

ANNUAL REPORT **2016**

Annual Meeting
March 12, 2017



McDougall
UNITED CHURCH

Join Our Renaissance!

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IN MEMORIAM

For the faithful who have answered

*when they heard your call to serve,
for the many ways you led them
testing will and stretching nerve,
for their work and for their witness
as they strove against the odds,
for their courage and obedience
we give thanks and praise, O God.*

*For this cloud of faithful witness,
for the common life we share,
for the work of peace and justice,
for the gospel that we bear,
for the vision that our homeland
is your love - deep, high, and broad -
for the different roads we travel
we give thanks and praise, O God.*

(Hymn 707 verses 1 and 3)

We are remembering with gratitude those with whom we have shared our journeys and known the blessings of life and faith and love with them. Their unique spirits will remain in the hearts and memories of all who have known them. Our prayers and gratitude we give to their families.

Sue-Ellen Ens	January 4
Marjorie Farley	January 11
Edna Braiden	January 22
Belva Steil	June 16
Bill Phalen	September 7
Doris Reddington	September 12



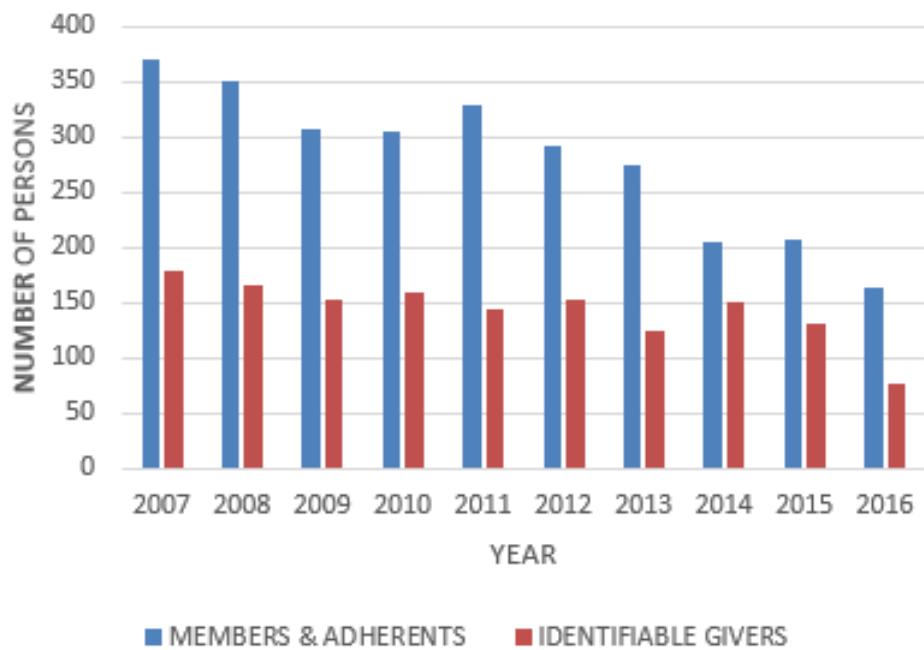
MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS & DATA

YEAR

2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

MEMBERS & ADHERENTS IDENTIFIABLE GIVERS	369	350	306	305	329	292	275	205	208	164
	178	166	153	160	145	153	125	150	132	77

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS



Households (Members & Adherents)	164
Received by Baptism	1
Removed by Transfer	1
Removed by Death	4
Confirmed Membership (Active & Inactive)	140
Identifiable Givers for Local Expenses	77
Identifiable Givers for M & S	77

Submitted by George Knowles, Rolls Clerk

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The members are Shirley Anthony, Christina Bellsmith, Greg Greenough, Mary Ann Harpham, Ronald Henbest, George Knowles and Gerald Watts

The Trustees have been relatively inactive during the recent past. There have been no formal meetings. The only activity was co-signing an application for funding that Gerald Watts was preparing.

Submitted by George Knowles

MINISTER'S REPORT

Rev. Christina Bellsmith

It has been my honour to be the minister of McDougall United church for another year. There is no doubt that 2016 has been a pivotal year in the life of the church. It is the year

construction began on the restoration of this historic treasure. We are indeed privileged as a congregation to be stewards of such an amazing building. With its restoration, it will continue to be our spiritual home and a key tool in fulfilling our mission for years to come.

The year 2016 was also the year we developed our mission statement. This statement is the summary of our purpose as a downtown spiritual community. It reads simply, "Our mission is to fill hungry hearts with the life of the Spirit through the unconditional love of God." This is why we have church. This also must be the driving force behind all that we endeavor. Put even more simply, our mission is people. Brick and mortar are tools, but people are our business. Much time has been spent over the past year on how we can reach more people with the love of God, and talks are ongoing.

We are first and foremost a spiritual community. We come together to sing and to pray. We laugh and cry together. We encourage one another and hopefully inspire one another. We learn together what it means to be followers of Jesus. We do not always agree, but we try to work out our differences in an atmosphere of love, open honesty and mutual respect. This is the community that I have the privilege to lead and to serve. It fills me with great joy but also with a solemn sense of responsibility, knowing that I will give an answer to God for the kind of leadership I give.

We make this journey together. I am so grateful that I have an amazing staff to work with. I want to pay tribute in this report to their tireless labours. I also express my deepest gratitude for the army of volunteers that make our community work. From choir to kitchen helpers, from greeters to those that work behind the scenes doing repairs, running sound and video or making sandwiches; all are so appreciated. Some gather to pray for our church. Others run small groups. Many support this community with their giving. Thank you! May each of you receive a special blessing from God!

I want to thank those that serve by leading. Special thanks go to Claire Redpath for her past leadership as chair of Council, and to Larry Derkach for his present leadership as chair. We are grateful for Greg Greenough's past labours as treasurer, now taken over ably by Margaret Lea Phillips.

The year ahead is full of exciting challenges. We are undertaking to raise funds for the completion of the renovations. These will include modern expanded washrooms with handicapped access, a new elevator, sign, and a fresh new look. We invite your participation!

As we journey through this year, my prayer is that we will draw a little closer to God and to each other; that we be a little more filled with the Spirit and that our hearts be filled with joy; that we all grow a little wiser, and that our gifts may be used just a little more in the service of others. I pray that none be turned aside by discouragement or by the allurements of this temporal world. Let us together be faithful to the task at hand and may we live to see many lives transformed by the love of God working through us.

PASTORAL CARE MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Gordon Oaks

Another year has come and gone and it is Annual Report time. As I reflected upon this, I realized that I am completing my tenth year at McDougall as Pastoral Care Minister. I came for just a short period of time after my retirement in 2002 and find myself still here. I

initially came to work with John Henry Weinlick which I did for four years. I then accepted the position of Chancellor of St. Stephen's College at the University of Alberta and fulfilled the three year appointment. When I finished that term McDougall again needed a Pastoral Care Minister and I agreed to take the position for 8 months until John Henry retired. Here I still am 6 years later. On June 6th I celebrated my 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the United Church of Canada. It has been a wonderful 50 years and the fact that I am still doing ministry at McDougall indicates that I still enjoy the work of ministry.

I do enjoy the pastoral care ministry of visiting with our seniors and other members of the congregation. I visit in 15 Seniors Care Centres and 6 Hospitals around the Edmonton Area. I also visit many people who are still in their own homes. I carry out this work according to my job description of ten hours a week which usually means two days –Wednesdays and Fridays.

I appreciate the flexibility of this time which can fit well into my travels and other life activities.

In working with seniors I get to know them well and often their family members. This means they call upon me to do their funerals when that time comes. This year I conducted four funerals for members of our congregation. This is a special ministry that McDougall performs for our congregation. Families are supported in this by our fine music team headed by Kimberley McMann and the Hospitality Group coordinated by Shirley Anthony, the office support of Agnes Lui and the building and parking support of Peter Tinning. No Church does a better job of the Hospitality ministry to people at this time, and family and community members appreciate it very much. For all who support as volunteers behind the scenes I offer you much thanks on behalf of those we minister to at these times.

