



Wellington Square UNITED CHURCH

Annual Report

JULY 1, 2009 - JUNE 30, 2010

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Message from Our Ministers

" So here's what I want you to do, God helping you. Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life – and place it before God as an offering ... The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what God does for us, not by what we are and what we do for God. In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around.

Romans 12: 1, 4 &5 (THE MESSAGE)

That 'coaching' to early Christians from Paul is so sparkling and inspiring! It brings our friendship with Jesus into the real world. Our world. Today. And it tells us we're part of a wider team to share it all with. Best of all, on the days life makes us feel small, frail or a failure, we are reminded that we belong to something Big, and to Someone Eternal.

Faith links you to God; Faith also bonds you to God's people, Jesus' team – the Church. For some people that sounds scary or boring, and can turn them off or weird them out. But when we're in a church like this one, it's actually kind of invigorating and at the same time comforting. For most of us, this is a safe, comfortable place – to investigate God stuff, and to share life and service with God's people. We talk through decisions, work together on challenges, and continue our spiritual quest together.

Reading through the chapters of this Annual Report will be a treat. It is one of the most significant we've printed in years, AND it's actually fun to read. From Laretta Weir's literate and insightful report from the Board, right through Dee Glover's conversational 'tell-it-like-it-is' Property report and beyond, you'll catch a glimpse of a congregation that's a healthy body, functioning well. Just like Paul said we should be – *'each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around'*.

To change the metaphor – a chapter in this church's life has just been completed – the year past has seen the building renovation completed, and staffing consolidated. A new chapter is starting to be written – with, we hope, a growing story of missions, outreach, faith sharing, and discipleship. Let your faith be a part of it, as we continue the Jesus story at Wellington Square together.

With Love,

Orville & Katie

The Board

Serving on the Board at Wellington Square is always a challenging experience. It is often the clearing house for many ideas, requests, proposals, crises, complaints, needs, concerns, new ventures and callings of the Spirit. We often have much before us to consider but that also makes it a place of great excitement as we are able to step back and see all that is happening in our community, all that is about to happen and the potential for what we haven't yet imagined! The journey this year has been shared by Tori Jones, Sharon Mosher, Jeremy Cox, Lindsay Foster, Rob Smith, and Tish Buckley. Many thanks to you all for your willing hearts and time and talents freely offered. With sadness we must also inform you that Tori Jones, our Chair this past year, will be stepping down from the board. Thank you, Tori, for the passion, commitment, graciousness and inspiration that you brought to your role as Chair. We will all miss you at the table! It has been an honour to serve with you.

This has been a year of major TRANSITION for our community. Our new building is close to finished. We really felt this transition, it was very physical: dust, no parking, dust, lack of meeting space, dust, noise, dust, displaced furniture and displaced persons, dust...we are on the other side now and can begin to envision how God might call us to use our new space. Finally, the exciting part!

At the same time we have attempted to bring our financial model more closely in line with our vision. 10-10-80 has been a transition through which we are attempting to honour God by managing our money according to biblical principles. It has been a process of learning as we continue to be responsive to feedback, setbacks and input as well as financial realities. We are continuing to refine and improve how we do our financial reporting and how we allocate and manage our financial resources. We want to respond to God's blessing in our lives by living out a radical generosity both with our material blessings but also our time, energy and talents and with hearts turned openly and expectantly towards God.

We are happy to be able to present a balanced budget this year. This has meant we have had to pay close attention to how we will allocate our funds and it has meant some difficult decisions. Stewardship has assured us that a modest increase of 3% over last year's income is an achievable budget goal. They have charted an upward trend in average envelope givings that we hope to see continue.

A well-known Christian writer talks about being covered in "The Dust of the Rabbi". In the Ancient Near Eastern Jewish Tradition, disciples of a chosen Rabbi were so desperate to learn from and imitate their Rabbi that they would physically follow behind him as closely as possible all day, desiring to hear his every word, note his responses to various situations and individuals, his demeanour and habits so that by the end of the day these disciples would be covered in the dust that his feet kicked up in all the travelling they did. What an interesting image of devotion – covered in dust. As our construction dust settles and is finally cleaned up and we begin a new year with fresh possibilities may we all seek anew to be covered in dust, the Dust of our Rabbi, Jesus.

Respectfully submitted by Laretta Weir,
Member of the Board

Capital Campaign

It has been very rewarding to see the changes, taking place in our church during the past few months. It is with much anticipation that we look forward to the completion of the project later this year.

Your patience and understanding has been much appreciated throughout the many disruptions to our normal way of life at the church. I am sure we will all be very proud of what we have been a part of when we officially open the improved place of worship for present and future members of Wellington Square United Church.

Your timely and generous fulfillment of pledge donations will reduce the interest carrying costs. Thank you all for your continued support of our capital campaign.

Russ Jackson
Chair, Capital Campaign

Minutes of Congregational Annual General Meeting
Held at Wellington Square United Church
Monday September 14, 2009

Call to Order:

Tori Jones, representing the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:10pm

Tori clarified that the United Church handbook allows people who are not members of a congregation to vote under these circumstances so long as they consider the church to be their regular place of worship and actively participate in the life of the congregation

Opening Prayer:

Rev. Heather Weaver-Orosz opened the meeting in prayer

In Memoriam:

Rev. Heather Weaver-Orosz read the names of members who had died in the period July 2008 to June 2009 and paid tribute to their memory with a prayer.

Motion: to approve Margaret Ingram as recording secretary for the congregational meeting

Moved by: *Joyce Pearson*. Seconded by: *Penny Bailey* Motion carried

Motion: to approve the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of October 29, 2008.

Moved by: *June Jack* Seconded by: *Don McTaggart* Motion carried

Motion: to accept the reports as printed.

Moved by: *Steve Gray*. Seconded by: *Sharon Mosher*. Motion carried

Financial Reports: *John Anderson and John Lewis*

- John Anderson indicated that the loss of \$34,565.07 had been applied to the Manse Fund so that there would be no deficit carried forward into 2009/2010.

- John Anderson has received two detailed questions that will be addressed by September 30, 2009.

Question: Jim Baker requested clarification on the process of disbursement of money to Mission and Services Fund since there appeared to be \$5071 that had not been transferred as of June 30, 2009. John Anderson indicated that a cheque is written every month to M and S to reflect the wishes of the members as indicated on their weekly envelopes/PAR.

Motion: to accept the Financial Reports as written:

Moved by: *Rollie Steed*. Seconded by *Joy Magwood*. Motion carried

John Lewis gave a brief explanation of the investment position with respect to the losses in equities.

The hope is that these "losses" will be recouped with recovery in the market.

There were no further questions concerning the financial statements for 2008/2009.

Budget 2009/2010 and Stewardship Campaign: *Bruce Magwood*

Bruce conveyed a vote of thanks to the team: Bryan Webber, Tony Wilson and Penny Bailey and introduced their vision *Be Rich Toward God, in Every Season*.

The team has discussed new courses needed to get out of the financial struggles and deficits of previous years.

80% of givings will go towards Operational Expenses

10% of givings will go towards Outreach Projects

10% of givings will be invested for long term capital needs of building and equipment.

The 2009/2010 Budget is based on an assumption that WSUC has 390 families with an estimated average annual household income of \$80,000.

Bruce presented a number of scenarios with differing percentages of families tithing.

Budget

Total Receipts:	\$774,506
Other	\$ 72,000
Total:	\$846,506

Question: Allan Ingram questioned how we were going to reach this goal, given the past years of deficit budgets.

Bruce and his team recognize that this will not be easy.

Question: Duncan McFadgen asked about future commitment to M and S. Bruce indicated that since funds are designated to M and S through envelope/PAR givings, a concrete figure cannot be guaranteed for this purpose.

Lindsay Reynolds spoke on behalf of the Outreach and Caring Action Team. Their hope is to have funds available for a variety of outreach projects so that there would be less need for individual fundraising and more energy could be spent on the realization and promotion of projects. They do recognize that members will continue to request that specific funds be given to Angel Wings, Mexico missions etc.

The takeaway message was that the congregation would have joint ownership in all the outreach projects: a community that makes a difference in the lives of people less fortunate.
--

Question: John Durdan raised a question concerning Wills and Estates since in the past funds from these sources have been an important aspect of finance for the church.

