

2017

# Annual REPORT



Journey Inward - Journey Outward  
following in the way of Jesus

Photo: Christine Y. Chepyha

James Bay  
United Church

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**JAMES BAY UNITED CHURCH**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday, February 26, 2017**

The meeting was incorporated into Sunday service and began at 10:30.

Present: 80 members, guests and adherents.

Chair: Nola Adams

Minister: Karen Dickey

Recorder: Kathie Putt

**Welcome and Announcements, including procedures for the meeting**

**MOTIONS** voted on by members only:

1. That Nola Adams be elected as Chair for this AGM. M/S Aleksa Harkness, Joan Ryan, carried;
2. That Kathie Putt be elected as Recorder for the AGM. M/S Joan Ryan/ Marion Handcock, carried;
3. That adherents be granted voting privileges for accepting the agenda, adopting the Minutes, accepting the Annual Reports, and any motion we develop affirming the priorities. M/S Jeremy Williams/ Joan Ryan, carried.

**MOTION** voted on by adherents as well as members:

1. That the agenda be accepted. M/S Joanne Huston/ Doug Lunam, carried.

**Setting our intention**

We covenant together to...Show up...Listen with respect...Speak up...Build up...Be aware of each other and ourselves...Care about the life of the congregation, the community and the world...Consider prayerfully.

**Looking back over the past year**

1. How special Easter morning was, after being away, the beautiful park, the welcome, the sense of community, Karen and Daniel;
2. Community support in the loss of a brother was so appreciated;
3. Christmas eve service was so inspiring and involved the whole congregation;
4. The annual report shows us to be so busy and active; need a fire emergency plan, possibly "fire wardens" to help those who would appreciate assistance;
5. The generosity from the congregation when needs are expressed e.g. taking in someone's cat;

6. Guess Who's Coming to Dinner was wonderful and, in general, bringing the congregation together over food;
7. The pleasure of having "little ones" in our midst;
8. Special thanks to Daniel for making it possible to still be part of the music at JBUC even though not able to be in the choir;
9. The soup lunches during Lent and the related getting to know people; Bev and Duncan's renewal of vows; it meant a lot to become a member;
10. The Refugee Dinner, not only for the money raised but for making new friends, visiting, and experiencing the help of so many people;
11. For Daniel, the opportunity to offer his quiet, experimental music with a small ensemble on Good Friday; the beauty and tenderness of Oscar's baptism, with his grandparents playing their violins.

**MOTIONS** voted on by members and adherents:

1. That the minutes of the February 29, 2016 AGM be adopted. M/S Grant Kerr/ Cheryl Caldwell, carried;
2. That the minutes of the May 1, 2016 congregational Meeting be adopted. M/S Grant Kerr/ Cheryl Caldwell, carried;
3. That the minutes of the July 17, 2016 Congregational Meeting be adopted. M/S Grant Kerr/ Cheryl Caldwell, carried;
4. That the Annual Reports be adopted, including the Observer Report insert in today's bulletin, replacing the one in the bound Annual Report. Discussion: there was no report on Camp Pringle, a very important ministry, or of the Teen Games Night which raised \$210 for the Refugee Initiative. These can be added on the web version. M/S Lyman Butterfield/ Aleksa Harkness, carried. Also noted, a correction to the spelling of the names of Jean Wason and Frances Jepson in the report of people who have died in 2016.

**Looking forward, priorities for 2017**

1. *Engage people in leadership.* Leadership gives direction, creates, enables, opens the way to growth. Suggestion of a team of 3 who love to get to know others and can provide support and encouragement for them to get more involved in whatever area they have an interest in.
2. *Name for ourselves who we are and deepen our sense of community among us.* Test and tweak our statement so it's integrated in what we do; does it speak to us, how is it affecting what we do? Deepen relationships over food, maybe outings, musical events, sharing work. Initiatives come from the congregation. Please give the Board input with ideas.

3. *Let people know who we are.* What we have been doing has been letting people know who we are and has been connecting neighbours with neighbours. We need to host meaningful events that reflect who we are. The Board is committed to more active communication with the congregation inviting further ideas and actions.
4. *Move outside and become involved with people outside.* Who we are leads to certain actions. We can become knowledgeable and involved and encourage the James Bay community to be involved. Our concerns include: 1 – James bay neighbourhood; 2-larger social justice issues; 3- having a presence around First Nations and what does Truth and Reconciliation mean for JBUC, and also the refugee crisis in the world (there was a lot of community interest in the Refugee Initiative ) and more interfaith dialogue.

Responses from the congregation:

1. Appreciation of the inclusiveness;
2. TV screens in sanctuary would allow deaf people to follow the service;
3. Would like to see more gathering around food, including music and dance and the community beyond the church.

**AGREED** by consensus that as a congregation we will move forward with these priorities in 2017.

### **Appreciations and Remembrance**

This opportunity was taken to remember those who died this year:

Randy Pratt, Ron Leslie, Karen Wreggitt, Jean Wason, Frances Jepson

And to appreciate the hope, love, vision, and compassion of Christ embodied here, and to offer special thanks and a token of our appreciation this year to:

1. Sylvia Scott for many years on the Board, now stepping down but continuing with Tuesday Outreach;
2. Nola Adams for her tireless work as Board Chair and heading up the new website;
3. Aleksa Harkness for her heartfelt work on the Refugee Initiative as well as Lifelong Learning;
4. Judy Krzesowski for her long service on the Board, now stepping down, heading up the Lifelong Learning team and her involvement with the Refugee Initiative;
5. Bev Tracey for her dedication and hard work taking on all that needed to be done as Property Chair.

The meeting closed at 12:25.

**JAMES BAY UNITED CHURCH**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting Part 2 (Financials)**  
**Sunday, March 5, 2017**

Present: approximately 35 members and adherents.

Board Members Present: Cheryl Caldwell, Cheryl Macpherson, Karen Dickey, Doug Lunam, Marg Lunam and Kathie Putt.

Chair: Marg Lunam

Minister: Karen Dickey

Recorder: Kathie Putt

The meeting opened at 11:40.

**Setting our intention**

We covenant together to...Show up...Listen with respect...Speak up...Build up...Be aware of each other and ourselves...Care about the life of the congregation, the community and the world...Consider prayerfully.

**Housekeeping motions**

**Motion:** that the agenda be accepted. M/S Norma Hill / Grant Kerr. Carried.

**Motion:** that adherents be granted voting privileges. M/S Linda Wreggitt / Joan Ryan. Carried.

**Motion:** that Marg Lunam be elected to Chair today's Annual Meeting. M/S Aleksa Harkness/ Carol Charlton. Carried.

**Motion:** that Kathie Putt be elected to be the Secretary for today's Annual Meeting. M/S Joanne Huston/ Beverley Mclean. Carried.

**Presentation of Financial Report for 2016 by Cheryl Caldwell, Chair of Finance**

The highlights of the year were reviewed, most of which are in the printed Financial Report. Suggested possible reasons for lower offerings were that we had fewer visitors and that some money may have been directed instead towards our two initiatives of last year, the James Bay Refugee Initiative and the Intern Initiative.

**Motion:** that the 2016 Financial Report be received as presented by Cheryl. M/S Gary Brandstadt/ Joan Ryan.

**Questions/ discussion:**

A concern was expressed about this and previous offering budgets being perhaps overly optimistic. (See response later.) Regarding whether we will need to pay back grant money received for the Abundant Community Initiative Karen explained that we are inquiring as to whether that money could be kept and redirected towards another neighbourhood initiative. In any case, it is an "in and out" item.

**Motion carried.**

### **Presentation of 2017 Budget proposal by Cheryl Caldwell**

In regard to income, both pledges and PAR offerings are up from last year, as is our attendance on Sundays, there are no special initiatives this year, the estimated income from the Thrift Shop is on the low side, and rental income will be higher than last year.

There are no special expenditures for 2017 other than the “patio project” to create a hospitable space for hosting food/ coffee for the community at times such as Thrift Shop days. Funds for this will come from the Grace Fund.

There are no foreseen major calls on the Property budget but if we have a surplus this year we would do well to use it to start a contingency fund for building maintenance.

**Motion:** that the 2017 budget be adopted. M/S Ralph Huston/ Louise n’ha Ruby.

### **Questions/ Discussion**

In response to a question about the move to increase the Minister’s salary to full-time, it was explained that the Board had begun moving on this but it needed more direction and discussion from the Congregation so has been put off until the fall. Another question as to how much of the refugee initiative money went to paying for rent before the apartment was occupied couldn’t be answered at this moment.

**Motion carried.**

### **Further comments by Cheryl**

Cheryl offered her thanks to the Board, reaffirmed our commitment to ongoing discussions with the congregation and to quarterly financial updates, and especially wished to thank Vanya and acknowledge her meticulous and patient work with her on the financial records and documents.

### **About Nominations**

Marg reminded everyone that we would welcome nominations for the Board, especially for the positions of Chair and Recording Secretary. Anyone who would like to offer themselves or suggest someone else is requested to speak with Karen.

Thanks were offered to all who attended.

The meeting closed at 12:10 with the singing of a hymn.



**JBUC Congregational Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2017**

Location: JBUC Sanctuary Lower Hall

Chair: Nola Adams

Recorder: Cheryl Caldwell

Time: Immediately following worship service

Thank you for staying for this brief business meeting today.

Only JBUC Members participate in elections.

Nola introduced Duncan McLean and Karla Willems.

1. RM/S Susan Ross/Kim Tadei that Duncan McLean be elected to the Ministry & Personnel Committee.  
Discussion – none. Motion was carried.
2. RM/S Doug Lunam/Jeremy Williams that Karla Willems be elected to the Ministry & Personnel Committee.  
Discussion – none. Motion was carried.

Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.45 a.m.

