

Minister Report

Greetings friends, Wow Squamish United Church look at who you have become. For



some of you coming on a Sunday morning is a bit shocking because you have come here most of your life (or for a lot of years anyway) and you now enter worship and don't recognize all those faces. I want to acknowledge how difficult that can be, and yet I also know it can feel a bit hope filled.

As far as being in a new building we have gotten used to most of the systems and now they only glitch on occasion and when that happens it is often not even our fault.

I love coming into this workplace most days as it is filled with people and vibrant ministry Sunday through Friday.

We have a staff team that work well together and the office is a welcoming place. We have gotten to know our Sea to Sky community partners and for the most part have wonderful shared, flexible relationships. We have come to a place of supporting one another rather ? and wondering how we can assist one another in making work and life smoother For everyone.

As I look back on 2019 I am energized by the ministry and work we have done. You will find on our website and on posters a list of some of our ministries so that folks know that when you support Squamish United Church you support

- Shelter for the homeless
- Before and After school care
- Refugees
- Crisis counselling
- Children and family ministries
- Men's groups
- Women's groups

Seniors programming
Community Christmas care
Healing touch
Spiritual support and guidance
Worship
A safe place for all
And so much more

I know I am probably even missing things and if I am please let me know because we are going to continue to mention this so that we have front and centre our ministry and purpose.

This year of “Spirit Kids” has been a lot of extra work for all the staff but every one of us loves the program when we are working in it and we are constantly blessed by kids and parents who tell us how much they appreciate the program and work that we do. Lisa reports that we had 60 children in our programs in 2019. We continue to hope this will grow in a way that it will assist us financially, but in the meantime it has gotten our name out into the community in ways it never has been before and most importantly we are living into our call of ministry as a congregation to serve our community and its needs.

In the last year we have seen more families come to our drop-in music class, Messy Church and Sunday services. Some of this is because of our community connections entirely. Thank you to Kayla for working above and beyond many hours to make these ministries successful.

In 2019 many of you have discovered where there are vital needs for ministry. We were able to with the assistance of a grant build up a bit of a missing seniors ministry with Elaine Graham at the helm. I am so thankful for her work and assistance in so many areas. UCW is always at work providing meals, fundraisers, coffee and more. Hugh and the finance team work tirelessly to help us figure out how to move forward with our financial needs. M&P have spent more hours than any of us can imagine attempting to get



protocols, job descriptions, salaries, and hiring practices up to date. Grace has been steering a fast-moving ship through a difficult year for our board as they grapple with our financial concerns. Over the last year Arlene Robinson has become a part of our community and she blesses us weekly with her gift of music. Lisa Cameron who quickly became a part of the team has worked many hours to keep this ship afloat. There is so much more to say and I will never cover it all. If I have missed your work and ministry it has not been intentional. We are so blessed by so many.

As I look back on 2019, I celebrate the ministry of my colleagues here who daily pour out their life's energy and gifts for the sake of God's love in this community. As everyone's schedules become increasingly busy, we often turn to staff to do things that volunteers used to do and the Squamish United Church staff steps up. That has led to an increase in staffing budgets, which carries its own challenge, but I want to shine a light on the gifts of human love and expertise offered by our staff.

I also celebrate all who offer their time and gifts on a voluntary basis. Every day you come to the church, offering your gifts, and yourselves: in the music, the meals, the visits, the phone calls, the leadership, the administration, and the worshipping that happens every day, every week. I want you to know, you make a difference. I see it and I am grateful.

We have our challenges finding the people we need to do all we long to do, finding the financial resources to sustain our mission, discerning a vision and some goals for the next years. I have no doubt that we are blessed with gifted people, with a great facility, with a location in the community, with staff and volunteers, and most of all with an attitude of gratitude, all of which gives me great hope for our future. I am grateful that God has called me here. I wholeheartedly believe that God is up to something important here. I invite everyone to actively listen for God's leading as we move together into this next phase of life at Squamish United Church.

At every AGM we have the opportunity to stop and look at where we have come from and to refocus our ministry. To ask once again "Who are we? What is our purpose? Why are we here? What is our mission?" It is especially in these times that we are called to remember our mission both as Christians and church community. Firstly, we are called to love. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your

strength and with all your mind; and, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself’ (Luke 10:27) and secondly, as Squamish United Church we have been called to be “an inclusive community serving God’s world.”

Let us take this opportunity to celebrate the year of life we have had together as a community of faith. In the year ahead I will continue to pray that we open our lives to mystery, to beauty, to hospitality, to questions, to the endless opportunity of discovering the Holy in all we do. Let us continue to seek to be faithful companions on the journey of life, faith and church together. Amen.

