

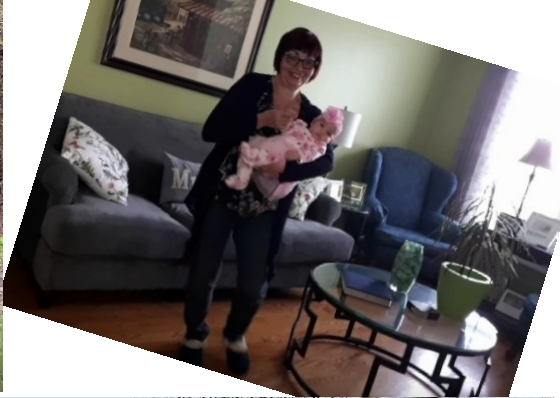
**Be still and know  
that  
I am God.**



Photo Credit:  
Joshua Earle on Unsplash



# DARE TO DANCE





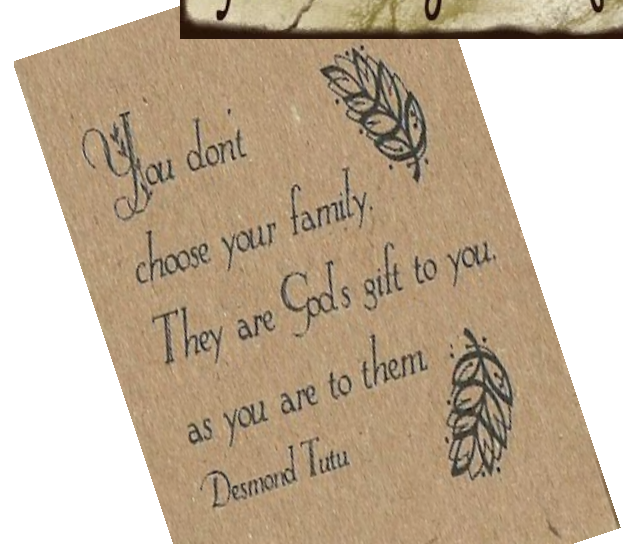


*We honour  
ALL Families  
on  
Christian Family  
Sunday*



**There are friends,  
there is family, and  
then there are friends  
that become family.**

✕



**THE LUCKIEST KIDS  
ARE THE KIDS  
THAT HAVE LOTS  
OF PEOPLE THAT  
LOVE THEM!**







# *This Mother's Day*

let us recognize ALL mothers.

The ones who nurture their children here on Earth.  
The ones who carry some if not all of their children in their hearts  
and the ones who yearn just to conceive a child.

*[www.CarlyMarieProjectHeal.com](http://www.CarlyMarieProjectHeal.com)*





# Happy 50th Anniversary



**Maisie and Fitz Morrison**

May 8, 1971

St. Stephen's United Church

Oshawa



**Don and Jocelyne Fry**

May 22, 1971

Levis, Quebec





## Spring Drive-By Donation Day -- Saturday, May 29th - 10:00am - 2:00pm.

Your Outreach Committee is pleased to let you know that we'll be holding our 4th Drive-By Donation Day at Westminster on Saturday, May 29th, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Donation items in support of Westminster's **The Pantry** (Food Bank), **The Refuge Youth Outreach Centre**, **Back Door Mission** and **Gate 3:16** will again be gratefully and safely accepted by our Outreach volunteer team through the church's gym doors.

The most needed items for The Pantry and the three agencies we are supporting are listed below. Please feel free to label your donations for either The Pantry or one (or more) of the agencies, if you'd prefer.

On behalf of your Outreach Committee, we give thanks for the light you continue to shine into our community to provide much-needed assistance during this challenging time.

### ***The Pantry:***

Instant and ground coffee, coffee whitener, juice, peanut butter, jam, chunky soup, pasta and sauce, rice, canned vegetables, Kraft Dinner, canned fruit, Beefaroni and canned pasta, cereal, granola bars and kids' snacks, canned tuna, salmon and corned beef, toothpaste and brushes, shampoo and soap, feminine products, cooking oil, laundry soap, toilet paper, paper towels and Kleenex.



### ***The Refuge:***

#### Clothing:

Spring or Summer-type jackets/coats (new or gently used)

Sneakers/running shoes (new)

Men's underwear (new - especially smaller sizes)

#### Food:

Food that can be easily prepared, without a stove, possibly in a microwave, such as: chunky soups with pop-off lids, canned stew, canned meat (especially corned beef/chicken/ham with pop-off tops), canned spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, juice boxes, crackers, granola bars, canned evaporated milk, canned veggies and fruit, 1 litre tetra pack juice (all flavours), fruit & apple sauce cups, almond milk (small/unrefrigerated), instant coffee (jars or packs), sweet breakfast cereals (400g size – Fruit Loops, Captain Crunch, Frosted Flakes).



### ***Back Door Mission***

#### Clothing:

Spring or Summer-type jackets/coats (new or gently used)

Sneakers/running shoes (new)

#### Food:

Same suggested list as above



### ***Gate 3:16***

#### Clothing:

Sneakers/running shoes (male and female – new)

T-shirts (male and female – new)

Hoodies (new)

Jeans/dockers

(new - especially men's sizes 30-34, no dress pants, please)

#### Food:

Same suggested list as above -- plus...

