



2008

ANNUAL REPORT

Squamish United Church

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MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Early Methodist circuit riders travelled between prairie preaching points on horseback; on the West Coast, ministers visited isolated first Nations communities by boat and, later, by float plane. My weekly trek on the Greyhound bus has good historical precedent!

I was first invited to lead morning worship at Squamish United Church on September 21, and have been privileged to continue to worship with this congregation on most Sundays since then. We shared the sacrament of communion on October 5, November 2, and December 7; welcomed the Wandering Worship Team (youth of Vancouver-Burrard and Vancouver-South Presbyteries) on November 23; and braved the snow to fill the church on Christmas Eve. You welcomed me to the Fall Supper in October, and to Carol's Carols in December, and I was pleased to have an opportunity to meet some folk from the extended family of Squamish United Church on those occasions. I went to Hilltop with members from Squamish United in November and December when it was your turn to lead Sunday afternoon worship there.

The strength of leadership in the congregation is very evident during this time between Daniel's departure and the arrival of a new member of the ordered ministry. Members of the congregation are carrying out the ministry of Squamish United Church, offering pastoral care, leading worship, meeting in various groups to maintain and strengthen community ties, attending to the mission of Christ's church in the larger world. The gifts in this community are amazing!

This is a challenging time in the history of the church, as communities of faith are increasingly marginalized or seen as irrelevant in the world of the twenty-first century. At the same time, hunger for meaningful life, thirst for a sense of belonging, and desperate need for solutions to the complex problems confronting the world are becoming increasingly apparent. In this time, in this place, we are called to tell the ancient story in language that speaks to our contemporary world, and in lives reaching out in love and compassion to bring healing and peace. Your

dreams for the renovation of the building and the sharing of your space with others concerned for the well-being of the Squamish community is one way in which you witness to the good news of the gospel.

It has been a pleasure, a privilege, and a blessing to share the life of this community Sunday by Sunday. My thanks to Retta for her work on the bulletins – and her patience with my long-winded orders; to all the folks who are involved with music (I hope you appreciate the choir and musicians as much as I do – a volunteer choir of this size and ability is a rarity in United churches these days!); to the worship Committee; to those who read the lessons and remind us of the mission of the larger church each week; to those who manage the sound system; to those who keep things tidy, shovel snow off the roof, make sure the parking lot is cleared for Sunday mornings, change the banners and decorate the church for special occasions; to all who participate in worship by their presence and with the support of their prayers; and to all who are responding to the present need of the congregation by offering their gifts.

Shalom,
Janice

According to the church records, there was 1 wedding, 9 memorial services, and 1 baptism confirmation during 2008. Philip Harness's mother also died this fall; Philip and Donna and their family celebrated her life and scattered her ashes over the Christmas season.

The gospel doesn't ask us to deny or evade our human limits. Instead, it asks us to look for the power hidden within our weakness, to discover the power of being a human being who is loved by God, sustained by the source of all life, and invited to participate in the creation of a new world. The closer we draw to the source of all life, the more we find that we are far from helpless. In the long run, we cannot be defeated, because our deepest desire is to love, to be associated with god in the joy of God's love, the community of God's household, and the creating of the age to come. – L. W. Countryman.

MINUTES FROM THE 2008 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Squamish United Church was held following a congregational potluck supper on Sunday, February 4, 2008.

The hymn "Dancing Sarah's Circle" was sung and Rev. Dr. Daniel Bogert-O'Brien offered the opening prayer. The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. with Board Chair, Louise Martin presiding.

- M/S by Trevor Harris/Walter Huber that all present be given voting privileges. Carried.
- M/S by Bert Ionson/Evelyn Dawson that the minutes from the 2007 Annual Congregational Meeting be adopted. Carried.

2006 Committee and Group Reports:

- The following reports were opened in block for questions and/or discussion: Squamish United Church Board, Board of Trustees, Worship Committee, Squamish United Church Choir, M & P Committee, Membership and Fellowship Committee, Vancouver Burrard Presbytery, Caring Ministry, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Sunday School, Wednesday Night Study Groups, Building and Property Committee, United Church Women, U.C.W. Financial Report, Men's Breakfast Group, Service Projects, Report of the Webmaster, Mission & Service, Envelope Secretary's Report, From our Church Registers,

The following additions and correction were made:

- Pg. 26 U.C.W. Report. Add Cathie Greenlees name to the list of women honoured with a Life Membership in 2008.
- Pg. 18 Caring Ministry Report. "Nancy Bogert-Tardif" be corrected to read "Nancy Bogle-Tardif".
- Pg. 33 Envelope Secretary's Report the figures "4100.00 – 4200.00" changed to read "4101.00 – 4200.00" and "7501.00 – 7100.00" be changed to read "7501 - 7600.00".
- M/S by Peter Gordon/Ian Kent that the above reports be accepted as corrected. Carried.

- Roy Shephard was pleased to announce that Jason & Michelle Loscher have responded to the request for someone to work along with Roy on the web site.
- A vote of thanks was extended to everyone who submitted a report.

2007 Finance Report:

- Bert lonson presented the 2007 Financial Statements.
- The \$13,847.69 year end balance in the General Account was due mostly to extraordinary amounts received from the "Back on Track" appeal (\$5,559.25) and "Sea to Sky Productions" – filming honorariums (\$3,900.00)
- We are working on getting the equipment and programs installed to enable us to process credit cards (Mastercard/VISA) and the church will also be registered with an on-line charitable donation processor.
- The firm of Smythe Ratcliffe will be engaged again this year to carry out a review of the church accounting procedures.
- **M/S** by Bert lonson/Peter Gordon that the 2007 Financial Reports be accepted.
Carried.

