

2021

# ANNUAL REPORT



UNIONVILLE  
ALLIANCE CHURCH

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**OUR MISSION**  
 To lead people to know Jesus Christ and to follow him passionately.

**OUR VISION**  
**TOUCHING OUR WORLD THROUGH JESUS, ONE LIFE AT A TIME.**



Sharing God's Message of Hope



Meaningful Community



Biblical Teaching



Caring for Those in Need



Prayer

# AGENDA

## FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021, 4:00 PM

- 1 CALL TO ORDER
- 2 REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR DANIEL
- 3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2020
- 4 ELECTION OF ELDERS
- 5 ELECTION OF MEMBERS FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE
- 6 APPROVAL OF UPDATED BYLAW
- 7 FINANCIAL REPORT
- 8 APPOINTING OF THE AUDITOR FOR 2021-2022
- 9 PRESENTATION OF THE 2021-2022 BUDGET
- 10 OTHER BUSINESS
- 11 PRAYER
- 12 ADJOURNMENT

## MINUTES FROM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

This meeting convened online via Zoom and in the sanctuary of Unionville Alliance Church (UAC) at 4:00 pm on the 20th of September in 2020. There were 46 members and 6 adherents in attendance.

### 1. Call to Order

Don Roe, Chair of the Board of Elders, called the meeting to order, thanking everyone for their presence despite the circumstances, and opened with prayer.

### 2. Reflections from Pastor Kevin Rutledge

Pastor Kevin welcomed and thanked everyone for attending despite having to do so online. Pastor Kevin opened his reflection with the word "unprecedented", acknowledging the situations the pandemic has forced the world to reckon with. The pandemic having caused many lives to change, shutting down businesses, schools and sending people to work from home a few weeks before Easter. For the church, it caused many people to work hours upon hours to be able to continue with online services. It was frustrating and difficult. Pastor Kevin reflected on the sovereignty of Jesus Christ, that he remains sovereign even in this new environment. Jesus said he would build his church and the gates of Hell would not prevail against it. In Jerusalem, the Christians had faced severe persecution and had to scatter for their lives. Jesus saw that opposition as an opportunity for good, to spread the Gospel to other regions and to grow his church. Pastor Kevin stated that we need to anchor ourselves to Jesus because he is still building his church and still in control. Jesus can and does work in all situations, including the one we are living through now.

Reflecting back on Easter, when we were relegated to run services online, Pastor Kevin was able to successfully invite two of his neighbours who previously had not been willing to come to church. He saw that God is still working and that we're reaching a new audience which is more willing to attend church privately online. Pastor Kevin explained that doing our ministries online has seen consistent attendance, more growth, and a greater reach as people from all over have been connecting with our church services.

Pastor Kevin impressed the call on the congregation to be the church to our neighbours, to invite them to watch the service, and to see this season as the opportunity it is. He asked for prayer for our ministries and our leaders. He expressed his gratitude for the numerous volunteers who serve and the congregation's faithful giving. He stated that giving has seen a small decrease, however the budget has been adjusted to compensate. Thank you for our elders, our lay leaders and our staff.

Pastor Kevin expressed his gratitude for all the elders, lay leaders and the staff. He implored that we continue to trust that Jesus is building his church and Hell will not prevail.

### 3. Approval of Minutes from 2019

The Chair sought confirmation of the approval of the previous year's Annual General Meeting minutes. Motion approved by Terry Doner and seconded by Winston Miller. Approval was unanimous.

### 4. Election of Elders

Pastor Kevin presented two new elder candidates as nominated by the Nominating Committee. He expressed his gratitude for the wonderful, dedicated men who are serving and caring for the church as elders. The two new candidates were as follows: Les Miyata and Nesa Gulasekharam.

Pastor Kevin stated that Wayne Nishimura has completed 2 terms, serving with distinction, and is now stepping down. Don Roe was up for re-election for his 3rd term, however with the challenges of COVID-19 and the increased demands with his work and at the church, he has decided to withdraw his name from the election. Pastor Kevin thanked Don for his faithfulness both on and off the Board.

## 5. Appointing of the Auditor for 2021

Wayne Nishimura, the Treasurer, presented the new auditors. The past few years we've had Nethercott & Company prepare our financial statements, however this past fiscal year end the company no longer existed. The Treasurer informed us of the switch to Norton McMullen as the new company that had audited UAC and prepared the financial statements for 2020. The Treasurer moved to recommend the appointing of Norton McMullen as the auditors for 2021. Tony Miles seconded the motion.

Pastor Kevin opened up the online vote for the Election of the Elders and the Appointing of the Auditors for 2021.

## 6. Financial Report

The Treasurer expressed his gratitude for the congregation's faithful giving and their trust in the Board with the stewardship of the finances. He specifically thanked Tammy McLennon, the bookkeeper, Pastor Kevin and his administrative staff for their work. He thanked all the volunteers in various ministries, with a special mention for Terry Doner and his technical team. He thanked his wife, Barb, for her support in his faith journey.

The Treasurer presented the financial summary from the 2020 fiscal year. The financial statements had been sent out by email earlier this month. They were as follows:

### INCOME STATEMENT - For the year ending June 30, 2020

	Operating	Restricted	Capital	Total
Income	\$ 781,465	\$ 147,188	\$ 19,740	\$ 948,393
Expenses	\$ 708,494	\$ 138,903	\$ 150,040	\$ 997,437
-----				
Net Income (deficit)	\$ 72,971	\$ 8,285	\$ (130,300)	\$ (49,044)

NOTE: Capital Expenses include amortization of \$101,635.

The Board of Elders noticed operating giving was down in Fall of 2019. The concern was that major capital expenses in the beginning of the fiscal year were paid out of the Operating Fund. Therefore the Board of Elders put a hold on major capital expenses in the 2021 budget.

The bookkeeper prepares monthly income statements for the Treasurer to review and present to the Board. The Board reviewed and approved the fiscal year-end financial statements and the auditors, Norton McMullen, approved and stated that the finances were presented fairly, in all material respects.

