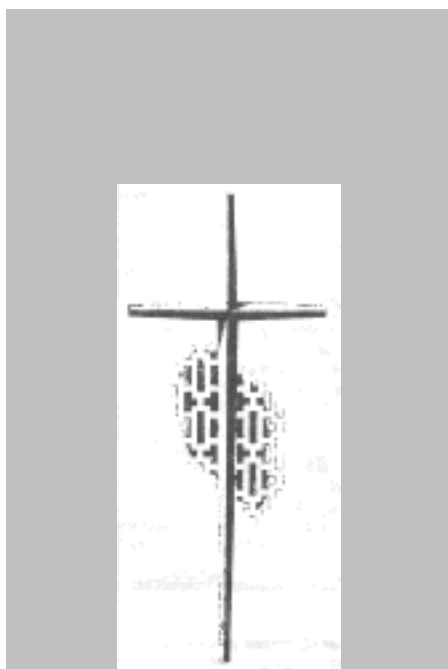


# Immanuel United Church Annual Report 2013-2014



## **Immanuel United Church seeks to be a community of faith**

- celebrating the gift of God's grace which marks our life together
- sustained by the gift of grace which makes us part of the body of Christ and of the whole family of God.

## **a community of love and hospitality**

- centering our life together in worship and study
- nurturing our life together by worship and study
- enjoying our life together as children, youth and adults
- sharing our life together with openness to all our differences.

## **a community of servants**

- reaching out with all our gifts to God's world
- working for justice and peace in God's world
- witnessing with our words and actions our hope for God's world.

**Phone** 204-669-0220

or 204-669-0221

**Fax** 204-669-2374

**Email:**

[iuchurch@mymts.net](mailto:iuchurch@mymts.net)

755 Golspie Street

Winnipeg MB R2K 2V4

[immanuelunitedchurch.net](http://immanuelunitedchurch.net)

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## Minister's Annual Report 2013-2014 Church Year

I write this report immediately after Easter, as I finish up some administrative tasks prior to my sabbatical leave. What a year it has been at Immanuel, as we worked to implement our new governance structure! I'm inclined to invoke the memory of Erma Bombeck, and entitle this report, *If We're Getting Smaller, Why Do We Have to Have Growing Pains?* However, despite the predictable challenges associated with adapting a new structure and becoming familiar with it, I have found this past year of sharing ministry leadership with the Council and Guiding Elders to be an exciting one of significant growth with very little pain. Our goal in adapting the new structure was to reduce bureaucracy and make room for ministry. By the grace of God, I think we have gone some distance toward realizing that goal.

I have often commented in the past that, with a Board structure in place in the congregations in which I've been involved in ministry in the latter half of my career, I've felt the loss of the official role of Elder, and of a Session with which to consult about the "spiritual concerns" of the congregation. In the past few months, I have felt a deep sense of sharing in ministry with colleagues, and of trusting that the big issues that face the church will be given deep and prayerful consideration, with a view to discerning a faithful direction for the congregation. Of course, those who served on the Board and on committees prior to the new structure at Immanuel also gave their work prayerful consideration, and offered very valid ministry. A lot of them are the same folks working in the new structure now! However, this role is *built into* the new structure, so that meeting agendas are less cramped, and due time, with prayer and study, is given to the larger issues. I do not speak only of the Council Elders here, as I also have been privileged to work closely with most of the Guiding Elders of the various Mission Clusters in the past year, and have found their work to be inspiring.

I'm grateful for the patience of the congregation in "hanging in" with these changes to the structure. My mantra for the past few years has been, "If we

can't get bigger, let's go deeper," and I *do* feel that we have been going more deeply into the big issues this year.

One of those big issues, of course, is the consideration of the land on the east side of the church building. My recent newsletter article on this subject is reprinted in this Annual Report, so I will not repeat myself here. Also, the Council Elders' report makes reference to the process of decision-making related to "The Back 40." Moving with the Council to the place of offering a course of action for this decision-making has been the focus of much of my time and energy in recent months. The Council has worked very hard to remain open in their leadership of this process, and not to be second-guessing a particular outcome, or, worse yet, working to ensure one.

Despite the busyness of this past year as we implemented the new structure, the less structured evening schedule allowed me to schedule a study group on Tuesday evenings. This group looked at a compilation of relatively recently-discovered ancient texts dating back to the first century C.E. The compilation is called *A New New Testament: A Bible for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Combining Traditional and Newly Discovered Texts*. We were able to hold twelve sessions of the study, moving about halfway through the book, and will resume our meetings in the fall. I was impressed with the dedication of the participants as they read challenging texts that often are the subject matter only of university or theological school courses.

The year also has been a busy one with pastoral responsibilities, which I have appreciated sharing with the Pastoral Care Team and others who visit and make pastoral contacts on the church's behalf. Worship preparation and preaching takes up a significant amount of my time as well. I have enjoyed this year of working with the Guiding Elders, with the Advent Planning Group, with the Choir, and with others whose involvement in planning and leadership contributes to what I hope is a meaningful worship experience at Immanuel.

