

Rideau Park 2016 Stewardship Campaign Materials

Each year at this time of stewardship we are asked to pause and reflect prayerfully on Rideau Park's needs and what our church means to us, our family and our community. The materials in this package are to assist you in deciding your level of financial support



- ✓ How we spend our time
- ✓ How we choose to employ our talents and gifts
- ✓ How we care for our body and make healthy choices
- ✓ How we care for the environment
- ✓ Our priorities around money
- ✓ How we manage our relationships
- ✓ How we practice our faith




The nature and details of the campaign explained

Letter introducing the 2016 Stewardship Campaign Chair
Letter from Brian Hamilton, Campaign Chair
Background for deciding your pledge
Rideau Park's Mission in Action – a snapshot of life in our church community
Distribution of Rideau Park's 2016 Projected Combined Budget
UCC Mission and Service Fund at a Glance

Completing and returning your 2016 pledges and forms by October 14th

1. 2016 Stewardship Pledge Form: Please allocate the amount you pledge amongst the **RP Ministries and Programs Fund, the UCC Mission and Service Fund and the RP Property Renewal Fund or for the "greatest need"** such as support to key ministries.
2. Just tick the box for your United Church Observer Subscription Renewal and include with the form your \$20 payment.

2016 Stewardship Campaign Calendar

Stewardship Package Pickup	Sunday September 20th	
1st Pledge Now Sunday	Sunday September 27th	 
2nd Pledge Now Sunday	Sunday October 4th	
Fall Thanksgiving Sunday Appeal	Sunday October 11th	
Wednesday October 14th	Follow-up mailing	
Friday November 13th	All pledges returned 😊!	

PAR or Pre-Authorized Remittance for your church contributions

PAR is the way to go. 230 contributors who use PAR for their givings are witness to the success of the approach. This campaign **you are encouraged to complete the PAR authorization on your pledge if you are currently using envelopes.** This action will really help your church administration.

Time and Talents

This year the congregational inventory of time and talents has been separated from the Stewardship Campaign. Wayne Bond is reworking the manner in which we collect the data from volunteers and the way that this information will be used. At a later date, you will be contacted by Wayne to submit your time and talents. Please watch for his request.

2016 Stewardship Campaign contacts for questions and assistance

Brian Hamilton	Chair	613-277-0760	brian.hamilton1@gmail.com
John Scollick	Chair of Stewards	613-745-1798	scollick@rogers.com
Bob Roden	Treasurer	613-526-0531	bob1.roden@yahoo.ca
Debi Brown	Church Administrator	613-733-3156 (226)	administrator@rideaupark.ca

**Introducing our 2016 Stewardship Campaign Chair
Brian Hamilton**

It is my pleasure to introduce this year's Stewardship Campaign Chairperson, Brian Hamilton. Born and raised in Ottawa, Brian graduated from Hillcrest High School and received his B. Comm. from Carleton University. After serving as Student President at Carleton he joined the federal public service. In the late 70s and early 80s he worked at Queen's Park in Toronto for Premier Bill Davis and the Government Caucus. Returning to Ottawa he completed his public service career specializing in areas of public policy and research.



It was at French language training that Brian met Doreen. In the late 80s they married at Rideau Park and have successfully raised two wonderful daughters.

"Rideau Park United Church has become a central part of my life over the past 26 years. Doreen introduced me to this wonderful community of faith and her Mother Lily Cross showed me what Christian commitment was all about. I have come to firmly believe we are not owners but good stewards on this earth and the best we can do is to leave things a little better than we found them."

Brian has been active in various leadership roles including serving on and chairing the Committee of Stewards, managing Rideau Park's Property Renewal initiatives, serving as the Stewardship Representative on Council and working with Doreen on the church gardens.

We look forward to Brian's leadership throughout our 2016 Stewardship Campaign.

Sincerely,



Rev. Steve Clifton

September 17, 2015

Dear Friends in Christ:

The wisdom of our elders has given us much for which to be thankful. They foresaw the need for a new place of worship in Alta Vista. Established in 1951, Rideau Park United Church held its first worship service in the Sanctuary on September 11, 1955. Ours has been a large and successful community of faith, sharing our spirituality and serving the local community of Alta Vista, Ottawa south and the world beyond.



