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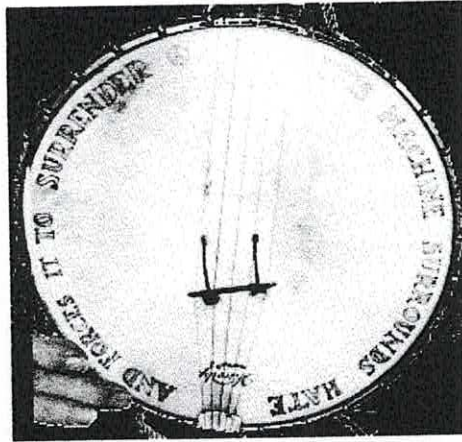
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MINISTER'S MESSAGE

*To everything there is a season,
And a time to every purpose
Under the heavens.
Ecclesiastes 3:1*

The Pete Seeger song, taken from Ecclesiastes 3, is one that I am hearing as more and more relevant these days. Pete, nearly 90, is one of my guitar, singing, but most so well in his song "Turn, Spirituality of Ecclesiastes, a human beings to "tune" the Holy blowing through in this; he has tuned his address the times and to community in those times. hasn't challenged the St. Paul names them, which destruction and tyranny. Pete has always challenged these forces but has done so on behalf of the "Holy rhythm" of the dance of well being that Ecclesiastes calls us towards.



still singing and busy at greatest teachers, of banjo, importantly life. He captures Turn, Turn, Turn," the spirituality that calls for us as ourselves to the rhythm of Creation. Pete is my model songs and his actions to address the human By this I do not mean that he powers and principalities, as too often shape our world for

I mention Pete because I think he offers a model for us as church. He is able to play a joyful banjo jig as well as a sad ballad, but always has his eye on the well being—the Holy rhythm—of all Creation. He has always tried to address the times he finds himself in by speaking the truth. It's not that he has always been right, but he never hesitated to think critically about the world around him and tried to find words and songs to address the times. On he banjo head is a motto that echoes the mission of the church, "this machine surrounds hate and forces it to surrender."

In the past year we have become painfully aware of the challenges and difficulties we face in our community. We see an increase in homelessness, signs of climate change and are uneasy about the fast pace of change in our community. We feel stretched in so many ways, too little time, too little money and too few people to carry the load. Maybe we need to hear the joy of a banjo tune that knows the reality we face but offers a vision beyond the confines of our Pews.

The next year in our life is filled with promise. We have opportunities that may bring us into a new and exciting time in the life of the church. There no doubt will be times of loss and times of worry, but through it all we can sing and be part of the ongoing song of creation itself. So let's tune up the instruments and start playing that new song. Let the banjo ring, the choir sing and the people dance, for our time is now! Joy will find a Way!

In the Sacred Dance,
Dr. Dan, the Banjo Man!

MINUTES FROM THE 2007 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Squamish United Church was held following a congregational potluck supper on Sunday, February 4, 2007.

The hymn "Sing a Happy Hallelujah" was sung and Rev. Dr. Daniel Bogert-O'Brien offered the opening prayer. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. with Board Chair, Louise Martin presiding.

- **M/S** by Carol Grolman/Kevin Haberl that all present be given voting privileges. **Carried.**
- **M/S** by Evelyn Dawson/Roy Shephard that the minutes from the 2005 Annual Congregational Meeting be adopted with the correction of the spelling of Roy Shephard's name. **Carried.**

2006 Committee and Group Reports:

- The following reports were opened in block for questions and/or discussion: Squamish United Church Board, Worship Committee, Squamish United Church Choir, M & P Committee, Vancouver Burrard Presbytery, Caring Ministry, Healing Pathway, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Christian Education Committee, Youth Group, Adult Education and Outreach, Sunday School, Membership and Fellowship Committee, Building and Property Committee, United Church Women, U.C.W. Financial Report, Men's Breakfast Group, Service Projects, Squamish Bereavement Support Group, Report of the Webmaster, From our Church Registers, Mission & Service, Envelope Secretary's Report,
 - **M/S** by Bert lonson/Trevor Harris that the above reports be accepted. **Carried.**
- A vote of thanks was extended to everyone who submitted a report.

2006 Board of Trustees Report:

- Peter Gordon reported that our investment earned approximately 4% for 2006. This amounted to \$70,000. Expenses were \$20,000.
- One million dollars has been set aside for the minister's housing allowance.
- Letters of resignation were received from Trustees' Billie Hilderling and Lynette Halvorson.

- **M/S** by Norm Halvorson/Bert lonson that the resignations of Billie Hildering and Lynette Halvorson are accepted with regret. **Carried.**
- **M/S** by Peter Gordon/Kevin Haberl that the 2006 Trustees Report be accepted. **Carried.**

2006 Finance Report:

- Bert lonson presented the 2006 Financial reports.
- 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/Carol Grolman that the 2006 Financial Reports be accepted. **Carried.**

Proposed 2007 Budget:

- Bert lonson presented the proposed 2007 Budget and highlighted some of the items.
- **M/S** by Bert lonson/Trevor Harris that the Proposed 2007 Budget of \$154,696.00 be accepted as presented. **Carried**

Nomination Report:

- Grace Halvorson presented the following slate of Chairs and Officers for the 2007 Squamish United Church Unified Board.
- The Chair of each committee was asked to name their members.

