



2022 Annual Report

Erindale United Church

**1444 Dundas Crescent
Mississauga, Ontario
L5C 1E9**

**Erindale United Church
1444 Dundas Crescent
Mississauga, Ontario L5C 1E9
905-277-3656**

www.erindaleunited.church

A Congregation of
The United Church of Canada

Mission Statement

*"Erindale United Church is a people of God.
We embrace, proclaim and practice
the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
We seek justice for all people,
striving to become a loving, nurturing
ministering community."*

Ministers

Rev. Brenna Baker
Email: minister@erindaleunited.church

Rev. Warren McDougall
Email: warrenmcd@rogers.com

Music Director

Laura McClure
Email: laura.hare.mcclure@gmail.com

Psalm 98 Coordinator

Harvey Watson
Email: psalm98@gmail.com

Office Administrator

Sarah McEwing
Email: churchoffice@erindaleunited.church

Wedding Consultants

Oksana Manchur & Cathy Stone
Email: ommanchur@hotmail.com

Contents

Reports

Minister	4
Chair of Church Council	5

Reports of Standing Committees

Congregational Care	7
Finance and Property	8
Stewardship	10
Ministry and Personnel	12
Board of Trustees	13
Worship	14
Ministry of Music	17
Erindale Chancel Players	19

Other Reports

Horseshoe Falls Region	19
United Church Women	22
Christian Development	25
Outreach and Social Action	25
The Dam Committee	26
Communications	26
Listeners Corner	27
Tech Team	27
Book Club	27
Friday Morning Coffee Group	28
Craft and Conversation	28
EGG (Erindale Growing Group)	29
2020 Group	29

Congregational Statistics 30

Congregational Meetings

Annual Meeting Minutes (March 27, 2022)	31
---	----

Minister's Report 2022

My work at Erindale United Church is 60%-time, the equivalent of 3 days per week. The work that I do fits neatly into 3 parts. How Trinitarian.

Worship Preparation and Leadership

Worship planning begins with me coming up with an outline of worship themes for a couple of months at a time, often a "Season" of the church year. Then Laura and I meet to choose music that fits with the themes. I do the first draft of the bulletin each week, then send it off to Laura and Sarah who finish it off and send it out. Worship Committee also feeds in ideas and advice. Thanks also to Psalm 98 and the Choir, who enrich our worship experience. The concept of having Worship Teams was a work in progress when I joined you in June, and it's exciting seeing it come to fruition.

Pastoral Care

I meet monthly with the Congregational Care Committee, and I depend on them to advise me of folks in the congregation needing pastoral attention. Often the initial connection is a phone conversation or an email, but I have also made several visits to people in hospital and in their homes. I had 8 funerals from June-December 2022.

Administration

I attend all Council meetings and try to attend all committee meetings as well. Apart from Council, I've been able to attend meetings of the following committees: Congregational Care, Worship, Stewardship, Finance and Property, and Trustees. I also managed to attend most of the initial gatherings of the Worship Teams.

Other

It's been great to meet with other United Church clergy at regular monthly lunches. While these are mainly social, it's also an opportunity to share information and resources. I covered for 2 other congregations for pastoral care in the summer months, and members of other congregations were able to join us on Zoom for worship when their churches were closed while their ministers were away.

Finally...

The experience of coming back as a Supply Minister to a congregation I had served 30 years ago is a unique and fascinating experience; I found that I already knew about half of the congregation, and the other half was new to me. Everyone has welcomed me warmly, and I'm happy to have had this unique experience.

To all the people I work with – staff like Laura and Sarah, and volunteers like Council and committee chairs and UCW – thank you so much for your support and encouragement. It's very much appreciated!

Warren

Chair of Council

Being Chair of Council is a challenge and I want to use my first report at the end of this year of change amid stability to thank you for your advice, help and prayers as I try to carry out this function. All work needs to be acknowledged, so I ask for your forgiveness and understanding if your contribution to EUC goes unacknowledged in this report.

“Meeting face to face, unmasked, is still an elusive dream today, but an eternal hope and underlying sentiment in the thoughts circulating through the Council this evening.”

The above statement was quoted by our past Chair of Council, Jutta Argao, in her report to the AGM last year. Her hope has in part been realized with committees of Council and other groups meeting in person. In our Sunday worship we have also transitioned to hybrid services. For worship one half of the sanctuary practices social distancing and with masks required and the other half requiring no restrictions. All Council meetings have taken place on Zoom, with practical considerations, not only COVID-19 concerns, being the motivator. In the past year, EUC has made progress in learning how to live with COVID.

Unexpectedly, we were faced with the sudden resignation of the Rev. Brenna Baker in July in the midst of her sabbatical leave. But we quickly found our feet and dealt prayerfully and practically with this development. So, we paid tribute to her in October and thanked her for her 5+ years of service here, wishing her well and God’s guidance in her continued service to the United Church of Canada in her new position. We were blessed with the presence and leadership of the Rev. Warren MacDougall who was in place at the time of this development. He has seamlessly transitioned to a supply ministry until June 30, 2023. We are grateful for his service.

A dual track has been established for search committees for a supply minister and a permanent minister. We are grateful to Harvey Watson, Mary Patterson and Claudette Neita for their ongoing service on the search committee for a supply minister to serve as of July 1, 2023. The search committee for the permanent minister has undertaken the initial steps in their search. Members of this committee are Laura Turner, John Hurst, Ann Edge, Doug Johnston, Pat Jenkins, Lowell Hendricks, Bill McIntosh and Rachel Nott. Both search committees are active and report regularly to Council and the congregation. We are grateful to them for their commitment to serving the needs of the church.

The transition to the worship team model began in September and continues with a new team in place each month. Bill McIntosh and Pat Jenkins spearheaded this initiative with leadership from the Rev. Brenna. It is working smoothly and there has been ongoing review with a view to making modifications. Kudos to Bill and Pat for their leadership and thanks to the teams for their service.

On May 15, the completed stained glass installation was dedicated. This beautiful enhancement of the Narthex is a lasting addition to the building. Our thanks and appreciation go to the artist, to the funders and to the ‘management’ group of Tom McIlwraith, Barb Manchur, Jan Everett and Earl Cochrane for bringing this project to completion. You can find out more about this project through the 4-page brochure ‘By Beholding, We Belong: A Celebration in Stained Glass’ copies of which are available in the Narthex.

Below are some areas which came under Council's purview during the year which have not been mentioned so far in this report:

- Approval of the Gift Acceptance Policy.
- Approval of the COVID 19 Safety Plan, an important step in helping us practice living with the pandemic. Thanks to Harvey Watson, Gary Jenkins, Craig Laferriere and John Hurst for their guidance and leadership.
- Creation and administration of the Pop-up Pantry (dutifully stewarded by Carol Tranton and Sarah McEwing) until October, at a time of great need in the community.
- Authorized the placement of Rev. Brenna's farewell as a part of our archival record.
- Authorizing the use of the sanctuary for the Lifelong Learning Lecture series. Due to technical difficulties this was cancelled. Our thanks to Barbara Manchur for her leadership and counsel throughout this matter.
- Completion of the Community of Faith Profile.
- Visioning and setting goals for 2022 and 2023. The results are stated at the start of each set of minutes of the meetings of Council as Erindale Values and 2022 Priorities.
- Support for community Outreach. Notable work has been done by Jim Bright and our contacts with the DAM, Nadia Lay, George Beagley and Claudette Neta.
- Monthly reports on our financial position. To sum up, our Treasurer's monthly mantra was 'we are in good shape'. Our thanks to the Stewardship and Finance & Property committees for their work in this important aspect of our life.

