



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Report Approved by Governance Board
June 17, 2021

Date Available to the Congregation
June 25, 2021

Budget Presented/Approved by the Congregation
February 9, 2020

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Bridge Street United Church

Praising – Challenging – Nurturing

--Transforming in Christ--

Values

We value the power of Christ's transforming and redeeming love, which calls us to:

Worship to be creative, courageous and joyful in praise

Hospitality to be welcoming, inclusive and respectful

Discipleship to work together toward spiritual growth and maturity in faith

Sacred Accompaniment to walk compassionately with others along life's journey, in the presence of Christ

Community to live out Christ's mission in response to the world

Vision

By God's grace, our faith community strives to be vibrant, inclusive and spiritually nurturing, inviting everyone into a mature, loving and sacred relationship with the living Christ.

Mission

Our mission to live the Good News of Jesus Christ, reaching out beyond ourselves, to share the transforming power of faith by offering spiritual nurture within the congregation, and providing community-rooted ministries that serve the local area and outreach that responds to the needs of the wider world.

OUR COMMITMENT TO RESPECTFUL LIVING

We are a community of faith bound together by a shared belief in the teachings of Jesus.

We believe the bond we share as members of Bridge Street Church will be nurtured and strengthened by faithful and consistent adherence to the principles of our faith.

We therefore commit to striving for thoughtful and prayerful interactions as we go about doing the work of the church, mindful of our call to serve the needs of our faith community and the wider world.

And so, we lift up anew the values of Worship, Hospitality, Discipleship, Sacred Accompaniment and Community as important for defining and living out our roles and relationships within the context of the life and work of the Bridge Street United Church community.

More specifically:

WORSHIP

Recognizing the differing needs we bring to worship, we commit to fostering optimism, joyfulness and hope; for this reason, we encourage various styles and forms of liturgy, prayer and music.

HOSPITALITY

Recognizing the worth and uniqueness of one another, we commit to being civil, respectful and loving in our interactions.

We celebrate diversity and commit to being welcoming and inclusive in our attitudes and actions.

DISCIPLESHIP

Recognizing the importance of Christ-centered living, we commit to listening and speaking with respectful intent and to considering our actions with prayerful discernment. By doing so, we honour and celebrate the many different expressions of active discipleship within our community of faith.

SACRED ACCOMPANIMENT

Recognizing the deep need for spiritual companionship in the journey of life and faith, we commit to supporting one another with sensitivity, caring, compassion and grace.

COMMUNITY

Recognizing that the Body of Christ is strengthened through authentic relationships, we commit to empathetic and open-hearted behavior that nurtures personal and spiritual growth.

On occasions when discord arises, we will work collaboratively to resolve our differences.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

IN MEMORIAM	1
LISTING OF 2019 STAFF, GOV. BD., MIN. TEAMS, UCW EXEC., TRUSTEES, FOUNDATION DIRECTORS QUINTE LIVING CENTRE BOARD, ORDER OF MINISTRY	2
STAFF REPORTS	6
Intentional Interim Minister	7
Minister of Pastoral Care	7
- Benevolent Fund Financial Statement	8
Music Director	8
Food Ministry Program Manager	9
Administration	10
Statistical Report	10
Facility Use Report	10
GOVERNANCE BOARD REPORTS	11
Governance Board Chair	12
Strategic Planning Committee	12
EAST CENTRAL ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL (ECORC) & TRANSITION TEAM	14
Overview	15
Transition Team Report	16
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES/FOUNDATION/QLC	17
Trustees' Treasurer	18
Trustees' Financial Statement	19
Bridge St. Foundation	20
Quinte Living Centre	21
MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS	22
Communications	23
Community Connections	24
Food Ministries, Community Support & Outreach	24
Knitters United	28
United Syrian Family Support (Blvl.) Sponsorship Group	28
Faith Formation/Children, Youth & Adults	31
Bible Study	31
Library Board	31
Birth to Four's	32
Children's Centre	32
Finance	32
Hospitality & Fellowship	33
Book Lovers	34
Music	34
Vocal & Bell Choir Report	34
Choirs Financial Statements	35

Pastoral Care	35
Personnel	36
Property	36
Stewardship	37

Worship	37
Lay Readers	37
Memorial Fund	38
Other Memorial Donations	38

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN	38
Report & Financial Statements	38 & 39

FINANCIAL REPORTS	
2019 Financial Statements	40
2020 Budget	41

IN MEMORIAM

This *In Memoriam* page records the names of those from the Bridge St. United Church congregation who died in the year 2019.

We remember the following:

Deanna Canning

Doreen Clark

Sylvia Cronk

June Demeza

Noriene Frederick

Winnifred Gunsolus

Evelyn Madden

Norma McIntosh

The Rev. Maurice McLeod

Molly Robb

Janet Swaine

Robert Vaughan

Gloria Williams

**LISTING OF 2019 STAFF, GOVERNANCE BOARD, MINISTRY TEAMS,
UCW EXECUTIVE, COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES,
BRIDGE ST. UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION DIRECTORS,
QUINTE LIVING CENTRE BOARD MEMBERS
AND
MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF MINISTRY AFFILIATED WITH BSUC**

CHURCH STAFF:

- Intentional Interim Lead Minister** – Rev. G. David King
- Minister of Pastoral Care** - Rev. Vicki Fulcher (on Restorative Care leave until her retirement on March 15, 2019)
- Minister of Pastoral Care (pro tem)** – Rev. Phil Hobbs (to June 30, 2019)
- Minister (Voluntary) of Pastoral Visitation** – Rev. Gary Magarrell (July 1 - November 30, 2019)
- Music Director** – Mitchell Cox
- Office Administrator** - Carol Leslie
- Office Assistant** – Martha Robertson (to March 2019)
- Building Custodian** - Rob Woodall
- Food Ministry Program Manager** - Steve van de Hoef

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**GOVERNANCE BOARD:**

**Preamble:**

*Note – “Kente Presbytery” is now constituted as the “East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) of the United Church of Canada”.*

**Excerpt from “Kente Presbytery Oversight/Review, March 2018 – May 2018”**

“That Kente Presbytery:

- Appoint a Commission to function with full authority of Presbytery from May 16<sup>th</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. This Commission will:
  1. Appoint a Chair to the Governance Board
  2. Appoint an individual to the Governance Board
  3. Appoint an intentional Interim Minister (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021) with an intention to review no later than June 30, 2020...

And that no new members be appointed to the Board other than those appointed by Kente Presbytery.”

... and that:

- In addition, the Commission will develop a Transition Group, consisting of Commission members and members of the congregation, to assist the Intentional Interim Minister, the Governance Board, the staff and the Congregation in defining and working towards a vision forward; one that lifts up the missions and ministries and supports all efforts to offer “living water” to the community and to Creation.

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Commission Appointees to the Governance Board:

Rev. Richard Hamilton (Chair)(effective May 2018)

Rev. Steve Spicer (ECORC Rep.)(effective March 19, 2019)

2019 GOVERNANCE BOARD MEMBERSHIP:

Rev. Richard Hamilton (Chair), Sheila Berry (to Dec. 12, 2019), Carolyn Cockerline, Gary Hannaford, Lynda Maier, Bill Mills.

Plus clergy:

Rev. G. David King (Intentional Interim Lead Minister)

Rev. Steve Spicer (ECORC Rep.)(effective March 19, 2019)

Governance Board Standing Committees:

Board Chair and Lead Minister ex-officio on all committees.

Strategic Planning Committee -

- on hold, per the Kente Presbytery Oversight Report (March - May 2018)
- Committee Re-instituted April 25, 2019 per Governance Board directive.
Committee Membership: Gary Hannaford (Chair), Frank Hiebert, The Rev. David King, Judy McKnight, Bill Mills, Susan Pine, Ian Sutherland.

