

FORWARD

BAPTIST CHURCH

*~ Established 1919 ~*

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2020**

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# Forward Baptist Church 2020 Annual Report

1891 Gerrard Street East, Toronto, Ontario M4L 2B9

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## STATEMENT OF FAITH

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**Bible:** We believe the Bible to be the complete Word of God; that the sixty-six books, as originally written, comprising the Old and New Testaments were God-breathed and were entirely free from error; we believe that God, in His providence, ensured the preservation of His Word so that that the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice and the true basis of Christian union.

**God:** We believe in One God, Creator of all, holy, sovereign, eternal, existing in three equal Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit who have enjoyed perfect love and community for all of eternity.

**God the Father:** We believe in one God, the Father almighty who is over all and who sovereignly works through all and in all according to His purpose. He shares the same divine essence as His Son and the Holy Spirit so that they are each fully God. We believe that He sent the Son to redeem the church, whom He chose and adopted to make them co-heirs with the Son and true children of the Father, blessing them with every blessing, and disciplining them, as a loving Father.

**God the Son:** We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He shares the same divine essence as His Father and the Holy Spirit and is fully God. We believe in His eternal existence with the Father and Holy Spirit in preincarnate glory. We believe that He took on full humanity when He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. He lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary death, was resurrected bodily, and ascended triumphantly. He is the head of the church and now sits at the right hand of the Father, mediating for His people until the day He returns to reign.

**God the Holy Spirit:** We believe in one Holy Spirit of God, who shares the same divine essence as the Father and the Son and is fully God. We believe He is a person and not merely a force. The Spirit spoke through the prophets and apostles so the Scriptures are the very words of God. He actively convinces of sin, of righteousness, and of judgement. He regenerates, indwells, and sanctifies those who put their faith in Jesus Christ. He also illuminates, comforts, unifies, and gives gifts to those who believe in Jesus Christ.

**Satan:** We believe that Satan is a spirit being who is an evil personality, the originator of sin, the archenemy of God and humankind, whose eternal destiny in hell is certain.

**Humanity:** We believe that God created humanity in His own image to glorify and enjoy Him forever.

We believe that because we were created in the image of God, we were created to work, to be creative, to care for and cultivate the earth.

We also believe that because we were made in the image of God, the value, dignity and personhood of human life comes from God; He knits us together in our mothers' wombs and numbers our days according to His will.

Furthermore, we believe that because we were created in the image of our Triune God, we were created for community. Friendship and family reflect this reality, as does the unity and diversity of the local church. This is also reflected in gender differences between male and female and in the covenant relationship of marriage, where one man and one woman are joined together as husband and wife. God created sexual activity to be practiced and enjoyed by a husband and wife in marriage to celebrate and deepen that union and for procreation. Therefore, sexual activity practiced outside of marriage is forbidden by God.

**Sin:** Sin was introduced into the world when Adam disobeyed God. The result of this first sin is that all humanity is alienated from God; every aspect of their total being is depraved. Humanity thereby incurred the condemnation of God, resulting in physical, spiritual and eternal death.

**Salvation:** We believe that salvation is by the sovereign, electing grace of God; that Christ voluntarily suffered a substitutionary death for sinners that completely satisfied God's righteous demands; that



justification is by faith alone in the all-sufficient sacrifice and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and that those whom God has saved shall be divinely preserved and finally perfected in the image of the Lord.

**Future Things:** We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the just and unjust; in the eternal blessedness in heaven of the redeemed and in the judgement and conscious, eternal punishment in hell of the wicked.

**The Local Church:** We believe that the church is a company of immersed believers, voluntarily associated for worship, instruction, fellowship, edification, evangelism and the observance of the ordinances. We believe it is an autonomous, independent body, under the Lordship of Christ, the Great Head of the church. Its Pastors and Board members are elected by the membership.

**Ordinances:** We believe there are only two ordinances for the church regularly observed in the New Testament and commanded by Christ:

**Baptism** which is the immersion in water, whereby a person publicly identifies with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.

**The Lord's Supper** which is the memorial wherein the believer partakes of the two elements, the bread and the cup, which symbolize the Lord's body and shed blood, proclaiming His death until He comes.

**The Church And State:** We believe in the entire separation of church and state.

**Religious Liberty:** We believe in religious liberty; that every person has the right to practice and propagate his beliefs.

**The Lord's Day:** We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day and that it is the biblically normal day for corporate worship and spiritual exercise.

**Civil Government:** We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honoured and obeyed, except only in the things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and Prince of the kings of the earth.



# Forward Baptist Church

## Our Mission



glorify God



grow in Christ



go with the gospel

## Our Vision

### *Loving God*

with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength, ready to serve Him in the Church — the Body of Christ, under the guidance of our Leaders

### *Loving Others*

as we love ourselves with Christ-like love for all

### *Share the Truth*

by communicating redemption in Christ; personally by word and action; corporately through our Church in local and worldwide missions

## ELDERS REPORT – Shawn Freer

Our year as a church has been fraught with challenges. We are not strangers to these trials when we consider that our church was founded in 1919 which was a year that the Spanish Flu had Canada - and much of the world - in its grip. Yet our forebears chose to begin a new work in this neighbourhood. We have faithfully served God in this place for the last 101 years.

During these troubled times of the Covid-19 pandemic we, too, have had the privilege of ministering to both our church family and the greater neighbourhood. In fact, we have expanded our ministry and have been able to hold online services which are available globally through the internet.

The early church suffered trials in Jerusalem and much of the Roman world. Although this may have spread them apart physically, each believer carried the hope of the gospel to the various areas to which they fled. This trial of the church actually served to disseminate the gospel throughout the world.

Likewise, the pandemic although it has physically separated us, has united us in our cause and challenged us to spread the gospel through other means.

During the last year many of us have expanded our personal ministries by reaching out to our neighbours. We have cared for some of those in need and even provided a sure hope in these troubled times.

The apostle Paul asks us in Romans 8:35-39 (NIV)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Although we may feel separated from the change in our normal routines like physical services, fellowship meals, kid’s camps, after-church fellowship time, etc., the truth is that nothing in all of creation can separate us from Christ’s love. We are bonded to one another in Christ Jesus even though we cannot be together at present.

As such, we as a church continue to **Glorify God** in our obedience to him which is in turn demonstrated through our acts of service. We continue to **Grow in Christ** as we study his Word and put ourselves under its teaching. We each reach out to a hurting world by **Going with the Gospel** and proclaiming the good news to the lost.

On behalf of the Elders, I’d like to thank you for faithfully upholding our church in your prayers. Thank you for being faithful in your giving and your acts of service. Thank you for encouraging and caring for each other. It’s in serving others that we serve our Lord.

The Elders’ and Deacons’ boards continue to meet for discussion and prayer during our joint digital meetings. We, as your church leadership, entreat God to be the focal point of our ministry here at Forward. We seek His direction as we lead the church.

The Elders continue to meet online regularly as an independent group. We use our time to encourage and develop one another as we share what God has been doing in each of our lives. As a group, we pray through the prayer requests submitted to us, as well as any known needs in the church body.

We continue to discuss the vision and direction of our church as we give leadership in what seem to be very uncertain times.

As Elders we have tried to be sensitive to societal shifts as we continue to hold high the message of the gospel, calling fellow sinners to repent and to yield to the healing message of the gospel.

Thank you for weathering 2020 with us. Your support for your church and your leadership has been so appreciated.

Our prayer for 2021 is that we would stand united together.

