



# Yellowknife United Church Annual Report 2018

for the Annual Meeting:  
Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
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!

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**YELLOWKNIFE UNITED CHURCH  
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
May 27, 2018**

**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 – January 28, 2018
6. Business Arising from the June 4, 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting
7. Annual Reports
8. Financial Report
9. Report of the Nominating Committee
10. Signing Authorities
11. Update on Joint Needs Assessment Work
12. Congregational Concerns and Committee Comments
13. Next Congregational Meeting
14. Adjournment

## Annual Congregational Meeting January 28, 2018

Congregational Chair Person: Lloyd Henderson

Congregational Secretary: Rovelyn Guray-Sobrepena

Present: Lloyd Henderson, Janice Daly, Sharon Chynoweth, Lorne Gushue, Rovelyn Guray-Sobrepena, Stuart Oldham, Alicia Lovatt, Peter Workman, Karen Wilford, Ken Hall, Jeannette Hall, Eunmi Jang, Lex Lovatt, Jaehon Lee, Margaret Melhorn, Cynthia Vicente, Marg Henderson, Lindsay Chiasson, Sean Daly, Audrey MacDougall, Gary MacDougall, Randy Wedel, Sandy Little, Barb Paquin, Nancy Trotter, Gordon Hamre, Terrilyn Hayden, Sean Daly, Elizabeth Brace, Andrea Harrison, Joanna Wilson

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer- Lloyd Henderson call the meeting to order and Peter Chynoweth opened the meeting with a prayer
2. Voting Rights-**Motion:** Jeannette Hall/Peter Workman "Move to approve all present including adherents to vote on matters of a temporal nature". Carried. **CM18-1**
3. Approval of the Agenda -  
Margaret Melhorn suggested to include Joined Needs Assessment Committee establishment. Lloyd Henderson advised to be included in the Congregational Concerns.  
**Motion:** Nancy Trotter/Sharon Chynoweth "Move to accept the agenda as presented". Carried. **CM18-2**
4. Time of Adjournment-Lloyd Henderson advised that there is no set time to take the meeting. Everyone is in agreement.
5. Approval of the minutes of the Annual Congregational Financial Meeting, June 4, 2017-  
**Motion:** Margaret Melhorn/Karen Wilford "Move to accept the minutes of the Congregational Meeting of February 12, 2017". Carried. **CM18-3**
6. Business Arising from the Annual Congregational Meeting of June 4, 2017 - None.
7. Review of Prior Year Statement and Budget for Current Year  
**Motion:** Lindsay Chiasson/ Janice Daly "Move to accept Unaudited Financial Statement as presented in the 2018 Annual Report of Yellowknife United Church. Carried. **CM18-4**  
**Motion:** Lindsay Chiasson/Margaret Melhorn "Move to accept the 2018 Proposed Budget as presented". Carried. **CM18-5**

Copy of the 2017 statement and 2018 Proposed Budget is attached.

Lloyd Henderson expressed his appreciation to Lindsay Chiasson hard work in the preparation of the financial documents.

### 8. Congregational Concerns/Appreciation

Peter Chynoweth advised that he is planning to retire at the earliest, end of June 2018 or the latest, November 2018. He thank everyone for the almost 13 years in service. Intend and plan to stay in Yellowknife in the next 2 years.

Margaret Melhorn, Minister and Personnel Committee advised the establishment of Joint Needs Assessment Committee. There is a requirement to call of a new minister considering what we needed to and when is the appropriate date for Peter Chynoweth and what is the next step going forward?

Sean Daly enquired how is the Joint Needs Assessment Committee functions?

Lloyd Henderson explained that there will be 6 profiles put together to be presented to Official Board for example benefits, rate of pay and etc. It will then forwarded to the congregation. Once motion established the vacancy. The Search Committee will start searching for the minister. Search Committee will pre determine the timeline. When Search Committee identifies the candidate, it will then presented to the congregation for decision.

Nancy Trotter also thank Lloyd for knowledge and the experience on this matter.

**Motion:** Margaret Melhorn/Nancy Trotter “Move that the Yellowknife United Church request Northern Lights Presbytery to establish a Joint Needs Assessment Committee, with the members to be named by the YKUC Official Board. Carried. **CM18-6**

9. Adjournment: **Motion:** Peter Workman/Sean Daly “Move to adjourn meeting @ 1:09 pm. Carried. **CM 18-7**

## **This Edge is Made for Walking**

I am writing this in my office having just returned from a week away during which I attended the second ever Minister reCall event, which is advertised as “Time Apart for Ministry Personnel” and the last ever 85<sup>th</sup> meeting of Alberta and Northwest Conference.

