

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2011



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**“Church isn’t where you meet. Church isn’t a building.
Church is what you do. Church is who you are. Church
is the human outworking of the person of Jesus
Christ. Let’s not go to Church, let’s be the Church.”**

■ Bridget Willard, Worship Leader and Author

CHURCH STAFF AND COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Minister (until September 2011)	Rev. Cathy Dilts
Administrator	Sharon Eagleson
Voluntary Pastoral Associate	Rev. H.A. Bert Batstone
Director of Music	Lois Craig, M.M., B. Mus., A.R.C.T.
Program Coordinator	Cathy Shaw (on leave)
Custodian	Lorne Alexander
Chair of Congregation	William Sheaves
Secretary of Congregation	
Chair of Church Council	Linda Westendorp
Past Chair of Church Council	Ann Dobinson
Vice Chair of Church Council	Scott McMullen
Secretary of Church Council	
Christian Education	Sonja O'Brien
Connecting Hands	Sharon Eagleson (vice-chair)
Communications	Ann Dobinson
Finance	Robert Hunt
Fundraising	
Ministry and Personnel Committee	Julie Kubien
Property	Wilma Brown
Treasurer	Wendy Mason
Trustees	Dave Eagleson
Outreach and Social Action	Gail Young
United Church Women	Diane Fleming and Karen Strong
Worship	Linda Westendorp
Envelope Steward	Dorothy Wilkins
Epistle Editor	Jeff Shaw (on leave) Susan Reed
Church School Coordinator (GAPP)	Cathy Shaw (on leave)
C.G.I.T.	Sonja O'Brien
Explorers	Cathy Houston and Deb Gillis
Messengers	Nancy Lomax
4th Ajax Group Commissioner	Mark Johnson

MINISTER'S REPORT

Dear Friends,

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:2)

It has been four months since I made the move to Brantford. How quickly time has gone. I think of you all so often and wonder how things are going at St. Paul's. Your search for a new minister is well under way, I am sure, and how exciting a time this is for your congregation. There are no words sufficient to express my gratitude for all the wonderful memories I have of our time together and the ministry we have shared.

Not only are annual reports a glimpse of the year that is past, they are a springboard for the future. And what a bright future you have before you. Your creativity, your spirit, your warmth, your desire to grow, and most all your faith in God will sustain you and give strength as you grow in new directions in the future. Please know that you are in my prayers.

I feel a little like Paul writing to his congregation far away. And like Paul, the only words of wisdom that I can offer are to these, keep your sights focused on Jesus. In times of change the path is never clear, but hold onto Jesus and he will help you to hold on to each other and to weather the unexpected. Even as new beginnings offer opportunities to dream of how things might be different, hold on to that which is at the heart of who we are as Christ-followers – proclaim the good news of new life in Christ for all who open their hearts to him. "Go make disciples," as Jesus said.

As you discover new and exciting paths for ministry and welcome a new minister to come, I trust that God will continue to bless you in your life together and continue to make you a blessing in your community.

Thanks be to God!

Yours in Christ,
Cathy Dilts

IN MEMORIAM

We remember with love and thankfulness the members and friends of St. Paul's United Church who passed away in 2011.

Sheilagh Mavoureen Galloway
William Daniel Lindsay
Alma Barbara Pickell
Violet Catharine White
Margaret Grace Miller
James Robert Joseph Wilson
Robert Edward Turner
Mary Elizabeth Alberta Wheeler
Walter Kenneth Parsons
Mary Liddell
Ernest Stanley Armstrong
Gordon Keith Miller
William Reeves Fleming
Eileen Betty Cade
Constance Betty Cain
Frances Haug
Kenneth Roy Younie
Randy Lee Sitar
Charlotte Stinson
Walter Ernest Briginshaw

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

CHAIR OF THE CONGREGATION

Through him you have come to trust in God,
who raised him from the dead and gave him glory,
so that your **faith and hope** are set on God. 1 Peter 1:21 (NRSV)

Our Faith and Hope are set on God. This has been an incredible year. We have faced so many challenges and we have a number to face yet. It is humbling to realize that a year ago we were confident in our future and adamant about our Faith. Then part way through the year our poise started to shatter and our challenges began.

My friends, whenever you have to face all sorts of trials,
Count yourselves supremely happy in the knowledge
that such testing of your faith makes for strength to endure. James 1: 2-3 (REB)

This verse from James admonishes us that challenges such as we faced in the past year will make us stronger. The true test for us is our faith, being strong, will become stronger as much as it tests us.

Over the past year, either we as a congregation or individually, have suffered a grief or upset. We have lost our minister – always an assault to our collective sustained confidence - and suffered ills of many descriptions with deaths and ongoing sickness'. This is a constant and continuing reminder of our mortality. We were hurting after the summer when new concerns and challenges seem to jump in front of us at every turn.

Then almost imperceptive, people one by one came forward to take a role in which using their individual gifts to take up the many challenges. Slowly but surely a new spiritual personality took over. It was not a test of one person but the dedication of many. Responsibility for tasks, usually done by a few, was now taken up by the many. Our congregation didn't lay down in depression and let the church fade. It got together with a life of its own and continued its own ministry, one that was different than before, but was still recognizable by its members. Through prayer and action we have come through an unusual year determined to do our call as a family dedicated to God through his Son Jesus.

Although this is a report for 2011, I cannot but mention that on January 1, our first service for 2012 was well attended. There were many members who have had a hard time in the past year, but they were there smiling and thankful to our God for the blessings not only of the past year but for the next. This is such a great beginning for the New Year. We will substantiate our Faith that supports our Hopes. This should not only be our creed for the New Year but our prayer for it.

*God Bless
William G. Sheaves
Chair of Congregation*

MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

St. Paul's United Church
Ajax, Ontario
Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday February 6, 2011

The annual meeting of St. Paul's United Church was called to order by our Chair Bill Sheaves, in the Sanctuary, at 11:05 am, during our regular worship. A light breakfast was served in the Auditorium this morning at 10am, prior to the commencement of worship. Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Rev. Cathy Dilts read the names of those members and friends who had passed away during 2010: Margaret Munro, Raymond Dean, David Thomas Clarke, James Michael Robinson, Marion Viola McCleary, Douglas Hunter Coy, Mary Flora Cope, Alice Barker, Howard Gibson. This reading was then followed by an opening prayer.

Voting: Motion to give all persons in attendance the right to vote was moved by Wendy Mason and was seconded by Karen Smart. Carried.

Adoption of the Minutes: Ann Dobinson moved adoption of the minutes of the Congregational Meeting of the Annual Congregational meeting of February 7, 2010, the Congregational meeting of March 14, 2010, June 6, 2010, October 24, 2010. Seconded by Linda Westendorp.

Page 13 – Amend the email address prayingforgodschildren@hotmail.com.

Page 11 - Amend Call to Order of June 6, 2010 meeting time from 12:30 to 11:30 AM. Carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes: None

Review of the 2010 Annual Report: Bill reviewed the annual report for us highlighting the various committees and the groups that make up our church family. The following change to be noted:

Wendy Mason: Treasurer Report Page 37 & 38, Holding Account Statement, balance forward December 31, 2010, Balance at below January 1, 2011. Food Bank & Benevolent dates to be amended to December 31, 2010. Congregation givings amended to \$24660.90 & UCW donations amended to \$2400.00 under M&S.

Dorothy Wilkins advised re Envelope Steward Report page 24 – Amend monthly users to Par users by 9.

Bill Sheaves, thanked Ann Dobinson for compiling of Annual Report, all those that supported the contribution & completion of the report, specifically Sharon Eagleson; Cathy Shaw for the extended GAPP childcare; all staff for support & leadership; all the friends for the breakfast and Lois Craig for her music and service.

Retirees: Rev. Cathy Dilts read the names of those people retiring from the various positions/committees within our Church. Bill Sheaves and Rev. Dilts thanked all of those that are retiring, and thanked them for their years of service.

Budget: Robert Hunt reviewed the results for 2010, sharing with us that 22 members are supporting our congregation financially. Does everyone understand that we are not subsidized by Federal, Provincial levels or the United Church of Canada? We rely on all the members of this congregation. Are people unable, unwilling or unknowing? 57 families give 1.00 week – if they increased their contribution to \$2.50 a week, we would break even. If \$3.00 a week, givings would have been in a surplus. At \$5.00 week we would be \$33,000.00 above project expenses, leaving no need for fundraising, but for prayer, song, fellowship & helping our community.

The congregation is asked to think about increase givings by 5%.

Expenses of \$16,999 paid from the Capital Fund not included – net position of \$15281 is actually a negative position of \$1700.00.

Robert then continued to present our budget for 2010, resulting in a proposed deficit budget of - \$10,621.00 (\$204,465.00 expenses and income of \$193,844 results in a negative budget of \$10,621). Current approximately bank balance is \$10,000.00

Presbytery gave \$320.00 towards the Presbytery fee of \$5608.00. The 2011 budget for Presbytery fee is \$3200.00.

John Gutsell moved to accept the 2011 Budget as presented. Gladys Snelling seconded the motion.

Discussion: A number of recommendations were made on how we can touch everyone to understand the need of increasing the givings. The good news as a result of Robert's plea in 2010, resulted in an increase in givings of \$15k. The goal is to [be] independent of the need for a plea. Some recommendations were; to call people, to continue with the written word via Epistle; for those present to donate \$20.00 today; to have a monthly dinner (similar to that of Pickering United). The Finance Committee is to call a standalone meeting for those interested to attend & to work on the how to reach.

After a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mission and Service Motion: Wendy Mason moved that the target for our M&S Fund to be increased to \$25,000 for the year 2011. Motion was seconded by Helen Dowse. Discussion followed on how the funds are used. If we are concerned with current finances, there is a concern on the recommendation of the increase. The majority of people voted in favour of the motion, 10 were opposed. Motion was Carried.

Election of Officers: Linda Westendorp moved that we nominate the following individuals:

- Brian Sheppard – Secretary of Council & Congregation
- Scott McMullen – Vice-Chair of Council
- Susan Reid – Worship & Music committee member

This motion was seconded by Wendy Mason.

Linda Westendorp will continue as chair of Worship & Music.

Motion carried unanimously.

Linda thanked John Fisico for his service as Examiner of the books.

Appointment of an Examiner: None at this time.

Linda advised that council will review & determine if any candidates to put forward possible candidates at a future congregational meeting.

Memorial Fund: Sharon Eagleson & Cathy Dilts

Candelabras debuted at the candlelight service December 24, 2010 with funds from the memorial fund from the \$764.00 (portion of hymn sing proceeds). Cost of the candelabras was \$407.42. Current balance - \$2464.83 bank balance – pending the payment for the followers and candles – investment balance CIBC Wood Gundy \$5677.48

Archives: Wendy Mason

Identified a number of artifacts that pre-date our building – there is a National Archives section downtown. Over the next few months Wendy & those who can help out will go through the archives to identify the artifacts that will be sent downtown.

Lay Presbytery Report: Brian Sheppard

Choir – aka St. Paul's United Church Flash Mob sang "It is I Lord" & Brian presented "Let's Think outside of the Box".

Karen Strong & Brian Sheppard attended meeting to help identify ideas on how churches can deal with their problems.

New Business:

Cathy Dilts restated the announcement of Kim Lawrance's new ministry as a Lay Worship Leader. Also, Cathy announced a new beginning of Cathy Shaw who is actively pursuing education for the training for Licensed Lay Worship Leader

Epistle Article, The Gas Roots Movement inspired by Jewel Cooney who is working with Cathy Dilts & Cathy Shaw on identifying challenges of getting gas for people who are disabled or have difficulties buying gas from "self serve". Need to identify where are the locations of full service stations and for the congregation to support this initiative by choosing to use these locations vs. self-serve. If you find a full service location that is not on the list, congregation is urged to share this information with Cathy Dilts, Cathy Shaw, Jewel Cooney or the office.

Marilyn Mason, Sue Tessman, Wendy Mason & Madeline Oswald were recipients of the prizes for the draw & the crazy cushion award.

