

# **St. John's United Church Annual Report 2020**



At St. John's United Church, we strive to make our Church a Spiritual Centre that welcomes people of all ages to grow in Faith and become Alive in Christ.

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# St John's United Church Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

## Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020

After a lunch provided by the women of the church, Krista Belrose, chair, called the meeting to order at 11.45am. There were 36 adults in attendance.

Rev Meg opened with a prayer.

It was moved by Liz McKnight and seconded by Debbie Laycock "That adherents be granted voting privileges on Temporal (non-spiritual) matters only." Carried.

Approval of the Agenda was moved by Krista Haidner, seconded by Jan Drinkill. Carried.

Lois Bertram moved "that the minutes of the February 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 Congregational Meeting be approved as circulated or corrected" seconded by Doreen Turner. Carried.

In Memorium by Rev Meg.

**Team Reports**, apart from an Accessibility Report were reviewed.

Ross advised that the Manse boundary has been adjusted re: retaining the parking lot. Some physical work has to be completed before putting on the market. The Land has been sold, subject to several conditions, for \$260,000 to EASR. Monies from the sale of both properties will be retained in an investment with interest used for day to day expenses.

Final cost of the piano was \$12,654.74. Income from fundraising \$9,935. Remaining \$2,719.74 was gifted from the Memorial Fund.

Moved by Debbie Laycock and seconded by Doreen Turner "that we approve the Team and Group Reports as presented in the 2019 Annual Report" Unanimously carried.

Ross presented the financial report.

Moved by Allan Wright and seconded by Marlene Tinney "that we approve the 2019 Financial Statements as presented" Carried.

Ross presented the budget. Moved by Liz McKnight and seconded by Sam McGee "that we approve the 2020 budget recommendation as presented by the Property and Finance Team on behalf of the Council Executive" Unanimously carried.

### **New Business:**

- a) Moved by Carrie Nesbitt and seconded by Susan Elliott "that we approve the 2020 M & S objective of \$9000." Unanimously carried.
- b) Nominations from the floor. Ross Langman to Board of Trustees and Jan Drinkill to Memorial. Accepted and approved.

The next regularly scheduled Annual Congregational Meeting will be on February 28th 2021.

Meeting closed with prayer by Rev Meg.

# **St. John's United Church Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda**

**Sunday, February 28th, 2021**

1) Blessing

2) Call to Order: Beth Truax

3) Opening Prayer: Rev. Meg

4) Motion to grant voting privileges

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded \_\_\_\_\_ "That the

Adherents be granted voting privileges on Temporal (non-spiritual) matters only." Carried.

5) Approval of Agenda

a) Additions/Changes/Deletions

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded \_\_\_\_\_ "That the Agenda be approved as circulated or changed" Carried.

6) Approval of the Sunday February 23rd, 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ "that the Minutes of the February 23 2020 Annual Meeting be approved as circulated or corrected" Carried

7) In memorial: Rev. Meg

8) Team Group Reports:

a) Accessibility Team	g) Ministry and Personnel
b) Board of Trustees	h) Mission and Service
c) Property and Finance	i) Outreach/Publicity
d) Education	j) Soul Sisters
e) Memorial	k) Worship
f) Men's Fellowship Group	

9) Consideration and Approval of the Team and Group Reports as presented in the 2020 Annual Report

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ "that we approve the Team and Group Reports as presented in the 2020 Annual Report" Carried

10) Presentation of the 2020 Financial Statements

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ "that we approve the 2020 Financial Statements as presented" Carried

11) Presentation of the 2021 Budget Recommendation

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ "that we approve the 2021 budget recommendation as presented/amended by the Property and Finance Team on behalf of the Council Executive" Carried

12) New Business

a) Approval of the 2021 M&S Objective as recommended by the Council Executive

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ "that we approve the 2021 M&S objective" Carried

b) Team nominations from the floor

13) Next Annual Meeting Date:

14) Closing Prayer

## Minister's Report for 2020 Rev Meg Jordan

Just before my terrible fall at the end of 2019 I distributed business cards to members of church council that I had commissioned from my nephew Jordan Lavoie who lives with muscular dystrophy and is a gifted graphic designer in Toronto. My plan was to distribute these around town through local businesses and in all the new neighbourhoods that have popped up in Elmvale. On one side of the card is my name with all the contact details, on the other side is an image of a monarch butterfly. The butterfly has become a symbol for me of what I believe is going on within the faith community of St. John's United Church. When I began my ministry with you on May 1st, 2016 work had begun on what became known as the "Emerging Together" project. I am very aware that throughout my time with you we have been going through a process of transformation symbolized by the life cycle of butterflies. To my delight, Alison Parnell used a quote from Maya Angelou as inspiration for the beginning of our work together. I have included it in this report. We've been through the caterpillar stage and now we are very definitely in the chrysalis stage and it doesn't feel very good. I hope and pray that we will be able to emerge soon. In the meantime, let's be kind to one another. Below I mention just a few things within the chaos of the last year.



- Rev Meg on Leave due to Disability. Rev Susan MacDonald from Shining Waters Region provided wonderful pulpit supply.
- Moved back in time for Annual Meeting-in time to meet Lynn and Don Coutts.
- Moved to full- time—Dawning awareness of COVID-19 March 15
- First Online Service March 22— Bob and choir have been stupendous!!
- Start-up of Spirit Café via ZOOM—able to include Don K, Doreen T. and Lynda B.
- July holiday—4 weeks, 5 Sundays.
- Back to demands of online worship. Never dreamed we would still be online as of end of January 2021. Now planning for Lent/Easter 2021.
- Began a schedule of driving down to Elmvale for pastoral care visits. Had to end this when calls for strict lockdowns on travel began.
- Stricken over and over by members' deaths and very aware of individual and communal sadness creating a huge need to grieve together.
- Stewardship challenges have been exposed and emphasized. Grateful for the fun generated by Outreach's Online Auction during Advent.
- I remain hopeful and intensely interested in what our future will look like.

## **Co-Ordinator's Report 2020**

Well what a year it has been! As I reflect back on everything since February 2020, little did we know what our lives would be like now, or how greatly the little things in life have changed?

We now look at little things, like a hug, as something of great value now (or at least I do!). Not that I have ever diminished giving or receiving a hug, it's just something that I will truly cherish from now on.

This now, has gotten me on to the thought of things that I feel are important to a full well rounded life. One of those things, of course is my St. John's family. Oh how I miss seeing your faces every Sunday, and remember I got to see them all from my vantage point of sitting in the choir! I miss the fellowship, the coffee time, and the sharing of our joys and sorrows.

Rev. Meg has continued with her leadership and commitment to our family and keeps providing thought provoking sermons like she always has. She has guided and supported us through some difficult times this year.

I am always amazed at all the talents that our congregation has, and the willingness to use them, to help with the continuance of our church activities during this pandemic. Our church teams are amazing people that assist in doing whatever jobs needed to be done, or things that needed attention, while we have not been in the church. Each team has a responsibility and even though the roles changed due to Covid 19 everyone stepped up to the plate to make the best out of whatever they could.

A special thank you to the Worship Team under the leadership of Krista and Cheryl. They have written and spoken to the congregation every Sunday since March and have kept the communication and services going. Bob, Karen and the choir kept on singing and various people kept on reading scripture. This team thought of various things to make our church services seem as normal as possible.

What can I say about Fern? She has spent countless hours recording things, searching for pictures and videos and then putting everything together so that our service flows together seamlessly. Her talents have been a true blessing to our family and we are so grateful!

There are so many people that work behind the scenes, that some may not know about. Karen, our church administrator volunteers her time to see that the written church services get to those who do not have access to a computer. And let us not forget the congregation members that phoned or visited others that may not get out as much. Also a huge thank you to Ross, who managed the sale of the manse!

My thank you could go on and on, as so many people have done so much during such a difficult time. I appreciate everyone for all that you have done to support each other and our church in this time of separation.

It is my hope that we will all be together soon and in the mean time, stay safe and take care of one another.

