



# MacDougall

UNITED CHURCH

Annual Report  
2020



Photo by Valerie MacLeod

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# REPORTS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, MINISTER AND STAFF

## Rev. Joanne Anquist, Worship and Congregational Leadership Minister



What a year! Who could have guessed back in January 2020 that everything this year would revolve around the pandemic, COVID-19, and its fallout? Things were going well in the first quarter of the year: worship services were going well. We held auditions for our Spring Show, *The Wizard of Oz*, I attended the Exponential Conference in Florida which focuses on church growth and was excited to implement ideas at McDougall. We were planning a musical evening fundraiser for March. The staff was excited about the year and what we could do.

All that changed in March as the Province, along with the rest of the country, began to shut down to prevent transmission. We had two services in March before we were closed. The building was initially closed and staff began to work from home. The evening of music fundraiser was cancelled along with the *Wizard of Oz*. In response to the pandemic, a task force was formed to discuss how to move forward during this time. The staff were encouraged to rethink how they delivered their ministries and quickly pivoted to online engagement. We had two pastoral care phone-outs to check in with the congregation and make sure everyone's needs were being met. We revamped our communications so that everyone on our email list received weekly news, and those without electronic communication would regularly receive a printed newsletter. It was decided that an investment in technology to livestream and/or upload recorded services was essential. We realized the importance of keeping the building accessible by appointment and Leanne began working from the church 4 mornings per week. We began considering a plan for safe opening when the time came.

The pandemic has had many challenges which we had to face. When we don't meet together we can lose touch with each other and we wondered how we would remain a community. Music is so important – how would we maintain this tradition if we were not able to sing. Our long term renters lease was not renewed and our other space was not available for short term rentals. We had to adapt to reduced



revenue as a result. Things such as weddings and funerals and baptisms were a challenge without being able to gather as a community.

But for every challenge there was a learning to match. We quickly realized that the church is not a building – it's the Community of Christ. We found that our members and adherents valued McDougall as a spiritual home and continued to reach out to each other and tune in to our services. Krishan created a smaller women's group to record anthems while socially distanced for use in our recorded services. For those who wished to have a celebration of life for their loved ones, livestreaming was offered and has been a wonderful way to include many in a celebration of life. We've pre-recorded baptisms to maintain social distancing guidelines and included them in our services. We found the outdoors to be a great place to meet. We realized that we didn't need to sit around a table to have a meeting as our Leadership Council and Operations Working Group began meeting by Zoom. Christian Education and Spiritual Nurture

programs were adapted for electronic delivery and have continued to see success. Instead of waiting for it all to pass, we embraced the challenge and reimagined how we engage as a church.

In these pages, you will see how McDougall has adapted our programs to the pandemic. I hope you are encouraged at the dedication, ingenuity and missional mindset of the staff and leadership. I trust you continue to hold McDougall in

your heart. We are all in this together! Next year, if all goes according to plan (and when does it ever!) the Annual Report will be filled with ways we meet in person and online, and programs that continue to evolve to a changing world.

Peace to All  
Rev. Joanne Anquist

## Barrie Clayton, Board of Trustees, Chair

### 2020 Trustee Annual Report

Current members of the Board of Trustees of McDougall United Church are Jackie Beattie, Daren Patterson, Jim Fitzowich, Jim Porter, and Barrie Clayton. Meetings were held on March 8 and November 19, 2020.

Long-term building maintenance and renovations are the responsibility of Trustees to research, recommend, and arrange for funding. To understand and provide for what our long-term building maintenance requirements might be, Trustees commissioned the engineering firm of Pinchin Ltd to do a Baseline Property Condition Assessment (BPCA) which details the life expectancy of various building components and anticipated repair/replacement costs over the next 10 years. McDougall Foundation is organized to raise and provide funding for the required major needs, and thus also received this BPCA report to enable them to plan for raising the needed funds. Grease traps in the kitchen were replaced in 2020 under this program, and the three water heaters have been identified for replacement probably in 2021.

The insurance deductible we were required to advance, regarding the repair of damages to the west wall, was refunded early in the year.

The City of Calgary property assessment continues to be \$1,330,000 (tax-exempt). The church property continues to be insured under the United Church UCC Protect plan with an insured value of \$9,322,731, however, the premium has increased substantially to \$15,201. As a result, McDougall elected to pay this monthly rather than annually at no added cost. Due to the pandemic restrictions, the decision was made to close the church to the public in mid-March until further notice. A claim was made to our insurance under the "loss of business" clause, however, this was denied.

I wish to thank Trustees for their service on this essential Board.



# Leadership Council Annual Report

## Daren Patterson, Leadership Council Co-Chair



2020 was a particularly challenging year for not only our church community but the entire world. The COVID-19 Pandemic brought about several changes to how we conducted our church business. We were introduced to a few new terms such as Zoom and Online Services, along with new restrictions to our daily lives. With increased government regulations, the church was put into a tenuous position

of shutting down or adapting to our new reality. Here at McDougall United Church, we are truly fortunate to have such a dedicated staff, led by Reverend Joanne Anquist, who quickly demonstrated that they were up to the challenges of our new realities. Along with a team of dedicated volunteers, we were up and ready to record online services and even a couple of in-person livestreamed services in September and October!

This new reality of online services instead of in-person services presented its own challenges as we faced a decrease in our weekly offerings. We still had staff contracts to honour and bills to pay. As the deficit in the annual budget began to expand, the Leadership Council held several Zoom meetings over the summer months to address the priorities and future directions for the church as well as propose a revised budget to address the forecasted increase deficit from the approved 2020 budget. Fortunately, as government subsidies and grants were applied for and received, the forecasted deficit increase was replaced with a healthy surplus. In August, the Leadership Council approved the application for the \$40,000 Canadian Emergency Business Account (CEBA) credit loan. \$30,000 of this credit loan will be paid back according to the terms of the loan.

With a forecasted surplus for the remainder of 2020, the Leadership Council was able to direct its efforts towards establishing the Planning Working Group to determine the direction of our ministry given the limitations imposed by COVID-19 restrictions and declining revenues. This working group, led by Marjorie MacRae, sought out congregational feedback to draft a two-year strategy and action plan for ministry/program direction and associated staffing/budget. The work of this working group will be presented to the Leadership Council and the congregation during the first quarter of 2021.

The Governance Working Group (established in 2018) intentions were to have the 2019 Governance Pilot Project evaluated by the end of 2020. However, due to the

COVID-19 restrictions it was felt that it was not appropriate at this time to conduct such a review but instead delay it until external conditions stabilize. The Operations Working Group will be responsible for determining a Governance Pilot review date and the Leadership Council will be responsible for determining the timeline and process for conducting this review and subsequent evaluation. The Governance Working Group has been disbanded and thanked by the Leadership Council.

On behalf of the congregation, I would like to thank the members of the Executive Council and the Leadership Council for their continued commitment to the work of McDougall United Church.

### McDougall's 2020 Leadership Council

**Council Co-Chairs:** Daren Patterson, Joanne Pritchard, Ricardo de Menezes

**Worship and Congregational Leadership Minister:** Rev. Joanne Anquist

**Treasurer:** Karen Chow

**Secretary:** Norma May

**Chair of McDougall Board of Trustees:** Barrie Clayton

**Chair of McDougall Foundation:** Phil Edwards

**Chinook Winds Regional Council Representative:** Barrie Clayton

### Ministry Team Leads/Co-leads:

Worship and Music: Joanne Anquist

Pastoral Care: Esther Peterson and Rachel Nadon

Family Ministry: Aileen Berridge

Outreach and Social Justice: Rev. Bob Mutlow

### Vision Team Lead(s)

Affirming: Tara Jorgensen

### Leadership Council Working Groups Leads/Co-leads

Ministry and Personnel: Peggy Jorgensen

Operations: Joanne Pritchard

Communications: Marjorie MacRae and Shauna Kennedy

### Members-at-Large:

Marilyn Agnew

Marilyn Bates

Jennifer Heidebrecht

Sarah Lambert

Bess Penney

Kelsey Attard

Craig Evans

Frank Kurucz

Claire Myers

Anne Trotter

## Rachel Nadon, Pastoral Care Coordinator and Youth Group Leader



I started 2020 off on an adventure. I traveled to Cuba with a group of ministry students from the Montreal School of Theology and from the Centre for Christian Studies for my Global Exposure Trip. One of the program requirements for my Diaconal Ministry Training is to spend 10 days immersed in a different culture to learn about their way of life, traditions, spiritual practices, and to experience life in a different global context. I spent

10 days living in the same living conditions as the locals, learning about their culture, music, dance, language, history and faith journeys. It was a life-changing experience.

In January Youth Group was just getting restarted. We had our first gathering in December of 2019, and I was eager to start to build relationships with the youth at McDougall. We met in person in January and February. When possible, Youth Group was on the same evening as Messy Church so that the youth could attend both Messy Church and Youth Group events. We were off to a great start. When the COVID-19 lockdown started in March we moved Youth Group to an online format and continued to meet regularly.

While I was away in January Bob Mutlow led worship at Lake Bonavista Village. I led worship at Lake Bonavista Village in February and at Southwood Care home in January and February of 2020. I presided over a Celebration of Life service in February, and I participated in the Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner and led the Ash Wednesday Service.

In February Joanne's flight home from Mexico was cancelled, so she wasn't going to be home in time to lead worship the next morning. I stepped up to the challenge. We gathered together in worship and in prayer celebrating the neighbours in our lives and how Mr. Rogers had brought the same message into our homes. Little did we know in a few weeks' time everything was going to change.



At the beginning of March during our staff meeting, we started to put together an action plan in case the coronavirus becomes a bigger issue. The next day I met with Esther Peterson to start brainstorming what the impact of the virus might be to our Pastoral Care Ministry.

On March 13th the government announced several restrictions to protect us from COVID-19 and Sunday morning worship in church was cancelled. I spent Friday evening and part of Saturday calling everyone in the directory who we didn't think received the email blast to ensure they knew not to come on Sunday. The Pastoral Care Phone-Out Group put our plans into action. Shirley Wilding arranged for the first phone out to check in with every family at McDougall. This was the first of three phone outs Shirley would organize in 2020. She needed 44 callers each time, and 58 wonderful volunteers made this possible.

In April I completed two online intensive courses. I didn't fully step away from my work during this time of study leave to ensure McDougall was supported during these troubling times. I spent the majority of the summer in online classes while working. I was able to take study leave in September for two of my intensive courses. I completed the in-class portions of 6 online courses during the first six months of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Throughout the year I have continued with visits through phone calls, and in-person when possible. I currently have 126 people on the spreadsheet I use to keep track of everyone who has been identified as needing Pastoral Care Support in the McDougall Community.

It has been so meaningful to serve the McDougall Community through the Pastoral Care Ministry Team and Youth Group. For more details, please read the Youth Group Report on page 16 and the Pastoral Care Report on page 24.



## Krishan Power, Choral Music Director



2020 was a challenging year for many. Amidst waves of lockdowns and various gathering restrictions, finding a way to make choral music has been a struggle. The most significant musical changes were undoubtedly within our worship services; without a choir and live congregation to participate in singing, we were forced to adapt. We began recording the hymns and songs with a distanced setup of a few singers instead of a choir. Thanks

to Peggy Jorgensen, Mary Bingeman, Jennifer Heidebrecht, Pam Gibson, Paul Newman, and Aaron Bartholomew for their valuable assistance in this new form of musical worship. As restrictions loosened through the summer, we were able to reformat and relaunch the smaller of our two choirs in September, the Sonica Vocal Ensemble, which successfully recorded anthems for services in October and November.