Governance Monitoring and Support Committee -

- *on hold, per the Kente Presbytery Oversight Report, March - May 2018*

Fiscal Review Committee -

- *on hold, per the Kente Presbytery Oversight Report, March - May 2018*

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**ECORC TRANSITION TEAM MEMBERSHIP:**

Karen Cullen, Rosella Donaldson, Frank Hiebert, Carolyn Ketcheson and, representing the East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada, The Rev. Richard Hamilton.  
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MINISTRY TEAMS:

Administration -

Team Leader - Carol Leslie (Office Administrator)
Team Member - Martha Robertson (Office Assistant)(to March 2019)

Communications

Team Leader -
Team Members - Veronica Leonard
Facebook & Twitter - Veronica Leonard
Photographer - Bob Freeland

Community Connections

FOOD MINISTRY:

Food Ministry Co-coordinators - Sue Catherwood, Rick Hammond, Ian Sutherland
Food Ministry Program Manager - Steve van de Hoef

KNITTERS UNITED:

Coordinator - Elizabeth Ewashkiw

UNITED SYRIAN FAMILY SUPPORT (BELLEVILLE) SPONSORSHIP GROUP:

Constituent Group Representative - Ian Sutherland

Faith Formation

Team Leader - Elizabeth Ewashkiw
Team Members - Cheryl Bough, Audrey Cowan, Elizabeth Ewashkiw, Liza van de Hoef (beg. June '19)

Associated responsibilities:

Bible Study Coordinator - Audrey Cowan
Children's Centre - Cheryl Bough
Cradle Roll - Elizabeth Ewashkiw
Infant/Toddler Rooms - Elizabeth Ewashkiw
Library Board - Cheryl Bough (Chair)

Finance

Team Leader – Richard Woodley

Team members – Gary Hannaford, Glen Kennedy, Richard Woodley, Carol Leslie (Office Administrator)(ex-officio)

Hospitality and Fellowship

Team Leader – Isabelle Hughes

Team Members – Ella May & John Attfield, Gary Botting, Jan Bowland, Marialice & Ted Fielding, Frank Hiebert, Isabelle Hughes, Glen Kennedy, Deanne Moring, Barbara Rath, Kay Summers

Associated responsibilities:

Book Club Coordinator – Carol Wolfgarth

“Coffee Time” Coordinators - Jan Bowland and Deanne Moring (to end of June)

“Coffee Time” Supplies Coordinator – Jane Elson

Greeter Co-Ordinators – John & Natalie Zandbergen

Music

Team Leader – Mitchell Cox, Music Director

Team Members – Susan Fielding, Connie Gallupe, Veronica Leonard, Sue Reid, Harvey Tremeer

Vocal Choir:

Barry Birkett, Lenore Dixon, Jane Elson, Moira Forrester, Steve Forrester, Anne Freeland, Harriett Kean, Carolyn Ketcheson, Veronica Leonard, Ruth Mathieson, Judy McKnight, Bob Ord, Mary Rawlings, Sue Reid, Harvey Tremeer

Bridge Street Ringers Handbell Choir:

June Boudreau, Heather Davis, Jane Elson, Moira Forrester, Connie Gallupe, Suzanne Koehler, Grace Lough, Judy McKnight, Sue Reid, Karen St. Germain, Denise Swan, Harvey Tremeer

Pastoral Care

Team Leader - Rev. Phil Hobbs (to June 30, 2019)

Team Members - Dawn Allen, June Boudreau, Sue Reid, Karen St. Germain

Associated responsibilities:

Bud Rose Coordinator – Audrey Cowan

Prayer Team – unnamed to honour anonymity

“Special Friends” Flower Delivery Coordinator – Susan Pine

Personnel

Team Leader - Doug Miles

Team Members – Sharron Kennedy, Doug Miles, Karen St. Germain

Property

Team Leader –Jim Berry

Team Members – Jim Berry, Ted Fielding, Jim Hemlin, Bill Maier, Reg McCurdy, Joe Santoni, Rob Woodall (Building Custodian)(ex-officio)

Stewardship

Team Leader –

Team Members –

Worship

Team Leader – Bob Freeland

Team Members – David Alexander, Jane Elson, Bob Freeland, Judy McKnight, Rev. G. David King (Intentional Interim Lead Minister), Mitchell Cox (Music Director)(ex-officio)

Associated responsibilities of the Worship Team:

Lay Reader Coordinator - Margaret Finney (to June 2019);

Ruth Mathieson (beginning December 2019)

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**U.C.W. EXECUTIVE:**

Leader - \_\_\_\_\_

Past President - \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President - \_\_\_\_\_

Recording Secretary - Maureen Dalrymple

Treasurer - Isabelle Hughes

Executive Members:

Archives - Gail Botting

In Memoriam, Sunshine & Shadow Secretary - Dawn Allen

Membership & Recruitment - Dawn Allen

Funeral Receptions - Jo Cooper

Meals on Wheels - Gary & Gail Botting

Presbyterial Representative - Sue Reid

Members-at-Large - Carol Hall, Deanne Moring, Deanna Reid

Ministry Team Representative and Bazaar - Isabelle Hughes

Telephone Callers - Beth Campbell

Ministry Team Representative - Isabelle Hughes

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COUNCIL of TRUSTEES:

Susan Pine (Chair), Richard Woodley (Treasurer), Bob Ord (Secretary), Jim Burr, Lynn Knudsen, Kay Summers, Rev. G. David King (Intentional Interim Minister).

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**BRIDGE STREET UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION DIRECTORS:**

Tom Britton (President), Bill Maier (Vice-President), Mike Seeger (Secretary-Treasurer), Elizabeth Ewashkiw, Margaret Finney, Bill Kean, Martha Robertson, Heather Seeger, Rev. G. David King (*appointed as a Director by the Sub-Executive of the General Council of the United Church of Canada*).

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QUINTE LIVING CENTRE BOARD:

**Business year runs from June to June - changeover of the Board at AGM in June each year.*

June 2018 - June 2019:

Frank Hiebert (President), Veronica Leonard (Treasurer), Nancy LeClair (Vice President), David Alexander, Gary Botting, Maureen Dalrymple, Irene Frey, Joan Hemlin, Harriett Kean, John Miller, Rev. Richard Hamilton (Governance Board Chair), Rev. G. David King (Intentional Interim Lead Minister).

June 2019 - June 2020:

John Miller (President), Glen LeClair (Vice-President), David Alexander, Gary Botting, Jan Bowland, Beth Campbell, Carolyn Cockerline, Anne Freeland, Sharron Kennedy, Veronica Leonard, Shirley McLaren, Rev. Richard Hamilton (Governance Board Chair), Rev. G. David King (Intentional Interim Lead Minister).

TREASURER: Doug Miles

SECRETARY: Brian Smith (Administrator)

Andrew McCreary serves as a staff support resource and property manager.

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**MEMBERS of the ORDER of MINISTRY affiliated with BSUC:**

Intentional Interim Lead Minister - Rev. G. David King,

Minister of Pastoral Care - Rev. Vicki Fulcher (on Restorative Care leave until her retirement on March 15, 2019)

Minister of Pastoral Care (pro tem) - Rev. Phil Hobbs (to June 30, 2019)

Minister (Voluntary) of Pastoral Visitation - Rev. Gary Magarrell (July 1 to November 30, 2019)

Voluntary Associate Ministers - Rev. Dr. Aruna Alexander, Rev. Gary Magarrell, Rev. Maurice McLeod (until his death on February 1, 2019)

Minister Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Harold Wilson

# **STAFF REPORTS**

## **INTERIM INTENTIONAL LEAD MINISTER - The Rev. G. David King**

Friends of Bridge Street United Church,

As mentioned elsewhere before, I have had a life-long fascination with the history and use of peculiar turns-of-phrase. Take as an example, “slippery ground doesn’t recognize a king”; it originates in Kenya, Africa. Another is “here today, gone tomorrow!”

Now if my sense of it is correct, this latter expression acknowledges the fleeting nature of life. As a remedy to that soon-to-pass reality, humans, the world over, keep accounts of the monumental and the mundane. As an illustration of this, the Guinness World Record folks advise that the largest number of toothpicks imbedded in a man’s beard is 3,500. An American by the name of James Ellerker set this benchmark on July 7, 2018, after committing 3 hours and 13 minutes to put them in place.

While nowhere near as odd as Ellerker’s feat, what follows in the pages of this Annual Report is an accounting of our faith community’s work and witness. Offered in both words and numbers, herein is the story of our faith community’s dedication, determination, and desire to be the Church of Christ in ways that are respectful of history, mindful of today’s realities, and committed to actively discerning the church’s future.

To all those who have contributed to this colourful and dynamic narrative, a sincere ‘thank you’. Your efforts have benefitted/will benefit others, and I would hope you, as well.

Do enjoy the recollection of what has been; it is worthy of remembering!



G. David King, B.A., M.Div., I.I.M. (U.C.Can.), C.G.R.S.  
Intentional Interim Minister

## **MINISTER of PASTORAL CARE**

On November 1, 2018, The Rev. Phil Hobbs was appointed by the Bridge St. Commission of Kente Presbytery to the position of Pastoral Care Minister (pro-tem). He was selected for this work by the Personnel Team in consultation with the Intentional Interim Lead Minister to care for the pastoral needs of the Bridge St. United Church congregation during the medical leave of The Rev. Vicki Fulcher. This appointment continued to the end of June 2019, after which time The Rev. Gary Magarrell performed visitation duties in a voluntary position to the end of November.

**BENEVOLENT FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENT -**

*Administrators: Rev. G. David King and Rev. Phil Hobbs*

|                                               |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance on hand, January 1, 2019              | \$ 480.29         |
| <u>Receipts:</u>                              |                   |
| Donations from Members/Adherents/UCW/Visitors | <u>3,715.42</u>   |
|                                               | \$4,195.71        |
| <u>Disbursements:</u>                         |                   |
| Discretionary Disbursements                   | <u>\$2,422.75</u> |
|                                               | \$2,422.75        |
| Balance on hand, December 31, 2019            | <u>\$1,772.96</u> |

**MUSIC DIRECTOR - Mitchell Cox**

At this point, 2019 seems like a distant memory of times past.....the “good ole” days.