Jean Severs advised 5 new cushions in sanctuary & is continuing to make more at home.

Karen Strong gave thanks to Rev Cathy Dilts for her vision and her "thinking outside of the box".

Adjournment: On a motion by Wendy Mason at 12:35 PM, the Annual Congregational Meeting was adjourned.

Rev. Cathy Dilts led us in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Dobinson
Acting Secretary of the Congregation

Bill Sheaves
Chair of Congregation

**12 June 2011
Congregational Meeting
St. Paul's United Church, Ajax
12:00 pm**

Bill Sheaves, our Chair called this special meeting of the congregation of St. Paul's to order. Bill informed us that this meeting will be conducted by Pastoral Relations of Oshawa Presbytery and then handed the meeting over to Steve Coles, Co-chair of Pastoral Relations. Steve began the meeting with a prayer.

Steve explained the need for a new News Assessment or "Strategic Plan". It will not be as much of a learning curve this time, nor are there a lot of changes in the history of St. Paul's, as it has only been 4 years.

Steve asked for questions regarding the need for a new Needs Assessment. Needs Assessments present themselves to prospective ministers who perhaps want to make a change. Steve continued by explaining the Settlement process.

Steve did explain that there are ministers available, however not that many. A few are ordained, some through church closings, and some retirees. But there are, however, not enough ministers to fill positions currently available.

Steve advised us that the purpose of this meeting was to form a Joint Needs Assessment Committee.

The following persons were nominated:

Kim Lawrance was nominated by Linda Westendorp and Seconded by Wendy Mason.
Susan Reed was nominated by Kim Lawrance and Seconded by Wendy Mason.

Reg Carter volunteered for the committee and Kim Lawrance Seconded.
Barb Kisil was nominated by Kim Lawrance and Seconded by Wendy Mason.
Bill Sheaves was nominated by Barb Kisil and Seconded by Wendy Mason.
Stuart McLean was nominated by Kim Lawrance and Seconded by Wendy Mason.
Julia Godfrey was nominated by Grace Sheaves and Seconded by Linda Westendorp.
Michael Morrison was nominated by Katie Cronin-Wood and Seconded by Linda Westendorp.
Laura Springate was nominated by Karen Strong and Seconded by Wendy Mason.
Sarah Wood was nominated by Doreen Lawrance and Seconded by Debbie McAdam.

Robert Hunt and Wendy Mason both volunteered as alternates should the need arise.

Linda Westendorp moved to close the nominations and accept the above noted as the Joint Needs Assessment Committee. Seconded by Wendy Mason. Carried.

Linda Westendorp thanked Steve Coles for his time, assistance and attending our meeting today.

Bill Sheaves asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Wendy Mason at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Barb Kisil
Secretary to Congregation (Supply)

William Sheaves
Chair of Congregation

31 October, 2011
Congregational Meeting
St Paul's United Church, Ajax
11:45 am

The regular meeting of the Congregation of St. Paul's United Church Ajax was called to order by our Chair, Bill Sheaves at 11:45 am.

Bill introduced Rev. Karen Smart as our supervising minister and thanked her for being with us today. A motion to allow all those present to vote was moved by Wendy Mason, and seconded by Julie Kubien. Carried.

Finance Update: Robert Hunt (Chair of Finance) reported we are on track for our budget. In fact we are actually slightly better than expected. However our givings and spending are both less than anticipated. Currently we have a positive bank balance. Finance committee is projecting November and December as good months.

JNAC Update: Stuart McLean (Chair of JNAC) provided us an update. He presented the projected timeline the committee prepared and was following. This week the committee plans to meet with their Presbytery representatives, then the Church Council and finally will have the report presented to Presbytery.

Christian Symbol: Bill reminded us that this will be just a discussion and no motion today. Robert Hunt informed us that the trees at the front will be trimmed to expose and show a bit of the church. Robert has a neighbour who will be doing this as a favour to the church.

Many suggestions followed:

- 3 crosses and 3 lights represent the holy trinity.
- Suggest that symbol be on front lawn so can be seen coming on both directions.
- Cross on the south side outside
- Front door cross-stained glass. Lit until 11 pm to be seen from both directions
- Cross in the shingles
- Nothing on building to cause maintenance to roof
- Perhaps free standing

Bill suggested forming a subcommittee to investigate.

Wendy advised that we received \$1000 after last meeting to be used for this purpose.

Motion by Wendy Mason "To form a task group to investigate the suggestions brought forward and costs." Second by Robert Hunt. Carried

Currently Robert Hunt and Wilma Brown have volunteered, please contact Bill Sheaves if you are interested in joining this task group.

Vacancies: Scott McMullen, Vice-Chair of council presented a list of available positions within St. Paul's.

Chair Christian Education

Chair Property

Chair Communication

Secretary of Congregation/Council

Review Books – Examiner

If you are interested please see Scott or any committee chair.

New Business- there was none today.

Closing Prayer – Rev. Karen Smart led us in a closing prayer.

Bill thanked everyone for attending the meeting this morning and as well Connor Sheaves for providing child care.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Kisil
Secretary to Congregation (Supply)

William Sheaves
Chair of Congregation

**13 November, 2011
Congregational Meeting
St. Paul's United Church, Ajax
12:00 pm**

The special meeting of the Congregation of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax was called to order by our Chair, Bill Sheaves at 12:00 pm. Bill welcomed all those present. Bill introduced Susan Robinson, Co-chair of Pastoral Relations of Oshawa Presbytery. Susan reviewed the format for today's meeting and what the expectation will be.

Stuart McLean, Chair of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC), reintroduced the members of the committee to the congregation. He explained that the group worked together for the last 6 months resulting in the report he was about to present. Stuart reviewed the JNAC timeline, and then proceeded through a condensed version of the JNAC Report, highlighting various points. Stuart explained that all of the feedback from the survey was incorporated into the report and reviewed some of the responses. Stuart explained the *wordle* and its focus on the items of importance. He then asked for questions.

Susan Robinson reminded us that adherents do not have a right to vote on temporal matters, and a motion is required.

Motion: All adherents present have the right to ask questions, but with regard to temporal matters, do not have the right to vote. The motion was moved by Susan Reed and Seconded by Linda Westendorp.

Questions:

Why was proximity and location not in the report? It was never mentioned in any responses to the survey.

Question the use of the word trustworthy? Again came directly from the survey. Was an important response from the congregation.

Susan Robinson found the report to be very sterile. There was an enthusiastic response from the congregation in support of the report and the work that the committee did, and in fact found it to be the opposite.

Stuart continued to inform us that copies will be available for those that wish to take with them at the end of today's meeting, and will be available on the website once the vacancy is declared by Presbytery. If the congregation wishes we can also send out an email blast.

Bill explained the reason for the timeline of our meetings, with regards to having the report appear before Presbytery prior to breaking for Christmas (as they do not meet in December). We are therefore under a crunch and would like to have the vacancy declared this month and not in the New Year.

Motion: We the Congregation of St. Paul's United Church Ajax endorse the recommendation and report of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee presented to us and that Presbytery declare a vacancy for a full time ordained minister of word, sacrament and pastoral care. The motion was moved by Stuart McLean and Seconded by Bill Sheaves. Carried.

Motion: To disband the Joint Needs Assessment Committee pending Presbytery approval of the JNAC Report on Tuesday November 15, 2011. The motion was moved by Wendy Mason and Seconded by Ron Ellis. Carried.

Susan Robinson then advised us that at this time we should be putting names forward for those that will stand as part of the Joint Search Committee. Susan explained that there should be a good representation of the demographics of the congregation on the committee.

The following names came forward:

Stuart McLean
Julia Godfrey
Laura Springate
Kim Lawrance
Julie Kubien
Bill Sheaves
Wendy Mason
Gord Ottaway
Sarah Wood
Dorothy Wilkins

Motion: We move that the above noted members will comprise our Joint Search Committee, pending approval of the Joint Needs Assessment Report by Oshawa Presbytery on November 15, 2011. The motion was moved by Reg Carter and Seconded by Rolly Grant.

Bill then thanked the Joint Needs Assessment Committee for a job well done and wished the new committee well. He thanked everyone for coming.

Motion to adjourn by Wendy Mason at 1:00 pm.

Susan Robinson led us in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Barb Kisil
Secretary to Council (Supply)

William Sheaves
Chair of Congregation

THE WORK OF OUR CHURCH

ARCHIVES

Have you ever wondered who might have been a Trustee, or Elder or Steward in say, 1966; or who was our custodian in 1985 (hint: he is still our custodian) or what someone might have looked like 30 years age.

These answers and many more interesting questions can be found in the cabinet at the top of the stairs on the third floor. It houses St. Paul's history consisting of records, pictures, annual reports etc.

If there is something that interests you about our past, or you just want to take a look at pictures, please let me.

Submitted by Wendy Mason

BAPTISM

Wendy Mason and Janette Scott assisted Rev. Cathy Dilts with the sacrament of baptism during most of 2011. This fall our supervising minister, Rev. Karen Smart, performed a baptism in October. Susan Reed was on hand to assist her.

Baptisms are usually held on the third Sunday of each month, with the exception of July and August. A preparation meeting is held prior to the "big day" where the families are welcomed. They are also told what to expect on the following Sunday at church, and they are encouraged to ask any questions of the minister at this time.

We are fortunate to have Karen available to provide leadership and direction for the families seeking baptism.

This past year St. Paul's has welcomed eight children and one adult into our church family.

Submitted by Linda Westendorp

BENEVOLENT FUND

This discretionary fund is used by the Minister and Office Administrator to help people who find themselves with extraordinary needs. Offerings from Communion Sundays and special donations from congregation members and the United Church Women are deposited in this account.

This past year we reached out to thirty-seven people/or families. We also made a special Christmas delivery to eight families in the area. They received a food basket, a turkey with all the trimmings and a Christmas card with a gift card from Wal-Mart so that the children would have something special under the tree Christmas morning. We also reached out to Joanne's Place (the Youth Shelter) and Herizon House with a food basket and a gift card of \$100.00. I would like to express our gratitude to our Ajax Wal-Mart for waving the two turkey limit and allowing me to purchase all our turkey at once and at the sale price. Also a huge thank you to the UCW for their generous contribution of gifts for the Christmas Families as well as others in the community. St. Paul's - be very proud for all the smiles and happiness you brought to so many.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Eagleson

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP

With Cathy Dilts as our leader we studied the Psalms starting in January. In September without a minister to guide us, we decided to use the Upper Room booklet as our resource (they are provided by the UCW and displayed in the Narthex). They are an excellent guide for discussion since it provides daily readings and questions. We have a great feeling of fellowship in this group and hope you will consider joining us. We meet in the Fellowship Room on Wednesdays at 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Submitted by Isobel Bond

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

A free, voluntary, blood pressure clinic is held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, from 11 am until 2 pm in the back hall. Clients enter by the back door off the parking lot, and all are made welcome. We get anywhere from 10 to 20 participants, with an average of 12 people per month. Each client rests a few minutes on arrival, enjoys some friendly conversation, then has their blood pressure taken by the Registered Nurse and recorded in the personal blood pressure record card. This is a pleasant community outreach service that St. Paul's supports. Many thanks, as usual, to Mary Younie, who takes over this endeavour while I am away in the winter from January to April. Also thanks to Lorne Alexander, who has the table and chairs available for us and also brings the advertising sign in from the front lawn to store.

*Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Ellis, R.N.*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The current Board of Trustees consists of the following members of St. Paul's United Church.

	<u>Term of Service</u>
Jewel Cooney	Jan. 2013
Wilma Brown	Jun. 2012
Dave Eagleson (Chair)	Jan. 2013

As a general statement, the Trustees are responsible for the administration of all real and personal property which is held in trust for the use and benefit of the congregation.

