



Penticton United Church

# ANNUAL REPORT: OF THE LIFE AND WORK OF PENTICTON UNITED CHURCH 2018

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## The Mission of Penticton United Church

The mission of Penticton United Church is to create a community in caring partnership with God through Jesus Christ.

We fulfill this mission through:

**Nurturing faith-**

through worship, healing, teaching, music, example and action.

**Offering a sanctuary and strengthening place-**

where people can feel God's Spirit.

**Accepting and loving all –**

poor and rich, strong and weak, young and old.

**Striving for justice, self-worth, wholeness, and inner peace.**

**Responding in service-**

to the varied and changing needs of our congregation, community and world.



Penticton United  
CHURCH

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## Memorials 2018

Name of Member	Date of Passing	Date service held
Kinder, Jean Belle Halliday	January 4, 2018	January 18, 2018
Selles, Hendrika	January 2, 2018	January 9, 2018
Webber, Christine Margreth	February 11, 2018	February 16, 2018
Burgart, Louise	February 16, 2018	February 24, 2018
Anderson, Robert	March 8, 2018	March 16, 2018
Morrison, Martha Leone (Lee)	March 15, 2018	April 27, 2018
Harrison, Ronald Miller	May 2, 2018	May 8, 2018
Youngstrom, Douglas Nils	June 30, 2018	July 7, 2018
Winter, Olive Grace	January 4, 2018	July 14, 2018
Chubb, Shirley May	August 5, 2018	September 8, 2018
Boulton, Lorna Maureen	September 19, 2018	September 28, 2018
Fraser, Gary	November 24, 2018	
Doran, Shirley	December 6, 2018	
McCammon, Heather	September 27, 2018	October 13, 2018
Maier, Ramona	December 28, 2018	

## Minister's Report

2018 was a year of celebration! It was a year to reflect and rejoice. For eleven wonderful months we reminisced and told stories of decades past. And in November we gathered with past and present friends to honour 90 years of faith-filled, challenging, life-giving ministry. Thank you to everyone who helped make our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations so successful. Now, we look towards our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

I write this report realizing that I am heading into my final year as your minister. Retirement will be ahead of me as of December 31, 2019. It is hard to believe that we are in our 9<sup>th</sup> year of ministering together to the people of Penticton and the world. This is a pivotal year as a search committee will be struck to call a new minister. They will be challenged to find someone with the leadership skills to guide, empower, and encourage the congregation. We are a very different church than we were in 2010, when I arrived. We are facing financial challenges like never before. We are facing leadership challenges in ways that we are finding difficult. We still want to be a vital ministering presence in downtown Penticton, but we wonder how we are to carry on?

These are the issues that are facing countless churches across Penticton and around the world. Declining attendance, decreased financial offerings, and a weakening lay leadership base is a reality in many sister churches. The answers to these dilemmas are not easy, quick solutions. However, staying the course is only part of the solution. Cut backs are seldom the answer. A willingness to risk and think "outside the box" will be the opportunity before us. There are a number of United Churches, who like us, have minister's coming up to retirement or moving to new congregations. Will we partner with them and share in ministry? Other denominations are looking at doing church in new ways. Will we consider sharing services with our sisters and brothers from other denominations?

I am convinced that the pastoral care needs of Penticton United Church will only increase in the coming years. Even if attendance decreases significantly, the spiritual, and emotional care that our church offers will increase. High quality worship experiences call for knowledgeable, well trained leadership. As a downtown church there is a community expectation that worship will be of significant value. Our outreach takes many forms, including distribution of small food hampers to

the hungry, amnesty international write-ins, and our recycling program. Your Minister's involvement in community groups is essential. Faith formation occurs each time we gather for worship, fellowship and learning. Study groups, book studies, knitting group are just some of the ways that Christian community is experienced. In the early church, the faithful often met in homes. These house churches were early faith formation groups. Churches without such groups do so at their own peril. And one cannot forget to identify the endless types of administrative tasks that must be accomplished for the smooth running of a congregation. All of this must be acknowledged and accounted for if Penticton United Church is to thrive.

I have been richly blessed to be your minister for the past 9 years. I have learned much and experienced countless new opportunities. I am humbled by the wonderfully talented staff I work along side. Our office, music and caretaking folk have an important ministry that is never recognized enough. Thank you Marianne, Dolores, Sue, Allice, Orma, and Doug. To you, the congregation, thank you for your love and generosity of spirit.

Blessings,  
Rev. Laura J Turnbull

## **Minister's Activity Report**

January 30 – December 31, 2018

### Visits:

- Home and Office – 98
- Hospital – 52
- Hospice - 7
- Care Facilities - 10
- Community Resource Persons – 19
- Lots of Phone Calls
- Spiritual Care Chaplain on Call at Hospital – 2 weeks

### Meetings:

- Executive – 11
- Council - 8
- Finance – 2
- Anniversary – 1
- Memorial and Bursary- 1
- Trustees – 2
- UCW - 1
- Worship and Music – 6

### Worship

- Funerals – 9
- Wedding – 2 – Host for 1
- Plan Lent and Advent with Fern Gibbard
- Prepare liturgies for all church seasons
- Prepare Communion liturgy for Presbytery
- Attend 1 funeral in Naramata
- Assist in decorating of sanctuary as requested
- Facilitated 2 Shared services
- Presided in Remembrance Day service at The Concorde
- Prepared all 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service's liturgies and sermons

## Faith Formation

- Support Small Group Ministries
- Wrote and Lead Study group on Nativity Narratives

## Administration

- Press interviews - 8
- Speak to Alanon and NA group regarding "No trespassing" signs
- Wrote Evacuation Plan
- Wrote 5 articles for Newsletters
- Updated Funeral Protocol
- Revising Bylaws and Constitution (cannot be completed until new Manual)
- Updated Historic Roll and Congregational Directory

## Spiritual Direction

- Receive monthly Spiritual Direction from Lois Huey Heck

## Attendance at Community Events

- Hand out bursaries at Princess Margaret High School graduation
- Attend choir concert (Australian youth choir) and billet 2 leaders
- Attended training session and participated in the homeless count
- Attended Regency Centre Choir concert at The Concorde
- Attended potluck supper for PERC and Al Mohammed family
- Attended Peace Service at Oasis United Church
- Attended St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church dinners – 2

## Attendance at Penticton United Church Events

- Attended Makers Market
- Attended M&P committee's party for staff
- MC for Marcus Mosely concert
- Welcomed guests to the Choral Extravaganza
- Took Naloxone training offered by Pathways
- Attended Cupcake tea
- Hosted Dinner at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas at my home

## Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery - 2

- United Clergy Monthly Gatherings (South Okanagan) – 11

## Cluster – (South Okanagan United Churches) – 2 planning meetings

## PLURA - 2

- Hosted 2 PLURA dinners (1 to say farewell to Mike Stuchbury and 1 to welcome Nick Pang)
- Wise Elders – 5
  - o Host for "Daring to Share" forum
  - o Lunch following shared Service
  - o Write Up Evaluations
  - o Hosted Picnic at PUC due to weather
- Penticton Churches for Social Justice – (researching food distribution in Penticton) - 5

## Volunteer Centre Board Member – 7

- Attend Soupateria Board meeting on behalf of SOSVC - 2
- Volunteer at Health Fair
- Participated in Strategic Planning Webinar

Read to Syrian Children – weekly

- Attend Yasin's birthday bowling party

Appointed to the National Church's Office of Vocation's Candidacy Board – attended orientation in November in Toronto

Submitted by  
Rev. Laura Turnbull

**PENTICTON UNITED CHURCH**  
**PENTICTON UNITED CHURCH**  
**MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING      February 11, 2018**

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation of Penticton United Church was held on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at Penticton United Church. An estimated 51 people were in attendance. There was a quorum. The meeting was included in the 10:00 a.m. service, led by Reverend Laura Turnbull who read the names for Memorial Recognition as we remembered the faithful.

1) **Election of Chair and Secretary of the Annual General Meeting:**

**Motion 1** by Doreen Bobbitt, seconded by Mel Murton, that Sheila MacDermott be elected Chairperson of the 2018 Annual General Meeting. Carried.

**Motion 2** by Marion Kozier, seconded by Marty Godsmark, that Sarah Tupholme be appointed Secretary of the 2018 Annual General Meeting. Carried.

1) **Motion to allow all persons to vote:**

**Motion 3** by Cheryl Filipenko, seconded by Dyane MacDonald, that all adherents and members have a voice and vote at this meeting. Carried

3) **Enabling Motion:**

**Motion 4** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Carolyn Dircks, that the mover of a motion may speak first to the motion and may speak again at the close of debate; that a 3 minute time limit per speaker be imposed on all debate; that all speakers may speak once per debate item (except the mover who may open and close the debate); that the agenda be accepted as presented. Carried.

**Thanksgiving and Recognitions:**

Patti Skinner thanked all who volunteer their time and talents in furthering God's work at Penticton United Church.

Doreen Bobbitt thanked Colin MacDermott for the preparation and publication of the annual reports, and the office staff for their assistance.

Patti Skinner thanked all those who gave time and talents during Rev. Laura Turnbull's absence.

Doreen Bobbitt, representing Ministry and Personnel, thanked our staff:

Custodians: Don and Susan Butchart

Host: Susan Butchart

Choir Director: Alice DeRoche, volunteer musicians: Orma Baker and Doug Stark

Office Coordinator and Financial Officer: Marianne Lummin

Office Assistant: Dolores Rose

Minister: Reverend Laura Turnbull

Mary Cawthorne thanked all who had provided Pulpit Supply throughout the year.

Mel Murton thanked the United Church Women for their many contributions during 2017 especially. He mentioned that they are well organized and were responsible for the memorial teas, baking and cooking as needed for church fundraising, purchased supplies, supervised coffee hour and sent messages of care and support to the sick, bereaved and those in need of cheer. He noted, though small in number, their impact is no less mighty. He also thanked them for their financial gifts to the General Fund. They are a treasure.

