

Music for the Soul | Space for the Spirit | Conversations that Matter | Companions for the Journey
And The Table Will Be Wide | 2022 Annual Report



Knox-Metropolitan United Church | Downtown On Purpose

Traditional Territory

Knox-Metropolitan United Church worships, prays, and works for justice on traditional Nêhiyawak (Cree), Anihsināpēk, (Anishinaabe) Dakota, Lakota and Nakoda land and the homeland of the Métis/Michif Nation.

Mission Statement

Accepting the challenge of Christ's call to be His disciples we worship together, care for each other, welcome strangers and strive to be His living presences in our community.

Affirming Statement

We are an Affirming Ministry of The United Church of Canada on Treaty 4 territory, located in the heart of downtown Regina, seeking to fully welcome all.

People of every sexual orientation, sex (including intersex), gender (including transgender and gender non-conforming people), gender expression, age, ability, neurodiversity, marital status, family configuration, race, ethnicity, religious belief, and economic condition are welcomed into full participation in every aspect of the life and ministry of Knox-Metropolitan United Church and are affirmed to be a sacred and beautiful expression of God's own image.

We are committed to on-going learning, action, and solidarity as we embody these words within our faith community and work and pray for a more just society and world.

With God's help, so may it be.

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The Life of the Church (Funerals, Weddings, & Baptisms)

In Memoriam

Rorry Dale Fornwold
Evelyn Lenore Jay
Ruth Alison Fraser
Gertrude Kathleen Smith
Dorothy May Palmer

Marriages

Riley Rosenkranz & Teagan McMillan
Jared Lissel & Eimee Garchinski

Baptisms

Addie-Jay Kelly Hesterman
Charlotte Alice Krammer
Penelope Grace Parker Fairgrieve
Behryee Ilamay Schrader
Jordan Richard Daniel Giesbrecht
Hayden Thomas Dunlop
Ailo Lee Stefan

Knox-Metropolitan United Church Leadership

Staff of the Church

Aaron Balkaran - Custodian
Kevin Carr – Sunday Caretaker
Janice Diemert – Administrator

Cameron Fraser – Minister
Hart Godden – Music Director
Jenni Krall – Children and Youth Coordinator
Cecilia Rands – Communication

Board of Directors

Mari-Anne Berriault
David Cawood (term ended in May 2022)
Paul Clarke
Colette Forbes
Joan Garden (term ended in May 2022)
Peter Gilmer – Vice Chair
Donna Nelson - Treasurer
Shelleen Ross – Secretary (resigned in 2022)
Carol Schick – Chair
Barbara Shourounis (term started in May 2022)
Elizabeth Stroeder
Marlene Wirachowsky
Cameron Fraser – Minister

Finance

Debra Burnett - Secretary
David Calam - Chair
Donna Nelson - Treasurer
Karen Haggman
Bill Johnson
Phyllis Perkins

Refugee Committee

Andrea Bellerose
Emily Buena
Leanne Chongva
Dessie Gebreysus
Bob Ivanochko
Donna Nelson (chair)
Rod Nenson
Girma Sahl
Marlene Wirachowsky (secretary)

Trustees

Carole Bryant
David Calam
Jim Garden – Chair
George Grassick (resigned in 2022)
Bill Johnson
Donna Nelson
Bill Perkins
Barbara Shourounis
Alison Stickland (resigned in 2022)
Cameron Fraser – Minister

Affirming Ministry Committee

Not active in 2022

Delegates to the Living Skies Regional Council

Mari-Anne Berriault
Colette Forbes
Marlene Hall

There was no Regional Gathering in 2022

Ministry and Personnel

Debra Burnett
Christie Fessler (resigned in 2022)
Marlene Hall
Vernon McCarthy (resigned in 2022)
Shelleen Ross (resigned in 2022)

Ministries

Administration

Greg Bamford (resigned in 2022)
Jim Garden (Co-Chair)
Joan Garden
Stewart Graham (Secretary, resigned in 2022)
Phyllis Perkins
Keith Rever (Co-Chair)

Use of Church Committee

Sub group of Administration

Stewart Graham – Chair (resigned in 2022)
Hart Godden - Music Director/Event Coordinator
Janice Diemert – Office Administrator
Joan & Jim Garden – Interim Chairs

Congregational Life

Elizabeth Calam
Ruth Copeland – Chair
Vicki Nelson
Donna Jones
Marianne Rever
Marlene Wirachowsky

Outreach and Social Action

David Cawood
Greg Horsman - Chair
Bob Ivanochko
Debbie Mayer
Serena Rieck
Donnie Wood

Pastoral Care

Joan Baliko
Elizabeth Calam
Liz Ivanochko
Kate Johnson
Gloria and Ray Lutz
Sharlene McGowan
Marianne Rever

Word Worship Music and The Arts

Elizabeth Calam – Chair
Liz Ivanochko
Kate Johnson
Donna Jones (resigned in 2022)
Ev Mazurkie

Children and Youth Programming

Heather Berriault – CGIT
Mari-Anne Berriault – CGIT
Olivia Burlotti
Cheryl Hymus-Fraser
Jenni Krall

Proposed Agenda | Annual Congregational Meeting | Knox-Metropolitan United Church

DATE TBA

1. Call to Order & Opening Prayer
2. In Memoriam and Minute of Silence
3. Confirmation of Quorum and Question of Participation of Adherents
4. Election of chair/secretary of the Annual Congregational Meeting
5. Approval of the Agenda
6. Approval of Minutes
 - a) Annual Meeting, May 15, 2022
7. Elections
 - a) Board of Directors
 - b) Ministry and Personnel
 - c) Board of Trustees
 - d) Delegates to the Living Skies Regional Council
8. Reports
 - a) Minister & Church Staff
 - b) Chair of the Board
 - c) Board of Trustees
 - d) Committees
 - i) Finance Committee
 - Approval of 2022 Reviewed Financial Statements
 - Approval of Financial Statement Reviewer for 2023
 - Approval of 2023 Budget
 - ii) Ministry and Personnel Committee (M&P)
 - iii) Refugee Committee
 - e) Ministries
 - i) Administration
 - Use of Church Committee
 - Peace Garden
 - ii) Pastoral Care
 - iii) WWMA
 - iv) Outreach and Social Action
 - v) Congregational Life
 - vi) Welcoming & Online Ministries
 - f) Friends of Knox-Met
9. Other Information
10. Adjournment & Closing Prayer – A New Creed (See reverse)

Immediately Following Adjournment, a Second Meeting will be Called to Order to vote on the motion to dissolve to the Knox Church Regina Trust (1951)

DRAFT | Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Knox-Metropolitan United Church (May 15, 2022)

Prepared by Barbara Shourounis

Present: Cecilia Rand, David Cawood, Phyllis Perkins, Vicki Nelson, Karen Haggman, Keith Rever, Marianne Rever, Donna Nelson, Gary Seib, Evelyn Gay, Bev Lundahl, Julia Eckhart, Bob Ivanochko, Liz Ivanochko, Alison Stickland, Peter Gilmer, John Jinks, Tracy Jinks, Cathy Currey, Marlene Wirachowsky, Greg Horsman, Kate Johnson, Bill Johnson, Rod Nenson, Mari-Anne Berriault, Brian Brunskill, Liz Stroeder, Joseph Reynolds, Hart Godden, Joan Garden, Jim Garden, Susan McLaren, Carol Schick, Ev Masurki, Barbara Shourounis, Carole Bryant and Cam Fraser.

Seven people watched the meeting by video (but did not vote).

1. Call to order

Carol Schick called the meeting to order at 12 noon.

2. Opening prayer

Cam Fraser said an opening prayer.

3. Welcome and thanks

Carol Schick welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those who prepared reports. She thanked Cameron Fraser for his ministry in the past year and Cheryl Hymus-Fraser for her support and care.

She acknowledged the people watching by video who are present at the meeting, but not as voting participants.

4. Memorial and moment of silence

We remembered those who passed away in 2021: Hans Eckart, Helmet Hohne, Irene Yvette Temple, Jean Korley, and Stuart Mann.

5. Confirmation of quorum

Carol Schick announced that a quorum for the meeting is 24 members. It was confirmed that 39 people were present at the meeting. Carol therefore declared that a quorum was present.

6. Participation of adherents

Moved/seconded by Cecilia Rand/Marianne Rever that adherents be allowed to vote. Carried.

7. Election of chair and secretary

Moved/seconded by Alison Stickland/Cathy Currey that Carol Schick be elected as chair of the congregational meeting and Barbara Shourounis be elected as secretary. Carried.

8. Approval of agenda

Moved/seconded by Marianne Rever/Brian Brunskill that the agenda be approved. Carried.

