

Castlegar United Church

Leading, learning, and loving in the light of God

2018 Annual Report



Vision

We envision ourselves as vibrant and bold,
embodying the reconciling Way of Jesus.

Affirming statement

We affirm the inherent value of all life. We affirm that all people of any gender identity or sexual orientation have a place of worship, leadership, and discipleship in Castlegar United Church.

Values

We see these values as foundational to who we are:

- Acceptance and Diversity
- Belonging and Community
- Fairness and Advocacy
- Hospitality and Friendliness
- Care and Compassion

In June 2016, we added our thumbprints to this tree as a way of signing onto our Affirming Statement (above).



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Passages

Baptisms	None
Marriages	None
Deaths	Waldo Yule
Transfer Out of Members	None
Transfer In/New Members	None

Membership Roll

Number of members as of 31 December 2018:	106
Resident Members:	70
Non-resident Members:	36



Photo Credit: Jean Merritt
Child Within Sunday, Lighting the Christ Candle

Minutes from 2018 Annual Congregational Meeting

Introduction:

Chair Gordon Soukoreff welcomed everyone and thanked all present for their patience with his learning curve over the past two years as Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am.

1. Determination of voting privileges: Jean Merritt motioned to allow adherents to vote on financial or administrative matters. Kim Matson 2nd, and all were in favor, motion carried.
2. Agenda: accepted as circulated.
3. Minutes from January 29, 2017 accepted as written.
4. Reports: Dawn Waldie motioned to accept reports as written and circulated. Liz Fleet 2nd.

Greg Powell presented on Vision, Values Tagline. Who are we? An average Sunday service will see 45 attending. UnChurch regularly will have numbers between 20 and 25 and usually mostly non Church attendees.

We have an Affirming Statement in place and a Logo (fingerprint tree).

Vision: We envision our Church community as vibrant and bold, embodying the reconciling Way of Jesus.

Tagline: Leading, learning, and loving in the light of God.

Values: Acceptance, Belonging, Hospitality, Fairness, Care

Aspirational values: Consciousness, playfulness, awe and energy.

Liz Fleet motions to accept all three and Michelle Warren 2nd. Motion carried.

5. Financial Statement for 2017:

Gordon Swedburg thanked everyone for their ongoing contributions and fund raising and was very pleased that our finances ended up in the black at year's end with a balance of \$464.00 to the positive.

Some reasons for the positive numbers are increased rents (Centre for Spiritual Living), Thrift Store, and fund raising. Late December givings put us in the black after the budget forecast was for 2017 ending with a deficit.

Gordon Swedburg motioned to have the financial statement accepted as presented. Larry Brown 2nd and the motion was carried.

6. Proposed budget for 2018:

Gordon Swedburg read the proposed budget for 2018 is for a total operating budget of \$101925.00 with a deficit of \$7300.00 at years' end.

Ways to offset this deficit will be further discussed at the next Board meeting as Greg will present a Stewardship campaign sometime in 2018 and ideas for fundraising are already on the calendar.

Bill Furey spoke on these financial budget issues and all were in favor of NOT making a motion or voting at this time. Gordon Swedburg stated the Proposed budget does not need to balance as many variables will appear over the course of the year.

Sandra Foster spoke about fundraising for helping others (camp Koolaree, Stone soup kitchen) and not fundraising for the "budget". Kim Matson also spoke about the welcoming committee and engaging inter faiths and discussing bold and vibrant issues but NOT monies.

Gord Soukoreff stated that funds WILL come and people and activities will produce results.

Bonnie Thompson says customers at the Thrift Store ask all the time, "where does the money go to" and there is a posted sign in the Thrift Store stating that monies go to M&S and other outreach places. Volunteers would NOT want to work to just keep the Church budget in good shape.

Keith Merritt asked about the 15% that comes off the top of the Thrift store profits (CUC) and Dawn Waldie and others said it was a decision made long ago by the UCW.

Thank you to Bill Furey for starting this great discussion!

Mae Wallin will add her name to the Welcoming committee.

The Uth has closed out their account and donated the \$977 to be used for family and children related ideas such as Child Within services or Young Families.

Gordon Swedburg moved that the Budget for 2018 be accepted with corrections, stating corrected Operating Budget of \$101925.00 and a deficit of \$7300.00.

Keith Merritt 2nd and all were in favor. Motion carried.

7. Capital Plan Priorities for 2018.

2017 saw Trustees checking into kitchen upgrades and deciding they were too expensive and the Front Doors have presently been working just fine.

No new plans for 2018.

8. Fundraising ideas for 2018:

8.1 Carol Conkin, Rosemary Manarin and Greg have a plan in place for a fund raising event to be announced in the new future.

8.2 Liz and Terry Fleet will lead a pancake lunch to be held on February 11, 2018 after Church and the Anglicans have been invited to join us. Suggested donation of \$5 per plate.

8.3 Pie day

9. Nominations for:

Chair: Keith Merritt

Vice Chair: Irene Furey

Secretary: Julia Langille

Treasurer: Gordon Swedburg

Trustees: Ed Beynon and Larry Brown

Don Ellis proposed nominations be closed and Chris Foster 2nd. All in favor.

10. Signing Officers:

Two of the four names must sign. Keith Merritt, Irene Furey, Gordon Swedburg, Julia Langille.

Sandra Foster moves to accept as written and Chris Foster 2nd. All in favor.

11. Adjournment: Keith Merritt asked Gordon Soukoreff to accept our thanks and a bouquet of flowers, for his time as Chair these past two years.

John Walton thanked Gordon Swedburg, Keith Merritt, Greg and all, for the ongoing work of the Board and Executive and volunteers.

Gordon Soukoreff moved to adjourn at 12:45pm.

12. Greg spoke and said Grace and a luncheon followed.

Note: a) A quorum shall be twenty full members.

b) The rules of the United Church of Canada shall serve as a standard of conduct.

