

# 2015 Annual Report

## Our Mission

*We are called to be a vibrant and affirming Christian community,  
sharing God's love and engaging ALL through dynamic worship,  
strong family ministry and loving hospitality,  
in service and outreach to the community.*

## Our Vision

*Your church, at the centre of the community. Welcome home!*



## Symons Valley United Church

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### Contents

A Message from Vicki McPhee	1
Dessert Theatre 2015	2
From The Board	3
From the Worship Ministry	9
From the Planned Gift Committee	10
From the Faith Formation Committee	11
From the Outreach Committee	12
From the Stewardship Committee	15
From the Music Ministry	16
From the Ministry and Personnel	18
From the Building and Property	19
From the Women's Spirit	20
2015 Annual Meeting Minutes	21
From the Quilting Ministry	22
Treasurer's Report	23
Financial Statements	25

### 2015 Official Board

**Chairperson:** Scot Middleton

**Secretary:** Nancy McKellar

**Treasurer:** Michelle Middleton

**Stewardship & Finance:** Rep, Wayne Carmichael

**Ministry & Personnel:** Rep, Colleen Marchant

**Worship:** Allison Andruchuk

**Presbytery Rep:** Gloria Davis

**Pastoral Care:** Zoe Gulley

**Outreach:** Colleen Nabata

**Faith Formation:** Shari Derksen

**Property Management:** Dennis McLaren

**Member-at-large:** Daniel Sore

**Member-at-large:** Alice Cockroft

## A Message from Vicki McPhee

*And the One seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."*

In preparation for writing this reflection for the Annual Report, I reviewed what I composed last year. At that time, Sarah was on maternity leave and I used scripture from Ecclesiastes to comment that things just keep changing here at Symons Valley United Church—that the word ‘normal’ has not applied too often in my time with this congregation. And here we are, a year later, having undergone another huge change.

There have been many lessons and learnings for myself and the lay leadership of the congregation over the last year. From my vantage point, I can see two that are most significant. The first lesson (being of a reminder, really) that the ministry of Symons Valley United Church belongs first and foremost to the people of this congregation. All decisions and direction about where we are headed as a community of faith have been made by the people who make up this congregation. My role as spiritual leader has been to offer guidance, support, prayers and theological reflection. I journey alongside this congregation and with you and yours. And you journey alongside me. The ministry that we are as a congregation exists because we are that ministry together. The work and prayer of the different ministries that make up SVUC can happen because we are in this together. An example of this is that because the leadership within the congregation made it a priority, we, together, have worked over the past year towards deepening the passionate spirituality and social justice commitments of the congregation. The level of participation in spiritual and theological reflection activities and our work in the areas of mission and outreach have both grown dramatically.

The second lesson of the past year is that God is truly at work in this place. It would be natural to feel stuck or frustrated with all the changes that have occurred. It would be easy to be like Lot’s wife, looking back in despair, asking, ‘What is going? Where are we going?’ But God has always reminded the people of creation that we are not alone and that renewal is always possible. While we must understand our history and why certain decisions, over time, have been made, those of you at SVUC have not allowed yourselves to get mired in the past. It is clear that this congregation knows how to look forward and how to ask God, ‘What are You calling us to be in Your great world? What new thing is being made in this place?’

The scripture reading that the 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council used as its foundation for the meeting last August was the line from Revelation found above. Many interpretations of the Bible have the line starting, ‘look’ or ‘see’, rather than ‘behold’. I prefer to use behold. To look or to see is just that, to have the image or event recorded by your visual receptors. But to *behold* is to:

appreciate  
comprehend  
discern  
recognize  
understand.

And THAT is what I see happening here, in this congregation. You have not just accepted the change that SVUC is undergoing but:

have appreciated the potential

have comprehended the possibilities that have open up and developed in the wake of change

have discerned where we need to be headed

recognized the hope for what can be achieved and

understood that adjustment takes time but that there is a strong path forward for the congregation.

The leadership of SVUC was challenged to make plans, trusting that God, indeed, was working in this place and making all things new. And they have trusted in God. And, in my humble opinion, I can see the impact that their gift of their trust has on my leadership and on the wider congregation. Collaboration, innovative ideas, new lay leaders emerging, a palpable feeling of camaraderie, dedication, and a strong sense of God's presence in and amongst us are but just a few examples of how God is making things new in our midst. God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Yours in Christ,

Vicki McPhee

## Dessert Theatre Report 2015



The production "Cooking Can Be Murder" was a huge success with 22 dedicated cast members putting many hours of rehearsal time into the show. The chicken and beef meals and the desserts were terrific with a huge number of volunteers pulling together to make this a successful fund-raising / fun-raising adventure! Thanks to everyone who helped out with the Dinner Dessert Theatre in any way. Ticket sales plus wine/beer sales amounted to \$23,566. Expenses totalled \$7788, however, \$2533 of those expense items were donated by members of the congregation. This year the play received two adjudications from ACTS (Calgary's

Alliance of Community Theatres) which resulted in a nomination in the category of "Best Ensemble." We did not win a CAT award but it was a huge honour to be nominated! Well done everyone!

Submitted by,

Ann Crawford

## From the Board

Dear Friends of Symons Valley United Church,

We have had year of change and excitement in the church. We received results for the third time in the Natural Church Development survey, which benchmark's key attributes of congregational health versus how we were doing last year, and compared to Christian churches from around the world. Last year we had identified development opportunities in the areas of Needs-Oriented Evangelism (Outreach, and Passionate Spirituality. The result of that was the focus on the theme of Compassion for 2014/2015.

**That focus paid off, with our overall church health grew (shown by the solid yellow line).**

### NCD *summary* guide

The progress and current church life tendency of...

Symons Valley United Church  
June-2015

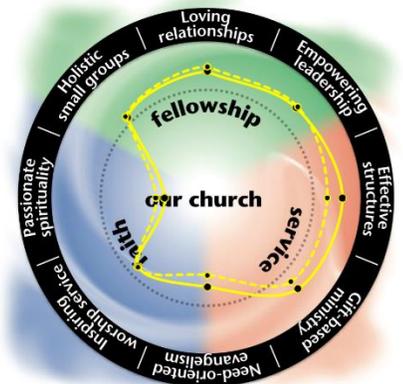
- 1 Effective structures
- 2 Gift-based ministry
- 3 Empowering leadership
- 4 Loving relationships
- 5 Holistic small groups
- 6 Inspiring worship service
- 7 Need-oriented evangelism
- 8 Passionate spirituality

*Comes more naturally to us*

Our current quality characteristic tendencies 

Our previous quality characteristic tendencies 

Our current quality characteristic average 



### Themes from the September NCD workshop – What do we focus on now?

- Must create safe space in small groups for individual connections (personal issues, resolve disagreements)
- Collaboration in worship service and leadership very positive and should be continued
- Need to re-define Passionate Spirituality for SVUC and focus on the new definition
- Need to focus on making Passionate Spirituality a central point of SVUC, not an afterthought to the business of the church
- Need to find a way to support the individual while focusing on the positives of teamwork, community, and togetherness
- Need to maintain the momentum around Needs-Oriented Evangelism (sandwich making, Drop In Centre)
- Need to maintain the momentum around Gift-based Ministry, as people generally feel that their gifts are being appreciated and incorporated in the work of the church
- What do we need to do to maintain Loving Relationships and what level of praise and thanks is appropriate?



### 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council

Vicki McPhee and Eden Middleton represented our congregation and Calgary Presbytery at the 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council in Cornerbrook, NL. Key topics debated was how to restructure the governing bodies of the United Church of Canada, and the decision was made to divest national church investment holdings invested in fossil fuels. A Presbytery



Town Hall meeting was held at Symons Valley United church to continue this discussion within Calgary Presbytery.

