

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 2, MARCH 2021

Come For A Visit, Stay For The Journey

Colborne

Communique

711 Colborne Street London Ontario N6A 3Z4



Happy Easter

See the Communique in full colour on the church web page <http://colborne711.org>

Colborne Communique

Submit material to Terry Fieldhouse on the due date no later than 5:00 pm at tfieldhouse@sympatico.ca. Preferred method is an attachment typed in Microsoft Word.

Material Due	2021	Delivery
January 29		February 5
March 19		March 26
June 4		June 11
September 17		September 24
November 26		December 3



2021 Official Board Executive

- Official Board Chair Archie Wright
- Recording Secretary..... Trish Ashbury
- Trustees Chair Don Mathewson
- Stewards Chair Gail Hutchinson
Paul Wiancko
- Treasurer John Obright
- Clerk of Session Eleanor Hunt
- Worship & Music..... Ron McClatchie
- Pastoral Care..... Sheila Lui
- Christian Education Dayna Munro
- Nominations..... Open
- Membership..... Cathy Cull
- Regional Lay Representative . Open
- Ministry & Personnel Greg Dickinson
- Mission & Service Marion Chamberlain
- Local Outreach Jill Bell
- Refugee Assistance..... Anne Alton
- UCW President..... Sheila Lui
- Audio-Visual Dwight James
- Communique Terry Fieldhouse
- Archives..... Trish Ashbury
- Ministry Rev. David Carrothers
- Children's Ministry Dayna Munro

Please remember to contact the Church office or Rev. David if you know of a Colborne Street family member who is in hospital, is scheduled to be in hospital or someone who would like a call.

Pastoral Care is an important part of our Colborne Ministry.

Note From The Editor

In these most unusual times the March edition of the Communique is available in e-mail format only. There will be print copies published for those without internet.

Stay safe — stay healthy
Terry Fieldhouse

An Easter Word From David

The story is told of a struggling student who received a letter from home with a welcomed \$50 bill inside. As she finished reading the letter, hearing a voice beneath her second story window, she looked down and saw a shabbily dressed man leaning up against the building talking to himself. He appeared so forlorn. Thinking that this poor fellow was in greater financial need than she was, she put the \$50 in an envelope and wrote on it: "Don't despair". Opening the window, she got the man's attention and dropped the envelope to him. Catching it, he read her note, looked up, waved and went on his way.



Rev. David R. Carrothers

The next day, there was a knock at her door. To her surprise, there stood the disheveled man holding a roll of \$50 bills in his hand. "Here you go lady!" he said as he handed her the money. Looking more than a bit bewildered, the student hesitated taking it and asked where it had come from. "Why that's the money you won, lady," he explained. "Don't Despair came in first and paid 100 to 1!"

In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, particularly Chapter 15, we are given the message 'don't despair' and then are offered one of the most persuasive arguments for the resurrection found anywhere. In fact, Paul goes so far as to declare, "If Christ has not been raised from the dead, then our proclamation and your faith have been in vain." On this one bold assertion, hangs the heart of our conviction: with the resurrection, we are saved - without it, our hope is little more than wishful thinking.

Hope is one of the finest responses of the human spirit. As we have witnessed during the pandemic, it's what has kept people alive and buoyant when the conditions of life are almost unbearable and would suggest otherwise. For this innate capacity to believe in and believe on enables us to rise above our situation as expressed in axioms like, "Where there is life, there is always hope."

Christian hope, however, is much more than that. It is more than mere optimism where people are hoping for something they dearly want or are wishing for a desirable


solution to a problem they are facing. For, when such "high hopes" don't work out, how quickly we lose heart in despair. On the other hand, Christian hope is based on the assurance of faith. The Christian, like everyone else, has problems and unsatisfied needs and is hoping for something better. But more than just naively "hoping" that things will change for the better, in his first letter, Peter speaks of the assurance of 'a living hope' which comes from faith in God. Paul echoed that in his letter to the Romans, "For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope - for who hopes for what they see. But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."

And what gives us the patience and reason to hope are the words we proclaim on Easter morning: "Christ the Lord is risen today! Hallelujah!" This is not just a sentimental emotion of Easter, it is the very essence of our Christian existence. Without it, there would be no "Good News" to share - no source of salvation - no reason to look beyond the grave - no point in hoping. "If for this life only we have hoped", says Paul, we are to be pitied. And yet, while that may be true, we continue to lower our sights as we spend our days mired in the mundane - focusing on limited horizons - hoping to get the promotion or make the team or pay off the car or take the trip. Our lives are filled with these kinds of hopes and desires. Paul doesn't say that hoping for such things is wrong, he simply says that there is more to life than that - because if all our hopes are summed up in what we know now, then what is there to hope for? But that is not what our faith maintains or Easter proclaims for death is not the last word - life is!

