

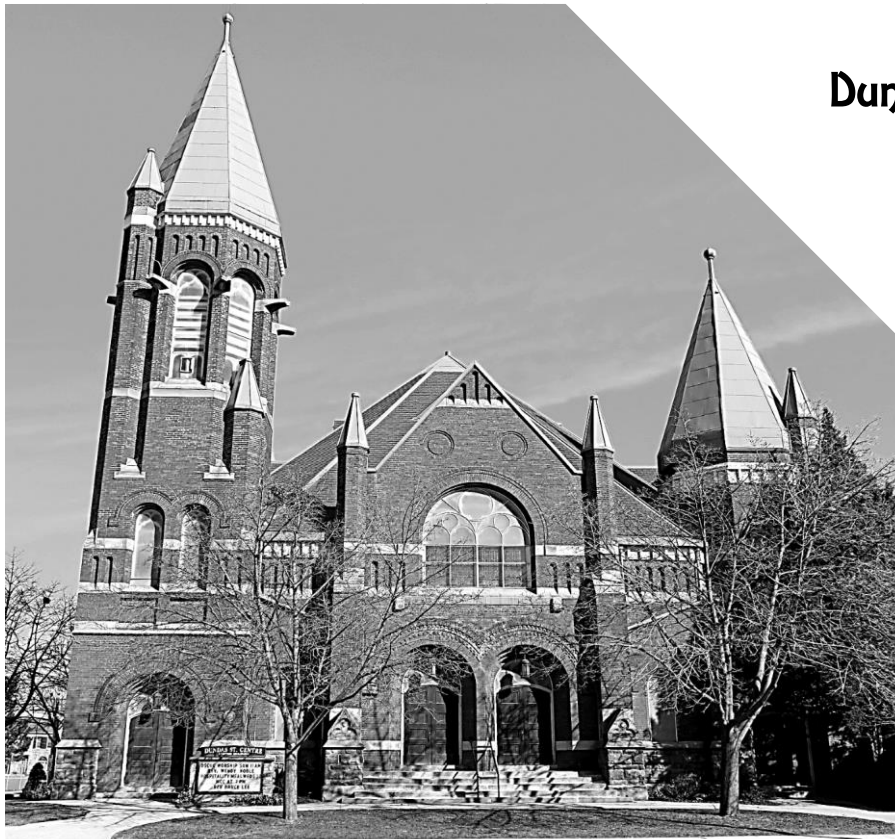
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS: 1846 - 2021

BY JAMES TRAQUAIR, DIANE CUPPES AND AUDREY GIBSON

**Dundas Street Wesleyan
Methodist Church
circa 1870**



**Dundas Street Centre
United Church
circa 2021**



482 Dundas Street, London, Ontario N6B 1W6

Preface

What follows is an overview of yearly happenings over the past 175 years and not a detailed and complete history of Dundas Street Centre United Church. This chronology of historical tidbits has been extracted from annual reports and records of the church. It includes and updates the historical booklet, *Celebrating 150 Years*, prepared by Audrey and Bruce Gibson. We thank Audrey sincerely for her fine research in drafting the historical sketch of the first 150 years. Several of the illustrations of the church building are pen and ink drawings by church member Dianne Allen.

We hope that these historical notes and illustrations will re-kindle some treasured memories and will satisfy the curiosity of those who have some interest in our church's past.

Jim Traquair and Diane Cuppels

November 25, 2021

DUNDAS ST. CENTRE UNITED CHURCH: 1846 to 2021

1846 Under the direction of 'saddle bag preachers' from the British Isles and the United States, a handful of Methodists met in a cottage on Adelaide St. near Bathurst for prayer and praise.

London in 1846 had a population of 3,500 and boasted one brick house. The town boundaries were Queens Ave., Wellington St. and the River Thames. The first train arrived in London in December 1846.

Chimney fires were common, so a by-law was passed stating that every householder must have a leather bucket (painted black) ready to be used to put out the fires.

Pedestrians were given a break....'cows could not be milked, slopped or otherwise fed on the sidewalks.' Bicycles (the fad of the day) also had to steer clear of the sidewalks or a fine would be imposed.

1855 London became a city. The worshippers on Adelaide Street began laying plans for a church.

1856 A lot was purchased on the northeast corner of Adelaide and King. A financial campaign for the building was not successful and a house on Adelaide St. was rented as a place of worship for 15 pounds per year. Rev. John Douse was appointed as minister.

1857 With reverses numerous and hopes blighted, there was a motion to disband the congregation. New hope was given to them by North St. Methodist Church (now Metropolitan United Church) and the motion was rescinded.

1860 A frame church was erected with a seating capacity of 300, thanks to the devotion and enterprise of Rev. J. Preston, Rev. Dr. Rooney, and Rev. G. R. Sanderson. It was named Adelaide St. Methodist Church. Five preachers served the congregation in their 10 years there: Rev. Richard Jones, Rev. James Bishop, Rev. W. J. Hunter, Rev. James Elliott, and Rev. William Briggs.

1869 A lot was purchased at the corner of Dundas and Maitland Streets. It was covered by trees at that time, but it had promise for the future. On May 17th, the corner-stone was laid by Rev. W. Morley Punshon, President of the Conference.



Rev. W. M. Punshon

1870 Dundas Street Wesleyan Methodist Church was dedicated on April 3rd. The cost of the church and parsonage was \$ 20,000. The old structure on Adelaide Street was sold to the Anglicans who sold it later to the Baptists. It was moved to the south side of King St. and enlarged to become Adelaide Street Baptist Church.

The furniture of the new Methodist Church was purchased and paid for by the Ladles Aid. This was their first great achievement; many others were to come later.

A permanent organist was engaged: Mr. William Ellis. His salary was \$100/ year.

The Board of Stewards appointed Mr. Isaac Webster to be pew steward. His duty was to collect pew rents, which ranged from \$6.00 to \$15.00 per year. If you became more than six months in arrears, you had to forfeit your pew.

1874 Dundas Street East Methodist Church (later called Centennial United Church) came into being, under the guidance of Dundas Street Wesleyan Methodist Church.

1876 To avoid confusion with the 'East' church, Dundas Street Wesleyan Methodist Church changed its name to Dundas Street Centre Methodist Church.

1884 The Church entered the Union of Methodist Churches of Canada (Wesleyan Methodist and Episcopal Methodist).

1886 A very fruitful evangelical campaign by Mr. Crossley and Mr. Hunter added many new members to the church.
The Women's Missionary Society came into being to supplement the work of the Church in the Canadian West and overseas.

1890 W. James Birks became organist at a salary of \$400 per year. He was given authority to arrange any contracts necessary to finance the choir, and out of this came the 'Birks Concerts,' an outstanding feature of the life of the congregation during the 1890s.

1890 The method of dispensing the bread and wine at the communion service was changed. The traditional method was to have each member come forward to the railing around the pulpit to receive the sacred symbols. Now the members would remain in their pews and the minister would distribute the elements. It was also decided that an offering should be received at the communion service to be used to relieve distress in the congregation.

1891 The Hill Street Mission was founded.

1894 The building was enlarged by the addition of transepts, at a cost of \$10,000.

1895 The building was destroyed by fire on February 13th. The Trustee Board met immediately, and a motion was passed... 'that we build on the present site a new church to seat 1200 to 1500 and a Sunday School to seat 600 to 800 scholars.'

On October 20th, a service of dedication was held to commemorate the completion of the Sunday school portion of the church building.