## 7. Presentation of the 2020-2021 Budget

The Treasurer presented the 2020-2021 budget. He stated that the Board of Elders had determined it prudent to put together a 6 month budget in light of the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic. The budget will be reviewed when some of the uncertainties would be established and revealed. As previously stated, all major capital projects have been put on hold, perhaps excepting the necessary sewer hookup that is anticipated to move forward in the New Year.

### FINANCIAL BUDGET

	6 mo. Budget 2021	Actual 2020	Actual 2019
Giving	\$ 457,240	\$ 948,393	\$ 1,060,395
Disbursements*	\$ 462,710	\$895,802	\$824,928
-----			
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ (5,470)	\$ 52,591	\$ 235,467
-----			
*Disbursements excludes amortization		\$ 101,635	\$ 89,878

The Treasurer mentioned that giving had been down due to the pandemic and affected our operating giving from March to June 2020. After comparing the givings from the July to December period from the previous year, the budgeted operating givings have been reduced by 10%, the Missions givings averaged at \$7,000 per month, Community Care at \$4,500 per month, and estimated around \$18,000 for Summer Student Grants and Subsidies. In addition, they budgeted no rental income from York Region District School Board for the ESL program, Bible Study Fellowship, Unionville Mandarin Alliance Church and other sundry rentals.

He explained the compensation expenses, stating no raises were made for the current job descriptions, no staff were laid-off, and an allowance made for a full time salaried Music and Worship Pastor, including potential moving expenses, and an overlap of the future Children's Pastor with Pastor Verna for part of December. He continued to explain that facility costs are fixed and the Missions and Community Care expenses were based on current commitments.

## 8. Other Business

The Chair opened by reading a statement made 2 years ago at the AGM 2018 by the Board of Elders regarding the role of women in leadership in the church. After which, the Chair stated that due to the serious challenges the church is currently and will be facing with the pandemic, the Board has decided to revisit the role of women in leadership in not less than 2 years.

The Chair opened the floor for any questions, emphasizing that the Board asks for prayer in this matter, and that the desire is for us to walk forward in love and as a church family. Several comments were made expressing the importance of the decision and that they desired to have this decision resolved sooner rather than continually postponed. A comment was made expressing hurt for the discrimination they have felt at UAC making it increasingly difficult them to attend, whereas others stated that they have never felt as though they have been discouraged from any role in the church. A comment was also made that not only does this decision needs to be based on God's Word, but a meaningful discussion needs to be had as to what to do with women in the church who are blessed with leadership and pastoral giftings. Furthermore, the Board is always available for people to come talk and share their suggestions, and we should respect their decision and their efforts. Questions were also raised regarding the process in which the Board plans to make the decision. The Chair stated that women have been previously consulted and would continue to be consulted, that there will be a sermon series based on Scripture regarding the issue before putting the decision to a vote, which may also include the congregation. The Chair continued on by stating that the Board has been very blessed to have a group of ladies that pray for good decisions to be made in their meetings and asked that the congregation pray for the weeks and months ahead as UAC pushes forward through the pandemic.

Pat Wade raised a question regarding the plans for the land at the back of the church property. The Chair responded that the land will remain as status quo, and that it continues to increase in value.

The Chair thanked the congregation as it has been his pleasure to serve the church as an elder for the past 6 years. He thanked the elders for their constant support through his health issues and loss. He also thanked them individually for the expertise, guidance and dedication they brought to UAC.

## 9. Prayer

Johnny Chan Kin took the opportunity to bless the church, the Board, Pastor Kevin and the new Elders. He closed the meeting in prayer.

## 10. Adjournment

The Chair announced the results from the vote. Les Miyata and Nesa Gulasekharam have been voted in to serve as elders on the Board of Elders for UAC. Wayne Nishimura motioned for adjournment.



# A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

This past year has been an eventful year filled with uncertainty, transition, trials, and hope. We have learned to trust the Lord and not depend on our own understanding. We have sought the will of God for the future direction of Unionville Alliance Church and have seen his leading and purpose.

**"TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART; DO NOT DEPEND ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING.  
SEEK HIS WILL IN ALL YOU DO, AND HE WILL SHOW YOU WHICH PATH TO TAKE"**

**PROVERBS 3:5-6**

In the midst of a global pandemic, UAC has gone through a number of changes. Not only have we changed our method and model of ministry to fit our current digital culture, we have had a number of staffing changes. When I was first approached about the possibility of stepping into the Lead Pastor role at UAC, I was greatly humbled. Laura and I took time to pray, fast, and seek wise counsel from mentors and seasoned leaders. As we felt the call of God to step into the role, we were excited for all that the Lord would do at UAC in the seasons to come. With deep gratitude for the Lord's mercies and grace, an awesome realization of my unworthiness, and a wonderful sense of expectation of God's Spirit moving in new ways, we stepped into a new season at UAC desiring to see God's will accomplished here in earth as it is in heaven.

First, I am thankful to the Lord for his faithfulness to our congregation in a variety of ways. I am appreciative of God's gift of Pastor Kevin to our congregation for the past seven years. His love, pastoral care, and commitment to the mission of God will be missed. We wish him well in his future endeavours and know that he will continue to be involved in a variety of ministry opportunities. I'm thankful for our staff who have persevered, innovated, and gone above and beyond in sustaining our ministries and engaging new opportunities with inspiration and zeal. In particular, I would like to acknowledge Verna Proctor and Tammy McLennon who both finished long tenures at UAC. We are deeply grateful for their faithful service and ministry over many years. I'm thankful for our elders who have balanced the ship in rough waters and have led with integrity and diligence during a

difficult season of transition. I continue to be blessed and encouraged by the congregation for your love, commitment, service, sacrifice, and dedication to the mission, vision, and values of UAC. I am thankful for each and every one of you!

As we move into this new season at UAC, it is also a new and unique season of ministry. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be the primary issue worldwide, we continue to navigate the uncertainty of the future with renewed trust and faith in our living Saviour because this is his church and he is planning in love. We don't know what the new normal will look like, but we know that we are 100% committed to the in-person worship experience and 100% committed to the online worship experience. Although the means and methods of ministry change, the mission will always remain to lead people to know Jesus Christ and to follow him passionately. We seek to accomplish this by touching our world through Jesus, one life at a time. We will continue to pray, innovate, and do whatever is necessary to reach people with the gospel of Jesus Christ! For example, one lady watched us online for over a year during the pandemic. She connected with us through our online ministry, eventually started attending in person, and now desires to become a member. She is one example of many who continue to be blessed through our online platform.

