



Sunset United Church

2020 Annual Report

(No Annual Meeting Due to the COVID-19 pandemic)



“Be Kind, Be Calm, Be Safe”

-Dr. Bonnie Henry

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-Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard
**-Youth and Young Adult
Program Coordinator:**
Michelle McConkey

Sunset United Church
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.

Table of Contents

Agenda	2
Minister's Report.....	3
Chairperson's Report	4
Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting (March 1,2020).....	6
 <u>Reports:</u>	
Sunday School Update.....	9
Youth Group	9
Sunset Choir	10
Community Service Committee.....	11
United Church Housing Corporation.....	12
Affirming Ministries.....	13
Congregational Care –House Groups.....	13
Fundraising Committee.....	14
Clothing Sale.....	15
Sunset Ladies Fellowship	15
- Financial Statement	16
Ministry and Personnel Committee.....	17
Property Projects.....	18
Website.....	18
Board of Trustees Report.....	19
Worship	19
Financial	
-Finance Committee Report.....	20
-Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements.....	20
Sunset Board 2021	28
List of Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, In Memoriam Members Received by	
Confirmation and Memberships Transferred in and Transferred Out for 2020.....	29

(Cover Photo: Photo Courtesy of Sunset United Church)

Note:

***No meeting to be held this year
due to the Covid-19 pandemic***

Agenda

**Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunset United Church**

Lunch (following Worship Service)
Call to Order
Devotion
Attendance
Adoption of Agenda
Appointment of Counters
Minutes: February 24/2019 Annual Congregational Meeting
Business Arising from February 24/ 2019 Minutes
Resolutions
Business Arising from Board Minutes
Presentation and Discussion of Annual Reports
a. Presentation of Finance Committee Report and Financial
Statements
Presentation of 2020 Budget
a. Motion to approve Budget
Appointment of Financial Reviewer
Nominating Committee Report
Nominations for the Church Board
Nominations for the Board of Trustees
New Business
Acknowledgement and Thanks
Adjournment
Benediction

Minister's Report from Rev. Tricia Gerhard:

I've started this report about three different times. There aren't a lot of words I can say that haven't been said already. Words like "unprecedented", "challenging", "restrictions", "sacrifice" have been used over and over again during the last year. While they certainly fit the circumstances, the last year has offered the world opportunities as well. Our awareness of the importance of community has grown, as we seek ways to support one another in our isolation. We learned new ways to reach out to one another. Our eyes were opened to the world as we witnessed first hand the Black Lives Matter movement explode into the streets of America, calling our attention to the systemic racism and intolerance present in that nation. This also drew our attention to the systemic racism that is present in Canadian society, and conversations regarding racism and anti-racism started. We bore witness to increased violence and intolerance as supported by governmental leadership in the United States, particularly in the Presidential office, and held our breath as a brutal and antagonistic presidential election race began, wondering how the outcome will affect not only the American population, but also how it would ripple out into Canada.

In and amidst all of this upheaval and hurt, I was reminded over and over again of the resilience of this community of faith. The shifts that the pandemic required of us as a faith community came fast and intensely. We closed our building, we laid off staff, we moved to remote services, and we stopped sharing time together as a community. The leadership shown by the Official Board and the Ministry and Personnel Committee was incredible. They were responsible for making hard decisions around closing the church building, suspending rentals, and adjusting staff hours and working locations. Each decision was made with deep concern for the safety of the community and for the staff, and deep compassion, knowing that each change brought a range of emotional impact with it. It is never easy being separated from a community that is a source of support and care. To be separated in a time of anxiety and fear is even harder. The reality is that by being apart, we were ensuring the continued health of the people we love and caring for ourselves at the same time.

The past year really pushed this community to be flexible and patient as we navigated the life and work of this church in this midst of the pandemic. We had to look at all aspects of our ways of being and figure out how to shift within the restrictions while knowing that some things would just have to wait until it was safe to be together. We said goodbye to Nancy Edwards after over 20 years of choir directing without being able to hold a celebration of her ministry. We welcomed Corinne Groff into the staff team as our new choir director without being able to do an official welcome celebration. We had to shift our methods of providing faith formation for children, youth, and adults from in-person options to remote options – faith formation pizza boxes full of seasonal supplies and curriculum, seasonal at-home devotionals and email devotionals for youth and adults. We had deaths within our community and we were unable to celebrate their lives in familiar ways, carrying our grief until we can gather together in person. We had births in our community and we've yet to meet these new little lives but we still send an outpouring of prayer and love to them.

The year showed us that we were capable of doing hard things with trust and faith, with compassion and love. Time and again we were reminded that the church is not just about what happens in the building, and in fact, the love, compassion, faith and community that you share is so much larger than the building. While the pandemic has been a hard part of the history of Sunset United, we have borne witness to the fact that faith is so much more than hymn books and coffee time. We remained connected through on-line worship and gatherings, by calling one another and sending email, and through a variety of little, safe actions that spoke volumes. The presence of the Holy flowed in and through the words, actions, and love of the people of Sunset. This, friends, is one of the greatest things the pandemic offered us. The pandemic offered us not only challenge but opportunity – the opportunity to live into the faith that we hold close to our hearts, not only in our church community, but in our neighbourhoods, in our province, and in our world.