This is just an incomplete recall of what has been done in the past year. Elsewhere in the Annual Report you will get a more detailed look at the life of EUC over the past year. Looking back, we can see challenges met, initiatives undertaken and a church life well lived. Thanks to the volunteer hands, visible and unseen, that made it possible. Lastly, thanks to our staff, without whom much would not have happened.

Blessings,

Horace Neita

Reports of Standing Committees

Congregational Care

Mission

Our goal is to develop and maintain a nurturing and enjoyable environment that will provide a knowledge and understanding of God's love.

Mandate

In working towards our mission, we provide pastoral care through visiting, communicating, and welcoming visitors, members, and friends of Erindale United Church.

Committee Members

Jennifer Code, Dianne Drennan, Pat Jenkins, Nadia Lay, Cindy Williams, and Sandra Wiseman. Ruth Nott and Pat Viau join us at home in praying for those on our prayer list.

Achievements in 2022

In this third year of the Covid-19 pandemic, much remained the same as last year.

- Our meetings were held on Zoom.
- We continued to pray for members and others who have been facing illness, bereavement, and life challenges.
- Cindy Williams continues to mail our sympathy, get well, new member, thinking of you, new baby, and 1st anniversary of baptism cards. If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving a pastoral care card, please contact Cindy or Sarah McEwing in the church office.
- Jennifer Code took orders for subscriptions to the United Church magazine, Broadview.
- Telephone visits continued to replace in person visits.
- Sandra Wiseman and Pat and Garry Jenkins delivered hard copies of the weekly e-newsletter and bulletin to eleven members who were without access to computers.
- Cards were mailed in December to each person in our congregation who was bereaved or housebound during 2022.
- Cindy, Pat and Sandra delivered poinsettias to parishioners who are isolated or ill.
- We invited recently bereaved members as well as those who might not be able to enjoy the Christmas festivities to attend the Quiet Christmas service. We attended to support those in attendance and found the service moving personally.

We were pleased that Rev. Warren attended our meetings when Rev Brenna moved on to new challenges.

We also thank those who have worked so hard to bring church services to us in our homes. One advantage to virtual services is that friends and family from afar have been able to join us,

one a former member of our committee. We have had participants from England, Western Canada, the United States, and from previous members who have moved from the area.

Plans for 2023

As in 2022, we will need to see what the year brings. We hope that one day we will be able to resume meeting and visiting in person. In the meantime, we will continue to keep in touch with each other and members of the congregation, and to continue praying for those on the prayer list.

We plan to arrange a CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) course in which we will also learn to use the defibrillator which is in the narthex.

Contacts Jennifer Code (Co-Chair), Dianne Drennan, Pat Jenkins (Co-Chair), Nadia Lay, Cindy Williams and Sandra Wiseman.

Finance and Property

Mandate

To ensure proper financial controllership and property management within the context of service to God, our members, and our community. To create an environment within the Church where financial resources are spent to ensure the Church's future needs are met and accomplish future goals.

The Finance and Property Committee is concerned with tangible property and funds, and so the vision and the mission of the Committee get woven together.

Mandate Execution

The Finance & Property Committee is responsible to manage the following activities:

- contracts for snow removal, outside maintenance (lawns, gardens, building), heating/cooling and cleaning
- technology (internet, phones, cell service, hardware and software support and purchasing)
- manage the relationship with our renter, Tender Years
- general interior maintenance, painting & repairs
- financial analysis, annual detailed budget and 3-year plan
- safety & security, including contracts with companies supplying these services
- church bookings, rental arrangements
- offertory counting coordinator, large funding raising, trustee liaison
- treasury, envelope steward, congregational giving statistics and analysis, liaison with Stewardship Committee
- manage the capital budget

Achievements In 2022

The following jobs were completed:

- The lectern that is used in the sanctuary for announcements, readings, etc. was modified with the help of Jim Bright to reduce the height of the step and improve safety.
- Upgrades to the sanctuary sound system were done with the assistance of Jim Bright. 4 wireless microphones were also purchased that can be used by guest speakers, the drama group etc.
- A new thermostat was installed in the sanctuary that allows times to be set for the heat to turn on and off so we can worship in comfort without wasting heat.
- Fire monitoring services were switched from Control Tech to Vigilarm and Royal Fire Systems was engaged as our new fire system maintenance company instead of Chubb.
- The Chess Club continues to be a consistent renter of Gardner Hall and they have now started expanding into weekend tournaments. 10 new tables purchased for Gardner Hall in conjunction with our renters, The Mississauga Chess Club.
- Much of the money in the Fund accounts is now invested in cashable GICs in order to increase interest generated by these funds but to also keep them liquid in case the funds are needed. GICs are held at Meridian Credit Union or RBC. This is overseen by the 4 person Erindale investment committee: Earl Cochrane, Paul Sabourin, Doug Johnston & Barbara Manchur.
- Many large trees and shrubs were pruned to remove dead branches and maintain the plants.
- Maintenance was done on the washrooms to locate and fix several issues that were causing excess water usage.
- Front door of the church was rekeyed to ensure the security of the building.
- Money collected will no longer be directed to The Deacon's Cupboard specifically. Instead, an Outreach Fund that was established so that funds can be directed to various outreach projects including The Deacon's Cupboard at the discretion of Council and the desire of the congregation.

Craig Laferriere accepted a new job in England and moved at the end of June. His participation on the F & P committee is missed and we appreciate Craig's many years of service to the church in many capacities. Joy Cunningham stepped away from the secretary position on F & P after doing it for 8 years. Joy has remained on F & P, and we thank her for fulfilling this role for so many years. Barbara Manchur took over as secretary of the committee in Sept 2022. Thanks to the whole committee for keeping the church in good repair, the bank balances and finances maintained, the budget updated and followed, and all the utilities running as needed. We're a great bunch of folks! Just ask Claudette, our newest member. New members always welcome.

Committee Members

Craig Laferriere (ended June 2022), Brian Longley, Barbara Manchur (Treasurer & Secretary), Paul Sabourin, Doug Brien, Claudette Neita, Norma Macintyre (Controller), Bob Rogers, Craig McLean, Joy Cunningham (Secretary to June 2022), Janice Everett (Tender Year's

Coordinator) and Sarah McEwing (Envelope Steward, non-voting). The chair position has continued to be rotated through Claudette, Brian, Doug, and Paul.

Stewardship

Mission

To assist each member and participant of Erindale United Church to, as is appropriate to them, give time, money and energy to the total Mission and Ministry of the Church.

Mandate

To have full understanding of the Givings and Giving patterns of the congregation; to plan Stewardship Campaigns which will match the Givings of the congregation to yearly budgets and targets for support of the Church; to educate members and participants as to the Givings that the church needs to continue its Mission and Ministry; and to educate new members and participants as to how they may support the Church with Givings of time, money, and energy.

Activity Summary

The 2022 Stewardship Committee consisted of: Carolyn Hendricks (Chair), Laura Turner, Christian Hawn, Paul Sabourin, Rev. Brenna Baker (January to June), and Rev. Warren McDougall (September to December). Meetings were held monthly, and the committee worked throughout the year to ensure Erindale's Mission and Mandate were met.

Meetings focused on:

- Monitoring and Understanding the flow of Givings
- Determining the 'Ask' for money (pledges), time and energy
- Creating and Presenting the Annual Fall Givings Campaign

In 2021, the previous year's Fall Campaign, members were invited to personalize fabric squares and contribute to the making of a church quilt symbolizing that any one or two squares stand alone, yet a big number of squares when stitched together with love, can be, "comforting, beautiful, long-lasting and be useful to everyone who touches it." The making of our quilt, we believe, is a metaphor for Stewardship.