Submitted by Rev. Karen Millard



BOARD CHAIR REPORT



It is a pleasure to serve as chair of Squamish United Church! I am proud to work with our dedicated board and serve our wonderful congregation.

Returning to downtown Squamish and settling into our new building has slowly made Centrepont seem like home.

We are proud to be an active intergenerational congregation. **“We are a dedicated group of people with a desire to share God’s grace and love within the community in which we live, work, play and worship”**, fulfilling our Mission of **“An Inclusive Community Serving God’s World”**.

This year has been a program building year. Our before and after school “Spirit Kids” program has had growing pains and staff challenges. It is stabilizing now and we are hopeful that it will grow. It is a welcoming and safe program for children, presented in our spiritual facility. The laughter and the happy sounds of the children in our sanctuary and on our streets as they walk to and from school or to and from the nearby park is wonderful to hear. The feedback we receive from the children and their parents is very positive. Thank you to the Spirit Kids staff for their care and dedication to the children!

Our band is new to worship this year. Thank you to the band for your wonderful addition to Sunday morning worship! Our Sunday morning children’s church is growing in leaps and bounds and Messy Church also continues to grow.

Programs like UCW, Christmas Care, Men’s Breakfast, M & S, Shawl Ministry, Healing Touch and Hilltop Hymn Sing are alive and well and foster both mission and fellowship.

We continue to struggle with our finances and are hopeful that through rentals, grants, fundraising, stewardship, and Spirit Kids we will get a handle on this. We encourage everyone to give generously each week to sustain our programs and I encourage everyone to volunteer to serve on a committee if you are able. Attending our vibrant worship each Sunday and being as involved as possible fosters fellowship and shares the work of our mission.

I would like to thank our board and our dedicated staff, Reverend Karen Millard, Kayla Mak and Lisa Cameron for their hard work this past year. Kayla is going to have a baby in the summer and we wish her a restful time off before the baby comes! We look forward to welcoming a new little one to our church family.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize what we do at SUC and thank everyone for your contribution to our fellowship, mission and ministry!

Sunday worship

Sunday Children's Church

Messy Church

Drop-In Family Music

UCW

Men's Breakfast Group

Community Christmas Care

Mission and Service Support

Multi Faith Participation

12 Step Program Facility Support

Worship Music Group

Extreme Weather Shelter

Spirit Kids Before/After School Care

First United Mission Support

Benevolent Support

Seniors Fellowship

Study Groups

Healing Touch

Shawl Ministry

Hilltop Hymn Sing

Blessings, Grace

Grace Halvorson, Board Chair

Board of Trustees Report

Hello everyone, the Board of Trustees had another rather slow year with little activity.

The Trustees investment account is now down to our last \$100,000. It is invested in a term deposit at Vancity/Squamish Savings.

The Trustees in cooperation with the Regular Church Board and you, our congregation, must decide on how best to spend those funds and over what period of time. They were originally set aside in 2017 to be available in the event the money is needed by the congregation to help us transition to a smaller operation if ever current operations expenditures exceeded revenues and had to cutback due to lack of available cash on hand.



The regular board is conversing on the issue of how best to proceed in 2020 and beyond. The Trustees await a report from them. Any recommendations we may have will then be presented to the congregation for final determination. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Gordon, Chair



Treasurers Report

March 2020

This year marks the second in Centrepont. As can be seen in the accompanying detailed statement the overall givings from PAR and envelopes were about \$66.2K, very close to the budget set for 2019, and very similar to the 2018 givings. When other donations are included, including \$2,780 from the UCW, the total donations were about \$74.6K. Thank you for your continued support.

Other income also is shown in the financial statement. A major source of income was \$50,375 from four grants, most of which was designated for Spirit Kids or the summer camp. Fees from parents for these two activities totaled about \$81.6K. Additional funding was received from fund raising activities (\$4.3K) and facilities donations (rent) (\$5.3K).



Hence the overall income was about \$222K. (M&S givings shown on the financial report are sent to the main church.)

The operating expenses (office, audit, presbytery allocation, worship, utilities, phone, insurance, strata, etc.) totaled about \$69K, (including \$21K for sound panels and blinds). Church salaries and benefits totaled about \$130K, leading to a deficit of about \$104K for the church.

New Program initiatives (Spirit Kids, summer camp, Seeds of Hope) had overall earnings of about \$19K, as shown in the accompanying statement. The summer camp broke even. Altogether this gave a total deficit of about \$85K.