When we speak of our hope in eternal life, we are not just referring to an ultimate or final destination but the journey of life itself - real life right now, made possible by our Easter faith.

God bless — David





In Tune

In choir rehearsals, we've been working on "All in the April Evening" by the English composer, Hugh S. Roberton. This piece of music sets a beautiful and moving poem by the Irish poet, Katherine Tynan. As we are unable to gather and share the music with you right now, I hope you will all enjoy the poem.



**Kennedy
Kimber-Johnson**
Director of Music.

*All in the April evening, April airs were abroad;
The sheep with their little lambs Pass'd me by on the road.*

The sheep with their little lambs Pass'd me by on the road.

All in the April evening I thought on the Lamb of God.

The lambs were weary and crying With a weak human cry,

I thought on the Lamb of God going meekly to die.

*Up in the blue blue mountains, Dewy pastures are sweet,
Rest for the little bodies, Rest for the little feet.*

But for the Lamb, the Lamb of God, Up on the hilltop green,

Only a cross, a cross of shame, Two stark crosses between,

All in the April evening, April airs were abroad,

I saw the sheep with their lambs, And thought on the Lamb of God.

Do you love to sing? Have you ever thought about joining the choir? With online rehearsals, this is a great time to check out if it is something that interests you and meet the other choir members — we would love to have you! Please send me an email at dom@colborne711.org or if you'd like to drop in.

"The only thing better than singing is more singing"
— Ella Fitzgerald

Kennedy Kimber-Johnson

The Ukulele Choir



Have you ever wanted to learn how to play the ukulele? Do you already play the instrument and are interested in teaching? We are thinking of starting a Ukulele Choir at Colborne and want to know if you'd like to participate!

The ukulele, a Hawaiian instrument, is a small guitar-like instrument that can be played by anyone! It comes in four different types: Soprano, Tenor, Concert and Baritone. These are the four most popular models with the soprano being the one usually associated with the ukulele. Its small body and soft nylon strings make it a great choice for beginners! The Ukulele Choir will have online sessions over Zoom, and at least 10 ukuleles (soprano ukuleles) are available to borrow from Colborne. While many of our regular activities have been put on hold during the pandemic, this is a great opportunity to learn a new skill (or polish a ukulele skill you already have) and meet other members of the congregation! The Ukulele Choir is open to all ages, and no past musical experience is required.

Our Director of Music, Kennedy Kimber-Johnson, has received a number of inquiries of interest so far – and Alex Martin, a talented ukulele player and member of our congregation, is offering to work with the choir. Details such as when Zoom sessions will start, are in the works. Anyone can participate. A great benefit of learning to play the ukulele is that good quality "ukes" are reasonable priced should you wish to purchase one. The choir size is not being limited to just the 10 ukuleles the Church has available for loan – participate with your own instrument and also, our local Long and McQuade Music Store on Fanshawe Park Road has a variety for sale ranging from about \$45.00 and up.

Please contact Kennedy Kimber-Johnson at: dom@colborne711.org or call the Church office (519-432-4552) for details if you would be interested in participating or helping with teaching.

Ian Seddon

Local Outreach

Gift Card Donations

As part of the White Gift Sunday initiative, a number of gift cards were donated and left at different Church drop-off sites. The cards donated were for purchases to be made at Shoppers, Wal-Mart, Tim Horton's and a number of grocery stores, and totalled \$200, a wonderful response.

The gift cards were divided equally between Anova and My Sister's Place, two agencies that indicated an on-going need for gift cards, and who were open to accepting public donations at this time.

Both agencies expressed their sincere thanks to the Colborne community for their generous donations especially as gift cards for the stores mentioned are always needed for their respective clients and are gratefully received.

Northern Hospitality

The monthly Northern Hospitality meal continues to be in shut-down mode. We are in contact with our St Michael's Roman Catholic Church Northern Hospitality partners who have been serving lunch bags to approximately forty-five guests on certain Mondays. They also have been serving coffee to the guests in the parking lot.

