

Sunset United Church

Annual Report 2022



Peace, Partnership, Progressive

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Mission Statement January 20th, 2007

Sunset United Church as an Affirming Ministry is a nurturing Christian community of:

- *Joyful worship;*
- *Open-minded faith exploration and spiritual growth;*
- *Love, hope and Social and Ecological Justice;*

living out Christ's message within and beyond Sunset.

Statement of Faith

We declare publicly our commitment to creating a community where we welcome people of all ages, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, ability, ethnicity and economic circumstance.

At Sunset United Church, everyone can take part in every aspect of church life including: membership, leadership, celebrating life passages and marriage. We affirm that diversity is truly a gift of God and that all people belong here.

We celebrate the richness that diversity brings to our church, even as it challenges us individually and collectively. As we continue our discovery of what it means to be an affirming and inclusive community, we understand that teaching and learning about each other is a faithful process of mutual listening and understanding.

We pray for God's Spirit to guide us as we work for reconciliation and justice for all persons in church and society.

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**Sunset United Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, March 5, 2023**

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Devotion
3. Attendance
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Appointment of Counters
6. Minutes of the March 6, 2022 Annual Meeting
7. Business Arising from the Minutes of the March 4, 2022 Annual Meeting
8. Resolutions
9. Business Arising from the 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
10. Presentation and Discussion of Annual Reports
 - Presentation of Finance Committee Report and Financial Statements
11. Presentation of 2023 Budget
12. Appointment of Financial Reviewer
13. Nomination Committee Report
14. Nominations of Church Board
15. Nominations for Board of Trustees
16. New Business
 - Notice of motions from the Sunset United Church Board

Motion 1: Be it resolved that we, the Sunset Community of Faith, welcome the Wesley Community of Faith to join us after tri-church 2023 with the intent of future amalgamation.

Motion 2: Be it resolved that we work with representatives of the Wesley Community of Faith to develop a memorandum of understanding and a partnership plan detailing how Sunset and Wesley will share resources until amalgamation is finalized.

17. Acknowledgement and Thanks
18. Adjournment
19. Benediction

Minister Report

My first report for the Sunset annual meeting! Since September I've been enjoying the touchstones of the path we've been taking together since I started serving this congregation. There was the first board meeting, communion, baptism and funeral. There have been first visits with members of the congregation and first time I've forgotten my own order of service (I think this was the first Sunday). All through these specific events though, has been the constant feeling of welcome Jennifer and I have received. You have all made us feel so very much at home and we're loving being a part of this community.

As we look toward the year to come, it seems that the topic on most people's minds is the possible union between Sunset and Wesley United Churches. While I can't predict what will be decided at our two churches' annual meetings, I would like to offer some predictions. If we move ahead with amalgamation (union, partnership, marriage...) I predict a large amount of work. We'll be having committee and congregational meetings. We'll be using the advice and assistance of Living Skies Region. We'll be working to fit traditions, priorities and physical possessions together into our lives and space. We could think of this like a marriage where two people with entire households of furniture and dishes, their own Christmas traditions, and expectations, come together to share a common home. Is it difficult? Sometimes. Is it worthwhile? Absolutely! I suppose the long-term prediction is that in 5 years, long after all the work is done and everything is made official, our collective feeling will be, "We should have done this years ago!"

Other than all this union business, some of the other happenings:

- Sunday services: this is truly a highlight of my week as this congregation is a joy to worship with. I offer a huge thank you to all those who help make this happen - the worship committee, Bev and Bosco Hui, Bonnie Tudor, Corinne Groff, Shirley Hill and the amazing choir! I also thank all those who greet, make coffee, read scripture and all the other ways Sunday is made a celebration of our faith!
- Bible study is happening and will continue. All are welcome.
- Pastoral care and visitation: We have a care team starting and will be helping ensure people continue to feel connected and cared for. I will also be available to visiting; I don't usually drop in on people but I'll sure accept invitations!
- Many other possibilities depending on the priorities of the congregation and the work of bringing our churches together. For instance, while COVID isn't gone, do we want to have more social events like pot luck suppers? Other study, discussion groups? Men's (+) breakfasts? Is there anything else we can be doing to serve our neighbourhood?

I think a helpful attitude for us to hold this coming year is to be ready and watchful. The world feels a bit unpredictable so it'll be helpful to be ready to grab opportunities as they appear. This might involve making mistakes and having some of our efforts turn out unexpectedly or not at all. This will mean being a bit more nimble than what is normally found in churches in our decision making and communications. This is all going to take a bit of faith - faith that God journeys with us, faith in the teachings of Jesus so we are guided with wisdom, and faith in each other - while we might not always agree on the best way forward, we all want what's best for this wonderful community.

God's blessings to you all,
Rev. Jim Tenford

Chairperson Report

It is an exciting time to be part of the Sunset United Church community of faith. There has been a change in pastoral relations as we said goodbye to Reverend Tricia Gerhard and called Reverend Jim Tenford. We are resuming normal(ish) operations with in-person worship. Renters and groups are again utilizing our spaces. The Regina Cluster of United Churches has collaborated on several events and is developing strategies to share resources for programming. And we are considering our response to Wesley United Church's amalgamation proposal.

