

*The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship*



# ANNUAL REPORT 2009

Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

2 Corinthians 3:5-6



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# Ministry Overview

## Pastor's Message

Greetings,

Praise God for His faithfulness to us in 2009.

We began the year with mixed emotions, as we had to move from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church to meet the growing need of our children's ministry for increased classroom space. We moved to Aylmer United Church and celebrated our first Sunday there on January 4th, 2009. We have since been blessed with ongoing physical and spiritual growth.

Our children's ministry has evolved and moved forward with positive results as seen in the lives of our children. Our worship team continued to lead us each Sunday into the throne room of God. We were also blessed with other people in the congregation who from time to time ministered to us through music.

Many people continued to support and work behind the scenes at The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship, coordinating ministry activities, reaching out to each other, making guests feel welcome, and the list goes on and on.

The Board of Deacons continued to serve faithfully and their unity has made both the work of the church, and my work as Senior Pastor so much easier.

I want to thank each and every one who has continued to faithfully support God at The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship.

We held the Elim Fellowship Canada, 2009 annual conference. It was successful and everyone who attended was pleased. I was proud of our church family for taking on the challenge of this type of endeavor for the glory and honor of God.

This year we celebrated our 5th anniversary as a church. We introduced a church logo, our website and a formal mission and vision statement. This allows us to clearly present who we are and what we have been called by God to do.

We have continued to reach out to children and youth in our community through our Saturday evening sports night.

We reached out beyond our community by continuing our support of our Cuban pastor and Tender Loving Care Children Ministries (TLCCM) in Mexico.

I was fortunate to have been invited to attend and present at the World Addiction Conference in Mexico City in front of over 4,000 people. I was able to bring a spiritual component to a secular venue that was well received.

We thank God for the doors that he opens and the opportunities he gives.

I sense in my spirit that 2010 is a year of accelerated growth in number and spirit. God wants to bring us to the next level in Him. We are being stretched and challenged to review who we are in Him, to seek Him in a deeper way and to put aside anything that hinders us from surrendering in our Christian walk.

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord."

Jeremiah 23:13

My prayer is that we look back upon 2010 with amazement at what the Lord will have done as we remain faithful and obedient to the Chief Shepherd of which I have the humble privilege of being the under shepherd.

Let Him mold us into Kingdom people as we submit to the Potter on the potter's wheel. He is the potter, we are the clay.

Humbly Submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "A. J. Andre' Sigras", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

## Who We Are

The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship is a growing evangelical Christian assembly committed to the call of Jesus Christ to reach out and minister to all people.

Our ministries, gatherings and various outreaches are designed to encourage and grow our relationship with God, with our church family and with our community.

We offer a variety of weekly activities which include Sunday worship, children's church, Bible study and prayer, and a youth sports night.

We organize a variety of outreaches in the community and participate with and financially support various other local, national and international charities.

We support and partner with other Christian assemblies, ministries and groups in the community. These collaborations help us reach out to the community in ways we could not do alone.

## Pastoral Staff



**Reverend André Bigras**  
Senior Pastor

## Board of Elders



**Veronica Tate**  
Elder



**Malcolm Witham**  
Elder

## Board of Deacons



**Scott Bigras**  
Deacon/Treasurer



**Darlene Howe**  
Deacon



**John MacDonald**  
Deacon



**Anna Pinck**  
Deacon



**Richard Verret**  
Deacon

## Ministry Leaders



**Jennifer Bigras**  
Sunday School  
Superintendent



**Joe Boisvert**  
Worship



**Anna Pinck**  
Hospitality



**John MacDonald**  
Youth Sports Night/  
Vacation Bible School

## What We Believe

We believe:

- The Bible to be the only inspired Word of God.
- The Godhead consist of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- The Deity of Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father.
- In evangelistic and missionary fervor and endeavor.
- In salvation through the redeeming blood of Christ.
- We believe in the keeping power of Christ.
- In sanctification and holiness of heart and the overcoming life as Scriptural requirements for the Bride of Christ.
- In the Baptism of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4 & 19:6, and the present ministry of the Spirit in and through the believer manifested in the five ministries as they are being restored in end-time revival, the gifts of the Spirit and the fruit of the Spirit.
- That divine healing is obtained on the basis of atonement.
- In the rapture of the church (the body of believers).
- In the personal second coming of Jesus Christ in power and great glory.
- In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost. They that are saved unto the resurrection of eternal life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of eternal punishment.
- That the giving of tithes and offering is a Scriptural principle and adhered to by New Testament Christians.
- That marriage is a provision of God whereby a man and a woman live together in a life-long relationship that is legally sanctioned by the state to enable both partners to meet their spiritual, physical and social needs.

## Mission and Vision

The leadership of The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship believes strongly that all our activities be linked to a clear set of objectives, a divine purpose. As such, the Board of Deacons has developed both mission and vision statements that will serve to guide the ministries, outreaches, collaborations and daily activities of The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship.

Our mission statement states why the church is in existence – our overall purpose, while our vision statement clearly articulates what we are aiming to achieve – our goals. This allows us to properly identify and evaluate new activities to ensure that they are targeted to one or more of our goals. It also allows us to evaluate and update current activities to ensure that they are meeting their specified objectives.

Ultimately, we strive to use our resources as effectively and efficiently as possible for the glory of God and the extension of His kingdom.

### **Mission**

- **EXALT** Christ
- **EQUIP** the Believer
- **Extend** God's Love

### **Vision**

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship desires to create a vibrant and welcoming environment:

- That lets Gatineau and area know that Christ' church is here and wants them to walk in the door;
- That lets Gatineau and area recognize what is missing in their lives;
- That lets Gatineau and area know the saving grace of Christ;
- That is seen as a place of security, freedom and trust;
- That transforms our community through prayer;
- That submits to Christ's will for our lives;
- That proclaims that the Kingdom of God is here today;
- That identifies and develops believers spiritual talents and uses them for God's glory; and
- That identifies the needs of our community in order to better serve.

