



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

**PEACE UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE
20 SAMUEL STREET, PLATTSVILLE**



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Minister's Message

A Message from Rev. Bonnie, "Channels of God's Peace!"

"Make me a channel of your peace: where there is hatred let me bring your love. where there is injury, your healing power, and where there's doubt, true faith in you." (VU 684)

Dear Friends,

When I first arrived at Peace United in September of 2021, we spent a great deal of time singing about, praying about, talking about, and living out, our yearning for peace. It has been a journey of the heart, as well as the soul. It has called some of us to make peace with past hurts and let go to create space for new possibilities.

It has invited many of us to discover or uncover, those parts of ourselves that we had no idea existed. Ah yes, many of us at Peace United have made friends with our gifts of courage, resilience, leadership, faith, and incredible capacity to love and be loved!

We are truly on the journey to becoming channels of God's peace in our personal lives, the life of this faith community, our larger community, and our world! I use the word "becoming" quite deliberately, because as people of faith we recognize that each day we are being shaped, formed, and hopefully transformed by our God and those around us. Our journey on this earth continues to challenge us, as each day we grow in faith and are reminded of the abundance of grace that God showers on each one of us!

Although I have only been with you as your Minister for five months, I can bear witness that you have truly shifted from a church that was surviving, to one that is thriving! Peace United Church you are awesome! Your homework for 2022 is to repeat this statement at least every day and twice on Sunday! Plus, sing "Make me A Channel of your Peace," as often as possible. Do not worry about singing out of tune – I do it all the time and I can tell you from years of experience, that God loves to hear all our voices! Besides, we cannot all sound like Meghan, our Director of Music, who truly has the voice of an angel (as well as a beautiful heart)!

Without a doubt, 2021 was an extremely difficult year for this church. We were in the second year of a pandemic and so were unable to worship together physically. Many of us lost loved ones and again, the hugs and spontaneous prayers and love just were not visible, because we could not gather! As well, our former Director of Music Jeanette Bauman, passed away and Pastor Chris, answered a call to a new church, and so left Peace United this past summer.



When I first met you as a faith community in the fall of 2021, you were carrying the burden of many losses and challenges; yet there was still space for laughter, hospitality, and new beginnings! I am grateful to each one of you for welcoming me with open hearts and for being open to all kinds of ideas for worship, administration, and fellowship!

Meghan Bunce, our Director of Music also began in September 2021 and has quickly become an integral part of our worship services. Meghan's leadership with our "wonder - filled" choir, and her commitment and passion for music, has added much joy to our services. Thank you, Meghan!

I will always treasure the angels who flew in during Advent and continue to be amazed and so grateful to all the folks who took on dramatic leadership during worship services. Dinner theatre needs to happen here again when possible!

Our “two - women” PowerPoint/Sound/Social Media team of Sheila Boltz and Cathy Hofstetter has been responsible for ensuring not only that the Minister can be heard, but that folks all over the community and beyond, can hear and see our services. You two are an awesome team and we are so grateful for your gifts!

Peace United is an extremely generous congregation. Your ongoing commitment to community and outreach, is a testimony to the Gospel and how you live out your faith through action! Thank you to all those who organize, make contacts and just “get it done!”

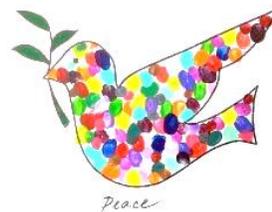
We have been so grateful to Rev. Joan Berge who has served as our Pastoral Care Minister on a part time basis, during the past 5 months. Rev. Joan has made numerous visits and phone calls to those faithful members of our church family who are in retirement or nursing homes or shut in due to illness. Thank you, Rev. Joan, for your commitment to the folks at Peace United! Your kindness, listening skills, and compassion are much appreciated.

During the fall months of 2021 we were able to host “Tuesdays at 2!”, a space for anyone who wanted to drop in on a Tuesday afternoon in a safe, small group setting, to meet the Minister (that was me!), and to connect with one another. We shared so many stories and enjoyed getting to know each other a little bit more! Unfortunately, due to health restrictions and Covid, we have had to put the group on pause. It is my hope that it will continue when it is safe to do so. Thanks to Maggie Alderson and Doris Glendinning for bringing the snacks, putting on the kettle and turning up the thermostat!

Peace United has a strong leadership team that takes time to listen and to discern before acting. These qualities are so important when making decisions with and on behalf of the church. Our Church Board continues to move forward as channels of God’s peace, and we are grateful to Ken McNabb for his excellent leadership as our Chair. Ferne Woolcott has been an amazing Chair of our Ministry and Personnel Committee (a very busy committee during the past 6 - 8 months!) and we thank her as well!

