

Robert McClure United Church 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Celebrating the Life, the Ministry & the People of Robert McClure United Church



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Minister's Report

Hello My Lovies!

Time once again for our Annual Report. A time to reflect on the year that has been. This report gives us an opportunity to tell our stories, lift up our highlights, celebrate our accomplishments and give thanks for the good and the difficult.

In February we had our first Funday Sunday, Bev Hafeli lead us in fun games. People got to know one another a little bit as we played Human Bingo. Granddaughter Casey helped.



In March we installed an Affirm United logo and a banner with the words, "You belong because you are" on the outside of our build so all could see our affirming status.

Darlene Montgomery stands proudly in front of the new sign.



Because of our connection with the Pineridge Community Round Table and the roll that the church plays in the community, I was invited to be one of 4 speakers at the "She Leads" Women's Speaker Series at Village Square Leisure Centre. We also worked with friends from the Round Table to pitch to the Calgary Foundation and we won \$5000 to fund a summer music concert series during the Farmers' Market.



And speaking of grants, we expanding our summer staff thanks to Canada Summer Jobs grant. We were able to hire 3 staff for the market and 2 for the church. Including an Artist-in-Residence, Sydonne Warren who created several art pieces for the church. She created art during the Pentecost Worship

Service and then lead a workshop afterwards where we all painted the Holy Spirit as a dove and fire. Sydonne also created a mural on the east side of our Sea-can. If you haven't seen it yet, I invite you to take a look, "Jesus feeding the 5000." You might see a few familiar faces.





Verne and Carolyn Stuber check out their portraits on the Sea-can.

This year at our Annual Stampede Breakfast our bandstand was finished enough for the band to use it as a shelter. The RunaMUCs lead the worship and appreciated the shelter.

The Pigs and Blues Band and the RunaMUCs gave us a fantastic concert during the annual Roast Beef dinner fundraiser.



In December Food Pantry volunteers were thanked with certificates of appreciation and lunch.



Finally, a heart-felt thank you to the members of the Official Board who faithfully steer the direction of the church: Chairperson, Sam Bossler Secretary, Heather Templeton Treasurer and Generosity, Karen Dingwall; Worship and Farmers' Market, Barb Humphrey; the many women who represent the UCW; M&P, Karen DeCarle; Regional Rep, Darlene Thompson; and Building and Maintenance: Richard Taylor. Thank you for your faithfulness and commitment to this community.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Kelly Osgood

Official Board

The Official Board is a group of people who look after the “business” of running the church. As Chair of this wonderful group of people it is my task to prepare the agenda’s, keep the meetings moving along, and banging the gavel. I like banging the gavel.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month except for July and December. Each Board member is invited to submit a SNAP (Summary of News and Progress) report prior to the meeting. These reports are sent to each Board member before the meeting. This save a lot of time during the meeting so we have time for other fun stuff.

So, each meeting starts with Check-in, then a short Devotion followed by a Workshop. This last year’s workshops included Updating our Behavioral Covenant, Praise singing, What is Evangelism, and How to have Meaningful Conversations.

Last Year we revamped our donation in kind policy. This was necessary because of an incident with the Food Pantry. A donation in kind of pants and jeans was offered along with a promise that food donations could also be arranged later. This offer was accepted, and the jeans and pants received and distributed before a value of the jeans and pants was negotiated. This resulted in several frantic phone calls and threats of lawyers getting involved. In the end, a tax receipt for the value the donator specified was issued. The new policy states that only items that the church needs will be accepted and that a fair market value must be established before we agree to take delivery of any items.

We will be recommending adding two new board positions: Affirming Ministries Action Committee, and Caring Committee. This will add a voice to these two vital committees to the board.

Challenges for the upcoming year include bathroom renovations, refugee sponsorship, a new church logo, and making the church a safe space where all can contribute to the life and ministry of Robert McClure United Church.

As this is my last year as Board Chair, I wish to thank all the other Board members for making my job enjoyable.

Respectively Submitted

Sam Bossler
Board Chair

Affirming Ministry Action Committee

Initially AMAC's committee members for 2019 were Darlene and Ken Thompson, Barb Lough, Devynne Wonnacott, Danni Nowochin, Darlene Montgomery and Linda Bossler. For their own reasons, Devynne and Danni asked to step down. The committee has recently welcomed Debbie Vanstone. New participants are always most welcome.

The year began with representatives from our committee bringing a proposal to the Board for an Affirming signage to be placed outside, above the front entrance to the church. As things unfolded, this became an initiative to be Public, Intentional and Explicit. By the time PIE Day came around in March, we were able to dedicate the sign after worship. More PIE, later in the report.

In February, the committee offered a Second Hour about Belonging. There were three table talk sessions where participants discussed what we do well and where we can improve. The topics included:

1. Invitational/Welcomed; 2. Known/Supported; 3. Befriended/Needed/Loved.

Some examples of what we do well include being accessible, a cheerful building full of light, open and welcoming, communion is open to everyone, children are welcomed and honoured without shushing; small groups offer caring during the week. Areas for improvement included inviting people from the surrounding area; learning names and preferred pronouns; understanding the struggles of marginalized people; noticing who is missing and following up. Some initiatives that have happened since the Belonging discussions include the establishment of the Pastoral Care Committee, temporary name tags for newcomers, and opportunities in worship for the congregation to interact.

AMAC planned and organized our congregation's participation in the first ever PIE day celebrations. PIE Day is a national event to recognize and celebrate the affirmation of the LGBTQ2S+ community. This was a joint effort of Affirming Connections and Affirm United to encourage affirming ministries across Canada to explore ways to be Public, Intentional and Explicit. At Robert McClure the weekend celebrations began with a Saturday evening Movie Night showing and discussing the movie *Fish Out of Water*. During Sunday worship, Kelly offered a creative monologue while serving up pie, that reflected on Jesus' way of inviting everyone to the table. Right after the service we all gathered outside to dedicate the new sign. For lunch there was a full range of 'pies' from savory to sweet. While eating, we watched the PIE Day video featuring Pam Rocker and Stéphane Youdom.

Before the summer months arrived, committee members reviewed the Welcome brochure, with an eye to create a new one that declared our church as affirming and would promote groups and activities using inclusive language. The creation of the new brochure was a joint effort with Barb Humphrey as Worship Chair. A decision was made to have a table at the Farmers' Market that would offer information about what it means to be an affirming ministry and committee members would be at the market to answer questions. The new Welcome brochures were available to hand out each week of the Farmers' Market.

On the long weekend in September, Robert McClure was well represented at the Pride Parade and the Pride worship service held at Knox UC before the parade. About a dozen people from RMUC joined other congregations following the float representing the Calgary and Area Affirming Network of Faith Communities. In all, there was about 110 people from a number of different faith communities walking with the float. After the parade was Pride in the Park on Princes' Island, and many bakers from our church contributed rainbow cookies including gluten-free and vegan cookies to be handed out at the Affirming Network's booth. The cookies were a big hit!

At the end of September, our congregation celebrated its 2nd anniversary as an affirming ministry. On Saturday, September 28 we hosted a movie night to show *Boy Erased*. A panel discussion was organized for after the movie. As part of the panel we were honoured and blessed to have Stéphane Youdom share his personal experiences of surviving conversion therapy twice. Since the provincial election was coming up in October, participants were encouraged to talk to candidates to gage if they would support a ban on conversion therapy in Alberta. (There is no ban yet in Alberta, but Feb 3, 2020 saw Calgary City Council vote in favor of a ban on conversion therapy in Calgary!)

Soon after the anniversary celebration, there were more rainbow touches added into the sanctuary. Most notably, the three statements at the front:

Creator God loves diversity
This love already includes you
You belong because you are

If you look carefully, you may notice rainbow symbolism added to some of the banners.

In the Fall, the committee prioritized two main items on the action plan. One was to move forward with developing Inclusive/Expansive Language Guidelines and the other was to meet with each committee and small group.

Back in June, there was a joint meeting between AMAC and the Worship Committee. Out of that meeting it was decided to purchase an Inclusive Bible and to offer a Second Hour so the congregation could explore what was meant by inclusive and expansive language. The Second Hour was held on Sunday, Nov. 3. The input from the discussions, along with a resource from the Metropolitan Community Churches has spurred the committee on to begin a draft for our own guidelines.

The committee has developed a plan for meeting with each group and committee. These meetings will be held during the first quarter of 2020.

As Chair of AMAC, I have been able to represent our congregation at the quarterly meetings of the Calgary and Area Affirming Network of Faith Communities. Out of this network, I have been invited to speak to other churches who are beginning the process to become affirming. I had the opportunity to attend the Affirming Leaders Day organized by Affirming Connections. The Board provided funds so two people could attend the Brian McLaren conference hosted by the Wisdom Centre and I was able to be one who attended. Throughout the year, I have worked with Kelly and the Worship Committee to plan special affirming services and every few months I keep the congregation updated through a Minute for Affirming Ministry during worship.



Respectfully submitted by

Linda Bossler,
Chair of the Affirming Ministry Action Committee

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is a committee made up of six members of Robert McClure United Church and the minister, who are responsible for the ongoing well-being of the church property, building and capital assets within.

The trustees provide the opportunity for a sober second thought regarding certain decisions, proposals or suggestions from the Official Board and any external institution which might affect the property or assets of Robert McClure United Church.

The trustees are Rev. Kelly Osgood, Barbara Humphrey, Carolyn Stuber, Jack Lough, Wayne Wonnacott, Robert Bossler and Craig Wonnacott.

Here are the items we worked on this past year.

- Bathroom upgrades: still planned, but on hold until grants are approved.
- Parking Lot rentals: tabled - the builder (MBuild) no longer requires space for their office. In November an invoice was sent to MBuild for parking lot infractions
- Cornerstone Community Seventh Day Adventist Church: after initially intending to vacate by the end of February 2019, delays meant that they terminated their rental contract as of January 1, 2020.
- Mount Sinai Pentecostal Spanish Church: Some changes to their current rental agreement were approved, including use of one classroom on Wednesday evenings and use of the Sanctuary on Sunday afternoons. A request to use the Sanctuary for their band practice on Tuesday evenings was declined.
- Rentals (general): With the departure of Cornerstone, now-available space has allowed us to advertise for new rentals on Kijiji and Facebook. There has been a significant amount of interest from various groups.

Individuals, small groups or committees may contact any trustee at any time if they have any items of concern regarding the property and/or the assets of Robert McClure United Church which they feel need to be investigated or discussed that would not normally be addressed by the Official board.