When we look back at 2020, I pray that we see not only the hard, challenging year but also the opportunity, the growth, and the space we were given to be church and a community of God's people in a different way. Throughout the isolation and restriction, we were not alone. The God that we worship, the God that we carry in each of us was with us every step of the way. As Cameron Trimble, theologian and church leadership guru, pointed out – we were not all on the same boat, but we were all in the same storm. As each of us navigated our own boats through the storm of the pandemic and a world that seemed in chaos, we were companioned by the Holy Presence, who loved us hard in the ups and downs of the (as I call it) Coronacoaster of 2020.

Blessings and love to you - you strong, resilient, loved and courageous people of Sunset.

**Respectfully submitted by
Rev. Tricia Gerhard**

Message from the Chairperson

During the Thanksgiving Sunday online worship service, Rev. Tricia suggested that when someone asks "How are you?", we should answer, "I am grateful." For the past year, during this pandemic, it has often been difficult to say that. But, as we have navigated the challenges of 2020, I have found many reasons to say "I AM GRATEFUL".

When I became chair of the Sunset Board on March 1, I certainly had no idea of what was coming. However, I AM GRATEFUL that I have been in this role for this past year. I have been a Sunset member for 47 years, and I care very deeply for this community. It has meant so much to me to be in this position during this challenging and unprecedented time.

I AM GRATEFUL to all the Sunset folk for the way that you have continued to support our church. You can see from the financial statement in this report that at the end of 2020 the amount of income over expenses was about \$3000. In this year of pandemic, that is amazing! Also, I want to point out that the voluntary portion of our Mission and Services givings was budgeted at \$10,000, and Sunset folk actually gave over \$11,000. So, including the amount that was budgeted, we sent over \$21,000 to the National Church for M&S. We should be proud that we show support for others in such a generous manner.

I AM GRATEFUL that our Sunset community has showed their support in many other ways as well. We have organized a phoning tree where we have kept in touch with our members who have been the most isolated this past year. I also know, from talking to many of you, that you are in contact with each other on a regular basis. That is wonderful! We have people who have looked after our building and grounds-giving of their time to cut the grass, weed and water in the summer, and to shovel the snow in the winter. Thanks so much to all of you!

To our staff and many others, I AM GRATEFUL! Rev. Tricia has had to completely change the way that she ministers to us. She has done so with such grace, patience and skill. Jayne has had to adjust to dramatic changes as well, as has Michelle. For our musicians, Corinne and Shirley, these times are unprecedented. In spite of that, they continue to delight us with their music. I also want to acknowledge and thank our Treasurer, Denelle Hansen, who had no idea, when she took on the job, what she would be in for this year. Her expertise is so appreciated as she has dealt with applying for government programs, and the many other challenges that this year has presented. Our online worship services have been the "glue" that has held us together this year. At the beginning, the technical aspect was sometimes a challenge. But we are fortunate, so very fortunate, to have had David Gerhard and Christa Eidsness take on this task. Their amazing talents have made it look easy.... but I know that it definitely is not easy! David and Christa, you have made a huge contribution to our worship services, and we thank you!!

And finally, I AM GRATEFUL to the Sunset Board. We have been meeting on Zoom, which is very challenging. They are an amazing group, who care so deeply for the Sunset community. Through this time of pandemic I'm so appreciative of all their hard work and their support. I especially want to recognize Ken Fensom (Property Committee) and Bryan Tudor (Ministry and Personnel Committee) who have had extra duties and responsibilities this year.

This is a very long report... because I AM GRATEFUL for so many people in our church community!

**Respectfully Submitted,
Jean Cameron, Board Chair**

Sunset United Church Annual Meeting Minutes-March 1, 2020

- 1. Lunch**
Hilary Wallin thanked the Ladies Fellowship for providing the lunch prior to the annual meeting.
- 2. Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order by board chair, Hilary Wallin at 12:20pm. Notice of the meeting had been provided for 2 weeks, and a quorum of at least 40 people was present.
- 3. Devotion**
Tricia Gerhard led us in prayer.
- 4. Attendance**
Moved by Brenda Scarfe/Judy Fawell that anyone present, members, adherents and guests can vote on motions. Carried.
There were 48 persons who signed the register that was circulated.
- 5. Adoption of Agenda**
Moved by Gary Carlson/Linda Langenbacher that the agenda be adopted. Carried.
- 6. Appointment of Counters**
Jean Cameron and Brenda Scarfe volunteered to serve as counters if required.
- 7. Minutes of 2019 Annual General Meeting**
Moved by Ken Fensom/ Dave Towers that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of February 24, 2019 be adopted as presented. There were no errors or omissions identified. Carried.
- 8. Business arising from February 2019 AGM meeting**
None was brought forth.
- 9. Resolutions**
None were presented.
- 10. Business arising from Board minutes**
None
- 11. Presentation and Discussion of Annual Reports**
Gary Carlson thanked the writers of the reports and Jayne for putting it all together.
 - a). Finance Committee**
Hilary read remarks sent to her from Karen Cartmell, chair of the Finance Committee.
Highlights from 2019:
 - Total Income = \$224,405
 - Total Expenses = \$222,225
 - Net Cash Flow = \$2,180

- Karen thanked treasurer, Arlene Fehler; envelope steward, Nancy Toppings; Denelle Hansen who reviewed the financial statements for 2018; Jayne Strinholm, office coordinator; and the members of the finance committee.
- Denelle will step into the role of Treasurer and Arlene Fehler will review the finances for 2020.
- Sunset had financial ups and downs in 2019 but we ended with a surplus of \$2,180 which was added to the contingency fund.
- M&S givings actually surpassed the budgeted amount so Sunset's remittance to the UCC was \$20,654.96.
- A substantial amount of maintenance work was done on the church building this year, including lighting upgrades which cost \$21,035 which was offset by a grant of \$12,333.
- The Capital Projects Fund ended the year with a balance of \$6,898.
- The Memorial fund received \$6,082 in donations. A lawnmower and a snowblower were purchased.
- Hilary pointed out that we ended up with a surplus because of our fundraising, collections & rent.