At the end of 2021, Lorraine McLean our Secretary and Treasurer, made the decision to retire. We thank her as well, for her commitment and hard work for the past number of years. We welcome Denise Tew as our new Administrative Assistant and Marie McNabb as our Treasurer. Denise is already living out her gifts with the Peace Newsletter and we know that this is merely the beginning! You go girl! Marie as well has all kinds of new and exciting ideas (who knew finances could be exciting?) and so we look forward to her tenure as our Church Treasurer! Thank you, Marie!

My goodness, the past five months have been filled with changes as the church is also welcoming a new, full time Minister, Rev. Jennifer Canning! More thanks – this time to our amazing search team who prayed, and discerned, and searched, and found Rev. Jennifer! I know that Rev. Jennifer will very quickly become an integral part of this Peace community, as you welcome her with love and grace! Blessings Rev. Jennifer!



As we take a moment to reflect on the past few years, there are certainly no guarantees that “soon everything and everyone, will be okay!” We are an incredibly awesome faith community, but we cannot predict the future! Ah, but what we can do, is what we have been doing this past year! We can continue to be channels of God’s peace. We can continue to create space for healing; we can continue to forgive; to risk; and to ensure that all people know that they are welcome in this place (both physically and virtually!) We can, and will, continue to live as people of faith!

Blessings and Love,
Rev. Bonnie



IN MEMORIAM

As you reflect on this year in the life and work of our Church, please take a moment and pause, giving thanks for those who have taken their place among the Communion of Saints.



Alvin Haskett
April 17, 2021



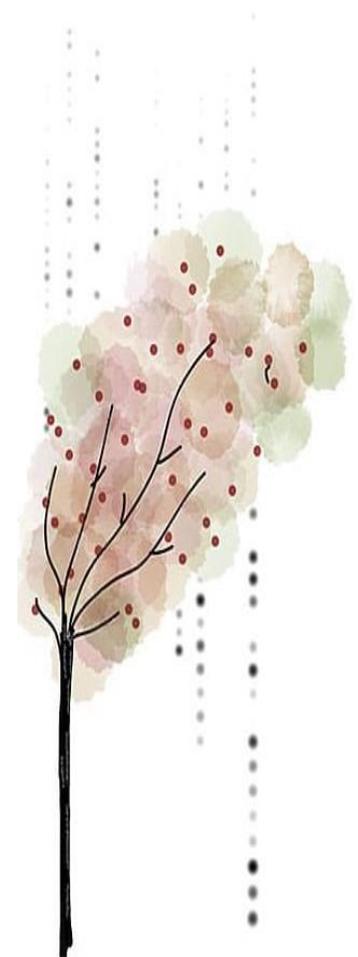
Diane Luke
June 23, 2021



Robert Hofstetter
September 8, 2021



Bruce Main
October 29, 2021



The world changes
from year to year ..
Our lives from day to day
.. but the love and memory
of you shall never pass away.

♥ In Loving *Memory*

2020 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Peace United Church ~ November 14, 2021

Covid protocols in place

In Attendance: Bill Alderson, Maggie Alderson, Debbie Baer, Maribeth Bird, Sheila Boltz, Ian Boltz, Lisa Connolly, Cliff Connolly, Carol Connolly, Marion Czech, Gail Fulton, Doris Glendinning, Pat Hall, Jack Hamilton, Paulette Hamilton, Marg Haskett, Cathy Hofstetter, Pat House, Marj Lass, Ken McNabb, Marie McNabb, Nancy Olenio, Barb Richmond, Kathy Robinson, Connie Simpson, Denise Tew, Ferne Woolcott, Meghan Bunce, Rev. Bonnie Pilkey, Carol Hewitt, Dick Hewitt, Nancy Birss

The meeting is being live streamed and then removed from You Tube. Chair Ken McNabb called the meeting to order. Rev. Bonnie opened the meeting with prayer.

Ken expressed gratitude to Peace congregants for the successes we have achieved during these challenging times. He thanked Rev. Bonnie and Meghan for their work.

Denise Tew moved that we allow all those present to have voting rights, seconded by Ferne Woolcott. Motion carried.

Marion Czech moved to accept the agenda as posted on the sanctuary screens, seconded by Maggie Alderson. Motion carried.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Ronald Diamond, Jean Woolcott, Connie Vollmershausen and James Shearer.

Pat Hall moved to accept the 2020 minutes, seconded by Kathy Robinson. Motion carried. Gail Fulton moved to ratify the votes made by the Board, on behalf of the congregation, for the Budget, Financial Report and Committee Reports. Seconded by Marj Lass. Motion Carried.

Jack Hamilton moved that we open the Church to fully vaccinated individuals who can provide proof of double vaccination and identification, medical exemptions will be accepted if they can be proven, all must wear masks. Seconded by Debbie Baer. One opposed, motion carried.

A call was made for volunteers to help with Sunday School.

Cathy Hofstetter, Chair of the Search Committee provided an update. The committee first met on September 30th, a few days after the Writing Committee completed their activities and our Church was declared vacant. Mary Anne Silverthorn joined for the first meeting to provide direction. Subsequently the committee has held a meeting or interviews every week except one. At this time the committee is confident they will have more to announce soon.