9. Approval of minutes

Moved/seconded by Marlene Wirachowsky/Carole Bryant that the minutes of the annual general meeting held February 21, 2021 be adopted. Carried.

Moved/seconded by Keith Rever/John Jinks that the meeting of the congregation regarding financial matters held February 28, 2022 be adopted. Carried.

10. Elections

Carol Schick thanked Donna Nelson, Marlene Wirachowsky and Paul Clarke who served as on the nominations committee.

Marlene Wirachowsky presented the following report of the committee.

a. Board of Directors

Retiring members

Liz Ivanochko stepped down as a director in 2021.

Joan Garden's and David Cawood's terms as directors have ended, and they do not wish to be re-elected.

a. Board of Directors

Marlene announced the following:

- Barbara Shourounis has agreed to be nominated as a director and will serve as secretary to the board if elected to that position by the board.
- Marlene Wirachowsky has agreed to be nominated for a second three-year term as director
- Mari-Anne Berriault is a representative to Living Skies Regional Council and has agreed to be nominated for a three-year term as director.
- Colette Forbes has agreed to be nominated for a three-year term as director.

Carol Schick asked if they were any more nominations three times. There were none. Moved/seconded by Vicki Nelson/Carole Bryant that nominations cease. Carried.

Moved/seconded by Joan Garden/Donna Nelson that Barbara Shourounis, Marlene Wirachowsky, Mari- Anne Berriault, and Colette Forbes be elected as directors of the board. Carried.

Moved/seconded by Jim Garden/Alison Stickland that George Grassick be confirmed as the Board of Trustees representative on the board. Carried.

b. Ministry and Personnel Committee

Carol Schick thanked Mark Wartman, Christie Fessler, Vern McCarthy and Shelleen Ross for their work on the Ministry and Personnel Committee. Each of them has resigned. Barbara Shourounis is the remaining member of the committee.

Moved/seconded by Bev Lundahl/Donna Nelson that Sharon Hurd, Debra Burnett and Marlene Hall be elected as members of the Ministry and Personnel Committee. Carried.

c. Board of Trustees

Jim Garden announced that Alison Stickland has resigned as treasurer of the Board of trustees. She will stay on as a trustee. Jim thanked her for her many years of valuable work.

Jim announced that Donna Nelson has agreed to be a member of the Board of Trustees and to be elected as treasurer if elected by the trustees to that position.

Moved/seconded by Jim Garden/Carole Bryant that Donna Nelson be elected as a member of the Board of Trustees. Carried.

It was noted that Vicki Nelson and Donna Nelson abstained from voting on the motion.

d. Delegates to Living Skies Regional Council

Knox-Metropolitan United Church is entitled to three representatives at the annual meeting of Living Skies Regional Council.

Moved/seconded by Joan Garden/John Jinks that Colette Forbes, Mari-Anne Berriault and Marlene Hall all be elected as representatives of the Church to Living Skies Regional Council. Carried

11. Reports

a. Minister's report

Cameron Fraser's report as minister was noted. He also said that the challenge ahead of us is to discern what the church will look like. Studies in church demographics across North American denominations state that a high percentage of people who haven't come back after COVID are not likely to return at all. Knox-Met is positioned well because we were already seeking to address such dynamics and new patterns of engagement before the pandemic began, our work in this area is even more relevant now.

We will grow back not to what we were, but what we will become.

b. Report from the Director of Music

Hart Godden's report was noted.

c. Report from the Chair of the Board

Carol Schick's report was noted.

Moved/seconded by Ev Mazurkie/Liz Stroeder that the three reports be accepted. Carried.

d. Board of Trustees

Knox Church Regina Trust

Jim Garden reported the following:

The Knox Church Regina Trust as established in 1951 under a trust deed. Money from the sale of Knox United Church was placed in the trust. The trust deed sets out how the money in the trust was to be used.

There have been few requests for loans or grants from the trust in the past years. The trustees have considered the issue of what to do with \$300,000 in the trust, and they are recommending that the trust be wound up and the money be given to three United Church agencies:

- Lumsden Beach Camp,
- Regina Anti-Poverty Ministry, and
- National Indigenous Ministries & Justice Unit of the United Church of Canada.

The Trustees believe that the gifts should make a significant impact on these three agencies.

The Trust Deed must be amended to achieve the winding up and distribution of funds. The amendment must be approved at a meeting of the congregation of the Church.

The Trustees have prepared a discussion paper setting out this information. Members of the congregation are invited to make comments on the proposal and to propose other agencies that the trustees should consider. Comments are requested by June 30. There will be a congregational meeting in fall 2022 to decide this issue.

Moved/seconded by Carole Bryant/Joan Garden that the Trustees report be accepted. Carried.

e. Committees

The reports of the following committees were noted:

- the Finance Committee,
- the Ministry and Personnel Committee, and
- the Refugee committee.

Moved/seconded by Vicki Nelson/Joan Garden that the three reports be accepted. Carried.

f. Ministries

The reports of the following ministries were noted:

- the Administration Ministry,
- the Pastoral Care Ministry,
- the Word, Worship, Music and the Arts Ministry, and
- the Outreach and Social Action Ministry.

Moved/seconded by Ev Mazurki/Marlene Wirachowsky that the reports be accepted. Carried.

g. Other reports

Children and Youth Programming

The report from children and youth programming was noted.

Online Ministry

Dan Coggins, coordinator of the Online Ministry, talked about the after-church discussion group that he has hosted over the past several years. Many topics have been discussed, and the time together has been meaningful for many people.

Moved/seconded by Donna Nelson/Ev Mazurki that the reports of Child and Youth Programming and Online Ministry be accepted. Carried.

12. Other information

a. Update on purchase of the property at 1971 Smith St.

Jim Garden presented the following information:

At a congregational meeting held on February 21, 2022 the congregation approved the purchase of the parking lot at 1971 Smith St. for a purchase price of \$1.2 million.

The Board of Trustees carried out due diligence to determine if there were any problems with the property. They looked at past titles, zoning, the electrical system, and an environmental study and found no issues. The conditions on the offer to purchase were therefore removed and the transaction is set to close on June 1.

It was initially felt that we should sell securities from the Church's investment portfolio to pay the purchase price. However, it was determined that opening a margin account and taking a loan from RBC Dominion Securities for the purchase price, secured against the investments would be a better route.

b. Updates on the organ and major gifts to the Organ Fund

The report was noted.

c. Process of conversations toward community healing and well-being

Cam Fraser said that the years since Covid began in March 2020 have been difficult for the congregation. A congregational meeting regarding affirming ministry was held in February 2020 just before Covid began. Both at the meeting and in the time since, many challenging conversations have happened. The Board has therefore decided to engage in conversations together. The Board is working with Jaime Boldt, currently the Executive Director of the Globe Theatre and former interim Chief Executive Officer of The John Howard Society of Saskatchewan, to plan for these conversations among the congregation.

13. New Creed

We said A New Creed together.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Vicki Nelson that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Minister's Report | And the Table Will be Wide. And the Welcome Will be Wide...

Submitted by Cameron Fraser | Minister | Knox-Metropolitan United Church

Dear Friends of Knox-Metropolitan United Church;

On Sunday, October 2, 2022, Worldwide Communion we celebrated communion in-person, together for the first time since March 2020. After we had shared bread and cup, we shared a Prayer of Thanksgiving written by the Rev. Jan Richardson...

*And the table will be wide
And the welcome will be wide
And the arms will open wide to gather us in
And our hearts will open wide to receive
And we will come as children
who trust there is enough
And we will come unhindered and free
And our aching will be met with bread
And our sorrow will be met with wine
And we will open our hands
to the feast without shame
And we will turn toward each other without fear
And we will give up our appetite for despair
And we will taste and know of delight
And we will become bread
for a hungering world
And we will become drink for those who thirst
And the blessed will become the blessing
And everywhere will be the feast*

As I reflect back on 2022 and the year of Ministry, I can see so many ways in which we have sought to widen our table. After beginning the year online only, we returned to in-person/on-line hybrid worship including the return of in-person children's program (read Jenni's report on pg. 15 and check out the amazing full insert of details of the Children and Youth Program).

Not long into returning, we also began to see new faces, and began welcoming people to their first Knox-Met experience. This continued throughout the year – at a recent service we noted that ½ the people in the pews were new to Knox-Met within the past 6-months.

