

Those gathered in the Church Hall on Sunday April 23rd experienced wonderful energy, insight and hope as we gathered to consider how Collier could be re-imagined! Kendra Fry of Trinity Centres Foundation shared several projects within Canada, the USA and the UK where churches have been transformed into sustainable community hubs.

Historically, churches were the hub of their community, built in the middle of town and typically the centre of activities that supported many within the community. As a downtown Barrie church, Collier currently participates in some of these activities, by providing space for Breakfast-to-Go Seven days per week during the summer, hosting on Wednesdays each week, stocking the food pantry, and providing meeting space for many community groups which facilitates their exchanging ideas and building support.

With our current deficit budget and net loss for 2022, Collier is beginning to explore ways our substantial building and facilities could be transformed into a sustainable community hub, where the space supports community needs while providing income for building maintenance and replenishing investment income.

The transformation goal is to match Mission→Money; where Collier may continue its Mission work, while essential sustainable income is provided, and with our space utilised to support the community. Ensuring our building remains viable and our church mission continues respects the legacy afforded to us by our predecessors who worked so hard to build and maintain our beautiful Collier Street United Church.

Should you have any questions, please reach out to Laurie Crosson, Lianne Patterson, or Rev. Hewitt Holmes. We look forward to walking together with you as we Re-Imagine Collier!