

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Annual Report

2009



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Pastor Alan's Message

Waiting Upon the Lord

For all of us this has been a year of waiting ... Waiting on the Lord to help us make wise, Spirit-led decisions at each turn. And then waiting to see what God has in store for us around the corner.

Waiting is not an easy assignment. None of us enjoys waiting; we are all impatient in our restless hearts. But waiting, too, is part of the life of faith... of learning to follow our Lord's leading. Learning to keep in His footsteps and not wander into one's own path, or to get out in front of the Master's lead. At times like these we can take encouragement from some verses in Psalm 37:

3 Trust in the LORD and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper.

4 Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desires.

5 Commit everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you.

7 Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act.

Waiting is hard. But there is a promise of God's provision and abundant blessing for those who trust in His unfolding plan and purposes to be revealed. "*Commit everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you.*"

Much has happened in the past year. We have faced some difficult financial challenges. We have had to reassess how to live out our vision of *Finding a Home in God's Love*. We made some adjustments, which included having to say goodbye to Pastor Paul. In May, I announced to all of you that after 10 very fulfilling years serving among you, I sensed God's leading to begin searching for a new ministry. It has been a year of uncertainties and unknowns for all of us.

At the same time, however, we continued to have a year of fruitful ministry. Some examples are the nine youth who were Confirmed into the Faith in May, the ten adults who joined the Trinity as members this past month. And who can forget the amazing faith venture of sending our team of 13 youth and adults to Uganda in August on our first Trinity Mission Trip!!

Psalm 37 encourages us to be confident that as we trust in the Lord, act righteously, and commit our future to Him, God will reward our faith and obedience. There is a promise here to guide us. V. 4 says, "*Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you your heart's desire.*" What is the desire of your heart for Trinity? The only way to really receive that future is, as the verse says, to "delight" ourselves in the Lord. If this is the posture of *our* hearts, then we will be asking God this question: "God, what is the desire of *Your* heart for Trinity's ministry and future?"

This will be my eleventh and final Trinity Annual Report to add my thoughts within. I have been blessed and privileged to serve as your pastor these years. You have taught me so much. I have grown and been challenged in ways I never could have dreamed possible. I am grateful to God for each and every one of you and the memories we have shared in Christ's service together. I am confident that next year, you will be able to look back and testify to how God has led you to discover the desires of His Heart for Trinity's ministry and future. I pray for God's abundant blessing on you all throughout the transition into what God has in store for you... around that

next corner!

In His love... always,

Pastor Alan

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Sunday, March 28, 2010

Call to order, Prayer

In Memoriam

Opening remarks by Chair

Minutes of 2009 Annual Meeting

Annual Committee Reports for 2009

Comments by Rev. Alan Mills

Annual Budget for 2010

Mission & Service Budget for 2010

Nominating Committee Report and Elections

Comments by Chair

Unfinished Business

New Business

Appointment of Auditor

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Message from the Board Co-Chair

The Love of the Cross

This year, Valentine's Day happened to be on a Sunday and of course Valentine's Day is all about Love, isn't it? It's about the love for your wife or love for your husband, love for your children, love for you grandchildren, grandparents, friends and on and on. I sat in the sound booth as I do most Sunday's and just looked forward to the front of the sanctuary. I started thinking about how great it looked with all the woodwork up at the front and the crimson coloured curtains hanging in the middle. I then thought of the love, so many people over the years have put into the building of Trinity United Church.

Then I looked at the cross and it reminded me of God's love that he gave His only begotten son, Jesus, so that we may be forgiven of our sins. Just stop and think about that for a minute. God gave His only son's life for all of us. Now, picture the love that the cross resembles. Without the cross, the building is now just another nice looking building. The cross is at the centre and it is the true meaning of love.

In my opinion, the high light of last year was the love of every member, who gave of their time and or money, so we could send a mission trip off to Africa. We can all be very proud of that accomplishment. We did it out of the love for the people in Africa that find comfort and love in so little.

May we be reminded of God's true love when we look up to the cross on Sunday morning. May we use the cross to show our love towards each other. In Romans 12, Paul says this: **Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other.**

May God richly bless each and every one of you this year and remember to just look up every time you enter the sanctuary to see God's love reigning back on you.

Phil Carmichael

Co-Chair of the board.

2009 AT TRINITY:

Groups that used space at Trinity: Brownies, Alzheimer Society, YMCA and others.

Jan 13 - U.C.W. Annual Meeting

Feb 4 - Pancake Supper

Mar 8 - Trinity's Annual Meeting

April 12 - Easter Service

June 14 - Picnic Sunday

6 - U.C.W. House Tour

Aug 28-31 - Family Camp

Weekend at Sparrow Lake

September 20 - U.C.W. Sunday

October 23 - Beef Dinner

25 - Anniversary

Sunday

Dec 8 - U.C.W Christmas

Potluck

24 - Christmas Eve Services

4:30 with potluck, 7 & 10 pm

Trinity United Church (Uxbridge)
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes for the year 2008
March 8, 2009

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order in the Friendship Hall at 12:15 p.m. by Chair, Ivan Martin, following a soup lunch. Secretary Marilyn Card recorded these minutes. There were 98 people in attendance.

2. **Opening Prayer**

Reverend Alan Mills led the congregation in prayer.

3. **In Memoriam**

Pastor Alan read a list of people who had passed away during 2008.

4. **Amendments to Agenda**

Motion: Moved by Marilyn Card, seconded by Donna Shier, that all in attendance today will have voting privileges. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Marilyn Card, seconded by Marion Martin, to insert the Auditor's Report before the Annual Budget on the Agenda. Carried.

5. **Opening Remarks by Chair, Ivan Martin**

First of all, I would like to thank everyone on behalf of the Board for attending today. When I considered taking on the position of Chair 2 years ago, after much discussion with friends in our church and of course with my wife Marion, the decision became easier when I realized that I had a great team of people on our Board to work with. Your Board over the last 2 years has stepped up to the plate and did an outstanding job in representing you, our congregation. I would ask that all Board members please stand up and be recognized. I want to thank you on behalf of the congregation for your commitment and fulfilling your role for the last 2 years.

I would especially like to thank Marilyn Card who took on the job of secretary during the year and has done a great job.

Five years ago we ventured ahead on a vision plan for our church. It was a vision plan that was fashioned from a survey completed by you, our congregation. I would like to comment on our progress.

Parking

On behalf of the Board and the Congregation, I thank Bob Knight for leading the way and spending many hours of time and labour to successfully complete our "Trinity Memorial Parking Lot". We also appreciate everyone who worked with Bob to bring this much needed addition to our Church.

Music / Worship

The Board and ministry team made the decision to combine the 2 services into 1, which solved many concerns with volunteers needed for 2 separate services, and of course the time constraints. This involved a blending of our music which has been well received with Robin Dhillon's group and our new Cascade band. We are grateful for both groups for working

with Tom Baker our music director bringing to us music with versions of traditional and modern music and a blend of both. Unfortunately, our choir decided not to return to us last year after many years of service. We are grateful for their years of providing us with music and enjoyment as part of our worship. I know Tom Baker is still working on a smaller choir for special occasions that we have already enjoyed, and we look forward to hearing more from them, and he is looking for more people to show us their talents. We also, again, congratulate Tom of 25 years in bringing great music to Trinity.

