# Westworth United Church

Annual Report for 2019



For Presentation at the 69<sup>TH</sup> Annual Meeting to be held Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020

# **Our Mission:**

To be the hands and feet of Christ within Westworth and beyond

#### WESTWORTH UNITED CHURCH 69th ANNUAL MEETING, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. INTRODUCTION
- 2. OPENING PRAYER
- 3. MOTION REGARDING VOTING
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 68th ANNUAL MEETING March 10, 2019 Pages 966-970
- 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
- 7. APPROVAL OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Report:	Page:	Prepared by:
a) Chair	10	Eunice Pratt
Minister	9	Loraine Mackenzie Shepherd
Affirming Ministry Ad Hoc Commi	ttee 11-12	Rhea Yates
Archives	12	Diane Riordan and Bob Johnston
Christian Education & CE Staff Lis	st 13-14	Dianne Sjoberg and Maggie Barnett
Communication	15	Peter Sim
Community Care	16-17	Jennifer Synder
Ministry and Personnel	18	Paul Chard
Outreach	19-21	Ruth Wiwchar
Passages & Memorial Donations	28	Heather Lavery
Prayer Shawl Ministry	29	Barbara Magarrell
Prairie to Pine Regional Council	22	Ruth Wiwchar
Property	23	Spencer Newton
Roll Clerk & Registry Notes	27	Heather Lavery
Trustees	23	Kent Magarrell
UCW Report	26	Nancy Doern-White
Worship	24-25	Olwyn Lewis
b) Children's Fund & Special Appeals	s Fund 30	Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd
Finance	36	Ron Bailey
Financial Review	35	Lynne McCarthy
Staff Costs	37	Jenny Jeffers
8. MOTIONS ARISING FROM REPORTS		
9. BUDGET FOR 2020	38-42	
10.OTHER BUSINESS:		
- Remarks from the Chair		
- Westworth Covenant of Respect	43	
11. LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2020 AND	70	
	04.04	
MOTION TO APPROVE	31-34	
12.ACKNOWLEDGMENTS		

13. CLOSING WORSHIP WITH DEDICATION OF NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM

# Alphabetical Index

Affirming Ministry Ad Hoc Committee	11-12
Archives Committee Report and Financial Report	12
Children's Fund	30
Christian Education Team Report	13
Christian Education Staff List	14
Communication Team Report	15
Community Care Team Report	16-17
Council Chair Report	10
Finance and Stewardship Committee Report and Staff Costs	36-37
Financial Report for 2019 and 2020 Operating Budget	38-42
Financial Review	35
Leadership Team 2020-2021	31-34
Memorial Donations and Bequests	28
Ministers' Report	9
Ministry and Personnel Committee Report	18
Minutes of 68 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting 2018	4-8
Outreach Team Report	19-21
Passages	28
Prayer Shawl Ministry	29
Property Team Report	23
Roll Clerk's Report & Registry Notes	27
Special Appeals Fund	30
Trustees' Report	23
U.C.W. Report	26
Prairie to Pine Regional Council	22
Westworth Covenant of Respect	
Worship Team Report	24-25

#### WESTWORTH UNITED CHURCH 68<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING (Revised) SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Douglas MacEwen, Diane Riordan, Carol Wilkie, Jean Doern, Nancy Doern-White, Eleanor Geib, Carole Hunter, Glenna Lindsay, Peter Sim, Judy Brown, Kirk Windsor, Janice Neumann, Diether Peschken, Lee-Ann Blase, Gordon Toombs, Shirley Ann Simkulak, Florence Baker, Morag Bergthornson, Alan Wilson, Kathy Wilson, Dorothy Reid, Gary Reid, Bruce Tefft, Nancy Williamson, Heather Robbins, Dorian Hoage, Dorcas Windsor, John Carney, Sonja Carney, Fred Chernoff, Natalie Chernoff, Nadia Marmach, Allan McKay, Marion McKay, Wendy Martin White, Ed White, Kim O'Grady, Skye Rousseau, Laura Rousseau, Allison Warrian, Debbie McLeod, Agathe Winchell, Dianne Sjoberg, Cheryl McNabb Davis, Gerald Davis, Ron Bailey, Bob Johnston, Earl Gould, Joyce Gould, Keith Love, Arlene Hintsa, Anne Love, Bettina Nyman, George Nyman, Taekyu Lee, Heain Choi, Jennifer Snyder, Norm Snyder, Paul

Chard, Rhea Yates, Nancy Pinnell, Doris Woodward, Tom Masters, June Masters, Larry Strachan, Barb Magarrell, Kent Magarrell, Sharon Stanley, Madeline Popowich, Jenny Jeffers, Dave Sjoberg, Eunice Pratt, Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd, Alma Acheson

- 2. **INTRODUCTION:** Eunice Pratt opened the meeting at 11:54 and welcomed those in attendance.
- 3. **OPENING PRAYER:** Eleanor Geib led the congregation in an opening prayer.
- 3. MOTION REGARDING VOTING:

**MOTION**: That all members and adherents in attendance shall have voting privileges at this Annual Meeting.

Moved by: Cheryl McNabb Davis Seconded by: Bruce Tefft

**CARRIED** 

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

**MOTION**: That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Moved by: Gerald Davis Seconded by: Keith Love

CARRIED

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 67th ANNUAL MEETING** March 18, 2018 (Pages 935-939)

and Congregational Meeting of October 14, 2018 (Pages 954-955)

**MOTION**: That the minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting held on March 18, 2018 and the

Congregational Meeting held on October 14, 2018 be approved as distributed.

Moved by: Bruce Tefft

Seconded by: Lee-Ann Blase

**CARRIED** 

#### 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

#### 7. APPROVAL OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Re	port:	Page:	Prepared by:
a)	Minister Chair	11 12-13	Loraine Mackenzie Shepherd Eunice Pratt
	Archives Christian Education	14 15-16	Diane Riordan and Bob Johnston Dianne Sjoberg
	Communication	17	Peter Sim
	Community Care	18-19	Jennifer Synder
	Governance	20	Gerald Davis
	Ministry and Personnel	20	Paul Chard
	Outreach	21-23	Ruth Wiwchar
	Passages & Memorial Donation		Heather Lavery
	Prayer Shawl Group	33	Barbara Magarrell
	Presbytery	24	Dorcas and Kirk Windsor
	Property	27	Spencer Newton
	Roll Clerk & Registry Notes	30	Heather Lavery
	Trustees	27	Kent Magarrell
	UCW Report	29	Nancy Doern-White
	Worship	28	Petra Thanisch
b)	Children's Fund & Special		
	Appeals Fund	34	Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd
	Faith & Future Fund Review	32-33	Gerald Davis
	Finance	39	Cheryl McNabb Davis
	Financial Review	38	Lynne McCarthy
	Staff Costs	39	Jenny Jeffers

#### 8. MOTIONS ARISING FROM REPORTS:

- Addition to Memorial Donations by Nancy Doern White— A donation to the Memorial Fund from UCW was made in memory of Erma Hotchkiss. This donation was not listed under the Memorial Fund.
- Larry Strachan had a question for the Property Team regarding estimated costs for repairs to the roof. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd responded that the roof estimate is \$63,900.
   Four grants have been applied for and if approved would cover the total cost of the roof repair.
- Larry Strachan asked: There is reference to funding applications and special applications for the Westworth Fund. Are the applications the same? Gerald Davis responded that: Yes, the applications are the same.

Larry Strachan asked: As one of the rationales for the Westworth Fund is to reflect our Mission and Values, can WUC teams initiate special applications for funding of projects and programs beyond Westworth? Gerald Davis responded yes. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd qualified Gerald's yes response by clarifying that although teams could initiate projects and programs beyond Westworth, thus reflecting our Mission and Values, there would be no granting of funds from the Westworth Fund to groups beyond Westworth.

**MOTION:** That the reports under section a) be approved as amended. **Moved by:** Norm Snyder **Seconded by:** Dorothy Reid

CARRIED

**MOTION:** That the reports under section b) be approved as presented.

Moved by: Norm Snyder Seconded by: Cheryl McNabb Davis

Marion MacKay spoke regarding the recommendations of the review.

- Diane Riordan spoke about the history of the Legacy Funds, and the Faith and Future Funds and questioned what would happen to the monies in whatever fund is in existence in the future. Gerald Davis responded to Faith and Future Funds would be transferred into the new fund.
- Andrea Firth questioned the source of the Funds for the new Westworth Funds. Cheryl McNabb Davis responded that all funds in the Faith and Future Fund would be transferred to the Westworth fund and that undesignated bequests and donations would also go into this fund.

#### **CARRIED**

#### Faith and Future Fund:

**MOTION:** That the Westworth Fund be established to accept undesignated bequests and donations; that all funds currently held in the Faith and Future fund be transferred to the Westworth Fund; and, once this is completed that the Faith and Future Fund be dissolved.

Moved by: Bruce Tefft Seconded by: Ron Bailey

 Diane Riordan asked for clarification if the motion means we are also voting on the Guidelines. Eunice Pratt responded that yes it does.

#### **CARRIED**

#### 9. **BUDGET FOR 2019**

Cheryl McNabb Davis presented the budget as included in the Annual Report.