Executive:

Chair: Louise Martin
Vice Chair: Ian Kent
Treasurer: Bert lonson

Past-Chair: Philip Harness
Secretary: Retta Behrner
Trustees: Peter Gordon

Worship Committee:

Chair: Arlene Ingraham

Finance Committee:

Chair: Bert lonson

Ministry & Personnel Committee:

Chair: Roy Shephard

Property Committee:

Chair: Philip Harness

Membership and Fellowship:

Chair: Patsy Riecker

Mission & Service

Chair: (vacant)

Caring Ministry

Chair: Maureen Gilmour

Presbytery Representative:

Trevor Harris

Men's Group:

Rainer Schwarz

Members-at-large:

Jim Stevens, Donna Harness, Julie Murakami, Diana Pascuzzi

Sunday School Coordinator:

(vacant)

Healing Touch:

Chair: Walter Huber

United Church Women:

Grace Halvorson

Christian Education:

(vacant)

Youth Group Leader:

(vacant)

Nominations were opened from the floor:

- No further nominations were received.
- **M/S** by Grace Halvorson/Wilf Grolman that the 2007 slate of Chairs and Officers be accepted with the power to add any additional members. **Carried.**

Squamish United Church Facilities Development Committee:

- The committee circulated a "Development Options Report" which explained their progress and outlined the three options under review.
- Bert Ionson highlighted the report and answered questions.
- The congregation was also informed that the church had recently received an opportunity from the Mangher family for first refusal to purchase the adjoining property. The Board of Trustees will evaluate this.
- **M/S** by Roy Shephard/Trevor Harris that the Development Options Report be accepted. **Carried.**

VOTES OF THANKS:

- A thank you was extend to Board Chair Louise Martin and our minister Rev. Dr. Daniel Bogert-O'Brien. A shawl from the Shawl ministry was presented to Daniel.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Perhaps we need two signs on the front door : (1) Welcome, come right in. We are so glad you've come. Do, please come back. AND (2) Warning → Sooner or later, The Sacred will happen to you here. Enter at your own risk.

I love what I have slowly learned here. This place has provided to me a unlearning of old pain, hurt and misguided teaching (from my confused, wounded family of origin) and, ever so gradually, has replaced it with something very different. I now see the world around me in a very much richer, warmer, safer, more nurturing and more loving way.

I love what I have learned here - the language, the imagery, the poetry, the music and a different way of knowing, seeing and speaking :

"Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family"

FAMILY, COMMUNITY, BELONGING

"I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old"

COMMITMENT, COVENANT

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound ... I once was lost,
but now I'm found ... now I see".

GRACE, AWAKENING

"We are ... fellow travelers on the road;
we are here to help each other walk the mile ...

I will hold my hand out to you

I will share your joy and sorrow

Til we've seen this journey through"

EACH IS NOT ALONE, WE HELP EACH OTHER

"We are one, as we share brokenness and fear

In the touch of a hand, there's a sense that God is near

... as we heal, we are healed,
And we share warmth in God's embrace
As we pray together in this place."

HEALING, INCLUSIVENESS, BLESSING, THE SACRED

"God be with you til we meet again,
unseen wings protect you,
manna still provide you,
unfailing arms surround you
God be with you, til we meet again"
COMFORT, SAFETY, NURTURE

"In loving partnership we come, seeking O God, your will to do ...
Our prayers and actions now receive; we freely offer them to you"
SERVICE, LIVING "THE WAY"

However slowly or quickly we come to deeply know of our "belonging" and "being part of"
here, eventually, we become aware of how precious a treasure this place we call Church
is, how important it is to sustain it, and how necessary it is to contribute to ensuring that it
remains the nurturing, growing place that has been and presently is.

So keep coming back, and let us keep offering our gifts.
God bless us, every one.

Humbly submitted,

Louise Martin

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees has experienced a 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 June with Alison Parry, portfolio manager at Philips Hager and North (PHN). The regular church board was invited to attend. Also attending was Syd Lewis of the Vancouver Burrard Presbytery. Alison reviewed our investment portfolio along with our investment goals and policies. She answered many questions.

The meeting also received a full update on the discussions taking place at the Building and Development Committee. This is because a primary area of responsibility for the trustees is property.

Following a request of the Finance Committee (endorsed by the regular church board), the Board of Trustees established a term deposit at the Royal Bank Squamish in the amount of \$20,000. We then permitted these funds to be used as collateral for a line of credit on our general church banking account. This replaces the old system of borrowing funds from our building account when we were in a pinch.

Individual trustees are hearing a great deal from congregation members concerning the policies and affairs of the Board of Trustees in relation to our investment account (funds from the sale of the manse). The Board is very conscious of the fact that there are concerns specifically related to (i) where our money is invested, (ii) why aren't we aiming for a higher rate of return, and *perhaps the most oft asked question* ,,,,,, (iii) why we can't spend more of our earnings on operating expenses. The Board would like to take this opportunity to address each question. However, let me state first that we are pleased that members of our congregation are taking an interest in these affairs, and we will continue to look forward to your feedback and suggestions. In addition, we can always use some additional help at the trustee table if anyone is interested.

QUESTION

(i) – Where is our money invested?

Answer – The money is invested with Philips Hager North, a highly regarded investment firm in Vancouver.

(ii) – Why aren't we aiming for a higher rate of return?

Answer - On advice from both presbytery and George Morfitt (retired auditor general) we chose to be conservative in our investments because we can't afford to take any big risks.

(iii) – Why can't we spend more of our earnings on operating expenses?

Answer – We have to be careful. The primary purpose of our investment fund is to provide a perpetual housing allowance for our minister. We are experiencing a great deal of inflation in the housing market at present. The only prudent thing to do is make sure we have set aside enough in order to take this inflation into account. At present we are contributing funds to our operating account for such things as insurance and accounting. The operating items we fund have to relate to property or banking or investments in order to pass muster with presbytery. With respect to presbytery, they have permitted us to visualize spending some of our funds on capital programs that contribute to our mission. We fully anticipate that this will become clearer as the planning and development committee completes their work.

In closing, the Board of Trustees believes it would be healthy get a consensus from the congregation on the direction we want to go with respect to our investment funds. We want to encourage dialogue and get a common direction.

Thank you to all our hard working trustees.

This report is respectfully submitted.

Peter Gordon

Chair

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Our numbers are small, but we are mighty! 2007 presented many challenges which, for the most part, were navigated successfully. A few changes were made to services in order to include more hymn requests from the congregation, as well as to ease a few logistical glitches. At several meetings we had discussions on topics including

- What is a Holy space?
- What makes worship meaningful?
- Alternate ways to worship
- How do we capture the interest of young people (teens through twenties)?
- Why does the community of Squamish think the United Church is an important presence in the downtown area?

