



HARROW UNITED CHURCH

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

To be presented to the members and adherents
for approval at the Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday April 7th at 1:00 p.m.



We are not alone ... we live in God's world

CELEBRATING 107 YEARS of CARING and SHARING

955 Mulvey Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3M 1G8

Phone: 204-284-0079

www.harrowunited.ca

HARROW

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
HARROW UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT.....	3
AGENDA	4
MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – MARCH 12, 2023.....	5
IN MEMORIAM.....	7
REPORT FROM COUNCIL.....	7
COMMUNICATIONS REPORT.....	10
HARROW UCW FINANCIAL STATEMENT	11
FINANCE	12
HARROW’S OUTREACH WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY	13
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT.....	14
SUNDAY SCHOOL & MESSY CHURCH REPORT	15
VISITATION COMMITTEE.....	16
FAITHFUL READERS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP.....	17
SOUPER SHARING SUNDAY	18
RHYME & STORYTIME	19
HARROW MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPORT.....	19
RECONCILIATION WORK IN 2023.....	20
YOGA CLASSES	21
WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT.....	21
PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL 2023 ANNUAL MEETING	22
UNITED CHURCH HALFWAY HOMES.....	24
GOOD MORNING AL ANON FAMILY GROUP	26
VILLAGE GREEN ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCERS.....	27
HARROW UNITED CHURCH BALANCE SHEET	28
HARROW UNITED CHURCH	29
2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND 2024 DRAFT BUDGET	29
HARROW UNITED CHURCH ROSTER OF NOMINATIONS 2024	32



Harrow United Church Mission Statement

Engaging with our neighbours in hope and transformation

As a community of faith, Harrow United Church
seeks to be:
inclusive and inviting;
grounded today in the teachings of Jesus
as found in Scripture;
sensitive and responsive to God's Spirit.

"Caring and Sharing" characterize our life together in the congregation as well as
our stance toward the larger community and the world in which we live.

HARROW UNITED CHURCH
Caring and Sharing since 1916
**Engaging with our neighbours
In hope and transformation**

Agenda

Harrow United Church Annual Meeting 2024

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. HYMN AND PRAYER**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 12, 2023**
- 4. HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023**
 - A. WE ARE HARROW UNITED CHURCH VIDEO**
 - B. COUNCIL REPORT**
 - C. TREASURER'S REPORT**
- 5. RECEIVING AND APPROVAL OF REPORTS FOR 2023**
- 6. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2023**
- 7. MOTION TO ENGAGE FINANCIAL REVIEWER FOR 2024**
- 8. LOOKING AHEAD - DISCUSSION OF PLANS AND GOALS FOR 2024**
- 9. APPROVAL OF 2024 BUDGET**
- 10. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 2024**
- 11. CLOSING HYMN PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**
- 12. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes Annual General Meeting – March 12, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 with Rae Leaden as Chair. Twenty people attended in person and four people were online.

Opening Prayer: Teresa Moysey

Approval of AGM Minutes from March 27, 2022. Moved by Virginia Platt, seconded by Susan Ketchen. **Motion carried.**

Highlights of 2022

- A) Rae Leaden reviewed the Harrow Council report
- B) Karen Corbett reviewed the Treasurer's report
- C) Teresa Moysey reviewed the minister's report

Receive and approve reports for 2022: Moved by Jeanie Routledge, seconded by Shirley May. **Motion carried.**

Financial Statement

Karen Corbett moved the approval of the 2022 financial statement as presented. Seconded by Gaye Pokotylo. **Motion carried.**

Financial Reviewer for 2023

Karen moved that we engage Buffie Babb as financial reviewer for 2023 at a fee of \$1,000, seconded by Susan Ketchen. All in favor. Carried.

Discussion of Possible Goals for 2023

- A) Repay \$40,000 of the CEBA loan before the January 18, 2024 deadline in order to qualify for the loan forgiveness amount of \$20,000.
- B) Plan for worship after Teresa's retirement
- C) Continue to work on reconciliation initiatives and complete the mural

Comments from the AGM:

The three main reasons people like being at Harrow are:

1. People and relationships: Harrow is a friendly, welcoming, non-judgemental kind of congregation. It has a history of good roll models who work with the community and are supportive of each other in good times and bad. We are like an extended family, living our motto of Caring and Sharing
2. Worship and varied ways we express our faith such as Faithful Readers book club, souper Sundays, music, etc.
3. Outreach: We try to help people of all ages and all parts of society: Rhyme and Storytime, visitation at personal care homes, Halfway Homes, etc.

Approval of 2023 Budget

Karen Corbett moved that we accept the 2023 budget as presented. Seconded by Rae Leaden. All in favor. Carried.

Nomination and election of Officers for 2023

CHURCH COUNCIL	2023 Nominations
Position	
Chair	
Past Chair	Rae Leaden
Secretary	Jeanie Routledge
Minister	Rev. Tim Crouch
Treasurer	Karen Corbett
Members at Large	Dianne Blewett Heather Carson Allyson Mathieson Will Jones Dorothy Froman
Visitation Coordinator	Mary Ross
Regional Council Delegates	Gaye Pokotylo Susan Ketchen Alternate: Shirley May
UCW Representative	Gaye Pokotylo Shirley May
Ministry and Personnel (1 to attend Council meetings)	Virginia Platt Susan Ketchen Dianne Blewett
Trustees	Gord Reid Brian Barnabe Cheryl Anderson Dianne Blewett

Closing Prayer and Benediction led by Teresa.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

In Memoriam
of Friends, Members and Associates of Harrow United Church

Mitchell Regiec November 20, 2022
Robert Sharpe February 18, 2023
Ina Peckett May 19, 2023

Report from Council

Submitted by Rae Leaden

This past year, 2023, has been very busy, full of celebrations, challenges, changes and collaboration. Our long time minister Teresa Moysey retired on April 30 and Harrow hosted a worship service and farewell feast with lots of special well wishers and presentations. Throughout the year we were able to have in-person worship as well as record the services on YouTube for those at home. We were able to return to many of our pre-Covid activities and celebrated with Jazz Vespers, a feast and unveiling of the Indigenous Reconciliation mural, summer BBQs, an Orange Shirt Day worship, presentation and feast, a 107th anniversary, a lay-led Candlelight Christmas Eve service and Christmas carols and brunch.