Let us be encouraged that in every season the Lord is working, building, transforming, and changing us from glory to glory by the Spirit of the Lord. As we live in a divisive culture, let us be the fragrance of Christ displaying his love, forgiveness, unity and grace to everyone. As UAC grows as a Christ-centred, Spirit-empowered, mission-focused church, multiplying disciples everywhere, let us be like Barnabas who invested into others with visionary encouragement.

Thank you for your investment into the UAC community. We can't do what we do without you. Your generous giving, sacrificial service, passionate prayers, and tangible acts of love make the difference in our community and beyond. From a worldly perspective, the future is uncertain, but from a Biblical perspective, we are safe and secure in the loving arms of our Saviour who knows the future and goes before us. Let's continue to trust him in this exciting season ahead!

**“ WE WILL CONTINUE TO  
PRAY, INNOVATE,  
AND DO WHATEVER  
IS NECESSARY  
TO REACH PEOPLE WITH  
THE GOSPEL OF  
JESUS CHRIST! ”**

Pastor Daniel Mills

# STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	BUDGET 2022	ACTUAL 2021	ACTUAL 2020
<b>INCOME</b>			
CONTRIBUTIONS - Operating Fund	\$710,000	\$699,446	\$688,345
CONTRIBUTIONS - Missions	\$71,000	\$70,450	\$92,485
CONTRIBUTIONS - Memorial Fund	\$0	\$400	\$200
CONTRIBUTIONS - Community Care Fund	\$54,000	\$70,268	\$54,503
PROGRAMMING - Cost Recovery	\$33,360	\$24,065	\$60,518
GRANTS/SUBSIDY - Summer Students		\$0	\$5,584
OTHER INCOME	\$6,000	\$7,700	\$18,801
INTEREST	\$8,000	\$2,921	\$8,217
REMAINDER OF CAPITAL PROJECT FUND		\$3,745	\$19,740
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$882,360</b>	<b>\$878,995</b>	<b>\$948,393</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
SALARIES and BENEFITS	\$458,496	\$399,328	\$415,066
PROGRAMMING COSTS	\$122,075	\$71,674	\$112,789
OFFICE and ADMINISTRATION	\$81,010	\$56,340	\$72,579
FACILITIES	\$110,200	\$92,284	\$96,060
C&MA DENOMINATIONAL COMMITMENTS	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
MISSION	\$73,300	\$78,563	\$86,181
COMMUNITY CARE	\$55,500	\$36,140	\$47,722
MEMORIAL FUND	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$5,000
AMORTIZATION	\$100,000	\$91,317	\$101,635
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	\$0	\$741	\$48,405
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,017,581</b>	<b>\$846,387</b>	<b>\$997,437</b>
<b>NET (LOSS) INCOME</b>	<b>\$(135,221)</b>	<b>\$32,608</b>	<b>\$(49,044)</b>
ADDITION OF CAPITAL 2022 Building upgrades, pavement repairs, audio upgrades, and other equipment	\$85,000	\$14,097	\$40,362



Missions is a core aspect of who we are as part of the Christian & Missionary Alliance. We desire to be missional in our outlook, passions, and intentions as we seek to share the good news of Jesus Christ both locally and globally through practical outreach programs and efforts. We are called to take the gospel to every people, tribe, and nation as part of the Great Commission that Christ left for us. This calling is fulfilled through local initiatives and by empowering people to take the gospel globally to the least reached parts of the world.

Within Canada, we support the C&MA New Ventures which seeks to develop new leaders and new churches in unique settings. Historically, we have sent out missionaries around the world, but now the world has come to Canada and we have become a multiethnic society represented by a multitude of nations and cultures. Canada itself is a mission field and therefore we need new and innovative ways to reach people locally. We contributed \$20,000 towards New Ventures to see the gospel grow in Canada. Close to home, we also supported the Markham Stouffville Crisis Pregnancy Centre with \$2,400 in their mission to show the love of Jesus to those facing unexpected or challenging pregnancies.

Globally, our main commitment is to the C&MA Global Advance Fund which supports our international workers in fulfilling their mission to reach the least reached people groups around the world for Christ. We have given approximately \$40,000 to this effort to support approximately 250 international workers. In addition to that, we also gave over \$5,500 to support the ministry expenses of Derek & Bonnie Burnett who are part of our UAC family and are currently serving in Thailand. We also see the value and need to support Bible translation and have given \$2,400 in support of Alan Yam and his work with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Throughout this year, there were some other global needs that we responded to. Through the work of the Christian Outreach Ministries we were able to send \$1,000 for relief to the people of St. Vincent after a volcano erupted and devastated many on their island. As we have seen the impact of COVID-19 around the world, the C&MA Canada partnered with other organizations to bring relief specifically to India and Nepal as they were drastically affected by the pandemic. We also joined in the effort by sending \$5,000 in support of this excellent cause. In August 2020, there was an explosion in Beirut, Lebanon that killed over 200 people and injured thousands more. Through the Global Emergency Response Fund (GERF), we contributed \$1,260 to aid emergency response projects.

Through the faithful and committed giving of you, our church family, we have been able to give generously to these worthy causes as we continue to see the gospel of Jesus lived out both locally and globally through practical and gospel-focused initiatives. As we continue to give and sacrifice for the mission of God, we will see the fruit of our giving both here in this world and forever in eternity.