Moved by Dave Fraser/Doreen Wyatt that the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2019, as outlined on pages 25 to 28 of the Annual Report, be accepted. Carried.

12. Presentation of 2020 Budget

Hilary read remarks sent to her from Karen Cartmell.

Highlights:

- Total estimated revenue = \$221,100
- Total estimated expenses = \$226,950
- Estimated deficit of --\$5,850
- We had a strong fundraising team which raised \$6,217 in 2019. When the budget was created in the fall, fundraising efforts were estimated to be lower, approximately \$2,500.
- The board recommended we budget the same amount for Mission & Service as last year and no longer use a percentage of budgeted collections so this is now listed in the operating budget.
- Thanks to Ken Fensom, chair of the property committee, we now have a realistic idea of the work needed which is reflected in the budget.
- We are budgeting a shortfall of \$5,850 which, hopefully, will be proven wrong
- Rod McLeod asked about the timing of the budget process and the input needed from the congregation. It was decided that the board discuss this issue.

Moved by Jamie Ellis / Tim Osborne that we approve the proposed 2020 budget as outlined on pages 29 to 30 of the Annual Report. Carried.

13. Appointment of Financial Reviewer

Moved by Marion Tudor/Richard Toppings that Arlene Fehler be appointed the financial reviewer for 2020. Carried.

14. Nomination Committee Report

Presented by Hilary Wallin, chair.

Executive Officers

Chair – Jean Cameron

Vice Chair – Brenda Scarfe

Past Chair – Hilary Wallin

Treasurer – Denelle Hansen

Secretary – Barbara Flaten-Orr

Ministry (ex officio)

Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Committee Chairs or Designates

Worship and Christian Education – Tricia Gerhard

Affirming Congregation – Trina Hodgson

Finance – vacant

Property – Ken Fensom

Congregational Care – Bev Hui (House Groups)

Community Service – Janet McMurtry

Ministry and Personnel – Bryon Tudor

Fundraising – Marion Tudor

Website – Michelle McConkey

Other Groups

Board of Trustees – David Millar

Regional Council Rep– vacant

Ladies Fellowship – Judy Fawell

Congregational Representatives (members at large)

Tim Osborne

Susan Black

Board of Trustees

Dave Millar - Chair (*6 year term expires 2023*)

Keith Schneider (*6 year term expires in 2022*)

Doug Billett (*6 year term expires in 2024*)

Don Orr (*6 year term expires in 2024*)

Monte Kesslering (*6 year term expires in 2024*)

Marina Jeffery (*6 year term expires in 2024*)

Olive McLeod (*6 year term expires in 2024*)

Moved by Nancy McBean/Judy Halliday that the report of the nominating committee be accepted. Carried.

15. New Business

It was suggested by Jayne Strinholm that the memoriam list be added to the annual report.

Jean Cameron - thanks to Tricia Gerhard, Michelle McConkey, Jayne Strinholm, Nancy Edwards, Shirley Hill, Bill Martin, Arlene Fehler, Whitmore U.C. folks, board members, Hilary Wallin (our rock star).

Jamie Ellis said that he feels welcome and comfortable at Sunset.

16. Adjournment - moved by Richard Toppings at 12:55pm.

Hilary Wallin, Chair

Barbara Flaten-Orr, Secretary

Reports

Sunday School Update

We started off 2020 with weekly in-person Sunday School activities but had to stop in March.

We are using a combination of Workshop Rotation Module and Illustrated Ministries to find activities for children in 2020.

Tricia and Michelle prepared Lent to-go boxes, Summer boxes, and Advent to-go boxes for families. We have still been posting activities and pictures for kids to do at home each week.

**Respectfully submitted,
Michelle McConkey**

Youth Group at Sunset United Church

We were able to hold a couple activities this year. We had a joint Youth Group and Congregational event in January: Games Night! The youth group participated in a couple online events: Never Dance Alone-a-thon for Kids Help Phone and the Terry Fox Walk.

Michelle participated in Rendez-Vous 2020 in August online. This event was free to attend and youth were invited to join.

There are online options for youth which are being posted on the Facebook page and sent out by email to the Youth Group.

**Respectfully submitted,
Michelle McConkey**

Sunset United Church Choir

Our Sunset Church Choir is a dedicated volunteer choir singing four-part harmony with soprano, alto, tenor and bass sections. We started 2020 as usual by providing worship music from January until mid-March, at which time we began our longest pause in the history of the choir!

As the weeks went on and we all learned the scope of the pandemic, we received Nancy Edward's news of her resignation as Music Director. Nancy regretted telling us this by email, but such is life right now. She and her husband Bill Edwards, also long-serving as a tenor, have moved to a new home at Katepwa Lake in the Qu'Appelle Valley. We will plan to celebrate their service in person when the pandemic ends. Thank you, Nancy and Bill, for all you have done for Sunset Choir over the years.