**Congregational Meeting  
July 23, 2017**

This meeting was formally called (ie giving due notice) for a congregational conversation. Karen outlined the steps leading up to this conversation:

- A conversation with Gordon in the Spring about our priority of deepening our connections in the neighbourhood, and Gordon's passion for communication and community engagement
- Karen brought to the Board the proposal that we consider investing in staff time to move forward with our priority of deepening connections with the neighbourhood, and that she was in conversation with someone with broad experience in various communication methods and community engagement.
- The Board met with Gordon Miller on June 26<sup>th</sup> for a first interview. All members of the Board were immediately taken by Gordon's passion for engaging with people, the breadth of his creative ideas about how we could connect with a wide range of people and build relationships that would let people know more about James Bay United. We were impressed by his ability to help us see things from a different perspective, and sense our possibilities instead of our limitations. We agreed we wanted to explore this opportunity further.



- We proceeded to speak with references and to investigate funding sources to cover the costs of a contract.
- After doing significant reference checks, we met again with Gordon to consider his proposal of the initiative he would undertake with JBUC.

Cheryl Caldwell offered details of funding a Communication and Neighbourhood Engagement Initiative:

The estimated cost for one year is approximately \$37,000, which includes a contract with Gordon for 20 hours per week over 48 weeks as well as office supplies and advertising.

The Board suggests setting aside \$40,000 which includes a small contingency allowance. We have identified three funding sources for this project:

- **Abundant Community Initiative:** \$12,000. We have already included this in our 2017 budget so those funds are already earmarked.
- **ProVision Grant:** \$20,000. We are going to be making a new grant application to the Victoria Presbytery ProVision Fund. We are optimistic that our new application would be considered favourably. What we are proposing aligns well with the objectives of that fund.
- **Grace Priority Fund:** \$8,000. We are looking to take \$8000 from the Grace Priority Fund. We still have funds available from the bequest we received last year from Lydia Kinnear and have recently learned that Percy Butler has left us a bequest for \$10,000.
- If the results are successful we anticipate the possibility of an on-going position. That decision will be made following an evaluation and a further conversation with the Congregation. We will identify revenue sources for the future as part of the evaluation. We are talking with Gordon and he with us about ways he could be helping to make the work he is doing partially self-sustaining.

Gordon introduced himself, and we moved into conversation, with questions, observations, responses. Gordon left the gathering. There was a “straw vote” to confirm that what we were hearing was indeed a strong sense of support for engaging Gordon in this focussed work.

The meeting concluded celebrating the anticipation of Gordon joining us in September, beginning with a one year contract. We sang a refrain that was part of our morning worship: Dare to let God encourage. Dare to let God inspire. God is making all things new. The challenge now is ours. Dare to let God, Dare to let God.

Chair: Karen Dickey

Secretary: Cheryl Caldwell

## **Marriages**

Bonnie Campbell and Elvira Perrella

## **Baptisms**

Daphne Adrock  
Braden Wawrychuk

## **Memorial Services – Deaths**

Percy Butler  
Clara Wieland  
Irene Nepstad  
Phyllis Pollard  
Elaine Raymond  
Don McKimmie  
Caroline Johnston

## **New Members**

Heather Caldwell  
Norma Hill  
Joanne Huston  
Ralph Huston

## Minister's Report

*"Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there among them."*

—Matthew 18.20

Where there is relationship,  
where there is love, there is Christ.  
Where there's conductor and ground—  
electrical flow.  
Loving community is Christ,  
each of us the fourth member  
of the Holy Trinity.

Not "beside," Jesus says, but among:  
in the in-between-ness,  
in the exchange of energy  
between us,  
the power of forgiveness,  
the light of gratitude, honor, affection,  
the death and resurrection  
of giving and receiving.

Gather in that name, that mercy,  
and feel the Beloved  
humming between you.

-Steve Garnaas-Holmes

I remind myself what the year has held by leafing through my note book and day book, jotting notes all on one page to capture the year at glance. I notice many textures to the year. There are some bold new moves and some long awaited ones. There is laughter, and beyond laughter, unthinkable joy. There is sadness and anguish. There is searching and celebration. There are wide-eyed new discoveries and plenty of patience and persistence in the face of the daily round. Threaded through it all is the mystery of Christ present among us, between us, forming and transforming us -- with all our quirkiness -- into loving community.

The year began with a thud, when we found ourselves saying goodbye to Ryan, who had begun his internship with us the previous Fall. It was with deep regret, disappointment and immense consideration that the Board arrived at the decision to end the internship. The Chair of the Internship Committee of BC Conference who was present with the Board through our deliberations spoke of being moved by the sincerity of our struggle and the depth of our care ... an experience of the Beloved humming between us.

Maundy Thursday saw the safe arrival of Leyla, the young woman from Syria who we had been anticipating, and praying and preparing for, for months. At the very time many of us were gathered that evening in the “upper room” living into the story of the night Jesus gave a new commandment -- “that you love one another as I have loved you” --the members of the James Bay Neighbourhood Refugee Initiative steering committee were gathered at the airport, with an armload of flowers and hearts overflowing with welcome and the promise of enduring friendship.

We have gathered through the year for study, for conversation, for learning, for prayer -- with two mid-week series in Lent: Opening to Abundant Life and our Choosing Life film series; in the Fall with What’s With the Bible and an exploration of the Trinity, “aided” by The Divine Dance by Richard Rohr; and in December, an Advent retreat centered around praying the hours. Not only did we go places in our exploration of the topics at hand, but in each opportunity something happened in our connection, our regard and our care for one another ... Christ between us.

We concluded the Season of Creation with a special 100 kilometre Dinner, savouring local farm-fresh ingredients -- celebrating God’s generous provision. Giving thanks for “God’s love made taste-able” we dipped into our first course of apple and honey. This was one of many occasions throughout the year when we ate together, cooking for one another, welcoming one another at the table, sharing not only food but something of our lives with each other. Whether over pancakes and syrup, or squeezing in alongside each other on patio picnic tables, or as mystery guests in the home of mystery hosts, or dining in the candlelight before carol singing, ... not only was God’s love present in the food, but experienced in our care and attentiveness for one another. Christ among us.

Week in, week out, we’ve gathered for worship in Jesus’ name, in his love. As the liturgical year unfolded, each season has offered us its own gift, notably this year, praying the Psalms during Lent, and in the season of Creation taking as our theme *now is the time to learn hope*. It was also in the midst of morning services along the way that we celebrated and entrusted into God’s care Clara Wieland and Irene Nepstad, two much loved, grace-filled women of our congregation, both living into their 102<sup>nd</sup> year. It was in the course of this year also that we made it our business to create a dedicated welcome space within our sanctuary for children so that little ones too may be an integral and expected part of our gathering in the “that name, that mercy.” In our eagerness to do something, and our delight in the space created, there is a sense of “the Beloved humming between us.”

In the late Spring, the Board entered into conversations about getting on with our stated priority of widening and deepening our connections in the James Bay neighbourhood. This resulted in the Board convening a conversation with the congregation about hiring Gordon Miller, whose focus would be communication and neighbourhood engagement -- helping us to become more known as a congregation that nurtures hope and caring connection; and helping us to pursue partnering relationships with other neighbourhood organizations in ventures that enhance the quality of life in James Bay. Together we engaged in a lively conversation. There was clear enthusiasm for moving forward with this priority, and proceeding with the Board’s recommendation --recognizing its timeliness in light of the influx of new neighbours about to take up residence in the Michigan Street development. There, in our desire to widen our welcome, to stretch out our care, to be a voice of hope, of challenge, and to be challenged ourselves to grow in generosity ... Christ among us.

In the reports that follow, you'll see more of it I'm sure -- the transforming presence of Christ in our life together. In some cases you might have to read between the lines, but I can assure you it's there ... in the quality of companionship within the crew who attend to our physical plant, in the care and conversation around the table on Tuesday mornings, in the life shared among Thrift Shop volunteers, in the care among those who "crunch the numbers." I could go on ... and so could you! If you look for it, the way-making, mending, transforming presence of Christ is everywhere!

With gratitude to you and to the One who knits us together, for my own growing in faith and in hope and love through this beloved community,

Karen

## **Music Director's Report**

### **Overview**

2017 was an enlivened and heartening year for music at James Bay United Church (JBUC). The Sunday choir welcomed new members, the newly founded Anthem Choir prepared 5 works of special choral music, and new connections with local musicians were formed.

### **Highlights**

2017 marked the first full year of the new Anthem Choir—a group that brings together long time JBUC Sunday Choir members with community members and other congregants. In 2017, this group prepared 5 challenging anthems that were offered at special liturgical services through out the year.

Two highlights for me were Holy Week 2017 and Christams Eve 2017. For Holy Week, the Anthem Choir worked feverishly for 6 weeks to prepare not one but two powerful, challenging works for Good Friday and Easter Sunday. On Christmas Eve, we presented a rousing, moving Christmas Sanctus. The positive responses from both of these services were overwhelming, and I am deeply proud of the work the Anthem Choir did to enrich these worship services.

Another highlight was connecting with local soprano Annalyssa Taylor and local flutist Eden Oliver. Both Annalyssa and Eden joined the Anthem Choir for performances in 2017—Annalyssa as a guest soloist and Eden as an accompanying instrumentalist. Their musicianship was such a tremendous gift and blessing. It was a very inspiring experience for our choir to have the opportunity to perform alongside these very accomplished members of the local music community.

Last, but not least, the Sunday Choir welcomed three new members in 2017: Ralph, Claire, and Shirley. Their presence, personalities, and voices have been such a welcome addition to the offering our dedicated Sunday Choir makes each and every week.

### **Looking Forward**

As we move into 2018, I look forward to continuing the momentum of 2017. It is my hope that through the Anthem Choir we will be able to connect with additional guest soloists and instrumentalists.

This coming summer, we are planning to offer a series of guest music lead services (Taize, celtic vespers, jazz vespers, etc) and I am looking forward to the joy and challenge of organizing these and creating more community connections through music at JBUC.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel Brandes, JBUC Music Director.

