

# Harrow United Church Yearbook

# 2024



*Every new beginning comes from another  
beginning's end*



## Contents

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS	1	Food Bank	22
Annual Meeting – Feb. 11, 2024	1	Student Aid Committee	23
Congregational Meeting - Oct 6, 2024	4	Kit Richardson Memorial	23
MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER	6	PROPERTY	24
Message from the Chair	7	FINANCE	25
OFFICIAL BOARD 2024	10	Turkey Supper Report	26
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	11	Pie Team	26
TRUSTEES	11	FINANCIAL REPORTS	27
WORSHIP & MEMBERSHIP	12	Comparative Offerings	27
Membership Statistics	13	Mission & Service Fund	27
Members Removed By Death	13	Financial Examiners	27
Burials	13	Memorial Fund	28
Members Added by Profession of Faith	13	Special Gift Account	28
Members added by Transfer	13	HUC Investment Account	28
Baptisms	13	Benevolent Account	29
Weddings	13	Capital Fund	29
Organist Report	14	Presbytery Loan	29
Music Ministry	14	Gov't of Canada (CEBA) Loan	29
Audio Visual Team	15	Summary of Receipts	30
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK	16	Reconciliation Statement	30
Card Report	16	Expenses – General Fund	31
HUC News	16	Budget 2024	33
Christmas Breakfast	17	Constitution and Bylaws	35
Bake Night	17	Mission Statement	43
Sunday School	18	Staff	43
HUC Gwen Salter Peoples Fund	19		
OUTREACH	20		
CNOY	20		
Mitten Tree	21		
Toonie Auction	21		

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS**

### **Annual Congregational Meeting - February 11, 2024**

Rev. Darrow began the meeting by reading the names of those that had passed in 2023. He then called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for Chairperson of the 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting and all subsequent congregational meetings in 2024. Greg Iler was nominated by Eleanor Walker, seconded by John Woodbridge. Greg accepted. There were no other nominations.

Nominations were closed and Greg Iler was acclaimed to the position of Chairperson of the Congregational Meeting

Election of Secretary for 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting and all subsequent congregational meetings in 2024. Sue Timpson-Mannell was nominated by Laurene Csikasz, seconded by Lari Sabbe. Sue accepted. There were no other nominations. Nominations were closed and Sue Timpson-Mannell was acclaimed to the position of Secretary of the Congregational Meeting

Motion about voting privileges:

It was moved by Doug Balsillie and seconded by Bill Shea that all members and adherents in attendance at the meeting be eligible to speak to and vote on any motions presented at today's meeting. Motion Carried

Approval of 2023 Annual Minutes

It was moved by Barry Mannell and seconded by Doug Balsillie that the minutes of the Congregational meetings held on February 5, 2023 and November 19, 2023 be approved as distributed. Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes - NONE

Receiving The Reports

The reports of each committee of the Official Board are printed in the Annual Report Book.

### **MINISTRY & PERSONNEL and TRUSTEE REPORTS**

It was moved by Eric Colenutt and seconded by Eleanor that the report of the Ministry & Personnel Committee found on page 10 of the Annual Report be accepted.

Motion Carried

It was moved by Doug Balsillie and seconded by Lari Sabbe that the report of the Trustees found on page 10 of the Annual Report be accepted. Motion Carried

### **REPORT OF WORSHIP & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

During the children's time the Happy Hands Puppets and members of the Worship Committee did a puppet play as part of their worship report.

It was moved by Gillian Lamoure and seconded by Lynne Lounsbury that the report of the Worship & Membership Committee found on pages 11-15 of the Annual Report be accepted. Motion Carried

### **REPORT OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND WORK**

John Woodbridge spoke that the work of the Congregational Life and Work committee was more than just the committee. So many others come forward to lead and take part in many aspects that fall under the umbrella of this committee. Barry Mannell looks after the HUC News postings and is also the lead for the Christmas Breakfast. Greg Iler helped organize the Community Meal and others came forward to help Laura with the Toonie Auction.

It was moved by John Woodbridge and seconded by Bob Lounsbury that the report of the Congregation Life & Work Committee found on pages 16-19 of the Annual Report be accepted.  
Motion Carried

### **REPORT OF OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Barry spoke on behalf of Laura D'Allesandro for the Outreach committee.

It was moved by Barry Mannell and seconded by Gillian Lamoure that the report of the Outreach Committee found on pages 20-24 of the Annual Report be accepted.  
Motion Carried

It was moved by Barry Mannell and seconded by Doug Balsillie that our Outreach Fundraising Goal for 2024 be \$13,500  
Motion Carried

### **REPORT OF PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Barry Mannell spoke as chair of the property committee. This past year, due to our financial position, they tried to do only what was necessary for maintenance. This coming year they know there are expenses they can not put off, one of them being the parking lot.

It was moved by Barry Mannell and seconded by Bob Lounsbury that the report of the Property Committee found on page 25 of the Annual Report be accepted.  
Motion Carried

### **REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE**

John Woodbridge spoke as chair of the finance committee. He brought our attention to the report on pg 26 outlining the savings we have had over the past few years from the benefit of government loans, grants and subsidies that were available to us. Without these funds at our disposal, we would have been over \$55,000 in debt by mid spring. He congratulated the congregation and the work of Glenn on helping us end the year with a minimal deficit of \$188.77

It was moved by John Woodbridge and seconded by Leslie Balsillie that the report of the Finance Committee including all financial reports found on pages 26-34 of the Annual Report be accepted.  
Motion Carried

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Nominating Report**

It was moved by Leslie Balsillie and seconded by Liz Chittle that the following people be elected to the Official Board

Gillian Lamoure  
Greg Iler  
John Woodbridge  
Vivienne Wood

Motion Carried

As Faith Defour was not in attendance at the meeting, she will be asked if she will remain on the board for another term.

### **Financial Examiners**

It was moved by John Woodbridge and seconded by Barry Mannell that the following be appointed as financial examiners for the congregation for 2024.

Doug Balsillie  
Grant McGuire

Motion Carried

### **Turkey Supper**

It was moved by John Woodbridge and seconded by Wendy McDonald that the congregation approve the holding of our annual Turkey Supper in the fall of 2024.

Motion Carried

### **Pie Tent**

Eleanor Walker wanted to express thanks on behalf of the congregation to Doug and Leslie Balsillie for the fruit they have donated for pies. Also, thanks were extended to all the members of the pie making groups.

It was moved by Bob Lounsbury and seconded by Bill Shea that the congregation approve the operation of the Pie Tent at the Harrow Fair in 2024.

Motion Carried

### **Regional Representatives**

Since the amalgamation of Presbyteries to large Regional areas by the United Church of Canada several years ago, we have not had anyone in place as regional representatives. We should elect 2 people from our congregation. Nominations were asked for from the floor. Being that there were none given, this will be taken to the Official Board.

### **Motion to Approve Budget**

No questions came to the floor in regards to the budget.

It was moved by John Woodbridge and seconded by Jim Lonsbery that the budget for 2024 as proposed on pages 35 and 36 be approved.

Motion Carried

After a brief message from Rev. Darrow Woods and the installations of our board and committee members the meeting was adjourned. Moved by Bill Shea, seconded by Doug Balsillie.

Motion Carried

**Congregational Meeting - October 6, 2024**

Chair: Barry Mannell (elected at Annual meeting)

Secretary: Sue Timpson-Mannell (elected at annual meeting)

Barry Mannell called the meeting to order and introduced our supervising minister, Rev. Joshua Kang from Epworth united Church.

A powerpoint presentation provided us with some details on the Collaborative Covenanting Agreement between Harrow United Church and Essex United Church

Attendance circulated

Introduction, welcome and prayer provided by Chair, Greg Iler

Treasurer, Glenn Gorick provided financial information by handouts and Powerpoint, reviewed information provided. Areas covered included the deficit, trends in expenses, expenditure breakdowns and income breakdowns. Questions from congregation regarding salaries, fundraising, insurance payments, the government loan, income through Rural Connect and payroll deductions were answered and clarified by treasurer.

Vice chair, Barry Mannell, reviewed information by Powerpoint on the breakdown of our current 69 financial givers, with a reminder that all donor information is confidential and were provided by John Woodbridge (Chair of Finance) and Caryl Karshakoff (Envelope Steward).

Greg Iler encouraged those present to consider the future of our congregation and our Minister, recording answers on the flip chart.

A. What do you value about Harrow United Church?

- church family
- music
- ministerial support
- sense of comfort
- peer support
- learning, education
- making youth relevant
- welcoming to children
- building (space, acoustics)
- community support
- worship, good sermon
- outreach (community needs)
- social (gather with people)
- keeping in touch (HUC news)
- accepting (regardless of denomination)
- face to face interactions
- diverse group for resources
- learn how to be an orator

B. Is it important to have the same trained minister/clergy each Sunday?

- YES:
- either in person or by video
  - to provide leadership
  - for weddings – funerals – crisis

- NO:
- utilize good people rotating in pulpit
  - could be a shared minister with other congregation(s)
  - have options for different styles of services
  - share expenses

-we contain strong leadership with our congregation to run church

C. Is it important to continue as a congregation? Yes.

D. Do we need for form a search committee at this point in time? No.

It was agreed that we need spiritual support!

