

# **GORDON UNITED CHURCH**

# **ANNUAL**

# **REPORT**

## **2023**

PREPARED BY  
Avis Nichol



## Council Members 2023

Ray Green	<b>Chair</b>
Carolyn Matheson, Rose Justice (Relief)	<b>Council Secretary</b>
Floyd Richards	<b>Chair, Property and Finance</b>
Ken McDougall	<b>Treasurer</b>
Carolyn Matheson and Pat Larre	<b>Chair, Ministry, and Personnel</b>
John Davies	<b>Chair, Trustees</b>
Judy Muir	<b>Vice Chair, Trustees</b>

## Staff Members 2023

Heidi Koschzeck	<b>Minister</b>
Rose Justice/ Priscila Martinez/ Avis Nichol	<b>Office Administrator</b>
Jeanne Campbell/ Ryan Qu/ Jill Siemens	<b>Music</b>

**GORDON UNITED CHURCH  
AGENDA - 2023 ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

**Establish a Quorum: B.5.5 Minimum Number of Members Present**

*a) Minimum number: A meeting of the congregation or pastoral charge may take place only if a minimum number of full members is present, as follows:*

*i) for congregations or pastoral charges with 100 or more full members, at least 20 full members must be present;*

*ii) for congregations or pastoral charges with between 30 and 99 full members, at least 10 full members must be present;*

*and iii) for congregations or pastoral charges with fewer than 30 full members, at least 1/3 of the full membership must be present. (The Manual, 2024)*

**1. Opening Prayer – Rev. Heidi Koschreck**

**2. Motion for Adherents to vote.**

**Motion: Move that adherents be permitted to vote on all matters before the congregation.**

*B.3.7 Who May Vote B.3.7.1*

*Full Members May Vote All full members whose names are on the membership roll have the right to vote at all meetings of the congregation.*

*B.3.7.2 When Adherents May Vote*

*Adherents may vote at meetings of the congregation if the full members decide to allow adherents to vote. The decision may allow voting rights on all matters or only specified matters (The Manual, 2024)*

*M/S*

***Motion Carried:***

**3. Approval of Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting**

Note: Minutes posted in the CE Hall and included in the Annual Report

*M/S*

***Motion Carried:***

**4. Questions or corrections on the reports as printed in the 2023 Annual Report**

**5. Questions regarding any positions on the Nominations form.**

**6. Further nominations/volunteers**

**7. Motion to adopt the Nominations as presented**

*M/S*

***Motion Carried:***

**8. Questions, concerns, amendments**

**9. Financial Report for 2023 – Discussion**

**10. Questions, concerns, amendments**

**11. OMNIBUS motion to accept all reports as documented or amended**

*M/S*

*Motion Carried:*

**12. Update and possibly vote on the Affirm Statement as written within the Vision Statement:**

**Vision Statement of Gordon United Church**

God calls Gordon United church to be a viable, vibrant, multi-generational church serving the West Shore communities by:

- Focusing on both community and global outreach
- Serving the communities of the West Shore and Sooke as a vital
- institution
- Tending to the ministry and pastoral needs of our congregation
- Becoming more visible and effective in the community, and
- Being more open as a church for others.

**As an Affirming Church, we are committed to following Jesus' example as we embrace people of all ages, racialized groups, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities, ethnic origins, political beliefs, economic circumstances and differing abilities and challenges in the ministry and life of Gordon United Church.**

*M/S*

*Motion Carried:*

**13. Ministry and Mission Reboot Update**

**14. Presentation and Approval of Budget for 2024**

*M/S*

*Motion Carried:*

**15. In Memoria- remembering and honouring those who have passed away in 2023**

**16. Official thanks**

*Thank you to everyone who has contributed, in any capacity, to the life of Gordon United Church in 2023.*

**17. Go Now in Peace**

**18. Adjournment**

**GORDON UNITED CHURCH  
MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
(COMBINED GENERAL AND FINANCIAL)  
HELD – MARCH 19, 2023  
35 MEMBERS SIGNED THE ATTENDANCE SHEET - to establish a Quorum  
CALL TO ORDER: Ray Green called the meeting to order at 12:07 P.M.**

1. OPENING PRAYER – Rev. Heidi Koschreck

2. MOTION FOR ADHERENTS TO VOTE – Moved by: Floyd Richards

THAT Adherents be given voting privileges

Seconded by: Gail Ellerton MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - (held March 19, 2022)

Moved by: Ralph Gonyea

THAT the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 2022 be approved.

Seconded by Carol Kendall MOTION CARRIED

4. QUESTIONS/CORRECTIONS: Questions or corrections on the reports as printed in the 2022 Annual Report.

CORRECTION: Linda Di Mambro is not a member of the Memorial Team.

5. NOMINATIONS REPORT: Questions regarding any positions on the Nominations List.

1. Add Gail Ellerton to Property & Finance

2. Remove Gail Ellerton's name from Communion Coordinators

3. Add Kathy Turcotte's name as a Communion Coordinator

6. CALL FOR FURTHER NOMINATIONS: No Volunteers stepped forward.

7. MOTION TO ADOPT THE NOMINATIONS AS PRESENTED:

Moved by John Davies Seconded by Arden Noel MOTION CARRIED

8. QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, AMENDMENTS: NO QUESTIONS

9. DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL REPORT: No questions but the emphasis was made on where we may be in three years with a current deficit and available monies.

Suggestions were made of ways to reduce snow removal costs; for the congregation to give more; and how they can donate more consistently by taking advantage of Pre-Authorized Remittance (P.A.R).

10. OMNIBUS motion to accept all reports as documented or amended:

Moved by Linda Di Mambro Seconded by John Davies MOTION CARRIED

11. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET FOR 2023

Moved by John Davies Seconded by Ralph Gonyea MOTION CARRIED(No opposes)

12. IN MEMORIA – REMEMBERING AND HONOURING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN 2022

- ❖ *Helen Andres*
- ❖ *Betty Pelaers*
- ❖ *Joanne Mouner*
- ❖ *Lillian Connie Walker*
- ❖ *Karen Hicks*
- ❖ *Jonelle McLellan*
- ❖ *Don Daily*

13. OFFICIAL THANKS

Thank you to everyone who has contributed, in any capacity, to the life of Gordon United Church in 2022.