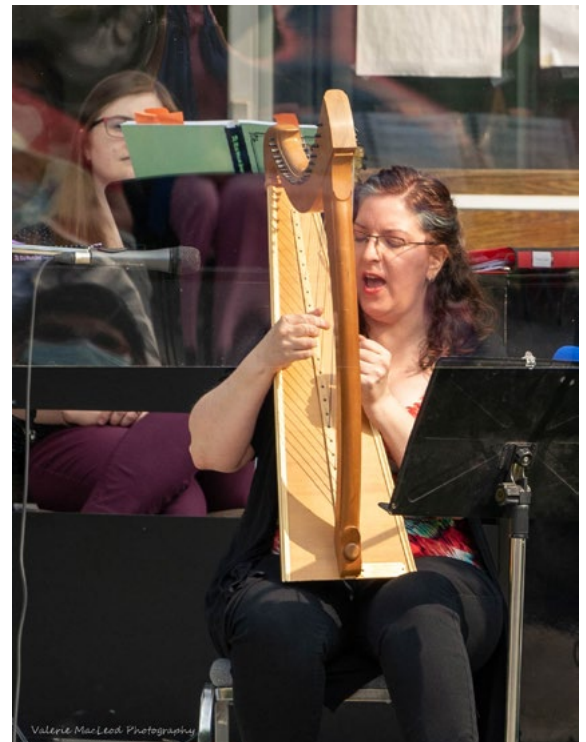
Musical highlights of the year for me include the September 12 outdoor concert and Sonica's Remembrance Day anthem, The Tree of Song. The in-person Thanksgiving service was also very successful. I am proud of the worship and tech teams for the quality of our Advent and Christmas work, which I feel represents the best of our recorded services to this point.

I am privileged to be able to collaborate with one of the best pianists I have ever met, Tanya Wan Lim. Her consistently brilliant musicality combined with her flexibility and versatility are a pleasure to work with. I am grateful to Tanya for



spearheading the upcoming virtual choir recording project, using some of her hours from November and December. Her technical expertise plus her video production connections make her ideal for this task, and I am excited to participate in the process and see the end result.

My very best to everyone in our congregation, and Happy New Year.





**Aileen Berridge, Family  
Ministry Coordinator**



Please see Aileen's report on page 14.

**Donelle Elliott, Children's  
Program Leader**



Please see Donelle's report on page 17.

**Shauna Kennedy,  
Communications Coordinator**



Please see Shauna's report on page 20.

**Lori Wilson, Office  
Administrator**



**Leanne Kempt, Assistant  
Office Administrator**



**Harpal Chahal, Caretaker**



**Contract Employees:**

**John Naylor, Facility  
Coordinator**



Please see John's reports on page 21.

**Tanya Wan Lim,  
Contemporary Music Leader**



**Karen Caguia, Child Care  
Provider**



# REPORTS FROM MCDOUGALL'S MINISTRY TEAMS

## Worship and Music Ministry Team - Rev. Joanne Anquist, Lead

Music and Worship at McDougall underwent huge shifts this year as we adapted to the pandemic.

In the first two months and into March everything continued as it normally would. In January and February, we had our annual Reel Theology series using movies from the past year to consider along with our Bible readings. This year we decided that we would show each film in Hospitality Hall on the Friday before the Sunday service. 25+ people showed up each week, brought snacks to share, and watched with subtitles so we could always hear what was going on! Rachel Nadon held a Service of Ashes after the Shrove Tuesday supper with the help of Bob Mutlow (as I was away at a Conference). Lent began on March 1st and we had two services before the pandemic shut down the building and our regular programming.

We celebrated Good Friday and Easter by recording the services. The Easter Service was widely shared and we reached over 500 views. In July we held a baptism outdoors, recorded for inclusion in the Sunday service. It took some planning, hand sanitizer and masks, but it was still a joyous event!

We bought a firepit so that we could meet outdoors in the Summer. We received a gift of a Tipi from some members of the Stoney Nakoda Tribe which we commissioned and celebrated outside with lunch around the firepit and inside with a short service. The Tipi is standing in our Sanctuary and will be used in our Right Relations work. Thanks to Marilyn Agnew for making this happen.

During the Summer, we partnered with Ogden United Church for a series on the Seven Deadly Sins. We pre-recorded 10 songs to be used during the Summer services. Bill Weaver and Joanne Anquist shared the preaching. Each week a popular song was sung in relation to the theme as well as regular congregational singing. Tanya took the Summer off (maternity leave!) and Krishan was in charge of singing and accompaniment.

In September, we held a welcome back weekend with an outdoor concert (organized by Krishan Power – thanks!) on September 12th and a live-streamed outdoor service on September 13th. About 50 people attended the service,

masked and hand sanitized! We even had communion with juice boxes and pre-packaged crackers (and a piece of chocolate to welcome the Spirit!)

In the Fall Krishan adjusted our women's group, Sonica, as a smaller group so that they could record Sunday anthems while socially distanced in the Sanctuary. They provided beautiful songs until further restrictions in November meant they had to cease rehearsing. We are hoping they will be able to regroup sometime in 2021.

We held another in-person service on Thanksgiving Sunday. Regulations required 6 feet of social distancing between family cohorts, and that all attendees sign up. We had about 40 people in the sanctuary and we uploaded a recording of the service for congregants at home.

There were two service series in the Fall: 5 Ways God and Theology are experienced in the United Church and The Way of Love (an Episcopal program on personal faith renewal.)

We pre-recorded four Christmas Eve Services: one inter-generational service telling the Christmas stories through scripture and stories from around the Tipi with Gloria Snow, her husband Ken Levae, and Tony Snow. A more traditional service with communion was recorded as well. We also recorded a service for Lake Bonavista Village as we weren't able to provide the traditional handbells service this year, and Rachel recorded a Blue Christmas service. We invited two students from the Film and Television program from SAIT to help us out with the production of Blue Christmas and the Intergenerational services. Thanks to Hasan Abdulla and Nadine Maess for their assistance!

We developed protocols for funerals and have held several in our sanctuary, including celebrations of life for longtime members Ted Steventon and Jake Baum. These were both live-streamed and people from many parts of the world were able to join in.

The evolution of our service recording was swift. At first, I uploaded a few short reflections on our times and did one service from home. We had been talking about recording and live streaming services at McDougall for some time

and the pandemic focused this discussion as we realized we needed a way to keep our services going while we waited for a return to normal. We felt it was important for the congregation to see the sanctuary, and to continue to do the services as if we were present. The week leading to March 29th we recorded the Sunday service from the sanctuary for the first time. In order to stay safe, Barrie Clayton constructed plexiglass shields to place between singers. We purchased software and a new computer to handle the increased technical needs. Many stepped forward to learn cameras and other technology to make sure we could provide high-quality services. We have had a service every week since then, with the exception of Remembrance Sunday (cancelled due to illness) which was instead live-streamed on November 11th.

Thanks to Krishan Power and Tanya Wan Lim who have been providing weekly music with the help of a rotation of singers: Thanks to Mary Bingeman, Jennifer Heidebrecht, Peggy Jorgensen, Paul Newman, and Aaron Bartholomew for helping make our Sunday singing harmonious!

Although we had planned to live-stream the services, we have continued to record them on Saturdays and upload them to YouTube on Sunday mornings, except for occasional live-streaming on Sunday morning. We have found that about half of our views happen on Sunday, while another half happen during the week. Our online viewings are greater than our average attendance, regularly surpassing 200 views, but how engaged those viewers are is harder to measure.

Souls in Sync met twice by Zoom in the Spring. Amy Haynes was contracted to help with this work, and Sensei Ken Madden from the Buddhist Community also helped plan. A \$3000 grant from Chinook Winds Region was received to continue this work. In the Fall, we tried a different format. Bill Weaver and Joanne Anquist had 3 short conversations about Advent and Christmas, and Adam Schlinker sang three songs. This was uploaded as an alternative to Souls in Sync.

We are grateful to Barrie Clayton, Makar Chernetsov, Dave Schlinker, Valerie MacLeod, Bryan Scott, Aidan Scott, Pat White, Brennan Berry, and Chris Kuntz, Lori Wilson, Shauna Kennedy and Leanne Kempt for their help in the technical and production elements of our services.



## Spiritual Nurture - Rev. Joanne Anquist, Worship and Congregational Leadership Minister

Spiritual Nurture at McDougall continued even though the pandemic shut down the building.

Our Friday Morning Coffee Group and Broadview article discussion moved online to Zoom and continued each week except for Christmas Day. The group continues to have between 12 and 16 women each week as we touch base and reminisce and discuss current issues.

Everyone misses after-service coffee time so Rachel Nadon started a discussion group on Sunday mornings on Zoom which allows some members of the congregation to stay connected.

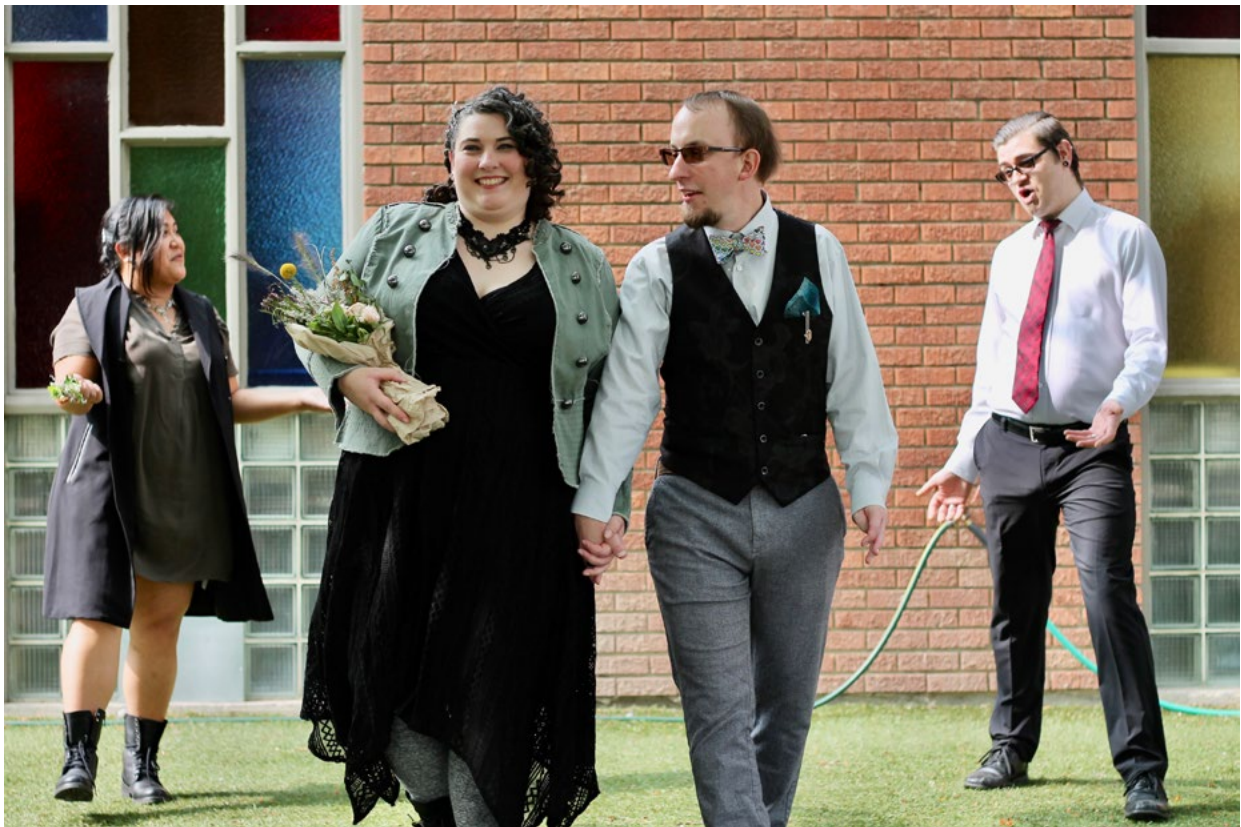
In March and April, we held a study on the book *Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn, a novel that discusses overpopulation and cultural myths that are harming us – about 6 people joined in. In May we did a study on the book *The Only Café* by Linden McIntyre, a novel that discussed issues in the Middle East. Again about 6 people joined the discussion. In November we discussed *Grateful* by Diana Butler Bass which

encourages us to have an orientation towards giving thanks in meaningful ways. An Advent DVD series using Amy Jill Levine's book *Light of the World* was held with about 20 people participating by Zoom.

