



## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021

*We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional land of the indigenous people of the Six Nations*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Groups and Organizations.....	2
Minister's Message.....	3
Agenda.....	4
Annual Meeting Minutes taken on February 21, 2021 .....	5-6
<b><u>Team, Staff &amp; Group Reports</u></b> .....	7-23
Session Report.....	7
Statistical Report & Five-Year Statistical Comparison Report.....	8
Presbytery Representatives Report.....	9
Youth & Family Ministry Report.....	10
Mission & Outreach Team Report.....	11
Central Cares Team Report.....	12
Communications Team Report.....	14-17
Personnel Team Report .....	18
Board of Managers.....	19
Restoration Fundraising Team .....	20
Roof Restoration Project Team.....	21
Worship Team Report.....	21
Flower Guild Report.....	22
Choir Report.....	22
Welcome Team Report.....	23
Bible @Central.....	23

## GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Church Office 519-623-1080  
Church E-Mail Address [office@cpcmail.ca](mailto:office@cpcmail.ca)  
Church website [www.centralchurchcambridge.ca](http://www.centralchurchcambridge.ca)  
Minister: Rev. Dr Aubrey Botha [aubrey@cpcmail.ca](mailto:aubrey@cpcmail.ca)  
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Kerri Beda [kerri@cpcmail.ca](mailto:kerri@cpcmail.ca)  
Youth Coordinator: Stephanie Armstrong [steph@cpcmail.ca](mailto:steph@cpcmail.ca)  
Office Administrator: Debbie McKeivitt [office@cpcmail.ca](mailto:office@cpcmail.ca)  
Custodian: Don Willis  
Board, monthly, fourth Tuesday 7 pm, Chair, Peter Goudy  
Session, monthly, first Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Clerk: Dr Lynda Pinnington [session@cpcmail.ca](mailto:session@cpcmail.ca)

### MUSIC

Praise Choir: Weekly, Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.  
President: Elizabeth Cresswell  
Praise Team: Weekly, Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Nursery: Sundays during worship  
Kidzone: Sunday mornings @ 10:00 am  
Youth: Thursdays @ 7pm

### ADULT ACTIVITIES

Prayer Group Weekly, Tuesdays @ 2.30pm in the parlour.  
Minister's Bible Study Weekly, Thursdays @ 7.00pm in the sanctuary.  
Redwood Bible Study Second & Fourth Thursday evening @ 7:30 pm  
Contact: Denise McClellan 519-658-5857  
Nairn/Taylor Circle Third Tuesday of the month @ 2pm  
President: Roberta Dedman 519-623-8228  
Men's Club breakfast Third Saturday of the month @ 8:30 a.m.  
Contact: Peter Goudy 519-841-9123  
Bible Study Friday mornings @ 10:00 a.m.  
Contact: Carolyn Witzke 519-620-7346  
Rugged Hands Men's Group  
Contact: Scott McHardy 519-624-0502



January 2022

Looking back on the year 2021

As we look back on the year 2021 what an interesting year it has been. Yes, we had to deal (and still have to deal) with the pandemic and all the changes that brings. However, we have also experienced wonderful things at Central. We have learned how to continue doing our ministry in new and innovative ways.

We did our annual fundraiser for Rachel's home in a fun and very inclusive way and managed to bless the children in Lesotho with the funds we raised. Thank you to everyone who participated in this and to the whole Missions and Outreach team for their hard work.

To say that doing ministry online rather than in-person is difficult is surely the understatement of the year. Ministry and people go together and yet when we look at what happened in Family ministries and all the work Kerri put into this ministry, Central is blessed beyond words. What a joy to have such an amazing committed and hardworking colleague and team member.

One of the highlights of the past year is Stephanie joining our team as the Youth Ministry Co-ordinator. What a gift from God Stephanie has been to all of us. To see the youth grow and thrive in such a short time is a blessing and a joy. God has truly blessed us with an amazing ministry team.

Throughout the pandemic the praise team has been faithful and always ready to serve; not just on a Sunday but coming in on a Tuesday to rehearse and prepare for Sunday worship. Thank you for your faithfulness and for sharing your gifts in leading all of us in worship. You are a blessing and greatly appreciated.

I thank God for the wise leadership that Central has been blessed with. Thank you for the way in which you lead and care for all the people at Central. It is truly an honour to serve the Lord with you.

We are so excited to see the work on the roof being done and look forward to the completion of the project. Thank you for all of your gifts and donations towards this project, as always, the congregation of Central has risen to the occasion.

My prayer for you comes from the book of Jude:

*<sup>24</sup> To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— <sup>25</sup> to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (Jude 24-25)*

God bless,

Aubrey

**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2022, AT 7 PM ON ZOOM  
AGENDA**

1. Call to Order and Prayer
2. Motion: That this congregational meeting, held with members joining by teleconference and telephone, be authorized as a regular congregational meeting for making decisions.
3. Motion: To appoint the Clerk of Session, Lynda Pinnington, as secretary for the meeting.
4. Motion: To approve the minutes of the annual meeting held on February 21, 2021, as printed in the 2021 Annual Report.
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
6. Motion: To accept the Group Reports from the Session, Board of Managers, Staff reports, Session Teams, Church Groups, and Statistical report. (Pages 7-23).
7. Motion: To accept the 2021 Financial Reports and Auditor's Statement as presented by the Treasurer.
8. Motion: To receive the proposed 2022 Budget for discussion.
9. Motion: To approve the 2022 budget.
10. Motion: To appoint an auditor for 2022.
11. Motion from the Board of Managers to allocate the 2021 surplus.
12. New Business
13. Adjournment and Closing prayer

## Minutes 2021 Annual Meeting

**Call to Order and Prayer.** The Rev. Dr. Aubrey J. Botha called the meeting to order with prayer. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting held on zoom due to the pandemic closures.