Bruce indicated that messages and brochures would address the issues, including individual financial freedom.

Question: Keith Munro asked if there would be any difference to designated funds on envelopes. He was assured that funds would still be designated to M and S, Angel wings etc.

Question: Phil Connell indicated that this level of increase in budget, given the present financial downturn, was totally unrealistic.

Question: Fran Anderson asked about fundraising for specific causes such as Malawi.

Question: Fran Gray indicated her belief that this new initiative deserves a chance to work

Question: Don McTaggart raised the concern about dedicating 10% to a capital fund while members are still expected to fulfill the pledges for the Capital Campaign/Renovation even although this type of contingency fund is long overdue.

Motion: to accept the budget: *Bruce Magwood* Seconded: *Janet Wilson*

Motion carried [not unanimous]

Building Project: Russ Jackson and Scott Wood

Russ commented that this meeting had been postponed from the spring since there had been insufficient time to accommodate the bidding process prior to summer.

Russ and his team are comfortable that the recommendations fit with the vision.

Scott Wood described the tendering process and City Planning Department approval.

There were 5 contractors invited to tender bids. Three of these met the bonding requirements. Final bids were received in August 2009 and were all within budget.

The preferred contractor submitted the lowest bid.

Question: Jim Baker asked about changes made to meet the budget constraints. Scott indicated that there had been no further changes to the plan since the last vote.

Question: Andrew Alton asked about disruption to the church during construction. Allan Ingram indicated that there would be minimum disruption although there might be a short period of time when other local churches might be asked to assist [e.g. funerals]

Question: Allan Pearson asked about 4 points on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

- | |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pledges.....\$1.945 million2. Current Bank Balance.....\$548,2753. Preferred Contractor Quote..... \$1.5 million4. Interest costs included in budget-flexible since some people have not started to give. -Total budget of \$1.85 million to include interest and contingency |
|---|

Question: Duncan McFadgen asked about the additional space for Graceland that had to be dropped from the original plan, based on pledges. Scott explained that the Fellowship Room is designed to be multifunctional and the McMillan Room could be converted to meet the needs of Graceland within the revised budget

Question: Phil Connell asked if there was a firm commitment in writing from the lender and if the lender is still considered a safe option.

Greg Eade indicated that there is a letter of commitment from DUCA [provincially and federally regulated financial institution] that is still viable.

Comment: Bruce Acheson, on behalf of his mother, Mary, who wants to leave the sanctuary untouched

Questions: Bruce Acheson asked if the contract had been signed. Tori indicated that would only happen after a successful YES vote was delivered and the board of trustees and official board had considered the information from the lawyer who studied the contract for liability concerns.

Bruce Acheson wanted to know why the preferred contractor had been selected. Scott indicated that the architect has worked with the preferred contractor on a number of church renovations and has confidence in their experience and quality of work.

Bruce Acheson, on behalf of Mary, asked about the repaving of the parking lot. Scott indicated that the geothermal installation would require that sections of the parking lot be removed. The contract includes repaving of the existing parking lot and the access roads.

Tori extended appreciation to the building committee and to the capital campaign team for their work.

Note from legal expert on contract wording

"It should be noted in the minutes that Wellington Square execute and deliver the final agreement in substantively the same form and content as the draft provided by BB&R to be sealed by it, subject only to the Trustees, in their sole and *absolute discretion, negotiating and settling any subsequent amendments with the other parties.*"

Motion: to accept the recommendation of preferred contractor: *Marg Torrance.*

Seconded: *Scott Wood.*

Secret Ballots sent to be counted

Election of New Board Members

Board of Trustees has regretfully accepted Carl Ljungberg's resignation. John Durdan has been proposed to join Steve Gray, Allan Pearson, John Lewis and Margaret Ingram.

Motion: to accept the above designated members of the Board of Trustees: *Don McTaggart*

Seconded: *Tony Wilson* Motion Carried

Official Board.

Jeremy Cox, Lindsay Foster, Rob Smith to join Tori Jones, Laretta Weir and Sharon Mosher.

Motion: to accept the above designated members: *Marg Torrance*

Seconded: *John Anderson* Motion carried

Courtesies: Laretta Weir

Laretta thanked the staff with mention of Beth Rose and Catharine Wagg in the front office, Cheryl Sullivan in administration, Jamie Acheson for his dedication to property maintenance, Ruth Ferry in finance, Heather Mackey with her fresh opportunities for children, Caitlin Belanger for her work with tweens and teens, James Bretzler for his enthusiasm for new music at the traditional service and for the clergy team of Orville James, Katie Southon and Heather Weaver-Orosz.

Celebration Thoughts: Rev. Orville James

Orville indicated that Katie was unable to attend the meeting since her mother's health is very fragile and she was spending time with family.

Orville mentioned how difficult it was to identify all the volunteers who add such value to the church and its mission. He praised the M and P committee for their support and determination to make Wellington Square a good employer and a fun place to work.

Vote Count: 131 ballots received

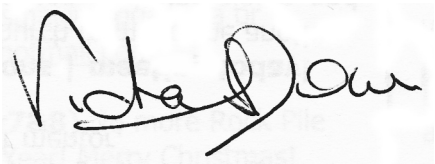
Yes to accept the recommendation of preferred contractor's bid: 104

No to accept the recommendation of preferred contractor's bid: 25

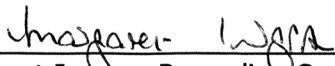
Spoiled ballots: 2

Motion passed to accept the recommendations of the building committee's choice of preferred contractor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm



Tori Jones, Board Chair



Margaret Ingram Recording Secretary

Minutes of Congregational Meeting
held in St. Paul's Hall, Wellington Square United Church
Thursday, March 25, 2010

1. Call to Order:

Tori Jones, representing the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Opening Prayer:

Rev. Katie Southon opened the meeting in prayer

Motion: to approve Margaret Ingram as recording secretary for the congregational meeting
Moved by: *Tori Jones*. Seconded by: *Don McTaggart* Motion carried

Motion: to approve Eleanor Christie, Jane Kops and Cathy Stevenson as presbytery representatives.
Moved by: *Tori Jones* Seconded: *Sharon Mosher*. Motion carried.

Motion: To reinstate Tish Buckley as a Board Member effective immediately.
Moved by: *Tori Jones* Seconded: *Ruth Ferry* Motion carried.

2. Building Project Update

Russ Jackson reported that the Capital Campaign is on budget in terms of pledges of \$2 million, with \$1.1 million actually on hand.

Russ expressed his appreciation to all who have pledged. He reminded people that if using shares to contribute to the Capital Campaign that Ruth Ferry needs to know that the transaction is imminent since no names are supplied when stocks are sold and the money transferred to the account.

Russ indicated there would be an update letter at the end of April/early May that would outline the original pledge and what has been given to date by that member/family.

Scott Wood reported that the building project is on track.

- The office space should be completed by the first week in June. This would allow the McMillan Room to be cleared.
- The Fellowship space would be completed after the office space is functional.
- The nursery area will be renovated in July.
- Work on the chancel will start after Easter and there will be no access to the sanctuary from the north side of the church.
- The parking lot will only be partially available for a number of weeks [April 5 to mid May] while the geothermal project takes place.
- Scott hopes that the contractor will be able to pave the entire parking lot during first week of June.
- The estimated date for completion is end of August.

Russ reported that during disruption to the parking lot people would have to park on Wellington Street and surrounding area. Drop off will be an option for those unable to walk a distance and there is a contingency plan to provide vans /valet parking if necessary.

The hope is that no one will stop attending church as a result of this disruption.

Andrew Alton asked for clarification on access to office and hall. There will be no access from the office/hall/chapel/Graceland rooms into the sanctuary during phases of renovation.

3. Board of Trustees Report: *John Lewis*

- John expressed his appreciation to Scott Wood and Allan Ingram for their commitments to ensure the project is on track.
- Investment Update: John reported that presently there is \$600,000 invested on behalf of the Capital Campaign. He reported that there is an intention to revisit the investment direction in light of the economy and some 'losses' of approximately \$90,000 that have not 'bounced' back as much as hoped. There is a investment planning meeting slated for spring and the intention is to include members of the congregation, particularly those with knowledge of investments.