Note: 28 signatures of people in attendance.

23 Full members present.

Chair: Gordon Soukoreff

Secretary: Julia Langille

Minister's Message

Epiphany is the perfect season for annual reporting. Its name, meaning “new appearance,” refers less to a complete makeover, and more to a new way of seeing. It's actually less about the image we project and more about the image we see. In a tiny baby, a handful of Zoroastrian priests saw a Messiah. In an infant lying in a manger, the marginalized shepherds saw a saviour. They were following the star and found a vulnerable human, but they saw much more than that.

So, too, are we invited to look at a church – a community with a tradition and a building – and see so much more: the embodiment of God's love on our planet. When we see ourselves that way, there is promise. There is potential. There is abundant life and love.

This past year has been a year of great transformation for our denomination, even if our congregation will be rather sheltered from the changes. General Council met in the summer to affirm what the

previous General Council had set: that presbyteries and conferences would merge and re-divide into regional councils. As of January 1 of this year, neither Kootenay Presbytery nor BC Conference exist any longer. Instead, the Pacific Mountain Regional Council will oversee the responsibilities previously held by the other two courts. Inevitably, there will be some hiccups along the way, but the day-to-day operations of our congregation will continue largely unchanged.

Our congregation has seen some significant changes. Our cohort of young children has grown and aged, bringing new challenges and opportunities. Some of the challenges and opportunities require special attention in short order.

We have also welcomed Exploration Station Child Care into our building, and the Castlegar community children's choir blesses our sanctuary with their energy on a weekly basis for their practices. The local Sparks, Brownies, and Girl Guides meet in our building again, and other 12-step groups continue their journeys within our walls. It makes for some busy times!



Photo Credit: SBrownlee

Step into Spring, Jane Lippa, Lynne Miskell and Rosemary Manarin

Many of us were inspired by the new possibilities of which we day-dreamed while attending the workshop at Trail UC hosted by Beth-Ann Estock, author of *Weird Church*. She reminded us that our model of doing church is now a rare exception, and that moving toward a new way of being will be a necessity before long. This is not new to us, but we appreciate the reminder.

The message of Epiphany gives the impression that the way forward will be obvious; but one wonders how many Magi and shepherds ended up at the wrong stable, or how many other stables they checked before finding the Light of the world. No doubt we too will find some dead ends as we find our way through the darkness. Part of our task is to find learning and even joy in our failures because even they are part of the journey.



Photo Credit; Sbrownlee

Child Within, Dawn Waldie, Shemmeho, Alicia Affolter, Cheryl Swedburg, Anakin Demers and Liz Fleet

Let us illuminate for each other how best to learn, lead, and love so that we might be bold and vibrant and embody the reconciling Way of Jesus.

Rev. Greg Powell

Executive

This has been another year of ongoing evolution of Castlegar United Church. Greg has continued to lead our congregation in a progressive way. We have to be thankful that he and his family have made a significant commitment to stay in Castlegar by buying a house!

Un-Church has continued and slowly there has been an increase in the number of children on Sundays. This is forcing us to look at our priorities and how to accommodate the change.

Our church building use is increasing dramatically. 15 members of our congregation attended the *Weird Church* seminar in Trail and took home the message that we needed to stay in touch and remain relevant within the community we live. Shortly after that a new ukulele group started meeting here weekly, a youth choir started and now we have a day

care in the basement 5 days a week! We are continuing to have to adapt to these changes.

We continue to be financially stable. Givings are down but we have managed to maintain other income streams. The thrift store along with our various fund raisers including: Step into Spring, Garden Fest, Pie days and the Christmas Bake Sale all have been successful. These activities not only help us financially but also help build our congregational morale and our visibility in the community. Other ways of being present in the community is the continued operation of the stone soup kitchen, choir presentations and new this year was our involvement in the Winterfest parade.

Of significance to the region this is the end of the Presbytery system of governance. There have been many members of our congregation involved with this process including Greg who is the last chair. It remains to be seen how this is all going to play out.

I would like to thank all the members of the congregation that have helped out in so many ways over this past year. We have a lot to be thankful for.

I look forward to another year in this role as chair and working with executive and the board which thankfully will remain the same.

Respectfully,
Keith Merritt



Photo credits: Carl Sayers
Morale is high at Pie Day

Board and Committee Structure

	2018	2019 Nominations	Term
Executive Committee			
Chair	Keith Merritt		2018-2020
Vice Chair	Irene Furey		2018-2020
Secretary	Julia Langille	Julia Langille	2017-2018
Treasurer	Gordon Swedburg	Gordon Swedburg	2017-2018
Minister	Greg Powell	Greg Powell	<i>Ex officio</i>
Trustees Committee	(6 trustees, each for 5 year terms)		
Chair	Larry Brown		2018-2023
	Ed Beynon		2018-2023
	Don Danroth		2014-2019
	Irene Furey		2016-2012
	Herman Manarin	Herman Manarin	2014-2019
	Keith Merritt		2016-2021
		Joyce Munden	2019-2024
Ministry and Personnel	(6 members: 3 elected, 3 appointed by staff)		
Chair	Chris Foster	Carol Conkin	
Welcoming	Kim Matson		
Food and Catering	Gordon Soukoreff		
Worship	<i>No coordinator designated at present</i>		
Faith Exploration	<i>No coordinator designated at present</i>		
Outreach	Rosemary Manarin		

The Board was comprised of

- the Executive Committee;
- representatives from
 - the Trustees Committee and
 - the Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee;
- the Presbytery Representative; and
- volunteer committee representatives for
 - the Welcoming Committee,
 - the Food and Catering Committee,
 - the Worship Committee,
 - the Faith Exploration Committee, and
 - the Outreach Committee.



Photo Credit: Bill Furey
Gord Swedburg and Herman Manarin at Men's Breakfast with special guests Mary and Joseph

The elected positions come to the Annual Congregational Meeting as nominations for a vote by the congregation as terms end.