2008 looks to be another interesting year. Please join us. We welcome fresh perspectives involving all aspects of worship.



Submitted by
Arlene Ingraham, Chai

CHOIR REPORT



Over the past year the Choir has joyfully offered music as a contribution to Sunday morning services. We offered support to the Minister in leading and learning new hymns and anthems.

We started the season in September and remained as regular support until June. Several of our members also provided inspiring solo works throughout the year.

Highlights for many included singing with the folks at St. John's Anglican under the direction of Tracy Stuchbery on several special occasions. The Choir also participated in workshops and the Mass Choir for the annual Music Festival. Unfortunately, due to heavy snow, the Choir did not sing at Carol's Carols, although most hearty members from Brackendale got there by foot.

We look forward to serving for another year with joy, blessed with the many talents we have amongst us.



Faithfully submitted,
Marilyn Caldwell
Choir Director

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The M & P Committee (Cathie Greenlees, Billy Hildering, Roy Shephard, Christine Tribe) face discussions with salaried personnel, encouraging them in their ministry, seeking to resolve any minor problems, reviewing job descriptions and making annual assessments of performance. Fortunately, their task has been a light one, as all have continued to give outstanding and unstinting service throughout the year; the main task of the committee has been not to goad the unwilling, but rather to constrain enthusiasm within sustainable bounds.

As in the last two years, a recognition dinner was held for staff in May; this proved a very happy event.

The present chair of the committee (Roy Shephard) has now served for three years. He has announced that he will be stepping down as chair, although willing to continue as a member of the committee for a further year. Two other long-standing members of the committee, Billy Hildering and Christine Tribe, have agreed to allow their names to stand as alternating chairs for the year 2008, subject to the approval of the AGM.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy Shephard (Chair).



MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

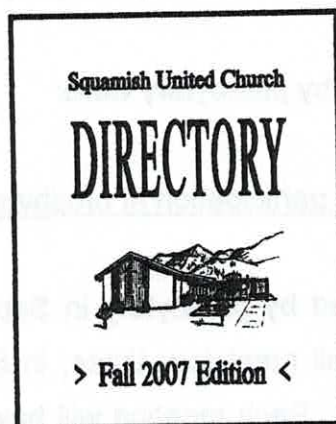
Members: Marilyn Caldwell, Deb Kent, Sue Puchmayr, Patsy Riecker and Barb Stover.

We have worked on the new Directory, which has kindly been printed by Retta but it still needs some revisions. It will be impossible to have it completely correct as the congregation is always changing, as is their information. We have continued to try to follow up on any visitors who sign the book and/or fill out the cards if they come from Squamish. The greeter at the beginning of the Service always mentions the visitor's book which is helpful.

We try to ensure there are greeters at the Church door and Barb keeps the nametags up to date.

We help with some of the social functions of the Church if not run by other groups, i.e. the Potluck Supper before the AGM meeting and the summer BBQ.

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



In faith,
Patsy Riecker
Chair

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). This organization is to facilitate mutual care and support amongst congregations within our presbytery.

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

1. Strategies to facilitate increased attendance and participation at presbytery meetings:

It was proposed by the Executive and approved by presbytery in September to hold fewer meetings. In 2007/08 presbytery will meet four times, in September and October 2007 and January and April 2008. Each meeting will have a major theme or focus. There will be an evaluation of the process at the May Vancouver-

Burrard Presbytery meeting held during Conference. Some examples of possible themes could be: Global Cities, Environment, Intercultural Issues, Homelessness and Empire. This is being proposed to make the meetings more meaningful.

2. A covenanting service was held for Ric Matthews, newly appointed Superintendent for First United Mission. The Search Committee Chair highlighted Rev Matthew's background and training with particular emphasis on his experience in urban ministries.
3. A covenanting service was held for Rev. Carmen Lansdowne, who was appointed to Campus Ministry, which is jointly supervised by presbytery and University Hill Congregation.

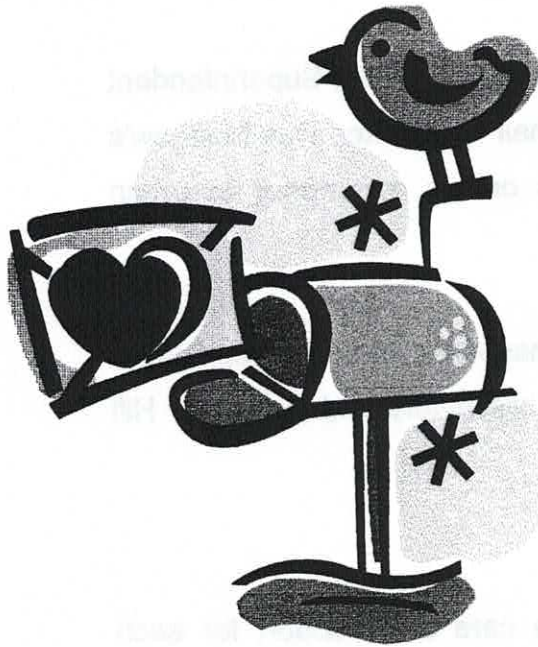
4. Congregation Oversight Visits:

Part of every presbytery's mandate 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. This year our congregation is scheduled for a visit sometime in the spring. Rev. Robin Jacobson, North Lonsdale United, is the chair of the three or four member team making the visit.

In closing, the 2007 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

CARING MINISTRY



The Caring Ministry meetings held in 2007 were helpful for both our members and our minister, Dr. Dan. It was a chance for us to share how we can best reach out to those in our congregation in need of a little caring and compassion.

Visitation is an important part of Dr. Dan's ministry and two of our members volunteered to be in touch with members of the congregation who would appreciate a visit from him.

Lynette Halvorson and Dr. Dan visited residents at Hilltop House in Dec who are affiliated with our church. They included: Vera Moule, Mary Goad, Isobel MacDonald, Thelma MacDonald, Fern Green, Gwen Fox, June Manson, Norman Saugstad, and former Squamish resident Ed Antosh. Visits were also made to Frances Marsh, Irene Bryant and Maurice Carlson, Shirley Brown and Alida Hoogenboom.

