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## **REPORT FROM THE "INTERIM" MINISTER**

For the past six months, it has been my privilege to serve as the Minister of Squamish United Church during this time of transition. In addition to striving to perform the regular ministerial duties, I have tried to evaluate this congregation with the aim of preparing the Church for new leadership and providing helpful incites to the JNAC and Search Committees and Vancouver- Burrard Presbytery.

I have been pleased that members of the congregation have been very cooperative in trying new concepts and tasks and supporting the re-invigoration of essential ministries.

The Trustees are once again a functioning and meeting ministry of this Church. The Manuel of the United Church of Canada states that each Church must have a Board of Trustees. Our committee is assuming its rightful duties and is currently involved in carefully ascertaining the best manner of dealing with the Church's manse property.

The Ministry and Personnel Committee, also a requirement, is in the process of restructuring itself to consist of the makeup recommended in the Manuel.

The Worship Ministry of the Church is now a committee that meets regularly. Their task has been enlarged to include the ministry of music and the ministry of Religious Education. It is our hope that the day will soon be upon us when the Religious Education Ministry will command a committee on its own.

It is good news that we finished the year of 2004, with all bills paid all obligations fulfilled and a modest surplus to begin this year. The congregation is to be congratulated in its faithful response. However, I believe a more structured and systematic stewardship program needs to be in place so that planning for future developments and ministerial emphasis can be undertaken with some sense of funds that may be available. This step is being developed within the Stewardship ministry.

A very special word of thanks should be given to the donors of the Yamaha Clavica. It is a remarkable instrument that enriches our



worship experiences and our musical appreciation. We are also grateful that Maureen Gilmour suggested the money given in memory of George be used to purchase a new cooking range for the kitchen. Not only, does this ease the work of preparation and thus fellowship but it also, appropriately reminds us of George who cooked on the old range.

We are fortunate to have the enthusiasm and expertise in our midst of Laura Thompson. She is well trained and dedicated and doing a superb ministry with our youth. We must strengthen her role and assist in any way we can to improve this vital aspect of our work.

Our biggest need, in my opinion, is enlarging our membership or involvement base. We are not seeing enough newcomers in our Sunday Worship services. For this to happen, people who are not attendees need to be asked. No type of invitation, no matter what its cost, is as effective as participants of a Church inviting friends to come and share. Further, it is my belief that membership is very important. Membership involves a decision to be part of a Church and that is frequently the step to involvement. Thus, I believe we should be striving not just for visitors but for new members.

In my view, the avenue of participation needs to be expanded in this Church. We need more dinners, programs, projects and study groups that bring people together. To be sure, all of the above require a willingness to work in preparation and leadership of such events but, this approach is an effective means of evangelism and needs to be pursued.

I believe that Squamish United Church has a very important role to play in the development of this corridor. We are a Church with a progressive theological viewpoint in a community filled with conservative theological voices. We are a Church that puts into practice a progressive social agenda because of our theological emphasis. While some folks will be critical of our emphasis, it is an emphasis that many can embrace. Our task is to make this fact known so that people know who we are by what we do and say, not by what others say about us and this we must do while we cooperate with those of differing viewpoints.

In my time here, the level of musical talent that is in this Church has impressed me. I know of few small congregations with this number of

willing and talented singers, performers and leaders. I particularly want to thank Marilyn, Louise, Carol, Trevor, Arlene, Carolyn, all other instrumentalists, the soloists and the choir. You enrich our experience together immeasurably.

I also want to thank Phil Harness for his visionary leadership. I have spent a lot of time with Phil and his dreams and desires are laudatory. The Church has been fortunate that he has been willing to serve and spend the time in leadership. We are even more fortunate that his interest and involvement continue.

Lastly, I know that in expressing my appreciation and thanks for Retta, I voice the thanks and appreciation of the entire Church family. She is gifted, knowledgeable, pleasant, reliable and dedicated. That makes her virtually irreplaceable.

In the remaining time that we have together, let us redouble our efforts to make this a vibrant community of faith. Nothing would be a greater than for me to leave knowing this Church is ready and willing to accept a new leader.

As the corridor grows, so does our responsibility. Let us not be derelict in our task. Let us make sure that those who are seeking a new paradigm in which to practice their faith will know we exist and want their participation. As we believe we serve an inclusive Lord, that is one who loves all people, let us strive to be an inclusive fellowship.

Chris and I thank you all for your love and support.



## **MINUTES FROM THE 2004 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Squamish United Church was held following a congregational pot luck supper on Sunday, February 15, 2004

Following a short worship service the meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. with Board Chair, Philip Harness presiding.

M/S by Judi Rhodes/Ian Kent that all present be given voting privileges. Carried.

M/S by Roy Shephard/Arlene Ingraham that the minutes from the 2003 Annual Congregational Meeting be adopted. Carried.

### **2003 Committee and Group Reports:**

The following reports were opened in block for questions and/or discussion: Squamish United Church Board, Worship Committee, Healing Touch, Ministry & Personnel, Mission & Service, Vancouver Burrard Presbytery, United Church Women, U.C.W. Financial Report, Men's Breakfast, Squamish United Church Choir, Envelope Secretary's Report, Sunday School Financial.

M/S by Bert lonson/Kevin Haberl that the above-named reports be accepted. Carried.

### **2003 Finance Report:**

Bert lonson presented the Financial Reports.

The non-budgeted costs for the Labyrinth and Study books were questioned.

