

The Central Communicator- April 2022

Central United Church
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<https://centralunitedchurchwindsor.com/>

Services Sunday at 11:15

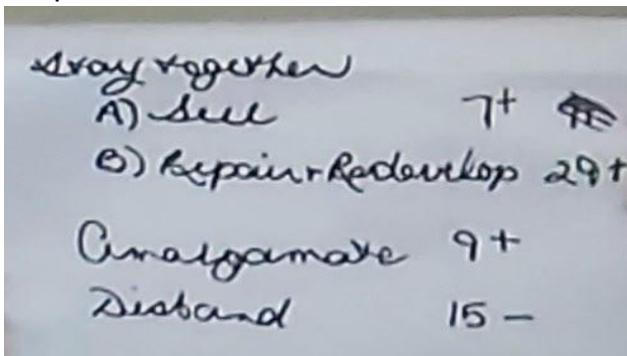


Announcements and News

There was a follow-up Congregational Meeting on April 3 led by Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa to determine the next step in the Congregation's journey. Do we as an individual member of the congregation wish to remain the Congregation in someone else's building, Amalgamate with a more vigorous congregation, Disband and go our separate ways or Stick Together, remain where we are and look to sell or redevelop the existing building for mixed community use. The overwhelming choice was to stay, repair and re-develop.

There will be more meetings with the congregation as the leadership looks at what can be done to fulfil the wishes of the majority of its members.

How the congregation might pay for repairs was not part of the deliberations. It will be.



Our History

Central United has an amazing history, one that the congregation can be proud of. This month we outline two programs that brought great joy to the doer and the listener.

CENTRAL SENIORS BAND

SILVER BELLS HANDBELL CHOIR

. There is now a write up on both on our website. Check them out.

<https://centralunitedchurchwindsor.com/central-seniors-band>

<https://centralunitedchurchwindsor.com/silver-bells-at-central>

UPCOMING MEETING

May 6 2022 10:30 -1:30

**Exploring Central's Redevelopment Options
All Congregation Meeting**

**A facilitated Discussion and Lunch
New Song Church
999 Drouillard at Whelpton**

Call 519-419-5456 or email Dan Bryant at dancantravel@yahoo.ca for luncheon count.

Summary from the Council Meeting on April 7, 2022

Finances - Expenses continue to exceed Income

2022 Income and Expenses to Date compared to the 6 Month Budget		
Calendar Year 2022		
Central United Church	Jan-March	6 Mo Budget
Income all Sources	15,553	35,485
Expenses all Sources	19,662	39,322
Gain/Loss	(4,107)	\$ (3,837)
Beginning/Ending Balances		
Beginning- Jan 1, 2022	6,721	
Ending - March 31 2022	??	
<i>adjustments if any</i>		
Income less expenses for February was subsequently changed from \$2,920 to \$1,705 by kicking some expenses into the next month time period making the traditional way this balance has been calculated difficult to determine. The balance at the end of February was \$ 1,628. The March 31, 2022 balance using the method used for years is not calculable. Whatever it is, it is not good.		

The funds available to the church are received in uneven amounts throughout the month with rent received at the first of the month and PAR received on the 20th. Considerable time is spent giggling things to keep the church in the black. A meeting is set up for April 13 to set up a small overdraft protection plan.

The Honeywell annual service contract is up for renewal soon. Exact date unknown at meeting. With taxes it is around \$1,100 or so. The treasurer to see if we can pay monthly or get a rebate if the church should cancel before the year is out

On a positive note, the Seniors and the Bells collectively have donated monies back to Central in appreciation for its sticking with them.

The website now has a nice writeup on the Bells and the Band.

Worship

Debz Ferber is scheduled to be in the pulpit for the last two Sundays in May. Charmain is scheduled for all of June. Reminder that Charmain's Farewell Lunch is planned for after church on June 5. Loretta Hackney has tickets.