## **Ministry and Personnel Team Report**

The document “Ministry and Personnel Committees: Policy, Procedures, Practice” was released by the United Church July, 2017 . Current M&P Committee members had an opportunity to review this document towards the end of the year. We look forward to a more in-depth review in the spring that will strengthen our skills and knowledge in this area.

M&P team membership changes occurred within the committee during the past year.

Kathie Putt, the team chairperson, provided leadership to the committee throughout most of the year. In addition, Duncan McLean served as a committee member for part of the year. A sincere thank you is extended to both of these individuals for their valued contribution. Karla Willems was a consistent member throughout the year and as such provided a vital role to ensure continuity. A special thank you is extended to Karla.

Throughout 2017, there was not a full team at all times resulting in membership change. Much effort was expended to address personnel employment agreements as well as performance reviews .

Thank you is extended to Bev Tracey for her continued leadership role for the Property Committee especially her continued support to the refugee program.

The time and effort devoted by all volunteers in their varied and time consuming roles is applauded and appreciated.

As well as overseeing contracts and conditions of employment, the M&P Committee is available to hear any concerns brought forward by members of the congregation. Such information is confidential, to be shared only with other M&P Committee members. All communication is welcome.

Two new M&P Committee members joined Karla in the last quarter of 2017, Martin Stewart and the undersigned. We look forward to doing our best to support JBUC ministry and personnel services throughout 2018 .

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Pollett, Chair, Ministry and Personnel Committee

## Worship Team Report

*"From this time forward I make you hear new things, hidden things that you have not known. They are created, now not long ago; before today you have never heard of them, so that you could not say, 'I already knew them.'" Isaiah 48: 6&7*

The worship team met prior to each liturgical season to wonder about themes that had emerged from scripture and to brainstorm ideas. We come to this time of worship planning with open hearts, and minds willing to receive inspiration. We allow scripture to speak to us new ways. We make space for God's spirit to work creatively through the gifts of imagination and personal reflection while attempting to bring each season to life. In this process we are changed and we grow as we respond to a God who is revealed in a marvellous variety of ways.

This past year the worship team members were Sylvia Scott, Gary Brandstadt, Susan Ross, Beverly Mclean, Cheryl Macpherson, Karen Dickey and Daniel Brandes. We offer thanks to the musicians both from within and outside the congregation and also the choir who provided the melody upon which the liturgy danced.

Throughout the year team members have given their time and talents towards making sure our worship runs smoothly including providing leadership for services when necessary. Sylvia Scott ensures that there are servers for each communion, Cheryl, with help from Sue, Beverly, and Aleksa Harkness on occasion, prepares the table on communion Sundays. A dedicated group of readers make sure that we hear the Word clearly every Sunday and we can count on warm welcoming from our greeters. Our worship speaks to visitors of who we are as a community. How awesome that God entrusts to us this work not only for our nourishing and deepening but especially for anyone who may choose to walk through our doors.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Macpherson,  
Chair of Worship Team

## Property Report

It's been a busy and satisfying year for the property team. Along with all the minor repairs and sorting and cleaning which is an ongoing process, here are some of this year's highlights.

During the winter closure the washroom in the Thrift Shop was completely renovated.

Our janitorial service was reviewed, job description and contracts developed, and we hired Ahmad Ibrahim and Rabia Al Nahwla for these positions. Later in the year Rabia took on the complete responsibility for cleaning JBUC. Thanks to Kathie Putt of M & P for her effort on this joint venture.

Twelve new chairs were purchased and assembled for the reception area.

Our rental policies and practices were reviewed, and new rental agreements were signed with our regular renters. Ensuring renters were paying the set rate resulted in a significant increase in rental income.

Our sump pump and the fire alarm, safety lights and fire extinguishers were all inspected with Ralph Huston doing the electrical work that was required. Thanks to Ralph, who has joined the property team, we now have a qualified electrician as part of the team.

The side and rear gardens of the church were completely renewed using plants from all around the property. Leaf mulch was applied to all the beds, and landscape cloth and bark mulch spread around the ramp area. Thanks to Rabia, Admad, Franklyn and Karen for their help.

The back patio project was completed with tables, umbrellas, plant containers and renewed gardens making this area a great gathering place. Sunday morning lemonade and goodies were served outside throughout the summer, and our *Welcome Feast* on September 10 was the first big event out on our "new" patio.

The Thrift Shop garden underwent a major renovation with a fence installed to shut off the garden from the next door yard, a gate installed at the front of the garden, weeds cleared, and the lawn renewed with the laying of sod. Two beds have been established, a planter purchased and filled with plants, and the two areas between the building and the parking lot were cleared and landscape cloth and attractive gravel spread to clean up the area and make maintenance possible. Thanks to Martin Stewart and his trusty trailer for making this task possible and fun.

With the help of Rabia and Martin rubble and weeds and overgrown shrubs were removed from the parking lot and the back "ladder storage" area, parking bumpers were put back in place, and more gravel placed in the entrance to the back storage area.

A children's area was created in our sanctuary with help from David Bennet and Michael Bennett who re-configured the pews and stored parts for future needs.

It was a cold and dark night when Judy Krzesowski and I went to pick up 50 used chairs for the lower hall to replace the chairs that were broken and past repair, but it was very satisfying.

The front garden/gathering place project is nearly complete. A concrete patio was poured, a new sign installed and garden beds developed. Shrubs and lawn will be planted in the spring, two benches will be installed and this neighbourhood gathering place will be complete. We applied for and received a grant from the City of Victoria (\$5000) to help fund this project.

Submitted by Beverley Tracey  
for the Property Team



## Tuesday Morning Outreach Report

The Tuesday Morning Outreach Team includes all members of the Congregation of James Bay United Church. Their representatives at the Tuesday gatherings are: Karen Dickey (Minister), Johan Heskes, Cheryl Hanna, Eunice Davison, Jacquie Wasney, Heather Caldwell and Sylvia Scott. Bev McLean generously fills in when needed.

We thank Vanya Smith (Office Administrator) for her help in keeping us advised of our financial situation and in reporting any events that occur in the days between our get togethers.

I open this report by quoting Mark 12, verse 31 in which Jesus says " and the second commandment is this ' you shall love your neighbour as yourself"

Every Tuesday morning between 15 and 25 of our James Bay neighbours come to share their stories and love in the warmth, grace and good will that is the atmosphere of the transformed reception office. A Continental breakfast is provided by each of the team representatives. After breakfast we offer 2 to 3 non-perishable food items (that are laid out in the Sanctuary) to each visitor and during the cold weather we often have cozy items from the Thrift Shop to offer.

We always remember to invite all our friends to join us in all Church activities and events. This year we welcomed more Outreach friends to these activities than ever before. We filled a large table for 2 dinners and they were both joyous occasions.

At Easter and Christmas we created special dinner hampers that included all the required ingredients for a festive meal with no need for an oven.

We endeavour to keep being current on various services that are available to our friends and we offer James Bay United bulletins and our Minister's sermons to all.

We all agree that the the experience and privilege of learning from our neighbourhood friends is a gift made possible by the generosity of our caring congregation.

Thanks be to God as we strive to live the 2nd Commandment in our new exciting neighbourhood.

Submitted in a spirit of gratitude.....Sylvia Scott.

+++++

### **Identifiable donations in 2017: Total = \$2909**

Identifiable Offering Donations = \$1633 Smile Card = \$1,276 Total Expenses for 2017 = \$2,540

Respectfully submitted,

Vanya Smith, JBUC Office Administrator

## Pastoral Care Report



The Pastoral Care Committee includes Doug Lunam (Chair), Karen Dickey (Minister), Sylvia Scott, Joyce Willems, and Duncan and Beverly McLean .

Its mandate is to visit people in their homes, hospitals, hospice, to make Birthday phone calls, send cards and provide congregational support where needed.

We hear of the needs though Karen Dickey, Committee and Board Members, and fellow congregants. With lingering Colds and persistent Flu Bugs we have been again attentive this year.

Let us know how we can help in 2018.

Respectfully submitted, Doug Lunam, Board member.

## Trustees Report

The current Trustees are Jeremy Williams, Dorothy Lindquist, Linda Wreggitt and Doug Lunam.

The Trustees of the church hold legal title to the property of the Church and Thrift Shop buildings and the fixtures and personal property normally kept thereof.

The Trustees will normally be guided by the wishes of the congregation as expressed in a congregational meeting or by the Church Board.

Respectfully submitted, Doug Lunam, Trustee

## The United Church Observer

During the year of 2017 copies of our Church's official magazine were subscribed to by 17 members and/or adherents of our congregation. During the year one subscription was cancelled due to death and a second one was cancelled due to a transfer of membership. During this year's renewal campaign, which ran during the month of October, one subscription was cancelled, 14 were renewed, and one new subscription was added resulting in the number of subscriptions remaining at 15 for the coming year of 2018. However, in December I had to cancel one more subscription due to death resulting in a total of 14 subscriptions for 2018. The cost of each subscription remained at \$25.00.

If you would like to be aware of what is going on in the United Church reading this magazine is one way of doing that. I have put some back dated copies into our Library which is situated in the lower hall.

Anyone who is not currently receiving the Observer, and would like to, is asked to contact Linda Clegg.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Linda Clegg,*  
Observer Representative.



## Life Long Learning Report

Early in the Spring, in the downstairs hall, Judy Krzesowski and Aleksa Harkness arranged for a screening of *The Secret Path*, the story of Charlie Wenjack, a young aboriginal boy who died of exposure while attempting to escape from a residential school to reach his family. Viewing the video was followed by a facilitated conversation with Nicole Bresser, an indigenous lawyer in Victoria. There were easily forty people in attendance, indicating significant interest.

There were two series offered during Lent: “Opening to Abundant Life” shaped by Joan Chittister’s book *Following the Path- the search for a life of passion, purpose and joy* and a movie series picking up on the same theme, featuring *Eagle Huntress*, *Still Life*, *Florence Foster Jenkins*, *Dead Man Walking*, and *Life Animated*.