Traditions of generosity and stewardship have long been at the centre of our faith community. The annual fall Stewardship Campaign allows us to focus our attention on the financial needs of our congregation. It's a time to reflect on how rich we already are; a time to consider how we can increasingly be of service; a time to think in generous terms and about the possibilities of sharing. God gives us the grace to "live free" encouraging us to trust, let go of our fears for the future and to recognize our strengths and personal wealth.

We all know the importance of education and health care. Feeding the mind and nurturing the body are critical life skills that enrich our lives. We also know the extent of the time and resources we have committed to building up and maintaining these life skills. But equally important is the spirit and the soul. A good mind and strong body without spirit and soul is but the shadow of a person. How often have we heard or said "it's what's inside that counts". True words, but are we investing the time and resources to establish the spirit and the soul on an equal plain with the mind and body?

God encourages us to "live free" so that we may "take hold of the life that really is life" *1 Timothy 6:19*. When we let God free us of obsessions, we can stand for Jesus's values, risking ourselves for God's message. We can freely embrace generous-hearted living extending God's grace by who we are and the way that we live.

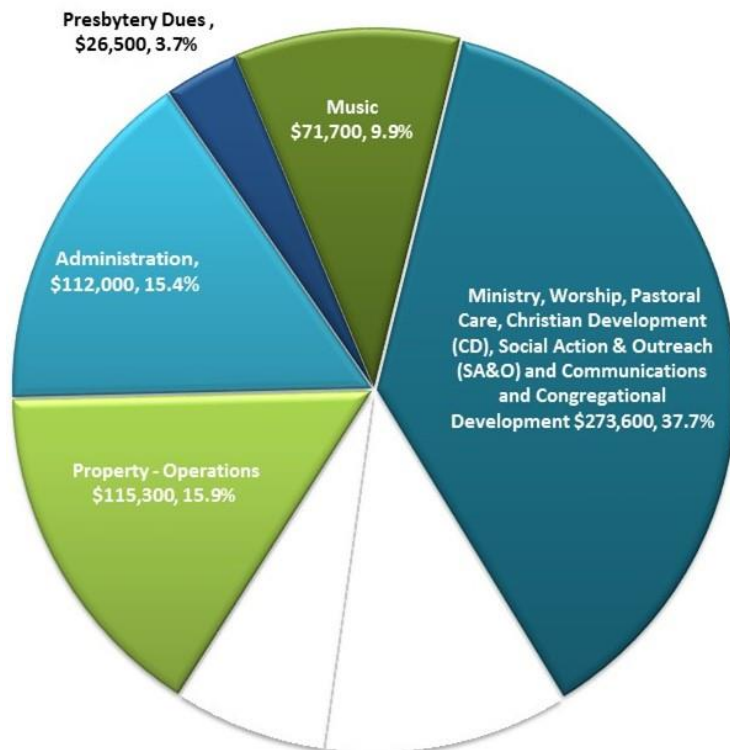
It is in this context that we consider the needs of our community of faith. Remaining true to our Christian inheritance, we can be generous in our givings, energetic in our service, present in our participation and faithful in our spirituality. We can give and work together to ensure that Rideau Park remains a vibrant and vital church community for years to come.

May you be blessed with God's grace

A blue ink signature that reads "Brian".

Brian Hamilton
Chair, 2016 Stewardship Campaign

Deciding your 2016 level of pledge support to the three funds or greatest need



Rideau Park Ministries and Programs Fund \$599,100, **82.1%**

This year we are again asking those giving between \$120 and \$4,200 annually to contribute an additional \$4.50 per week or \$234 per year. Those contributing above \$4,200 are asked to increase their pledge by 5%.

The table on the back of your pledge form can help you set your pledge amounts.

In total we are seeking your financial support and pledges of \$475,000 for the Rideau Park Ministry and Programs Fund.

Each year we must carefully consider the needs of our church. Increased pledges and givings to the Ministries and Programs Fund allows us to keep pace with inflation, adjust staff salaries and offset contributions from loss of members.

There are practical reasons why we need to increase our pledges including:

- 90% of our revenues are from your pledge contributions and envelope givings
- Only 10% of our revenues are from other sources – rentals, weddings, other organizations
- Our congregation is aging and each year we witness the loss of some of our members
- We need to offset the impact of inflation on our staff salaries, the major component of our annual expenditures (75% of Ministries and Programs budget)
- We need to make up lost ground where pledges have been at a fixed level for years. After just five years a fixed pledge experiences approximately 10% inflation and after 10 years the pledge has been reduced effectively 20%. In effect givings are being reduced by 10% and 20% respectively.
- We have no membership fees
- We cannot turn to the general public and public sector to finance our activities although we do gain substantial consideration from the federal and provincial charitable tax credits for givings and the property tax exemption from the city.