1896 On Sunday, May 24th, the newly-built Dundas Street Centre Methodist Church was dedicated. The proud and happy congregation gathered morning and evening for four Sundays to share in the dedication of this, their beloved Church. The minister at that time was Rev. E. B. Lanceley and the organist Mr. Hewlett. The Building Committee consisted of Mr. William Bowman, Mr. R. Lewis and Mr. C.J. Beal. The



Subscription Committee members were Messrs. Bowman, Beal, J. D. Keenleyside, A.N. Udy and McDermid. Their task was unexpectedly hard, for the cost of the building had amounted to \$15,000 more than they had originally expected.

1898 Rev. E.B. Lanceley completed his term. He had brought 99 new members into the fellowship of the Church, thus making a grand total of 711 members.

Dr. J.B. Saunders became minister, and, with his encouragement, the Board planned a drive to raise the church revenue by a 50% increase in the regular subscriptions. The purpose was to pay off the mortgage. The slogan was 'Weekly Envelopes for All'.

Rev. C. T. Scott succeeded Dr. Saunders. Rev. Scott made his appeal through the medium of the evangelistic service.

1904 Daniel Mannes became the church organist.

1905 Rev. E. B. Lanceley returned for a second pastorate.

1910 The Ladies Aid Society was formed under the direction of Dr. Manning, the new minister. The ladies were asked to consider the wisdom of removing their rather large hats during the sermon. No further word is known of this request.



Rev. E. B. Lanceley

The Ladies Aid Society has grown into the Women's Association, with a wider range of activities including entertaining university students and Victoria Hospital nurses after the Sunday evening services.

1911 The congregational meeting, originally a social event, became a semi-business meeting so that the congregation might have the opportunity to hear department reports and to discuss the work and affairs of the church.

1914 A congregational meeting was held to welcome Rev. and Mrs. A.J. Thomas. The First World War was in progress and Rev. Thomas organized the congregation to meet the needs of the soldiers in training in our city. He also formed a Young Men's Club. Mrs. Thomas gave leadership to the young women of the Class of 1913. Rev. Thomas submitted to the Board his ambitions for the Church during his pastorate: (1) increased membership; (2) income equal to expenditure; (3) increased interest in class and prayer meetings; (4) more Sunday School scholars in morning church services; (5) more intimate acquaintance among members of the congregation; and (6) helpful, bright Sunday evening services.

1919 Rev. W.E. Prescott, who became minister in 1917, presented plans for a church 'Forward Movement' – a financial campaign with representatives from each department of the Church serving on the committee.

1921 Rev. Capt. John Garbutt, as the new minister, carried on the work of the 'Forward Movement.'

1923 Mr. Hanley and Mr. Fisher were invited to hold a series of meetings entitled an 'Evangelist Campaign.' It was very well received by the church and surrounding community.

1925 On June 10th, Dundas St Centre became part of the United Church of Canada (a union of Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, and the General Council of the Local Union Churches).

Rev. E.A. Pearson, father of Lester B. Pearson, became minister.

The Church Service Committee was urged by Mr. Wendell Holmes to become better acquainted with members of the congregation, with special visits to new members. It was felt that only in this way could the idea of a community church be preserved against the growth of a modern city.

- 1928 Rev. E. W. Young was brought to this congregation from Belfast, Ireland. Rev. D. N. McCamus was made superintendent minister until Rev. Young's credentials could be transferred.

There was mutual agreement at a meeting of the Board that 'our singing was not satisfactory, something being the matter with either the hymns or tunes.' New hymn books were introduced at a later date.



**Dundas St. Centre Methodist Church
Postcard from 1911**

- 1929 The church organ was destroyed by fire.
- 1930 A new organ was installed, with special organ recitals given by Mr. Ernest White (from Philadelphia, PA)(Ernest's father, Mr. Frank White, was a member of the church board), Mr. W.H. Hewlett (Hamilton, ON), Mr. C.E. Wheeler (St. Andrews UC), Mr. T.C. Chattoe (Metropolitan UC), and Mr. E.W.G. Quantz (Knox UC). The Dundas St. Centre organist of the time was Mr. J. Parnell Morris.
- 1931 A Junior Congregation group was organized with Miss Bernice Holtzman (later known as Mrs. John Bell) as leader. Women were admitted into the Session of the Church.
- 1933 Depression Days. Many families in the community and out West were helped through special appeals in our church. To help raise funds, 122 families entered into the scheme of having cent-a-meal boxes on their dining room tables.
- 1934 The church celebrated the 30th anniversary of Mr. J. Parnell Morris being church organist and choir leader. A reunion of choir members, special services on Sunday and a banquet on Monday evening marked this happy occasion.
- 1935 Dr. G.C. Squire was named the first Clerk of Session.

The Quarterly Official Board unanimously agreed to reorganize the church's governing bodies by adopting the rules laid down in the *United Church Manual*. It was moved that 20 persons be on Session and 15 on the Board of Stewards.

1937 Dr. C.V. McLean became the minister.

In April of 1937, the Thames River overflowed its banks in one of the worst floods ever recorded for London.

Mrs. R. Gee headed the Red Cross workers in our church and, under Mrs. Ollie Scott's direction, boxes were packed and sent overseas.

1939 Mr. W.E. Edlington was appointed Clerk of Session, an appointment he held for 25 years.

1941 A new communion table, given by Mr. and Mrs. Alan Skinner, was dedicated.

Women were admitted to the Board of Stewards: Mrs. O. Scott and Mrs. Gee.

The Get-together Club, whose purpose was to strengthen church bonds, was formed.

1942 Fireside Hours after the evening service were held.

1945 The church mortgage was paid off.

Mr. Alec Burr became the church organist.

1946 The church celebrated 100 years of service with many special events, including concerts, reunions and a pageant depicting the 50 years of progress since the opening of the new church.

Rev. J. Bonham was appointed Assistant Minister.

1948 Mrs. George Trace became leader of the first Vacation Bible School.
Rev. George Birtch became minister.

1949 The Sanctuary was re-decorated during the summer months, with services held in the Sunday School Auditorium.

The Get-together Club was disbanded and appreciation for their work was expressed at the Session meeting.

Dundas Doubles, a group of young married couples, was formed.

1950 A bronze Memorial Plaque in memory of the members of our congregation who gave their lives during the World Wars was unveiled.

1951 Basement rooms were remodeled to provide extra education space.

1952 Brought before the Session was the question, 'Should we allow dancing on church property?' After considerable discussion, it was decided that the rooms downstairs could be used for square dancing.

The Young Adult Fellowship was formed. Eventually it became a singing group with leader and mentor Jim Brooks.

- 1953 The matter of playing cards on church property was brought before Session. It was allowed in the downstairs rooms as long as prizes and profits were not involved.

Dr. Murray Stuart was appointed Assistant Minister.

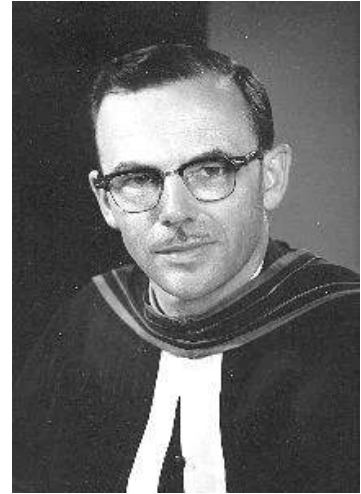
Hugh McKervill Jr. was introduced as a candidate for the ministry. He was ordained in 1959.

- 1954 Rev. H. Donald Joyce became Minister.

- 1957 The 'Men's Club' held its first meeting.

- 1958 The Sunday School Auditorium is remodeled, providing classrooms rather than tiered seating in the balcony.

Garnet Brooks is hired as a tenor soloist.



Rev. H. Donald Joyce

- 1960 Rev. B. Hodder became the new Minister.

