

COORDINATING MINISTER'S FORWARD: REMEMBERING THE FUTURE

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. Ephes 1:3-4

Lent is a season of reflection for the purpose of preparation. In many ways this Annual Report, coming as it does in the heart of the Lenten season, is an appropriate Lenten exercise, especially this year. In Lent the preparation is for the purpose of more fully receiving the truth and joy of Easter. This report reflects the commitment, leadership, service, and fun of this congregation for the purpose of receiving and sharing the present and eternal joy of God's love and hope which is intended for all in the victory of divine love and life. All of our annual reports do this but this is especially true this year because this year great leadership has been shown, hard decisions have been made, and a sense of mission has been clarified, so that as a congregation seeking to receive, enjoy, and share God's love with all, we might be more effective in a wounded world.

Our world has again been wounded this year. A review of the year's events seems to be punctuated by regular moments of terror beginning and closing with attacks in Paris (January and November). In the U.S. by October the Washington Post reported that in 274 days there had been 294 mass shootings including that of nine church leaders who were killed during a Bible Study at a Charleston SC church in June. Gun violence actually lowered the life expectancy in the U.S. Such violence and terror was only a faint echo of what has been happening in Syria and Nigeria for years now. At the beginning of September, Canada seemed finally to awaken to the Syrian tragedy when the photograph of three-year-old Alan Kurdi, drowned on a beach, also came ashore in our hearts.

There were other key events some similarly shocking some uplifting. In March a German airliner was crashed by its co-pilot in an apparent act of homicidal suicide. In July, wreckage from the Malaysian Airliner that disappeared mysteriously in March the year previous washed up on Reunion Island. Flight is still one of the safest forms of travel and our technology is impressive but our humanity is still human. The iPhone 6S was released in September and people camped out around the world and spent hours in a line-up to get a phone marginally better than their iPhone 6. A Royal Princess was born in May though such an event isn't accorded the significance it once had – mostly a happy day for a nice couple and the paparazzi.

The Leafs got a little hope in May when Mike Babcock was hired and our church sign went viral again. Toronto hosted the Pan Am games in the summer. We cheered on great performances by Canadian athletes and seemed to survive the anticipated gridlock. Then the whole city jumped on the bandwagon and cheered some more at a Blue Jays run that fell a bat-flip short of the World Series. We love a winner. It's fun. I just hope we're not too desperate for it. I was glad when the Jays didn't offer David Price more than 217 million dollars U.S. he got from Boston to keep him in our pitching rotation.

Politicians were running at the same time as the pennant race and they learned the two didn't mix (the presence of a party leader seemed to coincide with a loss for the Jays). The political race ended with a change of government and a second Prime Minister Trudeau just as Canada came to grips with sinking oil prices and a sinking dollar.

People seemed anxious for change and the promise of “Sunny Ways.” We did begin to open our doors wider, welcoming more Syrian refugees home to our shores. It was uplifting to see such a broad based flow of compassion for desperate human beings. Even in the “selfie” generation, we can still recognize responsibility for the least of these sisters and brothers of ours. We are reminded, though, that this is a complex problem as Germany, the most generous in welcoming refugees, deals with many pressures and unacceptable and unlawful behaviours that have tested their compassion.

The world continued the Global Warming trend and climatic instability. In Ontario, we set a new record for cold in February 2015 but this year the winter has been mild stimulated by the largest El Nino ever recorded. January 2016 was the warmest on record. We set another record for cold in February but only on one day, we also set a new one day record for warmth. The world seems finally to be responding. Nations affirmed the strongest commitment yet to unified action with an accord in Paris in December.

All of this is a reminder that the world is not altogether well and those who follow the love of God revealed and given in Jesus have good, useful, and hopeful news for it and every creature in it.

And what of the church. In North America and Western Europe where “affluenza” can be offered as a courtroom defense, the church continues to face shrinking numbers. In the rest of the world, especially its poorest and most oppressed corners, the church continues to grow rapidly. We have a challenge in North America to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. We know the church in North America has a “brand” problem. This is put beautifully and succinctly by Dr. Craig Burrell a Canadian Theoretical Physicist and research scientist who also happens to read theology. In reviewing and praising David Bentley Hart’s book, “Atheist Delusions”, he states the problem this way:

There is a story that modernity tells itself about itself. The main characters and plot points are familiar to us all: modernity is pre-eminently devoted to reason and freedom; it is the heir of the beauty and rationality of ancient Greece and Rome; between us and those halcyon days there intervened a period of intellectual squalor, political oppression, and religious fanaticism; the preeminent power in those dark days was the Christian church, notable for its antagonism to learning and science, its hatred of the body and the physical world, its misogyny, its suppression of individuality and violent intolerance of difference, and its uniquely irrational devotion to faith. In these latter days, thanks to the courage and intelligence of certain great figures, the power of this notorious institution has been overthrown, and we have since experienced a steady march of progress toward greater liberty, rationality, and happiness.
(cburrell.wordpress.com/2009/08/10/hart-atheist-delusions/?blogsub)

Hart’s book reminds us that “the *actual* past differed from our lazy recollection of it” and demolishes “this flattering mythology of our secular age.” He also points out something we’ve been studying in our Bible Study/Book Groups in the work of Charles Taylor, James K. A. Smith, and Bradley Jersak, that this society has elevated self-will to the

centre of its ethical understanding and freedom of choice as its most important value. Thus the phrase “retail therapy” is sadly more than a joke, we feel better because we can “choose” something to buy, and “dying with dignity” is collapsed into meaning simply, to have the choice to die, rather than to die with the love and care corresponding to your significance as a child of God.

The God incarnate in Jesus reveals love as the highest value, not freedom. Love is the character that precedes self-will and shapes it. True freedom is exercised and expressed in the capacity to love your neighbour. It is not freedom “from” but freedom “for” the other. In the contemporary west, we live in a culture in thrall to a particular kind of tyranny, a false notion of freedom. It seems individuals have to keep on a treadmill of self-expression to “be different” rather than simply be a self who expresses. That is begun from the truth that they are different and possess intrinsic and immense dignity.

Churches have tried to respond to this frantic, choice-based, search for identity. In a world where the exhausting pursuit of the new seems the basis of self-worth, churches, like the car manufacturers that declare “this is not your father’s Oldsmobile” (when there still were Oldsmobiles) or “this doesn’t look like a Buick”, are declaring themselves to be churches for those “who don’t like church” or “a different kind of church” and “we’re not Christians; we’re Christ followers.” Anything to escape the negative implications of the “brand.” “If you want to attract millennials to your church,” the literature tells us, “start a new church.”

This worship of the new and curt dismissal of the possibility of any wisdom from the past isn’t new. At the beginning of the 20th century G.K. Chesterton remarked on this growing trend with his plea for a little respect for tradition: “Tradition means giving votes to the most obscure of all classes, our ancestors. It is the democracy of the dead. Tradition refuses to submit to that arrogant oligarchy who merely happen to be walking around.” Chesterton wasn’t a reactionary. He just believed we shouldn’t discard everything we might have learned. He objected to progressivism but also rejected conservatism. With his typical wit he observed, “The whole modern world has divided itself into Conservatives and Progressives. The business of Progressives is to go on making mistakes. The business of the Conservatives is to prevent the mistakes from being corrected.” (The London Illustrated News, April 1924). Later in the century, C.S. Lewis coined the term “chronological snobbery” to describe the prejudice that the past has little to offer us but boredom and mistakes, as relevant as last month’s cell phone.

The gifts of rapidly evolving technology, especially in the area of the internet and social media have been and will be transformative. More importantly, advances in the awareness of human rights and the dignity of all God’s children, especially the recognition of voices and talents marginalized and demonized in our past, offer great promise for the future. But their value isn’t in simply being “new” but in being an advance over what went before. Many changes offered by technology aren’t advances and we have to learn to tame them for the service of creation rather than be overrun to our impoverishment. Advances are made through listening to our past and honouring wisdom gained. We still have a long way to go before our society and world look like the love of Jesus. He is something old that the new hasn’t caught up with. This is where the church still is needed and still must learn.

This is a glimpse of the context in which Kingsway-Lambton carried out its ministry and mission in 2015 and the first months of 2016. I wish now to give another glimpse to highlight some of the events of that ministry and some of the strategy that went into our mission to serve Christ's love and hope.

In the last few years we have been confronted by falling attendance and an awareness as an aging congregation we need to reach out to the generation caught in all the dynamics and more mentioned above. We live in an aging society. The live-birth rate is down and people don't gather in the way they used to in just about every community organization, let alone the church. With some risks at Kingsway-Lambton, we made efforts to reach out to those caught in this trend. There are benefits in coming together as community, there are greater benefits in gathering in the shaping gift of God's love and family.

Our worship initiative, growing out of the work done by our Membership, Engagement, and Growth Committee, began a series of different styled services to expand our boundaries. This took many of us, including Anne Marie and myself, out of our comfort zone but it was a sign of respect and listening to those who don't come on a Sunday morning. Careful work was done in listening to responses and we are grateful to Paula and Bill Roberts who gave generously of their expertise in helping us to tabulate and understand the responses received. I thank Priscilla Knight and Donna-Lee Waymann for their leadership and having the hearts and compassion to push us out of our comfort zones. Not everyone liked it, though many did and surprisingly across all ages, but almost everyone realized the importance of doing something to reach out to a changing culture. We recognize that the centre of what we do isn't in the liturgical form but the substance of the love of God in Jesus Christ and for the sake of reaching and changing ourselves and our world by bringing people into relationship with Christ, his love and justice, we will use any form that serves effectively. We have not abandoned our traditional worship, it has worked to some degree through many changing cultures for more than two thousand years but so have other styles. We have committed some of our worship time, about eight services in the year, to continue to seek to develop and offer a worship format that will open our doors, to reflect our open hearts, to those for whom "church" is an artifact of a past culture, a foreign culture, or a nasty word.

Along these lines we have installed screens and monitors to enhance our worship by giving a visual component to proclaim the living Word. This too is out of the comfort zone for some of us though very much a part of the world we live in and how people learn and take in information. Christianity has long pushed the envelope and been on the pioneering edge of communication tools to proclaim God's love and life. Jesus perfected the parable and was brilliant in using object and visual lessons in bringing people to life. The church was instrumental in developing the "codice" (the chapter book as opposed to the scroll), and then the printing press (the first book printed was the Gutenberg Bible), art, stained glass, the organ, the radio and television, etc. We have a story worth telling with every communication lever at our command. The key is to use these tools as tools and not distractions, make them serve the content rather than become entertainment. The medium needs to convey, not become, the message but we also have to speak the language of those with whom we hope to share and this is a visual generation. I thank those who worked on our AV committee to see a long

term project through to completion. Geoff Butler, Susan Culver, Priscilla Knight, Dan Dupak and those who supported their efforts. Geoff continues to offer invaluable support as we integrate this tool to serve Christ and us.

The installation of the AV equipment allows other initiatives to reach out and engage in conversation with our community. One of those is again a gift of the initiative and leadership of Donna-Lee Waymann. We now have a film festival, with showings once a month: "Movies that Move You." These films which address social justice issues and challenges in our world also bring new people into our doors to grow our community and our conversation with our neighbours.

