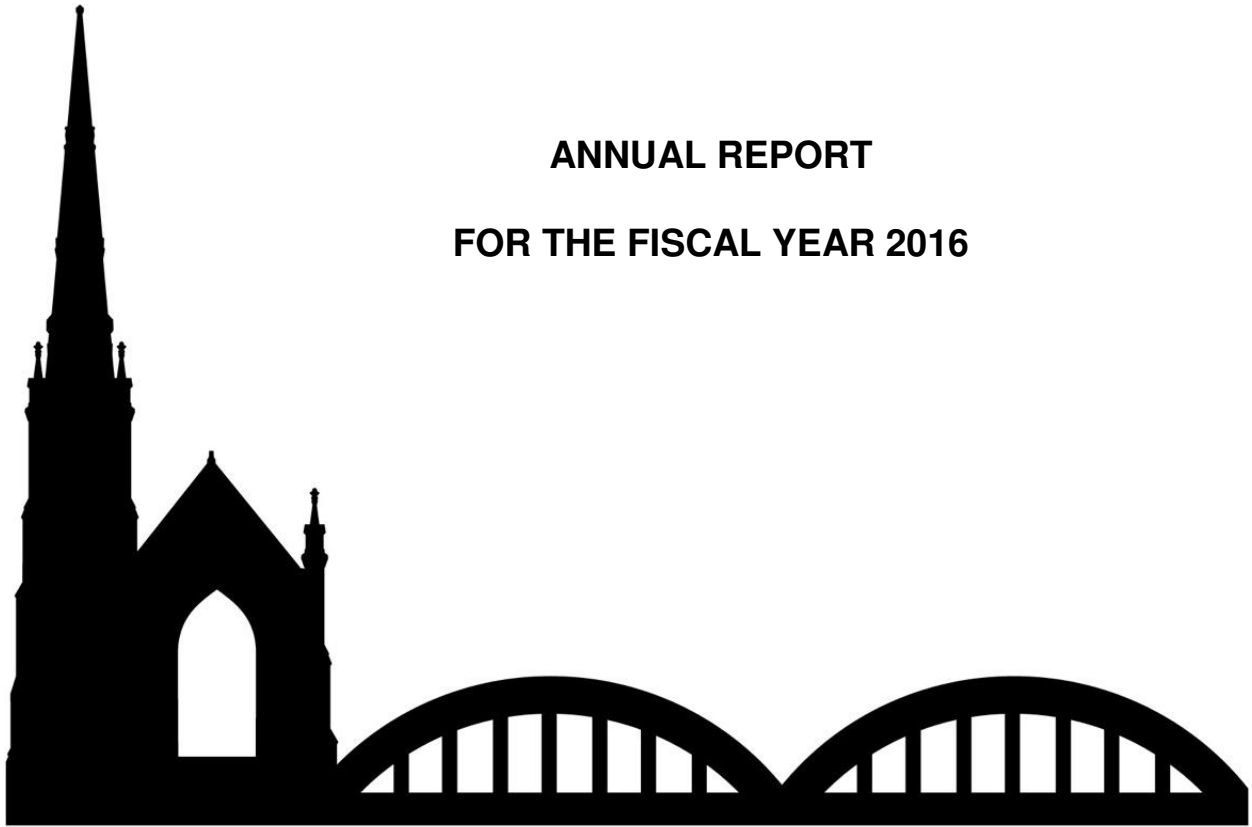


ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016



Central Presbyterian Church
Celebrating 135 Years

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GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS-ADMINISTRATION

Church Office 519-623-1080
Church E-Mail Address office@cpcmail.ca
Church website www.centralchurchcambridge.ca

Teaching Elder: Rev. Dr. Aubrey Botha 519- 620-4415
Director of Music: Brad Paddock 519-740-1524
Interim Youth Ministry Leader: Harold McDougall
Children's Ministry Leader: Stacey Yale 226-218-6530
Administrative Secretary: Lyanne Lynch
Custodian: Barry Bethley Sunday Custodian: Don Willis
Session, monthly, first Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Clerk: Dr. Lynda Pinnington 519-622-2157
Management Committee: first Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Worship: third Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.
Board of Managers, monthly, fourth Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

MUSIC

Senior Choir, weekly, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. President: Elizabeth Cresswell
Praise Team, weekly, Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Nursery, Sundays during worship, Nursery Co-Ordinator:
Sunday School, 10:15-11:00, Stacey Yale
Kidventure, (Grades 2 & 3) 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month @ 6:30
Bible Wonders (Grades 4-6) 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month @ 6:30
Little Whiskers (Ages 4-5) 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 6:30
Honeybees (2-3 years old) 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 6:30
Kid's Club, once a month
Jr. & Sr. Youth Group, Wednesdays, @ 7:00

LIBRARY

Open weekdays 9:00 - 12:00 noon and on Sundays

ADULT ACTIVITIES

Prayer Group meets every Tuesday evening @7:30 in the parlour.

Redwood Bible Study meets 2nd & 4th Thursday evening @7:30
Contact: Denise McClellan 519-658-5857

Nairn/Taylor Circle
President: Roberta Dedman 519-623-8228

Men's Club meets third Saturday every month, 8:30 a.m. for breakfast.
Contact: Peter Hood 621-3048 or George Knight 267-2962

LOTO-(Ladies on their own) meets 3rd Friday of the month, 7:00 @1916 Coronation Blvd.
Contact: Faith Brown 519- 653-6868

Women's Bible Study meets Friday mornings, 10:00 a.m.
Contact: Carolyn Witzke 519-620-7346

Rugged Hands Men's Group
Contact: Scott McHardy 519-624-0502

So, it is that time of year again when we look back on a year filled with God's abundant blessing and care in this faith community at Central Church.

There are so many things to be grateful for. We have seen wonderful things happen in our worship services. The summer of 2106 was one of the best summers regarding attendance that we have seen in many years. God continues to bless us with new members that join the church and become part of our church community. The small groups are gathering momentum and with the new Alpha program we continue to see spiritual growth new and exciting ways.

