307,650.49	247,515.43
Gross Profit	267,340.49	40,310.00	307,650.49	247,515.43
Expense				
Administration				
Bank Service Charges	461.55	45.60	507.15	784.34
Equip Purchases, Repairs, Maint	113.29		113.29	739.78
Office General Supplies	157.43		157.43	0.00
Office Photocopy	39.49		39.49	0.00
Office Postage	825.06		825.06	458.57
Office Telephone	844.19		844.19	834.01
Photocopy - recoveries	-45.00		-45.00	-65.00
Weddings, Funeral Expense	0.00		0.00	237.77
Cleaning Supplies		1,703.16	1,703.16	1,512.50
Copier Lease		2,572.41	2,572.41	3,347.76
Copier Supplies		396.24	396.24	861.94
Depreciation Expense		10,347.52	10,347.52	10,347.52
HST Expense		1,405.17	1,405.17	1,574.20
Insurance		9,982.00	9,982.00	5,907.00
Total Administration	2,396.01	26,452.10	28,848.11	26,540.39
Assessment - UCC	8,675.00		8,675.00	8,675.00
Building Joint Expense				27,600.00
Partnership Ministry	120.00		120.00	200.00
Programming				
Caring for One Another	74.66		74.66	205.84
Nourishing Our Faith	3,414.73		3,414.73	490.35
Communication Committee	151.40		151.40	510.39
Total Programming	3,640.79		3,640.79	1,206.58
Major Cost Items				
Kitchen Renovation				10,272.45

Sanctuary Project				704.29
Thexton Garden		135.64	135.64	128.92
Total Major Cost Items		135.64	135.64	11,105.66
Office		665.13	665.13	1,375.56
Professional Services		6,851.73	6,851.73	700.00
Reconciliation				2.41
Discrepancies				
Repairs and Maintenance		5,731.53	5,731.53	14,415.04
Salary Costs			0.00	
Workers Safety Insurance				134.24
Canada Pension Plan		73.86	73.86	
Total Payroll Expenses	187,249.53		187,249.53	177,514.28
Sabbatical Expense	1,500.00		1,500.00	
Travel	120.95		120.95	
Staff - Other	749.24		749.24	1,925.94
Total Salary Costs	189,619.72	73.86	189,693.58	179,574.46
Uncategorized Expenses		46.00		
Utilities				
Electricity		9,075.93	9,075.93	7,539.14
Gas		5,329.28	5,329.28	6,382.25
Water and Sewer		2,495.15	2,495.15	2,515.55
Total Utilities		16,900.36	16,900.36	16,136.94
Yard Maintenance		7,870.01	7,870.01	8,088.95
Total Expense	204,451.52	64,726.36	269,177.88	295,620.99
Net Ordinary Income	62,888.97	-24,416.36	38,472.61	-48,105.56
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
Canada Emer. Wage Subsidy	12,116.10		12,116.10	18,541.39
Mission & Service			0.00	
Envelopes	5,840.00		5,840.00	
PAR	22,975.92		22,975.92	
CanadaHelps	288.76		288.76	
eTransfer	235.00		235.00	
Total Mission & Service	29,339.68		29,339.68	27,826.60
Directed Outreach				
Centre 507	245.00		245.00	
Heron Emergency Food Centre	410.00		410.00	110.00
Multi-faith Housing	2,582.15		2,582.15	
Other Outreach	2,490.00		2,490.00	
Total Directed Outreach	5,727.15		5,727.15	110.00
Endowment to Operations transfer				10,000.00
Total Other Income	47,182.93		47,182.93	56,477.99
Other Expense				
Mission & Service Expense Outreach.	29,519.68		29,519.68	27,826.60
Directed Charity Donation Outreach. - Other	3,628.26		3,628.26	110.00
	2,000.00		2,000.00	
Total Outreach.	5,628.26		5,628.26	110.00
Depreciation Expense - Furnace	1,871.04		1,871.04	1,871.04
Total Other Expense	37,018.98		37,018.98	29,807.64
Net Other Income	10,163.95		10,163.95	26,670.35

Net Income	<u>73,052.92</u>	<u>-24,416.36</u>	<u>48,636.56</u>	<u>-21,435.21</u>
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Consolidated Balance Sheet 2021