After posting the position of Music Director for applicants, the Board announced that Corinne Groff had been selected for the role effective August 1. And thankfully, accompanist Shirley Hill has faithfully continued to provide piano music – Shirley's preludes, worship music and postludes are a gift for all who listen to online services. Throughout the remainder of 2020, Corinne gamely took on the technical challenges of delivering recorded music. She found a few of us (nicknamed the Sunset COVID Singers) willing to record in duos, trios and small groups – masked and/or distanced as required. Almost every Sunday's worship has included music from various combinations of these singers. We were also grateful for a special choir Christmas service unlike any of our past ones, but special in its own way. As a bonus, Corinne video recorded many of the choir on their doorsteps sending our Sunset community Christmas greetings. We also offer a special thank-you to David Gerhard for assisting with recordings.

This year will have changed us all; it has offered unexpected learning but also losses. In the fall, we were sad to hear of Madeline Moore's passing. She was a pillar of our soprano section (although I know her well enough to know she would have made some witty comeback at being called a *pillar*!) We will really miss her and are grateful for her many years in the choir.

We all look forward to gathering to sing again when we can. May all of you stay well through these challenging times.

**Respectfully submitted,
Marina Jeffery**

Community Services Committee 2020 Report

The members of our committee are Bryan Tudor, CaraGay Driscoll Richard Toppings and Janet McMurtry. Tricia Gerhard is a member *ex officio*.

The Community Services Committee is engaged in the following activities:

1. *Meals on Wheels*: operated with a number of volunteers from the Sunset Community under the direction of Peg Achtymichuk.
2. *Annual Special Appeal*: we co-ordinate an annual special appeal to raise money for local agencies. This year, because of COVID-19, we ran our Special Appeal virtually in October 2020. We asked members of the congregation to support the following organizations: Lumsden Beach Camp, Regina Anti-Poverty Ministry and Mutchmor Lodge. We asked the donors to send their donations directly to each organization, again in view of Covid protocols. Consequently, we are unable to provide the Board with an accounting of the sums raised.
3. *Minute for Mission*: to raise the profile of the work done by the United Church's Mission and Service Fund, we provide bi-monthly up-dates on M&S projects, in Canada and globally.
4. *Rainbow Youth Centre*:
 - a) The RYC did not seek donations this year for their Christmas Stocking Project. RYC Program Supervisor Sandra Pfeifer explained:

First, the financial situation for many people these past several months has been affected by the pandemic and we do not want to cause additional financial strain on anyone including the congregation at Sunset United. The second reason is concerning safety. For the church to set up a drop box, sort items, then move items to a vehicle, then bring them to the agency, and then have our staff bag/deliver to families the items that have now been touched by many hands seems to be a low to moderate risk activity for passing on the virus. Having the donated items sit in isolation for a three day period is possible but we do not want to inadvertently create situations (for the people giving, the people sorting, the people being gifted) where the virus could be passed through common touch items. Fortunately for us (reason #3) the agency received a very generous donation of money from an anonymous donor at the beginning of Fall and it was decided that we would use a portion of that donation to purchase the items needed for the Christmas Stockings. We will have fewer stockings to make this year, as we have had to limit the number of clients using the Centre, and I will be able to bargain shop for the stocking items needed. There will only be myself and two other staff who will be handling the items as to keep the "bubble" small.

Sunset United is so incredibly generous towards Rainbow Youth Centre but you can think of 2020 as a season for "taking a Rainbow break" ... I promise, I will be back next year with Stocking Lists!!

- b) RYC has not asked us to provide monthly assistance with meals this year, because of Covid. Nor have we assisted with volunteers for the RYC Fall Barbeque and Christmas party.
- c) I expect when our world returns to normal, we will again assist RYC with volunteers and with gifts at Christmas.
- 5. *Recycling Database*: Occasionally, Sunset is offered donations of clothes, furniture etc. We decided to create a database listing the used items organizations will take, for information purposes only. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, most organizations are not taking donations, or have restricted what they will receive. Consequently, we have tabled this idea.
- 6. *Carmichael Outreach*: Bryan and Marion Tudor arranged for two collections of winter clothing for Carmichael Outreach from congregation members. In November, we collected jackets, pants, boots, blankets, toques, mitts and scarves; and plastic tubs with lids, 500g and larger, in which to serve hot lunches. In December, we collected socks, toques, scarfs and mitts as our White Gift donations.

Respectfully submitted by the Sunset Community Service Committee for 2019/2020: Bryan Tudor, CaraGay Driscoll, Richard Toppings, Janet McMurtry and Tricia Gerhard

(Attachment below as part of Community Service Report):

United Church Housing Corporation
Mutchmor Lodge Report

- 1. Mutchmor Lodge has a new website with everything you need to know about the lodge at "mutchmor.com"
- 2. The Sunset Special Appeal provided \$1,350. for the Lodge.
- 3. The new Executive Director is Sara Holmes.
- 4. We were successful in obtaining \$80,000. in Federal Covid-19 loans; with \$60,000. repayable.
- 5. Upgrades are needed for a dining room, lighting and the roof; the cost to be covered from the savings from a renegotiated mortgage on the new building.
- 6. Fortunately, we remain Covid-free.
- 7. Unfortunately, there has been a recent downturn in occupancy. Anyone interested in a unit can phone 306-352-8034.

Submitted by
Gary and Jessie Carlson.

Affirming Ministries

This year in light of the COVID the Pride events looked very different. The usual events of the June Pride Week were scaled back, but the Parade continued. It was a driving event with only limited engagement through the windows of our vehicles. We joined the folks from Eastside United and displayed the banner on vehicles. It was a very windy day and many balloons were lost in the process of decorating. For this parade, we were fortunate to have 2 routes. The traditional location weaving through downtown and a new route through Harbor Landing. It was nice to see so many Sunset folks along the parade routes.