### Recognitions and changes on the Board

**Wendy Taite**, who has served for the past two years as Member at Large stepped down from her position. **Daniel Sore**, transitioned from Chair of Faith Formation, and was appointed to be a Member-at-Large going forward. **Kathy Spence-Cameron**, Chair of Pastoral Care stepped down from that position. **Zoe Gulley** is newly appointed as incoming Chair of Pastoral Care. **Shari Derksen** is also an incoming nominee to the Board as Chair of Faith Formation. Colleen Nabata is also stepping down from her role as Chair of Mission and Outreach

Colleen, Kathy and Wendy, we thank you for your service and are pleased to see you continue to be involved in other facets of our ministry.

### 2016 Nominations to the Board of Symons Valley United Church

Name	Board Position	Status	Year Appointed
Scot Middleton	Chair of the Board	Continuing	2013
Michelle Middleton	Treasurer	Continuing	2010
<b>Colleen Nabata</b>	<b>Chair, Mission &amp; Outreach</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>	<b>2011</b>
Gloria Davis	Presbytery Rep 1	Continuing	2012
Daniel Sore	Member at Large	Continuing	2014
Nancy McKellar	Recording Secretary	Continuing	2014
Allison Andruchuk	Chair, Worship	Continuing	2014
Wayne Carmichael	Rep, Stewardship	Continuing	2015
Colleen Marchant	Rep, Ministry and Personnel	Continuing	2013
<b>Kathy Spence-Cameron</b>	<b>Chair, Pastoral Care</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Wendy Taite</b>	<b>Member at Large</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>	<b>2014</b>
Alice Cockcroft	Member at Large	Continuing	2015
<b>Zoe Gulley</b>	<b>Chair, Pastoral Care</b>	<b>Incoming</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Shari Derksen</b>	<b>Chair, Faith Formation</b>	<b>Incoming</b>	<b>2016</b>
Dennis McLaren	Chair, Property Management	Continuing	2014

A motion will be made at the Annual General Meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup> to elect this slate of candidates to the board, as well as any candidates or appointments that are identified at that time.

**Change in Pastoral Relations with Sarah Fanning**

In October, Sarah Fanning sent the following letter to the Board, indicating her desire to change Pastoral Relations with Symons Valley United Church. The Board and congregation approved paying her for the 90 day notice period while she was on medical leave. Sarah will join us after service on Sunday, January 31 for cake and a celebration of her ministry over the past 4 years with us. We wish Sarah all the best as she continues in her ministry.

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Dear Friends in Christ,

I have written to Calgary Presbytery, asking for a change in pastoral relations from Symons Valley United Church, effective January 6, 2016.

While I celebrate much in my almost four years of ministry with you, I feel that there is a mismatch between my gifts and skills and what the congregation needs right now.

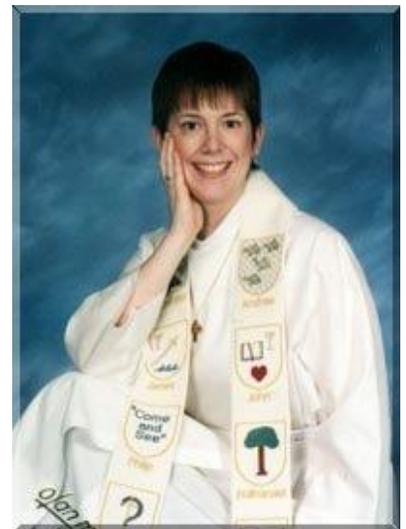
At this time I am off on prescribed medical leave. Following that, and in order to allow time for this change to take place, I am requesting a paid personal leave of absence for the balance of the 90 day notice period.

I will miss working with Vicki, Donna, Karen, Kathy and Essie, as well as many of the lay leaders.

May you continue to follow God's leading in your life and ministry.

In God's service,

Sarah Fanning



**Joint Needs Assessment Committee appointed**

Any time there is a change in ministry staff within a Congregation of the United Church, this automatically triggers a Joint Needs Assessment of the Ministry of the Congregation. This is done jointly with the Presbytery. In November, the congregation elected the following congregational representatives to a Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) to assess our current and future ministry staffing needs. This Committee will be meeting for the first time in early February. After their deliberations, a JNAC report will be presented to both the Congregation and the Presbytery for approval. Upon that approval, and if recommended, the hiring of new staff will be done by a newly appointed Joint Search Committee.

### **Congregational Representatives on the Joint Needs Assessment Committee**

- Gerry Van Keeken (Mission & Outreach Ministry)
- Kathy Spence Cameron (Pastoral Care)
- Wayne Carmichael (Stewardship)
- Vicki MacDonald (Faith Formation)
- Sandy Crawford (Stewardship)
- Letitia Berger (Affirming Mission)
- April Boutin (Faith Formation Ministry)

### **Daniel Sore sponsored as Candidate for Ministry in the United Church**

Daniel Sore, a member of our congregation asked the Board to be considered as a candidate for ministry discernment. The board unanimously approved his candidacy to begin a 12 month discernment process in partnership with Calgary Presbytery. The Discernment Committee will determine whether Daniel is called to become an ordained or Diaconal Minister or a Designated Lay Minister in the United Church of Canada. Scot Middleton, Shari Derksen, Allison Andruchuk, and Debbie Stockdale (Presbytery Rep) will be helping Daniel walk this exciting journey, exploring faith questions together over the next year. Congratulations to Daniel on taking this leap of Faith!

### **Your Church (and Mosque) at the Centre of the Community. Welcome Home!**

#### ***Our Mission***

**“We are called to be a vibrant and affirming Christian community, sharing God’s love and engaging ALL through dynamic worship, strong family ministry and loving hospitality, in service and outreach to the community.”**

#### ***Our Vision***

**“Your church, at the centre of the community. Welcome home!”**

2015 was marred by hate and fear rising on the backs of the bombings in Paris, the war with ISIS, culminating in the Syrian refugee crisis, and the rise of Donald Trump as a republican candidate espousing more Islamophobic sentiments. The Board had a discussion. This was the response from Vicki and I. This letter (next page) was read to the Muslim prayer group representatives that came to recognize Frank Van Dusen’s contribution in building the wooden storage boxes in the Valleyview room that store the prayer rugs used in their weekly prayers.

We look forward to our next Inter-Faith event on February 27<sup>th</sup>.



SYMONS VALLEY UNITED CHURCH  
38 Kincora Rise NW Calgary, AB T3R 0A3  
403.274.2361

10 December 2015



To Our Brothers and Sisters in Faith,

On behalf of the congregation of Symons Valley United Church, we would like to express our deep care and concern for the members of your faith community and all people of Islam. The Syrian refugee crisis, the attacks in Paris and the shooting in California have resulted in fear-mongering, blame and hateful rhetoric being publicly shared in the media and at rallies. Shameful Islamophobic actions and statements by the government and religious leaders, politicians and political candidates have misled the public in who or what is truly responsible for the terrorist activities. It is unjust to blame the entirety of the Muslim people for the behaviour of a radicalized few who use the name of Allah to promote hate and instill fear.

As your brothers and sisters in faith, our congregation understands that Islam is a religion that seeks peace and love for all people. Our hearts ache with the pain of knowing that your community is under suspicion by those who are fearful and not understanding of your faith and religion.

The congregation of Symons Valley United Church would like to stress that your Prayer Group and Quaran classes are welcome in our building. Your community of faith has had a long and deeply valued relationship with us. Our Vision statement is, "Your church at the centre of the community." We would like to say, it is also, "Your mosque at the centre of the community."

