

# Rockwood and Stone United Churches Annual Report 2019

## Stone United Church

Annual Meeting  
February 23, 2020



The Little Church with a Big Heart

*"Jesus is our Saviour and our example.  
Through the love and forgiveness of God,  
we are empowered  
at Stone United Church  
to grow spiritually, to love and serve  
those in our family, church, community  
and the world.  
We will express our faith  
by serving needy families."*

## Rockwood United Church

Annual Meeting  
March 1, 2020



Live, Love, Laugh

*"We are the body of Christ,  
chosen to live together in peace.  
Shaped by our love of God,  
nurtured in the life of Christ  
and embraced by  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we welcome all to God's family.  
Come and live simply, love generously,  
and laugh freely."*



# Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	2
Letter from Minister Heather Leffler.....	3
Rockwood Stone Pastoral Charge Committee Reports:.....	4
Pastoral Charge Board .....	4
Affirming Discernment Circle .....	5
Eramosa Ensemble .....	5
Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun .....	6
Finance and Stewardship.....	6
Ministry and Personnel .....	6
Minister's Report to Ministry and Personnel for 2019.....	7
Sabbatical 2019 .....	9
Trustees .....	11
Trustees Financial Report .....	11
Rockwood Stone Pastoral Charge Financial Reports:.....	12
Annual Report for Year Ended December 31, 2019 .....	12
Stone Annual Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2019 .....	14
94 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the Year Ended December 31, 2018 .....	14
Stone United Church Committee Reports:.....	19
Membership .....	19
Stone United Church Roll .....	20
Statistics 2019.....	21
Bushels for Change Project.....	21
Children of Bukati .....	21
Children of Bukati Financial Report .....	22
Choir .....	22
Choir Financial Report .....	23
Christian Education.....	23
Genesis Book Club .....	23
Pastoral Care .....	24
Property and Finance .....	25
United Church Women (U.C.W.) Marg Baker, President.....	25
U.C.W. Financial Report.....	26
Worship .....	27
Stone United Church Financial Reports:.....	29
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2019 .....	29
Operating Statement for 12 months ending December 31, 2019 .....	30
Non-Operating Expenditures .....	32
Church Funds.....	32
Stone United Church Cemetery Fund.....	33
Stone Nominating Report for 2020 .....	34
Rockwood Annual Meeting Minutes – Sunday, March 3, 2019 .....	35
Rockwood United Church Committee Reports: .....	37
Membership .....	37
Statistics 2019.....	37
Chimes Choir.....	38
Choir .....	38
Country Breakfast.....	38
Outreach Committee .....	39
Pastoral Care .....	40
Property and Finance .....	40
Rentals.....	41
Trustees .....	42
Worship and Christian Education .....	42
Rockwood United Church Financial Reports: .....	44
Annual Financial Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2019 .....	44
Rockwood Nominating Report for 2020.....	48

## Letter from Minister Heather Leffler

*Dear Friends,*

*Many of us have “gone” to church for our whole lives and continue to “go” to worship, “go” to meetings, “go” to fundraisers, other activities and events. Going to church, to people outside the church, might seem little like going to a movie or a hockey game – spectators watching events that have little lasting impact on our lives. From time to time, we may feel like spectators. Other times church might just seem like work.*

*Here in Rockwood and Stone, church is so much more than a spectator sport and so much more than Sunday morning. Through prayer and spiritual practices, we are seeking new ways to be faithful followers of Jesus. The Spirit is at work connecting us with each other, our communities and beyond in new and exciting ways.*

*For many years we searched for a way to live out the United Church’s commitment to reconciliation with our First Nations, Metis and Inuit (FNMI) brothers and sisters in a meaningful way. We made the decision to use the Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories on special Sundays like our Anniversaries so it wouldn’t lose its meaning; began marking Orange Shirt Day; did the blanket exercise to learn more about colonialism; made inquiries about different FNMI groups in our area; and waited. The Spirit answered our prayers through a First Nations Elder, when he introduced me to Stephen Jackson of Anishnabeg Outreach (AO). Our alliance with AO continues to offer us blessings as we support their creation of a sustainable and comprehensive suite of services for urban FNMI and work to establish AO as an innovative hub/heart of best practices for economic development, training and employment on reserves. AO, through their employment program, cleaned the windows at Stone this spring. They were recipients of funds from our Food Fight and Rockwood Outreach, and items from our Advent donations. Stephen inspired us with their story at Stone’s Anniversary. I was able to introduce him to the United Church Social Innovation Challenge where he connected with folk from Trinity United in Kitchener and won the challenge to begin a bicycle lending library.*

*Watching our young people head off to college and university, and our seniors being more cautious about travelling in winter, I have longed for a way to connect beyond Sunday morning and our buildings. Through discernment with our Worship Committees and individuals we have imagined a weekly email – Contemplation and Conversation that invites people to reflect on a picture and question related to a scripture, read a short reflection and then share in conversation with family and friends or online. It could become a spiritual practice for the car on the way to a Sunday hockey game or other activity. I pray connecting in this way will strengthen relationships when we can’t be together in the same place.*

*All our gatherings for worship, work, conversation and study include the spiritual practices of hospitality and caring for each other. More and more I understand our conversations as prayer, especially when we are sharing news with our church family or concerns for events in the world. As we intentionally claim these conversations as prayers, we are becoming more aware of God at work in our midst, using us to offer comfort and hope to each other and people we meet.*

*The Spirit is helping us make new connections. Offering prayer at the Rockwood Remembrance Service, I connected with Senator Rob Black. We had a rich conversation and he has accepted an invitation to speak at Rockwood’s Anniversary. Our neighbours on Harris Street showed their gratitude for the use of our parking lot during construction by sending donations for Rockwood and our outreach projects. Neighbours at Stone joined us for worship throughout the year and on Christmas Eve. Through our cluster gathering, we are getting to know Erin and Ballinafad United Churches. As we are more intentional about seeing our worship, activities and conversations as prayer, our lives are enriched, and we are making a difference. When we “go” to church, we are more than spectators.*

*Thank you for the gift of serving God with you. I am deeply grateful for the Sabbatical. It was much needed time to care for my physical and spiritual self and to be with family. I continue to feel rested, renewed and reengaged in our ministry.*

*Blessings,*



## Rockwood Stone Pastoral Charge Committee Reports:

### Pastoral Charge Board

*Submitted by Brian Mack, Chairperson*

Highlights of actions taken by the Pastoral Charge Board this year included the following:

- a policy on Mission Trips was developed and approved as a living document
- a policy describing the mandate and work of the Pastoral Charge Treasurer was developed and accepted
- Bill Allen was named as reviewer and/or the second signature as required re: monthly transaction statements for the Pastoral Charge Treasurer
- a policy describing the mandate and work of the Pastoral Charge Finance and Stewardship Committee was developed and accepted
- terms of reference for Stone's and Rockwood's Property and Finance Committees, and Stone and Rockwood Treasurers were developed. They are similar in nature. The treasurers were asked to provide access information for the accounts that they are responsible for to the Church Office in the event that they become incapacitated. It was agreed that there would be two signatures out of three on cheques issued by the Stone treasurer and that Rockwood would have the treasurer and another person reviewing transactions on a monthly basis
- endorsed the proposed pastoral charge budget for 2020 as submitted by Roy Steinberg, Pastoral Charge Treasurer
- upon receiving oral updates at each meeting, the Board continued to support the on-going work of discernment circles regarding the affirming process, on-line worship, and governance
- provided written feed back re: the sabbatical process (planning, financing, provision for pastoral care, pulpit supply by Lisa Leffler) as part of the overall sabbatical evaluation process
- engaged in a variety of spiritual practices as part of each Board meeting
- on a regular basis, provided "thank you notes" to members and adherents for on-going efforts

As detailed above, it has been a busy year for the Pastoral Charge Board. Sincere thanks is extended to each member of the Board for carrying out their responsibilities in a caring, compassionate, and prayerful manner. Much of our decision making, which is grounded in consensus building, flows from the on-going work of our discernment circles, the combined Worship committee, and the combined Finance and Stewardship committees. The congregations owe these bodies along with our respective church councils a huge debt of gratitude.

Thanks is also extended to Rev. Leffler for her commitment to keeping us informed and engaged regarding the work of the wider church and for the enthusiasm with which she approaches her duties at both Rockwood and Stone. We look forward to hearing more stories from her time of sabbatical.

In closing, I would remind everyone that if you have a concern regarding any aspect of her ministry, please speak to Rev. Leffler directly first. She welcomes your input and feedback. If you feel that your concern requires further consideration, please speak to a member of the Ministry and Personnel Committee. Sincere and direct communication has been and remains a touchstone for our approach to church life in this pastoral charge. May we continue to cultivate such openness in 2020 in both churches. Thanks be to God.

## Affirming Discernment Circle

*Submitted by Brent Stiles*

**Members:** Brent Stiles, Brian Mack, Liz Guthrie, Marion Bascom, Lisa Leffler, Barb Eley

Under the approval of the Rockwood-Stone Pastoral Charge Board, the Affirming Discernment Circle formed in May of 2019. We have met three times since then (July, September, January). Over the next two years, our group will work through an educational/discernment process laid out in the ***Open Hearts*** document provided by the Affirm United group of The United Church of Canada. We will evaluate and reflect on what it means to be radically inclusive and look at ways our churches can be intentional about how we include others within the life and work of our ministries. We will look at barriers that may prevent people from coming openly to our church communities. This may include people of a different age, gender, race, ability, class, economic status and in particular to the Affirming Ministry, sexual orientation and gender identity. We will be trying to include as many people as possible in our discussions – the choir, all committees, worship, outreach, youth, children, spirituality groups, etc. Our group will create a Vision Statement concerning the inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in the life and work of our ministry. Our end goal is to provide our congregations an opportunity to vote on becoming Affirming Churches and in turn, intentionally inclusive to all.

Thus far, in our meetings, we have examined the affirming process. We have watched videos and stories from other United Churches that have gone through the process and have become affirming. We have studied the many different ways in which different people identify their sexuality and their gender. We have read stories of people who were not intentionally included in their church community and how they overcame this feeling of rejection. We have spoken with Rev. Tim Reaburn who has been through the affirming process in several different churches in Ontario and listened to his advice. We have set up a table at each of our churches with resources for our congregations to sign out to learn more.

Next Steps: Beginning in February, our group will be providing educational information, stories and questions to discuss during our conversation time at both churches on some Sunday mornings. This will be an opportunity for us to share some of our findings and provide education to our congregations on affirming topics and issues. We will also be involving all committees and groups in our discussions and we hope to hold a workshop in the future. Anyone wishing to provide personal stories that you think may be useful for our committee or others to hear, please let us know.

*“Affirming Ministries acknowledge that God’s love is wider and more inclusive than they can imagine ... and they commit themselves to sharing that news with others who may have heard a quite different message about what it means to be church. Because voices of condemnation, exclusion, and hatred are loud and persistent within the church and in society, Affirming Ministries make a public statement about who they are and what they believe. They understand that while it may be risky and challenging to “come out” as an Affirming Ministry, it is often far less dangerous than it is for LGBT people themselves.” — Excerpt from ***Open Hearts: Resources for Affirming Ministries in The United Church of Canada.****

## Eramosa Ensemble

*Submitted by Barbara Eley, Director*

**Members:** Chris Arbuckle (viola), Chris Barlow (violin), Barbara Eley (director, flute), Liz Guthrie (clarinet), Lisa Leffler (clarinet)

The Rockwood Stone Band has changed its name to *The Eramosa Ensemble* to better reflect the combination of instruments and the style of music the group plays. The ensemble meets every Tuesday from 7 to 8 pm at Stone United Church. The ensemble provides music on a regular basis, such as at the church picnic and the carol sing.

## Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun

*Submitted by Heather Leffler, Minister*

Throughout the year, 36 people of all ages attended one or more of the eight Friday evenings at Rockwood and one at Stone in December (because of the construction) for supper, conversation, crafts and worship. We have enjoyed dinners of moussaka, Oktoberfest sausage, creamed turkey, pork, pigs in a blanket, chili, vegetables, salads and tasty desserts. Thanks to the Leffler family for many meals, everyone who brought delicious dishes and shared in potluck suppers, and Ollie and Lou Darcie for setting up and providing beverages.

Through quizzes, conversation and worship, we explored the story of John the Baptist; what love looks like; in the wilderness; extravagant love; living with respect in creation; All Saints' Day and Advent. Thanks to Lisa Leffler for hosting a games night in June. December found us sharing Christmas stories, enjoying Stuart McLean's story "The Christmas Card" while making Christmas placemats. Other crafts included making woven hearts, soap, magnets, candles, candle holders and more.

These evenings offer an opportunity to get to know our Rockwood and Stone church families and friends. The opportunity to worship together is appreciated, especially by those who are not able to join in worship on Sunday mornings.

## Finance and Stewardship

*Submitted by Heather Leffler, Minister*

The Finance Stewardship Committee met in April and October. At each meeting, committee members were encouraged to write thank you notes to members of our congregations. Bill Allen and Amanda Hunter-Anthony sent letters of thanks with income tax receipts. We continue to seek ways to Invite, Inspire and Thank everyone for their support of our churches.

Bill, Amanda and Roy Steinberg assisted Heather with preparing the annual statistics for the United Church.

Stone Property and Finance led a stewardship focussed worship service on August 11 when Heather was on Sabbatical. Bill's message was very much appreciated.

We gave a \$500 honorarium to Mary Elliott for providing pastoral care when Heather was on Sabbatical.

Treasurers were reminded that anyone who earns more than \$500 in the year must be issued a T4 slip. They were also asked to provide all banking information to be filed in the church office.

Roy negotiated a new contract with Cogeco which greatly reduced what we had been paying since our last contract ended.

We reviewed the history of the Manse Fund. Manse funds are to be used to offset the housing portion of the minister's salary. For this year, our committee requested a \$4,000 transfer from that fund to the pastoral charge account.

In 2020, each church will make equal payments to the pastoral charge throughout the year. With more people on PAR – Preauthorized Remittance there is no longer a need for reduced payments in the summer.

We continue to be very grateful for the generous support of our churches, pastoral charge, Mission and Service, and outreach projects.

## Ministry and Personnel

*Submitted by Rosslyn Bentley, Chairperson*

Members: Rockwood Representatives: Rosslyn Bentley, Frances Jamieson, Ellen Thomson,  
Stone Representatives: Brian Mack, Peter Guthrie, Randy Dewey Annual Report Submitted by:  
Rosslyn Bentley - Chair

The committee met in April and November.

**Minister** – The Reverend Heather Leffler is thanked for another year of dedicated leadership. Heather’s annual assessment was carried out by Rosslyn Bentley and Brian Mack in September. Heather reviewed another successful year and shared her appreciation for a productive and rejuvenating sabbatical from May to July.