As usual, we lived through 2019 quickly, with a full musical schedule of weekly anthems, service music, bells, organ, piano, as well as several guest musicians.

The choirs continued to work extremely diligently in preparing anthems, as well as taking extra time to prepare for - and volunteer to organize - larger events at Christmas, Easter and the various public concerts throughout the year.

**OUTREACH**

The bells were invited to play at a Salvation Army gathering, and the choir sang at the Quinte Living Centre. These, along with several concerts open to the public, were free-will offering concerts, which allowed the entire community to attend a music experience. These concerts included the “usual” mass choir concerts in the spring and December. In April, the main musical attraction was André Knevel on organ with Liselotte Rotyka on Pan flute, along with a large variety of other musicians and choristers to round out the show. In June, David Shewchuck - concertmaster of Quinte Symphony - and Mitchell Cox on piano gave a concert of tangos. September saw the Welsh Men’s choir from Toronto, October was Valerie Hall on organ with Kerri-Anne Kutz singing, Murray Baer organ concert, and finally the Christmas concert in December, which again was extremely well attended by about 600 people.

Added to this was a Wesleyan Hymn Sing in February as a fundraiser for Hay Bay Church. The weather was very uncooperative, limiting attendance numbers, but the event was a success, nonetheless.

During services, we had guest musicians bless us with their talents, including Julian Nelson on recorder, Saskia Tomkins and Stefan Hannigan near St. Patrick’s Day, Murray Baer on organ at Mothers’ Day once again, Ben Perrier on trombone, Walter Kipp on oboe, and Veritus Winds (who practice regularly in the sanctuary through the year).

**VOCAL AND BELL CHOIRS**

Membership remains strong and consistent in both choirs.

The backbone of the music program here at BSUC is definitely our members. They are dedicated, hard-working and caring. This is a special group of people whom I have been blessed to be associated with. They are a joy to work with and I look forward to seeing them at least once per week.

Both choirs are always looking for new members, and are grateful to those who volunteer to join us for the one-off, bigger events to boost our numbers and sound.

## **FOOD MINISTRY PROGRAM MANAGER, Steve van de Hoef**

### **Meal Programs**

More than 13,200 meals were served in 2019 through the Inn from the Cold, Thank God It's Friday, and End of the Month Meal programs. My role as Program Manager continues to be having operational responsibility for End of the Month meals, supporting the volunteer co-coordinators, and providing staff leadership for Food Ministry policy and planning. A full report on the meal programs can be found in the report from the Community Connections Ministry Team.

### **Kitchen Renovation**

Planning for a complete kitchen renovation began in December 2018 with the participation of various Bridge Street United Church stakeholders. Work on the kitchen began in October 2019, with the renovation completed in December. The renovation project was fully funded by generous contributions from the John & Bernice Parrott Foundation, church members, and associated ministries. This renovation will ensure that our kitchen facility is adequate to meet the demand for meal services now and in the future, and to provide a safe, comfortable, and hospitable working environment for congregants, meal program volunteers, and others who use this space.

### **Community Partnerships and Social Research**

The Food Ministry has an ongoing partnership with St. Thomas Anglican Church, whose volunteers prepare 120 meals each month to be frozen and distributed through the TGIF frozen meal program. St. Thomas Anglican Church also graciously allowed us to use their kitchen and hall to host End of the Month Meals while our kitchen was being renovated.

Serving meals is an important yet limited part of our community's response to poverty. Bridge Street United Church has long been part of community anti-poverty efforts and groups, such as the Poverty Roundtable, that seek to address the systemic issues that drive demand for our meal programs.

Bridge Street United Church has undertaken several projects to provide reliable information to guide planning and action to address the root causes of hunger and food insecurity in Belleville and area. Several projects were awarded, funded or completed in 2019.

#### ***Ontario Trillium Foundation Project:***

- A **Social Research Program Feasibility Study** to investigate the need for and feasibility of a permanent social research and social planning program in the Quinte area. This project is undertaken in partnership with the Community Development Council of Quinte under our ongoing Memorandum of Understanding for social research. It is fully funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The project will be conducted over a 12-month period, with a final report expected in Fall 2020.

#### ***Corporation of the County of Hastings Projects:***

- **Precarious Housing and Risk of Homelessness in Hastings County** examined core housing need as an indicator of precarious housing and a risk factor for homelessness. Belleville and Hastings County have rates of Core Housing Need similar to Vancouver and Toronto. Precarious housing and homelessness are closely related to hunger and food insecurity as symptoms of the broader issue of poverty in our community. This report expands the understanding of who and how many are precariously housed in Hastings County, including in situations that may lead to homelessness.
- **Integrated Coordinated Access, 2019 – 2024** - Bridge Street United Church is leading the development and implementation of a system of Integrated Coordinated Access throughout Hastings County, in partnership with HelpSeeker and Hastings County Community and Human Services. Integrated Coordinated Access is a process by which those looking for support with social, health, or other needs are prioritized and guided to appropriate resources. Integrated Coordinated Access provides a standardized process that both individuals in need and service providers can follow to improve service delivery and coordination of resources for social supports. This means that no matter where an individual looking for help goes, they are more likely to get the same answers or advice to get them to the right services and supports as quickly and easily as possible.

**ADMINISTRATION - Carol Leslie, Office Administrator**

**2019 STATISTICAL REPORT:**

|                                                 | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b># of HOUSEHOLDS under Pastoral Care</b>      | <b>240</b>  | <b>220</b>  |
| Member (households)                             | 200         | 183         |
| Adherent (households)                           | 40          | 37          |
| <b># of Baptisms</b>                            |             |             |
| - Adult (12 yrs. or over)                       | <b>01</b>   | <b>00</b>   |
| - Child (under 12 years of age)                 | --          | --          |
| <b># of Marriages</b>                           | <b>01</b>   | <b>03</b>   |
| <b>Number of Funerals and Memorial Services</b> | <b>11</b>   | <b>12</b>   |
| ~~~~~                                           |             |             |
| <b>Changes in Membership:</b>                   |             |             |
| <b>RECEIVED BY:</b>                             |             |             |
| Profession of Faith                             |             |             |
| - Under Age 18                                  | --          | --          |
| - Age 18 or Older                               | 01          | --          |
| Certificate of Transfer                         | <u>04</u>   | <u>03</u>   |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>05</b>   | <b>03</b>   |
| <b>REMOVED BY:</b>                              |             |             |
| Death                                           | 11          | 10          |
| Certificate of Transfer                         | 03          | 03          |
| Other                                           | <u>06</u>   | <u>03</u>   |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>20</b>   | <b>16</b>   |
| <b>Total Confirmed Membership</b>               | <b>287</b>  | <b>274</b>  |
| (Resident and Non-Resident)                     |             |             |
| ~~~~~                                           |             |             |

**OFFERING STATISTICS:**

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Envelope Holders               | 58        |
| PAR Donors                     | 68        |
| Occasional Identifiable Donors | <u>22</u> |
|                                | 148       |

|                                                       | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| # of Identifiable Givers to Local Expense             | 155         | 143         |
| # of Identifiable Givers to Mission & Service Expense | 52          | 52          |
| # of Financially Supporting Households                | 151         | 139         |

**2019 FACILITY USE REPORT:**

In consultation with the Lead Minister, the following organizations used church space in 2019 to further their own mission: Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (Quinte Branch), Belleville Downtown DocFest, Community Development Council (CDC) of Quinte, Drumantics Drum Circle, Girls Inc., Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit, Help Portrait, HIV-AIDS Regional Services (Kingston), International Women’s Day, Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers Executive, Three Oaks Women Shelters, Quinte Deaf Fellowship, Quinte Field Naturalists, Quinte Symphony.

The following business used the church facility in 2019: Expedia Cruiseship Centres.

**GOVERNANCE BOARD**

**AND**

**STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE  
GOVERNANCE BOARD**



## **GOVERNANCE BOARD CHAIR – The Rev. Richard Hamilton**

I was appointed Chair of the Governance Board by a Commission of Kente Presbytery; my first meeting in this capacity being held on August 16, 2018. In 2019, March, Rev. Steve Spicer was introduced as the new Commission appointee to the Governance Board. Rev. G. David King continued as Intentional Interim Minister reporting to the Board. Church members on the Board were Sheila Berry, Carolyn Cockerline, Gary Hannaford, Lynda Maier and Bill Mills. In December, Sheila Berry resigned from the Board, as she and her husband, Jim, were moving out of the region.

