

First + Metropolitan

A Centre for Spiritual Growth *and* Active Discipleship

The United Church of Canada



*Photography
by MacGregor*

Annual Report 2010

First+Metropolitan United Church
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| | | | |
|--|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Content | 2 | | |
| Mission Statement and General Information | 3 | Music | |
| In Memoriam | | Music Committee | 32 |
| Memoriam | 4 | First+Met Sanctuary Choir | 33 |
| Statistical Report | | Pringle Bells | 34 |
| Statistics | 5 | Social Groups | |
| Council Chair | | Basketball | 35 |
| Report from the Chair | 6 | Badminton | 35 |
| Ministerial Staff | | Friendship | 36 |
| Rev. Dr. Allan Saunders | 7 | The Merry Mates Club | 36 |
| Rev. Gordon Cann | 8 | Acti-mets | 36 |
| Megumi Matsuo Saunders | 9,10 | United Church Women (UCW) | |
| Children and Families | 11,12 | Annual Report for UCW | 37, 38 |
| Health & Wellness – Ann Maffey | 12 | Board of Trustees | |
| Minister of Music - Frances Pollet | 13 | Trustees Annual Report | 39 |
| Epiphany Explorations | | Foundation | |
| Epiphany Explorations | 14 | Foundation Report | 40 |
| Council Executive | | Support Projects | |
| Finance & Administration | 15 | Camp Pringle | 41 |
| Ministry & Personnel | 16 | Campus Ministry at UVic | 42 |
| Property | 17 | Gorge View Society | 43 |
| IT | 18 | Victoria Presbytery | 44 |
| Ministry Teams | | | |
| Ministry Teams Group | | | |
| Worship & | | | |
| Christian Spiritual Development Team | 19 | | |
| Pastoral Care & Health & Wellness | 20,21 | | |
| Women Exploring Spirituality | 21 | | |
| First+Met Flower Committee | 21 | | |
| Hospitality | 22 | | |
| Funeral Reception Committee | 23 | | |
| Newcomers Networking Group | 24 | | |
| Communications Team | 25 | | |
| Library Committee | 26 | | |
| Stewardship Campaign | | | |
| Stewardship Committee Report | 27 | | |
| Outreach | | | |
| Outreach Core Team | 28 | | |
| Our Place | 29 | | |
| Angel Gift | 30 | | |
| Margaret Cameron Trust Fund | 31 | | |



Mission Statement & General Information

Our Mission

Our church is a community of people called to love, honour, worship and serve God.

We invite others to share our Christian journey as we prepare to be an effective ministry in our city and in the world.

Sunday Services

9:00 am Communion in the Chapel
11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary
12:00 pm Congregation Coffee and Fellowship

A variety of alternative worship opportunities including Celtic Vespers, Folk Vespers Worship and Taize are offered at First†Met.

Staff Members

| | | |
|---|------------------------|----------|
| Lead Minister | Rev Dr Allan Saunders | Ext. 226 |
| Pastoral Care & Outreach | Rev Gordon Cann | Ext. 225 |
| Health & Wellness Director | Ann Maffey | Ext. 233 |
| Minister of Music | Frances Pollet | Ext. 231 |
| Minister of Children & Family | Megumi Matsuo Saunders | Ext. 235 |
| Administrative Assistant | Brian Shields | Ext. 240 |
| Church Administrator | Greg Kazakoff | Ext. 224 |
| Accounting | Carol Goy | Ext. 223 |
| Administrative Assistant & Letting Manager | Sharon MacDonald | Ext. 221 |
| Building Supervisor & Senior Custodian | Cullen Morton | Ext. 232 |
| Assistant Custodian | Bruce Davies | Ext. 232 |
| P/T Custodians | Edgardo Espinoza | Ext. 232 |
| | Ted Bingham | Ext. 232 |
| | Daniel Jantzen | Ext. 232 |

Contact Information

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Phone: 250-388-5188 Fax: 250-388-5186

Office Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 and 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm (Monday thru Friday)

E-mail: sharon@firstmetvictoria.com

Memoriam 2010

JANUARY

| | | |
|------------------|------------|----------|
| Mabel Priestley | January 6 | Member |
| Alice Bowes | January 9 | Adherent |
| Glen Higgins | January 10 | Member |
| Laura France | January 14 | Member |
| Cornelia Nijholt | January 15 | Member |
| Jean Adsett | January 22 | Member |

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|--------|
| Walter Thomson | April 4 | Member |
| Marjorie Blackwood | April 20 | Member |
| Nan Beere | April 25 | Member |

MAY

| | | |
|--------------|-------|--------|
| Alan Forrest | May 7 | Member |
|--------------|-------|--------|

JUNE

| | | |
|-----------|---------|--------|
| Bert Watt | June 16 | Member |
|-----------|---------|--------|

JULY

| | | |
|------------------|---------|--------|
| Grace MacQuarrie | July 25 | Member |
|------------------|---------|--------|

AUGUST

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|--------|
| Margaret Maycock | August 9 | Member |
| Judith Stein | August 17 | Member |
| Eileen Wood | August 29 | Member |

SEPTEMBER

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Charles James | September 1 | Adherent |
| Edith Holliday | September 3 | Not a member |
| Esther Younie | September 5 | Member |
| Ruth Howell | September 25 | Member |

OCTOBER

| | | |
|------------------|------------|--------------|
| Margaret Parkins | October 9 | Not a Member |
| Roxie Anderson | October 20 | Member |
| Arthur Hesford | October 27 | Not a Member |

NOVEMBER

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| Lloyd Main | November 8 | Member |
| Linda Gilroy-Scott | November 16 | Member |

DECEMBER



I am the resurrection and the life; all who believe in me, though they die, yet shall they live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. (John 11:25, 26)

Statistical Report 2010

Wedding Bells

Henry Wallace Moore & Nadene Patricia Gwyer ~ May 1, 2010
Grant Leslie Hodges & Leslie Ann Beasley ~ July 4, 2010
Bartosz David Lotecki & Julia Barber ~ July 30, 2010
Ryan John Spark & Sara-Marie Berne Jonsson ~ August 7, 2010
Jacob Jackson Baumgartner and Rachel Elizabeth Jeffery ~ August 20, 2010
Mattias Ryan Peemoeller and Lindsay Irene Foss ~ Aug 28, 2010
Shawn Edward Oliver and Kate Elizabeth Breckon ~ December 27, 2010

Baptisms

- Andrew Graham Howland February 14, 2010
- Seana Patricia Sherman August 22, 2010
- Evan John Baker August 22, 2010
- Lucas Edward Marten November 14, 2010

Adult Confirmation

Cheryl Pardue

Transfer of Membership

Incoming: 3

Outgoing: 6

Church membership

In-active members 44

Members 323

Non Resident Members 10

Visitors 382

Adherents 234

Newcomers 17

Average number of persons attending Sunday services

9:00 am 43
11:00 am 255

Report from the Chair of Council

Chair: Andrea Swan

Members: Moira Nasim, Co-Chair of Ministry Teams; Barry Rolston-Co-Chair of Ministry Teams; Wendy Zink, Chair of Finance & Administration; Larry McGill, Chair of Property; Herb Pitts, Chair of Stewardship; Jan Drent, Chair of Trustees; Linden Holmen, Past Chair; Rennie Warburton, Chair of Ministry and Personnel; Ellie Jansen, Recording Secretary; Allan Saunders, Ex-Officio member.

Meeting Details: Meetings were held monthly, usually the second Tuesday of the month. In addition, special meetings were held. All members of Council Executive generally attended all scheduled meetings.

Objectives & Outcomes for 2010:

Consider the findings of the JNAC process: The JNAC process was completed in late June and the recommendations were voted upon in early October. A Joint Search Committee was struck and has begun the process to seek a second full time minister.

Financial Constraints: The objective was to provide intended services within the budget constraints. As the result of some personnel & administrative changes, the FMUC was able to meet its financial objectives for 2010. The Budget committee carried out an intensive review of all operating and capital areas in crafting the 2011 budget. The Stewardship committee sought and received support from the Congregation which has resulted in a balanced, innovative budget for 2011.

Property: The objective was to develop a long-term plan for FMUC property. This was undertaken in the spring and the final consultant's report was received in September. The result is that FMUC has a defined, short term plan for property renewal and the framework to move forward in longer term planning.

Other Highlights:

- The Council has begun examining its governance structure and the development of a Strategic Plan for the future. Committee members have embraced the process.
- Staff changes have resulted in the hiring of Greg Kazakoff as the new Financial Officer. Greg brings a much needed expertise that is resulting in administrative improvements and greater financial compliance.
- First†Metropolitan has welcomed many new people this year who are stepping forward to contribute their gifts to the work of First†Met.
- First†Met is entering into a more collaborative relationship with the Intercultural Association as part of lease renewal discussions.

Objectives for 2011:

GOAL 1.0 TO PROMOTE MISSION, MINISTRY AND PROGRAMMING THAT LIVES OUT OUR CALLING IN CHRIST AND MEANINGFULLY ENGAGES BOTH OUR CONGREGATION AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY.

- 1.1 To ensure ministry committees and groups promote spiritual nurture and active discipleship.
- 1.2 To ensure that the work of Council, non-ministry committees and staff support and enhance our desire to be a centre for spiritual nurture and active discipleship.

GOAL 2.0 TO RETAIN & RECRUIT AN EFFECTIVE STAFF AND VOLUNTEER WORKFORCE

- To implement the JNAC recommendation to seek a full time Minister
- To continue to move towards a strategic, visionary governance model
- To initiate the development of a strong volunteer program
- To enhance leadership & mentoring training & support

GOAL 3.0 TO MAXIMIZE RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL VIABILITY

- 3.1 To establish a joint operating committee with ICA
- 3.2 To support ongoing Stewardship Pledge programs
- 3.3 To support the development of a financial plan that will ensure the sustainability of both the ongoing operations and proposed infrastructure development
- 3.4 To increase engagement with the Congregation regarding the staff and infrastructure needs
- 3.5 To dialogue with the congregation about the impact of United Church of Canada decisions regarding Mission & Service programs and support.

GOAL 4.0 TO ENSURE THAT THE BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE MEETS THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

- 4.1 To continue the dialogue regarding development opportunities for First†Met and the broader community through the establishment of a Task Force
- 4.2 To support the implementation of the Stantec report's critical elements and ICA needs
- 4.3 To begin preparations for a Capital campaign that takes advantage of 2012 anniversary celebrations

I wish to take this opportunity to thank staff and members for their amazing dedication to making First†Metropolitan a Centre of Spiritual Growth & Active Discipleship. It is such a pleasure being with you, carrying out the work of First†Met.

Submitted by: Andrea Swan

Lead Ministers Report

REMINDERS

Holy One, you who have set the rainbow in the clouds as a reminder, a kind of post - it note unto yourself, that you may remember your promises to all creation...How much more, then, do we need to be reminded of your steady purposes, your redemptive resolve, and your power to heal and make new.

These opening words of a prayer by Anthony Robinson point to our purpose as a church. We are to be reminders – reminders to one another and to the world. In a society so readily distracted, where multitudes suffer from spiritual amnesia, we remind ourselves and others that the living God is in our midst. We also remind ourselves that, as Christ's church, we are called...

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.

The wide range of activities within First+Metropolitan - our worship and varied programs, our hospitality and visitation, our community engagement and outreach - all served to live out this calling. Through all these various ways, we seek to be "*A Centre of Spiritual Nurture and Active Discipleship.*"

In 2010, we have been intentional in developing a Strategic Plan whereby our resources of people (both staff and volunteers), finances and building can be best employed to help further our mission and ministry. To this end, there was a Joint Needs Assessment on staffing, an extensive budgeting process plus a building condition assessment. While an initial Strategic Plan is in place, further steps in this regard will be taken during 2011.

The reports here in will include numerous highlights of our ministry programs and how they are being enhanced through steps taken in various administrative areas. For instance, several improvements initiated by Greg Kazakoff and the Finance and Administration Committee plus Brian Shields and the Communications Committee have helped the effectiveness of our ministries.

Megumi and I valued the opportunity for a three-month sabbatical that the United Church of Canada ensures. During our absence, First+Met was fortunate to have the assistance of Bill Phipps, Carolyn Pogue, and Kat Rainsberry. I am especially grateful to Gordon Cann and Fran Pollet for their attention to worship and for Gordon's involvement in administration during that time. It was good to have a meaningful and refreshing sabbatical.

In this report I believe you will find reminders that the Spirit is moving amongst us here at First+Met. My thanks to the many who have contributed to our mission and ministry...for countless hours, the gifts of leadership and support, the joining together in worship and prayer, study and outreach.

We are blessed with our committed staff...Gordon, Ann, Fran and Megumi as ministry staff plus Sharon, Greg, Brian and Carol in the church offices and Cullen, Bruce and Edgardo looking after building and custodial responsibilities.

I am most grateful, also, for the leadership of the Chair of our Congregation, Andrea Swan, and those who serve so ably on our committees, and various church groups. This combination of lay leaders and staff members means First+Met can move forward with vision, energy, and commitment. We look forward to welcoming a new member of our staff team through the Joint Search process currently underway.