Our members also baked cookies for the Bereavement Support group for their six-week programs in the Spring and Fall

C. M. members include: June Halvorson, Lynette Halvorson, Moneta Neighbor, Christine Tribe, Evelyn Dawson, Vicki Haberl, Nancy Bogert-Tardif, Irene Vickers and Maureen Gilmour.

Blessings,
Moneta Neighbor
Maureen Gilmour

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

About the Shawls ...

"In 1998, Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo, two graduates of the 1997 Women's Leadership Institute at The Hartford Seminary in Hartford Connecticut gave birth to a ministry as a result of their experience in this program of applied Feminist Spirituality. Care and the love of knitting have been combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace. Many blessings are knitted into every shawl.

The knitter begins each shawl with prayers and blessings for the recipient. Intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. When the shawl is completed it is offered a final ritual before being sent along its way ... the blessing is rippled from person to person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!"

(See: www.shawlministry.com)

Another year has seen a rainbow of 90 beautiful shawls knit, blessed and given to appreciative recipients. Shawls are given for many reasons, often for consolation in times of illness or loss, sometimes to celebrate life transitions such as a wedding or a new baby.

Several completed and blessed shawls are usually on hand and available for giving, along with pre printed cards and appropriate prayers. Anyone who is aware of someone who would benefit from the gift of a shawl is encouraged to take one.

A core group of dedicated knitters meet Friday afternoons, in members homes. Newcomers are always welcome, and instruction is available for novice knitters. We look forward to continuing this valuable ministry in the future.

Sue Puchmayr
604-898-9372

"The work and the prayers and the love envelop me each time I cuddle up."

"I think these shawls are one of the loveliest ways I've ever encountered for making it possible for people to share love with others in a very tangible and lasting way."

"I'm wearing my prayer shawl as I write. It is so lovely and cosy! I wanted you to know how much I appreciate the care, thoughts and prayers that went into this creative gift. I will always treasure it."

SUNDAY SCHOOL

January – June: In January, I started a Secret Pal Club with some of the Sunday school students and volunteers from the congregation. I had planned a picnic on Sunday, April 1st so the participants could meet and see how many people we managed to “fool”. Some of the matches were very successful with participants writing to each other weekly and putting their letters into a basket in the Narthex with only the secret pals name on the envelope.

The weather was not cooperative on April 1st so we just had a cake after church with coffee and most of the secret pals were able to meet and talk with one another. I received a lot of positive feedback from both the “oldies” and the students.

We lost a few teachers and students to other interests in the new year so I made the decision to have intergenerational services on special weekends and made up plastic bags with activities and treats for the children that attended church during these services, it gave the few remaining teachers more of a break to enjoy time away from teaching (mostly their own children).

I also tried on Father’s day (the last day of Sunday school) to have an activity at the back of the church during the sermon time for the students so they would have a gift to present to their dads at the end of the service. We ended the Sunday school year with a time of games and fun at our picnic and the children ran races, threw fresh eggs and tried to catch them, and had the fun of breaking open a Piñata tied to the old oak tree. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate and most of the congregation sat inside the church and missed most of the fun and games outside.

I would like to thank Julie Murakami, Diana Pascuzzi, and Diane Sherlock for teaching the whole year and Valerie and Emily Stainton for their help with the Christmas Pageant. I also would like to thank the Church Board for giving me a chance to be an employee of the church for ten months, and at the conclusion of my term by giving me a lovely orchid and a supper at the home of the Shephards.

In God’s Service,
Judi Rhodes

SUNDAY SCHOOL

September – December: Church school started in September with the “Whole People of God” curriculum. Teachers, Julie Murakami, Diana Pascuzzi and Walter Huber each taught on a 3 week rotation. Their enthusiastic teaching was to as many as 12 children (ages 4 – 12) and as few as 3, per Sunday.

There was an intergenerational service in October and a wonderful Christmas Pageant, “The Time Machine” featuring our children and our youth (ages 12 – 17) was presented during Advent. Nineteen children and youth, took part and Dr. Dan and the choir were the supporting cast! It was a very heartwarming presentation, climaxing with the singing of Carol Grolman’s “Do We Really Believe?”. A special thank you to Lorne Lariviere for building our time machine! The kids loved it (so did Dr. Dan)!

The Santa Claus Parade in early December, with the snow and wind blowing and a fabulous float, built by Gary Caldwell, Bert Ionson, Don Behmer, Harvey Halvorson and Lorne Lariviere, was another Church school highlight. 10 Squamish United Church adults, children and youth braved the elements and we won a 3rd prize ribbon! A good time was had by all! In the new year, Diane Sherlock will join our teaching volunteers. We are currently working without a Church School co-ordinator (thank you Judi for serving as co-ordinator the previous 10 months) and we appreciate all the volunteer hours that are given. Hopefully in 2008-9 we will have a co-ordinator!



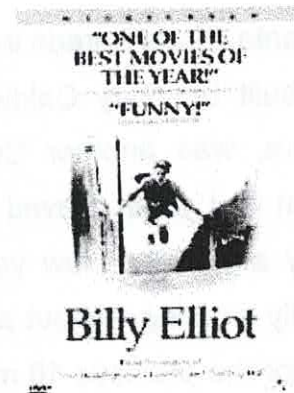
Respectfully submitted,
Grace Halvorson,
Board Representative

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY GROUP



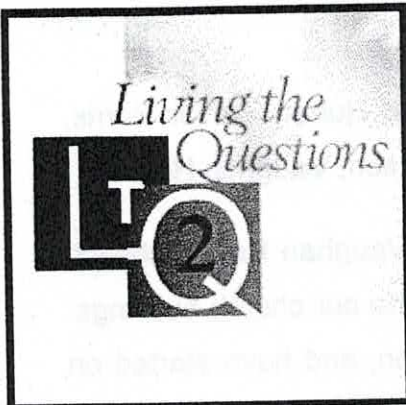
The Wednesday Night Study Group has had another year of theological reflection, movie watching and considering the historical Jesus. In the Spring we did the "Saving Jesus from Fundamentalism," series with Borg, Spang, Crossan, Cobb, and Pregeant. The series asked us to consider the historical question of Jesus and the use and misuse of scripture in our present time. The awareness of the "historical" reality of Jesus opens up to the Christ in our own context and time. It led us into some excellent conversation and engagement with our faith.