M/S by Bert lonson/Evelyn Dawson that the 2003 Financial Reports be accepted. Carried.

### **Proposed 2004 Budget:**

The Proposed 2004 Budget was presented by Bert lonson.

An appeal about the Sunday school and the possibility of hiring a Sunday school coordinator was made. A lengthy discussion followed dealing with the logistics of the proposal.

M/S by Ian Kent/Trevor Harris that an additional \$3,000 be put in the Budget toward hiring a person on a part time basis to work with the Sunday School/Youth. Carried.

Jeanne Cameron volunteered to work with the Sunday school in the meantime.

M/S by Bert lonson/Ian Kent that the Proposed 2004 Budget be accepted as amended. Carried.

### **Nominating Committee Report:**

Kevin Haberl presented the following slate of Chairs and Officers for the 2004 Squamish United Church Unified Board.

#### Executive:

Chair: Philip Harness, Vice-Chair: Louise Martin, Past-Chair: Trevor Harris,  
Treasurer: Bert lonson, Secretary: Retta Behrner

#### Worship Committee:

Chair: open

#### Finance Committee:

Chair: Bert lonson

#### Ministry & Personnel Committee:

Chair: open

#### Property Committee:

Chair: open

#### Caring Ministry Committee:

Chair: open

#### Mission & Service Committee:

Chair: Alternates

#### Members at Large:

Patsy Riecker

#### Healing Touch:

Walter Huber

#### Presbytery Representative:

Trevor Harris

#### United Church Women

Carlotta Liechi

#### Men's Group:

Wilhelm Schute

#### Sunday School Coordinator:

open

Kevin noted that that the Worship Committee, Property Committee, Caring Ministry and M & P are in need of a Chair. There is also space for more Members at Large.

Nominations were opened from the floor.

Jeanne Cameron was added as Sunday School Coordinator and Jim Stevens was added as a Member at Large.

M/S by Kevin Haberl/Bert lonson that the 2004 slate of Chairs and Officers be accepted, with the power to add any additional members. Carried.

M/S by Bert Ianson/Peter Gordon that the Board Executive be assigned the responsibility of acting M & P Chair until such time as there is a full M & P Committee in place. Carried.

#### **Other Business:**

1. **Power Surge – Discipleship:** An explanation of how it will work and what workshops are planned was explained. The end result will be to begin a new mandate for the church in the fall.
2. **Leasing Trinity Hall:** The congregation was informed that a proposal was received from the Waldorf School to lease Trinity Hall, beginning in September. Utilizing the space for the classrooms they need would require some alterations to the building. A committee to look into the proposal will be stuck at the next Board meeting.
3. **Thank You:** The retiring and returning Board and Committee Members were given a vote of thanks and the congregation was thanked in return

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



## FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

### *Empowerment*

As I sit here, my three year term as Chair of the Board is drawing to a close. I ponder accomplishments and changes, exciting times, and times that really stretched us.

I believe God sends us all of these things to test us to see if we are ready to move on to the next challenge. Our newest challenge is the quest for our new minister. The search is underway. Let us be sure to empower the groups of people involved in this process to succeed with the mandate we have given them.

One of the definitions of empower is "permit". My dictionary gives the example: Man's erect position empowers him to use his hands freely. God has empowered mankind to do God's work here on Earth. This is a trust that we will carry out God's work. At the moment we are a small congregation, but we are growing. The word is spreading that ours is a good family in which to worship. As Squamish grows in population and popularity, it will give us, at Squamish United Church, a chance to extend an invitation to even more newcomers to join our church family. Keeping this in mind, I think now is the time to enlarge the core group which looks after the affairs of this church. I am quite sure it was never intended for just a few to look after God's house.

There are lots of ministries or committees to join. If these terms scare you, just think of it as joining a "positive action group". Everyone thinks of positive action as good, even fun. All of our groups have lots of laughs while doing God's work. Wouldn't it be great to think of yourself as becoming more active and more involved in a "fun filled action group" within your church. Think of it as a form of service to God. The newly formed knitting ministry uses their hands to create "Prayer Shawls" for those in need of comfort. What can you do that will empower you to serve your church? How can you put your hands to work for God?

Respectfully,

Philip Harness

## REPORT FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Your Board of Trustees has come out of hibernation and all of us are members of the living world. Rev. Lobb kindly offered his guidance and has provided us with a great deal of knowledge about the duties and responsibilities of a church Board of Trustees. None of us had realized that we were letting ourselves down as a congregation by not having a fully functioning Board of Trustees.

In general the Board of Trustees have responsibility to ensure that all matters pertaining to property (insurance, maintenance etc.) are kept up to date. We are also the stewards of church investments. In addition, the Board looks after property purchases, sales and mortgages. This is not an onerous task and it is mostly an overseer function to protect the real estate interest of the congregation. We work closely with the Official Church Board and well as Presbytery.

At present we are investigating the sale of our manse. At the present time we are having the property surveyed. This will be followed by a property appraisal. This work should be completed by the end of March. Assuming the appraisal is within the range we think it is, the property will likely go on the market. Both the Official Board and the congregation will be kept informed. Proper approvals will be sought where appropriate.

It is a pleasure to provide this report. Your Board of Trustees will be meeting on a regular basis and will happily provide annual reports. We have been in hibernation for such a long period of time that it is almost as if we are a brand new committee. Therefore we are most happy to answer any questions.

