

2019 Annual Report



Peninsula United Church

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(under re-development)

www.peninsulaunited.com

PENINSULA UNITED CHURCH



Serving since 2017

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PENINSULA UNITED CHURCH LEADERS COUNCIL AND STAFF – 2019-2020

COUNCIL

Strategic Leadership Team

CHAIR, CHURCH COUNCIL	Jean Macdonald
PAST CHAIR, CHURCH COUNCIL	Jean Kromm
SECRETARY, CHURCH COUNCIL	Sylvia Uhreen
FINANCE	Jim Shepherd
TREASURER.....	Sharon Birney
MINISTRY & PERSONNEL	Val Austring
MEMBERTS-AT-LARGE	Maria Booth
	Pat Heslop
	Joan Strutt
PACIFIC MOUNTAIN REGION REPRESENTATIVE	Peter Jones
TRUSTEE LIAISON	Anna Paton

Ministry Team Convenors

CHRISTIAN FORMATION	Vacant (from July 2018)
CONGREGATIONAL CARE	Kathy Matusiak
JUSTICE & SERVICE (<i>formerly Outreach</i>)	Kathy Booth
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & USE.....	Lee Chamberlain
THIRDSPEACE.....	Elizabeth Winkler
UCW	Joan Strutt
WORSHIP	Mary Fran Bateman
	Victoria Jones

TRUSTEES

Anna Paton, Chair	Esther Johnson
Gordon Lapthorne	Brian Zwick

CHURCH STAFF

Minister	The Reverend Bruce McAndless-Davis
Minister	The Reverend Janice Young
Music Director.....	Denice Grant
	Angela Chu
Church Office Administrators	Joanne Feuer, Beth Henderson
ThirdSpace Administration Assistant	Nikkie Ripka
Bookkeeper	Sheri Kathrein
Custodian	Charly Tyndall

**IN MEMORIAM 2019
PENINSULA UNITED CHURCH**



Remember in Love

Our Church Family

Frances Mary Allison
Donald Boyce
Edythe Dickey
Jean Ferguson
Vivien Fofonove
Marlene Hewitt
Wayne Lownsbrough
Lillian Newhouse
Lavada Porter
George Searcy
Peggy Smith
Cheryl Young

Harry Baedek
Joyce Cameron
Mary Downey
Sandra Fitzgerald
Gordon Walter Gibb
Frank Leighton
Ian Monaghan
Rena Pinckston
Patricia Proznick
May Smith
Yvon Thibeault

*"Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life;
those who believe in me, though they die, yet shall they live.'
John 11:25*

Statistical Information 2019

Number of Households under Pastoral Care (as listed in Directory) – December 2019 320

Confirmed Membership – December 31, 2018.....450

Received into Confirmed Membership by:

 Profession of Faith, Adult Baptism, Reaffirmation and Confirmation.....0

 Certificate of Transfer0

 Other (reinstated) 0

 Total0

Removed from Confirmed Membership by:

 Certificate of Transfer0

 Death..... 14

 Other (for non-participation or by request)2

Total Confirmed Membership as of December 31, 2019 434

Total average weekly attendance at Worship Services

October and November - 129 adults

Baptisms

2

Funerals/Memorials

21

Weddings

2



Ministers

We live in a Liminal Time. The term, from the Latin “limen” meaning threshold, describes the in-between time between the old and the new. Church Consultant and Spiritual Director, Susan Beaumont, describes this time in the life of the Church as a transition time filled with ambiguity and uncertainty when we are “between something that has ended and something else that is not yet ready to begin” (Susan Beaumont, *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going*). Her words offer reassurance as we consider the journey we are taking together as a newly amalgamated congregation. Remember that we are only in year three since the three founding congregations became Peninsula United in July 2017. There is much we still need to define about who we are and where we are going as a congregation. However, as you read this report, you will see that even though we are not yet clear about where we are going, we are making progress as we navigate through this liminal time.

One of the unexpected gifts in our worship life in 2019 was the arrival of a few young families at Café Church and the Crescent site and the celebration of two infant baptisms: Catherine Regan and Genevieve Gedge. Another gift was “Camp Spirit” a week-long children’s camp held in July at the Crescent site. All that youthful energy has inspired an interesting image for Peninsula United Church in this liminal time. The image is of a young child learning to walk. Can you picture that child as they move from crawling to standing with support and then taking those first tottering steps on their own? We are like that child gaining confidence and capacity as we take one step at a time.

One of the important steps we have taken as a faith community this past year is to begin operating within a new governance system. We are learning as we go. When our steps are wobbly we are grateful for the wise and dedicated lay leaders of the congregation who are working diligently to guide and encourage us on the journey.

We also have the support of the communion of saints. You will see the names of those who have died in the past year on the Memorial page. We give thanks for them and pray that their example will continue to be a source of strength and courage for us as we step into the unknown future that is beckoning us.

We are delighted that some new folks have joined us since we began the amalgamation journey. It’s important we recognize that we are no longer comprised of just three founding congregations. A few folks have found their way to Peninsula UC from other United Church congregations; most recently St. Stephens’ and Colebrook, two nearby congregations which closed their doors in 2019. Folks from other faith communities have also joined us, as well as some with no previous faith background who are curious to see what this journey with Christ has to offer. We are excited to learn more about these newcomers. As we discover their needs and gifts and engage together in sharing the love of Christ, we will all be changed in the process.

As we journey into this new year and new decade, we pray we will be gentle with one another and ourselves as we coddliwomple through this liminal time. (Jean Macdonald introduced the term “coddliwomple” to the Council in 2019. It means to travel in a purposeful manner towards a vague destination.)

We are likely to be in liminal time for a few years so it will be helpful for us to cultivate attitudes of gentleness, patience and curiosity. Remember that toddler learning to walk. There is no shame when they fall down. They simply reach out when a supportive hand is offered and then pull themselves up and begin again. God has given us to one another for support and encouragement in ministry.

Let's move into this 'unknown' time with wide-eyed wonder and a sense of adventure, trusting in the Christ, who walks both beside us and before us, leading us into the future.

*The Reverend Janice Young
The Reverend Bruce McAndless-Davis*

Council Chair



Grace and Peace of Christ to you!

It has been suggested that Ephesians 4:11-12 provides a purpose statement for church leadership defining it as “perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ” (KJV) or to “prepare God’s people for works of service so that the Body of Christ may be built up” (NIV).

In this context, let me tell you about the work Peninsula United Church Council has done in 2019, on your behalf, in our second year as an amalgamated community of faith.

GOVERNANCE

A challenge that has faced our Church Council is how to balance the management of the day-to-day congregational ministries and operations with the imperative to address “big picture” issues – such as strategic planning and discerning God’s call to us. As well, the Amalgamation Report instructed the Council to review its model of governance with a view to determining the most effective way to proceed.

A Governance working group, chaired by Joan Strutt*, conducted research on various church governance models. A suggested model was presented to the congregation for information in May. While the model is promising, Council determined that to adopt it immediately and in its entirety would take an enormous amount of work. Instead, it was decided we would pilot some of the concepts and principles in 2019-2020.

As a result, since September, the “Council of the Whole” Council has met only quarterly. The Strategic Leadership Committee (SLC), a 10-member sub-committee of the full Council, meets more frequently to address “bigger picture” issues. A four-member Ministry Coordinating Team* coordinates the day-to-day operations of our Ministry Teams.

While my personal view is that this new approach has made it easier for us to gain traction on some of the “bigger issues,” appropriately the SLC has asked the Governance working group to reconvene to conduct an evaluation of the piloted model. They will report in time for the Congregational Meeting in June.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: FINANCIAL MATTERS

In 2018-19, PUC embarked on an engagement process with consultant Caitlin Frost to develop principles for financial decision-making. These were adopted by the Annual Meeting in February, 2019. A significant point was that any expenditure over \$50,000 needed the approval of the whole congregation. Following on this work, a proposal on Investment Strategies, developed by a Working Group* led by Anna Paton, will be presented at the March 1 Annual Meeting.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: BUILDINGS

We are an asset-rich congregation, blessed to have three valuable properties – Semiahmoo Avenue (*old First site*), 24th Avenue (*Sunnyside Site*), and 127th Street (*Crescent Site*). In congregational consultations, the question “What are we doing about the buildings” came up repeatedly. Accordingly, we have appointed a three-member Property Options Group* to research what might be faithful use of our 24th Avenue/Sunnyside and 127th Street/Crescent properties.

We are, of course, disappointed about the lack of progress on the redevelopment of the Semiahmoo Avenue site. Please read the Redevelopment Committee’s report elsewhere in this document.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: IDENTITY AND PRIORITIES

This issue is sometimes called “Mission” or “Vision” or “Purpose,” or “Priorities.” Whatever word you prefer, it is very helpful to have clarity about who (and whose) we are, what our God is calling us to do and be, and to be able to articulate that in a way that will help us make decisions about things like where we should be focusing our mission, where we should be spending our time and talents.