The Trustees and M&P meet regularly over the year and have a chair that attends Board meetings or ensures a designate is present at Board meetings. We then have volunteer committee representatives and co-ordinators for the other committees, which report to the board. The Executive meets monthly September through June and the Board meets five times a year: January, April, June, September, and November. Our Annual Congregational Meeting is held before the end of February.

Castlegar United Church Organizational Chart 2019



* pending election at 2019 annual congregational meeting

Trustees

The Trustees in 2018 were: Ed Beynon, Don Danroth, Irene Furey, Herman Manarin (Secretary), Keith Merritt, and Larry Brown (Chair).

Over the past year, the following actions were taken:

- Medi-chair performed their semi-annual inspection of the Stair Lift System.
- Annual inspection of the Fire and Intruder Alarm System was performed by Selkirk Security.
- Annual inspection of the furnaces was performed.
- The deputy fire chief inspected the building and we passed inspection.
- The church insurance was reviewed and renewed with a small increase in the premium.
- The United Church of Canada continues to pay the premiums for the director's and officer's insurance.
- We continued with the third-party liability insurance policy which covers all non-church users of the building that do not have their own insurance.
- Installation of pressure reducing valve on water intake line in response to city notice that they were increasing water pressure in the church neighbourhood.
- Assisted in development of the lease for the day care centre occupancy in the church basement.
- Updated the call out list to be used when there is a problem that needs to be dealt with. For example, who to call if there is a plumbing problem.
- Herman installed a programmable thermostat in the area where the day care is operating.
- As the fluorescent fixtures fail, Herman is changing them over to electronic ballasts. The new ballasts will also take LED bulbs if we decide to switch in the future.
- A deadbolt lock was also installed on a washroom door to enhance privacy.

The terms for the trustees are as follows:

Name	Appointment Date	Appointment Expires
Ed Beynon	2018	2023
Larry Brown	2018	2023
Don Danroth	2014	2019
Irene Furey	2016	2021
Herman Manarin	2014	2019
Keith Merritt	2016	2021

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees,

Larry Brown, Chair of the Trustees



Photo Credit: Carl Sayers
Herman Manarin, Lynne Miskell, Jean Merritt, and Cheryl Swedburg make pie crusts



Photo Credit: SBrownlee
Irene and Bill Furey at Step Into Spring

Ministry and Personnel

2018 has been another relatively quiet year for M&P. Greg and Kim completed an informal evaluation and a more formal evaluation is still being considered for next year. Greg's remuneration for housing has been an ongoing issue but this was resolved by a decision from the Church in Toronto.

Lynn Miskell has asked to step down from the committee so we will be looking to elect another member at the Annual General Meeting. I would like to thank Lynn for her years of service to M&P.

The committee currently consists of :

- Chris Foster (chair)
- Lynn Miskell (secretary, Board appt)
- Herman Manarin (Board appt)
- Mae Wallin (rep for Sarah B.)
- Kim Matson (Greg's rep)
- Ray Lundquist (rep for Lori and Alicia)

Respectfully submitted, Chris Foster



Photo Credit: SBrownlee
Chris and Sandra Foster at Step Into Spring

Worship Report

Our Sunday morning worship continues along the same trajectory as recent years. We continue striving for the same excellence in word, music, and spiritual experience, while proclaiming the reconciliation that Jesus makes possible. We continue to follow the lectionary, for the most part, with some deviation during Creation Time (September) and on the 4th Sunday of each month when we focus on Worship for the Child Within. We mark the liturgical seasons and celebrate Communion on the 1st Sunday of each month.

On some Sundays we have been blessed with an abundance of children. This, coupled with the lack of structure behind Sunday morning children's faith exploration, is now leading us to some challenges: namely, that some find the noise and activity distracting. Both the Engaging Young Families team and the Board (and Executive) are working on solutions that work theologically (ie. reflect how we understand God), developmentally (ie. challenge children and recognize present limitations), and administratively (ie. match the volunteer pool we presently have and draw upon the appropriate financial resources).

More creativity and variety in our modes of worship would help engage people in different ways. The United Church style is often very word-centred, to the neglect of emotion- or symbol-centred spiritual approaches. The worship committee certainly welcomes creative input from others. The committee also welcomes general and specific feedback on the experience of worship at Castlegar UC.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Greg Powell

Music

Castlegar United Church had another great year with our choir. We currently have 14 members and we continue to meet Wednesday nights from 7 till 8:30 p.m. We sang about two anthems per month between September and May and at Christmas time we also sang in the community Carol sing. I am very proud of our singers and accompanist, Alicia Affolter, and I look forward to another great year in 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori McWilliam



Photo Credit; SBrownlee
Mae Wallin and Marj Culley at Step Into Spring

Welcoming Committee

The welcoming committee as a group that not only welcomes new people, but also strives to make longtime members feel welcome. We try to make sure that we have email addresses for new people and connecting them to the *Church Chimes* e-newsletter and we distributed several welcome packages recently. We also aim to distribute newsletters in print to those who don't access the Internet. Some ideas have surfaced in recent discussions: looking into a shuttle to assist those who might have trouble getting to the church on Sundays; and arranging some potluck lunches to follow worship to allow for socializing.



Along with these ideas, we will be sending a survey to the congregation that would help to generate ideas for other actions that could be taken to be a more welcoming church. Our goal would then be to take a few of these ideas and recruit some volunteers to initiate them. We think that people are hesitant to commit to a committee, but might be able to take on a shorter term project.