Ken shared the following:

- All announcements are on YouTube
- Website back up and partially running
- Everyone has stayed on their committees during the pandemic
- Board is approving one Christmas Eve service
- Double-vaccinated services will begin next Sunday

Denise Tew extended appreciation to the Board on behalf of all present. Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Ken McNabb, Chair

Lisa Connolly, Secretary

2021 Congregation Meeting Minutes

Peace United Church ~ Sunday December 5, 2021

Church Attendance: Bill & Maggie Alderson; Kay & Debbie Baer; Ron & Shirley Berge; Ed, Maribeth, Graham, Thomas & Katherine Bird; Nancy Birss; Ian & Sheila Boltz; Glen & Fay Capling; Lisa, Cliff & Carol Connolly; Karen Connors; Marion Czech; Gail Fulton; Doris Glendinning; Randy & Lori Gofton; Pat Hall; Jack Hamilton; Richard & Carol Hewitt; Cathy Hofstetter; Doug & Kathy Hofstetter; Gary Hofstetter; Donna Hunter; Shelley Jeary; James & Frances Johnston; Darlene Koebel; Marj Lass; Linda Mannen; Ken & Marie McNabb; Barb Richmond; Kathy Robinson; Connie Simpson; Denise Tew; Ferne Woolcott; Meghan Bunce; Rev. Bonnie Pilkey; Mary Anne Silverthorn

Mary Anne Silverthorn, Liaison Antler River Watershed, introduced herself and explained that she would be conducting the congregational meeting to vote on the call for a new minister. The agenda was presented and posted on the sanctuary screens.

Agenda

1. *Welcome Mary Anne Silverthorn*
2. *Opening prayer*
3. *Motion for voting privileges*
4. *Presentation from Search Team*
5. *Questions*
6. *Motion for vote by secret ballot*

Rev. Bonnie Pilkey welcomed Mary Anne and opened the meeting with prayer.

Motion Gary Hofstetter moved that we grant adherents to participate and vote on the motions. Seconded by Maggie Alderson. Motion carried.

Cathy Hofstetter, on behalf of the Search Team (Shirley Berge, Carrie Robinson-Hofstetter, Graham Bird, Denise Tew, Marion Czech), presented the financial and non-financial terms negotiated with ordained minister Rev. Jennifer Canning, with a proposed start date of February 1, 2022. All terms and conditions of the Manual have been met.

Following questions from the floor it was confirmed that Rev. Canning is currently in Brantford, unfortunately her hours are being reduced and she is seeking full-time ministry.

Motion Kathy Robinson moved that the congregation of Peace United Church approve, by secret ballot vote, the report and recommendation of the Peace United Church Search Team to call Rev. Jennifer Canning effective February 1, 2022. Seconded by Doris Glendinning. Ballots were counted by Rev. Bonnie and Mary Anne Silverthorn. Motion carried unanimously.



Motion Dick Hewitt moved that the ballots be destroyed. Seconded by Shelley Jeary. Motion carried.

Debbie Baer thanked the Search Team for all the work they have done, and the congregation extended their appreciation with applause.

Rev. Bonnie closed the meeting with prayer.

Secretary Lisa Connolly

2021 Annual General Meeting Agenda

Sunday, March 6th, 2022 ~ Following the Worship Service

Call to Order and Opening Prayer ~ Rev. Jennifer Canning

Nomination of Chairperson and Secretary

Motion for all those present to have voting rights

Revisions to Agenda. Motion to accept

Business from November 14, 2021 meeting

Approval of Reports. Motion to accept

Financial Report ~ Lorraine McLean. Motion to accept

Trustee's Report ~ Gary Hofstetter. Motion to accept

Appointment of financial Reviewers for 2022. Motion to accept

Elections

Unified Board ~ Ministry & Personnel ~ Board of Trustees

Mission & Service Goal for 2022

New Business

Closing Prayer ~ Rev. Jennifer Canning

Adjournment



*"Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions rock of faith and vault of grace
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.*

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place."

All Are Welcome, Marty Haugen, VU 1

2021 Officers and Committees

All terms begin and end at the Annual General Meeting
Special thanks to everyone who extended their term during Covid

Elected ~ Unified Church Board			Elected ~ Ministry and Personnel		
2019-2022	Dan Frei (R)	Mark Hoffman	2018-2023	Ferne Woolcott	
2018-2023	Doris Glendinning	Ian Boltz	2019-2023	Jack Hamilton	
	Lisa Connolly		2019-2024	Shirley Berge	
2020-2024	Ken McNabb	Debbie Baer	2020-2022	Marion Czech	
	Dick Hewitt		2020-2024	Nancy Olenio	
2022-2025	1.	2.	2022-2025	1.	2.
	3.				
M&P Rep				(R) = Resigned	
Elected ~ Board of Trustees			Worship		
2018-2021	Gary Hofstetter	Pat House	2018-2021	Marg Lass	Maribeth Bird
	Marie McNabb		2019-2022	Shelley Jeary	
2019-2022	Wayne Currah (R)	Ross Bell	2020-2023	Kathy Robinson	
2020-2023	Bill Alderson		2022-2025	1.	2.
2022-2024					
2022-2025					