Our Ethical Dilemmas series was held in the Spring in conjunction with the Chinook Region and Tony Snow who was contracted to moderate the series.

Rachel Nadon (used to be Myers-Jordan but she got married in 2020!) helped the Friendship Club to move their sessions online via Zoom.

We continue to find ways to reach out to each other to provide meaningful engagement even if we can't meet together!



## Worship Technical Team - Barrie Clayton, Leader

With the introduction of restrictions to in-person worship services, we were able to quite quickly find ways to present regular worship and funeral services online. It took several months of experimentation to assemble a workable system and team to do audio/video recordings and live stream presentations well. We are pleased with the support of the congregation in watching the service recordings, recognizing this is a new adventure for many of us; it makes our efforts worthwhile. We are grateful for the financial support given to allow the purchase of equipment needed to provide this service.

We are having fun with the technology (most of the time!). And we are pleased with the engagement of groups and individuals who participate in presentations. This includes staff members Krishan Power, Tanya Wan Lim, volunteers Peggy Jorgensen, Jennifer Heidebrecht, Mary Bingeman, Aaron Bartholemew, Paul Newman, Ken Meuse, Cossie Muirhead, Shelley Petersen, and Patrick Meenagh as well as members of Sonica and McDougall Singers.

We are privileged to have superb leadership from Rev. Joanne Anquist who assembles content, prepares powerpoints, helps choose and lead music, edits the recordings, and provides encouragement to all.

The technical staff operating sound, cameras, and video switcher (vMix) are; Dave Schlinker, Makar Chernetsov, Val MacLeod, Brennan Berry, Pat White, Shauna Kennedy, Aidan and Bryan Scott, Christopher Kuntz, and Barrie Clayton on a rotational team. Preparing the powerpoint, and getting it all online are Leanne Kempt, Lori Wilson, Shauna Kennedy, and Dave Schlinker. Our sincere thanks to all.



## Family Ministry Team

### Family and Community Outreach Programs - Aileen Berridge, Family Ministry Coordinator

#### Children's Centre

Karen Caguia provided care for infants to three years of age until mid-March when the Children's Centre was closed due to the pandemic and remained closed for the remainder of 2020.

#### McDougall's Family Ministry and Community Outreach Programs

At the start of 2020, I planned to continue to provide Messy Church and Community Outreach programs every month.

January - We started off 2020 with a regular Messy Church, with a meal being served.

February- For Messy Church we had a tobogganing adventure. A school bus was rented and picked up adults and children from McDougall's parking lot and drove to a nearby hill to meet with other families who had driven there. We had an hour and a half of fun tobogganing on the hill. For some of the kids, this was a new experience. We returned to the church and provided pizza and hot chocolate for everyone. Also in February, we had a movie night where parents could drop off their children. The children watched a movie with popcorn and finished the night off with games. This gave the parents some free time.

March-Plans were interrupted due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, which closed the Church's doors. We

were required to work from home. Weekly email blasts to community/Messy Church families were sent with messages from Amy Haynes (spiritual) and myself with resources on many different things, such as crafts, books/reading, yoga, and meditation. I also called each family who had attended Messy Church over the last year, checking in to see how they were doing and generally just having a conversation with them and letting them know about food programs that were going on. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our traditional weekend at Camp Kasota had to be cancelled. I contacted each family that had signed up and between Leanne and myself we mailed out refunds to all families who had paid.

Sarah Lambert and I and our kids traveled to the Spinz A Round — Community Kitchen Program of Calgary every Tuesday morning starting in April. This was on behalf of the Acadia Food Pantry as their volunteers were unable to participate due to the pandemic. My car was loaded with non-perishable and fresh produce on Pantry days to provide essential foods for families. Each week we would try to get pasta, rice, soups, tomato sauce, cereal and other essential items. Along with other volunteers, we would pack about 75 boxes each month with these items, as well as bread and frozen items. Distribution was on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month and took place in the hallway of McDougall, with many health safety protocols in place. In July other volunteers took over as I was temporarily laid off on June 15th.





I started a lunch program at the beginning of May, which ran from the McDougall parking lot weekdays over the lunch hour. Lunches were provided free of cost through a downtown restaurant, and as the program grew and restrictions lessened allowing restaurants to reopen, sandwich making moved to Devour Catering. Brown Bagging 4 Calgary's Kids (BB4CK), and Meals on Wheels also got involved. We were listed on Foodfinder YYC, and in June alone, across the city, 16,500 lunches were served. McDougall was a part of this, and I met some amazing people. I continued this program to the end of July as there were no volunteers for August within our Church, I received the following email:

Hello From BB4CK!

Thank you so much for the amazing effort and heart that you have put into your community over the past few months. We know that the supports you have been offering are truly valued by your community, and while making sure no one goes hungry is the main goal you have also been able to provide a sense of connection, value and love. The way communities and individuals show up in this time, speaks volumes.

Thanks to your hard work and collaboratively with all the Food Finder YYC locations and partners, we were able to hand out over 16,500 lunches in the month of June.

Yours in Community,

Karin Henderson  
Community Connector  
Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids (bb4ck)

With the help of some of the Youth kids, I had drive-thru bottle drive in the McDougall parking lot at the end of July. Members of the congregation and community would drive

in one end of the parking lot, stop, pop open their trunk, the youth would collect the bottles, close the trunk, and the driver would drive out the other end of the parking lot. This was a no-contact event. We raised over \$700 which was donated to Feed the Hungry.



On September 1st my temporary layoff was over and I returned to staff.

September's Messy church was a hotdog roast in the McDougall parking lot using the new fire pit. This event was by registration only. Although we had ten families signed up, only 3 showed up for the event, which was very disappointing. Food was prepacked before the event with all supplies, and leftovers were to be taken home. An email was sent out after the event, reminding them that due to COVID-19 restrictions all Messy Church events are by sign up, and encouraging them to let me (Aileen) know that if their plans had changed, so that other families would be able to participate.

October-a pumpkin carve and hot chocolate (from Tim Horton's as COVID Restrictions required it to be purchased and not made by myself). Due to the cold weather, this event was brought inside to the Hospitality Hall. I allowed 10 families to ensure distancing. Again this was a sign-up event, with 10 families signing up and all 10 families attended. Hot chocolate and prepackaged cookies were served only by a single volunteer wearing a mask and gloves.



November/December-my plan was to have a Christmas event, decorating pre-purchased gingerbread houses, and a contactless family fun Christmas quiz. With COVID restrictions, I decided to have the same event twice, to allow for more families to attend (10 families per event). We were also planning to have a prepacked supper for each individual. Many changes came in November with COVID, and with the new restrictions, we were unable to have this event, either indoors or outdoors. With much thought, an email blast was sent out, letting them know that we were unable to have the Christmas Messy Church, but that I was willing to deliver Gingerbread houses to any family who wanted to participate in the fun. 24 Gingerbread houses were delivered to Messy Church and Community



families. I was able to chat with many of the families at their doorsteps, and all expressed how much they were missing the Messy Church gatherings, and hoped we could meet soon.

December-a food drive was set up for McDougall congregation members to bring food to the McDougall parking lot. Youth was intended to be involved, but COVID restrictions limited participation to family cohort only. A tremendous amount of food was collected, and it was sorted and 15 families, including 30 adults and 49 children, benefited from this event. Myself, Gloria Snow, and Marilyn Agnew delivered these hampers to families from the Acadia community.

2020 provided a very challenging year, I look forward to 2021 and hope for more in-person events.



## Youth Group - Rachel Nadon, Leader

The Youth Group was restarted as a pilot project in 2020. We wanted to see if there were enough youth interested in joining a Youth Group. Over the last year we have had 21 different youth, from 18 different families show interest in the Youth Group and participate in Youth Group activities.

up for the Pen Pal Program and write letters to adults in the McDougall community.

This growing ministry has some gatherings with low turnouts, and as many as 9 youth attending one event together. Each gathering has a different collection of the 21 youth present. The youth are starting to invite their friends to join our gatherings, and a core group is starting to develop as friendships grow.

We are a growing ministry in McDougall and I look forward to see what will come in 2021.

Pre-COVID we met in person. Since March of 2020 the online gatherings in the evenings had the best turn out. We now meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month online. During our Youth Group gatherings, we are learning different Bible stories, playing games, baking together, writing silly short stories, and having fun building a community of youth within the McDougall community. Many of the youth signed





## Sunday Morning Children's Program - Donelle Elliott, Leader

We started the year off by seeing friendly faces weekly in the basement. Little did we know that our worlds were about to change. I feel one thing we are realizing is we shouldn't take things for granted. We used to come in and give hugs along with handshakes to many of our congregation members — one thing my family and I miss every week.

We have learned that we can do things online and there are times when we need to be flexible and adjust to things not going the way we would like them to. Technology at times is our friend and maybe the next moment we would like things back to the way they used to be. In saying all this we have had to celebrate different holidays without our annual Mother's Day Tea and Father's Day Ice Cream. We did however pull off making a Father's Day French Toast Breakfast. We have also done other baking such as making cookies, muffins and gingerbread houses. We have had weekly stories, learned about other cultures and had physical workouts, scavenger hunts, joke-telling, weekly check-ins on how they were coping with the lockdowns. I can say we have pulled together and are making it through these tough times. When the kids get older they can say to their kids, "I didn't walk to school uphill both ways in the snow," instead they can say, "I had to do online schooling in 2020!"

Let's hope 2021 brings us all back together!



# REPORTS FROM LEADERSHIP COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS

## Operations Working Group - Joanne Pritchard, Lead



The Operations Working Group has been conducting McDougall's administrative and operational business for the new Leadership Council as mandated in the Governance Pilot approved by McDougall's Executive Council in June 2019. In October 2020, the Leadership Council approved the continuation of this structure

until pandemic conditions stabilize enough for Council to conduct a review of the pilot, hopefully in the fall of 2021. Core members of the Operations Working Group during this period have been Joanne Anquist (Minister), Joanne Pritchard (Lead), Norma May (Convener), Karen Chow (Treasurer) and a (rotating) Member-at-Large from the Leadership Council. Leads from the Property, Ministry and Personnel, and Communications Working Groups or our Worship, Family and Outreach/Social Justice Ministry Teams have participated in Operations meetings as needed. The flexibility of this structure allowed us to move swiftly and effectively to handle the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic restrictions affected all aspects of our church life in 2020 — our face-to-face fellowship, our in-person worship services, our programs, our outreach initiatives, pastoral care, the roles of every staff member, and, of course, our finances. Members of the Operations Working Group, our Staff, and the Leads of our Ministry Teams and Working Groups, have worked in close collaboration throughout the pandemic to keep McDougall financially afloat and moving forward.

We were able to respond quickly to move McDougall into compliance with the Alberta Health Services (AHS) safety guidelines and to access the financial supports available to the church through the United Church of Canada and the federal government. Tremendous leadership was provided by our Treasurer, Karen Chow, who researched the various subsidy programs, informed Operations of all relevant programs and submitted the required documentation and application forms. Karen also provided monthly financial reports to Operations and updated budget forecasts showing the subsidies received to the Leadership Council when it met in May, July, August, and October.

With no clear end to the COVID-19 restrictions for the fall and with no guarantee of a continuation of the wage subsidy programs, Operations gathered alternative program proposals from the staff and surveyed Council members regarding their priorities for fall programming prior to meeting with the Leadership Council in July. Operations recommended to Council that the 2020 Annual Budget be adjusted for fall based on Council's identified priorities. Once those priorities were agreed upon, Operations was tasked with bringing alternative budget options to the Leadership Council in August. Fortunately, the Treasurer received news prior to that meeting that churches now qualified for the federal government's Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy which allowed us to retain our staff through this budget year.

McDougall's COVID Relaunch Lead, Daren Patterson, has kept Operations informed of the latest AHS guidelines for places of worship that have helped us make informed decisions about the use of our facility, staff safety, and in-person gatherings. Staff began to cautiously plan for a partial relaunch of in-person services and small gatherings as permitted by the AHS guidelines. Renters were invited to return within COVID safety protocols. But, when the second COVID wave emerged with a vengeance, and greater caution was being advised, Operations decisively chose to pull back on our relaunch plan. Meanwhile, Operations had appointed a Stewardship Campaign working group, led by Michael Plumb, that conducted a highly successful campaign under very challenging circumstances. With rental income curtailed for the foreseeable future, we are not out of the woods for 2021, but the support of our congregation remains strong.

