

# GSCC Annual Report 2016

Another Year Gone By



**gentleshepherd**  
community church

**GENTLE SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CHURCH – GREY COUNTY INC.**

February 26, 2017

# FROM THE CHAIR

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## Ruth Johnston ~ Chair of Elder's

The New Year is a time of reflection and vision, reflection on what has happened through the last year and vision for what the next year will hold.

2016 was a year when once again we saw God so faithfully provide.

He provided wisdom and guidance through the Incorporation process which will be completed in early 2017. Thank you to the Bylaw Committee, Jim Dawson, Derwyn Docken and Pastor Adam for your diligent work to complete this task.

He provided so abundantly with finances. Thank you to each one of you for your faithful, generous giving in 2016. It was so exciting to see the Mission Goal surpassed!

His biggest provision was our new Family Ministries Pastor. Pastor Paul Lucas came on board in June and has worked tirelessly in organizing this new ministry role. It is such a blessing to see his heart for God.

God provided Payge Lucas as the King's Kids Coordinator (He really does give exceeding and abundantly more) and has done a great job overseeing all three schools. Thank you Payge for all you have done to continue building this ministry, we pray God will bless you as you welcome your new baby.

We look forward to God's provision for the next coordinator.

Thank you to Larry Fuller for all your years of faithful service on the Board. Enjoy your free evenings!

Thank you to the Board, Pastor Adam, Pastor Paul and you, the congregation for following God's leading and moving forward into all He has for Gentle Shepherd. I look forward with great anticipation for what God will do in 2017!

To God be the glory!

# LEAD PASTOR

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Rev. Adam Nickell ~ Lead Pastor

**Happy New Year Gentle Shepherd!** 2016 was certainly a memorable year for us and for planet earth! So many events and changes around our world from major regime change, the “Brexit” vote, the devastating wildfire at Ft. McMurray, the ongoing brutal civil war in Syria, increasing natural disasters, the continuing refugee crisis, ongoing acts of terror from ISIS in western nations and a new President taking the helm of a very polarized United States of America. And this is just to name a few! It is easy to feel uneasy and unstable with all of the turmoil, upheaval, and change in our world. That is why for us it is both comforting and assuring to lean on the “everlasting arms” of our God and remember that He is our “rock” and “strong tower”. Listen to the Psalmist in Psalm 18:2 – **“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold”**. Also Psalm 18:31 - **“For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God?”** Truths like these bring us peace as we follow and rely on our God in turbulent times.

Probably one of the biggest changes for us as a congregation in 2016 came in June as we welcomed our new **Family Ministries Pastor – Paul Lucas and his wife Payge and son CJ**. What a joy to see how God lead Paul back to us to serve in this role. Because of his history with and us and knowledge of our congregation, Paul was able to make the transition quite quickly and really “hit the ground running” with new ideas and a renewed vision to make disciples amongst our younger generations and their families. Payge also very quickly got involved becoming our much needed **Kings Kids Coordinator!** Welcome Pastor Paul Payge! I am looking forward to my first full year working alongside of you.

I always like to report on the journey we made through **God’s Word together in the previous year**. We began 2016 with a series all about **“Loving Union with Jesus”**. We always need this emphasis in our lives to remember that without loving union with Jesus we can simply “function” as Christians but not really thrive and live in His joy. Into February and before and after Easter, we learned how to **“Sing the Songs of Zion in a Foreign Land”** as we considered together some of the cultural forces that apply real pressure and even attack on our faith in Christ. Our **Easter** celebrations again included a meaningful **Good Friday service** together with other congregations in our **local ministerial**. We also enjoyed the special ministry of our **GSCC Choir** through the Easter Season.

For the Spring and early Summer months we went on a gift discovery experience as we looked at the various **“Gifts for His Glory”** that Jesus has given His Church. This series took place between Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. Our **“Baby Bottle Campaign”** between Mother’s Day and Father’s Day was also well supported by the congregation and a gift of over \$3000 was given to **Ramoth House in Mount Forest** – a support home for young mothers.

We tied the weeks of summer together with a special series entitled **“Truth that Brings Hope”** which focused on the vital truths of being made, in the image of God, for a purpose, and to an eternal destiny. This series was dedicated in memory of young people both locally and nationally who had lost hope and took their own lives in suicide. It is important to realize just how much the truths of God and His Word really help us all with our own mental health.

The Fall of 2016 brought us a very special message from **Gord Martin of Vision Ministries Canada** as we celebrated our **28<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of ministry together**. This led into the challenge of both our **“Fan or a Follower”** series as well as our Mission Series called **“God’s Mandate for Mankind”**. For our mission series, it was a joy to have **Tim Whatley of New Tribes Mission of Canada** speak as well as our own **Don Nickell from our Gentle Shepherd Mission’s Team**.

Truly 2016 was a memorable journey through God’s Word together and I look forward to how God leads us in His Word in 2017. We are beginning the New Year with a special series of messages out of the Book of Revelation as we look at some of the things Jesus has revealed to be unfolding during what the Church has come to call the “End Times”. I pray these messages both encourage and inspire us to be both watching and waiting for Christ’s return.

