

Maple Grove United Church

Narrative Budget 2017/2018

Many people seem to be identified by their fears: fear of the stranger, fear of change, fear of loss. Recently, Rev. Morar reminded us of our identity as a people blessed by God, grateful for God's blessings, which we show by our generosity:

A Blessed People (Matthew 5)	A Grateful People (Philip. 4.4-7)	A Generous People (Luke 3.10-11)
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As Christians, we count ourselves blessed for all that we receive by the grace of God. We are called to be gracious receivers and generous givers, a reflection of God's activity in the world and in our lives.

This narrative budget shows you the programs and ministries made possible at Maple Grove through your generosity. We have 5 ministries at Maple Grove United:

2. Ministry of Christian Worship and Spiritual Growth

We offer regular times to worship:

Sunday 9.00 am: - a quiet, compact opportunity to reflect on God's Word and pray. - Monthly communion - A Memory service on Advent 1 to assist folk who have experienced loss to be resilient through the Christmas season - Weekly fellowship at Tim Horton's ('St. Timothy's) following worship	Sunday 10.30 am: - praise through music presented by our three vocal choirs, hand bell choir, and instrumentalists - Reflection on the Word through time with the children and preaching - Prayer - Fellowship following worship - Monthly communion	Tuesday 7.00 pm Contemplative Prayer (silent prayer, reflection on a spiritual resource and mutual caring)
1st Saturday of the Month (several times a year) Messy Church for families in church and community created to meet the spiritual needs of young children and families (includes activities, worship and dinner)	Thursday mornings (anytime between 6 and 10.00 am) - Reflect with the help of a meditation and pray - Wherever you are for members on a prayer cycle and for those in need	Community Worship Hospital, seniors' residences, long term care facilities, Town Square
As needed - Funerals, weddings, baptisms, interfaith worship, prayer services - Worship marking holy days. (e.g. Ash Wednesday, Christmas Eve)		

Your generous donations maintain this ministry including

Ministry and music personnel	Provision/maintenance of instruments, technical resources	Guest musicians (vocal and instrumental)
Pulpit supply	Provision and maintenance of worship and communion supplies, Bibles, hymn books	Choirs (children's, Chancel Choir, Ladies Hand Bell Choir)

2. Ministry of Christian Development and Faith Formation

Through Christian nurture, each of us grows in our knowledge of what it means to be a people of God in our world. With the help of dedicated personnel and volunteers we provide education for the children and confirmation and active weekly programming for youth. Adult study and reflection happens in many different ways through such programs as Supper for the Soul, special bible study groups, Centering Prayer and Meditation. In the summer, a visioning team

adopted the following vision statement for Christian Education (ages 0-18): *“MGUC Christian Education envisions a community of learners where all are invited to grow and to explore Christian faith in action.”*

Your stewardship dollars fund such items as:

Ministry personnel leadership	Youth groups	Inquiring Minds Events
Confirmation	Faith and Film Group	Church school and curriculum
Centering Prayer	Bible Study	Vacation Bible School
Meditation	Interfaith Study Groups	

3. Ministry of Pastoral Care and Spiritual Nurture

We offer ongoing care and support to all members and friends of our congregation. The Caring Team is there for you in times of crisis. We reach out and keep in touch with members who are housebound, or who no longer can come to church. Your generous gifts enable:

Hospital visits and services	Services in long term care homes	Marriage preparation
Family Counselling	Toonie lunches	Freezer foods
Prayer Shawl group	Prayer group	Single mom support
New members welcome	Photo directory, E-news, website	Men’s breakfast group
Pastoral phone calls, visits	Membership and Caring Team	Sunday greeters, coffee for fellowship

4. Ministry of Mission, Service and Outreach

Our mission includes a strong direction to reach out and serve others beyond our doors. We have a strong Outreach committee that focuses energy at three levels of activity – local, national and international.

Our church has a strong ministry of outreach with its commitment to the Mission and Service fund of the United Church of Canada and we are strong supporters in this Presbytery.

We also support the work of the church through our Halton Presbytery and Hamilton Conference assessments. This includes the work of a Mission Development Officer by the Halton Presbytery.

Areas of this ministry works include:

Outreach fund, including: Refugee Sponsorship, First Nations Scholarship, Fair Trade Sale, Canada Foodgrains Bank dinner and monthly oatmeal sale, Education and Advocacy		
Benevolent fund	Mission and Service Fund	Kerr Street Ministries
Wesley Urban Ministries	Salvation Army	Oakville FareShare Food bank
Seniors Fitness program	Seniors later life learning	East Oakville Cards group
Restore Halton	Support for Special Needs at Community Living Halton	
Chinese Ministry with Seniors		

5. Ministry of Place and Sacred Space

The physical building we are blessed with includes not only our sanctuary, gym and meeting rooms but we also own the Manse on the property. Maintaining these buildings is vital in allowing us to live out our mission.

Our congregation understands the importance of providing a safe, friendly and accessible communal space for us and others. Dozens of groups use our facility over the weeks and months of the year. These include: Children’s Choice Daycare, Little Kickers, Fourth Trafalgar Scouts, community yoga and volleyball.

This ministry includes support for :

Insurance	Building maintenance	Telephone and internet
Custodial duties	Snowplow/grass cutting/ landscaping	Spring and fall cleanup days
Building rentals	Memorial garden	Memorial and special gifts
Manse upkeep – outside and inside	Utilities	