It was a busy and heady week, with lots of data, ideas, emotions and observations to occupy our hearts and minds.

At Ministry reCall approximately one hundred people in paid accountable ministry and some retired ministers were blessed with the opportunity to hear three different perspectives on the state of ministry and the church in this our western, post-modern world. The keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, Senior Minister at The Riverside Church in New York City, a church that is a leader among liberal churches in North America, with 1,750 members and a staff complement we were told of one hundred and fifty people! The Riverside Church website says this: *The Riverside Church in the City of New York, led by our senior minister, Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, is an interdenominational church, influential on the nation’s religious and political landscapes. We are an interdenominational, interracial, international, open, welcoming, and affirming church and congregation. Whoever you are: You are safe here. You are loved here. You are invited into full participation in our life together.*

It’s a compliment to say that you can’t tell that Amy Butler is the Senior Minister of an organization like that. In down to earth language she told of how she came to be called to The Riverside Church after the congregation went through a tumultuous and headline grabbing split with her immediate predecessor and then she went on to tell us stories that described in personal ways the troubles and the opportunities (if we can manage to see them in that way) that are being faced by pretty much every congregation and community of faith (big or small, conservative or liberal, evangelical or mainline) in this time of change.

Also speaking at this gathering was the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Janzen-Ball, the director of the Designated Lay Ministry program at my theological alma mater in Saskatoon: St. Andrew’s College. Jennifer has done work on ecologically based theology, and her presentation described the liminal

spaces between ecological zones; and “Edge Habitats” as the places where the most dynamic things are happening in the created world. It would be a mistake to think of these kinds of edges defined by liminal places and the Edge where change occurs as metaphors for the church. They are not metaphors, but perfect descriptions of what is happening in the church world as well.

The third speaker was the Rev. Dr. Russell Daye, from St. Andrew’s United Church in Halifax. Russ Daye has done work on reclaiming “Soul Space” using the spiritual cultures that are part of every ancient and modern cultural grouping as a guideline for the ways in which human beings have expressed their need for mystery and spirit and spiritual presence for millenia. His manifesto for reclaiming Soul Space is not particularly praiseworthy towards the part of Christianity which has a terrible history of coming to many different places in the world to dominate whatever cultural spiritual tradition was in place, replacing it with practices and beliefs that were strange and unwelcome and anything but receptive. Of course, the legacy of the Residential School system makes us no stranger to this sad and destructive characteristic of some parts of the Christian church.

The amazing thing I found about this rich and deep two day exploration of the trouble and beauty that is facing the church in our context is that while each of our three speakers used a very different presentation style, and very different stories and examples and very different methodologies, each of them was addressing the same thing – namely the challenges of the modern faith community and where it is headed. It was like three perspectives on the hub from the rim of a wobbly wheel.

I moved directly from that gathering of clergy folk to the final meeting (in anticipation of the move to a new regional governance structure, which in size will be larger than a presbytery, but smaller than a conference) of Alberta and Northwest Conference. In keeping with the subject of change – not only the structural one that is represented by the reorganization of The United Church of Canada into regions, but also the deeper change that is facing the church and as noted by the clergy gathering in the early part of the week, the theme of this final gathering of people as Alberta and Northwest Conference was “Being Faithful in a Time of Great Change”.

There was an aura – in part aided by the theme of past, present and future

that was incorporated into the worship and theme presentations at the meeting – of change, and some of the excitement and angst that it brings – and also aided by a good deal of stuff that is “yet to be decided” about how we will be in a new structure.

What all of this points out to me is that we are indeed in a liminal time. We are not sure where things are headed. What we know is that we are not like we used to be and for some that is a reason for grief. For others however it is an opportunity to get excited. What new things might be around the corner – things we could never have imagined? Where is God calling us as people of faith? Will the church as we know it be part of this calling? Or will it be something that is so different that we might hesitate to call it the church?

I’ve said on many occasions that some of the most important and best work that this congregation does is in places that seem to cross the edges of the work given to our various committees. When planning a program or event we end up asking: “Is that a worship responsibility, or is it something that CLAM should do? Is it an Outreach activity or something that Stewardship should take on?”

I don’t think it is a coincidence. I think we should always be drawn to the edges. Edges are exciting and scary places. They could make us want to back away. They could also attract us – to peer over the edge and see what lies beyond and below.