Plastic cutlery

Cream/sugar packs

Zip-lock bags (all sizes)

Parchment paper and other kitchen wraps





## An Easter Thank-You

The Wellness Committee would like to thank the many people who contributed to the success of the Easter Flower Program.

We were able to deliver 100 pots of tulips to many people who needed cheering this season. Thanks go out to the numerous families who graciously donated the funds in memory of their loved ones and to the Friendly Visitors and volunteers who gave their time to deliver the plants.



Unfortunately, due to the early Easter date, many of the plants appeared to be simply pots of leaves. However, I have heard that they responded as the florist said they would: when placed in a warm home, flowers quickly developed within a couple of days.

We are grateful to be experiencing the miracle of spring as we follow God's word by loving one another.



## Golf Day Changes

With the uncertainty about when and how long the lock down in Durham will last, we have decided we're "putting" off our Spring golf fundraiser originally planned for May 29, 2021. We are trusting that as things get better and the COVID numbers start to decrease, we can golf by the end of June instead.

We will keep you posted once Lyndebrook Golf Course gives us the okay and can confirm a date for us in late June. Meanwhile, please feel free to express your interest in golfing in June by sending an email to Margaret at [margaretsuepaul@gmail.com](mailto:margaretsuepaul@gmail.com)

We will gladly add you (and your team, if you already have one), to the list of proposed players. Thank you for your understanding and for your strong support of our fundraisers!

*Blessings from your Stewardship/Finance Committee*



## Discipleship IS Stewardship – The spiritual Practice of Gratitude

*(With all excerpts and summary offered freely from The United Church of Canada – “Called to be the Church, 2021 – Discipleship IS Stewardship” program).*

We have just begun a 5-part series on Giving and Discipleship, aptly called “Discipleship IS Stewardship” and what better way to start off than with a conversation about the spiritual practice of Gratitude: the practice of giving thanks for the blessings in our life and nurturing a heart filled with gratitude to God. **(Below, you will find a guide to help you foster a practice of gratitude.)**

“Why do we call this a “spiritual practice”? Well, do you have a special time of the day when you say thank you to God? Do you do this in the morning, at mealtimes, during a leisurely walk or in the evening? Saying thank you to God for both little and big blessings in our lives helps us to trust God. Jesus taught us to share our blessings, and when our hearts are filled with thanks, it’s easy to share with others. Repeatedly saying thank you to God for our blessings helps us to want to share with other people—to share kind words, kind deeds and share food, for example.

As we regularly practise saying and offering thanks to God, it becomes a spiritual practice. In turn, we cultivate a feeling of gratitude. It is from a place of gratitude that we share with others, willingly and generously. It becomes a part of learning to be a follower of Jesus – a disciple of Christ.

As disciples, we, too, are being asked to give for the support of others in need. It is easier for us to be generous when we first practise gratitude—a feeling of appreciation and the act of thanking God for what we have in our life. As followers of Jesus, and as our gratitude takes root in our lives, we are called to share with others. Jesus invites us to live as if God’s vision for the world is here and now.

These practices help us to centre ourselves in God’s love and abundance. Gratitude is our response to God and God’s blessings. When we know in our heart that God’s grace is freely given, no strings attached, we can let go of trying to hold on! We can rest in God who is generous, and then we can cultivate a life lived from a place of abundance. The spiritual practice of gratitude makes a difference in us when we start to live differently and reach out to the world. When the practice of gratitude is rooted in us, we breathe more deeply, and we are inspired.

Yet too many of us are caught up in busyness, the push to produce, achieve and attain. It is exhausting. And when we are caught in this whirlwind, it leads us to live in a world of scarcity. There is so much that encourages us to view our world through the lens of scarcity. When we are rooted in this world of scarcity, of not enough, then we cannot give to others of ourselves, of our time, of our money. If we do give, it is not freely given, not voluntary. Jesus knew and taught of God’s abundance. He knew that God’s love and grace is freely given.

Trusting in God’s love and abundance does not mean that there will not be difficult times. What it means is that we can move through difficult life experiences and trauma with resilience. Seeing the world in abundance can strengthen us to move through life when it is difficult. To give generously and voluntarily is our response to God’s love, which is freely given, no strings attached. Our spiritual practices, done together and individually, help us to live with a sense of abundance and give us the will to share our abundance with others.”

***(Continued on Next Page)***



## Discipleship IS Stewardship – The spiritual Practice of Gratitude (Continued)

We started off by listing a few ways to build a spiritual practice of gratitude. Last Sunday, we also talked about creating a Gratitude Jar to help us along our journey. Here are some ideas for you to start placing in your Gratitude Jar:



- What made you smile or laugh today?
- What is something you are good at doing?
- What do you like most about where you live?
- Do you have a favourite place to visit in your community?
- List five people for whom you are grateful.
- Did you listen to a song you liked?
- List some of your favourite scents.
- What family tradition are you most grateful for?
- What do you love most about your partner/family/friend?
- What are you grateful for that you normally take for granted?
- Friends, there is so much for us to be grateful for – and we are indeed blessed to be a blessing.

*Respectfully submitted by the Stewardship/Finance Committee*



**East Central Ontario  
Regional Council**  
of the United Church of Canada



### Staying informed – Regionally

For those interested in what is happening in the local United churches and wondering what they are offering in ways of worship, programming and fund raising - there is an easy way to find out: subscribe to the **ECORC** (East Central Ontario Regional Council) **Newsletter**.