We lived more deeply into our commitment to offering Welcome and Affirmation too. In February 2022 we celebrated our 2nd Anniversary of officially being named an Affirming Ministry by Affirm United/S'Affirmer Ensemble with an excellent address by guest speaker Dr. James McNinch. In the spring we participated in the Queen City Pride Celebration, hosting United Church folk watching the Pride Parade and participating in offering Glitter Blessings at the Out in the Park festivities. In the fall we were part of the public work of affirmation in responding to the troubling incident of a young queer person being removed from their church's kids program due to their sexuality. We worked with the city's other Affirming and Welcoming Churches to coordinate public signs of support and care for this individual and the too many youths who have experienced something similar. We also welcomed Rev. Peter MacNaughton and the Eucharistic Catholic Church into a new

ministry relationship offering queer inclusive liturgy in the Catholic Tradition (yup...that's a thing) and support groups for those who have experience religious trauma.

Our Refugee Committee continued to offer one of the most tangible and urgent ministries of Welcome (read their report on pg. 27 of this report).

Knox-Met folk were part of a group who conceived and launched a weekly Saturday Lunch Program in which 200 bagged lunches are distributed to folks struggling to access regular nutrition. This has included welcoming people to sit and eat, grab socks, mitts, toiletries and more. This orientation of welcome and hospitality has extended as Knox-Met sought to offer hospitality to those who sought shelter on the Lorne Street Steps. This has been an evolving situation with both blessings and challenges (stay tuned for congregational conversations to come about this). In the coldest week of the year leading up to Christmas Eve, we welcomed people living on the front steps to come in and get coffee and a warm space, and worked with RAPM, the Downtown Community Support program and others to see those who were there find housing at least for the holidays, some were able to access permanent housing through this work. On a related theme, the church was part of advocating for funding to see a Housing First strategy fully funded in the City Operating Budget. This included hosting gatherings of Faith Communities interested in letter writing and making presentations at City Council and hosting delegates during the Budget Debates. While this initiative was ultimately unsuccessful in terms of seeing a budget line, it was a time of community banding together and raising awareness.

In 2022, the United Church of Canada welcomed a new articulation of Vision and Call based around the three phrases – **Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice**. In the fall, Knox-Met sent 10 participants to a weekend using **The Theological Banquet** resource to imagine the future of shared ministry within the United Church in Regina. This weekend capped off with **A Place at the Table**, a shared worship service with a mass choir of over 50 voices from across the city, a shared sermon with 5 voices and liturgy involving multiple worship leaders. KMUC's Jenni Krall worked with other children and youth staff to create a kid's program to accompany this great event.

There have been challenges as a community. We continue to carry wounds and hurts from differing visions and past difficulties; we are working to turn to one another in sacred conversations. At the same time, we continue to look at challenging demographic questions about the future of church and as a congregation stewarding a building of the age and size of ours. This offers both great joy, but also different challenges than congregations operating smaller sites in the suburbs.

*And we will open our hands to the feast without shame
And we will turn toward each other without fear
And we will give up our appetite for despair
And we will taste and know of delight*

These lines in our communion prayer offer us a reminder that in the joys and struggles that we are not alone. May we be the blessing so that everywhere might be the feast.



Cameron Fraser | Minister

Finding Awe & Wonder | Children and Youth Programming at Knox-Metropolitan United Church

Submitted by Jennifer Krall | Coordinator of Children & Youth Programming

2022 was an exciting year as we slowly came back to in person programming. We began with a family focused Lenten series of meditative evenings followed by in person Sunday School programming in May that continued for the remainder of the year. The Sunday school year was divided into three sessions. Each session had a focused theme that explored spirituality and the children's connection with the sacred.

FINDING AWE - This session explored what gives us that sense of Awe and how that wonder, magic, beauty and sacredness is God all around us.

WORDS AND WONDER - What do the words we use in church and to describe our faith really mean? How do we feel when we hear them? Do we understand them? Are they an accurate description of what we believe? Are any words hurtful or problematic? What other words feel better? The goal of this session was to question and create language that best describes how we feel and what we believe. We looked at bible verses, comparing different versions, as well as hymns, prayers and more.

ADVENT - During the season of advent, we explored love, joy, peace and hope through an indigenous lens, listening to stories that explored the week's theme.

The Children and Youth Team

I am joined by Cheryl Hymus-Fraser in a volunteer role and Olivia Burlotti as paid Sunday Staff.

(Please see the full Children and Youth Report – Insert in Print Version, Appendix in Digital Version)



Getting the Word Out | A Report on Communications at Knox-Metropolitan United Church

Submitted by Cecilia Rands | Communications Support

Hi there - for those I haven't had the pleasure to meet yet, my name is Cecilia Rands and I am the part-time communications support staff for Knox-Met. I've also been attending worship and events regularly for the last five years with my daughters Elizabeth (age 10) and Evelyn (age 5).

To give you a quick overview of what my position entails, a few of the things I help out with include:

- Streaming the service on Sunday mornings and engaging with viewers during the stream
- Managing our E-announcement newsletters
- Managing social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube)
- Updating and managing the website

Some highlights of our social media reach and engagement from the last year:

- We have 1154 followers on Facebook, which includes **69 followers that joined in the last year (an increase of 6%)**. Our posts can **reach upwards of 30,000 people**. This means that even if they don't follow our page, 30k people are seeing Knox Met come up on their Facebook page, because a friend liked or commented on something, or because Facebook "suggested" our page or post to them.
- Our Instagram page has **445 followers, including 57 new followers from 2022** (a 15% increase!), and we **reach an average of 881 people** on Instagram.
- Our newsletter has **195 subscribers**, of which **73% frequently open** and engage with the emails. We had **22 new subscribers** in 2022.
- Our live stream videos of our Sunday morning services generally have a live audience on Facebook of approximately 15-20, and between 20-50 more watch the uploaded video on YouTube afterward. Our wonderful "online greeter" Dan Coggins and I are always in the comments chatting with the folks watching online and sharing their prayer requests and updates wherever possible with the in-person worship team. We continue to look for ways to meaningfully engage with our congregation and community both online and in-person.

Since starting in this position in June of 2022, I've enjoyed the chance to be more involved in the life and work of this church I've come to love so deeply. I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue in this work and I look forward to everything 2023 has to offer our community!

Chair of the Board

Submitted by Carol Schick | Chair of the Board

Directors of the Board: Mari-Anne Berriault, Paul Clarke, Colette Forbes, Peter Gilmer, Donna Nelson, Barbara Shourounis, Elizabeth Stroeder, Marlene Wirachowsky

In January of 2022, our province and city were still under the limitations of the Covid pandemic. **Knox-Met continued into the new year with on-line services only and a building that limited access on a needs-only basis until mid-February.** As in the previous two years of the pandemic, the church continued to pay the full salaries of its employees.

On Transfiguration Sunday, February 24, 2022, KMUC celebrated its first anniversary of becoming an Affirming Congregation. We welcomed the Dr. James McNinch to speak to us on that day of celebration.

Along with other faith communities of the Intercultural Group, **volunteers from KMUC continued in the Saturday Lunch Program to provide approximately 200 bag lunches out of First Baptist Church.** KMUC people were present for approximately 12 Saturdays, either through individual participation or by KMUC assuming leadership, which included raising the \$600 and purchasing the groceries. It is a fulfilling experience to work with other faith communities and to meet the guests who come for the bag lunches. Watch for opportunities to volunteer this year.

An innovative stewardship program continued with support from Vicki Nelson, who serves as staff member in her position of Community of Faith Stewardship Support. We met to consider potential for stewardship practices on a year-round basis and recognized that stewardship is more than asking for donations. Additionally, it involves tracking all congregational interactions, thereby allowing frequent and timely contact with our members, supporting the church in many ways beyond donor tracking alone.

In June, The Board of Directors voted to write a letter to support a plan put forward by the Regina City Council to allocate a proposed budget item in support of housing for clients experiencing chronic and episodic houselessness. Although City Council passed the motion unanimously, the decision was later reversed and the proposed funding was not to be included in the annual budget. We continue to watch for a positive outcome that will address the dire houseless situation in Regina. People who camp on the front steps of KMUC are evidence that the needs are great. The Board has on-going conversations about how KMUC might respond in the best possible way given our own resources and circumstances. At its meeting in December, the Board voted to support the use of Room 105 as a warming space subject to the establishment of a plan that deals with security and other like issues; as well as the preparation and execution of a memorandum of understanding with the Community Support Program.

On the recommendation of the Re-opening Committee, on February 10, 2022, the Board voted in favour of re-opening the church building to Sunday worship, rental groups and concerts. This was a big step that we longed to take given the length of time we were apart. The return to in-person worship continues gradually. On August 17, 2022 the board voted to remove the proof of vaccination requirement and made masking optional, supported and encouraged rather than mandatory.

The Board engaged Jaime Boldt to facilitate congregational conversations to allow people to listen to each other's concerns for the on-going activities of the church. Three events took place in September and October.