Orvan Brethour Memorial Fund

Orvan Brethour, who we miss, we are thankful for his many years of contribution to Trinity. He left us a legacy. Part of that legacy was the seeding of the Orvan Brethour Fund - a fund which many of you have donated to. This has enabled us to update our visual and sound system and a new studio. This is a good time to thank Phil Carmichael, Rik Hudson and their crew for bringing Orvan's idea to fruition.

Communications

The vision plan was to bring more communication to our Congregation. We have done this. First of all, with the newsletter that Marilyn Card, Bob Kirvan, and Pastor Alan have put together for our enjoyment and keeping in touch with the life of Trinity. Great job!

Also, "*This Week At Trinity*", that is included with your weekly service bulletin, is keeping us up to date with life at Trinity. Various letters are sent out to the Congregation as need be. Special Congregation meetings have been held to keep you updated with regards to our projects and finances.

Outreach and Caring for the Community

The seniors' dinners are headed up by Cindy Finlay, Louise Thomas, Sandra Barton, Diane Morris, and Colleen Bragan. In 2009, the committee added Pauline Streeter, Bev Squires-Porter, and Marion Martin. There are also many more helping out with the dinners and make them a very successful fellowship and outreach. On behalf of the Board and the Congregation, a sincere thank you.

The fall seniors' dinner was attended by approximately 80 people; the next dinner is on March 23rd.

Coffee / Hospitality

Thank you to everyone who has prepared the coffee and goodies for after our service on Sunday mornings. For the last 6 months or more, we have had a full complement of people attending. It is a good way to say hello to our members and visit with your friends.

Visitation Team

Our hats are off for the great job our Visitation Team, headed up by Jean Tomlinson – members of her team are Reverend Ralph, Margaret Weatherup, Stuart Annan, Bob Kirvan, Edna Meyers, Betty Tapscott, Laura Lapp, Louise Thomas, Maxine Augustine, and Betty Catherwood. We have had excellent comments about the warm and welcome visits you are making – a much needed ministry.

I can't say enough about the amazing job that Bob Kirvan has been doing in many, many areas of Trinity life. Bob has been a great help to me in the last 2 years. Thank you, Bob. I think we should make him a Deacon!!!

Ministry Team

The vision plan put in motion, requested 3 ministers: a main co-coordinating minister, a pastoral care minister, and a youth minister.

We have done this and budgeted for this over the last 3 years but it has not been supported for various reasons, so it is time to revisit this part of the vision plan model. We will discuss this more in our budget presentation.

Youth

Two of our youth have been our liaison members with the youth group, Brendan Carroll and Zach Mills, a tremendous inspiration to our Board and a fine example for our future hopefuls for Trinity. Watoto Project – a great job done at the triple auction by our youth group led by Paul Sabin and Richard & Kirsten Clark.

In summary, I would like to thank all the volunteers who are many and much appreciated. This is a great way for everyone to bring their talents to Trinity and fulfill a personal ministry. We, however, need more volunteers in many different areas. Don't be afraid to ask your Board members where we need people.

I would like to thank you for the privilege of serving as your Chair for the last 2 years and look forward to sharing in the life of Trinity with you in the future.

6. Minutes from the 2008 Annual Meeting

Motion: Moved by Barbara Rance, seconded by Carol Tompkins, that the Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting be accepted. Carried.

7. Annual Committee Reports for 2008

Chair, Ivan Martin, said that he has reviewed the Committee Reports and he encourages people to talk to the Committee Leaders.

Committees: Nurture & Worship (Nancy Wood & Annette Forkun); Ministry & Personnel (Rob Croxall); Stewardship & Outreach (Ian Finlay); Development (Donna Shier); and, Property & Finance (Doug Chant).

Motion: Moved by Jan Wilson, seconded by Richard Forkun, that the Annual Committee Reports be accepted. Carried.

8. Comments by Reverend Alan Mills

Pastor Alan read from Proverbs 3: 5-6:

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
Do not lean on your own understanding.
Acknowledge Him in all your ways,
And He will direct your path.*

He encouraged us to apply this Word of God which requires us to do our part in order to receive God's blessings. He led us in reciting this promise for our own lives and then in reciting this scripture as a prayer for our life together as a church family.

Pastor Alan urged the congregation to prayerfully participate in the feedback which the Board was asking them for in the form of a letter which was recently mailed out and included a pledge form and a form requesting ideas for our services. If we do this in the spirit of this Word from Proverbs 3: 5-6, then we will be assured of having God's blessing and guidance directing our paths forward as a church.

We miss Pastor Ralph today, he is in Florida. Pastor Alan expressed how much he enjoys working with both Pastor Ralph and Pastor Paul. He said it has been a privilege and a blessing working with Pastor Paul for whatever period of time.

Pastor Alan concluded by leading us one more time in reciting Proverbs 3: 5-6 together as a prayer.

General Discussion

Ivan thanked Pastor Alan for his words of wisdom. Ivan expressed how important it is for us to hear from the silent majority in making important decisions today.

Jan Wilson commented on how the pledge forms are due at the end of March and asked what about decisions being made today.

Ivan said there will be another Congregational Meeting on May 3rd.

John Wilson asked if the decisions today will be put off until May 3rd.

Ivan said we will decide on a Provisional Budget today.

Marion Martin commented that the results of the survey will be discussed May 3rd.

Pastor Alan said that depending on the results of the survey, we may need to make revisions and amend the budget.

Sue Carmichael commented that what we are hearing today will help us to answer the survey with more knowledge.

Ivan Martin said that after discussing staff changes today, we may make changes on May 3rd.

9. Auditor's Financial Report for 2008

Roger Bullock presented the budget. He reviewed page 1 Assets & Liabilities, page 2 Funds, and page 3 Receipts. He pointed out that Ministry & Personnel decreased in benefits cost and custodial costs were down \$12,000. Alpha last year had a negative balance of \$700.

Dennis Trowse asked why rental income was down.

Roger explained that the nursery is no longer renting the gymnasium.

Don Thomas asked why the Development budget has gone up.

Roger replied that the money has not been applied from donations.

Hilary Balmer enquired why WSIB has doubled.

Rob Croxall explained that there was a rating change and salaries are in line with industry standards.

Doreen Brethour asked, what is WSIB?

Rob Croxall answered Workplace Safety Insurance Board.

Rik Hudson commented that every industry sector has gone up.

Don Thomas enquired about the injury claim of Dawn Kernohan.

Rob Croxall replied that Dawn Kernohan's claim is not a matter of WSIB.

Doreen Brethour asked if there is anything left in the Orvan Brethour Fund. She wants the money spent.

Bob Armitage answered that there is \$4,000 and there are plans for curtains in the Sanctuary.

Mike Bragan asked why there was no Conference Assessment paid in 2008.

Bob Armitage said the 2008 assessment was paid in January 2009.

Colleen Bragan asked, what is the Conference Assessment?

Pastor Alan explained that it is based on membership and it pays for the staff positions and activities of Conference and Presbytery.

Jan Wilson enquired about how much is paid.

Bob Kirvan replied that \$26.50 is paid per member per year.

Jan Wilson asked if we paid for members that are not here.