### Your Board of Trustees

Peter Gordon, chair  
Rev. Doug Lobb  
June Halvorson  
Kevin Haberl

Lynette Halvorson  
Bill Rempel  
Trevor Harris  
Norman Saugstad

Don Behrner  
Marilyn Caldwell  
Billie Hildering



## **VANCOUVER-BURRARD PRESBYTERY**

Our presbytery reflects as wide a diversity of congregations as might be found anywhere in the United Church of Canada. Included within our boundaries are the churches in the city of Vancouver from Burrard Inlet to 16th Ave. and east to Boundary Road; North and West Vancouver, Squamish, Whistler and Pemberton; Sunshine Coast and Bowen Island. Over the past two years as a lay member of presbytery, I have attended meetings and worshipped in thirteen of the twenty-five locations of United Church Congregations. I have discovered that serving as a lay member of presbytery involves much more than being a presbytery rep. You are expected to be a participant. To that end I have joined the Congregation Oversight Committee and last spring was a member of the team that visited Bowen Island United. This spring, as a member of the Oversight Team, I will be visiting North Lonsdale United Church. It should be noted that the twenty-five congregations of the presbytery have been organized into five groupings for mutual oversight so that a renewed focus on the important work of triennial oversight visits can be shared. Squamish United is grouped with Camp Fircom, North Lonsdale United, St. Andrews (North Vancouver) and St. John's (Sunshine Coast). The intent of this organization into smaller groupings is to facilitate mutual care and support amongst congregations within our presbytery.

Some highlights of issues discussed and decisions made during the past year:

- Review and possible revision of the boundaries for the Lower Mainland Presbyteries. A report with recommendations is expected at the Jan. 25th 2005 meeting.
- Camp Fircom – A financial review of the capital and operations budgets has been presented to the executive. Discussion of this topic is expected early in the New Year.
- Campus Ministry. There is a study underway of the campus ministry which is currently located at UBC. Study Facilitator is Ray McGinnis.



- The presbytery struggles to discern how to be more fully present east of Burrard Street in Vancouver (with but 4 congregations, all with part time ministry, including two supported by Mission and Service Fund: First United, Lakeview, Long House and Renfrew.
- REVIVE 2 Conference was held on Oct. 23, 2004. Unfortunately the 5 representatives from our church who had attended REVIVE 1 could not attend the fall conference due to a closure of Hwy. 99. Next REVIVE (Conference on church growth and healthy congregations is Saturday, Feb. 5, 2005.)

In closing I continue to be happy to serve as our congregation's lay member of presbytery

Respectfully Submitted,

Trevor D. Harris

## MISSION & SERVICE REPORT

Our Committee of three people, Muriel Shephard, Val Orchison, and myself Judi Rhodes were joined last year by Christine Tribe and Barbara Stover. In November when it looked like we would come up a little short for our target of \$10, 800, our little group decided to earn some money by offering a night of travel slides from The Tribes 90 day trip through Japan, China, Turkey and Europe.

Thanks to the hard work of Hal and Christine Tribe, we had a small but enthusiastic group join us on Dec. 5th, and their donations totaled \$421.26. Also on December 5th a church mouse lunch, spearheaded by Marilyn Caldwell to help pay for turkeys used to feed the hungry at First United Church was held and the surplus was donated to Mission and Service.

The past year has been a successful one for as we have not only made our contribution of \$10,800. But, exceeded it and brought in \$11,276.65. Thank you to all our M & S donators.

This year we have already met and have several ideas to keep Mission & Service in the forefront of our congregations mind and are enthusiastic about beginning early rather than trying to catch up at the end of the year. The areas hit by the Tsunami on December 26th 2004 will need re-building and donations are needed but God willing we will continue to see the generosity of our church family as we head toward our Mission & Service goal for 2005. We would welcome anyone who would like to join our group and with God's Blessings and prayer many things will be possible in the coming year!

Prayerfully In Christ,  
Judi Rhodes

## HEALING PATHWAYS REPORT

The Healing Pathways Ministry within the Christian Community follows the example given by Jesus. It is an expression of love and compassion for those in need of any kind of healing. It is a way of connecting to Divine energy and light. It can be used for pain relief, relaxation, emotional release or clarity, stress relief or balance.

Our small group of three Walter Huber, Christine Tribe, and myself have met fairly regularly throughout the past year. We held one healing service in conjunction with Holy Week. We have had visitors join us once in a while for healing but as yet we have not grown in regular membership. We welcome anyone who would like to join us for healing or out of interest in finding out just what we are all about. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month in Trinity Hall, the practitioners meet at 7:30 p.m. for centering and preparation and we take clients at 8:00 pm.

There is a sign up sheet on the board in the Narthex and if you give us your phone number we will phone on Sunday night to remind you. Come and experience the wholeness. God has intended for you.

In Service,

Judi Rhodes



## CARING MINISTRY

The Caring Ministry continues to work in our church. We could often be found visiting the hospital, Hilltop House or visiting a member of the congregation at their home. On behalf of the congregation we have sent our condolences and support as members have gone through times of grief. We have participated in celebrations of life and generally made ourselves available where necessary.

This past September we participated in the congregational Sunday of sharing through a display of our different committees and ministries. In preparation for this we made a new brochure describing what we do and how to reach us which continues to be found in the church foyer. In October we met with Dr. Lobb, our new minister to introduce ourselves and discuss how we participate in the congregation.