For those wanting to receive the ECORC Newsletter please click on [www.ecorcuccan.ca](http://www.ecorcuccan.ca) and scroll to the bottom of the page where you will see a fairly large box that says SUBSCRIBE. Fill in the required information, hit submit and you should start receiving the newsletter.



## Congratulations to Westminster's EcoChallenge Team!

For the month of April, the 14 members of the "WUC Challengers" committed to, and completed ecological tasks in the areas of...

**Electricity  
Transportation  
Climate Resilience  
Health and Education  
Industry and Buildings  
Accelerating Solutions  
Coastal, Ocean and Land Sinks  
Food, Agriculture and Land Use**

The WUC Challengers were among 8,212 participants from 564 teams in 68 countries, and were counted in the 122,558 Ecological Actions that were completed during this Earth Month Challenge.

Here are a few of the global results for those who took on this challenge for the month of April...

**177, 519 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> were saved.  
144, 420 gallons of water saved  
303, 232 minutes spent learning  
11, 116 plastic containers NOT sent to a landfill  
11, 007 zero-waste meals consumed  
10, 995 locally sourced meals consumed  
18, 081 miles NOT travelled by car  
12, 242 miles travelled by carpool  
8, 082 miles travelled by bicycle  
5, 832 miles travelled by bus  
3, 846 lightbulbs replaced  
3, 688 trees planted  
2, 147 public officials or leaders contacted**

*Many thanks to our Climate Disruption Mitigation Committee (CDMC)  
for getting our church involved in this EcoChallenge  
and for making sure that we continue to strive for a healthy planet  
and do our part to make this a reality.*





**Spring has Sprung at Westminster...**  
**...thanks to our Buds and Shrubs Group and our Property Committee**





## PRIDE MONTH EVENTS Durham Region



We are fast approaching Pride Month, a very active time in the calendar for the 2SLGBTQ+ community. The current pandemic has altered or delayed many events. As an Affirming congregation, for Westminster there still exist some excellent opportunities to participate in some of these activities. Much is still in development but we have listed the status below. We will update you in the Westminster weekly email blast, as details are confirmed.

We will again be deploying the Rainbow Flag in the Westminster narthex window. This is in solidarity with and celebration of the 2SLGBTQ+ community in our area. It is also a visible indication that we are an Affirming, inclusive, welcoming congregation that is pleased to offer a safe place of worship to all.

Westminster will again be actively participating in the Multi-Faith Pride Service during the Pride celebrations. The service this year will be “virtual”, streaming on Saturday, June 5 at 7:00 pm. Following the service, there will be a live interactive event that encourages discussion. You are free to participate in the service portion or both the service and the interactive discussion.

In past years, at the end of May, Westminster has hosted The Annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial. This AIDS Committee of Durham event has been postponed until the end of November.

- Because the date of the Pulse Massacre Memorial Vigil coincides with the Multi-Faith Pride Service, it will be acknowledged in the service and this year will not be a freestanding event. This is the 5-year anniversary of the memorial in honour of the 49 people killed in the mass shooting at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

The Durham Pride Parade will be a virtual event this year. We will update dates and times.

The Youth Pride event is still in the planning stages as a result of COVID restrictions. This is an annual event hosted by the Children’s AID Society of Durham region. We will update.

### **Parish Mosaic Committee**

=====

*“Love one another as I have loved you...”*

Happy 5th  
Affirming Anniversary  
Westminster!







### **You have to Eat ...**

...so why not pay for your groceries with a gift card and help Westminster at the same time?

***Grocery gift cards are still available for purchase.***

They are available for Loblaws (No Frills) and Sobeys (Foodland),  
in denominations of \$50 and \$100.

To support this ongoing fundraiser, contact Ed or Lori Rosdobutko  
at 905-666-5069 or email [lorirosdobutko@gmail.com](mailto:lorirosdobutko@gmail.com)

***These cards also make great gifts and for every card sold,  
Westminster receives 5% of the value.***

# **Pray, Praise, Ponder**

**No matter  
how educated,  
talented, rich or  
cool you believe  
you are,  
how you treat  
people ultimately  
tells all.**



### ***Our Prayer Team is here for you!***

Just as you would place your prayers of concern and  
gratitude in the Prayer Basket during Sunday  
morning worship, you are  
invited to put your prayers into our  
Electronic Prayer Basket and our  
Prayer Team and Ministry Team  
will gladly add you to our  
Prayer List.

Please email or call Cathy Shaw with any  
Prayer Requests you might have:  
[westminster.cathy@gmail.com](mailto:westminster.cathy@gmail.com) or  
905-723-6442.

*May you feel God's love and know God's grace  
as you experience the beauty of God's world each day.*

## **C.A.R.E. (Christians Acting with Respect for the Earth)**

In this column, we offer handy hints about how to be better Stewards of God's creation.