Ian Finlay answered that next year's formula will change and also we are updating the roll.

Ivan commented that Ian is researching who is on the roll. Ian Finlay and Bob Kirvan will be contacting people that are on the roll and not attending.

Mike Bragan asked if we could put a timeframe on updating the roll.

Ivan replied that the roll would be updated by this time next year.

Dennis Trowse pointed out that the 2009 Budget incorrectly shows that the 2008 actual for Conference Assessment of \$11,866 was paid when in fact it was not.

Ivan Martin said that it was missed and was corrected in 2009.

Ivan Martin, referring to page 2 of the auditor's report, commented that the balance of \$10,280 makes our situation look rosy.

Roger Bullock said that this includes Bequests and Watoto. The actual deficit is negative \$55,000.

Colleen Bragan asked if we are spending money on people not here, can we speed up contacting them.

Ivan Martin replied that we need help to do this - we are trying to get the roll up to date and the change in formulation will be based on the operating budget.

Don Thomas commented that we cannot get money from people that are not attending. The majority of people that we are paying for are actual members.

Ivan Martin thanked Don for his insight.

Roger Bullock explained that we did not receive an invoice from Presbytery for the 2008 payment therefore this has no negative reflection on our administrator or treasurer.

Don Thomas asked, what is the Mission and Service target?

Bob Kirvan answered \$32,000.

Motion: Moved by Roger Bullock, seconded by Donna Shier, to accept the 2009 Auditor's Report. Carried.

Ivan Martin thanked Roger for a great job and announced that Roger is retiring as our auditor.

10. Annual Budget 2009

Treasure, Bob Armitage presented the Annual Budget. He pointed out that Nurture has reduced their budget from last year, Stewardship & Outreach increased over last year, Development trimmed their budget, and Property & Finance reduced the upkeep of the church.

Ivan Martin pointed out that the last 3 years are showing a downward trend.

Ivan asked staff to leave the room while we discuss Ministry & Personnel.

Don Thomas commented that there are only 3-5 children attending Sunday School and yet the Development budget shows money set aside for Sunday School. Even if money is budgeted, it doesn't mean money has to be spent. We continue to spend money even though we are in a deficit.

Ivan Martin said we have cut down expenses wherever possible. The major expenditure is in Ministry & Personnel.

Marg Barton commented that givings are down because people have left – at least 5 families since the last annual meeting.

A question was asked why \$2,000 was spent on Vacation Bible School.

Brendan Carroll responded that \$2,000 was covered by specific donations.

Dick Tompkins commented that Vacation Bible School was a worthwhile expenditure in reaching out to the community.

Doreen Carrigan commented that she did not realize we were in a deficit.

Ivan Martin responded that this information has been reported in the church bulletin.

Marjorie Brethour remarked that we are in hard times. It is time to cut back on Outreach i.e. \$100 for Welcoming, \$500 for a Youth Retreat. We have no money to spend on extras.

Matt Alexander observed that there were 50 children that attended our summer Bible School along with their parents, sisters and brothers – it is a good outreach project in reaching out to the community.

Brendan Carroll said that the \$500 for a Youth Retreat was received from specific offerings.

Donna Shier commented that the reason we have money in the budget for retreats is to help people that cannot afford to pay the full amount themselves.

Ivan Martin remarked that we should have spent more money on Outreach to get more people to join church and attend events such as the seniors' dinners. The Youth are our future leaders. We have to invest in the future.

Hilary Balmer observed that we have a responsibility to reach out to the community. The more you reach out to people, the more will join. Sow what you reap – fundamental to Christianity.

Rob Croxall made the following comments:

- Ivan's leadership is appreciated
- We have some difficult decisions to make
- Regarding the situation at hand, we don't know where the pledges will take us
- We don't want to run another deficit
- The Board has proposed that the contracts for Pastor Ralph and Pastor Paul will not be renewed at the end of June
- The savings work out to \$35,000 for half a year (this year), and \$75,000 for a full year (next year)
- We should welcome new members of the community

Jan Wilson questioned when the half year would be complete.

Rob Croxall replied the end of June when the contract is up.

Louise Thomas wondered if we could extend Pastor Paul's contract to the end of August so that he could participate in the Watoto Mission in August.

Rob Croxall said that Presbytery would agree to the end of August.

Karen Croxall observed that without Youth and Children's Programs, there is no church and no society.

Bob Armitage observed that Pastor Ralph was responsible for Seniors and Pastoral Care; Pastor Paul was responsible for Youth and Sunday School.

Rob Croxall stated that our church cannot afford it. We are now in a different time and place, we have lost members and should be happy that they have found a church home somewhere else – they are thriving. There are 2 churches in Stouffville that are absolutely thriving; however 2 small churches are suffering. The Leaskdale church is thriving, they are finding something there. We have not done anything wrong. Willow Creek speakers – 90% turn of the century, now only 3%, hopefully through volunteers they will be replaced.

Mike Alexander commented that we are losing members and their donations. If we discontinue Youth programs, we will lose the young people and their families. If we can't keep families, what should we do about our future as a church?

Colleen Bragan agrees with Mike Alexander. I am a mother of 3 teen age boys – why are we giving \$30,000 to M&S and no money to the Youth? We are therefore looking after the outside and not looking after our home.

Phil Carmichael said that the Board is not getting rid of the Youth Programs – we are asking for volunteers to run the Youth Program. The Leaskdale church does not pay for a youth pastor.

Doreen Carrigan suggested that we should have a phone committee to call people and ask for money in a nice way.

Marion Martin commented that Bob Kirvan has co-coordinated a list of people to call and handed the list to the Board for follow up.

Pauline Streeter remarked that we are looking at cutting money for ministers. This building costs a lot of money. Should we be looking elsewhere to save money? Should we

be doing other things with this building?

Rob Croxall wondered if this township can support so many United Churches. Maybe we shouldn't have so many denominations. Can we look at new models?

Sue Carmichael stated that it costs \$6-\$7,000 per month to run the church. The oil bill for February was \$4,000. The telephone system dropped from \$3,000 to \$1,700 per month. If you want to support the Youth & Seniors, put your money where your mouth is.

Jan Wilson commented on how well spoken our Youth are. Let's support what the Youth have said. We are stepping backwards. We went with Visioning and now we are turning our back on it. Let's ask for volunteers now. If we want to keep our staff, put your money where your mouth is. Let's increase our personal givings by 30%. We are gaining new members. We are warmer than ever. What about bequest money for us to use. Let's wait and see for one more year while membership increases. Let's do everything we can.

Robin Dhillon mentioned the Visioning Process we undertook 5 years ago – now we are going through some lean years. We received messages from God and prayed about it. Did we not understand God? Should we throw it out now? Why can't we use bequest money? What is stopping us from using it? Are we trusting in the Lord? This is a sole (soul) proprietorship. Let's do what the Lord wants.

Sue Dubasz asked is the combined amount for Pastor Ralph and Pastor Paul \$60,000? What about the \$58,000 used to pay the mortgage? What does value mean? Income from property should support people, not building.

Rob Croxall said the mortgage money was advanced to us by the United Church of Canada, so now, since we have paid it off, another church can use the money. The Board felt some resistance to use undesignated money for operating funds. We can't count on bequest money because some people are resistant to using it – we have to be tolerant.