Members of the caring ministry this past year were Evelyn Dawson, June Halvorson, Lynette Halvorson, new member Moneta Neighbor, Lou Rempel, Christine Tribe, Irene Vickers and co-coordinators Maureen Gilmour and Wendy Sellers.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the congregation for their assistance in making The Caring Ministry effective this past year. Please continue to give us a hand by letting us know when you become aware of a member of our congregation in need. Please contact one of our members or coordinators Maureen Gilmour at 604-815-0152 or Wendy Sellers at 604-898-4981.

May you feel God's presence always near you, whatever happens.

Respectfully submitted  
on behalf of Caring Ministry by  
Maureen Gilmour and Wendy Sellers.

## SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH CHOIR

The Senior Choir continued to provide support to the Congregation and Minister(s) throughout the 2003-2004 year under the shared leadership of Louise Martin and Marilyn Caldwell and the shared duties of accompaniment from Arlene Ingraham, Carol Grolman and Trevor Harris.

During the January to June period the Choir was present on all Sundays to help support the congregation in the singing of hymns old and new and provided extra music in the form of anthems during Lent, Easter and Pentecost. The Choir, still in transition from the leadership under Ian Brown remained committed and fun loving.

During the summer Louise Martin, Arlene Ingraham and Carol Grolman attended the Summer Reading Session through Northwest Music. This workshop provided the catalyst of music that was expressed through the Fall and Christmas Seasons. Carol, seeing the Choir was under control as far as leadership and accompaniment was concerned, left the Choir to spend more time developing small group ensembles within the church and familiarizing herself with the new keyboard. The Choir started the year with a half day workshop with guest director Anne Thomson and Marilyn leading the whole group sessions. Louise worked with the men on special music for men's voices only.

A Fall highlight was the wonderful concert introducing the new instrument through musicians from the congregation and from Tom Lee Music. What an evening! Wow!

Having prepared early, the Choir was able to sing more frequently during Advent, Christmas and during Communion Services. We were also thrilled to sing at long time member, Billie Hilderling's special 70<sup>th</sup> birthday party!

A special thanks is also in order for Trevor Harris who helps with the accompaniment of the Sunday hymns during Thursday night practises, and Anne Thomson who has come through to assist on several occasions. We also sadly said goodbye to another long time Choir member, Jennie Anderson, and wish her well during her retirement in the Kamloops area.

We are embarking on 2005 with renewed energy, commitment and faith. The joys of singing our faith fills us each Thursday and Sunday. Come out and join us!

Submitted by

Marilyn Caldwell



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School session of 2003/2004 was a year of transition and development. A consistent teaching team came together to offer their talents to create a well planned program. Thank you to all who offered their time, particularly those who served on a regular basis, but also to those who rose to the occasion when the extra help was needed. Attendance averaged about fifteen children, all whom attended regularly, filled with great anticipation to see what the morning would bring.

Over the course of the year the Sunday School was involved in a few projects and events: farewell candle making for the out going clergy, summer picnic, Intergenerational Thanksgiving and Peace services, Christmas parade float, Advent Sing Song time at Hilltop Facility, and a wonderful production for family Christmas Eve service.

Looking toward the next year promises more child initiated planning of events, including the events of the last year to evolve in a sense of tradition. There will definitely be at least one more drama production, a 'bring-a-friend' event, a few more Intergenerational worship services and two visits to Hilltop House. A busy year indeed!

Submitted by,  
Laura Thompson

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

Bank balance January 1, 2004		86.48
<b><u>Receipts:</u></b>		
Special Donation	200.00	
Sunday School Donations	260.60	547.08
<b><u>Expenses:</u></b>		
no expenditures		
<b>Bank balance December 31, 2004</b>		<b>\$547.08</b>

Submitted by Patsy Riecker  
Sunday School Treasure



## YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group of our church is a group that evolved from the 2004 Confirmation group. It has grown in a slow, strong way with a devoted seven belonging to the group and perhaps six more that 'stay tuned' with events and activities. Considering the newness of the group, they have been busy.

Regular meetings are the second and fourth Mondays of every month, with a monthly weekend event. Some of the weekend events have included sleep-over parties, 'bring-a-friend' bowling, and participating in church fund-raisers. The Youth Group have also given their time to the Sunday School, helping with the morning classes and organizing shared events such as the Christmas Parade float, Intergenerational worship services and a Christmas Eve play.

Looking forward to the next year, the youth are interested in further defining their vision for the group. There are also plans 'in the works' for joint events with other Youth Groups from the Lower Mainland, more outreach experiences, more 'bring-a-friend' events, joint projects with the Anglican Church Youth, more Intergenerational Worship experiences, and a year end overnight trip. So many plans...so little time!

Submitted by,  
Laura Thompson

## BUILDING AND PROPERTY MINISTRY

Most would recognize this ministry as a large and far-reaching one. As such I will attempt to highlight some of our activities on behalf of keeping the three buildings in dependable, safe and operating order. The involvement of many beyond the committee of Wilf Grolman – chair, Norm Halvorson, Bill Rempel and Val Orchison are relied on in the attempt to do as much of what is required in a cost effective manner as possible. The time and talents of Thor Halvorson, Trevor Harris, Walter Huber, Bert Minshall, Wilhelm Schulte, Phil Harness, Don Behrner and Harv Halvorson are all greatly appreciated. Beyond this collective expertise, we would be forced to pay for trades people at going rates to answer our needs. So many thanks to the body of volunteers, and an open invitation for anyone, regardless of skill level, to join us in the pursuit of keeping everything humming.