**Approval of Meeting.** Moved by Barbara Barrie, seconded by Garry Bell, that this congregational meeting, held with members joining by teleconference and telephone, be authorized as a regular congregational meeting for making decisions. CARRIED.

**Appointment of secretary:** Moved by Alan Sutton, seconded by Elizabeth Cresswell, that the Clerk of Session, Lynda Pinnington, be appointed as secretary for the meeting. CARRIED.

**Minutes of 2020 meeting.** Moved by Garry Bell, seconded by Sandra Goodwin, that we approve the minutes of the annual meeting held on February 23, 2020, as printed in the 2020 Annual Report. CARRIED.

**Group Reports.** Moved by Barbara Barrie, seconded by Jim Tyrer that we accept the Group Reports from the Session, Board of Managers, Staff reports, Session Teams, Church Groups, Statistical report and church group financial reports (pages 7-22). CARRIED. Aubrey thanked everyone who wrote the reports and everyone who did all the work during the year. He then led the meeting in a prayer of thanksgiving for all the wonderful things that happened in the past year despite the challenges of the pandemic.

**Presentation of Financial Reports.** Alan Sutton, the Treasurer, presented the 2020 financial report showing a substantial surplus. Alan thanked God for blessing Central Church in such abundance and Aubrey thanked the congregation for their faithfulness throughout the year. Alan then presented the proposed 2021 budget which is very similar to the 2020 budget reflecting slight increases.

- Moved by Tim Hopper, seconded by Garry Bell, that we approve the 2020 Financial Report as presented by the Treasurer. CARRIED.
- Moved by Peter Goudy, seconded by Jim Tyrer, that we approve the 2021 budget as proposed by the Board and Session. CARRIED.

Aubrey offered a prayer for continued blessings in the coming year and thanked our Treasurer, Alan Sutton, and the Board of Managers for managing our finances so well and to the Board and Session for their positive leadership.

**Audit of 2020 Books:** Due to the pandemic restrictions, it was not possible to complete the audit of the 2020 financial statements prior to this meeting. It was moved by Elizabeth Cresswell, seconded by Alistair McIlwraith, that we receive the auditor's report when it is available at a later date. CARRIED.

**Appointment of Auditor for 2021.** Moved by Garry Bell, seconded by Gerda Burgsma, that we appoint Mo Aflatounian as the auditor for 2021. CARRIED.

**Disposition of 2020 Surplus.** Moved by George Barrie, seconded by Peter Goudy, that we allocate the funds from the 2020 surplus as follows: \$10,000 to Presbyterians Sharing, \$5000 to cover one-time expenses this year (live-streaming, Easter outreach, insurance increase) and the remainder to the Roof Fund. CARRIED.

- George O'Neill asked if we needed to allocate additional funds to upgrade the entrance by the office. Peter Goudy and Horst Wohlgemut replied that upgrades to the front steps and the entrance by the office are included in the Restoration Project.

**Board of Managers Election:** Moved by Barbara Barrie, seconded by Peter Goudy, that Garry Bell be elected to serve on the Board of Managers.

### **New Business**

- Peter Goudy expressed his thanks for the wonderful Valentine's Day gift bag that was distributed to seniors in the congregation. Aubrey commented that he has an excellent team to work with and especially mentioned Kerri Beda for her leadership on this project.
- Lynda Pinnington expressed sincere appreciation on behalf of the entire congregation for our staff who did their work in the past year under such challenging and difficult circumstances.
- Greg Gowing commented that viewership for our Sunday services is growing exponentially on the various platforms and encouraged everyone to invite their friends to view a service online.

**Adjournment and Closing prayer.** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Garry Bell. Aubrey thanked everyone again for attending and closed the meeting with prayer.

## Session Report 2021

After almost nine months of disruption in 2020, the year 2021 started with another lockdown in place that meant we continued the work of the church through online services and meetings, telephone calls, emails and “porch visits”. We were able to open briefly on March 21 for a communion service and stay open through Easter but then there was another lockdown until mid-June. Thankfully, we were able to open for in-person services for a communion service on June 20 and remained open for the rest of the year.

Church groups including the Session and the Board of Managers continued their work through online meetings. We had our very first online congregational meeting on January 10 to approve applying for loan assistance for the Roof/Restoration Project through the Presbyterian Church in Canada. This was followed on February 21 with our first ever online Annual Meeting. Both online meetings went very well and reminded us that even in challenging times, church life can go on.

To help people stay connected, elders continued to make periodic phone calls to everyone in the congregation. Even after we were able to open again for in-person services, we continued with the online services which received very positive feedback from members who were not yet comfortable attending in person and also serves as a ministry to those who live in distant locations or do not currently attend a church. While very successful, this has created a lot of extra work for Aubrey, and we want to express our deep appreciation to him for all that he is doing.

On June 30, the contracts for Cassidy Morency and Christine Kobow, our co-Youth Ministry Leaders, came to an end. We appreciate how they worked through challenging times trying to keep the youth and their families connected when in-person gatherings were not possible.

We were very grateful to Stephanie Armstrong for agreeing to step into the role of Youth Ministry Coordinator on an interim basis while we conducted the search process and were delighted when she was the candidate chosen to fill the position on a permanent basis as of November 1. Steph and our Children’s and Family Ministry Coordinator, Kerri Beda, work exceptionally well together as a team and we want to thank them both for the wonderful work they are doing with families, children, and youth at Central.