Proposed 2008 Budget:

- Bert lonson presented the proposed 2008 Budget and highlighted some of the items.
- **M/S** by Bert lonson/Ian Kent that the Proposed 2008 Budget of \$159,630.00 be accepted as presented. **Carried**

Nomination Report:

- Trevor Harris presented the following slate of Chairs and Officers for the 2008 Squamish United Church Unified Board.

Executive:

Chair: Trevor Harris
Vice Chair: Ian Kent
Treasurer: Bert lonson

Past-Chair: Louise Martin
Secretary: Retta Behrner
Trustees: Peter Gordon

Worship Committee:

Chair: Arlene Ingraham

Finance Committee:

Chair: Bert lonson

Membership and Fellowship:

Chair: Patsy Riecker

Mission & Service

Chair: Barbara Stover

Ministry & Personnel Committee:

Co-chair: Billie Hildering
Co-chair: Christine Tribe

Facilities Rental:

Chair: Philip Harnesss

Presbytery Representative:

Trevor Harris

Men's Group:

(vacant)

Sunday School Coordinator:

(vacant)

Members-at-large:

Jim Stevens, Donna Harness, Diana Pascuzzi, Richard Miller, Sue Puchmayr.

Nominations were opened from the floor:

- No further nominations were received.
- **M/S** by Trevor Harris/Bert Ionson that the 2008 slate of Chairs and Officers be accepted with the power to add any additional members. **Carried.**
- A thank you was extended to retiring Board member Roy Shephard.
- Louise Martin was thanked for her three years as the Board Chair.

Squamish United Church Facilities Development Committee: - Louise Martin

- The goals of the FDC planning process has been to :
 - 1) work with the "needs and wants" previously identified by the congregation
 - 2) meet the future needs of the SUC congregation
 - 3) meet the identified need for stable, long-term revenue generation to partially support the future SUC
 - 4) be mindful of and responsive to the SUC mission statement especially in the context of SUC's downtown location.
- Louise gave an outline on the three options the FDC has considered. Listing the pro's and con's of each option.
 - **OPTION 1** (Complete rebuild)

- OPTION 2 (Retain and renovate present sanctuary, replace remainder)
- OPTION 3 (Joint facility with St. John's Anglican)

- Option 1 and 2 remain on the table. Option 3 is eliminated.
- Community Partnership: The FDC has had preliminary discussions with Jan Durocher of Sea to Sky Community Services Society. They are in need of space for their offices and programs. They are keen to partner on a building project with SUC and wish to enter into a formal commitment to do so.
- The FDC recommends to the congregation a formal partnership with Sea to Sky Community Services, either for Option 1 (complete rebuild) or for Option 2 (keep sanctuary, remainder new) on the present downtown site.
- At this time, the FDC requests approval of the congregation to proceed with further design, legal and financial planning for this.
- M/S by Cathie Bourgh/Deb Kent that the Congregation give approval to the Facilities Development Group to proceed with further design, legal and financial planning with Sea to Sky Community Services. Carried.

VOTES OF THANKS:

- A special thank you to Vaughn Hoy for the gift of his expertise to the Facilities Development Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH BOARD

2008 has been a busy year full of hellos and goodbyes. Good bye to Dr Dan and Loretta who were with us for 3 years and hello to Janice Guthrie who has stepped in as supply minister until such time as we have a new minister. Janice has done a wonderful job for us to date.

We also said goodbye to members who passed away after wonderful lives in our midst and said hello to new members relocating to Squamish. The beautiful cycle of life continues at Squamish United Church!

Trevor and I have had the pleasure of being your co-chairs in 2008. With both of us now retired it takes 2 to be 1! We have been a "tag team" as we, with our spouses have the good fortune to be able to travel, see grandchildren and children and enjoy activities that we have wanted to do for years! It seems when one of us returns from wherever, the next leaves. Thanks for affording us the opportunity to do this! It helps having a great board to work with!

The transitioning following Daniel and Loretta's departure has been "fairly" smooth thanks to the wonderful support of the congregation and board. We certainly wished Dr. Dan and Loretta well as they left us for Toronto and while we were sorry to see them go we understood completely their needs.

At first we really didn't see how we could carry on without someone in the pulpit but we remedied that and our congregation has been deepened and strengthened! Many people "stepped up to the plate" to lead services, visit our elderly and shut-ins and support our church in community work, such as Community Christmas Care and Hilltop House Sunday services.

Sunday service, pastoral care, bible study and outreach are key activities in a functioning church. As a whole congregation we are doing our best to keep those activities alive!

Thank you! As I reflect on our Volunteer Appreciation evening that we held last January I am reminded that this past year the congregation has given even more!

Our "bench strength" has been great whether the need was for pulpit supply, an organist, a sound technician or people to fix and repair or shovel snow. We are living

"I am the church,

You are the church

We are the church together!"

The Cantata, *Season of Wonders* Celebrating the Miracle of Christmas was a wonderful undertaking by our church choir. It was particularly uplifting this Christmas as it demonstrated the incredible energy in our midst. Thanks to the choir, to Marilyn and to the supporting cast for enriching our Christmas worship!

