

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Minister's Message.....	3
Minutes From Annual Meeting 1995.....	5
B.C. Conference Annual Meeting.....	9
Vancouver Burrard Presbytery.....	11
Squamish United Church Board.....	13
Worship and Music Committee Report.....	16
Senior Choir.....	18
Congregational Life and Work Committee.....	20
Caring Ministry.....	21
Ministry and Personnel.....	22
Sunday School.....	23
Sunday School Financial Report.....	24
Vacation Bible School.....	25
Youth Group.....	26
United Church Women.....	28
U.C.W. Financial Report.....	30
Supply Report.....	31
Men's Breakfast Group.....	32
Monday Night Bible Study.....	33
Property Committee.....	34
Community Christmas Care.....	36
Mission and Service Fund.....	37
Envelope Secretary's Report.....	38
Finance Committee.....	39
Receipts and Donations 1995.....	41
Expenses for 1995.....	42
Year End Financial Statement.....	43
Comparison of 1995 Budget vs. Actual.....	44
Proposed 1996 Budget.....	45
From Our Church Registers.....	47

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	1
2. Theoretical Framework	2
3. Methodology	3
4. Data Collection	4
5. Results	5
6. Discussion	6
7. Conclusion	7
8. References	8
9. Appendix	9
10. Bibliography	10
11. Glossary	11
12. Index	12
13. List of Figures	13
14. List of Tables	14
15. Acknowledgments	15
16. Author's Note	16
17. Contact Information	17
18. Declaration of Interest	18
19. Statement of Originality	19
20. Certificate of Approval	20
21. Certificate of Publication	21
22. Certificate of Distribution	22
23. Certificate of Archiving	23
24. Certificate of Preservation	24
25. Certificate of Access	25
26. Certificate of Availability	26
27. Certificate of Usability	27
28. Certificate of Reliability	28
29. Certificate of Validity	29
30. Certificate of Soundness	30
31. Certificate of Coherence	31
32. Certificate of Consistency	32
33. Certificate of Comprehensibility	33
34. Certificate of Clarity	34
35. Certificate of Precision	35
36. Certificate of Accuracy	36
37. Certificate of Objectivity	37
38. Certificate of Impartiality	38
39. Certificate of Fairness	39
40. Certificate of Honesty	40
41. Certificate of Integrity	41
42. Certificate of Trustworthiness	42
43. Certificate of Credibility	43
44. Certificate of Reliability	44
45. Certificate of Validity	45
46. Certificate of Soundness	46
47. Certificate of Coherence	47
48. Certificate of Consistency	48
49. Certificate of Comprehensibility	49
50. Certificate of Clarity	50
51. Certificate of Precision	51
52. Certificate of Accuracy	52
53. Certificate of Objectivity	53
54. Certificate of Impartiality	54
55. Certificate of Fairness	55
56. Certificate of Honesty	56
57. Certificate of Integrity	57
58. Certificate of Trustworthiness	58
59. Certificate of Credibility	59
60. Certificate of Reliability	60
61. Certificate of Validity	61
62. Certificate of Soundness	62
63. Certificate of Coherence	63
64. Certificate of Consistency	64
65. Certificate of Comprehensibility	65
66. Certificate of Clarity	66
67. Certificate of Precision	67
68. Certificate of Accuracy	68
69. Certificate of Objectivity	69
70. Certificate of Impartiality	70
71. Certificate of Fairness	71
72. Certificate of Honesty	72
73. Certificate of Integrity	73
74. Certificate of Trustworthiness	74
75. Certificate of Credibility	75
76. Certificate of Reliability	76
77. Certificate of Validity	77
78. Certificate of Soundness	78
79. Certificate of Coherence	79
80. Certificate of Consistency	80
81. Certificate of Comprehensibility	81
82. Certificate of Clarity	82
83. Certificate of Precision	83
84. Certificate of Accuracy	84
85. Certificate of Objectivity	85
86. Certificate of Impartiality	86
87. Certificate of Fairness	87
88. Certificate of Honesty	88
89. Certificate of Integrity	89
90. Certificate of Trustworthiness	90
91. Certificate of Credibility	91
92. Certificate of Reliability	92
93. Certificate of Validity	93
94. Certificate of Soundness	94
95. Certificate of Coherence	95
96. Certificate of Consistency	96
97. Certificate of Comprehensibility	97
98. Certificate of Clarity	98
99. Certificate of Precision	99
100. Certificate of Accuracy	100

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

It's a cold January morning as I write. The mountain outside my window is a crisp white on top. The blue sky behind it is reminiscent of an east coast winter sky and my heart is content.

I've been wondering for two weeks or so what I might say in this report and have tested out some ideas on a few folks. The consensus seems to be that 1995 was a good year. We had some fun. We grew a bit (spiritually as well as in numbers). We learned some things together, made some discoveries and were gifted with some insights along the way. Good solid stuff to build on. (That reminds me we also put a new roof on the church.)

At the same time, I'm aware that we haven't arrived anywhere that would cause us to become complacent. The call of the Spirit is to always go deeper, to expand and to learn the lessons of Love endlessly. There is always more. I'm also aware that growth in the Spirit gifts us with joy and an abundance that is hard to find elsewhere. I remember the accounts of Jesus telling stories on mountain sides and hill tops on a summer's day and remember too the times in my own childhood when a picnic on a hill side was sheer magic and joy. This is living. Jesus knew how to live.

This is my hope for us; that as we continue on this journey of spiritual growth and discovery, we do so in joy and the spirit of delight.

We offered two well attended Adult Study programs in 1995. In the spring, Linda and Trevor Harris facilitated a video program Wrestling With Angels that challenged all of us to explore the nature of our faith. In the fall a mix of members and new-comers participated in a program on the United Church; who we are and what we believe. It was an honour to facilitate this program and to welcome new members into the congregation.

I have received much support from so many of you over the past year, and indeed since I arrived. I'm humbled by your kindnesses to me and to Tom and feel very privileged to be among you.

With many Blessings for the year to come,

Rev. Claire D. Bowers

#####

MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 1995

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Squamish United Church was held in the church on January 29, 1995 with 30 members present. Dessert and coffee was served. Walter Huber offered an opening devotion and prayer. The hymn "Holy Spirit, Wind of God" was sung. Chairperson, June Halvorson, called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

M/S by Trevor Harris/Syd Pudney that all present be given voting privileges. Carried.

M/S by Bert Ionson/Carlotta Liechti that the minutes of the 1994 Annual Congregational Meeting be adopted. Carried.