**MOTION:** That the budget for 2019-2020 be approved as distributed.

Moved by: Cheryl McNabb Davis Seconded by: Paul Chard

- George Nyman had a question regarding the state of the building and possible expenditures. Eunice Pratt responded to the question.
- Diane Riordan had a question about the General Fund budget and the VBS budget.
   Cheryl McNabb Davis and Jenny Jeffers responded to the question.

#### CARRIED

#### 10. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Chair's Remarks: Eunice Pratt presented her remarks from the Chair of Council expressed her gratitude for everyone's help over the past year. She then focused on events accomplished in 2018 such as membership status. She also spoke on the future of the Westworth including acting out our calling as the hands and feet of Christ, the learning journey in becoming an Affirming Congregation, responsible maintenance of the building, and partnerships with St. Andrews. She also stated that there are still unfilled Leadership positions and asked the congregation to consider who might fill these.
- Minister's Remarks: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd presented her report including an update on her upcoming sabbatical during May to July. She acknowledged the many people who will be providing coverage and care during her time away and plans in place for Westworth during that time. She also spoke about what she will be doing on her sabbatical which will focus on "Thriving United Churches" and the blog she will be writing while away so the congregation can participate in her journey and discoveries.

#### Comments from congregation:

- Rev. Eleanor Gibb commented that about VBS and other Children's Events should not need to be self-sustaining.
- Allan McKay thanked the leadership of the church and related positive comments that he
  has heard about our Outreach and Study Groups. He specifically focused on Steinbach
  using Westworth as a model.

#### 11. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd acknowledged and thanked those leaving leadership
  positions on the Council and on Teams (Petra Thanisch, Cheryl McNabb Davis, Gerald
  Davis, and Kirk and Dorcas Windsor).
- Paul Chard acknowledged and thanked the staff for their commitment and hard work.

#### 12. LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2019 AND MOTIONS TO APPROVE:

Eunice Pratt introduced the new and continuing church leaders serving on Teams, Committees, and Council, and listed the current vacancies (currently Vice Chair, Regional Reps-2 in total as Ruth and Dan Wiwchar have agreed to be Regional Reps.)

**MOTION:** That the proposed slate of officers be approved as amended.

Moved by: Jean Doern Seconded by: George Nyman

CARRIED

**MOTION:** That Council have permission to fill any open leadership positions prior to the next

annual meeting.

Moved by: Gerald Davis Seconded by: Ann Love

CARRIED

**13. MOTION:** That the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Westworth United Church be adjourned at 1:23 pm.

Moved by: Marion McKay

#### 14. CLOSING WORSHIP:

- Covenanting of new Council and Leadership Team Leaders.
- Worship service continued with Prayer, Hymn and Benediction.

Eunice Patt	a. acheson
Eunice Pratt, Chair of the Board	Alma Acheson, Secretary

# **Minister's Report**

With the support of countless lay leaders and our own retired ministers, 2019 was largely focussed on preparation, fill-in and follow-up for my sabbatical from May-July. Rev. Earl Gould provided full pastoral care during this time and Council Chair Eunice Pratt made herself available for anything that needed attention. They kept the good ship sailing well! Lay worship leaders and retired clergy looked after the worship services. Teams and committees continued to meet and offer their various ministries. This included the supervision of a newly shingled and insulated roof over the sanctuary that has lessened our carbon footprint.

During my sabbatical, Nancy Pinnell and I visited thriving United Churches from coast to coast to find out what they are doing. Upon my return, I wrote a 40-page report on what I found, with recommendations for Westworth to consider. In the fall, Teams and Committees adopted many of these recommendations. They included the training of a new group of Greeters who are now wearing rainbow ribbons and are helping to introduce newcomers to the life and ministry of the congregation. After consultation with the musicians, the Worship Team permanently changed worship time to 10:45 am throughout the year. We have also increased the number of contemplative ecumenical Taizé services to the first Sunday evening of every 2<sup>nd</sup> month due to greater interest and attendance.

One of the distinguishing features of thriving congregations is their emphasis on spiritual development. We will therefore be offering ongoing small group studies on spiritual nurture throughout the year. We continue to hold a monthly Faith Café to discuss various theological topics in depth. In the fall, we held a study on the Spiritual Attributes of Thriving Congregations, where we learned how to incorporate these attributes into our own personal lives. I also led a confirmation class for 7 youth in the fall. During Advent, Rev. Heather Robbins offered an advent Bible study. We are preparing for a January 2020 study led by Pat Stephenson on dementia. We held a facilitation training session to prepare for the 2020 Lenten Challenge, which will encourage congregants to be part of multiple small reflection groups.

Westworth is continuing to expand its partnership with St. Andrew's River-Heights. On January 13, Rev. Karen Lumley and I exchanged pulpits for our worship services. At St. Andrew's, we held what is becoming our annual Joint Good Friday service. We also held a joint Sunday worship communion service at St. Andrew's on Labour Day weekend. On Sept. 22, St. Andrew's came to Westworth for a worship service and information luncheon focussed on what I learned during my sabbatical. Karen provided emergency pastoral care for the month of August and also agreed to be the pastoral charge supervisor during Loraine's sabbatical and attended a Council meeting to provide quorum. Karen and Loraine meet occasionally to share ideas and materials. Loraine and Maggie were grateful for Karen's research into Christmas pageants and both churches used the same Christmas Eve children's pageant. The chairs of both St. Andrew's and Westworth have also met with Karen and Loraine to talk about future partnership possibilities.

In the fall has seen a number of new families joined us and we seem to have increased energy as we move into 2020. I am grateful to everyone who is offering their time and energy for the ministry of this church. I pray that all congregants—both newcomers and old-timers—will find a place to offer their own spiritual gifts and enrich our ministry both within and outside of Westworth. God has plans for us!!!

Submitted by Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

# **Westworth Council Chair Report**

In review of 2019 at Westworth United Church, I am struck with how we have remained committed to our values of **welcoming human diversity**, **celebrating our Christian faith**, **building community**, **and reaching out**. At the Remembrance Day service we read together the *Affirmation of Peace Prayer (683 Voices United)* which describes peace as, in part, the "tranquil contribution of all to the good of all". This phrase has stayed with me since that service as I believe it encapsulates much of what we believe and how we go about being the hands and feet of Christ.

As Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd has stated, the overarching event of the year was her sabbatical as she and Nancy visited thriving congregations coast to coast. They began their journey with a list of questions, many of which were generated with Westworth congregants, teams, and committees and that were directly applicable to our mission here at Westworth. They returned with many observations, ideas and ways in which Westworth might adopt new or adapt current practices and their findings were summarized in the "Thriving United Churches" report. As a Council, and certainly as Council Chair, we were somewhat nervous about our minister's absence, and were concerned about the very big shoes to fill. Admittedly, this was difficult but the time on our own also gave an opportunity for contributions from countless members of our congregation, and strengthened our commitment to the life and work of our church and to our values. Support through prayer, expressions of interest and concern, worship leadership, pastoral care, administrative support, and in building projects was strong. A very special thanks goes to Earl Gould, Heather Lavery and Andrea Firth who kept us on track and informed every step of the way.

During this period, the new shingled and insulated roof over the sanctuary was installed lessening our carbon footprint, and funded for the most part through grants from the Winnipeg Foundation, Manitoba Hydro, and the United Church's Faithful Footprints. This project is in keeping with the commitment to responsible maintenance made by the Council. Other responsible maintenance projects continue to receive the thoughtful consideration of Council. Our ties to St Andrews River Heights United Church continue to strengthen and this was evident over Loraine's absence as a good number of their congregation joined us to worship in July, and we joined them in August. Rev. Karen Lumley supported the Council when needed and provided emergency pastoral care.

Upon Loraine's return, and her quick publication of "Thriving United Churches" leadership teams, committees, and the Council have been very active in adapting or adopting recommendations. These will become evident as you read the various reports that are found later in this document. The role of Council in all this has been to set priorities, ensure good communication between teams/committees, and ensure success for all new initiatives through careful planning.

We continue to have many things to celebrate and for which to be grateful. These include but are not limited to: the work and leadership of the Affirming Ministry Committee as they guide us through the affirming educational process; many members of the congregation who have stepped forward to take leadership roles in worship, spiritual nurture, pastoral care and welcoming new families; our rich music ministry; the ever expanding and joyous enthusiasm of our children and their leaders; and finally for new families and individuals who have found Westworth a place for spiritual growth and community. Speaking for myself and the Council, we are grateful for the many members of the congregation who have always been willing to share their advice, time, knowledge and prayers and finally to Loraine for her on going wisdom, support and encouragement to be open to God's nudging. My personal thanks goes to our committed and resourceful Council who have been unfailingly supportive and encouraging as they considered and planned for our community now and in the future.

Submitted by

# **Becoming an Affirming Ministry**

Westworth United Church is on a journey to become an Affirming Ministry. This means our congregation is reflecting on what it means to be inclusive. We are considering ways to **publicly, intentionally** and **explicitly** welcome people with diverse genders and sexualities.

If we're already welcoming, why become Affirming?

Being an Affirming Ministry is more than welcoming people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. It's about committing ourselves to sharing that God's love is wider and more inclusive than we can imagine. "Because voices of condemnation, exclusion and hatred are loud and persistent within the church and in society, Affirming Ministries make a public statement about who they are and what they believe. Affirming Ministries believe it is important to be a public witness and to be a role model for other ministries...