As we move into 2009 we await our Search Committee's nominee for our new minister. We look forward to the expertise, energy, enthusiasm and experience a new person will bring to Squamish United Church! We eagerly anticipate a new and exciting year!

Respectfully submitted

Grace Halvorson

Trevor Harris

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees has experienced another somewhat quiet year but has met on a few occasions to review our investments and to stay up to date on the activities with the Building and Development Committee.

We hosted a meeting last October with Alison Parry, portfolio manager at Philips Hager and North (PHN). This was deemed to be quite important due to the recent financial market melt-down. She gave a full and somewhat re-assuring presentation followed by a question and answer period.

At present it appears that the value of our portfolio has dropped about 15%. This is not bad considering how we compare to others that we hear about in the news. It would appear that our decision to invest conservatively has helped us in this market. We will keep a close eye on things.

We continue to draw income from our funds but we did cut down on withdrawals following the resignation of Dr. Dan (as we do not have to fund the ministers housing allowance).

We did set aside upwards of \$40,000 for both the church line of credit at the Royal Bank and for some initial engineering study for our new building development project.

The biggest project we undertook this year was to work with the church board and the building development committee to formulate a Letter of Intent with the Sea To Sky Community Services Society. This came out of the resolution at our last AGM. It is signed and discussions continue with Sea To Sky.

Thank you to all our hard working trustees.

This report is respectfully submitted.

Peter Gordon
Chair

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Services have run smoothly throughout the year, the result of pre-planning and the willingness of committee members to step forward with helping hands. Thank-you We enjoyed working with Dr. Dan and wish him well in his new charge. Janice Guthrie brought her well organized expertise to the committee for the remainder of the year.

Worship committee holds 4 to 5 meetings per year in order to plan seasonal services. However, the committee has shrunk so if you have been wondering what it is all about and whether or not you could help, this would be a great time to join the group. New ideas and new ways of doing things are welcomed.

submitted by

Arlene Ingraham , chair

THE CHOIR

The Choir has maintained a steady and supportive presence throughout the year at Squamish United Church. We rehearsed regularly through the Winter Months and provided anthems bi-monthly in support of the Sunday Service. In March we participated in the Sea to Sky Music Festival singing two pieces: Glorious Day! and the Camaroon Song. This was a helpful experience in the development of our voices and sound.

During the latter part of the Spring we prepared special music as we bid Reverend Daniel Bogart O'Brien and his wife Loretta goodbye. Special music was provided as part of his final service and their going away luncheon. Loretta, an active member of the Choir was also sent with well wishes and a gift from the Choir. We celebrated the end of the year with a Bar-B-Q at the home of Clint and Joan Hainer, where Joan provided us with entertainment through skits and singing for a wonderful evening.

We also said goodbye to Norm Saugstad a long time member of the Choir. Ian Brown, our former Choir Director and close friend of Norm's helped us lead and sing two pieces at Norm's funeral that Norm would have loved: You Raise Me Up and Like an Eagle. Norm's beautiful bass voice will always be remembered by the Choir.

This fall the Choir focused extensively on the preparation of the Cantata *Seasons of Wonders* by Joseph Martin. We learned the nine pieces, some in 6 parts, over the course of the fall. We sang portions of it throughout Advent and at Carol's Carols, and sang the Cantata in its entirety on Christmas Sunday. We are indeed proud of our efforts and experienced true joy in the preparation of this offering.

At this time, I would like to particularly thank Arlene Ingram for her faithful service as our accompanist and for Trevor Harris and Carol Grolman for filling in as needed. As well, thank you to Ryan Brubaker, Donna Harness, Wilf Grolman and Jim Stevens for their help in the production of the Cantata. With these folks as well as many others in the choir, leadership is both rewarding and easy. Thank you!

Faithfully submitted,

Marilyn Caldwell

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL

The M & P Committee (Roy Shephard, Billie Hildering, Nairn Stewart and Christine Tribe) have met several times during the year. Their aim is to help the church staff, to avert problems and to encourage them in their ministry.

A Recognition dinner was held in June. This was our 'Thank you' to all the staff for their work during the year.

We were able to find preachers for the month of July, when Dan was on vacation; and substitute organists during Carol's holiday.

It was a shock to us all when Dr. Dan announced his resignation, but the arrival of Janice to take our Sunday services and the time at Hilltop on Sunday afternoons, has been much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Tribe

Billie Hildering

CARING MINISTRY

*God – when I serve other people, I know I am serving you.
Your good works are done through me and I pray that I
will always be willing to serve those in need in any way I can.*

The above was taken from a calendar that has a message for each day. I believe each member of Caring Ministry feels this way when we serve and care for others as we are able.

During his ministry here. Dr. Dan attended our meetings and shared with us those who perhaps would be cheered by a visit, phone call or receiving a thoughtful card and message. Members of the congregation also inform us of anyone in need of caring.

One of our faithful visitors is Christine Tribe and she visited dear Frances Marsh (who passed away earlier this year) on a regular basis. Whenever any of us dropped by to see Frances she always made sure we had tea and goodies with her!

In December, Lynette, Moneta and Maureen visited nine Hilltop House residents who are affiliated with our church. They each received chocolates and Christmas cards.

Members of Caring Ministry include: June Halvorson, Lynette Halvorson, Moneta Neighbor, Christine Tribe, Evelyn Dawson, Irene Vickers, Vicki Haberl, Nancy Bogert-Tardif and Maureen Gilmour.