B.C. Conference Report:

Acceptance moved by Lou Rempel/Patsy Riecker. Carried.

Vancouver Burrard Presbytery Report:

Acceptance moved by Patsy Riecker/Laurie Manzer. Carried.

- In response to a question on the status of St. David's United Church at Pemberton Patsy responded that the church is still functioning. Services are held every second Sunday with lay leadership and an average attendance of 25. Rev. Chris Burnett and Rev. Harlene Walker have presided over baptism and communion.

Squamish United Church Board:

Acceptance moved by Bruce Manzer/Bert Ionson. Carried.

Caring Ministry Report:

Acceptance moved by Maureen Gilmour/Shirley Halvorson. Carried.

Worship Committee Report:

Acceptance moved by Patsy Riecker/Syd Pudney. Carried.

Memorial Fund Report:

Acceptance moved by Walter Huber/Carlotta Liechti. Carried.

Ministry & Personnel Committee Report:

Acceptance moved by Trevor Harris/Bruce Manzer. Carried.

Senior Choir Report:

Acceptance moved by Evelyn Dawson/Laurie Manzer. Carried.

Sunday School Report:

Acceptance moved by Laurie Manzer/Bruce Manzer. Carried.

- Bert Ionson underlined the thank you to Walter Huber for his service to the Sunday School. Thanks also to Laurie Manzer for her work as coordinator.

Sunday School Financial Report:

Acceptance moved by Patsy Riecker/Doris Whale. Carried.

- Having the Clay Event financed by the Sunday School was questioned. M/S by Laurie Manzer/Carlotta Liechti that the Clay Event be funded from the General Fund in future. Carried.

- Also questioned having excess monies from other functions donated to the Sunday School. M/S by Laurie Manzer/Bert Ionson that donations such as excess picnic monies be put in the church General Fund rather than be given to the Sunday School. Carried.

U.C.W. Report:

Acceptance moved by Laurie Manzer/Nancy Hutchinson. Carried.

U.C.W. Financial Report:

Acceptance moved by Carlotta Liechti/Helen Bachuk. Carried.

- Bruce Manzer thanked the U.C.W. for their significant financial contribution to the church General Fund.

Supply Report:

Acceptance moved by Lou Rempel/Patsy Riecker. Carried.

- Thanks to all the toque knitters with special mention to Frances Marsh and Maxine Kent.

- Thanks also to Lou for her work on these projects.

Men's Breakfast Group Report:

Acceptance moved by Walter Huber/George Gilmour. Carried.

Adult Education Report:

Acceptance moved by Walter Huber/Trevor Harris. Carried.

- A thank you is extended to the hosts of the study events.

Monday Night Bible Study Report:

Acceptance moved by Lou Rempel/Lynette Halvorson. Carried.

Community Christmas Care Report:

Acceptance moved by Lou Rempel/Norm Halvorson. Carried.

Sanctuary Redevelopment Report:

Acceptance moved by Irene Vickers/Bert Ionson. Carried.

- After a lengthy discussion on priorities and cost estimates of projects needing attention it was M/S by Bill Rempel/Norm Halvorson that the Property Committee proceed with small ticket items (less than \$1,000.) then get estimates on the larger items such as the sanctuary roof. Bruce Manzer proposed the following amendment: that a time limit of one month be set for getting the estimates. Amendment defeated. Motion Carried.

Finance and Property Committee Report:

Acceptance moved by Bert Ionson/Bruce Manzer. Carried.

- A vote of thanks was extended to Bert for carrying the heavy load of chairing this combined committee.

Mission & Service Fund Report:

Acceptance moved by Lou Rempel/Helen Bachuk. Carried.

Envelope Secretary's Report;

Acceptance moved by Retta Behrner/Shirley Halvorson. Carried.

1995 Budget:

Acceptance of the proposed 1995 budget M/S by Bert Ionson/Bruce Manzer. Carried.

Nominating Committee Report:

Bruce Manzer presented the following slate of chairs, officers and committee members for 1995:

Executive - Chair: Don Behrner, Past-Chair: June Halvorson, Vice-Chair: Bruce Manzer, Treasurer: Bert Ionson, Secretary: Retta Behrner.

Worship: Chair: Patsy Riecker. Members: Rev. C. Bowers, Carol Finnie, Helen Bachuk, Teresa Wilson, Syd Pudney, Joanna Schwarz, Peter Gordon, Lynette Halvorson, Sue Puchmayr.

Property: Chair: Bill Rempel. Members: Don Behrner, Harry Whale, Norm Halvorson, Rob Pedersen, Trevor Harris, George Gilmour.

Caring Ministry: Co-chairs: Maureen Gilmour and June Halvorson.

Finance: Chair: Bert Ionson. Members: Dave Doubek, Shirley Halvorson, Mary Larcombe.

Ministry & Personnel: Chair: Trevor Harris. Members: Rainer Schwarz, June Halvorson, Grace Halvorson.

Members at Large: Donnaleen Miller, Rainer Schwarz (1 year).

United Church Women: Carlotta Liechti.

Men's Breakfast Group: Walter Huber.

Sunday School: Laurie Manzer.

Presbytery Representative: Patsy Riecker.

Nursery Coordinator: Judi Jenkins.

- Nominations were taken from the floor. Shelley Smith and Dave Elliot were elected Members at Large.

- M/S by Bruce Manzer/Patsy Riecker that the 1995 slate of officers be accepted with the power to add any additional members. Carried.

- A vote of thanks was given to Bruce Manzer, Don Behrner, Maureen Gilmour and June Halvorson for their work on this committee.

New Business:

Vacation Bible School: Lynette Halvorson expressed interest in V.B.S. and asked about curriculum. It was recommended that several different curriculums be obtained in order to have a variety to choose from.

Votes of Thanks:

- Thanks was extended to Rev. Claire Bowers for all her work throughout the year.
- Retta Behrner expressed appreciation and thanks to Bill and Lou Rempel for their help in printing and putting together the Annual Report.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 p.m. by George Gilmour.

#####

B.C. CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

The 70th Annual Meeting of B.C. Conference met at Vernon from May 4 - 7th to which Rev. Claire Bowers and I travelled via the Conference bus. I was billeted with a senior in Vernon and picked up and taken to meetings by others. Holding the annual conference takes a year of organization and I can well understand that. There were 593 delegates, including 30 children. Also visitors which included 2 from England. The theme was "Sowing Soul Food" which was wonderfully and inspirationally reinforced by the worship and music times throughout the conference. A local music director Blair Odney composed special music for this and I attended with others his musical play by youth at Vernon United Church and which he's since brought to the Lower Mainland. It was a very energetic and moving performance.

