



Mount Seymour United Church



2019

Annual Report

~ Nurturing Spirit ~ Being Community ~ Living Generously



~ **Nurturing Spirit**
~ **Being Community**
~ **Living Generously**

LIVING THE CORE VALUES OF

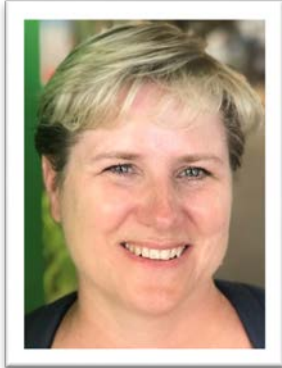
- *Trusting in the goodness of life*
- *Treating ourselves, others and our world with grace and compassion*
 - *Honouring each individual's spiritual journey*
 - *Empowering people to claim their Spirit-given gifts*
 - *Striving to practise the way of Jesus*

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.

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2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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COUNCIL CHAIR | CATHERINE BRANCH



The nature of all the reports in our Annual Report is to reflect. We reflect on what our group has accomplished over the last year, what the church has accomplished over the last year and we reflect on the future and what life has in store for Mount Seymour United Church. As this is my last report as the Chair of Council, I am particularly reflective this year.

There is much to celebrate about the past 12 months. We had two book studies, very well attended. We had our new finance team get started, putting things that needed it in order, working on the investment of our endowment funds, and teaming up with an accountant to assist with our financial and tax reporting. The Thrift Shop Management Team moved to an advisory format, started opening on Saturdays, took on 2 summer students and continued to grow further into their seemingly unlimited potential. We had some coming and goings, with Reverend Carla being ordained on June 2 and being hired on full time. We lost Sean Sallis-Lyon who helped with our sound, but we have gained Owen Hoover. We worked with the amazing Flavio Caron, both as council and early in 2020 as a congregation, to come into closer relations and to better understand our First Nations brothers and sisters, one piece of evidence being our acknowledgement of the land on which we worship. There was much more but I am only given a limited space (budget constraints you know!)

But I want to take a moment to look back further at some of the amazing things that this congregation has undertaken in the four years I have been Chair. I consider myself so incredibly fortunate to have been a small part of it all.

At the outset of my time as Chair, we were just starting to grow into our new space following our massive renovation. We have now settled into this environment. Everyone really enjoys our café space. It provides a great hub for after service conversations and invites visitors to the church to sit and consider our welcome and it provides a welcome respite for both volunteers and shoppers in our Thrift Shop. The new library space has been a quiet and cozy area for reading and gathering. And the dedicated Thrift Shop space is amazing! There are still tweaks being made as the needs of the Shop change and grow, but it is a welcoming place for volunteers and shoppers alike creating community bonds that are so hard to come by in this age of technology.

Also, on the topic of the building, during this time we were able to undertake a financial campaign to fund the replacement of the building's roof. The "Raise the Roof" campaign was a great success due to the generosity of our congregation and the Thrift Shop. No more "raindrops falling on our heads"!

Mount Seymour grew in our outreach to the community beyond our doors. Programs such as the Living Room, serving those with mental health issues, and the Meditation group and previously the Death Café, have opened our doors to those who may not feel as comfortable coming on a Sunday morning. This service to the community has helped us to live into our purpose.

The comings and goings continued over this broader time period. We were sad to see Reverend Wade Lifton leave us to take care of his health. Sharon Stevens, our office administrator, left to take on new challenges, and we were sorry to say goodbye to Dominique Hogan, of the Gospel Choir and our former music director, in order to take more time for her family. But we have been incredibly fortunate to welcome new members into our Mount Seymour family. Cindy Nelms has become our new office administrator, and always has a smile or a story for anyone who drops in. Cheryl Shott became our bookkeeper and has organized us and kept us in line financially, all the while being lovely and approachable. Reverend Carla joined us during my time and what can I say about her? She took on her position with eagerness, and soon had to step into Reverend Nancy's shoes full time when we lost Nancy for eight months due to illness. Reverend Carla has taken on part time formal church duties and part time community outreach duties, largely in the Thrift Shop. We are so lucky to have her. And finally, we were graced with the presence of Alexis Doss. Alexis has become manager of the Thrift Shop and has done so with a calm and easy presence that has helped the Shop run smoothly, and let it start to open for an extra day on Saturdays.

I was pleased to be involved in several other large undertakings during my time as Chair. We did a Comprehensive Staff Review. We had to recognize that we are no longer a small employer, and so we reviewed all the paid positions, updated their job descriptions and improved the lines of accountability. We also undertook a Comprehensive Review of Programming. We reviewed all the programs that were offered by Mount Seymour and determined who was responsible for the group, whether or not it was meeting the needs of the church and/or community and where were there any holes in our offerings.

But without a doubt, the largest undertaking during my time as Chair was the incredible opportunity of shepherding the receipt, investment and plan for the Kerr Endowment. We received an incredible \$1.3 million from Anne Kerr, a former congregant in 2018. We met as a congregation with the help of Caitlin Frost to learn to receive the gift gracefully and to consider some of the possibilities for this gift. Council met several more times with Caitlin and, with the assistance of the congregational input, we were able to determine an investment strategy and organization of the money, guidelines for use of the endowment and the first proposed uses of the endowment. What a blessing this is and will continue to be well into the future. We started to make use of this gift by funding Reverend Carla's additional hours, and by hiring Alexis to manage the community development and the presence of the church in our Thrift Shop. We have more good ideas coming, so stay tuned, and we want you all to keep your own thinking caps on for more opportunities and initiatives!

I need to thank a lot of people for making this job one of the most enjoyable things I have ever done. I want to thank my fellow Council members over my four year for their support, their humour and their willingness to do the hard work in such a respectful manner: (in no particular order) Kim Branch, Meg Clarke, Steve Wellenbrink, Barry Fenton, Mary Sparks, Katherine McKay, Roger Brain, Frank Luba, Dilys Sostad and Michelle Coulombe. I want to thank all of the administration for their hard work in making the Council work easier and making us look good: Cindy, Cheryl, and Fay Butterfield. I want to thank Reverend Carla for her hard work, her ability to take on whatever is asked of her and even things we haven't asked for yet. But most of all, I want to thank her for her personal support when things got overwhelming, both chairing and at home. Finally, I don't have the words to thank Reverend Nancy. It has been one of my greatest pleasures to work with Reverend Nancy so closely over the last 4 years. I have enjoyed our preparation meetings that also involved sharing things from our day to day struggles to the latest pop

culture. She has been my steadfast ally in the work that I have done. It has been a privilege to work with her and to call her friend.

Finally, I want to thank you, the Mount Seymour United Church family. You have supported and sustained me and our Council and continue to do so. Without your input and understanding, we could not have done all that I have listed. I could not ask for a better extended family than all of you.

My love and blessings to you all,

Catherine Branch



LEAD MINISTER | REV. NANCY TALBOT



Stability is not always the first order of a life of faith. Walter Brueggemann has a wonderful prayer about God's changing ways in which he says that although we might choose a God who is stable and reliable, instead God is forever uprooting us, tearing things down and making them new. This may be true, but I am grateful for a year in the life of our church that actually had some stability after many years of what has felt like almost constant change.

2019 was a year with relatively few staffing changes. Aside from the comings and goings of our summer students in the Thrift Shop, Sean Sallis-Lyon who so capably ran our sound system and departed for studies in Montreal in June and Dominique Hogan who had to step aside from her Gospel Choir responsibilities this fall were the only big changes to our staff. This allowed us to live more fully into the staffing model presented at last year's AGM. My own role in that model has seen an increase in my supervisory responsibilities. It's something I am still growing into, but I do it with joy given the capable and gifted team with whom I work, and the support of the Ministry and Personnel Committee led by Michelle Coulombe. As Carla Wilks, Anne Ellis, Cindy Nelms, Cheryl Shott, Alexis Doss and Owen Hoover, our new sound technician, have continued to take on their developing roles, supervising them both directly and indirectly along with our music ministry staff has been a great blessing. A goal for 2019 was to create and implement new processes for staff evaluations as well as develop greater clarity in job descriptions. We have made significant progress in this area and will continue to do so in the coming year.

Given the instability of 2018 due to my personal health concerns, this past year brought me great satisfaction in another area of responsibility, leading worship and Adult Faith Formation. The last two years, the Worship and Christian Development team has been working with a new resource called The Worship Design Studio. Adapting the creative scripts this resource provides for Epiphany, Lent, Advent and Ordinary Time, worship and faith formation has greatly enriched our life together and provided inspiration for my own leadership. I know that Rev. Carla feels the same way.

Assisting Anne Ellis as she developed a new leadership program for our youth was also a highlight of the last year. We are so fortunate to have such a committed group of teenagers in our midst. In the fall I was able to briefly be with them on retreat as they explored their spiritual gifts. What an energetic and thoughtful group they are. This program has been made possible through a ProVision grant from the Pacific Mountain Region of the Church. It has also provided us the opportunity to hire Zoe McMahon to be with our youngest children on Sundays that Anne is working with the youth.

As I emphasize the overall stability of our life together and my personal life this year, I am also aware of the significant changes affecting individual members of our community. In 2018 we experienced the death of more than a few beloved and faithful members. A number of folks transitioned to care facilities. These changes have been difficult for us and for those most closely impacted. When we are knit together into loving community, we feel deeply the pain and loss of those for whom we care. I give thanks for the members of our Caring Connections team who so faithfully tend and pray for those in need and all the knitters who make our prayer shawl ministry so impactful. For almost three years now, Leslie Buerschaper and Anne Ellis have quietly and faithfully created a safe space for those whose need is to give and receive support alongside others who live with challenges to their mental health. Their presence in our community has been a good reminder of our need to extend loving community to those who often suffer in silence and for whom stability also doesn't come easily.

Supporting the work of Council and overseeing the mission of the church is something I take great pleasure in doing even though at times it can be quite daunting. Over the past four years I have worked closely with Catherine Branch who will be stepping down as Council chair in June. I cannot thank or praise her enough for her capable and committed leadership. Her handling of the comprehensive review in 2018 and the decision making around the Kerr Bequest, much of which was done in my absence was exemplary. We will miss her at the Council table along with Michelle Coulombe who is stepping down from her role as Ministry and Personnel chair. Michelle has put in a phenomenal number of hours working on job descriptions, hiring staff and generally making sure our hiring practices are in order. I am so grateful for her work. I am grateful also that Barry Fenton will stay on Council representing the Mission and Outreach team but want to express my gratitude for his work on the Finance Team as representing the Treasurer on Council this last year. We have an outstanding group of individuals leading our church and it is such a privilege to work with them along with all our staff.

