



Mount Seymour United Church



2016

Annual Report

Nurturing Spirit • Being Community • Living Generously



~SPIRIT NURTURING
~ BEING COMMUNITY
~ LIVING GENEROUSLY

LIVING THE CORE VALUES OF

- *Trusting in the goodness of life*
- *Treating ourselves, others and our world with grace and compassion*
 - *Honouring each individual's spiritual journey*
 - *Empowering people to claim their spirits-given gifts*
 - *Striving to practice the way of Jesus*

The welcome we extend in this church is as broad and deep as we can make it. We welcome you wherever you are on life's journey, no matter how young or old you are, whatever your marital or economic status, sexual orientation or gender identity, ethnic or cultural heritage. We welcome those who consider themselves to be Christians, those who are part of other faith traditions and all who seek to explore the mysteries of life and serve the ideals of compassion, justice and peace.

Mount Seymour United Church

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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REPORT FROM OUR COUNCIL CHAIR | CATHERINE BRANCH



It's been a pleasure to have served Mt. Seymour United Church council. As my first year as your Council Chair comes to a close, it is with great pride that I look back over all that we have accomplished.

We have now been with our new physical space for a year and continue to grow into it. We have new rental partners but maintain our excellent relationships with our existing ones, especially the Preschool. People are enjoying the café space for everything from parents waiting for children to finish programs to Thrift Shop customers and staff taking a break to the congregation on Sunday after service having meaningful conversation. The library is a warm and welcoming place for quiet study and meetings. And what can we say about the Thrift

Shop? It has grown into its permanent space and then some and continues to serve an ever-widening circle in our community with care and grace. It is a privilege to watch all of this growth.

We also had change to the exterior of the building. Our new Curating Team has done a phenomenal job inside and out for the various seasons of the church, and especially enhancing our outside stone circle (*photo right of Good Friday installation*). The new signage on the front of the building gives us a clean look and lets the everyone really know our mission within the community.

We have not had any changes to our ministerial leadership this past year for the first time in a long while and we owe much to them for their hard work for keeping us all connected. Ministers Reverend Nancy Talbot (senior minister) and Reverend Wade Lifton (minister of community outreach and emerging ministries) continue to work as a wonderful team providing us with thought provoking Sundays and pastoral care, conversation, new initiatives, adult education and more. Our wonderful Children/Youth Minister, Anne Ellis, is working hard with the expanding Children's Community and supports the newly reformed Youth Group which has been doing exciting work. We enjoy our incredibly talented Music Director, Julian Pattison, with his upbeat Sunday leadership in music, on the piano, the organ and through voice. His enthusiasm is infectious. Our Music Ministry is complete with the Gospel Choir team: Marcus Mosely and Dominique Hogan. Sharon Stevens, our wonderful Church Administrator, keeps all our operations in smooth order with grace and friendliness. She is aided administratively by so many volunteers, and, in particular, Heidi Carota, who has been acting as our book keeper and Fay Butterfield, our envelope officer, Fay Butterfield. Thank you so all of you for all that you have done this past year to keep our church family not only operational but dynamic.



Council held a retreat in October to review our past year and to plan for the priorities for the coming year. It was a wonderful day of fellowship and conversation that focused our thoughts on the future of our church family and its role in the community. After much discussion, we decided on three priorities for the coming year:

1. Building spirituality and equipping people to talk about their faith;
2. Maintaining a healthy Thrift Shop; and
3. Doing some financial planning to ensure long term sustainability.

Time is allocated at each council meeting to discuss at least one of these priorities every month with a hope to move creative ideas forward.

With respect to building spirituality, we are hoping to involve more people in our Sunday services through prayers, messages and sermons on their own experiences with God as well as equipping us all for faith discussions in such safe environments as conversation at communal meals. The Council practices this each time we meet beginning with one member sharing a personal faith reflection. The Thrift Shop is growing so quickly that they require some assistance with planning for the future and council has made itself available to assist in any capacity that is helpful. Financial sustainability is an important issue as the capital campaign for the building renovation is ending and we no longer have a fund set aside for our roof which will need to be redone in the next short while.

We have had an excellent year with such additional accomplishments such as a revamped website and ongoing improvements around the building. We had a community Open House and have opened our doors for community dinners. We continue to nurture the spirit, be community and live generously as the Mount Seymour United Church family and I could not be prouder!

With blessings,

Catherine Branch



2015-2016 Council Team

REPORT FROM OUR MINISTER | REV. NANCY TALBOT



This past year has been a good experience of learning just what “opening more spaces and places to experience the sacred in community” can mean. I love watching people connect in our café space and hearing the buzz in the Thrift Shop when sorters, pricers, sellers and shoppers come together. It delights me on a Saturday afternoon to watch children gather in the foyer to play music or on a Friday night sit around tables to play games. Seeing someone lounging in the library enjoying some solitude and a good book brings a smile to my face. There is something very holy about these ways of being community that speak to the heart of what it means for us to be the Body of Christ in this place.

I’m grateful this year has been a time to adjust not only to our “new” space but also to the gift of having a stable staff team. It has allowed us to really begin to live into this moment and it feels like we are learning lots. We are learning that when you build a permanent space for a Thrift Shop your customer and volunteer bases grow. That in turn invites new questions: What does it mean to manage a growing operation? What does it mean to be a church with a Thrift Shop and an increasing number of volunteers who aren’t connected to our worshipping community? We are learning that there are many more opportunities to make our café more like a café. Unexpectedly acquiring an espresso machine from the old Heartwood Café operation has opened that door if only we had the time to walk through it! We are learning that tables and chairs and a comfortable place to hang out invites people to spend time with one another and that in turns builds community. So many good things happen in our space.

In the midst of all of this our awareness of the increasing secularization of the world around us is pushing us to get clearer about what it means to be a church and how we speak with others about our life of faith. Much of what we have done as a congregation this year has intentionally helped us to do that speaking. From a council that opens its meeting with a personal faith story, to worship services including individuals sharing the way they live out their faith to life groups and Animate groups we are getting better at witnessing to one another about why being part of a church community matters to us. Even our children and youth are becoming more fluent about biblical stories and how they impact their life. People who visit tell us they can sense the Spirit at work in our midst. What a beautiful commentary on our life together.

I applaud our Council for making our spiritual life a priority this year and our Worship team for continuing to find ways to help us both learn about our faith tradition and engage it through creative and meaningful practices. I celebrate the care and commitment our building and administration team gives to tending our space so it reflects both the sacred nature of our work while accommodating our practical needs. I cherish the engagement our children, youth, life group and spiritual practice leaders offer through their ministries. I am in endless awe of all our volunteers from Sylvia in the library to Ken and

James who make sure we can hear what is being said in the sanctuary, from communion servers to thrift shop volunteers and those who make time to pray for others and visit them in times of need.

The other day I found myself reflecting on how fortunate I am to have been called to journey with such an amazing group of people. We are resilient and capable because we have opened our hearts and our lives not just to one another, but to the source of life and grace that animates our living.

My own time has been spent this year offering leadership not only in the congregation but also in the wider church as acting chair of Vancouver Burrard Presbytery. I am grateful for the support I have had from this community for that work. I am also grateful for the support the core staff received this year to take a few days of retreat. This offered us focused time not only to strengthen our connection with one another but also to do the kind of planning that has enabled us to be better organized and more able to lead from a place of strength and stability this year.

Thank you to Catherine Branch and the council for their faithful and dedicated leadership this year. Thank you to our staff: Wade, Anne, Sharon, Dominique, Marcus, Heidi and Sheldon for their hard work and enduring commitment.