Two new groups formed: Hi C's Youth Group (ages 12 to 15) with leaders Wynn and Laurie Russell and Young People's Group (ages 15 plus) with leaders Audrey and Doug Coulson.

- 1961 Rev. Harold Lawson is appointed Assistant Minister.

- 1962 Sod-turning ceremony for Shambleau Hall occurred in April. The building was named after Phyllis Shambleau, who left a \$50,000 legacy to the church. This money was used to partly finance the new wing.

The United Church Women (U.C.W.) was formed, replacing the Women's Association and the Women's Missionary Society. Mrs. Adelaide Allaster was the first president.



Architect's H. Hick's sketch of Shambleau Hal, 1962

The Sunday school had an 'In As Much' box for their extra pennies. The money from the box was used to buy wool for knitting baby clothes. These clothes were sent to an orphanage in Hong Kong. The money from the box was, in later years, donated to St. Paul's Daily Bread Program.

- 1963 In January, the Memorial Chapel was dedicated. All the furnishings for the chapel were memorial gifts and have been so recorded by the late Eric Bradford on a

hand-painted scroll which hangs outside the Chapel.

A 'Telephone Brigade' prior to the Easter service brought a marked increase in church attendance.

1964 The Dundas Doubles constructed a new wayside pulpit.

Dundas Centre News was first published with editors Jean Warder and Audrey Gibson.

The U.C.W. assumed building costs for the Memorial Chapel. The amount to be raised was \$5,500. Fundraising events included the 'Chapel Teas.'

The Men's Club received their A.O.T.S. (As One That Serves) Charter. So Man Tak, a fourteen-year-old boy from Hong Kong, was adopted by the club through Mrs. Walton Tonge. \$16/month was sent to Mrs. Tonge for his education. The money was raised through paper rolling.



Wayside Pulpit constructed by Dundas Doubles (drawing by Dianne Allen)

1965 Rev. Alan Duffield was named Assistant Minister in charge of Christian Education.

Rev. Roderick Macdonald became the new minister.

Alec Burr, organist for twenty years, resigned and Edith Pack became the organist. The practice of having paid soloists in the choir was discontinued.

The Dundas Doubles disbanded.

1966 Sunday evening services were discontinued.

1967 Dundas St. Centre United Church, along with the other London United Churches, took part in a Missionary Festival at a London Mall.

The U.C.W. formed a 'Friendship Group' for retired members of the church and community under the leadership of Mrs. Isobel Ralph.

Cantata for Derelicts (United Church centennial play by P. Turner) was performed in the Sanctuary.

The U.C.W. prepared a centennial exhibit, 'Pages from the Past,' and hosted a tea with proceeds going to the Chapel Building Fund.

1968 'Mission for Renewal,' a week-long series of services with visiting choirs and dignitaries, was held. Special guests were Rev. George and Mrs. Docherty from the New York Ave. Presbyterian Church in Washington DC.

1969 The coal-fired boiler was replaced with a gas-fired one, due to pollution concerns with coal.

1970 Rev. Ronald T. Hunt was welcomed as our new minister.

A Paper Rolling Group, led by George Woods, was formed. The money raised from the sale of the paper rolls produced was sent to The Home of Loving Faithfulness orphanage in Hong Kong.

The Good Samaritan Cupboard was re-activated with Louise Woods as coordinator.

1971 'Session' and 'Board of Stewards' was replaced with 'Unified Board.' First chair of the Unified Board was Bruce Gibson with Doris Thornley as secretary.

'Afternoon Out' was organized by U.C.W. for young mothers and their children with Mary Harding coordinating.

New red hymn books were purchased.

The 125th Anniversary of the church was celebrated with the musical team of Merv and Merla Watson.

1972 A successful Craft and Hobby Show was sponsored by U.C.W. The 'Christian Education Easter Break' featured an 'African Safari' for Sunday school children and friends.

1973 Albert Furtney was appointed Christian Education Director.

'Candlelight Christmas Eve' services were initiated.

1974 Lottie Brown and Doug Patterson co-chaired a special Garnet Brooks Concert.

1975 Albert Furtney played every hymn in the new red hymn book as part of the fundraiser 'Hymn-a-Thon.' This was an 'all-nighter' with people pledging and visiting at all hours.

1976 Greg Munn organized the fundraiser 'June Walk-a-Thon.' Participants walked 20 miles. Over \$2,000 was pledged.

Jim Hill was welcomed as the new organist.

1977 Howard Rundle became the new Christian Education Director on a volunteer basis.



Garnet Brooks

A Yamaha upright grand piano was donated by U.C.W. for use in the Sanctuary.

A fire was deliberately set in Sunday School Auditorium paper room. The Auditorium's upper windows had to be replaced.

1978 Green service books were purchased with money from the Memorial Fund.

The 'Organ Fund' was established with the goal of obtaining \$65,000 to upgrade the Sanctuary organ.

1979 Rev. Lance Woods became our new minister.

Rev. Ross McCann was Interim Minister until Rev. Woods could return to the pulpit after suffering a heart attack.

1980 Rev. Wray Mather was appointed Visitation Minister.

The *Favorite Recipes Cook Book* was published by the Organ Fund Committee.

'Focus Groups,' a midweek evening discussion group focusing on various aspects of our faith, was formed. It was coordinated by Rev. Woods.

The Sanctuary was painted, the organ pipes were re-gilded and the choir loft woodwork was varnished, as part of another 'Spruce-up/Clean-up Campaign.'

One hundred *Good News Bibles* were donated to the church.

1981 An 'Alpha Award' from the March of Dimes was presented to Dundas St. Centre when an outside ramp was built for wheelchair accessibility. The step down into the Sanctuary from the back hall, was also eliminated. Leadership: Laurie Russell and David Rodwell.

'Canadiana Festival,' a Mission in Canada project, was held in the church gym and planned by the church's Christian Education Department.

1982 The manse on Huron Street was sold and the proceeds were invested. From now on, the minister will be provided with a housing allowance.

Rev. Bert Carr became our Visitation Minister.

A 'Security Notice' was issued. The church has 11 outside doors. Because of problems with vandalism, the congregation was asked to make sure to lock doors and close windows that they have opened before they leave the church.

1983 Sister Elizabeth Sexton of the Sisters of St. Joseph was hired as a part-time outreach worker. Her salary was provided through donations from individuals in the congregation. Her mandate was to find a specific need in the community where we as a church could be of help. As a result, a 'Coffee House' for ex-psychiatric patients was created in the church basement rooms.

Laurie Russell and custodian Harvey Howard cleaned the upper side of the Sanctuary dome. Several years of dust and dirt were removed.

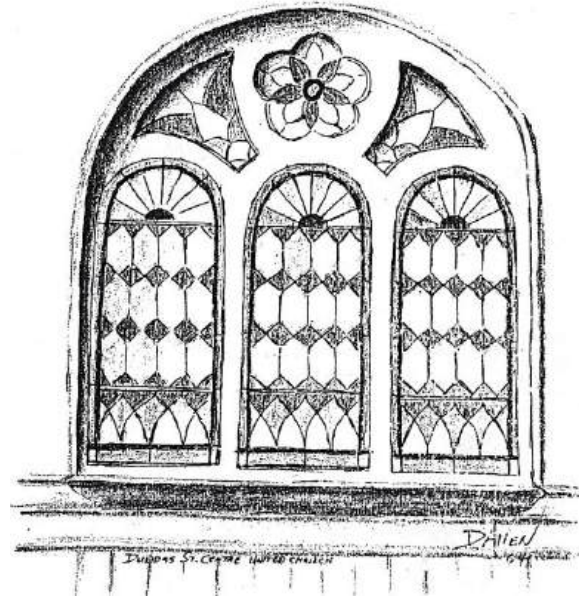
Stained glass windows in the Sanctuary and Narthex were restored as 'Memorial Windows' using money donated by church families.