I am most grateful to the congregation for the sabbatical leave that I am now beginning. My study focus will be on the new Narrative Lectionary, which in the course of each year will take us through the broad sweep of the larger biblical story by engaging a key story each Sunday. I'll be considering the

implications for our worship life, as well as for the Sunday School, as I immerse myself in this new schedule of readings. During my time away, I'll be attending two lecture series focusing on biblical study—one in Grand Forks, North Dakota the weekend after Easter, and one in Seattle, Washington, in June—and will have other opportunities to travel and to do independent study during this time. Many thanks to those at Immanuel who worked so hard to set up coverage for pastoral care and worship leadership, and who will be working through my sabbatical time to ensure that the congregation is cared for in a way that is both compassionate and competent. I look forward to returning rested and rejuvenated in August, and to moving into the next phase of our ministry journey together.

In closing, I would like to thank my colleagues on the Immanuel staff, and all of the Immanuel congregation, for a challenging and meaningful year in ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Sanders

### *Office Administrator's Report*

I have now been the Office Administrator for thirteen years here at Immanuel and have enjoyed it very much. I look forward to continuing my work at Immanuel.

The office continues to be busy. I have put together newsletters throughout the year as well as this annual report, observer renewals, helping with tickets for the play and the fowl supper, organized bookings, etc. I have enjoyed the fowl supper and the dessert theatre and enjoy seeing how everyone comes together and puts on such wonderful events. Also a big bouquet to all my volunteers, your help is very much appreciated!

Thank you to the Ministry and Personnel Committee for all the hard work you do on behalf of the staff. I always look forward to our meetings.

*Sharon Vandenberg*

# Passages 2013-2014

## In Memoriam

*Kirk McKay*

*Marion Burling*

*Norah Kerr*

*Andrew Crump*

*Fran Burrows*



Kaiden Pickering

Oliver Dingwall

## **Immanuel United Church**

### **Annual Meeting**

**7:00 PM Wednesday May 15, 2013**

**Call to order and Opening Prayer;** Marg Smith called the meeting to order @ 7:05 pm. Nancy Sanders provided the Opening Prayer.

**Appointment of Chair and Secretary;** Richard Sawchuk motioned to appoint Marg Smith as chair. The motion was seconded by Bob Kenyon and carried. Pat Schulz motioned to appoint Judy Gierys as secretary. The motion was seconded by Doug McMurtry and carried.

**Time of Remembrance;** Nancy Sanders

**Approval of Agenda;** Marvee Stevens motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Anne Duncan and carried.

**Approval of the May 16, 2012 minutes;** Muriel Kenyon motioned to approve the May 16, 2012 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Debbie Bilous and carried.

**Visioning Team Report;** presentation by Lynda Endicott, Ian Donnelly, Marg Smith and Nancy Sanders.

**Approval of Annual Reports of Church Committees and Staff;** Joy Weizel motioned to approve all written reports. The motion was seconded by Marvee Stevens and carried.

### **Treasurers Report;** Connie Kryschuk and Pat Schulz

Connie Kryschuk motioned to transfer \$15,723.04 from Congregational Events to Current Account, \$4200.00 from Memorial Life and Work fund to Current Account and \$482.70 from Shortfall fund to Current Account to offset the negative Operational Deficit of \$20,405.74. The motion was seconded by Pat Schulz and carried.

**New and Continuing Business;** The Immanuel Board recommended that we end our rental agreement with Church Jehovah Nissi. Richard Sawchuk provided details of the conversations with Church Jehovah Nissi subsequent to their receiving our letter advising them of our decision. After much discussion regarding Jehovah Nissi's request for a possible extension of time, Lynne Strome motioned to end our association with Church Jehovah Nissi. The motion was seconded by Joan MacDonald and carried with 5 opposed. There was a discussion indicating that we had failed at a cultural interaction. Scott Douglas then motioned that the governing body of Immanuel United Church provide a process of theological reflection on the ending of our relationship with Church Jehovah Nissi and the challenges of cross cultural relations for a predominantly dominant culture congregation and share our learning from the experience with the congregation. The motion was seconded by Doug McMurtry and carried.

The following 10 motions were received and seconded as indicated. All 10 motions were carried!

1. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that the congregation of Immanuel United Church adopt the following Revised Mission Statement:

Nurtured and sustained by God's grace,  
We at Immanuel United Church  
Seek continually to be formed as servants of God:  
centring our life in worship and study,  
enjoying and sharing with one another in our diversity,  
offering hospitality to all who come through our doors,  
extending an open invitation to God's table,  
reaching out beyond our walls,  
affirming the worth of every person,  
working for justice and peace,  
and witnessing to our hope for God's world.