My relationship with the Thrift Shop is currently arm's length but I want to say thank you to all the volunteers in the shop for their hard work along with all the volunteers who go over and above the call of duty time and time again to serve the ministry of our church. You are what makes this place so welcoming and safe.

Finally, in addition to my responsibilities at the church, I continue to serve on the Spiritual Care Network of the Pacific Mountain Region. The Network supports the spiritual wellbeing of Ministry Personnel in the region and meets on average once a month. In September I was also asked by the Regional Executive Minister, Treena Duncan, if I would represent her on the Board of Naramata Center. I began that work in November. The Board meets four weekends a year, three times in Naramata and once in the Lower Mainland. In August, after being approached about supervising a candidate for ministry serving in a congregation in Vancouver, I agreed to this bi-weekly commitment.

Gratefully submitted by

Rev. Nancy

ASSOCIATE MINISTER | REV. CARLA WILKS



The year 2019 was another memorable one for ministry at Mount Seymour United Church. For me the highlight personally of course was my ordination to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care in the United Church of Canada on June 2, 2019, in Langley, BC, at the Regional Meeting of the Pacific Mountain Region. My journey was a long and roundabout one to get where I am today, so it felt like a pretty monumental occasion for me. At that meeting, my classmates from VST were celebrating their 20th anniversary of ordination, but June 2, 2019, felt like the right time for me. In order to be ordained in the United Church of Canada, you have to be called to a congregation. I'm so grateful that at your Annual Meeting in 2019 you decided to extend a call to me upon my ordination. My new ministry description became the Minister for Community Outreach and Pastoral Care.

At the beginning of 2019 as things began to “return to normal” at Mount Seymour, I began to spend a lot more time in the Thrift Shop. As I got to know the volunteers better, I created a Thrift Shop Volunteer photo directory, with names and photos of all the volunteers so that I could get to know them all, and so that they could get to know each other better, especially as more new volunteers came on board. Alexis and I started opening the Thrift Shop once a month on Saturdays, beginning in February, in the hope that folks who were not able to get to the shop on Thursdays might be available on the weekend. This grew in popularity each month, and in November the Thrift Shop Leadership Team decided to open every Saturday. We are so appreciative for all of the hard work that the volunteers in the shop do almost every single day of the week. We welcomed several new Thrift Shop Volunteers to the shop in 2019, and now have about 108 active volunteers.

In 2019 we strengthened our relationship with at-risk youth in our community that began through our Mission and Outreach connection with Paul Butler, the Director of Youth Services for Hollyburn Family Services, and our fundraising efforts and Giving Tree collections for the North Shore Youth Safe House. We expanded our support by offering Gift Vouchers for the Thrift Shop, to include with our Giving Tree donations at Christmas time. The way that the Mount Seymour congregation and Thrift Shop lives out our values of Living Generously has had a very significant positive impact on at-risk youth in our community.

In May as part of my study leave, I participated in the second part of Sowing Promise, Growing Leaders, a leadership retreat in Osoyoos with about 30 other United Church ministry leaders to explore church leadership in these changing times. The theme speaker was our former United Church Moderator, Peter Short. I found this event to be very renewing, and taking place just weeks prior to my ordination was a good opportunity to reflect on my upcoming ordination and ministry and to connect with colleagues in a meaningful way. I also completed a Leadership/Communication course in January of 2019.

I continued to help coordinate the Alzheimer Café in Vancouver, and one of the co-coordinators, Helen Murphy, and I began the North Shore Alzheimer Café in the fall. Our first one was held at the Seniors

Activity Centre in West Vancouver, with plans to alternate them monthly between Mount Seymour and West Vancouver throughout 2020. This is an afternoon intended for people with dementia and their caregivers, for a time of food, music, mutual support, education and socializing in a safe and comfortable environment. We have been grateful for the sponsorship and promotion of this program by our Mission and Outreach budget, the District of West Vancouver and Bean Around the World and are encouraged by the support and promotion that we have received by the Alzheimer Society, Parkgate Community Centre and Vancouver Coastal Health.

In September I began a new initiative on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 8:45 a.m. which we called Sacred Pause. It was begun as an opportunity for a time of spiritual grounding before beginning the day, for Thrift Shop volunteers and anyone else who wanted to join. It is a time of reflection, sharing a reading, some conversation and a prayer together. It has been a very meaningful time, with attendance ranging from 3 people to 10 people, with participation of Thrift Shop Volunteers, members of the congregation and interested folks from the neighbourhood as well.

It is such a privilege to be in ministry with you here at Mount Seymour and to work with a supportive and caring ministry team, staff, Council and group of volunteers. I was deeply moved and humbled by your celebration with me of my ordination and subsequent covenanting with you in the fall. I am so grateful for the beautiful Lenten stole that you presented me with as a gift. I am so privileged that you have invited me into your lives as we explore together what it means to be Living Generously, Being Community and Nurturing Spirit as faithful followers of Christ in this part of our world.

With gratitude,

Rev. Carla



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COORDINATOR | ANNE ELLIS

In our Children and Youth community we are committed to creating a safe and sacred space for our children to be authentically who they are: wiggles, giggles, seriousness, gifts, skills, warts and all.

In February we took three kids, one leader and one leader in training to the **Imagine: Children's Retreat** at Stillwood Retreat Center, near Cultus Lake. We have been taking children to this retreat for eight 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.



Board Game nights continue to be a source of fun and community for our Children and Youth.



In January, we held our first **Spaghetti Dinner and Games Night Fundraiser** for the 'Coldest Night of the Year.' The dinner was a huge success and we raised \$200 for the DTES.

Soul-Full Suppers add a deeply needed faith formation aspect to our community and all the children and youth enjoy engaging their faith with spiritual practices and fellowship.

In April: We held a **Confirmation Class** for three youth, giving them the opportunity to explore their faith, and determine whether they were ready to reaffirm their baptism vows.





In May, two youth and one leader attended **May Retreat** at Camp Fircom on Gambier Island. This retreat is an opportunity for our youth to get away, relax, hang out with friends and explore their faith in a beautiful natural setting.



In the Summer: We hosted **Camp Spirit**, a summer day camp for 25 kids, aged 5-13. A highlight this year was inviting the Thrift Shop volunteers to join us at snack time and their teatime. Both the campers and volunteers enjoyed getting to know each other.

In the Fall: We launched a new **Youth Leadership Development Program**, created for youth to explore their spiritual gifts; build leadership skills; and find meaningful connections within the church community. Youth are learning about their own gifts and skills. They are also participating in leadership in various creative ways.

We also hired Zoe McMahon as our Children's Community Leader. Zoe leads our youngest members, so I can focus on our youth.



Nine youth and one leader attended **Evolve**, another retreat for young people at Stillwood Retreat Center.

Advent: Had us fundraising for **CanadAres**. We raised close to \$1000 for a school in Tanzania.

On December 24th, we held Christmas Eve services at 4pm and 7pm, our children and youth participated in a variety of roles at both services.

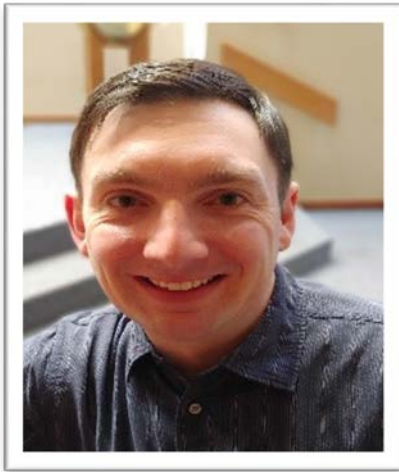


I continue to find myself filled with gratitude that I get to work with and learn from our amazing children and youth. Having been in this position for seven years, I've had the great joy of watching our young grow into beautiful people. We are so very blessed to have them in our midst.

We are looking forward another great year in 2020.

Anne Ellis

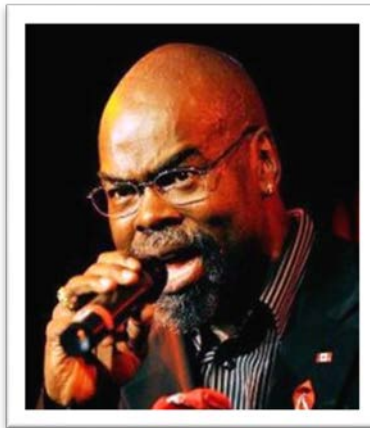
MUSIC LEADER | JULIAN PATTISON



Our exuberant group of singers continues to gather most Sunday mornings throughout the school year. Many thanks to Michelle and Marc Coulombe, Ross Dunnet, Eunice Findlay, Alan Furniss, Bobbie Grimard, Susie Ha, Ian Jarvis, Mardi and Stan Joughin, Bonnie Meehan, Ron Wilkinson, and Sylvia and Gert Zandberg for their musical contributions. We also very much appreciate Kelly Nobles, Mary Sparks, Ruth Townsend and Ian Jarvis for their instrumental contributions throughout the year.

Thanks to Caitlin Hayes, Dominique Hogan, Sarah Jaysmith, Kelly Nobles, Bill Sample and Ruth Townsend who offered their leadership through the summer.

Most months we welcome and enjoy Marcus Mosely and Dominique Hogan's leadership as they lead the community Jubilee Choir, joined by Dan Morrison and Christian Findlay who round out the band. We have been fortunate that Bill Sample has been able to fill in during Dominique's absence this fall. So much talent among us! We have experienced truly inspiring and moving worship and look forward to hearing the choir and their dynamic musical talents.



The "family band" made a repeat appearance on Advent IV, accompanying several hymns to enormous applause - thanks again to Mary Sparks for leading the bunch! We were blessed by Marcus and Mary's musical leadership for the Blue Christmas service; we also welcomed a duet and a trio on Christmas Eve - special thanks to Julia and Olivia Santacrocce who sang Do You Hear What I Hear, as well as Catherine, Michelle and Mary who sang O Little Town of Bethlehem.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to music at MSUC this year!

Respectfully submitted,

Julian Pattison

ADMINISTRATOR/COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR | CINDY NELMS



The past year seemed to pass very quickly and without incidence.

Due to the slower pace at the church during the summer months, the administration office hours were cut down to 20 hours per week and the office was closed on Fridays. Starting in October, the administration office hours were changed to a Tuesday to Friday schedule.

I am thrilled that Alexis Doss has joined us as the new Thrift Shop Manager, having her onboard has made a significant difference to my work load. Thanks to Sharon Brain and Dilys Sostad for coordinating the renovation of a shared office space for Alexis and our bookkeeper Cheryl Shott, and providing much needed storage space.

We had a busy rental schedule this past year and secured two new long-term renters.

Well known composer Michael Conway Baker has signed on for a series of Sunday afternoon classical music concerts. Concerts are by donation, with proceeds being donated to the Downtown Eastside First United Church. School's Out Program, an afterschool program which is run by the Parkgate Community Services Society joined us in late November. They rent the North Foyer every Monday from 2:30pm-5:30pm.