It is uncertain, at this time, whether or not Northern Hospitality will resume this year. It will depend, of course, upon control of the virus and continuing public health authorities' restrictions.

Donations of Used Clothing

We should like to mention that, at this time, the agencies are not accepting used clothing. We would kindly ask therefore, that neither used clothing nor toiletries, be left in the donation baskets located in the Narthex. When these donations are again being accepted, we will let you know.

The Committee extends its sincere and grateful thanks to everyone for each and every one of their donations.

Jill Bell

Local Outreach Committee

Mission Minute

Your Generosity Has a Worldwide Impact: Mambud's Story

We don't always know the extent of the good we do even when we are giving generously. When we make a gift, we hope to have an impact but often can't foresee how many lives we touch or how far our care extends. Mambud's story is a tangible example of how your gifts through Mission & Service send ripples of compassion across continents.

Mambud, a pastor, lives in Sierra Leone, where an estimated 27,000 citizens became amputees during the civil war that raged between 1991 and 2002.

To support amputees, he visited rehabilitation camps after the war. Mambud turned to soccer, his country's favourite sport. He founded a soccer league for amputees called the Single Leg Amputee Sports Club of Sierra Leone to help restore hope. Now 350 members strong, the league isn't just about helping amputees overcome discrimination, restoring their pride, and providing therapeutic support. As if these alone aren't amazing.

Two years ago, Mambud decided he wanted to make an even bigger difference. So, he flew all the way to the Asian Rural Institute (ARI for short), a unique school in Japan that your Mission & Service gifts support. Thanks to generous supporters like you, ARI trains thousands of leaders like Mambud from all over the world to grow food, tend livestock, and be effective change agents in their community.

After graduating from the nine-month program at ARI, Mambud returned to the soccer fields of Sierra Leone with a new goal: to develop teaching farms where people can learn to grow food substantively and support themselves financially by selling that food at market.

Mambud and members of the Single Leg Amputee Sports Club of Sierra Leone now run an educational farm and there are plans to convert more of Sierra Leone's fertile land into gardens and teaching centres. In a country where the average person lives just 43 years, Mambud's extraordinary leadership and the skills he learned in Japan save lives.

From Canada to Japan to Sierra Leone - Mambud's story is just one example of how your gifts do a world of good.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please help transform and save lives, inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world through our shared Mission & Service.

By supporting leaders like Mambud with education and training, your generosity helps change lives around the world. Thank you!

Marion Chamberlain

Thank You Karol And Best Wishes



Archie Wright presenting a cheque to Karol of gifts given by the congregation.



Bonny Shawyer presenting Karol with a gift from the UCW.



Gary Shawyer thanking Karol for her support with Steward's Church projects.

On Feb. 26, a few members gathered to say thanks to Karol Boyd after 16 years as Church custodian. Karol also took a lead role in organizing the UCW Five Oaks Retreat,

lent a hand when the rummage sales took place and helped with many other projects done by the stewards. We will miss her smile and dedication to keeping the Church ship-shape.

Sincere Thanks

It is a privilege and an honour to be assuming the role of Chair of OBE at Colborne St. United Church. Many parishioners have served faithfully for years as board members and I join with everyone in singing the praises of our most recent "retirees", Jim Lodge and Stephen Chambers. Steve and Jim have dedicated countless hours over many years in helping to provide the needs of the church. They intend to continue offering their talents

in various ways, and I can assure them that there are several openings in the choir waiting to be filled. Well done good and faithful servants.

Archie Wright-Chair of OBE

Past Chairs

Our sincere thanks to Jim Lodge, Chair of the OBE and Stephen Chambers, Chair of Stewards for their dedication to Colborne.

New Appointments

- Archie Wright**
Chair of the OBE
- Paul Wiancko and Gail Hutchinson**
Co-chairs of Stewards
- Richard Rogers**
Custodial/Sexton duties



Archie Wright



Jim Lodge



Stephen Chambers



Paul Wiancko



Richard Rogers

A Complex Of Consequences – The “Anthropause!”

Indeed, this has been a strange 12 months. Last year at this time, our choir was actively preparing special anthems for Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday (one of which was to be accompanied by both organ and trumpet). At the same time, progress was being made interviewing for our new Director of Music (which became a success story in June when Kennedy was welcomed to that role). But then, on March 10th, the World Health Organization proclaimed a world-wide pandemic. Our last un-constrained Colborne Street United Church congregational gathering for worship occurred on Sunday, March 15, 2020. Rev. David's topic was titled “Quench Your Thirst” and the choir's anthem was “It is a Thing Most Wonderful” written by Winnagene Hatch. Hmmm! Does this retrospective suggest a touch of irony!