We launched in the Fall with “Soulful Wednesdays” offering us the opportunity to share a meal together before a time of worship, followed by a six week “What’s With the Bible” series led by Bev Tracey, and concurrently a book study, using Richard Rohr’s *The Divine Dance of the Trinity*.

On the first weekend of Advent, twelve of us gathered at the Bethlehem Retreat Centre in Nanaimo for a two day retreat in which Cheryl Macpherson and I teamed together to offer leadership. Taking our lead from Macrina Wiederkehr’s *Seven Sacred Pauses*, we had a two day immersion in the monastic tradition of praying the hours. We came away with a rich spiritual practice through which to deepen our connection with the Holy and our own souls through the season of Advent and beyond.

Every week through the year, Aleksa Harkness selects a book from our library to highlight in the announcement page of our Sunday bulletin. (If you haven’t yet browsed through the library in the downstairs hall, it’s a rich and growing collection, made available to everyone who comes into our building.) You can find an itemizing of the collection on our website, along with a beautiful and substantial list of links to many other on-line soulful resources. Aleksa reports that “in 2017 we acquired books through generous support from within the congregation, from the Times-Colonist book sale, from the JBUC thrift shop, used book stores and church bazaars. Because we have chosen to run the library on the honour system, not all books are returned; we trust God will find a way to use those books in the life of the person who chose not to return them. 2018 will see the addition of DVDs which will only be available for checkout through volunteers after worship.”

Submitted by Karen Dickey

## Communication and Neighbourhood Engagement

We are at the 5 month point of our commitment to expand our capacity at James Bay United Church to engage the neighbourhood, grow our relationships and influence in the community where we serve.



### Highlights of activities:

#### Together we:

- are making ourselves more known to local institutions businesses and neighbours
- Instigated and encourage **James Bay Children's Choir** which has grown to 13 members
- began an **Open Doors** programme on Thrift Shop Fridays
- supported our neighbourhood **Victoria Health Co-Op**
- Imagined and presented: **The Christmas Story for First Time Listeners**, to engage children age 4 to 7
- Imagined and selected **Walk to Church This Christmas Eve** as our invitation to our neighbours and visitors and added a **7 pm** service to the traditional **10 pm**
- Invited a **Jerk Church** to JBUC for a unique blending of socializing, music and a meal
- are partnering with other community organizers to bring neighbourhood **Window Wanderland** art display to James Bay
- planned and hosted a **Labyrinth Walk** for the neighbourhood during Epiphany
- are planning an neighbourhood focused **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner** in partnership with Discovery Coffee and the Red Barn Market.

### Conventional Advertising:

We increased our spending, frequency and size of advertisements in both the James Bay Beacon and Victoria News. the success of these efforts is being monitored and we are in discussion with both publications about how we can maximize our reach within these channels.



**Photos:** There is an increased emphasis to take meaningful, colourful, in focus pictures that tell our story. Many of these new photographs can be seen on our website and on our social media channels. **Your photo contributions** are always welcome.

**WEB:** Nola Adams is the driving force behind our website. She is constantly seeking ways to keep it a welcoming engaging space for an online visitor, at the same time ensuring it provides interesting and relevant content for the congregation.

Improvements are ongoing and happen almost weekly. If you haven't visited lately, please go to: <https://www.jamesbayunited.com/> and notice:

- Latest Sermon Audio Files
- Up to date church events
- Interesting broader community events
- Church space-use calendar
- Fresh rewrites of page content
- New pictures of staff, church, congregation and activity spaces
- AND tons of behind the scenes technical work that makes your navigation of your website a joy

### Social Media:

We are curating our story on **Facebook and Instagram**, slowly growing our audience and developing strategy. A couple of our members are becoming more engaged on our pages and that bodes well for the future success of our social media work.

111 Facebook Posts since September 1st 2017.  
40 page followers August 31, 2017  
122 page followers as of January 31, 2018



### On The Street:



Regardless of the efforts we make to engage at arm's length, our meetings face to face and engaging the spirit in each individual will ultimately be the hallmark of who we are becoming.

Your commitment to be part of neighbourhood engagement initiatives - from flipping pancakes to hosting movie nights, from cheerfully greeting Thrift Shop patrons to artfully decorating our front patio, from caring for the Tuesday drop in group to warmly welcoming visitors at Sunday worship - is vital to the sustainability and growth of your faith community.

In the coming months, we will be working together to build capacity to do all these things and more. And as newcomers are infected with James Bay United Church's joie de vivre; new life and new opportunities to serve in a revitalized faith community will be abundant.

Many many thanks to all who have contributed so much to the spirit of James Bay United these past few months. It has been an honour and pleasure getting to know you.

**Gordon Miller / Communication and Neighbourhood Engagement**



## James Bay Refugee Initiative Report

The James Bay Refugee Initiative (launched in faith during worship in James Bay United church in 2015) is composed of several people from our church and many more from the broader community. The Intercultural Association of Greater Victoria connected us with Leyla, a 25-year-old Syrian Refugee in late 2016. We spent most of a year fund-raising in order to bring Leyla to Victoria and support her for one year.

Leyla arrived at the Victoria Airport on April 13, 2017, having traveled for almost 48 hours through 3 countries and 4 airports in order to get here. She did not know, until she changed planes in Vancouver, that there would be people to meet her and support her as she made her way in this new land. Imagine the courage!



To augment the English Leyla had taught herself solely by listening to English language songs, and began full-time English classes at Camosun College. She worked hard and did well, and not wanting to rest on her academic laurels, Leyla enrolled in a 2-month, 5-day-a-week employment workshop and was the first of her cohort to find employment. Leyla is now employed at Visions Optical and says she can imagine a future there.

James Bay United Church played a crucial role in Leyla's sponsorship, and she is very grateful. In Leyla's own words...

**Hello everyone,**

To all friends who I know and I don't know I write this letter to thanks everyone help and support me to be here in Canada.

I write this letter with entire love and respect and appreciation for what you did for me. At first I want you to know that I was waiting for this opportunity to be here a year ago before I come as many people are waiting and dreaming to get what I got - it was dream and come true. In fact not all people are as lucky as me , not because only I'm here but also I have so many friends who support me and encourage me to continue and help me find my way to the new future.

Life is not easy in our homelands and many of us give up to leave in difficult circumstances because they have no other choice. But I have given this opportunity to live a better life and help my family in future as well but even here isn't easy without people support and love you, so thank you all for that.

Other thing I want you to know that it is not easy to migrate from one country to another, especially since you don't know anything about the country and its customs and rules and people.

When I arrived in Vancouver I had no idea what was waiting me here or any idea about people who being waiting for me who brought me to Canada. I was thinking that the government only sponsored me. I really scared when the officer told me that I had sponsor group waiting for you because I didn't know any of them and I was afraid to meet them.

When I arrived at the airport and I meet Sabine and Mona (*ed.: Manager of Private Sponsorships and interpreter from the Intercultural Association*) they told me a little about the sponsors.

At that time I start feel comfortable and I was ready to meet them we walked to them and I saw how they are happy all of them smiling to me from heart. One of them had a nice flower and other had big board write on “فك توريه الى تريب ف يك توريه اف ي ب كم مرد با” Welcome”. It was amazing. I really appreciate and I was happy. Yes, that why I want be here. It seems like what I dream about and more.

Since that time those people become my family and my friends and my big support here in Victoria. I will never forget that day and after that I get know there many of this people try hard to bring me here. To everyone for everything they did for me thank you. I’m really grateful to what you did. I don’t denying that I feel lonely without my husband and I don’t denying that I miss my family, parents , sister and brother but thank God I have all of this people. I’m fortunate to have them those people with me as a family. They have been with me step by step. they make my life easier here. I wondered about refugees who don’t have this people, how it will be difficult for them. Also thanks for the church for helping and supporting me and the rest of refugees from different country.



Thank you from my heart for the humanity they have and I respect and appreciate all of that my words isn’t enough to say. Thank you all, with my love and respect.

*Leyla S.*

Respectfully submitted by Aleksa Harkness  
for the James Bay Refugee Initiative

## Hospitality Team Report

Our team is growing as the number of social events we are hosting is expanding. Some of those who offer regular support are Gary Brandstadt, Bev Tracey, Marion Handcock, Bev McLean, Eunice Davison, Christine Bodnarchuk, Aleksa Harkness and Judy Krzesowski.

The year’s activities began with a *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper* followed by a viewing of *The Secret Path*. During Lent we offered simple soup supper as part of the evening movie series, and as Easter arrived, an early morning *Easter Breakfast*. In September we hosted a *Welcome Feast* on the back patio, and later in the month *Picture This!* - an opportunity to share photos of our summer adventures and great desserts. As part of the Fall *Soul Feast* study program we hosted six suppers with a variety of menus. In October *Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner* near Thanksgiving, a *100 KM Dinner* in November, followed by a *Ham Dinner & Carol Sing-Along* in mid-December rounded out our fall schedule.

We had a series of 2 movies with Canadian themes to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> year of Confederation, and we hosted a dinner-with-movie evening over the summer.

Sunday worship was followed by a *coffee and goodies* gathering in the lower church hall, with goodies provided by many of the congregation and set up and clean up provided by a faithful few. During the summer we served *lemonade and goodies* outside on our newly refurbished patio.

Respectfully Submitted, Gary Brandstadt and Beverley Tracey

## **Singles' Potluck Dinner**

This monthly dinner continues, with an average attendance of about 10-12 people. It is actively managed by Gary Brandstadt, Linda Clegg, Margaret Scott, and new member Claire Cameron.

Respectfully submitted, Gary Brandstadt, chair

## **Volunteer Office Staff**

Tuesdays: Sylvia Scott, Johan Heskes, Eunice Davidson, Cheryl Hanna, Jaquie Wasney, Heather Caldwell and Beverley McLean

Wednesdays & Fridays: Joan Ryan

Many thanks to our loyal, reliable office volunteers for the many hours given to the church and the community. Their weekly jobs include welcoming visitors and serving hot coffee. Our Tuesday morning drop-in Outreach team brings homemade baking, sandwiches and treats that delight and nourish members of our community.

