



Annual Report 2020

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Credits:

*Front cover design and
photographs by Craig Warner*

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VISION, MISSION & VALUES STATEMENTS

Our Vision

Trinity United Church envisions a world that lives in the wholeness of God's shalom.

Our Mission

Trinity United Church is a Spirit-led Christian community practicing love rooted in the example of Jesus.

Our Focus of Work

To build and enhance relationships, nurture spirituality, and model sustainability.

Our Values

To help us in our focus of work, we the people of Trinity United church will:

- welcome and celebrate diversity
- display healthy boundaries and healthy practices in our relationships
- work through conflict respectfully and inclusively
- build, support and empower leadership from within our church and our community
- champion social justice
- support each other through life changing experiences
- be led by the Spirit
- foster vibrant worship and spiritual practices
- respect the traditions of The United Church of Canada
- be open to other faith journeys
- model the change we want to see in the world
- act with a social, economic and environmental consciousness
- demonstrate accountable and transparent practices and decision making

Adopted: October 28, 2012

2020 TRINITY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Governance Team

Chair of Congregation	Barry Dorval
Secretary of Congregation	Marie Tambellini
Chair Emeritus of Board	Carol Kopp
Board Secretary	Kari McNair
Treasurer	David Green
Board Members	Marie Tambellini, Caroline Lockerbie, Nick Hodge
Trustees	Doug Lammle (Chair), Clark Brewer, Marie Chamberlain, Brian Howard, Audrey Pope, Hugh Hamilton,

Staff Team

Lead Minister	Rev. Robin Jacobson
Music Director	Karen Neufeld
Accompanist	David Hernandez Gutierrez
Administrative Assistant	Jillian Thompson
Bookkeeper	Craig Warner
Child, Youth & Family Coordinators	Alma Jean Inkster, Cassaundra Belanger-Menzel
Facilities Manager	Kevin McInnes
Custodial Team	Doug Young, Lisa Boesel

2020 ACM MINUTES

**Trinity United Church
2020 Annual General Meeting
June 28, 2020**

Meeting was called to order at 11:04 a.m.

Before the meeting Reverend Robin Jacobson explained some of the features of the virtual program (Zoom) to those who were on signing on for this meeting. The attendance count at the beginning of the meeting was 34. Chair Barry Dorval opened the meeting with a welcome to all in attendance. He explained how people could ask questions during the meeting, and noted that the number needed for quorum was 20.

Barry invited Reverend Robin Jacobson to open with a prayer and recite the names of those in members who had passed away during 2019.

*Margaret Alexis – February 17, 2019
*Joey Karen –April 14, 2019
Donald Best – April 17, 2019
Brenda Popp – April 18, 2019
*Olga Eby –June 1, 2019
*D Irene Hart – June 14, 2019
Bryan Kelso – June 14, 2019
*Ian Campbell – September 22, 2019
*Donna Holmes – October 15, 2019
*John Fleming – November 17, 2019
Kathleen Baron – December 9, 2019

Motion#1 Approval of Agenda Moved/Seconded – David Green, Marie Tambellini
That the Agenda of the 2020 Trinity United Church Annual Congregational Meeting be approved as presented. Carried.

Motion#2 Adherents Moved/Seconded – Marie Tambellini, Carol Kopp
That Adherents of the congregation of Trinity United Church be allowed to vote at the 2020 Annual Congregational Meeting. Carried.

Motion #3 Election of Chair and Secretary Moved/Seconded – David Green, Kari McNair
That the congregation of Trinity United Church appoint Barry Dorval as Congregation Chair and Marie Tambellini as Congregation Secretary for 2020/2021. Carried.

Motion #4 Approval of the Minutes Moved/Seconded – Marie Tambellini, Carol Kopp
That the Minutes of the Trinity United Church Annual Congregational Meeting of 2019 be approved as presented. Carried.

** Don Seaton clarified that there were actually two sets of minutes from 2019. A second meeting took place in July of 2019.

Motion # 5 Approval of the Minutes Moved/Seconded – Marie Tambellini, Carol Kopp
That the Minutes of the Trinity United Church Congregational Meeting on July 19, 2019 be approved as presented. Carried.

Motion #6 Ministry Reports Moved/Seconded – Reverend Robin Jacobson, Marie Tambellini
That the Ministry Reports presented in the Annual Report for Trinity United Church 2019/2020 be approved as presented. Carried.

Motion #7 Nominations Moved/Seconded – Marie Tambellini, Carol Kopp
That the Congregation of Trinity United Church approve the resignation from the Board of Eric Elle and Alma –Jean Inkster. Carried.

** Maxine Coffey asked that the motions be read out by the Chair for purposes of clarity.

Motion #8 Nominations Moved/Seconded – Marie Tambellini, David Green

That the Nominations cited in the Trinity United Church Nominations Report for the year 2020, be approved with the following amendment: Carol Kopp to serve as Board Chair for 2020. Carried.

** Don Seaton read the names on the nominations report so that everyone was clear as to resignations and additions.

Motion # 9 Financial Statement – Year 2019 Moved/Seconded – David Green, Marie Tambellini

That the Trinity United Church Financial Statement for the year 2019 be approved as presented. Carried.

David spoke to the line on the budget that read: Excess of Receipts (Deficiency) over Expenditures.

**David is always available to answer any questions members of the congregation have regarding budget language or issues.

Motion # 10 2020 Budget Moved/Seconded – David Green, Marie Tambellini

That the Trinity United Church budget for the year 2020 be approved. Carried.

Discussion:

David explained that this budget had been proposed and approved in January, but due to a change in our situation (Pandemic/ Lock Down), he has had to relook at capital expenditures. The Board has decided to put the following projects on hold at this time:

Signage - \$35,000

Lighting - \$12,000

HVAC - \$ 50,000

Discretionary - \$11,000

Some recent structural repairs (\$15,000) will be covered by our Insurance. (except for the deductible)
Flooring \$27,000 has been completed.

Proposed Plan – An Ad Hoc Committee/working group meet to come up with a plan for moving forward with expenditures. That committee will be comprised of the Board, the Ministry Team and members of the congregation who feel called to contribute ideas and time.

Question: Joanna Rainer

Will donations made to Outreach now come out of the Youth and Family budget?

Answer: David Green Yes.

Question: Elaine Schimdt

We are halfway through the year. How do the current actual expenses compare to the projected expenses for 2020?

Answer: David Green

We are close to what we have predicted in the budget except for capital expenditures.

**David will post 6 month actuals on the church web site at the end of June.

Question: Margaret Hudson

What are the actual figures for the projects?

Answer: Secretary has listed these amounts in this document underneath motion #10.

Comments from David Green

*Our funds are doing well. Trustees have chosen well with their choice of investors/investments.

*(Zoom) Meetings with other United Church treasurers show that Trinity has done comparatively well through the lock down. Our giving continue and have gone up in the past year.

*We are able to take advantage of the 10% wage subsidy offered by the government, however small loans are not available to churches.

Acknowledgements

Carol Kopp thanked Reverend Robin Jacobson and Barry Dorval for their help preparing for this new way of running an ACM.

Closing Remarks Reverend Robin Jacobson

Motion to close the meeting – Moved/Seconded Audrey Pope, Maxine Coffey.
Meeting closed at 12:20 p.m.