Thank you to Brian Mack for continuing to be the Minister’s point person ensuring Heather has a regular person for contact and support especially during the sabbatical.

**Sabbatical** – Lisa Leffler covered most of the sabbatical, as a student minister, with further generous support from Mary Elliot from Three Willows. The cost of the sabbatical was fully covered by the amount that had been set aside and an increase was made to the stipend for Mary given the extra care and time she provided.

Brian and Peter met with Lisa Leffler for an exit interview. Lisa had very much enjoyed her time and learned a lot. More connection with the Worship Committee would have been helpful.

**Church Secretary** – Sharyn Southwell has settled into the church secretary role very well. Her working virtually has been effective and we very much appreciate her calmness, flexibility and problem-solving abilities.

**Salaries and Benefits** – The Minister and Secretary were recommended to receive the minimum 1.9% annual increase suggested by the United Church nationally. The Ministers salary includes the housing allowance and it was noted the sale of the manse investment revenue should go towards the ministers housing portion of her salary. Other compensations were also supported to be adjusted to the United Church approved rates (study leave, mileage and phone). Heather is absent for 10 Sundays per year and the budget is set to cover half of these for paid pulpit supply.

**Appreciation for All Contributions** – Many thanks to Roy Steinberg for his role as Pastoral Charge Treasurer as he faithfully applies the national church’s recommendations and investigates financial matters as they arise during the year.

Ministry and Personnel wishes to thank everyone who support the churches in any way as we continue to support the community and maintain our churches into a new decade.

## Minister’s Report to Ministry and Personnel for 2019

*Submitted by Heather Leffler*

**Worship** – Working with our combined Worship Committees and musicians to provide meaningful worship is a significant part of my ministry. I am grateful our conversation time each week has become an important spiritual practice helping us grow in faith and relationship with each other. Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun is another opportunity to give thanks and praise to God.

**Cluster** – The Worship Committees helped plan a cluster gathering for neighbouring churches – Arkell, Barrie Hill, Speedside, Mimosa, Erin and Ballinafad on November 24. While all but one of the 15 people were from our congregations, we imagined possibilities for gathering with our neighbours and scheduled a pulpit exchange with Rev. Felicia Urbanski and Erin and Ballinafad United Churches on January 26, 2020.

**Pastoral Care** – This year, we celebrated the baptism of Penelope Peart at Stone. Rev. Mary Elliott presided at the wedding of Holly Whittingstall and Mike Zammit at Stone and Jean Martin’s interment while I was on Sabbatical. I conducted Jean Martin and Eugene Ferguson’s funeral services, as well as one graveside service for Thelma Oakes, a former resident of Rockwood. I was grateful that Rev. Darryl Webber was able to preside at Ed Parkers funeral when I was on holidays after Christmas.

Pastoral care continues to be offered in many ways by members of our church families. Much of the pastoral care I offer is to people as we connect for worship, meetings, and other activities, as well as through prayer, phone calls, emails, cards and letters. I am happy to visit you in your home or in hospital. Each of us has different needs in times of illness and grief. Please let me know when a personal visit would be helpful for you or when you would prefer a phone call or prayers. Sharing requests for prayers and visits during the Good News time is a way of deepening relationships with each other.

**Christian Education** – Our Monday night Bible Study read through the Minor Prophets in the spring and is now studying the Epistles in the order they were probably written. The trust in this group means that rather than just studying the text we can have challenging conversations about life and faith. I appreciate being able to participate in the Genesis Book Club, and the Lenten Study led by Karen Richardson. It was a gift to be part of a conversation with Rabia Khan (Muslim) and Dr. Michael Grand (Orthodox Jew) about "Wearing God". Karen had planned the study with Mary Elliott. 37 people from Rockwood, Stone and Three Willows attended this evening. Brian Mack and Lisa Leffler coordinated the Week of Guided Prayer on the theme Abundant Life in June.

We continue to seek ways to engage children, young people and adults in the sanctuary during worship. Check out the fidget toys that were added to our activity areas.

**Outreach** – Our active support of Mission and Service, Anishnabeg Outreach, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, East Wellington Community Services and the Rural Women's Support Program draws people to our congregations. In addition to attending Outreach meetings at Rockwood, I seek ways through the announcements, the bulletin, newsletter, website prayers and my message to lift up our mission and ministry. I also try to make connections in the community by delivering Silent Auction thank you notes to local businesses and engaging in conversation with neighbours.

**Administration** – I am grateful for our secretary Sharyn Southworth. Working virtually, she is able to keep up our website and Facebook page, as well as respond to emails. Thursday mornings, she prepares the bulletin and announcements. I enjoy preparing the Annual Reports and newsletters and am grateful for Brian Mack and everyone who helps with writing and editing. Working on the contact list for the photo directory with Carl Baker and gathering pictures has given me the opportunity to connect with folk we don't see often.

I meet with our Board, Councils, Committees and Discernment Circles as I am able to offer support and co-ordinate activities. I am especially grateful for the work our Finance and stewardship committee is doing.

**Discernment Circles** – We have been using Discernment Circles for work that is time limited and can benefit from wider input than a committee. I have appreciated working with the Governance Discernment Circle as we document how our committees work and imagine new ways to serve God faithfully in our churches and pastoral charge. The Mission Trip Discernment Circle completed its work and the Board passed a Mission Trip Policy. The Jeanne Jackson Reading Room Discernment has begun imagining changes to that space which has resulted in the purchase of new tables. I have been offering support to the Affirming Discernment Circle. The Worship Committee did the work of discerning how we might have an on-line worship practice.

**Continuing Education and Self Care** – My continuing education included reading during my Sabbatical; attending the Lester Randall Preaching Fellowship and Ministry in Motion; and listening to a number of webinars on United in Learning <https://www.united-in-learning.com/>. This United Church website offers many free webinars that you can take part in or listen to after they air. I continue to serve as co-chairperson of the Week of Guided Prayer Network which feeds my spirit.

I was very grateful for the gift of the Sabbatical time and came back rested. I have the support of colleagues through my monthly Support Group, the Guelph Clergy group and meeting with Jody Balint the Deacon at St. John's Anglican.

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council (WOW)** – I am serving as the past president on the executive of WOW. Thanks to Liz Guthrie at Stone and Sarah Leffler at Rockwood for representing us at the WOW Annual Meeting in May. We attended the fall gathering together. Presently I am serving as the pastoral charge supervisor for Ebenezer United Church while Carolin MacMillan continues her studies.

**Goals for 2020** – To continue to find ways to build relationships with neighbouring United Churches; engage with our children and youth outside of Sunday mornings; support the work of the Affirming Discernment Circle.



## Sabbatical 2019

*Submitted by Brian Mack, Board Chairperson*

Sabbatical 2019 was a pleasant and most positive experience for Rev. Leffler, for our student pulpit supply Lisa Leffler, and for our congregations. This success is attributable to the hard work of many individuals and prudent planning by Ministry and Personnel, the Finance and Stewardship Committee, the combined Worship Committee, and the Pastoral Charge Board. Rev. Leffler's previous experience with sabbaticals along with that of members of Rockwood and Stone proved invaluable to these bodies as to financing, timing, and preparation for the sabbatical.

Beginning a number of years ago, our Pastoral Charge Treasurer, at the direction of the Board, began putting aside specific funds to assist with the costs associated with the sabbatical in an effort to reduce the burden on congregational finances during the year of the sabbatical. These funds were subsequently supplemented from the Manse fund as needed. Planning ramped up in the four months prior to the start of the sabbatical in May with the activation of the Sabbatical Support Committee (Barb Eley, Brian Mack and Ellen Thomson), and Rev. Leffler's discussions with M & P and the combined Worship Committee. Our church secretary, Sharyn Southworth, was involved in planning and updated by Rev. Leffler as appropriate. At various times, our congregations were provided with descriptions of the nature and purpose of a sabbatical as rooted in scripture. Just prior to the start of the sabbatical, all congregants received a thorough guide outlining committee members and the specific duties of each committee at both the Pastoral Charge and individual council levels.

Throughout the course of the sabbatical, Sharyn Southworth faithfully carried out her routine duties and took on added responsibilities as a gatekeeper regarding resources and contacts. If she felt unsure at any point, she was able to use the contact guide to advantage and on several occasions checked with the Pastoral Charge Chairperson for direction.

Our pastoral care teams in both congregations continued to pray, send cards, and touch base with members of our congregations as needed. Rev. Mary Elliott offered communion in June at Rockwood's Anniversary service, ably conducted a wedding at Stone, and offered support to various grieving families. She also attended four services with us during the summer which helped us to get to know her better and to appreciate the love and care she offered.

Lisa Leffler capably prepared and delivered the majority of the services and gained much valuable experience as she pursues her studies. The Stone Property and Finance Committee led one of the services when Lisa was away, and the Combined Worship Committee provided the leadership for our annual picnic at Camp Brébeuf. The beginning of the sabbatical was marked by a special combined service on April 28 as Heather started her journey of contemplation and rest and our congregations embarked on a unique time of self-reflection. Worship at Rockwood was followed by our Food Fight and a pizza lunch. Heather's return on September 8 was highlighted by a service using a special "Call to Worship" and music by the Eramosa Ensemble and an Austrian brunch hosted by the Lefflers for both congregations at Stone.

Upon Rev. Leffler's return, she highlighted some of her sabbatical endeavours in the November Rockwood-Stone newsletter and touched on her experiences in a number of sermons and in less formal settings such as Bible Study. She also formally reported to Ministry and Personnel (M & P) and to the Pastoral Charge Board along with the Combined Worship and Finance and Stewardship Committees. Lisa Leffler met with Brian Mack and Peter Guthrie to reflect upon her experiences as student pulpit supply.

Various opportunities were provided for the members of our congregations to provide feedback concerning the entire sabbatical process. In particular, verbal feedback was provided by M & P, the Combined Worship, and the Finance and Stewardship Committees. Written feedback was provided by the seventeen members of the Pastoral Charge Board. This group rated the sabbatical process on a scale from 1 (totally unacceptable) to 5 (totally acceptable). The average score was 4.5 which is most reassuring as to the overall financing, planning, and smooth delivery of the sabbatical for all concerned.

Reflections that have been offered by Rev. Leffler reveal that she found her sabbatical experience to be most gratifying. She has repeatedly expressed deep gratitude for the time she was given to rest, re-connect, and

rejuvenate and for the way in which the congregations came together while she was away. Likewise, Lisa Leffler found the experience to be one of positive growth. She has expressed that she felt loved and supported throughout the summer and appreciated the opportunity to provide leadership in both formal and informal settings. Such settings allowed her to experiment with the selection of hymns, the type of prayers offered, and various approaches to the message offered.

Congregational reflections consistently highlighted the quality of the experience for all concerned. Particularly noted were the following:

- the depth of preparation by the Pastoral Charge Board, the Finance and Stewardship committees, the treasurers, Combined worship, and those putting together support materials
- the high degree of comfort in knowing who to ask for help if it was required and the reassurance that concerns would be dealt with promptly and appropriately
- the capacity of the congregations to cope with the small problems that arose
- the “behind the scenes” work of Sharyn Southworth
- the appropriateness of the two services that bookmarked the sabbatical
- the consistency of having one person lead most of the services
- the ability of our congregations to provide a quality developmental experience for Lisa Leffler
- Lisa’s growth in confidence especially when preaching about sensitive or potentially controversial issues and appreciation for the fact that she shared much of herself, demonstrated understanding of different needs of the congregation, employed a sense of humor, and made people think outside the box
- Heather’s return: restored, rested and genuinely happy to be back

Several people graciously offered opportunities for growth for our next sabbatical. Those opportunities included the usefulness of having pulpit supply meet with the combined worship committee before, several times during, and following the sabbatical which would provide more opportunity for orientation of the pulpit supply and a discussion of expectations regarding various aspects of each service. More detailed explanations would have been welcomed as to the necessity and depth of pastoral care offered during the summer.

We give thanks for the uniqueness of the time of Sabbatical which enabled us to continue to grow in relationship with the One who is both Holy Mystery and Wholly love and with each other.

## Trustees

*Submitted by Heather Leffler, Chairperson/Minister*

**Trustees:** **Stone:** Randy Dewey, Peter Guthrie (Treasurer), Paul May, Eileen McDougall;  
**Rockwood:** Rosslyn Bentley, Frances Jamieson, Darryl Nichol, Christine Wenger  
**Minister:** Heather Leffler

We did not meet in 2019. In the spring, Trustees were updated by email. Our investments were moved from Fiera Capital Funds, Investors Solutions when they sold their retail business to Canoe Financial. Signatories on our Rockwood Pastoral Charge Account #20578126 are Peter Guthrie, Heather Leffler. While The United Church of Canada Investments remain with Fiera's Institutional Division, David Armour, Director of Philanthropy for the United Church is continuing to meet with Canoe on behalf of the churches whose investments were purchased from Fiera.

The Pastoral Charge Board accepted our recommendation from 2018 that up to \$4,000 from the Manse Fund be used for expenses during the Sabbatical. Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council is upholding the practice that income from Manse Funds must be used for the minister's Housing Allowance.

Thanks to Peter Guthrie who monitors our investments.

## Trustees Financial Report

*Submitted by Peter Guthrie, Treasurer*

Assets December 31, 2018 Canoe Financial Shares	<u>\$129,363.60</u>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$129,363.60</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Canoe Financial Income Distribution	\$8,043.79	
Canoe Financial Fees Rebate	\$859.58	
Change in Market Value Canoe Financial	<u>\$7,973.23</u>	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$16,876.60</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Housing Allowance to General Fund	<u>\$4,000.00</u>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b><u>\$4,000.00</u></b>
Income less expenses		<u>\$12,876.60</u>
<b>Assets December 31, 2019</b>		<b>\$142,240.20</b>

As per generally accepted accounting principals, Canoe Financial Investments are valued at the lower of cost or market value.