We can measure the impact that our resource use has by looking at our ecological footprint and asking the following questions:

- ◆ How often do you eat animal-based products?
- ◆ How much of the food that you eat is processed, unpackaged or locally grown?
- ◆ With what material is your home constructed?
- ◆ What size is your home and how many people live in it?
- ◆ How energy efficient is your home?
- ◆ What percentage of your home's electricity comes from renewable sources?
- ◆ How much trash do you generate?
- ◆ How far do you travel by car each week?
- ◆ What is the average fuel economy of the vehicles you use most often?
- ◆ How often do you carpool?
- ◆ How far do you travel on public transportation each week?
- ◆ How many hours do you fly each year?



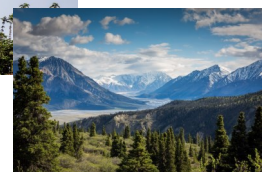
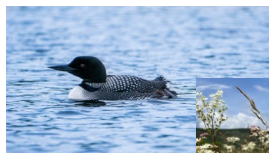
Here is a carbon footprint calculator which measures the amount of natural resources that are needed to support someone's daily life on Earth.

To calculate your carbon footprint just go to: <http://www.footprintcalculator.org>

### **Make every day Earth Day!**

*At the April Council meeting, members were asked to describe a favourite spot or time which reminded them of the awesome majesty of God's creation. Here are some of their memories:*

- \*freshly tilled earth
- \*a starlit moon-bright sky
- \*water burbling in a brook
- \*the glacier at Lake Louise
- \*watching a meteor shower
- \*the haunting call of the loons
- \*a heron gliding over a cottage deck
- \*strolling through the bush on the farm
- \*the wind whispering through the pines
- \*the mountain grandeur of the Rockies
- \*hiking through a mountain meadow of wildflowers
- \*watching the winter ice melt away from a northern lake
- \*seeing the curvature of the Earth on the horizon over Lake Ontario
- \*listening to the sounds of the forest animals at night in Algonquin Park
- \*seeing a field alight with thousands of lightning bugs during a camp-out



*Let us all try to be grateful for the beauty that surrounds us, and to be good Stewards of Mother Earth.*





“The COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized our interconnectedness to one another across this country. As a church we seek to care for and uplift human dignity and spirit from birth through death...”

—Moderator Richard Bott

Is it a good idea for Canadians to have a Guaranteed Livable Income?  
The response from the United Church of Canada is a resounding YES,  
and your support is needed to make this a reality.

- ♦ *A guaranteed livable income is an effective way to support the reduction and elimination of poverty and insecurity; the narrowing of extreme income and wealth inequalities; shared citizenship; and improved democratic and economic functioning.*

Poverty can happen very quickly to anyone. Our Moderator, the Right Rev. Richard Bott has written to elected officials, encouraging them to seize the moment and to roll out a universal basic income program in collaboration with the provinces, territories, and Indigenous leadership.

*“It is my belief,” he writes, “that our collective experience as Canadians during COVID-19 presents a vital opportunity... Together we can take important steps to protect the health and safety of all Canadians going forward.”*

To learn more about this, go to the United Church website [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca) where you can read the Moderator’s letter to the Federal Government.

This site will also have many resources to help you understand this initiative, including a template you can download and send to your Local MP to show your support, should you wish to do so.

*Shirley Penny,  
ECORC (East Central Ontario Regional Council)*

## ***LET'S LAUGH!***

### **A SIGN...**

#### **...IN A SHOE REPAIR SHOP:**

We will heel you  
We will save your sole  
We will even dye for you.

#### **...ON A BLINDS AND CURTAIN TRUCK:**

Blind man driving.

#### **...IN A PODIATRIST'S OFFICE:**

Time wounds all heels.

#### **...AT AN OPTOMETRIST'S OFFICE:**

If you don't see what you're looking for,  
You've come to the right place.

#### **...ON A PLUMBER'S TRUCK:**

Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.

#### **...AT A TIRE SHOP:**

Invite us to your next blowout.

#### **...ON A MATERNITY ROOM DOOR:**

Push. Push. Push.

#### **...AT A CAR DEALERSHIP:**

The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment.

#### **...OUTSIDE A MUFFLER SHOP:**

No appointment necessary. We hear you coming

#### **...IN A VETERINARIAN'S WAITING ROOM:**

Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!

#### **...AT THE ELECTRIC COMPANY:**

We would be delighted if you send in your payment on time.  
However, if you don't, you will be de-lighted.

#### **...IN A RESTAURANT WINDOW:**

Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up.





## **It Ain't Easy Being Green**

The Westminster United Church Property Committee strives to maintain our church in an economical and environmentally responsible manner.

Our Westminster Climate Disruption Mitigation Committee encourages all of us to work collectively to make mindful consumption choices to create a better shared world. As noted in the last newsletter, the committee encouraged us to participate in the Earth Month EcoChallenge which ran for the month of April. This program is an example of how we can all make an environmental impact by making simple and easy changes that touch every facet of our lives. Your Property committee has also been working to find and implement changes at our church to contribute to the goal of greening our world. We hear the terms carbon footprint and carbon neutral as goals for protecting the environment. This is a brief discussion of these terms and our efforts to achieve those goals.

Our carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases that are generated by our life style. This footprint is our individual contribution to the warming of our planet, and causes climate change. Looking at one of the many websites available to analyze churches, we could get a truly comprehensive bench mark by having to review and record many areas of our church activities. We would need to know information about:

1. Church - staffing, building utilization, number of meetings, etc.
2. Energy consumption – heating, hydro, etc.
3. Travel – how far congregants travel to the church, frequency, etc.
4. Food – number of meals served, kitchen use, etc.
5. Administrative expenses – stationery, office equipment, etc.
6. Waste and Water consumption - water usage, garbage, kitchen waste, recycling, etc.