In July, we also said goodbye to elder Alejandro Ortiz who is taking a leave of absence from the session to return to his home country, Guatemala, with his family to do missionary work. We are praying for Alejandro and his family and appreciate receiving updates on his work there.

We owe a great debt of gratitude and our sincere thanks to everyone on our staff who worked, quite often from home, so diligently and faithfully on behalf of Central throughout this challenging time. Programming for children and youth, the work of the office, cleaning and sanitizing the building, music and praise, Sunday services, inspiring sermons and pastoral care all continued with great creativity and ingenuity throughout the lockdowns. Your devotion and caring are truly a blessing for all of us. We thank you sincerely.

### **Elders on Session as of December 31, 2021**

George Barrie	Sandy Barrie	Garry Bell	Pat Couttie
Andrew Foster	Lorna From	Greg Gowing	Bruce Jones
Margaret Macnamara	Denise McClellan	Alexander McIlwraith	Alistair McIlwraith
Dawn McIlwraith	Lynda Pinnington	Petronella Read	John Saliba
Doris Taylor-Hendry	Horst Wohlgemut	Sharon Wohlgemut	
Leave of Absence:	Scott McHardy	Alejandro Ortiz	

*-Lynda Pinnington, Clerk of Session*



**Central Presbyterian Church**  
**Membership Statistical Report**

January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021

Communicant Members as of December 2020 276  
New Members 2021 2

Sub Total

Deaths 4  
Transfers 0  
Removed 1

Communicant members as of December 31, 2021 273

We are sorry to report that during the past year we lost the following members: Marilyn Joan Murray, Mary Montague, Marie Gowing and Harry Burgsma. The church offers their condolences to the families and friends of those members.

This year we are identifying 262 adherents that worship with us.

**5 Year comparison Statistical Report**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Communicant Members	313	304	289	279	276
New Members	3	-	4	2	2
Re-Instated	-				
Transfer Out	3	8	2	1	0
Removals	2	-			1
Deaths	7	7	12	4	4
Year End Member	304	289	279	276	273
*Sunday School	20	65			42

**\*Sunday School; reflects in person attendance only for kid zone and Youth Baptisms for 2021: 0**

**Funerals for 2021: Harry Burgsma**

*-Pat Couttie, Standards Committee*

## Presbytery report 2021

With many new people coming to Central and staying, it's worth noting here why we call ourselves "Presbyterian". This refers to the presbyterial form of church government within the Reformed tradition, meaning that every member of the church has a voice in how we do things and in how our doctrine - what we teach and believe – evolves. Every member has a voice at congregational meetings and has access to the kirk session through an elder. All ministers are members of the presbytery, which is responsible for their care (as is the congregation, of course) and the session sends two elders to the presbytery: a representative elder and an alternate, to ensure that our congregation has a voice there. The presbytery in turn sends representatives to the annual synod meeting, consisting of a regional group of presbyteries, and then other presbyters are commissioned to attend the annual General Assembly, where decisions governing the whole of The Presbyterian Church in Canada are made. Major decisions affecting doctrine are sent back to sessions and congregational members for comment before they can take their place in church law.

Central is a member of the Waterloo-Wellington Presbytery and of the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda.

The moderator of the presbytery for the current year is the Rev Bill Bynum, of Knox Presbyterian Church in Preston. The Clerk is the Rev Darrell Clarke, a Presbyterian minister who now an executive at the Mennonite Central Committee. All this year's meetings have been conducted via Zoom, and we look forward to the day when we can meet again in person, as the fellowship and personal interaction are such important factors in understanding each other and getting things done.

A year ago, I wrote that nothing had prepared us for a year like the previous one, and this has been another just like it. The presbytery has been busy handling applications to various funds to support congregations through the pandemic time, and many have benefitted, especially in the area of audio-visual equipment for live streaming services direct to the internet. Funds have become available from the sale of several church buildings: in the last year this has included Knox's, Galt, Westminster St Paul's, Guelph, and Livingston, Baden. The session of Knox's expressed a wish that a proportion of the proceeds of the sale of their building should go support ministry to the community in Cambridge, and Central has received a generous share of this legacy.

Despite the pandemic, Central continues to be an example within the presbytery of a healthy congregation that maintains a low average age with strong attendance.

Good news this year was the induction of the Rev Marty Molengraaf as the minister at St Andrew's, Kitchener, after a long vacancy there.

### **Some facts to note:**

The Presbyterian Church in Canada maintains an excellent website with a wealth of information about who we are, and excellent resources for congregational use. We fund these through our congregation's budgeted annual givings to Presbyterians Sharing. You will find this at <https://presbyterian.ca/>

The PCC's principal charity is Presbyterian World Service & Development: <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/>. This is an efficiently run body that provides aid and disaster relief around the world, often attracting matching government funds. The PWS&D 'Gifts of Change' program is a great resource for gifts and to make memorial donations.

The presbytery is an open court, and everyone is welcome to attend meetings (online or otherwise) to observe the proceedings.

*-Andrew Foster, representative elder*

*Alistair McIlwraith, alternate representative elder.*

## Youth Children & Family Ministries Report

### **Family Ministries:**

Central Family Ministries currently serves about 35 families who have children newborn to 18 years old. Family Ministry Events this year included: Valentine Packages for congregation members, Easter-in-a-Basket Family Experience, One in A Melon Family Packages, VBS, Welcome Back Family Movie Night Packages, Fall Family Festival, and the Fireside Family Service. A Family Ministries Newsletter is emailed weekly to keep families informed of all events and curriculum. Families can also stay informed through Instagram and the church website.