Romans 15:5-6 (NIV)

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Him,

Shawn Freer  
Chairman, Elders Board

Elders: Pastor Stephen Lambert, Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, Brian Taylor  
Active Participants: Chairman, Deacons' Board – John Deinum, Pastor Mark Memije

## DEACONS BOARD REPORT – John Deinum

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In a year of unusual and difficult times, as you will see expressed throughout the pages of this annual report, Forward Baptist Church continued to minister to our congregation and community. Thank you to all who continued to pray, serve and give financially as we adjusted to many difficult ministry challenges throughout the year. As a Deacon's Board, we appreciate your prayer, and ask that you continue to pray that God would give us wisdom, direction, and unity as we lead His church through these difficult days.

In some respects, we did not have many difficult issues to confront during 2020, as the majority of challenges focused on the single issue of how to continue as the church during this pandemic. Notwithstanding, a significant amount of time was given to developing and implementing the protocols necessary to continue ministry and we are grateful to our staff who shouldered much of the burden in reading, monitoring, and implementing procedures so that we could comply with the many rules concerning church operations issued by our local and provincial governments.

As mentioned in my report for 2019, we should continue to be encouraged by how God is continuing to work through the young people of our congregation. This was very apparent as we re-opened for worship during the summer and fall months of 2020, and continued to "broadcast" services during the year. Many of our young adults were available, willing and continue to serve to make this happen.

In 2020, we welcomed Justine Cudao as a Deacon and have seen our board maintain a reasonable size of seven individuals, after the expiry of Karin Freer's term. We wish to thank Karin for many years of continuous service on the Deacon's Board. Our regular monthly meetings include Elders and Staff, for a total of 13 individuals when all are in attendance.

The Deacon's Board continued to work on governance issues during 2020 and completed a number of operational policies, including policies for finance and missions. There remain a few outstanding policies that we hope to complete in 2021.

During 2020 David Iggulden officially resigned as a church Trustee. I would like to thank David for his willingness to serve in the capacity of Trustee for Forward. Patricia Overholt agreed to hold the position of Trustee keeping our complement of Trustees at three, including long serving Trustees Brian Hill and Allister Walsh.

In closing, I encourage you to continue to grow in your faith and get connected with a group within our church for prayer, fellowship and support in your life. May He increase and we decrease.

John Deinum,  
Chairman, Deacons Board

When I was working on my annual report for 2019 I decided that I needed to start off my next annual report (this one) by making a joke about hindsight being 2020. Little did I know at the time just how true that would be. I guess irony is 2020 as well. This year, when everything in the world changed, church life was completely disrupted and turned on its head. In 2019 we celebrated our church's 100th anniversary. The members of Forward Baptist Church had gathered for worship for over 5,200 Sundays in a row. And then all of a sudden we weren't able to gather at all. Our church doors were shut for 18 out of 52 Sundays this year (plus Good Friday and Christmas Eve) and when we were allowed to meet again in the Summer and Fall, it was limited. Limited ministries, limited fellowship, limited singing, limited attendance. Many of you haven't been able to attend a Sunday service in person for almost a year.

During this difficult year, some verses from Philippians 1 caught my attention in a way they never have before. When I read this passage it took on new significance and really helped me.

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

*It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 1:3-8 (NIV)

In these verses, the Apostle Paul is telling the church in Philippi that he misses them. He says at the end, "God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus." That really hit me as I read it this year. I identified with it. I miss my church. I miss my brothers and sisters in Christ. In other words, I miss you. I miss seeing you in person and singing with you and chatting with you after the service and eating with you at fellowship meals. I miss you. I long for you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

But as I read these verses again, the previous paragraph also stood out to me in a significant way. Paul prays for the Philippian Christians with joy, thanking God for them because of the way that they love the gospel and seek to live it out and share it with others. And then he says this of them, "being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." That verse gave me a lot of peace this year. It's been easy to worry about our church and wonder how everyone is doing spiritually, mentally, and physically. We tried hard to make sure we were connecting with everyone, but it's just not the same as being together. And I know this year has been really difficult for some of us. But God's word reminds us that we can be confident that God is still working in our lives. He started something in us when He called us to believe in Christ and opened our eyes to the truth of the gospel and saved us. And He's not going to leave that job unfinished. He's going to keep working in our lives until the day Jesus returns so that when we see Jesus face to face, we will be like Him (1 John 3:2), blameless (1 Cor 1:8, 1 Thess 3:13, 5:23-24), without fault (Jude 24), pure (Phil 1:10), holy and without blemish (Col 1:22, Eph 5:27). What a promise! In this time where everything is disrupted, even normal church life, God's work in our lives is not disrupted. If we are His, He is still working and will finish the work He started. Being confident of that wonderful promise of how God is working, let's talk about some of the ministries of the church this past year.

### **Preaching Ministry**

We started off 2020 with a five week series on the book of Malachi. This book is the very last book of the Old Testament and predicts the coming of John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. Because of this, Malachi served as a good lead-in to our long series on the Gospel of Luke. But God spoke to us through

Malachi in some significant ways and challenged us to trust God's love and justice, and live faithfully in the areas of marriage and sexuality.

We began going through the Gospel of Luke in early February (and we'll probably finish it at the end of October 2021!) It was a little strange preaching Christmas sermons in February and March, but God's timing was perfect. Right as the pandemic hit us and the first lockdown began we were reminded of the message the angel gave to the shepherds on the night Jesus was born, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." (Luke 2:10, NIV) and we saw how Jesus brought consolation for God's people in their suffering (Luke 2:25). God has continued to bless us through His Word as we have studied Luke together this year.

Pastor Aaron preached from Hebrews 10 for our annual recommitment service, just two weeks before the lockdown began, preparing us for this difficult year by reminding us that we can approach God's throne with confidence and (once again, ironically) challenging us not to give up meeting together. In a year when it would have been very easy for many of us to slip through the cracks and not participate in church at all, we needed this challenge to do our best and take advantage of the online services, even though it isn't ideal. Our Easter and Advent series from John's gospel pointed us to the great glory of Jesus and God's sovereignty in even the worst of tragedies (the death of Jesus was according to God's plan). And we concluded the year with a challenge from Isaiah 42 to find our hope in God and His Servant Jesus, rather than turning to any idols.

I am thankful for Pastors Aaron Woodhouse and Mark Memije, as well as Shawn Freer and Brennan Little who all participated in the preaching ministry of Forward this year. Preaching to a camera or to people wearing masks is a strange experience, but God used each of these men in unique ways as they proclaimed God's Word this year. We were also blessed to have four missions speakers this year: Valera Strugov (who is one of our missionaries working in Teasdale with MoveIn), CY Yan (a director at OMF Canada), Fadi Sharaiha (who represented SAT 7, one of our supported missions agencies, sharing the gospel in MENA through satellite television), and Mark Middleton (whose family has been connected to Forward for many years and currently serves with the missions organization Equip Leadership). Each of our missionary speakers challenged and encouraged us to remember the truth of the gospel and the importance of missions.

As I think back over the preaching ministry of this year, I am astounded at how kind God was in the timing of everything. When I prepared the preaching schedule for the year, I could never have known how much we would need these specific challenges and reminders. But looking back, it's clear that God knew. Hindsight.

### **Small Groups**

Our small group ministries shifted constantly this year as the COVID numbers in the city rose and fell and then rose again. Groups met online, in person, in a hybrid setting with some online and some in person, split into separate in-person and online groups, combined with other groups, disbanded, reformed, and stayed connected by phone calls and chat groups. Even still, we have had over 100 people involved in our small groups this year. Praise God! These groups have become even more important to our church life as our ability to gather together has been limited.