We thank God for all that has been given to us and all that we can give in return. Your generous and continuing support for Rideau Park has allowed us to serve God and do so much in the past. With your commitment we will be able to continue in the future, thanks be to God.



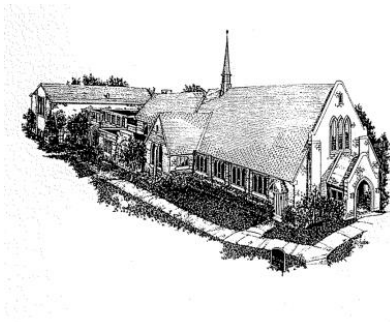
United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund (M&S) \$80,000, **11%**

A copy of the 2015 UCC Mission and Service Fund at a Glance is enclosed for your review. It well describes the essential work that our national church is accomplishing across Canada and throughout the world.

The 2016 combined budget objective for **Rideau Park's United Church Mission and Service Fund (M&S)** contribution is \$80,000 (10.9%). The annual **UCW** contribution provides an additional \$17,000, approximately, from our church. Rideau Park is amongst the top contributors to M&S across Canada.

Your pledged support and envelope givings are a blessing for our national church. All designated pledges/givings to M&S are forwarded to the United Church of Canada's M&S Fund and cannot be used for other purposes

Rideau Park Property Renewal Fund (PR) \$50,000, **6.9%***



This fund ensures our church facilities are responsive to the needs of the congregation. The Committee of Stewards is guided by the 2012-2019 Long Range Property Renewal Plan that anticipates major repairs, needed upgrades and required preventive maintenance.

Funded by Property Renewal Fund pledges, the remainder of the grant from the Government of Canada's HRSD Enabling Accessibility Fund) and the Rideau Park Foundation grant we completed the extensive accessibility renovations of the washrooms by Brackenridge Hall. We also replaced 115 ceiling lights with new high efficiency LED fixtures improving light levels reducing hydro use and providing good looking fixtures throughout the church; installed a professional audio system in Beecroft Hall; and renovated the apartment bedroom. To bring all of this work to completion, we have had to spend ahead.

In 2016 we will be bringing the fund to a positive balance and considering some smaller projects such as: adding storm windows to the chancel balcony, McKennitt Chapel and north facing sanctuary stained glass windows to conserve energy; installing a display video screen for "What's on at Rideau Park" in the Beecroft entrance; further upgrades to the sanctuary sound system; scoping renovations of the parlour and parlour kitchen.

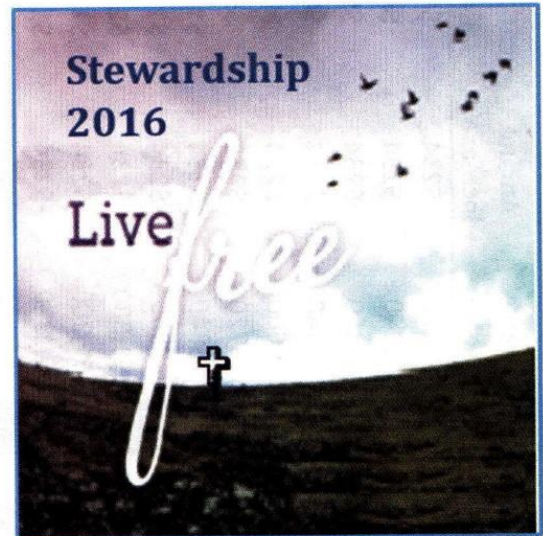
Maintaining our property is our investment in the future. The congregation's support is essential to continue the work of the Property Renewal Fund. We have accomplished much but there remains more to do. You are asked to financially support the renewal of our property in 2016. Many of you have commented that you like the changes and improvements that we have made to the church. **A pledge of \$60 or 5% of your total pledges is suggested.** Together much can be accomplished. Thank you for your consideration.

*All designated pledges/givings to the RP Property Renewal Fund cannot be used for other purposes.