Audio/Video Team – Sheila Boltz and Cathy Hofstetter

Broadview – Denise Tew

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

- Sunday School – Debbie Baer & Lisa Connolly
- Nursery - Volunteers
- Space to Be – Marion Czech, Paulette Hamilton (on pause for 2021)

Congregational & Community Building

- Caring Cards – Donna Harrison, Christa Woolcott, Jane vanWeerdhuizen (R)
- Catering Committee - Fay Capling, Maggie Alderson, Pat House, Doris Glendinning
- Peace Café – Gail Fulton, Connie Simpson (on pause for 2021)
- Peace Feasts – Shelley Jeary, Sheila Boltz (on pause for 2021)
- Prayer Afghans & Patches – Denise Tew, Cathy Davidson
- Tyler Quilt Group – Bev Todd, Darlene Koebel (on pause for 2021)

Fundraising Committee – Maggie Alderson

Manse Committee – Cathy Hofstetter, Karen Connors, Ross Bell

Mission and Outreach – Maggie Alderson, Kathy Robinson, Denise Tew, Rev. Chris & Rev. Bonnie

Property Committee – Gary Bender, Bill Alderson, Ed Bird



Committee/Team Reports

Audio/Video Team Report

Audio & Video: Cathy Hofstetter, Sheila Boltz

Live-stream Setup and Operation: Cathy Hofstetter, Sheila Boltz

2021 was a short, but intense year for the Audio/Video department of Peace United, beginning with our re-opening service on September 12 and running uninterrupted until the end of December. Weekly on-screen bulletins and announcement loops were prepared by Cathy Hofstetter and Sheila Boltz, on an every-other-month basis.



In early August 2021, Cathy was asked by the Unified Board to investigate what would be required to live-stream our church services. Toward the end of August, Sheila joined in the brainstorming. After much research (a.k.a. web-surfing) we decided to purchase an AVKANS PTZ camera (PTZ = pan, tilt, zoom).

Countless hours were spent figuring out how to connect that camera to our existing equipment! Largely due to Cathy's perseverance (and brilliance!), we were eventually able to successfully live-stream our first service to YouTube on September 19th.



After much trial and error, we consulted Bob Breen from Armor Pro Audio and Visual Inc. to help troubleshoot problems we just couldn't figure out. On his advice, we purchased an iMac computer with a faster processor to handle the live-streaming portion of the service. We continued to use our original 2014 MacBook Pro laptop to process the slides for the TV screens, prepared using ProPresenter 6 software. Peace's 150u Business Internet plan through Rogers was upgraded to Rogers' Business Gigabit.

There were a couple of reasons why the 2021 A/V team was a duo rather than the usual eight people.

1. Safety protocols for COVID-19 required a lot of sanitizing - so the fewer people handling equipment, the better.
2. Many adjustments were needed on-the-fly, and until we had a firm understanding of what we were doing, it didn't make sense to bring anyone else into the mix.

Many thanks to Gary Bender for running ethernet and HDMI cables to where they were needed! Total 2021 expenses for livestreaming equipment, including PTZ camera, cables, computer, additional RAM for computer, Armor Pro consultation, oak shelf, and brackets, 2' x 4' table and other miscellaneous items was \$5,397.65.

Submitted by Sheila Boltz

Caring Cards Committee Report

Committee Members: Donna Harrison, Christa Woolcott, Jane vanWeerdhuizen

Did you know sending cards has been a tradition since 1914! A total of thirty-nine cards were sent out in 2021. A special thank you to Jane who has sent her beautiful handmade “Get Well” and “Thinking of You” cards for Peace United over the years. We are looking for a volunteer to join the Caring Cards Committee.

Christa sent out three sympathy cards; Jane sent out six get well and thinking of you cards; and Donna sent out eight special birthdays; one-65th wedding anniversary; six Easter (with cross and poem); seven Thanksgiving (with felt leaf and poem); and eight Christmas (with dove and poem) cards. The seasonal cards were sent to shut-ins in Retirement/Nursing Homes.



Due to the decrease in socializing and cancellation of events, the Committee expresses their regrets that they may have missed remembering some of our church family’s extraordinary events this year.

Submitted by Donna Harrison

Fundraising Committee Report

During our 2021 “doors closed to services” time at Peace, there was little the Fundraising Committee could do since most of our fundraising centers around food and sit-down dinners at the church. Even our Dinner Theatre has the component of people gathering in the church hall for dinner before the performance. Covid has continued to disrupt our events at Peace!