The monthly Deep Cove Coffee House concerts have gained more popular with improved advertising exposure. The new 60/40 split, in favour of the Deep Cove Coffee House, allows them to provide better pay to their many talented musicians.

RCA Couples Group did not renew their rental agreement as of their most members commute from the valley.

Thank you to Donna Pawluk, who leads the Counting Team, along with Barry Fenton, Gladys Johnson, and their latest addition, Marlene Plezia, for managing the weekly bank deposits.

I am incredibly grateful to James Fulton for fixing everything and anything that requires attention; even when it is a 3am alarm call! And Bud Taggart, whose endless energy and willingness to always lend a helping hand, is very appreciated.

I am blessed to work with a such a wonderful group of caring and kind people!

Warmly,

Cindy Nelms

PROPERTY TEAM | DILYS SOSTAD



The Property team, formally known as the Administration team, is responsible for the maintenance of our building and grounds. Members of the team are, James Fulton, Burton Branch, Gladys Johnston, Cindy Nelms, and me. Leslie Buerschaper, and Jill Blair attend meetings as time permits and Sheldhan Simonss provides janitorial services.

2019 has been a relatively quiet year for our team following a very busy 2018. Work has continued on the Sanctuary sound system with two new speakers, which we already owned, installed. Now that the control equipment is located at the back of the sanctuary the quality of sound has improved. Owen is doing an excellent job managing the sound board, and our renters are pleased with the upgrades. However, the system is still old technology and complicated to use. We are exploring the possibility of changing to a digital system and have had several trial runs with one.

The cupboard previously designated for sound equipment is no longer needed in its entirety for that purpose. Extra equipment has been sold or disposed of and new shelves installed. Cindy is using the extra space for general supplies.

The janitorial cupboard also had a mini makeover. Our ancient washer and dryer finally gave up and were not worth fixing. New stacking washer and dryer were purchased which take up slightly less room. During the installation it was discovered that the electrical wiring was incorrect, and we are lucky not to have had any problems with it. Wiring was replaced and the machines are working well. The preschool is particularly happy.

Electrical work was also done in the kitchen including the rewiring of several outlets. We are happy with this work and nothing has fused since it was done. Our safe also needed an upgrade and a new solenoid was installed.

Outside the grounds are as beautiful as ever due to Gladys and her gardening crew. We had a successful spring clean-up this year, and a mini leaf clean-up in the fall. Professional arborists were hired in the spring to trim the trees which were overhanging the sidewalk on the west side of the property. Having a separate garden shed has proved invaluable to gardeners who now use the equipment there instead of bringing tools from home each time they work. One unfortunate aspect of the shed is that it was broken into twice in the early summer. Several tools and a very useful cart were stolen, and damage done to the door and locks. The police were called and visited. The door was repaired, and a new very substantial lock installed and, a motion sensitive light has been placed on the thrift shop shed roof which directly shines on the garden shed. So far, no further break-ins.

Awning was extended along the side of the building and around the back to the pre-school entrance. It provides much needed usable space in wet weather.

There are several projects in the planning stage for 2020 and the team is happy to continue maintaining our beautiful well used building.

Submitted by Dilys Sostad, On behalf of the Property Team



WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT TEAM

The WCD team is responsible for the worshipping life and faith formation of people of all ages in our church. We meet monthly to discuss seasonal themes, plan for the future and reflect on past events and services. For the past two years we have been using a resource called “The Worship Design Studio” to inspire our worship and faith formation offerings. Most of our team attended a training session with the founder of the studio in the fall of 2017. Connecting Sunday morning worship, Children’s Community and installations in the outside oculus and foyer has provided opportunities for our entire community to engage the Christian seasons in creative ways.



Epiphany: The season after Christmas began with our now annual “Star Gift” Sunday in which we distribute a word written on a paper star to inspire and guide our lives for the year to come. We hear stories from various individuals about the way their star gift from the previous year impacts them then we each receive our star gift for the new year.

To round out the 2019 season of Epiphany, we moved into a series we called “What’s so Good about the News?” In an era of “fake news” we pondered the relevancy of the Good News of the Gospel. As part of this series we dedicated our beautiful

new banner entitled “Holy and Fertile Ground” made possible through a generous donation from the estate of Gary Ward.

To attempt to connect with the wider community, we ended the Epiphany season with a Mardi Gras Pancake party held on a Thursday evening so we could include customers from the Thrift Shop. Everyone delighted in our “Royal Cupcakes” providing one lucky person who found a surprise in their cupcake with the honour of wearing a crown for the rest of the evening. We were excited to see that our Spiritual Practice stations in the sanctuary attracted several young families.

Lent: During Holy Week we hear Jesus ask his disciples to “Watch and Pray” with him. Our theme this year asked us to ponder how we allow prayer to shape and form us in the same way it shaped and formed Jesus’ life. Beginning on Ash Wednesday we moved through the next six weeks exploring various forms of prayer including The Lord’s Prayer, prayers of petition, lament and the prayer of Great Thanksgiving that is part of our Communion Liturgy.

Over the course of a weekend in March, Rev. Nancy led a retreat on “Praying through the Experiences of our Lives” in which we reflected on the way God has been present in our lives even in the moments we had felt only absence.

Throughout the season we hosted weekly labyrinth walks before worship on Sundays and then daily during Holy Week, followed by communion.



On Palm Sunday we celebrated the reception of new members to the church and on Good Friday we gathered to remember Jesus' life and death and the influence his teachings and presence have had on our own lives. We tended his "broken body by placing flower petals and cedar around the cross.

Easter was celebrated with the usual fanfare and led by the Gospel Choir and our wonderful musical team of Julian, Marcus and Dominique.

Easter: During the 50 days that take us from Easter to Pentecost we embraced the call to "Dare to Live"

through worship based on the lectionary texts for the season inviting us to "See, Feed, Listen, Feel, Heal and Unite." Ward and Catherine Branch led the congregation in celebrating the history of the United Church of Canada on the final Sunday in this series.

Pentecost: We celebrated the ordination of the Rev. Carla Wilks as well as the confirmation of her daughter Heather. Carla presided at the communion table for the first time as an ordered minister. The Spirit was definitely moving on this day of celebration!

Summer: As summer approached, we said goodbye to our wonderful Sound Technician Sean Sallis-Lyon and trained Owen Hoover to take his place. We are so grateful for Owen's faithful and attentive operation of the power point and sound system and all his patience with our often last minute requests.

Summer worship leadership alternated between Rev. Nancy and Rev. Carla to accommodate each of their vacation schedules.

Fall: On Labour Day weekend we held our annual outdoor service at Cates Park and introduced our theme for the Fall "We All Have a Story" beginning with "The Story of Creation." For six weeks we worshipped consecutively with the Oceans, Cosmos, Fauna, Rivers, Storms and Forest. We gathered weekly around an altar paying homage to each aspect of creation while we invited various elements to join us in our worship.

On October 6 we joined our Christian brothers and sisters around the world for Worldwide Communion Day. That evening we made a Covenant with Rev. Carla and the Pacific Mountain Region as we officially recognized Carla's call to ministry in our midst. It was a pleasure to welcome members of the wider church and particularly the folks from Carla's home congregation of Jubilee United for this very special occasion in the life of our church.

After focusing on the Story of Creation for several weeks, in November we turned our attention to The Story of Humanity as we engaged stories from the Book of Genesis on Sunday mornings and on Tuesday afternoons through a bible study group called "Failing, Falling and Flying." We started and ended this series with a baptism and in between looked at the ways God is with us in our brokenness. In early November we welcomed back Rabbi Laura Duhan-Kaplan to reflect on the story of Cain and Abel.

Advent and Christmas: We ended 2019 with The Story of Christmas. Our Advent theme "The Journey" was based on a book of reflections written by Adam Hamilton by the same title. A beautiful new banner

created for this series by Carol Pettigrew was a central focus during worship. The silhouette of Bethlehem was echoed throughout our building in the café space, at the prayer wall and in the outside oculus providing all who entered the building an opportunity to connect with our theme. Over the four weeks of Advent we journeyed with Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth and the Shepherds. Along the way we were invited to share words of blessing to those who have been a source of encouragement or who needed to receive encouragement and many of us took small loaves of bread to offer hospitality to those who might least expect it. On the fourth Sunday of Advent as we were ministered to once again by the intergenerational Christmas Band led by Mary Sparks.

Christmas Eve as usual saw the church pews fill up both at 4 and 7 pm. The early service for young families keeps growing every year. Watching the children come forward dressed as shepherd, magi and angels is a highlight of this service. At 7pm we heard reflections from members of our congregation whose journeys have taken them on unexpected pathways calling forth courage and commitment.

Adult Faith Formation

The two mainstays of Adult Formation continue to be Monday night Meditation and The Work practice group. While The Work attracts a small but committed group, the Monday night Meditation group continues to grow with up to 25 participants gathering to practise together.

In the Spring, Rev. Carla led a group of 18 people who studied Marcus Borg's "Heart of Christianity" over a period of 9 weeks.

During the Fall, a group of 12 people studied the Book of Genesis together as part of the Failing, Falling and Flying series.

We also offered two Soul-Full suppers this year for Mardi Gras and Advent. Both were offered on Thursday evenings and attended by members of the congregation and the wider community.

Please see Anne Ellis' report for information about Youth and Children's Faith Formation.

We are grateful to Leslie Buerschaper who throughout the year brings our themes to life in the outside oculus and to Carol Pettigrew whose gifts for creating beautiful worship centres enhance our Sunday morning experience. Kathryn Ferris makes sure we have what we need for communion each month and Jen-Beth Fulton, the longest standing member of our team offers her wisdom, encouragement and practical support in too many ways to count.

Respectfully submitted: Rev. Nancy Talbot, Rev. Carla Wilks, Anne Ellis, Julian Pattison, Jen-Beth Fulton, Carol Pettigrew and Kathryn Ferris.

MISSION AND OUTREACH | BARRY FENTON

2019 was another successful year providing for others in our community and the downtown Eastside through First United Church. I am pleased to announce that Sherrill McLeary joined our team, which makes five members on the M&O Team. The remaining four include Barb Ralph, Reverend Carla Wilks, Susan Ettinger and myself, Barry Fenton. Jill Blair also assists the M&O Team by delivering donated items to First United on a regular basis.