It has been a very rewarding year. I look forward to the opportunities and challenges awaiting us in the year to come and anticipate it will offer us even more lessons and chances to reflect on how we are being called to serve the world in love.

In faith and trust,

Nancy



REPORT FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MINISTER | REV. WADE LIFTON

(MINISTER OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EMERGING MINISTRIES)



We began the year with discernment around the prophet Micah's call to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. We carried our discernment into Lent, asking, "Looking in, looking out, what is our work?"

We wrestled with how to not only deal with the downstream affects of larger problems, but also try getting upstream. Our open house SEED Talks included "Faithful Voices for Climate Change" which sparked conversations about the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion.

Our discernment revealed a lot of energy and curiosity around mental health conversations. Once the topic was out in the open, more people came forward to share stories of their own mental health challenges and diagnoses. Others wanted to know how to support family members or wondered what we even mean by mental health. Six of us from the church

attended a day of peer support training and are working to start a 'Living Room' mental health peer support group this Easter.

We have engaged these discernment questions and emerging steps while continuing our existing outreach initiatives.

- The Thrift Shop continues to grow, navigating the challenges and celebrations in their weekly practices of sorting, laughing, recycling, listening, selling, recycling, supporting and welcoming.
- The Curating Team has created seasonal installations to visually convey our message of welcome at the entrance of the building and foyer.
- The Mission and Outreach team continues to coordinate ongoing events, from regular sandwiches for First United to the Panorama Park picnic where we get to eat, play and visit with our neighbours in the Downtown Eastside.
- We continue the ongoing work and waiting of preparing and praying for the Badran and Mohammed families to arrive from Iraq.

So many good outreach initiatives happen in this place week in and week out. It's also important to remember that outreach is about more than organized initiatives. The question at the heart of community outreach is, *"How is practicing my faith transforming my own life and my participation in transforming the world?"*

At the beginning of September we blessed backpacks and briefcases that were brought to worship. We celebrated the greatest outreach that Mount Seymour United Church offers the world - our daily living - the moments in which we choose how to receive and share God's love with our neighbours, colleagues, strangers, families, government.

May our outreach ministries and our daily living continue to deepen our practice of nurturing spirit, being community and living generously.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH LEADER | ANNE ELLIS



In the gospel stories, Jesus says, “Let the Children come to me.” He blesses them, in the middle of teaching the adults, and says that only those who are like children will enter the Kingdom of God. We have used this story to guide how we engage with our kids, encouraging exploration of their faith through play, prayer, questions and wondering.

It’s been a wonderful year too. We’ve seen growth in our Children’s Community, so much so that we’ve had to create two classes for our kids (ages 4 -8) and Youth (ages 9 and up).

In February we took nine kids and 2 leaders to the **Imagine: Children’s Retreat** at Stillwood retreat Center, near Cultus Lake. We have been taking children to this retreat for 5 years. The kids make friends with kids from the wider church community and enjoy great food, games, crafts, play and faith over the course of a weekend. Many of our kids look forward to this event each year.



The Youth Group began in 2016 with three courageous leaders: Mary Sparks, Matt Branch and Amy Watt. With their enthusiasm, we began our very popular All-Ages Board Game evenings and planned a number of fun activities for our youth. The youth went on hikes in the spring and fall, had a sleepover in June, watched movies here at the church, and went to the movies one Sunday afternoon.

The Youth Group, along with the younger children, has also engaged in a number of outreach projects, the biggest one occurring during Advent

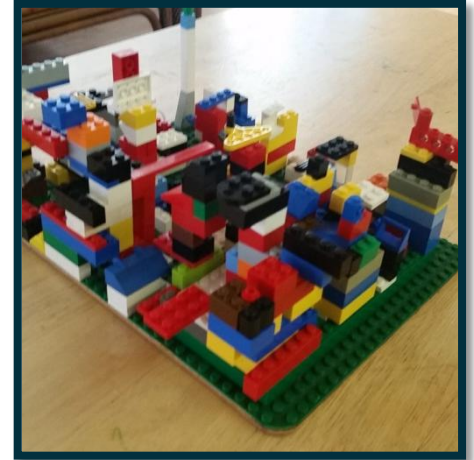
when they did fundraising for Gifts with Vision, the downtown eastside and a school in Cambodia. They raised money selling cookies and candy canes and requesting donations of twonie’s to buy rain poncho’s for people struggling with homelessness.

The Youth and Children raised over \$700 in 2016!



The youngest members of our Church family have spent time exploring their faith through Godly Play stories, Holy Moly videos, creating art, playing games and taking an interactive role in various parts of worship.

In the Fall of 2016 we began the practice of using Lego Bricks for Prayers. Each brick in this photo represents a prayer said by one of our kids. They use the bricks to pray a gratitude, pray for others, pray for diversity and pray for our community where they are loved and accepted.



Summer is usually a quiet time in our Children and Youth Community, but this year the church saw a very busy week as we hosted Camp Spirit, a summer day camp, in our newly renovated spaces. 20 kids aged 4 - 13, along with Youth leaders and a number of youth and adult volunteers spent a week here learning, playing and growing together in faith.

As fall started we resumed Board Game nights and added “Soul-Full Suppers” to our children, youth and family events. At these events we share a meal and engage in interactive spiritual practices. Both 2016 events in October and December were well attended with people of all ages.

On December 24th we held 2 Christmas eve services at 4pm and 7pm. The 4pm service is for families with young children and this year we saw well over 100 people in attendance - the largest number we can remember at this service.



We are pleased that our children and youth community is growing. Each week that we see children arrive happy and excited to be here, we remember that this is what church is - a place to be welcome, to know you are loved and a place to know you are safe.

I am so grateful to all my volunteer leaders who make our church community such a beautiful place to work and be. We're looking forward another great year in 2017.

MUSIC LEADER | JULIAN PATTISON



Music is a very important part of our Sunday worship life - we are so blessed and grateful for the multitude of musical offerings in 2016.

We continue to have a faithful group of singers joining Julian on Sunday mornings. Special thanks to Gillian Cole, Eunice Findlay, Alan Furniss, Bobbie Grimard, Ross Dunnet, Susie Ha, Mardi and Stan Joughin, and Sylvia and Gert Zandberg for their musical contributions. Gillian Cole moved to White Rock this past June and we miss her very much!

We are very thankful for our "in-house" musicians especially Mary Sparks, Ruth Townsend, and on occasion Ian Jarvis who who enhance our worship with their offerings. We are grateful for Ruth's willingness to lead music on the Sundays Julian is unable to do so. During the summer months Dominique Hogan and Caitlin Hayes also helped fill in.

Each month we welcome and enjoy Marcus Mosely and Dominique Hogan's leadership as they lead the community Gospel Choir, composed of any who wish to join them. We have experienced truly inspiring and moving worship provided by their leadership and look forward to hearing the choir and their dynamic musical talents. Many thanks to Dan Morrison and Christian Findlay who volunteer as guest musicians on Gospel Sundays.

Again this year Catherine Branch led a choir on Advent IV and Christmas Eve. We added some extra rehearsals this year and the choir was a "hit" at both services. We very much appreciate the contributions of Catherine and all the participants!

Respectfully submitted,

Julian Pattison

ADMINISTRATOR/ COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR | SHARON STEVENS



Another year has flown by, and it seems as though we are nicely settling into all of our new spaces and places! The building has been getting rave reviews this past year from renters and visitors alike. The sleek new outdoor signage and paint job have been particular `crowd favourites`!