Insurance Information

Insurance coverage for the period June 1, 2011-June 1, 2012 was arranged on the following basis:

Property (building & contents)	\$3,339,371
Boiler and Machinery	\$3,339,371
Comprehensive General Liability	\$2,000,000
Excess Liability	\$3,000,000
Directors' & officers Liability	\$2,000,000

Financial Details

Cash balance at December 31, 2010	\$ nil
Interest Income	\$ 6,723.64
Net Investment Purchases	(\$ 828.41)
Disbursements (Housing Allowance)	<u>(\$ 5,840.00)</u>
Cash Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 55.23

Investments

The original investment fund was established on June 29, 1988 in the amount of \$162,492.93 which represented the proceeds from the sale of the manse. The current portfolio consists of the following investments held in an account at CIBC Wood Gundy.

	<u>Face Value</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Fixed Income	\$20,500	Cdn Western Bank (GIC) 1.8%, Jan. 10/12	\$ 20,500.00

\$22,000	Maple Trust (GIC) 2.55% Jul. 15/12	\$ 22,000.00
\$23,200	Home Trust 1.8% Nov. 19/12	\$ 23,200.00
\$25,000	Cdn Western Bank (GIC) 2.1% Mar. 24/13	\$ 25,000.00
\$25,000	Laurentian Bank (GIC) 2.55% Mar. 24/14	\$ 25,000.00
\$26,000	Manulife 4.08% Aug. 20/15	\$ 26,428.45
\$26,000	CIBC 3.15% Nov. 2/15	\$ 26,095.42
Mutual Funds	Renaissance Savings A/C	<u>\$ 2,393.46</u>

Total Market Value at December 31, 2011 including cash balance \$170,672.56

The market value of the fixed income investments reflects current interest rates. However; at maturity only the face value will be repaid.

Respectfully submitted by
David Eagleson
Chair, Board of Trustees
Examined by Jim Bond

BRAIN TUMOUR SUPPORT GROUP

Once again this year, the Brain Tumour Support Group will be meeting at St. Paul's. Our group is sponsored by the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada. We provide support, information, and camaraderie for brain tumour survivors and their caregivers in a safe, friendly and caring environment. We are the only group providing this important service in Durham Region.

- The group is facilitated by Cindy Wilson, and a brain tumour survivor, Lesley-Ann Senior.
- We meet on the **first Thursday of each month** in the Fellowship Room. Twice a year, in August and December, the group has a very well attended potluck social.
- For more information, please contact Kaye Oyerinde. Support Services Specialist at the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada at their toll free number 1-800-265-5106.
- Alternatively, and in addition, please visit the website at www.braintumour.ca

In appreciation for the generous use of the church, our "Coffee Drinkers Club" collected and donated \$125 to St. Paul's benevolent fund in January of this year.

Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy 2012!

Submitted by Lesley-Ann Senior

C.G.I.T. (CANADIAN GIRLS IN TRAINING)

The year 2011 was packed with activities. In the spring, we participated in a multi-week devotional on Bullying, which generated some great discussion and fun role-playing. We ended the year by holding a combined initiation/graduation service in which we welcomed two new members, and said goodbye to three girls ready to start the next phase in their lives. After one final Wakeover for the year, we adjourned for the summer.

We commenced in September with 8 girls – six returning and two new. In November, our group attended the Church Bazaar and continued to lend a hand in the lunch room where needed. We also ran a crafts table for the first time, featuring snow globes and hand-made earrings, which were made by the girls over the course of several weeks. We hope to use the money raised to attend Camp in the spring of 2012.

Our Christmas Vesper Service was titled 'Finding Christ in Christmas' and was graciously received by all who attended. We ended our service with the traditional alumnae candle lighting, and were happy to see many long time St. Paul's alumnus as well as newer faces of some of our more recent graduates. We celebrated Christmas with a small party which saw us baking gingerbread cookies and holding a Secret Santa Exchange.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped our group this year, especially our members, their families and our congregation. A special thanks also goes to **John and Janette Scott** for helping us stay financially fit, year after year. As well, I would like to thank the **Staff of St. Paul's** for all their continued support and guidance.

We are eagerly looking forward to 2012 as we continue to be guided by our CGIT purpose ... **Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God and Serve Others.**

*Respectfully submitted,
Sonja O'Brien, Leader*

Financial Report of the C.G.I.T.

Opening balance January 1, 2011	\$1149.20
Income:	\$ 968.00
Expenses:	\$1508.00
Cash Balance at December 31, 2011	\$609.20

*Submitted by John W. Scott
Examined by Dave Eagleson*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mission Statement: **Christian Education is Life-long learning and growth through Christian Fellowship”.**

This committee is diverse and represented by many different groups. They include the 4th Ajax Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, Bible Study, Messengers, Explorers, CGIT, St. Paul's Youth Group, Confirmation Class, Nursery and GAPP (Church School).

The CE Committee is made up of group leaders and members of our congregation who believe that it is important to continue learning about God, no matter what age we may be. This committee meets every two months in order to network with one another, share ideas and support each other.

In September, the Christian Education Committee welcomed Sonja O'Brien as their new Chairperson. On a personal note, I would like to thank Sonja for being so willing to step into this role with very little notice. I have no doubt that this committee will continue to flourish under Sonja's leadership.

I would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to each of the dedicated CE members...I have learned so much from each of you and I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to journey with you.

Respectfully submitted by
Cathy Shaw
Past-Chair, Christian Education

The CE committee is a group of dedicated leaders who graciously donate their time and resources so that St. Paul's United Church can continue to offer opportunities for learning and growth for all ages. The committee is diverse and allows many different groups to share ideas and discuss the challenges that leadership brings. The groups that make up this committee are as follows: the 4th Ajax Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, Bible Study, Messengers, Explorers, CGIT, St. Paul's Youth Group, Confirmation Class, GAPP (Church School) and Nursery. The groups are all continuing with their current leadership and are always happy to welcome new members or visitors.

In the fall of 2011, Cathy Shaw made the decision to retire from her position of CE Chair. Her leadership and vast experience will be solely missed. I decided to take on the Chair position and look forward to working with everyone on the committee. We were unable to find a suitable meeting time in the fall, but continue to stay in touch as a committee through e-mail and phone calls.

We are looking forward to 2012 and all it has to bring.

Respectfully submitted,
Sonja O'Brien,
Chair of Christian Education

CHURCH COUNCIL

Your church council meets each month from September to June, with the exception of February when we have our annual congregational meeting. The members of this committee represent the various committees and groups within the church. Your council is made up of the following people:

Linda Westendorp, chair	Scott McMullen, vice chair
Wendy Mason, Treasurer	Robert Hunt, chair of Finance
Diane Fleming, president of UCW	Dave Eagleson, chair of Trustees
Sharon Eagleson, Administrator	Wilma Brown, chair of Property
Cathy Shaw, chair of CE	Julie Kubien, chair of M&P
Rev. Cathy Dilts, Minister	Rev. Karen Smart, Supervising Minister
Linda Westendorp, chair of Worship and Music	Gail Young, chair of OSAC

We have had several people on council serve as recording secretary over the course of this year, and Barb Kisil came out of retirement to help us in the fall. My thanks to them all!

Many groups and committees within the church are represented on this council, and I consider myself very fortunate to work with such a talented group of dedicated individuals. Each of these people should be praised for their ongoing efforts on behalf of their group or committee, and the council as a whole. Without them, the church would not function as smoothly as it does. Thanks to you all!

This time last year, I was preparing the report and wondering what new challenges we would face as a church congregation in the year 2011. Little did I know that we would face a change in our ministerial leadership with the departure of Rev. Cathy Dilts in September. The celebration of her ministry took place at the end of August, with a surprise service attended by many. We miss her energy and creativity and wish her well as she continues with her ministry in Brantford, ON.

Our Joint Needs Assessment Committee worked tirelessly over the summer to create the report which went to Oshawa Presbytery for their approval and acceptance in November. The Joint Search Committee has been struck and has begun their initial meetings this winter in the hope of finding us a suitable candidate for ministry here at St. Paul's. We pray that their work will continue in the new year, and that they will reach a common goal in a timely fashion. The members of these committees who volunteered to dedicate their time in order for our church to move forward in this process deserve our thanks and appreciation as well.

When Karen Smart was appointed as our supervising minister in late September, I was confident in the knowledge that she would provide the leadership and expertise required to guide us in the right direction. Karen has been available for the sacraments as well, which has helped a great deal with continuity.

We were also thankful for our Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, who have been steering us through the services since September. We are fortunate to have Kim Lawrance among those skilled leaders. Laura

Southgate, a student at Emmanuel College has also been eager to share her fledgling ministry with us. We are truly blessed! Cathy Shaw has had to take a step back this fall due to Jeff's illness, and we look forward to her return to the pulpit.

The council looks forward to the coming year with faith and a renewed strength which comes from your continued support. There are always struggles to face, and this congregation has never let us down. Whether we are faced with a sudden loss of leadership within the church, or financial challenges, your overwhelming support and commitment is felt and appreciated. New people are stepping up and accepting leadership roles, and getting involved in various areas of church life. Others are stepping back and supporting us in different ways. With everyone leading increasingly hectic lives, it is important to seek the level of involvement with which you can be comfortable. With God's guidance and your personal commitment, your faith will continue to be restored and enlightened.

I am stepping down as your chair at the rise of the annual meeting, and am looking forward to supporting Scott in the year ahead. There is still lots of work to do, and it is an exciting time for our church. I encourage you to get involved as we anticipate the arrival of a new minister in 2012.

*Respectfully submitted by Linda Westendorp,
Chair of Church Council*

CHURCH OFFICE

This year passed so quickly, it seems as if I was just sitting down to the computer and writing my report for 2010. It has been another busy year with lots to tell you about besides just the day to day stuff of bulletins and monthly calendars.

I certainly do spend quite a bit of time on the telephone talking to all of you as well as people in the community about financial assistance, a baby to be baptized or a couple wanting to be married or sad times when we talk about a funeral.

I had a scare in August and had to be off on sick leave for a month and during that time Grace Sheaves and Linda Westendorp very kindly took wonderful care of all of you in my absence. Then when I came back it was with great sadness I said good-bye to Cathy Dilts and once again embarked on a journey of new ministers or lay people each week (including our own Kim Lawrance and Laura Springate thanks Girlies). Again I fell back on my years of experience to help me through this time between ministers.

Our poor computers needed to be retired and they were this past year. Reg Lawrance introduced me to Richard Cooke a new computer guru for St. Paul's. Richard set up mine and the minister's computers and has now been put on retainer as our go to guy. Thanks as well go to John Fisico for all his hard work maintaining all our church programs.

Thanks also go out to the Connecting Hands group. These hard working people are the voice that reaches out from St. Paul's to our congregation and keeps them in the know.

A big thank you to Helen Dowse for your gift of office supplies. They certainly come in handy.

I truly do have a lot of fun talking to couples about their upcoming wedding. We had three lovely weddings here this past year.

Nine people were baptized at St. Paul's last year and I made sure all their paper work was done for them.

As always, I sent out many cards on behalf of St. Paul's for birthdays, births, get well, sympathy, thinking of you and encouragement to the community as well as members of our congregation. Eighty-two to be exact and the calls I received thanking us for remembering them certainly made it worthwhile.

WOW! You outdid yourselves this year St. Paul's in your fabulous support of the mitten/glove/ hat tree. I am sorry but I was quite busy on December 19th so I did not count the numbers but I can tell you that there were many more donations from all of you this year than last. Once again we have shown our support for the people in our community. On December 19th Len and Barb Kisil came to the church bright and early to help me distribute the food hampers you so generously filled with all your donations of food, turkeys and gift cards. THANK YOU TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO GAVE SO MUCH FOR OTHERS. *Please see the report for the Benevolent Fund for more information.*

After eighteen years of faithful service Bettie Cooney retired. Bettie has folded bulletins for me and all of you faithfully every Friday morning and neither rain nor sleet has kept her from her duties. I THANK HER MOST GRATEFULLY AND I WILL MISS HER! I am pleased to say WELCOME to Jean Severs and Helen Turner. These lovely ladies have volunteered to help me (AND YOU!)

We were also present at the Legion Memorial Service on Remembrance Day and as we did last year (for the first time) St. Paul's laid a wreath during the service. I would like to point out that the cost is \$65 but the entire amount goes to support the Poppy Fund.