As you read through this report, take note of the great number and diversity of opportunities for spiritual growth and service that this congregation provides for both its members and the broader community. May you share the good news of what is happening here with others; and may we ever seek to remind ourselves and others of God's healing and renewing presence in this world.

Blessings, Dr. Allan Saunders

From the Desk of Gordon Cann –

It is hard to believe that I'm writing my fourth Annual Report letter for First†Met. With the extensive work and research done by the Joint Needs Assessment Committee and the response to the challenge picked up by the Search Committee there should be another minister writing a report for 2011.

As I think about my three years as Minister of Pastoral Care there are many good memories and accomplishments to be remembered but as I am to concentrate on 2010 I will not go there. The year started out with us celebrating the life of a number of our members who had passed on. Then, during the year, we said good bye to a number of people who through my pastoral ministry I had come to know and love very much. It is not easy to say these goodbyes but when you know that a person has lived a good and very meaningful life and now needs the release from the limitation placed on them by age and health issues, it does become a service of fond remembrance and celebration.

There are many other people in First†Met whose friendship and support have blessed my life and my ministry. From these people I have been gifted with energy, a source of great joy and the feeling that my ministry and my life has been important in their lives and the life and work of First†Met. Then, there are the members of the staff who are so caring and supportive and work so hard to make First†Met a unique community of faith. Especially to them but also to so many of you I would dedicate the following poem from Rob White's Scrapbook.

There's a comforting thought at the close of the day
When we're weary and lonely and sad
That sort of grips hold of these crusty old hearts
And bids them be merry and glad.
It gets in the soul, and it drives out the blues,
And finally thrills through and through.
It's just a sweet memory that chants the refrain,
"We're glad we touched shoulders with you."
Did you know you were brave, did you know you were strong?
Did you know there were those leaning hard?
Did you know that we listened and waited and prayed?
And were cheered by your simplest word?
Did you know that we longed for the smile on your face?
For the sound of your voice ringing true,
Did you know we grew stronger and better because
We had merely touched shoulders with you?
We're glad that we live; that we battle and strive
For places we know we must fill;
We're thankful for sorrows we'll meet with a grin
What fortune may send good or ill;
We may not have wealth, we may not be great
But we know we shall always be true,
For we have in our lives that courage you gave,
When once we touched shoulders with you.

Blessings,

Gordon Cann

2010 Annual Report

Children, Youth, Young Adults & Family Minister—Megumi Matsuo Saunders

God's blessings continue to be upon us with wonderful children, youth, young Adults ,parents, grand-parents and volunteers, who make this ministry most meaningful. First†Met is a home for many people, even if they are absent from time to time. Many new families have joined this year. We have very enthusiastic children every Sunday. Even on holidays, good numbers of children/youth are there on Sundays. What a joy to accompany youth, who have grown up with this First†Met community... now much taller and matured. And to know many parents, who try hard to raise children and to enrich their own relationship with partners and family members in faith. We also benefited very much from our vibrant youth leaders.

The Year 2010 - Highlights include:

The Sunday School: Regular Sunday School 2nd Sunday of Sept to 2nd Sunday of June
Summer Sunday School: during the summer.

Curriculum: "Power Express" rotation model curriculum for Grade 1 to Grade 7 (2010-11) included Respect, Mary Magdala, Beatitudes, Daniel in the Lions' Den, The Gift of Jesus. Youth had original curriculum led by youth leaders. Toddlers, Kindergarten used many Bible stories including some of our power Express themes.

Epiphany Explorations: Youth participated in Sunday Service and some youth attended to the Robert Bateman session.

Mardi Gras: Fun-filled activities, hotdogs, & ice-cream lunch, mask-making and parade, cupcake decorating, fishpond, and face painting. Special thank-you to Joan Wilkinson for the coordination.

Lenten Project: Supporting UCC for World Development and Relief (part of the Mission and Service Fund).

Carolyn Pogue's workshop: Youth and adults were involved in this exploration of world religions.

Family Fun & Faith Friday Pot luck: We had family fun potluck evening and activities once a month along with Jr. Youth Group night. It has been a great family gathering. We had a forum on the future of First†Met, too.

Mothers Morning Out: Mothers and their preschool children have taken part in this program. A new generation of mothers and children joined this year. Thanks to Chiho Ito for coordinating during my absence. Thanks to child-care volunteers: Gloria Stott, Joyce Clugston. From January, 2011, we will have once a month gatherings.

Maundy Thursday – Sarah Wyatt led the service along with Gordon Cann for the Seder meal & Ten-ebrae service.

Easter – Children took part in our celebration of that day including a special session with Carolyn Pogue.

Great Parade Service – Sunday School Children and Youth led the service "Teachings of Jesus" including, Beatitudes, Ten Commandments, raps, songs, rules...

Congregational Camp at Camp Pringle – The Eighth annual weekend First†Met family camp. Over 145 people joined this camp. Wonderful crafts (butterfly theme) wall climbing, low ropes, camp fire, worship were some of the highlights of this camp. Thanks to Rob Maguire and Mike Maguire for their cooking leadership. In 2011, the camp will be on June 24 – 26 in the new building.

Summer Vacation Bible Day Camp – held in August for 1 week from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm, led by Madelaine Hittos, Stephen Lewis and volunteers. We had 36 children & youth involved in this camp. Theme was "Galactic Blast." Youth leaders were Matthew Fraser, Sarah Glover, Samantha Jones, Noel Lonsdale, Tiffany Fox, Rebecca Crossman, Gwyneth Faulkner, Emily Tibbits, Emily Shemilt, Owen Vaags, Paul & Timothy Henderson. We also had Jr. Youth sessions for morning led by Stephen Lewis

with music and films and they joined in the afternoon with helping Sr. youth with Vacation Bible Day Camp. This new trial went very well. Thanks to the snack team, Coordinator: Irene Baddeley, Patti Buchanan, Irene Bevan, Joyce Clugston, Gloria Stott, Marion Denton.

Camp Pringle Summer Camp – UCW and individual donations made it possible for 7 children to attend Camp Pringle this summer.

Summer Sunday School – Many volunteer parents taught Sunday School for the whole summer.

Rally Sunday - time to welcome back children and for the covenanting of Sunday School.

Sunday School Party - luncheon and a special magic show to celebrate a new season of SS.

Youth group - Youth leaders (Dara Shuttly, Sarah Wyatt, David Namkung, Bethel Lee) led lively active youth group and youth Sunday School for G4 to G12. In the summer, we said farewell to Dara (went Edmonton), David & Bethel (went to Vancouver). In the fall, we welcomed Jeanie Smith for Jr. Youth along with Sarah Wyatt and Sarah Stang & Jennifer Comrie for Sr Youth.

Mid Week Programs - Junior Choir with Brenda Harvey, Junior Chess Club. Thanks to the leaders and the Music Team. Drum set lessons for youth was held in October.

Evolve Youth & Young Adults Conference – 8 youth and young adults from our church attended this dynamic Fall conference in Naramata sponsored by BC Conference. Paul & Timothy Henderson, Sarah Glover, Owen Vaags, Madeline Lenz, Samantha Jones, Gwyneth Faulkner, & Youth Leader Sarah Wyatt.

Children's Sunday focused on "We hold children" and other children's rights posters & bulletin art created by SS children.

Congregational Advent Turkey Dinner - Youth from grades 4 to 12 and their parents undertook this dinner again for the second time. We had a great silent Auction with encouragement by donors. It was a great success with about 300 people attending. We made \$5431.18 net which was shared with M&S and Youth ministries. Special thank you to Elaine Reedhead, Evelyn Moroz, Shelley Servais, Jan White, Leanne Prestwich, Kathy Cook, Laurie Boyle & Candice De Gigeso, Daegan Reimer, Stephen Hammond, Todd & Imogen Glover, and youth leaders and turkey carvers for their great help.

Advent Event – Heritage (international) finger food and children's craft - nativity scenes - as the First Christmas decoration for many families.

December 6 Service - Our youth leader Sarah Stang was the speaker for our interfaith service for the National Day of Action on Violence Against Women. This year we held the service in the chapel.

White Gift Service – It is a highlight of Christmas for Sunday School. Every class prepared a wonderful White Gift theme service. Canned goods and other monetary gifts will be distributed to families in need and Balmoral residents in the new year when the need is greater.

Christmas Eve Family Service – this was our tenth year of offering an early service (4:30 pm), keeping families with young children in mind. Some 450 people attended. Mary Byrne helped write and lead the service along with Allan, Emma & Sarah Prestwich, Alec & Margaret Krawciw, Matthew Fraser, Gwyneth Faulkner, Todd Glover, Kat Rainsberry. The theme was "Amahl's Night Visitors". PowerPoint visuals, carols and candlelight worked very well again. We had a llama. As a new feature, we gave each family our First†Met Nativity colouring book. This special colouring book was made by Leslie & Bob Wilson of our congregation. Every year, we have one of our youngest congregation members be Baby Jesus! This year the child was Stella Slamet. She was just 2 weeks old!

Christmas Eve Pageant service – It was so nice to see our own children/youth participated in this year's beautiful pageant.

Christmas Eve 11:00pm service – this was the third time a quiet prayerful chapel service with scriptures and carols was organized with some young adults. Thanks to Jack Boomer for accompanying on the piano. We had a communion, too. This year we had 57 people attending.

Teen confirmation Class - In October, we started teen confirmation class. We now have 11 youth (majority G7 & G8) taking classes every month. Confirmation will be Pentecost in 2011.

Young Adults – We had a few light luncheon gatherings this year. However, not so often, because of Megumi's sabbatical. A number of young adults are attending worship and so we have offered a number of "after service" gatherings for them until.

For myself, It was a year of Sabbatical renewal and a new energy. I am very grateful that I had a wonderful two and a half months sabbatical which included 3 weeks travel to Turkey & Egypt. It was great that Carolyn Pogue was able to take over some of my duties during the Sabbatical. Kat Rainsberry looked after Sunday School, and Todd Glover, Gail Thompson, Chiho Ito, youth leaders and Sunday School teachers helped with other duties.

I have enjoyed this year very much. Preparing for Sunday morning for children's time where all generations of the congregation can become children always involves deep prayer and asking God's spirit to work through me. It is a joy to include children/youth in the presentations. I have been involved in supporting families in challenging situations. Mentoring youth leaders is a wonderful experience for me. To work with the Children, Youth, Young Adults, Families and all the leaders and helpers is a privilege and excites me as to how we can do God's mission together. What a blessing to know our former leaders, Bethel Lee (Vancouver) and Amanda Biederman (Calgary) are doing children's ministry as church staff where they reside now. I appreciate very much all the support the First†Met congregation has given to me.

I am very pleased that my Continuing Education and work within the Broader Church and community enhance my ministry. I did workshops at the More Franchises Conference in Toronto and at Sturgeon Creek United Church in Winnipeg. I also belong to the Children's Symposium Committee of the National Church. My work at First†Metropolitan is a ¾ time position, allowing me time to pursue these other activities.

My thanks to the faithful **Sunday School Teachers, volunteers and parents.** They are Mary Jean & Don Krawciw, Leanne Tuey Vowles, Lorna Pritchard, Joan Wilkinson, Linda Cook, Gloria Stott, Imogen & Todd Glover, Kat Rainsberry, Lucy Mears, Amanda & Leslie Biederman, Sarah Prestwich, Jonathan Down, Pat & Ross MacKinnon, Hayley Henderson, Leanne Prestwich, Micia Kanstrup, Noel Lonsdale, Ruby Lightbody, Mary Byrne, Andy & Andrea Swan, Elaine Reedhead, Shelley Servais, Evelyn Moroz, Irene Baddeley, Brenda Harvey, Jacquie Henderson, and Joyce Clugston. Sound for Helen Mackay, Jim Anderson, AV for Jane Louie, Brian Shields, Evan Sherwood, Steven Mourant.

Advisory committee members: Irene Baddeley, Cathy Baker, Leanne Prestwich, Amanda Biederman, Lorna Pritchard, Jack Boomer, Jonathan Down, Linda Cook and interim Chair Jan White, who has brought wisdom, commitment and action to her position as Chair of this committee especially during my sabbatical. Welcome to our new Chair Lynn Brochu.

Thanks to the special helpers – Lorrie & Warren Stirling, Barry & Janet Jenner, Irene & Dick Bevan for their regular support for special luncheons. Jean Jenkins for special projects and bulletin board decoration. Now we have Bob & Leslie Wilson for bulletin Board decoration. Mary Byrne for Christmas Eve & Maundy Thursday Services, Joan Wilkinson for Mardi Gras and Camp, etc. Maguire family and David Prestwich for Camp cooking. My thanks to all the adults who have shown your keen interest in our ministry and groups: Merry Mates, Acti-Mets and the Friendship Group for your financial and spiritual support. Special Thank-you to the UCW for their ongoing support for this ministry both spiritually and financially - it is very much appreciated. Co-presidents-Joan Dowse and Marie McKee continue to be our great enthusiasts. Also I am very grateful for the late Grace MacQuarrie, remembering us with a gift that was used to purchase our curriculum "Daniel in the Lions' Den."