This seems like the best place to recognize and name some of the many wonderful volunteers that lend their time and hearts to MSUC. I feel so fortunate that I get to work with such amazing and generous souls on a daily basis.

Thank you to the Counting Team, led by Donna Pawluk and including Burton Branch, Barry Fenton, and Gladys Johnston who count and deposit the weekly offering. And thanks particularly to Barry Fenton who offered his time and professional expertise to reworking the rental agreements and procedures with me.

I'm grateful to Fay Butterfield for continuing to so ably manage all the congregational donations and tax receipts. It's a very big job, and we would be lost without Fay. I'm going to miss Heidi Carota as our bookkeeper - it has been so great working with her these past couple of years! And a huge thank you goes out to my faithful office volunteer Heather Woolstone, who joins me most Friday mornings for office work and cheery conversation!

The most rewarding piece of work for me this year was the launch of the new website. It was a large undertaking, and I'm so grateful to Catherine Branch for taking the lead on the project and guiding us to completion.

The Open House in May (*photo, right*) was a resounding success, and for this we owe a debt of gratitude to Meg Clarke. Meg created and led an inspired team of volunteers to imagine and plan this full-day event, complete with Mount Seymour United's inaugural `SEED-Talks`.

I'm looking forward to the upcoming year and all that it may bring. Drop by - my door is open!

Warmly,

Sharon Stevens



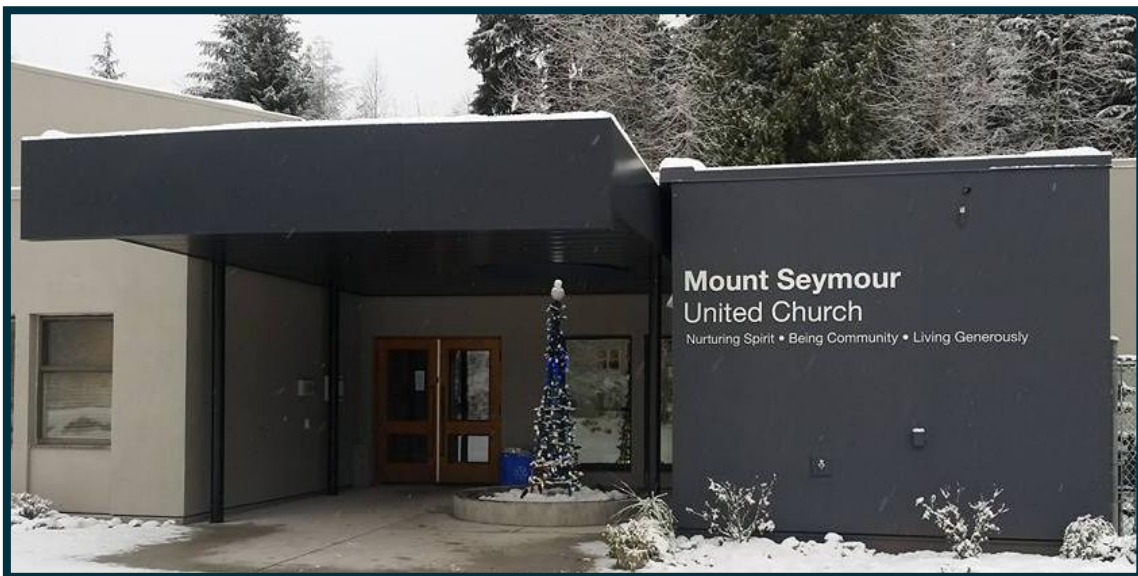
ADMINISTRATION TEAM REPORT | DILYS SOSTAD



During the massive renovation of our beautiful building in 2015 there were two teams steering the construction work, the Building Team and the Administration Team. As of 2016 the teams are consolidated to the Admin Team which consists of **James Fulton, Burton Branch, Sharon Stevens, Leslie Buerschaper, Gladys Johnston, Dilys Sostad**. Sharon Brain left the team for a well-earned break after doing Trojan work throughout the renovation.

This year the team has been working through a punch list of items necessary to finish the renovation once the major construction ended. Completed work includes:

- Sound proofing of windows and doors into the sanctuary.
- Frosting the windows in the narthex.
- Painting the exterior of the church and installing signage
- Installing security lighting outside the building.
- Building the drop off shed and fence for thrift shop donations.
- Installing the large concrete pad in front of the new thrift shop entrance.



There has also been the usual maintenance necessary in a building almost thirty years old which included.

- The kitchen was painted.
- All bathrooms have been painted and toilets repaired.
- Heating issues and new HVAC System dealt with.
- Broken pews repaired.
- And many more small maintenance items not least of which was trying to keep the parking lot clear of snow and ice. Big thanks to all who shoveled the paths, especially Doug Querns.

During the renovation the garden and lawns took a beating. Big thanks go to Gladys and her gardening crew for bringing most areas back to their former beauty. They were amply aided by the help available on cleanup day. Landscaping is an area we will be looking at in the spring to see what else is needed. Again we thank Dorothy Redlinger for her generosity in ensuring our lawns and the beautiful Peace Garden are taken care of.

So what is next? During the construction it was necessary to use the Chapel as a work room/ coffee room/storage room etc. We are now looking at the attic space above it to improve the storage there and eventually hope to rehabilitate the Chapel back to its original use. It may take some months.

We are also hoping to be able to install an espresso machine in the café space. Anyone want to be a barista?

General maintenance will continue, and while we do not anticipate any immediate major repairs, increasing the contingency fund will allow us to deal with unforeseen emergencies.

Please contact me or any of the Admin Team if you have concerns, or wish to volunteer to join the team.

-Submitted by Dilys Sostad on behalf of the Administration Team.

WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT | BETTE SHIPPAM



The year, 2016 -17, had us breathing life into our renovated worship and community gathering spaces. Worship and Christian Development for Mount Seymour United Church has now extended outward from the Sanctuary space, spilling into the 'light' of the café and gathering space of the foyer and beyond into the more contemplative library area. A sense of synchronized ebb and flow of energy between these spaces, uniting people and visitors into connection and engagement, has enhanced our spiritual life. Word becomes action, and worship becomes relationships more and more at Mount Seymour United Church

Our congregation and community's Worship and Christian Development has benefited this year from a permanent ministry team: Reverend Nancy Talbot (Minister), Reverend Wade Lifton (Associate Minister), Anne Ellis (Children and Family Minister) and Julian Pattison (Music Director). We are so very blessed by the immense gifts and contributions they bring as individuals and as a whole in their teamwork. Their explorations of faith themes and willingness to respond to community needs have brought MSUC into responsive and proactive engagement with spiritual development and personal/community action.

Themes for Sunday Worship have led us on a thoughtful and meaningful spiritual journey:



Epiphany 2016 - We explored the prophet Micah's call to seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Guest preacher Rabbi Laura Duhan Kaplan taught us about the role of prophets in the Hebrew scripture as we used Micah's words to help us discern our call to ministry.

Lent and Easter 2016 – Our theme 'Looking in, Looking out, what is our work?' helped us continue to ponder God's inner and outer call.

Summer 2016 – We considered four themes lived out: "Being Community," "Serving the Needs in Front of You," "Sharing Money with Joy," and "Eating Food with Jesus" through examples shared about generosity and sharing of ourselves to others; how we practice community; how we pay attention to our food and where it comes from. Sherrill McLeary helped us consider how God nudges us to serve others, Sharon and Roger Brain explained a very real generosity in building schools in Burma. Mike Hetherington gave us much to think about in his example of helping Craig, a homeless community member who became a friend to MSUC. Guest preacher Trevor Malkinson helped us look at how our faith relates to our choices around food. Each of these themes was augmented by the Animate Faith video series.