December was wonderful celebration when we could start using our new liturgical area. We thank God for faithful and forward looking people who made this possible. Our prayer is that this worship area will serve as a platform to honour our Lord in many and new creative ways.

As I look back over 15 years of being the pastor at Central Church I am overwhelmed to see who we have grown as a faith community. To see how open, we are as a congregation to face new challenges and to travel on new paths. We are truly blessed with an amazing congregation. Thank you again for being faithful stewards we were blessed in abundance by your gracious and giving spirit.

I know that we will face many new adventures in the year to come but with God's guidance we will persevere as we have done for 135 years.

*³¹ but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.*

(Isaiah 40:31)

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

February 24, 2017 at 7:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Election of Secretary
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Minutes of the 2016 Meeting
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
6. Minister's Remarks
7. **2016 Group Reports**
 - A. Session, Statistical Report, Staff Reports
 - B. Session Committee Reports
 - C. Board of Managers Report
 - D. Group Reports
8. **2016 Financial Reports**
 - A. Group Financial Reports
 - B. Treasurer's Report
 - C. Auditor's Statement
9. 2017 Budget
10. Appointment of Auditor for 2017
11. Appointment of Trustees
12. Report of the Board of Managers Nominating Committee
13. New Business
14. Adjournment
15. Closing Prayer

ANNUAL MEETING SERVICE
FEBRUARY 28, 2016

1. Call to Worship: The choir and the Praise Band led the singing of "Still".
2. Welcome and Prayer: Aubrey explained that this year we were doing something different by incorporating our Annual Meeting into a Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving for the many ways in which God blessed our congregation in 2015.
3. Opening Hymn: The congregation sang City of God.
4. Scripture Reading and Reflection: Aubrey read from I Corinthians Chapter 12 and spoke about the body of Christ and how each part is important and needed.
5. Christian Education: Children's and Family Ministry and Youth Ministry presented video highlights of the past year's activities. The children led the congregation in a song and Shuffle dance. This was followed by a prayer of thanksgiving for our Christian Education ministry.
6. Congregational Hymn: How Great is our God
7. Men's and Women's Groups: There was a video presentation highlighting some of the work of Rugged Hands, the Men's Breakfast Group and WinGS. This was followed by a Prayer of Thanksgiving.
8. Prayer::There was a short video on the power of prayer followed by our Prayer Hymn, Lord I Need You.
9. Missions and Outreach: There was a video presentation highlighting some of our Missions work with Supper at Central, The Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank, the Mitten Tree, Sunday Night at Central and Rachel's Home. The presentation also showed the many ways we communicate through online media such as Facebook, YouTube and our website. Alexander McIlwraith then led a prayer of thanksgiving for our mission work and asked God to provide us with increased opportunities to serve.
10. Offering: Following the offering, the congregation sang verses 1,3, 4 of Praise to the Lord
11. Reports and Budget Presentation
 - i) Moved by Alexander McIlwraith, seconded by Dave Couttie that we adopt the minutes of the 2015 meeting. CARRIED.
 - ii) Moved by Alan Sutton, seconded by Jack Kok, that we accept the Group Reports as presented in the Annual Report. CARRIED. Linda Brown requested that there be more notice given about the availability of the Annual Report on the website. She also asked about the status of the search for Youth Ministry Leader. Joan Bell, chair of Christian Education, responded that a recommendation will be coming to the March session meeting in that regard.
 - iii) Moved by Garry Bell, seconded by Sandy Barrie, that the Group Financial Reports be approved as presented in the Annual Report. CARRIED.
 - iv) The Auditor's report for 2015 will be available next week. Moved by Garry Bell, seconded by Shelley Joiner, that Graham Poll be appointed auditor for 2016. CARRIED.

v) Moved by Garry Bell, seconded by Bruce Jones, that John Saliba, Don Sparrow and Jack Kok be appointed to the Board of Managers for three year terms. CARRIED.

vi) Moved by Garry Bell, seconded by Kohar Kelejian, that we receive the proposed 2016 budget for discussion. CARRIED.

Shelley Joiner presented the current situation with regard to our four Restricted Funds: Roof, Lesotho, Central Cares and Buchner Estate.

Jan Sparrow asked if the decision to construct the new platform at the front of the Sanctuary will be brought to the congregation for a vote and if the Buchner Funds could be used for the Roof. Peter Goudy responded that the decision on the platform will be brought to the congregation when final drawings and firm quotes are available. He also responded that we are following the instructions in Barbara Buchner's will regarding use of the bequest.

Joan Bell requested, on behalf of Christian Education, that the proposed budget for Youth Ministry be changed to \$3500 and for Children's and Family Ministry be changed to \$4500. Since this change did not alter the total amount (\$8000) allocated to Christian Education, it was agreed that the change could be made without a formal motion.

There being no further question or discussion, it was moved by Alan Sutton, seconded by Mike Jennings, that the 2016 budget be approved as presented. CARRIED.

Aubrey led the congregation in a Prayer of Thanksgiving.

vii) Linda Foster asked about the current situation with regard to the Roof. Garry Bell responded that there will be a special congregational meeting held shortly to discuss the Roof and other building maintenance issues.

12. Closing Hymn: The congregation sang Great is Thy Faithfulness

13. Benediction: Aubrey closed the meeting and the service with the Benediction.

After the service, the congregation enjoyed a lunch prepared by the Youth Groups.

SESSION REPORT 2016

In 2016 we continued with our two services: at 9:15 an informal service led by our Praise Band and at 11:00 o'clock a service with music led by our choir. The same sermon is preached at both services. This year Sunday School for children was offered during the 9:15 service and Kids' Club took place during the 11:00 am service. This change accommodated children and parents at both services.