Blessings to all,

Maureen Gilmour
Moneta Neighbor
Co-ordinators

MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Members: Marilyn Caldwell, Deb Kent, Sue Puchmayr, Barb Stover and Patsy Riecker

The new directory was redone this fall and is available on request. We assisted identifying the young people in our congregation and made phone calls to encourage them to come and to advise them of special services.

The name tags are being revised and we encourage the use of them. We try to keep the sign up sheets filled so there are greeters at Church & readers for the Service. We assist with social occasions and in the kitchen, keeping up with supplies etc.

We appreciate any assistance in identifying newcomers to our Church so that they can be welcomed and included.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Riecker

FROM OUR CHURCH REGISTERS 2008

IN MEMORIUM: (9)

Arthur Richard Mumford – January 3

Karen Eileen Shewfelt – January 7

Judith Arlene Fowler – January 26

William Norman Bloxham – February 14

Mary Goad – March 8

Winnifred Helen Sellers – March 24

Norman Randolph Saugstad – May 24

Frances Eleanor Marsh – June 8

Rosheen Patricia Crawford – June 24

MARRIAGES: (1)

John Schirker and Mary Ann Ray – June 9

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION (1)

John Duncan Steell Munt – June 22

SUNDAY SCHOOL

2008 has been a difficult year for Sunday School. Children's attendance is often sporadic and it has been difficult to recruit teachers, for a whole variety of reasons. Many people are over extended and/or serving in other capacities and so Sunday School has been on the "back burner"!

On a positive note, the curriculum that we use is the Whole People of God, accessible on the web and very user friendly. Also, our Sunday School room in Trinity Hall has been made very comfortable and is full of great supplies, a TV and a VCR/DVD.

During the Christmas season this year, we were fortunate to have Megan Kent home visiting from university. For a number of Sundays she took the children to Trinity Hall to enjoy videos and goodies. A big thank you to Megan and also to Lynnette Halvorson for the goodies!

We were very fortunate to have Eric Hamlyn and 2 youth from Vancouver Burrard Presbytery, Youth and Young Adult Ministries lead one a service in November. The service was very uplifting and it was great to connect with other youth! We hope to do more of this in 2009.

There are approximately 12 children ages 3 – 10 and 8 youth in grades 7 – 11 who are part of our church family. We need to be creative to fill their needs! We are not giving up on the concept of Christian education for our children and youth and I would ask that we all pray for a solution or solutions so that in 2009 there will be a revitalization of our Church School and youth group! Any new ideas (or old ones) are gratefully accepted!

Prayerfully submitted

Grace Halvorson, Board representative

WEB REPORT

The Church web-site provides a mirror of our activities, and I greatly appreciate all who have contributed to it over the current year, as well as the messages of interest and encouragement that I continue to receive, sometimes from distant places. In one or two instances new people have become interested in our congregation because they have found the "Web." It is also great to know that we have such consistent service from our Internet server at such a low annual cost.

Our local search engine has been updated, and provides easy access to every conceivable topic on our very extensive web-site. Details of all church events are listed on at least a weekly basis, although (perhaps a commentary on our current situation) there has been less information to communicate over the past few months. I have continued to post the full texts of both sermons and children's talks when available, although Janice does not prepare her valuable sermons in a form where they can be published. Information about new books and videos has also been added periodically.

We continue to show details about our church on "Wonder-Café;" this is another source of helpful information (including a map) for those who are visiting Squamish for the first time.

Each year brings advances in technology, and there is a continuing challenge to translate the spoken word into audio files that can be accessed by "shut-ins." In the face of technical change, I am conscious of my advancing years. I had hoped that we had recruited Associate Web-Masters (Jason and Michelle) about a year ago, but after some preliminary work with me they have unfortunately disappeared from our church horizon. There thus remains a need for someone who is familiar with the latest technology to begin working with me, in order to carry forward the mantle of web development into the next generation.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Shephard.

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Fun, food and fellowship are able descriptors for the events the ladies of the United Church Women are involved in! There are 30 plus women in three units Bethany, Harmony and MacKenzie. We definitely have fun as we fund raise for church needs. We were very proud when it was noted, at our April Presbytery Visitation, that we were such a strong and vibrant part of the church community of Squamish United.

This year money was raised through luncheons, chicken and meat sales and by catering at funerals, at the garage sale and at Carol's Carols. Dispersal of funds takes place twice a year and in 2008 we have supported the Mission and Service Fund, the Project Fund and have donated monies to the general fund of the church to help purchase equipment to enhance our sound system. Please see the treasurer's report for details.

Each unit meets monthly and has a program and devotional as well as a business component to the meeting. Programs are varied book reviews, visioning/self reflective topics, Observer article discussions and at times guest speakers presenting on various topics. Needless to say there is always lively discussion!

In March, our UCW women took part in the World Day of Prayer which was hosted by the women of Saint Joseph's Catholic Church. We were joined by ladies of Saint John's Anglican Church as well. We were pleased to work together with other Christian Women in our community in this very meaningful event.

In September, ladies from each of the 3 units led a church service. It is always amazing to see some of the leadership talents that are hidden away and it is fun to collaborate in fellowship and worship!

We had the pleasure of coordinating the purchase of a commercial dishwasher with funds provided by the estate of Helen Bachuck. Helen was an active member of the UCW until her death and it seemed fitting that the monies left to the church by her, be used to enhance our church kitchen. Thanks to Pat and Wade Yendall for their resourcefulness

in the purchase and installation of the dishwasher! We are all really enjoying the dishwasher so fast and easy!