My goal as chair is to break down this ministry into smaller sub-sections, installing “managers” or liaisons, thereby spreading the load and establishing continuity of our many functions. This would create the opportunity for new members to find their “niche” and to participate at their own comfort level.

During early spring the Church received a proposal from the Waldorf School to use our Trinity Hall as their teaching facility. The B&P ministry gathered a group of varied skills to consider the ramifications on the old hall. A comprehensive report concerning the facility, upgrades needed for such an endeavour and a cost estimate to accommodate this proposal was submitted to the Church Board as a tool to help in their decision process. In the final analysis, the Waldorf School filled their needs elsewhere, and the venerable Trinity Hall remains in its service as a center for Outreach from Squamish United to the needs of the downtown demographic as well as its many long-standing “in house” roles. It received some minor upgrades including the replacing of the rotted ramp way deck. We also watch closely for signs of when the aging roof will need replacement in whole or in part.

The Church building itself required very minor attention this past year. Both north side fire escape steps and railings were rebuilt, making them reliable for several years to come. Also many may have noticed a new base under the pulpit, raising it significantly, to accommodate our somewhat taller interim minister. Phil Harness conceived and built this improvement, adding a light for dramatic effect.

Ironically, the Manse required the greatest effort this year. Even as the Board of Trustees wrestles with the decision and implications of whether or not to sell the Manse property, several items needed repair. Thor Halvorson was instrumental in rebuilding the foundation of the front entrance, which stabilized the steps and column supporting the entrance roof. Damaged eaves troughs were replaced as well. Later, Wilhelm Schulte rectified a nagging plumbing problem. Lastly, the septic system started acting up and after initial probes to decide the scope of the problem, it was determined that a total rebuild was required. As landlords charging rent and where our tenant's health and



quality of life were concerned, we had no option but to remedy the problem quickly. Harv Halvorson, Keith Halvorson (and his Land Luggers equipment) and myself literally dug the trenches to install an entire new system. Thanks go out to those involved for a timely and efficient job well done! Also I extend thanks to my employer, Cardinal Concrete, for use of a dump truck and Coast Aggregates for donating all the gravel products needed.

Still, regarding the Manse, the Church had left property management to a third party. That manager has been Basil Milne Property Management. We have, in the interest of keeping costs to a minimum, wanted to be informed of problems or repairs in the hope of being able to handle them "in house". When Basil Milne notified the Church of a fee increase, we, as Property Ministry, felt that we could assume said function and, in the process, gain back the fees paid out monthly. Given our good working relationship with the present tenants and the sense that the Manse is in dependable condition, the proposal was made to the Church Board, who endorsed the idea. Beginning in January of 2005, the Property Ministry takes over this function, depositing any moneys over and above the Minister's living allowance into the Building and Property Fund, essentially fundraising for ourselves. I have great hope and expectations this will prove beneficial.

Squamish Soup Kitchen approached the Church with a proposal to install a commercial grade dishwasher with the backing of the Rotary Club. It seemed like a logical idea, but after a meeting convened by our Minister, it was agreed that a more practical solution might be to upgrade the sink and counter area of the kitchen of Trinity Hall. Soup Kitchen will take the lead in planning and costing this project and then applying to Rotary for a grant. This worthwhile improvement would certainly enhance the functionality of the kitchen, benefiting their worthy ministry.

At the same meeting, we started the process of establishing a working agreement, defining expectations of each other and creating communication channels so as to streamline our ability to support Outreach in the Community. My hope is to apply a variation of this working agreement to all present and future user groups.

What does the future look like for the Building and Property Ministry? A recent, sincerely considered letter offers a possible clue. The letter was written on behalf of a growing number of physically challenged members experiencing difficulty, even lack of dignity, using the washrooms of our Church. So what is the solution? At first glance you might say to renovate the washrooms for the physically challenged—maybe have a fundraiser? I've looked at this option—it could be done at fair cost and great effort (essentially both washrooms need a major overhaul). But then we still have a side building with many shortcomings—offices that are too small, a foyer that is too small, and a roof that has a very limited shelf life. Only the kitchen, as it now stands, has any long-term capability, and that due to the diligent efforts of the UCW with their complete upgrade within the past few years.

Members of the congregation of Squamish United Church, I issue a challenge. If we want our Church to move forward, it is very quickly becoming necessary for us to rebuild the side building pretty much from scratch; larger, more efficient, possibly two story, with



a peaked roof. Many would say that our Sanctuary is in greater need of major renovation from an efficiency and aesthetic standpoint! Logic would also suggest that Trinity Hall has a very limited future, the last renovation there hopefully gaining us a ten year extension which is now half over.

May I boldly suggest that in the context of our present JNAC self- examination and subsequent search for a new full-time Minister, we enter this period with this issue a major, if not our central, theme. I believe the time has come! I believe the benefits of such an endeavour would invigorate us as a congregation, firmly establish our future, and be immeasurably beneficial to the growing and vastly changing landscape of Squamish. It is an immense undertaking, but with God's help and belief in each other, WE CAN DO IT!

Respectfully submitted by  
Wilf Grolman,  
Chair, Building and Property Ministry

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP**

We continued with our monthly meetings (third Saturday of the month at 8:30) with different members taking turns with cooking and presenting topics on a great variety of themes.

Lively discussions follow and all kinds of opinions are expressed; all ideas are respected and good fellowship is the hallmark of this group. Sometimes speakers from outside the group are invited, too. Good humour and gentle teasing make these meetings fun but a great deal of learning and personal and spiritual growth takes place at the same time.