The overall deficit resulted in a significant reduction in our liquid assets. By the end of 2019 we had spent all of the \$100K which had been transferred from a GIC early in 2019, as shown in the balance sheet. This left total assets at the end of 2019 of only about \$141K : a \$100K GIC, about \$18K in the building fund, plus \$23K in the operating account.

The expected deficit for 2019 was expected to be only about \$50K.

The difference is due to several aspects. First, the expenses include the costs of the sound panels and new blinds. Second, we are still learning about reasonable expectations for both the New Programs and rent (“facility donations”). This was the first year with an increased enrolment for Spirit Kids, and its associated costs (salaries, other costs). We were successful in obtaining grants totaling about \$50K to support the new programs, but it was found that more staff were needed than originally budgeted. The organizational structure of Spirit Kids has been changed to optimize income. We also had less income from rent than we had hoped, despite installing new sound panels. It is hoped to improve this by more advertising, and word of mouth.

An “as is” budget for 2020 is given with the 2018 and 2019 statements. The Board has had several meetings about next year’s budget and its predicted deficit. Personnel from the “Pacific Mountain Region” (which replaces the “Presbytery”) have also given us input. Further discussions will take place very soon. The “as is” budget for the church alone for 2020 is predicted to result in a deficit of about \$97K. This would use up almost all of our liquid assets.

We recently received a grant of \$31,700 in support of Spirit Kids in addition to a final payment of \$6375 from an earlier grant. With this support, and assuming the same Spirit Kids enrolment as last fall, and an average number of staff, an income for Spirit Kids (including the \$31.7K in grants) of about \$45K is predicted. A budget for summer camp is also shown, with a net income of about \$12.7K. With these estimates the overall deficit is estimated to be about \$40K. However, the possible incomes shown for Spirit Kids and summer camp are subject to small changes in the enrolment and in the number of staff.

Hugh Kerr, Treasurer

Balance sheet (liquid: does not include building or furniture)

	31 Dec 19
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
111 · Spirit Kids Petty Cash	\$ 201.69
115 · Sq. Savings - GENERAL	
115-2 · Memorial Fund	\$ 580.00
<u>115 · Sq. Savings - GENERAL – Other</u>	<u>\$ 22,613.91</u>
Total 115 · Sq. Savings – GENERAL	\$ 23,193.91
122 · Trustees - 100078791394	\$ 18,326.71
<u>123 · Long Term Redeem 100079707811</u>	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
Total Chequing/Savings	\$ 141,722.31

Givings: 2018, 2019

Amount (\$)	GENERAL				M&S			
	Number Giving		Sum		Number giving		Sum*	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
0 - 50.0	13	10	309	245	4	3	115	87
50.1-100	5	6	395	440	3	2	215	120
100.1-200	9	5	1241	826	5	7	725	1026
200.1-300	2	4	500	1022	2	3	515	745
300.1-400	1	1	400	305	2	2	735	683
400.1-500	1	1	460	490	3	1	1345	480
500.1-600	1	2	520	1095	2	3	1200	1800
600.1-700	0	2	0	1300	0	0	0	0
700.1-800	4	4	2977	2950	0	1		800
800.1-900	2	2	1675	1675	1	1	900	900
900.1-1000	4	1	2945	943	0	0		0
1000-1500	9	11	10696	13400	1	0	1200	0
1500-2000	3	3	5232	5360	0	0		0
2000-3000	5	4	12035	9479	1	1	2700	2515
3000-4000	3	3	9850	9920				
4000-5000	2	3	9020	12780				
5000-6000	0	1		6000				
SUM	64	63	58255	68230	24	24	9650	9156

**plus
recycling*

BUDGET projections (Mar 12), 2018, 2019, 2020

INCOME	2018 actual	2019 budget	2019 actual	"as is" 2020
500 · Donations				
501 · Existing Congregant Donations	64,805	65,000	66,173	68,000
502 · Family/children			1,207	1,500
503 · Open Donations	1490	2000	2221	2400
505 · Messy church donations			344	300
506 · Donations - In Kind (things, not \$)	3746*	0	1341*	0
507 Benevolent fund			540	0
508 · Donations - Other	19000	1500	0	
509 · UCW Donations	1500	2000	2780	2500
Total 500 · Donations	86,795	70,500	73,265	74700
511 · Fund raising and events	1476	4000	4344	4000
512- Stewardship	1377	5000	0	0
520 · Interest Received	61	1000	544	1000
522 GRANTS		20000	11825	0