In the Fall we viewed some of our favourite films. From *Roger and Me*, to *Babbete's Feast* we saw images of social change, struggle, faith and beyond. The films brought us into an awareness of the human condition, the broken heartedness and the promise. The Holy One appeared in the many guises of human courage, hope and love. We have a number of films left over so be watching for more movie nights.



In Lent we will be viewing the Series "Living the Questions." This series ask the question, how has our faith become trapped in old paradigms and patterns? What are new ways of understanding faith, scripture and tradition? People know that at its core, Christianity has something good to offer humanity. At the same time, many have a sense that they are alone in being a "thinking" Christian and that "salvaging" Christianity is a hopeless task. What is needed is a safe environment where people have permission to ask the questions they've always wanted to ask but have been afraid to voice for fear of being thought a heretic.

Living the Questions is a source of curriculum and media for both seekers and "church



alumni/ae" convinced that Christianity still has relevance in the 21st Century. *Living the Questions* can help people explore the future of Christianity and what a meaningful faith can look like in today's world. Hope many of us will come along for the journey.

In the Fall we will resume a film series, but this time with a focus on films that challenge our ways of looking at our world and ask deep questions about our humanity. Be watching for new and exciting faith journeys in the next year called "Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome and the Kingdom of God." The journey of faith continues!

Submitted by

Dr. Dan

FACILITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Members: Phil Harness, Rev Dr. Daniel Bogert-O'Brien, Walter Huber, Trevor Harris, Bert Ianson, Ian Kent, Louise Martin, Peter Gordon, Grace Halvorson, Vaughan Hoy.

This committee, with the most valuable volunteer assistance of Vaughan Hoy, architect, has been engaged in a process sorting through options to upgrade our church buildings. We have worked to identify the facility needs of our congregation, and have started on the work of developing specifics of design for different options. We are working to identify a "favoured" choice, including financial and risk implications, for presentation to the congregation. We are intending to provide an update at the AGM.

We are presently researching 3 options :

- **OPTION ONE :** Present downtown site : Retain/renovate present sanctuary, rebuild / add-on support spaces, tear down Trinity Hall
- **OPTION TWO :** Present downtown site : Complete tear down of all present church buildings, build completely new sanctuary and support spaces.

For both Option One and Option Two, we are exploring two possibilities: (A) church only, stand-alone AND (B) creating a joint facility with other partners.

- **OPTION THREE :** We have had some initial discussions with St. John's Anglican Church about the possibility of a shared facility development on their site.

At present, we are most actively focusing on Options 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B (option 3 is more in the background).

We would emphasize that the Facility Development Group is not a decision making body - our mandate is merely to prepare and present our information and recommendations to the congregation. Any formal development decision will be made by the whole congregation, at a specially convened Congregational Meeting. Further, any decision made by the congregation will be subject to presbytery oversight and approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Martin

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

This year presented the opportunity to make some changes at Trinity Hall. Among them was the introduction of a pre-school which operates three mornings a week. We made some switches with groups so that now all church based groups and the pre-school meet in the "blue" room and the community user groups (Soup Kitchen, 12 step groups, etc.) meet in the "green" room.

General upgrades were needed to the old building. Thor and Harvey rebuilt the rotting ramp; Don and Philip repainted it; Walter replaced the eaves-trough as well. There were ceiling repairs that needed to be done and then a fresh coat of paint brightened up the space.

The old piano which was donated many years ago has been returned to its family of origin.

We were very fortunate to have both our buildings used by the TV industry this fall. The directors wanted to have the inside of the "Gathering Room" in Trinity Hall painted for one of their scenes. We readily gave them permission. It is now a lovely shade of blue. If you have not been over to see the transformations at Trinity, please take a peek.

We also brought the smoke and fire alarms up to code in that building and fenced in a playground area for the preschool children.

We have acquired new thermostats for both buildings. Hopefully this will enable more economical heating of the buildings.

Once again thank you to the volunteer grounds keepers – Bill Rempel, Trevor Harris, and Wilf Grolman. Also a big thank you to Keith Halvorson who faithfully ploughs the snow so that we may all come to worship services. As well, thank you to all the unnamed stewards of the property.

Respectfully,
Philip Harness

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Squamish United Church has a very active group of women. We have 3 units, Harmony, McKenzie and Bethany. There are approximately 30 members in total. 2007 was an active year of catering, chicken sales, meat sales, and serving at various luncheons and coffee hours. Each unit met once a month January through June. We had a pot luck dinner meeting in September to plan for the next 10 months and also to enjoy the fellowship of our members.

This year was a particularly busy year. In March we hosted the World Day of Prayer in our church and along with the Anglican Church, Catholic Church, Church on 99 and River Church a beautiful service "United Under God's Tent" featuring the women of Paraguay was presented.

In May we had a Friendship tea which was a great time for fellowship and we took the time to honour and thank Maureen Gilmour for her many years of service as our general UCW secretary. A very entertaining song was performed by the various units and a good time was had by all.

In June, we led a church service. The theme was celebrating the 45th anniversary of the United Church women. All units contributed their leadership qualities and it was a very meaningful service for us all.

In September we honoured 4 of our very active and dedicated UCW members who have not only been members of the UCW for many years but have also taken on other roles of leadership and service in the church. These ladies are Marilyn Caldwell, Deb Kent, Carlotta Liechti and Donnaleen Miller. Congratulations ladies!