14. GO NOW IN PEACE was sung by All.

15. MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:59 P.M.

Ray Green, Chair of Council

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Carolyn Matheson, Secretary of Council

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## Congregational Values, Mission, Slogan

### GORDON UNITED CHURCH VALUES, VISION STATEMENT, MISSION STATEMENT & SLOGAN APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY 2017 (no change since Feb 2017)

#### VALUES

The continuity of these values is at the heart of our Church:

- Christ-Centered
- Theologically Diverse
- Compassion and Care for Others
- Honouring our Elders
- Church as Extended Family – Young and Old Alike
- Welcoming, Hospitable, and Inclusive
- Excellence in Worship, especially Music
- Good Stewardship of Resources
- Committed to Life-Long Education for Clergy and Laity (of all ages)
- Effective Communication and Conflict Resolution
- Lay Leadership
- Joy!

#### VISION STATEMENT

God calls Gordon United Church to be a viable, vibrant, multi-generational church serving the West Shore communities by:

- Focusing on both community and global outreach;
- Serving the communities of the West Shore and Sooke as a vital institution;
- Tending to the ministry and pastoral needs of our congregation;
- Becoming more visible and effective in the community; and
- Being more open as a church for others.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

Together, we honour our faith, engage in the present, and work for the future.

#### SLOGAN

Welcome Home  
to God  
to Faith  
to Family  
to the Heart of God  
in the Heart of Langford

## Minister's Annual Report for 2023

January 26, 2024

When January 2023 began, we were still in “coming out of COVID” mode (though of course, it is still with us a year later). Many of us were just enjoying being able to resume “regular” activities, and reflecting on a Christmas where we were able to be with family and friends we hadn’t been with for some time. We finally made masking optional in the Spring.

Our year began with a sermon series on Mental Health and the Church called “Healing Hurtful Thoughts”, including a Messy Church event in January, “Beating the Blues”.

**Messy Church** attendance in 2023 was a bit low, except for a very successful pre-Christmas event (featuring a guest magician) called “The Magic of Christmas”. This coming year we will be trying quarterly events in partnership with the Church of the Advent. We continue to offer Faith@Home magazines to families with children and Learning Together is a well-loved part of worship time. This is a reminder that Learning Together is not an opportunity for folk to laugh at the “cute” things children say or do, but a chance for all of us to learn in ways that are accessible and fun. Children are the church of today, not tomorrow!

We had a well-attended “**United Church 101**” weekend in person and on Zoom – an introduction to the United Church and preparation for adult membership. We used resources from the wider church including the Rev. Dr. Janet Gear’s video series, “The Theological Banquet”. 8 people attended with several deciding to become full members of the congregation.

At our Annual Meeting, we discussed a “**Mission and Ministry Reboot**” with workshops and discussions held several times in the year to look at our current circumstances post-COVID and how the Spirit is leading us into the future. We met as a Council, and as a Congregation and surveyed stakeholders such as our renters and the Mayor and Fire Chief of Langford. This work continues as we identified 5 Core Values as a congregation: **Faith, Inclusivity, Service, Wellbeing, and Stability**. We will be working with these values to turn them from nouns into verbs – from values into actions and goals based on those values. Members of the Council met with representatives from the Pacific Mountain Regional Council to discuss how we can leverage our property and building to further our ministry. They emphasized that before anything else happens we need to have a very clear vision of our mission in the community and our goals moving forward.

I offered online evening worship during Lent, and a Lenten study on the book “Running from Empty”. A few folks read “21 Things You Didn’t Know About the Indian Act” as part of a “Reading for Reconciliation” effort. We had Easter worship on the beach and at the church.



**Pastoral Care** continues to be an area that requires lots of support as we have fewer people willing and able to visit homes and hospitals at the same time as we have more people needing those visits! If this is a ministry that calls to you, please speak to Rev. Heidi or Adele Morley about getting some training to help. I lead service at the Priory Hospital once every two months.

A big thank-you to members of the Affirm Team who have moved us forward on the path to certification as an **Affirming Congregation**. A highlight was participating in the Pride parade. We heard voices saying, "That is so cool that the churches are involved!"

Huge thanks to members of **Council, Property and Finance, and Ministry and Personnel** who have helped us navigate a year with lots of staff changes and challenges. Members are needed for these teams as well. We're aware that serving on boards or teams is not popular these days; however, there are a minimum number of teams and committees needed to keep the church functioning. Without them, we will stumble. Thank you to all Team members.

Thanks to **all** the people who serve in so many ways, whether upfront or behind the scenes. The body of Christ needs all its members, to serve and live faith together.

The Council took the months of June, July, and August off from meetings, though the work of the church continued (including scrambling to find staff replacements after unexpected resignations!).

Through the summer months, the worship focus was on Discipleship and hearing the stories of Jesus' first followers. We also used a "Praise and Worship" contemporary format, which some loved, and others didn't (surprise!). With all the turnover in music staff, I decided to stick to the Revised Common Lectionary for services from late Fall through to the end of the Epiphany Season, as it made choosing music simpler. I am grateful to all the musicians with whom I have partnered in worship planning and leadership this year: Ryan Qu, Jeanne Campbell, Jill Ann Siemens, and Angela Carter. We have been blessed with amazing talent and musical ability! Thanks as well to the choir for your resilience!

In the Fall I reported to the Council with a sheaf of information gathered over the summer on ways to further clarify our mission.

With all the unpredictability we decided to keep Advent and Christmas simple and enjoyed a full house for worship on Christmas Eve. A thank you to our communion organizer Kathy Turcotte and head ushers Arden Noel and John Davies and their wonderful teams – especially the youngest of the bunch! It's such a blessing to have children, youth, and young adults present in the congregation and active in service.

We are delighted to welcome new congregants this year and hope you will feel very welcome and included in all aspects of the church's life and work. I am always open to getting together for coffee/tea/water and a visit - whether it's going for a walk, home, or meeting at a local coffee shop. Please, don't hesitate to ask; if you don't ask, I won't know if you'd like to get together!

**Continuing Education** for this year focused on three main areas: mission and planning; issues between white populations and BIPOC communities and how we can be a more just and inclusive society and church; and spiritual renewal (including a week of silent retreat).

Thank you to Avis Nichol for providing a stable, very competent, and cheerful presence in the office – and for getting all these reports out on time!

Blessings to one and all and may each step we take together bring us closer to God's longing for the Church of Jesus Christ.

**Respectfully submitted by the Reverend Heidi Koschreck.**

### **Rites of Passage at GUC in 2023**

<b>Weddings</b>	2
<b>Baptisms</b>	2
<b>Memorials</b>	6



Annie Laurie Wright

Gordon Murray Craig

Shirley Ann Hill

Ruby Hope Bauer

Curtis Sage

(since January 2024)

Mary Newman

Mary Lou Berod

**Respectfully submitted by the Reverend Heidi Koschreck.**

## **Church Council**

Looking back at 2023, I think we at Gordon United Church have worked hard to honour our vision statement: focusing on community and global outreach, serving our community, tending to ministry and pastoral needs, becoming more visible in the community, and being more open as a church for others.