As at other levels of the church B.C. Conference is going through a painful time of changing and down sizing it's structure -- there were 54 committees. The changes to staff at the conference office brings worries about whether all the work can be effectively done under this new system.

As this was not a General Council year there were fewer resolutions to debate, but some still generated heated debate and amendments including one about computers, electronic network and faxing church materials to congregations. Others included an end to the U.S. blockade of Cuba along with increased Canadian trade and assistance and a commitment to the process of negotiating land issues with First Nations.

The conference ended with the Service of Celebration of Ministry, five ordinations, reception as a Lay Pastoral Minister of Bayani Baybay and Ernie Hill who has worked for Hartley Bay United Church for 54 years! Then the President Nina Cumming installed Ralph Milton (of Wood Lake Publishing) as the 71st President of B.C. Conference.

It was very long days of intense meetings but also a joy to know, despite various problems, there are some wonderful, dedicated,

hard working people who are keeping our faith alive in diverse B.C.
leading us forward doing our Lord's work.

Respectfully submitted by
Patsy Riecker

#####

VANCOUVER BURRARD PRESBYTERY

Our church is one of the 26 churches which comprises this presbytery, stretching in area from Pemberton, Sechelt, the North Shore and from U.B.C. to Boundary Road. We meet 8 times a year plus at the B.C. Conference in May. Presbytery is attended by ministers and by representatives. There are four divisions with various working units. Rev. Claire Bowers was the chair of the Home Missions Committee which entailed a lot of work plus extra meetings in Vancouver. I was part of a rather small division of Global Concerns. We heard various speakers — such as missionaries from Trinidad, about the problems of the U.S. blockade of Cuba, concerns about the new immigrant landing fee, freeing Nanoose Bay, Vancouver Island from being a military base and weapons test range. Unfortunately I am unable to attend various meetings with interesting speakers in Vancouver on the two day B.C. Conference Division of Concerns Annual General Meeting held in March.

This year Presbytery has spent many hours to reorganize and streamline the work of presbytery and finally in September one model was accepted to start on November 1st. It will be evaluated in 1997. Some features of this new approach are a strong focus on needs and interests of our congregations, using theme workshops to consider current issues and matters of mutual interest. Most business is to be conducted through standing committees meeting at various times, reporting to the Executive Committee instead of Presbytery as a whole, but all members will receive minutes of these committees. Presbytery will meet less often — 5 times a year with a more spiritual focus.

The Executive Committee will consist of about 12 — hopefully more evenly divided between lay and clergy — and meet monthly. It is hoped there will be more involvement from congregational members in committees of their interest and expertise. The standing committees are as follows: Executive, Human Resources, Pastoral Relations, Congregational Relations, Education and Students, Property, Global Concerns, Church in Canada and Faith and Spiritual Development. Our minister is the Vice Chair of Pastoral Relations

hoping for a lesser work load but this did not happen in November as she was on a Pastoral team to take charge in difficulties which required a lot of travelling and meetings.

At our November meeting we had a councillor to help us "through our transition", although some in my group thought it was time we got on with the work after all these months of transition. I am again in a very small group of Global Concerns with the problems of how to inform Outreach Committees of churches. The question of outlying charges participating in meetings at various times became an issue in my group.

So as we move forward into 1996 and this new process we hope there will be a renewed energy and sense of commitment to the work of the United Church and it's members as professed by the Vancouver Burrard Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted by,
Patsy Riecker

#####

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH BOARD

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Board met twelve times in 1995.

January - Carry over of \$5,234.38 in General Account and \$7,732.82 in the Building Fund.

- Annex roof leak repaired by removing unused chimney in kitchen and patching roof.

February - Cottage meetings held

- Worship survey questionnaires were prepared and circulated for congregational response.
- New Board members welcomed.
- The drapery track and ceiling partition in the sanctuary was removed.
- Potluck Supper held on February 19
- Job descriptions of Minister, Secretary, Custodian and Organist completed.

March - 'Get Acquainted' luncheon held for Board members and their families.

- 'Wing Ding' hosted by the Bethany Unit on March 11 was a huge success.
- The donation of a used computer for the minister's office was gratefully received.

April - 1st Quarter Financial Report shows that expenses exceeded receipts by \$4,000. Deficit covered by 1994 carry over.

- Flat roof on church building repaired by installing a new drain and recovering some areas.
- Study series 'Wrestling With Angels' begins on April 5
- Potluck Supper held April 30.

May - Over 1,200. realized from the Plant & Garage Sale.

- Furnace enclosure completed in Annex.

June - Successful Sunday School year completed.

- Roof Replacement Fund established for the church roof.

July - Vacation Bible School was held July 10-14.

- \$2,000. transferred from Building Fund to cover deficit in the General Account.
- M & S donations to date are above target.

August - The exterior of the Annex was painted.

- The Congregational Life & Work Committee is established on the recommendation of the Board Restructuring Committee.

September - The church roof is 95% completed.

- Sunday School classes begin September 17
- A Board retreat was held on September 24 to do some visioning for the coming year.

October - Study program 'The United Church.. Who Are We?' began on October 25.

- Proceeds from the Harvest Dinner (\$600.) were sent to the Presbytery Home Missions Stabilization Fund.

November - Experienced a rash of B & E's - security is being upgraded.

- Squamish United Church brochure is designed and available for distribution.
- All teaching positions for Sunday School have been filled until June.
- The church was happy to receive the donation of a used fax machine.

December - Paid staff was hired for the Nursery.

- The Clay event and luncheon was held to mark the beginning of Advent.
- 13 new members were received into the congregation.
- Over \$900. was donated to First United Church through our White Gift donations.
- We 'Journeyed to Bethlehem' with the Sunday School and members of the Youth Group.
- The Congregational Christmas Dinner was held December 17
- The Senior Choir cantata 'Love Came Down' was enjoyed by all.

- General Account ended the year with a balance of \$5,041.55 after repaying the \$2,000. borrowed from the Building Fund.
- Church roof completed!!!

The above list of highlights is just a small portion of the 'work' that went on in Squamish United Church and it leaves me with the conclusion that one good thing about an annual report is that it causes us to recall how much we have to celebrate.

1995 was a good year and the 'success' of the past year can be attributed to all the many people in our church community who gave so much of their time, talents, enthusiasm and support. Thank you one and all.