Kim Matson

A representative of the welcoming committee

Photo Credit; Gord Soukoreff
Lighting the Christ Candle, Rylan, Anakin, Eliana, Lelu, Maile, Malakey and Greg Powell
(Ethel Danroth, Carol Conkin and Johanna Williamson in background)

Presbytery Representative



As I write this, there are only hours left until Kootenay Presbytery fades into history and my job as Presbytery Representative for Castlegar United Church ends. During the past year I attended both spring and fall presbytery gatherings as well as a meeting of BC Conference. These events covered a lot of items which I am not going to even try to summarize.

Links to the official minutes will be found below:

MEETINGS:

1. Kootenay Presbytery Spring Gathering was held in Cranbrook from April 13 – 15.

<http://kootenayunited.ca/presbytery/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-04-1314-Spring-Presbytery-Meeting.pdf>

2. BC Conference meeting was held in Penticton from May 31 – June 3

<http://kootenayunited.ca/presbytery/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018-05-31-Conference-Presbytery-Meeting.pdf>

3. Kootenay Presbytery Fall Gathering was held in Creston October 24 – 26

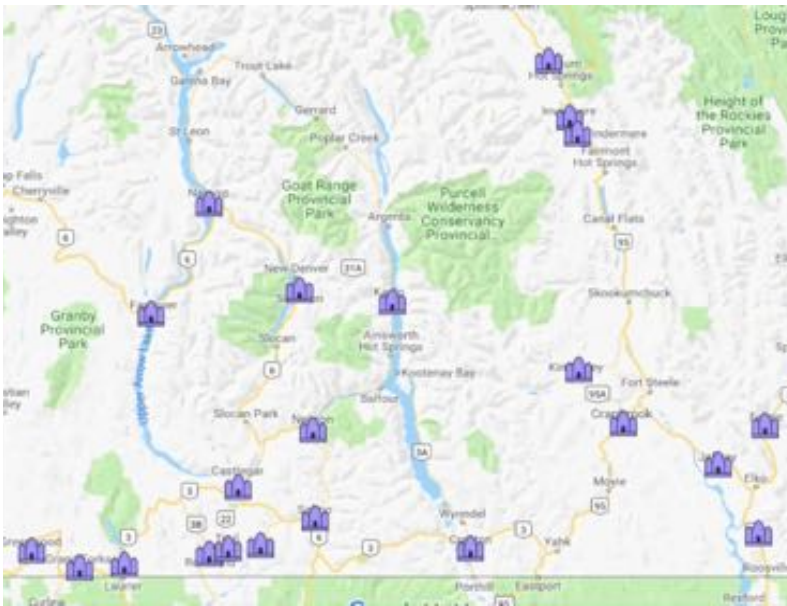
The full report and a special video can be found on the new KP website:

<https://kootenayunited.ca/>

<https://kootenayunited.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Kootenay-Presbytery-Fall-Meeting-October-12-to-14th-2018-2.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pswW82fLQel&feature=youtu.be>

4. In addition, I also attended the board meetings at Castlegar United Church.



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

In order to determine the current state of all pastoral charges before the transfer to Pacific Mountain Region, members of the Administration, Finance and Stewardship Committee toured Kootenay Presbytery in October. I made several trips with Joan Hanson: to St. John's United Church in Grand Forks, Nelson United Church, St. Andrew's United Church in Kaslo, and Turner/Zion United Church in Silverton. We were spared a trip to Nakusp when

they sent us a full report by email. Finally, with Gordon Swedburg, I travelled to Trail United for an interview with reps from Communities In Faith Pastoral Charge (Trail United Church & St. Andrew's United Church, Rossland.) Gordon and Cheryl made a long trip to visit the United Churches in the East Kootenay and Jody Dudley along with Rev. David Boyd have been working to finalize things as Beaver Valley United Church closes at year's end. As Presbytery Rep, I also attended the interview session at Castlegar United.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Lundquist



Photo credit: Carl Sayers
Sunday morning worship

Faith Exploration

Most of our faith exploration in 2018 occurred during our Sunday morning worship.

Our monthly Un-Church gatherings now have children and adults meeting in separate spaces, which allows for a different type of faith exploration for different ages. We've explored themes like transformation, awakening, and others. We will continue this approach in 2019.

The Bible study group continues to meet on Friday mornings. We finished reading the New Testament epistles and have transitioned into reading the Hebrew Bible according to the Documentary Hypothesis.

The Book Club read Jodi Picoult's *Small Great Things*, Jason Morgan's *A Dog Called Hope*, and James Patterson and Maxine Paetro's *Woman of God*. Early in 2019, Amy Ellis Nutt's *Becoming Nicole* was the featured book. The gatherings will continue through 2019.

In 2019 we anticipate a few new offerings, likely focusing on some of Richard Rohr's work. Other ideas for faith exploration are always welcome!

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Greg Powell

Engaging Young Families

Un-Church - We had 6 events in 2018. Some were as small as 3 families, others as large as 6. Mostly just parents with children and sometimes grandparents. Families gathered in the Summer at Camp Koolaree for a weekend retreat which we hope to do something similar again this year. We are planning January, February, March, September, October, November sessions as well as an extended summer gathering in July (before the smoke comes!). We revised the structure such that we now gather as a group to eat, then parents retreat upstairs while children have programming downstairs, and then we gather as a whole again for singing and a story.

We are hoping to have more structure with Children and Worship programming during 2019. The young children are growing with age and in numbers. We now have roughly 3-8 children on any given Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Brownlee



Photo credit: SBrownlee
Rylan, Eliana, Anakin, and Lelu

Outreach Committee

In the past year there has been some discussion about how our church can evolve, can we become more connected to our community, Castlegar. Well, usage of our church is broadening and as a result Castlegar United is having some interaction with different factions in our community. The church is now being used by a Day Care, Girl Guides, the Sikhs, COINS, our local indigenous group, a Children's Choir, the Ukelele Club as well as Al Anon, Narcotics Anonymous and the Responsible Driver Program. This is outreach, although less obvious.