Respectfully submitted
by Craig Wonnacott (Trustee)
on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Caring Committee

In June of 2019 the Pastoral Care Committee (the Caring Committee) was revitalized, and with new members is intent on caring and connecting with the McClure church family and friends.

- Members of the Caring Committee Team include Shirley Skulmoski, Donna Pederson, Shirley Dufour, Lorna McKenzie, Garth Paynter, Marilyn Shingoose, Maureen Routley, and Barb Lough (Coordinator)
- Six of the committee members are participating in a training program for hospital visitors, under Alberta Health Services. The other two members are not participating, one because after the first module decided being an official hospital visitor was not for her, and the other because she was ill for the first two modules which are required.
- On November 25th members accomplished training in the art of caring through telephoning, and on December 9th contacted the entire congregation, sometimes leaving a message. People welcomed the callers during that call-out, expressing appreciation for the contact. We expect the same response in future phone calls.
- There is good response to the healing prayer chair during communion. A script has been written for the members doing the praying, just in case they get stuck for words.
- Barb met with the Food Pantry coordinators a couple of times, observed the operation of the Food Pantry a couple of times, and suggested a Covenant to be signed by all volunteers, and some housekeeping items to make the FP more effective. Also suggested were some morale boosting strategies, including an annual certificate of appreciation for all volunteers of the FP.

NOTE: In 2019 this small Food Pantry, and its approximately 20 volunteers, provided food to about 13,000 people! God's grace in action, feeding hungry people.

- There is a dedicated group of people on the Prayer Chain who receive requests for prayer from the Coordinator, Donna Pederson, which include the "Candle Prayers" from Sunday morning and others which Donna receives. Prayer keepers include: Barb Humphrey, Jeanette McDonald, Karen DeCarle, Margot Aftergood, Maeve Bard, Heather Templeton, Kelly Osgood and Barb Lough.
- Senior's Social held a successful Christmas Party on December 5th, with food, games and Christmas carols. 40 people (including the cooks) participated.
- On Monday evenings 6 to 8 people gather in the library to work on prayer shawls. We have provided shawls to 25 people who say they feel the support and comfort of prayer care. Carolyn Stuber is the coordinator.
- Since June of last year, 16 cards have been sent/provided, including get-well, sympathy and support. Gratitude was often expressed for being remembered in this way.
- At the moment Healing Heart offers healing energy modalities through appointment or request but plans are underway to rejuvenate this ministry in 2020.
- We have recently become a part of the *Bridges of Love Society* which is a network of local churches that provides an alternate place of emergency preparedness when first

responders are over-extended. This includes providing an emergency gathering place in times of disaster should the need arise.

- Programs/Activities under the Pastoral Care umbrella include:
 - Telephone Ministry
 - Hospital Visiting
 - Healing Touch & healing energy modalities
 - Food Pantry
 - Prayer Chain
 - Card Ministry
 - Prayer Chair during communion
 - Senior's Social events
 - Prayer Shawl
 - Bridges of Love

You will see reports from some of these groups on other pages of this Annual Report.

Important dates

- 2019
 - November 25th – Pastoral Care Training with Wilma Clark of Chinook Winds Region
 - November 30th – Beginning the 20-hour, six-week, hospital visitor training through Alberta Health Services
 - December 5th – Senior's Christmas Party
 - December 9th – Telephone Ministry, congregational call-out
- 2020
 - January & February – continuing the hospital visitors training
 - Feb 20th – Senior's Party, Noon to 2 pm
 - March 30th – Congregational call-out

Our focus is nurturing people in body, mind and spirit, connecting them with God and with each other in diverse, inclusive community.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Lough
Caring Committee Coordinator

Financial Report

Here are the financial highlights from 2019:

1) For the month of December we incurred a net surplus of \$5,454.66 compared to our budgeted surplus of \$4,094.38. We ended the year with a net surplus of \$5,101.92 compared to our budget of zero. The increase for the month was largely due to Mt. Sinai paying their November rent and extra room rental charges in December. The increase for the year is due to \$1,100 more than budget for weddings and funerals, and the additional donation of \$7,500 received in July.

2) At December 31, 2019 we had \$49,643.41 in the bank made up of \$42,652.09 in designated funds and \$6,991.32 in operating funds. We also had \$8,125.00 in grocery gift cards on hand. By comparison at December 31, 2018 we had \$26,134.13 in the bank made up of \$23,464.73 in designated funds and \$2,669.40 in operating funds. Operating funds increased by \$4,321.92 in 2019.

3) We received rental income of \$28,377 and fundraising events provided income of \$9,231. We received donations of gifts in kind of \$41,059; of this amount \$9,676 was for donations of chickens and \$25,594 was for donations of jeans, both for the Food Pantry ministry.

If there are any questions or concerns or you would like more information please let me know by emailing kddingwall@hotmail.com or calling 403-969-2140.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Dingwall
Treasurer

Robert McClure United Church
Balance Sheet
As of 31 December 2019

31 Dec 19

ASSETS

Current Assets

Chequing/Savings

First Calgary Savings

Designated Funds

Accessibility Repairs	195.41
Affirming Committee	109.05
Bathroom Renovations	25,000.00
Bible Study Buddies	23.00
Emergency Fund	1,225.00
Food Pantry	1,995.02
Freezer Fund	6.16
Grocery Gift Cards	1,727.75
Memorial Funds	93.26
Parking Lot Upgrade	8,000.00
Refugees	1,176.05
Thank Offering Fund - New	925.60
Training	75.00
Trustees Account	200.00
UCC Innovation Grant	533.53
WELC (Wed Eve Learning Circle)	526.47
Women's Retreat	182.08
Wonder Kids	359.41
Wood Chipper	62.16
Youth Group	237.14

Total Designated Funds 42,652.09

First Calgary Savings - Other 6,991.32

Total First Calgary Savings 49,643.41

First Calgary Share Account 48.75

Total Chequing/Savings 49,692.16

Accounts Receivable

Accounts Receivable 799.59

Total Accounts Receivable 799.59

Other Current Assets

Prepaid Deposits & Expenses

Alarm System	41.93
Coop Gift Cards	2,050.00
Superstore Gift Cards	6,075.00

Total Prepaid Deposits & Expenses 8,166.93

Total Other Current Assets 8,166.93

Total Current Assets 58,658.68

Fixed Assets 418,555.52

TOTAL ASSETS 477,214.20

Robert McClure United Church
Balance Sheet
As of 31 December 2019

31 Dec 19

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

Accrued Liabilities 402.75

Deferred Revenue

Accessibility Repairs 195.41

Affirming Committee 109.05

Bathroom Renovation 25,000.00

Bible Study Buddies 23.00

Emergency Fund 1,225.00

Food Pantry 1,995.02

Freezer Fund 6.16

Grocery Gift Cards 9,450.00

Memorial Funds 93.26

Parking Lot Upgrade 8,000.00

Refugees 1,176.05

Thank Offering - New 925.60

Training 75.00

Trustees Account 200.00

UCC Innovation Grant 533.53

WELC (Wed Eve Learning Circle) 526.47

Women's Retreat 182.08

Wonder Kids 359.41

Wood Chipper 62.16

Youth Group 237.14

Total Deferred Revenue 50,374.34

Mission & Service Payable 296.50

Total Other Current Liabilities 51,073.59

Total Current Liabilities 51,073.59

Long Term Liabilities

Presbytery Loan #2 56,350.00

Presbytery Loan #3 52,300.00

Presbytery Loan #4 17,300.00

Presbytery Loan #5 31,800.00

Presbytery Loan #6 31,800.00

Total Long Term Liabilities 189,550.00

Total Liabilities 240,623.59

Equity

Opening Bal Equity 396,978.18

Retained Earnings (149,506.04)

Net Income (10,881.53)

Total Equity 236,590.61

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 477,214.20

Robert McClure United Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
December 2019

	<u>Dec 19</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense							
Income							
Offerings							
Accessibility Repairs	0.00			27.81			
Affirming Committee	0.00			330.25			
Calgary Foundation	0.00			0.00			
Emergency Fund	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	450.00	600.00	(150.00)	600.00
Evangelism	0.00	0.00	0.00	752.33	732.00	20.33	732.00
Food Pantry	(1,506.98)	0.00	(1,506.98)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Freezer Fund	0.00			1,007.84			
General Envelope	15,446.92	15,679.00	(232.08)	121,332.54	141,093.00	(19,760.46)	141,093.00
Kids First	0.00	25.58	(25.58)	0.00	307.00	(307.00)	307.00
Loose Offering	473.34	0.00	473.34	2,346.29	0.00	2,346.29	0.00
Mission & Service	306.50	458.33	(151.83)	4,457.00	5,500.00	(1,043.00)	5,500.00
Music Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Refugees	150.00			460.00			
Security Upgrades	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,898.48	1,898.00	0.48	1,898.00
Thank Offering - new	1,419.40	0.00	1,419.40	1,419.40	0.00	1,419.40	0.00
Thank Offering - Old	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,494.29	1,494.00	0.29	1,494.00
UCC Innovation Grant	0.00			178.62			
WELC (Wed Eve Learning Circle)	0.00	34.83	(34.83)	439.38	418.00	21.38	418.00
Women's Retreat	0.00			957.92			
Wonder Kids	0.00			94.30			
Woodchipper	0.00			282.84			
Total Offerings	16,289.18	16,247.74	41.44	137,929.29	152,042.00	(14,112.71)	152,042.00
Total Income	16,289.18	16,247.74	41.44	137,929.29	152,042.00	(14,112.71)	152,042.00
Expense							
Administration							
Building Expenses							
Building Repairs	0.00	441.67	(441.67)	96.23	5,300.00	(5,203.77)	5,300.00
Building Supplies	216.04	0.00	216.04	767.65	0.00	767.65	0.00
Electricity, water and gas	862.27	1,250.00	(387.73)	12,156.91	15,000.00	(2,843.09)	15,000.00
Fire Safety	957.63	750.00	207.63	957.63	900.00	57.63	900.00
Garbage Bin & Pickup	417.21	291.67	125.54	4,309.92	3,500.00	809.92	3,500.00
Insurance	290.50	350.00	(59.50)	4,159.34	4,200.00	(40.66)	4,200.00
Kitchen Supplies	50.12	50.00	0.12	550.81	600.00	(49.19)	600.00
Property Maintenance	208.94	0.00	208.94	2,647.38	0.00	2,647.38	0.00
Security System	0.00	116.67	(116.67)	941.93	1,400.00	(458.07)	1,400.00
Total Building Expenses	3,002.71	3,250.01	(247.30)	26,587.80	30,900.00	(4,312.20)	30,900.00
Office Expenses							
ADP Service Charges	20.81	0.00	20.81	488.20	0.00	488.20	0.00
Bank Charges	9.10	75.00	(65.90)	344.93	900.00	(555.07)	900.00
Computer Repairs	0.00			71.73			
Computer Software	0.00	0.00	0.00	265.54	0.00	265.54	0.00
Lock Box Annual Inspection	0.00	0.00	0.00	205.00	200.00	5.00	200.00
Office Supplies	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	598.39	2,400.00	(1,801.61)	2,400.00
PAR Charges	17.50	0.00	17.50	226.00	0.00	226.00	0.00
Paypal charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	37.28	0.00	37.28	0.00
Photocopies	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,938.74	0.00	1,938.74	0.00
Postage	0.00			27.88			
Telephone	147.90	166.67	(18.77)	1,785.72	2,000.00	(214.28)	2,000.00
Website Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00	259.41	0.00	259.41	0.00
Total Office Expenses	195.31	441.67	(246.36)	6,248.82	5,500.00	748.82	5,500.00
Wages & Payroll Expense							
Caretaker	704.75	704.75	0.00	9,161.75	8,457.00	704.75	8,457.00
CPP Expense	231.11	320.23	(89.12)	2,953.66	3,843.12	(889.46)	3,843.12
EI Expense	33.10	141.49	(108.39)	1,668.14	1,697.88	(29.74)	1,697.88
Employee Benefits	1,064.18	1,077.33	(13.15)	13,177.53	12,928.00	249.53	12,928.00
Mileage	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	500.00	(500.00)	500.00
Music Director	1,748.42	1,769.25	(20.83)	20,981.04	21,231.00	(249.96)	21,231.00
Summer Students	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,645.28	10,690.00	(44.72)	10,690.00
Tuition	0.00	117.92	(117.92)	1,317.40	1,415.00	(97.60)	1,415.00