To address Westminster's total carbon footprint would be a significant challenge and beyond the scope of the property committee's responsibilities. We; therefore, have focused our efforts on items #2 and #6. These actions are intended to be carbon neutral. There is no universally accepted definition of carbon neutrality. However, the basic premise is as follows: measure contributing factors, reduce them, and offset what's remaining.

### ***The following is a summary of the reductions that the committee has already achieved at Westminster:***

- ♦ Starting in 2015, the committee began to track the consumption of hydro by month and year so that improvements could be measured. The two major contributors to our usage are electrical lights and the HVAC system.
- ♦ Energy costs vary so we felt that the best data we could chart would be our consumption (kilowatts). In 2015, we consumed a yearly total of 112,105 kilowatts. By the end of 2019 our consumption was 86,577 kilowatts. This represents a **23%** reduction. Our total consumption for 2020 was only 65,267 kilowatts but as we know the church was closed for much of the year and this does not represent a typical year.

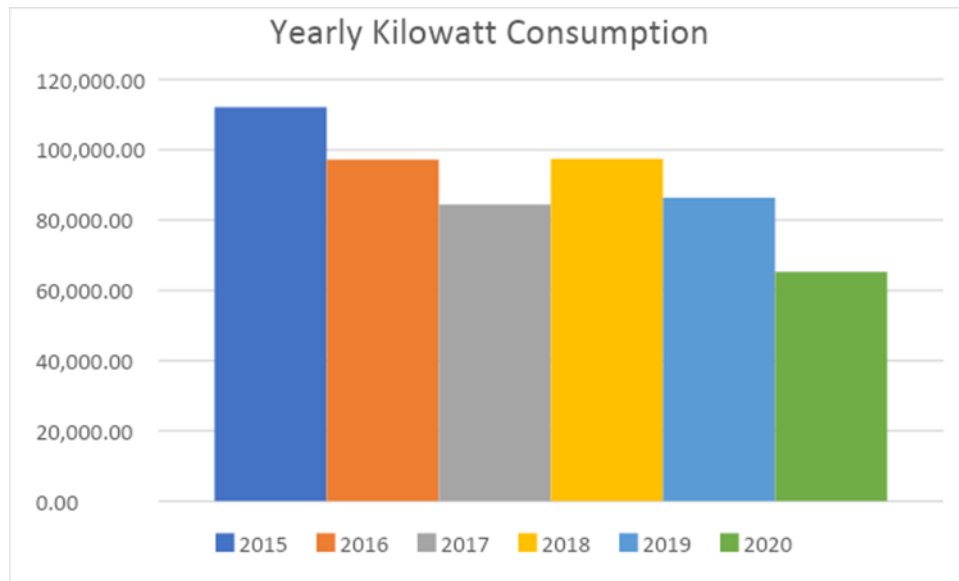
### ***These are the yearly totals:***

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
112,105.00	97,207.00	84,418.00	97,373.00	86,377.00	65,267.00

***(Continued on Next Page)***



## **It Ain't Easy Being Green (continued)**



These reductions were the result of a number of actions including:

- ◆ Judicious use of programmable thermostats;
- ◆ Implementing the use of LED bulbs in high use areas e.g. Gymnasium flood lights, main hall, chancel (4 as a test);
- ◆ Implementing exterior LED illumination e.g., Parking lot lights, building security lighting;
- ◆ Installation of photo cell to control turning on the building security lights;
- ◆ Installation of compressor control units on 6 HVAC units.

Turning briefly to item #6 on the carbon footprint reduction list above, all users of Westminster have been asked to use the kitchen compost bags for all food waste and these bags are also being used in the washrooms for the collection of wet hand paper towels. In addition, recycle bins are located in each room for the collection of recyclables and Ronell, our custodian, separates recyclables for weekly curb pick-up. As each of us supports these practices, we have been able to reduce the number of garbage bags collected for the land fill.

Regarding water use, low flush toilets were installed when the church was built. Unwanted 'drips' and systems are closely monitored and quickly repaired or replaced.

Improvements always come at a cost. While we were able to take advantage of some government and local Whitby Hydro programs which paid for all or partial costs of some projects, we had to spend approximately \$13,000 to achieve these reductions. Each of the completed actions was analyzed prior to implementation to determine a rapid pay back, and the data reflects the benefits achieved.

Going forward, more opportunities have been identified. The lighting fixtures in the Narthex and Founders' room could be converted to LED fixtures but these fixtures use uncommon ballasts and bulbs which are more expensive than more traditional fluorescent fixtures. As well, several other fluorescent fixtures could be converted. In addition, we would like to see the four flood lights on the south lawn converted to LED as these are currently high wattage incandescent units. There is much work to be done identifying suitable fixtures and analyzing the savings.

***(Continued on Next Page)***

## **It Ain't Easy Being Green** *(continued)*

We are always on the lookout for funding programs and these future projects could be eligible for a grant from the United Church of Canada's Faithful Footprints program. This program reflects the UCC's commitment to reduce its overall carbon emission by 80% by 2050. We could receive 50% funding if our project was approved by our council and the Faithful Footprints committee.