Now the most enjoyable part, working with you, the people of St. Paul's. Come in, have a cup of coffee, a laugh, a cry or share a story. We are always happy to see you. To all the other volunteers who are always there to lend a helping hand, thank you. To Cathy D. (sniff, sniff), Cathy S., Lois, and Lorne - thanks for all the support over the year.

To Grace Sheaves, my M&P Rep. - THANK YOU for all your kindness and caring.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Eagleson

CHURCH SCHOOL - GAPP (GOD'S AWESOME PEOPLE PLACE)

It has been an educational experience for all of us in the GAPP program without our distinguished leader, Cathy Shaw. With the help of some amazing women who stepped forward to do anything they could to keep the GAPP program running we are truly grateful. Thanks go out to Karen Walker, Jennifer & Melissa Cree, Shirley Bruce, Wendy Johnston, Grace Sheaves & Julie Kubien. For administrative issues and guidance in general, thanks to Sharon Eagleson and Linda Westendorp.

We started the 2011/12 session reviewing our Church seasons and symbols and then moved onto discussing Jesus' miracles, such as the healing of the blind and lame to creating wine from water. We ended with a discussion on angels and their role in the Bible and created an angel Christmas craft. We had some large GAPP classes this year, which varied from 13 to 18 children. We ended 2011 with Jesus' Birthday party, which was a lot of fun for all!

The children have enjoyed activities such as crafts, baking, movie day, colouring, games and puzzles.

In January 2012 we will be starting a unit on David & Goliath and then move on to Jonah and the Whale.

*Sincerely
Valerie Mandarich and Alison Siefert*

Church School Financial Report

Opening Balance: January 1, 2011	\$ <u>285.91</u>
Income:	\$ <u>128.90</u>
Expenses:	\$ <u>47.24</u>
Closing Balance: December 31, 2011	\$ <u>367.57</u>

There are no unpaid expenses or outstanding receipts.

*Submitted by: Marie Nesbitt
Examined by: Dave Eagleson*

CHURCH STATISTICS

Membership - December 31, 2010		321
Resident	300	
Non-Resident	0	
Inactive	21	
Received during 2011	13	
By Certificate of Transfer	0	
Total Received		13
Removed during 2011		
By Death	9	
By Certificate of Transfer	1	
Act of Council	0	
Other	3	
Total Removed		13
Membership - December 31, 2011		
Resident	299	
Non-Resident	0	
Inactive	22	321
Baptisms	9	
Weddings	3	
Funerals	4	

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Eagleson

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The role of the Communications Committee is to spread the good news about all of the wonderful things that are taking place in the name of Jesus Christ at St. Paul's; both within our internal congregation as well as within the broader community. Our mission is to keep everyone informed, so they in turn can make a decision on whether they wish to get involved.

Throughout the year, our committee was comprised of a total of 8 members. These included: Ann Dobinson (chairperson), Jennifer Cree, Sean Haynes, Julie Kubien, Arlene McKnight, Stuart McLean, Susan Reed, Jeff Shaw, and Jeff Wood.

One of the key priorities the Committee focused on in 2011 was to revitalize and refresh the St. Paul's website to make it more current and inviting. If you haven't already checked out the new look of the website, please do so by going to www.stpaulsajax.org and see what we've been up to. We still have some additional work to do to bring the content up to date, but the updated look and feel and the

revised structure is now in place. And did you know that St. Paul's is also on Facebook? You can easily become a member of our "St Pauls United Church" group by clicking on the Facebook icon at the bottom of the home page on our website.

Unfortunately, we also had to deal with some pretty significant adversity on the team in 2011 when Jeff Shaw was suddenly diagnosed with leukemia. But the people of St. Paul's were quick to respond and Susan Reed volunteered to temporarily take over the publication of our monthly newsletter, The Epistle. And through the extraordinary efforts of Susan, along with the monthly support of Arlene, we managed to continue meeting the deadlines for The Epistle throughout the rest of the year. We're keeping Jeff in our prayers and wish him all the best as he continues with his treatments, and we'll certainly hold an esteemed place for him on our committee should he wish to return.

We worked with the local media to get our message out to the broader Ajax community by publishing 3 separate ads in The News Advertiser during the key spiritual periods throughout the year. We submitted an Ad to highlight our various worship services taking place over the Easter Season. This included dates and times for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday including the Sunrise Service. We also submitted 2 separate Ads to highlight the various worship services taking place over the Christmas Season. These included dates and times for the Family Christmas Eve Worship and the Candlelight Communion Service which both took place on Christmas Eve, as well as the Family Worship that took place on Christmas day.

And finally, the team would like to extend a thank you to Ann Dobinson for her leadership over the past year. Ann has elected to step down as the Chair of the Communications Committee at the end of this year, and Stuart McLean has agreed to take on that role going forward.

Respectfully submitted by Stuart McLean

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

In 2011, St. Paul's United Church maintained a variety of partnerships with local community groups. Some of the groups have entered into a contract with the church whereas other groups meet on a monthly basis. We welcome each of the groups that use our building. In 2011, the groups sharing our building were: AA, Ajax Garden Club, B'Nai Shalom V'Tikvah Synagogue, Brain Tumour Support Group, Durham West Probus Garden Club, Osteoporosis Support Group - Ajax/Pickering, and Sunshine Nursery.

Submitted by Susan Reed

CONNECTING HANDS

Many, many thanks go out to this dedicated group of people. They are the friendly, caring voice that is the contact with St. Paul's. These are my go to people to have important information shared with our congregation or to let people know they are remembered and cared for. Let me tell you they are very good at what they do!

If you think that this might be something that you would like to do or perhaps know more about - please just call me.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Eagleson

DURHAM WEST PROBUS GARDEN CLUB

The garden club was formed in November 2011. There were originally 18 members and we planned to meet on the fourth Thursdays of each month. This schedule has recently been changed to the first Mondays of each month. The membership decided to look for a suitable location to hold our regular monthly meetings. Thanks to the generous offer from St' Paul's United Church in Ajax, we began meeting in their meeting room at our February 2011 meeting.

The Club does not have any financial records as there is no fee to join the group and we collect any expenses for group activities as the need arises, such as ticket costs, supplies, etc. The members decided to pay \$1.00 at each meeting to cover the costs of meeting refreshments. Thanks to Pat and Heather for agreeing to look after this housekeeping responsibility.

During its first year, the members have enjoyed a tour of the Vandemeer Greenhouses in Ajax, a guest speaker from Durham Farm Fresh and two garden tours, Artists in the Garden and the Oshawa Garden Festival. In the coming year we plan to have outings every other month.

We would like to thanks Sharon Eagleson and the staff of St. Paul's United Church for providing the venue for our regular monthly meetings.

Respectfully submitted by Geoff Nie

ENVELOPE STEWARD

This year 152 sets of envelopes were distributed. This was 16 less than last year as a number of our congregation had moved away or were no longer supporting St Paul's. Many thanks to the 144 regular givers who did contribute to the ongoing operation and outreach of this church in 2011.

Changes in Envelope use in 2011: Over the year weekly envelope users increased by 1, monthly users by 3 and PAR users by 3. But a total of 10 envelope users were lost because of transfer to PAR, financial difficulties, death or relocation out of our region.

Givings: The total tax-receiptable donations this year was \$175,714.44 as compared to \$215,865.64 in 2010. Givings to "Local" (general operating fund) was \$136,622.62 compared to 2010 of \$164,416.64. Contributions were very similar to 2010 levels until they dropped in August, September and October as we experienced the loss of Cathy Dilts. However givings returned to usual levels in November & December. Special thanks to all those who dug deep in December to make those extra contributions - what a sign of support and encouragement that was.

Summary

	2009		2010		2011	
	# of givers	Givings, \$	# of givers	Givings, \$	# of givers	Givings
Weekly	89	\$55,702.55	70	\$55,612.60	49	\$34,083.70
Monthly	21	\$23,213.25	19	\$15,851.99	21	\$17,716.90
PAR	67	\$113,466.80	75	\$132,987.25	74	\$114,552.78
"Other"*	70	\$7,129.23	83	\$6,631.84	48	\$3,994.29
Identifiable givers - Total	247	\$199,511.83	247	\$211,083.68	192	\$170,347.67
Anonymous (includes "Loose")		\$4,509.74		\$4,781.96		\$5,366.77
Total		\$204,021.57		\$215,865.64		\$175,714.44

* Non-envelope givers/ visitors/ participants who do not normally give to St Paul's, e.g. Golf day, Memorial Hymn Sing.

We are the Church with the Open Arms giving generously to M&S (\$16,299.03, ~10% of total givings), Overseas relief (\$1010: Japan, Horn of Africa), Canadian Foodgrains Bank (\$322), as well as local needs through the Benevolent fund (\$2,627), Food Bank (\$409), Christmas Family baskets (\$430) and prayer shawl ministry.

Through the envelopes \$420 was given to renew subscriptions to the Observer, \$1,050 was given to help cover the fees we pay to Presbytery and an Initial offering of \$161 was received to offset the cost of the envelope sets. Every little bit helps.

It is a pleasure to serve St Paul's and I owe special thanks to Robert Hunt and the members of the Finance Committee for their guidance in 2011.

Thank you to the Ushers who ensure that the givings are properly collected and passed on for safe-keeping. Also special thanks to June Gellatly, Delmar Coull, and Linda Westendorp who helped this year to count and deposit our collection.

*Submitted by
Dorothy Wilkins*

EXPLORERS

St. Paul's Explorers is a group for girls 9-11 years of age (grades 4, 5 and 6). We meet weekly on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Room, from 7pm to 8.30pm. The purpose of the group is to provide Christian education experiences to grow in their understanding of God's love through explorations, fun and fellowship.

In January we had 9 girls enrolled and in June three graduated up to the CGIT group. At the end of the year we had five girls enrolled, one of which came from the Messenger group.

Throughout the year we have enjoyed many activities, some of which have included PJ Party, Valentine party, "Minute to Win It" games night, Explorations on Haiti, discussions on Remembrance, Lent and Easter. We shopped for the "White Gift" service with money we raised from the Church Bazaar and put on a Christmas concert for the parents.

In June we were sad to see leave our Co-leader Deb Gillis and Junior Leader Laura Houston (to study at Ottawa University).

*Respectfully submitted by
Cathy and Elizabeth Houston
Explorer Leaders*

Financial Report of the Explorers.

Opening balance January 1, 2011	\$1130.43
Income:	\$ 508.75
Expenses:	\$ 774.11
Cash Balance at December 31, 2011	\$865.07

*Submitted by John W. Scott
Examined by Dave Eagleson*

FLOWER GUILD

Remembrance and Celebrations

The Flower Guild was started in 2010.

The congregation may request a rose be placed on the Communion Table in memory of a loved one passed, or in celebration of an anniversary or birthday.

Your request is noted in the Sunday bulletin and shared with the members of St. Paul's. We hope through prayer and acknowledgement that we can bring comfort or brighten your day.

Request forms are found in the Narthex.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Castellarin*

FUNDRAISING

QSP- Magazine Subscription Orders

Our annual QSP Fundraiser was held in the month of September. Though our sales and profit were down from last year the total order of sales was \$1,266.00 and our net profit was \$432.02. In addition to the \$432.02 an additional \$500.00 will be received in the New Year as a good will gift to St. Paul's for promoting the QSP Fundraiser to a local school.

Submitted by Sharon Castellarin

GAMES NIGHT CLUB

Since our change from the Bridge Club to Games Night Club we were hoping that we would get more people out as you can play many more and different games now. We are finding that we still have about the same number of people coming – approximately three tables or twelve people on average. Hopefully in 2012 we will have four or five tables of willing and excited people taking part. We have donated \$200.00 (by cheque) to the church and wish to thank you for allowing us the use of the Fellowship Room. We meet the second Friday of each month from September to May at 7:30 pm with a charge of a Toonie.

*Respectfully submitted,
Mabel Spencer, 905-683-7992*

GIFTS ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**Bequest Fund**

There were no bequests or other contributions to the fund during the year.