Council has wrestled with this a number of times and the SLC has now come to the conclusion that we need outside assistance to work with us. We are in conversation with a retired United Church of Canada minister about the possibilities of us working together over the next 10-12 months to get a grip on this question.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: HOSPITALITY & COMMUNITY BUILDING

We are aware that it takes up to three years, easily, for an amalgamation really to “take.” In congregational consultations, a frequent question was “How is the Amalgamation Going?”

We know that to build community, we need good communication, hospitality, common projects, opportunities for fellowship, etc.

While individuals have offered hospitality, it is a matter of significant disappointment that we have not had any one – or any group – step up to coordinate and take leadership of a hospitality program – welcoming newcomers, hosting opportunities for fellowship, etc.

If this need calls to you, please be in touch with me, or with one of the ministers. It is not a complicated task, and you can be assured of the support of the ministers and the Council.

STRATEGIC ISSUE: CHRISTIAN FORMATION

We know that following Jesus is a life-long learning experience. A key element of a healthy community of faith is a robust Christian Development/Education/Formation Program – choose your preferred term!

Not only do “CD” activities feed and support the health of the community, they also “equip God’s people for the work of ministry/service to build up the Body of Christ.” (Eph 4:11-12) While the ministers have offered the occasional book studies, it is a significant disappointment that we have been unable to find a person or a group with a passion to work with the ministers and others to coordinate activities that deepen and enliven our faith.

Beyond the work of the Council, there are many important ministries and activities at Peninsula United Church. Please keep reading to learn about these activities of love, devotion, and service.

I want to acknowledge the members of the Council of the Whole, our ministry teams, our ministers Janice and Bruce, and all of you who serve in small and quiet ways to build the Body of Christ on the Peninsula.

Yours in Christ

Jean Macdonald, Council Chair

***Governance Working Group:**

Joan Strutt, Brian Zwick, Claudia Semaniuk, Linda Lee Henriksen

***Ministry Coordinating Team (MCT)**

Janice Young, Joanne Feuer, Lisa Bannerman, Arlene Gendron

***Investment Strategies Working Group**

Anna Paton, Barbara Gregg, Merv Lutes, Joan Strutt, Warren Thomlinson

Finance



The Finance Team would like to extend its appreciation to the office staff, including our bookkeeper, Sheri Kathrein, and the Ministry Staff for their help and support during 2019.

We also want to thank the many volunteers who are part of the Finance team including Val Astring, our Envelope Secretary, Kathy Cross and the Sunday counting teams.

We would be lost if it were not for the dedicated work performed by our Treasurer, Sharon Birney, who keeps us on track with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and our financial reporting requirements.

We also want to thank Gord Lapthorne who, along with the Finance Team Leader, oversees the investments at National Financial Bank.

Thanks also to the members of the Stewardship committee.

The Finance Team provides financial information on an ongoing basis to our Trustees and works with them to look after the financial affairs of the church.

The year 2019 saw us complete the consolidation of our finances from the three founding churches into the new entity of Peninsula United Church.

Our main source of revenue in 2019 continues to be local givings by the congregation. The year 2019 saw local givings from the Congregation roughly the same as in 2018.

We continue to be blessed by an increase in other revenue sources, including Planned Gifts and rental income.

We engaged the services of Saklas & Co Chartered Professional Accountants to prepare a Notice to Reader for the 2019 financial statements. These statements and the proposed budget for 2020 will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Thank you for your ongoing financial support of our ministry both in 2019 and in the coming years.

Jim Sheppard, Finance Team Leader

2019 Church Envelope and PAR Statistics



2019 was our second full year with a consolidated Peninsula United Church list of Envelope and PAR givers. 95 Envelope numbers were used for offerings throughout the year – some regularly and some more occasionally.

We started 2019 with 121 active PAR accounts, and ended the year with 120 active PAR accounts. The Fall Stewardship program resulted in several new signups to the PAR system, as well as almost 30 households increasing their givings for 2020.

The PAR system of giving provides a convenient and consistent way of delivering your financial support to the ministries and work of your church. Thanks to those who choose PAR for their regular monthly offerings. Also thanks to Envelope users for accurately noting the designation of your giving on the front of each Envelope. This helps the offering counters greatly with their task each Sunday, and assists with accurate record keeping for tax purposes.

Envelopes may be requested, or you may join PAR, at any time. Please be in touch with the church office or the Envelope Secretary.

Val Austring, Envelope Secretary



Mission & Service Report for 2019

Minutes for Mission are presented on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month by readers from the congregation. These stories focus on the many ways that our contributions to Mission & Service are used to support projects throughout Canada and beyond. The stories reflect how our gifts to Mission & Service are changing and saving lives.

The breakdown of donations by the Mission & Service Fund is as follows: Global Mission & Service – 18%; Community & Justice work – 19%; Theological Education and Vocation of Ministry Support – 6%; Faith Formation – 18%; Support of Local Ministries – 22%; and National Indigenous Church – 17%.

The M&S goal for 2019 set by Peninsula United Church was \$60,000 which was exceeded by \$9,975.59. This amount included \$1,000 raised by our UCW members. Mission & Service continues to be an important part of life at Peninsula United.

Carol Monaghan

Stewardship

The Stewardship Team planned the Peninsula United Church's Stewardship Campaign before the summer of 2019. The Team organized a series of services with stewardship themes beginning in September 2019.

A stewardship letter with financial information was provided to the congregation before September. The stewardship packages included a request to make an annual financial pledge.

We were very encouraged by the response to the stewardship campaign. Of the 99 Financial Pledge cards returned, 61 were from those who give through PAR (Pre-authorized Remittance), 34 from Envelope givers, plus 4 others. As well, 3 households newly signed on to the PAR program.

Of note, 19 PAR households increased their pledge to Local givings, while 4 households decreased slightly; and 19 households increased their pledge to M&S givings, with 2 households decreasing slightly.

Our main source of financial support for our ministry comes through local givings from the congregation. The amount of local givings in 2019 compared to 2018 were the same. We only used approximately \$43,000 of Planned Gift money to balance our 2019 budget after having planned to use up to \$95,000 as some expenses planned in 2019 were not incurred or were less than budgeted.

The stewardship team would like to thank all those who helped us on our stewardship journey including our team members Carol Monaghan, Val Austring, Sharon Birney, Jim Sheppard, as well as The Reverend Janice Young and The Reverend Bruce McAndless-Davis.



Ministry and Personnel (M&P)



Committee Members: Colleen Dean, Winnie Kowalewich, Elizabeth Winkler, Val Austring (Convenor)

The M&P Committee's role is both consultative and supervisory, providing support to our church staff, and attending to conditions of employment such as wages and benefits, vacation allocations, and opportunities for continuing education.

The committee met periodically throughout the year, keeping in touch with staff members through email and in-person contact as often as possible. The task of staff performance evaluations was undertaken this year but, unfortunately, was not able to be completed. This will be brought forward to 2020.

Special mention about a couple of staff members:

Joanne Feuer, our very capable office administrator, has lately taken on additional coordinating functions - scheduling meeting spaces, staff coordination, office scheduling, and the like – in addition to her other regular office procedures. Thankfully, Joanne has proven up to the task.

In April of 2019, we welcomed Nikkie Ripka to a new, part-time position on our staff, providing administrative assistance mainly in our ThirdSpace ministry at the George Street site. By all accounts, Nikkie quickly settled in, competently providing needed support to the volunteers and ministers at ThirdSpace.

As 2019 drew to a close, Colleen Dean, Elizabeth Winkler, and Val Austring indicated their wish to retire from M&P duties. Thanks to Colleen and Elizabeth who signed on with me, to the initial M&P Committee at the formation (amalgamation date, July 2017) of Peninsula United. It has been a privilege doing this work together, and getting to know you better. Thanks as well to Winnie Kowalewich, who will continue to serve on M&P. A newly rebuilt committee is in the process of forming.

Val Austring, outgoing Convenor of M&P



Pacific Mountain Region News

2019 was a significant year in the life of the United Church of Canada. The move to 16 Regional Councils across the country, and the end of Presbyteries, may not have been noticed by many members but a new era in our ministry has begun.

In the future it is likely that Communities of Faith, at the congregational level, will have more authority and responsibility for discerning and carrying out their mission now that oversight from Presbyteries is not required. New clusters and networks are forming to help support Communities of Faith and to encourage collaboration.

The boundaries of the former British Columbia Conference remained unchanged, except for the addition of the communities of Whitehorse and Banff, and this area was renamed the **Pacific Mountain Region**. The Region is comprised of over 200 Communities of Faith and other ministries such as camps, social service agencies, chaplaincies, and affordable housing projects. The Regional Council currently has 21 staff (twelve whom are dispersed throughout BC), that provide services to assist Communities of Faith and their personnel in carrying out their ministries.

