



United Church

Discover. Your way.

Town Hall Update,  
March 3, 2024

# Agenda

Welcome - Time for an Update!

Using a New Lens

Next Generation and Growth programs and plans

Evolve Team Update

Q & A

FROM ...



Church  
(Worship)

TO ....

Pastoral Care

Outreach

Youth

Adult Ed

Community

Children

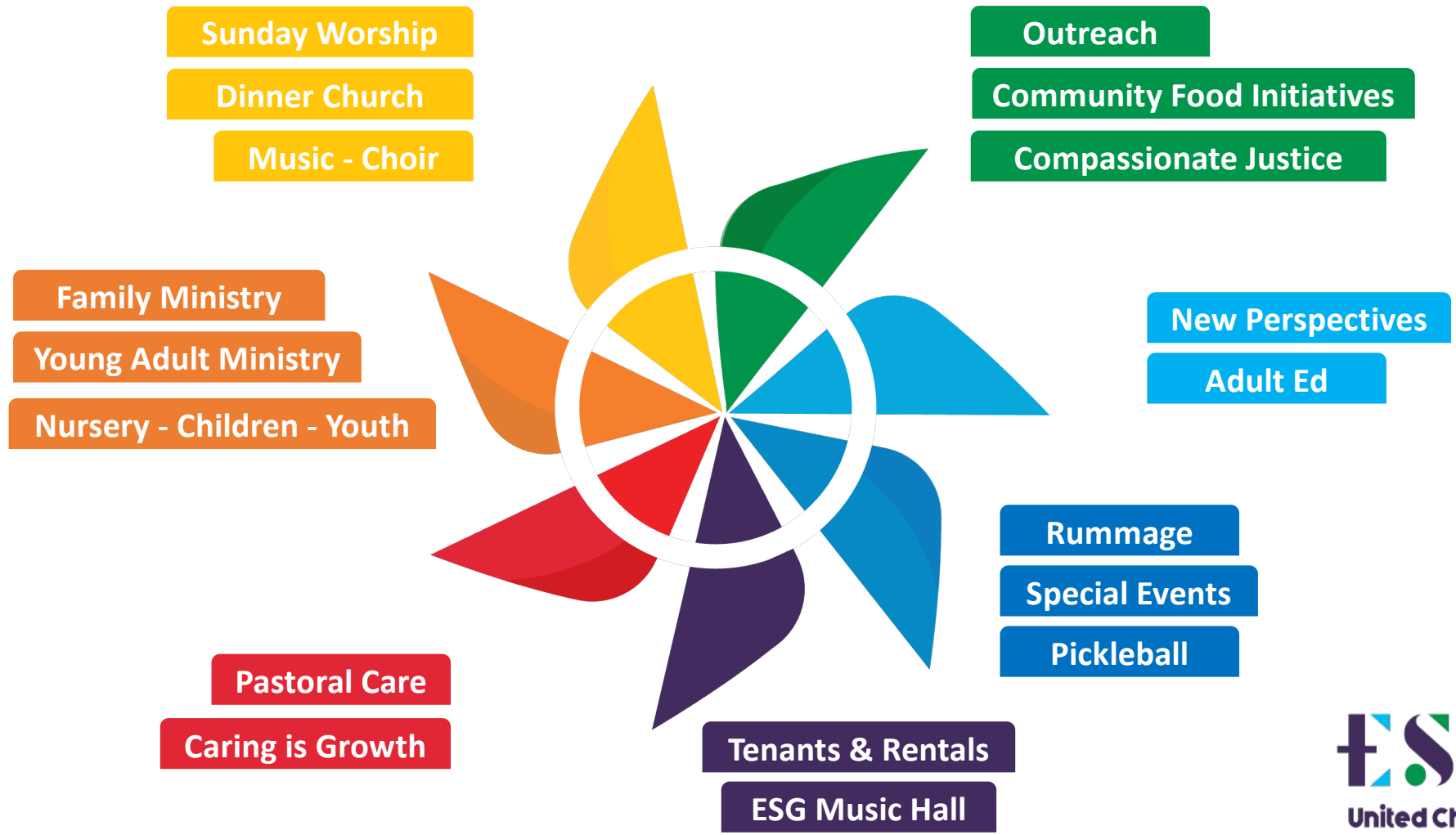
Food

Other



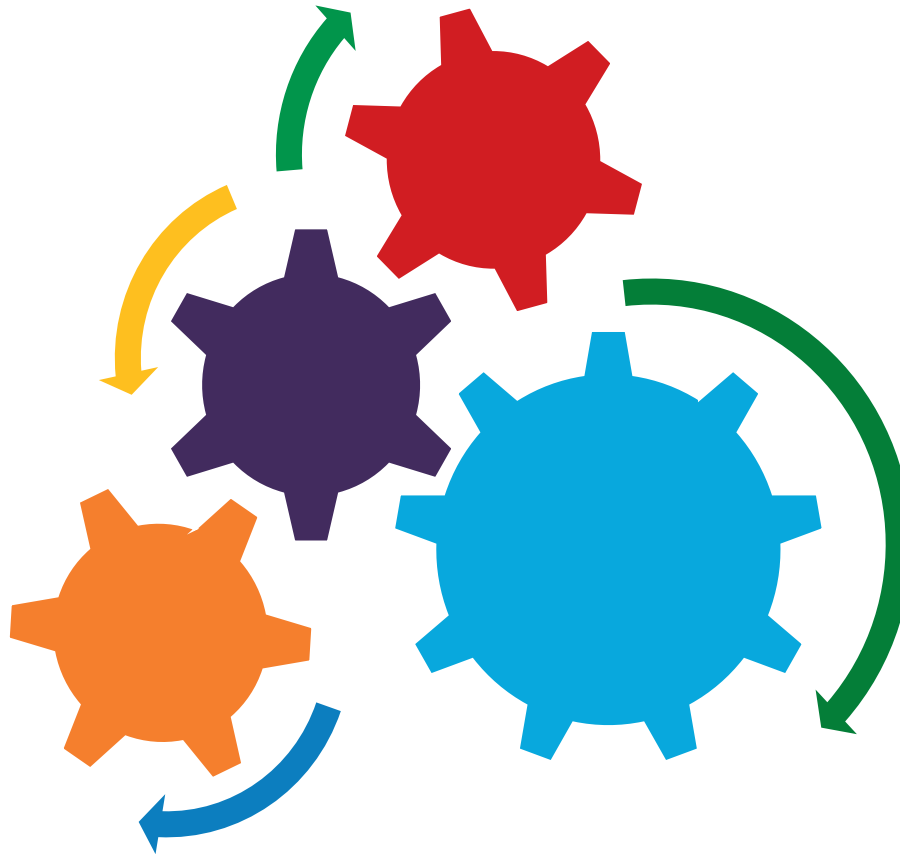
United Church

Discover. Your way.



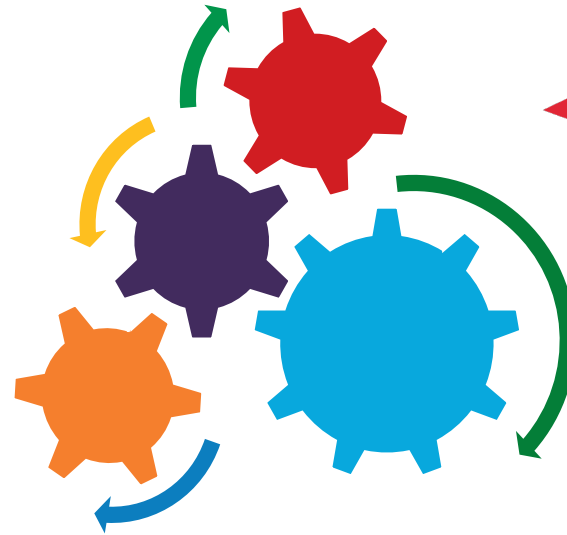


Intergenerational  
Programs  
&  
Newcomers  
&  
Guests  
&  
Building Users  
&  
Program Guests  
&  
US





Intergenerational  
Programs  
&  
Newcomers  
&  
Guests  
&  
Building Users  
&  
Program Guests  
&  
**US**



**eventbrite**

**ESG**  
United Church  
Discover. Your way.

**With bold new decisions,  
Your people arise.**

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.**



**ESG**  
**United Church**  
Discover. Your way.

# Next Gen & Growth



**United Church**  
Discover. Your way.



# Food Ministry



# Food Initiatives Program Coordinator – Chad Lewis



# Food Ministry

**Grow**



**Prepare**



**Celebrate**



**Share**



# Grow

Experiences where we learn  
and grow food together.

# Prepare

Experiences where we prepare  
food together to  
nourish and create community.