There was a second opportunity to be with the Regina Pride community. In early September another driving only parade and we were only allowed one vehicle. It was a fun event and we again saw many smiling faces along the route. Karen Wotherspoon was kind enough to be my parade buddy this year. Thank you to the Gerhard family for participating in the first parade.

Another opportunity for the Sunset community to support the 2SLGBTQ community is through the support we have agreed to provide to the Living Skies Region and their work to ban Conversion Therapy in Saskatchewan and Regina. This stems from work led by Grosvenor United Church in Saskatoon. The board, on November 26th moved to support this work by a unanimous vote. This work will continue in 2021. I look forward to working as a larger community to support and educate on topics identified of importance in 2021.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Trina Hodgson(she/her)**

Congregational Care - House Groups

Covid Report:

Obviously, this year has been different from most. House Group activity in the church was suspended mid-March. Since then we have checked in on our group members, but that's been the extent of our involvement in church activities, except of course, attending YouTube church and FaceBook live reflections. When church does resume, we anticipate starting slowly, with regular activities like coffee time being held off. Worship Host and Reading will be on a volunteer basis, with those folk who feel comfortable taking the activity on, and not necessarily on a House Group basis. So, since you all will have had such a long break from HG activities, we hope you won't mind helping out when you feel comfortable and are asked.

The House Group Program at Sunset is a way of engaging as many people as possible in the activities involved with Sunday services. Every member of the congregation is a member of a House Group. Each House Group is responsible for one month of the year. This includes finding volunteers to assist with ushering (being worship hosts), reading the opening prayers, lighting candles and serving coffee after church. Each House Group has one or two leaders. We have two groups without leaders, so I'd ask anyone who might be willing to become a House Group Leader to contact Sunset Office or Bev Hui.

We haven't brought about any major changes to the House Group system recently. We are, however, always making small changes. The Task Descriptions and list of months allocated to each group are now 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 many people who volunteer to fill the positions each month. We acknowledge these contributions and thank Tricia and Jayne for their support in 2020.

The House Group schedule for 2021 is as follows: (Dependent on when in-person services resume)

January	HG 4	Leaders – Barb & Don Flaten-Orr
February	HG 5	Leaders – Hilary & Devin Wallin
March	HG 6	Leaders – Bev & Bosco Hui
April	HG 7	Leaders – currently no leaders
May	HG 8	Leaders – Olive & Bob McLeod
June	HG 9	Leaders – Doreen & Jim Wyatt
July	HG 10	Leaders – currently no leaders
August	(summer schedule isn't set yet)	
September	HG 11	Leaders – Brenda Scarfe
October	HG 1	Leaders – Cathy & Doug Billett
November	HG 2	Leaders – Jean & Bob Cameron
December	HG 3	Leaders – Marilyn & Don Bzdell

Once the summer schedule is set, HG 10 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**

Report from the Fundraising Committee

We held just one fundraising event this year – the sale of gift cards, through Fundscrip and Sherwood Co-op.

There were two opportunities to order this year, and the orders were quite evenly split between the two.

- Order 1 – 13 participants – Fundscrip - \$10,450 received, \$341.50 raised
Co-op - \$6850 received, \$548 raised (8%)

- Order 2 – 20 participants- Fundscrip - \$12,100 received, \$432.50 raised

Co-op - \$2,600 received, \$130 raised (5%)

Total raised - \$1452.00, plus a donation of \$50

Last year – 62 people participated, \$1012.03 was raised through gift cards, and \$1200 in donations.

This is a very easy fundraiser. Fundscrip is a great company to work with, as is Sherwood Co-op.

Thank you to all who participated, and to Brenda Scarfe and Jean Cameron who did most of the delivering. Also thanks to Jayne for receiving the orders and passing them along, and looking after the cheques, and to Denelle for her involvement in this.

**Submitted by the Fundraising committee,
Marion Tudor for the fundraising committee (Marion, Brenda Scarfe, Hilary Wallin).**

Clothing Sale Report

There isn't very much to report as Covid gathering restrictions made holding a clothing sale unworkable in 2020. The planning process for the Spring 2020 sale was well underway when Covid appeared in Canada. The sale had been scheduled for March 28, 2020, but when the first set of provincial restrictions were announced in mid-March the committee quickly made the decision to cancel the spring sale. At that time we were still hopefully that a 2020 fall sale would be possible, but that was not to be.

The committee is now looking forward to the fall of 2021 as that looks like the earliest possibility for a resumption of the bi-annual sales. We hope everyone stays tuned for our call for volunteers! And if committee members homes are any indication, when we're able to run a sale our consignors should be back with LOTS (and LOTS) of items to consign!

Hilary Wallin
On behalf of the Clothing Sale Committee

Sunset Ladies Fellowship

Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the Ladies Fellowship group was unable to meet for most of 2020.

**Sunset United Church
Ladies Fellowship –
2020
Financial Statement**

CREDITS

2019 Balance Forward	\$1718.47
Meeting Collections	65.20
Misc. Donation	100.00

DEBITS

Kitchen supplies & misc.	207.62
Donations (listed below)	<u>400.00</u>

Donations:

Lumsden Beach Camp	100.00
Mutchmore Lodge	100.00
Regina Anti Poverty	100.00
Our Daily Bread Ministries	100.00

Total Credits **\$1883.67**

Total Debits **\$607.62**

Balance as of Dec. 31, 2020 **\$1276.05**

Respectfully submitted by Doreen Killoh

Ministry and Personnel Committee

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is responsible for supporting, overseeing, and supervising ministry personnel and lay staff at Sunset United Church. This year, Heather Haid retired from the committee and we were pleased that David Warden agreed to take her place and to be the M&P liaison with our musicians.