While we continue to seek improvements at our church, we encourage everyone to take advantage of whatever energy savings that can be achieved in their own daily lives. Here are some of the lessons we have learned related to LED bulb replacement:

1. Wattage conversion – LED bulbs are more efficient at lower wattage than higher. For example, a 450-lumen bulb will consume 4 to 5 watts while an incandescent bulb of the same brightness consumes 40 watts. But remember that 450 lumens is not a particularly bright light.
2. Bulb vs fixture - you may want to be able to replace just an LED bulb and not the whole fixture when the LED bulbs burns out.
3. LED technology has come a long way and bulbs now last much longer.
4. When dealing with fluorescent fixtures, you have to ensure that the fixture ballast is compatible with an LED bulb. Some 48 inch fluorescent bulbs are now being manufactured with an internal ballast, necessitating removal of the ballast and rewiring of the fixture.

Please properly dispose of bulbs that are no longer working. LED bulbs can be put in with your regular garbage but mini fluorescent bulbs cannot and must be taken to a recycling centre. The Town of Whitby Garbage and Recycling website is an excellent source of information for how to dispose properly of many items.

*These websites provide some simple tips to reduce your carbon footprint at home:*

<https://www.redfin.com/blog/17-ways-to-reduce-your-carbon-footprint-at-home>

<https://www.sunlife.ca/en/tools-and-resources/health-and-wellness/giving-back/five-simple-ways-to-reduce-your-carbon-footprint/>

The following website shows how to calculate a carbon footprint for your home. It shows you how to add up points to determine a benchmark score. It is quite comprehensive, relatively easy and it is free.

<https://www.wikihow.com/Calculate-Your-Carbon-Footprint>

One of my favourite adages is *"None of us is as smart as all of us"*.

Working together, we can find ways to respect and improve our mother earth.

As we think about our world and our part in it, we CAN make a difference.

Cheers, stay well, and keep your stick on the ice.

*King Whitney, co-chair, Property Committee*



## CLEARANCE SALE!

The United Church Bookstore and UCRDstore.ca, are clearing out their inventory and making room for fresh titles!

This means huge markdowns on a wide range of titles, so shop while quantities last. Some titles are down to just \$0.99.

Don't forget to use the code SALEONSALE at checkout for free shipping - within Canada - on orders over \$80.

Go to **UCRDstore.ca** for incredible deals on progressive Christian resources.



=====



## Monday Mayhem Trivia!

If you're looking for something to do that will connect you with others, make you laugh and maybe give you some fun facts to share at your next party, then give our Trivia Night a try.

Join us on **May 31st at 8:00pm**  
No skills are required!

Watch the email Blasts for Zoom Link information or contact Cathy Shaw at [westminster.cathy@gmail.com](mailto:westminster.cathy@gmail.com)

=====

## Hymn Sing Plus!

If you love to sing out loud in the comfort of your home, then join Heather on Zoom every Sunday at 7:00pm.

There is always a broad selection of music – some hymns and some popular songs...and something for everyone!

No musical talent required, but a love of singing and laughter is recommended.

Look for the Zoom Link in the weekly Friday Email Blast.

### PLEASE NOTE:

There will be **NO Hymn Sing** on Sunday, May 9th



## HVAC



In the July 2020 newsletter, we reported that, with the approval of Council, Westminster was embarking on a journey to replace its aging furnaces and air-conditioning systems.

To assist us with some of the technical details, Collins Engineering Group of Kitchener, Ontario, analyzed our current systems and, based on modeling techniques, recommended replacement of all units with higher efficiency gas furnaces. They did not recommend moving to alternate heating systems. This company was part of the original team that designed Westminster.

*Some key recommendations were:*

- ◆ Remove the furnace servicing the computer room and heat/cool that space with the one servicing rooms 1 and 2/3.
- ◆ Add supplemental heating, with thermostat controls, in room #1 and youth room.
- ◆ Use the furnace in the electrical room, located behind the chancel, to heat only that space and the choir room. This is achieved by blocking the vents to the sanctuary.

We decided that phase I of this work would be to focus on ensuring the continued, uninterrupted operation of the Montessori Day Care by replacing three units related to their spaces. We sought funding from the Ontario Trillium Fund (OTF) -Resilient Community Initiative which supports recovery from the impact of COVID-19. Our application was submitted in late December 2020. I want to thank the members of the HVAC Working Group who have helped with this initiative. The members are: Ron Kurtz (co-chair); Bob Neil (co-chair); Paul Pierson (Council Chair); Cathy Cherwinka (Chair, Outreach Committee); Larry Laycock (Property Committee); Harry Lahtinen (Property Committee); and Jan Hendrikse.

We recently learned that our application was rejected because we did not submit the required audited financial statement as Westminster's income exceeds the \$500,000 annual threshold. We knew that we did not meet this technical requirement but we provided an explanation of our annual financial report. Essentially, we chose not to spend the \$10,000 annual cost for an audited report but we follow CRA accounting rules. Westminster raises money (income) to support its ministry. In addition to donations by the congregation; the income stream includes rentals and fundraisers. In some cases the income is inflated as the net benefit to Westminster is much smaller than what is indicated in the income statement. We did volunteer to have an audit performed if OTF deemed our project worthy of their support.