# Rockwood Stone Pastoral Charge Financial Reports:

## Annual Report for Year Ended December 31, 2019

Submitted by Roy Steinberg, Treasurer

2019 Receipts and Expenses compared to Budget				2020 Approved Budget		
	2019 Actual	2019 Budget	Variance Favourable (Unfavourable)	2020 Budget	Notes	% change from 2019 Actual
<b>Cash Receipts</b>						
Transfers Rockwood	\$ 49,423.27	\$ 49,423.27	\$ -	\$ 49,423.32	1	0.00%
Transfers Stone	\$ 49,423.27	\$ 49,423.27	-	\$ 49,423.32	1	0.00%
Rockwood UCC Assessment	\$ 4,239.36	\$ 4,239.36	-	\$ 4,002.12	2	-5.60%
Stone UCC Assessment	\$ 4,238.64	\$ 4,238.64	-	\$ 4,157.88	2	-1.91%
Transfer from Manse Fund	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	-	\$ 4,000.00	3	
Receipts Other	\$ 236.89	\$ -	236.89	\$ -	4	
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 110,561.43</b>	<b>\$ 110,324.54</b>	<b>\$ 236.89</b>	<b>\$ 111,006.64</b>		<b>0.40%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Salary, Minister	\$ 71,045.04	\$ 71,045.00	\$ (0.04)	\$ 72,395.00	6	1.90%
Housing Allowance	\$ -	\$ -		Included	7	
Minister Automobile Mileage	\$ 1,749.84	\$ 2,067.69	317.85	\$ 2,520.00	8	44.01%
Minister Telephone Allowance	\$ 420.00	\$ 420.00	-	\$ 420.00	9	0.00%
Office Phone and Internet	\$ 1,117.47	\$ 915.14	(202.33)	\$ 987.60	10	-11.62%
Worship-Pulpit Supply	\$ -	\$ 1,512.00	1,512.00	\$ 1,290.00	11	
Church Secretary	\$ 4,754.88	\$ 4,754.88	-	\$ 4,845.22	12	1.90%
Employee Benefits (CPP, EI)	\$ 3,856.04	\$ 4,181.15	325.11	\$ 4,244.82	13	10.08%
Church Pension & Benefits	\$ 11,077.44	\$ 11,077.39	(0.05)	\$ 11,740.16	14	5.98%
Continuing Education	\$ 1,415.00	\$ 1,415.00	-	\$ 1,442.00	15	1.91%
Minister - Minor expenses	\$ 180.00	\$ 200.00	20.00	\$ 200.00	16	11.11%
Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ 150.00	150.00	\$ 150.00	17	
Copier	\$ 415.49	\$ 500.00	84.51	\$ 500.00	18	20.34%
Bulletins	\$ 607.79	\$ 650.00	42.21	\$ 650.00	19	6.94%
Bank Charges	\$ 558.45	\$ 580.00	21.55	\$ 590.00	20	5.65%
Joint Pastoral Charge Projects	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00	400.00	\$ 1,200.00	21	1100.00%
Marketing Costs	\$ 805.54	\$ 400.00	(405.54)	\$ 400.00	22	-50.34%
Miscellaneous	\$ 81.43	\$ 200.00	118.57	\$ 200.00	23	145.61%
Audio and Copyright Fee	\$ 376.00	\$ 375.00	(1.00)	\$ 380.00	24	1.06%
Annual Report	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	25	
United Church Assessment	\$ 8,478.00	\$ 8,478.00	-	\$ 8,160.00	26	-3.75%
PST & GST & HST PAID	\$ 256.23	\$ -	(256.23)	\$ -	27	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 107,294.64</b>	<b>\$ 109,421.25</b>	<b>\$ 2,126.61</b>	<b>\$ 112,314.80</b>		<b>4.68%</b>
<b>Receipts Less Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,266.79</b>	<b>\$ 903.29</b>	<b>\$ 2,363.50</b>	<b>(1,308.16)</b>	<b>28</b>	
<b>Balance Start of Period</b> (Excluding Sabbatical fund)	<b>\$ 3,474.04</b>	<b>\$ 3,474.04</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,222.72</b>		
<b>Minister Sabbatical Fund</b>						
<b>Sabbatical Fund Balance Start of Period</b>	<b>\$ 3,020.28</b>	<b>3,020.28</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>29</b>	
Rockwood Sabbatical Fund Contribution	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	5	
Stone Sabbatical Fund Contribution	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -	5	
Other Sabbatical Fund Contribution (Manse Fun	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,011.72	(11.72)	\$ -	5	
<b>Less: Sabbatical Expense - Pulpit Supply</b>	<b>\$ 4,038.39</b>	<b>3,024.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,014.39</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>Less: Sabbatical Expense - Pastoral Care</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>1,008.00</b>	<b>\$ (508.00)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>31</b>	
<b>Balance, end of the period</b>	<b>\$ 6,222.72</b>	<b>\$ 4,377.33</b>	<b>\$ 1,845.39</b>	<b>\$ 4,914.56</b>		<b>-21.02%</b>

The original books of record were reviewed by Jack Ward representative from Stone Church and David Smelsky representative from Rockwood Church

  
 Jack Ward  
  
 David Smelsky

Notes for 2020 Budget

- 1 Church transfers will be unchanged in total for 2020, however they will be equal for all 12 months for simplicity. Any cost increases will be covered by Manse Fund withdrawals per discussion at joint Finance meeting. Monthly transfers: Rockwood \$4452.12; Stone \$4465.10 including the Assessment Fees.
- 2 United Church Assessment Fees based on new Revenue method. Based on the Revenue statistics for 2018, the split for 2020 changes to 50.95% Stone and 49.05% Rockwood.
- 3 Per discussion at joint Finance meeting in October, the Manse fund will be used to help cover the Minister Housing costs, which are imbedded in the total Salary under the 2017 compensation model. \$4000 is roughly the gain on Canoe investments from March to November 2019. Note these investments are subject to fluctuation.
- 4 For 2019 the other revenue was received from each of the churches to settle the history of the old Presbytery Fees structure as discussed in the April board meeting.
- 5 Sabbatical fund contributions are suspended for 2020 - to be re-introduced when next Sabbatical is planned.
- 6 Minister Salary based on 1.9% increase per UCC Guidelines and M&P recommendation.
- 7 Housing allowance under 2017 compensation model is included in salary line - it is still separated in payroll for CPP purposes.
- 8 UCC Recommended mileage rate \$0.42 per km. for 2020. Total mileage returned to pre-sabbatical level of 6000 km annually.
- 9 Minister's Telephone allowance same as 2019. Note we currently benefit from Rev. Leffler's family discount on home
- 10 Cogeco 3 year term ended in May 2019 and rates unexpectedly increased. New 3 year term initiated in September and rates are now back to a \$10 increase including a higher internet package.
- 11 Pulpit supply budget not used in 2019 as the summer was covered by sabbatical minister. 2020 budget for 5 weeks (reduced from 6 weeks in prior years) at the new UCC minimum rate \$216 per Sunday plus assumed 100 km mileage.
- 12 Secretary wages increased 1.9% as per UCC guidelines and M&P recommendation.
- 13 CPP and EI rates and multipliers updated to 2020.
- 14 Updated to 2020 Benefits rates for UCC Nov 24, 2019 - slight increase (~\$450) from board meeting draft.
- 15 Minister Continuing Education: Per UCC guidelines
- 16 2020 Budget same as 2019
- 17 2020 Budget same as 2019
- 18 Copier budget same as 2019.
- 19 2020 Budget same as 2019
- 20 ADP payroll fees increase annually - 2019 increase was 1.9%. 2020 increased in line.
- 21 \$1000 added for Affirming discernment circle cost estimate.
- 22 2020 Budget same as 2019
- 23 2020 Budget same as 2019
- 24 2020 budget increased in line with 2019 costs.
- 25 Annual report printing no longer required. Note also that Heather has agreed to do the annual report editing herself, removing some annual report related hours from Secretary costs, however we will hold this place holder in the budget as this could change in the future.
- 26 2020 United Church Assessment based on new Revenue Model
- 27 HST on various items
- 28 Projecting a deficit in 2020 of \$1308 to target a year end balance around \$5000 which is sufficient to cover first payroll in the following year.
- 29 Sabbatical fund ended in deficit and is now collapsed back into the operating budget until the next time we plan for a minister's sabbatical.
- 30 Sabbatical deficit a combination of over spend on pulpit supply costs and under spend on Pastoral Care costs. Pulpit supply covered 15 services vs a budget initially planned for only 12. Also vacation pay required for pulpit supply was not
- 31 budgeted.

## Stone Annual Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2019

### 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the Year Ended December 31, 2018

*Submitted by Susan Carothers, Secretary*

**Present:** Bill Allen, Carl Baker, Marg Baker, Susan Carothers (Recording Secretary), Joyce Duffield, Liz Guthrie, Peter Guthrie, Jean Jackson, Heather Leffler, John Leffler (Acting Chair), Lisa Leffler, Brian Mack, Don Martin, Jean Martin, Diane May, Paul May, Ed Nagel, Eva Oliver, Murray Oliver, Earl Osborne, Marion Osborne, Karen Richardson, Edie Ward, Jack Ward

The Annual Meeting for 2018 followed a joyful, song-filled service of worship.

#### 1. Opening

Minister Heather Leffler invited attendees to think about something they were grateful for over the past year, in the life of our church. These included:

- our church family; for spending special time with church family
- the gift of music
- delicious food shared at church gatherings, and the joy of sitting down together to eat
- living with family and celebrating family together at gatherings
- excellent medical care, positive thoughts and encouragement from friends and family during times of illness and treatment
- the way Stone Church has accepted former members of Eden Mills United Church congregation; to these members, Stone now feels like family
- Rev. Heather, John and Lisa Leffler
- Brian Mack's leadership as Chair of the Pastoral Charge Board and his attention to detail
- the benefits realized through combined meetings of both churches' Finance and Stewardship Committees, something which has evolved over time and has proven to be very worthwhile
- the former members of Eden Mills United Church congregation, who have contributed so much to Stone Church in the past couple of years
- the love within our church
- the support the church has given the Property and Finance Committee and most recently towards the ongoing window project
- the opportunities for learning within our church family through conversation and various activities within the church
- another successful financial year, which would not have been possible without all the contributions made throughout the year, and
- Peter's coffee on Sunday mornings!

#### 2. Appointment of Chairperson

***Moved by Edie Ward that in the absence of Steven Thomson, John Leffler act as Chairperson. Seconded by Paul May. Carried.***

Acting Chairperson, John Leffler, called the meeting to order.

#### 3. Voting Procedures

- ***moved by Peter Guthrie that voting be made by a show of hands, unless voting by ballot is requested by one person. Seconded by Carl Baker. Carried.***
- ***moved by Liz Guthrie that visitors be made corresponding members. Seconded by Edie Ward. Carried.***
- The United Church policy changed this year to allow congregations to let adherents vote on all matters, not just temporal matters. ***Moved by Peter Guthrie that adherents be eligible to vote on all matters at this meeting. Seconded by Jack Ward. Carried.***

**4. Minutes from the Annual Meeting for the year ended December 31, 2017**

***Moved by Don Martin to accept the minutes as printed of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting for the year ended December 31, 2017. Seconded by Brian Mack. Carried.***

**5. Business from the Minutes:** No business was reported.

**6. Correspondence:** No correspondence was reported.

**7. Review of Annual Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2018**

- a) **Pastoral Charge Reports** (Board, Band, Faith/Food/Friendship/Fun, Finance and Stewardship, Guelph-Eramosa Refugee Sponsorship Project (GERSP), Into the Promise, Ministry and Personnel, Minister, Trustees and Trustees' Financial Report, and Committees for 2019): ***Moved by Earl Osborne to accept the Pastoral Charge Reports as printed. Seconded by Brian Mack. Carried.***

**GERSP:** Carl Baker, member of GERSP Committee, advised that the financial commitment to the Al Ahmad Al Janoud family ended in June 2018, although the Committee continues to engage and work with the family. The family has transitioned very well. The children's command of English is excellent, and they are assisting their parents with improving their English language skills. The father is working regularly at two restaurant jobs. He has received training in operating a forklift and was offered a position during the night shift at Linamar, which he declined. He felt working at night would negatively affect his family.

**Into the Promise:** Brian Mack thanked all members of the congregation for their support of the Into the Promise Group over eighteen months.

- b) **Pastoral Charge Financial Reports** (Mission and Service (M & S), Financials for the Year Ended December 31, 2018 and 2019 Budget with Notes): ***Moved by Brian Mack to accept the Financial Reports as printed. Seconded by Bill Allen. Carried.***

Bill Allen, Treasurer, explained that going forward assessments will be paid to The United Church replacing Presbytery Fees. The assessment of 4.5% of our net revenue (after M & S, other church appeals, outreach, bequests, and asset sales have been subtracted) will fund the national church's office/administration costs. Half of these funds are passed on to the Regions who have the opportunity to assess additional funds.

However, our Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council is reluctant to do that.

Bill cautioned committees that, when reporting revenue from activities such as bus trips, dinners and maple syrup sales, net revenue should be reported with the expenses deducted.

Concern was raised, given the above-noted information, that this change in calculating assessments could have a negative impact on church pension and benefits. Heather Leffler assured the meeting that these changes will not impact the pensions and benefits.

- c) **Stone Reports:** ***Joyce Duffield moved that the committee reports be accepted as printed. Seconded by Liz Guthrie. Carried.***

- i) **Membership:** John Leffler asked everyone to take a moment to remember those who are no longer with us.

Sincere thanks was extended to Betty Storey for coordinating and so capably maintaining Stone's membership information and Historic Roll over the past number of years. Betty has now retired from this role, and we thank Karen Richardson for taking on this work.

- ii) **Bell Choir and Choir:** Appreciation was extended to Liz Guthrie for the time she has spent coaching John Leffler as a tenor in the choir. A big thank you was also expressed to Liz for her vast gift of music, which she so generously shares with members of the choir, as a choral group and individually, with the Bell Choir, and with everyone in the congregation.

It was noted that compensation for speakers participating in the summer services in 2019, will be funded from the Choir's budget.

- iii) **Christian Education:** The efforts of the young people who wrote, acted in and otherwise participated in the 2018 Christmas Pageant was acknowledged. Their hard work resulted in an excellent show.

Attendees at the meeting were reminded that Christian Education does not stop at Sunday School; it extends into all the activities at our churches including Bible Study, Faith/Food/Friendship/Fun, Lenten Study, Genesis Book Club and other activities scheduled throughout the year. The aim is to provide

individuals and families, who are unable to attend worship on Sunday, opportunities to practice and celebrate their faith.

Given the lack of activity in the past year within the Church School financials, ***Peter Guthrie moved to combine the Church School financials with the general account held by the Treasurer. Lisa Leffler seconded. Carried.***

- iv) **Outreach - Children of Bukati (COB):** Given the winding down of COB, some thought is being given to hosting an evening to formally thank Cate Dewey and others who have been involved in the project, for all their amazing work and to generate discussion on moving forward with other outreach projects.
- v) **Pastoral Care:** Betty Storey is retiring from the Pastoral Care Committee.
- vi) **Property and Finance:** Jack and Edie Ward, Don Martin and Paul May were commended for their continuing leadership in coordinating and managing all the maintenance, setting up for meetings, snow clearing, sourcing of suppliers and contractors, etc., all of which ensures the congregation has a beautiful, safe and welcoming place in which to worship and participate in church activities.
- vii) Earl Osborne reminded attendees that the Rockwood-Stone Pastoral Charge is very fortunate to have an active **U.C.W.** that continues to generate good will and revenue.
- viii) Heartfelt thanks was expressed to Liz Guthrie, for her leadership of Stone's **Worship Committee** and the valuable assistance she provides to Heather in designing worship each week.