Many thanks to the staff – Cullen, Bruce, Edgardo, Sharon, Jayne, Greg, Carol, Fran, Ann, Gordon, Brian and part-time custodial staff and youth leaders, Bethel Lee, David Namkung, Sarah Wyatt, Dara Shetty, Gilda Shannon, Amy Collins, Jeanie Smith, Sarah Stang, Jennifer Comrie, all who took different parts in helping and supporting this ministry. Thanks to Brian Shields for all the support in audiovisuals and other technology and to Allan, for your support of this ministry with intergenerational worship advise, technological help, helpful counsel, giving us your full encouragement.

CYYAF Advisory Committee

Interim Chair Jan White, Secretary Irene Baddeley (retiring)

Members: Leanne Prestwich, Lorna Pritchard, Amanda Biederman(until summer), Cathy Baker (retiring), Linda Cook, Jonathan Down, Jack Boomer

Cont'd next

- New for 2011 Meagan Oliphant, Sarah Prestwich, Chair Lynn Brochu
Meetings: 2 times plus several consultations with e-mails and phone calls.

Highlights/Achievements of the Year

- Policies for the safety and well-being of our children, discussion of goal (short & long), Children/youth and intergenerational congregation, Objectives for Coming year, coffee duties, Turkey Dinner support, Involvement to CYYAF programs, Hiring youth leaders
- New program plans, Chair Jan White for her leadership of leading, available for consultation,

Youth Programs

Sr Youth (G8 to G12) Under the leadership of David Namkung, Bethel Lee (until March), Gilda Shannon (March to June), Jonathan Down, Sarah Stang & Jennifer Comrie, we had 26 Sr Youth involved in Sunday School and youth group activities. Every Sunday, Sr. Youth have a special breakfast for their class. They also were involved in Vacation Bible Day camp leadership, Evolve Conference in Naramata (BC Conference Youth & Young Adult ministry) and Advent Turkey Dinner. Some of them volunteer with the Inner City Dinners.

Jr Youth (G4-G7) Dara Shutty, Sarah Wyatt, Amy Collins, Jeanie Smith led lively group of about 38 Jr youth for many activities. Highlights include regular Sunday School with creative curricula, many fun and spiritual activities, visiting Galey Farms, Imax, faith discussions, Summer Vacation Bible Day Camp, Advent Turkey Dinner.

Our youth are well served by motivated, responsible and well versed exceptional young adult leadership with help of parents & volunteers.

Health and Wellness Ministry

Once again, I give thanks for having had the opportunity to serve you and to work among you. Meeting in your homes, in the hospital or care facility or just in my office, is always a learning experience for me. I have seen how living one's faith can make the mountains easier to climb; being involved in community helps one to stay engaged in the world of today; taking an interest in those around us, irrespective of age, can help to dispel feelings of isolation; being open to receiving the love of others is an awesome gift of the Spirit.

There are so many opportunities here at First†Metropolitan to be involved, made aware, to be spiritually nourished and to feel a part of the community. However, when I meet with Gordon weekly, and when I attend Pastoral Care committee meetings, I become aware of those who were once faithful attendees, active participants in the life of the church, active family members, but who are now isolated from the hub of life due to factors that we will all experience when we reach our gold "Care Card" years.

As I have visited my own parents frequently over the past two years, I see the effect that community isolation can have. While we each make our own decisions based on lived experiences, I have taken this opportunity to reflect on my own life. It is easy to do the reflection, easy to say that challenges are great learning opportunities, easy to procrastinate! Not so easy, however, to admit that I sometimes make mistakes and procrastinate; and not so easy to quickly turn things around. But then nothing worthwhile doing is ever easy! So what has this all to do with the Health and Wellness Ministry? A personal sense of health and wellness requires that body, mind and spirit are each taken care of. If one portion is out of sorts, the other two portions are unable to function as a whole.

While we have some excellent programs and wonderful volunteers ensuring that those programs happen, I am conscious that I/we are not getting out to those who can no longer actively participate. I have not offered support to those of you who do indeed keep in touch with homebound members. If I don't do my job, then you have more difficulty doing your job. In the coming year I will offer times for us to get together to talk about their needs and your needs so that this ministry can demonstrate that church is not a building but a community that exists beyond the building boundaries.

Bless each one of you for being who you are and being a part of this wonderful Christian community.

Submitted by: Ann Maffey

Minister of Music Report 2010

If I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unproductive. What should I do then? I will pray with the spirit, but I will pray with the mind also; I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will sing praise with the mind also.

I Corinthians 14: 14 – 15

It is hard to believe that another year has passed. Again, I am filled with awe with the caring leadership and vision demonstrated by Allan Saunders; the deep love of people and faithfulness shown by Gordon Cann; by the enthusiasm and care that mark Megumi's ministry, by the compassion shown by Ann Maffey in the Health and Wellness programming; and by the thorough competence and dedication shown by Cullen Morton, Bruce Davies, Greg Kazakoff, Carol Goy, and Sharon MacDonald in their support of church programming.

Sunday by Sunday our Sanctuary Choir continues to contribute to meaningful worship experiences. The Bursary program is a huge support in strengthening the choir experience. Even though the students are with us for only 6 months, their presence continues to permeate the rest of the year. We audition in August: please do encourage music-oriented young folks to audition for this. The choir is such a welcoming group of people and so committed to the music ministry. I quote from a letter from one: *"I felt lifted up by the rehearsal tonight. I know that a lot of the music was serious, but it seemed to 'speak to me' and I was grateful that I had attended rehearsal. Thanks for the opportunity to sing."*

Our church music network at First†Metropolitan includes an amazing number of gifted musicians: Mary Byrne, Hanne Fair, Kirsten Davis Slamet, and our young violinist Aline Dumalski. It has been a joy to work and create with you all! I also deeply value the amazing support and encouragement of our congregation.

Also much appreciated is the work of husband Lanny and daughter Emily in providing continuity in the choir. Both step into the breach whether it is in conducting larger choral moments, organizational details, writing arrangements, or doing Sunday warm-ups. Their connections with the university music community also prove mighty helpful.

A huge vote of thanks goes to Brenda Harvey for her dedicated work with the children's choir. How fortunate these young singers are to have such a committed musician working with them.

Highlights of the year include a March Snowbirds Student Recital. The month of May saw us involved in a Marathon supporting the Royal Canadian College of Organists' International Festival. In June the Vocal Ensemble recorded their second CD: *Canticles*. This summer event involved First†Met and other downtown churches opening their doors to our delegates for recitals, workshops and meals. First†Met's gracious hospitality was well noted by our guests. In addition, our coffers were well supported by rental revenue from the RCCO! I was secretary of the event and in charge of Exhibitions. I also gave a workshop on new choral publications and organized a Taizé service. Many thanks to the 25 volunteers from First†Met who made this all possible.

July saw us bursting the seams with another **Kathaumixw International Choirs** on Tour program filling our sanctuary. The choirs from New Zealand, Finland and the Czech Republic gave beautiful presentations, each very different from the other. Thank you to the over 100 families that billeted our guests, and to Mary Kenderdine who organized this major part of the event.

October saw us working very hard on the **Shall We Gather?** presentation. What a unique event this was, so acutely tugging on the heart as we dedicated special music to honour past and present saints. It was a highlight of my church music life, being witness to this tender moment.

The Christmas Pageant **Martin the Cobbler** this year was eloquent once again in its powerful and thoughtful expressions of theme and music. Again we are deeply appreciative of the work of directors Sydney Sparling and Britt Small, together with Mona McGill (costume design and creation). I thank the choir for their patience: new music repertoire; cuts, rehearsal changes do abound to the last minute! This year's presentation involved a larger-than-normal cast and they were absolutely wonderful to work with.

Celtic Vespers continues to reach some 15 souls on Friday evenings once a month. Our Folk Vespers on the first Sunday of the month continue to reach out to youth. Thanks to Amy Collins and Jeff Poynter for giving a fresh, inspired leadership to this program for the past 3 years. They also gave amazing gathering music leadership at Epiphany.

Appreciation is also extended to the Music Team which supervises the church music budget and organizes programming in the life of the church. What would we do without this group of volunteers, chaired by Mona McGill, that actively organize ticket sales, ushering duties, and publicity, and create an inspired vision of how music and the creative arts will serve this congregation?

Respectfully submitted by:
Frances Pollet ~ Minister of Music

Epiphany Explorations

Team Leader/Chair: Joan Mason

Meeting Days: Jan 15 (participant kit stuffing) Feb 24, Apr 12 May 29, July 29 (brochure stuffing) Nov 18, Dec 8

Present Membership: Sharron Higgins, Asst. to Chair, Moira Nasim (Hospitality) Jim Anderson and Helen MacKay (Sound and Taping), Irene Baddeley (Secretary and Prayers), Beverley Cattrall and Susan Clough (Hosting, resigned Feb 2010), Penny Bond (Brochure), Joyce Clugston (Registration), Richard and Marketa Mellows (Local Arrangements), Linda Hallett (Special Needs), Vanessa Hammond (Promotions, formerly Special Needs), Janet Macdonald (Presenter Arrangements) Sylvia Purdon (Presenter Arrangements, resigned Feb. 2010), Maureen Shields (Registrar: ex-officio), Jane Louie (Technical), Joyalle Bunyan-Maynard (Vendor Tables), Elizabeth Thierry (Member at large), David Bray (Media Relations), Jenelle Cooper (Billeting), Bev Stewart (Billeting, resigned Feb 2010), Allan Saunders, Brian Shields and Ann Maffey, staff partners.

Meeting Time: generally 7 to 9 pm, except stuffing parties which are 9:30 to 12 noon

No. of meetings held: 6

Average attendance: 14

Objectives for 2010:

- To review our pricing and budgeting for the event in view of changing economic times
- To review our volunteer staffing requirements to reduce the numbers of volunteers needed while maintaining the quality of our hospitality.
- To continue to offer a program that is spiritually inspiring for clergy and laity in the United Church and other denominations, our own congregation members, snowbirds, newcomers and the general public.

Highlights/Achievements of the Year as related to Objectives:

The 2010 conference, held Jan 21 to 25, featured Leonard Sweet, Robert Bateman, Lois Wilson, Rabbi Harry Brechner, and Mona Sedky Goode, Reg Bibby, Chung Hyun Kyung, Bruce Harding, Linnea Good, Nancy Reeves and others. Despite the economic woes experienced throughout the country, our conference was able to proceed successfully when others were cancelled or lost money. Total registrations were 425, plus many tickets sold at the door.

Plans are well underway for Epiphany Explorations 2011 and though initial registration was slow compared to last year, as of December 8, 2010, 482 persons had registered for the conference, 298 of them full-time. Revenues to date are \$71,858.50. We still anticipate brisk ticket sales for the Yancey, MacDonald and Tutu events. The registration fees for the coming year were increased slightly (from \$225 to \$240 early-bird rate and \$265 to \$285 for late registration) and the half price rate for members/adherents attending single events reinstated. The speaker budget, our single largest budget item, was reduced substantially (by approximately \$4,000) to \$22,450

Our hosting requirements have been reviewed and we will eliminate hosts for all workshops offered by First Met members, adherents or staff. In addition, we will be reviewing attendance figures and reducing the number of hosts for most daytime sessions, though not for evening sessions.

Many thanks for the contributions and hard work of our dedicated staff, planning team members and the hundreds of church volunteers who make this conference a blessing to all, setting a high standard of program offerings and hospitality.

Objectives for Coming Year- 2011:

- To experiment using social media to promote the 2012 conference
- To create promotional video clips to be posted on YouTube
- To increase the participation of youth and Intercultural Association participants by 25%
- To raise greater awareness of Epiphany Explorations, in Greater Victoria

Submitted by: Joan Mason, Chair

Finance & Administration

Committee Chair & Vice-Chair: Gordon Thompson/Wendy Zink
Meeting Days: Second Tuesday of the month
Present Membership:(Include names & positions): Gordon Thompson, Wendy Zink, Pam Shemilt, Ross Beckon, Sylvia Purdon*, Herb Pitts (Stewardship Committee Chair) and Staff: Allan Saunders/Gordon Cann, Greg Kazakoff, Jane Kirby*
* Sylvia resigned from F&A in July, 2010 and Jayne Kirby left employ of FMUC 03-10
Meeting Time: 1:30 -3:30 pm
of meetings held: 9 F&A Committee meetings plus 12 budget committee meetings
Average attendance: 100%

Objectives for 2010:

1. Monitor 2010 operating budget
2. Keep congregation informed of FMUC financial status throughout the year
3. Develop 2011 operating & capital budgets
4. Convert to new financial software product form MYOB
5. Review short-term letting rates and policy & procedures
6. Review issues /concerns relating to renewal of long-term lease with ICA in 2011
7. Determine plan for use/designation of residual Stewardship initiative account funds
8. Review mandate for F & A Committee
9. Develop plan for sinking fund establishment
10. Review payroll service provider and make recommendations to Council Executive
11. Review UCC Financial Handbook for Congregations

Highlights/Achievements of the Year as related to Objectives:

1. 2010 operating budget came in on target.
2. Congregation advised of FMUC financial status through May financial status congregational meeting, news-letter inserts, four September strategic planning focus groups and December congregational meeting to approve 2011 budget.
3. Developed 2011 operating and capital budgets using a 15% budget probe and add back process and reduced the budget deficit by \$100,000. In the development of the 2011 capital budget, applied the residual Stewardship Account funds to priority areas documented through the building assessment study and through discussions with ICA (our long-term tenant). The operating and capital budgets were approved by the congregation on December 12, 2010.
4. New Finance Officer hired who is 95% complete in converting from MYOB to new financial accounting software while undertaking 2011 budget development process.
5. Completed short-terms letting rate comparison and Finance Office has proposed a revised short-term letting policy and procedure for review and approval by Council Executive in January 2011.
6. Initiated discussion with ICA re renewal of long-term lease and established a joint operations/management committee to ensure regular communication and timely address of concerns.
7. F & A Committee mandate was revised and approved by Council Executive.
8. Finance Office has, through development of 2011 capital budget, gathered information for development of a sinking fund proposal for review by both the F&A and Property & Building Committees in 2011 and ultimately forwarded to Council Executive for its approval.
9. F & A Committee members have received and reviewed the UCC Financial Handbook for Congregations.
10. Initiated review of payroll service provider (Ceridian) and recommended a change (ADP) to Council Executive for implementation in 2011.