This year Joan Ryan has been a tremendous help to the church. Joan takes care of folding the bulletins, updates the yearly wall calendar, looks after the plants and flowers, tidies up the pews for Sunday, and does many other tasks that need doing. Joan shows up to help twice a week, with a sweet smile that brightens each day she is here.

Thank you also to all our congregational volunteers that are so giving of their help and time around the Church and Thrift Shop.

I am very grateful for the pleasure of their company and the gift of their time and talents.

Respectfully submitted by  
Vanya Smith, Church Office Administrator

## **Offering Counters**

Thank you to the dedicated staff of offering counters. In 2017 they included: Sylvia Scott, Norma Hill, Susan Ross, Kathy Putt, Kim Tadei, Pauline McKenzie, Pam Warwick, Jeremy Williams, Allan Thurston, Linda Wreggitt, Sally Wise, Eunice Davison, Claire Cameron Ralph Huston and Isabel Clemson.

Thanks to Isabel Clemson who has taken up the task of organizing a roster of counters, along with serving regularly as one of the team.

Respectfully submitted by  
Vanya Smith, Church Office Administrator



# James Bay United Church Thrift Shop Report

Steering Committee: **Marg Lunam**, Aleksa Harkness, Judy Langford, Franklyn Roy

*"Dear friends at James Bay United Church Thrift Shop:*

*Thank you for all your kindness, generosity and hard work over the last year! Visiting your shop, chatting with you, discovering lovely treasures, and being able to share in turn....all these things make your efforts one of our neighbourhood's greatest blessings. Please enjoy a joyous and merry Christmas, a Happy New Year 2018, and a restful (and well earned!) break.*

*We look forward to seeing you again in February.*

*Big hugs from 2 of your 'regulars'. "*



This note, received on our last day of sales before Christmas almost says it all. The Thrift Shop, this year, has blossomed from a work-in-progress to a well- established and highly valued presence in our community. The transition from "projects and improvements" to absolute "mission and relationships" has given us increased confidence in our work and a huge sense of satisfaction that we are accomplishing more than we had imagined possible four years ago. We knew that relationships were deepening, that recycling was on the upswing, that each working day was joyful and productive. What surprised us was the wonderful increase in revenues generated for the church in the midst of this metamorphosis and the adjacent construction and transformation of the immediate neighbourhood across the street!

We are truly "all about the people". We say it to new volunteers, we say it to one another and we live it in our relationships and our actions each week. Volunteers and customers alike appreciate the culture we have created. I think Washington Irving said it well:

*"How easy it is for one benevolent being to diffuse pleasure around him, and how truly is a kind heart a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity to freshen into smiles."*

Smiles are what we see in store for 2018.

Submitted by Marg Lunam for the Steering Committee and the volunteers.



## Annual report of the United Church Campus Ministry at the University of Victoria, January 2018

This year the University of Victoria celebrated 40 years of cooperation with faith communities in providing for the spiritual health of the campus community. In an interfaith ceremony hosted by UVic President Jamie Cassels, the university re-affirmed its commitment to support the work of the chaplains and faith communities by signing a new Memorandum of Understanding outlining the relationship and ongoing work of the faith communities on campus. The United Church's integral missional leadership and its substantial contribution to the spiritual well-being of students was recognized with gratitude by the University administration.

Over the years the United Church Campus Ministry has introduced thousands of students to the reality of God's Presence by growing a student community centered on contemplative learning and practice. In BC., over 65% of millennials have no or little association with Church, or are reactive to institutional religion. In this challenging context, Campus Ministry has been highly successful in providing many entry points for students to open hearts and minds to the reality of the Spirit in their lives.

Every week, students gather from around campus to participate in the spiritual learning and practice events hosted by the Campus Ministry at the Interfaith Chapel. They offer up their leadership and their enthusiasm to build a community of caring and support for each other. Three times a week the



community gathers for *Learn to Meditate*, a practice of silent meditation based on the mindfulness practices of Centering Prayer and Christian Meditation. Often the meditations are followed by a time of conversation with a soup meal provided by members of our congregations. Every Monday students gather for *Spirit in Motion* - to share music and poetry at an open mic and to lead in meditation and conscious dance. Every Wednesday the community gathers for

*Wine Before Supper*, a simple contemplative ecumenical communion service and every month the time is dedicated to *Chant and Meditation in the Style of Taizé*. Environmental Studies students and others gather Tuesdays for *Sacred Ecology* to explore their spiritual connection to the Earth and be empowered as agents of hope and change. Each term there is a weekend *Meditation Retreat* at Camp Pringle for young adults, and this last year we had to turn people away because we had run out of room.

More than 1000 young people gather at the Interfaith Chapel from around campus to be part of the ministry offered by our Church, with a regular attendance of over 150 students and staff each week attending the various activities hosted by the Campus Ministry.



The United Campus Ministry is not just restricted to the campus, but participates in the ministry to all youth and young adults in our church. These past many years I, as campus minister, have given leadership and support to the BC Conference annual *Evolve* YAYA gathering and I have been an active member of the BC Conference YAYA leadership team. I drove young people from BC to the United

Church *Rendezvous* conference in Montreal this past summer and led workshops on Meditation and Sacred Ecology. I will be participating in the General Council Youth Forum with United Church youth from all over Canada and guiding young people to engage deeply with our church. In Victoria Presbytery, YAYA leaders have been meeting at the UVic Interfaith Chapel to support one another, share ideas and to strengthen our ministry to young people. All this to build relationship with young people in our Church and to introduce them to the wide network of church relationships beyond our congregations. For many of our young people, the experience of church lies beyond the congregation and their sense of identity as United Church youth is nurtured by local, campus, regional and national church youth events.

There is much to celebrate in our Church's ministry with youth and young adults. But there are dark clouds on the horizon. With the momentous restructuring of the Church unfolding over this coming year, there is no clarity whether Campus Ministry will be receiving funding to continue its mission at UVic into 2019. Historically, Campus Ministry at UVic has been funded by BC Conference, Victoria Presbytery, Greater Victoria congregations and many individual donations. With the devolution of Presbyteries and Conferences into Regions, no staffing and funding models have yet been proposed that protect current youth and young adults ministries, including campus ministry. I am determined to advocate for our youth and young adults to ensure that the mission to support the spiritual awakening, inclusion and well-being of our young people will receive priority funding. I can't do this alone, but need the support of everyone in our congregations to ensure that our young people will not be lost as we restructure ourselves into a more agile and missional church fit to serve God and Christ Jesus in our communities.



In Christ's Ministry,

Henri Lock, Chaplain

United Church Campus Ministry at UVic

[hlock@uvic.ca](mailto:hlock@uvic.ca)



## George Pringle Memorial Camp – 2017 Annual Report to Churches

### A. Mission Statement:

We provide opportunities for campers of all ages to experience God's love in a close relationship with other people and the natural environment. – Last reviewed February 2014

### B. 2017 Financial statements:

These statements will be reviewed by CPCM&Co. For this report, only our statement of operations are included, please see below:

	<b>Actual Dec 31, 2017</b>	<b>Budget 2017 year</b>
Camps	216,105	210,000
Camp Discounts	-15,201	
Out of School Care	5,172	
Rentals	286,483	270,000
Tuck Revenue	15,400	
Retail(Net) & Misc	4,214	15,000
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>512,173</b>	<b>495,000</b>
BC Conference & Other Grants	150,042	163,270
Bequests	0	
Donations	12,753	10,000
Fundraising	2,121	7,500
<b>Total Non Operating</b>	<b>164,916</b>	<b>180,770</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>677,089</b>	<b>675,770</b>
Salaries – continuing staff	227,724	230,825
Salaries – seasonal staff	112,991	125,245
Repairs & Maintenance	38,414	52,820
Fuel & Utilities	57,015	48,350
Insurance	15,029	40,000
Advertising & Promotion	12,926	12,500
Operating Supplies	19,556	13,300
Food	88,965	84,000
Administration and other	75,491	71,750
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>648,111</b>	<b>678,790</b>
<b>Net Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>28,978</b>	<b>-3,020</b>

*There will be some minor adjustments to these figures based on some adjustments still to be inputted.*

**C. Board**  
**Chair: Murray Groom**  
**Executive Director: Kezia Cowtan**

**Board meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Quarterly  
**Meeting Time:** 7:00pm at varying locations  
**# of meetings held:** 4 meetings with an average attendance of 5  
**Membership:** 12 board members representing 4 of the 18 Victoria Presbytery churches and 1 of the 25 Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery churches

**Highlights/Achievements of the Year:**

**Program:** In 2017, Camp Pringle had a successful year with the new Director in her third year and continuing permanent staff. We ended the year with increased registration and rental revenues. The continued support of Conference helped our bottom line as we started the year with a carrying deficit of \$18,000. We ended the year paying off the deficit and returning capital funds to Conference that were not used for the dock project in 2016. With the 2016 Laura Butler capital bequest, we were able to install a new roof, re-do the foundation and re-tiled all the showers in the 2 story dorm building named in Laura's honor. Conference provided a \$65,000 capital grant to renovate the North Pole washroom building, upgrade the water systems and provided funding to explore new business opportunities.

Our camper numbers were up in 2017, with 527 participants in our spring and summer programs. 38% were new campers - 203 of the registrations reported being new to Camp Pringle. We saw 41 of these registrations enjoy a great Spring Break Camp where we offered a full week of CREW, Ultimate Adventure and Junior Co-Ed.

Marketing efforts included: a 10% early bird discount and we continued our social media presence and brochure distribution at Recreation Centres and Thrifty Foods by Island Parent. We continued to run a full page advertisement in the Valley Voice for 7 months. And we ran a fall and spring newsletter was sent in digital and paper form.