Some memorable **discipleship moments** stand out to me also from 2016. It was joy to watch our youth leaders and youth workers “step up to the plate” and lead and cover all of the youth ministries for the first quarter of 2016. I was very proud and thankful for our team of youth leaders who carried on the ministry while we waited for our new youth pastor to arrive. I think of those baptized in 2016 and with those who became new members of the Church. Those are always very joyful times! I think of our very hard working “By-law Review” team working throughout 2016 helping to get a new set of corporate by-laws in place and starting the process of compiling a new Policy and Procedures manual for us. Hopefully both of these documents will soon serve us well in the New Year. I think of our Fellowship Team headed up by Joan McGee who planned and hosted a number of wonderful evenings of fellowship throughout the year as well as hosting our regular monthly “Fellowship Lunches”. Just notice all of the teams at work in our church – helping the ministries of the church prosper. I think of our “Live Alone Lunch” team of ladies hosted monthly lunches for those in our church and community who find themselves living alone. These times are very special and very important in the lives of many and thank you so much to Marg McKenzie and Iona Shier and all their helpers. This group raises money for Samaritan’s Purse water filters and the entire congregation came alongside of them during the Advent Season contributing over 10 more filters to add to their numbers. Praise God for the impact of these gifts upon others! I think also of the number of disaster relieve “teams” and chaplains who went out with the Billy Graham Rapid Response Ministry during the year to serve in places like Fort McMurray, Windsor and Cape Breton. I know I am missing many other moments but these are a few that come to mind. Thanks be to God for all of this extended discipleship of people!

I always like to wrap up my report with **thanksgiving!** I am grateful to you as a **congregation** for all your love, prayers, support, encouragements and ways in which you remember me and my family throughout the year. I am also grateful for your support and prayers for me as the Day Chaplain at Markdale Hospital. I continue to visit there approximately 2-3 hours per week in my role as Day Chaplain and also meet monthly with the other Day Chaplains for supervision in Owen Sound Hospital. Your support and love is so appreciated! Many thanks to **the Choir** and **Director Diane Carlson** for all their music ministry to us in 2016 which again culminated on Christmas Eve. Thanks to the leadership and volunteers of the **Flesherton Food Bank** for an amazing year of helping families in our community. Thanks also to the congregation for supporting our **Benevolent Ministry** in 2016. Both the Food Bank and the Benevolent Fund help out so many people in the name of Jesus. A big thank you once again to the **Church Staff, Elder’s Board, and supporting clergy of GSCC!** Go team go! Many thanks to our **Council Chair – Ruth Johnston** for all of her prayerful and timely leadership. I continue to be grateful for **Stacey Wight** and all of her work for us as our **Office Administrator** and manager of our **“digital footprint”**. I’m grateful for **Derwyn Docken** in his diligent work as our **Corporate Secretary** as well as all of our volunteers in so many areas that keep Gentle Shepherd effective and growing. I also will not forget to thank **Ken Whitton** for his

faithfulness in serving as our **Church Treasurer**. None of us really know all the work he does behind the scenes in the area of treasury and finance. Thanks Ken!

So as the **New Year** opens before us, only God knows what is ahead for each of us and for our world, and yet we will continue to look to him our **“Rock” our “Fortress” and our “Deliverer”!**



## FAMILY MINISTRIES PASTOR

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### Pastor Paul Lucas

This year has been a great time starting out here at Gentle Shepherd. I began working on June 5 and we have had an exciting time! It has been amazing to be back home at Gentle Shepherd, and God is moving through many aspects of family ministries!

We had over 60 children come out this year for our “Cave Quest” VBS. Thank you so much to Laura McKillop who headed it this year, as well as the many leaders that helped make this event a success. All of the youth who attended heard the Gospel message. I believe we planted seeds that week that we will see flourish in amazing ways!



Our King's Kids ministry has been going well. Stacey designed a new logo for our King's Kids Ministry. We have launched our King's Kids website – [kingskidsgreycastle.com](http://kingskidsgreycastle.com). This website allows parents/guardians to easily register their children and learn about the program. Payge Lucas has faithfully served as our King's Kids Coordinator for all three campuses. She has led this ministry very well and she will be taking her maternity leave starting Feb 1, 2016. At the time of writing we have not hired a replacement, however we do have some applicants we will be interviewing. Dundalk King's Kids had a slow start, with one child attending for the first few weeks. This group has grown to have about 5-10 students a week. This group loves Lego as well as hands on crafts. Our Markdale King's Kids has consistently seen 5-10 kids in attendance. The kids in this group are enjoying it and tend to be interested in the crafts and hands on aspects of the ministries. With all the talk of a possible school closing we will see what the future has to hold for our King's Kids at Beavercrest! Flesherton King's Kids is at around 15-20 kids weekly. This group is very active, loving the gym games as well as the free time in the gym.