Patti Skinner presented cards of thanks to all those who are retiring from committees: John Sloane from Building and Property, Mike Carnes from Building and Property and more specifically his work on the sound system, and Donna Halvorsen who has organized the Care Facility Worship leadership. Special cards of thanks and recognition for all they have done in the past were presented to Doreen Bobbitt, as Council Secretary and Barb Godsmark as Council Chair.

**4) Minutes of February 12, 2017 Annual General Meeting are reviewed: (pages 3-33 Annual Reports)**

**Motion 5** by Marty Godsmark, seconded by Harvie Barker, that the minutes of the February 12, 2017 meeting be adopted as circulated. Carried

Amendment: Rev. Laura Turnbull advised corrections on page 33 Statistics.

Weddings – Rev. Laura Turnbull – 4

Baptisms – Rev. Laura Turnbull – 4

**5) Reports of the Committees and Groups:**

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• Minister's Report	pages 3-4
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• Annual General Meeting Minutes, Feb.14, 2016	pages 6-10
• Report from Spring and Fall Presbytery	page 11-12
• Report from B.C.Conference	page 13-14
• Council Chair's Report	page 15 - 16
• Treasurers Report	page 16
• Board of Trustees	page 16 - 17
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- Mission and Service page 25
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- Healing Group pages 25-26
- Pastoral Care page 26
- Stewardship page 27
- Worship & Music pages 29-
- Angelus Ringers page 29-30
- Prayer Shawl Group page 30
- United Church Women page 30
- Wise Elders - membership only No report
- Penticton Ecumenical Refugee Committee page 31-33
- Statistics of our Church page 33

**Motion 6** by Cheryl Filipenko, seconded by Barb Godsmark, that all reports of the Committees and Groups be received for information. Carried.

Sheila MacDermott asked that people consider joining committees.

7) **Financial Reports: separate handout**

**Motion 7** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Patti Skinner, that the 2017 year end financial statement be received for information. Carried.

**Motion 8** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Doreen Bobbit, that the 2017 Mission and Service Fund financial report be accepted for information. Carried.

**Motion 9** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Brad Houston, that the 2017 Building and Property financial report be received for information. Carried.

**Motion 10** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Lorna Cox, that the Memorial and Bursary financial report for 2017 be received for information. Carried.

Colin MacDermott introduced the Finance Committee of Colin MacDermott, Mike Bonnie, Margret Vincent and he thanked them for their work. It was noted that Patti Skinner and Doreen Bobbit had attended meetings.

8) **Budget for 2018 is presented:**

Colin MacDermott presented the budget. He pointed out that it was a deficit budget but that we are still expecting a refund from the United Church of Canada Insurance Company for money owed from Rev. Laura Turnbull's Restorative Care leave. As requested he then went through the details of the budget.

**Motion 11** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Marty Godsmark, that the 2018 budget be accepted.

**Motion 12** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Marjorie Murton, that our covenant for Mission and Service Fund for 2018 be \$15,000.00. Carried

Colin MacDermott pointed out that our covenant was \$15,000.00 we fell short. However \$1800.00 was sent to an emergency relief call.

Question from Cheryl Filipenko on how much of the Mission and Service fund goes to Administration. Currently it is 11%. After 2018 General Council 100% will go to Missions.

**Motion 13** by Colin MacDermott, seconded by Marty Godsmark that in 2018 the Finance Committee arrange for a review of our financial records. Carried.  
Sheila MacDermott suggested that another fundraiser would be gift certificates to Garden Works. To be referred to Stewardship.

**9) Nominations:**

**Motion 14** by Harvie Barker and seconded by Doreen Bobbitt that the following persons be elected as Executive Council for 2018  
Chair: Patti Skinner  
Past Chair:  
Vice Chair: Gerry Neilsen  
Secretary: Sarah Tupholme  
Treasurer: Mike Bonnie Carried

**Motion 15** by Marty Godsmark and seconded by Mel Murton that the following persons be our Presbytery Delegates and Alternate Presbytery Delegates  
Presbytery Delegates: Barb Godsmark and Sheila MacDermott  
Alternate Presbytery Delegates: Marion Kozier and Sarah Tupholme Carried

**Motion 16** by Patti Skinner, seconded by Ray Sommers, that the following persons be the trustees: Harry Shaw, Marty Godsmark, Lorna Cox, Fern Gibbard, Gordon Houston.  
Carried.

**10. Business of the church:**

**Motion 17** by Marty Godsmark, seconded by Eileen Tymms, that we establish an immediate and long term planning committee to look at the future of Penticton United Church  
Carried

Doreen Bobbitt addressed the issue of looking to the future in that Rev. Laura Turnbull had indicated she would be retiring at the beginning of 2020. The committee should also consider the work of the 2016 workshop held to discuss Penticton United Church's future. Eileen Tymms suggested we should look at the future use of the building. Marjorie Murton, Marty Godsmark, Jan Neale, Colin MacDermott and Marion Kozier indicated that they would be willing to serve on this committee.

**Motion 18** by Bob Garrett, seconded by Carolyn Dercks, that the Council be empowered to carry out the business of Penticton United Church until the next General Meeting or duly called congregational meeting. Carried.

Sheila MacDermott called for any other business there being none.

**Motion 19** by Marty Godsmark, seconded by Linda Sloane that the 2018 Annual General Meeting be adjourned at 12:34pm

Rev Laura Turnbull closed the meeting with a prayer and blessing of the lunch.  
Sheila MacDermott, Chair Sarah Tupholme, Secretary

# Reports from Presbytery

## Spring

Spring Presbytery was hosted by Westbank United Church on the weekend of Feb. 23 to 24, 2018. Rev. Laura Turnbull, Sheila MacDermott and Barbara Godsmark attended on behalf of Penticton United Church. We were warmly welcomed on the Friday evening by the members of the congregation as most of us arrived after a very challenging drive, due to terrible weather and road conditions; Spring it was not!

The theme for this weekend's gathering was Practicing Resurrection – Choosing Hope. Over the two days we heard stories from three congregations, Westbank United, St. Pauls in Kelowna and Mt. Paul in Kamloops each of which were facing a “we didn't know what was going to happen and then” type of situation within their congregations. They all realized that their church was not the building: it was their mission that was their main focus, but how was the spirit leading them toward that goal.

Thanks to people generously changing plans in order to join our gathering we had a quorum by Saturday morning so that the work of Presbytery could carry forward. Remit #6, the one order of ministry was reviewed and voted on with a substantial No outcome. We moved and accepted the names of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders whose names were brought forward to have their licenses renewed. With this vote there was a motion passed that would set a standard salary for anyone leading Sunday worship. We voted for two lay people who would put their names forward to BC Conference to maybe be chosen for the ballot for Commissioners at General Conference in August. The people chosen were Janet MacDonald from Naramata and Leslie Ross from Clearwater. The two ordained ministers who let their names stand were chosen by acclamation, Don Schmidt from Kelowna and Kirstin Autio from Kamloops.

During the weekend we listened to several interesting presentations.

-Jane Harding, who is the Regional Financial Development Officer Serving BC, spoke about Stewardship and M&S. The funding changes that are approaching will see all of the funds that are given to M&S going directly to mission. Also, an interesting fact she noted was that churches that have more people on PAR have more money than those churches that don't use PAR!

-Rob Crosby-Shearer spoke about his new position with BC Conference entitled Embracing the Spirit where his group administers funds to groups requesting funds to adapt or begin new communities of faith.

-Stephen Hershey, our representative at BC Conference, wanted us to know that all assets that are local will remain local with the implementations of the remits. UCC Health Services Ministry will end now with the closing of the Pharmacy on Hasting Street.

Allison Rennie, our KOP Conference Minister, brought us up to date on what is occurring within Conference and our Presbytery. These are stressful times for many as these changes are occurring within our church. Some are approaching the changes with anxiety, stress and uncertainty while others are excited, hopeful and enthusiastic. The Boundary Commission report should be out very soon and with that the implementation of staffing and funding will follow suit. She said that Clusters and Networks within the Regions will not be decided by other courts and will not be funded by the Denominational level. ( not from the main funding model ). Clusters and Networks will be defined by the Regions. Allison suggested that we visit the KOP website quite frequently for updates on how the implementations are being developed.

-Keri Willander, our Youth Leader, gave an encouraging report on the Youth events and camps that are coming up in the near future.

-Cari Copeland-Haynes, President of BC Conference, spoke about our feelings of the unknown of what is ahead and the importance of trust and faith which led into a small group discussion time talking about our personal experiences of how the theme of facing resurrection and choosing hope could apply to our own congregations. Everyone seemed to be experiencing similar situations, decreasing numbers, aging populations, aging, large buildings and losing the ability to follow our missions.

Saturday morning, after our wellness break, we were asked to choose one of the five options for our reflection time. I chose spirit filled discussion with President Cari where we spent our time reflecting on the Mary and Martha scripture passage and how that could be applied to our theme; some people anxious others excited. Sheila participated in the contemplative prayer session, where the session began with meditative song followed by silence as people prayed silently for approximately 30 minutes, followed by a group prayer and song to close the session.

Since next October's Fall Presbytery, which will be held in Salmon Arm, will be our last gathering of Presbytery, plans are underway to make this a very special weekend. We did break into various groups to begin this planning process. Rev. Laura led the communion segment of our Saturday evening worship service which was a thoughtful ending to a very full day.

The congregation of Westbank United Church fed us very well, were friendly, helpful and most welcoming and then there was their Sunday morning worship service. Wow, is all that needs to be said. The chosen music was contemporary, meaningful and suited the theme perfectly. Rev. Kathy Hogman's message summarized the weekend for everyone, whether you were in attendance or not. She said that the UCC is noted for putting itself out there with the risk of death; mentioning two previous times in our recent history. Once in the late 80's, concerning receiving and giving full recognition and rights to the homosexual community, and again with the apology to the First Nations people regarding our role in the residential schools. Now we are about to do it again with the restructuring of our governance models, worrying less about the institution of our church and focusing more on our mission. Cari Copeland-Haynes left us with the thought that Jesus called together a body not an institution; we are not our structures, they are meant to serve our missions. The world is always changing so it is OK for us to take time to rest and pray.