Submitted by,
Don Behrner

#####

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee, consisting of Carol Finnie, Joanna Schwarz, Helen Bachuk, Syd Pudney, Laurie Manzer and Patsy Riecker welcomed new members Lynette Halvorson, Sue Puchmayr and Peter Gordon, although Peter left us to chair the Congregational Life and Work Committee in the fall. We met 5 times during the year with the minister.

We sincerely thank all of those who presided over the services while the minister was away. January 1 - Bert Ionson, March 12 - Rev. Brad Newcombe, April 23 - Bert Ionson, Bruce Manzer and Don Behrner, May 7 - The Men's Breakfast Group, June 11 - The U.C.W., July 23 - Rev. Dr. Doug Lobb, July 30 - Rev. Chris Burnett, August 6 - Carol Finnie, Maureen Gilmour and Walter Huber, August 20 - Syd Pudney, September 17 - Bert Ionson.

Communion was held on February 5, April 9, June 4, August 13, October 1 and December 10 with the children participating on most occasions. The use of unleavened bread on Palm Sunday enhanced the meaning of the service. We felt the format of the Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Service was very meaningful and well received including the tableau on Easter day.

We had arranged to offer Baptism at Easter and Advent as these are traditional times in the church to receive new members, but on discussion decided not to include the baptism service on Easter day in the future. A member of the committee attended the preparation class and then assisted with all the baptism services and with the December 10 service of Baptism and Reception of Members offered after the series of classes held by the minister.

We assisted in organizing the June 4 outdoor service which was brought inside due to the weather, the presentation of Bibles to 3 High School Graduates, the Advent 1 Service and the following Clay Event, which went well at this new time with a good participation. Sue Puchmayr organizes getting a piano player for the Hilltop House services held by the minister every 4th Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the 30 minute hymn sing and to socialize

with the residents. Patsy welcomes any volunteers for the Lectionary readings which she arranges every 3 months.

Thanks to our musical members for their great input at the committee level and of course the integral part music plays to enhance every service.

We thank all those who have participated in the services in various ways and continue to assist the minister in our spiritual journey together through our worship services.

Respectfully submitted by
Patsy Riecker

#####

SENIOR CHOIR

In early January the members of the choir began to talk about recording another tape. This time the idea was to make it all Christmas music. We knew that we had to first prepare for Lent and Easter, and following that we could begin to prepare Christmas music. In February I contacted Dave Conrad to book him for a recording session and one was set for early June. We sang regularly through the winter and spring, assisting Reverend Bowers in the Sunday worship services. We participated in the Singing the Faith ecumenical service in April. There we sang two of our favorite pieces, Come, Down, Lord and We are Singing for the Lord is Our Light.

In June we successfully recorded the tape. Many soloists and small groups participated. We had a feeling of accomplishment after it was over, and broke for the summer in eager anticipation of the finished product. We were pleasantly surprised in September that all had gone well and the tape sounded great. We were able to sell 250 tapes raising \$1,007.59 for the church. We would like to thank all of the congregation for their support in this effort. Their positive comments were really encouraging.

Soon after starting our year in September we decided that we would do something different for the Christmas season. We decided to use the Christmas repertoire that we had established with the recording to see us through Advent, and that we'd sing a Cantata at Christmas itself. We sang several pieces at Hilltop House in early December as part of the monthly church service that Claire conducts. We sang at Carol's Carols at the Art Gallery and sang regular anthems during our Church services. During the week before Christmas we were invited to help with the Evergreen Christmas service at the Squamish Funeral Chapel. We accepted the invitation and were able to help. We sang the Cantata Christmas Eve, during the morning service. Congratulations to all who helped with this offering. It was well received by the congregation who felt it was meaningful for them at Christmas time.

As always, the Choir has taken their role in the life and work of the church enthusiastically. We have continued to grow in our ability to work together in providing music as an offering during the morning services. We have been a support to one another through this ministry, and will continue to do so through 1995.

Faithfully submitted by,
Marilyn Caldwell

#####

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND WORK COMMITTEE

Members: Peter Gordon, Chair
Shelley Smith, Board Liason
David Elliot
Retta Behrner
plus interested new members

The Congregational Life and Work Committee is a new committee which had its first meeting last October. We report to the Board on such topics as Outreach programs, Christian Education and congregational events.

Our first project was to develop a 'welcoming' brochure for visitos and new adherents. We also helped organize the Christmas Clay Event and the Congregational Christmas Dinner. In the coming months, we will be reviewing the Sunday School curriculum, our Youth Group program and the Vacation Bible School. We will also assist with the Adult Christian Education program.

We welcome any new members. We meet monthly at the home of committee members.who make good coffee. We are enjoying our quest.

On a final note, we pass on our thanks to Cathie Bourgh for her service and hard work in getting our committee up and running.

Submitted by,
Peter Gordon

#####

CARING MINISTRY

The Caring Ministry team looks back on another year with Thankfulness. We are only a small part of a caring congregation. There are many who do this ministry quietly in the background and we know it is appreciated by those who receive it.

We would like to enlarge our committee so we could do our work more efficiently and no one with a need would be overlooked. If you have some time to do phoning or visitation give this means of service your consideration.

Although we try to minister to shut-ins, bereaved, the ill and elderly we also like to honour those celebrating special birthdays and anniversaries. Please keep us informed so we can make contact on behalf of the church family.

We look toward the new year with enthusiasm. May it be on of peace and happiness for us all.

Submitted by,
Maureen Gilmour
and June Halvorson,
Coordinators

#####

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The work of the Ministry and Personnel Committee is advisory and consultative in nature. The committee is accountable to and makes recommendations to the Official Board. Some of the major responsibilities are:

- to provide a consultative and support agency for church staff.
- to review working conditions and remuneration.
- to consult with staff about continuing education.
- to determine annual vacations.
- to review and revise, when necessary, position descriptions.

Current members of the M & P committee are Trevor Harris, June Halvorson, Rainer Schwarz and Grace Halvorson. The M & P Handbook provides a sample for scheduling a series of meetings during the year. The sample also provides potential agenda items for five meetings a year, scheduled as follows: early September, October, January, March and June.

The M & P committee is the appropriate body with which persons or groups may share their questions or concerns regarding church staff and their work. Concerns will be taken seriously by the committee and may be directed to any individual member of the committee. It is our intent to ensure that a harmonious relationship is maintained between the staff and the congregation.

Respectfully submitted by,
Trevor Harris

#####

SUNDAY SCHOOL

January to June 1995:

Each Sunday children volunteered to participate in the opening of worship. Reading the Call to Worship or Prayer of Approach were the usual ways.