	RUC	Trustees	Total	2020
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Chequing/Savings				
Petty Cash(Property)		500.00	500.00	200.00
Petty Cash(RUC)	300.00		300.00	300.00
Trustee Royal Bank		10,062.61	10,062.61	29,362.84
RUC Operating	34,905.76		34,905.76	23,879.96
RUC Savings	104,645.76		104,645.76	54,901.78
Total Chequing/Savings	139,851.52	10,562.61	139,851.52	108,914.58
Accounts Receivable				
Accounts Receivable		3,418.97	3,418.97	4,119.85
Total Accounts Receivable		3,418.97	3,418.97	4,119.85
Other Current Assets				
Canoe Financial	353,834.29		353,834.29	271,943.68
Investments	0.00		0.00	6,054.00
Accounts Receivable - GST	79.28		79.28	87.81
Accounts Receivable - PST	145.58		145.58	166.67
Grocery Card Imprest Account	11,433.39		11,433.39	18,135.89
Grocery Gift Certificates	31,130.24		31,130.24	24,427.71
Total Other Current Assets	396,622.78		396,622.78	320,816.16
Total Current Assets	536,474.30	13,981.58	550,455.88	433,850.59
Fixed Assets				
Furnace 2002				
Depreciation	-35,861.60		-35,861.60	
Original Cost	37,421.71		37,421.71	
Total Furnace	1,560.11		1,560.11	3,431.15
Buildings				
Depreciation		-57,752.62	-57,752.62	-48,401.43
Washroom Renovation		93,511.93	93,511.93	93,511.93
Building-Other		221,228.77	221,228.77	221,228.77
Total Building		256,988.08	256,988.08	266,339.27
Furniture & Equipment				
Depreciation		-78,877.47	-78,877.47	-78,201.72
Original Cost		80,711.33	80,711.33	80,711.33
Total Furniture & Equipment		1,833.86	1,833.86	2,509.61
Land and Land Development				
Depreciation		-7,465.00	-7,465.00	-7,465.00
Land and Land Development - Other		82,715.00	82,715.00	82,715.00
Total Land and Land Development		75,250.00	75,250.00	75,250.00
Organ				
Depreciation		-58,954.00	-58,954.00	-58,954.00
Original Cost		58,954.00	58,954.00	58,954.00

Total Organ		0.00	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Thexton Garden				
Depreciation		-641.16	-641.16	-320.58
Original Cost		3,205.82	3,205.82	3,205.82
Total Thexton Garden		<u>2,564.66</u>	<u>2,564.66</u>	<u>2,885.24</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>1,560.11</u>	<u>336,636.60</u>	<u>338,196.71</u>	<u>350,415.27</u>
Other Assets				
Prepaid Expense	23,084.30	11,401.00	34,485.30	0.00
Total Other Assets	<u>23,084.30</u>	<u>11,401.00</u>	<u>34,485.30</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>561,118.71</u>	<u>362,019.18</u>	<u>923,137.89</u>	<u>784,265.86</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable		7,246.37	7,246.37	1,747.64
Total Accounts Payable		<u>7,246.37</u>	<u>7,246.37</u>	<u>1,747.64</u>
Total Current Liabilities		7,246.37	6,240.67	1,747.64
Long Term Liabilities				
Holding Account - New Project		1,399.88	1,399.88	1,399.88
Holding Account - Wesley		2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
United				
Total Long Term Liabilities		<u>3,399.88</u>	<u>3,399.88</u>	<u>3,399.88</u>
Total Liabilities		10,646.25	10,646.25	5,147.52
Equity				
Endowment Fund	291,825.51		291,825.51	207,769.56
Manse Fund	60,500.00		60,500.00	60,500.00
Restricted Ministry				
Compassion	560.00		560.00	
Jamaica	5.98		5.98	
Refugee	30,000.00		30,000.00	
Sabbatical	6,875.00		6,875.00	
Total Restricted Ministry	<u>37,440.98</u>		<u>37,440.98</u>	<u>30,705.00</u>
Equity in Property				
Church of the Resurrection		44,451.29	44,451.29	
Washroom Renovation Funding		82,281.17	82,281.17	
Church Extension Fund, Ottawa Pres.		65,000.00	65,000.00	
Total Equity in Property		<u>191,732.46</u>	<u>191,732.46</u>	<u>159,533.86</u>
Land and Buildings	-32,198.60	130,246.73	98,048.13	130,246.73
Retained Earnings	148,949.19	35,358.81	184,308.00	205,744.00
Net Income	73,052.92	-24,416.36	48,636.56	-21,435.21
Total Equity	<u>579,570.00</u>	<u>332,921.64</u>	<u>912,491.64</u>	<u>779,118.34</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>579,570.00</u>	<u>343,567.89</u>	<u>923,137.89</u>	<u>784,265.86</u>