Objectives for Coming Year - 2011:

1. To develop guidelines for the operation of programs and segregated funds in context of approved policy to consolidate operating bank accounts
2. To implement short-term letting policy & procedures
3. To formalize FMUC relationship with ICA by:
 - (a) Enshrining operation of joint ICA/FMUC Operations /Management Sub-committee
 - (b) Concluding & finalizing renewal of long-term letting arrangements with ICA
4. To initiate FMUC Financial Development Strategy in alignment with FMUC Strategic Plan.
5. To monitor FMUC operating & capital finances
6. To Develop annual operating and capital budget target and guidelines
7. To implement new payroll service provider - ADP - by end of January, 2011

Submitted by Wendy Zink

Ministry and Personnel Committee Annual Report 2010

Chair: Rennie Warburton
Vice-Chair: David Bray
Other Members: Arlene Anderson, Helen Mackay

Meetings.

Our Committee met several times during the first half of the year, mainly to prepare and administer the staff performance reviews. In the second half we were able to conduct our business by email. Except when one of us was on vacation, all members took part in our discussions.

Highlights.

The performance reviews were the highlight of our year. Work in preparing the questions, recruiting reviewers among the congregation whom we deemed capable of informed and fair assessments, receiving comments from staff members about their work and their future plans, conducting the actual reviews, and meeting with individual staff was completed between March and June. We again used Survey Monkey, except for four telephone interviews with reviewers who do not have a computer. The results demonstrated that staff are performing at a level of excellence that is deeply appreciated by the First Met community.

Other activities:

Ensuring that adequate arrangements were made to replace Allan and Megumi Saunders during their three month sabbatical leave, assisting in the revision of our committee mandate, and making salary recommendations, including a long deserved increase in the Housing Allowance. We also recommended that the appointments of Megumi Matsuo Saunders, Ann Maffey and Gordon Cann be renewed and reminded all staff of their responsibilities regarding Police Record Checks.

On behalf of the congregation, we accepted the resignation of Jayne Kirby who served as our Administrator and thanked her for her services. One of our members, David Bray, chaired the selection committee for the appointment of our new Finance Officer, Greg Kazakoff who replaced Jayne in April. Our committee conducted a thorough evaluation of Greg's performance in October and was able to recommend enthusiastically that his appointment be continued.

Future Objectives:

In 2011 our committee plans to consider ways to improve our staff evaluation procedure, develop a staff succession process, create closer liaisons with individual staff members, and produce an orientation process for new staff appointees.

Submitted by: Rennie Warburton, Chair

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Team Leader/Chair: Jim Lauder then Larry McGill from October

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Meeting Days: | Monthly Sunday | Present Membership: |
| Meeting Time: | 12:15 p.m. | Cullen Morton, Building Superintendent (Staff Partner) |
| # of meetings held: | 12 | John Newhouse (Vice Chair) |
| Average attendance: | 4 | Tom Lane |
| | | Chris Rainsberry |

Objectives for 2010:

Building Structure and Services: Maintenance and Improvement Activities

- Routine Operation and Maintenance
 - Custodial, building services, operating systems and equipment
- Periodic Maintenance
 - Physical infrastructure refurbishing
- Infrastructure Development
- Leasehold Improvements

Objectives

- Maintain and improve quality standards for welcoming, functional infrastructure to support programme activities
- Carry out necessary upgrades
- Enhance relationship with ICA
- Ensure stability in ongoing maintenance costs

Highlights/Achievements of the Year as related to Objectives:

- Completed a comprehensive Building Condition Assessment (Stantec Report)
- Refurbishing Balmoral Entrance—repainting and improvements
- Initiated emergent ICA leasehold improvements
- Upgraded steam boiler feed and condensate return piping
- Enhancement of routine maintenance of steam heating system
- Improvements in CE corridor above concourse (replaced 11 incandescent ceiling fixtures with CFL fixtures for energy savings)
- Replacement of Sanctuary audio mixing board
- Safety and security upgrades in Christian Education Wing
- Initiated preparation of projects arising out of the Strategic Plan and Building Condition Assessment. Major items include
 - Preparation of a formal Building Operation and Maintenance Management process
 - Fellowship Hall enhancement programme development
 - Seismic Upgrade
 - Heating Systems.

Objectives for Coming Year - 2011:

General: continued from 2010 as listed above.

Specific Items:

- Complete Currently Critical and Potentially Critical Building Condition items
 - Mechanical
 - potable water system improvements to meet current Capital Regional District service standards, install backflow preventers
 - design and scheduling of heating system improvements
 - design of ventilation system improvements (ICA).
 - Electrical: miscellaneous electrical deficiencies and upgrades.
 - Building Envelope: Sanctuary Roof
 - Structure: Seismic Upgrade.
 - Complete ICA Leasehold repairs and improvements
 - Refurbishing in Christian Education Wing and elsewhere
 - Exterior painting

Submitted by: Larry McGill, Chair (Property Committee)

2010 IT Report

“IT” involves a wide range of technical support. It encompasses five key areas:

1. Computer workstations
2. Sanctuary visuals
3. Web Site
4. Epiphany Explorations visuals and production of DVD's
5. Entrance TV Monitor

The current working committee consists of Greg Kazakoff, Sharon MacDonald and Brian Shields. Jay Williams of CanaTech is our on-call System Support Professional. Brian was asked to undertake the main supportive role on behalf of staff although no additional hours have been allocated for this.

1. **Computer Workstations:** We currently have 11 workstations available for staff and volunteers. All staff have the ability to access their workstations remotely which has enabled them to be able to work from home or elsewhere as needed. This has greatly simplified working conditions. We have two designated volunteer workstations. They are used for Front Office support, updating of Power Church +, (our church data base of people,) and Epiphany Explorations support. We have one computer dedicated as a server. Back-up is done both locally and, as of July, off site.
2. **Sanctuary Visuals:** In the Sanctuary we have a computer dedicated to provide live stream video to the rest of the building. This server has the possibility of providing off-site streaming as well. Sunday morning visuals involve three key volunteers: Jane Louie, Steven Mourant, and Evan Sherwood. Jane does almost all of the Sunday Service visuals with Evan providing additional support; Steven is our camera person. A huge vote of thanks goes to these three individuals for their dedication and for the professional quality of presentation. Brian provides the technical support and trouble-shooting and prepares and updates the Promotional materials. He is also responsible for overseeing the use of the visual equipment by outside groups throughout the week, whether it be in the Sanctuary or elsewhere in the building.
3. **Web Site:** Joan Mason and Brian do the maintenance of the First+Met Web Site with Joan as the major editor. Brian has been working on expanding the site to include a structure for groups such as Allan's video discussion group and the executive to use. We have also established an on-line registration program that is a “no-cost” way to allow people to register for our programs without having to phone or come in to the Front Office.
4. **Epiphany Explorations:** This five-day event involves coordinating the live video presentations as well as recording those presentations and converting them to a DVD. These DVD's are then made available for sale. Brian is also involved in the setup of visuals for presenter's workshops.
5. An additional piece was added to the IT oversight this year with the TV Monitor in the Front Entrance near the Fellowship Hall. It provides up-to-date program information to those accessing our building.

Our IT goal is to provide seamless technical support for the programs within First+Met. As staff needs and programs evolve so do our technical needs. It is an ever changing, ever challenging endeavour. We are also currently exploring how Social Media can be used to advantage by our church community. It is a huge but exciting unknown and untapped resource.

Submitted by Brian Shields
Program Staff and IT support

Worship and Christian Spiritual Development Committee

Team Leader/Chair: Gail Thompson
Meeting Days: Monday
Meeting Time: 7-9 pm

Present Membership:
Joyce Clugston, Marion Denton, Edeana Malcom,
Doug Mollard, Leanne Prestwich, Gail Thompson,
Brendan Tuey

of meetings held: 6-8/yr
Average attendance: 6, plus staff partner Rev Dr Allan Saunders and ministry staff rep.
Barry Rolston

Objectives for 2010:

- Continue to provide support for all ongoing worship services and CSD programs
- Seek new ways to support ministerial staff, especially during the joint sabbatical of Allan Saunders and Megumi Matsuo Saunders
- Continue to develop new programs that enhance the spiritual life of our congregation

Highlights/Achievements of the Year as related to Objectives:

- During the Saunders 3 month sabbatical, committee members assumed responsibility for many aspects of our weekly worship services.
- We were privileged to host many excellent guest preachers including Bill Phipps, Carolyn Pogue, Herbert O'Driscoll, Ross and Laura Lockhart, Henri Locke, Al Tysick and Bethel Lee.
- Committee members planned liturgies and offered lay leadership at several special services including Ash Wednesday, First Nations Sunday and the Anniversary of Church Union.
- In addition to numerous ongoing spiritual development and study programs, new CSD programs included *Relections* – a weekly series of video-clips about key faith and life topics, and storytelling evenings featuring speakers of other faith/cultural backgrounds.

Objectives for Coming Year - 2011:

- Maintain excellence in Sunday worship through sermons, liturgy and music ministry
- Provide effective and diverse lay involvement in Sunday worship
- Encourage greater congregational involvement in seasonal and monthly worship
- Review contemporary worship with the goal of attracting the under 45 age group
- Offer a variety of programs that enhance spiritual life and build community

Submitted by: Gail Thompson, Chair

Health and Wellness and Pastoral Care Team (for 2010)

Team Leader: Patti Buchanan

Present Membership: Past President and Knitter's group rep; Shirley Chatfield, Prayer Connections Team rep; Anne Sikstrom, Healing Touch rep; Sheila MacDougall, Spiritual Companions group rep; Terry Dance-Bennink; Prison Ministry Rep Amy Ashby; Members at large; Blain Thierry and Tony Gvora. Staff Rep Pastoral Care; Rev Gordon Cann, Staff Rep Health and Wellness; Ann Maffey.

Meeting Days: Second Monday of each month

Meeting Time: 9:30 – 11:30 AM

of meetings held: 6

Average attendance: 8

Highlights/Achievements of the Year: The Health and Wellness and Pastoral Care team has acted as an umbrella team supporting 4 independent teams that provide health and wellness and pastoral care to the First+Met congregation and community. Highlights of these groups are as follows:

Knitters Group: Meets once a month with 8 – 12 attending. The group, including members from both the Church and the greater community, provide care and support through knitted prayer shawls and scarves. Prayer shawls are given to Church members and their families who are in need of spiritual comfort. Scarves are given to young people at the time of confirmation and offered to those who come for healing touch at Epiphany Explorations.

In addition to this ministry, the group provide knitted items to those in need and distribute them through community organizations including Bishop Cridge Centre, Queen Alexandra Foundation, Women's Transition House, Mustard Seed, Our Place, Out of the Rain and to Victoria General Hospital baby caps for premature infants.

Prayer Ministry: This new Ministry offering intercessory prayer formed in March 2009 has 11 members who pray at home responding to prayer request slips submitted by congregants and others. Prayers cover a variety of things including physical and emotional illness, bereavement, relationship problems, pregnancy, employment, financial and housing issues. Numbers of situations being prayed for has grown from around 40 to approximately 60.

Healing Touch: Healing Touch is available to members and non-members of First+Metropolitan UC every Monday from noon until 6 PM and is provided free; however, many who receive the service donate in appreciation. The Healing Touch team as well as the recipients consist of 17 healers who are mostly members of FMUC. A number of them are members of other faiths and traditions.

We have 29 persons on our list of receivers. Healing Touch services are provided from a low of 10 to a maximum of 18 persons each Monday; the average number of recipients is 15.

Spiritual Companions: Spiritual companions met monthly for 6 months. Following a final evaluation of the Spiritual Companions support group the group determined that there was no need to continue. Companions continue to visit elders.

The book Stories United was sold at two different events and by year end only 50 copies remain. More will be sold at Epiphany Explorations in 2011.

Writing and Sharing Your Life Story was offered in April 2010. There were 9 people registered for this session and the evaluations were very positive.

Prison Ministry: Amy Ashby has helped with the chapel service at Wilkinson Road prison once a month over the past year. She has assisted in bringing prayer requests from prisoners to our Prayer Ministry, and in introducing men who have been released to our Church Community.