The board of Elders has approved to run an additional King's Kids program in Holland Chatsworth Central School in the Fall of 2017.

We have changed our Sunday School Curriculum to *Dig In*, a new curriculum developed by Group (the same people that develop the VBS program). The feedback to this curriculum has been good, as this allows children to dig deep into the Bible stories and learn important take-away points.

We have started a new aspect of family ministries – Family Nights. We had our first one this past September 11th, with a dinner and talent show. We had about 30 people come out to this event, and it was a ton of fun. The vision behind these nights is to provide evenings where families involved in the various ministries of Gentle Shepherd can get together and have a time of fellowship connecting with others in the church and community. We will be doing more of these events in the new year, with the first one being a movie night on January 27.

In our youth ministries, we went through a book study this summer – *Fighter* by Manafest. We had about 3-5 youth come out to each meeting. Lots of great discussion happened through these evenings.

We opened the Cedarside Snack Shack at the Cedarside Campus, where youth can purchase candy, chips, and a few other snacks. All the proceeds go towards the Flesherton Foodbank. This has been a big hit, especially with our Jr. Youth.

In our Jr. High Ministries, we have seen God working in the lives of many youth. Our Jr High retreat – Jr. Pitch – was a huge success. We saw amazing growth in the lives of the four young girls who attended this retreat. For myself the highlight of youth ministries is retreats, where the youth can grow together in community and grow stronger in their relationship with Jesus.

Our current series Jr. High series, Crazy Love, encourages youth to not become nominal Christians but rather be fired-up disciples of Christ. It is inspiring to see these young people grow in their wisdom of God. We have started doing a monthly Jr. High game night at the Eugenia Campus. These have been a fun getaway and a way to run off some energy.

For our Sr. Youth, this fall we went through a series called *Keys to Discipleship*. The theme of this series is that God calls his followers to be disciples, and looking at what it really means to be a disciple as a teenager today.

We started our One2One Mentorship program with our Sr. Youth, where we will match youth to youth leaders and other adults from the church to mentor throughout the year. I believe many good things will come through this ministry as we approach discipleship with an intentional nature. We currently have 6 youths matched with mentors.

The small group part of our Sr. Youth ministry has been going well. Once a month we are meeting at the Ietswaard's where we can unpack what we have learned throughout the month. It is great for the youth to have a safe place to ask questions and to share prayer requests. I have seen a lot of fruit come from this aspect of the youth ministry. Thank you to the Ietswaard's for hosting us every month!

Change Conference 2016 with our Sr. Youth was an amazing weekend, and though my body was weak with having strep throat, the Holy Spirit gave me enough energy to make it through the weekend. We had a small group – two youth, but the Lord moved on these two young people in incredible ways. I am very thankful for all that the Lord did through this weekend.

Our year ended on a crazy note due to severe weather, but we were able to do a progressive dinner in December. A huge thank you to the hosts for this event! I would like to thank this church for opening your hearts to us as a family. Thank you for surrounding us with an outpouring and love and support. Thank you to Pastor Adam for being a great leader to our church and a wonderful mentor in my life. Thank you to Ruth and the board of elders for all the support you have shown our family and our ministry. Most of all, thank you to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who proves time and time again that he is gracious and faithful to the very end!

## PASTOR EMERITUS

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Donald M. Prince

It has been a privilege for Judy and me to visit GSCC in worship this past year. As a congregation you can be very proud of the ministry proclaiming Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour. We were especially pleased to witness Pastor Paul become part of the pastoral staff and regularly pray for Paul, Page and family as we do all of you.

Judy and I have had a busy year with Billy Graham Evangelistic Association – Rapid Response Team or BGEA-RRT. We attended Coordinator Training last April in Calgary. We are so very pleased to share this ministry with Bob and Ann Gillies. We also had the occasion to serve at Fort McMurray which is considered to be one of the largest disasters in Canada. We were impressed with the fortitude of the people, the passionate care by Samaritan Purse, BGEA RRT Chaplains along with numerous other services of love and concern. Judy and I also had the opportunity to travel and shadow an American Coordinating RRT Chaplain couple to three capitol cities with the Franklin Graham Call to Prayer ministry. Franklin visited every capitol city in the USA calling the people to pray for their nation. Judy and I were privileged to be part of that team to Springfield, Ill; Madison, Wis. and St. Paul Minn. This was an inspiring and challenging event as all this took place in three days.

This fall prior to Operation Christmas Child I acted as RRT Coordinator for the flooding in Windsor and Tecumseh, ON. I travelled with Steve Elliot an SP Disaster Coordinator to these two cities and shared in the initial evaluation and presentation of the SP and RRT ministry to the city representatives. Once SP ministry was invited and the need was determined by Steve I remained for two weeks. Judy was able to join me for my last four days. While there both Shirley Ferris and Sandi Londry came as volunteer Chaplains. Following this disaster Judy and I coordinated the Chaplain ministry at the OCC Distribution Center in Kitchener for the duration of this deployment.