Going forward, we will review the OTF funding streams to see if there is another program under which we might qualify and we will have a look at the United Church of Canada's Faithful Foot Prints program which supports environmental initiatives. We will also explore alternatives to the wholesale replacement of all systems. In the coming months, we will take another look at how to improve the drainage off the flat roof as this is still a concern that should be resolved before addressing replacement of equipment.

One of the challenges with moving away from natural gas to an alternate energy source for heating is that we do not have a centralized heating/cooling system. The original design distributed the systems around the building. One of the advantages of this approach is that when one system fails, it does not affect the rest of the building. The disadvantage is the seemingly impossible challenge in tying the systems together.

The Property Committee will continue to seek options for maintaining our church building, balancing cost effectiveness and respect for the environment.

*Bob Neil/Ron Kurtz, Co-chairs HVAC Subcommittee*



**Zoom UCW Meeting  
Monday, June 7, 2021**



**6:00pm - Potluck Supper – sharing your favourite potluck dish**



**Followed by fellowship and a trivia game.**



**All are welcome**

**Contact Susan  
at [auntx2@gmail.com](mailto:auntx2@gmail.com) for zoom link  
by noon on June 7th**

# Westminster United Church Statement of Operations

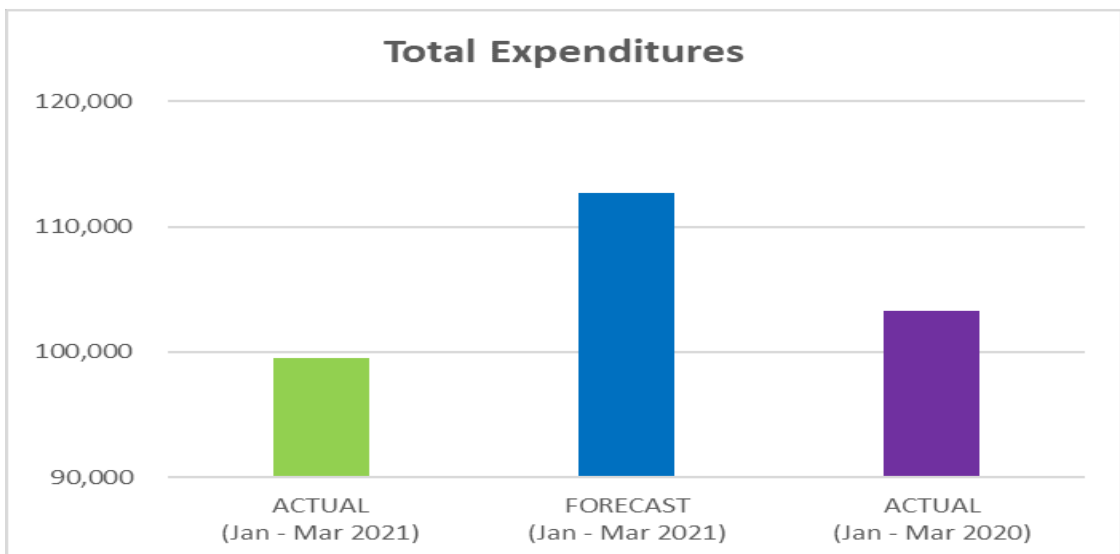
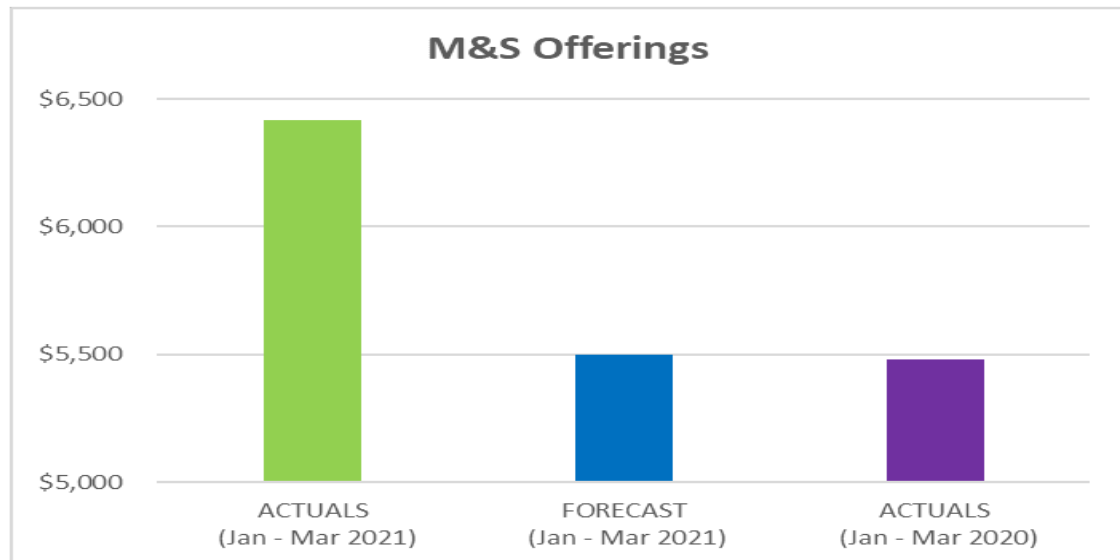
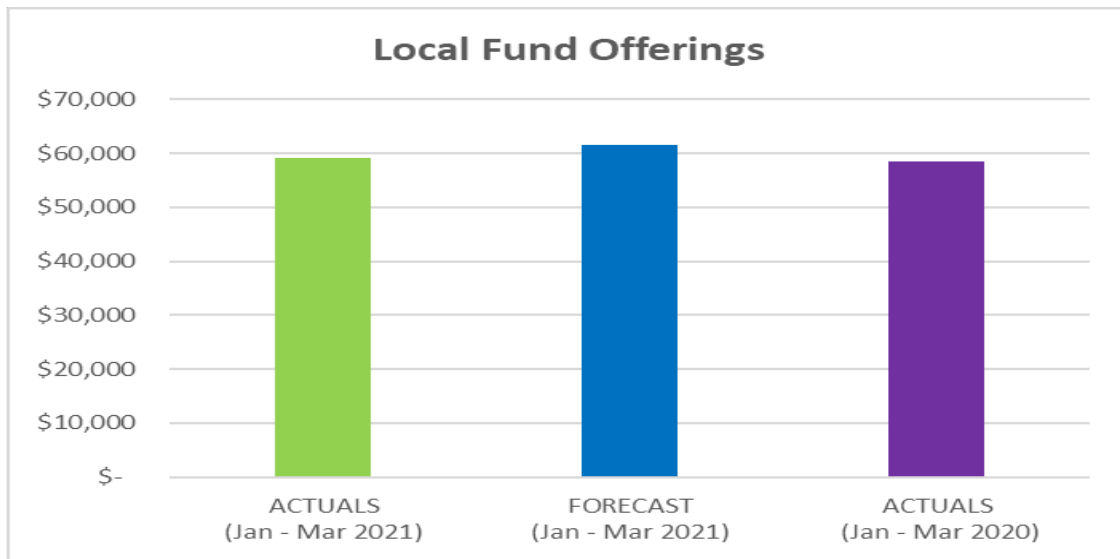
ACTUAL	FORECAST	ACTUAL		ACTUAL	FORECAST	ACTUAL
Mar 2021	Mar 2021	Mar 2020		Jan - Mar 2021	Jan - Mar 2021	Jan - Mar 2020
			<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
20,607	20,500	18,885	LF Offerings	59,119	61,500	58,492
2,185	833	365	Donation - Foodbank	7,129	2,499	636
5,550	792	2,841	Donations - Other	6,020	2,376	8,746
3,932	3,900	5,524	Rentals: Long Term	11,796	11,700	17,259
55	100	155	Loblaws Cards Commissions	55	100	593
91	83	1,804	Other	271	249	2,612
<b>32,420</b>	<b>26,208</b>	<b>29,574</b>	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>84,390</b>	<b>78,424</b>	<b>88,338</b>
			<b>EXPENSES</b>			
20,979	22,169	20,775	Salaries and Benefits	59,379	66,507	69,228
2,011	6,400	5,581	Property	13,232	19,940	16,515
2,670	2,670	2,670	Mortgage Payment (P&I)	8,010	8,010	8,010
2,949	1,500	96	Outreach - Foodbank	5,478	4,500	160
9,930	8,345	4,715	Other Expenses	13,383	13,697	9,340
<b>38,539</b>	<b>41,084</b>	<b>33,837</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>99,481</b>	<b>112,654</b>	<b>103,253</b>
<b>-6,118</b>	<b>-14,876</b>	<b>-4,263</b>	<b>NET SURPLUS / - DEFICIT</b>	<b>-15,092</b>	<b>-34,230</b>	<b>-14,915</b>
2,290	1,833	1,582	M&S Offerings	6,415	5,499	5,481
2,290	1,833	1,582	M&S Disbursement	6,415	5,499	5,481
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