Barry Mannell reviewed planned Pulpit Supply details for January through April 2025.

Linda Blair will be preaching for three out of four weeks each month, providing a monthly service at Harrowood, and will be available for funerals. The board has reached out to other churches indicating that we are exploring partnering with other congregations who are also without clergy, and sharing information about our current church technology.

Greg Iler concluded the discussion, reminding us all that moving forward, things are going to be different. Final discussion included concerns about the cost of staying in our current location long term.

Gillian Lamoure was thanked for all of her hard work over many years arranging pulpit supply.

It was moved by Gloria Gorick and seconded by Wendy McDonald to adjourn the meeting.

Rev. Darrow Woods joined the meeting to provide reflection on the spirit of the day, blessing and dismissal.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Timpson-Mannell





**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER*****"What lasts, in a season of lasts?"***

Laurene said even though I'll be retired by the time of the annual meeting, I was still on the hook for a Minister's Message. My last one!

Since my plan to retire was announced I knew I'd entered a time of lasts. It added poignancy to each conversation knowing it might be the last time I'd be talking to this person, as their pastor.

Even though funerals have always been one of my favourite parts of ministry, I'm not great with goodbyes, or endings in my own life. For the past few months, when someone has said, "But we'll still see you around..." I have struggled with how to respond.

Part of me wanted to say, "Sure, we'll still be living in Kingsville, and I'll be in Harrow once in a while!" This is true, but it's also true that something significant has ended.

When a minister starts in a new place we have a covenanting service. The minister, the congregation, and the wider church make promises meant to define and direct the new relationship.

I promised to be your pastor, and offer the ministry of Word (preaching and teaching), Sacrament (presiding over Worship, including Baptism, Communion and other special times), and Pastoral Care. Since September 1, 2018, I've done these things the best I knew how, and remain grateful for your patience, understanding and grace. It has been a privilege.

As a congregation, you promised to support me in that work, and to carry on your own faithful lives as followers of Jesus. I am deeply thankful for the uncountable ways you have done that, and for the opportunities to share in important times in your lives.

On December 29, 2024 we took time in the service for de-covenanting. You released me from my duties as your pastor, and I relinquished that role. It was not easy to give it up! I remain a minister in the United Church of Canada, even though I am retired. I will remain open to God's call, and I trust God has plans and dreams I can't yet imagine. But I am no longer your pastor.

I say this with gratitude for all that has been, grief that this time has ended, and awareness of what lasts, even beyond the season of "lasts".

What lasts is the love of God, the mysterious and wonderful influence that brought us together in the first place. We are, each of us, created by God, precious to God, and essential to God's plan to love the world, and each of us, into what God dreams is possible.

People have asked about my practice of signing off every message and email with the word "Peace". Whatever I've said or done, (for good or for bad!) I'd like God's peace to be the last word. My inspiration, and the word I want to leave with you, comes from the fourth chapter of the Letter to the Philippians:

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”

Peace,  
Rev. Darrow Woods

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD**

The annual report reviews and summarizes the events and accomplishments of our church in the past year. It gives us time to reflect, and to tell our story.

Today I participated in the worship service as reader. This is a valuable role that people from our congregation volunteer. When I am involved with worship, I pray that God speaks through me and enables me to be at the best of my abilities. Looking out from the front of the sanctuary, I am reminded that our church is a welcome and familial space. I am also aware of the many hours of service from dedicated people to accomplish what we do in the year. Thank you.

*Romans 12:4-8 GNBUC*

*We have many parts in the one body, and all these parts have different functions. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body.*

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

Continuing from 2023, we partnered with Essex United Church, with Darrow providing part of his time and leadership to Essex and sharing our worship services. We are saddened that their ministry ended in October, with events that celebrated their long history. We are happy that members of Essex United have joined us in person for worship and look forward to strengthening our relationship with them.

Delhi United Church continued to join us in worship, through Rural Connect, and we will strive to answer their needs as an extended church community.

Project Hope has moved their food donation distribution to our location. We have provided storage space for Project Hope since their beginning. When they were looking to relocate the Community Pantry, it was a natural response to offer our parking lot. We are happy to contribute to their effort to reduce food insecurity in our community. Welcome!

## **DONATIONS**

When I am making announcements, I try to remember to acknowledge the people watching on-line from their home. It is a valuable part of our worship outreach.

I will also ask for donations. It is a touchy gesture, one that can be uncomfortable for both sides of the conversation. I work up extra nerve to say the words, so please know

that I do not ask it casually. I know that the cost of living is ever increasing for households. Since we do not have a wealth of reserve funds to draw on, we are dependent on regular giving to maintain and run the building and pay staff. We ask that you will continue to prayerfully give as you are able and maybe a reminder will help us all review the value of our worship community.

*2 Corinthians 9:7: Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give.*

We are grateful for your donations. We recognize that is not a casual gesture to share what God has given, and for that we are careful with the money we are gifted. Whether you donate financially or give of your time and talents at any level, we thank you for your continued support.

### **OCTOBER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

In October, we met as a congregation to discuss three questions, which were answered by thoughtful discussion.

What do you value about Harrow United Church?

The answers included church family, community support, music, worship, ministerial support, and social networking. HUC news and telephone calls, education, comfort, acceptance, feedback, pier support also were stated. Community outreach with the Community Luncheon and the Harrow Food Bank collections are also part. There is a family of skill sets. Welcoming children was important. There was concern about youth ministry. The facility space we have offers good acoustics. Our members have good oratory skills.

Is it important to have the same, trained, minister every Sunday?

In answering yes, we value a good sermon and the leadership of a minister. We touched on the idea of a shared minister.

In answering no, we have variety, reduce expenses and then draw on diverse experiences.

Is it important to continue as a congregation?

Yes!

### **DARROW'S RETIREMENT**

*Luke 22:27: Jesus says, "I am among you as he that serves."*

After six years of ministry with us, Darrow Woods has retired from United Church ministry. We gathered for a potluck luncheon and short program on his last Sunday of service on December 29 to celebrate his time with us. Darrow, thank you for ministering to us. We wish you many blessings in your retirement as you pursue your interests and passions in retirement. We know that you will continue to bless the people around you.

**OUR FUTURE**

We know that our church ministry is facing a time of change. This year has been one of reflection and searching. We are facing financial concerns and a change in pastoral leadership. What is God asking us to do? What is God asking us to do differently?

I have always felt that our first purpose is to gather for worship and edification, and then to serve the greater community. We demonstrate God’s love in the ways we serve each other and serve our community.

We are blessed with a depth of talent and leadership in our congregation. We can draw on this and pray for God’s guidance to show us the way forward. God has predisposed us for success.

*Proverbs 16:3 Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish*

Greg Iler - Official Board chair



**Official Board 2024**

<u>Retire end of 2024</u>	<u>Retire end of 2025</u>	<u>Retire end of 2026</u>
Eleanor Walker Brian Wood Caryl Karshakoff	Laura D'Allesandro Jen Gritke Greg Harrison Bob Lounsbury Jim Lonsbery Barry Mannell Murray Sellars Patricia McGorman	Faith Defour Greg Iler Gillian Lamoure Vivienne Wood John Woodbridge

**EXECUTIVE** - Chair of each committee    Greg Iler – Chair  
 Barry Mannell – Vice Chair  
 Laurene Csikasz – Recording Steward  
 Glenn Gorick – Treasurer

**WORSHIP & MEMBERSHIP**

Gillian Lamoure – Chair  
 Vivienne Wood  
 \*Nancy Colenutt  
 \*Janet Woodbridge

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK**

John Woodbridge - Chair  
 Faith Defour  
 Patricia McGorman  
 Eleanor Walker

**OUTREACH**

Laura George - Chair

**PROPERTY**

Barry Mannell – Chair  
 Greg Iler  
 Bob Lounsbury  
 Murray Sellars  
 \*Larry Iler

**FINANCE**

John Woodbridge – Chair  
 Glenn Gorick – Treasurer  
 Caryl Karshakoff – Envelope Steward  
 Jen Gritke  
 Greg Harrison  
 Jim Lonsbery  
 Brian Wood

\*Not an Official Board member

**MINISTRY AND PERSONEL COMMITTEE**

Eric Colenutt -Chair  
Scott Mannell  
Carol Bondy

Elsie Ring  
Jim Lonsbery

The M&P Committee continues to be at everyone's service for those people employed or are volunteers in the church. We are striving to update our terms of reference as we will be meeting with the chairs of various committees and with other key volunteers. We invite members and staff of the congregation to share any/all of their concerns with members of the M&P.

Eric Colenutt  
Chair

**TRUSTEES**

Walter McLean- Chair  
Doug Balsillie - Secretary  
Beth Graham

Lari Sabbe  
Murray Sellars  
Darrow Woods

The trustees of the church are responsible for maintaining the capital assets of the church, and ensuring we are adequately protected.

In addition, we manage the investment portfolio created with the proceeds of the sale of the manse. Every month, \$750.00 is transferred from this fund to the General account to be used as a portion of the minister's remuneration. As of January 2025, no further withdrawals will take place until we have retained a new minister. As of December 31, 2024, the balance of this fund was \$58,272.91.