<b>DONATED LOCALLY</b>	NEW VENTURES <b>\$20,000</b>	<b>DONATED GLOBALLY</b>	GLOBAL ADVANCE FUND <b>\$40,000</b>	WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS <b>\$2,400</b>
	PREGNANCY CENTRE <b>\$2,400</b>		THE BURNETTS <b>\$5,500</b>	OTHER GLOBAL NEEDS <b>\$7,260</b>



# PRAYER

Cheryl Roe, Prayer Coordinator

*“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication...for all the saints.”  
Ephesians 6:18*

Prayer ministry has been running as a hybrid of both in-person and online gatherings. The ‘After Service Prayer Team’ (ASPT) met online during the lockdown times and offered both in-person and online prayer when the church was open. Currently, we are in-person and online prayer continues to be offered in a new format. We also have a ‘Before Service Prayer Team’ (BSPT) consisting of four ladies praying ‘together yet apart’ on Sunday mornings during lockdown, and when the church is open, walking in prayer around the perimeter of the church building before the service. Our focus has been Psalm 91. Donna Rawana, Salome Alagaratnam and Cheryl Roe participated in ‘The Prayer Course’ online and consequently taught the online ASPT to pray using P.R.A.Y. (Pause - Rejoice - Ask - Yield). Laura Mills and Cheryl Roe prepared and participated in 4 prayer walks in the UAC neighbourhood during July and August. Included in this was the ‘Neighbourly Invitation’ which was introduced to the congregation for ‘up close and personal’ use in their own neighbourhoods.

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**TEAM MEMBERS**  
praying faithfully

**“This story** takes place B.C. (Before Covid). Our UAC BSPT originally met in the Prayer Room every Sunday before the service. We would pray together with the worship team and perhaps the speaker for the morning. Most often, our prayer time began with God's Word. Then, we prayed generally for God's hand to be upon on the service, the congregation, the ministries of the day, the Holy Spirit's presence and anointing on the speaker, and that God would be glorified through all the service offered to Him.

One person who prayed with us regularly on those Sunday mornings has shared how much those prayers were an influence in his life. He had been dealing with a long-time issue that required regular medication. When he took part in the worship, he sensed God's presence and it so encouraged him. He sensed God's healing balm as he worshiped. He has shared that one of the ways his journey of healing began was through the regular and faithful prayer time with the BSPT. God used the times of worship and the prayers of His people to bring about a complete healing to the point of no longer needing medication!

God works in ways we cannot see sometimes. He uses our faithful commitment to regular prayer to impact even one life. I am reminded of those familiar verses in Isaiah 55:10-11.

We prayed and God worked His purposes in this one life. Could there be more who were impacted? Yes, absolutely. As we remain faithful to God's calling to pray He will do what He desires to do – corporately and individually. The far-reaching possibilities are truly endless!



# LIFE GROUPS

Pastor Daniel Mills

*Life Groups at Unionville Alliance Church offer an opportunity for people to journey together through the highs and lows of life. It is a place of trust, transparency, confidentiality, support, prayer, and Bible Study. The five values of our church are aptly demonstrated and lived out through our Life Group ministry.*

As with many of our ministries this past year, our Life Groups continued to meet online to support one another, study God's word, spend time in prayer, and build meaningful connections during this challenging season. In the summer time, and as restrictions for in person gatherings changed, some of our Life Groups were able to gather for in person meetings and fun summer events.

Although some people have been “Zoomed-out” and find meeting online difficult, we are extremely thankful for our Life Group leaders who have persevered, innovated, and led faithfully in this season. Along with the sermon-based questions that are discussed, our Life Groups are safe places where people can share their heart, burdens, struggles, while receiving prayer and support from fellow members. Our leaders have also used RightNow

Media as a ministry tool to lead their groups through other studies that they have found enriching to their particular group.

The Life Group leaders met three times during this past ministry season for fellowship, training, prayer, and also a fun time to celebrate and share testimonies of God's work during this unique year. We are on the lookout for more Life Group leaders as our desire is to have everyone in our congregation engaged in Life Groups. As we see the use of technology increasing around us, we see the benefits, but also the disadvantages that it creates for meaningful community. We desire to leverage the positive aspects of technology without losing what it means to do life together in community as brothers and sisters in the family of God.

**“For 15 years,** we have been leading and hosting a life group at our home. One of the biggest blessings is the Christian fellowship and teaching we have had with a significant number of people. Our door is always open to new members. This past year we have had a couple of single adults join our group and the group members have significantly come alongside them to encourage them with career and personal challenges. God has blessed us and inspired us to be open to new opportunities to encourage others in their faith. Despite the hurdles of this past year with the pandemic and having to meet on Zoom, we have been able to have sweet times of fellowship, Bible study, prayer, and mutual support to keep us pressing forward with Jesus. We are so thankful for the opportunity to meet together as a group and journey together!

# MUSIC & CREATIVE ARTS

Nadia Brissett, Director of Music & Creative Arts

*It is our vision to act as a vehicle to usher in the presence of God. Our desire is to have the presence of God move freely among the congregation and for each person in the congregation to experience Christ on a personal level.*

It was a challenging year as we had to pivot multiple times while still trying to maintain the same quality of worship on a weekly basis. We were extremely blessed by our small but wonderful team of volunteers who successfully allowed us to continue worshipping God. Some services were pre-recorded while other services were led by a small crew in an empty church on a Sunday morning. This meant we had to learn new ways of recording and livestreaming the services online. We were able to grow our team despite the restrictions, adding key members. It goes without saying that this has been a very different year for music ministries all over the globe. UAC has been in a time of transition, where the worship team experienced a shift in Pastoral and Worship leadership, yet the team still continued to thrive and experience great times of worship and service. As a ministry, we have been able to add mentorship to our service, which has aided in the growth of our team members.

**33** VOLUNTEERS make Sunday Services happen

## “It is beautiful

for me to see people of diverse backgrounds and ages on stage all coming together to worship our Lord. It has been a privilege to me to hear music in a variety of styles at UAC from hymns to the most recent worship songs! I love the freedom and joy I have to stand amongst fellow believers at UAC to worship God with a deep feeling of belonging to the family of Christ.

I have been privileged to be a part of the worship team at UAC. I have received such acceptance and kindness from my fellow band mates and great mentorship from our worship leader that I have grown immensely as a musician. I truly appreciate that UAC is a place where people of all skill levels are welcomed to join the worship team and grow in their art for the glory of God.