While the bulk of the catering is done by the women of the 3 units, there are a number of ladies who regularly assist us for our many catering events. You are not forgotten and we thank you very much for being such willing helpers!

We are a fun group of ladies and are always welcoming new members. It is never too late to join or rejoin us!

Respectfully submitted

Grace Halvorson, President

UCW FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1, 2008 Opening Balance **\$ 1,461.12**

Income

Catering	2,410.00	
Chicken Sales (Profit \$\$2,363.95))	8,693.67	
Meat Sales (Profit \$943.00)	4,978.00	
Coffee Hours Profits	339.47	
Love Offerings	245.11	
Turkey Lunch for 1 st United	417.65	
January Luncheon	271.17	
Spring Tea	851.50	
Interfaith Dialogue	105.00	
Total Income	18,311.57	18,311.57
		<u>19,772.69</u>

Expenses

Chicken sale cost	6,329.72	
Meat sale cost	4,035.00	
Turkeys	139.87	
U. C. General Fund Thermostats	737.51	
Sound System/Hearing Aids	5,000.00	
Minister's Goodbye	184.85	
Deposit Correction	1,000.00	
Total Expenses	17,426.95	[17,426.95]

Closing Balance December 31, 2008 **\$ 2,345.74**

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Kent
Treasurer, UCW Executive

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

The Men's Breakfast Group meets together monthly on Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. Members take turns with the cooking and clean up

Members also, if they wish, can take a turn presenting a topic for the morning discussion. The topics are on a variety of themes. Whenever the opportunity arises we invite a guest speaker. This helps to bring us ideas from other perspectives.

The fellowship and good humour shared over breakfast is fun. The meetings also give the men an opportunity to get together at a time other than Sunday morning and they give us an opportunity to invite friends to our church.

May God give us the blessing to be a creative group of men for our church and the community of Squamish.

Submitted by
Walter Huber

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

As a result of many hands assisting with ongoing maintenance to our church buildings, it can be said that our buildings are in very good shape.

Activities for the current year included the installation of new fascia boards on the entry/office portion of the church building. Many years of facing sun and storms out of the south had taken their toll and the replacement fascia greatly enhances the appearance of the church. The fire escape stairs out of the church were becoming more of a liability than an asset and were also replaced. And one of the posts holding up the railing for Trinity Hall rotted out and was replaced. Many thanks to Thor and Harvey Halvorson for their assistance in getting these projects completed.

In addition, painting was undertaken around the entry way of the church and on the south wall and entry area of Trinity Hall.

While the Property Committee has a number of volunteers willing to tackle tasks large and small, there is a need for a Chairperson of this Committee to interact with Board and be a point of contact for property related issues. If you are interested or know of someone who would be a good contact, please advise either the church office or contact Bert lonson.

Thanks again to all those unsung heroes who regularly the mow lawn, take care of snow removal, undertake touchup paint jobs and the many miscellaneous tasks that arise. Without your ongoing support we could not offer the welcoming facilities we currently can.

Submitted by:
Bert lonson

PROPERTY USE AND SCHEDULING

We have continued to make good use of both the church and Trinity Hall. With the help of able bodied "volunteers" such as Harvey and Thor Halvorson, improvements were made to accommodate the needs of some of our new user groups in Trinity Hall.

Starting in April, the HPOP (Healthy Pregnancy Outreach Program) has operated 3 days a week out of Trinity Hall. It is a pregnancy and infant development support program run by Sea to Sky Community Services Society. It is located in Trinity's "green room" and is very well attended.

The Pebble Lane Pre-school continues 3 mornings a week in the other side of Trinity Hall. The program is full to capacity and is very well received by the parents of the children involved.

We still host two Twelve-Step groups as well as TOPS so there is very little time in which Trinity is empty. It is great to see the building being used (almost) to capacity.

The church building itself has been rented by various groups as well. The most revenue producing was, of course, the television company which used our facilities on several occasions. We also had some one time uses of the buildings. For example, the Ladies Auxiliary of the hospital held their Christmas Craft Fair in Trinity this year. Another was the "Safe Boating" course which was taught in our building in late October. It will likely be repeated this spring. The course is to provide training and certification to boaters, as newly required by Transport Canada.

In December we hired a cleaning company to do some long overdue general cleaning in both buildings. We have also hired a new custodian to do a few hours weekly, cleaning (mainly bathrooms) in both buildings. The carpets in both buildings were steam cleaned in January.

In order to make the buildings as safe and functional as possible, I have also appreciated the active involvement of many of the men of the church. Things like repairing bathrooms,

replacing broken light fixtures, building new stairs, painting, cutting the grass, and shovelling the snow get done as if by magic. Just ask for help and they are only too willing. (I realize I risk missing someone by naming anyone, so I apologize in advance!) The names that come immediately to mind include: Wilf Grolman, Bert Ionson, Harvey and Thor Halvorson, Don Behrner, Bill Rempel and Trevor Harris.

With increased use of both buildings, we needed to streamline the booking system. People wanting to use either building outside of the scheduled activities simply contact me and I put them on the calendar so that we can avoid double bookings.

Respectfully,

Donna Harness
Property Liaison

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Louise Martin (chair). Peter Gordon, Trevor Harris, Walter Huber, Bert Ionson, Grace Halvorson, Ian Kent, Phil Harness

Our committee bid grateful goodbye to Dr Daniel-Bogert-O'Brien; we welcomed new member Ken Tanner.