We are pleased to be in attendance at Elevation Church and fulfill the role as coordinators for the Marriage Mentoring ministry at this church. This is a special ministry and very meaningful to young couples. I also attend when possible City Watch which is a monthly meeting of churches and Christian ministries in Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge. One of the recent meetings it was a blessing to be there with JP now on staff at Koinonia Church, Breslau and Samuel Vanderwood on staff at Centre Church, Kitchener. I must admit I was very proud to be there with the two of them.

Currently I drive for Country Mile Bus Lines and on occasion bring Mennonite families to the area on a Sunday. When I make this run it gives me the opportunity to visit GSCC. There is no worship like GSCC! You continue to be a special congregation. It always feels so good to be there.

Our family is well. Joshua is now 18 and in university. Hannah is 15 and in grade 10. Jennifer continues to give leadership at Christian Horizons. She had been there approximately 25 years. Julie is now serving with Community Care Access and visits homes to evaluate the need and make recommendations for people in their homes.

Thank you to Pastor Adam for this opportunity to submit a few words for the Annual Report.

To each one of you I send Joy in Jesus, Pastor Don

# MISSIONS COMMITTEE

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Rev. Shirley Ferris ~ Chair

*“What God will do is always more than what He has given us to do. He has given us a clear and simple thing to finish, to see that Christ is worshipped and followed among every people. This is the essential missionary task. This task we must do with utmost focus and passion until it is finished.”*

Perspectives on the World Mission Movement

Finishing the Task

Ralph D. Winter and Bruce A. Koch (539)

Frontier mission is about the completion of the task of world evangelization. Regular mission is the spreading of the gospel cross-culturally in people groups where churches have already been established. Both forms of mission are vital and valid yet this is where the “great imbalance” comes. 90% of evangelical missionaries are working within the fields of “Regular Mission” – only 10% are working in “Frontier Mission”.

The emphasis of missions at GSCC continues to focus on bringing the gospel to unreached people groups where there is no indigenous church.

Our Mission Partners (receiving both financial and prayer support) during 2016 were as follows:

- a) New Tribes - Bobby and Sandy Jank, Venezuela
- b) SIM – North Africa Initiatives – K.N.R.
- c) SIM - Friendship Support Association (Outreach Ministry) – “G” is Director, Ethiopia
- d) Frontier Labourers for Christ (3 missionaries to share monies as one partner of GSCC)
  - i. G. Nawdin
  - ii. David Sangnay
  - iii. Suwit Duangkaew

The mission’s goal for 2016 was a total of thirty five thousand dollars. The congregation generously supported our mission partners through their tithes and offerings as well as a special project.

The special project was a specific request of Rev. Bitrus Audu, director of Christ Missionary Outreach (CMO) in Nigeria. Motorcycles were needed for pastors to travel safely to the North Eastern regions of Nigeria to minister to people displaced and terrorized by the group Boko Harem. A total of \$8,000.00 was directed through Into All The World to CMO ministry in Nigeria.

From within our own congregation we had a number people who served short term.

- a. Jeff Baxter (Ethiopia with SIM)
- b. Cameron Pillisch (Ethiopia with SIM)
- c. Peggy Ferris (Peru with MMI)

Due to circumstances within Ethiopia, Jeff and Cameron's mission was postponed until February 2017.

Lauren Pillisch, a nursing student at Liberty University, will be going on a short term mission to Rwanda in January 2017.

The offering received at Vacation Bible School was dispersed through missions. The theme of VBS was "Give a Camel a Drink" and funds were directed through Into All The World to Friendship Support Association and well repair in Ethiopia.

Throughout the year GSCC was blessed with special speakers. In July, A.R. shared about his long term mission work in Tunisia. In October, the missions committee had an opportunity to meet "G". "G" has been known to some of our congregation for several years and it was a joy to actually have him and his son in our midst to share about his work with the "A" people in Ethiopia. "G" expressed a desire to "partner" in prayer.

November was Missions Month at GSCC and the theme was "God's Mandate for Mankind".

The speakers were as follows:

- Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> Tim Whatley (New Tribes)
- Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> Don Nickell (Perspectives Graduate)
- Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> Adam Nickell

In November the committee met with K.R. who shared about their move to Malta. His focus is to engage long term mission workers for North Africa.

I would like to thank each of the committee members who faithfully attended meetings, offered ideas and made suggestions. Our meetings were collaborative, fruitful and their participation was much appreciated. The committee consisted of Marian Doyle, Adam Nickell, Laura McKillop, Don Nickell, Peggy Ferris and Barb Smith. We look forward to serving the Lord in 2017.