# TECH & ONLINE

Terry Doner, Technical Director

*Our role is to support all aspects of our worship experience in our facilities. The measure of success is: our congregation can hear and see what is helpful in our worship. Worship in its fullness encompasses our entire Sunday morning experience. How do we achieve this? It takes several things working together: people, planning, and technology.*

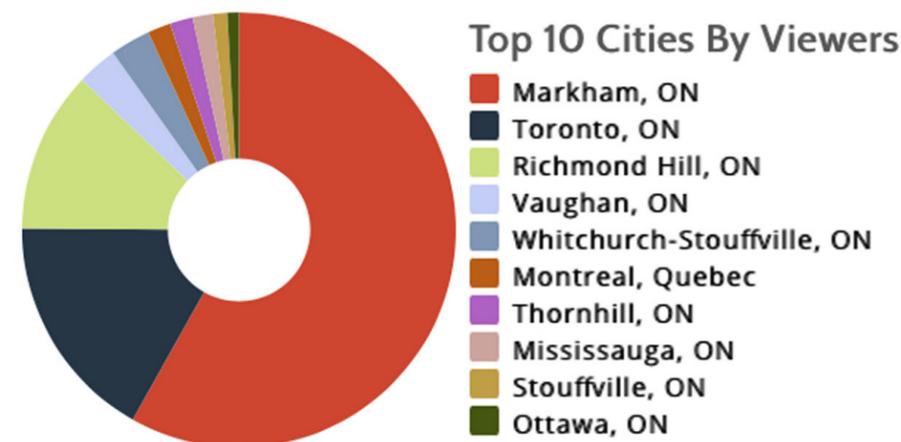
This year, we are extremely grateful for the tireless efforts of our core tech team. The team had been reduced to about half of previous years, and this core has served weekly to ensure the good news of the gospel is spread. They continue to learn how to better use the tools which have been provided.

Our online capabilities continue to be a critical component of the church’s ministry. We have made significant investments to make our services more reliable and of higher quality. As a result, we are now streaming to YouTube and the Church Online Platform in addition to Facebook.

👍 399 LIKES   📺 110 SUBSCRIBED   📡 139 ONLINE VIEWERS

Most of our viewers are in our local community, and we also have visitors who join us from interesting places: including the US, Jamaica, China, Trinidad, and India to name a few.

Our God is a creative God. The opening scene in scripture is all about creation. In Genesis 1:3 God speaks and creates light. The rest of the Bible is communicating His story of redemption for mankind. Every Sunday, we use sound and light to reinforce that message to as many people as we can and via our recordings, we extend that to the other 167 hours in the week.



### AUDIO

Clear communication is the technical backbone of our services. The audio system has served us well over the past 20 years but will need significant investment in the next few years.

### LIGHTING

Proper illumination of our services for the congregation, both in person and through video, is a powerful tool which can set a mood and focus attention.

### PROJECTION

Visually supporting our services by projecting song lyrics, graphics, videos and other media encourages engagement in worship and with the biblical teachings.

### BROADCAST VIDEO

The ability to record and share our sermons online as well as stream the entire service live via Facebook and Youtube has been instrumental for those who could not attend in person.

# MASTER'S PANTRY

Nancy Wilson, Director of Master's Pantry

*Master's Pantry volunteers are the hands and feet of Jesus, providing for people's physical needs in a practical way, expressing the love of Jesus to each individual.*

When COVID-19 hit, we were restricted in our operations and changed the program to become a drive-thru. All our food hampers had to be pre-packed on the Thursday prior to the pantry date. In late April of 2020, we were immensely helped by York Region through Feed Ontario as they started to provide pre-packed emergency food boxes. We then only needed to add additional food to the boxes for the larger families.

The bulk of our food comes from York Region Food Bank Association - we pay a minimal yearly fee to receive two deliveries per month, which amounts to hundreds of dollars in food. These items vary depending on what companies donate to York Region, however they usually consist of produce, dairy, eggs, meat, bread and assorted canned and dried foods. This service is so important to us. We do have our own budget to supplement other food items that we need, however we could not have possibly provided everything that York Region gives us on our own. We also receive donations from St. Patrick's Catholic Parish as they run 2 to 3 food drives per year, and from The Islamic Association when they collect food for Eid and Ramadan. Our clients have been blessed with all the food.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we were limited as to how many volunteers we could have for each pantry. It usually consisted of five people serving inside and two to three outside directing traffic and loading cars. This included youth volunteers from the Unionville Youth Council under the direction of Don Roe. These youth have proven to be very faithful volunteers for each pantry. It was truly a blessing to serve alongside them!

EACH PANTRY SERVED AN AVERAGE OF	<b>26</b> DRIVE-THRUS	<b>154</b> CLIENTS
	<b>19</b> DELIVERIES	

“A client whom I will call “Jim”, had a rough past with addictions to alcohol and smoking. He dealt with difficult blows after blows and his health was not good. He had been a client since about 2003. About 8 years ago, his family called the church saying he was in ICU at Markham Stouffville, on life support, and did not have much longer to live, so they asked if I would go in to see him. Myrna McCombs, who was head of Pastoral Care at the time, and I went to see him. As we entered the room and told Jim who it was, I began to tell him how much Jesus loved him and wanted him to be in Heaven with him if it was time for him to go. I told Jim that Jesus died for him, loved him and was waiting for him to reach out. We prayed with him and left. Two days later, we got a call saying Jim had pulled through miraculously and he was out of ICU! A few months later at Master's Pantry, Jim asked me what I had said to him that night. I told him, and his eyes filled with tears, and he said, “I am a changed man, my life has changed.” He stopped drinking and occasionally came to church. After two years of struggling with cancer of the esophagus and stomach, he passed away this past June. Although it was sad to see Jim go, it was with joy in my heart that I knew Jim was now in the presence of Jesus and cancer free. This is just one story of a life that we had gradually built a relationship with through Master's Pantry. And we had the joy of being part of his coming to know Jesus as well!

# HAMPERS OF HOPE

Nancy Wilson, Director of Master's Pantry

Our Hampers of Hope program ran very differently but was a huge success despite being in the height of the pandemic. We were able to give each family a full hamper with about a week's worth of food, with carrots, onions, apples, oranges, potatoes, eggs, a box of cookies or chocolates, and a Christmas dinner (with a turkey or chicken). We also provided gift certificates for each member of the family, ranging from \$174 - \$200, in lieu of the usual gifts and toys. In addition, each family got a large bottle of hand sanitizer and a box of disposable masks.