At its meeting in August, the Board voted unanimously to support the request put forward by Rev. Father Peter McNaughton of the Eucharistic Catholic Church. The request (ultimately approved by Use of Church and Administration) was for permission to begin holding liturgy and sacraments in KMUC and to enable the support for religious trauma survivors. Father Peter met with members of the Board, WWMA and Administration and Use of Church to get to know him and to learn about the Eucharistic Catholic Church. He has been holding regular worship services and support for folks who have experienced religious trauma every second week in the Centennial Lounge since December 18.

In November, the Board invited to its meeting, Sandra Jackson, CPA and CGA, who serves as head of the auditing firm that reviews financial statements at KMUC. The Board also invited representatives from the Finance Committee, the Administration Ministry, and Ministry and Personnel Committee. **We asked Sandra Jackson to provide information on how we might bring Knox-Met's rental practices into compliance with the requirements of the Canada Revenue Agency through our governance.** By the end of the meeting, there was a commitment by the invited representative groups to work together on the matter. Our Treasurer, Donna Nelson, deserves a special thanks for helping KMUC adhere to all financial regulations.

I wish to thank both Minister Cameron Fraser and the Board of Directors for their faithful service over a most irregular year, now past. In the midst of a pandemic, Directors have been called upon to make extraordinary decisions in areas both public and confidential. In spite of the challenges, there has been forward movement in many areas and, most often, significant unity on major issues. The Board of Directors is to be commended for the commitment and steadfast support they have performed as faithful stewards in the work of Knox-Metropolitan United Church.

Board of Trustees

Submitted by Jim Garden | Chair of the Trustees

Membership

The current members of Board of Trustees are Carole Bryant, David Calam, Cameron Fraser, Jim Garden (Chair), Bill Johnson, Donna Nelson (Treasurer) Bill Perkins (inactive), and Barbara Shourounis (Secretary).

In 2022:

- George Grassick resigned as a Trustee,
- Alison Stickland resigned as Treasurer in May and as a Trustee in December, and
- Donna Nelson was elected as Treasurer in May 2022.

Role of Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for holding all congregational property for the congregation as part of the United Church. The Trustees must give the same care and attention to congregational property as a reasonable person would give to their own property.

The Trustees' specific responsibilities include:

- Monitoring and proposing amendments to the church's investment policy,
- Overseeing the professional management of the investment portfolio,
- Ensuring that procedures are in place for the maintenance and repair of church property, and
- Ensuring that the church has adequate property and liability insurance coverage.

Trust funds may only be accessed when approved by the KMUC Board or by the congregation through the annual budget or at congregational meetings.

Investment portfolio

In January 2013, all existing trust funds and the proceeds from the sale of the Evenden property (\$4,165,600) were invested in a portfolio that is professionally managed by RBC Dominion Securities.

Trust funds are also held in an account at the Conexus Credit Union.

All bequests and any funds or securities designated for the trust are transferred to the trust investment account.

Decisions regarding the investment portfolio are made by Randy Semenchuck and his team at RBC Dominion Securities. They choose which securities to buy and sell from our portfolio throughout the year. Randy has recommended that the Trustees might move to a new system called A+, whereby each segment of our portfolio (Canadian equity, US equity, international equity and fixed income) would be managed by a number of management firms which would be overseen by Randy and his team. The Board of Trustees will continue to consider whether this is a good move.

Purchase of 1971 Smith St

At a meeting held on February 21, 2022, the congregation passed a resolution to purchase the parking lot at 1971 Smith Street. Carol Schick as chair of the KMUC Board and Jim Garden as chair of the Board of Trustees negotiated with the owners of the property and reached agreement to purchase it for the sum of \$1,200,000.

Before the purchase transaction closed, the Trustees performed 'due diligence' on the property, including finding out about the zoning restrictions on the property, reviewing an environmental assessment of the property and doing a historical search on the title to the property. They found nothing detrimental and determined that the purchase should go ahead.

On the recommendation of our investment advisor, Randy Semenchuck, the Trustees took out a margin loan of \$1,200,000 secured by the assets in our investment portfolio to finance the purchase. We decided that the investment returns on the whole portfolio would be higher than the interest payable on the margin loan. The purchase transaction closed in June 2022.

After the purchase Imperial Parking continued to manage parking stall rentals in return for 30% of the rental income. In November 2022 the church took over management of the rentals. Donna Nelson set up a management system and has been overseeing it since then.

Parking lot revenue

- There are 31 stalls in the parking lot.
- Eight are on the laneway rented at \$200 per month.
- 23 are in the lot rented at \$175 per month.
- All the stalls are pretty much rented currently except for two that are used for piling snow.
- Total revenue if all stalls were rented would be \$67,500 per year.

Parking lot expenses

- Electricity for plug-ins estimated at \$500 per year.
- Snow removal estimated at \$3000 per year.
- City property taxes – actual - \$24,556 per year.
- Cost of margin loan of \$1.2 million – estimated at current prime rate of 6.7% - \$80,000 per year.
- Total estimated expenses - \$108,700 per year.

The prime rate has increased since June 2022 when the margin loan was taken out, and investment returns have fallen in the same period. The Trustees have determined that is advisable to not pay out the margin loan despite these changes. They will continue to monitor economic conditions going forward on this issue.

Lorne Street entrance

At its November 16, 2022 meeting, the Trustees extensively discussed the prevalence of graffiti at the Lorne Street entrance, possible solutions and whether we were discharging our obligation to protect congregational property. The Trustees sent a report to the Board to express our concern about the conditions on the front steps and to urge the Board to hold a meeting of Board members and members of KMUC ministries and committees to discuss how to address the front steps issues.

Knox Church Regina Trust

The Trustees are responsible for overseeing the Knox Church Regina Trust (KCRT) that was established in 1951 with the proceeds of the sale of the Knox Church. There is currently about \$300,000 in the KCRT. In 2022 the Trustees prepared a discussion paper proposing that the KCRT be dissolved and the proceeds distributed to Lumsden Beach Camp, Regina Anti-Poverty Ministry and National Indigenous Ministries and Justice United. The congregation will be asked to vote on this proposal after the Annual General Meeting in 2023.

Board of Trustees Financial Report

2022 Summary of KMUC Trust Funds (Bank)

Transaction	Debit	Credit	Balance
Balance December 31, 2021			\$ 95,646
Deposits			
2022-02-10 - Bequest Les Carmichael		\$ 24,003	\$ 119,649
2022-05-24 - Margin Loan		\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,319,649
2022-10-12 from RBC		\$ 50,000	\$ 1,369,649
Withdrawals			
2022-04-19 \$50K Parking Lot, \$50K Operating	\$ 100,000		\$ 1,269,649
2022-05-25 to Operating for Parking Lot	\$ 1,208,764		\$ 60,885
2022-10-17 to Operating	\$ 60,000		\$ 885
Balance December 31, 2022			\$ 885

2022 Summary of KMUC Trust Funds (RBC Portfolio)

	US Funds in CAD	CAD Funds	Balance
Beginning market value at Dec 31, 2021	\$ 2,264,662	\$ 2,856,951	\$ 5,121,613
Withdrawals and transfers-out		-\$ 84,675	
Net investment return		-\$ 236,552	
Ending Market value at December 31, 2022	\$ 1,863,518	\$ 2,535,724	\$ 4,399,242
Less Margin Loan			-\$ 1,200,000
Portfolio Value December 31, 2022			\$ 3,199,242

Management fees of \$41,267 were paid to RBC in 2022

RBC Dominion Securities Rates of Return for KMUC

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Avg
9.44%	6.69%	-0.82%	8.00%	7.41%	-0.89%	14.35%	11.20%	12.78%	-13.53%	5.46%

Finance Committee

Submitted by David Calam | Chair of the Finance Committee

Finance Committee is a committee of the Board providing support and advice to the Board with respect to financial matters. Finance Committee's members are Debra Burnett, David Calam, Cam Fraser, Karen Haggman, Phyllis Perkins, Bill Johnson, and Donna Nelson. In addition, Carol Schick attends meetings in her role as Board Chairperson.

The committee's main assignments are preparing and monitoring the annual budget, ensuring finances are reviewed regularly, planning for year-round stewardship and fundraising initiatives and long-range financial planning and forecasting. Finance Committee supports our Treasurer's role, providing historical background and advice when asked.

The Finance Committee in conjunction with the Treasurer monitors the practices and procedures that are followed by Knox-Metropolitan United Church for the management and administration of its finances. The *Financial Handbook* describes such practices and procedures. Finance Committee recommends amendments to the handbook if the committee believes it is advisable.

Annual budget preparation is a major task. Committee members Debra Burnett, Karen Haggman and Donna Nelson, form a working group providing their experience and knowledge to undertake this task.