Once again, we would like to thank you for the opportunity to represent you at Presbytery. As always it was an interesting, enlightening weekend preparing us for what may be challenging times ahead.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Godsmark and Sheila MacDermott

## **Fall**

Fall Presbytery met in Salmon Arm on the weekend of Oct. 19 to 21, 2018. PUC was represented by Rev. Laura Turnbull, Sheila MacDermott and Barbara Godsmark. Since this was to be the last formal meeting of KOP, we all gathered not really knowing quite what to expect. We had our agenda in hand but none of the usual reports and other informational packages. We knew things were going to be different. As we entered the church, we were given a name tag (which we were going to be allowed to keep!), a gift bag of puzzles and tickets etc and a beautiful mug which was made by Darrel Auten. We were encouraged to help ourselves to a prayer shawl and to carry our displays upstairs to the book room for hanging before returning to the sanctuary for a welcoming wine and cheese reception.

The evening meeting began with a warm welcome from the Chief of the Nesconlith – Secwepemc First Nations Community. Jay Olson, the President of BC Conference spoke throughout the weekend, participated in worship, her message being that with the changes that

UCC is facing we must be willing to be patient, kind to each other and ourselves as the changes will take time to adjust to. Throughout the weekend we were treated to short vignettes of each decade of KOP history which was very interesting as of course each decade had its issues which were adeptly recorded in the minutes. Friday night dinner was a banquet which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Saturday morning was greeted by more wonderful music, singing and decade news. Jay Olson, reporting on General Council said that these changes that we are experiencing are not a problem to be solved or fixed but something that is alive, a sociological change. We need to figure out ways to be together as God's children, listening carefully to see what is our plan.

Allison Rennie, our Conference Minister will become the Regional Minister after January 1, 2019. Our region will be the Pacific Mountain Region which will include BC, Banff, Whitehorse etc. In the area of Pastoral Relations, the changes BC Conference undertook over the past 4 years have prepared us well for the future. New web based platforms for the Communities of Faith and the prospective personnel putting their profiles on line will make the search process more stream line.

Allison will be responsible for helping the new Clusters to get organized. These Clusters which will probably be geographically related will be support based. We did divide into possible Cluster groups on Saturday for an initial meeting to discuss ideas and thoughts for future gatherings. Our Cluster, which includes Peachland south as well as Princeton, Cawston, Keremeos etc. had an interesting discussion which led to PUC offering to host the next meeting in the near future.

We had a most interesting Treasurer's report reassuring everyone that all of the funds belonging to KOP will be respectively handled and turned over to the appropriate accounts at the end of 2018. Next year each Community of Faith will be assessed 10% by the National church and probably 10% of that amount by the Regional office.

The evening concluded with each person writing a blessing card to the future church. These cards were placed in a time capsule to be stored in the Archives in Vancouver until 2090.

This was a most meaningful weekend. To review the history of KOP and to complete the now as well as to spend time looking toward the future has been a gift. Yes, there were sad, quiet, thoughtful moments to remember our past but we feel confident that there is a bright future ahead for this United Church of ours; it may look a little different but it still holds the love of God in our hearts.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Godsmark and Sheila MacDermott

### **Report from B.C. Conference - May 31- June 3, 2018**

2018 B.C. Conference, was held in Penticton, and attended by Rev. Laura Turnbull, Rev. Harvie Barker, and Sarah Tupholme and Sheila MacDermott as Lay Delegates from Penticton United Church. We were formally greeted by Adam Eneas on behalf of the Okanagan Nation who talked of how faith works, his own faith journey, and his suggestions for how to mend what happened in the past. He asked us to talk with First Nations people in our respective areas to learn how we can work together to advocate for them.

There was a sadness that this was the last meeting of the B.C. Conference, as the next meeting will be as the newly formed Region under the new structure of the 3 court system if approved at General Council this summer. There was also a feeling of hope and optimism that the proposed changes would lead to a new invigorated United Church of Canada.

This year's theme was 'A House not Made of Hands', building on last years theme of 'How big is our Tent', and the tent now torn down to rebuild. Scripture was centered on II Corinthians 4:1-7,16, and 5:1. We started by studying the conference logo which consisted of an open line house with symbols of a clay pot holding our past, a heart holding a loving presence and a cross with a window looking to the future. Will Sparks and Brian Thorpe reviewed some of our successful past - the huge Sunday Schools, the multiple groups of UCW and huge congregations with several services on Sunday to welcome everyone, and constant groups meeting for youth, and CGIT during the week - active churches that were the center of community. We heard from many people, who may be familiar to you - Ralph Milton, Carmen Lansdown, Pamela Evans and Beth Hayward who talked of their memories of church and invited us to remember our own congregation's treasures.

We later discussed our losses, such as the Thomas Crosby, reduction of UCW, closed churches, how we are affected, but not broken.

Theme also portrayed 'building something new' as shoots of life rise from our foundation and history. With speakers invited to speak of the new, creative things being done to use/rebuild/rejuvenate

7 candidates for Ordination were accepted and ordained at Sunday's Service.

4 Candidates admission by transfer to BC were accepted and officially recognized at Sunday's service.

18 Ministers were honoured at their retirement

Much of our time was spent in table group discussions as we made decisions regarding **proposals** and plans for the transition ahead. Some proposals were 'for information only'(I), 'educational'(E), 'future planning'(F) such as:

- a request for decriminalization of simple drug possession(E)
- request re way Ministerial pension funds dealt with(E&F)
- re planned financial use to follow set priorities to financial and human resources(F)
- to develop a Denominational Vision to ground us(F)
- to develop a creative rights guideline re clarification of ownership of writings eg sermons by church personnel, with request for ownership to be transferred to the Minister/personnel that wrote/composed it.(E&F)
- re ongoing Ministry Support and Supervision(F)
- re planning for clear division of funds for Ecumenical Shared Ministries(F)
- General Council Proposal regarding the Trans Mountain Pipeline was voted to be passed on to National, for information, but not passed by Conference, recognizing how divisive it would be to individual congregations and effects on First Nations and other communities, who depend on income from same and others who don't.
- There were 2 votes for what our suggested new Conference should be named-Pacific Mountain Conference- if approved nationally.(F)

### **BC conference Proposals**

- re land owned by UCC in Bella Coola, Bella Bella, Hazelton, and consultation needed re plan for land title(E)
- re apparent preaching from pulpit against LGBTQ and 2-Spirited peoples against UCC policy(E)

Rev. Blair Odney was elected as President Elect for this year.

BC nominated Rev. Dr. Richard Bott for Moderator.

Commissioners were chosen to attend National Council.

Announcement that Cariboo Presbytery was declared the first Affirming Presbtery

Information was given re proposed changes to 3 Court system:

(if approved at National Council meeting in Summer)

- regarding cluster formation among Churches whether they be geographical areas, or special interest concerns, whether they meet in person or via conference calls - they will be arranged by the churches involved. There is not expected to be funds to support these clusters, but will be generated by the clusters themselves.

-outstanding loan to Naramata Centre with interest owing-request for interest to be paid .

-plans for how we will transition to the new Region, as well as, the transition of funds.

-assessments next year to be paid to the national church Denomination, and likely some assessment to the Region, with the calculation made related to revenue rather than the present expense system calculation.

-review of plans re assessments next year. Denominational amount expected to be 4.5% of expenses, and Regional assessment might be .5%, pending enactment of Remits at General Council.

- Announced that Doug Goodwin plans to retire next year

-General Council will be meeting in July in Oshawa, Ontario

### **Pecha Kuchas**

-U VIC campus ministry report.40 years old includes all faiths.

-VST report

-Our Place - a community of care (3 places) in downtown Victoria for care for of street and chemically dependant folk in Victoria, that includes counsellors, present first responders, showers, overnight mats, therapeutic community, employment opportunities

"Vision without a task is a dream, task without a vision is drudgery,  
vision and task is the HOPE OF THE WORLD"

-Stewardship Tool kit - Called to be Church

### **Presbytery meeting at Conference:**

3 People to be nominated from BC Conference to national Board of Vocation including standards, candidacy and complaints committees.

Report from youth re their wish to be safeguarded/considered in budget planning

Next (last) Presbytery meeting to be held at Salmon Arm, Oct. 19-21, 2018

The Healing room offered by practitioners from the Penticton United Healing Group, Oasis United, Oliver Anglican was appreciated by those who received.

On behalf of Sarah and myself, thank you for being able to represent Penticton United at Conference. There was much conversation and planning about where we, as the UCC and Conference are going, as well as, celebrating where we have been and are now. I felt that our opinions were closely listened to and will be carried to the National level, as plans for our proposed change to 3 Courts progresses.

Respectfully submitted by Sheila MacDermott and Sarah Tupholme.

## Council Chair's Report

What an honour it has been to have served, as your Chair, during our 90th Anniversary year. It was a wonderful "stroll" down memory lane, starting with the 1920's, in January 2018, and then month by month, a review of each decade, culminating with our wonderful 90th celebration on November 25th, 2018 (see detailed Anniversary Report). We have all been truly blessed.

At the end of January 2018, Rev. Laura returned from her restorative leave, feeling very rested, healthy, and ready to celebrate our 90 years! In April, we took part in a "Shared Ministry" Workshop, hosted by the Wise Elders at St. Saviour's on the 28th, with Dr. Sandra Beardsall, as guest speaker and facilitator. She also preached at the Shared service, on the 29th. It was a very informative weekend, attended by several worship groups.