We increased the number of staff's ability to use our on-line Camp Brain registration system bettering our response time to parents with questions about registration.

We published a Donor Recognition piece that featured Laura Butler and her contributions to Camp Pringle. We hosted an Open House to showcase the renovations and Laura Butler's bequest. We hosted an donor evening at camp for our donors to us for dinner, camp-wide game and campfire.

In September of 2017, we opened licensed childcare for surrounding school-aged children to participate in after school care. We had 12 families register and several of our summer program stayed on to facilitate the out of school care programming. We worked in partnership with the School District Transportation Department to offer free transportation for Discovery Elementary, Ecole Cobble Hill and George Bonner students.

Once again, the majority of campers 62% came from Greater Victoria. The Cowichan Valley represented 23% of the registrations. The Mid Island was 5% and North Island represented 1% of the registrations. 6% came from Lower Mainland and another 3% were from out of province or out country.

32% of our campers reported being associated with a church. 16% or 84 (almost double from 2016) of these campers were from the United Church.

This summer 1 of the 18 Victoria Presbytery Churches had 9 campers attend and 1 of the 25 Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery Churches and the Presbytery bursary funded 1 camper. Camp Pringle awarded \$10,000 in camper bursaries to 24 campers this year.

**Property:** The camp was well rented in 2017 with many groups returning as they find our pricing very reasonable. This translated into overall rental revenues coming in at approximately \$286,483 in 2017. We had forecasted for \$270,000 therefore surpassing our target goal. We shifted weddings to the shoulder season and implemented further regulations.

We acknowledge that for long time clients the significant rate increases over the past years pose a challenge. We worked with all our returning groups to make the rates work and have almost all groups returning in 2018. We continue to honor our 2014 rates for United Church groups to ensure the accessibility to camp.

Our Residential Caretaker, Christian Stringer oversaw the continued refurbished of part of the Laura Butler building foundation, installation of the new roof, renovations to the showers, the North Pole building and the water systems.

**Budget:** As you can see in the table above, Camp's expenditures were approximately \$30,000 less than projected. We received a higher operations grant from Conference and we maintained high registration and rental revenues. Expenditures we better regulated while increasing salaries and keeping under the forecasted budget. We ended the year in an overall surplus that will cover our carrying 2016 \$18,000 deficit and repay un-used capital dock project funds to Conference leaving an approximate surplus of about \$3,000. BC Conference contributed a \$140,000 operational grant in 2017 to increase staff salaries and cover an approximate property maintenance budget.

**Objectives for 2018:** To continue to grow our society membership, our mission and to expand our business & donor practices. To continue to grow our camper numbers. To build an appropriate water systems building. To ensure the highest level of financial management to ensure a balanced budget and the creation of a maintenance fund.

**We would like to thank all the churches,  
Victoria Presbytery, Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery and  
BC Conference for their continued support.**

**You are our cornerstone.**





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## Finance Report

In March 2017, we presented to the congregation a budget for the year projecting a small surplus in our operating funds. We ended the year with a surplus of approximately \$22,000. Some of this surplus is comprised of funds carried over from the previous year for projects still in progress.

### *Revenue:*

Our offerings came in at 98 percent of what we had forecast, representing an increase of approximately \$6000 over our offerings in 2016.

Contributions from the Thrift Shop were particularly strong in 2017. The Thrift Shop was open Saturdays from May 6 through to Labour Day weekend, which contributed to the increased income. We are grateful for the great team of volunteers who work so hard to make shopping at the Thrift Shop a successful and satisfying experience for their customers.

On the rental income front, 2017 was the first full year that the new rental agreements were in place. There was a slight shortfall from what we had forecast (due to the departure of one of our clients mid-year). Overall, we attained a significant increase in rental income from previous years.

### *Expenses and Initiatives:*

There were some expenses (for example, salary) incurred in the first part of 2017 for the Ministry Intern initiative which ended in February 2017. Funds that were received from the ProVision fund that had not been spent for the Abundant Community Initiative were returned. Funds from the Grace Priority Fund for the Abundant Community Initiative were reallocated to the Communication and Neighbourhood Engagement program.

Last summer, we had a special meeting with the Congregation to talk about the Communication and Neighbourhood Engagement project and the possibilities that such a program could bring to our church and to James Bay. This program was launched in September when the project director came on board to lead the initiative. We obtained new funds from the ProVision fund, as well as the reallocation of the Grace Priority funds, to cover the costs of the contract.

Our downstairs patio project was completed in the summer, with the addition of picnic tables and umbrellas. The renovation for the front of the church was largely completed by the end of the year, with the help of a special donation. We were successful in obtaining a City grant that will allow us to complete the landscaping this spring.

We continue to track the Refugee Fund separately from our general operating fund. At year end there was a balance of approximately \$10,000 remaining in the fund.

### *2018 Budget:*

Based on our analysis of revenues and expenditures, the Finance Committee with the support of the JBUC Board is presenting a budget for 2018 with a small surplus.





The Counting Cottage Ltd ~ Bookkeeping ~ Accounting ~ Tax

Feb. 01, 2018

Notice to reader

On the basis of information provided by management, I have compiled the balance sheet of James Bay United Church and income statement for the year ended December 31, 2017.

I have not performed an audit or a review management with respect to these financial statements and

Accordingly I express no assurance there on.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Tammy Hawboldt

The Counting Cottage Ltd. Suite 102-1497 Admirals Rd. (778) 432-2555

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	1	<b>2017 Budget vs. Actuals OPERATING ACCOUNT</b>				
2	2		<b>2017</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>%</b>	
3	3		<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUALS</b>	<b>Budget Used</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
4	4	<b>2017 REVENUE OPERATING</b>				
5	5	OFFERINGS (General Account)	60,000	59,603	99%	
6	6	RENTAL INCOME	31,435	28,303	90%	
7	7	WEDDING/FUNERAL FEES	2,050	400	20%	
8	8	SPECIAL & MISC. DONATIONS/GIFTS	1,000	5,890	589%	1
9	9	BEQUESTS	5,000	0	0%	
10	10	OUTREACH incl. smile card revenue	4,000	2,909	73%	
11	11	OBSERVER SUBSCRIPTIONS	420	375	89%	
12	12	MISSION & SERVICE	3,500	3,096	88%	
13	13	THRIFT SHOP INCOME	70,000	88,685	127%	
14	14	VICTORIA FOUNDATION	8,852	8,885	100%	
15	15	HOSPITALITY	500	620	124%	
16	16	FUNDRAISING REVENUE	0	55	0%	
17	17	GRACE FUND CARRY OVER 2016 for outdoor enhance/sign	8,465	8,465	100%	
18	18	<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT</b>				
19	19	Pro Vision Grant		15,000	0%	
20	20	P. Butler \$10,000		0	0%	
21	21	Grace Fund		10,000	0%	
22	22	Neighbourhood Engagement Events		0	0%	
23	23	<b>ABUNDANT COMMUNITY INITIATIVE</b>				
24	24	- Pro Vision Grant carry forward from 2016	9,693	9,693	100%	
25	25	- Pro Vision Grant still to apply for	5,000	0	0%	
26	26	<b>MINISTRY INTERN</b>				
27	27	- United Church of Canada	5,000	5,000	100%	
28	28	- Grace Priority Fund	13,102	1,965	15%	2
29	29	<b>BANK INTEREST</b>	20	20	100%	
30	30	GST REBATE (Yearly) estimated receivable	1,800	947	53%	3
31	31	<b>2017 TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>229,837</b>	<b>248,965</b>	<b>108%</b>	
32	32					
33	33	<b>2017 EXPENDITURES</b>				
34	34	<b>PERSONNEL</b>				
35	35	STAFF PAYROLL AND BENEFITS	124,352	116,532	94%	4
36	36	<b>CONTRACTORS &amp; PULPIT SUPPLY</b>				
37	37	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	10,682	9,920	93%	
38	38	<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT</b>				
39	39	Staff - Contractor		7,733	0%	
40	40	GST		0	0%	
41	41	Office Supplies/Printing/Advertising		1,071	0%	
42	42	Special Events		0	0%	
43	43	<b>GRACE PRIORITY FUNDS</b>	13,102	10,000	76%	5
44	44	<b>MINISTRY TEAMS</b>				
45	45	PASTORAL CARE	200	0	0%	
46	46	WORSHIP (includes flowers)	1,520	1,446	95%	
47	47	MUSIC (includes guest performers)	550	804	146%	
48	48	LIFELONG LEARNING (incl. Sunday Kids)	800	851	106%	
49	49	OUTREACH (for example Tues. morning drop-in)	4,000	2,540	64%	
50	50	HOSPITALITY	750	1,631	217%	
51	51	COMMUNICATIONS & ADVERTISING CHURCH	7,500	6,911	92%	6
52	52	PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE Internal/External/Gardens	4,820	3,874	80%	
53	53	- Garden personnel	930	350	38%	
54	54	BACK PATIO PROJECT 2017	2,090	1,975	94%	
55	55	FRONT OUTSIDE RENO PROJECT 2017	0	6,460	0%	
56	56	<b>THRIFT SHOP</b>				
57	57	T.S. MAINTENANCE & BUILDING REPAIR	1,600	1,195	75%	
58	58	T.S. PROPERTY TAXES	400	399	100%	
59	59	T.S. UTILITIES (Hydro/Shaw/Water/Garbage)	2,800	2,898	104%	
60	60	T.S. ADVERTISING / MARKETING	1,200	1,325	110%	
61	61	T.S. SUPPLIES (includes petty cash)	1,300	1,458	112%	
62	62	T.S. VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION	1,500	860	57%	
63	63	T.S. PERSONNEL PAYMENTS	5,500	4,360	79%	
64	64	T.S. Outside dedication bench/landscape front reno	2,000	2,232	112%	
65	65	T.S. PHASE 6 RENOS	1,000	1,869	187%	