Affirming Ministries make an ongoing commitment to work for justice, to promote reconciliation and healing, and to create equity for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities within the church and in wider society." (Open Hearts, Resources for Affirming Ministries in the United Church of Canada, Revised January 2017)

#### Where are we in this process?

Our congregation has been in a process of education and discernment. On Nov. 17 and 24, the worship services focused on the theme of Affirming Ministry. On Nov. 17, Rev. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd preached about non-binary identity from a Biblical perspective. On Nov. 24, Lara Rae spoke about her experience coming out as trans and answered questions from the congregation.

On Nov. 10, Rev. Karen Lumley and Rev. Patrick Woodbeck shared their personal stories. They explored the question, "What does it mean for a congregation to make a commitment to welcome and include people of all sexual orientations and gender identities?" About 30 members of the congregation attended this after-church discussion.

#### What's next?

On February 2, the committee will host another dialogue session about how to be an ally to people in transition. We will be joined by Rhea Mossman Sims, a Nurse Practitioner from Klinic Community Health Centre, and Elliott Long, a Peer Supporter in the Trans Health Program at Klinic. As the education and discernment process continues, individual committees and working groups may also begin to adopt policies or practices that are publicly, intentionally and explicitly welcoming of people with diverse genders and sexualities.

The committee is making plans to explore other themes of inclusion, perhaps related to race/ethnicity, income, or mental/physical ability. We welcome your ideas!

Just a reminder that in order to becoming an Affirming Ministry, Westworth must:

- Adopt a Vision Statement concerning the inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in the life and work of the Ministry
- Develop a continuing Plan of Action for the Ministry
- Have an Inclusive Marriage Policy
- Take a vote with members and adherents

The Affirming Committee expects that our congregation may be ready to vote on becoming an Affirming Ministry by this time next year.

How can I get involved?

The Affirming Committee would love to hear from you! You are welcome to join our planning group or share your story with us by email or in person. The members of the committee are: Rhea Yates, Dorcas Windsor, Andrea Firth, Petra Thanisch, Heather Robbins, Candace Maxymowich and Kathy Jones. Contact Rhea at <a href="mailto:rheavates@mymts.net">rheavates@mymts.net</a>.

Submitted by Rhea Yates Affirming Ministry Ad Hoc Committee

# **Archive Team Report**

The mandate of the Archive Team is to maintain the safe storage of materials of historical significance to Westworth. The Archive team met several times throughout the year to organize, record and file the documents that we received. We also continue to act as a resource to research the Archives to answer questions posed to us.

We continue to scan and make digital copies of the photographs in our Archives. This is a very time consuming task. We are thankful that Bob Johnston has the equipment and expertise for this project.

We continued to collaborate with Maggie Barnett this year to use the Memorial Cabinet to showcase the work of the youth in our church and community. We also had an Archive table at the Open House in August.

Thanks to Jean and Allan Doern for the installation of an interior light in the Memorial Cabinet, which makes the displays easier to see especially on the lower levels.

We ask that all photographs given to the Archives be identified as to date, event and people. We thank Team Leaders for passing along their team minutes and other pertinent documents to the church secretary. This ensures that the records are deposited with the Archives.

Respectfully submitted by: Diane Riordan, Team Leader on behalf of the Archives Team.

# Westworth Archive Team Financial Statement January 1 2019 to December 31 2019

Balance Dec 31 2018	649.90
Income	0.00
Expenses	0.00
Balance Dec 31 2019	649.90

# **Christian Education (CE) Team Report**

The Westworth Christian Education Team continues to support the work of our Coordinator for Children and Families' Ministry (CCFM) in providing Sunday morning programming for our children, and mid-week activities for all. We also work in concert with Worship and Outreach when opportunities present themselves.

Maggie Barnett, CCFM, adapts the "Bible Story Basics" Curriculum for Church School to ensure that our young people hear the stories of the Bible. She also develops lessons to align with worship when necessary, such as when there is an Outreach message, or when lessons need to align with the church year. Maggie continues to provide our capable staff of Danielle Cadieux, Cheryl Ennis, and Julia Shayna with the information and materials that they need to deliver a quality programme for our children.

During Vacation Bible School (VBS) for Spring Break, ten children attended morning sessions that revolved around the theme "The Days of Easter". Most of these families availed themselves of afternoon care for their children during Spring Break VBS. The summer VBS in August had twenty-seven children cooking in "Heaven's Kitchen". Planning and delivery of programming for both VBS sessions in 2019 was provided by Maggie Barnett and Julia Shayna, with assistance from eight Leaders in Training. Several congregants continue to support VBS financially to assist families whose children who might not otherwise be able to attend. Because these are anonymous donations, we are placing a thank you to those folks here. The families are much appreciative, as is your CE Team.

Friday Night Gatherings occur once every two months and provide congregants with an opportunity to gather across ages and family groupings. Westworth provides space for a small group of teenage and older youth an opportunity to gather in a welcoming setting to practice Qigong. Your CE team secured permission from the board to host ZEEBU, a retreat for youth in Grades 7-12. We hope that this event will be a springboard for the beginning of a Westworth Youth Group.

Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd provided confirmation classes for our youth, six of whom completed a course of study which included the following topics: different ways to pray, who is God?, who is Jesus?, who are the Holy Spirit & the Trinity?, what are sin, confession, repentance, transformation?, how was the Bible put together & how it is sacred?, what are our two sacraments & what do they mean?, and a brief overview of church history (early church, reformation, United Church with its origin & crest). The young people participated in interfaith visits to a mosque and synagogue to learn about the basics of the Muslim and Jewish faiths.

Maggie Barnett keeps our well used children's activity bags current. Dianne Sjoberg represents the CE team on the Interfaith Dialogue organizing committee. We thank our Communications Team, particularly Ed White and Peter Sim who regularly get the news about our programmes out into the community through social media and other means. We also thank Jewel Casselman and Dorcas Windsor who provide fine choral and liturgical training to our children and youth. Our young people continue to be welcome in the Westworth Winds and to have the opportunity to play both sacred and secular repertoire with people of other ages, thanks to Ray McClelland. Reina Younka and Kathy Wilson continue to work in our Library, managing the inventory and creating inviting, thematic displays. These displays are terrific. Check them out! Thank you! The Community Library continues to attract readers and is maintained by Kathy Wilson. Thank you Reina and Kathy. Westworth continues to be a congregation dedicated to caring for and fostering Christian Education for the youth in its midst. The CE Committee thanks the congregation for its support in the work of this team.

Respectfully Submitted Dianne Sjoberg, On behalf of the CE Team

# Leadership in the Programs for Children and Youth at Westworth

#### **Church School Teachers for January - June 2019**

Nursery and Parent's Room Preschool - Grade 1

Grades 2-5

Nancy Ballantine and Lidiya O'Grady Julia Shayna and Cheryl Ennis

Danielle Cadieux

#### **Vacation Bible School**

Co-ordinators/Teachers

Maggie Barnett and Julia Shayna

#### **Church School Teachers for September - December 2019**

Nursery and Parent's Room

Pre-reader Reader

Nancy Ballantine

Julia Shayna and Cheryl Ennis

Danielle Cadieux, helper Grace Jeffers

#### Music Leadership for Children and Youth

Cherubs Jewel Casselman and Dorcas Windsor

**Westworth Winds** Ray McClelland

**Coordinator For Children, Youth** 

and Family Ministries:

Maggie Barnett

Librarians

Reina Younka and Kathy Wilson

# **Communications Team Report**

The role of the Communication Team is to promote Westworth's ministry by distributing information through various media.

The main activity of the team has been maintaining Westworth's internet presence. We currently have a website, a Facebook page, a Twitter feed, an Instagram account and a YouTube channel.

Loraine, Heather and a number of volunteers maintain the website. Last year Andrea Firth and Alma Acheson were trained on posting to the website. There is a training video available for anyone else who would be interested in helping with the website.

Materials posted to the website are automatically posted to Facebook and Twitter. Ed White also posts regular updates and photographs to the Facebook page. The Facebook page currently has 187 likes. We experimented with paid advertising on Facebook with paid promotions for the Rummage Sale and the Vacation Bible School.

The YouTube channel has several videos of the choir. It has not been updated for a number of years.

We have an Instagram account which is occasionally updated and provides visibility on a fourth social media platform.

Candace Maxymowich assisted with preparation of various promotional materials but left the committee and Westworth to pursue her Doctor of Ministry. We wish her well.

We now have a weatherproof notice board so passersby can see what it going on in the church. Thank you to Jeff for maintaining it.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Sim

# **Community Care Team Report**

Team Members: Jennifer Snyder, Shirley Watts, Barb Gwyer and Nancy Doern-White. Helpers: Dorothy Reid, Judy Brown, Rochelle Baker, Elaine Pigden, Janet Sealey, Sandra Shaw, Kim Taylor, Jenny Jeffers, Cathy Beynon, Allan McKay and Arlene Hintsa.

The team provides leadership in the development and implementation of strategies to connect and care for all who are involved in the Westworth Congregation.