God Bless

Beth Truax

## **Allenwood Cemetery Board Report for 2020**

### Financial Report

#### Receipts

Bank balance brought forward		\$25,834.07
Public Guardian and Trustee	\$1,158.57	
Investment interest	\$5,700.00	
Bank interest	\$12.85	
Sale of Niche	\$1,200.00	
Sale of Cremation Plots	\$4,200.00	
Monument permits & opening	\$8,889.00	
Printing on monuments	\$650.00	
Total	\$21,710.42	
Total		\$ 47,544.49

#### Expenditures

Public Guardian and Trustee	\$1,290.00	
Office supply	\$60.39	
Policing	\$240.00	
Regular interment	\$2,100.00	
Cremation interment	\$5,600.00	
Monument marking	\$500.00	
Grass cutting and trimming	\$2,900.00	
Total	\$12,690.39	
Total		\$34,854.10

Chairman: Ross Langman      Secretary-Treasurer: Elmer McFadden

## **Emerging Together Team Report 2020**

We had such wonderful plans going forward after our initial meetings.

The team was thanked for listening to the members of the Congregation and that their ideas would be part of a plan, for the next five years.

Sadly like so many plans, and ideas they were of necessity shelved as a result of the Pandemic. As a team we are looking forward, to the day when we can all meet again, look at what we did accomplish and modify the plan to meet where we will be, our needs, and hopes for our Congregation.

Respectfully submitted



## **Memorial Report**

Opening Balance: \$16,578.91  
Income: \$25,831.19  
Bank Balance: \$42,410.10

### **Expenses**

Piano moving \$2,719.74  
Sign out side \$1,337.92  
McGee memorial \$1,380.00  
Balance \$5,437.66

Bank Balance \$36,972.44

### **Organ Fund**, no change

Opening Balance: \$3,653.92  
Balance as of Dec 2020 \$3,653.92

### **In Memorial 2020**

Marilyn Trace  
Ted Hore  
Audrey Archer  
Cecil Tinney  
Freda Gollop  
Evelyn McFadden  
Sam Langman  
Sam McGee

Submitted by Liz McKnight

## **Men's Club 2020**

It was a very quiet year. We only had 2 meetings in 2020. In February we bought 2 tables to replace the old wooden table we used for the Turkey suppers.

We did work on the Manse to help get it ready for sale. The women of the church helped as well with the preparation for the sale.

In the fall the men gathered to clean the grounds around the church and manse.

That's about it for the year of 2020.

Submitted by Allan Wright.

## **Ministry and Personnel Report**

There are only a few of things to mention. First of all there were no meetings for M&P. Through conversations on the phone we had to give Heather Toner her layoff notice on April 03,2020 as the church was not being used.

Karen Bryant took a layoff also and continued to volunteer a couple of mornings a week.

Bob Bruer as choir leader has been doing a fantastic job with the music and choir throughout these difficult times.

Rev Meg has been working hard to keep her sermons coming via videos.

In midsummer I gave my resignation to Beth {church council chair} as chair of M&P but I will stay on as Bob's go to person.

I just want to thank everyone for their dedication to our church at these difficult times.

Prayers to all

Sandy Coe

## **Mission and Service Report for 2020**

There isn't much to report for 2020 as we have been closed since March.

Jan.19 we had a small fund raiser with loaves, cheese and grapes with a profit of \$120.00.

Feb.16 cookies and ice cream with a profit of \$153.50

Meeting on March 03 2020 we planned for St Patrick's Day luncheon which we had to cancel due to Covid and since then the Church has been closed.

We had planned our goal for 2020 of \$9000.00 but this didn't happen, however we did raise \$4,193.00. we are praying for better times for 2021.

We prayers to each and all

Sandy Coe Chair.

## **2020 Music Director's Report**

As with everything else in 2020, music at St. John's over the past year was defined in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. Perhaps its effects go back still further, since my mind has been nagged more than once by the irony that the first known case of Covid-19 began around the time of our Canadian Food Grain cantata event on Nov 24 2019. Back then, how could we have fathomed the changes that were about to take place around the world?

Moving into early 2020 when our initial awareness of Covid remained low and of little concern, I have some lingering music memories of how great things used to be and hopefully will be again at St. John's. At the Jan 19 service for example, the choir gave a superbly-tight performance of *Africa*, accompanied by Will on drums. And the next month on Feb 23 in front of a sold-out crowd, Double Treble joined Vox Femina and the Oriana Women's Choir for what was in my memory, the best concert ever in the North Simcoe area. Little did any of us suspect at the time that it would possibly also be the last local live concert of any kind in 2020.