I am thankful to Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, Pastor Mark Memije, John Deinum, Don Webster, Carol Bain, Deborah Michaud, Eunice Chaffey, Patricia Overhold, Christine Woodhouse, Sarah Quartel, and Becky Lambert, who have given leadership to some of these groups this year.

### **Salvation, Baptism, and Membership**

Every year for the past several years, we have been asking God to save ten people through the ministries of our church and the evangelistic efforts of our members. We have seen fruit each year, and God has gloriously saved around 15 people over the past few years, we haven't ever (to our knowledge) had a full

“yes” from God to our specific prayer. Of course, we never know what God is doing behind the scenes and we are thankful for however He uses us as His witnesses.

This year, however, we are extremely excited and grateful to be able to report that we know of ten people that did make professions of faith! A good portion of these decisions were from our youth group at a snow camp at the beginning of the year. Some of them were from adults that God led to our church where they had conversations or heard God’s word preached that God used to lead them to a decision for Him. We are very excited about these individuals who have given their lives to Christ. Please pray that God continues to work in them and that they prove to be good soil in which God will produce a great harvest (Luke 8:15).

Because of the pandemic, we weren’t able to baptize anyone this year. But we do have a number of people who are ready to be baptized when we are able to go ahead, so hopefully we will be able to go ahead with their baptisms soon! We did, however, bring in ten new members this year. We also have a few more who have gone through the membership process, but are just waiting to be baptized. We are thankful for everyone that God has brought to our church and who have committed to joining our church family formally! (See the Church Clerk’s report for full details on baptisms and membership this year.)

### **Adult Sunday School & 55+**

It would be easy to forget some of the other ministries that were running early in the year before we had to cancel them. Adult Sunday School was a blessing to many who benefited from the time of prayer and additional Bible teaching on Sunday mornings before the main church service. When the year started, we were part way through the book of 1 Kings, which we finished and started 2 Kings before the first lockdown started. I am thankful to Pastor Aaron Woodhouse, John Deinum, Shawn Freer, Sam Deinum, and Brennan Little who served on a teaching rotation with me for this class. Our seniors’ ministry, 55+ also met three times at the beginning of the year. The fellowship has been greatly missed since. I am grateful to everyone who helped bring food, set up the fellowship hall, and take attendance for these meetings.

In hindsight, God has been very good to us in 2020. We miss the way things used to be. We long for one another with the affection of Christ. But we are confident that He who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. We have seen it over and over again. Thanks be to God!

Yours in Christ,  
Steve Lambert  
Pastor of Teaching & Discipleship



We have all experienced the rapid and ongoing change that was 2020. At times last year we were all shut-ins and isolated from each other, and it was hard. I mourned the loss of annual church events, fellowship meals, community outreach efforts, Sunday worship gatherings and doing ministry with the body of Christ. It was easy to see the brokenness of our world this past year, to see the effects of sin on individuals and society. I hope in the midst of this past year you longed for Jesus and His kingdom. I trust you rejoiced in the hope and salvation that comes from having Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. I have no clue what 2021 will look like, but I know that God is with us, He loves us and has a plan.

I prayed that your joy and that my joy would be complete this past year. I want to focus on what I'm thankful for and praised God for this past Ministry year at Forward Baptist Church.

- **Salvations** - 10 people saying yes to Jesus being Lord and Saviour of their lives. We pray each year for the Lord to save people as a result of the ministry and people at Forward and this past year He answered this prayer.
- **Technology** - I'm so thankful for the technologies in our world that were utilized to spread the gospel and keep us connected. Online streaming of Church services, zoom for small groups, one particular highlight was on Easter weekend when Christians essentially broke the internet with all the online services that were going on, YouTube, Facebook, and the Church Online platform we use all crashed at points due to the high volume.
- **PA Day Camps** - It was a blessing to start 2020 with PA Day Camps in January, February and March 2020. It was great to see over 50 kids attend each of these camps and have 20+ volunteers make each of these camps special. During each camp we had the awesome privilege of sharing the gospel, living out the gospel and planting the word of God in kids' lives. We wait with eager expectation to see how God will cause His Word to grow in the years to come.
- **Liebenzell Missionaries:** We said goodbye to Sarah and Lea earlier than expected (March 2020) but we were thankful to welcome Gloria and Franca in October/November 2020. They have such willingness and a desire to serve Christ at Forward.
- **December:** December is always such a great month with Christmas and all the celebrations. This past December we had 8-10 different people/groups deliver almost 40 poinsettias to people in our Church family. We had a handful of groups do caroling to members of the Church as a way of mutual encouragement and worship of the birth of our Saviour together. We had our Christmas Eve candlelight service, how beautiful it was to remember the birth of our Saviour together, and to be reminded afresh why we needed a Saviour to come and rescue us because our world is broken by sin. We had a small group prepare 60 Christmas meals that were distributed at the food bank and to others in need. We distributed 30 gift packages to community contacts to share the love of Jesus.
- **Foodbank** - I'm so thankful for all the volunteers that purchase almost \$1000 of food every month for the foodbank and all those who assemble the food packages for distribution. We had the privilege of blessing 50+ individuals and families each month on behalf of Christ and the Forward family. It was such a privilege to be able to encourage and bless people with this ministry. I'm thankful to all in our congregation who have contributed to this vital ministry this past year. Our numbers were up significantly, costs were up and donations were up. God is good.
- **Unity:** I'm so thankful for our Church family that in the midst of this past year we remained united to Christ, His mission and each other. I'm so thankful for the unity that is available in Christ Jesus. We will continue to pray and seek to maintain unity in 2021 as this truly is a gift from God to believers.
- **Young Adults** - The young adults at Forward have brought me so much joy and thankfulness this past year. I have been encouraged by their eagerness and desire to meet together for Bible study, worship and fellowship. This group of men and women have been so faithful in serving at Forward this past year also. Sunday worship services were made possible due in large part to so many of our

young adults stepping up to fill in gaps and take on new positions, they checked people in, learned online streaming, cleaned pews in between services and served in many other ways. Thank you to all our young adults that served God and assisted with our Sunday Worship Services. It truly was a joy to serve alongside you.

- **The Ministry Team** - I'm so thankful to God for the Ministry Team that He has provided at Forward and the privilege I have to be part of the team. It was a joy to work with this group who were eager every day to come to work, never wanting to ever turn a person away from a worship service or in need, working hard to enable the local church to meet in person and online, wrestling together about decisions and changes. Spending time with these brothers and sisters in Christ brought a sense of normalcy, I have continued to love doing ministry with this team.
- **Generosity** - As you will see in this annual report God has provided over and above all that we could have asked or needed this past year in regard to finances. It is encouraging to see the people at Forward continue to invest in the Kingdom of God and laying up treasure in heaven.
- **Deacons and Elders:** I'm thankful that God has provided excellent Deacons and Elders at Forward that were able to make many difficult decisions this past year. I'm thankful for the ability they had to keep Jesus the main focus and seek unity. It has been a privilege to minister together this year.
- **Our Church Family:** I'm thankful for each of you. I'm thankful for your love for God and His Word, for your devotion to prayer and sharing the gospel. I'm thankful for your willingness this past year to shift back and forth in the types of services we offered, to make personal sacrifices to what you would prefer to still be able to meet. I'm thankful that we did not give up meeting together (even though it looks different than usual). I'm thankful for this body of Christ that God has assembled and I'm excited for all the opportunities God has for us to bring glory to His name in 2021.