In addition to the above, the team supports successful, ongoing activities.

continued on next page

Summer Strollers continued this year with good attendance every week from May to October. **New Vistas** provided 3 learn and lunch sessions at Queenswood with an average attendance of over 30 participants. Three sessions will be held at First+Met in the spring of 2011. The team provides support to our Pastoral Care Minister and to our Health and Wellness Ministry. Most pastoral care visits are made by Ann Maffey and Rev Gordon Cann. These visits average approximately 28 per month. In addition the staff complete many telephone and office visits each month. Communion for Shut-ins, coordinated by Sheila MacDougall, is delivered to approximately 40 people twice a year at Lent and in October for World-wide Communion. Lists of people to be visited are maintained by Shirley Chatfield and Helen Mackay, without whom we could not keep in touch with our members who cannot come to Church. There are over 50 people on the current visiting list.

Objectives for Coming Year:

In addition to continuing to provide services as outlined above, specific goals are:

- To develop an in-house support group for lay pastoral care visitors and to recruit more visitors.
- To raise the profile of Pastoral Care and Health and Wellness Ministries.
- To continue supporting the above groups and to facilitate coordination of pastoral care services in First+Metropolitan United Church.

Submitted by: Patti Buchanan, Team Leader

Women Exploring Spirituality

Facilitators: Rev Colleen Erb
Meeting Days: Fourth Monday afternoon of the Month except July and August
Meeting Time: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
of members: 23
Average Attendance: 15

- Women Exploring Spirituality is a group of women who gather once a month to explore their spiritual journey and to find ways to deepen their relationship to God and others. This facilitates the use of different resources.
- Beginning February 2010 we engaged a study book by Joyce Rupp entitled "Open The Door" which proved to be excellent. This continued to December 2010.
- January 2011 sees the beginning of a new study book Philip Yancey "What's So Amazing about Grace". This will continue till the end of December 2011. A very good and challenging resource.
- We also have appreciated very much the offerings of each person in the group as they have shared from their experiences along the way.

Many thanks to all who have been a part of this quest, for their sharing and resourcefulness. Newcomers are welcome.

Gratefully Submitted: Rev Colleen Erb

Sanctuary Flower Arrangers

Flower Arrangers do memorials, birthday, anniversary, wedding and funeral for the Sanctuary. If there are no calls for that Sunday in the Sanctuary, we put out a seasonal silk arrangement for that Sunday.

Each arranger takes a month at a time, so we are waiting for calls. Just give Sharon at the office a call and she will let us know.

With this arrangement for the Sanctuary it is no cost to the church. We are waiting for calls, so if you want to surprise your wife, husband, partner, sweetheart, etc with flowers on a Sunday they will be there and please take them home after Sunday Service for you to enjoy.

Submitted by: Marie Warner Van Es ~ Flower Arrangers

Hospitality Committee Annual Report - 2010

Committee Leader: Moira Nasim (Interim)

Present Membership: Irene Baddeley (Secretary), Shirley Bardy, Irene & Dick Bevan, Edie Faucher, Barb Lauder, Evelyn Moroz, Carol Newhouse, Sharon Osmond, Elaine Reedhead, Barbara Robertson, Shelley Servais, Lorie & Warren Stirling, Elizabeth Thierry and Marie Warner

Meetings: Approx. 4-5 per year

Average Attendance: 8 - 12

Highlights/Achievements:

In order to carry out our mandate, the Hospitality Committee has continued this past year to delegate responsibilities utilizing the organizational framework noted below. This has enabled us to share the different tasks in an efficient & equitable manner.

- Kitchen Maintenance Coordinators: (Barb Lauder & Shirley Bardy)
- Kitchen Maintenance Assistant: (Edie Faucher)
- Purchasing Coordinator: (Sharon Osmond)
- Funeral Receptions Coordinator & Council Luncheon Coordinator: (Elizabeth Thierry)
- CYYAF Events Coordinators: (Elaine Reedhead, Evelyn Moroz, Shelly Servais)
- Special Events Coordinator: (Marie Warner)
- Restricted Diets Coordinator: (Carol Newhouse)
- Dry Cleaning Coordinators: (Irene & Dick Bevan)
- Epiphany Conference Coordinators: (Barb Lauder, Sharon Osmond, Moira Nasim)
- Sunday Morning Refreshment Coordinator: (Moira Nasim)
- Members at Large: (Lorie & Warren Stirling, Barbara Robertson)

In such a busy church as ours it takes many dedicated volunteers to fulfill all the hospitality tasks that come our way in any given year. And certainly at First+Met we have found wonderful folks who have aided our committee members in the areas delineated above. We extend our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for supporting us in this very important ministry. Special thanks go to those folks and committees who helped with refreshments on Sunday mornings, contributed home baking or bought goodies, volunteered at Epiphany and other special hospitality events or served at funeral receptions. And as always, we wish to thank our ministry, administration and particularly our custodial staff who have supported and continue to support our efforts in a myriad of ways.

Objectives for the Coming Year:

- To raise the profile of the Hospitality Committee and promote greater attendance at 'Sunday Refreshment Hour'.
- To encourage more volunteers to help with 'Sunday Refreshment Hour' and, if possible, join the Hospitality Committee.
- To refine our respective coordinators' job descriptions.

Respectfully submitted,
Moira Nasim Hospitality Committee Chair (Interim)

FUNERAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

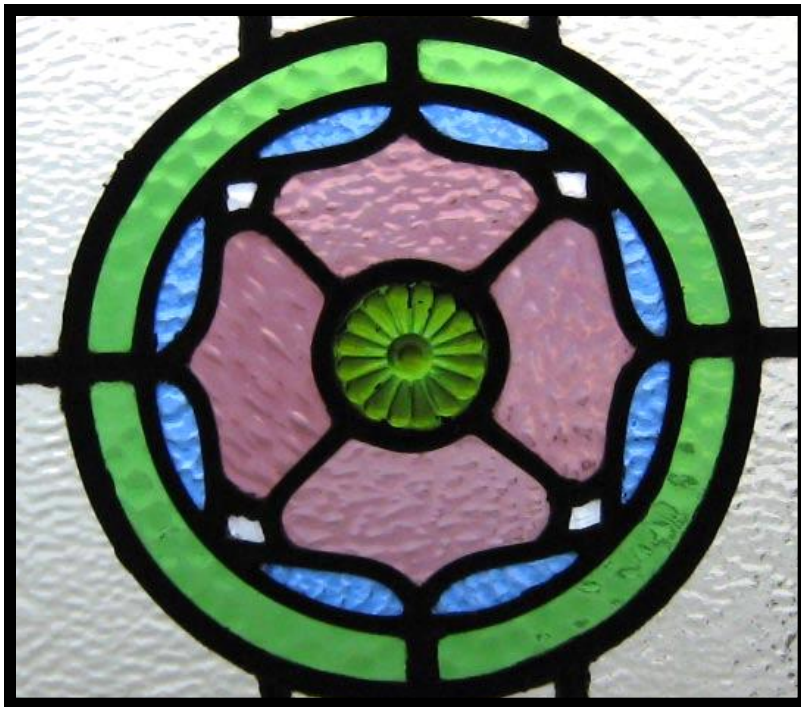
First†Metropolitan United Church has a committee responsible for funeral luncheon receptions which are held in the church hall or Doreene McLeod room.

There is a group of ladies and a few men who are happy to provide this volunteer service. The Co-ordinator works with the family to decide what will be served and places the order. A number of volunteers help to set up and service the luncheon. The family take care of food expense.

A special "Thank You" to each one for your valuable service and to each of our custodians. It is much appreciated by the families.

Circumstances change and some volunteers may not be able to continue. If any of the congregation would like to be part of this volunteer service, the committee would be delighted to hear from you. Please give the Co-ordinator a telephone call 250-595-1932 and discuss it with her.

Submitted by: Elizabeth Thierry, Co-ordinator.



"On the surface it appears to be an invitation to eat and drink. But, it is much more than that. It is a time for the bereaved to receive support from their community. It is a time for people to greet one another. It can be immensely supportive seeing old friends who care about you. It is really a sacred gathering because it may be a giant step toward healing."

Rev Gordon Cann

Newcomers Welcoming Network Core Team

Team Leader/Chair: Merle Nicholds

Meeting Days: 4
Meeting Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm
of meetings held: 4
Average attendance: 5
Present Membership: Dave Osmond (Past Chair); Brenda Porter (Secretary); Bob Wilson (Photographer); Leslie Wilson; Hiwot Nigussie; Beverley Cattrall plus a roster of 25 greeters

Objectives for 2010:

- To hold two Newcomers Welcome luncheons and a Greeters Appreciation luncheon
- To recruit new greeters
- To welcome visitors and do follow up contact
- Liaise with key staff and other church leaders in assisting newcomers to become integrated in church community

Highlights/Achievements of the Year as related to Objectives:

- Held one Newcomers Welcome luncheon attended by 38 newcomers. 80% agreed to have names added to church directory.
- Held two successful coffee welcomes for newcomers in September and November as an alternative to luncheon. The coffees required less planning and enabled committee to welcome newcomers more regularly and sooner after their first visit.
- Committee provided key volunteers to assist with church photo directory. Provided hospitality and welcome reception during the process as well as encouraging people to complete JNAC questionnaires. Contributed to the high success rate in the inclusion of more newcomers in church photo directory and in the JNAC questionnaire response.
- Several newcomers welcomed this year have already become actively involved in the church.
- Recruited 6 new greeters.

Objectives for Coming Year- 2011:

- To hold 6-7 Newcomers Coffee Welcomes
- To hold a Greeters Appreciation Luncheon & Workshop (brought forward from 2010)
- Continue to work on new approaches to identify and reach out to newcomers
- Explore more communication and media connections i.e. liaise with Communications team
- Improve collection of phone and email information from visitors
- To attract more young people to greeters team

Submitted by: Merle Nichols

Communications Committee



The Communications Committee promotes Church events within our Church Family and to the rest of the Community. We meet approximately every two months, depending upon need.

Members: Barry Rolston (chair), Joan Mason (Vice Chair), David Bray, Jean Medland, Bob Wilson, Brian Shields (staff rep)

How do we do this?

- 1) We promote Church events through **Print Media** (newspapers, Island Parent), including paid and Public Service Announcements and through the **Electronic media** (T.V., Cable, Radio etc)
- 2) We maintain and update our **web** page. This is a major undertaking, thanks to Joan and Brian for maintaining it.
- 3) We create or assist in the creation of **flyers** and posters.
- 4) We then promote Church events through the **distribution of flyers** or posters to about 60 sites using our 'Distribution Tree', including the Tourist Bureau and Hotels/Motels (Thanks also to all who help here!) (about 60 sites) This includes flyers for "snowbirds" that are distributed in hotels, motels by Dick Bevan's team (*thanks Dick!*). This year we provided a **mail drop off** to every home in the James Bay to Cloverdale region an invitation to participate in our Christmas and Epiphany activities.
- 5) We update the **bulletin boards** in the Church and the large sign by our Quadra Street entrance (thanks Cullen!)

- 6) We provide **signage** where necessary (sandwich boards on front steps, parking)
- 7) We have updated our church **Logo**, the one you see in the fellowship hallway and on our Telephone Directory
- 8) We provided a new Church **Photo Directory** for all members who had their photos taken earlier this spring. Thanks to all who helped organize this, especially Joan who spearheaded it.
- 9) Working with the Property Committee we assisted in the renovation of the **Fellowship Foyer**, including selecting colours, installing our 'corporate' name and the multi language 'welcome' sign, ordering new chairs, and installing the new **flat screen TV** that highlights events and activities of our Church Community. Brian worked very hard on the latter and programs it as needed.
- 10) Brian has also been successful in expanding our ability to facilitate '**on line**' registration for any Church event. This makes our activities easier for folks to sign on to and reduced administrative tasks in the Church Office.



Focus for 2011:

- 1) Using "**Social Media**" (Facebook, Twitter etc) effectively continues to be an important initiative. If this is an area that interests you please contact one of the Committee members. We could use your insight.
- 2) This coming December we will explore the idea of having a FirstMet Float in the annual **Santa Claus Parade!**
- 3) We are assisting the Property Committee investigate how we could have an **glass door** installed just inside our main Quadra St. Door so people can see that activities are happening at night and in the winter without the door being closed.

Every congregational member is in fact helping our Committee by making others in the community aware of the many activities and services offered at First Met.

Thank you for doing that.

Check out: www.firstmetvictoria.com

Library Committee Annual Report: 2010

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Team Leader/Chair: | Denise Holmen | Meeting Time: | 12:15-1:15 pm |
| Meeting Days: | Sundays | Average attendance: | 6 |
| # of meetings held: | 4 | | |

Present Membership:

Diane Aitken (children's librarian; hallway bulletin board); Laura Butler (book reviewer); David Chamberlin (collection development & finance); Gillian Chamberlin; Pat Davey; Phyllis Duval; Denise Holmen; Terry Swan; Susan Walma (outreach services)

Objectives for 2010:

- Find member to be responsible for overdue books; retrieve overdue books
- Promote Library use
- Broaden collection policy
- Raise funds for new books

Highlights/Achievements of 2010 as related to Objectives:

Committee members offered library services on Sundays after the 9:00 and 11:00 am services. Church members borrowed 265 books.

The Library purchased 147 books for a total of \$956.14 and received 183 books by donation or transfer. David catalogued 244 books, 2 kits, 4 DVDs, 13 cassettes and 10 CDs, and created 29 catalogue entries for articles in books and periodicals.