As per previous years, we partnered with Village Grocer and Hockey with Heart who provided all the produce, turkeys, chickens, and canned goods. There were a number of other corporate sponsors who donated produce and gift cards. Our own church and life groups helped immensely with donations of cases of food, and numerous gift cards. Because of the generosity we received, we were able to put a bulk order through No Frills on Yonge Street, helping immensely to reduce the need to sort cans and in turn, reduce the work load for our small volunteer force. We were restricted to 10 volunteers each day to do all the packing and organizing. The clients drove through and picked up their hampers on December 18th - 19th, and the rest were delivered by Hockey with Heart volunteers for clients who for various reasons were not able to pick up their hampers.

<b>150</b> CHRISTMAS HAMPERS
<b>390</b> ADULTS <b>240</b> CHILDREN

# COMMUNITY CARE COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Community Care Committee is to provide assistance to people in our community who have short term financial needs. They may be behind in rent or utility bills, in need of food, or have other monetary needs. They may also need encouragement to seek financial management advice. As we review each case, our challenge is to find the right balance between doing our due diligence to confirm the authenticity of the request and exercising true compassion. We want to provide generous assistance if there is a definite need, but it is not our role to be enablers.

This past year we have had only three requests for assistance, which is far below normal. We think there are two possible reasons for this. One is the availability of government assistance during COVID-19, such as CERB, and the other is limited access to our church office during times of lockdown when all communication was online. We anticipate an increased number of requests going forward.

We realize that even in a relatively affluent community such as Markham, there will always be those who struggle to meet their financial obligations. We covet your prayers for wisdom as we deal with those who contact us for support. May we reflect the love of Jesus as we interact with each one.



# TAC TORONTO ALLIANCE CHURCH COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Claude & Lisa Mathieu and Vino Gulasekharan

*Unionville Alliance Church, in connection with Toronto Alliance Church, strives to meet the essential needs of those living on the streets in the GTA, one life at a time.*

Due to the pandemic, for the past year and a half, we have had to alter how we run Toronto Alliance Outreach. Instead of taking sandwiches and pots of chili and physically assisting in handing out food and interacting with the people at the TAC, we have had to take lunch bags containing sandwiches, a drink box, dessert and fruit, along with non-perishables, clothing, monetary donations and other personal hygiene items to Pastor Andrew for him to distribute to the people in need. It has been amazing to have so many members of UAC wanting to contribute to this outreach and provide the items needed time and time again. There have been times when people have signed up to bring sandwiches and have forgotten, but God has continued to provide. Others, who hadn't signed up, felt led to make and bring sandwiches!

WE DONATED	<b>720</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1,200</b>	...and many toiletries, clothing, & non-perishable goods
	BAGGED LUNCHES	SANDWICHES	GARBAGE BAGS FULL OF UNDERWEAR, SOCKS, HATS & MITTS	DOLLARS	

We can honestly say that every time we have gone to TAC, we have brought what was asked for and a large box full of extra items. Everyone's generosity and God's provisions have not only touched our lives, they have touched the lives of the people receiving them. Pastor Andrew has sent several emails to the TAC leaders sharing how our contributions have impacted the people he serves, saying: *Thank you for playing an essential part in this ministry. All those sandwiches bless folks in their bodies, yes, but those sandwiches do more also. Those sandwiches build hope into the body, and they also give us an opportunity to build relationships and pray with folks.*

We are looking forward to seeing how God is going to use this ministry in the year ahead as we continue to serve him and the people of TAC.



**“After** handing one man some lunch, I asked him if he was confident that he would be with Jesus when he died. He said he was about 60/40 confident. So I took the opportunity, preached to him, and then he prayed with me for forgiveness of sins from and through Jesus. When we finished praying his eyes were dancing – with relief from sins and joy in newness of life. It was truly beautiful. And, in God's wonderful ways, the food you delivered had a real hand to play in that moment.

- Pastor Andrew, TAC



# FACILITIES

Tony Miles, Terry Doner, Steve Fish, Don Griffin, and Al Hook

*The Facilities Committee oversees the maintenance and upgrades of the facilities. Our role is to create a positive first impression for all who enter.*

We wish to thank our various custodians for their ongoing work in keeping the facilities in the best condition in addition to a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the following projects:

*Enhanced safety through:*

- Installation of a video surveillance system

*Upgrades to facilitate reopening the church:*

- Added touchless faucets & automatic door openers to the washrooms off of the foyer
- Restricted seating in the auditorium to allow for a 2 meter spacing
- Improved the ventilation by bringing in more fresh air
- Upgraded our online video capability



# OASIS SENIORS' MINISTRY

Pastor Daniel Mills, Vickie Daicoff, Yvette Davy, Elizabeth Scott, Carole Clyne, and Michael Wong

*OASIS exists to encourage older adults to still be in service as they have so much to contribute to the life of the church through their wisdom, mentorship, experience, and Christlike character. It also seeks to support, encourage, and provide opportunities for fellowship among our seniors.*

OASIS is an acronym for Older Adults Still In Service. In Psalm 92:14, we read that the righteous still bear fruit in their old age. Fun and fellowship are a good part of what we enjoy as we seek to show the love of Christ to others. COVID-19 restrictions meant that planned events, get togethers and outreaches were shelved. Testimony Thursday weekly meetings on Zoom became the way to fellowship, share individual salvation experiences, enjoy guest speakers, experience in depth teaching on significant Biblical questions, pray, laugh, comfort and be comforted.

Weekly attendance was between 10 - 20, with many more attending during special talks on COVID-19 and vaccines which were given by those involved in research in those areas. Accomplished viola player Matthew Eeuwes also drew a larger than usual number, as we enjoyed a beautiful musical performance online.

The testimonies we heard were such an affirmation of how involved and interested God is in each and every one of our lives. One of our regular attendees was touched by the depth of conversations on matters of faith and through the interactions in her life group, grew in faith. She spontaneously gave her testimony of her salvation experience at a Testimony Thursday Zoom meeting.