Yours in Christ,  
Aaron Woodhouse  
Pastor of Community Engagement

My introduction, I presume, will sound similar to other reports, that is; how each ministry was managed in light of Covid-19. To be honest, adjectives I would ascribe to ministering during 2020 are words like “hard” and “heart-breaking,” but if I were to think of a final word, to sum up student ministries during 2020, it would be “perseverance.” We held stubbornly to the belief that we should never grow weary of doing good, because God will reap a harvest at the right time (Galatians 6:9).

### Youth Group

It has been a frustratingly difficult time, but also a time of hope and optimism. It felt like we had so much momentum going early on in 2020 with our 2020 Winter retreat. So that’s where I will begin. On March 1-3, we took 16 youth to the Snow Camp winter retreat and had a wonderful time. We were able to build on top of meaningful relationships. And on the last day, the key-note speaker gave out an altar call, a call for young people to commit their lives to Jesus. The first in the room was someone from our youth group, and seven others from our group thoughtfully stepped forward, I found myself in tears; quite a few of the kids who stepped up did not come from Christian homes. This was early March. Within the next week, I had three of the older youth verbally commit themselves to water baptism. Things were looking very hopeful. And then in mid-March, Covid-19 struck. And it rocked my world and my ministry. The baptisms never came into fruition. The young man who was first to step forward at the winter retreat, who I spent so much time investing in, who showed so much promise, suffered the death of his father and cousin, and shortly after renounced his faith to me. And the youth group went online. For the first few weeks we had a steady number of 8-12 youth attend on Zoom. However, many of the youth shortly began to suffer from Zoom fatigue and stopped attending the online program altogether. In the summer months we were averaging about 2-3 youth on Zoom for a while, but the numbers popped back to a steady 5-8 in August.

One of my worries was that when the youth group returned to normal, I would no longer have the same youth group, and we mentally prepared ourselves for that. But to our surprise, when we opened up the youth group again in the months of October & November (in step with protocol), many of the youth returned to the program like nothing happened, we were averaging around 16 youth again, and had many events planned along the way. However, disappointment struck again in November when we had to close the program due to the rising Covid numbers, but it reassured me that we did not lose our youth group. Since then, we’ve had steady attendees at youth group Zoom at around 6-8 youth. Although it’s been a tough time, they’ve really grown and gotten closer together. One youth finished reading a 600-page biography on Adoniram Judson that I gave him. The participation at the youth group is very high, and the youth that consistently come are always excited to learn about God. One young girl in grade 7, just last week after lesson said something like this, *“Every time I hear about what Jesus did on the cross, I get a little more teary eyed, I understand a little more about what He’s done.”* To sum it up, although we lost something of quantity, we gained something of quality. The youth that stick around do not see this as some extra program, but they see it as their spiritual family.

During this time, I’ve had tremendous volunteer leaders by my side, who have stuck through thick and thin. I would like to thank David Nunn and Justine Cudao who have been serving faithfully for years. I would like to thank Brittany, who finished her time with us, but has been a tremendous help since 2017. I would like to thank the previous and current interns: Lea Antzenberger, Sarah Schmidt, Franca Haas, and Gloria Deuter. I would like to thank Katie Viera, Sam Wilton, Beatrix Viera, and Kris Gaudel.

## **Youth Programs that have yet to launch**

During Covid-19, we attempted to tip-toe around the pandemic with two programs, neither of which lifted off the ground, but using their template, we will attempt to eventually run them when protocol allows us. The first is Youth Group Service, which we tried to run in November. This was our attempt to run Youth Group as a religious service rather than group hang out, in order to by-pass the restrictions. However, the Government regulated that all gatherings, including religious services, be under 10 people, so the plan was cancelled. The second attempt was to then run, "Youth Small Groups", which would be multiple small groups that adhere to the 10 and other protocol, but that too was postponed due to the implementation of stricter rules in January.

## **Act II: Young Adults**

Act II was also reaching very high numbers early in 2020. Before the lockdown we reached 21 people. However, with the lock-down, our numbers dipped, averaging around 16 people during Zoom. The group remains as ever, tight knit, and many are very involved in other ministries at Forward. Several have become members of Forward Baptist. Very often they hang out and set up events of their own initiative, and so it's very much self-run. This is one of the ministries I feel that if I left, things would continue without a hiccup. In September, we began a hybrid Zoom program; with a ten-person capacity, while the rest would attend on Zoom. This has been going on quite well, and we are starting to reach limits for the in-person, while having 8-10 online. During this year, we finished going through the book of Hebrews and now we are going through Ephesians.

I would like to thank David and Justine, who have helped me lead. I would also like to thank Brennan, William, Katie, Sam, and Rebecca, who all have at one point facilitated the study.

The highlight was Amber, who came to program early during the pandemic. She did not come from a Christian home, but came consistently, and eventually, I was able to walk with her as she accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord & Saviour.

## **The Puppet Shows**

Since the start of Covid-19, children's programs like Jr. Youth, PA Day Camp, Summer Camps, and KidZone (Sunday School) have been halted indefinitely. In order to keep the children engaged, I had the opportunity to create a new program, "Pew Pew Puppets." These shows are pre-recorded puppet shorts that are directly linked to the Bible passage the sermon is based on. Very early on during the Covid-19 pandemic, I began creating puppet shows. At the start, it was a simple continuous shot skit during the pre-recorded service. But it's slowly gotten more elaborate. For most of 2020, I was doing the script writing, the recording, the acting and the video editing. It took a considerable amount of my time. But now there's an awesome team behind me that is a tremendous help with the creative process.

As such, I would like to thank: Conor and Sandina for voice acting since October, Pastor Don Webster who began (in January) and will continue sharing script writing duties, and Gloria and Franca who have taken over and will continue video editing since my vacation in December.

I hope it's been a blessing to the children (and adults).

## **Misc. Events**

Tech Team – I've been trained and have been helping out with the tech during service.

Discipleship – I've been meeting with several of the older youth on a monthly basis for one-on-one discipleship.

Jr. Youth – This program was seeing record numbers from January to February. But it has been halted indefinitely until Covid-19 is over.

Food Bank – Every month, I help move the prepared bags from the Food Bank to the foyer where we serve them.

Sunday School – Before the Covid-19 lockdown in March, I was helping with Adult Sunday School.

Calling – I've committed to calling people in the directory, to provide friendship and prayer.

Preaching – I've preached several times throughout the year, thank you for the opportunity.

Small Group – Initially, we were running a small group. But since Covid-19 began that has dissolved.

### **Conclusion**

Despite frustrations, the final say is hope. I could bury my head like Naomi and suggest that things aren't panning out as planned, or I can raise my head out of the sand and realize that the harvest is beginning and that God has been working behind the scenes for the benefit of His people the entire time (Ruth 1:22).

In Christ,  
Mark Memije  
Pastor of Student Ministry

If I were to choose only one thing I have been thankful for in the last year, it would be that I see my own weakness in continually greater ways. In 2 Corinthians, Paul spoke of a particular weakness he had. When he asked God to take it away, God's response was "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9 NIV). There is a beautiful freedom in this. I don't have to be excellent, skilled, enough...I simply have to bow in humility before our great Saviour. And in the beauty of his grace, my weakness becomes a place for him to display his glory. I have trouble comprehending this. I frequently try too hard to be enough. And yet God continues to extend his grace to me as I turn my eye back to him. God is so good!