We had a joyful occasion on Sunday December 4 when we dedicated our new worship platform. Construction took place during the fall and only caused minor inconvenience. In December with our Advent communion service, the Children's Christmas Pageant and our Christmas Eve service, we saw how versatile and flexible our new worship space is. We give thanks to God for this new addition to our Sanctuary and remember with gratitude our late member and elder, Barbara Buchner, whose gift to Central in her will made it all possible.

This year, three elders, Armintha Carmichael, Shelley Joiner, and Dennis Mercier, retired from session due to relocating to other communities.. We thank all of them for their dedication and the many contributions they made to Central while serving as elders.

We want to express our deepest appreciation to the pastoral staff who work so diligently in the Lord's service in our congregation: Brad Paddock, our Music Director, Gwen Darling our Choir Director and Stacey Yale, our Children's and Family Ministry Leader. We also want to express our most sincere thanks to our Minister, the Rev. Dr. Aubrey J. Botha, whose leadership, teaching, pastoral care and compassion have enriched and strengthened this congregation immeasurably. We pray for God's blessing on each of them as they continue in His service.

Elders on Session Committees as of December 31, 2016

Care Groups	Bruce Jones, Alexander McIlwraith
Central Cares	John Saliba, Doris Taylor
Communications	Greg Gowing, Alexander McIlwraith, Sharon Wohlgemut
Missions/Outreach	Denise McClellan, Sandy Barrie, Greg Gowing, Alexander McIlwraith, Alejandro Ortiz,
Pastoral Relations	Pat Couttie, Andrew Foster, Jim Mattear, Lynda Pinnington
Personnel	Horst Wohlgemut, Scott McHardy
Presbytery Rep	Andrew Foster; alternate: Peter Goudy
Standards	Pat Couttie, Dawn McIlwraith
Stewardship	George Barrie, Greg Gowing, Lynda Pinnington, Petronella Read
Use of Church	Jim Mattear
Worship	Peter Goudy, David Couttie, Andrew Foster, Garry Bell, Lorna From, Dawn McIlwraith, Henk Oudshoorn
Clerk of Session	Lynda Pinnington
Visiting Elder	Margaret Macnamara

**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MEMBERSHIP STATISTICAL REPORT**

January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

Communicant Members as of December, 2016 341

New Members 0

Sub Total 341

Deaths 4

Transfers 2

Removed 22

Communicant members as of December 31, 2016 313

We are sorry to report that during the past year we lost the following members: Dolores Rueffer, Anne McQueen, Andrew Knight, Bruce Poland and adherents Tony Caley and Ellis Leach. The church offers their condolences to the families and friends of those members.

Again this year we are identifying the 190 adherents that worship with us.

Respectfully submitted by the Standards Committee *Pat Couttie*

5 YEAR COMPARISON STATISTICAL REPORT

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
<i>Communicant Members</i>	349	354	344	342	341
<i>New Members</i>	14	8	3	5	2
<i>Re-Instated</i>					
<i>Transfer Out</i>			2		2
<i>Removals</i>	11	0	1	8	22
<i>Deaths</i>	2	7	3	5	4
<i>Year End Member Total</i>	354	343	342	341	313
<i>Sunday School</i>	70	50	55		30 attend 66 registered

Baptisms for 2016: Stephen Robbins, Davide Vacca, Lila Floyd, Jake Cresswell, Gabriel O'Brien and Sia Honarkhoh

Funerals for 2016: Anne McQueen

Central Presbyterian Church
2016 Children's & Family Ministry Report

Children's and Family Ministry includes all children from birth to Grade 6 and their families. It also includes Sunday school for youth in Grades 6 to 8.

Sunday Mornings at Central

Nursery is available every Sunday morning for infants and toddlers up to two years of age. Kohar Kilejian schedules volunteers and cleans and organizes the nursery. Our team of caring volunteers ensures we provide a warm and nurturing place for our youngest church attendees.



We provided **Sunday school** for all children ages 2 up to Grade 8. Sunday school is offered during the 9:15 worship service. The preschool class – children ages 2 to 3 years – used a wonderful curriculum from Faith Alive Christian Resources called “God Loves Me.”

All other age groups used “Dwell,” also by Faith Alive.



For families that attend the 11:00 service, **Kids' Club** ran in the classroom downstairs for all children. Self-directed Christian themed activities were provided.

Our teachers in 2016 were: Scott Brunskill, Kohar Kilejian, Caroline Mulder-Sutton, Joan Bell, Linda Foster, Amy & Jeremie Nelson, Valerie Cleland, Patti Lamont, Faye Fitzpatrick, Scott Mchardy, Barb Simoes, Denise McClellan, Rachel Cleland-Ainsworth, Linda Brown and Cindy Vizi. These wonderful teachers are faithful servants of the

Lord. God bless them for taking time from their busy schedules to help our children learn God's Word and grow in their faith.

Helpers are an essential part of the Sunday school classroom. Thank you to those who assisted our teachers on a Sunday morning.

We provide **Children's Church** on holiday weekends and through the summer. On these Sundays, children up to Grade 6 met together in the classroom downstairs for Bible exploration, songs, games and crafts.

We celebrated the end of the school year by taking a busload of children and adults to Doon Heritage Crossroads on June 12th for a **Sunday school picnic**. Thank you to all who provided sandwiches and other treats for this event.

Mid-Week Children's Groups

Bible Wonders, a group for all children in Grades 1-6, meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. We use *Faithweaver Friends (Elementary)* curriculum. Children enjoy a snack together with their friends, learn about God and His Word through storytelling and dramas, games, crafts, music and other surprise activities, all designed to help cement that week's bible point.

Honeybees (2 & 3 year olds) and **Little Whiskers** (JK/SK) met every 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We used *Faithweaver Friends (Pre-school)* curriculum up to June. In September, we began using “Big, Big God.” They enjoy free play time at the start of the evening. After free play, the children rotate through different activity centers: Bible Story, Crafts, Games and Snack.