Robert McClure United Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
December 2019

	<u>Dec 19</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Wages & Salaries	6,897.86	7,251.92	(354.06)	85,717.90	87,023.00	(1,305.10)	87,023.00
Total Wages & Payroll Expense	10,679.42	11,424.56	(745.14)	145,622.70	147,785.00	(2,162.30)	147,785.00
Total Administration	13,877.44	15,116.24	(1,238.80)	178,459.32	184,185.00	(5,725.68)	184,185.00
Miscellaneous							
Advertising	0.00	8.33	(8.33)	126.45	100.00	26.45	100.00
Observer Expenses	(175.00)	0.00	(175.00)	42.85	50.00	(7.15)	50.00
Miscellaneous - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Miscellaneous	(175.00)	8.33	(183.33)	169.30	150.00	19.30	150.00
Professional Fees							
Human Resources	0.00	33.33	(33.33)	152.49	400.00	(247.51)	400.00
Training	0.00	20.83	(20.83)	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	250.00
Total Professional Fees	0.00	54.16	(54.16)	152.49	650.00	(497.51)	650.00
Program Expense							
Accessibility Repairs	0.00			27.15			
Affirming Committee	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	1,060.21	1,141.00	(80.79)	1,141.00
Calgary Foundation	0.00			0.00			
Emergency Fund	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	450.00	600.00	(150.00)	600.00
Evangelism	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	500.00	(500.00)	500.00
Food Pantry							
Donations in kind	620.60	1,041.67	(421.07)	35,269.79	12,500.00	22,769.79	12,500.00
Food Pantry - Other	451.02	320.00	131.02	3,459.52	3,840.00	(380.48)	3,840.00
Spinz membership	300.00			300.00			
Total Food Pantry	1,371.62	1,361.67	9.95	39,029.31	16,340.00	22,689.31	16,340.00
Mission & Service Expense	306.50	458.33	(151.83)	4,457.00	5,500.00	(1,043.00)	5,500.00
Music/Choir Expenses							
Microphones	0.00			50.48			
Music License	0.00			29.77			
Musicians	0.00	9.17	(9.17)	0.00	110.00	(110.00)	110.00
Piano Tuning	0.00	130.00	(130.00)	190.00	390.00	(200.00)	390.00
Total Music/Choir Expenses	0.00	139.17	(139.17)	270.25	500.00	(229.75)	500.00
Pastoral Care	0.00			28.33			
Presbytery Assessment	893.64	893.63	0.01	9,829.94	9,830.00	(0.06)	9,830.00
Refugees	150.00			470.00			
Security Upgrades	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Seniors Tea	71.18	58.00	13.18	433.45	350.00	83.45	350.00
Stewardship	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.30	100.00	(27.70)	100.00
Thank Offering Expenses	1,385.60			1,385.60			
WELC (Wed Eve Learning Circle)	0.00	34.83	(34.83)	425.18	418.00	7.18	418.00
Women's Retreat	0.00			947.02			
Wonder Kids	0.00	25.00	(25.00)	93.55	300.00	(206.45)	300.00
Workshops							
Brian MacLaren Workshop	0.00			320.00			
Total Workshops	0.00			320.00			
Worship							
Books	0.00			88.49			
Food for special events	0.00	0.00	0.00	961.22	0.00	961.22	0.00
Nametags	0.00			30.86			
Pastoral Charge	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.75	0.00	24.75	0.00
Pastoral Supply Minister	0.00	0.00	0.00	212.00	0.00	212.00	0.00
Pianist	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.21	0.00	32.21	0.00
Worship Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	798.58	0.00	798.58	0.00
Worship - Other	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	2,500.00
Total Worship	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	2,148.11	2,500.00	(351.89)	2,500.00
Youth Group	0.00	43.33	(43.33)	272.69	520.00	(247.31)	520.00
Total Program Expense	4,178.54	3,355.63	822.91	61,720.09	38,599.00	23,121.09	38,599.00

Robert McClure United Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
December 2019

	<u>Dec 19</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Total Expense	17,880.98	18,534.36	(653.38)	240,501.20	223,584.00	16,917.20	223,584.00
Net Ordinary Income	(1,591.80)	(2,286.62)	694.82	(102,571.91)	(71,542.00)	(31,029.91)	(71,542.00)
Other Income/Expense							
Other Income							
Calgary Humane Society	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	0.00	550.00	(550.00)	550.00
Donations	258.46	500.00	(241.54)	12,398.34	2,000.00	10,398.34	2,000.00
Farmer's Market							
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	(3,154.84)	(2,950.00)	(204.84)	(2,950.00)
AFMA Membership	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(100.00)	100.00	(100.00)
Business Licence	0.00	0.00	0.00	(142.00)	(270.00)	128.00	(270.00)
Calgary Foundation Grant	0.00			5,000.00			
Canada Summer Jobs Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,982.72	16,034.40	(7,051.68)	16,034.40
Canopy	0.00	0.00	0.00	(330.75)	0.00	(330.75)	0.00
Development Permit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,396.41)	0.00	(1,396.41)	0.00
Gift Certificates	0.00			(35.00)			
Landscaping & Irrigation System	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Market Bucks Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)	1,500.00
Market Bucks Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,500.00)	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
Market Coordinator	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,000.00)	(2,000.00)	0.00	(2,000.00)
Market Sponsor	0.00			1,250.00			
McClure Stall	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,357.35	1,100.00	1,257.35	1,100.00
McClure Stall Sink	0.00	0.00	0.00	(28.25)	0.00	(28.25)	0.00
Musicians	250.00	0.00	250.00	(3,280.00)	(3,200.00)	(80.00)	(3,200.00)
Picnic tables & umbrellas	0.00	0.00	0.00	(40.83)	0.00	(40.83)	0.00
Professional Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Replace Student Laptop	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sale of Market Bags	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	500.00	(485.00)	500.00
Special Days	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Special Events	0.00	0.00	0.00	(360.16)	(500.00)	139.84	(500.00)
Stall Rentals	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,550.30	5,000.00	(449.70)	5,000.00
Summer Student Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00	(12,133.04)	(16,034.40)	3,901.36	(16,034.40)
Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	(56.47)	(200.00)	143.53	(200.00)
UCC Grant Proceeds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,712.00	(5,712.00)	5,712.00
Total Farmer's Market	250.00	0.00	250.00	(802.38)	3,092.00	(3,894.38)	3,092.00
Fund Raising							
Catering	0.00	2,001.00	(2,001.00)	3,904.00	9,000.00	(5,096.00)	9,000.00
Chocolate Sales	(331.44)			64.06			
Church Supper	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,142.71	0.00	4,142.71	0.00
Fund Raising Expenses	(123.69)	0.00	(123.69)	(947.53)	0.00	(947.53)	0.00
Garage Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	216.50	0.00	216.50	0.00
Grocery Gift Cards	308.25	0.00	308.25	1,851.50	0.00	1,851.50	0.00
Total Fund Raising	(146.88)	2,001.00	(2,147.88)	9,231.24	9,000.00	231.24	9,000.00
Gifts in Kind	641.60	1,291.67	(650.07)	41,058.63	15,500.00	25,558.63	15,500.00
Grants Received							
Canada Summer Jobs	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,645.28	10,690.00	(44.72)	10,690.00
Ucc Food Pantry	2,267.56	320.00	1,947.56	3,779.28	3,840.00	(60.72)	3,840.00
Grants Received - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.05	250.00	0.05	250.00
Total Grants Received	2,267.56	320.00	1,947.56	14,674.61	14,780.00	(105.39)	14,780.00
Hot Dog Sunday							
Hot Dog Sales	0.00			372.05			
Total Hot Dog Sunday	0.00			372.05			
Interest Income	2.22	0.00	2.22	23.04	0.00	23.04	0.00
Kitchen Rental	37.50	0.00	37.50	348.75	0.00	348.75	0.00
Other	0.00			276.78			
Rent	3,736.00	2,166.67	1,569.33	28,376.94	26,000.00	2,376.94	26,000.00
Sale of Furniture & Fixtures	0.00			200.00			
UCC Grant Proceeds - Capital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Weddings, Funerals & Baptisms	0.00	8.33	(8.33)	1,233.11	100.00	1,133.11	100.00

Robert McClure United Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
 December 2019

