

GOD'S MISSION OUR GIFTS

As February draws to a close, I am pleased to share the 2023 contributions for Mission and Service. We would like to thank all the Communities of Faith who forwarded their contributions on time, allowing our finance team to provide us with these numbers earlier than in previous years. We would also like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the ongoing and generous support you have given to Mission and Service.

There is good news to report. The Mission and Service contributions by Congregations, UCW and Special Donations all exceeded budget and the totals for these three areas, sitting at \$17,090,056, were slightly over the 2022 actuals of \$17,062,694. In addition, out of the 19 regions, only one was under the 2022 contributions and that was by a small amount.

The amounts raised for Mission and Service from Direct Gifts, Foundation Gifts and Legacies were below budget, as well as below the 2022 actual amounts. The total for these three areas in 2023 was \$3,741,507, which was below the 2022 actuals of \$4,069,520.

For this initial report, the total for Mission and Service from these areas was \$20,831,564. This compares favourably to the total budget of \$20,225,000 and is close to the 2022 actual amount raised of \$21,132,213.

A final figure, that will include additional Mission and Service elements, will be provided in June in the Accountability Report. At that point the financial audit will be complete and final amounts will be allocated to the Strategic Plan elements.

I would like to thank all of you for your efforts in 2023. It was the first year that could reasonably be called 'post-pandemic' and many things have changed. Your commitment to Mission and Service funding means that the programs can continue and the families and children that need our support can continue receiving it.

In Christ,



Sarah Charters, Executive Officer of Philanthropy, United Church of Canada



Tecumseh United Church

~ *An Affirming Congregation* ~

Sunday, March 3rd, 2024 - 10:00 a.m. **LENT 3**

We are a fragrance-free environment.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

We Gather in God's Love

Welcome and Announcements
Land Acknowledgement

Lent Challenge: (Lynn Symons)

Jesus taught us that we should forgive others before we should seek to be forgiven ourselves. So, this week, your challenge is to pray for someone who has hurt or offended you, or you might pray for someone with whom you have a difficult relationship, or someone you just don't see eye to eye with. Take some time to pray for that person, or simply send them thoughts of love and compassion. So that's the challenge for this week.

(Let's confirm our commitment to this by singing *the chorus of Hymn # 120 "My Soul Cries Out" in More Voices*)

Call to Worship:

Welcome to worship.

However you enter into worship today, come!

Come whether you are troubled, grieving, or anxious about health, family, or finances, or whether you are celebrating, excited, and happy. May the peace of God, who surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds during this time of worship. May you know God's Spirit with you. as we sing and pray.

****Hymn # 412 This Is the Day***

Opening Prayer:

Holy One, who gives us everlasting love, be with us as we open our hearts and minds in worship. We give thanks for your son, Jesus, for he teaches us about the relationship of faith and life. In this Season of Lent, we pray for your guidance on our own path of faith, that we will have the

wisdom to accept the miracles you have bestowed upon us. Let our hearts be open to the great mysteries of the gospel. You have given us the greatest gift, your son. We ask that we may feel your loving presence in this place as we sing your praises. Amen.

***Hymn # 365 Jesus Loves Me**

Faith Friends Time / Lord's Prayer

***Hymn MV # 104 Know that God Is Good** (sing twice)

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture Reading: John 2:13-22

***Hymn MV # 27 Creator God, You Gave Us Life**

Meditation

We Respond to God's Word

Choir Anthem

Offering Prayer

Prayers of the people / Prayer Book is read

We Go to Love and Serve God

***Hymn MV # 209 Go Make a Diff'rence**

Commissioning & Benediction

**Music & Lyrics used under CCLI License # 11323634*

Thanks to Sue Dowhayko for reading, and to Anne, Sandy, Janet and Elaine and for hosting Coffee Hour.

Happy Birthday today to Gary Lonnee, and later in the week to Nicholas Jirgens and Don Snyder.

Happy Anniversary this coming week to Peter Scott & Barb Mitchell-Scott

Friday, March 15th The Great Irish Stew from 5-7pm

Join us on Friday, March 15 for delicious food and a heartwarming atmosphere *15\$ (adult) price includes stew, homemade pie dessert and beverage. Kids \$5 hot dog dinner



Thank you all for the generous donations for **Divine Mercy Food Bank, Windsor Youth Centre and Downtown Mission.**

Support for United Church Emergency Response in the Middle East and in Ukraine:

We can read about how the United Church is responding to two major conflicts at this time: the crisis in the Middle East and the ongoing war in Ukraine. The United Church is allying with organizations in these areas to provide effective relief. Also, the leaders of the church are speaking out to add their voices in support of finding resolutions to the conflicts.

The links below are one way to donate, or we can donate with a cheque to Tecumseh United marked for emergency relief for one of these situations if we choose to do so. The links also inform us about how the church has been involved and will continue to provide support.

[Donate to Support Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

[Emergency Response: Two years of war in Ukraine | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

Whether or not we donate at this time, the information at these links show how Mission and Service is at work.

Donations can be made by simple e-transfer to donations@tecumsehunited.com

519-735-3323 333 Lacasse Blvd. Tecumseh N8N 2B7
Rev. Robin Sherman (519) 983-0528 robin@tecumsehunited.com

Secretary: Heather Davidson
heather@tecumsehunited.com

Music Director: Henry Boon
Sunday School: Lauren Snyder-Gault
Congregational Designated Minister - Joannie Weisshaar
Custodian: Larry White

Office Hours~ Wednesdays & Thursdays 10am-2pm