When we consider levers of communication, I must also mention the efforts of Bob Yeo and Risa MacDonald. Bob has implemented a new vision for our website which gives us a window and a voice in the burgeoning world of the internet. Our site is still growing and developing but it has received great affirmation and allows us to introduce ourselves and our warmth to the world, our events and works to be known, sermons to be heard, and donations to be made. Risa MacDonald continues the work of Newsletter Editors before her and brings a new awareness of contemporary print and social media. I thank her for her imagination, gifts, and time to help as we grow in our conversation with her generation.

When we turn to the subject of speaking to another generation, Kingsway-Lambton has made a major commitment this year. In January 2015, we welcomed the addition of Judith McCartney to our staff on a part-time basis. While Judith's talents were a gift, family, time, and distance challenges prevented her continuing with us past June, so our long standing search committee continued its efforts to find a minister to our young families, youth, and children. By September, the Official Board and congregation became aware of a financial challenge. There rose the question of whether we could even afford this position. Through a number of meetings by a special budget committee and two special meetings of the Official Board in the midst of the busyness of December, some difficult decisions were made to restructure our expenditures. It was determined that we could not afford not to hire someone for this position. This is to be a prime focus of our congregation's mission and ministry in facing the challenges of this time and place and the Official Board determined it had to be funded for the sake of our Youth and Young Families and the future of our congregation's life and service. The gift to us all has been the hiring of Mr. Moses Kang, a minister and young father with many gifts, a wonderful mind, accomplished education, a rich cultural background, diverse communication, technological, and musical skills, and warm personal charm. We welcome Moses and his wife Gloria, and young children Justin and Christine into our family, and join him in serving and cherishing our young families and our youth and children. I thank our search committee and its Chair, Sharon Burlacoff for their diligent efforts to find someone who is a fit for us and our future.

While looking to our future, we must honour our past. Those who have left us a rich legacy to pass onto our children in anticipation of our eternal future in God's risen life and love. Some wonderful servants of this congregation passed away in 2015. I mention those we have recognized as honorary elders, Alistair MacKenzie and Phyllis Williams. We also commended into God's keeping one of the charter members of Kingsway-Lambton, Forbes Black. I personally remember my mother; one of the newer members of

our congregation but someone who embraced and contributed to its vision even as she, with my deepest gratitude, was embraced by you and your kindness in the closing years of her life. Among those who passed away this past year are other parents and friends, husbands and wives, dear ones who have served our church and served our country, whose presence made this world for us a different, better place and whose passing leaves it forever changed. I thank God we do not grieve like those who have no hope.

Though some have gone to eternal rest, others have left our community and neighbourhood because of the many other changes that happen in life. Our ministry continues because of those who are ready to take up the torch and service of this great faith. As I wrote this report last year, we were preparing to welcome Ken Hood as the new Chair of the Official Board. But Ken was called to be a Judge, another esteemed form of public service, and we were called to find a leader to replace him. God is good and Priscilla Knight agreed to take the chair. We have not looked back and thank both Ken and Priscilla for offering themselves and their time and Priscilla for her wonderful courage and energy in leading us to directly address our challenges. In the last few months, the legal profession has again interfered with our church administration when Hugh Christie was called not to the bench but to head a new branch of a law firm which necessitated his resignation as chair of our M&P committee. Our sterling Nominating Committee under the leadership of Geoff Butler, once again went to work and is now filling out the membership of that important committee with talented people. We thank everyone who has answered the call to service including those who haven't been called to some other job at law. I thank Mary Prime our Clerk of Session, who came back from heart surgery with a bigger heart than I thought possible. I thank Ian Lush the Chair of Stewards for his participation in reshaping our finances in a way that responds to our needs. I thank Bill Winterburn, our Treasurer, who also gave generously of his valuable time and expertise to guide us through critical decisions. I thank John Waymann, the Chair of our Trustees, who continued to implement our new investment policies and John Franklin, the Chair of our Gifts and Giving Committee, who developed initiatives in the area of legacy giving, who diligently has searched to build a committee to lead us through a capital campaign, and who this year took on the coordination of our Stewardship Campaign. I thank Rita MacDonald, President of our U.C.W., and the many leaders within that vital group of women who support their church and their community and also deepen the bonds of friendship within our community. The leadership of these individuals together with all those who served with them, including their families, is a source of great gratitude and inspiration to me.

While I am distributing thanks, I must give some recognition and thanks to those who continue to serve the many ministries that make us who we are, both those ministries long standing and new ones responding to our world. I give thanks for the leadership teams and participants of our Art Show, Flea Market, Knitters, Honduras Committee, Out of the Cold, Food Drives, Kingsway-Lambton Seniors, and our Men's group. I thank Sarah Keating and Paula Roberts who brought the Alpha programme back onto our schedule this year with all its attendant benefits and Esther Reid who coordinated the meals for Alpha, and used her miraculous cooking skills to contribute to the St. Nicholas Soiree, the Staff and Volunteer Christmas Dinner, and our Out of the Cold service. I thank Charles Donley who found a source of turkey for our St. Nicholas Soiree but also showed his great leadership skills in

creating our first “Making a Difference Sunday” which brought together many of the service agencies we support to make our world a safer, more equitable, and healthier place where the marginalized are not forgotten. Along those lines, I thank Joy Crysdale and the Refugee Committee who have been developing and implementing our response to the tidal wave of human misery coming out of Syria and developing our relationship with other churches and community groups as we show why “organized” is a necessary word and way of being in the world as a community of faith. I thank Steve Prime for his leadership and coordination of Wednesday Worship, his commitment to our youth and Sunday School, his leadership of Grace Notes and the many other ways he uses his considerable musical, intellectual, and spiritual gifts to serve Jesus and us. He and Donna-Lee Waymann have become co-Chairs of our re-invigorated Worship Committee which will be a crucial team as we go forward serving diverse needs. I thank Erica Mezger and Cheryl Lynch who quietly coordinated our Coffee Hour and this year stepped forward with Sue Pepper to the huge job of coordinating the Christmas Pageant. The Pageant evolved this year from four nights to two, a reflection of the declining number of children in our community but also an act to take stress off of our performers and volunteers to ensure its long term sustainability and future growth. In taking on new tasks, Erica finished her term as Sunday School Coordinator and Anouchka Freybe ably took up that task supported by Katie Overstrom who provided leadership and energy in many places within our congregation’s life and work.

I thank Don MacInnes who puts many unseen hours into keeping our elevator and lift going up and down, our custodial staff consistently efficient, and the building which houses our mission warm and reliable, under a sharpened budgetary pencil. I thank Janice Bull who quietly and faithfully prepared and coordinated our Communion Services this year keeping them inclusive and taking the trouble to welcome those who need to be Gluten Free. I thank Dorothy Foster for her continued leadership in our Outreach. I also thank Roger Dawson and Gordon Wheatley who quietly serve this congregation week in and week out. Roger keeps our computers going even with Windows 10. Gordon faithfully records our services and keeps our sound system running and now has become adept at supporting our AV system. They work quietly but their efforts make a difference to everyone who doesn’t know how they serve us.

We make a difference every Sunday and in every Bible Study and wherever two or more are gathered in Christ’s name by being a community that bears witness in a selfie-addicted world to a Saviour who came to serve others. There are many more who make Kingsway-Lambton a living breathing fellowship in Jesus. Please insert your name here because you too are a precious and invaluable part of making the church a home. Yes you! I am serious. You are needed and a gift. The pages of this Annual Report only begin to acknowledge that. I thank you for teaching us in the way of grace.

In my own activity, in addition to all the usual rich congregational life, meetings, and service, that are part of the challenge of ministry, there was a steep learning curve as I learned new programs and skills and devoted considerable time to implement our new AV system and stretched to meet the challenges of trying new worship formats. I continue to try to learn to find a way of preaching that communicates to everyone without becoming simplistic, shallow, or entertainment oriented and continues to deliver the stimulating intellectual as well as the emotional depth of the truth who is Jesus. Beyond the Parish, or what is now

called our *Local Ministry Unit*, I continue to be a director of the Karl Barth Society centred in Princeton University. I attended programs in Professional Development at the Karl Barth Conference in Princeton and the Leonard Randall Preaching Festival. I was a guest preacher at Bannockburn Community Church in Muskoka and Timothy Eaton Memorial. I am a member of Presbytery's Mission Articulation Team and hope once again to improve upon my attendance at Presbytery meetings. I am part of a continuing education, ministry support programme called "Micah Group". Once again, the group is under the auspices of Fuller Theological Seminary with the aim of bringing ministers from many denominations together to: "form empowered, wise preachers who seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God leading others to join God's mission in the world." I also took part in and am glad our participation continues in a gathering of local Etobicoke United Church congregations that are seeking to address common challenges.

This year I thank you and look forward to some Sabbatical time. This will consist in an extended leave incorporating my summer holidays. It begins in the middle of May (after Confirmation) and ends with the beginning of September. I am booked for a month in Israel and a week on the Island of Iona and some conversations (as well as a little golf) with friends who now teach in seminaries in Scotland. I thank you for this opportunity to grow and leave my own comfort zone.

In this culture, where we are easily seduced by the new just because it is "seemingly" new or different, as opposed to being deeper and richer, we have a wonderful task to be oriented to a better future. We'll do so as we grow from the wisdom of our past and from relationship with the living God who is eternal.

I would like to close by giving thanks and appreciation to my staff colleagues and partners in this challenge to remember our future – to Rev. Dr. David Winsor for his continued compassion as our minister of Pastoral Care and his readiness to share pastoral challenges and the hopes and heartbreaks that go with them. To Anne Marie Page who continues to learn and grow in responding to the many demands on music leadership in this time of varied tastes and tempos. She with husband Garry give of their talent and creativity in many ways to support our music ministry. As we adapt together to the larger picture and challenge of serving the church in this time, I thank her for her support as a colleague and friend in this endeavour where flexibility and mutual-respect are as much an expression of our faith as a Handel Oratorio.

Speaking of mutual-respect, I must give praise and thanks to one of the great servants of our congregation, Gail Teal. One of the things I do not look forward to in the opportunities of this coming year is Gail's retirement. One of my first events at Kingsway-Lambton was to inadvertently barge in on her 50th birthday party in August of 2001. Now I find myself preparing for her retirement party in September of 2016. She has served this church as paid staff for thirty-one years and I have had the real privilege to be her colleague and next door neighbour for the last fifteen. We have begun a search for her replacement but she is irreplaceable and I thank God and thank Gail for the ministry we have shared and the support she has been to me and to us.

Gail and we have been ably supported and assisted by Karen Munday. She'll be taking on a heavier load in a time of transition but she is wonderfully capable and wonderfully flexible. Karen celebrated the wedding of her older daughter this past year and the second year of retirement of her husband Don but she continued to offer her faithful assistance to our ministry. Her hours have been trimmed to accommodate our larger picture but Karen has become a very important part of that picture and an even more valued colleague and friend. She continues to acquire new skills in the social media world while supplying us with digital and actual bulletins, announcements, and receipts. Thank you and God bless you Karen.

I thank Andrew Loudon who has taken up the role of Custodian with creativity and energy. Andrew brings many skills to the job, physical and technical and we're learning to use them all and appreciate him for his gifts, elasticity, and dedication. He's spent long hours up and down ladders in various gymnastic configurations for the sake of our AV system as well as the normal tasks of a complex and heavily used building. He's joined in his work ably and faithfully by Ali Salazar and Rosie Arriola.

