

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA



ELGIN – PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE

ANNUAL REPORT

2013

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THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM, 2013

Kaden Stephen Chambers, January 13th, Portland
Broughan Davison Thorley Hitchen, January 13th, Elgin
Tristan William Wayne Kendall, December 1st, Portland
Harlee Nicole Kendall, December 1st, Portland

MEMBERS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER, 2013

Bert Petro, June 9th, Elgin
Gary Petro, June 9th, Elgin
Arie Hoogenboom, December 15th, Portland
Betty Hoogenboom, December 15th, Portland

MEMBERS WHO JOINED BY PROFESSION OF FAITH 2013

Brad Gibson, June 9th, Portland
Cheryl Stoddard, June 9th, Portland
Larry Cochran, July 28th, Portland
Connie Cochran, July 28th, Portland
Bob Butcher, December 15th, Portland
Duncan Pickard, December 15th, Portland
Eric Hermansen, December 15th, Elgin
Alison Hermansen, December 15th, Elgin

SERVICES OF MARRIAGE, 2013

Mark Bee and Maureen Tye, May 25th at Elgin United
Michael Gordanier and Jessica Carbino, June 1st at Elgin United
Thomas Ferguson and Tanara Pickard, June 29th at Queen's University, Kingston
William Smith and Mary Foley, July 29th, Opinicon Lake
Stuart Gray and Anna Roberts, August 10th, Otter Lake (by Rev. Doug Powell)
Claire Ackerman and Karen-Ann Seaton, September 14th, Taylor Farm, Coons Road
Michael McElroy and Tracey Knapp, October 26th, Smith's Farm, Elgin

FUNERALS CONDUCTED, 2013

Eldon Roy Kirkland, January 16th
V. Malcolm (Mac) Davison, June 19th
Myrtena McVean, July 2nd
James Donald Knapp, July 27th
Margaret Marie Jamieson, August 23rd
Norman Hubert Jackson, August 24th
William Arthur Patterson, October 26th
Mary Anne Leggett, December 3rd
Phyllis Sophia Chant (Goodell), December 17th (Rev. Seeley)

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge Minister's Report for 2013

*“Let us build a house where love can dwell
And ALL can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive.
ALL are welcome, ALL are welcome,
ALL are welcome in this place.”*

More Voices, # 1

Between the lines of this verse I “read” Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge... **(Do you see it?)** This song echoes in my heart and mind when I think of this Pastoral Charge. Your welcoming spirit was not discovered on January 17th, 2013 when my family and I arrived in Elgin, with an eighteen-wheel truck delivering our belongings; and many congregants dropped by with picnic baskets of food for breakfast, lunch and supper; cookies and cookie mixes; pies and flowers to welcome us home... Your welcoming spirit was apparent when you became an internship charge in 2009 and welcomed me and my family with gracious love.

Our Pastoral Relationship roots are deeper than just this past year; our roots seem to be founded before even time began. Therefore, thank you for being an instrument of Grace and welcoming us ALL in your midst.

What a fast-paced, rewarding, comforting, challenging but yet an awesome year 2013 has been! Everything around us looked to be newly “created”. From our personal lives to our new presbytery’s establishment – everything echoed New Beginnings – New Life. **Happy one year anniversary to us and to our Four Rivers Presbytery!**

There is not enough time to report on all the places where God has been visible in our midst... Besides all the delicious suppers, amazing concerts, and different outreach events that took place within our immediate communities, we have had so much more to be grateful for. On March 16, we had the opportunity to meet and greet the moderator of this United Church of ours. The Four Rivers Presbytery Youth were invited to Zion United in Carleton Place, to meet, greet, ask questions and relax with The Right Rev. Gary Patterson. This sparked “regular” youth gatherings within the presbytery and on May 11th we hosted a youth event (Spring-A-Vanza), which was nothing less than a blessing. At the end of May, two of our youth attended the Bay of Quinte’s Annual Meeting at Trent University in Peterborough. They were excited to meet other youth conference-wide and get a glimpse of **how spirituality and the business of the church can go hand in hand**. What a remarkable way to guide our children not only in words but also through actions of love and respect.

Within the spectrum of youth in our neighborhood, on April 26th, we had the opportunity to set up a table and participate in a meet and greet at Rideau District High School. It was wonderful to get to meet the community at large. At this event we were able to promote the Fourth Annual Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge’s VBS (Vacation Bible School), which took place from July 2nd – 5th in Portland.

Continuing on the youth topic, this year for the first time, on December 18th, the Fifth and Sixth Graders of South Crosby Public School participated in preparing gift bags full of treats for the patrons of the Elgin Food Bank. After the bags were prepared, we spent time caroling, and

every single student left Elgin United Church with a gift for their participation, which contained a message of gratitude and Christmas. All this was done through generous donations. Besides the Outreach that takes place in our buildings and immediate neighborhood through dedicated volunteers; Outreach also continues expansively in different formats. David Irwin and I continue to go to Maple View Lodge and bring “church” to those who are unable to go out. This is an ecumenical effort put together by the neighbouring churches of Maple View Lodge. Every Friday one of the spiritual leaders from a participating church leads the service of songs and prayers...

The face and format of the church is changing but the deep desires of our hearts are not. As Christians we know that we are living in that “in between” time where the search is on for the New Jerusalem - the Bible demonstrates this. The first book of the Bible begins with the perfect Garden of Eden. The Genesis stories tell us of a time where paradise is perfect until something shifts. However, in a different scenario, the last book of the Bible, the Book of Revelation, demonstrates the perfect world to come – the reverse of Genesis – where all things are perfect and the Prince of Peace reigns forever and ever. This is where we are found, living in between these two books and attempting to see God’s perfect love in our imperfect world. Hence, we continue to strive to grow to better ourselves in every way possible.

Part of the church’s ongoing change is related to the technological world. Last February the Official Board approved the formation of a pastoral charge Media Group to be able to share the responsibilities of taking care of the web site, to reach out. This group has met regularly and is working diligently not only to have the new pastoral charge web site in place soon but also to have copyrights and other details handled thoroughly for the changing church.

I have been honoured to accompany many on this life journey in different ways. We have welcomed **12** individuals as official members in this pastoral charge. I have celebrated the covenant of **6** weddings, one of them being back in Quebec. We have welcomed together **4** children into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism, 1 in Elgin and 3 in Portland; and I have been present with **8** different families who have said goodbye to loved ones... All of these are holy moments for me and I am humbled to be part of them.

Besides the weekly commitment of worship celebrations, Bible Studies (V.I.B.E.) and other facets of this ministry, I strive to do my best to carry out pastoral care duties, which is a duty of care and love; along with the Pastoral Care Team of our charge, the Sharing and Caring Team. The teams keep in touch with individuals of our pastoral charge, keep me informed, and I strive to make **8-12 visits a month**. This is besides telephone and e-mail follow-ups; because at the end of the day, the only thing that matters is Duty of Love and Care towards one another.

We are called to live in the love of God, which is the center of the New Jerusalem. We are ALL called to share that love with ALL, right here, right now. If we allow ourselves to imagine that we are living in the “in between” time, then we do not control anything but our will, to trust and obey God.

We are the Body of Christ, and we are called to work together to better this world.

So, let us continue to “*build a house where love can dwell And ALL can safely live...*” Thank you for making a difference – Your Work is not in vain!

Because of Grace – Your Servant Leader,

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro

THE OFFICIAL BOARD OF THE ELGIN–PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE

REPORT OF THE CHAIR FOR THE YEAR 2013

It is a cloudy, mild Sunday afternoon and I am basking in the glow of the service this morning led by Mark Bee. Rasa and Sarunas graced us with their rendition of Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth accompanied by Margaret Ross. What a treat!

Of special joy to me was an immediate response to my plea for a chair for the Manse Committee. Arie spoke to me during coffee hour and he brings talents that will enhance the committee. It is so gratifying when volunteers step up when we need to replace long-serving ones.

I mentioned at the Portland service that our pastoral charge is the fourth largest out of 21 in the Four Rivers Presbytery. That means that we are successful, however success depends on volunteer involvement to keep things running smoothly. A number of our members have been active in the past but now require others to take over.

I would like to thank all those people who are helping in the many facets of the church community from council and board work to UCW, catering, fundraising, providing music, helping with outreach projects such as the food banks and other worthy activities. They fill the need to keep organizations going and we bless them for this use of their time. If any of our readers would like to get involved with church work, we would love to have you join us!!

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Delaney

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Worship Committee Report for 2013

*"I rejoiced with those who said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the Lord'."*

Psalm 122:1 (NIV)

The Worship Committee of this pastoral charge has met quarterly and has made every effort to help this Faith Community be nourished, energized and strengthened in our Spiritual walk.

This group of people are the dedicated individuals who carry the responsibilities of Worship Celebrations; Sacraments & Membership; Christian Education for all: Children, Youth, Young Adults (CYAYA) and Adults alike. In other words, the Worship Committee is responsible for all Spiritual aspects of the church as well as the activities and decorations of the Sanctuaries.

We have been honoured to welcome **12** individuals as official members in this pastoral charge. And we have welcomed together **4** children into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism, 2 with Rev. Betty Sangster in January and 2 more in December.

Through the year we have kept the rhythm of Celebrating the Sacrament of Communion almost every First Sunday of the Month, or on special occasions, such as Maundy Thursday, Easter, and our Covenanting Service, with each other and with our Presbytery, on July 7th.

We have had a few different things take place at Worship Services in 2013. On the 5th Sunday of the month, (June and September) we had Hymn Sing Sundays, where we have sung some of the favourite hymns of the congregation members and heard the stories behind the hymns. We also appointed the first Sunday of every month to be Family Sunday along with the Sacrament of Communion. On this day, the CYAYA (Children, Youth and Young Adults) stay in the sanctuary and participate in welcoming, ushering and serving communion.

We have had special gatherings and services through the year. On Good Friday we had a Joint Choir Cantata that took place at Elgin United. The pews were full and the message of Love was crystal clear. All the offerings were forwarded to the Dental Issues Group. On Easter Sunday, many enjoyed a magnificent Sunrise Service on Crosby Hill and we then gathered at Portland United to enjoy a delicious continental breakfast.

Our Annual Picnic was enjoyed by many, and the showers of blessings were not as disturbing as one would think. On July 7th, we had a special visit from the New Life Girls' Home, from Consecon, ON, who shared their testimonies of transformation in word, music, and liturgical dance. On August 4th, we celebrated a joint service in Portland, where the Executive Secretary of the Montreal-Ottawa Conference, Rev. Rosemary Lambie made a presentation of her trip to the Philippines in 2011. After the service we enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch, which was intended to be a representation of the Sacrament of Communion for the first Sunday of the month. On Sunday, September the 8th, we had a pulpit exchange with Olivet United and Rev. Don Stiles lead worship at our pastoral charge. On October 6th, Rev. Betty Sangster did a presentation of her summer trip to Bella Coola.

One of the different things we did this year was to have a Blessing of the Animals right on the front/side lawn of Elgin United. On October 20th, we had 15 animals come and be blessed – 14 were dogs and 1 was a sheep named Jerome from Seeley's Bay. As for All Saints' Sunday, November 3rd, we celebrated all the Saints of the past of these churches. During Advent we held prayer time every Saturday morning, alternating from one church to the other and this was a time of solitude, reflection and meditation.

We have also tried to explore new avenues of studying the Bible and getting our Faith roots to grow deeper by Venturing In Biblical Studies (V.I.B.E.) We completed the DVD, book curriculum of "Living the Questions" from June 5th to October 23rd. Meetings in Elgin were held in the mornings and Portland in the evenings thus allowing those who have working schedules or other appointments to have a choice to attend either the morning or evening sessions. There was an average of 10 attendees at each gathering. What an awesome time of Faith Exploration was had by all. After the completion of this program we read "The First Christmas" and expanded our horizons further, but this time our focus was the First Christmas, and our last gathering was on December the 18th.