### **Affiliation**

#### **Elim Fellowship Canada**

Elim Fellowship is an association of churches, ministries, ministers and missionaries seeking to serve the whole body of Christ. It is of Pentecostal conviction and Charismatic orientation providing credentials and counsel for ministers and offering counsel to and encouraging fellowship among local churches.

The purpose of Elim Fellowship is to provide visionary leadership, spiritual covering, pastoral care, mutual accountability, ministry resources and fellowship for its credential holders, affiliated churches and ministries. We also purpose to fellowship with, encourage and edify the whole body of Christ.

#### **Elim Fellowship Canada**

379 Golf Road, RR #6  
Brantford, ON N3T 5L8

[www.elim.ca](http://www.elim.ca)

## **Ottawa/Outaouais Area Elim Churches**

### **Abundant Life**

Reverend Doctor John Woods

1645 Woodroffe Avenue

Ottawa, ON K2G 1W2

[www.alcf.ca](http://www.alcf.ca)

### **The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship**

Reverend André Bigras

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[www.potterswheelchurch.ca](http://www.potterswheelchurch.ca)

# Ministry Descriptions

## Sunday Service

Our Sunday service is the cornerstone of our ministry. It is lively, relevant, worshipful, and challenging. It provides a regular weekly opportunity to deepen our relationship with Jesus and each other as we come together as a church family for a time of encouragement, empowering, teaching, prayer and worship.

It also focuses on equipping us for evangelism, encouraging everyone to intentionally share the good news of Jesus Christ, inviting family, neighbours, friends and workmates to come to church.

## Worship

The worship of God is central to the Christian faith. It is to our spirits what oxygen is to our lungs; without it, our faith would die.

Worship at The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship embraces all forms of worship styles from traditional hymns to both mainstream and in-house contemporary worship songs. It is complemented at times with worship dance and flags. Our worship team is made up of a gifted leader and individuals who have made themselves available in service to God.

"Emptiness connects with fullness... as we find our deepest longings satisfied in worshipping God."

Our objective is to create an open atmosphere where the Holy Spirit can move freely and individuals can express their worship to God in the way they feel most comfortable.

## Prayer

Prayer is the respiration of the soul, the intimate bond with one's Creator and Saviour. It is communion with God. It brings God and His resources into our lives allowing divine resources to influence human reality.

Jesus affirmed the importance of prayer, stressing both an individual and corporate prayer life. He recognized charitable giving, material offerings, and voluntary fasting as forms of prayer, teaching that the most vital aspects of prayer are a clean heart and one's private communication with God.

Prayer occupied a very prominent place and played a very important part in the earthly life of our Lord.

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Mark 1:35

And it came to pass in those days that he went out unto a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Luke 6:12

Prayer is essential to our Christian walk. Without it our witness would be far less effective and we would be far more vulnerable to the enemy.

The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship recognizes the critical importance of prayer and is committed to offering various prayer opportunities towards building our individual faith, our church family, and impacting our community. These include weekly corporate prayer in the

nursery on Wednesday evenings and pre-service prayer every Sunday before service in the church lounge. A prayer line is also in operation and available to our church family for specific prayer requests.

### **Corporate Prayer**

When we join together in prayer with other believers the effects can be very positive. It edifies and unifies us to the plans God has for The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship. The Holy Spirit knits us together in a unique bond of fellowship found nowhere else in life.

### **Pre-Service Prayer**

This key prayer time allow us to abandon our desires and weekly distractions in order to prepare our hearts for service. We cooperate with God to bring about His plan for each Sunday service, not bend Him to our will.

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.

Isaiah 56:7

### **Prayer Line**

The prayer line is an effective way to share various prayer requests with many people. It allows us to focus our prayers on specific needs as they arise in a timely manner.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

The prayer line is available through Nora Gervais at 819-685-2345.

## **Children's Church (JAM! Time)**

There is no such thing as an accidentally healthy, thriving Children's Church, which in turn feeds the growth and effectiveness of the church. We seek to provide strong teaching that comes from the intentional preparation, personal hunger for and application of the Bible, and the passionate communication of the Word of God of our leaders and helpers.

### **Nursery**

Our Nursery program for ages 0 - 2 year olds, aims to create a comfortable atmosphere where children are free to play and be cared for. This allows parents the opportunity to sit through a sermon without any interruptions.

### **Children**

Our Children's program for ages 3 - 5 and 6 - 8 year olds, are using the FaithWeaver curriculum. FaithWeaver lessons encourage children to focus on the one most important thing in life: a growing relationship with Jesus. The children are challenged to grow closer to Jesus every week. FaithWeaver encourages children to weave faith into life by providing meaningful activities, great discussions, and personal challenges. FaithWeaver takes children past head knowledge of the Bible and into heart- and life-change. It doesn't stop there - each week, children are held accountable for the way they've lived out their faith during the past week. FaithWeaver was chosen for it's strong Biblical

"We believe how we respond to God makes a difference in how God responds to us and the world. We believe that many of the promises of God are contingent on our obedience to God. But we do not believe that God is a celestial vending machine where if we put in all the right things, that God has to give us what we want. We affirm that while God responds to what we do, God is not manipulated by what we do."

teachings and the fact that we believe in their idea that "stronger families make stronger churches".

### **Tweens**

Our tween program for ages 9-12 year olds is also using the FaithWeaver curriculum.

FaithWeaver equips families to talk about and apply their faith together. Each class learns about the same Bible point and has the same or similar memory verse. Therefore, families can talk about the same lesson and apply it to their lives throughout the week.

### **Mid-Week Bible Study**

Our mid-week Christian education time contributes to the ongoing effort of individuals to understand, practice and spread the Word of God. Its aim is to bring persons closer to Christ by developing an understanding of, commitment to, and ability to practice solid and practical Christian teachings; and to involve individuals in discovering the gifts God has given, and to assist them in developing and using these gifts in Christian service.

We are currently using a variety of Christian video resources combined with a time of worship, group discussion and prayer.

"Many are new to The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship wanting to know how to grow in their relationship with Christ, become active members, and serve in ministry."