Closing Hymn – recited by Reverend Robin Jacobson

CHURCH REGISTER 2020

BAPTISMS

None

MARRIAGES

May 9, 2020

Marcel LaFlamme & Laura Ashmore

July 25, 2020

Tony Spina and Stewart Zaleschuk

DEATHS

**indicates Trinity United Church members.
 ** past member (transferred out)*

*Herb Johnson – January 1, 2020
 Ken Mori – January 19, 2020
 Doug Cookson – January 24, 2020
 Ross Garbutt – March 12, 2020
 Joan Taylor – March 13, 2020
 *Barbara Nicholls – March 18, 2020
 *Mary Crerar – March 20, 2020
 Sandy Vriesinga – April 7, 2020
 Helen Alexis – April 30, 2020
 **Doris Moore – May 23, 2020
 Joyce McKnight-Benner – June 13, 2020

*Albert McCluskey – June 23, 2020
 Harry Robertson – June 25, 2020
 *Kenneth May – June 30, 2020
 *Ida Stephenson – July 1, 2020
 Stewart Mitchell – September 4, 2020
 Don House – September 15, 2020
 Bernice Robb – September 25, 2020
 *Donna Blois – September 28, 2020
 Bernice Tyler – October 10, 2020
 *Robert Taylor – November 1, 2020
 Ross Reid – December 22, 2020

MEMBERSHIP ROLL 2020

Resident and Non-Resident Members
 December 31, 2019.....442

Removed during the year:

Death.....	8
Transfer.....	1
Request.....	0
Removed by Board of Governance.....	0

Added during the year:

Confirmation.....	0
Re-affirmation of Faith.....	0
Transfer.....	3
Board Decision.....	0

Resident and Non-Resident Members
 December 31, 2020.....436

BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

Another year has passed since I last reported on the Board's yearly activities. Could any of us have foreseen what lay ahead?

In early March, the Board made the difficult decision to close Trinity due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. At that time, no one knew this crisis would extend to where we are today.

Our first concern was the safety of the congregational members and the Ministry Team.

Our incredible Ministry Team and volunteers quickly came together to produce online services. Our wonderful Congregation adapted to this new form of Worship without a hint of fuss.

Keeping communication alive and well became our next concern particularly for those unable to access online options. Alma Jean went to work in her quiet way and set about calling those in need regularly.

From that she developed a team of online volunteer callers to connect with members in the community.

An online chat line created by Marie Tambellini began, which brought women in the congregation together weekly.

Trinity has always been a creative, engaging group but it has truly shone during this past year.

Despite the difficulties, we have kept many of our regular activities alive usually in a different format but still operating. Much of this is due to our incredible Ministry Team who forge forward on a daily basis tackling issues as they arise and the volunteers who have stepped forward to help where they can.

To all of them, the Board wishes to express deep gratitude.

This week on Marie's chat line, a longing for the good old days when things weren't so complicated was expressed. I am sure many of us can relate to that. We all cling to memories of things we are familiar with and bring us joy. The thing though, I have experienced with Trinity people over and over, is we are always up to new challenges and not afraid to tackle them. Well folks, this is probably one of our greatest. For the Board, planning ahead to meet this challenge has been increasingly difficult. What keeps us hopeful is your ongoing support and the knowledge God is always with us. None of us knows what lies ahead, but with vaccinations imminent, we look ahead to better times and being together once again. It will be a long road of recovery, perhaps in directions that will be unfamiliar to us, but I have no doubt we will meet them in true Trinity fashion as we live out God's purpose for his people.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Kopp
Trinity United Board Chair

MINISTRY REPORT

Lead Minister's Report

Who would have thought as we began our time of Covid isolation last year that we would be where we are now? I am so proud of how everyone has pulled together to make the most of our hugely surreal and separated reality. As Christ followers we are socially wired, a gathering people. Community is at the very heart of so much of who we are created to be, and how from the earliest times Christ's church has been given to express herself. I think of that earliest description of the church in Acts 2:43-47 where we are told that they never neglected this one central action of being together. And yet, here we are.

Despite that, though, God has blessed us. With over 60 carefully crafted online worship services, probably hundreds of zoom meeting, innumerable email communications, phone calls and some careful, safety-protocol obeying in-person meetings, the work of Christ's among us has very much continued. We tried in-person meetings for a month last October until the Provincial Health authorities discerned it no longer safe to do so. We have also experimented with a variety of children and youth programs as well as various outreach initiatives. I am so grateful for the tireless ingenuity of all those who have worked (and continue to work) to find new ways of expressing our faith. Well done.

It is such a privilege to be both part of and to lead a ministry team of staff and volunteers that routinely go 'above and beyond' in their efforts faithfully to be about God's business. I am continually grateful to the Church Board for their support and their guidance, as well as for the obvious trust that they place in Trinity's Ministry Team. I am often equally overwhelmed by the profound faithfulness of so many in our congregation – many of whom are continuing their ministries through innumerable acts of kindness and deep faithfulness. Even though others are not always aware of what you are doing, please know that God sees, and smiles on you. We are indeed very blessed.

As you read through the various ministry reports from last year I invite you to continue to pray for us all. With so much that is still not known, who can possibly guess what this coming year will bring? When will we have sufficient herd immunity against this awful Covid virus allowing us once again safely to gather for in-person worship? What will that look like? How will we do that? We don't know. What we do know, however, is that the risen Christ is still very busy. And that he longs for us to be about finding creative ways to be aligned with what he is doing. That is our longing and our goal. I look forward to us doing just that together in this next year.

Respectfully Submitted
Reverend Robin Jacobson

ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Assistant Report

Each year, I feel more and more blessed to be part of the Trinity United Church staff. I appreciate the opportunity to work in such a friendly and meaningful environment. The Trinity congregation is a family to me, and it's a joy to be able to serve here. And it just gets better each year! 2020 was a year of challenges for everyone. I am grateful that we were able to keep the office open, which allowed me to work with our fabulous team and get to see or talk to members of the congregation who either came in or phoned (or emailed). The additional staff that joined us this year really added to our team and are a blessing in so many ways. How our year started didn't quite end the same way, but it proved that we can be resilient and innovative, and able to support one another.

Managing the Room Bookings and Facilities Schedule turned more into booking cancellations and penciling in tentative bookings for the end of 2021 and into 2022 with hopes that we will be able to gather again.

I am eternally grateful for the support I and our team gets from everyone, with emails, notes, cards and verbally. It means a lot to us to know that we are actually doing something to help and sustain people.

And of course to our wonderful team! Our fearless leader who kept us going with his cheerfulness and dad jokes. Our two Child, Youth and Family Coordinators, Cassaundra & Alma Jean, whose roles changed dramatically within the first couple of months of the year, but who adapted and soldiered on to support the Sunday School, our community and our congregant members. Kevin, who took the duties to which I was, let's just say not too knowledgeable about, off my plate and started really improving things around the building and grounds (and became a singing partner). Karen, our Music Director who had to pull together a very different music program (and did a fantastic job of it). And our Bookkeeper Craig, who is an essential part of this team and keeps us running financially. Thank you so much to them and for their support and friendship.

Respectfully Submitted
Jillian Thompson

Facilities & Property

Following 14 months of service as the Facilities Manager, in September 2020, a Facility Management Services Contract was initiated with Kevin McInnes.

2020 was an unusual year for our facility and our attendees. Anticipated involvement of the Facilities Advisory Team members for 2020 was drastically reduced as many of the Board approved capital projects for 2020 were deferred once the full impact of COVID became known in March 2020.

Facility Management focus shifted to understanding, implementing, and maintaining safety protocols based on the Provincial Health Officer Orders. During the intervening months, it was necessary to integrate Canadian Blood Services into our church safety plan to ensure safe continuance of their essential service within our facility.

During the summer months, volunteer efforts and focus on the exterior landscaping continued for the flower beds. A special appreciation goes out to Kate Sladon whose eye for color and green thumb as well as the others who continue to volunteer were greatly appreciated.

