



Parkdale United Church

We are an inclusive Christian community with a deep yearning for God and God's vision of equity, justice, and well-being for all.

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world.
Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead



This reflection is courtesy of Parkdale United Church, Calgary, AB.

www.parkdaleunitedcalgary.net

Parkdale United Church Annual Reports
January to December, 2018

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MINISTER'S REPORT – MURRAY E. LAVERTY

2018 was a good year here at Parkdale United. The year included working with specific ministry objectives. We offered some new education events, service opportunities and worship experiences, and were intentional about getting better connected with one another. We shared life together in good activities, times of joy and celebration, and in seasons of heartache when loved ones lived with illness, grief and suffering, and our world experienced real difficulties.

Our faith does not immunize us from challenges. Rather, we live in God's presence and are given strength, patience and encouragement as needed to live with compassion, care and hope, day-by-day. Our church programs, new and those well-established help us build connections with one another, God and the world. They help inform us of ways we can live with faith and act for justice. We have said it before; the church is people. People like us. People who journey together, who trust God and who seek to be partners in creating healing, building hope, making peace and sharing loving-kindness.

On a personal note, August through December were extremely challenging for me as our family lived with my dad's failing health and death. The quiet, respectful support and care I received during these months from our community was heartwarming and life-giving. Thank you for your kindness and compassion.

Please read through the reports of some of our church committees and working groups. These are brief descriptions of some of what has been part of our congregational life this past year. I, with you, am extremely grateful for the leaders, committee members and volunteers who offer their skills, gifts and participation in the work we do and the ministry we share, season after season. The vitality of our congregational life, the projects we take on, the programs we offer and the ministries we sponsor are all facilitated by good people lending a hand and helping make good things happen. Gratitude, appreciation and thank you to one and all!

Congregational highlights in 2018 include the ongoing support of our newcomer family from Eretria with special thanks to the passionate team who provide practical, personal and social support to this family; good worship series in the Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas seasons; special adult learning opportunities; monthly Sandwich building for distribution through the Calgary Drop-In Centre and working teams lending a hand at the Airdrie Foodbank; caring support extended to families as several longstanding members died; the installation of two new energy efficient boilers for church heating; tremendous financial support given to our 2018 Christmas Fund with a total of \$21,053.10 in support of the Calgary Interfaith Foodbank and Simon House Recovery Centre.

I am sincerely grateful for the strong capable leadership we have in our staff team and the wonderful contributions each one makes to Parkdale United.

- Children's Ministry – Jennifer Razzo, Thomas Unruh, Emily Flood, Claire Perrella
- Music Ministry – Michael Coburn
- Church Administration – Ruth Jacques and Kate Currie
- Building Caretaker – Mike Hudec and Hector Renderos

I enjoy working with our congregational committees and task teams. I find the sharing of ideas, considering possibilities, creating programs and working together in response to needs, issues and challenges energizing and satisfying. Parkdale United is blessed with many capable people who continue to willingly share their energy, gifts, talents and time in helping make this community live and thrive. Thank you, it is a privilege to be in ministry with you.

Worship

- ◆ Plan, create, produce weekly and seasonal worship services
- ◆ Study, prepare, deliver weekly sermons (worship reflections)
- ◆ Special services Celebrations of Life, Weddings, Interments

Congregational Development

- ◆ Leadership in congregational visioning, values and mission
- ◆ Leadership in congregational administration and organization
- ◆ Program planning, creating and implementing

Congregational/Pastoral Care

- ◆ Pastoral care and visitation in homes and hospitals
- ◆ Pastoral support in times of crisis, celebration, confusion
- ◆ Pastoral leadership in committees, task groups and ministry teams

Pastoral Services: January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

- ◆ Baptisms – five
- ◆ Celebrations of Life – three
- ◆ Interments – two
- ◆ Renewal of Vows – one
- ◆ Weddings – four

Committee/Congregational Leadership

- ◆ Congregational Spiritual Life
- ◆ Council; Council Executive
- ◆ Communications Task Team
- ◆ Faith and Justice Committee
- ◆ Intentional Planning Task Team
- ◆ Operations Committee
- ◆ Pastoral Care Committee
- ◆ Picturing Parkdale – interior decorating, design, furnishings, policies
- ◆ Staff – development and program coordination/facilitation
- ◆ Stewardship Committee
- ◆ Worship Arts Team – enhancing our worship life