When council knew that Rev. Moysey was retiring we had a first congregational meeting where people decided that we really wanted to keep the Harrow congregation going. At the AGM on March 12, we found that there were three main reasons why people liked being at Harrow. We appreciated the people and relationships. Harrow is a friendly, welcoming, non-judgmental kind of congregation. It has a history of good role models who work with the community and are supportive of each other in good times and bad. We are like an extended family, living out our motto of caring and sharing. Secondly, we liked our worship services and the varied ways that we expressed our faith such as through music, book club, virtual coffee hours. Lastly, outreach to the community was very important. We try to help people of all ages and all parts of society. Rhyme & Storytime, worship held at The Parkway and nursing homes, and work with Halfway Homes and Indigenous community were all mentioned. For a full list of all the outreach activities please see heading Harrow's Outreach Work in Our Community. To prepare for our future a small group of council members worked on updating our Community of Faith profile and filling out financial viability forms in preparation for the decision to employ a new minister. A number of council members took part in a "Is the church flourishing?" workshop led by moderator Dr. Carmen Lansdowne.

In the spring, some things at Harrow remained unchanged. Our Faithful Readers, our Zoom book club, continued to flourish. Harrow continued to take worship to the Convalescent Home and The Parkway community and fellowship to the Sunday virtual coffee hour folk. We still had fundraisers – garage sales, Star Blanket workshop and quilt raffle, and lots of soup sales! However, there were also lots of changes. After Rev. Moysey's retirement we had to arrange for a variety of guest ministers to cover our Sunday worship. Some services were led by Harrow members (thanks to Will, Shirley and Rae) and we also had a number of retired ordained and diaconal ministers, as well as licensed lay worship leaders, student ministers and staff from Outreach ministries. Rev. Tim Crouch from Young United Church volunteered to be our pastoral supervisor as every church needs a minister at their council or congregational meetings. Cary Denby, our musical director also left us on April 30 but Tannis Collins joined us early in May and we enjoyed her service until September when she had to leave and Leanne Dalke joined us. Leanne plays a variety of instruments and we have enjoyed guitar, flute and piano music. We no longer have formal weekly choir practices but Harrow is appreciative of the loyal choir members that still lead congregational singing and with Leanne's accompaniment have done some solos or duets. Shirley May has taken over the job of writing the weekly newsletters that are e-mailed out and keep everyone informed of upcoming events. We now have 4 house groups that rotate monthly and members provide coffee/refreshments for services, choose hymn sing options, provide scripture readers and people to help with offering and greeting. We also have a Harrow lay leader who starts worship with greetings, introductions, acknowledgement of the territory and announcements. There have been ten people who have volunteered for this role. Will Jones and Rae Leaden took training in the spring to become Sacrament Elders so that we have people who can lead communion and do baptisms.

There definitely were a few financial worries this past year. We started the year with a draft budget that figured we might end the year with a net \$1,800. Early in the year Harrow finally got our phone system working well but then started having problems with our elevator. We did some fundraising for elevator repairs and now the elevator seems fine for service loads but not always reliable for carrying people. We used up all our Memorial Fund money to help pay for some worship expenses, our musical director and communications personnel. We are fortunate that Sherry Rasmussen was willing to continue helping out Harrow by volunteering to help us with publicity online through Facebook and Instagram. We also made a few smaller changes to our spending including cancelling our group subscription to the United Church's Broadview magazine. People who are interested can pay for their own subscription or borrow the magazines that do come to the church. We also did not order a box of offering envelopes for every church family. Many congregants use PAR or mail in cheques or direct deposit offering and we made our own offering envelopes for those that still want to use them on a weekly basis. In the fall our financial picture began to improve as we acquired

a number of new rental groups. We also had a good response to our Anniversary Appeal. We were still a bit worried about paying off the CEBA loan which we had received during Covid times. However, by December we repaid the \$40,000. and were able to keep the \$20,000. government grant. Harrow finished the year in better shape than we had initially expected with a net income of \$16,305.

In the past Harrow has collaborated with other United churches especially for summer worship, for study groups and for special occasions. We are fortunate that the Rev. Marc Whitehead from Crescent Fort Rouge U.C. had offered to help out with some pastoral work after Rev. Moysey's retirement. This past year Harrow was invited to attend worship at CFRUC during Artfest and for their 140th anniversary. We invited them to join us for a service in March and for a special Orange Shirt Day presentation. In the spring, some Harrow council members had a meeting with some other United Churches who are going through transitions. We met with representatives from McClure, Grey Street, and Windsor Park. At that time all of us were without formal ministers. We discussed some of the challenges and concerns and ways we might be able to help each other out. We also spoke with Atlantic-Garden City U.C., Westworth and Knox Indigenous congregation about collaborative work. For the summer we decided to join with Crescent Fort Rouge, Westminster, Churchill Park and Meadowood and participate in Church'orama. Each congregation hosted 2 services for the summer and our congregation members drove to a variety of locations for worship. We made lots of new friends, heard a number of new ministers and enjoyed the food and hospitality at each church. We are hoping to continue this tradition in the summer of 2024. In the latter part of the year we received a letter from Crescent Fort Rouge U.C. asking if we might be interested in sharing the ministry and costs of Rev. Marc Whitehead. Harrow has worked with him leading study groups and has heard him preach many times and is appreciative of times when he has led funerals and pastoral care for Harrow members. We are waiting until 2024 to fill in our financial viability forms and have further talks with CFRUC about having a shared ministry.