During 2022, the Board asked Finance Committee to consider and offer input to address concerns about some of Knox-Metropolitan's historic practices related to rental of spaces. Committee members participated in discussions on these and related matters.

In the aftermath of the Covid measures, the Committee is concerned that some tasks for which volunteers have traditionally taken on, such as counting and depositing each Sunday's collection, are now being handled by our staff. As our church emerges into a fuller way of life, this is one of many tasks that should be handled without any involvement from staff.

In closing, I thank our committee members for their loyal and cheerful service and recognize the countless hours, dedication, and specialized knowledge that our Treasurer brings to her role.

2023 Draft Budget (Presented for the Approval of the Congregation)

KMUC 2023 Operating Budget	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
INCOME:					
Envelope Offerings	\$ 94,049	\$ 82,124	\$ 150,000	\$ 69,160	\$ 77,000
PAR Offerings	\$ 57,337	\$ 64,810		\$ 62,310	\$ 70,000
Outreach Offerings				\$ 1,920	\$ 3,000
Total Receiptable Offerings	\$ 151,386	\$ 146,934	\$ 150,000	\$ 133,390	\$ 150,000
Loose Offerings	\$ 813	\$ 272	\$ 500	\$ 741	\$ 770
Canada Helps/United Way	\$ 5,253	\$ 10,781	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,793	\$ 4,000
COVID Subsidy	\$ 83,138	\$ 69,452	\$ -	\$ -	
Grants	\$ 16,354	\$ 16,018	\$ 12,500	\$ 16,230	\$ 16,000
Fundraising	\$ 723	\$ 360	\$ 2,000	\$ 66	\$ -
Other Revenue Sources	\$ 3,931	\$ 3,337	\$ 1,400	\$ (666)	\$ -
Parking Rent				\$ 25,095	\$ 45,000
Rentals	\$ 32,141	\$ 31,998	\$ 37,600	\$ 58,266	\$ 53,700
Total Income	\$ 293,739	\$ 279,152	\$ 210,000	\$ 237,914	\$ 269,470
EXPENSE:					
Administration Ministry					
Caretaking Supplies	\$ 5,960	\$ 2,545	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,700	\$ 6,000
Furniture/Office Equipment	\$ 2,000	\$ 350	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000
Garden & Pest Control		\$ 2,999	\$ 2,300	\$ 1,535	\$ 2,500
Graffiti Removal/Lorne St Upkeep					\$ 3,000
Insurance	\$ 15,999	\$ 20,656	\$ 30,000	\$ 25,475	\$ 26,000
Organ/Piano Repair & Mtce	\$ 1,617	\$ 737	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,426	\$ 2,000
Parking Lot				\$ 54,213	\$ 95,000
Printing & Office Supplies	\$ 5,645	\$ 3,872	\$ 6,500	\$ 4,935	\$ 6,500
Property Taxes - Lane Costs	\$ 752	\$ 737	\$ 800	\$ 737	\$ 800
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 16,811	\$ 11,538	\$ 15,000	\$ 17,125	\$ 18,000
Snow Clearing		\$ 864	\$ 3,400	\$ 1,292	\$ 3,400
Telephone	\$ 5,834	\$ 5,134	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,021	\$ 6,000
Utilities	\$ 30,616	\$ 19,720	\$ 27,000	\$ 32,044	\$ 35,000
Total Administration Expenses	\$ 85,234	\$ 69,154	\$ 100,000	\$ 148,503	\$ 205,200

KMUC 2023 Operating Budget	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
General Office Expenses:					
Advertising & Communications	\$ 3,182	\$ 255	\$ 500	\$ 424	\$ 500
Bank Fees & Other Charges	\$ 700	\$ 1,009	\$ 950	\$ 896	\$ 950
Business Fees and Licenses	\$ 692	\$ 647	\$ 700	\$ 673	\$ 700
Professional Fees	\$ 497	\$ 2,685	\$ 5,100	\$ 2,925	\$ 4,500
United Church Assessment	\$ 8,852	\$ 19,576	\$ 22,499	\$ 22,499	\$ 21,743
Total Office Expenses	\$ 13,923	\$ 24,171	\$ 29,749	\$ 27,417	\$ 28,393
Ministries & Programs:					
Benevolence/Good Samaritan	\$ 99	\$ 20	\$ 200	\$ 689	\$ 200
Christian Education	\$ 1,517	\$ 2,135	\$ 3,400	\$ 1,576	\$ 3,400
Congregational Life	\$ 1,426	\$ 963	\$ 2,500	\$ 871	\$ 1,500
Donations (Qualified Donees)	\$ 13,825	\$ 14,315	\$ 13,900	\$ 13,900	\$ 14,900
Outreach & Social Action	\$ 1,280	\$ 450	\$ 1,050	\$ 2,243	\$ 4,200
Planning/Impl. - Programs	\$ 2,336	\$ 3,502	\$ 6,000	\$ 326	\$ 3,000
Word, Worship, Music & Arts	\$ 2,936	\$ 1,872	\$ 5,100	\$ 1,860	\$ 6,100
Total Ministries & Pgms Expense	\$ 23,419	\$ 23,257	\$ 32,150	\$ 21,465	\$ 33,300
Personnel:					
Salaries	\$ 209,638	\$ 211,406	\$ 234,960	\$ 223,223	\$ 237,564
Pension & Grp Ins	\$ 30,853	\$ 25,999	\$ 37,783	\$ 30,418	\$ 31,315
KMUC Portion CPP & EI	\$ 12,481	\$ 13,039	\$ 15,247	\$ 14,240	\$ 13,946
Workers' Compensation	\$ 215	\$ 231	\$ 80	\$ 100	\$ 100
Continuing Education	\$ 2,178	\$ 2,297	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,221	\$ 2,600
Casual Staff					
- Caretaker	\$ 1,568	\$ 1,590	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
- Christian Ed	\$ 1,340	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 930	\$ 3,000
- Musician	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,400	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,000
- Organ Mtce	\$ -	\$ 1,403	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -
- Programming	\$ 195	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 180	\$ -
-Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,080	\$ 2,264	\$ 2,240	\$ 3,360	\$ 2,552
- Rentals/Security	\$ 510	\$ 1,217	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,230	\$ 2,000
- Other	\$ 149	\$ 1,198	\$ 1,491	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,000
Total Casual Staff	\$ 7,642	\$ 9,071	\$ 12,731	\$ 10,538	\$ 11,552
Total Personnel Expenses	\$ 263,008	\$ 261,581	\$ 303,101	\$ 280,739	\$ 297,077
Total Expenses	\$ 385,583	\$ 378,164	\$ 465,000	\$ 478,124	\$ 563,970
Total Income	\$ 293,739	\$ 279,152	\$ 210,000	\$ 237,914	\$ 269,470
Less Total Expenses	\$ 385,583	\$ 378,164	\$ 465,000	\$ 478,124	\$ 563,970
Deficit	\$ (91,845)	\$ (99,012)	\$ (255,000)	\$ (240,210)	\$ (294,500)
Amortization	\$ (121,295)	\$ (121,295)	\$ -	\$ (121,295)	\$ (121,295)
Operating Deficit	\$ (213,139)	\$ (220,307)	\$ (255,000)	\$ (361,504)	\$ (415,795)

KMUC 2023 Operating Budget	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
2023 Official 'Other' Budget	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
Other Income					
Bequests				\$ 24,003	
Capital Income	\$ 4,164	\$ 14,804		\$ 3,178	
- Lift/Ramp to gymnasium			\$ 17,500		\$ 17,500
- Heritage Grant for Windows		\$ 8,000			
- Windows Recaulking	\$ 8,000	\$ 6,125			
- Streaming Fundraising		\$ 946	\$ 9,000		\$ 9,000
- Streaming from Memorial Fund			\$ 9,000		\$ 9,000
Memorial Donations	\$ 200	\$ 884		\$ 100	
Organ Fund	\$ 6,200	\$ 88,500		\$ 10,062	
Total Other Income	\$ 18,564	\$ 119,259	\$ 35,500	\$ 13,340	\$ 35,500
Other Expenses					
Capital Expenses					
- Elevator	\$ 65,100				
- Gym windows (insulate & cover)					\$ 10,000
- Lift/Ramp to gymnasium			\$ 35,000		\$ 35,000
- Remove & Replace Front Patio		\$ 6,532			
- Recaulking Gothic Windows		\$ 16,403		\$ 1,868	
- Streaming Hardware & Software			\$ 18,000		\$ 18,000
Organ Fund	\$ 5,900	\$ 6,850		\$ 52,697	
Total Other Expenses	\$ 99,700	\$ 29,785	\$ 53,000	\$ 54,565	\$ 63,000
TOTAL Other Inc & Exp	\$ (81,136)	\$ 89,474	\$ (17,500)	\$ (41,226)	\$ (27,500)
CEBA Loan Repayment					\$ (40,000)
Total Combined Budgets	\$ (294,275)	\$ (130,833)	\$ (272,500)	\$ (402,730)	\$ (483,295)
Tranfer from Trust Funds	\$ 94,700	\$ 56,905		\$ 174,474	

Ministry and Personnel Committee (M&P)

The members of the Ministry and Personnel Committee are Debra Burnett, Marlene Hall and Barbara Shourounis. Sharon Hurd resigned from the Committee for personal reasons in January 2023. Barbara Shourounis has also resigned effective March 31, 2023 after serving 10 years on the Committee.