PD Day Program

PD Day programs were offered during the 2015/2016 school year. Programs were 3 hours in duration; one day we ran a 7 hour program. While initially these programs were well attended, over time, it seemed that the need for such programs were not in great demand. If families would like to see PD Day Programs brought back, please contact Stacey. Thank you to Dawn McIlwraith for her help during our full-day program. What a lot of work – and fun – that was!

Vacation Bible Camp

This year’s Vacation Bible Camp was a huge departure for us. For many years, Central Church partnered with our sister church across the Square, Knox’s Galt, to host a half-day program out of their building. In 2015, Central ran VBC on our own for the first time. This past summer, we ran a full-day camp the week of August 8th to 12th, in partnership with Camp Kintail. The program was called **Kintail on the Road (KOTR)**, and it was a tremendous success!



KOTR was led by camp Kintail counselors, while Central Church handled administrative duties, supplied the location, snacks and volunteers to guide the children, and provide additional support to the leaders.

Sixty-five children attended KOTR. Pre-registration was slow at the outset; but then word of our camp spread through the community, and by the first day of camp, we had a dozen additional children enroll. Kids and parents alike said it was the best vacation bible camp they’d ever been to. Some families shared that it was one of the best camps – Christian or secular, paid or free – that they had ever participated in. What a glowing endorsement!

This week-long event is a large undertaking and could not happen without the generosity of many people. Thank God for those who gave of their time, talents and resources to make this camp a success. **We will run KOTR again in 2017.** Be sure to keep the week of August 14th open so your kids don’t miss out on this awesome opportunity to develop or deepen their friendship with Jesus.

Be sure to read the report from Dawn McIlwraith for highlights from this year’s VBC.

UN-Halloween Party

What is an UN-Halloween Party, you ask?

Well, this year’s party included a Pumpkin Parable, great costumes, bible-themed games and lots of goodies to eat.

It includes all the fun, but none of the scary stuff that Halloween is associated with.

And we keep Jesus at the center of it all. (*Psalm 27:1*)



Family Events

Our annual **Children's Ministry Easter Breakfast** was held on March 26th and approximately 50 parents and children attended. This is a great opportunity for families to connect and have fellowship.

The **Family Christmas Dinner** was held at Central Church on December 4th. This year, we had a potluck supper and everyone contributed delicious entrees, side dishes and yummy desserts. Our family Christmas dinner is an annual tradition that families look forward to each year.

Christmas Pageant



This year's pageant presented a modern twist to the Nativity story. In this retelling, several first-century TV reporters are chasing a big story on the census when they stumble upon the story of a lifetime—the birth of the Messiah! Our intrepid reporters gain exclusive interviews with Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and other eyewitnesses present at the time of Jesus' birth!

This year, the pageant was performed on the new platform!

God bless everyone who worked so hard to pull everything together. I am always surprised and delighted by what our children can do when given the opportunity.



While this event has generally been referred to as the Children's Christmas Pageant, it is wonderful to see people of all ages get involved. We had children, youth, and adults all take part; each person added something special to the mix, and were a blessing to all who witnessed the presentation.

If you would like a DVD of the pageant, including photographs, please contact Stacey. A free-will offering to help support the ministry would be appreciated.

The Year Ahead

I thank everyone for their continued prayers and support of this ministry. Please continue to pray as I seek to discern God's will for the programs that we offer here at Central for our children. May we always strive to do everything with excellence in His name.

I look forward to another year of working with you in service to God as we help our children grow in the faith and become devoted Christ-followers.

In His Service,

Stacey Yale, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Ephesians 4:11-13

August 8th – 12th, 2016

What a wonderful week we had for Vacation Bible Camp! Yes, it was hot and humid, but it didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm. With 62 campers registered, it was a full house. But at times, as the leaders Labrador, Alpaca or Doe told stories, it was hard to believe your eyes that so many children could sit so quietly. When we announced juice boxes for snack, however, the roar was deafening.

This was our first joint venture with Camp Kintail, a Presbyterian Church Camp located on the Bluewater Highway, North of Goderich, Ontario. Their leaders provided the program – known as “Kintail on the Road” – and program leadership, while we handled administrative duties, and supplied the location, children, snacks and other leaders to guide and direct.

It was fun to learn that no matter what kind of fruit you want to be (including knocks on the head for coconut, or the roar and claw for dragon fruit), you can't, “Cause the Fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.” And all to a catchy tune I can't get out of my head, though the actions still elude me. Labrador had a verse and action for every fruit the children suggested (Including a tomato: “it's a fruit!”). The songs were all new and the children never seem to tire of doing the silly actions as part of the experience.

With daily themes like the courage to show up, to forgive, to stand, do justice or to change, the team played games, told stories, and directed crafts that illustrated the themes with more than just words; the children soaked it in. Speaking of a soaking, Wednesday was also Water Day and that cool water dripping down your back from a sponge was a relief from the heat. You almost wanted to be hit by a water balloon, if you had your bathing suit on.



Because we had a full day program, there was time for morning and afternoon snacks as well as lunch, which each child brought. There were so many lunch leftovers from Sunday's Fund Raising Luncheon; we were able to feed all the leaders all week. Thanks to all who contributed. Snacks included strawberry and marshmallows kebabs, cookies and milk, Freezies, ice cream bars, oranges, watermelon, and ice cream cone cakes. The kitchen staff outdid themselves... no leftovers there!

When you hear children and parents saying, “This has been the best Vacation Bible Program, we have attended”, we know we found a good thing. Thank you, Stacey, for finding this and for all your work to make it happen. Thanks to the team from Kintail that brought enthusiasm to the work of training our “children in the way they should go.” We saw evidence of the learning happening already.

As I look back at those who contributed to the effort, I realized VBC this year was a multi-generational event. Children participated in the program. Our youth served as shepherds and guides. Parents became fellow worshippers on Friday as children led the worship service. Adults and seniors prepared and provided snacks and a cup of cold water. All of us serving and learning together.

