



Yellowknife United Church Annual Report 2017

for the Annual Meeting:
Sunday, June 4th, 2017
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Mission Statement

Yellowknife United Church is a community of Christians who enjoy fellowship grounded in a common, growing faith. The opportunity for worship and reflection offers the strength and spiritual development we need to live and minister in our society.

We value the Christian Education of our children and adults. By exploring our Christian heritage we understand our faith more deeply. We seek to be enriched by the spiritual traditions of the northern peoples.

As a congregation of the United Church of Canada we accept a calling to share our gifts, to work for a just and peaceful community and to exercise faithful stewardship of the life and health of God's creation.

Vision Statement

We believe that all people are created in the image of God
and are unconditionally loved by God.

We are dedicated to being a community which welcomes and includes everybody, celebrating the diversity of our age, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, ethnicity, and socio-economic circumstance.

We pray for God's spirit to guide us as we celebrate the richness that diversity brings to our church, even as it challenges us.

We are committed to seeking justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with our God on our common faith journey. ALL are welcome!

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Agenda | <u>3</u> |
| Minutes: Congregational Financial Meeting – February 12, 2017 | <u>4</u> |
| Minister’s Report | <u>5</u> |
| Passages | <u>6</u> |
| Report from the Board Chairperson | <u>7</u> |
| Outreach Committee Report | <u>9</u> |
| Ministry & Personnel Committee Report | <u>11</u> |
| United Church Women Report | <u>12</u> |
| Stewardship Committee Report | <u>13</u> |
| Community, Life and Membership Report | <u>14</u> |
| Christian Development Committee Report | <u>15</u> |
| Affirm Committee | <u>17</u> |
| Property & Maintenance Committee Report | <u>18</u> |
| Worship Committee | <u>19</u> |
| Northwest Territories Community Services Corporation | <u>21</u> |
| Northern Lights Presbytery | <u>27</u> |
| Treasurer | <u>28</u> |

YELLOWKNIFE UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
June 4th, 2017
Agenda

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
2. Voting Rights
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Time for Adjournment
5. Approval of Minutes from Annual Financial Meeting – Feb. 12, 2017
6. Business Arising from the May 29, 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting
7. Annual Reports
8. Financial Report
9. Report of the Nominating Committee
10. Signing Authorities
11. Update on Congregational Visioning Process
12. Congregational Concerns and Committee Comments
13. Next Congregational Meeting
14. Adjournment

Annual Congregational Financial Meeting February 12, 2017

Congregational Chairperson: John Stewart

Congregational Secretary: Kathy Burns

Present: John Stewart, Kathy Burns, Karen Wilford, Peter Workman, Sharon Chynoweth, Randy Wedel, Stuart Oldham, Nancy Trotter, Rovelyn Sobrepena, Shirley Guray-Valdriz, Rowen Valdriz, Janice Daly, Lindsay Chiasson, Cynthia Creed, Fiona Donnelly-Rheaume, Sandy Little, Sean Daly, John Soderberg, Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Sophie Call, Barb Paquin, Grace Whitelock, Lloyd Henderson, Marg Henderson, Laurie Gault, Margaret Melhorn, Elaine Stewart, and Terrilyn Hayden.

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer - John Stewart call the meeting to order and Peter Chynoweth opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. Voting Rights - Motion: Margaret Melhorn/Janis Daly "Move to approve all present including adherents to vote on matters of a temporal nature." Carried.
CM 17-1
3. Approval of the Agenda - Motion: Karen Wilford/Stuart Oldham "Move to accept the agenda as amended to include the addition of the Interim Visioning Report". Carried. **CM 17-2**
4. Approval of Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting May 29, 2016 - Motion: Karen Wilford/Nancy Trotter "Move to accept the minutes of the Congregational Meeting May 29, 2016." Carried. **CM 17-3**
5. Business Arising from the meeting of May 29, 2016 – None.
6. Review of Prior Year Statements and Budget for Current Year – Presented by Treasurer Lindsay Chiasson. Motion: Lindsay Chaisson/Margaret Melhorn - "Move to accept the 2016 un-audited Financial Statements." Carried. **CM 17-4**

Motion: Lindsay Chiasson/Janice Daly "Move to accept the proposed 2017 Budget." Carried **CM 17-5**

7. Interim Report from Visioning Committee - Presented by Margaret Melhorn. Motion: Sharon Chynoweth/Lloyd Henderson "Move to receive Interim Visioning Report as presented." Carried. **CM 17-6**
8. Congregational Concerns – Sean Daly spoke about the proposed changes to the lobby and main floor area. Much discussion ensued.
9. Adjournment: Motion-Janice Daly/Peter Workman "Move to adjourn meeting @1:38 pm." Carried. **CM 17-7**

Living In to Who We Are

On Sundays when we are getting ready to begin worship, the greeter has the responsibility to wheel the large cart of hymn books out into the lobby in order to hand out the books we will be using in worship on that day. The process continues as the cart is wheeled into the auditorium for any last minute arrivals and then given the nature of our worship space and the need to store things away so that others can use the auditorium in all the many ways it gets used, the cart is returned to the room we know as the AV room.