Duties of the M&P Committee

The duties of the Ministry and Personnel Committee are set out in the United Church Manual as follows:

- a. Being available for consultation and support for matters involving the pastoral charge staff;
- b. Overseeing the relationship of the pastoral charge staff to each other and to people in the congregation;
- c. Regularly reviewing the working conditions, responsibilities and compensation of all pastoral charge staff;
- d. Making any recommendations needed as a result of these reviews to the governing body;
- e. Revising position descriptions of pastoral charge staff as needed;
- f. Conducting annual performance reviews of the pastoral charge staff;
- g. Ensuring pastoral charge staff make use of opportunities for continuing education that they have been given; and
- h. Maintaining close contact with the Regional Council pastoral relations committee or equivalent.

The Committee has about six regular meetings during the year. During these meetings we meet with our minister, Cameron Fraser to hear about his work and provide support and feedback.

Staff reviews

In February this year we met with all of the church staff for annual reviews:

- Cam Fraser, Minister
- Hart Godden, Director of Music, Event Manager and Supervisor of Caretakers
- Janice Diemert, Church Administrator
- Aaron Balkeran, Caretaker
- Jennifer Krall, Child and Youth Coordinator
- Cecilia Rands, Communications Support, and
- Kevin Carr, part-time Caretaker

A few issues arose out the reviews, and we sent some of them to the Board and some to the Administration Ministry so that they can be addressed. Church staff are generally satisfied with their work at the church.

Dealing with complaints

The Committee is also responsible for dealing with matters under *Policy for Concerns, Complaints or Conflicts*. This policy was adopted by the Board in January 2020. It sets out the process for bringing forward and dealing with a complaint by a person about a staff member of the church.

Refugee Committee

Submitted by Donna Nelson (Chair)

Members of the Refugee Committee are: Donna Nelson (chair), Marlene Wirachowsky (secretary), Bob Ivanochko, Dessie Gebreysus, Girma Sahlu, Rod Nenson, Emily Buena, Leanne Chongva, Andrea Bellerose

Imagine being forced to leave your home, your community, your country. The Refugee ministry sponsors displaced people escaping conflict and poverty around the world. We help our sponsored refugees as they seek to rebuild their lives in Regina. You know the richness new people bring to our city and this community—our newcomers are so grateful to feel safety and peace for the first time in years. We believe that it is our Christian imperative to share ourselves and our resources with refugees, and by doing so we are helping to bring about a more just society and world.

On April 22, 2022 we welcomed Merhawi Gebremariam, an Eritrean who was living in Israel. Merhawi has secured employment and is engaged to be married in 2023.

On December 15th we welcomed Timnit Ghegremedhin. Timnit, an Eritrean, was co-sponsored by her sister and she is already working and is enrolled in English language classes.

After delays due to COVID we are expecting up to 11 applications, or 35 people to arrive in 2023. We have four applications with the national church waiting for additional spots from the Canadian government. And our wait list is very, very long.

Thank you to all the contributors to the refugee fund, this is an important ministry that makes all the difference in the lives of refugees.



Ministries

Administration

The members of this Ministry are: James Garden and Keith Rever (Co-Chairs), Joan Garden, Phyllis Perkins and our member “at large” Brian Brunskill, who continues to spear head and manage various special projects for the upkeep and improvement of our church. We regret to advise that both Greg Bamford and our secretary, Stewart Graham, stepped down as members this year.

We sincerely thank them for their service and say a special “thank-you” to Stewart who stepped in to prepare our budget for 2023 notwithstanding his resignation. As the Ministry now consists of only four (4) members we would welcome anyone who would be willing to serve along with us in this active ministry.

The mandate of the Ministry of Administration is to undertake the care and maintenance of the entire church building, interior and exterior, and property as follows:

- Overseeing the building’s care, cleaning and maintenance.
- Planning for, arranging, and overseeing renovations, repairs and maintenance.
- Developing policies for the rental and use of Church Facilities, and updating those policies as required.
- The purchase and maintenance of all office, janitorial and streaming communications equipment.
- Working with the Peace Garden and gardening volunteers.

The Administration Ministry is also responsible for hiring and managing the Church’s office and caretaking staff. The Ministry works with the Ministry and Personnel Committee with respect to the ongoing performance of Church staff.

Ongoing projects and work involving the Ministry of Administration:

- The re-opening Committee (which included Joan and Jim Garden) was very active at the beginning of the year as January saw high numbers of Covid-19. The Committee recommended to the Board that it consider closing the building to all public activity and that worship should be on-line only until mid-February, at the earliest. In person worship resumed on Sunday February 20th following all “Pray safe” guidelines established by the Committee. Subsequently the provincial government announced the lifting of all Covid-19 restrictions. P.C.R. tests were no longer publicly available and reporting of cases was announced on a weekly rather than daily basis. It was agreed that KMUC would keep restrictions in place for the time being regardless of the provincial government’s announcement. We have progressed slowly and carefully to the building being fully open and without enforced restrictions. Services continue to be offered both on-line and in person.
- Use of Church has been slow to return to what was a comfortable rental demand. Some long-term renters have returned while we have lost other renters, such as the Cecilian Chambers Series to more “desirable” venues. Darke Hall reopened its newly renovated space which has created a “competitive” challenge for the rental of our sanctuary. Please refer to the separate Use of Church Committee Report for a summary of rental income received in 2022. We thank Hart Godden for working closely with the Ministry as a member of Use of Church Committee over the past year.
- Outreach efforts have been ongoing throughout this year, spear headed by Cam Fraser’s continuous involvement in the greater Downtown Community Support Programs. We opened our doors as a “Warming Station” (when temperatures were -30 or colder) and participated in programs including “Soup in the Dark” and other related programs. Many thanks to Cam for initiating these programs!

- The Ministry of Administration continued to seek solutions for the ongoing problems involving graffiti and other defacing damage to both the oak front doors and historic stone work at the Lorne Street entrance. A motion was passed recommending (to the Board) the installation of gates at the Lorne Street entrance which would be sympathetically designed for the entrance and building at a cost of \$17,000.00. However, the Board rejected the recommendation. Joan Garden has undertaken an extensive investigation into the most appropriate manner (and contractor) to remove the graffiti without damaging the church's historic stone. Remedial measures will be undertaken in 2023.
- Brian Brunskill undertook replacement of the breakers in the electrical panel in the sanctuary and new light switches which control the sanctuary lighting. Brian also arranged for the replacement of the broken outer (plain) glass window panes located on the upper floor of the sanctuary. Brian also undertook to investigate the advisability of purchasing and installing three new high efficiency boilers in the church and related work and materials. Ted Cooke of H.D.A. Engineering was engaged to provide an opinion on the integrity of our existing boiler and make recommendations. It was ultimately determined that our existing boiler did not require replacement at this time.
- Joan Garden arranged for the purchase of four Blue Pure 211+ air purifiers for the sanctuary and four Winix air purifiers for use in the Minister's and Church secretary's offices as well as other locations. Joan also arranged for the annual cleaning of church carpeting.
- Joan and Cam have continued to work on purchasing streaming equipment for the church. Quotes have been obtained but final steps for the purchase and installation have not yet been finalized.
- Kevin Carr was hired for the position of permanent part time Caretaker. He joined the staff in December of 2021 and has quickly become a valued member of the team. Kevin is the husband of Bonnie Morton.
- In 2022 Knox Metropolitan United Church purchased the parking lot on the west side of the church. We thank Donna Nelson who agreed, on a short-term basis, to manage the parking lot. We have been challenged to fit the management of the parking lot in with our existing Church staff.
- The minutes of the June 15, 2022 meeting record that a discussion was held concerning the role of the Ministry of Administration, now and in the future. At one time, this Ministry was responsible for the overall budget of the Church, the Stewardship Campaign, following-up "On Par" commitments, the building and grounds maintenance as well as all office and mechanical equipment. The Church treasurer was also a member of the Ministry of Administration. This changed significantly when the Finance Committee was formed. All financial aspects of the operation of the Church were transferred to the Finance Committee leaving Administration struggling somewhat to find where it fit in to the new structure. To that end, a discussion took place around the consideration of rebranding the "Ministry of Administration" by renaming it to the "Property Committee". This title fits more accurately into the most recent UCC structure. The "Property Committee" would continue to be responsible for the building and the grounds, including the management of the parking lot which was purchased by the Church in 2022. It is suggested that the title "Property Committee" would more clearly define the role of the Ministry which now includes our parking lot as well as our Church building.