As the year ends we can look back and thank the many Harrow congregation members who have worked hard to keep the church running smoothly and to all our church folk who have supported fellow members in ways both small and large.

I pray in 2024 we will be able to live out our faith in this community, practicing kindness and gratitude, cultivating optimism and being aware of joy and hope in unexpected places.

Communications Report

Submitted by Sherry Rasmussen

Facebook followers: 346 an increase of 45 for the year!

Instagram followers: 217 and increase of 28 for the year!

YouTube subscribers: 334

We continue to post daily content on both Facebook and Instagram. We have been having higher reach thanks to the higher amount of engagement that we are receiving from our followers. Thank you to all who are liking and/or commenting or sharing our posts. It all helps.

Facebook reach for the year was 5.8 thousand which was 57% higher than the year before.

Instagram reach was lower at 634.

We continue to share information on worship, all programs, and events. Anytime that we share photos from the congregation at events, the reach and engagement is significantly higher. We like to see each other!

Facebook posts with highest reach in 2023

- R&S Nov 30 reach: 423
- Wanted used cards Dec 5, reach: 312
- Sunday School Oct 18, reach: 257

YouTube subscribers: 334

Check out the amount of people who have subscribed to our YT channel! Obviously, this is due to people wanting to stay connected to our services, so this is great all around!

We stopped doing new videos for R&S but we continue to share the current videos of songs, storybooks and crafts!

YouTube

In 2023, our videos got 9,244 views. The top videos for 2023 are:

- 1 - 3 R&S storybooks
- 4 Harrow United Church: We are
- 5 Hey Diddle Diddle
- 6 ABC song
- 7 - 8 R&S storybooks
- 9 Service for April 30
- 10 R&S This Little Piggy

Livestreams for 2023 had 14,373 impressions, 1,389 views and 195 hours of watch time!

Top Live Streams for 2023:

- 1 - service April 30
- 2 - Retirement service for Teresa
- 3 - service March 26
- 4 - service Jan 22
- 5 - service July16

Harrow UCW Financial Statement

Jan 1, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023

BANK BALANCE January 1, 2023 **\$965.05**

RECEIPTS

Donations	20.00
Calendars	16.00
	<u>36.00</u>
\$	

DISBURSEMENTS

P2P UCW Memberships	50.00
Bank Charges	27.00
	<u>77.00</u>
\$	

BANK BALANCE December 31, 2023 **\$ 924.05**

Difference between Receipts and Expenses	\$-41.00
Bank Balance January 1, 2023	\$965.05
Bank Balance December 31, 2023	\$924.05

Finance

Treasurer: Karen Corbett

Financial Report

In 2023, the church ended the year with a net income of \$16,307. This was due in part to the increased use of our building by renter groups and the use of the Memorial fund to cover expenses for worship, Christian education, music director and communications. The current balance in the Memorial fund is zero.

In 2023, the entire refugee fund was donated to Young United Church's refugee fund. The amount transferred to Young United Church was \$532.35

The church was very fortunate to be able to pay back \$40,000 of the CEBA (Canadian Emergency Business Account) loan in December 2023. As the \$40,000 amount was paid back before the Jan 2024 deadline, the church received a loan forgiveness amount of \$20,000. CEBA loans were given to businesses and charities during the pandemic.

There are some funds in the church's Assiniboine Credit Union bank account that are earmarked for specific activities and projects.

The remaining amount of the Seeds of Hope grant that the church received from the Prairie to Pine region in 2022, is \$7472. The grant funds are earmarked for reconciliation activities.

The church also receives funding from Families Forward for the Rhyme & Storytime children's program that runs at the church on Friday mornings. The amount in the church's credit union account allocated to Rhyme & Storytime activities is \$7,110.

MEMORIAL FUND SUMMARY

Opening Balance January 1, 2023	\$6,105.72
Memorial Gifts received during the year	
Less: Expenses paid from Fund	\$6,105.72
Closing Balance December 31, 2023	\$0

MISSION & SERVICE DONATIONS

Mission & Service	\$7,550
-------------------	---------

Harrow's Outreach Work in our Community

Some of Harrow's outreach involves volunteers going out into the Community to serve others, some involves sharing our building for use by the community and some involve providing money or goods for the needs of others. Here is some of the Outreach from 2023.

- Leading seven worship services at The Parkway Retirement Community.
- Leading monthly worship service at Jessie Avenue Convalescent Home.
- Provided outdoor wall space for an Indigenous Reconciliation mural. We also worked on the planning committee for the mural and some of our youth were involved in the actual painting. Harrow hosted the feast for the official commemoration of the mural.
- Provide space and two volunteer staff for Rhyme and Storytime. This is a free Families Forward sponsored program for parents and children ages birth to 5.
- Dorothy Froman and Susan Ketchen ran a Star Blanket Workshop to educate on the history of indigenous star blankets and how to make your own.
- Harrow hosted a few United Churches to a special worship service on Orange Shirt Day with guest speaker Elder Mike Monias. We also enjoyed a lovely feast.
- Harrow hosted two summer potluck BBQs that were open to anyone in the neighbourhood.
- Our dedicated knitters and crocheters made many prayer shawls for any in need.
- Harrow congregation members donated \$7,550. to the United Church Mission and Service Fund which helps both locally and internationally.
- The Nassau Street Refugee Fund, to which Harrow had been a major contributor, was dispersed to three local charities - Welcome Place, Immigration and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba and Newcomer's Employment and Educational Development Services.
- Harrow had a small refugee fund (\$532.) which we gave to Young United Church for refugees that they are sponsoring.
- Harrow children and families had our annual Halloween Food Drive and collected over 500 pounds of food for the West End Food Bank.
- At our Summer Sunday Sundaes we raised over \$300 for 1Just City to use in their inner-city ministry.
- Harrow continued to make special Christmas gift packages for women and their children who are residents in Halfway Homes.
- Our open offering at our Christmas Eve service went to Just A Warm Sleep to help defray costs at Augustine's overnight homeless shelter.