526 · Facility donations (rentals)	5385	10000	5289	7000
530 · Misc Income			3331	
535 · Flow Thru Income (M&S)	10000*	10000*	8831*	9,000*
550 · Investment Income	9240	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	104,334	110,500	98,598	86,700
EXPENSES				
610 · Advertising	885	1200	1139	1200
620 · Bank Charges & Fees	1066	1500	1237	1200
623 Centrepont expenses	2217		21418	500
625 "Office" Copier, Cleaner, signs, etc.	13069	12000	8379	8500
635 · Utilities & Telephone	1887	2000	2760	3000
642 - Facility rental expenses (clean, chairs)			421	500
645 · Insurance	1638	1400	1580	1600
655 · Legal, audit, accounting	5081	4000	4202	10000
657 · Miscellaneous Expense	941	3000	231	500
667 - Strata Fees at Centrepont	9256	10000	10030	10000
700 - Messy and children's' church	3914	1500	269	500
700-15 Seeds of Hope	675	4325	2767	0
700-10 Messy church expense		1500	679	500
720 · Congregational/Event Activities	292	1500	405	200
730 - Benevolent Fund withdrawals			20	
785 · Presbytery Allocation	4333	5720	5720	5720
791 · Worship Expense (chairs, pianist, supply)	4836	3800	6598	5000
795 - Children's church Expense			1243	1000
Total operating expense	50,090	53,445	69,098	49,920
Expenses (continued)				
	2018 actual	2019 budget	2019 actual	2020 as is
Phone, education, travel, discretionary	6840	7000	3287	3500
850 - Salaries and benefits				
Salaries **	112427	116647	108014	106,078
**includes minister+ secretary: (15 hrs./wk), + children ministry (10 hrs /wk)				
Benefits (22.95%)	22332	22870	22800	24,345
TOTAL salaries and benefits	134,759	139,517	130,814	130,423
TOTAL EXPENSE	191,689	199,962	203,199	183,843
NET (INCOME- EXPENSE WITHOUT SPIRIT KIDS)	(87,355)	(89,462)	(104,601) ((\$21.4K sound+ blinds)	(97,143)
Spirit Kids				
Income (after school, PD Days)	21,750	82,000	69,721	76,485

Provision Grants	38,750	11,250	11,250	38,075
Total Spirit Income	60,500	93,250	80,971	114,560
SK program expenses and insurance	5,884	5,300	8,843	5,200
SK salaries and benefits	35,915	59,950	53,059	63,750
Net Spirit Kids	18,701	28,000	19,069	45,610
NET WITH SK	(68,654)		(85,532)	(51,533)
SUMMER CAMP				
Summer Camp income (fees)	0		12,152	29,715
Camp grants			27,300	??
Total camp income			39,452	29,715
Camp Salaries and benefits			37,596	16,695
Camp snacks and equipment			1,720	5,807
Total camp expenses			39,316	22,502
Net camp income	-	5,000	136	7,213
	2018 actual	Budget 2019	2019 actual	2020 "As is" budget
Total Net	\$(68,654)	\$ (56,462)	\$ (85,396)	\$(44,320)

Worship Report

This year the worship committee has been re-establishing. We are still in the midst of learning and discovering our roles and we always welcome new members to assist us with the tasks at hand. Here is a highlighted list of worship facts and events for 2019.

- Our worship has been blessed with the musical leadership of our pianist Arlene Robinson. She enjoys playing her piano for us every week as we worship together.
- And extra blessing sprang forth in our new ensemble that plays many Sundays, we will always welcome more instruments and voices
- This Lent and Easter we focussed on the series “Busy - reconnecting with the unhurried God”
- We held a short stewardship series called “A Wonderful Life”

- This Advent and Christmas season we created the series “Heaven and Nature Sing” celebrating the 300th year of the hymn “Joy to the World.”



Baptisms 2019

Adam Richard Robinson	July 14, 2019
Olivia Marie Banna	September 1, 2019
James Paul Sami Banna	September 1, 2019
Paige Elizabeth MacLean-Talbot	December 8, 2019

Memorials 2019

Moneta Neighbor	May 13, 2019
Eilene Daney	June 27, 2019
Karen Larcombe	September 25, 2019
Doreen Shaw	November 23, 2019

Marriage 2019

Meghan Kent & Alex Kang	July 27, 2019
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New Members 2019

Larry and Rosie Banting	November 24, 2019
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The worship committee is always looking for new members. We as a committee help prepare the sanctuary with seasonal decorations, put up banners etc, ensure we have supplies for the season and all Sunday worship services. In the past the worship committee has been a team that assisted in pulling together themes and musicians and all the extras of creative worship. If this sounds fun to you (it is to me - but that's probably why I became a minister) please let Rev. Karen know and you can join us. Our current worship committee is Arlene Robinson, Kayla Mak, Julie Murakami, Louise Martin and Trevor Harris.