In January 2022, Stewardship placed the squares in an artistic pattern and stitched them together. A "long-arm" quilter was then contracted to attach the backing and add decorative stitching. Stewardship participated in a dedication service on March 20th, 2022, presenting the Erindale Quilt to the congregation. With the help of the Worship Committee, Erindale's Quilt found a home residing in the sanctuary, hanging as a visible reminder that each and all are a part of the church fabric.

In May 2022, a second call for Bulletin Cover picture submissions was issued. Well supported by a handful of members, these additional pictures increased the Picture Library's inventory that

accompanied the weekly communication distributed by the church office administrator. Bulletin Cover Dedications continued with hybrid services and these pictures helped facilitate the opportunity of making loving and meaningful dedications throughout the year.

From time-to-time, messages from Stewardship appeared in the eNews, encouraging members, visitors, and guests to give as they were able; hi-lighting the completion of Erindale's Quilt; encouraged submitting pictures for use of weekly communication; and active participation in the Fall Campaign with Pledge submission reminders.

Stewardship's 2022 Fall Campaign centred around the theme of food, *Banana Bread* in particular.

Members were asked to consider and provide post-it note examples of:

I come to church, and this is how my breadbasket gets filled...

And as we give and put time, energy, ideas, and money in, so much good pours out...

On October 30th, 2022, church members were encouraged to think about and provide examples of, *Doing the Dishes...* What You Do in Church

On November 13th, 2022, church members were encouraged to think about and provide examples of, *Baking the Bread...* What You Get Out of Church

On November 20th, 2022, Stewardship captured and presented on a stylized board the examples provided, illustrating *how our breadbasket gets filled* through church life and the many appetizing ways *we give and put in time, energy, ideas, and money, Sharing the Meal, and so much good pours out*. This resulted in Erindale's ability to sustain our Ministry and set an effective budget for 2023. Members also made comments about the creativity of the annual message and were particularly enthusiastic about sampling the variety of "banana breads" made for the occasion.

We are fortunate here at Erindale to have a strong church community and to be in a solid financial position. Part of Stewardship's message highlighted that we are also in a period of change, operating in changing economic challenges of increasing costs, inflation, welcoming in a new minister and looking at ways we worship and meet in ways that involve technology that will need to be maintained, upgraded, and operated continuously as we go forward.

Stewardship's 2022 ASK: *We are asking each member to take a good look at your contributions and consider, if you can, increase them by 10%...*

As of December 2022, there were 37 pledge forms submitted, down from 40 pledges submitted the year before. This represented 93% when compared to the previous year's pledges received. This year's break down was as follows: Foundation 8%, Envelope/eTransfers 38%, and PARs 54%. These responses held varying commitments of percentage increases up to the Stewardship Ask of 10%. This information was used to inform budgetary decisions of 2023.

Looking back over the past few years:

Year	Budget	Givings (rounded)
2018	\$210,000	\$221,000
2019	\$214,000	\$221,000
2020	\$217,000	\$215,000
2021	\$196,000	\$225,000
2022	\$210,000	\$232,000

Erindale is grateful for regular donations, and 1-time gifts made periodically throughout any given year. Based on the received Pledges, PARs, eTransfers and Canada Helps, loose Givings and other gifts to the church, Stewardship estimates a conservative range of \$208K to \$215K be considered for the 2023 budget.

Overall, Stewardship was successful monitoring and understanding the flow of Givings. With consistent hard work and focus by active members and committees over the years, Erindale's finances remain strong. In this period of operating in changing economic challenges of higher costs and inflation, Stewardship's Fall Campaign *Asked* members to consider, if able, to increase their Givings by 10%. And consider what more support they can give in maintaining and enhancing a healthy church life where all can partake in *Sharing the Meal*.

Contacts:

Carolyn Hendricks (Chair), Laura Turner, Christian Hawn, Paul Sabourin and Rev. Warren McDougall.

Ministry and Personnel

Mission

The Ministry and Personnel Committee provides a confidential setting for consultation, support, and assessment of all staff, together with support and consultation for congregants at Erindale.

Mandate

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is the human resources committee of the church; with responsibility for managing areas such as: Employment standards, Human Rights and Harassment, Workplace Health and Safety, and relationship with the Region's Pastoral Care Staff. The committee provides consultation and support for the staff of Erindale United Church and for the members and adherents of the congregation. The committee works with members of staff to ensure they are supported from both an administrative and personal perspective, in a way that allows them to best carry out their responsibilities.

M&P meets with staff and church groups when requested to ensure objectives are clearly understood and communicated as defined by Council. Once a year, each staff member participates in a performance review with two committee members. Ongoing discussions provide both Staff and Council an opportunity to monitor progress and provide an opportunity for mutual reflection on accomplishments, performance against objectives and to make continuing education plans for the subsequent year.

Achievements in 2022

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic we continued to meet via Zoom. Members kept the committee informed of new information in their areas of responsibility.

Performance reviews were conducted on schedule, personnel policies and procedures were reviewed and ad hoc issues were handled as they arose. All salary reviews were completed on time and approved by Council.

We worked with Rev. Brenna as she planned her sabbatical which was to be between June and September 2022 inclusive. When Rev. Brenna informed us that she would be moving on to other responsibilities we asked our supply minister, Warren McDougall, who originally had been scheduled to fill in for four months, to extend his time with us. We were pleased when he agreed to stay until June 2023. Long time members of Erindale were happy to have him back after thirty years.

In October our committee was involved in a farewell celebration for Rev. Brenna.

Committee Members: Harvey Watson (Chair), Jennifer Code (Secretary), Barbara Manchur, Cathy Stone, George Beagley.

Board of Trustees

Mission & Mandate

The Board of Trustees holds all of the property of Erindale United Church for the use and benefit of the congregation and as such is responsible for:

1. Monitoring, preserving and strengthening the assets of Erindale United Church
2. Preserving and celebrating the history of the church
3. Maintaining and managing the Memorial Gardens

2022 Highlights

- The inventory of our physical assets has been updated with pictures taken as appropriate.
- Updated the Memorial Fund policy and Investment Strategy.
- The Investment Team, which reports to the Board of Trustees, continually monitored the Manse and Endowment Funds and made numerous investment decisions in line with the increase in interest rates and GIC rates.
- The Investment Team undertook the responsibility for investing a portion of the Capital Fund (at the request of F&P) and a portion of the Memorial Fund (at the request of the Board of Trustees).
- Coordinated the maintenance of the Memorial Garden, and the pruning of trees around the perimeter of the church property including trimming the cedars along the western edge of the property and the trees along the property line to the northeast.

- Updated the Memorial Garden Brochure and Agreement for placing Memorial Stone in Memorial Garden.
- On December 01, 2022, the United Church of Canada transitioned to a self-managed, self-insured form of insurance. We have been actively involved in the implications of this to us as we move toward this new model in 2023.
- During the year, the donations policy was reviewed and updated to clarify the responsibilities of the various committees of the congregation regarding donations from estates and bequests. The revised policy was approved by both Trustees and Council.

Plans for 2023

- Continue in all activities associated with the Memorial Garden.
- Migrate our insurance to the new self -managed model developed by the United Church of Canada (June 2023) and undertake an updated appraisal of our property as required.
- Continue our work on risk assessments and present our findings to the appropriate groups.
- Monitor the performance of the Manse Fund; Endowment Fund; Capital Fund and Memorial Fund and manage the portfolios to maximize returns within the constraints of the investment strategy of each fund.
- We will review the policies and procedures required to ensure protection from cyberattacks.

Members

Earl Cochrane (Chair), Doug Johnston (Vice Chair), Brian Longley, Eleanor McIntosh, Fred Williams, Priscilla Brandy, Tom McIlwraith, Mary Patterson, Garry Jenkins, Rev Warren McDougall, and Sarah McEwing (as non- voting Secretary).