Revised 2020 Projects and Maintenance:

COVID Safety Plans and essential service adjustments

Narthex and Sanctuary upholstery cleaning

Replace fire doors in Narthex to Hall and to Education Wing Hallway

Ongoing landscape maintenance (bank from stairway to lower parking lot)

Replacement of Air Handler #1 and main entrance heater covered by insurance (Jan 2020)

Flammable products storage compliance (outdoor container)

Snow removal

Replace Church sign (scaled down version)

Hall and Hallway Paint

Anyone with ideas for capital improvements or other maintenance ideas or issues are invited to contact Kevin by email at kevin@trinityvernon.ca



Respectfully Submitted
Kevin McInnes

WORSHIP

Music Director's Report

It's been a year of change and adaptation for all of us, as a church community that worships through music.

Since the pandemic, we've felt the loss of having our faithful choir voices silenced; of not being able to safely hear all of our Trinity instrumentalists; of not being able to raise our voices together as a congregation, in worship; and of not being able to sit in a moment of collective quietness, as music seeps deeply into our souls.

We have grieved. And yet, our music ministry has flourished.

With a tape-measure in hand to mark out socially safe distances between a limited number of musicians, we entered into the unknown world of video recordings. Harmony began to rise as Jillian Thompson, Kevin McInnes, Tony Spina and I began singing together, often with Ann Dorval on flute or drum.

As a worship ensemble, we learned to enter into worship during Thursday afternoon recordings, without the flow and context of a Sunday service, but instead, with a video camera scanning our faces. It was no small learning curve. We laughed and grimaced together at recordings that we deleted before they reached your screen or your ears! Even so, we were constantly reminded that despite our preparation, worship music is not a matter of perfection, but an offering and opening of our hearts to God.

I'm grateful to the core members of our ensemble, mentioned above, who faithfully took on the role of leading worship music each week, taking us deeper into the reality of life lived in God. We were also blessed to have been joined by others occasionally. Our accompanist, David Hernandez gave us festive Easter music on the organ, along with guest trumpeter Allen Szeliga. Jordyn and James Tracy sang with us in the spring before moving back to the States, and Craig Warner sang in the summer. Carol Kopp and Phyllis Beardsley, along with members of the Jabulani drumming group joined us for outdoor worship music in the fall. Alice Hanson added cello and organ to our mix and Kati Gardiner joyfully drummed with us now and again.

Both David Hernandez and Diana Ward competently took on the role of directing and playing piano during my holiday time, as well as during the weeks that I was caring for my dad in Saskatchewan. My thanks goes out to them for taking on those extra services in late fall, right through Christmas Eve. Many thanks also to Robin, the Board, the Personnel Team and to you as a congregation for your compassion, prayers and tangible support during that time. You allowed me the freedom to be fully present to my dad as his health deteriorated. I will always treasure that. You were truly the body of Christ to both of us during those weeks.

Our music ministry has changed during this year. It's not always been comfortable, but that is not the call. I trust that together we will be open to what is yet to emerge, to catch the flow of Spirit as we are led forward into the new life that God is always calling us to.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Neufeld
Music Director

Communion Services (Chancel Guild)

Communion was served in Trinity Sanctuary February 02 and March 01. No Communion was served in January.

During the time of Covid 19 restrictions when there was no in-person gathering for worship, our minister, Robin Jacobson, offered Communion through on-line services the first Sunday of each month.

Respectfully Submitted

Marie Morris

Technical & Online Ministry:

Communications Team

In 2020 the members of the Communication Team were Don Seaton and Cheryl Green. Rev. Robin Jacobson and Jillian Thompson are staff liaisons and collaborators.

The Communications Team almost never meets, but quietly goes about the volunteer job of managing the media, means and methods through which life at Trinity is communicated to those within the Trinity community as well as to the wider world. Our tools include a website (trinityvernon.ca), a Facebook group and page, YouTube channel and a weekly email newsletter. We also have responsibility for the weekly newspaper ad and occasional special newspaper ads.

Every Friday morning the email newsletter lands in about 200+ mailboxes. This gives links to recent and upcoming worship and church events. Cheryl Green has been the primary editor of the newsletter.

The website is updated weekly with the current worship service, including a video version. The worship videos are uploaded to our YouTube channel. The website is also a place for our calendar of events and news and pictures of life in Trinity Church. During the October trial of in-person worship the website was used for sign-up lists of those who wished to attend.

In this year of social distancing because of Covid-19, the online connection has been a steady connection point. On average the weekly worship service online is viewed about 150 times (with a range from 100 to 300).

The Trinity website is on a shared hosting account and, with the blessing of the Board, offers that service at no charge to a number of smaller nearby United Church congregations and to Mackenzie Camp.

Worship Technical Team

The worship technical team is made up of volunteers who operate the sound mixer board and the projection system in the Trinity sanctuary. Proper sound and images enhance the worship experience. But all of that changed in March 2020 when we switched to online worship because of Covid-19.

In the first months of 2020 the members for sound were Paul Burke, Linwood Delong, Jazmine Tracey, Barry Dorval and Maxine Coffey, with Linda Badke and Rodger Schmidt as spare; the members for projection were Don Seaton, George Copley, Cheryl Green and Brian Kopp.

Jillian Thompson, our office manager, was doing the weekly projection preparation work, which was a great help.

Then in March this team was suspended as were in-person services and a new team was formed for the new circumstances.

The production of online worship relied on a team of Robin Jacobson (some filming and graphics), Linda Jacobson (filming and video editing) and Don Seaton (uploading the service to the website, YouTube and Facebook Group). Cheryl Green was our always able back-up. Sometimes the annual report is a time to call out a person whose dedication goes unnoticed by most but makes a big difference. Our special behind the scenes thank-you goes to Linda Jacobson for her video editing skills, as many hours of creative energy goes into each week's production.

For the month of October when in-person service was tried again, the technical team in the sanctuary was Dylan Green and David Hernandez.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Sunday School & Youth

This is the first year that Cassaundra and Alma Jean took on the roles of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Coordinators. The roles divided into Outreach and Community (Alma Jean) and Sunday School (Cassaundra). A true team effort has been made to this Ministry as they keep each other informed on updates and events within the other half of the Ministry. This was a year of learning and overcoming new challenges that have not been present before with the pandemic limitations. Despite the pandemic limitations we have started new initiatives for the CYF ministry. A Facebook page was made dedicated to the Children, Youth, and Family Ministry in which we can post all things related, including events, fundraising ideas and general updates. Both Cassaundra and Alma Jean are administrators for the page.

The Youth room attached to the hall, was cleaned, including furniture. The overall goal is for the youth to reclaim that room and make it their own. The youth room would be used for children grades 6/7 and up for Sunday mornings and whenever they had events. It was briefly used for in-person services in September-October.

Sunday School

We had main teachers of Cassaundra with preschool (up to age 5), Don with intermediate and Phillip with youth (grade 6/7 and up, however we did do based on maturity for the "youth").

In January Alma Jean and Cassaundra held a meeting with the volunteers to gather their wishes and goals for the Sunday School. After this meeting Cassaundra cancelled the subscription with Whirl curriculum, as it was concluded it wasn't working for our needs and where the volunteers wanted to go. Much research was done to see what would work for our needs. "Rotation" curriculum would be best and would be purchased after Easter. This never happened due to the pandemic and no in-person services.

In early March we had a family potluck lunch meeting, which most families attended. We had the parents fill out an intake form, which included allergies, and birthdays of the children. We asked for insight on what they wish to see for their children within the Sunday School ministry. A week later we did not have in-person services due to the pandemic. For the rest of March, Don made a few videos for the "Children's time" which was put on the Facebook page. Cassaundra reached out to parents asking about options for us to help with Faith Formation. Take home packages seemed to be the best option for all families.

In April and May Cassaundra made "take out faith boxes" for families that wanted one. It was a fair amount of work and we had little engagement. Pacific Mountain Region First Third Ministry started to come out with Faith@home Kits. This is what we have used since June 2020. Often the kits will be supplemented with items we have at the church. Faith@home kits allow us to post contents of packages on the Facebook page.