Fall 2016 – We reflected on “Living in God’s World” – bridging our worship and spiritual life to our work and community lives; how we engage with the world; and “Giving our Agenda to God.” We cross-referenced the Animate Faith Series themes discussed on Thursdays with Sunday sermons: Religion, The Cross, Salvation, Jesus, and Stewardship. We considered important topics: Mental Health, Hospitality, and Outreach. We extended these themes into Advent and through to Christmas. The blessing of the backpacks Sunday was a big hit and will be repeated next year.



Advent 2016 – Our Advent theme was “Good News! Great Joy!”. We considered the Labyrinth as a metaphor for journeying towards Christ’s birth. We commemorated Advent I - “Hope” hearing from Mary Sparks and her family’s year in Cambodia and with our annual Turkey Lunch where we participated in Spiritual Stations and made “Advent Spirals” to mark the weeks leading to December 25th. Advent II – we contemplated the meaning of “Peace” from the perspective of our refugee families still waiting to be granted entry to Canada. Adnan Mohammed, brother of one of our families, shared with us how he keeps active hope while waiting. Advent III – we experienced great “Joy” in

hearing good news from Mike Hetherington about our friend Craig’s return to his family in Ontario. Advent IV – “Love” was shared through a personal story by Rose Jones. During the Blue Christmas Service, Rev. Nancy and Julian brought comfort and solace to those seeking a quiet worship. Christmas Eve services included a “Joy”-filled early service for families with young children led by Anne Ellis, and an evening service led by Rev. Nancy and Rev. Wade where the Christmas Story juxtaposed with real life stories of good news, great joy and truthful living according to God’s will. Christmas Day fell on a Sunday this year, and Rev. Wade led a heartfelt morning service that appreciated the birth of Christ.

Christian Development and Adult Faith Formation:

We continued to invite all to engage in weekly **Spiritual Practices** (Ignatian Spirituality, Soul Collage, Meditation, Lectio Divina) which take place on Monday nights.

Three **Life Groups** met from January to June under the leadership of David Ney, Sharon Stevens and Anne Ellis. Following a discussion on science and religion a film night was hosted featuring cosmologist Brian Swimme. A decision was made in June to take a break from the Life Group format for the time being. We are grateful to our leaders for their wise and faithful leadership.

Rev. Nancy has led a weekly **Animate Faith Series**, the themes of which also corresponded with Sunday and Children's Community themes.



Our congregation and community members have participated in “**The Work of Byron Katie**” – a method of self reflection that leads to healing and self actualization. This fall we partnered with Caitlin Frost (photo, left) to offer ongoing workshops and practice circles in the Work. As well, the opportunity to benefit from life and death topics is offered at the meetings of the **Death Café**, hosted by Catherine Tremblay.

We seek to be community who live, laugh, and engage spiritually together at **Soul-full Suppers**, after-Sunday service **community lunches** and “**Second Hour Discussions**,” at our **Annual Pie Contest** with potluck lunch, and during periodic family **Board Games Nights**.

Camp Spirit 2016

Mount Seymour United Church was excited to host the United Church's “Camp Spirit” this summer, 2016. This offered many opportunities for our members to serve as volunteer elders, hosts, and junior camp leaders. Anne Ellis, our Children and Family Minister also reports on this amazing week attended by many children from a variety of United Church communities.

Overall, it's been an ‘inspired and inspiring’ year of responsive and enlightening spiritual growth at Mount Seymour United Church, which, as usual, is hard to measure and impossible to gauge in its long-term effects on all whose lives are being touched.



Respectfully submitted: The Worship and Christian Development Team: Rev. Nancy Talbot, Rev. Wade Lifton, Anne Ellis, Julian Pattison, Jen Beth Fulton, Bette Shippam, Carol Pettigrew and Lori Keith.

MISSION AND OUTREACH | KATHERINE MCKAY

The Congregational M&O Team is comprised of Barb Ralph and myself, Katherine McKay. We endeavour to continue to support our ongoing initiatives throughout the year. We are grateful for the support and guidance of Rev. Wade Lifton.

Outreach to First United Church continues to be the focus of many programs.

- Sandwiches-12 loaves of sandwiches delivered the 1st and 3rd Tues (many thanks to Joyce Jones for leading this small but dedicated team!)
- Weekly bulletin items such as mitts, gloves, socks, shoes, boots, rain ponchos and mugs
- Monthly items for the lounge/sanctuary such as books, games, puzzles, writing paper and cards ~10 large boxes were sent last year
- World Food day in Oct raised ~\$550
- Christmas in June-46 paper grocery bags
- Annual Picnic (*photo, right*) ~100 attendees from our congregation and First United and DTES enjoyed a wonderful lunch provided by First with fruit and desserts provided by our congregation; 49 people enjoyed the kayaks and canoes generously loaned to us by congregation members so we were able to save \$400 in rental fees.
- Christmas Giving Tree-12 big boxes in total full of new gifts including 205 prs of socks, 52 rain ponchos, underwear, toothbrushes and toothpaste, packs of razors, band-aids, regular and travel size deodorant, gloves, mitts and hats. 6 of the 12 boxes were delivered to First United
- Ready Readers-100's of pairs are sent over every 3-6mos



Outreach to the North Shore Youth Safe House (NSYSH)

- Christmas Giving Tree (*photo, left*) : 6 large boxes full of 35 PJ bottoms and sets, socks, mitts, gloves, hats, scarves, underwear and toiletries were delivered on Boxing Day.
- items from the Thrift Shop as per needed.

Support of the Thrift Shop

- Team members volunteer time weekly
- Maundy Thursday Dinner for Thrift Shop Patrons
- Christmas tea for Thrift Shop Patrons
- Weekly Thurs Tea 11 am-4:30 for Thrift Shop

THRIFT SHOP | CAROL KELLY

Another great year for the MSUC Thrift Shop – the first complete year in our new space.



It has not been without some “growing pains” – but on the whole a lovely place to work and serve our community of customers. The customers continue to increase in numbers.... it is not uncommon to have a line up at the doors for opening at 11 a.m. of 65 or more. This must tell us something positive about our Shop and volunteers. Thanks one and all.

We continue to grow with the number of volunteers increasing – this current year we have accepted 12 new members – two of which were for short periods of time (one a student for the fall term; and one for the summer only) – we have enjoyed them all and hope they have found a “niche” in the Shop.

Some of the improvements we have experienced over this past year include a new and improved space for the drop off donations; a new cement pad for our outdoor displays on Thursdays; a new recycling bin for cardboard/paper products; and lighting outside our entrances. There will be other improvements as we go along but are very thankful to those who have helped us with all this work.

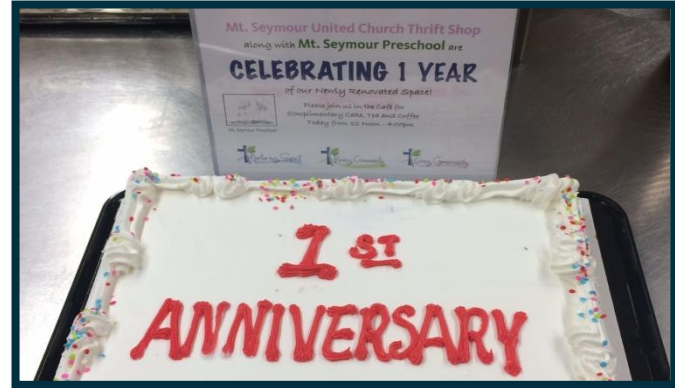
Communications continues to be a “work in progress” with over 80 volunteers currently. We send out a newsletter and/or minutes of our Team Meetings to each volunteer after each meeting as well as bulletins when necessary. The new improved MSUC website has also been helpful and will continue to be so as we get more familiar with it and how to use it to its fullest...thanks to all who worked on this.