Worship

Mission

Enable worship, which is open, inviting and involving to all to celebrate their faith; which reflects elements both traditional and new that can be shared by all members of our community, and is the basis for joyful praise, inspired action and deeper commitment.

Mandate

Co-ordination and supervision of all phases of worship

Work with the Minister and Director of Music to co-ordinate, support and supervise all phases of worship

Approve all activities which take place in the sanctuary

Arrange for supply ministers and organists, as required, to provide pastoral care and conduct Sunday services

Introduction

Although our church began the year 2022 still living under Covid restrictions, the Worship Committee maintained its focus: to support our minister in providing all aspects of worship as set out in the Committee's mandate. We continued to adjust our services in response to the times, ever cognizant of the need to support our members in staying healthy and gathering safely. Transitioning back to in-person services, even with reduced numbers, was a huge blessing- a real joy to hear voices coming from the choir loft. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers who shared their gifts as choir members, soloists, members of the Worship Band, trumpeter, flautist- all raising praise under the leadership of our very talented music director Laura Hare McClure. To keep up our membership, live streaming continued, another blessing as our services can now be accessed globally.

Under the leadership of Rev. Brenna Baker and Rev. Warren McDougall, all areas of worship were observed, including liturgy, sacraments, special music renditions as well as opportunities to reinforce our commitment to work for social justice and the reconciliation of all peoples. Communication was vital. All relevant information was shared in a timely manner via weekly newsletters and bulletins, minute persons at Sunday morning services, etc. Thanks to our awesome office administrator Sarah McEwing for tidying up when we missed something, always going that extra mile with a smile. To Laura, who produces the weekly newsletters, thank you. Early in the Fall a new challenge arose: Rev. Brenna's sabbatical of 4 months turned into a full-fledged resignation. And the search was on! Recognizing that CHANGE is inevitably fraught with troubling emotions, Rev. Warren responded, agreeing to remain at Erindale until June 2023. Can we ever doubt that God is out there ahead of us? Thank you, Rev. Warren for staying to shepherd us onward. A search committee was approved by church council to seek a permanent minister for our Erindale. Special thanks to Barb Manchur who submitted all required documentation to the Regional Office on Erindale's behalf.

At this time in Erindale's history, there are no alternative facts for the evidence! The phrase "tempus fugit" is now a reality at Erindale. Because of our dwindling numbers and a greying population, the Worship Committee had to rethink how to support and encourage our volunteers who assist with Sunday morning services. To lighten the workload for everyone teams were developed, trained and implemented in September. To date this new arrangement is working well.

Overall, 2022 provided us with opportunities to deepen our faith, serve each other and our community. The good news is that together as a faith family, Erindale remains strong and hopeful.

Activities/Achievements in 2022

Worship teams were put together, thanks to Rev. Brenna and Bill McIntosh, leaders of each team contacted their members and the first team started in September. A different team each month will handle the responsibilities including ushering, reading scripture, changing antependia, communion (if required), lighting the candles, opening/closing the church and refreshment time.

Repair, rewiring of audio wiring and connections in band area which are somewhat degraded after more than 15 years of use.

Clean up of the “look” of the band by combining the microphone and music stands into one fixture consequently cutting the number of standing items required in half.
Install of an Oak shelf matching sanctuary woodwork on the inside of the front privacy screen in band area for music books and other band items required during a worship service. Installation of small vocal monitors on back of the front privacy screen. Installation of two condenser “ambient” sound microphones in the sanctuary to provide better projection of the organ and overall ambiance of the sanctuary itself for our Zoom listeners. Thanks to Jim Bright and Ralph Nott.

The committee held Zoom meetings every other month, excluding summer, and one meeting in December focusing on the Christmas eve services.

Black History Month

Services, led by Rev. Brenna, included liturgy and videos/messages from the United Church of Canada, Rev. Charmain Bailey and spirituals from our music groups and director.

Also, February 27th marked the day that congregants returned to the sanctuary. Hybrid services continued.

Lent and Easter

All led by Rev. Brenna

March 1 - Virtual Pancake Supper 6-7pm, Discussion of Film, “Harriet” followed.

March 2 -Ash Wednesday - Shared Service with Westminster United and Christ First United at 7:30pm on Zoom.

Palm Sunday – Palms were ordered and included in the service

Maundy Thursday Service – on Zoom and in Person

Good Friday – hybrid service

Easter Sunday – joyfully shared by congregants with daffodils.

March 20 – Carolyn Hendricks led the dedication of the quilt made of squares by members to indicate their commitment to Stewardship. It is a lovely addition hanging in the sanctuary.

May

May 8 – confirmation of three young people at Erindale.

May 22- baptism of three children from two families.

June – Indigenous Month

Liturgy from Indigenous leadership.

June 19 - Music Appreciation lunch hosted by this committee at The Apricot Cafe was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Summer Services

Led by Rev. Warren

Fall Services

Traditional Remembrance Day service held in early November.

Advent and Christmas

The **Quiet Christmas Service** was held on the evening of December 8.

A service focused on children and families was held on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. Psalm 98 provided the music. Rev Warren and Laura also led.

A more contemplative service was held at 7:30 p.m. with Communion and candle lighting. The Chancel players did a live presentation of "The Christmas Bazaar"

Christmas Day Service was on Zoom only

Submitted by Karen Bright and Claudette Neita

Members

Rev. Warren McDougall started May 2022, Rev. Brenna Baker to October 2022, Jutta Argao to April 2022, Karen Bright, Cynthia Carr, Laura McClure (Music Director), Claudette Neita, Rachel Nott, Ralph Nott, Linda Watson

Ministry of Music

Mandate and Overview

Music at Erindale is provided by the Senior Choir and Psalm 98. The **Senior Choir** offers musical leadership for the congregation of Erindale during worship services and occasions such as funerals and memorials. Its repertoire of introits, anthems, and benedictions (and sometimes music during offertory and communion) is largely traditional, drawing upon a substantial library of sheet music and a number of choral music books, accompanied by organ or piano.

Microphones are used to enhance choral and solo presentations. **Psalm 98** (aka 'The Band') provides musical leadership for the congregation during worship services, focusing on contemporary music provided by keyboard, guitar, flute, and percussion. Psalm 98 members offer prelude music and contemporary pieces, sometimes during the youth portion of services. Microphones enhance individual singers, frequently as soloists. The Senior Choir and Psalm 98 usually present their music separately, taking turns from week to week but, with increasing frequency, the two groups are singing together.

Reflecting on 2022

The undoubted highlight of 2022 was the re-emergence of the Erindale Senior choir and Psalm 98 in person, rehearsing and singing praise from the choir loft to the congregation which has returned to the pews. This is such a good feeling after so many months of silence or singing

impersonally to our computer screens in our homes. Laura, our lyrical soprano, has company once again!

The choir's first live appearance since March 2020 was on Easter Sunday with the anthem "Now the Green Blade Rises." George Beagley and members of Psalm 98 joined in. Choir and band together singing a farewell to Rev. Brenna at the start of her sabbatical leave was a spring highlight, offering Watts' "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need." and Spafford and Bliss "It is Well with My Soul." And then there was a second farewell to Rev Brenna on her retirement from Erindale in October. Psalm 98 presented Shaw's "Bringing in the Sheaves" and the choir sang Rutter's "For the Beauty of the Earth." Laura closed the service with the postlude "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" (from *The Sound of Music*), encouraging Rev. Brenna to follow her dream.

The choir returned in swelling voice in September, bringing introits, anthems and benedictions back into Sunday worship. Psalm 98 resumed its practice of leading music on the first and third Sundays of each month and Randy Ali (drummer) rejoined the band later in the fall. Trumpeter Laura Culp provided a beautiful rendition of the Last Post and Rouse on Remembrance Sunday. Andrew McClure added flute accompaniment on two occasions and hopefully will do so again in the future.