Technology Hub

The minister at Harrow United has written to the Council to introduce and determine any interest in joining in forming a hub. There is a cost to it. More information on the project outline can be found at <http://www.ruralconnectucc.ca/>. More next month.

Church statistics

The church statistics as found in the annual report are suspect. We were advised by Mr. Eldacher the record should read 64 members and 60 adherents with 5 non-residents in those numbers instead of 45, 19 and 5 respectively..

Congregation Meeting April 3rd

The results of the voting at the Congregational Meeting on April 3rd were discussed. The congregation chose to repair and redevelop, catching a lot of us by surprise. The second best choice was NOT TO disband. Congregational members can expect a letter from Mr Bryant, Chair of Council outlining some of the financial stickhandling that needs to be successfully completed..

Property

The 5 mandatory repair jobs recommended by the church's insurance company have not been completed, chief of which is to repair the roof/dome. In fact most have not been seriously started. Henry and John are to arrange a Zoom call with its broker, K Wilson, at insurancestore.ca ASAP. The roof is the big one. It leaks.

The property opinion of values that were recently obtained suggested a value of the land and buildings at between \$450,000 and \$550,000. The building is on the City Heritage Register which anyone purchasing it would have a Dickens of a time to get City Council to remove the designation. So much so that with delay and delay with no possibility of a favourable outcome developers stay away. Without the designation the property would be \$700,000 to \$1,000,000 higher.

Drain

As I understand it a main drain from Cencourse runs under the sidewalk on the south of the church. It is broken. A roof drain from the church runs into it as well. Rain water is backing up and is causing damage to the building. All of this has been known for over a year or two. As I understand things, Mr Calhoun is to seek a new estimate to fix the drain. Who will pay for what is undetermined.

Former DMI Musical Instruments

The Council and the Trustees of Central United Church, by majority vote of each body have agreed to gift certain musical instruments used by the now defunct Downtown Music Initiative that have remained in our possession for more than 5 years to the music program at schools with a music program and to teachers who are qualified to teach the instrument "To have and to use said musical instruments for the purpose of musical education of children, who could otherwise unafford musical lessons, as this was the original intent of the Downtown Music Initiative ". AND if the instruments are no longer used by the teacher named below, for that purpose, they will re-purpose them with the same intent. Messrs Colwill and Allan in charge. They hope to complete the task in 6 weeks. Any remaining instruments will be dealt with by the Trustees.

Loans and Grants

Leadership is looking to obtain one or the other for repurposing the building or fixing it. Because of our current situation it looks like a long shot. If we tried this 5 years ago when we had more workers and more in the bank, the odds would have been better.

Fundraisers

Musical concerts are planned in May and June, one each month.

Next Council Meeting - May 5, 2022 at 2 pm

The hand-out at our Annual General Meeting on March 13, 2022

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH OPTIONS					
OPTION	MEMBERSHIP	LOCATION	MINISTRY	ASSETS	PROS/CONS
1. Remain a separate congregation	All members continue to belong to Central	Sell or redevelop existing building Need to rent space or nest with another congregation due to sale or during redevelopment	Unable to afford ministry until make a decision on building If nesting, will save building costs and may be able to share ministry with another congregation	Remain with Central If sell, interest only available for operations If redevelop, income available without restriction	
2. Amalgamate	All members become members of the new congregation	Parties to amalgamation determine where to worship, what to sell or redevelop	May be able to afford ministry	All assets stay local and belong to the newly amalgamated congregation Bequests for Central would go to new congregation	Need other congregation(s) Interested in amalgamation
3. Disband	Members find new church home Need to give attention to those for whom that will be difficult	N/A	N/A	33% of total assets are directed by Central to other United Church ministries Balance according to policy	Loss of congregational connections

Please pray for the leadership as they discern God's leading, and for guidance for yourself to make wise decisions about the future and collectively the future of the congregation. May we all be granted-

Wisdom Understanding and Knowledge, Gladness and Joy