	<u>Dec 19</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Youth Group Fundraising	0.00	43.33	(43.33)	282.72	520.00	(237.28)	520.00
Total Other Income	7,046.46	6,381.00	665.46	107,673.83	71,542.00	36,131.83	71,542.00
Net Surplus (Deficit) Before Amortization	5,454.66	4,094.38	1,360.28	5,101.92	0.00	5,101.92	0.00
Amortization Expense	1,340.62	1,333.33	7.29	15,983.45	16,000.00	(16.55)	16,000.00
Net Surplus (Deficit) After Amortization	<u>4,114.04</u>	<u>2,761.05</u>	<u>1,352.99</u>	<u>(10,881.53)</u>	<u>(16,000.00)</u>	<u>5,118.47</u>	<u>(16,000.00)</u>

Cash Accounts - Monthly Balances

First Calgary Savings

Designated Funds

	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19
Accessibility Repairs	0.00	0.00	223.22	223.22	223.22	223.22	223.22	223.22	223.22	195.41	195.41	195.41
Affirming Committee	65.60	31.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	137.40	109.05	109.05
Bathroom Renovations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Bible Study Buddies	93.00	93.00	93.00	93.00	93.00	93.00	93.00	93.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00
Calgary Foundation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	4,750.00	3,485.00	2,345.00	1,345.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Canada Summer Jobs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,973.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Emergency Fund	1,435.00	1,435.00	1,475.00	1,225.00	1,225.00	1,265.00	1,265.00	1,305.00	1,345.00	1,185.00	1,185.00	1,225.00
Food Pantry	135.00	913.61	676.56	1,110.44	1,110.44	538.28	1,432.86	1,084.96	801.21	1,545.80	1,206.30	1,995.02
Freezer Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.16	6.16
Grocery Gift Cards	2,564.25	4,902.25	3,802.75	3,192.75	1,699.00	4,024.00	6,616.25	4,089.00	5,802.00	7,965.00	1,161.00	1,727.75
Memorial Funds	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26	93.26
Parking Lot Upgrade	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Refugees	1,386.05	1,386.05	1,386.05	1,386.05	1,386.05	1,386.05	1,546.05	1,386.05	1,386.05	1,386.05	1,236.05	1,176.05
Thank Offering - New	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	925.00	1,585.00	925.60
Training	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00
Trustees Account	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
UCC Growth Grant	712.15	712.15	712.15	712.15	712.15	712.15	712.15	533.53	533.53	533.53	533.53	533.53
WELC	418.05	436.90	436.90	425.24	592.69	592.69	503.49	503.49	554.84	580.69	368.87	526.47
Women's Retreat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	210.00	182.08	182.08	182.08
Wonder Kids	307.36	213.06	213.06	213.06	213.06	359.41	359.41	359.41	359.41	359.41	359.41	359.41
Wood Chipper	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	345.00	62.16	62.16	62.16	62.16	62.16
Youth Group	519.86	442.04	442.04	442.04	442.04	237.14	237.14	237.14	237.14	237.14	237.14	237.14
Total Designated Funds	16,004.58	18,933.61	17,828.99	17,391.21	46,064.91	50,522.50	50,186.83	45,590.22	46,250.82	48,685.93	41,818.42	42,652.09
First Calgary Savings - Other	5,004.66	1,980.30	(1,108.89)	2,405.25	-1,628.63	8,809.77	891.08	(2,876.83)	4,445.65	6,550.52	1,662.94	6,991.32
Total First Calgary Savings	21,009.24	20,913.91	16,720.10	19,796.46	44,436.28	59,332.27	51,077.91	42,713.39	50,696.47	55,236.45	43,481.36	49,643.41
First Calgary Share Account	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	59.75	48.75
	21,068.99	20,973.66	16,779.85	19,856.21	44,496.03	59,392.02	51,137.66	42,773.14	50,756.22	55,296.20	43,541.11	49,692.16
Coop GC	5,300.00	3,600.00	5,275.00	4,025.00	5,900.00	4,000.00	1,975.00	5,000.00	2,500.00	1,450.00	4,750.00	2,050.00
Safeway GC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Superstore GC	2,100.00	1,225.00	3,225.00	2,525.00	2,250.00	1,700.00	975.00	650.00	1,300.00	100.00	4,000.00	6,075.00
Owing for Grocery Gift Cards	(9,450.00)	(9,450.00)	(11,900.00)	(9,450.00)	(9,450.00)	(9,450.00)	(9,450.00)	-9,450.00	-9,450.00	(9,450.00)	-9,450.00	-9,450.00
Total Cash including GC	19,018.99	16,348.66	13,379.85	16,956.21	43,196.03	55,642.02	44,637.66	38,973.14	45,106.22	47,396.20	42,841.11	48,367.16
Prior Year Total Cash including GC	17,475.52	40,958.57	38,056.32	39,684.95	32,908.71	22,489.21	14,281.09	12,555.68	9,861.02	7,732.14	3,600.92	20,757.88
Year over year Increase (decrease) in cash	1,543.47	-24,609.91	-24,676.47	-22,728.74	10,287.32	33,152.81	30,356.57	26,417.46	35,245.20	39,664.06	39,240.19	27,609.28

Food Pantry

In 2019 the Food Pantry accomplished a great deal for our community.

We fed 12,988 clients in 2019. This is an increase of 1,898 people from 2018; whereas, last year we had seen a decrease of 782 over 2017. We believe that this is due to the poor economy in our city over the last year.

Even the agencies who assist us with donations have taken a hit due to the high demand on their resources. Spinz-Around in particular now requires us to pay them \$1,200 per year (\$100 per month) to utilize their services. Previously we paid \$50/year for this resource. The other agencies include: The Mustard Seed, Heart of the NE, Aspen Family Services, Rexall Pharmacy and the Calgary Public Library. We continue to receive Food from the following: Country Lane Farms (every 2 weeks), No Frills (Every Thursday), Superstore (occasionally we will get a donation of bread) and Cobs Bakery (one pickup per week). All of this continues to make us the largest Food Pantry in Calgary.

We continue to have an abundance of volunteers. I only wish that I wasn't turning down additional volunteers; some even asking to be put on a waiting list as they want to have an opportunity to give back to us for helping them.



We applied for another grant for the Food Pantry in the fall of this year. This grant would provide funds for bags for bread and produce, gloves, the \$100 per month required for Spinz-Around and a U-Haul to use for the food pick-up every week. Also, volunteers are reimbursed \$0.59 per km for bread pick-up.

For 2020 we received a \$5,000 grant from the Chinook Winds Region Program Funding, this was an increase of \$1,000 over the grant money we received for 2019. These funds will become available January 2020. This amount is the minimum required for "out of pocket" expenses to run the Food Pantry, especially now due to the money required to utilize Spinz-Around.



Throughout the year and especially on White Gift Sunday during Advent the Food Pantry received donations of food, socks, gloves, toques, toiletries, etc. donated by the congregation. The congregation always responds with abundance when the Food Pantry has a special need for food.

To conclude, our Food Pantry Ministry continues to be blessed with an abundance of money, food, etc. We can see that all of this is making a positive impact in our community.

Submitted by,
Rod Rogalsky
Coordinator of Food Pantry Ministry



Fundraising

With your support and helping hands, 2019 fundraising events hosted and/or catered the following events feeding approximately 765 people, raising \$9,231.24. Funds raised in 2019 include \$1,851.50 in profit from the sales of the grocery gift cards. Very special thanks to the Hearts on Fire Bible Study ministry for their support selling the gift cards. Our



success is made possible by the many helping hands that assist us with their generous donations of food, time and support.

- Parkdale Ministry – catered lunch, February 27
- Columbia Training Center workshops - 4 church rentals with catered lunches - March 15, June 21, September 13, & December 13
- Columbia Training Center Talent Show - church rental with Bob’s café, May 10
- Columbia Training Center Movie Day – church rental, October 4
- Columbia Training Center Christmas Dinner – church rental, December 17
- Annual Spring Turkey Dinner – April 27
- Celebrations of Life – Linda Shingoose , Nora Bourke
- Junk in the Trunk – June 22
- Beef Dinner and Concert – October 20
- Purdy’s Chocolate Fundraiser – ongoing



The fall beef dinner and concert “Walk Down Memory Lane” was a huge success.

Entertainment was provided by our very own The RunaMUCs and The Pigs and Blues Band (local Calgary musicians from



When Pigs Fly & 4Achers Blues Band joined together to donate their talents to help Robert McClure and community programming). It was a fun evening of great food, good fellowship, great music and even a little dancing. Thank you to Barbara Humphrey for organizing the concert. Thank you to Karen DeCarle for preparing the delicious roast beef. The funds raised through the efforts of the Fundraising volunteers helps with church expenses, supports small ministries, and provides most of the coffee, tea, juice, sugar, hot dog condiments and other kitchen supplies.

On behalf of the Fundraising committee, we extend our sincerest appreciation for all your support throughout the year.

Submitted by Maureen Routley

Generosity Group

We are thankful for all the gifts of time, talent and treasury that the congregation contributes to our ministry at Robert McClure United Church.

Our generosity is our response to God's vast generosity in our own lives. Our generosity is a way to contribute to God's mission in the world. It is how we make a positive difference as individuals and families—in our own community through the mission of our congregation, and across our country and around the globe through the Mission & Service of The United Church of Canada. When we are inspired, we ask ourselves:

- What is God's mission for me in my daily life?
- What is our mission here in our community?
- How do we model compassion, provide community, and offer hope?
- How do we serve God's mission in the wider world?

Our 2019 Giving Program was called "Loving Our Neighbours" where we aimed to inspire generosity, inspire giving, inspire gratitude, and inspire ways of living our faith.



Mark 12 28:31

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

²⁹ "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.' ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

At Thanksgiving we asked for a special thank offering to help pay for some building repairs and maintenance. The railings on the entrance sidewalk, new paint on the floors of the food pantry and freezer room were made possible due to the Thank Offering. The freezer room floor still needs to be done. Volunteers are needed to complete this task.

Mission and Service (M&S) givings are used wisely, to help transform lives and provide healing and hope to people in Canada and around the world. In 2019, Robert McClure United Church congregation donated to the M&S Fund \$4,457.00.