This year has been a challenge for everyone, with Tricia Gerhard and Michelle McConkey having to find new ways to do ministry, with the building being closed for many months which brought changes for Jayne Strinholm and John Ashley, with Nancy Edwards retiring and Corinne Groff taking her place, and with worship services being online which brought changes for Corinne and Shirley Hill. We are so pleased that they have all met these changes and challenges really well.

We were all sorry to see Nancy retire as Director of Music, and even more sad that with Covid-19 restrictions, we were not able to have a proper farewell for her and Bill. One of these days when the pandemic is over.....

Tricia is amazing. She has found ways to do ministry in ways she was never trained for and in ways no-one ever expected her to. Her thoughtful and good-humoured ministry despite all the challenges of the pandemic is truly remarkable.

Michelle has also had to do things she never expected to do to provide ministry to youth and young adults. She is a valuable part of the Ministry team each Sunday and we know she has really missed connecting with children face to face.

When Corinne applied for the music director position after Nancy retired in April, we had no idea what she was letting herself in for! Back then, we were hoping that we might be "back to normal" by September. Of course we weren't and there are still strict rules about singing. We are grateful that Corinne has managed to bring us wonderful music each Sunday despite the restrictions. Speaking of wonderful music, Shirley's musical skills are just so good and so valued, all the way from rousing hymn tunes to reflective piano pieces.

When the building and the office were closed for the summer, Jayne was laid off for a few months. It was a difficult decision since she is so central to the life and work of Sunset, but she accepted that situation with grace and understanding. It's great that she is back now, capably looking after the many administrative items that have to be dealt with despite being locked inside the building and behind acrylic screens.

The Committee is also grateful to John Ashley our custodian, who unfortunately has not had much to do for us since the building was closed in March.

Sunset United Church is truly blessed to have such great people providing their various ministries to us. Thank you so much for all that you do.

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

Property Projects

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people for volunteering for snow removal this season; Dean Ast, Garnet Park, Keith Schneider, Richard Toppings, Don Wuschke, Bosco Hui, Aron Orban, Robert McLeod & Ken Fensom. I would also like to thank all the other people who have helped around the church in 2020 like Sharon Frei, Ed Borisinkoff and the Robert McLeod family. I also want to thank anyone else I happened to miss- it is greatly appreciated!

Repairs in 2020:

- We had a servicing charge for our Tractor Lawnmower. This was a couple a hundred dollars.
- We had roof repairs for around \$8,000.00 by Flynn Roofing.
- We had our regular servicing calls for the Alarm System, back flow pressure valve, fire extinguishers, etc.
- Purchase of ice melt for our walkways and fuel for our back pack blower and snow blower.
- We also had Eco Concrete who came in and raised the West church sidewalk and levelled it for a cost of around \$1,100.00. They raised it with dense foam.

2021 Projects:

I do not foresee any major repairs other than normal maintenance projects. I'm hoping to sell the Tractor lawn mower this spring as we do not need it anymore. Anyone who might want to purchase it please contact Jayne at the church.

We will have to review the floor tiles in the Sanctuary space to see if any maintenance will be required for this area.

**Regards,
Ken Fensom
Sunset Property Chair**

Website

The website has become more important to post activities and events happening in 2020. Michelle has been updating the calendar to include the links for virtual worship services. There are also links for children's activities on the site.

We have updated certain policies online for the congregation.

We are still working on updating all pages on the site to ensure clarity.

**Respectfully Submitted by
Michelle McConkey**

Board of Trustees Report

The Board of Trustees met by Zoom on October 24, 2019 and December 1, 2020.

During the past year, Monte Kesslering resigned from the Board of Trustees. The Board has been informed of this resignation. The remaining Trustees and the completion dates for terms are as follows:

Keith Schneider	2022
David Millar	2023
Doug Billett	2024
Marina Jeffery	2024
Olive McLeod	2024
Don Orr	2024

At both of the meetings, the Trustees reviewed the Financial and Property reports of Sunset United Church and expressed their confidence in the financial status and property status of the Church. The Trustees are also confident that adequate insurance is in place for the Church. The Board of Trustees are investigating avenues for completing an inventory/appraisal to update the value of equipment/supplies for insurance purposes over the ensuing year.

Sincere thanks to the members of the Board of Trustees for their time and talents on behalf of the Church.

Respectfully submitted
David Millar, Chairperson

Worship Committee Report

The past year has been an interesting one for the worship life of Sunset United. January and February 2020 proceeded as normal, moving from Ordinary time into the season of Lent. However, by the middle of March, and only weeks away from Easter Sunday, worship at Sunset took an abrupt turn. March 17 was our last in-person worship as a community of faith. That Sunday, with concerns about the growing infection rate and threat of COVID-19, the Official Board made the hard decision of suspending in person worship until Easter. This was just ahead of the Province's decision to lockdown the province of Saskatchewan. There was hope that the closure of the church would last just a few weeks, however, the suspension of in person worship lasted the remainder of the year, and into the new year.

Recognizing the need for continued worship presence for the people of Sunset, the staff did their best to adapt to remote worship using the resources available to them. After some bumps, and some less than stellar first attempts, a routine was established that lasted into the summer months. Tri-Church (Lakeview, Sunset and Wesley United Churches) happened, with remote worship rotating between the three churches.