The group size varies with 12 to 16 members in attendance. We are an open and progressive group and always ready to warmly welcome new members. We are not a service group as such but offer practical (hands on) help when required.

Sincerely,  
Rainer Schwarz  
coordinator

## UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

The United Church Women continues to be an active and thriving ministry both within our church and in the community abroad.

We have three units in the UCW. Each unit meets monthly:

Bethany Unit meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday @ 7:30 PM

Harmony Unit meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 1:00 PM

MacKenzie Unit meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday @ 7:30 PM

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, the UCW hosted the World Day of Prayer. We were pleased to have the Catholic, Anglican, and the Word of God churches join us for this annual prayerful event. This year's service was written by the women of Panama. The event is held annually on the first Friday of March; it is a wonderful day of reflection and fellowship and a time to connect with all the Christian faiths of the world. Next year, 2005, the Word of God Church will be host.

In June, MacKenzie Unit held a farewell dinner for Rev. Brenda Faust, a member of that unit who transferred to Trinity United in Port Coquitlam. We also said our farewells to long-time members Shirley Campbell and Jennie Anderson who have moved to Princeton and Sorrento, respectively. And we said goodbye to Margaret Yuen who has returned to her home and family in Korea after seeing her son, Kane, graduate from our local high school.

Also in June, the Mackenzie Unit hosted a garage and rummage sale. Thanks to Norm and Lynette Halvorson who kindly let us use their property in Brackendale.

MacKenzie Unit sells Regal Catalogue Sales which is a great year round fund raiser.

Harmony Unit hosts the birthday celebrations at Hilltop House throughout the year.

Bethany Unit has chicken sales twice a year, in the spring and fall, which is a great fund raiser. This year Bethany Unit held a home "Weekender Wear" clothing party as a fund raiser.

Bethany Unit hosted the always popular "Wing Ding" dinner in May. It was well attended with about 100 people there.

In November, the Bethany Unit hosted a lunch and with the proceeds purchased turkeys for 1<sup>st</sup> United in Vancouver.

The UCW provides catering services for funerals, picnics, friendship dinners, and special occasions.

In October, the UCW served refreshments at Carol Grolman's very successful and delightful "Musical Evening" celebrating our new piano clavinova.

All 3 units baked pies and served at the annual Hilltop Harvest Tea in October. We also served refreshments for the church auction in November.



The UCW continues to host "coffee hours" once a month. As well, our group helps to keep the church community food pantry stocked, an ongoing need. Kudos to Mary Larcombe for all the grocery buying and delivery. Thanks to the Harmony Unit for all the sorting and repackaging as needed.

Have you been wondering what the UCW does and who are these ladies? We are looking for more women to join our units. We welcome all women, both new to our church and existing members, to consider joining our group. We are a wonderful, active ministry and we share all our joys, sorrows, laughter, and tears at our meetings. Our Christian faith bonds us and our stories keep us connected to each other and to the church family. Give us a call. We would love to have you join us!

The year 2004 has come to a close. I have enjoyed these past 2 years as President of UCW. I would like to thank our very capable executive for their generous support and companionship. It has been my privilege to serve on the UCW Executive. A special thank you to our secretary, Maureen Gilmour, who has faithfully recorded our lively discussions over these many years. Well done Maureen!

I am pleased to hand over the mantle to the very capable and organized Donnaleen Miller, of the Bethany Unit, as incoming UCW president for 2005 and 2006.

Yours in faith,

Carlotta Liechti  
President UCW Executive

## **FIRST UNITED CHURCH**

Groceries were regularly delivered to First United when the cart in the foyer filled up with food and clothing. A special appeal from First United early in the fall resulted in many donations of blankets and warm clothing.

There were 231 toques knitted by members of the congregation and sent on to First United in 2004.



## U.C.W. FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1, 2004 Opening Balance \$ 93.04

**Income:**

Catering	1,200.00
Regal Sales	1,302.42
Chicken Sales (Profit \$1,193)	12,486.76
Calendar Sales	161.50
Coffee Hour Profits	186.56
Love Offerings	228.68
Wing Ding	651.00
Garage Sale	1,000.00
Donation	200.00
	<u>\$17,416.92</u>

17,416.92

**Expenses:**

Chicken cost	11,292.86
Mission and Service Fund	300.00
Project Fund	500.00
United Church General Fund	5,000.00
Calendar Costs	84.00
Brenda Faust's goodbye	72.75
Coffee Supplies	100.00
	<u>\$17,349.61</u>

[17,349.61]

December 31, 2004 closing balance \$ 160.35

Respectfully submitted by  
 Deb Kent,  
 Treasurer, U.C.W. Executive

## FROM OUR CHURCH REGISTERS 2004

### **IN MEMORIUM:** (3)

James Sanford Harley - January 17

Alexander George Barbour - January 31

Ian Peter Barbour - January 31

### **MARRIAGES:** (2)

Andrew Reimer and Colleen Horner - May 1

Douglas Woods and Catherine Skair - September 25

### **BAPTISMS:** (2) children

James Keith Stevens, son of Mel and Mildred Stevens - February 22

Andrea Rose Laskovic, daughter of Andrew and Monique Laskovic - February 22

### **BAPTISMS:** (1) adult

Monique Rose Laskovic - February 22

### **NEW MEMBERS:** (4) Confirmation

Megan Kent - May 16

Sarah LaRivierre - May 16

Emily Stainton - May 16

Dayel Tayag - May 16

### **NEW MEMBER:** (1) Transfer

Laura Thompson - May 16

## ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT 2004

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Envelope and P.A.R. contributors	78	73	73
Contributors by yearly donation	2	1	3
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTORS</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>76</b>
Contributors to M & S Fund	46	42	48
Special Fund Contributors	43	48	36

Are you interested in where you stand in the financial picture of the church? The following figures are from the total identifiable contributions and include local support, M & S donations and special appeal donations.