Matt Alexander said the deficit is \$50,000 and the ministers cost is \$60,000. We still have money to float on. The parking lot was part of the visioning process and we have not seen the benefits yet. The ministers were part of the visioning process and we should wait to see results. We have not got there yet.

Mike Bragan stated the M&S is important for other countries. We should use it here.

Corinne Croxall said we cannot abandon M&S. Part of it is used to pay pastors' pensions and help Canada.

John Wilson said the annual givings are not meeting our financial requirements. Like a home, we should look where we can draw upon. What is in our piggy bank? There is \$30,000 in our bequest fund, \$9,000 in the memorial fund and \$39,000 in a GIC.

Joan Fritz challenged people to look from within to give more.

Bob Knight said let's take a look at Property & Finance and Brick & Mortar. Properties earn \$12,000 profit per year – use this money.

Louise Thomas said fundraising for Watoto raised \$40,000.

Richard Forkun asked what is in our piggy bank. Last year's deficit of \$50,000 needs to be paid. This year's deficit is another \$50,000. Think very carefully. Trinity had an active youth program with only one minister and lots of volunteers. Now we have 3 ministers. We really only have \$10-15,000 in the piggy bank. We need to be responsible.

Doreen Carrigan asked what the projected deficit is for this year.

Rob Croxall answered that the deficit last year was \$55,000, the same is expected for this year. If we pass the proposed Budget and with the same givings, we would probably have a \$10-15,000 deficit. It is difficult to please everyone. We have some tough decisions. The point Ivan Martin makes is to make a decision on what we see now. After the pledges come in it may be a different picture. We hope that Pastor Paul will be able to secure another full time job for himself. Pastor Ralph is retired – his situation is not so bad.

Jan Wilson said trust in the Lord.

Motion: Moved by Jan Wilson to clear the deficit using the Bequest Fund.

Discussion following this motion:

Ivan Martin said that we are asking today to pass the provisional budget. We need Youth Ministries. Other churches use lay people. There is a lot of talent here and resources. We need to fill out the forms.

Robin Dhillon wondered if it wouldn't be better to amend the budget, to stay the same until May 3rd after the results of the survey are in. Stay clear to our vision.

Kristen Clark would like to keep the Youth Minister in the budget. If we have a Youth Minister with a broken spirit, where are we at?

Rob Croxall said, if we do that, we should look at the 2008 actuals.

Ivan Martin said we have to reflect the majority of feelings of the people that are here today.

- i. We could pass the provisional budget and change to May 3rd
- ii. We could keep the status quo and change May 3rd

Ian Finlay said we will have until the 1st or 3rd Tuesdays of June for Presbytery.

Diane Morris asked for the options to be repeated.

Motion: Moved by Robin Dhillon, seconded by Jan Wilson, that the provisional budget remain status quo so that the 3 ministers remain for a full year to be amended May 3rd. Carried.

(Motion still on the floor by Jan Wilson regarding the deficit)

Ivan Martin said we can either clear the deficit using bequest money, or table the motion until May 3rd.

Doreen James asked what happened to the other money.

Carol Tompkins observed that we have an option to pay part of the deficit and don't touch the bequest money.

Don Thomas explained deficit vs. debt – spending more money than what is coming in, money has already been spent – it would be shuffling money, numbers on paper.

Bob Armitage said it is for accounting purposes.

Ian Finlay commented that it is an illusion of money that we don't have. Line up illusion with reality.

Motion: Moved by Jan Wilson, seconded by Bob Kirvan, to clear the deficit using the Bequest Fund. Carried: 54 for, 10 against, several abstained.

11. Nominating Committee Report

Pastor Alan passed around a revised report. Ian Finlay, as Vice-Chair, felt he could not move in to the Chair position. Phil Carmichael has been nominated for the position of Chair and Richard Forkun has been nominated for the position of Vice-Chair.

12. Comments by Incoming Chair, Phil Carmichael

First of all, I am both privileged and honoured to be nominated to be Chair of the Board for Trinity United Church.

I could not start speaking about my hopes and desires for this position without thanking Ivan for all that he has done as Chair. Ivan has done a wonderful job and has done it in a most graceful way. So, thank you Ivan for the learning that I received from watching you for the past few years. I applaud you for the grace you showed us all. I can only hope and pray that I can carry that forward.

I would like to share some of my hopes and dreams for Trinity for the next couple of minutes.

It sometimes is hard looking into the future to see what Trinity will be really like. As with most things we sometimes have to put our thinking caps on, sit and brainstorm ideas. But do we? Instead of trying to look into the future, why not turn to God's Word for

direction. So let's hear what is said in:

Acts 1: verse 1 to 7 - *"But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food."*

So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, "We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program. And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word."

Everyone liked this idea, and they chose the following: Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit), Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas of Antioch (an earlier convert to the Jewish faith). These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them.

So God's message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.

So in this passage we hear of how 2 groups were formed. One to handle the food program and the other to spend time teaching the word of God and praying. Is this something we should adopt at Trinity? Maybe we should rethink how our board is made up? Today we are responsible for the budget, for the use of our sanctuary, the building itself and all the jobs that go along with that. But we are also responsible for prayer and ministry.

Why not try what they did in Acts and have just 2 committees. One for the church building and the other for building the church. I encourage all that are on the board and for those of you who might want to join the board to think about what group you would better serve in.

Secondly, we all have busy schedules and find it hard to spend 2 or 3 nights a month going to board related meetings. Maybe we should look at having just one meeting a month, maybe a Sunday after church. After all, if we have one group to pray and one group to look after the food, as they did in Acts, then why not. We always love eating at Trinity.

We have talked a lot about finances today. It always seems to be the main topic and the one that takes the longest to discuss. So, my dream for Trinity is for us not to have to worry about finances at all. I would like to see us corporately hand the finance situation over to God. And to then, let us go forward and do work for His kingdom without the worry of money. We are always being asked to give more, but the more doesn't always have to be money. The more could be volunteer time. We wouldn't have to worry about someone getting the coffee ready on Sunday morning, someone to look after the Nursery or the Sunday School program, someone to look after Hospitality etc. It is fun working for the Lord and He blesses us when we give our money and or our time.

I would like to see us keep going forward with modifying our sanctuary for today's style of worship. Style of worship, not the message that never changes. We could possibly make a bigger platform or stage at the front where Alan can be seen easier, where the people who lead us in worship can be seen easier, where the communion table can be seen easier.

We needed blinds for the screens and now have one on the left with the right one to come. Now it is easier to see the words. We need lights to lighten up the front of the sanctuary and so on. We saw a lot happen at Trinity this past year that we can be thankful for. The parking lot was finished; we saw the group Cascade, join us to help in worship. God is building a solid foundation for us which we are thankful for. Let's continue to build.

So I believe God wants us to hand the worries over to Him and for us to work on building His church. We should not have to worry about people leaving. We should thank God for them coming into our lives. We should not worry about finances but thank God for His provisions. We should be thankful for our Leadership team at Trinity. We have a great Mission trip going to Uganda this summer. A lot of people have stepped forward to volunteer their time for that and look at the fun that we are having like the auction last Saturday. PRAISE God.

