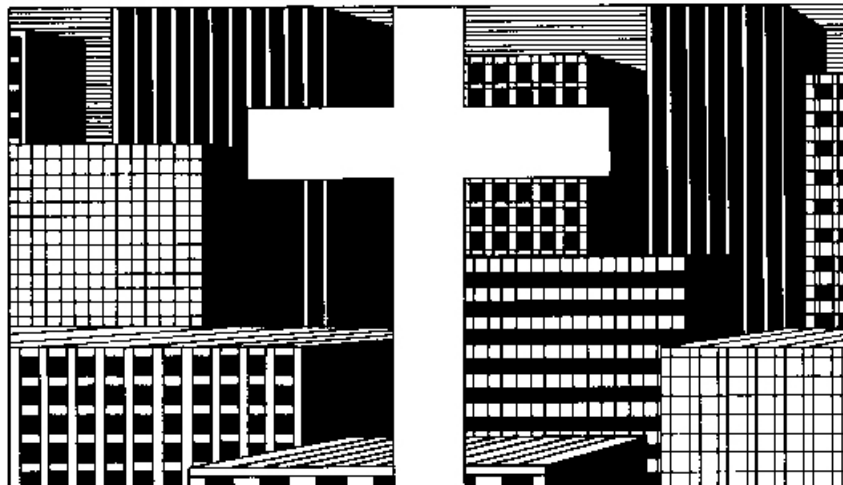


Urban Christian Outreach *(Ottawa)*



2025 Year in Review *(Issued June 2026)*

Urban Christian Outreach (Ottawa) Incorporated
is a registered charitable organization founded in 1993.
Charitable Registration # 13776 1938 RR0001

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The main purposes of Urban Christian Outreach are: to establish contact with those in the city of Ottawa who are struggling to survive spiritually, physically, or psychologically; and to mitigate the effects of urban isolation on the life of the individual.

We do this by pointing people towards a relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ, and by offering ongoing pastoral and practical care, including Christian education, street literacy and life-skills tutoring.

Urban Christian Outreach staff engages in mobile outreach on the streets, and in the coffee shops, parks and other communal places of the city. We especially (but not exclusively) develop ongoing relationships with those whose fragilities make it difficult for them to function in group settings. We seek to be present to their need, even when there are no apparent solutions, thereby offering hope, respect and dignity to the individual.

Urban Christian Outreach works in co-operation with other agencies by referring clients to social, medical, shelter, educational, employment and Christian organizations that will further expand the individual's personal network within the community, and will serve his/her various needs.

The heart of the work is relational. However, from time to time Urban Christian Outreach may develop structured programs and projects that are in keeping with the central focus of enhancing the well-being of those who are experiencing urban isolation and deprivation. This will be done according to the needs of the clients and the qualifications of current staff.

The geographical area of outreach and projects is within a five-mile radius of Parliament Hill (Ontario only). Follow-up may take us into other areas of the city, for home, hospital and jail visits.

We engage in dialogue and speaking engagements with individuals and groups, to promote a wider understanding of existing needs, and to search out possible solutions.

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Annual Report from the President of UCO for 2025

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:4-7 ESV

Dear UCO Supporters,

UCO is very grateful to our supporters for their prayers and the financial, and clothing donations which have sustained our mandate to care for those we are called on to serve.

After many years with Urban Christian Outreach starting in 2011, and in the past 6 1/2 years as a Board member, I have seen many changes that have made life increasingly difficult, especially for our friends on the sidewalks of downtown Ottawa. All charities face the same struggle for financial support, and as I retire this year, I again pray for your continued help.

We ask also that you look for opportunities for our Executive Director, Jill Wilson, to speak at your churches. Her firsthand experience on the streets clearly shows the needs of the many in our community.

May the God of Grace and Peace be with us all, in Jesus's name.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Konst,
UCO President

2025 Annual Report from the Executive Director

(Based on a 28 – hour salaried week)

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”

Luke 4:16-19 ESV

Dear Friends of Jesus,

By God's beautiful grace and mercy, and by your loving kindness and sacrificial giving, Urban Christian Outreach has continued to served the poor among us for 33 years! How magnificent is our God! So many faithful Christians have blessed our ministry, from it's foundation in 1993 by our beloved Katrine Coward, to today - our supporters, past and present, including some who are already at home with Jesus. We are giving thanks for all of you, as we remember you in prayer.

