

# Golden Ears United Church



## Annual Report 2019

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**OUR VISION STATEMENT:** Golden Ears United Church is evolving into a flourishing, welcoming and accepting Christ-centered all-ages community. Transformed by our connection with God and growing in discipleship, we reach out in love to our neighbours.

## GOLDEN EARS UNITED CHURCH AFFIRMING STATEMENT

At Golden Ears United Church, we celebrate and affirm the wonderful diversity of people created in God's image and we truly welcome all. We believe that we grow more Christ-like as a community the more diverse we are.

We offer a welcome to you whether you are single, partnered, married, divorced, or widowed. We appreciate people of all ages and stages from babies to elders.

We believe that God created a rainbow spectrum of sexual orientations and gender identities. All are welcome here – cisgender, transgender or two spirited, whether you are straight, lesbian, gay, queer, bisexual, or asexual – and are encouraged to participate fully in the life of the church.

We welcome you regardless of where you came from, or where you now live, no matter your race, ethnicity, skin-colour or national origin, your social location or economic circumstance.

We won't judge you by the size of your wallet or by what you are wearing, whether you are pierced and tattooed, or if you prefer pearls and a twinset.

We welcome and value the gifts and ministry of people of differing abilities. Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome to walk with us as we walk with Christ and grow in our own faith, opening our doors, minds and hearts to you and each other.

*"Whoever you are, where ever you're from...  
we're glad you are our neighbour and you are welcome here."*

## GOLDEN EARS COUNCIL AND TEAM MEMBERS 2019

### Connexion Team

Mary Hampton – Chairperson  
Sue Kellas, Rev. Leenane Shiels, (Ad hoc Betty Clarke,  
Marilyn Laidman, Lonnie Roscoe, Karen Wakita)

#### Fun and Fellowship sub committee

Louise Berketa, Grace Freeman, Cherie Hankinson, Sharon Mintha

### Mission Team

Heather Holness – Chairperson  
Rev. Leenane Shiels(Ad hoc Lynn Rajala, Ann Willis)

#### Affirm Team

Estelle Cormier, Signy Eggertson, Mary Hampton, Heather  
Holness, Pam Kennedy, Lauren Kirkey, Josh Stanley

### Organisation Team

Pam Kennedy – Chairperson  
Elaine Dipalo, Carole Finch, Joe Freeman, John Petty,  
Rev. Leenane Shiels, Alex Pope

#### Properties sub Committee

Joe Freeman, John Petty, (ad hoc David Chard,  
Jonathan Smyth, Gary Morrow)

### Spirit Team

Lenore MacLean – Chairperson  
Lesley Fairley, Mary Hampton, Rev. Leenane Shiels  
Lonnie Roscoe, Diane Lines (Ad hoc Mary McAsh, Heidi Riggins)

### Table Officers

#### Chairperson

Sue Kellas

#### Past Chairperson

John Petty

#### Treasurer

Alex Pope

#### Secretary

Lonnie Roscoe

### Pacific Mountain Reps

Carole Finch, Barbara Nienaber

### Trustees

Sandra Fairchild, Olga Johnson, Sue Kellas, Jim Munn, Sheila  
Nickols, John Petty, Rev. Leenane Shiels, Rick Wilson

### Ministry & Personnel Team

Elaine Dipalo, Sandra Fairchild, Joe Freeman, Sheila Nickols,  
Karen Thomson

## COUNCIL CHAIR | SUE KELLAS



This year at the Abbey I chose the word *Rejoice* as my word to live by and it has worked well for me. As I think back over the last year at Golden Ears I can see many times that we were able to rejoice.

I know there was great rejoicing and dancing in the aisle when the final flooring was laid as part of our flood recovery. John Petty, who oversaw the recovery process, was certainly leaping for joy. Then in June that same aisle rang with rejoicing as we became an Affirming Congregation.

We are working under a new organization structure and I think that is beginning to bring joy into our ministry. The theory is that the Teams (Organization, Mission, Spirit and Connexion) will have more autonomy and there will be fewer meetings and more time for ministry. We aren't quite there yet but I think it is going to work. It is wonderful to have Elaine Dipalo, Heather Holness and Barbara Nienaber on the Council and Treasurer Alex Pope.

If you haven't approached Andrew the resident basement dragon for permission to visit his cave you really should. A team of caring folk have sorted, organized and inventoried all the items we store in the basement and it is a joy to behold. Setting up for the Bazaar and Christmas was so easy.

We held several joyful celebrations this year including music appreciation Sunday, reception of new members, recognition of Thrift volunteers and Jane Keyes, Music Director's retirement. It was wonderful to celebrate and acknowledge all the folk who are involved around the church. Then along came Advent and the theme was Joy.

Our church rings with the joyful sounds of families on Together Tuesday and the sounds coming from the sanctuary when our new choir Grace Notes, under the direction of Diane Lines our new music director, practices are certain something to sing about. The Caregivers Café might not be seen as a joyful experience but there are small moments when hearts overflow with compassion and caring for those gathered. It is so wonderful to have these new ministries.

This is my fourth consecutive year as Council Chair and I am sure many of you are getting bored with the same face at the helm. As new folk are coming to join us I am hopeful that soon there will be someone who feels called to take over.

Sue Kellas

## LEAD MINISTER | REV. LEENANE SHIELS

*One day, a lawyer, asked (Jesus) a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” Matthew 22:36-40*



A few years ago, we began a practice at Epiphany of offering the gift of a Star Word to help guide the recipient throughout the new year. This past year, the word I was gifted “Enthusiasm”.

I wasn’t so sure about it at first. Could I sustain enthusiasm for a whole year? So the first thing I did was to look up the meaning – and was fascinated that the origin of the word comes from ancient Greek En (inside) and Theos (God). The word Enthusiasm in its earliest usage in the English language was more closely connected to a kind of religious zeal or divine inspiration. That religious reframing of the word brought two things to mind for me – spiritual energy and wholeheartedness.

My embrace of “enthusiasm” as I took this word on for the year made me endeavour to approach everything with the same kind of energy and wholeheartedness as Jesus calls

for in his framing of the greatest commandment: “to love God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind, and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself.”

First of all – we are called to love God 110% - with all of ourselves, with every ounce of our being. And we are also called to love and care for our neighbours, not in an abstract way, but in the same way we do ourselves. With enthusiasm. So what does that look like? I would say if you want to see what that looks like, continue reading this annual report. As I tried to bring that approach to my life and ministry this past year – I saw the same kind of energy and wholeheartedness reflected back in the life and ministry of Golden Ears United Church.

So instead of reporting on all of the things I have been up to this past year, I thought I’d offer you my thanksgiving for each and every one of you – for your service, support and sharing in Christ’s work and witness in the world. I would like to thank my colleagues who also serve here: Lesley Fairley our Children and Youth minister, Vilma DelMundo our Administrator,



Diane Lines our Music Director and April Allan our Caretaker. Each one of them gives 110% - they are enthusiastically and wholeheartedly committed to loving and serving God and this church.

There are so many to thank, I'm almost afraid to name anyone in case I forget someone. I can't forget to thank my wife Estelle – I literally could not do *any* of this without her support. I also need to thank Sue Kellas, our tireless Chairperson, for her commitment, dedication and enthusiasm for the ministry of this church. For a list of the rest of the people I'm grateful for, please read the rest of this report. I am grateful to each and every person named within, and for each and every one of you who worship, serve and grow in this place.



In the middle of 2019 we marked our seventh birthday as Golden Ears United Church around about the time that we celebrated becoming an Affirming Congregation. That was a significant milestone. We are growing up! It really does feel like we have entered into a new phase. I don't have a seven-year itch, but I do feel that it's a good time to evaluate where we are, and to listen deeply for where God might be leading us on this next stage of our life, and so that's going to be a priority in 2020.



On a personal level, 2019 was a year of focusing on my health and fitness as I want to be around for a long time! I'm grateful for the support and encouragement of the congregation along the way. I am wholeheartedly and enthusiastically working on a healthier lifestyle, and already feel I have a more energy and stamina – which is great, as I hope to enthusiastically serve as your minister for many more years.

I hope that as you read this report, you don't just take the time to marvel at what we've accomplished, but that you give thanks to God, for all that God is doing with us, for the love shared and the opportunities to serve. And it is my sincere hope that you join me in praying for our church – that we would continue to be encouraged and enthusiastic about the ministries to which God calls us. May God be with us all as we walk boldly into 2020, loving God with all our hearts, minds, souls and strength, and loving our neighbours as ourselves.

God bless,

Rev. Leenane

## CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTER | LESLEY FAIRLEY



Dear Friends in Christ;

Firstly I wish to thank the many people who help to ensure ministry with our children, youth and young adults is flourishing here at Golden Ears. The many people who use their God given gifts and those willing to discover new gifts to make programs such as Together Tuesday, Camp Spirit and children's church exciting opportunities for our young people to grow and deepen their faith. The care, space and welcome we share with our young people really makes a difference.