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

Submitted with gratitude by,

Karen Dingwall
Chair of Generosity

Hearts on Fire Bible Study

Hearts on Fire Bible Study meets on the third Friday of the month and is hosted by different members. We begin each evening with a potluck and conversation giving us a chance to catch up. Our goal is to interpret the Bible and figure out how scripture can be applied to our daily lives (haha) it's true we do! We can get off topic but we always get back to the importance of the scripture (some even say the group helps their mental health-who knew?) We recently finished the book of Romans which took us a year (remember we only meet once a month). Not only do we study scripture but we use our time to listen to each other's stories and provide comfort, love and encouragement. We laugh a lot and learn so much about each other, our strengths and our weaknesses. We also learn how we can grow as Christians in a safe atmosphere that also follows the small group model.

In 2019 the group continued selling grocery gift cards for COOP and Presidents Choice and earned \$1800 which goes towards the church budget. The group was also able to send 2 women to the Women's Retreat which was great fun and a wonderful learning experience.

The wonderful people who are an integral part of the group are:

Maureen Routley
Bev Hafeli
Isabelle Templeton
Heather Templeton
Wendy Leckie
Karen Dingwall
Dani Nowochin
Kelly Osgood

At this time entry into the group is by invitation.

Submitted by,

Heather Templeton

Ministry and Personnel Committee

The M & P Committee's Mission is to support our employees / contractors in their work. We also work to protect our congregants, volunteers and community through development, implementation and monitoring of safety-based processes in accordance with sound biblical philosophies.

Psalm 121

1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? 2 My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. 3 He will not let your foot slip— he who watches over you will not slumber; 4 indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The Lord watches over you— the Lord is your shade at your right hand; 6 the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. 7 The Lord will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life; 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore

The M & P committee consists of Pat Bears, Donna Pederson, Heather Templeton and Karen DeCarle. Key initiatives in 2019 included reviewing and refining the performance management process within RMUC and revising our “*Workplace Violence and Harrassment*” policy.

We are very grateful that God has called us to serve our church families this way and look forward to another great year in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen DeCarle
Chair, Ministry & Personnel

McClure Fellowship of Gardeners

Garden beds can be rented by anyone and we are one of only a few gardens in Calgary with no residency requirements – members simply provide their rental fee and ongoing volunteer hours working on common areas. The garden provides us with opportunities to connect with other gardeners and horticulturalists from our community and beyond. Check our Facebook page, click on story, for a brief history of the garden.

The 2019 season had its ups and downs. Mother nature provided us with rain that reduced watering requirements which was fortunate as there were problems with the cisterns and then city water. The garden shared the cost of repairing the outside taps with the church. We also had a rash of break-ins and theft of tools as well as theft from the gardens and vandalism. The beehive was stolen, so it was a year without bees. We are hoping that 2020 will be a more positive year for gardeners.



The Garden:

- 50 garden beds, most are raised a few feet for easy access.
- 8 program beds and 3 garden beds used by Parent Link families.
- 2 round herb beds.
- 2 large beds, one used to grow potatoes, the other for strawberries and asparagus.
- The orchard, which has Saskatoons, cherries, grapes, strawberries, apples, rhubarb, red currants, goji berries and raspberries. The fruit from the orchard is available to both garden and church members.

Activities:

- AGM held in April.
- Worked with the NE Resource Centre to help with the Parent Link's "Grow With Us" program.
- We had 25 gardeners this year; several gardeners had an extra bed in 2019 as we had empty beds. Only when there are extra beds will gardeners have 3 beds.

- Monthly work bees for gardeners to meet each other and help to maintain the common garden areas.
- 4 garden beds, the perennial bed and the long bed were used to grow potatoes for the Food Pantry. As well 2 beds were used to grow mixed vegetables. In all 150 pounds of potatoes as well as beets, zucchini, beans, onions and tomatoes was donated. Individual members also donated produce to the food pantry.
- One garden bed was used to grow garlic. The harvest was very poor so no garlic was sold. The garlic was used for fall planting. Hoping for better luck in 2020.
- Although the Nanking cherries did not produce any fruit this year and the grape harvest was poor, the other trees in the orchard provided us with apples, cherries, Saskatoons and raspberries.
- At present we have at least 7 beds available. The rent is \$30 per bed for the year and gardeners are expected to donate volunteer hours as well. Contact Lorna McKenzie , 403 285 7725, or Joan Liland, 403 273 1108.

Future plans:

- We will convert one bed to Rhubarb, 2 beds will be decommissioned to provide access to the fruit trees and 2 beds were disassembled and replaced with one bed as they were in need of replacing and the space around them was very crowded.
- We will try to find a person or group to replace a beehive.

Donations and Volunteers:

With thanks to the following:

- Brent Barr, for his continuing work with the irrigation system.
- Jack Lough for picking up the mulcher and helping to mulch the branches etc. Also to the gardeners who donated to the church to help cover the cost of the mulcher.
- Garden Members, their families and friends, who volunteer to maintain the garden's common areas.
- Community volunteers.
- The Attendance Centre, whose crews came at least once month throughout the summer. Their crews are always willing to work. They moved soil, weeded, moved plants, and mowed lawns.
- Poplar Bluff, for the donation of seed potatoes.
- Devynne Wonnacott, for maintaining our Facebook page.
- Lorna McKenzie, Barb Lough, Maeve Bard, Abraham Neustater, Lynn Machan-Gorham, Brad Gorham and Joan Liland, who served as the Board of Directors for the garden.

Contributions:

Thanks to the many agencies that contribute to the garden's success:

- Robert McClure United Church, for the use of the land, water, power, copying and meeting facilities.
- The Community Garden Resource Network (Calgary Horticultural Society).

Submitted by Joan Liland

Music Ministry

Well the past year started with me recovering from an emergency surgery for staph infection. Thank God I am doing well and could get back into music practices again quickly.

Noteworthy and Heartsong, choir and band are always looking ahead to our next performance as soon as we have played in worship. We certainly hope that you find our leadership helpful with singing the songs selected and also enhancing your experience of worship at McClure. This is the goal!

The Choir presented Easter season music over 3 services. It was an annual highlight for me as well as was Advent and Christmas Eve.

The Band opened and closed the season of the Farmers Market as well as played for a fundraising dinner along with the Pigs and Blues Band. This was a fabulously fun event. Very good music too by both bands!

Heartsong and Noteworthy perform once or twice a month too. All the groups have wonderful and dedicated people to help us in the music ministry!

The summer is Open call. This means anyone can sing if they just show up at 9:15 Sunday morning.

The band also did a great job of hosting and playing the Stampede Service in our new Gazebo.

Thanks again musicians for a great year of services at Robert McClure!

Respectfully submitted by Beth Friesen

New Memberships

I had the great pleasure of meeting this wonderful group of people and talking about what it means to be part of a church and the spiritual gifts they each bring.

The follow new members are Jay Ryckman, Rick Ryckman and Myrtle Ryckman who were also baptized, the reaffirmation of baptismal vows of Leonard White, Mac Dingwall, Peter Meier, Juka Meier, Sharon, Janzen and Danni Nowochin and the transfer of membership for Lynn Robertson and Brian Roberston.

We had a wonderful celebration to honor this great group of people.

Welcome to the Robert McClure United Church Family

Submitted by,
Heather Templeton

Prayer Shawl Ministry

On Monday evenings a group of 6-8 women gather at Robert McClure United Church to knit and/or crochet prayer shawls.

These shawls are given to persons that need comfort and prayers during a difficult time in their life. Each shawl has been created by loving hands and hearts and is given with love and blessings.

Once a shawl has been requested it is given a final blessing then sent on its way to the recipient. In 2019 our group gave out 25 shawls. A great accomplishment from this small group of dedicated women who gather Mondays from 7:00 until 8:30 pm to create shawls while enjoying a time of fun, fellowship and discussion.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us in this wonderful ministry. If you do not know how to knit or crochet but would like to learn, please join us and you will be taught.

For more information or to request a shawl please contact the church office or Carolyn Stuber. Call 403-282-2222 or email cjstuber@shaw.ca.

*May the one who receives this shawl
be cradled in hope, kept in joy,
graced with peace,
and wrapped in love.*

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn Stuber

Refugee Report

The Refugee Fundraising Committee met for the first time on November 20/19 to discuss fund raising ideas to help support the Aslam family when they arrive in Calgary. There were many great ideas

The committee consists of:

Heather Templeton

Amanda Hafeli Thompson

Isabelle Templeton

Margaret Devine

Lynn Robertson

Kelly Osgood (Minister)

A letter is being sent to the congregation and being posted on the Robert McClure website asking for assistance. Please watch for it.

Scarboro United Church has committed \$13,000.00 for the refugees and when received will be put into a trust fund.

If you are interested in joining us please talk to Heather Templeton, Kelly Osgood or Amanda Hafeli Thompson

Thanks

Heather Templeton

Rentals Report



Our church is so busy that it is bursting from the seams into the neighborhood.

It is with great sadness that we parted ways with **Cornerstone Community Seventh-day Adventist Church**. We shared Robert McClure United Church worship space for more than 15 years. We are very happy that they have been able to acquire their own worship space. However, our partnership will be missed. We have been so blessed to have them call Robert McClure church building their worship home for so many years. We want to extend our thanks, blessings and peace to them and may their new worship home and their faith

community continues to grow as they share the Word of God. Our parting gift to them was a Tree of Life made out of rod iron and was about 4 feet in size. Thanks to Barb Lough for engraving on the back "from your friends at Robert McClure United Church December 28, 2019." We also received a wooden plaque from them saying thanks for our relationship together which will be hung in Room 9 (the McClure Room/Library).

We are hoping that Cornerstone Community Seventh-day Adventist Church will share our rental opportunity within their Seventh-day Adventist Faith Community to see if there is another congregation within their midst that might be needing space for worship and that this would become a beneficial rental opportunity for both themselves and Robert McClure United Church.

Part of their rental agreement was to strip and polish the floors in August. We close the church for several days to accommodate this work. So we will have to decide how this work will happen and of course we will need more volunteers from our own congregation to help.



Inglesia Pentecostal Monte Sinai Church (Spanish church) worship on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. They hold their children and youth programs at the same time. The first Sunday of each month they have Prayer time at 6:30 a.m. Several times during the year they rent the sanctuary for additional prayer time and anniversary celebrations. Starting January 2020 they have started to rent Room 1 (the Sunshine Room) on Wednesday evenings for the youth to have their programming.

They have storage space behind the wall on the sanctuary stage.

This congregation generously occasionally cleans the snow in our parking lot and helps with painting and yard work.