*"..... all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

*Gen. 12: 3(b) NIV*

**Gentle Shepherd Community Church - Restricted Fund  
Mission Fund Statement  
For the year ending December 31**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>TITHES AND OFFERINGS</b>		
Regular mission offerings		
Mission partner offerings - 80%	17,143.04	17,723.98
Special projects and promotions - 20%	4,285.76	4,386.60
<b>Total regular mission offerings</b>	<b>21,428.80</b>	<b>22,110.58</b>
Special mission project offerings		
Fort McMurray Relief Fund	3,350.00	
VBS - Camel Watering Project	474.18	
Motorcycles mission	8,000.00	
Ethiopia mission	1,135.00	
Lauren Pillisch Medical Mission	475.00	
Advent project - Water Filters	1,990.00	
<b>Total special mission project offerings</b>	<b>15,424.18</b>	<b>10,832.57</b>
<b>TOTAL TITHES AND OFFERINGS</b>	<b>36,852.98</b>	<b>32,943.15</b>
<b>FUND EXPENDITURES</b>		
F. L. C. - Sangnay, Duangkaew & Nawdin	5,090.20	5,240.17
SIM – K.R.	5,090.20	5,240.16
New Tribes Mission - The Janks	5,090.20	5,240.16
SIM - G and A	5,090.20	5,240.16
<b>Support for Overseas Missions</b>	<b>20,360.80</b>	<b>20,960.65</b>
Motorcycles mission - Accrued liability	8,000.00	
Ethiopia mission	1,135.00	
VBS - Camel Watering	474.18	
Ft McMurray Relief	3,350.00	
Lauren Pillisch Medical Mission	475.00	
Advent project - Water Filters	1,990.00	
<b>Support for Special Mission Projects</b>	<b>15,424.18</b>	<b>10,832.57</b>
Short term mission - Jeffrey Baxter	300.00	
Short term mission - Cameron Pillisch	300.00	
Short term mission - Lauren Pillisch	300.00	
Special project - Shoe box donation	18.00	
Supplies and promotional expenses	150.00	
<b>Support for short term missions, special projects, and supplies</b>	<b>1,068.00</b>	<b>1,149.93</b>
<b>TOTAL MISSION FUND DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>36,852.98</b>	<b>32,943.15</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - December 31, 2016</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Fund balance made up of:</b>		
Cash in bank	8,046.16	9,555.96
HST recoverable	0.00	495.49
Amount owing for flow through projects	(2,090.00)	(1,574.00)
Accrued for 4th quarter mission partner disbursements	(5,956.16)	(8,477.45)
	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

# NURTURE

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Lynne Whitton

The Nurture Ministry is responsible to oversee Children and Youth Ministries, Christian growth, Worship and Certificates for Dedication and Baptism.

On behalf of Nurture and, recognizing the fact that the below mentioned ministries will submit their individual reports, I just want to thank each of them for their ongoing dedication, gifts of talent, skills and love as they continue to bring such blessings to the Nurturing of Gentle Shepherd Community Church.

Thank you to Dianne Carlson Choir Director for all the time, energy and, yes I am sure patience, that she selflessly contributes to bless us with beautiful music and anthems year after year.

Thank you Heather Wight Librarian for the invaluable gift of the Library. I hope I have shown my appreciation, not as an Elder but as a consumer, for this over the years. This is a ministry that reaches so many within and beyond the walls of our church. Many people have and are coming to the Lord through the power of Christian literature.

Thank you to Doreen Green for her Ladies Day..it was a blessing to many and we look forward to more.

Thank you to all the people that lovingly and faithfully prepare the Elements for monthly Communion.

To all of you, it is evident that you give these gifts of time and talent with such joy and love for your Lord and Saviour and Gentle Shepherd Community Church. Thank you.

I especially want to thank our Lead Pastor Adam Nickell and Family Ministries Pastor Paul Lucas for all the love, leadership, time, energy and blessings that you bring in your service to the Lord and as you juggle family responsibilities with church and community demands on your time.

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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Rev. David McIntyre

Congregational Care is an abiding spirit at Gentle Shepherd Community Church.

Just as God told Abraham that he would be blessed so he could be a blessing so are we all blessed.

Look well with your spiritual and physical eyes and you see that all or most of the people are involved in "congregational care" in some way.

Watch and listen to what transpires while we gather together greeting each other before and after a service.

How do we welcome the "strangers" into our gatherings? How long are they strangers?

What joys and concerns are shared around the coffee pot and "cookie box"?

Watch at the luncheons and dinners as the room is prepared, the tables set, food and drink brought forth, and the common feast is shared by all. We do this also for events such as funerals as well.

What does our caring way demonstrate to those people?

Look at our music and choir. How many weeks does preparation begin before Christmas or Easter?

How many miles are driven so a great presentation can be made once?

Cards, flowers and greetings are extended to those unable to be out and about so they are included too.

What about our pastors, do they set a good example for us to follow? As the pastor is, so is the congregation!

On the 1 to 10 scale, we can probably squeak out a 17 for them?

We all do a lot of congregational caring to maintain a caring congregation.

Can you see where you are being a blessing to the congregation?

Aren't we blessed to have each other!!

**New Members:** George Acheson, Robert Betts, Rob Ferris, Lisa Ferris, Jeff Baxter, Constance Baxter, Paul & Payge Lucas.