With the continued work of the Affirming Team, we are very close to becoming an Affirming Church.

Throughout the year the Property & Finance team continued to keep our property and building in good repair. Ken, our treasurer continues to spend hours on the financial well-being of our church.

With continued financial support from the congregation, rentals, bequests, and some surprise donations from outside the congregation we ended the year much better than anticipated in our budget.

Avis Nichol: Office Administrator and Jill Siemens: Music Director have been great additions to our staff this year.

Some highlights of the year were: celebrating Reverend Heidi's 25<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary, The Mad Hatter Tea, our participation in the Victoria Pride Parade, the Westshore Community Band performance as well as our continued involvement in the Christmas Angel Gift and monthly community dinners.

We continue to expand our presence in the Western Communities engaging with the City of Langford and newly formed Residents Association and Outreach organizations.

This being said, as in the past, we are limited to what extent we can engage because of the limited members involved in the Council and other committees.

I am encouraged by those willing to organize fundraisers this year and the few who stepped up to get involved but we are still in desperate need for people to commit to a position on the Nomination List. Some have been in their positions past the 3 – 2-year terms and will be stepping down without someone shadowing them for that person to take over. Several core members are in multi-tasking positions; we cannot sustain this indefinitely. To expand Gordon United Church's involvement in our community or at the very least continue as we have, we need your help. Please consider getting involved.

In closing, I want to thank Reverend Heidi and those involved in the different committees for all your hard work this past year.

**Respectfully submitted by Ray Green, Chair, Gordon United Church Council.**

## **Financial Reports**

### **Treasurer's Report to December 31, 2023**

#### **A. Overview of 2023 Finances**

With an especially great effort at the end of 2023, we were able to come up with enough income through donations and rent to be able to pay all expenses incurred in 2023. Consequently, we did not have to go into a deficit situation. Our savings were safe.

Let us start by comparing our finances at the end of 2023 to those at the end of 2022. Review the two balance sheets in this report - dated 2022 and 2023. Looking at our bank accounts it looks like a big loss. However, after several years of government support, we had to pay back the \$40,000 CEBA loan that we had borrowed from CRA. However, for paying back on time we were allowed to keep the other \$20,000 which we had previously received and reported in other years. The extra work required to take advantage of the COVID-19 years was worth it. Likely to the tune of \$71,456.70.

Designated Funds remain approximately the same. These are funds that we are holding for various groups or events.

#### **B. Details of 2023 Finances - Income**

Overall, our income quite exceeded our projected income for all areas: collections, PAR, rentals, and special fundraising. The Property and Finance Team has had great success in renting space. With our economy being as it is and the shortage of rental space in our community, it has resulted in a successful rental rate and a way to give back to some of the special organizations.

We were blessed this year with some special donations and special fundraising. Some special donations have remained anonymous but are certainly appreciated. We can't forget Curtis Sage's involvement in the church and very much appreciated his bequeathing over \$13,666. Income from Cob's and Purdy's were like bonuses although a labour of love for several volunteers.

I didn't think I would be saying this, but it was exciting to see that expenses were lower than income over the year. Well done!

### **C. Details of 2023 Finances - Expenses**

Some expenses were higher than projected. However, a big increase in rental income over-compensated for this increase. That was good! Following are some of the notable expenses:

- 2 new photocopiers at \$1,964 to get rid of an expensive warranty
- Billing increase for the contracted custodian
- Increased cost of janitorial supplies
- Elevator maintenance
- New lawn mower
- Maintain parking lot overhead light
- New grass trimmer
- New recycle bins due to vandalism
- Updated road sign at entranceway
- Gardening supplies
- Draining Lake Gordon via septic
- Snow removal from Peak \$10,794.95 in 2023
- Insurance was higher than quoted but less than 2022.

Especially scary was the horrible cost of snow removal. It is expensive but a necessary evil to keep the parking lot and sidewalks safe to avoid injury to us or renters.

### **D. Details of 2023 Finances – Mission and Service, etc.**

These items do not get included in our finances as we are just passing along donations as they come in. However, donations to Mission and Service have been lower in the past 2 years which is likely a sign of the times.

### **E. Projections for 2024**

Now for the shock! The Council did its best to limit expenses for 2024. However, the projected deficit is estimated to be \$25,920.00 which compares to this year's projected deficit of \$17,057.46.

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2024-01-23  
Accrual Basis

**Gordon United Church**  
**Balance Sheet 2023**  
As of 31 December 2023

	31 Dec 23
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
1010 - Current Assets	
1065 - Coast Capital - Chequing	36,539.58
1075 - Coast Capital Savings	11,185.55
Total 1010 - Current Assets	47,725.13
1090 - Long Term Assets - Trustees	
1095 - U.C.C. Investment Fund	50,000.00
1099 - Coast Capital GIC 21APR24 3.25%	19,444.61
Total 1090 - Long Term Assets - Trustees	69,444.61
Total Chequing/Savings	117,169.74
Total Current Assets	117,169.74
Fixed Assets	
1500 - Fixed Assets-Land,Bldg,Fixtures	
1520 - Land (Assessed Value)	1,038,400.00
1550 - Buildings (Assessed Value)	2,402,178.00
1570 - Fixtures & Equipm't (Insurance)	238,960.00
Total 1500 - Fixed Assets-Land,Bldg,Fixtures	3,679,538.00
Total Fixed Assets	3,679,538.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,796,707.74</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2100 - Liabilities	
2150 - Accounts Payable Keys	528.50
Key Deposits	-361.50
2150 - Accounts Payable Keys - Other	
Total 2150 - Accounts Payable Keys	167.00
Total 2100 - Liabilities	167.00
3600 - Designated Funds	
3610 - Community Dinner	677.08
3630 - ProVision Grant	2,434.65
3635 - Syrian Refugee Funds	10,897.80
3640 - Sabbatical Account	3,814.16
3650 - Memorial Fund	7,879.73
3665 - United Church Women	2,996.46
3670 - Reserve for Bldg Maintenance	10,470.00
Total 3600 - Designated Funds	39,169.88
Total Accounts Payable	39,336.88
Total Current Liabilities	39,336.88
Total Liabilities	39,336.88
Equity	
30000 - Opening Balance Equity	3,790,574.87
32000 - Retained Earnings	-40,715.59
Net Income	7,511.58
Total Equity	3,757,370.86
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>3,796,707.74</b>