4. Finance Report: *John Anderson*

Budgeted Revenue: \$531,004
Actual \$380,321
Deficit at 28/2/2010 \$122,267 **

This includes the Capital Reserve and Outreach Budget amounts.

5. Stewardship Committee: *Bryan Webber*.

Bryan stressed that giving back to God was not only in terms of money but also time and talents. Tony Wilson's Step Up chart is an excellent tool to measure each individual person's position and allow evaluation of appropriate level of giving based on annual income. There was discussion around the best way to engage the people who may be seeking a church but not yet committed. There is a fine balance between engagement /stepping in and scaring people away with constant reminders to give financially.

6. Amendment to Budget

Motion: to remove the Capital Reserve ten percent portion from the budget

Motion moved: *Tori Jones*

Tori announced a short break to allow table discussions to take place prior to the final vote. She led the meeting in prayer.

The Board recognizes that when the budget was presented last year WSUC was in the early stages of a significant renovation project at a time when the economy was still fragile and many families had to reconsider their priorities. The 10-10-80 plan was a prudent one but in light of contributions at the 8-month point in the fiscal year, setting aside 10% for a Capital Reserve means that the operating budget is not being met.

Discussion/Questions

Rollie Steed asked if the Outreach budget could be revised to reduce the operational deficit. Tori indicated that the Board had discussed placing a "cap" on the outreach budget but decided against presenting yet another dollar figure that might not be realistic.

At this point Tori clarified that the Capital Reserve Fund and Capital Campaign Fund should not be confused as each refers to different funds.

Allan Ingram expressed concern that funds need to be set aside to deal with future potential structural needs such as new roof and repairs to the heating system.

Tom Chire pointed out that the attendees at this meeting do not represent the whole congregation and a concern that we find ways to engage those seeking a church home without scaring them away. Tori mentioned that there was two letters sent out to the congregation, one that targeted regular attendee/givers and the other geared to the needs of the "seekers." Tom remarked that no one wants to be told they are lacking faith and he is concerned that we may be overreaching/pushing too hard.

Tom suggested that a secret ballot by those not attending the meeting might lead to a different conclusion. Tom concluded there is a need to encourage people to give/participate, as they feel able. Penny Bailey commented on the role of the Stewardship Committee is to encourage participation in each person's faith journey.

Ron Adams expressed concern that if we ditch the 10-10-80 in this transition year we will be back to raising funds for special projects.

Don McTaggart asked how our revenue compared with 2008/2009 fiscal year. Finance members indicated that contributions are up 3.8% year over year.

Andrew Alton posed the question of how many people will be inconvenienced by the construction and not come to church while the parking lot is inaccessible and the effect this may have on contributions.

Dave Quinn suggested that there be stronger messages delivered at Christmas to commit more financially. Tori mentioned that there had been discussion about changing the fiscal year back to a calendar year as in the past.

Nancy James suggested that rather than scrap the Capital Reserve Fund completely this year that a small amount, perhaps 2%, be set aside this year.

Lindsay Reynolds indicated that she feels strongly that there is a need to give differently going forward. Heather Mackay reported that there are families who need to be guided as to how to read the Bible and a need to teach people how to give. She suggested that people need to hear more from the Stewardship Team--we all need to be there for the "seekers."

Linda Lord asked for clarification that since we cannot live on a 10-10-80 distribution of revenue are we now are looking to accept a 10-2-88 budget.?

Amendment to the original motion:

To set aside 2% of revenue for Capital Reserve: *Nancy James* Seconded: *Andrew Alton* Motion Carried

Motion: to accept the change in budget with the amendment of 2% of revenue to be set aside for Capital Reserve, 10% for Outreach and 88% for Operational Funds.

Moved by *Tori Jones*

Seconded: *Jeremy Cox* Motion carried.

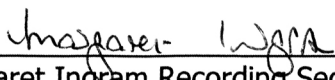
Orville James summarized the meeting with the conclusion that it is clear we cannot transition to a 10-10-80 distribution in the first year and the hope is that the financial situation will improve in 2010/2011 fiscal year. Orville's hope is that the stewardship message is effective in motivating people to use their resources for God's work.

Orville asked us to consider the message in the video clip shown recently at both services. "This is my Father's World. Here we are. Send us."

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm following a prayer by Orville.



Tori Jones, Board, Chair



Margaret Ingram Recording Secretary

In Memoriam

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted

Dutchak, Laura

Fell, Eileen

Foster, Roy

Gallo, Phyllis

Grant, Rose

Howden, George

Kelly, Iris

Lawrence, Alice

MacDonald, Helen

Matteson, Donna

Moore, Sheila

Motyer, Leonce

Mulcaster, Patricia

Norma, Wright

Oliver, Alf

Parrell, Andrew

Reinhart, George

Sicurella, Samuel

Spence, Mabel

Theobald, Alan

Walker, Harriet

West, Leonard

Williams, Anna Jean

Baptisms

Attard, Luca-Samuel | Son of Geoffrey and Alaina Attard
Baylor, Marie
Burda, Eva | Daughter of Robert and Erin Burda
Burke, Hector
Carpenter, Owen | Son of Scott and Tiffany Carpenter
Cessna, Kyra | Daughter of Brian and Yvonne Cessna
Chambers, Christopher | Son of Ian and Deanne Chambers
Deganis, Jack | Son of Danny and Kerri Deganis
Delves, Wyatt | Son of Adam and Sherilyn Delves
Eisner, Luke | Son of William and Lyne Eisner
Flett, Ian | Son of Douglas and Denise Flett
Flett, Owen | Son of Douglas and Denise Flett
Hill, Logan | Son of Lance and Sarah Hill
Holloway, Emelyn | Daughter of David and Alicia Holloway
Horning, Samuel | Son of Shawn and Carie Horning
Ingram, Gavin | Son of Alistair and Michelle Ingram
Kalley, Donalda | Daughter of Donald and Christiana Kalley
Kalley, Hudson | Son of Donald and Christiana Kalley
Kalley, Israel | Son of Donald and Christiana Kalley
Kavanagh-Shiels, Joshua | Son of Cynthia Kavanagh and Judith Shiels
Kavanagh-Shiels, Nathaniel | Son of Cynthia Kavanagh and Judith Shiels
Kelly, Sarah | Daughter of David and Kathryn Kelly
Kiers, Nathan | Son of Alvin and Jennifer Kiers
Klimkowski, Ava | Daughter of Arthur and Lisa Klimkowski
Leitch, Teghan | Son of Nathen Bulthuis and Jodi Leitch
Marks, Colin | Son of Trevor and Christiana Marks
McNairn, Sophie | Daughter of Gregory and Deborah McNairn
Scherle, Taylor | Daughter of David and Stephanie Scherle
Smith, Lloyd
Thomas, Nolan | Son of John and Aimee Thomas
Wilson, Brett | Son of Mark and Diane Wilson
Wood, Anya | Daughter of Scott Wood and Lisa Lunski-Wood
Woods, Lauren | Daughter of Todd and Claudia Woods
Zeman, Ruby | Daughter of Brian and Deborah Zeman

Marriages

Stuart Proctor and Erika Hancock	August 2, 2009
Ross Brindley and Marie Kohler	August 8, 2009
Andrew Smith and Jennifer Rosentaal	August 8, 2009
Brian Heagle and Ria Jackson	September 3, 2009
Michael Kellow and Rachel Lecavalier	September 11, 2009
Adam Musani and Rachel Killip	September 25, 2009
Allen Christensen and Heather McCallum	October 3, 2009
Jeffrey Price and Leslie Ponting	September 26, 2009
David Dunn and Sheena Khan	April 17, 2010
Mark Eade and Janelle Donn	June 19, 2010

New Members

Burke, Hector

Baylor, Marie

Chislett, Karen

Chislett, Rod

Fergusson, Lynn

Galloway-Winchell, Kalli

Grady, Shaun

Grady, Sandra

Howard, Sheila

Kelly, Bill

Kelly, Lori

McArthur, John

Lynk, Delia

Patterson, Ross

Talor, Monica

Taylor, Al

Ministry and Personnel Committee

The Handbook for the Ministry and Personnel Committees of the United Church of Canada describes the M & P Committee as a confidential, consultative body that supports the pastoral relationship. The role of the members is supportive and supervisory, and encompasses staff relations, mentoring, continuing education, effectiveness evaluation and the review and revision of staffing needs and role descriptions.