**Dedications:** 3

**Baptisms:** 0

**Weddings:** 6

**Funerals:** 7

# OUTREACH

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## Jan van der Grift & Pip Lucas

This year has been a learning year for Jan and I as it was a newly created profile in the make-up of the board of elders. We took this past year to try our best to manage responsibilities while observing how the system actually functions and how this new profile can function within it. After what we feel was a successful year in many areas, we have learned a lot.

As we continue to learn we would like to take the coming year to develop new ideas and systems based on what we have observed. Much of this will be at no cost to Gentle Shepherd, but rather a reorganization and redistribution of responsibilities.

Just to give a concrete example of what we're talking about: Pastor Adam has largely kept us on track this year. As our leader he has this right but I don't think it's his responsibility and we want to come up with concrete plans to put Pastor Adam and Paul in strictly advisory roles in this profile, rather than actually having extra weight on them.

There are also a series of general and specific ways that we can function better as a team and improve. This includes better communication with our committee as Jan and I did not succeed in this area this year; further delegation of responsibilities - a task that worked very well in some areas and not as well in others; and a more aggressive search for areas where we can serve in an outreach capacity.

Our primary focus of 2017 in addition to this growth as a team is Canada's 150th Birthday Celebration. Through this country-wide celebration we will be attempting to connect with our community and serve those around us better, taking advantage of this community building event. We will not be having our "Church in the Park" event, but will rather be cohosting a community church service with other area churches similar to "Church in the Park" but multi-church wide. We will also be hosting a bus tour throughout the community focusing on the Pioneer Cemeteries in the area and their rich history.

Among these exciting events, we seek opportunities to expand our existing successes in outreach such as King's Kids, VBS, Mud Volleyball, and Family Skating days.

King's Kids and Vacation Bible School in particular will be highlighted in Pastor Paul's report but those are outreach initiatives that we are very proud of and seek to continue and expand in the name of God's love and truth for these kids.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the outreach ministry of GSCC and we look forward to another year of growth as we continue to expand God's Kingdom in our own culture.

# ADMINISTRATION

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## LARRY FULLER & BOB GILLES

### **This year like any has been busy:**

1. All TV's have been mounted on the walls in the Sunday School rooms.
2. The big window in the fellowship room had new window sills replaced as well all windows and doors were resealed.
3. One tree in front blew over so had to be cut down and taken away.
4. All hedges were trimmed by gardening company.
5. Carpets and pews were cleaned.
6. Bulbs in sign at front were changed.
7. Installed new hand sanitizer at front door, it now works.

### **Things left to be done:**

1. Eaves trough at GSSC need to be replaced with 5-inch steel troughs at cost of \$3729.
2. Repairs to parking lot to help with drainage, this will help keep water from coming up to the front door. Cost from M.E.I. contractors is \$9750.
3. Doors at Cedarside at front with metal doors and new locks all around by Wayne Kinsmen cost \$1200.
4. Last of all to replace ½ of the roof at Cedarside by Northwood (that's the same company that put the other side on) we would like to have at least one more company to give quote, only problem maybe the other company might not match the same colour cost of \$18,580.

I would like to thank all who have been such a great help to me in the last six years. It has been a true blessing to have been an elder, it has been an experience I will never forget and mean that in the most positive way. It helps me in my daily life and how to deal with different problems. I would encourage anyone to consider serving at least one term as elder. To Bob thank God you have been there and you are such a blessing and to all the other elders God bless you and guide you in all you peruse.

## MEN'S PRAYER GROUP & BIBLE STUDY

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Rev. David McIntyre

In the fall of 2016, we began a new study of ROMANS as found in the "MESSAGE" Bible translation.

We gather at David McIntyre's place at 6:30 on Tuesday evenings then car pool to Les Burnham's place in Dundalk because he is not able to come out.

The "Message Bible" brings the study right up to "now" making it very easy to grasp the concepts Paul is putting across.

Very refreshing indeed!

We also have a money jar for offerings with which we buy laundry detergent or fresh vegetables for the food bank.

We do have fun. Lots of room for more players.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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Doreen Green

Second annual "Ladies Day of Hope" was hosted by Team 24 on Oct. 1 at GSCC. This year's theme was "Igniting Generational Hope", focusing on three generations. The theme scripture was Romans 15:13. Approximately 130 ladies from our area were blessed as we gathered in celebrating His Presence through worship, prayer, messages, fellowship, good food, laughter and joy.

Team 24 shared their God-given giftings to make this a special day that bore fruit in hope, salvation, friendships and thanksgiving. To Jesus for all His countless blessings to us.

We are still celebrating the goodness of the Lord as we move on ignited in His Hope.

*igniting*  
GENERATIONAL HOPE

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

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Joan McGee - Coordinator

Again your Fellowship Committee were able to assist with 10 luncheons after church. These ladies are so dedicated to helping our church have great fellowship times. We hosted our annual Corn Roast and Hoe Down in August with a great crowd and fun was had by all. Our Harvest Home dinner complete with pumpkin centerpieces and our Christmas Dinner with Poinsettias and our Christmas Concert ended our year's schedule.