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January 23, 2024

Accrual Basis

**Budget vs. Actual 2023**

January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Receipts</b>				
4100 - General				
4110 - Envelope Offerings	39,529.81	37,000.00	2,529.81	106.8%
4115 - Loose Offerings	3,195.21	1,000.00	2,195.21	319.5%
4120 - PAR Offerings	76,098.00	75,000.00	1,098.00	101.5%
4130 - Other Tax Receiptable Donations	3,359.95	200.00	3,159.95	1,680.0%
<b>Total 4100 - General</b>	<b>122,182.97</b>	<b>113,200.00</b>	<b>8,982.97</b>	<b>107.9%</b>
4300 - Other Funds Received				
4310 - Building Rentals - Contracts	54,673.50	46,000.00	8,673.50	118.9%
4320 - Building Rentals - Others	1,332.00	500.00	832.00	266.4%
4325 - Rental of Parking Lot	9,600.00	9,600.00	0.00	100.0%
4330 - Fund Raising Income	647.00	1,000.00	-353.00	64.7%
4331 - Fund Raising - Cookbook	15.00			
4333 - Fund Raising - Cobs - Income	2,399.80	3,000.00	-600.20	80.0%
4337 - Fund Raising - Purdy's	1,328.45			
4340 - Misc Revenue	16,024.24	1,000.00	15,024.24	1,602.4%
4350 - O'Live Donations	108.50			
<b>Total 4300 - Other Funds Received</b>	<b>86,128.49</b>	<b>61,100.00</b>	<b>25,028.49</b>	<b>141.0%</b>
4600 - Other Income Received				
4610 - Interest Income	1,076.14	670.00	406.14	160.6%
4620 - GST Refunds Received	1,338.51	1,200.00	138.51	111.5%
<b>Total 4600 - Other Income Received</b>	<b>2,414.65</b>	<b>1,870.00</b>	<b>544.65</b>	<b>129.1%</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>210,726.11</b>	<b>176,170.00</b>	<b>34,556.11</b>	<b>119.6%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>210,726.11</b>	<b>176,170.00</b>	<b>34,556.11</b>	<b>119.6%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>210,726.11</b>	<b>176,170.00</b>	<b>34,556.11</b>	<b>119.6%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>5000 - Expenses</b>				
5100 - Ministers Salary & Benefits				
5110 - Minister's Salary	78,956.88	77,606.46	1,350.42	101.7%
5115 - Minister's Mandatory Benefits	18,782.63	19,400.00	-617.37	96.8%
5120 - Minister Continuing Ed, Books	1,182.39	1,541.00	-358.61	76.7%
5130 - Minister's Travel	745.80	800.00	-54.20	93.2%
<b>Total 5100 - Ministers Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>99,667.70</b>	<b>99,347.46</b>	<b>320.24</b>	<b>100.3%</b>
5200 - Other Salaries				
5220 - Office Administrator	13,366.20	14,000.00	-633.80	95.5%
5225 - Office Backup, Web Support	450.00			
5230 - Choir and Music Director	12,734.15	14,700.00	-1,965.85	86.6%
5240 - Relief Organist	2,251.00	532.00	1,719.00	423.1%
5250 - Pulpit Supply	892.50	2,150.00	-1,257.50	41.5%
5255 - Pulpit Supply Travel	77.00	100.00	-23.00	77.0%
5400 - Employer Expenses - CPP, EI	1,318.24	1,900.00	-581.76	69.4%
5500 - Sabbatical Reserve Expense	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total 5200 - Other Salaries</b>	<b>32,289.09</b>	<b>34,582.00</b>	<b>-2,292.91</b>	<b>93.4%</b>
<b>Total 5000 - Expenses</b>	<b>131,956.79</b>	<b>133,929.46</b>	<b>-1,972.67</b>	<b>98.5%</b>
<b>6000 - Ministry Program Expenses</b>				
6020 - Music Expenses	92.79	400.00	-307.21	23.2%
6030 - Worship Expenses	604.66	900.00	-295.34	67.2%
6040 - Benevolent Expenses	-290.01	400.00	-690.01	-72.5%
6060 - Pastoral Care Expenses	454.06	1,200.00	-745.94	37.8%
6070 - Advertising	-9.80	300.00	-309.80	-3.3%
6075 - Communication	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
6080 - Children's Ministry	121.72	500.00	-378.28	24.3%
6090 - Piano-Organ Maintenance	188.75	500.00	-311.25	37.8%
6095 - Leadership/Faith Development	130.62	900.00	-769.38	14.5%
<b>Total 6000 - Ministry Program Expenses</b>	<b>1,292.79</b>	<b>5,150.00</b>	<b>-3,857.21</b>	<b>25.1%</b>