There have always been edges, but perhaps they are becoming a bit more prominent for us. Perhaps they seem closer or more starkly preventing further approach in case we go over.

There are some edges that we’ve encountered in our time together over the past year. I won’t detail them – in part because my perception of the edges might be different from yours, and in part because I think it is important for us to name our own edges – those liminal places where things are just a bit more precarious and dynamic – where we are taking careful steps, not wanting to venture too close, and worried that we might plummet – and where things are just a bit more enlivening – with energy and adrenaline and excitement and the rush of venturing into unknown space.

That’s part of it – to explore our own edges, but there is also a place and a



time for us to explore the edge we are being called to as a community of faith.

Some of these edges are well defined – my announcement of retirement has created an edge – one part of which is stationed at midnight on October 31, but there are other edges as well – the one between my pastoral relationship with you and the next pastoral relationship whenever and however and with whomever that occurs.

I believe that God is calling us to the edge. It's an edge that takes some courage, an edge that requires us to know more fully who we are, what we believe and how we live out that faith. It's an edge that presents reasons to fear. It's an edge that presents reasons to risk, to take a step in faith, to trust that it is God's edge we are being called to.

As I contemplate the final few months in my time as minister, priest, pastor and hopefully prophet with you here at Yellowknife United Church, I hope that we can find some of the edges that we walked together. Maybe those edges have become so familiar that we no longer fear them, or we are so surefooted when we walk them that we don't realize what it was like to first arrive here at an edge together.

You have good edge walkers to follow as examples. Remember your congregational forebears who said "Yes, we will do it. We will build Northern United Place."

Are there new edges? Is God's mission for Yellowknife United Church drawing you and us to a new and different edge?

What does it look like? Spend some time finding out and then get ready to do some walking. This Edge was made for Walking. God bless you on the journey.

Respectfully and with gratitude,  
Peter Chynoweth

### **In Memoriam**

Lew Delaney*	December 31, 2016
Jan Stirling	June 28, 2017
Eileen Cave	July 28, 2017
Bonnie Snow	August 29, 2017
Levee Nowdlak	November 11, 2017
Nhung Tan Nguyen	December 15, 2017
Anne Little	March 26, 2018

\* mistakenly omitted from the 2016-2017 Annual Report

### **Baptisms**

Charlotte Cliffe Phillips	June 11, 2017
Deyzha Valdriz	June 11, 2017
Mason Bryant	July 16, 2017
Phoenix Dyke	July 16, 2017
Jethro Prescott	March 25, 2018

### **Wedding**

Alicia Castro and Lex Lovatt	October 28, 2017
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## **YELLOWKNIFE UNITED CHURCH** **Board Chair Report - 2017/2018**

When asked to serve on a board I have always hoped that the board is functional, supportive and organized. The Board of Yellowknife UC is all of these things. When asked for help or advice or guidance all members are very willing to assist.

Thanks to Rev. Peter for his leadership in our congregation during his retirement year. He has not wavered in “finding the divine” in the room and helping us to do so also.

Thanks and welcome to Beckey Dunham who began as our Office Administrator earlier this year. Beckey has brought new energy and drive to the position.

Appreciate and gratitude to Devy Dulay for her work in the previous year Seamus Daly (office administrator pro tem) for his temporary assistance as we searched for a new administrator.

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

### 1. Church office relocation

The renovation to the main floor office spaces of YKUC occurred and NWT CSC moved into the space we used to occupy. There is still some minor work to be done for the completion of the Cloak room and some storage spaces but then the task will be done.

### 2. Changes to the National Church

The remaining remits from General Council were completed and results returned to the General Council office. The Church is changing and we are moving towards a new normal for the structure of the church.

### 3. Walking a Path towards Reconciliation

In November the YKUC Christian Development committee collaborated with the Law Society of the NWT, the NWT Native Women’s Association and the Canadian Bar Association (NT branch) host a film presentation and discussion panel. The film was *Birth of a Family*. The documentary film tells of three sisters and a brother, removed from their Dene mother’s care, and adopted as infants into separate families across North America, and them meeting together. Following the film presentation, a panel discussion, moderated by Marie Wilson, was held to explore the lessons learned from the ‘Sixties Scoop’ and what this means for culture, loss and reconcili-

ation today. Bettyann Adam, whose story is told in the film was part of the panel. Thanks to Marie and Bettyann and all involved in this evening.

In addition to this work of the board over the last year, we have also resumed attending the NWT CSC monthly board meetings to continue to improve communication between the organizations.

More details from last year's work 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 your support in this volunteer position. This church runs on volunteer support.