Please see our treasurer's report indicating dispersal of the funds that were raised by the Ladies of Squamish United Church in 2007. Our goal is to serve the church in as many ways as we can and fundraising is definitely one of our strengths! Thank you to all of our members and also to others who willingly help us when we are catering, serving etc.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Halvorson, President

UCW FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1, 2007 Opening Balance

\$ 844.44

Income

Catering	1,375.00	
Chicken Sales (Profits \$1696.76)	12,250.86	
Meat Sales (Profits \$1,203.00)	6,544.00	
Coffee Hours Profits	439.30	
Love Offerings	50.00	
Turkey Lunch for 1 st United	311.25	
January Luncheon	287.85	
H. Gordon Luncheon	461.25	
Purdies Chocolates	499.00	
Calendar Sales	180.00	
Donation	47.50	
Returned cheque	1,000.00	
Total Income	23,446.01	<u>24,290.45</u>

Expenses

Chicken sale cost	10,554.10	
Meat sale cost	5,314.00	
H. Gordon donation (Mission & Service)	361.25	
Project Fund (2006 & 2007 commitment)	2,000.00	
Life Membership (Mission & Service)	316.95	
Turkeys 1 st United (Mission & Service)	160.73	
United Church General Fund	3,000.00	
Calendar cost	84.80	
Bank costs	37.50	
Returned cheque reissued	1,000.00	
Total Expenses	22,829.33	<u>22,829.33</u>

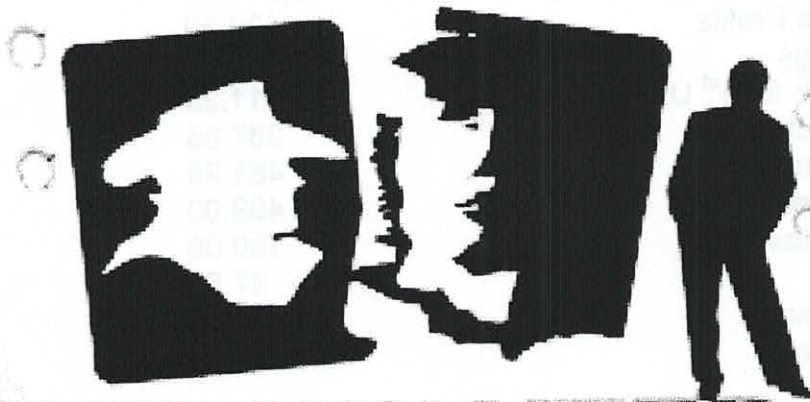
Closing Balance December 31, 2007

\$ 1,461.12

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Kent
Treasurer, UCW Executive

MEN'S BREAKFAST

REWARD



MEN WANTED

Men's breakfast group has enjoyed coffee, pancakes and discussion in the last year. We explored many areas of faith, the future of Squamish and other topics. We have been meeting the last Saturday of the month. As we begin a new year the group is looking for a few men who will phone and e-mail with notification of upcoming breakfasts.

We hope to expand our numbers and to invite some exciting guest speakers in the year to come, Faculty from Quest University, a visit again from Graham Fuller who has just published a new book and guest speakers from VST.

If you can help us by phoning or e-mailing notices about our meeting times and inviting new men to the meetings let the church office or Daniel know. The rewards are great!

Dr. Dan

SERVICE PROJECTS

Grocery Cart:



Because there has been less emphasis on bringing groceries for the First United Cart, there have also been fewer trips to the city with the items that have been collected. The First United Church Mission still needs non-perishable food, toiletry items, and warm clothing.

Toques:

The people in the "collection" room at First United were delighted to receive 279 toques and 12 prs of mini gloves. Many thanks to the ten knitters who made them or purchased them. How many would Squamish United contribute if each family knit or purchased one toque per month?



Community Christmas Care:

Our church was well represented on the CCC Committee this year. Dr. Dan, June Halvorson, Patsy Riecker, Carol Parsons and Lou Rempel all attended the meetings. Others helped at the Depot and many more contributed both money, toys and food. Special thanks to Thor Halvorson for his help.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT

The Church web-site provides a mirror of our activities, and I greatly appreciate all who have contributed to its enhancement over the year, as well as the messages of interest and encouragement that I have received, sometimes from distant place. It is also great to know that we have such effective service from our Internet server at such a low annual cost.

With the kind help of my daughter, a powerful local search engine has now been created that effectively indexes the whole of our very extensive web-site. Details of all church events are posted on at least a weekly basis, usually with Dr. Dan's comments on the liturgical significance of each week. Dr. Dan has also provided thought-provoking notes on his current sermons periodically, and others have provided full texts of both sermons and children's talks. The minutes of Church Board meetings are posted each month, so that everyone in our congregation has the opportunity to be well informed on new initiatives that our church may be considering. I have also been pleased to receive and post photos of the various events that have marked our church year, together with order forms for various fund-raisers. Interesting books and videos are also listed periodically. In the spring, an attempt was made to establish an active Blog page discussing recent sermons, but unfortunately there were few contributors other than Dr. Dan and myself.

Our church also has posted photos, a map, and other details about our church on "Wonder-Café," giving helpful information for those who are visiting Squamish for the first time.

Each year brings advances in technology, and the challenge now is to translate Dr. Dan's sermons into audio files that can be accessed by "shut-ins." In the face of technical change, I am conscious of my advancing years and I would encourage one of our members familiar with the latest developments to begin working with me, so that they can carry forward the mantle of web development for the next generation of users.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy Shephard (Webmaster).

MISSION AND SERVICE



MISSION AND
SERVICE FUND

We have not held any regular meetings during the year, and have only had two fundraising drives. These were the Coin Jar collections at Easter and Christmas, which raised \$880.63.

The total M & S givings this year were \$11,991.31. We were very close to reaching our target of \$12,000.00 for 2007.

The committee members, Muriel Shephard, Christine Tribe, Judi Rhodes and Barbara Stover read the weekly Mission & Service "Minute for Mission" and were regularly joined by Andrea Lee. Thank you to all the members of the congregation who also read for us, and to everyone for your generous contributions to this very important Mission and Service Fund.