As a witness to this little “dance of the hymn book cart” I am often called into duty to help push the heavy wooden cart into its various positions. The weight of the cart is such that it would rather stay resting than get moved. And so it gives me an opportunity to note that “getting over inertia is always an issue with the church”.

It has been said that some of the truest things are said in jest.

My intention with the little witticism is not to make particular comment on the congregation of Yellowknife United Church, but instead to make a statement about church in general.

I could add two more similar wisecracks that make the same point. Some people have said that the seven most common words of church community are “We Never Did It That Way Before” and finally the joke about how many church members it takes to change a light bulb.... Change!?

We all know that stereotypes can be maddening and instructive at the same time. Stereotypes don’t get formed out of nothing – there is a reason they develop, but we also know that once a stereotype is fashioned, it can be very difficult to get past the assumptions that develop around it.

One of the most helpful descriptions of Jesus I encountered early in my time in ministry was that of Jesus being an “iconoclast” which parsed out means that he was one who broke down stereotypes or literally smashed icons. He portrayed an ability to see past assumed expectations and societal prejudices to look into the spirit of people around him and discern something good and faithful and instructive to others.

When I prepare to write for the annual report each year I always take a look at what I wrote last year (doesn’t everyone?) as a starting point for describing what was new, what was continued and what gained prominence in our life as a community of faith over the past year.

Last year I reflected on the ministry of hospitality which occupied a significant part of our time in the latter part of 2014 and which, not surprisingly, seemed to bubble up as a significant part of our ministry in the report from the Identity, Mission and Needs Analysis survey that many of us completed in the winter of 2016. I also looked forward to how the responses to that survey would be reflected in the visioning work we were engaged with going forward from the IMNA and Environics reports.

We might be tempted to look at the year just past and wonder if all that much happened. I could make practically the same report. Is that cause for discouragement?

Not at all! I said at several times during the year that my schedule has been as busy or busier than it has ever been. There were special projects or initiatives taking place within the committees that do the work of our church. We continue to work on the recommendations from the last pastoral oversight visit and the fullness of being an open and inclusive community of welcome is pervading the ways we think and feel about ourselves. This was eminently visible in the responses to the latest survey offered through the Visioning committee.

This “busyness” is also a sign of individuals and a congregation that are living into the work that we are called to do – whether it is a congregationally inspired and directed project, or the work that our membership in a community of faith calls us to do as individuals.

I could repeat much of what I said last year – not as a sign of discouragement, but as a reaffirmation of the fact that we have a sense about who we are and how we are and that we are comfortable about that, but not so

comfortable that we do not see the value in moving past some inertia, to go past the “We Never Did It That Way Before” and to change the light bulb – for something fresher, brighter, more energy efficient and aesthetically pleasing!

Forty plus years ago, the congregation of Yellowknife United Church took a bold step and did something they had never done before. We are still living in the realization of what that meant and what it means. Are we ready for something new again? Maybe! But we don’t need to be discouraged if it doesn’t seem apparent right away. We are a community of faith that has a pretty good sense of who and what we are, and as long as we remain open to the urgings of the Spirit and remain ready for the ways in which those urgings will direct us, we are fine.

It’s happened before and it will happen again. Of that I am sure. And in my experience, Yellowknife United Church has always responded to whatever calling and challenge is placed before it. Some things don’t need to change, and that’s one of them!

Respectfully and with gratitude,

Peter Chynoweth

In Memoriam

Kathryn Youngblut
Ruth Spence

August 5, 2016
October 16, 2016

Baptism

Sophie Marie Tamblyn Beauchamp

February 12, 2017

Wedding

Diana George and William Magno

March 11, 2017

YELLOWKNIFE UNITED CHURCH

Board Chair Report 2016-2017

It was a bit daunting to take on the role of Chair for a Board at which I had attended perhaps two meetings previously. I need not have worried; the generosity of all Board members in filling in gaps where my knowledge or process was lacking made it all work out. Thanks to all of you for your patience.

I want to say a particular thank you to Peter Chynoweth who attends a heroic number of meetings and yet is always able to find the divine in the room. No small task and we are blessed with his leadership.

Devy Dulay, who began as office administrator in July 2016 has been a welcome addition to the team. Her cheery attitude is always a pleasure to work with.

Below are the highlights of the work of the Board over the last year:

CSC and Church Agreement

The process begun in 2016 to review the formal agreement between the Official Board and the Community Services Corporation was completed during this year. A revised copy of the Agreement was considered by the Board and signed in September 2016.

Visioning

The visioning process that was kicked off by recommendations from the pastoral oversight team from Northern Lights Presbytery in 2014 continues. The Official Board was kept advised of the Visioning Committee's work in discerning the insights available as a result of the IMNA (Identity, Mission and Needs Analysis) survey.