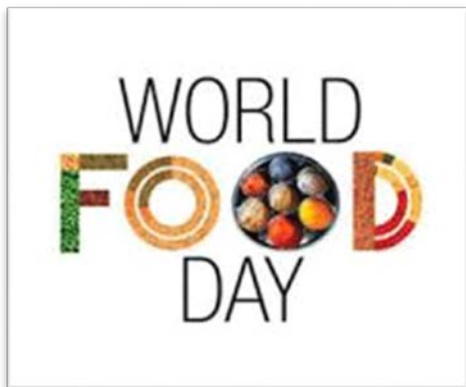
Katherine McKay, after providing excellent Leadership as Chair for the M&O Committee for many years, has stepped off the M&O Committee and continues as an active volunteer at the church. We all appreciate her hard work and Leadership!

Outreach to First United Church

Urgent material needs as expressed by the weekly First United Bulletin are monitored and items gathered from the Thrift Shop whenever possible.

Sanctuary/Lounge - items such as magazines, textbooks, books, games, puzzles, crafts and writing materials that are not sold in the Thrift Shop are sent to community members at First United to enjoy.

Christmas in June - monetary donations and dozens of large paper bags were filled with non-perishable items to replenish First United's food stores. Total donations received: \$415



World Food Day - in October, the congregation had the opportunity to purchase displayed non-perishable items and the givings equivalent was \$520 of groceries and monetary donations.

Ready Readers - hundreds of pairs of reading glasses are provided annually so that the downtown eastside community members can read and fill out important forms.

In 2019, our congregation donated a total of \$44,915 to First United Church Community Ministry Society. This came from specific fundraising programs done through the M&O Team in addition to the dedicated percentage of Thrift Shop profits.

2019 MSUC Giving Tree Program

The Giving Tree is put up annually in the sanctuary at the beginning of December so that congregation members, Mt Seymour Preschool families, Mt Seymour children and youth and others can donate gifts for First United Church DTES community members and the local North Shore Youth Safe House (NSYSH).

The 2019 MSUC Giving Tree program was a big success with significant donations via our congregation, the Mt Seymour Preschool and our MSUC children.

Outreach to the North Shore Youth Safe House (NSYSH)

North Shore Youth Safe House (NSYSH)

On December 23rd Paul Butler from the NSYSH came and collected \$2,711.50 from our Christmas Eve offering for the NSYSH.

Other items collected for the NSYSH were:

- \$570 in gift cards for Tim Hortons, Subway, Dollarama, Safeway, Walmart, Shoppers, Starbucks, McDonald's, Cineplex, and Compass Cards.
- 13 PJs, track suit, 3 sweaters, 33 pairs of socks, 5 pairs of gloves, 19 scarves, 4 pairs of slippers, 60 assorted toiletries/kits and makeup, 7 tote bags, 28 razors, 7 stuffed animals and 3 colouring books for teens.

Christmas cards - once again the Children's Community worked hard on making lovely Christmas cards for the Youth to receive Christmas morning.

Thrift Shop Gift Cards – All NSYSH residents and alumni received Thrift Shop Gift Certificates at their Christmas dinner.





Paul Butler - the Youth Services Coordinator at Hollyburn Family Services (NSYSH) spoke from the heart to the congregation again in 2019. His presentations highlighted the importance of the Giving Tree donations to the youth at the NSYSH and Paul also identified the opportunity for the Thrift Shop to be a major contributor to outfitting the new NSYSH four bedroom home early in 2020. Details and pictures will be highlighted in the 2020 Annual Report.

First United Church Donations

Just after Christmas all the items for First United were collected and boxed ready for delivery to First United in early January.

- Items collected were: 200 pairs of socks, 25 gloves and mitts, 47 toques, 6 scarves, 19 underwear, 6 coats, 12 rain ponchos, 1 waterproof sheet, 64 toothbrushes, 44 toothpaste, 4 dental floss, 59 razors, 4 deodorant, 5 bars of soap, 32 shampoo/conditioner, 8 boxes of Band-Aids, 3 toiletry kits, 1 blanket.

MTSUC Thrift Shop Support

Team members volunteer time weekly in “the shop”

Tea service - Barb coordinates the weekly tea service on Thursdays and the **Annual Christmas Tea** - for the patrons.

Thrift Shop Gift Cards – Special individual Thrift Shop Gift Certificates were distributed at Christmas to low income families in our immediate neighbourhood.

Alzheimer Café - In 2018, this initiative was spearheaded in Vancouver by Rev. Carla Wilks and was supported by the M&O Budget. The success of these Alzheimer Cafés in 2018 and 2019 has demonstrated the opportunity to significantly expand the frequency of this program in 2020 and add MSUC as a host site.

Maundy Thursday Dinner - The M&O Team coordinated the Maundy Thursday dinner for the broader community which included Thrift Shop shoppers, volunteers, and other local residents. The result was a record turnout for this event. The leftover food and desserts were taken to the Lookout Society and shared with their residents later that evening.

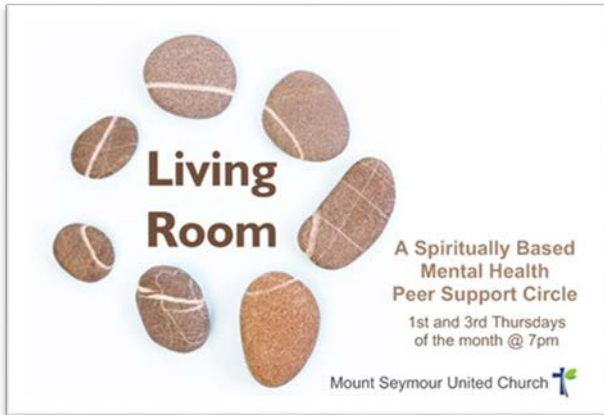
Christmas Eve Services at 4 and 7 PM - As a new council led initiative to show “Living Generously” with people in need at Christmas, all the cash and designated donations made at both the 4 and 7 PM MSUC Christmas Eve services were donated to CanaDares and NSYSH. In total this amounted to \$4,888.83

I would like to extend an enormous heartfelt thank-you to all those congregation members that support our many programs.

Respectfully,

Barry Fenton, Chair

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY | ANNE ELLIS



Living Room Peer Support Group

This year marks the third anniversary of our Living Room Peer Support Group at Mount Seymour. The group is co-facilitated by Anne Ellis and Leslie Buerschaper. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8:30pm. We still find the gap between meetings when we have a five-week month is too big so in five-week months we try to meet on the last Tuesday of the month.

We have had a few people drop in as well as a group from the congregation that attend on a regular basis.

Our group structure is a comfortable working model for our meetings. We start by lighting our candle and move to a brief check in and then spend the bulk of our time sharing. We close in prayer.

We have formed a close-knit group of people through common experience and a love in God. The group members continue to strengthen their bonds and trust in one another and now often support each other outside of regular meetings.

Over the last year our participants have shared their highs and very deep lows. We have celebrated and grieved together. All are very thankful for our group and often say that knowing we are there helps them cope with the extremely hard times.

Through solidarity, the group continues to be a collection of people who have become more confident in living with their mental illness by knowing they have a safe place to share, celebrate, break down and be. Most importantly the Living Room group at Mount Seymour reminds those living with mental illness that they are not alone, that they are loved and a valuable part of the community. With support we can break through barriers and recover.



Mental Health First Aid Training

Mount Seymour Council made the decision to partially sponsor and host a Mental Health First Aid course for people who work with children and youth, taught by the Canadian Mental Health Association. It was offered to our church, our community and interested volunteers in our Thrift Shop. The course was held on March 9 and 10, 2019, and there was a total of 21 participants, with equal participation from our congregation, our Thrift Shop, from other churches in the Pacific Mountain Region and from Girl Guides. We learned how to identify warning signs and how to provide early support to someone developing a mental health problem. The course helped us to increase awareness and confidence and decrease stigma of mental illness and people who are in mental health crises.

THRIFT SHOP | ALEXIS DOSS



As we end our fourth year in our dedicated shop space, we can report that we continue to be a hardworking and a successful social enterprise.

This year, Anne Devent retired after years of tireless work as Thrift Shop merchandising manager she has continued to do scrap jewelry sales for us. Sharon Brain and Barb Ralph retired from the leadership team but have stayed on as volunteers.

The leadership team in 2019 consisted of Irene Huva (Merchandising Leader), Nancy McMillin (Shop Day Scheduling Leader), Meg Clarke (Church Liaison), Gail Whitney and Lima Branch stayed on as (Volunteer Well-Being leaders), Cathy Hall (tea shoppe leader) and Carol Kelly (Thursday Leader).

As Thrift Shop Manager, I continue to work full-time.

We continue to receive more good products than we could sell which led us to open Saturdays.

Donations continued to increase and for a short while we struggled to keep pace with the ever-increasing number of donated items due to our loss of DDA pickups.

Developmental Disability Association (DDA) trucks had been picking up our donations six times a week (up from once or twice a week the previous year).

Our resourceful team quickly went into action and secured not only one, but three organizations to pickup our unwanted items. Big Brothers, Diabetes Association Canada and Salvation Army. We have also started sending unsellable clothing to the recycling centre.

We expect this influx to increase and know we must find creative ways to handle it. The Council has contacted a strategic planner to help come up with a plan for the shop.

Our regular customers continue to increase in numbers as does our revenue. It is not uncommon to have a line up at the doors for opening at 11 am of 70 or more. We even had a successful social media contest in which we gave one lucky shopper a gift certificate and a VIP front of the line pass. We have also had the biggest sales day yet at \$6000 in revenue.

The number of volunteers is increasing. This year we have accepted 15 new members.

Some of the improvements we have experienced over this past year include:

- New shelving in the shed
- New movable storage bins for the shop
- New metal shelving for outdoor sales (donated by Carol Kelly's friend)
- New outdoor umbrella (donated by Roger and Sharon Brain)

- New layout of shop
- New name tags and aprons for the volunteers
- Saturday shop days
- Grad events
- New Instagram page for the thrift shop

Communications to our volunteers (now over 100) continues to improve. We post minutes of our Team Meetings in the Shop and email a monthly newsletter and updates to each volunteer. In addition to the newsletters we also get regular updates at our daily teatime.

The new improved MSUC website has also been helpful and we have launched a Thrift Shop Facebook page (for Thrift Shop volunteers only).

Some of the special events we held or participated in during 2018:

- January we gathered at PARC Cedar Springs the annual Volunteer Appreciation Tea. Over 45 volunteers came for delicious food and pleasant times, all catered by Cedar Springs.
- At our Annual Meeting in March our Management Team had decreased by two members.
- Maundy Thursday dinner for Thrift Shop customers and volunteers was well attended again this year. Coupons were again this year given to each person for use in the Café on Thursdays.
- During September and November, we held two “blitz” sorting/pricing events: Halloween and Christmas, respectively. We encourage all volunteers and their friends and family to attend, we price the seasonal items stored over the year. It is a day when we get to meet volunteers that we do not necessarily work with during the week.
- Men’s Turkey Luncheon – this year held following the church service. Again, we opened the Thrift Shop for two hours to invite Church folks, as well as regular customers, to get to know the shop better. Revenue for the day went to First United to support their work in the Downtown Eastside.
- Christmas Customers Appreciation day – held on Thursday, December 20. Complimentary goodies and coffee/tea were served in the Café to our customers. The Cafe area was filled with music, caroling, chat and fun for much of the day. We are grateful to Ruth Townsend for leading the music.