I encourage you all to consider volunteering to become involved in one of the committees or the board of the YKUC it can be work but is also rewarding and fun.

Respectfully submitted

Peter Workman

## **Outreach Committee Annual report - May 2018**

Committee members: 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**

We continue to provide some support to Abdi. Unfortunately, the Fat Fox where Abdi has been working is closing and so Abdi is in need of a new job. We are assisting Abdi in his efforts to find a job. Abdi continues to find English very challenging. We have arranged for a private tutor for him twice a week. We also assist as an advocate with health needs.

### **The Christmas sock project**

We have become known for this project. It is meaningful for both members of the Yellowknife United Church and the homeless individuals, who receive the socks filled with useful items. Thank you to congregation members who provided donations and to Grace Whitelock, who did most of the shopping for the socks. Also, a big thank you to congregation members who stayed after church to help fill the socks. We exceeded our annual target of 50 filled socks. All reports indicate that the socks and the items inside are very much appreciated by the individuals who stay at the Salvation Army homeless shelter at Christmas.

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.

### **Coldest Night of the Year Walk**

The small but mighty United Church team for the 2018 Coldest Night of the Year walk, aptly named the Awesome Amazing Affirming Church Walkers, was made up of Lorne Gushue, Janice Daly, Joanna Wilson and Kathryn Walker. The team walked 5 km on Saturday, February 24th, and raised a total of \$1,535.00 to support the Salvation Army and the work they do for the homeless population of Yellowknife. Thank you to all the team members and donors who made this event worthwhile and fun.

### **Intergenerational Garden**

This is the fourth season for our involvement in the intergenerational garden located at the Mildred Hall School. Unfortunately, the health of many individuals from NUP now makes it difficult or impossible for them to garden. We will continue to reach out to NUP residents who may want to garden. The growing season last summer was very successful and some potatoes were provided to a few NUP residents.

Mildred Hall students and neighbourhood residents including Yellowknife Association for Community Living have garden plots this year.

A Big Thank you to the worship committee for setting aside worship time on May 13<sup>th</sup> for service to our community garden project. Many hands were very helpful to get garden plots ready for planting and put up a shelf in the garden shed.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Outreach Committee if you are interested in helping with the garden project or mentoring a gardener.

## **Donations**

This year we donated \$250.00 to the Mildred Hall School needy family fund.

## **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 to many Yellowknife groups.

Presently policy related to room usage is the responsibility of the Outreach committee. We updated our rental contracts and prices in September. We now have a process to send letters annually to long-term renters (those with donated space and those paying for space). Long-term renters obtain discounted rates from those booking for single uses. Electronic money transfer is now in place, which the Office Administrator says has been helpful. We are continuing to update our rental policies.

We have a representative on the multi-purpose area review committee.

## **Plans for the Future**

We are looking at ways to connect with the residents of NUP.

Nancy Trotter

## **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: Mackenzie Chiasson, Sharon Cormier, Cappy Elkin, Ann Hall, Brad Hall, Lisa Hall, Karen Hamre, Terrilyn Hayden, Bonnie Henderson, Lloyd Henderson, Sonia Hewlko, Stuart Oldham, Jessica Schmidt, Greg Short, John Soderberg and Rovy Sobrepena. 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 up-coming turns are June 2-8, July 14-20, Aug 25-31, Oct 6-12, Nov 17-23, and Dec 29-Jan 4. Thanks!

Jeannette Hall  
MOW Coordinator

## **Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee**

### **Committee Members**

Margaret Melhorn: Chair, Laurie Gault, Cappy Elkin, 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.

Late in 2017 and early in 2018 we received a double dose of sad news. In December we were sorry to say goodbye to our Office Administrator, Devy Dulay. In January our Minister, Reverend Peter Chynoweth informed us of his intention to retire in late 2018, after 13 years with Yellowknife United Church. Peter has led us faithfully through a number of important changes at YKUC, in particular the process of becoming an Affirming Congregation. We will be very sorry to see him go but wish both Peter and Sharon all the best in this next phase of their lives. The process of calling a new Minister will be led by the Joint Needs Assessment Committee and a Joint search Committee.

On a happier note, we were very pleased to welcome our new Office Administrator, Beckey Dunham, in early March. Beckey continues our church's tradition of greeting visitors to the Yellowknife Church office with a warm smile and a welcoming attitude.