Families of Golden Ears you all continue to be such a blessing in my ministry!

Bryanna Smith for sharing your gifts with the children in Children's church, your delight in them and dedication to the program is inspiring and is an important piece of our children's spiritual development. Elise Mehrassa, our nurturing and caring Nursery Care staff, I thank you for being a part of this ministry and am delighted with the growth we see in the number of kiddlets hanging out with you. Heidi Pearson and Sue Kellas for your efforts in ensuring our Camp Spirit kids eat well so that they can continue to play, learn and grow in Christ's love.



Sandra Fairchild thank you for your behind the scenes efforts and sharing of talents in refreshing the nursery care and my office space after the flood damage. Lorraine Livesey thank you for sharing your enthusiasm and storytelling gifts with our young people and congregation as a whole. Lenore McLean, I much appreciate your willingness to jump on in with things like curriculum review and the infusion of gadgets to make being creative such a joy.

Camp Spirit Volunteers Barbara Nienaber, Sue Kellas, Heidi Pearson, Bry, Lorraine Livesey, Asher Witwicki-Fishman, Mary Hampton and Signy Eggertson for sharing of your time, and energy with the young people of this community before during and after Camp is such a gift, Camp provides a really important connection for these families, first with a life of faith, working and learning in a group, and by providing children, youth, youth crew and leaders a place in church life. Without you this program could not run.



One of the highlights of the summer season along with Camp Spirit, was the opportunity to meet with individual families. From these visits Together Tuesdays was formed. A mid-week intergenerational group that gathers for a meal, worship and then groups for adults, children and youth. It has been a rewarding and life giving experience to come together building relationships, worshipping in a circle and sharing a meal. I much appreciate the enthusiasm with which this new program has been embraced.

Last fall marks my return to school, with a field placement at Trinity Memorial United Church in Abbotsford and learning circles in the Theology of Spiritual Practices and Storytelling. And although it has its demands on my time and brain power, it has been a wonderful experience getting to know another loving and compassionate congregation.

I am so blessed to experience the welcome, compassion, support and love this congregation pours out. Thank you for your support as I continue my studies. I'm always reminded that "With God, all things are possible" and I look forward to 2020 with great joy.

Lesley



## MUSIC DIRECTOR | DIANE LINES



*Choir Members:* Elaine Dipalo, Mary Hampton, Mary McAsh, Lonnie Roscoe, Jane Witwicki, Aileen Paulson, Pam Kennedy, Lenore MacLean, Estelle Cormier, Leenane Shiels, Fred Nienebar, David Chard

*GEUC Band:* Estelle Cormier (drums and percussion) Diane (piano/keys) (and occasionally, Tony Chamberlist on percussion when Estelle is needed in our tenor section!)

I am writing with a grateful heart as I reflect on the journey directing music for worship at Golden Ears United.

Many thanks to Jane Keyes for making the transition so easy. Her superb organization and support were key to helping me hit the ground running!! In addition, the encouragement and enthusiasm from Rev. Leenane and all the members of the choir has made me feel welcome. It is not always easy to embrace changes in a musical community, but choir members have been flexible and open to learning different styles. In addition, everyone has been patient with me as I continue to learn from the choir!

In 2019 we saw the creation of our "pop-up" jazz/pop/gospel choir Grace Notes.



Singers meet once a month to learn a piece to be included in the subsequent service. Grace Notes provides an opportunity for those in the congregation and in the wider community to participate in the choir without having to make a weekly commitment. We have been encouraged by the turnout as it seems to be expanding with each installment. I am looking forward to the continued growth of Grace Notes in 2020 as word gets out. Guest vocalists with Grace Notes for 2019 were actor/performer Jonathan Bruce who sang the lead in "Testify to Love" and vocalist Susie Cunningham who lead our version of Sister Act's "Joyful Joyful".



We were able to include other musicians from the wider community in services as well. Andrea Fello (trumpet) for the Remembrance Day Service, Darlene Cooper Ketchum sang the solo and directed the choir in her original gospel composition "Joy Joy", Bruce Fello (trombone) for a special memorial service, and for the Christmas Eve services, we welcomed Bruce Coughlin (guitar/vocals) and Anna Kechkova (Cello) to our round out our Christmas Quartet.

Other highlights for me personally were being able to work with Mary Hampton and to be included as a support musician for Sacred Bronze as well as to work with Pam Kennedy, Lenore MacLean (hand chimes) on a challenging but beautiful Faure piece. I always welcome the opportunity to work with Grace Freeman to combine pipe organ and piano for some of the traditional hymns, and hope to do more in 2020!

Diane Lines

## ORGANIZATION TEAM

The Organization team is responsible to the Council for the raising of Church's financial resources, planning and administration of the Church's financial affairs and oversee the church's physical assets. We facilitate communication within Golden Ears United Church and provide a conduit for information flowing to and from the community.

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN | ELAINE DIPALO

Golden Ears United Church continues to use the "Called to be the Church" congregational giving programme sponsored by the United Church of Canada.

As last year the stewardship committee members are;

Elaine Dipalo, chair

Leenane Shiels

Lesley Fairley

Carole Finch

Sue Kellas

Pam Kennedy





Although not a member of the committee Vilma Del Mundo was invaluable in collecting and interpreting data used in the presentation and analysis.

The Theme of our 2019 campaign was, "Time, Talent and Treasure". Our goal was to not only increase our congregational monetary pledge for 2020 but also to develop an updated list of members' talents and where best they might volunteer their time to assist with the work of the Church.

Information packages were distributed Sept. 29, 2019 and the campaign ran 3 consecutive Sundays. Oct 3 – Oct 20 2019. Each Sunday featured a different theme, Time, Talent and Treasure. On Sunday Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> the stewardship committee, with the help of Grace Freeman, hosted a lunch and learn session. This was well attended by the congregation. We had an open mike session and I am pleased to report that several people spoke in gratitude for the programmes and services our church provides for its members and for our community. Following our service on October 20<sup>th</sup> Sue Kellas set up a table at coffee and made available the Response cards for members to fill out. By making the forms available our returns doubled.

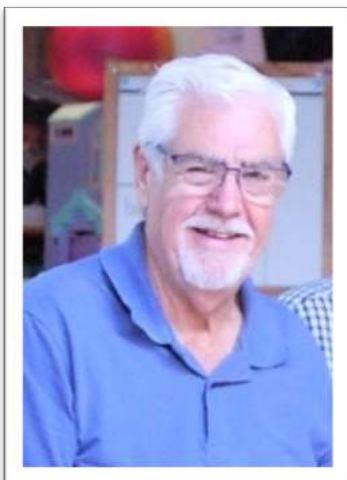
A big thank-you to those who participated in the "Why I Give" stories. They are always a meaningful part of worship and our campaign and give us perhaps a glimpse into the journey that brings our members into the church.

Data from the response cards will be collated early in the new year when our committee meets to review the campaign. Financial pledge information will assist in preparing the budget for 2020.

Respectfully submitted

Elaine Dipalo

## PROPERTIES AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT | JOE FREEMAN



The year 2019 should be known as the year of recovery as we move from the flood disaster on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2018 to the repair and replacement of almost all of the damaged material and equipment. Most visibly the new wooden flooring and carpeting in the Sanctuary, along with the carpeting in the CE hall and lounge. Also the new laminate flooring in the hallway and retiling of both bathroom floors.

Upon completion of the remedial work performed by the contractors there remained several unfinished or poorly installed items that were repaired in-house by the properties team.

A follow up list of the cost of all damaged furniture and other important equipment that had to be replaced during the recovery process has been presented to the insurance company for repayment.

In June our Custodian Heather Allan retired to take up a new position with Maple Ridge School District as an E.S.L. (English as a Second Language) Teacher. Fortunately for us her daughter April was available to take over the custodial duties immediately. Ministry & Personnel Committee was asked to review the job description and hiring process. On completion of the review of financial charges by several custodial maintenance companies, a proposal was made to retain April Allan as our custodian on a fulltime basis.

Unfortunately, damage to the property is a continuing problem with increased usage of the various facilities by outside rental groups and our own usage. A number of tables and chairs continue to be damaged beyond repair and have to be sent to recycling or the dump.

Thanks to the generous donation by the 1<sup>st</sup> Haney Scouts and their leaders, new storage shelving has been installed in two of the storage rooms in the basement. Storage shelves for the "rainbow" room remain to be completed in the near future.

Hard work by volunteers Sandra Fairchild, Bryanna Smith and Grace Freeman, the storage rooms have now been cleaned painted and the storage shelves filled with all stored items in plastic containers with each item documented and recorded.