Submitted by Rev. Karen Millard

Ministry and Personnel Report

2019 continued to be a challenging and interesting year for the M&P Committee. Marilyn Caldwell continued to co-chair the committee with Cindy Roy. Louise Martin also remained as a committee member. 2019 was the first year that the Spirit Kids Summer Program was offered, and September was the second year of the actual Spirit Kids Before and After School Care Program. M&P gained a greater understanding of the complexities and necessary on-going workload that is required to sustain such a large church sponsored undertaking.

Our early tasks included researching and introducing to the Board an alignment of the Minister's salary according to United Church of Canada guidelines. This required extensive research and formulation. A special thanks to Cindy Roy for taking on this task. We now have the salary aligned correctly. From there, our Committee had the challenge of working together with others on the Board to plan for the Minister's three-month Sabbatical Leave starting the at end of April. A committee was struck, and participants worked hard with the Board to fill that position to the best of their ability. It was decided that the congregation would hire Rev. Debra Bowman and Rev. Elaine Graham for Sunday mornings, pastoral care and for some supervision of the Spirit Kids Summer Program.

Our other major challenge in the spring was the hiring of personnel for the Summer Programs without knowledge of the number of children that would be attending. M&P applied and was granted a Sumer Student Grant from the United Church of Canada. Unfortunately, we were not able to fill that position and the grant was returned. Although the camps were well received by families and children, staffing was a daily concern, both in terms of management and childcare.

In late March, we were informed we no longer had a custodian. In April a custodial company was hired to provide services to the church. To date, they have worked effectively with Pat Wilson in the process of moving furniture and cleaning the sanctuary on Saturdays. There were occasions when the service was not available. M&P covered the custodial service.

M&P has introduced the Vacation Schedule document to staff. It is hoped that with M&P knowing ahead of time when people plan to be away, staffing can be better planned. During the 2019-20 year, no staff members have used the document. It is hoped that it will gain traction during 2020.

Reverend Millard requested Vacation in August and November. The Sunday Services were covered by Reverend Elaine Graham. Lisa Cameron requested Vacation in March. This was covered by Cindy Roy and Deb Kent.

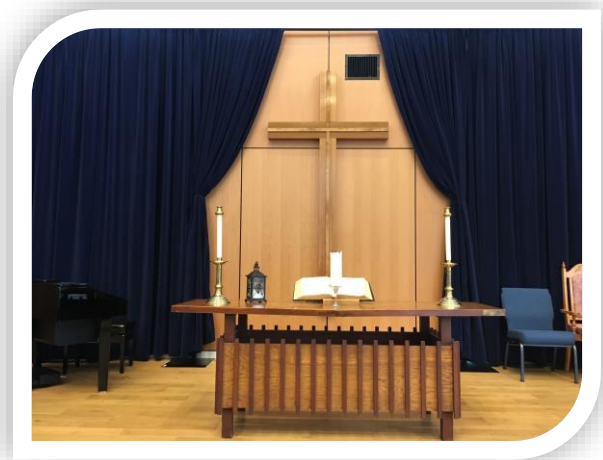
Elaine Graham completed her work through the Seeds of Hope Grant where she had developed a seniors-focused daytime program series. She also continued to facilitate the Pen Pal Project, which was celebrated with a wonderful cake and pen pal revealing event at the end.

New job descriptions were created or rewritten for the Child Care Associates and Manager for the Summer Program, the Custodial position, the Director of Family Ministries, the Manager Position for Spirit Kids. In addition to the work done on job descriptions, contracts were also written or updated to reflect the changes in positions. Cindy Roy developed five contracts for Summer Camp Personnel alone. Thank you.

Successful probationary performance evaluations were completed on a number of staff. A Performance evaluation was completed for the Minister through a series of interviews. The Minister took the reflections from that input to use as part of her Sabbatical Leave.

We are very fortunate to have dedicated and committed staff and volunteers at Squamish United Church. It has been particularly challenging for them to supervise and cover staff for the Spirit Kids Program. Thank you to everyone. M&P will continue to work with our staff and provide support to the best of our ability.