Church office relocation

The Board was approached by the Community Services Corporation to consider renovations to the lobby area so as to allow the CSC offices to move into the space currently occupied by the Church and creating a new Church office in the space currently used as the cloakroom. The Board has devoted a great deal of time, energy and prayer into considering the proposal and attempting to have a meaningful, respected role in the planning and implementation of the renovations. This effort is ongoing. A particular thank you goes out to Sean Daly, who is acting as the liaison between the Official Board and the CSC and has been mindful of the impact of the project upon Church staff. As of the date of writing this report, it is expected that work will commence the 3rd week of May through until August. Our promised new cloakroom would be the last items completed, likely in the Fall.

Remits

The 42nd General Council of the United Church of Canada approved 8 Remits to be voted on by the governing bodies of either pastoral charges or presbyteries. The Official Board of the Yellowknife United Church is required to vote on Remits # 1,2,3,4 and 6. The Board approached this task by reviewing each remit in turn at a meeting and then voting on it at a subsequent meeting. On 3 occasions we hosted 3-D (Dine, Discuss & Dash) opportunities immediately following a service. This process allowed us to be reflective, informed and inclusive in our process.

| | | |
|-----|--|-----------------------|
| #1 | Three Council Model | Approved |
| #2 | Elimination of transfer and settlement | Approved |
| #3 | Establishment of Office of Vocation | Approved |
| #4 | Funding a New Model | Approved |
| \$6 | One Order of Ministry | deferred to September |

NUP 40th anniversary

November marked the 40th Anniversary of Northern United Place and the Official Board was invited to send a representative to the planning committee meeting of the Community Services Corporation where we were apprised of the plans of the CSC to mark the occasion.

Walking a Path towards Reconciliation

In February 2016, Alberta and Northwest Conference's Living Into Right Relations Committee asked that each pastoral charge name facilitators or 'honourary witnesses' who could take on a lead role in the Congregation's work of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Kathryn Walker and I have been named to this role. We have had excellent support from Barb Paquin and Nancy Trotter as we strive to determine how this role intersects with the other work of the church.

In addition to what I consider to be the major undertakings of the Board over the last year, we have also had smaller, but no less impactful, items of business. From having the kitchen exhaust system inspected and improving our practice in this regard, to fulsome discussions around the intersection of radical welcome and safe spaces, there has been no shortage of opportunity for reflecting on how we live out our faith.

More details of the last year's journey are found in the attached Committee reports. It has been a privilege to serve the congregation as Board Chair and I thank you all for the opportunity.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Wilford

Outreach Committee Annual report - May 2017

Committee members are: Joanna Wilson, Karen Hamre, Nancy Trotter, Kathryn Walker, Grace Whitelock, Lex Lovatt, Suzanne Ngo Likaa and Peter Chynoweth (ex-officio). Barb Paquin is also a member of the Refugee committee.

This year the outreach committee participated in the following:

Refugee Sponsorship

It is almost a year since Abdi arrived in Yellowknife. This has been a busy time helping Abdi adjust to life in a new country. It has also been a special time for outreach committee members getting to know Abdi and members of the Somali community. There have been a few challenges along the way. Abdi has experienced difficulty learning English, he continues to participate in tutoring. We are happy that Abdi has a part-time job at the Fat Fox and lives in a Bachelor apartment at NUP. We are actively assisting Abdi to obtain more work so that he will be self sufficient. Abdi is very appreciative of all the assistance he has received. We are planning a potluck to celebrate Abdi's first year in Yellowknife.

Yellowknife Welcomes Syrian Family & Abdi

In early December we participated in the welcome to Yellowknife event for the family from Syria. Abdi was also officially welcomed by the City Mayor.

The Christmas sock project has become an annual project. We continue to find this project meaningful for members of the Yellowknife United Church and the homeless individuals, who receive the socks filled with useful items. We received generous donations from the congregation and the youth group this year, and we also used up some leftover supplies from previous years, so we did not have to spend any money out of the Outreach committee budget. We easily met our annual target of 50 filled socks so that all the people staying at the Salvation Army Shelter on Christmas Eve can receive one. As in past years, we heard that the socks and the items inside are very much appreciated by the recipients.

The foot washing program continues at the Salvation Army Shelter year-round. Thank you to congregation members who participate in this program. Additional volunteers and donations of socks are needed. Please contact Nancy or leave your name in the office if you would like to volunteer with the foot washing program.

In December we also donated \$300 to Lynn's place.

Coldest Night of the Year Walk

The United Church team for the 2017 Coldest Night of the Year walk, aptly named the Amazing Affirming Church Team, consisted of six members: Nancy Vail, Sarah Walker, Janice Daly, Anya Smillie, Joanna Wilson and Kathryn Walker. The team walked 5 km on Saturday, February 25th, and raised a total of \$1,535.00 to support the Salvation Army and the work they do for the homeless population of Yellowknife. The money raised this year will go to building a ramp to the shelter to make it more accessible. Thank you to all the team members and donors who made this event worthwhile and fun.