When restrictions started to ease, the Fund-Raising Committee took advantage of this time and planned and carried out two take-out dinners (in conjunction with the Catering Committee). The pulled pork and Oktoberfest drive-thru/pickup/take-out dinners were well received by the Peace family and larger community. We are always glad to have money come in from outside the church family!

As 2022 progresses, we hope things will get closer to the normal we were used to and these in-person activities and events, we all enjoyed, will resume. These events: dinners, dinner theatre, bake and produce sales, are necessary work for the members at Peace. To keep our finances on a solid base, fundraising will continue to be an important part of Peace. We thank those who put the effort in to making these events happen and those who support them! Stay tuned for information on upcoming fund raisers! There are ideas....old and new.... being discussed! 😊

Submitted by Maggie Alderson

thank you volunteers

Manse Committee Report

Committee Members: Cathy Hofstetter, Karen Connors, and Ross Bell

2021 was another busy year for the Manse Committee. With Rev. Chris leaving in August, it was again an opportunity to do some maintenance work at the manse while it was empty. There were some items brought forward to the Board that should be considered for repair/improvement over the next 5 years.



The suggested improvements are:

- Replacement of the Garage Door and Opener
- New step and walkway going to the front door – slated to be done Spring of 2022.
- Railing installed at the front step.
- New cement pad laid at landing off the deck – it was decided just to remove the existing patio stones and plant grass. Topsoil and grass seed need to be done in Spring of 2022.
- Replacement of the lawn mower and purchase of a weed eater to better maintain the grass around the fence are needed.
- Inside painting. It was decided to wait until we had a New Minister in place before some of this work would be done as it would depend on whether the new Minister was going to use the Manse or not.

The Manse Committee would like to thank everyone who came out to help do an outside cleanup of the yard. Trees were trimmed, weeds were pulled, eaves cleaned and fixed. Three to four pickup truck loads of yard waste were disposed of. Maggie and Bill Alderson arranged for a new eave to be installed to bring the water from the upper roof directly to the ground rather than feeding into the lower roof eave troughs.

It was decided to move ahead with replacing the garage door and opener as the old door would not open or close properly due to a bend. This work was done by KLT Installations in 2021.

The grass cutting was done by the Manse Committee once the manse was empty. The current lawnmower was very heavy, the grass deflector was broken off and by the end of the summer the pull-start also jammed. The Committee borrowed a lawnmower to finish up the season and it was decided to replace it in 2022. As it turns out our new minister has her own lawnmower that she is willing to use so it will not be replaced until necessary. The old mower was taken to New Dundee Recycling for disposal.

An inside cleaning bee was held at the Manse in December with a good number of volunteers coming out to help. They did an amazing job getting things ready for our new minister. During our cleaning bee some small issues were discovered that needed fixing.

- The upstairs bathroom tub required a new shower head, spout, and drain shoe and stopper. The tap cartridge also needed to be replaced.
- One doorknob on the Master Bedroom closet needed to be fixed.
- The tap in main floor powder room was fixed.
- The shade for the arched window in the master bedroom was replaced.
- The oven element was replaced.
- An additional towel bar was needed and installed in the upstairs bathroom.
- Salt was added to the softener.
- Curtains in the Living Room were washed and hemmed properly. Curtains from upstairs rooms were washed.
- Downstairs toilet needed some repairs.

Additional maintenance:

- Ducts were cleaned.
- A few pieces of furniture/items were left in the manse and were taken to the Thrift Store or otherwise disposed.
- Carpets were cleaned – work done by GDI Integrated Facility Services.
- The smoke detectors on the main and upper floor were replaced with Smoke/CO detector combination units. The basement unit was already a CO/Smoke combination unit.
- Two rooms were painted, the upstairs bathroom and the master bedroom. Wilkinson Painting did this work.
- Fireplace was inspected.

Many people helped, so I will not name them in case I miss someone. Peace members are always so willing to help whenever there is a need. A BIG THANKS to everyone for pitching in to help.

Submitted by Cathy Hofstetter

Ministry and Personnel Committee Report

Committee: Ferne Woolcott, Shirley Berge, Marion Czech, Jack Hamilton, Nancy Olenio



The Ministry and Personnel Committee worked on your behalf throughout 2021, fulfilling their duties and responsibilities as defined in *The Manual* of the United Church of Canada. There were many changes and challenges throughout the year, but we were fortunate that staff worked diligently and capably to adapt and ensure the life and work at Peace United Church did not stop.

From January to July, Rev. Chris Matheson led us in worship through virtual services incorporating a variety of photos, videos, musical contributions, and inspiring messages. In August, he moved to Peterborough to accept a call to Westdale United Church. We are grateful for the leadership he provided to Peace United during his time in Plattsville and wish him well in this new adventure.