Charitable Outreach

This year we donated \$38,810.19 to Downtown Eastside First United Church.

Charities we supported with donations this year were:

Developmental Disabilities Association - daily pickup of donations with their trucks, we were a huge supporter of this charity.

Big Brothers - with trucks coming twice a week to pickup donations.

Diabetes Canada - with trucks coming once a week to pickup donations.

Salvation Army - with trucks coming twice a week to pickup donations.

First United - a list of needed items is provided each week. We watch for and pack and a volunteer, Jill Blair, drives a carload over town every two weeks. Magazines and some books to Katherine McKay for distribution to the lounge.

Lions Housing Foundation Christmas Vouchers - \$50 merchandise certificates were given to low income families within the Lions housing foundation.

Rain City - we donate cutlery and dishes to this organization that helps women dealing with recovery from drug addiction.

Sanitary Napkin Project - requires dark flannelette and quilts prints. A box is stored in the sorting room with Lima’s fabric bin for collection each week.

North Shore Women’s Centre - Toiletries and makeup are driven to the centre by Deborah.

Shirts to Cambodia - men's dress shirts in excellent condition are collected and sold to the organizer on Thursdays for \$2.00 each.

Shoes to Nairobi - good men/women's shoes are collected in the storage shed for Jane. She picks them up monthly and pays \$2.00/pair.

Clothing for Refugees - Jen-Beth keeps us updated on the needs and works with Lima on collection and pickup as required.

Yarn for Prayer Shawls - Sylvia picks up yarn as needed.

Looking Glass Project - Connie O'Connor (volunteer) takes yarn that will not sell in the Shop for the coordinator of this project.

High School IB Program - Connie O'Connor collects and delivers yarn/fabric not saleable in the Shop to this program.

North Shore Red Cross - items are collected and delivered by Jill Blair.

West Vancouver Seniors Centre - for paperbacks not good enough to sell at the shop

Various **Little Free Libraries** in the Vancouver area - for children's books not good enough to sell at the Thrift Shop.

Crabtree Corner - for children's clothes and items that we are not allowed to sell i.e. cribs, highchairs, etc. plus some bedding.

Respectfully submitted by

Alexis Doss, Manager, MSUC Thrift Shop

2019 Thrift Shop Revenue: (net after expenses)	\$246,046
Approximate Number of Customers Making Purchases:	23,070
Highest Sales: November 14, 2019	\$6226
Number of Active Volunteers:	108



MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL | MICHELLE COULOMBE



M&P Changes in 2019

Last year, we began developing new performance evaluations based on a Mission-Focused Performance Management training event that Rev. Nancy attended led by Susan Beaumont. These performance evaluations focus both on what the staff person does, as well as how they do it, using tasks from the job description, as well as a list of personal, managerial and supervisory core competencies. Cindy, Anne and Alexis have all had their evaluations done in this way.

Rev. Nancy Talbot continues to provide outstanding leadership and oversight, supervision to our ministry team and lay staff, worship, pastoral care, faith formation and spiritual practices to our church community. In February, council adopted the accountability structure that was set out in the comprehensive review, with Nancy supervising all staff, unless delegated to another staff member. In order to support Nancy in her executive and supervisory capacities, a new line item was added to the budget for Leadership Coaching.

Rev. Carla Wilks, has been working diligently and pastorally supervising the volunteers and staff in the Thrift Shop, engaging with the local community, leading worship, book study and Sacred Pause. In 2019 both her position and her supervised ministry experience were made full time. Council approved a Ministry Profile for the position of Minister of Community Outreach and Pastoral Care. This became Carla's new title following her ordination in June.

Our Children and Youth Coordinator, Anne Ellis, had her hours increased to 17.5 hours per week, and she had become a candidate for ordination. Council approved a Profile for the position of Minister of Children, Families and Congregational Life. Her job shifted more towards Youth Group. Anne attended both the Imagine Retreat and the Evolve retreat with our children and youth. Last year was the first year that we were able to pay Anne for attending retreats with our children and youth.

Zoe McMahon was hired as the Children's Community Resource Leader for the younger ages, for up to four Sundays a month, while Anne works with the youth. Zoe's salary is being reimbursed through a Pro-Vision grant.

Cindy Nelms, our church administrator, now very comfortable in her role and having less work related to the Thrift Shop, requested reduced hours from 5 to 4 days a week, beginning in October, with extra hours worked on an as-needed basis. On Cindy's request, we had a trial period of reduced summer hours, where she worked 20 hours a week and everything went fine. Volunteer management was taken out of Cindy's job description.

Julian Pattison's yearly contract has been renewed. He continues to provide us with a wide variety of music during worship. He gracefully and joyfully teaches us new material a half an hour before Sunday morning worship.

Dominique Hogan took a personal leave in 2019 from co-leading the Gospel Choir and has since made the decision to focus on other priorities. We are grateful for all she has given to the MSUC Community over the years. Bill Sample joined Marcus Mosely as a talented accompanist for the renamed Jubilee Choir, and they bring us spirit-filled Gospel music one Sunday a month.

Cheryl Shott, our bookkeeper, was working 6 hours a week for 49 weeks, however, in 2020, she will be shifting to 7-hour days for 37 weeks which will save the church money. We are so grateful for her dedicated service.

Alexis Doss, our Thrift Shop Manager, had her one-year review in October with Rev. Carla Wilks, her immediate supervisor, and me. Her contract was modified to include Saturday openings.

Sean Sallis-Lyon, our Sound Technician, moved on to attend university. Owen Hoover took on the new position of Sound Operator and regularly provides sound and PowerPoint on Sundays. For memorials we have hired outside contractors, Kevin and Tyler.

Sheldhan Simonss, our custodian, continues to clean the church for us on a regular basis.

Gratitudes

Thank you so much to the Ministry and Personnel team this year: Lori Keith, David Ney, and Peter Muirhead. By God's grace and the movement of the Spirit, we continue to do our best to serve the church. Thank you to Catherine Branch for assisting us in the completion of a Mission-Focused Performance Appraisal for Rev. Nancy.

Michelle Coulombe

Chair, Ministry and Personnel Committee

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.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Welcome Team and Sunday Morning Hospitality

These teams continue to flourish under the leadership of Susan Ettinger and Pat Wall. 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!

Newcomers

In the fall members of Council and Staff hosted a gathering for newcomers to the church. We learned something of the diverse journeys that have led people to our door and shared about the ministry of our church. We look forward to welcoming some of these folks into full membership at Mount Seymour United in 2020.

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 (jocherty@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining a group.

Church Library

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. Thank you to Sylvia Zandberg for her faithful tending of this ministry.

The Caring Connection

This group tends 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. This year we created beautiful printed prayer cards using our Advent theme to leave with people we visited. We also helped host the annual Blue Christmas service.

Thank you to Sherrill McLeary, Jen-Beth Fulton, Ruth Townsend, Mardi Joughin, Barbel Jurrius and Katie Ekroth for this valuable ministry.

FUNDRAISERS AND EVENTS

Deep Cove Coffee House

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 \$15, 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 donate home baking. Last year, the Coffee House raised over \$4280 for the church. Thanks to John Lyon, Jill Blair and community volunteers that help to make the Coffee Houses a success.

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.

Annual Turkey Lunch, Advent Craft, Thrift and Bake Sale

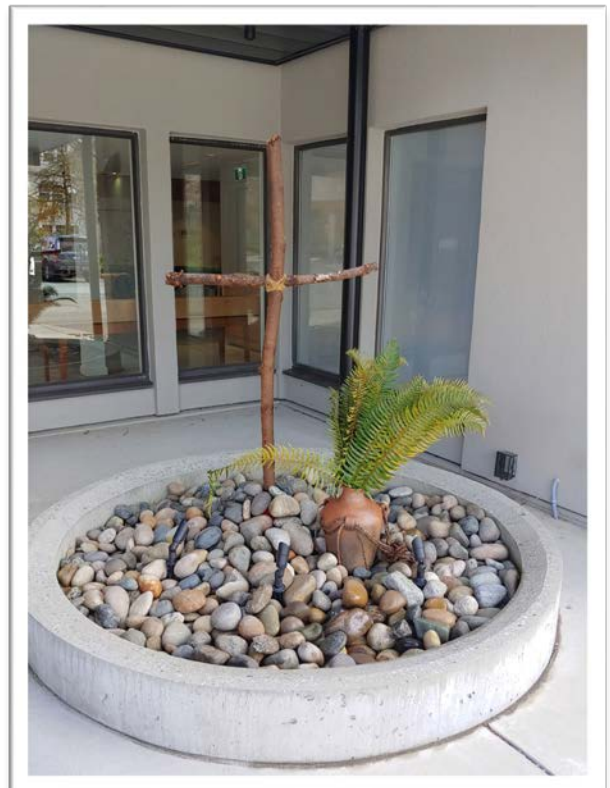
This year once again we invited the community to join us to shop and share a wonderful Turkey Lunch after service on Sunday, December 1. It turned out to be one of the largest events we have had in years. We were particularly pleased to extend an invitation to join us to those living in the newly built Turning Point recovery house. Thanks to everyone for their generous support for this gathering which not only raises funds for the church but welcomes the wider community into our midst. Total proceeds for the Turkey Lunch including the Bake Sale and Thrift Shop sales was \$1767.

Parkgate Community Days Tree Decorating

Parkgate Community Days were cancelled this year, but we were able to participate once again in the tree decorating event hosted by the Community Centre. We were told by some of the families that attended our 4pm Christmas Eve service that they read about it on our tree. Thanks to Anne Ellis and Rev. Carla Wilks for decorating our tree.