The Communities of Faith form the Pacific Mountain Regional Council, and they sent representatives to a meeting of the Council in Langley from May 30 to June 2, 2019. In addition to important business items related to the implementation of the new Regional Council model, a new 12-member Executive of the Council was elected. All members of the Executive serve 'at large'; that is, they serve the whole Region and do not represent former Presbyteries or regions of BC.

Regional Executive:

The Reverend Jay Olson – President	(Vancouver)
The Reverend Blair Odney – President Elect	(North Vancouver)
Jim Angus	(Kispiox)
The Reverend Katherine Brittain	(Mill Bay)
Beverly Brown	(Maple Ridge)
The Reverend Jenny Carter	(Salmon Arm)
Anna Chambers	(Vancouver)
The Reverend Richard Chung	(Vancouver)
The Reverend Bob Fillier	(Prince George)
The Reverend Laura Hermakin	(Victoria)
Jake Highfield	(Langley)
Peter Jones	(Surrey)

In addition, The Reverend Doug Goodwin, the former Executive Minister of BC Conference, retired at the meeting and Treena Duncan is the new Executive Minister. Doug has left the regional organization in excellent condition, and he will receive an Honorary Doctorate in 2020 from the Vancouver School of Theology for his years of faithful service.

The new Regional Council model requires the Executive Minister of the Pacific Mountain Region to also be the Executive Minister for the Chinook Winds Region, which represents central and southern Alberta. As a result, Treena splits her time equally between the Regions and there is a need for the Regional Executives to be more engaged in both strategic and operational matters.

Peter Jones – Member, Regional Executive, Pacific Mountain Region

For more information: <https://www.bc.united-church.ca/>

Trustees



The Trustees continue to meet on a regular basis reviewing our Church insurance coverage, church content inventory, and taxation information, communicating with lawyers and families of members who have left a legacy to Peninsula United Church. This year, we established a small working group to develop an investment strategy using the financial principles that the Congregation approved at our Annual Meeting in 2019. Barb Gregg, Warren Tomlinson, Merv Lutes, Joan Strutt and Anna Paton will be recommending a framework for investing Peninsula United's funds that are outside of the approved budget and the Semiahmoo site development fund. In conjunction with the Finance Committee, we will update the Strategic Leadership Committee and Council before bringing a report to the Congregation for further approvals. The recommendation will be shared with the Congregation for final approval.

Our Trustees participate in many aspects of the life of the church, of which we are grateful to be part. Please contact one of us if you have comments or questions.

Yours in faith

Anna Paton – Chair

Brian Zwick

Gordon Laphorne

Esther Johnson

Jim Sheppard – Finance Representative

The Reverend Janice Young

Redevelopment of the Semiahmoo White Rock Site

2019 highlights of the redevelopment of the Peninsula United Church Semiahmoo Ave site (formerly First United White Rock) included the demolition of the building and the discovery of a time capsule embedded in a cornerstone. The opening of the time capsule provided us with one last chance to say goodbye to our beloved sanctuary as we gathered on the lawn of City Hall on a warm Spring evening. The contents of the capsule included a list of names of those actively involved in the work of First United in 1957 when the church was built.

A series of meetings with representatives from the developer, builder and architectural firm took place to begin the detailed planning of the interior of the 6000sq ft new church which will include a multi-purpose sanctuary, administration offices, meeting rooms, kitchen, washrooms and shower. The entrance to the south-facing, ground floor facility is off of Semiahmoo Avenue. Members of our Peninsula United Church Community Dinner Team and those we depend on to provide audio visual support met with the Redevelopment Team and representatives of the builder and architect to begin the detailed planning of the Catering Kitchen and the AV equipment that will be an integral part of the life and work of the new facility.

Excavation was to take place in October 2019 with construction to begin shortly thereafter. We were surprised and disappointed to experience another delay and at the writing of this report neither of these has happened. The CIMIC project manager has informed us that this delay is due to an internal reorganization of the Board of CIMIC Investors. We now await information that will identify the new General Contractor to be hired as a result of this reorganization. The excavation and shoring of the site must meet the "Start Work" deadline of March 1, 2020 required by the City of White Rock Development Permit.

Jean Kromm, Redevelopment Team

Members of the Redevelopment Team:

Co-Chairs: Fae Chato-Manchuk and Merv Lutes

Jean Kromm, Kees Koster, Pat Heslop and Gord Lapthorne



Congregational Care



Congregational care includes the following responsibilities in Peninsula United Church: Pastoral Care, Prayer Team, Reiki/Healing Touch.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral care visiting list has identified more than 60 members of our congregation either in care residences or their own homes who might benefit from a church visitor. At present 24 volunteers have come forward and set their own schedule of visits to their assigned individuals. Meetings in April and September were held to provide support and education for the visitors led by The Reverend Janice Young.

A meeting in May was carried out with The Reverend Janice Young and Kathy Matusiak to update the pastoral care visiting list. Followup contacts with visitors were carried out by Raquel Merriman and Kathy Matusiak to aid in the updating of the visiting lists. Results identified individuals who didn't feel a visit necessary, visitors who needed to step back and a switching of visitors. We have added two new volunteers to our group.

Special gatherings with the minister were held at the following residences where many of Peninsula UC members live: Crescent Gardens – July 18, 2019 and December 12, 2019; Westminster House – August 14, 2019; Evergreen – Sept 18, 2019.

At Christmas poinsettias were delivered to our folks on the Pastoral care list.

Prayer Team

Under the very capable leadership of Louise Bureau and Olive Lee, the prayer team continues its prayerful support of individuals in our church and community. The annual gathering took place October 9, 2019 under the shared leadership of The Reverend Janice Young and Kathy Matusiak with two new members joining the team. There are 16 active volunteers praying daily. Two longtime members of the team passed away this year – Freda McLean and Peggy Smith – bless them for their faithful service. A couple of members have stepped back due to ill health, and we pray for them now.

Reiki/Healing Touch

For 10 months of each year our Healing ministry provides 3 Thursdays a month for healing of body, mind and spirit. This program has persisted for 21 years now. This year we acknowledged the capable, loving leadership of Louise Bureau as she retired after 5 years and we welcome Margaret MacLennan as she takes over the shared leadership of the program with Kathy Matusiak. A special covenanting service was led by The Reverend Bruce McAndless-Davis on June 30, 2019.

There are 12-15 volunteer practitioners who regularly offer sessions. In February, 3 practitioners will attend a level 3 Communion of Saints weekend retreat at Bethlehem Retreat Centre in Nanaimo to extend their experiences to share with the healing ministry.

Kathy Matusiak, Congregational Care Convenor

Justice and Service (*formerly Outreach*)

**"What does the Lord require of you?
To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God."**

Peninsula United Church members along with others from the wider community are walking this humble path to justice with service and kindness. The following reports have been written by the gifted and very dedicated leaders of our various ministries of "Justice and Service."

Affirming Ministry

About 45 people gathered after worship on November 17 to eat some yummy pie and consider our degree of readiness to vote on becoming an Affirming Ministry. Using the acronym PIE (Public, Intentional and Explicit), we discussed what it means to be an actively inclusive congregation, particularly to those who have been traditionally marginalized by religion. We are happy to hear your questions and suggestions.

Committee Members: Linda Lee Henriksen, Marj Holmgren, Doris Mowat, Debbie Pearson, Larry Todd, Janice Young



Janice Young

Amnesty International

"Write a letter and change a life"

Every year around **International Human Rights Day December 10** hundreds of thousands of people around the world send a letter or an e-mail on behalf of someone they've never met. This year Amnesty International's **"Write for Rights"** included 10 global cases focused on young people under the age of 25 who are a leading force for change. The 2019 event held at Peninsula United was a great success with over 200 letters being signed. Amnesty is reporting that the campaign was the most successful to date. Thanks to all who took the time to sign the letters and make a difference in someone's life.



Fred Wickens, Amnesty International Liaison

Coldest Night of the Year Event

In last year's Coldest Night of the Year Walk on February 23, our mighty team of 11 walkers raised \$2,665 for the Sources Rent Bank. The total amount raised in the White Rock event was \$113,219.

Thank you to everyone both inside and outside our church community who generously donated to our Coldest Night of the Year walking team in 2019.



Glenn Roy, Coordinator

Community Dinners

The Peninsula Community Dinners support the Sources Food Bank in their mandate to provide food for the vulnerable people of the Semiahmoo Peninsula. We believe it is our mission to create community, so all are welcome. Our dinners continue to be held at the Star of Sea Parish Hall on the second and fourth Monday of each month from September through to June. We are very grateful for the use of the Hall, giving us such a well-managed space for our community. To recognize the generosity of the Star of Sea Parish we presented them a cheque for \$300.00 to cover the utility costs expended for our dinners.