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January 23, 2024

Accrual Basis

**Budget vs. Actual 2023**

January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>6500 - Administration Expenses</b>				
6510 - Internet & Telephone Expense	3,014.65	2,600.00	414.65	115.9%
6520 - Stationary, Stamps & Printing	416.72	500.00	-83.28	83.3%
6540 - Other Office Expenses	99.00	500.00	-401.00	19.8%
6550 - Photocopier Expenses	4,857.06	3,400.00	1,457.06	142.9%
<b>Total 6500 - Administration Expenses</b>	<b>8,387.43</b>	<b>7,000.00</b>	<b>1,387.43</b>	<b>119.8%</b>
<b>6700 - Building Expenses</b>				
6710 - Custodian (Contractor)	5,131.68	4,400.00	731.68	116.6%
6715 - Janitorial Supplies	1,427.62	500.00	927.62	285.5%
6720 - Maintenance	11,454.17	6,000.00	5,454.17	190.9%
6730 - Contract Expense	13,000.82	5,000.00	8,000.82	260.0%
6740 - Building Maintenance Fund	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.0%
<b>Total 6700 - Building Expenses</b>	<b>31,014.29</b>	<b>17,100.00</b>	<b>13,914.29</b>	<b>181.4%</b>
<b>6750 - Utility Expenses</b>				
6760 - BC Hydro	2,447.71	3,000.00	-552.29	81.6%
6770 - Gas	7,275.94	8,000.00	-724.06	90.9%
6780 - Water & Sewage	1,716.80	2,000.00	-283.20	85.8%
<b>Total 6750 - Utility Expenses</b>	<b>11,440.45</b>	<b>13,000.00</b>	<b>-1,559.55</b>	<b>88.0%</b>
<b>6800 - Other Expenses</b>				
6810 - Insurance	8,671.84	7,100.00	1,571.84	122.1%
6825 - Pastoral Charge Assessment	7,848.00	7,848.00	0.00	100.0%
6830 - GST Expense	2,547.98	2,000.00	547.98	127.4%
6833 - Fund Raising Costs - Expenses	54.96	50.00	4.96	109.9%
6850 - Property Development Project	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
<b>Total 6800 - Other Expenses</b>	<b>19,122.78</b>	<b>17,048.00</b>	<b>2,074.78</b>	<b>112.2%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>203,214.53</b>	<b>193,227.46</b>	<b>9,987.07</b>	<b>105.2%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>7,511.58</b>	<b>-17,057.46</b>	<b>24,569.04</b>	<b>-44.0%</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Income</b>				
<b>Specific Donations</b>				
4810 - Mission & Service	13,071.00	15,500.00	-2,429.00	84.3%
4820 - Goldstream Food Bank Society	339.75	900.00	-560.25	37.8%
4830 - Our Place Society	304.50	250.00	54.50	121.8%
4840 - Miscellaneous Donations	345.00	100.00	245.00	345.0%
4860 - Broadview Subscriptions	330.00			
<b>Total Specific Donations</b>	<b>14,390.25</b>	<b>16,750.00</b>	<b>-2,359.75</b>	<b>85.9%</b>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>14,390.25</b>	<b>16,750.00</b>	<b>-2,359.75</b>	<b>85.9%</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>				
<b>Specific Donation Disbursements</b>				
6310 - Mission & Service	13,071.00	15,500.00	-2,429.00	84.3%
6320 - Goldstream Food Bank Society	339.75	900.00	-560.25	37.8%
6330 - Our Place Society	304.50	250.00	54.50	121.8%
6340 - Miscellaneous Disbursement	345.00	100.00	245.00	345.0%
6360 - Broadview Disbursements	330.00			
<b>Total Specific Donation Disbursements</b>	<b>14,390.25</b>	<b>16,750.00</b>	<b>-2,359.75</b>	<b>85.9%</b>
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>14,390.25</b>	<b>16,750.00</b>	<b>-2,359.75</b>	<b>85.9%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>7,511.58</b>	<b>-17,057.46</b>	<b>24,569.04</b>	<b>-44.0%</b>

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January 23, 2024

Accrual Basis

**Gordon United Church**  
**Budget Proposal for 2024**  
 January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Receipts</b>	
<b>4100 - General</b>	
4110 - Envelope Offerings	37,000.00
4115 - Loose Offerings	1,000.00
4120 - PAR Offerings	75,000.00
4130 - Other Tax Receiptable Donations	1,000.00
<b>Total 4100 - General</b>	<b>114,000.00</b>
<b>4300 - Other Funds Received</b>	
4310 - Building Rentals - Contracts	54,000.00
4320 - Building Rentals - Others	600.00
4325 - Rental of Parking Lot	9,600.00
4330 - Fund Raising Income	1,000.00
4333 - Fund Raising - Cobs - Income	2,500.00
4340 - Misc Revenue	1,500.00
<b>Total 4300 - Other Funds Received</b>	<b>69,200.00</b>
<b>4600 - Other Income Received</b>	
4610 - Interest Income	650.00
4620 - GST Refunds Received	1,200.00
<b>Total 4600 - Other Income Received</b>	<b>1,850.00</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>185,050.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>185,050.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>185,050.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>5000 - Expenses</b>	
<b>5100 - Ministers Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	
5110 - Minister's Salary	82,500.00
5115 - Minister's Mandatory Benefits	20,600.00
5120 - Minister Continuing Ed, Books	1,640.00
5130 - Minister's Travel	800.00
<b>Total 5100 - Ministers Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>105,540.00</b>
<b>5200 - Other Salaries</b>	
5220 - Office Administrator	14,321.00
5225 - Office Backup, Web Support	1,500.00
5230 - Choir and Music Director	18,580.00
5240 - Relief Organist	540.00
5250 - Pulpit Supply	1,600.00
5255 - Pulpit Supply Travel	50.00
5400 - Employer Expenses - CPP, EI	1,200.00
5500 - Sabbatical Reserve Expense	1,200.00
<b>Total 5200 - Other Salaries</b>	<b>38,991.00</b>
<b>Total 5000 - Expenses</b>	<b>144,531.00</b>
<b>6000 - Ministry Program Expenses</b>	
6020 - Music Expenses	400.00
6030 - Worship Expenses	500.00
6040 - Benevolent Expenses	700.00
6060 - Pastoral Care Expenses	1,200.00
6070 - Advertising	400.00
6075 - Communication	50.00
6080 - Children's Ministry	300.00
6090 - Piano-Organ Maintenance	500.00
6095 - Leadership/Faith Development	400.00
<b>Total 6000 - Ministry Program Expenses</b>	<b>4,450.00</b>

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January 23, 2024

Accrual Basis

**Gordon United Church**  
**Budget Proposal for 2024**  
 January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24
6500 - Administration Expenses	
6510 - Internet & Telephone Expense	2,600.00
6520 - Stationary, Stamps & Printing	600.00
6540 - Other Office Expenses	400.00
6550 - Photocopier Expenses	500.00
Total 6500 - Administration Expenses	4,100.00
6700 - Building Expenses	
6710 - Custodian (Contractor)	4,400.00
6715 - Janitorial Supplies	900.00
6720 - Maintenance	10,000.00
6730 - Contract Expense	8,000.00
6740 - Building Maintenance Fund	1,200.00
Total 6700 - Building Expenses	24,500.00
6750 - Utility Expenses	
6760 - BC Hydro	3,000.00
6770 - Gas	8,000.00
6780 - Water & Sewage	2,000.00
Total 6750 - Utility Expenses	13,000.00
6800 - Other Expenses	
6810 - Insurance	8,630.00
6825 - Pastoral Charge Assessment	9,649.00
6830 - GST Expense	2,000.00
6833 - Fund Raising Costs - Expenses	60.00
6850 - Property Development Project	50.00
Total 6800 - Other Expenses	20,389.00
Total Expense	210,970.00
Net Ordinary Income	-25,920.00
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Specific Donations	
4810 - Mission & Service	15,500.00
4820 - Goldstream Food Bank Society	900.00
4830 - Our Place Society	250.00
4840 - Miscellaneous Donations	100.00
Total Specific Donations	16,750.00
Total Other Income	16,750.00
Other Expense	
Specific Donation Disbursements	
6910 - Mission & Service	15,500.00
6920 - Goldstream Food Bank Society	900.00
6930 - Our Place Society	250.00
6940 - Miscellaneous Disbursement	100.00
Total Specific Donation Disbursements	16,750.00
Total Other Expense	16,750.00
Net Other Income	0.00
Net Income	-25,920.00

Respectfully submitted by Ken McDougall, Treasurer for Gordon United Church.