Since Pastoral Care and Visitation were ongoing concerns, Rev. Joan Berge was asked to assist with this until a fulltime minister was hired. From August 1 on, she made many phone calls and visits to those who were ill, bereaved, shut-in, and/or missing contact with the church. Her efforts have been welcomed and greatly appreciated. Thank you so much!

In September, we were finally able to reconvene for in-person worship and Rev. Bonnie Pilkey joined us as Interim Minister. She has brought us much encouragement and healing over the past several months, willingly sharing her spiritual knowledge and passion. Thank you, Bonnie!

Throughout the year, Lorraine McLean readily adapted to the many changes in her role as Secretary and Treasurer. In the fall, however, she decided she would retire at the end of the year. We are pleased she agreed to complete the financial records for 2021. Lorraine has committed many years of service to Peace United and her cheery smile and conversations will be missed. Thank you, Lorraine!

Kelsie Knechtel, Bright and Beautiful Cleaning Services, has continued to ensure our church facilities are kept clean and that extra care is given to the requirements deemed necessary because of the pandemic. Thanks, Kelsie!

With the return to in-person worship in September, the vacant Director of Music position needed to be filled. We were blessed to be introduced to Meghan Bunce who agreed to share her wonderful talents, enthusiasm, and energy with both the choir and the congregation. Thank you, Meghan!

As we move forward into 2022, we welcome Denise Tew as Administrative Assistant and Marie McNabb as Treasurer. Both bring a lot of experience to their respective roles, and we appreciate their willingness to assume these responsibilities. In February, Rev. Jennifer Canning will be joining us as Minister at Peace United. We welcome her to our church and local community and look forward to the spiritual leadership she will share with us.

The Ministry and Personnel Committee met regularly throughout the year to ensure their many tasks and responsibilities were addressed. It has been a busy year! The trust and support you have shown us as we worked through a variety of challenges were greatly appreciated. Thank you to the Committee who willingly and diligently shared in the work.

Submitted by Ferne Woolcott, Chair

Mission and Outreach Committee

Committee Members: Maggie Alderson, Rev. Bonnie, Kathy Robinson, and Denise Tew



2021 saw a resumption of activities the Peace family has been involved with through Mission Outreach. It has been a joy to be able to support, once again, our organizations that help those in need. Once Peace was able to open their doors for in-person service in September, Mission Outreach started gathering items for Coats for Kids (through Operation Sharing in Woodstock) so people and families would be outfitted for the colder weather. Undie Sunday was a new undertaking where we gathered underwear for all ages to be donated to The Power of Hope Community Organization. Socks, hats, mitts, and scarves gathered to go to House of Friendship in Kitchener ended up being donated to The Inn in Woodstock. The House of Friendship was looking for other donations at the time, and our collection was done. Of course, White Gift Sunday supported The Christmas Place (part of Operation Sharing), and we were, once again, able to donate new items to be used for Christmas presents, along with cash or gift card donations. These organizations are always glad to see such generosity from members at Peace.

Our Peace Helper Award at Waterloo-Oxford SS went to Delaney Zehr at this year's commencement. Delaney is enrolled in the nursing program at Fleming College. Our Angel Basket was a big success, and we say thank you to our kind and giving Peace family for supporting a local family in need. Your generosity was appreciated by the family as they were able to outfit their two young sons with winter gear and provide Christmas presents for them as well. This gathering was in cooperation with our Blandford-Blenheim Food Bank.

The Christmas Eve service offering was split amongst: Interfaith Counseling Services, Raw Carrot (supports challenged adults through the soup production business), Peace Helper Award and Operation Sharing. Words never seem adequate to thank the Peace Family for their generosity in supporting the Mission and Outreach projects, but thanks to all!

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted ~ Aesop

Submitted by Maggie Alderson

Music Director's Report

Thank you for such a warm welcome, Peace United!

It has been a wonderful five months getting to know you all and sharing in worship.

I would like to thank Rev. Bonnie for her caring leadership, wonderfully creative ideas, meaningful sermons, and spiritual guidance. Delivering the pieces to help bring these messages musical life has been a pleasure.



The choir has been wonderfully dedicated this Fall and Winter bringing peace, joy, and angelic sounds to our services. The choir makes our ceremonies more meaningful and holidays more festive. In these uncertain times, it is wonderful to have such a dedicated group. I must acknowledge there are singers that are singing along from home right now. It has been hard for some to watch from YouTube, when they wish they could be here in person. We look forward to their joining us again very soon when this wave of the virus passes.

I would like to extend a special thanks to everyone who took part in the YouTube Musical Advent Calendar and those who shared the venture with their friends and family. We made it to Christmas with just the right number of submissions!

We would not have the YouTube presence we have now if it were not for Sheila and Cathy! They do so much behind the scenes to make us sound good, look good, help congregation members follow along and keep those who cannot physically be in the sanctuary connected to our virtual community.

Finally, I need to thank *ALL* the congregational singers! You jump into new songs at 9:50 am on Sunday and raise your voices to God each week. Our spirits all rise when we join in song.