We hosted another very wonderful Marcus Mosely event, in early June. Over 60 participants took part in the gospel choir training on Saturday and then, took part in a (well attended) Gospel concert, on Sunday afternoon. It was a great weekend, taking place on the same weekend as the BC Conference, being held at the Trade and Convention centre.

Also in June, a shared picnic was hosted by the Wise Elders, and held in Naramata, attended by members of St. Saviour's, St. Andrew's, PUC and Oasis United. During the year, several of our former "Sermons that Speak" Ministers returned, to cover as pulpit supply. We enjoyed the services of Rev. Richard Topping, Rev. Ross Lockhart and Rev. Jason Byasse.

As we mourned the loss of several members of our congregation this year, we give thanks to their dedication, support and faithful service to PUC, in so many ways. We have also welcomed a few new members and adherents. May we continue on, carrying out the Mission of our Church.

Our newly formed LONG-TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE has been meeting monthly, since the spring, reviewing and rewriting our Mission Statement, thinking of ways to look towards the future of PUC, and our "Big Blue" Building. As we received Laura's official letter of retirement, dated September 1st, 2018, effective December 31st, 2019, the Council has put forth names for a Search Committee, to be announced at our AGM on February 10th.

2019 will be a very busy year, as we continue to explore the future needs of Penticton United Church.

I would like to express my appreciation to all of our devoted staff, for all of their hard work and dedication. Marianne and Dolores continue to run our Church office, very professionally, in their welcoming and caring manner. To Sue Butchart, in her role as Hostess, and for her care and attention to our church Building and property as custodian. How blessed we continue to be to have a wonderful choir, under the direction of Alice DeRoche, accompanied by Orma Baker or Doug Stark and the occasional guests.

My thanks to all the members of the congregation for your support to myself and your entire council, as we carried on with our work, on your behalf, and also to all Committees and their members, who work tirelessly, in a variety of ways. If you are interested in joining a committee, please let the church office know. We always welcome new members.

Serving as Chair, continues to be a very positive experience, for which I am truly thankful and honoured. The Executive, Gerry Neilsen, Vice Chair, Sarah Tupholme, Secretary, Mike Bonnie, Treasurer, have been very helpful and dedicated, as we, at Penticton United Church, move toward our future, under the guidance, for another year, of Rev. Laura Turnbull.

We have celebrated 90 years, now we look towards our 100th. May we continue to be blessed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Blessings, Patti Skinner, Council Chair

## Treasurer's Report

2018 was an interesting and trying year for PUC finances. We will finish the year close to our fiscal year plan. This is in spite of additional costs for utilities and some unexpected repairs. The fees charged for our building assessment for insurance purposes, as well as insurance rates have sharply increased. The Fourth Quarter results were encouraging, as we had some good revenue from concerts and fund-raising efforts. We are anticipating some additional rental/ cost sharing opportunities in 2019. Looking forward to the up-coming year!

Mike Bonnie  
Treasurer

## Board of Trustee's Report

Board of Trustee members are Harry Shaw, Chair; Fern Gibbard, Secretary; Marty Godsmark, Property Use and Programs; Gordon Houston, liaison with Building & Property Committee; Lorna Cox, Memorial & Bursary Committee. Rev. Laura Turnbull is required to attend all Board of Trustee meetings. Two meetings were held this year.

August 22 business included:

- PUC food cupboard
- Vandalism and problem behavior resulting in the posting of NO TRESPASSING signs.
- Thanks and appreciation for the church property inventory done by Doug & Louise Youngstrom

November 23 business:

- Acknowledgement with thanks of a stained-glass window for the chapel crafted by Rev. Laura Turnbull which was installed in September and dedicated on October 28, 2018
- Receipt of 104 chairs from Providence Funeral Home
- Plans for another Marcus Mosely Gospel workshop and concert for June 1 & 2, 2019
- \$2,500.00 bequest received from the Anderson estate; \$1,800.00 to the General Fund & \$700.00 for choir music.
- Renewed contacts re: availability of PUC facilities to be made with groups needing practice and concert venues
- South Okanagan Appraisers were asked to do The Replacement Cost Appraisal Report for Penticton United Church based on the inventory done by Doug & Louise Youngstrom
- Insurance policy quote discussed. The increased premium takes into account an \$11,000.00 coverage increase reflecting a corresponding increase in our appraised value. Council was requested to ratify this payment.

Respectively submitted by Harry Shaw, Chair and Fern Gibbard, Secretary

## MEMORIAL AND BURSARY COMMITTEE

### (Sub-committee of the Board of Trustees)

In 2018, the Memorial and Bursary Committee held 3 meetings. Sincere thanks are extended to the committee members who continue to give generously of their time and their concern for the appropriate disbursement of the funds entrusted to this committee:

Sigrid Boersma  
Harry Shaw

Ann Forsyth  
Edith Szabo (Secretary)

Fern Gibbard  
Rev. Laura Turnbull

Lorna Cox (Chair)

We thank Rev. Laura for her regular attendance at our meetings, and we extend our sincere thanks to Marianne Lummin and Dolores Rose for their assistance, especially with our financial reports. Additional office assistance was required for the Marcus Mosely workshop registrations and this was generously offered and carried out by both Marianne and Dolores. We also wish to thank our custodian, Sue Butchart, for her generous assistance when requested for special events.

In June 2018, Penticton United Church Memorial Awards were presented to nine Grade 12 graduating students from Penticton Secondary and Princess Margaret Secondary Schools at their commencement exercises. These students will receive their award monies when they submit proof of registration at a University, College or Technical school.

The Reverend Ernest Rands Memorial Award to **Sophie Taylor** (PSS)

The Flora and Harold Hoey Memorial Award to **Joshua Beresford** (PM) and **Kiki Linders** (PSS)

The Reginald and Mary Harvey Memorial Award to **Ben Wilson** (PSS)

The David and Olive McFarlane Memorial Scholarship to **Ben Wilson** (PSS)

The Myers Family Award to **Makayla Stasiuk** (PM) and **Daniel Everton** (PSS)

The Shelley Jackson Memorial Award to **Dustin Bonnar** (PM), **Brook DeCosse** (PSS) and **Emma Schneider** (PSS)

These awards were presented, at both schools, by Rev Turnbull, on behalf of Penticton United Church. Laura has been attending these school graduations since coming to Penticton United and we sincerely appreciate her enthusiastic involvement.

The monies for these awards are held by the Penticton Secondary Schools Bursary and Scholarship Foundation. These awards recognize deserving students in our community and are seen as an important outreach ministry of Penticton United Church. Friends of our congregation continue to contribute to these Memorial Funds which enable the Penticton Secondary Schools Bursary and Scholarship Foundation to increase the value (or number) of these awards. We thank all donors for their generosity. Donations to these funds are always welcome, as the funds are not in perpetuity.

The "Sermons that Speak" Program was organized for a decade by M & B with the generous financial support of the congregation. Following the close of this program, and resulting from the generosity of our community, the remainder of the funds have supported us in inviting guest speakers to our pulpit: on May 13, 2018, Dr. Richard Topping and on May 20, 2018, Dr. Ross Lockhart – both from the Vancouver School of Theology. M & B will continue with this practice until the funds have been spent.

For the second year, the Marcus Mosely Gospel Choral Singing Workshop was held on the first weekend in June (2018). Darleen Ketchum, Bill Sample, and Marcus Mosely took 68 participants (from many local churches) through an incredible musical journey – the history, heart and sound of African American Gospel singing. They concluded the workshop with a concert (well-attended) on Sunday afternoon. This workshop will again be held in June 2019. Once again, our congregation was instrumental in the success of this event – the kitchen support and building

supervision were most generously volunteered and organized by Margaret Vincent and Gordon Houston.

**Memorial Gifts received in 2018:**

In memory of **Evelyn Krause**

In memory of **Jean Kinder**

In memory of **Bob Anderson**

In memory of **Gus Boersma**

In memory of **Treva Braaten**

In memory of **Doug Youngstrom**

In memory of **Shirley Chubb**

The total is \$5260 overall with \$5000 already transferred to the General Fund (Memorial).

In 2018, Penticton United Church received several memorial donations. Our procedure for the larger memorials is to contact the family for disposition of the money. The Treva Braaten Memorial of \$5000 was transferred to the General Memorial account. The Gladys & Bob Anderson bequest of \$2500 was transferred to the Choir account (\$700) and General Memorial account (\$1800).

**Disbursements in 2018**

Skaha Sound - .5 speaker/bracket	\$1,016.16
Mosley event photocopies and posters	\$ 40.81
Marcus Mosley total fee workshop	\$2,000.00
Okanagan College first aid course for Sue Butchart	<u>\$98.45</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,155.42</b>

Our financial report is found at the conclusion of this report.

The committee continues to financially support PUC members and adherents (including students) who attend workshops, conferences and continuing educational programs. The spiritual renewal, enthusiasm and personal commitment gained from these activities enrich us all. Application forms are available in the office. We welcome all requests.

We also welcome donations and bequests for this ministry – they should be clearly earmarked for the Memorial and Bursary Committee. Monies can also be dedicated for a specific use or project at Penticton United or in the community. The donors' wishes will be carefully followed by the Memorial and Bursary Committee. We are most grateful for all the gifts we receive.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Penticton United Church, the Memorial and Bursary Committee extends a sincere thank you for your continuing interest and support.

We also express sincere thanks to Rev. Laura Turnbull for her many hours of organization and research for our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Her enthusiasm and efforts culminated in the exceptional Anniversary service in November, with the Hallelujah Chorus sung by the Naramata Choir joined by several members of the Penticton United Church Choir.

Respectfully submitted: Lorna Cox, Chair Memorial and Bursary.