In September to November, the Sunday school started in-person gatherings with new safety protocols. Numbers were low, as one family moved and another family came every other week. Many families chose to stay at home. We had a group stop-motion project that is on hold till next fall.

Intergenerational initiatives

In February the Sunday school and Scouts helped decorate cookies and cupcakes to share with the congregation. Some of the older children baked fresh scones with Don. The children served tea and ensuring everyone was offered a cookie, cupcake or scone. Cassaundra strongly encouraged all children to talk with at least 1 to 2 new people. From what was observed, many engaged in conversation and it was a heart filling Sunday. Cassaundra was phoned by Cheryl in Kelowna to see what we were doing for intergenerational worship, as through the grape vine, she heard what we did. Lent-in-a-Bag was a collaborative effort with Robin, Alma Jean and Cassaundra. 75 bags were made and all but a small handful were picked up. We were able to complete 2 in-person services while using the Lent-in-a-Bag. Cassaundra continued the practice on Facebook Live on the Children, Youth, and Family ministry Facebook page.

We saw the need for additional help of an aide for a specific family and child. We had hopes that an additional safe adult would be an aide for a child while they attended church; giving the caregiver time to enjoy worship. When in-person services are able to happen again, the search for an aide will resume.

Respectfully Submitted
Cassaundra Belanger-Menzel

Community Partnership

A New Position, New Digs

Cassandra is the lead Sunday School/Education coordinator, and I lean into the Community Outreach role. Despite the distinction, we not only keep abreast of what each is doing, we bounce a lot off each other, share ideas and planning, and offer helpful support and suggestions to one another. When we were able to work together from our shared office, one would hear much laughter coming from us.

Starting our new position in December, Cassandra and I got to know our working environment and cleared out our office space as well as the storage areas in the Sunday School rooms. We organized useful materials and either shared or tossed those that we deemed not useful to us and got the storage room well organized. We held a small garage sale to reduce the number of toys and games we no longer needed. That money has been used to purchase new toys and materials for Children and Youth Programming. Items that did not sell were donated to home-based day cares.

Children, Youth, and Family Library: “Trinity Kids”

Wanting to resurrect the lending library out of the CYF space, I purchased new books, toys, and puzzles for the children to enjoy, either while visiting, or to borrow for home. There are now several beautiful books for both children and parents, as well as a collection of books on the subject of Grief for both kids and adults. All the books are inventoried and carded, and may be borrowed from our library. Jeff Seaton generously donated a beautiful collection of children’s Christmas books for us to enjoy in our Sunday School.

Bulletin Boards

To help parents and others stay informed and current with Sunday School happenings, as well as other events for our kids and youth, we utilize the great bulletin board space in the education hall. I purchased borders and posters, and was changing the board regularly while we were able to be in attendance. The bulletin board in the narthex has been cleaned up and put to use to inform folks about Trinity in Community. Outreach events, Obituaries of late members, and other related information is announced there. The board is changed often to reflect current happenings.

Professional Development and Training

Starting a new role demands education; the United Church of Canada offers a wide variety of webinars for that purpose, and I have registered and continue to participate in several that are appropriate to my role in CYF ministry, as well as other related training.

Community Outreach

Prior to CYF Outreach, several community resources were being supported by Trinity’s Outreach Committee. Those that fit under the umbrella of Children, Youth, and Families were transferred to me to take over and continue to maintain, grow, and expand our support.

I connected with program directors, executive directors, and school principals to introduce myself and to explore ways together that Trinity could offer support to vulnerable children, youth, and young families in appropriate and useful ways. As Covid 19 forced restrictions on how we could work together, certain plans had to be adjusted or put on hold until it is safe to gather in person.

Pregnancy Outreach Program

Housed in the First Nations Friendship Center, this community program offers support to expecting and new mothers and fathers. They provide access to healthy food, education, and necessary items for babies and moms. Early on Cassaundra and I made a visit to the program director, Carolyn Meijer, to learn about them, and discuss how we could be of help. Trinity continues to purchase annually a twelve month supply of three Good Food Boxes which are distributed to the POP and contribute to the nutrition of several expectant and nursing moms and their young children. We held a very successful Baby Drive, where congregants donated a mountain of necessary items for new babies and moms, as well as over \$1000 in monetary gifts. Carolyn was touched and overwhelmed with the generosity of the folks at Trinity.

Teen Junction

Long time supporters of Teen Junction, which provides a safe place, educational programs, and of course, healthy food to vulnerable youth, CYF happily took on supporting this important community resource. The first meal, in conjunction with 2020's Winter Carnival, was a Chili Cookoff. Several Trinity cooks offered their best, much to the benefit of hungry kids. I met with program director, Sara Morgan (now Isaac), to learn about what they provide the kids, and how we can not only continue to support, but also develop our working relationship. Volunteers had been enjoying preparing and serving a hearty and nutritious meal each month at Teen Junction; Covid restrictions meant no more personal serving of the meals, but we continued to prepare and deliver hot meals and home baked goodies. Many of the youth and their families experience food insecurity, so individual frozen meals became a needed and appreciated way to provide a take away meal, easy to heat and ready to eat for many youth and some families. Sara wrote an extensive letter of appreciation to Trinity to let us know the positive impact of our caring for youth living on the margins. It was posted in our August e-newsletter for all to read.

Okanagan Learning Foundation

Stephanie Hewson, a secondary teacher, and founder and Executive Director of OLF, met with me to share information about this vital resource for vulnerable secondary students in School District 22. Three high schools (Seaton, Fulton, and Charles Bloom) house the program "Food for Thought". Each Friday, students experiencing food insecurity, can pick up food for meals and snacks as well as personal necessities to take home with them. Again, Covid restrictions meant students could not personally pick up the "care packages", but volunteers ensured every one of those kids had theirs delivered to their homes. Trinity donates an annual amount of \$500 to help purchase food and items. Stephanie and I had also discussed the possibility of Trinity hosting a Student Mental Health Conference at the church, and that has been put on hold. We hope to pick up again once gathering becomes possible.

Vernon Community School/Academy of Inquiry and Adventure (AIAO)

Lead teacher, Murray Sasges, and I met so I could learn about the variety of community programs available to the students taking part in what was originally called "Vernon Community School". We only had a chance to explore Trinity's support of his students. They had utilized our kitchen a few times for cooking lessons. Perhaps Trinity could sponsor two or three VCS students in a leadership camp at McKenzie Camp the coming summer. Covid put a stop to in person camping, so that plan has been put aside for the time being.

Now called AIAO, the program continues to offer students unique learning opportunities within the community. I had been looking for a way to continue the Fulton Breakfast program, and Murray connected me with teacher Caitlin Strickland. She and her students used Trinity's kitchen for several weeks to learn cooking skills while preparing food for their peers back at the school.

Alexis Park Elementary

We have had a long-standing connection with the staff and students of Alexis Park through the annual Christmas Luncheon that the Men's Group has cooked up and served for many years. I have also had a close relationship with the school, having taught there for several years. I was looking forward to reconnecting, as a liaison with Trinity. Little did I know! In February, a few volunteers and I manned a Hot Chocolate station for the school's Winter Fun Day. We had a lot of fun meeting the kids and serving up a warming drink. It was a pleasant way to restart connection with staff and students. Trinity has provided access to our Community Garden Plots for several years to the Kindergarten students, and had planned on doing so again in 2020. I had met with both Kindergarten teachers and we were excited about our plans for the coming spring; those have been put on hold, with hopes of having the kids back here in 2021. To thank Trinity for the use of the gardens in the past, the Kindergarten children made Christmas cards and decorations to be handed out to some of our seniors.

It was evident that the annual Christmas luncheon could not happen as in the past, so a group of volunteers gathered to explore possibilities for doing something special for the staff and students. We had hoped to still cook up the same turkey meal and deliver individual meals to the school, but it became clear that the logistics of doing that for 370 people were just too big. We were also concerned for the safety of all, with the Covid numbers quickly on the rise.