Some of the special events we held or participated in during 2016 are as follows:

- Maundy Thursday dinner on March 24th – an event the customers look forward to each year and was well attended again this year. We gave out coupons for free tea/coffee and cookie in the café to each person attending – that was well received !!



- Our Annual Meeting in May at which we served a lovely lunch followed by the business meeting. At this meeting our Management Team was increased from 8 to 10 members;
- May 14 we participated in the MSUC Grand Opening event by opening the shop from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This proved to be a successful event in showing off our space and all that we sell;
- On September 9th the Pre-School and Thrift Shop combined efforts to celebrate our 1st Anniversary of our new space at MSUC. We served complimentary cake as well as coffee/tea to all our customers. We thank the Pre School staff for sharing in this special event.
- During September and November we held two “blitz” sorting/pricing events for Halloween and Christmas respectively (*photo below*). On this one day event we worked on items stored in our new improved storage shed and were served a lovely lunch. It has proven to be a special day when we get to meet other volunteers that we do not necessarily work with during the week. More of these will be held in 2017 – so any member or interested person can show up to help, we welcome all hands !!



- At the Men’s Turkey Luncheon – this year held following the church service November 27th – we opened the Thrift Shop for 2 hours.
- Christmas Customers Appreciation day – held on Thursday, December 22nd in which we volunteers provided home baking served in the Café to our customers ... it was very successful as this Cafe area was filled for much of the day.

The Tea Room/Café continues to provide a great area for customers

to relax and chat. We are especially grateful to Sharon Stevens who is currently providing homemade cookies for them as well as our tea table on sorting days. To the devoted Café ladies who make and serve coffee/tea from 12 to 4 each Thursday.... Thanks

As I write this report we are looking forward to the annual Cedar Springs Volunteer Appreciation event – this year to be a Tea due to the popularity of this event and the limited space that Cedar Springs has for us. Thanks to Cedar Springs for their continued support of the MSUC Thrift Shop.

In closing I want to thank the Building Committee – past and present - for their devoted efforts in making our new space as successful as it currently is and helping out with some of the difficult choices we had to make over this year. We look forward to continued support and cooperation as we go forward.

Thank you to the Thrift Shop Management Team in their efforts to make our Shop the success and wonderful environment it is today. Thank you each every volunteer – you are the reason we enjoy our hours spent for this community – the Mount Seymour United Church Thrift Shop.

- Carol Kelly & Bonnie Wudrick – Co-chairs MSUC Thrift Shop

2015 Thrift Shop Revenue: (net after expenses) \$ 160,358.66

Total number of customers (making purchases): approx **17,000**

Largest day of customers making purchases: approx **435**

Number of active volunteers for 2016: **85**



MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL REPORT

This has been a wonderful year with no staff turnover!! We maintain our ministerial team, Reverend Nancy Talbot as full time senior minister, and Reverend Wade Lifton as part time minister of emerging ministries. They continue to offer up their very best to us.

Our Children and Families minister, Anne Ellis, continues to work her magic with our growing Children's Community and our newly growing youth group. In order to support her in that endeavour, we are pleased to add another 2 hours per week to her time as she so often goes above and beyond on a weekly basis.

Julian Pattison continues to provide us with the most wonderful music, on the piano, the organ and with his beautiful voice. He leads those who wish to come Sunday mornings and sing to support the congregation and he accompanied and assisted the Christmas choir which was a huge success.

Sharon Stevens continues to provide a welcoming presence in the office as well as tend to the incredibly varied tasks that are required of the church administrator.

We have had Heidi Carota assisting us with the book keeping this past year and are exceptionally grateful. She is finishing her time and we welcome Cheryl Shott to that position for this new year!

Thank you so much to the Ministry and Personnel team: Lima Branch, Peter Muirhead and pinch hitting, Roger Brain.

Our sincerest thanks to our amazing staff team!

-Catherine Branch*

*Note: Catherine Branch graciously stepped into the role of acting chair of M & P due to the resignation of our elected chair for personal reasons.



PRESBYTERY REPORT

Mount Seymour is part of Vancouver Burrard Presbytery which in the United Church is the next level of governance beyond individual ministry units.

As the National church continues to work towards the issues related to moving from a 4 court to 3 court governance model, the presbytery is working towards identifying its own mission and priorities.

Much of the previous work of the presbytery has already been taken on by BC Conference. This includes oversight of Ministry Personnel; oversight of candidates for Ministry and oversight of the peace and wellbeing of individual congregations. (Note that Marc Coulombe is the Conference Minister assigned to our Presbytery for this work but because he is a member of Mount Seymour, our congregational Conference Minister is Kathy Davies)

The Presbytery has retained some involvement in the distribution of proceeds from the sale of properties as well as the responsibility of approving both major building renovations and redevelopments. We have also retained our role in supporting and encouraging the mission of both the presbytery and individual communities of faith.

In 2016 we approved the sale of St. James Place (formerly part of Trinity United in Kits) and the distribution of the proceeds part of which will be used for a new ministry fund and to help Trinity United discern its future. It had been anticipated that part of this money would be used to continue the work of the Heartwood cafe which was a ministry of Trinity United Church. Instead the church decided to discontinue this ministry at the end of July. Some of the assets of the cafe including the professional grade espresso machine were purchased by Mount Seymour for use in our own cafe space.

We also approved the sale of Gibsons United Church property in 2016. The congregation intends to carry on its ministry in a rented space in Gibsons Public Market. St. David's United in Pemberton is also looking to sell its property. Lakeview Multicultural Church is looking to redevelop in order to better serve the new Immigration Welcome Center that has opened down the street and Lynn Valley United Church held its first worship service in its newly redeveloped sanctuary on Christmas Eve.

In order to better guide our decision making processes around the distribution of funds following the sale of church property, the presbytery this fall developed a set of criteria for making those decisions. We also discussed and voted on remits # 5, 7 and 8 from the national church (Ministry Partners, Candidacy Pathway and Membership) as part of the future governance model being proposed.

For the most part, the presbytery meets every other month in the evening and periodically over the course of an entire day. Both in January and June we held a full court meeting to continue our discernment of the question "What can we do better together than we can apart?" The January meeting was facilitated by Amanda Fenton. The June meeting was led in part by Rev. Janet Gear, professor at Vancouver School of Theology. Through a presentation of what she calls the "theological buffet" she helped us to see the variety of ways communities of faith understand the mission of the church, all of which are valid expressions of our faith. She assisted us in moving beyond seeing our individual

communities of faith as the mission field for our work to considering the entire geographic region of the presbytery as our responsibility for discerning and animating ministry.

Our current appointed presbyters are Steve Wellenbrink and Sharon Stevens. Rev. Nancy and Rev. Wade are members of the presbytery by virtue of their covenant as paid accountable ministers

The United Church Creed

We are not alone, we live in god's world.

We believe in god:

Who has created and is creating,

*Who has come in Jesus, the word made flesh, to
reconcile and make new,*

Who works in us and others by the spirit.