Rideau Park United Church

2203 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 7L9

Envelope Number: _____

**2016 INTENDED GIVING**

With God's help I/we intend to contribute financially in 2016 to Rideau Park United Church. I/we allocate the following amounts to be used for Rideau Park's listed fund(s) or where it addresses the Greatest Need.

	(Circle one):	Your 2015 Pledge (FYI)
RP Ministry and Programs	\$ _____ /week/month/year	\$ _____
UCC Mission and Service	\$ _____ /week/month/year	\$ _____
RP Property Renewal	\$ _____ /week/month/year	\$ _____
<u>or</u> Greatest Need	\$ _____ /week/month/year.	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____ /week/month/year	Total annual \$0

Please check appropriate box. If Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) fill in the amount and sign.

My/Our giving will be by:

- ☐ **PAR authorization:** I/We hereby authorize the United Church of Canada to draw the amount of \$ _____ on the 20th of each month from my/our bank account as a contribution to Rideau Park United Church. This authorization commences January 2016.
- ☐ **Envelopes:** for weekly giving. Each week indicate on your envelope the intended distribution for the amount enclosed.
- ☐ **Other:** for periodic giving and envelopes are not requested.

Name (Please print) _____

Signature _____

Pledges by PAR or envelope may be revised by calling Debi Brown at 613-733-3156 extension 228.

For those new to PAR or making banking changes, please provide the following information and attach an appropriate void blank cheque. *If you are already on PAR, it is not necessary to complete this part.*

Name and Address of Bank/Trust Company:

Name(s) _____

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

Account Number _____

Helping to achieve God's mission. By locating your current level of giving you can determine your requested givings for 2016									
By using this chart we will reach our objective of increasing the Ministry and Programs Fund by 5% for 2016.	Current Weekly Givings	Requested Weekly Increase	Requested 2016 Weekly Givings	Current Monthly Givings	Requested Monthly Increase	Requested 2016 Monthly Givings	Current Annual Givings	Requested Annual Increase	Requested 2016 Annual Givings
	\$2.50	\$4.50	\$7	\$10	\$18	\$28	\$120	\$234	\$336
	\$5.00	\$4.50	\$10	\$20	\$18	\$38	\$240	\$234	\$456
	\$7.50	\$4.50	\$12	\$30	\$18	\$48	\$360	\$234	\$576
	\$10.00	\$4.50	\$15	\$40	\$18	\$58	\$480	\$234	\$696
	\$12.50	\$4.50	\$17	\$50	\$18	\$68	\$600	\$234	\$816
	\$15.00	\$4.50	\$20	\$60	\$18	\$78	\$720	\$234	\$936
	\$17.50	\$4.50	\$22	\$70	\$18	\$88	\$840	\$234	\$1,056
	\$20.00	\$4.50	\$25	\$80	\$18	\$98	\$960	\$234	\$1,176
	\$22.50	\$4.50	\$27	\$90	\$18	\$108	\$1,080	\$234	\$1,296
	\$25.00	\$4.50	\$30	\$100	\$18	\$118	\$1,200	\$234	\$1,416
	\$27.50	\$4.50	\$32	\$110	\$18	\$128	\$1,320	\$234	\$1,536
	\$30.00	\$4.50	\$35	\$120	\$18	\$138	\$1,440	\$234	\$1,656
	\$32.50	\$4.50	\$37	\$130	\$18	\$148	\$1,560	\$234	\$1,776
	\$35.00	\$4.50	\$40	\$140	\$18	\$158	\$1,680	\$234	\$1,896
	\$37.50	\$4.50	\$42	\$150	\$18	\$168	\$1,800	\$234	\$2,016
	\$43.75	\$4.50	\$48	\$175	\$18	\$193	\$2,100	\$234	\$2,316
	\$50.00	\$4.50	\$55	\$200	\$18	\$218	\$2,400	\$234	\$2,616
	\$62.50	\$4.50	\$67	\$250	\$18	\$268	\$3,000	\$234	\$3,216
\$75.00	\$4.50	\$80	\$300	\$18	\$318	\$3,600	\$234	\$3,816	
\$87.50	\$4.50	\$92	\$350	\$18	\$368	\$4,200	\$234	\$4,416	
\$100.00	\$5.00	\$105	\$400	\$20	\$420	\$4,800	\$240	\$5,040	
\$112.50	\$5.63	\$118	\$450	\$23	\$473	\$5,400	\$270	\$5,670	
\$125.00	\$6.25	\$131	\$500	\$25	\$525	\$6,000	\$300	\$6,300	
\$137.50	\$6.88	\$144	\$550	\$28	\$578	\$6,600	\$330	\$6,930	
\$150.00	\$7.50	\$158	\$600	\$30	\$630	\$7,200	\$360	\$7,560	
\$162.50	\$8.13	\$171	\$650	\$33	\$683	\$7,800	\$390	\$8,190	
\$175.00	\$8.75	\$184	\$700	\$35	\$735	\$8,400	\$420	\$8,820	
\$187.50	\$9.38	\$197	\$750	\$38	\$788	\$9,000	\$450	\$9,450	
\$200.00	\$10.00	\$210	\$800	\$40	\$840	\$9,600	\$480	\$10,080	
\$212.50	\$10.63	\$223	\$850	\$43	\$893	\$10,200	\$510	\$10,710	
\$225.00	\$11.25	\$236	\$900	\$45	\$945	\$10,800	\$540	\$11,340	
\$250.00	\$12.50	\$263	\$950	\$48	\$998	\$11,400	\$570	\$11,970	
\$300.00	\$15.00	\$315	\$1,000	\$50	\$1,050	\$12,000	\$600	\$12,600	
\$400.00	\$20.00	\$420	\$1,200	\$60	\$1,260	\$14,400	\$720	\$15,120	
\$500.00	\$25.00	\$525	\$1,300	\$65	\$1,365	\$15,600	\$780	\$16,380	