Our Choirs keep us nourished through the gift of music. Besides sharing their ministry of music weekly, they also offer leadership for the two "low" Sundays of the year; the Sunday after Easter and Christmas, when your minister attempts to recuperate from busy but rewarding seasons. We are blessed to have such gifted professional directors, conductors, musicians and singers, without their leadership it would not be the same.

Our gratitude also goes to all who made sure to fill-in the blanks when we needed supply; such as Margaret Martin, Mark Bee, Clint Halladay, and Rev. David Spivey. Stacey Simpson participated in the Easter Worship Services by sharing her faith with the Congregations as she shared her faith with the CYAYA.

Your Worship Committee joyfully carries out worship in different ways, such as Praise and Worship, without forgetting our roots. Our desire is to follow the Way of Jesus and be transformed along the journey. Our goal is to have EVERYONE REJOICE, as the Psalmists says: "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'."

Psalm 122:1 (NIV).

May the words of the Psalmist be our words as well.

It is such an honour and delight to be the Spiritual Leader at this Pastoral Charge and journeying with amazing travellers like YOU!

Your 2013 Worship Committee/Session Members were:

Mark Bee; Sheila Campbell; Larry Cochran;
Marian Cooper; Lynne Evans; Katy Gibson;
Dave Irwin; Carl Leggett; Linda McFadden;
Roberta McKinney; Marg Ross; Charalee Smith

I remain humbly within the Grace of God – Your Servant Leader,

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro

Chair of Worship Committee / Session

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL (M&P) ANNUAL 2013 REPORT

1. Calendar:

- a) Jan. 17: Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro moved into the manse. Her family includes husband Gary Petro and father-in-law Bert.
- b) Jan. 20: Rev. Betty Sangster's last Sunday of Supply Ministry that began May 6 2012 when Rev. Rodney was called to Bobcaygeon.
- c) Jan. 25: Celebrate Rev. Betty's Ministry with a hymn sing.
- d) Feb 8: Meeting between Rev. Takouhi and M&P chair. Schedule holiday and study leave.
- e) Feb. 10: Rev. Takouhi - Mondays & Tuesdays as her days off.
- f) Feb. 17: Marion Steacy elected EUC ushers/scripture readers coordinator. Shirley Bryden appointed as PUC ushers coordinator. This time consuming duty for our secretary has been a long sought after lay leadership opportunity.
- g) Feb 25: Our 'Statement' re the role of retired ministers (section#365/manual) was adopted. Respect by retired clergy for the right of the called minister to become the primary pastoral care person, an ongoing issue in ministry.
- h) Mar. 4: The opportunity of 'for profit, off the street weddings' as part of the Pastoral Charge (PC) business plan is considered.
- i) Mar. 31: Margaret Martin completed her six months of supervised pastoral care training experience, a requirement for achieving her Level I Chaplaincy Training. A mileage allowance was provided by the PC to assist her with visitation in an institutional setting in Kingston and in a congregational setting in the homes of EUC congregants. This pastoral care qualification complements Margaret's Licensed Lay Worship Leader qualification.
- j) April 3: Update the secretary's job description.
- k) May 10: First meeting of M&P with Rev. Takouhi. Joint Search Committee (JSC) Salary and Allowances terms were reviewed and clarified. Planning for holiday and study leaves for the year continue. Time management will be an ongoing consideration. Membership in the Professional Church Secretaries Association (PCSA), an opportunity for professional development for our secretary, Norma Cummings, approved.
- l) July 5 & 10: Mid year meetings to review this new Call. Congregational input re Rev. Takouhi's transformation to ministry in our PC was assessed and discussed with her.
- m) July 7: Rev. Takouhi's Covenanting Service.
- n) September: Stacey Simpson completes her final interview for the Diaconal Ministry Discernment Process, begun in Nov. 2012, and subsequently accepted as a candidate.
- o) Sept. 20: Meeting - update Rev. Takouhi's holiday and study leaves, recognize a new opportunity – Parish Nursing Ministry, prepare OB meeting report seeking direction prior to Annual Reviews in November.
- p) Oct 31: Meeting – Ted and Carolyn report on an M&P training seminar re the Manual, receive information from Rev. Takouhi, and prepare for the Nov. annual reviews with her and Norma.
- q) Nov. 27: Annual Review with Norma – Time management, office space, PSCA conference – excellent synergy, proposed 2014 salary & update job description.
- r) Nov. 29: Annual Review with Rev Takouhi - Discuss her written report of responses to advance questions from M&P. Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) profiles 4,5 & 6, and the JSC document thoroughly reviewed. 2014 salary proposed. Terms of holiday and study allowances reviewed and clarified. Detailed baseline of how opportunities were being addressed created for future reviews.
- s) Dec. 9: Recommended 2014 salary and allowance changes presented to the Official Board.

2. Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro:
 - a) The JNAC report and the JSC Call document have been valuable resources allowing for a smooth transition into management of this call:
 - Initial expectations by both M&P and Rev. Takouhi were met due to these comprehensive resources.
 - Queries with resource contributors allowed for expanded understandings about congregational expectations as interest encouraged.
 - Diverse expectations from congregants of varied demographics create opportunities for additional models of worship and study.
 - Preaching and Bible Study, based on UCC ethos, is progressive and passionate.
 - Changes to how and why we worship offer lay leaders opportunities to find new meaning in what they can contribute.
 - Changes at the Presbytery and Conference levels create new understandings about how we can be more effective in how we do business.
 - b) Time Management:
 - The high number of hours per week expected during the initial phase of this call persists into the phase where effective routines have been established.
 - Effective peer support is in place.
 - c) Allowances:
 - The number of days and Sundays away for holidays and study leave is significant and most are mandated.
 - We are fortunate to have an increased number of lay worship leaders and a large roster of requested guest ministers to choose from.
 - Creative use of the community outreach fund gives added value to the purpose of being visible in our communities.
 - d) Manse:
 - While extensive renovations have been positive, opportunities for corrective actions exist that will improve comfort and save on utility bills.
 - Visioning about the tradition of providing a manse is a priority.
3. Pastoral Charge Secretary – Norma Cummings:
 - a) Enthusiasm: Norma brings a lot of passion and energy to her role.
 - b) Time Management: Timely draft bulletins each week plus roster coordinators are very effective strategies.
 - c) Membership in the PCSA is an excellent support resource.
4. Congregation-Minister Pastoral Relationship: (Ongoing attention required)
 - a) Councils and the OB recognize that past and retired ministers must step back from being directly involved with Pastoral Care of our PC's congregants in order for the current minister to develop her own pastoral care relationship with congregants.
 - b) The UC manual, sections 365 b), c) & d) clearly address this reality.
 - c) The PC looks to Presbytery for support to ensure that there is compliance.
 - d) M&P wishes to educate congregants about the new minister's rightful expectation to have sole responsibility regarding, but is not limited to, pastoral care, weddings, funerals, baptisms, communion and other special events in congregant's lives. Past and retired ministers should participate only after receiving permission from the currently called or appointed minister.
 - e) M&P needs to provide clear ongoing support for our called minister in this regard.

5. M&P:

- a) We reported to the four OB meeting.
- b) We consulted with the OB to improve the process for annual reviews. Additional steps have been taken to ensure M&P accountability.
- c) Doug Evans is stepping down after many years of service. We have appreciated his knowledge and cooperative approach. Thank you Doug.
- d) Reviews of the UCC Manual and the OB Operations Manual (Op Man) created change:
 - UCC Manual: The OB treasurer cannot serve on M&P. Regrettably Ted will be stepping down. He has been an invaluable financial and administrative member. Thank you Ted.
 - Op Man: All Chairs have limited terms, which has been overlooked in several cases. Eligibility for the current chair is over and a PUC replacement is required. One more year of abeyance is proposed.

M&P Committee:

- a) Members:
 - Portland: Carolyn Long & Doug Evans.
 - Elgin: Roberta McKinney & Ted Brett.
- b) Chair: Jim Earl.

Thank you to this committee for your talents, time and passions. This has been an active and productive year. It has been a pleasure to work with you to support and guide Rev. Takouhi and Norma in this new Call.

Jim Earl

ELGIN/PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE MANSE REPORT 2013

2102 and the beginning of 2013 were busy times for Paul Simpson and the volunteers who renovated and cleaned the manse in preparation for the arrival of Reverend Takouhi, husband Gary, and father-in-law Berty. The Overdelves had blue hands for several days as the water was off but the painting was on! Others tore out closets, insulated, washed windows, etc. Wonderful volunteers also fed the crews.

Takouhi got settled in and since most of the work had been done, the manse committee had a break. Paul Simpson resigned as chair after eight years of heading the manse committee and Brad Gibson was recruited. On November 2 Rev. Takouhi hosted an elegant tea at her new home to thank the volunteers who had worked on preparing the house. There was a large, lengthy power outage that weekend but the manse was spared so tea and beautiful treats were enjoyed by a number of the manse workers.

Brad Gibson has resigned as chair but wishes to remain as a member on the committee. New Portland member Arie Hoogenboom has put his name forward to become chair. He brings much experience to this position.

The next project at the manse is to install cold air returns in the basement to improve the performance of the new furnace. Funds that were raised at the July fish fry will be used and this will be completed shortly.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Delaney,

Chair Manse Committee 2012

COMMUNITY CLOTHING CO-OPERATIVE 2013

Early in 1996 a group of people from the Elgin and Portland United Churches got together to brain storm over a project that could be taken on that would reach out into our communities. From those early meetings the Community Clothing Co-operative was born. Now some 17 or 18 years and 3 locations later the Community Clothing Co-operative it is still going strong and filling an important need in our joint community.

Clothing is still being collected and sold to those in need as well as those just looking for a bargain. The prices are fraction of the cost of new and the quality is very good.

Volunteers from throughout the Portland and Elgin areas are working together to get some really good clothing out of closets and onto the backs of those that really can use them. It is now truly an ecumenical effort which was a dream of the original group.

While it was never planned or anticipated that the CCC would generate cash we have been pleasantly surprised that it does. This cash is then donated back into the local and larger community to other honourable and worthwhile causes.

In 2013 the CCC made donations totalling \$2350. Distribution was as follows;

- Fire Victim #1 \$150
- Fire Victim #2 \$150
- Fire Victim #3 \$150
- Elgin Food Bank \$400
- Portland Food Bank \$400
- Dental Issues Group \$300
- North Leeds Toy Drive \$250
- Cases For Caring \$250
- Martha's Table \$200
- Elgin and District Nursery School \$100

The CCC had a year opening bank balance of \$1,678.47 and a closing balance of \$1,277.13 with one \$100 cheque outstanding.

The store is located at the Portland Community Hall and is currently open on Saturdays from 10 AM to 2 PM and on Wednesdays from 1 PM to 3 PM. While being open for sales this is also the time when good quality in season clothing can be dropped off. Unfortunately we cannot accept footwear or undergarments due to health regulations and space limitations. For more information or if you would like to volunteer to work with the CCC please call 613-359-5196.

Thank you once again to the Township of Rideau Lakes Council as well as the Portland Community Hall Board for their support and the use of space. For the many hands and the will that it takes to make this program work we give thanks to God.