### **Kids Zone (Birth to Grade 5)**

From January to August, weekly activity bags were provided for children attending in person worship services. Kids Zone re-opened in September 2021 for children Nursery to Grade 5. There are currently 22 children who regularly attend in person. We are blessed with 16 faithful teen and adult volunteers who care for and teach on rotation every month. It is a privilege to share the love and truths of Jesus each week with the children.

### **Youth Zone (Grades 6-12)**

Stephanie Armstrong has been working as the Youth Coordinator starting in July 2021 and worked as the Summer Student Supervisor from July-August. Youth Zone grew from 10 teens in attendance in the Summer to 16-20 youth regularly attending Thursdays 7-9pm. With the help of five regular volunteers, generous congregation members and Central staff, Youth Zone happens weekly. The youth ran a candle fundraiser at the Family Fall Festival and raised \$300. Stephanie directed the Fireside Family Service alongside Kerri and preached the sermon on December 12, 2021. Stephanie purchased 15 bean bags for socially distancing seating options, low contact sports equipment, many craft supplies, snacks and nerf guns to provide a safe and fun atmosphere for youth to learn about Jesus.

In summary:

In-person attendance  
Kids Zone - 22 children  
Youth Zone - 20 youth

*-Kerri Beda and Stephanie Armstrong*

## Missions and Outreach Report

We give all the glory and thanks to our God for His faithful love and leadership during another difficult year. Once again, the Covid-19 crisis severely limited our usual fundraising activities to support our mission projects, Rachel's Home orphanage and community school in Lesotho, and the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank. But our Central church family never ceased to amaze us with all the strong and steadfast support. You generously offered prayers along with your time, talents, and financial help, to be able to continue our mission projects.

We launched our own "marathon" again this year, an excellent idea created by Elsie, to keep everyone safe while they participated in fundraising for Rachel's Home. The Cambridge Memorial Hospital formed a team and joined us in "Going the Extra Mile," a 5 km walk/run. We want to thank the more than fifteen participants/teams that took part this year from Central, including all ages from seniors to families with young children. To date, Central has raised more than \$10,000. We have included a Christmas newsletter from Hilda, who is able to tell us just how much our faithful support means to her and her family and the children of the orphanage and school.

### A Christmas Newsletter from Hilda

*Good morning, Elsie. Compliments of the New Year. I am very happy to present to you the newsletter from Rachels children's home. 2021 has been the tough year for everyone and Rachels was also going through a very difficult time. The Covid-19 pandemic changed everything making our lives very vulnerable and some of us were infected but by the grace of God we recovered. We are very grateful that you helped us through it all even though you were also affected by the pandemic. You did not step back but made sure that we were well taken care of. Food was our main struggle, but you took care of that and also medication and supplements. Clothing, blankets, heaters and above all, we thank you so much for your prayers because we feel that you are standing in a gap for us. We have 21 children at the moment and all of them are well. Recently we were fighting with swine flu and by the grace of God we overcame. There are 2 girls that are going to Secondary School this year and we hope to find a scholarship for them. Shekina is also going to university this year and we will be grateful if she gets a scholarship. We have 4 helpers, being 3 teachers and in the house, and since the children are growing and we have to limit the numbers in one room and also make sure that the Covid regulations are observed, we need one more helper. Our walls are not in good condition. They need some replastering and painting. It is the beginning of the year and since the schools are opening on the 11th of January, we need some stationery and uniforms for some children. We are going to have a very beautiful playground this year. Just waiting for the welder to mount them on the ground and will send lots of pictures and videos as promised. By the 4th they will be done. The children enjoyed Christmas clothes and food and thank you so much for blessing us this much. May the Lord bless you and keep you as you serve and give you all your heart desires and healing that you need. May 2022 be the best year ever. God Bless and a Happy New Year.*

This year we took a bold step in adding another international mission project, supporting the Ortiz family, who returned this summer to Cubulco, Guatemala, under the guidance of ImpactHope. Alejandro and Kathryn felt called to return to this beautiful but needy area to help with projects on food security and local employment opportunities. We thank our Family Ministries who organized a fundraiser by placing Christmas stockings on the end of the pews during the Family Christmas Service Dec. 12. An astounding \$4269.15 was received. Thanks also to all those who are personally supporting this mission. Alejandro and his family regularly send updates to let us know how they are doing.

We started up our summer challenge for the Food Bank again this year, collecting 1575 boxes of nutritious cereal for “Fill the Bowl”. Thanks to Grace and Henry Van Druten for organizing the event and the youth for their participation and creation of a fantastic “domino” video.

We were also able to continue our two Christmas projects for the Food Bank, the Mitten Tree and White Gift Sunday. Through your generous donations, we provided many new warm winter clothing items for children and youth and many lovely thoughtful gifts for seniors, both in need in the community. There was an abundant selection of beautiful hand-made items among the donations.

On December 1 we were so thrilled to offer a Christmas Carol Sing once again to Central and the community. Much to our amazement 80 people attended. We were treated to a delightful program with Elizabeth Cresswell as leader and Ron Klinck on the organ. Peter Goudy provided technical help with the sound. The program featured solos from Gwen Darling, Peter Goudy, and Elizabeth Cresswell, with her spouse Lawrence on guitar. We were also able to have the David Durward Bell Ringers provide many beautiful songs. Everyone enjoyed singing many of their favourite carols and were sent home with a bag of Sarah Barrie’s Christmas cookies. We plan to continue the hymn sings as the Covid situation improves in 2022.

Our ability to love and care for others shows how we are living out our faith here at Central. Our Missions and Outreach Team wants to thank all those who participated in supporting our mission projects. Central’s Session thanks you for your contribution to Presbyterians Sharing, supporting mission work at the national level.