How will you be able to help in 2024?

Ministry & Personnel Committee Report

Our committee is grateful to all who helped us and the Harrow congregation through this challenging year.

We celebrated the ministry we shared with Teresa Moysey at a special service at the end of April. Teresa led worship that day — we sang hymns she selected and heard her reflections on her time with us and her retirement. Special friends and family joined us for a lunch in her honour after worship and laughed (and shed a few tears) as we remembered events from the past 23 years. Also leaving us then was Cary Denby, our music director, and we gave thanks for her work as well.

Karen Corbett, our office administrator, had many duties during this year of changes. An increase in the use of our building by renters required her time and attention. Because we relied on pulpit supply and lay leadership for worship, change was a weekly experience for Karen. Big thanks to Karen.

Tannis Collins joined us in May as our pianist at worship and stayed with us through the summer. She then, fortunately for us, suggested her cousin Leanne Dalke, as her replacement. Both Tannis and Leanne have additional musical abilities beyond playing piano, and we have especially enjoyed Leanne's talent at playing guitar and flute. Both Tannis and Leanne have played for services at The Parkway.

Finally, Rae Leaden has taken care of communicating with guest ministers and arranging a complicated schedule of Sunday morning leadership.

Committee members are Susan Ketchen, Dianne Blewett, and Virginia Platt

Sunday School & Messy Church Report

submitted by Rae Leaden

Harrow does not have a lot of children in our Sunday School but we provide programming for any child 2-12 who attends a service. This past year we had three pre-school age children and 7 elementary age children who participated. Friends and visitors are always welcome to join in. On Sundays the children stay in church for the first part of the service and share a story time with the minister. In our class we do a variety of activities including stories, puzzles, drama, crafts, singing, games, baking and gardening.

Many of our children and their families are involved in Messy Church, which is a Christ – centered learning experience which stresses hospitality and creativity. Besides the theme for the day we always share food, do some arts and crafts and often try to do an outreach project. This year we had six celebrations. We have tried a variety of times for our programs as you will see in the list below. Attendance varied between 13 - 29 participants, usually more children than adults.

February 5 – Sunday afternoon – Love Your Neighbour – Children packaged Valentine cookies and made cards to distribute to Harrow seniors and shut-ins.

April 7 – Good Friday morning – Easter theme

June 18 – Sunday morning – Marathon Day – Children ran a lemonade stand to raise money for 1Just City. In worship we had a fishing theme and ended with Sunday sundaes.

October 6 – Friday evening – Thanksgiving theme – Painted a Fall banner for the Rhyme and Storytime program.

October 29 - Sunday afternoon – Reverse Halloween – Families collected over 500 pounds on the food drive in our neighbourhood to give to the West End Food Bank.

December 3 – Sunday afternoon – Advent celebration – Children made advent calendars and candle wreaths and finished the day with a congregational potluck dinner.

Joyce Karlowsky and Rae Leaden work with the children most weeks but appreciate the extra assistance from parents, grandparents and other congregation members who share their time to support our youth.

Visitation Committee

submitted by Mary Ross

The visitation committee is represented by Mary Ross (corresponding secretary), Vilna Johnson (guest book follow-up), Cecile and Ken Ritchie, and Jeannie Rutledge.

The committee is adapting to a new reality, fewer shut-ins & the need for transportation to church & to Dr's appointments.

Over the last year over 100 of these "mobile visits" have taken place, in addition to 20 regular visits.

110 phone calls were made.

In the spring, we delivered 12 geraniums and in December 64 Advent cards were sent (many of those delivered in person).

In addition, 21 cards were sent to remember illnesses, bereavements, special birthdays, & anniversaries.

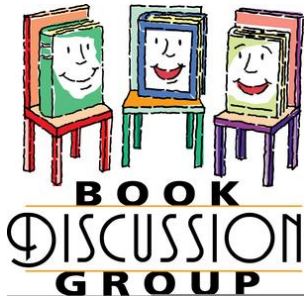
12 people signed the guest book, however there was not sufficient addresses to send a follow up note.

We express our gratitude to T. Moysey (who retired in April) for her guidance in pastoral care.

A big thank you to all who have contributed in very meaningful ways to this community of ours, where caring & sharing play such a big part.

Faithful Readers Book Discussion Group

submitted by Shirley May



We have discovered over the last number of years how much we enjoy meeting virtually for our time of discussion, from the comfort of our own homes.

Harrow's Faithful Readers Book Discussion Group began meeting faithfully in September of 2002, and in 2008 we started reading a couple of books that had been made into movies. On these occasions we met for a PotLuck Meal, Movie, and Book discussion. We have read excellent books over the years, sacred and secular, biographies and fiction, and many have a faith-based theme. A few are on the current best seller's list each year. When possible we try to have a guest author attend and speak to us.

Our Book Discussion Group's year is basically September to June, but the Annual Report is January to December. In January 2023 we continued with the virtual meetings we had become accustomed to over the last couple of years. We began the year reading Scarborough by Catherine Hernandez (and watching the Movie), and during the year read The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett, Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer, Life in the City of Dirty Water by Clayton Thomas-Muller, Washington Black by Esi Edugyan, Did You See Us? Reunion, Remembrance, and Reclamation at an Urban Indian Residential School by survivors of the Assiniboine Residential School, The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles, Looking for Jane by Heather Marshall, and The Diamond Eye by Kate Quinn. Many of these were true stories, and we watched one movie during the year.

The books we read this year that were about, and written by, First Nations authors were Robin Wall Kimmerer's Braiding Sweetgrass, Clayton Thomas-Muller's memoir Life in the City of Dirty Water, and Did You See Us? Reunion, Remembrance, and Reclamation at an Urban Indian Residential School by survivors. We usually choose at least two books a year related to education about First Nations issues and reconciliation.