Dawn McIlwraith, VBC Volunteer/Leader
August 16th, 2016

2016 Annual Youth Group Report

Youth Leaders

Cindy , Alistair and Greg

2016 was a very active and exciting year for Central's Youth Group.

We lost our Youth Leader early in the year and were quite concerned about the continuation of the Youth Group .

Fortunately, we have a strong volunteer group that came together to make the transition fairly smooth.

We continue to have a new lesson every week with a great biblical message that relates to teens and young adults. We start off the evening with appropriate games, snacks and end with praising God.

We ran two bake sales in between the Church services to raise money for our sponsor child and for Pitch and Praise May long weekend. They were both truly successful. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the congregation.

Over 20 Youth came out to Pitch and Praise and listened to excellent messages and formed greater bonds with each other.

We had several speakers come and speak to the youth over the year.

We had an end of year BBQ and swimming party with over 30 in attendance.

Over the summer we were together to play laser quest in Kitchener in July and had a games, BBQ and camp fire in August at one of the Youth leaders homes.

The fall brought us back together with over 20 regular attendees. We had more speakers and special events and we ended with a Christmas Banquet. The boys helped prepare and serve the 4 course turkey dinner for the girls.

We all enjoy being together and growing in Christ.

Respectfully Submitted by Cindy Vizi

Missions and Outreach Committee Report for 2016

In January Alejandro Ortiz spoke at our Missions Night about his trip to Cubulco, Guatemala, where he and a dedicated team of mostly Christian volunteers built a new church, alongside members of the local community. He had a very important message for us about how the church has a responsibility to reach out and change the lives of those in need in our community and the world. Alejandro told us how the mission team and the people of Cubulco not only built a church together but built relationships with hope and faith and shared God's love with each other. New friendships were established and along the way some became Christians. Isn't this what Missions and Outreach is all about? Perhaps some of us will want to join Alejandro on his next mission trip.

And so we continue to support our local mission project, the Cambridge Self Help Food Bank, our international mission project at Rachel's Home, in Maputsoe, Lesotho, and others. You are an amazing church family with big hearts and generous spirits. Without your faithful prayers and giving of time, talents and financial support these projects would not be possible.

The HIV/AIDS orphanage and community preschool at Rachel's Home is lovingly cared for by Hilda, the founder and house mother and a woman with incredibly strong Christian faith. We pray that the four orphaned students we have been supporting will graduate this month from high school and that Grade 1 which has been added this year to the community school will be a success. The number of orphans is now eleven so we ask for your continuing prayers and support for Hilda and her family as they accomplish this life saving work.

We wish to thank the many volunteers who continued to support Mike's Lunch Basket Program every other month by setting up, preparing a hot nutritious lunch, serving and clearing up. Guests were so pleased with the excellent food but also the friendliness and caring of the volunteers. Central along with four other churches have been asked to provide meals every Saturday of this year. Please speak to us if you can help even one Saturday for 3 - 4 hours.

This year several members of Central joined a team from Cambridge Memorial Hospital to once again raise an amazing amount of funds to support Rachel's Home as they ran the Road to Hope Marathon. A special thank you to Johann and his CMH team!

This past September the Alpha Program was launched by Alexander McIlwraith (Chair of the Alpha Subcommittee)) and a dedicated group of volunteers. Please continue to pray for and support this important program throughout the two 2017 courses as people find answers to their questions as they search for God.

We wish to thank all those who participated in the monthly Muffin Morning project for Lesotho, whether it was to bake the goodies or serve the refreshments. We also thank Alistair for his special graphics talents in advertising our activities and Greg Gowing for all his work promoting our activities on our website and in other on-line forums.

We would be very happy to have new members join our committee, volunteers to help with any events or any new ideas submitted for activities you would like to see at Central. On behalf of your Session, we wish to thank you for your contribution to Presbyterians Sharing which is a part of our General Operating Funds. Very valuable Canadian mission and ministry work is supported through this initiative of the national church. With God's continuing love and guidance, Central is making a difference in many people's lives here in Cambridge and abroad.

Below is a listing of the year's activities and what projects Central supported:
 (Our budget of \$200.00 is used for producing promotional materials and photocopying)

Lesotho Education Project (international)

Elsie's January Lesotho Lunch	\$282.90
February Missions Night – Stephanie Vizi	-----
February Pancake Supper	\$508.30
Elsie's March Easter Breakfast	\$265.80
Elsie's June Lesotho Brunch	\$195.60
Lesotho missions trips 2009/2012 reunion	-----
Penny Tube	\$281.60+
CMH Road to Hope Marathon	\$5933.00
On-line donations	\$245.00+
Other anonymous donations	_____
Muffin morning	_____

Cambridge Self Help Food Bank (local)

Rescue Junction Music Night	\$645.00
Funds remaining from Suppers at Central	\$1057.27
Summer challenge	1366 jars of baby food (other items total 1375)
White Gift Sunday	~70 gifts for seniors
Mitten tree for children and youth	\$1003.00+many winter clothing items
Yearly gently used clothing	-----
Yearly food donations	-----
Other anonymous donations	_____

Other (in-house and local)

June garage sale for Preservation Fund	\$935.00
Trinity Community Table – funds remaining from Suppers at Central	\$1057.27
Alpha program	\$1130.00
Congregational Potluck Christmas Supper	-----

Respectfully submitted by your Missions and Outreach Committee –

Sandy Barrie, Lawrence Cresswell, Greg Gowing, Denise McClellan (Chair), Alexander McIlwraith, Alejandro Ortiz, Doris Taylor, Grace and Henry Van Druten, Stephanie Vizi.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

This Committee has a mandate to initiate strategies which improve communication within the congregation and the broader community by:

- a) fostering a sense of fellowship within the Central Church community by supporting access to church-related information via technology and print resources.
- b) informing visitors and newcomers about Central Church activities and opportunities.
- c) linking Central Church members to one another as well as to the larger Christian community.