Canada without Poverty

The end of April two members of Outreach attended a consultation conversation about what poverty looks like in our community and what we can do about it. A report from this process will provide input on the national poverty reduction strategy.

Intergenerational Garden

This is the third season for our involvement in the intergenerational garden located at the Mildred Hall School. Last summer was very successful and we are planning for an even more successful season this year. Students at Mildred Hall will be making Respect Our Garden signs.

We are looking at improving the garden pathways and painting our picnic tables.

Mildred Hall students, NUP residents, and neighbourhood residents have garden plots again this year. Please do not hesitate to contact the Outreach Committee if you are interested helping with the garden project or mentoring a gardener.

Rental rates & policies

The NUP building is an important part of YKUC's outreach. This year, as in past years, we offered free meeting space or reduced rates at NUP to many Yellowknife groups.

Policy related to room usage is the responsibility of the Outreach committee. We are in the process of reviewing room rental rates and policy.

Meals on Wheels - Part of our Outreach

The Meals-on-Wheels (MOW) program has been in operation in Yellowknife for over 40 years and is one of the community outreach projects that our congregation is involved in. We are one of six groups who have committed to providing volunteer drivers to deliver the evening meal for a week every six weeks.

Special thanks to the following who, along with members of their family, helped out during the past year: Sharon Cormier, Cappy Elkin, Ann Hall, Brad Hall, Heather Hall, Lisa Hall, Karen Hamre, Terrilyn Hayden, Lloyd Henderson, Sonia Hewlko, Stuart Oldham, Jessica Schmidt, Greg Short and John Soderberg. Without each and every one of you this could not be part of our outreach.

Here's a quick re-cap of what is involved as a volunteer driver. An individual can do it alone or you can take along a helper (one drives, one runs in to deliver). You pick up the evening meal(s) from the Stanton Hospital kitchen between 4:45 and 5:30 p.m. and deliver to those individuals on the list for the day. There can be up to half a dozen meals although lately there are commonly only three or four. The meals are individually packaged, marked with the recipient's name and put into an insulated carrying bag.

It's quick and easy when you drop the meal at each address. This is often a highlight in the person's day. After delivering the meals, you return the insulated bag to the appreciative staff at the hospital kitchen. Again, the commitment is for approximately one hour one evening every six weeks. With lots of volunteers you may only be called every second time.

This is a quick, easy, and rewarding community service and if you are interested in joining our team of drivers or have some questions about it, please call Jeannette Hall at 873-3942 or Cappy Elkin at 873-5747. Our upcoming scheduled drives are Jul 1-7, Aug 12-18, Sep 23-29, Nov 4-10, and Dec 16-22. Thanks!

Jeannette Hall
MOW Coordinator

Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee

Committee Members

Margaret Melhorn: Chair

Cappy Elkin

Laurie Gault

Greg Short

The M&P Committee is a mandated committee established in the by-laws of the United Church of Canada. The M&P Committee is a confidential, consultative body that supports the pastoral relationship. Some of its responsibilities are:

- To provide support for the Minister and office staff
- To review and make recommendations regarding employment practice (wages, benefits and working conditions)
- To act as liaison between the church staff and the congregation.

(From the Handbook for M&P Committees).

We are happy to hear compliments for our staff. Any concerns can be discussed confidentially with members of the M&P Committee. If there is a conflict between staff and the congregation, the M&P Committee is the first group responsible to help work things out for the long term health of the church.

We have been pleased to support our Minister, Reverend Peter Chynoweth and our Office Administrator, Devy Dulay. We were very happy to have Devy join us in July 2016 following the (re) retirement of Gwyneth Davis. Devy continues our church's tradition of greeting visitors to the Yellowknife Church office with a warm smile and a welcoming attitude.

The Committee met a number of times during the year, and discussed, among other issues, the results of the IMNA survey. The 2014 Pastoral Oversight team recommended that the M&P and our Minister review the Minister's job description. This review will be done once YKUC's visioning process is complete.

The Committee would also like to thank Gwyneth Davis and Grace Whitelock, who have taken on the role of "standby" office support.

Respectfully submitted by

Margaret Melhorn

for the M&P Committee

United Church Women – 2016/17 Annual Report

Yellowknife United Church

The Yellowknife United Church Women (UCW) continues to be involved in the life of the church. While regular meetings are no longer held we do enjoy a good turn-out for special activities that are held to support the congregation.

This year we continued with the regular fall activities of making pepper jelly and antipasto to sell at our Christmas tea and bake sale which was again very successful. We cleaned the kitchen, did an inventory of kitchen supplies and contributed to the Lenten Luncheon. Due to pending renovations we did not sell muffins at the garage sale which left some of us free to assist in the garage sale itself.