**d) Stone Financial Reports:**

- i) Bill Allen, Treasurer, reviewed the Operating Statement from January 1 to December 31, 2018, and the Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2018. Key items were as follows:

**Income:**

- PAR givings increased to \$28,236 over 2017 at \$21,828. This increase was due to three additional families who moved to monthly PAR givings and an overall increase in monthly givings. Those families who moved to PAR for their givings were sincerely thanked by Bill.
- John Leffler's participation in Rogers employees' "matching donations program" resulted in a \$1,000 donation to the General Operating Fund from Rogers.
- In sum, Total General Operating Fund ended the year at \$63,612 versus \$62,545 in 2017, and slightly under budget of \$65,050.
- Total Mission and Services for the year-end was \$11,928 versus 2017 at \$10,546 and surpassing the budget of \$9,000.
- Net income from maple syrup sales was slightly lower in 2018 at \$3,770 versus \$3,976 in 2017 and slightly under budget of \$4,000.
- Net income from the Annual Beef Dinner was \$4,977, slightly less than 2017 which was a record year netting \$5,456, and pretty well on budget of \$5,000.
- Net income from the Chili Dinner was a higher-than-normal \$912 in 2018.
- In sum, Total Income for year-end 2018 was \$86,489.18, vs. \$84,245 in 2017 and over the budget of \$84,200.

**Expenses:**

- Total Pastoral Charge Expenses at year-end 2018 were \$52,650, slightly less than 2017 at \$52,818 and under budget of \$52,764.
- Total Operating Expenses at \$13,699.35 were approximately \$1,500 less than 2017 and on budget of \$13,700.
- Total Expenses for year-end 2018 were \$80,152.92 versus budget of \$77,994, resulting in a Net Surplus of \$6,336 for 2018 versus \$6,045 in 2017, and a slight increase over budget of \$6,206.



**Non-Operating Expenditures:**

- \$4,776.71 was funded by the Oakes Fund to support Lisa Leffler under Ministerial Education Expenses.
- There were no capital purchases in 2018.
- Church Funds, including the Memorial Fund, U.C.W. Fund, Choir Fund and General Operating Fund for the year-ended 2018 totalled \$21,789.32.

**Assets:**

- a one-year GIC for \$20,000, purchased with funds out of the General Fund, at an interest rate of 2.17%, comes due in April 2019.
- currently, there are two GIC investments drawn from the Oakes Fund 1) one-year of \$25,000, at an interest rate of 2.17%, due April 2019 and 2) a two-year of \$25,000, at an interest rate of 2.48%, due in April 2020. Total value of the Oakes Fund at year-end 2018 was \$77,879.85.
- Total Assets at year-end 2018 were \$121,046.10.

**Liabilities and Equity:**

- Total Liabilities and Equity for the year ended 2018 was \$121,046.10.

***Edie Ward moved that the Stone financial reports as at December 31, 2018 be accepted as printed. Seconded by Don Martin. Carried.***

**ii) 2019 Budget:****Income:**

- total income budgeted for 2019 is \$86,366, slightly less than actual income for 2018 by \$123.18.

**Expenses:**

- under Pastoral Charge Expenses, Regional Assessment should read Denominational Assessment (see 7b) above).
- we are hoping the decision to go to fixed price billing for fuel oil and propane will result in a reduction in heating expenses (actual expenses for the year ended 2018 were \$2,276.74 and \$2,372.30 respectively). Consequently, we have budgeted \$2,300 in 2019 for each of fuel oil and propane.
- total expenses for 2019 have been budgeted at \$80,494.91, resulting in a budgeted net surplus of \$5,871.09 vs. \$6,336.26 actual net surplus for year ended 2018.

***Earl Osborne moved the Stone Budget for 2019 be accepted as corrected. Marg Baker seconded the motion. Carried.***

An enquiry was made with respect to the value of the property insurance coverage on Stone United in case of fire. Bill Allen reported that a review of Stone's insurance policy was undertaken in 2018. We are presently insured for \$2 million in liability for individual occurrences and \$10 million for all aggregated occurrences. The church building and contents are insured for repair or replacement at \$1,443,489. The reality is that we would not be able to afford to rebuild Stone United as it is now i.e. limestone building under the current coverage. The question was posed "Should we consider increasing the amount of insurance to allow us to rebuild as is?", and Bill committed to investigating the matter further and reporting to Stone Council with his findings.

Given that there is only one plot available in Stone United Church Cemetery and there is little activity in the Cemetery Fund, it was suggested there may be an opportunity to transfer the Cemetery Fund to the General Fund to protect the investment. The Property and Finance Committee will consider this and undertake a review and conduct some research into the future of the cemetery.

Eileen McDougall was thanked for carefully maintaining the Stone United Church Cemetery records and fund.

**e) Stone Nominating Report for 2019:**

After some discussion, it was acknowledged that the *United Church Observer/Broadview* Representative should be added to the report under the column heading Committee, and that Carl Baker's name be included under the column heading Nominated. Carl has been an enthusiastic and diligent representative of this United Church of Canada publication for many years. ***Jack Ward moved the Nominating Report be accepted with this addition.***

***Liz Guthrie seconded the motion. Carried.***

## 8) New Business:

- a) Jack Ward, Chair of the Property and Finance Committee, confirmed that an application was submitted to Faithful Footprints, a United Church of Canada grant program for energy conservation projects. He was very happy to announce that Stone's grant was approved, and funds will be received for two-thirds (\$12,790.94 in total) of the cost of the new windows project. The funds will be paid in two installments i.e. the first \$11,790.94 will be paid upon completion of the project and submission of a report and receipts; the second installment of \$1,000 will be paid one year later after submission of energy usage reports for the year. During the work, Property and Finance will be responsible for filing up-date reports to the United Church and these reports are to include photographs. Consequently, Jack asked for volunteer photographers to document the work. Jack was recognized for his diligence over the past two, sometimes frustrating, years in finalizing a window design that complements Stone United's architecture, presenting the design and an implementation plan going forward to the congregation on October 14, 2018 including a contractor and securing the grant.

The matter was raised of what to do with the current windows once they are removed and if they are in good condition. Jack confirmed the removed windows belong to Stone, to do with as the congregation wishes. This will be an issue for further discussion.

Jack concluded by advising that the net cost for the windows, including removal of the existing windows and installation of the new ones, will be approximately \$7,500.

### b) Outreach – Moving Forward:

In light of the winding down of the Children of Bukati project, Stone congregation is faced with determining where next to focus their outreach attention. On February 3, 2019, Tom and Barb Parker and Bill Allen (former members of Eden Mills United Church) presented the congregation with an overview of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB). The United Church of Canada has been a member of CFGB since 1984, and the former Eden Mills United Church congregation actively supported CFGB for twenty years.

At the February 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Bill briefly outlined, for those who were absent on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Eden Mills' evolving participation in the Food Grains Bank, including providing money for food purchases and training farmers in better agricultural practices in developing countries. A brief discussion followed.

***Carl Baker moved that Stone United congregation be challenged with a Canadian Foodgrains project for 2019, and Stone Council commence with working out details. Paul May seconded. Carried.***

Barb and Tom Parker, Bill Allen and Paul May volunteered to form a committee or working group of council to determine how to proceed. Council will do discernment on Outreach projects generally.

- c) **Affirming Circle:** Liz Guthrie and Lisa Leffler offered to be involved in the three-year process and invited anyone who is interested to join them. The smaller group will do the initial work and invite people in for conversations, with the goal of coming to a decision about becoming an affirming church.
- d) **Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council (WOWRC):** Liz Guthrie is Stone United's representative on the WOWRC. Regional Council requires representatives to serve on a commission or in a resource pool. It is anticipated that clustering/networking will help to expand areas of interest among church congregations who have existing relationships and encourage us to reach out to other churches outside of our immediate area, to share what we are doing in our respective congregations and to see what kind of new relationships might develop.

***Lisa Leffler moved the meeting be adjourned. Marg Baker seconded the motion. Carried***

Before everyone adjourned to the dining room for lunch, Rev. Leffler said grace and thanked Jean Martin, Joyce Duffield and Betty Storey for coordinating lunch.

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Carothers, Recording Secretary

## Stone United Church Committee Reports:

### Membership

*submitted by Karen Richardson*

<b>Number of Resident Members – January 1, 2019</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Removed by Death</b>	<b>3</b>
Jean Martin	
Joyce Hartung	
Ed Parker	
<b>Removed by Request to Adherent</b>	<b><u>1</u></b>
Claudia Etches	
<b>Total Number of Resident Members</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Number of Non-Resident Members – January 1, 2019</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Removed by Death</b>	<b><u>4</u></b>
Norm Craigie	
Bernice Milson	
Nancy Thomson	
Bill Rowley	
<b>Total Number of Non-Resident Members</b>	<b><u>66</u></b>
<b>Total Number on Church Roll – December 31, 2019</b>	<b>151</b>

#### **Baptisms: 1**

Penelope Grace Peart, daughter of Jeff and Nicole  
on March 17, 2019

#### **Weddings: 1**

Holly Whittingstall and Mike Zammit  
on July 13, 2019

#### **Funerals:**

Jean Martin at Wall-Custance Funeral Home  
on April 1, 2019

#### **In Memoriam:**

Norm Craigie died February 7, 2019  
Jean Martin died March 27, 2019  
Bernice Milson died May 11, 2019  
Joyce Hartung died June 22, 2019  
Nancy Thomson died November 19, 2019  
Bill Rowley died December 14, 2019  
Ed Parker died December 26, 2019

## Stone United Church Roll

*Submitted by Karen Richardson*

Bill Allen  
Carl & Marg Baker  
Joel Bandy  
Loren Bandy  
Janet Bird  
Don & Gwen Brander  
Josh Brander  
Mary Brander  
Tyler & Debbie Brander  
Linda Brown  
Gord & Susan Carothers  
Arthur Churchyard & Matt Setzkorn  
Norman (Jr.) Craigie  
Lou & Ollie Darcie  
Abby De Jonge  
Rick & Heather De Jonge  
Chris Dewey  
John Dewey  
Randy & Cate Dewey  
Peter Dewey  
John Duffield  
Michael Duffield  
Murray & Marg Duffield  
Steven Duffield  
Joyce Duffield  
Claudia Etches  
Evelyn Farr  
Herbert Farr  
Tom Farr  
Carolyn Farrell  
Shirley Fiebigler  
Myra Freeman  
Wilma Fuller  
Jack Gallin  
Jennifer Gerber  
Robin Grace  
Marie Graham  
Peter & Elizabeth Guthrie  
Nancy Halliburton  
Laverne Hartung  
Philip Hartung  
Bill Hartung  
Tammy Hawes Cameron  
Marlene Hawkins  
Ron & Donna Hawkins

Bradley Hawkins  
Michelle Hawkins  
Gord & Jean Haws  
Krista Hay  
Andrew & Nadine Jackson  
Earl Jackson  
Jean Jackson  
Sheila Jackson-Elder  
Heather Kidston  
Leila Kingston  
Joanne Lacroix  
Ben Lancaster  
Larry & Patty Lancaster  
Matthew Lancaster  
John Leffler  
Lisa Leffler  
George & Shirley Leslie  
Gerald Leslie  
Graham Leslie  
Sharon Leslie  
Brian Mack  
Barb Marshall  
Debbie Marshall  
Don Martin  
Greg Martin  
Ryan Martin  
Abby May  
Andy May  
Paul & Diane May  
Sherry May  
Tim May & Kirsten Graham-May  
Darrell McDougall  
Eileen McDougall  
Cheryl McQueen  
Allan Millson  
Ed Millson  
Gordon A. Millson  
Lloyd Millson  
Murray Millson  
John & Jane Murison  
Shirley Murphy  
Ed & Heather Nagel  
Grace Nellis  
Steve Nyman  
Ken Oakes

Kerri O'Kane  
Murray & Eva Oliver  
Earl & Marion Osborne  
Stan & Helen O'Shea  
Mabel Parker  
Tom & Barb Parker  
James Patterson  
John Patterson  
Randy & Rhonda Peart  
Christian & Trudi Poschung  
Marianne Poschung  
Pierre Poschung  
Marion Prentice  
Karen Richardson  
Aaron Rietkerk & Jaclyn Hay  
Jordan & Amanda Rietkerk  
George & Leita Root  
Melanie Running  
Reuben & Joanne Salmon  
Rachael Siderius  
Stan & Anna Siderius  
Amanda Smits  
Mike & Tammy Smits  
Shelly Steele  
Frank & Janice Stokman  
Glenn & Heather Storey  
Ron & Betty Storey  
Tiffany Sutherland  
Rob & Melissa Swackhammer  
Murray & Marlynn Swanston  
Janine Taylor  
Abby Thomson  
Brittany Thomson  
Grace Thomson  
Margaret Thomson  
Megan Thomson  
Steven & Sandra Thomson  
Lucille Turner  
Gary Walton  
Jack & Edie Ward  
Lisa Ward  
Christian & Cathy Wassermann  
Elaine Williamson

*List includes members and adherents.*

## Statistics 2019

*Submitted by Heather Leffler*

Number of Financially Supporting Households	42	<b>Other Group Memberships</b>	
Number of Givers to Local Expenses	42	(includes anyone who has attended	
Number of Givers to Missions and Service	25	at least once)	
Average Weekly Attendance in October/November	38	Adult Choir	13
Adherents ( <i>includes children, youth and adults who participate in the life and work of our church monthly</i> )	26	*Bible Study	13
		*Genesis Book Club	16
<b>Children and Young People</b>	<b>Total</b>	*Lenten Study	11
Under 3 years of age	0	*Narnia Study	7
3-5 years of age	0	*UCW	15
6-11 years of age	2		
12-18 years of age	14		

\*Includes participants from both congregations.

## Bushels for Change Project

*Submitted by Barb Parker*

Stone United Church embarked on a new outreach project with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Our project, called "Bushels for Change" had the objective of raising money to combat global hunger and develop food security. A pumpkin growing contest was initiated in the Spring. Tammy and Amanda Smits and the youth of the congregation held a yard sale raising over \$1,400. A challenge was issued to the congregation and broader community to fill a bushel basket with loose change. The project culminated in the Pumpkin Funfest Community Celebration hosted by the May family, on Stone's Anniversary Sunday, October 20th. The event included lunch, pumpkin weigh-off, pumpkin judging and various creative games. Enthusiastic participation by Barrie Hill and Rockwood congregations in addition to Stone members saw over 80 people in attendance.