2. Moved by Joy Weizel, Seconded by Muriel Kenyon, that the congregation of Immanuel United Church approve the new governance model as outlined in the document entitled "Proposed Governance Structure/Immanuel United

Church/May 15, 2013,” and in the interpretive materials entitled, “Governance Structure/Immanuel United Church” (diagram), and “Legend: Immanuel United Church Governance Structure/May 15, 2013.”

3. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that the congregation of Immanuel United Church request that Winnipeg Presbytery approve the new governance structure, as outlined in the document entitled “Proposed Governance Structure/Immanuel United Church/May 15, 2013,” and in the interpretive materials entitled, “Governance Structure/Immanuel United Church” (diagram), and “Legend: Immanuel United Church Governance Structure/May 15, 2013.”
4. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that the congregation of Immanuel United Church declare the period between the rise of the 2013 Annual Meeting and the rise of the 2014 Annual a Transitional Year with regard to the implementation of the new governance model.
5. Moved by Joy Weizel, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that, in the interests of continuity and familiarity with the new structure, the congregation of Immanuel United Church appoint the current members of the Visioning Team (Ian Donnelly, Lynda Endicott, Margaret Smith) as Council Elders for the Transitional Year.
6. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that the congregation of Immanuel United Church approve the proposed Discernment and Nominating Process for the Transitional Year, and authorize the current Visioning Team (Ian Donnelly, Lynda Endicott, Margaret Smith) and Joy Weizel and Judy Gierys from the current Board, to implement the process.
7. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Joy Weizel, that, for the duration of the Transitional Year, the congregation of Immanuel United Church take the following action:
  - appoint Pat Schulz and Connie Kryschuk Treasurers of the congregation;
  - appoint Neil Barbour, Bill Hickerson, Bob Kenyon, Margaret Newton, Hal Whittaker Trustees of the congregation, with power to add;



- appoint Jean Smith, Elsie Hughes and Eileen Metcalfe to the Memorial Fund Committee, with power to add;
- and
- appoint Robert Smith, Neil Barbour, Scott Douglas, Verna McKay and Cindy Smith to the Ministry and Personnel Committee, with power to add.
8. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that the congregation of Immanuel United Church authorize the current Board
- to continue until Winnipeg Presbytery has approved the new governance structure and the Board has appointed the remaining members of the Council (as determined by the Discernment and Nominating process) for the Transitional Year,
- and
- on the congregation's behalf, to make any additional changes to the governance model and accompanying documentation that may be required by Winnipeg Presbytery.
9. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that the congregation of Immanuel United Church direct the current Board and its Committees to disband, with thanks for their years of service, following the appointment of the Council for the Transitional Year.
10. Moved by Lynda Endicott, Seconded by Sharon Barbour, that at its 2014 Annual Meeting in 2014, the congregation of Immanuel United Church
- review and evaluate the new governance structure, with a view to making any changes that serve the mission of the church,
- and
- as appropriate, appoint or elect persons identified through the Discernment and Nominating process to positions required for the functioning of the new governance structure.

**Approval of the 2013/2014 Operations Budget;** Pat Schulz motioned to approve the Operations Budget for the 2013/2014 year projecting an operational shortfall of \$23,811.00. The motion was seconded by Connie Kryschuk and carried.

Richard Sawchuk motioned to have the new council's first course of business be to discuss ideas for the use of the east side property in relation to our operational budget. The motion was seconded by Robert Smith and carried.

Thanks was expressed to all staff, committees, the Visioning Team and to Connie Kryschuk for her very dedicated work as the Liaison with Church Jehovah Nissi.

**Sending Forth and Blessing;** Nancy Sanders

**Motion to Adjourn;** Glenn Nicholls @ 9:55

### **Council Elders Annual Report May 15, 2014**

This is the first year (a transition year) of implementation of a new governance structure at Immanuel. It's been an exciting and challenging one. At the annual meeting last May, Council Elders and Honoured Elders were appointed and, after a discernment process, Guiding Elders were established to lead the work of the six Mission Clusters that reflect the life and work of Immanuel congregation (you will see the work of the Clusters written elsewhere in this Annual Report). In the fall, a diagram of the structure was placed on the back wall of the church to help congregation members familiarize themselves with the structure and the roles of specific Elders; at the time of this writing, it was still on the wall.

As we are in a transitional process around the way we govern ourselves, we will take a moment to describe just what some of the changes look and feel like. First of all, remember that in the old way we had a board with a chair and board members who were often chairs of committees, and a member or two at large. Board meetings usually had a moment of worship at the beginning followed by a series of reports. Discussions were often about addressing "technical issues". Meaning things like "do we get a new roof" or "how many chairs do we recover". Board meetings were held monthly and had begun to feel like a necessary and tiresome chore.