Our group consists of about a dozen regular members, and in the spring we each bring a list of recommendations for the upcoming year's reading to our Restaurant Windup Dinner. Discussion around each book ensues, and all suggested books are voted on, with the highest scoring books making up our next reading season.

Our meetings take place at 1:30 the last Wednesday of the month. Each book discussion is led by a different presenter, usually the person who recommended that particular reading. This brings a novel choice of presentation and discussion styles. We are happy to say we're still going strong for over 20 years. And, even if you haven't read the book, anyone is welcome to join us for a lively discussion. Our motto since we began - "So many books, so little time!"

*"One glance at a book and you hear the voice of another person,
perhaps someone dead for 1,000 years. To read is to voyage through time." – Carl Sagan*

Souper Sharing Sunday

submitted by Shirley May

Souper 'Sharing' Sundays evolved from Harrow's very popular in-person Souper Sunday lunches, which were generally held once a month following worship in the Lower Hall, and consisted of a variety of donated homemade soups and biscuits. The proceeds from these lunches went to various predetermined outreach program.

In 2021 we decided in to resume our Souper Sundays, but with a slightly different format, and a marginally altered name, adding "Sharing." We had a variety of pre-ordered soups, with pickup and payment on Friday and we enjoyed the soup, biscuit and cookie with our Harrow Family & Friends over Zoom the following Sunday. We decided which Outreach to support and arranged for a guest speaker to join us for our virtual lunch.

In 2022, with Covid-19 still on the scene, we agreed to continue making and selling various frozen soups to the many customers we had acquired over these few years. Each takeout container was labelled with the kind of soup, all the ingredients, the initials of the maker, and the month & year it was made. We were able to store the soups in the church deepfreeze until they were picked up. The three container sizes were advertised with a suggested price, but we found the smallest size was the most popular.

The coordinators were Shirley and Susan, with Cheryl preparing the spreadsheet so we could keep accurate track of the number & kinds of soups that each person made, as well as the number and variety of soups that each purchaser ordered.

Thanks to a very dedicated group of wonderful and generous soup makers, delivery drivers, and other workers (a core group of about 12 helpers). We are so grateful for the generosity of their time and talent, and of course their donated ingredients. The only remuneration we offered was a free soup of their choice to the soup makers, and some people even declined this offer for their services; radical generosity.

During the 2023 year we did four Frozen Soup fundraisers for Harrow; two were combined with other Sales. The proceeds from the Frozen Soups alone (January, May, October, and December) were \$2,244.50.

Thank you again to the dedicated soup makers and workers, and finally to all our faithful soup purchasers for your continued support.



Rhyme & Storytime

Rhyme & Storytime celebrated 15 years of being.

There have been wonderful families, staff, volunteers and support from Harrow and the River Heights, Fort Rouge coalition, familiesforward.

The first goal was to prevent social isolation of new moms and children 0 to 6. Over the years it has evolved to children and moms, dads, grandparents, caregivers. It has been a meeting place for friends, making new friends, getting out of the house. Because there is no charge, there is no financial barrier.

Every month has a colour of the month with decorations and play dough to match.

We eat our way through the alphabet. Each week has a letter with food to match. A is for apple. Literacy is another goal. Nutrition is also a goal.

Small and gross motor development are goals. There is active play and crafts.

We meet every Friday morning from 9:30 - 11:30 all year round. Good Friday has become Messy Church.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to be part of the program all 15 years.

Dianne Blewett helped me get started and Rae Leaden has been a big part of keeping it going especially when I am away.

It my hope that we continue for many more years.

Thankfully

Susan Ketchen

Harrow Memorial Library Report

Just a reminder that we still have books that you may be interested in reading or browsing through. We also have DVDs for viewing.

Our library consists of a Main Library and an Early Years Library, with categories such as:



- Biography
- Family & Marriage
- Healing & Recovery
- Juniors
- Teens
- Old Age
- Prayers & Graces
- Stories of Jesus
- Truth & Reconciliation
- World Religions

Our book and DVD collection is growing, and should have something for everyone.

If you have books or DVDs that you would like to donate, we would welcome them.

Reconciliation Work In 2023

A highlight of this year was the installation on May 28 of the mural, commissioned by the Young Adult and Youth Committee of the Prairie to Pine Region of the United Church. The mural, created by collaborators Jeannie White Bird and Charlie Johnston, was installed on the side of our building facing Harrow Street.

Youth from the Region, both indigenous and non-indigenous, visited Jeannie's studio in Selkirk as the mural was being created. Titled *Sharing the Truth*, the mural has attracted much attention in the neighbourhood — we now hear people say: “Oh, you are from Harrow, the church with the mural!” Also located on the grounds of the church are the healing gardens, which add to our theme of reconciliation.

Fabric artists Dorothy Froman and Susan Ketchen held a Star Blanket workshop in April at a building that is a residence for a number of Harrow members. A highlight of the April 30 celebration of Teresa's ministry with us was a presentation of a Star Blanket created by Dorothy.

On October 1, as we observed Orange Shirt day, Elder Mike Monias spoke to us at Sunday worship. Joining us for worship were members of Crescent Fort Rouge United Church, who stayed for lunch and a smudging ceremony.

Our group works to try to make the Rooster Town / Pakan Town Walking Tour available to potential walkers through an online or print version.

Finally, as Faithful Readers select their book club choices for the year, both novels and non-fiction with indigenous authors make their lists.

Submitted by Virginia Platt

Yoga Classes

Submitted by Susan Ketchen

Yoga Report

Jane Carroll continues to provide us with leadership through semi retirement. We all appreciate all these years of her dedication. Jane has a loyal following.

Classes are Tuesday mornings 9:30 until 11:00.

Most sessions are 8 weeks for \$64. Drop in costs \$10 a class.

The average attendance is 13.

Susan Ketchen and Mary Ross.