**MEMORIAL & BURSARY FUND FINANCIAL REPORT**

**December 2018**

**Current Assets**

Prospera Credit Union

**\$15, 347.24**

## Investments

H.G. McKenzie Music	3,000.00
Harrison #1	15,000.00
Harrison #2	5,000.00
MacFarlane	2,500.00
Stover Scott Bursary	3,000.00
Mullis #1	10,251.50
Mullis #2	10,251.50
Myers#2	5,000.00
Subtotal investments	<u>54,003.00</u>

**Total Assets** **\$69,833.45.45**

### Dedicated Funds

Mullis Bequest	149.73
Myers Bequest	4,000.00
Helen Stover Scott Bursary	103.79
Reginald and Mary Harvey Memorial	874.99
Mary Whitmore Estate	503.30
MacFarlane Estate (Youth)	202.45
Harrison Memorial	3,102.87
MacKenzie Memorial	258.93
Myers Memorial	<u>3,449.35</u>

**Total Dedicated Funds** **\$12,645.41**

**Sermons that Speak Fund** **\$2607.02**

## **Ministry and Personnel**

Our committee held 7 scheduled meetings during 2018 as well as unscheduled E-mail consultations and brief meetings at coffee hour to deal with specific issues as they arose. Our committee handles regular ongoing tasks such as support for staff as needed, annual staff reviews, revision of job descriptions, keeping police record checks up to date, offering input to the budget re salary changes, monitoring safety procedures, ensuring coverage during staff holidays and absences.

Ministers' base salaries are set by the United Church of Canada. In the spring of each year, we are advised of any cost of living increase to be implemented to the base salary in the next calendar year. We communicate this increase to the Treasurer and to the Finance Committee for their use in budgeting for the following year. For 2019 the cost of living increase determined by the United Church of Canada is 1.6%. It has been the practice of Penticton United to extend this cost of living increase to all staff. M&P has recommended this increase for budgeting purposes, to be determined by the congregation at the Annual General Meeting. In 2018, complying with United Church of Canada instruction, the Finance Committee completed the change to a new compensation model for ministry salaries which incorporates the base salary and housing allowance.

We welcomed Rev Laura back from Restorative Care Leave on January 30<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate the assistance of Conference Minister Allison Rennie who guided us through the procedures of the leave time and guided our future planning. We also thank Mary Cawthorne who looked after pulpit supply. As always, our competent and reliable staff carried on to keep our church running smoothly during Laura's leave.

Following the Annual General Meeting, all staff participated in annual reviews. Changes were made to the job description of the Office Assistant and were approved by Council. We thank Custodian Sue Butchart for voluntarily attending the Occupational First Aid Level 1 at Okanagan College, the course recommended by Worksafe BC. Thanks to Memorial and Bursary for funding Sue's attendance at this course.

In February 2018 we noted the death of long-time office volunteer Evelyn Krause who had been retired from her office work for several years.

Safety and security for our staff have been high on our priority list in 2018. The continuing increase in drug related behavior and loitering on our property has caused concerns to our staff as well as the staff of our user groups. At Council's request, staff kept logs of numbers of people seeking food handouts, as well as problem situations in order that Council could learn of the seriousness of the matter. It was decided to lock our doors when a staff person was working alone in the building. Council, after long deliberation, voted to post No Trespassing signs which have resulted in the police responding more quickly to calls of people loitering on our property. The City established a sharps box in the lane behind our church building. Office staff now hand out only a small bag of quick-to-eat food which may tide a person over to a meal at the Soupateria. We made it very clear that we do not operate a food bank. A representative from Pathways Addictions held a session in our chapel for those interested in learning how to use a naloxone kit. Attendance was voluntary for staff, user groups, and members of the congregation. We keep a naloxone kit in the building. We appreciate the sharing of concerns from our staff, their observations of potentially difficult situations, and their suggestions for improvement. Building and Property prepared signs for the doors, asking that the buzzer be used to alert a staff person that someone wants to enter the building. Constant vigilance by B&P decreased the numbers of campouts on our steps and property. These measures, given very serious consideration, have resulted in fewer incidents of potentially harmful behaviour around our building. We certainly understand that the downtown area remains the scene of a lot of unwanted behaviours, and we will continue to take steps to ensure staff safety. M&P Chair continues on B&P to bring a staff perspective to Property Use.

The committee was saddened by the death of Doug Youngstrom in June. Doug had served on Ministry and Personnel several times over his years at PUC, and also served a short time as an employee. His wisdom was much appreciated in all situations, and we relied on his guidance.

Rev Laura very considerately offered to Council and to M&P her letter of intent to retire at the end of December 2019. She followed this letter of intent with a letter of resignation dated September 01, 2018. This consideration of more than a year gave Council the opportunity to move forward considering the future needs of ministry at PUC.

Rev Laura attended the final meeting of the Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery in October. As the United Church of Canada moves forward to its new structure, Rev Laura was honoured this fall by the national church which invited her to membership on the new Candidature Committee of the Office of Vocation. The committee on which she will serve will be within the Pacific Mountain Region (no longer will there be provincial regions).

On October 28<sup>th</sup> our committee led the recognition of Rev Laura's service to our church during Clergy Recognition week. That same Sunday, Laura's beautiful stained-glass panels were

dedicated in a short service in the chapel led by Fern Gibbard. We thank Rev Laura for this contribution of her time and talent to the creation of these lovely panels.

It was a particularly busy year for Rev Laura as we celebrated our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary with special events each month leading to the grand celebration Sunday November 25. We all enjoyed the historical glimpses offered by congregation members who undertook research to bring the decades to life for us, and we so enjoyed Laura's dressing for these occasions in a Geneva gown offered for this use by Jean Sherwood. The robe had belonged to her husband, Rev Red Sherwood. Alice DeRoche, Choir Director, led the choir and congregation in decade-appropriate anthems and hymns with volunteers Doug and Orma enjoying themselves with the accompaniments.

Once again, we thank Alice DeRoche for organizing the Choral Extravaganza in November. This is a huge undertaking for a committee and small choir, and we appreciate their work to make it once again a success. Alice and the choir's contribution to the November 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is also much appreciated.

A serious search began this year to replace the current members of the committee who have served on this committee longer than suggested by our constitution. We are very pleased to welcome Gerry Neilsen, Deb Ede and Janet Phillips to the committee. Transition meetings have taken place, files passed on, and we look forward to a new start in 2019 for the new committee.

The first undertaking of the new committee was a staff Christmas brunch in December. It was a friendly occasion with delicious food, fun gifts, and good conversation. These are occasions which our staff and committee enjoy very much, as it is a time of conversation with all together in a social setting.

The committee especially appreciates the flexibility and cooperation from our staff in covering for each other's time off for vacation or illness, as well as meeting unexpected needs for time due to the busy life at our church. We further thank those who stepped in as accompanists and substitute choir leaders. We honor the role of the volunteer in the operation of our church.

We are so fortunate to have a wonderful staff: our Minister Reverend Laura Turnbull, our Office Coordinator and Financial Officer Marianne Lummin, our Office Assistant Dolores Rose, office volunteer Karen, our Custodian and Host Sue Butchart, our Choir Director Alice DeRoche, and our volunteer musicians Orma Baker and Doug Stark. We truly appreciate the dedication of our staff and their willingness to cooperate to find solutions to the situations presented.

This committee makes no decisions, only making recommendation to Council for their consideration before any action is taken. Any member or committee of the congregation is welcome to contact the M&P committee regarding any matter pertaining to the staff, ministerial or lay. All such contact is dealt with in confidence.

Doreen Bobbitt (Chair), Cheryl Filipenko, Barb Godsmark

## **Building and Property**

### **Committee Members as of Fall 2018:**

**Chair:** Brad Houston

**Sound, etc.** Gordon Houston,

**Property Use & Promotion:** Marty Godsmark

**Custodian Liaison, Property Use:** Gerry Neilsen

**Custodian & Host:** Sue Butchart

1. **General condition of building** satisfactory, with no “major problems”. Maintenance repairs needed: especially doors hardware because of damage caused by break-in attempts, and by Vandalism. Two small roof gutter leaks were repaired by Interior Roofing. Hydraulic Lift maintained by Kirkwood Elevators, and working well. Fire Alarm system checked monthly by Sue Butchart, and annually by Mircom. Repairs to Balcony area alarm system done to correct false alarms.
2. **Sound System.** A new speaker for the Sanctuary was installed on a rafter in the Sanctuary when the new LED Lighting was installed. Sound System has been updated to handle latest recording equipment, etc. and is working well. Narthex Speakers working again, following correction of a short in the Balcony wiring.
3. **Lighting in the Sanctuary** upgraded. Keldon Electric replaced our old fluorescent lights with LED fixtures, giving brighter lighting with a significant decrease in the amount of electricity consumed. New controls with dimmer switches can be run from the “Sound” area. We also will get a substantial eco saving grant as we placed the order before year end. A hardworking group of volunteers put up and moved the church scaffolding as needed for the electricians to do the job.
4. **A total Church Inventory** including a UCW Kitchen inventory and a Photo Inventory were carried out in March. A new one is planned for January 2019, because 102 padded stacking chairs donated by Providence Funeral Home had been distributed throughout the building. Displaced chairs and a large “Computer Desk: were donated to Re-Store It.
5. **Sue Butchart, our long-term Custodian,** is also our **HOST**; positions she has filled very well. Her main problems have been caused by the addicts, and the “pushers”; their activities, litter and damage.
6. **Homeless persons on the church property have presented many problems:**
  - A) Dried blood and excreta, discarded syringes and needles and other drug related items present a major health risk to anyone handling them, especially to children. Grounds clean ups are done several times per week. The city installed a “used syringes and needles” container on a post by the telephone pole in the lane.
  - B) Laminated Signs were placed on the outside doors. “Kids Here! No Needles” because of our Play Share children; and “Warning-Security Alarm” to warn outsiders not to try sneaking into the church by one means or other. These were ignored. Because of the risks to those using the building, and because of the extreme fire risk from repeatedly built inflammable shelters, (in which smoking and campfires occurred), tucked against our entrances and fire exits; it was reluctantly decided to post “Private Property-No Trespassing” signs. These enabled Police or City By-Law officers to move trespassers off our grounds without having to be called. “Shelter building” since then has stopped; and illicit use of our fire escapes and entrances decreased considerably.
  - C) Drug gang activity moved to the roof of the Medical Arts Building next door in November. Their roof edge chain link fencing was cut, their rooftop utilities building broken in to, and their heating equipment damaged. With the Medical Arts Building under new management starting in December, the rooftop building door and locks, and the fencing have been rebuilt and reinforced. No rooftop activity since the new fencing has been in place.
7. Progress has been made in **increasing the use of our building.** The Tune-agers have returned to using our facilities. A piano, 5 large Filing Cabinets, 20 Music Stands, etc. are being stored for their use; as they will be using our facilities weekly. Playshare is increasing from a 4 day per week, to a 5 day per week usage due to increased enrollment. We have hosted several successful concerts this fall, and more are being scheduled for the spring.
8. **Beautiful Stained-Glass Panels,** (crafted over the last few years by Rev. Laura Turnbull), were installed in the south window of the Chapel by Bryan Preece of Sign Language; replacing the previous damaged stained-glass window. “Bulletproof Lexan” protects the outside. The removed stained-glass panels were sold to “4<sup>th</sup> Meridian” antique store, along with unused quite old stored items of furniture stashed throughout the building.

