

# The Central Communicator Newsletter January 2022

## Central United Church

628 Ouellette Windsor

Mailing Address

699-30 Tuscarora Avenue

Windsor On N9A 6Y6

Phone (519) 253-4641

<https://centralunitedchurchwindsor.com/>

Services Sunday at 11:15 am



## Announcements and News

Out of an abundance of caution, in-person worship at Central United has been cancelled for several weeks. We hope everyone is trying to be safe. Those who have the internet and those with an email address registered on file at the church office are more informed and many have taken the opportunity to join live services on the internet, Zoom or have been able to view on our webpage and Youtube.

We hope this newsletter will keep you informed of the goings on in and outside Central United Church. This printed newsletter is sent (via snail mail with a postage stamp) to those without an email address on file. A digital copy of the newsletter will be posted to the church webpage and to those who have email.

Church Office -

659 Dufferin Place Wed 1:00 - 3:30

Thurs 9:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 3:30

[central@mnsi.net](mailto:central@mnsi.net)

## Our History

In 1907, evangelists Crossley and Hunter returned to conduct a second series of evangelistic services at Central Methodist, now United Church. These services were held as a united campaign amongst all of the Methodist churches in the area and were most successful. The Windsor Daily Record of April 6, 1907 said "The conclusion of the Crossley-Hunter meetings in Central Church marks the end of the greatest religious revival ever conducted in Windsor, or in Essex County." Over seven hundred persons had made a profession of faith.

We are told the message was always the same. Drawing on passages of the Bible, Crossley would seek to convince his listeners of the need of repentance for sin, the possibility of redemption in Christ, and the opportunity for regeneration with the help of the Holy Spirit. His sermons inevitably concluded with an earnest appeal to "accept Christ at once."

But it did not end there. They were convinced that Christianity should be applied to all aspects of a believer's life. In sermon and song he encouraged his listeners to consider God's place in all things. As far as Crossley was concerned, a conversion to Christianity involved a conversion to a whole new way of living

## What the church is here for. What is its ministry?

**The vision** of The United Church of Canada as approved by the 43rd General Council at its meeting on Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021) states

"Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, The United Church of Canada seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse courageous hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship and daring justice".

**The Mission** of The United Church of Canada, as approved by the 43rd General Council was stated as: Deep spirituality, Bold discipleship, Daring justice.

Where are we at Central United Church?

Each year the church is required to complete a concise statement of your current ministry objectives and its goals. The following is a copy of what was submitted for 2021. At our annual meeting sometime in February the leadership will be asking for your input for 2022. We ask that you review and any suggestions be sent or telephoned into the church office.

### Living Faith Story - 2021

**Central United Church**, Address: 628 Ouellette Avenue, Windsor Ontario

Pastoral Charge: Rev Olav Kitchen (supervisor), Pastor Charmain Bailey (part time ministry)

**Regional Council:** Antler River Watershed Regional Council

#### 1. Mission Statement:

Called to be a caring and welcoming community of faith and witness for Christ in downtown Windsor.

**2. Values:** 1. Worship; 2. Pastoral Care; 3. Leadership

#### 3. Summary of your community of faith:

Central United Church is a caring welcoming community of faith with over a 200 year history and enjoys consistent leadership through part-time ministry.

#### 4. Definition of Current Ministry -( listed alphabetically, and Priority order 1 to 9)

##### a. Administration: Priority - # 7

Administration is accomplished through Trustees, Council, and a Part-time Office Administrator

##### b. Community Outreach & Social Justice: Priority - # 5

Central United Church was instrumental in the establishment of the Downtown Mission and the 17 story non-profit high rise apartment complex Cencourse. We continue to support the Mission financially and with food donations and we have a property agreement with Cencourse. Central United Church is home to several different groups and two congregations, Deeper Christian Life Ministry and Lifeline Church.

##### c. Continuing Education: Priority - # 6

We are pleased to support Pastor Charmain's education needs. Bible Study weekly by Zoom or by e-mailout.

##### d. Denomination & Communities: Priority - # 4

We are a small congregation in the core of downtown Windsor, mostly seniors and who live outside of the downtown core, Our immediate community is mostly apartments and condominiums and habited with a diverse population including seniors, and university and college students.