Worship Committee Report

This past year was challenging for the worship committee as after Rev. Moysey's retirement we had to find leaders for our Sunday worship. We were fortunate to be able to have a variety of good guest preachers for the last eight months of the year. Nine of the services were led by Harrow lay people. Thank you to Will Jones, Shirley May and Rae Leaden. Many of the leaders were retired ordained or diaconal ministers including Rev. Barb Roberts, Rev. Larry McPhail, Rev. Deborah Murray, Rev. Marilyn Anderson Corkum, Rev. Irene Greenwood, Rev. James Christie, Rev. Linda Trono, and Rev. Don McKay. Our Licensed Lay Leaders included Millie Lewis and Diane McKenty. It was also good to hear student minister Hyerim Park, Josh Ward from 1 Just City and Rev. Tricia Gerhard who was going to start her new post at Westworth United Church. Over the summer months Harrow was involved in Church'orama where we visited four other churches for Sunday worship and hosted them for two of the services. It gave everyone a chance to visit other sanctuaries, listen to a variety of preachers and musicians and make new friends over coffee hour. In the fall Harrow hosted a special Orange Shirt Day worship where we invited other churches to come and listen to guest speaker Elder Mike Monias. We continued to do some services at The Parkway Retirement Community and we were much appreciated by the residents, especially when we were able to lead communion and also when we did a Prayer Shawl blessing and were able to give away shawls to a number of people. We also were fortunate that Crescent Fort Rouge U.C. invited us to attend special services at their sanctuary and we enjoyed going to Artfest and to their 140th anniversary.

Prairie to Pine Regional Council 2023 Annual Meeting

The **Prairie to Pine Regional Council** held the hybrid Annual Meeting at the United Church in Meadowood from June 1 to June 3, 2023. Susan Ketchen and I attended the meeting in person.

Thursday evening, co-chairs Pat Bird and Erika Wittevrongel welcomed everyone attending the meeting, both in person and on line. They also welcomed guests from the national office of the UCC: The Right Reverend Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, Moderator, Reverend Dr. Jennifer Janzen-Ball, Executive Minister, Theological Leadership, Reverend Laura Fouhse, Office of Vocation Minister to our tri-region, Vicki Nelson, Community of Faith Stewardship Support. Following the welcome and land acknowledgment, we introduced ourselves to those at our table.

Executive Minister, Shannon McCarthy, presented her report about the work she has done over the past year, and then introduced the rest of the regional staff.

“Who You Gonna Call”

Vicki Nelson, Community of Faith Stewardship Support, helped us to figure out where to get help by her segments of “Who You Gonna Call.” She interviewed the following people:

- Erin Acland, Regional Archivist
- Judy Hare, regarding Pastoral Relations work
- Twila McNair and M. Chorney, regarding the leadership of youth in the church.
- Laura Fouhse, regarding her work as Office of Vocation Minister.

Mission and Service Fundraiser

Leslie Harrison and the Young Adulds And Youth (YAAY) committee led the M&S Fundraiser again this year. They started with the music of the 40’s and 50’s. After we identified the song, we heard a karaoke version with Shannon McCarthy, in costume. One session included naming the Hymn and the number from Voices United. Performers were Carman Lansdowne, Don Schau, and Jennifer Pakula. The final session was songs from the 80’s and 90’s, with Phil and Julian Read, the performers. It was reported that the funds donated for the M&S fundraiser equaled \$7760.00. It was a worthwhile and entertaining event.

Our Moderator, Carman Lansdowne was the Theme Speaker. Her topic was Together Through the Wilderness.

There were presentations from the Theological Colleges: St. Andrew's College, Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, and the Centre for Christian Studies. Nominations committee presented its report, reminding us of the many opportunities available for us to serve.

Business:

- **Category 3 Remit** (from the UCC), concerning the establishment of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within the UCC.

- **Proposal 1**, (Emma Seamone / Karen Tjaden) concerning the *investment policies, investments, and practices of the Regional Council's financial institutions, using the UCC's Responsible investing Guiding Principles*", with a particular focus on climate justice and encouraging the transition from a carbon economy toward becoming leaders in a green economy.

After the information session and questions asked for clarification, both the Remit and Proposal 1 were passed.

Worship is always very important part of the Annual meeting with many taking leadership roles. This year, St. Mary's Road United Journey Band provided the music leadership for worship.

Thursday evening worship was a Memorial Service, led by Emma Seamone, Chair of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. Friday morning, Alcris Limongi and Scott Douglas (Centre of Christian Studies) with Connie Budd (Sandy Saulteaux Alumna) gave the message. Friday morning, Don Schau and others from Rural Connect led worship. Saturday morning, Hyerim Park (Korean Rainbow United) led worship. The Young Adult and Youth Committee led closing worship.

Workshops:

There were many workshops offered on Saturday. In the morning, I took part in making the bread for Sunday communion with a group of women. In the afternoon, I attended a workshop with Archivist Erin Acland, as she shared the work of reconciliation at the Archives. In the morning, Susan Ketchen attended a workshop outside. In the afternoon, she attended a session about making ribbon skirts.

Retirees banquet, catered by The Feast took place on Saturday evening after worship. Susan and I shared the time with Teresa Moysey and her partner Bruce Faurschou. We enjoyed the company, the food and the speeches about their careers in ministry.

Sunday morning worship was a **Celebration of Ministry Service**. We celebrated the Commissioning of Patricia Chabluk, the Ordination of Damber Khadka, and the Admission to the UCC of Noel Suministrado.

Communion was presided over by Moderator Carmen Lansdowne and Co-Chair Pat Bird, and served by the Celebrants and Retirees. Liturgist was Emmanuel Menyereye. Music was provided by United Church in Meadowood's music team as well as our joint regional choir.

Respectfully submitted by Gaye Pokotylo and Susan Ketchen

United Church Halfway Homes ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023



United Church Halfway Homes (UCHH) continues to occupy a space on the main floor of Harrow United Church. This serves as an office for the Executive Director. UCHH also rents space at Harrow for Meetings, Training and Events.