Jesus is the heart of our ministry work. Led by the Holy Spirit, we set our eyes on Jesus as we step out to serve the poor, the homeless, and the marginalised of Ottawa. Sometimes, the Lord speaks to us through the poor, by giving them words of wisdom and visions. Recently, God gave one of our marginalised friends a vision in a dream. While meeting in a coffee shop for Bible study, she shared it with me. With her permission, I would like to share it with you, using her own words, as dictated to me:

“I was walking and saw Jesus going up onto a higher place in the wilderness. I wanted to catch up and talk to him, and so I said “Hey, Mister Christ, slow down. Hey Sir, I want to talk to you.

“He looked at me like he recognized me. *He knew me by heart.* He had a dove in his hand. He stopped and sat down on a rock. I caught up with him and said, “You are pretty famous, Mr. Christ! You’re known all over the earth, and people worship you because you are the true God.

“He said he knows about us. Someone handed him a scroll, which had a map of the whole world on it. He said, “Those who aren’t worshipping me are missing out. Remind people to worship me and say to the people, ‘Don’t forget, I’m right there beside you.”

Praise God for this beautiful reminder, and for our dear friend for her faithfulness to Jesus. One day, we will all worship him together in Paradise, where there will be no poor among us, no mental illness, no addictions, no hate, and no rejection. We will worship the Triune God in love and peace, as equals. What a day that will be!

Sidewalk Outreach and Pastoral Care

* Our ministry is led by The Holy Spirit; we seek to be prayerful and intentional, as we are led out onto the sidewalks, into coffee shops, shelters, parks, court houses, prisons, libraries, hospitals, and even under bridges to where we encounter the poor, the homeless, and the marginalised among us

* The Holy Spirit often draws us alongside those who struggle to be around people; those who don't frequent soup kitchens and shelters; those struggling with agoraphobia, mental health challenges, and addictions

* We engage with people of all faiths, or no faith at all; we seek to share God's love, and to be the hands and feet of Jesus

* Unless someone is shadowing us as a volunteer, we go alone, and not in pairs, often to those who are uncomfortable engaging with more than one person at a time. However, we know that we are not truly alone; God is with us – He protects us

* We engage in matters of justice, and sit on roundtables in order to advocate for the poor

* Staff and volunteers receive ongoing training in areas of pastoral care, suicide prevention, addictions, mental health, Spiritual direction, healing ministry, senior abuse, human trafficking, and Bible study

* Staff have been trained to co-facilitate “Caring for the Wounded Heart” healing groups, a program offered by The Bible Society, and the Trauma Institute

- * We offer Bible studies, one on one, to those who can't cope in a group setting
- * We build long lasting relationships and friendships with those who are interested; some tell us that we are their only friend in this world
- * We offer ongoing support to those who struggle with mental health issues and addictions
- * We seek to build a support network around those who need help from various services
- * We offer the Alpha Course from time to time, both one on one, and in small group settings. We would like to offer this again in the fall; however we will need your prayerful and financial help to manage this
- * We come alongside the poor and help them to develop skills, often referring them to existing programs
- * We teach literacy and basic math
- * We help to coordinate medical, dental, and legal appointments
- * We help with housing, supportive housing, access to services in the community, jobs, and paperwork, etc.
- * We welcome opportunities to speak to congregations, church groups, and small groups about our ministry and about the plight of the poor

Bible Study

Urban Christian Outreach offers one on one Bible study in coffee shops, and in parks and public settings throughout the city. I must confess, this is my favourite part of our work. Recently, while reading God's Word in a quiet local restaurant, our waitress asked if she could join us. With our UCO client's permission and delight, we welcomed her. I was able to offer her my Bible, while I followed along from an app on my cell phone. At one point, she needed to leave the table in order to serve a new customer, and then returned to join us, where we were able to pray for her. We were all blessed. I am always amazed by how intentional and gracious our Lord truly is. I invite you to join us for Bible Study.