In the year 2009-2010, the M & P Committee expended much effort on behalf of the staff and congregation to ensure this mandate was met. We continue to ensure that Wellington Square United Church is a good employer, meeting the United Church of Canada's employment standards.

In March, 2010, it was with mixed emotions that we accepted the resignation of Rev. Heather Weaver-Orosz. Heather accepted an offer from the Toronto School of Theology for placement in the Doctorate program at Emmanuel College beginning in Sept. 2010. We are of course excited for Heather, her family and those she will have the opportunity to work along side of, and mentor to. Heather's deep faith, strong leadership skills, eloquent gift of speaking and passion for Jesus and all those He loves will be deeply missed at WS.

The Ministry and Personnel Committee, Ministerial team and office staff developed a plan to ensure that proper coverage is in place while Reverend Katie Southon takes a much deserved sabbatical leave beginning May 17, 2010 and returning September 7, 2010. We wish Katie a productive and renewing time of study.

Due to financial constraints that developed during the year, WS unfortunately could not sustain the employment of Cheryl Sullivan, Office Coordinator. Her role was reassigned to Beth Rose and Catherine Wagg, who accepted the responsibilities willingly and enthusiastically. We wish Cheryl the best in her future employment opportunities and offered to provide her with a letter of recommendation should she request one.

With the support of a committed, skilled and experienced Ministry and Personnel Committee (made up of Cindy Durdan, Debbie Pugh, Heather Germain, Sue Eade and Rollie Steed) and the cooperation and support of the Board and the Staff Team at Wellington Square United Church, we have had a successful year and look forward to the challenges and opportunities that next year will bring. Thank you to the Staff and Committee Members for their dedication and fine work.

John Crusoe
Chair, Ministry and Personnel Committee

Children's Ministry

Mission Statement: to provide a fun, safe and friendly place where we learn about Jesus' love.

Purpose: to encourage kids to get fired up about God's Love...they can't wait to share it with others.

Values:

- L ove God and others
- E xperience the good news of Jesus
- A ttract ALL children to Him
- R emain rooted in God's word
- N uture strong Christian friendships

The following ministries and teams continue to enrich our Children's Ministry (GraceLand) here at WS:

Music Our GraceLand Band continues to creatively minister to kids through music in fun, live and inter-active ways.

GraceLand Drama Team Our drama team engages kids by sharing bible stories in fun and relevant ways that help introduce our lessons.

GraceLand Puppet Team Our puppet team work hard at effectively sharing God's word through funny skits and inspiring kid-friendly songs.

GraceLand Dancers Our dancing girls ages 4 & up meet weekly to wiggle and giggle. They express their talent and love for Jesus through contemporary praise dance.

GraceLand Planning Team This wise team meets twice a year to set goals and objectives, plan themes and special events for GraceLand.

GraceLand Curriculum Team Our creative writing team work together at bringing the message of God's love to children by writing interactive and tangible lessons, ideas for games, crafts, story-time, discussion questions and activities...all centered on scripture and theme. The curriculum is compiled by our Thursday prep team.

Thursday Morning Prep Team Our prep team gathers together to help prepare GraceLand's large task of administration duties, materials and resources needed. They also work on short-term projects and share a hand in creative up-keep.

GraceLand Leaders and Helpers This eager bunch, teach our children the word of God and strive to model the love of Christ by loving His children.

Plan to Protect Part of our mission for GraceLand is to be a safe place for children and volunteers. As we continue to grow our team is committed to keeping our safety procedures current.

GraceLand Support Team This team has the wonderful task of interviewing our entire Children's Ministry volunteers. Using their gifts of wisdom and discernment, they responsibly screen as well as provide on-going support and prayer for them.

Communication Team This team of creative communicators eagerly takes on the constant challenge of keeping our church and beyond our church walls informed of our awesome kid's ministry and up-coming events in a variety of visually effective ways (photo's, video, bulletin boards).

Children's Mid-week Groups

Boy's Sport's Night Our enthusiastic crew of boys and dad leaders gather every Tuesday to play games, sports and loads of fun.

The GraceNotes Choir This angelic group of children ages 4 & up meet weekly to sing and put to action songs of praise.

JAM Events! JAM Events provide a fun night for ALL ages! Families included. We had a blast with our Medieval Times Event and Talent Show/Make your own Sundae night. Other families from the community join in the fun too!!

Special Events

Vacation Bible Camp (2009) What's in it for me? Daniel and the Lion's Den! Over 130 children ages 4-10 (some toddlers too) along with 65 teen and adult volunteers gathered for a full week of friendships, drama, creative story time, puppets, crafts, games, snacks, songs and more. Our goal was to help children learn about the story of Daniel and how his trust, faith and obedience to God protected him from harm, gave him a great position in Babylon and Persia as well as through visions, God revealed to Daniel many things that would happen in the future.

Christmas GraceLand delights in sharing our Godly gifts by presenting 'Into the Light' at both services. We celebrated Jesus' birth by having all our children share their talents in unique ways...drama, song, slide-show presentation and dance.

Faith @ Home Events Our 3rd year of providing Faith @ Home events continues to be an effective way to encourage and equip families to live out their faith in the home. We hosted the following successful events: *How to Read the Bible, Jesus Loves Me this I know, How to Pray with your Child, The BIG 10! Music, Media & Me and a Blessing teaching is given to each family requesting baptism.* We give a variety of resources from each event to help families further their faith development in the home (*Bibles, Crosses, blessing, devotion & prayer books, resource sheets, DVD's/CD's, activity sheets, etc.*)

Baptisms Children preschool ages to grade 8 participate in baptismal service by watching children receive baptism or dedication. We also share our creative communication gifts by presenting puppet shows, video presentations and/or music to help in the celebration.

Outreach & Mission

Church Support We continue to support other churches and their children's ministries by one-on-one meetings, emails, resource sharing and providing our Plan to Protect on Wellington Square website.

Giving of our Gifts GraceLand sponsors a young boy named Pachorn Sinnart from Thailand through World Vision. We also gathered canned goods for food banks and participate in various missions throughout the church (Shoebox, Mexico, Angel Wings). Many GraceLand students provide and serve a yearly dinner and participate in monthly breakfast serving opportunities at Kerr St. Missions. Our jr. youth students help out the Wesley Christmas Store each year.

GraceLand Volunteer Affirmation Everyone under the umbrella of Children's ministry gathered together over a special brunch to celebrate another awesome year of kid's ministry. We thanked our volunteers for their dedication and for loving God's kids.

Heather Mackey
Children's Ministry Director

Footsteps Library

We are looking forward to our new premises which will be outside of the Chapel along the left hand wall. The whole collection will be housed in this spot which will make for easier access for all involved. Setup on Sunday for open hours will be somewhat less than it is now.

Throughout the construction period Footsteps Library remained open although some weeks it just wasn't possible. We have dedicated most of the budget for this past year and the year to come to purchasing new DVDs and are replacing many of the children's videos with this format as well. The video format will no longer be purchased and we have weeded a good portion of these in the past year. We have quite a collection of the Nooma series by Rob Bell and if you haven't had a chance to check these out please do have a look. We have had many positive comments on the availability of these powerful 20 minute inspirational Dvds. Also on the shelves you will find Christian family movies and please note good quality, recent publications in fiction, non-fiction and children's materials are always welcomed or suggestions for additions to the collection are also taken into consideration.

Our reference materials, concordances, etc and small group materials however will still be housed in the McMillan Room and can be accessed anytime during the week.

Many thanks go to the people who have assisted with this revised library from Orville and the planning/building committee to church office staff who have kept us in mind when changes were required and communicated well so that we could respond appropriately. Thanks to Jamie as well for trying to keep the dust off of the unit each week. I would just like to say that we have some new library staff – Kathy Ramsay-Ninos, Cathy Dickenson and Debbie Sproule who are replacing 2 longtime members – Don Cornick and Kathy LePatourel. Their contributions in time and effort will be missed. If you see a new face on Sundays please stop and say hello.

Communications Team

The Communications Team at Wellington Square is a communications resource group to staff, leaders, teams and committees in the church, and a point of coordination of all kinds of information. We serve God and our church family to increase awareness of any message that needs to be delivered through various media.