Then what! London, indeed all of Ontario and Canada, entered a period of almost total lock-down. In late March, the normally busy Wonderland Road was almost deserted. There were no afternoon traffic bottlenecks on Oxford Street. Normally mid-day shopping seniors were now waiting at grocery store entrances for the early morning 7:00 am to 8:30 am “Seniors' Shopping Time!” My own experience was that the grocery store's early morning hours for seniors was a bit of a bust. Why? Well, the stores weren't able to get the shelves properly stocked in time and the in-store bakeries were only just beginning to start work! The same was with the meat departments: no freshly cut meat on display in the meat counters at those early opening hours!

Human activity really slowed down. Industrial activities were in a serious lull and fewer cars and trucks were on the roads. Of the consequences, what happened?

Lots of folk were out of work; many were wondering how they could get by financially; business owners had sleepless nights about cash flow; and everyone was worried about COVID. Thankfully, positive public policy prevailed which has assisted – and still is assisting – individuals and businesses to financially survive.

But what about our natural surroundings? Nature is experiencing a complex of consequences which scientists are calling the “Anthropause,” which is “the unprecedented global slowdown of human activity linked to efforts to control the spread of COVID-19.” Beyond Canada, unusual events included sightings of Pumas strolling the streets in Santiago, Chile, Wild Boars trotting along traffic-free roadways in Haifa, Israel, and masses of Flamingos in Mumbai's otherwise polluted and ship-busy waterways. Here in London's Byron neighbourhoods, Coyotes were observed trotting through parkways and could be heard howling in the late evenings. But most interesting were avian and mammalian activities along the Thames River.

Wildlife responded to quieter human activity along the Thames River. During many a morning walk, Ospreys were observed hovering over the water – a prelude to spectacular dives into the river to catch fish. Bald Eagles are now seen almost every morning and quite often perched on the limbs of river bank trees quite close to the riverside Maurice Chapman Parkway (between Springbank Park and Wonderland Gardens). Beaver activity is spectacular: there are several large poplar trees left mostly chewed right through their trunks to the point that huge cracks are appearing. Someday very soon, they will topple into the river!

February's weeks of cold weather brought an interesting variety of waterfowl to the Thames: Common, Hooded and Red-breasted Mergansers, Golden-eye, Red-headed and Bufflehead Ducks – all of which are diving ducks. They were feasting on the large schools of Gizzard Shad that had made an appearance in the river. Overhead, the Bald Eagles continue to patrol for any signs of easy to reach dead fish or sickened birds. The river appeared particularly frosty in mid February. That all changed with the spring freshet which coincided with the warmer days of March: the river level rose by almost three metres. The variety of waterfowl vanished in response. Now there is no sure way of knowing whether the period of increased diversity and numbers of waterfowl on the river occurred due to lessened human activities but it sure appears that way. Whether or not we have seen a local example of the “anthropause” effect, we did see an anthropogenic response to the sudden warm weather: the rise in the Thames's water level is no doubt due to our Upper Thames River Conservation Authority managing water levels so that Fanshawe Lake will have a safe amount of freeboard to accept increased flows that are bound to come with spring rains. The Fanshawe Lake and the improved riverside dykes downstream from Oxford Street are what prevents a recurrence of a flood as spectacular as the one that put most of London West under water in 1937.

Who knows what the next weeks and months will bring? Our Premier keeps talking about “the light at the end of the tunnel getting brighter” and we all hope he is right. A look back at worship planning that was occurring last year at this time provides interesting thoughts: the topics were to be “Blind Faith,” “Moved to Tears,” “Where the Road Leads,” “Dying to Live” and then “Off to the Races!” These all related to the period from mid Lent, past Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. Is there an uncanny semblance between those intended spiritual messages and what actually happened a year ago now and to what is happening now? Is the anthropause similar to an extended “Lenten-like” giving up of things and activities so that we may pause and think about greater things, such as our place within the wonders of God's creations – about our thoughts for others including all the wildlife that “we have dominion over?”

Anthropogenic and ‘anthropausal’ thoughts for sure!