Paul Simpson
Community Clothing Co-operative

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE FINANCIAL REPORT 2013

INCOME

OPENING BALANCE		\$ 5,017.81
FISH FRY INCOME	\$ 2,841.58	
DONATIONS	539.58	
ASSESSMENT FROM ELGIN AND PORTLAND	81,825.00	
GST REBATE	2,007.08	
INTEREST	0.58	
MOVING REFUND	243.86	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 87,457.68

\$ 92,475.49

EXPENSES

EMPLOYEE EXPENSES

MINISTERS SALARY AND BENEFITS	\$ 42,443.39	
PULPIT & WEEKEND SUPPLY	2,304.18	
SECRETARIES PAY	7,851.01	
CRA	1,613.26	
TOTAL EMPLOYEE SALARIES		\$ 54,211.84

BOOKS AND EDUCATION	\$ 1,190.00	
SECRETARY EDUCATION	370.00	
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	771.50	
MINISTER'S PHONE INCLUDING CELL PHONE	1,561.91	
MILEAGE	4,865.60	
WSIB	428.03	
TOTAL EMPLOYEE OTHER		\$ 9,187.04
TOTAL EMPLOYEE EXPENSES		\$ 63,398.88

MANSE EXPENSES

HYDRO	\$ 3,909.33	
INSURANCE	1,448.62	
MAINTENANCE	-	
MANSE REPAIRS	3,635.65	
PROPANE	1,001.41	
TAXES	664.67	
TOTAL MANSE EXPENSES		\$ 10,659.68

OFFICE EXPENSES

PHOTO COPIER USE	\$	1,105.03	
PHONE		981.31	
INTERNET & WEB PAGE		1,438.05	
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES		1,512.63	
TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES			\$ 5,037.02

OTHER JOINT CHURCH RELATED EXPENSES

LICENSE FOR MORE VOICES & Books	\$	304.29	
TRANSFER TO SAVINGS (MANSE REPAIRS)		1,800.00	
CHURCH BULLETINS		1,454.80	
BANK SERVICE CHARGE		2.00	
FISH FRY EXPENSES		993.08	
EVANGELISM		1,025.65	
PRESBYTERY PAYMENT		7,244.84	
GIFTS GIVEN		129.53	
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES			\$ 12,954.19

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 92,049.77

CLOSING BALANCE \$ 425.72

ELGIN-PORTLAND PASTORAL CHARGE FINANCIAL REPORT 2013

M&S REPORT 2013

Portland UCW for M&S	\$ 2,400.00
Portland UCW for DWR	200.00
Portland U.C.	12,332.00
Elgin U.C.	5,693.00
Philippines	350.05
Total for M&S	<u>\$ 20,975.05</u>

Savings Account

Opening	\$ 1,702.33
Interest	0.42
Transfer in from checquing	1,800.00
Balance	<u>\$ 3,502.75</u>

Annual Report

Rather simple report this year. We had some new challenges. All ministers don't do things the same way so I have had to adapt and some line items I used as cushions have been used. My budget is designed to come out to a zero balance and this year that almost happened with only \$425 left in the bank.

The \$1,800 profit from the fish fry last summer has been marked for manse repairs so I have moved it to the savings account so it doesn't get used for general funds.

Ted Brett
Treasurer

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 17 2013

The Annual Meeting of Elgin United Church took place in the downstairs hall following a pot luck lunch. We were called to order at 1:10 PM by Chair Earl McFadden.

1. Reverend Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro opened the meeting with a story followed by prayer and a tribute to our deceased.
2. For the purpose of business conducted at this meeting, all members and adherents present may vote with the exception of electing councillors – members only may vote.
3. Motion by Sandra Smith, seconded by Ted Brett to adopt the agenda. CARRIED
4. Committee Reports as presented in the Annual Report pages 14 – 23. All reports will be considered moved by the chair/presenter and following the presentation of all the reports there will be one motion to second and adopt the Annual Report. Comments, questions and amendments were invited as each report was introduced.
 - Property – Paul Simpson
 - Social – Linda McFadden
 - South Crosby Public School Breakfast Program – Sandra Smith.....spelling correction noted in her report - Darwin Seward
 - Christian Education – Karen Earl
 - Elgin and District Cooperative Nursery School – Jim Earl
 - Music – Jim Earl
 - Memberships and Sacraments – Roberta and Alex McKinney
 - Treasurer – Joanne McLean.....Joanne noted that the EPPC assessment is actually \$300 less per month than originally budgeted. There was a request for more detail in the reports that show events, costs and contributions to the general fund, particularly the audio/visual and social committees. Joanne noted that she has the information on file and will print it for distribution at council. Motion: by Donna Bennett, seconded by Ted Brett that detailed information about event costs and contributions to the general fund be provided at Council meetings and also be included in next year's annual report. CARRIED
5. Seconded by Ann Babala to adopt the Annual report. CARRIED
6. Nominations report
 - new people to Council
 - Tim Hodgson – Webmaster (new position)
 - Charalee Smith – Worship committee (Carl Leggett is on home care leave)
 - Ted Brett – Presbytery
 - Marion Steacy – Usher coordinator (new position)
 - a) Ted Brett raised the question that the webmaster position be an Official Board position rather than an Elgin Council position. Jim Earl spoke to the need for Tim Hodgson to be on Council to facilitate communication with other committees and keep the website current. Though the webpage is paid for by both churches, Tim Hodgson is in our church and gets information from us. Motion by Donna Bennett, seconded by Jim Earl that Tim Hodgson be nominated as Web Representative. CARRIED

Clinton Halladay summarized the discussion with the recommendation that 1) Earl McFadden take this information to the next meeting of the Official Board so as there is a coherent transfer of knowledge 2) that the Official Board consider Webmaster as a position on the Official Board 3) that Portland United Church have a Web Representative on their Council.

Tim Hodgson is the Webmaster but his position on Council is Web Representative.

(b) Usher coordinator – Jim Earl summarized the need for this position and the communication with Council.

Motion by Jim Earl, seconded by Roberta McKinney that Usher Coordinator be a new Council position. CARRIED

Recommendation by Reverend Takouhi that Council create a Youth Representative position. This was met with positive response and will be discussed at the next council meeting.

Clinton Halladay welcomed all the new members to council.

Motion to adopt the nomination report, seconded by Roberta McKinney. CARRIED

7. Motion that a) our M & S goal for 2013 remain at \$7000
b) our Special Measures goal for the CRCHC Dental Issues Group remain at \$2000
seconded by Sandra Smith. CARRIED

8. Visioning for 2013

- a) Scent Free – Donna Bennett thanked everyone for their efforts. She is now able to return to worship in the sanctuary.
- b) Fairly Traded Coffee – Ann Babala volunteered to take over from Joanne McLean.
- c) South Crosby Public School breakfast program – Sandra Smith reported that volunteers are still being sought for this very worthwhile program.
- d) Observer Magazine subscriptions – Sandra Smith reported that Council covers this cost for those who wish to receive it. Donations are always welcome.
- e) PAR – Donna Bennett spoke of the benefits of PAR and encouraged people to consider it.
- f) Team Ministry – Jim Earl reported that this is an M & P initiative. The goal is to strengthen youth ministry within our greater community by involving other churches and their youth in events. By coordinating the ministers of the involved churches, the work would be shared and therefore have a greater impact on success.
- g) Capital Campaign – Jim Earl reported on the poor condition of our roof with shingles blowing off. Though there is no money to undertake a large project, it was noted that there is money in GICs and the Memorial Fund. This issue will be carried forward to Council.

Loree Smith thanked Clinton Halladay for his very capable leadership and availability to conduct our worship services.

9. Earl McFadden thanked everyone for their attendance.

10. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 PM, seconded by Ted Brett

Reverend Takouhi closed the meeting with prayer.

SECRETARY - Heather Gribben

CHAIR – Earl McFadden

2013 ANNUAL REPORT FROM ELGIN COUNCIL CHAIR

We were lucky to have some new members attend our Church and join our Church family. However, we were unlucky that some uninvited guests (raccoons) ruined some of our ceilings.

We will have to bring the Memorial Committee to take an active part on behalf of the congregation as there is much work to be done in the church and funds are needed to accomplish these projects.

Council held meetings with an Agenda prepared for each Chairperson to identify those things that were accomplished and things that had to be done to keep this church operating from a physical and functional point of view. This also included ways to beautify our church and the church sanctuary. I appreciate the work that is spent trying to achieve these goals.

I hope I am able to persuade people who are unhappy with changes made in our church ie: property, sanctuary, worship – to present their view at our Council meetings. Anyone with a particular problem would be given the opportunity to present their view on subject matter. This might not be discussed at that meeting, but would be on the agenda for the following meeting. Then they would be advised of decision made by council after the meeting.

I wish to thank our Chairpersons for their exemplary effort in 2013 and hope they continue in 2013.

May God Bless you all,

Chair
Earl McFadden

ELGIN MEMBERSHIPS AND SACRAMENTS

With Rev. Takouhi's arrival in February, communion services averaged one per month. These were served to the congregation, until Christmas Eve, when intinction was chosen. Members of the congregation willingly agreed to serve when asked, and for that, we are truly grateful.

We had two baptismal services during 2013, one conducted by Rev. Betty Sangster, and the other by Rev. Takouhi.

Anne and Adrian Overdulse continue to be our back-up, and we greatly appreciate their ever-present support.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta and Alex McKinney

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH PROPERTY 2013

Our church continues to be used for a wide variety of activities. In addition to regular Sunday services and other church events and programs the building is home to Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, Elgin Nursery School, and various family celebrations.

This year saw the replacement of one toilet in the original washrooms. Like many small projects this one grew when it was discovered that the toilet had been leaking under itself. This resulted in the floor below being rotten and a complete replacement was required. The lavatory taps were replaced in the same washroom.

While we were successful in evicting a family of raccoons from the ceiling of the Centennial Room we had more raccoons move into the attic of the church. The point of entry was in the soffit of the front porch. These critters moved out over the summer and the soffit was replaced in the fall.

During the fall a small group of volunteers tackled some exterior repairs and painting of the buildings wood work including the lawn sign. Good progress was made on the lower levels while work is still required on the upper windows and bell tower louvers.

Fire extinguishers, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and furnace filters were inspected, tested, monitored and replaced or repaired as required.

Grass cutting and snow removal were handled on a fee for service basis while flowers and decorating both inside and out were handled by volunteers.

There continues to be a large number of projects that should be done to maintain and enhance the church. Some of these are important for the preservation of the structure and will require significant amounts of money. All methods of raising the necessary funds should be considered and pursued.

Thank you to those that have contributed talents or funds to assist in the maintenance of our church property.

Once again it is important to give thanks to God for our beautiful building and grounds.

Paul Simpson
Chair, Elgin United Church Property Committee 2013

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT 2013

This year our Christian Ed. Program has undergone changes that still support our youth in the church. We welcomed Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro to our Pastoral Charge in February. Marian Cooper, after much deliberation and over 40 years of involvement in CE, wished to step down in June, as chairperson/teacher and Janet Prueter, musician, wished to be relieved of planning the music program for the CE. Janet is still offering to be an occasional accompanist as needed. Thanks go to Cathy Ryan, Deborah Heintzman and Steacy Simpson for their past involvement in our Christian Education program.

We have been fortunate to use the various opportunities and talents of our youth to contribute to our evolving Christian education program. Charalee Smith, with the help of our youth, planned some informal events/activities which involved them in our Sunday worship. Marg Ross continues to provide musical accompaniment. We appreciate all that they do and for their commitment and willingness to be part of our church family, seek to study the Word of God, lead the Praise and Worship music at the beginning of our church service, assist in the nursery and other Sunday programs and activities.

The following events highlighted our youth participation:

- Palm Branch processional for Palm Sunday, March 24
- Mother's Day – making cookies for sharing at coffee time after church
- Spring-A-Vanza event for Youth and young adults sponsored by the Four Rivers Presbytery on May 11
- Father's Day - cookie packages for sharing with the men of the church
- June 16 - Marian Cooper was recognized for her years of dedication and the children presented her with a canvas painting of memories
- June 23 - Joint Pastoral charge picnic at Sand Lake with games, BBQ/Potluck and service.
Elgin responsible for the meat/BBQ and desserts and Portland for salads and games.
- VBS participation July 2 to 5, mornings, in Portland. Pauline French organized event.
- Remembrance Day service processional and readings
- Produced and shared the video "What Christmas Means to Me"
- Supported our Foster child, Betseba Dadiweni, through World Vision.