I am seen as the visitor in the forefront of Pastoral Care but I am only one of many. The Pastoral Care Committee is small but works in quiet and effective ways in providing support, caring, encouragement, and ongoing connection with people. Those on the committee doing a variety of things are Viola Bruggeman, Joyce Murphy, Lois Ash, and Leslie Tucker. Then there are many others who take it upon themselves to phone, visit and keep in touch with people. I appreciate those who pass on names of people they are concerned about that I might be able to visit or contact. We have a ministry to the Churchill Retirement Residence. I do a service in their chapel on Sunday mornings every two months. At Christmas for many years Joyce Rees has coordinated a Christmas program and carol sings which is supported by the ministry staff and entertainers that Joyce contacts. It is appreciated by the residents.

I would like to express my appreciation for the fine staff we have at McDougall carrying out the many facets of ministry. They are quite an exceptional group I very much enjoy working with Christina Bellsmith, Agnes Lui, Dolores Bell, Kimberley McMann, Peter Tinning, Margot Brandt. I also appreciate the support of the Human Resources Committee and the Church Council. They are all a great team and I feel blessed to share in the ministry of McDougall United Church.

COUNCIL

The Executive Council comprises up to eight individuals elected by the congregation plus the lead Minister. The Council met 12 times during 2016, generally alternating Executive Council Meetings with “Full Council” meetings which also included heads of the various

Ministry Groups (committees) plus our staff, and other members who wished to be present. This model promotes good communication among the people leading the many activities within the church and enables participation in decision-making.

In addition, the Council held a leadership retreat on February 6 to explore our hopes and visions for the future of the congregation and to consider a revised mission statement.

The Council dealt with a heavy agenda all year long, struggling to keep the meetings to a reasonable length. Not surprisingly, building restoration and related matters have composed a major part of the Council's agenda throughout the year, with the building having been designated as an historical resource and our having received significant grants for exterior restoration work.

Christina presented new and exciting ministry ideas all year long, and we have been challenged to balance opportunities with the need for human and financial resources to pursue them. We have engaged many difficult questions including how to raise funds for further building redevelopment, how to encourage stewardship within the congregation to support the existing work of our community, the employment of newer technologies, and the dreams for expanded ministries with young people and in our downtown community.

Attention was given to important, if not as exciting, management and oversight matters, such as clarifying the roles of paid and volunteer positions, and reviewing various personnel and operational policies and procedures of the church organization.

With Larry assuming the role of Chair in August, a new item called "Generative Discussion" became part of each meeting agenda. This has served to focus the Council on some mission-related topic each month, to remind us that our scope and vision must go beyond the necessary administrative work and maintain our spiritual leadership responsibility as a framework for everything we do.

In June, thanks to the urging and leadership of George Knowles, the Council hosted an open meeting of interested congregational members led by the Rev. Dr. John Pentland, Minister at Hillhurst United Church in Calgary and author of *Fishing Tips*, a book which describes the remarkable journey of growth and revitalization at Hillhurst under his leadership. Subsequently, the Council led two follow-up discussion sessions after Sunday worship to delve further into ideas Pentland spoke about.

We have aimed to keep the congregation informed of our work, with our Secretary, Velia Watts, producing a regular "From the Council Files" newsletter for the congregation.

The following changes in Council membership were marked:

- In September we said a sad and grateful goodbye to Bill Phalen following his sudden passing.
- We said farewell to Council member Owen Savage and Youth Minister Claire Savage as the family relocated to Ontario in July
- In the fall we welcomed three new members: Margaret Lea Phillips as Treasurer, and Karen Bishop and Bob Ash.

I want to name and thank two individuals in particular:

- Greg Greenough has served McDougall well in his many years as a dedicated and disciplined Treasurer.
 - Claire Redpath has brought strength and wisdom to her role as Chair of Council for the past two years.
- Both Claire and Greg remain as members of the Executive Council.

We are indeed blessed to have had an active and engaged Council, and a constellation of committed and capable individuals leading the many ministries that manifest the myriad aspects of a Christian community, including caring for others through Hospitality, Pastoral Care and Greeting and Ushering, intellectual pursuits such as the Book Club, religious pursuits such as Prayer and Bible Study, creative pursuits such as Music and Painting, organizational support such as Property and Building Restoration, Finance, Marketing, Personnel and Administration ministries, community and social justice ministries such as Affirm, E4C and Bissell Centre ... and a number of others I have not named who offer loving service and leadership in many ways.

We are greatly blessed to have had capable and committed staff in Christina and Gordon, Agnes, Dolores, Peter, Clare and Margot, and Kimberly and our musicians. The extent of their work is not always noticed, but they do so much to support and lead all of the work of this church.

Executive Council members in 2016 were:

- Claire Redpath (Chair until June, now Past-Chair)
- Larry Derkach (Chair as of July)
- Owen Savage (Vice Chair until July)
- Velia Watts (Secretary)
- Greg Greenough (Treasurer until September)
- Margaret Lea Phillips (Treasurer after September)
- Bob Ash (joining in 2016)
- Karen Bishop (joining in 2016)
- Rob McLaughlin
- Gerald Watts
- The Rev. Christina Bellsmith

Respectfully submitted,



Larry
Derkach

AFFIRM! MCDOUGALL

Affirming Congregational Work

Affirming congregation's work to meet the spiritual needs of all marginalized and excluded groups in society, including invisible minorities, such as gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, the trans-identified and visible minorities.

Affirm! McDougall strives to do the following

- As a ministry, to become more educated regarding excluded and marginalized groups
- Educate the church and community regarding groups of people who are traditionally marginalized
- Reach out to marginalized societal groups and to address some of the needs of marginalized groups

Accomplishments 2016

- Affirm! McDougall continues to support Haven, an LGBT led monthly worship service, which meets at McDougall United Church.
- For Black History Month, a congregant spoke on what it is like to be gay and to live in the Caribbean and about adapting to living in Canada.
- A co-chair of Affirm! McDougall attended an event hosted at the University of Alberta that provided opportunities to build community contacts.
- A co-chair of the Affirm ministry is attending Fruits in Suits, a monthly time for LGBT business people to liaise.
- In an effort to improve community connections, a co-chair of Affirm is a contributing member of the Edmonton Men's Health Collective, an organization promoting good health for gay, bisexual and trans men.
- Staffed a booth for the United Church of Canada at Edmonton's Queer Prom. We were informed that there were 370 youth at Queer Prom, and we counted 186 visits to our booth. At the booth, we gave away GAY (God Adores You) buttons and Jesus Thinks You are Fabulous buttons, rainbow pencils and teddy bears with affirming messages.
- Assisted in organizing the Pride Parade entry for Edmonton area United Churches and took part in the Pride Parade.
- Helped staff United Church of Canada booth at Pride. We gave away pamphlets, rainbow pencils, candy and pins that promote McDougall United Church and other United Churches in the Edmonton region.
- Planned and gave Pride Church Service.
- Co-chair of Affirm! McDougall was interviewed twice before the Pride Church Service because of the shooting at Orlando that killed 49 people in a gay club.
- Attended vigil at Alberta Legislature for Orlando shooting. People from Affirm! McDougall had pride flags and a rainbow United Church of Canada banner so people could see that the church was there, standing with the LGBT community, grieving with the LGBT community.
- Co-chair of Affirm Ministry was interviewed by the press at the vigil for Orlando.
- Luncheon educational program relating to male trans people.
- Networked with Pride Centre, Pride Festival, Haven and Unitarian Church of Edmonton regarding having a memorial service for those who died in the Orlando shooting.
- Attended Black Lives Matter protest and vigil in July.
- Co-chair of Affirm! McDougall attended the Pride Church Service at Gaetz Memorial United Church in Red Deer during Central Alberta Pride and attended the Pride Church Service at St. Andrew's United Church in Lacombe. While in Red Deer, was able to participate in the first Pride Parade held in Red Deer.
- Promoted Bashaw United Church's rainbow sidewalks on social media, including Facebook and Twitter.
- Staffed booth for Affirm! McDougall at Interfaith Festival.

- Co-chair of Affirm attended a short workshop about understanding privilege and reducing the impact of privilege hosted by Pride Festival.
- Luncheon educational program relating to homophobic hate crimes.
- Co-chair of Affirm! McDougall attended first LGBT focused church service at Holy Trinity Anglican parish.
- Staffed information booth at Gay Straight Alliance Conference.