I thank my wife Esther, my partner in life and ministry and in so many ways a leader and initiator of ministry within our congregation. We celebrated William getting a job in his field as a Nuclear Engineer and Heather returning from work in Scotland to go back to school toward a Masters in Creative Therapy. We mourned together the death of my mother and the beginning of this new stage of life as orphans. We are both grateful for our larger Kingsway-Lambton family and the embrace of God's love.

As usual, I ask forgiveness for my limitations and mistakes in this past year. They are all my own and I hope I continue to learn from them. I thank you for your strengths, your faithfulness and commitment to our shared cause in God's love. I am humbled by your kind words and your acts of kindness and ministry to me and my family in the gracious way of Jesus Christ.

We go together into 2016 remembering a future that is given to us by a God who loves this creation and in Jesus calls us and walks with us as we move not just to the new but to a new heaven and a new earth in an eternal love.

Your companion on the journey,
Rev. Hugh D. Reid.

BENEVOLENT FUND

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

The Benevolent Fund of Kingsway-Lambton provides emergency assistance to people in need and support to organizations that serve people in crisis. It is administered by me as Coordinating Minister with ad hoc support from a consultative committee and our Church Administrator.

Many come to our church door seeking help. Some come seeking listening, someone to affirm their dignity. Most come for food, shelter, car repairs, educational expenses. Some we approach in response to the confidential recommendation of family or friend. With folks off the street, I meet with them, record their name, address, family status, and any other information relevant to their needs, help given, and date. This information is confidentially shared with local churches to coordinate our efforts.

Our policy is not to give cash, though exceptions sometimes have to be made. Individual assistance is generally limited to once a month. Most help is in the form of food vouchers, a cheque made out to a landlord, pharmacy, Hydro, etc. In 2015, we supported one individual with funeral expenses, most for rent and food. We supported many charities, walks, rides, in which our members took part: Youth Unlimited, Living Rock, Ovarian and Breast Cancer, Out of the Cold, Urban Promise, Romero House, Women's Habitat, etc. Last year, a total of almost \$12,360 was distributed. Among those we helped you support were victims of a drive-by shooting. Over \$1750 was given out in food vouchers. The Benevolent Fund also gave support to the Refugee Committee. The maximum support any individual or organization is able to receive at the minister's discretion is \$1000.00 in a year. Such an amount is rare.

We try to use the fund to create independence not dependency. For some, our food vouchers or cheques are the only way to acquire fresh food. We are often a last resort. Many churches have stopped this practice. It can be frustrating but there is a need and Jesus keeps doing it so we do too. We make a difference.

Some organizations that operate on the front line against poverty also receive support. Last year again, six hundred dollars went to Stonegate Ecumenical Ministry's Christmas Hamper Program. We combine with the interest from the **Emma Johnston Fund**, to help a child attend a summer camp. That fund was established in memory of **Emma Johnston** and is open to donations in her memory to give a child a chance in life that tragedy took from Emma.

Through the Benevolent Fund of Kingsway-Lambton, once again, you made a difference. Many again discovered that when there is nowhere else to turn, there is the church. Many who have fallen through the cracks have found a place to land with a warm handshake, and a blessing. By this report, let me pass on to you the appreciation and thanks I receive from people you have never met but for whom, you have been a neighbour in Jesus' name.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Hugh D. Reid

THE PASTORAL CARE MINISTER REPORTS...

A very strange event happened in 1752. Are you aware that on Wednesday, September 2nd, that year, when people went to bed they woke up on Thursday, September 14th? They lost a dozen days!! How? Those days disappeared when the British Empire switched from the Julian calendar to the modern Gregorian one. The former was flawed and that caused the natural cycle of the seasons to be several days out of sync.

For each of us, on January 1st, this leap year, we were handed a fresh basket full of 366 days, 8784 hours and 527,040 minutes. How will you use what's in the basket? Will you lose a dozen days by wasting time, killing time, being inattentive to its value and possibilities?

What follows is how I and your Pastoral Care Team (PCT) used some of our hours in 2015 to be servants of God by being attentive to your spiritual needs. During the eleven months (the 12th month was annual vacation) I made 517 home, hospital, or retirement home visits, officiated at one wedding and six funerals. Outlined below are additional items of how we met our mandate:

- Reports made at weekly staff meetings.
- A member of your PCT made regular reports of our work to Session.
- Monthly meetings (excluding summer and December) of PCT that always included an educational component on subjects within the purview of our mandate. Said meetings included planning for Team members Holy Communion visits to homes of shut-ins, organizing our part in the congregational event on Physician Assisted Suicide on June 9th and the congregational event on October 13th on the subject "Palliative Care in the Home and Hospice."
- Numerous sessions of counselling with those requesting them.
- Delivery of Christmas short breads and the attendant delightful visits.
- Marked increase in telephone calls from a variety of folk, with some church connection, seeking help on a wide range of subjects.

Please note that **this year, 2016**, I have chosen to **reduce my time from 15 hours per week to 10**. Also, we will work cooperatively with a small Session group to help plan for more comprehensive visiting by elders and PCT to our congregation.

The Greeks have two words for time – Chronos (regular passage of time) and Kairos (meaningful time). I salute, laud and thank these members of your PCT who made Chronos into Kairos for those whom they visited and served: Jane Bright, Kathleen Fraser, Jean McDiarmid, Anne Mollenhauer, Margaret Pace, Rein Peterson, Peter Restivo and Sue Theakston. Also, I offer my gratitude to those members of our church staff with whom I found joy and affirmation in working. This year Gail Teal will retire. It has been an incomparable blessing to be a colleague of hers. Gail, I pray that the realization of your re-creation in retirement years will far exceed your expectations!

Now, for you who read this report: if, when you read it, there are ten months left in the year, you have 306 days, 7344 hours and 440,644 minutes. "Carpe diem" – seize the moment and make that time kairos.

Your Partner in Serving,
(Rev. Dr.) David Winsor

REPORT OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD

The Official Board consists of all the members of Session (elders); the members of the Committee of Stewards; the lay representatives to Presbytery; a voting representative from the Board of Trustees and the UCW; and the chairs of the following committees: Accessibility, Communications, Gifts & Giving, Ministry & Personnel and Nominating. You will find reports on the activities of these committees in this Annual Report.

I will highlight the activities of the Board during 2015 and review our main goals for 2016.

ACTIVITIES DURING 2015

AV Task Force

At the October 2014 meeting of the Official Board a task force was appointed to look into the installation of an AV system in our Sanctuary. The members of the Task Force were Geoff Butler, Susan Culver, Dan Dupak, Donna-Lee Waymann and Priscilla Knight. The layout of our Sanctuary made any AV installation more challenging and as well, it was important to limit as much as possible, the impact the AV system would have on the beauty of the Sanctuary. The AV Task Force conducted RFI and RFP processes in the spring of 2015 to select a vendor and obtained approval for the system design at a joint meeting of Session and the Committee of Stewards held in June 2015. Final planning with the successful vendor, RP Dynamics, was completed over the summer and installation of the equipment occurred in the first week of September 2015. The Task Force felt that the final installation achieved the objectives of limiting the impact on the beauty of Sanctuary. After working out some technical and learning issues during the initial couple of months, the system has been operating very well and video presentation is now an integral part of worship services and other events, including a series of movie nights to be presented during the spring. Kingsway-Lambton can now look forward to an enhanced visual experience in our Sanctuary for many years to come.

“Making a Difference”

In May we had a special Sunday called “Making a Difference” which celebrated the many charities that are supported by groups at Kingsway-Lambton. It was an opportunity for the congregation to put a face to the charities we support and also an opportunity for the charities to tell us, in person, how our support makes a difference to the lives of people they assist. This event showed us that we should be extremely proud of the number of people whose lives are changed because of the money raised at Kingsway-Lambton. Thanks to Charles Donley and his team of volunteers for all the work they did to organize this very successful day.

Interview Team for New Minister

Throughout the year, the Interview Team has been working diligently to find a new Minister to Young Families, Children and Youth. The Team successfully recruited Moses Kang who started with us on February 16, 2016. The members of the Interview Team were: Sharon Burlacoff (Chair), Alison Cooper, Charles Donley, Pam Gallagher, Marc Halbach, Sandra Linsdell and Steve Prime. I would like to thank them for their dedication to this task.

Budget Concerns

When the financial statements for September and October were analysed it became apparent that the Church would likely end the year with a significant deficit and would be facing a similar situation in 2016. A special Coordinating Committee meeting was held to address the anticipated deficits. Following that, we had 40 Official Board members come out to 2 special meetings in November and December at which, we reviewed our revenues and expenses to determine what could be done to address our financial situation.

We had to make some difficult decisions in developing the 2016 budget, decisions that were made after much discussion and care. Changes were made to reduce our fixed costs and we will continue to look at how we can increase both our attendance and our revenues. I have always known that we have a special group of volunteers at Kingsway-Lambton but that was never more apparent than at those meetings. The dedication and focus I observed was confirmation that the members of the Official Board truly care about our Church. A special thank you to Bill Winterburn and Ian Lush whose efforts related to this task were crucial.

PLANS FOR 2016

Governance Task Force

The Official Board established a Task Force late in 2015 to review the recommendations regarding Oversight and Leadership of the Membership Engagement and Growth Report. Their mandate is to review our current governance model, ensure committees are accountable and succession plans are in place and that committees have clear terms of reference. I would like to thank Susan Culver and Stan Locke from Session and Ian Lush and Bob Yeo from Stewards for their work on this important task force. The final report will come out later in 2016.

Strategies to increase membership and generate revenue

In order to address the concerns around recurring deficits and declining attendance, a motion was made at the special December meeting of the Official Board to develop “. . . strategies to increase membership and generate additional sources of revenue”. This

will be one of the main goals of the Official Board during 2016, but the Board members cannot do it alone. We need to develop a comprehensive plan to ensure that we can grow our congregation by sharing the message of hope and joy and the sense of community that we are so fortunate to experience at Kingsway-Lambton. It will require the work of all committees and congregants to reverse the trends we are experiencing. Recently, I attended a meeting of local United Churches. Several of them did not have Sunday Schools at all. To ensure this does not happen at Kingsway-Lambton, the Board confirmed its commitment to the hiring of a Minister to Young Families, Children and Youth. Moses Kang was hired in this position. Moses cannot solve the problem alone: we need to support him in his work to build our youth programs and try to bring in young families. We need volunteers for the Sunday School and other youth programs. Over the next couple of months, the Board will also be considering other ways that we can increase our attendance and reduce our deficits.

It has been a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Official Board over the last few months. The role has been challenging but also very rewarding. I would like to express my thanks to all the members of the Board and the committees of the Board for the time and effort they gave during 2015.

There are several people I would like to thank for their assistance as I have taken on this role over the last few months. Geoff Butler, the previous Chair who was always available to share his experience; and Martha MacGray, Secretary of the Official Board who has been very helpful in making all the arrangements for Board meetings, knowing when various tasks need to be done and ensuring the minutes of the Board meetings are completed. I would also like to express my appreciation to the staff: David Winsor, Anne Marie Page, Karen Munday, Andrew Loudon, Ali Salazar and Rosie Arriola who consistently work to support our congregation. I would especially like to thank Gail Teal for sharing her knowledge of Kingsway-Lambton and various United Church procedures with me in this role. Her help has been invaluable. I was always aware that Hugh Reid was dedicated but having worked closely with him over the last few months I realize how devoted he is to the Kingsway-Lambton family. It has been a real pleasure to work with Hugh. Finally, I would like to thank all of you: those who volunteer, those who attend the services and other activities at our Church – it takes everyone to make Kingsway-Lambton the special church it is.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Knight, Chair
Official Board

THE ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE REPORTS...