Submitted by Meghan Bunce, Director of Music

Peace Catering Committee

Committee: Fay Capling, Maggie Alderson, Pat House, Doris Glendinning



Again, Covid stopped us from doing much catering in 2021. We were able to supply lunch for one funeral but were unable to hold our Seniors' dinners throughout the winter months. We did however spearhead two takeout dinners in September (pulled pork, salads, apple pie) and again in October (Oktoberfest sausage, sauerkraut, baked beans, pumpkin pie). These were both very successful – being sold out on both occasions with the profits going to the General Fund of the church.

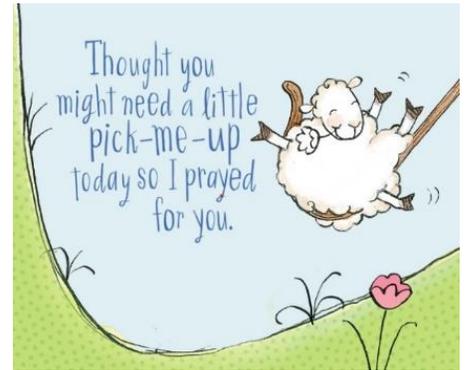
Thank you to everyone who helped and participated in any way. We did prepare and deliver dinners to North Blenheim Mutual Insurance Company in November and December. Our "Over 80s" Christmas dinner had to be cancelled again this year. Hopefully Next Year!

Submitted by Doris Glendinning

Peace Prayer Afghans & Patches

Committee Members: Denise Tew, Cathy Davidson

Thank you to everyone from our church family (I am not listing everyone, because I know I will miss someone) and outside our church family who continue to supply crocheted and knitted squares for our Peace Prayer Afghans. Even though our doors were closed, many afghans and prayer patches were blessed and distributed to friends and family. Special thanks to Cathy Davidson for supplying our Prayer Patches; and Doris Glendinning and Maggie Alderson who help layout the afghans.



Submitted by Denise Tew

Property Committee

Committee Members: Bill Alderson, Ed Bird, Gary Bender



Again, another challenging year to say the least. A few areas were addressed: painting was completed in the entrance area, Minister's office, and the Friendship Room. New toilet fixtures were installed in the washrooms. The Peace Garden was placed with help from Doug Murray for ground prep, Brad Parker for concrete work and Mark Hoffman for placing the bench. The front corner flower bed had the sign base removed and was prepped for lawn instead of the prevalent weeds. Some flowers were added with help from Doug Murray and Maggie Alderson. We are very thankful for the lawn maintenance again being completed by Trevor Baer.

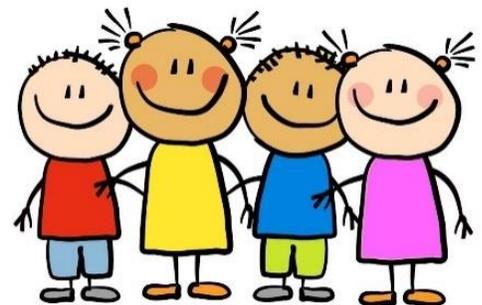
In early 2021 snow clearing expenses were diminished by the thankful donation of a tractor and blade by Mark Hoffman. Furnace inspections, fire extinguisher inspections, elevator inspections and replacement of parts on the elevator as mandated by Ministry regulations were completed. Due to vandalism, several pieces of glass had to be replaced and A/C units repaired. This was the result of them being used as a back stop for ball hockey in the rear parking lot. Snow removal and salting has been contracted out for the 2021/2022 winter season to Tamarack Landscaping, Plattsville. Many hands make for lighter workloads and many thanks go out to the congregation and those in the community who lend a helping hand to make the church property look its best and be in good working order.

Submitted by Gary Bender

Space to Be

Committee Members: Marion Czech, Paulette Hamilton

Due to the Pandemic this community outreach program was unable to be offered in 2021. When it is considered safe to go ahead with Space to Be events once again, a discussion will ensue resulting with a decision as to whether to resume this outreach.



Submitted by Marion Czech

Trustees Report

Board Members: Gary Hofstetter, Pat House, Marie McNabb, Ross Bell, Bill Alderson, Wayne Currach (R)



The Trustee Board continues with low-risk investments at Kindred Credit Union. Unfortunately, with the low interest rates the returns are quite low. This past year the Trustees funded the replacement of the garage door at the Manse.

Wayne Currah has asked to be removed from the Trustees Board. Thank you, Wayne, for your years of service.