Our (volunteer) architectural mentor Vaughan Hoy moved on to Edmonton, and we are presently welcoming Don Nicholson in a similar capacity.

We met several times over the year, and accomplished the following:

- Letter of Intent to continue planning and working toward a shared new facility completed with Sea To Sky Community Services Society
- Detailed GeoTechnical Report on the SUC Property completed
- Completed the Legal Survey for the property and a Flood Assessment.
- Congregational Meetings were held intermittently so that all could be kept current about our process and progress.

Heading into 2009, we have, within our committee, recently created two subcommittees, loosely titled "Contract Preparation" – which will begin the work of creating working agreements between SUC and all other parties, for short and medium term planning and construction, and for long term shared use – and " Architectural Design" – which will work with Don Nicholson and, eventually, all involved parties – SUC, Presbytery, SSCSS, Squamish Municipality etc - toward creating the formal "real" architectural design of our planned shared facility.

At this time, we anticipate that project completion remains about 5 years away.

Please feel free to ask any of our members about any questions you might have, or if you would wish to become more closely involved with this exciting project.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Martin

VANCOUVER BURRARD PRESBYTERY

Our presbytery reflects as wide a diversity of congregations as might be 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, Pemberton, Sunshine Coast and Bowen Island.

The congregations of Vancouver Burrard Presbytery have been organized in five groupings. Squamish United Church is grouped with Camp Fircom, North Lonsdale, St. Andrews (North Vancouver) and St. John's (Sunshine Coast).

An important mandate for presbytery is to exercise care and support for each pastoral charge within its bounds. One way of doing this is through scheduled visits of the Pastoral Charge Oversight Committee of Presbytery. In April our congregation was visited by a Presbytery Oversight Team, which was chaired by Rev. Robin Jacobson from North Lonsdale United Church. During the day the Team met the minister, the secretary and chairs of various committees of the board. A potluck dinner was provided for the Team and members of the congregation, who participated in discussions about the life of Squamish United Church. At the May meeting of Presbytery, a very positive report was presented by the Team.

Some highlights of issues discussed and actions taken by presbytery were:

First United Mission – Long Range Facility planning is currently underway. Many new initiatives are being implemented under the leadership of Rev. Rick Matthews, who is completing his first year as Superintendent of the Mission. For providing emergency shelter for 150 homeless during the recent cold spell, the work of the Mission has been recognized by the Vancouver media.

St. John's United Church, located in the West End of Vancouver, will be holding its last service sometime this month.

Camp Fircom was the recipient of a gift of land donated by longtime neighbours of the camp. Work continues on the infrastructure (waterlines etc.). Major upgrades to the entire facility are planned before its reopening date projected for 2010. Camp Fircom has its own website for those interested in the ongoing development of this much appreciated ministry. www.campfircom.bc.ca

In closing, the 2008 year has been a busy one this year for presbytery. I continue to find participation in presbytery activities to be rewarding and would be pleased to remain as our congregation's lay member to presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,

Trevor Harris

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Envelope and P.A.R. contributors	72	73	63
Contributors by yearly donation	1	1	-
TOTAL CONTRIBUTORS	73	74	63
Contributors to M & S Fund	54	50	42
Special Fund Contributors	52	41	17

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.

		<u>Number of givers in:</u>		
		<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
1.00 - 100.00.....		3	6	2
101.00 - 200.00.....		4	10	4
201.00 - 300.00.....		9	3	6
301.00 - 400.00.....		2	4	4
401.00 - 500.00.....		4	4	1
501.00 - 600.00.....		3	7	5
601.00 - 700.00.....		5	1	2
701.00 - 800.00.....		2	1	1
801.00 - 900.00.....		2	2	3
901.00 - 1000.00.....		4	2	1
1001.00 - 1100.00.....		5	3	5
1101.00 - 1200.00.....		4	4	3
1201.00 - 1300.00.....		2	2	1
1301.00 - 1400.00.....		1	-	1
1401.00 - 1500.00.....		3	-	2
1501.00 - 1600.00.....		1	4	1
1601.00 - 1700.00.....		-	1	2
1701.00 - 1800.00.....		-	1	2
1801.00 - 1900.00.....		2	-	4
1901.00 - 2000.00.....		1	1	-
2001.00 - 2100.00.....		-	1	-
2101.00 - 2200.00.....		-	1	1

2201.00 - 2300.00.....	1	2	-
2301.00 - 2400.00.....	1	-	1
2401.00 - 2500.00.....	3	-	1
2501.00 - 2600.00.....	-	1	-
2601.00 - 2700.00.....	1	1	-
2701.00 - 2800.00.....	-	-	2
2801.00 - 2900.00.....	1	-	-
2901.00 - 3000.00.....	2	1	-
3001.00 - 3100.00.....	-	1	-
3101.00 - 3200.00.....	-	-	-
3201.00 - 3300.00.....	1	-	-
3301.00 - 3400.00.....	1	-	2
3401.00 - 3500.00.....	1	-	1
3501.00 - 3600.00.....	1	1	-
3601.00 - 3700.00.....	-	-	1
3701.00 - 3800.00.....	-	1	-
3801.00 - 3900.00.....	-	1	-
4001.00 - 4100.00.....	-	1	-
4100.00 - 4200.00.....	-	1	-
4301.00 - 4400.00.....	-	-	1
4501.00 - 4600.00.....	-	1	-
4701.00 - 4800.00.....	-	1	-
4901.00 - 5000.00.....	-	-	1
5101.00 - 5200.00.....	-	-	1
5201.00 - 5300.00.....	1	-	-
5701.00 - 5800.00.....	-	1	-
6201.00 - 6300.00.....	1	-	1
6801.00 - 6900.00.....	1	-	-
7001.00 - 7100.00.....	-	1	-
7501.00 - 7600.00.....	-	1	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	73	74	63

Respectfully submitted by

Retta Behrner,

MISSION AND SERVICE

We only had one fund raising project this year with Coin Jars being distributed before the summer holidays and returned at Thanksgiving. Thanks to a generous donation from the UCW and other members of the congregation we exceeded our target of \$ 12,000.00 by \$ 92.95.