Obvious outreach includes our partnership in the running of our local **St. David's Thrift Shop** which serves low income people not only in Castlegar but also people from around the region. It is very well used, and the profits made help our M & S Fund, our church operation and local outreach services such as the Harvest Food Bank. Thank you to our many United Church volunteers.

Our **Mission and Service Fund** total this year reached \$15,703. Thank you to Carol Conkin and all the Minute for Mission readers who help promote our M & S work. Our **Step into Spring fundraiser** last April was a huge success. Not only was over \$2,000. raised but everyone had fun and many from outside our congregation participated and hoped to come for a repeat. The auction event encouraged "Services for others" as items, like driving, gardening and cooked dinners.

The **Gardenfest bake sale** in June yielded over \$400.00 and our pre- **Christmas bake sale** \$1200. Thank you to all who contributed baking for these worthwhile activities. A good portion of these funds goes back into the community as noted below*.

The Sharing Dinner Pot* hot meal program is still thriving now in its 22nd year. Castlegar United Church is our prime sponsor as well as the USCC. Five rotating cooking teams ensure a full hot dinner is served at the Cadet Hall downtown every Tuesday from September to June's end. Lynne Miskell heads our United Church cooking team once monthly while the Anglicans, Catholics, and Doukhobors also take their turn. The Sunrise Rotary ladies fill in on the odd 5th Tuesdays. It is a true community partnership. This year we have been serving up to 40 people each sitting. Thanks to all our supporters.

We continue to support the **Harvest Food Bank*** through regular donations of food as well as our annual financial contribution. Thanks to John Thompson who transports our food donations regularly.

We also continue to support **Camp Koolaree*** in many ways, primarily financial and labor-intensive work. This past summer welcomed 111 young campers in 5 different camps. Many heartfelt thanks to our volunteers for the many manhours spent in readying the camp.

Stamp Collection: Bonnie Thompson continues to collect our donations of stamps which are prepared by Eastern Star ladies for sale to a dealer. Much funds are raised in this way across BC for dressings needed by **cancer patients** and **for cancer research**.

Eyeglasses: Cheryl Swedburg has ensured that over a dozen pairs of eyeglasses and many contact lens have been sent to be reused abroad in underdeveloped countries. By Lynne Miskell's initiative, several bottles of **Zatoun olive oil** have been sold with proceeds going to help the Palestinians.

In serving our respect for our environment, our creation, we held a **100 Mile Lunch** once again in September. The message is that our shopping choices affect both the environment and the world food crisis. It was so pleasing to see so many of the congregation enjoying a menu comprised entirely of locally grown food.

May we continue to live in gratitude and go forward in helping our world be a better place.

Rosemary Manarin

Affirming Committee

The Affirming Committee has been dormant most of the year, but continues to consider a plan for the future. The congregation had considered including race, ability, economic circumstance, class, age, etc. in the original affirming statement, but there was agreement that we should explore those before including them alongside sexual orientation and gender identity in our congregations statement. We look forward to a conversation about age and ability early in 2019, and we appreciate the ways we have considered race, racism, and privilege during worship in 2018.



Photo credit: Carl Sayers
Sunday morning worship

Respectfully submitted, Nicole Hergert, Sarah Brownlee, Gord Soukoreff & Greg Powell

St David's and the United Church Thrift Store

The Thrift Store continues its long-standing tradition of providing house-hold items and clothing at very reasonable prices. Only items that are near new condition are offered for sale and that combined with our low prices garnered us a reputation of being the best thrift store in the Kootenays. We continue to put items in less than pristine condition in our free area. We also



Photo credit: Greg Powell
Making lamb hats for Winterfest: Evelyn Powell, Carol Kranz, and Lynne Miskell

redirect larger appliances and furniture to the Restore location and bedding and towels are donated to the SPCA. Pozitive Apparel in Nelson still collects our unusable clothing twice a month. They are able to redirect this material to a location in the lower mainland who recycles it. We still cut cotton items into rags for sale.

Our volunteer numbers remain steady. We lost Sally Williams and Waldo Yule this year and their presence is sadly missed. Most of our new volunteers are not affiliated with either church. Many of them have been customers at the store and have enjoyed the experience and have expressed the desire to be a part of the organization.

We had some major expenditures this past year. The largest was having to change the locks on all the doors after keys were lost during a busy sale day. We also had to replace the vacuum cleaner and we purchased some new clothing racks to replace some that were old, rusty and unsafe.

Because we were experiencing some difficulties covering all the shifts at the store, it was decided at the spring meeting to change the hours from two three hour shifts per day to one four hour shift. This was to be a trial for four months. Many of the volunteers found the extra hour too much for them so at the December meeting a long discussion led to the decision to return to the previous hours but to also remain closed on Tuesday as well as Monday.

Our by-laws stated that executive members should only serve a term of two years. Some of the executive had been in their positions for over twelve years. Val Townsend will replace Jane Lippa as Treasurer, Eileen Akselson will replace Kay Ross as Secretary and Dyan Logan will replace Jean rainbow as Director.

I look forward to 2019 being another successful year for the Thrift Shop.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Thompson

**2018 TREASURER'S REPORT
ST. DAVID'S THRIFT SHOP**

Balance forward	1039.96		
Income		Expenditures	
Sales	60,318.37	Rent	6,650.00
Petty cash	417.96	Petty cash	417.96
Interest	2.42	Supplies	218.88
GST rebate	187.60	Gas	120.00
Luncheon refund	178.27	Gifts	29.78
		Shelving	44.30
		Landfill	5.00
Total Income	62,144.58	Insurance	1,584.00
		Telephone	380.61
		Luncheon	178.27
		Vacuum	383.54
		Fire extinguisher test	65.63
		Keys	201.26
		Racks	327.49
		Supplies	174.61
		St.David's Anglican Church	25,700.00
		Castlegar United Church	25,700.00
		Total Expenditures	61,382.16
Total Income	62,144.58		
Total Expenditures	61,763.37		
Balance	381.21		
O/C	8400.00		
O/C	37.49		
KSCU statement Dec.31,2018	8818.70		

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Lippa, Treasurer

Camp Koolaree

The 2018 camping season at Koolaree turned out quite well. A total of 117 campers enjoyed their time there and that was up from only 85 last year. Teen and Novice Camps saw an increase, Junior Boys and Junior Girls unfortunately were down a bit; Intergenerational Family Camp had enough participants to run though the initial Outpost Camp had to be canceled due to lack of registrations

This year saw Camp Koolaree finances in the black for the second year in a row. Our total income was \$55,178 while expenses were held to just \$49,335. That's good, but unfortunately the camp needs some expensive upgrades to the facilities and boats, and to that end an ambitious five-year programme to raise over \$1 million is currently underway.