The front doors of the church were re-finished by volunteers who removed at least 6 layers of paint.

U.C.W. purchased new furniture for the church parlour and a new piano for the choir room.

- 1985 A plaque was given to the church by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee designating the Sanctuary as 'historic.'

The church organ was restored and upgraded. The funds came from numerous 'Organ Fund Sales' and the publication of 2 cook books. Jean Bradford headed up these fundraising events.



**Narthex stained glass window
(drawing by Dianne Allen)**

The church parking lot was paved.

Bishop Cronyn Day Care rented our nursery rooms while their facilities were being renovated.

'Gotta Sing, Gotta Dance,' a musical group for young people, was formed. It was directed by organist Jim Hill.

- 1986 Blue choir gowns were purchased by the choir.

Tape ministry was made available to our shut-ins.

Hand chimes were donated to the church by Rev. Fred Laird.

Rev. Lance Woods resigned in December.

- 1987 Rev. Craig Railton became the church's Interim Preaching Minister.

In Praise of the Arts Committee was set up to bring good quality concerts to Dundas St. Centre.

In July, Rev. Peter Lemmer became the church's new minister.

The 'Host Group' was formed to help refugee families in the London area.

Dundas St. Centre was the founding member of the London Inner-city Faith team (L.I.F.T.). The L.I.F.T. mandate is to explore ways to collectively address the social needs of our community. Several downtown churches became members of the team.

Kiddieland Day Nursery began renting the lower rooms in Shambleau Hall.

The church made its first donation of food to St. Paul's Daily Bread Program. Originally a monthly donation, it quickly became a weekly donation. An 'In As Much' box for Sunday weekly collection of loonies for the same program was also created (please refer back to 1962)

1988 Mrs. Rose Lemmer became the Christian Education Director.

The gym in Shambleau hall was painted by volunteers. It was ready in time for the annual 'Ham and Strawberry' dinner.

An 'Indoor Picnic and Open House' occurred in September, with displays from various church committees.

The 'Save Our Sanctuary' (S.O.S.) campaign was initiated to raise money for major restoration work to the outside of the church. Several fundraising activities, as well as a congregational visitation, were planned. One project was the sale of S.O.S. sweatshirts designed by artist and church member Jennifer Winder.

1989 Angus Sinclair is appointed organist and choir master.

Installation of the fire alarm system was completed, thanks to George Andrin and the many volunteers who assisted.

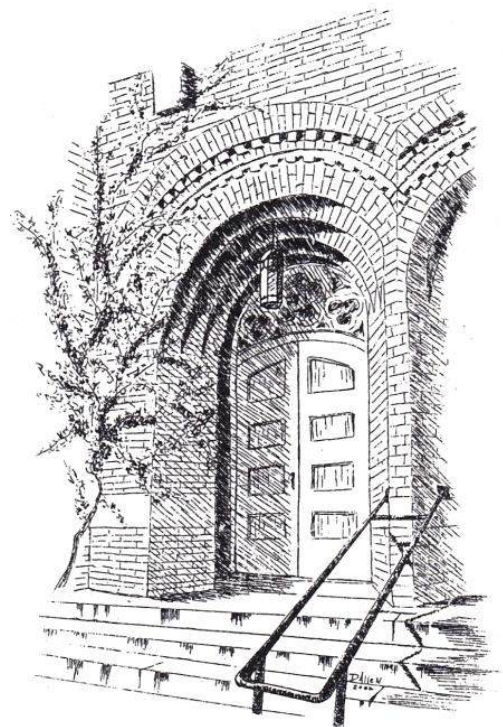
1990 Rev. Jim Girling became our new minister.

An 'Adult Literacy Program' was begun with meetings in Shambleau Hall.

A TV and VCR were purchased for use by all church groups. They were presented by U.C.W. Unit 8 in memory of Mrs. Lydia Southen. They were subsequently stolen during a break-in but then replaced through insurance.

The L.I.F.T. Council received approval to construct 13 apartment units on Queens Ave. for disadvantaged persons.

1991 Our church was part of a 'Heritage Walk' organized by the Architectural



Entry into the Narthex (drawing by Dianne Allen)

Conservancy of Ontario.

Jamie Quigley was appointed part-time Christian Education director. The new name for the Sunday school children was 'C.O.D.E. Kids.' C.O.D.E. means Come on Discover Everything.

A picture wall was installed at the back of the Sanctuary. The last row of pews was removed for better traffic flow.

The 'Coffee House' left our church building for larger quarters. They grew from an initial 12 persons to over 200.

The Good Samaritan Cupboard has moved from the upstairs area around the Sunday School Auditorium to the basement.

Rev. Maurice Platts is appointed as Visitation Minister.

The architectural team of E.J. Rowse & M. McClelland of Toronto was retained to give us professional direction regarding long-term planning for the upkeep and restoration of our church building.

The library was enlarged by incorporating the adjoining class room for use by the Sunday school.

1992 Centennial United Church and Dundas St. Centre held discussions regarding joint ventures to better serve the community.

Mary Empey was appointed Sunday School Superintendent.

The tile floor in the Sunday School Auditorium was replaced (a U.C.W. project)

Quintin Warner House used our kitchen and Sunday School Auditorium while their place was renovated. In return, they painted all the exterior woodwork and metalwork of Shambleau Hall.

Thirty meals per month were prepared by the U.C.W. for patients in the care of the London Aids Committee.

1993 A part-time staff person, Tracy Crick, was hired jointly by Centennial United and Dundas St. Centre through a grant from Middlesex Presbytery. Her job was to compile an inventory of services and activities in the east London community of each church and to recommend areas where we could better serve area residents.

In place of a Visitation Minister, it was recommended that we establish a program of commissioned lay visitors supervised by the minister. Consequently, nine members were appointed to carry out these duties.

1994 Rev. J. Girling resigned and Rev. Bruce Scott was appointed Interim Minister.

Angus Sinclair staged a 'Hymn-a-Thon' fundraiser in June.

Angus Sinclair resigned and was replaced by Dr. Donald Cook as organist and music director.

Rev. Jock Tolmay was appointed Intentional Interim Minister.

- 1995 An Anniversary Committee was formed to plan activities for the 100th anniversary of the rebuilding of the Sunday School Auditorium and for the 150th anniversary of the establishment of this church. The Committee was co-chaired by Bruce Gibson and Louise Woods.

As part of the celebrations for the Sunday School Auditorium anniversary, the 1895 order of service was followed for the October 22nd service. Many church members attended in clothes representative of the Victorian era.

Four panels, depicting the life and history of Dundas St. Centre, were dedicated at the October 22nd service. They were designed and painted by art students from H.B. Beal Secondary School under the direction of their teacher, well-known artist Ted Goodden.



The four panels showing church history hang in the Sunday School Auditorium.

The Senior Choir performed 'Cabaret,' a musical variety show with gourmet desserts and the talents of church members on display.

'Pressto' telephone advertising was started, along with a printed 'Downtown Churches' group ad in the Saturday London Free Press (replacing individual church ads).

Rev. Tolmay encouraged the creation of an Outreach Committee chaired by Fred Faas, to consider issues of local, national and international concern. He also initiated a closer interaction with neighbouring Quintin Warner House operated by Mission Services of London on Queen Street. His participation in the counselling program there for recovering addicts would be continued.

The U.C.W. sponsored an Indoor Yard Sale.