### **Youth Sports Night**

Our Youth Sports Night is currently held weekly in the gymnasium of a local school. We have endeavoured to create a ministry for youth of all backgrounds dedicated to sports based on biblical principals like integrity, fairness, teamwork, accountability, mutual respect and love.

We strive to create an environment where the well-being of children is put first over a win-at-all-cost attitude; a place where even if you are not the best player, you can still have an opportunity to play and have fun.

We believe that God will work through this ministry to reach youth in the community that might not be able to be presented with the Gospel in a more traditional setting.

We have created a ministry that honours God not only in word but in action by modeling Christian values through a high quality dedicated leadership.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is one of the most effective ways to fulfill the command of Christ in Matthew 19:14 where He says to "let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

The most important part of VBS isn't cookies and crafts. The most important part is the built-in evangelistic opportunities. Opportunities to build relationships with children who need Christ; to be able to present the gospel in terms and ways they will understand; and to make VBS a fun-time where the children will feel good about God and the church.

The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship currently offers VBS separately to both children and youth over a two week period.

## Outreaches, Collaborations and Missions

Outreaches, collaborations and missions are important aspects of our ministry, and more importantly, of our walk with God as individuals. The ministry of Jesus Christ reached out to the sick, the poor and the lost. He met them in their need, shared the love of God with them, and brought them back into a right relationship with God.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

Our outreaches have been varied activities aimed at sharing God's love with the people in our community. These include meals and other social events open to the public designed to create a friendly and safe atmosphere where we can get to know and meet the needs around us.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Matthew 25: 35-36

Our collaborations with other Christian and charitable organizations in our immediate and broader community enable us to help meet needs that we could not on our own. They enable the power of God to flow more freely by providing a more strategic framework and approach to reaching larger needs in the community.

One of our key collaborations is with the Aylmer Ministerial, a cross-denominational gathering of leaders from local Christian churches and ministries. We partner with them in the Walk of the Cross, a walk on Good Friday to commemorate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and pray for local churches and organizations in the local community.

We participate in an annual free Christmas dinner provided to the less fortunate and lonely in the community. We also participate and support Camp Awesome, a one week Christian Bible camp open to all children in the community.

Local, national and international missions are important in obeying the call of Christ to make disciples of all the nations. We are financially and prayerfully supporting a small Cuban church in their outreach to lost souls in that country. The relationship that has been fostered has been a blessing to not only them, but to us as well. We also financially and prayerfully support TLCCM, . We also support and participate with other local ministries and organizations that have included the Ottawa Pregnancy Centre and other various organizations.

"When we offer ourselves as instruments of God's purpose, we create opportunities for others to experience God through us. We become the X that marks the spot. Our obedience creates a spiritual epicentre through which God shakes up the world around us and others come to know Him. There may not be anything more thrilling than embracing the God-given opportunity, knowing you're in over your head and then watching God come through."

# Ministry Reports

## Sunday Service

Our Sunday service is the heart of the church. This is where we are fed and equipped to go out into our community, our mission field.

"Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another --- and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10:25

We have been growing physically and spiritually and as this continues our impact will also increase outside the walls of the church.

To all those that attended faithfully and sacrificially, I say thank you.

## 2010 and Beyond

My desire in 2010 is to take our Sunday service from a worship time to a celebration of our King. This year I want to see the gifts and the fruit of the Spirit become more common place during our celebrations. I pray people will come alive and celebrate by more waving of the flags, dancing and the raising of hands to our King. I desire for our worship to become a cry to our King, thanking Him for His presence among us. God is in the midst of the praise of his people.

There is a spiritual breakthrough coming to The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship as we remain faithful and obedient. He has tested us with little and now he is going to test us with much. Let the celebrations begin!

Submitted: Reverend André Bigras  
Senior Pastor

## Worship

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Isn't it exciting to see what God is doing in our midst! Let us first say that we have been blessed as a worship team to be able to serve the Body of Christ at the Potter's Wheel by leading in song week after week, and to have witnessed the Lord throughout the past year adding to our number almost on a monthly basis. Not only this, but we've also seen a deepening of our times of worship together, which has been a great source of encouragement.

2009 has been an eventful year in worship ministry for the Potter's Wheel. First, we were able to participate once again in the opening service of the Aylmer ministerial's Week of Prayer. By far, however, our most challenging time came in preparing for and providing bilingual praise and worship during Elim Fellowship Canada's annual conference. The conference ran two days and three nights and stretched us as a team and individually as we were faced with learning many of our familiar songs in the French language. God is faithful, though, and we were able to have deep and meaningful times of worship on all 3 nights in both official languages. During the conference, we witnessed and experienced a freedom in worship to which we were unaccustomed, but one that was welcome indeed, as extended times of worship led to manifestations of the various gifts of the Spirit. God truly moved among His people throughout the conference, and wet our appetites for a deeper worship of our glorious King. More than ever, I realized during those few days that it's not about how we perceive our talents, abilities, or quality of delivery, but it's about how hungry we are, and how great God is. When a hungry people come together to worship Jesus, something happens. Music, vocals, experience, and

any other thing we might place external value on, all fade in importance when compared with a hungry heart. So when we opened our mouths to lead during this conference, a hungry people responded, and our great God saw the hunger in our hearts, and He revealed Himself to us.

## 2010 and Beyond

Looking ahead, we have two main objectives for the coming year. First, we desire to break through the ceiling of fear and timidity, and worship the Lord with a deeper freedom. What if God wants us to sing that song one more time, or repeat a phrase, or stand in silence and wait for Him? What if we want to dance before Him, raise a banner in prophetic worship of Him, or shout at the top of our lungs? What if God wants to give us a prophetic word, a miracle, a tongue and interpretation? Can we be free to do these things as the Lord leads, both as a team and as a congregation? I believe we can, but it will require losing ourselves, and pursuing God with abandon. Pursuing God, I say, because when we draw near to Him, He will draw near to us, and that freedom will follow. We don't seek freedom, we seek God. We don't seek the gifts of the Spirit, we seek God, the giver. When knowing Him becomes our sole desire, our greatest passion, then He will visit us.