St. Andrew's Society Scottish Choir of Calgary hold their choir practice at Robert McClure United Church on Friday evenings. Several people from our own congregation are part of this choir and BethAnn Friesen is the choir director. If you would like to hear them perform sometime, please talk to BethAnn for dates and locations.

AA Group hold their meetings on Wednesday evenings. This group doesn't pay a rental fee but takes a collection each week and generously gives that to our church.

Pebbles in the Sand, a program sponsored by Calgary Immigrant Women's Association teach English on Mondays and Wednesdays. This is a community outreach program and no rental fee is charged. Some of our own congregation members are joining this group for Tea, Toast and Talk each week.

The Travelling Teacups rent the kitchen sometimes too.

Columbia College also rent the sanctuary and kitchen for many of their events during the year too.

Suzanne Styles uses Room 3/4 (the Pond Room) for her Art Therapy practicum. She provides art therapy to people both individually and some groups for such things as a grief support group, or "open studio" where folks can come and start with a reflection time and then are free to do what they want with their artistic creating.

The wear and tear on the church building is always a concern. And we know that it can be quite frustrating. But the rental income is a necessity for us to meet our financial obligations.

Our own events and congregation have first rites to the church space. We try to make sure that Saturday evenings are left for our use only. But booking the space is at the discretion of Devynne Wonnacott or Barb Humphrey. We also don't rent the church to other groups when we have such events as the Christmas Bazaar and the Junk in the Trunk sale.

The rentals would not go as smoothly as they do without the organization and scheduling skills of our Church Administrator, Devynne Wonnacott – a big thanks to her!

And did you know that if you want to hold a meeting or a small group you need to check with Devynne in the office for what is available and to book a room?

Submitted with patience and thanks by
The Rental Team
Barb Humphrey & Devynne Wonnacott

Right Relations Committee

This committee was initiated in response to the topic of reconciliation studied in WELC (Wednesday Evening Learning Circle).

Committee members are Shirley Dufour, Caryle Barr, Donna Pederson, and Don Dale. Our goal is to provide increased education and understanding of issues related to 'Healing and Reconciliation'.

To date:

an information board has been created and beginning March 2020 will be set up once per month on Sunday morning. Info. pamphlets and books for loan will also be available
A Healing Group led by Shirley Dufour, was started Sept. 2019, and is held in the church library on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

The group is relatively new and we hope to expand learning experiences to the congregation. Plans for a 'second hour' one Sunday this year are underway. We welcome new members and ideas, as we grow and heal together, in understanding that we are ALL loved and precious children of Creator God.

Submitted by

Donna Pederson
Committee Member

Robert McClure Farmers' Market

Wow! The Farmers' Market has been open for three years. It's the place to be on Fridays during the summertime.

This year we received a \$5,000 grant from Calgary Foundation and RBC Foundation for our Summer Music Concert Series. Our project was one of ten that was chosen to advance to the final step of Pitch Night: A Neighbour Grants LIVE event. Your idea is pitched to a live studio audience and their vote determines which projects are awarded a grant. Because of Kelly Osgood's enthusiasm and the audience support we were lucky to be the recipient of a grant.



RBC Foundation



CALGARY
FOUNDATION
Neighbour Grants



The grant enabled us to advertise the concert series with a large street billboard sign and pay the musicians a small token for performing. We had a diverse selection of music styles and performers.



Some of the special events included:

- Christmas in July where we were so lucky that Santa was able to visit us from the North Pole, gave out candy canes and you could even have your picture taken with Santa. Everyone had such great big smiles when he arrived.
- Carnival Day was fun for everyone. For only 25 cents per game, all ages participated in family-friendly carnival activities including ring toss, face painting, face in a hole water balloon throwing game, fishing pond, Twister toss game, ping pong toss, shooting gallery, frisbee toss, bean bag toss, target practice and more! And the best part is everyone wins a prize. The Calgary Firefighters with their fire truck were at the market on Carnival day too. A great opportunity to learn all about fire trucks and have your picture taken with the firefighters!
- Other days included Canada Day, Stampede, Kid & Youth Vendor Day and Harvest Day.



Our attendance for the 2019 market season was 2,758 which was an increase of 627 people from the previous. The day with the most people attending was the Carnival Day with 329 people having a fun day at the market.



We received funding from Canada Summer Jobs for three farmers’ market positions – social media, market host and/or special events coordinator and vendor recruiter. The church also received funding for two positions – Artist in Residence and Landscaping/Yard keeper.

This year we struggled with the hiring process and the lack of commitment and responsibility from some of the people that seemed to be good candidates for the positions. Femi was our market host and/or special events coordinator and was a great addition to our team and we were sorry to have to let her go when we discovered that she didn’t qualify to receive funding from the Canada Summer Jobs grant because she wasn’t a Canadian citizen. The other farmers’ market positions were a struggle to find the right fit. For the 2020 season we will be looking into different avenues of recruiting and the hiring process.

We have to say thank you to Richard Taylor, the Market Coordinator, who was with us for the third season. He’s such a hard worker and without him set-up and take-down just wouldn’t happen. Thanks to Donna Perry for helping Richard with the market signs each Friday morning. They were up early to make sure that the signs were out long before 9:00 am.



Thanks to everyone that helped at the Church Food Stall. Once again the big sellers were hot chocolate, corn dogs and nachos with all the fixings in a bag and of course hot dogs and hamburgers too.

Thanks to all the volunteers. Without you the Farmers’ Market wouldn’t be the success that it is. Spread the word about the outdoor Robert McClure Farmers’ Market and that it is a great place to shop, eat, and enjoy the music and friendly atmosphere.



We look forward to the upcoming market season. But we need your help! We are an Alberta Approved Farmers' Market which means that we need to have a 20/80 ratio with our vendors. 80% of the vendors must make, bake or grow their products and the other 20% can sell products that balance the market mix. Talk about the market; spread the word because you never know who just might want to start selling their products at an outdoor Farmers' Market. Vendor applications are available online or by emailing rmfmvendors@gmail.com

Opening Day for the 2020 Market Season is Friday June 19th.

Submitted by

Barb Humphrey and the Farmers' Market crew!

Tea, Toast and Talk

Pebbles in the Sand is a program that has been located at RMUC for over ten years. It is sponsored by the Calgary Immigrant Woman's Association (CIWA) and helps immigrant women learn not only how to read and write, but also how to live in Calgary, Alberta and Canada as a whole.

In 2018 we decided to partner with them and created *Tea, Toast and Talk*. Women from the church serve tea and toast as we gather for 45 minutes on Wednesday mornings. Not only do we talk with these ladies, but we also help them further their studies by helping them with the lessons they are having that day. They are able to practice their English with us and we have all become friends. We have been enjoying each other's company for just over a year, but in that time we have noticed a definite improvement in their understanding and speaking a new language. This is a definite positive outreach into the community.

Involved in the program from the church: Lynn Robertson, Caryle Barr and Kelly Osgood.

Submitted by Lynn Robertson

United Church Women (UCW)

Whoever you are, just as you are, you are welcome. We study, pray and encourage each other and support local and global charities through activities and you are invited to the next UCW Side Door Gathering.

We usually meet about once a month.

January is always the month that we allocate our funds that were raised the previous year. In 2019 we donated our funds to several different charities as follows:

We allocated our 2019 funds at our January 2020 meeting as follows:

Edge Video Licence	\$210.00
Campus Ministry	\$500.00
UCCC Mission & Service	\$300.00
A Place to Call Home	\$500.00
Children’s Cottage Society	\$200.00
UCW National (\$10 x 12 members)	\$120.00
RESET (memory of Sheila Ford)	\$200.00
One Licence (Music)	\$250.00
RMUC Food Pantry for bus tickets & grocery cards	\$400.00
Student Bursary	\$100.00
Made by Momma	\$200.00

Total Disbursed:	\$2,980.00



We received thank you letters acknowledging our donations from RESET Society of Calgary, Home Space – A Place to Call Home and Children’s Cottage Society. Even though our amounts are minimal they are most appreciated. The letters are included with this report.

Our funds are raised through our “unTea” and bake sale, gathering used clothing and household items for the Diabetes Society, and our Snowflake Christmas Market with Bob’s Café and Amy’s Pastry Shop.

This year we had a rotating chairperson to share the leadership role. This is a great and non-threatening

way to learn how to chair a meeting and how to delegate to others.

In March we host an “unTea” which is a tea bag, a napkin, a thought for friends, and goodies. Because everyone is so busy, UCW asks you to pop the tea bag into your own teapot, find yourself a comfortable spot, read a book or visit with a friend, enjoy a restful, joyful moment and enjoy the goodies and the special time – an “unTea.”



We even had lessons on how to belly dance. Everyone had such fun.

June saw us gathered for our summer wind up with our potluck supper and fellowship hosted by Barb Humphrey. Shirley Skumolski taught us how to make greeting cards.



October found us in the kitchen making 184 fruit pies. In addition, two members Maureen Routley made 91 tortierre and Barb Lough made 87 turkey and beef meat pies at home. Thanks to everyone for their help.



November was our very successful Snowflake Christmas Market. There were all sorts of baking and of course pies in Amy’s Pastry Shop, and perogies and other wonderful goodies were served from Bob’s Café. There were numerous community vendors with unique gifts from private artisans with handmade crafts, jams and jellies, and handmade items, including jewelry, knitting, crocheting, sewing and wooden crafts. We also have a fashion show showcasing clothes from WorldServe Thrift Store

which is a genuine non-profit store. Our support means they can do more than ever with their local partnerships in each of their thrift communities. The partners include women’s safe houses and shelters, refugee support, homelessness and foodbank initiatives, and a variety of outreach programs.



December, we gathered for a candle lighting service. We filled socks with items for the homeless and had a rousing game using the empty socks.

This is the time when we reveal our 2019 Sunshine Friends (Secret Friend) who has been supporting us all year and drew names for our Sunshine Friends (Secret Friends) for 2020.

And now, go with us, God,

Into the days ahead.

Strengthen us for peace.

Give us wisdom, keep us humble,

and may we live and work together,

and so striving,

build a new and better world

for tomorrow.

Amen.