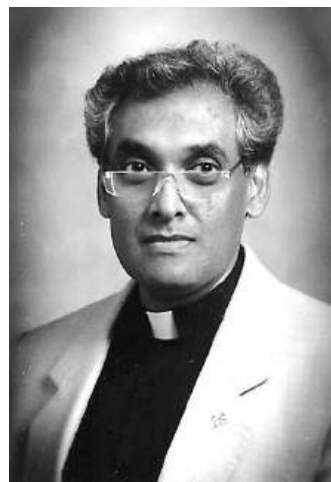
- 1996 Rev. Jock Tolmay took an active interest in all aspects of church life including dusting the stained glass dome and climbing around in the attic. His sermons were both dramatic and colourful. One Sunday he showed up at the pulpit with breakfast coffee in hand and dressed comfortably in PJs and slippers. On another Sunday, he gained some attention by destroying a golden plaster bust of Elvis Presley.

In the summer of 1996 we welcomed our new minister Rev. Keith Rameshwar and his wife Lydia.

Special events were planned throughout the year in honour of our church's 150th Anniversary:

A 'January Jump' evening of fun and fellowship was held. It included a chili supper followed by games and line dancing.

In February, archivist Bruce Thornley spoke on the history of our church. Later in the month Dr. Donald Cook gave a 'History of Our Hymns' presentation highlighting our music heritage.



Rev. Keith Rameshwar

Dr. Cook gave a special organ recital in March.

In April there was a Yesterday's Young Adult Fellowship Reunion with special guests Rev. Hugh McKervill, vocalist Garnet Brooks and Rev. Ross McCann.

In May, a Victorian tea and concert was held.

For anniversary weekend, there was a harvest dinner and variety show on October 26th followed by a special guest speaker, Rev. Peter Scott, at the Sunday worship service.

- 1997 Many of the projects discussed and started in our 150th anniversary year were established fully and in some cases expanded. The U.C.W. donated two large soup pots to the Out of the Cold Hospitality (OOTC) Meals Program, which was coordinated by Len Busby. The U.C.W. also staged the first of many subsequent 'Hot Potato Bashes' in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. A Saddle Hawkins Dance and Line Dancing in the gym also were part of anniversary activities. Dr. Cook produced another variety show, 'May Musicale: Music Sacred and Profane.'

New pew bibles (*New Revised Standard Version*) were purchased for the Sanctuary. Joanne Green was appointed as Superintendent of the Sunday school. The Junior Choir under the leadership of Lois Bezeau and Don Sanderson continued to make a welcome contribution to special worship Sundays.

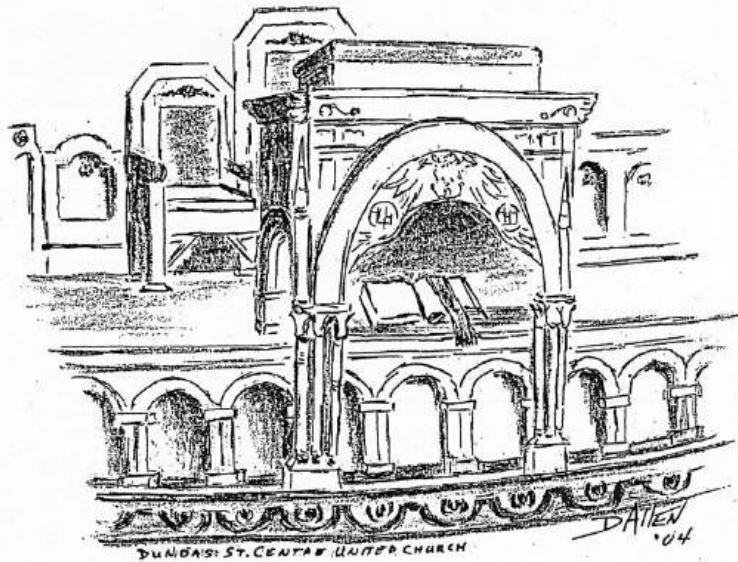
Kris Biernacki, a baritone music student from the University of Western Ontario was awarded the first Choral Scholarship to sing tenor in the Senior Choir. This

scholarship was a 150th anniversary project funded by private donations and investment interest from an endowment to the London Community Foundation by Mrs. Lottie Brown.

The Ethiopian Faith Gospel (Pentecostal) congregation continues to worship on Sunday mornings in the Chapel. In addition, Bishop Andrei was given permission to lead a Sunday evening worship for the St. Cyril and St. Methodius Orthodox congregation.

Rev. Keith Rameshwar took an active role in rotational study sessions with the addiction recovery groups at Quintin Warner House (London Mission Services).

1998 George Andrin and the Property Committee created a wheel-chair accessible toilet and sink in the women's washroom on the first floor of the church (a project funded by the U.C.W.). The Property Committee also added a security flood light to the back parking lot, the first of many security measures to follow.



Sanctuary pulpit (drawing by Dianne Allen)

Under the leadership of Diane Cuppels and Jim Traquair (Chair of the Board), a 'Friends United' social circle was created. Lovell Lord and Al Caughlin made a special bulletin board in the Sunday School Auditorium to advertise Friends United events such as nature walks and themed potluck dinners.

Rev. Maurice Platts, a long-time Visitation Minister, was named by the Unified Board as Minister Emeritus at Dundas St. Centre.

New hymnbooks, *Voices United*, were purchased for the Sanctuary and Dr. Cook led various Sunday morning hymn-sings to introduce the book.

Dundas St. Centre participated in ecumenical summer Sunday worship services at the Western Fair Grounds (Queens Park band shell). Nine churches were involved. Services were led by Centennial United (Rev. Disher) with a massed choir led by Mark Payne (St Matthew Anglican Church). A potluck picnic lunch followed the services.

The annual congregational picnic and outdoor worship service was held for the first time at Fanshawe Park Heritage Village.

Fred Faas led the OOTC Meals program as Captain of a three-chef team of

volunteers that worked in rotation on Wednesdays to prepare a hot, sit-down meal at Dundas St. Centre, in collaboration with volunteers from Bishop Cronyn Anglican Church.

Mary Ann Conn was appointed Sunday School Coordinator.

Dr. Donald Cook resigned as Organist and Choir Director and was replaced by Norman Abbott (from Grand Bend United Church) in November.

- 1999 George Andrin (Property Committee Chair) developed a 'zone' system to control and reduce heating costs for the church. The committee also refurbished the illuminated 'Wayside Pulpit' sign to advertise services and events to Dundas Street traffic.

The church website, www.dundasunited.com, was constructed and managed by Jim Traquair.

Sunday Morning Breakfasts with special guest speakers were initiated. Fred Faas and Howard Rundle did the cooking for a hearty meal of baked eggs and potluck muffins.

- 2000 On June 10th and 11th, the 75th anniversary of 'church union' in which Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregationalist congregations came together as the United Church of Canada, was celebrated with a potluck supper and a special 'Fire and Grace' service.

The Sanctuary was shared with the First Christian Reformed Church while their church on Talbot Street was being renovated.

Alan & Jean Coote provided an endowment to the London Community Foundation so that additional funds could be provided to the Choral Scholarship program at Dundas St. Centre.

The OOTC Meals program grew under Fred Faas' leadership. Three chefs, Mary Beckett, Elizabeth Falshaw (Bishop Cronyn team) and Mary Harding with more than 35 volunteers prepared and served hearty soup, chili, or pasta casseroles to a total of more than 2,200 hungry and needy visitors in a season (fall to spring).

A 'Piano Fund' was created by the Unified Board to support the purchase of a grand piano for the Sanctuary. Norm Abbott kicked off the funding initiative with a 'Pianostalgia' Sunday afternoon concert of Victorian 'Palm Parlour' and operetta pieces.