In the past year, in regard to pastoral care of church members, 15 Visitors visited 25 members of the congregation in their homes. A thank you and check in tea for the One-on One visitors, organized by Nancy Williamson, was held on April 9<sup>th</sup>. We value our One on One visitors. They are: Pat Stephenson, Diether Peschken, Barb Gwyer, Shirley Williams, Nancy Williamson, Sheila Davis, Merle McTaggert, Earl Gould, Carol Wilkie, Elaine Pigden, Heather Robbins, Eleanor Geib, Allan McKay and Pat Challis.

Our Minister Loraine led services at the Wellington and Tuxedo Villa three times each in 2019, and led in an informal communion service once at the Parkway and once at the West Park Manor. Loraine also offered a few home communions for those who are shut-in.

On behalf of the Westworth Congregation Nancy Williamson sent the following cards of care/concern: Bereavement 29, Surgery 6, Hospitalization 11, Illness 7, Accident 3, Move to Care 1, Birth 4, Marriage 3, Special Event 5, Support 2. Total of 71 cards sent in 2019. Thank you to Nancy for her thoughtful words and commitment.

Christmas in a Bag was a successful project that included shortbread cookies baked by UCW members, a candle, a tea bag and Loraine McKenzie Shepherd's Christmas message. Twenty two bags were delivered to members of the congregation who are not able to make it to Church services.

Our team worked with Loraine to develop and implement a Welcoming Protocol. Twenty three people received special training in this area. Members welcoming work in tandem with the Greeters at the door. The Welcomers are in the Narthex Sunday morning and are denoted by a colorful ribbon. They connect and orientate new folks to the building and answer any questions. Even though we have specifically trained people to welcome, it must be noted that we are all ministers of welcome and it is everyone's responsibility to make new people feel comfortable, accepted and welcomed here at Westworth.

Last year, two newcomers luncheons were hosted by our team. The purpose of the lunches is for new members to meet and connect with other new members along with long time members of the church who help to orientate and welcome the new people to our Westworth family.

The Welcoming brochure was updated and is available in the Narthex. The Broadview (formerly the Observer) subscriptions continue to be looked after by Rochelle Baker. Shirley Watts and many helpers completed and distributed the Church directory.

Community building events that happened last year included:

Samedi Swing: Ron Paley, a world class performer attended and sat in for five musical selections. This was a thrill for Ray McClelland and all who attended. Westworth is grateful for the accomplished amateur Big Band wind musicians, who are among some of the best in Winnipeg. They continue to give their time and talent every year. Samedi Swing continues to be well attended and regularly attracts people beyond the membership of the Church. Jewel Casselman spearheads a growing number of volunteers within the Church who give their time for the tickets sales, refreshments, kitchen duties and decorating the gym. Samedi Swing is an event that does not exist to raise money for the Church even though it most often does, the thing that it really raises is fun and fellowship.

A Congregational Bagel, Bagel and more Bagels lunch happened this fall to coincide with the Vocal Ascent Choir concert at the Church. In the spirit of radical hospitality and building bridges into the community, we invited members of the Vocal Ascent Choir to come and have lunch with us.

The Lessons and Carols Christmas service and reception took place on December 15<sup>th</sup>. It was an afternoon concert. Our appreciation to Jenny Jeffers for organizing the reception and the kitchen duties for the event.

The Bridge Club – A new small group ministry started by Shirley and Walter Watts began in September and meets once a month to play bridge and socialize. The group started with one table group and is now up to three table groups. The Bridge group is open to all members at Westworth as well the community beyond.

The coffee service continues every Sunday from September to May. Coffee is offered both before and after church. The last Sunday of every month is "Celebrate Sunday" and cookies are served with the coffee. Nadia Marmach is our dedicated coffee maker.

It takes a village of volunteers to do all the things that we do here at Westworth. The Community Care Team is so appreciative for your continued, and on going positive support and new ideas.

Respectfully submitted by, Jennifer Snyder

# **Ministry and Personnel Committee**

This year was one of transition. Committee membership in 2019 was augmented with the addition of Brett Lougheed and Janice Neumann as new members. Continuing members were Arlene Hintsa and Paul Chard. With the addition of new committee members, many of the member-staff liaison assignments were changed, which kept members busy working with the staff members they were assigned to.

Changes have continued in the way custodial work at Westworth is completed and M&P has worked with other ministry teams and to make adjustments as required. It seems small changes in this area may continue. As with any areas of concern, the committee welcomes input from the congregation on things that are working well and areas where we might look for improvement.

The committee worked particularly closely with many staff during the period of Rev. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd's sabbatical in the late-spring/early summer. We were, as were many others, energized by many of the new ideas that Loraine collected and brought back to Westworth.

In December, the committee once again hosted a luncheon for all staff to show our appreciation for the work they do all year long. In particular, we recognized Rev. Earl Gould and Andrea Firth who stepped in temporarily to help us throughout the year. Westworth is blessed to have all its amazing regular staff and also to have others who are willing to chip in when the need arises.

As background, <u>The Manual 2019</u> of the United Church of Canada identifies the responsibilities of the Ministry & Personnel Committee as:

- a) being available for consultation and support for matters involving the pastoral charge staff;
- b) overseeing the relationship of the pastoral charge staff to each other and to people in the congregation;
- c) regularly reviewing the working conditions, responsibilities, and compensation of all pastoral charge staff;
- d) making any recommendations needed as a result of these reviews to the governing body;
- e) revising position descriptions of pastoral charge staff as needed;
- f) conducting annual performance reviews of the pastoral charge staff;
- g) ensuring pastoral charge staff make use of opportunities for continuing education that they have been given; and
- h) maintaining close contact with the regional council Pastoral Relations Committee or equivalent.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Committee, Paul Chard (Chair)

# **Outreach Team Annual Report**

Westworth Outreach Team, together with the congregation at Westworth, strives to serve the community beyond our walls locally, nationally, and abroad, by identifying and providing opportunities to act out our church's mandate to be "the hands and feet of Christ". In 2019, the Outreach Team continued to challenge and to engage the congregation in justice, social and environmental issues.

#### 1JustCity

In response to diminished funding of four local ministries by the national church, Winnipeg Presbytery initiated a creative approach to funding the community ministries in the city of Winnipeg by creating 1JustCity. Westworth United is directly associated with West Broadway Community Ministry. We are grateful for the work of Marion and Allan McKay on the Board of 1JustCity.

#### **West Broadway Community Ministry**

The work at West Broadway is varied and always rewarding. With four host teams, along with numerous volunteers, Westworth provided over 2000 servings of meatball sandwiches, fruit, and home baked cookies during each of the nine monthly luncheons served to our friends at West Broadway. In February, the team once again partnered with River Heights Junior High "Butterfly Effect" Club, along with their staff advisor, Westworth's Petra Thanisch-Smith to provide lunch at West Broadway, and to offer an educational opportunity for the students.

Financial support of WBCM is crucial to the survival of this ministry. In the summer, Westworth donated money to assist in funding the telephone and fax lines. In the fall, we were able to assist in the paying a part of the lunch coordinator's salary.

The Outreach Team once again encouraged the congregation to take part in 1JustCity's (originally West Broadway's) November Fundraiser, "Walk a Mile in My Shoes". This year, the walk began and concluded at Augustine United Church. Westworth congregation again surpassed expectations and raised \$1400.00.

In December, Westworth's Advent Gifts, were designated to the West Broadway general funds. Also, in December, socks, mitts and toques were delivered to WBCM to support those in need. Westworth congregation donates spare change once a month to send to WBCM. Westworth congregants continue to generously respond to the needs of the West Broadway Emergency Pantry by placing donations of food, personal items, and towels, shampoo and soap for the shower program in the WBCM Emergency Pantry buckets. Deliveries are made weekly.

Members of Westworth provided chili, and volunteer time to assist the Upstream Cluster to thank the many dedicated volunteers who work so hard at West Broadway. West Broadway needs volunteers on a weekly basis to provide spiritual, physical, legal, and emotional support to the folks who enter the doors.

Moving forward, West Broadway faces challenges with increasing rent, as well as safety and access issues. The WBCM Board has begun a re-structuring process so that the Ministry will become more financially aligned with 1JustCity. During the process, a clear communication plan has been developed to keep supporting United Church and Anglican congregations fully informed of the process. Westworth has a history of having members of the congregation assist in many ways. Allan and Marion McKay serve on the board of this vital ministry, and are involved in shepherding the process of re-structuring.