Proceeds of the "bushel of loose change challenge", the yard sale money and generous donations resulted in a total of \$7,200 raised for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. When matched 3:1 by the Canadian Government, our project has a total impact of over \$28,000 to provide relief for families dealing with global hunger and to help farmers adopt better conservation farming practices. Congratulations and a huge thank you for the congregations of Stone, Rockwood and Barrie Hill United Churches for your generous and enthusiastic support of our first-year project.

## Children of Bukati

*Submitted by Cate Dewey*

Over the past year we have supported three university students. Two of these students graduated in December 2019; one was in grade 6 at the Bukati Primary School when we began the Children of Bukati project. He was supported by a donor through high school and university. The second student attended the Bwaliro Primary School. The donor paid for most of his high school fees and then his university costs. We still have one other student in his last year of university.

The majority of the costs this year were used to pay technical college school fees for 12 high school graduates who are attending a two-year college program to become qualified for a trade. We supported 12 students beginning in 2018 and in 2019 began supporting another 12 students also for a 2-year program. These students were funded through a grass-roots NGO started by Florence Mutua and Natalie Carter. They are both former PhD students who worked with Cate Dewey. The NGO, Tei wa Syana Community Initiative built a library in a

region where families were poor, and students did not have access to light to study in the evenings. A library was built on land donated by Florence's family. Their second project was to pay high school fees and more recently to pay for trade school for high school graduates.

We are no longer collecting funds for the Children of Bukati project. With the funds left in the account we decided to continue our fundamental goal of educating Kenyans who due to poverty were unable to access education. The students who graduate with a trade will be able to help their families step out of poverty.

## Children of Bukati Financial Report

*Submitted by Peter Guthrie, Treasurer*

Income		Expenses	
Donations received through CanadaHelps	<u>\$19.15</u>	College tuition and support	\$6,600.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$19.15</b>	Tei wa Syana Community Initiative	\$17,400.00
		Fees for Wire transfers	\$138.50
		Fees for E-TFR	\$9.00
		Bank charges	<u>\$9.90</u>
		<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$24,157.40</b>
Opening Bank Balance	\$30,358.15		
Closing Bank Balance	<u>\$6,219.90</u>		
Change in Bank Balance	<b>\$24,138.25</b>	Excess for the year (Income - Expenses)	<b>-\$24,138.25</b>

## Choir

*Submitted by Liz Guthrie, Choir Director*

*"Even so, the body is not made up of one part but of many" – 1 Corinthians 12:14*

Stone Choir has soprano, alto, tenor and bass parts. It takes Carl and Marg Baker, Lou and Ollie Darcie, Randy Dewey, Liz Guthrie, John Leffler, Lisa Leffler, Paul May, Eileen McDougall, Eva Oliver, Karen Richardson and Edie Ward to make the choir.

We joined the massed choir that performed at the Good Friday service at Barrie Hill on April 19, 2019.

The team entertained at the Eden House birthday party in May. What a treat to have the residents sing along!

Stone and Rockwood choirs joined to sing "Hymn to Freedom" for Remembrance Day.

In December, we hosted the Chili and Hot Dog Dinner at Rockmosa Community Centre in Rockwood before the local Farmer's Parade of Lights. It was a joy to see the kids playing and keeping warm before the parade.

The choir sang an anthem for the worship service at the end of each month, as well as on Easter, Anniversary and Christmas Eve.

We ended the year with laughter while we enjoyed a murder mystery dinner party. Choir members shared their improvisational talents too!

If you enjoy singing, please join with us on Thursday evenings from 8:00 to 9:00 pm.

## Choir Financial Report

*Submitted by Edie Ward*

### Income

Balance forward December 21, 2018	\$ 899.27
Collections	<u>405.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,304.27</b>

### Expenses

Juice & Microphone	\$ 158.90
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2019	<u>1,145.37</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,304.27</b>

## Christian Education

*Submitted by Tammy Smits, Chairperson*

**Members:** Heather DeJonge, Lisa Leffler, Tammy Smits, Steve Thomson

The Christian Education committee has decided to expand its focus to events that can benefit people of all ages, as the youth are all growing up quickly and have very busy schedules. Join us on Spiritual Saturdays where we will be praying scripture together.

Our young people led Sunday School on baptism Sunday. We have added to the activities available for people of all ages to engage with during worship.

Lisa Leffler ran a book study on the ***Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*** series in spring of 2019 which was enjoyed by those who attended.

The year end picnic was held at Camp Brébeuf on May 26, 2019 with both congregations enjoying a lovely service and each other's company.

June 1, 2019 saw the youth organize a plant and yard sale with proceeds benefiting the Foodgrains Initiative. The congregation generously donated items and the young people organized, sorted and priced a church basement full of interesting objects and plants. Questionable weather made it an indoor event but successful and enjoyable none the less.

There were no Christian Education events held over the summer.

Busy and conflicting schedules did not allow for any Hallowe'en or Christmas events with the young people this year.

Thank you so much to the congregation and Heather Leffler for their unfailing support of the youth in whatever endeavours they choose to engage in.

## Genesis Book Club

*Submitted by Brian Mack*

**Members:** Bill Allen, Marion Bascom, Heather Burlock, Susan Carothers, Lou Darcie, Heather DeJonge, Heather Leffler, John Leffler, Lisa Leffler, Liz Guthrie, Peter Guthrie, Patty Lancaster, Brian Mack, Barb Parker, Sue Vliestra

Heather Birrell has taught English and Social Science at York Memorial Collegiate for 12 years. In 2019, her school suffered a devastating fire which destroyed thousands of books. In an article entitled *Books are Vital to Human Well-being* (Toronto Star, Saturday, June 15, 2019, p. e10), she offered the following insights into what the aftermath of the fire taught her and her students. Those learnings included the following:

- that students were better able to absorb content when they gleaned information from a text rather than constantly "searching it up" through a screen
- that a physical book has a tactile physical memory, a palpable human imprint

- that books represent a refuge from the world of electronics; a means of healing our fractured attention spans
- that a book is a shared private space – within its covers, a reader engages text in all manner of ways without the distraction of multiple pings, alerts, and social media tangents
- that actual, physical books are vital to learning and to human well-being

Although some of us may disagree with her conclusions as to the necessity of holding a physical book in our hands, none of us would dispute the value of the written word in our own lives. This year, we were privileged to read and ponder the following:

***Found Far and Wide*** by Kevin Major  
***Educated*** by Tara Westover  
***Bear Town*** by Frederik Backman  
***Origin*** by Dan Brown  
***Once Upon A Lost Girl*** by D.L. Castle

***Sweetland*** by Michael Churney  
***The Marrow Thieves*** by Cherie Dimaline  
***Washington Black*** by Esi Edugyan  
***Unravelling Oliver*** by Liz Nugent  
***Forgiveness*** by Mark Sakamoto

All of the above books provided for much discussion and debate. We were appreciative of the opportunity to engage in rich conversation concerning literary style and message in a safe and nurturing environment. All are welcome to join us as they are able.

We give thanks to God for:

- Susan Carothers in her role as “juggler” of the book lists and for Peter Guthrie’s insightful queries
- the special time of sharing homemade soup and desserts on a cold February evening
- Bill Allen for hosting our annual barbeque and book selection gathering at his Eden Mills farm in July
- Heather DeJonge’s co-ordination of our Christmas party and poetry reading at The Symposium
- the opportunity to donate books for children and youth to The Salvation Army at Christmas time
- the unique gift of story offered by the many writers we encountered in 2019

## Pastoral Care

*Submitted by John Leffler, Chairperson*

**Members:** Marg Baker, Patty Lancaster, John Leffler, Karen Richardson

We arrange for greeters each week. Thanks to everyone who volunteers to help make our church family and guests feel welcome. We served communion; provided devotions and lunch for a Stone Council meeting; participated in the baptism of Penelope Grace Peart, daughter of Jeff and Nicole; and hosted fellowship.

Thank you to everyone who emails, phones and visits members of our congregation. Thanks to Patty who sends out cards to our church family. Thank you to Karen Richardson for keeping our church lists up to date. Special thanks to Carl Baker for organizing appointments with families from Rockwood and Stone to have photos taken for our new directory and for arranging hosts for the photo sessions.

Many families continue to receive *Broadview* with subscriptions paid for by the general fund. *Broadview*, formerly *The United Church Observer*, is the successor to the weekly Methodist newspaper, *The Christian Guardian*, founded in 1829 with educator and political activist Egerton Ryerson as the editor. It may be seen as the oldest continuously published magazine in North America and the second oldest in the English-speaking world. The *Christian Guardian* was regarded as a major voice in the life of a growing country: as today, it commented not only on matters of religion in Canada but on education and political affairs as well. Ryerson went on to serve in government and is credited with founding the public-school system in Upper Canada. Thanks to everyone who made donations to offset the cost of their subscription.



## Property and Finance

*Submitted by Jack Ward, Chairperson and Caretaker, and Bill Allen Treasurer*

**Members:** Bill Allen (Treasurer), Rick DeJonge, Don Martin, Tom Parker, Edie Ward (Secretary), Jack Ward

Stone United Church Property and Finance Committee have had another busy year. Thanks to all who helped with snow removal. Thanks also to Paul May for clearing the parking areas.

**Property:** The annual Maple Syrup fundraiser was very successful. Thanks to all who helped with organizing, pick-ups and deliveries and to all who helped out with sales. The Church fall supper held in October was also successful with both profits and attendance. Thanks to all who helped with setting up, serving, doing dishes and cleaning up. Also thanks to Andy Jackson for cooking the roast beef for this dinner.

The eight windows on the north and south side of the sanctuary were replaced in May 2019 as planned. A grant was approved and 2/3 of the cost before taxes was received less a hold back amount of \$1,000 which will be paid in 2020. The old windows were carefully removed and were made available for sale to the congregation and other interested parties. To date, most of the old windows have been sold for a total of \$4,050. The net cost of the windows after applying the grant and proceeds from the sale of the old windows was \$4,000.

Water samples have been taken to the University of Guelph every three months and water quality remains good.

**Finance:** The Stone United Church concluded another positive year financially with an operating surplus of \$7,556. In addition, the congregation should be congratulated for their support of several important outreach initiatives in 2019 with donations to Mission and Services, Anishnabeg Outreach, East Wellington Community Services, Dorian Hurricane Relief and a very successful first-year Canadian Foodgrains Project, raising over \$7,000 to combat global hunger. Donations supporting outreach activities totalled over \$21,000.

As noted in the financial statements, six funds have been consolidated into one current account, saving money in individual account bank charges. The church continues to have a strong balance sheet with over \$127,000 in current and investment assets.

All Property and Finance Committee members are thanked for their help and input throughout the year, as well as members of the congregation who are always willing to lend a helping hand.

## United Church Women (U.C.W.)

Marg Baker, President

*Submitted by Edie Ward, Secretary*

Meetings were held in April, May, September, November and December. Ladies meet at noon with their bag lunch and dessert and tea is provided with fellowship and meeting following at 1:10 pm.

### **Speakers:**

May meeting – Bill Allen showed us pictures of his bike trip in France. He also showed us his bike and shoes that attach to the pedals.

September meeting – Joyce Duffield showed us slides of her cruise around Great Britain with Eileen McDougall.

November meeting – Ollie Darcie used printed information and a video reflecting the importance of remembering our service people. After 28 years her deceased husband was honoured having died from fire related incidents.

December meeting – Barb Parker showed us slides of her trip to Tasmania.

In April we helped cater at Rockmosa Hall for the funeral of Jean Martin.

On May 6 the Annual Meeting of Waterloo Presbyterial was held at Stone. Coffee, tea, water, muffins, jam, cheese and crackers were ready when they arrived at 9 am. Plates were set out in the kitchen for their potluck lunch.

On September 6 several Stone ladies met at Barrie Hill United Church for a U.C.W. gathering with lunch provided. We sang songs, talked and visited. The guest speaker was from Centre Wellington Food Bank in Fergus.

On September 21 four ladies from Stone met at Mount Forest United Church for a Celebration of all Women of The United Church of Canada in Western Ontario Waterways (WOW).

Ladies catered for Evelyn Farr's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at the church and for Ed and Mabel Parker's 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary at Eden Mills Community Hall in June.

Flowers were given to Marg and Murray Duffield for their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in April, Ed and Mabel Parker for their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in June, and Jack and Edie Ward for their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in July.

We gave a gift to Ben Lancaster and Beth Lamborne for their wedding.

In December we catered for the funeral of Ed Parker.

See the U.C.W. Financial Report for funds raised and donated over the year We were able to contribute to the Nutrition for Learning Programs at Rockwood Centennial, Eramosa and Ecole Harris Mill Public Schools, Mission and Service, the East Wellington Community Services, Canadian Food Grains and general funds at Stone United.

Weekly and annual cleaning were arranged by the U.C.W. executive and we are thankfully still able to find the help throughout the congregation and hope to continue to do so in 2020. This is a wonderful way to contribute and keep us all aware of the work needed to make Stone United an inviting and comfortable place in which to meet.

## U.C.W. Financial Report

*Submitted by Edie Ward, Treasurer*

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenses</b>	
Collections	\$983.25	Caterings	\$128.33
Bakeless Bake Sale	\$670.00	Miscellaneous Flowers and Gift	\$252.53
Caterings	\$4,270.00	Mission and Service Allocation	\$400.00
HST Refunds	<u>\$17.55</u>	Mission and Service Extra givings	\$400.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5,940.80</b>	East Wellington Community Services	\$100.00
Chequing account as of January 1, 2019	<u>\$536.36</u>	Stone United Church General Funds	\$3,000.00
		Stone United Church - Canadian Foodgrains	\$250.00
		Eramosa Public School Nutrition program	\$50.00
		Rockwood Centennial Public School Nutrition program	\$50.00
		Ecole Harris Mill Public School Breakfast Club	<u>\$50.00</u>
		<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,680.86</b>
		Chequing Account as of December 31, 2019	<u>\$1,796.30</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$6,477.16</u></b>	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$6,477.16</u></b>

## Worship

*Submitted by Liz Guthrie*

**Members:** Randy Dewey, Liz Guthrie, Brian Mack, Barbara Parker

Regular 9:45 am worship services were led by Rev. Heather Leffler.