Gillian offered to be responsible for overdue books, and delinquent borrowers are starting to respond to her phone calls and letters.

Library Promotion:

- Diane kept the hallway bulletin board current & tempting
- David & Susan contributed book reviews to the church newsletter
- Susan described the health & wellness collection housed in Anne's office, but listed in the library catalogue
- Denise offered to attend other committee meetings to describe the library materials that support their mandates. She promoted library books at 2 UCW meetings. She submitted library web pages for the church website, and an invitation to use the library in the bulletin announcements and on the video messages before the 11:00 am service.

Collection policy:

After soliciting council opinion, members widened the scope of the collection from mostly Christian works to include more materials from other faith traditions and broad spirituality. David catalogued books donated by Linda Mulhall. Denise purchased about 175 books from the former Queenswood Library (113 books for the library, and about 60 for an uncatalogued social justice reading collection).

Fund Raising:

One book sale was held which raised \$155. Anne Sikstrom donated \$100 to buy books from the former Queenswood Library. David and Gillian Chamberlin donated \$500 to the Library.

Objectives for 2011:

- More Library promotion
- Make the Library more inviting
- Raise funds
- Pursue creating a social justice reading collection outside library

Submitted by Denise Holmen

2010 Report from the Stewardship Committee

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Committee Chair: | Herb Pitts | Members | Staff Support |
| Meeting Days: | Various | Carol Fedrau-Ens | Allan Saunders |
| Meeting Times: | Various | Mary Kenderdine | Gordon Cann |
| # of Meetings: | Four | Robin Krause | Greg Kazakoff |
| Average Attendance: | Four | Dave Osmond | Carol Goy |

Highlights / Achievements 2010:

- Analyzed 2009 results to establish increased Regular Giving potential for 2010. This was estimated to be \$60,000 - \$70,000. Target was set at \$50,000 for Budget purposes.
- Participated as a Member of the Budget Team for the third year.
- Prepared Launch of Annual Stewardship Appeal in late August and September.
- Conducted 2011 Annual Stewardship Appeal during month of October with weekly updates on the number of households participating and the increases in Regular Givings. These appeared in the Church Service Bulletins from early October to late November. Two "thermometer" charts showed weekly progress in the Sanctuary entrance and Chapel area.
- **PAR** (Pre Arranged Remittance) now represents a growing 39% of Regular Givings.
- The Annual Appeal exceeded its Pledge Target with a \$56,940 total increase, somewhat offset by an indicated decline of about \$7,000, yielding a net increase of \$49,400.
- 172 Pledges were received, representing about one third of our households. The average increase in yearly Regular Givings was \$290 for respondents.
- Total pledged during the Appeal was \$326,400 representing 58% of budget needs.
- Partially upgraded our Church Website as it pertains to Stewardship.

Objectives for 2011:

- Assess Results of 2011 Appeal to improve response of Congregation to 2012 Appeal.
- Establish Annual Appeal as a vital part of Church life and our ability to fulfill our Mission.
- Work towards increasing participation in the Pledging of Regular Givings
- Develop a yearly plan (objectives) which responds to foreseen needs of First†Met, including recognition of its contributions we make to local, national and global needs.
- Participate in development of the Strategic Plan (2010) for First†Met.
- Foster Bequests and Special Gifts to our Church either to the Operating Fund or the Foundation.
- Continue to upgrade Stewardship contents / references on First†Met Website.
- Improve acknowledgement of all donations to First†Met.
- Recruit new members so that our Committee membership more closely represents the congregants of our Church.
- Prepare to meet the demands that the future infrastructure and staffing needs of our Church can be achieved.

Finally, on behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I express our thanks to the Congregation and our Staff for their continued, invaluable and vital support for the needs of our Church. Blessings and Best Wishes to all for 2011.

Respectfully, Herb Pitts, Chair.

Outreach Core Team Report 2010

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Team Leader/Chair: | Janet Gray |
| Meeting Days: | Mondays (might change) |
| Present Membership: | Shirley Bardy, Helen Mackay, Leslie and Bob Wilson, Robin Breckon, Blain Thierry, Tom Lane, Sheila Hanna |
| Meeting Time: | 10 - 12 pm |
| # of meetings held: | 8 |
| Average attendance: | 7 |

Objectives for 2010:

Our church community is a great place to share things that we are passionate about, what are your passions? Jesus is our leader and our light, he was both a teacher and out on the frontline. With your support and participation we achieve and change many things. Let Outreach team members know what you want to see happen, in First†Met and beyond. Let us know what concerns you have and what passions you have regarding our world. One persons idea can grow into a movement – together with Christ as our light and God weaving her wonderful energy through us all – we at First†Metropolitan, we can make a difference in this community and world, and we are, one step at a time.

Highlights/Achievements of the Year as related to Objectives:

- 7 Letter writing events after services for Amnesty Int. and local/national issues
- First Climate Action Film Series (4 films) – avg. 22 people attend each film
- a stand/walk in support of KAIROS lost funding from CIDA and a luncheon with Mary Corkery National KAIROS exec. director
- 8 people from First†Met attend City – Church – Street Conference at St John the Divine (about homelessness, addictions, mental health) – 6 more people attend follow-up meetings
- 3 people from First†Met attend Truth and Reconciliation community event in Dec. about Right Relations
- Co-sponsored through KAIROS a World style café about Climate Change with Council of Canadians, Youth Climate Action group and Sierra Youth action group
- ongoing relationship building with ICA
- 12 or more First†Met people attend OUR Place November open houses
- Sunday services Environment, KAIROS, Out of the Rain, Inner City Dinner, and First Nations issues
- Appeals raising funds for 9 Inner City Dinners, and our Out of the Rain financial obligations to the Coalition

Objectives for Coming Year - 2011:

- To continue to raise awareness and advocate for: Homelessness, Right Relations, Environment and Care for Creation, Amnesty International, Inner City Dinner, Out of the Rain.
- To raise awareness and build relationships with First Nations and ICA communities.
- To continue in collaboration with organizations such as KAIROS, Faith in Action, Amnesty, St John the Divine, and other United Churches in the Greater Victoria Area about issues of social justice and environment.
- To hold 9 Inner City dinners and raise more awareness and financial support from the Greater Victoria area for the dinners.
- To continue with the Out of the Rain shelter for the winter months (Oct – April).

Submitted by: Janet Gray – chair



Annual Report for 2010

Over 300,000 meals served; approximately 12,000 showers provided; 2,000 volunteers person-hours per month (242 active volunteers); 300 clothing articles distributed daily; 22 new 'hardest-to-house' supportive housing residents with 5 residents moving out to market housing. Our 2010 numbers speak for themselves.

Our Place Society at the end of the first decade of the 21st century is much like it was when we opened our new facility on Pandora Avenue in 2008; except we are much busier. Everyone is familiar with the phrase "Build it and they will come" made famous by the movie *Field of Dreams*. The need for Our Place has been justified many times over as Victorians struggling with poverty, mental illness, substance abuse and disabilities seek assistance in numbers greater than ever anticipated.

A closer look, however, at the makeup of 'our family' tells a different story. We have become a downtown community centre. We still serve the homeless, but the poor and the working poor of Greater Victoria, housed or not housed, are the vast majority of our family. Spend an afternoon at Our Place and you will witness many of the medical and social ills that afflict our city. Regardless of who they are or the problems they may experience, we remain true to our vision of providing a place where our family can feel at home and experience a sense of hope for a better tomorrow.

There have been many other accomplishments during the past year: all of them can be put under the heading of increased accountability. We are more sophisticated in fund-raising and external communications with our generous donors who provide 53% of our budget. We have greater understanding—statistically and programmatically—of our services and, in particular, areas requiring improvement. We developed a three-year financial plan, one that leads to long-term fiscal stability. And, we became an 'open-society', a change that enhances community accountability by providing opportunities for individuals to participate more fully in our 'business'. We remain a ministry of the United Church of Canada—something we are proud of—and are delighted our work received such a complimentary review by the UCC accreditors.

A dedicated and community-minded Board of Directors governs Our Place Society. We are fortunate these 12 individuals give so willingly of their time. We are, likewise, blessed in having a spiritual and visionary shepherd overseeing our operations. Reverend Allen Tysick never ceases to inspire those around him with his dedication to serving God's less fortunate. And, of course, we are thankful for our wonderful staff and volunteers: as with any social service organization they make all the difference.

As before, we are grateful for the support and encouragement we receive from the United Church of Canada and its parishioners. We would not be where we are without you.

Dennis M. Anholt, Ph.D.
Chairperson, Board of Directors
Our Place Society

Angel Gifts Project



Team Leader/Chair:

Dawn Williamson, Our Place coordinator;
Penny Bond, First†Metropolitan coordinator

Highlights/Achievements of the Year:

At Christmas time, 2010 this Victoria Presbytery project provided designated Angel Gifts to 925 inner city folk. With additional anonymous gifts (i.e. recipient's name unknown to donor) the total was close to 1,000. Members of the First†Metropolitan congregation gave 92 gifts to members of the Our Place inner city family. This very generous response slightly surpassed the 2010 goal of 90 gifts from our congregation.



This year, Our Place further simplified the procedure by slightly re-designing the angel card. This made the work easier at the congregational level, as evidenced by fewer non-returned gifts and an easier sorting process.

Thank you for the role you played in providing Angel Gifts this year. Your kindness and generosity are much appreciated. Special thanks go to Joyce and Peter Clugston, Marion Newson, and Carol and Bud Buchan for their help with the sorting and distribution. Also, many thanks to the First†Metropolitan office & custodial staff for their help in making this project run smoothly.

Objectives for Coming Year:

- Provide at least 95 Angel Gifts from First†Metropolitan to Our Place
- Maintain volunteer participation of congregational members in the sorting and transportation of Angel Gifts

Submitted by: *Penny Bond*

Margaret Cameron Trust Fund - 2010

MISSION:

To receive and consider requests for help from this fund.

MEETINGS:

As necessary to deal with incoming requests.

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES:

In August of 1990, the Trustees of Metropolitan United Church were advised that Metropolitan United Church was the beneficiary of the estate of a former member, Margaret Cameron. Her will instructed Canada Trust "TO SET ASIDE and to invest the residue of my estate as a Trust Fund to be designated as the "MARY ARCHIBALD, NELLIE AND MARGARET CAMERON MEMORIAL TRUST FUND." The income therefore shall be divided annually into five (5) equal parts and distributed as follows:

One (1) such equal part shall be paid to the METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH, 1411 Quadra Street, Victoria, British Columbia, to be used for people in need, including people who are not members of the Metropolitan United Church.

Because this was not a one-time bequest, but ongoing with definite direction on how to be used, the Trustees felt that it needed and deserved to be administered by its own committee.

In June 1991, Metropolitan Unified Board approved a committee to form the administration process, define the use of these funds and how these funds are to be looked after. On October 8, 1991 the committee report was presented at the Unified Board meeting and a motion was carried that "an ongoing Margaret Cameron Memorial Fund Committee be an administrative, decision-making committee for the purpose of receiving and/or seeking out requests for funds, awarding money as deemed appropriate and reporting to the congregation of Metropolitan United Church annually." A motion that the proceeds from the estate be deposited in Margaret Cameron Memorial Fund Committee was referred to the Board in March 1992, the Outreach Committee was appointed to administer the Margaret Cameron Memorial Fund.

In February 1994, the Margaret Cameron Memorial Fund Committee became a sub-committee of the Outreach Committee with all/most members being on the Outreach Committee and administration procedures established as follows:

1. All requests for aid from this fund must be in writing, to the Cameron Fund Committee, fully explaining the need.
2. All requests will be received, considered and approved by a carried motion by the committee.
3. Upon approval a requisition will be given to the treasurer of the Board of Trustees for the release of the approved funds.
4. Because of the sensitivity of request, it is imperative that confidentiality be maintained. Therefore, Margaret Cameron Trust Fund business will not appear in circulated minutes and reports, but will be confined to the Trust Fund Committee and the board of Trustees.

Miss Cameron's Memorial allows us to receive and consider requests for what would otherwise not be possible.

Submitted by: Pat Davey (Secretary)

Music Team Report

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Team Leader/Chair: | Mona McGill |
| Meeting Days: | 2 nd Thursday of month |
| Present Membership: | Helen Carr, secretary; Karl Ireland, treasurer; Brenda Harvey, Don Bourdon, Don Hodgson, Helen Mackay, Lindsay Barber, Peter Clugston, and Sharon Stennes. Larry McGill has stepped in as treasurer of music team |
| Meeting Time: | 2:00 pm or 6:00 pm |
| # of meetings held: | 7 |
| Average attendance: | 7 |

Objectives for 2010

- To articulate the Ministry of Music at First†Metropolitan
- To help plan, foster and host musical and artistic liturgical programming within the church
- To help others within the church family, to participate and appreciate the making of church music
- To partner with those in the broader community enabling First†Metropolitan to build stronger ties with community
- To support the spiritual arts, in particular music at First†Metropolitan

Highlights/Achievements of the Year as related to Objectives:

Music for Meditation: with Lanny Pollet and Dennis Donnelly. These fine musicians offer our church community and others a time for listening and quiet reflection as we begin a New Year.