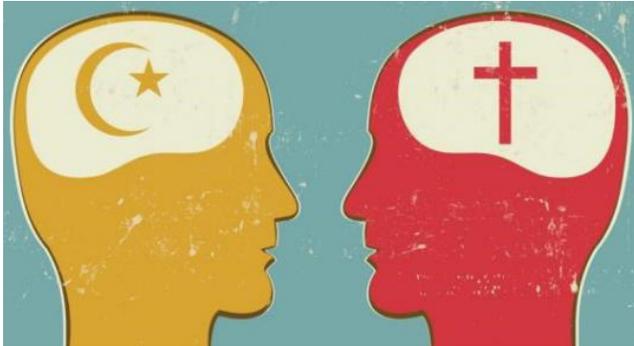
We have a strong desire to seek occasions in 2016 for our two faith communities to come together to learn about each other, and to extend these opportunities to the broader community of North Calgary. We would also be interested in arranging some joint community service activities, such as volunteering to serve a meal together to those in need at the Calgary Drop In Centre.

Our scriptures tell us that we are to love God with all of our heart, our souls and our mind and that we are to love our neighbours as ourselves. We consider your community to not only be our neighbours but to be our family – truly brothers and sisters in faith.

May you know that you are supported and loved and may our Creator give you strength and courage in these trying times.

Yours in faith,

**Together in Community: A Muslim & Christian Family Gathering**



Come join us at a time of fellowship and discussion between the congregation of Symons Valley United Church and Al Madinah Calgary Islamic Assembly Symons Valley Prayer Group. Members of the public are welcome to join as we take time to get to know one another, learn from each other and share a meal together.

This is a gathering for people of all ages. There will be free Children’s Program offered that will run at the same time as the Panel Discussion. Following the Panel Discussion, we will share a Potluck Supper together. Bring a pork-free dish to share. If

you are able to make your meal halal, that would be much appreciated. Please include a list of ingredients with your dish.

**Schedule of events on February 27th**

3:30 pm Gathering & Visiting

4-5:30 pm Panel Discussion with a Children’s Program running concurrently

5:30-6 pm Visiting, Supper set up

6 pm Potluck Supper

**Do you hear God calling to volunteer in a different capacity in support of our church ministry?** Not sure where your gifts may fit, or how to get involved? Whether the time you have to offer is small or large, please contact Vicki or myself as Chair of the Board and I am sure we can find a way for you to get more involved.

Yours in Christ,

*Scot Middleton*

Scot Middleton  
Chair of the Board  
Symons Valley United Church  
[samiddleton@dow.com](mailto:samiddleton@dow.com)



## From the Worship Ministry

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength*

*--Mark 12:30*

It is an excited and dedicated congregation that takes this verse seriously, insuring that worship services at Symons Valley United Church are always an inspiration.

We have been called to be a "Christian Church in the Centre of the Community". Our worship of the Creator within the building, leads us outside to walk as Jesus walked.

Worship Ministry assists in behind the scenes activity that will give each person a meaningful worship experience. We invite those who wish to assist Worship leadership. We invite those who love to deliver Scripture Readings. We encourage those who want to prepare and serve Communion. We ask for ideas and suggestions that will continue to take us towards bold and dynamic worship services at SVUC.

Worship Ministry would like to thank Colleen Marchant for her years of service with the group. Shari Derksen, Barb Goodwin, Diane Moreau and Pat Riddell continue to make Worship Ministry an important component in the workings of our church.

In 2015, we celebrated the Circle of Life with:

- 2 Baptisms
- 4 Celebrations of Life (Funerals)
- 7 Received as Members
- 2 Weddings

Respectfully submitted by,

Allison Andruchuk, Chair

### **Worship Ministry**

Barb Goodwin  
Colleen Marchant  
Diane Moreau  
Pat Riddell



## From the Planned Gift Committee

The Planned Giving Committee is made up of Heather McDonald, Richard Freed and Donna Williams.

We encourage congregation members to consider planned gifts through the many financial vehicles available in the United Church or through gifts given in memory of loved ones, to the Symons Valley Memorial Fund.

**Planned (or legacy) giving**, very simply, is planning to make a gift. Legacy gifts are generally funded from accumulated resources or assets rather than from income. The most common legacy gift received by the church is a bequest. The tax benefit from a bequest accrues to the donor's estate. The Philanthropy Unit can also arrange several gifts that allow you to make a gift in the future but receive the tax benefits now.

You can designate your legacy gift to any aspect of The United Church of Canada—the Mission and Service Fund, your local congregation, a local mission unit, a United Church camp, a theological college, The United Church of Canada Archives, The United Church of Canada Foundation - the possibilities are abundant and rich with the excitement of giving! For more information, check out the following website: [www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/donate/howto/planned](http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/donate/howto/planned). If you would like to discuss this area further, please talk to one of the committee members or contact Kathryn Hofley at [khofley@united-church.ca](mailto:khofley@united-church.ca).

Our local Memorial Fund falls under the umbrella of Planned Giving. Money from the Memorial Fund will not be used to cover regular or ongoing operational expenses of the church. Monies in the fund will be used for development and enhancement of the ministry of Symons Valley United

Church in areas such as the following:

- a. Outreach activities
- b. Youth ministry and programming
- c. Lay education
- d. Music and worship enhancements
- e. Capital improvements

### Account Summary:

January 2015 opening balance: \$2,748.89  
 Memorial Fund Contributions: \$1,310.45  
 Account Interest: \$ 0.45  
**Account balance – Dec. 2015: \$4,059.34**



We encourage all congregation members to consider Planned Giving and the Symons Valley Memorial Fund in their contributions to the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Williams, Chair

## From Faith Formation & Programming

Greetings from the Faith Formation & Programming Committee at Symons Valley United Church. The purpose of the Faith Formation & Programming Committee is:

- To provide opportunities for the congregation to be in relationship with one another outside of Sunday mornings
- To offer times of learning, faith formation, spiritual formation and social engagement for all ages within the congregation
- To allow for members of the congregation to connect with the Divine outside of traditional Sunday worship
- To engage and to serve the surrounding communities by offering relevant and needed programs as well as opportunities to explore faith formation in a safe, welcoming environment.

### Highlights from 2015:

#### Children's Ministry

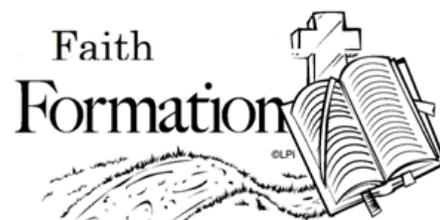
- Updating database with PowerChurch to increase tracking and communications with Symons Valley United Church children and their families
- Working on rewriting exciting new Sunday School curriculum for Red and Green classrooms

#### Youth Ministry

- Said goodbye to Youth Leader, Matthew Taylor-Kerr in June 2015 after 3 years of service at Symons Valley United Church
- Welcomed new Youth Leader, Ashley Dion, who started in October 2015. She is enjoying getting to know our youth.

#### General Ministry

- Another successful Dessert/Dinner Theatre event in May
- Adult only Murder Mystery Night
- Adult only Clue Night
- Book of Mark Bible Study
- Monthly Community Drum Circle
- Combined Open House/Advent Festival Event – open to community
- Beer and Carols Night at Scotsman's Well – open to community



### Upcoming Events for 2016:

- Book Study on "Putting Away Childish Things" by Marcus Borg starting January 2016
- Lenten Adult Spiritual Reflection Classes
- Together in Community: A Muslim & Christian Gathering Feb 27, 2016
- Joint Kincora Association/Symons Valley United Church Easter Egg Hunt & Crafts Event March 12, 2016
- \*\*NEW\*\* Junior Youth Events for grades 4-6
- \*\*NEW\*\* College & Career social events for ages 18-40ish
- Dessert/Dinner Theatre May 12-15, 2016
- Talent Show in June 2016

We look forward to continuing to serve Symons Valley United Church members and the community at large in 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shari Derksen, Chair

## From the Outreach Committee



Active engagement, through works of compassion in our world, continued as the theme for our Mission and Outreach projects. In 2014 a Visioning Group was established to explore youth initiatives resulting from their attendance at Rendezvous and the Board's participation in a book study of Karen Armstrong's book *12 Steps to a Compassionate Life*. Hunger was the theme chosen to focus on, and we continued building on that theme in 2015.