Presbytery/Conference Service

- ◆ Presbytery Meetings, Training Events and Workshops

Community Service

- ◆ Calgary Foundation – Board of Directors, Grants Committee Chair
- ◆ University of Calgary Institute for the Humanities – Advisory Committee

Continuing Education

- ◆ Reading Study Week; Vancouver School of Theology – a summer school course; Community Learning Days and Conferences

Next Year – concerns, objectives, plans

- ◆ Work with committees and ministry teams with special emphasis on education, mission/service, worship programs
- ◆ Strengthen our congregational capacity in welcoming, leadership, care
- ◆ Explore community connections, relationships, outreach programs
- ◆ Respond to new priorities and action plans as they are developed and agreed upon in our ongoing intentional planning and committee processes

COUNCIL

Church Council meets on the first Wednesday of every month except July and August, and is responsible for oversight of the ministry and mission of Parkdale United Church, implementing the wishes and identifying the needs of the congregation.

Council members during 2018 were Sue Brodrick, Ken Coburn, Susan Daye, Barb Giles, Marc Lebel, Suzanne Parkinson, Jean Tollefson, Sarah Leeuwerke, Sheila Navrady, (Secretary), Sherry Anderson-Kepke (Past Chair), Rev. Dr. Murray Laverty, Sheila Campbell (Chair).

Following are a few highlights of Council's work during 2018:

- *Intentional Planning Team met several times to continue brainstorming and planning for programs throughout the year.

- *Hosted many great breakfasts and lunches including a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and a Christmas workshop with supper and craft making.

- * Presented several well attended groups; In the spring a Lenten Soup & Study group was held; a discussion group held monthly led by Mary Sheridan has met to discuss "topics worth talking about"; and a men's discussion group led by Sandy Navrady with a theme of "gifts, talents and callings". All these groups were very interesting!

- *Continued to buy extra copies of the United Church Observer for newcomers and visitors.

- *A group has met several times to assist with making sandwiches for the Drop in Centre. We also have a group that is volunteering their time to work at the Airdrie Food Bank.

- *Another very successful garage sale was held April, 2018.

- * Our financial support for our refugee family with four adults and three children from Eritrea has now ended, but the volunteer committee has continued with ongoing support for this family. Many thanks again to this wonderful group under the leadership of Sheila Navrady for their continuous care. We are also joining the Eritrean Ghebru Group to form a Constituent Group in order to submit applications to the United Church of Canada, the Sponsorship Agreement Holder, to sponsor 6 members of the family of Michael Embaie. These people are currently in Israel.

- *We have two new boilers in the basement thanks to the financial donation to PUC from the Jan Tollefson bequest. Thanks to Ken Coburn and his committee for all their work in looking after this wonderful job.

- *We sponsored a Polyjesters concert on May 6th. The donations received were given to the refugee fund and the costs were covered by the Mary Fund.

- *We held a Seniors Lunch in the fall which was very well received. Thanks to Pastoral Care for looking after this event. Plans are being made for another luncheon to be held in the spring.

- *A decommissioning service was held at Parkdale in December to officially close the Calgary Presbytery office and volunteers.

- *Special Christmas offerings were received for the Calgary Food Bank and Simon House Recovery Centre, a local charity to assist with addictions.

Submitted by Sheila Campbell, Chair of Council

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees hold the physical property of the Congregation (the land and building) in trust for the United Church of Canada. The following were elected to the Board of Trustees at the 2018 Annual General Meeting: Jo Anne Atkins, Sue Brodrick, Ken Coburn, Murray Laverty, Sandy Navrady, Suzanne Parkinson and Gordon Thomson. The Trustees did not meet in 2018.

Submitted by Ken Coburn

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH CHOIR

Choir Director: Michael Coburn

Choir Members as of December 31, 2018: Margaret De Laet, Anne McFaul, Teeya Scholten, Karen Winchester, Heidi Schroter, Peggy Williams, Sheila Campbell, Sheila Smith, Barbara Giles, Ben de Laet, Nick Finn, Ian Winchester, Bob Robson, Henno De Boer, Nico Scholten.

The PUC choir provides musical leadership in services as well as reflecting on the theme of the service through appropriately selected anthems. The choir also represents PUC in the United Church community at musical gatherings throughout the year.