We continue to have a strong partnership with the Wooden Spoon Restaurant in White Rock. Their very capable staff prepared and served 3 lovely meals this past year with the help of our own volunteers. The management at the Wooden Spoon is committed to giving back to the community and incurs all cost of the dinners themselves. We feel very fortunate to be partnered with such a committed and capable team of people.

At our Christmas dinner on December 9 we had 12 employees from the TD Canada Trust branch in White Rock volunteer their time to help with the dinner. We had a record number of 110 guests. It was a delightful evening, and we so enjoyed working with this enthusiastic group of people. Our hope is that by making these connections we will be creating awareness of our program, and expanding our community. In 2019 we served 17 meals with an average number of guests between 50-75. Our opening balance in January was \$3,466.00, and our closing balance in December was \$3,342.00. Our dinner expenses range from \$250-\$350 per dinner. We also continue to receive some food items from the Food Bank. Our very capable cooks are wise shoppers and consistently prepare a well-balanced meal for our guests.

In September we began receiving donations from our monthly soup Sundays to support these dinners. We are most grateful to the congregation for this financial support. In addition we have received many donations from individual congregants that has greatly assisted us with our ongoing expenses.

Two team leaders, Donna Roy and Lorraine Hand, lead the dinners. Donna Roy took on the coordinator role in September, and is being mentored by long-time coordinator Lorraine Hand. We are delighted to have Leisa Bannerman joining us as a new Team leader in January 2020.

We have expanded our list of volunteers to 53 people and require 20-24 volunteers for each dinner. We are actively recruiting for a new cook as our long term volunteer Wendy Scott is stepping down in February. Perhaps you will consider this volunteer opportunity or know of someone that may be interested. We are very grateful to have Janice Young provide us with Ministerial support, and Kathy Booth with ongoing support as our council representative. We would also like to thank our talented musicians, Glenn Roy and Chip Hand for providing wonderful pre-dinner music once per month.

To recognize our hard working volunteers we had a lovely appreciation Barbeque held at the end of June that 30 volunteers attended.

We did a computer-based survey at the end of June to get feedback from our volunteers about their experience with the dinners. Based on this feedback we were able to implement some new initiatives. We developed an orientation booklet for all volunteers outlining the various roles, and held an orientation session in Sept. We printed community dinner cards that were distributed to all the volunteers, dinner guests, and congregation to increase our number of guests coming out to the dinners. These initiatives have proved to be successful.

If you have never been a guest at our dinner please consider coming out. We would love to have you join us as a guest creating more sense of community with our neighbors.

Donna Roy, Community Dinner Coordinator

Indigenous Justice

Peninsula UC does not have an Indigenous Justice Committee; however, there are people in the congregation who are interested in learning and participating in reconciliation and Indigenous Justice events. On October 25, ten members of congregation traveled to Sechelt with The Reverend Janice Young to learn about the Siyaya Reconciliation Movement in that community. Tony Paul, Master Carver of the Sechelt First Nation introduced us to the Reconciliation Pole and invited each of us to carve a notch in the pole.

Janice Young



Oak Avenue (Hub) Dinners

Peninsula United Church provides a community dinner in January at Oak Avenue (Hub). Chef and leader, Joan Strutt, is helped by a great group of volunteers from Peninsula UC who shop, prepare food, cook, serve, and clean up.

Joan Strutt



Sources Food Bank Donations

I have had the privilege of delivering the donated groceries to the Sources Food Bank. They are most appreciative. I have also counted the Toonies for Lunch donations which now go to the office to be passed on to Sources. Donations in 2019 totalled \$672.70. Many thanks to the congregation for their generosity.

Lorna Klohn Coordinator



South Surrey / White Rock Extreme Weather Shelter

Some 60 volunteers have been active assuring that our Shelter is a safe and welcoming place for our most vulnerable neighbours. Behind the scenes they gather and organize food, clothing and toiletry supplies. Others go out into the community putting up poster announcement of openings, send out emails to the community and to the volunteers about opening and closing, attend to the financials and purchasing, collaborate with our partners (Options, BC Housing, Star of the Sea) and generally problem-solve over a variety of things. The majority of volunteers come to the Shelter for a shift in the morning or evenings. They are a compassionate and reliable group of people. We hear from the guests that our Shelter is a "good and safe" place. That speaks volumes to our success.



The larger community is supportive and actively involved. We've had pizza and pastry from neighbourhood businesses and seniors' care facilities, and there have been special donations by family and friends. At Christmas, volunteers stepped up to making the evening and day very special, along with contributions from Options staff. Save On Foods gives us a big discount on our purchases. Peace Arch News has kept our Shelter and the reality of homelessness current. White Rock Mayor, Darrell Walker, and Councilor Anthony Manning came out to do a morning shift! We give a big shout out to the community. We can't do it alone.

Peninsula United Church contributes significantly with volunteers and other services such as clothing and toiletries, as well as provides much needed moral and spiritual support for its Shelter work. Your Chair of the Board, Jean Macdonald, and Outreach convenor, Kathy Booth, have done an extraordinary job in negotiating with our various partners. Thank you.

Last winter, from November 1 to March 30, we were open 90 nights and we had the most guests ever. However, it has been warmer in November and December in 2019, which may contribute to the lesser numbers.

Nov/Dec 2018: 516 guest nights. Open 32 nights. Average guest attendance: 16

Nov/Dec 2019: 238 guest nights. Open 24 nights. Average guest attendance: 10

We have developed further our policies, process and procedures for our relationships with Options Community Services and our landlord, Star of the Sea Roman Catholic Church. We've written up clearer guidelines for policies around everything from pets and food safe to screening for volunteers and job descriptions. We've adjusted our leadership team activities to share the load and responsibilities.

Financially, the Shelter is resilient. With financial reserves left over from past years and some donations, we've been able to subsidize Star of the Sea for maintenance and provide additional food services to our guests. For your information, BC Housing, through Options Community Services, provides some subsidy to the Shelter for food and cleaning services. They also pay for the Options staff who attend the Shelter from 9PM to 7AM.

Our final thoughts

for our guests that they can be warm and safe in the cold of winter

and in the long run that they acquire homes and healing from the rigours of life.

for ourselves and our community that we can be just and compassionate citizens

and find peace and well-being in service for the short-term needs

and the long-term call for home and happiness for everyone.

*The Reverend Joan McMurtry and
Tom Wiebe, Shelter Coordinators*

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

– *Margaret J. Wheatley*

Tierra Nueva

Without doubt, the highlight at Peninsula United for Tierra Nueva (our El Salvador community) was the fundraising campaign we called Casa Reparada. We were hoping to raise \$4,000 for urgent repairs required by many of the houses of our families in Tierra Nueva. In November 2019 this campaign included brief presentations each Sunday.



The reasons Tierra Nueva could not have Habitat for Humanity houses were explained. Descriptions of the houses and the need for repair were given, as well as an outline of how the repairs would proceed.

Our initial commitment is to repair 7 houses which is estimated to cost \$4,000. Other houses will be repaired in the near future.

Our church family never disappoints! We raised just over \$7,000. We have sent \$4,000 to Fundahmer so repairs can be started and still have \$3,000 to fund the next round of urgent repairs.

We are so grateful for your continued interest and generosity to our community of Tierra Nueva. We extend our thanks to each of you.

On January 27, 2019 the viajeros from our November 2018 visit led a worship service where we shared our stories and pictures, and some simple hymns in Spanish. The account of our Habitat build as well as our visits to Tierra Nueva was accompanied by Teri's wonderful slide show.

We are hoping a small delegation will be traveling to El Salvador in March 2020 for the fortieth anniversary of the assassination of Monseñor Romero.

El Salvador Group

These thoughtful reports reveal that those involved with Justice and Service are endeavouring to live out our purpose: *"to follow the way of Jesus, opening ourselves to the Spirit and making known God's transforming love."*

Kathy Booth, Convenor Justice and Service

Memorial Hosting

We gratefully acknowledge the faithful service Vicki Warren provided for more than 9 years managing this much needed and appreciated support for the bereaved families. With the very capable partnership of Helen Virgo, she offered that personal touch, which has made our church a welcoming, supportive place. Vicki has stepped down to be replaced by Kathy Matusiak. Several meetings have facilitated this changeover and Helen and Kathy will continue to oversee this program. There are individuals – Betty Lou Douglas, Norma Janzen, Henriette Pieron, Raquel Merriman, Joan Strutt – overseeing the refreshment factor.

Since January 2019, there have been 17 memorials hosted with many volunteers involved – for the hospitality, an average of 5 individuals and for the refreshment 6-14 individuals for each event.

The following is the list of memorials hosted by Peninsula United Church.