We received a \$1,000 grant from CIBC Wood-Gundy, and at the final fall gathering, Kootenay Presbytery pledged \$5,000. Harrop-Procter Forest Products donated over \$3,800 worth of free lumber which was transported to Nelson by truck and then to Koolaree by CP Rail equipment. The kids at Teen Camp were put to work hauling all that heavy unplanned lumber from the tracks and stacking it near Cabin #6. It will be used to replace the flooring in the old Brick Shed. We were also selected for a LeRoi Community Foundation grant of \$1500 for a solar lighting system in that building. The closing of Beaver Valley United Church in Fruitvale has resulted in an unexpected, but much appreciated donation of \$100,000 plus \$5,000 for camperships. Along with some private donations, we also received a tidy sum from Castlegar United and a bit more from the CIF UCW for which we are very grateful.

Our staff this year consisted of Jacob Plett and his brother Josh as groundsman. Riley Major returned for the full summer as lifeguard / activities director. After being the assistant last year, Linn Murray took the plunge and became the head cook,. Jonah Turton and Thomas Plett both spent time as assistant cooks.

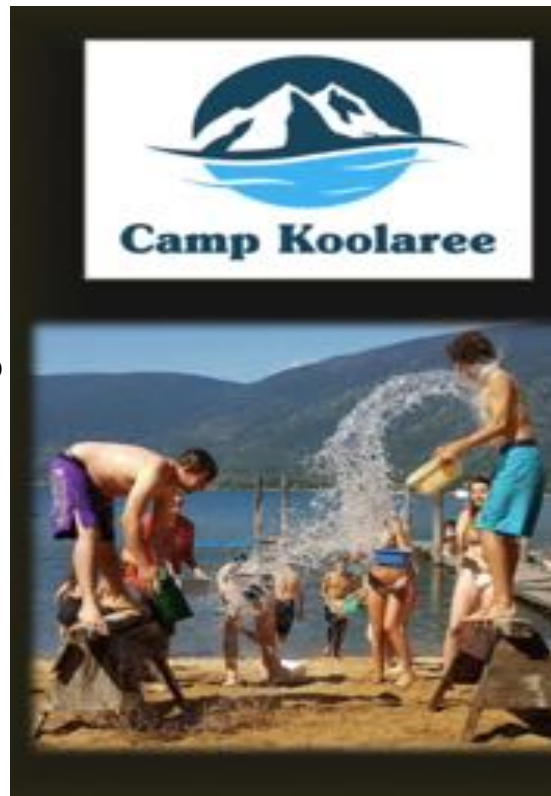


Photo credit: SBrownlee
Malakey, Eliana, and Anakin at the Un-Church retreat at Camp Koolaree

2018 Camp Koolaree Attendance

CAMP	BOYS	GIRLS	OTHER	TOTAL CAMPERS	Director
NOVICE	12	13		25	Julie Popoff
TEEN	10	19	1	31	Juliana Marko
JR BOYS	8	-		10	Peter Herd
JR GIRLS	-	28		28	Robin Murray Natalie Plett
FAMILY	4	5		23	Terry Berg Nancy Totten- Prime
ALL	34	65		117	

RENTALS:

Wink Wink Events - 2 nights

Castlegar United - 2 nights

Dances of Universal Peace - 4 nights

Trail Clubhouse - Cancelled due to smoke

The Boats and Buildings Team, of which I am a member, kept busy from Mid March until mid October. Before, during, and after the camping season, there are always things to do.

Saturday April 28 was a day with the odd shower, but that didn't stop a hard working crew headed by Mo Barry replacing the tattered asphalt roofing on the Ad Hut patio with heavy plywood and coated steel. At days end, many of the workers enjoyed delicious spaghetti supper at Nelson United Church.

Two days later, a crew of volunteers cleared out The Brick Shed and ripped up the rotten planks that had covered half of the floor. Loads of accumulated junk were hauled to the dump and a large bonfire consumed the wood debris.

Many thanks to all who helped out this year, somehow we managed to keep things going at Koolaree. Special mention goes to Don, Bill, Jacob, Josh, Mo, Peter, and the Teen Camp Kids. To all the fellows who showed up for the work parties – you also deserve a huge thank-you. Thanks goes to Mike from the CPR and to Tony at NRM for your indispensable assistance. Thanks also to Robin and her helpers for the nice meal you provided after the workers finished the Ad Hut roof – that was much appreciated. Thanks to the folks at Harrop-Procter Forest Products, to Jim Berrill of JEMS Propane, and to Scott McLean of S.A.M. Marine. I have probably missed other people who also contributed in some way to do whatever had to be done, and your efforts also deserve

thanks. To those who graciously made special financial donations to Koolaree, thank-you so much. We have to pay to have professional help at times and the extra funds make that possible.

I urge you to check out the camp website where you will find many more details, photos, and videos.