Investments

	<u>Face Value</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Fixed Income	\$12,275	GE Capital Canada 4.88%, Jan. 17/14	\$11,622.19
	\$ 3,637	Transcanada Pipelines 3% Feb. 5/15	\$ 3,368.49
Cash			\$ 1.61
Market value at December 31, 2011			\$14,992.29

The market value of the Fixed Income investments reflects current interest rates. At maturity, the face value will be repaid.

Submitted By Dave Eagleson

Examined by Jim Bond

JOINT NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (JNAC)

When Cathy Dilts announced she was leaving St. Paul's, there was an understandable amount of concern and uncertainty that rippled through our congregation. But much to the credit of the people of St. Paul's, we got to work and immediately elected a JNAC Committee which was chartered with starting us on the path towards finding a new minister.

The primary role of the JNAC committee was to gather and compile the information needed to flesh out a concise and inviting report by which prospective applicants will initially encounter our church. This document is comprised of four main parts. Firstly, it describes the faith needs and aspirations of our congregation, secondly, the physical and financial realities of St. Paul's, thirdly, the attractiveness of living in Ajax and Durham Region, and finally, a detailed job description for the type of minister St. Paul's is looking for. Potential applicants will rely on this document in their initial decision to apply for the position of minister at St. Paul's.

Our JNAC Committee was comprised of a total of 10 members and 2 alternates. Together we represented groups from all walks of life; our members ranged from 20 to over 80 years in age and participate in many men's and women's groups within the church. Some members have been in the church for less than a year, while others have spent almost twenty years worshipping at St. Paul's. Many members have grown up in the United Church, but have also spent some time worshipping in Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, Anglican and other Protestant churches. As a collective, we were passionate about our faith in Jesus Christ and the role that St. Paul's United Church plays in the service of our

faith. Our members included: Stuart McLean (chairperson), Barb Kisil (recording secretary), Susan Reed (corresponding secretary), Reg Carter, Julia Godfrey, Bill Sheaves, Kim Lawrence, Michael Morrison, Laura Springate and Sarah Wood. Two representatives from Presbytery were also assigned to be part of the committee- and we were lucky enough to have the support of Rev. Rob Selby from Claremont United Church and Ted Bazeley from St. Mark's United Church in Whitby. Our committee alternates were Robert Hunt and Wendy Mason.

The JNAC Committed was formed in the spring, and met weekly throughout the summer to discuss matters such as information-gathering, the establishment of timelines, and ways to keep the congregation informed of our progress. Our lively discussions were not only enjoyable, but highly collaborative and fruitful. We created a congregational survey, included articles in the Epistle, conducted 'Minute for Ministry' updates during Sunday worship, and led a JNAC service on September 25th to launch our survey.

All of our hard work was rewarded when we finalized our JNAC Report at the end of October, and subsequently received approval from the congregation on November 13th. Our report was then brought before Presbytery on November 15th for acceptance and the formal declaration of a vacancy. At that time, our JNAC Committee was disbanded and a Joint Search Committee was in turn elected to start the next phase of finding our one new minister.

Respectfully submitted by Stuart McLean

JOINT SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Joint Search Committee is the natural continuation of the process to seek a call of an ordained Minister of Sacrament and Pastoral Care. The forming of this committee by the congregation of St. Paul's United Church - Ajax follows the declaration of a vacancy by Oshawa Presbytery on November 15, 2011. I would like to thank the members of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee whose dedication to quality and speed of action allowed the congregation to set up the formation of JSC. The Joint Search Committee was formed by a motion of Congregation on November 27, 2011.

The members elected to the JSC are: Bill Sheaves (Chair), Wendy Mason (Corresponding Secretary), Laura Springate (Secretary of Committee), Julia Godfrey, Julie Kubien, Kim Lawrance, Stuart McLean, Gord Ottaway, Dorothy Wilkins, Sarah Wood. Our presbytery representatives are Rev. William Service and Ted Bazeley.

In 2011 we have already met a number of times generally once a week. It is an enthusiastic and hard-working group dedicated to the common need. I am very pleased with and proud of this committee as it appears to be representative of the congregation both physically and spiritually.

The committee has secured an advertisement in the United Church Observer and we are on the Vacancy list. We have received a number of requests for information and also a small number of applications. It appears that in God's good Grace, we have our work cut out for us and we would not have it any other way.

*Submitted by,
Bill Sheaves*

JUNIOR CHOIR

As of this writing, there are 7 boys and girls in the St. Paul's enthusiastic Junior Choir. They sang during the White Gift service and on Christmas Eve where they also helped to lead the carol sing before the pageant.

This choir is open to children age 6 and older.

Practices are 30 minutes long right after church/Sunday school/GAPP in the choir room. **New members are always welcome!** For more information, call Lois at 905-428-1457.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lois Craig, Director of Music for St. Paul's*

LADY'S SOCIAL LUNCHEON

The Lady's social luncheon group of St. Paul's was also outreach for our church. A great time and great fellowship was enjoyed by everyone who attended. A luncheon sandwich bag was put on the table at every lunch. The ladies gave generously to our Mission and Service Fund and the church monthly bills. Total money given was \$279.50.

*In Jesus Service,
Respectfully submitted, Julia Godfrey*

LAY VISITORS TEAM

"The church is wherever the people are sharing the Word of the Bible in gift and in deed".

This is our goal. Our dedicated team of volunteers makes regular visits either in person or by phone, to bring words of encouragement to those shut-in and no longer able to attend worship. This is not only

a source of comfort and spiritual connection back to St. Paul's for those being visited, but for their family members as well.

The elements for Communion are taken from the Communion Table, and in turn are shared with those who wish to receive it on 4 occasions throughout the year.

At Easter and at Christmas, using the funds entrusted to us by the congregation, suitable gifts that are accompanied by a card are also delivered. These are sincerely appreciated by those being visited.

There is currently a roster of 15 people who we make an effort to visit with on a regular basis. Each member of the Lay Visitors Team has the privilege of visiting specific people in order to maintain a sense of familiarity and develop a sense of camaraderie during each visit. The Lay Visitors team is comprised of 9 dedicated individuals who include Louise Johnson, Isobel Bond, Rolly Grant, Valerie Grant, Stuart McLean, Marie Pos, Susan Reed, and Mary Younie.

The team would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Louise Johnson for her leadership and encouragement over the past 18 years, as she has elected to step down from the Coordinator role at the end of this year. And although Louise will continue to participate as an active member of the Lay Visitors Team, Stuart McLean will take on the Coordinator role going forward. And Stuart would like to acknowledge that Louise leaves some pretty big shoes to fill since she has created such a significant legacy leading this team for so many years.

If there are others from our congregation who you think would welcome pastoral care, please contact the office and we will do our best to accommodate your wishes.

Sincere thanks to the congregation for your prayers and financial support, because without you, we wouldn't be able to fulfill this very important form of ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Stuart McLean

LIBRARY

The library collection contains approximately 740 items.

These can be found under the following classifications: Biblical/Issues, Church History, Devotional, Family/Teen Self-Help, Adult Self-Help, Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction, Junior/Teen novels, Children's Fiction/Non-Fiction, Children's Biblical and Multimedia.

Weeding and reorganization of the adult book sections has been completed. All adult books are now arranged on the shelves in alphabetical order by the author's last name.

Members of the congregation have donated new and gently used books. All donations were gratefully received and processed into the collection.

The updating of the database is being worked on. The aim is for the database to reflect the current items in the collection and their arrangement on the shelves. Further goals for 2012 will be to locate additional shelving for the expanding collection and to improve the shelving labeling.

Submitted by Colleen McLaren

MEN'S GROUP

The St. Paul's United Church Men's Group is a social group founded by some men of the church who wanted to "meet and greet and know" the men of the church in an informal and comradeship setting. We've been meeting for over a year and have prepared and shared breakfast with the entire church twice since our original meeting.

Our meetings are held every second Saturday morning of the month and we are self-funded. Each man donates \$5.00 for breakfast and many of the volunteer cooks donate their time and the morning's food for free. Therefore, we have funds enough to treat the church to free breakfast two or three times a year...and we always have money in our account (according to Reg Carter, our control officer). The Men's Group is a low key group that gives men an opportunity for comradeship. Its only mandate is friendship. But, when 16 to 20 men meet on a regular basis and a need of the church is brought forward; it is amazing how things can be done.

Presently, we see the need for men in the church to meet and break bread and build friendships. We also wish to help the church, in our own way, to be a warm and welcoming place for new men and their families.

It is a very old accepted practice amongst good men to meet and share a meal and fellowship. It lives at St. Paul's Church in Ajax.

*Michael Morrison,
Men's Group Representative.*

MEMORIAL FUND

Donations to the St. Paul's Memorial Fund were received this year in memory of the following people:
Mary Cope, Francis Fillier, Bill Fleming, Sheila Galloway, Margaret Miller,
Norman Mann, Barbara Pickell, George and Helen Shaw, Robert Turner
and Ken Younie.

A page in the Memorial Book shows all the names of the contributors and the people in whose name(s) the donation is being made. Our Memorial Hymn sing on November 20, 2011 was a huge success and the contribution to the Memorial Fund came to \$322.50. We also made a purchase of new candles and brass followers for the candelabras in the amount of \$407.42. Many thanks to all.

*Respectfully submitted by Sharon Eagleson
Treasurer of the Memorial Fund*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Opening Balance: January 1, 2011		\$2,464.83
Income:	\$1,622.66	
Expenses:	\$ 407.42	
Closing Balance: December 31, 2011		\$3,680.07

The balance of the Memorial Fund is held in a high interest rate savings account at CIBC Wood Gundy.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Opening Balance: January 1, 2011	\$5,677.48
Income:	\$70.15
Expenses:	\$0
Closing Balance: December 31, 2011	\$5,747.63

Total Memorial Fund Balance at December 31 2011 \$9,427.70.

*Respectfully submitted by Sharon Eagleson
Examined by James Bond*

MESSENGERS

January to May 2011

During this time, we had a group of five girls. Our leaders were Nancy Lomax, along with Junior Leaders Karen Lomax and Sarah Lomax. We made crafts, read Bible stories and played games during our weekly evenings. As well, we went Bowling, had a birthday party (one night to celebrate everyone turning one year older!) and a joint Graduation with the Explorer Group. One of our girls graduated and has moved on to the Explorer Group.

September to December 2011

In the fall, we started again after a summer break. We have four girls registered in our group. Our leaders are currently Nancy Lomax with Junior Leader Sarah Lomax. This fall we have had a game night as well as our usual meetings which include crafts and Bible stories. We had a joint Halloween Party with the Explorers. In December, we worked together with the Explorer group and their leaders to put on a Christmas Concert. It went very well and the parents enjoyed it. We finished off 2011 with a Christmas Party.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Lomax
Messenger Leader*

Financial Report of the Messengers.

Opening balance January 1, 2011	\$1010.25
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Income:	\$ 330.37
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Expenses:	\$ 627.04
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Cash Balance at December 31, 2011	\$713.58
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*Submitted by John W. Scott
Examined by Dave Eagleson*

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

What a year!

2011 was a very eventful year for the M&P committee from the point of view of both its members and the staff they represent.

The committee started out the year with a plan to focus on updating the job descriptions for the staff into the format templates provided by the United Church of Canada. This task was completed over the course of the year.

Regrettably, committee member Joyce Dawson who represented our music director, Lois Craig, tendered her resignation when she moved to Grimsby to be closer to her children and grandchild. Valerie Grant who had been doing a great job as rev Cathy Dilts' representative took on the task of finding a replacement volunteer for Joyce and also an additional volunteer to take over as Cathy

Shaw's representative as this position had been vacant and being covered by the chair (yours truly) for the past year. Blessings were upon us when Valerie was able to find not two but three (!) wonderful volunteers to take over the positions. This prompted Valerie to decide that now might be a good time to step down from her position on the M&P committee to focus on her recovery from a planned surgery. She and Valerie will certainly be missed.