The age of the buildings is a major factor with the continued deterioration of a number of the exterior surrounding surfaces requiring replacement, major repair or painting in the next year or two, as well as replacement of the parking lot blacktop.



Recently a fully automatic natural gas emergency generator was installed on the roof of the office building to provide emergency power to the sump pumps in the event of an extended power outage. This now provides a secure system to prevent flooding caused by loss of the main power source from B C. Hydro.

During a heavy rainstorm in mid-November there was small flood in the basement caused by a blocked drain at the bottom of the back stairwell. The drain tile had collapsed internally causing a large deposit of stones and clay sludge to backfill the piping. The blockage could



not be cleared by a technician from Roto- Router due to the location of the collapsed drain tile. A bypass drain had to be drilled and cut into the concrete flooring to allow drain water to flow into a large pit under the electrical room floor.

On behalf of the Properties Committee I would like to extend a sincere thanks to all of the members of the congregation for their patience and understanding during the recent renovations, painting and maintenance of our facilities.

Properties Chair, Joe Freeman

### **GEUC Properties Maintenance Report for 2019**

- Fridge door handle repaired.
- Door sweeps installed on all outside doors.
- Lower latching mechanism repaired on the East exit door from the gym.
- Door stop installed at the same door.
- Brass handrail support stiffened to prevent wobble.
- Several low voltage bulbs replaced in the narthex and breezeway.
- Bulb in the upper room stairway replaced with a LED bulb.
- Smart TV installed in the lounge North wall.
- Several parking lot potholes filled in, a few more to be taken care of.
- Two flag poles installed for the Pride flags. ( recently stolen, now replaced)
- Baby change tables installed in both ladies and gents washrooms.
- Door Hand set lock replaced in the back entrance door and rekeyed.
- Corner moldings replaced in the hallway intersection.
- Emergency lighting unit #9 replaced in the basement.
- Emergency light batteries replaced in the daycare and recertified.
- Several folding tables have been repaired others sent to recycling.
- Several damaged folding chairs beyond repair and unsafe taken to recycling.
- Hall dividers have been repaired to stiffen and prevent them from wobbling, along with new roller wheels and magnets to secure the dividers when closed.
- Unfinished or poorly installed remedial work by the insurance contractor had to be repaired "in house" by the properties team.
- Several repairs have been made to the double doors on the South East corner of the C.E. building.
- Two corner overhead outside lights on the C. E. building were repaired and the bulbs replaced by Boileau Electric at no charge.
- After sand was found in the rinse tank of the dishwasher emergency repairs had to be made by a service and repair technician on a Saturday morning.
- Recently a large deposit of coffee grounds was found in the rinse tank and was cleared by the properties chair.
- Several large potholes filled in by a paving contractor at a considerable cost.

- A major collapse of a perimeter drain, buried in the foundations that could not be cleared by a Roto-Router technician, required emergency installation of a diversion pipe into the main holding tank below the electrical room floor.
- A newly acquired fully automatic natural gas generator to supply emergency power for the basement pumps was installed on the roof above the office in November 2019 and is now fully functional.
- By generous donation of 1<sup>st</sup> Haney Scouts and their leaders, new plywood shelving has been installed in two of the basement storage rooms, with a third room to be completed in the near future.

## SPACE USERS

Listed below are those community groups and organizations that used the facilities at Golden Ears United Church during the year. Some may use space only once; others may use it on a weekly basis. Groups marked by an \* are part of Golden Ears United Church outreach ministry.

1st Haney Scout Group*	AlAnon*	Coho Creek Strata
Community Supper*	Community Services*	Canucks Plaza
Dewdney Place Strata	Elections Canada	FRANAS*
Gamblers Anonymous*	Golden Ears Gogos*	Heavenscent
Help Portrait*	Little Garden Preschool	Maple Creek Living
Maple Ridge Dance Circle	Money Match Productions	Mountain View Strata
Myeloma Canada	Narcotics Anonymous	Orchard Court Strata
PLEA	Ridge Meadows Association for Community Living	
Salvation Army	Small Steps Day Care	Special Olympics
The Dream Church	Wildwood Terrace Strata	Woodland Park Strata

## ENVELOPE STEWARD | CAROLE FINCH



The group of folks we have who look after the tabulation of our offerings are a dedicated group of people. This year two have been required to “retire” for a few years due to family commitments. I already have one replacement and by the time this report is issued, I am sure I will have one other counter. New envelopes are distributed late in the year, and I will send out tax receipts sometime in Feb.

I am still enjoying this work for the Church, but I am slowly sharing all the duties that are included, with two other members, so a succession plan is in the works.

## TREASURER | ALEX POPE

First, and most importantly, I want to thank Rick Wilson for overseeing our bookkeeping, preparing financial statements, and provided much-appreciated advice. The Treasurer role would be much more difficult without his contributions.

Although we continue to have an operating deficit, our investments performed well in 2019, more than offsetting last year's deficit and leaving us with a small surplus for the year. While we can't depend on our investments to do this every year, we are thankful for those years when this does happen.

Fundraising projects continued to be a source of funds and fellowship over the past year. The Apple Pie Project raised \$4,452 after expenses; Chicken N More, \$611; Christmas Bazaar, \$4,644; and Thrift, \$13,663. Many thanks go out to everyone who was involved in these projects.

The 2020 budget recommended by the Council for approval again has a large deficit. While we remain hopeful that our investment returns will help cover that deficit, this isn't something we can depend on. We have seen a trend later in 2019 of our givings increasing and so have budgeted for an 11.8% increase over our 2019 givings.

## PACIFIC MOUNTAIN REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES



This is my first year as a representative to the Pacific Mountain Regional Council (PMRC). With that and the fact that BC Conference and the familiar presbytery organizational model are no longer, the roles and expectations of representatives are a bit of a grey area. I'm looking forward to learning more!

The most important thing to report is that 2019 marked the first annual general meeting of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council in Langley, May 30-June 2. Due to work obligations, I was able to be there about half the time. Carole Finch attended when her schedule and obligations allowed.

The following highlights of the meeting have been taken from a summary report written by Carole Hutching and Sue Sewell of KUC Centre for Community and Spiritual Discovery - URL available on request.

The Transitional Commission presented a report and five proposals based on work done since the 2018 Conference Meeting:

- We agreed to adopt the Policy Governance Model, approve the PMRC Executive terms of office and that the Executive review the policy governance model and report back to the 2021 PMRC General Meeting.
- We agreed to affirm the ENDS statements. The ENDS policies regard communities of faith, leadership, covenantal ministries, other recognized ministries and cost (described in the Transitional Commission Report found on the PMRC website).
- We agreed to meet annually for the next three years. The style of meeting will be determined by the Executive, particularly in regard to cost.
- We agreed to elect Rev. Jay Olson as President; Rev. Blair Odney to be President starting at the May 2020 meeting. The term of President shall be one year as President-elect, two years of President, and one year as Past President.
- We agreed that the PMRC begin the process of becoming an Affirming Ministry within The United Church of Canada in accordance with the requirements established by Affirm United.

A late request was brought forward that youth be represented at the Regional General Meetings - agreed in principle, will be considered for action by the Executive.

Retirees were acknowledged and thanked for their service.

A new Regional Executive was elected consisting of Jay Olson, Blair Odney, Treena Duncan (Executive Minister), Katherine Brittain, Jim Angus, Bev Brown, Richard Chung, Anna Chambers, Jake Highfield, Bob Fillier, Laura Hermakin, Peter Jones and Jenny Carter.

Candidates for Ministry: At the time of the May meeting, there were forty candidates in the pathway to ordered ministry and seven potential candidates in conversation with the Region. Within the Region there are many more open vacancies than ministers to fill them.

Short video clips were shown highlighting new expressions of church within the region: Weird Church (Cumberland), Wild Church (Kamloops), Squamish Centrepoint and Cambie Commons (Vancouver) - all focused on community. An

The meeting ended with closing worship and the ordination/commissioning/admission of the candidates (including Lynn McGrath who did her internship at GEUC), with the reflection given by retiring Executive Secretary Doug Goodwin.

Submitted by Barbara Nienaber and Carole Finch

## CONNEXIONS TEAM | MARY HAMPTON



The Connections Team is small in number having lost half our team due to other commitments on their part. We welcome new members. Our mandate is to aid the minister in any way we can as well as the congregation when aid is needed by members including visitations and connecting by phone, email or a card sent. Please let the team know if someone could use a connection.

We host the Newcomers Supper several times through the year. It has proven to be a successful way for those new or newer to the church family to ask questions and to get to know a little about what goes on and ways they may choose to get involved. We serve supper and have conversation.