We are holding the marriage course now for the third time. It is great to talk to those people and see how it is changing their marriage. We have great speakers at the Men's Breakfasts where men can gather once a month and have a great time of fellowship.

We have ongoing Women's and Men's Bible studies. Alan is continuing with the Faith Exploration course after Sunday morning worship. We started R and R for the Soul last week. We are continuing to have the community dinners once a month and last month we had 80 people. I thank the women who volunteer their time to make pies for our golf tournament and for the roast beef dinner. We celebrated Tom Baker's 25th anniversary last month.

There is certainly a lot going on at Trinity. We are doing a lot to build God's kingdom and I know He will be pleased with us and he will bless us abundantly if we continue on this path.

This is a great time for Trinity and I believe we are the people in Acts: 6. So God's message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in (Uxbridge), and many (people of Uxbridge) were converted, too.

I am excited about the plans God has for us and I hope you are too. Thank you for the nomination of Chair of the Board. I accept it with open arms, an open heart and look forward with great enthusiasm to what God has in store for us. I encourage you all to keep an open dialogue with me. I want to hear from you. I want to hear your concerns, but mostly your joys. It is through our own testimonials of what God is doing in our lives that help to build the church. We all have them, so please share them with me and with others.

In closing, I want to read something that I read to the congregation about a year ago when we were talking about finances. This little story is how God can work in our lives when we give it back to him willingly with an open heart.

James Dobson has a daily radio show called Focus on the Family and wrote a book called Night Light. It is a book of short stories that you and your spouse can read each night before you go to bed. It gives you a quiet moment together with God which features engaging stories, Scripture readings, thought provoking questions and prayers. It is something Susan and I have used and this is one of the stories that encouraged me about giving financially to the church.

You Can't Outgive God – James Dobson

“My dad, an evangelist, was the original soft touch. I remember him once going off to speak in a tiny church and coming home ten days later. Eventually my mother asked about the offering. I can still see my father's face as he smiled and looked at the floor. “You gave the money away, didn't you?” she asked. “Myrt” He said, “the pastor there is going through a hard time. His kids are so needy. I felt I should give the entire fifty dollars to them.” My good mother looked at my father for a few moments and then smiled. “You know, if God told you to do it, it's okay with me.” A few days later, we ran completely out of money, so my father gathered us for a time of prayer. He said, “Lord, you told us that if we would honor you in our good times, that you would take care of us when things are difficult. We need a little help at this time.” The next day we received an unexpected cheque for \$1,200. That's the way it happened, not once, but many times. No matter what you give, you'll find you can never outgive God.”

Questions:

Do we trust God with our giving?

What blessings, material and nonmaterial, have we seen from our gifts?

Do we know someone now who needs a helping hand? Should we share what we have with them?

Do we really believe “God owns it all”?

Phil Carmichael again thanked Ivan Martin and there was a standing ovation with lengthy

applause in honour of Ivan.

Pastor Alan reviewed the Nominating Committee Report and asked the floor for questions and further nominations.

Motion: Moved by Pastor Alan, seconded by Doreen Brethour, that the Nominating Committee slate be adopted. Carried.

Pastor Alan thanked Bob Armitage for his work as treasurer, thanked Marion Martin for her data entry work, and the entire Board was thanked. Phil Carmichael was welcomed as the new Chair and thanked for his comments.

13. New Business

Property Manager, Bob Knight is retiring. Matt Alexander will be the new property manager – welcome aboard, Matt!

Doreen Brethour asked, “Who will be the next Treasurer?”

Ivan Martin replied that the Board will appoint someone.

Doreen Carrigan commented that this church is her home – God’s Spirit is here.

It was noted that Roger Bullock will be retiring as Auditor. A new auditor will be appointed.

14. Closing Prayer

Reverend Alan Mills closed the meeting in prayer.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. by Outgoing Chair, Ivan Martin.

THE WORSHIP AND NURTURE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Acts 20:24 *But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned to me by the Lord Jesus – the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.*

Worship Committee

We were once again fortunate to have Tom Baker, Robin Dhillon and Cascade (Martin Barret, Nancy Douglas, Colleen & Mike Bragan) providing music in our Sunday morning service, thereby attempting to share the musical tastes of all the members of the church. In September Robin and Susan made the decision to move on and we wish them all the best. We have also been blessed by the musical gifts of Dave and Pauline Streeter, and a women’s group who occasionally join Tom and lead in some of the more traditional hymns.

At the Sunday morning of the Uxbridge Fall Fair, we were pleased to have Cascade provide the music at the community service and Pastor Alan gave the message. This service was well attended and it was wonderful to have an outdoor service under the trees. We were thankful also that the weather co-operated!

The Prayer Chain has now been going for several years and we receive prayer requests on a regular basis that those on the Chain pray for. If you wish to have your prayer request added, please call Nancy Wood at 905-852-9024 or email at acotech@powergate.ca. All requests are confidential.

Special Events:

Pastor Alan spoke on “Highlights of Israel”. He and Dana had just returned from a trip to Israel and shared some pictures and insights of their trip. It was great to be able to be part of this trip through this presentation.

UCW Sunday – Joyce McKinnon, President of National UCW spoke on “Heroes of Mozambique”

Mission Presentation: On Thanksgiving weekend, the team who went to Uganda in August gave a presentation to the church family about their experiences there, including building a school room, working in an orphanage, and going on a safari. This presentation also included pictures of some of the things they saw and did.

Anniversary Service: Reverend Bill Fritz spoke on “You Will Never Sit Around All Day Again”. Reverend Fritz attends Trinity with his wife Joan, though currently is serving on a temporary basis at another church in Brown’s Corners.

Christmas Eve Services:

This year for the first time, we held three services on Christmas Eve. The first one was at 4:30 pm and was a child-focused service. This is the first time we have offered a service at this time and it was well attended. Following this service there was a Potluck dinner. Tom Baker, Cascade and John Wilson provided the music and Pastor Alan led the service.

The second service was at 7:00 pm and was a casual, family service with a skit, lots of music by Cascade and a short message by Pastor Alan. As always, this popular service was well attended.

At 10:30 pm we had our candlelight service with Tom Baker and a small group leading the music. After Communion was served, everyone gathered around the church with candles providing the lighting, and sang “Silent Night”.

Nurture

The purpose of the Nurture Committee is to draw our congregation together in a fellowship of caring friends, to know, strengthen and support one another in God’s mission for us in worship, calling and fellowship.

We have just completed our first year with some new requirements in place for renting out various areas of the church. To date, these regulations have made it much clearer as to what is expected if renting, including a new fee schedule.

As always, there is a great need for volunteers to be greeters, ushers, elevator operators, and to work in the sound booth. Training is available for all who are interested in any of these positions.

I would like to give sincere thanks to the Worship Committee and the Board for their continued support and insight. Special thanks to Pastor Alan and Pastor Ralph for their leadership at

Trinity and for their encouragement.