The UCW makes annual donations to various mission funds. Funds in 2016 were distributed as follows: International – foster child in Senegal, refugee sponsorship and M&S Fund; National – Bissel Centre in inner city Edmonton, Christenson/Dryburg Fund and the Mustard Seed inner city project in Calgary; Local – Center for Northern Families, Alison McAteer House, YWCA, Lynn's Place, Salvation Army, YK Food Bank, Food Rescue, Betty House, money set aside for bulletin folders as well as to support women to attend the Western Women's Conference.

Officers for the year continue to be:

| | |
|------------|--------------------|
| Chair: | Gwyneth Davis |
| Secretary: | Jeannette Hall |
| Treasurer: | Margaret Henderson |

The UCW would like to offer a special thank you to everyone who has supported us by donating their time, energy, and talents. Without the generous support of the congregation, UCW would not be able to function.

Respectfully submitted by

Jeannette Hall

Stewardship Committee – 2016/17 Annual Report

Yellowknife United Church

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for the church's financial affairs and in so doing supports and nurtures the mission of the church. It does this through information sharing, fund raising and good financial management.

The committee members are:

Margaret Henderson, Chair
Terrilyn Hayden

Lindsay Chiasson
Rev. Peter Chynoweth

This year Stewardship planned things via email with few face-to-face meetings.

Fund-raising events this year included the CDA bin collection, Fall Supper Dessert Auction, two Christmas Bazaars, the Pancake Supper, the Garage Sale, the City Clean-up plus a number of smaller ventures such as the bulletin sponsorship, church calendars, beverage recycling, and the celebration jar.

We have now been involved with the Canadian Diabetes Association Clothesline since February 2016. We have sent four trailer loads south and raised approximately \$7500. Twenty-six volunteers from the church are looking after the collection of items and transporting them to a storage trailer. In all we have collected 4089 bags from the bins, which are located at the Fieldhouse, the Community Arena, Trevor's Independent, and the Co-op.

Upcoming events this year will include the fall supper and two Christmas Bazaars on November 18 and December 2.

If you are interested in serving on the committee or would like to be called on to help with specific projects, please speak with any member of the committee.

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone for all the help and support we have received over the past year.

Respectfully submitted by
Margaret Henderson

Community Life and Membership Committee (CLAM)

The role of the CLAM committee at Yellowknife United Church is to care for our church family by offering opportunities to gather as community for fellowship and care for each other. This is lived out in several ways:

Membership: Maintenance of the Yellowknife United Church membership list is the responsibility of CLAM. This past year, several monthly meetings were centred around updating the membership list.

Pastoral Care: Following the first successful Pastoral Care workshop in January 2016, a second workshop was held in May. The end result of the day-long event was that we identified three focus areas: (1) further education of “what is pastoral care?” for our congregation, (2) seeking resources and learning from outside sources (for example, other congregations) and (3) working toward the development of a Pastoral Care team. In March 2017, one Sunday service was centred around the theme of pastoral care. Three very different scenarios were played out during the reflection time; each was an example of ways that we as a congregation care for each other and for the community in general.

Community Building: YKUC hosted two community suppers again this year – the annual Fall Welcome Back Supper in September and the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in February. As always, these events were very filling both in the food shared and eaten and the friendships and visiting that happened together. This year’s Family Bowling Night attracted the largest number of bowlers ever and by all accounts was the event of the year for those who bowled, cheered on others and enjoyed ice cream sundaes afterwards.

Student Packages: Just before final exams in the Fall and again at the end of the Spring semester, about a dozen post-secondary students received care packages from YKUC. The packages are a friendly “hello” to students studying away from home. The packages included a copy of the newsletter, a friendly letter, and the ever-popular Tim’s card.

Worship Helpers: CLAM is responsible for ensuring that the weekly tasks required to “make worship happen” are taken care of by circulating a sign-up sheet and encouraging folks to participate by reading, greeting, being opening or closing hosts and lighting the worship candles. Thank you to all who gave of their time on Sunday mornings by signing up.

Reaching Out: Three times a year, the work of YKUC is shared with the congregation and community in the form of a newsletter. Thank you to Mel Dumont and Gillian Moir for their hard work in editing and formatting the newsletter. Thank you also to those who take the time to write articles and submit photos. The United Church Observer magazine is a way to stay connected with the wider church. Over the years, Kathy Burns has been our Observer Champion – encouraging us all to subscribe to this very important publication. Thank you Kathy!

This year’s CLAM committee: Elizabeth Brace, Arlene Cliffe-Phillips, Sharon Chynoweth, Peter Chynoweth (Ex-Officio), Sean Daly and Audrey MacDougall. In January we welcomed wee Sophie and in April we welcomed wee Charlotte to our committee!