Thank you to Jim, Michelle, Polly, Corinne, Shirley, Bonnie, and John for all they do at Sunset United Church. Jim leads our community with engaging Sunday worship and thoughtful pastoral care. Michelle coordinates the children, youth, and young adult programs. Polly runs the show as office coordinator extraordinaire. Corinne and Shirley inspire us with beautiful music. Bonnie, our technology wizard, enhances our in-person worship experience and ensures those who worship on-line and attend meetings remotely are included. John keeps our building clean and safe.

The people of Sunset celebrate God's generosity with contributions to the life and work of this church. The pandemic and inflation have created challenges but we have been steadfast in our commitment. This faith community always answers the call to participate, volunteer and donate as we do God's work.

Thank you to the Sunset United Church Board and Committee members. The Search Committee had the wisdom to select and call Reverend Jim Tenford. Bryan Tudor and the Ministry and Personnel Committee support and supervise our amazing team of ministry personnel and lay staff. Denelle Hansen, treasurer, has successfully managed our finances during these challenging times. Ken Fensom and the Property Crew work tirelessly to maintain this beautiful building and grounds. Bev Hui coordinates the House Groups who assist with Sunday worship and fellowship. Trina Hodgson, Nancy Toppings, the Affirming Circle and the Community Service Committee help us fulfill Sunset's missional and ecumenical goals. Marion Tudor and the Fundraising squad plan events to raise money. Dave Millar and the Board of Trustees review the financial and property reports. Christa Eidsness, outgoing secretary, ably managed the board minutes and correspondence. Jean Cameron and Dave Towers are mentoring me and I am grateful for their guidance. It is my privilege to work with this dedicated and wise group as we follow Sunset's mission and statement of faith.

For many years, the people of Sunset and Wesley United Churches have worshiped together during the summer. Recently, members of the Sunset and Wesley Boards began exploring ways to collaborate more closely. These discussions have resulted in an amalgamation proposal from Wesley. Although this creates some uncertainty, it is an opportunity for us to proactively consider our future. We are grateful to Marion Tudor, Bryan Tudor, Michelle McConkey, Christa Eidsness, Susan Black, Dave Towers, Lenore Bewcyk, and Jim Tenford for their leadership as we discern a faithful response as a Christian, affirming community of faith.

"May you live in interesting times" could be offered as a blessing or a curse. I recommend we consider it a blessing, embrace the uncertainty and make the most of this opportunity. These are certainly interesting times.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Scarfe, Chair of the Board

Sunset United Church Annual Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2022

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jean Cameron at 11:37 am

2. Devotion

Rev. Tricia Gerhard led us in a devotion.

3. Attendance

Attendance was hybrid with congregation members attending in person and through Zoom. Quorum was achieved. Bev Hui recorded attendance.

Via Zoom – 29

In person – 41

4. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Gary Carlson/Ken Fensom to adopt the March 6, 2022 Annual Meeting agenda as amended with the addition of the Community of Faith Profile under New Business. Carried.

5. Appointment of Counters

Brenda Scarfe and Susan Black were appointed as counters.

6. Minutes of the March 4, 2021 Annual Meeting

Moved by Susan Black/Nancy Toppings to approve the March 4, 2021 Annual Meeting minutes as presented. Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes of the March 4, 2021 Annual Meeting

None

8. Resolutions

None

9. Business Arising from the 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

None

10. Presentation and Discussion of Annual Reports

Discussion:

- Linda Langenbacher asked about the furnace filters used and if they are HEPA certified. Ken Fensom confirmed the filters are changed regularly but was not able to recall the HEPA certification.
- Linda Langenbacher also brought forward the fact the grape vine had a very productive year with a third of the harvest being preserved as jam by Marina Jeffrey.
- Gary Carlson brought forward a big thank you to Polly and everyone that prepared the reports.

Moved by Marina Jeffrey/Richard Toppings to approve the reports as contained in the Annual Report. Carried.

11. Financial Statements (pages 19-21 in the Annual Report)

Denelle Hansen discussed the CEWS and CEBA government COVID assistance programs that the church was able to apply for and that were very helpful to the church through the pandemic. The CEBA program is a loan. The church received \$60,000 through this program and will need to pay back \$40,000 of that loan by the end of 2023. However, the plan is to pay back the \$40,000 by the end of 2022.

Moved by Denelle Hansen/Susan Cameron to approve the financial statement for 2021 as presented. Carried.

12. Presentation of 2022 Budget (pages 22-23 in the Annual Report)

Tim Osborne presented the 2022 budget.

Moved by Tim Osborne/Gary Carlson that the 2022 budget be approved as presented. Carried.

13. Appointment of Financial Reviewer

Moved by Tim Osborne/Doreen Killoh that Devin Wallin be appointment as the financial reviewer for the 2022 Financial Statements. Carried.

14. Nomination Committee Report (page 24 in the Annul Report)

a. Nominations for Church Board

Chairperson	Brenda Scarfe
Vice Chairperson	Dave Towers
Past Chairperson	Jean Cameron
Treasurer	Denelle Hansen
Secretary	TBA*
Affirming Congregation	Trina Hodgson
Board of Trustees	David Millar
Community Service	Nancy Toppings
Congregational Care (House Groups)	Bev Hui
Finance	Tim Osborne

Fundraising	Marion Tudor
Ministry (ex-officio)	Rev. Tricia Gerhard
Ministry and Personnel	Bryan Tudor
Property	Ken Fensom
Website	Michelle McConkey
Worship and Christian Education	Tricia Gerhard
Regional Council Representative	Marion Tudor
Member at Large	Susan Black

* Secretary is currently TBA. Christa Eidsness has agreed to be secretary however she is an ordained minister and there is a specific form to be completed through the national church. Once that is completed she will become part of the board.