# Celebrate

Experiences where we explore and  
celebrate our spirituality through  
breaking bread with others

# Share

Experiences where we share in  
community with those facing  
food insecurity

# Food Ministry

## Grow

Onsite Gardens

Giving Garden

Remote Garden  
Plots

Grow Staff

Growing  
Workshops

School Groups

## Prepare

Flourish House  
Wednesday Meal

Food Justice  
Cooking Events

Cultural Kitchen  
Parties

Cooking with a  
Cause

## Celebrate

Love aLIVE  
Dinner Church

Shrove Brunch

Waffle Church

Morning Worship  
Food Connections

Youth Breakfast &  
Sunday School  
food lessons

## Share

Little Free Pantry

Fresh Mobile  
Pantry

Tuesday Breakfast  
Program

Out of the Cold

Youth Group Baking for  
Outreach Programs

Refugee Meals



# Grow

## Community Gardens



- **Onsite Gardens** – 11 allotment gardens for individuals, families & organizations
- **Giving Garden** – gardening in community, food donated to Mobile Fresh Pantry
- **Remote Plots** – 15 remote gardens in the community to build community in different neighbourhoods.
- **Engagement with all ages:**
  - Workshops - 6 unique workshops with 20 people in attendance at each
  - Sunday school, Elementary School Groups & Blyth School
  - Youth & Young Adult Grow Staff Employment Program - 5 meaningful employment positions