U.C.W., with Norm Abbott's help, organized 'Soup and Psalm Sunday' as a fundraiser.

Ola Morley was instrumental in organizing many theatre bus trips for U.C.W. and friends.

- 2001 The 'Slates Again' campaign was created, under the leadership of Dianne Allen,

Mary Harding and Fred Faas, to raise funds for the replacement of the church roof. Application was made to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for financial assistance.

Major renovations were undertaken by the Property Committee. These included painting and construction in Shambleau Hall's nursery and Sunday school rooms (in support of renter Kiddieland Day Care and later Chelsea Green Day Care), installation of a new tile floor and basketball hoops in the gymnasium for Quintin Warner exercise programs, installation of an intercommunication system between the office and the Shambleau Hall nursery, installation of a skylight above the stairs at the gym entrance, and installation of a sterilizer (dishwasher) in the kitchen.

Start time for Sunday worship was moved from 11 am to 10:30 am to accommodate young families with children. At the same time, discussions began about using alternative styles of worship and balancing contemporary and traditional music in worship. Serving communion by intinction was abandoned in favor of the traditional method of serving the elements to worshippers seated in the pews.

Norm Abbott and the choir organized a 'Harvest of Hymns' with Norm at his cello and Dr. Donald Cook at the organ. This was followed by a feast of fancy desserts.

Friends United organizers (Diane Cuppels and Jim Traquair) staged a chili supper cooked by Fred Faas and the first 'Talents and Treasures Auction' as a fundraiser for the Slates Again campaign. Auctioneers were Howard Rundle and Rev. Catherine Tovell (guest minister).

The Outreach Committee, headed by Paul Harding, initiated a Re-integration Project with the help of the John Howard Society, to support ex-prisoners returning to society.

Three major concerts (rentals) occurred in the Sanctuary. They included a Leona Boyd and Pavlo concert, a Gospel & Soul Concert featuring Altaf Vellani (a drummer and also the janitor at Dundas St. Centre), and a concert by the Beal Choir and London Singers led by David Weaver.

- 2002 Dundas St. Centre received a \$75,000 Ontario Trillium Award to help pay for replacement of the slate roof over the Sanctuary. The Slates Again campaign continued its challenge to raise the remaining \$25,000 needed.

The Chelsea Green Day Care paid for the fenced and gated playground at Maitland Street side of the church.

Ken Conn took over from George Andrin as Chair of the Property Committee



Outside sign before the service start time was changed.

Edward Avey took over the production of the church newsletter and renamed it *The Centre Spoke* with a new logo designed by Steve Torrins.

Rev. Catherine Tovell was appointed by the Unified Board as 'New Initiatives Coordinator.' One of her initiatives was the development of a Taize Worship service on the 4th Friday evening of every month. This was an alternative style of meditative candle-lighting worship using familiar chants. Many volunteers, including the Choral Scholars, assisted with the setup and presentation of this service in the Sanctuary.

Three lay services were organized as a way of engaging the congregation in worship: Altaff Vellani and his friend, Fitz McIntyre, offered a rock/gospel service called 'Man in Pain;' Jim Traquair, Norm Abbott and Kathy Johnson offered a 'Good Shepherd Sunday;' Jeff Dech, an ecology student from the University of Western Ontario, was invited to speak on Environmental Sunday.

The Choral Scholars organized two cabaret style, fundraising concerts with the help of Norm Abbott in the Sunday School Auditorium: 'Give My Regards to Broadway' and 'We Need a Little Christmas,' each followed by a reception featuring decadent and delicious desserts provided by the choir.

- 2003 Jan Bearchill became Lay Visitation Coordinator for the visitation team supervised by the minister. Jan also organized volunteers for delivering the newsletter and gifts to church members that were house-bound or in rest homes.

Dundas St. Centre participated in Doors Open London. More than 35 volunteers were trained and coordinated by Mary Harding and Diane Allen. The event was a great success.

Under Ken Conn's leadership of the Property Committee, a new, more efficient steam boiler was installed by Hessey Brothers under the Sanctuary.

Work commenced on upgrades to the church roof. The metal sheeting on the roof towers was replaced. New, synthetic Dura Slate Tiles (50-year warranty) were installed by Roof Tile Management of Mississauga. New flashing and gutters were also installed. Total cost for the roof upgrade was \$191,200. Private donations amounted to over \$52,000. As mentioned earlier, the Slates Again campaign included several fundraisers to help us pay off this debt. These fundraisers included a gourmet dinner, annual Talents and Treasures Auctions, book and bake sales, sales of church sketches découpaged onto roof slates, and a concert by the Canadian Orpheus Male Choir.

The Dundas Infant Day Care replaced Chelsea Green Day Care because of the lack of sufficient green space for the children's play area.

- 2004 Rev. Keith Rameshwar resigned in July and Rev. Catherine Tovell was assigned by Middlesex Presbytery as Interim Supply Minister.

The Property Committee supervised the replacement of galvanized water pipes with plastic lines (no more brown water!), improvements to boiler controls, and

caulking the flashing on the northwest tower to stop leak issues.

Audrey & Bruce Gibson, Ola Morley, and their helpers established new gardens along the ramp pathway with mulched clumps of hostas, irises, peonies and ivy from their own gardens.

The tradition of a joint candle-light Advent service with Hyatt Avenue United Church was established. The location would alternate and the two choirs would join for that evening service

2005 Rev. Catherine Tovell was called as our new minister in July.

An Amur maple tree was planted by Paul Harding at the southeast corner of Shambleau Hall and dedicated to the glory of God.

A major renovation project was the restoration of a men's washroom below the northwest tower. The 'Flush Fund' was created by the Unified Board to receive money in support of this project

The purchase of a used grand piano (Yamaha) from the Sisters of St. Joseph was a milestone in facilitating future concerts and recitals in the Sanctuary at Dundas St. Centre.

The OOTC Meals Program added a fourth team of cooks headed Chef Joyce Payne and Irene Kemp. Rebecca and Steve Clark were appointed procurement officers and food coordinators.



Audrey Gibson took charge of the church's Taylor Library. Lorraine Busby coordinated the Gender Study Group and the Encounter Discussion Series to field questions on issues of sexuality

2006 A series of 'Visioning' sessions were initiated, first at the annual meeting and then at a Board retreat at Kilworth United Church. Four goals were identified: improved environmental awareness, community wellness and connection to the church, membership growth and support for the performing arts.

Dave Walters arrived as our first ministry student in training. Paul Harding led the supervisory committee.

Rev. Tovell organized Taizé worship services for the community and gave a talk on her visit to the Taizé community in France.

She also instigated a 'Stations of the Cross Street Walk' on Good Friday and a fall 'Blessing of the Animals' worship service.

Weekly advertising of Sunday worship in the London Free Press was suspended in favor of greater use of the 'Wayside Pulpit' sign and the church website with Diane Cuppels as the new webmaster.

Rental to the Ethiopian Faith Gospel congregation ended in April as did rental to the Infant Day Care Centre in August.

Betty Ball organized the first of many successful spring Plant Sales in the Sunday School Auditorium (SSA).

- 2007 Renovation of the Chapel involved the removal of pews and installation of a new tile floor. This created a new, much-needed multi-use space for worship services and meetings.

Dave Walter's 8-month student internship ended, but not before he organized a special contemporary worship service with the aid of the Choral Scholars and a praise band including Sean and Gary Lewis (guitars), Steve Clark (drums) and Dave himself on piano.

In an effort to connect with the community and build membership, informational post cards were created by Diane Cuppels and the Worship Committee and were delivered to local residents by the post office. The goal was to increase Sunday worshippers by at least 1 %, which we did!