2022 Operating Budget

Riverside United Church Budget 2022

	Actual 2020	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2020	Building / Trustees Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Total Budget 2022
Ordinary Income/Expense							
Income							
Congregational Giving	170,519.74	185,878.67	175,000.00				175,000.00
Bank Interest Income	101.47	121.16	125.00				125.00
Weddings, Funerals	930.00						0.00
Directed Financial Gifts	0.00						0.00
Fund Raising	9,319.22	17,945.88	15,000.00				15,000.00
Property Acc. Donations							0.00
Donations for Use of space				8,315.00	26,410.00	42,000.00	42,000.00
Other Donations	500.00	63,394.78	20,000.00	330.00	0	1,000.00	21,000.00
Total Donations	63,394.78	63,394.78	20,000.00	8,645.00	26,910.00	43,000.00	63,000.00
Riverside Park Nursery Sc.				13,800.00	13,900.00	14,300.00	14,300.00
Church of the Resurrection				16,100.00			0.00
Riverside United Church				27,600.00	0.00		0.00
Total Income	181,370.43	267,340.49	210,125.00	66,145.00	40,310.00	57,300.00	267,425.00
Gross Profit	181,370.43	267,340.49	210,125.00	66,145.00	40,310.00	57,300.00	267,425.00
Expense							
Administration							0.00
Bank Service Charges	517.76	461.55		266.58	45.60	250.00	250.00
Equip Purchases, Repairs, Maint.	739.78	113.29					0.00
Office General Supplies	0.00	157.43					0.00
Office Photocopy	0.00	39.49					0.00
Office Postage	458.57	825.06					0.00
Office Telephone	834.01	844.19					0.00
Photocopy - recoveries	-65.00	-45.00					0.00
Weddings, Funeral EXP	237.77	0.00					0.00
Cleaning Supplies				1,512.50	1,703.16	1,800.00	1,800.00
Copier Lease				3,347.76	2,572.41	2,600.00	2,600.00
Copier Supplies				861.94	396.24	500.00	500.00
Depreciation Expense				10,347.52	10,347.52	14,250.00	14,250.00
HST Expense				1,574.20	1,405.17	1,500.00	1,500.00
Insurance				5,907.00	9,982.00	12,313.08	12,313.08
Total Administration	2,722.89	2,396.01	3,000.00	23,817.50	26,452.10	33,213.08	36,213.08
Assessment - UCC	8,675.00	8,675.00	8,946.00				8,946.00
Building Joint Expense	27,600.00						0.00
Partnership Ministry	200.00	120.00	220.00				220.00
Programming							
Caring for One Another	205.84	74.66	280.00				280.00
Nourishing Our Faith	491.14	3,414.73	3,400.00				3,400.00
Communication cmte.	510.39	151.40	200.00				200.00
Total Programming	1,207.37	3,640.79	3,880.00				3,880.00
Major Cost Items							0.00
Kitchen Renovation				10,272.45			0.00
Sanctuary Project				704.29			0.00
Thexton Garden				128.92	135.64	150.00	150.00
Total Major Cost Items				11,105.66	135.64	135.64	135.64
Office				1,375.56	665.13	700.00	700.00