**March 3, 2019** – The World Day of Prayer service was led by Bill Allen, Randy Dewey, Brian Mack and Karen Richardson.

**March 17 to April 7, 2019 -- Lenten Practice**– We were invited to: “Think of a book, movie, story or play that has shaped your life and deepened your relationship with God.” “Think of words that are sung, read aloud or offered as prayers that made a difference for you in times of great despair or great joy.” “Identify and give thanks for a person with whom you share your questions or doubts.” “Reflect on a community you are a part of and how your service has made a difference in your community or the world.” “Begin and end your day saying, ‘I am a beloved child of God.’” “Choose a name for God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit and reflect on how it invited you into deeper relationship with the Holy One.”

**April 19, 2019** – Good Friday Worship at Barrie Hill United Church. Choir members from Rockwood, Stone, Speedside and Barrie Hill United churches formed a massed choir. They sang “Nobody Wanted Him” and “The Dogwood Cross”. Many congregants from all four churches attended.

**April 28, 2019** – A combined service was held at Rockwood United to wish Heather well on her Sabbatical.

**May 5 to September 1, 2019** – Lisa Leffler led most of the summer worship services that alternated between Stone and Rockwood during Heather’s Sabbatical. Each Sunday, we shared good news and enjoyed getting to know each other in our worship circle. On September 1, we celebrated the successful completion of Lisa’s time as worship leader.

**May 26, 2019** – Combined Worship Committees of Rockwood and Stone led the Pastoral Charge Picnic at Camp Brébeuf. Rockwood Stone Band led the hymns, Barbara Parker and Brian Mack presented a Tower of Babel skit and Brent Stiles brought Lego, marshmallows and spaghetti to help us build our own Towers of Babel. Everyone enjoyed delicious food and exciting games.

**June 23, 2019** – Barbeque hosted by Worship.

**August 11, 2019** – Stewardship was the focus of worship led by the Property and Finance Committee.

**September 8, 2019** – Rev. Heather Leffler was welcomed back from her Sabbatical at a combined worship service at Stone United Church. Thank you to the Leffler family for providing an Austrian lunch.

**October 20, 2019** – Stephen Jackson from Anishnabeg Outreach, Kitchener, Ontario brought a message of hope to Stone United’s 157<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. After the service, The Canadian FoodGrains Bank Committee held a Pumpkin Fest by Paul and Dianne May’s pond. Good food, games and a pumpkin weigh off were enjoyed by all.

**November 10, 2019** – Remembrance Day Service at Stone was led by Rockwood and Stone Worship Committees. Combined choirs sang, “Hymn to Freedom”.

**December 1, 2019** – Worship was cancelled due to unsafe weather conditions.

**December 8, 2019** – We celebrated communion.

**During Advent**, we were invited to wear the colours of red and green on December 8<sup>th</sup>; a festive hat on December 15 and finally all of the above on December 22. We were invited to contribute, as able, socks and feminine hygiene products for Anishnabeg Outreach or toilet paper, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent honey or jam for East Wellington Community Services.

**December 24, 2019** – Christmas Eve worship was a time of hearing the familiar scriptures, singing Christmas carols and sharing in communion.

Thank you to: Christian Education, Pastoral Care, Property and Finance, and Worship committee members who hosted communion and our monthly coffee hour after the morning service; our scripture readers; our greeters; Peter Guthrie for microphone set up and coffee during worship; Patty Lancaster and Randy Dewey for their duet; Megan Thomson who shared Christmas music; Choir members for their monthly anthems; Carl Baker and crew for decorating for Thanksgiving; and Choir members for decorating for Advent/Christmas.

*“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”* – Helen Keller

# Stone United Church Financial Reports:

## Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2019

*Submitted by Bill Allen, Treasurer*

<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Account</b>		
General Fund	\$ 9,171.92	
Memorial Fund	4,958.03	
UCW Fund	1,796.30	
Choir Fund	1,145.37	
Sunday School Fund	602.23	
Oakes Fund - Current	16,237.60	
Total Current Account		\$ 33,911.45
<b>Other Current Assets</b>		
Acc Receivable	\$ -	
HST Receivable	386.92	
UPI Fuel Oil Account	(167.26)	
Total Other Current Assets		219.66
<b>Investments</b>		
<b>General Fund</b>		
GIC (Apr 20) 2.17%	\$ 20,000.00	
GIC (Sep 21) 2.15%	20,000.00	
Total General Fund Investments		40,000.00
<b>Oakes Fund</b>		
Mutual Fund Portion	\$ 28,315.94	
GIC (Apr 20) 2.48%	25,000.00	
Total Oakes Fund		53,315.94
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$ 127,447.05</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
Accounts Payable		\$ -
Deferred Revenue (Broadview)		25.00
Beginning Equity	\$ 120,870.22	
Surplus or (Deficit) Operations	7,556.16	
Surplus or (Deficit) Other Funds	(1,440.42)	
Gain or (Loss) on Investments	436.09	
Total Equity		127,422.05
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>		<b>\$ 127,447.05</b>

## Operating Statement for 12 months ending December 31, 2019

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2019 Actuals</b>	<b>2018 Actuals</b>
General Operating Fund		
Weekly Givings	\$ 25,630.00	\$ 30,545.00
PAR Givings	32,588.00	28,236.00
Loose Collection	1,002.10	1,053.50
Corporate Givings	3,000.00	1,000.00
Other Donations	150.00	457.00
UCW Donation	3,000.00	2,320.00
Total General Operating	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	\$ 65,370.10	\$ 63,611.50
Mission and Service		
Weekly Givings	\$ 4,549.00	\$ 4,054.00
PAR Givings	6,055.00	5,675.00
UCW	800.00	800.00
Other	311.00	1,399.38
Total Mission and Service	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	11,715.00	\$ 11,928.38
Foodgrains Donations	\$ 5,220.95	
Foodgrains Fundraising	<u>1,985.85</u>	-
		7,206.80
Anishnabeg Outreach		1,665.00
Maple Syrup Sales	\$ 11,781.00	696.00
Maple Syrup COGS	<u>8,208.00</u>	
Net Maple Syrup Sales		3,573.00
		3,770.00
Beef Dinner Sales	\$ 6,951.00	
Beef Dinner Expenses	<u>2,065.49</u>	
Net Income Beef Dinner		4,885.51
Chili Dinner		649.00
Rental Revenue		912.00
Interest Earned		438.00
Other Givings		976.50
		<u>525.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 97,003.91    \$ 86,489.18</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2019 Actuals</b>	<b>2018 Actuals</b>
Transfer of Mission and Service	\$11,715.00	\$11,928.38
Other Transfers	9,346.80	696.00
Pastoral Charge Expenses		
Operating Expenses	\$49,423.27	\$48,882.00
Assessment	4,238.64	3,768.00
Total Pastoral Charge Expenses	53,661.91	\$52,650.00
Church Operating Expenses		
Electricity Expenses	\$ 1,247.08	\$ 1,818.04
Fuel Oil	1,978.51	2,276.74
Propane	2,316.81	2,372.30
Maintenance and Repairs	926.96	592.87
Water Tests	214.70	205.40
Organist/Pianist	1,620.00	1,710.00
Caretaker	500.00	500.00
Lawn Cutting (Stone Part)	500.00	550.00
Property Insurance	3,732.00	3,674.00
Other Operating Expense	240.00	
Total Operating Expenses	13,276.06	\$13,699.35
Administrative Expenses		
Postage	\$ 99.00	\$ 42.50
Bank and Other S/C	50.92	43.62
PAR Service Charges	112.50	100.00
Other Admin Charges	48.96	60.49
Total Administrative Expenses	311.38	\$ 246.61
Other Expenses		
UC Broadview (Net)	\$ 267.48	\$ 250.35
Resources (Books etc.) Gifts	500.00	
Study Support	-	-
HST Expense	369.12	683.11
Total Other Expenses	1,136.60	\$ 933.46
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>89,447.75</b>	<b>80,153.80</b>
<b>Net Surplus or (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 7,556.16</b>	<b>\$ 6,335.38</b>

### Non-Operating Expenditures

Capital Purchases - Windows (Oakes Fund)	\$ 18,875.80	
Plus HST (Net of Rebate)	743.76	
Total Capital Cost		\$ 19,619.56
Less: Capital Grant		11,583.87
Less: Sale of Old Windows		4,050.00
Net Window Purchase		\$ 3,985.69
Capital Purchases - Tables (Memorial Fund)	\$ 719.64	
Plus HST (Net of Rebate)	28.36	
Net Table Purchase		\$ 748.00

### Church Funds

#### Memorial Fund

Beginning Balance		\$ 4,521.03	
Donations	\$ 1,185.00		
Expenditures	(748.00)		
Change in Fund		437.00	
<b>Memorial Fund Balance</b>			<b>\$ 4,958.03</b>

#### UCW Fund

Beginning Balance		\$ 536.36	
Revenue	\$ 5,923.25		
Expenditures	(3,863.31)		
M & S Contributions	(800.00)		
Change in Fund		1,259.94	
<b>UCW Fund Balance</b>			<b>\$ 1,796.30</b>

#### Choir Fund

Beginning Balance		\$ 899.27	
Collections	\$ 405.00		
Expenditures	(158.90)		
Change in Fund		246.10	
<b>Choir Fund Balance</b>			<b>1,145.37</b>

#### Sunday School Fund

Beginning Balance		\$ 610.73	
Money In	\$ -		
Expenditures	(8.50)		
Change in Fund		(8.50)	
<b>Sunday School Fund Balance</b>			<b>602.23</b>

#### Current Portion of Oakes Fund

		\$ 20,223.29	
Less: Windows Purchase	(\$3,985.69)		
Change in Fund		(3,985.69)	
Balance in Current Portion			16,237.60
General Operating Fund			9,171.92
<b>Total Account Balance</b>			<b>\$ 33,911.45</b>



## Stone United Church Cemetery Fund

*Submitted by Eileen McDougall, Treasurer*

### Income

Bank Balance Fwd. January 1, 2019	\$ 17.60
Interest on Perpetual Care	113.56
GIC Maturities	2,470.00
Donations	150.00
Plot Location Credit	226.00
Bank Interest	<u>.01</u>
	<u>\$2,977.17</u>

### Expenses

GIC Renewals	\$2,470.00
Lawn Maintenance	200.00
Bank Fees	.60
Bank Balance December 31, 2019	<u>306.57</u>
	<u>\$2,977.17</u>

Reviewed and found correct as presented  
the following Stone Church Reports

#### Review Note:

For 2019, the P&F General Operating Fund, Memorial Fund, UCW Fund, Choir Fund, and Sunday School have been consolidated into one bank account. These individual fund balances have been reconciled to the balance sheet presented with the General Fund Operating Statements. The Mission and Service fund which was formerly shown separately is now part of the Property and Finance Report.

Property and Finance

Memorial Fund

Choir Fund

Sunday School Account

United Church Women

Cemetery Fund

Children of Bukati Account

Trustee's Report

Jack Ward and Carl Baker, January 26, 2020

 \_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_

## Stone Nominating Report for 2020

*Submitted by Steven Thomson, Council Chairperson*

COMMITTEE	NOMINATED	APPOINTED
Worship and Fellowship (5+ appointed)	Brian Mack (2) Barb Parker (2) Randy Dewey (2) _____ (2) _____ (2)	Liz Guthrie – Organist Heather Leffler – Minister
Pastoral Care and Membership (5)	Patty Lancaster (2) Karen Richardson (2) John Leffler (2) Marg Baker (2) _____ (2)	
Christian Education (7)	Heather De Jonge (2) Lisa Leffler (2) Tammy Smits (2) Steven Thomson (1) _____ (2)	
Outreach Outreach is being done by small groups and the U.C.W. and overseen by the Council.	Anishnabeg Outreach	
	Canadian Foodgrains Bank	Bill Allen, Paul May, Barb Parker, Tom Parker
	Children of Bukati	Cate Dewey, Peter Guthrie
Property and Finance (5+ appointed)	Jack Ward (2) Don Martin (2) Tom Parker (1) _____ (2) _____ (2)	Bill Allen – Treasurer Edie Ward – U.C.W. Jack & Edie Ward – Caretakers
Nominating (1+ appointed)	Paul May (2)	Council Chairperson Council Secretary
Ministry and Personnel (3)	Peter Guthrie (1) Randy Dewey (2) Brian Mack (2)	
Trustees	Eileen McDougall Randy Dewey Peter Guthrie Paul May	Heather Leffler – Minister
Treasurer	Bill Allen	
Presbytery Representative	Liz Guthrie	
U.C.W. Representative	Marg Baker	
Mission and Service	Peter Guthrie	
Chair of Council	Steve Thomson	
Secretary of Council		
Financial Reviewers	Jack Ward Carl Baker	

( ) Denotes number of years left to serve

## Rockwood Annual Meeting Minutes – Sunday, March 3, 2019

*Submitted by Carol Smelsky, Secretary*

**Present:** Sherol Steinberg - Chair, Carol Smelsky - Secretary, Rev. Heather Leffler, David Smelsky, Roy Steinberg, Phyllis Puchyr, Beverley Johnston, John Kearns, Barbara Eley, Liz Ostrander, Ellen Thomson, Rosslyn Bentley, Scott Jamieson, Marcia Haworth, Kay Mathies, Elsa Hore, Heather Blair, Sarah Leffler, John Leffler, Brent Stiles, Amanda Hunter-Anthony, Kevin Anthony, Chris Arbuckle, John Arbuckle.

**11:25 am:** Sherol Steinberg welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

**Opening:** Rev. Heather Leffler asked those members present to identify something that they are grateful for in our church. Rev. Heather Leffler then led us in a prayer of gratitude to God.

**Motion to vote by show of hands, unless voting by ballot is requested by one person:** Rosslyn Bentley / Ellen Thomson. Carried.

**Motion that visitors be made corresponding members:** Sarah Leffler / Rosslyn Bentley. Carried.

**Motion that adherents be eligible to vote at this meeting:** Sarah Leffler / Kay Mathies. Carried.

**Motion to accept the Annual General Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2018 (pages 31-32) as printed:** Barbara Eley / Scott Jamieson. Carried.

**Motion to accept the Pastoral Charge Financial Report and 2019 Budget (pages 9-11):** Marcia Haworth / Scott Jamieson. **Note:** In the 2018 Pastoral Financial Report there is a line for Presbytery Fees, please note that in the 2019 Pastoral Financial Report this line will be replaced with the term Denominational Fees. Carried.

**Motion to accept the Pastoral Charge Reports (pages 3-8) as corrected:** Sarah Leffler / Ellen Thomson.

**Correction:** on page 9, Total Remitted to The United Church of Canada M & S should be \$24,967.38. This reflects an extra \$15 from Rockwood. Many thanks to Bill Allen for his assistance. Carried.

**Rockwood United Church Reports, pages 32-42,** including Statistics, Membership, Chimes Choir, Choir, Country Breakfast, Outreach, Pastoral Care, Property and Finance, Rentals, Trustees-Rockwood, Worship and Christian Education.