Laura could not contain her excitement in leading the Senior Choir – now as many as 15 voices – through Advent and Christmas for the first time since she joined Erindale in 2019. She deftly directed solo work, descants and several *a cappella* moments, always exuding confidence in members' ability to reach further and higher. It was a pleasure to have Jim and Harvey from Psalm 98 join the men in the back row. Highlights of the season were Mark's "Days of Elijah," offered by the band, and the choir's presentation of Mendelssohn's "Behold a Star from Jacob Shining" – such a stirring composition and chorale.

Hopes for 2023

Well, we're back! We all look forward to more music, more challenges, more sharing and always hope that a new voice or two may warble our way or pick up an instrument with the band. Gabriella takes the lead in the youth movement; please consider following the leader! All the Erindale musicians gratefully acknowledge the steady support and encouragement shown by the congregation. They know that members are all volunteers and strive to do our best for the Erindale community.

Personnel

Erindale said a fond farewell to Sarah Watson, a mainstay of Psalm 98, upon her move to Montreal. Selina Campbell has moved away and Aileen Jamieson has retired. Choir members extend thanks and best wishes to both of them, noting the gaps they leave in the soprano section. What a pleasure it is, then, to welcome Gabriella Wallace to the soprano ranks. And, after a few guest appearances in the alto section, Laura Turner has joined on a regular basis. Welcome both.

Senior Choir:

- Soprano: Norma Brown (tympnist), Marilyn Johnston, Nadia Lay, Mavis Mahabir (wardrobe coordinator), Laura McClure (Music Director), Arlene Stevens, Gabriella Wallace, Dorothy Weston
- Alto: Priscilla Brandy, Ellen Dunlop, Barbara Manchur, Laura Turner

- Tenor: Fraser Code, Doug Johnston, Edward Neufeld
- Bass: Tom McIlwraith (librarian), Fred Williams (purser)

Psalm 98:

- Jim Bright: bass, guitar, and vocals
- Harvey Watson: flute and vocals
- Linda Watson: vocals
- Cindy Maharaj: vocals
- Randy Ali: drums
- Technical support: Craig Laferriere, Laura McClure

Contacts: Tom McIlwraith, Harvey Watson, Laura McClure.

Erindale Chancel Players

The Chancel Players returned to a live performance on Christmas Eve in a production of **The Christmas Bazaar** written and directed by Doug Johnston. Unfortunately, the sound system did not work as planned, despite our best efforts and many rehearsals, but the bug in the system has been rectified. Thanks go out to Claudette Neita, Alan Schaubel, Marilyn Johnston, and Karen Bright on stage, and Jim Bright's technical assistance, for their continued patience and enthusiasm and to the congregation for their support.

Horseshoe Falls Region

Region and Organization

Horseshoe Falls Region (and all the other regions across Canada) began operating at the beginning of 2019 as the result of the national reorganization that was approved at General Council in 2018. Horseshoe Falls Regional Council (HFRC) has been fully operational since its inaugural Annual meeting in May 2019 in Port Elgin Ontario. I was elected as HFRC Treasurer at that meeting. I now am serving a second term as Treasurer from 2022 to 2025.

Horseshoe Falls Region is comprised of: all pastoral charges in Erie Presbytery, all pastoral charges in Halton Presbytery, all pastoral charges in Hamilton Presbytery, all pastoral charges in Niagara Presbytery; and the Pastoral Charges of Norval, St. John's PC (Georgetown), St. Andrew's Georgetown, and Acton.

Horseshoe Falls Region is organized into an Executive and three Commissions: The Congregational Support Commission (for Governance), the Human Resources Commission (for Pastoral Relations), and the Discipleship and Justice Commission (for Faith Formation). The Executive includes a President, Treasurer, Past Chair, Chairpersons of the 3 Commissions and other members of the Executive to a total of 13 members.

There are Staff Resources for the Regions: An Executive Minister plus 11 staff members most of whom are responsible for their particular responsibilities across three regions: Horseshoe Falls Region (our Region), Western Ontario Waterways and Antler River Watershed. This encompasses over 400 communities of faith.

Regional Meetings

The year 2022 was a year coming out of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and so Region and Region Executive Meetings have been a combination of in-person and Zoom meetings. Zoom meetings are likely to remain as they are both convenient and less expensive.

There were two Region Meetings in 2022: May 27, 28, and 29. The Saturday May 28 meeting was both in-person (Meridian Center, Fonthill) and by Zoom. The Annual Meeting (as is required for a Not-for-profit entity) October 14 and 15 by Zoom.

The May meeting was concerned primarily with the work of the three Commissions (Governance, Discipleship, and Human Resources) to make sure the work of the Region was being carried out properly and to reply to any concerns raised by the Commissions. The concern of Congregation and Ministry isolation remains a work in progress for a later session.

The October meeting was the Annual Meeting, and it received annual reports from the Executive and three Commissions.

The YTD Financial Position was reviewed and received, and the 2023 Budget was approved.

In 2019, the Region received notice of a reduction in Mission and Service Grants to Regions to take effect in 2021. The 2021 Budget took action to re-align and change costs but there was a need to take in funds from Reserves to cover the Learning Fund and Events for Commissions. The 2022 Budget assumes the same action. Region Executive approved the 2023 Budget given the fact that Grant reductions stabilized for 2023, but this remains a topic of discussion.

Funds coming from Reserves are nominal and planned. Prudent investment of excess funds (Reserves) has provided about \$28,000 into 2023 Operations.

Executive Meetings

For the most part, Executive Meetings were held by Zoom. An Executive Meeting that accompanied the Retreat in September 2022 was in-person:

Executive Meeting dates were: January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, October 26, November 23, and December 7 – usually in the 2 hour period before Erindale Church Council meetings. Some Executive meetings were cancelled given the juxtaposition of larger Region gatherings.

Executive meetings are concerned with Property matters (some closures of more rural properties), staff changes and appointments to Regional Commissions, personnel matters (in

camera), grants to appropriate organizations, and keeping the business of the Region up to date.

The house owned by Halton United Church Extension Council was sold in November 2021, and Region has remained involved in the closure of HUCEC as at December 31, 2022 and gifting of Assets to Toronto United Church Council.

As Treasurer, I keep the Executive (and Annual Meeting) apprised of Budget and Actual results measured against Budget. Budget planning and related results are in good shape, due in some part to lower meeting and travel expenses because of the continued use of Zoom post Pandemic. We always plan our operations to be balanced with respect to Income and Expense, and in 2021 we saw our grants from the National Church drop, and so made judicious use of our considerable reserves. The drop was one time, but the effect continued into 2022 and 2023. As noted earlier, prudent investing of funds in Reserves is certainly helping Operations.

Executive Retreat

An Executive Retreat was held September 28 in person at Bethel Stone United Church. The retreat was to provide Commission Orientation for Region Executive and help set priorities.

The meeting was followed by a HFRC Executive Meeting to provide an in-person meeting for the HFRC Executive (Executive Meetings are normally held on Zoom).

Tri-Region Executive Meeting

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive Minister is Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa. Cheryl-Ann is also the Executive Minister for Antler River Watershed Regional Council and Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council.

Some staff is also shared amongst the three Regions, there is some staff (administrative) that each Region employs, and there is an Executive (elected volunteer members of the Region) for each Region.

We had always planned to have annual Tri-Region Executive meetings. The initial Tri-Region Executive meeting was held (via Zoom) November 26 and 27 2021.

There were Tri-Region Executive meetings April 25 2022 and November 26 2022 by Zoom.

The main function of the meeting was for people to have a chance to meet each other and share the responsibilities and work of each Region.