In addition, the congregation continues to own 11 cemetery plots left in an estate some time ago. The board has decided they should be sold and the finance committee is responsible for the sale.

With the passing of Walter McLean, our committee will need to find some additional members and find a new chair.

Submitted by Doug Balsillie



## WORSHIP & MEMBERSHIP

Our congregation may be small, but we are blessed with so much acceptance and patience for the changes that have been coming our way.

Through technology, our church family welcomed the addition of the Essex and Delhi congregations, using rural connect. This process was often disruptive and frustrating but everyone persevered. Even sharing Rev Darrow with Essex, one Sunday a month met with acceptance.

While we do cherish our traditions at Harrow United ...such as the Easter sunrise service at JR Park, Remembrance Day with the Legion, the memory tree and Christmas Eve candlelight service, we also enjoy changes to the year. In June, our children's service turned into a Teddy Bear's Picnic complete with a bbq and games in the parking lot. Plus we held a Gay Pride Sunday and hung a donated pride flag out front.

During the summer months, we took a break from rural connect and rejoined our friends at Harrow Mennonite. This partnership has been ongoing since 2007.

In October, we attended the last service at Essex United and were thrilled to see some of their members sitting in our pews on Sundays following. We look forward to continuing to worship with them.

Rev Darrow introduced a couple of "Preacher's juke-box Sundays", where he spoke on topics suggested by the congregation. And what a lovely dilemma we had in the final weeks of Darrow's time with us, as we fit in the welcoming of new members and the baptism of several children!



The Worship Committee has nothing but gratitude for all our volunteers. Readers, leaders, singers, musicians, ushers, greeters, media techs and communion preparers. All who stepped up to help throughout the year. Know that you may go unacknowledged but are never unappreciated.

We are always looking for ways to enrich our time together. And for that we need your help. We invite each of you to communicate your concerns, your thoughts and ideas with us. Let us challenge ourselves to become active members of this faith family.

Each time you step up, we are all blessed. We are all thankful.

We can be proud of our church family and rejoice in its' future.

We know this coming year will be a challenge. Let us turn that challenge into an opportunity. Let us use this time of transition to become a unified congregation. Let's be open to the path that God is leading us on next.

Gillian Lamoure - Chair of Worship

**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Households under care	230	236
Number of persons under pastoral oversight	489	499
Baptisms - Infant	1	5
- Adult	0	0
Marriages	1	1
Funerals	2	9
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>		
Membership – Jan 1 <sup>st</sup>	308	308
Received by transfer	0	3
Received by profession of faith/baptism	2	5
Removed by transfer or request	0	0
Removed by death	2	7
Non-resident members	41	40
Resident membership	267	269
Total membership – Dec 31 <sup>st</sup>	308	309

**MEMBERS REMOVED BY DEATH 2024**

Irene Margaret Bridgen	Elaine McQuiggin
Tina Marie Kimball	Sheila Margaret Salter
Lawrence (Pat) Lounsbury	Velma Loraine Swarts
Walter Murray McLean	

**BURIALS 2024**

Irene Margaret Bridgen	Joan Inchowick	Brian Windcombe Pye
Steven Edward Brook	Tina Marie Kimball	Sheila Margaret Salter
Frank Cyril Defour	Lawrence (Pat) Lounsbury	Velma Loraine Swarts

**MEMBERS ADDED BY PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Lynne Lounsbury	Marilyn Snary
Robert Lounsbury	Vivienne Wood
Erma Rounq	

**MEMBERS ADDED BY TRANSFER**

Cheryl Hannigan	Larry Hannigan	Marilyn Rogers
-----------------	----------------	----------------

**BAPTISM**

Imogen June Brennan - daughter of Liam Brennan & Megan Balsillie  
 Cooper Ellis Owen Huffman – son of Joshua Huffman & Emily Jenner  
 Tamoya Zoe Jackson - daughter of Le’Jon Jackson & Kate-Lynn Myles  
 Jack Evan McCoy - son of Alan McCoy & Jessica Schroeder  
 Oliver Wesley Stomp - son of Kody Stomp & Emily Iler

**WEDDINGS**

Justin Carl Huffman & Katherine Irene Melton - March 2, 2024



## REPORT FROM THE ORGANIST

I wish to thank everyone who supported our Music Program in 2024. In particular, my thanks to Patti Hopper for her organization, talent and leadership. Appreciation is also extended to our amazing instrumentalists and vocal soloists. We have such great talent at Harrow United Church.

I feel blessed to be part of such a caring, loving faith family. I am looking forward to a wonderful "musical" year in 2025.

Sincerely,  
Larry Anderson

## MUSIC MINISTRY

In 2024, we were thrilled to have some new members join the choir. Each section of the choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) has three to six members, and this has helped the choir sound balanced when they sing in the sanctuary. We rehearsed Thursday evenings after Hand Chime practice and the choir provided music for the Ministry of Music three or four times a month. We are so grateful for our accompanist, Larry Anderson, the tech crew for making the choir sound great in person and online, and John Woodbridge for keeping the music library so organized.

2024 was another busy year for the Harrow United Choir and our first opportunity to sing in a special event began in January. On January 20, some choir members participated in An Evening of Hope – what a great variety of music. Thank you to Jeff Gorick for organizing such a fabulous event! The opportunities continued in April with the Windsor Chorale Festival. This was the second year for the HUC Choir to participate in this excellent festival. The choir was adjudicated by guest conductor Dr. Elaine Choi and she offered a number of excellent suggestions. The festival ended with a culminating concert at the Capital Theatre where each participating choir had the opportunity to perform one or two numbers on their own. The evening ended with a mass choir performance. It is always very exciting to sing in such a large group under the direction of Dr. Choi – such a skilled conductor.

The Christmas Carol Concert was presented on December 15 with special guests Some Guys Who Like to Sing. This concert was very well received, and the choir got the opportunity to perform some of the concert pieces again during Ministry of Music during Advent. Typically, choir members take a break between Christmas and the new year. However, this year, the choir provided the Ministry of Music for Reverend Darrow's last service before his retirement.

Special thanks to the members of the congregation who are always so positive and appreciative of the efforts of the HUC choir.

Patti Hopper



**AUDIO VISUAL TEAM**

Through Rural Connect (supported by the United Church of Canada) Essex and Delhi United joined us in joint services. Rev. Darrow provided the sermons as well as crafting each service to include participation from each of the churches.

Rural Connect has been a major undertaking over the past year. Although we lost Essex United when they closed on October 20th, the size of our team remains the same - 8 members that keep the system operating. It's safe to say we would not be in operation if Jim Wood was not one of our team members.

Streaming (live signal to people's homes) has been a big issue for the last part of the year. Jim Wood recently reformatted our computers and streaming is available again.

Services are also recorded and available on our website.

I highly encourage anyone who would like to be part of the team to simply join us in the AV room during the service. By simply watching what we do, you may find something that you would like to assist us with. Our team each week depends a minimum of four people.

Church Services  
Recordings & Streaming

---

## Your 2024 Snapshot

---

Streamed Services

**38**

Total Views                      Subscribers

**9,404**                      **277**

---

**Most watched Videos**  
October 2012  
*'I Am the Church'*

**43,342 views**

---

This Year  
**"It is Well" Trumpet/Organ Duet**  
339 views



- computer operator: to show slides
- camera operator: to select camera shots
- sound operator: to control volume levels when needed
- tech coordinator: oversee the operation

It's important that we have back-ups when someone is absent. Presently our team includes Scott Mannell, Jim & Brian Wood, Leslie Balsillie, Paul Gushue, Eric Colenutt, Darryl Derbyshire and Dennis Graham.

2025 promises to be a great year!

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK**

The purpose of the CL&W Committee is to provide educational and developmental opportunities which will further the faith journey of all people in our church. Sunday School, adult study groups, programming for congregational events (e.g. Family Faith nights) and encouraging and supporting individuals and families to attend Christian events and camps are all part of our work.

The following are reports that were submitted by the groups that fall under this committee.

**CARD REPORT**

<b>Cards sent</b>	
Sympathy	5
Birthday	7
Christmas Cards*	0
Thinking of You	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>

**\*due to mail strike no  
christmas cards were  
sent**

Shirley Reh-Dube

**HUC News...This Week @ Harrow United**

We have a mailing list that we send regular email updates. If you have news you would like to be shared, or if you wish to be added to list, please email us at [hucnews@gmail.com](mailto:hucnews@gmail.com). We currently have 179 email addresses we send to.

Barry Mannell



### **CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST**

We held our third annual Christmas Breakfast this year, and it was great! We had almost 50 people show up, and those that showed up stayed and visited. It was wonderful fellowship.

Once again we had new volunteers help out this year. Joel Woods and Grace Enns provided Christmas music on piano and violin which creates a wonderful atmosphere. Our menu consisted of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, and toast, along with juice, coffee and tea. We are grateful for the donations which covered the cost of the food, and a special thanks to our sponsor Sanford & Son Supermarket.