Chair called for further nominations. There were none.

Moved by Dave Towers/Trina Hodgson to accept the nomination committee report as presented. Carried.

b. Nominations for Board of Trustees

No changes to the Board of Trustees.

15. New Business

a. Community of Faith Profile

Marina Jeffrey presented the Community of Faith Profile report. The report was previously circulated to the congregation via email on February 22, 2022.

The Community of Faith group, Marina Jeffrey, Nancy McBean and Trina Hodgson, prepared the report. They gather information in several ways, the three main ways being: an online survey, demographic information that is provided annually by the Board to the national church and the previous JNAC report.

Two key themes that emerged are optimism and openness. Optimism for the future and the intention to return to in-person worship and fellowship. Openness to change in these uncertain times and willingness to explore partnerships with other United churches in Regina.

One edit to be made to page 11 of the report: rather than saying “church is fully accessible” will be amended to say “church has one set of automatic doors”.

The Community of Faith Profile Report will be posted onto ChurchHub. This is a fairly new website created by the United Church of Canada and is where churches can post job openings.

Discussion:

- Jaime raised additional comments regarding the church building accessibility and if the building meets current accessibility codes and if not, what needs to be done to bring building up to code.
- Questions from the floor regarding the survey and if households were still able to participate in the survey. Answer was no, the survey is closed.
- No additional amendments were identified.

Moved by Marina Jeffrey/Denelle Hanson that the March 6, 2022 version of the Community of Faith Profile be approved as amended. Carried.

16. Acknowledgement and Thanks

Jean gave thank to the following:

- Community of Faith Profile group: Marina Jeffrey, Nancy McBean and Trina Hodgson
- Hilary Wallin as out-going board chair
- Tricia Gerhard for her continued work and flexibility throughout the pandemic
- David Gerhard for his technical knowledge and efforts to get Sunset properly set-up with audio and visual equipment.
- Bonnie Tudor as she takes over the technical aspect of Sunday worship
- Members of the board for their on-going support and collegiality
- Barbara Flaten-Orr as out-going board secretary
- Brenda Scarfe as in-coming board chair
- Thanks through Zoom – Thanks to Jean Cameron for helping guide us through these past years.
- Thank you from Tricia Gerhard to Jean Cameron for her tireless work through the pandemic.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 pm by Jean Cameron.

18. Benediction

Benediction by Tricia Gerhard.

Notes from the January 2023 Congregational Meeting re Amalgamation

Sunset United Church Congregational Meeting Sunday January 22 2023

The meeting was live-streamed. Those taking part from home were recorded as attendees, and had opportunities to take part via the chat feature on YouTube or via text to Dave Towers' phone.

Purpose – to learn more about the possibility of amalgamating with the Wesley Community of Faith, discuss and ask questions.

Susan Black called the meeting to order and explained how it would proceed.

Jim Tenford opened with prayer.

Susan read through the information that had been circulated ahead of time (attached below) and then led the discussion around the 4 options put forward by the Board.

Jim explained the difference between a merger and amalgamation:

- **merger** – the Wesley Community of Faith (COF) moves in with Sunset, becomes part of the Sunset COF. This is 'easy' but has little pay-off. Since Wesley COF would no longer exist, Wesley's resources would be disbursed according to United Church guidelines.

- **amalgamation** – two COFs become one, equally. This involves a name change, a new community profile, a new role for the minister, and the Wesley COF decides how its resources should be disbursed. This is not easy, but 'good stuff takes work'.

Option 2 – No, this isn't a good time to do this/we are not interested.

- This seems easy, but it would be difficult to explain why we would choose this option
- change is hard
- doesn't feel as though it's even an option, but it's good that it's there
- feels selfish
- we would want to keep our building
- it would be a missed opportunity
- what will our COF look like compared to how it is now??? We don't know what 'different' looks like.
- status quo is comfortable
- if we amalgamate, will we have space for everyone?

Carolyn Woodall (minister at Wesley) – the process of amalgamation will take time. If the Wesley COF moves to Sunset in the fall, they will soon get to know Jim as their minister. Things will happen gradually.

Option 4 – Wesley COF moves in with Sunset, shares the building and worships separately. At some point this could lead to amalgamation.

- Seems like a waste of resources to do things twice

- We already worship together during Tri-Church, worshipping separately would seem like a step backwards.
- Defeats the purpose of getting to know each other
- Focus should be a unitary COF rather than a separated one.
- May feel uncomfortable
- **When churches close, 40-50% of the congregation fall away from regular worship.**

Option 3 – Sunset proposes that the Wesley COF moves to Sunset, without amalgamating. They could join us and become part of Sunset (merger – see above).