In the new way we have a council of six and the Minister who have the job (opportunity really) to consider all that we do in light of our mission, the work of the church and the theological issues of these times. We meet when we need to and, in this transitional time, we have met every 3 or 4 weeks. We begin each meeting with a reflection and discussion to centre ourselves and ground our discussions around Immanuel's mission. For example, we recently read a piece written by Fran Burrows about hearing God's call ... then took some time to share our responses. Recognizing that taking the time to listen for the "small still voice" helps

us in our work on council. We were all so touched to have had this reminder and that it came from Fran.

The process of council meetings differs from board meetings in some other significant ways. For example, we rotate the facilitator and note taker. So far this has worked well and has kept things interesting. We have spent time discussing all the things we were/are mandated to consider, like reviewing Immanuel's finances (thanks to Connie Kryschuk and Pat Shultz for their work), setting in motion a Stewardship process, hearing from Guiding Elders of several clusters, and starting a discussion and process around the use of the land behind the church. We have also spent time working thru some of the kinks in the governance structure as they have come up. We have a general plan as to what we will be discussing, and we remain open to address whatever may come up.

As a result of the discussions of "the back 40," a chalk board sign was built in the fall and was available inside our building for congregation members to record their ideas of what they thought should be done with the property. Thanks to the Property Committee, holes were dug and a stand was built for the chalk board sign to be put outside for anyone in the neighbourhood to share their ideas. After the snow fell, we thought we would wait until the snow cleared before putting it outside (that is taking longer than we might have guessed!). We consulted with Shannon McCarthy, the Executive Secretary of our Conference, and she confirmed the congregation's right to proceed with considering the future use of the land. This must be in consultation with Winnipeg Presbytery, who was informed of our intention to look into the use of the land. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, some congregation members attended a meeting organized by Lesley Harrison who is employed in the national United Church's EDGE network to hear how they might aid us as we consider how to use the land in a way that is faithful to our mission. The annual meeting will be an opportunity for congregation members to consider whether to pursue involving the EDGE network in our ongoing discussions of the use of "the back 40."

At several of the Council meetings we discussed a process for theological reflection on the ending of our relationship with Church Jehovah Nissi and the challenges of cross cultural relations. It remains an important discussion for our congregation to have and, although the Council recognized negative consequences due to delaying the process, we decided that this past year didn't provide the opportunity to give the issue the attention it deserves. Council will initiate a process for reflection at a future date.

To begin the analysis of the governance structure after this interim year, the Council Elders, Guiding Elders and Honoured Elders met at an event after worship on April 6<sup>th</sup>. As expected, the Elders reported that this transition year has had some growing pains. This has provided lots of opportunity for thoughtful reflection and learning. Many Elders articulated

that it has been an engaging, interesting and reflective year and there is some anxiety and uncertainty as we learn new roles and processes.

We have come through the transition year but it doesn't feel like the transition is complete. Nancy's sabbatical leave began on April 21<sup>st</sup> and continues until the first week of August. As a result, the current Guiding Elders and Council Elders are being asked to continue in their roles until September. We will continue the discernment of gifts and wait until early fall, after Nancy is back from sabbatical leave, to establish who will be new and who will continue as Guiding/Council Elders. The annual meeting will essentially be in two parts this year. The first part will take place in May and we will discuss some business of the church which will include the budget and a decision about EDGE and "the back 40". The second part, will take place in September, we will evaluate the governance structure and ratify a slate of Council and Guiding Elders.

At the last annual meeting some goals of the governance structure were articulated: to invite all who are part of our community into lives of spiritual growth and service; to discern gifts, then equip and deploy folks in meaningful service/expressions of ministry; and to find a more faithful and effective way to make decisions that affect the life and work of the congregation. Based on the journey of the Council Elders this year, we are heading in the right direction and recognize that we still have some distance to go.

Considering our mission and our resources, we remain hopeful and optimistic.

Ian Donnelly, Scott Douglas, Lynda Endicott, Verna McKay, Margaret Smith, Joy Weizel

## **Stewardship of Financial Resources Cluster**

As the Guiding Elders for Stewardship of Financial Resources we were happy to find that the teams existing in our Cluster were very experienced at their required tasks. The finances were being maintained and reported as required by the Finance Team, the audit process was underway by the Trustees, the Mission and Service Fund had a representative in place and the Memorial Fund Team was available to faithfully consider any request that may present itself. Our next task was to work with Nancy Sanders, the Discernment of Gifts Team and a couple of Council members to establish a Stewardship Team and our Cluster would be fully operational under the new Governance Structure. Our journey as part of an intentionally mission-based church continues.....

Respectfully Submitted by Bob Kenyon and Judy Gierys

Caution! Please read the following information before proceeding further. Failure to do so may lead to increased confusion!

As we have transitioned from our previous board structure to our new cluster structure, our financial reporting format has remained unchanged. The finance team was asked to provide a budget for each cluster for the coming year. This has proven to be an interesting challenge.