Sylvia Teal
Pat Proznick
Mary Downey
Joyce Cameron
Peggy Smith
George Searcy
Ian Monaghan
Lavada Porter
Frank Leighton

Freda McLean
Sandra Fitzgerald
Lillian Newhouse
Don Boyce
Wayne Lownsborough
Harry Baedak
Vivian Fofonove
Edith Dickey

Kathy Matusiak, Memorial Host



Property

Challenges continue with pests (ants, spiders, and mice) at the Crescent site and the ongoing problem of people dumping garbage and taking up residence behind the Sunnyside site.

Bartlett Tree Experts was hired to trim hedges at the Crescent site and was also used at the Sunnyside site to cut-up a fallen tree-top (3' in diameter and 30' long) that fortunately narrowly missed two townhomes. The fence between the two common properties that was destroyed was repaired with Peninsula United Church supplying the materials and our neighbours rebuilding the fence. More trees still need to be assessed for trimming and possible removal.

Repairs during the year included replacing the roof and repairing two toilets at the Sunnyside site, and replacing mechanisms in the stove and dishwasher at the Crescent site. At the Sunnyside site shelves were fixed, and doors replaced. The music room at the Crescent site has been made more functional - more work needs to be done on this room and the downstairs youth room. There are also plans to remove the last two rows of pews at the Crescent site.

New contracts have been signed with Smiler Services (*snow removal*) and Vanguard Cleaners and the roles of the cleaners and custodian have been better defined. Consultations are underway with Freedom Mobile to make changes in their array.

Many thanks go to the multitude of volunteers who have been working at both sites on their own initiative. Their efforts make light work for all of us and are much appreciated!!

Lee Chamberlain, Property Manager





ThirdSpace ANNUAL REPORT 2019

ThirdSpace is an Emerging Spirit ministry; we seek to follow where Spirit leads us in our community. Since its inception in 2016, ThirdSpace has re-imagined unique ways of “doing and being church”

- **remove barriers** that often discourage people from participating in our faith
- **offer gatherings** to address social isolation and invite people to experience deep, inclusive community
- **focus on the community** outside our church doors
- **offer practical love** as needed

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓**Growth:** significantly increased number of participants, volunteers & added new partnerships and events. ***More than 100 people participate in ThirdSpace gatherings every week!***
- ✓**Evaluation:** Based on participant surveys, we gathered valuable feedback and evaluated our effectiveness. Lots of encouragement and some suggestions for improvement!
- ✓**New Admin Assistant:** Nikkie Ripka joined our team in June and has made a big difference!
- ✓**Vision and Goal Statement:** updated based on our consultations and approved by Council ([full document available on Peninsula web site.](#))
- ✓**Volunteer Appreciation Celebration:** TS hosted a volunteer appreciation event to honor those supporting its many programs. Thank you, everyone!
- ✓**Volunteer Orientation:** Held Orientation Event & launched new Volunteer Manual.
- ✓**Christmas Sing-a-long:** Approximately 25 people attended a lively, musical, gift-giving, dessert-luck evening of laughs and love for guests and various groups.
- ✓**Expanding Our Funding Model:** Our grants from the ProVision Fund are coming to an end (reduced to \$10,000 in 2020, \$5,000 in 2021) so we are exploring other sources of funding.

ThirdSpace PROGRAMS

A: Community Partnerships and Activities:

ThirdSpace works with...

- **Semiahmoo House Society** (Uniti), offering inclusion and support for friends and neighbours with developmental disabilities
- **Pacific Postpartum Support Society (NEW!)** - building relationships and offering support to mothers experiencing postpartum challenges (starts February)



- **Camp Alexandra**, addressing climate change by linking with an environmental group to address and spearhead local climate change challenges
- **White Rock Philosophers** - monthly meeting to explore various topics & ideas
- **PFLAG** - peer support group for family & friends of LGBTQ folks

B: Ongoing Activities:

ThirdSpace provides support and space for ...

Arts Programs:

Tackle that Memoir (averages 10 participants)

- building life skills using memoir writing, conversation, companioning & creative thinking

Lights! Camera! Action! (Drama Class)

- a local theatre company needing ThirdSpace support as they engage local artists in skill-building, creative, and bonding experiences

Write Time Write Place (averages 10 participants)

- poetry-writing that encourages, empowers, and connects
- Ann participates regularly despite increasing blindness

Education Programs:

- **Conscious Connections** (averages 9 participants)

- supportive discussion group related to wellness, spirituality, relationships and social justice

- **Death Café** (100 participants in 2019)

- monthly discussion group led by Susan Zwick and Leisa Bannerman focused on all topics related to death, dying & living; in its 3rd year
- goal: to increase capacity for death awareness aimed at more intentional living

- **Moving Forward** - Low-cost counselling services

- provided over 90 hours of free or subsidized counselling to 25 new people in our community



"ThirdSpace is of critical importance to us as without which, we would not be able to provide crucial assistance to the community in the White Rock and South Surrey regions."

- Gary Thandi, Moving Forward Family Services

Social Programs:

- **The Third Café Drop-In** - Wed. & Fri. morning (Averages 8-9 participants)

- companioning with seniors and other neighbours, many with personal and mental health challenges
- regulars include people who come with their support worker

- **Conversation Café** (averages 6 participants)

- weekly guided conversations to promote safe and deep connections between participants

- **PFLAG** - averages 8 - 12 participants

- TS hosts sensitive, expert, and loving support and conversation for LGBTQ participants and their loved ones

- **Sit and Stitch** (averages 6 participants)
 - fosters friendship and community-building amongst a diverse group of women
 - many knitted pieces donated to fundraising and shelter groups
- **Table Top Board Games: Sunday Unplugged** (averaged 21 participants in 2019)
 - TS hosts gathering with Vancouver Foundation support to decrease isolation, increase joy, connection



Spiritual Programs:

- **Café Church** (averages 25 participants)
 - Sunday morning of music, teaching, prayer, conversation, connection around brunch
 - casual, informal environment as all ages are welcome; all ages participate



- **Study & Practice Groups**
 - **"Off Our Rockers"** - a seven-week PUC book study group averaging 16 people talking about positive aging (see photo on right)
 - **NEW Group** discussing *The Universal Christ* & engaging in spiritual practices (10 participants)



VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF

Leadership Team

- the ThirdSpace Leadership Team sets policy, plans programs & events, and coordinates partnerships
- new members of the Leadership Team: Elizabeth Winkler (Council Rep) and Marilyn Hahn. They join Susan Zwick and Leisa Bannerman, along with The Reverend Bruce McAndless-Davis, our Minister of Worship & Emerging Spirit, who is the "Community Curator" of ThirdSpace
- Jean Kromm and Maria Booth stepped down and were honored for their many important contributions to the ThirdSpace ministry. Thank you Jean and Maria!



Leadership Development

- Susan and Elizabeth travelled with Bruce, Janice and other PUC leaders to “Inhabit” conference in Seattle
- Conference validated efforts made at ThirdSpace to understand what is a parish ministry and how to partner with agencies to meet the creative, belonging needs of the surrounding community.
- We realized that ThirdSpace is part of a growing movement within the Christian faith seeking to build relationships in the larger parish, walk with our neighbours and explore how God is working in their lives. An example of this is found in the vision of one parish community in Seattle called Quest:



New Staff in 2109

- the need for administrative support was filled by hiring Nikkie Ripka in June
 - Nikkie coordinates volunteers, welcomes guests, updates social media, prepares Café Church bulletins, manages supplies & provides other excellent admin support
 - 12 hours a week (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)



Volunteers

- our volunteers teach, host, clean, invite, bake, lead, play piano, decorate, and more!
- over 30 volunteers help build community and offer practical and radical love to others



FACILITY and FUNDING

The ThirdSpace storefront facility - #100 - 1381 George St., White Rock

- our landlord recently began a \$35,000 renovation on washrooms & kitchenette that improves “first impressions” of ThirdSpace
- leased for \$2400 per month
- cost offset by a grant from the ProVision Fund of the United Church, which is coming to an end
 - *budget implications noted in the proposed budget for 2020.*

Sharing Our Space

- ThirdSpace shares space and amenities with those who share our goals & values
- Most groups use the space free but collect donations to help us with costs
- Some groups pay a modest rent, consistent with PUC rental policies

Budget

Description	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
Revenue		
Balance Forward	6,880	10,137
ProVision Grant	29,400	10,000
<i>PUC Funding for Operating Expenses</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>23,300</i>
Fundraising & Donations	4,478	4,000
Rental Income	930	1,000
Total Revenue	34,878	38,300
Expenses		
Facility rent	28,114	28,114
Office Expenses	1650	3,000
Event Supplies – Coffee, food & materials	1202	1,500
Equipment (furnishings & fixtures)	371	3500
Communications & Advertising	213	500
Leadership Development	0	1000
Leaseholder improvements (per contract)		4,800
Total Expenses	31,550	38,300
Total Revenue Less Expenses	3,328	0

ThirdSpace CHALLENGES

- sharing ThirdSpace vision clearly and regularly with Peninsula United Church members
- planning for the future when funding is insecure and we lack a permanent home
- covering responsibilities related to Bruce’s sabbatical leave
- increasing paid hours to clerical staff

ThirdSpace KEY GOALS for 2020

- securing adequate **funding** to increase activities and services
- increasing **programming** to serve a broader range of needs in our community
- improving **communications** with church members to inform and inspire
- making more **connections** with other helping organizations needing what ThirdSpace can offer



United Church Women (UCW)

Peninsula United Church Women has 29 members. We had 7 regular meetings as well as 2 social meetings in June and December which were held in the Clubhouse of Meridian Park Estates, home of member Mary Gilholme. The delicious lunches and good fellowship were enjoyed by all. At the June Social, Val Weinert was presented with a life member pin for all her many contributions.