Barry Mannell

### **The Lost Arts - Bake Night**

This was our first event with a new venture. Idea credit goes to Kate-Lynn Myles Jackson. When asked what she would like to see for our younger members, she shared that she would like to have evenings together where people could learn skills that some may not have had the opportunity to learn yet, such as knitting and sewing, wanting to expand with other skills and knowledge that people would like to share. The plan is that our young families will not have to worry about childcare when they come out and participate. There are many skills held with members of our community and it is our hope that they will come from younger to older too. Providing an evening where our busy young families don't have to worry about dinner preparation and can come together in a Christian environment to share knowledge just seems like a great opportunity to build relationships and to welcome others to join in.



Bake Night was a lot of fun. We had a pizza dinner thanks to the kitchen help of Lari Sabbe, Marilyn Snary, Jeff Csikasz, Barry Mannell, John Woodbridge and Erma Rong. We had 6 families come out, with a count of 14 Children. Probably everyone had baked cookies before, but this was an opportunity to mix, roll-out, bake and decorate sugar cookies for Christmas, while having some fun in each other's company. It was also a reminder that we are empowered to make thoughtful gifts for our friends and families with supplies that are readily available

A special thank you to Melissa McLean for creating. With much appreciation to everyone for our successful first night of The Lost Arts.

-Patricia McGorman

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

In Sunday School 2024, we followed along with the adult lessons provided by Reverend Darrow and our visiting Ministers. We used the Sparks Children's Bible which provides opportunity for our young readers to participate in reading the stories, and pictures for our younger students to help understanding through visualization.

This year we held our Sunday School picnic indoors where I think we all appreciated the air conditioning that day. The hall was thoughtfully decorated by members of the congregation for a Teddy Bear's picnic and each child was encouraged to bring their favourite stuffed animal. There was a good diversity of animals represented joining our young people in the picnic setting amongst the indoor trees. Some bonuses to having it held in the Church were an easy supply of water for the water games and a great surface to colour the parking lot with chalk.

Our most popular craft this year had to be the making homemade poppies. These were given out to members of the Congregation to wear for Remembrance Day. They were made from felt, and we glued clasping pins to secure them with the thought that we would no longer have to get poked by a pin, or lose them - and they can even survive a turn through the wash. A collection was taken, as we handed them out for the Legion's Poppy Fund, which goes to Veterans needing support services.

The children also enjoyed making decorations for our Sunday School Christmas tree which John Woodbridge so kindly set up for us. It is simplistic in its structure with pieces of lath for branches which, in addition to its environmentally friendly structure, provides a greater opportunity for our young artists to express and display their creative works. Super special was Sunday School students Jack and Imogen being baptised by Reverend Darrow. This was their choosing, supported by their parents. We were all sad to know that Darrow would be retiring and their choosing him to baptize them before he left was especially meaningful.



The impromptu Christmas play led by Reverend Darrow on Christmas Eve, was the most favourite service as indicated by all the smiles. We had children dressed as sheep and we had Shepherds and Angels, Mary and Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. King Herod and of course, a Baby Jesus.

A special Thank-you to the praise music team leaders, Lari Sabbe and Sue Timpson-Mannell, for making the children a special part of the Church Service, and to Lilia Derbyshire for taking on a roll as a Sunday School Teacher. We have had over 20 different children (average of 4 per week) attending our Sunday School in 2024. Thank you, everyone, for your efforts to make the Church such a wonderfully welcoming and supportive environment for these very special young people!

With much appreciation, Patricia McGorman

### HUC GWEN SALTER PEOPLE'S FUND (1997-2024)

#### Committee:

Dennis Graham - Chairperson  
Ken Derbyshire - Treasurer  
Connie Salter - Secretary

Robin Myles  
Eric Colenutt  
(Darrow Woods)

The People's Fund provided funding to enable people of Harrow United Church to participate in learning situations (e.g. camps, conferences, workshops, etc.). The funds were available to anyone with preference given to members of our congregation and/or their children.

Recent History - Discussions were initiated through the board and minister in early 2021 to discuss ways to alter the scope and parameters of the fund. In 2023 there were no applicants for the fund. Even without COVID, our numbers dropped. London Conference no longer existed, fewer young people were attending summer camps and the needs diminished.

On July 25, 2024 the People Fund account was closed and the remaining amount of \$6,012.05 was transferred from TD Canada Trust to the Harrow United Church's Operating Account.

The closing ended 27 years of funding but the transfer of money to the church helped to reduce our debt.

Dennis Graham  
Chairperson



**OUTREACH**

We have continued our educational sponsorship for the two girls in Tanzania, Angela (18) and Manka (10). We provide a donation of \$2000 a year, \$1000 per girl. These donations cover the cost of school tuition, lodging and food. Angela will be graduating from high school this year and plans to attend post-secondary school to become a teacher.

We have continued to collect food donations every Sunday during our church services. These items are generously given to the Harrow Food Bank. We continue to support the Food Bank, Project Hope and the Downtown Mission.

We donated towards the Amherstburg Food and Fellowships event at the Amherstburg Uncommon Festival. We have also supported them with donations of personal care items and clothing.

In partnership with the CL&W committee, we hosted our first Toonie-Auction and hamburger and hot dog dinner, and it was another great evening. Funds raised through the auction and the dinner went to the general fund. Thank you to all those who donated items, helped set up, served dinner and made sure the night was the great success it was.

Outreach is a small yet mighty committee. We are always open to new members and with more congregational involvement our reach into the community and our impact will continue to grow. If you are interested in joining the committee or have an idea for an outreach initiative, please reach out to me.

We know times are tight for a lot of families. This year, more than ever, we appreciate the generosity of our congregation. From monetary donations, donations of food and personal care items and those who give endlessly of their time and talents throughout the year, we appreciate all the generosity we receive.

Laura George – Chair of Outreach

**CNOY – COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR**

Our team from Harrow United, "HUCSTERS" again walked in this event in support of The Downtown Mission. We had 17 walkers this year. We were once again the top fundraising team raising over \$12,000! Over the last 6 years we have raised almost \$75,000 for The Downtown Mission. We are walking again this year! It's not too late to join our team or to donate!



**HUCSTERS**



Barry Mannell - Team Captain

### MITTEN TREE

As of December 20, 2024, a total of 179 items were donated to the Mitten Tree. These included hats, gloves and mittens, scarves and socks.

This year we learned that the Harrow Public School had an ongoing need for warm clothing for their students. With this in mind, a small donation of 20 children's hats and gloves was delivered to the school. Any additional children's items that arrive over the Christmas season, will be taken to the school. Any additional adult items will be sent to the Downtown Mission.



Hiatus House. 73  
Downtown Mission. 86  
Harrow Public School. 20

Janet Woodbridge

### Toonie Auction

We had a great turnout for our Toonie Auction in November. We had 35 baskets up for bids and 4 "loser" prizes at the end. Everyone had a great time. Our auctioneer Sean MacKinnon was back for his second year and did a fabulous job. We had a profit of \$4,387.51! Thanks to those that donated baskets and our basket/buying team of Gillian, Janet, Stephanie, and Laurene.





**FOOD BANK**

**Harrow Food Bank Collections 2024**



We are always grateful at the generosity of this congregation and the greater Harrow community who strive to ensure that people are not hungry. Each Sunday, you bring in food, and the Sunday School students are happy to help collect and sort it. This project started 16 years ago, and to date, can by can, we have donated a total of 21,922 lbs of food!

Some people prefer to donate cash, which is distributed to the families to buy fresh produce, dairy and meat. In December, we were able to present a cheque for \$1828.55 to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank, which was gratefully received.

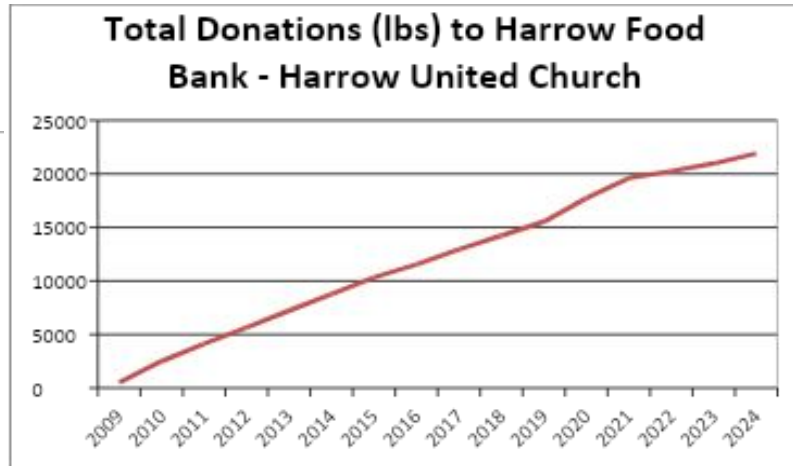
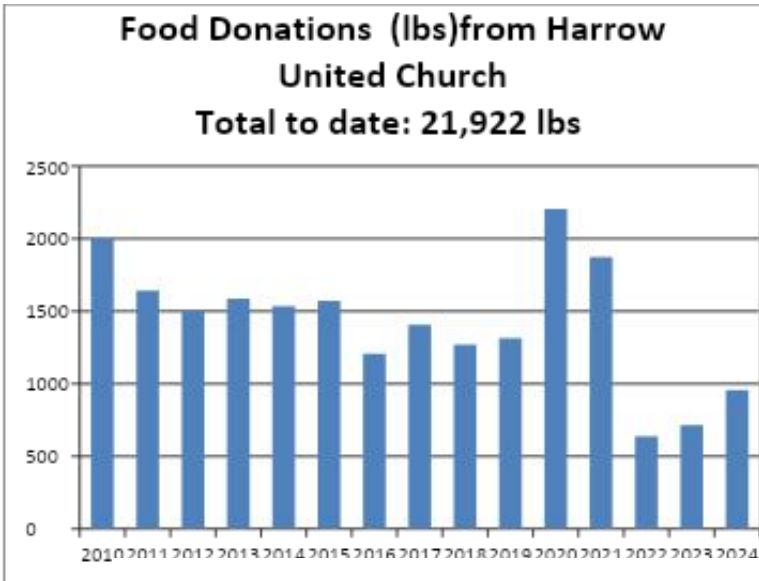
Again, this year we were asked to help fill the Christmas food baskets distributed by the Harrow Food Bank. And again the congregation stepped up and donated 100 boxes of stuffing, plus 100 cans of cranberry sauce to help 80 families have a

Christmas dinner with their loved ones.