Life in our Rideau Park church community has many possibilities and there are many ways for us to worship, pray, study, nurture, advocate and share our faith, hope, talents and resources with our community, country and the world.

Our Mission Statement

Rideau Park United Church is a family of people who joyfully proclaim a loving God as revealed in Jesus Christ.



As caring members of this church, we seek to do this by:

- Joining together in worship, prayer and music;
- Reading and studying the Bible;
- Living a Christian life;
- Nurturing both young and old in Christian education programs;
- Seeking justice for everyone; and
- Continually sharing our faith, hope, talents and resources with our community, country and the world.

For more than 65 years **we have come together at Rideau Park in worship, prayer and music.** In addition to our weekly Sunday morning Worship Services at 10:00 am we have many programs bringing together all ages.

- **Music** is a vital part of life at Rideau Park. Each year our musicians of all ages give generously of their time and talents. They make up our children and youth choirs, our bells and chimes groups and our Chancel Choir.
- This year our **Christmas Bell Concert** will be on *November 29th*, our **Children's Pageant** will be on *December 13th* and our **Christmas Celebration Concert** will be on *December 20th*.
- **Prayer Requests** at Rideau Park are a common occurrence. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who make up our Prayer Chain. They give of their time and prayers for any and all who may need them and uphold our congregation and the wider church in their prayers.
- Each week we video webcast our Sunday Service. It is available on the rideaupark.ca Home Page starting about ten minutes before the service. There is also a Service Archives of past services.

Rideau Park offers many different ways **to read the scriptures as well as study and learn about our Christian faith.**

- We have a weekly **Wednesday Morning Bible Exploration** led by our Ministers.
- **Monthly Meditative services** offer quiet services of Taize chants, prayer, scripture, Communion/Agape meal and silence.
- Our Ministers and lay leadership lead fall, winter and Lenten **book studies** that explore different aspects of our faith, other faiths and critical issues of our times.
- A **meditation group** meets on Sundays at 9:10 am for 20 minutes for those who want to take time for quiet meditation and reflection.
- **Healing Pathway** is a United Church ministry of prayer for healing that is practiced in six Ottawa congregations, including, starting this fall, at Rideau Park. Healing Pathway will be available twice a month, on Sunday evenings in the Parlour from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

We strive to provide programs and activities that **support a Christian life for the community.**

- **HearSay** happens on Thursday evenings. It is a shared meal that supports those families participating in the children's music programs and brings our church family closer together.
- Our **United Church Women's group** consists of six Units that meet for fellowship and mission. This fall UCW members are organizing our **Fall Nearly New Sale, October 2nd and 3rd**; a **Trivia Evening, October 23rd** and our **Christmas Treasures Bazaar on November 7th**.

We offer diverse Christian programming that nurtures both young and old.