The first of several benefit concerts called 'Feeding Body....Feeding Soul' was held. It was a variety show with invited soloists and choirs to support the OOTC Meals program. These concerts raised thousands of dollars for this popular hospitality meal program

- 2008 The Property Committee finished the new men's washroom under the stairwell of the northwest tower. Joyce Payne spearheaded a major cleanup and organization of the 'carpenter's room' with the construction of large tables for the yard sale donations sorted by Dianne Allen and Mary Harding throughout the year.

The 'Knob and Tube Fund' was created by the Unified Board to receive special donations for the proposed upgrading (re-wiring) of the electrical system at Dundas St. Centre. Towards this end, a 'Taste of Vienna with Songs and Sweets' organized by Norm Abbott and the Choir raised over \$7,000.

- 2009 Laura Wilkes was hired to replace Sandy McDougall as Church Secretary.

The kitchen was updated with a new gas stove, a new commercial-style refrigerator with sliding glass doors, a new stainless steel serving counter, new light-weight roller blinds for the serving windows, a storage closet and a new stainless steel work table.

The 'Shop and Support' program was launched to raise money through the sale of gift cards. This program was led by Irene Kemp and Joyce Payne.

Ken Conn and the Property Committee installed plywood walkways over the joists

in the attic above the Sanctuary to make the attic more accessible and safe. Re-wiring of the church was completed by Wilson & Associates for about \$180,000. In addition, the Sanctuary light fixtures were rewired and long-lived, brighter LED bulbs were installed in the chandeliers.

- 2010 Rev. Jeannette Fradette was assigned as Pastoral Charge Supervisor while Rev. Tovell was on recuperative medical leave. Mary Stewart was hired as a student minister from February to June. Taizé services were suspended.

Rev. Catherine Tovell requested a change in pastoral relations as of October 31. A farewell party was organized for her on August 28.

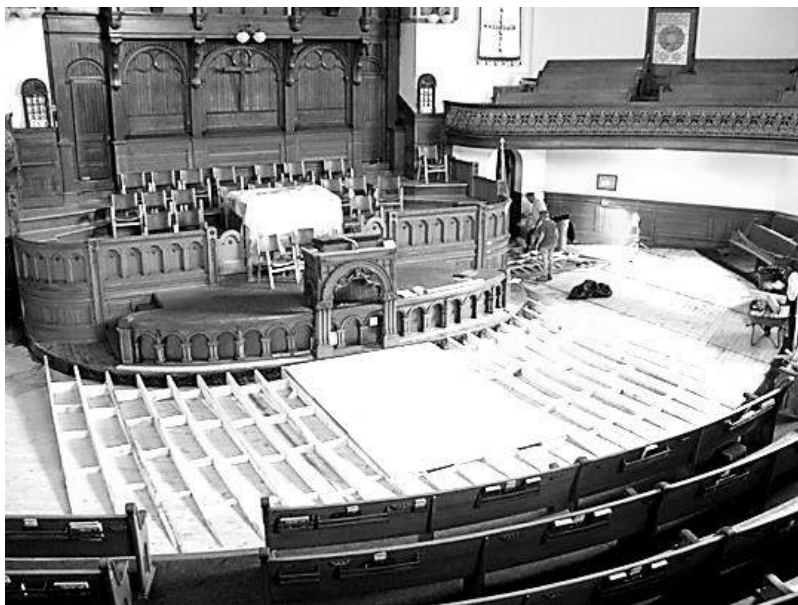
Rev. Michelle Down arrived on October 1st to serve a nine-month term as Interim Supply Minister.

The London Community Orchestra and the London Youth Orchestra began renting space for rehearsals, storage and performances on a continuing basis.

The service site for the Out of the Cold meals was switched from the gym to SSA. Wooden trolleys were constructed for the movement and storage of tables and chairs.

An Indoor Yard Sale was set up on a permanent basis in the vacant, unrented Sunday school rooms of lower Shambleau Hall.

The Sanctuary floor was leveled and re-carpeted and the front pews were removed by Ken Conn and Joyce Payne. This was done to provide the orchestras who rent space in Dundas St. Centre with more room for their instruments during concerts.



Leveling the Sanctuary floor.

Library space was renovated to make an office for the minister on the main floor of the church on the west side of the Sunday School Auditorium.

The Unified Board authorized the use of meeting space for Quintin Warner in addition to use of the gymnasium for special events and recreation.

- 2012 U.C.W. celebrated their 50th anniversary with a special worship service and speaker Rev. Kate Crawford (First St. Andrew's United Church) on May 27. Rev.

Michelle Down arranged a joint Good Friday service at Dundas St. Centre with Metropolitan United Church and First St. Andrew's United Church participating.

Major renovation of the Sanctuary with ceiling repair, plastering and painting was undertaken by Ken Conn. A scaffold tower was required! A proper cleanup bee was organized by Joyce Payne to dust and wipe pews after the painting was completed.

New flooring was installed in the main hallway and new toilets in the washrooms. Repairs were made to the roof of the Sunday School Auditorium and the northwest tower. An Asbestos Management Plan was approved by the Board.

Louise Woods was honored for her contributions to the Good Samaritan Cupboard and the church at a special "Difference Maker" dinner prepared by Rev. Down and Joyce Payne.



Louise Woods

- 2013 Rev, Michelle Down completed her 9-month term and a farewell party was held. Worship at Dundas St. Centre was maintained by the joint Worship and Christian Growth and Development Committees through music Sundays and services prepared by lay speakers and guest ministers Rev. Keith Rameshwar and Rev. Ron Dakin. Some off-site services were enjoyed at Metropolitan and First St Andrew's United Churches.

Rev. Wendy Noble was appointed by Presbytery as Pastoral Relations Supervisor. A Needs Assessment Committee was struck to organize the search for a new minister.

The Middlesex Presbytery Resource Centre moved into the unused Sunday school rooms of Shambleau Hall.

- 2014 Because attempts to secure a part-time minister were unsuccessful, the congregation approved a motion to share a minister with Rowntree Memorial United Church.

JoAnn Silcox and Debbi Jarvis replaced Rev. Wendy Noble as Pastoral Relations Supervisor in June. Worship services continued to be provided for some 40 weeks by Rev. Rameshwar, various Licensed Lay Worship Leaders and lay members of the congregation.

The Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) began renting office, meeting, kitchen and worship space. Services for the LGBTQ community (homosexual and transgender) were held in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm.

Repairs, funded by donations, were made by Sunrise Stained Glass Studios (London) to stained glass windows in Narthex doors and doors to the Sanctuary. Memorial plaques were installed in thanksgiving.

An Indoor Yard Sale, organized by Dianne Allen and Ken Conn, returned to the gymnasium.

- 2015 Rev. Wendy Noble was selected by the Joint Selection Committee as shared minister for Dundas Street Centre United Church and Rowntree Memorial United Church. Based on congregational surveys, the Rowntree Memorial service was scheduled for 9:30 am while the one for Dundas St. Centre was scheduled for 11 am.

Unsold plants from the last Plant Sale were used by Jim Traquair and Paul Harding to establish new gardens in the fenced, former daycare play area on Maitland Street.

Asbestos removal was completed according the Asbestos Management Plan. New flooring and vanity cabinets were installed in the women's washrooms in the basement.

Diane Cuppels and Jim Traquair organized a Fall Food & Art Fair fundraiser to replace the Talents & Treasures Dinner and Auction.

- 2016 The amalgamated Worship, Christian Growth and Development and Membership Committees was renamed the Spirituality Committee. Rev. Keith Rameshwar was approved as Volunteer Associate Minister for a 5-yr term. Rev. Michelle Owens from London Conference offered a Boundaries Workshop to lay leaders at Dundas St. Centre to assist them in dealing with and preventing issues of harassment and problematic interrelationships.