#### **Building and Sustaining Relationships**

- 1. **Circles for Reconciliation**, a local initiative inspired by Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, pairs five Indigenous folk with five "settlers" for a ten-week intensive encounter with the hope of building bridges toward understanding and friendship. Opportunities were offered to Westworth folks again this year.
- 2. Westworth's relationship with **Rossbrook House** continues. Seventeen cooked and sliced turkeys, along with gravy nourished the boys and girls during the Christmas holiday. With a monetary donation oranges were purchased and delivered with the turkey.
- 3. Mennonite Central Committee's **10,000 Villages** offers unique gifts from around the world, as well as Fair Trade food and coffee. The Outreach Team once again offered many of these items for sale during Advent, and over \$1434.40. was sent to MCC. We are saddened to learn that the Winnipeg 10,000 Villages stores are closing in 2020.
- 4.To keep the congregation abreast with what is being done on its behalf by the national church, weekly bulletins from Mission and Service's "Minutes for Mission" are printed in our Sunday bulletins.
- 5. During the difficult time of the alleged anti-semitic difficulties that surrounded the Bermax Restaurant incident during April, the congregation reached out to and offered support to the Jewish Community.
- 6. Several books on the **Truth and Reconciliation** report, as well as information on **UNDRIP** have been purchased by the Outreach Team and have been placed in the Westworth Library.
- 7. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd and Ruth Wiwchar serve on the **Winnipeg United Churches TRC Action Group** whose mandate is to inform and educate congregations about the TRC and Indigenous issues. Ruth Wiwchar serves as Westworth's representative at **Partners in Missions** meetings, and is a founding director of the **Assiniboine Residential School Survivors Board** on behalf of Westworth.
- 8. **Eyeglasses, Stamps and Aluminum Pull-Tabs** are regularly collected. The glasses are taken by Heather or Maggie to Oakley Optical or LensCrafters, where the technicians refurbish the glasses and give them to those in need. Maggie takes the tabs to Carpathia School, where children and staff add them to their own collection of tabs that eventually buy wheelchairs! The stamps are taken to the Canadian Bible Society by Kay Strahan to support the work of the Society. \*\* Please note that Campbell's Soup wrappers are no longer being collected, as the program has ceased to function.

# **Supporting Environmental Issues**

- 1. The Outreach Team is committed to providing educational opportunities on many topics and is offering a focused approach to education on environmental topics. Amanda Davis shares a "Minute for the Environment" once a month, offering thought provoking messages based on her own research.
- 2. Westworth's second **Blessing of the Wheels** was held in May. It was a resounding success, with many families riding bicycles, tricycles, pushing strollers, and riding skateboards to church! Because of inclement weather, the Blessing was moved indoors, but the service planned around environmental issues was very meaningful.
- 3. September's "Lunch and Learn" featured former MLA for Wolsely, Rob Altemeyer who presented a lecture on "Climate Change". The talk was very well attended by folks from Westworth and St. Andrews United.
- 4. Dr. Barbara MacDonald was the featured speaker at the **Sabbath Supper held Sunday October 20.** Dr. MacDonald is employed by Canadian Foodgrains Bank as shared her wealth of knowledge about food security around the globe.

5. The Outreach Team continues to encourage **reduce or eliminate the use of plastic in our building**. No longer are we using plastic straws or cutlery or foam cups and plates. Paper cups and plates that may be used are now bio-degradable, and the congregation is encouraged to provide their own mugs for Sunday morning coffee at church. The water cooler will be removed once existing water has been used.

#### **Cuba Connections**

Westworth has been privileged, for more than 30 years, to be in relationship with Luyano Presbyterian Church (La Iglesia Presbiterian Reformada). Three members of Luyano were in Winnipeg at the invitation of Rev. Janet Walker and Churchill Park United Church. Many events were planned for them. The people of Cuba continue to suffer under new embargos of goods from the US.

#### **Petitions**

The Outreach Team provided education and an opportunity for the members of the congregation to petition the federal government to support the Canadian Foodgrains Bank in its work with women in farming activities throughout Africa. A total of 175 petitions were sent to the PMO which also offered a plea to the Federal Government to increase funding for international development.

The fishers of the Fisher River First Nations asked that we support them in a dispute with the Province of Manitoba. Again. Members of the congregation showed their support by joining many hundreds of Manitobans in signing petitions of support.

#### **Lenten Studies**

The Lenten Studies Series 2019, was re-visioned as an Inter-Faith Study series which focused on Indigenous response to each of the four faiths studied during our Lenten Studies Series of 2015 through 2018: Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Buddhism. Marion McKay and Ruth Wiwchar presented a Facilitators workshop on January in preparation for small-group discussions that occur each week of the series.

#### Refuge

In October, the Refuge team, celebrated the four-year anniversary of the arrival of three Syrian families in Winnipeg. All are becoming true members of the Canadian fabric. Members of Refuge continue to offer support to the families in many ways which include tutoring, providing transportation, and most importantly, friendship.

The members of the Outreach Team are grateful to and sincerely thank the Westworth Community for its support of the work of the Team in the past year. Working together, we look forward to another exciting and rewarding year of service and education!

Amanda Davis
Allan McKay
Marion McKay
Loraine McKenzie-Shepherd (ex-offico)
Kathy McPhail
Diether Peschken
Marion Simpson
Amanda Younka
Ruth Wiwchar, Team Leader

Respectfully Submitted, Ruth Wiwchar

# **United Church of Canada- Prairie to Pine Regional Council**

Due to declining membership and the declining resources that go with it (volunteer time and decreased giving) the United Church has restructured the governance of the Church. As of January 1, 2019, the church has been implementing the transition from Presbyteries and Conferences to a Regional structure. Restructuring has been a mammoth task, and the work continues and will continue for some time as volunteers and paid staff learn how to carry on the work of the Church in the days of the "new normal".

Rev. Sherri McConnell (Westminster United Church, Winnipeg), Inaugural Chair of the Prairie to Pine Regional Council, has been in charge of steering the ship through turbulent waters. Early work of the Region included the hiring of staff for the Region. The Executive Minister (Shannon McCarthy) serves three Regions: Prairie to Pine, Living Skies, and Northern Spirit, as does the Program Assistant (Jamie McKay), and the Financial Administer (Heather Dootoff). Prairie to Pine staff includes the Pastoral Relations Minister (Judy Hare), the Minister of Young Adults and Youth (Twila MacNair) and the Keeper of the Archives (Erin Acland). The hiring of a person to fill a .5 Mission staff position has been put on hold. The work formerly done by the Presbyteries must now be done by a much larger body. Because Prairie to Pine includes the entire Province of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario this is a mammoth task. Everything from governing finance, property, pastoral relations, ministry personnel support, community of faith support, to young adult and youth support and mission and justice work must be now looked at in a much more broad context. No longer enjoying close relations with a local Presbytery has resulted in many initiatives across the Region being disbanded. However, the good news is that many others, such as the local (Winnipeg) Truth and Reconciliation Group have continued as stand-alone groups. In any re-structuring process, there are issues of concern that arise. The adequate funding of Mission and Ministry work is one concern, as is the disbanding of the network formally known as the Keewatin Circle (Presbytery). There is much work to be done in these areas to ensure that the work of the church in community and the work of relationship building continue apace.

The agenda of the meeting in Brandon in June included the passing of the motion to become an Affirming region. This motion had to be discussed as the boundaries had changed from the former Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Conference. Other events over the weekend included the honouring of retiring ministers, visioning and prioritizing, nominations of volunteers to committees of the Region, and an inspiring address from our Moderator, Richard Bott.

It was an honour to have represented Westworth United at this meeting, and to have witnessed the passion and love of the assembled throng for this United Church of ours. Although the challenges are many, there is commitment and excitement around the possibilities that change can bring.

Respectfully Submitted, Ruth Wiwchar Dan Wiwchar

# **Property Team Report**

The Property Team has had a busy year. We had the Sanctuary roof shingled and insulated. We were able to complete the roof almost entirely with grant money. Thanks to Frank Wynes and Loraine for applying for and getting the grant money. We are still adjusting to not having a full time custodian but are managing with help from handyman Jeff Kremer, Sean Barnett and Heather Lavery. Bob Lindsay has been busy painting bathrooms and hallways and will continue painting in 2020. We continue to have problems with the boiler as an entire section had to be rebuilt at a cost of \$19,642, which is included in the normal maintenance for a boiler that is over 15 years old. We are hoping major repairs will not be needed in the 2020.

We will continue with upgrades in 2020. We will be replacing the North side Sanctuary windows and possibly new lights and fans in the Sanctuary as well as new lights in the Narthex.

Submitted by Spencer Newton Chair of Property Team

# **Trustees Annual Report**

Congregational property is held by the Trustees; they hold the title and are responsible for the physical property of the church. Trustees hold the property for the use and benefit of the congregation as part of the United Church. Included in this responsibility is ensuring adequate property and liability insurance is in place. This is usually done in consultation with the Property Committee. Trustees must give the same care and attention to congregational property as a reasonable person would give their own property.

The Trustees met once in 2019. The Trustees reviewed the list of potential capital improvements and the steps taken by Council and Finance to pay for these projects including the grant application preparation process now in place. The Trustees continue to support the focus on Responsible Maintenance.

Westworth continues to participate in the UCC Protect Master Policy that covers over 1,000 participants as a national contract. This Policy uses the economies of a national contract to reduce insurance premiums. As Westworth's profile rises through speaking-out and acting upon a number of potentially contentious issues, having solid coverage designed to cover many risk issues is of increasing value.

Risk management is more than ensuring adequate insurance coverage for property and liability; risk management covers every aspect of any organization's activities. Westworth has implemented a number of risk management policies through various initiatives over past years and work continues.

Respectfully submitted, The Trustees Kent Magarrell (Chair), Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd, Larry Strachan, Dan Wiwchar

# **Worship Team Report 2019**

The Worship Team would like to recognize Rev. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd for her commitment to providing thoughtful worship services with insightful sermons and prayers. She ensured that services were led by excellent pastors, many who come from our own congregation, when she was on sabbatical. The team would also like to thank Maggie Barnett for providing leadership during Children's Time.