The existing clusters, for the most part, lined up with the old committee structure. Pages 7,8 & 9 show a listing of the activities/responsibilities of each cluster. Some are covered in the operations portion of the church's finances (budgeted) and some are shown in the fund reporting. We have highlighted the funds and budget items that fall into a cluster. There are some funds and budget items that do not have a cluster as yet. As we continue our transition to our new structure, we will continue to refine the budgeting reporting to reflect our new way of doing things.

## **2013-2014 Church Year**

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<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$168,699.96</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b><u>\$177,917.30</u></b>
<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	<b><u>-\$9,217.34</u></b>

<b>Operations</b>		<b>All Funds &amp; Interest</b>	
Income	\$116,874.07	Income	\$51,825.89
Expenses	<u>\$139,921.15</u>	Expenses	<u>\$37,996.15</u>
Deficit	-\$23,047.08	Surplus	+\$13,829.74

### **OPERATIONS**

#### **Co-Op Rebate**

This year's rebate was \$395.39, a decrease of \$46.14 from last year.

#### **2013 - 2014 Operational Income**

The overall operational income for 2013- 2014 was \$263.07 lower than last year's.

#### **2013 - 2014 Operational Expenses**

The overall operational expenses for 2013 - 2014 were \$2,378.27 higher than last year's.

Last year we predicted a, shortfall of -\$23,811.00 for the operational expenses. The deficit for the operations was -\$23,047. 08

We now need to transfer some of the funds to cover our Operational Deficit.

#### **Moved by Connie Kryschuk and seconded by Pat Schulz**

1. Transfer of \$16,795.11 from Congregational Events
2. Transfer of \$745.00 from Memorial Life & Work
3. Transfer of \$1,452.00 from Shortfall fund
4. Transfer of \$754.45 from the Strawberry Tea
5. Transfer of \$3,300.52 from the Current Account

**to offset the negative Operational Deficit of \$23,047.08.**

# Operations Income and Expenses – Five Year History

Page 3

The highlighted areas are the clusters and the categories that are included in a cluster.