Highlights from 2018 have been singing at Twelfth Night and the final Presbytery Service, continuing to challenge ourselves through new repertoire and choir social events throughout the year.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

The Operations Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) and is responsible for caring for the physical and financial assets of the Congregation. Continuously, the committee reviews and executes building and equipment maintenance, reviews and approves building use by outside groups, reviews financial statements, receives income and pays expenses, supervises the caretaker and counts and deposits the weekly offering. Other special projects are undertaken as necessary.

Members of the Operations Committee are Sherry Anderson-Kepke (who is the church's bookkeeper), Ken Coburn, Wayne Flood, Rev. Murray Laverty, Kim Leong and George Norton. Please consider joining the Operations Committee as we are looking for additional members. We are fun-loving and friendly bunch!!

We also thank Jim Balshaw, who helps out with "electronics projects", Helen Heacock who oversees the garden, and Bill Crabbe who volunteers to look after lawn care.

During 2018, we had three caretakers; Tim Alton resigned in April and moved to Kimberley, BC, Mike Hudec returned to help us out until October 1 when we hired Hector Renderos as our caretaker.

The building is being well used by community and other outside groups. Building use income in 2018 amounted to \$133,000; which contributed 33% of the church's total operating income. This level of use, and income, would not be realized without the hard work of the Church staff, most notably the office administrator, Kate Currie, who is usually the first point of contact with outside users, and our caretaker, who tirelessly sets up rooms and keeps the building clean and comfortable.

During the past year, the Operations Committee undertook or oversaw a number of projects, the most notable being the following:

- Project managing, on behalf of Council, the boiler replacement
- Searching for and hiring our new caretaker, Hector Renderos
- Minor maintenance projects, countertop repairs, drywall repairs and painting
- Installing opening windows in the main kitchen and Healing Touch rooms
- Replacing the office administrator's and minister's computers

We thank the congregation for its generosity and for its continuing support for the ministries of Parkdale United Church.

Respectfully submitted by K. H. (Ken) Coburn, P. Eng., chair, on behalf of the Operations Committee

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

Suliman arrived in Canada last January, and has spent the intervening months studying English and becoming reacquainted with his family. In December he found full-time work, and is continuing his English language studies at night. He and his wife Nora welcomed their third child, daughter Mala, on February 8. Daughter Shahd and son Mohamed are both in school and are thriving. Last August, Randa, her son Abdalla and her mother Fatma moved to Kitchener, Ontario, to be closer to relatives there. They are settling into life there, and Randa is now looking for work. Sheila Navrady, Sandy Navrady, Suzanne Parkinson, Nick Finn, Heidi Schroter, Sue Brodrick

PUC HEALING MINISTRY TEAM REPORT

Healing Pathway (HP) is a Christian, energy-based therapeutic approach using teams of two trained practitioners as instruments of God's peace and healing. There are standard protocols for many of the techniques used. It uses light touch with the intent of opening the energy centres of the body and thereby balancing the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health and well-being of the individual being treated. Most sessions last 3/4 hour and usually take place in the healing rooms in the upper part of the church, but also can be offered at a distance.

There are currently seven team members including Evelyn Peterson, Jan Collins, Jo Anne Atkins, Lee Morris, Mary Ellis, Peggy Williams, and Teeya Scholten. We all share in the responsibilities of this ministry and meet monthly to practice HP techniques and provide healing to each other and anyone else who requests it.

In 2018, we served about 34 people for a total of 68 sessions (24 of which were provided in person and 44 through distance healing). Most recipients of in-person healing were members of Parkdale, but one came from another church. For distance healing, most recipients were family and/or friends. Approximately 85% of all recipients were women. One or two sessions were most common, while multiple sessions were given to a few individuals with chronic issues. The focus of the healing was for a wide variety of concerns such as cancer, pre and post-surgery, clearing the body of anesthetic, grief, stress, fatigue, pain and even discernment. It seems that people come when the healing is offered to them rather than initiating the request themselves.

Over the years, we had noticed that many individuals experience problems with sleep. This year, we therefore worked with Pastoral Care to organize a workshop on this topic which was kindly provided by Dr. Ann Laverty and greatly appreciated by the attendees.