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Chynoweth (Chair)

Christian Development Committee Report

The Christian Development (CD) Committee is responsible for child and adult education programs, overseeing the church's sponsorship of Scout programs, oversight of marriage and baptism preparation and maintenance of the reading room. Our committee analyzed the report of the church's recent visioning exercise and found that increasing the number of children attending church and providing them with meaningful opportunities is important to the congregation. As for the adults, although people want to grow spiritually and engage in discussion and debate, the majority do not seem to be interested in attending regular small group sessions such as bible study. With that in mind, we increased our efforts in children and youth programming and held some one-time adult events.

Sunday School was held almost every Sunday from September to June with an average of seven students per week, up from five per week last year. Sophie Call joined the CD committee mid-year and took on the role of Sunday School Superintendent. We are grateful to her and to teachers Sandy Little, Janice Daly, Kathryn Walker and Joanna Wilson who were celebrated during children's time on May 28. Elizabeth Brace and Sean Daly augmented the curriculum with music Sundays once a month. In December the students, under the direction of Joanna Wilson, staged a musical Christmas Pageant. Kairan Bonnetrouge Noseworthy and Sarah Walker bravely took on the lead roles of Joseph and Mary while the other children had various singing and non-singing parts. The Sunday School supply room received its annual fall cleaning and supplementary curriculum resources were purchased during the year.

In October the committee put on an event called "Walking a Path Towards Reconciliation" to consider Yellowknife United Church's response to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). 22 people attended and learned about the national church's response from presenter Rev. Cecile Fausak, NWT residential school history from congregation member John Stewart, Marie Wilson's experiences as a TRC Commissioner and Paul Andrew's efforts as a former residential school student to reclaim his indigenous spirituality. The group then brainstormed ideas that our church could pursue to help fulfill the Calls to Action. An article and picture on this event was included in the January edition of the InContact insert in the United Church Observer magazine.

One idea that came out of "Walking a Path Towards Reconciliation" was to hold a Blanket Exercise at our church. The Blanket Exercise, an initiative of KAIROS, has participants play an interactive role in learning the history of indigenous people of Canada. 27 people attended this exercise in early May. Participants, not all of them from the United Church, spoke highly of this experience and CBC did a website feature, radio news stories, a television piece and a radio interview on the event.

The church reading room was cleaned in January and sorting of the books was completed with the addition of shelf labels donated by the Yellowknife Book Cellar. In addition to various book donations, a copy of "Why Our Church Apologized" was added to the collection. Bulletin announcements were made advertising the availability of the reading room to the congregation.

The Book Club met from September to June to discuss a variety of books including fiction, humour, romance and biography, all with a spiritual or religious component. On two occasions the book authors were present to discuss their work.

During the summer youth from the church, under the leadership of Martha Hamre and other Youth Group graduates, helped plant and care for the flowers, vegetables and herbs in the boxes around Northern United Place. The Youth Group was revitalized this spring and is off to a good

start with activities such as a sleepover, a T-shirt tie-dying session and volunteering at the SPCA. Many thanks to Kathryn Walker, with assistance from Betty Parrell, for this initiative.

Two baptisms were held this year with the CD committee providing treats after church to help the families and congregation celebrate.

Spring clean-up was held near the end of May with congregation members coming out to clean our downtown areas. Sophie Call coordinated this event which raised \$1000.00 for the church's child and youth initiatives.

Committee members this year were Sandy Little, Kate Thompson, Barb Paquin and Sophie Call, with Rev. Peter Chynoweth as ex-officio member. Many thanks to Kate for joining us this year and best wishes as she returns to Ottawa following her work term in Yellowknife.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Paquin

AFFIRM COMMITTEE

This year was quieter for the Affirm Committee. After the initial work done to guide the congregation to becoming an Affirming Ministry, we recognize that the path forward is less obvious. This is a characteristic not unheard of among congregations who have worked very hard to have Affirming status.

It is clear from responses to the surveys completed by the congregation members during the visioning process that our Affirming Ministry is a very important part of our identity as a congregation. In that sense, the Affirm Committee met its first goal and that is perhaps part of the reason we didn't feel the strong need to meet this last year.

The year wasn't without a few steps forward. We had a new sign created and mounted on the wall in the foyer just outside the entrance to the auditorium. We have also been designing signage (likely a soft banner) to go on the outside corner of Northern United Place. We are working in cooperation with the Community Services Corporation on how the banner will be attached to the building.

The mandate of the Affirm Committee is to seek new ways to widen the circle of inclusion. What does this look like? What new and creative ideas will we need to move ahead? We look forward to new challenges, new ideas and new opportunities as we continue to reach out to our community, letting them know that, at Yellowknife United Church, ALL ARE WELCOME.

Members of the Affirm Committee are: Kathy Burns, Sharon Chynoweth, Janice Daly, Lorne Gushue, Nancy Trotter and Kathryn Walker.

Property & Maintenance Report 2017

Manse

There were only minor repairs needed over the last year in the manse and the church. Hooks were installed in the women's washroom. Some tables & chairs were repaired and some door hinges were adjusted.