### **Worship Services**

Worshipping together has grown in meaning this year. Both in our awareness of the precious gift it is to be able to meet face to face with each other and in the ways we have been stretched to consider how we can worship together from our own homes.

One of the greatest learning curves for me this year has been technology. Video recording, editing, streaming, etc. Over the course of 8 months, we went from filming worship in my office with a webcam to purchasing basic equipment and then live-streaming our services from the sanctuary. We've had technical glitches that were totally frustrating and recorded mishaps that made us laugh until we cried. It's definitely been an emotional year!

To each of you who have served Sunday after Sunday or have put in long hours from home to make our times of worship together this year both possible and special, thank you. I am deeply grateful for you!

Here are some highlights from the past year:

- Pew Pew Puppets began
- The Blessing video
- Kids/Families leading us in music
- Learning some sign language to use in worship
- Going Livestream!
- Adding pre-service music to the services
- Adding "phone-in" as an option for those without internet access
- The Christmas Carols video

An additional part of organizing worship services this year involved contact tracing for all of our worship services. In cooperation with the Ministry Team, I set-up and trained volunteers in using Check-Ins to take attendance each week. After considering the different nature of small groups, we decided to use Groups to track attendances in small groups and Steve led that transition. Both of these are apps associated with our database.

Also of note in 2020 is that we dissolved the Worship Committee. A special thank you to Eunice Chaffey, Denise & Jerry Britton, and Karin Freer for service on the final year of this committee. I look forward to continuing to grow together as a church in the coming years!

### **Studies**

I continue to take classes in Biblical Counselling online through CCEF. In December I completed my Foundations of Biblical Counseling Certificate (the first of the three certificates they offer).

### **Discipleship & Interns**

I continue to share my office with most of the interns we have each year. Internships are a blessing to me both because I get to spend time caring for them as they seek to grow in Christ and because they help make so much of what we do possible.

In March we had to send Sarah & Lea home early. It was so hard to say goodbye! Although the summer internships didn't go as originally planned, I still met online with Sarah, Lea, Sandina, and Cat to study God's Word together. Together we completed First Principles, a class offered by Simeon Trust. In Oct/Nov, we welcomed Franca and Gloria with joy!

Discipleship in 2020 took other forms too. Becky and I are currently taking a small group of young women through the First Principles Class. I also regularly met one-on-one with other women from the church to encourage them, talk about life's joys and struggles, and pray together.

### **FEB Central**

I continue to serve as a board member for FEB Central. We meet in person or online 4 times a year and as other needs come up.

### **Congregational Care**

Each season is unique, but here is a taste of some of the ways I participate in congregational care in 2020.

- Following up with people who visited the church and requested more information.
- Time spent with congregation members in need of conversation, prayer, or encouragement.
- Drop-in with community members who are lonely, in need of prayer, etc. and stop by the church.
- Shut-ins - sending (or overseeing someone who does) bulletins, etc. on a regular basis.
- Assisting with PA Day Camps (baking).

### **Communications/Publications**

Throughout the year there is a lot to communicate! Here are some of the ongoing tasks that I complete or oversee throughout the year:

- Bulletins as needed
- Church emails
- Graphic design for posters/slides/etc. as needed
- Church Calendar
- Website
- Church Database

With love,  
Sarah Quartel  
Director of Worship & Communications

## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

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This year has proven to be a most unusual period when compared to recent experience, accumulated memories and decades-long history, what with the whole world groaning and writhing in the grip of the Covid-19 pandemic. We now have proof of how sensitive and easily wounded our society can be. A small, microscopic virus has effectively brought an unexpected halt to familiar societal structures at every level, and reaping human-lives in the midst of its very bloom and flourish. Man has proven not to be the 'Lord of Creation' in controlling every facet of life. Yet given these circumstances, we as Christians can live and function in the full knowledge that our God and Heavenly Father reigns and remains on His Throne.

So it was that our church life became adjusted and regulated from personal to virtual format, forced by precautionary isolation and related community action. Traditional mission's events were either cancelled or conducted virtually. We were, however, privileged to hear encouraging testimony from **Mr. Valera Strugov** – MoveIn Team, **Rev. CY Yan** – CA Director for Asia Connections, OMF, **Mr. Fadi Sharaiha** – Director, SAT7 and **Mr. Mark Middleton** – Director, EquipLeadership.

### **SPEEDING HIS COMING!** (Rev. D. H. Webster)

Can we, individually and as a church, actually speed the return of our Lord? Can we contribute to God's plan of the ages? The Apostle Peter writes, (after detailing the end of history), *"You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and **speed its coming**"* (2 Peter 3:12a).

We speed the coming of our Lord by letting the Holy Spirit inspire our every thought and action (Ephesians 2:10), by Spirit prompted praying (Ephesians 6:18), and by Spirit prompted investing in Kingdom ministries (2 Corinthians 9:6-9).

Imagine the whole world blanketed with the Gospel! This is possible in our generation.

- The internet is global. People anywhere can download the Bible and supportive literature.
- Many internet sites are leading people to Christ and maturing them in the faith.
- Thanks to smart phones individuals in communities hostile to the Gospel can secretly be reached with the Truth.
- Radio programming dedicated to evangelism and church planting is available in many languages.
- Television is ministering to large sectors of humanity, again in major languages.
- Wycliffe Bible Translators envision every language having Scriptures by 2025.
- Thousands of "foot soldiers" are on the ground in all known languages proclaiming the Truth.
- "Underground churches" are reaching out in their communities in spite of political opposition.

In these unusual and unstable times may we be encouraged with Gospel advancement worldwide. Be Spirit prompted in your praying, giving and living, living daily in anticipation of Christ's return and **speeding His coming**.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray E. Repo



## Forward Missionary Family (2020)

**Ray and Sandra Alary** - Trans World Radio Canada & Through The Bible Canada, London, ON

**Aaron & Annegret Bowes** - Church Planters, Berlin, Germany; with Missions3DThreshold

**Daniel & Emily Ford** - Church Planter in Hincesti, Moldova, Baptist Missions to Forgotten People

**Louis Bourque**- Regional Director of AEBEQ (Association d'Églises Baptistes Évangéliques au Québec)

**Don & Erin Longworth** - SIM, Culture Connections, New Brunswick

**Martha Oates** - Missionary Appointee to Taiwan; with OMF International Canada

**Valera & Laura Strugov** - MoveIn Team & Malkutha Church Plant, Toronto, Ontario

**Bechara & Roula Karkafi** - FEB International - Arab Missions, Canada

## Missions / Schools / Agencies

Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches of Canada

General Fund

Fellowship Aid & International Relief

FEB Central

General Fund

Church Planting

Heritage College & Seminary, Cambridge, ON

Liberty Grace Church, Toronto

Toronto City Mission

SAT-7 Canada (A satellite broadcast ministry to the Middle East)

LeadersFormation (training church leaders around the world; a ministry of Fellowship International)

## Our Retired Missionaries

**Jessica Breski**..... Toronto, ON

**Hugh & Jean Gordon**..... Burlington, ON

**Jo Grimshaw**..... Scarborough, ON

**Hugh & Carol Hamp** ..... Carstairs, AB

**Paul & Diane Kerr** ..... Barrie, ON

**Jim & Barb Longworth**..... New Brunswick

**Vi McKie**..... Meaford, ON

**Bob & Nancy Sheffield**..... Colorado, USA

**Brian & Elsabet Taylor**..... Goodwood, ON

**Donald Whiteside**..... Barrie, ON

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

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The role and responsibility of the property committee is to maintain and improve the amazing facilities and physical properties that God has entrusted to us as a Church community. We are also entrusted with ensuring that the facilities are used to further God's Kingdom and bring glory to Him. We have so much to be thankful for when it comes to our facilities.