	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2012-2013	2013-2014	2013-2014
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	YTD
<b>REVENUE</b>							
Envelopes	\$109,893.36	\$110,220.06	\$109,269.60	\$108,200.00	\$104,693.94	\$104,500.00	\$107,343.00
Miscellaneous	\$172.47	\$1,146.67	\$323.80	\$175.00	\$376.65	\$350.00	318.26
Open Plate	\$1,691.00	\$1,333.12	\$1,349.96	\$1,300.00	\$1,224.48	\$1,200.00	\$1,196.44
Rebates	\$1,471.55	\$1,041.71	\$1,140.36	\$1,100.00	\$1,161.07	\$1,100.00	\$1,083.37
Rent	\$7,255.00	\$7,765.00	\$8,710.00	\$9,300.00	\$9,670.00	\$6,170.00	\$6,933.00
Sunday School	\$34.99	\$115.25	\$38.16	\$40.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>\$120,518.37</b>	<b>\$121,621.81</b>	<b>\$120,831.88</b>	<b>\$120,115.00</b>	<b>\$117,137.14</b>	<b>\$113,330.00</b>	<b>\$116,874.07</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Bank Charges	\$65.00	\$42.54	\$83.35	\$85.00	\$45.70	\$45.00	63.54
Conference Fees	\$375.00	\$405.00	\$300.00	\$450.00	\$150.00	\$450.00	150.00
Office	\$5,289.43	\$4,011.87	\$4,444.59	\$4,100.00	\$5,373.43	\$4,000.00	\$3,480.80
PAR	\$144.00	\$165.00	\$161.00	\$175.00	\$202.00	\$175.00	150.00
Postage	\$297.23	\$266.61	\$316.61	\$350.00	\$510.31	\$350.00	159.43
Telephone	\$2,066.96	\$2,159.68	\$2,079.26	\$2,150.00	\$2,133.97	\$2,190.00	\$2,286.33
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$8,237.62</b>	<b>\$7,050.70</b>	<b>\$7,384.81</b>	<b>\$7,310.00</b>	<b>\$8,415.41</b>	<b>\$7,210.00</b>	<b>\$6,290.10</b>
<b>Building &amp; Property</b>							
Centra Gas	\$7,471.40	\$6,646.62	\$5,199.48	\$9,500.00	\$5,729.35	\$6,000.00	\$6,157.95
Insurance	\$3,748.95	\$4,389.00	\$4,410.00	\$4,600.00	\$5,065.83	\$5,200.00	\$5,273.04
Manitoba Hydro	\$2,601.55	\$2,714.87	\$3,130.18	\$3,200.00	\$2,700.50	\$2,800.00	\$2,931.41
Repair & Maintenance	\$6,037.75	\$8,190.30	\$6,791.55	\$7,000.00	\$9,162.69	\$7,200.00	\$11,214.07
Taxes	\$782.86	\$782.86	\$1,151.27	\$1,152.00	\$1,151.27	\$1,152.00	\$1,151.27
Water	\$623.08	\$826.08	\$538.53	\$700.00	\$833.05	\$850.00	\$1,037.04
<b>Total Bldg &amp; Prop</b>	<b>\$21,265.59</b>	<b>\$23,549.73</b>	<b>\$21,221.01</b>	<b>\$26,152.00</b>	<b>\$24,642.69</b>	<b>\$23,202.00</b>	<b>\$27,764.78</b>
<b>Clusters</b>							
CFOFC (Fellowship/PC)	\$116.48	\$44.80		\$400.00	\$652.18	\$400.00	\$113.00
DOG (M & P)		\$84.31		\$50.00		\$50.00	
FF & LL (C E)	\$509.38	\$400.17	\$461.20	\$1000.00	\$278.26	\$1,000.00	\$290.93
LOFITW (Outreach)	\$205.00	\$659.39	\$614.51	\$1,000.00	\$380.00	\$200.00	\$135.00
SOFR (Innovations)	\$1,043.14						
W (Worship)	\$923.79	\$917.23	\$725.71	\$700.00	\$1,011.83	\$700.00	\$783.37
<b>Total Clusters</b>	<b>\$2,797.79</b>	<b>\$2,105.90</b>	<b>\$1,801.42</b>	<b>\$3,150.00</b>	<b>\$2,322.27</b>	<b>\$2,350.00</b>	<b>\$1,322.30</b>
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>							
ADP Charges	\$243.03	\$247.10	\$256.51	\$260.00	\$259.66	\$275.00	\$278.79
CPP	\$1,817.52	\$1,849.44	\$1,866.36	\$1,904.00	\$1,908.21	\$1,945.00	\$1,954.88
EI	\$865.05	\$898.03	\$942.00	\$1,017.00	\$1,004.70	\$1,045.00	\$1,049.35
Salary & Housing	\$54,518.36	\$55,822.40	\$56,998.36	\$58,138.00	\$58,019.64	\$59,186.00	\$59,427.96
Pension & Insurance	\$7,442.04	\$7,871.56	\$7,613.00	\$7,765.00	\$8,192.14	\$8,560.00	\$9,168.26
Travel/Phone							
<b>Total Pastoral Ministry</b>	<b>\$64,886.00</b>	<b>\$66,688.53</b>	<b>\$67,676.23</b>	<b>\$69,084.00</b>	<b>\$69,384.35</b>	<b>\$71,011.00</b>	<b>\$71,879.24</b>
<b>Presbytery Assessment</b>	<b>\$7,082.00</b>	<b>\$7,108.00</b>	<b>\$7,616.00</b>	<b>\$7,620.00</b>	<b>\$7,634.64</b>	<b>\$7,600.00</b>	<b>\$7,690.68</b>
<b>Support Staff</b>							
Associate Staff	\$7,888.88	\$6,658.78	\$7,250.93	\$7,070.00	\$7,178.82	\$7,177.00	\$7,509.34
Caretaker	\$2,487.80	\$2,647.91	\$4,048.27	\$4,350.00	\$4,911.30	\$5,263.00	\$5,314.13
CPP	\$426.08	\$282.22	\$394.26	\$484.00	\$521.96	\$531.00	\$505.01
EI	\$550.57	\$470.27	\$575.42	\$576.00	\$537.38	\$642.00	\$605.94
Music Director	\$4,771.52	\$4,880.72	\$4,903.98	\$4,975.00	\$4,986.70	\$5,044.00	\$3,943.25
Organist	\$5,708.72	\$6,226.68	\$6,656.00	\$6,850.00	\$6,857.36	\$6,961.00	\$7,041.38
Emerging Spirit	\$1,873.22						
Staff Support	\$300.00	\$400.00					
WCB	\$121.96	\$155.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$55.00
<b>Total Staff Support</b>	<b>\$24,128.75</b>	<b>\$21,721.58</b>	<b>\$23,978.86</b>	<b>\$24,455.00</b>	<b>\$25,143.52</b>	<b>\$25,768.00</b>	<b>\$24,974.05</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$128,397.75</b>	<b>\$128,224.44</b>	<b>\$129,678.33</b>	<b>\$137,771.00</b>	<b>\$137,542.88</b>	<b>\$137,141.00</b>	<b>\$139,921.15</b>
<b>Revenue less Expenses</b>	<b>-\$7,879.38</b>	<b>-\$6,602.63</b>	<b>-\$8,846.45</b>	<b>-\$17,656.00</b>	<b>-\$20,405.74</b>	<b>-\$23,811.00</b>	<b>\$23,047.08</b>



## FUNDS

Page 4

We have a total of 21 Funds. Most of the funds (see All Accounts Summary for a full list) are self-explanatory. We currently have 7 Memorial Funds and 14 Special Purpose Funds. For ease of reporting throughout the year and to save paper, the income and expenses for these two funds are grouped together. Below is a breakdown of the individual funds in each of these categories.