One tangible way Symons Valley has been addressing the needs of the hungry is through our long term commitment to Inn from the Cold. Under the coordination of Gerry and Cheryl VanKeeken, we continue to provide five volunteers on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at the Emergency Family Inn downtown. Volunteers set and clean the dining area and kitchen, serve and share a prepared meal with clients, make lunches for the following day and wash dishes. Thank you Gerry and Cheryl for your dedicated coordination of this program.

In January, Symons Valley hosted the 12<sup>th</sup> Night choir concert for four congregations in Northwest Calgary. Inn from the Cold was chosen as our charity to receive donations from this concert. They were very appreciative to receive \$1062.11 to help with their programming.

After involving the congregation in our call of compassion, and launching initiatives to support our theme of Hunger, Symons Valley United's congregation voted unanimously to affirm the Charter of Compassion on March 15, 2015. Scott Riddell, as well as other members of the Visioning Committee and the congregation, are to be thanked for their efforts to have this vote come to fruition.

In April, the Outreach Committee welcomed Floyd Visser, Director of the SHARP Foundation, to speak to the congregation. Floyd gave an impassioned talk about the important work SHARP does to support vulnerable adults, in Calgary, who are living with HIV/AIDS. He thanked the congregation for our many years of support through our White Gift Christmas project. Without our involvement, many of the residents at SHARP hospices and homes would not have a special Christmas. A memorial quilt, made by our Quilting Ministry, was presented to Floyd. This quilt will be placed on a wall at Beswick House. Each square on the quilt will remember a client of SHARP who has passed away.

As a thank you to the congregation, for all their support of our SHARP White Gift Project, the Outreach Committee sponsored a luncheon for the congregation. Floyd Visser was available to answer any questions people had about the SHARP Foundation.

The Visioning Committee met in September and talks began with Outreach Committee members regarding the amalgamation of these two working groups. Because many of the initiatives for both committees have the same goal, namely compassionately reaching out to help others in need, the decision was made to join the committees. It was agreed that the new name would be the Mission and Outreach Committee. At present, we have about 14 members, with three being Youth members. The amalgamation of these two committees has meant more volunteers to help with a growing number of projects. We are presently working on a Statement of Purpose for this committee.

Sandwich making for the Drop-In Centre, a Visioning Committee initiative started in 2014, continues once per month, usually on Communion Sundays. Various families or committees coordinate a Sandwich Making Sunday. At present we are looking for someone willing to regularly coordinate this volunteer effort. Cash donations towards the purchase of supplies has enabled us keep the cost of supplies low. The congregation genuinely enjoys taking 20 minutes after service to come together and prepare 400 sandwiches for delivery to the Drop-In Centre. It is a great way for congregation members, young and old, to work together to help feed the homeless.

It was recognized that the needs of the Drop-In Centre are great, and as a result, serving breakfast at the Centre was initiated, usually the second Sunday morning of each month. About 15 dedicated volunteers get up early to serve breakfast at the downtown Drop-In Centre. They can often be spotted in service wearing their Calgary Drop-In Centre t-shirts from their morning of volunteering. Janet Rowland stepped forward to coordinate this on-going volunteer opportunity. Thank you Janet!

On October 18<sup>th</sup> Bob Liddle, from St. David's United, spoke to the congregation about their refugee outreach programs. The Tibetan Resettlement Project helps resettle displaced refugees and they are also sponsoring an Iraqi refugee family. Symons Valley can help through monetary donations, taking new immigrants grocery shopping and donations of furniture and household goods. Contact Donna Fallon at [djfallon@telus.net](mailto:djfallon@telus.net) to arrange a furniture/household/monetary donation or to volunteer with their refugee programs.

In November preparations began to launch our 2015 White Gift Project to benefit the SHARP Foundation. Under Liz McGregor's coordination, handmade stockings (thanks Liz), were decorated at the annual Advent Festival. Christmas mugs, with hot chocolate mix were also assembled.

This year, 19 residents, and one dog were gifted with stockings, gifts and cards. These men and women are often without family supports and so look forward to the Christmas that Symons Valley United Church provides. The whole congregation pitched in and donated approximately \$2000 toward the purchase of gifts and stocking stuffers. Thank you to everyone who made a donation, wrapped a gift, signed a card, shopped for presents, stuffed stockings, sewed dog coats or delivered the many boxes to SHARP. We appreciate your generosity.

A huge thank you to Liz McGregor, her daughter Laura and husband Jim who spend countless hours shopping, liaising with SHARP, coordinating all the volunteers and generally making it all happen every year. Thank you!

In conjunction with the Advent Festival, an Open House was held. The Mission and Outreach Committee manned their tri-fold and provided information about our projects and initiatives to all who inquired.

Alice Cockroft had been in communication with Lana Avery of the Community Kitchen Program and she set up a booth at our Open House to introduce the Good Food Box program and answer questions. In December, under Alice's leadership, about six people signed up to receive Good Food Boxes of produce, which are delivered to the church for pick-up. Congregation members can sign up to purchase these boxes once per month. Alice Cockroft and Heather Wiens will oversee this program in the interim, but are looking for someone to coordinate volunteers for this service. If there is sufficient interest, a seniors Community Kitchen Program may be offered at Symons Valley in the future.

The Mission and Outreach Committee meets once per month, on the first Tuesday of each month, in the church office. All are welcome to attend meetings and participate in any or all Mission and Outreach activities that they are called to. If you would like more information, please contact Colleen Nabata, Chair, at [cdnabata@shaw.ca](mailto:cdnabata@shaw.ca).

Respectfully submitted by,

Colleen Nabata, Chair

**The Outreach Committee:**

Gerry and Cheryl VanKeeken  
Liz McGregor  
Paul Armstrong  
Vicki MacDonald  
Scot and Eden Middleton  
Scott, James, and Pat Riddell  
Daniel Sore  
Vicki McPhee  
Matthew McPhee



## From the Stewardship Committee



The Stewardship Committee continues to work diligently, along with our staff and other committees, towards the long-term health of the congregation – from both a financial and volunteer point of view. In general, the congregation continues to contribute in both of these areas at amazing levels. We have had good volunteer support for all of our programs. As you probably recall, from the financial aspect, 2014 was a difficult year for us. Although we finished with a small Operating Surplus, our net balance in 2014, after considering amortization/depreciation, was -\$90,000. That made for real concern as we planned for the future. This year we have seen

an improvement with the deficit significantly lower at approximately \$65,000 - but still a deficit. What are some of the other key points?

- We continue to see growth – we have 22 new members
- Participation of lay leaders in the life and ministry of the congregation increased significantly
- Our giving's increased by 17% this year (from \$239,000 to \$279,000) – the average givings per contributing household was \$4566 – one of the highest in Calgary Presbytery
- We were successful once more in our application for a grant from Mission and Service, receiving \$30,000
- We exceeded our 2015 goal for contributions to the Mission and Service Fund – donating almost \$16,000
- Note that this means we returned over half of the money we received from M&S - proof of our willingness to support other missions of the United Church of Canada
- Our building continues to be a busy place, as we act as the community centre for the area and enable various services to be provided to the residents. Of course, while this helps out those communities, some of these activities also provides us with much-needed revenue –\$158,000 in 2015. Thanks to Kathy Dion for her work in this area
- A very successful Dinner Theatre again raised over \$17,000
- We were able to cover all interest costs for our mortgage plus \$54,000 towards the principal, for a total of \$114,000. Unfortunately, we still had to rely on the National Church to cover the remaining \$46,000 payment required against the principal.
- We started an “easy” fundraiser by selling grocery cards – and raised \$2900 in the start-up phase which was only the last few months of 2015
- We had a successful Stewardship Campaign in November with 51 people pledging to support the church in 2016 – more than we have ever had
- Working with the great people in our Pastoral Care Committee, a “Call-Out” was made to all members with 60% of the people having the opportunity to express their joys and concerns with their experience at SVUC. We also left messages with another 28% of our congregation. That 2<sup>nd</sup> group, plus the 12% we couldn't reach, will be the focus for a similar effort later in the year.