Due to low attendance during Spring Break the teachers were given a "break" and videos on loan from A.V.E.L. were shown.

June 4th was the wrap of for Sunday School with the "outdoor" service (which was held in the sanctuary due to weather conditions beyond our control!)

September to December 1995:

Classes began on September 10th. Once again we are using the Whole People of God curriculum. There are 4 classes - Ages 3 & 4; Kindergarten to Grade 2; Grades 3 to 5 and Grade 6 & 7. Each class has a team of teachers that take turns taking a unit or two. Each unit is approximately 5 or 6 Sundays. There are 43 children registered. Our average attendance is 40. Our highest attendance in 1995 was 54 children on November 19.

Volunteers participate in the opening of the worship service every other week.

I'd like to thank the pianists who have been joining us for our opening. It makes such a big difference to have you there to play for our opening song. We open Sunday School by gathering all together to sing a song while we receive the offering. The doxology is sung then off to classes.

A big thank you to all who work so hard to provide our children with a Christian Education.

Submitted by,
Laurie Manzer
Coordinator

SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts:

Bank balance December 31, 1994	436.26	
Sunday School offering	744.10	
V.B.S. registration and offering	<u>211.00</u>	
	1391.36	1391.36

Disbursements:

Sunday School curriculum	460.80	
V.B.S.	75.00	
Regular Expenses	137.00	
M & S donation	<u>100.00</u>	
	772.80	<u>772.80</u>

Bank balance December 31, 1995		\$618.56
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Respectfully submitted by,

Patsy Riecker

#####

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

V.B.S. was held July 10 - 14, with 30 - 34 children attending. Material used was Gospel Lights "Sontown — Family Celebration" where each day the focus was on a different Biblical family — to help the children learn how to:

- celebrate and be thankful for their families
- get along in their family
- be a part of God's family.

At the risk of leaving someone out — I wish to thank everyone who helped make our week the success it was.

— Linda Halvorsen for her piano playing.

— Maureen Gilmour, Ev Dawson, Peter Gordon and Claire Bowers for the skit performed each morning to reinforce the day's lesson.

— June Halvorson, her helpers, and all who baked cookies for our morning snack time.

— Teachers: Irene Vickers, Judi Jenkins and Lou Rempel.

— Helpers: Helen Bachuk, Louise Halvorson, Nancy Knox, Shirley Pudney, Hayley Halvoson, Megan Moore and Chris Lobb.

And a special thank you — from the bottom of my heart — to Lou — and Norm — couldn't have done it without you!

Lynette Halvorson,
Coordinator

#####

YOUTH GROUP

January to April of last year, a small group (6-8) met every other Sunday for games, snacks and discussion. We wrapped up informally in May with a hike up the Chief.

Members of the Senior Sunday School class held a car wash during the annual plant sale in May. Ninety three dollars was raised, which will go toward a rafting trip on the Squamish River this spring.

This fall we got off to a late start. Carol Finnie and Wilf Grolman attended "Links '95", a weekend training workshop for new and experienced Youth Group leaders. It was a weekend packed with a wealth of information and ideas — well worth the time.

We started off November 5 with about 8 youth and 4 adults participating in a Mystery Dinner. Though some were reluctant to try the strange sounding choices, we were all well fed, and we had a fun evening. At this meeting, it was decided to include the young people from grade 7, which would double the size of the group — so we now have 16 participants (12 attending regularly) and 4 leaders — Carol Finnie, Wilf Grolman, Donnaleen and Richard Miller. The parents of some of these children and others in the congregation have offered help and shown support in many ways, which is greatly appreciated.

In November, 6 of us attended an "Advent Eve" celebration held at the Longhouse Mission Church in East Vancouver. Dana Ionson and Crystal Caldwell were involved in the organization of this event, which taught us a lot about life in the poorest area in Canada. That evening, we made candles, fimo jewellery, friendship bracelets, shortbread and other gifts which were distributed among families in the area who very likely had no other gifts at Christmas time.

Crystal, Dana and Heather Puchmayr have attended Youth Presbytery meetings with Jen Cunnings in Vancouver. The whole group will benefit from the interest and efforts of these young people.

During the month of December, our church saw lots of participation by the Youth Group. We were treated to a "beatnik" rendition

of "The Night Before Christmas" at Carol's Carols. Many helped in setting up the backdrop for our Christmas presentations and also took part in the Sunday School pageant by preparing the little ones with costumes and make-up and by reading prayers and lighting the Advent candle during the "Journey to Bethlehem"

We are looking forward to 1996 — energy and enthusiasm abound. You'll be sure to see and hear more of us in the weeks to come.

Submitted faithfully,
In Christ,
Carol Finnie

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UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

The United Church Women are traditionally an active and vibrant part of the United Church and 1995 was no exception. We have four U.C.W. Units and each is an integral part of the whole:

Alpha Unit meets on the 1st Thursday at 2 p.m. in the church kitchen.

Bethany Unit meets on the 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in homes.

Harmony Unit meets on the 1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in homes.

MacKenzie Unit meets on the 2nd Monday at 8 p.m. in homes.

We always welcome new women in our congregation. Come join us!

We host coffee hours after the church service two times a month. These coffee klatches allow the church congregation to meet and mingle with each other for a time of fellowship and goodwill.

The U.C.W. is very active with fund raising. We have a spring and a fall rummage sale, with the Harmony Unit very capably at the helm. These are very successful and require many hours of time and hard work. In addition to the rummage sales, the Bethany Unit handles 2 chicken sales a year, and coordinated a delightful, fun-filled "Wing Ding" dinner and dance in March. The MacKenzie Unit fund raises with Regal Sales in the fall. A special mention to Patsy Riecker for all her time and effort in making the Regal sales so successful. Alpha Unit supplies tins of cookies and knitted toques for First United Church in Vancouver. The U.C.W. also fund raises through catering and selling church calendars. Our efforts support the Mission and Service Fund, the Project Fund of B.C., and the Squamish United Church.

The U.C.W. held a Friendship Night in November for all the women in the congregation. We enjoyed the fellowship, laughter, and mystery desserts! We support Hilltop House for seniors, providing flowers for birthdays and partaking in the birthday celebrations. We also bake pies and serve at the annual Harvest Tea held at Hilltop House in the fall. The United Church Women cater a special luncheon in May for the "United Circle Program Luncheon" — formerly known as the Handicap Luncheon. This annual event is a highlight of

the year for First United members and we look forward to serving them each spring.