Student Scholars: A spring concert was offered by these students to say thank you for your support which they greatly appreciate. The students are a huge support to the choir and under Fran's direction they grow musically and spiritually within this church.

Children's Choir: They give great joy to the congregation. While listening, we become aware of the purity of their voices. We also note how these voices under Brenda Harvey's direction are showing growth in fullness, vocal range and clarity of enunciation. At the same time, they are developing a sense of self assurance and camaraderie. More children are welcome.

Kathaumixw on Tour: Three International choirs presented us with joyful singing. The attendance and community support was excellent. The church and musical supporters within the community housed 110 billets. Many hosts from this 2010 concert have volunteered to host again for the 2012 Kathaumixw concert.

RCCO International Conference: Music team helped to host delegates, to assist at concerts, and to host a lunch here at First†Metropolitan

Vancouver Island Gospel Choir: Music team was asked to host this concert with all proceeds to go to the Inner City dinners

Shall We Gather at the River: This warm and emotional service was held for the remembrance and the honouring of people, both past and present

Carols in the Candlelight: 22nd & 24th December. An original adaptation of Leo Tolstoy's story written in 1885 titled Martin the Cobbler or Where Love is, There God is Also. It was performed by the First†Met players with supportive music with a Russian flare.

Objectives for Coming Year - 2011:

These are similar to the above:

- To continue support for strong musical programming
- To support and nurture children's musical initiative
- To reach out in building ties to broader community of Victoria

Submitted by: Mona McGill

Sanctuary Choir Annual Report 2010

Team Leader/Chair: Frances Pollet, Minister of Music

Meeting Days: Thursday/Sunday

Meeting Time: 7-9 pm Thursday
10:30 am-12:30 pm Sunday

of meetings held: 97

Membership: 35

Average attendance: 25

Choir Executive:

Andy Swan, President
Ted Weick, Vice-President
Sheila Anderson, Treasurer
David Bray, Secretary
Gordon Larsen/Doris May, Librarians
Marlene Campbell, Gowns
Ruby Lightbody, Membership
Emily Pollet, Social
Agnes Lesyk, Sick and Visiting

Highlights/Achievements of the Year:

- January – Epiphany Explorations, special services and Vocal Ensemble
- February – Choir AGM and social
- March – Pipes Around the Pacific choir concert at St. Aidan’s United
- April – Good Friday/Easter special music
- May – Pringle Bells
- June – annual choir potluck social event at home of Fran and Lanny Pollet
- July - International Choir Kathaumixw
- August – hosted congregational coffee time in Fellowship Hall
- September – welcomed new bursary students Alex Remple and Ben Groom
- October – Thanksgiving service with brass
Shall We Gather at the River concert
- November – One Human Family Gospel Choir
Advent special music
- December – Pringle Bells
Special Christmas music
Carols in the Candlelight pageant – *Martin the Cobbler*

In addition, the First†Met Vocal Ensemble completed production of a CD. The choir also provided music leadership for four worship services during the year at Oak Bay Lodge.

Objectives for Coming Year:

To continue to offer the choral component for Sunday services and provide leadership for congregational singing.

Thanks to Fran, Emily and Lanny Pollet for their leadership and enthusiasm. Thanks and appreciation also to our bursary students, soloists and instrumentalists who help add to our musical experience.

Submitted by: David Bray, Choir Secretary



Pringle Bells

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Leader: | Frances Pollet, Minister of Music |
| Present Membership: | 11, plus Director |
| Rehearsals: | Friday mornings. Total 32 |
| Average attendance: | 11 |
| Performances: | Sunday services 4 (in Sanctuary) Oak Bay Lodge 1 |

Highlights of the year:

- (1) In March, 6 choir members attended a 1-day handbell workshop in Nanaimo which was sponsored by the B.C. Guild of English Handbell Ringers for the Vancouver Island area. These are held regionally every year throughout the province to encourage participation, learn new ringing techniques and perfect the old, and enjoy the challenge of ringing in larger groups. Workshops are also very useful in introducing school-age children to music generally and the joys of ringing both bells and chimes. This was very evident in Nanaimo where a whole classroom of students from up-Island were accorded instruction on their own and separate from the adults. *Enthusiasm reigned supreme!*
- (2) In August, one of our members, Doris May, attended the 14th International Handbell Symposium in Osaka, Japan with 8 other Canadians. They were among 1,200 ringers from around the world to participate. Doris also had the privilege of joining 70 other ringers journeying to Hiroshima for a handbell concert commemorating the 65th anniversary of the bombing of that city at the end of World War II.

NOTE: If anyone in the congregation feels the urge to join us to "...ring dem bells..," please do so. There's enough to go around!

Respectfully submitted: Don Duke.



Basketball 2010

Leader/Chair: Rick Vickery
Meeting Days: Mon-Wed
Meeting Time: Mon 5:00-6:00 pm Tues and Wed 5:00-9:00 pm
Number of Teams: 8

- This year we have three boys teams and three girls teams.
- There are a total of 50 athletes participating.

Our teams have enthusiastic coaches with many of them being former players. We are the only program in Victoria and the district.

- Basketball that has an open registration (we accept all players). We also managed to raise funds through poinsettia sales for a bursary.
- It has been another good year and we thank the Church for their continuing support.



Submitted by: Rick Vickery, Director

Badminton Annual Report 2010

Volunteer Coordinator: Carolyn Barton for Joan Wilkinson
Meeting Day: Monday
Meeting Time: 7:30 pm
of meetings held: Weekly September to June (not December)
Average attendance: 11 regular members & 12 drop ins

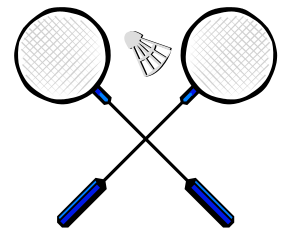
Highlights/Achievements of the Year:

- Fellowship & fun

Objectives for Coming Year:

- Exercise, fun, & fellowship

Submitted by: Carolyn Barton for Joan Wilkinson - (Volunteer Coordinator)



Friendship Club 2010

- The Friendship Group meets the first and third Wednesday of the month except for July and August.
- In 2010 we tried a new format in that we ate out for each gathering. This has proved popular as we have a larger turnout than meeting in the church.
- We had a special gathering for Chinese New Year and have tried for a variety of settings such as Tim Horton's to the Gorge Vale Golf Course.
- In September the Friendship Group celebrated the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Couples Club and later the Friendship Group. The occasion was a buffet, with former members also present. We were pleased to welcome Lawrence Moon and Evelyn Holt to the event.
- The Derbyshire's 66th Wedding Anniversary was celebrated by a gathering at Marlene Campbell's house. Well Done Marlene.
- Sharron and Keith Wilkinson hosted the group for a Christmas party. A most successful event enjoyed by all. Thank you Sharron and Keith.
- For 2011 we are planning on a full slate of gatherings. *Bon Appétit.*

Submitted by: Elwood Derbyshire

Merry Mates 2010

- The club has 27 persons on the membership roster.
- Meetings are held the first Friday of each month with the exception of July and August.
- Programs consist of tours, speakers, barbeques, walks and golf games.
- Christmas dinner was held at the Kiwanis Manor where we enjoyed music and games including a talented ten year old violinist from the congregation.

Submitted by: Lillian Crozier-Smith

Acti-mets Couples Club 2010

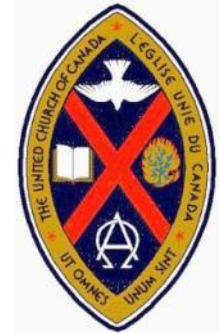
The Acti-mets Couples Club have just completed their 63rd year of operation. We have held 5 luncheons and a Christmas party during the year. The average attendance was approximately 26 members. The meetings are minimally structured and enjoyed by all. During the year we contributed two books to the Mountford Library in memory of 2 deceased members, and \$300.00 to the Sunday School & Youth work through Megumi. Our meetings are coordinated by Don & Deane Hodgson who have graciously offered to carry on. New members to the First†Metropolitan congregation are most welcome to come for lunch the 3rd Friday of every second month, that is Feb., April, June, Sept., Nov., & Christmas. We look forward to another happy and satisfying year.

Please contact the Hodgsons or Walkeys for further information.

Submitted by: Gerry Walkey

United Church Women ~ 2010

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Co-presidents: | Joan Dowse/Marie McKee |
| Secretary: | Patti Buchanan |
| Treasurer: | Irene Bevan |
| Corresponding Secretaries: | Kay Maguire |
| Cradle Roll Secretary | Janet Harper |
| Presbytery Rep | Joan Dowse |
| Membership: | 35 |
| Associate Members: | 9 |
| Monthly Unit/Executive Meetings: | nine months of the year |



| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Two Units: | Mildred Mossop Unit: rotating leaders Unity Unit: Chair: Patti Buchanan |
|-------------------|--|

Highlights/Achievements of the Year:

- A worship service is the focus of each Executive and Unit meeting. Each year, as a demonstration of our faith, UCW organizes an Ecumenical Advent service. Invitations were sent to the wider Christian Community. Sixteen invitations were mailed.
- The UCW supports and cares for those within the UCW membership and also all women of the Congregation. The UCW and all women of the Congregation are part of the Women's Ministry Network of the National Church. We support the World Day of Prayer and the Least Coin under the Women's Inter-Church Council. UCW members attend and participate in these programs.
- The UCW continues their connection with the young children on the Cradle Roll. Birthday cards were sent to children age 1 - 3. In addition, cards are sent to UCW members on special occasions. Special occasions of others are also recognized.
- Preparation of the 15th in a series of Lenten Meditation Books with the profits going to Sponsorships to summer camps at Camp Pringle.
- A highlight of the year was participating in Presbyterial Events such as *Day Apart* at Camp Pringle and hosting *Presbyterial* at First†Met in October. Members attend Presbyterial meetings four times each year.
- **In 2010 the UCW supported four special projects:**
 - sponsorships of five children to attend summer programs at Camp Pringle
 - choir bursary fund
 - kitchen supplies for the "new" Branter Lodge at Camp Pringle
 - provided a table and set of chairs for the "new" Spencer Hall at Camp Pringle
- **The UCW made financial contributions to:**
 - Children, Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry
 - First†Met Outreach Ministry
 - Hospitality
 - Health and Wellness Ministry
 - M&S fund
 - Howley James Fund
 - Office: Paper and Duplicating

Continued on next page

- **In addition the UCW made donations to**

- UCW Presbyterial
Our Place
Out of the Rain
Inner City Dinner

- Gifts were given to the staff who support the work of the UCW.
- Donations were sent to other organizations not directly connected to the Church such as Cridge Centre for the Family, WIN, and the Mustard Seed Church.

At Unit meetings there were varied programs such as a lunch and dessert meeting in support of M&S where Helen Fletcher spoke about her work with child soldiers and school programs in Liberia. Other speakers were from the Mustard Seed Church, the Cridge Center for the Family, The Children's International Summer Village, Denise Holmen talking about our Library, and a Mission Study by Marion Denton.

Harmony Unit held its final meeting in June. Due to many members with health concerns and transportation problems, the Harmony Unit decided to discontinue their monthly meetings. We thank them for their years of service and dedication. Members who are able have joined the other two units.

UCW Objectives for Coming Year:

- On a regular basis, to provide spiritual programs, mission study and devotionals for the women of the Church.
- To provide support, caring and fellowship for the women of the church.
- To reach out and look after those women who cannot attend services and functions.
- To acknowledge the work and support of the staff and recognize them with Christmas gifts.
- To raise funds to support a number of the Church programs - CYYC, Outreach, Hospitality, M&S, Pastoral care, young choir members (choir bursary fund), Flower committee, G. & H. James fund.
- To raise funds to support George Pringle Memorial Church Camp kitchen.
- To raise funds to send children to Camp Pringle.
- To support and participate in Women's Inter-Church Council events, mainly Ingathering for the Least Coin program and World Day of Prayer.
- To participate in and financially support Presbyterial events such as the quarterly meetings, Presbyterial Project fund, and Day A-part.
- To fund raise for special community groups that are dear to the UCW members; for example, Out of the Rain, Our Place, Mustard Seed Church, and Cridge Center for the Family.

Submitted by Marie McKee 250-592-7238

Board of Trustees Annual Report 2010

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Team Chair: | Jan Drent |
| Current Membership: | Jack Basey, Robin Krause, John Newhouse, Herb Pitts, Leanne Prestwich, Wayne Carter, Rev Dr Allan Saunders |
| Meeting Days: | generally Mondays |
| Meeting Time: | usually 7:00 pm |
| # of meetings held: | 2 (June, November) |
| Average attendance: | 6 |

Objectives for 2010:

Continue stewardship of Restricted Funds, ensure insurance renewed. For information there are 9 "Restricted" (i.e. established & maintained for specific purpose) Funds. Spending decisions are made by a committee responsible for the fund. The trustees separately manage the money in the individual funds. Funds are:

- Archives
- Balmoral Garden Court – provides amenities for residents
- Elizabeth Mayne - used for improvements to audio visual systems
- Howley James - assistance to candidates for ordained ministry
- Library
- Music
- Oliver-assistance for lay education
- Margaret Cameron-assistance for individuals in financial need
- Capital Projects - items required within FMUC plant

Highlights of the Year as related to Objectives:

The trustees shifted money held in the Restricted Funds from GICs to Oikocredit which provides microfinance loans in the Developing world and countries in the former USSR. Oikocredit is a well-established international organization with headquarters in the Netherlands. Oikocredit is currently paying investors 2% which is a better rate than can be realized from GICs. Thus our Church funds are being used to help provide microfinance loans while earning modest interest. The BOT currently has \$147,500 invested with Oikocredit.