- This option necessitates closure of Wesley – this is not what Wesley COF is asking us
- This would not be working towards growing the United Church in Regina.
- When Whitmore Park U.C. closed, each person chose where they should go – many stopped attending anywhere. Financially – the building was sold and the United Church received a percentage of the money as outlined in the Property Handbook, then a committee disbursed the rest locally, to LBC, RAPM, and other agencies that Whitmore had supported over the years.
- Concern about losing another United Church in south Regina – we will be stronger together.
- This option doesn't sound like a positive message

Option 1 – Sunset agrees to work with Wesley towards amalgamation. Wesley COF join Sunset for worship and other activities following Tri-Church in September 2023.

- What if Sunset were in the position that Wesley is in....how would we feel?
- Have there been conversations with other churches who have amalgamated? 5 Anglican churches joined into 1 recently in Regina....their Bishop would have decided that, it wouldn't have been a congregational decision. Information about several United Church amalgamations has been circulated to the Sunset Board.
- Could Sunset sell their building to pay for the repairs to the Wesley building, which is larger and has a larger kitchen?
- 'Building' a community of faith doesn't actually require a building. It's all about how we live out our faith in the community.
- When two affirming congregations become one, do they need to go through the process of becoming affirming again? No, they will continue as affirming.

Carolyn suggested looking at pages 18-40 of the United Church Property Handbook for information about closing or selling a building.

Marina Jeffery pointed out that change is difficult and is managed by different people in different ways. It's good that we are taking some time before decisions are made – recognizing diversity in how we as individuals make decisions.

Bryan Tudor commented that if we decide on amalgamation, there is much work to be done as we move toward that place. For example, what about choir/musicians and other staff.....and finances? There will need to be some sort of agreement prior to moving in together.

Question – has Wesley thought about joining with any other congregations? Or other ways of worshipping?

Carolyn – The attraction toward Sunset is that the two congregations have already worshipped together during Tri-Church for several years and the Sunset COF has supported this well by attending at Wesley, and vice versa. The Living Spirit Centre has space for rent, but this is not in the geographical area of south Regina, and would mean Wesley finding a minister. Givings at Wesley have declined by \$2-3,000/month over the past few years due to deaths of generous donors.

Jim mentioned that he is nervous about this – if it's not broken, don't fix it. But – this is the right time, let's celebrate rather than acknowledge defeat in the future.

The handheld microphone 'died' and this helped to call a halt to the meeting after much good discussion having lasted approx. 1 hour.

Susan thanked everyone for taking part. Dave Towers thanked Susan for managing the meeting so well.

Marion Tudor

Background and information for the Congregational meeting on Jan. 22 2023

Please be sure to join us for this important meeting. Soup and bread for lunch, Zoom available for those not able to attend.

1. There are currently 9 United Churches in Regina. This is more than enough, and many of them are struggling due to an aging congregation and diminishing funds.
2. Sunset finds themselves in good shape, but there is no way to predict what may happen in the future and therefore we should not be complacent.
3. Wesley United Church found themselves without a minister quite suddenly in February 2021. Their Council decided to embark on a transition period of 2 years. They were aware at that time that their aging congregation may not be able to support a full-time minister in the long term. Wesley is currently near the end of a 2 year Intentional Interim Ministry and need to make decisions about their future very soon.
Earlier this year they discovered that their roof is in need of major repairs (estimated cost \$560,000). They may need to close their church and would therefore need a new/different worship space. They would like to remain together as a community of faith rather than disperse to various churches.
4. Wesley and Sunset have a long-standing relationship through the tri-church partnership each summer.
5. The transition team and Board at Wesley have approached the Board of Sunset, to discuss amalgamation. Long-term, this means the two communities of faith would become one, rather than Wesley folk 'joining' Sunset. Short-term there are several options, some of which are listed below.
6. The meeting on January 22 is for the purpose of discussion and brainstorming. No decisions will be made without full input from the congregation.

Options:

1. Sunset agrees to work with Wesley towards amalgamation. Wesley folk join us for worship and other activities starting in September 2023, after tri-church.
2. No, this isn't a good time to do this/we are not interested.
3. Sunset proposes that the Wesley congregation moves to Sunset, without amalgamating. They could join us and become part of Sunset.
4. Wesley moves into our building, shares it with us, and worships separately. At some point this may lead to amalgamation.

Affirming Ministry Report

This affirming group was thrilled to have the Pride Parade back to “normal” this year after several COVID parades. It was amazing to be back in the community we love. After this year’s parade Rev. Tricia and several other UCC ministers hosted a Glitter Blessing in Wascana Park as part of the Pride Festival. These blessings were well received and many people are still learning that the United Church and specifically Affirming Communities of Faith are safe for the 2Spirit and LGBTQAI+ community and people are loved just as they are. We also hosted a Pride Service the Sunday following the parade. It was a privilege to speak alongside Morgan Traquair and Sophia Gerhard as they shared their coming out stories with the congregation. The work to be Affirming is ongoing and always will be. This year we focused more energy and learning about the importance of sharing our pronouns. We will continue this work moving into this year. This year we will commit to expand our work in be Affirming. We will expand to include more support for those people whose abilities differ from many of us. We will also be more deliberate in our work towards Reconciliation. While this work has not been defined, it is important to have it noted here in the Annual Report.

Trina Hodgson (she/her)

Board of Trustees Report

Board of Trustees for 2022-2023: Olive McLeod, Doug Billett, Don Orr, Marina Jeffery and Dave Millar (Chairperson), Rev. Jim Tenford (Ex-Officio)

Financial Matters

The Trustees met once over the past year. At this meeting, held in January 2023, the Trustees reviewed the year-end financial data for the Church and had no expressed concerns. The Trustees also reviewed the Budget for 2023. The budgeted deficit was noted but the Trustees are confident that the deficit can be addressed by the congregation over the ensuing year.