9. **Storage Space has been upgraded.** Room 204 is our “Official Storage Room”, storing the Tune-Agers items, etc. The “Catch-All” room on the main floor by the north stairs, is now the “Stewardship Storage Room”. These storage rooms have been cleared of a large number of unusable items, (many dating back over 20 years).

Brad Houston  
Chair, Building & Property Committee

## **Sound System**

The upgraded sanctuary sound system is working very well, thanks in large part to the efforts of Mike Carnes. (It was great to see him at the 90th Anniversary celebration; he is missed!). The speakers in the narthex are now working as before, after some recent work on the electrical circuitry in that part of the church. Having good sound in the Narthex can be very useful, as we saw during the recent Extravaganza, when a series of choirs waited and listened there. Having most of the sanctuary light switches on dimmers in the sound booth also helps to easily control visual ambience for services or concerts.

At present, the system is being run by Jan Neale and Gordon Houston. Anyone that is interested in learning how to run our simple system (only decent ears needed!) would be very welcome!

Submitted by Gordon Houston

## **Concert Club**

This year our Concert Club members have taken on the tasks of staging seven community events that have occurred in our sanctuary or the main hall from mid March until December.

Our volunteers from the PUC congregation include the following willing and dedicated workers; Orma Baker, Alice De Roche, Lena & Ted Freek, Brad Houston, Gordon Houston, Colin MacDermott, Barbara and Marty Godsmark, Dawn (the Elf) Walker, Deb Ede, Harry and Mary Shaw, Eileen Tymms, Linda Parnell Bonnie, Mike Bonnie, Janet Philips, Sheila MacDermott, Hope White, Cheryl Filipenko, Jan Neale, and Sarah & Paul Tupholme.

Of course this committee, like most other committees of PUC, would simply cease to function without the consistent and reliable assistance of our helpful and ever caring staff members. So, once again, a huge thank you from all of our committee to Marianne Lummin, Delores Rose, and Sue Butchart for all your tireless efforts.

This year our committee organized and ran the front end for seven events. Some occurred on one evening while others occurred over several days, weeks or even months. (For example, the Kiwanis Music and Drama Festival in March and April.) This year's events ranged from relatively small concerts, such as the Penticton Concert Band performance on December 18<sup>th</sup>, to the Choir Extravaganza – (again staged by the Club and organized by our PUC Choir members on behalf of the Church where some two hundred choristers from our Okanagan Valley sang to an audience of over four hundred.) It was truly a magical afternoon of music hosted by the Sage Valley Singers. Our own Dyane MacDonald did a beautiful job of the in-shop organization of this entire event.

The Concert Club has assisted in the generation of approximately \$6,000.00 for the PUC general fund this year and over \$50,000.00 since the chancel was completed by our Building and Property Committee in 2012. Over two thirds of the groups that have used our sanctuary this year have expressed an interest in returning their patronage to PUC in the coming year. As the PUC sanctuary has one of the best acoustic qualities in the Penticton area, we have recently signed on

the Penticton Tuneagers Choir and Orchestra for both practices and concerts throughout the coming year.

At this time, we wish to recognize and give a hearty thank you to Brad Houston and his wonderful Building and Property Committee for all their continuous efforts at keeping the Naramata Choir's chairs and risers in good working order for all the groups using them during chancel performances. Great job guys – thanks so much!

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Tymm and Marty Godsmark  
(Co-Chairs PUC Concert Club for 2018)

## **Peace Justice Environment & Outreach**

Penticton United Church outreach in the community and world continued in a variety of ways during 2018.

The Minister continued to attend Penticton Churches for Social Justice meetings to address housing needs. The Provincial government responded by making available more housing units and purchasing property near the Soupateria for a housing complex with supportive services.

An Amnesty International Write In was held April 19<sup>th</sup> and 11 letters were generated on Justice Issues. As well Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> the Justice table provided cases to write about – 7 persons took literature to write at home. Earth Week April 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> was recognized with an education table for coffee time perusal with brochures, clippings, etc. The greening of our church continued with members attending lectures on climate change and wildfire mitigation. The Recycling program continued with Mel collecting and disposing of accumulated renewables. The kitchen composting roster included only six households. Replacement of outdated lighting with low energy long lasting fixtures is ongoing.

On Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> White Gift and Mitten Tree Sunday the congregation generously donated 1 large sack of men's socks, mittens and hats and two large sacks of women's and children's warm wear. We delivered 5 boxes of canned and packaged food to the Food Bank and the men's wear to the Salvation Army. The women and children's items were taken to the South Okanagan Women in Need Society. Both organizations were very pleased to receive these quality new items many hand knit. As well people donated to the Mission and Service Fund of the National Church and to the Soupateria Society through our church or directly to them.

Respectfully submitted  
Marjorie Murton for the P.J.& E Committee  
Committee members are Jeff Everden, Jan Makar, Marjorie and Mel Murton

## **FOOD CUPBOARD REPORT – 2018**

This year only snack foods were handed out from the church office. The office staff reported that 214 requests were made.

One individual visited 46 times. Drop in visitors are referred to the Soupateria which serves a hot lunch everyday all year. As well, Interior Health provides programs and food to their clients at a Martin Street clinic office.

Submitted Marjorie Murton

## **Finance Committee**

Ninety years down, hope for another 90 going forward. Our final deficit for 2018 was \$37,034.74, which was \$13,600 less than we had projected in our budget last year. This is in large part due to the insurance reimbursement we received for Laura's temporary leave of absence, and donations received from our Groups exceeding projections. That is the good news. The unfortunate news is that by the end of this year (2019) we are likely going to need to cash investments from the memorial and bursary accounts to pay for our day to day operations.

Going over the financial reports from the last 10 years, our income from offering contributions has been dropping by around 4% each year. This past year without the extra givings received for the 90<sup>th</sup> we would have fallen by 11% over last year. Other church income from fundraising and group contributions has general downwards trend. This past year was an exception with groups and fundraising coming in \$6,000 over what we projected in 2018's budget – so thank you to all volunteers who made this possible.

We have made some progress in cost sharing the upkeep of the building with other groups bringing in \$27,237 in building income from events and regular meetings. If you know of anyone who is looking for meeting space please send them our way.

Some of our estimated costs for 2018 budget increased more than we had projected for the year. Most significantly we underestimated the increases in electricity and water/sewer costs by \$2,000. Last winter's heavy snowfall and clearing costs also ran over budget. We had built in an increase in our expected Insurance and appraisal cost (appraisal only needs doing every 3 years) but the actual cost was \$1700 higher than we estimated.

Our forecast income for 2019 is \$163,250, expected expenses are \$226,992, meaning we projected deficit is \$62,992. \*NOTE\* Projected income is based on last year's income with a drop of 4%, if our 65 regular contributors (defined as people who contribute 12 times or more a year) were able to increase their monthly donation by \$25 a month that would cut our projected deficit by almost \$20,000, which with some additional paying users for our building space would help keep our investment savings for future emergencies.

Respectfully Submitted: Colin MacDermott  
Chair of Finance

## **Counters Report**

We need to recognize and to express our appreciation to some quiet, efficient, behind the scene volunteers in our church. That is - the OFFERING COUNTERS. Thank you for serving our church with your precious time and commitment. The members of the Offering Counters Teams are Jan Makar, Lorna Cox, Marj Murton, Mel Murton, Ted Freek, Dyane MacDonald, Marjorie Notenboom, Pluen Notenboom, Cheryl Filipenko, Marion Kozier, Lois Dalrymple, Edith Szabo, Barry Owen and Bob Garrett. We are most grateful for Marv and Alma Wilson's work as counters. After many years volunteering counting, the Wilsons have now retired. We also cannot forget Carolyn Dircks for all her time and effort as envelope secretary, making sure your receipts are all accurate. Thanks so much, Carolyn!

Respectfully submitted,  
Marion Kozier  
Offering Counters Coordinator

## Mission and Service

The church and I thank the people in our congregation for their generous donations to the Mission and Service Fund.

- M&S \$ 12,259.50
- Emergency Response \$ 1,000.00
- WDR \$ 525.00
- Total \$ 13,784.50

This is a creditable amount for which we should be proud. A special thanks to all of the weekly M&S readers. Please continue to assist in this way.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Sherwood

## Membership Committee reports

We have the pleasant responsibility of providing a warm welcome to arrival at the church main entrance and the chapel entrance each Sunday. Dolores Rose managed the roster for the chapel entrance and elevator and Mel Murton the main entrance Welcome table roster where name tags, envelopes and information were available. Guests were invited to join the congregation for the fellowship time after the service at coffee time.