*-Sandy Barrie, Lawrence Cresswell, Greg Gowing, Denise McClellan (Chair), Doris Taylor, Grace and Henry Van Druten.*

## Central Cares Team Report

A large group of volunteers kept busy again this year showing love and caring to many in our congregation in their time of need. Our church family continued to provide generous donations to support this important ministry throughout the year. Volunteers provided rides to those who needed to attend appointments or wished to attend Sunday services. Others prepared and delivered nutritious meals to those in times of crisis. Grocery gift cards provided a welcome relief to those struggling. Frequent phone calls to our homebound members and those in nursing facilities cheered many in this time of Covid. Where possible, some even received personal visits. Our volunteers soon realized just how lonely and isolated many of our congregation had become. Thanks to all our amazing volunteers!

Four times through the year volunteers delivered gift bags with cards, print material, plants, and treats to about 22 people, those homebound or in nursing facilities, often coping with poor health, recent surgery, and mobility issues. Newsletters, mission updates, and the Daily Bread helped to connect those without internet. Thanks to Sarah Barrie for her delicious and decorative cookies. Thanks to Beth Sparrow, Chartwell Queen's Square retirement living consultant, who provided one gift bag including activity books and yummy treats. We especially thank our youth, who prepared cards full of love and thoughtful messages, and created beautiful snow globes, which were included in the Christmas gift bags. Thanks also to the Flower Guild who provided colorful flowering plants in the spring. The many positive responses we received throughout the year showed how important this ministry is and how the recipients felt they were not forgotten. Because "Central cares," we are making a difference in the lives of many of our church family.

Please contact the office if you know of anyone in special need or if you would like to add your name to our list of volunteers.

*-Sandy Barrie and Denise McClellan*

## Communication Team

The Communication Team has a mandate to work with other ministries within Central to facilitate the presentation and promotion of the word of God to our congregation and to the wider world through available and appropriate forms of media and technology. Through the pandemic, we have communicated with our members through phone calls, Zoom meetings, and e-mails. We continue to try to inform and support our Central family through lockdowns and social distancing protocols.

1. The primary source of communication with our congregation over the past months has been through “Call Arounds” where members are contacted to ensure that all is well. These calls proved beneficial both for those who were contacted and those who got to know Central members on a more personal level.
2. This fall, Greg Gowing and Matt Williams have designed a new website which will go live shortly. This website presents a public image of Central Church to the wider community and details our services, our activities, our special events and our spiritual beliefs. We encourage members to use it and to contribute news, photos, etc. in order to keep the website current.
3. Kudos to Scott McHardy and Greg Gowing from the Communication Team and to Alan Robertson, Ted Brown, Grace Van Druten and Ashley and Elrey Viljoen for their continued and essential support of the audio and visual technology used to support Sunday services and regular streaming services. Their input and expertise have resulted in new and improved technology, noticeable on Sunday mornings and in streamed services.
4. The bimonthly newsletter, “Central News” was restarted in September. Many thanks to Sybil Johnson for her artistic touch in making the newsletter more professional. Weekly bulletins are also now available for those without access to the website.
5. Mike Jennings and Greg Gowing have also been actively involved with the Central Restoration Project. Mike has shared his marketing expertise with the Fundraising Team and provided technical support through Matt Williams for the new website.

### Online Ministry.

#### Website & Social Media:

The past year has been a busy one for the communication team. With Aubrey’s help, we’ve continued our online services on Facebook and YouTube.

Several times we ran afoul of the copyright algorithm on Facebook, even though we had a legal right to use all the material in our broadcasts. We successfully challenged every complaint, but each time there was a complaint, Facebook yanked our Sunday service from their platform until our challenge was settled. In the end, we decided that it simply wasn’t worth the hassle to publish our full online service on Facebook, so we decided to publish only Aubrey’s message. The full service was still made available on YouTube.



We added Aubrey’s message podcast to several new platforms this year. His Sunday morning messages are now available for download in an audio podcast form on:

- Amazon Music
- I/Tunes
- Google Play
- I/Heart Radio
- Spotify
- Android
- Blubrry
- And on our website

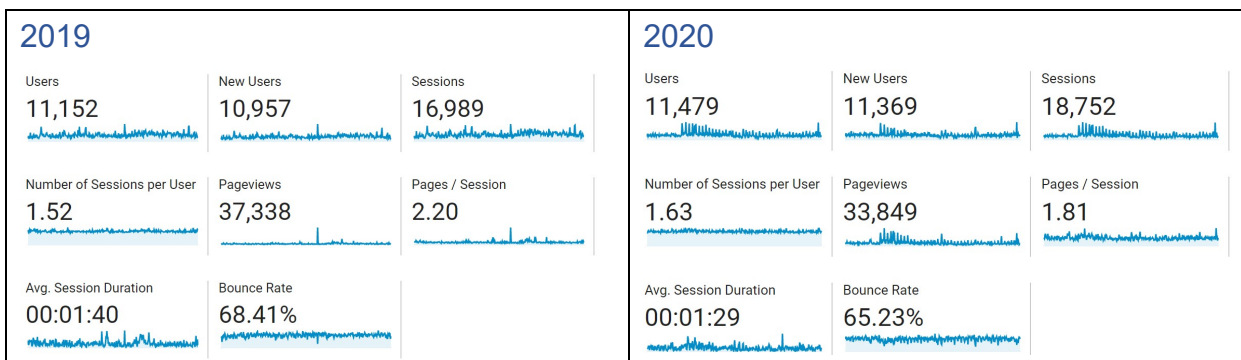
In late summer, with the assistance of Moresales.ca, we began work on a new website. By early December, it was almost ready to go live, and we expect go-live to be sometime in January 2022.