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	1	<b>2017 Budget vs. Actuals OPERATING ACCOUNT pg. 2</b>				
67	67		<b>2017</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>%</b>	
68	68		<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUALS</b>	<b>Budget Used</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
69	69	<b>OPERATIONS</b>				
70	70	UTILITIES - CHURCH	9,763	9,000	92%	
71	71	OFFICE SUPPLIES / EQUIPMENT (includes professional fees)	5,000	4,851	97%	
72	72	- PETTY CASH Office Supplies	300	157	52%	
73	73	JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	1,750	2,337	134%	
74	74	PRESBYTERY ASSESSMENTS	6,120	5,660	92%	
75	75	INSURANCE PROPERTY CHURCH AND THRIFT SHOP	6,971	8,625	124%	
76	76	WCB - WORK SAFE	130	194	149%	
77	77	M&S MISSION & SERVICE	3,500	2,803	80%	
78	78	FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	200	106	53%	
79	79	OBSERVER SUBSCRIPTIONS	420	375	89%	
80	80	SPECIAL DONATIONS & GIFTS	400	1,287	322%	7
81	81	BANK CHARGES & VISA (par)	150	219	146%	
82	82	<b>2017 TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>225,317</b>	<b>226,324</b>	<b>100%</b>	
83	83					
84	84					
85	85	<b>2017 REFUGEE FUND</b>				
86	86	REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP Revenue carry forward		2,438		
87	87	REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP Donations		7,605		
88	88	REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP Expenses		519		
89	89	<b>2017 REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP BALANCE</b>		<b>9,524</b>		
90						
91		<b>NOTES:</b>				
92		<b>Revenue Notes</b>				
93		1. Special donation of \$5,000 to be used for front outside renovation project.				
94		2. \$10,000 Grace funds from Intern surplus transferred to neighbourhood and community engagement. Line 21				
95		\$1,137 pd. for ministry Intern. Remainder Grace funds of \$1,965 reimbursed in 2018.				
96		3. GST not counted in actuals until received.				
97		<b>Expense Notes</b>				
98		4. Includes pay back of left over Pro Vision Grant given in 2016 for ACI of \$7000				
99		5. Grace funds from Intern surplus re-allocated to neighbourhood and community engagement used for 2017 expenses.				
100		6. Includes Outdoor sign costs				
101		7. Extreme Hunger Appeal donations to United Church of Canada = \$570.00. Balance to internal gifts.				