Plans 2017

- Hold monthly coffee meetings.
- Continue to support Haven ministry's monthly worship service.
- Affirm/Pride church service.
- Participate in Pride Festival Parade.
- Staff an information booth at the Queer Prom.
- Offer educational sessions.
- Explore additional ways to serve God.

Submitted by Gary Simpson

BOOK GROUP

The Book Group participants over the past year have been Lois Ash, Sara Coumantarakis, May Deans, Leslie Johnson, Lorna Mathews, Gwen May, Sharon Pangman, Joan Seath, Beth Spark, Peter Tinning, Diane Zinky.

The books read have generally been novels as follows:

January (novel)	Middlesex	by Jeffrey Eugenides
February (novel)	Ru	by Kim Thuy
March (novel)	All the Light We Cannot See	by Anthony Doerr
April fiction)	The Suspicions of Mr. Wicher	by Kate Summerscale (non-fiction)
May (novel)	A Wake for the Dreamland	by Laurel Deedrick-Mayne
June (novel)	Tapestry of Fortunes	by Elizabeth Berg
September (novel)	Shantaram	by Gregory David Roberts
October	Three Day Road	by Joseph Boyden (novel)
November (novel)	The Rosie Project	by Graeme Simsion

A highlight of our May meeting was to meet with and host author Laurel Deedrick-Mayne at Hoang-Long Thai-Vietnamese Restaurant and share insights about her novel A Wake For The Dreamland. Later in the summer, it went on to win the \$10,000 EPL Alberta Readers' Choice Award. A very fine book indeed!

Not to be overlooked, Joan Seath hosted the June meeting with a potluck supper in her back yard. In truth (though Sara may have been at a writers retreat in Greece), it saw a fairly good attendance. But then the meetings have always seen more than just thoughts and ideas to chew on.

Having years ago introduced the McDougall Book Group to LitFest (Edmonton's Nonfiction Festival), we have endeavored to expand our reading interests by including at least one of their featured author presentations. This year was no exception. As one of their events was at Alberta College MacEwan University (next door to McDougall United Church), a small group of us met in the food court area to discuss Three Day Road, before going on to hear Craig Davidson read from, as well as provide insight into his now 'much lauded book' Precious Cargo.

Thanks to Peter Tinning, the monies gleaned from church bottle recycling receptacles and book resale areas; have been directed to the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation, where they will be used towards the Pregnancy Pathways Program: it helps provide essential services to many homeless and pregnant women in our city.

This concludes our year in review.

Submitted by Diane Zinyk

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

McDougall's Children, Youth, and Family Ministry was led in the first half of 2016 by a congregation committee chaired by Jodine Chase, and staffed by Claire Savage, with direction

from Christina Bellsmith and support from several McDougall volunteers. After the May 10th

announcement that Claire Savage would be leaving the city, Margot Brandt was hired as Children and Youth Minister without input from the council committee, to begin in June, as the

Sunday School year was wrapping up. Margot was supervised through the summer and fall of

2016 directly by Christina Bellsmith, without input from the council committee.

1. Membership

The CYF Ministry serves just over a dozen families with approximately 20-25 children and youth ranging in age from 2 to 16. A number of these families have older teens/young adult children who no longer attend or participate in McDougall activities. Several families have infants and preschool-aged children who do not have any programming available to them at McDougall. The majority of our members attend at different times and for different events.

After

an uptick in attendance on Sundays and at youth and special activities, attendance in the last six

months of 2016 decreased with only a handful of children attending, and very few youth.

2. Programs

a. Sunday Morning

From January through to May/June, under Claire the ministry continued its multi-age program. When attendance warranted we broke into three age programs led with the support of volunteer parent leaders. Strong male/father role models were recruited to lead the older youth when they were present. From June onward Margot Brandt led Sunday mornings under the direction of Christina Bellsmith.

b. Youth Activities

Youth attended a climbing wall event in February, and the Children and Youth Ministry hosted a lunch for the congregation in March. A short-term sports program was run in the

spring (April/May.) Youth also participated in an Easter Purdy's chocolate sale to raise funds for some of their activities. In October, children and youth were involved with the community mural project on the outside of the hoarding around the construction/scaffolding led by Karen Bishop. At least a half-dozen youth participated, and parent involvement in this event was also strong. Margot led a youth event to Launchpad in the fall. Participation in City Presbytery Youth activities was suspended with Claire's departure.

c. Other

Jodine attended the Fishing Tips session with John Pentland at McDougall on June 18th and documented possible strategies for growing McDougall's children, youth and family

ministries using this model.

In June, Jodine asked the Council Chair for clarity on staff, Council and committee reporting relationships regarding the Children, Youth and Family Ministry. This

question led to a larger discussion of Council, committee and staff roles and was addressed in a workshop led by Velia Watts on November 19th, 2016.

In October Margot Brandt was registered in a series of UCC online training courses called “Strengthening Youth Ministry”

Also in October, as reported to Council on November 7th, the Children, Youth and Family

Council committee met with Margot Brandt on plans and possibilities for the upcoming year (Fall, Winter, Spring, 2016/17.) The priority was to be building connections with existing families and the community at large to strengthen our youth and Sunday

School. There was to be no attendance pressure or expectations until those bridges were built. Margot agreed to work with Christina to map out a plan for the entire year to run ideas by families for input. We identified the need for at least one more teacher downstairs as per direction given to Council in the spring about staffing needs. We identified the need for a specific budget to accompany the plan including the cost of curriculum and events. We also agreed that the Children, Youth and Families ministry should be synchronized with the Fishing Tips work underway.

In November and December, Margot Brandt reported to the committee chair that she was

unsuccessful in creating a plan per direction given by the committee. In December she asked for the committee chair to be present with her at meetings with Christina Bellsmith. She indicated she was unable to plan for the annual children and youth Christmas party due to conflicting direction about the nature of the event, and it was not held. In late December, Margot expressed additional concern about an inability to create a working plan for 2016 year, or the upcoming 2017 year due to conflicting direction received by her supervisor and by the council committee.

3. Budget

Unable to report.

4. Needs and future direction

With over a dozen families at McDougall representing 20-25 children, there are close to 40 people touched by this ministry who are currently part of McDougall United Church. This represents an opportunity to provide a more robust Children, Youth, and Family Ministry and to

support more involvement from within our current congregation. The 2017 year needs to focus

on rebuilding with direction from the Council committee and input from parents. A staffing,

curriculum and activities assessment needs to be done before additional hiring is done.

Then a

plan needs to be put into place with a budget, approved by Council in advance of execution. Short term programming and support will be managed by volunteer parents in the interim.

Submitted by Jodine Chase

HOSPITALITY AND CATERING

Hospitality

- provided beverage service and kitchen detail for 52 Sundays in 2016. Even on Christmas Day, thanks to Peter Tinning.
- served a light snack on 36 Sundays
- supplied 16 special cakes
- made and served chili for Feb. 21 Annual General Meeting
- made soup and served on five Lenten Thursdays
- prepared and hosted a special Mother's Day Tea and Father's Day Sundae Sunday
- made chili and salad for Canada Day Sunday
- made snacks and lunch for four days of Kids Camp
- made and served lasagna and salad for the opening of Alpha Course
- provided kitchen detail for the 16 other Sunday events

Catering

Memorial Service Receptions:

January 19 Marjorie Farley; January 31 Sue Ellen Ens; July 16 Belva Steil (helped outside caterers to serve and clean up); September 22 Doris Reddington; September 30 Bill Phalen.

Presbytery meeting:

October 21 made soup; October 22 served soup, sandwiches, cake, and beverages and snacks for coffee break

Alberta and Northwest Conference:

June 5 NAIT catered the lunch; we supplied kitchen and serving assistance, and clean-up detail

Edmonton Presbytery's Intercultural Ministry Christmas Choirs Reception:

December 2 assisted with preparation and clean-up

Community Time

A sincere thank you to Antje Espinaco-Virseda, Sr. and her beverage servers: Ernie Bernard, Karen Bishop, Joanne Brix, Karsten Buhler-Espinaco, Angeles Espinaco-Versedesa, Elvira Gregg, Theresa Kuol, Joyce Murphy, Rosemary Packer, Gary Simpson, Janette Sorensen, Ethel Wood-Daviss, Bruce Woolner.