ART INSTALLATIONS



PASSAGES

Baptisms

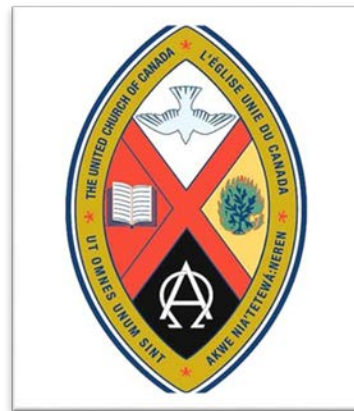
Cora Ismé Hogarth
Vienna Rose McFarlane

Baptism Date

October 20, 2019
November 24, 2019

Reaffirmation of Faith

Patrick Brown
Bonnie Cratchley
Katie Ekroth
Heather Wilks Jenkins
Ginny Lovelidge



Transfer of Membership

Martin and Barbel Jurrius
Lynda Kearns

We Remember

John Bremner
Ted Butterfield
David Holowaty
Joan Margaret Ogden
George William Pateman
William Ross Tracey
Donna Crook

Memorial Service

April 5, 2019
May 11, 2019
May 15, 2019
May 27, 2019
August 28, 2019
November 1, 2019
November 23, 2019

Memorial Services were also held offsite for Thrift Shop Volunteers Barbara Waldie and Jack McMahon

RENTALS

In addition to the many church-related activities taking place in our church building, many community groups rent our facilities on either a long-term or occasional basis. These groups include the following:

Long-Term Renters:

Comfort In The Cove
JOJY Music for Children
Michael Conway Baker
Mount Seymour Preschool
North Shore Chorus
Parkgate Community Society
RCA Couples Group
Soul Fitness Ltd.

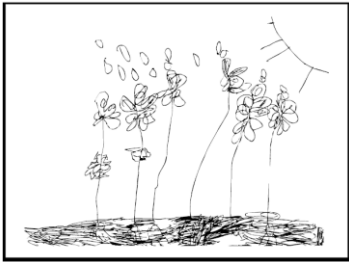
Concerts and Recitals:

Argyle Secondary School
Burstin With Broadway
Carson Graham Secondary School
Deep Cove Coffee House Concerts
Deep Cove Music
Little Mountain Brass Band
Marcus Mosely Chorale
North Shore Chorus
Pro Nova Ensemble
Seycove Secondary School
Vancouver Orpheus Men's Choir
Windsor Secondary School

Meetings and Events:

11th Seymour Scout Group
All Candidates
AWM Strata
Parkgate Manor AGM

MOUNT SEYMOUR CHILD DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY | GICELA SALVADOR & SHANNON SEKORA



**Mount Seymour Preschool
Annual Report - January 2019**

Current Staff:

This school year we welcome three new staff to our preschool, Gicela Salvador and Sofia Chavez and Shannon Sekora. Our team this year consists of four educators and one administrator. Gicela Salvador has taken the role of lead teacher and works full time hours. Sofia Chavez is our part- time educator and works only mornings. Shannon Sekora is our administrator and works part- time.

- 3 AM: Gicela, Akane, Sofia & Mag (contracted as support)
- 4 AM: Gicela, Akane, Sofia & Mag (contracted as support Friday)
- 3/4 PM: Gicela, Akane & Mag (contracted as support Tuesday & Thursday)
- Administrator: Shannon Sekora

Current Board Members:

- President: Ken Neal
- Vice President: Kristin Stewart
- Secretary: Melanie Harmer
- Treasurer: Lynda Freeman
- Member At Large: Shannon Sekora

Mount Seymour Preschool has been committed to serving 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, as well as the development of social responsibility. Our certified and experienced Early Childhood Educators are committed to inclusive practices that encourage communication, critical thinking, creativity, and respect for each other as well as our environment.

Current Programming:		
3-year-old Morning Program	3/4-year-old Afternoon Program	4-year-old Morning Program
Tuesday & Thursday	Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday	Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9am-12pm	1:00pm-3:30pm (Tu/Th) 1:30pm-3:30pm (W)	9:15am-12:45pm (M/F) 9:00am-12:30pm (W)

All three of our programs are currently full and we have children waitlisted.

Curriculum Exploration:

In our 4-year old classroom as the season changed the children noticed how our garden and forest transformed, the children started to discover mushrooms and fungus all over our playground and began to wonder what it was? How does it grow? Can we touch it?

As the interests of the children have grown, we have started a study of mushrooms together.

In our 3-year old class, inspired by their interest in shapes and colours we have been working on a fabric quilt by adding different shapes, materials and colours.

In our 3 to 4-year classroom we have begun to explore building houses, buildings and offices.

Programming for 2020/2021:

We have amended our programming for 2020/2021 slightly to better meet the needs of the children and educators. Registration for 2020/2021 for current families is underway, and our open house for new families was held on February 7th, with public registration starting shortly thereafter. We currently have a healthy waitlist of new families wishing to enrol in our preschool for 2020/2021.

2020/2021 Programming:		
3-yea- old Morning Program	¾-year-old Afternoon Program	4-year-old Afternoon program
Tuesday and Thursday	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
9:00am to 11:30am	12:30pm-3:30pm (Tu/Th) 1:00pm-3:30pm (W)	9:00am-12:00pm

Building Community:

We love connecting and building community with our church and we feel grateful for the space that has been provided to the preschool as well as our families. During 2019, we gathered and participated together in preschool’s and church’s events and projects such as: Pasta family-style community meal, The Raven play, graduation, parents’ orientation, Welcome Tea and the Gift of Giving Project.





Gift of Giving Christmas Project:

In December, we invited our preschool families to participate in our Gift of Giving Christmas Project. Prior to Christmas, the children sorted and counted all the donations and put them together to take them to giving tree. 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!

We thank you all for your continued support and hope that you can join us for our events and family- style community meals this year as well.

Fundraising Events:

Our annual Pub Night Fundraiser will be held on April 18th at Seymour's Pub. We will be hosting a silent auction and a toonie toss. This is a hugely successful fundraiser for the preschool, so everyone is welcome to join us. Tickets will go on sale at the end of February. Tickets are \$25.00 which gives each ticket holder a \$15.00 Seymour's credit to use towards food and/or drinks at the event. This year we are fundraising to update our indoor classroom supplies and furniture. We strongly believe updated supplies and equipment will enhance the educational experiences of all our children and families, as well as our surrounding community.

We feel fortunate to be a part of the church community and for the space that has been provided to the preschool as well as our families. We hope to maintain our connection with the church community and remain in dialogue with the many different programs offered through the church.

We thank you all for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Teachers of Mount Seymour Preschool

APPENDIX 1 | MINUTES OF 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Mount Seymour United Church Held at 1200 Parkgate Avenue, North Vancouver, BC Sunday, March 3, 2019

The following 64 members/adherents were present:

Members/Adherents: Lori Keith, Marc Coulombe, Stan Joughin, Carla Wilks, Cindy Nelms, Doug Querns, Ellen Muirhead, Bill Mathieson, Catherine Branch, Alexis Doss, Patrick Brown, Dilys Sostad, Heather Wilks, Susan Ettinger, Sherrill McLeary, Mardi Joughin, Virginia Wood, Ross Dunnet, Bryan Ralph, Barbara Ralph, Carol Pettigrew, Joan Fowler, Ken Fowler, Carol Ballard, Mike Hetherington, Burton Branch, A.M. Johnston, Gladys Johnston, Lima Branch, Heather Andrews, Steve Wellenbrink, Barry Fenton, Frank Luba, Anne Ellis, Ruth Townsend, Joyce Jones, Sean Sallis-Lyon, Mary Sparks, Brenda Fawkes, Sylvia Zandberg, Gert Zandberg, Bonnie Cratchley, Marilyn Thorpe, Dian Magee, Nancy Scheer, Carol Kelly, Marianne Hansen, Ward Branch, Peter Muirhead, Scott Curry, Fiona Curry, Katherine McKay, McKenzie Querns, Jim Andrews, Nancy Talbot, James Fulton, Gail Reed, Jen-Beth Fulton, Michelle Coulombe, Meg Clarke, Verna Wilson, Marlene Plezia, Eunice Findlay, Kim Branch (recording secretary)

1. **Chair Catherine Branch** welcomed those present, thanked Peter and Ellen Muirhead for preparing the lunch, and called the meeting to order at 11:45 pm. Anne Ellis shared thanks to Children's Community for the centre pieces.
2. **Rev. Nancy Talbot** opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. Catherine Branch confirmed there was a quorum present.
4. **Motion to give adherents the right to vote**
M/S (Marc Coulombe/Marianne Harris) that adherents can be permitted to vote. **Carried.**
5. **Motion to approve AGM Agenda**
Amendments to the agenda from the floor:
Item 6c.: Add Alexis Doss as a staff member present.
Item 16a: Change end year of council members Barry Fenton and Katherine McKay to 2018.
M/S (Doug Querns/Barry Fenton) that the agenda be approved as amended. **Carried.**
6. **Introduction of Council members and staff**
Catherine Branch introduced council members and staff present.
7. **Motion to approve AGM Minutes of February 25, 2018**

M/S (Doug Querns/Barb Ralph) that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of February 25, 2018 be approved. **Carried**

- 8. Minister's Report:** Rev. Nancy Talbot provided a summary of the past year, in particular to provide an update of her health status. She shared gratitude for Carla Wilks stepping into a ministerial role during her Supervised Ministry Experience and Catherine Branch's leadership during her leave.

A comprehensive staffing review took place during the year, to study staffing and accountability needs of the church. Kathy Davies from the BC Conference provided valuable assistance during this process.

- 9. Team Reports are available in the Annual Report. Questions can be directed to the Chair or team.**

10. Report on the Kerr Bequest

Catherine Branch provided an overview of council activities related to the Kerr Bequest. A report is available in the Annual Report.

The amount of the bequest ended up being \$1.3 million.

Meetings were held with the congregation last March.

Decisions were taken by the Council to replenish contingency funds, with amounts to be held in two chunks: \$300,000 in a regular investment account and \$800,000 to be held in perpetuity in long term investments with income (approximately \$20,000 to \$30,000) used annually.

Church programs were reviewed, noting that an amazing number of activities are held which all have impact. This confirms that MSUC is a welcoming and caring community with a desire to service the larger community.

A strong volunteer energy is present, especially in the Thrift Shop which has over 100 volunteers. There is a desire to better serve volunteers and customers, with a larger ministerial presence. Opening on Saturdays allows for youth volunteers to participate and provides another opportunity to minister, such as by providing a meal and alternative spiritual practices. Introducing an Alzheimer's Café is also being explored.

A keen interest exists to spend the Kerr funds according to the church values.

11. MPS for Minister of Community Outreach & Pastoral Care and revision of the job description for Minister of Children, Families & Congregational Life

A staffing model has been recommended as presented in the Comprehensive Review report, funded in part by the Kerr Bequest if necessary, after using funds from an increase in givings, Thrift Shop revenues, and the potential for funding from grants.

The lead minister will remain in place as is. A second full time minister dedicated to community outreach and pastoral care is proposed. This position is currently in the budget at 0.75 FTE. Also

proposed is that the role of the Minister of Children and Family be expanded to include Congregational Life at 17.5 hours, with a focus on small group ministries. Job descriptions have been available for the mandatory 2-week period.

A question from the floor related to volunteer hours needed for potential meals on Saturdays. This will need to be tested and is currently only in the planning stage.