Marilyn Caldwell, Chair
Ministry & Personnel Committee



Mission and Service Report

The Mission and Service (M&S) donations support needs beyond the local church, for a wide variety of organizations and projects, in Canada and elsewhere. In Canada the projects include: community and justice work, such as ministries that advocate, provide housing, mental health treatment, and employment training for marginalized Canadians. It helps with support for small churches, summer camps, theological education and reconciliation activities. It has partners in Latin America (8 countries), Asia (5 countries) Africa (8 countries). Priorities include access to land to grow local food, safe local water, food security, sustainable livelihoods, human rights, peace building, and reconciliation activities. More details can be found at: https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/resources/mission_service-at-a-glance.pdf

For disaster relief M&S partners with other churches through an organization known as Action of Churches Together (ACT). ACT's financial support allows worldwide immediate financial response to disasters.

The M&S committee at present is Christine Tribe, Barbara Stover, Pat Wilson and Hugh Kerr. It presents a weekly "Minute for Mission" to highlight an example project of M&S. In 2019 donations by Squamish United Church totaled over \$8800. This includes proceeds from recycling items at the local Bottle Depot, (account # 205), which were over \$300.

The M&S Committee is very grateful for these donations. We ask that you continue to

support M&S through regular givings in 2020. We would also welcome new members of the M&S Committee. No application forms, or experience, are needed. We only require that you have a desire to inform yourself, and the congregation, about the many M&S activities.



Hugh Kerr

Family and Children Ministry

Spirit Kids Out Of School Care:

Spirit Kids gave families care for their children before and/or after school in 2019. Spirit Kids has been a huge learning curve for all of us and yet for the staff it has been a joy to be involved with the wider community connecting with families and children in need of extra care out of school hours.

In the summer there were 6 weeks of summer camps Monday to Friday. This was a huge accomplishment for us and although it came with its challenges it also provided children and families with great opportunities for activities and care over the summer months. The staff and students can't wait for another year of Spirit Kids summer camps.



Children's Church

Children's church continued to grow throughout 2019. Children began in the church sanctuary and then had a gathering time that introduced the theme of the day. Each week they would help light the Christ Candle and then carry the light of Christ into the Children's worship time. Children's church is filled with story, crafts,

games and fun. Kayla kept the children connected and interested. Thank you to Elaine Graham and Michelle Ulmer and others who filled in to assist Kayla when she was away or the room was overflowing.

Messy Church

On the first Friday on the month families came together for Messy Church.

Messy Church is a fun evening for all ages. Each night starts with a meal and then we moves into music, story and crafts.

Each session has a theme and a Christian story. This year we had worship themes around love, Lent, Easter, multi-cultural day, lantern festival and more.

Thank you to UCW and the many others who contributed to the meals that nourished our bodies.



Family Music Class

On Tuesday mornings the church sanctuary was filled with music, dancing and laughter. Family music class became a regular drop-in music time for many families in our wider community. Kayla would lead with singing, instruments, dancing and movement that filled our space with joy.



Administrator Report

Squamish United Church has become by second home. Initially I thought a church would be a quiet workplace with possibly not much change or happenings but instead it has been full of exciting surprises. The environment is busy, filled with enthusiasm and joy. I have gotten to know the congregation over the past year, which makes all communications over the phone and email more personal. I find myself greeting familiar faces around town, which is exactly what I had hoped, would happen. Our church hosted many interesting events in 2019 that my family enjoyed. I am looking forward to another exciting year at Squamish United Church.

Lisa Cameron



Men's Breakfast Report

The Men's group came together eight times in 2019, six times at the Anglican church hall, ones at Sea to Sky Gondola for a walk and talk and once at Centrepoint. The facilities there are difficult to use and small, as we are between fifteen to twenty men enjoying fellowship, breakfast and discussion. The group has about 22 active participants; most of the men are not members of our churches. We start at 7.30 am on Saturday morning; first cooking then 8.30 am breakfast followed by the theme and discussion, ending 10.00 am. The themes are suggested by the men of the group or guests. They vary on different happenings in our society, world and environment. We keep in mind that we live in God's world by shared concerns and hope to make a positive different in it. **Walter Huber**



United Church Women Report

The UCW membership consists of 16 active members. We are part of the “Pacific Mountain Region UCW”. The 4 Pillars of our Purpose are: Christian Witness, Study, Fellowship and Service. We meet the second Wednesday of each month from September to June, starting our sessions with a “Devotional” reading and finishing with delicious refreshments from our host home, where fellowship is the focus.

We would welcome any women who would like to join us as a member or even just for one evening.

Every 3rd and 4th Sunday, we provide coffee service post church and three times a year we provide food for “Messy Church”. UCW also provided food for the SUC AGM in March and fruit plates for the pancake breakfast in September.