Hospitality food preparation, service, clean-up: Lois Ash, Vienna Boyd, Joanne Brix, Viola Bruggeman, Mae Deans, Antje and Juan Espinaco-Versedesa, Elvira Gregg, Joyce Murphy, Joyce Rees, Joan Seath, Melba Smith, Janette Sorensen, Elizabeth Vanderpuye, Diane Zinyk.

Special Task Force:

- Agnes Lui, who relays messages, supplies information bulletin to kitchen, processes receipts and requests, and always smiles
- Bob Ash, who repaired the dishwasher
- Gordon Dunmore, who repaired the coffee urns and dishwasher, and has also helped with food preparation
- Bryan Rees, who has also repaired the dishwasher
- Gerald Watts, who collects and washes dishes

- Peter Tinning, who makes endless urns of coffee, sets up and takes down the room-settings as needed, and always gives a helping hand whenever, wherever, and to whomever. Service with a smile.

Thank You To The Congregation For Your Support

Submitted by Shirley Anthony



HUMAN RESOURCES MINISTRY

2016 Highlights

- Recruitment: welcome to new team members: Margot Brandt as Youth Minister; Elsie Hoover as Accompanist; Timothy Anderson as substitute Bass Section Lead covering for Sidney M'sahel who is on leave.
- A session to review and discuss McDougall's current organization structure and the roles and responsibilities of staff and various volunteer groups. Follow-up work resulted from this session which we will address in 2017.
- Started work on the McDougall Employment Handbook, focusing on standardizing our employment practices and guidelines. This work will continue into 2017.
- Started work on a Church Contact List (a “who to call for what” document) as well as a McDougall Church Operating Procedures document which will outline the current procedures involved in the day-to-day support activities undertaken by our staff. This will be done in consultation with staff (and volunteers) involved. This work will continue into 2017.
- Attended monthly staff meetings and shared presentations on leadership and effectiveness.
- Continued providing assistance, advice, and support to staff through consultations.

Acknowledgements:

We acknowledge the contributions of and extend our gratitude to:

- Rev. Christina Bellsmith and Rev. Gordon Oaks for their valuable guidance, leadership and prayers as the spiritual leaders of our faith community.
- McDougall Council and to our congregation for your support, guidance, and prayers.
- Kimberley McMann, for her excellent leadership and dedication to McDougall's music ministry and to Elsie Hoover and the Choir Section Leaders for their valuable support and dedication.
- Margot Brandt, for her enthusiasm and dedication in shepherding our youth
- Our ministry groups and volunteers for their leadership and dedication to the work they do to support McDougall's mission and ministries
- Our support staff (Agnes Lui, Dolores Bell, Peter Tinning) for their dedication to the daily tasks that need to be done in support of McDougall's mission and ministries and to keeping our facilities clean, healthy, and safe.

Projects and Programs for 2017:

- *Staff support and recruitment* – as required for current staff and staffing changes
- *Staff Evaluations* – long overdue; we hope to tackle this in mid-2017.
- *McDougall Roles and Responsibilities* – address follow-up work from 2016 session
- *Employment Handbook* – started in 2016; continuing work in 2017.
- *Contact List; Operating Procedures/Guidelines* – started in 2016; continuing work in 2017
- *Monthly Staff Meetings* – the HR Ministry Group will continue to provide advice, assistance, and support through attendance at monthly staff meetings and individual requests for consultation.

An Appeal:

The HR Ministry Group could use another couple of members to help us on the projects planned for 2017. If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity to serve

our faith community, please speak to us. We will be more than happy to chat with you.

Human Resources:

Velia Watts (780-479-5742); gvwatts1@gmail.com

Paul Conway (780-433-4881); 33p.conway@gmail.com

MEN'S POTLUCK SUPPER GROUP

Following Bill Phalen's death, Gerald Watts graciously offered his home as a meeting place.

We have continued to have interesting discussions about issues at McDougall, related mainly to the upgrading of the building, as well as current issues of wider interest.

Usual membership at the meetings continues to be six people.

The food is excellent and is a major attraction that encourages attendance.

We continue to welcome any men from McDougall who would be interested in joining the group.

Submitted by George Knowles

MUSIC MINISTRY

This has been another great year of music-making at McDougall United Church. The choir is the main focus of the music ministry. They are a very enthusiastic and dedicated group of 12 singers. We rehearse once a week together and I am very fortunate to have such a great group of people to call my colleagues.

In February of 2016, we presented a month of World Music - African/African American, Spanish/Latin American, Celtic, and Canadian music were all on display both in our anthems, and in the congregational singing. We also had a guest musician, Valerie Sim, come to play for our Celtic week.

For our Easter season, we presented a simple, paned paired-back service featuring our section leaders for Good Friday, and in contrast, we had a full choir, two guest trumpet players (Glenn Skelton and Josh Agar), timpani, and organ for our Easter Sunday Service.

McDougall played host to the Alberta and Northwest Conference Celebrating of Ministry service on June 5, and after much preparation, we presented a diverse and uplifting program of music to go with the two hour long service. It was a real highlight of the year.

Over the summer, we enjoyed singing for the outdoor service, and having special guests The Calgary Girls' Choir, Kokopelli, Andrea Pinna (tenor) and Stephanie Mattingly (soprano.)

This fall, we said goodbye to Sidney M'Sahel, our bass section leader, for a few months while he pursued a choral project in South Africa. We were very fortunate, however, to have Timothy Anderson as his interim replacement. We also said goodbye to long-time accompanist, Julia Hui. It was sad to lose such a valued member of the team. Through the recommendation of a friend, I recruited Elsie Hoover to be our new accompanist. She has become a real asset to the music ministry. She has exceptional skill on both the piano and organ, and is a pleasure to work with.

In October, I teamed up with the Music Directors of Robertson-Wesley United Church (Tammy-Jo Mortenson,) First Baptist Church (Dr. Evelyn Grieger) and DMus student Stuart Sladden, to present "Concert in a Day." This was a huge project, hosted at Robertson-Wesley that involved a choir, soloists, and orchestra, all learning and rehearsing Mozart's "Vespers" and performing it at the end of the day. The four directors took turns teaching, coaching, conducting, and managing throughout the day. For the performance, Stuart conducted, Tammy-Jo played organ, I sang the soprano solo, and Dr. Grieger sang in the choir. The 'fee' to participate in this project was a donation to either the Edmonton Food Bank or E4C, and the cost of admission was the same. We ended up with almost 80 singers, 12 players, and 4 soloists. We raised \$215 for E4C and \$381.45 for the Edmonton Food Bank, in addition to 2 very large boxes of food. It was so wonderful to be a part of such a great project and we are planning on making it a yearly event.

Later in the fall, we presented Bluegrass Sunday with the help of a few extra singers and musicians, and a Remembrance Sunday Service with guest trumpeter Glenn Skelton.

During the Advent season, we were happy to be asked back to the Inter-Denominational Choral Festival in Sherwood Park to perform three pieces. It was a beautiful evening of music-making with our friends in Christ. We were also treated to a performance by Andrea Pinna for our Christmas Music Sunday.

For our Christmas concerts at noon series, we enjoyed the A/B Trio with guest Caleb Nelson and a celebration of the musicians of McDougall featuring Timothy Anderson, Julia Hui, Merrill Tanner and Ernst Birss, and I. Both were well attended and truly enjoyable.

Our Christmas Eve service was full of great traditional music, as well as some more contemporary anthems, and was made extra special by the addition of a brass quintet.

In addition to the music we worked on and performed this year, we also spent time in fellowship with one another by enjoying social nights at my house, at State and Main, and having dinner together at the Church. We also composed a prayer for the Music Ministry that we hope to frame and display in the coming year.