Submitted by,

Barb Humphrey

On behalf of UCW



29/01/20

Robert McClure United Church of Canada UCW
5510 26 Ave. NE
Calgary AB T1Y 6S1

Dear Friends,

We at RESET Society of Calgary so greatly appreciate your help to **change lives** and it is our hope that you understand the truly important role you've played in our organization. Your generous donation of \$200.00 will help us provide the EXploitation Intervention & Transition (EXIT) Program, a proven, trauma-informed wraparound program which provides; immediate safe housing for 30 days at our Phase 1 i-EXIT house, long-term second stage housing in one of our homes while the women enter the recovery-focused life skills program in Phase 2 and employment training, educational support, career resources, and long-term follow-care assistance in Phase 3 to ensure sexually exploited women, and their children, move forward on their difficult journey of rebuilding their lives.

In the last fiscal year, with your support, we provided:

- 8870 safe and secure nights to the women and their children in our housing
- 75 unique women and their children entered Phase 1 and moved to Phase 2 of the EXIT Program (81% were homeless and 70% were pregnant or had children)
- 66 women were supported with 175 different supports in Phase 3

A Social Return On Investment (SROI) was conducted over this same time period and results suggest that for every dollar invested in the EXIT Program, approximately \$11 is created in social and economic return. This has a huge impact on the community including medical, EMS, child welfare system, hospital, policing and the justice system.

Thank you so much for making the journey of recovery more than a dream and kind regards from all of us here at RESET.

Theresa Jenkins
Executive Director
theresa@resetcalgary.ca or 403-205-5531

Home Space

January 23, 2020

Maureen Routley, Treasurer
Robert McClure United Church of Canada UCW
5510 26 Ave NE
Calgary AB T1Y 6S1

Dear Maureen:

Please pass along to the UCW of Robert McClure United Church our sincere appreciation for your recent contribution to the A Place to Call Home - Bankview. The donation of \$500 that will be applied to the mortgage on this affordable housing apartment building, ensuring some of Calgary's most vulnerable have a safe, affordable place to call home.

As you know, HomeSpace provide homes to over 700 vulnerable individuals and families in our community, and it is because of the support of organizations such as Robert McClure United Church that we can continue to provide affordable, safe, secure housing to those in need in Calgary.

Again, thank you for supporting HomeSpace through A Place to Call Home. We look forward to continuing to work together in supporting the residents we serve.

Sincerely,



Bernadette Majdell
CEO



January 28, 2020

Ms. Maureen Routley
Robert McClure United Church of Canada UCW
5510 26 Ave NE
Calgary, AB T1Y 6S1

Dear Ms. Routley:

The Child and Family Centre Campaign is another step closer to becoming a reality because of the support from the Robert McClure United Church of Canada! Thank you for your generous gift of \$200.00, as per your request we have designated \$100.00 to the Caring Together Campaign and \$100.00 to the Crisis Nursery. We are so grateful for your support of the Children's Cottage Society.

The campaign is past the halfway mark toward our \$18 million capital goal with over \$9.8 million raised! Our next benchmark is to fully raise the \$18 million in order for construction to commence in 2020, as well as to raise \$5.5 million in operations funding for when the doors open. This totals our \$23.5 million campaign goal.

The Children's Cottage is getting increasingly closer to a future where we can do more to help children and families in need and it's exciting to think of what more we will be able to accomplish with our new Centre.

I have enclosed a Business Receipt for your records. Should you wish to learn more about The Child and Family Centre, please do not hesitate to call me at 403-283-4200 ext. 222.

Thank you again for believing in the Children's Cottage, for supporting the Caring Together Campaign for the new Child and Family Centre, and for your ongoing commitment to helping to ensure brighter, healthier futures for children and families.

Sincerely,

Patty Kilgallon
CEO

Encl.

Children's Cottage Society 845 McDougall Road NE, Calgary, AB T2E 5A5 | P. 403-283-4200 | F. 403-283-4393 | CHILDRENSCOTTAGE.AB.CA

Wednesday Evening Learning Circle

This group is especially geared towards those who want to ask questions about faith and spirituality in a safe and respectful environment. No question is off limits, including God, pain and suffering, literal interpretation of the Bible, and much more. As theologian Dominic Crossan says: “What faith means for me is always asking questions. I’d say the unexamined faith is probably superstition.”

And so we journey together, questioning, discovering, appreciating and examining the basis upon which we rest our faith and our personal belief systems.

Highlights from 2019:

- *Eclipsing Empire - Paul, Rome & the Empire of God*
We discovered that titles usually ascribed to Jesus were actually First Century titles for Caesar of the Roman Empire: Son of God, Divine, Lord, Liberator, Redeemer, Saviour of the World, God. For some in our group, this was a great surprise. It was interesting to find out how these titles were eventually transferred to a Jewish man from Nazareth.
- *A Bigger Table* by John Pavlovitz
John challenged and encouraged us to take up Jesus’ vision of a dinner table that includes all, with radical hospitality, total authenticity, true diversity and agenda-free community. The group really enjoyed this book and the discussions it sparked, and on June 30th presented a worship service which included three vignettes imagining the concepts of Pavlovitz’ work.
- The fall session focused on the Old Testament Book of *Amos*, one of the minor prophets (minor simply meaning it was a shorter book than those of some of the more erudite prophets!). At the conclusion of the study we divided into three groups and wrote “Amos, The Next Chapters” which follows. Writers were encouraged to emulate the style of Amos’ writing.
- *Amos, The Next Chapters*:
 1. This Geek comes to church and says: “What’s new?”
Well, I’ll tell you what’s new! There’s going to be an ice flow from the north because you just don’t want to look after this church. Thus says the Lord.
You believe that your riches come from your idea of righteousness, but the truth is you’re developing your own theology, one that leaves my truths out.
When did I tell you to build idols and worship money?
You may think the cathedrals have it wrong, the evangelicals are straying from the path, but have you looked at the log in your own eye?
Where’s the poor in your congregation, differing abilities, the homeless, LGBTQ2S community, the indigenous?
Instead you search out the well-to-do, the celebrities, the politicians.

You spend more time trying to name me, rather than living the peace and the divine nature of me. Walk with the spirit, rather than the flesh!
Thus says the Lord.

2. These are the words of CADS, Citizens of Canada in the days of “Trudeau the Younger”. The Lord has commanded us to share with our fellow citizens. People, you are not listening to each other. Division is ruin and the Trump from the south will pick up the pieces. God calls you to love one another. Instead, you go off and preach division. You are blessed with vast quantities of fresh water, but your neighbours are poisoned by the water they have to drink. All water molecules are connected on this planet. None will escape the tainted water.
You are blessed with a large empty country and still you struggle with allowing the foreigner to take refuge in this your heartfelt country. Remember, you were once a foreigner in this land!
You are blessed with material wealth and yet your veterans, children, seniors, indigenous and poor go hungry.
When the Bears come your wealth will disappear.
Thus sayeth the CADS!
-

3. For the three transgressions of Calgary, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment because you pollute the air with your gas-guzzling SUVs and pickups.
Are you all timber-getters of the prairies? Are you all tinkerers in the trades?
Your supermarket harvest must be heavy to need such chariots!
Thus says the Lord. Thou shall have no other god before me, yet your corrupt leaders build vertical idols to business, and now they lay empty in the downtown, and your residents pay the taxes for the empty rooms.
Encana, you have been blessed, yet you forget the poor. Your oil greases the upper management; your members go cold this winter.
Thus says the Lord. Oil prices will drop, and you will find no value in your ways. Turn again to your Lord. The nation of mountains, prairies, sand and shale reveals his thoughts to you Calgarians.
Stampede your way back to the Lord.
Ya-Hoo!
-

- The Advent Study focused on The United Church of Canada resource, *Light of the World* by Amy-Jill Levine, a Jewish Rabbi. Here’s the thing: The Christmas Story is a Jewish Story. When glimpsed through that lens of understanding, the story widens and deepens and becomes much more than a Christmas card tableau. The study experience was interesting and at times profound.

You can see that we are a group that enjoys study and learning, is not afraid to examine our faith and encounter the superstitions that sometimes surround it, and leaning on each other and recognizing that every one is on their own spiritual journey, we go forward in community and connection.

There is always an empty chair. We offer it to you. You are most welcome to journey with us.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Lough, Facilitator
Wednesday Evening Learning Circle

Worship Committee

Every year our planet experiences four seasons: autumn, winter, spring and summer. The seasons are created as the earth moves around the sun. The Earth spins in a slightly tilted position which causes our seasons because through the year the Earth is closer to or further away from the sun. The sunlight and heat are factors of how long each day is and the temperature in each season.

Just like the Earth, our Church Year has seasons too. The seasons are part of the Christian liturgical calendar. Our seasons are:

- Advent season which is the season of waiting, anticipation and hope. Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day and ends on Christmas Eve.
- Christmas season begins at sunset on Christmas Eve and lasts through to January 5th. Often known as the Twelve Days of Christmas.
- Epiphany is celebrated on January 6th. Epiphany means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." It also is a time to remember the coming of the three magi who brought gifts to baby Jesus.
- The Lent Season is a time of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial, and spiritual disciplines in preparation to celebrate Easter. Lent is for 46 days (40 weekdays plus 6 Sundays) before Easter and can fall as early as February 4th or as late as March 10th. It begins with Ash Wednesday where you receive ashes on your forehead or hand and receive prayer and a blessing. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (the Sunday before Easter) there are palm branches waving and shouts of praise and adoration as we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Maundy Thursday Seder Supper is where we gather together to experience a Jewish Seder supper, to celebrate Passover as Jesus did with his disciples in the Upper Room. Good Friday is a reminder to us that Jesus' arrest, trial, crucifixion, death and burial all occurred on this day. Holy Saturday is the last day of the Lent Season which marks the day that Jesus' body was laid in the tomb.
- The Easter Season begins with Easter Sunday which is the day that we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus the Christ. *Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!!* We join together for a Sunrise Service at the Fish Hatchery as we celebrate new beginnings, new life and the resurrection; fasting is over so we eat hot-cross buns and our RMUC traditional breakfast of oatmeal with ice cream. Yes really! Ice cream and oatmeal! And we continue to eat and enjoy homemade bread (made by Delores Massey) for communion and after the worship service; the bread and jam is so yummy. The Easter Season is seven weeks long and is a "movable feast," meaning that it occurs on different days in different years (it is tied to the lunar cycle while the calendar is solar based).
- The next is the Day of Pentecost which means "fiftieth day." Pentecost Sunday occurs 50 days following Easter Sunday (counting Easter Sunday since it is the first day of the week). Those 50 days span seven Sundays after Easter, so Pentecost is the seventh Sunday after Easter (7 weeks times 7 days = 49 days plus Pentecost Sunday). Pentecost is where we celebrate the birth of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the wind power that energizes us to be community, seek justice and healing and bring us closer to God and to one another.