It was a pleasure to present June Halvorson and Shirley Halvorson with their Life Membership Pins and Certificates at the church service of June 25th. We also said good-bye to Tora and Bert Goss and their children who have moved to Smithers. Tora was a member of Bethany Unit and has the distinction of being the first president of that Unit.

Of note is the disbanding of the Vancouver Burrard Presbyterial United Church Women as of December 31, 1995. The complexion of the U.C.W. has changed and evolved over the years as has our needs. It will be a challenge to meet these changes. We pray for guidance and direction in the coming year with regards to the Vancouver Burrard Presbytery U.C.W.

Thank you to all who have assisted us throughout the year. "Many hands make light work". Without your assistance these projects and events would not happen.

Yours in Christ,
Carlotta Liechti
President, U.C.W. Executive

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U.C.W. FINANCIAL REPORT

Bank balance as of January 1, 1995

\$70.73

Receipts:

Catering	350.00	
Rummage Sales	2163.98	
Regal Sales	892.25	
Chicken Sales	11248.79	
Unit Activities: calendar	5.00	
Love Offerings	110.00	
Coffee Hours	197.42	
Wing Ding	716.75	
Coupon Book Sales	564.00	
"spoons & forks"	5.00	
Clay Event	29.50	
Donations	109.00	
	<u>16391.69</u>	<u>16391.69</u>
		16462.42

Disbursements:

Chicken Sales	9548.07	
Project Fund	750.00	
M & S Fund	250.00	
United Church General Fund	4100.00	
Calendars	137.60	
Misc. (Coupon Book \$433.50)	664.51	
	<u>15450.18</u>	<u>15450.18</u>

Bank balance as of December 31, 1995

\$1-12.24

Submitted by,
Arlene Smith
General U.C.W. Treasurer

#####

SUPPLY REPORT

Grocery Tapes:

Very few Super Valu tapes were turned in. Other organizations and some schools feature their collection boxes quite prominently so we don't get as many. Those we did get were used to buy powdered milk and bulk food for the First United food cart (about \$120).

Toques:

In November I posted a challenge on the bulletin board. Could the rest of the congregation match the number of toques knit by Maxine (42) and Frances (75)? We did not meet the challenge. One hundred and fifty-nine toques in total, were taken to First United before Christmas.

Groceries for First United:

The cart was emptied of food and dry goods several times in the past year. As many of you heard, the need is a continuing and a growing one. Thank you to those who bring high-protein foods and warm clothing.

Campbell Soup Labels:

We are still accepting these for the Puerto Rican School for the Deaf. Please keep the labels flat and uncrumpled if possible.

#####

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

For over ten years, this group has met monthly to enjoy breakfast together followed by discussions on a variety of topics.

During 1995, the attendance was solid and further growth took place. On average about 10-15 men came out to participate. Different people played leadership roles by presenting a topic and challenging the group to respond to key questions. This group does not need any motivation, different perceptions and background, personal experiences, a great sense of humour and sometimes boisterous singing make these sessions a unique experience.

After the discussion, the group sometimes does some maintenance work and gardening.

We would like to invite all other men to join us. It's an excellent opportunity for fellowship and personal growth. With an early 8:30 start we usually finish around 10:30 a.m. and there is still plenty of time for personal weekend activities. Our next meeting, by the way, is on February 17th.

Special thanks to Walter Huber who faithfully coordinates and often leads these meetings, the cooks who come in early to prepare the meal, and the other people who lead during discussion time.

Respectfully submitted,

Rainer Schwarz

#####

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

A small group of women met on Monday nights from January through June to do Bible Study. We mainly focussed on the Scripture readings for each Sunday set forward in the Lectionary.

The group did not meet again except for three sessions during Advent. Busy schedules, illness, and advancing age have reduced our attendance and we are not currently meeting.

Our tea money, \$407.40, was sent, as always to the Canadian Bible Society.

Submitted by,

Lou Rempel.

#####

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Our mandate is to keep the church buildings in good condition and ready for their intended service. On the whole I think we have been successful. Members of the committee include: Bill Rempel, Don Behrner, Harry Whale, George Gilmour, Rob Pedersen, Walter Huber and Norm Halvorson.

Aside from many small projects and routine maintenance, two major projects were undertaken in 1995. The church Annex exterior was pressure washed, scraped, and given several coats of fresh paint. Thanks to the many volunteers, this building took on a new look and should continue to serve us for a number of years.

After several years of patching the old asphalt shingle roof on the main sanctuary we put on a new roof that will last for decades. A number of options were considered before selecting a metal roof. Under the capable direction of Ueli Liechti, a box frame was built around the perimeter of the roof to allow for the addition of 7 inches of white styrofoam insulation. All of the old asphalt shingles were removed. The insulation was strapped down with 2 X 4's held down by 10 inch screws into the ceiling cedar planks below. This work was largely done with volunteer labour and material. Approximately 150 hours of free labour went into this project alone. A local professional roofer then installed the overlapping metal roof exterior. (This part of the project dragged on for several months with finishing touches only completed in December.)

Prior to embarking on the roof replacement we initiated a special appeal for funds specifically for this project. Over \$8500 was raised. We also applied for outside grants, and recently received word of possibly receiving a \$5,000 grant from the H.R. MacMillan Family Fund. This together with the local donation should cover all of the expenditures.

In conjunction with the roof replacement and with the help of a local benefactor, we also installed a large ceiling exhaust fan at the back of the sanctuary.

This year we were again plagued with a number of break-ins at the church. Extra alarm sensors, deadbolts on doors, and more secure window fasteners are being installed to thwart the intruders.

In closing I would again like to thank my fellow committee members and the many other volunteers who showed up for our work-bees. I look forward to your continued support in the new year as we embark on additional improvement projects.

Respectfully submitted

W. Rempel

#####

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARE

Several United Church members were again active on the Community Christmas Care Committee. Gwen Taylor and Gwen Rattray were in charge of the toys; June Halvorson was food chairperson; Irene Vickers did the phoning; Lou Rempel was the secretary; and Retta Behrner was the treasurer — a very big job when you consider the amount of money involved — over \$30,000. As well, other members helped by donating goods and money, by helping with the sorting, packing and with the delivery of hampers. Thank you to each one of you.

As of December 18, 252 requests for hampers had been received. (We understand that a few more requests were processed later.) This included 386 children and 394 adults. In 1994 there were more hampers, 262, but fewer people, 292 children and 360 adults.

Our minister, Claire Bowers will be sitting in the Chair for the 1996 campaign.