Based on the results from the fall Stewardship Campaign and the priorities identified by the congregation in the Fall Congregational Survey conducted by the Planning Working Group, I anticipate that the Leadership Council will bring a proposal related to the 2021 Annual Budget to the Annual General Meeting on February 21. Operations Working Group will continue to oversee operational and administrative decisions for the Council based on McDougall's annual budget approved by the congregation.

Thank you to all those who participated in Operations meetings over the past year.

## Ministry and Personnel - Peggy Jorgensen, Lead

Current members of the Ministry and Personnel Working Group are Mari Croizier and Peggy Jorgensen (lead). We also have people that take on special projects on our behalf. Donna Paynter continues with the Caring Contacts. Margaret Holden-Scott and Joanne Pritchard help write job descriptions and Contracts. Marjorie MacRae has taken on the role of Lead for Program and Staffing Review Working Group and the assessment of staffing requirements balanced with budget restraints in this challenging time. She spearheaded initiatives like formalizing the vacation policy for McDougall.

This working group of Council oversees the relationships within the church ministry, particularly roles and functions of paid leaders and employees. Its role is consultative and supportive. The working group monitors the effectiveness of staff in relation to the church's mission and makes recommendations to Council regarding working conditions and staff compensation to foster development of an effective ministry team. A representative sits on hiring working groups, plus I have been involved in the Governance Group. The working group also helps ministry personnel, staff, and congregation members build and maintain healthy relationships. M&P working group members welcome suggestions and discussion with staff and congregants.

The Caring Contacts' original plan was to get together with their staff person once per month over coffee to see how things are going for them and provide an informal outreach to them. COVID has made this a less personal contact, relying on phone and emails. We have three ministerial staff, three office staff, our three children's programmers, plus people like John and Harpal. All but the Lead Minister are part-time staff. If this is something that appeals to you, talk to Donna Paynter. Ministry and Personnel continue to do the formal roles like the annual reviews and to follow up

on information that the contact person might pass on about concerns.

Annual reviews did not happen this spring as it would have been a challenging situation to gather congregational input and the stress involved with revisioning how jobs will be done was not an appropriate setting for assessing people on job descriptions that were temporarily not appropriate.

Tony Snow left mid-February to work on Regional Right Relations. Rachel Nadon continued as our Pastoral Care Coordinator plus she continued with the role of Youth Leader. She has become proficient at hosting Zoom parties/get-togethers and using new ways of staying in touch. Joanne, with the help of her husband Dave and the church's tech team, figured out how to record services and all the many problems that entailed. Donelle and Aileen had to use their creativity to figure out how they could continue to do their ministries. Harpal has had many changes to his hours of work as regulations close down and open up. We thank him for his flexibility. John has worked tirelessly to figure out how to make changes in our ability to rent out our facility. Lori and Leanne have helped us to navigate the changing landscape of what is allowed and what resources are available to our congregation. Shauna's job, with help from Lori and the communications team, has become one of the pillars of how our ministry is carried out.

Many thanks to our dedicated staff and contractors who help the church to fulfill its mission. It is important to acknowledge to the congregation that your continuing support has meant so much to us in dealing with staffing issues. While many congregations have had to lay off most staff, or greatly reduce their time, you have made it possible for our work to continue to be a presence in our faith community, our immediate community plus the wider church.



## Communications – Shauna Kennedy, Co-Lead

2020 certainly offered us many opportunities for adaptation and resilience. I encourage us all to pay special attention to the ways that we have risen and grown because of the pandemic and ask how we can leverage these new ways of being to become a stronger church in the future. Every large and small change we have made to ‘survive’ the pandemic as a church community should be applauded and noted. I’m proud to be a part of McDougall in these strange times as I’ve seen so many examples of true resiliency.

In my role of Communications Coordinator, the following are some of the projects from 2020.

**Digital message boards** - The three digital message boards within the church were just starting to be used regularly when things shut down in March. I’m looking forward to putting them to use again when the church opens up again.

**Email Blasts** - The messages in the email blasts shifted to reflect the rapid developments of the pandemic that affected all areas of church work starting in March. The goal was to keep everyone connected despite not being able to meet in person. Through the year, the email blasts covered a wide variety of messages including news from staff and Leadership, Relaunch updates, events offered in-person and online, family updates, birthday photos, poems and prayers. The Friday email blast has become a sort of mini-newsletter. The Sunday email blast includes the Sunday Service video links and livestreams, information about Sunday Coffee on Zoom and a message about the weekly Children’s Program. As needed, email blasts go out to the community group with information such as Messy Church events, food pantries, and up until September, included essays and resources prepared by Amy Haynes.

**External sign** - A new, larger scale sandwich board was purchased and has been integrated into our outdoor advertising. It was useful for the summer food pantries and Lunch Bag program as well as for fall outdoor events.

**Newsletter development** - The printed quarterly newsletter produced previously has been on hold most of the year.

Instead I am producing a printed newsletter in large font to stay connected to congregation members who don’t receive emails or cannot access the church website. It gets mailed out to about 50 people once or twice a month and includes spiritual reflections, poems, prayers, submitted essays, family updates, photo submissions etc. It is also used to communicate important church news such as the Fall Congregational Survey, the Relaunch messages and the work of the Planning Working Group.

**Professional Development** - I participated in the LeaderShift series: 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act with Bob Joseph (Sun Nov 15, 2020) with 2 additional book study sessions.

I participated in the LeaderShift Pacific Mountain workshop: Confronting Whiteness facilitated by Anna Collina White. “The Confronting Whiteness workshop is a safe and encouraging workshop space designed to help us continue to create communities that are truly honestly welcoming and inclusive – and as we do that to see the role of power and privilege more clearly in the system and in ourselves.” (Fri. Nov 20, 2020)

**Video work** - In the summer, I created two montage videos with classical music recorded by Tanya and Krishan. These videos express the wonderful fellowship at McDougall with memories from the last years when we were still able to meet in person.

With the participation of staff and volunteers, I put together a series of seven Stewardship videos. They included prepared statements and testimonials from Michael Plumb, Rev. Joanne Anquist, Mary and Gord Stevens, Rev. Bob Mutlow, Krishan Power, Valerie MacLeod, Peggy Jorgensen, Jennifer Heidebrecht, Donelle Elliott, Kelsey Attard, Rachel Nadon and Aileen Berridge. They were included in the Sunday Services and are also on YouTube with subtitles.

The transcripts of these videos, along with a couple of stills from each one were included in Newsletters through December and January.

**Website** - In the summer months, Lori Wilson and I redesigned the website on a new platform. It continues to evolve to better reflect the vision and activities of the church.

Communications Group members in 2020 were Marilyn Agnew, Kelsey Attard, Ruth Dunsire, and Shauna Kennedy and Marjorie MacRae (Co-leads).



## Property – John Naylor and Barrie Clayton, Co-leads

After normal operations at the beginning of the year, the decision was made by Council to close the building to the public from mid-March until further notice due to provincial COVID pandemic restrictions. Additional cleaning and sanitizing is being done, hand sanitizers are at each entrance, and signage is in place at each entrance as required by provincial regulations. Some staff and volunteers continue to occasionally use the building and all persons entering the building are required to register at the door so trace-back can be done if necessary. There has been some very limited use of the building by McDougall or rental groups at times when such use met provincial health guidelines and the McDougall Relaunch Plan developed by Council.

The lease of the lower level to Janus Academy expired June 30 and they completed move out by August 31. With Janus vacating the space, a contractor was hired to repair wall damage and repaint all rooms which Janus had been using. Since Ogden United Church is redeveloping their property, they relocated their office to the former Janus office space in September.

Since very few people are using the building, caretaking needs are much reduced. As a result, the caretaker's hours were reduced to one day per week.

Although all normal safety inspections must be kept up to date, there has been minimal regular maintenance required. Limited use of space has provided an opportunity for thorough cleaning of some sanctuary carpeting. Three grease traps in the kitchen were replaced. One of the 3 hot water heaters began leaking and was shut off. These water

heaters will need to be replaced probably in 2021 when we resume normal operations.

Before the pandemic restrictions were imposed, 3 electronic message boards were installed on the main floor to inform building users of McDougall events. The center projector in the sanctuary was replaced to improve the quality of images on the rear screen. With worship services moved online, equipment was purchased to enable technical support staff to provide this service. This included the purchase of a computer and appropriate program, monitors, additional camera, sound compressor, associated cabling and internet connections.

At year-end the building is still seeing limited use and only emergent maintenance is being done. As provincial health regulations change and the McDougall Relaunch Plan is revised, more normal operations will evolve.



## Facilities and Rentals – John Naylor, Facilities Coordinator

2020 was not a good year for rentals. “Rentals” include outside renters and church group/member usage. 2020 rentals brought in less than half of what we were expecting due to the COVID virus pandemic mostly.

Our prime tenant, Janus Academy had been looking for a facility where they could combine their two campuses for many years. They were able to do this in 2020, necessitated by the fact they were losing space in their other facility and we were unable to give them any more rooms. They were looking for space for their adult program and we were in negotiations to provide that space. This would have been fewer rooms than we previously leased to them but would have still been a good source of income for the church. We would then have looked for someone to take up the space they would have vacated. With COVID, they have not been able to have any classes. They have indicated they would

talk about leasing space from us again after the pandemic eases, however there is no guarantee we will get them back.

In the meantime, Ogden United Church, which is undergoing a rebuild, is renting the offices formerly used by Janus. We will also start actively looking for a suitable tenant(s) to lease as much of the space vacated by Janus as we are able.

Outside rentals vary from year to year. We have several groups who use our facilities regularly. We have several groups who use our facilities on an annual basis. We have some groups who use our facilities less regularly. We do get several requests from these and other groups and try to accommodate as many as we can. Unfortunately, we have to say no to quite a few when space is not available, especially at busy times just before Christmas and in the Spring. Also, the church is adding more programs for the

congregation and community which restricts times that we can rent to outsiders.

Unfortunately, COVID has caused most of our groups to temporarily cease operation so most of the church facility is sitting empty. We do allow groups who want to use our space to operate as long as they meet and follow AHS guidelines, which are monitored by Daren Patterson and John Naylor.

In the area of conflicts between outside renters and McDougall activities, we managed to avoid too many double

bookings. I have found church groups very understanding when I approach them to look at changes that affect them due to outside rentals. Thank you to all who have assisted at these times.

I would kindly request all individuals and church groups to please contact myself for all booking requests or changes as early as possible. I can be reached by e-mail at [john@mcdunited.com](mailto:john@mcdunited.com). This will help me coordinate all bookings between church and non-church groups, avoid conflicts, and ensure that the proper setups are done.

## Governance Working Group – Joanne Pritchard, Lead

In January, the Governance Working Group (GWG) presented updates to the June 2019 Governance Pilot related to McDougall's Standing Committee structure to the Leadership Council meeting. These updates were shared with the congregation at a Town Hall meeting later in January.

At the February AGM, a slate of candidates for the 2020 Leadership Council as outlined in the governance pilot was presented and approved by the congregation. The pilot structure served us well through the unprecedented challenges faced by the church during the various stage of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Operations Working Group created under the governance pilot, quickly adjusted to meeting online on a more frequent basis with the addition of Ministry Team Leads to give it the required authority to make timely decisions on operational items needed for us to adapt to the operational challenges emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Leadership Council met each quarter to provide direction as outlined in the governance pilot and met an additional time in August to make time-sensitive Annual Budget adjustments in response to the fall budget forecasts. As a result of the work undertaken by a strong leadership team, both at the staff and Council level and a governance structure that facilitated our working together, McDougall has been able to capably meet the challenges posed by the pandemic and work together to ensure the future of this community of faith.