With a grant from the Presbytery of Waterloo/Wellington, we acquired new livestream equipment. We are working our way through learning how to put together a proper live broadcast of the Sunday service. Once we have the kinks worked out, we will begin broadcasting our service live each Sunday.

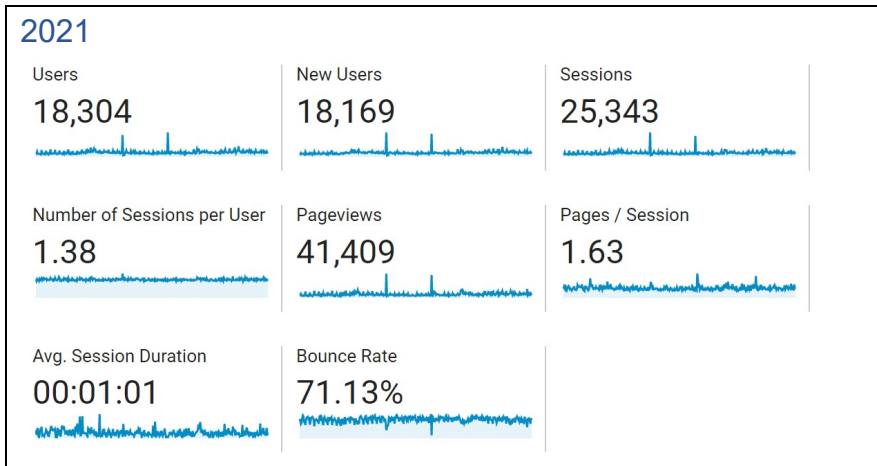
2020 and 2021 have ushered in tremendous change in our approach to our online ministries. We anticipate that 2022 will also be a year of change as these ministries evolve and mature. We are no longer just a church in downtown Cambridge. Our regular online attendees come from around the World. Our average online attendance is 30-40 screens. We speak of screens instead of people because we know that some of those views are multiple people. We estimate that 30-40 screens represent somewhere between 40-60 people.

If you are one of these newest members of our church community, welcome to Central. We’re glad you chose to be a part of our church family. Over the next year, we will start looking into new ways to serve you better, to better interact with you and to build a stronger relationship with you.

## Website Statistics







Over the past 2 years, we have seen steady growth in the number of people visiting our website. This has been partially offset by shorter duration views and fewer pages/view. Our pages about our beliefs, particularly our page about Love, have driven much of that growth.

We hope our new website will make it easier for new visitors to explore our beliefs and connect with us.

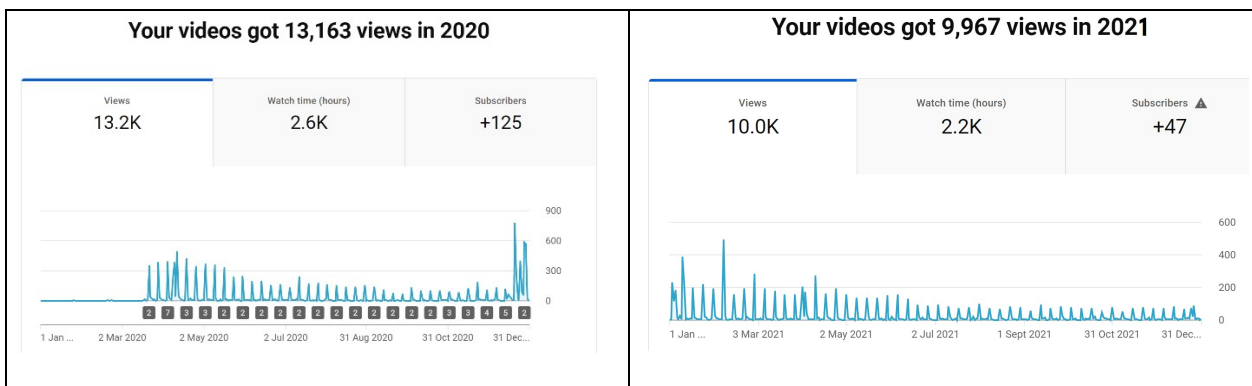
### Facebook

Over the past year, we've gained a net of 78 new followers and 97 new page likes this year. As of December 19, we have 482 followers and 426-page likes.

As you can see from the graph below, we've seen a dramatic increase in our page views this year.



### YouTube



In 2020, most of our services were online only. This resulted in explosive growth in our online service views.

For much of 2021, we've had both online and in-person services. This, of course, resulted in a significant decline in our online views. However, this viewership stabilized and became an online community of believers. Over the course of 2021, we gained 47 subscribers and we now have regular viewers from around the World. We welcome them into our family.

### Instagram

Instagram doesn't provide thorough analytics. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, we have 214 followers and our online service averages about 10 views/week.

### Podcasts

In 2021, Aubrey's messages were downloaded 1,727 times. This represented a 31% growth from 2020 and a 335% increase from 2019.

On behalf of Central Church, I would like to thank my team members, John Carson, Greg Gowing, Mike Jennings, Scott McHardy, and Alistair McIlwraith, who share their time and considerable technical expertise to carry out our mandate.

Note: As modes of communication change and develop, the Communication Team needs new members who will be able to assist us in meeting the needs of all our members. We invite you to join us!