Other Activities

The Treasurers of each Region (Brent, Doug and myself) meet from time to time with Cheryl-Ann to discuss budgets and finances, and to consider clouds on the horizon which may need an action plan prior to preparing a budget or year-end forecast.

In 2022, we formed Investment Committees (one for each Region) and work with BMO Nesbitt Burns to prudently invest funds and use the interest income to support Operations. I finished my

second 3-year term as a member of the National Church Audit Committee. I was elected by the Region as a Commissioner to General Council 44 which begins in February 2022 as an online meeting. Meetings were entirely on-line and stretched from February 2022 until August 2022. All the business put before the Council was properly dealt with at the meeting or properly reviewed and sent back to the GC Executive for further review and action. This is a normal Council process and gets work properly accomplished.

I was also a Commissioner to General Council 43 which met twice in 2021 – a special meeting in March to approve Financial Statements and other specific business and the Annual meeting in October 2021 for regular business.

These activities help to keep our local congregation connected to the wider church.

Mary Patterson is a member of the Human Resources commission. Marilyn Johnston joined the HFRC Executive as the HFRC UCW President. Ann Edge is the Region UCW Secretary. Together with our Minister, Rev. Robert Lawson (Horseshoe Falls Region President and Minister in a pastoral charge in southwestern Ontario), and a number of members from our old Presbytery, Erindale is very well represented and connected to the new Region.

Erindale can send 3 representatives to the Region. Mary, Marilyn and I represent the three members at this point. If you feel called to wider church work, please any of us know.

Prepared by: John Hurst, Horseshoe Falls Region representative and Treasurer.

Erindale United Church Women

Purpose

To unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a means through which we may express our loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian Witness, Study, Fellowship, and Service.

UCW Annual Meeting

On February 15th, 2022, both units met together for the Annual Meeting.

The Minutes of February 17th 2021 were accepted as written.

Both the 2021 Financial Report and the 2022 Budget, presented by Treasurer Norma Macintyre, were accepted.

Pat Jenkins, Past President, presented the 2022/23 UCW Nominations Report and asked for nominations from the floor. None were given and so the slate of officers stood as proposed.

Rev. Brenna installed the Officers of the 2022/23 Executive.

Mary and Martha Circle led Devotions based on Dorothy L Nolte's poem "Children learn What They Live"

Marilyn Johnston introduced our guest, Katie Cleland, from The Dam. Katie gave an interesting and informative presentation on the Dam, its program, staff and drop ins. She related how the Dam came to be named. Katie then spoke to us about the Coldest Night of the year Walk that is

sponsored by Blue Sea Foundation. The Dam benefits from people participating in this walk for them. She discussed a Healthy Relationship program between the Dam and some local schools. A question and answer period followed. The meeting was adjourned with the UCW Benediction.

UCW 60th Anniversary

On Sunday May 15th, UCW led the worship service celebrating this anniversary. All the materials used, including a hymn, were specially written by women across the country. The National UCW Celebration was held in July in Sydney NS, and four Erindale women attended.

Horseshoe Falls Region UCW Annual Gathering was held on June 11, in-person but later than usual, at St. Paul's UC, Dundas. Several Erindale women attended. Marilyn Johnston was the speaker (her co-presenter having cancelled). Marilyn was installed as President and Ann Edge continues as Recording Secretary.

Yearly Activities

Even in the wake of the worst pandemic ever, we have accomplished much this year. We held a June Social Evening, a Garage Sale, a Card Party and a Craft and Bake Fayre which included vendors from within our congregation. We sponsored a team for the Out of the Cold Walk and continued our campaign to help rid the planet of plastics by partnering with Tru Earth for eco-friendly laundry products. Because of this fundraising, we were able to support a number of worthwhile and needy causes in our neighbourhood and the world. We thank the congregation for their support and donations to our special projects. Charitable donations we made in 2022: International Charities: Doctors Without Borders, Sleeping Children Around the World. Canadian/Local Organizations: Sandy Salteaux Centre, Ian Anderson House Hospice, Heart House Hospice, Embrace (Interim Place) & Armagh House Women's Shelters, Our Place Peel Youth Shelter, The DAM - Youth Drop-in Centre, Mississauga Foodbank Breakfast Program, and the UCC Mission and Service Fund.

Our visitation team sends cards to shut-ins and sick or bereaved members, and make in-person calls when possible. Plants are delivered at Easter and Christmas

Erindale United Church Women (UCW) is an active and vibrant group within our congregation, due to dedicated leaders and an enthusiastic membership. All women of the congregation are invited to attend any meeting and be part of UCW. This year was still a challenge as Covid 19 curbed our activities early in the year and we continued to meet on zoom. We are seeing the advantages of using Zoom in winter or bad weather. We went back to in-person for our Exec. Meetings mid-year.

There are two units which meet monthly.

Mary and Martha Circle

This group meets monthly on the third Tuesday afternoon for fellowship in the McGill Room, under the new leadership of Sandra Wiseman – Dianne Drennan having stepped down after many years as Unit Leader. The unit began meeting in-person in September having previously kept in touch by phone during Covid.

Friends in Faith

This group meets monthly on the third Tuesday evening by Zoom. Susan Lyons and Patricia Jenkins provide leadership.

Erindale United Church Women 2022-2023 Executive

President	Ann Edge
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Pat Viau
Treasurer	Norma Macintyre
Past President	Marilyn Johnston
Church Council Representatives:	Ann Edge 2 nd position vacant
Convenors:	
Garage Sale	Combined Effort
Kitchen	Susan Lyons
Member At Large	Marilyn Hurst
Publicity	Ann Edge
Social	Susan Lyons, Joyce Murdoch
Receptions	Susan Lyons, now Pat Jenkins
Visitation Team	Susan Lyons, Joyce Murdoch, and Eleanor McIntosh
WICC	Pat Jenkins
Unit Leaders:	
Friends in Faith	Pat Jenkins/Susan Lyons
Mary and Martha Circle	Sandra Wiseman

Report prepared by Ann Edge, President

Christian Development

Mission

To develop and sustain a nurturing environment for Christian Education programs that provide knowledge and understanding of God's word and meet the needs of all members and segments of the Erindale family and community.

Mandate

To develop the policies and programs for Christian education within Erindale, according to United Church standards, and to ensure there are resources, including financial, to carry out these programs with approval of Council. This includes support and guidance for Sunday School programs and teachers, adult education, youth ministry and any opportunities for spiritual growth.

Achievements in 2022: Children and Youth

Christian Development looks forward to helping any person that is interested to start up a regular meeting/program at the Church for education, health or spiritual growth.

The Sunday School program wishes to congratulate Brock, Janelle and Jayden on their confirmation, way to go! As well as thank the dedicated teachers Karen Bright and Alan Schaubel and the volunteers.

In the spring the Sunday School class shared the costs and virtually met with Erindale Presbyterian Church. Starting in September Erindale started in person classes. The students and teachers participated in the Easter and Christmas pageants, shared gift bags, and collected food donations.

If you have experience with children and would like to share your talents with Sunday School, please let us know.

Outreach

Despite needing to keep our distance, we continued to love and serve our neighbours with generosity and compassion this year. Ad-hoc groups and committees took on outreach initiatives in various ways (see UCW report and The Dam working group's report), but there were also several other wonderful activities we took part in during 2022.

Although the Deacon's Cupboard was limited in its service this year, it did resume giving food rather than gift cards by the fall. Erindale contributed \$1,918 for food for DC to distribute. Rev. Brenna along with Carol Tranton and Sarah McEwing took the lead in establishing a Pop-Up Food Pantry (PUP) outside the church doors in January. At a Round Table discussion in May, we agreed to continue the effort until the end of October when DC was able to resume services. A big thank you to all who helped fill the pantry on weekends and all those who donated to help our neighbours.