Some of us have been working at this job for a long time and we would surely welcome others to relieve us or at least join us.

Submitted by,

Lou Rempel

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MISSION AND SERVICE FUND

United Church Women donation	\$310.00
World Development & Relief	\$260.85
Sunday School donation	\$100.00
Congregational donation	\$10,566.45
TOTAL:	\$11,237.30

Our allocation from Presbytery for 1995 was \$10,200. We have exceeded that total by over \$1,000. Our donation for M & S in 1994 was \$9,985.05 so we also surpassed that amount. However, in 1994, we also contributed \$901 for Horn of Africa and Rwanda Relief which was not credited to M & S. If we take that into account, we raised only \$351.25 more in 1995 than in the previous year.

We haven't yet received our official M & S objective for Squamish United Church for 1996. The proposed budget estimates the target to be 10,700.

Submitted by,
Lou Rempel

#####

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>
Envelope & P.A.R. Contributors	83	80	94
Bank check off users	1	1	1
Contributions by yearly donation	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
TOTAL CONTRIBUTORS:	90	87	100
Contributors to M & S Fund	53	50	51
Special Fund Contributors	33	35	41
Sunday School Envelope Contributors	12	11	17

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

Number of givers in:

	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>
\$1.00 - \$100.00.....	9	9	20
\$101.00 - \$200.00.....	9	8	9
\$201.00 - \$300.00.....	16	11	9
\$301.00 - \$400.00.....	8	5	7
\$401.00 - \$500.00.....	4	7	5
\$501.00 - \$600.00.....	5	7	5
\$601.00 - \$700.00.....	6	8	4
\$701.00 - \$800.00.....	9	4	5
\$801.00 - \$900.00.....	2	5	2
\$901.00 - \$1000.00.....	3	3	2
\$1001.00 - \$1100.00.....	3	1	1
\$1101.00 - \$1200.00.....	3	2	8
\$1201.00 - \$1300.00.....	4	4	3
\$1301.00 - \$1400.00.....	1	1	2
\$1401.00 - \$1500.00.....	2	2	3
\$1501.00 - \$1600.00.....	-	-	2
\$1601.00 - \$1700.00.....	2	1	2
\$1701.00 - \$1800.00.....	-	2	1
\$1801.00 - \$1900.00.....	1	1	-
\$1901.00 - \$2000.00.....	-	-	1
\$2001.00 - \$2100.00.....	-	1	-
\$2101.00 - \$2200.00.....	-	-	1
\$2201.00 - \$2300.00.....	-	-	2
\$2301.00 - \$2400.00.....	-	-	-
\$2401.00 - \$2500.00.....	-	1	1
\$2501.00 - \$2600.00.....	-	-	-
\$2601.00 - \$2700.00.....	1	-	-
\$2701.00 - \$2800.00.....	1	1	1
\$2801.00 - \$2900.00.....	1	1	-
\$2901.00 - \$3000.00.....	-	1	-
\$3001.00 - \$3100.00.....	-	-	1
\$3101.00 - \$3200.00.....	-	-	1
\$3201.00 - \$3300.00.....	-	-	1
\$3301.00 - \$3400.00.....	-	-	2
\$3401.00 - \$3500.00.....	-	-	-
\$3501.00 - \$3600.00.....	-	-	-
\$3601.00 - \$3700.00.....	-	-	-
\$3701.00 - \$3800.00.....	-	-	-
\$3801.00 - \$3900.00.....	-	-	-
\$3901.00 - \$4000.00.....	-	-	-
\$4001.00 - \$4100.00.....	-	-	-
\$4101.00 - \$4200.00.....	-	-	-
\$4201.00 - \$4300.00.....	-	-	-
	<u>90</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>100</u>

Respectfully submitted by,
Retta Behrner

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The year started out in a positive fashion with over \$5,200 in the general account. However with contributions lagging into the second quarter, it became necessary to borrow \$2,000 from the building fund. As summer turned to fall, contributions did manage to keep ahead of expenses but only barely and during this period we were just meeting our expenses. Unfortunately we were not able to be imaginative or creative in meeting the very real needs of others.

However by the years end, givings had rebounded and we ended the year by paying back the building fund and having a 5,000 surplus in the general fund.

Our expenditures exceeded those forecast; givers were very generous in their support of the M & S Fund exceeding our target by over \$1,000. Also the cost of paper had increased substantially during the year elevating our supply expenditures.

Our financial picture was further impacted by a couple of break ins during which an amount of cash (\$500.) and the stereo equipment was stolen. While insurance covered some of the loss it is anticipated our premiums will suffer in the future. Volunteers have modified the alarm system and it has to date been somewhat more effective at deterring break ins of the sanctuary.

The building fund continued to grow throughout the year. The major roof repair requirement was addressed through a special appeal to the congregation which raised \$8,625. The building fund went from over \$7,700 at the start of the year to over \$10,800 with approximately \$500 owed to the fund from the insurance claims.

The Finance Committee is struggling with ways to enhance the stewardship within the church community. The goal is to provide a more consistent base of givings and thereby avoid the mid-summer

drought. This will also permit the support of many worthwhile projects both within the community and in the larger church. But 1995 certainly was a successful year and one in which we can all be proud.

Respectfully submitted,
Bert Ionson

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RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1995
SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH — GENERAL ACCOUNT

A. LOCAL RECEIPTS AND DONTATIONS:

By envelope & P.A.R.	53,038.12
Open offering	5,465.54
Gifts & donations	5,094.98
Annex & Church honorariums	3,567.00
Capital Gifts & Grants	100.00
U.C.W. donations	4,100.00
Fund raising events	1,916.18
Benevolent Fund donations	796.54
G.S.T. Rebate	751.36
Bank deposit interest	27.55
Subtotal	74,857.27

B. MISSION AND SERVICE:

By envelope and P.A.R.	10,566.50
U.C.W. donations	250.00
Sunday School donations	260.85
Credit M & S	11,177.35

Special Appeals:

White Gift, Presbytery Home Missions	1,478.00
Total for missions	12,655.35

C. TOTAL RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS:

87,512.62

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EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1995

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH — GENERAL ACCOUNT

EXPENSES:

1. Salaries & related expenses.....	51,782.43
2. Workers Compensation.....	105.00
3. Insurance.....	2,140.00
4. Municipal Services.....	1,970.82
5. Heating Fuels.....	5,059.84
6. Electricity.....	1,473.08
7. Telephone.....	1,040.80
8. Maintenance.....	1,447.69
9. Capital additions.....	145.78
10. Sundries.....	103.44
11. M & S (incl. World Development).....	11,177.35
12. Special Appeals*.....	1,478.00
13. Presbytery.....	2,550.00
14. Observer.....	270.00
15. Seminars & Session.....	290.00
16. Guest Speakers.....	435.00
17. Caring Ministry.....	224.93
18. Benevolent.....	385.00
19. Stationery and Church Supplies.....	2,062.82
20. Duplicator Lease & Service.....	2,349.54
21. Music.....	714.26
22. Christian Education.....	399.67
23. Vancouver School of Theology.....	100.00
TOTAL:	87,705.45

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH
YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT (Unaudited)

A. General Operating Account: (Royal Bank)

Carry over from 1994	5,234.39
1995 Receipts	87,512.62
1995 Expenses	[87,705.45]
Carry over into 1995	5,041.55

B. Building & Maintenance Fund: (Bank of Nova Scotia)

Carry over from 1994	7,732.82
1995 donations	4,559.50
Check off deposits	48.00
Interest	26.22
Choir tape sales	2,368.00
Arc Construction (furnace enclosure)	[517.32]
Brown's Video (answering machine)	[131.05]
Howe Sound Equipment (manse lawn mower)	[409.26]
Rob Pedersen (annex paint)	[314.61]
HiCee Recordings (choir tapes)	[1,041.67]
HiCee Recordings (choir tapes)	[347.38]
Logger's Inn (gift certificate)	[100.00]
Brown's Video (tape deck replacement)	[319.15]
Bert Ionson (amplifier replacement)	[670.32]
Bank service charge	[.85]
Building Fund total:	10,882.93
 Roof Repair donations	 8,625.00
December 31, 1995 bank balance	19,507.93

COMPARISON OF 1995 BUDGET VERSUS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH - GENERAL ACCOUNT

<u>Catagory:</u>	<u>Budgeted:</u>	<u>Actual:</u>
Salaries and related expenses	51,608.00	51,782.43
Workers Compensation	100.00	105.00
Insurance	2,100.00	2,140.00
Municipal Services	1,900.00	1,970.82
Heating Fuels	6,600.00	5,059.84
Electricity	1,500.00	1,473.08
Telephone	1,000.00	1,040.80
Maintenace	1,000.00	1,447.69
Capital Additions	-	100.00
Sundries	100.00	103.44
Mission and Service	10,200.00	11,177.35
Special Appeals	-	1,478.00
Presbytery	2,550.00	2,550.00
Observer	400.00	270.00
Seminars	500.00	290.00
Guest Speakers	620.00	435.00
Caring Ministry	300.00	224.93
Benevolent	500.00	385.00
Stationary and Church Supplies	1,600.00	2,062.82
Duplicator Lease and Service	1,900.00	2,349.54
Music	500.00	714.26
Christian Education	500.00	399.67
Vancouver School of Theology	100.00	100.00
Youth Group	100.00	-
TOTAL:	85,678.00	87,705.45

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH
PROPOSED 1996 BUDGET

RENUMERATION

Ministers Salary	35,000
Pension, Insurance, Medical	4,000
W.C.B.	130
C.P.P., U.I.C.	2,800
Book and Study Allowance	700
Car Allowance	3,000
Secretarial	8,000
Janitorial	2,800
Organist	1,566
Nursery	1,000
Subtotal	58,996

SECULAR EXPENSES

Insurance	2,400
Municipal Services	2,200
Heating Fuel	6,600
Electricity	1,600
Telephone	1,500
Duplicator Lease and Service	2,500
Maintenance	1,200
Sundries	200
Subtotal	18,200

OUTREACH

Mission and Service	10,700
Presbytery	2,700
Observer	400
Seminars	500
Guest Speakers	800
Caring Ministry	300
Stationary and Supplies	2,200
V.S.T.	100
Music	500
Christian Education	500
Youth Group	100
Subtotal	19,600
TOTAL - GENERAL FUND	96,796

BUILDING FUND:

Chancel Area	6,000
Double Paning of Windows - Manse	5,000

TOTAL - BUILDING FUND	11,000
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TOTAL 1996 BUDGET	107,796
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FROM OUR CHURCH REGISTERS 1995

IN MEMORIUM: (11)

Edith Mary Finter - January 27
Daniel Anthony Marquette - March 9
Frederick James Bennett - March 22
Miler Fulmek - May 16
Ethel French - May 25
William John Plaatjes - June 16
Victoria Dyck - August 30
Evdokia "Katie" Feschuk - November 14
Margaret Irene Marchant - November 21
Stephen James Wathen - December 1
Honora Banas - December 20

MARRIAGES: (7)

Dale Allen Horth and Samantha Kepfer - January 28
Albert Andrew Griffen and Andrea Karen McLain - March 18
Patrick Peter Mulholland and Michele Marie Pearson - April 22
Ronald James Elliot and Elizabeth Anne Dean - July 22
John Michael Stathers and Angelica Maria Wilson - August 11
Fraser Sinclair Menzies Marshall and Kari Lynn Puelisky - August 26
Warren Weir Doak and Odette Laudalina Silva - August 26

BAPTISMS: child (11)

Chloe Elizabeth, daughter of Randal and Elizabeth Scott - April 16
Devyn Emelie, daughter of Randal and Elizabeth Scott - April 16
Ryleigh Frances, daughter of Randal and Elizabeth Scott - April 16
Conrad, son of Walter and Vanessa Lambertus - April 16
Marcus, son of Walter and Vanessa Lambertus - April 16
Eric David, son of David and Annette Young - April 16
Jeffrey Charles, son of David and Annette Young - April 16
Mackenzie Melissa, daughter of Jeffrey and Ingrid Jackson - June 18
Morgan Joan, daughter of David and Shelley Smith - June 18
Bonn William, son of David and Shelley Smith - June 18
Kenneth Russell, son of Roy and Marissa Bliss - October 22

BAPTISMS: adult (5)

Brook Leah Smith - June 18
Tara Gwen Smith - June 18
Donna Pedersen - December 10
Shelley Smith - December 10
David Young - December 10

NEW MEMBERS: (13)

Judy Gordon - December 10
Peter Gordon - December 10
Wilf Grolman - December 10
Ingrid Jackson - December 10
Mary MacGregor - December 10
Kathy McKenzie - December 10
Jeff McKenzie - December 10
Donna Pederson - December 10
Shirley Richardson - December 10
Shelley Smith - December 10
Christine Tribe - December 10
Annette Young - December 10
David Young - December 10

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