**Fellowship Committee:** Peggy Ferris, Marion Grummett, Linda Hawkins, Barb Kent, Joan McGee, Verna Miller, Joan Penfold, Esther Pringle, Sue Ramm, Silvia van der Grift, Beth Vance, Pearl Warring.

With special thanks to Barry Grummett, Tom McGee, Grant Pringle, Charlie Ramm, Jack Warring

## LIVE ALONE LUNCH GROUP

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Margaret McKenzie & Iona Shier

Our little group got off to a poor start in 2016. Illness and weather meant we only had 6 lunches together.

In June we had Anne Hahn from Samaritan's Purse to tell us about the shoe boxes and water filters. In October we had Pastor Don and Judy about their experiences with Billy Graham rapid response at the Fort McMurray fires and floodings in Windsor.

We did raise \$953.20 giving another 6+ filters.

We had an average attendance of 16. If you live alone you are welcome to join us.

We want to thank our church family for their generous giving's for clean water as well - blessings!

Under his amazing hand,

Margaret McKenzie and Iona Shier

# CHOIR

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Dianne Carlson ~ Director

One had to like our beautiful weather this year. It was the warmest on record. Then December hit and several weeks of a winter blast had us cancelling Thursday night practices. Christmas Eve was fast approaching. But God is good. The week before Christmas saw a let-up in the weather and we were able to meet twice that week for practice. Our Cantata this Christmas was called "His Name Is Jesus". The trio, Georgina Symons, Wilda Allen and Judy MacNeill opened our service with "Star-Led and Wonder Bound". You don't have to be a King to worship Jesus. Just come as you are!

Thank you to all choir members for your commitment and hard work in preparing for this years cantata. Your service of music touches our church community. You are amazing!

As I look over the choir lists from the past, I am reminded of all those that have gone on to be with the Lord, those that have moved out of our community and those that are no longer able to join us for various reasons. Thank you for your service.

We welcomed Payge Lucas to the alto section this year. Carol Lundsted joined us again after a brief absence.

Our choir part was held at the church this year in August. Rain threatened the day, but we were able to have our traditional choir photo taken on the lawn of the Gentle Shepherd Church.

As always, I do appreciate Ken Whitton and his technical skills. He sets up the sound system, microphones, etc. that we might need teach practice. Thank you Ken!

Thank you Derwyn for your video clips to accompany our special music. Thank you also to Frank for helping to "clean-up" after each practice. Many times this year Paul Allen has been our "sound" man. Thank you Paul.

We are always open to having new choir members. The Bass and Tenor sections could use a "top-up!"

As always, we look forward to what God has planned for us in 2017. We will be forming a "mass community choir" to help celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. If you are interested in singing, please let me or the church know by April.

**"You gave us your Son, oh Father. Grant that we will give ourselves unconditionally to you."**

- **Sopranos:** Audrey Duckett, Jane Harrison, Gwen Ietswaard, Joy Nickell, Mary Ann Pascucci, Sarah Pascucci, Mary Pillisch, Sue Ramm, Georgina Symons, Michelle Wood
- **Altos:** Wilda Allen, Jean Docken, Linda Cunnington, Payge Lucas, Carol Lundsted, Judy MacNeill
- **Tenors:** Ken Campbell, Frank Ietswaard, Ken Whitton
- **Basses:** Derwyn Docken, Larry Fuller, Tom Pillisch, Charlie Ramm

# BENEVOLENT FUND

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Rev. David McIntyre

GSCC always quietly maintains a “Benevolent Fund” for emergency assistance.

It is funded by individual donations from the congregation. This fund is administered by a separate group from the food bank although they frequently work in tandem to better meet a need.

Many of the situations are from within the congregation but we also help in the community at large when asked.

Initial contact usually comes through the pastor but not always. There is a board of 3 persons for administration – David McIntyre, Marian Doyle and Gord Smith.

All matters are held in strict confidence.

It comes from a caring congregation. Thanks to all who contributed to this project.

**Gentle Shepherd Community Church - Grey County  
Benevolent Fund - Statement of Fund balance  
As at December 31, 2016**

Revenue from donations	4,124
Expenditures for acts of benevolence	4,983
(Decrease) in fund balance for the year	<u>(859)</u>
Fund balance - January 1, 2016	<u>2,563</u>
<b>Fund balance - December 31, 2016</b>	<b><u><u>1,704</u></u></b>
Fund balance is comprised of:	
Quick response cash on hand	500
Cash in bank	1,140
HST recoverable	<u>64</u>
	<b><u><u>1,704</u></u></b>

## FLESHERTON COMMUNITY LOVE COMMITTEE

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Joan McGee - Chairperson

This year this committee was overwhelmed with the support of our church and community. We cannot express our thanks enough times. We helped 94 families with 100 children and 47 teens have a much better Christmas. Our appreciation to our church members who help with pack, wrap and deliver. Thanks to Linda and Howard Cunnington for the lovely lunch they always serve. We want to thank especially Barry Grummett, Frank Ietswaard, Ray Shilvock (Eugenia United), Floyd Batchelor, Jack Warring for all their help.