UCO/ROMHC Adult Education Classroom

Unfortunately, we have not been able to offer Adult Education in the classroom since COVID, due to the lack of returning outpatient registrations. Many students have not returned. Please pray that God will raise up new students who might benefit from this program, both inpatient and outpatient, and that we will be able to once again offer Adult Education in a classroom setting.

In partnership with the Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre, we have a long history of working alongside Occupational Therapists (OT's) and volunteers to provide an Adult Education Program in a classroom environment. Historically, enrolment was ongoing throughout the school year; students were not restricted to the September to June schedule offered by the school boards.

Students worked on a variety of subjects including math, history, science, English reading and writing, Food Safety Training, computer skills, and G.E.D. (High school equivalency) as well as I.L.C. (Independent Learning Centre) credits.

Speaking Engagements, Advocacy, and Community Networking

Praise God for the churches and organisations who continue to bless us through their Missions tithes and offerings, by praying for UCO's needs, by their generosity of financial donations and tithes, for providing us with Zoom service connections in which to meet as a Board, and for gifts of Bibles, clothing, toiletries, gift cards, warm sleeping mats, and winter clothing for the poor. We are thanking our Lord for:

Parkdale United Church
St. Peter & St. Paul Anglican Church
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
The United Way
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Phebe Foundation
St. Vincent de Paul
Kanata United Church
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
The Mission Dental Clinic
The Bible Society
The Trauma Institute
Woodroffe United Church
Dress for Less Shop

UCO Artwork

Monique Choquette, local freelance artist, continues to bless us with her beautiful artwork, which have adorned the pages of our updates and annual reports for the past 33 years. We are thanking God for Monique, for her generosity of spirit, and for her love for the poor.

UCO's Financial Supporters

And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. Luke 7:22 ESV

We thank God for you and for your partnership with Urban Christian Outreach, as we seek to serve God by ministering to his poor among us. Your kindness and generosity helps us to spread the Gospel message to those who might otherwise not hear.

UCO does not receive any government support; rather, we rely on our Father, and on you, to provide for our ministry work.

We are currently in need of an outpouring of your donations and gifts in order to continue to serve the poor. Would you prayerfully consider how our Lord might have you help us?

Donations can be made:

- * by cheque, to Urban Christian Outreach, P.O. Box 77033, Ottawa, ON K1S 5N2
- * by post-dated cheques sent to the above
- * by etransfer, to donate@urbanchristianoutreach.ca
- * by payroll deductions through The United Way www.unitedway.org
- * by providing gifts-in-kind (i.e. gift cards for restaurants, gas, groceries, OC Transpo Presto Cards, etc.
- * by making a bequest in your Will
- * in person: we are happy to pick up donations and would welcome an opportunity to meet with you in person

We are fasting and praying to the Father and asking that he might increase our donations, so that we might continue to serve Him.

By our Lord's Grace, we have received a new car to help us to do our ministry work. This is an enormous blessing-outstanding generosity, and we are humbled and so very grateful. We thank God for those who provided this beautiful gift. Thank you for your prayers concerning this. Praise be to God!

As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” 2 Corinthians 9:9

UCO Volunteers

Urban Christian Outreach is blessed to have faithful volunteers who give of their time and resources to support our ministry work. We thank God for all those who give their time to support the poor, including those who shadow us in our ministry work, those who work one on one with the poor, and those who offer help in practical ways by offering rides, knitted wear, gift cards and clothing items.

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ Acts 20:35

We give thanks to God for **Jean Anderson**, who ministers to the poor by distributing mats, clothing, food, prayers, care, and love. We continue to give thanks to the congregation of Our Lady of Fatima, who work tirelessly to provide us with sleeping mats for the poor. The mats are made from recycled plastic milk bags, and are lovingly woven on looms. They are an enormous blessing to the poor who sleep outside, and to those who spend their days sitting on the cold sidewalks. We are currently in need of more milk bags.