Faithfully yours,

The Stewardship Committee

## From The Music Ministry



It has been another busy year in Music Ministry at Symons Valley. Our Worship Choir grew with the addition of Sheri, Marlin, Deepa, Letitia, Shauna, Vicki & Lianne. New members are always welcome and we are thrilled to have so many folks sharing their gifts of music with us!

Throughout the year we have enjoyed strong turnouts at rehearsals and Sunday mornings with an average of 25 singers per week. We are so fortunate to have such a musical, dedicated group of singers.

In addition to our weekly singing within the worship service, we also enjoyed some other singing opportunities and special contributions.

- 2015 started off with the annual Twelfth Night Celebration which was hosted by the choir and congregation of Symons Valley United Church and featured the choirs of Wildrose UC, St. Thomas UC, Parkdale UC and the Belles of Wildrose Bell Choir.
- Ash Wednesday service, with music provided by Ann Crawford
- Good Friday was shared with Wildrose United and Northminster United and was hosted by Symons Valley. Our three choirs joined to together for two massed choir anthems, providing poignant moments within this meaningful service.
- The inaugural performance of our Worship Choir at the annual Easter Choral Festival hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We joined with 6 other choirs from throughout Calgary for this exciting evening of beautiful choral music
- A post-Easter service held at Covenant Care, led by a small ensemble from the Worship Choir, directed by Alice Cockroft
- A fun evening of Christmas music, held at Crossfield United Church, which saw performances by both our Worship Choir and the choir from St. Andrew's Cochrane along with some very special individual performers.

In addition to the Worship Choir, our other singers have been busy throughout the year. The Church Mice sang several times in service, giving us many smiles and moments to be proud of these young performers. In June, Cindi Neufeld announced that she would be stepping down as the leader of these budding 3-5 year old musicians and we thank her for her dedication to the musical growth of these wonderful little folks. In September, Heather Klekta and Chery Ward took over the Church Mice program, incorporating it more fully in the Sunday School program and we are thrilled to see the great work they are doing. The singers in grades 1-6, known as Shine, have worked hard to present music in conjunction with Vocal Praise (grades 7-12) in several services, including Christmas Eve. All our ensembles are enthusiastic and love to sing a wide variety of styles of music.

This year the choir was both saddened and honoured to sing at Greta Watson's Celebration of Life Service. Greta was a strong supporter of the music program at Symons Valley and her love of music is remembered fondly by those in our choir who knew her.

As part of our leadership during the Advent season, the Worship choir led the liturgy and presented a Musical Sermon during the December 20th service. With the sermon text written by Donna Williams & Karen Nell-Bennett, "All You Need Is Love" featured a selection of three anthems, focusing on the gift of God's Love for all.

Christmas Eve was another opportunity for our choir program to shine. Shine, Vocal Praise & the Worship Choir sang at the early service and the Worship Choir again provided a fifteen (15) minute choral prelude prior to the candlelight communion service, along with an anthem in that service. The prelude offered three reflective style anthems to invite congregants to come in and experience the wonder of Christmas through music. For many folks, it was a highlight of their holiday season.

The choir's year would not be complete without some celebrations: We toasted Barb Goodwin as she marked 20 years at the choir's librarian – a task not for the faint of heart! We are very appreciative of all the time and effort she dedicates to keeping the music (and the leadership staff) in line and organized! We enjoyed a social event at the Tudor Rose in June to mark the end of the season and ate our fill at a Christmas social time held in December at the church. This group never needs an excuse to be social!

Many thanks to the musicians who help throughout the year and contribute to our services: Brent Van Dusen, Alice Cockroft, Anne Heinemeyer, Lianne Burns, Ann Crawford, Jacqueline Williams and Nicole Williams. A further thank you to Wendy Hynes-Taite, Kathy Kind and other helpers in the choir who assist whenever additional help is needed. Thank you also to Essie Gaqui-Elefante for her office support and the dedicated crew in the sound booth, led by Wayne Carmichael.

One additional thank you all of our choir members who give so much to our music ministry at Symons Valley. We are so fortunate to have such a talented choir! Thank you also to the congregation for their non-stop support of our music events and weekly music contributions!

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Nell-Bennett  
Donna Williams

## From The Ministry and Personnel

2015 was another challenging year for the Ministry and Personnel Committee but we have much to celebrate with our congregation and our staff.

As a committee we are delighted with the appointments of Carmen Cousins, Bob Dunn and Shauna Getz to our team. They bring fresh eyes and much wisdom to our group and we are grateful to them.

After graduating from University, Matthew Taylor Kerr resigned as Youth Leader so he could pursue his career and travels. He has been a Blessing to our youth and our congregation and will be missed. We wish him safe travels and God's abundant blessings on his life's journey.

We welcomed Ashley Dion into the role of Youth Leader in October and the Youth program has transitioned well! They are a vibrant group and integral to our congregation.

Also in October, Sarah Fanning, one of our Ministers served notice to end her pastoral relations with Symons Valley United Church. We wish her only the best in her future endeavours.

This fall we added two contract positions to support the life and work of SVUC: we welcome Karen Nell-Bennet as Communications, Marketing & Community Engagement Coordinator and Kathy Dion as Welcoming and Integration Coordinator. These positions are in addition to the wonderful work they already do, and have already proven invaluable, especially in support of Pastoral Care and Outreach.

Another debt of gratitude goes to our Instrumental Director, Donna; her ministry is a wonderful blessing and her particular brand of style and grace is an example to us all.

Essie continues provides stability and foundation to our church office and her friendly smile, calm nature and efficient control keep us all organized, on task and informed.

Thank you again, Vicki for your exemplary efforts, energy and enthusiasm. And a special thank you to Vicki's family for their support, understanding and patience. We also recognize those many people who provided Worship support, lay leadership and "behind the scenes" efforts--we could not have done it without you!

We are very blessed to have Vicki, Essie, Donna, Karen, Kathy, Ashley as our staff team. They bring a warmth and energy to their individual positions that reflect the values and goals of our congregation.

2015 was a year of change and growth, spirit and optimism for our congregation. We are confident that 2016 will be a year of continued growth and vibrancy. Symons Valley United Church is not a building--it is a family and it is your church, at the centre of the community.

Submitted on behalf of the M&P committee,

Scott Riddell  
Anne Chapman-Heinemeyer  
Carmen Cousins  
Bob Dunn  
Shauna Getz  
Colleen Marchant

## From the Building and Property Committee

The Property and Management Committee has once again had a busy year. The committee consists of Dennis McLaren, Gord Rowland, Bob Raina, Ann Crawford, Dave Thompson, Wally Sarrasin and Kathy Dion as staff support.

Although we saw a bit of decline in our regular tenant's usage this fall we saw an increase in Occasional Rentals. We said goodbye to some of our renters and welcomed new Community Partners, regular tenants and Occasional Rentals. Our regular tenants include Early Discoveries Nursery School, Alberta Gold Chorus, ITS Fitness, Weight Watchers, All Canadian Karate, Foxy Kickboxing, Fitsproutz, Play Ball, Pedal Heads Bricks for Kids and Calgary Chorus Foundation. Our community groups include Al-Makah Calgary Islamic Prayer group, AA, Kincora Community Association, Girl Guides of Canada (Pathfinders and Guides), and MCNA (Muslim Children of North America) and Islamic classes. In support of the wider United Church community we have hosted Presbytery meetings, the Education & Students committee, Dream Team (Presbytery Youth), and Marriage Preparation. We had a wide range of Occasional Renters including piano recitals, dance recitals, meetings and workshops, hiring fairs and open houses for the two new retirement homes in the area, federal and provincial elections, Fundraising events, a variety of AGM's and condo meetings, birthday parties, and more. We had over 120 Occasional Rental bookings throughout the year. 29 bookings in December alone!!