Instead, it was decided to make up 322 goodie bags for the students and 48 goodie coffee mugs for the staff. The bags and mugs were filled with treats, decorated with the Grinch, wrapped into large Christmas boxes, labelled for each division, and delivered to the school just in time for Christmas break.

Devoted knitters have made and donated several cozy toques and scarves to the school, which I've had the pleasure of delivering.

Lumby United/Lumby Schools

It is my intention to create and develop working relationships with the two schools in Lumby, as they are part of School District 22. I connected first with Lumby United to learn about their connections and resources in Lumby, and to see whether it's feasible to work with them in supporting students' needs in Lumby. That process is ongoing.

McKenzie Camp

Camping and camperships have been put on hold, however thanks to our board, some of the monies normally directed there have been graciously redirected to Alexis Park, to help purchase food and supplies for vulnerable families during Covid.

Hosting Events At Trinity

I had been in contact with the Executive Director of BC Bereavement Helpline (BCBH) planning to host a training conference. The event was offered online, as Covid rules would not allow us to have a large gathering. We will pursue the possibility in future.

Youth Leadership Conference also put on hold.

Pastoral Care

I began phone check-ins with several individuals as Covid kept us from our usual ways of staying connected. That gradually evolved to creating a "Phone Tree", with several volunteers calling a list of Trinity folks, weekly or monthly, to stay in contact, and to be able to alert the ministry team of any concerns for the wellbeing of those living on their own.

Grief Group Support

Offered a 5-week online group support "Moving On in Grief" for anyone struggling with losses of any kind. Five people participated. The experience is not as satisfactory as in person, but helpful nonetheless.

Prayer Group

The weekly prayer group had stopped meeting due to restrictions, so an online version has been created to fill that gap. With Don Seaton's help and expertise, people can use the email on the website to send prayer requests in. Several committed volunteers meet weekly with those requests to pray for those people and others. My role is simply administrative. I keep a record of all the requests sent in.

Respectfully Submitted

Alma Jean Inkster

EDUCATION

Bible Study

Trinity United Church carries on with its Bible Study by going on-line (in March) when we were no longer able to meet in person. We still take the Lectionary Readings and discuss them. A study group email goes out every week and if anyone wants to comment, question or further the observations we answer the email. This give a series of comments with the thread being the readings.

The Lectionary readings are four selections: two, from the Old Testament and two, from the New Testament. These have a general theme pertinent to the church season.

Until we can meet in person as a group, we plan to continue this method of study. Anyone can join our group by sending me, Maxine, maxiecoffey@shaw.ca an email. If people do not have computer access, we make sure there are copies of the Lectionary in the church office.

Respectfully Submitted

Maxine Coffey

Trinity Book Club

Trinity Book Club has fourteen enthusiastic members who takes turns choosing and leading books that are mostly fiction but may also include biography, religion and social commentary. This year, because of the pandemic, we were able to meet at the church only in January and February. In August we met on Norma John's spacious patio to discuss Harry's Trees and in September we met in Trinity's courtyard to discuss Shirley Grabinsky's Queen of the Potato Patch. It was a time of sharing stories and laughter.

We had a special event in October when Pam Jenkins organized a meeting at the Vernon Museum with Laisha Rosnau who is the author of Little Fortress, a fictional account of the lives of Vernon's famous Caetani family. The author shared many insights she gained from her intensive research of the museum's archives.

We are eagerly anticipating better days to come when we will be able to meet again.

Respectfully Submitted
Shirley Grabinsky

Broadview

We currently have 28 subscriptions being mailed out, one was a new order.

We had 11 people who decided NOT to renew.

Respectfully Submitted
Lue MacPherson

OUTREACH

Outreach Committee Report

Members: Joanna Rainer, Margaret Hudson, Billie Howard, Karine Poznanski, Marie Chamberlain, Laurel Cinnamon. Barbara Nicholls was also a valued member. We were saddened by her passing last spring and miss her insights and joie de vivre.

1. Outreach Bulletin Board

- There were changing displays on the Outreach Bulletin board in the narthex throughout 2020, including updates on Truth & Reconciliation issues, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and current needs in our community. Please check it out next time you are in the church.

2. World Food Day

- We had a “virtual food jar campaign” in October with TUC members dropping off donations at the office, donating at total of \$4640 for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Big thanks to Billie Howard for preparing the World Food Day display in the narthex and for counting the donations.
- Trinity members also worked with members of First United Church, Kelowna and Foodgrains Bank staff in Winnipeg to increase awareness of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank in B.C. through online events in June and December 2020.

3. Responding to TRC Calls to Action

- A gathering for participants of the 2017 & 2019 Cultural Competency Courses, planned for March 14, 2020, was cancelled due to pandemic restrictions.
- Trinity received a grant from the Justice & Reconciliation Fund to offer a third Cultural Competency Course to United Church members. Due to the pandemic, it has been postponed until it is safe to meet in a group setting. If you are interested in attending this course or in receiving updates on upcoming online courses and reconciliation issues, contact Joanna Rainer by email: j.rainer@shaw.ca

4. White Gift Sunday

- We again coordinated with the Refugee Committee to support the Chehaibar family. Funds were collected to help support them through the coming year.

Support for other agencies

- **Bill's Place** - \$1000 donation towards their food budget
- **Upper Room Mission** - \$1000 towards food budget

5. Emergency Food Action Network/Outreach Transition

We stated in our 2019 annual report that, due to several factors, 2020 would be a transition year for Outreach. In the past 10 years, the Outreach Committee evolved with a focus on three main areas:

1. Ongoing Trinity Outreach initiatives (e.g. Food Jar campaign, community BBQ, School knitting program, White Gift Sunday)
2. Food security, poverty and social justice issues (including Interfaith initiatives)
3. Truth & Reconciliation initiatives.

Our main vehicle for addressing food security and poverty in our community has been the Emergency Food Action Network (EFAN), started in 2010. Trinity is a founding member of this group of churches, the Social Planning Council, non-profit and government service groups.

Our membership in EFAN has allowed us to make several “community partners”, i.e. organizations our congregation supports financially with donations from the Outreach budget or “in kind” with free use of church facilities, donations of goods (food, toiletries, gift certificates), etc. We are also on the receiving end, e.g. free food from the Vernon Food Bank for the community BBQ, advice and support from Turning Points Collaborative to address our radical hospitality challenges.

In January 2020 Outreach members met with Alma Jean to provide information about these community partners and to determine which of these would be best served by the Children, Youth and Families Ministry. We are happy to report CYF is now the liaison for the following community partners:

- **Pregnancy Outreach Program** (provide support to high needs pregnant and post partum women until their babies are 6 months old)
- **Teen Junction** – an Okanagan Boys & Girls Club program (safe environment for high needs youth to come after school, provide various supports)
- **Okanagan Learning Foundation** (food, toiletries and clothing provided to high needs students at 3 secondary schools)
- **Fulton Breakfast Program** (parent-run breakfast program open to all students).

With long-serving members looking to reduce Outreach responsibilities and the current upheaval and uncertainty from the pandemic, what Outreach will look like in the year ahead will continue to evolve.

Respectfully Submitted
Joanna Rainer

The Food Bank

The Trinity Food Bank is part of a network of churches and agencies providing families with nutritious bags of food.

Anyone wanting help registers with our referring agency, Neighbour Link, a local Christian charitable organisation. Neighbour Link's purpose is to link hungry people with caring churches. This year, we have also started teaming up with NexusBC to help some of our seniors in the community.

Support comes from:

- Jillian who coordinates the entire food bank and keep the congregation informed of which items are most needed.
- Craig who manages the finances and the donations of money from Trinitarians which allows for extra purchases beyond the allocated budget.
- Lue MacPherson, Neva Low and Jillian Thompson, who purchase bulk supplies as needed and help stock the shelves.
- The volunteers in the office who make up bags and keep a record of how many bags are given out.
- All of you who give food items and monetary donations, especially on Communion Sunday.