When the GWG proposed changes to McDougall's Executive Council/Committee in May 2019, our goals for the pilot governance structure were:

- to return the primary focus of Council to one of vision renewal and implementation, strategic planning and oversight work
- to move Council's focus from "maintenance" to "mission" similar to the changes being made at the national church level
- to help us make more timely decisions on operational items

From the perspective of members of the GWG, McDougall Council experiences over this past year have demonstrated that this new governance structure has already achieved the 3 primary goals set out for it in the pilot. However, it is the Leadership Council, not the GWG, that is responsible for making a recommendation regarding the continuation of this governance structure to the congregation. Rather than conduct a review of the pilot governance structure in 2020 (as outlined in the pilot) during the COVID pandemic, the GWG recommended to the Leadership Council in October that the Leadership Council take over the responsibility for conducting the review/evaluation of the Governance Pilot.

As the Leadership Council agreed that the mandate for the Governance Working Group had been fulfilled (I.E. "to prepare a proposal regarding Council governance"), the Leadership Council disbanded the GWG at the October Leadership Council meeting with a commitment to decide on the evaluation of the Governance Pilot by the Fall of 2021.

Members of GWG since March 2018 have included Joanne Pritchard (Chair/Lead), Barrie Clayton, Marjorie MacRae, Peggy Jorgensen, Karen Chow, Ricardo de Menezes, David Smith, and Joanne Anquist (ex officio).

As the Council Lead for this working group, I would like to thank the Leadership Council for your support for the recommendations made by this focussed and dedicated team and willingness to participate in the governance pilot. My sincere thanks go to each member of the Governance Working Group for commitment and your contributions to the work of the team.

## Planning Working Group – Marjorie MacRae, Lead

The Planning Working Group was established in September 2020 to develop a two-year sustainable plan. In the fall the group engaged the congregation by developing a survey which over 80 people responded to. It asked participants to identify current and future priorities. The Planning Working Group (Joanne Anquist, Marilyn Bates, Barrie Clayton, Marjorie MacRae, Claire Myers, Donna Paynter, and Bess Penney) reviewed the results and identified three challenges – the pandemic, our aging congregation and financial stability. In response, the group has created a two-year plan whose goals are to create a vibrant and relevant church that is financially sustainable. On January 12, 2021 the Leadership Council reviewed the first draft of this plan and supported the following initiatives:

- more opportunities to participate in small groups to nurture Christian faith
- an external review of office administration to identify efficiencies

- when restrictions ease, taking a stronger marketing approach to renting facilities now vacant as a result of the departure of our major tenant
- reviewing the Messy Church, Sunday Morning Children's Program, and the Youth Programs.

The Planning Working Group will present further recommendations on a sustainable two-year plan to the Leadership Council on February 11, 2021. Direction from Leadership Council regarding the two-year plan will be tabled at the February 21 AGM and presented for approval at the congregational meeting on March 7.

## Relaunch Working Group – Daren Patterson, Lead

Due to the COVID-19 government restrictions implemented in March, it became necessary for the church to develop and implement a Relaunch Plan that complied with all AHS guidelines. The Stage 2 AHS General Guidelines along with the Guidance for Places of Worship formed the foundation for the church's relaunch plan. The initial plan was presented to the congregation via email and mail-outs in August. The plan continues to be updated regularly to reflect the changes in both provincial and municipal guidelines and bylaws. Both the Leadership Council and Operations Working Group have been kept updated about the Relaunch Plan and the government mandatory restrictions during their regular Zoom meetings. As new fall programming was being planned and implemented the staff were provided with the Relaunch Plan along with an Event Planning Checklist to ensure that they were following all regulations to avoid any transmission of COVID-19. We continue to monitor the directives of the government and will make changes to our Relaunch Plan as required. As changes are made the congregation will be informed by Email Blasts and where necessary, mail-outs. The Relaunch Plan is also posted on the McDougall website. Thank you to the following individuals who have played a key role in the development and implementation of McDougall United Church's Relaunch Plan – Rev. Joanne Anquist, John Naylor, Barrie Clayton, Joanne Pritchard, and Marjorie MacRae. Also thank you to Shauna Kennedy for her diligence in posting the multiple relaunch revisions on McDougall's website in a timely manner.



# PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM – ESTHER PETERSEN AND RACHEL NADON, CO-LEADS

## Pastoral Care Report - Esther Petersen and Rachel Nadon, Co-leads

The Pastoral Care Working Group had three Zoom meetings on September 15, October 7, and November 4.

Shirley Wilding organized the Annual Fall Phone out. 44 phoners contacted members of McDougall. Pastoral Care Coordinator Rachel Nadon received the reports and followed up on any requests and concerns.

Rachel made phone calls to shut-ins and made visits to two hospice patients on behalf of McDougall.

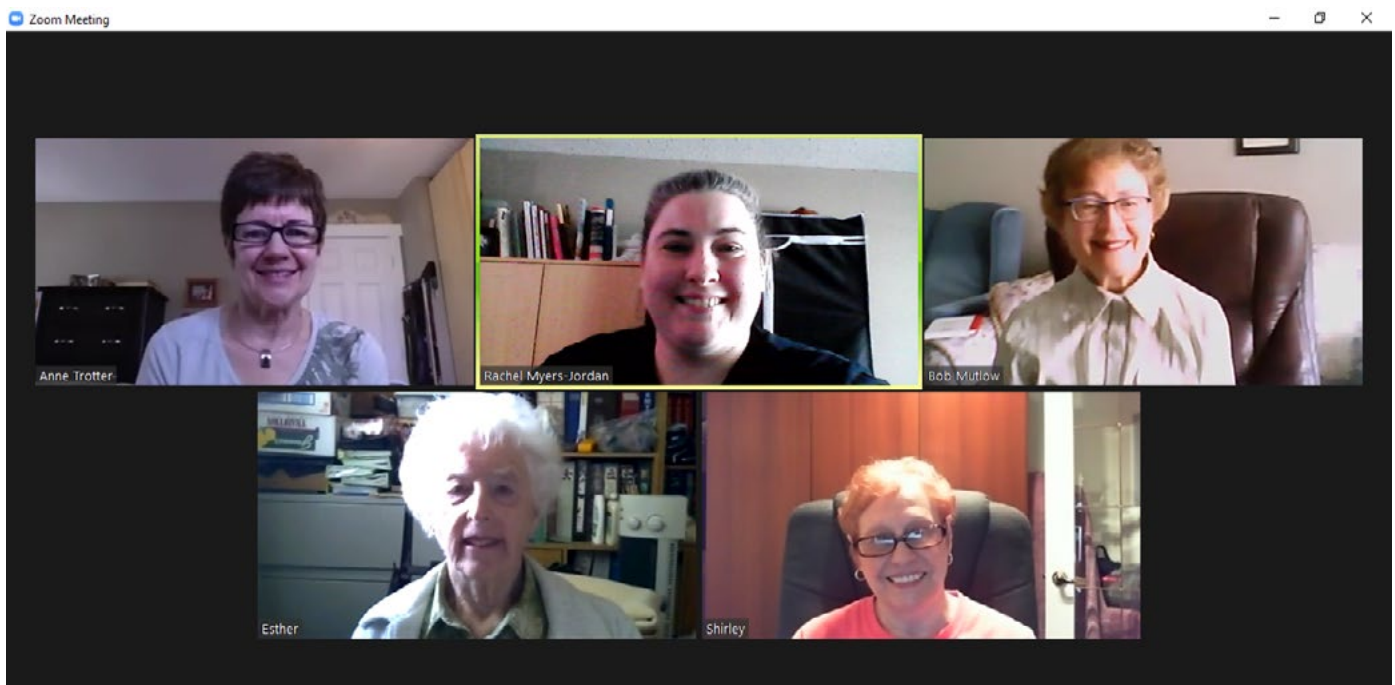
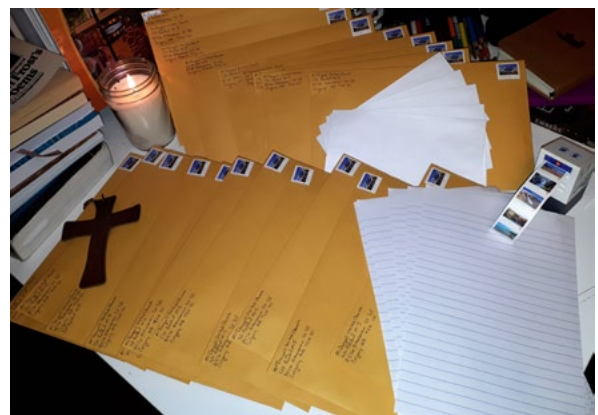
The Pastoral Care Ministry Team sent 100 donated cards to seniors and shut-ins before Christmas. Thank you to Anne Trotter for her help. The cost was \$92.71.

Rachel and Shauna made a Christmas card with all staff signatures and sent it to all McDougall members and adherents. Thanks to Leanne for helping with the project.

Rachel led the Blue Christmas service on December 21 which was available online.

Rev. Joanne Anquist and Rachel recorded a special Christmas Service for the McDougall members at Lake Bonavista Village which their staff copied on DVDs for people to view.

The members of McDougall have been phoning and keeping in touch with friends through Zoom groups to lessen the isolation during the COVID-19 epidemic.





## Roll Report - Joan Johnston

<b>Membership, January 1, 2020</b>	<b>299</b>
Received into Church membership	5
by certificate of transfer, 4	
reinstated from our Appendix, 1	
by profession of faith or re-affirmation of faith, 0	
Removed from Church membership	-10
by death, -10	
by certificate of transfer, 0	
by removal to our Appendix, 0	
<b>Membership, December 31, 2020</b>	<b>294</b>
2020 Resident members	281
Non-resident members	13

### Members deceased in 2020:

Jake Baum	Evelyn Cairns
Ann Connery	Cecil Day
Will Litwyn	Adele Lytle
Margaret Munden	Ted Steventon
John Stoddard	Jim Suffern

### Received into Church Membership by profession of faith and/or transfer certificate:

Susan Baker	Brian Draper
Arlene Lai	Donna Lee Keckelsen
Shirley Otway	

Respectfully submitted by Joan Johnston

## Pastoral Care Phone-Outs - Shirley Wilding

2020 was certainly a different year for all of us! As a result of folks being shut-in, we organized a phone-out in March where our forty-four phoners asked the following questions:

- "Are you sick, unwell, or in self-isolation for the COVID-19 virus?"
- Are you feeling isolated, or avoiding going out as a prevention measure?
- Do you feel you have enough support from friends or family? If not, how can the church help to support you? Meals, food, running errands, phone visits?
- Do you have access to Facebook, the church website, or the email blasts to stay informed with what is happening at McDougall? If not, would you like to be added to a phone list so we can ensure we stay connected with you?
- If we do videos of Reflections (sermons) or music and post these on the church website or YouTube, would you watch this?
- Please contact Rachel if your health changes or you get ill; we want to stay connected with everyone at McDougall and ensure everyone feels supported."

We organized another phone-out in April which involved a Survey asking ten specific questions. The results of our survey were:

- Twenty adults and one child who were interested in participating in a Pen Pal Program organized by Rachel Nadon, our church's Pastoral Care Coordinator;
- (Rachel directly received a good number of children and youth names).
- Thirty requests for the Bi-weekly Newsletter;
- Twelve requests from households who were interested in receiving the E-mail Blasts;
- Two requests for the 2018 Photo Directory.
- Because of the survey component, the folks on the No Phone list were also called.

Our Annual Pastoral Care Phone-Out was scheduled for September 28-October 9. Assistant Office Administrator, Leanne Kempt, prepared and mailed out the phoners' packages with a stamped return envelope inside.

The returned packages were submitted to Rachel first and this proved to be very beneficial in attending to health and grief concerns in a timely manner.

- 44 phoners made 235 calls, which included 11 new names, for an average of 5-6 calls per phoner.
- 28 notes were sent out. The "No Phone" List included 20 names and 3 were added.

- Marianne Medhurst wrote seven letters to folks who are in care homes or have moved away.
- A number of updates to church records were noted and submitted to the office.

As always, I am truly thankful for the ongoing office support of Leanne Kempt and Lori Wilson.