Through liason with staff and volunteers we have expanded and printed a new Welcome booklet as part of the Welcome package for visitors; continued weekly email news-blasts of current announcements; made continual revisions to the church website, brainstormed with the Stewardship Committee on how to "market" the stewardship concept to our congregation, and created Renovation Update letters to Capital Campaign donors during the building construction.

Thanks to all who serve tirelessly on this team: Les Reynolds, Linda Lord, Larry Couse, and Catherine Wagg.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Rose

Congregational Care Ministries

Team Leaders: Lindsay Foster and Rev. Katie Southon

Staff Support: Rev Katie Southon

Caring Teams: Friendly Visitors, Phone Ministry, Bayridge Ministries, Connect with New Members

Prayer: Prayer Ministry and Circle in the Square

Hospitality
and Fellowship: Sunday Coffee, Fellowship Lunches, Christmas Brunch,
Congregational Meetings, Anniversary Sunday, Special Events as they arise,
Congregational Dinners, Caring and Connecting BBQ's, Trivia Night, Couples
Seminar.

Outreach: Singing Strummers

Caring Ministries

Friendly Visitors: These ladies visit, or contact members of the congregation by phone.

Hospital Visiting: Volunteers visit at the beginning of the week and clergy visit at the end of the week. Please let the office know if you are going into hospital or know of someone in hospital.

Links 2 Care: This ministry pairs up visitors and people to visit weekly

Phone Ministry: Each person is contacted once every week. This is a way of keeping contact with those who are not always able to attend church or just need a call.

Care and Connect: This is a new Ministry connecting with people in their geographical areas.

Funeral Receptions: The UCW
It is a much needed and appreciated ministry to those at a difficult time in their lives.

Card Ministry: Cards are sent to welcome new members to our church family. Cards are also sent following a bereavement.

Records: Records kept up to date are Baptisms, Weddings, New Members, Burials and Historic Roll.

Prayer Ministry: "Great is Thy Faithfulness!" is the theme of prayer ministry at Wellington Square. We pray for this church family continuously, as well as at times of crisis. This September will be the 45th Living Prayer class and the 14th year of "Prayers in the Park".

Bayridge Village: A New Ministry – An interactive on line ministry. To log on go to the Wellington Square website (www.wsquare.ca), go to the join page and select "affiliate" under the promo code. Use 095F4CFD7A to access the Wellington Square section of the Village.

Circle of the Square: A program at Wellington Square designed to help people deepen and broaden their faith and Christian experience. The Circle is open to people of all ages and stages of life. The only requirement to be a part of the group is the willingness to practice the following 5 Christian disciplines: Regular worship attendance, reading daily bible passages to help prepare for Sunday worship, Daily prayer, regular participation in any small group that meets at least monthly, and committing to work towards tithing within a 3 year period. A weekly newsletter is emailed to members, including daily bible passages to read, and prayer requests from the Circle.
If you would like to be part of this group please contact Orville.

Outreach Ministries

Singing Strummers: This is a very busy group. They entertain at hospitals, nursing and retirement homes, and wherever they are needed.

Hospitality and Fellowship Ministry

Sunday Coffee: 9am Before and after service
11am After service

Fellowship Lunches: We have 8 lunches during the year after the 11am service.

Trivia Night: Beth and Chris Carver

Pasta Dinner: Grandmothers for Africa

Special Events this year were cancelled due to the construction

Thank you to a fantastic, dedicated team of volunteers. This ministry could not exist without your participation. Also a big thank you to Katie and the rest of our Ministry team, and Staff, for your wonderful and much appreciated support.

As Always "But with God All things are possible" (Matthew 19:26)

Lindsay Foster
Congregational Care Ministries Team Leader

Gifts and Memorials Committee

Wellington Square honoured our past members with a Memorial Sunday service on Sunday November 1, 2009. We were privileged to have our own Reverend Heather Weaver-Orosz deliver the message at both services and also participate in the period of meditation and prayer in the Memorial Gardens.

During the 2009-2010 year, we were in receipt of memorial donations in memory of:

Roy Foster
Alice Louise Lawrence
Patricia Mulcaster
Alfred Oliver
Mabel Spence
Leonard West
Jean Williams

We also received notification of bequests to the Church in the wills of Agatha Eileen Fell and Alfred Oliver.

The continued use of undesignated Gifts and Memorials funds to cover the Church's growing operational deficits makes it impractical to consider other uses for Memorial Funds. We do continue to provide funds for the maintenance of the Memorial Gardens and with the special support of Sheila Buckingham, the Caroline street sign.

We have approved payments from the Smith Family Trust Fund to the Wellington Orphanage in Sierre Leone and payments from the Douglas-Pettit Organ Fund to provide for improvements to the Church organ. The benefit of the former has already been accomplished. The benefit of the latter will be enjoyed when the Church renovations are complete.

I am pleased to acknowledge the support and assistance of committee members Lindsay Foster, Janet Lacy, Duncan McFadgen, Marjorie Milligan, Bette Park and Pat West.

Colin Morley
Chairman

Group Life

"Real growth is possible, especially in the fertile soil of genuine Biblical community. This is the place where hearts open to grace, where relationships heal, where sin patterns break, where connections to God strengthen. This is the place where lives are transformed."

These simple but powerful words have framed the pages of our Group Life brochure for the last year. They are penned by another church, in another place, but so clearly name the vital role that discipleship groups play in the life and work of this church, in this place.

It's never easy to summarize a year in the life of any ministry, but especially when it comes to something as diverse and vibrant as Group Life at Wellington Square. We continue to be grateful for the many ways that God is revealing the best, next steps in this ministry's unfolding within our broader mission and vision. It is always humbling to see how and where God refines and restores the vision of what Group Life is all about, and why it is so central to our shared, ongoing spiritual development.

The examples from this past year are many, but a partial list includes the ongoing transition in leadership; the completion of a belief statement and core values for the various kinds of groups; and refining edits to our annual publications, allowing us to put faces to names, and name the most crucial aspects of our shared being. We've had new and exciting Study Groups through the church seasons, steady (sometimes explosive) growth in our Life Groups, and never-ending opportunities to serve God's world through our Service Groups. Through it all, we have seen God at work, patiently and persistently moving us closer to the Acts 2 community.

As always, it is impossible to imagine this growth and development without the steady, sustaining presence of our many leaders and facilitators. With care and compassion, and deep passion for the power and promise of Christian community lived out in this way, countless men and women give themselves and their time to the privilege of guiding and mentoring other companions on the Way. Of particular note, Neal Mosher, Mary Jane Pearson, and Donna Tufford continue to provide crucial vision and leadership in keeping Group Life woven into the fabric of life at Wellington Square. Their encouragement, commitment, and work are offered quietly and humbly, but are absolutely invaluable and faithful.

Cooking for Guys: "Wok with God"; Feed Your Faith; Hebron Seekers; Joyful Spirits; Moms 'n Tots; Monday Men; Movies and Sports for Guys; Practical Christian Living; Quarry; Spirit GIC's Midday Group; This Hour has 59 Minutes; Thursday Men's Bible Study; United Church Women; Wednesday Women; Women's Breakfast Time to Connect; WOW – Women of Wellington Square; Alpha; Faith Seeking Understanding: The Mystery of "Understanding" Jesus; Financial Peace University; Living Prayer; Soul Feast Lenten Lunchtime; Dot Gow; Drama Team; Greeting Card Ministry; Footsteps Library; Handbell Choir; Milk Bag Sleeping Mats; Sanctuary Choir; Singing Strummers ...

... through all these places and more, and so many more to come, God breathes new life into us. Thanks be to God – and may Group Life continue to be a way of life, for each of us, as we live the Way of Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,
Heather Weaver-Orosz

Music Ministry

The music program at Wellington Square is very active with many volunteers who dedicate both time and energy into making worship meaningful.

Choir

The choir at Wellington Square is a dynamic, friendly, and outgoing group of individuals who I have had the pleasure of directing over the past year. They are actively involved in the 11am worship service through the presentation of anthems, special hymn descants, and other small-group vocal ensembles. Some members have also shared solo vocal and instrumental music. In particular, I would like to give particular commendation to the choir and other vocalists who gave of their time and talents to present "The Promise of Light", a Christmas musical that was presented with choir members from St. James United in Waterdown last Christmas. The event was presented at both Wellington Square and St. James on successive Sunday evenings in December and was a huge success!