By the Mar 15 service, many in the congregation were absent, already very concerned with the growing pandemic. We knew so little by then when no one was even mentioning the possible importance of face masks and the high risk from singing, but we knew enough that for the first time, the anthem was performed with choir members 6 feet apart from each other. Following that same service, a decision was made to close the church for the next little while. I do not think any of us imagined we would not be worshiping in the sanctuary again for the rest of 2020.

Over the next few weeks, assisted tremendously by Karen Parnell-Knight, we began pulling together what is now our current (99% virtual) St. John's music program. Rehearsals at first were little more than emails to the choir containing links to recordings that might help choir members continue singing while we were unable to hold rehearsals or services. At the same time, to keep St. John's music feeling "current" and "local", I tried mixing together a piano recording with vocal recordings made individually by Karen and myself using our iPhone. The results seemed promising. So much so the choir members quickly became involved, each learning to record from their home 'studios'. Via Zoom, we gradually learned to rehearse in a meaningful way. For the May 3 virtual service, we recorded "Peace", the first anthem we had learned 100% virtually (And to this, this day, "Peace" remains an anthem that we have never sung together in one place.) Since then, we have virtually learned and recorded many other new anthems... and individually, we have each grown our singing and recording skill. Collectively by the end of 2020, the choir (and Double Treble) had recorded 37 anthems and even more hymns as contributions to the incredible weekly YouTube services. Who would have thought?

Sadly, the 2020 report cannot be complete without acknowledging the huge loss of our musician-extraordinaire Sam Langman. Sam's memory no doubt fueled my mention of the Nov 2019 Canadian Food Grain concert at the start of this report. Up to his death, Sam remained a consistent core member of our virtual choir, usually being the first one to send in his recording for the week.

Ironically, for Thanksgiving 2020 and our recording of his favorite anthem "Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem", Sam was a little too early, sending in a recording of him singing to the rehearsal (i.e., wrong) version of the anthem. Sadly, when I did send out the correct version for recording, Sam was harvesting non-stop to beat the forecasted rain and thus, unable to re-record. But he was back recording even in the week before his sudden death on Oct 24. I miss you tremendously Sam and hope to never lose your passionate concern on behalf of those who are hungry throughout the world.

In conclusion, despite so much loss over the past year... loss of gathering, loss of health, loss of opportunity and the many tragic loss of lives within the St. John's family... despite all that, we enter the New Year sustained by the great faith hope and love that defines St. John's past present and future. I am so grateful to be amid such fellowship, not only in my role as director of music but also personally.

With huge thanks and love to St. John's Choir, Double Treble, Karen, the worship team, Rev. Meg and Fern.

Bob Bruer

## **Outreach/Publicity Team Report**

It was a busy start to 2020. By March we had hosted a PA Day and had the next one organized. We had spent months working on the Health and Wellness Fair and were all ready to go when lockdown happened and everything had to be cancelled.

As the year progressed, all the usual church fundraisers had to be cancelled, so the team brainstormed. We came up with the idea of an online auction. We ended up with so many lovely items that we ended up running it over 2 Sundays. Thank you to all who generously donated and bid, and congratulations to those who won!

We are always looking for new members so consider joining us: Pam, Fern, Krista. Karen, Kari, Susie, Robyn and of course Rev Meg who attends our meetings.

Respectfully submitted Pam Erskine

## **Praise Team 2020**

Praise Team got off to a regular start in 2020 but as the pandemic affected worship in the St. John's Sanctuary then the creative juices got flowing. In June, Cheryl set up a Praise Team song for the group to record at home using GarageBand to commemorate the annual Sunday School Picnic. *Do Lord* was a real hit as several voices, as well as Will's drumming and Sam's "doo-wops" were added.

It was really cool to see this number layered together one voice or instrument at a time. This recording opportunity also gave other enthusiastic singers a chance to join us.