*-Sharon Wohlgemut, Communication Team Chair*

## Personnel Team

The Personnel Committee is a joint committee comprised of members of the Session, the Board of Managers, and the congregation. Current members are as follows:

Linda Brown	Congregation Representative
Jane McWilliams	Congregation Representative
Dale Ross	Congregation Representative
Scott Sipa	Board of Managers Representative
Horst Wohlgemut	Session Representative

The Personnel Committee oversees and monitors the personnel practices of the church within the framework of church policies and guidelines and current Federal and Provincial legislation. Meeting on an as-needed basis, the committee provides a leadership role in Human Resources relations and salary administration for our Custodian, Office Administrator, Music Director, Choir Director, and the Children and Youth ministry personnel.

During 2021 the Team accomplished the following tasks:

1. Provided technical support in filling the vacancy created by the departure of our two Youth Ministry Coordinators.
2. Provided technical support for the development of a plan for selecting and hiring the Youth Leader.
3. Provided assistance for completing performance reviews for selected staff members.
4. Generated recommendations for salary increase for Central staff members.

On behalf of the Personnel Team, we would like to express our thanks to the excellent service provided by our dedicated staff.

*-Horst Wohlgemut, Chair, Personnel Team*

## The Board of Managers

The Board of Managers would like to congratulate the people of Central for their great response to the financial needs of our church. We thank God for His care for us. We have had major needs for financial support - the Restoration of our beautiful building, our missions of the Food Bank, the needs of Rachael's Place in Lesotho and the Ortiz Family in Guatemala. We have programs like our family and youth ministries and music ministry. We have been blessed will inspired leaders whose salaries need to be part of our budget concerns.

We would like to thank our Treasurer, Alan Sutton and our office administrator, Debbie McKeivitt, for their stewardship of our givings.

Horst Wohlgemut and his committee have worked tirelessly on the Roof Restoration. Our Fundraising Team have also worked hard to encourage continued giving to this project.

Our Property Chairman, Sandy Barrie and his team have overseen and worked on the completion of signifiant projects during 2021.

Sunday School hallway, washrooms and custodians' room, the removal of asbestos from pipes under the sanctuary and Sunday school wing, the removal of old electrical wiring in boiler room, the installation of a new outlet, the repair and painting of basement windows on the riverside and the replacement of two toilets with new water saving

New building rental fees were developed by Barbara Barrie, the chair of Use of the Church and Debbie McKeivitt.

We thank God for His continued blessings to the work and missions of Central Presbyterian Church. To God be the Glory!

Peter Goudy  
Chair of the Board of Managers

The Board of Managers for 2022 will be as follows:

Peter Goudy, Chair	Scot Sipa Personnel
Edward Brown, Secretary	Barb Barrie, Use of the Church
Alan Sutton, Treasurer	George Barrie, Session-Board Liaison
Sandy Barrie, Property	John Saliba
Garry Bell	

- *Peter Goudy*, Chair

## Restoration/Roof Fundraising Team

### Highlights of 2021

- We received a \$1.5 million loan and a \$100K loan with favourable interest rates and re-payment terms through the Presbyterian Church in Canada to enable us to start the work in March.
- Following up on the mailing that was done at the end of 2020, everyone in the congregation was called to tell them about the project and the fundraising effort. Gayle Goossen, of Barefoot Creative, led an online training session for the people doing the calling. Our thanks go out to the telephone team: George Barrie, Garry Bell, Linda Brown, Elizabeth Cresswell, Kathy Drew-Smith, Cheryl Fayle, Val and Scott Geddes, Peter Goudy, George Knight, Jane Marshall, Beverley Nykamp, Carrie Paddock, Grace van Druten, Horst and Sharon Wohlgemut.
- The response from the congregation has been extremely positive with many five-year pledges and individual donations. As of the end of 2021, we have raised approximately 50% of the money which has to be repaid on the Presbyterian Church in Canada loans.
- We have received excellent community support for our project as people in this city want to ensure that a landmark heritage building in downtown Cambridge remains standing for years to come. Our large banner on the side of the scaffolding, a feature story on CTV News, coverage in West Galt Magazine and the KW Record have all helped to focus community attention on our project. Periodic photo updates of the project's progress on the website and social media sites are shared by members with their family and friends. Roof Tile Management, the company doing the work, produced a drone video which provided an outstanding look at the church from an overhead point of view.
- While we initially used the term, "Roof Project", in 2021 we changed the title to "Restoration Project" to reflect the fact that while the roof is a major component of the work, we are also doing masonry repointing and other structural work on the building. This also helped to differentiate the funds raised for this project from the Emergency Preservation Fund which was established over 20 years ago to ensure that there is always something available for emergency capital expenses and repairs which may need to be done.

**Restoration Fundraising Team:** Peter Goudy, Mike Jennings, Beverley Nykamp, Lynda Pinnington, Horst Wohlgemut.

## Roof Restoration Project Team

### **Slate and Copper Roof and Stonework**

Based on the 2018 Building Condition Assessment of Central Presbyterian Church generated by Pretium Anderson Building Engineers, the congregation approved a motion at its 2019 Annual Meeting authorizing the completion of the slate roof and bell tower stonework renovations.

Grant proposals were submitted to the City of Cambridge and the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation. Interest-free and low interest loans were negotiated with the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington and the Presbyterian Church in Canada to carry the financial burden until such time as the church could raise the \$1,650,000 to pay off our obligations.

A Fundraising Steering Team was formed, and they selected Gayle Goossen of Barefoot Creative to assist with the generation of a fundraising plan

Paul Everett, principal of EPG Applied Building Sciences Ltd was hired as consultant and project manager for the contemplated work. He developed a tender document and assisted in the selection of Roof Tile Management Inc. as the contractor for the project.

Work started on the project on March 8, 2021. As of Dec. 31, 2021, close to 90 % of the project is complete. Some stonework on buttresses will be completed when the ground is no longer frozen. At that time downspouts will be installed; front stairs will be replaced, and the site will be landscaped. Substantial Completion is scheduled for May 31, 2022.