Our goals continue to be:

1. Invite as many youth as possible in our community to worship with us and learn about God's love, love for each other, the church and the Bible,
2. To develop faith foundations through prayer, songs and Bible stories.
3. To encourage other people to assist in our Christian Education program and learn through the eyes of a child.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Earl, Secretary

ELGIN MUSIC 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Music Director: Margaret Ross
Pianists: Margaret, Janet Pruetter, Dave Irwin, Charalee Smith & Karen Earl.
Organists: Margaret, Charalee & Dave Irwin

Margaret provided service music leadership from the piano & organ and accompanied the choir. Janet & Dave served as alternates. Charalee and Karen assisted. Margaret also served as alternate for Dave.

Senior Choir: Directed by Jim Earl Assistants: Margaret & Charalee

<u>1st Sopranos</u>	<u>2nd Sopranos</u>	<u>Altos</u>	<u>Tenors</u>	<u>Basses</u>
Michelle Chant Stacey Simpson	Ann Babala Mary Carbino Deborah Heintzman Brooke Halladay Karen Myers Marion Steacy	Charalee Smith Sandra Smith Karen Earl	John Carley Howard Smith Jim Earl	Frank Allen Gordon Earl Adrian Overdulve

On January 20th we welcomed high school student Brooke Halladay to the choir for the first half of the year.

Ann Babala retired from the choir in May due to family commitments. We said farewell to Stacey in May due to her moving to Ottawa.

We invite everyone who enjoys singing to consider joining our choir. Rehearsals are on Thursday nights, September through June, from 7:30 to 9:10 pm, to provide anthems and choral support for service music.

As part of an evolving congregation we acknowledge the following opportunities for our music program where discernment is ongoing:

- The effective recording of anthems by our A/V team making it possible for summer members and elderly people, unable to attend worship, to receive this ministry via CD's and our webpage.
- The ongoing development of our webpage by our web-team re the above.
- The challenge to be in compliance with music copyright re the above.
- Participation of our Youth.

Librarian / Resource Persons: Michelle, Charalee & Karen E.
Soloists: April Price, Alex Price, Charalee Smith, Christopher Porter,
Rasa Krokys, Mariana Bell, Rev. Takouhi, Phillip Addis
Duets: Ysabella Ross & Lydia Smith
Percussion: Janet & Sandra
Guitar: Sean Price
Harmonica: Sean
Flute: Jaime Burt
Trumpet: Dave Irwin
Piano: Emily Hamper

Gospel Group:

Instrumentals: Margaret & Sean
Vocals: April with Charalee, Michelle, Karen E. & Jim

Quartet – Soul Purpose: Michelle, Charalee, Karen E. & Jim, with Margaret

Sunday School Music Program:

Janet provided a music component, with the use of the keyboard for classes and worship presentations. Charalee assisted.

Praise & Worship: Georgia Ross, Ysabella Ross, Lydia Smith & Brooke provided youth leadership, supported by the choir.

Soloists and Groups who supported our summer music program:

April & Sean	Shaun Seaman with Jan Prueter
Mariana Bell	Steady Simpson
Rasa Krokys	Jaime Burt
New Life Girls' Home Ministry	Georgia, Ysabella and Lydia
Bates Family - Tammy, Rob & Tracey	Janet & Heather McKeage
Karen & Jim Earl	
Accompanist: Margaret	

Special Services & Occasions:

- January 25th – Joint service of hymn singing, 7:00pm Elgin, celebrating Rev. Betty's supply ministry with us between calls, through her passion for music.
- March 28th – Joint Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 pm, Elgin: Scripture & Hymns.
- March 29th – Joint Good Friday Service, 10:00 am, Elgin: Joint Choir Cantata – 'No Greater Sacrifice', directed by Dave Irwin.
- April 7th – Joint Low Sunday, 10:00 am Elgin: Lay Music Service with joint choir and men's chorus, lead by Dave Irwin.
- May 12th – Mother's Day: Men's Chorus.
- June 16th – Father's Day: Ladies Chorus.
- June 23rd – Joint Picnic at Sand Lake Park – Praise & Worship Songs, Margaret with keyboard, and sound system.
- July 7th – Covenanting Service for Rev. Takouhi, Portland, 3:00 pm: Joint Choir
- July 14th – Elgin Days Ecumenical Service, Elgin Municipal Complex, 7:00 pm: Michelle, Karen & Jim with Margaret, plus keyboard & sound system.
- November 24th – Ecumenical 'Spread The Light Of Christ' Community Advent Celebration: Soul Purpose at EUC and at the Elgin Municipal Complex leading the Carol Sing.
- December 29th – Joint Low Sunday Lay Music Service, 10:00 am, Elgin: Joint Choir, lead by Dave Irwin.

Choir Parties: June 20th & Dec. 15th at home of Margaret Ross and Brian Blowes.

Piano Maintenance:

- The grand piano was tuned on March 21st and June 28th. June 17th was the fifth anniversary of the donation of this piano.
- The Yamaha piano was tuned March 21st.
- The Yamaha keyboard required a minor repair on May 25th.

Organ: One foot pedal requires servicing.

Audio: The audio team of Tim Hodgson, Brian Blowes and Randy Canon design and manage our sound system to facilitate hearing and provide recordings for sharing on the pastoral charge web page.

Music Director:

- Salary: No change
- Holidays: March 10th & 17th
- Review of job description: none

Committee Meetings: None.

We continue to benefit from Dave Irwin's generous sharing of his extensive musical and liturgical expertise for special services of music.

Margaret continues to support our minister and the Sunday School with her vision for growth through music ministry.

Thank you to all singers and musicians who contribute to this active music program.

Jim Earl, Chair

ELGIN PAR

Par or Pre-Authorized Remittance is a program administered by the United Church of Canada that allows you to contribute to your local church through a monthly withdrawal from your bank. You can designate your gift to current expenses, M&R building, DIG or food bank just as you would on an offering envelope. Your account will be debited on or about the 20th of the month. There are brochures available if you wish to participate.

In 2013 we had 12 families who participated in this planned giving allowing our Treasurer to count on a definite amount of money being deposited each month into our church's account.

ELGIN UNITED CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We had a very full calendar of fund raising events for the past year. I would like to thank all the volunteers for their time and contributions to make these events possible. I would also like to thank Darwin Seward for organizing the Community BBQ for a job well done. Through all of these events we were able to raise \$6,872.61 for our Current Account. We also enjoyed working with Portland United to raise \$1,812.42 for the improvement of the manse. Following is a list of the events held:

		Guests Served
Jan. 15/13	Presbytery Dinner	56
Jan. 25/13	Ham & Bean Supper	112
Feb. 17/13	Annual Meeting – Pot Luck Lunch	30
Feb. 19/13	Presbytery Dinner (Cancelled) Served Congregates	24
Feb. 22/13	Ham & Bean Supper	65
Mar. 22/13	Ham & Bean Supper	98
Mar. 29/13	Cantata – Refreshments	90
Apr. 17/13	CPHC Dinner	30
Apr. 26/13	Ham & Bean Supper	70
Jun. 15/13	June Smith's 80 th Birthday Party	125
Jun. 19/13	Mac Davison Funeral Luncheon	125
Jun. 29/13	Gracenote Concert – Refreshments	75
Jul. 2/13	Myrtena McVean Funeral Luncheon	36
Jul. 7/13	Rev. Takouhi's Covenanting – 7 pans squares	
Jul. 13/13	Elgin Days Ecumenical Service – Refreshments	
Jul. 27/13	Jim & Peter Knapp Family Funeral Luncheon	60
Jul.28/13	Fish Fry – jointly with Portland United for Manse	185
Aug. 25/13	Community BBQ	
Sep. 18/13	CPHC Dinner	25
Nov. 24/13	Light of Christ – Refreshments	
Dec. 3/13	Mary Ann Leggett Funeral Luncheon	125
Dec. 12/13	Holstein Association Dinner	31
Dec. 14/13`	Bob Wanless Funeral Luncheon	75
Dec. 15/13	White Gift Service – Pot Luck Lunch	45
Dec. 21/13	Gordon Turnbull Funeral Luncheon	

Submitted by
Linda McFadden

SOUTH CROSBY PUBLIC SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM 2013

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped the students at SCPS start their day with a nutritious breakfast. This year we saw an increase in the number of students participating. We are serving between 40 and 50 students every Tuesday, which is the day Elgin /Portland Pastoral Charge covers. An outreach that started with Elgin and 2 volunteers has expanded to include both congregations and 13 volunteers. Our efforts are much appreciated by the school and this year we were honoured with a recognition award as well as, each year, books being donated to the school library in each volunteers' name.

This year's volunteers are: Cathy Ryan, Connie Ginder, Cheryl Stoddard, Jansje Keates, Karen Myers, Bert Petro, Anne Overdulse, Clint Halladay, Went Sharpe, Sandra Smith, Keith and Diane Haskins and Georgina Campbell. THANK YOU!!

If you are interested in volunteering for the next school year, let me know

Sandra Smith, 613-359-5713 or snhsmith@kingston.net

ELGIN FOOD BANK

The Elgin food bank is run out of the Pentecostal church and staffed by a team of community volunteers. In April a point system was started and it has been very well received by the clients. Volunteers are able to have more personal interaction with the clients as they "shop" through the room. Clients love being able to choose which items they need the most and are not taking home items they are unable to use.

At Elgin United Church we raised \$1,198 through envelope contributions and \$ 1,100 through cash donations in 2013. Money donated through envelopes goes directly to the Food Bank. Money donated in cash is used to purchase items that are on sale in local stores. Either way the donations are squeezed many times to get the maximum amount of value.

Thank you to all who support our Elgin Food Bank.

2013 Annual Report for the Elgin and District Cooperative Nursery School (EDCNS)

Elgin United Church continues to support our community by providing space for the Nursery School to operate. Due to the Elementary School adding Junior and Senior Kindergarten programs to their curriculum EDCNS enrolment has dropped significantly. Since the EDCNS makes good use of our space and contributes grant money for required maintenance and improvements we are willing to facilitate its continued viability. We accept a nominal monthly rent, or as in the case for the fall session waive the rent.

The School is open from 8:30 – 12:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from September through June. A few special occasions are held at other times of the day. The December registration was four children on Tuesdays and seven on Thursdays. The registration goal is sixteen children each day.

The fall session began with a new teacher, Jennifer Toupin, and assistant, Violet Marks. The Parent Council co-chairs were Wendy Rowswell and Fiona Cairns. Parents provided some classroom assistance.

Space provided:

- 1) Access through the Centennial Hall entrance.
- 2) The lower room of the Centennial Hall for a classroom.
- 3) The basement hall for a play area, including the stage for toy storage.
- 4) The two 'main building' washrooms.
- 5) Use of the kitchen for Christmas and Graduation celebrations.
- 6) Use of the choir room as part of their 'Lockdown Procedure'.

We agree to meet safety inspection requirements and assist them in operating an infrared water treatment system. On Jan. 21st a Ministry of the Environment (MOE) 'Drinking Water System Profile Information Form' update was completed.

A Lockdown Procedure was developed in May with assistance from relevant emergency responders. Part of this procedure involves keeping the Centennial door and front door locked during classes. Congregants present in the church during classes are asked to be mindful that these doors remain locked if away from the doors.

The 2012 'share one phone business line' agreement has been easy to manage and effective in reducing monthly costs for the School and the Church. The cordless phone system with two handsets and message recording capability, provided by the School, works well.

They have use of our photocopier but supply their own paper.

The school accessed grant money to paint the classroom, install child friendly stairway handrails, replace the classroom carpet and repair the bottom steps into the basement hall.

Jim Earl
Elgin United Church Liaison

ELGIN AUDIO / VISUAL DEPARTMENT

In 2013 the Audio/Visual Team at Elgin United Church presented a number of successful concerts.

On June 8th we welcomed Peter Woods from Smiths Falls United with his Jazz Duo

On the 29th of June we were captivated by the beautiful voices of Gracenote from Ottawa

And the fiery August 3rd concert by Kelli Trottier was the culmination of a great year.