Music is a vital part of worship and the team would like to thank to Debbie McLeod, Dorcas Windsor, Ray McClelland and Jewel Casselman for leading our Ministry of Music. The Senior Choir along with choral scholars, the Cherub Choir, the Westworth Winds, the Haskins Street Band, Rockers United, Bettina Nyman on flute, Emily and Jewel Casselman on recorder, Allison Warrian on cello and Alan Wilson on guitar provided beautiful and inspirational music on a weekly basis.

#### Year in Review

- On Jan. 13 Rev. Karen Lumley and Loraine exchanged pulpits at St. Andrew's River Heights (SARH) and Westworth
- We celebrated 6 infant baptisms, 11 funerals and 3 weddings
- Lent began with a Taizé service on Mar 6<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday. Having received positive reviews and several requests additional Taizé services were held Oct. 6 & Dec. 1
- 1Just City led a worship service during Lent.
- The worship service was integrated with the Annual General Meeting.
- Maundy Thursday was observed with a meal in the gymnasium including communion and Loraine led a brief communion service in the sanctuary following the choir's rehearsal.
   There were others in addition to some choir members who participated, as it was open to all.
- We went to SARH for a joint Good Friday service.
- Easter Sunday was celebrated with extra music.
- On May 26 we held a blessing of the wheels (bicycles, scooters, etc.)
- Starting in May Loraine was on sabbatical to visit thriving United Churches across Canada.
   Thanks to the many members of the congregation who stepped in to cover for Loraine in her absence
- During the summer, the congregation enjoyed hosting SARH for a month of worship services and then going to SARH for the second month. This concluded with a joint Labour Day Communion service at SARH.
- We invited SARH to join us for worship and following workshop on Loraine's sabbatical learnings on Sept. 22.
- Outreach requested the service on Sept. 29 focus on the environment.
- On behalf of Outreach, Amanda Davis offered a Minute for the Environment at 5 worship services.
- World Communion Sunday was celebrated on Thanksgiving Sunday, due to a convergence of calendar dates.
- The Remembrance Day service included photos of congregant's family members who have served in the Armed Forces. Captain Rick Sellwood played trumpet for the Last Post and Reveille.
- Advent began with the annual Hanging of the Greens Service and a Taizé on the first Sunday of Advent.
- The Lessons and Carols service was celebrated in the afternoon of the third Sunday of Advent.

- Christmas Eve was celebrated with two services: an intergenerational service at 6:30 pm and the Candles, Carols, and Communion at 9:00 pm.
- Breakfast around the Worship Table rounded out the year.

The Worship Team would like to thank Heather for the weekly bulletins, Andrea for ensuring there were ushers every week, Teresa for finding the scripture readers, and Alan for baking the communion bread. Many thanks to the congregants who help usher, read scripture, and serve communion.

Olwyn Lewis on behalf of the Worship Team

# **UCW Annual Report**

At Westworth, there are approximately 60 women affiliated with 2 active and 3 inactive UCW Units. Our unit members meet monthly from September till May. Notices appear in the bulletin, and all women are welcome to attend.

Unit	Meeting Time	Contact
77	Third Wednesday	Dorcas Windsor
	afternoon	
94	Third Tuesday evening	Gladys Cadieux, Nancy Doern-White

We organized two **fundraising events** this past year. The **Rummage Sale**, held on April 26 (evening) and April 27 (morning) was coordinated by Dorothy Reid, Andrea Firth and Lee Ann Blase. This event raised \$3645.00. Our **Fall Bazaar** on October 26 was organized by Wendy Moroz and Janet Sealey. This event raised \$9630.00. The many volunteers (both men and women, young and "young at heart") who contributed to the success of these events deserve our thanks. Together, these two events raised \$13,275.00 towards general church revenues, while providing opportunities for fun and fellowship.

Nancy Williamson represented Westworth at the **World Day of Prayer** event which took place on March 1 at Harrow United Church.

Approximately 80 women attended our June 4 **Dessert Party and Thankoffering.** Several women from Harrow UCW also joined us at this event. Nancy Doern-White and Elaine Pigden led a worship service that focused on fellowship and service. We recognized the members of Unit 7, who will remain supportive of our UCW, but are no longer able to meet on a regular basis. We paid tribute to members who passed away between June 2018 and June 2019: Erma Hotchkiss, Berenice Sisler and Sharon Savickey. Our offering of \$385.00 was donated for **Mission and Service.** John Erskine and Edward Ledson-Hintze entertained us with "Songs in the Key of Love". We then enjoyed desserts and fellowship in the Auditorium.

In December, **shortbread** was prepared by several UCW members and trays were again assembled by Jennifer Snyder. These trays were delivered by volunteers who do one-on-one visiting on behalf of the Westworth **Pastoral Care Team.** 

The members of Unit 94, with direction from Dorothy Reid, prepared 16 **layette gift bags** for new Moms at **West Broadway Community Ministry**. Alma Acheson, Morag Bergthorson, Yvonne Heinrich and Marion Windatt provided knitted blankets and hats for these gifts. Unit 77 continues to provide feminine hygiene products to West Broadway Community Ministry. Unit 94 provided financial support for one night to "Just a Warm Sleep".

Donations were made in 2019 to the **Memorial Fund** in memory of Berenice Sisler, Sharon Savickey and Audrey McClelland.

The UCW continues to support the **Special Appeals Committee**, by directing \$1800.00 of the money raised each year towards the projects that the committee deems appropriate.

**The UCW Purpose** is 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.

Our members, whether active or inactive, will continue to aspire towards these worthwhile goals.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Doern-White, UCW Coordinator

#### Roll Clerk's Report 2019

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, DECEM	BER 31, 2018	330
ADDED TO ROLL:		
By Transfer	0	
By Reaffirmation	0	
By Confirmation	0	
Adjustment	<u>4</u> 4	
-	4	4
REMOVED FROM ROLL:		
By Death	10	
By Transfer	2	
Removed by the Council	0	
Asked to be Removed	<u>0</u>	
	<u>0</u> 12	<u>12</u>
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, DECEM	IBER 31, 2018	<u>322</u>
Inactive members	3	
Non-Resident members	<u>11</u>	
TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP,	DECEMBER 31, 2019	<u>308</u>
		<u>300</u>
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF H	OUSEHOLDS	313

# **Registry Notes**

#### Marriages - 3

Laura Wiebe and Alexander McQuarrie Mildred Dietrich and Kathleen Jones Heather Milne and Steven Adams

#### Baptisms - 5

Jake Richard David, son of Karley and Cale David
Olivia Jane David, daughter of Karley and Cale David
Grady Jon Enright, son of Leah and Jonathan Enright
Isla Grace Enright, daughter of Leah and Jonathan Enright
Wyatt Erik Enright, son of Leah and Jonathan Enright
Alwin Adam Briscoe, son of Adam and Janice Stacey

#### No Confirmations this year

#### **Passages**

\*Wally Savickey
Ron Williams
\*Elizabeth Brooks (Beth)
\*Audrey McClelland
\*Yvonne Graham
Don Robertson

\*Berenice Sisler
\*Margaret Putnam
\*Ken Hansell
Agnes Paquin Tuckwell
Arnie Milne

\*Sharon Savickey Wilhelm Osbahr Larry Edwards \*Pat Finlayson \*Edna Erskine

\* Members of the Congregation

#### **Memorial Donations**

Donations made to the Memorial Fund in Memory of:

Gloria Betty Coyle Elizabeth Galbraith Berenice Sisler Wally Savickey Sharon Savickey Harold King Audrey McClelland Pat Finlayson

Donations made to Mission and Service in Memory of

Audrey McClelland

Donations made to Choral Scholarship Fund in Memory of

Wally Savickey Berenice Sisler Sharon Savickey

Audrey McClelland

Donations made to Building Fund In Memory of

Wally Savickey Berenice Sisler Debi Newton

Pat Finlayson

Donations made to Westworth Fund in Memory of

Fred Stephenson Berenice Sisler

<u>Donations made to Choir Fund in Memory of</u> Sharon Savickey

<u>Donations made to Worship Music in Memory of</u>
Audrey McClelland

#### In Honour Of Donations

Donation from Barb & Kent Magarrell to Miscellaneous Income and Jean Doern to the Memorial Fund in honour of Kathleen Powell's Birthday.

#### **Bequests**

Anonymous Estate \$20,000

# **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group continues to offer comfort to our congregants and others in need. We are thankful to have been able to offer this ministry for the past five years. Several other people contributed shawls to the congregation starting about 2012 and, in combination, approximately 240 shawls have brought prayers and support. Currently, we have ten people who have gifted their knitting skills. Their efforts have allowed the congregation to reach out to 45 people in 2019. Thirty-seven congregants have received shawls and 8 shawls were shared with friends and family. We continue to hear stories of how they have lifted people up when they needed comfort. Donations in support of this ministry are welcome.

The Prayer Squares have allowed us to reach many more people. They are being shared with those going through many kinds of stresses in life and they travel well.