We were hoping that the fall would see us return to in person worship but with the increases in case numbers we continued with remote worship. David Gerhard and Christa Eidsness joined the worship team as tech support and a new level of live-streaming was achieved with words being able to be shared on the screen and various camera views being included. Worship took on an even more familiar feel with this addition. We average 40 people watching the live-

stream at the time of streaming, and over the week our views for the services reach up to 150, with the choir service in Advent reaching over 300!

As minister, I am deeply grateful for the worship team – Corinne Groff, Shirley Hill, Michelle McConkey, David Gerhard, Christa Eidsness, and Jayne Strinholm. Their flexibility and creativeness has made worship leadership in this strange time more enjoyable. A special shout out to Corinne, who started her position in the midst of the restrictions – no gathering, no big choirs, masks and physical distancing. Her dedication to her position meant that she worked out ways to have the COVID singers (a smaller group from the choir) gather and record special music, and through her ability to think outside the box, Corinne was able to create and continue the annual Choir Advent service. Each person on this team plays an important role in making the weekly services successful. It's not easy leading worship in an empty sanctuary, but this team makes it almost feel normal. I also want to thank the various members of the congregation who have either recorded pieces for worship, have come help lead worship during the live-stream or recorded services, and who have offered their musical gifts. Again, this makes the worship services feel a little more "normal".

Worship happens everywhere, and at any time. This pandemic has caused us to be flexible and creative, it has stretched us and shaped us. We've met the challenge and flourished because of it. Who knows how this "new way" of worship will carry into our future when we return to in person worship, but it has opened the way for new ways of thinking about offering worship.

**Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Tricia Gerhard
On behalf of the worship team.**

Finance Committee Report

No Finance Chair report was submitted as this position was vacant for much of 2020.

Treasurer's Report

Well, this was quite the year to start the treasurer position! Detailed financial statements for 2020 and the proposed budget for 2021 are attached to this report. However, a brief summary is outlined below.

Overall, we finished the 2020 year with a positive cash flow of \$3,586 which has been added to the contingency fund. Although revenues decreased \$30,000, we were able to reduce some costs to keep us from a deficit. We are very thankful to all our congregation members who continued to donate throughout the year even when we could not be together physically.

For 2020, 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 \$21,044.96 to the United Church of Canada.

We were able to take advantage of some of the COVID-19 support programs set out by the Canada Revenue Agency. The miscellaneous income of \$2,344 is the Temporary Wage Subsidy

we received for March through June. We were also eligible for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) which we started receiving amounts in January 2021.

The 2021 operating budget has been approved by the Church Board as there will not be an Annual Meeting this year. Our estimated revenues over estimated expenditures results in a net deficit of \$14,178. We have not included a budget line for the CEWS discussed above, but we are hopeful it will more than cover our deficit. The revenues estimate is based on recent trends and the expenditure estimates are based on prior year actuals along with anticipated cost increases/decreased for 2021. We have included an M&S contribution target of \$20,000 again this year. The church will contribute \$10,000 from the operating budget and we have set the Voluntary M&S contribution target at \$10,000.

A special thanks goes out to Arlene Fehler, past treasurer, who has helped me throughout the year to learn the different aspects of record keeping for the church. Thanks also to Jayne Strinholm for taking care of so many areas of the office and keeping me organized.

I look forward to another great year on the board and hope to see everyone's face again soon!

**Respectfully submitted,
Denelle Hansen, Treasurer**

Review of the Financial Statement

February 4, 2021

To the Members of Sunset United Church

I have reviewed the financial statements of Sunset United Church for the year ending December 31, 2020.

I included in my inspection, the monthly statements of operation, bank records, and other information relating to the day-to-day workings of the Church. I examined the recording of revenues, as well as supporting evidence for acquisition of expenditures.

It is my opinion that the financial statements accurately portray the receipts and expenditures of Sunset United Church as at year-end 2020.

Regards,

Arlene Fehler

Sunset United Church
Balance Sheet
As at December 31, 2020

<u>ASSETS</u>	2020	2019
Cash	54,507	48,701
Term Deposit	17,495	17,348
Prepaid Expenses	-	-
GST Receivable	<u>462</u>	<u>459</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	72,463	66,508
 Land and Building	 <u>868,723</u>	 <u>868,723</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	941,186	935,231
 <u>LIABILITIES</u>		
United Church of Canada Mortgage	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-
 <u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>		
Capital Projects Fund	9,067	6,898
Congregational Education Fund	1,594	1,594
Contingency Fund	51,667	48,081
Memorial Fund	<u>10,135</u>	<u>9,935</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	72,463	66,508
 <u>EQUITY</u>		
United Church of Canada	<u>868,723</u>	<u>868,723</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	868,723	868,723
 TOTAL LIAB./RESTRICTED FUNDS/EQUITY	 941,186	 935,231

Sunset United Church
Income & Expense Statement
For Year End December 31, 2020

	2020	2019
<u>INCOME</u>		
Clothing Sale	-	8,409
Collections	175,701	183,372
Anonymous Collections	505	4,327
Mission & Service Voluntary	11,045	10,655
Fundraising	1,102	6,317
General Rent	3,892	11,373
Interest Inc	153	242
Misc Income	2,344	-
Sunday School	1	41
Sundry	<u>(200)</u>	<u>(330)</u>
TOTAL INCOME	194,541	224,405
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
1. Administration		
Mission & Service Fund	21,045	20,655
National Assessment	10,279	9,072
Office	8,968	6,833
Official Board	100	307
Regional Registrations	<u>-</u>	<u>150</u>
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	40,392	37,017
2. Building Maintenance		
Building Repair & Maintenance	11,840	14,679
Custodian	3,034	10,930
Electricity	3,786	5,005
Gas	3,033	2,899
Insurance	4,008	3,811
Janitorial Supplies	87	1,338
Telephone	1,929	2,059
Water	<u>1,755</u>	<u>1,703</u>
TOTAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE	29,470	42,424