Professional Services				700.00	6,851.73	500.00	500.00
Reconciliation DSP				2.41			0.00
Repairs and Maintenance				14,415.04	5,731.53	12,000.00	12,000.00
Salary Costs							
Workers Safety Ins.				134.24			0.00
Canada Pension Plan					73.86		0.00
Total Payroll Expenses	148,267.19	187,249.53	191,930.00	29,247.09			191,930.00
Sabbatical Expense	1,375.00	1,500.00	1,500.00				1,500.00
Training & Enhancement-Minister	107.42		200.00				200.00
Travel	193.52	120.95	200.00				200.00
Staff - Other	250.00	749.24	750.00				750.00
Total Salary Costs	150,193.13	189,619.72	194,580.00	29,381.33	73.86		194,580.00
Uncategorized Expenses					46.00		
Utilities							
Electricity				7,539.14	9,075.93	9,500.00	9,500.00
Gas				6,382.25	5,329.28	6,500.00	6,500.00
Water and Sewer				2,215.55	2,495.15	2,500.00	2,500.00
Total Utilities				16,136.94	16,900.36	18,500.00	18,500.00
Yard Maintenance				8,088.95	7,870.01	8,000.00	8,000.00
Total Expense	190,598.39	204,451.52	210,626.00	105,023.39	64,726.36	73,048.72	283,674.72
Net Ordinary Income	-9,227.96	62,888.97	-501.00	-38,878.39	-24,416.36	-15,748.72	-16,249.72

Nominations Report

MANDATE: In consultation with the Minister, Officers of the Church and Chairs of committees, to identify and bring forward for consideration to the Annual Congregational Meeting, new replacement candidates for key positions on Council and other aspects of church governance.

Council members will continue in their roles during 2022-2023 where possible.

COUNCIL Position	2022-2023	Term of Office
Past Chair	Karen Ogston	One year following assuming the position of chair
Chair	Christine Rhodes	1st year of 2-year term
Secretary	David Gray	1 year extension of 3 years
Treasurer	Ken Smith	n/a
Member at Large	Bob Christy	2nd year of 2 years
Member at Large	Gwen Bell	1st year of 2 years
Member at Large	Anne Dawson	2nd year of 2 years
Member at Large	Patricia Ryan	2nd year of 2 years
MINISTRY TEAM	LEADS & CO-LEADS	
Nurturing Our Faith	Samantha Wilson-Clark	1 year extension of 3 years
	Wendy Graham	1 year extension of 3 years
Caring for One Another	Peg Brandon	1 year extension of 3 years
	Wanda Maurais	1 year extension of 3 years
Building Partnerships	Morag Pearce	1 year extension of 3 years
	Candidate required	
Children's Worship	Cat La Force	n/a
OTHER POSITIONS		
Trustees (ongoing)	Charles Barrett	
(includes investment planning function)	David Bell, Wendy Graham, Heather Smith, Shirley Andrews, Richard Williams, Bob Garrow & Paul Dillman	
Investment Management Team	Team: Elizabeth Cameron, Charles Barrett, Bob Garrow, Ken Smith, Emily Gray, and Paul Dillman	
Ministry & Personnel	Chair: Karen Ogston:	1 year
	Members: Diana Desjardins, John Gingerich, Karen Ogston, Morag Pearce, Susan Wade, & Peter Griffiths	
Communications Support	Team Lead: John Gingerich	
	Team: Theresa White, Ellis Lindsay, Ken Smith, & Louise Madaire	
EOORC Representatives	Charles Barrett	
Riverside United is entitled to three representatives to the Regional Council.	Bob Christy	
Minister	Paul Dillman	

Property Management	Team Lead: Richard Williams Team: Paul Dillman, Charles Barrett, Hugh Moeser, Bill Smith, Caroline Gauthier, Don Squire, Murray Ballantine & Daphne Biggs	n.a.
Nominations	Karen Ogston, Gail Christy Christine Rhodes	3 years

The following nominations are for the upcoming year, 2022-23:

Chair of Council: Christine Rhodes

Past Chair: Karen Ogston

Treasurer Assistant: Hugh Moeser

Member at Large: Gwen Bell

Ministry and Personnel: Karen Ogston (as Chair), Peter Griffiths

Property Management: Bill Smith, Caroline Gauthier, Don Squire, Daphne Biggs & Murray Ballantine

Building Partnerships Co-Lead:

Nominations Committee: Karen Ogston, Gail Christy and Christine Rhodes.