All of these people are entertainers and performers from our region and we thank them all for their help in the A/V Department's fund-raising efforts.

This year did not see the purchase of additional equipment in our Department but we did a lot of work polishing and improving the job that we do.

Brian has taken the PowerPoint presentations to a new level of excellence and we now incorporate these presentations into many other events as well as our Sunday morning services. We have also been approached by other churches in our Presbytery seeking advice and direction on how they can integrate the same type of thing into their services.

Randy is the one responsible for operating our mixing console during our Sunday Services and other events and this year he has honed that job to perfection. Whatever happens or transpires at the front, Randy is one step ahead of it at the back. He is the reason our Services and events sound so flawless.

While we have improved our ability to make excellent recordings in the church we unfortunately are going to have to curtail their use on the website. Canadian Copyright Laws forbid us to place music on our site that is covered by someone else's Exclusive Rights. We are working on a solution to this problem but until we find one there will be less music on our website page.

Our fund raising efforts have sustained the department as well as contributing to DIG and other church initiatives/improvements. We hope to maintain this success into 2014 and continue to bring excellent musical events to our church.

Submitted by Tim Hodgson for

Elgin Audio / Visual Dept.

Margaret Ross
Brian Blowes
Randy Cannon
Tim Hodgson

**ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT
Jan 01, 2013 to Dec 31, 2013**

Page 1

	2012 ACTUAL	2013 BUDGET	2013 ACTUAL	2014 BUDGET
INCOME				
Current Offerings	\$56,610.00	\$60,000.00	\$54,951.00	\$65,000.00
Challenge			\$20,997.00	\$0.00
Hall Usage	\$1,820.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,540.00	\$1,350.00
Committee Fund Raising (page 2)	<u>\$6,501.00</u>		<u>\$6,738.00</u>	
TOTAL INCOME	\$64,931.00	\$62,000.00	\$84,226.00	\$66,350.00
EXPENSES				
GENERAL				
EPPC Assessment	\$44,400.00	\$44,400.00	\$40,800.00	\$46,800.00
Insurance	\$3,672.00	\$3,700.00	\$3,810.00	\$4,200.00
Heat & Hydro	\$6,992.00	\$7,500.00	\$8,121.00	\$10,000.00
Telephone	\$925.00	\$350.00	\$453.00	\$500.00
Internet	\$485.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Charges	\$61.00	\$100.00	\$89.00	\$100.00
US Exchange	\$43.00	\$0.00	-\$1.00	\$0.00
Postage & Office Supplies	\$221.00	\$450.00	\$293.00	\$400.00
Offertory Envelopes	\$122.00	\$125.00	\$120.00	\$125.00
Music Director	\$5,280.00	\$5,750.00	\$5,720.00	\$5,750.00
Bursary	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Education	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Observer	\$1,100.00	\$1,000.00	\$808.00	\$0.00
Upper Room	\$120.00	\$125.00	\$57.00	\$0.00
Vacation Bible Group & Youth Group	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$129.00	\$200.00
MAINTENANCE				
Janitor	\$4,390.00	\$5,200.00	\$5,140.00	\$5,200.00
General Maintenance & Repair	\$969.00	\$2,250.00	\$713.00	\$2,250.00
Grass & Snow	\$2,754.00	\$2,600.00	\$1,507.00	\$2,500.00
COMMITTEE				
Paidouts (Page 2)	<u>\$1,498.00</u>	<u>\$2,100.00</u>	<u>\$1,503.00</u>	<u>\$2,700.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES NET	\$73,182.00 -\$8,251.00	\$77,000.00 -\$15,000.00	\$69,262.00 \$14,964.00	\$80,975.00 -\$14,625.00

**ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT**

COMMITTEE EXPENSES

		2012 ACTUAL	2013 BUDGET	2013 ACTUAL	2014 BUDGET
MUSIC (below budget)					
Donations	150.00				
Expenses	<u>-\$592.00</u>				
	<u>-\$442.00</u>	\$1,189.00	\$750.00	\$442.00	\$650.00
DECORATONG (below budget)		\$250.00	\$200.00	\$98.00	\$150.00
OUTREACH (over budget)		\$32.00	\$400.00	\$548.00	\$400.00
SUNDAY SCHOOL (below budget)					
Offering	\$154.00				
World Vision	\$444.00				
Expenses	<u>\$125.00</u>				
	<u>-\$415.00</u>	\$27.00	\$750.00	\$415.00	\$500.00
AUDIO VIDEO					
had fund raising events which after paying expenses and technical expenses netted \$626, therefore did not use any of the allocated budget but supplemented our income		\$0.00	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
SOCIAL COMMITTEE					
had fund raising events which after paying expenses incurred, netted \$6112 therefore did not use any of the allocated budget, but supplemented our income		\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$400.00

**ELGIN UNITED CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT**

Page 3

**BANK BALANCES
AS AT DECEMBER 31**

	2011	2012	2013
Benevolent Fund	\$1,202.00	\$1,316.00	\$1,383.00
G I C's	\$16,548.00	\$16,548.00	\$16,548.00
Current Account	\$13,726.00	\$17,795.00	\$38,447.00
<i>Included in the Current Account Balance</i>			
Access Fund	\$3,119.00	\$3,119.00	\$0.00
Building	\$2,368.00	\$2,340.00	\$12,535.00
Memorial	\$4,802.00	\$10,485.00	\$12,150.00
Operating	\$3,437.00	\$1,851.00	\$13,762.00

Joanne McLean,
Treasurer

PORTLAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Sunday February 17, 2013
Gathering Place of the Church**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Cam McKay called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. Takouhi offered a prayer and remembered those who had passed away in the last year.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Moved by Doug Evans and seconded by Doug Bond that the agenda be accepted. Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2012 MEETING: Moved by Anna Greenhorn and seconded by Doug Bond that the minutes be approved. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship Report: In the report for the Christmas concert it should read the Sunday School teachers. It should read Callum Peebles not Malcolm.

Council Report: Thank you to Rev Betty for filling in for the last 10 months and we welcome Rev. Takouhi. Thanks to donations we are able to install the 2nd window. We are spending \$700 a month on heating, we are researching a new heat source.

Financial Report: The financial report was reviewed. A discussion was held regarding the report. We are spending over our givings.

Visitation Report: Thank you to Bonnie Tackaberry for Chairing this committee.

Cases for Caring Report: The ladies make 30-35 cases per month.

Memorial: As per written report.

Motion to Accept Committee Reports

Moved by Doug Bond and seconded by Brenda Smith that the reports be accepted. Carried.

New Business

Committees – A chair is needed for the Outreach and the Fundraising Committee. This will be announced in church.

Church Booking Procedures – As there had been a mix up with the church booking, a person is needed to be a booking agent for the church. A discussion was held regarding this. Carol Irwin volunteered to do this for one year. This will be put in the bulletin with Carol's telephone number and e-mail address.

Turning the Church Around – It has been suggested that the church be turned around. This is an idea that people are asked to think about.

Thank you – Dave thanked Margaret Martin for stepping in at the last minute to take the service. Thank you to everyone who works in our church.

Adjournment

Moved by Doug Bond that the meeting be adjourned.

Closing of Meeting

The meeting was closed in prayer.

Cam McKay, Chair

Katy Gibson, Secretary

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL

A very busy year has flown by. As I look back on the many successes that have occurred within and without our small village church I am most impressed by the determination of our volunteers. I offer sincere gratitude and congratulations to all of them.

Some of those Successes and Celebrations of 2013 are:

The arrival of our new Spiritual Leader; the installation of most of our stained glass window; the success of our community luncheons, which take place monthly; the beginning of a new presbytery to govern our church; the church's assistance and leadership to our local food bank; the use of our beautiful sanctuary for many fundraising concerts; the beauty of our Sanctuary when decorated for our weekly and special Christian celebrations; the installation of our new heating and air conditioning system; the many upgrades to our physical building; the welcoming of many new adherents and members to our church family; the baptizing of children into God's wider family and the addition of some beautiful furniture from the closed churches in Ompah and Plevna. The list goes on and on. And nothing would have been possible without YOU – the Volunteers, Thank YOU!

The greater exposure our church has received through many functions has resulted in our Sunday attendance slowly climbing over the year. This will be evident over time in our Treasurer's report. We are currently in a good position.

It is exciting to announce that Katy Gibson has accepted to become the Vice – Chair of Portland's Council after the Annual General Meeting, and I have offered to remain as Council Chair for one more year. I am honoured to serve and promise to continue to do my best. It has been my privilege to have served for the last two years.

The Portland United Church is honoured to have so many dedicated volunteers. Please take an opportunity to say 'Thanks' often. If you would like to be a part of this great team, please speak to Reverend Takouhi or me. Enjoy the many Blessings that come with being a member of Portland United Church.

Cam McKay.

2013 PORTLAND TRUSTEE REPORT

The Trustees of Portland United Church continued to monitor the operations of our Church. Over the course of the year, we were able to secure insurance coverage for our Food Bank, Chaired by Cheryl Stoddard. As well, we continue to monitor insurance needs for the church as a whole, including the installation and upgrade of a stained glass window. For insurance purposes, a photographed inventory of church belongings has been recorded. Insurance on the Church is carried by The Bay of Quinte Mutual through Rideau Insurance in the amount of \$775,000. Finally, at the request of the Official Board, trustees of both Elgin and Portland have joined together to begin looking at the possibilities of severing the Elgin United Church from the manse property. This process is ongoing.

Trustee Lois Mowat submitted her resignation effective December 31st, 2013. Her perspective and caring touch will be missed. Existing trustees include Keith Haskins, Sheila McKeage and Pamela Cairncross, William French, Doug Bond and Bruce Haskin. The trustees' treasurer is Doug Evans. All trustees are members of Portland United Church.

Please be in touch with any of your trustees with questions or concerns.

In Christ,

Will French

PORTLAND FLOWER/DECORATING COMMITTEE

The resignation of Lois Mowat earlier this year was accepted with regret by the council. Lois has done a superb job of ensuring the decoration of the sanctuary and the Friendship Room and overseeing the planting and maintenance of the outdoor containers. Brenda Smith continues to maintain the planters at the cemetery.

We are especially grateful for volunteers at special times of the year, Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. A special thanks to Doug Bond for his high wire act of placing the Christmas stars! Donations of arrangements in remembrance or in honour of special occasions and donations of flowers at Christmas and Easter are very much appreciated. Offers of flowers from private gardens during the growing season are most welcome. We welcome any suggestions from the congregation to help us in our efforts.

We strive to keep our church as attractive and welcoming as possible to complement the warm and friendly atmosphere of the people in it.

Respectfully submitted

Lynne Evans

Portland Flower/Decorating Committee

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHOIR REPORT

Sunday worship at PUC certainly brings in a new day with Joy and Thanksgiving. Music will always be one of the many lights that brighten such Festive days and our dedicated choir leads with enthusiasm and musical excellence. They continue to provide leadership by supporting relevant liturgy through numerous music resources. Hymns from VU, MV and various publications such as Taizé are but a few of the musical tools used in making worship meaningful and memorable. Our congregation is a choir on its own and enthusiastically supports and uplifts God in song. As choir members, the best seat in the house is warmed by the joy on congregational faces. Celebrating together is inspiring.

Rev. Betty, in her few months with us brought her love of music and suggestions for musical enrichment. She, like Rev. Takouhi, thoughtfully themes and integrates all aspects of weekly worship so that one leaves with a sense of completion and purpose. Weekly anthems, solos and small group ministries try to support the call to Praise and Worship.