Bell Choir

During 2009-2010 the Handbell Choir was very busy over the Christmas season. We participated in the Cantata that was a joint venture between the choirs of St. James in Waterdown and WSUC. This was a 2-Sunday night commitment. We also entertained at the Halton Retired Teachers' Association Christmas luncheon and at the Burlington Senior Centre's Christmas banquet. We joined with Lindsay Foster to provide the Worship portion for the U.C.W. Christmas meeting. Four members of our Handbell Choir provided the music for St. Christopher's Anglican Church's two morning services on Dec. 27th. We have entertained the residents at Christopher Terrace and in June were part of the music portion of the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers held in Mississauga. We have played at the 11am service several times this year. Once again, we want to thank the members of WSUC for their support of our annual Pancake Supper.

Submitted by
James Bretzler & Shelia Wright

Outreach and Caring Action

Transition – it still continues as our dominant theme. Managing the transition to 10-10-80, the development of the new O&CA Mission, Vision & Values, and communicating the changes, took up a great deal of time and effort. The team had a challenging but fruitful year, with the leadership of Les and Lindsay Reynolds and Heather Weaver-Orosz. We are incredibly grateful for their time, talents, and huge hearts for building God’s Kingdom. We believe that the seeds have been planted, and the trees that have started to sprout will bear amazing fruit, as we continue on this exciting journey of building the Outreach and Caring Action ministry.

These are the places we worked together this year:

Working through 10-10-80 - a new way to budget and plan for O &CA ministry involved much discussion with Stewardship, Finance, and the Board. We are still refining and clarifying this process.

Mission, Vision, and Values – a living “document” to define the O & CA was refined and approved by the Board in 2010, and officially “launched” and communicated to the congregation in May.

“Christmas response”– a very well-received combination of our Christmas initiatives was launched on Oct. 25, combining Shoeboxes for Sierra Leone, Angel Wings, Wesley No-Charge Christmas Store, and Chickens for Christmas. The congregation had many options to participate in supporting local and global initiatives that did not involve separate, competing “asks” week after week during Advent.

Responding to needs Sunday: April 25th – Foodgrains presentation once again took a “wider focus” about responding to world hunger. At the same time, a DVD was shown outlining all the ways that O & CA is responding to needs locally and globally, through our regular givings, highlighting all the projects and partners that we support through 10-10-80.

Africa Journeys –Pastor Mansaray’s visit and talk on Sunday May 23 was a highlight. To hear his journey, and the gratitude for our support for Wellington Orphanage over the years was truly inspiring. In February, Gary Trapp told of his personal journey to a mission leader in Malawi over the past few years. Again, an inspiring message about hearing God’s call, and acting on it to serve in the world.

Friday Night Community Dinners –what started as a Men’s Ministry initiative during the summer, grew to a weekly event early in the New Year, and include all members of our congregation, as well as the congregations of Burlington Baptist, Knox Presbyterian and Port Nelson churches. This new ministry for WS has great potential to expand and involve many members of our congregation in serving the growing needs in our community.

O &CA has provided financial support to local initiatives such as “Room at the Inn”, Motel Ministries, Compassion Society, Partnership West Food Bank, Salvation Army and Wesley Centre, as well as continuing to support our global partners in Mexico (Yugo Ministries), Sierra Leone (Wellington Orphanage) and HAHFA (Malawi). With a new O & CA Leadership team developing in late spring, we are beginning to change the focus from primarily “monetary support” to ways of becoming active “agents for change” in our local community, educating and engaging people in serving and caring. We are exploring new ways of “responding to the needs” by building on our current strengths, and increasing the awareness and education about the social issues facing our community and our world.

Submitted by
Marg Torrance

Property

The following occurred/ was accomplished during this fiscal year.

- The temporary divider in Room 1 (formerly used by Pine School) was removed and replaced with a permanent Wall to create a classroom and a storage room for Graceland. Tiles were replaced where the old cubby holes were located and all the walls repainted. Thanks to Mark Eade , Paul Mackey and Andrew Alton for help on this project.
- Room 2 had new carpet installed. The dividers from Room 1 were originally going to be used to divide Room 2 in half, but the time involved in retrofitting this prior to the start of Graceland in September was too much. A temporary wall was installed in the interim. Thanks to Joe Raposo for help with this.
- The dividers in Rooms 5 and 6 are in serious need of repair and may, in fact, be beyond repair. Bob Mulcaster came and provided some valuable insight. Due to the new construction this project was put on hold. Room 6 had the dividers permanently closed due to safety concerns.
- The last minute notice about office moves caused some angst but eventually everyone found a spot to work. A special thanks to Ron Ferry, Richard Wagg and Charles Porteous, who moved all the wiring and cabling so everyone's phone and computer worked.
- As we were told that demolition was occurring we tried to salvage as much of the old cabinetry and doors and hardware that we could. Unfortunately we had no knowledge of what was being kept in the master plan so there might be some things in the "Pod" that will eventually be trashed. Speaking of the Pod, thanks to Scott Wood for arranging that.
- As mentioned earlier, one of the difficulties we faced during the year was lack of notice about upcoming construction events. Jamie Acheson did an admirable job in finding spots to move furniture and equipment on short notice. We also took major steps in cleaning out junk from the blower room, the electrical room and the boiler room. Thanks to Bob Mulcaster fro installing a new filter on the blower room door.
- Our relationship with Sunshine cleaners became strained at times when we didn't seem to be getting the quality of cleaning we would like. The kitchen and sanctuary in particular were ongoing areas of concern. After a couple of meetings with Sunshine management a new cleaning crew was assigned to us and things improved a little but it's still not what we would expect. A real big thank you to Catherine Wagg and Beth Rose for taking control of the Sunshine portfolio and holding them to task.
- New computers were purchased for Heather Mackey and James Bretzler. A new bulb for the projector in the sanctuary was purchased for \$400. Our original quote from Hill's was \$1,400. Some minor office equipment and furniture were also purchased.
- Repairs were made to burst pipes in St Paul's Hall and the Macmillan room. The parking lot lights were fixed and the sign at Brant St and Caroline replaced.

- Some majoring tree trimming and felling were completed by Mark, Jamie and I along the West property line. Bob Mulcaster also cut down a couple of dead apple trees
- Our new gardening equipment took a severe beating this year. The push mower was broken beyond repair and the tractor required over \$600 in repairs. A request was put in the bulletin for a useable gas mower and we received two from Marg Terry and one from Sheila Buckingham. Thank you. I have spoken with Jamie to let him know that he needs to be more aware of hidden objects when he cuts the grass.
- I'm sure there are other accomplishments, but I want to focus the remaining space on challenges/projects for next year.

The following are issues to be considered for next year:

- A more permanent solution to the divider situation in the Graceland rooms.
- Better use of the stage area for storage. Perhaps we might want to partially remove the stage to create some full size rooms where all the tables and chairs can be stored as well as a spot for the Graceland band. I would like to see St Paul's Hall devoid of clutter along the walls.
- Replacing the old floor tiles in the Graceland hallways to match the new ceramic tiles.
- Address the proposal from Ron Ferry to take over from Sunshine Cleaning and maintain the building during the evening hours.
- Our roof by the old music room entrance leaks considerably during heavy rains. We need to fix this ASAP.
- Get more flexibility to use Jamie for special situations, especially emergency cleaning.
- Solve the parking lot situation, although that is not directly the responsibility of Property.

Finally, thanks for the opportunity to serve in this capacity at Wellington Square. The first three months were truly a baptism by fire, but things have become more even keeled as of late. I cant speak for Mark, but I'll give it another go for the upcoming year if you'll have me.

Submitted by
Dee Glover

Stewardship

The stewardship team: Bryan Webber, Tony Wilson and Penny Bailey, under the leadership of Bruce Magwood will stand for another year, in His Service. We meet regularly, to seek the Lord, to evaluate present situations, to research and to discuss plans for moving forward.