Current donations, grants and pledges amount to approximately \$850,000. This leaves about \$800,000 that must be repaid over the next 15 years.

## Worship Team

In the past year, we've had many wonderful times of worship, including 2 in person Christmas Eve services attended by more than 200 people, as well as producing an online service for those who were not able to attend. Aubrey continues to work with the praise team and Greg Gowing to ensure that online worship continues to be available for those who are unable to join us in person.

### **We need volunteers**

This year, we purchased and installed equipment to improve our livestreaming capacity with the help of grants from the presbytery; however, we still need to increase our capacity to operate the equipment for both live streaming and sound. We need about 15 volunteers to join the A.V. team ensure everybody on that team can spend time in worship and doesn't have to be working every week. If you are interested in using your gifts to help spread the gospel in this way, please speak to Alexander McIlwraith or Pastor Aubrey. Training is provided.

### **Thanks to those already helping out**

Thanks, this year for our praise team, choir and A.V. team teams, for all their hard work to ensure that in-person worship continues to happen, and to Greg and Aubrey for their work on the online services. We also need to thank the flower guild for their work in keeping the sanctuary looking spectacular as it did this Christmas. And thanks to the worship team for their leadership in this area.

*-Alexander McIlwraith*

## Flower Guild

2021 was a challenging year for the Flower Guild. Keeping our members safe was our primary focus. To do this we did our usual decorating with a skeleton team that was comfortable working on their own. We decided simple decor was all that was required.

Christmas was our first group event of the year. It was a fabulous time working together while safely distanced in a workshop setting.

2022 will likely be similar to the past two years in the way we continue to beautiful our Sanctuary. We are confident that we are able to enjoy this in a safe and fulfilling way.

Anyone interested in joining our team is always welcome. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

*-Barbara Barrie*

## Central Presbyterian Choir

It is almost unimaginable to realize that I am writing the CPC Choir report for 2021! During this past September I learned several church choirs from various denominations were successfully back in their respective sanctuaries participating in in-person worship music leadership with safety protocols such as masks and physical distancing in place.

After some encouraging conversations with a few Choir members, I pursued the possibility of our CPC Choir restarting and made three essential phone calls: to Rev. Aubrey, Brad Paddock and Gwen Darling. With supportive responses from all three of them, my next task was to survey the Choir membership to explore their comfort level and concerns in presenting anthems and singing with the Praise Band. The overall response was quite positive, and the result was that we began rehearsing in mid-October, masked and distanced.

We have had a dedicated group representing the larger choir, presenting anthems, and supporting the Praise Band vocally since late October. Under the continuing and caring direction of Gwen Darling and Brad Paddock members Tim, Peter, Alistair, Richard (our new tenor), Carrie, Petronella, Diane, Pat and I were honoured to lift our voices in song once again after a 19-month hiatus. We are always blessed to have our friend Ron Klinck help us out occasionally when Brad is not available for practices.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of a long-time member Muriel Doran in December. Although Gwen was ill during the week coming into Christmas the Choir, with the generous help of Kim Hopper and Jay Geddes, were able to pull together and we presented "O Holy Night" accompanied by Brad on the piano and Lawrence Cresswell on guitar. And I have no doubt that each one of us heard Jim Mattear's voice joining us in our hearts. But we certainly missed Gwen's steadying hand!

We want to thank you all for your care and support through 2021.  
The Music Ministry is ALIVE and WELL at Central. Praise the Lord!!

*-Elizabeth Cresswell, Central Church Choir President*

## Welcome Team

One of the requirements of the pandemic, the contact tracing list, has added a new dimension to welcoming people to our Sunday services. Having the opportunity to stop and speak to a person, take their name, and contact information has been positive.

There are new people attending services each week and we are very pleased to hear the positive feedback that we receive when people say they have felt a warm welcome from everyone in the congregation.

During the pandemic, one of the front doors and the accessible entrance on the west side are open for people to enter for Sunday services. The Welcome Team will continue to greet people at these two doors and provide assistance in finding a place to sit with the appropriate distancing. Ensuring that people feel welcome is an important part of our ministry at Central and we are always open to new volunteers to help.

A very big thank you goes out to everyone who served as a greeter or usher this year, including Pat Couttie, Lorna From, Sia Honarkhan, Margaret Macnamara, Beverley and Hank Nykamp, Kevin and Sue Sullivan, Horst and Sharon Wohlgemut and Joanne Zimmerman. We also want to thank Maria Bethley, Val and Scott Geddes, Ling Huey, Petronella Read and John Hynes who joined us to help for the two Christmas Eve services.

*-Lynda Pinnington, Welcome Team Leader*

## Bible Study @ Central

Last year in the winter term, we had another set of Bible studies online - we studied "Psalms: Prayers of the Heart" on Friday mornings (women) and Thursday evenings (all adults), following a guide for our discussions. The connections made in these studies were oh so important to those attending during another period of pandemic isolation. We also had a few Lenten studies that corresponded with Easter. This past fall, we held in-person studies only on Friday morning, and a small group of women felt comfortable to gather. Our group studied "Sabbath: The Gift of Rest" because we are literally just so tired of this pandemic! But we needed to find out what God intended for each of us. We finished just ahead of the most recent shutdowns. Spending time reading and reflecting on God's word is a blessing to us all. Friendships are made, and we are able to support each other through prayer, social connections, and support. All are welcome to join us - notifications are in the bulletin, announced on Sunday mornings, and on the website and social media channels.

*-Carolyn Witzke*