Recognizing the need to support caregivers in the congregation and in the wider community, we started a Caregivers Café this year. We were successful in getting a grant from the ProVision Fund of the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church of Canada and hired a Co-Ordinator, Karen Wakita who is a Registered Nurse, and a very busy volunteer at the Seniors Centre to provide the programme. Refreshments are served. Twelve to sixteen caregivers have been gathering every two weeks on a Thursday at 1 pm to discuss concerns and get information. Confidentiality is paramount.

If you are a caregiver or know of someone that would benefit from coming to the Café, please pass on the information or let Mary Hampton or the minister know.

We recognized and thanked the Thrift volunteers during a service.

We look forward to continuing our work in 2020.

Mary Hampton  
Chair, Connexions Team

### Fun and Fellowship

- January 4/19 – Mexican Train – Attended by 10 people. Enjoyable evening. Cookies and tea served.
- February 1/19 – Valentine Project, Jewelry making – Approximately 10 – 12 people attended. Very good event. Cookies and tea served.
- March 1/19 – no event – Abbey retreat



- April 5/19 – Self defense – Attended by 13 people. Very informative event. Fruit and water served.
- May 3/19 – no event
- June – no event (proposed picnic, did not take place)
- July and August break for summer months
- September 6/19 – Movie night – Attended by 8 people. Everyone enjoyed movie chosen. Popcorn and pop served.
- October 5/19 – Trivia night, Cathy Ward had agreed to host it. Cathy was ill but had everything prepared. Estelle stepped up to host. Did a great job. Wonderful door prizes. Attended by 15 people. Popcorn and pop served.



- November 1/19 – Recycle, Reduce, Reuse Workshop. Took place in lounge. Guest Speaker Dan Mikolay from Ridge Meadows Recycling Society. Cherie arranged this event and had put together 25 packages of info for attendees to take away with them. There were door prizes. Grace provided a fruit tray with some cheeses and water was served. This event was attended by 22 people and there were lots of questions. Dan was very well informed and the event was a success.

- December 6/19 – Christmas get together with apple cider, Christmas goodies, Carol singing and several games. This event there was approximately 20 signed up and only 5 showed up, total of 7 including Grace and I. Fun was had by those attending. For the games we worked individually instead of teams due to the number attending. Prizes were handed out.

This is an overview of events Fun and Fellowship have put together in 2019 and our annual report. Sharon Mintha joined our F & F team this year. We received information that it would be fun to include some funny stories and pictures for each event, however we weren't prepared for that and don't have any of those to share at this time. Moving forward into 2020 we will make an effort to record some stories and take some pictures to provide with our next annual report.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO 2020

January – Mexican train or a movie.

Will work on obtaining information on how to attract more people to our movie nights and to all our events.

Suggestions for following months.

- Possibly the colours analysis for one month.
- Chair Yoga or possibly Tia Chi are being considered.
- All other months are still up for discussion in 2020. Any suggestions from council will be appreciated and considered.

## COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP



This has become the responsibility of the Fun and Fellowship committee. Working with each committee taking a monthly turn has worked out fairly well for the year, however December and January of each year have no

committee to attach to it. The F & F committee has made many pleas to the congregation for help with these months but that has not worked out very well. We even provided a poem called "Who's Job Is It?" to which everyone seemed to agree but it did not prompt many people to sign up. As there was recently a week in December where no one signed up and there was no coffee on that day, F & F have plans to meet in January to discuss it and come up with hopefully a solution. We have several ideas in mind that might put the control back with the F & F committee to ensure we are covered, rather than just hoping person/s will sign up. We will report back to council in 2020 on this development.

Respectfully submitted by

Louise Berketa, Grace Freeman, Cherie Hankinson and Sharon Mintha.

## Membership Statistics

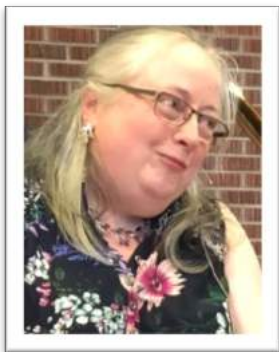
Congregational Membership and Adherents as at December 31, 2019: 142

We welcomed 6 new members by affirmation of faith and 2 members transferred from other congregations. We transferred 1 member. Five (5) of our members passed away this year

In 2019 our minister presided at 2 weddings, 2 adult baptisms and 1 child baptism

Members 2018	139
Add by Profession of Faith	6
Add by Transfer	2
Less: Removed by Transfer	1
Less: Removed by Death	4
Members 2019	142

## SPIRIT TEAM | LENORE MCLEAN



2019 was a year that saw many changes, beginning with the transition to a Council model of governance. This has been a learning curve for everyone.

We continue to celebrate the seasons of the church year, ending 2019 with Advent and Christmas which centred on the theme of **JOY**. This was in commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the hymn ***Joy to the World***.

During the service on June 9<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed several **NEW MEMBERS** - Tim Killen, Barbara Siemens, Bryanna Smith, Keith Thomson, and Lisa Thomson.

Having worked towards being an **AFFIRMING CONGREGATION** for the past two years, we achieved that status on June 23<sup>rd</sup> of this year. Congratulations to our **AFFIRM COMMITTEE** who invested time and effort in order to make that goal a reality.

We had **MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY** on June 30<sup>th</sup>, followed by a luncheon for our Minister of Music, Jane Keyes, who retired after having been with us for eight years. We then welcomed Diane Lines as our new Music Director. Diane has introduced us to many new

guest soloists and has started **GRACE NOTES**, a monthly Jazz/Gospel Choir for singers from both the congregation and the community.



Our handbell choir, **SACRED BRONZE**, under the direction of Mary Hampton, has also had some changes this year. We've acquired a full octave of higher bells (C<sub>7</sub> to C<sub>8</sub>), Melodie Fluevog has joined us and is doing very well on the big bass bells, and Gail Chamberlain has rejoined us having taken time away for medical reasons. It's wonderful having both Melodie and Gail ringing with us. As well as playing during some of our church services, a number of us went to Nanaimo for **SPRING RING**, a one day event with other ringers where we can learn new techniques and play with a very large choir. We also played two concerts at Golden Ears, on June 9<sup>th</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**GREETER TRAINING** was held July 27<sup>th</sup> to make sure the Teams have all the information and resources they need. This will enable the Greeter Teams to make people feel welcome whether they be first time worshipers with us or long-time members of our congregation.

**JAZZ VESPERS** continues to be a wonderful event on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month.

We continue to offer adult Christian Education programs such as a weekly **BIBLE STUDY** on Thursday mornings. We received a grant which allowed us to begin our **CAREGIVERS CAFÉ** led by Karen Wakita, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month.





This past fall we began **TOGETHER TUESDAYS** – a weekly event that begins at 5:45 by sharing a meal and then worshipping together. Following worship, we break into age groups for activities. This means those who would normally eat alone, don't have to, and children, youth and families that find Sunday mornings challenging can have a chance to connect and grow in faith during the week as well. It has an attendance of about 25 people each week. The dinners have been excellent and the worship has enabled us to centre our selves for the program. The adults have been following the ***animate Faith*** curriculum.

Our **CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**, led by our Minister of Children and Families Lesley Fairley, are alive and well.

Lesley Fairley researched a number of possible series for our Children's church. She met with Lenore McLean (Spirit Team) and parents to choose a new curriculum for this year. We chose the **DEEP BLUE** curriculum, which is a new awe-inspiring resource for children. It includes adventure, exciting stories, science experiments, arts & crafts, animated video storytelling, and active games. These are all combined into a living-faith experience that will help children discover what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ today!

**DEEP BLUE KIDS** exists to reach, empower, and equip children, and those who care for them, with grace-based resources that help them on the journey to understand themselves as children of God, to explore and deepen their relationship with God through Jesus Christ, and to love and serve God and neighbour.



**CAMP SPIRIT**, a Vacation Bible School program for 36 children, was held August 12-16. This is a completely United Church resource which provides leadership development opportunities for youth as well as an exciting program for the children. Some of our youth were hired as Youth Crew. The children experienced a variety of games, worship, Bible stories and crafts. Included in the days' events were lunch and snacks.

A number of youth and young adults attended wider church events such as **MAY RETREAT** at Camp Fircom and **EVOLVE** at Stillwood Retreat Centre. The young adults are planning to attend a retreat in the spring. They will also be attending mainland United Church gatherings in order to stay connected to the wider church. These opportunities are essential in order to provide youth and young adults a wide variety of faith experiences as well as the knowledge that there is a place for them in the United Church.

Youth group helped out at the **CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE** by selling hotdogs, chips and pop. Our youth group is undergoing changes as the youth get jobs that keep them all on different schedules. The wider church gatherings provide ways of staying connected with each other.