Ian Seddon

Our Colborne Church Family

Birthdays

March 14Isabel Zerebecki (101)
 March 25Ruth Havers
 March 29Mary Osborne

60th Anniversary

February 17Rod & Elizabeth Singh

Deaths

January 30.....Kate Arnott
 February 7Betty McMillan

If you or your family have a special event including a birth, wedding, special wedding anniversary, illness or death, or just need to say hello with a thinking-of-you card, the UCW sends a card on behalf of our Colborne family. We have now extended the birthday card ministry to include all Colborne members on the Pastorial Care list (long term care or nursing homes). We will continue to send cards to those over 90 living at home.

A red rose on the organ during worship is to celebrate the birth of a child into a Colborne member's family. ***Please let the Church office know of your special event or to request a card.***

Celebrating 40 Years Of Ministry At Colborne

Rev. David Carrothers and his wife Joan have the distinction of serving Colborne Street United Church for the past 40 years.

Thank you both for your faithful and spiritual guidance through the happy times and in times of family need.

As a congregation we are ever so grateful for your steadfast love.



UCW Executive & Coordinators

- President Sheila Lui
- Secretary..... Open
- Treasurer Bonny Shawyer
- Corresponding Secretary.. Brenda Fieldhouse
- Kitchen Supervisor..... Sheila Lui
- Special Occasion Decorating
 - Easter..... Lynn Foster & Gayle Fluter
 - Thanksgiving..... Helen Bell & Barb Webster
 - Christmas Sheryl Lodge & Gail Lamers
- Flowers (Purchase and Distribution)
 - Easter Gayle Fluter & Lynn Foster
 - Christmas Kathryn Turnbull
Open
- Birth Rose..... Maureen Cunliffe
- Receptions & Catering Sheila Lui
- Take-A-Break Theresa Golem
- Rummage Sale Eleanor Hunt
Open
- Quilting Group Norma Stokes
- Retreat Committee..... Open
- Rep. Stewards Open
- Rep. Official Board..... Sheila Lui
- Rep. Session..... Sheila Lui
- Data Projector Church Secretary



I Didn't Know That

The Prophet of the Skies

In the Strand, London, England near St. Clement Danes church, there stands a statue of a man in an officer's military uniform, erect, holding his binoculars close to his chest.

On the pedestal below him, there is a bronze plaque, the last paragraph of which reads: "To him the people of Britain and of the Free World owe largely the way of life and the liberties that they enjoy today."

"Ah, Winston" we might think. However, if we did, we would be mistaken. Although those words would be a fitting memorial to Winston Churchill, they are, in fact, honouring the quiet heroics of a man who clashed more than once with his Prime Minister.

Lord Hugh Dowding, Air Chief Marshal of Fighter Command during the Battle of Britain had a knack for clashing with people. Nicknamed "Stuffy", Dowding could be humourless, sombre and the rain on just about anyone's parade. Yet, his obsession with details meant the difference between life and death for hundreds of RAF pilots at a time when the Western world needed them most.

Churchill might have "mobilized the English language" into battle, but it was Dowding who made sure what little real resources Britain had, at least in the air, were in the right place at the right time. As the inscription puts it: "He thoroughly trained his minimal forces and conserved them against strong political pressures."

That's putting it mildly. In the spring of 1940, Winston Churchill was begged by French premier Paul Reynaud to send fighter planes across the Channel. Churchill's aggressive instinct and his love of all things French wanted to say "yes", but he was met with an immovable object in his own Air Chief Marshal.

Dowding, at a meeting with Churchill in front of many of Britain's top brass, pointed out to the British PM that the RAF simply did not have the planes. If we help France, now, Dowding said, we will be sitting ducks for the Luftwaffe. Dowding won the argument and the rest is history.



Mark Richardson

I knew much of this, already, of course. You don't get raised by a Canadian WWII veteran and his English war bride without learning at least some of the Finest Hour legend. Plus, at the age of twelve, I went with my parents to Leicester Square Cinema, London, to see the new (1969) movie *The Battle of Britain*, with Laurence Olivier as Dowding.

What I did not know was that Hugh Caswall Tremeneere Dowding, 1st Baron Dowding, GCB, GCMG, CMG was also a spiritualist. A widower with a son in the military, Dowding communicated with the "dead" souls of some of the pilots who had perished in the skies. He even passed along some of their messages to bereaved parents and loved ones. During the height of the conflict, in 1943, he wrote a book on spiritualism, *Many Mansions*. I have just bought a copy.