We trust in god.

We are called to be the church:

To celebrate god's presence,

To live with respect in creation,

To love and serve others,

To seek justice and resist evil,

*To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge
and our hope.*

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE: BEING COMMUNITY

Communication

With a fresh new look to our building achieved, it made sense to review our communication materials as well. With money received from the United Church's ProVision grant, we hired local web designer extraordinaire Marcelle Adams to help us design a new and updated website, which we launched in July. The feedback so far has been great!



Welcome Team and Sunday Morning Hospitality

These teams continue to flourish under the leadership of Gladys Johnston (johnstongladys@hotmail.com). We continue to hear from newcomers and regulars what a welcoming place this is. Both teams are always looking for volunteers on Sunday Mornings. Training provided!

Saturday Morning Breakfast Groups

The Men's and Women's Breakfast Groups, a long-standing tradition at Mount Seymour, continue to meet on alternate Saturday mornings for good food and fellowship. It is always a unique and fun way of starting the weekend. Contact Alan Furniss (aandkfurniss@gmail.com) and Mardi Joughin Mardi (jocherty@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining a group.

Church Library and Reading Group

Our **library** has become a space not just to sign out books but for fellowship. It welcomes not only church members but our neighbours who use our space to gather, for study, practice and meetings.

Our **reading group** continues with its monthly meeting held at the Atrium across from the church. Members come together to share and enjoy each other's ideas along with tea and cookies. -Sylvia Zandberg, MSUC Librarian (photo, right).



The Caring Connection

This group led by Rev. Nancy was formed in 2014 out of a merger between the prayer and pastoral care teams. They tend the congregation, wider community and thrift shop volunteers through visits, cards, phone calls, the prayer shawl ministry and intentional prayer. During the Christmas season they deliver cards and poinsettias to members of our congregation who are either unable to attend worship or have gone through a challenging time.

Thank you to Sherrill McLeary, Jen-Beth Fulton, Gwen Kendrick, Ruth Townsend, Mardi Joughin, Marianne Hansen, for this valuable ministry.

2016 FUNDRAISERS AND EVENTS

Deep Cove Coffee Houses

The Deep Cove Coffee House has been well established in the community for several years now. The Coffee House monthly concerts are generally held on the third Friday of the month. For admission of \$12, you can enjoy a great concert by well known local musicians, home baking and great coffee. This is a fundraiser for our church and we are always looking for volunteers to help during the concert and to bring home baking. Last year, the Coffee House raised over \$3,800 for the church. Thanks to Jane Osborne, Jim Lyons, Jill Blair and community volunteers that help to make the Coffee Houses a success.

Open House Saturday May 14

In May, we threw open our doors and welcomed the community in our newly renovated building. People were invited to browse the Thrift Shop, check out the preschool, build a kite with our youth group members, and listen to our inaugural SEED-talks (Spiritual, Enlightening, Evolving and Discerning).



Congregational Lunches

Congregational lunches hosted by Peter and Ellen Muirhead were held throughout the year, along with the Church Picnic and Barbeque in June, and the Turkey lunch in November. Thank you to Peter and Ellen and all their helpers for this wonderful ministry that feeds us in body and soul and brings us together in community.

Parkgate Community Days and Christmas Tree Decorating

Again this year we had a booth at Parkgate Days in September which is a great way to connect with our neighbours and get the word out about our church. We also decorated one of the trees inside Parkgate, which we were able to keep and will be planting in our garden come spring.



Annual Turkey Lunch, Thrift and Bake Sale and Advent Craft

This year we broke from tradition and held this event after service on Sunday November 27,. Anne Ellis taught families how to create their own Advent spiral (photo, left)

NORTH SHORE REFUGEE RESPONSE INITIATIVE (NSRRI) – UPDATE

We have been privileged this year to continue working with the other United Churches on the North Shore to sponsor families fleeing Syria. Collectively, the 8 North Shore United churches have now raised enough to sponsor two Syrian families to come to Vancouver. Two fundraising concerts were held in 2017, both immensely successful!

The 2 families have been in camps in Erbil for some time now, but in December we heard promising news and hope to have both families here in the Spring of 2017. Thank you to Laura Staude and Jen-Beth Fulton who have been representing our congregation in this endeavour.

PASSAGES

Baptisms

Hayley Irene Abbott

Brayden William Raymond Morrison



Joining our Congregation

Nicole George

Julia Pereira

Weddings

Elizabeth Aeberhardt and Daniel Helps August 6

Irish Quetua and Rex Berdonar August 21

Tara Maclachlan and Robert Naylor August 27

We Remember

Audrey Jenkins

Sharon Miachika

Ian Hargreaves

Raymond (Ray) Edwards

Carmen Orton

Carolyn Huget

Memorial Service

January 30

April 27

May 15

May 18

June 18

October 14



GROUPS USING OUR CHURCH DURING 2016

In addition to the many church related activities taking place in our church building, many others from the community used our facilities -- some on a weekly basis, some monthly and others from time to time. These groups include the following:

Mount Seymour Preschool
Alanon
JOJY Music
Cubs/Scouts

Weekly Choirs:

North Shore Chorus –practices and concerts

Concerts:

Pro Nova Ensemble (4 concerts per year)
Seycove Secondary School Community Concerts
Argyle Secondary School
Deep Cove Music
Universal Gospel Choir
Marcus Mosely Chorale
Little Mountain Brass Band
Deep Cove Coffee Houses (monthly)
Blueridge Chamber Music Association
Vancouver Orpheus Men's Choir
Music Recitals - various music teachers and groups

Other:

Anniversary and Birthday Parties
Meetings: Strata, Blockwatch, Non-profit groups, etc.
All Candidates Meeting

MOUNT SEYMOUR CHILD DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY | GINA GALLAGHER



Mount Seymour Child Development Society
(Mt Seymour Preschool)
Report for January, 2017.



Current Board Members:

President: Alexa Romilly
Vice President: Kelly Clauson
Treasurer: Sylvia McIntyre
Secretary: Katie Gaydon

Current Enrollment:

Morning 3's - Full at 17
Morning 4's - Full at 19

Afternoon 3's - 15
Afternoon 4's - 15

Mt. Seymour Preschool has been committed to serving the families of our community for over 40 years. Our preschool offers a play-based, emergent curriculum influenced by the ideas of the world renowned schools of Reggio Emilia, Italy. We focus on early learning experiences that emphasize social, emotional and cognitive development, physical literacy, well-being and the development of social responsibility. Our certified and experienced Early Childhood Educators are committed to inclusive practises that encourage communication, critical thinking, creativity and respect for each other and our environment.

Mt. Seymour United Church works to make social justice part of their community and Mt. Seymour Preschool follows this commitment by often working alongside the church in projects that focus on social justice in our community.



Fall

Is always such busy time, with 4 classes and new members of our teaching team in new roles, it has been a challenging start with lots of learning for all! We were so pleased that the Outdoor work over the summer was completed without too many obstacles for the Landscapers, or the church. Our preschool families have thoroughly enjoyed our new Outdoor Play Area, the large sand area being one of their favourites! In the Spring we will be planning the garden beds and hope to have a community celebration. All of us at the preschool were so glad to share the new cafe space during our Fall Gradual Entry. Families

were able to spend some time in the new hall and cafe to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee while their children felt safe knowing their parents and caregivers were close by. Thank you so much, Carol and Nancy for welcoming us. We hope you enjoy our little forays in to visit throughout the year:)



Mt. Seymour Preschool continues to be a highly recommended preschool by North Shore Supportive Child Development Program. We also support families in financial need with our Emergency Bursary Fund. This year has seen an increase in applications and we look to creative ways to Fundraise to keep our monthly fees affordable for all families. We thank you for taking part in our Purdy's Chocolate Fundraisers, there will be another one coming in time for Easter!