I am also grateful to Marianne Medhurst for writing letters again this year. Thank you so much, Marianne!

I believe the Phone-Out is very important to our McDougall family, and I'm grateful for the support I received from the

Pastoral Care Committee and Chairperson Esther Petersen, and for the support from the phoner volunteers themselves. They are an amazing group! Their efforts continue to inspire me.

Many thanks to the Pastoral Care Ministry Team for trusting me with this important ministry!

## Prayer Shawl Ministry - Esther Petersen

The Prayer Shawl group is a small group of knitters and crocheters who make prayer shawls to give to people who need comfort and caring in their lives.

The Prayer Shawl group had one Zoom meeting this year.

About 20 people were given prayer shawls from McDougall this year. They give warmth, and feel like a big hug for people who especially need hugs this year since we can't hug family and friends during the pandemic.

Shawls are available through the Office.

More knitters are needed. Directions and wool are provided. Please contact the Office for details.



## Funeral Receptions - Esther Petersen and Judy Smith

Volunteers have always helped McDougall families and friends by providing this help to grieving families. There were two funeral receptions this year in February and March.

After COVID-19 pandemic started, the church and the kitchen were closed by the provincial government so no receptions were held.

Starting in July, ministers and families did funeral and memorial services by recording and live streaming with strict regulations. However, no coffee or receptions are allowed.

We hope that we can provide this service again soon.

## Memorial Fund - Frank Kurucz

Our activities in the last year have decreased due to COVID-19.

Thank you for the generous donations to the Memorial Fund in 2020. Because of your gifts we were able to purchase items for the church library. We were able to improve our selection of books.

Donations were received in the memory of:

Will Litwyn	Evelyn Cairns
George Mustard	Marg Munden

The Memorial Fund Working Group continues to look for the best ways to use our donations. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

## Memorial Scholarship/Bursary Fund — Nick Perrin

This graduation and secondary education learning year have presented several challenges for both the educators as well as the students due to the COVID-19 breakout.

Despite the graduate's disappointments, McDougall still managed to recognize four grad twelve grads along with six individuals in post-secondary and ministry education, each with a \$1000 Scholarship. The four graduates:

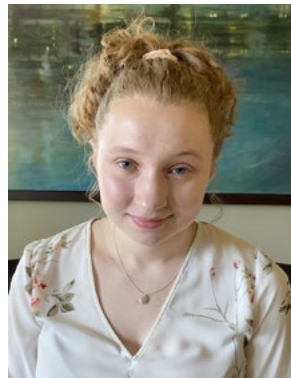
Carla Black – Granddaughter of Charles and Vivian Marshall  
Adam Meloche - Grandson of Don & Ruth Dunsire  
Cole Thorne - Grandson of Mike & Judy Smith  
Lexi Wilson - Granddaughter of Gordon & Joan Vickers

The six affiliates in post-secondary education, who contributed to McDougall Church in on form or another:

Amy Haynes	Rachel Nadon (nee Myers-Jordon)
Richard Lee-Thai	Gloria Snow
Ken Levae	Tony Snow

Since 1995, including this year, we have granted 99 scholarships. We can draw on an interest-bearing endowment coupled with bequests and generous personal contributions of the McDougall family members.

The selection committee – Nick Perrin, Shannon Kuntz, and Daren Patterson, extend our sincere thanks to all those who so generously contributed toward furthering the education of our youth and ministry. As well, we extend our congratulations to this year's ten worthy recipients.



*Carly Black*



*Amy Haynes*



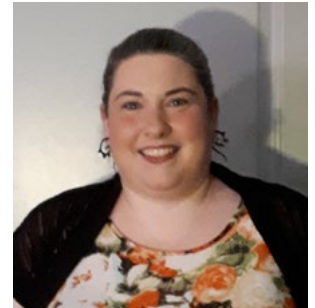
*Richard Lee-Thai*



*Ken Levae*



*Adam Meloche*



*Rachel Nadon*



*Gloria Snow*



*Tony Snow*



*Cole Thorne*



*Lexi Wilson*

## Prayer Circle - Jackie Beattie

**“Faith is the strength by which a shattered world shall emerge into the light”**

**- Helen Keller**

Our purpose as a Prayer Circle group is to bring forward the concerns, supplications, and gratitude of others. The requests vary and are kept confidential. We believe in the Power of Prayer and hope it brings comfort and peace of mind to those who need it. Requests may be made to our

minister Joanne Anquist, Pastoral Care Coordinator Rachel Nadon, Office Administrators Lori Wilson and Leanne Kempt or any one of the Prayer Circle members.

Members: Jackie Beattie, Joan Johnston, Peggy Jorgensen, Betty Letal, Valerie MacLeod, Vicki Matich, Jean McKenzie and Lenore Patkau.

Thank you ladies.

## Healing Pathways - Esther Petersen

The members of Healing Pathways are: Paula Sangster, Dorothy Burton, Peggy Jorgensen, Robin Hitchen, Donna Traub and Susan Horner.

They have found patients can feel the warmth and healing power through meeting on Zoom too. Some participants are helping others too.

This group is sharing God’s love and healing power with McDougall members and friends.

## Memorial Garden- Linda Dyck

Our church Memorial Garden is a sacred and holy outdoor place. It is located by the Cross at our main west entrance on the space among the lilacs and other perennial bushes and plants. The garden is allocated for the burial of loved one’s ashes. It is regularly maintained by Ann Gardner, and Dave and Linda Dyck who I wish to thank for their continued support in maintaining the space. A thank-you to Aileen

Berridge, Sarah Lambert, and any other garden volunteers who also quietly assisted with weeding.

There were no expenditures for the garden in 2020.

# OUTREACH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM - REV. BOB MUTLOW, LEAD

## Outreach and Social Justice Ministry Team - Rev. Bob Mutlow, Lead



### Members of the Outreach & Social Justice Ministry Team

Chair – Bob Mutlow  
Secretary – Lori Wilson  
Acadia Community Social Worker  
– Viviana Reinberg  
Acadia School Lunch Program –  
Diane Mather, Bonnie Hondas  
Habitat for Humanity – Jim Porter  
Refugees – Marjorie MacRae  
Christmas Hampers – Ken  
Turnbull  
St. Mary’s Feed the Hungry  
Dinner – Daren Patterson

TRC Right Relations – Marilyn Agnew  
Members-at-Large – Tara Jorgensen, Norma May, Shirley  
Wilding

### The United Church of Canada Mission & Service –

Money given for Mission is now used for mission projects around the world and in Canada. In 2019 - 2020 McDougall was privileged to receive grants to fund the following:

- Acadia School Lunch Program - \$3,000.00
- Soul-n-Sync Alternative Worship Program - \$3000.00
- Reconciliation Tipi Chinook Winds Regional Grant to support the ministry of Tony Snow in cooperation with McDougall - \$ 3000.00 to be used in 2021
- Right Relations - Seeds of Hope Grant \$5000.00. The United Church of Canada Foundation to be used in 2021 in the McDougall Initiative to be determined in 2021.

**Mission & Service Thank You** - A letter was received this past September from Moderator Richard Bott for McDougall’s 2019 gifts of \$31,601.26. What stands out is that McDougall folks gave \$29,425.96 in this COVID year of 2020. What is even more exciting is that the 2021 pledges have increased to over \$30,000.00 for 2021! Well done, good and faithful servants.

**McDougall Reconciliation Tipi** – Visit the church when it opens and see the Reconciliation Tipi; re-visit our name-sake

Methodist missionary, the Rev. John McDougall growing up in Manitoba, of missionary parents, speaking Cree as a first language, bigger than life as a settler and witness to Treaty 7. Chinook Winds Right Relations Convener Tony Snow and our Right Relations Team convened by Marilyn Agnew will be presenting a “Next-Step” program in 2021. Extend appreciation to our Communications Coordinator, Shauna Kennedy who did great work preparing the Grant applications, which resulted in two separate grants for 2021 – the Chinook Winds Grant of \$3000 and the Seeds of Hope grant of \$5000.



### 2020 focus for McDougall Outreach and Social Justice Ministry - Food

**The Acadia Food Pantry** was approved in January 2019 to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at McDougall. Volunteers from Christ Moravian Church, Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Acadia Community and McDougall have made this a viable project. Due to the COVID -19 pandemic, the pantry offered two sessions in the summertime. The

ongoing challenge for Acadia Pantry is securing volunteers particularly in this pandemic time but a big thank you to Donna Gordon from Christ Moravian and Community Social Work Viviana Reinberg for their persistence.

**Acadia School Lunch Program** – A special Thank You to Co-Chairs Dianne Mather and Bonnie Hondas for rising to the pandemic challenge when the Calgary Board of Education will not allow food to be distributed in Acadia school by preparing healthy lunches for parents to pick up at the Acadia Pantry.

**Morley Food Partners Program** - Thank you to Mary Shearer of Canmore United Church for spearheading a program to support the Stoney-Nakoda people, reaching out to United Churches including McDougall. Over the past year, McDougall has tried to be supportive of Elders particularly in Eden Valley who seem to be a forgotten part of the Morley reserve. A special Thank you to Gloria Snow for her pastoral care and concern for the Elders.

**St. Mary's Feed the Hungry Dinner** – McDougall met the \$3000.00 commitment for the dinner on September 27, 2020 that was served as a pick-up meal. Much appreciation to Family Ministry Leader, Aileen Berridge who organized a bottle-drive to support the St. Mary's Dinner and for her summer Food Pantry and lunch programs.

**Christmas Hamper Project** – Thank you to Convener Ken Turnbull and team for organizing a tremendous response in this pandemic time distributed gift cards. McDougall stepped up and met the challenge with over \$6000.00 given to purchase the gift cards.

## Christmas Hampers - Ken Turnbull

The Hamper program was once again a success, with 25 families provided with hampers comprised of gift cards due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Also included was a selection of mostly hand-knitted scarves toques and mitts. The program was started in late November as we were unsure how to complete a meaningful program this year. It was decided to only give gift cards for groceries by purchasing gift cards through the Fund Script program through the church. Referrals were through the church and from Viviana Reinberg, Community Social Worker of Calgary Neighborhood's, The City of Calgary. Our primary focus was families in areas near McDougall United Church and to this end 16 of the 25 families were from Acadia Village or Horizon Housing. Our families comprised 42 adults and 59 children.

## Up-dates on the ongoing work of the Outreach & Social Justice Ministry

**McDougall Refugee Support** – Thank you to Marjorie MacRae and team for their dedicated work supporting two Palestinian families, a Syrian family and now trying to secure legal approval for the Branco family from Angola who are already in Canada and requiring legal assistance.

**Habitat for Humanity** – As Jim Porter notes, much of the Habitat work had to be put on hold, and Habitat for Humanity Householders are finding it difficult to complete their sweat-equity.

**Calgary Interfaith Council** – February celebrations of the 2020 UN Interfaith Harmony Week were well received, just before the COVID-19 shutdown. As has become the new normal, 2021 celebrations will be on-line and in a Zoom format.

**Calgary Metro Alliance for the Common Good** has become much appreciated at City Council for their strong and effective leadership speaking-up for the vulnerable of Calgary. Beyond church memberships, individuals are invited to become friends and financial supporters. Check out their wonderful website and the opportunities to be part of a wider work.

**Keeping Connected** – In this pandemic time we have learned how to keep connected. The Outreach and Social Justice Ministry continued as we met seven times for regular and special meetings and task groups. I anticipate that we will continue in the future connecting through Zoom from our own houses. If you are interested in this ministry – join us on Zoom!

The Program started the campaign with a balance of \$3,046.39 and we were again fortunate to receive donations of \$6,090.75 from the congregation. The expenses amounted to \$7,339.86 for grocery gift cards. This leaves us a surplus of \$1,797.28 as of Dec 31 to start the 2021 hamper program.

The generosity of this congregation for their donations made this year the success it was and given the families a very Merry Christmas. I have received more thank yous than any of the past years.