We are available to provide healing sessions by appointment only after the church service on Sundays, during the day on Thursdays or at other times. We can also visit homes or come to the Foothills Medical Centre when the need arises. There is no charge for this service, but donations are welcomed to cover the costs of ongoing in-service training. We also welcome any of you who are curious about being a part of this ministry and would like more information.

To book a healing session please contact Evelyn Peterson at 403-283-8121 or evelynpeterson@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted by
Teeya Scholten

PARKDALE UNITED MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men of the Congregation meet for breakfast the first Saturday morning of each month excluding July and August. In early 2019, the time and venue was changed to 9:00 am at the Market Mall Food Court. There is no agenda; just conversation and fellowship. Attendance each month varies with the seasons, but is generally between four and eight. All men of the Congregation are invited to attend

Submitted by Ken Coburn

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School highlights from 2018 include having our group of kids take over the kitchen on Easter Sunday to bake King Cakes, (missing communion in the process!), providing coffee and snacks in June and October, and performing a short Christmas Pageant with the help of the congregation in December. We are starting the new year with two small groups of 6 to 8 children in the Primary class and 6 to 8 children in the Nursery. We get occasional visits from the youth. Our team is small, with Emily Flood and Claire Perrella tending to the nursery and Jennifer Razzo and Thomas Unruh wrangling with the primary children. We are always hoping that the children enjoy themselves and we continue to plan to inject some fun activities throughout the year. The curriculum theme for the rest of the winter and this coming spring is "Bad days & Big Mistakes and How God Fixed Them."

Jennifer Razzo
Sunday School Coordinator.

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Parkdale U.C.W. has, on average, eight active members. Roma Franklin, a former UCW member has moved to Victoria and Mary Kirby, whom we thank for her work phoning members to remind them of upcoming meetings, has moved to Calgary south. Marg De Laet has taken over this job. Kay Loeb has moved to Aspenshire Dr., the same residence as Kay McCaughey.

At the beginning of 2018, Joyce Poniecki retired as our treasurer. She held that position for many years. Our new treasurer is Jeanette Edge who is also doing an excellent job. Jeanette is a retired Scotia Bank clerk.

Our meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:45am. New members are always welcome.

Activities for the year:

1. Lunch at Boston Pizza in January
2. Charity donations: Men's Hostel, Presbyterial, Band Aid Foundation – in memory of Isabelle Thiele and Joyce Poniecki, Calgary Ploughshares Society, Sheriff King Home, Inn From The Cold, Calgary Hospice Society and Mission & Service.
3. Closing picnic in the church garden in May. Lovely day.
4. Bake sale – thank you for your support

Programs:

1. Craft: Twiddle Muff. Something to help young children focus on their work in the classroom
2. Appreciative Inquiry – January Observer
3. Parkdale Church Intentional Planning
4. Expansive Spirituality
5. Help with Garage Sale
6. Sharing our summer events

We are grateful for our U.C.W. friends, and miss those who have moved to new communities. We also miss Isabelle Thiele and Joyce Poniecki, who passed away during 2018.

Submitted by Sheila Smith

PRAYER CIRCLE REPORT

Prayer circle receives requests for prayers. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month except for July and August. You can request prayers by leaving a note on the prayer slips provided in the boxes of the prayer tables at the front of the church or by speaking to a member of the group. Requests are confidential.

Members of the group are: Sandy Beattie, Sheila Campbell, Susan Daye, Murray Laverty, Evelyn Peterson, Ida Wyllie.

New Members are welcome.

Submitted by Ida Wyllie

WORSHIP ARTS

The Worship Arts Committee includes our minister, Murray Laverty and congregation members, Chet Marlett and Beth Balshaw. Our goals include:

- creating a warm and caring atmosphere for worship services
- generating creative ways to enrich the weekly worship experience
- encouraging participation and engagement of the congregation in the worship services
- being aware of the many and varied reasons that people come to church and offering opportunities for those needs being met
- making worship an inviting experience

We reflect on the lectionary reading, develop themes for worship and brainstorm how we can best engage the congregation in meaningful worship experiences.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Balshaw

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Members: Sue Brodrick Chair
 Jeff Campbell
 Chet Marlett
 Bob Robson
 Catherine Lebel

In 2018, the M&P Committee's work was focused on two items, Ruth Jacques retired in June and we had to find a replacement for her and the salary budget.