### Number of givers in:

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
1.00 - 100.00.....	3	6	5
101.00 - 200.00.....	11	3	7
201.00 - 300.00.....	7	8	8
301.00 - 400.00.....	6	5	4
401.00 - 500.00.....	6	2	1
501.00 - 600.00.....	3	5	6
601.00 - 700.00.....	7	6	4
701.00 - 800.00.....	2	1	-
801.00 - 900.00.....	2	5	3
901.00 - 1000.00.....	5	2	2
1001.00 - 1100.00.....	3	2	5
1101.00 - 1200.00.....	7	7	2
1201.00 - 1300.00.....	1	3	4
1301.00 - 1400.00.....	-	2	-
1401.00 - 1500.00.....	2	2	2
1501.00 - 1600.00.....	2	2	2
1601.00 - 1700.00.....	1	1	2
1701.00 - 1800.00.....	2	1	1
1801.00 - 1900.00.....	-	2	3
1901.00 - 2000.00.....	-	1	1
2001.00 - 2100.00.....	1	1	1
2101.00 - 2200.00.....	1	1	1
2201.00 - 2300.00.....	-	1	1



2401.00 - 2500.00.....	1	-	1
2501.00 - 2600.00.....	1	-	1
2801.00 - 2900.00.....		1	1
2901.00 - 3000.00.....	1	-	3
3001.00 - 3100.00.....	1	-	-
3301.00 - 3400.00.....	1	1	2
3401.00 - 3500.00.....	1	-	-
3601.00 - 3700.00.....	1	-	-
3801.00 - 3900.00.....	-	-	1
3901.00 - 4000.00.....	-	1	-
4601.00 - 4700.00.....	-	1	-
6601.00 - 6700.00.....	-	-	1
5801.00 - 5900.00.....	-	1	-
7100.00 - 7200.00.....	1	-	-
7301.00 - 7400.00.....	-	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	80	74	76

Respectfully submitted by

Retta Behrner,

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Squamish United Church finished the year with a balance of \$11,845.32 in the General Operating Account. This is significantly larger than the \$4,900 balance at the start of 2004 and larger than many years in recent memory. Due to cash flow issues in 2004, it was necessary to borrow from the Building Fund again in 2004 although this was repaid by the end of the year.

It is important to also note that thanks to the Mission and Service Committee, the target of \$10,800 to support Mission and Service was achieved.

The status of other funds is as follows:

Benevolent Fund	\$551.58
Music Fund	\$545.36
Building Fund	\$9,597.95

The Finance Committee took on two projects this year. In April, with help from volunteers from the congregation, the committee undertook an every person visitation where almost every member of the congregation was visited to explore their views on the operation of the church. And in November, the Committee organized the church auction which raised a record breaking \$6,300. The Committee would like to express our gratitude for individuals that took part in these activities volunteering time and energy and helping with our efforts to keep the church on a firm financial footing.

In considering the budget for 2005, Board has recommended significant increases in two key areas – our Youth Ministry and moving expenses for a new Minister. The focus on our Youth Ministry led by Laura Thompson is starting to yield positive results and we are looking to provide increased support for this vital initiative.

We look forward to a brand new year in which we hope to take further steps to improve our financial footing. In the recent past, budget setting for Squamish United has truly been an exercise based largely on hope ("Hope that the money will be there to do all the things we want to do!!"). While this approach has served us well, it is felt we can do better and the Board will be looking to the Finance Committee to spearhead an initiative to change that by asking people to commit to a level of funding. By doing this it is hoped we can plan for more exciting projects to do Christ's work in our community. We are excited about the New Year and the challenges it will bring.

Members: B. Ionson (chair), S. Puchmayer, C. Grass, P. Gordon, K. Haberyl

Submitted by  
Bert Ionson

**RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2004  
SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH - GENERAL ACCOUNT**

**A. LOCAL RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS:**

By envelope & P.A.R.	68,030.07
Open offering	3,664.19
Gifts & donations	3,879.16
U.C.W. donation	5,000.00
Fund Raising (Pancake Supper, Auction)	6,413.36
G.S.T. Rebate	544.23
Observer	154.00
Annex & Church honorariums	2,650.00
Manse Rental	13,864.64
Donations for Youth & Youth Worker	1,451.00

**B. MISSION AND SERVICE:**

By envelope & P.A.R.	10,976.65
U.C.W. donations	300.00
<b>Credited M &amp; S</b>	<b>11,276.65</b>
Special Appeals	
First United Church Mission donations	415.00
"White Gift" donations	866.72
Lakeview United Special Appeal for Repairs	400.00
<b>Total for appeals</b>	<b>1,681.72</b>