Currently there is some outstanding minor drywall damage in the basement and the master bedroom of the manse. The source of any water entry needs to be determined. All repairs will be completed as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Stuart Oldham

Worship Committee Report 2017

The LORD said to Moses, ²“Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for me an offering; from every man whose heart makes him willing you shall receive the offering for me. ³And this is the offering which you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and bronze, ⁴blue and purple and scarlet stuff and fine twined linen, goats’ hair, ⁵tanned rams’ skins, goatskins, acacia wood, ⁶oil for the lamps, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, ⁷onyx stones, and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breastpiece. ⁸And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.

Exodus 25: 1-8

I love this passage from the Hebrew Scriptures. It speaks to ALL the gifts that need to be brought together for the creation of the Lord’s “dwelling place”. The planning and leading of our corporate worship requires many more gifts than the ones that we see ‘on the stage’ on a Sunday morning. In addition to the speaking and musical roles of that hour there are thoughtful discussions, times of reflective writing, music rehearsals, processes to solicit, analyze and communicate feedback – and every single pair of eyes reading this report (and others too!) have contributed their ‘gold, silver, linen, wood, oil, spices and even stones...’ so that the Lord may dwell among us.

The worship committee would like to thank the many people who contributed to worship leadership and support in this past year. In particular we would like to thank:

- Our amazing music leaders, Elizabeth Brace and Sharon Chynoweth, whose gifts, commitment, and generosity cannot be overstated. We are so very blessed by their faithful contribution;
- Our “small but mighty” choir: Randy Wedel, Sean Daly, Peter Chynoweth, Laurie Gault, Gillian Moir, Gwyneth Davis, Marg Henderson, Betty Parrell, and honorary occasional singers, Fiona Rheame and Heather;
- Peter Workman and Andrea Booth for pinch hitting at the piano when needed;
- lay leaders and behind the scenes supporters - Karen Wilford, Donna Allen, Lorne Gushue, Karen Hamre, Sophie Call, Janice Daly, Sharon Chynoweth, Elaine Stewart, Lloyd Henderson, Sean Daly, and Peter Hart.
- Janice Daly whose creative skills can transform cloth and ordinary objects into contemplative art; Janice creates all the visual interpretation in our Thanksgiving, Advent/Christmas, Service of Comfort, Lent/Easter services.
- those prepare and bake the loaves that grace our communion table.
- our minister, Peter, who guides our worship and learning all through the year. Peter has an amazing capacity to see possibilities and make connections, and we’re lucky that he is always willing to explore and try things that are new.

This year in addition to the regular Sunday worship, we hosted:

- two labyrinth walks (Sept and Dec). These events have drawn an encouraging number of participants both within our church and the wider community.
- Service of Comfort; an event we have hosted for over 20 years. We have heard over the years from many people who indicate that this is an important event for people who are burdened by grief, sadness, anxiety or even holiday cynicism.

As a committee we have also reviewed the IMNA results and will in coming months further review the recent survey feedback as it pertains to worship. We are encouraged that the respondents noted that our church community is good at developing strong leaders for worship, as well as a variety of service types, and music related to the message. We are planning to respond to the feedback that stretches us to try more innovative expressions of our faith within worship.

If any folks have additional feedback to offer, please know that the members of our committee are always willing to listen to your suggestions, and we thank you (in advance) for offering them.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Stewart, Chair

Committee members: Karen Wilford, Donna Allen, Lorne Gushue, Janice Daly

Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Corporation

April 23, 2017

President Report on behalf of the Board of Directors

NWT Community Services Corporation

Northern United Place.

The contents of this report have been removed at the request of the board of the Northwest Territories Community Services Corporation. A summary report may be provided at a later date.

The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.

This page is intentionally left blank.

This page is intentionally left blank.

This page is intentionally left blank.

This page is intentionally left blank.

This page is intentionally left blank.

Northern Lights Presbytery

It has been my great privilege to have been your Presbytery representative in the past and for the last year. As your representative, I get to travel to wherever the meetings are being held. This year I got to drive to Manning in September, and flew to attend the meeting in Beaverlodge in early February.

As Lloyd Henderson stated in last year's annual report, we are a presbytery that likes to have fun as we work through the meeting agenda and group work. This is a very important aspect of Northern Lights Presbytery, as we represent many smaller communities who are isolated and may not have the same opportunities to network and mingle with others, as in the bigger cities. It makes us appreciate each other's talents and gifts. A good belly laugh among friends can be very cathartic, and it lightens the mood that sitting in small churches and meeting rooms can bring. Lloyd Henderson and Nancy Trotter from YKUC are on Committees as well, and of course our minister, Peter Chynoweth attends and contributes too. 'Many hands make light work'.

Much work is accomplished as well though. We are ruled by the Order Paper, and we are kept on task with friendly reminders. This year we were kept busy with doing the work of reviewing and voting on the remits that came out of General Council 2015. Sadly this upcoming year may be the last year for presbytery as The United Church of Canada is contemplating going from a four court structure down to a three court one. This will be decided at the next General Council in, 2018.