A new item that the M&P committee initiated in 2017 was a social gathering with all the staff, in appreciation for the work they do as staff for Parkdale United Church. This event was again scheduled for March 2018 but had to be cancelled due to a blizzard that evening and it was difficult to re-schedule.

The M&P committee put a lot of effort in the budget process for the staff salaries following the appropriate guidelines made available for both paid accountable ministry as well as professional musicians.

Our office administrator Ruth Jacques retired in June 2018. Catherine Lebel, Chet Marlett, and Murray Laverty interviewed a few people who applied for the position and through this process we hired Kate Currie to replace Ruth. Kate worked with Ruth for a couple of weeks prior to her retirement then took over the admin role. We are very pleased with how well Kate has fit in at Parkdale and are looking forward to many years with her.

We also lost Maria Ramirez from our Sunday School team, she moved to the Dominican Republic to teach English. Our numbers in our Sunday School are lower than they had been, mainly has our youth have grown up and do not attend regularly; therefore we did not replace Maria at this time. We wish Maria well in her move, having just heard that she is now engaged to be married to a young man she met since moving to the Dominican.

As chair of the M&P Committee, even though we have scheduled meetings the second Tuesday of each month, if we do not have any business to deal with we do not meet. I would like to personally like to thank the committee members for their dedication to this very important work.

Faithfully submitted
Sue Brodrick
Chair M&P Committee

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH (CALGARY) FOUNDATION

For 2018 the Directors of the Parkdale United Church (Calgary) Foundation were JoAnn Atkins, Sue Brodrick (Chair), Sheila Campbell, Sandy Navrady (Vice Chair), Ken Coburn (Secretary), Sheila Smith, Susan Rafaat and Barb Giles. Gordon Thomson was appointed Treasurer of the Foundation. In May of 2018 Susan Rafaat resigned from the board, I would like to thank her for her contribution to the board.

In 2018 the Mary Fund Income supported \$1,946.24 towards the making of sandwiches for the Drop In Centre, as well as \$4,500 matching grants for both of Parkdale United Church's Christmas campaigns for the Interfaith Food Bank and Simon House Recovery Center. We also held a concert in May 2018 to raise funds for our refugee family which was paid for by the Mary Fund. This fund known as, the Mjølness Family Fund is invested and administered by the Foundation on behalf of the Congregation.

The Foundation Director's met three times in 2018 to do the work required of the foundation and prepare for the Annual General Meeting.

A special thank you to Gordon Thomson for his work as treasurer, and keeping on top of the investments, renewing them when they mature or moving them to other investment vehicles in order to create good value on all investments. I would also like to thank Ken Coburn the Foundation's secretary, for keeping track of all the records of the Foundation.

At the 2018 AGM to be held on March 10, 2019 there will be new board members elected and recognition of any retiring board members.

Faithfully Submitted
Susan Brodrick
Chairperson

PARKDALE BOOKCLUB

Co-ordinator & Newsletter creator – Lynn Sloane

Members: Beth Balshaw, Sue Brodrick, Joan Cameron, Barbara Clark, Margaret De Laet, Lindsay Hunt, Sharon Janzen, Doreen Kot, Lee Morris, Ruth Radetzky, Sheila Smith, Jean Tollefson, Pamela Winsor, Ide Wyllie, plus 15 or so others on mailing list.

The Parkdale Book Club meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month except for July and August. Books of diverse genres are chosen by book club members. Five – 14 people attend each meeting and the discussions range widely (sometimes wildly). Anyone is welcome to join the book club. Please contact Lynn Sloane at sloanelm@shaw.ca or 403-262-5340 to get on the mailing list for the book club newsletter, prepared roughly once a month from September to June. We also have a Facebook page: search "Parkdale Book Club Calgary". Here is our schedule for the next 5 months:

Feb. 9	A Fatal Grace	by Louise Penny
March 9	The Mother of All Questions	by Rebecca Solnit
April 13	Medicine Walk	by Richard Wagamese
May 11	A Rhinestone Button	by Gail Anderson-Dargatz
June 8	An Unnecessary Woman	by Rabih Alameddine

NO WAY TO DO IT WRONG: PARKDALE JOURNALING GROUP

The journal group has retired due to lack of involvement. For those who want to journal on their own, daily journal prompts are available on a Facebook page: search "Dr. Lynn Sloan" or contact me (sloanelm@shaw.ca) to let me know you'd like your contact information added to an address list to receive journal prompts each day by email.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Sloane

PASTORAL CARE

Mission Statement:

A group of Parkdale United Church people working together to provide encouragement and support to the congregation that all many know and care for one another. Pastoral Care members are building a particular kind of Parkdale United Church Community, one that welcomes people, connects people with people and one who cares for those in need among us. We are the pulse of the church. We cheer up, recognize and encourage.