- The last and largest season of the Christian liturgical calendar is called Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is celebrated in two segments: from the Monday following the Baptism of Jesus up to Ash Wednesday; and from Pentecost Monday to the First Sunday of Advent.

Each season also has a color associated with it where the table runners and the banners match the season: Advent – blue; Christmas – white; Epiphany – green; Lent – purple; Good Friday and Holy Saturday – black; Easter – white; Pentecost – red; Ordinary Time – green. Now you know why the table runners and the banners change throughout the year. There are also special times of the year that we would have other colors that represent who we are such as PIE Day which means to be Public, Intentional and Explicit as an Affirming Ministry and we would have rainbow colors to represent this national movement.

And then the year starts all over again with lots of preparation, planning and praying.

Here are some highlights of the year:



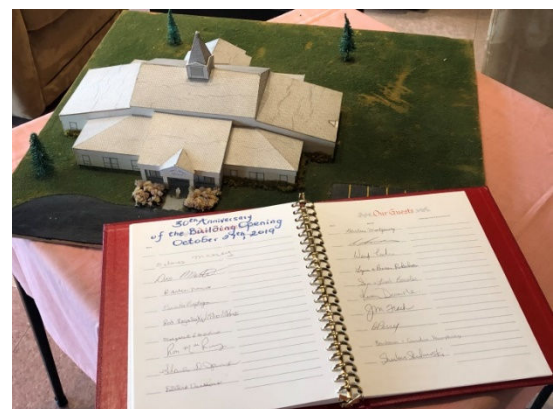
*Creator God loves diversity
This love already includes you!
You belong because you are!*

 A horizontal bar with a rainbow color spectrum.









Some traditions that are meaningful to RMUC; some new and some for years are:

- hot-cross buns and oatmeal with ice cream
- homemade bread
- hot dogs and soup
- flowers at Easter in memory or celebration of a loved one or special occasion
- Pancake Breakfast and Western Worship Service
- sharing food together
- dishes
- coffee
- Affirming congregation
- fellowship
- worship
- Birthday cake for Jesus
- laughter, tears, joy, hope and love
- passing the peace
- music
- white gifts and Christmas pageant
- lay worship leadership
- anniversaries
- mini carnations, Dad's Root Beer and Dad's cookies
- Land acknowledgement
- Youth Group & WonderKids
- Ministry for seniors at Monterey Place and St. Teresa Place

This year we celebrated many milestones – BethAnn has been with RMUC for 35 years, Devynne has been with RMUC as the Church Administrator for 11 years, Kelly has been with RMUC for 9 years, RMUC celebrated 44 years as a church and 30 years in our church building. We love to celebrate and to gather together for fellowship.

We also celebrated and welcomed to RMUC by profession of Faith & Baptism; reaffirmation of faith; and transferred membership:

Myrtle Ryckman	Sharon Janzen
Jay Ryckman	Len White
Mac Dingwall	Danni Nowochin
Peter Meier	Lynn Robertson
Juka Meier	Brian Robertson

And some sad milestones with the passing of Nora Bourke and Linda Shingoose.

Behind the scenes to make the worship experience meaningful and make church “happen” there are worship planners, musicians, candle lighters, worship set-up, coffee makers, readers, actors, bread makers, communion servers, soup makers, parade marchers, candy throwers, decorators, haraoset makers, egg hiders and egg hunters, dishwashers, fire makers, candle shoppers, oatmeal cookers, shoppers, banner changers, table runner changers, coloring table organizers, washing dishes, Power Point doers, greeters, ushers, welcoming our church family as they walk through the front door, sound system operators, offering counters, window painters, Christmas decorators, sausage cookers, hamburger cookers, hot dog makers, display set-up, arranging fun and food, arranging crafts, arranging special events and pancake relays, and so much more. Thank you, thank you and thank you.

If I have missed mentioning something it is because worship is a very busy and demanding but meaningful experience within our church walls. Everything that everyone contributes is always appreciated.

I must say thank you to:

- Barb Lough and her yummy, scrumptious soup. We are so well-fed!
- The Worship Committee - Beth Ann Friesen, Karen Dingwall, Sim Gilbert, Colette Cuthbert, Heather Templeton and Kelly Osgood
- Linda and Sam Bossler, Don Martel, Rod Rogalsky & Echo Liknes, Lynn & Brian Robertson, Isabel Templeton, Margaret Devine, Donna Perry, Jeannie Trach and so many more for helping each Sunday with set up and coffee making
- All those helping hands that come up to me each week and ask “Can I help?”
- Don Martel for making our advent words – Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.
- Don Martel for the foot stools that he made so that people can always have their feet on the floor.
- Delores Massey for her long term commitment to finding ushers to greet at the door each week. If you would like to be an usher please let her know.
- All the lay leaders that lead us in worship for intergenerational services and when Kelly Osgood is away.
- Colette for her devotion to the WonderKids program; Emily Macnab for leading the Junior Youth Group and to Noah & Olivia for helping.



- BethAnn Friesen and all the musicians for sharing your musical talent and leadership. You make music dance in our hearts.

There isn't a thank you big enough to say to Devynne Wonnacott, our Church Administrator. She's my rock and sounding board every day. I can't say it enough times "She is the greatest!"

And, of course, we must extend our gratitude and thanks to our minister, Kelly Osgood. Her messages are heartfelt and she helps us live our vision – intentionally creating space where the Holy Spirit sets our hearts ablaze and bursts out. I know that many of us leave worship with words to ponder for the week.

All I can say is THANK YOU!

If you have any suggestions or recommendations, please contact anyone on the Worship Committee.

Serving on the Worship Committee is a rewarding and wonderful experience. Please consider being part of this group.

Submitted with thankfulness and gratitude

By Barb Humphrey,
Worship Chairperson

Youth Group

Change and movement was the unofficial theme of the youth group in 2019. The youth were all facing changes - in schooling, location, changes in home-life, a change in name and acknowledgement of non-binary identity and growing pains that come with finding the way from childhood to adulthood. It was a challenging year, but we all made it through with poise and grace.

We met regularly, on Friday evening, in the Rainbow Room, for a few hours. We spent time discussing personal challenges and triumphs, and we supported each other in the ways that small, close-knit groups can.

In 2019, we started a spiritual practice of creating Tibetan Prayer Flags. The youth created flags that fall under the umbrella of the LGBTQ+ community. These flags were labelled, defined and then a short prayer written on the back for people represented by each flag. They are strung together, Tibetan-Flag style, and are currently hanging in the Rainbow Room. The ritual of the flags is that when the wind blows, the prayers will be spread by the wind and will bring good will and compassion to benefit all beings.

In the spring of 2020, we will complete the practice by burning the flags (as is tradition) while praying again, for those represented by the flags.

We also spent time talking about gender stereotypes, discussed and debated ethical dilemmas, celebrated birthdays, played games and watched movies, shared answers to The Pivot Questions, made commitments to follow a Lenten practice, we had a dance night, discussed Climate Change and how to live more sustainably, sharing our own personal practices and successes. In June, we finished off the year with dinner out and a night at The Loose Moose Theatre Company, enjoying the improv show.

In September, through conversational inspiration, the youth created a poster for the Affirming Ministry Action Committee to use in their display. We spent 3 evenings working on this - debating what to include, how to visually represent the spectrums and identities, and of course, waiting for glue to dry! Check out their "Gender, Romantic & Sexuality Spectrum" poster when it's out with the Affirming Ministry information, on Sunday mornings.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the youth leader this year. I am always inspired and encouraged by this group who are endlessly patient with me.

Joyfully Submitted by,

Devynne Wonnacott

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Robert McClure United Church, held Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at Robert McClure United Church, 5510 26 Avenue NE, Calgary, Alberta, at the call of the Chair, Sam Bossler

In Attendance

Sam Bossler-Chair

Heather Templeton-Secretary

Donna Perry

Joan Liland

Jack Lough

Barb Lough

Delores Massey

Barb Humphrey

Gord Humphrey

Linda Bossler

Lynn Robertson

Brian Robertson

Wendy Leckie

Brent Barr

Richard Taylor

Darlene Thompson

Kelly Osgood

Rod Rogalsky

Karen Dingwall

Mac Dingwall

Devynne Wonnacott

Craig Wonnacott

Donna Pederson

Maureen Routley

Danni Nowochin

Vanessa Adamache-Edwards

Bev Hafeli

Caryle Barr

1. Called to Order at 7:03 pm
2. Guided Meditation lead by Barb Lough
3. Enabling Motion:
Motion: Jack Lough/Rod Rogalsky move that all those in attendance can vote on upcoming motions
 Motion carried
4. Approval of Agenda:
Motion: Lynn Robertson/Linda Bossler move to approve the agenda as amended
 Motion carried
5. Approval of 2017 AGM minutes from March 6, 2018
Motion: Heather Templeton/Darlene Thompson move the approval of the 2017 AGM minutes as amended
 Motion carried
6. 2018 Financial Report
Motion: Barb Lough/Richard Taylor move to approve the 2018 Financial Report
 Motion carried
7. 2019 proposed Budget:
Motion: Karen Dingwall/ _____ move to approve the 2019 proposed budget with the caveat that no more than a \$1000.00 be added to the budget for musician continuing education
 Motion carried

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8. Coffee Break: committee sign up

9. Video presentation: Video of 2018 was created by Emily Macnab

10. Refugees:

Motion: Heather Templeton/Karen Dingwall move that Robert McClure United Church proceed with the process to sponsor Naeem and Fozia Aslam and their children to get to Canada and to support them for one full year

Motion carried

11. Approval of Annual Report:

Motion: Devynne Wonnacott/Richard Taylor move to accept the 2018 Annual Reports as presented

Motion carried

12. Leadership team:

Sam Bossler-Chair

Heather Templeton-Secretary

Barb Humphrey-Worship

Darlene Thompson-Regional Representative

Karen Dingwall-Treasurer

Karen DeCarle-Ministry & Personnel

Richard Taylor-Building & Maintenance

Kelly Osgood-Minister

Motion: Delores Massey/Craig Wonnacott move the approval of the 2019 leadership team and that pending Duty of Care clearance the congregation approve the leadership team named in the minutes and empower the board to appoint individuals to fill any remaining vacancies.

Motion carried

13. Closing prayer

14. Adjournment

Motion: Brian Robertson move the 2018 AGM be adjourned at 8:22 pm