The Camp Koolaree 2018 annual report can be found here:

<http://campkoolaree.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018-AGM.pdf>

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Lundquist

Balance Sheet

CASTLEGAR UNITED CHURCH Balance Sheet As At December 31

			2018		2017
Assets					
Current Assets					
Cash in Bank	Note 2	\$	7,012		\$ 12,831
Investments	Note 3		120,793		118,659
A/R BC Conference			-		937
GST/HST Receivable			147	\$ 127,952	145 \$ 132,572
Capital Assets	Note 4		665,900		665,900
Total Assets			\$ 793,852		\$ 798,472
LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities					
Insurance		\$	5,462		\$ 5,165
Payroll Taxes			334	\$ 5,796	561 \$ 5,726
Deferred Revenue	Note 5				
Family Project		\$	(308)		\$ -
Camp Event		\$	511		
Justice Project			-	403	534 534
Building Fund			665,900		665,900
Legacy Fund	Note 6		55,413		55,413
Operating Fund Balances					
Opening Balance		\$	70,899		\$ 70,435
Current Year (Deficit) Surplus			(4,559)	66,340	464 70,899
Total Liabilities and Equity			\$ 793,852		\$ 798,472

Prepared by:

G. B. Sweeney
Treasurer

Reviewed by:

L. Lippe

Operating Statement 2018

For The Year Ended December 31					
	2018		2017		2016
	Actual		Actual		Budget
Donations and Receipts:					
Identified Giving's	\$ 65,065		\$ 65,812		\$ 87,000
Loose Contribution	2,008		1,348		1,750
Interest	2,107		1,946		2,000
Observer Subscriptions	417		430		450
Weddings and Funerals	110		419		100
Catering	1,081		-		-
Rent	5,995		6,679		6,800
Thrift Store	Note 7	21,845	21,990		22,000
Fundraising	Note 8	8,051	8,030		8,000
Designated Receipts					
MBS	Note 1	\$ 15,708	\$ 15,572		\$ 16,000
Stone Soup		1,300	1,320		1,300
Camp Koolanee		2,105	1,625		-
Harvest Food Bank		1,455	965		400
Family Project		2,437	-		-
Camp Event		2,480	-		-
Christian Children		25	40		-
Ruhings Appeal		-	208		-
Fort McMurray Appeal		-	60		-
EUROCS		-	25	19,807	17,900
Miscellaneous	Note 9	980	215		225
Total Receipts and Income		114,580	126,696		125,725
Less Fundraising Allocation	Note 10	4,518	4,015		3,000
Less Designated Funds		25,845	29,808		17,900
Total Operating Receipts		104,207	102,873		104,825
Education					
M&P	\$ 325		\$ 325		\$ 325
Observer	830		976		850
Presbytery	4,444	5,599	4,213	5,534	4,450
Building					
City Services	796		735		725
Cleaning	2,250		2,100		2,150
Insurance	5,793		5,877		5,600
Light/Power	1,245		1,301		1,200
Natural Gas	1,062		1,200		1,000
Maintenance	2,651		1,966		1,300
Snow Removal	1,826	17,129	852	15,411	1,500
Operating					
Bank Charges	735		796		750
Communications	1,125		1,314		1,310
Music - Supply	646		549		500
Music - Salary	6,171		7,044		7,000
Pastoral Supply	956		1,370		500
Secretary	5,195		5,008		4,600
Beneficent Funding	809		-		-
Copier	387		477		425
Supplies	3,445		4,650		4,000
Summer Student	-	18,967	-	21,218	1,900
Ministry					
Education	1,000		1,238		1,393
Salary	54,673		49,488		54,673
Benefits	11,404	67,077	9,300	60,826	11,234
Total Operating Expenses		108,766	102,409		113,125
Surplus (Deficit) for the Period		\$ (4,559)	\$ 464		\$ (7,300)

CASTLEGAR UNITED CHURCH
Notes to the 2018 Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Investments:

- Are held with the Bank of Montreal Investmentline.
- Interest income is recorded on receipt.

Capital Assets

- Are stated at the value as was assessed by the Provincial Assessor in July, 2008
- The corresponding amount is recorded as the building Fund. No amortization expense is taken against the capital assets.

Donated Services

- The Church and it's members benefit from donated services in the form of volunteered time and goods for various projects. The value of donated services is not recognized in the financial statements.

2. Cash in Bank	2018	2017
BMO - Chequing	\$ (1,210)	\$ (9,431)
BMO - Savings	14,179	15,462
Total	<u>\$ 7,812</u>	<u>\$ 12,811</u>

3. Investments	2018	2017
GIC's with BMO - Investmentline	<u>\$ 120,793</u>	<u>\$ 118,459</u>

2018 total of \$125,520 consists of:

Cash	\$ 2,194
Savings Account	8,595
GIC due Nov 29, 2019 at 2.21%	25,000
GIC due Dec 6, 2019 at 1.65%	20,000
GIC due Sept 21, 2020 at 2.41%	25,000
GIC due Nov 15, 2021 at 3.21%	40,000
Total	<u>\$ 120,793</u>

2017 total of \$125,520 consists of:

Cash	\$ 165
Savings Account	8,494
GIC due Aug 31, 2018 at 1.91%	25,000
GIC due Oct 26, 2018 at 1.90%	40,000
GIC due Nov 29, 2018 at 0.81%	20,000
GIC due Nov 29, 2019 at 2.21%	25,000
Total	<u>\$ 118,659</u>

4. Capital Assets

	2018	2017
Building	\$ 341,000	\$ 341,000
Land	86,900	86,900
Subtotal	427,900	427,900
Equipment	196,000	196,000
Total	<u>\$ 645,900</u>	<u>\$ 645,900</u>

Assessment Values

Building	\$ 175,000	\$ 142,000
Land	162,320	158,600
Total	<u>\$ 337,320</u>	<u>\$ 300,600</u>

Insured Values	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,888,040</u>
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5. Deferred Revenue

The account balances reflect funds received from BC Conference less current project expenses incurred in the year. All the projects were completed in 2018.