- An extensive **Sunday School program** offers all the children and youth in the congregation the opportunity to come and learn about their Christian faith. Each year the children in Sunday School give generously of their artistic talents and design a series of **Christmas Cards for a Charity** of their choice. These cards are available for sale during the Christmas season.
- The **Harmony Club** for seniors, meets monthly and offers an interesting program including guest speakers and a shared meal at the noon hour.
- A large **Rideau Park Euchre Club** is open to all and meets on Thursday afternoons.
- **A library** is available to help you in your discovery of a personal relationship with Christ.
- We have a **Pastoral Care Minister and a support committee** that oversees an active visitation program for those in our church community who are no longer able to attend church.
- All are welcome to join our enthusiastic groups for **Quilting**, Thursday mornings, **Cross-stitching**, on Monday mornings, and **Knitting**, Monday afternoons for friendly times and enjoyment.

The local community work of Rideau Park complements the United Church of Canada advocacy of justice for all.

- Our Rideau Park **Social Action and Outreach Committee** explores issues of social justice and supports a variety of community organizations by giving generously of funds and volunteer time. Social Action and Outreach supports the **Heron Emergency Food Centre, Blair Court Community House, Multi-Faith Housing Initiative, South East Ottawa Centre and Banff Avenue Community House.**
- Each year the **Rideau Park Christmas Cheer Program** provides food hampers and vouchers for over 150 identified needy families in the local community at Christmas.

At Rideau Park we are committed to being an active presence in our community, country and world by sharing our faith, hope and talents.

- We support those wishing to enter into marriage, have their children baptized, or have loved ones remembered.
- We offer meeting space to groups in our local community, such as **Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts** and **Ventures** as well as the **Alta Vista Community Association, The Canadian Institute for the Blind, The World Day of Prayer Organization, Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Ottawa Presbytery.**
- We support the **Carleton University Ecumenical Pause Table** by providing baking and refreshments to university students during their stressful exam times.
- Additionally we are strong supporters of the **Mission and Service Fund**, which is the face of the United Church of Canada nationally and around the world. Our contributions finance a diversity of ministries and missions both across Canada and overseas.

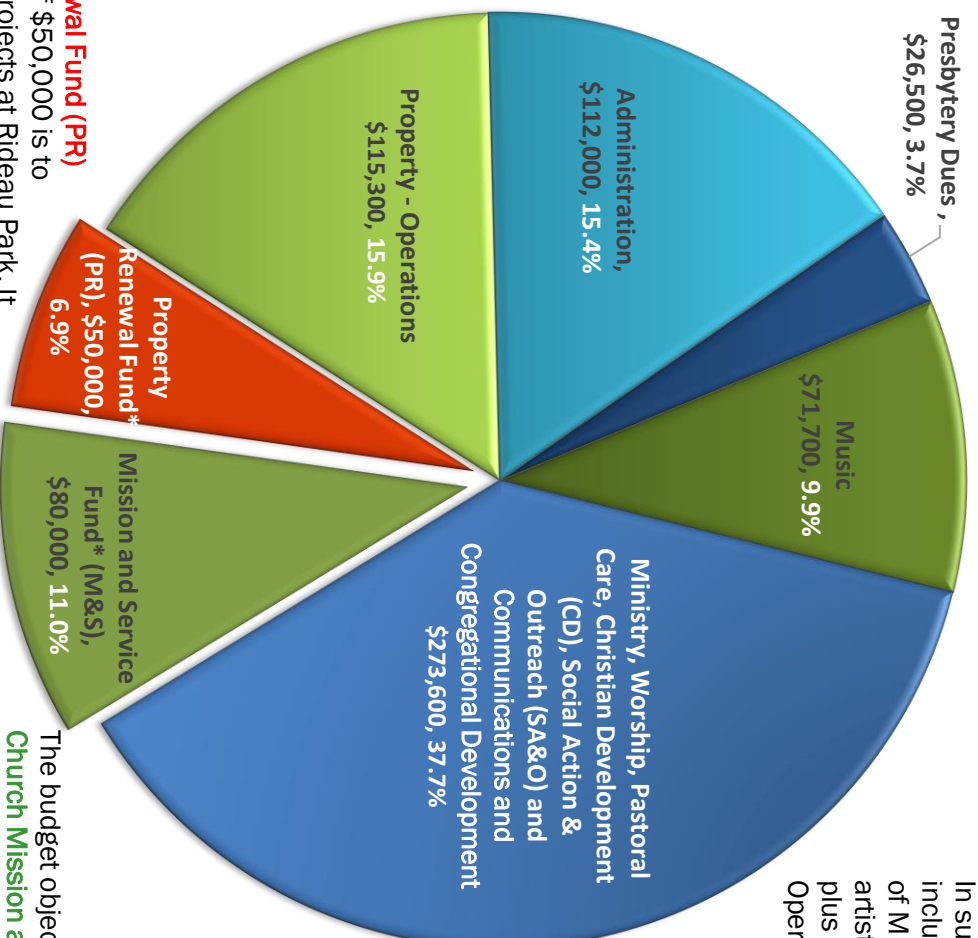
If you are interested in learning more about specific programs at Rideau Park, contact the Church Office at 613-733-3156 or stop by and pick up a copy of our **2015-2016 Activity Book.**