We began the year with a children and youth **CHIME CHOIR**. However, we found that the children and youth here at Golden Ears are involved in so many activities that it wasn't possible to get enough together at one time.

We continue to provide a staffed **NURSERY AREA** where kids under 5 can find lots of activities to engage with during the service. The service can still be heard in this area for parents if they wish to be with their children.

During the past summer, Lesley Fairley felt privileged to meet with most of our families here at Golden Ears. It was such a pleasure to engage with parents and to just be present with them. We were able to discuss ways that would enable our programs to better fit with the busy lifestyles of our families. Lesley is looking forward to doing this again!

## SACRED BRONZE | MARY HAMPTON



Sacred Bronze had a busy year. We prepared for a Spring Concert at the beginning of the year and our annual Christmas concert at the end of the year.

Inevitably someone speaks to me after each concert to tell me how a piece of music or the concert as a whole affected them for the better.

At this last Christmas concert, a woman came up to me afterwards to say that she comes to our concert every year for respite from a very hectic

and stressful life. She does not have much family and most of them are not close. Coming to the concert gives her a chance to be and enjoy the music which gives her much joy.

It is times like this that makes all the hard work and extra practices worthwhile.

Bryanna Smith came back to the choir and brought a friend, Melodie. We are glad to have them both part of the team.

We said good bye to Janet Goos who moved to Parksville with her husband Bob and daughter Laura. Janet is back playing bells at Knox United and is teaching them a thing or two.

The money raised from our concerts goes into a designated account for Sacred Bronze. We hope to eventually have enough for a fourth octave of bells or possibly a CD.

We are invited to play at Eagle Ridge United in March and at the Church of Latter Day Saints in Langley in February for their annual Interfaith Service, plus our regular Sundays taking part of our church services.

We very much appreciate the support and help provided by members of the congregation and look forward to a busy year ringing in 2020.

The BC Guild of Handball Ringers have their provisional workshop on the Island in May. We hope to attend there as well.

Submitted by Mary Hampton

## MISSION TEAM | HEATHER HOLNESS

The Mission Team is involved in hands-on outreach and social justice as well as raising awareness in the congregation of the issues and needs of our wider community and world. We are actively seeking new members who are passionate about being the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

### Affirming Team



Our mandate as an affirming team is to educate our congregation and the greater community being a welcoming place for all people and an Affirming congregation, to provide pastoral and spiritual support to LGBTQ2+ people in whole community, especially to make sure that anyone who may feel or be perceived to be marginalized receives support.

To this end the Affirming Team participated in or led the following events: a February Field Trip to Lighthouse church in New Westminster, where our team member Lauren Kirkey often preaches and worships; witnessing as St. Andrew's, Mission became an Affirming

Congregation in early March; hosting a well attended 2 Spirit Presentation with Tyler Alan Jacobs at Golden Ears United; attending Voices Carry, hosted by Thomas Haney's Fruit Salad Organization in early June; supporting Pride in the Park in July, having our own table for the first time; and finally in August, attending SpiritPride, where Leenane was able to step in at last minute as a panel member.

*June 23, 2019- "This is the day that God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!"*



This is the day on which two and a half years of prayers, preparation, education and dedication culminated in Golden Ears United becoming an Affirming Congregation. In early 2017, when the Affirming Team first met, this day was our great hope and what we were working toward. We three co-chairs were thrilled to be given the opportunity to bring our dreams to life. The day was a joyful celebration of God's love at work in

our community and beyond. Our local Member of Parliament attended, as did members of at least eight congregations, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and the leader of one local high school gay-straight alliance. The moderator sent greetings as did other congregations. It truly was a day of rejoicing

We received more media attention than expected when our pride and transgender flags were stolen in late July. Fortunately, a neighbour found them and after an article in the local paper and Leenane's appearance on a radio show, the flags were returned to us unharmed.





Once we had received our official status, the Affirm United logo was added to our sign, proclaiming to the community clearly that we welcome all comers.

Over the course of the year one member has stepped down and two new members have joined us. We look forward to continuing our work through introducing new resources and learning opportunities to the community. Whenever we attend conferences or come across new resources we continue to add to the church library. It is a privilege to serve on this team.



Submitted by the Affirming Team (Co-chairs: Signy Eggertson, Heather Holness and Pam Kennedy)

### Community Dinner | Lynn Rajala



As 2019 closes the need for the Community Dinner at Golden Ears United continues to grow. Over the past year the number of people attending the dinner has increased to where we are serving between 75 and 90 guests every Saturday. While the number of families who attend has remained more or less the same we have seen an increase in the number of single men and seniors. The dinner's availability has been advertised in a brochure aimed at seniors

and I think this may explain some of the increase in attendees.

While thinking about the importance of the community dinner and its impact on people I thought of two boys. One of them is a volunteer, brought by his mother who also volunteers. She was concerned about his anxiety in social situations and thought that volunteering might be good for him. He's been coming for about 2 years now and I have watched with pleasure as he has grown in confidence. He particularly likes it when I give him the clicker to count attendance! The other boy, about the same age, is a guest and comes with his grandmother so that he can see his mother, who lost custody of him as she grappled with poverty and addiction. The mother comes with his two younger sisters and he has an



opportunity to interact with them as well. He struggles with a number of issues and is sometimes a challenge, but in the years I have been a part of the Community Dinner I have watched him grow and change. I think seeing other people giving of themselves and their resources has been good for him.

A member of the ministry team has made his family a special focus of hers and she gathers clothes and other items. This past Christmas she donated a number of gifts to the family, with a special one designated for the boy.

The takeaway from this, I think, is that what we do here at Community Dinner matters. It matters to our individual guests and to our community as a whole. It sends a message that we care and nowadays caring is something the world needs in a big way.



Members of GEUC contribute to the Community Dinner in a variety of ways. There are volunteers who come almost every 2nd Saturday, some who donate food, but aren't able to be there and some who donate money regularly. An email is sent out on the Monday of the second Saturday of the month asking for food and volunteers. If you would like to be on that email please let me know.

I wanted to end this report by telling you how much this ministry has added to my life. It has taught me humility, reminded me of the essential nature and need for compassion, and strengthened my gratitude for the blessings in my life

Respectfully submitted

Lynn Rajala, GEUC Coordinator for Community Dinner

## Mission and Service

M&S funds the work of the Church nationally and internationally. It supports resources for our worship life, children's ministry, global partnership and efforts promoting justice and peace, and care of creation. Thanks for your support and donations during the year in the amount of \$ 10,119.00. In addition, the UCW contributed an additional \$ 1,000.00 for Mission and Service. Thank you for making Mission and Service part of your giving.

## THRIFT SHOP



Thrift has been running since 1964 – yes this was our 55<sup>th</sup> year!

Once again Thrift has had a busy year. Thrift returned to start a new year on January 9<sup>th</sup>, after our Christmas break. We closed down at the end of June for our 2 month and much needed summer rest. We came back on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

We have seen an increase in our income this year, possibly due to Cytheria Thrift Shop closing in the spring. Our 2019 income has been one of the highest in recent years, raising over \$13,200.

We currently have 26 volunteers on the roster, plus our two co-coordinators. Five of the volunteers are new since September. We typically have 15+/- volunteers attend each week. We can always use more help to fill in the gaps; some volunteers work only 2-3 hrs or as they are able or may be away. We could use a couple hands to help set up on Tuesday evenings at 7pm and also a couple extra people to help at 2:45pm on Wednesdays for an hour to help put away the racks and tables.

Many thanks to all our THRIFT Volunteers who work hard to keep it going and who continue to provide a great service to our community! We look forward to seeing them again in 2020!



Coordinators: Marilyn Hemminger and Anneke Smyth

## TRUSTEES:

### March 10, 2019

Trustees present: Leenane Shiels, Sue Kellas, Sheila Nickols, Jim Munn, John Petty, Sandra Fairchild.

M/S/C that the Trustees authorize withdrawal of funds from the General Investment account of \$50,000 and from the Hammond Legacy account of \$60,000.

Leenane and Sue reported that a small group from the Korean Church will be renting weekly space on Sundays, paying \$400 per month, starting on March 17, 2019.

They will use the Lounge and kitchen from 1 to 5 pm on a three month trial

.

### May 29, 2019.

Trustees received notification of appraisal for the insurable value of Golden Ears United Church from Universal Appraisal, Co., Ltd. The replacement value of the church is \$4,742,000.

### May 30, 2019

Trustees present: Leenane Shiels, Sue Kellas, Rick Wilson, Sheila Nickols, John Petty, Sandra Fairchild.

Rick Wilson reported that both the General Fund and the Hammond Legacy Fund have increased in 2019. To date, Rick has not needed to draw on them because givings and rental earnings are up. Our Insurance policy has been renewed, but with no coverage for water damage. Leenane suggested protective measures for storage items such as raised shelves and the use of waterproof drywall for basement rooms.