Jean Anderson, UCO Volunteer

We are also grateful to **Dr. Susan Hahn**, and her team at **Trinity Presbyterian Church**, for providing UCO with winter clothing, including coats, boots, hats, gloves, and socks given through their annual participation in The Big Give, and through gifts of kindness throughout the year.

We also give thanks to **Kanata United Church** for gathering an abundance of supplies for the poor, including toiletries, back packs, and water bottles, etc.

UCO Board Members

The ministry work of Urban Christian Outreach is overseen by the leadership of our dedicated Board of Directors, who are called by God from a number of Christian Denominations in Ottawa. We thank God for **Barbara Konst**, UCO's Board President, for her gifts of administration, wisdom and leadership, and for her love for the poor among us. After almost 7 years on the Board, Barbara has retired. We wish Barbara Christ's blessings on her new calling.

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.'

Matthew 5:21a

We give thanks to God for **Chris Garnett**, for her gifts of kindness, faithfulness, and prayer. Chris has been a UCO Board member for many years, and continues to organize our mailings!

We thank God for **Dr. Susan Hahn**, UCO Secretary, for her many years of service, and for her gifts of administration. Susan efficiently prepares our Board meeting Minutes, organises events for UCO, and gather practical items for the poor. Susan has now stepped into her new role as Interim President.

We also give thanks to God for **Denis Bourque**, for his many years of service on our Board of Directors. Denis has gifts of wisdom and discernment, as well as technical gifts. Denis also sets up our Board's monthly meetings via Zoom.

Spiritual Advisor to UCO and Spiritual Director to the E.D.

We are praising God for answered prayer, in calling **The Rev. Neil Stephens** to be UCO's new Spiritual Advisor. Neil previously served on UCO's Board for a number of years, and we are so grateful that he has answered God's calling to guide us this new role.

We are also praising God for raising up a new Spiritual Director for me, as well. **Uchennah Samuel**, Chaplain of the Salvation Army Ottawa Booth Centre, has answered God's call to come alongside me in this role.

UCO's Webmaster

We thank God for **Pastor Josiah Milne**, UCO's faithful Webmaster, who takes care of our website, posting our quarterly updates and annual reports. Josiah has been blessed with gifts of faith, ministry, grace, and encouragement. Praise be to God!

Our website address is:

www.urbanchristianoutreach.ca If you would like to receive your quarterly updates by email, please provide us with your email address, by either writing it on the back of the donor card, or via email at jill@urbanchristianoutreach.ca We hope to build up an email base in case of another postal strike, and would appreciate it if you could update us with your email address.

UCO Prayer Group

Jean Gallant, UCO's dedicated prayer partner, and dear friend, continues to uphold our ministry work, and the poor among us, in her prayers. We thank God for her, and for her faithful team of prayer warriors at Trinity Presbyterian Church, who uphold us in prayer.

We thank God for Jean's gifts of faith, obedience and discernment.

If you would like to join our prayer group, or become a prayer partner, please give us a call at 613-233-6633, or send us an email at jill@urbanchristianoutreach.ca

***“Gather to me my faithful ones, who
made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”
Psalm 50:5***

Thank you, dear friends, for your love for Jesus, for hearing his call to partner with us in our calling to serve our Lord and his poor on the sidewalks of downtown Ottawa. With your help, may we be found faithful.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Wilson,
Executive Director**



UCO's Treasurer's Report for 2025

Total income for the year 2025 was \$35,483.00
Our budget target was \$52,000.00

Total expenses were \$48,171.00
Our budgeted expenses were \$51,885.00

Income was below budget by \$16,517.00, and
expenses were below budget by \$3,714.00

Budgeted surplus was \$115.00; however, by the
end of year we had a deficit of \$12,688.00

The ratio of donations from individuals as
compared to the ratio from churches and
organizations is as follows:

- Individuals: 79.30%
 - Churches & Organizations: 20.70%
- The breakdown of year 2025 expenses is as
follows:
- Payroll costs/programming/Client Service:
85.93%
 - Administration: 14.07%

***“...give thanks in all circumstances; for
this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”
1 Thessalonians 5:18***

**Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Wilson, Interim Treasurer**