"Call to me and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

Jeremiah 33:3

Our second objective is to provide for those young people in our church, (children, teens, young adults) who have a desire to minister in song, poetry, music, worship dance etc. an opportunity to practice ministering in the unthreatening, secure environment of the Sunday worship celebration. Our vision is a worship experience that involves and touches all age groups. We believe that as we honour our young people, loving them and allowing them to be very much a part of what happens when we come together each week, we will reap a generation of faithful people, who will worship God with confidence, and not be ashamed of who God made them. How many of us can look back over our lives and recognize instances where, as young people, the adults in our lives affirmed us in those things which we loved to do, gently directing us to discover the things we were good at, and then encouraging us to develop in those areas? Much of the confidence (or lack thereof) with which we conduct our affairs today is due largely to the level of affirmation and encouragement we received from those we've looked up to over the years. Let us encourage our young people to pursue God with passion, and to lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus desires to lay hold of them.

Finally, we as a team would like to honour you, the worshiper, for your faithful and sincere worship, week after week. What a joy it is to look out over all the faces and see your eyes and your hands lifted up to the King of kings in humble, adoring praise and worship. If it brings joy to our hearts, imperfect and human, just imagine what it does in the heart of our Father in heaven. Surely He delights in our worship as we worship Him in Spirit and in truth; surely our God inhabits the praises of His people!

Submitted: Joe Boisvert  
Worship Leader

## Prayer

Recognizing the critical importance of prayer being the key that opens the heart of God, we have implemented and incorporated prayer time into our weekly schedule.

In late 2009, The Potter's Wheel began a Sunday pre-service prayer from 2:30-3:00pm and a Wednesday evening prayer meeting from 7:30-9:00pm. We also continued our prayer line which meets immediate needs as they arise.

Our relationship is strengthened as we communicate with our Heavenly Father. He becomes our Abba Father, and what father withholds good things from his children.

### **2010 and Beyond**

We are in the process of instituting an e-mail prayer request line for those that visit our website. I encourage each one at The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship to individually and corporately pray this year for the hand of God to work in our hearts and community. My hearts desire is that through prayer we seek the Lord in a deeper way.

Submitted: Reverend André Bigras  
Senior Pastor

### **Children's Church (JAM! Time)**

We successfully completed our first year of JAM! (Jesus and Me!) Time. It was a year of growth, learning and fun. Our vision is to provide a fun and safe haven where our children can come, learn and grow in their knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Due to the increase growth of our Children's Church, we moved to a larger church at the beginning of the year. This provided us with more space and separate meeting areas for each class. It allowed the teachers more room and flexibility to conduct their lessons, as well as the opportunity for the children to become more involved in the lessons.

Tender Loving Care Children Ministries (TLCCM) was our missions organization that we chose to support throughout the year. The children did an outstanding job of raising just over \$300 for TLCCM. We believe in the importance of exposing the children to missions and teaching them about those who are less fortunate than themselves. It also demonstrates to the children that they can play an important role in helping those less fortunate.

The two older classes performed a wonderful worship dance with flags at our church's Easter service.

We ended off our first year of JAM! Time with a Family Fun Day at the Aylmer Marina. The children had a great time playing games and having fun with their friends.

Our second year of JAM! Time began in the fall of 2009 with our second annual Kick-Off. We were able to offer four classes this year to continue to meet the needs of the growing number of children within our church. We introduced a Nursery for the first time, which caters to children aged 0 - 2. We also provided two classes for children aged 3 - 5 and 6 - 8, as well as a class for tweens aged 9 - 12.

We introduced a new curriculum in the fall of 2009, called FaithWeaver. FaithWeaver equips families to talk about and apply their faith together. Each class learns about the same Bible point and has the same or similar memory verse. Therefore, families can talk about the same lesson and apply it to their lives throughout the week. We are hoping to build stronger families, which in turn builds stronger churches.

We also introduced JAM! Time Activities that are done outside of the church to help encourage and foster relationships among the children, parents and teachers. We had a JAM! Time Splash at the MacDonald's residence at the beginning of September. The kids enjoyed a cold swim, fun games, and good food. We then had an additional JAM! Time Splash at the Aylmer indoor pool in November.

Our missions focus this year is on Ottawa InnerCity Ministries (OIM). We had a guest speaker come from OIM to give a presentation to the children in October. The children had their second annual Christmas Cookie Bake-Off. The children baked a wide variety of Christmas cookies that we were able to deliver to OIM for their Christmas Dinner. OIM was astonished at the amount of cookies our small church were able to bake and were willing to donate to them. The children

were also able to collect essential items for OIM, like toothbrushes, socks, a sleeping bag, etc. We are hoping to continue to collect more essential items throughout the rest of the JAM! Time year.

Our children performed a Christmas Pageant for the church congregation. The pageant was done as a pantomime and was called Operation Christmas Baby. The children did an outstanding job and worked really hard, as well as the many volunteers.

### **2010 and Beyond**

We look forward to continuing to build, improve and strengthen our JAM! Time program. We look forward to integrating more JAM! Time Activities and being more involved within our community.

We continue to face the challenge of finding and maintaining volunteers to help teach and assist in our JAM! Time program. That's one of the challenges of a smaller church where our children continue to outnumber our adults. We are excited to have so many children and we continue to strive to provide them with a place where we can help instil the knowledge, truth and love of Jesus Christ. We continue to look forward to all the wonderful things that the Lord has in store for JAM! Time.

Submitted: Jennifer Bigras  
Sunday School Superintendent

### **Mid-Week Bible Study**

Over the last year, we have been viewing and studying the King, the Kingdom and the Keys by Pastor Myles Munroe. This video series has stretched us and is causing us to re-evaluate who we are in Christ. This series I sense will be the catalyst to take us to a higher level in Christ. It will propel us to re-align the church and take it from religion to relation, to recognizing that he is King and that he came to save us and restore the Kingdom of God on earth. I want to thank the faithful few that have made the sacrificial effort to attend on a regular basis and I know that God will reward your faithfulness as we continue to serve Him.