Good Friday's joint service in Elgin gave both choirs the opportunity to bring a heightened meaning to Holy Week. Joining voices provides the Pastoral Charge an opportunity to hear new and relevant Cantatas as well as time-valued Masterful works. Special soloists throughout the year and at these regular joint services continue to be a source of spiritual inspiration. As examples, 2013 will long remember the Rasa/Janet contributions and the magic of father, daughter and granddaughter Baker-Perrin. Voices like these are yet another example of God's gifts. Portland United is blessed with many musical leaders. Our choir remains a strong, supportive group and regular attendance speaks to the integrity of its purpose.

Leadership remains with Dave but direction is a joint venture. Individual likes and talents often point to new and meaningful moments. Fifth Sundays are old favourite celebrations and amidst all the new, creative music, we enthusiastically lift our voices in praise of past and hopefully eternal creations. Music is God's gift of maintaining tradition while fulfilling the challenge of creativity.

As the choir matures more members find time to travel and escape Canadian winters. Some take extended leaves. With all this, there have been few Sundays without a 4 part anthem. Summer services saw soloists and small groups provide the music with the full choir present for Rev. Takouhi's Covenanting. For the second summer, the choir has been encouraged to take a break and enjoy service from a different perspective. (for Carol, the Lake)

Duncan and Jane hosted a potluck evening in late summer where, on their beautiful property, we warmed up for the return of full choir rehearsals. Amidst all the busy bustle of Advent, Joan and Bob opened their festive home for a great evening of food, fellowship and song. What a warm place to be on a wintry night.

This year, Joan Kelly who has been on the music committee almost as long as her arrival at PUC, stepped down. Her efforts have been quietly monumental and very much appreciated. Thank you Joan. Duncan has also left the committee to take up other important Council responsibilities.

Helen remains and continues to keep us musically organized. Joining our group is Kim Hoogwerf who brings new and welcome perspectives. Portland United Church is alive with an inviting energy reflective of the Christian spirit gracing so many. As Epiphany approaches, the choir accepts the gift of new birth and the light we are called to reflect. We continue to make a "Joyful noise to the Lord", psalm 150, and are confident this wonderful congregation will continue in the same.

Sing-cer-ely,

PUC CHOIR

Dave Irwin, Carol Irwin, Brontie Smith, Sheila McKeage, Helen Smith, Margaret Martin, Katy Gibson, Joan Kelly, Joan Delaney, Rasa Krokys, Bonnie Tackaberry, Glenn Baker, Duncan Pickard, Morley Hennig, Cam McKay, Doug Bond, Bob Butcher, Darragh Elliott.

Portland Pealers

(sometimes better known as the Portland Handbell Choir).

We are very pleased to have an active Hand Bell Choir. Members from Portland United, Elgin United and the greater community, meet every Thursday evening to practice under the direction of Joanne Lambert.



The fall is usually dedicated to seasonal music leading up to Christmas. We then pack it up and switch to a variety of church and secular music to take us into the spring.

We were privileged to participate in a hand bell workshop last May, led by Barbara Plante of London, Ontario. Barbara has played and conducted hand bells for 40 years. We enjoyed the better part of a weekend learning and honing our bell-ringing skills, which we then presented at the Sunday service with our guest-conductor.

The bells have been taken on the road this fall. In November we were invited to play on the side porch of The Cove in Westport. It was a cold, windy day, but we still managed (in spite of the shivers and wind-tossed music) to add to the Santa Claus parade festivities.

We participated in an evening of music in our own Portland United in December, and then took the bells to Carveth Care Centre in Gananoque to present the seasonal music before packing it away.

Plans are to continue pealing our bells at Sunday services and area care facilities.

We have room for more players! If you are interested, talk to any of our ringers, or stop in between 6 and 7 some Thursday evening to see what we're all about.

Submitted by Jan Haskin

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH PROPERTY REPORT FOR 2013

Once again, it has been a very busy year here at Portland United Church on the property front.

Outside and through a very green summer, Ken Pyle again diligently kept our lawns mowed here at P.U.C. and at our cemetery.

Barry Weaymouth is keeping the walkways and stairs clear of snow this winter. Commendable effort, Barry! Snow blowing of the back patio a couple times each winter reduces the odds of flooding of the Gathering Place in the spring.

Rev. Takouhi's name has been added to our illuminated PUC lawn sign and the timer regularly adjusted. Our cedar sign beside Hwy. #15 is being revised and refurbished.

Thanks to the Elliots, Christmas lights adorned Calvin Baker's memorial tree.

Water testing for bacteria is done every three months. The most recent test at the end of November was 0 – 0, as it has been consistently. Not only do we enjoy the privilege of clean uncontaminated well water here at P.U.C; in contrast to places like Somalia, Walkerton, Delta, etc. We also have a responsibility to insure that we put no contaminants like e-coli into the aquifer we share with our community.

Our well has been brought up to code. A bit of topsoil and grass seed finished this chore.

Hopefully the Gathering Place floor will remain dry during successive melting seasons.

Certainly, recent work on restoring the exterior stairs and interlocking brick walkways has made the clearing of snow easier and the drainage of most melt water better.

Black iron railings at lower end of ext. stairs seem to have survived last winter's snowplowing of Colborne Street. Periodic tightening of stainless-steel bolts and coats of wood preserver on the ext. stairs will extend the lifespan of these stairs through several decades. Joint-filling sand between interlocking brick has been topped up. Topping up the poly sand every couple years will reduce accumulation of organics and the growth of grass and weeds in the walkway.

Another dead tree was removed from the arbor between our parking lot and our friends at Emmanuel.

In August, a further segment of our parking lot was treated with high-quality, non-toxic sealer and parking lines were repainted.

A motion-sensing flood light over upper walkway has been replaced with a high efficiency, long-lasting and costly LED unit.

Autumn leaves have been raked, bagged and removed – except for 20+ bags placed over the septic system as insulation against winter frost.

Inside Portland United Church, Carolyn Mustard has been diligently keeping our floors vacuumed and furniture dusted each Friday.

Our lift is working well through a wide variety of applications from making life easier for folks in wheelchairs and with walkers to moving food and furniture. Our Sherway lift has passed its mandatory semi-ann. inspections. The lift floor has been given 2 coats of paint.

Our new air-to-air heat pump system and its ducting to most corners of the church is working well. Some of the baseboard units have been left in place to provide auxiliary and/or emergency heat while we fine tune the new system. We should enjoy more comfortable

conditions for services and meetings during summer months. Possibly we can provide an oasis for some seniors in our community on sweltering afternoons in July(s).

Two insulation contractors have been contacted to present estimates on adding further blow-in insulation to the ceilings of the Friendship Room and Sanctuary as advised by the Energy Auditor. This project is on hold awaiting available funds.

One broken pew plus three others from the central tier of pews were taken to Thorley's of Plum Hollow for restoration and refinishing. They have been returned ready for their next century of use. Assorted racks have been re-installed with brass fittings. At 4 pews per year, we are now more than half done this multi-year project. There is one more broken pew plus three others scheduled to be restored this February. An uncertainty is that Steve Thorley and his secret refinishing formula (along with Ken Pyle / lawns and Barry Weaymouth / snowshoveling) are all warranted in thinking of retirement.

Restoration and installation of stained-glass windows at back of the sanctuary is progressing. The five rectangular units has been skilfully restored and installed by Steve Boyd and the upper arched section is a work-in-progress. The existing storm windows are providing exterior protection for these two lateral units presently and new Lexan is providing exterior weatherproofing for the midsections.

Property items for future attention and budgeting.

(a) Several places on ext. walls where brickwork in need of attention.

Ross had some masonry refurbished about 20 years ago and it is time to give our brick some repointing and replacement. Some will involve scaffold work.

Max. estimate \$3 000

(b) Modify/ reorganize exterior stone steps at belfry entrance

before there is another broken arm (or other appendage).

Might be done at the same time as brickwork. Max. est. \$2 000

(c) Refinishing another set of 4 pews for \$2 000

(d) Another large patch of parking lot to be sealed in 2014. \$1 200

(e) A hand railing to assist those stepping up to the pulpit area. \$ 200

(f) Replace louvers in belfry. Scaffold work. Max. est. \$2 000

(g) Exterior hook-up for a generator at times of emergency, such as ice storms

More light bulbs have been replaced with long-life, lo-watt fluorescents and LEDs. Defusers and eaves troughs have received annual cleaning. Portland United Church is now linked through cyberspace by "hi-speed". These are just some of the many ongoing tasks of the past for the maintenance and progress of our Church home. Our facility is handicap-friendly for any and all to enjoy our fine fellowship and grand banquets in our Gathering Place.

With a building of the size and age of Portland United Church, there are tasks in time and space that are weekly like cleaning; seasonal tasks like clearing drains of ice and snow; tasks of decades such as improvements to our sound and video systems; yes, and even tasks of the century such as installing stained-glass windows. These and myriad more tasks of maintenance and improvement are expressions of the time, talent and devotion of the many hands that make it happen. Thank-you.

Doug Bond, Property January, 2014

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – 2013

Another year has begun with a fresh beginning, and opportunities to reflect. It is such a privilege to be able to spend time with the youngest members of our congregation each week, and to grow in faith with them. With about 12 children attending, and 7 teachers, we have a wonderful ratio of adults, youth and children.

Some of the events and Sunday School highlights of 2013 included:

- welcoming Rev. Takouhi to Elgin/Portland Pastoral Charge as our new minister
- lessons focusing on various Old Testament stories in the Bible
- planting flowers in tea cups for the women at Mother's Day, and sharing bags of treats with the men at Father's Day
- the Church picnic at Sand Lake Park in June
- planning and implementation of a week long "Bug Fest" Vacation Bible School during the summer with approximately 30 children and youth in attendance over the course of the week, culminating with a visit from the staff at Foley Mountain, and a BBQ lunch at Hanna Park for children and their families
- participation in Family services through readings, ushering, etc.
- participation in Palm Sunday and White Gift services
- creation of a sock and mitten tree, to help support the local food bank's Christmas hampers
- Advent coin jars to support DIG
- Christmas pageant followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon in early December
- with the support of the congregation, the purchase of numerous "Gifts with Vision" from the United Church of Canada, including the support of Christian ministries at the University of Victoria, vitamin supplements and food for a child in the Philippines, school supplies for 2 students in Haiti, and a goat for an agricultural college in Zimbabwe
- continued support of our foster child, Koto, from Guinea

As we look ahead to the upcoming year, we look forward to learning about what God expects of us in our daily walk with Him. Over the next while, we plan to focus on Micah 6:8 "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

Various youth events also took place over the course of the year with the Four Rivers Presbytery. The Elgin/Portland Pastoral Charge hosted two of these events, including an afternoon of games at the Loonie Curling Club, followed by supper and worship last spring, and a canoe expedition / BBQ during the summer. Likewise, youth from our congregations attended events hosted by Zion-Memorial United Church in Carleton Place and Trinity United Church in Smiths Falls, as well as attending a "Meet the Moderator" event earlier in the year. Both congregations were also represented with youth at the Bay of Quinte Conference this fall.

We thank everyone for their ongoing support of the Sunday School and youth through your many different donations - everything from food and prayers to smiles and words of encouragement! We welcome new volunteers at any time as we look forward to continuing to share in fellowship, learning and worship together.

Submitted by Pauline French

PORTLAND SUNDAY SCHOOL TREASURER'S REPORT - 2013

Year ending December 31, 2013.

Opening Balance, January 1, 2013		\$ 1,133.95
Income		
Envelopes & Loose Cash	357.08	
Donations	160.04	
Bank Interest	.40	
Total Income	517.52	
		517.52
		\$ 1,651.47
Supplies		180.48
Foster Child		444.00
Total Disbursements		624.48
		(624.48)
Closing Balance, December 31, 2013		\$ 1,026.99

**There are two cheques outstanding from 2013 for a total of \$439.21, which impacts the closing balance.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Thériault, Treasurer

REPORT ON THE 1914-1919 MEMORIAL STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Our magnificent Portland United Church WWI memorial window is almost ready to be celebrated. The artisan restoring the window, Steven Boyd of Westport area, has discounted his fee from \$25, 000 to \$24,000 and generous donors have stepped up and contributed over that amount. The top arched portion will be installed in early spring and plans are being made for a dedication service in late spring with dignitaries invited.