	<b>Balance as of May 1, 2013</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Balance as of Apr. 30, 2014</b>
Memorial	\$4,522.95	\$180.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,702.95
Memorial Flowers	\$346.30	\$312.95	\$267.49	\$391.76
Memorial Funeral	\$1,042.38			\$1,042.38
Memorial Kitchen		\$500.00		\$500.00
Memorial M & S		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
Mem Pastoral Care		\$325.00		\$325.00
Memorial Outreach	\$1,490.00			\$1,490.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$7,401.63</b>	<b>\$1,467.95</b>	<b>\$2,417.49</b>	<b>\$6,452.09</b>

	<b>Balance as of May 1, 2013</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Balance as of Apr. 30, 2014</b>
<b>Special Purposes</b>				
Agape		\$160.00	\$160.00	\$0.00
Atlantic Grdn Cty		\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Eco Friendly		\$415.00	\$415.00	\$0.00
Habitat		\$60.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
IBM	\$276.00	\$30.00		\$306.00
Interfaith Immig.		\$60.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
Jazz	\$314.40			\$314.40
River Elm	\$3,010.10	\$960.00	\$2,258.40	\$1,711.70
Salvation Army		85.00	\$85.00	\$0.00
Siloam Mission		\$150.00	\$150.00	
Stella Feast	\$40.00			\$40.00
Strawberry Tea		\$904.45	\$150.00	\$754.45
Wpg Cheer Board		\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Wpg Harvest		\$270.00	\$270.00	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,640.50</b>	<b>\$3,204.45</b>	<b>\$3,718.40</b>	<b>\$3,126.55</b>

All of the funds show either a 0 or positive balance and we have sufficient funds in our combined bank accounts and GIC's to cover these balances.

Details for the **White Gift** fund are as follows:

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Agape	\$300.00
Canadian Foodgrains	\$100.00
Christmas LITE	\$300.00
Interfaith	\$100.00
North End Community Ministry	\$476.00
Raymond Flett	\$100.00
Winnipeg Harvest	<u>\$500.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,876.00</b>

The **charitable gifts** made by the Immanuel congregation totaled **\$30,639.60** .

M & S + Memorial M & S (U C of C)	\$24,354.00
Special Relief (U C of C)	\$1,149.00
Christian Family Ctr	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
(River Elm Breakfast Program)	
Children's Heritage Fund	\$1,000.00
Winnipeg Harvest	\$770.00
North End Community Ministry	\$556.00
Agape Table	\$460.00
Christmas LITE	\$300.00
Project Peacemakers	\$265.60
Interfaith Immigration	\$160.00
Siloam Mission	\$150.00
Affirm United	\$100.00
Raymond Flett	\$100.00
Canadian Foodgrains	\$100.00
Salvation Army (Snow Nite)	\$85.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$60.00
High River United Church	\$20.00
Winnipeg Cheer Board	<u>\$10.00</u>
	<b>\$30,639.60</b>

**All Funds and Accounts Summary  
From May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014**

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	<b>Balance at May 1, 2013</b>	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Current Balance at April 30, 2014</b>
1. Bldg & Improvement	\$21,285.49	\$906.56	\$906.56	\$21,285.49
2. Choir	\$1,431.45	\$25.00	\$23.10	\$1,433.35
3. Congregational Events	\$5,430.35	\$14,107.20	\$2,742.44	\$16,795.11
4. Donnelly Lecture	\$746.97	\$70.00		\$816.97
5. Leadership Developm't	\$325.00		\$97.15	\$227.85
6. Library/Calendar	\$221.06		\$152.01	\$69.05
7. Memorial Funds	\$7,401.63	\$1,467.95	\$2,417.49	\$6,452.09
8. Memorial: Life & Work		\$745.00		\$745.00
9. Minister's Benevolent	\$414.41	\$120.00		\$534.41
10. Mission & Service		\$24,204.00	\$24,204.00	
11. NECM		\$80.00	\$80.00	
12. Observer		\$360.00	\$360.00	
13. Office Equipment				
14. Projector	\$132.78	\$1,000.00		\$1,132.78
15. Refugee Family	\$1,892.51	\$500.00		\$2,392.51
16. Shortfall		\$1,452.00		\$1,452.00
17. Special Purposes	\$3,640.50	\$3,204.45	\$3,718.40	\$3,126.55
18. Special Relief		\$1,169.00	\$1,169.00	
19 Staffing Fund	\$8,000.00		\$250.00	\$7,750.00
20. White Gift		\$1,876.00	\$1,876.00	
21. Youth Groups	\$440.15			\$440.15
24. Sub-Total ALL Funds	<b>\$51,362.30</b>	<b>\$51,287.16</b>	<b>\$37,996.15</b>	<b>\$64,653.31</b>
25. Interest/Adjustments		\$538.73		\$538.73
26. Operations		<b>\$116,874.07</b>	<b>\$139,921.15</b>	<b>-\$23,047.08</b>
27. Sub Total	\$51,362.30	\$168,699.96	\$177,917.30	\$42,144.96
28. Current Account	<b>\$7,585.08</b>			<b>\$7,585.08</b>
29. TOTAL	<b>\$58,947.38</b>			<b>\$49,730.04</b>
Chequing Account	\$13,135.07			\$13,388.58
Savings Account	\$31,896.92			\$22,067.14
#2 GIC Account	\$6,946.09	Matures on	Jan. 24, 2016	\$7,110.22
#3 GIC Account	\$3,471.54	Matures on	Mar. 5, 2017	\$3,575.40
#4 GIC Account	\$3,497.76	Matures on	Jan. 23, 2015	\$3,588.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$58,947.38</b>			<b>\$49,730.04</b>