In 2015, the Accessibility Committee was engaged in two main activities:

1. Planning for training updates: We have scheduled a training session to review the Serve-ability materials on Wednesday, May 11 at 7 p.m. in the KLUC Auditorium. This will be an open invitation to all committee members and chairs, both long-time and newly appointed, as the last training sessions took place in 2011-12. This session will ensure that all KLUC staff and volunteers are aware of the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and are able to provide an open and welcoming environment for our members and visitors.

2. Responding to member/visitor feedback

Feedback received from a member has provided an opportunity to enhance KLUC's accessibility in these areas:

- Use of the lift
Action taken: The lift was serviced and a new set of instructions is being pilot tested. We will introduce these instructions at the May training session.
- Washroom accessibility
Action taken: The Committee has discussed the need to install an automatic door opener for at least one of the accessible washrooms.
- Space for assistive devices in the sanctuary
Action taken: Chairs were re-arranged to create additional open space in the Chapel area.
- Drop-off zone in front of the church
Action taken: We are pilot testing signage in front of the main entrance.

The Committee members; Moira Grant, Rick Johnston, Don MacInnes, and Roman Niemy welcome feedback on these points.

Respectfully submitted,

Moira Grant, Chair
Accessibility Committee

THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORTS...

The church's newsletter, the *Carillon*, had a new Editor in 2015. We were pleased that Risa MacDonald volunteered to join the Committee, bringing her own vision for the publication. She took over from Mary-Margaret MacInnes who held this role for the past two years. Thanks to Mary-Margaret for leading this important initiative which keeps our members and others aware of the ministries and programs operating at Kingsway-Lambton. I look forward to working with Risa as she continues to evolve the publication.

A summer project for the office staff involved reviewing the church's email database. As a result of that work, many more people now receive the *Carillon* by email, and our postage costs have been reduced.

The website continues to be well used with more content being published regularly. Additional ways of communicating with our various audiences are being rolled out throughout 2016, which will include Twitter and other sites. We also aim to increase our digital communication efforts as it is through these media that we will engage today's world.

Our goals for 2016 include finding more ways to support other committees within the church in promoting their activities. This can only happen through more coordination and advance planning.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Yeo,
Chair

THE GIFTS AND GIVING COMMITTEE (G&G) REPORTS...

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Amount Pledged	\$349,262	\$361,691*	\$420,450	\$422,612	\$440,145	\$431,934
# of Pledges	231	226	239	234	231	221
Average Amount Pledged	\$1,512	\$1,600	\$1,759	\$1,806	\$1,905	\$1,954

*plus \$45,450 step up campaign

This year's Stewardship Campaign included:

- Three different speakers addressing the congregation on Sunday morning during the month of November. Thanks to Katie Overstrom, Bob Yeo and Donna-Lee Waymann for their excellent talks.
- A new Stewardship brochure was developed for the campaign and a letter, brochure and pledge card were mailed to all members.
- An e-blast was sent near the end of November as a reminder to return pledge cards.
- The G & G Committee undertook a telephone campaign to follow up on those who had previously pledged but had not yet returned a card.

Ongoing work of the G & G Committee:

- During the year \$30,405 was contributed by Memorial donations.
- The website was updated for the section relating to gifts and donations.
- A brochure was developed which was mailed to the congregation along with a letter introducing the new Legacy Program at Kingsway-Lambton.

LEGACY

The G & G Committee gratefully acknowledges a gift received in 2015 from the estate of: Marian Young.

The following individuals have indicated that Kingsway-Lambton United Church has been included in their estate plans and we thank them:

Gwen Atkinson & Fred Black

Donald & Mary-Margaret MacInnes

John & Margaret Capes

Joseph & Connie McArthur

Paul & Barbara Collings

Robert & Dianne Mundy

Hans Dickie

John & Donna-Lee Waymann

John & Susan Franklin

Gordon & Margaret Robb

and 4 who wish to remain anonymous.

The G & G Committee is hopeful that more members will join the legacy group above in the calendar year 2016.

Goals for 2016:

- Oversee and assist in the launch of a new Capital Campaign.
- Continue to develop the Legacy Program.
- Complete the work on gathering and producing statistical information useful for Stewardship.
- Oversee and assist with the annual Stewardship Campaign.
- Report to the congregation on Legacy, Capital Campaign and Stewardship periodically.

Respectfully submitted,

John Franklin, Chair
Gifts and Giving Committee

THE MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORTS...

2015 has been an active year for the M&P Committee.

It has been a pleasure for the M&P Committee to work with the staff this year. In April we welcomed Andrew Loudon as the Church Sexton. Andrew has been a huge asset to our staff and uses his skills to handle many maintenance projects. Our part-time sextons Ali Salazar and Rosie Arriola are valued members of our caretaking staff.

We thank Rev. Hugh Reid for his dedication to Kingsway-Lambton and particularly appreciate the extra efforts he put in during the period when we were short-staffed. Rev. Dr. David Winsor continues to do an excellent job caring for many of our elderly and those who cannot attend our services. Anne Marie Page's gift of music is a blessing every week at the worship services. We appreciate Gail Teal's dedication to our church as she handles her many responsibilities. Karen Munday, our part-time Administrator, takes great care in her work and is always a pleasure to work with. A difficult decision was made late in 2015 to reduce the hours of some of our staff. We would especially like to express our appreciation to those staff.

Following the resignation of Rev. Maryann Skinner in 2014, a review of the Associate Minister position was completed and it was determined that the needs of the congregation would best be filled by changing this position to a Minister to Young Families, Children and Youth. Judith McCartney was hired on an interim basis in this position from January to July 2015.

An Interview Team was established to search for an individual who could fill the Minister to Young Families, Children and Youth position on a permanent basis. The Team worked through most of the year and in November 2015 they identified an applicant who they considered would be an excellent match for the position. Following several interviews, including one with Rev. Hugh Reid, and the careful checking of references, they recommended the hiring of Moses Kang to this position. The M&P Committee worked closely with the Team in establishing the terms and conditions of employment.

The members of the M&P Committee during 2015 were Kathy Campbell, David Macdonald, and Jennifer Visser with Hugh Christie as Chair.

During 2015 the M&P Committee has continued to ensure that the management of staff is fair and objective. The Committee has also maintained a system of annual reviews of performance and provided a forum for staff to bring forward their concerns regarding their employment.

Respectfully submitted,

David Macdonald, Member
Ministry and Personnel Committee

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORTS...

The Nominating Committee is pleased to report the following individuals have agreed to serve in leadership roles at Kingsway-Lambton United Church:

1. Chair of the Official Board: **Priscilla Knight** agreed to serve as Chair of the Official Board for a term ending February 28, 2018.
Priscilla was elected to the position at a Congregational Meeting held on October 4, 2015.
2. Sunday School Superintendent: **Anouchka Freybe** agreed to serve as Sunday School Superintendent for a term ending February 28, 2018.
3. Chair of Accessibility: **Moira Grant** agreed to serve as the Chair of the Accessibility Committee for a term ending February 28, 2018.
Anouchka and Moira were appointed to their positions at the Official Board meeting held on October 6th, 2015.
4. Chair of the Committee of Stewards: **Ian Lush** has agreed to extend his term in this role for one year until February 28, 2017.
5. Treasurer: **Bill Winterburn** has agreed to extend his term as Treasurer for one year until February 28, 2017.
6. Chair of the Communications Committee: **Bob Yeo** has agreed to continue leading the Communications Committee until June 30, 2016.
7. Ministry & Personnel Committee: **Horace Knight** agreed to serve as a member of the Ministry and Personnel Committee for a one-year term ending February 28, 2017.
Ian, Bill, Bob and Horace were appointed to their positions at the Official Board meeting held on February 2nd 2016.

The Nominating Committee members are Geoffrey Butler, Horace Knight, Katie Overstrom and Don MacInnes. Rev. Hugh Reid participates as a consulting member of the Committee.

The Nominating Committee extends sincere thanks to all of the outgoing leaders for their years of service and a warm welcome and appreciation to our new and continuing leaders for their commitment to the life and work of Kingsway-Lambton United Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Butler
Chair

THE CLERK OF SESSION REPORTS...

Session Goals for 2015

1. Bring the gospel to new families and young people in the community, refresh and reinvigorate our Sunday School and develop a youth group with regular youth activities.
2. To further engage the congregation and others in the community through the new contemporary style worship services, including audio visual.
3. Continue to increase and deepen membership engagement .

An Elder is a person in full membership of the Church specifically chosen by the congregation to have, together with the ordered ministers, oversight of the spiritual interests, welfare, and growth of the congregation. Session is currently made up of 47 Elders, chaired by our Coordinating Minister, Rev. Hugh Reid. We are striving, with the grace of God, to be a welcoming community seeking to receive, enjoy, and share the love God in Jesus so that no one is ever alone.

I would like to move the following:

**That the congregation of Kingsway-Lambton United Church approve the recommendation from Session that the following persons become Elders:
Anne Adams, Dorothy Donley and Margaret Pace**

Highlights of the Year

In 2015, the momentum began for growth in our young families. Judith McCartney was hired as an interim **Minister to Young Families, Children and Youth** for 5 months. It became clearer that if we are to continue to build a strong children's and youth ministry at K-L we will need to invest both time & money in developing children & youth programs. If we do not offer these programs for families we will be restricted in our effectiveness to reach out to families in the community and our church families could leave K-L to seek these programs in other churches.

After Judith's departure in June, we carried on under the leadership of Katie Overstrom, Chair of the Children and Youth Support Initiative, and Anouchka Freybe, K-L Kids Superintendent. Our challenges include a shortage of volunteers & teachers, and inconsistent attendance at Sunday School and youth events. We celebrate and thank both Katie and Anouchka for their work and dedication to our children and youth.

Ultimately, our Interview Team was successful in hiring a new Minister to Young Families, Children & Youth, Mr. Moses Kang, effective February 16, 2016. We look forward to growing in this area. Thank you to the team under the leadership of Sharon Burlacoff.

The Worship Review Initiative (WRI), under the leadership of Priscilla Knight and Donna-Lee Waymann, was very sensitive to our congregation's needs and the community, in their experimentation and implementation of a contemporary "Expanding the Boundaries" service the first Sunday of a number of months in 2015. We thank their

team, consisting of Stephanie Knight, Dan Ryan and Jennifer Visser with the support of Rev. Hugh Reid and Anne Marie Page, Minister of Music. Surveys were taken on the subject of alternative services at KLUC and the overall results indicated the congregation remains generally positive to exploring this format to augment the regular service. Thank you to Bill and Paula Roberts who volunteered their time and expertise in analyzing the data. These services will continue until June, 2016 at a minimum, as we review and respond to final feedback from the survey.

Adult Christian Education continues to thrive at KLUC. Alpha was back in fall 2015 under the very able leadership of Sarah Keating and Paula Roberts. Our integration of Wednesday informal worship with Christ-centred and Scripture-based studies, led by lay leaders, is being warmly received and we thank Steve Prime for his leadership. Rev. Hugh continues to lead two morning Bible Studies and our annual Week of Guided Prayer is a vital time for deepening one's relationship with God. Thanks to Kathleen Wooder and Barbara Manners for their creative and strong leadership.