In 2016, the committee concentrated on the following activities:

1. developing and delivering a questionnaire to assess the communication choices of the congregation and analyzing the data to make improvements
2. updating the church directory information based on information contained in the questionnaires
3. establishing an on-line calendar to make the planning of meetings and events easier and introducing an advertising format for such events
4. maintaining and upgrading both hardware and the Central Church web site
5. advertising Central events on social media
6. designing a print brochure to be placed in church pews
7. videotaping a service and making it available on social media as a method of extending Central's outreach
8. developing a Communication Strategic Plan as part of the Central Strategic Plan for the review and renewal of Central Church activities and programs

I would like to express my appreciation to my committee members, Alistair McIlwraith, Dennis Mercier, Mike Jennings and Greg Gowing who have shared their time and technical expertise in order to get these projects underway.

Sharon Wohlgemut

It was a quiet year for our women's group as we lost one executive member after another. Some moved away, others found their attention drawn to other interests, or failing health for still another.



We did have a few speakers but the numbers attending our potluck dwindled. The food was still plentiful, the company entertaining and interesting and the speakers were informative. But when the vote was taken whether WinGS should continue, there were some that were willing to help but none willing to serve as executive. With two executive left, one of those soon to be moving from Cambridge in 2017, it was decided the group would disband.

The women were polled as to the dispersal of the money collected. Some was used for the White Gift this past Christmas. Some was used for partial registration for three women wishing to attend the tri-annual Women's Gathering which the money was originally collected for, which takes place 24th May weekend, 2017. The remaining will be used for Women's ministry within our church, the Women's Bible Study or for material for a special event such as the one attended by 3 ladies from our church in Kitchener, this past December.

It is sad to see the passing of this group, but with no leadership, it cannot continue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dawn McLlwraith".

Dawn McLlwraith, Treasurer

Refugee Committee Report 2016

On January 17, 2016, a Refugee Committee was formed, after the congregation approved that Central would co-sponsor an Iraqi family stranded in Jordan – relatives of Central Members, Hanan & John Saliba.

In early March, the committee borrowed \$1,000 from the church to open a no-fee bank account at the Education Credit Union. Three committee members celebrated milestone birthdays, asking for donations for the refugee family in lieu of birthday gifts. Additional funds were raised through private donations through CanadaHelps. Also, Presbytery had money set aside for Syrian refugee sponsorships, and thanks to the work of Andrew Foster, Central was able to access \$2,500 in funding due to a lack of requests for funds for Syrian refugees.

On April 10, 2016, a Letter of Understanding between John & Hanan Saliba and Central Presbyterian Church was signed, outlining the roles and responsibilities of each party.

The government put a cap on the number of “named refugee” cases the Presbyterian Church of Canada (PCC) could sponsor in 2016, which was less than the number of requests from churches across Canada. In August, a PCC committee met to decide with cases they would move forward with, submitting an application by the end of 2016. Central’s request to sponsor an Iraqi refugee family was selected. All forms were filled out by the Saliba family, Central Presbyterian Church as well as the refugee family and submitted to PCC. On January 26, 2017, Rob Shropshire from PCC reported that we will hear news when there is news to share. In other words, there is no news on the status of our application at the time that this report for Central Presbyterian Church’s Annual Report is being written. The following members of Central are currently serving on the Refugee Committee:

Linda Brown, Chair
 Linda Foster, Secretary
 Alan Robertson, Co-Treasurer
 Cindy Chatham, Co-Treasurer
 Sharon Mercier, Communications
 Kay Mattear
 Petronella Read
 Hanan Saliba
 Allison Senior
 Jan Sparrow

Bank Account Activity:

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
29-Dec-2016	Home ATM Deposit Education Cu Ltd Cambridge O Other Reference # 9136122912	\$2,500.00	\$3,610.00
12-Dec-2016	Clearing Cheque Cheque # 100 Cheque Date 12-Dec-2016 Cheque Account Number 12762828000118313611 Reference Number 273135400	-\$375.00	\$1,110.00
26-Jul-2016	Home ATM Deposit Education Cu Ltd Cambridge O Other Reference # 919072611	\$160.00	\$1,485.00
12-Jul-2016	Home ATM Deposit Education Cu Ltd Cambridge O Other Reference # 222071213	\$70.00	\$1,325.00
19-Apr-2016	Cash Deposit	\$235.00	\$1,255.00
19-Apr-2016	Deposit	\$20.00	\$1,020.00
08-Mar-2016	Deposit	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

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Note: \$625 was raised from Dennis & Sharon Mercier’s birthday party and was given directly to the church to cover part of the \$1,000 loan. A cheque was written for \$375 from the Refugee Committee’s bank account to pay off the remainder of the loan.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Linda Brown,
 Refugee Committee Chair

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
OF CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Personnel Committee is a joint committee comprised of members of the Session, the Board of Managers and the congregation, and oversees and monitors the personnel practices of the church in conjunction with appropriate legislation and church guidelines. Meeting on an as-needed basis, the committee provides a leadership role in HR relations and salary administration of the Custodians, Office Assistant, Music Director, Children's and Family Ministry Leader and Youth Ministry Leader.

The committee ensures adequate supply is obtained for the office assistant and custodians during any absence. It also makes recommendations to the Board of Managers and the Session with respect to personnel policies such as benefits, vacations and staff salaries.

In 2016 the committee continued to update and modify the Human Resources Policies Manual to incorporate updates and changes. A copy is kept and maintained in the church office.

An individual employee file is kept for each position with copies of any relevant communication. It was decided in 2015 that the Personnel Committee would no longer conduct performance reviews for staff members due to the difficulty in obtaining honest and realistic feedback. Should issues arise, the personnel committee along with the Session and Board of Managers will address the issues with the employee and work towards achieving a resolution. The Personnel Committee participated in the salary recommendations for 2017.