Submitted by Barb Magarrell

# Special Appeals & Children's Fund

Our Special Appeals & Children's Fund Committee consists of Allan McKay (Outreach) Walter Oblinsky (Finance), Nancy Doern-White (UCW) and Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd (minister). We received \$1670 from our 2019 Easter Special Appeal and \$1,800 from the United Church Women. Due to a returned cheque sent to Camp Brereton in 2018, we had a large carry-over from 2018 of \$548. We decided to distribute the donations into three primary areas: theological education, local social justice and youth support as per the following.

#### 2019 Special Appeals Fund disbursement

Theological	Prairie to Pine Regional Council Bursary	200.
education	Fund	
	St. Andrews College	200.
	Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre	500.
	Centre for Christian Studies	200.
Local social	Willow Place	200.
justice		
	West Broadway Community Ministry	1000.
	1 Just City	200.
	L.I.T.E. (local investment towards	200.
	employment)	
	Rossbrook House	200.
	Jubilee Fund	200.
Youth support	Days for Girls, Winnipeg Chapter	200.
	Rock Lake United Church Camp	700.
	Total	4000.

#### 2019 Children's Fund Disbursement

We distributed two cheques of \$750 each from the Children's Fund to the following organizations:

- Women Healing for Change for its Little Stars Playhouse, for babies to age 5 and their caregivers at 681/683 Selkirk Ave.
- Neechi Camp for Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth, July 9-14, 2019 at Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre, Ontario.

Respectfully Submitted by Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

# Westworth Leadership Team & Volunteers March 2020 – February 2021

#### **Council Members**

Be responsible for the overall vision and day to day ministries of the congregation

Chair: Pat Stephenson
Past-Chair: Eunice Pratt
Secretary: Barb Magarrell
Member at Large: Keith Love
Member at Large: Bruce Tefft

Treasurer: Ron Bailey M & P Chair: Paul Chard

Minister: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

#### **Finance and Stewardship Committee**

Be responsible for financial activities within the church, stewardship, and on-going financial reporting

Chair: Ron Bailey Sam Andrew

Secretary/Liaison for Counting Teams: Denise Jones

Jenny Jeffers: Church Accountant

Wendy Moroz Walter Watts

#### **Ministry and Personnel Committee**

Provide leadership in the area of Human Resources allowing staff to successfully carry out their responsibilities

Chair: **Paul Chard**Arlene Hintsa
Brett Lougheed
Janice Neumann

#### **Affirming Ministry Ad Hoc Committee**

Chair: Rhea Yates Andrea Firth Kathy Jones Heather Robbins Petra Thanisch

**Dorcas Windsor** 

#### **Archives Team**

Organize and maintain the safe storage of materials of historical significance to Westworth

Team Leader: Diane Riordan

Jean Doern Bob Johnston Glenna Lindsay Kathy Wilson

#### **Christian Education Team**

Initiate and coordinate faith development opportunities for children, youth and families

Team Leader: Dianne Sjoberg

Nancy Ballantine

Maggie Barnett (ex-officio)

Danielle Cadieux Cheryl Ennis Andrea Firth Julia Shayna

Library: Reina Younka Kathy Wilson

#### **Communication Team**

Distribute Information about the church and its activities to current and prospective members using all forms of media

Team Leader: Peter Sim

Ed White

#### **Community Care Team**

Assist us in connecting with and caring for each other and welcoming newcomers

Team Leader: Jennifer Snyder

Nancy Doern-White

Barb Gwyer Pastoral Care Shirley Watts Membership

Helpers Rochelle Baker

Cathy Beynon Judy Brown Arlene Hintsa Jenny Jeffers Allan McKay Elaine Pigden Dorothy Reid Janet Sealey Sandra Shaw Kim Taylor

One on One Visitors Pat Challis

Sheila Davis
Eleanor Geib
Earl Gould
Barb Gwyer
Allan McKay
Merle McTaggert
Diether Peschken
Elaine Pigden
Heather Robbins
Pat Stephenson
Carol Wilkie
Shirley Williams
Nancy Williamson

#### **Outreach Team**

Raise awareness and understanding of issues related to social justice and environmental stewardship from a faith perspective

Team Leader: Ruth Wiwchar

Amanda Davis Allan McKay Marion McKay Kathy McPhail Diether Peschken Marion Simpson Amanda Younka

Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd, ex-offico

and the Congregation of WUC

#### **Property Team**

Oversee the maintenance of the building and grounds, arrange for custodial assistance and manage rentals

Team Leader: Spencer Newton

Bob Lindsay Cam Stacey Frank Wynes Maggie Barnett Ray McClelland

#### **Worship Team**

Assist in the development and delivery of sustaining and enriching worship including music

Team Leader: Olwyn Lewis

Bettina Nyman – responsible for finding communion servers

George Nyman Eunice Pratt Cathy Beynon Merle McTaggart

Petra Thanisch – decorating of the sanctuary

\*Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd – minister (ex-officio)

\*Maggie Barnett – Coordinator of Children, Youth and Family Ministries (ex-officio)

\*Debbie McLeod - Director of Music (ex-officio)

\*Dorcas Windsor- Organist (ex-officio)

#### **Support People**

Gord McLeod – Sacristan (banners, antependia, pew cards & pencils, glass of water for the minister, trimming Christ Candle, etc...)

Andrea Firth - ushers

Teresa Sztaba – scripture readers

Alan Wilson - bakes the communion bread

#### **Trustees**

Provide leadership and direction in reference to Westworth's Property, funds and risk management

Chair: Kent Magarrell

Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

Larry Strachan Dan Wiwchar

#### **UCW**

Through various units, build spirit filled relationships among women, our congregation, and beyond Westworth

Coordinator: Nancy Doern-White

Unit Convenors: Dorcas Windsor (Unit 77)

Gladys Cadieux and Nancy Doern-White (Unit 94)

#### **Prairie to Pine Region 5 Representatives**

Liaison between Westworth and the wider United Church

open

open

open

open

#### **Building our church community-**

Volunteers are needed in all areas of the church community. We are so happy and thankful for all of our volunteers. If you able to volunteer please speak to one of the Team Leaders or Committee Chairs, or call the church office for contact information. Let us help find the right place for you.

#### **Financial Review**

I have reviewed and evaluated the financial report, records and internal controls of Westworth for the year 2019. This review included examination of the records of deposits, recording, filing and payment of invoices, all matters related to the payroll and bank reconciliations.

The review also included an assessment of the separation of duties for all individuals who deal with monies. The handling of financial records was also evaluated with respect to privacy and security.

Based on this review it is my opinion that the financial records of Westworth United Church are handled in an appropriate manner and in accordance with the guidelines of the United Church of Canada (Section 4.4, The Manual). In addition, it is my opinion that the financial statements adequately reflect the financial activity of Westworth for the past year.

Lynne McCarthy CFA, MBA

# **Finance and Stewardship Committee Report**

The Finance and Stewardship Committee meets monthly to steward donations from members and monitor the financial health of our congregation. The committee is also responsible for the Westworth Fund.

We are happy to present a very achievable budget for 2020, thanks to the pledges received from our congregants. Thank you!

The ongoing work of the committee has included;

- Review of pertinent fundraising activities through the use of the "Fundraising Notification" form. This tracks timing and purpose of such activities, financial risks associated with them as well as notification to our accountant of any monies coming through our Westworth books.
- Continuing to have financial processes reviewed by an external financial expert.
- Introducing a simplified process for counting and recording the weekly offering that continues
  to provide security and accuracy. This new process was introduced in the last fiscal quarter
  and so far, has been successful. This change was implemented after consultation with the
  Trustees.
- Encouraging congregants to use Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) to make regular donations and ensured that online donations through the Westworth website and e-transfers can be received.
- Launching the fundraising to raise \$50,000 for the Sanctuary Windows Project.

We would like to sincerely thank and acknowledge Cheryl McNabb Davis for her longstanding service as she retires from the committee. Cheryl has served as a member and for many years as Chair. Her insights, good humour and persistence have been appreciated and her institutional knowledge has been very helpful. Cheryl, thanks for your leadership.

Walter Oblinski has also chosen to retire from the committee. Walter has been a dedicated member, attending with almost perfect attendance and assisting with special projects which the committee undertakes with every stewardship campaign. Thank you, Walter.

I would also like to thank the rest of committee for their work. Denise Jones, Wendy Moroz, and Walter Watts are long time members and their input and perspectives are very valuable. As we move into 2020 we have invited Sam Andrew to join the Finance Committee. Sam has been a member in the past and his professional skills and experience will be a terrific addition. I am pleased to continue as Chair and enjoy the opportunity to serve on the committee and the fellowship it provides.

Finally, the work of our committee is impossible without the valuable work of Westworth's Accountant Jenny Jeffers and Office Administrator Heather Lavery. Their work managing the records, tracking expenses and donations and preparing the annual budget helps keep our work as volunteers enjoyable. Thanks so much.