## Community Dinners

The Community Dinner at Gordon United Church is entering its 11th year of ministry to the Westshore Community. That is amazing when one considers how many meals have been provided over that period except for the COVID-19 pandemic period.

The Community Dinner is offered by a dedicated volunteer team who organize the menus, advertise, set up the CE Hall and as well make dishes and sweets. Community members also donate their service by making sweets, salads, and time toward this important ministry.

We offer a safe, clean environment for people to enjoy their meals and visits with friends and neighbours. Our kitchen is government-inspected once a year and there must be at least one person with a current Food Safe Certificate in attendance at each meal. Currently, there are at least two team members who have these certificates.

The meal is free and food donations are always appreciated. Monetary donations are always welcomed and will be added to the Budget Line Item of "Community Dinners" if you wish to contribute.

If you would like to help at the dinners or donate towards this important outreach Ministry, please do not hesitate to speak to myself, Ray Green, or Judy Muir if you have any questions.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who work so diligently to make these meals happen. Without you, the Community Dinners would be at risk and that would be a huge loss for the West Shore Community. The Community Dinners have been ongoing since their initial start in the summer of 2013. They, of course, took a hiatus whenever the Church was closed due to the Government Covid restrictions. Since January 2022, we restarted the dinners twice a month to reboot the attendance. We noted that when the dinners are suspended for any length of time, the attendance is slow to restart again. Dinners are not held during the summer and as of September, it was decided that the dinners would be held once a month due to the lack of volunteer involvement. Slowly, attendance has been increasing over the months to 40-50 patrons at each dinner either to eat in or take out. Not only are Gordon United Church members involved but we have volunteers from the Baha'i Faith, from the Westshore community (one very active supporter), and Starbucks Coffee who bring coffee/cream/sugar/cups to every dinner. We are grateful for this help and for the ability to provide these dinners for whatever reason a patron enters our CE Hall doors. It is with deep thanks to all who donate their time and contributions in support of this community dinner.

The Community Dinner is open to all.

**Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Matheson.**

## Get Acquainted Group annual report – 2023

### **INCOME:**

Bank Balance - Jan. 1st, 2023:	1432.20
Tish's Open Garden	600.00
<u>Memorial Tea</u>	<u>200.00</u>
	\$2232.20

### **EXPENDITURE:**

Donation - Portion of back gate	294.78
Westshore Poppy Fund	55.00
Petty Cash	50.00
<u>Donation to General Funds</u>	<u>1000.00</u>
	\$1399.78

Bank Balance	832.42
Petty Cash	73.50
Cash Box Float	60.00
<u>Flower Cash</u>	<u>23.10</u>

Balance as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023: **\$989.02**

**Respectfully submitted by Barbara Proudfoot / Treasurer.**

### **Library report**

The library has been kept neat and tidied up for easy perusal. Thank you to all for helping keep it in that condition.

**Respectfully submitted by Leona Richards.**

## Memorial Committee

Committee Members:

1. Ken McDougall
2. Dianne Wilson McDougall
3. Deanna Robb

Contributions to the memorial committee are made by family and friends of members of the congregation in memory of their loved ones. These gifts are directed towards improvements to the Sanctuary at the discretion of the memorial committee and the council.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2023**

Balance forward from 2022:	8,011.23
Income from donations:	<u>619.00</u>
	8,630.23

Less Expenses:

Piano Bench	579.30
<u>Piano Repairs</u>	<u>171.20</u>
	750.50

Balance as of December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2023:	<b>\$7,879.73</b>
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**Respectively Submitted by Deanna Robb.**



## **Ministry & Personnel Team**

During 2023, the Ministry & Personnel Team consisted of four members. They were Pat Larre, Chair; Beverly Stewart; Linda Di Mambro; and Carolyn Matheson, Liaison.

It seems that our report always starts with “It has been another busy year” and it has been. Our Office Administrator, Rose Justice had decided that it was time to resign due to family obligations and to pursue other passions in her life. That set up a chain of interviews and held positions (short-term) until finally, we believe that the Office Administration position is stable currently. We certainly appreciate Avis Nichol in this position and her quick learning skills to carry out the support for our Minister, Reverend Heidi. Thank you, God!

We have been challenged with keeping a long-term relationship with Musicians. However, I am in awe of the caliber of musicians who come to play at Gordon United Church. How fortunate that this Little Church continues to be so honoured to have Musicians who are highly skilled, knowledgeable, and experienced in their field. Thank you, God!

We are also fortunate to continue to have Reverend Heidi as our Minister. Reverend Heidi has this innate ability to lead and guide our Church people. Our latest endeavour is to determine how our Church will thrive and flourish in the future or not through the process of the Mission & Ministry Reboot. It is through Heidi’s leadership that we were able to determine our Core Values, the first step as we move forward through this process. Thank you, God!

The goals for the Ministry & Personnel Team for 2024 will be to review the current job descriptions of each staff member to ensure that the roles and duties are current and clearly stated. The Ministry and Personnel team members are Pat Larre, Chair, Carolyn Matheson, Bev Stewart, and Linda DiMambro. The team is responsible for overseeing and supervising the ministry personnel. At Gordon United we had three staff positions that we were responsible for in 2023: Reverend Heidi, Priscila Martinez, Office Administrator, and Jeanne Campbell /Ryan QU Musical Director.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Carolyn Matheson,**