Eight Board meetings were held in 2019. Once approved, minutes of these meetings were posted for the information of the congregation. Here are some highlights of these meetings:

In February, the GB made a request of the Commission that the Strategic Planning Committee, previously put on hold by the *Kente Presbytery Oversight Review*, be re-constituted. In April, this Committee was duly constituted. We are very grateful for the work of this Strategic Planning Standing Committee of the Governance Board. See 2019 report on page \_\_\_\_.

In March, the GB approved the plan regarding kitchen renovations, subject to securing external funding plus designated internal funds, and subject to the Lead Minister being satisfied with financial compliance within the proposed budget. That same month, it was also approved that the Trustees be directed to make \$50,000 available to the Operating Fund. Subsequent to this, the Governance Board delegated its authority to the Finance Ministry Team (in consultation with the Lead Minister and Council of Trustees) to draw funds from investments as needed from time-to-time for operational cash flow purposes.

In October, it was approved that, for one budget cycle, the first three responsibilities of the Governance Board Fiscal Policy Committee be assumed by the Finance Ministry Team, that being:

- to develop and recommend to the Board those financial principles, plans, and courses of action that provide for mission accomplishment and organizational financial well-being;
- to make recommendations with regard to the level and terms of indebtedness, cash management, investment policy, risk management, financial monitoring and reports, employee benefit plans, signatory authority for expenditures, and other policies for inclusion in the Governance Board Policy Manual that the committee determines are advisable for effective financial management;
- and consistent with this responsibility, to review the annual budget and submit it to the board for its approval.

In preparation for the 2020 budget, the Governance Board directed the Finance Ministry Team to discuss with all Ministry Teams the need for financial restraint, including no increase of the current deficit in the coming year.

Also in October, the “Our Commitment to Respectful Living” document presented by the Transition Team was endorsed as policy. This document can be found at the front of this Annual Report.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING STANDING COMMITTEE of the GOVERNANCE BOARD –**

### **Gary Hannaford, Chair**

In April 2019, on the recommendation of the Transition Team & the Governance Board, the Strategic Planning Committee was reconstituted with the goal to develop a strategic plan. The Committee had a very busy year since being reconstituted, meeting 12 times between May 30 and December 17 in order to develop a Strategic Plan as expeditiously as possible.

While it reports to the Governance Board, the Committee understands the importance of keeping the Congregation updated on its work and provided a presentation to the Congregation following the worship service on October 6 on the work it had completed to date. A written update was provided to the Congregation shortly after the year end.

In conducting our strategic planning exercise, we undertook all of the traditional steps one would do in most strategic planning exercises. We reviewed and confirmed our Mission, Vision and Values. We

conducted a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis and an environmental analysis. Finally, we identified 5 key strategic priorities:

- Being a spiritually related Christian community by living out our faith as a nurturing community.
- To fulfill our social justice & outreach mission, we need to develop solidarity with the marginalized and poor by fostering partnerships with community agencies.
- To continue the choral and musical traditions at BSUC.
- Improve collaboration with other congregations.
- Reimagining the utility of our real property to achieve a sustainable financial plan.

As was noted at the October 6 meeting with the Congregation, we indicated that we were considering four options on how we might move forward:

1. Walk away from the existing building and disband BSUC. (There was agreement that this should be considered as a last resort.)
2. Move to another location (which could have an impact on membership).
3. Amalgamate with another United Church congregation or partner with another church in common space.
4. Stay in the current building and develop a financially sustainable plan to moving forward involving partnership with the community.
5. Any combination of 2 or more of the above.

While all options remain available, the focus of the Strategic Planning Committee has been to identify ways to achieve Option 4 above.

To help the Committee identify ways in which we might partner with the community, the Committee hosted two Community Roundtables on December 4, 2019 and January 9, 2020. The purpose of these roundtables was to help us understand how BSUC might be more relevant to various stakeholder groups in the community. We were pleased that more than 30 participants attended the roundtables, including representatives from a variety of organizations dealing with poverty and homelessness in the area as well as certain governmental agencies, other United Churches in Belleville, other religious organizations, and Loyalist College, to name a few.

In addition, the Committee, in late December, entered into an arrangement with EDGE, an arm of the United Church of Canada. EDGE aims to spur innovation, pilot new programs, support successful initiatives, create a learning network for faith communities, and support both new and renewing faith communities across the United Church.

One of the strategic priorities identified by the Strategic Planning Committee is to reimagine the use of our real property to achieve a sustainable financial plan. EDGE has a number of resources with knowledge and experience in this area and we look forward to working with them.

If you have any questions or suggestions, we invite you to get in touch with any of the members of the Strategic Planning Committee. In the meantime, we remain committed to keeping you informed as we proceed with our work.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the members of the Strategic Planning Committee for their commitment to this very important initiative.

Members of the Strategic Planning Committee:

Gary Hannaford, Chair  
Susan Pine

Frank Hiebert  
Ian Sutherland

Judy McKnight  
Rev. David King

Bill Mills

**EAST CENTRAL ONTARIO  
REGIONAL COUNCIL (ECORC)**

**AND**

**TRANSITION TEAM**

## **EAST CENTRAL ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE of the UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA (ECORC)**

Formerly known to us as the Bay of Quinte Conference (Belleville Presbytery), the East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) came into existence on January 1, 2019. ECORC is 1 of 16 Regional Councils of the United Church of Canada. (A Regional Council is a decision-making body responsible to serve and support Communities of Faith within its bounds and provide necessary oversight).

The ECORC is composed of all ministry personnel within its geographic bounds; ministers of denominations within mutual recognition agreements while under appointment or call; and lay members elected by the Communities of Faith, respecting the balance of lay and ministry personnel where possible.

### **The ECORC also consists of:**

- the following Communities of Faith of the former Living Waters Presbytery of the former Toronto Conference: Trinity Pastoral Charge-Uxbridge, Sandford-Zephyr Pastoral Charge, Goodwood Pastoral Charge and Epsom-Utica Pastoral Charge;
- all pastoral charges in the former Presbyteries of the former Bay of Quinte Conference: Four Winds, Hills and Shores, Lakeridge, Kawartha Highlands, Kente, and Shining Waters; and
- several other entities in a covenantal relationship with the ECORC that gather to explore faith, worship, and service.

Colin Leonard of our congregation is the ECORC Lay Representative for Bridge Street United Church. In the fall of 2019, he was appointed to assist the Carman-Smithfield Pastoral Charge in their search for a new minister, which resulted in less time available for ECORC matters. As such, Colin does not have an ECORC report to present for this year.

## **TRANSITION TEAM**

### **A BACKGROUNDER ON INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTRY**

*Beginning July 1, 2018, Bridge Street United Church embarked upon a 3-year journey of self-discovery and self-determination in a time referred to as Intentional Interim Ministry.*

*Guiding this experience, alongside our Intentional Interim Lead Minister, The Rev. G. David King, is a small group known as the **Transition Team**. Its members are: The Rev. Richard Hamilton, representing the East Central Ontario Region of the United Church, Karen Cullen, Rosella Donaldson, Frank Hiebert and Carolyn Ketcheson.*

*All periods of Interim Ministry are guided by a Set of Goals as articulated by the Transition Team and endorsed by the Congregation.*

*A meeting of this Congregation occurred on Sunday, February 10, 2019 and, on recommendation from the Transition Team, the following Goals were committed to unanimously:*

- > *To enhance the experience of Bridge Street United Church as a Christ-centred, nurturing community.*
- > *To improve communications through regular information sharing.*
- > *To agree on a viable financial model for the church's ministry.*
- > *To maintain the congregation's support of faith formation, outreach, music, spirituality, and worship.*
- > *To undertake new partnerships with other United Church congregations in the Belleville area.*

## **REPORT of the TRANSITION TEAM**

***The Transition Team is responsible for engaging the congregation in gathering insights, clarifying understandings and facilitating change relative to the goals of interim ministry.***

The 2019 year began with the Transition Team hosting 2 workshop sessions designed to gather insights from the congregation concerning the current status of Bridge Street United Church. A number of individuals came together on 12 January to consider 3 key topics: 1) "What do I celebrate about BSUC?" 2) "What challenges me about BSUC?" and 3) "For BSUC to be its best self..."

There was active engagement on the part of more than 40 participants who worked through the questions in groups of 8 to 10. Members of the Transition Team acted as facilitators. Following the session, the responses were recorded and tabulated and feedback was brought to a subsequent session held on 26 January. This second session was attended by 28 participants who took part in guided discussions to consider the responses from the previous session. Particular attention was given to the 3<sup>rd</sup> question: "For BSUC to be its best self..." The results of these discussions guided the Transition Team in its development of 5 goals for the period of Interim Ministry. These goals were presented for approval of the Governance Board and subsequently to the congregation following worship on 10 February. Several members of the congregation asked questions about the goals and a few made recommendations concerning changes in the wording of 2 specific goals. Following this process of "fine tuning" the congregation was given the opportunity to vote on accepting the interim goals. Support of those present was demonstrated by a show of hands and the goals approved with the recommended changes.