Building

The Trustees were apprised of possible future expenses regarding the Church building. These unbudgeted expenses include possible repairs to the roof and the sanctuary floor. The Trustees recommended to the Board that the Board ensure that the property and building value appraisal reflects current market values.

There was discussion of the possible relationship with Wesley United. The Trustees recognize the pending complexity, challenges and opportunities for our congregation as we work through this question. We support the people working in ongoing discussions on this question.

Board of Trustees Membership

The Board of Trustees has had up to seven members in the past. One member resigned in 2021. At that time no request was made to the Board to appoint a member in his place. A second member completed his term at the 2022 Annual General Meeting. That member was not replaced. Trustee David Millar will complete his term at the 2023 Annual Meeting. The current Trustees and the expiration of their terms are as follows:

Doug Billett 2024

Marina Jeffery 2024
Olive McLeod 2024
Don Orr 2024

The Board of Trustees recommended to the Board that the Board nominate two Trustees to the Board of Trustees at the Annual Meeting.

I personally wish to thank the current Members of the Board of Trustees for their service on this committee. Many thanks to the Congregation and Board of Sunset United Church for the privilege of representing the Sunset United Church community as a Trustee.

Respectfully submitted,
David Millar

Children and Youth Report

There have been many changes at Sunset this year and I have had to deal with them. 2022 also marked my ninth year working here and it looks very different from that first one. As we move towards a new routine, I have to be adaptable each week. I was able to organize my office and let go of a lot of stuff that is no longer relevant. There have been decisions to make and as much as I would like to have something stay the same; there is value in starting something new. I work only Sundays in the church now, with occasional visits during the week when my schedule permits. I moved to the North end of the city in late 2021 so had to adjust my schedule to get to church on time. I hope to continue the spirit of flexibility as we move into 2023.

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new." – Socrates

Sunday School Report

We have moved from the Workshop Rotation Module to Seasons of the Spirit. This curriculum is more structured and allows for replacement leaders much more easily. It was used previously by Sunset United. Instead of having one story over several weeks, it follows the Common Lectionary so the kids are exposed to the same themes as the adults. Michelle posts a blog each week with the theme following the service.

Youth and Young Adult Coordinator Report

There has been no youth group since early 2020. Michelle is asking for those interested to contact her; this will be open to youth grades 5 and up. There has also been expressed interest from other churches to have more city-wide events for youth. Please contact Michelle for more information.

Submitted by,
Michelle McConkey

Choir Report

We're grateful for music and our musicians. Under the guidance of our director Corinne Groff and collaborating accompanist Shirley Hill, our choir met regularly in 2022, sharing anthems at almost all worship services.

We are thriving, with our numbers typically back up to 20 or 25. We continue to be a masked choir who sings in harmony: basses, tenors, altos, sopranos; and sometimes we get fancy and divide those parts even further! When there is no full choir, solos, duos and small groups have stepped up. Corinne would also say she's grateful for flexible vocalists in the choir who can sing bass OR tenor, soprano OR alto. But generally the basses never offer to sing soprano – or vice versa.

A great delight of 2022 for us has been the gifts of musician Jen Tenford, who is highly skilled on the flute, clarinet and more, and generously shares her talent with us.

Our special Christmas service on December 18 offered the cantate "Take Me Back to Bethlehem" by Pepper Choplin, composer/arranger of eight songs, some based on familiar old folk melodies or carols. Rev. Jim Tenford read the accompanying narrative.

We have many to thank: each choir member for making this commitment; Bonnie Tudor for her assistance with sound, cameras, streaming and posting recordings; Barbara Flaten-Orr for assisting at the piano in rehearsals, Jen for the extra instruments, and Rev. Jim for his flexibility. And we also should acknowledge that Corinne and Shirley have hatched a lovely little children's choir, who sang for us at Christmas - another delight!

Singers, please feel welcome to join our choir. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:15.

Respectfully submitted for Sunset United Choir,
Marina Jeffery

Community Service Committee Report

Committee members are Nancy Toppings (chair), Bryan Tudor, Cara Gay Driscoll and Janet McMurtry. With the departure of Tricia Gerhard in July, we welcome Reverend Jim Tenford (ex officio) to the committee. As the work of the church returns to near normal, so does the outreach work led by the Community Service Committee and individuals in our church community.

The Community Service Committee is engaged in the following activities:

1. Minute for Mission: To raise the profile of the work done by the United Church's Mission and Service Fund, weekly updates are typically shared during worship services, on M&S projects in Canada and globally.
2. Regina Native Outreach Ministry – New Mom Bags: RNOM's first project was to prepare welcome-and -support packages for new Indigenous moms. Sunset, along with other Regina United Churches, was invited to contribute items to assist new moms in the early days after their baby is born. Donations were collected in January/February and packages were assembled by the Ministry.
3. Inter-Faith Lunch Program: The Inter-Faith Downtown Bag Lunch Program came about in response to the increasing need for food security for those who are street involved or living without adequate social support. Various faith groups and church denominations work together to offer 200 free bag lunches every Saturday, distributing them from First Baptist Church downtown. Under the leadership of Trina Hodgson, volunteers from Sunset prepared and served lunch to those in need on three occasions this year in

March, July and November. Donations of cash, food items and time enabled us to contribute to this important work.