We took a summer break in July and August and some, who were missing our times together, have asked "when is Testimony Thursday going to restart?" We are looking to see how we can further realize our vision of touching our world through Jesus one life at a time, both within and outside our OASIS group.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

*Touching our world through Jesus, one family at a time.*

The pandemic of 2020 brought unforeseen challenges, which pushed us to adapt our children's programming. At the start of the pandemic, we engaged with our families with asynchronous online programming led by our Children's Team. In anticipation for the summer, our Kids Kapers Team offered a fully virtual camp experience, encouraging kids from our local church and the community to join. As the academic year started, our Children's Ministry quickly adapted to offering hybrid programming and many families attended online. As the pandemic restrictions eased, more families attended in-person children's programming and we expanded. Despite the pandemic restrictions, it was a blessed year and thank God for His faithfulness in connecting us with new families who may not have attended programming in-person. And we thank God for our Children's Workers who diligently worked to offer programming and connected with the children despite the changing restrictions.

<b>CHILDREN'S CONNECTIONS</b>
28 - 46 children per week
3 - 11 volunteers per week
<b>CHRISTIAN BRIGADE</b>
17 children
7 volunteers
<b>KIDS KAPERS 2020</b>
48 children
7 staff

**“Every week,** John (\*name changed for privacy) attended children's programming even prior to the pandemic. He would come to church and participate in our classes. During the first few weeks of our online programming, it took John a bit of time to adjust to the differences that took place due to the online format of the class. But then he surprised our leaders with the answers he would give in response to our questions, and it was exciting to hear that even during times when it seemed the kids were not engaging, they were still learning. As the weeks continued, John not only was the first to participate in discussions but also encouraged the other children to join in. In our weekly prayer time, he has grown in his prayer walk, taking initiative and praying for those in his life and for the other children.

# PLUGGED-IN YOUTH MINISTRY

William Peever  
Pastor of Family Ministries

*Touching our world through Jesus, one youth at a time.*

**FOUR LEADERS**  
supported an  
average of  
**16**  
**YOUTH**  
(2 wanting baptism)

Despite the ever changing regulations and switching from in person to online to hybrid we have been blessed to maintain the majority of our youth. They have faithfully attended, desiring to learn and grow. Our youth have been growing in service, their knowledge of Jesus, as well as understanding how the Bible affects their lives. We have had the joy of developing youth to lead small groups, lead live worship and engage in community. During times of isolation, we were able to deliver care packages to remind youth we are here for them, and we continued to reach out and care for our youth.

# RECLAIMED YOUNG ADULTS

Pastor Daniel Mills

*Reclaimed Young Adults exists to support and grow our young adult population into passionate followers of Jesus, through a variety of ways that propel young adults to be active in their families, the church, and the community.*

The fall of 2020 was a difficult season for many because of all that was going on in the world at the time. One of those significant cultural tensions was race relations. This topic was brought to the forefront of society because of injustices in various parts of the world. As a result, we felt the need to address this with our young adults through a study called "Race and the Gospel." We challenged our young adults to think critically, Biblically, and compassionately on this issue while considering practical steps that could be taken to share the love of God in this area. We discussed the role that race has played historically in the church, but also in our modern context.

As 2021 started, the church was going through an apologetics series called "The Problem of God", which included Friday evening discussion Zoom calls on various topics such as science, the Bible, hell, the Christ Myth, and hypocrisy. The young adults participated in these sessions in order to strengthen their faith and help them defend their faith with grace and wisdom.

To finish out the year, we journeyed through a study called "Work as Worship", and we saw how we can all use the work we do to bring glory, honour, praise and worship to the Lord. This was led by Chris & Kris Wong. The young adults were encouraged to see how their jobs and their work can be leveraged for Kingdom purposes, and how everything we do can be done with a kingdom mindset. It's not just the things done in the church that have value, but what is done in the secular workplace is just as important, as it reflects on who we are as Christians. Moreover, it enables us to shine as lights and be the fragrance of Christ in every place.

There were also fun times of fellowship, as restrictions permitted. We were able to enjoy a summer barbecue together. Two of our young adults got married and we celebrated with them. We sought to engage the youth with a couple of game night events so that they would get to know the young adults better and hopefully build mentorship relationships. We are thankful for all of our young adults as they are a critical part of our church. Many of them are involved in various ministries like the worship team, tech team, children's ministries, youth ministries, and other ministries inside and outside of UAC.

**“I started** attending Plugged-In Youth in October of 2019. I was welcomed warmly and I felt like I belonged from the very start. It became a place where I could ask questions, share concerns, and grow in my faith. I am grateful to my youth leaders for the love, patience and support they have shown me. Over the past two years, I have also received a lot of love and support from my peers, but I understood that taking that final step in fully trusting Christ would be a decision I would have to make on my own. I struggled with this decision for months, getting distracted with temptations along the way. Even as I struggled, I knew I was not alone as my leaders came alongside me, encouraging and supporting me. This year, I was finally willing to surrender to God's wishes when I comprehended that He was the only answer for all my happiness and the only One I could truly turn to in my pain and sorrows.

**“The study** on Work as Worship helped me to understand in a better way how my work ethic brings glory to God. It clarified how we are all involved in the mission of God in whatever job we are doing and brought understanding to me in terms of how we are part of the global church building the kingdom of God through a variety of means. Hearing the experiences of the other young adults and how God was sanctifying them through their work helped me to see that I'm not alone in what I'm going through and that God has a purpose in every season. I'm so thankful that I can use my work to worship God!

# MEN'S MINISTRY

Lloyd Knight, William Ah-Ton, Russell Foy, Thomas Wong and Pastor Daniel Mills

**"AND LET US CONSIDER HOW WE MAY SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON TOWARD LOVE AND GOOD DEEDS, NOT GIVING UP MEETING TOGETHER, AS SOME ARE IN THE HABIT OF DOING, BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER—AND ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING."**

HEBREWS 10:24-25 NIV

*Men's Ministry exists to create opportunities for men to connect, be encouraged by other men, study God's word, and grow together. As we seek to "touch our world through Jesus, one life at a time," we desire to make a tangible impact within our church family and beyond.*

The 2020 fall season started online as with most other ministries. Instead of our monthly men's breakfast that we enjoyed pre-pandemic, we started an online five-part men's Bible study based on the theme, "Be a Godly Man." On select Saturday mornings, men gathered to fellowship, dig into God's word, and pray together. This was led by Les Miyata and Thomas Wong, and it offered men a connection point in the midst of the pandemic lockdown.