2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War and commemorative events are being held in many parts of the world. Portland will have its own special event with the dedication of this heritage window. We are proud!

Submitted by Joan Delaney

PORTLAND UCW ANNUAL REPORT 2013

2013 was a very busy and rewarding year for our UCW. Here are the highlights:

January 15th – Potluck luncheon – Guest Speaker – Rev Betty Sangster gave an interesting talk on her time in Bella Coola. She was presented with a prayer shawl as a thank you for all her support to the UCW.

March 1st - World Day of Prayer was held at PUC. Several UCW members attended and 3 participated with readings. The 40 in attendance appreciated the focus on “Chile”.

March 15th – A successful Irish Stew Dinner fundraiser. We purchased new plastic tablecloths.

April 4th – Presbyterial Annual Meeting was held at PUC with 91 in attendance.

May 7th – Lois, Vivian, Peggy and Connie visited Olivet UC for an Ecumenical Church service. Rev Don Stiles spoke about his first ministry service in Newfoundland.

We sponsored Luke Welch to go to the Bay of Quinte Conference.

May 21st – Guest Speaker – Pauline French – told us about Shea Butter, where it is grown and its use. Then she showed us how she has, over the years developed her own product.

June 18th – Potluck Lunch – Guest Speaker – Eleanor Glenn, local author. She spoke about her “Garden”

June 28th – a successful Pie Sale fundraiser. \$1,000.00 was donated to the church.

July 7th – Lois Mowat and Sheila McKeage were honoured by the gift of Life Membership. Over the years, both women have shown their devotion to Jesus Christ by their devoted service to the UCW and Portland United Church.

August 17th – The UCW organized a Bake Sale as part of a church fundraiser.

September 17th – Guest Speaker – Joan Delaney showed pictures and talked about her trip to Italy, Turkey and the Holy Land.

September 27th – A successful apple pie sale. Money will be held to help sponsor any candidates from Portland who are chosen to go on the mission trip to El Salvador in March, 2014.

October 15th – Guest Speaker – Jan Haskins talked and showed pictures of her trip to the United Arab Emirates. She had teddy bears dressed in the clothes that are commonly worn by the people when out of their homes.

November 19th - We finalized and sent our annual year end gifts to various charities.

December 17th - We enjoyed a luncheon at the Junction Restaurant with 16 ladies attending. We decided to have the Irish Stew supper on Friday, March 14th and to cancel our January and February meetings and resume them in March.

Eleanor Thériault sent out many greeting cards and read some moving, and thought provoking Mission and Service messages at our meetings.

Peggy Bond as always did a great job as treasurer. She has UC Cookbooks, pewter ornaments and note cards for sale. She sells and distributes the UC calendars. The UCW give a calendar each to Rev Takouhi, Norma and Pauline.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry continued throughout the year. A hearty thanks to the women of the Elgin/ Portland congregations, for giving their time to knit or crochet these shawls.

Several lunches were prepared and served following funerals and memorials.

All these social events generated enough funds to meet our M&S goals, help with church expenses, and provide support to area mission work, such as the Smiths Falls Salvation Army, Portland Food Bank, Cases of Caring, Interval House in Brockville, Native People's Retreat and World Development and Relief.

Portland UCW remains viable due to the dedicated members who give their time to support all of these functions. We are also grateful to the Elgin/Portland church friends and residents who assist and support us. Thank You.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Ginder, President

PORTLAND FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE - 2013

Cards are sent to members of our church family who are grieving, ill or lonely, as well as to those who are celebrating special occasions.

Summary of Cards Sent:

Get Well	6
Sympathy	6
Thinking of You	7
New Baby	1
Christmas	<u>10</u>
Total	30

Balance forward January 1, 2013 \$ 89.30

Expenses

Stamps (6.30 x 3)	\$ 18.90
Cards purchased	8.00
Total	36.12

Balance December 31, 2013 \$ 62.40

Submitted by Eleanor Thériault
Friendship Committee

PORTLAND UCW FINANCIAL REPORT 2013

Year beginning balance			1,830.62
Income			
Offerings	1,162.80	(1147.80 receipted)	
Funeral receptions	1,001.07		
Summer pie sale	1,080.00		
Fall apple pie sale	1,290.00		
Donation	10.00		
St. Paddy's dinner	845.00		
Presbyterial dinner	620.00		
GIC interest	123.50		
Calendar sales	45.00		
Ornament sale	10.00		
Cookbook sale (Brunches)	15.00		
Bank interest	<u>.73</u>		
	6,203.10		
			8,033.72
Outgo			
M&S	2,400.00		
Church	1,000.00		
World Development and Relief	200.00		
Portland Food Bank	300.00		
Smith's Falls Salvation Army	300.00		
Cases of Caring	150.00		
Brockville Interval House	100.00		
Luke Welch - conference	125.00		
Life memberships - Lois, Sheila	120.00		
dues	120.00		
Tablecloths	188.20		
Kitchen witch	100.00		
Calendars (20)	73.45		
World Day of Prayer refreshments	40.00		
Native People's Retreat	50.00		
Gifts	175.00		
Minute book	25.85		
Cheques	8.34		
Bank charges	<u>5.50</u>		
	5,481.34		
			<u>2,552.38</u>
Assets			
GIC	1,000.00		
RBC	1,108.92		
Petty cash	<u>443.46</u>		
	2,552.38		

We have promised \$1000.00 to Claire French and Beth Cairncross towards their El Salvador experience expenses.

Peggy Bond

CASES OF CARING 2013

Once a month, on the third Wednesday of the month the coffee, tea and juice are ready, somebody brings a snack and the sewing machines are carried in. Ironing boards are set up, irons begin to steam and the rotary cutters cut through fabric. Pieces are pinned together and the machines whir away. The conversation is animated with news of families, community events, impending and past trips, some sad news and some glad news. There are bursts of laughter and expressions of consternation when a stitch isn't just right!

Cases of Caring is a busy group of women who shop, launder, cut, sew, iron, sew on labels and fold the finished pillowcases for delivery to CHEO. We are a diverse group of women. Several are members of Portland United Church, some from the community at large - Elgin, Portland and Westport -and one from Ottawa who is a summer resident. We also have some members who sew at home and donate their work to our cause. We are all dedicated to one purpose - helping brighten the days of the wee and not so wee patients at CHEO. Not one of us can enter a fabric shop without finding that just perfect piece of fabric for a pillowcase.

We are most appreciative of the sponsorship of Portland United Church so that individual donors may receive a tax receipt. We are also very thankful for the support of local organizations: the Lions Clubs of Elgin and Westport, Retired Teachers of Ontario Branch 48, Community Clothing Co-operative, Portland UCW and Westport Legion. This year we were also most honoured and grateful to be awarded the Scotland Funeral Home Community Service Grant along with the Rideau Sewing Club which makes quilts for the Perth & Smiths Falls Community Hospital. Most members belong to both groups.

If you are interested in joining our group of sewers to aid in our community support, to enjoy the "sewfests" and to make new friends and enjoy the company of old friends, call Lynne Evans (272-2593) or Joan Kelly (272-3134). You will be most welcome.

Respectfully submitted
Lynne Evans

CARING AND SHARING TEAM **or** **PORTLAND LAY VISITATION COMMITTEE**

Although the "team" was without a chair person since early spring, both the Spring and Advent editions of the Newsletter were delivered and people kept in touch, passing any concerns on to Rev. Takouhi.

We are certainly grateful to our dedicated Committee:

Norma Cummings, Bill French, Carol Irwin, Joan Kelly, Carolyn Long, Sheila McKeage, Jane Pickard, Went Sharpe, Marie Sharpe, Brenda Smith, Eleanor Thériault, and Vicky Zwiers.

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH HISTORICAL REPORT 2013

It indeed has been a busy year at Portland United Church.

We celebrated our relationship with Rev. Betty Sangster, as the time for her ministry with us was coming to a close, with a special Hymn Sing on Jan 25th at Elgin following their ham and bean supper. She was presented with a special prayer shawl which had been woven by Roberta McKinney. However, on Betty's last official Sunday, Cam McKay lead the service on short notice due to Betty's illness. On Sunday, Oct 6th we were happy to eventually hear her talk on life at Bella Coola..

Meanwhile, after lots of work with both Portland and Elgin church members toiling together, the manse was spruced up ready to welcome Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro, along with husband Gary and father-in-law Bert Petro, to both the manse and our lives in February.

We were also happy to welcome Kaden Stephen Edward Chambers through the sacrament of baptism on Jan. 13th. Tristan William Wayne Kendall & Harlee Nicole Kendall were baptized on Dec 1st.

We also welcomed the following into our church family and official membership:

- Brad Gibson and Cheryl Stoddard on June 9th
- Larry & Connie Cochran on July 28th
- Bob Butcher, Duncan Pickard, and Arie & Betty Hoogenboom on Dec. 13th.

We have a wealth of talented organizers in the congregation:

Cam McKay organized fun evenings to "Music Man" Sat. Feb. 16th & "Anything Goes" Sat. Dec. 7th.

Bob Butcher organized very successful community luncheons monthly.

Connie Ginder organized the coffee hosts and Shirley Bryden took over organizing the ushers.

Lois Mowat organized our hosting of the World Day of Prayer on Fri. March 1st.

Sheila McKeage organized St. Patty's Day Gourmet Beef Stew and Chili dinner Fri. Mar. 15th.

Lois and Sheila shared the duties of hosting the new Four Rivers Presbyterial Annual Meeting on Thursday April 4th.

Blaine Tackaberry organized a breakfast after the Easter Sunrise Service at Leggett's Hill.

Carolyn Long organized some fantastic events which also raised quite a bit of money for the church:

- a spring walkathon at Rock Dunder, Sat June 1st.
- a Tupperware fund raiser, Fri. June 14th.
- with Lois Mowat's help, an evening with Eleanor Glenn presenting her play *The Servant at the Supper* along with readings by both Eleanor and Anders Carson on Fri. July 12th. Brian and Claire French also entertained us with their piano playing.
- a musical evening including classical, Broadway and jazz, Sat. Aug 24th featuring Rasa, Janet, Margaret and Dave with contributions from Heather (Janet's daughter) and Carol Husband.

- a Henry Norwood Concert, Thursday Oct 24th.
- an autumn Celtic concert with Angelica Ottewill playing the harp & Veronique Kwakkernaat on the flute, Fri. Nov. 15th.
- a Christmas music extravaganza with Rasa, Janet, Dave, Margaret & Sarurnas with the Portland Pealers playing the bells.

Norma Cummings and Katy Gibson organized the pictures to be taken for a new photo directory.

Carol, Connie and Norma together organized a fantastic giant summer sale event, Sat Aug. 17th.

Jane Pickard organized a community garden at the Country Roads Community Health Centre.

Jan Haskin organized a bell ringers workshop, June 14th -15th.

Jan also organized both spring and advent newsletters.

The UCW organized tasty and popular pie sales on both June 28th & Sept 27th.

Pauline French organized a very successful Vacation Bible School July 2nd - 5th. The Bug Fest.

Carol Irwin organized the Oktoberfest Supper, Fri. Oct. 18th.

Joan Delaney and others organized for the centre section of the Queen St. stained glass window to be restored and installed in time for Nov. 11th.

Katy Gibson and the Sunday School team organized the Sunday School Christmas concert and soup and sandwich luncheon, Sun. Dec 8th.

The worship committee consisting of members of both churches organized folks to lead the service of worship when Rev. Takouhi was elsewhere.

Rev. Betty in January as we awaited Rev. Takouhi

Cam McKay covering for an ill Rev. Betty, Jan. 27th

Clint Halladay, Feb 17th and Dec 29th

Margaret Martin, April 7th, May 19th, July 14th, Nov. 17th

Mark Bee, April 14th

Rev. David Spivey, May 26th, Nov 24th

Rev. Don Stiles, Sept. 8th

The new Four Rivers Presbytery organized Learning and Leading Workshops in Athens, Sat. April 27th.