4. Sandwich Program at Waterston House: Members of the congregation donated sandwiches on three Sundays in April. Thank you to Dave Millar for acting as liaison between Sunset and Waterston House.
5. Annual Special Appeal: The 2022 Special Appeal supported the following agencies:

Regina Anti-Poverty Ministry	\$1,535
Carmichael Outreach	\$1,635
Lulu's Lodge	\$1,305

Peter Gilmer (RAPM), Bettyann Cox (Carmichael Outreach), and Tanna Young (Lulu's Lodge) attended worship services in April and May and shared their stories.
6. Warm winter clothing collection: During the month of October, the Committee invited Sunset folk to drop off warm winter clothing for folks in need. Donations were abundant and several deliveries were made to Carmichael Outreach.
7. Rainbow Youth Centre: Again this year, Sunset was invited to participate in the RYC Christmas Stocking Initiative, and the response was tremendous. Over \$1,100 in cheques, cash and gift cards, along with a trunk packed full of merchandise was collected on White Gift Sunday. Thanks to the participation by Corinne's children's choir on White Gift Sunday, an enthusiastic group of children was in attendance to bring the gifts forward. Our support helps RYC staff to fill 200 Christmas stockings for children and youth during the holiday season and is greatly appreciated.

We remain grateful to the congregation of Sunset United Church for ongoing support during these uncertain times.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Toppings

Fundraising Committee Report

There were 2 fundraising events this year.

A Munch picnic lunch was held on Sunday June 19, Father's Day. 39 lunches were purchased, which brought in \$568.00. The invoice from Munch was for \$519.46. We like supporting Munch Catering, however, we have found that this doesn't raise very much for Sunset.

The gift card fundraiser was held in October/November. This raised \$1781.44. This is slightly more than in 2021. It's such an easy fundraiser, thanks to all those who support it – the Fundscrip cards raised \$912.69, Co-op cards raised \$668.75, and \$200 was donated to the fundraiser from a church family.

We almost held a rummage sale in the spring, but at the last minute it was decided that it would not be Covid-friendly and it was postponed until spring of 2023.

Submitted by Marion Tudor on behalf of the committee (Jean Cameron, Brenda Scarfe, Hilary Wallin).

House Group Report

In 2022, the year started off with just the choir attending in person for the online services. By the end of February, the congregation was also in person. The choir numbered almost half the attendance, and the House Group program wasn't used until September.

The House Group Program at Sunset is a way of engaging as many people as possible in the activities involved with Sunday services. The House Groups rotate through the year. The Groups find volunteers to assist with ushering (being worship hosts), reading during the service and serving coffee after church. Each House Group has one or two leaders.

Jean Cameron and Bev Hui met in October and re-organized the House Groups, removing two groups. We now have nine groups, which means that some years a group may have to do two months. The rotation goes backward through the months, moving two months back each time. It's a little different, but still results in each group covering the months the same. Some people will find they are in different groups now. Don't worry, your House Group Leader will contact you when it's your turn!

The Task Descriptions and list of months allocated to each group are on our website, under Resources (House Groups). A copy of the House Group binder is on the shelves under the small House Group bulletin board in the foyer, with another copy in the office. Please take a look at it, and the Task Descriptions. If you have any questions, check with your House Group Leader, or Bev Hui.

We are open to any ideas which will improve our system. Our success is dependent on the commitment and dedication of the House Group Leaders, and the people who volunteer to fill the positions each month. We acknowledge these contributions and thank Tricia, Jim and Polly for their support in 2022.

The House Group schedule for 2023 is as follows:

January	HG 5	Leaders – Hilary & Devin Wallin
February	HG 6	Leaders – Bev & Bosco Hui
March	HG 7	Leaders – Brenda Scarfe
April	HG 8	Leaders – Olive & Bob McLeod
May	HG 9	Leaders – Doreen & Jim Wyatt
June	HG 1	Leaders – Cathy & Doug Billett (Nov-Apr) Gail & Ken Fensom (May-Oct)
July	HG 2	Leaders – Jean & Bob Cameron
August	<i>(summer schedule isn't set yet)</i>	
September	HG 3	Leaders – Judy Halliday & Nancy McBean
October	HG 4	Leaders – Barb & Don Flaten-Orr
November	HG 5	Leaders – Hilary & Devin Wallin
December	HG 6	Leaders – Bev & Bosco Hui

Once the summer schedule is set, HG 2 will be responsible for some time during July or August, when Sunset is having services here.

Many thanks to the members of the congregation for your willingness to help when asked. We look forward to your continued support in this important ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Bev Hui, Co-ordinator

Ministry and Personnel Committee Report

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is responsible for supporting, overseeing and supervising ministry personnel and lay staff at Sunset United Church.

This has been a relatively easy year for us. The only changes to our staff contingent have been the departure of Rev. Tricia Gerhard in July, the arrival of Rev. Jim Tenford in September and the recruitment of Bonnie Tudor as our Technical Operator. An exit interview was conducted with Tricia, and of course the recruitment of Jim was done by the Search Committee (who did a great job).