The Committee hosted two coffee and refreshment times including Canada Day Sunday Sundaes when ice cream and toppings were enjoyed.

Attendance figures were collected and reported to Council each month. Alma Wilson was chair until her retirement on April 1st. Meryl Kendall became Chair and Mel Murton the chair in Sept. with Gwenn Campbell the Secretary.

During 2018 members were Gwenn Campbell, Barb Godsmark, Gilbert and Meryl Kendall, Jan Jackson, Joyce Moore, Mel Murton, Patti Skinner and Alma Wilson. By year's end we were fewer with Alma's retirement, Jan Jackson's resignation and Gilbert and Meryl Kendall's move away. Dolores Rose assistants with the elevator duty were Mike Bonnie, Marty Godsmark, Gord Temple and Patti Skinner.

Our sincere thanks to all these cheerful volunteers who provided such warm hospitality to members and visitors every week.

Respectfully submitted.  
Mel Murton

## Healing Group

The Penticton United Church Healing Group has had a busy year in the church, the Penticton Community, and the wider church.

While we sponsored no Healing Pathway Courses this year, we held weekly Technique Review evenings during the Spring and Fall, that were open to all previous Healing Touch International and Healing Pathway students for skill review, and exchange ways to use them. We also held seminars for the Energy workers in the community, so that we could become familiar with other energy work, and meet others working with different energy modalities.

May 31-June 2 found us at the Penticton Trade and Convention Center, offering a Healing Room at the B.C Regional United Church Conference. Healers from Summerland and Oliver assisted us in offering healing to attendees throughout the conference. Besides offering healing at such a anxious time for delegates, as we move through this changing time, it also was good to help

different congregations become more aware of Healing Pathway Programs as a United Church of Canada program, as well as, the bonus of working with our friends in neighbouring communities.

Due to an emergency, we catered food for a Phase 3 Healing Pathway program offered at Naramata Center, with many helping to prepare meals and the required snacks, for a full class of 18 students and 7 instructors and helpers. It was a very busy time complicated by a Naramata boil water advisory requiring special water transport and disinfectant strategies. Thank you are 2 small words that hardly recognize the great work offered by the local Healing Group members.

The 2 groups continue to meet on Tues. mornings and Thurs. evenings to practice and strengthen their work, as well as, receiving guests to receive healing sessions. There were approximately 56 guests received at these sessions, more than 16 visits to clients' homes with our portable table in tow, and at least 24 prearranged distance healing sessions offered by our crew.

We now have many volunteers approved by the Penticton Hospital Volunteer Services to visit hospital patients (6 visits this year) and offer healing to patients while they receive Chemotherapy treatments in Oncology on Monday and Wednesday mornings (100 days).

All this work is done as a free service, although donations are accepted if clients wish and as they are able. These donations, as well as donations from practitioners to recognize room use, are then used to cover our expenses, as well as contribute to the general fund. This year \$2500 was contributed.

We are very thankful to the assistance of the office staff for their help in coordinating and forwarding clients to us, to make appointments.

We are so thankful that Penticton United is able to support this work for our church, our community and each of us personally, by encouragement, recognizing our work, and supplying the Healing rooms for our use. We see this as an important part of the teachings that Jesus taught and encouraged his followers to continue.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by Sheila MacDermott

## **Pastoral Care Committee**

The Pastoral Care committee continues to keep busy in our Community, visiting the Hospital, Hospice, ECU and Care Facilities. We are very fortunate to have a very dedicated Prayer Shawl Ministry, who continue to knit or crochet beautiful shawls, which we distribute, to the provide caring comfort to persons in hospital, the bereaved, and those in need of a special blessings. These ladies are now knitting special Prayer squares, which can be easily held in one's hand. Our committee (of 3) relies on our members or families to provide us names of potential recipients. Please inform the Church, if you know of someone, who would like a visit from our Minister or Pastoral Care Visitor.

We were sad to say goodbye to our "Specialty Card Artist", Marie Houston, as she has had to retire from this art. Her lovely, one of kind cards will certainly be missed. Thank you, Marie, for cheering up so many, over the years. We will continue to send out special birthday wishes though, to celebrate those very special days. Please insure that the office has a record of your birth date.

Our Committee works with our supportive and dedicated Minister, Rev. Laura Turnbull. During 2018, the committee carried out a total of 317 visits, which does not reflect the visits of Rev. Laura, and I had the honour of assisting with one Celebration of Life service, and leading services at two care facilities, in Laura's absence. These were truly a blessing for me.

We are always in need of volunteers to carry out this very special Ministry. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office or myself (250-493-7376).

We look forward to continuing our commitment to PUC and our community.

Respectfully submitted, Blessings, Patti Skinner  
Chair of Pastoral Care Sub-Committee

## **Stewardship Committee**

Once again Stewardship wishes to thank the congregation for supporting our endeavours to raise money and provide opportunities for our members to socialize with one another. We are always grateful for the extra help provided by the congregation.

January, we hosted a Soup and Buns event. Always successful, this provides a nutritious lunch as well as social time for our members.

In February 2018 we held a yard sale. People outside of the church were invited as well as our own members, to come, rent a table and sell their used wares. Customers were plentiful and business was brisk.

In March, Stewardship hosted a cupcake St Patrick's Day tea. We served cupcakes, tea and coffee and welcomed a small but appreciative crowd. Paintings donated by Connie Spek were presented in a silent auction.

In both September and October, we hosted Soup and Buns events after worship on Sunday. Attendance was good and our customers were generous.

December saw our hall filled with vendors for our now 'annual' Makers- Market. Our Chairperson sought vendors from all over town, as well as from our own church, and managed a full house for rented tables. Once again, business was good, the PUC bake table was popular, and this was a very successful fundraiser. An added bonus was the \$242 (net profits) raised by our TOAST group, with their cinnamon bun coffee shop.

Another December activity was a mixed-group effort with workers from Stewardship, initiated by TOAST and other committee members and friends. They put in many hours mixing up and steaming Christmas puddings, sold at Makers Market as well as from the office. So far \$737.50 has been earned from this event.

Holly for Christmas decorating was sold at coffeetime one Sunday.

Our sale of gently used novels in the outer office continues to be popular. We are grateful for members' donations to our Tooney Bookshelf.

Our most successful fundraiser continues to be the selling of GROCERY CARDS, which happens every Sunday after worship. This year we have raised approximately \$6,000, thanks to our dedicated member who heads this up, as well as to our loyal customers in the congregation. In all, Stewardship earned approximately \$11,550 in 2018, and provided many opportunities for members to socialize with one another.

Revenue breakdown:

- Grocery cards.....\$6000.00
- Makers market....\$2090.50
- Yard sale.....\$868.45
- Puddings/fruit .....\$852.90
- Soup/bun events ..\$729.90
- Cupcake sale.....\$609.95
- Market Bistro.....\$242.55
- Novel/book sale..\$139.45
- Holly sales.....\$35.00

## **Worship and Music**

Committee members:

Laura Turnbull- Minister

Alice Deroche- Choir director

Carolyn Dircks- Ushers

Orma Baker- Musicians

Jean Sherwood- Faith formation/readers

Edith Szabo- Readers

Cheryl Filipenko- Visuals

Mary Cawthorne-Secretary/Pulpit supply/Communion

The worship and music committee strive to offer spirit filled services, that include inspirational music, grounding liturgies, and thoughtful sermons. We have been part of many special services, including one led by Marcus Mosely. We shared our pews with other local congregations throughout the year. The monthly highlight this year was the special anniversary services wherein each decade was described as it affected the life of our church. What a lot of information sharing, and interesting stories were told. Penticton United Church has a rich history indeed!! Thank you to all of you who have been involved in the planning of our church services, and to those who are blessed to attend them!

Submitted by Mary Cawthorne

### **Ushers - Carolyn Dircks**

Thank you all for attending, greeting and USHERING. We look forward to our 91<sup>st</sup> year of meeting and greeting all our dedicated and NEW parishioners in 2019

### **The Angelus Handbell Ringers**

During 2018, our choir enjoyed ringing at PUC services from February to June, and had one performance at a seniors' residence.

In May, the choir members participated in the BC Guild of English Handbell Ringers Spring Ring at Kelowna. This is a biennial event that features both massed and level ringing and provides an opportunity for ringers throughout the province to learn and socialize. Ringers are required to learn up to seven pieces before attending, so rehearsals in the first half of the year concentrated on that music.

Our choir rang in June at PUC, for the anniversary celebration. Peggy Bensler retired as director of the Angelus Ringers after the June performance. At the same time, seven of our ringers laid down their bells to fill their lives with other activities, leaving only three ringers.

Over the summer months, after some discussion and the recruitment of a new ringer, the Angelus Ringers Quartet was formed. We have performed twice in the PUC worship services since September and hope to ring monthly at services in the New Year.

Current members are: Nancy Benner, Jenny Kunka, Diane Martin and Linda Sears.

We are grateful to have access to the memorial bells of PUC and hope to continue making music to be enjoyed by members of the congregation and others.

Submitted by Linda Sears

## **Prayer Shawl Knitting & Crochet Group**

Once again, we had a busy year with our needles and hooks producing shawls to be given to those who are ill or have health issues, to those who are bereaved by the loss of loved ones, or to those who are going through a rough patch in their lives. We make these shawls as a tangible reminder of the power of prayer to provide comfort and consolation, strength and determination, and as a constant reminder of God's presence even in the worst of times. Occasionally, a prayer shawl has been given to mark an event of happiness and joy. If you know of anyone whom you believe could benefit from being wrapped in a prayer shawl, please inform Rev. Laura, Patti Skinner, Eileen Tymm or myself. The prayer shawls are usually, but not always, given out by the Pastoral Care Committee or Rev. Laura. These prayer shawls are usually blessed during a Sunday morning service and they make an array of many colours and shapes as they are draped over the pews and communion table for the blessing.