He is the potter, we are the clay and we have been molded over the last year of study and have deepened our understanding of our King and his Kingdom.

Submitted: Reverend André Bigras  
Senior Pastor

### **Youth Sports Night**

The church provides for Aylmer's youth to play sports at the gym at the École des Rapides Deschênes. The gym nights are on Saturday nights from 6:30-8:30pm. This year we had about 30 nights of sports and stories. The attendance averaged about 20 a night. It has been a great year for fun and fellowship. The kids love to play and it is often the highlight of the week for them. They look forward to playing for the days leading up to the night and then they have a great time playing.

God has provided inspiration during the year and the kids have appreciated hearing the Bible stories. Often the kids get involved in demonstrating part of the story which has added greatly to the understanding. A few booklets were prepared this year to provide a summary of the year's stories. Other stories included Peter escape, Paul's conversion, Palm Sunday, Easter, Resurrection appearances, Jacob, Joseph, baby Moses and the movie, Prince of Egypt.

It has been a great blessing to see God providing interesting activities and friends through the gym nights. It is an opportunity to provide a fun evening for neighbours and friends. It has been a chance to show what the church offers.

## **2010 and Beyond**

Future plans might include providing a summer sports camp. This would be similar to "Athletes in Action" camps. Other involvement should include visiting the games of the school sports events to cheer on our athletes. It should be a goal to try to make more regular contacts with the kids during the week too, such as is done at South Hull School. Another good youth event would be a possible missions trip into Quebec.

There has been a great opportunity to reach out to those in our city using the gym nights. Increased participation by additional church members would allow even more contacts with the parents and kids. This would provide more love, evangelism and encouragement to attend other church events. Please pray to see if you would like to come to the gym sometime. In the meantime, thank you for your prayers and support.

Submitted: John MacDonald  
Youth Sports Night / Vacation Bible School

## **Vacation Bible School**

The church has done a VBS for the past number of years which has provided good opportunities for reaching out in the community. This past year, the Horse Ranch Camp was held on two subsequent weeks. The first week was for younger children while the second week was for older children. The camps were both popular and successful.

The first week was directed by two well trained Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) missionaries that were older teens. They presented skits, games and Bible stories for the campers. They took attendance and were available for spiritual discussions. A total of 28 different children attended at least one day of the camp. For the last two days of the camp, the children were involved in afternoon riding activities at Marilyn Dagenais' Horse Ranch on Cook Road. Marilyn did a demonstration about the parts of the horse and how to ride. Lyne Tremblay was the hostess who provided a house for lunch and a pool for swimming. Linda Cyr, Ian Boisvert, Scott Bigras and John MacDonald provided support.

The second week was directed by John MacDonald with the support of Linda, Ian, Lynne and eight youth leaders who had trained with CEF's horse ranch camp. The camp was from 9am-3pm and was held at the Ranch and Lynne's house. A total of 51 kids attended the camp for at least one day. There were demonstrations of riding, lassoing, tacking, riding, turning and stopping the horses. The schedule of events included riding, games, Bible stories, singing, skits, swimming and memorizing verses. Lunch and snacks were brought by the campers and Lynne provided support where needed.

The camps required a big effort from everyone involved and they did a really good job. The children had a lot of fun and learned a lot. Most of the kids had not had any experience on a farm and they learned skills that they had not even thought of before (ie cleaning stalls). There were no injuries from the horses and the children were always safe near the horses. The horse girls (Katie, Jade, Sam and Shana) did a great job putting on the tack and bringing the horses out to be ridden. The other incidents (a few hornet bites) and a few scrapes were handled well. The swimming time was the second most favourite time of the day and we can thank God and Theo (Lynne's husband) for helping the pool run smoothly. The children were always well monitored during swim times and Scott, Denis, Joan and Andy came to help with supervision too. Thanks to everyone who was involved in the camps. You were wonderful!!

## **2010 and Beyond**

We are planning to do more camps for kids in the years ahead. The first is being planned for March Break 2010 with a reprise of the Horse Ranch Camp in the summer.

The March Break camp is being planned around the theme of Mysteries and Private Eyes. It is being planned to be held in the Church (mainly in the basement). There is a CEF program that is being acquired for its curriculum and there is a strong possibility that there will be CEF workers involved in running the program. There will be Bible stories, skits, songs, games and activities involving a pair of golden retriever puppies. This will be a half day program from 9am-12pm for 5 days for ages 5 and up.

The Horse Ranch Camps will be held in July.

Submitted: John MacDonald  
Youth Sports Night / Vacation Bible School

## **Outreaches, Collaborations and Missions**

### **Elim National Conference**

We were asked by Elim Fellowship Canada to host their 2009 Elim National Conference. The conference welcomed delegates from across Canada. This three day conference was a challenge for a congregation of our size. We had to secure accommodations for delegates, a site for the venue, advertising and refreshments following each session. We were blessed beyond measure and stretched both physically and spiritually in this endeavor. The event was supported by the whole congregation which ensured its success. Many hands made work easy. I was proud of each one who participated and/or attended and want to extend my thanks once again. We grew spiritually and our roots were deepened in our community. Glory and honour to God.

Submitted: Reverend André Bigras  
Senior Pastor

### **Easteriffic**

On Good Friday, April 10th, 2009, the Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship, under the direction of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association of Canada, joined with hundreds of other churches across Quebec, to launch a province-wide movie outreach entitled Easteriffic! The Billy Graham Association graciously provide us, along with all other participating churches, with a cartoon video presentation of the Easter story by God Rocks!®, a production of Chelsea Road Productions Inc. in partnership with Crossroads Christian Communications Inc. Along with the video, we were provided with advertising and a detailed plan for executing an effective outreach in our community.