Not being entirely food focused, we had a “Fall Fellowship” meeting in September with approximately 20 attendees. Over the year, our “Caring” ministry has sent prayers, plants and cards to different individuals.

Fund raising activities included a “Book & Bake” sale in February to assist people in need in our community, 2 Chicken Sales (one in the Spring and Fall each), contributory support of the “Musical Evening” in June, a “Produce” sale in the Fall, and another bake sale at the Christmas craft fair. United Church calendars were sold and we also participated in the “Let’s Talk Turkey Luncheon” to raise funds to purchase turkeys for First United Church in Vancouver. Over the year \$540.00 were raised for the benevolent fund and \$2,750.00 for the general church fund.



It has been a busy and rewarding year for our members and we give thanks that we are all well and able to work towards fulfilling our purpose.

Respectfully submitted

Valerie Stainton, UCW President.

UCW Financial Report

JANUARY 1, 2019 OPENING BALANCE

\$ 227.16

Income

Chicken Sales (profit \$1045.22)	\$ 7,829.33	
Turkey luncheon	479.05	
Calendars	56.30	
Coffee donations	250.30	
Books & Baking	640.00	
Vegetable Sale	1,892.25	
Christmas bake sale	357.00	
Interest	.32	
Total Income	\$ 11,504.55	<u>\$11,504.55</u>
		<u>\$11,731.71</u>

Expenses

Chicken expenses	\$ 6,784.11	
Vegetable expenses	1,238.00	
SUC Benevolent Fund	540.00	
SUC General Fund	2,780.00	
Fees	5.90	
Total Expenses	\$11,348.01	<u>(\$11,348.01)</u>
Closing balance December 31, 2017		<u>\$ 383.70</u>

**Respectfully submitted by Deb Kent
Treasurer, UCW**

Refugee (Newcomer) Committee

Squamish United has been supporting refugee families through its Refugee / Newcomer Committee since 2016. In 2019 the Committee was Vicki and Kevin Haberl, Louise Martin, Nairn Stewart, and Hugh and Elizabeth Kerr. We have been involved in the welcoming and care of 5 Syrian refugee families. The Haberls have one of the families in a suite in their house.



The families arrived at different dates starting in May 2016. The fifth family arrived in October 2019, with 7 (!) children. The mother is a sister of a mother of one of the original families, but they had not seen each other for over 5 years. You can imagine their joy on being reunited. Members of the Committee and the rest of the sponsor groups maintain strong connections with the newcomer families. All of the children learn English at an astonishing rate, and go to regular schools. The parents learn English through regular lessons and tutoring.

The fathers are all employed, and one of the mothers now is a preschool worker. They have great culinary abilities. One of the families sells Syrian food at the local summer market. They are available for catering their Syrian meals for parties or other special events.

The settling of the newcomers has been very successful. Now two of the original families are applying to bring family members to Canada. Some members of the congregation have donated this year for the newcomer families, for which we are very thankful.

Hugh Kerr



2018 Annual General Meeting

Minutes

March 10, 2019

The meeting was called to order 12:04 pm by Chair Grace Halvorson

Present: Rev Karen Millard, Grace Halvorson, Kaija Belfry Munroe, Deb Kent, Ian Kent, Cindy Roy, Elizabeth Kerr, Hugh Kerr, Marilyn Caldwell, Valerie Stainton, Kayla Mak, Susan MacDonald, James MacDonald, Kevin Haberl, Vicki Haberl, Pat Yendall, Patsy Riecker, Elaine Graham, Moneta Neighbor, Maureen Gilmour, Lisa Cameron

1. **Opening Prayer/Reflection - Welcome to the Squamish Nation Traditional Territory** Ha7lh en skwalwn Kwis tl'iknumut tl'a Skwxwuu7mesh Uxwumix

2. **Opening Comments:**

Rev Karen Millard presented a video highlighting 2018 at Squamish United Church. Grace Halvorson talked about how 2018 was a year of transitioning into the new building. Some final elements such as the cross outside are still missing. New welcoming signs were just donated by Rob Pedersen. The sound panel installation is completed. This expense was paid with the original money allocated for the building.

The church's children's ministries have been very successful and 2 grants have been received. The community is acknowledging what we do.

3. **Motion for Voting Privileges:**

MOTION: Moved by Deb Kent, seconded by James MacDonald that voting privileges be given to all members and adherents in attendance. Carried.

4. **Review and Adoption of minutes of 2018 AGM:**

MOTION: Moved by Kaija Belfry-Munroe, seconded by Kevin Haberl that the minutes of the April 22, 2018 Annual General Meeting be adopted. Carried.