The Stewardship Prayer Team:

We continue to contend that the financial issues of this Church are not just financial ~ they are spiritual and must be dealt with as such. The prayer team, Lynn Kasprzyk, Sue Zwicker and Penny Bailey, we will also "stand in the gap" for another year, meeting on Thursdays from 12:00 to 2:00pm. We use scripture-based prayers as a foundation and we listen for the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Counsel and sound judgment are mine, I have understanding and power, Proverbs 18:14

The Foundation of this work:

Stewardship is not just about \$'s and cents ~ Stewardship is to faithfully manage all that God has entrusted to us according to His Will and His Purposes, to His Glory; life, on earth and eternal life, time, family, friendships, relationships, gifts and talents, money and possessions, careers and roles, our purpose here on earth, faith, the earth and everything on it, the Gospel and His Grace.

Jesus commands us to "Be rich toward God."

The focus for this team continues to be, learning how to be "good stewards" of the finances entrusted to us, personally and corporately (the Church) so that we will be found trustworthy and bear greater fruit for the Kingdom of God.

"My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge." Hosea 4:6.

We need a solid foundation of understanding the many biblical, financial principles. 30% of what Jesus taught through the Parables, is about money and possessions.

Jesus said, "You cannot serve God and mammon." Matthew 6:24

The very first thing we need to "give"; is to give our hearts to Jesus, then the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us. The Bible says, the Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth.

Jesus said, "...they that worship Him, must worship Him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24
Everything must to be "rooted" in His love.

The Lord confirms a call to develop a culture of tithing (not under the law, but by grace, as an act of worship, reverence and thanksgiving) and "spirit led" giving.

- Giving is a spiritual discipline, just as prayer, fasting, reading the Word, worship, communion and fellowship is.
- Spiritual disciplines grow us up to become more like Christ. Jesus is a giving (He even gave up His life for us) and serving Lord and we are created in His Image.
- Your giving is a part of your spiritual journey.
- We encourage you to seek Him about what He is calling you to do. As people share their "giving" stories with us, we realize that people come to their decisions in a very individual and personal way and that is fine.

This past year we:

- reviewed our guiding principles, strategies, tactical plans and outcomes
- continue to meet with the leadership and the board to move forward with our plans.
- reviewed two significant surveys done this past year on Church giving – both surveys substantiate the need for teaching biblical principles.
- reviewed and selected materials from "Enough" a program on generosity.
- The 10-10-80 concept became a part of the Church financial plan. The first 10% (the tithe) to God's Kingdom work, the second 10% savings for Capital Expenditures and we learn to live on the remaining 80%. Because of the financial commitments to the "build" we reduced the "savings" to 2% for this year. We firmly believe we must do something in order to develop a "saving mentality" in our Church.
- Financial Peace University: Under the excellent leadership of Tony Wilson, we have held 3 FPU courses with 39 graduates. This is a 13 week, biblically based, DVD teaching by Dave Ramsey designed to help everyone learn to budget, save, live debt free, spend wisely, to plan for college/retirement funds and to build wealth so we can give generously and cheerfully. The testimonies of our students confirm that this is a program that will bear much fruit. Fall FPU begins Monday, Sept. 13th.
- God Provides - reviewed, six epic short films (with study guides) based on biblical characters such as Moses, Abraham and Jeremiah portrayed in biblical settings, brings the "provision" messages of the Bible to "life". Available for "small group" study.
- Tony continues to track, in detail, the trends and truth of our financial situation. "A well defined problem is a problem half solved." January to May, 2010 demonstrates a "steady" monthly increase over 2009, PAR givers have increased and previous PAR givers have updated their giving. "Slow and steady wins the race."
- Bryan did an excellent presentation at the March congregational meeting – it was well received.
- We have prepared power point presentations and graphs, and have met with the communications team to discuss communication for this next year.

This year:

We are presently working on developing a Move In and Move Up program:

- Our hope and prayer is to have opportunities to share what we have learned with the greater membership on Sunday mornings, may include a guest speaker, testimonies, drama, DVD and power point presentation and an opportunity to distribute the prayer cards.
- We would like to enhance our communication through the bulletin, bulletin board, brochure, and to encourage people to use the library resources.
- Bryan and Bruce will also be available for informational sessions to speak to small groups beginning this fall.
- Tony will continue to watch over the financials – accountability is a priority.

It is our desire for our people and this Church to be healthy and peaceful in financial matters, so that we may move forward and be the Hands and Feet of Jesus in this world, to the Glory of God our Father.

Respectfully submitted by
Penny Bailey

Youth Ministries

There's never a dull day in youth ministry and that is a fact. Working with teenagers not only keeps me young but also allows me to have one of the most varied ministries at the church. I get to take kids out for lunch, play games, share about my faith in fun/serious ways, be a sounding board for kids of all ages and just have fun.

We are so blessed at Wellington Square to have such a wide and varied group of kids who long to be involved at the church. There are many things to celebrate from this 2009-2010 calendar year and I am thankful for the chance to get to know each kid and to see just how special each one is.

The Edge

The Edge is a youth group for high school kids (grade 9-12) and meets every Sunday. We play games, have worship times, do bible studies, discuss topics from A-Z, hang out and just be ourselves. The Edge has always strived to be a place where teens can just be teens, a place and time in the church that they can call their own and begin to see the church building as "home".

A typical youth night can never be called typical but we did a variety of different things. We would have "normal" nights of games and hang out, various Bible studies (whether at the church or traveling), outreach nights at off site locations to pull in new faces (ex. Bowling, Movie Theatre, etc.). We also tried to get the kids to an evening young adult church service somewhere offsite every now and then. It's always great to see various styles of worship and to open our eyes to the possibilities we as a youth group can accomplish at the Square! If anything I hope those visits can inspire our kids to become spiritual leaders amongst their peers.

This year we welcomed in a large group of grade nines and it was exciting to see the youth group expand from the previous year. We have a fantastic, dedicated group of teens who attend on a regular basis both on Sunday nights and on Sunday mornings! Our hope is to continue to offer these youth chances to use their gifts while also exploring their own faith and who it will shape them to be.

One of my favourite parts of this ministry is the one to one times. I set myself a goal of once a week to connect with one or two youth from our church over lunch, hot chocolate, etc. to talk about life, fashion tips, parents, school and everything in between. However, there is only one Caitlin and we are blessed at the Square to have so many youth. My hope is to gather more leaders/volunteers to help connect with kids and mentor them as we all walk in faith together! For more info, take a peek at the Volunteer/Leadership paragraph below.

Rockpile

Rockpile is a youth group designed for grades 7&8 and they are definitely an energetic group. The main function of this group is to keep kids involved in the church and helping them feel ownership over the church. As well we hope to create relationships between the kids and leaders.

This past year we moved this group from Friday nights to Wednesdays. While this seemed odd at first I think the benefits of hosting it midweek allows the kids the chance to see that the church itself is not just a "weekend" thing! It gives them the visual and personal reminder that the church is a place for them at any time of the day, week, etc. I personally also enjoyed keeping Friday nights open for other events such as GraceLand Band practices and special events for both the Rockpile and Edge groups as they happened (sleepovers, conferences, etc).

Rockpile is loosely based off the Edge group as it eventually leads into that age group. We did events such as bowling and sleepovers while also focusing on ways to help out within the church. This age group was excessively willing to step forward and be present/help out for events such as Trivia Night, running the Christmas Eve service, the UCW Rummage Sale and more! I'm always amazed by the desire and focus of this age group and have great expectations for them in the fall as our grade 8s

step into high school and transition into the Edge group while our “new” 8th graders can mentor the grade 7s coming in!

Youth Mexico Mission Trip 2010

From March 13th to 20th, 2010, we sent 22 youth and 7 leaders to Ensenada, Mexico to build two houses with YUGO. Fun was had by all as we got to experience the Mexican culture, enjoy long traveling days, offer our bodies as living sacrifices as well as reconnect with our previous youth director, Rhonda Elgersma. As this was my first trip, I am so thankful for each and every person chosen to come with me! Each kid was awesome; willing and eager to work, excited at all times and willing to try new things. As for our leaders, well they are thanked later on but they all know how grateful I am for their presence on this trip. We had a few hiccups with illness and small injuries but God was watching over us and helped us pull through to not only build a house but a *home* for each of the Reyes Amador and the Guerrez Schez families!

Volunteers/Leadership

Thank you, thank you, thank you! To all and everyone involved in the youth programs this past year. Whether you stopped by to supervise for a special event, or if you provided a snack from time to time or if you dropped off other peoples kids... thank you for your support!