Easteriffic! was aimed at attracting the unchurched by offering a family-friendly movie and activities in an unthreatening environment. The overarching vision of the BGEA was to spark a revival in Quebec among an age group that had cast off the bonds of organized religion, having become disaffected with the catholic church. In preparing this outreach initiative, it was BGEA's belief that this demographic were hungry for real religion, for a real experience of God, and the vision was to reach out to them through their children. As a church we saw this as a golden opportunity to reach out to the people of Aylmer with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and lavish God's love upon them, so after taking the matter before the Lord, we decided to seize the opportunity.

Though Candy and Joe Boisvert spearheaded the Easteriffic! initiative, it was truly a team effort as most everyone in the church had a part to play in it's delivery. After some deliberation as to what area of the city we would focus on, it was decided that we would direct all of our advertising toward the Pearson appartment complexes. We believed that the Lord was leading us to love on the people of that area, so we made arrangements to rent out the cafeteria of the Aylmer Food Bank building on Eardley Rd., a location which lay at the center of our target neighbourhood.

The outreach was a success, measured by the overall attendance as well as the number of decisions for Christ. Upwards of 85 people, at least half of whom were unchurched, attended the event which consisted of activities such as face-painting, an obstacle course, a craft table, as well as the English language video presentation. We also had popcorn for all, donated by Video Super Choix at the Galeries d'Aylmer. There was a small object lesson before the video as well as a short gospel message afterward followed by an invitation to accept Christ. There were several counselors on hand to assist any who came forward in understanding the gospel and many activity booklets depicting the gospel message were handed out. In total, we had 13 decisions for Christ, praise God! Regrettably, there was little follow up conducted, part of the reason for which was that many of the decisions were made by children who had no adult there with them. In these cases, for legal reasons, our counselors were not permitted to obtain their contact information. Finally, while the event was wrapping up, as guests were leaving, each child was given a gift bag with various items in it. In this way, no one left the building without something tangible to show for having been there.

In conclusion, we would like to thank all who lent their talents, resources, and time to make this event happen. We witnessed on that day the impact a people can have when we unite to reach out to our community with the love of Christ. We do not doubt that there will be more such outreaches in our future as a church, as well as a greater attempt at following up with the people we minister to there. It was an energizing time for all who participated, proving by experience that God's grace is sufficient for every task He places before us, and that His power is made perfect in our weakness!

Submitted: Joe Boisvert  
Worship Leader

#### Community Connections

"Shouldn't the followers of Christ also be dangerous? Shouldn't everyone be awed and dazzled by Christians? Shouldn't Christians be known by the fire in their souls, the wide-eyed gratitude in their faces, the twinkle in their eyes, and a holy mischief in their demeanours?"

Shouldn't Christianity be considered dangerous – unpredictable, threatening to the status quo, living outside the lines, uncontrollable, fearless, wild, beyond categorization or definition? Shouldn't those who call themselves Christians be filled with awe, astonishment and amazement?"

Mike Yaconelli  
"Dangerous Wonder"

#### Cuban Mission Trip

The God that we serve prepares and paves the way for His work to be completed. This Cuban mission trip began seven years earlier while my wife and I were on holidays in Cuba.

Marguerita was an employee of the resort and was working at the towel exchange booth. While exchanging towels, I noticed that she was reading the Bible. I managed to speak to her and that began the seven years of correspondence and support for our Cuban pastor.

Finally this year, Pastor Isaias and I met for the first time and we embraced each other and we bonded immediately. Shortly after, I was told that we had helped them financially to build their church, an addition attached to their home.

I was able to minister for 6 days and ministered the word 9 times. Four of my messages were in Spanish. My eyes were open to the needs and the reality of poverty. I realized that the Cuban

people really love the Lord and must rely on him for their day to day survival and how blessed we are here in Canada.

This has given me an even bigger heart and love for Cuba and my prayer now is that God would reveal how we can help in a much larger way. Now I have to trust in him to open doors that are closed. I will never be the same and I thank God for it.

Submitted: Reverend André Bigras  
Senior Pastor

### **World Congress on Addictions**

The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship was given a voice at the World Congress on Addictions held in Mexico City in September 2009. A congress which attracted over 4,000 participants from around the world.

Pastor Andy was invited through his work with the Drug Prevention Network of Canada (DPNC) of which he is an executive member on their board. He was asked to participate in round table discussions on prevention programs and to speak at the congress. He spoke on behalf of both the DPNC and the Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship.

Over 300 people attended the drug prevention session in which Pastor Andy shared that churches need to become more actively involved in prevention issues. Churches must also become places of safety and refuge for addicts offering faith, hope and love without judgement. He added that drug addiction is only a symptom of larger problems facing society today. These include the breakup of the family, poverty and a Canadian Charter of Human Rights that spells out individuals rights without equally identifying their responsibilities as Canadians. Another problem is the mixed messages we are sending our children. On one hand, we teach and encourage abstinence, while on the other we provide individuals with needles and crack pipes. As a society, we need to examine and work to resolve these key issues that lead to drug addiction.

On the last day, he was asked to speak on the "Call to Action", a document opposing the legalization of Marijuana. He was able to address over 3,500 people sharing his reasoning on why marijuana should not be legalized. A reasoning arrived at through his experience as a member of the Drug Prevention Network and as a minister of the Gospel. He was also one of eight signatories on this official document signing it as Reverend Andre Bigras.

When one is obedient, God opens the doors for His Word to go forward and have an impact in the secular realm.

The congress brought together delegates from many nations and key organizations from around the world. Nations represented included Mexico, the United States, Canada, Brazil, Panama, Colombia, Costa Rica, Spain, Honduras, El Salvador, the United Kingdom, Paraguay, Argentina, Nepal, Chile, Belgium, Cyprus, India, France, Italy, Holland, Uganda, Ecuador, New Zealand, South Africa and Paraguay.

Organizations included UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), European Cities Against Drugs (ECAD) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship previously participated in a UNODC sponsored event in Florida called "Beyond 2008".

Submitted: Reverend André Bigras  
Senior Pastor

# Ministry Finances

## Treasurer's Report

God is good all the time! He never ceases to amaze me!