## Feed the Hungry Dinner - Daren Patterson

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's St. Mary's Feed the Hungry Dinner held on Sunday, September 27th, through financial contributions, volunteering, and prayer. McDougall supported this dinner with a \$3000.00 donation as well as a reduced team of 10 volunteers. We were blessed to have additional funds raised this year during the summer bottle drive arranged by Aileen Berridge. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the dinner looked and felt different than in the past years. Fewer volunteers were required and instead of serving a hot meal volunteers created 620 snack bags for 310 guests served outside the St. Mary's Hall. We are scheduled to serve once again on Sunday, September 26th, 2021. Our cost to sponsor the dinner in 2021 will continue

to be \$3000.00 and we will once again require a group of volunteers.

### Financial Statement:

Opening balance January 2020	\$ 320.00
2020 Donations	\$ 2730.00
Bottle Drive	\$ 350.00
Total funds	\$ 3400.00
2020 Feed the Hungry Dinner cost	(\$ 3000.00)
Closing balance December 2020	\$ 400.00

## Right Relations - Marilyn Agnew

### Right Relations Events for 2020

1. **Elder Easter Food Hamper Initiative for the Morley and Eden Valley Communities** - Gloria Snow and her husband Ken Levae purchased and distributed 24 food hampers to Elders for a complete turkey dinner that would feed 15 people. Approximately \$2500 was raised through donations.

2. **Ethical Dilemmas Series** - The Right Relations Fund contributed \$950 to the cost of this series facilitated by Tony Snow, Indigenous Lead of the Chinook Winds Region.

April 22 – Virtual Earth Day

April 29 – Youth Homelessness

May 5 – Red Dress Day

May 13 – Pandemics and Social Change

May 20 – Understanding Racism & Anti-Racism

May 27 – Conversion Therapy and LGBTQ Activism during the time of COVID-19

3. **Indigenous Day of Prayer June 21, 2020** - Gloria Snow was interviewed and the video was shown during the June 21 McDougall Sunday Service.

4. **Formation of the Right Relations Group and first meeting June 30, 2020** - I accepted leadership within this group and I have been working closely with Gloria Snow as our Treaty 7 Co-leader. During the Tipi Raising event, our group Elder Glenda Crawler blessed this Initiative and the people within it and gave her words of wisdom.

5. **Decorating the Heart Garden during National Indigenous History Month, June 2020** - McDougall's Heart Garden was decorated with colourful hearts and messages of kindness sending love and compassion to Residential School survivors and their families. Congregation members and community families contributed to the project for the second year in a row.

6. **National Indigenous Peoples Day September 22, 2020, with Tipi raising and Luncheon** - McDougall accepted a Tipi from Morley Community Members into our Sanctuary. This Act of Reconciliation is a ground-breaking occurrence for both parties. The location of this sacred structure has already been used over a dozen times as a meeting place for interviews, videos, prayer services, and the well-watched Indigenous Christmas Eve service.

7. **Orange Shirt Day September 30 Zoom with Teresa Snow** - This informative two-hour Zoom talk gave us insight and solutions surrounding the lateral violence that Indigenous people face within their communities.

8. **Women's Wellness Event and picnic luncheon October 3, 2020** - This all-day event was held on Red Dress Day for 15 Indigenous women participants that had lost a female family member. Guest speakers and musicians provided a healing environment for them.



9. Elder Christmas Gift Card Initiative December 2020 - McDougall, Hillhurst, Scarboro, Ralph Connor, Cochrane, and St. David's United Churches raised approximately \$8200 for the purchase of gift cards to be given to Morley Community members the weeks before Christmas. There is approximately \$1000 left in the card account here at McDougall to cover needs that may come up in January and February. Cards will be ordered by Tony as needed.

**Financial Statement:**

Income:	
Donations and pop bottle drive	\$ 10,585.00
Expenses:	\$ 10,163.93
Closing balance December 2020	\$ 421.07



**Refugee Support Group - Marjorie MacRae**

The McDougall Refugee Support Group started in January 2016 with the arrival of the Sawaihs, a Syrian family, who were given permanent resident status as part of the government's initiative to bring Syrian refugees to Canada. Since then with your help, we have supported five other families socially and financially.

Before the pandemic started the Alhaj Alis, our most recent family of 7 from Syria, found new suitable accommodation in the northeast. With your donations and some thrifty purchases, we were able to furnish the house. Since the pandemic started, our group which is mainly composed of seniors has had to curtail visits and focus on providing support at a distance. The shift to school on-line was particularly challenging for the Alhaj Alis who did not have a computer. As a result, we decided to buy and donate them two computers. The four oldest children (14, 13, 11, and 9) and the father and the mother, who are attending English classes at the introductory level, share the computers. We also purchased a Chromebook (the kind recommended by the school system) for the 4 Sawaihs children to share, and a computer for their mother Nesreen who is now enrolled in a child care assistant program at Calgary Immigrant Women's Association. All is well with our two Palestinian families.

In the spring it was clear that the Alhaj Alis who had very limited resources needed an outdoor activity. We remembered that in February they had talked about enjoying bicycling. This led to the great bicycle round-up. We acquired 16 bicycles in total – some as donations and some purchased second-hand. All our families got at least one bicycle - striders for the 3 years olds and bikes of varying sizes for the kids and the parents.

In October we met the Branco family from Angola through their volunteer work at Acadia Pantry. There are four children

– the oldest, a boy, is 17 and the girls are 14, 11, and 4. The boy speaks very good English. The others speak their native language Portuguese and are learning English. Trellis, a Calgary social services agency, has provided significant financial and social support but this was ending. Their reasons for fleeing Angola and applying as refugees at the Canadian border are similar to those of our Palestinian families but, for reasons we cannot understand, this family's application for refugee status was not accepted. The lawyer who was recommended to us told us that they have a good case. In order to help them, our group began a new partnership with members of the Christ Moravian church who also knew them through the Acadia Pantry. Together our churches are providing essential social and financial support which we hope will enable this family to remain in Canada.

Here is a message we received at Christmas from Luisandra, the mother in the Branco family:

"First I want to thank you for everything you have done and continue to do for me and my family, I thank you for your affection, patience, and attention. I always thank God for having put you on my path, in my life. I wish you all, with all my heart, that this year God will shower infinite blessings on your lives, that it will be a year of great peace and health for all of you. May God protect you and bless you forever."

Our group is grateful for your interest and financial support which makes this work possible.

Opening Balance	\$5350
Closing Balance	\$11,900

Marjorie MacRae Team Lead, Jim Adamson, Penny Bailey, Donna Gordon (Christ Moravian), EVELDA Love, Les and Judy Pearson, Michael Plumb, Joanne Pritchard, Jani Svilpis and Gloria Toole (Christ Moravian).



## Acadia School Lunch Program - Dianne Mather and Bonnie Hondas

The Acadia School Lunch Program began the year by gratefully receiving \$3,000 in grant funding from the Chinook Winds Region of the United Church for the operation of this program. The program functioned normally until March when the pandemic changed our lives.

In mid-March, schools closed and we put the program on hold. In the fall when schools reopened, we worked very creatively to find a method to continue to provide food to the children while protecting our “high risk” volunteers and following school and church pandemic rules. In October we did a successful trial run of providing 200 bagged lunches of individually prepackaged healthy food to families with school-aged children. This cooperative program with McDougall and The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour now operates with only 2 program coordinators each to enable strict sanitation and distancing protocols. We have continued with a monthly distribution through the Acadia Pantry Program as we know there is a great need for food. Thanks to our volunteers and program partners for all their contributions.

### Financial Statement:

Opening balance January 2020	\$ 1,956.08
Chinook Winds (United Church) Grant	\$ 3000.00
Expenses	\$ 1,347.76
Program Balance	\$ 3,608.32
Save On Foods (gift cards) received and spent to purchase weekly food	\$ 500.00
Cobs Bread – Donation of Bread	

### School Lunches during COVID. Each child receives a bag with four lunches.

Single Lunch Items:



Large bag ready for distribution to family:



## Habitat for Humanity - Jim Porter

This year saw many changes at Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta due to the COVID pandemic. On the administration side, there were several layoffs of office staff, some of whom have returned to work recently. On the construction side, volunteering was shut down for a while. It has since been re-opened for a limited number of crew leaders and for homeowners at the Silver Creek and

Radisson builds. This helps enable homeowners to build up their sweat equity. The COVID protocols make working quite different from the past. On the financial side, some homeowners lost their jobs during the crisis, and Habitat was called upon to help them financially. The ReStore was closed to online shopping only for a while, as it was not considered an essential service.

# REPORTS FROM MCDOUGALL FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

## Men's Club - John Naylor

The year 2020 was interrupted by COVID-19. Meetings are generally held on the second Saturday of the month, except for a break during July and August for the summer. In 2020 we were unable to meet in person starting in March. This is how meetings went in 2020:

- In January we went to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church where we joined their Men's Group for breakfast and an enjoyable talk by Stephen Hendrickson who discussed modern technology issues.
- In February we were joined by our spouses and significant others for a Valentine's breakfast. There was no formal program, however everyone was able to socialize and all the ladies received a rose.
- We were unable to meet in person for most of the balance of 2020.
- We had Zoom meetings in June (11 men attended), September (8 men attended), and November (6 men attended).
- We had one in-person meeting in the Hospitality Hall in September but could not prepare any food or drink.

Men were invited to bring their own coffee and 13 men attended.

The Men's Club raises funds throughout the year by hosting various events as well as contributions at our regular meetings. As a result of COVID we were unable to raise money in 2020, which is usually used to provide honorariums to various speakers and organizations, as well as to provide some financial help for various causes. Frank Kurucz ably handles our finances

The club hopes to start meeting again later in 2021 as it becomes safe to do so. We will continue to provide fellowship, conversation and a good breakfast thanks to the enthusiasm of our members who demonstrate their culinary skills, dedication, and hard work. We welcome all men to join our group and enjoy our varied breakfasts and hosting of various events in the church. We could not do it all without your participation. We look forward to getting together again with the members of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, as well as our spouses and significant others. All the best to everyone and stay safe in 2021.

## Ladies of Literature Book Club - Michelle Chaffee and Jennifer Weaver

We've had some challenges this year by moving to virtual meetings but it has been wildly successful and we continue to meet once a month to discuss the following books:

- Sept. 21 **The Testaments** by Margaret Atwood
- Oct. 19 **Little Fires Everywhere** by Celeste Ng
- Nov. 16 **Molly of the Mall: Literary Lass and Purveyor of Fine Footwear** by Heidi L. M. Jacobs
- Dec. 14 **Where'd You Go, Bernadette** by Maria Semple
- Jan. 18 **The Field Guide to the North American Teenager** by Ben Philippe
- Feb. 8 **Pourin' Down Rain** by Cheryl Foggo
- Mar. 15 **This Is How it Always Is** by Laurie Frankel

Apr. 19 **The Skin We're In** by Desmond Cole

May 17 **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens

We have enjoyed being able to review our books via the McDougall United Church's Zoom account allowing us to stay connected while being safe in our homes.

This year we have donated the remainder of our monthly Christmas dues of \$60.75 to the MUC Christmas Hamper Fund.

Wishing a healthy and safe 2021 to our church family.

## Afternoon Book Discussion - Heather Smith

The Afternoon Book Club has not met since March 2020 due to the pandemic. We are looking forward to getting together again when we can.

## Multifolkals - Lynda Smith

Multifolkals is an active group in the 65+ range who normally meet six times throughout the year usually the fourth Friday of the month either at the church or other location. Activities are varied and included the following in 2020. The group saw the play "The Good Game" at the Pumphouse Theater on February 28th which was lots of fun. On June 26th we had our annual wind-up BBQ virtually on Zoom with 30 people

talking and catching up which we really enjoyed. Due to the Pandemic, these were the only two events held in 2020. Presently there are 40 members in the group. New members are always welcome.

## Friendship Club - Gord and Marsha Degenhardt

Normally, 'Zoom' and 'seniors' are not words that one would associate together, but holding a 'Zoom' get-together was just what our group of seniors did late last year. Because we had been unable to meet in person since February due to COVID-19 restrictions, the three Friendship sub-groups were invited to meet with each other via the audio-video platform of Zoom (aka 'a party-line with video'). Some already had previous experience with this 21st century communication tool; most of us had not. In total, 32 members joined one of the three Zoom meet-ups and seemed to enjoy the experience. Until we can meet in person again, more Zoom get-togethers will be offered.