And so, the committee ended the year with existing members Reg Lawrance, Grace Sheaves and I being joined by Katie Wood, Sharon Castellarin and Nancy Longworth all of whom will be officially welcomed at this upcoming annual congregational meeting.

Though it may not be known to all congregation members, the staff at St. Paul's has experienced quite a year too.

Cathy Shaw executed yet another very successful Vacation Bible School week in 2011 and the entire congregation joined to congratulate her as she embarked on an amazing faith journey as a certified lay worship leader. Cathy's vibrant presence around St. Paul's has been missed since the latter months of the year when she started an extended leave to care for a family member.

The resignation of our Minister Cathy Dilts took everyone by surprise in the summer. Though we wish her well as she accepted a charge that allowed her to move closer to her family, the time we experienced without a full time minister from September to the end of the year and beyond has been a challenging one for our staff. This left only Lois, Sharon and Lorne in the office and even these numbers were depleted by illness and vacation. In some weeks, it was pretty quiet around the office!

Nevertheless, despite these challenges and an ever changing worship schedule and format to accommodate the fantastic lay worship leaders and guest ministers that have kept Church on Sundays a vibrant and faith filled place to gather. Lois and Sharon with the support of our custodian, Lorne Alexander, have been there behind the scenes to keep it all together and perfectly seamless to those of us sitting out in the pews.

I'll say again...What a year! But more importantly, what an amazing group we have working here at St. Paul's! I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the congregation to thank them all.

*Respectfully submitted on behalf of the M&P committee by its chair,
Julie Kubien*

OSHAWA PRESBYTERY

There are presently two members of St. Paul's who represent our congregation at Oshawa Presbytery. Rev. Cathy Dilts (ministerial member), to June 2011, Debbie McAdam and Bill Sheaves (lay members). Presbytery is the next level of church court in the United Church of Canada hierarchy. It acts as a

supervisory body that is responsible for ministerial, administrative and property concerns of the individual congregations. Presbytery meets at different churches once a month except during the summer.

There were many major activities that were addressed by Presbytery in 2011.

1. Oshawa Presbytery is still in the midst of a revisioning for our Churches in Presbytery. We began an investigation to look at where we are and where we want to go in our future. The past chair of Presbytery, Rev. Larry Doyle with our own Rev. Dilts were engaged in a committee to facilitate this investigation and all members of Presbytery are working hard to come up with recommendations to benefit our churches. The committee has progressed without the contributions of Rev. Dilts. They have developed a report that will be used by different congregations to determine the health of their churches. This report is similar to an audit evaluation but for the time being is called "the Gizmo".
2. The year started, sadly with the closure of Harmony United Church. On a bright note, it was only the building that closed as the congregation amalgamated with Faith United church in Courtice.
3. Presbytery members of St. Paul's United (Ajax) supported motions to Presbytery (on a recommendation by St. Paul's congregation) to put forth the nominations of three members to start on the path to ordination.
4. The Bay of Quinte Conference in which Oshawa Presbytery is one of seven presbytery members is piloting a new Candidacy Pathways program. This program attempts to make it easier for those people that are contemplating a call to ministry to get involved. On the first discernment weekend (the first step), two members of our congregation attended and have agreed to carry on with their discernment. We know that the United Church will be blessed to have these members as ordained ministers.
5. The youth in Oshawa Presbytery are becoming very active through the leadership of Marly Bown from Pickering Village. The youth led and made a significant contribution to Bay of Quinte Conference meeting in June.
6. The Moderator, Martie Tyndall visited the Presbytery in March. She was feted by a pot luck dinner, service and a youth program.
7. During the early part of 2012, St. Paul's will debate a number of remits that have come from General Council, the results of which will be placed before General Council 2012. A remit is a question put before a congregation (or any other church court) to discuss a policy change within the United Church of Canada. Depending on the type of remit it may pass or fail at the

congregational level. It is an important point of discussion and a major responsibility for the greater church.

8. Our dues to Oshawa Presbytery have significantly gone up this year. There are many reasons for this, but the two major ones are that the Presbytery has had grants up to this year keeping dues levels down. There were two closed churches within presbytery (Harmony and Zion) causing a decrease of contributions throughout the whole presbytery. All this is predicated on the numbers of our members. As we have culled our role this will start to be represented in our dues. However, it appears that our dues to Presbytery will still be about \$6000.00.
9. We appreciate that this appears to be a large amount of money. We believe that this is money well spent. Our contributions not only maintain Oshawa Presbytery, but also Bay of Quinte Conference and the national church. It pays not only for professionals in ministry and administration for the church in general. The moneys that go to Presbytery also go to different functions of the United Church not covered by Mission and Service. The two biggest ministries that receive about \$10,000.00 each are the Backdoor Mission in Oshawa and Ajax-Pickering hospital chaplaincy. There are others.
10. We should also note that Presbyters are all volunteers and except for three executive members who receive a small honorarium, all work is done freely.
11. There is a major controversy that will be debated not only throughout this Presbytery but all the others in Conference. There is a Conference commission that is investigating the boundaries of the different Presbyteries. At the moment the recommendation is that a new presbytery be formed. Unfortunately, this could mean the loss of a third of our churches in our present Presbytery. The loss of so many congregations, with their people, could do undue harm to our Presbytery. We will keep everyone advised on this ongoing matter.
12. Deb and Bill are involved in two of the busiest committees within Presbytery. Deb is on the Pastoral Relations committee and Bill is on the Pastoral Oversight. Pastoral Relations deal with issues between Ministerial and congregational levels such as changes of calls of ministers. Oversight deals with congregations, trying to get ahead of problems before they disrupt spiritual health. Although we attend general meetings monthly, both Deb and Bill attend the many sub-committee and executive meetings of the Presbytery.

Bill has been honoured by his appointment as Chair for Oshawa Presbytery for the 2012-2013 church year. Bill was also honoured to be elected by Oshawa Presbytery and confirmed by the Bay of Quinte Conference to be Presbytery's lay commissioner to General Council in Ottawa in 2012. This past year was a busy and exciting one, enjoyed by your members. We would like to thank our congregation for their continued confidence and support in our work.

Submitted by Deb McAdam and Bill Sheaves

OSTEOPOROSIS SUPPORT GROUP - AJAX/PICKERING

Best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy New Year!

Thank you for letting our group use the Fellowship Room – we really appreciate it! A special thank you to Sharon Eagleson and Lorne Alexander for all their help.

It was another exciting year for the Ajax-Pickering Osteoporosis Support Group. Nancy Drynan from the Canadian Cancer Society did a very informative presentation for us on breast cancer prevention; Clare Boire from Homewell Senior Care along with representatives from Sitvercross and Lifeline explained how they can make living a home easier for seniors; Lynette Kirton from Vandemeer Nursery educated us on all the new products available for our lawns and flower gardens; Barbara Blanc from The Bay at the Pickering Town Centre and Rhonda Giorgi from Triumph International organized an event to instruct us on bra fitting; Julian Rawlins from Osteoporosis Canada taught us how to read the T-scores on our bone density tests; Amanda Vasquez from the Local Health Integration Network informed our group of the free self- management programs they have available for adults of all ages living with chronic conditions.

Why not make 2012 the year you decide to join our group! Our membership fee remains the same - \$10.00 for the eight meetings or if you are unable to attend all eight - \$2.00 a meeting.

We meet from 1:30 – 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Room on the first Wednesday of every month except for June, July, August and December.

Everyone is welcome. Don't have osteoporosis? Come out anyway and have some fun as you can see we discuss a variety of subjects! Hope to see you at our next meeting - we have another interesting year planned.

Please call Odette at 905-831-4471 or Linda at 905-509-6510 for more information.

OUTREACH AND SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The promotion of the United Church of Canada's Mission and Service fund through OSAC's "Minute for Mission" presentations during Sunday worship continued throughout the year in 2011. The total M&S givings for St. Paul's for the calendar year of 2011 were \$18,393.53. This amount is significantly lower than our target (based on the last several years of donations) due to unforeseen changes in our members' donations. Nonetheless it represents a significant contribution to the worthwhile Mission and Service fund, and we thank all who have supported the M&S fund throughout the past year.

St. Paul's once again sponsored 12 Blood Donor Clinics throughout Ajax in 2011. This is the 14th year of this vital outreach and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the many dedicated volunteers

from our church who help make this happen, in particularly our tireless, hard-working coordinator, Gladys Snelling! The Canadian Blood Service continues to rely on us for this important service project.

St. Paul's involvement with the Healthy Snack Program at Bolton C. Falby Public School is also in its 14th year. Dedicated members, Debbie McAdam, Isobel Taylor, Delmer Coull and Rolly Grant arrive at the school between 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays to prepare a healthy well balanced snack for approximately 615 students. Diane Fleming helps with the program coordination, Reg Carter is our willing back up when required and Donna Frankum from St. Timothy's Presbyterian and Pat Stokes from the Ajax community are also important members of the team. We have continued to work closely with members of Crossroads Community Church and members of the school staff. The Healthy Snack Program is under the umbrella of Durham's Child Nutrition Project. It is funded by such services as Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Durham Region Income Support Department, Trillium Foundation, United Way of Ajax and Pickering, as well as funding from private donors. The mission statement of the Durham Child Nutrition Project is as follows: Feeding the body feeds the mind which enhances each child's potential. Our mission is to ensure that all children in Durham attend school well nourished and ready to learn.

On an ongoing basis, OSAC continues to encourage the regular donation of items to the Salvation Army food bank utilizing boxes at the back of the church to collect these items. We are thankful to our faithful volunteers, Sue and Cornie Tessman for their tireless dedication in delivering the greatly appreciated contributions to the food bank on our behalf. As always, the December White Gift service provided many boxes of wonderful gifts which were delivered to Herizon House (women and children), Cornerstone (men) and the Youth Shelter (youth), as well as monetary and food donations for the Salvation Army food bank.

In 2011, we continued to support KAIROS initiatives, encouraged supporting United Church of Canada initiatives concerning the Long Gun Registry and Bill C10, encouraged St. Paul's members to participate in active transportation, supported the Japan Relief efforts of the United Church of Canada, donated items for a Ghana mission trip, supported accessible gas stations in Durham (an initiative spearheaded by Jewel Cooney which is spreading throughout the Region), met with our new M.P. Chris Alexander for dialogue and to continue to work on the lines of communication between our MP and those whom he represents, and met with a group of OSAC representatives from neighbouring churches in Durham to share ideas and see where that may take us in the future! We also organized a mini farmers market in the church parking lot in September and a Down East Kitchen party in November.

Our regular monthly meetings are on the second Sunday of each month (excluding July and August) at 9 a.m. Please consider joining us for some interesting discussion on an ever-changing variety of topics prior to worship. We are also visible to our church family on the third Sunday of each month as we provide coffee service, and also at this time, display our portable bulletin board, created to keep you up-to-date on M&S issues.

Thank you to our St. Paul's family for your faithful involvement in the important outreach work of our church!

Your OSAC Committee – Gail Young (Chair), Colleen McLaren, Mandy Johnson, Helen Dowse, Laura Springate, Wendy Mason (M&S Enthusiast)

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer Shawls help provide a “hug from God”.

This group, now entering its third year, meets on the third Thursday of each month in the fellowship room at the church. We have approximately 8 ladies who come together in fellowship and prayer, as we make shawls and lap robes to be given to people in time of need or for a special occasion. Although our number has not grown over the past year, we have still been very active. We have distributed approximately 35 Prayer shawls and Lap robes not only to people in our community but throughout Canada. Shawls have traveled as far as Northern Ireland and Colombia.

As a group we knit squares, which were joined to make an afghan and given to the UCW to be put in the raffle at the November Bazaar.

Some members of St. Paul's who don't attend our monthly meetings, but are kind enough to participate have knit Prayer Shawls. We have had a few cash donations, which has been most helpful in purchasing yarn. To these people, we extend our sincere thanks.

If you would like information or know of someone who you feel would be comforted by receiving a prayer shawl or prayer lap robe, please contact June Ruben or Sharon Eagleson.