Rev. Brenna encouraged the congregation to write letters in support of Indwell, a Christian charity building supportive housing units in Streetsville, in order to assist them in receiving the necessary approvals from the City of Mississauga.

In addition to the Christmas gift drive for The Dam, many Erindale folks participated in the annual Coldest Night of the Year walk to benefit The Dam. Our thanks to Marilyn Johnstone for providing leadership and thanks to all those who participated and sponsored walkers.

We partnered with Canadian Blood Services to help make a difference for patients in Canada. Thanks to Ann Edge for regularly encouraging the congregation to donate blood.

Barbara Manchur ran a fundraiser for Ukraine by making beautiful pysanky (Ukrainian Easter Eggs) for anyone who made a donation to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation. Thank you for sharing your artistic talents for such a great cause!

Council established an Outreach fund starting with \$6,000 that, going forward, will be spent on projects like the Deacon's Cupboard, The Dam, and any other outreach projects that arise. This is in addition to the funds used from the Benevolent fund, which is used for many things, including gift cards that we have available to supplement groceries for those in need.

THE DAM COMMITTEE

ACRONYM - The DAM DEVELOP ASSIST MENTOR

Erindale's congregation has always demonstrated a strong commitment to the Christian concept of "outreach" – serving our neighbours near and far. This year, operating under the theme **"Living the Gospel: Supporting Youth at the DAM"**, Erindale partnered with the DAM to address the needs of youth who use their services.

In 2022 the only request from the DAM was for Christmas Gifts for the Youth.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Once again this year, we were provided with a wish list of items that were needed by the youth that come to the DAM.

Labels with the gift items on the front and instructions on the back were hung on the Christmas Tree in the Narthex. The congregation was asked to take a gift card and bring the gift to the Church.

Erindale, as always was very generous and fulfilled the wish list and much, much more.

To help the staff, the gifts were once again sorted in different categories, put into individually labeled boxes and bags. As requested, the boxes were delivered to the DAM to be ready for Christmas.

Submitted by: Claudette Neita, George Beagley, Nadia Lay

Communications

Electronic communication has continued to be very important in 2022 as we transition to a post-pandemic church community.

PowerPoints are shared on Zoom and on the screens in the sanctuary, largely replacing print bulletins. The weekly e-newsletter keeps the congregation up-to-date with everything going on at EUC as well as events in the wider church and community. Many of EUC's groups send in announcements to be shared in the newsletter.

The main page of the church website is updated weekly. By now, most pages of the website have been updated with current information. Groups are encouraged to send updates to the communications assistant, who will update the website accordingly. Our Facebook page has 138 followers (125 at this time last year) and our Instagram page has 329 followers (302 at this time last year). Check out our social media for announcements, recognition of special days and events, and pictures.

Communications Assistant: Laura McClure

Listeners Corner

The Listeners Corner is a new lay-led internet bible study group. Its sessions are held on the church Zoom link every Wednesday morning from 10 to 11 a.m. Usually 8 members of a group of about 10 are able to attend. Each Wednesday the four lectionary readings for the following Sunday are read and discussed. The weekly readings can be found on the group's web page on the EUC web site. This is an open group, and anyone is welcome to attend on a drop-in basis.

Contact: Fraser Code

Tech Team

The YouTube channel "EUC Tech Crew" was created where the recorded Sunday messages are uploaded to. Condenser mics were added to pick up the Organ on Zoom and provide a cleaner sound. There was an average of 26 connections on Zoom for the 2022 Sunday services.

Team members: Garry Jenkins, Rachel Nott, Ralph Nott, Chris Sawyer

Book Club

For those who love to read, this is the place to be. We meet once a month (excluding December and summertime) on the 4th Monday of the month at the church at 7:30 pm. The past year we adopted a hybrid type of meetings. Some on Zoom and some in person at the church. We discuss the selected book of the month. The books are selected by a vote of the participants from a list of suggested books at the last meeting of the year in June.

At regular meeting discussions are usually lively and varied and full of insight. This group is a wonderful place to meet new Authors (so to speak) as well as getting to know the members at a deeper level. Members have said that what they like best about the group is the friendships and that they have been challenged to read books that they would never have chosen for themselves. It certainly keeps us from getting into a rut and exposes us to new and different ideas. All in all, a perfect combination to enhance our always lively, interesting discussions.

Books we read in 2022 are:

- January – Inside the O'Briens by Lise Genova
- February- Miss Graham's Cold War Cookbook by Celia Rees
- March- Downfall by Robert Rotenburg
- April- The Forgotten Home Child by Genevieve Graham
- May- Five Little Indians by Michelle Good
- September- Scarborough by Catherine Hernandez
- October- When All is Said by Ann Griffin
- November- Looking for Jane by Heather Marshall

Members

Melanie Blake, Kim Booth, Sandra Butcher, Cynthia Carr, Jennifer Code, Joy Cunningham, Pat Jenkins, Susan Lyons, Doug Johnston, Marilyn Johnston, Ian McGregor, Duane McIlwraith, Horace Neita, Ruth Nott, Elaine Thorne.

Submitted by Marilyn Johnston, Co-ordinator

Friday Morning Coffee Group

Well, another year has come to an end. Coffee Hour is still be held on ZOOM, We, as members of Erindale United, are truly blessed to have great leadership with Rev. Warren, Laura, Sarah and all the committees that keep us going and informed. Many churches do not have the connection that we do with their congregation.

The Coffee hour has been a great way for people to get together, share thoughts, solve world problems (not) and get to know each other. It has also provided people away to support each other during this difficult time.

The Coffee hour is **not** a formal meeting. It is open to all members and is a special way for us to keep in touch, support each other and provide comfort. It gives us a stronger sense of community, recalls previous events and creates new memories and friendships.

We meet every Friday at 10:00 am on the Erindale Zoom Link. We welcome your presence. Please feel free to join us and, if you wish, bring your thoughts, jokes, concerns and ideas. We don't promise to solve any issues, but we do promise you will have fun, create memories and new friendships.

For more information, contact Nadia Lay

Craft and Conversation

We are starting our 8th year \ meeting together to do our crafts and have wonderful conversations. This group meets on the **first Wednesday of the month** at 1:00 pm. at the church. Members bring a bit sewing, knitting, crochet or anything, even mending, and spend a few hours working together and sharing conversation. It is a wonderful way to unwind and destress. There is always someone to answer a question if you get stuck. If anyone wants to learn some of these crafts, they are welcome to come and join in the fun.

Members: Ann Edge, Marilyn Johnston, Norma Macintyre, Ruth Nott, Linda Watson, Sandra Wiseman

Submitted by Marilyn Johnston

Egg (Erindale Growing Group)

This group was formed in 1982 when there were several groups called EGGS. They were scrambled once every two years from lists of people who signed up. The groups were made of 12 people who met in people's homes monthly. There were spiritual and social groups. The program for the EGG meeting were and still are set by the monthly host. In the spring of the 2nd year there was a social dinner at the church of all the EGG groups with skits and good food.

The coordinated multi EGG initiative has long since wound down but this one current group has continued to this day. Of course, some members have left, and others have joined but a large portion of the membership does indeed date back to this first group. EGG is currently 18 people strong. We have continued to meet most months and turns by members are taken to host. Each year in January we ask the question, "Do we want to continue with EGG" and so far the answer has been yes.

Discussions at these gathering are largely informal and whole group discussions occur maybe only about half the time. Topics are wide ranging but almost always centre around Erindale church life, Christianity and how we relate that to our daily life. Sometimes in informal discussions a question will come out of one corner, and all will join in with their thoughts. Discussions are always amicable, thought provoking, respectful and enjoyable.

Personally, I think the group is important. I think this group has helped us grow in faith. We care and cherish each other and the church. We believe that small groups strengthen the church family because we get to know everyone just a little bit better and reinforce our shared values or understand and respect our differences.