Annual Message:

Thank you to our greater church membership for your help and care for those around us. Our members are: Murray Laverty, Sarah Leeuwerke as current chair, Avis Thomas who resigned as chairperson effective December 31, 2018, Sally Coburn, Barb Giles, Joan Johnson, Sue Singleton, Susan Daye, Marg DeLaet, Irene Norton, Marg Latimer, and Lauren Warrack. Jan Collins is an at home member and Eleanor Kenny is a new member. Our group meets four-five times per year.

The responsibilities of Pastoral Care are many and diverse, but as outlined in our mission statement our overarching responsibility is aiding in congregational care. Our programs include ringing the doorbell, a visitor program which ensures that every member of our congregation receives the connection and care they need in their lives. It is available to those who are ill, homebound or facing difficult situations. Our Christmas gift and spring gift programs aim to bring the congregation together in cheer and connection. Other programs that focus on connecting members of the congregation with one another is our letters to the homebound which connects those who cannot make regular service with church activities. Another responsibility is spiritual care and programs such as prayer shawls, stones and squares, the Prayer Circle and Healing Pathway ensure that members receive what they need when they need it. Our memorial reception team is dedicated to helping with receptions and care for those who are grieving. Other programs under our umbrella include holiday letters to retired ministers, anniversary and baptismal cards and a monthly ladies lunch brunch at Boston Pizza and a monthly breakfast at Cora's.

Our welcome bags program has been under construction this year. In 2019 welcome packages will no longer include jams, but will include prayer squares along with Parkdale United information and will be available at the welcome table.

In 2019 Pastoral Care's goal is enhance our spring activities with another reconnection luncheon for those longstanding members who cannot attend regular service. In the fall of 2018 Pastoral Care assisted in this event and felt that it was truly special to keep alive the connection with many of our longstanding, but aging members of our community. Furthermore, we are actively searching for another project or program that will enhance our community and connections with one another.

Pastoral Care is always happy to welcome new members and new ideas to our group. Our meetings are posted in the weekly bulletin or you can reach out to any member for more information. On behalf of the entire Pastoral Care committee it is a pleasure to be a part of the Parkdale United Church community and a privilege to be able assist in growing community connections that enrich our daily lives.

Sincerely, Sarah Leeuwerke

FAITH AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Our goals are:

- To identify social justice concerns and examine them from a faith perspective
- To encourage awareness in the congregation of justice issues
- To encourage effective programs of outreach
- To support faith-based advocacy on issues of peace, environment, poverty and justice

Members: Doreen Kot, Jean Tollefson, Sheila Smith, Bev DeLong, Noemi Flores, Heidimarie Schroter and Mary Ellis

Sheila Smith Representative on the Affirm Committee and Pride parade

Margaret De Laet organizes Fair Trade coffee supplies

Bev DeLong and Jean Tollefson: Ploughshares Calgary Society representatives

Doreen Kot: KAIROS Affordable Housing member

Band Aid committee: Ben and Margaret DeLaet, Doreen and Mike Kot

Noemi Flores for Right Relations at Wildrose United and Ronald McDonald House

Heidi Schroter is the Faith and Justice representative to Council.

Movie Nights: Once a month movies, most with a social justice “flavour” with an average attendance of 15-20. They are attended by the local community if a sign is on the outside notice board. The donated money went for two more low flush toilets.

Truth and Reconciliation activities:

- Parkdale members attended the Bankview Powwow and dancing, Bowness BBQ and Acadia Place Celebration.
- Many people from Parkdale have been attending the Blanket Exercises that were being held in other churches in our city and some TRC workshops at Wildrose United.
- Related to TRC we had three well attended Indigenous films at our movie nights.