But Sam had a vision for some amazing recordings that could be done safely distanced but as a team and he enlisted his granddaughters to help. In June, he wrote new words to Down by the Bay but called it Down by the Church. That particular day, the group, made up of Sam, Greg, Cheryl, Beth, and Marianne was so happy that Don was able to join us for recording. Crystal, Sam's granddaughter who is studying Film & Television, put the videos together after we recorded vocal/instrumental and video in various creative locations on the Langman Farms and Allenwood beach. One of our videos even featured Adam's drone taking some amazing pictures of the group and the surrounding area! Throughout July and August, several wonderful recordings and lasting memories were made and great visits were had. We recorded *Amazing Grace/Peaceful, Easy Feeling* and *Arms of Love* in the soybean field, *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* and *Sing to the King* at the beach and *I'll Fly Away* and *Precious Lord* in the Langman cornfield and bush. It was felt that Sam had missed his calling as a movie director. There were several more ideas for recordings leading into the fall in other locations.

Sam's sudden death on October 24<sup>th</sup> has been a huge blow for our congregation and the Praise Team lost a founding member and its very heart. With God's help and Sam guiding us, we will continue to provide music for St. John's and carry out Sam's vision of singing praises to our Lord, who blessed us with the ability to minister through music.

In Sam's memory, we recorded two numbers with GarageBand for the Christmas Eve Service. *When I Think Upon Christmas* and *Feliz Navidad* were presented to the St. John's congregation with Sam in our hearts and minds. Greg's guitar and Will's drumming added the finishing touches to the recordings. Thanks to all of our Praise Team members, whether they be the original team, as well as all honorary members who will always be welcome to sing with us.

Blessings, especially musical ones,

Cheryl McGinnis

### **Property and Finance 2019 - 2020**

It has been an interesting year! The team has risen to the many challenges presented, and the maintenance has continued throughout the year. The church is in good "shape" thanks to Ken French, Alan Wright, Ross Langman, Ken Laycock, Sam McGee, Jan Drinkill, and many others. I would like to thank Karen, who has maintained the sign in sheets at the back door, Cheryl McGinnis, who let us know when they would be using the Sanctuary, giving us enough time to clean and sanitize the premises.

We have signed contracts with Rick Drinkill for the snow removal and Amy Anderson for the Day Care.

We struggled with the Budget that is being presented as so much of it is a "guesstimate" as a result of the Pandemic.

We are looking for additional members for our team, and if interested, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted Rosemary Johnston

### **Sunday School Report for 2020**

St. John's Sunday School class of 15 members met each week from January to March 8<sup>th</sup> 2020. On December 13<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday School performed a virtual Christmas pageant called "Do Not Be Afraid"

#### **Sunday School Financial Statement 2020**

Bank Balance January 1, 2020		\$2,455.56
Income	\$ 754.00	
Expenses	\$565.28	
Bank Balance December 31, 2020		\$2,644.28

## SON LIGHT SOLAR PROJECT

<u>Income for 2020</u>		<u>Expenses for 2020</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Hydro One Income for electricity produced</u>		
Jan	276.69	Hydro One Charge	80.00
Feb	291.13	Bank Charge	9.75
Mar	611.93		<hr/>
April	799.59	2013 Solar Income = \$10,977	89.75
May	1,129.22	2014 Solar Income = \$10,100	
June	1,237.49	2015 Solar Income = \$11,248	
July	1,482.10	2016 Solar Income = \$11,384	
Aug	1,378.64	2017 Solar Income = \$9,737	
		2018 Solar Income = \$10,219	
		2019 Solar Income = \$10,221	
Sept	1,247.91	2020 Solar Income = \$10,700	
Oct	1,182.95		
Nov	676.89		
Dec	475.59		
	<hr/> 10,790.13		

### Trustees' Report 2020

The Trustees completed the sale of the church manse on September 28, 2020. The sale price was \$380,000.00.

The costs to prepare and sell the manse included a boundary adjustment to keep all of the parking lot with the church, rezoning of that section of the parking lot, a survey of the manse lot, real estate and lawyers fees. The total cost was \$28,858.00. After adding in the adjustments for taxes, we had \$352,000.00 to invest.

This investment will provide some much needed income to help offset the loss of rent for the manse, collected in the past.

The new neighbours are a delightful young couple.