When the food is delivered to the Food Bank, their volunteers often remind us that Harrow United Church is one of their most consistent donors, in both quantity and quality of food donated.

On behalf of the Harrow Food Bank, we thank our Harrow United congregation and the greater community for your continued support of this important project.

Liz Chittle & Leslie Balsillie



## **STUDENT AID COMMITTEE**

On September 15, 2024 the Student Aid Committee reluctantly agreed to disband the committee and transfer all monies to the General Fund of the Harrow United Church. Despite contacting the Theological Colleges, there has not been an application to the fund for a bursary. Given the amount of debt that the church is carrying, there have been no direct appeals to the congregation for money. On September 19, 2024 \$2205.40 was deposited into the general fund and the account closed.

Respectively submitted

Janet Woodbridge , Former Chair, Student Aid Committee

## **KIT RICHARDSON BURSARY**

Purpose: The purpose of the Fund was to assist students entering second and subsequent years in a recognized University or College.

Committee:

Chairperson - Gloria Gorick

Secretary - Diane Murray

Member - Elaine Richardson

Member - Greg Harrison

There were no fundraisers in 2024. In December 2022, the committee decided to turn the financial responsibilities of the Fund over to the Church Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee. The committee was still responsible for administering applications and determining bursary amounts. There were no bursaries paid out in 2024.

Effective January, 2025 the committee has decided to disband and transfer the remaining funds to the General Account of the church to be used toward operating expenses.

Gloria Gorick

Balance at TD Canada Trust December 31, 2023 \$ 2,061.62

Maturity of 1 year GIC \$ 3,153.88

Interest \$ 53.52

Balance at TD Canada Trust December 31, 2024 \$ 5,269.02

**PROPERTY**

After a couple years of austerity efforts, we spent a lot of money on our property in 2024. Our parking lot was overdue for resealing and that was completed at a cost of over \$5000. Our furnace was the real source of expense this year. When the boiler inspector was at the church in the spring, he recommended the replacement of one of the return tanks.

This was done, along with significant new piping to allow for better maintenance by our crew at the church. During this installation, it was discovered that another tank also needed replacement. This tank was actually located in the floor, so the replacement was not put in the same place. This also required new pipe lines to be installed. Then, when we started up the furnace, we had a pump fail. Then a control box had a short circuit that required new wiring. Since these last two repairs, the furnace has worked well, but total cost was over \$27,000 for all the work done. ( If anyone wishes to see the work done on the furnace, please ask Larry or Bob to give you a tour. ) We ended the year with a dishwasher that is being temperamental, and then a sewer pipe backing up, just to top things off.

My thanks to Larry Iler who spends hours at the church minding the furnace and doing minor repairs, and to Bob Lounsbury for all his hard work. Jeff Csikasz is always ready to lend a helping hand. Thanks to Cathy and Bruce for all their work keeping the church building clean.

Barry Mannell - Chair



## FINANCE

Harrow United Church began the year with a deficit of \$188.77. But this year we had some heavy expenses to pay - \$27,665 for furnace repairs and \$5,000 for our parking lot. As a result, our deficit is now \$8,587.21.

Our Mission remittance to the United Church of Canada was \$7,199.63. The Tanzania Outreach project was sent \$2,000 and local agencies received \$350.00. Our Love Bucket donations totalled \$833.19. Our total donations to missions was \$10,382.82 for 2024.

Our personal donations were very similar to last year's levels. This can be noted in the Comparative Offerings chart in the finance reports. This is promising.

Our fund raising efforts were productive as well. The pie teams created over 1460 pies and netted \$22,894.38. In November, the Turkey Supper generated a profit of \$11,078.24, and the Toonie Auction evening yielded a \$4,387.51 profit. The barbecues in July produced \$1,090.00 for our General Fund, and the weddings/funeral lunches contributed \$3,900.00. Our efforts were well rewarded.

One arrangement that was new to us was the Collaborative Covenant that we entered into with Essex United Church. They agreed to pay Harrow United Church \$2,500.00 per month (\$2,000 for 25% of our minister's time, and \$500 toward Rural Connect). This continued until October 25, 2024 when Essex United closed. The total amount we received in 2024 was \$20,000 to offset salary costs, plus \$5,000 for Rural Connect.

The Capital Fund continues to be an area of weakness. Because we have devoted a lot of attention to making sure our operating account was viable, the Capital Fund currently contains \$871.98. Our Windsor-Essex Development Fund loan is \$13,000.00 and we need to make our annual payment on February 20. We have 3 years in which to pay it off but we need to address this situation.

We, also, have a United Church of Canada CEBA Loan to pay. The amount currently stands at \$33,393.49 and we are obligated to pay \$754.85 per month towards this loan. (\$9,058.20 annually)

In summary, we are starting the year with a large deficit. However, our personal donations and fund raising efforts have been maintained. We have new members who have joined us and are willing to contribute to our congregation. And we will be searching for a new minister this year and, possibly, a new arrangement with other churches. With our continued co-operative spirit, we will meet the challenges of 2025.

John Woodbridge - Chair of Finance

## **TURKEY DINNER REPORT**

Beth Graham - Recruits Volunteers

John Woodbridge, Bob Lounsbury, Dennis McLean, Jim Lonsbery - Turkey Preparation

Eleanor Walker, Cathy and Bruce Woodiwiss, Anita Gorick - Purchase food supplies

Janet Woodbridge - Manages Dinner sales

Barry Mannell - Manages Pick up dinners

Our annual take out turkey dinner is held on the first Saturday in November. This is an event that brings the Harrow Community and the Harrow United Church together. The turkey dinner, with all the fixings, is prepared by a large number of volunteers from Harrow United Church and also from the surrounding community.

We begin in late August to plan and prepare for this dinner. We purchase many fruits and vegetables from our local farmers. The cost of the dinner (\$25) remained the same as last year as we were able to purchase turkeys for the same price as last year. We sold 554 meals this year.

A huge thank you to all the people who assisted with this dinner and to all the people who helped to organize, donate and to all those who helped in any way to make this dinner a successful event. This year our profit was \$11,078.24. Proceeds from this dinner went to the General Fund and a \$1000 went to Mission and Outreach.

Eleanor Walker

## **HARROW UNITED CHURCH PIE BOOTH REPORT**

Our two pie teams continue to be integral parts of our church community. The first team, "The Pie Pixies", is headed by Lari Sabbe and Caryl Karshakoff with Kathy Gray, Faith Defour, Theresa Manning and Colette McLean providing valuable assistance. Anita Gorick is the buyer who finds the deals and brings in the needed materials. They usually meet one morning a week and create the pie dough which is then formed into pie shells and pie lids.

The second team is headed by Leslie Balsillie and usually meets in the evenings to mix the fillings for the pie shells. This team is also supported by a large number of people who peel apples or peaches, or prepare strawberries so that our top-notch fillings can be created. This is a noisy group, with much visiting and bantering going on as they work. The main thing is everyone has fun! The pie makers would like to thank Doug and Leslie Balsillie and our local rhubarb growers for the fruit that they donated. They would also like to thank Colasanti's for their favourable pricing on strawberries.

The main sales point is the Harrow Fair Pie Tent. This year we made 1103 pies and sold 1069 of them at the fair. When you add in the cream pies that we purchased, we sold 1159 pies in total. The teams also sold 173 pies to Lee and Maria's Market this year. When you add in 90 pies for the Turkey Supper, 30 apple pies donated to Project Hope for their Christmas hampers, and another 67 sold to various individuals throughout the year, they made over 1,460 pies in 2024.

The pie teams raised \$22,894.38 for Harrow United Church. Well done!