Covid19 seemed to have an impact on our numbers this year, cutting them almost in half.

End of the year count for 2020 – 105 individual/couples/families requesting help.

15 of these were repeats (which means they may have come twice during the year, once a month and/or anywhere in-between).

We had request for food from 9 people who did not pick up for one reason or another. All together, we gave out 137 bags of food.



(after one of our Food Bank Sunday's – fully stocked shelves)

Respectfully Submitted
Jillian Thompson

Refugee Ministry

During 2020 the Refugee Team continued to support a Syrian family of three (father, mother and seven year old girl) who came to Vernon in June 2018. Our financial sponsorship of this family ended in June 2019. However, a small group of team members has continued to provide social support to assist the family to integrate into the community.

The Covid 19 pandemic has presented challenges for the family. Immigrant Services is not able to continue in-person English classes and the family has found on-line learning difficult. The restrictions to social gatherings have made it difficult to practice speaking English. Nevertheless, their English has continued to improve and they are becoming more comfortable in the community.

The father worked part time stocking grocery store shelves during the winter. He was re-employed full time as a landscape worker in the spring but was laid off at the end of the season. He is continuing to look for steady employment.

The Church provided gifts and funds for the family through the White Gift Sunday donations. This has made a huge difference for the family. The gift cards allowed them to purchase food, work clothes and items that are not available in the thrift stores.

Their daughter was home from school and isolated in the apartment in the spring due to the pandemic related school closure. We were able to fund two summer recreation programs for her to increase her exposure to English and help with socialization. She attends Mission Hill Elementary where she receives ESL support and continues to learn.

The father received his driver's license this year. This is a great achievement as he came from a place where he never expected to drive a car. In spite of his low salary, he was able to save several thousand dollars and was able to purchase a car in the fall. The car did not come with snow tires. To keep the family safe, it was decided to use the remaining funds from White Gift Sunday to help them purchase winter tires.

The family are extremely appreciative of the friendship and support of the Refugee Team and the whole Trinity congregation. We have also been enriched by having them as our friends.

We are also delighted that our two previous refugee family have kept in touch with us. Our first family, mother and son, are settled in Toronto where they have other family and our second family, mother and two daughters are settled in Montreal.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Badke, Chair

6th Vernon Scout

The 6th Vernon Group Committee is the administrative section for the 6th Vernon Scouting Group under the sponsorship of Trinity United Church. The church office staff is currently our liaison.

The Scouting year runs from September 1st 2019–August 31st 2020.

The 6th Vernon scouting group consists of the Group Committee, a Beaver Scout section and a Cub Scout section. The colony has continued to grow over the last year to 15 Beaver Scouts with 2 volunteer scouters. The Pack has also grown to 12 youth with 2 scouters. There are 2 scouters in the Group Committee.

2020 was the 67th year of the partnership of Trinity & Scouts Canada and some of our youth and scouters attended a church service to celebrate with the congregation and presented a thank you certificate.

Fundraisers to raise money to run the program were Apple Day, Scout Popcorn, Christmas Swags and the 22 Annual Great Pancake & Sausage Feed. We sincerely thank the congregation of Trinity United Church for continuing to support 6th Vernon by supporting our fundraisers and providing meeting space and a place to hold some fundraisers.

In March with the arrival of the Corona virus, all meetings were shut down. We kept in contact with our families by sending our project challenges. In late spring we held virtual youth meetings using Zoom.

In September 2020, 6th Vernon re-opened the Scout Troop with 4 youth and 2 scouters. The troop worked with all the health & Scouts Canada regulations to have in person meetings in the fall. The Beaver & Cub Scout sections continued with their virtual meetings, working on Personal Achievement Badges. Currently we have 9 Active Beaver Scouts with 2 scouters, 8 Active Cub Scouts with 2 scouters and 1 scouter working on his Scouts Canada training and 3 Active Scouts with 2 Scouters. 2 scouters continue in Group Committee.

Again, thank you, Trinity congregation for supporting our Coffee fundraiser and thank you to those who made a donation to 6th Vernon.

All scouting programs are co-ed and anyone wishing information about Beaver Scouts (ages 5-7), Cub Scouts (ages 8-10), Scouts (ages 11-14), Venturer Scouts (ages 14-17), Rover Scouts (ages 18-26) or would like to join our leadership team, please phone Gail Gauthier 250-549-3865 or Margaret McGillivray 250-545-4922.

Respectfully Submitted
6th Vernon Group Committee

Mackenzie Camp Report – 2020

It is odd to read through the MacKenzie Camp minutes of January and February 2020. Set up the registration platform! Hold the Annual General Meeting! Advertise for summer staff! Draft a budget! Deal with rising insurance rates! Fix the damage done by snow and cold!

All the typical New Year concerns. We were entirely innocent of the bulldozer silently bearing down on us. First to be cancelled were in-person meetings, then public promotions, and ultimately all our plans for on-site camping. Hundreds of 2020 camp brochures, each displaying a gorgeous painting by one of our summer counsellors, went into the recycling bin.

Emergencies do have a way of bringing out the best in people, however, and MacKenzie's experience confirms it. There were many, but three examples stand out for me.

First, even before the cancellation of on-site programming, a clutch of people had pitched themselves into imagining and creating an alternative, our MacKenzie Connect "virtual camp." In fact, they did it while most of them were still finishing the school term! Campers were not that taken with the idea – we only got 30 registrations – but the wonder is that we managed to produce an alternative at all.

Second, our Property Committee used the summer to carry out some substantial upgrades to the camp. It is difficult to imagine any circumstances short of an empty camp under which the structural failure in the dining hall could have been fixed, and the underground wiring installed.

Third, our Fundraising Committee pulled off a significant coup. Having had to cancel the June date for the golf tournament, they rescheduled the event for what turned out to be the first and last sunny Saturday in October. Participation and receipts pretty much matched those of previous years.

That being said, let's admit that these accomplishments were made possible in large part because so many of our costs were covered – by the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), by the United Church Seeds of Hope program, and by Trinity United Church. We were all the more creative, for lack of crushing financial anxiety.

MacKenzie has been richly blessed this year. Yet we also continue to be just plain lucky.

In the New Year I had the pleasure of chatting at length with Cliff Eliason about how, in the fall and summer, he had managed to turn a lot of cast-off metal into a sturdy, handsome canoe trailer for the camp. Having finished that, he had already turned his attention to building a much larger, stronger trailer for the pontoon boat. Cliff made it clear that he was not alone in these adventures; the contributions of several other men were also crucial. The same goes for the renovations and electrical work done by Pat Hudson and the Property Committee's volunteers this summer. And for the unfailing attention of Lorraine Powell to camp finances and Dalynn Kearney to camp policies.

On the one hand, I rejoice that the camp should be the recipient of such unrelenting love. On the other hand, I note that every one of these people is retired. Some of them are in their late 70s or even their 80s. The aging of our board and of so many of our volunteers puts the camp at ever greater risk. I would say, the risk is more serious even than that of COVID, because this is a gap that no injection of money can address. We are lucky to have evaded the consequences as long as we have.

Quite apart from campers, in 2021 and 2022 we have to set our minds to "registering" grown-ups who love kids, and who love what camp does for kids, so MacKenzie in 2027 can mark an 80th birthday and it can be a real bash.

Respectfully Submitted
Don McNair

PASTORAL CARE

Care Team

Our liaison with the Trinity United Church Board of Governance is through Alma Jean Inkster. Alma Jean has set up a telephone ministry so that our congregation is in touch with each other. During the Covid 19 restrictions when we are no longer able to meet in person for worship and fellowship we are trying to stay connected. Any concerns that arise through these phone contacts are referred to our minister, Robin Jackson. If there is a pastoral care concern please contact Trinity office or Marie Morris.