I want to thank each and everyone for their faithful giving over the past year. It doesn't matter how little or how much we give, the Lord always multiplies it and blesses us out of His abundance.

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.

Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

Mark 12:41-44

God has once again surpassed all of our expectations. We've been blessed with over \$50,000.00 this year! These funds have allowed us to continue our work in the church and the community through various outreaches, the daily operations of the church, and the purchase of additional equipment. We have also been able to place a substantial amount of money towards our building fund. Our building fund is now up to \$40,000.00! We truly serve an awesome and wonderful God, a generous Father who delights in showering blessings on His children.

We have seen His faithfulness, signs and wonders at work in our church and I am truly excited to see what more He has in store for us in the days, weeks and months ahead as we continue to serve Him.

We are not here by chance, we are here by design, God's design. Each of us play a vital and important role in God's plan for the lives of those around us, for our church, our neighborhood, our city, our nation and beyond.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, He gives to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."

2 Corinthians 9:6-9

I encourage each of us to continue our faithful service to Him as we move into another exciting new year full of wonder and awe at what the Lord has in store for us here at The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship.

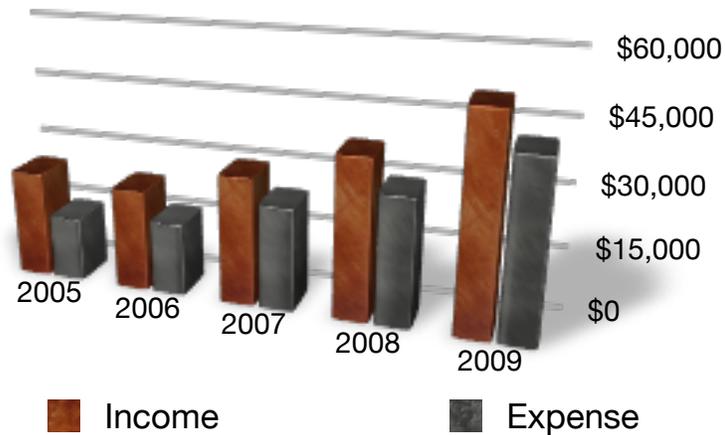
Once again, thank you for your generous giving.

Submitted: Scott Bigras  
Treasurer

## Income & Expenses

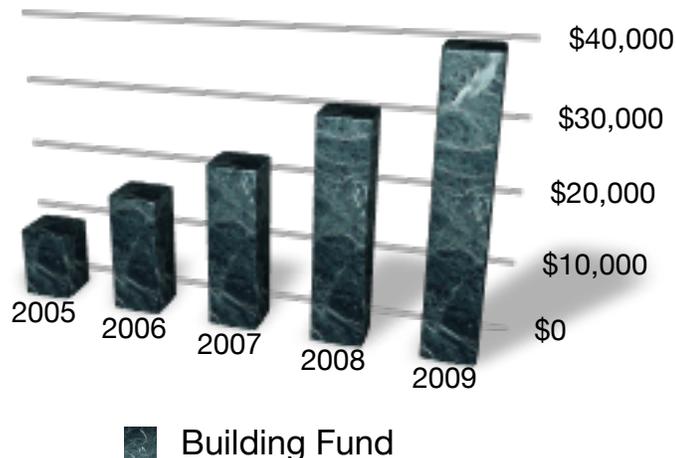
The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship endeavours to be a good steward of the resources God provides. As such, we have strived to maintain our expenses to a maximum of approximately 80% of our income. A detailed breakdown is available in the Appendices.

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Income</b>	\$30,578	\$38,187	\$51,049
<b>Expenses</b>			
Equipment & Software	\$3,510	\$2,300	\$4,100
Ministries	\$18,264	\$24,566	\$33,084
Operations	\$2,940	\$3,634	\$5,071
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$24,714	\$30,501	\$42,254
<b>Net Income</b>	\$5,865	\$7,685	\$8,795



## Building Fund

The leadership of the church recognizes the need for The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship to have its own location. As such, the church strives to place as much as possible each year towards our building fund without sacrificing our calling to the community and our mission and vision.



## Balance Sheet

Our balance sheet is a snapshot of The Potter's Wheel Christian Fellowship at December 31, 2009. It is made up of our operating and building funds as well as the equity, or dollar value of the church. It is encouraging to note that the church does not have any debt at this time.

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Assets</b>			
General Fund	\$4,442	\$4,127	\$3,922
Building Fund	\$23,000	\$31,000	\$40,000
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$27,442</b>	<b>\$35,127</b>	<b>\$43,922</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained Earnings	\$21,577	\$27,442	\$35,127
Net Income	\$5,865	\$7,685	\$8,795
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$27,442</b>	<b>\$35,127</b>	<b>\$43,922</b>

## Giving Profile

The giving profile is a new feature included in the 2009 Annual Report. It provides a breakdown of our income by donor group and presents the percentage of donors versus the percentage of income.

Giving	# of Donors	% of Donors	Income	% of Income
\$ 0 - \$ 250	16	38%	\$1,045.00	2.05%
\$ 250 - \$ 500	3	7%	\$959.73	1.88%
\$ 500 - \$ 750	9	21%	\$5,508.00	10.79%
\$ 750 - \$ 1,000	3	7%	\$2,733.30	5.35%
\$ 1,000 - \$ 1,500	4	10%	\$5,133.00	10.05%
\$ 1,500 - \$ 2,000	1	2%	\$1,885.00	3.69%
\$ 2,000 - \$ 2,500	0	0%	\$0.00	0.00%
\$ 2,500 - \$ 5,000	3	7%	\$10,527.60	20.62%
\$ 5,000 - \$ 7,500	2	5%	\$11,385.60	22.30%
\$ 7,500 - \$ 10,000	0	0%	\$0.00	0.00%
\$ 10,000 +	1	2%	\$10,250.00	20.08%
<b>Loose Offering</b>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	\$1,622.00	3.18%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$51,049.23</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