John Woodbridge (pie counter and stacker)

<b>COMPARATIVE OFFERINGS FOR LOCAL CHURCH PURPOSES</b>			
CONTRIBUTIONS	2022	2023	2024
Sunday Offerings By Envelope	\$142,726.00	\$142,657.49	\$142,419.91
Special Donations	3,725.20	7,684.92	8,103.44
Yr. End Givings (Local)	13,320.00	17,800.00	16,050.00
Loose Offering	235.00	1,226.10	1,896.62
Capital Fund Donations	6,390.00	5,665.00	4,490.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$166,396.20</b>	<b>\$175,033.51</b>	<b>\$172,959.97</b>

Envelope Steward - Caryl Karshakoff

**MISSION & SERVICE FUND**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
M & S (National)	\$8,830.00	\$8,618.00
25% of M&S to Outreach	(1,823.26)	(2,366.83)
Loose (1/2 of Collections)	613.05	948.31
Interest	0.31	0.15
<b>Total M&amp;S Remittance:</b>	<u>\$7,620.10</u>	<u>\$7,199.63</u>

Treasurer: Glenn Gorick

**The FINANCIAL EXAMINERS examined receipts and expenditures of Harrow United Church and found them to be in order as presented in the financial statement for the year 2024.**

**Dated:**

**Financial Examiners:**

**MEMORIAL FUND**

(Specially designated gifts to be used for the church.)

**ACCOUNT**

Balance in Account - December 31, 2023	\$ 8,328.37
Interest Earned & Bank Service Charges	11.89
Transfer to General Account for Furnace Repairs	(10,000.00)
Transfer to General Account for IPAD for AV Team	(891.56)
2024 Memorial Deposits	7,728.88
Balance in Account - December 31, 2024	<u><u>\$ 5,177.58</u></u>

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick

**SPECIAL GIFT ACCOUNT**

(Money received from undesignated bequests and gifts to be used for special projects)

**ACCOUNT**

Balance in Account - December 31, 2023 (Special Gifts)	\$ 10.49
Balance in Account - December 31, 2023 (Outreach)	3,040.65
Balance in Account - December 31, 2023 (Clothing Drive)	746.29
Balance in Account - December 31, 2023 (Sunday School Projects)	337.29
Balance in Account - December 31, 2023 (Flower Fund)	849.95
Balance in Account - December 31, 2023 (Staying Connected)	72.12
Transfer to General Account - Tanzania Outreach	(2,000.00)
Transfer to General Account - Local Outreach Donations	(350.00)
Donations & Funds Raised in 2024 for Outreach	2,501.33
Donations for Community Garden	544.70
Interest Earned & Bank Service Charges	3.23
Balance in Account - December 31, 2024	<u><u>\$ 5,756.05</u></u>

Staying Connected	72.12
Outreach Money	3,191.98
Clothing Drive	746.29
Special Gifts	13.72
Flower Fund	849.95
Sunday School Project	337.29
Community Garden	544.70
	<u><u>\$ 5,756.05</u></u>

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick

**HUC INVESTMENT ACCOUNT**

(Donations of Listed Securities to be used at the discretion of the Church)

**ACCOUNT**

Balance in Account - December 31, 2023	\$ 44.92
Balance in Account - December 31, 2024	<u><u>\$ 44.92</u></u>

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick

**BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT**

(Accessed by the minister and one elder for persons in need)

**ACCOUNT**

Balance in Account - December 31, 2023	\$ 59.73
Interest Earned	0.03
Balance in Account - December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 59.76</u>

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick

**CAPITAL FUND**

(Fund established for Capital Projects in the church)

**ACCOUNT**

Balance in Account - December 31, 2023	\$ 981.98
Congregation Capital Donations in 2024	4,490.00
Transfer Money to General Account (Loan Payment)	(4,600.00)
Balance in Account - December 31, 2024	<u>\$871.98</u>

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick

**PRESBYTERY LOAN**

(Loan commenced in 2017 for Church Capital Projects)

**2021**

<b>Outstanding Loan Owing</b>	\$ 48,571.00
Loan Payments (Feb., 2021)	(12,143.00)
<b>Loan Balance - December 31, 2021</b>	<b>\$ 36,428.00</b>

**2022**

Loan Payments (Feb., 2022)	(12,143.00)
<b>Loan Balance - December 31, 2022</b>	<b>\$ 24,285.00</b>

**2023**

Loan Payments (Feb., 2023)	(6,685.00)
<b>Loan Balance - December 31, 2023</b>	<b>\$ 17,600.00</b>

**2024**

Loan Payments (Feb., 2024)	(4,600.00)
<b>Loan Balance - December 31, 2024</b>	<b>\$ 13,000.00</b>

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick

**United Church of Canada Loan to Pay CEBA Loan**

**2023**

Five year Loan with funds deposited 12/11/2023	\$ 40,000.00
- Interest at 5.0% begins to accrue 02/01/2024	
- 5 year repayment begins 02/2024 with monthly payment of \$754.85	

**2024**

Loan Payments -Principal (Feb - Dec., 2024)	(6,606.51)
<b>Loan Balance - December 31, 2024</b>	<b>\$ 33,393.49</b>

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick



**TREASURER'S SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS - 2024**

Collections - Loose	1,896.62
- Local	142,419.91
- M & S	6,251.17
-M&S directed to Local	0.00
Draw on Manse Investment for Housing	9,000.00
Local Other Sources	80,434.12
Local Other Sources - Rent	2,580.00
Local Other Sources - Year End Givings	16,050.00
Transfers	20,046.96
HST Refund	4,847.92

**TOTAL REVENUE** \$283,526.70

LOCAL OTHER SOURCES

Pie Sales	22,894.38
Collaborative Covenant (Essex)	20,000.00
Turkey Supper	11,078.24
Peoples Fund	6,012.05
Toonie Auction	4,387.51
Weddings / Funeral Lunches	3,900.00
Project Hope Music Night	1,803.80
Barbecues	1,090.00
Miscellaneous	1,164.70
* Donations	8,103.44
Total Other Sources	<u>\$80,434.12</u>

\* Donations - Downtown Mission, Gesstwood Camp  
Harrow Food Bank, Capital Fund, Project Hope,  
Outreach Donations, Love Bucket Donations

TRANSFERS

Transfer from Student Aid Account	2,205.40
Transfer from Spec. Gift Account	2,350.00
Transfer from Memorial Account	10,891.56
Transfer from Capital Account	4,600.00
Total Transfers	\$20,046.96

Treasurer - Glenn Gorick

**FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION STATEMENT**

Operating Balance as of December 31, 2023	(188.77)
Receipts for 2024	283,526.70
Loan Reduction with 2024 payments	6,606.51
	<u>289,944.44</u>
Disbursements for 2024	<u>298,531.65</u>
<b>Operating Balance as of December 31, 2024</b>	<b><u>(\$8,587.21)</u></b>

\* \$33,393.49 UCC Loan is being carried in General Account to avoid interest and bank charges

Treasurer: Glenn Gorick

**HARROW UNITED CHURCH  
2024 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES  
GENERAL FUND**

	<b>2024 BUDGET</b>	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>
<b>Congregational Life &amp; Work Committee</b>		
Harrow U.C. Family Resource Centre	500	\$0.00
London Conference Delegates Expenses	400	0.00
Sunday School	1,000	0.00
Misc. Expenses	150	50.00
Kitchen & Social Club	600	332.12
Cards & Stamps	200	0.00
Funeral Tea Committee	500	2,500.80
Licensing Fees (DVD / VHS)	200	0.00
Family Faith Nights	300	221.29
Work Shops	200	0.00
Pastoral Care	750	0.00
<b>TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL LIFE &amp; WORK</b>	4,800	\$3,104.21
 <b>Worship &amp; Membership Committee</b>		
Audio / Video Expense	600	\$135.55
Honoraria Soloists	250	0.00
Music & Choir Needs	200	0.00
Other Expenses	1,075	301.74
Rural Connect	0	(2,387.86)
Licensing Fees (Music)	300	172.00
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP &amp; MEMBERSHIP</b>	2,425	-\$1,778.57
 <b>Outreach Committee</b>		
Canadian Bible Society	100	\$100.00
Broadview Subscriptions	1,000	450.00
Shalom Youth Centre	100	100.00
<b>TOTAL OUTREACH</b>	1,200	\$650.00
 <b>Finance Committee</b>		
Advertising	900	\$977.45
CPP/UI/FIT	9,700	9,286.67
United Church of Canada (Service Assessment)	9,316	9,316.00

Salaries	147,177	144,023.08
Honorariums	4,581	0.00
Benefits	25,800	22,391.88
<b>Finance Committee Cont'd</b>		
Supply - Vacation Coverage	2,432	997.00
Supply - Mileage	175	29.00
Interest & Bank Charges	400	268.50
Miscellaneous	400	339.00
Office Supplies	3,500	2,800.63
Other Expenses (Benevolent)	450	0.00
Postage	650	882.76
Telephone	1,500	1,490.88
Payroll Administration	425	463.35
UCC CEBA Loan Interest	1,697	1,696.85
UCC CEBA Loan Principle	6,607	6,606.50
<b>TOTAL FINANCE</b>	<u>215,710</u>	<u>\$201,569.55</u>
<b>Property &amp; Maintenance Committee</b>		
Fuel	14,000	\$10,032.27
Hydro & Water	5,000	5,618.67
Insurance	15,000	14,644.88
Church Maintenance	15,500	31,546.16
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>	<u>49,500</u>	<u>\$61,841.98</u>
<b>Contingency Fund</b>	5,000	0.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGET/ACTUAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>278,635</u>	<u>\$265,387.17</u>
<b>MISSION &amp; SERVICE FUND OBJECTIVE/TOT.</b>	13,500	7,199.48
<b>Specified Givings</b>		
Donations Listed on Receipts Page		8,103.44
<b>Disbursements funded from Capital Account</b>		
Presbytery Loan Payment		4,600.00
<b>Disbursements funded from Special Gift Account</b>		
Outreach Project - Tanzania Scholarships		2,000.00
Outreach Donations		350.00
<b>Disbursements funded from Memorial Account</b>		
Purchase of IPAD for AV Team		891.56
Furnace Repairs		10,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES - ACTUAL 2024</b>		<b>\$298,531.65</b>