Our regular meetings have a format of a devotional, business agenda followed by a programme. Our programs are varied: 2 were sessions with The Reverend Janice Young on some of the lesser known women of the Bible; others were presentations of very old favourite cookbooks (which resulted in some hilarious moments), decluttering and our summer experiences. All our members are supported with cards, calls and visits during illnesses, losses or celebrations.

At the May 26 church service, members of the Hillcrest Unit were honoured for their years of service. Although some of the members have joined the Peninsula Group, their Unit still meets together for fellowship.

Our fund raising projects consisted of the Pancake Brunch, Irish Stew Dinner, Frozen Food Sale and Bake Sale. With these funds we were able to support Peninsula United Church, Mission and Services Fund, Elizabeth Fry Society, Imagine Children's Retreat, Camp Spirit, Sources Food Bank and poinsettias for shut-ins.

During the year our members participated in: the World Day of Prayer, Lenten Lunches, BC Conference Pacific Mountain Region, Fraser UCW Spring Rally and Fall Gathering, Camp Spirit, Memorial Services and Teas, and the Women's Advent Service. Four of our members are on the Fraser UCW Executive. Val Weinert (Vice-President), Darlene Barling (Treasurer), Doris Mowat (Area Coordinator East Fraser Valley), Winnie Kowalewich (Secretary). Winnie is also secretary for the Pacific Mountain UCW.

The National UCW 60th Anniversary Mission Support Programme is Women for Change in Zambia. Our project is to raise funds to help educate Girls 10-18 years of age.

UCW Purpose

To unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a medium through which we may express our loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study fellowship and service.

Pat Anderson, Chair

Worship



With the help of many congregants, the members of the Worship Committee have felt privileged to take a leadership role in providing Sunday Worship Services and occasional services on other days. Comprised of lay members **Mary Fran Bateman (Co-chair)**, **Heather Hardman (Worship Arts)**, **Sandra Horbachewsky (Communion)**, **Victoria Jones (Co-chair)**, **Joan Strutt**, **Val Thorner (Flower Committee)** and our able **Ministers Bruce McAndless-Davis and Janice Young**, we have met monthly to plan and organize the Worship services. We have appreciated the inspiring messages and input from our Ministers, as well as the wonderful music program provided by **Denice Grant (Music Director)** and **Angela Chu (Musician)**.

We offer a special thank-you to two people who have spent many hours organizing helpers - **Eleanor Mortimer** (Ushers) and **Norma Janzen** (Greeters). We thank all those who have agreed to take on those important duties - making people feel welcome and helping to make things run smoothly. We also thank all those who have volunteered to read Scripture and to offer Prayers of the People this year. We have been grateful for your service to our church community. We have been thankful for a number of people who have provided pulpit supply, and very much appreciate the gifts they have offered. These include: **The Reverend Joan McMurtry, The Reverend Carmen Lansdowne, The Reverend Debra Bowman, The Reverend Donna Dinsmore and Jane Harding**. We give particular mention to those who have taken services at Café Church this year: **The Reverend Joan McMurtry, Laura Springate, Susan Zwick, Marilyn Hahn, Cheryl Lightowlers and Elizabeth Winkler**.

Here is an overview of our work this year:

1. Worship Arts

- **Heather Hardman, Val Thorner, Ken Hembroff, Marilyn Dyer, Mary Fran Bateman, Victoria Jones and Claudia Semaniuk** have made sure that the appropriate banners and visual effects have been displayed to enhance our services, often with the assistance of the flower committee.
- **The Flower Committee, chaired by Val Thorner** has faithfully supplied bouquets for each Service and has helped to transform many spaces in the Sanctuary for the Liturgical Seasons. Stones for Lent, a flower covered cross for Easter, paper butterflies created by **Heather Hardman** for Pentecost, two new banners created by **Marilyn Dyer, Heather Hardman, Debbie Pearson, Claudia Semaniuk, Vicki Warren and Helen Virgo** for the Season of Creation and stars and greenery for the Advent/Christmas Seasons are just a few of the special touches that have given visual life to our services.

- **Heather Hardman** updated the large vinyl banner to advertise our Advent Services. We gratefully thank **Brian Zwick** for installing it on our church property fence facing Crescent Road.

2. Music

- Council granted us \$5000 for music supplies and honorariums. This has allowed us to buy missing copies of sheet music rather than photocopying it, thus complying with copyright regulations. We have expanded our library of Christmas and Easter music and have been able to include guest musicians for special services.
- We have purchased new choir folders to replace our old, mismatched ones.
- A new ukulele group was formed and already has presented music at several services. Practices are Wednesdays from 6 -7 PM, and are open to new members.
- Hymnaries in the pews were organized so that each book holder contains one hymnary with large print only, and one with smaller print and the music score.
- We have re-introduced the practice of including the anthem lyrics on the A/V screen when appropriate.

3. Continued Practices

- We have continued to: print a few large print bulletins for each service, post weekly sheets of building usage as a reference for all who use our spaces, offer special music on the last Sunday of each month so others can offer musical gifts while choir members can volunteer in other capacities if they wish, support Café Church by circulating a roster for volunteers at the George Street site.
- Throughout the summer we have co-ordinated and helped with the summer coffee time and continued to use only hymn books and microphones during services so the A/V team could have a break.
- Communion has been served each month, usually on the first Sunday of the month.
- We include Minute for Mission monthly, often twice a month.

4. New Initiatives

- We are extremely thankful for the gifts of **Kees Koster, Warren Thomlinson, Ken Hembroff and Lee Chamberlain** who have spent countless hours making improvements to our worship spaces. They have taken part in the building, installing and painting of our new choir risers, upgraded our lighting to LED and dimmer switches, and built an improved pulley system for our banners.
- We developed a Feedback Form for Café Church for both children and adults in May. The findings have been shared with Council and have informed some of our decisions.
- The Worship Committee has followed up on congregational comments and has engaged interested people in discussion about any aspects of Worship that require explanation and continued conversation, including the Land Acknowledgement at the beginning of services. We believe that being open and willing to engage in discussion on any topic is at the heart of our mission as representatives of the congregation.
- In an effort to help the congregants from both the Crescent and Café Church sites feel connected with each other, we have begun to project slides of Café Church activities before our Sunday services.

- For continuity and to help guest preachers and speakers feel more comfortable, we now make sure we have a lay presider to greet them and take over the beginning of the service, including the Announcement portion.
- At the Good Friday service we took up a collection for World Relief Africa.

5. Sign Up Sunday

- Representatives from a number of committees (some wearing hats to depict their helping function) were identified to the congregation and made available for questions over coffee time on September 29. A number of new helpers signed up. Next year we would like to have this downstairs during the first Soup Sunday in the Fall.

6. Nursery/Preschool

- Three families with pre-schoolers and babies are attending services at the Crescent site. **Raquel Merriman** has expanded the pre-school area in our library and is providing childcare for these young families during our Worship services. We welcome these children as a sign of God's presence in our midst.

Victoria Jones and Mary Fran Bateman, Co-chairs

Flower Committee



Our annual meeting was held on Sunday, January 12, with a committee consisting of Claudia Semaniuk, Linda Martin, Val MacMillan, Pat Logie, Val Thorner, Mary Fran Bateman, Evelyn Dobson, Barb Lutes, Gillian Cole, Vicki Warren and Heather Hardman.

Weekly floral bouquets, seasonal displays, and memorial bouquets will continue to enhance our worship space.

If people would like to request a special bouquet they can either supply the flowers themselves or let the committee know how much they would donate for the flowers and the arrangement would be composed by a committee member.

Did you know we have a flower bed for growing our flowers in the back lawn of the Crescent site? In summer it is full of dahlias and a great source of fresh flowers for us in the season.