Movies that Move You, a film series at KLUC, introduced by Donna-Lee Waymann, was approved at Session in the fall of 2015. We are very excited to use our new audio visual equipment outside of the Sunday service and, at the same time, welcome the community to our sanctuary midweek! The movies will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month commencing February 17th until and including May 18th. Free admission, doors open at 6:30 for a 7pm start.

2015 Stats (with 2014 in brackets):

- 14 Baptisms (16)
- 1 New Members (12)
- 12 Deaths (16)
- 10 Marriages (16)
- 194 Sunday Average Attendance (202)
- 17 Wednesday Worship Avg. Attendance (21)

Session Goals for 2016

1. Let's be a family-friendly church, open to new families and keeping families involved here.
2. Restructure our Elder Visitation Program in an effort to increase connection and communication with the congregation.
3. Continue Adult Christian Education and draw newcomers in through Wednesday Worship, Sunday Worship, Alpha and all our other programs.

MEMBERS OF SESSION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2105

MINISTERS

Rev. Hugh Reid, Rev. Dr. David Winsor

CLERK OF SESSION

Mary Prime

ELDERS EMERITUS

Elizabeth Adams, Jean Gunn, Doreen Hodson, Gwladys Martin, Anne Mollenhauer, Edith Sawyer, Donna Siddall, Jacqueline Smith, Edith Taylor

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Dante Asquini, Mary Asquini, Janice Bull, Geoffrey Butler, John Capes, Glen Caughey, Paul Collings, Joy Crysdale, Susan Culver, Clive Curtis, Karen Czaniecki, John Dods, Dorothy Donley, Connie Dupak, Dorothy Foster, Kathleen Fraser, Sam Goodwin, Moira Grant, Bruce Haines, Marc Halbach, Ken Hood, Earl Humphreys, Barbara Jarvis, Rick Johnston, Beverley Judson, Horace Knight, Henry Kutzko, Linda Locke, Stan Locke, Jeff Loudon, Robert Loveys, Cynthia Macdonald, Iain McRuvie, Eldon Morrell, Dianne Mundy, Robert Mundy, Sandra Niemy, Katie Overstrom, Stephen Prime, Margaret Robb, Barbara Sheffield, Jayne-Ann Steele, Barry Street, Beth Street, John Switzer, and Brian Wynn

The following elders resigned in 2015:

Jean Adare, Barbara Bunton, Patricia Butler, Brett Knowles, Peter Restivo, Donna Siddall

The following members passed away in 2015:

Alistair MacKenzie (Elder Emeritus) and Phyllis Williams (Elder Emeritus).

In conclusion, I thank all the members of Session, the Committee and Initiative Chairs and Rev. Hugh for their support.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Prime
Clerk of Session

IN MEMORIAM

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life and into God's keeping we have entrusted these members of our Kingsway-Lambton family now departed.

We are grateful for them and the gifts they shared as partners in the Gospel and builders of community. We are in their debt as they are in our hearts.

We remember them together with the loved ones of members and adherents of our congregation who have died in this past year: parents, siblings, friends.

"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died." 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-14

Elizabeth (Betty) Irvine died January 8, 2015

Gloria Hendrick died January 11, 2015

Alistair MacKenzie died January 15, 2015

Marian Young died April 12, 2015

Dorothy McLellan died April 18, 2015

William Buttimer died May 25, 2015

Maeve Taggart died May 27, 2015

Bruce (Bud) Train died June 27, 2015

Ellard Yeo died July 1, 2015

Donald Pinchin died July 29, 2015

Phyllis Williams died August 17, 2015

Edith Reid died September 6, 2015

Vera Buckley died November 14, 2015

T. Forbes Black died December 7, 2015

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SESSION FOR THE YEAR 2015

Membership on Church Roll as of December 31, 2014	640
Added to the Church Roll in 2015:	
By Profession of Faith - under age 18 (Confirmation)	1
- over age 18	0
By Transfer of Membership	0
Reinstated to the Church Roll	0
	1
Removed from the Church Roll in 2015:	
By Certificate of Transfer	1
By Death	12
By Act of Session	0
	13
Membership on the Church Roll as of December 31, 2015	628
Non-resident Members	94
Non-resident Members – Young Adults at University	<u>35</u>
	757
Baptisms for the year 2015	14
Total number of Marriages in 2015	10
Burials for the year 2015 (Members)	10
Total number of Funerals (Members and Non-Members) for the year 2015	15

THE HONDURAS COMMITTEE REPORTS...

Ever have a conversation that stayed with you long after it concluded? Recently I heard that one of the reasons churches are suffering from declining attendance and dwindling givings is that they have reversed the order the early church had that led to its growth. Today we generally start with belief (vows of baptism, confirmation, study groups), next is behaviour (church attendance, learning to pray and take part in church events), finally belonging (experiencing some of the above through groups and committees that do good works and service). The early church (disciples) experienced Jesus and engaged in good works: their behaviour changed (no longer fishermen, etc.) and finally their belief in Jesus and what the church was, grew.

One of the advantages of your Honduras Committee is we offer opportunities for folk to experience Christianity by belonging to a mission team that goes to serve. In the past 15 years we have had mission teams go to El Hogar from our church (we now have over 100 alumni) and, overwhelmingly, they affirm how much that experience has meant to their spiritual journey. Likely because of smaller numbers to draw from, in 2015, no team went from our church. In 2016 we do hope to have sufficient numbers to comprise a team. Despite the hiatus we have been busy raising funds through our highly successful Rally for Hope - Car Rally, dinner and auction in October, held at Leaside United Church. Eduardo Bennett, an El Hogar graduate who became an international soccer star, was our noted speaker. The next day, Sunday the 25th of October, Eduardo preached at our church. Additionally, we raised funds by selling baked goods at our annual Flea Market.

On behalf of the abandoned, orphaned, poor and sometimes abused children of Honduras we thank you for your interest and support in helping them find new life and hope at El Hogar.

Your Committee members are Mary Asquini, Jeff Bacon, Susan Franklin, Moira Grant, Gary Huggins, Sarah Keating, and Wendy Maloney.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo Mingay
Chair, Honduras Committee

THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORTS...

Community Outreach financially supports six agencies in our community. These agencies tend to be under-financed, yet provide services essential to the disabled, the poor and disadvantaged youth and seniors in our community.

- Youth Without Shelter
- The Gatehouse
- Parkdale Golden Age Foundation
- Out of the Cold
- Stonegate Ministry
- Lake Scugog Camp

Our committee members are Barbara Bunton, Paul Collings, Kathy Kearns, Bob Loveys, Esther Reid, Donna Siddall, and Dorothy Foster as Chair. We have two new members; Joy Crysdale who visits our agencies and looks for opportunities to engage our congregation in helping with projects and Wendy MacKenzie, an events planner, who will help us with fundraising ideas.

Activities and Events in 2015:

- We hosted the “Out of the Cold” dinner in February with a delicious roast beef dinner with all the trimmings.
- We have an ongoing food drive for the food bank at Christ Church St. James
- We donated \$2000.00 to Lake Scugog Camp in June.
- In November, we gave \$2000.00 to each of our agencies, with the exception of Lake Scugog who received their donation in June.
- We donated \$1,000.00 to The Living Rock ministry in celebration of their 30th anniversary.
- We sponsored the Parkdale Golden Age foundation Christmas lunch with a donation of \$500.00.

Goals for 2016:

- To recruit more committee members.
- To have a fundraiser in the fall.
- To have a more consistent relationship with our agencies and look for opportunities to involve our youth and congregation in meaningful activities such as a workday at Lake Scugog Camp.

Currently, Outreach receives around \$10,000 from the Thanksgiving and Easter envelopes. When we had the Gala Auction, it used to generate around \$30,000, giving us \$40,000 to help fund our agencies. At this point the Gala doesn't appear to be viable, so the committee is working on ideas to raise additional funds so we can better serve our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Foster, Chair

THE MINISTER OF MUSIC REPORTS...

The music program at Kingsway-Lambton United continues to flourish, with robust and inclusive music programs for all ages.

The Chancel Choir offers support for Sunday worship, and presents concerts and special services for the congregation and community. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers, who offer generously of their time and talents to uphold worship. We are grateful as well for the Section Lead/Soloists, a quartet of professionals, with a second quartet of student musicians supported by the K-L Special Music Fund, who offer leadership and encouragement, allowing the Chancel Choir to present meaningful and relevant music in service each week, utilizing a broad range of styles. To Amy Dodington, Kate Tapp-Mock, Alison Muir, Ryan Downey, David Hunter, Stephanie Plummer, Amanda Ryan, Giovanni Spina, and Dan Ryan, thank you for your contribution to rehearsals and worship. Thank you to the numerous professional singers and music students who have supported the Chancel Choir as substitute section leads at various points throughout the year. We extend a particular thank you to Stella Moore for her dedication and fine organization of the Chancel Choir music library.

Special services this year included the presentation in March of Mass in G, by Franz Schubert, with the Sunflower String Quartet, and Carols by Candlelight in December, with Kingsway Brass. Again this year the Chancel Choir and NewSong participated in Carols on the Kingsway, in support of the Out of the Cold program. Guest instrumentalists throughout this year have included Glenn Campbell, drums; Nico Dann, percussion; Jesse Dietschi, string bass; Julie Fluelling, violin; Sal Fratia, tuba; Kim Hanmer, piano; Aubrey Kelly, trombone; Paul Mitchell, trumpet; Katie Mowat, saxophone; Garry Page, trumpet; Rupert Price, trombone; Steve Prime, violin; Anne Rankin, cello; Don Scott, guitar; Tom Wade-West, French horn; and Ruth Watson Henderson, piano. Thank you to each of you for your time and talent, as well as your sensitive approach to worship.

Concerts in the first half of 2015 included Page Two and Friends concert 'I Do', Music and Readings for a Wedding, with guest artists Imogen Grace and Giovanni Spina; 'A Touch of Celtic', with soloist Kathleen Tapp-Mock (we thank Kate for her years of service as Soprano Section Lead/Soloist at KLUC). Fall concerts included two Saturday performances of Shoestring Opera's version of Mozart's *Magic Flute*, for children and families (we thank Anne Rankin, Director of Shoestring Opera for her dedication to this project); 'KL Goes to the Movies', featuring the Chancel Choir and Section Lead/Soloists; and 'Music for Remembrance', with Page Two. Thank you to the Chancel Choir, and to Page Two, for their support of the Kingsway-Lambton Special Music Fund, which supports student musicians and special music initiatives.

NewSong, for children aged 7 to 14, and Kingsway-Lambkins, for children 3 to 6, offer opportunities for children to develop musicianship and music reading skills, as well as to develop multi-age friendships, making music in a safe and nurturing environment. To the parents who have supported this venture, providing snacks, bringing children each week, and offering general support for this program on an ongoing basis, thank you. We are particularly grateful to Nora Cutcliffe and Erica Mezger for their energy and support on behalf of these young musicians. The relationship between these children's music programs and the Kingsway-Lambton Christmas Pageant has been particularly cohesive during this past year, encouraging young musicians to become involved in both pageant and choirs. Thank you to Cheryl Lynch for her support and encouragement.