We are happy that Bonnie Tudor applied for the Technical Operator position and has learned the job so well, despite her training by David Gerhard being limited by David contracting Covid 19 on her second Sunday of training. To avoid any perceived conflict of interest between Bonnie and Bryan Tudor, Jean Cameron has kindly agreed to be the liaison with Bonnie for M&P.

Michelle McConkey, Polly Williams-Olesen, Corinne Groff, Shirley Hill and John Ashley all continue to do great work and we are fortunate to have their knowledge and commitment here at Sunset. M&P invites everyone to take the time throughout the year to tell all of our ministry personnel and lay staff how much they are appreciated.

Submitted on behalf of the M&P Committee: Bryan Tudor (Chair), Susan Black, Jean Cameron, Ross Macnab and Dave Warden.

Property Committee Report

I want to thank those that helped keep the church flower beds in great shape outside this past year. This is the first year we contracted out the snow removal which has worked quite well. Also, thanks to Polly for her day-to-day work in assisting me with maintenance issues.

Below is a list of maintenance done in 2022.

- Three Star Plumbing & Heating:-----\$9,044.17
West side furnaces motor replacement, Furnace Filters, replace Sanctuary
Thermostat, East side Furnaces replace outside stacks to code, computer board,
Thermostat in East hallway, replace back flow valve.
- Touchstone Bobcat Snow Removal: -----\$1,420.80
- Innovative Pest Control: ----- \$658.35
- Tree Pruning:----- \$500.00
- Purchase used riding mower: ----- \$500.00
- Weed man: ----- \$248.42
- Flynn Roofing snow removal: ----- \$2,888.22
- Merit Carpet cleaning:----- \$250.00
- Security Key and Lock: ----- \$228.74
- Vipond Inc.:----- \$446.25
- Yearly maintenance and miscellaneous purchases:-----\$2,027.03
fire extinguisher inspections, back flow valve inspection, lawn mower servicing,
ice melt etc.

The main expense that is foreseen for 2023 is the repair of the roof at the front door and rear door entrances from ice build up in the winter.

Property Chair
Ken Fensom

Search Committee Report

After the resignation of Rev. Tricia Gerhard, and the development of Sunset's Community of Faith Profile, the Search Committee was struck. Members of the committee were Aaron Orban, Bosco Hui, Susan Black, Trina Hodgson, Judy Halliday and Jean Cameron. The Living Skies Regional Council representative was June Blau. After the work of the Search Committee was completed, a congregational meeting was held on June 5 to present to the Sunset folk the name of the candidate recommended by the committee. Rev. Jim Tenford, coming from St. Andrew's United Church in Moose Jaw, was unanimously and enthusiastically accepted by the meeting as the Sunset Church Minister beginning in September, 2022. The Covenanting Service for Jim was held on October 16. We anticipate a very long and happy association with Jim as our Minister at Sunset!

The 2022 Sunset Search Committee

Treasurer's Report

We had a very busy year in the church but our finances have stayed consistent once again. Detailed financial statements for 2022 are attached to this report. However, a brief summary is outlined below.

Our collections were comparable to the prior year due to our congregation members who continued to donate throughout the year. Expenses have also stayed comparable with some increases to maintain the church. Overall, we finished the 2022 year with a positive cash flow of \$13,437 which has been added to the contingency fund.

This positive cashflow is mostly related to the loan forgiveness of \$20,000 in the miscellaneous income. We had previously received the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) loan of \$60,000 from the Canada Revenue Agency to help cover some undeferrable costs. We have repaid this loan in full and a portion was forgiven which was then included in income.

For 2022, we had set our Mission & Service (M&S) contribution target at \$20,000, with a commitment of \$10,000 from the operating budget and the remaining to be paid from voluntary donations. As voluntary donations exceeded the \$10,000, we were able to send \$20,852 to the United Church of Canada.

I would like to thank to Devin Wallin for taking on the task to review of the statements this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Denelle Hansen

Review of Financial Statements

Devin Wallin
5540 Chester Place
Regina, SK S4X 4G4

February 3, 2023

Sunset United Church
177 Sunset Drive
Regina, SK S4S 6Y7

To whom it may concern:

I have reviewed the financial statements, operational reports, and the associated revenues, expenses, payroll, and bank record information for the year ended December 31, 2022.

During my examination I verified a wide range of transactions to ensure the accuracy of the accounting entries vis-à-vis the supporting documentation of the revenues and expenditures for the church this fiscal year.

It is my opinion that the financial statements accurately represent the financial affairs of Sunset United Church for the 2022 year end.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Devin Wallin', written in a cursive style.