Developing Social Responsibility with our Annual Christmas Giving Project

For the month of December, we invited our preschool families to participate in our Gift of Giving Project. We feel it is important as a preschool community to reach out and give to those in need. We contacted First United Church to find out if they needed donations for their Christmas Meal that serves approximately 350 folks who live in the Downtown Eastside. Once again they welcomed our offer and this year our Preschool provided the following: 15 turkeys, many cans of cranberry sauce, 50 pounds of onions, lots of candy



canes, and several containers of hot chocolate. We also delivered 360 dinner rolls generously donated by Cobs Bread at Parkgate. Dairyland, via Chris and Katie Gaydon generously delivered 96 litres of milk.

Closer to home, we also assisted the North Shore Youth Safe House. Many of our families generously donated lots of warm socks, PJ's, tooth paste, tooth brushes and a variety of other toiletries. Thank you to Heather Carrell in our afternoon 4's class for approaching our local Seymour Dentist and Parkgate Safeway for donations. The children are in the process of creating and delivering thank you notes. Prior to Christmas, the children sorted and counted all

the donations and using stickers, we made a visual chart of all these givings. We are most appreciative of the kindness and generosity demonstrated by our preschool community. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of others



Creating community by sharing family traditions

We were delighted to invite families in to share with us their holiday traditions! One Mom came in and sang a beautiful Bulgarian folk song to the Morning 4's class about Winter. Another Mom, and her young baby, shared their tradition of finding Christmas oranges, candy canes and ornaments in their stockings from Santa! Brynn, another member of the Morning 3's class, brought in her Christmas elves, otherwise known as

Mom and Dad, Melanie and "Buddy the Elf"! The children sure enjoyed listening to 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, as they munched on homemade shortbread cookies! We also loved reading and sharing the holiday traditions you posted on our Christmas Wreath. The teachers are always looking for ways to bridge home and school, so we'd like to thank you all for being such a vital part of our preschool community!

A Sense of Belonging and Evolving our Christmas Concert and Family Potlucks

Our preschool winter concert and family potluck was a great success. It was wonderful having the families together sharing songs, stories and good food. The children were very proud to have worked on their gifts for their families. They were also proud to share the songs that they have been singing at preschool. We are thankful to families for participating in the 'Gift of a name'. We as teachers believe this was a valuable gift to the children from their families. We found it worked well to have the three year old gathering in the classroom while the four year olds had their concert in the sanctuary and the potluck in the lobby. We as teachers are being mindful of inclusivity and may make changes each year dependent on the needs of the children and we are grateful for the opportunity to use the extra space when available.



Annual Registration and Open House Planning is underway for our Annual Open House for new families on Friday, February 24th.



We continue to feel very fortunate to be a part of the church community and to have Parkgate Hall as our preschool environment. We hope to be an ongoing member of this vibrant new space and look forward to ways where our preschool community may come together with the greater church communities.

We thank you for all for your continued support.

Sincerely,
The teachers of Mt. Seymour Preschool



APPENDIX 1 | MINUTES OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Mt. Seymour United Church

Held at 1200 Parkgate Avenue, North Vancouver, BC

Sunday, March 6, 2016

The following 51 members/adherents were present:

Members: Ward Branch, Doug Querns, Kate Branch, Kim Branch, Burton Branch, Lima Branch, Sylvia Zandberg, Gert Zandberg, Ruth Townsend, Bryan Ralph, Barb Ralph, Frank Luba, Ellen Muirhead, Joan Fowler, Dorothy Redlinger, Eunice Findlay, Julian Pattison, Nancy Scheer, Marianne Hansen, Julia Pereira, Nicole George, Allan Johnston, Gladys Johnston, Dilys Sostad, Bill Mathieson, Ted Butterfield, Fay Butterfield, Jane Thomson, Joyce Jones, Carol Pettigrew, Jen-Beth Fulton, Mike Hetherington, Marc Coulombe, Anne Ellis, Ross Dunnet, Pam McFarlane, Peggy Chiu-Black, Marlene Plezia, Ken Flower, Rev. Wade Lifton, Lisa Reinders, Nina Huumo, Steve Wellenbrink, Rev. Nancy Talbot, Bette Shippam, Kathy McKay, James Fulton, Barry Fenton, Meg Clarke, Laura Staude, Catherine Branch (acting recording secretary)

Chair Bette Shippam welcomed those present, confirmed there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 11:30am.

Rev. Wade Lifton opened the meeting with a questions for discussion of the highlights we want to celebrate from the past year and with a prayer of gratitude.

M/S (F. Luba/M. Coulombe) that the agenda be approved as presented. **Carried.**

M/S (B. Mathieson/D. Querns) that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of March 1, 2015 be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

Minister's Report: Rev. Nancy Talbot provided us with the highlights of her sabbatical and thanked staff and the congregation for keeping the church running smoothly. She highlighted the additions to our staff of Julian Pattison as Music Minister and Rev. Wade Lifton as Associate Minister. Rev. Wade's three primary responsibilities at present are: (1) the work of the Thrift Shop; (2) discernment to revitalize our Mission and Outreach; (3) our living into our new café and foyer space. Rev. Nancy is now primarily responsible for: (1) worship and pastoral care; (2) the overall direction of the church community; (3) oversight of the staff. She also advised us of the goals that came out of the Council Retreat: (1) communications; (2) nurturing relationships; (3) financial sustainability; and (4) plans for our new spaces

and new ministries. Finally, Rev. Nancy thanked Bette Shippam who is stepping down as Council Chair and Meg Clark, Laura Staude and James Fulton who are also retiring from Council.

Treasurer's Report (Barry Fenton for Roger Brain): Barry Fulton presented the Financial Statements for 2015 and the 2016 budget to the congregation. Appendix 2 to the Annual Report should read "Statement of Financial Position at December 31, 2015". Appendix 3 should read "Income Statement for Period Ended December 31, 2015 and 2016 Budget".

M/S (T. Butterfield/D. Querns) that the Financial Statements for 2015 be accepted as presented.
Carried.

M/S (K. Fowler/T. Butterfield) that the Budget for 2016 be accepted as presented.

Building Team Report: James Fulton, chair of the Building Team, gave a final summary of the building project. Increased costs came as a result of new district code requirements, seismic standards, district requirements for the shed and the front entrance that was a separate item but was done at the same time. James thanked Burton Branch, Sharon Brain, Sharon Stevens, Rev. Nancy, Rev. Wade, Ken Fowler, the advisory committee and the congregation. In his view, the congregation has emerged from the project stronger and with grace toward each other. James received a standing ovation for his efforts.