2014 was a year of innovation and experimentation, utilizing the findings of the 'Expanding Our Boundaries' Worship Review Initiative as a source of recommendation and encouragement to consider greater variance in worship. Changes were not exclusive to music, however, use of contemporary and Gospel music, as well as use of worship band for five services, provided a different backdrop for worship. Thank you to the members of the Worship Review Initiative for their time, energy, and positivity.

Wednesday Worship has presented a range of topics and models for worship, encouraging dialogue and Bible study in an informal evening service. Mosaic is a multi-generational group of musicians which participated in worship from September, 2013 to January, 2016. Mosaic has planned, rehearsed, and presented music to complement the various presenters, topics, and styles of worship which have encompassed these midweek services. Thank you to the members of Mosaic for their kindness and dedication, as well as their faithful and authentic approach to worship preparation. Thank you to Anne McMinn-Surian for providing tea, meals, and general support for this group over the course of the past two and half years.

It continues to be an honour to serve at Kingsway-Lambton United Church. Thank you to the staff for their dedication. I know that our united goal and intent is the further expansion of this congregation, and ever more vibrant worship and community. As such, my wish for each staff member is strength and faith for the years ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Marie Page,
Minister of Music

Soli Deo gloria

THE CHANCEL CHOIR REPORTS...

2015 was another music-filled year for the KLUC Chancel Choir. Our musical talents were stretched by learning different styles of music for the Expanding Our Boundaries services on the first Sunday of each month. Along with the congregation, the Chancel Choir is enjoying these services. Of course, we also continue to enjoy the more traditional music for our other Sunday morning services.

We were fortunate to have a full complement of choristers (typically 30 to 35) on Sunday mornings, and guidance from our talented Section Leads. Under the leadership of our Minister of Music, Anne Marie Page, the Choir continues to grow musically. Her choice of interesting music to enhance our worship services, and her strong musical skills are much appreciated.

During the year, the Chancel Choir Executive Committee developed a document defining the Roles and Responsibilities of the Committee. We believe this document will be helpful to new and current Choir members. Its opening statement summarizes our purpose: The Chancel Choir is a volunteer choir committed to Christian values and service, dedicated to enhancing worship services on Sunday mornings at KLUC. And now for some of the highlights of our year:

- In May, we presented our Spring concert, "A Touch of Celtic". This concert, which included many Celtic favourites, also included a bittersweet moment; a beautiful farewell solo from Kate Tapp Mock, our soprano soloist for many years, who retired in June.
- In October, we presented a concert of "Music from the Movies", which featured many award-winning tunes, including a rousing finale of Thank You For the Music, by ABBA. Proceeds from this concert and our May concert went to the Special Music Fund.
- At the end of November, we participated in the fourteenth annual Out of the Cold concert, joining four other local church choirs to raise funds to support this worthy program. As in past years, Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church was filled with an overflow crowd for this concert, which kicks off the Christmas season for the Kingsway.
- On December 13th, we presented our Carols by Candlelight service. This special service, which was enjoyed by a full church, included carols and readings of the Christmas story by members of the Choir.

Again this year, we were happy to have four scholarship soloists and three regular soloists to provide leadership to the forty-plus members of the choir. It is a privilege and a joy to sing weekly with this group of knowledgeable and talented musicians.

I would like to thank the members of the Chancel Choir Executive Committee for their ongoing advice and support: Wendy Deacon, Pam Gallagher, Nicola DeLong, Linda Locke, Carol Spiegelberg, Kate Tapp Mock, Susan Culver, Rod Wilson, Brad Weaver, and Kathleen Fraser. They have made it a pleasure to serve as President of the Chancel Choir.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Teal, President and Susan Culver, Past President of the Chancel Choir

THE MUSIC COMMITTEE REPORTS...

During 2015, the Music Committee:

- 1) Initiated planning and assistance for community-oriented musical events in 2015, including:
 - a) Concert: Page Two and Friends with Love - February
 - b) Service Presentation: Schubert Mass in G - March
 - c) Concert: A Touch of Celtic – May
 - d) Concert: Shoestring Opera's Magic Flute - September
 - e) Concert: K-L Goes to the Movies – October
 - f) Concert: Music and Readings for Peace – November
 - g) Joint concert: Out Of The Cold at OLS - November
- 2) Supported the Davenport Music Festival with a scholarship award.

Upcoming Initiatives for 2016 include:

- 1) Planning special musical events for the upcoming season, including:
 - a. Hymn Sing during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity - January
 - b. Presentation of Stabat Mater by Pergolesi - March
 - c. Holden Evening Prayer - March
 - d. Concert: Last Night of the Proms - May
- 2) Continuing support of the Davenport Music Festival.
- 3) Hosting the Bexley High School Ensemble from Ohio - January

The Music Committee applauds the inspiration and direction of Anne Marie Page, our Minister of Music. Her responsibilities included leading the Chancel Choir, NewSong, Kingsway Lambkins and assisting with the themes and musical components of our Midweek Worship. Anne Marie also played a large role in the preparation and execution of our Christmas Pageant, "A Child Is Born".

This Committee also recognizes the professional assistance in 2015 of Amy Dodington, Kate Tapp Mock (now retired), Alison Muir, Ryan Downey, Giovanni Spina, Dan Ryan, Amanda Ryan and Stephanie Plummer; and appreciates that the Ministry of Music flourishes at Kingsway-Lambton with the support of our Ministers and congregation, and through the dedication and enthusiasm of the participating adults and young people.

I respectfully submit this report on behalf of the Music Committee (Anne Marie Page, Ted Teal, Jeffrey Steele, Avalon Neale, Erika McNabb and myself).

Greg Hughes, Chair
Music Committee

THE PAGEANT COMMITTEE REPORTS...

The 79th annual Kingsway-Lambton United Church Christmas Pageant was performed December 3rd and 4th, 2015. The performances were preceded by six weeks of rehearsals by 85 children from the church and surrounding community. The Pageant was made possible by the tireless efforts of nearly 80 adult and teenage volunteers, in addition to the hard work and dedication of the performers. As always, the Pageant provided a joyful and fun-filled start to the Advent season for the church and our community. We were especially pleased to feature Moses & Gloria Kang's daughter Christine as the Thursday night Baby Jesus, and Horace & Priscilla Knight's grandson Miles as the Friday night Baby Jesus.

The 2015 Pageant executive team was comprised of Erica Mezger and Cheryl Lynch, who were asked to assume the role of producers in late September 2015. Erica and Cheryl were supported by the previous year's executive team, and were also greatly helped by Sue Pepper in the role of Director. Anne Marie Page assumed the role of Music Director, and worked enthusiastically to bring out the best of the many vocal groups, including writing a lovely new piece "The Carillon Carol" for the Lambkins Carollers choir.

2015 saw several changes to the Pageant. In previous years, four performances were presented by two casts. However, this format had become increasingly difficult to stage due to declining participation as the surrounding community's children grew older. In consultation with past Pageant executives and the Coordinating Minister, the decision was made to present two performances with one cast in 2015. This change allowed the children who participated to enjoy their Pageant experience, because they were no longer being asked to fill multiple roles during many consecutive performances. Additionally, the minimum age for participating in the Pageant was reduced from Grade 3 (8 years old) to Junior Kindergarten (4 years old). As a result, more than one third of this year's performers were in Grade 2 or younger. We believe that the future of the Pageant can be safeguarded by involving children as early as possible, in the hopes that the Pageant will become a part of their families' Christmas traditions before the children become busy with many extra-curricular activities.

The opening balance of the Pageant Fund this year was \$9,814.04, and the closing balance after the production was \$8,794.41. The difference was comprised of a \$1000.00 donation left over from the 2014 Pageant, and a \$19.63 deficit from the 2015 Pageant. The Pageant Executive remains concerned about the financial viability of a two-performance Pageant, and will look at introducing a third matinee performance in future years.

The current executive team have not yet committed to repeating their roles in 2016. However, they hope to have discerned their future involvement with the Pageant by the end of March 2016.

Respectively submitted,

Cheryl Lynch, on behalf of 2015 Pageant Executive

THE REFUGEE COMMITTEE REPORTS...

Actions, Highlights: 2015

In September, Session approved a motion to create a Refugee Committee at the church following the tragic and disturbing news of the migrant crisis in Europe and of the dire situation in refugee camps. In November, Session supported the Refugee Committee's pursuit of sponsorship of a refugee family. In December, the Official Board approved a motion that this sponsorship be in partnership with Runnymede United and Royal York Road United. That month, a meeting was also held of K-L volunteers to explain some of the work ahead.

The first meeting of the three churches as partners took place December 29th. The K-L Refugee Committee has essentially been absorbed into a core committee representing the three churches. A Memorandum of Understanding for the partnership is currently being reviewed by K-L's partners after review and advice from lawyer and K-L Session member, Brian Wynn.

Funds for the sponsorship were raised through donations from the congregation and from individuals and organizations outside the church. Our UCW and Benevolent Fund also contributed generously, bringing our church's current total to about \$22,000.

Goals 2016

1. Application completion: The process of applying for a refugee family through the UCC changed in January 2016. The initial stage, filling out the UCC survey for sponsoring groups, has been completed. The next stage will be to determine the type of sponsorship we will seek, followed by a review of the families available for that type of sponsorship. Once a family is selected, there are more forms to be completed. It is hoped this will be achieved in March, 2016.
2. Decision – type of sponsorship: The situation with respect to types of sponsorships and available families keeps changing. With a BVOR, or Blended Visa sponsorship, the government provides about one-third of the funds required. As of the writing of this report (Feb. 13, 2016), however, BVOR sponsorships are not currently available. Sponsorship groups may also become private sponsors, i.e., they provide all the funds required by a family for one year. As of the end of January, 2016, the funding available from our three churches was about \$55,000. We are told by AURA (Anglican United Refugee Agency) this should be enough to sponsor a family privately. However, family size is yet to be determined.
3. Selection of a family: There has been a very generous response by Canadians across the country to the Syrian crisis – so generous, in fact, that an AURA rep. told the committee in January the number of Syrian refugees available to be sponsored at that time was less than the groups wanting to sponsor them. Again, this situation could change.

It is the goal of the committee to select a refugee family for sponsorship as soon as possible. We have been told the arrival of a family after all forms are completed can be anywhere in a time range of five weeks to six months.

4. Volunteer organization: Our volunteer co-ordination team has mapped out an action plan for the 60+ volunteers (from the 3 churches and the community) that we have heard from to date. It is expected that the teams required prior to a family's arrival, and after, will be fully "staffed" by March. Police reference checks, AURA training and an orientation meeting will follow in order to make volunteers fully operational.

5. Continued partnership with the neighbourhood: One of the many inspiring aspects of the refugee work is creating new relationships within the community. Many of the people in our volunteer network heard about our project and volunteered to be involved in many meaningful ways. We believe this is a wonderful opportunity for stronger connections to be developed between our Kingsway-Lambton congregation and the local community.

In addition, although this is not directly the work of the tri-church refugee project, some K-L people involved in the project are working with a neighbourhood group planning to sponsor a Syrian refugee family. The group, called Kingsway Community Refugee Fund, approached our church to inquire if we would be willing to work with them to provide SAH (Sponsorship Agreement Holder) status to their project.

6. A successful welcome and the beginnings of integration for a refugee family: This, of course, is our ultimate goal. To be faithful to God's vision and the gospel of Jesus Christ to care for our brothers and sisters by supporting refugees in our community as they seek to establish new lives in Canada.