During the year 2020, 13 condolence, 19 thinking of you and 30 Christmas cards have been sent out. There has been no hospital visitation because of Covid 19 restrictions.

Respectfully Submitted
Marie Morris

Prayer Team

The newest iteration of the Trinity United Prayer Team was initiated late Spring of 2020, with six members, now eight. The Prayer Team receives staff support from Alma Jean Inkster. The Team meets every Thursday morning by Zoom.

The Prayer List, revised weekly, typically contains up to 70 or more individual items - people and situations – in need of prayer support. Urgent prayer requests are promptly circulated to all members for immediate attention.

Should you wish prayer support for yourself, family, a friend, or any situation, please make your need known to Alma Jean and it will be included on the Prayer List. Your request will remain completely confidential. For a variety of reasons, Prayer Team members prefer to be anonymous.

Healing Pathway

As it was an unusual year due to the coronavirus, the Healing Room was open only from January to mid-March.

In January and again in February, practitioners were treated to a Himalayan bowls sound bathing experience by a guest from Lake Country. It was a lovely, relaxing experience.

In March, planning was underway for a Phase 1 Healing Pathway workshop to be offered at Trinity in October. This was cancelled when the church closed.

In October and November, practitioners were permitted to use the Healing Room, with protocols in place, for self-care once a week. By the end of November this was no longer possible due to further restrictions.

Distant healing sessions, with the receivers and practitioners within their own spaces have been offered. Receivers have indicated that these sessions have been very beneficial for them.

These distant healing sessions continue to be offered.

We are all looking ahead to when we can once more gather, meanwhile, be safe, be well.

Respectfully Submitted

Pat Reigel

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry was less active in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (We have only given out about 18 shawls). Members have kept busy knitting and crocheting but have taken up other projects. We have been active knitting touques and scarves for the students at Alexis Park School. We have also been making newborn baby hats for the Vernon Jubilee Hospital. We have given out almost 500 prayer shawls since our inception. However, we are only successful if we have knowledge of people in need. We ask the congregation to please contact us if you know of a need. Either notify the office, Althea or any member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Respectfully Submitted

Prayer Shawl Group

PERSONNEL TEAM

What a year 2020 has been! We started the year off on such a high note after 9 months of having the stability of our wonderful Lead Minister, Robin. We were filled with enthusiasm and plans for moving forward. How were we to know that in March the whole world would come to a screeching halt caused by the Covid 19 virus?

It meant stopping in-person Sunday worship and closing the church to gatherings of any kind and bringing about so many changes and adjustments for the Trinity staff. No sooner would plans be made than the rules would change and it was back to the drawing board. So much of this landed on Robin, who began online services, and for a short while, was able to include some in-person worship but then, back to online services again. The online services necessitated hiring someone to film and edit the services for YouTube, Face book and the website. We were happy to welcome Linda Jacobson to very ably fill the role.

The work of the Personnel Committee during this time diminished with Robin as Lead Minister doing the day to day supervision and problem solving with the staff. He has developed a very cohesive and efficient team who have worked to keep Trinity functioning well under very difficult circumstances. This has necessitated everyone adapting to the changes. Some of the changes included:

- for Robin, the time-consuming development and preparation of online worship, along with the countless Zoom meetings and calls to stay in touch.
- for Cassaundra, it meant working largely from home as she found ways to creatively reach out to the children of the Sunday school and their families.
- for Alma Jean, it meant finding ways to stay in communication with community groups and the congregation.
- for Kevin, it was an opportunity to do some deep cleaning of the church and help put in place the protocols to meet the health guidelines. His employment status changed from being an employee to a contractor.
- for Jillian, she remained the cheerful face in the office adjusting to the many different tasks and ` jobs assigned to her- so many appreciated that the office was open.
- for Karen, it meant developing a small team of singers and musicians practicing and recording the music for Sunday worship (socially distanced, of course)
- for Craig, it meant looking after the various ways contributions are made to Trinity

The Personnel Committee has kept in touch with Robin and with each other by email and phone and on occasion in masked meetings. We would like to express our gratitude for the hard work of Trinity staff and most especially to Robin who has done an amazing job under such difficult circumstances.

Throughout this challenging year, there have been many blessings and we are thankful that we are not alone, that God is truly with us!

Respectfully Submitted

Personnel Committee (Joyce Todd, Sigrid-Ann Thors, Ed Wilson, Phyllis Beardsley)

TRUSTEES REPORT

The Board of Trustees of Trinity United Church consisted of Doug Lammle (Chair), Audrey Pope (Secretary), Hugh Hamilton, Brian Howard, Clark Brewer, Marie Chamberlain and Reverend Robin Jacobson. The terms of office for members of the Board of Trustees shall be three (3) years from the date of election. Members may be re-elected to two (2) additional consecutive terms of three (3) years each. A Trustee can serve a total of nine (9) years. The length of service of the Trustees are:

Audrey Pope Completed her last year of 3rd term.
Clark Brewer Completed 1st year of 3rd term.
Hugh Hamilton Completed his last year of 3rd term.
Marie Chamberlain Completed 1st year of 2 term.
Doug Lammle Completed 2nd year of 2nd term.
Brian Howard Completed 1st year.
Robin Jacobson Permanent member.

Hugh and Audrey have served on the Board for nine years. They were due to be replaced this year. Due to the current Covid-19 situation, it is very difficult to replace them immediately. Both Hugh and Audrey have agreed to stay for another year. I want to thank all the Trustees for their support.

If you have a background or interest in insurance, taxes, real property, investments or anything to do with “due diligence” consider joining our team. We are looking for two people to join our team.

Regular Activities

It’s been a quiet year for the Trustees. All the basics operational activities consisting of Insurance renewal, Tax Exemption submitted were completed and filed.

Trinity United Church Investment Funds; Conner, Clark and Lunn Private Capital handles our investments. The financial markets this year have seen dramatic ups and downs. Our funds from the sale of Camp Hurlburt were in good hands.

The Camp Hurlburt investment ended the year up 5%.

Respectfully Submitted

Doug Lammle Trustee Board Chair

NOMINATIONS REPORT

Usually at this time of year the Trinity Board strikes a Nominations Team to fill vacancy within the Board, Trustees, Personnel, and reps for the Pacific Mountain Region.

This year due to the Pandemic and its many challenges, the Board decided to ask those holding leadership roles to continue to serve for one more year.

In true Trinity fashion, everyone has agreed to carry on. The Board would like to thank all who have contributed in helping Trinity carry on during this difficult time.

After the break we listened to the President's address and Blair Odney gave a very emotional and heartfelt opening to our meeting. It was sort of like a Fireside chat because he gave background on the United Church of Canada. Its past four court system and then the present system of three courts. He talked about the Song of Faith and how we update ourselves when it is seen fit to do so.

We had a presentation via Zoom from Nora Saunders our outgoing General Secretary. It was her farewell message and in essence it was, "sometimes we don't change until we have to", appropriate for her and for the UCC. Also spread through the meeting were messages from Ministers who were retiring. They gave a one to three-minute talk on what they learned through their time in ministry.

Treena Duncan gave her first presentation as Executive Minister. Between March through September the PMR Executive met 8X to discuss COVID, property, transfer of Ministry and how to do the Celebration of new ministers.

After our supper break, we convened with the presentation from Pam Rocker and then a conversation with her about the process and need for Affirming Ministries. She told us what the acronym LBGTQA+2S means and why it is important. It was discussed that PMR would like to become an Affirming Region. Questions were asked, the most interesting to me was that if PMR becomes Affirming that does not mean every church within our region is Affirming. Each Community of Faith must go through the process to become affirming.