Many thanks to our building monitors that host our Occasional Rentals by welcoming them, settling them in to their space and providing on-site support for large events. As we continue to see an increase in the Occasional Renter we are looking for a few new folks to help us host our many rentals. In an effort to not hire paid monitors when we are short volunteers, you might want to consider give a gift of your time. All you need is a warm and welcoming attitude, to be familiar with our building use guide lines and comfortable with the responsibility of opening and locking the church. If you would like more information talk to Kathy Dion.

### General activity

- Chair and table movement for events and cleaning.
- Replacing light bulbs and ballasts in lighting systems.
- Garden and lawn and tree care.
- Equipment maintenance.

### Major projects completed in 2015

- Outside lighting modified and led bulbs installed for less electrical draw and improved failure rate.
- Damaged fence repaired (thanks Wally)
- New boxes for prayer mats constructed and installed in valley view room.

### Projects to be accomplished in 2016

- Indirect lighting in valley view room and foyer to be converted from halogen to LED to reduce draw and improve failure rate.
- Gardens to be improved and several trees added.

Special thanks to Frank Van Dusen for the beautiful boxes he built for the prayer rugs and to Gary McDonald for his hard work over the summer cutting lawns.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Dion  
Dennis McLaren

## From Women's Spirit

Women's Spirit continues to grow in membership. We meet in members' homes. We have two types of members. Firstly, some women who find it convenient to attend our meetings. Secondly, E-members, who for various reasons cannot attend regular meetings, but who attend some of our activities, contribute to our projects, or stay in touch by reading/responding to our email messages. We are learning to be flexible in our definition of "membership". We are, after all, Women's Spirit!

We tend to think of our mission in Symons Valley United Church under two "hats". We remember Martha, who was busy in the kitchen preparing food, making sure the guests were comfortable. We remember Mary, her sister, who was blissfully sitting at Jesus feet, meditating on and absorbing all that Jesus was saying to the guests. (Luke 10:38 - 42).

Our active events have included coordinating and/or providing luncheons for memorial services, and GC 42 Presbytery Conference meeting. We continue to supply meals to home-bound congregational members. Women's Spirit provided leadership for Sunday Worship Feb. 1

Our meeting have been varied and interesting. We were pleased to welcome Nancy Chegus to our Ash Wednesday gathering. She launched us on our Lenten Journey. We journeyed to Northminster United to experience walking their labyrinth. Weekly reflections were inspired by "When the Heart Waits" a book by Sue Monk Kidd. On May 20, we transformed the sanctuary into a meditative walk. By rearranging the chairs, we created an opportunity for quiet centering prayer. We also included mandala colouring, reading, reflection. This was accomplished with the support of Sarah Fanning, extending the work of Presence Project, and Alison Morrow, member of Wild Rose United. Fran and Andy Porter were guest speakers on the topic of Borderline Personality Disorder. We have enjoyed taped presentations by Christine Northrup: "Glorious Women Never Age" and "Goddess Remembered" from the NFB of Canada.

Our ongoing projects include seeking to purchase a canvas labyrinth for SVUC; working to establish a link with Dulcina Hospice; working in conjunction with Outreach to provide Good Food Box; contributing articles to City-Wide Women's Network Newsletter,

Lastly, we want to thank Vicki McPhee for her ongoing and unending support, encouragement, and attendance of Women's Spirit program and events. Vicki, we so value your presence and inspiration!

***Never underestimate the power of a dismissed dream. I think there must be a place inside of us where dreams go to and wait their turn --Sue Monk Kidd***

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice Cockroft, Facilitator  
Women's Spirit

## 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes

### SYMONS VALLEY UNITED CHURCH 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

February 22, 2015

**MOTION 1:** That Scot Middleton act as chair for the SVUC AGM. Moved by Scott Riddell. Seconded by Paul Armstrong. Carried.

**MOTION 2:** That Nancy McKellar be the recording secretary for the SVUC AGM. Moved by Pat Riddell. Seconded by Sandy Crawford. Carried.

#### **Constitution of the AGM**

**MOTION 3:** That voting privileges for the AGM be extended to all present at the AGM. Moved by Ann Crawford. Seconded by Kathy Spence-Cameron. Carried.

**MOTION 4:** That the Agenda for the AGM be accepted as outlined. Moved by Wayne Carmichael. Seconded by Colleen Marchant. Carried.

#### **Remembering and Recognitions:**

Remembering Leslie Carmichael, Sylvia Timochuk, Lorraine Farkas

Recognising Vicki McPhee for her leadership during Sarah Fanning's maternity leave.

**MOTION 5:** That the Minutes from the 2013 AGM (February 23, 2014) be adopted. Moved by Daniel Sore. Seconded by Dianne Moore. Carried.

**MOTION 6:** That the Annual Reports be accepted as written. Moved by Gloria Davis. Seconded by Wayne Carmichael. Carried.

**MOTION 7:** That the internal, unaudited Financial Statements be accepted as presented by Michelle Middleton. Moved by Michelle Middleton. Seconded by Erica Riddell. Carried.

#### **Nominations for SVUC Board:**

Alice Cockcroft nominated for Member-at-Large on the SVUC Board.

**MOTION 8:** That Alice Cockcroft be elected Member-at-Large to the SVUC Board. Moved by Paul Armstrong. Seconded by Zoe Gulley. Carried.

#### **Nominations for Trustee:**

Sandy Crawford

Gerry Van Keekan

Janet Stein

Susan Broderick

Dave Williams

**MOTION 9:** That the above listed people be elected as trustees for SVUC. Moved by Dave Williams. Seconded by Sandy Crawford. Carried.

#### **Presentation/Discussion/Adoption of Budget by Michelle Middleton**

**MOTION 10:** That the budget be adopted as presented. Moved by Wayne Carmichael. Seconded by Gloria Davis. Carried.

#### **Cell Tower Update**

#### **NCD Update**

#### **Compassion Theme Update**

**MOTION 11:** Motion to adjourn. Moved by Kathy Spence-Cameron. Seconded by Wayne Carmichael.

Nancy McKellar  
Recording Secretary

Scot Middleton  
Chairperson

## Quilting Ministry



The Quilting Ministry continues to offer Pastoral Care and Outreach on behalf of the congregation.

This year we were honoured to create a Memorial Quilt for the Beswick foundation so that they could continue a tradition of memorializing their clients who have succumbed to AIDS or HIV. We were also happy to create the wall hangings that furnish the chapels at Holy Cross Manor and St. Marguerite Manors.

Within our own congregation, compassionate quilts were also created, signed and gifted to four individuals experiencing critical or chronic health issues. We also have the opportunity to make other special gifts to reflect the love and care of our congregation. This year those projects included a quilt for Matthew Taylor-Kerr as he graduated from University and moved on from being our Youth Leader to pursue his career. Table runners were also given to both Donna and Karen as Christmas gifts to honour the talent and gifts that they bring to our church family. We were also delighted to provide the table runner used, and then presented to the Bride and Groom at the surprise wedding that became part of our Worship service on December 22.

Besides building quilts this special ministry provides fellowship, friendship and fun for all those who participate. We continue to meet alternate Monday evenings and Tuesday days as well as hosting two all day workshops in the spring and fall. We welcome everyone from experienced quilters to those curious souls that have yet to discover their inner quilter. All are welcome! Please connect with Michelle Middleton ([msmiddleton@shaw.ca](mailto:msmiddleton@shaw.ca)) or Colleen Marchant ([ccinc@telusplanet.net](mailto:ccinc@telusplanet.net)) if you have any questions or just need some gentle encouragement to join us. It is truly a Blessing to be part of this ministry!