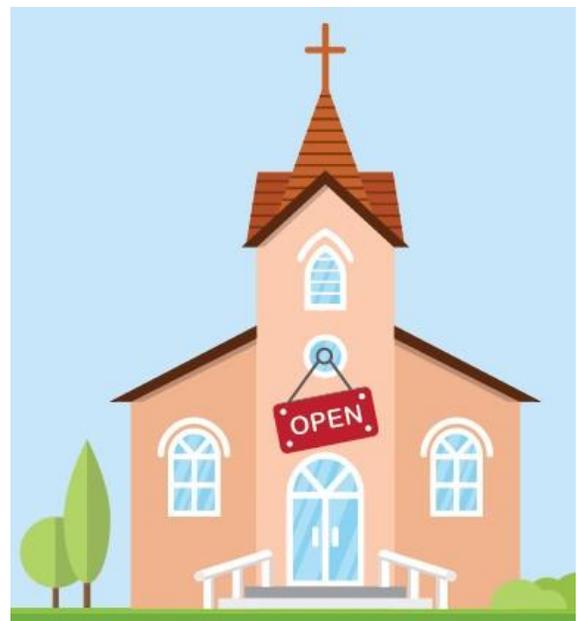
Submitted by Gary Hofstetter, Chair

Unified Board Report

Board Members: Ken McNabb, Debbie Baer, Lisa Connolly, Dick Hewitt, Doris Glendinning, Ian Boltz, Doug Hofstetter, Maggie Alderson, Mark Hoffman, Dan Frei (R)

I am writing this as the Chair of a Church that is meeting in person. I was very humbled on September 12, 2021 when we held our first service back in the Church in eighteen months. Meghan Bunce, our new Music Director and Rev. Bonnie Pilkey, our Interim Minister enhanced our excitement of worshipping together as a community. There is a new sense of fellowship, pride, gratitude, and belief embedded in the members of Peace.

Deep roots and commitment to community has served us well in these unprecedented times. I am so pleased with the number of people who volunteered to make this happen. While the church was closed, we were able to get some painting done and updated the washrooms. The new addition is not as new as it used to be, and a freshening was required. The Peace Garden was completed with the contribution of several people.



We wish Lorraine McLean much happiness and good health in her retirement from Peace as Secretary-Treasurer. Anyone who knows Lorraine will know that her hands will probably not be idle, especially when she has a grandchild to play with. We truly thank her for her five years at Peace.

We are moving forward with our in-person services as well as livestreaming. Cathy Hofstetter and Sheila Boltz have worked hard and put in long hours to provide our members with a great option for viewing our Sunday morning worship.

February 1st is the start date for our new Minister, Rev. Jennifer Canning. We are all looking forward to meeting her and participating in her services. Having a new Minister is a very exciting time in the life of a Church.

The summer of 2021 was a time of concern for our church community. Our Ministry and Personnel Committee was able to bring Meghan Bunce and Rev. Bonnie for Peace. We have been blessed with the musical contribution that Meghan has added. She can fill the sanctuary to the rafters with song. Bonnie has been an excellent fit at Peace. She was the right person at the right time with the right message.

I personally thank Bonnie for her ability to unite us as a community and for assisting to heal the hurt some experienced. Bonnie, you will be missed, we thank you and wish you our very best in the future. Be sure to come back to visit, you have many friends here.

Our Manse and Ministry and Personnel Committees deserve recognition. The Manse Committee took care of general maintenance, cleaning, and painting of the house for our new Minister, Rev. Canning. Our Ministry and Personnel Committee facilitated the hiring of Meghan and Bonnie; our new Administrative Assistant, Denise Tew and new Treasurer, Marie McNabb. Special thanks to the Search Committee for their work in calling Rev. Jennifer Canning to Peace.

Finally, I would like to thank the Unified Board who all agreed to extend by one year their 3-year terms due to the pandemic. We have been fortunate to be guided by such a thoughtful, conscientious, and consistent group of people.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken McNabb, Chair of the Unified Board

Worship Committee Report

Committee Members: Shelley Jeary, Kathy Robinson, Maribeth Bird

The Worship Committee duties include finding weekly Scripture Readers, preparing, and assisting with Communion, and helping with Worship Services as needed.

We met twice this year with Rev. Bonnie and Meghan Bunce our Music Director. At our first meeting in September, we discussed our fall worship schedule with the theme of "Peace," and Worldwide Communion on October 3, where we would introduce the "Celebration Cup", a Pandemic style of Communion. Our second meeting was held on November 7 with discussion about Advent with the theme of "Angels", which would include visits from the Archangel Gabriel and the placing of Angels around the Sanctuary for Advent. Communion was also celebrated on the first Sunday of Advent and at our Christmas Eve service.



We were pleased to have Rev. Jan Aylward conduct our service on October 10 and Rev. Dr. Margaret Trapnell who conducted the service on November 21.

A special note of thanks to Rev. Bonnie Pilkey for her guidance and leadership as we resumed our services in the fall. She helped us to regroup and to heal as a congregation, while providing us with uplifting, meaningful worship services.

Submitted by Maribeth Bird



“Make me a channel of your peace: where there is hatred let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your healing power, and where there’s doubt, true faith in you”. VU 684