Thank you to Andrew Alton for his continuous support of youth ministry. Thank you for your eagerness to step forward and participate in games, help lead small group discussions, offer to take on leadership roles and your overall excitement for the youth of this church.

Thank you to our Mexico leaders: Andrew Alton, Carol Glover, Dee Glover, Linda Scott, Mark Wignall and Steph Wignall. Without your gifts, inspiration and support I may not have come back to the Square after this trip! You are all blessings and a valued part of youth missions. Also, thank you to Nancy James and company for your fabulous work with the Silent Auction.

Volunteers and helpers are the most important part of running any program and as we look to expand our volunteer recruitment for the future I am continually thankful for the energy, thoughts, ideas and support of the leaders within this church.

GraceLand Involvement

This past year offered new opportunities for me to stay connected with Edge and Rockpile kids alike by my involvement with the GraceLand Band and the GraceLand Drama team. By working with these groups I got to work with these youth as they expand their spiritual gifts in term of worship and praise while also encouraging them to step up into new roles of leadership.

I look forward to continued involvement with these ministries as Heather Mackey, the Children’s Ministry Coordinator, and I strive to make a smooth transition for the kids coming out of Children’s Ministry and stepping into Youth Ministry.

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity”.

1 Timothy 4:12

Thanks for the prayers, concerns, questions and fashion tips,

Caitlin Belanger
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Board Nominees

The Board is comprised of Tish Buckley, Jeremy Cox, Lindsay Foster, Orville James, Sharon Mosher, Rob Smith, Katie Southon and Laretta Weir.

This year Tori Jones is retiring and the following are being nominated to join the Board:

Pam Butler | I am an 8th generation English Montrealer who grew up in the United Church. Our family had a summer estate in the Laurentians north of Montreal and our lake community held a non-denominational church service in our living and dining rooms every Sunday during the summer months. We had about 100-150 attending each week and the offering was sent to missions and charities around the world. This tradition has been going on for over 80 years and takes place to this day, although not in our house as we sold it in 1979 before moving to Burlington. I trained as a nurse and enjoyed a fulfilling career of 31 years as an intensive care nurse then a delivery room nurse. I am married for 45 wonderful years to John and we have been blessed with three daughters and now have three grandchildren living 5 minutes from us!

I am involved in the United Church Women's group and serve as recording secretary and corresponding secretary. I sing with the Singing Strummers, out of our church, and we entertain at nursing homes and hospitals in the area. I do pastoral care visiting for Wellington Square on a regular basis to provide some spiritual support to those who are ill.

I organize and run a retired nurses group giving an opportunity for the nurses at Joseph Brant to enjoy a monthly lunch with old colleagues at various restaurants. I have served on the executive of the Tyandaga Gypsies golf group for the past 6 years and have been an active member of this group for 23 years. My interests include reading, knitting, sewing, music, flowers and travel.

I am looking forward to serving on the Board of Wellington Square and am excited to be able to have a part in guiding our congregation through the next year. With the expansion almost complete, we can now start moving forward and helping to make a difference in our Christian community as well as serving our own church family.

Alvin Kiers | The community of Wellington Square has kept my wife Jennifer and I coming since 1999, along with our three children Megan (2004), William (2007), and Nathan (2010). Some of the things I like about Wellington Square are that it allows for spiritual transformation at an individual pace, within small groups, community outreach, music or mingling in St. Paul's Hall. The fascination about this is that God is working within me and others whether I'm conscious of it or not. It is my hope that everyone feels Christ touch within Wellington's community.

I was baptized and raised in the Christian Reformed Church. Working hours I'm busy at a Wastewater Treatment facility for the Region of Halton in Oakville.

Fave actors: Adam Sandler, Harrison Ford

Fave sport events: Summer/Winter Olympics

Fave activities: volleyball, sailing

Fave moments: quiet early morning sunrises with coffee

Alicia Holloway | I joined Wellington Square in 2001 with my husband, Dave. We have two children (ages 4 yrs & 18 mos) who have so much fun in Graceland! Over the past nine years, I've been a part of several groups including Moms n Tots, Quarry and others. I am a software engineer but am currently enjoying some time as a stay-at-home mom. I love reading, cooking, photography and doing all sorts of crafty things like pottery, greeting cards, sewing and the like. On sunny mornings, our family can often be found hiking on some of the beautiful trails in the area.

This is an exciting place to be growing and sharing in community together. I'm looking forward to seeing where God will take our church over the next few years and am thrilled to get to work with such an awesome team in the coming months!

Fave books: The Red Tent, The Kite Runner, The Power of One, The Birth House

Fave snack: Brie & crackers

Fave destination: Algonquin with a canoe

Trustee Nominees

Bruce Hillyer | brings his expertise as a lawyer to our Trustees Board. He was a member of Wellington Square for a number of years in the 70's and 80's then worshipped elsewhere for a number of years and is returning to active membership at the Square. Bruce loves the outdoors and is an active hunter and hobby farmer. He and Jan have two grown daughters and several grandchildren.

John McArthur | comes to our Trustee Board with special experience in the insurance industry. He was a member of Wellington Square back in the 80's until business interests moved him to Vancouver where he was active at Ryerson United. He and his wife Bev are settling back into Burlington closer to children and grandchildren, where John can play golf, and continue as a consultant to insurance clients.

Wellington Square United Church Income Statement

	<u>Actual 2008-2009</u>	<u>Actual 2009-2010</u>	<u>Budget 2010-2011</u>
REVENUE			
General and Loose Offerings	582,299.00	572,514.00	590,000.00
Outreach Directed Givings	59,912.00	48,646.00	22,000.00
M&S Contributions	50,540.00	49,959.00	50,000.00
Crisis Care	16,306.00	19,950.00	20,000.00
Other Income	11,185.00	3,118.00	
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>720,242.00</u>	<u>694,187.00</u>	<u>682,000.00</u>
EXPENSES			
Total Salaries	374,241.00	362,037.00	308,123.00
Salary Expenses	64,927.00	66,071.00	61,358.00
Total Property	98,438.00	111,797.00	113,160.00
Admin. & Finance	27,587.00	23,010.00	22,630.00
Total Christian Development	10,478.00	12,096.00	15,300.00
Music & Worship	6,783.00	5,637.00	5,705.00
Hospitality	1,009.00	1,052.00	1,085.00
Pastoral Care	936.00	981.00	1,265.00
Stewardship	725.00	1,061.00	1,405.00
Presbytery Assessment	6,804.00	12,327.00	10,000.00
Appreciation	80.00	10.00	94.00
Ministry and Personnel	1,067.00	350.00	905.00
Other Expenses	29,369.00		
Advertising (Newspaper/Signs)	950.00	80.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>623,394.00</u>	<u>596,509.00</u>	<u>541,030.00</u>
OUTREACH GENERAL	4,655.00	8,351.00	37,170.00
OUTREACH DIRECTED	59,912.00	48,646.00	22,000.00
M&S	50,540.00	49,959.00	50,000.00
CRISIS CARE	16,306.00	19,950.00	20,000.00
CAPITAL RESERVE	0.00	11,189.00	11,800.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>754,807.00</u>	<u>734,604.00</u>	<u>682,000.00</u>
SHORTFALL/SURPLUS	<u>-34,565.00</u>	<u>-40,417.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Wellington Square United Church
Balance Sheet as at 30/06/2010

ASSETS

Cash	35,567.20
Investments	404,975.06
Capital Renovations	54,066.14
Capital Reserve Fund	11,650.04
Total Current Assets	<u><u>506,258.44</u></u>

LIABILITIES

Current	
Accounts Payable	3,960.00
Capital Campaign	54,943.30
Misc.	5,954.04
Total Liabilities	<u><u>64,857.34</u></u>

SPECIAL FUNDS

Total Funds	<u><u>437,240.87</u></u>
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CAPITAL RESERVE

Total Funds	<u><u>11,650.04</u></u>
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SPECIAL PROJECTS

Total Special Projects	<u><u>32,927.88</u></u>
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CURRENT DEFICIT

Current deficit/surplus Total	<u><u>-40,417.69</u></u>
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Total Liabilities	<u><u>506,258.44</u></u>
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