Permission for Further Nominations

Motion : Moved to grant the Council permission to approve nominations during the year for any positions normally approved by the congregation at the annual meeting.

Motion: Move the following correction to the 2020 Annual Report: Bob Garrow was on the Nominations Committee with Karen Ogston: Gail Christy was Nominated to the 2022 Nominations Committee.

Motion to correct the 2020 Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Ogston

Chair, Riverside United Church Council

Note to the Congregation of
Riverside United Ottawa

The “Come Back Strong” Initiative

It’s been a tough year. The ties that link us together have been strained but not broken. We thank each one of you for being a part of keeping us together through these long months.

Despite the onslaught of the COVID-19 virus, our church staff, committees, and members have been working diligently planning and learning how could keep together with Zoom services, YouTube, e-mails newsletters and mailings and through your generous giving of time and money. Ministry teams and committees have been planning for the future.

We want to share the story of our efforts and adventures, and our visions of how we can refresh, remake and rebuild our Church into the uniting force that will sustain us beyond these times. So let us tell that story and explain all that we know about the next steps.

The Loss of our partner congregation - Church of the Resurrection

Perhaps the most profound and symbolic loss has been our partner Anglican congregation from the Church of the Resurrection who agreed to disestablish themselves in the summer of 2020. COR has been our partner since the establishment of The Corporation of Riverside Churches in 1969, and together we managed the church property, shared in our mutual journey of worship and the fellowship we enjoyed, and bore the financial and organizational burdens for our enterprise.

We have accepted their departure with sadness at that reality and are moving forward. We welcome those in COR who choose to continue with us as friends and continuing members.

During December 2020 we began the steps of winding down the Joint Holding Corporation of Riverside Churches and agreed with COR on a mutual satisfactory financial agreement. One of the terms of the 1969 agreement was that if one congregation left, the assets of the Corporation would transfer to the remaining congregation. So, the Trustees of Riverside United have title to the property on behalf of The United Church of Canada and now have assumed full responsibility for the maintenance and sustainment of the facilities. The employment of the Caretaker has been transferred to RUC. We obtained new insurance and assumed legal liabilities for the future. We are now replacing the joint management team with new structures to ensure transparency, accountability and enthusiasm for the times ahead. Our church is sound structurally and will maintain it in the future.

Our finances - Under stress but under control

For many, it is extremely important to feel confident that we have the means to continue our journey as a congregation and to sustain our church. We entered this lockdown year in good financial shape with strong givings, a healthy Endowment Fund, and control over our obligations. We thank you for your generous givings that have enabled us to keep ourselves in a good financial position this year, as have wage subsidy monies from the Government of Canada. Upon the disestablishment and settlement with COR, we received the equivalence of their share of the financial support for a full year.

Despite the loss of many rental opportunities, we are pleased to remain the home of the Riverside Park Nursery School, now under the control of the Andrew Fleck Children’s Services organization.



They are breaking ground on a new Day Care facility near the Canoe Bay Development, but plan to continue the Nursery School function at Riverside United Church. We thank them for continuing support throughout this past year and for the time to come. In addition, we have welcomed the Ottawa Organic Food Market who will hold weekly sales on Saturday mornings (10 a.m. until 12 noon) until at least the end of August, with an option to renew on a continuing basis after that. This rental arrangement is good for them, good for us and good for the community.

We hope that with the return to a new normalcy we can be open to many more rental opportunities and the associated revenues.

At the end of December we have agreed to the leasing of part of the property to host a cell phone tower in a new church steeple on the Southwest corner of our church that will be built by with Freedom Mobile. We will still need to monitor the progress to obtain the approval of that proposal with the regulatory authorities. This will also give us a sustained source of income.

Our Legacy of Initiatives for Change

As an enthusiastic congregation, we eagerly look to the future with ambitions. Despite the setbacks for the current situation, we have made progress on several initiatives to refresh, upgrade, and make our Chancel area accessible. We have further studied the addition of a ramp in the Chancel to ensure accessibility to all of our members. We will be ensuring that the Chancel will be on a single level, with relocation of the Choir and Organ to make better and more flexible use of the area with a view to future worship and rental opportunities. Finally, we completed a design project with a contractor to upgrade our audio and visual support systems. This upgrade will improve our ability to offer our congregants better sound quality, including for those who are hearing impaired. Coupled with a mounted camera and more microphones connected to a computer-controlled console, we can provide "on-line" virtual services (similar to our current ZOOM model of connection) for those who cannot be present. This will enable us to continue the "electronic outreach" that has linked us with each other, family, friends and distant partners in Jamaica. Finally, we will propose a new projector and display screen that will improve the view for all. We are exploring various grant and loan options to assist with the funding of this work.