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Marchant  
Michelle Middleton

## Treasurer's Report

The following accounting procedures from the UCC Financial Handbook <http://www.united-church.ca/files/handbooks/financial.pdf> section 3.5 are followed at SVUC:

SVUC has clearly defined procedures for counting and recording the offering, and those procedures are followed by a rotating schedule of Collection-counters who are at arms-length. (Thank you **Don Jarmain, Scott Riddell, Helen Brown, Heather McDonald, Al Dick, Aron Funk, Sandy Crawford, Wayne Carmichael, Dave Williams, Julie Thompson, James Henderson, April Boutin, Gary McDonald and Deb Downey**). Thanks to the **counters**, and to **Essie Gaqui-Elefante and Kathy Dion**, we have good separation of duties for all individuals who deal with money—they make the initial accounting entries, which are verified by **Heather McDonald** before she makes the deposits. (**Heather gets a big shout out here, and a huge thank you, as she makes those deposits 50 weeks a year!!**) Then, the treasurer reviews those entries again when reconciling the bank statement. All cheques are signed by 2 people, and they inspect and initial the supporting documents (bills, invoices or written requests for reimbursement) before signing the cheques. Thank you to **Sandy Crawford, Colleen Marchant, Gloria Davis and Nancy McKellar** for signing more than 300 cheques throughout the year.

**Bret Cousins** has taken the responsibility to administer all of the grocery card receipts, with help from **Marlin Derksen**. Thank you. This passive fundraiser raised over \$2900 in 2015.

The treasurer completes the bank reconciliations monthly, and provides monthly reports to the Official board. Reports are published to the congregation as well via announcements, posting on the bulletin board, or in newsletters.

A designated member of the Official board, who is not involved in the finances in any other way, reviews the bank statements and reconciliations. Thank you to **Daniel Sore** for taking this on in 2015.

The **Trustees** maintain an up-to-date inventory of equipment and furnishings owned by the church, and ensure we have adequate insurance coverage. Thank you to **Janet Stein** for looking after these important tasks.

The accounting records are password protected, and access to information is limited to only those portions of the program that are applicable to the user (for example, a counter can only access the contributions they are entering that day; someone who maintains the addresses etc. on the database has no access to the financial portion of the program. Paper records are kept in a locked filing cabinet, and a computer backup of the database is stored off site. The accounting records are reviewed annually by Dart Bryant accounting firm, and they provide a Review Engagement statement.

Annual filings with the government are up to date. Thank you **Al Dick** for preparing those returns.

As you can tell by my name dropping, good stewardship of SVUC's finances is a task that has many helpers and I truly thank you all.

It is also important to know that the staff are paid on time each month and remittances are sent to the government, all bills are paid as they become due, GST returns are filed and income tax receipts are sent to each identifiable donor in a timely fashion, annual statistics are provided to The United Church of Canada, budgets are developed and provided to the Official Board and the congregation for approval.

A monthly checklist has been created to ensure all staff, contractors, utilities, Mission and Service, Presbytery and other bills are paid, money transferred to the cover the interest payment, service charges entered, monthly rents

are checked to make sure they are all received, bank accounts are balanced and reconciled and monthly reports made to the Official Board and regularly to the congregation via announcements or newsletter submissions.

**Heather McDonald** puts in lots of time managing and assigning envelope numbers to all identifiable donors and ensuring that all who want physical envelopes receive them throughout the year. (It is never too late to ask for envelopes). Heather and the counters do an amazing job of identifying our donors, as less than 2% of donations are unidentified.

Confidentiality is very important. All counters have signed confidentiality agreements, and cumulative donation histories (totals) are only seen by **Sandy Crawford, Heather McDonald and Michelle Middleton**. And, at least by me, are promptly forgotten again.

As for how funds donated that are labeled for a particular purpose were spent, we spent more for White Gifts than received, paid down \$37,000 principal on the mortgage against \$21,500 received in building fund and New Growth donations. We did receive \$400 more in Outreach Compassion (feeding others) money than spent, and that will be carried into the 2016 budget. There are also \$895 unspent Benevolent donations received that will carry over into the 2016 budget.

If you read the statements, and noticed the interest expense for the line of credit, you can see that cash flow management was crucial in 2015, and we needed to access the line of credit a few times. Hopefully, we can maintain a more comfortable cash cushion in 2016.

Yours in Christ,

Michelle Middleton  
Treasurer

Symons Valley United Church  
**Financial Statements (UNAUDITED)**  
For The Year Ended December 2015

Balance Sheet

Statement of Operations

Statement of Cash Flow

Notes

Attached Statements have been prepared  
by the Church Treasurer with no independent  
review having been performed.

February 4, 2015

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Symons Valley United Church  
**Balance Sheet (UNAUDITED)**  
as at December 31

	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CASH ASSETS</b>		
CHECKING ACCOUNTS	8,784	34,822
<b>Subtotal Cash Assets</b>	<b>8,784</b>	<b>34,822</b>
<b>SAVINGS ACCOUNTS</b>		
Memorial fund-RBC	4,059	2,749
Trustee Accounts RBC	8,323	8,453
Trustee--Apex Deposit	11,000	11,000
<b>Subtotal Savings Accounts</b>	<b>23,382</b>	<b>22,202</b>
<b>GROCERY GIFT CARDS</b>	<b>12,850</b>	-
<b>ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE</b>	<b>1,439</b>	<b>1,543</b>
<b>Subtotal Current Assets</b>	<b>46,455</b>	<b>58,567</b>
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
Life Insurance Policy	1	1
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
LAND	1,445,472	1,445,472
BUILDINGS	3,384,213	3,489,967
EQUIPMENT	26,035	28,742
<b>Subtotal Fixed Assets</b>	<b>4,855,720</b>	<b>4,964,181</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>4,902,176</b>	<b>5,022,750</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
M&S payable	123	-
UCC Benefits	-	4,243
SVUC Outreach Found'n Payb	210	210
Damage Deposits Rentals	8,090	8,240
Prepaid Rents	7,324	6,972
Trade Accounts Payable	9,153	10,946
RBC accrued Mtg Interest	-	17,894
Genesis Constr Holdback	7,143	7,143
Grocery Card Loan	5,000	
RBC Kincora Mortgage	1,939,000	2,030,000
<b>Subtotal Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,976,043</b>	<b>2,085,648</b>
<b>LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</b>		
UCC/Presbytery-Mtg Advance	500,000	500,000
UCC General Council Office	612,547	558,547
<b>Subtotal Long-term Liabilities</b>	<b>1,112,547</b>	<b>1,058,547</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>3,088,590</b>	<b>3,144,195</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>1,813,586</b>	<b>1,878,555</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>4,902,176</b>	<b>5,022,750</b>

Symons Valley United Church  
**Statement of Operations (UNAUDITED)**  
 Year ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
<b>OFFERINGS</b>		
General Contributions	279,397	238,595
Send Us a Sign	-	8,788
New Growth, Deep Roots	13,266	41,390
Benevolent Fund	1,295	4,660
Other Outreach Receipts	3,662	1,270
White Gifts	1,889	2,040
Outreach--Compassion project	2,706	633
M.&S. contributions	15,823	14,091
Memorial Fund	1,310	-
<b>Subtotal Offering Receipts</b>	<b>319,348</b>	<b>311,467</b>
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS</b>		
COMMUNITY BUILDING/FUNDRAISING	26,471	22,990
CHURCH ACTIVITIES	2,002	248
MISSION AND SERVICE GRANT	30,000	30,000
INTEREST INCOME	1	5
OTHER RECEIPTS	-	250
BUILDING USE RECEIPTS	158,114	150,966
<b>Subtotal Other Receipts</b>	<b>216,588</b>	<b>204,459</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>535,936</b>	<b>515,925</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>		
STAFF	243,279	239,801
PRESBYTERY ASSESSMENT	10,839	10,607
MISSION AND SERVICE	15,823	14,091
OUTREACH	11,439	5,677
FAITH FORMATION	2,389	4,943
CONGREGATIONAL GROWTH	6,611	1,950
PASTORAL CARE	559	627
WELCOMING	2,013	1,626
MINISTRY EXPENSE	1,047	1,447
WORSHIP EXPENSES	1,579	1,434
MUSIC	2,445	2,423
MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL	1,856	1,862
COMMUNITY BLDG/FUNDRAISING	7,787	8,092
<b>Subtotal Program Expenses</b>	<b>307,667</b>	<b>294,578</b>