Val Thorner, Team Leader

Music Ministry

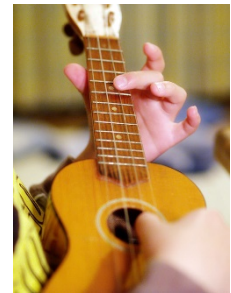
Our music program is doing very well, and continues to expand. Our membership is extremely dedicated, and we want to thank all the choir members for their faithful and continued support. We have many choir members that are dealing with health issues, so all your prayers are welcome. Nevertheless, whenever those individuals are feeling better, they come back to sing with us.

We are very thankful for the new risers for the choir, and we thank all those that helped put it together. The risers make a huge difference all around.

From Advent to Christmas, there was lots of new and exciting music. The 7:00 PM Christmas service was a special highlight, when we were joined by violinist Ruth Francis in two beautiful anthems.

Last year our choir was invited to perform 2 pieces at a concert in The Church in the Valley in Langley. We also led an entire church service, which has become a traditional Choir Sunday now, and which we will do again in May 2020.

What's new? We are very happy with the creation of a couple of new music ensembles in our church, which gives other church members the opportunity to participate in our music program. Last fall we started a Ukulele Ensemble, and now we also have a Wind Ensemble, comprised mostly of flute and recorders. Anyone willing to participate please contact Denice Grant.



What's coming up? A Choir Concert! This will be our first choir concert and it will also feature many other musicians in our community. The date is May 3 at 2:00 PM. Please pass the word around and bring your friends!

As always, we would like to thank everyone in the congregation that makes this music program a success. There are too many names to list here, but special thanks always go to Val Weinert for her unceasing and ongoing work in the music library.

Thank you, Peninsula United Church, for your continued support and appreciation of our music program.

Denice Grant, Music Director



MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

PENINSULA UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of the congregation of Peninsula United Church was held on Sunday, February 24, 2019, following morning worship at Peninsula United Church (Crescent site). Chair Jean Macdonald presided. There were approximately 78 members and adherents of Peninsula United present, constituting a quorum.

CALL TO ORDER and WELCOME

Chair Jean Macdonald called the meeting to order at 11:40 am and welcomed all those present. The purpose of the meeting was to receive and review the **2018 Annual Report (Part 1—Documents) and (Part 2—Congregational Meeting Minutes and Financial Information)**, and to approve the 2019 budget.

OPENING PRAYER

The Reverend Bruce McAndless-Davis led in prayer

IN MEMORIAM

*Lena Anderson
Elizabeth Bordeaux
*David Curry
*Everett Elkington
Gordon Walter Gibb
*Joan Maguire
Linda McArthur
*Cornelia (Nellie) Mellquist
Joan Murphy
*Jean Roe
Mary Sully
George Douglas Watson
Shirley Wiebe

Robert James Ash
*Sandro Colasacco
Thelma Edworthy
*Betty Farris
*Neville Graham
*Anne McArthur
*Freda McLean
*Allan Mowat
*Margaret North-Mainwaring
*Harry Steele
*Sylvia Teal
*Mary Watkins

(*confirmed members of Peninsula United)

ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICERS

The Reverend Bruce McAndless-Davis then took the chair and asked for a motion to elect presiding officers. It was

MOVED by Beth Henderson and **Seconded** by Laura Langton

That Jean Macdonald be elected as Chairperson and that Sylvia Uhreen be elected as Secretary for this meeting.

CARRIED

VOTING PRIVILEGES

Chair Jean Macdonald then asked for a motion on voting privileges and it was

MOVED by Maria Booth and **Seconded** by Paul Pieron

That voting privileges on temporal matters (financial and administrative) only be extended to any adherent of Peninsula United Church who is present at this meeting.

CARRIED

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Chair Jean Macdonald noted that an addition had been made to the agenda and it was

MOVED by Judith Charlebois and **Seconded** by Mollie Williams

That the agenda for this meeting as amended be accepted.

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

1. Minutes of the Congregational Meetings in 2018

MOVED by Debbie Pearson and **Seconded** by Joan Strutt

That the minutes of the Congregational Meetings held January 28, 2018, March 18, 2018, April 15, 2018 and June 17, 2018 be adopted as circulated in the ***Annual Report 2018 (Part 2)***.

CARRIED.

2. Acceptance of 2018 Committee Reports

MOVED by Marj Holmgren and **Seconded** by Grant Bracewell

That the ***Annual Report 2018 (Part 1)*** be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Financial Review of 2018

Sharon Birney referred to the financial statements in the ***Annual Report 2018 (Part 2, pp. 36-45)*** mentioning Cash Assets in 2018 amounted to \$377,300. She noted that Designated Funds (programs and projects outside the operating budget) were listed on p. 38 and that the amount for the Extreme Weather Shelter was not an overdraft but a difference in timing at the bank and the money was deposited in January. She further noted that all Mission & Service Funds collected during the year had been passed on and that a fund for Sabbatical Leave had been established (planning for the future). Investments amounting to \$606,381 were invested at the National Bank and during the year 2018 efforts had been made to consolidate the funds from the three founding churches. Sharon further noted that actual givings amounted to 58% of revenue, rentals amounted to 24%, planned gifts amounted to 14% and the remainder from fundraising and other. On the Expenses side, Ministry & Personnel expenses amounted to 75% of the operating costs, with facilities amounting to 16%, administrative costs amounting to 7%, committee costs 3% and presbytery allocation 5%. Questions included funding on ThirdSpace and how Legacy Funds (Planned Gifts) were allocated.

4. Acceptance of 2018 Financial Statements

MOVED by Sharon Birney and **Seconded** by Peter Jones

That the unaudited 2018 Financial Statements be approved as circulated in *Annual Report 2018 (Part 2, pp. 36-45)*. **CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation of 2019 Budget

Jim Sheppard presented the budget for 2019 noting that 57% of revenues comes from local givings and 23% from rentals. He noted that local offerings had been decreased for 2019 in recognition that many people had been lost (some through death). Some expenses had been increased (salaries, worship, denominational assessment – replacing presbytery allocation), etc. Questions included whether salary increases included all staff equally, what is the planning for ThirdSpace, and whether Mission & Service goals were included in the budget. The M&S goal was referred to Council and the salary increases question was referred to the M&P Committee for consideration in future years. Anna Paton reported on comments from Gordon Ford reflecting the opinion that Planned Gifts funding will eventually run out. After discussion it was

MOVED by Jim Sheppard and **Seconded** by Anna Paton

That the congregation approve the use of up to \$95,000 from the Planned Gifts/Investment accounts to fund the 2019 budget, if needed.

(2 against) **CARRIED**

2. Approval of 2019 Budget

MOVED by Jim Sheppard and **Seconded** by Fae Chato-Manchuk

That the congregation approve the proposed budget for 2019 as presented in the *Annual Report 2018 (Part 2, pp. 37)*. (2 against) **CARRIED**

3. Redevelopment

Jean Kromm reviewed some of the quality choices still to be made in the building and furnishing of the new Semiahmoo site church and it was

MOVED by Jean Kromm and **Seconded** by Fae Chato-Manchuk

That the proceeds from the completion of the sale of the Semiahmoo site be held in trust until funds are needed to ensure that the facility is fully equipped to meet the needs of the congregation as well as the Outreach programs. **CARRIED**

It was noted that the interest from the proceeds would go to general revenue.

4. Financial Decision-Making Guidelines and Principles

Anna Paton outlined the process through which these guidelines had been created noting the work stemmed from the congregational workshop with Caitlyn Frost in May 2018, was further carried on by Council at a workshop in November 2018 and finalized by a small group of Council members and Trustees resulting in the work presented. She then read through each principle and intention. When questioned on the principle of

evaluation, it was stated that this was not an evaluation of performance by staff but whether objectives of the work of the church were being carried out. It was then

MOVED by Anna Paton and **Seconded** by Sharon Birney

That Peninsula United Church adopt the Financial Decision-Making Guidelines and Principles {Appendix A, pp. 5-6} as presented. **CARRIED**

5. **Sunnyside Roof Repair**

Lee Chamberlain reported on roof leaks experienced at the Sunnyside site and pointed out that the well-being of the tenants needed to be ensured as well as insurance requirements. It was

MOVED by Lee Chamberlain and **Seconded** by Anna Paton

That the roof at the Sunnyside site be repaired at an estimated cost of approximately \$50,000. **CARRIED**

Jim Sheppard clarified that these roofing costs would be funded from the former Sunnyside Building Fund.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Jean Macdonald noted that Mission & Service funds were now being dealt with in a different way and that the congregation had some options in how to make givings to Mission & Service. She stated Council will look at these ideas, collect needed facts and figures, and ensure the congregation understood these options before goals were set.

Lorraine Hand noted the great job done by the Finance Committee and the congregation responded with applause.

Val Astring gave thanks to the Ministers and staff for their faithful and loving work during this year of change.