The M&P Committee would also like to say thank you to Seamus Daly for providing great coverage in the office during January and February 2018 while we were looking to fill the Office Administrator position on a permanent basis. We would also like to thank Gwyneth Davis and Grace Whitelock, who took on the role of "standby" office support in 2017.

This is my final report as M&P Chair, and I would like to thank the members of the committee for their insights, advice and support.

Respectfully submitted by  
Margaret Melhorn  
for the M&P Committee

## **United Church Women - 2017/18 Annual Report** **Yellowknife United Church**

The Yellowknife United Church Women (UCW) has not met during the year although we continued with the regular activities of making pepper jelly and antipasto to sell at our Christmas tea and bake sale, which was again very successful. We also cleaned the kitchen and took part in ad hoc cleaning as required. These activities have been strongly supported by the wider congregation.

Officers for the year were:

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

Because we have not met, we have not yet distributed the proceeds from the Christmas Tea and Sales of 2017 & 2018. We hope to organize a meeting prior to the summer to both distribute these funds and to discuss the future of our UCW unit.

The UCW would like to offer a special thank you to everyone who has supported us by donating their time, energy, and talents.

Respectfully submitted by

Jeannette Hall



## **2017-2018 Northern Lights Presbytery**

It has been my pleasure to be your Yellowknife United Church Presbytery representative again over the past few years after a hiatus. It has been exciting and sad as we are seeing the close of the Conference and Presbytery courts. These will now be represented by an all-encompassing form called Regions.

September 2017 saw us meeting in Grimshaw, Alberta; February 2018 was held in Grande Prairie, Alberta ( I was unable to attend); and the final convening of Alberta Northwest Conference just concluded in Sherwood Park, Alberta. It was a joyous and reflective time for all. What did we do (you ask yourself) if this was the last conference? Well we voted on proposals to be sent to General Council this year, we celebrated retiring ministers (our own Peter Chenoweth was one),and welcomed and commissioned new ordinands. We sang, we laughed, we lamented and we revelled in each other's company, and we listened to many histories of lives and times that will never be gathered all in one place again for the same purpose. As I mentioned before, it was a privilege to be your representative for these years and to get to be present for this historic occasion.

The last meeting of Northern Lights Presbytery Will convene in September 2018 in Dawson Creek, BC., and then in December 2018 will cease to exist. New and exciting things to come.....

Yours always in Christ

Cynthia Creed

## **Stewardship Committee - 2017/18 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

## **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.

Sunday School classes were held during worship time from September to June. Sophie Call was the Sunday School Superintendent who organized the dedicated teaching team of Kathryn Walker, Sandy Little and Joanna Wilson. As well, Elizabeth Brace led the children in music classes one Sunday per month and Joanna Wilson directed the annual Christmas pageant. It is our committee policy that all Sunday School teachers submit a criminal records check every three years; we ensured that all record checks were up-to-date this year.

In early November Rev. Andrew Sheldon from Godly Play International and Rev. Amy Crawford, a Team Leader from the United Church National Office, led an introductory Sunday School session using the Godly Play program. The following evening they gave a workshop on Godly Play for interested congregation members. After gathering feedback from participants and examining the costs and training involved, the CD committee decided not to pursue this program. We will continue with the Whole People of God curriculum which we have ordered for the 2018/19 school year. On November 19 Rev. Chynoweth organized special service for Children's Sunday that included the children performing special music.

The Youth Group leaders from last year were unable to continue working with the young people this year so we are actively searching for new people to lead the older children either during Sunday school time or during the week. Currently, one person has expressed interest.

The CD committee provided snacks for coffee time after church on the three Sundays that baptisms were performed.

As part of the renovations to the church space, new cabinets were installed on the second floor outside Room 205. We moved the Sunday School materials to the new cabinets in late December so the choir could take over the previous Sunday School supply room. The teachers are finding it more convenient to have the supplies on the second floor, where classes take place. In January our committee also did the annual cleaning of the George Mitchell Reading Room.

The CD committee worked in collaboration with Karen Wilford and Kathryn Walker, the congregational witnesses to Living in Right Relations, on the church's third reconciliation event which was held on November 23. We screened the National Film Board production *Birth of a Family*, a deeply moving story of three sisters and

a brother removed from their Dene mother's care in the 1960's and adopted into separate families. One of the siblings and Associate Producer of the film, Betty Ann Adam, came to Yellowknife for the event and participated in a panel discussion moderated by Marie Wilson, member of Yellowknife United Church and Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada from 2009-2015. Other panel members included a Dene cultural specialist, a lawyer and a social work instructor. The group explored the lessons learned from the "Sixties Scoop", its relationship to residential schools and what it means for culture, loss and reconciliation today. A diverse group of over 100 community members attended the event which was co-sponsored by the Law Society of the Northwest Territories, the NWT Native Women's Association, and the Canadian Bar Association (NT Branch). We received a grant from The United Church of Canada's Justice and Reconciliation Fund as well as funding from the Law Society and the Bar Association to put on this event.