In the months following, Transition Team members responded to a series of written submissions from the congregation and continued their discussions concerning the steps which ought to be taken to advance the established interim goals. As a result of these discussions, a number of recommendations were made to: 1) Re-introduce regular monthly meetings of the Team Leaders, 2) Re-highlight the Mission, Vision and Values, 3) Re-constitute the Strategic Planning Committee under the leadership of Gary Hannaford, 4) Expand the mandate of Celebration Sundays to focus on the various ministries of BSUC, beginning in March 2019, 5) Develop a Covenant for the BSUC Congregation, based on insights gathered from the congregational discussions held in January and the previously approved BSUC mission, vision and values.

The covenant developed by the Transition Team was named "Our Commitment to Respectful Living." It was approved by the Governance Board and incorporated into the service of worship on 15 December. Those in attendance were given an opportunity to participate in a shared reading of the document as a show of support for the standards to govern the interactions of members and adherents of our church fellowship.

In the 2020 year, the Transition Team is committed to working together with Rev. David King toward the advancement of the interim goals as we continue to plan for the next phase of our life together as the Bridge Street United Church Congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Cullen            Rosella Donaldson            Frank Hiebert            Carolyn Ketcheson  
The Rev. Richard Hamilton (representing the East Central Ontario Regional Council of the  
United Church of Canada)

# **COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES**

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# **BRIDGE STREET UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION**

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# **QUINTE LIVING CENTRE**

## **COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES TREASURER'S REPORT for 2019 – Richard Woodley**

### **GENERAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the General Fund transferred interest and dividends in the amount \$9,515.28 to the bank account of the church along with \$50,000 of capital funds.

In the General Fund, the bank investment savings accounts have a value of \$2,645 along with \$784 in cash.

Current value of our General Fund equity investments is \$102,439 on a book value of \$79,575.

Monthly Income Fund investments have a value of \$48,949 on a book value of \$50,000.

Fixed income investments have a value of \$84,220 on a book value of \$82,812.

The total market value of General Fund investments is \$239,046.

NOTE: \$205,625 of total capital is restricted and cannot be used for general purposes.

### **PARROTT TRUST**

Current value of our Parrott Trust equity investments is \$120,920 on a book value of \$96,346.

The monthly Income Fund investments have a value of \$82,857 on a book value of \$85,000.

Fixed Income investments have a value of \$104,258 on a book value of \$103,958.

The Parrott Trust investment savings account has a value of \$6,844 and represents dividends and interest earned up to December 31, 2019 less funds paid to the Church. The total interest and dividends earned for 2019 was \$12,794 of which \$11,339 was transferred to the Church. In addition, \$35,125 of capital funds were transferred to the Church for a total of \$46,464.

The total market value of the Parrott Trust is \$314,881.

| BRIDGE STREET UNITED CHURCH             |                  |                                                 |                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Trustee Administered Investments        |                  |                                                 |                                                 |
| Financial Statement                     |                  |                                                 |                                                 |
| Dec. 31, 2019                           |                  |                                                 |                                                 |
| INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO                    | December<br>2019 | Market Value of<br>Investments<br>Dec. 31, 2019 | Market Value of<br>Investments<br>Dec. 31, 2018 |
| GENERAL INVESTMENTS                     |                  | \$239,046.00                                    | \$270,370.00                                    |
| Cash Balance, Dec. 31/18                | \$593.92         |                                                 |                                                 |
| Interest & Dividends Received           | \$9,550.83       |                                                 |                                                 |
| Paid to the Church                      | \$9,514.83       |                                                 |                                                 |
| Investments Sold                        | \$50,154.70      |                                                 |                                                 |
| Investments Purchased                   | \$0.00           |                                                 |                                                 |
| Capital Transferred to the Church       | \$50,000.00      |                                                 |                                                 |
| Cash Balance, Dec. 31/19                | \$784.62         |                                                 |                                                 |
| PARROTT TRUST                           |                  | \$314,881.00                                    | \$331,952.00                                    |
| Cash Balance, Dec. 31/18                | \$0.00           |                                                 |                                                 |
| Interest & Dividends Received           | \$12,794.28      |                                                 |                                                 |
| Paid to Church (Interest and Dividends) | \$13,074.40      |                                                 |                                                 |
| Investments Sold                        | \$46,464.98      |                                                 |                                                 |
| Investments Purchased                   | \$0.00           |                                                 |                                                 |
| Capital Transferred to the Church       | \$46,184.86      |                                                 |                                                 |
| Cash Balance, Dec. 31/19                | \$0.00           |                                                 |                                                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            |                  | <b>\$553,927.00</b>                             | <b>\$602,322.00</b>                             |



**FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP  
by the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the  
BRIDGE STREET UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION**

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The present Board of Directors was elected at the Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Foundation on March 31, 2019. The following officers were elected at a meeting of the Directors held immediately following this Annual Meeting:

President – Tom Britton  
Vice-President – Bill Maier  
Secretary-Treasurer – Mike Seeger

Directors served on the following committees of the Board:

**Grants:** Tom Britton (Chair), Elizabeth Ewashkiw, Margaret Finney, Rev. G. David King, Martha Robertson, Heather Seeger.

**Investment & Finance:**  
Bill Maier (Chair), Mike Seeger (Treasurer), Bill Kean.

Directors' meetings in 2019 were held on February 26, March 31, May 21 and September 24. The Investment & Finance Committee met throughout the year, as required.

**Grants Committee** - At the request of the Governance Board to take action to provide a sound financial foundation for a five-year period in preparation for the call of a new lead minister, there has been a significant departure from past practice of the Grants Committee. Beginning in 2017, the Foundation shall grant to the church up to \$100,000 of its net interest income per year for five years. This, therefore, affected the ability to award grants locally and nationally/internationally. As such, a moratorium was imposed on grants to outside agencies again this year.

**Investment & Finance Committee**

The investments at cost at December 31, 2019 were:

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Current Assets  | \$ 5,089           |
| Bonds and GIC's | --                 |
| Equities        | 713,782            |
| Mutual Funds    | <u>2,047,665</u>   |
| Total           | <u>\$2,766,536</u> |

The original bequest from the Charlotte E. Sills Estate was \$1,000,000 and, in 1984, a further distribution of \$462,148 was received from the Estate. A third distribution of \$481,151 was received in 1989, and in December 1998, a final distribution in the amount of \$22,978 was received representing a grand total from the Sills Estate of \$1,966,277. In addition, several individual donations have been received over the years.

It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction that the Foundation is able to report on its 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary that the cumulative totals of all grants made by the Foundation from 1973 through to the end of 2019 are as follows:

|                                             | <u>2019 Grants</u> | <u>Cumulative Totals</u> |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Bridge Street Church (for operations)       | \$100,000          | \$ 339,063               |
| Bridge Street Church (for capital projects) | --                 | \$2,055,142              |
| Local Community Outreach                    | --                 | \$1,780,277              |
| National/International Outreach             | --                 | <u>\$1,737,985</u>       |
| <b>Cumulative Totals</b>                    | <u>\$100,000</u>   | <u>\$5,912,467</u>       |

This Annual Report approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting on February 4, 2020.

## QUINTE LIVING CENTRE – John Miller, President

During this past year, there was a board change at the 2019 QLC Annual Meeting, as a number of members left the board, directors having completed their three-year commitment, and others came on. The current Board of directors are: David Alexander, Gary Botting, Janet Bowland, Beth Campbell, Carolyn Cockerline, Anne Freeland, Sharron Kennedy, Glen LeClair, Veronica Leonard, Shirley McLaren, and John Miller. The Rev. David King and The Rev. Rick Hamilton are also ex officio members of the board of directors. Doug Miles serves on the Board of Directors as Treasurer.

During the years of 2018 and 2019, QLC's operation was not covered by a subsidy agreement with the County of Hastings. Recall that the previous operating agreement covering subsidized accommodation expired in 2017, and it was not replaced. As a result, QLC has financed the subsidized accommodation on its own for the past two years (2018 & 2019). In December, the County of Hastings approached QLC Board of Directors with an offer to negotiate a new, subsidy agreement between the County and QLC. As a result, the QLC Board of Directors and The County of Hastings have entered into a new, five-year agreement and are now subsidizing the rents of seventeen of the residents of QLC. This number is growing, and shortly all subsidized residents will be covered by the new agreement. This will free up significant funds for QLC to use in other aspects of its operation.

Over this past year a number of projects have been on-going and completed.