We thank our Custodian Team that worked hard in 2020 in maintaining and cleaning our facilities. We are thankful for all the following people that have helped with custodian work in 2020 at various times and in different ways:

Full time custodians: Jamie Cudao and Sam Deinum.

Part time custodians: Sam Wilton, Peter Gittings, and Paul Bowles

Volunteers: Ken Chan and Jim Sleep

A special thanks to Sam Deinum who was our full-time custodian from Sept 2019 until October 2020. Sam Deinum was a very skilled worker and he loved the people of Forward and the neighbourhood and helped with organizing, ongoing maintenance and special projects. We thank Sam for serving the Lord at Forward with the Ministry team: it was a pleasure working with you. Sam Deinum and his wife Kathryn and son moved to Newfoundland in October 2020. Jamie Cudao took over the position of full-time custodian in October 2020 and we are thrilled to have Jamie join our Ministry Team as the custodian.

### Highlights from 2020:

- Korean Bible Baptist Church which has been renting space at our Church for around 15 years finished its time with us at the end of November 2020. Their Church has been without a lead pastor for 5+ years and were not able to find a paid pastor to lead the congregation. As a result, they decided to disband as a Church. The remaining members will be going to a variety of other churches going forward. It was a pleasure to share our facilities with fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ for many years. Please be in prayer for these fellow Christians as they seek to find new Church homes.
- \$35,000 elevator retrofit project. Due to our aging elevator and upcoming licensing changes we needed to upgrade all the internal components of our elevator. It looks the same on the outside, but the inside (motor, wiring etc.) are all new.
- Pending - Wildwood Parking lot Lease agreement with Metrolinx. Forward Baptist Church was approached by Metrolinx in October 2020 to consider a 2-year lease with the option for a 1-year renewal of ⅔ of the Wildwood parking lot. Metrolinx was interested in our parking lot as it gives direct access to the railway lines. The project Metrolinx is working on is preparing the land for the installation of a 4th railway line. An agreement was signed by Forward Baptist Church in November 2020. As of January 2021, Forward Baptist Church is waiting for final ratification of the agreement with Metrolinx.
- Repainting of the parking lot lines in the Wildwood Ave and Gerrard Street Parking lots.
- Installed a new front walkway at 146 Glenmore Road where Pastor Steve Lambert and his family live.
- Church Signs project. Started in 2020, completed with installation in Jan 2021. Four new Church signs installed around the building to update old and broken signs and sign boxes. All the internal lights of the 4 boxes we also retrofitted to LED lighting.
- Fixed a major leak in the basement around a door frame. Repainted the hallways around the leak.
- Repainting of lower sanctuary entrance area.
- New shed for custodian items, new snow blower

## Looking forward to the years ahead:

- Finish installing new windows in the Church
- Purchase safety mats for the walls of the Gym
- The property committee will also make a priority list for future years, looking at needed repairs, updates and renovations that will help us to continue to best use our facility to the glory of God and for ministry purposes.
- Identify and implement ways to reduce utility costs in the Church: finish replacing faucets on sinks, weather stripping on outside doors, change old windows for energy efficient windows.

## Library Resource Center

The Church Library is located on the main floor by the Sanctuary and is readily accessible to all people on Sundays and throughout the week. I would encourage you to take advantage of the books and resources available inside. In addition to the many great physical books in the library, we also have a great digital video library offered through Right Now Media which has 1000's of video resources available for streaming online. You can request access by contacting the Church office or by following this link:

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/ForwardBaptist>

I would like to thank the following people for their contributions in the library in 2020: Harry Legris and David Iggulden.

May we continue to be good stewards of what God has entrusted us with in 2021 and may we make bold plans for how our facility and material possessions can be used to further God's kingdom and proclaim the gospel in the Beach Hill neighbourhood, East York, and Toronto.

Respectfully submitted,  
Aaron Woodhouse  
Property Committee

Property Committee Members: Justine Cudao, David Power, Aaron Woodhouse



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY AND WOMEN'S MISSION FELLOWSHIP REPORT

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Last winter the Wednesday night women's Bible study looked at The Book of Esther using Beth Moore's study guide. In March we stopped for a while because we could not meet in person with the restrictions on gatherings, but we adapted and resumed the study again on April 1 using Zoom to finish the study. It was good to still "get together" and see one another.

Another women's Bible study, led by Christine Woodhouse, met weekly through the winter, using Nancy Guthrie's study, "The Son of David – seeing Jesus in the Historical Books of the OT." This group also had to stop meeting as Covid restrictions came into place but resumed in person again through the summer and fall, using Nancy Guthrie's study on seeing Jesus in the Prophets.

There was a Bridal shower planned for Brittany So in the spring which we were unable to host. However, the pandemic did not stop us from encouraging her with gifts dropped off on her porch from the women of the church. We pray these gifts were a practical demonstration of our love and desire to help her with setting up her new home.

In September, the Wednesday group continued to meet online using Nancy Guthrie's study called "The Promised One," a study with the particular focus of seeing Jesus in Genesis. We are all enjoying seeing how Jesus is revealed and pointed to in many ways in Genesis.

In December Christine Woodhouse and Becky Lambert led a 4-part series for Advent on Zoom focusing on the peace, hope, joy and love of Christmas for the 4 weeks. This was an excellent way to focus our attention on the birth of our Saviour.

We praise God for the technology that allowed us to still meet safely and study the word of God together in 2020.

Respectfully submitted Deborah Michaud

**Thursday Noon Hour Women's Bible study** - This group met from January to March for a study of the Fruit of the Spirit. We used as a guide a "Life Guide" from Intervarsity Press and then had to stop due to the restrictions of COVID-19. However later in the year some of the restrictions were lifted and we were able to meet in person again at the church. From September to November the room set up for our studies was quite different. We sat at long tables, 2 women to a table, wearing masks and bringing our own lunch and a drink. As we studied one fruit at a time e.g., joy, we saw joy illustrated in the lives of the disciples on seeing their risen Lord. This showed us how the scriptures can be applied and worked out in our own lives. "Then they worshipped Him.....with great joy...praising God." Luke 24:52-53. We have studied 7 fruits so far and have 2 more to go, God willing when we can meet again.

**Women's Mission Fellowship** - The activities of this group have been curtailed due to the pandemic. Last January our speakers were Sarah Schmidt and Lea Antzenberger, interns from Germany who gave their testimonies. It was a very encouraging meeting. We have sent Easter cards and Christmas cards to our missionaries and some have replied that they love receiving signed cards. Prayer is still a very important ministry of our group and in November we had a Zoom prayer time and hope to continue this.

Respectfully submitted Eunice Chaffey, Patricia Overholt

## BENEVOLENT FUND REPORT

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As we all know, 2020 has been a very different year in almost every aspect of our lives. Certainly, the Benevolent Fund of the church has been no exception.