Our church sponsors the Scouting movement in Yellowknife by providing meeting rooms and storage space. In February we signed the Scouts Charter application which lays out the responsibilities of both the sponsor and the Scouts. This year 25 Beavers and 12 Cubs met regularly in the auditorium while four Scouts and four Venturers met occasionally in our church space.

The Book Club is going strong with monthly meetings from October to June. We enjoy reading books from a variety of genres with a religious or spiritual theme, then meet after church at Javaroma on the first Sunday of each month. Everyone is welcome to participate and we have a number of attendees who are not affiliated with the United Church.

Two annual events will take place after the writing of the report but before the end of the church year. The annual City spring clean-up is scheduled for May 23; the church has two areas to clean again this year. We are pleased that Johanna Stewart is home from university and taking on the coordination of this important fundraiser again this year. And Sunday School teacher appreciation Sunday will take place on June 10.

Committee members this year were Sophie Call, Betty Parrell, Barb Paquin and Rev. Peter Chynoweth in an ex-officio capacity. Sophie will be leaving the committee after a year and a half of participation; we are thankful for her dedication, especially with the Sunday School, and wish her all the best in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Paquin

## **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.

**Pastoral Care:** Church attenders have been encouraged to wear their name tags to increase our 'community awareness' and invited to submit their pastoral care concerns with a frequent reminder in the bulletin. Further exploration of intentional pastoral care scenarios/methods remains our ongoing work. However, we are 'reminded' of the many ways that pastoral care occurs in our community through both 'planned' and 'relational' methods.

**Community Building:** YKUC hosted four 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 was well attended and fellowship and Sundaes were enjoyed back at the church following the bowling. New this year was a "Guess Who's coming to Dinner" event held in the fall. Hosts and guests enjoyed the surprise of each other's company and good food in members homes and returned to the church for dessert. **Twenty-six** adventurous souls took part in what is sure to be an annual event!

**Student Packages:** Just before final exams in the Fall and again at the end of the Spring semester, eleven 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. We have again begun to offer care in the nursery for smaller children, with members of the committee providing this service. 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. Barb Paquin has become our new Observer Champion – encouraging us all to subscribe to this very important publication. Thank you Barb!

The committee also participated in reviewing the information for the United Church of Canada remits in preparation for the new structural changes coming in 2019.

This year's CLAM committee: Elizabeth Brace, Sharon Chynoweth, Peter Chynoweth (Ex-Officio), Sean Daly and Audrey MacDougall.

Respectfully submitted, Sean Daly (Committee Member)

## **Worship Committee Report, 2018**

As a congregation family we participate in worship in order to be strengthened by our sacred stories and liturgy, to be nourished by our relationships with one another, and inspired by our common vision.

In addition to general worship planning and leadership on those Sundays when Peter is away, some notable items are:

- piano repair and locating a lock for the keyboard;
- procuring a LapBook Pro (thank you Smart Communities) to use for worship purposes and rentals;
- relocating items in Sunday School storage area to cupboards beside Room 205 and to new "Chancel" storage area at far end of lower hall.

Labyrinth - three events this year; fall and spring equinox, as well as winter solstice. Thanks to Lorne who always spearheads these events and also prepares communication materials to promote them.

Service of Comfort - held on December 21<sup>st</sup> this year we noted a particularly large community attendance. Thanks to Peter for preparing a thoughtful homily, Sean Daly and Elizabeth Brace who sang a duet, Sharon Chynoweth who played piano, and to Donna Allen who set out the refreshments after the service.

A new kind of worship service that we added to the mix this year is "Service Sunday". Thanks to Karen Wilford who brought this idea to our attention. The first service of this kind was held on May 13. A shortened (20 minute) meditative service led into a service groups that got the Mildred Hall community garden plots ready for planting, built shelving in the storage shed and an indoor crew that baked cookies both for refreshing the work crews and for the NUP residents.