1. A new make-up air system was installed in December of 2019, replacing the original unit (1982). This unit is one of the major HVAC components of the building that is used to heat the corridors. Total project cost \$92,500, but after receiving an incentive from Enbridge, the net cost for QLC was \$61,500.
2. Final section of heated sidewalk and parking lot upgrades were completed. The deteriorating interlocking brick driveway was replaced by a heated front circle and new light poles, and LED fixtures were installed for added nighttime visibility in the northwest corner.
3. Roof Replacement contract was awarded. Tremco Canada was hired to do a roof inspection, where it was discovered the roof condition was poor and leaking. This is the original roof and has served QLC well since the building was built. The roof will be replaced late March or early April and will be a two-week project. Tender was awarded to Amherst Roofing at a total project cost of \$369,000.00.

The QLC Board remains committed to continue the legacy of its original founding directors, and the Bridge Street United Church congregation as a whole, by providing affordable housing for seniors, especially during these times of seriously constrained supplies of affordable housing in Belleville. As a result, QLC remains in high demand, and the current wait list is 121 people. Turnover of apartments was low in 2019 with 16 units becoming available over this past year (April 2019-February 2020).

## **MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS**

## MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

### COMMUNICATIONS (Social Media) – Veronica Leonard

The lion's share of Bridge St. Church's communications is done by the Office Administrator through the weekly bulletin. Not only is the paper bulletin a weekly take-away for our congregation and visitors, but the pre-service e-mail with the announcements attached has been a lifesaver for many of our less-organized congregants who need an online reminder of when things are happening. The church events listed in the bulletin are also shared with other churches in the area and the newly formed East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) of the United Church. They also go to the monthly newsletter, "The Circuit Rider". Announcements are also posted on local TV station, Cogeco, in area newspapers' Community Events sections and the Quinte Arts' Council's "Umbrella" magazine.

Veronica Leonard operates the church's Facebook Page. One post about "Inn from the Cold" starting up was viewed by 5,333 people and shared by 88 people with their friends and contacts. Only five of these people who shared this post belong to our church. If you have a Facebook page, please make a point to share posts about any of our church's upcoming events and to "like" our page.

Our Facebook page also has a Bridge St. United Church Group with 144 members. These people will see our announcements in their timeline every time they are posted. The BSUC group includes 40 members of our own congregation, but also a number of people who have shared in our activities through musical events, the food ministry, our Syrian Refugee support and Knitters United. Other members include students at Loyalist College, community leaders (including our Mayor), people involved with the Poverty Round Table, musicians in the Quinte Symphony, a number of people in radio and communications in the local area, and members of other local churches.

In addition to our Food Ministry, our Facebook Page has been extremely valuable for promoting upcoming concerts. In the past year, we have had four concerts with audiences of between 450-550 people. Quinte Symphony has also had record numbers for its concerts held here as well. Promotion for our musical events have been augmented by Facebook ads at a cost of about \$40 per concert, which promote these events in the timeline of people in the Belleville area who have "liked" our church. Facebook ads are not used for the Food Ministry or the Bazaar, as their posts are widely shared on social media. Thanks to Joe Culp, an active supporter of our Facebook page, for keeping it supplied with photography, interesting posters and local news related to our church's activities.

Our Twitter account now has 610 followers, for the most part locals or other churches. Marketers, scammers, extremists, and Shady Ladies are blocked. Twitter has a smaller audience, but they are younger and might not be easily reached by other means. Again, any tweets about our food ministry activities are routinely shared with others in the community through replies and retweets.

We had hoped to grow our Communications Team this past year, but this hit roadblocks. **We need help from a graphic designer** for posters that work for Facebook Events. Regular posters don't fit. We need more of our own congregants to take the time to share our posts and tweets. Thank you to all those who do this already. It is important to remember that our presence on Facebook and Twitter provides a wide and supportive following in the community who value what we do and who we are. Anyone wishing to join this Team will be welcomed with open arms.

**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS:**

**FOOD MINISTRY – Ian Sutherland, Co-Coordinator**

*on behalf of Food Ministry Co-Coordinators Sue Catherwood, Rick Hammond and Food Ministry Program Manager Steve van de Hoef.*

An outreach food ministry at Bridge Street United Church (BSUC) began in 1990 and continues “To provide ongoing nutritional meals on a regularly scheduled basis for those in the local community needful of food security support.” With its three meal programs, the BSUC kitchen and meal program volunteers offer ongoing service to the local community. *Please see Table 1.*

**A. Meal Production/Distribution Amounts and Costs**

| ITEM                           | 2015            | 2016            | 2017            | 2018            | 2019            |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>IFTC Hot Meals</b>          | 4,090           | 4,268           | 4,188           | 4,115           | 4,168           |
| <b>IFTC Frozen Meals</b>       | 1,069           | 1,138           | 2,827           | 2,955           | 2,403           |
| <b>Total IFTC Meals</b>        | 5,159           | 5,406           | 7,015           | 7,070           | 6,571           |
| <b>March-December TGIF</b>     | 3,026           | 3,179           | 4,730           | 4,724           | 4,125           |
| <b>Total TGIF Meals</b>        | 4,295           | 4,317           | 7,557           | 7,679           | 6,528           |
| <b>EOTM Hot Meals</b>          |                 | 2,677           | 2,068           | 1,951           | 2,397           |
| <b>EOTM Frozen Meals</b>       |                 | 866             | 623             | 439             | 371             |
| <b>Total EOTM Meals</b>        |                 | 3,543           | 2,691           | 2,390           | 2,540           |
|                                |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Hot Meals/Yr</b>            | 4,090           | 6,945           | 6,256           | 6,066           | 6,565           |
| <b>Frozen Meals/Yr</b>         | 4,095           | 5,183           | 8,180           | 8,188           | 6,899           |
| <b>Total Meals/Yr</b>          | <b>8,385</b>    | <b>12,956</b>   | <b>14,436</b>   | <b>14,284</b>   | <b>13,464</b>   |
|                                |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Cost of Hot Meals/Yr</b>    | \$9,917         | \$17,768        | \$14,936        | Note #6         |                 |
| <b>Cost of Frozen Meals/Yr</b> | \$5,917         | \$7,579         | \$9,672         | Note #6         |                 |
| <b>Total Cost of Meals/Yr</b>  | <b>\$15,834</b> | <b>\$25,347</b> | <b>\$24,608</b> | <b>\$25,349</b> | <b>\$28,356</b> |
| <b>Average Meal Cost/Yr</b>    | \$1.89          | \$1.96          | \$1.70          | \$1.79          | \$2.11          |
|                                |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Capital Costs/Yr</b>        | <b>\$7,410</b>  | <b>\$5,955</b>  | <b>\$21,924</b> | <b>\$14,393</b> |                 |
|                                | <b>2015</b>     | <b>2016</b>     | <b>2017</b>     | <b>2018</b>     | <b>2019</b>     |

*Table 1. Meal Distributions and Costs for the Calendar Years 2015 to 2019*

*IFTC - Inn-from-the-Cold - hot meals daily from 18 January to 28 February*

*TGIF - Thank God It's Friday - frozen meals weekly on Fridays from 1 March to 31 December*

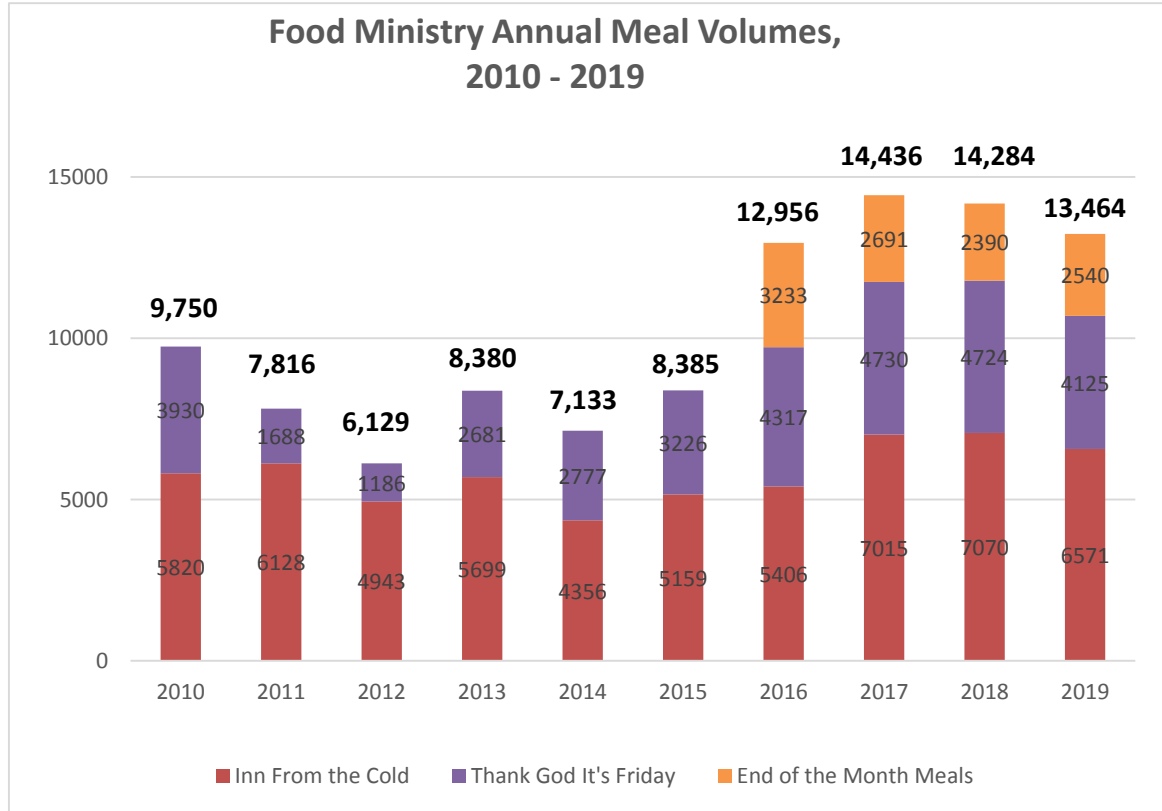
*EOTM - End-of-the-Month Meals - hot meals Tuesday and Thursday the last week of each month from 1 March to 31 December*