We will bring this forward to the members of our congregation for review and approval in the near future. We ask that you consider the possibility of a special and targeted funding campaign of contributions to cover this work.

Our community is changing around us. You have seen the new paving on Riverside Drive that thankfully was completed while we were participating from home. But, there is also much work underway at the future Canoe Bay development also on Riverside Drive just north of us. The Riverside Mall shopping centre beside the Norberry Apartments may be the site of a major development. To the east of this centre, there are plans to add additional apartment units to the complex on Springland Dr. The large apartment complex on Brookfield Drive will also bring new folks and shops to our area. Finally, work on the Hogs Back Dam/Bridge and Canal Bridge has completed and the road has reopened after more than a full year of construction.

For those that yearn for the return to our fellowship time we can report that work to refresh the kitchen area with new cabinets and fresh paint has been completed. While we were unable to plan our bazaars and Garage Sale under these circumstances, we can report that the Riverside "Table" opened in coordination with the Organic Market, has succeeded very well gaining \$2500 in sales of food and crafts. Our use of Kijiji (on-line small goods sales) has gained \$1400. We thank all those whose creativity and caring made this possible. So while we can't do things the way we used to right now, we are succeeding under new means.



It is also worth remembering the Mission Forward strategic planning process we began a few years ago that included engagement with various community organizations to identify our joint needs and opportunities. We identified four priority areas as shown below.



The work at pursuing these priorities has been on hold through this pandemic time but we have moved onwards from our decision in 2019 to be An Affirming Ministry. We declared our intention to be proactive and public in proclaiming that our understanding of faith and love includes all persons. Our Vision and Mission Statements give voice to what we see ourselves to be as a community of faith.

Vision - *Living faithfully in the Spirit of Christ to make a loving difference in the world.*

Mission - *With open minds and curious hearts, our commitment is:*

- *to nourish our faith in God, as revealed by Jesus*
- *to care for one another and*
- *to build partnerships of mutuality, respect and hope in our neighbourhood and beyond,*

as we worship, learn and serve together.

We embrace the rainbow as a promise of God's affirming love for all, and include people of all ages, races, cultures abilities, sexual orientations and gender identities in every aspect of the life of our faith community

The Return to a New Normalcy

We cannot predict with certainty how things will progress but here is our best guess. The continuation of provincial lockdowns and restrictions on travel and visitors should have the effect of reducing the number of new infections and reducing the load on our hospitals. The coming of spring and summer as well as the surge of inoculations will lower this burden further. When this trend is confirmed and has lowered the infection rate to a manageable level - perhaps next fall - we expect that rules governing gatherings of people will be outlined. Prudence suggests that this will be progressive so we can anticipate a period when we transition slowly from totally on-line services, to mixed limited in church plus on-line, to primarily



in-church with on-line access to accommodate those who may still be at risk or who cannot attend regularly due to other factors. In line with these lowering restrictions, we may see church services return to our normal times or activities (such as barbecues or pot lucks) outside in the open being offered. When permitted, we will move forward on those options.

Summary - and a call for support

We are calling this the “Come Back Strong” initiative and seek your support. We are looking for your reactions, your ideas, your help and finally, yes, your financial support. The future of our church will be different. That is a fact.



Remember ?

But it will also be equally warm and welcoming and supportive founded upon our best abilities to create a uniting church, well organized, well managed and fit for the future. So rest assured that your church continues to be active and looking to the future.

We want you to be part of that.