**C. TOTAL RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS: 118,609.02**



# EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2004

## SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH - GENERAL ACCOUNT

### EXPENSES:

1. Salaries & Related Expenses	51,986.08
2. Housing Allowance	11,000.00
4. Travel Allowance	3,000.00
5. Extended Education	430.00
6. Worker's Compensation	222.27
7. Service Contracts (organists, & janitorial)	3,002.00
8. Organist's Music Allowance	71.18
9. Insurance	3,186.00
10. Municipal Services	2,481.88
11. Heating Fuels	3,499.22
12. Electricity	1,649.56
13. Telephone & Inter-net	2,520.26
14. Maintenance	1,403.19
15. Security	401.25
16. Bank Charges	397.50
17. Mission & Service	11,276.65
18. Presbytery Allocation	3,541.53
19. Observer	252.00
20. Caring Ministry	287.38
21. Congregational Activities	603.36
22. Church & Office Supplies	2,495.45
23. Computer Update	380.60
24. Advertising	540.85
25. Duplicator (lease & service)	2,785.36
26. Christian Education	157.14
27. First United Church Donation (incl. White Gift)	1,281.72
28. Lakeview United Special Repair Appeal	400.00
29. Board Requests (Survey)	267.50
30. Youth Worker Service Contract	1,140.00
31. Youth Worker Travel Reimbursement	50.25
32. Youth and Sunday School Expenses	870.39
33. Confirmation Class	135.37

**TOTAL**

**111,715.94**

**SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH  
YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
DECEMBER 31, 2004**

**A. General Operating Account (Royal Bank)**

Carry over from 2003	4,952.24
Receipts	118,609.02
Expenses	[111,715.94]
<b>Carry over into 2005</b>	<b>11,845.32</b>

**B. Benevolent Fund Account**

Carry over from 2003	750.47
Receipts	925.00
Expenses	[1,123.89]
<b>Carry over into 2005</b>	<b>551.58</b>

**C. Music Fund Account**

Carry over from 2003	1,440.84
Receipts	930.00
Expenses	[1,825.48]
<b>Carry over into 2005</b>	<b>545.36</b>

<b>D. Building Fund Account (Bank of Nova Scotia)</b>	
Carry over from 2003	5,169.06
Receipts	7,015.66
Roof Donations	275.00
Interest	6.56
Mountain Building Centre	[1,516.43]
Wilf Grolman	[197.81]
Carney's Waste Systems	[173.34]
Alta Lake Electric	[76.85]
Land Luggers	[898.80]
Service Charges	[5.10]
<b>Carry over into 2004</b>	<b>9,597.95</b>



# COMPARISON OF 2004 BUDGET VERSUS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

	<u>2004 Budget</u>	<u>2004 Actual</u>
<b>Remuneration:</b>		
Minister's Salary	33,362	29,920
Housing	12,000	11,000
Pension, Insurance, Medical	5,600	6,205
WCB	240	222
CPP & EI	3,400	5,025
Book Allowance	420	0
Extended Education	1,530	430
Travel Allowance	10,835	10,835
Janitorial	2,800	1,335
Choir Director	1,300	0
Organist	1,816	1,667
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>76,303</b>	<b>69,639</b>
<b>Secular Expenses:</b>		
Insurance	3,300	3,186
Municipal Services	2,500	2,489
Heating Fuel	4,200	3,186
Electricity	1,750	1,650
Telephone/Internet	2,600	2,520
Security System Monitoring	450	401
Copier Lease/Service	3,100	2,785
Maintenance	800	1,403
Sundries	200	779
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>18,900</b>	<b>18,712</b>
<b>Outreach:</b>		
Mission and Service	10,800	11,276
Mission and Service Committee	200	0
Presbytery	3,541	3,542
Observer	250	252
Guest Speakers (pulpit relief)	500	0
Caring Ministry	300	287
Church and Office Supplies	2,000	2,495
VST	200	0
Music (keyboard)	200	71
Christian Education	500	1,027
Youth Group	3,000	2,010
Nursery	150	0
Congregational Activities	300	603
Paper Advertising	500	541
Ministerial	120	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>22,561</b>	<b>22,104</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>117,764</b>	<b>110,455</b>

Does not include Lakeview United Special Repair Appeal (\$400) and First United (\$1,283)  
 Congregational Activities – Includes Survey (\$268)

# SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH PROPOSED 2005 BUDGET

## Remuneration

Minister's Salary	35,300	
Housing	15,600	
Pension, Insurance Medical	5,800	
WCB	240	
CPP & EI	5,200	
Book Allowance	420	
Extended Education	1,550	
Travel Allowance	3,000	
Secretarial	11,377	
Janitorial	3,000	
Choir Director	1,300	
Organist	2,024	
Youth Coordinator	4,500	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>89,311</b>	<b>89,311</b>

## Secular Expenses

Insurance	3,300	
Municipal Services	2,600	
Heating Fuel	4,200	
Electricity	1,750	
Telephone/Internet	2,700	
Security System Monitoring	450	
Copier Lease/Service	3,100	
Maintenance	1,000	
Sundries	700	
Search Committee/Moving Expenses	7,000	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>26,800</b>	<b>26,800</b>

## Outreach

Mission and Service	11,400	
Mission and Service Committee	200	
Presbytery	3,730	
Observer	260	
Guest Speakers (pulpit relief)	500	
Caring Ministry	300	
Church and Office Supplies	2,600	
V.S.T.	400	
Music (keyboard)	200	
Christian Education	1,200	
Youth Group	1,000	
Nursery	150	
Congregational Activities	600	
Paper Advertising/Web site	600	
Ministerial	120	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>23,260</b>	<b>23,260</b>

## **TOTAL GENERAL FUND**

**\$139,371**