Objectives for 2011:

Raise profile of Restricted Funds and how they are being managed within our Congregation through items in newsletter, bulletin and "Minutes for Mission".

Submitted by: Jan Drent

Foundation Report 2010

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|--|
| Team Leader: | Jan Drent | Secretary: Jan Drent |
| Meeting Days: | Monday | Treasurer, FMUC Memorial Stabilization Trust 2009: |
| Meeting Time: | 7:30 pm | John Newhouse |
| # of meetings: | 3 | Treasurer, FMUC Trust 2008 Jan Drent |
| Average Attendance: | 6 | Other Members: Wayne Carter, Robin Krause, Herb Pitts, Leanne Prestwich, Jack Basey, Rev Dr Allan Saunders |

Overview: There were three formal meetings of the Foundation over the past year (in June and November) including the 8th AGM on June 14, 2010.

Trust Funds: The Foundation holds the Church's trust funds. Under the Foundation constitution the FMUC Trustees are simultaneously the Directors of the Foundation.

FMUC Trust 2008: Investment earnings are used to further the work of the Church. In 2010 the trust paid \$ 45,000 in investment earnings to the FMUC operating fund.

FMUC Stabilization Trust 2009: Investment earnings can be used only to cover deficits in the Church operating budget. Allocation out of 2010 investment earnings will be made in 2011 depending on any deficit in the Church's operating budget in 2010.

Allocation of Bequests & "In Memoriam" Donations to FMUC: Council Executive is responsible to the Congregation for determining how undesignated bequests and "in memoriam" gifts (which are processed by the Trustees) should be used. ["Undesignated" bequests and "in memoriam" gifts those for which a specific purpose has not been stated by the donor]. The Congregation decided in 2009 that one half of undesignated bequests and "in memoriam" gifts should be allocated to the FMUC Trust 2008 held in the Foundation, whose investment earnings are used to further the work of the Church. The other half is divided between the operating fund and the Capital Projects Restricted Fund.

Objectives for 2010:

Continue stewardship of the trust funds on behalf of the Congregation, form investment advisory group.

Highlights as related to 2010 Objectives: We continued our stewardship of the trust funds but have not yet established an investment advisory group.

Submitted by: Jan Drent



GEORGE PRINGLE MEMORIAL CAMP SOCIETY ~ 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

Chair: Helmuth Mueller **Executive Director:** Darryl MacLeod
Board meetings: 3rd Thursday Monthly
Meeting Time: 7:00pm at St. Aidan's United Church
of meetings held: 9 meetings with an average attendance of 10
Membership: 17 members representing 12 of the 20 Victoria Presbytery churches

Highlights/Achievements of the Year:

Program: 2010 was a year in which we introduced our exciting new Ultimate Adventure and Junior Watersports programs. After 3 consecutive years of near full camps, our first Junior Coed and our Girls Camps saw significant number drops and our Crew Programs again struggled for numbers, however, our Family Camp returned to very strong numbers and our Ultimate Adventure Camp and Intermediate Watersports camps were both totally full. There were 13 Bike campers over two programs this summer down a little from 2009. Overall, our summer camper numbers were 573 which is the exact same number as 2009 if you don't include Spring Break numbers.

We had to cancel our Spring Break Camp in 2010 due to construction, but anticipate that this camp will see good numbers again in 2011.

There was at least one camper from each of 13 of the 20 Victoria Presbytery Churches who attended our summer programs. These were First†Metropolitan, Sylvan, Cordova Bay, Duncan, St. Paul's, Fairfield, Centennial, Gordon Head, Oak Bay, St. Aidan's, James Bay, Pilgrim and St. John's. Four churches also sponsored campers to attend summer programs at Camp Pringle, including First†Metropolitan, Duncan, James Bay and Sylvan helping 13 campers with \$3,632.66. Camp Pringle sponsored 40 campers and 5 families for a total of \$10,886.22 in 2010.

Property: The camp was being used a total of 222 days in 2010 which is the same as in 2009 with lower numbers over these two years based on the construction. (prior 5 year average is 260 days/year) Several projects were completed in 2010, these were:

Dock rebuilding, Aluminum Rescue platform built and installed at the waterfront, Laura Butler bunks replaced with sturdier Branter bunks, Boat house ramp built, Labyrinth built below Cabins #6 & #7, Salvage of Old Spencer Hall including metal roofing, fir trusses, kitchen equipment, bathroom fixtures and stalls, and the protection of the hall slab for the purpose of building a multi-sports court. The building of a New Spencer Hall which includes a new Grace Infirmary, Drent Accommodation for the Chef, covered craft area, accommodation for the Executive Director, Registrar and Director's offices, and new dining hall, kitchen and meeting hall. We also acquired a significant amount of supplies and equipment from Moorecroft Camp and installed or stored these items at Camp Pringle. We are very grateful to the Moorecroft Society for their generosity during the difficult time of having to close their camp operations.

Budget: Camp Pringle receipts were just over the expenditures in 2010, for the third straight year, with an overall budget of just over \$450,000. Once again, Presbytery support combined with new support through the Camp Futures Project was critical in our ability to meet our budget and will be even more critical in future years as our budget will grow to meet the increased demands on the camp as a Regional Camp with significant new buildings to operate.

Other: 6 of 20 Victoria Presbytery Churches booked the camp for at least one retreat/event in addition to the Presbyterial UCW and the Garden City Transition Team Meeting.

The camp held three fundraising events including our continued efforts at the Subaru Triathlon, a Golf Tournament, and a Scrap Metal Drive. We also hosted our 60th Anniversary Celebration with over 300 people attending. We plan to continue these smaller fundraising efforts in 2011 with the possibility of adding a couple more.

Objectives for 2010: To increase our profile up-island and expand our camper numbers to meet the goals of the Camp Futures Project. To develop a relationship with the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery, similar to what we have in Victoria.

We would like to thank all the churches and the Victoria Presbytery for their continued support. You are our cornerstone.

The United Church Ministry at UVic ~ Report to the Annual Meetings of United Churches in Victoria Presbytery January 2011

Victoria's United Church outreach ministry to young adults at UVic faces mounting financial pressure despite a surge of student participation in the past year.

Many Mission and Service funded ministries across the country have seen massive cuts, and longtime M&S campus ministry support in BC has disappeared completely. Reduced funding for the UVic campus ministry now comes from BC Conference, Victoria Presbytery, congregations and donations from individual donors. More than 40 individuals and Victoria congregations have already responded generously to our fundraising appeal launched a year ago.

At the same time the ministry is challenged by funding cuts, student interest in spiritual learning and practice is growing. A meditation group meets twice a week and regularly draws over 40 students per session. Students learn a meditation practice based on the ecumenical teaching of the Christian Meditation and Centering Prayer traditions. With Campus Ministry support these students are building their own groups and leadership to organize retreats, special events and learning opportunities related to meditation and spiritual development.

Volunteers from United Churches in Victoria have provided simple soup suppers every second Thursday to build the community of students and to give witness to Christian hospitality. The soup volunteers themselves participate in the meditation and get to know some of the students over the meal. The increasing number of students attending the meditation and soup suppers has been challenging for the soup makers – now they need to bring two to three large pots of soup, as well as veggies, fruit and cookies/squares to feed up to 50 students. But they have risen to the challenge brilliantly! Thank you to volunteers from the following churches: St. Aidan's, Oak Bay, Centennial, Cadboro Bay, Sylvan, Gordon, Shady Creek/Brentwood Bay and Esquimalt. You're amazing!

There also has been a surge of student interest in the Sustainability Discussion Circles and the Sacred Ecology gatherings, which provide opportunities to engage in stewardship, eco-justice learning and action. The groups give students a forum to examine their own life-styles and explore ways of lessening their ecological footprints and build sustainable communities. Students explore the spirituality of earth care and learn to make real for themselves the dictum to "live in respect with Creation" (United Church Creed). Over 40 students have participated in these weekly discussions this year and many have gone on to work in community action groups that promote environmental, social, economic, and political change.

A growing number of students have learned the spiritual practice of Healing Touch. Over 35 participants have been trained in Healing Pathway workshops, led by Leslie Black, held at the University. Many report that this experience, and the healing flow of the Spirit in the practice, has been transformative for their lives. Every second week, a group with student leadership meets at the UVic Chapel to deepen the skills they learned in the workshops.

Other activities of the past year: a weekly student discussion series on Sex and Spirituality, a speaker series on Tough Questions for Religion, monthly Taizé Services, weekly contemplative noon hour Communion Services, weekend Student Retreats at Camp Pringle, Naramata Centre, and Springbrooke Centre, and a learning service trip to Nicaragua in February 2010. It has been a busy and spirit-filled year!

Campus Ministry depends increasingly on your direct support. We deeply appreciate the contributions from individual members of our United Church community in Victoria. Thank YOU! Your support is making a difference! But our funding situation remains highly uncertain and we face the possibility of being forced to reduce Campus Ministry services in the coming year.

If you feel called to help out in any way with this ministry, please contact me at hlock@uvic.ca or phone 250-472-4159.

Blessings,

Henri Lock

The Gorge View Society Annual Report 2010

Board of Directors: **Michael Storr**, Gordon Head **Don Fouracre**, Cadboro Bay
James Lee, Gordon Head **Adele Morley**, Gordon
Richard Acton, Esquimalt **Gladys Lavenne**, Cadboro Bay
Don O’Coffey, Oak Bay **Ron Hunter**, First+Metropolitan

Society Members: **Rosemary Church**, Cordova Bay **Bill Church**, Cordova Bay
Pat Ridgers, Pilgrim **Marianne Stewart**, Pilgrim

Consultant: **Merran Proctor**

Administrator: **Jane Louie**

The Gorge View Society’s mandate is to provide affordable housing for seniors who can live independently. For over 50 years it has progressively built 16 buildings and the Society now manages 100 suites. The Gorge View Society is committed to a hands-on approach to management, and accomplishes this through its valued volunteers along with two part-time staff members in administration and maintenance.

With current government policies and more health providers supporting seniors in their homes, residents are now staying in their suites well into their 80s and 90s. For the past five years, the Society has concentrated on upgrading and modernizing its suites to meet these new demands. Funding from CMHC in 2009 provided \$420,000.00+ for upgrades in heating, insulation, exhaust fans and thermo pane windows to many of the units.

In 2010 it became apparent that careful stewardship had put the Society in position to consider more building. Thus the Board engaged CitySpaces Consulting to examine options. The resulting report has given the Society an exciting blueprint for future activities. Following that plan the Board has now engaged an Architect to help them build an additional 8 suite building on site during 2011.

The Gorge View Society continues its membership in the Organization of United Church Homes (OUCH), and sent three of its members to the 2010 OUCH conference in Winnipeg. This interaction has proved very useful in letting our society share information and keeping us current with trends in senior’s housing across Canada.

Each congregation within Victoria Presbytery is entitled to send up to three representatives to the Society. With new construction in the offing, it is the goal of The Gorge View Society to increase its membership in the coming year – those committed to volunteering and who have backgrounds or interests in the work of seniors housing would be welcome!

The Society meets monthly (except in July, August and December) on the third Wednesday of the month, at 10:00 am in the lounge of the Al Insley Building on its Chown Place property.

Visitors are always welcome!

Respectfully submitted by Don Fouracre and Michael Storr, co Chairs of The Gorge View Society



Report for Victoria Presbytery 2010

Victoria Presbytery meets the fourth Tuesday for the months of Jan to November with the exclusion of July and August. The "Court" meets to discuss the work of Presbytery including the movement of ministerial staff, the oversight of each congregation and the financial well-being of the Presbytery. The Presbytery has a number of different division which have oversight of particular functions with the Presbytery. I have worked with the Program Division and The Gorge View Society over the past year and will attempt to provide the "favour" for the necessary work being done by the Presbyters.

Highlights/Concerns

- Future funding of the U of Vic. Campus Ministry continues as a great concern. This program will not continue unless adequate funding is found.
- Camp Pringle celebrated 60 years of providing camping experiences for youth of Vancouver Island. A new dining area was built and opened this year.
- Our Place conducted a review of all staff. A proposal for an "open" governance model was proposed and accepted by Presbytery.
- The Program Division called for a review of the terms of reference for this committee and proposed a committee to examine how to more effectively involve youth and young adults in the work of Presbytery.
- Members of staff and lay persons attended a retreat in September.

OBJECTIVES FOR COMING YEAR PRESBYTERS WILL:



- continue to review and recommend a revised terms of reference for the Program Division
- attend and participate in the "clusters" process being initiated within the Victory Presbytery
- work with youth and young adults to re-vitalize this sector within Presbytery
- personally, as a representative to Presbytery from First†Metropolitan, I will:
 - * serve on the Program Division and attend the meetings
 - * act as a director for The Gorge View Society and attend meetings of the Construction Committee and serve as recording secretary
 - *

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Hunter