The performance highlight of the year was a joint fundraiser by Dundas Street Centre and Rowntree Memorial United Churches that was held in the Sanctuary at Dundas St. Centre. It was the 'Dynamic Duo' concert featuring the country and western stylings of Londoner and Country Hall of Famer Marie Bottrell with Rick Loucks and the country band Southband.

The Property Committee took mitigating measures to improve building security as a result of three damaging break-ins and theft of equipment. Steel replacement doors were installed to the upper and lower levels of the Sunday School Auditorium.

After 48 years of fun-filled Saturday mornings and delicious coffee cakes, Fred Faas announced the end of Paper Rolling. Sadly, he was unable to find a market for the rolls of newspaper. Money from this recycling supported an orphanage in Hong Kong and missions at Dundas St. Centre.

- 2018 Working with the Mennonite Central Committee, the Outreach Committee provided hampers for individuals leaving a residential facility to set up living accommodations on their own. The hampers were full of essential cleaning and personal care items. The Outreach Committee also arranged for the church's participation in the city of London's *Your Turn* Fats Collection Program. The city provided us with biodegradable cups to collect used household fat, oil and grease (FOG) which, when returned to the city, was converted into green electricity.

Clear, unbreakable Lexan polycarbonate was installed on 25 lower windows in the back of the church to prevent further break-ins.

A 'Difference Maker' dinner was held to celebrate the contributions of Marion Gray to the church.

This year marked the termination of U.C.W. operations at Dundas Centre.

Renovation of the Casavant pipe organ by Doddington & Doddington entailed the digitization of the console so that air valves operating the pipes became electronic rather than mechanical. The work was paid for through donations to the Robert Gibson Organ Fund and a major donation from Edward Avey and Norm Abbott. Two fundraiser organ concerts also were held.

- 2019 The governance of the United Church of Canada was re-modelled and economized to replace conferences and presbyteries with regional councils. So, London Conference and Middlesex Presbytery became the Antler River Watershed Regional Council.

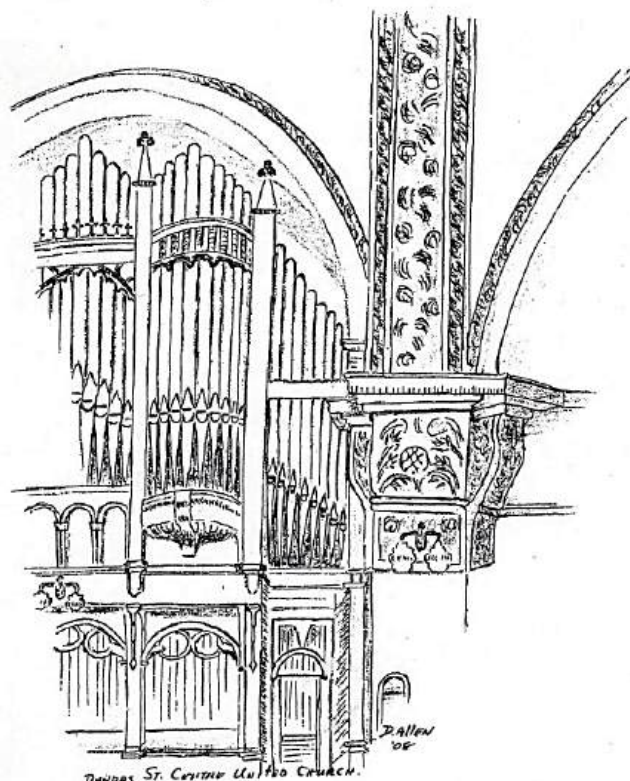
The Middlesex Presbytery Resource Centre ceased operations and rental at Dundas St. Centre in January.

The Metropolitan Community Church ceased operations and their rental agreement was terminated in April. That congregation was led first by Rev. Paul Whiting and then by Rev. Bruce Lee. The closure ended many good collaborations on events and worship. Rev. Lee continues to interact with us as supply minister.

On May 26th, there was an Outreach Committee-sponsored lay service, 'Caring for God's Gift of Creation.' Our guest speaker was Barry Orr from the City of London, who spoke on the ways we can help protect our water environment.

In November, Winifred Wake from Nature London gave a lunch talk about Chimney Swifts, an endangered bird species which nests in the chimneys of Dundas St. Centre. Winifred presented the church with a Swift-friendly building plaque.

In late 2019, the Outreach Committee began providing hampers full of essential cleaning and personal care items to a seniors' building in order to help their more



**Sanctuary organ pipes
(drawing by Dianne Allen)**

needy residents.

Restored Narthex heritage doors damaged by break-ins were installed. The security system was upgraded further to provide more cameras (15 in total) on exterior doors and throughout the interior of the building. All these cameras could be monitored from the computer in the office.

- 2020 In February, a Difference Maker dinner was held to celebrate the outstanding contributions of Mary and Paul Harding to the life and work of Dundas St. Centre.

In March, the church building was closed and in-house worship services and outreach activities were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Worship online and by telephone would continue through Zoom services shared with Rowntree Memorial United Church.



Mary & Paul Harding, 2007

Church community connection also was maintained through online fundraisers using catalogues, online or phone-in orders and curbside pick-up or delivery. The two successful events were the 2020 Fall Food & Art Fair and the 2021 March Soup & Chili Sale.

Break-ins through the kitchen entrance and a window in Shambleau Hall resulted in the implementation of additional security measures. No trespassing and loitering signs were posted as recommended by police. Shrubs around entrances were removed or trimmed to discourage loitering and facilitate security viewing by police patrols. The fencing around the Maitland gardens was removed because of vandal damage.

- 2021 The COVID pandemic restrictions put a damper on events to celebrate the 175th anniversary of Dundas Street Centre United Church. However, the church went through a major facelift both inside and outside:

The inside of the church:

Cleaning, painting and renovating marked the optimistic preparations for re-opening Dundas St. Centre to in-house worship and activities.

New flooring was installed by Ken Conn and Dave Wilkes in the basement 'Quilting Room' of the Good Sam area. This rectified floor damage created by a rupture of the hot water heater in 2020.

The outside of the church:

Broken windows and doors damaged by vandals were repaired. Gardens were trimmed, weeded, and otherwise spruced up.

The roof of Shambleau Hall was repaired and its trim was scraped and painted.

In the fall, for security reasons, the Unified Board authorized the construction of a black, wrought iron fence on the south and west sides of the church. Cedar trees on the southeast corner of the building were removed to accommodate the new fence. At the same time, the church parking lot was repaved with asphalt. Earlier in the summer, trees around the parking lot were trimmed.

In 2021 Good Sam activities resumed on a limited scale because of COVID restrictions.

Fred Faas retired as coordinator of the Out of the Cold Program after 23 years of faithful and diligent leadership. However, he agreed to assist with the development of a remodeled and scaled-down program (led by Rebecca Clark) in partnership with “My Sister’s Place” and other agencies providing food assistance to the community.

The 175th anniversary was celebrated with a special in-person worship service on Oct 24. Heritage hymns and special music were enjoyed, along with the sermon presented by guest speaker, Rev. Jane Van Patter, President of the Antler River Watershed Regional Council.

The annual Fall Food & Art Fair took place as an online event in late November.



Front of Dundas St. Centre (drawing by Dianne Allen)

Our mission:

“To unite people into a caring and inclusive Christian community in which all may express loyalty and devotion to God. We will fulfill our mission by offering opportunities for worship and witness, study, service, friendship, rejuvenation and hope.”



‘May This Temple Ever Speak To Us...’
from the Sunday School Dedication Prayer, October, 1895