Poverty and Homeless Strategies and Activities:

- Participated in Coldest Night of the Year Walk and contributed \$1,700 to the KAIROS Bankview Mortgage.
- Organized and participated in the musical and mostly indigenous art show at Lakeview United in support of the Bankview Mortgage.
- Organized and helped with the Annual Christmas Party for our four buildings at McDougall United Church. Opening with drumming and smudging.
- Second Wednesday of every month is coffee and conversation time at Longbow (KAIROS Affordable Housing)
- In August we volunteered with replacing the Acadia Place playground. Lots of shovelling.
- Band Aid has continued with CUPS/KAIROS A Place to Call Home buildings by supporting housing for 190 adults and 98 children including 56 beds and bedding. There were also resource centre supplies, computers and miscellaneous requests such as cupboard locks and bed repairs.

Refugee Application: Jean Tollefson worked with Michael Embaie to arrange with Parkdale United Church to provide the framework (ie act as an authorized Constituent Group) to initiate a request to CIC through UCC-SAH to sponsor six Eritrean refugees. Two applications have been forward at this time. No funding is required from a Constituent Group.

Environmental Activities and Research for Future Goals

- Solar Panel Installation Project: Research, proposals, organizing ongoing
- Updated and submitted the Parkdale United Environmental Brochure “Creating a Climate for Change” to Faith and the Common Good and information on our Band Aid project to the National UC at their request.
- Continued educating on reducing plastics by promoting Dizolve Soap and the new Unwrapped Life shampoos and screening the documentary “Plastic Oceans.”
- 100 Mile Luncheon was a big (and tasty) success!
- The boiler replacement was completed.

Ploughshares Calgary Society: This program was created in 1982 as a branch of the national Project Ploughshares by members of our congregation. The Annual Peace Fair was moved as the group entered into collaboration with the Marda Loop Film Festival on a large joint event. There have been interesting monthly programs the second Wednesday of each month and Peace workshops to attend. Anyone is welcome to attend or volunteer.

Workshops attended:

- SPARK monthly meetings second Tuesday of each month. Everybody welcome. (now Chinook Winds reorganizing of the city north side)
- National KAIROS meeting at St. Mathews United.
- Ambrose University flourishing Congregations workshop (full house) and another on the Art of Clusters
- Monthly meeting of KAIROS Affordable Housing and Project Ploughshares. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- Wellness workshops at Wildrose United and St. Davids have been utilized by Parkdale members.

Thanks to:

Sandy Navrady and Mark Lebel for their report and support regarding solar panels for our church.

Thanks also to Jim Balshaw for his technical advice and support.

Ben De Laet, Santa Claus at McDougall United Christmas party.

Eleanor Halton for the use of her garage for Band Aid

Ben, Margaret De Laet, Doreen, Mike Kot for deliveries and building relationships with new renters at A Place to Call Home buildings.

Springwall Mattresses, Presbyterian Churches of Calgary, Banff Trail Square Dancers, Bootleggers, Tip Top Soil, Sin Computer technologist and Country Hills Storage.

Submitted by Doreen Kot

BOILER REPLACEMENT PROJECT

During the summer, the church's original boiler was replaced with two smaller mid-efficiency boilers as a greenhouse gas mitigation initiative. This project was funded, with thanks, by a gift from Jan Tollefson's estate.

The original church boiler was installed during the original building construction in 1955 and has provided nearly 63 years of reliable service. (The original 1955 building was the auditorium; the sanctuary was added in 1961.) The simple design and yearly preventative maintenance contributed to its longevity. That said, it was 1950's technology and was quite fuel inefficient.

During 2017, an engineering study was commissioned to assist us in selecting a properly sized and fuel-efficient boiler.

Natural gas consumption and CO2 emissions will be reduced through better burner and combustion technology, as well as through tighter control of the boiler and hot water circulation pumps. Installing two smaller boilers improves efficiency and operating flexibility rather than running a single boiler. The new boilers, and associated water circulation pumps, will also be highly automated, leading to greater efficiency and less operator intervention. There will also be minor electricity savings through the use of variable speed circulation pumps.

Our current natural gas consumption averages about 1,400 GJ per year, emitting about 70 tonnes of CO2. Savings for mid-efficiency technology are estimated to be 600 GJ and 30 tonnes of CO2 annually, resulting in cost savings of about \$3,800 annually. The installed cost of the new boilers is almost \$80,000 and their anticipated life is 25 years.

Ken Coburn, Jim Balshaw and Earl Beattie have provided leadership of this project.

Submitted by Ken Coburn