Respectfully submitted by June Ruben

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

For most of this past year, life as your Program Coordinator has been wonderfully busy and full of new experiences and lots of great people! Unfortunately, due to family obligations in the latter part of the year, I can only report about what happened up until September...but there is a lot of good stuff to report!

In February, we celebrated our Volunteers once again at our 6th annual Appreciation Tea. What a wonderful way to honour all those who give so much to our church! This year I handed out 258 invitations...way to go St. Paul's! Thank you also to our Church Council for providing the food for the celebration. I hope to see each of you this February for our 7th annual celebration!

Early March brought the always delicious, much anticipated Pancake Supper to St. Paul's. With the help of some amazing volunteers, including members of CGIT, we happily served 156 hungry people. Once again this year, I was able to arrange for Pancake Supper tickets to be donated to our local Salvation Army so that they could be distributed to those in need of a yummy meal and wonderful fellowship.

From February to July, I was busy preparing for another Vacation Bible School. In August we learned how to "Carry Out God's Recipe for Life" at our "Shake It Up Cafe" VBS. For one week we opened our doors each morning to share God's love and message with forty children from our church and community. What a wonderful week of fun, laughter and learning...for all of us! My heartfelt thanks go out to the twenty young people and the "young at heart" who staffed our VBS this year and made it such a rewarding experience.

At Easter we held our 4th Annual EGGstravaganza! Between the Sunrise Service and the Easter Service, the church building was turned into a hunting ground for Easter goodies. After the hunt, there were crafts and treats to enjoy. Thank you to all of the "Easter Bunnies" who helped with this project and to all the children and parents who participated.

There was no picnic this year, as it was decided that this event would be better attended and better staffed if it happened every other year. Instead, we had a wonderful year-end celebration for our children in the form of a special worship service...officially ending our dedicated year to our children, where the theme had been...EVERY KID COUNTS!

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be your Program Coordinator and for allowing me the privilege of working and walking with you as we journey together. Thank you for sharing your thoughts, ideas and concerns with me and for your continued support. To **Sharon, Lorne, Lois** and **Cathy**, thank you for being the best colleagues in the world! Many thanks to **Nancy Longworth, Julie Kubien** and the rest of the M&P Committee. It's nice to have such great people in my corner!

On a very personal note, I would like to thank everyone at St. Paul's for standing by me as I have had to turn my attention to my family's well being. Thank you to all those who have stepped in to share in the duties of Program Coordinator...you have lightened my load and lifted my spirits!

*Respectfully submitted by,
Cathy Shaw,
Program Coordinator*

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee is responsible for the maintenance of the building and property of St. Paul's. This includes negotiating contracts, recommending repairs and improvements to council and authorizing expenditures within the budget.

In 2011, the third floor washroom was tiled and painted. The north (lift) hall, the chair storage room and part of the lower east hall were painted. The entrance doors were stained and varnished.

Budgeted expenses included snow removal and lawn care \$4900 (increased precipitation in 2011), furnace repair \$715, lift license and maintenance \$830 and the security system \$555. A window was installed in the choir room door \$300. A new countertop and sink were installed in the women's washroom \$1100 (Capital fund).

The spring and fall clean-ups were well attended. Thank you for your help. Thank you to the committee members: Lorne Alexander, Bob Pellow, Rolly Grant, Stephen Lomax, and to Jim Bond for donating their time and talents during the year.

*Respectfully submitted,
Wilma Brown, chair*

SENIOR CHOIR

St. Paul's Senior Choir is a dedicated group of individuals who share a love for music and a passion for singing God's praises. Ably led by the dynamic and inspiring Lois Craig, who serves as both director of the group and pianist/organist, the choir sings regularly during worship services as well as performing several special engagements throughout the year.

In 2011 this included:

- The Palm Sunday Cantata "No Greater Sacrifice" presented on April 17th in honour of Terry Wilkins, a longtime member of St. Paul's Senior Choir
- A Good Friday Ecumenical Service with St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church on April 22nd
- A celebration of ministry for Cathy Dilts on August 28th
- The Remembrance Day Service for the Royal Canadian Legion presented on November 16th
- The Christmas Cantata "Night of the Father's Love" presented on December 11th and again on December 18th
- Singing Christmas Carols at Ballycliffe on December 22nd
- And our Christmas Eve Midnight Service, complete with candle light.

We were especially pleased that so many singers in our congregation and the community – who aren't able to participate on a regular basis – were able to join us as guest choristers and soloists. Special thanks to Gary Faulkner, Christopher Miller and Rachel Wood.

And thank you to the many talented readers who participated in these presentations including Karen Strong, Winston Pinnock, Marie Nesbitt, Linda Westendorp.

The choir rehearses each Thursday evening, from 7 to 9 p.m. with one of the rehearsals ending early for a brief meeting and snacks which are provided, on a rotating schedule, by choir members – always yummy.

The annual 6th “Bring-A-Friend night”, held on October 27th and the invitation for people to attend 3 short rehearsals and then help present an anthem such as “Amazing Grace” on September 25th or “I Come to the Garden Alone” on November 13th were just two of the ways we welcomed new singers into our midst.

But perhaps it’s the May Epistle submission by Joyce Dawson, a 16-year “veteran” who retired from the Choir during 2011 that may prompt you to join us during the 2012 season...

You have options for being part of the choir - You can try it out for a few weeks, join full time, part time or only for special performances. We welcome newcomers. You, who always believed you could not sing, find out you can. Lois and other members are always willing to help individually, in groups or providing practice tapes or CDs for those who cannot attend all practices. We work hard, have fun and if you like singing, who wouldn't want to be the best they can be.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Cronin-Wood

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Stewardship Campaign October 2011 “Together We Can”

Special thanks to Jeff Shaw, Ann Dobinson and Susan Reed for assisting the committee with the formatting, printing and distributing the booklet.

Summary:

	2009	2010	2011
Total Campaign packages	292	265	253
Distribution	Pick-up / mail	E-mail 148 Post 117	E-mail 140 Post 113
Returns	58	60	42

Thank you to all those who spent time re-considering your priorities and givings. And above all, thank you to all who joined us for a pot-luck luncheon in celebration of God’s goodness.
God Bless

Stewardship Committee: Robert Hunt, David Eagleson, Wendy Mason, Reg Carter, Dorothy Wilkins

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORTSHOLDING ACCOUNT FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2011

Account Number 32102 0424889

Balance forward January 1, 2011*		\$ 9,547.47
Capital Fund Givings:		
Congregation	\$7,710.00	
UCW	500.00	
Christian Symbol	<u>1,000.00</u>	
	\$9,210.00	9,210.00
Cheques:		
New Computers	\$1,073.73	
Air Conditioner for Fellowship Room	<u>111.87</u>	
	\$1,185.60	-1,185.60
Cheques from Choir Funds		
Balance forward *	\$1,010.13	
Music – Sr. Choir	<u>- 331.60</u>	
	\$ 678.63	- 331.60
Interest		6.08
Bank Charges		<u>- 24.00</u>
Balance at December 31, 2011		<u><u>\$17,222.35</u></u>

*The balance forward at January 1, 2011 included the amount of \$1,010.13 designated for the Senior Choir's use and the cheque(s) written against this amount are noted above.

MISSION AND SERVICE FUND GIVINGS AT
DECEMBER 31, 2011

Givings:	
Congregation	\$16,618.53
W.D.R.	175.00
UCW	<u>1,600.00</u>
TOTAL FOR 2011	<u><u>\$18,383.53</u></u>

FOR REPORTING PURPOSES ONLY

FOOD BANK GIVINGS AT DECEMBER 31, 2011

Givings for 2011	\$539.25
Cheque issued to the Salvation Army Food Bank	\$539.25

BENEVOLENT FUND GIVINGS AT DECEMBER 31, 2011

Congregational givings	\$2,752.54
Christmas families givings	430.00
UCW	<u>200.00</u>
TOTAL FOR 2011	<u>\$3,382.54</u>

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Finance Committee and the Congregation, to thank the UCW for their generosity in supporting the work of St. Paul's United Church and in particular, over and above the amounts noted above, their donation of \$5,000.00 towards the General Working Account. Many, many thanks.

*Submitted by Wendy Mason
Church Treasurer*

Reviewer's Statement

I, Scott McMullen, have reviewed the financial records of St. Paul's United Church as at December 31, 2011 and the statements of Income and Expense for the year then ended. I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements do not accurately reflect the financial position of St. Paul's United Church, Ajax, for the year 2011.

Scott McMullen
Ajax, Ontario
January 2012

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

We are women of St. Paul's who meet once a month to encourage one another to be involved in study, fellowship and service as it relates to our Church, the community and the world. We meet on the third Monday of the month at 7pm from September to June in the Fellowship Room. New members are always welcome.

Our many talented members contributed to St Paul's in so many ways. Just to name a few, UCW members helped knit prayer shawls, officiated at the UCW Service, participated at Presbytery and Presbyterian levels, hosted World Day of Prayer, worked diligently throughout the year making crafts for the bazaar. We thank all Church members for helping to make our fund raising events so successful.

Our thrust this year was to continue to make improvements to the 3rd floor.

The kitchen on the third floor was freshly painted; the countertop, sink and taps were replaced. The Fellowship and Flo Churchill Rooms were also enhanced with new tables and wall hangings. UCW Life Membership lists were updated and reframed. After the bathroom was freshly painted, new pictures and a mirror were added.

We continued to make Outreach donations. For example, locally, we supported Herizon House; globally we continued to support Sleeping Children Around the World and World Development and Relief. St Paul's UCW has also contributed to the UCW National project to help fund Maternal Health Care Training in Tanzania.

Disbursements were made to the Church Council, Mission and Service Fund, the Benevolent Fund and Capital Funds Projects.

We continued to supply the congregation with Fair Trade coffee for the after service get together and for special events.

Watch for our Epistle messages throughout the year!

Submitted by Diane Fleming

United Church Women Financial Statement

Business Account

Balance January 1, 2011 1,289.78

Revenue:

Offering	\$3,611.00
Critters/Pavers & Assets	855.00
Thank Offering	556.00
Fellowship Least Coin	120.00
Upper Room Donations	95.00
Bazaar Net	6,165.00
Concert Re: Gary Faulkner	570.00
Funeral Teas	975.00
Dutch Auction and Bake Sale	250.00
Love Is In the Air Sale	431.00
Transfer From Savings Account	3,324.57
Plant Sale	48.00
Bake Sale	335.00
UCW National	78.00
Deposit Int.	.54
	<u>17,414.11</u>

18,703.89

Expenses:

Church Council	\$5,000.00
Mission and Service	1,600.00
Benevolent Fund	200.00
Capital Funds Project	500.00
Bank Charges	145.56
UCW National	78.00
Custodial Gift	300.00
Thank Offering Morogo Project	542.00
Kitchen Supplies/coffee fair trade	245.00
Literature/Church Library	281.46
Miscellaneous	247.00
Presbyterial Expenses	300.00
Guest Speakers	200.00
UCW Projects Fund Transfer to Savings	1,400.00
Outreach	1,130.00
Least Coin	125.00
Social Convener	25.00

Youth	100.00	
Fellowship Room, Kitchen & Bathroom Renos.	<u>2,324.57</u>	<u>14,743.36</u>
Balance at December 31, 2011		3,960.53

Savings Account

Balance January 1, 2011		7,176.97
Transfer from Operating Account	1,400.00	8,576.97
Int Year 2011	<u>3.88</u>	<u>8,580.85</u>
Bank Fees	2.00	8,578.85
Transfer to Operating Account	<u>3,324.57</u>	<u>5,254.28</u>
Balance December 31, 2011		5,254.28

Submitted by Carole Perley

Treasurer U.C.W.

Examined by Dave Eagleson

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

I wish to thank Isobel and Jim Bond, Marilyn Cruickshank, Marie Nesbitt, Marie Pos and Linda Westendorp for their continued assistance this year. We were happy to welcome Wendy Johnston to our committee. Our group has the rewarding job of welcoming visitors and encouraging them to consider St. Paul's as their church home. We send a card thanking them for their visit. We endeavour to remember their name the next time we see them and make out a name tag. We also give them an information pamphlet about St. Paul's so that they may be aware of all the many activities available here. Please help us by introducing yourself to new or unfamiliar faces so that they can feel a part of the St. Paul's family.