For all his brusqueness, the Air Chief Marshal had a love for his men and women in RAF uniform – Dowding's chicks, Churchill called them. One "deceased" pilot even told Dowding he should not only write to, but also meet, the pilot's mother, a widow. Dowding did go that extra mile and ended up marrying Muriel Whiting, herself a spiritualist, in 1951.

How do we reconcile the seemingly contradictory sides of Lord Dowding? Can we square the circle of this matter-of-fact engineer of Britain's wartime survival with the gauzy world of spiritualism? I think the answer lies in the fact that, in both cases, Dowding was a prophet. Like Dowding, the biblical prophets spoke truth to power. And, like the biblical prophets, Dowding tried to wake up his countrymen from their stifling materialism.

He got no thanks for it, in either case. He was "kicked upstairs" after the Battle of Britain was won; treated so shabbily, in fact, a remorseful Churchill may have even overdone his praise of Dowding in his bestselling, postwar account *The Second World War*.

As for his spiritualism, Dowding's honest research was (and is) considered by most historians to be merely the eccentricity of a "crank".

So be it, the Bible tells us we never listen to prophets when times are good. But now, in the midst of a pandemic, I'm looking forward to reading his book.

For more on Lord Dowding, go to the BBC Radio 4 web site for the (28 min.) program "Great Lives": <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000qlxp>



Lord Hugh Dowding

Report From The Treasurer's Desk

Financial Summary – YTD February 28, 2021

John Obright

	Last Year's Actual	This Year's Budget	This Year's Results
Income			
Envelope Givings – YTD February 28, 2021	43,895	29,271	33,346
Rental Income, Special Projects	16,305	15,548	15,520
Total Income	60,200	44,819	48,866
Expenses			
Operating Costs – YTD February 28, 2021	56,736	58,395	63,054
Other Income/Expenses	00	1,200	00
Net Income/(Shortfall)	3,464	(12,376)	(14,188)

Comments:

I've shown last year for comparison as budgeting of Envelope Givings has been a real challenge for 2021. Other income has been relatively the same (one less tenant). The efforts of many to get their contributions to me has been a great help in keeping the envelope income slightly ahead of budget. Your efforts are much appreciated.

Operating costs will also be a challenge for us in 2021. We've had a couple of unexpected expenses already. Staffing costs include one more person than last year as well as some costs associated with February changes. Wage subsidies for the first two months of 2021 were received in March and will show in the next report. These have certainly helped us to continue paying all staff during this period. Our current levels result in a subsidy of approximately 10% of salaries which is down considerably since later last year but continue to help out.....any help is appreciated.

Users of PAR continue to increase. Much appreciation to everyone using PAR for their Church contributions. For current PAR users, you can make changes to your givings by sending me an email at the address below or in writing to my attention at the Church. I need a written request i.e. no verbal.

We have been able to add e-Transfer to allow our members an additional means of making their Church contribution. To use this method, simply send your e-Transfer to church@colborne711.org and it will get automatically deposited to our bank account. Any special instructions should be noted.

I will not be printing quarterly statements until we can open up and use the mail slots. If you need to know how much you have given, I can provide that on an interim basis if you contact me. As always, any member can contact me directly by email (jfobright@sympatico.ca) or by phone (519-432-8735) if you have any questions regarding your Church donation, tax receipt or the financial affairs of the Church.

From The Stewards

First and foremost the Stewards sincerely thank the members of the congregation for their continued financial support of the operations of the Church in spite of us not being able to actually meet in the Sanctuary. Thank You for your continued faith and generosity.

Over the winter, water found its way into the Sanctuary, and stopping this through attention to the brickwork and roofing has become a major focus of the Stewards, before repairing the damage to the inside walls. The heating system has also required action and work is progressing on planning needed upgrades to the boiler room. The shed by the parking lot was broken into and the snowblower stolen. Thanks to George Croft and Stephen Chambers the shed was repaired with improved locking and the snowblower replaced with the help of a generous donation from a congregation member.

Some other items the Stewards are working on include: investigating improvements to the Church ventilation system; once the weather improves, replacing the fencing along the back (west side) of the parking lot and repairing the stair to the Youth

Room; and upgrades to the Church audio/visual system and website.

The number of people on the Stewards' committee is well below the number usually on this committee. Please, if you are able to help out by joining, contact the Church office.

Paul Wiancko



Congratulations
And
Well Done
Katie

Katie Turnbull has recently defended and received her Doctorate of Philosophy.