Leenane and Sue will compose a letter to the City of Maple Ridge with details about our flood, which occurred with no fault of our own. John reported that flood recovery measures should be completed by the end of next week.

The church inventory needs to be updated. Sandra is working on a photo inventory, which will be added in future.

The investment policy is not complete. Rick will forward it soon.

Planned givings - Carole Finch will contact Jane Harding to plan a future Sunday event.

The small Korean Church group meeting Sunday afternoons in the Lounge are very cooperative with our requirements.

Leenane reported that a \$14,600 Pacific Mountain Region ProVision grant to open a Caregivers Cafe has been approved. This will fund a part time co-ordinator. Since 2015, we have received \$83,869 in grants applied for and approved.

### Memorial Fund Donations

We received 9 Memorial donations in 2019. Families received a notice of the gift to the Church, and Carole Finch sent Thank You notes to all the donors, for their generosity.

## MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Every congregation in the United Church of Canada is required to have a Ministry & Personnel Committee.

M&P has 3 roles:

- Consultation and support for church personnel
- Healthy relationships between church staff and the congregation
- A supervisory role

We provide resources and support for the staff and congregation with respect to any issue affecting the staff of our church, including ministers and lay employees. M&P works to build positive and trusting relationships. Presently serving on the committee are Sheila Nickols, Joe Freeman, Karen Thomson, Elaine Dipalo, and Sandra Fairchild.

If members of the congregation have praise or a concern about our staff, either ministers or lay employees, it can be shared with M&P. In order for us to follow up, it needs to be in writing and signed. The issue will be considered confidentially by the M&P Committee, who will follow up within our role and or make recommendations to the Board.

This year our long-time Custodian, Heather Allan, moved on to a new career and we said goodbye to her at an afternoon tea. At the request of the Council, M&P members investigated the possibility of hiring a cleaning company, but found that any of them would charge us considerably more than our present arrangement. We were fortunate to have Heather's daughter, April, take on the job of Custodian. April's work was well known to the congregation from assisting Heather in the past.

Our Minister of Music, Jane Keyes, retired this year to spend more time enjoying music and other interests. We wished her well at a potluck lunch but didn't need to say goodbye since she is continuing as a member of the congregation and the bell choir. We were again fortunate to have a seamless transition as Diane Lines accepted the job of Director of Music. The congregation were familiar with her musical gifts from Jazz Vespers.



During the year M&P met with all members of the staff to discuss various subjects, including vacation times, salary, and any issues raised by the staff or members of the congregation. Golden Ears United Church is blessed with ministers and lay employees who are skilled and committed to their work, and we are thankful for this work in our congregation

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Our Christmas Bazaar is more than a fund raiser, it is our opportunity to welcome the public and inform them of the programs we offer. This year we had a steady crowd of people who purchased our baking, preserves, jewelry, new to you and crafts and bid at the silent auction. We also had 16 outside vendors who help fill out the space and increase our revenue.

Donations from church members were down this year. Several people were unable to bake and only about 4 ladies supported the craft table. That and the fact that we did not have a lucky draw meant that the total funds raised were lower than 2018. We will be holding a meeting in the New Year to brainstorm some ideas about how to have more items to offer at next year's bazaar.

The bazaar would not be possible without all the volunteers who turn out to help decorate, set up, clean up, put out signs and help sell. The list is too long but you know who you are – THANK YOU!

Grace Freeman & Sue Kellas

## APPLE PIE PROJECT

Back in our own kitchen, the Apple Pie crew met for eight Tuesday mornings to create our sought after apple pies, large and small. Twenty three workers, some coming each time we met and some when they could, did the purchasing, apple delivery, phoning customers, peeling, chopping, pastry making, rolling out, assembling, crimping, bagging and selling. Their reward was a slice of apple pie, warm from the oven served on the last day at coffee time. The result was 693 pies, for a profit of \$4,400 for Golden Ears United Church. There were some extra pies that were sold at the Bazaar. Well done, everyone.



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY NETWORK/UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

The newly amalgamated UCW Executive and Harmony UCW Unit meet 8 times in 2019 with an average attendance of 8 ladies. We rotate the chairing of the meeting and Sue Kellas keeps minutes. We try to keep the business meeting short in order to have a speaker. We heard from Linda King about the work of the Gogo Grannies and from Heather Treleven about the role of the Seniors Network in the community. Sheila Nickols gave an informative talk about the history of the United Church in this area and Jean Ruttan and Maggie Cole demonstrated Therapeutic Touch.

We helped organize the annual Abbey retreat in March. Rev. Leenane Shiels was our facilitator and the theme was based on Joyce Rupp's book *The Cup of our Lives*. We welcomed a couple of first timers and offered financial support to two ladies.

Thrift did a great job rebounding after the flood. Their sales are up and we have been able to continue our monthly transfer of funds to the church's general account. We purchased change table for both washrooms and made our usual donations to various outside agencies. Our account also received donations for 4 memorial teas that the ladies catered for.

We are grateful to Sandra Fairchild for organizing various UCW documents and forwarding them to the United Church Archives.

Submitted by Sue Kellas

Secretary/Treasurer

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Who would believe that a critically ill newborn that we wrapped in a prayer shawl and prayed for is looking forward to spending Christmas with his family. And a couple of our knitter/crocheters have found comfort in both being recipients of shawls but also in making shawls for others.

Each time the shawls are brought forward in church to be blessed it stimulates new interest. Someone remembers a person who would appreciate a shawl or they come forward and offer yarn or to knit shawls. To

date we have made 350 shawls. We had to move into a 3<sup>rd</sup> tote and endeavor to keep a nice selection of colours and styles in the totes.

Leenane really appreciates having shawls available when she receives a pastoral care concern. She often tells us about the recipient's reaction when they are presented with a shawl and it is usually one of gratitude.

Special thanks goes out to our knitters and crocheters; Elaine Dipalo, Eileen Dwillies, Darleen Fairley, Grace Freeman, Heather Holness, Sue Kellas, Jeannine Chalmers, and Barbara Nienaber and new contributor Mary Kienas for helping keep the totes full.

Submitted by Sue Kellas

### **Broadview Subscriptions**

The United Church Observer, our monthly denominational magazine was rebranded this year and has been renamed "Broadview". There are many interesting articles and stories each month that help to connect readers to issues in the wider church and world. We keep copies of the magazine near the side entrance to the church if you would like to have a read.

Sheila Nickols coordinates our group order.

2019 subscribers – 12

2020 subscribers – 12

### **1ST HANEY SCOUT GROUP | PHIL GONCALVES**

Another busy scouting year in 2019 for the 1<sup>st</sup> Haney Scout Group as we celebrate our 90<sup>th</sup> year.

We continue to have a strong leadership team and have an increased youth and adult enrollment. We now have 32 enrolled youth in Beavers. We have seen an increase in parent involvement from Parent Helpers to parents becoming Leaders. Our Cub section is at 32 youth and full for this season as well. Our Scout Troop consists of 25 youth who are learning to plan and complete activities on their own. Troop Scouters provide oversight of their planning and activities. They are quite enjoying this new found freedom. This year we have 2 Venture companies in the group, one with 10 members and one with 5 members. One of our Venturers from the second company is an exchange student from Brazil. They have both been planning for social camps and fundraising to help offset camp costs. We also have 2 Rovers who are preparing a Rover program for those that move up from Ventures next year. One of our Rovers is also helping out in our Scout troop.

In February, the 1<sup>st</sup> Haney Scout Group and Golden Ears United Church together participated in Baden Powell's birthday celebration service and we are looking forward to celebrating again in February 2020.

In July, we sent 19 youth and 8 Scouters to the Pacific Jamboree in Sooke where they spent 1 week camping at camp Barnard. In total, there were approx. 3000 youth and 1000 adults at this camp. Pictures to come at our Baden Powell service in Feb 2020.

In August, some of our scouters helped build and install shelving in the basement rooms that are being used by the Church and we are trying to find a date that works, to finish the remaining third room. We hope to have it done in the near future.

In November, the 1<sup>st</sup> Haney Beavers, Cubs and Venturers participated in the Remembrance Day parade while our Scouts did their annual camp with a Remembrance Day ceremony up at Golden Ears park.

Fundraising continues to be a focus, to help replace equipment and to help our sections get to their major camps and jamborees. Our 7th year selling Christmas trees was another great success, even though we had a shortage of nobles. We did not sell out this year and had 12 trees left over but we still managed to raise enough funds to help our youth get to camps and other events. We sold 820 trees this year out of the 832 we ordered. We are now in the process of planning for next year. Thanks to all those who bought trees and for your continued support.