Submitted by Karen Strong

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Your committee is comprised of the following members: Lois Craig, Rev. Cathy Dilts, Susan Reed, John Scott, Sharon Castellarin and Linda Westendorp (chair).

It is the responsibility of this committee to work together to provide a joyful and meaningful worship period on Sunday mornings and on special occasions. Many people work behind the scenes to assist the committee to make this possible. Thanks go out to Karen Strong and the welcoming committee, Jean Severs who arranges for our greeters at the door, and June Gellatly who provides for ushers for

each service. The sound system is operated under the leadership of Steve Lomax and several volunteers. It has seen many improvements over the course of this year. Sharon Eagleson is responsible for publishing our weekly order of service and we thank her for that important job as well. We would also like to thank the many volunteers who read scripture lessons each week, and our storytellers who provide the children and adults alike with illuminating lessons.

Our minister, Rev. Cathy Dilts was very busy within the walls of this building, but also took the time to visit many people in hospitals and nursing homes. She led the worship service at Ballycliffe Lodge each month as part of ministerial outreach. Cathy supported many of the programs here at St. Paul's and her leadership inspired us to live better lives. Her sermons were insightful and full of purpose, leaving us with many thoughts to ponder during the coming week. We were very sorry to say goodbye to Cathy in September and wish her well at her new church home in Brantford.

Licensed lay worship leaders, including our own Kim Lawrance and Cathy Shaw pitched in during Cathy's absence. We were also very fortunate to include Laura Springate in that company this year. We wish her continued luck with her studies at Emmanuel College in Toronto.

Communion continued to be celebrated on a monthly basis during our regular worship service. Many volunteers served the elements to our congregation, using the two methods we currently employ. The Christmas Eve candlelight communion service is one that is treasured by many.

Our music program, under the leadership of Lois Craig, continues to be a source of inspiration and joy. New music in the form of anthems and cantatas are prepared and presented to the congregation with enthusiasm and energy. Many hours of hard work have paid off handsomely, and we thank Lois for all of her efforts with both the senior and junior choirs.

Special holidays and services in our sanctuary require special attention in decorating and welcoming the various seasons. Thanks to the families and individuals who donate their time to make the church sanctuary and narthex a welcoming and beautiful space to gather.

Nancy Longworth left our committee in the new year, but has continued to volunteer her time by serving on Ministry and Personnel. We welcomed Susan Reed in March, and are blessed with her insight and the experience she brings.

We welcome your feedback on things you would like to see included in the way we worship here at St. Paul's. Please contact myself or any member of our committee at your convenience.

*Submitted by Linda Westendorp
Chair of Worship and Music Committee*

4TH AJAX

The following is the group statistics for 4th Ajax.

Beavers 10 youth, 5-7 yrs three leaders Glad Lang, Robin Trudel and Scott Cameron

Cubs 4 youth, 8-10 yrs two leaders James Sobota, Serge Trudel and Shannon Sobota

Scouts 5 youth, 11-14 yrs two leaders Christine Beek, Paul Morin

Committee Mark Johnson (Group Commissioner) Kate Hoag (Treasurer, Registrar)

Pat Cameron (Secretary)

Highlights of this year to date:

Cubs have completed one camp.

Scouts have completed 2 camps

All sections have participated in Ajax Santa Claus parade.

All Sections had a Halloween party and Christmas Party.

All sections have participated in local Apple Day.

All sections have participated in Popcorn Fund raising.

ENVELOPE ANALYSIS 2011

Giving Range	Qty Env	Distribution of Envelopes				
		Wkly Env	Mthly Env	PAR	Other *	Total
1 - 9	\$25.26				6	6
10-24	\$286.00	2		1	14	17
25 - 50	\$493.00	3			11	14
51 - 99	\$385.00	1		1	4	6
100 - 199	\$1,876.00	5	3	1	5	14
200 - 299	\$2,714.03	3	2	1	5	11
300 - 399	\$3,697.45	3	3	3	2	11
400 - 499	\$2,304.00	3		2		5
500 - 599	\$8,160.00	6	3	5	1	15
600 - 699	\$5,033.00	3		5		8
700 - 799	\$9,067.00	2		10		12
800 - 899	\$4,193.00	3	1	1		5
900 - 999	\$5,673.00	1	1	4		6
1000 - 1099	\$5,171.75	4		1		5
1100 - 1199	\$9,154.00	3	3	2		8
1200 - 1399	\$14,964.50	2	1	9		12
1400 - 1499	\$8,741.00	1	2	3		6
1500 - 1599	\$6,168.00	1		3		4
1600 - 1799	\$8,454.00	2		3		5
1800 - 1999	\$11,361.86			6		6
2000 - 2999	\$16,960.90		2	5		7
3000 - 3999	\$13,075.00	1		3		4
4000 - 4999	\$9,164.00			2		2
>5000	\$28,592.69			3	1	4
	\$175,714.44	49	21	74	49	193

GIVINGS ANALYSIS 2011

		Distribution of Givings				
Giving Range	No. of givers	Wkly Env	Mthly Env	PAR	Other*	Total
1 - 9	6				\$25.26	\$25.26
10-24	17	\$28.00		\$20.00	\$238.00	\$286.00
25 - 50	14	\$95.00			\$398.00	\$493.00
51 - 99	6	\$60.00		\$60.00	\$265.00	\$385.00
100 - 199	14	\$739.00	\$396.00	\$154.00	\$587.00	\$1,876.00
200 - 299	11	\$699.00	\$520.00	\$240.00	\$1,255.03	\$2,714.03
300 - 399	11	\$1,016.45	\$1,055.00	\$970.00	\$656.00	\$3,697.45
400 - 499	5	\$1,344.00		\$960.00		\$2,304.00
500 - 599	15	\$3,237.00	\$1,588.00	\$2,765.00	\$570.00	\$8,160.00
600 - 699	8	\$1,909.00		\$3,124.00		\$5,033.00
700 - 799	12	\$1,519.00		\$7,548.00		\$9,067.00
800 - 899	5	\$2,540.00	\$833.00	\$820.00		\$4,193.00
900 - 999	6	\$920.00	\$993.00	\$3,760.00		\$5,673.00
1000 - 1099	5	\$4,151.75		\$1,020.00		\$5,171.75
1100 - 1199	8	\$3,475.00	\$3,429.00	\$2,250.00		\$9,154.00
1200 - 1399	12	\$2,520.50	\$1,265.00	\$11,179.00		\$14,964.50
1400 - 1499	6	\$1,485.00	\$2,883.00	\$4,373.00		\$8,741.00
1500 - 1599	4	\$1,585.00		\$4,583.00		\$6,168.00
1600 - 1799	5	\$3,450.00		\$5,004.00		\$8,454.00
1800 - 1999	6			\$11,361.86		\$11,361.86
2000 - 2999	7		\$4,754.90	\$12,206.00		\$16,960.90
3000 - 3999	4	\$3,310.00		\$9,765.00		\$13,075.00
4000 - 4999	2			\$9,164.00		\$9,164.00
>5000	4			\$23,225.92	\$5,366.77	\$28,592.69
	193	\$34,083.70	\$17,716.90	\$114,552.78	\$9,361.06	\$175,714.44

St. Paul's Financial Results 2011 and Budget 2012					
Date	2011-01-01				2012-01-01
Opening Bank Balance	\$ 12,036				\$ 9,808
Adjustments	-				
Date	2011-12-31				2012-12-31
Closing Bank Balance	\$ 9,808				\$ -7,548
	Actual 2008	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Actual 2011	2012 Budget
Donations					
Facility Donation	20,098	19,986	19,844	20,270	19,815
Fundraising	10,400	10,209	9,850	6,071	6,000
In	16,914	26,445	29,388	6,071	6,000
Out	-6,514	-16,236	-19,538		-
Capital Account Transfers In					3,500
Investment	7,100	7,402	7,202	5,840	5,800
Miscellaneous Income	2,486	2,677	3,033	3,803	3,200
VBS Income	420	1,512	945	995	1,000
Other	2,066	1,165	2,088	2,808	2,200
					Givings + 3%
>> Offerings	135,763	146,637	164,372	136,592	140,848
Envelopes	133,020	143,589	161,651	133,064	137,379
Loose	2,743	3,048	2,720	3,528	3,468
UCW	6,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	4,000
Total Donations	181,847	190,910	209,300	177,577	183,163
Expenses					
Bank and Service Charge	1,583	1,897	1,792	1,748	1,900
Conf and Presb	5,064	5,676	5,608	3,200	6,000
Insurance	3,676	3,713	4,091	4,185	4,400
Miscellaneous (incl. Archiv	200	148	33	25	25
Office	5,944	7,132	5,176	6,226	7,500
General				5,686	4,500
Photocopier	164	17	37	539	3,000
Non - Property Transfer From Capital					-
Minister's Travel Expense	1,932	952	728	364	720
Staff Travel		112	107	121	120
Operating Group (Inc CE	4,929	5,835	4,590	4,297	4,930
Communications	887	722	677	1,539	1,565
Conference Expense	-	-			165
Envelope Steward	535	1,259	529	513	800
Library	-	-			-
Outreach	20	200	200		200
Youth Group	-	-			-
Resource Training	994	909	574	385	600
CE Operating	2,494	2,747	2,609	1,860	1,600
Confirmation	840	991	575		-
VBS Expenses	1,167	1,551	1,158	1,361	1,000
CE - Other	487	204	877	499	600
Property	13,381	10,759	11,287	12,784	17,800
Elevator	878	736	-	-	2,500
Furnace Repairs	-		-	715	1,800
Maintenance	12,503	10,023	11,287	12,069	10,000
Capital Repair Expenses					3,500

	Actual 2008	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Actual 2011	2012 Budget
Salary & Benefits	144,577	144,258	146,703	127,692	134,739
Employee Benefits	19,166	18,030	17,714	15,890	17,529
CPP	3,669	3,604	3,705	3,465	4,004
EAP	96	192	-		192
EI	2,553	2,221	2,268	2,326	2,076
Group Insurance	6,707	4,944	5,053	4,391	4,631
Pension	5,241	6,550	6,688	5,708	5,982
Employer HST on Group	-	520			644
	900				
Utilities	12,239	13,551	11,329	12,087	14,029
Gas	6,787	6,989	4,569	5,019	7,000
Hydro	1,866	2,247	2,514	2,244	2,750
Phone	2,941	3,043	2,997	3,553	3,600
Water	495	436	510	522	525
Internet	151	836	738	748	754
Worship & Music	4,529	3,446	2,539	6,053	6,855
Baptism	47	86		-	50
Communion	30	55			50
Music	1,779	1,967	746	2,060	2,480
Guest Performers	-	50	-		100
Junior Choir	63	50		15	150
Piano and Organ Maint	638	967	384	768	1,000
Senior Choir	1,075	897	100	558	1,000
Music - Other	2	3	262	719	230
					-
Special Events	366	188	757	450	200
Good Friday	286				-
Pancake Breakfast	80				-
Anniversary	-		452	66	-
Thanksgiving	-				-
Christmas	-	85	30		-
Home Week Parade	-				-
Child Care	-				-
Other	-	103	275	384	200
Worship	2,307	1,150	1,035	3,544	4,075
Bulletins & Supplies	495	235	333	268	350
Organist Supply	325	425	250	375	500
Pulpit Supply	400	450	400	2,670	3,000
Sound System	972	-		-	125
Worship - Other	115	40	52	231	100
Candles	85		32	33	-
Miscellaneous	30	40	20	198	100
					-
Ministerial Search/Support	187			191	1,500
					Givings + 3%
Total Donations	181,847	190,910	209,300	177,577	183,163
Total Expenses	198,404	197,496	194,020	178,972	200,518
Net Position	-16,557	-6,586	15,281	-1,395	-17,356

NOTES