Mount Seymour United Council Elections

(a) Retiring and Resigning Council members:

- Bette Shippam (2011 – 2015) (Chair)
- Laura Staude (2011 – 2015) (Ministry & Personnel)
- James Fulton (2012 – 2015) (Administrative Team)
- Meg Clarke (2012 – 2015) (Member-at-Large)
- Sharon Stevens (2014 – 2015) (resigning as Recording Secretary)

(b) Continuing council: Rev. Nancy Talbot; Rev. Wade Lifton (clergy)

- Carol Kelly (2014 – 2017) (Congregational Life)
- Roger Brain (2014 – 2017) (Treasurer)
- Kathy McKay (2015 – 2018) (Mission & Outreach)
- Catherine Branch (2015 – 2018) (Worship & Christian Development)
- Barry Fenton (2015 – 2018) (Member-at-Large)
- Steve Wellenbrink (2015 – 2018) (Presbytery Representative)

(c) 2016 positions update:

- Steve Wellenbrink (Ministry & Personnel, Presbytery Representative)
- Roger Brain (reporting for Administrative Team, Treasurer)

(d) 2016 nominations (starting 2016):

- Catherine Branch (Chair)

- Mary Sparks (Worship & Christian Development)
- Nicole George (Member-at-Large)
- Kim Branch (Recording Secretary)

Chair called for further nominations and, hearing none, declared the above elected by acclamation.

Jen Beth Fulton thanked the ministry and staff for making Mount Seymour United a place to which candidates for Ministry were eager to apply.

M/S (B. Mathieson/W. Branch) that a letter be sent on behalf of the congregation to all of the volunteers of the Thrift Shop as a thank you for their dedication.

Faye Butterfield thanked Bette Shippam for her hard work as outgoing Chair of Council.

Rev. Wade closed the meeting with a prayer of gratitude.

M/S (D. Querns/F. Luba) that the meeting be adjourned at 12:37pm. **Carried.**

Bette Shippam

Bette Shippam, Chair

Catherine Branch, Acting Recording Secretary

APPENDIX 2 | STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT DECEMBER 31, 2016

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	87,225	25,356
GIC Accounts	50,431	28,348
Renovation Fund	47	25,775
Pledges Receivable	4,711	94,777
Accounts Receivable	20,730	16,852
	163,145	191,108
Property, plant and equipment		
Land	425,151	425,151
Building	1,120,765	1,120,765
Furniture and Equipment	103,037	103,037
	1,648,953	1,648,953
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,812,098	\$1,840,061
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	7,830	4,489
Mission and Service	1,262	1,736
Misc. Funds	70	0
First United Church	0	20
Syrian Refugee	27,883	7,493
2015 Provision Grant	6,724	13,586
Bridge loan	68,239	120,552
	112,007	147,875
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		
VM Loan	305,045	305,045
EQUITY AND FUNDS		
Sabbatical Fund	8,432	8,032
Memorial Fund	19,694	18,944
General Contingency fund	0	0
Building Contingency fund	1,417	1,417
Renovation Expenses	0	-643,133
Renovation Fund	0	643,133
	29,543	28,393
Equity		
Opening Balance	1,358,748	1,376,948
Net Income for the year	6,754	-18,200
	1,365,502	1,358,748
	1,395,045	1,387,141
	\$1,812,098	\$1,840,061

APPENDIX 3 | INCOME STATEMENT FOR PERIOD ENDED DEC 31, 2016 AND 2017 BUDGET

	2016 Actual 31-Dec	2015 Actual 31-Dec	2017 Budget Annual
REVENUE			
Offering Envelopes & PAR	137,009	130,643	137,000
Open Offering	8,131	7,002	8,000
Special Offering	34,238	11,475	10,000
Fund Allocation	-	12,876	-
Total Givings	179,378	161,997	155,000
OTHER REVENUE			
Rentals	29,764	26,239	30,000
Memorials & Weddings	2,150	3,150	2,000
Thrift Shop	167,866	139,169	170,000
Interest	367	2,306	350
Fundraising (coffee house)	3,851	3,843	4,000
Fundraising (Youth/BBQ/Turkey Lun	873	2,268	1,000
Misc	21	1,653	-
Total Other	204,892	178,627	207,350
Total Revenue	384,270	340,624	362,350
EXPENSES			
A TEAM			
A Copier	3,236	5,018	5,000
A Office Supplies & postage	1,652	2,163	2,000
A Telephone	1,110	1,773	1,200
A Bank Charges	1,333	1,618	1,400
A Computer /Misc	613	927	1,000
Total Administration	7,943	11,499	10,600

	2016 Actual 31-Dec	2015 Actual 31-Dec	2017 Budget Annual
Property			
P Bld Maint	4,705	11,276	5,000
P Equip Maintenance	293	1,025	1,000
P Grounds/ Handyperson	1,556	1,102	10,000
P Sound Maint	172	256	500
P Bld Heat Maint	4,791	1,439	2,000
P Security	307	425	500
P Janitorial	13,955	14,252	14,000
P Garbage	2,716	2,413	3,000
P Water & Sewer	1,598	2,323	2,000
P Gas & Electric	8,849	10,493	9,000
P Snow	3,280	-	2,500
P Telephone Office	2,939	2,675	3,000
P Insurance	9,517	8,393	10,000
P Kitchen Supplies	600	26	500
P Thrift Shop Improvements	7,507	11,041	10,000
P Campaign Building & Equipment	2,040	56	-
Special Project	35,472	-	-
Total Property	100,296	67,194	73,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION TEAM	108,238	78,693	83,600
WORSHIP & CD			
Pulpit Relief	500	900	500
Childrens Community	169	275	300
Youth	-	-	200
Library / Misc	545	-	100
CD Adult	575	312	300
Music Youth	-	-	-
Music Adults	-	292	-
Music Supplies	216	-	-
Music Director Relief	2,350	1,200	2,200
Music Piano/Organ Tuning	564	-	400
Worship Misc Supplies	502	1,102	800
Sound Production	450	407	400
TOTAL WORSHIP & C. D.	5,872	4,488	5,200
COUNCIL			
Presbytery	11,901	11,395	12,159
Other Expense	613	501	500
TOTAL COUNCIL	12,514	11,895	12,659

	2016 Actual 31-Dec	2015 Actual 31-Dec	2017 Budget Annual
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE			
Advertising	205	196	200
Fellowship (Lunches/welcoming)	(118)	1,012	800
Observer Magazine	191	254	200
Sundays - coffee	1,482	1,684	1,500
Pastoral Care	35	-	100
TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	1,795	3,146	2,800
CONG. MISSION			
Mission and Outreach	1,738	2,044	2,000
First United Thrift Shop Donation	20,000	20,000	20,000
Refugee Family Sponsorship	300	-	-
Help Fund	606	-	-
TOTAL MISSION	22,644	22,044	22,000
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL			
Wages	184,227	154,027	187,000
Housing Allowance	-	30,887	-
Ministers Travel	554	187	2,000
Sabbatical Fund	-	11,968	4,000
Staff Dev Cont Ed	2,431	2,958	3,000
Honorariums	1,450	1,150	1,500
CPP	4,994	5,440	5,000
EI	3,316	3,351	3,400
Employee Benefits	22,318	22,164	22,500
M&P Discretionary	-	750	-
MSP	648	486	650
Work Comp	360	380	400
Hosting	155	308	500
Other Payroll	6,000	4,500	6,000
TOTAL MINISTRY & PERSONNEL	226,453	238,558	235,950

	2016 Actual 31-Dec	2015 Actual 31-Dec	2017 Budget Annual
TOTAL EXPENSE	377,516	358,824	362,209
OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	6,754	(18,200)	141
VIM Loan Payments			
CASH SURPLUS / DEFICIT	6,754	(18,200)	141
Outreach Contributions			
M & S	15,285	15,345	
Thrift Shop	20,000	20,000	
Other Outreach (FU)	1,190	3,395	
Syrian Refugees	7,793	0	
Total	\$ 44,268	\$ 38,739	



- SPIRIT NURTURING
- BEING COMMUNITY
- LIVING GENEROUSLY



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