ADJOURNMENT

At 1:05pm there being no other business, the Chair thanked those who attended. It was

MOVED by Anna Paton

That the meeting be closed.

The Reverend Janice Young led in a prayer.

Jean Macdonald (Chair)

Sylvia Uhreen (Secretary)

APPENDIX A

Financial Decision Making Guidelines and Principles

Peninsula United Church

February 24, 2019

Our financial resources belong to God, and the Faith Statements of the United Church of Canada are at the core of our Financial Principles. From A New Creed:

...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...**

Decisions will be aligned with the values of openness, honesty, inclusion, accountability and our desire to build personal relationships and community.

1.). Consultation

Congregation members will have the opportunity to be informed, engage in discussion, give input and ask questions through consultation processes.

2.). Communication

Council will communicate financial matters and decisions with the intention of increasing shared understanding of financial issues and transparency of process.

3.). Decision Making - Council

Financial decisions will be made by the Council, who will engage in open and inclusive discussion and discernment, and be guided by agreed principles.

4.). Congregation approval

The Operating Budget is approved annually by the congregation. Expenditures of over **\$50,000** from the non-operating (endowment) funds must be approved by the congregation.

5.). Evaluation:

Ministries/programs will be evaluated regularly, as appropriate, to determine whether goals and needs are being met.

6.). Discussion and Decision Making Guiding Principles

We will ensure our decisions (spending, saving plans, buildings and new programs/ministries) serve and align with our purpose, mission and values.

Financial Principles – Background Information

Peninsula United Church

February 24, 2019

1.). Consultation

1. Consult with the convenors and staff annually, throughout the Fall, prior to setting the budget.
2. Consult with the congregation on non-budget items and new initiatives as they arise.

Intention:

This serves our value of being in relationship with each other in an open honest way, and accessing and honouring the wisdom of the wider body; it values inclusion, building community.

2.). Communication

- Communication may include, where appropriate, key background and context information and rationale for decisions. It may articulate how the issue or decision connects to values and vision and provide a brief description of the process.
- Council may communicate non-budgeted spending decisions to the congregation.
- Appropriate key finance information will be communicated from the pulpit, in bulletins and/or the Congregational newsletter, quarterly and annually.

Intention:

This helps council to be more accountable and to build relationships. It serves values of integrity and openness. It helps to build shared knowledge and understanding, and capacity for informed contribution/collaboration. It fosters an increased genuine buy in for decisions.

3.). Decision Making – Council

- Along with open discussion, council may conduct research and/or obtain expert advice where needed.
- We follow the ethical investment guidelines of the United Church of Canada.
- We adhere to Canada Revenue Agency and United Church of Canada financial guidelines in setting policies and procedures.

Intention:

We desire to better the relationships among us and be a whole body of God. We wish to align our actions with our values of inclusiveness. It is important to ensure decisions are understood and made by full council and have the benefit of a diversity of perspectives.

4.). Congregation approval

- We will keep the people in our congregation at the centre of our decisions, focussing on how each decision impacts and/or serves people in our congregation and beyond our congregation.

Intention:

This helps to maintain trust & confidence, values inclusion and supports genuine buy in.

5.). Evaluation:

- Evaluations may be external or internal, as determined by the Council and Congregation.

Intention:

This helps to provide accountability and transparency so we can serve wisely and faithfully. It serves to meet our values of open, honest accountability.

6.). Discussion and Decision Making Guiding Principles

- We will focus on how a decision serves our ministries, mission and values.
- We will focus on how our Budget ensures/considers the sustainability of existing ministries and programs as well as providing for innovative ministries/programs that reach out to younger generations.
- Financial discussions and decisions will consider the long-term vitality of our faith community.

Intention:

This helps us to choose new programs and ministries wisely and to be faithful to the vision and mission discerned. By serving our values of being inclusive and building community, we are caring for and serving all ages & stages. This will help us to be healthy in the future. It will serve our value of being a faith filled spiritual community.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

PENINSULA UNITED CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

MINUTES

This meeting of the congregation of Peninsula Church was held on Sunday, June 9, 2019, following morning worship at Peninsula United Church (127th Street site). Chair Jean Macdonald presided. There were approximately 40 members and adherents of Peninsula United present, constituting a quorum.

CALL TO ORDER AND PURPOSE

Chair Jean Macdonald called the meeting to order at 11:45am and The Reverend Janice Young led in a prayer.

PRESIDING OFFICERS

MOVED by Mary Gilholme and **Seconded** by Maria Booth

That Jean Macdonald be named as Chair and Sylvia Uhreen be named as Secretary for this meeting. **CARRIED**

VOTING PRIVILEGES

MOVED by Lorraine Hand and **Seconded** by Mollie Williams

That voting privileges on all matters be granted to any adherents who are present for this meeting. **CARRIED**

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

MOVED by Marj Holmgren and **Seconded** by Peter Jones

That the agenda be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

PRESENTATION AND ELECTION OF NOMINEES TO THE PROVISIONAL COUNCIL OF PENINSULA UNITED CHURCH

Jean Kromm presented the list prepared by the nominating committee and noted that every member had agreed to continue with the Provisional Council while the question of governance was being worked on.

Provisional Council: to June 2020

Chair	Jean Macdonald
Vice-Chair	Jean Kromm
Secretary	Sylvia Uhreen
Treasurer	Sharon Birney
Christian Development	TBD
Congregational/Pastoral Care	Kathy Matusiak
Finance	Jim Sheppard
Ministry & Personnel	Val Astring
Outreach	Kathy Booth
Property	Lee Chamberlain
ThirdSpace	TBD
UCW	Joan Strutt
Worship	Mary Fran Bateman, Victoria Jones
Member-at-Large	Maria Booth
Presbytery Reps	Peter Jones

MOVED by Doris Mowat and **Seconded** by Cheryl Lightowlers

That the slate of officers be considered en bloc.

That the nominees be accepted and elected by acclamation.

That the Congregation authorize the Council to appoint members to fill any vacancies that may occur on the Provisional Council **CARRIED**

MISSION AND SERVICE FUND OBJECTIVE

Jim Shepherd reviewed the different way M&S funds are determined. Previously part of the funds were directed to administration at the national church level. Now those administration fees are taken from the regional allocation (which goes directly to the national church office) so all monies submitted for Mission & Service goes to Mission & Service in some way. On discussion it was noted that attempts to find out what percentage had previously gone to administration had not been successful. Therefore the suggested objective is lower than in 2018.

MOVED by Barb Lutes and **Seconded** by Sharon Birney

That the Mission and Service Fund Objective for Peninsula United Church in 2019 be \$60,000. (1 against) **CARRIED**

OTHER BUSINESS (none)

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

At 12:00pm there being no further business Chair Jean Macdonald asked for blessings for The Reverend Janice Young as she went on her journey and the congregation sang Go Now In Peace.

Jean Macdonald (Chair)

Sylvia Uhreen (Secretary)

2019 Financial Overview

2019 in Review

Our Ministry continues to rely upon your weekly/monthly/annual donations to pay for most of our annual church expenses. Other Sources of annual income include rent, fundraisers and Planned Gifts/Investments.

Here is a brief overview of the 2019 annual income and expenses for PUC:

INCOME

Household Givings	\$291,535
Rent	130,114
Fundraisers	2,506
Transfer from Planned Gifts/Investments	42,987

EXPENSES***	\$469,135
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*** Expenses included Salaries and Benefits of \$320,821 and National UCC Assessment of \$28,235

Mission & Service	\$69,975.59
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MOTIONS:

Be it hereby moved that the congregation of Peninsula United Church approve the Notice to Reader prepared by Saklas & Co. for Peninsula United Church for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Proposed Budget for 2020

Here is an overview of the estimated income and expenses for PUC in 2020:

REVENUE:

Contributions		\$285,000
Use of premises:		
127 St site	\$46,000	
24 th Ave site	73,000	
George St site	<u>1,000</u>	120,000
Transfer From Planned Gift fund		128,000
Fundraising		4,000
Memorial teas		500
Total		<u><u>\$537,700</u></u>

EXPENSES:

Salaries and Benefits	\$356,001
Administrative	53,400
National UCC Assessment	22,409
Facilities:	
127 St site	42,300
24 th Ave site	20,520
Justice & Service	4,050
Worship	6,000
Congregational Care	2,100
Communications	1,420
United Church Institutions	500
Christian Formation	5,700
3 rd Space	<u>23,300</u>
Total	<u><u>\$537,700</u></u>

MOTIONS:

The congregation hereby approves the use of up to \$128,000 from Planned Gifts/Investments to fund the 2020 budget for Peninsula United Church.

The congregation hereby approves the proposed budget for 2020 for Peninsula United Church

Be it hereby moved that the congregation of Peninsula United Church approve setting a Mission & Service goal of \$60,000 for 2020.