Changes in 2016 to the church personnel included the hiring of Bradley Paddock as Music Director and Gwen Darling as Choir Director. Together Brad and Gwen Darling lead our congregation in music, which is an important and integral part of our worship services. As of the date of the Annual Meeting, Central does not have a Youth Ministry Leader. This position will be filled in 2017 following the Hiring Procedures outlined in our HR Policies, and under the guidance of a dedicated search committee.

The 2016 Personnel Committee members are:

Shelley Joiner	- Board of Managers
Jane Marshall	- Board of Managers
Lynda Pinnington	- Session
Dale Ross	-Congregation

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Marshall – Committee Member

Alpha

There are many questions in life: What do I need to do today? What should I wear? And then there are the bigger questions: Why am I here? Is this it? Is there more to life than this? Alpha is an opportunity to explore the big questions of life that we rarely get a chance to think about.

In Alpha, we begin look at questions like “Who is Jesus and why did Jesus die?”, “Why and how do I pray and read the bible?”, “Who is the Holy Spirit and what does the Holy Spirit do?” and “What about the church?” It is a great opportunity for those who are not Christian or for new Christians to look at some of the basic questions of the Christian faith, such as “Why does God allow suffering?” No question is too small or large for off topic for Alpha.

Each Alpha course has three main components: We develop relationships with our Alpha guests as we eat a meal with them, we then share a talk with them about one of the big questions about the Christian faith and then we move into smaller group discussions. This fall we had 9 people complete our Alpha course and we will run another 2 courses in 2017: one beginning in January and one beginning in September.

Invite your friends, neighbours or colleagues to Try Alpha

Like many things in the church, advertising only goes so far. A personal invitation is the best way to invite people to join us. Alpha is an outreach, so consider inviting someone to try Alpha with a question like: “Have you considered trying the Alpha course at Central?” Then pray that the Holy Spirit will lead them to attend. And just because they say no once, don’t give up.

Donate or volunteer to help with Alpha

Alpha runs on volunteers from our small group hosts and helpers to those who help in the look after the needs of our guests in the kitchen help to make sure that every guest is welcome and as comfortable as possible.

Of course, any to run an outreach program like Alpha, we also need donations. Thank you to all those who have contributed financially or donated food to help with running Alpha as we reach out to our community to help them answer the big questions of life.

Care Groups

In the fall of 2016, Session instituted the Care Groups committee to take over looking after support adult small groups within the church, including small groups, bible studies, and social groups. The Care Groups committee is also responsible for ensuring that Leading with Care, the Health and Safety policy of the Presbyterian Church in Canada is implemented and followed. The Care Groups committee is currently developing terms of reference and compiling a list of groups that fall under its care.

Property Committee for 2016

Another year is now behind us and it is time again for a review of our challenges in keeping our building current as well as deal with the effects of the ravages of time. Put in simple terms this building is in need of a great deal of tender loving care. The need for substantial repairs is at hand. The stain glass windows and the roof are issues that are examples of items needed just to keep the weather out. Be prepare to raise a lot of funds on an ongoing basis because they will be needed to keep this building functional and in any semblance of good repair.

As in 2015 we began our year with a plumbing issue and had to replace a toilet in the ladies washroom near the choir room. The ongoing condition of the front steps crumbling seems now to be a yearly event due to the age of the concrete. They were repaired and patched so as to not be a trip hazard. It was in April that we began the adventure of the dripping faucets in the kitchen. The taps were under a life time warrantee so the manufacturer provided us with new taps but we had to hire a plumber to install them. This was not a simple fix because all the shut offs under the counter were seized and the plumbing there consists of plastic pipe which requires special tools and expertise to work with. The seized shutoff situation exists throughout the building including the tap to the exterior.

The railings to the basement had come apart under normal wear and tear and required repairs which were done. Special thanks go out to George and Sandy Barry for removal of the old church sign to the front and west side of the church. Special thanks also goes out to Jim Mathier for looking after the installation of the automatic light which illuminates the sidewalk as you approach the church from the west side. Jim also provided power by installing a plug on the balcony level for the janitor who will use it when he vacuums the upper level. Jims help is also appreciated for his work on the light fixtures in the sanctuary which as the bulbs are replaced in them he inspects and replaces the defective wires in the fixtures due to brittle and old insulation on them.

Peter Hood has been busy as well by helping keep our kitchen free of little grey visitors. Peter has also been working on the shrubs around the church trimming or removing those that had overgrown their stay. We say thank you Peter.

Summer saw the church very busy with several movie shoots. During this time we did a major repair to the ceiling in the sanctuary. The completion of this repair has taken away a lot of the concern over the integrity of this ceiling. Repairs were done to the door frame in the hall to the room above the library because it had become detached from the wall.

A big thank you goes out to Horst Wohlgemut for the work he has done in getting pricing on the cost to repair the stain glass windows. The number is large and consideration is needed in finding an approach to resolve this issue.

Although not a project that was handled by the property committee the new platform in the sanctuary was installed and it looks great. This installation represents a major upgrade to the building and allows for a more flexible approach to our worship and will provide new opportunities for the use of the building. A great deal of thanks is owed to all those that participated.

The continuing struggle to keep the church building current and in repair will always be with us as we move forward.

Jack Kok, Property Chairman

Central Presbyterian Church
Men's Fellowship Breakfast Club 2016

For many of us the passage of time seems to accelerate year by year. This is also the case with the Men's Breakfast Club in 2016. The Club continued to meet regularly and members enjoyed fellowship and good food at each gathering. During the course of the year eight breakfast sessions were held. Six meetings were at Central Church Hall. Two joint meetings were held: one at Westside Presbyterian in May and one at Central Presbyterian in October. In November our group met at the Galt View Restaurant. The largest attendance was forty-one people.

We continue to welcome interesting and informative guest speakers. A broad range of topics was discussed in these presentations:

- Christian Gleaners with Wayne Foster and Art Rooke
- Canada Revenue Agency with Sharon Mercier
- Canadian University Students Overseas - volunteer experience by George Barrie
- Railway history with Dave Pennington and Ralph Beaumont
- Children's cancer support by Warren Bechtel
- Bird watching by Nathan Hood
- Local history with Dave Menary

A donation was given to Christian Gleaners to assist with their work. Financial support was also given to our Presbyterian affiliate Evangel Hall to support their many community initiatives.