### James Bay United Church GENERAL OPERATING FUND BALANCES

**Bank Balance as of January 1, 2017: \$79,523**

Less Outstanding payables 2016: \$ 3,468

Adjusted bank balance: \$ 76,055

**Bank Balance as of December 31, 2017 \$100,463**

Less outstanding payables 2017 \$ 13,731

Adjusted bank balance \$ 86,732

**Note:** Minus holding allotment in the \$ 9,524

operating fund for refugee sponsorship revenue

**ACTUAL GENERAL FUND BALANCE: \$ 77,208**

*Recorded financial sums are rounded to nearest dollar amount.*

### TAX RECEIPTED DONATIONS FOR 2017

Total amount of receipted offerings donations

Operating Fund \$52,603

Mission & Service \$ 3,096

Special Donations/Appeals \$ 5,570

Outreach \$ 1,606

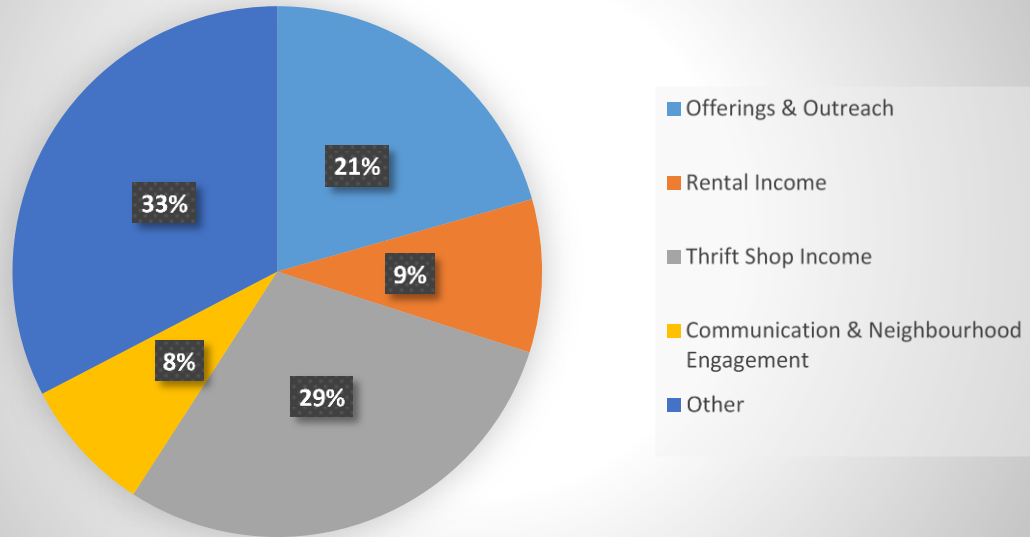
Refugee Sponsorship \$ 2,525

Gifts in Kind receipts \$ 2,050

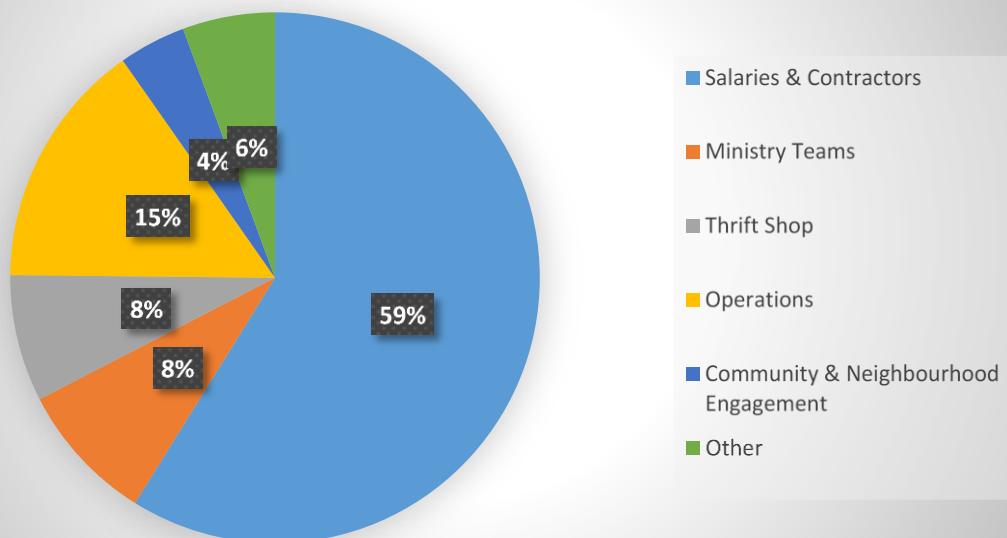
Total tax receipts issued: 131

Average weekly attendance: 65

## Operating Fund REVENUE 2017



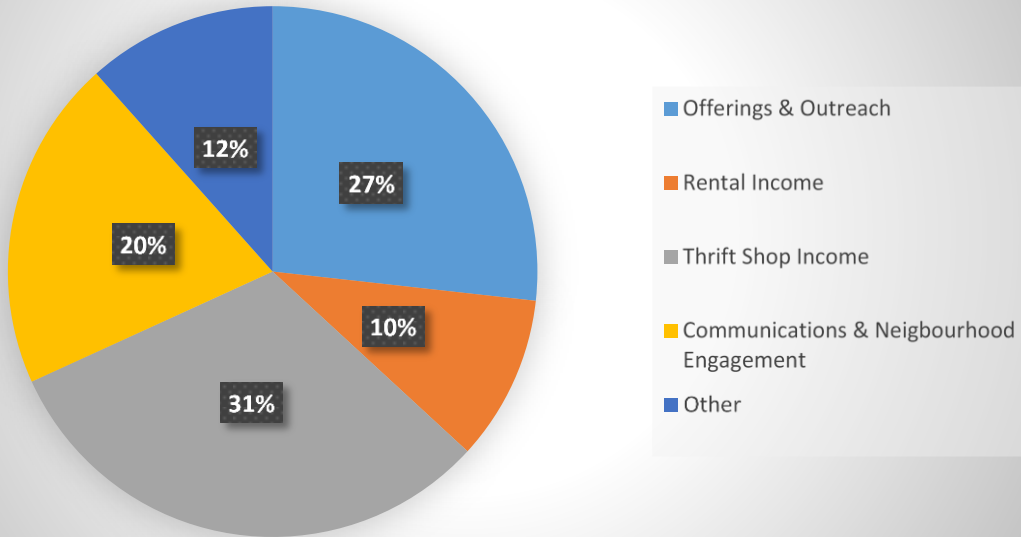
## Operating Fund EXPENSES 2017



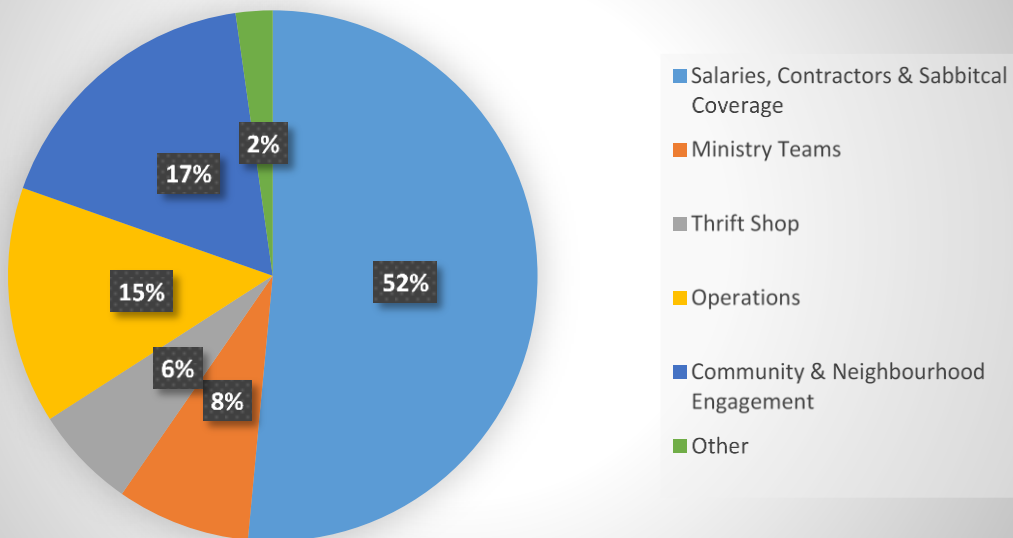
	A	B	C	D
1	1	<b>2018 JBUC Proposed Budget</b>		
2	2		<b>2018</b>	
3	3		<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
4	4	<b>2018 REVENUE OPERATING</b>		
5	5	OFFERINGS (General Account)	60,000	
6	6	RENTAL INCOME	24,115	
7	7	WEDDING/FUNERAL FEES	1,000	
8	8	SPECIAL DONATIONS/GIFTS	1,000	
9	9	BEQUESTS	5,000	
10	10	OUTREACH incl. smile card revenue	4,000	
11	11	OBSERVER SUBSCRIPTIONS	375	
12	12	MISSION & SERVICE	3,500	
13	13	THRIFT SHOP INCOME	75,000	
14	14	VICTORIA FOUNDATION	8,852	
15	15	HOSPITALITY	800	
16	16	FUNDRAISING REVENUE	200	
17	17	FRONT OUTSIDE RENO PROJECT	5,000	1
18	18	<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT</b>		
19	19	Pro Vision Grant 2017 & 2018	23,333	
20	20	P. Butler \$10,000	10,000	
21	21	Grace Fund	10,000	
22	22	Neighbourhood Engagement Events	5,000	
23	23	BANK INTEREST	20	
24	24	GST REBATE (Yearly) estimated receivable	700	
25	25	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>239,913</b>	
26	26			
27	27	<b>2018 EXPENDITURES</b>		
28	28	<b>PERSONNEL</b>		
29	29	STAFF PAYROLL AND BENEFITS (incl. weddings/funerals pay)	115,916	
30	30	<b>CONTRACTORS</b>		
31	31	PULPIT SUPPLY & SABBATICAL COVERAGE	7,135	
32	32	<b>COMMUNICATION &amp; NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT</b>		
33	33	Staff - Contractor	28,800	
34	34	GST	2,149	
35	35	Office Supplies/Printing/Advertising	5,000	
36	36	Special Events	4,588	
77				
78				

	A	B	C	D
1		<b>2018 JBUC Proposed Budget page 2</b>		
2			<b>2018</b>	
3			<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
37	37	<b>MINISTRY TEAMS</b>		
38	38	PASTORAL CARE	200	
39	39	WORSHIP (includes flowers)	1,320	
40	40	MUSIC (includes guest performers)	800	
41	41	LIFELONG LEARNING (incl. Sunday Kids)	800	
42	42	OUTREACH Tues. morning drop-in, etc.	4,000	
43	43	HOSPITALITY	1,200	
44	44	COMMUNICATIONS & ADVERTISING CHURCH	2,000	
45	45	PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE Internal/External/Gardens	4,150	
46	46	FRONT OUTSIDE RENO PROJECT	5,000	
47	47	<b>THRIFT SHOP</b>		
48	48	T.S. MAINTENANCE & BUILDING REPAIR	1,600	
49	49	T.S. PROPERTY TAXES	400	
50	50	T.S. UTILITIES (Hydro/Shaw/Water/Garbage)	2,800	
51	51	T.S ADVERTISING / MARKETING	1,200	
52	52	T.S. SUPPLIES (includes petty cash)	1,500	
53	53	T.S VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION	1,500	
54	54	T.S PERSONNEL PAYMENTS	5,500	
55	55	T.S FENCE REPAIR	500	
56	56	<b>OPERATIONS</b>		
57	57	UTILITIES - CHURCH	9,800	
58	58	OFFICE SUPPLIES / EQUIPMENT (includes professional fees)	5,000	
59	59	- PETTY CASH Office Supplies	300	
60	60	JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	1,800	
61	61	PRESBYTERY ASSESSMENTS	6,120	
62	62	INSURANCE PROPERTY CHURCH AND THRIFT SHOP	6,971	
63	63	WCB - WORK SAFE	239	
64	64	M&S MISSION & SERVICE	3,500	
65	65	FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	200	
66	66	OBSERVER SUBSCRIPTIONS	375	
67	67	SPECIAL DONATIONS & GIFTS	400	
68	68	BANK CHARGES & VISA (par)	175	
69	69	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>232,938</b>	
70	70			
71	71	<b>REFUGEE REVENUE</b>	<b>2,040</b>	
72				
73		<b>NOTES</b>		
74		<b>Revenue Notes</b>		
75		1. City Grant to come for remainder of front outside reno project.		
76				
77				
78				

## 2018 Budget Revenue



## 2018 Budget Expenses



	A	B	Q	R	S	T	U	V
1	1	<b>MEMORIAL ACCOUNTS ACTIVITIES AND BALANCES to Dec. 31, 2017</b>						
2	2							
3	3		2017	2016	2015	NOTES		
4	4	<b>2017 MEMORIAL GARDEN*****</b>						
5	5	<b>Beginning Balance Jan.1</b>	3,433.79	3,033.13	3,032.59			
6	6	<b>REVENUE</b>						
7	7	BEQUESTS/DONATIONS/RESERVE		400.00	0.00			
8	8	BANK INTEREST	0.36	0.66	0.54			
9	9	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	0.36	400.66	0.54			
10	10	<b>EXPENDITURES Mem. GARDEN</b>						
11	11	PLAQUES, REIMBURSEMENTS	200.00	0.00	0.00			
12	12	BANK FEES		0.00	0.00			
13	13	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	200.00	0.00	0.00			
14	14	<b>FUND SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	3,234.15	3,433.79	3,033.13			
15	15							
16	16		2017	2016	2015			
17	17	<b>2017 MEMORIAL HISTORICAL *****</b>						
18	18	<b>Beginning Balance Jan.1</b>	6,385.36	6,384.37	6,723.77			
19	19	<b>REVENUE</b>						
20	20	BEQUESTS Memorial		0.00	0.00			
21	21	OTHER DONATIONS		0.00	0.00			
22	22	BANK INTEREST	0.60	0.99	1.62			
23	23	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	0.60	0.99	1.62			
24	24							
25	25	<b>EXPENDITURES MEM. HISTORICAL</b>						
26	26	MEMORIAL FUNDS ALLOCATED		0.00	0.00			
27	27	EXPENSES		0.00	341.02			
28	28	BANK FEES	24.00	0.00	0.00			
29	29	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	24.00	0.00	341.02			
30	30	<b>FUND SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	6,361.96	6,385.36	6,384.37			
31	31							
32	32		2017	2016	2015			
33	33	<b>2017 GRACE PRIORITY FUND *****</b>						
34	34	<b>Beginning Balance Jan.1</b>	41,108.66	28,908.68	28,887.06			
35	35	<b>REVENUE</b>						
36	36	BEQUESTS Grace Fund		40,000.00	0.00			
37	37	Reimbursement Painting church		0.00	14,700.00			
38	38	INTEREST	159.00	199.98	135.02			
39	39	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	159.00	40,199.98	14,835.02			
40	40	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
41	41	GRACE FUND ALLOCATIONS		8,000.00	14,700.00			
42	42	ALLOCATION Ministry Intern		20,000.00				
43	43	Computer Upgrade/Hardware/Software		0.00	113.40			
44	44	Cks written until new cks printed gen. acct.	2,165.47			1		
45	45	BANK FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00			
46	46	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	2,165.47	28,000.00	14,813.40			
47	47	<b>FUND SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	39,102.19	41,108.66	28,908.68			
48	48							
49	49		2017	2016	2015			
50	50	<b>2017 VICTORIA FOUNDATION *****</b>						
51	51	<b>BEGINNING BALANCE, market value</b>	213,026.14	217,012.89	241,422.10			
52	52	<b>REVENUE</b>						
53	53	CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00			
54	54	INVESTMENT RETURNS	17,612.57	21,436.73	11,668.25			
55	55	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	17,612.57	21,436.73	11,668.25			
56	56	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
57	57	GRANTS PAID	8,885.00	23,852.00	8,320.00	2		
58	58	FUND ALLOCATIONS	0.00	0.00	26,000.00			
59	59	FUND MANAGEMENT FEES	1,640.22	1,571.48	1,757.46			
60	60	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	10,525.22	25,423.48	36,077.46			
61	61	<b>ENDING BALANCE, market value</b>	220,113.49	213,026.14	217,012.89			
62	62	<b>NOTES:</b>						
63	63	1. In 2017 the Operating Fund chequing account was closed and re-opened with a new						
64	64	account number. The Grace Fund was temporarily used for writing cheques until new						
65	65	cheques for operating account were printed. The Grace Fund was reimbursed Jan. 2018						
66	66	2. Interest from Victoria Foundation put in the general operating fund.						



Ms. Vanya Smith  
James Bay United Church  
511 Michigan Street  
Victoria, BC V8V 1S1

## JAMES BAY UNITED CHURCH FUND

### FUND ACTIVITY

01 January 2017 – 31 December 2017

BEGINNING BALANCE, <i>market value</i>	\$213,026.14
Add: Contributions to Fund	0.00
Total Investment Returns	17,612.57
Less: Grants Paid	8,885.00
Fund Management Fees	1,640.22
ENDING BALANCE, <i>market value</i>	\$220,113.49

### GRANTING ALLOCATION

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AVAILABLE TO GRANT IN 2018	\$8,603.00
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(jabay)