This is not an exclusive, "invitation only" group. Currently there are 18 members and we have talked on occasion of splitting up the group as it can be a challenge sometimes to accommodate everyone if all show up for a meeting. Perhaps we should use this group as a springboard for others? Perhaps we should splinter this group as a seed for a new group? If you are interested in being part of this group, please do not hesitate to ask any of our members as there is no official leader.

Due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the EGG group only had a few Zoom meetings this past year. Many thanks to the people in our group who arranged and hosted these meetings. We look forward to resuming regular meetings as soon as it is safe to do so.

The 2020 Group

The 2020 Group is a social group of widows and widowers. We meet every 2 weeks for an on-zoom chat. Although we are still being careful of our health, we have been able to meet in-person twice this year. We had a day trip to Stratford to see "Chicago" in August. In December we had a lovely Christmas visit at Joyce Murdoch's condo. We welcome any widows and widowers to join us on our chat, every second Monday at 4:00 PM on the church's zoom link.

For more information, contact Mary Patterson

Roll Report

The statistics below reflect data required by the United Church of Canada.

	2021	2022
Number of Households under Pastoral Care	225	226
Number of Adult Baptisms	2	2
Children Baptised	3	1
Members received a) under 18	0	0
b) 18 or older	2	2
Members received by Transfer or otherwise	0	2
Members removed by Death	6	3
Members removed by a) Certificate of Transfer	1	0
b) Otherwise	2	7
Total Confirmed Membership	266	264
Total Non-resident Members (included above)	22	22

Baptisms

Children: 1

Adults: 2

Two Members Received by transfer or otherwise Zero Members Transferred Out

Weddings

None

In Memoriam

Virginia Armstrong	Florence Patricia Cornish
Iefje Eriks (Iet) Glasz	Christopher Eng Goh
Louis Jansurik	Margaret Lee
Duncan Kenneth MacDonald	Rosie McKenzie
Albert Surminsky (Member)	Marjory Surminsky (Member)
Margaret Elizabeth Van Vliet	John (Jack) Francis Weston (Member)
Bill Zwarich	Mary Zwarich

Erindale United Church
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada
Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, March 27, 2022

This meeting was held in hybrid format, with parishioners attending both in person in the sanctuary and remotely on Zoom.

Contextual note:

The 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Erindale congregation was held in the Erindale sanctuary following the regular morning worship service. In contrast to the procedure of previous years, the meeting started after the service was concluded rather than during the service.

Rev. Brenna's message served as a prelude to the AGM, as she offered an opportunity for parishioners to focus on the life of the Erindale community. She set the tone by invoking likable creature, Grover (of Sesame Street), narrating the story of *The Monster at the End of this Book* – an opportunity to diminish debilitating fears and redirect one's thoughts to creative aliveness. She encouraged listeners to set aside the worries and fears – the 'what ifs' – of our daily lives as individuals and recognize how God provides for us collectively. The familiar reading from Matthew 6, on the heaven-sent sustenance for birds and flowers, carried the 'no worries' theme forward. Rev. Brenna quoted from Brian McLean – *We Make the Road by Walking* – on the importance of being alive to hope and the strength achieved when all are cooperating and supporting one another.

Later in the service Rev. Brenna took time to explain a proposal for Worship Teams that would engage all members of Erindale in taking responsibility, month by month, for the running of the Sunday services and related needs. Light the candles; learn about the Communion elements; and so on. A set of slides prepared by Jutta Argao elaborated this initiative. It was unfortunate that family matters overseas prevented Jutta from making this presentation in person. Rev. Brenna expressed her gratitude to Jutta and the members of the Worship Committee for their initiative.

At the Offertory moment Rev Brenna invited the congregation to recognize those parishioners who have shared their time and talents in the service of God and the community. She offered a supportive prayer. The Table of Organization is appended to these minutes, showing where everyone fits in.

The Meeting:

NOTE: Page numbers below refer to the 2021 Annual Report.

1. Opening prayer – Rev. Brenna.

2. Election of Chairperson and Recording Secretary – Ralph Nott.

Moved by Ralph Nott, seconded by Rachel Nott, that John Hurst be named Chair of the AGM and Tom McIlwraith be named Secretary. All in favour. Carried.

3. Call to order – John Hurst.

At approximately 11:30 AM the Chair called the meeting to order.

4. Motion to approve minutes of AGM, March 21, 2021. (pages 35-38)

Moved by Earl Cochrane, seconded by Harvey Watson, that the minutes of the AGM of March 21, 2021, be approved. All in favour. Carried.

5. Motion to receive the Report of Chair for 2021 – Chair, for Jutta Argao. (pages 6-8)

Moved by Paul Sabourin, seconded by Barbara Manchur, that the report of the Chair for 2021, be received. All in favour. Carried.

6. Council and Committee organization – John Hurst.

Moved by Harvey Watson, seconded by Duane McIlwraith, that the Table of Organization for 2022, be received. All in favour. Carried.

A copy of this table is appended to these minutes.

7. Appreciation – John Hurst.

John introduced his remarks by announcing “Our church is here!” We are appreciative of ourselves for having come through two years of Covid-induced disruption and setbacks. He drew attention to those who kept the church alive through even the darkest hours.

- Sarah McEwing, office administrator and “the life and face of our church,” always welcoming those who come in the door.
- The Watson family, providing music in the Psalm 98 style, on many occasions to an empty sanctuary.
- Laura McClure, music director and the lyrical voice on the piano and talent on the organ, plus creative newsletter editor.
- Rev. Brenna Baker, picking up on Zoom, convinced that “we will be here” and doing “a fantastic job in steering us through.”

8. Acceptance of reports of standing committees. (pages 8-21)

The Chair drew attention to the Table of Givings, 2017 to 2021 (page 13), noting that they have held consistently between \$207,000 and \$225,000 – a sign of the steady commitment of parishioners to the well-being of the Erindale family.

Moved by Earl Cochrane, seconded by Paul Sabourin, that the reports of standing committees, be accepted. All in favour. Carried.

9. Acceptance of report of Horseshoe Falls Region Council. (pages 21-24)

John Hurst drew attention to two current Region concerns: support for small churches and for retired ministerial personnel; both groups often feel disconnected and neglected.

Moved by Mary Patterson, seconded by Paul Sabourin, that the report of Horseshoe Falls Region Council, be accepted. All in favour. Carried.

10. Acceptance of United Church Women report. (pages 24-27)

Moved by Marilyn Johnston, seconded by Ann Edge, that the report of the United Church Women of Erindale be accepted. All in favour. Carried.

11. Reports of Christian Development, Bible Seminar, Book Club, Friday Morning Coffee Group, Craft and Conversation Group, and Erindale Growing Group (EGG) (pages 28-33)

These reports are an expression of how Erindale lives into its Mission informally and fosters connections among members of our church family. These reports are received for reference.

12. Receipt of congregational statistics. (page 34)

Moved by Sarah McEwing, seconded by Duane McIlwraith, that the congregational statistics be received. All in favour. Carried.

13. Approval of budget for 2022.

Moved by Paul Sabourin, seconded by Barbara Manchur, that the budget for 2022 be approved. All in favour. Carried.

A copy of the budget is appended to these minutes.

14. Appointment of auditor.

Moved by Barbara Manchur, seconded by Paul Sabourin, that the firm of Capstick McCollum & Associates, Professional Chartered Accountants, be appointed auditors for Erindale United Church for 2022. All in favour. Carried.

A copy of the financials is appended to these minutes.

15. There was no other business.

16. Blessing and Adjournment at approximately 12:15 PM.

Tom McIlwraith, Secretary

John Hurst, Chair

Minutes dated April 5, 2022.