**Comments on meal numbers from 2019:**

1. All three meal programs continued to be utilized by those in our community who benefit from the meal availabilities.
  - a) Hot meal distribution was increased in 2019 by 499 (8.2%) to 6,565 meals;
  - b) Frozen meal distribution was decreased in 2019 by 1,289 (15.7%) to 6,899 meals;
  - c) Total meal distribution was decreased in 2019 by 820 (5.8%) to 13,236 meals.

*See Table 1, above.*
2. The 2019 meal production and distribution were the third highest total in the last 10 years.

*See Table 2, below.*



**Table 2**  
*Bridge Street United Church Food Ministry Meal Distributions 2010 to 2019*

3. End-of-the-Month meal distribution increased in 2019 by 150 (6.3%) to 2,540 meals on the Tuesday and Thursday of the last weeks of March through December. 127 meals/EOTM day, 109 hot and 18 frozen, were served on average.
4. Capital expenses in 2019 were related to the kitchen renovation project and replacement/upgraded appliances associated with the renovation. *To be discussed separately.*
5. Because the production of both hot and frozen meals from the same recipes on cooking days is now standard practice, it is no longer feasible to separate the costs of hot and frozen meals.
6. The average cost/meal in 2019 was \$2.11.

## **B. Projections for 2020 Meal Activity**

The annual projections for 2020 are calculated by taking the average of the actual meals produced in the three meal programs 2016 to 2019, plus 5%.

### **1) Meal Numbers Projected for 2020.**

Total number projected meals to be produced and distributed in 2020:

14,451 (136.3 meals/serving day)

Inn-From-The-Cold: projected at 6,841 meals (162.9 meals/serving day)

Thank-God-It's-Friday: projected at 4,760 meals (108.2 meals/serving day)

End-of-the-Month: projected at 2,849 meals (142.5 meals/serving day)

### **2) Meal Supply Costs Projected for 2020.**

Average projected supply cost/meal \$2.00

Projected operating costs for 2020 meal supplies and production: \$28,901.

## **C. Food Ministry Volunteers**

There are 200 volunteers + active in the 3 Food Ministry meal programs, approximately ¼ who are members/adherents of BSUC.

The organization for food preparation and meal distribution is arranged into teams for each day of planned cooking; thus, there are seven days of cooking teams that are in the kitchen from 09h00 to late morning preparing food; seven days of small afternoon teams to prepare the dining facilities; seven days of serving and preparation teams in the kitchen from 16h00 to 19h00 to serve the guests and to prepare the facilities for the next day's activities.

## **D. BSUC Kitchen Renovation**

In November 2018, the Food Ministry was tasked by the Intentional Interim Lead Minister to lead the planning process for a potential renovation of the 1962-era kitchen at BSUC. The planning group included representatives from UCW, Property Ministry Team, Hospitality Ministry Team, Finance Ministry Team, Food Ministry, St. Thomas Anglican Church. Input from subject matter experts was obtained from Jean-Marc Salvagno, chef/owner of L'Auberge de France, and Chris Morden of R Morden Engineering.

In March 2019, following approval of the proposed renovation drawings and cost projections, the Policy Governance Board approved an application by the Food Ministry directed to the Parrott Foundation requesting financial support for the renovation process, which application was successful. The Parrott grant, in addition to BSUC kitchen reserve funds, a generous legacy donation and major contribution from the UCW enabled the renovation to be fully funded.

Renovation work began in August 2019, and was completed the last week of December 2019. The kitchen was functional as of that date, with great anticipation among food ministry workers while awaiting initial food preparation activities during the 2020 Inn-From-The-Cold, planned for 18 January to 28 February.

During the 4-month renovation process, TGIF frozen meals continued to be distributed at the Bridge Street door every Friday from an inventory prepared beforehand and supplemented at St. Thomas during the process.

During the BSUC kitchen reconstruction August to December, St. Thomas Anglican Church hosted our EOTM meal preparations in their kitchen, hosted the EOTM meal services in their hall, and hosted bimonthly cooking days for TGIF frozen meals in their kitchen.

*The Food Ministry group is very grateful to St. Thomas' Church for the willing engagement and significant support that St. Thomas offered in a spirit of complete collaboration with our mutual food programs and with our mutual community outreach.*

## **E. Community Support and Research**

### **1) Hastings Prince Edward Data Consortium**

BSUC Food Ministry is one of the founding partners in a 5-year data consortium with Hastings County Community & Human Services, Highland Shores Children's Aid Society, Hastings Prince Edward Public Health, Community Development Council Quinte, United Way Hastings Prince Edward as of 1 April. As of that date, the data consortium partnership has access to the data base developed and maintained nationally by the Community Council on Social Development, BSUC Food Ministry shall be seeking relevant information on food insecurity, homelessness and poverty for social research projects.

The first research paper from the consortium was written by Food Ministry and Hastings County Community and Human Services authors, and presented to the Community and Human Services Committee on 9 October 2019. It is entitled "*Precarious Housing and Risk of Homelessness in Hastings County*". The work was funded by a grant from Hastings County Community and Human Services.

### **2) Memorandum of Agreement with Community Development Council – Quinte**

That is to partner in relevant social justice research centring around food insecurity, homelessness and poverty, renewed to 31 Jan 2020.

The current conjoint project with which the Food Ministry is involved, funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation from September 2019 to September 2020, is to explore the feasibility of formation of a coordinating office for social research projects in Belleville and Hastings County.

### **3) Memorandum of Agreement with St. Thomas Anglican Church**

St. Thomas produces 120 frozen meals/month utilizing BSUC recipes and food supplies, to be added to the frozen meal reserve at BSUC for TGIF distribution. As payment for the food supplies provided by BSUC, St. Thomas contributes 120 x the average meal cost each month to the BSUC Food Ministry.

### **4) "Reaching Home" Coordinated Access Grant**

BSUC Food Ministry submitted a proposal in response to Hastings County RFP 145-2019. The objective of the project, to be funded for 5 federal fiscal years (to 31 March 2024), is to organize a coordinated access process, physically and technologically, working for the homeless and precariously housed populations in Belleville, which access is to include all "Reaching Home" federally-funded agencies working in that sector. The proposal was made in partnership with the Systems Planning Collective (Turner Strategies, HelpSeeker, Canadian Observatory on Homelessness). On 31 October 2019, it was announced that the BSUC Food Ministry/Systems Collective partnership was awarded that contract. Funds for this 5-year program will soon begin to flow to the BSUC Food Ministry from the federal Reaching Home program through the local "community entity", Hastings County Human & Social Services.

Integrated Coordinated Access is a process by which those looking for support with social, health, accommodation or other needs are triaged to appropriate resources. Integrated Coordinated Access provides a standardized process that both individuals in need and service providers can follow to improve service delivery and coordination of resources for social supports.

A work plan for sequential attainment of the necessary project outcome measures was developed in Q4 2019, to begin implementation in Q1 2020. A component of the 2020 Q1 and Q2 objectives for Coordinated Access will be BSUC planning and completion of the April 2020 biannual homeless enumeration process in Belleville and Hastings County.



## **KNITTERS UNITED – Elizabeth Ewashkiw, Coordinator**

In the winter of 2008, a group of four women agreed to get together regularly, to knit for the “Inn from the Cold” guests. The following year we produced 148 hats, mitts, and scarves for free distribution. The foursome gradually became a larger and mightier group of forty active knitters by 2019.