Nancy Wood, Chair of Worship and Nurture

CLERK REPORT FOR 2009

Resident membership as at December 31, 2009	265
Non-resident membership as at December 31, 2009	280
Received by letter of transfer or reaffirmation of faith	0
Received by profession of faith	9
Transferred from resident to non-resident	170
Removed by letter of transfer	11
Removed by death	2
Removed by act of Session	0
Resident membership as at December 31, 2009	265
Non-resident membership as at December 31, 2009	280
Total membership as at December 31, 2009	545

Number of Baptisms.....0 Number of weddings.....2 Number of Funerals... 10 New
Members/Confirmations.....9

IN MEMORIAM 2009

Zachary Karkheck

Amy Evelyn Lynde

Kimberly Jones

Joseph Yochim

Amber Morrison

John Bruce Malyon *

Margaret Bullerwell

Henry Bendell

Andrew Myhal

Ruth Duckworth*

* denotes members at Trinity

Weddings

Jay Dee Barrett & Amanda Louise Harper

Russell Mark Hollett & Sarah Jane Horner

Confirmations

Alexey Alford, Jake Bragan, Ryan Bragan, Olivia Croxall, Ryan Croxall,

Trevor Hill, Nate Mills, Alexis Santos, Victoria Santos.

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

2009 was a year of change at Trinity with respect to our ministerial team. We had been blessed with the team of Pastor's Alan, Ralph, and Paul to lead us in our faith journey over the previous two and a half years. Unfortunately this past year we were unable to renew Pastor Paul's contract due to financial constraints. We would like to thank Paul for his leadership in our Children's and Youth Ministries and pray for his future ministry. This past September we celebrated ten years of Alan's ministry at Trinity. Thomas Baker sharing his musical gifts with us at Trinity. Thomas continues to inspire us with his music. Derek continues to provide outstanding custodial services and Diane remains the welcoming face in our office. Diane is that special person who gets asked all the questions by everyone, and always knows where to find the answers.

In May, Pastor

Respectfully, Rob Croxall
Chair Ministry & Personnel

STEWARDSHIP & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Community Relations

In 2009 Trinity United Church was active in the community in many ways.

Community Dinners

We are now in our third year of offering free dinners once a month to the community, although many of our guests insist on making a donation. Our first dinner of the season is at Thanksgiving; this year we cooked 4 turkeys along with squash soup, vegetables, pie and all the trimmings. The other dinners, November, January-May, are held the last Saturday of the month and the menu's vary from crockpot dinners to BBQ's and everything in between.

Behind the scenes are a group of people who offer their time, money and culinary skills to make these dinners possible. This year we welcomed people from two other churches who help out, so it is no longer just Trinity who make this available. We all enjoy getting together to cook and socialize with our guests, often sharing some wonderful memories and stories.

We never know how many people will be coming to dinner until they arrive, and the most amazing thing is that we have never run out of food. God does provide! Money donated at the dinners has gone to help support VBS, while there is another amount set aside towards a new refrigerator.

Everyone is welcome – hope to see you!
Nancy Wood

The Men's Breakfast

We are coming up to our 30th Men's Breakfast. These breakfasts are held on the third Saturday of the month at 8:00 am in the Friendship Hall and are open to all males of Trinity and to all males of Uxbridge. We always have an interesting guest speaker in attendance at each breakfast. Plan to attend in 2010, you won't be sorry.

Outreach Programs

In 2009 we ran an ad in the Cosmos Newspaper every two weeks on page 3 which provides our congregation and our community with regular information on the happenings at Trinity. We have decided that we will run these ads only once a month in 2010, rather than once every two weeks, due to financial constraints.

Once again Betty Catherwood organized the Compassion Tree and several needy families in our community were supplied with a food hamper and Christmas gifts for the members of their families. Thanks to those in the congregation that purchased Christmas gifts for these less fortunate families.

Trinity gives \$1,000.00 a year to support the Chaplaincy at the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital. Jim Ellis is the Chaplain and he visits patients in the Hospital each Monday. Two other Uxbridge Churches along with us support this important chaplaincy.

Trinity Newsletter

We publish our newsletter "Good News, Letter" four times a year. Our editor Marilyn Card (marilyn@scm.ca) does an outstanding job in putting this newsletter together. She spends many hours of her time in preparing this wonderful newsletter. Many in our congregation have expressed their thanks directly to Marilyn for the job well done. Thank you, Marilyn.

Church Website - www.trinityuxbridge.com

Dave Streeter is our new Webmaster having taken over from Dana Mills. Thank you Dana for being our Webmaster in the past.

The website has a lot of new information and is changing all the time. On it you can find....

1. Information about the coming week and coming events.
2. A photo gallery.
3. Videos of "Go Light Your World" from our Christmas Eve service, and other Cascade recordings.
4. Our quarterly newsletter.
5. Audio recordings of the past month's services.
6. The New Testament Challenge readings, with audio for you to listen to the readings if you prefer.
7. Minutes of Congregational Board Meetings.
8. Church organization explained
9. A history of Trinity United.....and more.

Also The United Church of Canada has a website you may wish to visit www.wondercafe.ca

The United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund.

Trinity did not meet its objective in 2009 which was \$28,000.00. The total raised in 2009 was \$23,643.93. We are reducing our objective for 2010 to \$20,000.00 due to smaller attendance at

Trinity.

We have 217 families on our Mailing List to receive our newsletter, etc.

We have 199 families receiving Offering Envelopes.

We have 23 families currently on PAR.

We have 28 people who are 90 years of age or more.

We had 178 families that gave a financial offering in 2009.

I would like to express my thanks to those who worked on the Stewardship and Outreach Committee this past year, Marilyn Card, Louise Thomas, Betty Catherwood and Joye Cornell.

Respectfully,

Bob Kirvan,

Chair of Stewardship and Outreach

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Annual Report for Sunday School:

I started as Sunday School Coordinator at Trinity in the fall of 2009. I was rather apprehensive when first asked, but my apprehensiveness soon turned to excitement as fun ideas started popping into my head. A new format and a fantastic new curriculum that is full of fun activities and great discussion; has engaged the children and continually blesses those who are involved with teaching. As Linkletter and many of us know, "kids say the darndest things"!

The Sunday School has been a "Buzz" with excitement as kids are learning about Moses and God's Ten Commandments. The Buzz curriculum has been a hit with both teachers and students - lots of simple, fun activities and sharing - it's all in the box, so there's little to no preparation time required by the teachers. There is however an insightful devotional for teachers and they are urged to spend 15 minutes of preparation time in devotion. We also enjoy singing songs with John Wilson as he accompanies us on his guitar; introducing us to new songs and singing the children's favourites, as part of our worship time together. Many thanks to John, those who have taught during my absences, and others who have helped enrich the children's' lives through Sunday School.

In 2009 we added a new, young-family oriented, Christmas Eve service at 4:30pm that was enjoyed by people of all age ranges. It was followed by a potluck at 5:30pm which was a great way to spend time with friends between services. The service was quite well attended for its inaugural year and we look forward to having the children sing beloved Christmas hymns during this service again next year. A nice surprise for all children in attendance at the 4:30pm service was a wrapped gift from our Church family of a Children's Activity Calendar produced by the Canadian Bible Society.

One of the other highlights for many this past year was the Sunday before Christmas when 16 children were in Church to learn about Christian ties to some of our modern traditions as they made candy cane cookies to serve after the service.