COME BACK STRONG



Together



Tuesday, February 16, 2021

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Appendix B

Riverside United Church Budget 2021

	Program and Administration			Building /Trustees			Total
	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Budget 2021
Income:							
Congregational Givings	\$ 167,866.00	\$ 171,520.00	\$ 170,000.00				\$ 170,000.00
Bank Interest	\$ 230.00	\$ 101.00	\$ 125.00				\$ 125.00
Weddings & Funerals	\$ 959.00	\$ 930.00					\$ -
Directed Financial gifts	\$ 3,470.00	\$ 500.00					\$ -
Fund Raising	\$ 19,078.00	\$ 7,675.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 3,103.00	\$ 6,132.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Rentals - RPNS				\$ 12,944.00	\$ 13,800.00	\$ 14,575.00	\$ 14,575.00
Rentals - Other				\$ 18,226.00	\$ 8,315.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
Other				\$ 8,042.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
RUC to Joint Holding				\$ 27,600.00	\$ 27,600.00		
COR to Joint Holding				\$ 27,600.00	\$ 16,100.00		\$ -
Total Income	\$ 191,603.00	\$ 180,726.00	\$ 178,125.00	\$ 97,515.00	\$ 71,947.00	\$ 34,575.00	\$ 212,700.00
Expenses:							
Administration/Office	\$ 4,345.00	\$ 2,723.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,778.00	\$ 1,786.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 5,575.00
UCC Assessment	\$ 8,675.00	\$ 8,675.00	\$ 8,675.00				\$ 8,675.00
Communications	\$ 282.00	\$ 112.00	\$ 200.00				\$ 200.00
Building Partnerships							\$ -
Outreach	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00				\$ 200.00
Memberships	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00				\$ 200.00
Caring for One Another							\$ -
Pastoral Care	\$ 65.00	\$ 206.00	\$ 180.00				\$ 180.00
Welcoming			\$ 100.00				\$ 100.00
Nourishing our Faith							\$ -
Programs	\$ 41.00	\$ 127.00	\$ 500.00				\$ 500.00
Worship and Music	\$ 2,784.00	\$ 363.00	\$ 1,200.00				\$ 1,200.00
Personnel Costs	\$ 153,385.00	\$ 150,193.00	\$ 183,250.00	\$ 27,829.00	\$ 29,381.00		\$ 183,250.00
New Project			\$ 2,000.00				\$ 2,000.00
Building Cost Share	\$ 27,600.00	\$ 27,600.00					\$ -
Utilities							\$ -
Electricity				\$ 9,273.00	\$ 7,539.00	\$ 9,400.00	\$ 9,400.00

	Program and Administration			Building /Trustees			Total
	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Budget 2021
Natural Gas				\$ 7,027.00	\$ 6,382.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
Water & Sewer				\$ 2,595.00	\$ 2,216.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,600.00
							\$ -
Cleaning Supplies				\$ 2,425.00	\$ 1,513.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Photocopier Lease				\$ 3,348.00	\$ 3,348.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Insurance				\$ 5,752.00	\$ 5,907.00	\$ 10,781.00	\$ 10,781.00
HST				\$ 1,672.00	\$ 5,213.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Professional Services				\$ 675.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,200.00
Repairs and Maintenance				\$ 8,288.00	\$ 14,415.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Yard Maintenance				\$ 6,826.00	\$ 8,089.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
							\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 197,577.00	\$ 190,199.00	\$ 199,505.00	\$ 78,488.00	\$ 86,489.00	\$ 66,056.00	\$ 265,561.00
Net Income (Loss)	-\$ 5,974.00	-\$ 9,473.00	-\$ 21,380.00	\$ 19,027.00	-\$ 14,542.00	-\$ 31,481.00	-\$ 52,861.00
							\$ -
							\$ -
Transfer Endowment	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00				\$ 10,000.00
HST Recovery			\$ 500.00		\$ 2,005.00	\$ 1,538.00	\$ 2,038.00
Gov't Wage Subsidy		\$ 18,541.00	\$ 2,000.00				
Closeout from COR					\$ 26,000.00		
							\$ -
Surplus (Deficit)	-\$ 974.00	\$ 19,068.00	-\$ 8,880.00	\$ 19,027.00	\$ 13,463.00	-\$ 29,943.00	-\$ 38,823.00
							\$ -
							\$ -
Cash - Dec 31st			\$ 25,192.00			\$ 29,633.00	\$ 54,825.00