A question from the floor requested more information about the job descriptions and selection. The process was clarified that UCC policies were followed. The search committee will make a recommendation to the congregation to make a call. Posting the job publicly is not required, since candidates are already in place.

12. Treasurer's Report 2018 Financial Statements and 2019 Budget (Barry Fenton for Roger Brain):

Barry Fenton presented the Financial Statements for 2018. Highlights:

- Total givings decreased from 2017 to \$147,893. A significant fundraising campaign took place in 2017 to complete a major infrastructure project (roof and HVAC).
- Building rentals revenue increased to \$38,770 due to 2017 rental income received in 2018 and revenue from First Memorial (Boal Chapel) during their renovation.
- Thrift Shop sales of \$225,252 were a substantial increase from 2017. In late 2018, Alexis Doss joined the staff as our new Thrift Shop manager.
- Total revenues of \$442,770, which was an increase over 2017.
- Administration expenses increased due to building maintenance and handyperson.
- Ministry and Personnel expenses are higher than 2017, however this is due to a long-term disability leave in 2017.
- The donation to First United has increased to a percentage of the Thrift Shop revenue, from previous flat amount. Mission and Outreach contributions increased to \$62,113.
- Total expenses were \$448,589. Small cash deficit.
- The Current Assets amount has decreased due to the funds that were earmarked for the roof replacement. The Bucket Campaign led by Meg Clarke raised approximately \$200,000 for this endeavour.
- The Syrian Refugee Fund has a balance of \$14,109. Congregational representatives Laura Staude and Jen-Beth Fulton will advise of any needs of our sponsored families.

M/S (Steve Wellenbrink/Dilys Sostad) that the Financial Statements for 2018 be accepted as presented.
Carried.

The 2019 budget was then presented.

- Total givings of \$189,000, which includes a new line item for the endowment earnings of \$43,000.
- Thrift Shop projected sales in \$313,000.
- Total revenue projected at \$502,000.
- Ministry and Personnel budget has increased to \$344,450 to reflect a full staffing complement in 2019, to achieve the outreach objectives of MSUC.
- 2019 Operating Budget is balanced. Council and staff will monitor the financial position throughout 2019 to focus on cost controls and opportunities for additional revenue.

Question from the floor regarding projected CPP and EI contributions, which will be increased to reflect staffing complement.

Comment from the floor that this is an opportunity to increase ministry outreach.

M/S (Steve Wellenbrink/Katherine McKay) that the Budget for 2018 be approved. **Carried.**

13. Motion to adopt 2018 Annual Report.

14. Motion to adopt the Ministry Profile and Search Report for Minister of Community Outreach & Pastoral Care and revision of the job description for Minister of Children, Families & Congregational Life.

M/S (Jen-Beth Fulton/Sherrill McLeary) that the MPS dated March 3, 2019 be adopted in full. **Carried.**

15. Mount Seymour United Council composition for a trial period of two years as follows:

- (a) Chair
- (b) Recording Secretary
- (c) Treasurer or representative of the Finance Committee
- (d) Representative of the Ministry & Personnel Committee
- (e) Representative of the Property Team (renamed Administration Team)
- (f) Pacific Mountain Region representative (replaces Presbytery representative)
- (g) Up to 2 members at large

M/S (Barry Fenton/Katherine McKay) that Council composition be accepted as presented for a two-year trial period. **Carried.**

16. Council Elections (2-year term; maximum 4 years)

- (a) Retiring & resigning council: Roger Brain, Katherine McKay, Meg Clarke, Barry Fenton
- (b) Continuing council: Rev. Nancy Talbot (Minister); Carla Wilks (Candidate for Ministry)
 - Catherine Branch (2016 – 2020) (Chair)

- Dilys Sostad (2016 – 2020) (Property Team)
- Mary Sparks (2016 – 2020) (Worship & Christian Development)
- Kim Branch (2016 – 2020) (Recording Secretary)
- Michelle Coulombe (2017-2019) (Ministry & Personnel)
- Frank Luba (2017-2019) (Member-at-Large)

(c) 2019 Nominations:

- Barry Fenton (Interim Treasurer 2019)
- Steve Wellenbrink (2019 – 2021) (Pacific Mountain representative)

M/S (Dilys Sostad/Mary Sparks) that Barry Fenton be elected as temporary treasurer for 2019.
Carried.

M/S (Heather Andrews/Ward Branch) that Steve Wellenbrink be elected as Pacific Mountain representative for a term of two years. **Carried.**

Catherine Branch noted a change to the 2018 election of trustees: Bill Mathison, rather than Meg Clarke.

Barb Ralph expressed thanks to Catherine Branch for the staffing review.

17. Closing Prayer: Rev. Carla Wilks closed the meeting with a prayer of gratitude.

Catherine Branch adjourned the meeting at 1:05pm.

Catherine Branch, Chair

Kim Branch, Recording Secretary

APPENDIX 2 | BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 2019

ASSETS	2019	2018
Current Assets		
Cash	70,398	31,021
GIC/Term Deposits	1,428,972	1,361,828
Accounts Receivable	8,300	52,033
	<u>1,507,670</u>	<u>1,444,882</u>
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land	425,151	425,151
Building	1,966,512	1,966,512 *
Building depreciation	-326,824	-258,504 *
Furniture and Equipment	103,037	103,037 *
Furniture and Equip Depreciation	-69,255	-60,809 *
	<u>2,098,621</u>	<u>2,175,386</u>
	<u>3,606,291</u>	<u>3,620,269</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		
	<u>3,606,291</u>	<u>3,620,269</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	15,845	18,751
Mission and Service		1,164
Misc. Funds	50	20
First United Church		544
Syrian Refugee	13,989	14,109
Refugee Co-Sponsorship		16,133
Youth ProVision Grant	1,941	
2015 ProVision Fund		1,547
	<u>31,824</u>	<u>52,268</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
VIM Loan	305,045	305,045
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>336,870</u>	<u>357,313</u>
EQUITY AND FUNDS		
Funds		
Sabbatical Fund	20,432	8,432
Memorial Fund	30,264	19,314
Bucket Campaign Fund		-19,102
Endowment	1,256,213	1,306,445
Building Contingency Fund	145,552	14,154
	<u>1,452,461</u>	<u>1,329,243</u>

Equity

Opening Balance	1,933,712	1,814,420	*
Surplus/Deficit - Operating	-39,988	-5,818	
Surplus/Deficit - Renovations	0	202,614	*
Surplus/Deficit - Depreciation	-76,766	-77,503	*
	<u>1,816,958</u>	<u>1,933,712</u>	
TOTAL EQUITY AND FUNDS	<u>3,269,419</u>	<u>3,262,955</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITES, EQUITY AND FUNDS	<u>3,606,291</u>	<u>3,620,269</u>	

* *previous years balances corrected by Cahill Accounting CPA, professional accountants engaged to correctly record the 2015-2016 renovation, roof replacement, and CRA requirement to record depreciation*

APPENDIX 3 | INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019 & 2020 BUDGET

	2019	2018	2020 COVID Budget
	Actual 31-Dec	Actual 31-Dec	Budget Annual
REVENUE			
Offerings - Envelopes, PAR, & Other	138,001	126,904	119,000
Open Offering	3,823	4,557	2,320
Special Offering		16,432	
Total Givings	141,824	147,893	121,320
OTHER REVENUE			
Rentals	36,731	38,770	20,880
Memorials & Weddings	2,764	1,097	1,450
Thrift Shop	258,880	225,252	129,440
Interest	17,991	25,044	19,000
Other Investment Income	11,643		
Fundraising (Coffee House)	4,280	4,340	2,320
Fundraising (Youth/BBQ/Turkey Lunch)	1,694	323	2,030
Mental Health & other Donations/Grants	2,000		
Misc	2,740	52	
Total Other	338,723	294,878	175,120
TOTAL REVENUE	480,547	442,770	296,440
EXPENSES			
A Team			
Copier	6,528	6,159	3,828
Office Supplies & Postage	3,219	2,943	870
Telephone	1,711	1,345	1,906
Bank Charges	7,018	1,220	1,200
Accountant	359		1,500
Computer/Misc	900	974	638
Total Administration	19,735	12,640	9,942
Property			
Bld Maint	10,675	18,831	8,800
Equip Maintenance			800
Grounds/Handyperson	8,940	17,210	9,000
Sound Maint	866	1,606	680

Bld Heat Maint	697	8,421	560
Security	478	771	400
Janitorial	16,007	15,559	16,000
Garbage	2,207	1,727	2,500
Water & Sewer	1,919	1,113	1,680
Gas & Electric	11,033	10,483	9,600
Snow	5,710	3,171	6,000
Telephone Office	1,848	2,698	1,440
Insurance	10,090	9,568	10,100
Kitchen Supplies	1,737	2,054	800
Thrift Shop Improvements	11,175	10,984	14,200
Total Property	83,382	104,197	82,560
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION TEAM	103,117	116,838	92,502
Worship & CD			
Pulpit Relief	200	2,761	200
Mental Health	2,090		
Youth	1,638	228	732
Library/Misc	333	183	174
Adult Christian Development	-128	359	174
Music Supplies	588		232
Music Director Relief	2,450	2,381	1,450
Music Piano/Organ Tuning		756	250
Worship Misc Supplies	737	1,119	754
Sound Production	2,690	2,909	2,000
TOTAL WORSHIP & CD	10,598	10,696	5,966
COUNCIL			
Presbytery	13,517	11,989	14,506
Other Expense	468	718	500
TOTAL COUNCIL	13,985	12,707	15,006
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE			
Advertising	851	414	1,314
Fellowship (Lunches/welcoming)	1,432	1,624	1,400
Mandate Magazine	275	98	40
Sundays - Coffee	3,123	2,919	1,798
Pastoral Care	-673		2,000
TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	5,008	5,055	6,552
CONG. MISSION			
Mission and Outreach	20	870	2,700

First United Thrift Shop Donation	38,810	33,788	19,416
Refugee Family Sponsorship			
Help Fund		164	100
TOTAL MISSION	<u>38,830</u>	<u>34,822</u>	<u>22,216</u>
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL			
Wages	279,944	211,736	293,441
Federal Wage Subsidy Recovery			-76,741
Ministers' Travel	1,156	1,310	667
Sabbatical Fund			
Staff Dev. Cont Ed	5,045	6,271	6,660
Honorariums	350		203
CPP	10,359	7,831	11,758
EI	4,803	3,749	4,910
Employee Benefits	36,386	28,294	43,337
M&P Discretionary	150	81	150
MSP	648	648	
Work Comp	373	343	400
Hosting	783	458	800
Other Payroll	9,000	7,750	9,100
TOTAL MINISTRY & PERSONNEL	<u>348,997</u>	<u>268,472</u>	<u>294,685</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>520,535</u>	<u>448,588</u>	<u>436,927</u>
Operating Surplus/Deficit	-39,988	-5,818	-140,487
Amortization/Depreciation of Assets	-76,766		
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	<u>-116,754</u>	<u>-5,818</u>	<u>-140,487</u>
Outreach Contributions			
M&S	15,244	12,981	
Thrift Shop Contribution to 1St United	39,080	34,215	
Other Outreach - FU, NSYSH, KIVA	break down below	1,347	
Canadare	2,712		
NSYSH	2,177		
Gifts with Vision	698		
World Food Day	520		
Christmas in June	415		
Syrian Refugees		3,050	
	<u>60,845</u>	<u>51,594</u>	