**Acting Chair**

## Nominations Lists (Elected and Non-Elected)

### 2024 NOMINATION LIST

Elected Members to Boards					
Council Positions	Elected Members Name	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Phone Numbers
Chair	Ray Green	2022			250-21 6-6036
Vice-Chair	VACANT				
Past Chair	Carolyn Matheson				250-474-1437
Secretary	Carolyn Matheson	2023			250-474-1437
Chair-Property & Finance	Rose Justice	2024			250-415-1867
Treasurer	Ken McDougall	2017 2023- 2024	2019	2021	250-391-7550
Ministry & Personnel Chair	Carolyn Matheson	2020	2022	2024	
Spiritual Leadership Liaison	Beverly Stewart	2022	2024		778-440-0326
Regional Council Representative	VACANT				
Communications Liaison	VACANT				
Stewardship Chair	VACANT				
Trustee Chair	Judy Muir	2020	2022		250-478-9650
Minister	Heidi Koschzeck				250-478-6632
<b>Property and Finance Team</b>					
Chair	Rose Justice	2024			250-415-1867
Vice-Chair	VACANT				
Secretary	Rose Justice	2023			250-478-6632
Treasurer	Ken McDougall	2017	2019	2021 2023- 2024	250-391-7550
Contracts	Office Administrator	2023			250-478-6632
Trustee(s)	Judy Muir	2020	2022		250-478-9650
Member at Large	John Nanson Gail Ellerton	2017 2022	2019	2021	778-265-5453 250-478-7394
	David McAllister	2024			403-835-1562
<b>Ministry and Personnel</b>					
Chair	Carolyn Matheson (Liaison)				
Vice Chair	VACANT				
Members	Beverly Stewart	2020	2022	2024	778-440-0326
<b>Trustees</b>					
Chair	Judy Muir	2024			250-478-9650
Vice-Chair	VACANT				
Members Rev Heidi - Ex Officio	John Nanson	2021	2023		778-265-5453 250-478-6632
<b>Memorial Committee</b>					
Chair	Deanna Robb	2017	2019	2021	250-294-6737
Members	Dianne McDougall	2018	2020	2022	250-391-7550
	Ken McDougall	2017	2019	2021	250-391-7550
<b>Regional Ministries</b>					
Gorge View Society	VACANT				
Camp Pringle	Deanna Robb	2020	2022	2024	250-294-6737



Term: Two years, renewable twice but may be extended at the discretion of the Council.

Non-Elected Volunteers		
Choir Liaison	Adele Morley	250-590-2507
Communion Coordinators	Kathryn Turcotte Plus, Additional Members as Servers	250-474-5638
Children's Ministry	<b>Sunday School: VACANT</b> <b>Messy Church: Coordinator-VACANT</b>	
Envelope Secretary	Mary Ellen Hodgetts	250-478-0173
Get Acquainted Group	Pat Flack ( <i>Chair</i> )	250-478-2178
	Barb Proudfoot ( <i>Treasurer</i> )	250-474-1386
Greeters	Tish Portelance (new people only)	250-478-1350
	Darlene Elliott	250-391-0299
	Carolyn Matheson	250-474-1437
Library	Leona Richards	250-474-1090
Mission & Service	Judy Muir	250-478-9650
Broadview	Deanna Robb	250-294-6737
Olive	<b>VACANT</b>	
Upper Room	Andrea Koschreck	250-744-4267
Outreach	<b>VACANT</b>	
Community Dinner	Carolyn Matheson	250-474-1437
Garden Maintenance	Darlene Elliott	250-391-0299
	Gordon Justice	250-507-7660
Pastoral Care	Adele Morley ( <i>Co-Chair</i> )	250-590-2507
	Ruth Kelbough	250-478-5450
	Deanna Robb	250-294-6737
	Dianne McDougall	250-391-7550
Prayers in a Minute	<b>VACANT</b>	
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Dianne McDougall	250-391-7550
Sanctuary Flowers	Darlene Elliot	250-391-0299
Stewardship Committee	<b>VACANT</b>	
Chair	Judy Muir	250-478-7498
Members	<b>VACANT</b>	
Cobs Bread Rotation		
U.C.W.	Carolyn Matheson ( <i>Chair</i> )	250-474-1437
	Myrtle Acton	778-352-2716
Affirm Steering Committee	Andrea Koschreck ( <i>Chair</i> )	250-744-4267
	Co-Chair <b>Vacant</b>	
	Ray Green	250-216-6036
	Rev Heidi (ex officio)	250-478-6632 (GUC)
Ushers	John Davies (Chair)	250-478-5317
	Arden Noel	250-474-4099
	Gail Ellerton	250-478-7394
	Kathryn Turcotte	250-474-7394
	Allison Turcotte	250-474-5638

<b>Website Management</b>	Courtney	
<b>Contact for New People</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Hospitality for Memorials</b>	Dianne McDougall	250-391-7550
<b>Church Staff</b>		
<b>Minister</b>	Heidi Koschzeck	250-478-6632 (GUC) 250-857-6632 (Cell)
<b>Music Director</b>	Jill Ann Siemens	250-478-6632 (GUC)
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Avis Nichol	250-478-6632 (GUC)

**Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Matheson.**

## **Pastoral Care Team**

Romans 12: 12 – 13

Be joyful in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in Prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need.

Thank you to all our caring team, Deanne Robb, Diane McDougall, Ruth Kelbough, and Adele Morley. We do follow up on our people either by visiting or by phone calls each month.

A Big Thank you to Rev Heidi for keeping us aware of the needs of our congregation. We do our best to respond quite quickly e.g. cards, mostly on the same day as we receive messages. Phone calls after surgeries, with check-in one month later.

We have sent out 16 Get Well cards, 22 Thinking of You cards, and 18 Sympathy cards, some of these last ones were former members of Gordon United Church. We also sent Christmas Cards to 17 people on our Get Well, and Thinking of You people to let them know we care

We have received appreciation notes and cards so we hopefully are addressing our roles in Pastoral Care. We have also sent some Easter cards as needed.

During 2023 we also mailed out 81 copies of the church bulletin and the Sunday Announcement sheets to members of the congregation who are unable to attend Sunday services.

The Pastoral Care team grieves the loss of every dear loved one who has passed away this year.

**Respectfully, Adele Morley, Chair of Pastoral Care.**

## Broadview Magazine

Broadview magazine is the only media outlet dedicated to progressive Christian news in Canada. Unfortunately, because of recent cuts, their annual grant from the United Church has been cut in half. In addition to the magazine, Broadview has a podcast, "And Also Some Women."

This magazine helps people understand their faith, their lives, and their world.

In 2023 there were eleven renewed and one new subscription through Gordon United Church.

Respectfully submitted by Deanna Robb.

## Property & Finance

### EXPENSES FOR THE PAST YEAR – 2023

Minister's Salary, Office Administrator's Salary, and Music Director's salaries are unavailable currently.