	<u>As at Mar 31, 2021</u>
<u>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS =</u>	254,225
<u>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</u>	
UCC MORTGAGE LOAN =	370,296
CEBA (GOVERNMENT) LOAN =	60,000

*Thank you for your ongoing & generous support of Westminster United Church and its ministries!*

*(Continued on Next Page)*



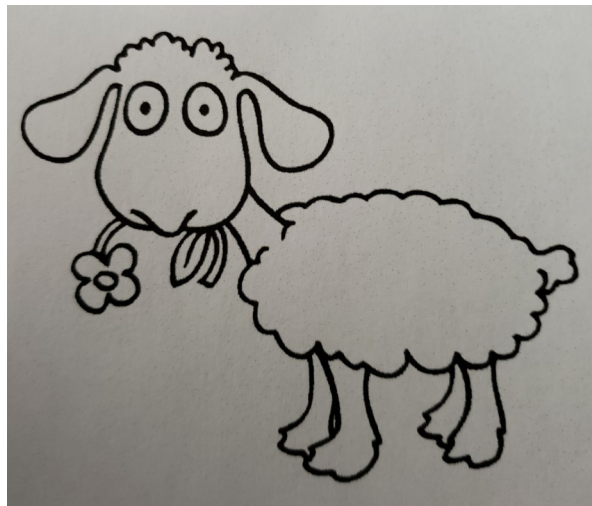


# You're invited...

---

**...to  
stay home  
and  
stay safe!**

We'll be thrilled to see you again  
when we get the all clear!



Until then...Many Blessings!