A moment of silence was observed as we reflected on the loss of Charlie Anderson, Nan Braamse and Jean James and others who have gone before.

**Trustees - Rockwood:** The East Wellington Community Services lease for the House of Joy will be increased by \$26.33 per month to cover the increase in utility costs. The increase does not reflect the extraordinary water bill, but an average for that month. The value of our investment with Fiera Capital is \$20,553.85 as of December 31, 2018. The amount of \$5000 was borrowed from the account and was replaced in October 2018.

**Motion to accept the Rockwood United Church Reports as printed:** Rosslyn Bentley / Kay Mathies. Carried.

**Motion to accept the Rockwood United Church Financial Reports as printed:** Marcia Haworth / Scott Jamieson. Carried.

**Motion to accept the Rockwood United Church Nominating Report (page 43) as amended with corrections:** Scott Jamieson / Kay Mathies. **Corrections:** Add Brent Stiles to the Worship and Christian Education Committee, correct "Christine" to "Christian". **Note:** that there is a new Regional Structure which means that there is no longer Presbytery. Carried.

**Correspondence:** *The United Church Observer* magazine is changing its name to *Broadview*. You will be contacted by someone from Pastoral Care to see if you are still interested in continuing with your subscription. Many thanks to Susan Anderson who did this role for many years.

**New Business:**

**Motion that the Mission and Service goal be \$13,000 for 2019:** Marcia Haworth / Kay Mathies. Carried.

An Affirming Discernment Circle is being established for Rockwood United Church and Stone United Church. Members are needed from both churches. Lisa Leffler and Liz Guthrie will represent Stone. Two members are needed from Rockwood. Brent Stiles and Barbara Eley have volunteered from Rockwood.

A new structure has been established for The United Church of Canada. Presbytery has been discontinued and will be replaced by Regional Council Meetings at the end of May 2019. Ellen Thomson will no longer be the Presbytery Representative but will be replaced by Sarah Leffler as the Regional Council Representative. Each representative sits on a Commission, of which there are three. Churches are encouraged to work in clusters, which are geographically close, and also to start networks for those churches with like interests.

**Future Council Meetings:** (after worship, bring your own lunch)

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Sunday, September 15, 2019

Sunday, November 3, 2019

Many thanks to everyone who submitted reports and supported our congregation and pastoral charge.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:13 pm.

---

**Chairperson**

---

**Carol Smelsky, Secretary**

## Rockwood United Church Committee Reports:

### Membership

*submitted by Heather Leffler*

<b>Number of Resident Members – January 1, 2019</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Removed by Death</b>	<u><b>1</b></u>
Eugene Ferguson	
<b>Total Number of Resident Members</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>Number of Non-Resident Members – January 1, 2019</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Removed by Transfer</b>	<u><b>2</b></u>
Jim Anderson	
Susan Anderson	
<b>Total Number of Non-Resident Members</b>	<u><b>16</b></u>
<b>Total Number on Church Roll – December 31, 2019</b>	<b>117</b>

**Baptisms: 0**

**Weddings: 0**

**Funerals:**

Thelma Oakes at Rockwood Cemetery  
on October 9, 2019  
Eugene Ferguson at Walls Custance  
on October 12, 2019

**In Memoriam:**

Eugene Ferguson died October 8, 2019

### Statistics 2019

*Submitted by Heather Leffler*

Number of Financially Supporting Households	39	<b>Other Group Memberships</b>	
Number of Givers to Local Expenses	39	<i>(includes anyone who has attended at least once)</i>	
Number of Givers to Missions and Service	24	Chimes Choir	6
Average Weekly Attendance in October/November	35	Senior Choir	16
Adherents <i>(includes children, youth and adults who participate in the life and work of our church monthly)</i>	30	*Coffee Connections	17
<b>Children and Young People</b>	<b>Total</b>	*Tea and Talk	19
Under 3 years of age	0	*Faith, Food, Friendship & Fun	36
3-5 years of age	1		
6-11 years of age	4		
12-18 years of age	2		
Teachers	2		
*Includes participants from both congregations.			

## Chimes Choir

*Submitted by Christine Wenger, Chimes Choir Leader*

Despite some scheduling challenges due to busy schedules the chimes choir continued to practice and performed four times during the year. The choir tried to have a little fun with “Hey Ho, Nobody Home,” tried some more modern music with “Only Time” by Enya, went back to more traditional music with “Celebrate with Gladness” and finished the year by playing the “Rocking Carol” and “O Come All Ye Faithful”. The music stand lights purchased in 2018 proved to be a valuable tool for the choir as well as the Eramosa Ensemble.

Instead of recruiting a new member to regain our original size of six players, chimes were redistributed among the existing five players. The move was an extra challenge and requires more teamwork and collaboration through the sharing of chimes during songs. Member this year were Chris Barlow, Rosslyn Bentley, Heather Blair, Barb Eley and Sherol Steinberg.

In 2019, \$145.90 USD were spent on the purchase of new music for the choir. Christine Wenger donated the total amount to the church.

## Choir

*Submitted by Barbara Eley, Music Director*

**Members:** Chris Barlow, Rosslyn Bentley, Heather Blair (organist), Lou Darcie, Ollie Darcie, Barbara Eley (music director), Al Jay, Bev Johnston, John Kearns, Phyllis Puchyr, Carol Smelsky, Chloe Southwell, Sherol Steinberg, Brent Stiles, Ellen Thomson, Christine Wenger.

The choir meets every Thursday from 7 to 8 pm from the beginning of September to the end of June, provides musical leadership, and also performs special music each Sunday. Special music takes many forms, such as duets, solos, quartets, instrumental music and choir anthems. We give thanks to all who bless us with their gifts of musical talent.

## Country Breakfast

*Submitted by Marcia Haworth and Sherol Steinberg, Breakfast Coordinators*

On eight Saturdays throughout 2019 our fearless teams of volunteers have once again worked their magic to provide the community at large with comfort food while enjoying the fellowship of other like-minded connoisseurs of the full-on RUC style breakfast! It all starts on Thursday evening with hall set-up and ends on Saturday lunch time when everything is all cleaned up. In between those events there is a whirling dervish of shopping, food prep, cooking, greeting, serving, replenishing, table clearing, dish washing, mopping, mess management, money handling, and delivery of leftovers. In all a regular posse of at least 20 regular volunteers help out. We are also happy to have high school students helping in the hall as they work their volunteer hours. We say a huge “Thank You” to everyone, as it simply couldn’t happen without you.

This year our overall numbers have been slightly lower likely because of the construction on Harris Street making access rather difficult, but we averaged over 80 people at each breakfast enabling us to add \$2701 to the general fund. When our numbers are lower, East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) and the Guelph Drop-In Centre benefit more from our leftovers. We take pride in ensuring that no food is thrown out, and that every item that can be recycled is dealt with appropriately.

## Outreach Committee

*Submitted by Marcia Haworth and Kay Mathies Co-chairpersons*

**Members:** Colleen Baeumler, Marion Bascom, Marcia Haworth, Darlene McPhedran, Kay Mathies, Phyllis Puchyr

With its ongoing theme of **Love Your Neighbours**, Mission and Service (M & S) invites us all to walk the talk in all that we do. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, many close neighbours within our community as well as our more distant neighbours throughout Canada and around the world have benefited in some way during 2019 and on their behalf, we extend our most sincere thanks. As ever we are blown away by your wonderful support of Outreach fundraising initiatives which enable us to respond in a real way to many folk that can benefit from a hand-up.

During 2019 we undertook various successful fundraising activities which included: catering for a baby shower, chicken lunch (\$480), Lenten initiative (\$789), several food drives, the Food Fight (\$1009) and our Silent Auction. (\$3646). We also received free will donations.

**Mission and Service:** This year our target for M & S was \$13,000. We fell somewhat short ending our year with a total of \$12,219. Our committee continues to raise awareness of the role of M & S throughout Canada and the world by reading Minutes for Mission and raising up any specific needs.

**Rural Women's Support Program:** At Christmas time eight women receiving counselling through our local Rural Women's Support Program each received a \$100 Wal-Mart gift card to help them over the season and each of their children (six) received a \$25 Wal-Mart gift card. A donation of \$1400 was made to Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis, designated to assist any local women and children to live in a safe environment.

**East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) Food Bank:** Our relationship with EWCS food bank continues to evolve in a positive way. We are in touch with them on a regular basis and are always on stand-by to help out when they let us know of a specific need. Mostly we use designated Outreach funds to purchase nutritious foods for their freezer, or for fresh fruit. In particular we try to keep them stocked with a supply of easily microwaveable items for their clients that have no other means of cooking. This year we spent \$1039 on this endeavour. Similarly, whenever we hold a food drive, we encourage people to donate the most requested items which are often not food items, but other costly grocery items like toiletries, laundry and cleaning supplies. We continue to believe that it is more meaningful and respectful to facilitate individual's choices in food selection and to this end, prior to Christmas; we gave a \$50 grocery store gift card to each adult client that does not have children. Those without transportation received a Sobeys/Foodland gift card while those with transportation received a PC card. Each family received \$100 Wal-Mart gift card with an additional \$25 card for each child.

**Support for Anishnabeg Outreach (AO):** We are happy to report that our partnership with AO is developing as they make progress towards fulfilling their mission of helping First Nations, Metis, and Inuit (FNMI) by creating a sustainable and comprehensive suite of services for urban FNMI and to eventually establish AO as an innovative hub for economic development, training and employment on reserves. We were privileged to visit the centre and see firsthand the amazing transformation they have accomplished to their hub. Similarly, it was wonderful to hear CEO Stephen Jackson speak at Stone's Anniversary this fall. We were very inspired by his many success stories including how our financial donation was used last year. It purchased a washer and dryer which has had such a huge impact on the lives of so many as it facilitated other revenue generation opportunities for the hub. Our Partnership with AO is very dynamic and exciting. We are supporting them again this year with a \$2500 donation. In addition, during Advent we collected items needed for their supply cupboard – socks and feminine hygiene products.

**Special Requests:** Outreach continues to ensure we can respond to the needs of drop-ins that ask for assistance by having a supply of grocery and gas cards available in the narthex.

After distribution of our money raised we have a balance of \$779 which we plan to hold over into 2020 to ensure we have sufficient funds on hand to enable us to respond in a timely manner to emergency food bank

needs without making immediate additional requests for donations from the congregation. For a detailed financial record of how all the Outreach funds were distributed, please see the Outreach Fund included in the 2019 Rockwood United Church Financial Report.

Thank you again to the amazingly hard-working members of our committee for always leaping into the fray with your unfailing enthusiasm. And to all of you that are truly “friends of Outreach” that help us out in so many ways. We also extend a huge thank you again to all the members of RUC congregation who help make it all happen and to Heather for all your guidance and support of Outreach. Very many thanks also to Sharyn and Amanda for patiently helping to keep us organized.

We continue to be united in a common cause to do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God and demonstrate love of our neighbours.

## Pastoral Care

*Submitted by Ellen Thomson, Chairperson*

**Members:** Ione Cox, Lou and Ollie Darcie, Ian Pasmore, Ellen Thomson

Early in the spring of 2019 committee members and Rev. Heather met in Day Fellowship Hall to discuss several items of interest.

**Photo Directory:** Stone United and Rockwood United decided to participate in a new photo directory. All photos were booked by Carl Baker during the last week of August and for four afternoons and evenings in October. The book was still in process at the end of the year.

**Broadview Subscription List,** (formerly, *The Observer*), was reviewed. Each subscription is \$25.00. Twenty homes have been receiving the magazine.

**Cards:** Ione Cox sent out cards throughout the year for sympathy, thinking of you, congratulations, and thank you notes. The committee reviewed the membership list. Two lists were created. People who rarely worship with us received a card in June inviting them to Anniversary. Those members who live alone or are not able to attend for health or other reasons received cards every other month.

Ione has decided to step away from this committee for a while. We thank her for her dedication. Ian Pasmore has agreed to continue this ministry.

**Visiting and/or telephone calls** by committee members and Rev. Leffler continued as requested.

**Name Tags** were made for everyone.

**Tea and Coffee:** Thank you to Ollie Darcie for hosting Tea and Talk; Lou Darcie for hosting Coffee Connections; and those who host Potlucks and Faith, Food, Friendship and Fun. These activities help us build community and relationships among one another.

## Property and Finance

*Submitted by Scott Jamieson, Chairperson*

**Members:** Kevin Anthony, Colleen Baeumler, Scott Jamieson, John Kearns, Amanda Hunter-Anthony, Darryl Nichol, Carol Stiles

Thanks to the committee members for their stellar work over the past year on behalf of the House of Joy and Rockwood United. Thanks also to our congregation for your support of the Gifts of Gratitude fundraiser. 50% of the funds raised were used to support the general fund and 50% were used for building projects.

New furnaces were installed in both the House of Joy and the kitchen at Rockwood. A grant from The United Church of Canada helped with this expense.



**House of Joy:** This year numerous small jobs around the building were completed along with a full day of repairs done by Rogers' employees as a part of their volunteer day. The garage has been sided and looks quite good.

The main part of the road re-construction has been completed and parking spots and sidewalks restored. We also now know where the water shut-off valve for the house is located and in the spring, we will again uncover the valve and place a PCV pipe around it so the grass cannot grow over it.

**Church:** With all the construction around us a detailed study of our stained-glass windows was undertaken by our group and by the Goetz team with everything photographed and videotaped as insurance against damage. As per the house, the road work is completed until spring's final completion of landscaping and paving. The water shutoff valve is now accessible in Heather's parking spot and rocks will be placed properly in the Spring thereby keeping the valve accessible.

The narthex repointing is completed and looks great. The basement has been substantially restored with a lot of work to stabilize it.

The men's washroom has been repaired and painted, now that the roof vent seal was replaced by the company that originally installed the roof.

The dehumidifier was hooked up to run constantly without someone having to drain the tank so humidity issues should be relieved in Day Hall. A beautiful, new shelf was built and installed by Kevin Anthony in Day Hall entrance for coats and hats etc. The broom closet has been moved and old location cleaned up.

The office fireplace has been repaired with new electric pile sensor and thermostat and it has been working fine since then. Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms have had their batteries changed.

Eaves and drainage around the building have also been addressed over the past summer.

We eliminated one front step leading to the church's main entrance making it easier to access. The wheelchair ramp has been repaired with new concrete eliminating the huge crack in it and the ramp from the sidewalk portion has been graded to make it less steep and easier to navigate.

Outside lighting at the front of the church is in the process of being replaced with new wiring and sockets – the old ones have corroded in some instances. We'll also install LED lamps in these locations to lessen the number of times someone has to climb high to change bulbs.

So far, Cees will look after snowplowing.