Custodian	1427.62
Contract expenses (Includes snow removal)	13000.00
Ministry program expenses	1139.70
B.C. Hydro	2447.71
Gas	7275.94
Water and Sewer	1716.80
Insurance	8671.84
Administration/ Office expense	8387.43
New fridge for the kitchen	1350.00
New taps for the kitchen sink	305.00
Repair of the ceiling in the daycare	204.86
Furnace repair	1150.00
New taps for a sink in daycare.	75.00
Catch basin and lines cleaned out.	1218.50
Organ repaired	616.00
Piano repaired	540.00
Furnace maintenance	750.00
Insurance	8671.84
<b>TOTAL without salaries</b>	<b><u>\$58,948.24</u></b>

Respectfully submitted by Floyd Richards.

## **Stewardship Annual Report**

The Budget Meter blew its top off again for a second year in a row. This cannot happen without the generous Stewardship at Gordon United Church.

Every other week throughout the year, Volunteers on the Cobs Roster collect leftover fresh baked goods at Cobs to share with the Congregation as well as the Community Dinner. Through your generosity close to over \$2,400.00 was collected. Each Saturday that we collect the Cobs bread it is shared with the Salvation Army. The generosity of Cobs is enjoyed by so many.

Just below the Pulpit is a little white Celebration Church. Everyone is welcome to celebrate a birthday, Anniversary, or other special occasion with a donation of coins that represents their special number.

Several fundraisers were organized over the year that raised over \$2,900.00. Ralph Gonyea initiated the idea of an evening of music with the Westshore Community Concert Band. So many folks attended and enjoyed the evening of music and refreshments, and Rose Justice coordinated a sweet fundraiser with Purdy's Chocolates.

Besides this financial assistance to the church, the list is long of people who love to share their culinary expertise. Baked goodies are always fresh to share on Sunday social time, Thursday Coffee, and Conversation as well as the number of Receptions hosted by the Ladies of the Church. The monthly Community Dinners also could not have happened if it were not for the donations of food on the menu.

All of our worship and social time could not happen without the donation of time by so many. Time to greet, Time to sing, Time to participate, Time to set up, Time to read the Minute for Mission, Time to clean up, Time to repair, and still more time to donate in other ways.

As we look forward to 2024 the Team of Janice Woods and Judy Muir have attempted to keep the Stewardship flame alive. We invite any Member of the Congregation to join us as we are struggling to keep it going.

Thank you.

**Respectfully submitted by Judy Muir.**

## **Trustee Annual Report**

The Trustees of Gordon United Church have the final responsibility for anything concerning the church buildings, properties, and physical assets. This past year the Members of the Board are Rev. Heidi Koschzeck, John Nanson, and Judy Muir.

Our meetings are few and very informal, and our mandate is to hold title to all congregational properties and to ensure that these properties are cared for, protected, and insured. For 2023, our 935 Goldstream Avenue with the church buildings and parking lots is assessed at \$2,111,600.00 and our tiny 929 Goldstream driveway entrance is assessed at \$825,200.00

The City of Langford accepted our application for Tax exemption and we have been approved exempt from 2024 to 2027.

The annual premium for our UCC Protect United Insurance Policy underwritten by HUB and initiated on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, is \$8,630.00 (including taxes).

We would like to recognize the efforts of the Council, P&F Team, Gardening Crew and so many others who volunteer their time to help take care of Gordon United each year. It is truly appreciated.

**Respectfully submitted by Judy Muir.**

## **Ushers and Greeters**

**Ushers and Greeters** are called to be 'Ministers of Hospitality'. They are entrusted with promoting a sense of welcoming and belonging to those who enter the doors of Gordon United Church.

Our faithful Ushers are John Davies, Arden Noel, Kathryn Turcotte, and Allison Turcotte. The Greeters are Carolyn Matheson and Darlene Elliott.

Ushers welcome people to seating, take offerings often accompanied by children, and help to maintain worship center user items to ensure that the Sunday Service goes smoothly. For example, ensuring that candles are present, mikes are working, lights are on, handing out Service Bulletins, etc.

Greeters warmly express welcome, and direct people to the sanctuary if unfamiliar with the Church, and ensure that people enter and exit the building safely.

Being an Usher or a Greeter is a wonderful way to get to know the members of the congregation and we are always so glad to see one another.

Many thanks to this Team for their graciousness, kindness, and faithfulness to this ministry.

**Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Matheson/Kathryn Turcotte.**

## **United Church Women (UCW)**

The UCW's mission is to love God; foster commitment, faithfulness, and spirituality; and promote respect and love for all God's creation.

Our UCW currently has seven invaluable and committed members. Our last meeting was held in December 2023 where we discussed the possibility of a Valentine's Tea. However, due to various obstacles, it was decided to postpone any Teas until further future fundraising events have occurred by other members at Gordon United Church. We usually hold our meetings on an Ad Hoc basis whenever important decisions require a discussion and a resolution. The main event that is occurring in the Pacific Mountain Region UCW this year is their Annual General Meeting. It is being held at Trinity United Church, Port Coquitlam on April 25th and 26th. The special guest speakers are Moderator, Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne and National UCW President, Barbara Davison. Any person who attends the United Church of Canada can attend. Registration will be coming out soon.

The West Coast Islands UCW Chapter as a whole has been inactive due to the president's position being vacant. However, some individual faith communities have their UCWs and continue to meet although the number of these units has declined.

One of the ministries that our UCW membership is dedicated to is providing the Memorials Teas to honour those who have attended our church. We ensure that we make this rite as special and comforting as possible for the family. Many others, both women and men join us in this offering as it takes a team for this time to come together. Many thanks to the women and men of Gordon United Church for your spirit of generosity, your dedication to always being there to support any church initiatives especially UCW, and your faithfulness in continuing to be a welcoming and inclusive church to all.

**Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Matheson, Chair.**

## Affirm Committee

The committee includes Pat Larre, Andrea Koschzeck, Heidi Koschzeck, and Ray Green.

With COVID-19 behind us, we were able to get back to working on becoming an Affirming Church. On Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> we had a meeting to see where we were at with the process and what we needed to do to complete and submit our application.

At the April 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday service, the Affirming team conducted the service focusing on the National Affirming PIE Day (Public, International, and Explicit), what the colors of the Pride Flag mean, and watched a powerful video sent to us from Addison Lee who was on the team until her move to Ontario.

On June 25<sup>th</sup> during coffee time after the Sunday service, we had a workshop on “Why Become Affirming” with activities and case studies.

Gordon United Church was represented at the Victoria Pride Parade on July 9th by Heidi, Andrea, Pat, and Ray.

We will be presenting the congregation at the AGM an update to GUC’s Vision Statement to include “As an Affirming Church we are committed .....”.

We are also hoping to be ready to bring the Affirming Ministry to a vote during the AGM in February 2024.

**Respectfully submitted by Ray Green.**





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