We look forward in 2010 to continuing our study of Moses and God's Ten Commandments as well as sharing many more fun moments and activities as we grow and spend time together.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Finlay

Youth At Trinity:

This has been a year of readjusting for our youth ministry. Much of the early part of the year was focused on helping to launch our Watoto Mission Team, which included 7 of our youth. There were many fun evenings of fundraising, including a Euchre Night, Auction, Coffee House and several other good memories where the youth all pulled together to serve a larger goal. This Mission Trip -- to build a schoolhouse for orphaned children in Uganda -- took place from August 6 – 24 and it was a huge success in every way. (See the Watoto Report elsewhere in this Annual Report.) What a blessing to experience the whole congregation rallying around our young people in support of this Mission! Our thanks to all of you for believing in our youth! In April, over a dozen of our youth and leaders were blessed to take in the FreshWind Youth Conference over during the Easter Weekend. Many had their faith renewed and strengthened through this inspiring worship event – along with about 2000 other kids!

Regrettably, due to financial constraints, we had to say goodbye to Pastor Paul Sabin who had faithfully led our youth ministry for the past 3 years. We are so appreciative of Paul and we know that he left a lasting positive imprint on the lives of dozens of our young people. One of the last blessings Pastor Paul left with us was getting the Confirmation class started up in the Spring. One May 31st, we had the joy of welcoming nine of our young people into full membership in the Church of Jesus Christ through Confirmation! A special thank you goes out to Karen Croxall, who has spent countless hours in support of our youth and children over the past several years, and especially for her help in navigating the challenges of April, May and June of 2009. Also, I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the help and support of Kirsten and Richard Clark with the youth of our church.

In the Fall, we re-grouped and discerned the way forward. As a result, we have partnered with several other churches in town to form a joint-youth group. It is called “Fusion”. On Wednesdays about a half-dozen of our youth meet up with many of their peers at the Free Methodist Church for a time of worship, learning and games. They have also enjoyed several social evenings, outings and events together. A special thank you goes out to Pastor Joe Schafer and the youth leadership at Uxbridge Free Methodist Church for their vision, commitment and energy! We look forward to this arrangement continuing and growing into the future.

-- Submitted by Pastor Alan Mills

Sisters in Grace

Ladies Bible & Fellowship Group Report for 2009

As we begin a New Year, I am always grateful that God wants us to reflect, renew, restore and rebuild in all ways – body, mind, soul and spirit. And what an amazing way to start with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, at our Ladies Bible Study that has over 20 “keen” ladies of all ages, from Trinity and other churches, and as far away as Pickering. We meet every Thursday @ 9:30 am (Trinity Fellowship Hall) for worship, pray requests, small group discussions, and fellowship.

What brings us all together is our thirst to know God, learn about the Word, explore, and share with each other in order to strengthen our faith journey and relationship with God.

We came together this year with desire in our hearts and a willingness to ask the Holy Spirit to guide and teach us. Our first study guide was *Relying On The Holy Spirit* by Charles F. Stanley 10 week study, we were blessed by scripture beginning with

“When the helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father.” The Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.“

As Charles Stanley states, The Holy Spirit is God’s Promise to the Believer and we can rely on Him for our daily guidance.

Our next chosen book to study was *“Overcoming Challenges” the book of Nehemiah* for 6 weeks. A wonderful example of restoration, rebuilding, and renewal of faith. Through Nehemiah’s faithfulness and willing heart and daily payers with God, this revealed his perseverance and to be able to inspire his own people to rebuild the Wall of Jerusalem – no easy task for a cupbearer to the king. A most powerful example of trusting Gods direction and staying connected to God through prayer.

“O Lord, God in Heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and obey his commands let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night ...”Neh 1: 5-6

In the fall, we were blessed to be introduced to *The Agape Road – Journey to Intimacy with the Father*, by Bob Mumford. This study speaks directly about the restoration of our relationship with God our Heavenly Father. We gained new spiritual knowledge on how to ABIDE in Christ in crisis when our life is challenging and how staying on the Agape Road leads us to strengthening and expanding our relationship with God our Father. We were delighted to have Colleen Bragan share her understanding of this course and encouraging thoughts. Our thanks to Colleen for her time and willing heart, to be with us on this exciting faith journey.

November we supported the Children’s Christmas Shoe Box Program and two family baskets for our community in December.

We invite and encourage you to join us for our next session - a safe place to come and share with others in Gods Grace and Love.

“The Joy of The Lord is Your Strength” Neh. 8:20

In Christ’s Love, Bev Squires

Men's Bible Study (The B.O.B.'s) Annual Report

We had another excellent year of Bible Study and Fellowship in 2009. We meet every Wednesday evening at 6.30 pm in the Lounge at Trinity. Up to 10 men attend and aside from our Bible Study a wide range of topics are covered from world events, politics, sports, other religions etc. The evening ends in prayer and we are finished at 8 pm.

The Bob's organize a Pancake Supper each year with the proceeds going to Trinity's Local Fund.

The Bob's also organize a Men's Breakfast on the third Saturday of each month at 8.00am in the Friendship Hall. A guest speaker is always in attendance.

Some of the speakers in 2009 were John O'Toole mpp, Elvis Priesly, Rob Leonard, Mayor Bob Shephard, Joe D'Amico plus our own Bill Fritz, Murray Arnill, Ralph Garbe, John Wilson and Alan Mills.

We have just celebrated our 28th breakfast. If you have not attended please plan to do so in 2010 you won't regret it. The breakfast is open to all men of Trinity, their family members and friends.

We purchased two Christmas hampers for needy families in Uxbridge and enjoyed being a part of this Outreach Program.

During the year we gave financial Support to
 Habitat Canada
 Afghanistan Relief (Shah Golan)
 Y.B.S
 Salvation Army Uxbridge
 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

In June we had our wind up BBQ at Bob Kirvan's farm. The highlight is the Annual Bocci Ball Tournament. Art Parratt and Bob Kirvan won the coveted Orvan Brethour Memorial Trophy beating a very determined two some John Wilson and Mike Bragan.

The trophy was awarded by last year's Champions Bob Armitage and Alan Mills. Jack Bigglestone was our Master Chef.

25 men attended this year's BBQ. Remember the BBQ is open to all Men of Trinity. Plan to attend in 2010

Respectfully submitted
 Bob Kirvan

TRINITY UCW ANNUAL REPORT

UCW has been an active part of Trinity for 48 years and we are happy to report it is still going strong. About 50 members meet either the first Thursday afternoon of each month or the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month from September to June with the goal of fellowship, service and worship. In June and December, we meet all together just for fun - June saw us 40 strong boarding a bus for Jerusalem – a North York restaurant.

Unit meetings often have program speakers and this year they took us around the world to Uganda, Beijing, the Caribbean, Chile, Africa, France, Wales and our own northern First Nation homes. Some meetings are just a time of being together or remembering members who have gone. In 2009 we mourned the loss of Ruth Duckworth, Happy Burrige and Alice Dickie.

Our regional organization of 32 UCW's - York Presbyterial - followed the reorganization pattern of Toronto Conference and became Living Waters Presbyterial comprised of over 50 churches. Some of us were able to attend the inaugural meetings and have already begun to know more names and faces at the subsequent meetings in Barrie, Orillia and York Pines.

In September we were delighted to have Joyce McKinnon, national UCW president, as our UCW Sunday guest speaker.