Our Venturers continue to pick up Christmas Trees for the Ridge Meadows Search and Rescue tree chipping fundraiser. This year we are collecting on Jan 4,5,11,12.

David Meunier has stepped in as Deputy Commissioner and Jonathan Smyth continues as liaison for our group and is a great support person when questions arise.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Haney Scout Group thanks you for continuing the long-standing sponsorship of our group. Our ability to hold meetings and store our gear at the church cannot be understated!

Respectfully submitted

Phil Goncalves

Group Commissioner – 1<sup>st</sup> Haney Scout Group



## IN MEMORIAM

*We remember those members, adherents and friends of our congregation who died this past year:*

Joan Finley

Emily Horner

Alf Mintha

Gordon Hemminger

Violet Mae Bailey

Ronald Eglin

*May they rest in peace.*

## MINUTES OF 2019 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

### Annual Congregational Meeting

March 10, 2019

Present at the meeting were Rev. Leenane Shiels, members: Mary Hampton, Elaine Dipalo, Alex Pope, Rosemary Elgin, Norma Kennedy, Keith Thomson, Linda Yerex, Toni Lawrence, Jonathan Smyth, Barbara Grant Nienaber, Betty Clarke, Brian Hetherington, Beth Mehrassa, Cherie Hankinson, Estelle Cormier, Lenore McLean, Pam Kennedy, Lonnie Roscoe, Jane Witwicki Jane Keyes Aileen Paulson, Heather Holness, Singh Eggertson, Carole Finch, Nikki Ward, Peter Ward, Louise Berketa, Riley Ward, James Munn, Sandra Fairchild, Sheila Nickols, Marilyn Laidman, Aron Turnbull, Barb Sieben, Susan Crape, Jen Woolley, Joe Freeman, Betty McKendrick, Sue Kellas and John Petty. Present were adherents: Casey Pope, Barb Pope, Angela Finley, Joan Finley, Lisa Thomson, Mary Kremas, Anneke Smyth, Fred Nienaber, Alma Oldenburg, Tracy Harland, Ben Woolley, Bev Smith, Lauren Kirkey, Dick Middleton, Bette Patterson and Lesley Fairley (member and staff person).

1. Call to order and opening prayer by Sue Kellas.

2. Nomination and Election of Meeting Chair and Secretary

MOTION: M/S that Sue Kellas be elected as Chair of the Annual Meeting. CARRIED.

MOTION: that Lonnie Roscoe be elected as Secretary of the Annual Meeting.

CARRIED.

3. Motion regarding extending voting to adherents

MOTION: M/S that all those present who are not members of Golden Ears United Church be given the ability to speak to the meeting and vote. CARRIED.

MOTION: M/S that youth over the age of 13 be allowed to vote. CARRIED.

4. Motion regarding agenda

MOTION: M/S that the agenda for the meeting be as amended with the addition of 17.2 Rainbow Refugee Sponsorship. CARRIED.

4.1 A letter was received from First Haney Scouting thanking Golden Ears for their support and giving a donation of \$3,500. The congregation indicated their appreciation of their generosity.

5. MOTION: M/S that the minutes of the Congregational Meeting held February 25, 2018 be approved as presented. CARRIED.

MOTION: M/S that the minutes of the financial meeting of March 25, 2018 be approved as presented. CARRIED.

6. In Memoriam: We remember those of our congregation who died this past year. Leenane gave thanks for the lives of

Clara McKenzie                      Barbara Staschuk

7. Receipt of 2018 Annual Report and Year in Review Slideshow.

Questions and comments from the congregation. Elaine Dipalo thanked Leenane for this positive review.

MOTION: M/S that we receive the 2018 Annual Report. CARRIED.

8. 2019 Budget Discussion and presentation of the budget by Elaine Dipalo (treasurer Rick Wilson was called away due to a death in the family).

MOTION: M/S that the budget for 2019 for Golden Ears United Church be accepted as presented. CARRIED.

9. Motion to name the reviewer for the 2019 Financial Records

MOTION: M/S that we name Katie Doran's to review the 2019 financial records of Golden Ears United Church. CARRIED.

10. Motion regarding M & S target

This was deferred to the Congregational Financial Meeting pending a target being approved by the Board.

11. John Petty acknowledged those retiring from the Board

Vi Bailey      Sandra Chard      Rick Wilson

12. Nominations and Elections of Elders to Council

MOTION: M/S that the following people continue to serve as Elders of Golden Ears United Church:

Carole Finch	Joe Freeman	Mary Hampton	Sue Kellas
Pam Kennedy	John Petty	Alex Pope	Lonnie Roscoe

CARRIED.

MOTION: M/S that Elaine Dipalo, Heather Holness, whose names were presented by the nominating committee and Lenore McLean, who was nominated from the floor, be elected to serve on the Board. CARRIED.

13. Covenanting with Elders was deferred to the Congregational Financial Meeting.

14. Election of Envelope Secretary

MOTION: M/S that Carole Finch be appointed Envelope Secretary of Golden Ears United Church. CARRIED.

15. Election of Pacific Mountain Region representative(s).

MOTION: M/S that Carole Finch be appointed to represent Golden Ears United Church at The Pacific Mountain Region. CARRIED.

16. Naming of Trustees

MOTION: M/S that Rev. Leenane Shiels, Sandra Fairchild, Olga Johnson, Sue Kellas, Jim Munn, Sheila Nickols, John Petty and Rick Wilson continue in their roles as Trustees of Golden Ears United Church. CARRIED.

17.1 Motions regarding Affirming Congregation

Rev. Leenane Shiels offered a preamble and prayer.

MOTION: M/S that voting regarding becoming an Affirming Congregation be done by secret ballot. CARRIED.

MOTION: M/S that Cherie Hankinson, Carole Finch, John Petty and Sheila Nickols be appointed as scrutineers. CARRIED.

The following were voted on by secret ballot:

MOTION: M/S that the congregation of Golden Ears United Church approve the inclusive vision statement. CARRIED.

MOTION: M/S that the congregation of Golden Ears United Church become an Affirming Congregation. CARRIED.

MOTION: M/S that the congregation of Golden Ears United Church commit to an annual Affirm United institutional membership of \$100. CARRIED.

MOTION: M/S that the congregation of Golden Ears United Church approve the Continuing Action Plan. CARRIED.

17.2 Rainbow Refugee Sponsorship



The Board has approved sponsorship of an Iranian refugee who is living in Turkey waiting for approval. Golden Ears will donate \$5,000 from the Refugee Fund, Farzani (last name?) will provide \$6,000 and the government will provide 3 months of living expenses.

18. Announcing the results of the vote

The congregation of Golden Ears United Church voted by over 90% to become an affirming congregation.

MOTION: M/S that the ballots be destroyed. CARRIED.

Adjournment to lunch - motion to adjourn at 11:45 a.m.

## MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL FINANCIAL MEETING

### Annual Congregational Financial Meeting

April 14, 2019

1. Call to order and opening prayer by Reverend Leenane Shiels at 11:20 am.
2. Motion regarding extending voting to adherents  
MOTION: That all those present who are not members of Golden Ears United Church be given the ability to speak to the meeting and vote. CARRIED.
3. Presentation of the reviewed 2018 GEUC financials by Rick Wilson  
Motion of thanks to Rick Wilson for his years of service.  
MOTION: That we thank Rick for his services as Treasurer since 2006. CARRIED.  
Sue Kellas presented him with a gift and a prayer shawl.
4. Revised Governance Model Presentation  
Leenane noted that our current governance model came from the time of the amalgamation of St. Andrew's United Church and Hammond United Church and was based on the one from St. Andrew's. Motion to approve the new Governance Model  
MOTION: M/S that we approve the new Governance Model as presented for Golden Ears United Church. CARRIED.
5. Setting a target for the 2019 Mission and Service donations  
MOTION: M/S that we set a target of \$10,000 for 2019. CARRIED.

6. Election of a second regional representative to Pacific Mountain Region.  
MOTION: M/S that Barbara Nienaber be appointed as the second Regional Representative. CARRIED.
7. Covenanting with the Elders. Rev. Leenane Shiels led the congregation in covenanting with the elders.
9. Adjournment at 11:55 am.