Symons Valley United Church  
**Statement of Operations (UNAUDITED)**

Year ended December 31, 2014

	2014	
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising	-	436
Bank Charges	5,074	4,623
Payroll Charges	290	291
Line of Credit Int Exp	21	1
Office Supplies	1,851	1,503
Small Furnishings	382	1,815
Postage	209	385
Comprehensive Insurance	7,677	7,297
Professional Services	7,461	8,046
Phone and Internet	5,605	5,396
COMPUTER EXPENSES	3,603	3,091
LEASED EQUIPMENT (Copier lease and usage)	4,539	4,463
STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE	280	463
OTHER DISBURSEMENTS	1,023	1,411
<b>Subtotal Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>38,015</b>	<b>39,221</b>
<b>FACILITIES EXPENSES</b>		
Mortgage Interest	65,912	73,306
Utilities	29,040	31,482
Security	902	1,617
Janitorial Services	30,936	30,369
Janitorial Supplies	4,056	2,737
Garbage and Recycling	2,318	1,785
Repairs/Maint/Sm ToolsBld	3,219	1,444
Floor Maint and Cleaning	3,416	6,164
Maintenance Equipment	3,130	4,773
AV Maintenance/Equip.	1,344	2,850
Signage	-	5,471
Landscaping	123	490
Maint. supplies and Snow	2,365	1,322
<b>Subtotal Facilities Expenses</b>	<b>146,761</b>	<b>163,810</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>492,443</b>	<b>497,610</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS (SHORTFALL)</b>	<b>43,493</b>	<b>18,315</b>
Amortization of Tangible Assets	108,462	108,462
<b>DEFICIENCY</b>	<b>(64,969)</b>	<b>(90,147)</b>

Symons Valley United Church  
**Statement of Cash Flows (UNAUDITED)**  
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Deficiency	(64,969)	(90,147)
Item not affecting cash:		
Amortization of Tangible Assets	108,462	108,462
	43,493	18,315
Changes in non-cash working capital		
Accounts Receivable	104	(13)
Trustee Funds	130	(87)
Memorial Fund	(1,310)	(2)
Grocery Gift Cards	(12,850)	
Prepaid Rents	352	332
M&S Payable	123	-
Trade Payables	(1,793)	2,278
Damage deposits	(150)	990
Interest payable	(17,894)	17,894
Grocery Cards Loan	5,000	
UCC Benefits payable	(4,243)	4,243
	(32,531)	25,634
Cash flow from (used by) operating activities	10,962	43,950
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase equipment, furnishings and fixtures	-	-
Cash flow used by investing activities	-	-
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Advances from Calgary Presbytery	-	-
Advances from The United Church of Canada	54,000	58,547
Repayment of RBC mortgage	(91,000)	(79,000)
Cash flow from financing activities	(37,000)	(20,453)
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW</b>	(26,038)	23,497
Cash (deficiency) beginning of year	34,822	11,326
<b>CASH - END OF YEAR</b>	8,784	34,822
<b>CASH FLOW SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION</b>		
Interest Mortgage	65,912	73,306
<b>CASH CONSISTS OF:</b>		
Cash	8,784	34,822

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Symons Valley United Church  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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**Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

Property and equipment are stated at cost or deemed cost less accumulated amortization. Property and equipment are amortized over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis at the below rates and methods. The cost of property, equipment and furniture is removed from capital assets in the year of disposition or abandonment.

Buildings	2.5%	straight-line method
Equipment, furniture & fixtures	20%	straight-line method
Computer equipment	25%	straight-line method
Pianos	5%	straight-line method

The church regularly reviews its property and equipment to eliminate obsolete items.

Property and equipment acquired during the year but not placed into use are not amortized until they are placed into use.

Cash surrender value of life insurance policies

The Church is an irrevocable beneficiary of a life insurance policy. The Church records the investment in this policy at the cash surrender value of the policy at the time of the donation. The carrying value of the policy is reviewed annually to determine whether an adjustment in the cash surrender value is required. Any change in the cash surrender value of the policy prior to the death of the individuals insured is adjusted to the carrying value of the policies reported on the statement of financial position and related deferred revenue, if any.

Demand loan

The church's demand loan is classified as a current liability because the lender has the right to demand repayment within one year.

Revenue recognition

The Church follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions where externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred and unrestricted contributions are recognized when received or receivable.

Contributions of gifts in kind are recorded at the fair value of the assets when received by the Church, which is the same donation amount as accepted for income tax purposes

Donated Services

Volunteers and members of the congregation contribute a substantial number of hours to assist the Church in carrying out its activities. Because of the difficulty of determining the number of hours and their fair value, donated services are not recognized in the financial statements.

Symons Valley United Church  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Note 2	CAPITAL ASSETS	Accumulated		2015	2014
	Cost	Depreciation	Net Book Value	Net Book Value	
	LAND	1,445,472	-	1,445,472	1,445,472
	BUILDING	4,230,149	845,936	3,384,213	3,489,967
	EQUIPMENT	175,993	170,849	5,144	6,135
	Petrof PIII Piano	34,338	13,506	20,832	22,550
		<b>5,885,953</b>	<b>1,030,291</b>	<b>4,855,662</b>	<b>4,964,124</b>

Note 3	RBC Mortgage Loan	2015	2014
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Royal Bank of Canada loan bearing interest at prime plus 0.5% per annum, interest only payments  
The loan matures on October 1, 2026 and is secured by General Security Agreement and chattel against land and buildings.

	1,939,000	2,030,000
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The loan is to be amortized as follows: the loan is to be amortized over 12 years; throughout each year plus monthly interest payments as follows:  
the outstanding balance as of Oct. 1, 2015 is at \$1,950M; there will be irregular POP payments  
Oct. 1, 2015 - \$1,950M - \$116M POP  
Oct. 1, 2016 - \$1,834M - \$130M POP  
Oct. 1, 2017 - \$1,704M - \$140M POP  
Oct. 1, 2018 - \$1,564M - \$150M POP  
Oct. 1, 2019 - \$1,414M - \$160M POP  
Oct. 1, 2020 - \$1,254M - \$181M POP  
Oct. 1, 2021 - \$1,073M - \$201M POP  
Oct. 1, 2022 - \$872M - \$211M POP  
Oct. 1, 2023 - \$661M - \$221M POP  
Oct. 1, 2024 - \$440M - \$231M POP  
Oct. 1, 2025 - \$209M - \$209M POP  
Oct. 1, 2026 - NIL

The United Church of Canada continues to provide a loan guarantee for the full amount of the loan balance, including any outstanding interest and penalties for which it receives no fee

This is a demand loan, and thus shown in current liabilities.

Note 4	DUE TO RELATED PARTIES	2015	2014
	Due to Calgary Presbytery	500,000	500,000
	Due to The United Church of Canada	612,547	558,547

These loans are interest-free and are only repayable after the RBC mortgage obligation has been repayed in full.

Note 5	COMPARATIVE FIGURES
	Some of the comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.