The "Minute for Mission" has been read regularly by committee members Judi Rhodes, Muriel Shepard, Christine Tribe, Barbara Stover and also Andrea Lee. These stories illustrate the important work and projects that are supported by the Mission and Service Fund.

Thank you for your continuing support to M & S.

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Stover

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The financial picture was considerably better than in previous years for Squamish United. While contributions were similar to or a bit lower than in past years, expenditures were considerably less due to the departure of Dr. Dan at the end of the summer.

As can be seen in the financial report, we started the year with \$13,847.60 in the operational account and ended the year with over \$34,641.88. In addition to our regular base of contributions, the congregation also assisted by contributing to the Rummage Sale organized by the Finance Committee. As is usually the case, our thanks again goes to the United Church Women who undertook a number of fund raising projects that contributed significantly to our bottom line. In particular our appreciation is extended for helping to meet our M & S objectives. Thanks as well to our membership, who continue to financially support us through regular givings.

The Mission and Service Committee continued with efforts to keep us mindful of our M & S objectives and \$12,092.95 was raised. As well, over \$ 800 was raised in other special appeals including direct financial support to the First United Church Mission.

The status of other funds is as follows:

Benevolent Fund	1,313.72	Sunday School	62.35
Memorial Fund	85.96	Building Fund	9,200.69

The Finance Committee would also like to recognize the contribution of the Bachuk family that permitted the purchase and installation of a commercial dishwasher. In this time of increasing regulation related to serving of food, this is indeed a wonderful addition that supports congregational activities (because many involve food!)

And on that note, contributions in the form of memorials like that provided by the Bachuks are a way to greatly enhance our church life. When you are updating your estate plan, remember that contributions to Squamish United Church are greatly appreciated. The

Committee continues to support the idea of planned givings (envelope and PreAuthorized Remittance (PAR)) as a means to help us better budget our expenditures.

It takes a great deal of effort by a number of people to support our church community. We appreciate the effort of groups that participate in fundraising activities and of congregation members that give of their time and financial resources for our numerous activities as well as for weekly givings. It is through support like this we can ensure an active Christian presence in downtown Squamish.

Members: B. Ionson (chair), S. Puchmayer, P. Gordon, K. Haberl, M. Tardif

Respectfully submitted,

Bert Ionson

RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH - GENERAL ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS:

1. Envelopes & P.A.R.....	75,292.90
2. Open Offering.....	3,255.13
3. Appeals and Gifts	3,879.57
4. Mastercard & Canada Helps	585.00
5. Helen Bachuk Legacy	5,000.00
6. G.S.T. Rebate	932.01
7. Air Sea Productions.....	500.00
8. Fund Raising (Garage Sale, Fall Dinner)	2,721.00
9. Annex and Church Honorariums	16,075.00
10. Trustee's Deposit	22,000.00
11. Mission & Service Fund.....	12,092.95
12. First United Church Mission	280.00
13. First United Church Mission (White Gift)	552.00
14. Miscellaneous Credits.....	59.26
15. Observer	225.00
16. Choir Payment for Cantata Music.....	300.00
17. UCW Donation for Sound System	1,500.00
18. UCW Donation for Hearing Enhancement Equipment.....	3,500.00

TOTAL: **148,749.82**

EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008 SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH - GENERAL ACCOUNT

EXPENSES:

1. Salaries and Related Expenses	50,950.85
2. Housing Allowance	15,200.00
3. Travel Allowance	2,296.00
4. Extended Education	300.00
5. Work Safe	227.01
6. Service Contract (Organists)	2,468.00
7. Service Contract (Janitorial)	3,484.00
8. Municipal Services	2,991.93
9. Insurance	3,814.00
10. Heating Fuels	4,328.75
11. Electricity	1,523.80
12. Telephone and Internet	2,184.16
13. Security	340.20
14. Maintenance	1,223.10
15. Janitorial Supplies & Garbage Bin	388.01
16. Banking Costs	1,177.82
17. Capital Additions (Dishwasher)	2,912.00
18. Dishwasher Installation (Alta Lake Electric)	1,181.25
19. Dishwasher Installation (Plumbing)	87.47
20. Mission & Service	12,092.95
21. First United Church Mission	280.00
22. First United Church Mission (White Gift)	552.00
23. Vancouver Burrard Presbytery Allocation	4,330.00
24. Guest Speakers (Janice Guthrie, Pulpit Supply)	1,950.00
25. Accommodation	319.20
26. Presbytery Youth Donation (Eric Hamlyn)	130.00
27. Church and Office Supplies	2,085.56
28. Duplicator Lease & Service	3,179.83
29. Christian Education (Adult/Congregation)	179.64
30. Caring Ministry	121.69
31. Congregational Activities	458.36
32. Observer	268.60
33. Advertising	527.88
34. Music (Choir)	418.90
35. Music (Organist)	109.77
36. Sound Equipment	193.21
37. Smythe Ratcliffe (Financial Review)	3,675.00
38. Search Committee	10.69