United Church Halfway Homes has resumed “business as usual”. This is with the exception of stocking the homes with personal protective equipment, and a more diligent preventative measures approach to the way illness is accessed in the homes.

Meetings: We have now increased in person meetings. Virtual utilization or a combination of both still remains as a convenient alternative. We utilize two main spaces in Harrow's facilities, both on the lower level. The Parlour room is generally used for staff meetings. The Main Hall is used for larger meetings that require the use of the big screen TV provided in the space. This has been convenient for displaying power point presentations or Virtual Meetings.

Training: The main hall has been used for only two organizations wide training last year as Training was held online during Covid. UCHH projects an increase in, In - Person training. UCHH has enrolled The Executive Director and a Board Member in a “Wevas” Train the Trainers course called Wevas (Working Effectively with Violent and Aggressive States). The last two years UCHH have been focused on more specified training for UCHH employee's outside of our mandatory training.

Accommodations: Harrow United Church continues to accommodate UCHH whenever possible.

McMillan Gift Baskets: Every year generous gifts are provided to our female home on McMillan Ave via the ladies group from Harrow United Church ladies group. These gifts are considered more than just goodwill gestures. The gifts are also provided to their children as well. The ladies receive assortments of hand made knitted items, neatly tucked in gift bags or pillow cases. Other gifts such as gift cards have been contained in the baskets. There is an overwhelming display of gratitude from the recipients of the gifts provided. Christmas time can be stressful and trigger unpleasant memories for our residents. This good will Christmas gesture, assist to shine a bright light during the holiday season. UCHH would like to thank the ladies group at Harrow United Church for their kind act of sharing and sending a positive message to our residents.

Events: This past summer UCHH was able to Host an Organizational BBQ for our staff due to lightening of Covid 19 restrictions. UCHH also hosted our Annual General Meeting virtually utilizing the Big Screen TV in the lower hall. Christmas Parties were hosted for staff and residents in individual homes. For 2024, there is an emphasis placed on resident integration via socialization and exposure to various activities. The desired outcome is to assist residents to create a connection to their communities and experience new beginnings.

UCHH is fortunate to experience community partnership with Harrow United Church!

Written by: Audrey Dennis, Executive Director

Good Morning AL ANON Family Group

Our group meets in person on Wednesdays at 9:45 am. The meetings are held in the parlour room, in the basement of the Church. There are approximately 10 to 12 members attending the meetings on a regular basis. Wearing masks is optional.

The Good Morning Al-Anon Family Group welcomes all people whose lives have been, or are being, affected by the alcoholism of a spouse, parent, child, other relative, or friend. The foundation is independent of all other procedures, therapies and organizations. Every group is fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. Although spiritually oriented we are not based on a specific religious discipline.

There is no advanced notice required to attend our meetings. All members of Al-Anon and newcomers are welcome to attend.

December 6th 2023 our group held an open meeting. A guest speaker was invited to share their experience, strength and hope. A bulletin was sent from our Central Office to all Al-Anon Groups via the monthly Calendar of Events.

The Group enjoyed the use of the main hall in the basement and the kitchen for the open meeting. Members contributed finger food and donations for a silent auction. The meeting was attended by 14 people.

Our Group continues to enjoy moments of laughter along with the sharing of our experience, strength and hope with each other.

We are grateful to the Church and hope that we will be able to continue our successful relationship moving forward.

If you have any enquiries regarding our Group or Al-Anon feel free to direct them to our website mbnwo-alanon.org or:

Central Office Services

101-2621 Portage Ave

Wpg MB

R3J 0P7

204-943-6051

Thank you

Submitted by Mary Lindsay

Group Representative for the Good Morning AFG

Village Green English Country Dancers

It is wonderful to report that we have now completely returned to a full season of dancing without any restrictions due to Covid-19. We are also delighted that we are able to continue our association with Harrow United, which spans more than 30 years.

Despite the restrictions of recent years, we continue to grow and welcome new members following our regular Open House events. We currently have more than 65 members, with more than 30 active dancers every week.

Village Green is proud to be an inclusive community and we want everyone to feel welcome. We dance an historic form of dance, generally in two lines facing each other. Traditionally these lines are designated as the “man’s side” and the “woman’s side”. However, we use this terminology only as a designation of the line for ease of instruction, rather than to identify the gender of the dancers. People are free to choose the side on which they dance. Our class format has changed this season, to help newcomers gain proficiency in a low-stress environment. English dances vary from the simple to complex, and the new structure allows for more focused teaching.

All newcomers are expected to join the General class, which runs from 8:15 to 9:30, while more experienced dancers meet from 7:15 to 8:15. They then join in with the General class for the rest of the evening. This has resulted in our increasing our rental period by 15 minutes.

We are very pleased that Harrow has attracted more rentals, and hope that this is paving the way for your continued success. We appreciate the chance to use an additional cupboard on the stage to make room for other groups’ supplies

Village Green has made a donation of \$500 to Harrow United for your annual appeal. In September, when our new season begins, we will be suggesting that our individual members consider making a donation of their own towards your appeal.