APPENDIX 4 | CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES AT DECEMBER 31, 2019

	2018 Balance	Deficiency of Revenue Over Expenses	Contributions	Withdrawals	2019 Balance
Equity	\$1,933,713	\$(116,754)			\$1,816,959
Funds					
Sabbatical Fund	8,432		12,000		20,432
Memorial Fund	19,314		15,000	-4,050	30,264
Bucket Campaign Fund	-19,102		19,102		0
Building Contingency Fund	14,154		150,500	-19,102	145,552
Endowment Fund	1,306,455		111,768	-162,000	1,256,223
ProVision Fund			3,750	-1,809	1,941
Syrian Refugee Fund	14,109			-120	13,989
	\$3,277,075	\$(116,754)	\$ 312,120	\$ (187,081)	\$3,285,360

APPENDIX 5 | NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

1. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2019 Net Book Value	2018 Net Book Value
Land	\$ 425,151		\$ 425,151	\$ 425,151
Buildings	1,966,512	326,824	1,639,688	1,708,008
Furniture and fixtures	103,037	69,255	33,782	42,228
	\$ 2,494,700	\$ 396,079	\$2,098,621	\$2,175,387

2. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Some of the comparative figures have been adjusted to recognise the effect of changes made in the 2015 and 2018 periods. This was done to capitalise building improvements which were accounted for in equity previously. The reclassification of the building improvements led to the revenue for tangible the 2015 period exceeding the \$500,000 threshold to elect not to recognise amortization on assets. Amortization on all tangible assets was therefore retrospectively recognised for all tangible assets.

APPENDIX 6 | TREASURER'S REPORT | BARRY FENTON

The outbreak of COVID 19 in March 2020 has impacted everyone and affected MSUC in many ways, including the issuance of the 2019 Annual Report. The Annual Report contains the 2019 MSUC financial results and delivers the 2020 Operating Budget. Council made the decision to delay issuing the 2019 Annual Report for several reasons. The reasons included having the 2019 Financial Statements reviewed by an external accounting firm Cahill Professional Accountant and drafted several updated 2020 Budgets as more information was available for the Finance Committee to consider. (Finance Committee members are: Ward Branch, Cheryl Shott, and Barry Fenton).

2019 Income Statement and Balance Sheet

Cahill Professional Accountants were engaged to review our 2019 Income Statement results and incorporate the recent major capital projects into our 2019 Balance Sheet. (Building renovation and roof replacement). This review was beneficial as these two major capital projects are now shown in the Balance Sheet and Cahill was able to obtain a GST rebate owed to us of approximately \$ 30,000. The inclusion of the building capital improvements items results in amortization being reported to Canada Revenue Agency. (Amortization/depreciation is a non-cash expense).

The 2019 Operating Budget, approved at the 2018 MSUC AGM, included an anticipated \$ 43,000 withdrawal and allocation from the Kerr Bequest. Based on accounting practices, the Operating Deficit is shown as (\$ 39,988) which means less funds than budgeted would be required to balance the 2019 Operating Budget. (Further comments are noted in the Kerr Bequest report).

2020 Annual Budget (subject to COVID-19)

As more and more information became available, the Finance Committee prepared many versions of the 2020 Operating Budget. The most recent updated 2020 Annual Budget was approved by Council at the June 10, 2020 Zoom Council meeting. This budget has incorporated many assumptions including the safe reopening of the Thrift Shop on a reduced basis for the summer. We are also hopeful that the church can safely reopen to the congregation and other tenants and users this Fall although probably on a reduced basis to promote a healthy and safe building environment. Council will continue to make decisions regarding tenants and a return to in person worship in consultation with the Pacific Mountain Region leadership of the church and according to the guidelines laid out by the Provincial Health Officer.

The projected 2020 Operating Deficit is currently projected at approximately (\$ 140,000). This already includes a budgeted Federal Wage subsidy of approximately \$ 77,000. Thus the 2020 MSUC financial results will be significantly impacted by COVID 19.

Council and the Finance Committee will be monitoring our 2020 financial results and have already positioned our Term Deposits to provide sufficient financial flexibility to navigate the next twelve months. Council is hopeful that an in-person AGM can be held later in 2020. Further updates will be provided in the Fall.

Respectfully submitted June 17, 2020

Barry Fenton, Treasurer

APPENDIX 7 | KERR BEQUEST REPORT | WARD BRANCH

As you may recall, Mount Seymour United Church was the grateful recipient of a large bequest from the Kerr Estate. 2019 was the first full year in which we had control of the funds. Our approach to this Kerr Bequest has been to try our best to reserve it for special projects and initiatives, rather than using it to support traditional basic expenses. In our first year, it was determined that Kerr Bequest funds should be:

- 1) invested in new support for the Thrift Shop, and
- 2) used to replenish our exhausted Sabbatical and Building Contingency Funds.

The Sabbatical Fund was increased to \$20,000, which should cover Reverend Nancy's next sabbatical.

The Building Fund was increased to \$145,000.

In relation to the Thrift Shop, the plan was for \$43,000 from the bequest to be used (1) to help offset a portion of the salary of our new Thrift Shop Manager Alexis Doss, and (2) to augment Reverend Carla's hours so that she could be responsive to Thrift Shop needs. \$43,000 from the Bequest was reserved for these purposes. Given strong performance, only approximately \$40,000 was required.

Beyond these planned outflows, the Bequest grew as a result of an unexpected \$112,000 additional distribution from the Kerr Estate once its final value was calculated in 2019.

The Kerr Bequest is held in different accounts, certain of which can be accessed easily in the short term, and a portion invested in conservative long-term securities.

In this upcoming year, the Council agreed to continue the budgeted support for the Thrift Shop. Before the coronavirus, Council had also voted to support a new mental health ministry to the tune of \$35,000 per year. However, this will now be put on hold until 2021 in light of the delays and challenges created by the coronavirus. Rather, Council has determined that it will be necessary to sustain our church through the coronavirus challenges by being ready to withdraw a total of \$140,000 from the Estate this year. Without the generous support of the Kerr Bequest our church would be in serious financial difficulty. We are indeed very blessed!

Given that we will survive this challenge with substantial funds left in the Bequest, we do remain open to new initiatives that others may wish to bring forward to council and the congregation for consideration.

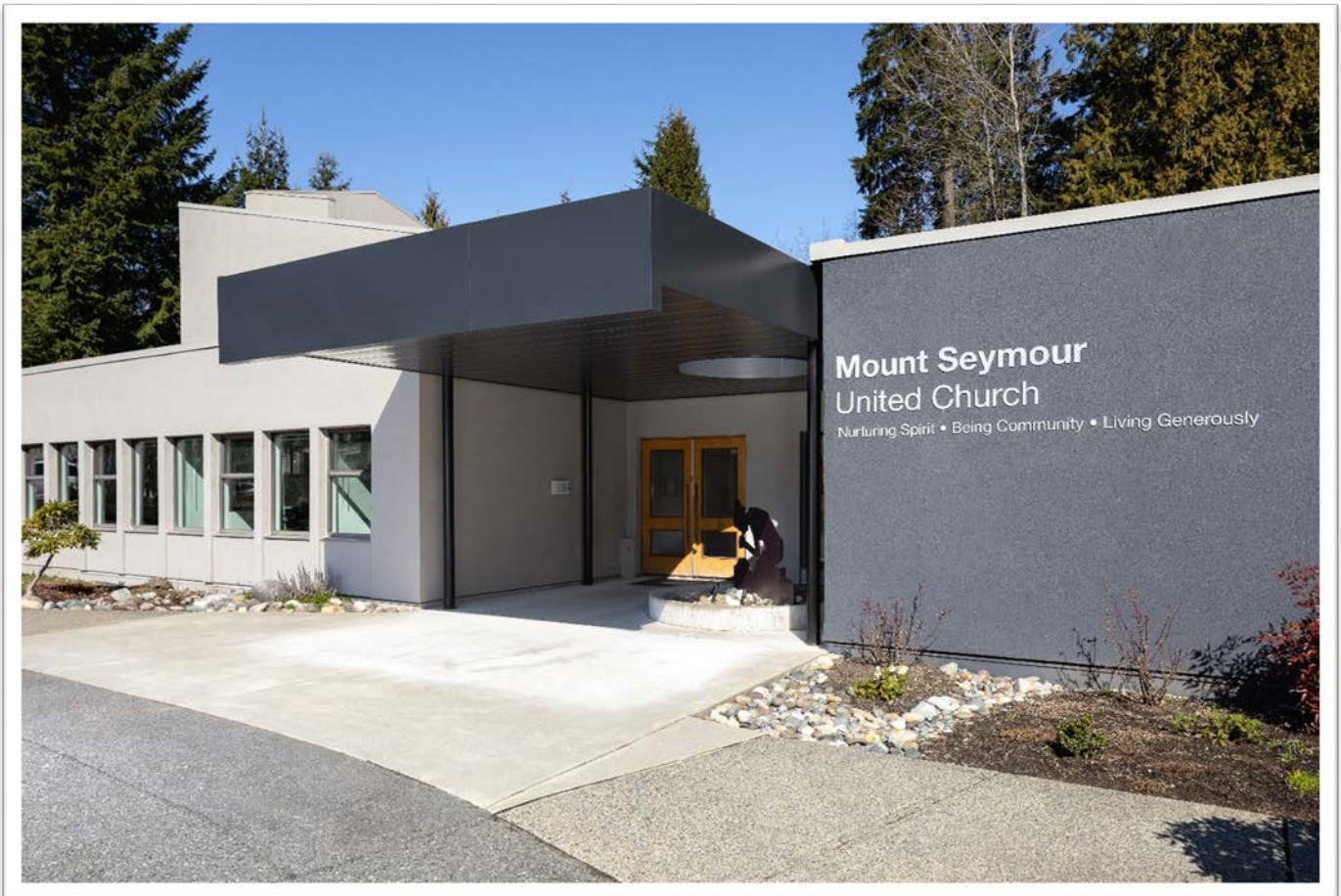
Ward Branch, Trustee



~ Nurturing Spirit

~ Being Community

~ Living Generously



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