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. We are so very blessed by their faithful contribution;
- Our choir: Randy Wedel, Sean Daly, Peter Chynoweth, Laurie Gault, Gillian Moir, Gwyneth Davis, Marg Henderson, Betty Parrell, Elaine Stewart, and Alexis Jorgensen.
- Peter Workman for pinch hitting (several times!) at the piano;
- lay leaders and behind the scenes supporters - Karen Wilford, Donna Allen, Lorne Gushue, Karen Hamre, Janice Daly, Lloyd Henderson, Elizabeth Brace, Sharon Chynoweth, Cynthia Creed, and Sean Daly.

- Andrea Harrison, Karen Hamre, Karen Wilford, Elaine Stewart, and Betty Parrell who prepared reflections for Sunday services;
- Janice Daly whose creative skills can transform cloth and ordinary objects into contemplative art; thank you Janice particularly for contributing to all special services,
- And to those who prepare and bake the loaves that grace our communion table.

And particularly in this year when he has announced his upcoming retirement, we extend our thanks to Peter Chynoweth for thirteen years of faith-filled leadership. And also thanks to the creative and dedicated members of our committee: Karen Wilford, Lorne Gushue and Janice Daly.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Stewart,  
Worship Committee Chair



**NWT Community Services Corporation  
Report to the Yellowknife United Church Annual Meeting - May 2018**

I'm pleased to report on the NWT Community Services Corporation.

- First, I want to introduce the members of the board from the past year.
  - From the Community: Margaret Green, Clarel Jupiter, and William Rasmussen.
  - From Yellowknife United Church: Susan Ashton, Larry Elkin, Gary MacDougall, Randy Wedel, Stuart Oldham, and Gordon Hamre.

At the Community Services Corporation Annual General Meeting of April 15 of this year, Greg Short was elected to his first term, and William and Susan were elected to their second. We are grateful for Randy Wedel's contributions over the past years. There were a couple of changes to the board during the course of the past year. Len Griffore stepped down from the board for health reasons and was replaced by Clarel Jupiter as a community representative. Larry Elkin stepped aside as president, and, by vote of the board, I became president.

This is the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of operation for Northern United Place. It was brilliant vision by a few people to create space for the community as an expression of Yellowknife United Church's outreach program.

The Community Services Corporation is led by a volunteer board of directors. Six directors are from the roll of Yellowknife United Church, and three are from the community at large. Each year three directors are appointed for three-year terms. New directors are admitted to the Board by a vote of the members of the Corporation. The members of the Corporation are those on the roll of Yellowknife United Church.

The Community Services Corporation is the sole owner of NUP. The CSC is a multi-million-dollar not-for-profit corporation incorporated in 1974. It is a separate legal entity from the United Church.

NUP is the largest non-profit housing provider in the City, indeed in the NWT. There are 84 bachelor and one-bedroom units. Rent is based on each tenant's income. There are also two floors rented to Yellowknife United Church for \$1.00 per year for 50 years, referred to as the multi-purpose area.

GNWT rents at market rate the other tower for the Yellowknife campus of Aurora College, and 42 rental units for students. It is the market rental income for one part that supports the operation of the other part.

While the volunteer board of directors provides direction on the CSC, the real work is done by the administration and maintenance contractors, Gail and Louis Leonardis. Management of NUP is complex. The relations with tenants are critical to the success. The two towers are a substantial asset to maintain and operate. Also, the separate work of soliciting additional sources of funding is very impressive. The board's confidence in Gail and Louis is very high.

Highlights of the past year:

- Renewal of major contracts for:
  - Administration and maintenance (two years);
  - Security (two years); and
  - Janitorial (three years).
- Renovations to the multi-purpose area are nearly complete, including location of the offices the Corporation and the Church on the first floor.

- In April, we made the final payment on the loan to pay for the lot next door, now used for parking.
- We have more information than before on the operation of the multi-purpose area, essential as we go to lenders seeking to refinance the mortgage.
- At the CSC AGM, members passed a motion to amend the CSC bylaws to limit directors to two terms. Additional terms are possible after a one-year break.

Challenges ahead:

- To maintain the condition of NUP, hence the value, substantial renovations are required. These include:
  - New siding;
  - Upgrading of kitchens in all units; and
  - Asbestos abatement.
- The CSC is collaborating with Peter Workman and the Yellowknife United Church Official Board to resolve erroneous assertions that NUP is part of an “Incorporated Ministry” of the United Church of Canada.
- Continued rental of part of NUP at market rates or an equivalent source of funds is essential for the financial security of NUP. GNWT is the anchor tenant that pays market rent for Aurora College and the student residences, thus allowing the balance of NUP to operate as social housing and covers much of the operating costs for the multi-purpose area. No formal arrangement exists to assure continued market-rate rental of part of NUP by GNWT. We are looking at options.
- We will be doing board training in June.
- We need to be strategic in selection of board members to include a broad suite of skills on the board.
- The mortgage will be discharged in 2026 unless paid in advance. There may be the chance to re-finance the mortgage at a lower rate of interest, thus to reduce mortgage costs.