Coming into 2021, we started a weekly Zoom video call for the men at UAC which ran for six months until June 26. Having a weekly meeting took the guesswork out of when the meetings were being held, and we had some men who attended the meetings regularly. We called it the "Men's Zoom Table" in lieu of the breakfast table that we were used to gathering around.

#### MONTHLY GUEST SPEAKERS

- Pastor Lou - "How we can love at a distance"
- Curtis Peters - "Biblical Wisdom"
- Derek Burnett - "Seven habits of highly effective husbands"
- Dr Emmanuel Persad - "Mental health in the pandemic: The consequences and how to cope"
- Pastor Kevin - "Finishing well"
- Pastor Daniel - his personal journey of faith story

These meetings were full of invaluable information and wisdom that we could apply to our daily lives as

men. There was an opportunity to interact with the speakers, leading to additional insights. The last guest speaker was Pastor Daniel who shared his personal testimony on his conversion and his call to missionary work. It was a blessing to get to know Daniel more as he was preparing to take over the lead pastor role at UAC.

For three weeks every month, Les Miyata, Thomas Wong, and William Ah-Ton hosted a discussion on a parable from the four Gospels. We typically had seven to ten men attending, with seven of the men attending regularly. As the men spent week after week engaging with each other, they began to develop a friendship and open up on how these parables related to their personal lives.

#### PARABLES DISCUSSED

- Two Sons • Sower • Lost Son • Weeds • Lost Sheep • Hidden Treasure and the Pearl • Talents • Ten Virgins • Good Samaritan • Unmerciful Servant • Rich Fool • Vineyard Workers • Great Banquet • Persistent Widow • Pharisee and the Tax collector • Ten Minas • Shrewd Manager • Speck and the Log

Indeed, we thank the Lord for the opportunity to meet virtually in the midst of the pandemic and are grateful for all that the Lord has done through this ministry to encourage, build up, and support men in their roles in their families, work, community, and the church.

**"I was very blessed** to participate in the weekly Men's Zoom table as we consistently met to share, explore, and study the parables of Jesus. It was enriching for me as I had to dig deeper into the parables and teachings of Jesus. One parable that really stuck out was the parable of the prodigal son. This parable allowed me to see in a greater way the heart of grace of the Father, how underserving we are of God's favour and kindness, and how much we should be grace-filled in our interactions with others. I was also encouraged by the fellowship and relationships that were built between the men. Our weekly gatherings allowed us to go deeper one with another, pray for one another, and support one another in our spiritual journey. I'm so thankful that I had the opportunity to participate.

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Lorraine Fish, Ivonne Alvarez, Barb Bitter, Allison Alvares, Joni Miyata, and Pastor Daniel Mills

*Our three-part vision focuses on sharing Jesus' life-transforming message with women of all ages by introducing them to Christ, creating opportunities to help them mature in their faith, and equipping them to be disciple-makers.*

We were able to meet the challenge of putting all our monthly seminars from September 2020 to May 2021 and other program activities online. Various women created short video reflections for our Facebook page and email newsletters which were posted year round. Online seminars allowed us to have women of all ages and guest speakers join us from different communities, including British Columbia, Quebec and South America. Our seminars were focused on giving women an opportunity to develop their prayer life, understand God's love, promises, and purpose for us, and live by faith in difficult times. We heard from several women involved in missions full-time as well. Zoom breakout rooms allowed women to break off into small discussion and prayer groups. In addition, we had some fun as well at our Advent Tea & May Tea. Besides our monthly events, we offered three seminars in March and April for young adult women that covered values, soul care, and balance in their lives. Monthly Draw Prizes were delivered in person to those who won the games.

#### FIVE LEADERS

supported an average of

# 26

**WOMEN**  
at online seminars

#### SEVENTY-EIGHT

Facebook Group members, of which

# 35

**WOMEN**  
engage regularly

#### 85 WOMEN

on our email list, and up to

# 60

**WOMEN**  
open & read them

**"A single woman** who lives outside our UAC neighbourhood wanted to find a new home church last fall and came across our church service online. She saw the promotions for the Women's Ministry events and started attending each monthly seminar as well as the Women's Bible study on Wednesday morning. As the year progressed, she connected with several women through these events, and they encouraged her by praying with her online or with phone conversations. She then decided to make UAC her home church and become a member!



# #TRY ALPHA

Pastor Daniel Mills, Steve & Lorraine Fish

*The Alpha program focuses on sharing Jesus' life-transforming message with people of all ages by introducing them to Christ and the basic doctrines of the Christian faith through video testimonies and teaching, small group discussion, and fellowship. This is an outreach ministry "to touch our world through Jesus, one life at a time."*

We were able to meet the challenge of putting our Alpha program online this year. We offered two 10-week sessions: September to November 2020 and March to May 2021. Almost all the participants attended as a result of being invited by a UAC congregant. Some attended with their friend and then followed up during the week to discuss the session with them. This encouraged the participants to remain in the program, and we saw people open up and commit to the truth they heard. During the weeks we ran the sessions, there was a group of UAC prayer warriors praying regularly for the participants. Some of the prayer warriors met each Tuesday morning via zoom to pray. At the end of the second session, the group which had attended consistently decided to do a follow-up program by Alpha called "The Jesus Lifestyle" for six weeks.

<b>2</b> Alpha leaders
<b>8</b> prayer warriors
<b>12</b> Alpha participants

**“I had a deep** desire to encourage a former neighbour to explore the claims of Christ. Since my neighbour now lived outside the city, Alpha Online presented me the perfect opportunity to invite her to Alpha. My neighbour came and attended each session faithfully! I would encourage her each week to join and then would call her up to discuss the Alpha session we had just watched. My former neighbour has now made a commitment to join an evangelical church in her own city and attended the follow-up Alpha course as well!

## CONNECT WITH US

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