We once again thank Joan for her tireless efforts overseeing all contracts and their renewals, and her close monitoring of the various problems that continually appear and monitoring the costs applicable to these situations; to Brian for his extensive work around the building; to Keith for acting as Co-Chair; to Phyllis for representing Administration on the Finance Committee; to Bob Ivanochko and his grounds committee who look after our Peace Garden and grounds (Please refer to Bob's report); and to Rev. Cam Fraser for his input into the various undertakings of this Ministry.

Use of the Church Committee

Submitted by Janice Diemert | KMUC Office Administrator

Use of Church Committee operates as part of the Ministry of Administration. In 2022 Stewart Graham resigned from the Ministry of Administration and Use of Church Committee and we sincerely thank him for his diligent service over the years. Joan and Jim Garden are assisting in his place on an interim basis. Janice Diemert and Hart Godden continue to provide management of our rental program.

Due to Covid-19 the church did not reopen until mid-February 2022 with 8 of the 21 renters returning along with the Knox-Met Choir. One funeral and one wedding was held in at the church in 2022.

By September 2022 all renters had returned. Starting December 4, 2022, the Eucharistic Catholic Church, run by Father Peter McNaughton, was allowed to use the Centennial Lounge and the Sanctuary on alternate Sundays at no charge.

Community Theatre groups, funded thru the UCC Growth Grant, continued to work in the Gym.

Rental Income received 2022	32,794.00
UCC Grant remaining at Dec 31.2022 *	8,747.00
Security Income received	<u>949.00</u>
TOTAL	42, 490.00

*On Cue Productions/Regina Community Theatre

Cecilian Chamber Series moved to Darke Hall and have also taken their piano out of the Sanctuary. They no longer rent Centennial Lounge or the storage closet. They have paid for an advertising sign space (until April 2023) on Victoria Avenue by the parking lot.

Each year we provide to the Regina Anti-Poverty Ministry (RAPM), "In Kind" (without charge), office space, heat, light, maintenance, cleaning services and parking, to a value of \$13,000.00.

Peace Garden

Submitted by Bob Ivanochko | KMUC Peace Garden Coordinator

In 2017, the Garden on the south side of Knox Metropolitan United Church (KMUC) needed a change but the cost for landscaping was high and we did not have other volunteers. As we were preparing for the 50th anniversary of World War II, peace groups in Regina agreed to work with KMUC to create a Peace Garden.

We have worked together for about 5 years making only minor changes to the garden.

Phil Johnson, a master gardener, agreed to work with us to focus on plant selection that bloom at different times, attract birds and bees for pollination, and improve the soil. As the improvement was obvious; we got permission to develop the area west of the Victoria Street entrance. After the city widened the sidewalk, we decided to replace the lawn with an expanded garden. We will improve the garden on the Lorne Street side this year.

We do have some ongoing problems. The gopher population has been stable. The street people have used the garden for shelter, but some have helped as well. During hot periods we could use help watering the plants. When we are working on the garden people often stop and tell us how much they enjoy the garden.

For the past two years, we have been recognized as a Greener Greenspace by the Society for Organic Urban Land Care (<https://organiclandcare.ca/>)

Thanks very much to the volunteers who have helped to create this beautiful Peace Garden and to the staff of KMUC who helped us when needed: Devon Andersen, Larry Bergman, Mark Briggs, Gail Chin, Pablo Echevaeria, Ross Heintz, Greg Horsman, Phil Johnson, Debra Karpa, Debbie Meyer, Serena Rieck, Catherine Robertson, Florence Stratton, and Donny Wood.



Pastoral Care

Submitted by Elizabeth Calam

As Covid precautions continued throughout the year Pastoral care for our friends has mostly been at “arms distance”. The number of phone calls to church friends slowly decreased in numbers as people began more normal routines and were no longer feeling so isolated.

However, visits to the hospitals, or to those living in assisted living and care homes, remained restricted for most of the year, and usually open only to family members. A few home visits were made when circumstances allowed.

We did keep in contact with cards, sent by Kate Johnson and me, to those who had lost family members or had special celebrations. With the support of the Ministry of Congregational Life, Christmas cards were sent to all on the Knox-Metropolitan mailing list. I thank Barbara Shourounis, Bev Lundahl and Mary Fraser who helped me prepare nearly 200 cards for mailing.

At the end of the year, I was able to speak with the Rev. Lorna King, the United Church Chaplain, and she told me that we could once again visit members of our congregation in the hospitals. We look forward to doing so in 2023. If you, or a family member, are in hospital or would like a visit at home please let us know.

Word Worship Music and The Arts

Submitted by Elizabeth Calam

Members of the Ministry of Word, Worship, Music, and the Arts are Elizabeth Calam, Liz Ivanochko, Kate Johnson, Ev Mazurkie and Donna Jones. However, during the year Donna Jones decided it was time to step down from the Ministry and she is greatly missed. Thank you, Donna!

2022 started and Covid was still with us, this time it was Omicron!

So once again we had on-line services only. By mid-February, in consultation with the reopening committee, we felt we could once again welcome people to “in-person” services. At the first Sunday, February 20, 25 church friends attended. Dan Coggins continued to host the online services from his home. Even though we could not serve coffee after our services at the church, Dan continued to host the Zoom coffee time after our online service.

And thus, we continued until the fall. At this time our online host was now with us in the sanctuary, more friends were attending, and much to the delight of all, the children were back. They brought a much-needed liveliness and joyfulness into the sanctuary.

On October 2 we held our first communion service in 3 years as we once more joined those throughout the world celebrating World Communion Day.

Throughout the church year we tried to keep to our “normal” schedule of services: Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Advent, Longest Night Memorial service and Christmas. We thank all who helped in any way.

When scheduling helpers to be readers, greeters, or communion servers I had to rely on those who I knew were comfortable coming to the “in-person” services. I thank all those, too many to mention here (27 readers,

11 greeters, 8 communion servers) who so willingly said “yes” when asked. I invite anyone who would like to join these teams to let me know. All are most welcome!

During 2022 Knox-Metropolitan took part in three shared services. On October 23 we hosted several United Churches for a shared service at the end of a weekend of Inter-church dialogue. On Christmas morning we joined with others at Westminster United Church and on January 1st we welcomed all to our church as we greeted 2023.

My thanks also go to:

The members of our Ministry. It is always a pleasure to meet with you. Cam, thank you for your support throughout these different times. It is most appreciated. Hart, thank you for your help, not only with the services but with the sanctuary “set up” each week. Barbara Shourounis and David Cawood: thank you both for your decorating skills in and around the church. Janice, thanks for your help whenever needed. We also thank those who provided Pulpit supply to cover holidays and illness or to mark a special occasion: Dr. James McNinch, Rev. Bev Diduck, Rev. Mavis Peters, Rev. Bonnie Morton, Rev. Mathias Ross, Vicki Nelson, and Sharlene McGowan.

And a very special thanks to Santa’s helpers (young and not-so-young) who before, and after Christmas, decorated (and then “de-decorated”) the sanctuary and narthex. (Thank you to Isla, Lily, Oliver and Elizabeth: your singing as we did so was delightful!)

Congregational Life

Submitted by Ruth Copeland

Our Committee is: Donna Jones; Liz Calem; Vicki Nelson; Marianne Rever; Ruth Copeland.

Congregational Life has not been extremely active with the ongoing effects and presence of COVID in our community. However, we have participated in a couple of events throughout the year.

We coordinated and served coffee to our inter-congregational service held in 2022. Approximately 130 were served.

Kate Johnson continues to recognize congregation members who celebrate their birthday who are in the 90+ club. Thank you to Kate.

We are now participating in monthly after church coffee service. Congregational Life has committed to serve every 3rd Sunday of the Month. We understand that other groups in the congregation will be serving on the other Sundays.

We have been asked to plan a spring picnic for our congregation this coming June. We look forward to this event and to working with others for this successful social event.

Outreach and Social Action

Submitted by Greg Horsman (Chair)

Members: David Cawood, Bob Ivanochko, Debbie Mayer, Serena Rieck, Donnie Wood, Greg Horsman.