The new presbytery also organized events for the youth of the area:

- SpinG-A-VanZa on May 11th
- Laser tag and miniput on Sun June 9th
- canoeing & BBQ on July 27th,
- bowling & corn roast on Sat. Sept 7th

In addition, we had Bible studies at Mill Bay Court and Elgin United Church in the spring. Then V.I.B.E. - Venturing in Bible Education - featured first "Living the Questions" starting in June and then "The First Christmas" until Dec. 18th and took place on Wednesdays.

We had a team participating in Skate-the-Lake, Jan. 26th.

"Thought for the Week" turned into a "Spiritual focus".

The Maundy Thursday service included washing each other's hands (rather than feet), Mar. 28th.
The Good Friday service had the joint choir present "*No Greater Sacrifice*," Mar. 29th.
Our Easter Sunday service included a video from Rt. Rev. Dr. Gary Patterson, "*Easter is a Verb*."
Joint services were held on April 7th, Dec 29th in Elgin.
PUC was the site of the piano recital on June 17th featuring some of the students of Susan Lennox.
The joint congregational picnic was held at Sand Lake Park on June 23rd.
We enjoyed hymn sings before the worship service, June 30th & Sept. 29th.
We heard a presentation by the New Life Girls' Home Ministries on July 7th.
UCW Life Memberships were presented to Sheila McKeage and Lois Mowat on July 7th.
Rev. Takouhi's Covenanting Service was held on July 7 at 3 p.m. in Portland.
Portland members helped Paul Simpson with a fish fry to raise funds for manse repairs, July 28th.
The lay visitation team changed their name to the Sharing and Caring Team.

A joint service was in Portland featuring Rev. Rosemary Lambie regarding Life in the Philippines on Sun. Aug. 4th. This was before the typhoon.

The Sunday School teachers enjoyed a half-day retreat in Lyndhurst on Sat. August 24th.

Luke Welch attended the Bay of Quinte Youth Conference in Ajax, Oct 25th - 27th.

We sometimes used different words for the Lord's Prayer to further our understanding.

New initiatives:

An invitation for a Facebook Bible Study in June - "30 days to rock the Bible."

Blessing of the animals on the lawn of Elgin church, Sunday, Oct. 20th.

The first Sunday of the month is both inter-generational and food bank Sunday.

Sunday, Sept. 29th was declared "Back to Church" Sunday.

Advent prayer time, Saturday mornings, 9 - 10:30, Nov. 30th to Dec. 21st, alternating between the two churches.

The winter solstice/Blue Christmas was cancelled due to inclement weather on Dec 21st.

Our outreach:

Donations toward our goals for the Mission and Service Fund.

Bob's monthly luncheons.

Dental Issues Group (D.I.G.) the Community Clothing Co-op, the Food Bank, the sock and mitten tree, & advent coin jars.

Canadian Tire money for Camp Quin-mo-lac.

Donations for the victims of the flooded West, the Syrian war and Typhoon Haiyan.

Two of our youth, Claire French and Beth Cairncross along with Rev. Takouhi and Paul Simpson from Elgin are headed to El Salvador in March.

So many people in the church offer their time and talents as well as their funds to the mission of the church, *GROWING, CARING, MAKING A DIFFERENCE*. As a result, our church imbues a vibrant fellowship in which to worship, praise and serve our Lord and feel the love of God.

Peggy Bond

2013 PORTLAND COMMUNITY LUNCHEONS REPORT

The monthly luncheons held at Portland United Church on the fourth Tuesday of each month have been very successful with a high of about 45 diners this past October. We celebrated our two-year anniversary in November with a meal of ham, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, and several kinds of desserts.

Donations of produce from the Community Gardens and the Bond home were gratefully received as were the delicious cakes and squares from church members. Both Peggy Bond and Louise Martin have been faithful helpers, as well as my wife, Joan Delaney.

Although the luncheons were designed to foster fellowship, a pleasant side effect of having funds left over after expenses has occurred and the Dental Issues Group has benefitted.

We are looking forward to another successful year in 2014.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Butcher, coordinator.

PORTLAND FOOD BANK

It has been a busy year for the Portland Food Bank but the good news is that while other Food Banks in the region are experiencing rising numbers who use the Food Bank, our numbers in Portland have decreased. We are now serving 14 households, 3 households with children and the remaining 11 are made up of mostly seniors and single individual households.

We have been blessed with the generosity of a number of businesses, schools and non-profit organizations as well as the Members of Portland United Church who fill our hamper on a regular basis. We recognize the following:

Lens Cove Marina; The Community Clothing Cooperative; Red Knights Motor Cycle Club; Rideau Centennial (Portland) Elementary School; Rideau District High School; The Artist Guild; Country Roads Community Health Centre; Lombardy Agricultural Society; Rideau Lakes Horticultural Society; Rideau Lakes Golf Course, Westport; Portland United Church Women; Portland Community Gardens; Portland United Church Sunday School; and many generous individual donations.

If I have missed anyone, my apologies.

With your support Portland Food Bank can continue to provide this much needed service to those less fortunate in our community.

Thank you from the Volunteers at the Portland Food Bank
Margaret Martin, Vicky Zwiers, Ilona French and Cheryl Stoddard

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY COMMITTEE

In 2013 there were no burials/interments. We started cleaning up the brush from along the fence lines.

In 2014 we plan on cleaning up the rest of the brush and possibly giving the road fence a facelift.

Also this summer we are planning to have a cemetery service.

The following is our financial statement.

Opening balance		\$ 5,480.16
Receipts		
Bank interest	\$ 3.32	
Donations	800.00	
Interest from Public Guardian	316.24	
Sale of plots	0.00	
		1,119.56
Expenses		
Grass Cutting	\$ 910.00	
HST	118.30	
Gas for Chipper	25.90	
Update layout drawing	50.00	
Test can of paint for fence	<u>29.33</u>	
		- 1,133.53
Closing Balance		<u>\$ 5,466.19</u>

I would like to thank all those who helped to keep our cemetery in good condition and those who have contributed to our cemetery fund.

Submitted by Blaine Tackaberry, Chair, Cemetery Committee

2013 Portland United Church FUNdraising

2013 was a challenging and successful financial year for Portland United Church. It was challenging in that we were running in the red at the beginning of the year, but that often brings out the best in everyone. And so Portland United Church started hiking, cooking, selling and filling our sanctuary with various sounds of music, drama and poetry. Below are the results of our teamwork to keep Portland United Church dynamic and vibrant in the coming year.

Rock Dunder Walkathon	\$1,030.30	
Tupperware Party	350.00	
Play and Poetry Evening	527.75	
Fish Fry	1,778.42	- manse - Portland and Elgin
Summer Sale Event – Carol, Norma, Connie	1,927.85	
Evening of Songs – Rasa, Janet, Dave, Marg	2,120.00	
Eleanor Glenn Donation from Books	20.00	
Oktoberfest Dinner – Carol Irwin	358.00	- DIG
Henry Norwood Classic Country Concert	842.30	
Celtic Autumn Concert	785.00	
Christmas Quartet and Bell Choir	<u>783.00</u>	
Total	\$10,522.62	

Upcoming Events

Skate the Lake Dinner	January 24 - El Salvador
Skate the Lake Breakfast	January 25 - El Salvador
Valentine's Box Social - Rasa, etc.	February 14
Bingo for Baking	March 1 - El Salvador
UCW Irish Stew Dinner	March 14 - UCW
Music at Work in Young People - Concert	May
Tearoom Lunch for Rideau Lakes Studio & Garden Tour	July 5
Tearoom Lunch for Rideau Lakes Studio & Garden Tour	July 6

Carolyn Long
Portland United Church FUNdraiser Co-ordinator

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND REPORT

The Memorials Fund has been generously supported these past years with donations dedicated to our memories of revered members of our congregation. For instance this year, thank-you cards on behalf of the congregation of Portland United Church have been sent out (as per custom) to those who have made donations to our Memorial Fund in memory of Myrtena McVean and Phyllis Chant.

Our Memorial Fund is used to perpetuate our treasured memories through worthy projects of long-term nature. Please refer to our Memorial Book for a complete list of the many attributes of our church that are reminders of those people so revered. Over recent years, thanks to our Memorial Fund our sanctuary lighting has been improved in safety, efficiency and effectiveness. More recently our Memorial Funds have been dedicated to up-dating and improving our sound and recording system. Hanging microphones over the choir are now linked through a complex of cables. Eventually our audio and visual message will be heard and seen in other quarters of Portland United Church and through cyberspace to the wider community. We hope to provide our sound technicians with a roll-top desk to accommodate and secure our equipment at the back of the sanctuary. We are also investigating the purchase of several sets of headphones for those wishing hearing assistance. Thanks to a generous donor, we now have a large screen TV in the Gathering Place for the use of our Sunday School. It will also find service in the future for viewing sermons, ceremonies and concerts being held in the Sanctuary. Hopefully we will soon have the hard wire and/or wireless link to make audio and video connections Upstairs Downstairs. Special thanks to William, Brian, Brad et al for their diligence and dedication in making these endeavors worth-while.

Financial Statement of our Memorial Fund for 2013
Please see Treasurer's Report

Doug Bond, Memorials Chair, January 2014

PORTLAND MISSION AND SERVICE REPORT

We take approximately a minute on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, usually, to learn of some of the good works that the Mission and Service Fund supports. Thanks to all who have volunteered to read the Minute for Mission. Hearing about some of the ingenious ways that the United Church works in Canada and around the world to help the most vulnerable and make their lives just a little better, helps us to understand our Church's wide range of activities to serve God. Thank you to all who supported their works. We once again we reached our goal to help them help others.

Peggy Bond

Portland United Church Treasurer's Report 2013

OPERATING ACCOUNT

BALANCE FORWARD Jan. 1, 2013

\$6,557.76

INCOME

Committees

Christian Ed	1,030.03
Decoration	0.00
Envelopes	136.00
Music	0.00
Observer	20.00
Outreach	0.00
Property	0.00
Visitation	0.00
Worship	0.00

Other
Operating

Bank	0.00
Donations from...	0.00
GST Rebate	3,625.20
Invest Inc	0.00
Sunday Offering	68,511.68
Transfers	6,870.20
Fund-Raisers (for El Salvador)	350.00

TOTAL INCOME

\$80,543.11

EXPENSES

Committees

Christian Ed	599.78
Decoration	99.32
Envelopes	400.82
Music	292.51
Observer	1,440.00
Outreach	724.33
Property	11,046.46
Visitation	62.42
Worship	109.97

Other
Operating

Bank charges	0.00
Contract Services	10,307.50
Elevator	1,065.00
E - P Charge	40,800.00
Gift to ...	0.00
Insurance	3,202.20

Music (piano-organ)	293.80
Office	409.31
Utilities Electric	10,015.94
Utilities Gas	146.65
Utilities water	0.00
Transfers	0.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$81,016.01

CLOSING BALANCE **\$6,084.86**

Designated Accounts 2013

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Closing Balance
Burs. & Benevolent	\$637.85	\$1,220.80	-\$430.00	\$1,428.65
Building Fund	\$429.39	\$635.00	\$0.00	\$1,064.39
Memorials	\$751.20	\$800.00	-\$5,631.67	-\$4,080.47
M & S	\$0.00	\$12,332.00	-\$12,332.00	\$0.00
Dental Issues	\$0.00	\$2,007.00	-\$2,007.00	\$0.00
Cases of Caring	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rear Window	\$240.00	\$17,477.00	-\$15,000.00	\$2,717.00

Investments

We have experienced a 14% return on our investments through the United Church investment fund since November 2012 and our investments are now worth \$145,583. The Trustees receive quarterly reports.