The Centre for Contemplation and Justice is a pilot project to determine the viability of an ongoing initiative to combine social justice work with contemplative practices.

Family Project is a mid-week, family friendly, multigenerational, pilot project that offers 'church' a little differently than our Sunday morning service.

The Camp Event was a weekend at Camp Koolance in August.

	2018				2017	
	Opening	Funding	Expenses	Net	Net	
Justice Project	\$ 534	\$ -	\$ 534	\$ -	\$ 534	
Family Project	-	2,837	2,545	(108)	-	
Camp Event	-	2,800	1,889	911	-	
Total	\$ 534	\$ 4,817	\$ 4,968	\$ 403	\$ 534	

The Deferred Revenue balance of \$403 was returned to BC Conference in January, 2019.

G. Legacy Fund			2018	2017
Balance at January 1		\$	55,413	\$ 55,413
Donations				
- Subtotal Donations			-	-
Expenditures				
- Subtotal Expenditures			-	-
Balance at December 31		\$	55,413	\$ 55,413

F. Thrift Store

Per motion from our Annual Congregational Meeting, funds received are split as follows:

	2018	2017
Operating Accounts - 85%	\$ 21,845	\$ 21,910
Mission and Service - 15%	3,855	3,879
Total received from Thrift Store	\$ 25,700	\$ 25,800

H. Fundraising

	2018			2017
	Sales	Expenses	Net	Net
Twisted Lunch	\$ 220	\$ -	\$ 220	\$ 440
Spring Into Spring	2,534	53	2,471	-
Garden Fest	432	-	432	-
Garage Sale	-	-	-	2,072
Pie Sale	6,155	1,119	5,034	4,472
Advent Baking	1,293	-	1,293	1037
Signage Purchased	-	295	(195)	1,017
Total	\$ 10,462	\$ 1,407	\$ 9,055	\$ 9,067

I. Miscellaneous Income

	2018	2017
Canada Help	\$ 480	\$ -
Kootenay Presbytery	300	-
CRA Business Refund	-	215
	\$ 780	\$ 215

10. Fundraising Allocations

	2018		2017	
	%	\$	%	\$
Camp Kootenay	30.6	2,768	43.8	3,513
Stone Soup Kitchen	16.7	1,510	6.2	500
Children's Choir	2.7	250	0.0	-
Subtotal	50.0	4,528	50.0	4,015
Operating	50.0	4,527	50.0	4,015
Total	100.0	\$ 9,055	100.0	\$ 8,030

Outreach Donations Remitted

	2018	2017
UCC - M & S	\$ 15,703.00	\$ 15,572.50
Camp Koolaree	5,282.72	5,139.85
Stone Soup Kitchen	2,830.00	1,820.00
Harvest Food Bank	1,455.00	965.00
Christian Children Fund	15.00	40.00
Castlegar Children's Choir	250.00	-
Rohingya Appeal	-	200.00
UCC - Fort McMurray Appeal	-	60.00
KAIROS	-	25.00
	<u>\$ 25,535.72</u>	<u>\$ 23,822.35</u>

Note - Totals include donations received plus fundraising allocations.



Photo credit: Carl Sayers
Keith and Jean Merritt give a wave at Pie Day with Bill Furey looking on. Irene Furey remains hard at work.



Photo credit: Carl Sayers
Janette Dascent and Jane Lipa add a special touch at Pie Day

Proposed Budget for 2019

		2017 Actual		2018 Actual		2019 Budget
Donations and Receipts						
Identified Giving's		\$ 65,812		\$ 65,065		\$ 64,000
Loose Contribution		1,348		2,018		1,500
Interest		1,946		2,107		2,200
Observer Subscriptions		430		412		400
Weddings and Funerals		439		130		300
Catering		-		1,883		750
Rent		6,679		5,995		10,000
Thrill Store	Note 7	21,830		21,845		21,500
Fundraising	Note 8	8,090		9,055		8,000
Designated Receipts						
M&P	Note 1	\$ 15,572		\$ 15,703		\$ 15,750
Stone Soup		1,320		1,320		1,300
Camp Poolster		1,625		2,513		
Harvest Food Bank		965		1,455		750
Family Project	Note 5	-		2,437		2,000
Camp Event	Note 3	-		2,400		
Christian Children		40		15		
Bolingye Appeal		200		-		
Fort McMurray Appeal		60		-		
KAIDOS		25	10,807	-	25,845	10,800
Miscellaneous	Note 9	235		980		100
Total Receipts and Income		126,496		138,330		128,150
Less Fundraising Allocation	Note 10	4,015		4,328		4,000
Less Designated Funds		19,808		25,845		25,800
Total Operating Receipts		102,673		108,207		104,750
Education						
M&P		\$ 325		\$ 325		\$ 325
Observer		976		830		900
Presbytery		4,233	5,534	4,444	5,599	5,100
6,325						6,325
Building						
City Services		735		796		750
Cleaning		2,200		2,250		2,200
Insurance		3,477		5,793		3,900
Light/Power		1,301		1,285		1,250
Natural Gas		3,200		3,062		3,100
Maintenance		1,966		2,651		2,500
Snow Removal		852	15,631	1,326	17,123	1,100
16,800						
Operating						
Bank Charges		796		735		750
Communications		1,334		1,125		1,350
Music - Supply		549		648		500
Music - Salary		7,044		6,171		6,800
Pastoral Supply		1,370		954		500
Secretary		5,008		5,195		4,600
Benovolent Funding		-		309		500
Copier		477		387		425
Supplies		4,650	21,218	1,441	18,967	4,000
19,423						
Ministry						
Education		1,238		1,000		1,415
Salary		49,488		54,673		57,120
Benefits		9,300	60,026	11,404	67,077	13,665
72,300						
Total Operating Expenses		102,409		108,766		114,750
Surplus (Deficit) for the Period		\$ 464		\$ (18,559)		\$ (10,000)