## Soul Sisters' 2020

During the month of Jan, the Soul Sisters provided goodies and assisted in entertainment for a Tea Party and Monthly Birthday Party at Sara Vista. A lunch was also provided for 20 members of the Soil and Crop group. Some of the group attended the World Day of Prayer service in Feb. Then the world changed and things closed. We did have 2 BYO coffee mug and chair social distance chat in the park over the summer. During a summer meeting it was passed that the Soul Sisters would donate 1500.00 to the church funds. Instead of our monthly visiting to those in nursing or retirement homes we made phone calls. In Dec members made homemade treats for Marg and Barb to use to pack up baskets for those on our visiting list as well as others in Sara Vistas. Some flowers were also delivered to those in homes which did not allow food to be brought in.

Submitted by Marianne Tomlinson

### Soul Sisters' Financial Report 2020

<b>Balance Forward</b>		<b>\$6,374.13</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Banquets	520.00	
Funeral Lunches	562.50	
Donations	74.00	
Interest	3.19	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,159.69</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
Food for meals	\$120.88	
Church Treasury	\$1,500.00	
Kitchen	44.43	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,665.31</b>	
Balance	\$5,868.51	
Minus funds held for accessibility	-\$ 2500.00	
<b>Actual Balance</b>		<b>\$ 3,368.51</b>

## Worship Team Report

**Co-Chairs:** Cheryl McGinnis & Krista Haidner

**Team Members:** Rev. Meg Jordan, Rick Muller, Jan Drinkill, Kathleen Kenney, Bob Bruer and Don Kennedy

What a year!

In February, 2020 we took over as Worship Committee Co-Chairs. Little did we know that the job description of Worship Committee Co-Chairs would be revamped so quickly in our new leadership roles.

In early March, news of the Corona Virus was beginning to break, and by March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, all schools were closing and businesses were being shut down. The members of the church who were in attendance on March 15, 2020 discussed and determined that St. John's United Church would close during the province-wide lockdown to minimize the spread of the virus.

At this point, we moved into a different gear and began making plans to keep our congregation connected since we were not going to be meeting in the church sanctuary. Commencing the following week, the first edition of the Worshipping Word was created and emailed to all the members of our church, hard copies were delivered to members who did not have internet access, and the first online church service was presented on YouTube. Krista usually puts together the content for the Worshipping Word (Fern makes it look pretty and adds a recipe and Meg adds children's activities) while Cheryl creates a weekly welcome for virtual church to help keep our members informed of news about St. John's and the community. We would like to thank everyone who supports our team in any way, particularly by participating in worship services or who provides poems, songs, and other items for our Worshipping Word. Thanks to the people who deliver/ed the Worshipping Word as it usually includes distanced visits and takes a considerable amount of time. These visits are gratefully appreciated and looked forward to. It truly helps to lighten our load. Some of the worship highlights have been the Mother and Father's Day videos, Praise Team recordings, our beloved puppet performances, Children's Virtual Christmas Pageant, Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve Service, and our Christmas zoom visit. Little did we know that in 2020 we would be looking at how many YouTube hits we got in a service (see interesting statistics at the end of the report)! Through these weekly connections we have been able to celebrate and grieve together. There have been exciting and heartbreaking moments and we have travelled the winding road of 2020 together as a group of loving people who support each other.

What we had thought might be a few weeks, turned into months and as we ring in a new year, we continue to provide weekly hardcopy newsletters and virtual services to our congregational members while the church remains closed. Members of the church who do not have access to the internet can pick up hard copies of both the newsletter and order of service each week in the mailbox outside the church.

Several times we have recorded parts of services in our church sanctuary so viewers can see our place of worship that we miss so much. We cannot thank Fern Bianconi enough for sharing her technology expertise and commitment to our worshipping family. Her hours of work ensure that we have a weekly connection with our church. As well, if we did not have Fern, our church would not have been able to provide the high-quality weekly connections that we have strived for since March, 2020. There are not many rural churches that have been able to present such a polished weekly service and we have had many viewers watching from literally all over the world! Fern's commitment to our church is outstanding and we are truly blessed to have her supporting us through these challenging times. Thank you, Fern. This would not have been possible without you.