Tri- Church Committee members

Including church representation and some responsibilities

(K-L = Kingsway-Lambton / RYR = Royal York Road / RU = Runnymede United)

Eric Apps (RU) Technology tools, Volunteer coordination support

Kathi Bull (RYR) RYR rep

Judy Collinson (K-L) Volunteer Coordinator / Organizational consultant (Judy replaces Jennifer Visser of K-L in the Volunteer Coordinator role, although Jennifer will continue to support her in this work)

Joy Crysedale (K-L) Chair, Communications for K-L

Susan Culver (K-L) Community Engagement

Jeff Douglas (RU) RU Rep/ Refugee (AURA/UCC) communications

Greg Hughes (K-L) Treasurer

Andrew Locke (RYR) RYR rep (Chair of its Outreach Committee)

Core committee work will be supported by sub-teams and consultants in specific tasks. Currently, Gary Huggins (K-L) and Jennifer Keenan (neighbourhood volunteer) are working on the application process. Lynne Salt (RU) is responsible for Housing.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Crysedale, Chair
Tri-Church Refugee Committee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORTS...

The Board of Trustees is pleased to report marginal but positive investment results for 2015 in what could only be described as a “very difficult investment environment”. The Board, among other items, is mandated by the Official Board to manage pools of capital for the Church. These funds are governed internally and externally by Investment Policy Statements. These Statements, which have been approved by the Official Board, provide investment guidelines for the funds.

The Board of Trustees is pleased to report that the funds grew by .7% in 2015. By way of comparison, the S&P TSX index declined 8.3% in 2015 while the risk adjusted blended benchmark for the church’s portfolios was up 4.5% for the reference period. The portfolios grew, net of capital deposits and withdrawals and after all fees and expenses, by \$10,500 over the calendar year. The year-end balances for the funds totaled \$1,102, 810.

Our external manager has had some difficulty adding incremental value beyond the targeted benchmark in both the past year and since inception. We are hopeful this performance will correct itself in 2016. It should also be noted that both funds have exposure to stocks and bonds and as such, portfolio returns will be linked to market returns. Overall, the Board of Trustees remains confident in our current investment manager.

The Board of Trustees is comprised of: Priscilla Knight, John Franklin, David Macdonald, Robert Mundy, John Waymann and Robert Yeo. The Investment Committee is made up of John Franklin, Robert Mundy and John Waymann.

Respectfully submitted,

John Waymann, Chair
Board of Trustees

THE UNITED CHURCH WOMEN REPORT...

The UCW Council at Kingsway-Lambton United Church is made up of an executive and representative from each unit. Currently, there are 6 UCW Units with a total membership of about 132 women. Unit membership ranges from 12-32 members. The units usually meet on a monthly basis. In 2015, UCW welcomed two new members – **Anne Georgas and Susan Wood.**

In December, two long-standing UCW women were presented with a Lifetime Membership in recognition of their work and service at KLUC and within our community: **Dorothy Foster and Shelley Sutton.** The Lifetime Membership pins were presented at the Christmas luncheon.

Since the Official Board meeting in October, UCW Council's main priority was to review and assess the ongoing support of the various charities. At the October meeting, Council determined how to allocate the funds that were raised through the Flea Market, the Art Show and other fundraising efforts initiated by the UCW members. We were fortunate to be able to support many charities, including women's shelters, the United Church Mission & Service Fund, United Church charities, and senior support groups. As well, \$15,000 was allocated to the operating fund of Kingsway-Lambton United Church. We would like to thank everyone who helped us with our events over the years, including UCW members, members of the Church and those who are not Kingsway-Lambton members, but donate their time to ensure our events are successful.

Kingsway-Lambton United Church: \$15,000

Mission & Service Fund: \$6,000

Local and International Charities: \$97,500 (for example, Fred Victor Mission; Dorothy Ley, Out of the Cold All Saints, Youth Unlimited and Sleeping Children Around the World), including \$3,000 to KLUC Refugee Fund.

During the first week of December, the UCW held its annual Christmas Luncheon which was well-attended by our members, friends, Rev. Hugh Reid, Rev. David Winsor, and our guest speaker, Vanessa Harwood, Principal Dancer with the National Ballet of Canada and recipient of The Order of Canada. Special thanks to the members of Units 1, 2 and 5 who planned and organized our festive luncheon.

As in previous years, planning is well underway to organize our two major fundraisers: the Art Show and Sale and the Flea Market.

Upcoming Events

Art Show & Sale: Saturday, April 9, 2016

Flea Market: Saturday, April 30, 2016

UCW Spring Dinner: Tuesday, June 7, 2016

UCW Christmas Lunch: Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Rita MacDonald, UCW President

KINGSWAY-LAMBTON HOMES FOR SENIORS INC. REPORTS...

Kingsway-Lambton Homes for Seniors Inc. (“Homes”), provides retirement accommodation to independent seniors. The first residents took possession of their units on April 1, 1993. The church, the original sponsor group, has provided management direction through an eight member Board of Directors. The oversight body is the City of Toronto which also handles the tenancy placements. There are 129 fully self-contained units in two five-storey buildings, and a garden area at the rear for outdoor activities such as conversation, shuffle board and individual gardens cultivated by the tenants.

The Board of Directors of Kingsway-Lambton Homes Inc.(“Homes”) commenced a number of capital replacements this last year consistent with a five-year capital replacement plan developed by the Board. Major plumbing replacements were commenced, a complete refurbishing of units as they became vacant and repairs to the cement sidewalks and curbs and resurfacing of asphalt areas was completed just before the arrival of the winter weather. These repairs will maintain the quality of the units the tenants have come to expect and help in minimizing any opportunity for accidents in the outdoor areas.

The Board of Directors meet regularly four times each year. The agenda is full but we usually have time to invite speakers to educate Board members on issues such as fire safety, insurance liability and coverage, and seniors mental health and related concerns. Professional on-site management is provided by contract with Greenwin Inc. There is a manager on site during regular business hours and three resident custodial staff members who are available to provide on-call service day or night.

The Board, with management help, provides a number of social activities for the residents throughout the year. A summer barbecue is held annually in June in Gorham Gardens at the rear of the residence. The UCW invites the residents to attend a Tea at the Church in conjunction with the Fashion Show preceding the Church’s Annual Flea Market. The Board also sponsors a Christmas Luncheon at the residence which is a great opportunity for the Board members to meet and mingle with the seniors and staff. Rev. Hugh Reid attends this luncheon and the residents enjoy his presence and Christmas benediction. The residents are very appreciative of these events.

Your present Board Members and Officers are:

President and Chair of the Board of Directors: David Macdonald

Vice-President and Director, Emergency Planning: Priscilla Knight

Secretary-Treasurer and Director:	Gale Hughes
Assistant Treasurer and Director:	James Paradine
Director, Long Range Planning & Capital Improvements:	Dan Dupak
Director, Tenant Health and Safety:	Greg Service
Director, Government Compliance:	Charles Donley

I thank each of these individuals for their service to seniors in our community and look forward to another productive year.

Respectfully submitted,

David Macdonald,
President and Chair of the Board of Directors,
Kingsway-Lambton Homes for Seniors Inc.

THE COMMITTEE OF STEWARDS REPORTS...

The Committee of Stewards completed a busy and successful 2015. Under the guidance of our Treasurer, Bill Winterburn, the Committee approved the 2015 financial reports and the operating budget for 2016. The financial report for 2015 showed a small deficit which was a significant improvement over the very negative position that was tracking early in the fourth quarter. For 2016, the Committee approved a budget showing an expected deficit of \$15,000 which we believe is manageable but a major concern going forward.

Considerable effort has been given to the preparation of the 2016 budget. A special Budget Committee was formed to review the expenses for each department with the goal to reduce and defer the operating expenses to a manageable and affordable level. At the same time, it is recognized that revenues have been flat to declining in the last couple of years. The Committee of Stewards will work closely with all committees in addressing this issue and in developing a plan to increase attendance and revenue streams.

The church continues to be well maintained by the Property Committee under the leadership of Don MacInnes. Projects completed in 2015 included painting parts of the church, repairs to a stained glass window and the installation of the new Audio Visual system in the summer of 2015. We will be completing our Capital needs for 2016 and future years over the next couple of months and will work closely with the Gifts and Giving Committee to ensure that the funds are available to finance these projects.

During the year, two Stewards were recognized with the Steward of Distinction designation. We thank Don MacInnes and Gord Robb for their commitment and efforts over many years.

The Stewards officers at the end of 2015 were Ian Lush, Chair; Pat Strizic, Secretary; Bill Winterburn, Treasurer.

Property Committee: Don MacInnes, Chair; David Bellamy, Colleen Coman, and Shirley Harvey.

Ushering Chair: Roman Niemy

COMMITTEE OF STEWARDS MEMBERS: Donald Allan, Ray Bernys, Jane Bright, Gregory Collings, Paul Collings, Colleen Coman, Nora Cutcliffe, Roger Dawson, Hans Dickie, Charles Donley, John Franklin, Susan Franklin, James Gallagher, John Grant, Gale Hughes, Ray Jeffrey, Kathy Kearns, Priscilla Knight, Ian Lush, Marion Lush, David Macdonald, Don MacInnes, Dianne McMullen, Derek Nicholson, Roman Niemy, James Paradine, Michael Richardson, Gord Robb, Fred Schoor, Gregory Service, Michael Spence, Pat Strizic, Paul Walters, John Waymann, Bill Winterburn, and Robert Yeo.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Lush, Chair
Committee of Stewards

THE TREASURER REPORTS...

2015 In Review

At the annual meeting approximately 1 year ago, an operating budget was approved for 2015 that called for a small deficit of approximately \$15,000. The feeling was, that having achieved small surpluses in the years leading up to 2015, we were in a safe position to plan for a deficit. We knew that we wanted to support the work of the various committees as best we could, while at the same time keeping an eye on our bottom line. The results for 2015 were mixed. We missed our total revenue target by approximately \$26,000, mainly because our envelope and open offerings did not achieve our target. However, because we did not hire a 2nd minister in 2015, although we had budgeted to do so, our total expenses were approximately \$35,000 lower than budget. The net result was an improvement of approximately \$9,000 compared to budget. We nevertheless ended the year with a deficit of approximately \$7,000. In spite of these mixed results, we continue to support many worthwhile causes.

1) Outside of the Church:

\$38,700	donated by the congregation to United Church Missions.
\$76,500	donated by the U.C.W. to approximately 30 charities and community organizations.
\$ 6,000	donated by the U.C.W. to United Church Missions.
\$10,086	donated through the Benevolent Fund.
\$15,500	donated through the Outreach Committee to charitable organizations.
\$20,000	donated through the Honduras Committee to the Honduras Mission.

Total \$166,786

2) UCW donation to the Operating Account of the Church:

The UCW very generously donated \$15,000 to the Operating Account of the Church in 2015, and has committed to the same amount for 2016.

Review Engagement Unaudited Financial Statements vs. Cash Accounting

The 2016 Budget schedule immediately following this report shows the church operating finances on a largely cash basis. These are figures used by the Committee of Stewards when managing the Church's finances. The unaudited financial statements presented on pages A1 to A12 reflect accrual, capitalization and amortization adjustments and reclassification adjustments to present fund transfers separated from revenue and expenses. The following reconciles the budget schedule to the unaudited Statements of Operations.