TOTAL:

127,961.63

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DECEMBER 31, 2008

A. General Operating Account

(Royal Bank)

Carry over from 2007	13,847.69
Additional from 2007	6.00
2008 Receipts	148,749.82
2008 Expenses	[127,961.63]
Carry over into 2009	34,641.88

B. Benevolent Fund Account

Carry over from 2007	1,133.72
2008 Receipts	180.00
2008 Expenses	-
Carry over into 2009	1,313.72

C. Sunday School Account

Carry over from 2007	358.93
2008 Receipts	-
2008 Expenses	[296.58]
Carry over into 2009	62.35

D. Memorial Fund Account

Carry over into 2007	55.96
2008 Receipts	30.00
Carry over into 2009	85.96

F. Building Fund Account**(Bank of Nova Scotia)**

Carry over from 2007	8,230.28
2008 Receipts	3,234.00
U.C.W. donation (for programmable thermostats)	737.51
Interest	8.19
Home Hardware (thermostats & Trinity Hall)	[1,111.20]
M Purdie Electrical (install thermostats)	[229.04]
Wilf Grolman (lawn mower repair)	[80.80]
Squamish Heating & Sheet Metal (furnace repair Trinity Hall)	[210.00]
Home Hardware (Cabinet for Trinity Hall)	[320.73]
Donna Harness (Speedy Glass)	[44.80]
Bert lonson (Home Depot)	[160.23]
M Purdie Electrical (repair light fixture)	[341.60]
Bert lonson (Home Depot)	[501.54]
Service Charges	[9.35]
Carry over into 2009	9,200.69

COMPARISON OF 2008 BUDGET VERSUS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

(*from manse fund returns)

	<u>2008 Budget</u>	<u>2008 Actual</u>
Remuneration:		
Minister's Salary	42,000.00	28,280.00
Housing	22,800.00	15,200.00*
Pension, Insurance, Medical	9,000.00	3,508.50
WCB	320.00	227.01
CPP & EI	5,300.00	2,862.35
Book Allowance	450.00	300.00
Extended Education	1,600.00	300.00
Travel Allowance	3,400.00	2,296.00
Secretarial	16,000.00	16,000.00
Janitorial	3,300.00	3,484.00
Organist	2,530.00	2,468.00
Christian Education Coordinator	1,800.00	
Subtotal	108,500.00	74,925.86
Secular Expenses:		
Insurance	3,800.00	3,814.00*
Municipal Services	3,000.00	2,991.93
Heating Fuel	5,300.00	4,328.75
Electricity	1,800.00	1,523.80
Telephone/Internet	2,500.00	2,184.16
Security System Monitoring	700.00	340.20
Copier Lease/Service	2,500.00	3,179.83
Maintenance (including Janitor Supplies & Garbage bin)	1,000.00	1,611.11
Sundries	700.00	
Banking Costs	650.00	1,177.82
Search Committee/Moving Costs		10.69
Audit	3800.00	3,675.00*
Subtotal	25,750.00	24,837.29
Outreach:		
Mission and Service	12,000.00	12,092.95
Other Outreach (First United Mission, etc)		832.00
Mission and Service Committee	200.00	
Presbytery	4,330.00	4,330.00
Observer	300.00	268.60
Guest Speakers (pulpit relief)	500.00	2,399.20
Caring Ministry	400.00	121.69
Church and Office Supplies	2,700.00	2,085.56
Music	350.00	528.67
Christian Education	1,200.00	179.64
Youth Group	400.00	
Congregational Activities	600.00	458.36
Paper Advertising/Web site	1,200.00	527.88
Ministerial	200.00	
Facilities Development	1,000.00	
Capitol Additions		4,180.72
Sound Equipment		193.21
Subtotal	25,380.00	28,198.48
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	159,380.00	127,961.63

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH PROPOSED 2009 BUDGET

(*from manse fund returns)

Remuneration

Minister's Salary	20,930
Housing	11,400
Pension, Insurance, Medical	4,500
Work Safe	250
CPP & EI	3,800
Book Allowance	300
Extended Education	1,200
Travel Allowance	3,400
Secretarial	16,500
Janitorial	4,400
Organist	2,700
Christian Education Coordinator	2,000

Subtotal	71,380	71,380
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Secular Expenses

Insurance	4,000*
Municipal Services	3,100
Heating Fuel	5,300
Electricity	1,800
Telephone/Internet	2,500
Security System Monitoring	500
Copier Lease/Service	3,400
Maintenance	1,000
Sundries	700
Banking Costs	1,300
Capitol Expenditure	3,000
Audit	3,800
Search Committee/Moving Costs	7,500

Subtotal	37,900	37,900
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Outreach

Mission and Service	12,000
Mission and Service Committee	200
Presbytery	4,500
Observer	300
Guest Speakers (pulpit relief)	1,300
Caring Ministry	400
Church and Office Supplies	2,700
Music	350
Christian Education	1,200
Youth Group	1,500
Congregational Activities	600
Paper Advertising/Web Site	1,200
Ministerial	300
Facilities Development	1,000

Subtotal	27,550	27,550
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TOTAL GENERAL FUND		\$136,830
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