Dennis Mercier stepped down from his active participation as Member at Large due to his retirement and residence relocation. Doug Whistance was approached and willingly agreed to serve on our small executive team.

To everyone's enjoyment, our Breakfast Club continues to meet three times a year, when possible, with the neighbouring Presbyterian Church Men's Breakfast Groups. Loyal members continue to provide the nucleus of the group. Others who might be interested in attending our meetings will be most welcome.

Alan Bethune
Peter Hood
Doug Whistance

**Central Church
Youth Ministry 2016**

Discription	Debit	Credit	Balance
Balance Forward			\$3,737.30
Interest		\$0.02	\$3,737.32
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.36
Interest		\$0.03	\$3,737.39
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.43
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.47
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.51
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.55
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.59
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.63
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.67
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.71
Interest		\$0.04	\$3,737.75
Donation	\$30.00		\$3,767.75
Total Expenses		\$0.00	
Total donations			\$30.00
Interest earned			\$0.45
Bank Balance at end of 2016			\$3,767.75

**Central Church
Children's ministry 2016**

Date	Discription	Debit	Credit	Balance
Jan. 6	Balance Forward			\$2,149.88
Jan. 22	Cheq.#174- Caroline Witzke	\$100.79		\$2,049.09
Feb. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$2,042.34
Mar. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$2,035.59
Apr. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$2,028.84
May. 2	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$2,022.09
Jun. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$2,015.34
Jul. 4	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$2,008.59
Aug. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$2,001.84
Sept. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$1,995.09
Oct. 3	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$1,988.34
Nov. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$1,981.59
Dec. 1	Monthly fee	\$6.75		\$1,974.84
Dec.30	Donation cheque		\$198.00	\$2,172.84
Total Expenses		\$175.04		
Total donations			\$198.00	
Balance at end of 2016				\$2,172.84

Senior Choir Annual Treasurer's Report -2016

January 1, 2016 - December 31st, 2016

Balance as of December 31st, 2015	\$ 70.82	
Income: Membership dues & choir party payment	<u>\$350.00</u>	
Total Income:	<u>\$420.82</u>	
Expenses:		
Credit Union membership fee		\$ 5.00
choir party		232.22
Bank fees		<u>.75</u>
Total Expenses:		<u>237.97</u>
Balance as of December 31st, 2016		<u>\$182.85</u>

This balance has been reconciled with the Credit Union

Respectfully submitted
Petronella Read, Treasurer

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast Club
Financial Statement for the year ending December 31, 2016**

Bank Balance December 31, 2015 **\$121.87**

Receipts

Member donations at meetings **\$1,140.00**

Bank interest **\$0.00**

Sub Total **\$1,261.87**

Disbursements

Catering: S. Barrie - #63 **\$150.00**

Catering: S. Barrie - February. #66 **\$135.00**

Feb Presentation Gift Reimbursement P. Hood **\$ 12.00**

March presentation gift reimbursement **\$10.00**

May Presentation Gift Reimbursement P. Hood **\$7.00**

Catering: S. Barrie - September #67 **\$125.00**

Evangel Hall Donation **\$50.00**

Catering: S. Barrie April #68 **\$165.00**

Catering: S. Barrie - September #70 **\$115.00**

Christian Gleaners **\$50.00**

Catering-S. Barrie October #71 **\$155.00**

October presentation gift reimbursement **\$19.00**

**BMO Account Maintenance Fee
12@\$2.50** **\$36.00**

Sub Total **\$1,022.00**

Bank Balance December 31, 2016 **\$239.87**

Respectfully yours,

Peter Hood, Treasurer

CENTRAL CHURCH FLOWER GUILD 2016

Balance fwd from Dec/2015	\$287.50
Deposits	
Dues for 2016	\$ 55.00
Donations in 2016	\$130.00
Dues for 2017	\$ 60.00
Expences :	
Thanksgiving flowers and cards to Shut Ins	\$ 92.43
4 Roses for New Babies	\$14.28
Bank Balance as of Dec/2016	\$425.79

The Flower Guild would like to thank all those who placed Memorial Flowers
And all those who gave of their time to help with Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Financial Report 2016

Income

Carried forward /2015	\$ 689.93	
Fund Raising		<u>\$ 414.63</u>
Total	<u>\$1104.56</u>	



Expenses

Expenses & Honorariums	\$ 101.25	
Registrations	\$ 750.00	
Donations	\$ 53.23	
Bank fees	<u>\$ 44.20</u>	
Held for Women's Ministry	155.88	
Total Expenses		<u>\$1104.56</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn McIlwraith

Sunday morning coffee-2016

Balance from 2015	\$150.70	
Collections 2016-	\$448.00	
Total-	\$598.70	
Expenses	\$393.45	
Balance-	\$205.25	carried to 2017

A big thank you to Don who always has the coffee and tea ready for us. Gillian Carson is stepping down as Coffee convenor due to other commitments. Thanks Gillian for your help.

Also a big thank you to Valerie Cleland who helps out every Sunday.

BLESSINGS

Gillian Carson

Muffin morning-Proceeds to Community School at Rachels home-2016 sponsored by Christian Education Ministry

Date	Amount Collected		
Jan.	\$63.50		
Feb.	\$48.35		
Mar.	\$29.65		
Apr.	\$17.56		
May.	\$25.50		
June.	\$24.00		
July	None		
Aug. 23	\$24.45		
Sep.	\$20.50		
Oct. 25	\$9.50		
Nov. 22	\$15.50		
Dec. 20	\$50.40		
Total	\$328.56		

I would like to thank Laura Wilford for organizing the Muffin morning. Their help is very much appreciated.

Also a big thank you to those who supply the muffins.

Blessings

Gillian Carson