The staff musicians are:

Kimberley McMann, Director of Music

Julia Hui (accompanist until June 2016) and Elsie Hoover (accompanist from September 2016)

Dr. Merrill Tanner, soprano section leader

Gloria Wan, alto section leader

Kent Sutherland, tenor section leader

Sidney M'Sahel (bass section leader until June 2016) and Timothy Anderson (bass section leader from September 2016)

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberley McMann, BMus, MMus

Director of Music, McDougall United Church

OUTREACH: e4c

Board of Directors

The foundation of e4c was established with the commitment and faith of our founding member churches and that dedication continues with our Board of Directors to this day. The Board provides strategic guidance to e4c as we walk alongside the people we serve. This past year 13,300 children, youth, families, and individuals were a part of the e4c story.

Part of the strategic focus of the board in 2016, was to consider a human rights perspective to the work we do. Using this perspective to inform our planning, programming, and community partnerships helps us to align with the human rights of the people we serve.

Moving into 2017, the strategic agenda of the organization is to look at how e4c can best participate and lead initiatives in the Edmonton community that further our vision and mission, and play a greater role in community-level change to address poverty related issues. e4c is committed to our vision of eliminating poverty by continuing to collaborate with others who share this vision. It is through cooperation and partnerships that we can meet the changing needs of the people we serve and grow our community.

Some of the highlights of 2016:

e4c Kids in the Hall Bistro

In 2016 an expert advisory panel was convened to look at what the future holds for this unique program. e4c will use the findings of the panel to move forward with the transformation of the e4c KITH program. In 2016 the program provided support to 308 at-risk youth, enrolled 45 youth into the outreach school, and provided employment training to 38 participants.

e4c Make Tax Time Pay

This program provided free income tax preparation to 3,716 low-income persons including 185 new immigrants who were filing their taxes for the first time. The success of this program can be attributed to the 200 dedicated volunteers at 21 partner sites throughout Edmonton. Over the course of eight weeks our volunteers helped 3,183 households to achieve \$1.59 million in income tax refunds, \$1.32 million in GST credits, and \$3.86 million in Canada Child Tax Benefit Payments.

e4c Women's Emergency Accommodation Centre

This program was challenged in April, 2016 when a fire, and the corresponding water damage, forced the e4c WEAC program to move out of the Gibson Block. *Crossroads House* and *Elizabeth House* facilities adapted to continue supporting displaced vulnerable women. Although the number of beds available was reduced from 66 to 50, services were provided for 269 homeless women for the year. WEAC welcomed that ladies back in late 2016 and is moving toward operating at full capacity.

e4c School Nutrition Program

This program provided food security support to 24 high-need schools throughout Edmonton with lunch and snack programs during the 2015/2016 school year. The snack program spans all the schools and provided daily healthy snacks to 5,576 students. In ten of these schools, where additional nutritional support is needed, 2,240 students were provided with daily lunches for the school year. The need to provide nutritional support to students was endorsed by the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation who committed funding of

\$750,000 to the program over the next three years.

e4c Wellness

Unique workshops were conducted from April 2015 to March 2016, to promote mental health, wellness, and recovery. Over 450 community members participated in workshops that covered topics like financial literacy, community gardening, aboriginal connections, writing and creativity, and nutrition. These workshops created an opportunity to strengthen the connection these members have in their communities.

An Invitation to Join Us

e4c invites you to walk alongside us by sharing your time, passion, skills, resources, and gifts with the people that we serve. The elimination of poverty can only be accomplished collaboratively, as a whole community, and we welcome your help!

Submitted by John Cotton

OUTREACH - BISSELL SANDWICH-MAKING

On the third Saturday of each month a small group of volunteers met to make sandwiches for the Bissell Centre. They provided approximately 350 sandwiches for the Bissell Centre. The ingredients for the sandwiches were purchased by a volunteer from Wholesale Foods, and the cost was covered by financial donations to the Bissell Centre. A member of the congregation delivered the sandwiches to the centre.

To all the volunteers who came on a regular basis or occasionally, know that your time and effort was appreciated. Without you this ministry is not possible.

Submitted by Leslie Johnson

OUTREACH: MCDOUGALL PROJECTS

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT NOON CONCERTS (December 7 and 14) supported the E4C School Lunch Program with donations of \$2,893. As well, the Strathcona High School Band Concert contributed \$447.

BISSELL CENTRE

McDougall Church supports the Bissell Centre throughout the year with donations of food, clothing and money. A group of volunteers make sandwiches monthly throughout the year for their drop-in. Christmas donations of warm woollies were generously donated from the Mitten Tree, as well as over a dozen stockings were filled for their Christmas Stocking project.

INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY

McDougall takes a turn in providing Sunday lunch once a year following the worship service for the Community of Emmanuel at the Bissell Centre.

EDMONTON FOOD BANK

The New Year's Eve Benefit Concert raised \$5,326 cash and 250 kgs. (551 lbs.) of food for the Food Bank.

NO ROOM IN THE INN

The Christmas Eve offering in 2016 was designated for No Room in the Inn for the Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd. "A Safe Place" and received \$2,722 in donations.

TOOLS FOR SCHOOL

McDougall Church supports this program from July to September in partnership with the United Way to provide back packs filled with school supplies for students in kindergarten to grade 12.

MINISTRY AT THE CHURCHILL RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

We provide an afternoon program in December of Christmas music, readings and pastoral care for the residents at the Churchill, which include many of McDougall's people, with our ministry staff and volunteers.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND

The first Sunday of the month is an opportunity for the congregation to support the Benevolent Fund with an extra donation following the service. The Fund is available at the minister's discretion for those who come to our door seeking special assistance.

MISSION AND SERVICE FUND

McDougall Church supports the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada through congregational donations. In 2016, we forwarded a cheque in the amount of \$20,008. in support of local and worldwide mission.

*Submitted by Dolores Bell
On Behalf of McDougall's Outreach*

PROGRAMS, EVENTS, MARKETING

In 2016, we continued to provide programs and events for the congregation and wider community to inform, inspire, stimulate, enjoy – and to reach beyond our own experience. Some of them I initiated, some I supported, and had a hand in all of them in various ways, whether through consulting, meetings, catering, set-up, organizing, or shopping!

Winter

- | | |
|----------|---|
| January | Program: Refugee Resettlement with Marianne Watchel
Program: Welcoming our Muslim Neighbours with Ibrahim Long |
| February | Pancake Lunch: Shrove Tuesday on Sunday
Council Leadership Retreat
Lenten Lunchtime Meditations each Thursday |
| March | Ken Whately Service and special lunch
Lenten Lunchtime Meditations each Thursday
Program: Honouring the Sabbath with Larry Derkach
Program: Palm Sunday video and lunch
Taize Lenten Service and Spring Equinox
Easter Interlude – Holy Saturday
Easter Sunrise Breakfast |

Spring

- | | |
|-----|--|
| May | Marriage Preparation Class
Mother's Day service
Powerhouse Prayer Group workshop
Fort McMurray Evacuees Lunch
Program: An Indigenous Story with Michelle Nieuviadomy |
|-----|--|

Summer

- | | |
|--------|--|
| June | Alberta and Northwest Conference Celebration of Ministry
John Pentland Workshop
Father's Day service
Spring BBQ: Sunday School and Volunteer Appreciation |
| July | Canada Day Celebration
Heritage Sunday Potluck Lunch |
| August | Cosmic Adventures Summer Camp (volunteer) |

Fall

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| September | Inner City Pastoral Ministry Lunch prep. (volunteer)
Welcome Back BBQ and Corn Roast
Festival of Faith Fair
Program: Alpha Course Introductory Dinner |
| October | Worship Committee: Greeter's Workshop
Program: Alpha Course each Tuesday in October
Thanksgiving Pie Sunday
“Fishing Tips” after church working session
Edmonton Presbytery at McDougall
Halloween Coffee time |
| November | Program: Alpha Course Tuesdays in November and potluck dinner
Program: Honouring the Armed Services with LCol Natalie De Roiij
Remembrance Day: Interfaith Walk for Peace
“Fishing Tips” after church working session |

Council Workshop: Roles and Responsibilities
Program: Health & Wellness: Drug Awareness with Ramon Flores

Christmas

- December
- Deck the Halls Pizza Lunch
 - Congregational Christmas Potluck Lunch
 - Christmas Music at Noon Benefit Concerts Dec. 7 and 14
 - Bethlehem Café at coffee time
 - Taize Service and the Longest Night
 - Christmas Eve
 - New Year's Eve Benefit Concert

Program/Event Notes

We have always tried to provide programs with a spiritual, social justice or outreach component. In light of the nature of our growing interfaith and intercultural society, we will seek opportunities to honour the intercultural community and in keeping with Edmonton Presbytery's Intercultural Ministry initiative.