Katie Turnbull

Volunteer Needed

The Official Board of Colborne Street United Church is seeking a chairperson for the Nominations Committee. This person is responsible for reviewing nominations for the standing committees of the Official Board on a yearly basis and submitting them for approval at the annual congregation meeting. Responsibilities also include actively seeking out and encouraging nominations from the

congregation, submitting their report to the Church secretary for presentation at the annual congregation meeting, and ensuring that chairs of standing committees inform the chair of nominations of any new or retiring members of their respective committees.

If you are interested in serving our congregation in this capacity, please contact Archie Wright or the Church office.

From The Archives

Window Into The Past

1980, After 20 years of faithful services as our church treasurer, Basil Damude retired from that position. Bill Bettger was hired as Colborne’s Music Director.

1981, Rev. David Carrothers began his service as Colborne’s minister in February. David wrote an article “Minister’s Corner” for the 1981 annual report ... a first by a minister of our congregation.

During the year the congregation experienced a huge loss as 42 members of the congregation passed away.

The CU There Club was formed to co-ordinate social functions for the congregation and Coffee Hour became a weekly happening after church service.

1982, A tape ministry was started as an outreach program to serve our shut-in members. The church underwent a “conversion experience” as it converted from oil to natural gas heating in the hopes that it would be a real cost saver in the short and long run.

1983, Our first Talent Auction was held. This proved to be such a success, both socially and financially that it was repeated in future years.

During this year completion and dedication of the ramp took place, a new piano was dedicated to the memory of Rev. Bud Morden and the choir got new gowns.

William Jones, who was our Minister-in-training (1981-1983) wrote his university thesis on “The History of Colborne United Church” and very kindly presented a copy of it to the church before leaving to take on his new ministerial duties.

1984, Colborne’s first newsletter went to press under the editorship of Pat Morden. Reflections & Projections (named by Janet Tuft), had artwork by Skye MacDonald and articles of interest submitted by the congregation. The eight issues covered the years 1984 to 1988. A special Rainbow issue was published in 1989.

Colborne Street United had its first (and only) booth at the Home Country Folk Festival. A copy of the history of our church was sent to the National Library in Ottawa.

1985, Richard Yake and Catherine Schaus (co-ordinators) began a landscaping project for the church grounds. Landscape 711 started without a budget, relying on donations from interested church members, donation of plants, labour and friendly co-operation. In the 1985 annual report Richard noted one of their desires “for the future ... on the wildside - an in-ground sprinkler system”.

Men of Colborne was formed and the Colborne music program taped their first cassette “Colborne Classics”, under the direction of Bill & Eva Bettger.

1986, Mary Margison wrote a special Christmas Pageant for Colborne Street United’s Sunday School. The Pageant is entitled “The Bright and Beautiful Star”. It’s a sensitive story about Jamie, a young boy seeking the meaning of the Christmas star. Jamie looks into the heavens, back nearly 2000 years, outside his home and inside Colborne Street United in the hopes of answering his question.

Session developed a new format consisting of 4 standing committees (Christian Education, Worship, Membership and Pastoral Care and Outreach). Elders will serve on one of the newly formed committees. Hubert Wallace retired from Session after 40 years of service.

The Worship Committee of Session recommended that Bibles in the Revised Standard Version be placed in the pews for use by the congregation during worship. Through the generosity of many members, 100 hard-cover Bibles were donated that year. It is the Worship Committee’s hope that there will be Bibles in the same number (400) as we have Hymn books.

The Stewards undertook to raise funds for the stained glass window project which was budgeted at \$28,000. The Treasurer, Jim MacNeill commented at the annual meeting “that the heavy cost of these necessary repairs is an investment in the future of Colborne St. United, and a gift to future generations of congregations. After all, haven’t we benefited by the generosity of those who preceded us”?

1987, Church services officially changed from 11:00 o’clock to 10:30 a.m, our first Easter Sunrise Service was held at Gibbons Park, Sunday morning women’s breakfast meetings began and in September Colborne welcomed our new assistant minister, Rev. Victor Brown.

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- Minister Emeritus ..Rev. Lorenzo Ramirez
- Sunday School
- CoordinatorDayna Munro
- Nursery
- CoordinatorAreum Han
- MusicKennedy Kimber-Johnson
- SecretaryNorma-Jean Greenslade
- Treasurer.....John Obright
- Custodian.....Richard Rodgers
- SextonRichard Rodgers