We had another large donation of yarn this year and an afghan was knitted from some of the yarn and given to the donor in appreciation.

Near the end of the year, we were approached by the activity coordinator at the Concorde asking if we would like to use their premises for our meetings. The members of our group talked it over, the idea was referred to Rev. Laura, and in November we held our first meeting at the Concorde. Up until now, our group has always met in the various homes of our members. Several members have now moved into smaller living spaces with minimal kitchen facilities, making it difficult to host our meetings. This meant that the members with larger living quarters were having to host more often. Rev. Laura pointed out that meeting in the Concorde was also a form of outreach for PUC. One of our former members who now lives at the Concorde, joined us at the November meeting to renew her friendships in our group.

We welcome anyone to our group who is interested in knitting or crocheting. Most of us work on prayer shawls, but if anyone wants to come and knit scarves, toques or mittens for the White Gift Sunday Mitten Tree on the second Sunday of Advent, we invite them to come. At present we have an abundance of yarn as well as a good stock of knitting needles and some crotchet hooks. Patterns are also available. If you would like to join us and need supplies, please notify me ahead of time, so that a selection of patterns, yarn and needles/hooks will be available. We meet at 2:00 pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at the Concorde from January to May and from September to November.

Submitted by Fern Gibbard, Coordinator

## **United Church Women (UCW)**

We meet the first Wednesday of the month, at 1:30pm, in the parlour. New members are always welcome.

Marjorie Notenboom and Margret Vincent are the co-conveners.

Dyane MacDonald is our Treasurer, Jan Marker is our Secretary.

This year we were able to raise enough money to give the Penticton United Church \$4500. We also purchased the 90th Celebration cake and helped serve the pot-luck and cake. We have prepared and served 6 funeral teas. Thanks to all of the many people who bake for, and help serve, at these events.

Anna Moerkoert has sent out 35 cards and made many phone calls to sick and shut-in members of PUC.

Marjorie Murton has had very interesting devotionals and discussions for our meetings. We continue to help with the Sunday hour, and to provide supplies for these coffee times. Linda Bonnie is doing a great job of getting people to volunteer for kitchen duty and in helping keep our kitchen in good shape. Many thanks to all our members, and a special thank you to our executive for their dedication and hard work.

Overall, a good year with lots of fun and sharing.

Submitted Marg Vincent

## **Wise Elders**

The Wise Elder group formed in 2011 with clergy and key lay persons from Penticton United Church, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and St. Saviour's Anglican Church gathering to share hopes, joys and concerns. In 2017 Oasis United Church joined the group and in 2018 Our Redeemer Lutheran Church became involved. Initially the group met to get to know one another in more meaningful ways. Slowly, ideas were exchanged concerning bulk purchasing of common products, doubling up on service calls, and resource sharing. In 2012 shared worship services were introduced and twice a year the member congregations joined as one community of faith. Repeatedly we heard, "we should do this more often." Leadership for the worship services was shared amongst the clergy and all facets of worship were shared equally. It was an important opportunity to experience one's neighbouring clergy be liturgist, preacher and presider at communion. Communion is central to the shared service. Our tradition now is to offer a shared service on Remembrance Sunday and the Sunday after "The Forum."

In June we host a picnic attended by approximately 80-90 persons from all the supporting churches. The past few years it has been held at Manitou park in Naramata. In 2019 it will be at the Skaha Park Gazebo on June 10,

In 2017 the Wise Elders hosted a community forum entitled "The Once and Future Church." Over 80 persons from throughout the valley attended. Resource persons from within the Anglican, Presbyterian and United Church traditions assisted us to look at our history and take a peak into the future. In 2018 a second forum was presented entitled "Daring to Share" featuring Rev. Dr. Sandra Beardsall. Once again over 80 people attended learning about "shared ministry" and the potentials ahead for ecumenical cooperation. Thanks to grants from the Anglican and United Churches no fees were charged.

A third forum is to be held on March 9, 2019 (Saturday) at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church with Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart as guest speaker. Watch for more details.

The Wise Elder group is an ecumenical community of persons deeply committed to supporting one another. We seek to support the various initiatives within each other's churches. We are growing in understanding of one another. We are bound by the love of God.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Laura J Turnbull  
Penticton United Church

## **Anniversary Report**

During 2018 we have celebrated our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary each month. It started as an idea from Alice DeRoche who is on the Worship and Music Committee and was a very popular event. Each month someone researched the history of the church and also history of Penticton and surrounding area during that decade and it proved very interesting. Then one Sunday service each

month we celebrated that decade with appropriate hymns and prayers. At the end a “History” book was compiled. At the beginning Rev. Laura Turnbull wore an original black alb that had belonged to Red Sherwood that was worn until the 1970s when it was replaced by the white alb and stole and for the 1950s Sunday the choir dress up appropriately.

- January we celebrated the 1928-29 when our sanctuary was built and consecrated.
- February was the 1930s when our church was affected by a country in the depression years.
- March was the 40s and the war
- April the 1950s the baby boom years.
- May in the 1960s we celebrated the New Curriculum.
- June the 1970s were our glory days.
- July we remembered the 1980s and the many discussions around the ordination of gay people.
- August we took a month off and suffered through the smoke of the 2018 forest fires.
- In September in the 1990 it was a time of change.
- October we remembered that in the 2000 our church members decided after much discussion to go separate ways in their faith journey.
- Then in November we celebrated our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special service including the Naramata Choir and our Sanctuary Choir joining to sing the “Hallelujah Chorus” that was sung at the dedication service in November 1928. The service was attended by about 145 people. Special visitors including some from out of town were Rev. David Sparks, Rev. Mark Bedford, Rev. Ross White, Ken and Joan Phipps from Kelowna, Mae Wallim from Castlegar, Linda Bensen wife of Rev. Ralph Spencer now living in the States, Mike Carnes from Edmonton, Lillian McLeod from Summerland, and Marion Best from Naramata and Rev. Ken Jones and some of the Oasis United Church congregation including Sandy Andres who played the piano for many years at Penticton United. Messages were read from many well wishers including a letter and video from our Moderator, the Rt. Rev. Richard Bott and a member of the NA group who use our church building spoke of their programme and their appreciation for the use of the building. I really appreciate that Marianne Lummin was able to download the Moderator's message from her computer at the last minute – nothing like working on your day off!!

Many thanks to Rev. Laura Turnbull for all the special decade services, all those who helped with doing the research for a decade, Cheryl Filipenko for decorating and putting up all the photos, Margret Vincent heading up her UCW team and other helpers in the kitchen, Sue Butchart for set up and cleaning just in case people wandered around the church, all those providing memorabilia to display Marjorie and Mel Murton for photos and lists of people who had left the church and moved away. Gordon Houston for the sound system and operating the recording. Marianne and Dolores in the office who put up with my frequently dropping in with questions and requests. If I have missed anyone, I apologise for many contributed in so many ways.

Respectfully submitted  
Sarah Tupholme

## Long Term Planning Committee

### Crisis or Opportunity?

The Planning Committee have held 9 meetings and attended two workshops. As well we have reviewed the Mission Statement, looked at changes in the community, committee work, membership, attendance, and the facility. With declining attendance and expected General Fund Investments used up by 2020 we will not have the luxury of paying for annual shortfalls from investments.

We have looked at ways to address these changes. With our minister retiring at the end of 2019 a search committee will be formed after Feb 2019. This summer we sent letters of invitation to cost share the building with non-profit groups and other organization including other churches. Many churches have found innovative ways to provide ministry with declining attendance and limited funds. They have found ways to share ministry with other churches, amalgamated or managed with lay personnel as needed.

Our situation at Penticton United is a challenge. For years our facility has been a home to a Pre School and many self-help and non-profit groups and organizations. Our historic church facility has been lovingly cared for and is in good shape, thanks, to hard working staff and volunteers. Seeking tenants and special events is an ongoing process. The current building and utilities cost of about \$192 per day is offset by \$70 per day income in cost sharing.

Church generated funds from your donations and our groups amount to about \$328 per day. With a full-time minister, the deficit at year's end is expected to exceed \$50,000.00. Full time ministry plus admin office costs are nearly \$347 per day. Attendance averages 60 weekly while an additional 48 do not attend weekly.

Please take time to review the Questionnaire handout and provide feedback

## CHURCH STATISTICS, 2018

	Weddings	Baptisms	Funerals
Laura Turnbull	2	2	11
Susan Cairnie	1		
Fern Gibbard			1
Patti Skinner/Patti Craig			1
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>

Baptisms: Odin Lambert, Opal Lambert

### Membership:

- Transfers in: 0
- Transfers out: 0 Deceased: 8

**Members: 147\*      Adherents: 92**

The average recorded Sunday attendance in 2018 during October and November was 77. Note that this total reflects the Remembrance Sunday that was a joint service with St. Andrew's Presbyterian and St. Saviour's Anglican Churches and held at Oasis United.

\*This member total now reflects the method used by the national office which is: number from last year plus any new members minus those deceased.

Please note that all membership records are in the computer as well as in the Historic Roll. We thank all the volunteers, particularly the Weavers who assist in the updating of all our records.

## 2018 Attendance Records

ATTENDANCE RECORD		PUC		2018	
MONTH	WK#1	WK#2	WK#3	WK#4	WK#5
Jan	64	62	60	53	
Feb	73	62	52	59	
March	74	60	76AR	71	
April	102SR25	78 AR11	71	71	Shared
May	74AR12	65	70	65	
June	3rd	76	60		
	↑BC Conference – Service at PTCC				
July	55	59	57	56	66
August	56	55	50	61	
September	50	55	49	59	62
October	?	66	60	59	
November	73	31@Oasis	58	145 (90 <sup>th</sup> Anniv)	
December	N/A	57	56 Xmas Eve		42

SR= sunrise service    AR= Bell Choir

This annual report was compiled by Colin MacDermott from the reports submitted by the individual committees, sub-committees, groups, delegates, etc. Thank you all for your contributions.