5. **Acceptance of 2018 Committee Reports:**

MOTION: Moved by Marilyn Caldwell, seconded by Valerie Stainton that the Committee Reports except for the Nomination Committee be received. Carried.

Marilyn Caldwell spoke about the development of the M&P ministry. She explained that Rev. Karen Millard requested a sabbatical leave last spring. The United Church of Canada allows a paid sabbatical after 5 years of uninterrupted service. The purpose of a sabbatical is to reflect, learn and to recharge. A sabbatical committee has been formed. Karen's sabbatical will start at the end of April until the end of July. Karen has decided to take the sabbatical during a quieter time in the church. The worship committee, M&P committee and the board are involved in the planning of covering Karen's sabbatical leave. It is important to keep the church's momentum going. The church has a lot staff and ministries, including pastoral care as well as the before and after school care. We are lucky to have 2 ordained United Church ministers in Squamish. Both have been approached to help cover Karen's leave. The ordained ministers, Deb Bowman and Elaine Graham, will be covering 2-3 Sunday services per month. The 4th Sunday will be covered by a lay minister. A detailed plan of the sabbatical coverage will be presented at the next board meeting.

Kayla Mak spoke about the family ministries. Both Spirit Kids, the before and after school care program and children's church and messy church are growing. Next month Messy Church is planning a big Easter celebration. A new grant for Spirit Kids has been received for 2019. We already have children signed up for September 2019 care.

Question from Pat Yendall: How many kids are allowed and how many kids do we currently have signed up in Spirit Kids?

Kayla reported that we are allowed 24 kids. It is 12 kids per adult. On average at the moment we have 5 children in morning care and 11 in the afternoon care. Children's church was very busy over Christmas. We have over 20 kids coming to children's church. The kids were split up into age groups. In the future we might even ask to use the second pre-school room for children's church. Currently we have approximately 6-7 children per Sunday. This historically is a slower time of the year.

Rev Karen Millard spoke about how busy the past year was and how taking a sabbatical is the right time for her. Karen talked about how our staff and programming at the church is functioning well. Elaine Graham and Kayla Mak are managing their programs well. We will be having a busy summer with child care summer camps happening every day. The caring ministry team is in place; it is very

important to have help available when needed. Our community doesn't only have seniors who are in need but also struggling families with children. We have developed an excellent relationship with our community partners. We support one another and our programs. This is a gift that we had hoped for. When we receive grants such as the grant we just received for our child care program the community is watching. We are seen as caring for our community. Our place is moving and thriving even if it's not necessarily bringing in money. We can celebrate how we are impacting our community and we have to trust that God is with us.

6. Smyth Reviewed 2018 Financial Statements:

MOTION: Moved by the Hugh Kerr, seconded by Ian Kent that the 2018 Reviewed Accounts as prepared by Smythe LLP be accepted. Carried.

7. Looking Ahead

Kaija Belfrey- Munroe announced the grant we received for Spirit Kids and explained that we will be applying for more grants in April.

Rev Karen Millard explained that the United Church of Canada realizes that grants are necessary to help sustain churches and they are therefore making those funds available.

Grace Halverson

8. Budget 2019

Hugh Kerr presented the 2019 budget with a power point presentation. He presented an overview of our 2018, 2019 and projected 2020 finances.

MOTION: Moved by Ian Kent, seconded by Kevin Haberl that the 2019 Budget as presented be approved. Carried.

MOTION: Moved by Hugh Kerr, seconded by Ian Kent that we have a special semi-annual ministries and finances meeting in October 2019. Carried.

9. Nominations for 2019 Board.

Squamish United Church	Proposed 2019 Board of Directors
Position	Candidate
Board Chair	Grace Halvorson
Vice Chair	
Past Chair	Ian Kent
Board of Trustees Chair	
Treasurer	Hugh Kerr
Finance Committee Chair	Nominated by Grace Halvorson, seconded by Valerie Stainton: Kaija Belfrey-Munroe
Worship Chair	Trevor Harris
Caring Ministry	Elizabeth Kerr
Ministry and Personnel Chair	Marilyn Caldwell
Mission and Services Chair	Hugh Kerr
Children and Family Liaison	Kaija Belfrey-Munroe
Property Chair	
Stewardship Chair	Grace Halvorson
UCW Liaison	Val Stainton
Member at Large	Pat Yendall

MOTION: Moved by Hugh Kerr, seconded by Deb Kent that the Nominations Committee report be approved. Carried.

10. **Next Meeting Date – March 2020**

11. **Adjournment by Elizabeth Hugh, seconded Patsy Riecker. Closing Prayer.**