Preliminary Deficit (before amortization)	\$ (6,788)
<u>Adjustments:</u>	
Amortization of Capital Assets	(88,870)
Reduction in Professional Fee Accrual	3,000
Adjustment to Investment Income	(1,787)
<u>Fund Transfers:</u>	
Manse allowance transfer in revenue	(28,800)
Honduras interest transfer in revenue	(1,424)
Capital reserve transfer in expense	<u>6,000</u>
Final Operating Fund Deficiency of Revenue over Expenses	\$(118,669)

2016 Budget

In developing the budget for 2016, we had 3 main policy objectives:

- 1) Implement the actions that were approved at the December 16, 2015 Official Board meeting.
- 2) Re-allocate our resources to better support our mission to increase our membership, thereby increasing our revenue.
- 3) Create a budget that was realistic, achievable, and measurable.

By way of background, it should be mentioned that the process for arriving at the 2016 budget was a bit different than in previous years. When the October 2015 results were issued about 3 months ago, the feeling at that time was that we were headed for a very significant deficit in 2015 and an even larger one in 2016 if we did not take immediate action to address our revenue and expense problems. The Official Board met several times in late 2015 to discuss and debate various scenarios. A small budget group of 8 people was formed to hammer out the details of what was felt to be an acceptable budget to present to the Stewards, the Official Board, and the Congregation.

During the budget discussions, the point was made by several members of the congregation that we needed to find a way to make the numbers work such that we could proceed to hire a second minister.

We believe that we have done that. Moses Kang joined us on February 16th as Minister to Young Families, Children, and Youth. In his position, Moses will be working with our Family Christian Education volunteers to build our Sunday School, and develop programs that will encourage young families and youth to become part of our Church.

The challenge is to achieve all of our objectives while being fiscally responsible. With that in mind, the Board of Stewards and the Official Board have approved an operating budget for 2016 that is calling for a deficit of \$15,000. Several actions have been taken to match our expenses to what we expect our revenue to be. As usual this will be a very challenging budget, but we believe that it is achievable.

On-Line Givings

A reminder that our on-line giving initiative has been up and running since early 2014. You can find the links on our Church's website www.kingswaylambton.ca. The donation website is donate.kingswaylambton.ca.

In closing, I have just completed my fourth year as Treasurer. Throughout the past year, I have been ably assisted by Gail Teal and Karen Munday and I thank them for working with me. I would also like to thank Gord Robb who has backed me up on a few presentations, and all the committee chairs who participated in the development of the 2016 budget. Their efforts are much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Winterburn,
Treasurer.

KINGSWAY- LAMBTON UNITED CHURCH

	<u>2013</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2016</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<u>ANNUAL REVENUE</u>					
Envelope - Local purposes	542,763	547,927	566,000	536,781	525,000
Envelope - Step-Up Campaign	0	0	0	0	0
Open offering	50,966	41,471	45,000	55,880	40,000
Open offering - 2012 Step Up Campaign	0	0	0	0	0
Sunday School	220	102	200	21	100
Trustees Housing Allowance	28,800	28,800	28,800	28,800	28,800
Audio Ministry	149	78	100	35	50
Rent Nursery School	38,573	39,813	40,000	40,002	40,000
Other Rental Income	20,619	16,414	17,500	14,721	15,000
Interest Income - Operating	6,800	7,500	10,000	2,500	2,000
UCW donation to operating fund	7,500	7,500	5,000	15,000	15,000
Rent from film companies	600	3,350	3,500	350	1,000
Other income (Lego Camp in 2016)	2,825	0	0	0	8,000
<u>TOTAL ANNUAL REVENUE</u>	699,815	692,955	716,100	694,090	674,950
<u>DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSES</u>					
Pastors	251,237	224,928	235,000	197,899	240,000
Christian Education	2,734	3,696	3,700	1,935	2,350
Music, Organist & Soloists	64,665	82,148	84,000	85,558	72,000
Office & General	128,792	131,960	132,000	128,322	127,000
Property	208,947	230,960	233,000	246,969	212,300
Communications	2,663	9,537	8,751	4,227	4,000
Stewardship/Gifts & Givings	3,423	1,704	6,000	2,486	3,000
Presbytery & Conference Fees	22,050	22,878	24,333	24,333	25,754
Session	1,528	5,079	8,316	9,559	6,000
Literature & Coffee Hour	1,251	1,235	1,300	801	800
Audio	402	157	200	213	246
<u>TOTAL DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSES</u>	687,692	714,282	736,600	702,302	693,450
Sub total	12,123	-21,327	-20,500	-8,212	-18,500
<u>SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS</u>					
Contributions from Men's Club	2,000	2,200	2,500	0	1,000
Galbraith Fund Contribution to Christian Ed	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
Other special contributions	970	2,200	2,000	1,424	1,500
<u>TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS</u>	3,970	5,400	5,500	1,424	3,500
<u>ANNUAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT</u>	16,093	-15,927	-15,000	-6,788	-15,000
(before amortization of fixed assets)					

KINGSWAY- LAMBTON UNITED CHURCH

	2013	2014	2015	2015	2016
	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
PASTOR'S					
Salaries	141,000	126,428	141,750	123,624	153,404
Salaries - Allowances	0	2,500	0	-2,500	0
Pension, Benefits	35,377	30,423	34,000	26,584	36,809
Housing Allowance	68,400	60,523	53,000	42,495	38,632
Pastoral support re: sabbatical	0	0	0	0	-3,500
Car Reimbursement	3,439	2,280	2,500	2,441	2,500
Study Allowance - Coordinating Minister	245	629	600	1,181	1,055
Study Allowance - Associate Minister	660	500	300	0	600
Book Allowance - Coordinating Minister	471	639	600	849	900
Book Allowance - Associate Minister	607	328	300	0	600
Study/Book Allowances - Pastoral Care	226	222	250	179	200
Minister's Expense Account	412	242	400	326	500
Supply Ministers	400	200	1,300	2,700	8,300
Minister of Visit Expense	0	14	0	20	0
	251,237	224,928	235,000	197,899	240,000
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION					
Revenue - Alpha	1,266	0	1,000	4,203	2,500
Revenue - Special C.E. Events	3,025	1,947	2,500	920	1,000
Revenue - Adult Education	1,140	452	1,000	350	500
Total Christian Education Revenue	5,431	2,399	4,500	5,473	4,000
Christian Education Expenses					
Expenses - Alpha	874	0	1,000	2,937	2,000
Expenses - Special C.E. Events	1,675	1,396	2,000	1,574	1,000
Expenses - Adult Education	900	715	1,000	681	500
Church School	369	487	500	296	300
Youth Programs	456	654	800	444	700
Confirmation Group	442	347	400	95	250
Furniture & Equipment	1,203	432	425	0	200
General Supplies	557	251	275	341	200
Sunday School Curriculum, Books, Bibles	1,689	1,813	1,800	1,040	1,200
Total Christian Education Expenses	8,165	6095	8200	7,408	6,350
Christian Education - Net Total	2,734	3,696	3,700	1,935	2,350

KINGSWAY- LAMBTON UNITED CHURCH

	<u>2013</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2016</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
MUSIC					
Salaries	36,550	45,740	48,000	49,000	38,164
Salaries - adjustments	0	1,000	0	-1,000	0
Pensions, Benefits	3,704	10,302	10,700	10,497	8,396
Professional services	18,876	18,872	19,000	21,427	20,000
Alternate organist	984	700	700	700	700
Music - Senior & Junior Choirs	700	1,179	1,200	1,023	1,100
Tuning	981	1,456	1,400	2,181	1,640
Gowns/Laundry	0	0	0	0	0
Repairs - Organ, Pianos	0	0	0	0	0
Contemporary Worship	2,145	2,445	2,300	1,405	300
Youth Worship Choir	0	166	300	83	1,500
Kingsway Lambkins	0	0	100	0	100
Miscellaneous	725	288	300	242	100
	64,665	82,148	84,000	85,558	72,000
OFFICE					
Salaries	74,000	75,630	77,200	78,300	76,000
Salaries - adjustments	0	1,000	0	-1,000	0
Pension, Benefits	16,545	16,867	17,454	16,698	17,000
Telephone	8,236	8,302	8,400	6,600	8,400
Printing - internal	8,664	8,492	8,900	8,514	8,000
Printing - external	0	0	0	0	0
Stationery & supplies	3,061	3,556	3,100	2,783	2,900
Repairs & maintenance	0	0	100	0	0
Postage	1,015	1,427	0	461	759
New postage meter lease	1,656	1,616	1,616	1,616	1,616
Envelopes	617	525	550	525	525
Workplace safety (WSIB)	3,393	2,706	3,200	3,185	3,200
Audit	8,003	8,003	8,000	8,003	6,000
Miscellaneous	974	1,932	1,850	1,349	1,350
Petty cash	84	8	100	0	0
Computer expense	2,510	1,877	1,500	1,247	1,200
United Church Observer	34	19	30	41	50

	2013	2014	2015	2015	2016
	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
PROPERTY					
Salaries	76,437	77,270	80,000	82,518	80,000
Salaries recovered	-1,875	-1,991	-1,500	-1,773	-1,500
Salaries - Property Adjustments	-16,000	0	0	0	0
Pension, Benefits	13,986	14,942	16,000	13,374	14,000
Property - Casual Help	0	2,756	0	138	0
Property Revenue	-1,738	-3,467	0	-3,037	0
Insurance	10,290	9,265	10,200	10,191	10,700
Fuel	15,101	18,951	20,000	17,634	18,000
Hydro	23,543	22,571	24,000	25,308	25,600
Water	2,273	3,402	3,800	3,508	3,000
Building repairs	58,602	48,176	47,000	62,471	27,000
Equipment	4,073	5,813	3,500	2,278	4,000
Property supplies	2,863	5,855	4,000	5,531	5,400
Services and inspections	21,392	27,417	26,000	28,728	26,000
Petty Cash	0	0	0	100	100
	208,947	230,960	233,000	246,969	212,300
COMMUNICATIONS					
Communications/Brochure	-517	-1,750	-1,600	-857	0
Historical - Archives	0	0	0	-15	0
Photo Directory	-140	-30	0	0	0
Carillon	3,320	3,638	3,500	2,816	3,100
Advertising	0	0	0	0	0
Website Development	0	7,453	4,690	1,776	350
Website Hosting/Software	0	226	561	507	550
Live Streaming	0	0	1,600	0	0
Video Production	0	0	0	0	0
	2,663	9,537	8,751	4,227	4,000
GIFTS & GIVINGS					
Printing	481	694	700	1,755	2,000
Postage	343	350	400	701	500
Other	2599	660	4900	30	500
	3,423	1704	6,000	2,486	3000
SESSION					
Session Revenue:					
Pastoral Care Revenue	-4,454	-115	-100	-372	-350
Other Session Revenue	-748	-2505	-1000	-472	-500
Session Expenses:					
New Members	154	110	200	0	300
Pastoral Care	3,430	1,016	800	1,129	1,100
Baptism	236	17	200	320	500
Worship	2,095	2,509	2,200	2,343	1,500
Other (inc recruitment costs)	135	2,045	3,016	3,144	1,000
Social Justice	0	0	0	0	0
Membership engagement/growth	680	2,002	3,000	3,467	2,450
	1,528	5,079	8,316	9559	6,000