Music is a major part of our church life. There are no words to describe the ongoing weekly efforts that Bob Bruer, Karen Parnell and the choir share. In a time where it would have been easy to put choir anthems on hold, Bob and Karen provided the means for the choir to perform for you. In fact,



the choir consistently includes people from several churches, not only St. John's. Each week they record instrumental and vocal recording tracks of anthems and hymns that are sent to the choir members virtually. The choir members listen to the tracks, record their individual parts and send their voice recordings back to Bob, where he spends approximately 2 hours per song, layering all the recordings together to produce anthems and hymns for our church family to enjoy and reflect upon. Bob keeps challenging the choir with difficult repertoire. This culminated in the most recent Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve services on December 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Bob, Karen, and the choir for sharing your love of music with us and also your commitment to St. John's.

And finally, a special thank you goes to Rev. Meg for her ongoing leadership as our minister. When the year started, she was recovering from a terrible fall in our church and she has spent her year strengthening the damaged nerves and muscles and gradually getting the use of her arm, hand, and fingers back. The pandemic then forced her to rethink the presentation of weekly services and learn about technology in more depth. Being a member of a team has never been as important as it has been the past ten months when so many people work together to provide a single worship service and Rev. Meg has had to provide guidance. She has had to support our congregation in different ways – through phone calls and distanced visits and zoom meetings. She has had to say goodbye to many of our congregational members on our behalf as restrictions kept us from our people in their time of need. It has not always been easy, but the worship team does appreciate the open conversations, the creative ideas and the commitment to high quality worship during this pandemic.

As we prepare for 2021, we are still unsure of what our church year will look like. What we do know is that the Worship Team will always be here for the St. John's congregation. We will continue to provide weekly services, reflections, updates, newsletters, and music. Our hope and dream will remain the same - we pray for the vaccine to work so we can once again return to our beloved sanctuary to sing, pray, worship, and socialize together.

### **YouTube Stats since March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021:**

- We have had 36,753 views
- A total of 90 subscribers

#### Top 3 videos:

1. The Children's Pageant (330 views)
2. The Children's Story (329 views)
3. The Mother's Day Tribute (298 views)

#### Average Viewer Age:

- 48.9% of viewers are 65+
- 39.9% of viewers are 55-64
- 9.5% of viewers are 35-54

Yours in Christ,

Krista Haidner & Cheryl McGinnis Worship Co-Chairs  
St. John's United Church, Elmvale

## St. John's United Church 2020 Finance Statement

<b>SPECIAL FUNDS HELD WITHIN ST. JOHN'S BANK ACCOUNT</b>				
	FUND BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSES	BALANCE
	Jan. 1 2020			Dec. 31 2020
Accessibility Fund	578.00			578.00
Building Repair Fund	5,183.88			5,183.88
Youth Group	778.33			778.33
Youth Ministry	2,984.36			2,984.36

### **GENERAL FUND**

General fund Balance Jan 1, 2020		18,109.34
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Numbered Envelopes	86,400.69	
PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance)	29,355.00	
Loose Offering	230.00	
Church Use	4,796.00	
On line Auction	3,525.00	
HST rebate	1,600.05	
Manse insurance cancellation	1,115.64	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>127,022.38</b>	
Minus total Church Expenses	126,083.62	
2019 Expenses over income		938.76
Solar repayment		11,000.00
<b>GENERAL FUND Balance Dec 31,2020</b>		<b>30,048.10</b>

**St. John's United Church 2020 Expense Statement & 2021 Budget**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2021
<b>MINISTRY &amp; PERSONNEL</b>		
Salaries: Minister	57,540.00	57,540.00
Pension CPP EI	10,053.77	2,000.00
Auto Allowance	0.00	400.00
Continuing Ed. & Book Allowance	698.94	1,442.00
Telephone Allowance	480.00	480.00
Custodian	1,877.76	2,500.00
Church Administrator	3,150.00	5,000.00
EI CPP	173.83	300.00
Music Director	7,095.72	7,200.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>81,070.02</b>	<b>76,862.00</b>
<b>FINANCE AND PROPERTY</b>		
Church – Heat – Hydro – Water	8,737.04	10,000.00
Telephone & Internet	2,043.90	2,000.00
Repair & Maintenance – Church	1,490.38	2,000.00
Manse	4,283.59	0.00
Snow Removal	2,389.95	3,000.00
Insurance – Church – Manse	11,209.32	7,000.00
Property Taxes	3,692.52	0.00
UP – Keep SUB TOTAL	33,846.70	24,000.00
Presbytery Dues	4,523.00	4,523.00
Office Post, Paper, Sundry	3,364.14	3,400.00
Miscellaneous Items	0.00	500.00
<b>EDUCATION TEAM</b>		
Sunday School – Youth – Adult	0.00	500.00
<b>OUTREACH &amp; PUBLICITY TEAM</b>	0.00	500.00
<b>WORSHIP TEAM</b>	3,279.76	3,300.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>126,083.62</b>	<b>113,585.00</b>