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Stover

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Envelope and P.A.R. contributors	73	72	73
Contributors by yearly donation	3	1	1
TOTAL CONTRIBUTORS	76	73	74
Contributors to M & S Fund	51	54	50
Special Fund Contributors	33	52	41

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

Number of givers in:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
1.00 - 100.00.....	6	3	6
101.00 - 200.00.....	4	4	10
201.00 - 300.00.....	7	9	3
301.00 - 400.00.....	5	2	4
401.00 - 500.00.....	3	4	4
501.00 - 600.00.....	3	3	7
601.00 - 700.00.....	9	5	1
701.00 - 800.00.....	1	2	1
801.00 - 900.00.....	3	2	2
901.00 - 1000.00.....	1	4	2
1001.00 - 1100.00.....	5	5	3
1101.00 - 1200.00.....	4	4	4
1201.00 - 1300.00.....	2	2	2
1301.00 - 1400.00.....	2	1	-
1401.00 - 1500.00.....	2	3	-
1501.00 - 1600.00.....	1	1	4
1601.00 - 1700.00.....	2	-	1
1701.00 - 1800.00.....	1	-	1
1801.00 - 1900.00.....	1	2	-
1901.00 - 2000.00.....	1	1	1
2001.00 - 2100.00.....	-	-	1
2101.00 - 2200.00.....	-	-	1

2201.00 - 2300.00.....	-	1	2
2301.00 - 2400.00.....	1	1	-
2401.00 - 2500.00.....	1	3	-
2501.00 - 2600.00.....	1	-	1
2601.00 - 2700.00.....	-	1	1
2701.00 - 2800.00.....	-	-	-
2801.00 - 2900.00.....	1	1	-
2901.00 - 3000.00.....	-	2	1
3001.00 - 3100.00.....	-	-	1
3101.00 - 3200.00.....	4	-	-
3201.00 - 3300.00.....	-	1	-
3301.00 - 3400.00.....	2	1	-
3401.00 - 3500.00.....	-	1	-
3501.00 - 3600.00.....	-	1	1
3701.00 - 3800.00.....	-	-	1
3801.00 - 3900.00.....	-	-	1
4001.00 - 4100.00.....	-	-	1
4100.00 - 4200.00.....	-	-	1
4501.00 - 4600.00.....	-	-	1
4701.00 - 4800.00.....	-	-	1
5001.00 - 5100.00.....	1	-	-
5201.00 - 5300.00.....	-	1	-
5501.00 - 5600.00.....	1	-	-
5701.00 - 5800.00.....	-	-	1
6201.00 - 6300.00.....	-	1	-
6801.00 - 6900.00.....	-	1	-
7001.00 - 7100.00.....	1	-	1
7501.00 - 7100.00.....	-	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	76	73	74

Respectfully submitted by

Retta Behrner,

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The meeting of our church's financial obligations in 2007 was particularly challenging, with the loss of a few individuals that historically have significantly supported our church. However our bottom line was greatly helped when the film industry required the use of our facilities (and some of our members who donated their earnings to the church) late in 2007. As well, many members of the church supported the "On Track" campaign to help us stay on the positive side of the ledger.

In the past, we have "borrowed" from the Building Fund to help ensure our general operating fund had adequate resources to meet commitments (salaries, services etc). This year we have moved to establish a line of credit to be used during those periods when there were inadequate funds in the operational account. While the operational account did in fact drop to very low levels, opportune givings at key times during the year resulted in not using our line of credit in 2007.

As can be seen in the financial report, we started the year with \$9,000 in the operational account and ended the year with almost \$14,000. As indicated at the outset, a significant amount of the donations (\$9,400) were from unplanned sources (film and the "On Track" campaign). 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. 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 M & S requirements in focus and \$ 12,000 was raised. As well, almost \$ 5,900 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	\$ 1,133
Memorial Fund	\$ 55

Sunday School	\$ 358
Building Fund	\$ 8,230

The Finance 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. lonson (chair), S. Puchmayer, P. Gordon, K. Haberl, M. Tardif

Respectfully submitted,
Bert lonson

RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2007
SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH - GENERAL ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS:

1. Envelopes & P.A.R.	81,402.71
2. Open Offering	5,419.73
3. Appeals and Gifts	3,728.00
4. G.S.T. Rebate.....	1,082.90
5. Fund Raising (Auction, Garage Sale, Fall Dinner, etc.)	2,328.00
6. U.C.W. Donation.....	3,000.00
7. Trustee Account Transfer	28,000.00
8. Annex and Church Honorariums.....	4,267.47
9. Mission & Service Fund.....	11,991.31
10. First United Church Mission	889.00
11. Miscellaneous Credits	37.67
12. Observer	171.00
13. Bereavement Group Advertising Payment	397.47
14. Sea to Sky Productions (filming honorariums)	3,900.00
15. "Back on Track" Special Appeal.....	5,559.25

TOTAL: **152,174.51**

EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2007
SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH - GENERAL ACCOUNT

EXPENSES:

1. Salaries and Related Expenses	70,529.29
2. Housing Allowance	19,968.00
3. Travel Allowance	3,216.00
4. Book Allowance	450.00
5. Extended Education	337.50
6. Work Safe	281.27
7. Service Contract (Organists)	2,358.00
8. Service Contract (Janitorial)	2,756.00
9. Municipal Services	2,645.40
10. Insurance	3,564.00
11. Heating Fuels	4,911.99
12. Electricity	1,521.63
13. Telephone and Internet	2,579.84
14. Security	674.16
15. Maintenance	653.58
16. Janitorial Supplies & Garbage Bin	442.32
17. Banking Costs	649.86
18. Capital Additions	89.36
19. Mission & Service	11,991.31
20. First United Church Mission	889.00
21. Vancouver School of Theology	400.00
22. Vancouver Burrard Presbytery Allocation	4,268.00
23. Guest Speakers	181.10
24. Church and Office Supplies	2,261.94
25. Duplicator Lease & Service	2,286.49
26. Christian Education (Adult/Congregation)	848.51
27. Caring Ministry	262.93
28. Congregational Activities	117.20
29. Observer	224.00
30. Advertising	1,034.33
31. Music (Choir)	421.76
32. Smythe Ratcliffe (Financial Review)	3,710.00
33. Facilities Development (Trustees)	985.80

TOTAL:

147,510.57

**SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH
YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

DECEMBER 31, 2007

A. General Operating Account	(Royal Bank)
Carry over from 2006	9,183.75
2007 Receipts	152,174.51
2007 Expenses	[147,510.57]
Carry over into 2008	13,847.69
 B. Benevolent Fund Account	
Carry over from 2006	1,390.56
2007 Receipts	81.00
2007 Expenses	[337.84]
Carry over into 2008	1,133.72
 C. Sunday School Account	
Carry over from 2006	746.09
2007 Receipts	14.00
2007 Expenses	[401.16]
Carry over into 2008	358.93

D. Memorial Fund Account

Carry over into 2008

55.96

F. Building Fund Account

(Bank of Nova Scotia)

Carry over from 2006

9,103.91

2007 Receipts

3,570.00

Interest

8.86

Dell Computer (new office computer)

[1,049.29]

Rona (Annex wheel chair ramp repair)

[255.28]

Wilf Grolman (lawn mower repair)

[90.93]

Citrus Carpet Care

[366.17]

Graham Thomson (plumbing)

[70.00]

Alta Lake Electric (wireless smoke alarm)

[516.98]

Rona (Fencing)

[436.05]

All Keys & Locks (keys for Annex)

[117.06]

Home Hardware (tables)

[1,045.18]

Larry Houston (painting)

[416.50]

Murray Purdie Electric (security light repair)

[80.55]

Service Charges

[8.50]

Carry over into 2008

8,230.28

COMPARISON OF 2007 BUDGET VERSUS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

(*from manse fund returns)

	<u>2007 Budget</u>	<u>2007 Actual</u>
Remuneration:		
Minister's Salary	39,954.00	39,954.00
Housing	19,968.00	19,968.00*
Pension, Insurance, Medical	8,000.00	8,685.41
WCB	240.00	281.27
CPP & EI	5,200.00	3,740.28
Book Allowance	450.00	450.00
Extended Education	1,600.00	337.50
Travel Allowance	3,216.00	3,216.00
Secretarial	15,872.00	15,872.00
Janitorial	3,000.00	3,198.32
Choir Director	1,300.00	
Organist	2,268.00	2,358.00
Christian Education Coordinator	3,400.00	2,277.60
Subtotal	104,468.00	100,338.38
Secular Expenses:		
Insurance	3,300.00	3,564.00*
Municipal Services	3,000.00	2,645.40
Heating Fuel	4,400.00	4,911.99
Electricity	2,000.00	1,521.63
Telephone/Internet	2,800.00	2,579.84
Security System Monitoring	500.00	674.16
Copier Lease/Service	3,100.00	2,286.49
Maintenance	1,300.00	653.58
Sundries	700.00	
Banking Costs	450.00	649.86
Audit	3500.00	3,710.00*
Subtotal	25,050.00	23,196.95
Outreach:		
Mission and Service	12,000.00	11,991.31
Other Outreach (First United Mission, etc)		889.00
Mission and Service Committee	200.00	
Presbytery	4,268.00	4,268.00
Observer	260.00	224.00
Guest Speakers (pulpit relief)	500.00	181.10
Caring Ministry	400.00	262.93
Church and Office Supplies (incl. Capitol additions)	2,700.00	2,351.30
VST	400.00	400.00
Music	350.00	421.76
Christian Education	1,200.00	848.51
Youth Group	1,000.00	
Nursery	150.00	
Congregational Activities	600.00	117.20
Paper Advertising/Web site	1,000.00	1,034.33
Ministerial	150.00	
Facilities Development		985.80
Subtotal	25,178.00	23,975.24
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	154,696.00	147,510.57

SQUAMISH UNITED CHURCH PROPOSED 2008 BUDGET

(*from manse fund returns)

Remuneration

Minister's Salary	42,000	
Housing	22,800	
Pension, Insurance, Medical	9,000	
WCB	320	
CPP & EI	5,300	
Book Allowance	450	
Extended Education	1,600	
Travel Allowance	3,400	
Secretarial	16,000	
Janitorial	3,300	
Organist	2,530	
Christian Education Coordinator	1,800	
Subtotal	108,500	108,500

Secular Expenses

Insurance	3,800	
Municipal Services	3,000	
Heating Fuel	5,300	
Electricity	1,800	
Telephone/Internet	2,500	
Security System Monitoring	700	
Copier Lease/Service	2,500	
Maintenance	1,000	
Sundries	700	
Banking Costs	650	
Audit	3,800	
Subtotal	25,750	25,750

Outreach

Mission and Service	12,000	
Mission and Service Committee	200	
Presbytery	4,330	
Observer	300	
Guest Speakers (pulpit relief)	500	
Caring Ministry	400	
Church and Office Supplies	2,700	
Music	350	
Christian Education	1,200	
Youth Group	400	
Congregational Activities	600	
Paper Advertising/Web Site	1,200	
Ministerial	200	
Facilities Development	1,000	
Subtotal	25,380	25,380

TOTAL GENERAL FUND

\$159,630

FROM OUR CHURCH REGISTERS 2007

IN MEMORIUM: (10)

Edward Freeman Fraser – January 7
Dan Edward Moon – January 17
Angie Brown – February 11
Marjorie Maureen Roberts – February 28
Herbert Wilhelm Rogall – March 29
Helen Bachuk – July 6
Kenneth Elevyn Forsyth – August 11
Annie Mae Kristianson – August 15
Katherine Klassen – November 5
Esther Elberta Biglow – November 17

MARRIAGES: (2)

Brian David Mazzotti & Heather Luise Gatzke – August 25
Alar Wilfred Shillito & Tanya Lynn Willson – September 01

BAPTISMS: (1) child

Meredith Lucy MacKenna Johnson Bogle, daughter of Nancy Bogle & Brad Munt – July 10

BAPTISMS: (1) infant

Isabella Mia Elise, daughter of Ivy & James Jafelice – August 19

NEW MEMBERS: (5)

Ryan Brubacher – January 14
Emily Brubacher – January 14
Jeanette Nitschke – January 14
James Nitschke – January 14
Doreen Shaw – January 14