Also very sad news for Northern Lights Presbytery was the retirement of Martha Dawson from the role of Recording Secretary. Martha was a constant and welcome face for 25 years. Congratulations to she and Leo (her husband) for all their years of service and camaraderie. There are rumours that Hotel Dawson will still be in operation for future trips to or through Grande Prairie (with shuttle service).

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and YKUC

Cynthia Creed

-

TREASURERS REPORT : Yellowknife United Church

Income Statement

As of April 30, 2017

| OPERATING FUND Statement of Revenue & Expenditures | 2016 Budget | 2016 Actuals | 2017 Budget | 2017 Actuals | 2017 Actuals |
|--|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | To Apr 30 | | To Apr 30 | | |
| Revenue | | | | | |
| Offering- Local, Loose, SS, Youth, & Other | 70,000 | 22,267 | 70,000 | 24,534 | 35.0% |
| Building & Equipment Use | 70,000 | 19,199 | 70,000 | 15,259 | 21.8% |
| Fund Raising | 7,500 | 971 | 7,500 | 1,165 | 15.5% |
| Youth Group | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| Garden Project | 0 | 2,198 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| Other- photocopies, sales interest, marriage donations | 2,644 | 500 | 2,644 | 100 | 3.8% |
| Total Revenue | 150,144 | 45,136 | 150,144 | 41,058 | 27.3% |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Expenditures | | | | | |
| Personnel | 110,000 | 35,752 | 110,000 | 39,752 | 36.1% |
| General Admin & Maintenance | 17,500 | 3,495 | 17,500 | 4,141 | 23.7% |
| Manse Operating | 12,375 | 5,103 | 12,375 | 4,542 | 36.7% |
| Official Board | 4,800 | 1,554 | 4,800 | 1,258 | 26.2% |
| Worship Committee | 2,000 | 483 | 2,000 | 500 | 25.0% |
| Youth group | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| Outreach Committee | 2,200 | 1,000 | 2,200 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Comm Life & Membership Comm. | 800 | 258 | 800 | 556 | 69.5% |
| Christian Development Committee | 800 | 297 | 800 | 486 | 60.8% |
| Stewardship Committee | 500 | 217 | 500 | 336 | 67.3% |
| Garden Project | 993 | 0 | 993 | 0 | n/a |
| Affirm Study Group | 1,000 | 100 | 1,000 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total Expenditures | 152,968 | 48,258 | 152,968 | 51,571 | 33.7% |
| Excess revenue (expenditures) | -\$2,824 | -\$3,122 | -\$2,824 | -\$10,513 | |

Total Offerings/Givings to April 30, 2017

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Local Offering | 24,534.20 | Up 10% from 2016 |
| Mission and Service | 7,483.48 | Up 12% from 2016 |
| Memorial Fund | 0.00 | |
| Refugee Fund | 0.00 | |
| Capital Fund | 1,344.64 | Down 46.6% from 2016 |
| TOTAL | <u><u>\$33,362.32</u></u> | |

Building Rentals are **down by 20.5%** from 2016 and **under budget by 34.6% (\$8,074)**

At the end of April offerings should be at \$31,500 (94,500 for year) for all categories

Total offerings to April were **over budget by 5.9% (\$1,862)**

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Summary of GICs | |
| Operating Fund | \$10,997.14 |
| Memorial Fund | <u>\$5,096.56</u> |
| Total GIC | \$16,093.70 |

TREASURERS REPORT : Yellowknife United Church
Income Statement
As of April 30, 2017

Funds Summary

| | 2016 Budget | 2016 Actuals | 2017 Budget | 2017 Actuals | 2017 Actuals |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mission and Service Fund | | | | | |
| Revenues | 19,000 | 6,678 | 19,000 | 7,483 | 39.4% |
| Celebration Jar | 1,000 | incl above | 1,000 | incl above | n/a |
| Paid to Date | | 6,115 | | 3,019 | |
| Owing | | 563 | | 4,464 | |
| Capital Fund | | | | | |
| Offering Revenues | 4,500 | 2,520 | 4,500 | 1,345 | 29.9% |
| Other Revenues (Grants, rebates,...) | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Expenditures to date | 1,706 | 1,179 | 1,257 | 44 | |
| Transfers owing | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Balance | | 1,342 | | 1,300 | |
| Memorial Fund | | | | | |
| Offering Revenues | | 358 | | 0 | n/a |
| Expenditures to date | | 0 | | 47 | |
| Balance | | 358 | | -47 | |
| Refugee Fund | | | | | |
| Offering Revenues | 0 | 1,050 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| Fundraising/outreach & UCW donation | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Expenditures to date | | 2 | | 3,700 | |
| Transfers to date | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Balance | | 1,048 | | -3,700 | |