Sadly, a few of our members passed away in 2020, and others have experienced declining health to the point that they moved into facilities of one type or another. We do miss them.

We thank Ron Burns for being our treasurer, Jean Mackenzie for her many years of sending out cards, and all of you who

are keeping in touch with one another through phone calls and emails.

We congratulate Rachel upon her marriage to Andrew Nadon, and thank her for attending our meetings, for helping us with Zoom, and for administering pastoral care to all seniors in our church.

### Financial Report (Ron Burns)

Opening Balance as of Jan. 1/20	\$238.15
Dues from Jan. and Feb./20	115.20
Closing balance as of Dec. 31/20	\$353.65

We look forward to the day when we can meet safely in person again. Take care everyone!

## Ladies Fellowship Group - Marylin Bily

Fellowship Group meets the second Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am to make sandwiches for the Woods Home Exit Youth Shelter, followed by our regular monthly meeting.

We sold only 10 United Church Calendars this year.

Eleanor Anderson sent out 67 greeting cards due to illness or bereavement to members of the congregation.

We had a variety of programs at our meetings during the shortened season.

We welcome any ladies in the congregation who would like to join us at our meetings.

### Financial Summary for 2020:

Bank balance December 31, 2019		\$ 164.27
Cash on hand		\$ 30.00
<b>Total December 31, 2019</b>		<b>\$ 194.27</b>
	Expenses	Income
Woods Exit Drop-in Centre Sandwiches for 3 months	\$ 167.05	
Membership Donations (\$5.00 each)		\$ 60.00
Donation		\$ 100.00
Coffee money		\$ 62.65
Bank balance December 31, 2020		\$ 209.87
Cash on hand		\$ 40.00
<b>Total December 31, 2020</b>		<b>\$ 249.87</b>

Respectfully submitted by Joan Johnston, Treasurer

## Curiosity Club on Christianity - Art Hironaka

During the past 10 + years, we have studied lectures from our extensive library of video lectures. Our studies included topics from the Birth of Christianity, Saint Paul's and Emperor Constantine's influence on the religion, Christianization of Europe, the East-West Schism of 1054, the era of the Crusades from 1095 to 1270, Martin Luther's 95 Theses, church reformation, and Mormonism, an America religion.

A highlight, during the past ten years, was our visit and tour of the Saint Mina Orthodox Coptic Church in Balzac, attended by approximately 40 members from McDougall. The Coptic Orthodox Church in Egypt is one of the oldest branches of Christianity, founded in the first century by Saint Mark, the Apostle and writer of the second Gospel of the New Testament.

During the sessions, we also learned that of the many gospels available at the time that the Bishops, lead by Bishop Irenaeus, in their role in the assembly of the Holy Bible chose the 4 Gospels of Mathew, Mark, Luke and John, notably leaving out and destroying many others such as the Gospels of Mary, Thomas and Judas, found in the last century, and which were carbon-dated to authenticate that the gospels were from the early period after Jesus death.

As a result of participant's deaths, aging and moves, meeting attendance has been affected, this coupled with COVID restrictions, the McDougall Curiosity Club was suspended after our February 2020 meeting.

## Heritage Time Out - Lorraine Rohs

As with all McDougall Groups, Heritage Time Out came to a halt in March of 2020.

Up until then, we had a vibrant group of about 50 participants enjoying a weekly meeting of crafting, socializing, and support. Most of the participants attended on their own, but we did have a few young Moms bring their young children and babies to be looked after so they could enjoy a “time out” for themselves.

As the pandemic carried on, we surveyed our group, putting forward the offer to meet on the church’s Zoom platform. There was not sufficient interest for this, so the Time Out executive decided for Time Out to be on hiatus until safe to meet again in person.

Heritage Time Out donated \$2200.00 to the church in July 2020.

We feel confident that despite this long break, Heritage Time Out will return to meeting Wednesday mornings, and continue to be a vibrant group within McDougall United Church. Because of the social nature of the group, and the close proximity people need to help each other craft, we will return to meeting in person only when people have been vaccinated and it is safe to return in a more pre-pandemic way.

## God at the Movies - Larry and Marilyn Chaney

God at the Movies has not met since March 2020 due to the pandemic. We are looking forward to getting together again when we can.

# 2020 CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES

### Annual General Meeting, February 23, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 11:35am by Joanne Pritchard, Chair, Leadership Council

1. Welcome and Call to order
2. Chair and Secretary for Annual General Meeting  
**Motion** that Joanne Pritchard act as Chair, and Norma May as Secretary for the meeting  
Moved by Craig Evans Seconded by Peggy Jorgensen  
CARRIED
3. The quorum requirement of 20 members was met.
4. Voting:  
**Motion** that members of the congregation who are entitled to vote at all meetings in full membership, whose names are on the Roll of the Church, give consent that adherents, who regularly contribute to the life of the

Church, may vote on all matters in this AGM  
Moved by Tara Jorgensen Seconded by Karen Chow  
CARRIED

**Motion** that voting be conducted by show of hands unless ballot voting is specifically requested for a particular item.

Moved by Tara Jorgensen Seconded by Jim Porter  
CARRIED

#### 5. Adoption of Agenda:

**Motion** that the agenda be adopted as printed and circulated.

Moved by Bill Love Seconded by Wally Shoults  
CARRIED

#### 6. Adoption of Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting:

**Motion** to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the

AGM Meeting of February 10, 2019 and approve as circulated in Annual Report

Moved by Jim Porter Seconded by Daren Patterson  
CARRIED

7. Business arising from the Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting:

None

8. 2019 year-end Reviewed Financial Statements:

a) presentation by Karen Chow, Treasurer

**Motion** to approve the 2019 Financial Statements as presented

Moved by Theresa Linzmayer Seconded by Patrick Meenagh

b) Questions/discussion related to the Financial Statements as presented:

Question: What amount is paid for Accounting fees?

Answer: \$2800 annually as part of the Stewardship and Finance Budget

MOTION CARRIED

9. Approval of the 2019 Annual Report:

**Motion** to approve the 2019 Annual Report as circulated

Moved by Jim Porter Seconded by Wally Shoults

Norma May noted that an amended Roll Report has been received.

MOTION CARRIED

Thank you to all who submitted their reports and to Shauna Kennedy for her work completing the final document.

10. 2020 Budget:

a) presentation by Karen Chow, Treasurer.

**Motion** to approve the 2020 Budget as presented

Moved by Peggy Jorgensen Seconded by Denise Patterson

b) Questions/discussion related to the 2020 Budget:

Question: What is the status of our rental contract with

Janus Academy?

Answer: Janus Academy has not given McDougall any update but per contract, they must give notice by April 1 for July 1.

Question: How does payment for repairs to the front of the building appear in the statements?

Answer: The repair costs were covered by insurance.

MOTION CARRIED

Thank you to Karen Chow for her work on the 2020 Budget.

11. Election of McDougall's Leadership Council:

a) presentation of nominees for McDougall's 2020 Leadership Council as shown on the handout

b) request for nominations from the floor

- Daren Patterson volunteered to act as Co-chair of Leadership Council

**Motion** to close nominations

Moved by Karen Chow Seconded by Jim Porter  
CARRIED

Question: How do staff relate to the teams?

Answer: Some staff co-lead ministry teams while others are members of those teams

**Motion** that the congregational members listed on the circulated 2020 McDougall

Candidates for Leadership Council, as well as nominations from the floor, be elected to the Leadership Council (pilot) for 2020-21

Moved by Tara Jorgensen Seconded by Ruth Dunsire

CARRIED

Thank you to Joanne Pritchard for continuing in her council leadership role for the duration of the pilot period.

The meeting closed at 1pm.

## APPENDIX A

### Baptism Services 2020

Charlotte Dawn Phillips, baptized July 11, 2020 (infant)

Macie Michelle Winfield, baptized November 14, 2020 (infant)

### Wedding Services 2020

Jesse Patrick Mullins & Carolyn Alcozer Dizon married February 8, 2020

Ross Holley & Patricia Dawn Adela Rohs married February 15, 2020

Denis Emile Couturier & Donna Lee Keckeisen married March 8, 2020

## APPENDIX B

### The McDougall Memorial Garden 2012-2020

Agatha Edna Mercer	June 8, 1912 - April 6, 1977
Tristine Alexandra Broatch	December 19, 1982 - April 1, 1983
Alan Martin	July 7, 1936 - March 17, 2006
Bruce Donald Broatch	November 19, 1936 - January 8, 2007
Dellas McKee	November 23, 1921 – January 26, 2008
Jean Frances Branson	January 1, 1922 - February 26, 2010
Stefan (Steve) Megley	August 28, 1929 - November 2, 2011
Allan Frederick Peirce	February 28, 1935 - January 25, 2013
Heather Jane Allan (Holt)	November 6, 1965 - December 13, 2013
Sheila Gardner	June 21, 1926 - March 30, 2014
Douglas Sparrow	May 19, 1932 - May 4, 2014
Mona Katharine Cozart	October 26, 1916 - June 18, 2014
Grant Ben Hans	February 2, 1933 - August 10, 2014
Sheila McHutchison	April 4, 1941 - October 10, 2014
Wayne Edward Keil	February 8, 1949 - May 28, 2016
Alexander McLaren Rankin	June 18, 1927 - October 31, 2016
Dorothy McKee	August 8, 1923 – June 6, 2017
Heather Peirce	February 14, 1939 – February 26, 2018

APPENDIX C

*In LOVING MEMORY*  
*of Members and Adherents*

**Evelyn Cairns – March 21, 1932 - February 13, 2020**

**Will Litwyn – July 25, 1935 - February 24, 2020**

**Adele Lytle – December 3, 1930 - April 7, 2020**

**Cec Day – November 05, 1932 - May 25, 2020**

**Audrey Denzel – June 7, 1938 - May 30, 2020**

**Marg Munden – June 19, 1925 - June 8, 2020**

**Ann Connery – March 2, 1920 - June 20, 2020**

**Jim Suffern – February 24, 1920 - July 5, 2020**

**Brian Evasiuk – March 5, 1995 - August 13, 2020**

**Jean Graham – April 1, 1929 - September 18, 2020**

**Ted Steventon – October 19, 1938 - October 22, 2020**

**John Stoddart – October 30, 1942 - October 26, 2020**

**Jake Baum – March 4, 1933 - December 27, 2020**







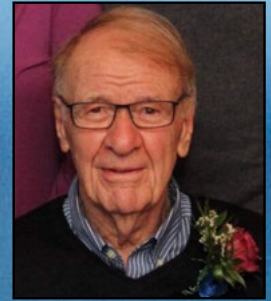
Jake Baum



Evelyn Cairns



Ann Connery



Cec Day



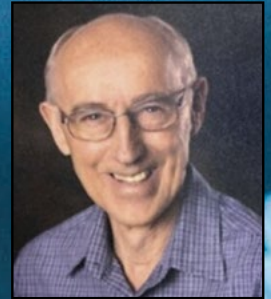
Audrey Denzel



Brian Evasiuk



Jean Graham



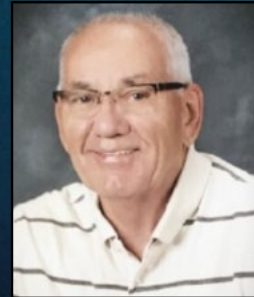
Will Litwyn



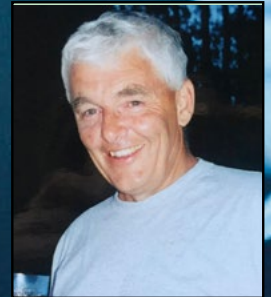
Adele Lytle



Marg Munden



Ted Steventon



John Stoddart



Jim Suffern



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Sunday 10:00 am - 12:30 pm  
Monday - Friday 9 am - 4 pm (closed at lunch)  
Closed for Statutory Holidays