- Sarah Gordon – Secretary – Rock Mills Fellowship Baptist
- Marian Doyle – Treasurer – G.S.C.C.
- Wanda Davidson – St. John’s United
- Marion Grummett – G.S.C.C.
- Gwen Ietswaard – G.S.C.C.
- Marna Mador – St. Andrew’s Presbyterian, Priceville
- Tom McGee – G.S.C.C.
- Diane Shilvock – Eugenia United
- Pearl Warring – G.S.C.C.

## FUNERAL LUNCHEON COMMITTEE

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Joan McGee, Joan Cripps, Marion Grummett, Pearl Warring

As a church family we want to provide a luncheon for family and friends after a funeral or memorial service. This past year we assisted the family of Karl Engel to provide their luncheon. We had 2 other luncheons, Jim Brownridge and Wayne Ferris.

We appreciate and thank everyone who willingly donates food. We thank those who come to help as needed, Marian Doyle, Gwen Ietswaard, Joan Penfold, Sue Ramm, Tom McGee, Jack Warring.

## PRAYER CHAIN

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Joan McGee

This past year we have had many opportunities to pray for many requests and support our congregation. Now we have 16 people who can pray when the call comes through. To have a prayer, call around 9am to Joan McGee (519.924.2936) or Esther Pringle (519.538.9046). In an emergency, call anytime and we will try to pass it along.

# FLESHERTON FOOD BANK

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Marian Doyle

Our mission is to be a Christian outreach in our community compassionately assisting families in need physically, emotionally and spiritually.

In 2016 we prepared 635 boxes for 59 families with 101 adults and 75 children. We have had a 35% increase in the number of children and although our box numbers remain fairly constant, the quantity of groceries given has increased to accommodate larger families. Monthly on average we prepare 53 boxes. Forty-seven percent of our families come twice monthly.

Income for families: Disability 47%, Ontario Works 29%, Working 12%, Worker's Comp 3%, E.I. 3%.



We are pleased with the renovations completed during the winter. The \$10,650 capital grant from Community Foundation Grey Bruce was used to remove a wall and create a larger room, purchase 3 large shelving units, add a doorway and lock. Downstairs at Cedarside was completely rewired with plugs and outlets for our needs. We came in under budget and as a result we were approved to purchase a new stove and larger coffee perk. The kitchen was finished with new faucet and countertop. With our Open House in June, two member of the Foundation were very pleased with the allocation of the fund money. This new room allows clients to "shop" for their needs which has given them a level of independence and freedom to make their own choices.

In December we passed the yearly inspection from the Grey Bruce Health Unit.

We are very thankful for the support of the community including churches, schools, OPP, EMS, Bruce Power, Bruce Power Worker's Union, community organizations, and Flesherton Community Foundation. Funds from the Flesherton Love committee were needed during the summer. The Bakery coin jar provided \$1240 for the year and our 3 food drives at Markdale Foodland raised \$1507 as well as a good quantity of groceries. We also give thanks for the faithful financial support from our congregation at GSCC.

We are always mindful that this outreach ministry is the Lord's plan, we are just His servants doing His will. We have received favour throughout the year including a \$3000 donation from a complete stranger.

We continue to minister to people spiritually, praying over their health needs and family concerns. Three individuals accepted Jesus as their Saviour this year.

Thanks to Lynn and Jack Muir for their dedication to keep our shelves stocked and also to our team of volunteers, it is a joy to work with you. We would like to acknowledge our appreciation to the Ferris family for the memorial donations designated for the food bank.

**Flesherton Community Food Bank**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balance**  
**For the period from January 1 to December 31, 2016**

<b>REVENUES</b>	
Donations - GSCC donors	11,959.50
Donations - Community donors	8,003.42
Memorial gifts	2,790.00
Food drives	810.00
Community fundraising	2,442.15
Corporate donors	3,780.00
Grants	3,000.00
Gifts from other churches	2,050.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u><u>34,835.07</u></u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Groceries	23,324.43
Other household needs	2,962.12
Postage & Office	21.52
Advertising	164.41
Laundry & Cleaning	0.00
Supplies	0.00
Pick-up & Freight-in	525.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u><u>26,997.48</u></u>
<b>REVENUES IN EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES</b>	7,837.59
<b>FUND BALANCE, January 1</b>	5,850.93
Interfund transfer from Benevolent	0.00
<b>FUND BALANCE, DECEMBER 31</b>	<u><u>13,688.52</u></u>
<i>Average monthly expenditures</i>	2,249.79
<b>Fund balance consists of:</b>	
Cash in bank	13,425.57
HST recoverable	262.95
	<u><u>13,688.52</u></u>

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Joan McGee, Joan Cripps, Marion Grummett, Pearl Warring

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