Devin Wallin

Appendix I

**Sunset United Church
Balance Sheet
At at December 31, 2022**

	2022	2021
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash	84,313	127,341
Term Deposit	17,648	17,510
Prepaid expenses	-	-
GST Receivable	530	711
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	102,490	145,563
 Land and Building	 868,723	 868,723
TOTAL ASSETS	971,213	1,014,285
 <u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Canada Emergency Business Account Loan	-	60,000
United Church of Canada Mortgage	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	60,000
 <u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>		
Capital Projects Fund	8,563	6,073
Congregational Education Fund	1,594	1,594
Contingency Fund	90,358	76,921
Memorial Fund	1,975	975
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	102,490	85,563
 <u>EQUITY</u>		
United Church of Canada	868,723	868,723
TOTAL EQUITY	868,723	868,723
 TOTAL LIAB/RESTRICTED FUNDS/EQUITY	971,213	1,014,286

Appendix II

**Sunset United Church
Income & Expense Statement
For year ended December 31, 2022**

	2022	2021
<u>INCOME</u>		
Clothing sale	2,259.65	-
Collections	179,539	173,695
Anonymous Collections	2,130	112
Mission & Service Voluntary	10,852	11,734
Fundraising	1,852	1,987
Funeral	-	250
General Rent	7,010	2,878
Interest Inc	150	23
Misc Income	20,000	38,111
Sunday School	-	-
Sundry	548	(790)
TOTAL INCOME	224,340	228,000
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
1. Administration		
Mission & Service Fund	20,852	21,734
National Assessment	7,796	9,520
Office	2,746	2,491
Official Board	390	450
Regional Registration	-	-
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	31,784	34,195
2. Building Maintenance		
Building Repair & Maintenance	18,212	16,929
Custodian	7,884	4,220
Electricity	4,358	3,414
Gas	4,428	2,669
Insurance	5,012	4,533
Janitorial Supplies	844	-
Telephone	1,562	1,575
Water	2,144	1,827
TOTAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE	44,443	35,166
3. Committees		
Affirming	100	224
Benevolent	-	-
Christian Education	695	926
Community Service	-	135
Congregational Care	117	-
Publicity	308	27
Worship	2,921	2,499
TOTAL COMMITTEES	4,140	3,810

4. Personnel		
Salary, Minister	61,117	66,223
Con Ed & Learning Resources, Minister	-	240
Salary, Youth Coordinator	6,017	6,199
Continuing Education, Youth Coordinator	-	-
Travel Expenses	-	-
Music Leaders	10,835	10,830
Office Coordinator	22,246	20,615
Pension and Benefits	23,764	21,432
Tech Honorarium	2,200	2,000
Treasurer Honorarium	2,000	2,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL	<u>128,179</u>	<u>129,540</u>
Search committee	2,356	-
Clothing Sale Expense	-	35
TOTAL EXPENSES	210,903	202,747
NET DEFICIT/SURPLUS	13,437	25,253

Appendix III – 2023 Budget

Sunset United Church 2023 Budget

	2023	2022
<u>INCOME</u>		
Collections	175,000	190,000
Clothing Sale	5,000	-
Fundraising	2,000	2,500
General Rent	10,000	7,000
Mission & Service Voluntary	10,000	10,000
Misc Income	-	20,000
Sundry	-	100
TOTAL INCOME	202,000	229,600
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Administration		
Mission & Service Fund	20,000	20,000
National Assessment	8,000	10,280
Office	3,000	5,000
Official Board	500	500
Regional Registration	200	200
TOTAL Administration	31,700	35,980
Building Maintenance		
Building Repair & Maintenance	10,000	5,000
Custodian	8,000	15,000
Janitorial Supplies	1,000	1,000
Electricity	4,000	4,000
Gas	3,500	3,500
Insurance	5,000	4,500
Telephone	2,000	2,000
Water	2,200	2,000
TOTAL Building Maintenance	35,700	37,000
Committees		
Affirming	300	300
Benevolent	200	200
Christian Education	1,000	2,000
Community Service	200	200
Publicity	500	1,000
Worship	3,500	3,500
TOTAL Committees	5,700	7,200

Personnel

Minister - Salary	71,295	67,084
Minister - Continuing education	1,500	2,000
Youth Minister - Salary	7,500	10,000
Youth Minister - Continuing education	750	750
Office Coordinator	23,000	23,000
Music Leaders	11,500	11,000
Pension and Benefits	25,000	23,000
Travel Expenses	525	525
Treasurer Honorarium	2,000	2,000
Tech crew Honorarium	2,500	2,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL	145,570	141,359
Search Committee	-	5,000
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	218,670	226,539
OVERALL TOTAL	(16,670)	3,061

Appendix IV – Board Nominations 2023

Chairperson _____ Brenda Scarfe
Vice Chairperson _____ Dave Towers
Past Chairperson _____ Jean Cameron
Treasurer _____ Denelle Hansen
Secretary _____ Marion Tudor

Affirming Congregation _____ Trina Hodgson
Board of Trustees _____ Don Orr
Community Service _____ Nancy Toppings
Congregational Care (House Groups) _____ Bev Hui
Finance _____ Tim Osborne
Ministry (ex-officio) _____ Rev. Jim Tenford
Ministry and Personnel _____ Bryan Tudor
Property _____ Ken Fensom
Worship & Christian Education _____ Rev. Jim Tenford (acting chair)
Regional Council Representative _____ Vacant
Member at Large _____ Susan Black

Appendix V

Baptisms and Weddings

Baptisms

Elijah Lewis, son of Clayton David Lewis and Sivagowry Lewis

Weddings

Brent Joseph Ortman and Shanna Leanne Kanhai

Edward Arthur Bennett and Christine Richard

Funerals and In Memoriam

Funerals

Helen Marion Wilkinson

Mary Rosalie Sutton

Marilyn Joan Bzdell

Eva Marjorie Kesslering

In Memoriam

Members Received by Confirmation

Memberships Transferred In/Out for 2022

In

Darwin Dopson

Edna McCall

Out

Andrew and Karen Cartmel