Congregational Communication Notes

“McDougall Life” is a new monthly tabloid publication initiated by Rev. Christina designed for the congregation and wider community. It is mailed to the congregation, and is available each week at the back of the church. The intent is to circulate it to coffee shops in the downtown area, however, distribution is a challenge and sometimes does not happen, or is limited at best. The good news is that it gets into the hands of everyone on the mailing list and keeps McDougall in touch with them.

“McDougall Weekly” is a one pager printed on the back of the Order of Service. Space is limited, and we are only able to give you the most current congregational events with minimal information.

The Challenge: is to find a way to provide information to the congregation of a wider nature, both church related in the city and other events of a social justice and outreach in nature. Otherwise, we become only interested ourselves!

Congregation Weekly Email News: We have had to temporarily suspend this, as we were blacklisted by Telus as a source of spam because of our frequent use of email broadcasts. This resulted in frustrating computer problems in both receiving and sending communications of any kind. We will be installing a new program to handle frequent email communication to the congregation.

Other

The following are some other things I am involved with on a regular basis:

- Website: weekly editing, writing and updates.
- McDougall Life and McDougall Weekly: writing and editing.
- Advertising: print, online, poster preparation and distribution, signage
- office administrative support for holiday or sick leave
- chair staff meetings
- seek donations and support for Christmas and New Year's Eve events
- attend full Council meetings
- attend Worship Committee meeting (as invited)
- attend Congregational meetings
- attend Edmonton Presbytery (on occasion)

- attend funerals or celebrations of congregational members
- send cards and thank you notes to volunteers

My employment is half time, and I am a member of the Outreach Committee of Edmonton Presbytery. It is a great pleasure to be part of this church and congregation during challenging and interesting times, and to work with such fine and dedicated staff, leaders and volunteers! Thank you so much for the opportunity.

Submitted by Dolores Bell

PAINTING FOR PLEASURE

The Thursday morning Painting for Pleasure group continues to meet weekly in the Norwood Room for a few hours of good conversation, inspiration and (of course) painting! We have affectionately dubbed ourselves the “Group of Some” and regularly see 8 to 10 members attend our informal creative mornings.

Highlights of the past year include a trip to the Devonian Gardens where we set our easels up in the Japanese Gardens and painted through a summer rainstorm. We have also exhibited at various venues including the Royal Alexandra Hospital, The HeART Market - a popup market on 124th street and in our McDougall gallery - the Norwood Room.

Many thanks to the church for letting us use the room and a special thanks to Peter Tinning for brewing the coffee each week.

Submitted by Karen Bishop

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

2016 has come and gone and 2017 here and we are two months in already where does the time go? That being said we have had some accomplishments:

- 1 We in the property group have completed the carpet in the Norwood Room and I must say it looks good.
- 2 The few lights that we fixed on the outside of the building, front steps, south side steps, and along the outside walls have been repaired and being all new LED fixtures, should help us considerably with their 22 year minimum life expectancy.
- 3 Our plans to have the elevator replaced are still ongoing and RAM elevators quote of \$93K is still on hold till March 2017. Although the elevator is aging, and parts are hard to get for repairs, the service to keep it running effectively is continuing. Hopes are to have this approved at the next Annual Congregational Meeting. I feel this quote is a good and valid quote and it includes the construction of a new hoist-way in the process to house the new elevator.
- 4 Other work on the Sunday School area has been put on hold till 2017 when we will attempt to have a more solid plan to get this important work done. I am looking at also getting quotes on pricing to upgrade our basement washrooms and expansion of those washrooms across the hall. (just quotes to get ideas of costs to replace and upgrade this area)
- 5 Other work is continuing and ongoing in upgrading lighting in areas of the church which need improving, although this may sometimes feel slow, planning, timing, and budgets are critical.
- 6 Work is ongoing, and track lighting has been ordered, to give better lighting over the stage area of the church at a cost of approximately \$500.00. Hopefully this new lighting will be a welcome addition to all who use the area, mdi February for arrival of parts.
- 7 Peter had to replace a broken toilet in men's washroom, work is ongoing on this.
- 8 Our team is active in getting a new hoist put in the attic, to raise and lower the centre sanctuary light. Although we haven't started this work, a string of lighting 200 feet has been prepared for installation in this area. Work in this area is dangerous due to no lighting and no walkways. We are preparing to install walkways made of 3/4" plywood so as to get this work done. With any luck we will complete this important work and allow a much easier and safer way of maintaining all these areas and also the sanctuary fixture.

Restoration work on this beautiful building has been both time consuming and a costly project, and when completed we will all take pride in all of our efforts.

We continue to try and make our church a more pleasing area to be in at any time for all who use it. Good things take time.

Thanks.

Submitted by Robert Ash

RESTORATION COMMITTEE

2016 was a busy year for the Restoration Committee. With receipt of City funding of \$500,000 added to the \$750,000 of the Province, we began the difficult process of restoring our hundred year old building. After a competition, we hired Group2 Architects as our consultants. Some months later, the two senior restoration experts left Group2; we terminated that contact and moved the work with them to NEXT Architecture.

In the spring, we advertised for Expressions of Interest and received twelve responses. After evaluation, we requested proposals from the three best qualified contractors. We used a “two envelope” evaluation process. The first envelope contained the contractor’s qualifications, proposed staff, experience and methodology. Only after evaluating this information for all three proposals was the second envelope, containing the financial details, opened and evaluated. Fortunately, the best qualified contractor also had the best financial proposal so the decision was easy. We chose Ledcor Construction of Edmonton.

One of the great challenges with historic restoration is to determine the scope and extent of the work. Without scaffolding, detailed inspection, and actually digging into the brickwork or cornices, the traditional “design/bid/build” process would not provide fair pricing. Instead, we chose a “Construction Management” contract. Ledcor provided a fixed fee for the things that could be easily quantified: estimating, management, insurance, supervision, etc. In addition, they hired subcontractors at a small fee after competitive bids. This allowed us to manage the finances and risks appropriately.

Work began by scaffolding the west façade and the two towers. The metal cornices on the South tower were in very poor shape, sagging under the weight of many years of pigeon droppings. This was removed as hazardous waste and the complex metal was taken down in preparation for evaluation and restoration. We were amazed at how little support structure was originally in place.

Under Provincial guidelines, deficient components must be repaired, restored or replaced, in that order. The goal is to keep the building as original as possible yet provide for upgrades in durability, functionality and safety. The brickwork on the west façade, the two towers and much of the south facade has been restored. The complex metal cornice from the south tower was removed, shipped to Vancouver, repaired and partly refabricated. The smaller cornices have been repaired and capped in situ. The woodwork has been stripped, repaired and repainted.

In addition to the grants totaling \$1,250,000, McDougall’s Council has authorized an additional expenditure of up to \$100,000. This covers the extension of the work on the South façade and additional costs associated with the cornice restoration. The decision was made based upon the Congregation’s authorization of up to \$160,000 for the south cornice in 2013.

Committee Members are Gerald Watts, Greg Greenough, Rob McLauchlin; Claire Redpath
Advisors are Carlo Laforgue (Province of Alberta), Robert Geldart (City of Edmonton)
Consultants: NEXT Architecture (Allan Partridge and Ian Morgan)
Contractor: Ledcor Construction (Les Kozma and Cole Davidson)

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY

The current members of the Worship and Music Ministry group are:

Velia Watts, Chair (gvwatts1@gmail.com)

Christina Bellsmith

Antje Espinaco-Virseda Sr.

Kimberley McMann

Joan Seath

Gary Simpson

Gerald Watts

On occasion, others from the congregation and staff are asked to attend the group meetings whenever their participation may be beneficial or required.