Distribution of Rideau Park's 2016 Projected Combined Budget (\$729,100)

Administration includes \$77,000 for the Admin. Assistant and Church Administrator salaries and benefits and provides for essentials such as \$11,000 for printing; \$2,000 for postage; \$5,000 for audit fees; \$5,000 for telephone; \$4,200 for wedding expenses; \$2,500 for worship refreshments; \$3,000 for office supplies and \$3,000 for computer materials, bank charges and other.

Property - Operating allocates \$49,000 for the Sexton's salary and benefits and covers the basics including \$12,000 for insurance; \$15,800 for heat; \$13,000 for light and water; \$6,500 for snow removal and \$20,000 for minor repairs, cleaning and maintenance supplies and other.

The **Property Renewal Fund (PR)** budget objective of \$50,000 is to finance 2016 PR projects at Rideau Park. It includes \$10,000 from fundraising initiatives.



In support of worship, **Music** includes \$68,400 for the Director of Music, Lead Singers, and guest artists remuneration and benefits; plus \$3,300 for the Music - Operations budget.

Note: The Ministries and Programs Fund is the combined portions excluding PR and M&S.

The budget allocates \$259,100 for salaries; benefits; travel and learning for our Ministers and \$1,800 for Worship, \$500 for Pastoral Care \$3,600 for CD; and \$4,100 for SA&O and \$4,500 for Communications and Congregational Development.

The budget objective for Rideau Park's United **Church Mission and Service Fund (M&S)** contribution is \$80,000. The annual UCW contribution is an additional \$17,000 approximately.

Note * Contributions to the M&S Fund and PR Fund cannot be used to fund Rideau Park Ministries and Programs Fund expenditures.

Renewing your annual subscription for the United Church Observer magazine



How much parenting should today's grandmas and grandpas do? – in July's Observer. (A question asked by many. Some interesting insights.)

Founded in 1829, The United Church Observer is the oldest continuously published magazine in North America and the second oldest in the English speaking world. It has won international acclaim for journalistic excellence and garnered more awards for writing than any other Canadian religious publication. Editor David Wilson says of his mandate for the publication in contemporary Canada: "We seek to offer the United Church and Canadians generally a church magazine that exceeds people's expectations of church magazines. As we move forward into a new era and style of faith-based publishing, we are constantly mindful of the traditions into which we are anchored."

Since 1986, The Observer has been independently incorporated, which makes it unique among major North American denominational publications. The magazine sets its own editorial policies and program and is overseen by its own board of directors. While it maintains a healthy relationship with The United Church of Canada, it does not speak as the denomination's official voice. The Observer's independence permits the publication to comment freely on matters within and outside The United Church of Canada. Says editor Wilson: "In the same way that The United Church of Canada is part of the Canadian identity, an independent Observer is inextricably part of the United Church identity ...".

It's easy to maintain your Observer magazine subscription at Rideau Park

The Observer magazine (11 times per annum) is an effective and efficient way for Rideau Parkers to keep abreast of the work of our national Church and to follow the more innovative activities of our sister congregations.

Rideau Park maintains a subscription list of those who wish to receive the Observer. The establishment of this list is part of the annual stewardship campaign. **To continue receiving The Observer magazine, please mark an X in the box below and enclose a cheque for \$20.00 payable to Rideau Park United Church when you return your stewardship pledge.** This is a 20% saving over ordering directly on the ucobserver.org website.

Your support for this great publication is welcomed. Thank you for your consideration.

☐ Yes I wish to receive the United Church Observer magazine in 2016. My cheque/cash for \$20.00 payable to Rideau Park United Church is enclosed.