Prior to the COVID pandemic, KMUC Outreach and Social Action Ministry met every second Wednesday of each month at Knox-Metropolitan United Church (KMUC). The pandemic changed everything, along with the shrinking membership. There were two meetings and a gathering in 2022. With membership in flux, Outreach continues to redefine its role. To learn more about Outreach activities, do not hesitate to attend one of the meetings. Outreach now meets less often: 4 – 5 times a year.

Activities for 2022:

- Carmichael Outreach: Continued to accept clean empty food containers.
- Inter-denomination Sunday Lunch Auxiliary (ISLA) Two Sundays a year the congregation provides 20 loaves of sandwiches to the Salvation Army Waterston House on Osler Street.
- Obtain two-way bus tickets gratis from the City for Knox Met front office to distribute to clients of RAPM for access to Food Bank and medical appointments.
- Evelyn Gay retired from Outreach.
- Outreach works with members of Peace Quest to maintain the Peace Garden.
- The budget for Saturday lunches at First Baptist is now included in the Outreach budget as of 2023.
- An Outreach member attends monthly KAIROS Regina Zoom meetings. Kairos Regina's main focus is on environmental issues.
- In November at a potluck members of congregation gathered for roundtable conversations about issues of Justice and the church. What follows are notes from the brainstorming.

KMUC seeks to be a church that thinks about, cares about, and seeks to be involved with...

- Climate Change
- Racism
- FN/Indigenous Issues (including landback)
- Addictions/Substance Use
- Housing/Homelessness
- Violence Against Women
- Immigration and Immigrant Well Being
- Poverty/Income Security
- 2SLGBTQ+ justice

What Could we Learn About?

- Ongoing study of issues of inequality
- Difference between charity and justice and works towards latter

What Are We Doing? Could we Do?

- Saturday Lunch

- Supporting front line organizations
- Addressing issue of people on the front steps
- Builds partnerships in community/neighbourhood and schools
- Engaged in the needs of the neighbourhood
- Advocate to Government
- Advocate to Office of Residential tenancies
- Give a Biblical Tithe towards issues of Justice
- Address pest control in housing
- Community garden and buying local
- Advocate for Housing First
- Advocate for Harm Reduction/Supervised Consumption
- Buses not having first aid kits/Narcan
- Address empty Sask Housing Units

How to turn every Sunday morning into Christmas | Welcoming Ministry In-Person & Online

Submitted by Dan Coggins

Along with Cam, I'm the guy greeting people as they leave the sanctuary.

No one asked me to do that. I just started doing it. (Did it feel weird at first? Whoa. You bet.)

What you may not know is that I also come up to total strangers as they're sitting in the sanctuary and "talk them up" before and after the service. When they return — as many of them do — our connection grows through each visit.

This work is done by a "committee of one". That is a way to say, this is not done by a committee. Being friendly is not an official role. If you're friendly because it's your job ... well, your friendliness isn't authentic. I'm looking forward to what I estimate will be 15 new members later this spring.

But although our church is growing, I'm never friendly with the goal of growing our church. Instead, a growing church is the result of strangers reaching out across the pews to care about each other.

And caring about someone starts with talking to them.

So, I never try to turn newcomers into members. Never. Instead, here's my cunning plan:

- I talk to them.
- I remember their names.
- I meet them outside of church for coffee because I like them.
- I invite them to a newcomers' welcome event. And, coming soon ...
- I invite them to an event called, "The Most Fun Ever Church Membership Information Class" where curious folk can get information about joining Knox-Met.

I love meeting newcomers to Knox-Met. It turns every Sunday morning into Christmas — except the people are the presents!

You can meet newcomers too.

You can be a "committee of one" like me.

It's easy to get started. I can sum it up in three words:

Stop.

Sitting.

Alone.

Instead, sit near someone you don't know — they're often at the back — and, in the moments before and after the service, start with hello, and let that connection begin to change both of your lives.

Friends of Knox-Metropolitan United Church

The Regina Bell Ringers Inc.

Submitted by Carol Benesh

Over the year 2022, the Regina Bell Ringers participated in 47 celebrations and events:

- Memorials – 12
- Weddings – 1
- Dark Memorial Chimes Concerts - 24
- Good Friday Tolling – 1
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Day (Sep 9) – 1
- International Day of Peace – 1
- New Year's Eve – 1
- World Day of Religion – 1
- Pre-Event Openings – 6 (Per Sonatori, Halcyon Choir, Queen City Brass Band, Philharmonic Chorus)

NOTE:

Christmas Evening – It was too cold to toll for Christmas evening and also for the City of Regina Light the Lights.

The art gallery between the bells and ringing room was open all year round with art from previous years, however no visitors are recorded. No art works donated in 2022.

The Apprenticeship Program, under the direction of Wayne Tunison, Azure Benesh and Carol Benesh continued throughout the year. The repertoire of the Bell Ringers has expanded by 793 pieces.

Last year we rang approximately 9 hours and 30 minutes for Queen Elizabeth II at total of 25,301 tolls for each day she was sitting on the throne.



Clare Parker Homes Inc. 2022 Annual Report to Congregations

Cathy Currey, Knox- Met community rep

Clare Parker Homes' mission is to provide high quality housing and support services for people experiencing disability. We facilitate interdependent community living in a respectful and caring environment. Our vision is that People experiencing disability realize their full potential and dreams as vibrant members of their community.

Throughout 2022, the agency saw continued and consistent growth. Clare Parker Homes now operates 13 homes, supports 4 Fee For Service programs and maintains a strong Community Inclusion Program. Along with Community Living Service Delivery (CLSD), we also provide service through the Child & Family Programs branch of the Ministry of Social Services, where we provide support to individuals who are aging-out of earlier family care support systems.

This year we were able to offer on-going support to 5 of our community members. CPH expanded our home support services to include 2 new houses in 2022. As of December 31, 2022, Clare Parker Homes provides residential and day program support to 40 individuals, and we provide community inclusion support to 12 individuals that reside outside of our agency. Of those 12, we are currently aiming to transition 2 to residential care with CPH in the coming future, and we are providing respite/day program to 10.

In May of 2022, Clare Parker Homes moved our Main Office to 301 Park St. to accommodate a rapidly growing Management Team, and to promote accessibility to our space as our previous office location was no longer accessible. With our new space, we are now able to offer in house training, host University Practicum Students, provide inclusive spaces and plenty of on-site parking.

Alongside our new Office, we were able to acquire the adjacent space at 309 Park St. which now hosts our Community Inclusion (CI) Drop In Space. This location has opened many more doors for CPH to provide support, and we have been told that we are the "Gold Standard" for what a Community Inclusion Program should look like from CLSD. We are now able to offer Daytime Inclusion activities to all the people we support, as well as individuals within the community. The CI team is constantly on the move with daily activities, outings, and events, which has assisted in developing more connections in the community. One of the notable projects to come out of the CI team this year was having prepared 500 Ukrainian flag ribbons that have been distributed and become part of a Ukrainian fund-raising project that spread across the province and on to Australia.

This program has been a dream of many throughout the years and it has finally come to fruition, and we could not be more grateful.

CPH continues to promote a culture of Gentleness, and we are a certified Gentle Teaching Agency, with 1 of our Leadership members receiving her Gentle Teaching Certification, as well as a dedicated full time Culture & Support Mentor. We also remain focused on providing person-centered care in an environment that promotes choice and supported decision making. Within the agency we now have 2 facilitators of Person-Centered Approaches, as well as one certified Person-Centered Thinking Facilitator. Throughout the agency we now have 25 certified facilitators in various trainings such as MANDT, ASIST, PART & TLR, just to name a few. With our new training space, we are able to

successfully ensure that all supports receive comprehensive training and education so that they can continue to provide quality support.

With the continued growth that CPH has seen in 2022, we now employ 160 employees. Our management team now consists of our Executive Director, Associate Director, Accounts Manager, Human Resource Coordinator, 4 Home Support Coordinators, Office Support and our Culture & Support Mentor.

As an agency within the human services sector, we are prone to the cycles of human nature. In 2022 we had 4 supports welcome new life into their homes and are currently on a parental leave, and we have 2 supports anticipating a maternity leave in 2023. With the support we provide through Child & Family services, we welcomed 3 teenagers into our agency to begin life in their new forever homes. We also celebrated the milestone 75th birthdays of 3 of our individuals. On the other end of the cycle, we experienced grief and sadness as we had to bid farewell to one of our supported individuals, as well as 2 of our supports.

As we continue into the new year, we are grateful for the dedication and commitment that is given by all who support our agency and our mission, vision and principles. We value the diversity and inclusiveness in our teams, management, and our Board of Directors. We will continue to provide dignified, respectful, and person-centered support to everyone we serve, to ensure that they will continue to live their best lives.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennie Birms,
Associate Director
www.clareparkerhomes.org

A New Creed (The United Church of Canada)

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