	2020	2019
3. Committees		
Affirming	100	193
Benevolent	200	-
Christian Education	1,225	2,253
Community Service	13	-
Publicity	1,104	890
Worship	<u>2,714</u>	<u>3,267</u>
TOTAL COMMITTEE	5,356	6,603
4. Personnel		
Minister - Salary	62,994	61,819
Minister - Con. Ed	-	123
Youth Co-ordinator - Salary	7,448	10,101
Youth Co-ordinator - Con. Ed.	-	138
Travel Expenses	-	525
Janitor	-	7,232
Music Leaders	9,970	10,060
Office Coordinator	13,706	21,477
Pension and Benefits	18,788	20,782
Treasurer Honorarium	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL PERSONNEL	114,906	134,257
Fundraising Expense	-	535
Clothing Sale Expense	<u>831</u>	<u>1,389</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	190,955	222,225
NET DEFICIT/SURPLUS	3,586	2,180

**Sunset United Church
Statement of Restricted Funds
As at December 31, 2020**

<u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	Balance Jan1/20	Transfers	Balance Y/E Dec 31/20
Contingency Fund (Note 1)	48,081	3,586	51,667
Capital Projects Fund(Note 2)	6,898	2,169	9,067
Congregational Education Fund	1,594	0	1,594
Memorial Fund (Note 3)	<u>9,935</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>10,135</u>
TOTALS	66,508	5,955	72,463

NOTES:

Note 1) Increase due to annual surplus
on income statement.

Note 2) Contributions of \$2,169
during the year

Note 3) Donations of \$200 during the year

Sunset United Church 2021 Budget

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
INCOME		
Collections	190,000	190,000
Clothing Sale	-	8,500
Fundraising	2,500	2,500
General Rent	7,000	10,000
Mission & Service Voluntary	10,000	10,000
Misc Income	-	-
Sundry	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
TOTAL INCOME	209,600	221,100
EXPENSES		
Administration		
Mission & Service Fund	20,000	20,000
National Church Assessment	10,280	10,280
Office	7,000	6,000
Official Board	300	500
Regional Registration	-	<u>200</u>
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	37,580	36,980
Building Maintenance		
Building Repair & Maintenance	5,000	10,000
Custodian	15,000	15,000
Janitorial Supplies	1,000	1,000
Electricity	5,000	5,000
Gas	3,000	3,500
Insurance	4,000	4,500
Telephone	2,000	2,000
Water	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE	37,000	43,000
Committees		
Affirming	300	300
Benevolent	200	200
Christian Education	2,000	2,000
Community Service	200	200
Publicity	1,000	1,000
Worship	<u>3,500</u>	<u>4,000</u>
TOTAL COMMITTEES	7,200	7,700

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Personnel		
Minister - Salary including housing	66,223	62,995
Minister – Continuing Education	2,000	2,000
Youth Co-ordinator - Salary	12,000	14,000
Youth Co-ordinator - Con. Ed.	750	750
Office Coordinator	23,000	22,000
Music Leaders	10,500	10,500
Pension & Benefits	23,000	23,000
Travel Expenses	525	525
Treasurer Honorarium	2,000	2,000
Tech Crew Honorarium	<u>2,000</u>	-
TOTAL PERSONNEL	141,998	137,770
Clothing Sale Expense	-	1,500
Fundraising Expense	-	-
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	223,778	226,950
OVERALL TOTAL	(14,178)	(5,850)

Sunset United Church Church Board – 2021

Executive Officers

Chair – **Jean Cameron**
Vice Chair – **Brenda Scarfe**
Past Chair – **Hilary Wallin**
Treasurer – **Denelle Hansen**
Secretary – **Barbara Flaten-Orr**

Ministry (ex officio)

Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Committee Chairs or Designates

Worship and Christian Education – **Tricia Gerhard**
Affirming Congregation – **Trina Hodgson**
Finance – **Tim Osborne**
Property – **Ken Fensom**
Congregational Care – **Bev Hui (House Groups)**
Community Service – **Janet McMurtry /Nancy Toppings**
Ministry and Personnel – **Bryan Tudor**
Fundraising – **Marion Tudor**
Website-**Michelle McConkey**

Other Groups

Board of Trustees – **David Millar**
Regional Council Rep- **vacant**
Ladies Fellowship – **Judy Fawell**

Congregational Representatives (member at large)

Susan Black

Board of Trustees: (year the 6 year term expires)

David Millar – Chair	(2023)
Keith Schneider	(2022)
Doug Billett	(2024)
Don Orr	(2024)
Marina Jeffery	(2024)
Olive McLeod	(2024)

List of Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, In Memoriam, Memberships Transferred in and Transferred out, Members Received by Confirmation for 2020

Baptisms	-Etta Jo Susan Innes, daughter of Patrick Innes and Andi Schenk
Weddings	-None
Funerals	-Mary Numrich -Madeline Jean Moore
In Memoriam	-Jean Fellner (service officiated by Russell Mitchell-Walker)
Members Transferred in	-None
Membership Transferred out	-Ruth Choboter
Members Received by Confirmation	-None