### **2021 Ministry Team**

<b>Minister:</b>	Rev. Meg Jordan
<b>Director of Music:</b>	Bob Bruer
<b>Church Administrator:</b>	Karen Bryant
<b>Custodians:</b>	Paul and Heather Toner
<b>Soul Sisters Representative</b>	Marianne Tomlinson
<b>Worship Team Chair</b>	Cheryl McGinnis & Krista Haidner
<b>Praise Team Leader</b>	Cheryl McGinnis

### **2021 Council Executive**

<b>Coordinator</b>	Beth Truax
<b>Vice Coordinator</b>	Rosemary Johnston
<b>Secretary</b>	Pam Erskine
<b>Board of Trustees Chair</b>	Doreen Turner
<b>Sunday School Representative</b>	Debbie Laycock
<b>Memorial Team Chair</b>	Liz McKnight
<b>Men's Fellowship Group</b>	Allan Wright
<b>Ministry &amp; Personnel Team Chair</b>	
<b>Mission &amp; Service Team Chair</b>	Sandy Coe
<b>Outreach/Publicity Team Chair</b>	Pam Erskine
<b>Property &amp; Finance Team Chair</b>	Rosemary Johnston
<b>Soul Sisters</b>	Marianne Tomlinson
<b>Treasury Team Representative</b>	Ross Langman
<b>Worship Team Chair</b>	Cheryl McGinnis & Krista Haidner

## **Proposed 2021 Group and Team Membership**

### **Accessibility Team**

Ken French  
Rosemary Johnston  
Pam Erskine  
Susie Elliott  
Krista Belrose  
Kathleen Kenney  
Meg Jordan  
Carrie Nesbitt  
Jim Miller  
Linda Muller

### **Allenwood Cemetery Board**

Ross Langman

### **Board of Trustees**

Doreen Turner - Chair  
Jan Drinkill - Secretary  
Dick Marshall  
Ken French  
Ross Langman  
Allan Wright  
Rev Meg – exofficio

### **Education Team**

Allison Parnell  
Karen Parnell

### **Memorial Team**

Ross Langman  
Liz McKnight  
Muriel Townes  
Jan Drinkill

### **Men's Fellowship Group**

Allan Wright

### **Ministry & Personnel Team**

Allan Wright  
Rosemary Johnston  
Sheila Jackson  
Sandy Coe

### **Mission & Service**

Sandy Coe  
Jan Drinkill  
Marianne Tomlinson  
Debbie Laycock  
Liz McKnight (volunteer)  
Allan Wright (co-treasurer)  
Ross Langman (co-treasurer)

### **Outreach/Publicity Team**

Pam Erskine  
Fern Bianconi  
Krista Belrose  
Susie Elliott  
Karen Turner  
Robyn Sawyer  
Kari VanLaarhoven

### **Praise Team**

Marianne Tomlinson  
Beth Truax  
Don Kennedy  
Greg Parnell  
Will VanLaarhoven  
Cheryl McGinnis

### **Property & Finance Team**

Jan Drinkill  
Rosemary Johnston  
Ross Langman  
John Parnell  
Greg Parnell  
Ken French  
Allan Wright

### **Soul Sisters**

Marrienne Tomlinson

### **Worship Team**

Krista Haidner  
Rick Muller  
Cheryl McGinnis  
Carrie Nesbitt  
Kathleen Kenney  
Jan Drinkill (chancel steward)