## **Rentals**

*Submitted by Kay Mathies*

**Members:** Marcia Haworth, Kay Mathies, Heather Leffler, Sharyn Southworth

Over the past year our hall and kitchen have been rented for a baby shower, by the County of Wellington for a public meeting, for condo and other meetings, and two Christmas parties. The kitchen was rented for someone to bake for charity.

As community partners, AA, and the Guides use the hall on a weekly basis and the East Wellington Health Team provide three cooking classes throughout the year. The parking lot was rented once, and neighbours made donations for parking there during the construction.

The total income from rentals and community partners was \$2250. The Community Resource Centre of North and Centre Wellington paid \$3333.30 to rent Day Hall three mornings per week for the Early ON Program from February to December.

## Trustees

*Submitted by Rosslyn Bentley, Chairperson*

**Trustees:** Rosslyn Bentley, Frances Jamieson, Heather Leffler, Darryl Nichol, Christine Wenger

The Trustees reviewed our insurance. Our broker is Colley Insurance. The House of Joy Policy No: 18879C02.3.0 is with Halwell Mutual. Christine and Rosslyn researched alternate insurance options, but no more competitive price was found. The 2020 premium will be paid in installments to ease cash flow pressures. The church insurance is with Hub International Master Policy HUB1925 – 0836. The premiums to HUB will be paid in installments in 2020. The term for both policies is December 1, 2019 to December 1, 2020.

Our investments valued at \$21,797.29 were moved from Fiera Capital Funds, Investors Solutions when they sold their retail business to Canoe Financial. Signatories on our Rockwood United Church Account #20670253 are Frances Jamieson and Daryl Nichol. We redeemed \$5,000 in May. As of December 2019, our investment balance was \$17,956.41. The Council agreed that we would not reinvest the \$5,000 to allow the operating account to remain in the black.

Thanks to Christine Wenger for working out the utility costs for 2019 for the East Wellington Community Services. We passed on a reduction of \$10.34 per month to EWCS which reflects a reduction in utility costs for 2019. Their lease payment is \$1,381.16 per month for 2020.

## Worship and Christian Education

*Submitted by Barbara Eley, Chairperson*

**Members:** Barbara Eley, Beverley Johnston, Carol Smelsky, Brent Stiles

The Worship Committee continues to organize greeters/ushers, coffee, scripture readers and media volunteers for each service. We give thanks for all those who volunteer for these tasks.

Liz Guthrie and Barbara Eley (chairs of the Stone and Rockwood Worship Committees) meet on a regular basis with Rev. Leffler to plan special services where lay leadership is required. We give thanks for Rev. Leffler's guidance in these preparations. Both Rockwood and Stone's Worship Committees meet regularly to plan together.

**January 6** – Epiphany – combined service at Rockwood, John Buttars as guest speaker

**January 27** – after some cancellations due to illness and scheduling conflicts, Kids' Church was held, focusing on the story of Jesus' baptism

**February 3** – lay led worship provided Rev. Leffler with administrative leave to prepare the annual report

**February 10** – Kids' Church was held, and we learned about the story of the Good Samaritan

**February 24** – Stone's Annual Meeting, lay leadership at Rockwood for a service based on the Song of Faith

**March 1** – World Day of Prayer service was held Friday afternoon at Rockwood, with about 25 people in attendance. \$313 was raised for the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada. The focus country was Slovenia

**March 3** – Rockwood Annual Meeting- service was based on the World Day of Prayer service for 2019

**March 31** – Kids' Church was moved once again due to March Break. The story for this session was "The Great Banquet." The choir sang the anthem "Jesus Knows"

**April 7** – the Rockwood Stone Band performed Handel and Purcell at both church services

**April 14 – Palm Sunday** – communion was served, the choir provided special music, and rehearsal was held at Barrie Hill to prepare for Good Friday.

**April 19 – Good Friday** service at Barrie Hill United

**April 21 – Easter Sunday/Earth Day**-special music provided by the choir

**April 28** – sabbatical litany – combined worship at Rockwood United at 11:15 am

**May 5** – Lisa Leffler began pulpit supply coverage

**May 26** – church picnic at Camp Brébeuf – band provided all music

**June 9 – Pentecost** and Rockwood Anniversary – Mary Elliot was guest minister, communion was served, and the band provided special music

**June 30** – combined summer service schedule began with a service at Stone United

**August 4** – Eramosa Ensemble provided special music

**August 11** – service at Stone United was led by Stone’s Property and Finance Committee

**September 1** – Lisa Leffler’s last service as pulpit supply and a time of celebration and fellowship in appreciation of her work was held after the service

**September 8** – combined service at Stone United to welcome Rev. Leffler back from sabbatical. Special music was provided by the Eramosa Ensemble

**September 22** – Kids’ Church – we learned about The Good Shepherd

**September 29** – Orange Shirt Day and Acknowledgement of Territories

**October 6** – World Communion Sunday – communion was served using a variety of breads and juices  
We give thanks for our communion teams in their work of preparing, serving and cleaning up.

**October 13 – Thanksgiving Sunday** – the choir sang an anthem, “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

**October 20** – combined service for Stone United’s anniversary with guest speaker was Stephen Jackson from Anishnabeg Outreach, and a lunch gathering was held at the May farm after the service

**October 27** – Kids’ Church – we learned about the creation story

**November 9** – community choir, led by Barbara Eley, participated in the Remembrance ceremony at the Rockwood Cenotaph and Rev. Leffler led prayer

**November 10 – Remembrance Sunday** – combined service at Stone United led by members of the two worship committees.

**November 24** – Kids’ Church – we continued with the story of the Good Shepherd  
the annual Carol Sing was held in the evening with music provided by the Eramosa Ensemble

**December 8** – Advent II – communion was served

**December 22** – Advent III – Kids’ Church – retelling the Christmas story

**December 24** – a new format for Christmas Eve was successfully tried, with the readings and reflections service, communion, and the songs and scripture service flowing without a break

**December 29** – combined service at Rockwood based on favourite carols. Leadership was provided by the worship committee and special music was provided by the Eramosa Ensemble

We continue to provide Kids’ Church once a month. We are flexible in our scheduling to avoid conflicts with special services or events.

# Rockwood United Church Financial Reports:

## Annual Financial Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2019

*Submitted by Amanda Hunter-Anthony, Treasurer*

<b><u>General Fund</u></b>			
Balance as of December 31, 2018			<u>\$ 12,897.35</u>
<b><u>Revenue</u></b>			
<b>Church</b>			
Weekly Givings	\$ 13,255.00		
Loose Offerings	1,184.80		
PAR Givings	<u>34,800.00</u>		
		\$ 49,239.80	
<b>House</b>			
Rent – EWCS	15,332.50		
Mortgage – Weekly Givings	1,037.00		
- PAR Givings	<u>1,020.00</u>		
		17,389.50	
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
Reimbursed from Pastoral Chg.	2,040.20		
Church Rentals – Other	2,250.00		
- Community Resources	3,333.30		
HST	1,990.51		
Fundraisers			
	Breakfasts	5,115.31	
	Faith, Food, Fellowship	175.00	
Donations		700.00	
Other Donations			
	Benevity	2,059.00	
	United Way	1,242.41	
	Gifts of Gratitude	1,627.13	
	Canoe Financial Investment	5,000.00	
Total Other Revenue		<u>25,532.86</u>	
<b>Total Church &amp; House Revenue</b>			<u><b>\$ 92,162.16</b></u>

<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Pastoral Charge Expenses</b>		
Operating Expenses	\$49,423.27	
Presbytery Fees	4,239.36	
Other Expenses	187.93	
Total Pastoral Charge Expenses		\$ 53,850.56
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>		
PAR Service Charges	355.56	
Bank Fees	26.45	
Church Envelopes/Office Supplies	902.48	
Total Administrative Expenses		1,284.49
<b>Church Expenses</b>		
Reliance	427.25	
Union Gas	2,357.77	
Hydro	1,402.19	
Water	447.08	
Cogeco & Guelph Business	1,504.04	
Landscape/Lawn Maintenance	339.00	
Snow Removal	188.97	
R&M - General	621.37	
Organist	1,680.00	
Church Cleaning	2,655.00	
Insurance	3,991.97	
Breakfast – Extras	764.41	
- Flanagan's	1,648.93	
Observer Magazine	550.00	
Decorations & Flowers	112.46	
Kitchen Supplies	707.72	
Guelph Papers	458.37	
Anniversary Service	220.00	
Wedding/Funeral	-	
Total Church Expenses		20,076.53
<b>Total Pastoral Charge, Admin and Church Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 75,211.58</b>
<b>House Expenses</b>		
Union Gas	\$ 1,030.27	
Hydro	1,482.76	
Water	402.32	
Insurance	1,905.12	
Mortgage Principal & Interest	11,600.00	
Total House Expenses		16,420.47
<b>Total Pastoral Charge, Admin., Church and House Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 91,632.05</b>
<b>Balance as of December 31, 2019</b>		<b>\$ 13,427.46</b>

**Outreach Fund**

Balance as of December 31, 2018

\$ 3,780.35

**Revenue**

M&S Weekly Givings	\$ 2,394.00
PAR Givings	9,720.00
Donation – Outreach	420.00
- Women In Crisis	250.00
Food Bank	545.00
Food Fight	2,074.00
Lenten – EWCS	445.00
- Anishnabeg Outreach	235.00
- Rural Women's Support	193.00
Silent Auction	3,646.00
Chicken Lunch	480.00
Bank Interest	20.71

<b>Total Revenue</b>		\$ 20,422.71
----------------------	--	--------------

**Expenses**

UCC – M&S Weekly Givings	\$ 11,919.00
Food Bank	1,039.16
Food Fight	1,065.00
Benevolence Fund	75.00
Gift Cards for EWCS & RWSP	3,150.00
Anishnabeg Outreach	750.00
Rural Women's Support Group	750.00
Asia-Pacific Rescue Relief Fund	765.00
Bank Fees	10.50

<b>Total Expenses</b>		19,523.66
-----------------------	--	-----------

Balance as of December 31, 2019

\$ 4,679.40

**Building and Improvement Fund**

Balance as of December 31, 2018

\$ 7,126.02

**Revenue**

Weekly Givings	\$ 1,806.00
PAR Givings	1,500.00
Gifts of Gratitude	1,627.12
Grant from UCC	4,500.00
Bank Interest	18.21

<b>Total Revenue</b>		\$ 9,451.33
----------------------	--	-------------

**Expenses**

Snow Blower	1,808.00
Repairs & Maintenance - Church	4,807.80
- House	3,836.35

<b>Total Expenses</b>		10,452.15
-----------------------	--	-----------

Balance as of December 31, 2019

\$ 6,125.20

**Choir Fund**

Balance as of December 31, 2018 \$ 487.93

**Revenue**

Bank Interest

\$ 2.17

**Total Revenue**

\$ 2.17

**Expenses**

Choir Supplies

137.25

**Total Expenses**

137.25

Balance as of December 31, 2019

\$ 352.85

**Sunday School Fund**

Balance as of December 31, 2018 \$ 71.97

**Revenue**

Bank Interest

\$ 0.87

**Total Revenue**

\$ 0.87

Balance as of December 31, 2019

\$ 72.84

The original books of record were reviewed by David Smelsky and found correct as presented.

February 9, 2020



David Smelsky

## Rockwood Nominating Report for 2020

Committee/Position	Nominated	Appointed
<b>Chair of Council:</b>	Sherol Steinberg <sup>2014</sup>	
<b>Secretary of Council:</b>	Carol Smelsky <sup>2013-2018</sup>	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Amanda Hunter-Anthony <sup>2018</sup>	
<b>Regional Council Representative:</b>	Sarah Leffler <sup>2019</sup>	
<b>Pastoral Care &amp; Membership:</b>	Ellen Thomson <sup>2019</sup> (Chairperson)	
	Lou Darcie <sup>2006</sup>	
	Ollie Darcie <sup>2006</sup>	
	Ian Pasmore <sup>2015</sup> (Cards)	
<b>Outreach:</b>	Marcia Haworth <sup>2000</sup> (Co-Chairperson)	
	Kay Mathies <sup>2009</sup> (Co-Chairperson)	
	Colleen Baeumler <sup>2017</sup>	
	Marion Bascom <sup>2015</sup>	
	Darlene McPhedran <sup>2013</sup>	
	Phyllis Bayne-Puchyr <sup>2009</sup>	
<b>Property and Finance:</b>	Sherol Steinberg <sup>2020</sup> (Chairperson)	
	Kevin Anthony <sup>2018</sup>	
	Colleen Baeumler <sup>2013</sup>	
	Scott Jamieson <sup>2014</sup>	
	Darryl Nichol <sup>2014</sup>	
	Carol Stiles <sup>2014</sup>	
<b>Worship, Christine Education &amp; Fellowship:</b>	Barbara Eley <sup>2006</sup> (Chair/Choir Director)	Heather Leffler - Minister
	Beverley Johnston <sup>&gt;2012</sup>	
	Carol Smelsky <sup>1995</sup>	
	Brent Stiles <sup>2019</sup>	
<b>Chime Choir Director:</b>	Christine Wenger	
<b>Financial Reviewer:</b>	David Smelsky <sup>2014</sup>	
<b>Nominating:</b>	Ollie Darcie <sup>2014</sup>	Sherol Steinberg – Council Chair Ellen Thomson – Past Chair

### Pastoral Charge Committees and Positions

<b>Ministry and Personnel:</b>	Rosslyn Bentley <sup>2008</sup>	
	Frances Jamieson <sup>2014</sup>	
	Ellen Thomson <sup>2018</sup>	
<b>Pastoral Charge Secretary</b>	Carol Smelsky <sup>2014</sup>	
<b>Pastoral Charge Treasurer</b>	Roy Steinberg <sup>2014</sup>	
<b>Trustees:</b>	Rosslyn Bentley <sup>2015</sup>	Heather Leffler - Minister
	Frances Jamieson <sup>2018</sup>	
	Darryl Nichol <sup>2014</sup>	
	Christine Wenger <sup>2019</sup>	

### Appointed Positions

<b>Communion Co-ordinator</b>	Pat McLean <sup>2017</sup>	
<b>Country Breakfast Co-ordinators</b>	Marcia Haworth, Sherol Steinberg	
<b>Decorating Co-ordinator</b>	Colleen Baeumler	
<b>Rentals</b>	Marcia Haworth <sup>2016</sup> , Kay Mathies <sup>2016</sup>	Sharyn Southworth

It has become our practice to check in with committee members each year to see if they are willing to continue serving, so we are no longer including an end date for new terms. With the exception of the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the Trustees, committees may add members throughout the year.

Thank you to all faithful our volunteers, especially those who are completing their term.