We are most proud of the service of our visiting committee made up of 9 UCW members plus 3 men from the congregation. They meet the last Thursday of the month to plan their 90 visits a month and are always looking for more visitors. This year they sent out 65 cards, 29 poinsettias and prepared Christmas gift baskets for the church staff. Special invitations to our sister UCW's and the St. Paul's Anglican ladies brought a wonderful turnout to our December meeting. Betty Catherwood organized the community Christmas gift/basket drive and packed 3 of the 7 baskets sent out by Trinity this year. We deliver the Zehrs tapes, pop tabs, old eye glasses, Campbell soup labels and stamps (that you can leave just inside the side door) to places and organizations that can use them. Mundane projects like kitchen housecleaning are also part of our service mandate.

What a team of social organizers we have! They made dinners, luncheons, birthday teas, banquets and funeral lunches happen without a hitch. This year income from catering and the house tour enabled us to donate over \$10,400 to Trinity, the Mission & Service fund, camps, and missions in Uxbridge and Toronto.

We would like to thank the whole congregation for its ongoing support, especially with the House tour.

We give thanks for the opportunity UCW gives us all to serve, strengthen friendships, and hone our skills. We invite all ladies of the congregation to join us.

Submitted by Barb Rance

UCW Donations to: Watoto Missions, Sanctuary Flowers, Outside Flowers, Christmas Baskets, Grandmothers for Grandmothers – Stephen Lewis Foundation, Fred Victor Centre, Massey Centre, Lake Camp Scugog, Sleeping Children Around the World, Christian Blind Mission, Pregnancy Centre, Camp Big Canoe, 416 Drop in Centre, North House Shelter, TUC- Local & M&S Funds.

Trinity United Church Women – Year End

Financial Report for 2009

Balance on Hand in 2008 \$4,943.66

Receipts

<u>Catering</u>	<u>\$6,307.28</u>
<u>Special Projects</u>	<u>\$8,620.15</u>
<u>Donations</u>	<u>\$ 215.00</u>
<u>Offerings</u>	<u>\$1,709.50</u>
<u>Interest</u>	<u>\$.96</u>

<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>\$16,852.89</u>
	<u>\$21,796.55</u>

Expenditures

<u>Catering</u>	<u>\$2,164.25</u>
<u>Special Projects</u>	<u>\$3,573.11</u>
<u>Gifts Plants Cards</u>	<u>\$ 456.25</u>
<u>Misc</u>	<u>\$ 282.56</u>
<u>Meeting Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 326.53</u>
<u>York Presbytery</u>	<u>\$ 212.00</u>
<u>Camps & Homes</u>	<u>\$1,350.00</u>
<u>Trinity: Local</u>	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
<u> M&S</u>	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
<u>Other Missions</u>	<u>\$2,050.00</u>

<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>\$17,414.70</u>
<u>Balance on Hand</u>	<u>\$ 4,381.85</u>

**PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE
and Bricks and Mortar**

Our Trinity United Church Constitution states that the purpose of the Property & Finance Committee is “To administer the financial and property concerns of the congregation”.

The two rental income properties, consisting of five units, continue to be self-supporting in that the rent received pays for the mortgage and taxes owing as well as upkeep. In October of 2009 we welcomed renters Brian Cassibo and Carol Tompkins with their joint venture known as “The Wild Onion” for a one year lease.

Electrical upgrades, sump pump and furnace repairs were among the improvements made to our rental income properties, and all in all, the properties provided the Church with approximately \$3000 in surplus.

A huge thanks is extended to Matt Alexander for all of his hard work and hours spent as property manager for these 5 units and to those who helped with their phone calls and personal connections.

In 2009, University of Toronto Engineering students partnered with Trinity to develop plans for addressing some of our dream renovations which included improved heating and cooling of the Sanctuary, Sanctuary level washrooms and a nursing room, as well as new washroom facilities off the gymnasium. And although we haven't plans to carry out any of these projects, it has provided a good foundation for future consideration.

A switch to Compton Cable for internet and phone service, initiated at the end of 2008, has significantly reduced our phone costs by nearly \$3000, a 60% reduction in costs. Despite these savings, our Congregation continues to struggle with meeting the financial needs of our Church. There is an average weekly need for \$5000 to cover the basic operating costs of our Church such as heat, hydro, staff salaries and Toronto Conference Assessment. Currently, our average weekly income from giving's is \$3500. \$1500 per week adds up over the year, and there is currently approximately a \$65,000 operating deficit. Dipping into the reserves to pay our operating expenses will leave nothing left to pay for capital projects.

It was confirmed by falling plaster in the gymnasium and drip buckets in the Church secretary's office, that the Church roof over the Christian Education wing as well as the offices, will need to be replaced in 2010. We have received a quote that this capital expense could cost between \$30,000 and \$60,000.

On behalf of the Church Board, thank you for your prayers and financial support in 2009 and we look forward to continued support through 2010.

Respectfully Submitted:
Ian Finlay
Property & Finance Chair

Watoto Mission Project 2009

Our inaugural mission trip has shown us what opportunities are possible when you have a determined team, a great family to support the process and God marking our path. We began this journey in the spring of 2008 with a mention from our youth group that they had a heart to serve others and a desire to do this work in Africa. With an energized leadership team taking the reins we were able to set this process in motion.

Through our summer planning, choosing our team in the fall and monthly fundraisers we were able to raise the \$70 000 we needed to step forward in our faith journey as a church and reach out to others as servants in God's work. In partnership with Watoto we were able to experience things that far exceeded our expectations in a safe, loving, faith filled community in Kampala, Uganda in August 2009.

Our main mission was to leave a lasting structure, in the form of a school classroom, in the Watoto village of Bbira. We accomplished this in 3 ½ days of building, instead of 5, which left us some additional time in our 19 day itinerary. We were also able to visit the Watoto Bulrushes, a supportive living environment for babies and infants, the other Watoto village of Suubi, attend multiple church services, and other cultural events. Another highlight was to explore the land and creatures God created for us on safari.

All of our 13 participants reported growth in God's love, a desire to live the experience we had when they got home, and a need to keep going and share what they saw. Each individual on our trip brought some unique stories and perspectives back with them; each one reporting their own "version" of life in Africa – as it should be. Each story is as unique as the individuals that experienced them.

The common feelings from this mission is one of love; of partnership with our brothers and sisters a world apart. Our hearts broke from the stories we heard of trials and obstacles children have endured in their young lives, but our spirits were raised daily by the determination and fire that existed in each of their souls. We learned so much from every person that crossed our path during this mission; the children, the house mothers, the Watoto staff, citizens, safari guides, airline hosts and airport and customs agents – they all knew the story and work of Watoto and showed us undying gratitude for our time and efforts in working with this organization.

From this, it is my hope that our church family in Uxbridge can live this experience with us and carry forward with the message of love and thankfulness that was shown to us each day. Sometimes you just need a light on the path to make it clear where you need to go. We have been blessed to share our story countless times since we have returned, and will continue to shout it from the roof tops until we are able to again return on our second journey to re-ignite the fire with a whole new group. Until then "Timutende" "We praise Him".

With love, a glowing heart, and peace

Kirsten Clark –2009 Watoto Mission Team Leader