We had sessions where we were split out into smaller groups of four in which we discussed the questions; Who are we now? and Where do we want to be?

PMR has a definite and clear process to follow to become affirming. This topic was important to us as we heard a proposal which will be presented at the next Council meeting in May or June for Pacific Mountain Region to become an affirming Region. This initiative is championed by Rev. Bob Filler since he wants us to make sure everyone is loved and valued.

We had evening worship given by Rev. Laura Hermakin from Esquimalt and we adjourned until Saturday.

Saturday started with opened worship and Blessings of Retirees and then Memorials. All through the two-day meeting at various times we had 1-3 minute videos given by the retirees reflecting on their years of ministry. The Office of Vocation lead by Rev. Brenda Fawkes gave these numbers.

4500 Active retired UC Clergy

230 Candidates for clergy

There are 12 members of the Pacific Mountain Candidacy Board. Robin Jacobson is one of them, so he is a great person to talk to about what goes on here.

Ron Heifetz was the Keynote speaker with the theme; Leading Beyond the Wilderness. Since we did not have to pay for travel or lodgings Treen Duncan obtained Ron to be our presenter. He is very qualified, Professor of Leadership at Harvard in the Kennedy School of Government. In keeping with the times, he gave his presentation via Zoom from his sabbatical in Hawaii. Robin gave an excellent summation of Ron's talk in Robin's 25 October 2020 sermon.

A quick recap is that leadership is obtained by leaders work, not because they have all the tools. Especially now in these times of COVID and after we need to answer these three questions:

What matters?

What is Expendable?

What do we need and how do we innovate to get it.

We broke for lunch and the meeting platform opened at 1:10 with the meeting starting at 1:30pm. We started with another retiree video followed by business. We voted Rev. Ibi Chaun onto the PMR Executive after Rev. Richard Chung stepped down.

Next came an inspiring presentation for Mission and Service by Jane Harding, the Stewardship and Gift Officer of the United Church of Canada. We are fortunate that she is working in Western Canada. She gives Zoom sessions on stewardship and can be reached for questions we have about financial issues. She left us with the message that even in these times we still need to be supporting M&S, who need our dollars more in this time of COVID.

We discussed a Remit which needed voting on by our Region. The details follow. After a presentation we voted on the Questions. The Remit was passed and will be sent along to National Office.

Remit 1 – Amendment to the Basis of Union’s Article 10.0 on Ministry Personnel Background:

The 43rd General Council 2019:

- (i) approved a change to Article 10.0 of the Basis of Union to be inclusive of persons of all gender identities; and
- (ii) authorized this Category 1 Remit to Regional Councils to test the will of the church with respect to this change.

The Question: Does the Regional Council agree that:

- (a) the Order of Ministry be open to persons of all gender identities; and
- (b) the Basis of Union be amended to reflect this change as follows: 10.0 The Order of Ministry shall be open to persons of all gender identities.

This Remit was passed by the PMR Council meeting and will go to the next UCC General Meeting in 2021. We used a very complicated voting system, but we figured it out and used it for any voting that needed to take place.

Other business was conducted, such as a proposal about Israel holding children in jail. It is necessary to have observers there to assess and proactively help with Human Rights. This is a step towards peace in the area.

Regional Priorities were discussed and how can the PMR better help Communities of Faith. We had breakout groups to discuss, the purpose of Communities of Faith, what are they called to become and how can the region help.

I had to leave for two hours and when I came back Ron Heifetz was in the last of his presentation.

To end the meeting Alison Rennie gave a brief mention that Leadershift can help with many things our Communities of Faith need help with so keep reviewing their offerings.

Blair gave the thank you speech and we had one more retiree video and the meeting was closed.

Optional attending was for Nora Sanders preaching the Sunday service.

Respectfully Submitted
Maxine Coffey

THE UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

The U.C.W. was adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, thus held only three meetings, January, February and March, after which, all future gatherings were cancelled.

Not being fully aware of the consequences the pandemic would have on meetings, business proceeded as usual for the January meeting.

The election of officers was held:

President	Ena Mori
Vice-President	Barb Bradford
Secretary	Joanne Gilman
Treasurer	Elaine Schmidt

Ena graciously acknowledged and thanked our two non-elected positions:

Kate Sladen	Catering Representative
Lorna Jaschke	UCW archives

Unfortunately, after the March meeting, things came to a complete halt. However, thanks to our conscientious and efficient treasurer, Elaine Schmidt, the UCW continued to fulfill its financial obligations to our designated charities. The UCW also paid for the cleaning of the upholstery in the sanctuary and narthex.

In August, a few members gathered to bid a fond but sad farewell to our incredible President, Ena Mori who, after the passing of her husband in January, decided to move to Calgary to live closer to her two sons. Ena was presented with a UCW Life Membership pin.

Respectfully Submitted
Barb Bradford, Vice-President

TRINITY U.C.W. - 2020 Financial Summary

Receipts

PROJECT RECEIPTS & DONATIONS	294	294
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Expenses

PROJECT & MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES		110
DONATIONS		
Trinity United Church	2727	
United Church of Canada: M&S	2000	
First United, Vancouver	750	
UCW, National	100	
UCW, Pacific Mountain Region	60	
MacKenzie Camp	700	
Teen Junction	100	
Bill's Place	100	
Transition House	100	
Gateway Shelter	100	
Upper Mission	100	
Salvation Army Food Bank	100	6937
		7047

Excess 2020 Expenditures/revenue

6753

Cash/Assets on hand at year end

Current Account	6450
Term Deposits	10000
TOTAL	16450

Accountant's Comments

The above statement for year ended December 31, 2020 have been prepared from Records United Church Women of Trinity United Church, Vernon BC, and are in accord therewith.

Jan 9 2021

EA Sladen

CENTURY UNIT REPORT

President: Marie Tambellini

Vice President: Karen Weighill

Secretary: Joanne Gilman

Century Unit is one of two active UCW groups at Trinity United Church. We have 30 members and depending on the time of year or weather, we can count on seeing 12 who attend our meetings regularly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. This year when we met in January 2020 we planned to continue supporting the church in many ways. We were committed to Sunday coffee time once a month, a Spring Tea for both the public and members of the congregation and baking /serving for functions such as funerals. We had plans to help with World Day of Prayer in March and to continue supporting Outreach projects such as Operation Eyesight. The project we were really looking forward to was the launch of the book, "Queen of the Potato Patch" written by a member of Century, Shirley Grabinsky. Due to the pandemic, the church was closed down on March 12th. The book launch was scheduled for March 17th. All projects were put on hold or cancelled, except for Shirley's book. She had already received orders from many people in the congregation and she was able to have them available for pick-up at the church. A couple of our members delivered other copies. It was a great success and led to another way of communicating with the women at Trinity.

Our chair, Marie Tambellini, started an on-line check-in with all the Century members in the third week of March 2020. At first, it was to make sure that everyone was healthy and safe. It then went on to reactions to Shirley's book, and from there it continued. The mailing list grew from 12 to 33 in the following months. Over the year we have shared church news, birthdays and our own stories.

UCW values continue to thrive as we care for each other and offer service when needed.

JUBILEE UNIT REPORT

A lot of changes have happened in our group. We lost Barb Nicholls. She was a great asset to our meetings, never a dull moment. Our last meeting was February 18th 2020, so long ago!! And the group has shrunk even more. Ena Mori and Jean Tuttle have moved away. Ena is in Calgary, closer to her children, Jean is in Penticton where her siblings live. We will miss them. I phone the Jubilee group often checking up on them. They seem to be doing fine, but miss the church.

Respectfully Submitted

Susan Lum

THE MEN'S GROUP

This will be a very short report as our activities were limited, to a few Friday breakfasts, no dinners, no garage sales, no collections and email fellowship.

Our group hopes we will get back to normal later this year or next.

Respectfully Submitted

Trinity Men's Group