2016 Highlights

- Ken Whiteley - guest musician and worship leader – March
- Guest choirs and other musicians: Kokopelli, Calgary Girls' Choir – May, July
- Taize Services (Spring and Longest Night) – March and December
- Holy Week and Easter - Lunchtime Meditations; Palm Sunday Service with Procession of Palms; Maundy Thursday Washing of Hands Rites; Good Friday Service; Easter Interlude - An “In-Between” Time with guest harpist K. Zwicker; Easter Sunrise service and Easter Celebration service (with breakfast in between) - April
- Alberta Northwest Conference Celebration of Ministry Service - June
- Affirm worship service (Pride Sunday) with guest musicians - June
- Outdoor service in the summer including a blessing of the animals – July
- Back to Church Sunday Service (with special participation from McDougall Sunday School) - September
- Tony Campolo – guest preacher on Thanksgiving Sunday - October
- Remembrance Day service (special participation from members of the armed forces) - November
- Advent and Christmas – Advent Candle Lighting; Christmas Music Sunday; Christmas Eve candle light service with brass quintet (over 400 came to this service); Christmas Morning Service – December

Thank You to All Who Help Make Our Worship Meaningful – God Bless You

- We are thankful to our ministers and worship leaders: Rev. Christina Bellsmith, Rev. Gordon Oaks, Larry Derkach, and Gary Simpson for their leadership in our worship services; thanks also to Rev. Edith Harnden for leading the Easter Sunrise service this year and for her help with the prayer ministry after church on Sundays.
- We are grateful for our musicians: Kimberley McMann, Director of Music; Julia Hui and Elsie Hoover, Accompanists; our Choir Section leaders - Merrill Tanner, Soprano, Gloria Wan, Alto, Kent Sutherland, Tenor, and Sidney M'sahel and Timothy Anderson, Bass; Keith Erb, flute and percussion. A huge “thank you” to our volunteer choir members who faithfully attend rehearsals on Thursday evenings, worship services on Sundays and during the special church seasons of Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas.
- Thank you to “The Jam Group” for their first time participation in one of our services; we hope we will hear more from you.

- We also want to thank Joan Seath and her helpers who prepare the communion elements each month, Antje Espinaco-Virseda who organizes our sanctuary décor to reflect the church seasons and who organizes our prayer candle Sundays.
- We thank our Greeting Ministry Team who offer a warm welcome to all who join us at our worship services and make them “feel at home”.
- Thank you to those of you who read Scripture, serve communion, and assist during prayer candle services – you are a big part of our worship experience at McDougall United Church.
- Thank you to all of you who did your part in making our Christmas Eve service joyful and inspiring.

Planned for 2017: We will continue to study the results of the Worship Experience Survey administered in 2015/2016 and explore more opportunities to enhance and improve the worship experience at McDougall. Please continue to share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Please read the separate report from our Director of Music for more music highlights at McDougall.

Submitted by: Velia Watts

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The finances of McDougall United Church remain in a similar condition to last year due to a reasonable balance sheet and reduced operating expenditures on property management in 2016.

The 2016 year was very active with the building restoration project well underway. Completion is expected in the Spring of 2017. The majority of the building restoration costs are being covered by grants from the Province of Alberta (\$750,000) and the City of Edmonton (\$500,000). Of the grant money, \$1,017,427 was spent in 2016 with the remainder expected to be spent in early 2017. Council has also approved spending up to \$100,000 of internally restricted funds in 2017 to complete this restoration project.

In 2016, the cost of ministerial housing expenses of \$26,636 was paid out of the externally restricted Manse fund that is designated for ministerial housing costs. Although this contributed to the 2016 operating surplus position, the Manse fund will be depleted in the next few years requiring the costs to be covered through operating revenues.

McDougall's operating revenue is essentially flat from 2015 at approximately \$446,000 but was shy of the budgeted \$472,000. Spending was adjusted and contained to ensure a surplus budget position of \$76,347. This was primarily achieved through a \$62,000 year over year reduction of property management expenses in 2016 when significant restoration activity was already taking place on the building.

Our income from investments continues to be positive. The Fierra Sceptre fund increased from \$531,952 to \$563,308 by year end.

In closing, I am truly grateful for the knowledge and support that Agnes provides to the Treasurer, Council and Congregation throughout the year. Thank you Agnes, you are a blessing to McDougall.

Submitted by Margaret Lea Phillips, Treasurer

McDougall United Church - Budget vs. Actual Summary

Income	Budget 2017	Actual 2016	Budget 2016	Actual 2015	Budget 2015
Offering	\$ 171,000	\$ 169,526	\$ 170,000	\$ 171,592	\$ 160,000
Parking Lot	\$ 162,000	\$ 160,067	\$ 159,000	\$ 154,140	\$ 152,000
Rentals	\$ 73,700	\$ 73,034	\$ 78,000	\$ 79,487	\$ 66,000
Outreach & Mission	\$ 26,800	\$ 28,785	\$ 30,000	\$ 29,199	\$ 31,000
Interest Income & realised gains on investments	\$ 23,000	\$ 35,066	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,966	\$ 25,000
Community Event Revenue	\$ 5,000	\$ 11,725	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,098	\$ 10,000
Total Income	\$ 461,500	\$ 478,203	\$ 472,000	\$ 466,482	\$ 444,000
Expenses					
Programs					
Worship	\$ 101,000	\$ 98,140	\$ 101,000	\$ 99,011	\$ 101,000
Music	\$ 39,500	\$ 39,012	\$ 40,000	\$ 37,461	\$ 38,000
Other Programs	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,839	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000
Youth Ministry	\$ 5,000	\$ 13,224	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,182	\$ -
Administration					
Property Management	\$ 115,101	\$ 90,044	\$ 121,000	\$ 116,129	\$ 115,000
Building Restoration (excludes grant realted expenses)	\$ 100,000	\$ 5,646	\$ 10,000	\$ 38,808	\$ 12,000
Administration Marketing & Communications	\$ 98,567	\$ 99,096	\$ 99,000	\$ 96,732	\$ 96,000
Outreach & Mission	\$ 30,272	\$ 39,336	\$ 38,000	\$ 35,337	\$ 40,000
Edmonton Presbytery	\$ 25,430	\$ 29,510	\$ 30,000	\$ 33,262	\$ 31,000
Community Event Costs	\$ 19,700	\$ 19,683	\$ 20,000	\$ 19,135	\$ 19,000
Total Expenses	\$ 540,320	\$ 443,259	\$ 485,000	\$ 487,555	\$ 463,000
Surplus (Deficit) before Transfers	\$ (78,820)	\$ 34,944	\$ (13,000)	\$ (21,073)	\$ (19,000)
Transfer from Restricted Funds	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 47,244.00		\$ 43,990.00	
Transfers from Investments					
Transfers from specific funds			\$ 15,000.00	\$ 9,120.00	\$ 12,000.00
Unrealized gains on investments				\$ (684.00)	
Subtotal	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 47,244.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 52,426.00	\$ 12,000.00
Total	\$ 50,180.00	\$ 82,188.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 31,353.00	\$ (7,000.00)

2015 Annual General Meeting Minutes

McDougall United Church
Sunday, February 21, 2016, Banquet Hall

Attendance: Gordon Oaks, Viola Bruggeman, Joyce Murphy, Margaret Wright, Shirley Anthony, Ken Ens, Gary Simpson, Adelle Mayes, Timothy Anderson, Agnes Lui, Jack Lui, Natalie De Roij, George Knowles, Gerald Watts, John Mulyk, Ron Henbest, Alice Henbest, Janette Sorensen, Dolores Bell, Bill Phalen, Greg Greenough, Marian Ivan, Antje Espinaco-Virseda, Sr., Diane Zinyk, Leslie Tucker, Karen Bishop, John Vanderpuye, Russ Montour, Ronnie Woods-Grant, Bruce Lacon, Helen Skuba, Stephen Turner, Janis Dunmore, Beryl Pomedli, Les Pomedli, Catherine Kennedy, Laurie Mereu, Larry Derkach, Ernie Bernard, Joanne Brix, Ethel Wood-Daviss, Vance Weir, Colleen Weir, Devon Hermesh, Marilyn Annis, Rob McLauchlin, Rosemary Moon, Lois Ash, Robert Ash, Anne Peterson, Velia Watts

Meeting called to order at 12:20 p.m.