## APPENDIX 1: Women's Ministry Network Budget

### Proposed Budget for 2020

Golden Ears General Funds (12 @ \$550)	\$6,600
Mission & Service Fund	1,000
First United	150
Friends in Need Food Bank	200
Memorial gifts in memory of UCW members who die	150
Kitchen Supplies (1 stove)	800
Bursary for women of GEUC to attend Abbey (2 @ 140)	280
Abbey Retreat facilitator	300
Facilitators Room and Board	140
Abbey Retreat Supplies	200
Thrift Sale Lunches (June & December)	300
Thrift expenses	200
Thrift rack replacement	1,000
Thrift Sale Gift Certificates	160
Camp Spirit	<u>500</u>
Total	\$11,980

Sue Kellas,

Secretary Treasurer, Women's Ministry Network

## APPENDIX 2: GOLDEN EARS DRAFT BUDGET 2020

Golden Ears United Church					
Proposed 2020 Budget					Proposed
				Jan - Dec 2019	2020
				Actual	Budget
Receipts					
	Givings				
	PAR			\$ 55,607.00	\$ 62,400.00
	Envelopes			\$ 35,105.32	\$ 37,000.00
	Plate - Cash			\$ 4,505.84	\$ 4,700.00
	Plate - Receiptable			\$ 9,719.50	\$ 10,200.00
	Flood Deductible			\$ 6,241.42	\$ -
	Capital			\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
	Total givings			\$ 111,179.08	\$ 124,300.00
	Fund raising-Contributions			\$ 17,109.00	\$ 14,410.00
	Fund raising-Expense			\$ (6,363.78)	\$ (4,650.00)
	Miscellaneous Contributions			\$ 2,303.00	\$ 2,300.00
	Camp Spirit			\$ 725.57	\$ 600.00
	Miscellaneous Recoveries			\$ 6,284.25	\$ 5,700.00
	Pro-Vision Grant			\$ 1,028.55	\$ -
	UCW Contributions			\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00
	Rainbow Church				\$ -
	Weddings and funerals-receipts			\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,900.00
	Weddings and funerals-payments			\$ (1,400.00)	\$ (1,900.00)
	Minister's Benevolent Fund				\$ -
	Rental - Facility - Small Steps			\$ 60,788.00	\$ 61,608.00
	- Service Organizations			\$ 1,070.00	\$ -
	- Other			\$ 10,280.00	\$ 6,000.00
	Minister's Benevolent Fund			\$ 500.00	\$ -
	Interest Income			\$ -	\$ -
	Total Receipts			\$ 211,503.67	\$ 216,868.00

Disbursements				
Division Expenses				
A1 Connexion				
	Fun and Fellowship	\$	99.28	\$ 500.00
	Newcomers Supper			\$ 400.00
	Recognition Events			\$ 300.00
	Contact & Caring	\$	345.95	\$ 450.00
	Benevolent Fund	\$	51.36	\$ 300.00
	<b>Total A1 Connexion</b>	\$	<b>496.59</b>	<b>\$ 1,950.00</b>
A2 Mission				
	Outreach	\$	1,278.55	\$ 400.00
	Affirm Initiatives	\$	908.50	\$ 500.00
	<b>Total A2 Mission</b>	\$	<b>2,187.05</b>	<b>\$ 900.00</b>
A3 Organization				
	Stewardship & Administration	\$	1,042.24	\$ 1,197.00
	Communication-advertising	\$	786.71	\$ 724.00
	Communication-other	\$	16.46	\$ -
Property - Church & Buildings				
	Church Building - Maintenance	\$	7,314.28	\$ 6,559.00
	Flood Repairs	\$	161.92	\$ -
	Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	\$	7,073.94	\$ 4,248.00
	Property and Equipment additions	\$	10,684.85	\$ 12,000.00
	Insurance	\$	14,711.13	\$ 15,900.00
	Cleaning supplies	\$	2,605.38	\$ 2,530.00
	Outdoor maintenance/landscaping	\$	1,117.50	\$ 1,480.00
	Parking Lot	\$	1,715.07	\$ 2,447.00
	Snow Removal			\$ -
	Garbage removal	\$	3,287.82	\$ 3,457.00
	Security/Alarm Monitoring	\$	449.88	\$ 400.00
	Taxes	\$	430.46	\$ 410.00
	Utilities			\$ -
	Light	\$	7,603.28	\$ 7,392.00
	Terasen	\$	3,194.30	\$ 3,540.00
	Water/Sewer	\$	660.50	\$ 612.00
	<b>Total Property Expenses</b>	\$	<b>61,010.31</b>	<b>\$ 60,975.00</b>
	<b>Total A3 Organization</b>	\$	<b>62,855.72</b>	<b>\$ 62,896.00</b>



Golden Ears United Church					
Proposed 2020 Budget					Proposed
				Jan - Dec 2019	2020
				Actual	Budget
			A4 Spirit		
			Christian Education	\$ 1,585.10	\$ 2,000.00
			Worship & Sacraments	\$ 2,481.77	\$ 4,215.00
			<b>Total A4 Spirit</b>	<b>\$ 4,066.87</b>	<b>\$ 6,215.00</b>
			Other		
			Ministry & Personnel - Other	\$ 450.00	\$ -
			<b>Total Division Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 70,056.23</b>	<b>\$ 71,961.00</b>
			General & Operating		
			Bank fees	\$ 46.50	\$ 46.00
			Copier lease/repairs	\$ 8,333.16	\$ 7,400.00
			Licenses & subscriptions	\$ 837.22	\$ 855.00
			Office supplies	\$ 1,788.78	\$ 1,430.00
			Printing costs	\$ 2,361.86	\$ 1,800.00
			Postage & Courier	\$ 223.85	\$ 472.00
			Telephone	\$ 1,467.10	\$ 1,716.00
			Internet fees	\$ 988.04	\$ 966.00
			Web Support	\$ 1,055.82	\$ 585.00
			Minister's Cell Phone	\$ 538.21	\$ 900.00
			<b>Total General &amp; Operating Expense</b>	<b>\$ 17,640.54</b>	<b>\$ 16,170.00</b>
			Other Disbursements		
			GST/HST	\$ 1,706.02	\$ 1,320.00
			United Church Allocations	\$ 12,053.00	\$ 13,392.00
			Service Fees (PAR)	\$ 195.00	\$ 240.00
			ADP Service Charge	\$ 614.41	\$ 624.00
			<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>\$ 14,568.43</b>	<b>\$ 15,576.00</b>

Golden Ears United Church					
Proposed 2020 Budget					Proposed
				Jan - Dec 2019	2020
				Actual	Budget
Legacy Ministry					
		Wages		\$ 29,790.00	\$ 30,356.00
		Benefits			
		Core benefits		\$ 1,483.44	\$ 1,654.32
		UCC Pension Plan		\$ 2,681.04	\$ 2,732.16
		RCP		\$ 306.72	\$ 342.96
		CPP		\$ 1,344.72	\$ 1,410.00
		EI		\$ 675.60	\$ 671.28
		Continuing education		\$ 707.50	\$ 721.00
		Christian Education CE/Camp Spirit		\$ 1,306.59	
Rainbow Church					
		Travel		\$ 101.66	
		Technical Support		\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,140.00
		Nursary Worker		\$ 1,404.00	\$ 1,100.00
		Youth Group Costs		\$ 1,667.63	\$ 900.00
		Phone		\$ 204.00	\$ 240.00
Total Legacy Ministry Payroll Costs				\$ 42,922.90	\$ 41,267.72
Wages & Benefits					
		Wages - housing allowance			
		Wages-Minister		\$ 71,481.12	\$ 72,839.00
		-Admin Secretary		\$ 33,481.92	\$ 34,118.00
		-Summer Student		\$ -	\$ -
		-Music Director		\$ 11,646.96	\$ 18,140.00
		-Custodian		\$ 13,594.04	\$ 14,160.00
		Total Wages		\$ 130,204.04	\$ 139,257.00

Golden Ears United Church					
Proposed 2020 Budget					Proposed
				Jan - Dec 2019	2020
				Actual	Budget
			Casual/relief wages		
			- Pulpit Supply	\$ 175.00	\$ 800.00
			- Handbell Honorarium	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
			- Relief Musician	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,000.00
			- Relief Caretaker	\$ 630.00	\$ -
			- Other	\$ 560.00	\$ -
			Summer Students	\$ -	\$ -
			Continuing education	\$ 1,208.72	\$ 1,442.00
			Music CE + Guest Musicians		\$ 1,500.00
			Benefits		\$ -
			Core benefits	\$ 5,746.01	\$ 7,589.76
			UCC Pension Plan	\$ 10,384.48	\$ 12,533.28
			EAP	\$ 78.72	\$ 87.36
			RCP	\$ 1,188.47	\$ 1,573.68
			Other benefits	\$ 900.00	\$ -
			Travel	\$ 1,565.10	\$ 1,100.52
			CPP	\$ 4,503.71	\$ 5,833.92
			EI	\$ 2,529.81	\$ 2,667.94
			WCB	\$ 288.85	\$ 326.08
			<b>Total Wages &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 162,162.91</b>	<b>\$ 177,211.54</b>
			<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 307,351.01</b>	<b>\$ 322,186.26</b>
			<b>Deficit before investment transfer</b>	<b>\$ (95,847.34)</b>	<b>\$ (105,318.26)</b>