We want to thank you for the support and help that you offer to our group. We would be so pleased if any of your members would like to try us out at one of our Open House events. We wish you every success for the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Harris
Secretary, Village Green English Country Dancers
February, 2024

Harrow United Church Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2023

ASSETS

Petty Cash	250.00
ACU Chequing Bank Account	52,313.38
UCW Bank Account	924.05
Accounts Receivable	1,523.00
GST Rebate Receivable	217.43
Prepaid Expenses	1,190.00
TOTAL ASSETS	56,417.86

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	1,938.00
Deferred Revenue (Seeds of Hope)	7,471.95
Deferred Revenue (Rhyme & Storytime)	7,110.33
TOTAL LIABILITIES	16,520.28

NET ASSETS

Net Assets - Previous Year	23,590.90
Current Earnings	16,306.68
TOTAL NET ASSETS	39,897.58

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	56,417.86
-----------------------------------	------------------

Harrow United Church 2023 Financial Statement and 2024 Draft Budget

Harrow United Church 2023 financial statement and 2024 draft budget				
	Budget 2024	Actuals 2023	Budget 2023	Notes
REVENUE				
Income from Regular Donations				
Anniversary Donations - Local	7,000	7,171	5,000	
Anniversary Donations - M & S	200	0	200	
Bequests	0	0	0	
In Memoriam Gifts	0	1,506	0	
Easter Memorial	600	975	200	
Initial Offering	0	53	30	
Local	50,000	51,153	60,000	
Gifts Rec'd-Charitable Foundations	10,420	8,315	11,375	Average of charitable foundation 2018 - 2023
CanadaHelps	7,000	6,750	7,000	
Christmas Eve Offering	300	330	200	
Mission & Service Donations	7,500	7,550	9,000	
UCW Mission & Service Donations	100	0	100	
Open Collection Donations	2,000	2,805	600	
Contributions to UCW	200	20	200	
Broadview Magazine	0	100	100	
Total Income from Regular Donations	85,320	86,728	94,005	
Income from Other Sources				
Seed of Hope Grant	0	1,973	0	
Building Rentals	30,000	25,141	17,000	
Rhyme & Storytime Income	5,000	5,703	7,650	
Yoga Classes Income	3,000	2,983	3,000	
Other Fundraising Income	4,000	3,976	3,000	
Garage Sale Income	1,000	987	2,000	
Interest Earned	150	117	150	
Other Income	200	199	1,000	
Outreach Projects & Donations	1,400	227	300	
Weddings/Funerals	500	450	300	
UCW Income	0	33	0	
Total Income from Other Sources	45,250	41,789	34,400	
TOTAL REVENUE	130,570	128,517	128,405	

EXPENSES				Notes
Building Expenses				
Building & Equipment Maintenance	5,000	6,743	2,500	
Seasonal Caretaking/Snow Removal	1,800	1,717	1,575	
Insurance Expense	7,500	7,012	7,142	
Taxes on Frontage	800	799	630	
Total Building Expenses	15,100	16,271	11,847	
Program Expenses				
Christian Education/Outreach	350	318	100	Gathering magazine & zoom
Outreach Projects & Donations	1,400	227	300	
Visitation	100	59	300	
Worship Expenses	8,000	2,836	300	Supply minister & music licencing
Total Program Expenses	9,850	3,440	1,000	
Mission & Service Fund				
Mission & Service Regular	7,500	7,550	9,000	
Mission & Service Anniversary	200	0	200	
UCW Mission & Service	100	100	100	
Total Mission & Service	7,800	7,550	9,300	
UCW Expenses				
UCW Donations & Outreach Projects	0	0	0	
UCW Administration	0	77	0	
UCW Congregational Expenses	0	0	0	
Total UCW Expenses	0	77	0	
Other Expenses				
Professional Fees - Annual Review	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Seeds of Hope Program Costs		1,973	0	
Rhyme & Storytime Expenses	5,000	5,703	7,650	
Yoga Expenses	2,000	1,920	1,920	
Fundraising Expenses	100	44	100	
Service Charges (Bank, PAR, Int.)	600	616	600	
Leadership Training Expenses	0	0	100	
Broadview Magazine	0	100	100	
Memorial Gifts tsfed to Asset Fund	0	0	0	
UCW Gifts transferred to UCW	200	20	200	
Staff Training Expenses	0	0	100	
Mileage/Cell Phone Expenses	0	120	700	
Continuing Ed. & Learning Resources	0	0	100	
Total Other Expenses	8,900	11,496	12,570	
				Notes

Regional Council Expenses				
Annual Assessment	5,418	4,505	4,505	
Registration Regional Meeting	0	0	300	
Regional Council Expenses	5,418	4,505	4,805	
Supplies Expenses				
Caretaking Supplies	1,200	1,138	600	
Office Equipment & Supplies	800	746	600	
Postage & Courier	250	53	400	
Printing & Stationery	1,500	1,581	1000	
Kitchen Supplies	400	392	300	
Total Supplies Expenses	4,150	3,910	2,900	
Utilities Expenses				
Alarm Expense	730	646	682	
Internet Expense	1,300	1,195	1,400	
Website Expense	400	330	400	
MB Hydro - Electricity Expense	4,000	4,027	3,000	
MB Hydro - Natural Gas Expense	5,000	4,929	5,500	
Telephone Expense	1,100	1,088	1,100	
City of Wpg - Water & Waste Expense	600	603	500	
Total Utilities Expenses	13,130	12,818	12,582	
Personnel Costs				
Employer Benefits (CPP, EI)	6,480	3,434	7,459	18% of salaries and wages line
Payroll Service Charges	400	371	450	
Salaries and Wages	36,000	46,130	62,192	
Subcontractors	4,500	1,770	1,000	
Honourariums	500	440	500	
Total Personnel Costs	47,880	52,145	71,601	
TOTAL EXPENSE	112,228	112,212	126,605	
NET INCOME	18,342	16,305	1,800	

Harrow United Church Roster of Nominations 2024

Position	2024 Nominations
Chair	
Past Chair	Rae Leaden
Secretary	Jeanie Routledge
Pastoral Supervisor	Rev. Tim Crouch
Treasurer	Karen Corbett
Members at Large	Dianne Blewett Heather Carson Allyson Mathieson Dorothy Froman Will Jones
Visitation Coordinator	Mary Ross
Regional Council Delegates (1 to attend Council meetings)	Gaye Pokotylo Susan Ketchen Alternate: Shirley May
UCW Representative	Shirley May Gaye Pokotylo
Ministry and Personnel (1 to attend Council meetings)	Virginia Platt Susan Ketchen Dianne Blewett
Trustees (1 to attend Council meetings)	Gord Reid Brian Barnabe Cheryl Anderson Dianne Blewett