Chair: Claire Redpath Recording Secretary: Velia Watts

1. Thank you to the Hospitality Ministry Group for the wonderful lunch for the congregation.
2. Opening prayer led by Rev. Christina Bellsmith
3. Additions to the agenda – Motions from Board of Trustees
4. Memorial led by Viola Bruggeman, Joyce Murphy, and Gordon Oaks to honor and remember those who passed from this life to the next during 2015:
Elizabeth (Betty) Donald (January 9); Margaret Mitchell (February 18); Marion Rattray (April 12); Nick Marchak (June 6); Ella Nicholl (June 23); Ione Alice Morris (August 2); Joan Bickell (September 8); Tina Good (October 31); Donald Frances Baillie (November 16); John Reddington (December 16).

Gordon provided some insight into each person's life and their unique involvement with McDougall; as each person was honored, Joyce and Viola lit a candle in their memory.

Gordon closed the memorial ritual with prayer.

5. Annual General Meeting Set-up and Approval of Minutes:
 - a. **Motion:** That Claire Redpath be appointed AGM Chair and that Velia Watts be appointed AGM Secretary – Laurie Mereu/Gerald Watts- **Carried**
 - b. **Motion:** That the Annual Meeting agenda be approved as presented - Larry Derkach/Viola Bruggeman — **Carried**
 - c. **Motion:** That all members and adherents present be eligible to vote on matters presented at this meeting - Beryl Pomedli/Marian Ivan - **Carried**
 - d. **Motion:** That the minutes of the 22 Feb 2015 annual meeting be approved as circulated - Karen Bishop/Gordon Oaks - **Carried**
 - e. **Motion:** That the 2016 Budget presented to the congregation on Sunday, February 14, 2016 be accepted and adopted – Greg Greenough/Rob McLauchlin - **Carried**

6. Acceptance of the 2015 Auditor's Report and Appointment of 2016 Auditors
 - a. **Motion:** That McDougall United Church approve the 2015 Financial Report as presented by auditors Allen and Associates - George Knowles/Margaret Wright- **Carried**
 - b. **Motion:** That Allen and Associates be appointed auditors for 2016 - Marilyn Annis/Robert Ash - **Carried**
7. Acceptance of 2015 Clergy and Ministry Group Reports:
 - a. **Motion** That the 2015 reports from Clergy and Ministry Groups be received as presented in the 2015 Annual Report - Adelle Mayes/Karen Bishop -
Discussion:
Ministry Group representatives were available to answer questions about their committee's report and the work accomplished in 2015.
 - i. Worship and Music Ministry Group – Velia Watts – notified those present that the report of the results of the Worship Experience Survey deployed in 2015 has been completed and copies are available to anyone who wants one.
8. Ratification of Current Council and Other Nominations
 - a. **Motion:** That McDougall congregation ratify the existing Council composed of: Claire Redpath, Owen Savage, Velia Watts, Greg Greenough, Larry Derkach, Rob McLauchlin, Bill Phalen, and Christina Bellsmith - Viola Bruggeman/Marian Ivan - **Carried**
 - b. **Motion:** That Robert Ash be appointed as Chair of Property - Viola Bruggeman/Diane Zinyk - **Carried**
 - c. **Motion:** That Gerald Watts be made a full member of the Executive Council with voting rights - Viola Bruggeman/Diane Zinyk - **Carried**
9. Friends of McDougall; McDougall Visioning Committee Updates
 - a. Visioning Committee - Karen Bishop
Has had one meeting; need to organize communication so everyone has a say including outside groups. Further meetings will start soon. Members of the committee are:
 - Laurie Mereu, MUC
 - R-W Hoekstra, MUC
 - Christina Bellsmith, MUC
 - Ron Henbest, MUC
 - Gerald Watts, MUC
 - Karen Bishop, FoM
 - Jodine Chase, FoM
 - Winston Pei, FoM
- b. Friends of McDougall (FoM) – Natalie de Roij
Claire Redpath, Chair of Council and Natalie de Roij, Chair of Friends of McDougall also attended the first meeting.

The group has had several meetings. FoM is partnered with McDougall United Church. Looking for long term building sustainability along with the Visioning Committee. Visioning wants to hear what you want the church to become. FoM will take visions and work on projects to make visions happen. Thanks to Claire Redpath and to Council and congregation for their support and guidance.

10. Other Business

a. McDougall Board of Trustees Membership

Gerald outlined the Trustees' responsibilities; advised that Lynn Turner has moved to Warburg and expressed thanks to Lynn Turner on behalf of the congregation for his past service as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Motion: That the new Board of Trustees comprise George Knowles, Shirley Anthony, Ron Henbest, Greg Greenough, Mary Ann Harpham, Gerald Watts, and Christina Bellsmith – Gerald Watts/George Knowles - **Carried**

b. Recommendation From the Board of Trustees

Motion: Gerald Watts/Catherine Kennedy

- i. That the congregation of McDougall United Church approve a building restoration budget of \$1,250,000
- ii. That the project be administered by the Building Restoration Committee
- iii. That the Building Restoration Committee be authorized to approve contracts up to \$100,000
- iv. That McDougall Council be authorized to approve contracts over \$100,000

Discussion:

General Questions: How do we make sure priorities are evaluated so work doesn't happen twice? What if the Visioning Committee comes up with something not previously planned? How is it presented for funding and prioritizing? When does the Visioning Committee meet/confer with the Building Restoration Committee so we're all on the same page?

Greg Greenough: confirmed that the \$1,250,000 is allocated for work on the building exterior as outlined in the report from the city. Church members can bring proposals to Council.

Gerald Watts: the motion is just to establish an approval process that is more streamlined; the issues being raised should be addressed through discussion and consultation between the members of both the Building Restoration Committee and the Visioning Committee.

Natalie de Roij: work on the building exterior is not quite as cut and dried as we might think. There may be some design elements that the Visioning Committee might want to have a say in. We need to meet to get an idea of what each group envisions moving forward. Gerald agreed and is committed to making this collaboration happen.

Ken Enns: perhaps a wish list circulated regularly between the two groups may help with communication.

Karen Bishop: conflict of interest with Council members being related and influencing votes.

Larry Derkach: lots of people with different interests. Some decisions need to be made quickly and some things can be overlooked. Consider creating

and documenting a communications protocol to outline who gets told what before decisions are made. Like a checklist of "have you talked to whom." Concern that we may be putting a lot of power in few people

John Vanderpuye: prevent self-interest – Gerald and Velia Watts should get only one vote.

Gerald Watts: within the Building Restoration Committee, the province and the city have declined voting rights; voting rights for Friends of McDougall will be considered once Friends of McDougall gets official status.

Owen Savage: Council meets monthly and that is the place for these discussions; people should direct concerns to Council (not the Building Restoration Committee). Council is the group that is accountable in the end.

Bill Phalen: the government calls the shots on how the outside will be restored; that is the mandate of the \$1,250,000.

Gerald Watts: the Building Restoration Committee decisions have all been made through full consensus; voting was done at only one time to formally approve the decision to appoint the project consultant (which was first made by consensus).

Carried. Five (5) opposed.

- c. **Motion:** That the Visioning Committee meet regularly with the Building Restoration Committee before decisions regarding spending are made – Laurie Mereu/Karen Bishop - **Carried**

- d. McDougall's Mission Statement – Owen Savage

At the Leadership Retreat held on February 6th, those present reviewed a proposed revision to the current McDougall mission statement.

Here is the proposed new mission statement:

"Our mission is to fill hungry hearts with the life of the Spirit through the unconditional love of God."

Owen asked the congregation to think about this proposed mission statement and pray about it and provide Council with their thoughts and feelings about it. Anyone can pass their comments and feedback on to any member of Council. Council would like to hear from you soon.

- e. Council Chair Succession – Claire Redpath

Claire indicated her term as Council Chair will be up in June and Owen Savage will take over as Chair of McDougall Council. Claire thanked the current members of Council and McDougall congregation for their support.

Christina expressed thanks to Claire on behalf of the staff, council members, and McDougall congregation for Claire's dedicated service as Council chair over the last three years. Those present echoed Christina's thanks with appreciative applause. Thank you, Claire!

11. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn - Bill Phalen/Viola Bruggeman - **Carried**