Gifts to the Benevolent Fund, not including the Food Bank specifically, almost doubled in 2020, from \$11,022 to \$21,421. Our members responded in heart felt generosity to the increased needs of the Beach Hill community. Cash donations to the Food Bank itself increased from \$865 to \$5,750. As well, the Benevolent Fund GIC earned \$77 in interest for the year, bringing the total revenue for the Fund for 2020 to \$27,248. The primary use of the Benevolent Fund in recent years has been to stock the Food Bank. In 2020, we saw a rise in the number of people who used the Food Bank, from an average of 40 people, to typically 50 people monthly. Each month there were usually several new people who had never used our Food Bank before. This increase in numbers meant the expenses for stocking the Food Bank increased as well: up 41% from \$8,673 to \$12,257. We are thankful to our group of shoppers who are wonderful at finding great deals and so this helped to keep our costs lower than they otherwise might have been. Even though the pandemic made it necessary to stop our monthly devotional time with those who visit the Food Bank, there still have been good opportunities for our staff to connect with & talk with those who come by for bags of food.

In addition to the Food Bank, the Benevolent Fund was used to bless our congregation and neighbourhood in many practical ways. The total of these expenditures was \$8,738. Some of the opportunities were as follows:

- TTC and other travel expenses for people to get to rehab, hospital, doctors, a family funeral, or other important meetings
- Thirty Christmas care packages for people in the neighbourhood – members contributed items, but the Benevolent Fund picked up the extras
- Poinsettias for our shut ins at Christmas – we doubled the number of households we sent to because of so many being in isolation this year – 37 plants were distributed
- Grocery cards worth \$4,755 to encourage those both in our congregation and in the neighbourhood who are struggling this year. We purchased an additional \$875 in grocery cards to give out during 2021 to those in need

### Benevolent Fund Summary:

Balance, January 1, 2020	\$10,076
2020 Receipts	\$27,248
2020 Expenses	<u>\$20,995</u>
Balance, December 31, 2020	\$16,329

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Steve Lambert and Pastor Aaron Woodhouse,  
Co-Chairs, Benevolent Fund Committee

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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2020 was another year where we could see God working in our Church and our community. We continue to be encouraged to see how God blesses our Church with members that give so generously. This generosity has enabled the Church to execute on what we believe is God's will.

God continues to provide for our Church. The total income for the year was \$533,628, compared to the budget of \$565,700. This includes \$37,682 received for the anniversary offering. Total expenditure for the year was \$541,440, compared to the budget of \$665,810. The difference relates to lower expenditure incurred on summer programs, building expenditures and capital expenditures that was directly impacted by the pandemic. The year ended in balance with expenses exceeding income with only \$7,782. The church also received \$59,668 as a bequest, resulting in the available funds for the year totalling \$263,642.

The 2020 expenditure mainly supported the following activities:

- Staff and Pastoral costs;
- Maintain the church activities;
- Maintain the building;
- Maintain the current support of Missionaries; and
- Improvements and repairs to the church facilities.

As a church family, we believe that:

- **God** has provided us with the staff members who serve at Forward.
- **God** wants us to reach out to the neighborhood.
- **God** wants us to be united.
- **God** wants us to be a church that takes care of its members, young and old, near and far.
- **God** wants us to support our missionaries.

Most important, we believe that **God comes first**, and we are grateful to be part of a church where it is evident from our givings that we often do place God first. Please continue to pray that as a congregation, together we would discern how God would direct us to use the resources He has given.

I would like to thank Carol Bain our bookkeeper for her unfailing diligence and care in maintaining the books and records of Forward. I also want to thank our regular tellers: Charles Chaffey, Allister Walsh, Patricia Overholt and Richard Rawlins, our head teller, who faithfully count the money and prepare the deposits each week.

We are once again thankful for the way God's people have supported the work at Forward. May God bless you as you give cheerfully to the work of our Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

Maarten Theunissen and David Nunn  
Finance Committee

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
 STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
 FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2020 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>				
Envelopes	11,905	13,821	15,907	15,000
Where Most Needed	158,604	161,822	127,265	191,200
Pre Authorized Gifts	119,410	113,020	131,120	130,000
Loose offerings	910	4,322	3,971	3,800
Anniversary offering	37,682	68,037	34,181	30,000
United Way	117,000	111,004	102,122	110,000
Other donations, inc Roof Fund	3,220	6,214	52,060	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>448,731</b>	<b>478,240</b>	<b>466,626</b>	<b>480,000</b>
<b>MISSIONS INCOME</b>				
Envelopes	16,959	11,627	10,790	15,000
Special Mission Offering	23,802	25,231	28,740	25,000
Other Missions Donations	25	603	-	-
<b>TOTAL MISSIONS INCOME</b>	<b>40,786</b>	<b>37,461</b>	<b>39,530</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Rent - Glenmore	10,200	9,350	10,200	10,200
Rent - Korean Bible Baptist Church	6,668	10,000	10,000	10,000
Rent - Rehoboth Baptist Church	0	-	-	-
Facility Rentals	18,990	9,315	7,518	9,500
Government Grants	2,356	5,224	-	-
Recoveries & Fees (mainly camp)	4,700	21,810	22,168	15,000
Interest Earned	1,197	2,059	884	1,000
Other receipts	0	-	390	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>44,111</b>	<b>57,758</b>	<b>51,160</b>	<b>45,700</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>533,628</b>	<b>573,459</b>	<b>557,317</b>	<b>565,700</b>

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
 STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (Continued)  
 FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2020 Budget
<b>LOCAL EXPENDITURE</b>				
Staff and pastoral costs	320,570	365,898	337,435	373,450
Christian education	11,285	19,681	25,974	20,000
Worship	3,917	3,123	2,583	4,150
Communications and fellowship	3,442	6,453	9,899	7,420
Office and general	15,196	21,054	18,505	21,325
Building	87,086	83,928	89,269	95,800
Bus ministry	332	1,776	1,490	1,830
Capital Items and special projects	48,142	7,423	50,164	87,000
100 Year Anniversary	-	15,569	3,971	-
<b>TOTAL LOCAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>489,970</b>	<b>524,905</b>	<b>539,290</b>	<b>610,975</b>
<b>MISSIONS EXPENDITURE</b>				
Individuals	30,600	29,800	27,720	29,695
Mission Organizations	14,640	15,360	14,960	14,640
Other	6,200	5,734	3,697	10,500
<b>TOTAL MISSIONS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>51,440</b>	<b>50,894</b>	<b>46,377</b>	<b>54,835</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>541,410</b>	<b>575,799</b>	<b>585,667</b>	<b>665,810</b>
INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE BEFORE SPECIAL				
ITEMS	(7,782)	(2,334)	(28,351)	(100,110)
Bequest	59,668	80,519	-	-
BALANCE, Beginning of year	211,756	133,577	181,915	211,756
<b>BALANCE, End of period</b>	<b>263,642</b>	<b>211,756</b>	<b>133,577</b>	<b>111,646</b>



FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE - LOCAL MINISTRY FUND  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2020 Budget
<b>STAFF AND PASTORAL COSTS</b>				
Salaries	226,615	226,301	217,164	228,000
Employee benefits	38,116	45,057	42,340	42,400
Temporary help	43,188	42,097	41,555	46,750
Summer Career Placement	3,647	35,494	23,587	35,500
Book allowance (pastoral staff)	2,000	2,000	2,075	2,000
Staff Education & development	2,319	4,230	5,224	6,000
Travel	250	1,667	799	1,900
Pastoral costs	1,951	1,932	1,441	2,400
Long term interns	2,424	2,339	-	6,000
Conferences	60	4,781	3,251	2,500
	320,570	365,898	337,436	373,450
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>				
Department supplies	1,160	1,925	2,446	2,500
Bible school curriculum	4,357	1,338	914	1,500
Library/resource centre	-	19	112	100
Day camp	1,580	10,339	8,138	10,500
Developing Ministries	242	2,203	11,264	2,500
Men's Ministry	518	169	63	250
Family Ministry	2,326	367	144	500
Youth Ministry	841	2,713	2,657	2,000
Women's Ministry	261	608	237	150
	11,285	19,681	25,975	20,000
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Organ & piano maintenance	2,222	676	1,018	1,300
Worship expenses	867	1,156	436	1,300
Special speakers	-	384	400	500
Song License	682	804	662	900
Ordinance	146	103	67	150
	3,917	3,123	2,583	4,150
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND FELLOWSHIP</b>				
Communications inc Advertising	1,349	1,796	1,378	2,400
Community Outreach	0	633	2,047	900
Church fellowship and funerals	1,856	3,687	5,616	3,800
Flowers and auditorium decorations	237	433	858	320
	3,442	6,453	9,899	7,420

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE - LOCAL MINISTRY FUND (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2020 Budget
<b>OFFICE AND GENERAL</b>				
Bank charges & interest	2,017	1,883	2,266	1,850
Cell Phones	2,208	2,202	2,208	2,400
Postage	1,426	1,564	1,276	2,200
Printing, stationery & office supplies	6,425	12,559	10,299	12,000
Telephone	3,120	2,846	2,457	2,875
	15,196	21,054	18,506	21,325
<b>BUILDING</b>				
Building maintenance, repairs and supplies	21,418	18,226	13,797	22,000
Gas	19,767	16,332	17,023	18,000
Hydro & Water	27,151	30,861	37,417	38,000
Insurance	7,265	6,906	6,349	6,300
P.A./ A.V. maintenance & supplies	2,883	3,964	1,056	4,000
Glenmore property	8,602	7,639	13,627	7,500
	87,086	83,928	89,269	95,800
<b>BUS MINISTRY</b>				
Bus insurance	120	1,326	1,381	1,300
Bus operating costs	80	356	109	400
Bus repairs & maintenance	132	94	-	130
	332	1,776	1,490	1,830
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>				
Elevator retrofit	32,020	-	-	35,000
Parking Lot Study	12,954	-	-	12,954
Livestream Project	3,168			-
Roof replacement	-	-	49,060	-
New Projector	-	5,118	-	-
Other	-	2,305	1,104	40,000
	48,142	7,423	50,164	29,374
<b>100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY</b>				
Book	-	4,254	60	-
Video	-	314	-	-
Community Event	-	8,928	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	2,073	3,911	-
	-	15,569	3,971	-

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
 SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – MISSIONS  
 FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2020 Budget
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Envelopes	16,959	11,627	10,790	15,000
Missions Offering	23,802	25,231	28,741	25,000
Other income	25	20	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>40,786</b>	<b>36,878</b>	<b>39,531</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>				
Missions 3D Threshold: <b>Aaron and Anna Bowes</b>	19,000	19,000	18,120	18,095
SIM: <b>Don and Erin Longworth</b>	2,000	1,200	1,200	2,000
Through The Bible (TRW): <b>Ray and Sandra Alary</b>	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
BMFP: <b>Daniel and Emily Ford</b>	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
AEBEQ : <b>Louis Bourque</b>	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
OMF Canada - <b>Martha Oates</b>	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
MOVEIN, Toronto - <b>Valera and Laura Strugov</b>	1,200	1,200	-	1,200
FEB Int'l Arab Missions: <b>Bechara and Roula Karkafi</b>	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>29,800</b>	<b>27,720</b>	<b>29,695</b>

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – MISSIONS FUND (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2020 Budget
<b>MISSION ORGANIZATIONS</b>				
FAIR (FBC Int)	720	720	720	720
FEBINT – Leaders formation	1,200	-	-	-
FEBC: General fund	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Fellowship Network Project (Feb Int)	720	720	720	1,920
FEB Central Church Planting Program	1,200	720	720	1,200
Liberty Grace Church	1,200	800	1,200	1,200
Heritage College & Seminary	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
Toronto City Mission	1,200	2,000	1,200	1,200
SAT-7 Canada	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
MAARIFA - Pioneers	-	2,000	2,000	-
<b>TOTAL MISSION ORGANIZATIONS</b>	<b>14,640</b>	<b>15,360</b>	<b>14,960</b>	<b>14,640</b>
<b>OTHER</b>				
Conference & Special Speakers	1,200	1,404	1,082	3,500
Short Term Missions	500	-	-	3,500
Gifts to missionaries & retirees	3,900	3,500	2,600	3,500
Special Projects/Events	600	830	15	-
<b>TOTAL OTHER</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>3,697</b>	<b>10,500</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>51,440</b>	<b>50,894</b>	<b>46,377</b>	<b>54,835</b>

*Abbreviations:*

BMFP - Baptist Mission to Forgotten Peoples  
FLC - Frontier Laborers for Christ  
GLCA - Greater Lisbon Christian Academy (Div. of ABWE)  
YWAM - Youth With A Mission

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2019

	Dec. 31 2020	Dec. 31 2019	Dec. 31 2018
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash	158,315	46,462	79,093
Investments (savings acct/GIC)	108,273	162,958	76,262
Petty Cash	81	346	326
Gov't Rebates	11,167	27,524	15,378
Accounts Receivable	40	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	5,970	8,001	1,236
Capital assets	1	1	1
	283,846	245,292	172,295
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable	2,705	2,114	195
Member loans payable	-	20,000	20,000
Benevolent Fund	16,329	10,075	15,179
David Barr Fund	1,172	1,346	3,353
Women's Missionary Fellowship	-	-	-
Forward Friendship Club	-	-	-
	20,206	33,535	38,728
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>	263,640	211,756	133,567

FORWARD BAPTIST CHURCH  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Benevolent Fund	David Barr Fund	Total Fund Balances
Balance-Beginning of year	10,076	1,347	11,423
Receipts rec'd during year	27,248	100	27,348
Disbursements during year	20,995	275	21,270
Balance-end of year	16,329	1,172	17,501

## MEMBERSHIP AND BAPTISM REPORT

### Baptisms in 2020 - 0 Due to COVID restrictions

#### New Members in 2020 - 10

Patricia Ankham - Mar 8	Mark Duiker - Mar 8	Rosemary Duiker - Mar 8
Ping Mukai - Mar 8	Jim Sleep - Mar 8	Arthur Wrigglesworth - Mar 8
Irene Wrigglesworth - Mar 8	Beatriz Viera - Dec 6	Katie Viera - Dec 6
Sam Wilton - Dec 6		

#### Members Removed in 2020 - 10

Deceased	Removed	
Audrey Sewell - June 25	Marien Breen	Jacob Kollar
Jane Mitchell*	Liam Freer	Rachel Kollar
	Ivy Hoole	Robin Miller
	Daniel King	Norma Walsh-Blacklock

\* We lost contact with Jane several years ago when she moved to a different long term care facility. She is presumed deceased.

#### Membership by Category 2020

	2020	2019	2018*	2017
Active Members	109	111	112	103
Member Missionaries	2	2	2	2
Inactive Members	17	15	16	19
Shut in Members	15	15	13	13
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>137</b>

\* The numbers listed for 2018 do not match the 2018 report due to some miscalculations that were made. We were able to determine the correct numbers for 2018 by looking at the membership list for that year.