# Appendices

## Detailed Income

### Income

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Income</b>			
General Giving	\$30,578	\$35,917	\$48,416
Elim Conference	\$0	\$0	\$800
Hearing Aid Fundraiser	\$0	\$1,730	\$0
JAM! Missions	\$0	\$235	\$0
Operation Christmas Child	\$0	\$0	\$20
Teen Fest	\$0	\$125	\$0
Vacation Bible School	\$0	\$0	\$1,813
Women's Ministry	\$0	\$180	\$0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$30,578</b>	<b>\$38,187</b>	<b>\$51,049</b>

## Detailed Expenses

### Equipment & Software

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Equipment &amp; Software</b>			
Ministry Equipment	\$2,654	\$1,994	\$979
Ministry Software	\$0	\$0	\$693
Office Equipment	\$720	\$306	\$2,203
Office Software	\$0	\$0	\$225
Repairs & Maintenance	\$136	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Equipment &amp; Software</b>	<b>\$3,510</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>	<b>\$4,100</b>

### Ministries

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Ministries</b>			
Benevolent	\$764	\$681	\$150
Children's Church	\$356	\$1,338	\$2,932
Church Functions *	\$3,662	\$4,400	\$5,982
Church Tithe	\$3,058	\$3,819	\$5,097

	2007	2008	2009
Church Website	\$0	\$0	\$800
Community Outreach *	\$3,708	\$5,901	\$6,032
Honorarium	\$50	\$675	\$1,200
Men's Ministries	\$0	\$0	\$300
Mid-Week Bible Study	\$489	\$512	\$466
Missions *	\$0	\$358	\$3,285
Pastoral Care	\$5,927	\$6,089	\$5,220
Social Functions	\$0	\$464	\$62
Storage Unit	\$0	\$561	\$1,558
Women's Ministries	\$250	\$233	\$0
<b>Total Ministries</b>	<b>\$18,264</b>	<b>\$25,030</b>	<b>\$33,084</b>

\* Additional information on Ministries provided under Ministries Breakdown.

### Operations

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Operations</b>			
Advertising	\$1,094	\$1,157	\$1,203
Bad Debt	\$0	\$0	\$437
Banking Fees	\$55	\$91	\$103
Church Registration	\$291	\$291	\$227
Insurance	\$960	\$960	\$980
Office Supplies	\$540	\$1,135	\$2,121
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>\$2,940</b>	<b>\$3,634</b>	<b>\$5,071</b>

### Ministries Breakdown

#### Church Functions

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Church Functions</b>			
Anniversary	\$906	\$20	\$0
Elim Conference 2009	\$0	\$0	\$1,941
Father's Day	\$0	\$128	\$80
Funeral Services	\$0	\$381	\$0
Mother's Day	\$0	\$148	\$122
Rent	\$2,180	\$3,500	\$3,600
Wedding Services	\$0	\$30	\$0

	2007	2008	2009
Worship	\$112	\$192	\$240
<b>Total Church Functions</b>	<b>\$3,198</b>	<b>\$4,400</b>	<b>\$5,982</b>

### Community Outreach

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Community Outreach</b>			
Camp Awesome	\$500	\$500	\$500
Christmas Hampers	\$102		
Christmas Supper	\$0	\$0	\$247
Easter Supper	\$29	\$59	\$145
Easterific	\$0	\$0	\$825
Hearing Aid Fundraiser	\$0	\$2,465	\$0
Operation Christmas Child	\$42	\$0	\$289
Ottawa Pregnancy Centre	\$125	\$0	\$0
Remembrance Day	\$25	\$25	\$25
Special Outreach *	\$204	\$517	\$0
Teen Fest	\$632	\$326	\$0
Television Outreach	\$250		
Vacation Bible School	\$584	\$734	\$2,450
Youth Sports Night	\$1,215	\$1,275	\$1,550
<b>Total Community Outreach</b>	<b>\$3,708</b>	<b>\$5,901</b>	<b>\$6,031</b>

\* Includes the christmas float and a contribution to the Church of Faith, Praise and Prayer.

### Missions

	2007	2008	2009
<b>Missions</b>			
Cuba 2009	\$0	\$0	\$1,824
OIM	\$0	\$0	\$80
TLCCM	\$0	\$358	\$1,380
<b>Total Missions</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$358</b>	<b>\$3,285</b>

## 2008 Annual General Meeting Minutes

The 2008 Annual General Meeting was held March 22, 2009.

**Call to order:** Pastor Bigras

**Opening Prayer:** S. Bigras

**Scripture Reading:** Romans 12:9-21 "Let love be our guide."

**Opening Remarks:** Pastor Bigras

**Motion:** Meeting agenda be accepted as presented.  
Moved by J. Pinck. Seconded by R. Verret. Carried.

The minutes of last year's meeting held March 29th, 2008 were not available at the time. The minutes were read on March 29th at the next church service.

**Motion:** 2007 Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented.  
Moved by R. Verret. Seconded by J. Soucie. Carried.

### Presentation of Church Reports

- Senior Pastor's Report
- Worship Leader's Report
- Sunday School Superintendent's Report
- Mid-Week Bible Study Leader's Report
- Youth Sports Night Leader's Report

**Motion:** Church reports be accepted as presented.  
Moved by J. MacDonald. Seconded by A. Pinck. Carried.

**Motion:** Existing Board members be reaffirmed for an additional one year term.  
Moved by Pastor Bigras. Seconded by L. Argitis. Carried.

**Motion:** Appointment of two new additional Board members, A. Pinck and R. Verret, for a two year term.  
Moved by Pastor Bigras. Seconded by P. Lamoureux. Carried.

Pastor Bigras presented the concept of Elders. They will assist the church with spiritual matters.

**Motion:** Appointment of M. Witham and V. Tate as Elders for a two year term.  
Moved by Pastor Bigras. Seconded by R. Verret. Carried.

The treasurer presented the church financial report.

**Motion:** Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.  
Moved by S. Bigras. Seconded by J. Morris. Carried.

**Motion:** Adjournment of Meeting.  
Moved by J. Laporte. Seconded by A. Pinck. Carried

Andy closed in prayer.