Continued on page 3

***Living Faith Story - 2021 continued***

**e. Faith Formation & Christian Education:** Priority - # 9

We support the education needs of our student minister Charmain Bailey Foutner and have a weekly Bible Study open to everyone.

**f. Leadership:** Priority - # 3

Central has a very active, devoted core of volunteers. Having been without a minister for many years, lay volunteers have taken on leadership roles in all areas of the church including worship music and Bible Studies. We pay a custodian for work inside and outside and an office administrator for ten hours a week. We praise God for the dedication of our lay leaders. We appreciate the limited time the quarter-time minister and our Supervisor Rev Olav that they offer for leadership. We recognize that our congregation is ageing and in need of new and consistent leadership to build up our ministries and assist with outreach and visioning.

**g. Pastoral Care:** Priority - # 2

Central United Church is a caring community. We are a close-knit family we pray for and support each other. The large majority of the congregation are seniors facing health and mobility challenges. Pastoral care happens informally and through our part-time ministry.

**h. Self Care:** Priority - # 8

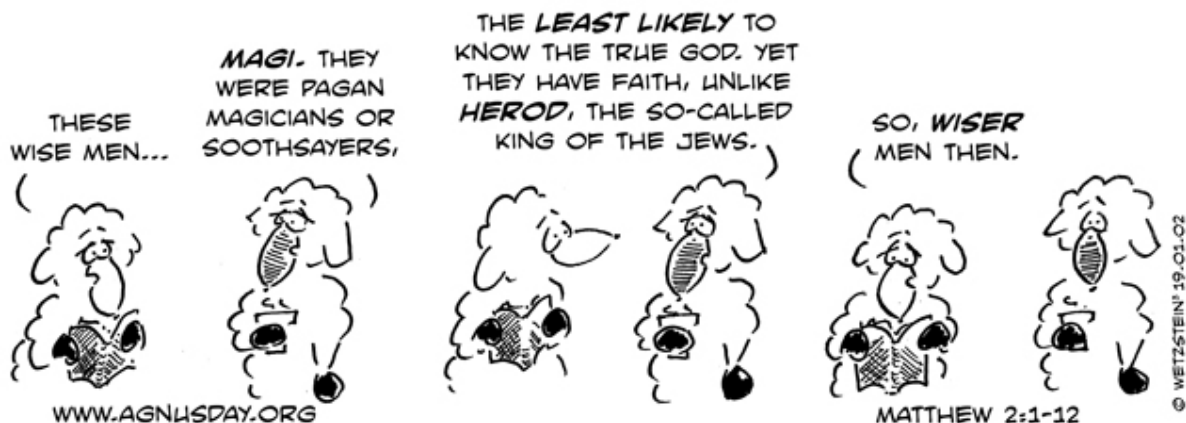
Bible Study

**i. Worship:** Priority - # 1

Worship is foundational to the life of Central United. In many years without a permanent minister and since Central has never missed being open on a Sunday. We have benefited from a diverse perspective of preaching and styles and cherish consistent United Church worship and leadership. The congregation values tradition but is open to new music, ideas, and new ways of worshiping. In general, we identify with a traditional Trinitarian understanding of God, but we embrace theological diversity. We value a preaching style that is conversational and engaging.

5. Do you have any goals for the next year that might enhance your current ministry or begin something new? ☐ No ☒ Yes If yes, please list or append.

**Central** currently has a committee charged with the visioning process, looking at who we are, looking critically at our membership, assets, capacities and limitations and then identifying our congregation's neighbours or the community we believe we are called to reach.



As we now enter 2022, may our new normal be one of grace and compassion where the dominant variant is love. May our hearts be stirred to support and show mercy to those who find themselves marginalized and afraid. And even as God dwells among us in human form, may we also be Christ with skin on to those we meet.

Please consider writing a note or thought to be included in future newsletters.

Share this newsletter with a friend

If you have email and are not receiving emails from the office please send us a note and we will add you.

If you have a friend who has email, ask if emails can be sent to them and you can read them there, (saves us postage) The Pastor's Reflections and video of the service could also be viewed there. Bonus.



**"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."**