We meet twice weekly throughout the year, on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Additionally, we knit together every Saturday during “Inn from the Cold”. Being a community group, word of mouth and a little publicity keeps new knitters coming. The group uses donated yarn, provides donated labour, and produces donated products for Belleville and beyond, as well as building new and ongoing supportive friendships. Yarn, needles and patterns, mostly from people who are downsizing, keep our needles clicking. This year, we donated 1408 hand knit items to BSUC Meal Programs, Hastings and Prince Edward Learning Foundation, Keep Kids Warm, Kenya, CAS, Gleaners, Early On, Christmas Sharing, and Three Oaks, etc.

We warmly welcome knitters and want-to-be knitters or crocheters to join us!

## **UNITED SYRIAN FAMILY SUPPORT (BELLEVILLE) SPONSORSHIP GROUP –**

**Ian Sutherland, Constituent Group Representative** *on behalf of the USFS (Belleville) sponsorship group members*

### **2019 Annual Report to Bridge Street United Church**

#### **1) USFS (B) Ongoing Support Activities During 2019**

Through 2019, the United Syrian Family Support (Belleville) sponsorship group (USFS [B]), continued to provide necessary support for the 4 families and 3 related grandparents. These 23 Syrian newcomers had come as refugees to Canada through 6 separate sponsorships between the USFS (B) and Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada. They entered Canada as Permanent Residents, arriving in Belleville between 7 December 2015 and 1 March 2017.

Throughout 2019, the support through the USFS (B) family-specific support teams was provided to the families, to the grandparents, and to targeted individuals within the families in the areas of public and high school education course selection, English as a Second Language, workplace readiness and employment assistance, health care, individual youth tutoring, financial coaching and social integration into our community. Driver education courses, home-based English tutoring, high school co-op programs, and participation in employment support programs have been facilitated.

The following family-specific teams of USFS (Belleville) will continue active into 2020 as needed/requested by the four families and grandparents: Educational Liaison, ESL Liaison, Budget/Financial Support, Health Care Support, Transport, Personal Support.

The practical result of the completion of the two-year sponsorships as of 1 March 2019 is that the newcomers have no longer been receiving regular/monthly financial support from USFS (Belleville), following the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of each of their arrivals in Canada.

#### **2. Employment Update**

**Employment.** As of end December 2019, three of the four fathers of the families were working full-time with local Belleville and Hastings/Prince Edward County employers. The father and mother of the fourth family continue to attend ESL; the other father has a predictable part-time job. Two of the mothers have part-time employment.

All of these work environments are likely to be long term. With their present work incomes plus Canadian Child Tax Benefits, all the families will be able to sustain financially independent lives in our community (for all but extraordinary post-secondary tuition fees, medical/dental fees, or vehicle-associated costs).

### **3. Educational Activities**

- i. ESL- Fall semester- Grandfather Ziab, Grandmother Aadla, Father Ahmad, Mothers Maysoun, Intisar, Raghda and Huda are attending Loyola School of Adult & Continuing Education for English classes.
- ii. Loyalist College - Bayan Al Mansour (the eldest child of the fourth family) is enrolled in the first year of the three-year Biotechnology program. At the Loyola School of Adult and Continuing Education graduation in June 2019, she was awarded an Ontario Secondary School diploma, a Loyalist College entrance scholarship, and the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Community Service.
- iii. Centennial Secondary School - Mohamad Al Mansour (the middle child of the fourth family) is enrolled in Gr 12. At the Centennial SS Celebration of the 2018-2019 academic year, he was recognized for having achieved the Honour Roll for Gr 11. Firas Al Mansour is enrolled in Gr 12; Layth Al Mansour is enrolled in Gr 10; they have obtained the maximum 4 course credits in all 2019 semesters. Alaa Al Mansour is enrolled in Gr 7, located at Centennial Secondary School.
- iv. Sir John A Macdonald School- Eight of the younger children from the four families are enrolled at their neighbourhood elementary school, all progressing well with English acquisition and the relevant grade-specific subject curricula.
- v. Home Tutoring. Independent tutoring is being provided from within the sponsorship group, and/or is available for, all of the elementary and secondary school students. Home visits for tutoring English acquisition and relevant citizenship information is being provided to all the families.

### **4. Update with respect to Canadian Citizenship.**

The in-country residency requirement for citizenship exam eligibility is 1095 days in any five year period (ie, 3 full years). In addition to the residency requirement, a candidate for citizenship must have demonstrated, on examination, competency to Level 4 of 13 in both listening and in speaking one of Canada's two official languages.

All of the newcomers have been resident in Canada continuously since their arrivals. The first family was eligible to apply for citizenship as of 6 Dec 2018; the second family eligible as of 12 October 2019; the third family eligible as of 27 December 2019; the fourth family will be eligible as of 13 February 2020; Grandparents Ziab and Adlaa will be eligible as of 28 February 2020.

- i. On Wednesday 23 October 2019, Ahmad Al Mansour and his wife Maysoun Mansour, wrote the Canadian citizenship exam. Both were successful. The actual ceremony will be within the next few months, and following that event, Ahmad and Maysoun can identify themselves as Canadian citizens. Ahmad and Maysoun's 3 sons are 17, 15 and 9. Being under age 18, with application, all are eligible to become Canadian citizens from their father's success. Ahmad and Maysoun have worked consistently and diligently at ESL for 3 years and at learning the social, historical and cultural Canadian information, which two elements are critical success factors for success in the exam. They have been aided, equally diligently in their studies by a member of our sponsorship group.
- ii. Bilal Mansour and Intisar Al Ghanem of the second family have applied for acceptance to write the Citizenship exam, being eligible from 14 October 2019. They are studying with the assistance of the St Joseph sponsorship group and affiliated volunteers. The 3 sons of the family, 12 and under, are to be registered on their father's application for citizenship.
- iii. Fawziah Al Jahjah, the mother of Bilal Mansour and his sister Maysoun, has applied to be registered separately, being eligible from 10 October 2019. She will be exempted from the written examination for Canadian citizenship because of her age.

### **5. Summary Comments.**

The resettlement process has continued throughout 2019 for all of the newcomers. All of the families now own a vehicle; 3 of the mothers and 3 of the fathers have attained G2 Ontario Driver's Licences; the families are self-sufficient financially; all of the children are progressing with their education at rates consistent with their age-group peers.

Ongoing support and socialization will continue in 2020 between members of the United Syrian Family Support (Belleville) Sponsorship Group and the newcomer families and grandparents.

From a personal perspective, may I say: Through our meetings with the newcomers to Canada, I believe that we are all blessed to have had such opportunities through the past 4 years, to meet fellow residents from Belleville, to bring our faith communities together at personal levels, and to have been introduced to so much about other cultures and countries. Perhaps one of the most significant learnings for me has been to witness the integrity and faithfulness of the newcomers, faithfulness to themselves, to their families, to their faith.

We look forward with anticipation in 2020 to celebrations with new Canadians as they swear their oaths of Canadian citizenship.

**Financial Statement United Syrian Family Support (Belleville) Sponsorship Group**

**31 December 2019**

**USFS (B) Acct**

**St Joseph's CC Acct**

**Revenues and Expenditures at December 31, 2019**

**Donations & Fund Raising**

|                                                    |                  |                 |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Bridge Street UC Congregation.....                 | \$ 20,487        |                 |
| Donations thru Bridge St UC + 2 Souqs + Concerts.. | 43,401           |                 |
| St Matthew's UC.....                               | 8,597            |                 |
| Eastminster UC.....                                | 24,325           |                 |
| St Joseph's CC total funds from all sources.....   |                  | \$98,770        |
| St Joseph's CC 6 Fundraising Events.....           | \$13,275         | (\$13,275)      |
| <b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS through co-sponsors</b>     | <b>\$110,085</b> | <b>\$85,495</b> |

**Grants Received**

|                                               |                  |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Rotary Sunrise.....                           | \$ 1,000         |                 |
| Rotary Foundation.....                        | 2,000            |                 |
| Bridge Street Foundation.....                 | 13,500           |                 |
| Toronto Conference.....                       | 5,000            |                 |
| Parrott Foundation.....                       | 40,000           |                 |
| Lawson Foundation.....                        | 5,000            |                 |
| 100 Men Who Care.....                         | 10,300           |                 |
| Lennox & Addington UC Sponsorship group.....  | 15,000           |                 |
| <b>TOTAL GRANTS received</b>                  | <b>91,800</b>    |                 |
| <b>Total funds contributed to December 31</b> | <b>\$201,885</b> | <b>\$85,495</b> |

|                                                                                                                                         |                  |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b><u>Expenses for rent, furnishings, food, clothing, sports, IRCC airfares, medical/dental, and Citizenship examinations (X 2)</u></b> | <b>\$184,118</b> | <b>\$85,495</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|

|                                            |                 |             |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>Funds on hand at December 31, 2019.</b> | <b>\$17,767</b> | <b>\$ 0</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|

*Submitted by Richard Lefler, Ian Sutherland  
On behalf of United Syrian Family Support (Belleville) Sponsorship Group  
5 February 2020 V1.0*