If congregants have questions about the financial statements or the work of the committee before the Annual Meeting or anytime during the year, please contact me directly at ron@rbailey.ca.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ron Bailey Chair, Finance and Stewardship Committee

# 2020 Projected Salaries & Benefits (Pension & Group Insurance)

Position	2020 Salary	Benefits	Con Ed	Total Comp
Minister	\$73,776	\$11,645	\$1,442	\$86,863
Office Administrator	\$36,731	\$ 5,557		\$42,289
Youth Coordinator	\$18,476	\$ 2,895		\$21,372
Custodian	\$15,797			\$15,797
Organist	\$12,548			\$12,548
Music Director	\$12,385			\$12,385
Accountant	\$ 5,627			\$ 5,627
Night Lock Up	\$ 2,712			\$ 2,712
Housekeeping	\$ 815	\$ 115		\$ 930
Other*			\$1,000	\$ 1,000
Total	\$178,866	\$20,214	\$2,442	\$ 201,522

<sup>\*</sup>for all staff except minister

# **Westworth United Church**

# **Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances**

December 31							2019	2018
	G	eneral Fund						
	2020	2019	2019	Westworth	Building	Other		
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Fund	Reserve Fund	Funds	Total	Total
Receipts								
Donations	266,821	263,170	264,727	970	1,325	13,874	279,339	267,664
M&S	44,441	46,741	42,743				46,741	38,909
Open Plate	2,000	2,924	2,000				2,924	2,342
Refugee Donations		1,400					1,400	1,920
Fund Raising	3,000	3,676	3,000				3,676	4,516
Choir Operating						210	210	-
Outreach Projects		5,985					5,985	4,597
UCW	13,000	13,184	13,000				13,184	13,010
SBBS-VBS	3,625	2,817	3,500				2,817	466
Building Rental	25,000	25,137	25,000				25,137	25,986
Weddings and Funerals	4,500	6,456	2,000				6,456	5,318
Miscellaneous	300	408	300				408	403
Transfer-Other Groups			000			1,875	1,875	1,800
Interest	5,000	292	4,000	5,347	1,053	278	6,970	5,850
interest	3,000	202	4,000	5,547	1,000	210	0,570	3,030
Total Receipts	367,687	372,190	360,270	6,317	2,378	16,237	397,122	372,781
Disbursements								
Operations								
Bank Charges	1,500	1,261	1,500	2	1	41	1,306	1,451
Caretaking	1,300	2,710	1,700				2,710	1,663
Heating	10,500	12,034	10,500				12,034	10,263
Electricity	7,000	6,908	7,000				6,908	6,897
Water	1,200	3,264	1,000				3,264	988
Insurance	6,100	6,154	6,100				6,154	6,034
Office Expenses	12,350	13,105	16,550				13,105	12,997
Publications	300	178	300				178	208
Property Taxes	1,800	1,729	1,800				1,729	1,729
Telephone	4,015	4,004	3,850				4,004	3,829
Miscellaneous	400	206	500				206	337
Total	46,465	51,553	50,800	2	1	41	51,597	46,396
Committee Expenses								
Board	200	75	500				75	121
Affirming Ministry	400	190	250				190	
Christian Education	2,975	3,070	3,000				3,070	2,214
SBBS-VBS	3,000	2,686	2,300				2,686	
Library	75	43	75				43	59
Outreach	1,100	360	400				360	90
Choir						3,357	3,357	
Communication	400	151	400				151	191
Community Care	500	522	400			772	1,294	188
M & P Committee	200	96	200				96	
Property Committee	35,175	37,021	36,050		36,707		73,729	33,513
UCW	2,400	2,357	2,400		•		2,357	2,225
Conference Registration	1,000	350	525				350	525
Worship Committee	1,625	950	1,560				950	1,544
Worship Music	2,000	1,945	2,000				1,945	1,929
Care Fund	50	26	50				26	26
Finance and Stewardship	500	463	500				463	400
Total	51,600	50,306	50,610		36,707	4,129	91,143	43,025
i Ulai	31,000	50,500	30,010		30,707	4,123	J1,143	40,020

# **Westworth United Church**

# **Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances**

	G	eneral Fund					2019	2018
	2020	2019	2019	Westworth	Building	Other		
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Fund	Reserve Fund	Funds	Total	Total
Salaries & Allowances								
Salaries	178,866	167,317	160,028				167,317	163,235
Pulpit Supply	864	4,696	5,850				4,696	1,245
Phone Allowances	583	593	583				593	593
Travel Allowances	600	239	600				239	571
Group Insurance	7,904	7,841	7,564				7,841	7,023
Pension & CPP	18,460	17,744	18,771				17,744	16,746
EI & Workers Compensation	2,596	2,764	3,230				2,764	2,613
Continuing Education	2,442	1,334	2,415				1,334	1,768
Total	212,315	202,528	199,042				202,528	193,794
Beyond Westworth								
Regional Council	15,454	15,159	15,159				15,159	16,326
Mission & Service	44,441	46,591	42,743				46,591	38,909
Outreach Projects		5,210				5,500	10,710	3,140
Advent Gift		775					775	1,460
Refugee		1,400					1,400	1,920
Disbursements from Funds							-	10,863
Total	59,895	69,135	57,902	-	-	5,500	74,635	72,618
Total Disbursements	370,275	373,521	358,354	2	36,709	9,670	419,902	355,834
Extra Ordinary Receipts								
Bequests		5,000		15,000			20,000	5,000
Excess of Receipts over								
disbursements for year	(2,588)	(1,331)	1,916	6,315	(34,331)	6,567	(22,780)	16,948
Fund Transfers		(3,669)			•	3,669		
Fund Balances, beginning of year		43,852		243,553	62,059	29,356	378,820	356,871
Fund Balances, end of year		43,852		264,868	27,728	39,592	376,041	378,819

	Westwor	th United	d Churc	h			
	Stateme	ent of Othe	r Funds				
December 31			i i uiius			2019	2018
Describer of	Memorial	Children's	Special	Windows	Choir	2010	2010
	Fund	Fund	Appeals	Project	Fund	Total	Total
Receipts							
Donations	3,800		1,895	7,395	784	13,874	4,099
Transfer From Other Groups	75		1,800			1,875	1,800
Fund Raising						-	1,383
Choir Operating					210	210	-
Interest		58			220	278	268
	3,875	58	3,695	7,395	1,214	16,237	7,550
Disbursements							
Bank Charges		1		40		41	-
Special Appeals			4,000			4,000	3,050
Choral Scholarships					2,300	2,300	2,800
Choir Expenses	1,057					1,057	282
Community Care	772					772	-
Donations		1,500				1,500	-
Worship Committee						-	4,731
	1,829	1,501	4,000	40	2,300	9,670	10,863
Excess of Receipts over							
disbursements for year	2,046	(1,443)	(305)	7,355	(1,086)	6,567	(3,313)
Fund Transfers				3,669		3,669	-
Fund Balances , beginning of year	11,657	6,216	448	-	11,035	29,356	32,668
Balance, end of year	13,703	4,773	143	11,024	9,949	39,592	29,355

# **Notes to Financial Statements**

Note 1 The disbursements from the Memorial Fund were: Choir gowns cleaning Membership directories

	We	stworth Uni	ted Church				
			ncial Position				
For the year Ended December 31							
December 31					2019	2018	
	General	Westworth	Building Reserve	Other			
	Fund	Fund	Fund	Funds	Total	Total	
Assets							
Current Assets							
Cash	50,114	264,868	27,728	39,592	382,302	400,932	
GST Receivable	3,764				3,764	1,317	
	53,877	264,868	27,728	39,592	386,066	402,249	
Liabilities and Fund Balances							
Current Liabilities							
Funds Held In Trust	10,025				10,025	14,930	
Unused portion of grant	-				-	8,500	
	10,025				10,025	23,430	
Fund Balances	43,852	264,868	27,728	39,592	376,041	378,819	
	53,877	264,868	27,728	39,592	386,066	402,249	

# **Refuge Balance Sheet 2019**

	<sup>8</sup> 31 Dec 19
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Chequing	3,186
Savings	18,392
Total Chequing/Savings	21,578
TOTAL ASSETS	21,578
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	32,950
Net Receipts over Disbursements	•
140t 140topio ovoi Diobuiocinonio	11,070
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	21,578

# Refuge Profit & Loss Statement 2019

	Jan - Dec 19
Receipts	
Interest	229
Total Receipts	229
Disbursements	
Bank Service Charges	2
Rent Expense	-1,400
Transfer Other Group	13,000
Total Disbursements	11,602
Net Receipts over Disbursements	-11,373

# **Westworth Covenant of Respect**

# Our Mission is to be the hands and feet of Christ, within Westworth and beyond.

Our Mission calls us all to a ministry using the spiritual gifts we have been given, to lift up the body of Christ and to serve our church community and wider community. We ask our Council, Ministry Teams, Committees and Congregation to reflect on how we offer our various skills and interests as the hands and feet of Christ. We are asked to:

- listen and consider the needs of the congregation and the community as we plan for the present and the future
- care for the people we lead and serve
- be stewards of time, financial, and human resources
- commit to building faith through example

We strive to demonstrate the following values:

We welcome human diversity.

We celebrate Christian faith.

We build community.

We reach out.

In support of our Mission and Goals, as members and leaders in the congregation, we make a commitment to:

- Honour differences and the inherent worth of all
- Nurture a safe and welcoming community for people diverse in sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, age, class, race and abilities
- Recognize that we are responsible for our words and actions
- Assume good will on the part of each other
- Listen to each other with care
- Speak to and about each other with respect
- Talk directly to each other when differences exist
- Be honest
- · Ask for help when conflict is too difficult to handle alone
- Support an environment of respect, safety, trust and cooperation