# Prepare

## Food Justice Cooking Events

- Prepare meal, eat together while learning about a food justice topics
- 25-35 people in attendance
- Topics include: Food Scarcity, Food waste and Loss, Food Justice and Racial Justice
- Next one is March 7<sup>th</sup> with CEO of Daily Bread Food Bank, Neil Hetherington



# Prepare & Share

## Flourish House Wednesday Meals

- 10-15 people each week from a group of 40
- Hosted by Flourish House Residents
- Diverse group of students, local north Toronto young adults, young candidates for ministry & family
- Space for people seeking food & community



# Prepare & Share

## Cooking with a Cause

- Group of 10-20 people gather to make prepared individual packaged meals (i.e. soup, chili) to go in a warming mobile pantry and are put out every Wednesday for “Warm Meal Wednesday”.
- Cooking with a Cause happens the week following the Outreach Breakfast. Left over produce given at breakfast are used to make the meals.
- Next Cooking with a Cause is March 17<sup>th</sup>



# Celebrate

## Love aLIVE

- 30-40 in attendance
- Monthly Alternative Evening Service
- Back to in-person events
- Worship Lite
- Meal served by kitchen team
- Guest artist shares art form with attendees. This year's artist have included a poet, painter, singer & dancer.



# Family Ministry



# Family Ministry

- Family Ministry Programs are growing!
- Children programming: Sunday morning, special family gatherings, fund raising initiatives
- Youth Programming: Sunday morning & special events
- Confirmation class
  - Confirmation is June 2024
  - 7 participants



# So much abundance in our midst! So much good is still to come!



**We must never underestimate the power of planting a seed!**

- Future plans for this important growth work
- Equipping ourselves to be present to the emerging church and needs in our community
- Luckily, we don't do this work alone  
*"I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for." – God (from Jeremiah 29:11)*



# ESG EVOLVE 2028



**United Church**

Discover. Your way.

## Community Engagement

- Communication Sessions – 7 sessions through November / December across 12 groups
- 75 participants from the ESG community
- General support for work of Evolve
- Valuable suggestions, ideas and concerns shared
- Stay tuned for further communication

# GOALS : **VIBRANT** & **VIABLE**



## **HELP OTHERS BASED ON OUR SHARED VALUES**

Make a difference in  
our community.

## **ENHANCE COHESION (not silos)**

Programs. People.  
Communications.

## **BUILD CONNECTIONS & RELATIONSHIPS**

Outward view.  
Draw the circle wide.

## **IMPROVE ORGANIZATIONAL READINESS**

Up our Game! We have execution challenges not a strategy problem.

## **INCREASE SCALE**

Critical mass with sufficient scale and resources.

# Priorities



## 1. Marketing & Communications: Up Our Game!

External Communications, Contact Management, *More than Members...*

## 2. Financial Resources

Funding the Strategy, Enhanced & New Revenue Sources, Partnerships

## 3. Vibrant Programs & Events

Food Ministry, Outreach, Worship/Spirituality, Family & Young Adult Ministry, Music, Adult Learning, Rummage

## 4. Human Resources

Staff, Volunteers

## 5. Technology

Livestreaming, ZOOM Church, program support

# Task Team members (Feb. 13/24)



Priority	Evolve Rep	Existing Members	
<b>Marketing &amp; Communication</b> <b>Up our Game!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Susan Moore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Patti (chair)</li> <li>- Alan Walker</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Christy Lamont</li> <li>- Ashley Abdul</li> </ul>
<b>Financial Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Al Morson</li> <li>- Jennifer Thompson</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Michael Hayes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cathy Nolan</li> </ul>
<b>Human Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dorothy Carson</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bob Blair</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Donna MacCandlish</li> </ul>
<b>Vibrant Programs &amp; Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hugh DesBrisay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Janet Hardy (chair)</li> <li>- Matthew Litterovich</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sarah Chapman</li> <li>- Paul Hutchison</li> </ul>
<b>Technology</b> <b>Up our Game!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Doug McWhirter (delivery systems)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gordon Henderson advising</li> </ul>	

# Marketing & Communications

- Website update in progress
- Providing support to programs/events
- Look beyond members. Extending reach into surrounding community
- Contact management

## Financial Resources

- Financial model developed for 5 year forecasts, easy to adjust
- Current results demonstrates need for more revenues, reduced spending (or both)
- Generous bequests have provided funds to aid operations AND built up reserves for special projects

# ESG Programs Review & Recommendations

***Purpose is to find opportunities to revitalize and grow:***

- Family and Young Adult Ministries
- Worship & Music Ministries
- Food Ministry
- Outreach & Social Justice Ministries
- Small Group & Learning Ministries

***Process will engage our leaders, volunteers and external thinkers :***

- Meet with those most expert, interested and involved at present
- Explore the spiritual trends and gaps best suited to ESG's core strengths
- Examine if there are partnerships that might extend our reach
- Revisit the "why", "what", "how", "cost", "when", and "where" vis a vis goals/effectiveness/impact of each program area



# ESG EVOLVE 2028



**United Church**

Discover. Your way.

Q&A