The CSC is a business and must be successful as a business if it is to achieve its social goals. Thus your participation as voting members of the Corporation is critical.

The Community Services Corporation is doing well.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Hamre

*President*

**TREASURERS REPORT : Yellowknife United Church**  
**Income Statement**  
**As of April 30, 2018**

OPERATING FUND Statement of Revenue & Expenditures	2017 Budget	2017 Actuals	2018 Budget	2018 Actuals	2018 Actuals
	To Apr 30		To Apr 30		
<b>Revenue</b>					
Offering- Local, Loose, SS, Youth, & Other	70,000	24,534	72,000	23,349	32.4%
Building & Equipment Use	70,000	15,259	67,000	26,509	39.6%
Fund Raising	11,000	830	14,500	911	6.3%
Youth Group	0	0	0	0	n/a
Garden Project	0	0	0	0	n/a
Other- photocopies, sales interest, marriage donations	1,934	435	2,100	451	21.5%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>152,934</b>	<b>41,058</b>	<b>155,600</b>	<b>51,220</b>	<b>32.9%</b>

Expenditures					
Personnel	117,300	39,752	118,700	40,276	33.9%
General Admin & Maintenance	13,000	4,141	15,500	3,697	23.9%
Manse Operating	11,878	4,542	12,000	5,538	46.2%
Official Board	3,874	1,258	3,637	1,046	28.8%
Worship Committee	2,000	500	2,000	195	9.8%
Youth group	0	0	0	0	n/a
Outreach Committee	2,200	0	2,200	0	0.0%
Comm Life & Membership Comm.	800	556	800	67	8.4%
Christian Development Committee	1,000	486	1,000	489	48.9%
Stewardship Committee	650	336	650	421	64.7%
Garden Project	937	0	937	0	n/a
Affirm Study Group	1,000	0	500	0	0.0%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>154,639</b>	<b>51,571</b>	<b>157,924</b>	<b>51,729</b>	<b>32.8%</b>
<b>Excess revenue (expenditures)</b>	<b>-\$1,705</b>	<b>-\$10,513</b>	<b>-\$2,324</b>	<b>-\$509</b>	

**Total Offerings/Givings to April 30, 2018**

Local Offering	23,348.83	Down 4.8%	from 2017
Mission and Service	6,478.00	Down 13.4%	from 2017
Memorial Fund	0.00		
Refugee Fund	0.00		
Capital Fund	1,426.00	Up 14.6%	from 2017
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$31,252.83</u>		

Building Rentals are **up by 73.7%** from 2017 and **over budget by 18.7% (4,176)**

At the end of April offerings should be at \$32,167 for all categories (\$96,500 for year)

Total offerings to April were **under budget by 2.8% (\$914)**

<b>Summary of GICs (April 30, 2018)</b>	
Operating Fund	\$10,000.00
Memorial Fund	\$6,000.00
<b>Total GIC</b>	<u><b>\$16,000.00</b></u>

**TREASURERS REPORT : Yellowknife United Church**  
**Income Statement**  
**As of April 30, 2018**

**Funds Summary**

	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Actuals</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2018 Actuals</b>	<b>2018 Actuals</b>
<b>Mission and Service Fund</b>					
Revenues	<b>19,000</b>	7,483	<b>19,000</b>	6,478	34.1%
Celebration Jar	<b>1,000</b>	incl above	<b>1,000</b>	incl above	n/a
Paid to Date		3,019		4,516	
Owing		4,464		1,962	
<b>Capital Fund</b>					
Offering Revenues	<b>4,500</b>	1,245	<b>4,500</b>	1,426	31.7%
Other Revenues (Grants, rebates,...)		0		0	
Expenditures to date	<b>1,257</b>	44	<b>2,500</b>	1,107	
Tranfers owing		0		0	
Balance		1,200		319	
<b>Memorial Fund</b>					
Offering Revenues		0		0	n/a
Expenditures to date		47		8	
Balance		-47		-8	
<b>Refugee Fund</b>					
Offering Revenues	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	n/a
Fundraising/outreach & UCW donation		0		0	
Expenditures to date		2,950		8	
Tranfers to date		0		0	
Balance		-2,950		-8	