**HARROW UNITED CHURCH  
2024 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES  
GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR 2025**

	<b>2024 BUDGET</b>	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>
<b>Congregational Life &amp; Work Committee</b>			
Harrow U.C. Family Resource Centre	500	\$0.00	500
London Conference Delegates Expenses	400	0.00	400
Sunday School	1,000	0.00	1,000
Misc. Expenses	150	50.00	150
Kitchen & Social Club	600	332.12	600
Cards & Stamps	200	0.00	200
Funeral Tea Committee	500	2,500.80	500
Licensing Fees (DVD / VHS)	200	0.00	200
Family Faith Nights	300	221.29	300
Work Shops	200	0.00	200
Pastoral Care	750	0.00	750
<b>TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL LIFE &amp; WORK</b>	4,800	3,104.21	4,800
<b>Worship &amp; Membership Committee</b>			
Audio / Video Expense	600	\$135.55	600
Honoraria Soloists	250	0.00	250
Music & Choir Needs	200	0.00	200
Other Expenses	1,075	301.74	1,075
Rural Connect	0	-2,387.86	500
Licensing Fees (Music)	300	172.00	200
<b>TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL LIFE &amp; WORK</b>	2,425	-1,778.57	2,825
<b>Outreach Committee</b>			
Canadian Bible Society	100	\$100.00	100
Broadview Subscriptions	1,000	450.00	600
Shalom Youth Centre	100	100.00	100
<b>TOTAL OUTREACH</b>	1,200	650.00	800

**HARROW UNITED CHURCH  
2024 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES  
GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR 2025**

	<b>2024 BUDGET</b>	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>
<b>Finance Committee</b>			
Advertising	900	\$977.45	1,000
CPP/UI/FIT	9,700	9,286.67	9,700
United Church of Canada (Service Assessment)	9,316	9,316.00	9,376
Salaries	147,177	144,023.08	149,319
Honorariums	4,581	0.00	4,718
Benefits	25,800	22,391.88	25,800
Supply - Vacation Coverage	2,432	997.00	2,432
Supply - Mileage	175	29.00	175
Interest & Bank Charges	400	268.50	400
Miscellaneous	400	339.00	400
Office Supplies	3,500	2,800.63	3,500
Other Expenses (Benevolent)	450	0.00	450
Postage	650	882.76	650
Telephone	1,500	1,490.88	1,500
Payroll Administration	425	463.35	475
Presbytery Loan	0	0.00	4,300
UCC CEBA Loan Interest	1,697	1,696.85	1,498
UCC CEBA Loan Principle	6,607	6,606.50	7,560
<b>TOTAL FINANCE</b>	215,710	201,569.55	223,253
 <b>Property &amp; Maintenance Committee</b>			
Fuel	14,000	\$10,032.27	14,000
Hydro & Water	5,000	5,618.67	6,000
Insurance	15,000	14,644.88	16,200
Church Maintenance	15,500	31,546.16	20,000
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>	49,500	61,841.98	56,200
 <b>Contingency Fund</b>			
	5,000	0.00	5,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGET/ACTUAL EXPENDITURES</b>	278,635	267,337.74	292,878

## Harrow United Church Constitution

### **1. The Congregation**

1. The congregation is the governing body for Harrow United Church. It must meet annually, and may meet more frequently if the members deem it advisable. The congregation shall govern itself according to *The Manual of the United Church of Canada*, this constitution, and the bylaws duly passed by the congregation.
2. The annual meeting shall receive the annual reports, hold elections, elect the financial examiners, and transact any other business regularly brought before it, and approve the annual budget of expenditures for the congregation.
3. The meetings of the congregation shall be called by the Minister, the Pastoral Charge Supervisor, the Chair of the Official Board, or upon the request of the Official Board or that of ten members of the congregation.
4. The members of the congregation are entitled to vote at all congregational meetings. With the members' consent, adherents who contribute to the life and work of the congregation may vote on temporal (financial) matters.

### **2. The Official Board**

1. The Congregation of Harrow United Church (the congregation) will use the Unified Board Structure as outlined in this constitution. This body will be called The Official Board (the Board). The duties and workings of the Official Board shall be as outlined in *The Manual of the United Church of Canada*, as outlined in this Constitution, and according to the bylaws duly approved by the congregation.

### **3. Membership & Duties**

- 1.1 The Official Board shall have an elected membership of not more than the number specified in Bylaw #1 of the Congregation. They shall be elected from its membership by the congregation at its annual meeting. Each person elected shall serve a term as set out in Bylaw #1.
- 1.2 The United Church Women (UCW), the AOTS Men's Club, the Youth Group, and the Board of Trustees may each appoint one official representative of their organizations to serve as a member of the Official Board.
2. The Official Board may fill vacancies between annual meetings, should this be required, such appointments to be approved at the next annual meeting.
3. Each elected member of the Official Board shall have all of the privileges and responsibilities assigned to both the Elder and Steward by the Manual of the United Church of Canada, and shall be known as an Elder.
4. The Official Board is responsible for the general oversight of the life and work of the congregation, and for the determination of its total program. The Official Board shall

define policy consistent with the will of the congregation and in accordance with The Manual of the United Church of Canada.

#### **4. Administration**

1. The Official Board shall annually elect from its membership its own Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary.
2. The Treasurer of the congregation shall be a member of the Official Board *ex-officio*.

#### **5. Meetings**

1. The Official Board shall meet at least 4 times per year, and may meet more often by its desire or at the call of the Chair. (See also Manual section 250)
2. Attendance of 40% of elected members is required for a quorum.
3. The meetings shall include such instruction and guidance as may assist the members fulfill their duties as Elders of the congregation.

#### **6. Committees**

1. The Official Board shall have standing committees as determined by the congregation and as required by the Manual, including but not limited to:
  - Congregational Life & Work
  - Worship & Membership
  - Outreach
  - Property
  - Finance & Stewardship

#### **7. Membership & Administration**

1. Every member of the Board shall be a member of a standing committee. Each committee may at its discretion recommend to the Board other members or adherents of the congregation for appointment to their committee, to assist in their work.
2. Each committee shall annually elect from among the elected members or members appointed to the Board according to section 2.1, a Chair and, and if the committee so chooses, a Vice-Chair. A Secretary is also to be appointed by the committee.
- 3.1 The minister and Chair of the Board shall be members of all committees *ex-officio*.
- 3.2 The Treasurer of the Congregation shall be a member of the Finance Committee *ex-officio*.
4. The committees may authorize expenditures within the scope of their assigned duties, and within their approved budget.

## **By-Law #1**

The purpose of this bylaw is to set out the duties and procedures by which the Official Board and Committees shall operate.

### **1. Membership**

- 1.1 The Official Board shall have no more than 25 elected members.
- 1.2 Each Standing Committee shall be composed of no more than 5 elected members of the Board.

### **2. Duties and Responsibilities of the Committees of the Church**

#### **2.1 Congregation Life & Work Committee**

1. Shall be responsible for the Christian Education Program including appointing Sunday School Superintendent and Teachers, and overseeing the operation of the Sunday School, supporting the Superintendent and Teachers in their work.
2. Shall appoint the Librarian and oversee use and activities of Library.
3. Shall appoint the Convener of and oversee Fellowship and Service Team.
4. Shall appoint the Convener of and oversee the Social Team.
5. Shall, on behalf of the congregation, provide financial support of external Christian Education groups, which may include:  
GessTwood Camp, Five Oaks, TOC ALPHA.
6. Shall promote the People's Fund within the congregation to assist with funding for leadership development.
7. Shall appoint and oversee the Cradle Roll Convener.
8. Shall appoint the Nursery Co-ordinator and oversee Nursery operation.
9. Shall be responsible for flowers and decorations for the church, and also for sending suitable acknowledgments on bereavement or illness of members and adherents.
10. Shall oversee publication and distribution of the Congregational Newsletter.
11. Shall oversee historical materials and other archival materials in the church, including the display case.

#### **2.2 Worship & Membership Committee**

1. Shall be responsible, in co-ordination and conjunction with the minister, for public worship, including music.



2. Shall appoint and oversee an Ushering and Greeters Convener.
3. Shall be responsible for arranging and maintaining "districts" of members and adherents and assigning a district to each Elder on the Board.
4. Shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Official Board regarding:
  - i. membership and the Roll of Members
  - ii. baptisms and weddings
  - iii. policy for baptisms and the policy and fee schedule for weddings
5. Shall be responsible for the approval of the Minister's Vacation and study leave.
6. Shall be responsible for arranging Pulpit supply for Anniversary, and in the minister's absence.
7. In conjunction with the Ministry and Personnel Committee, shall oversee the preaching and pastoral work of the minister.
- 8.1 Shall be responsible for the acknowledgment of memorial gifts received.
- 8.2 Shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Board regarding the disposition of Memorial Funds.
9. Shall oversee the use of the Benevolent Fund by the Minister, understanding the private nature of this program.
- 10.1 Shall oversee the work of the organist, in conjunction with the Ministry and Personnel Committee.
- 10.2 Shall approve the organist's vacation and arrange for organist supply in the absence of the organist.
11. Shall oversee the work of the Choir Directors, in conjunction with the Ministry and Personnel Committee.

### **2.3 Outreach Committee**

1. Shall promote the Mission & Service Fund to the congregation, educating members regarding the Mission & Service Fund and encouraging their support of the fund with their givings.
2. Shall promote the United Church Observer to the members of the congregation.
3. Shall select and promote Community Outreach Projects for the involvement of the congregation.
4. Shall co-ordinate Community Outreach Projects in conjunction with our Ecumenical partners or other groups.
5. Shall oversee the workings of special committees dealing with the encouragement of and support of students in unique studies (ministry/social sciences). These special

committees would include the Kit Richardson Fund and the Student Aid Fund, which are responsible for financial assistance to the students.

## **2.4 Finance & Stewardship Committee**

1. Shall be responsible for the overall stewardship level of the congregation so that its full financial potential may be realized. To this end the Committee shall review annually the total financial objective of the Pastoral Charge, that is, the needs at the local, regional, and national levels.
2. Shall interpret to the Pastoral Charge why the funds are needed and how they will be expended.
- 3.1 Shall keep in perspective and under review the proportion of money spent locally and regionally in relation to the amount provided for the wider work of the Church through the Mission and Service Fund.
- 3.2 Shall cultivate knowledge and conviction concerning the mission of the Church in all its aspects, among all age groups and by all media available. {The Manual 251 (d i-iv)}
- 4.1 Shall oversee the Envelope Steward, who is a member of the committee ex-officio.
- 4.2 In conjunction with the Envelope Steward, shall distribute offering envelopes.
- 4.3 In conjunction with the Envelope Steward, shall distribute annual receipts for givings.
- 4.4 In conjunction with the Envelope Steward, shall arrange for the counting of offerings.
5. In consultation with the other committees of the board, shall prepare the annual budget for presentation to the congregation for approval, including a schedule of anticipated sources and amounts of revenues.
6. Shall oversee the work of the Treasurer of the Congregation, in conjunction with the Ministry and Personnel Committee.
7. Shall approve the payment of the accounts of the congregation.
  8. Shall instruct the Treasurer regarding the investing of surplus, reserve, memorial, or other funds available.
  - 9.
9. Shall recommend to the Board policies regarding borrowing and signing authorities.
10. In conjunction with the Property Committee and the Trustees, shall arrange for appropriate property and liability insurance for the congregation.
- 11.1 Shall be responsible for operation of the Church Office.
- 11.2 In conjunction with the Ministry & Personnel Committee, shall oversee the work of the Administrative Assistant.
12. Shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual financial statements of the congregation.

## **2.5 Property Committee**

- 1.1 Shall be responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep of the church, including the grounds, fixtures and all equipment.
  - 1.2 Shall be responsible for approving the purchase or lease of all equipment.
  - 1.3 Shall be responsible for approving the receipt of any gifts of property or equipment, including memorial gifts (non monetary).
  - 1.4 Shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Official Board regarding major repairs and renovations or purchases.
  - 1.5 Shall be responsible for maintaining a current inventory of church assets and equipment.
- 
- 2.1 Shall be responsible for recommending to the Board a policy on the use of the church facilities, including an appropriate fee schedule.
  - 2.2 Once approved, shall be responsible for overseeing church use, in accordance with the Use of Church Property policy.
- 
3. Shall appoint an Audio-Visual/Media/Computer Co-Ordinator and oversee equipment use and maintenance.
  4. Shall oversee the work of the church custodian, in conjunction with the Ministry and Personnel Committee.
  5. Shall arrange for organ and instrument maintenance, in conjunction with the Worship Committee.

## **3. Executive**

1. There shall be an Executive of the Board, consisting of:
  - Chairperson of the Official Board
  - Vice-Chairperson
  - Secretary of the Official Board
  - Treasurer
  - Minister of the Congregation (or Charge Supervisor)
  - Congregational Life & Work Committee Chair or designate
  - Worship and Membership Committee Chair or designate
  - Outreach Committee Chair or designate
  - Finance & Stewardship Committee Chair or designate
  - Property Committee Chair or designate
  - Trustee Representative
2. Attendance of 60% of members of the Executive is required for a quorum.
3. The Executive of the Board shall have power to act for the Board between meetings of the Official Board where this becomes necessary for the effective management and good governance of the congregation.

4. The Executive shall be responsible for the hiring process for all paid staff, including those who receive an honorarium. This does not include call of the minister. This process shall involve the standing committee responsible for that position. The final approval for hiring/appointment shall be by the Official Board.

#### **4. Ministry and Personnel Committee**

1. The Official Board shall appoint a Ministry and Personnel Committee of at least 5 members of the congregation. Current members of Church staff, including those who receive an honorarium, are not eligible to sit on this committee. After the call of a new minister, the Official Board should appoint a member of the Pastoral Relations Committee to the Ministry and Personnel Committee.
2. The committee shall from amongst its own membership elect a Chair and a Secretary.
3. The committee shall meet on a regular basis and at least 3 times per year
4. This committee shall:
  - i. provide a consultative and supportive agency for church staff and for members and adherents of the Pastoral Charge.
  - ii. review working conditions and remuneration for church staff and make appropriate recommendations to the Official Board
  - iii. oversee the relationship of church staff to members of the Pastoral Charge and others
  - iv. oversee the relationship between and among different church staff members with respect to their responsibilities and authority
  - v. consult with all church staff members about their plans for continuing education and ensure that those eligible avail themselves of the provisions for continuing education and that money and time are made available.
  - vi. review and evaluate annually the effectiveness of church staff as those persons and positions relate to the mission of the Pastoral Charge as defined by the Official Board. This shall be done in partnership with the committee responsible for each position.
  - vii. maintain close liaison with the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee
  - viii. review regularly the responsibilities of all staff and revise position descriptions when required or requested. {The Manual 251 (h)}
5. The committee shall report to the Board at least annually, or more often as requested by the Board.

#### **5. Nominating Committee**

1. This committee shall consist of the minister, the Chair of the Board, and a representative of each of the standing committees outlined in Part 5 of the Constitution.
2. The committee shall meet at the call of the Chair.

3. The committee shall be responsible for presenting to the Congregation, the names of people for election to the Official Board, Trustee Board and Financial Examiners.
4. The committee is responsible for submitting to the Official Board, the names of people to be appointed to:
  - Ministry and Personnel Committee
  - Student Aid Fund
  - People's Fund
  - Other Committees as the Official Board may direct.
  - Kit Richardson Bursary

## **6. Terms of Office**

1. Members elected to the Official Board shall be elected for a 3-year term, and shall be eligible for re-election.
  - 1.1 If a member should resign before his/her term expires, another member may be elected to complete this term.
2. Members or Adherents appointed to a Standing Committee (Constitution Section 6) shall be appointed on an annual basis, and are eligible to be reappointed.
3. Members appointed to the Ministry and Personnel Committee shall be appointed for a 3-year term, and are eligible for reappointment.
4. Members appointed to the Student Aid Fund, Kit Richardson Bursary and the People's Fund shall be appointed for a 5-year term, and are eligible for reappointment.
5. There shall be a minimum of 5 to a maximum of 10 plus chair appointed to the Board of Trustees. Members shall be appointed for a ten year term, and are eligible for reappointment.

## **7. Borrowing**

1. The Official Board may authorize bank borrowing up to \$50,000.

## **8. Board of Trustees**

1. The Trustees shall hold the real property of the Congregation, and church as the Congregation may direct for the support and maintenance of public worship.
2. The Trustees shall obey the lawful orders and directions of the Congregation, and of its Official Board, and of Essex Presbytery and London Conference, and of General Council.
3. In Conjunction with the Property and Finance Committees, the Trustees shall ensure that the Congregation carries sufficient property and liability insurance.
4. The Trustees shall operate under the Trusts of Model Deed. (See The Manual Appendix II)

**HARROW UNITED CHURCH**

45 Munger Street East,  
PO Box 464  
Harrow, Ontario N0R 1G0

Phone: 519 738-4223

Email: harrow\_united@hotmail.com

Web Page: www.harrowunited.org

**STAFF**

Minister: Rev. Darrow Woods

Organist: Larry Anderson

Music Director: Patti Hopper

Administrative Assistant: Laurene Csikasz

Caretaker: Cathy Woodiwiss

The Mission of Harrow United Church

Is

“To offer nurturing experiences of God’s love  
through worship, learning and sharing.

In thankful response, we will reach out as disciples and stewards of Jesus Christ in God’s  
world.”