# CLUSTERS

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CFOFC – Caring for Our Faith Community (Fellowship/PC)							
	LOCAL			FUNDS			
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Balance	Income	Expenses	Current
	2013-2014	2013-2014	2014-2015	May 1, 2013			Balance
<b>CCOF</b>	\$400.00	\$213.00	\$250.00				
Ad Hoc Workshop & Training Events		\$113.00 Heart Beat		\$325.00			\$325.00
Affirming Ministry		\$100.00					
Cong Events				\$5,430.35			\$5,430.35
Fall Supper					\$7,214.00	\$1,394.34	\$5,819.66
Hospitality							
Hospitality Initiatives							
I. Players					\$6,893.20	\$1,348.10	\$5,545.10
PC Events							
PC Initiatives							
PC Mem Fund					\$325.00		\$325.00
PC Visitors							
Property/Bldg Team	\$23,202.00	\$27,764.78	\$24,552.00	\$21,285.49	\$906.56	\$906.56	\$21,285.49
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$23,602.00</b>	<b>\$27,977.78</b>	<b>\$24,802.00</b>	<b>\$27,040.84</b>	<b>\$15,338.76</b>	<b>\$3,679.00</b>	<b>\$3,8730.60</b>

DOG – Discernment of Gifts (Ministry & Personnel)							
	LOCAL			FUNDS			
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Balance	Income	Expenses	Current
	2013-2014	2013-2014	2014-2015	May 1, 2013			Balance
<b>DOG</b>	\$50.00						
Ministry & Personnel	\$96,779.00	\$96,853.29		\$8,000.00		\$250.00	\$7,750.00
Screening							
Training Events							
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$96829.00</b>	<b>\$96,853.29</b>	<b>\$98103.00</b>				

<b>FF &amp; LL – Faith Formation &amp; Lifelong Learning (Christian Ed)</b>							
	<b>LOCAL</b>			<b>FUNDS</b>			
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Balance	Income	Expenses	Current
	2013-2014	2013-2014	2014-2015	May 1, 2013			Balance
<b>FF &amp; LL</b>	\$1,000.00	\$290.93	\$350.00				
Ad Hoc Study Grps							
Donnelly Lect.				\$746.97	\$70.00		\$816.97
Movie Grps							
Sharing Our Faith							
Study Groups							
Sun. School		\$290.93					
Youth				\$440.15			\$440.15
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1000.00</b>	<b>\$290.93</b>	<b>\$350.00</b>	<b>\$1187.12</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>		<b>\$1257.12</b>

<b>LOFITW - Living Our Faith In The World (Outreach)</b>							
	<b>LOCAL</b>			<b>FUNDS</b>			
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Balance	Income	Expenses	Current
	2013-2014		2014-2015	May 1, 2013			Balance
<b>LOFITW</b>	\$200.00	\$35.00	\$50.00				
Amnesty Int							
Habitat for Humanity					\$60.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
Harvest					\$270.00	\$270.00	\$0.00
Just Christmas							
NECM Partners in Mission				\$0.00	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$0.00
Partnerships							
Peace & Justice Initiative		\$35.00 Project P'makers					
River Elm				\$3,010.10	\$960.00	\$2,258.40	\$1,711.70
<i>Stella Feast</i>				<i>\$40.00</i>			<i>\$40.00</i>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>\$3050.10</b>	<b>\$1370.00</b>	<b>\$2668.40</b>	<b>\$1750.70</b>

<b>SOFR – Stewardship of Financial Resources</b>							
	<b>LOCAL</b>			<b>FUNDS</b>			
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Balance	Income	Expenses	Current
	2013-2014		2014-2015	May 1, 2013			Balance
<b>SOFR</b>			\$800.00				
Finance Team							
Memorial Fund				\$4,522.95	\$180.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,702.95
Memorial M&S					\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
M & S				\$0.00	\$24,204.00	\$24,204.00	\$0.00
Stewardship							
Trustees							
<b>Totals</b>				<b>\$4522.95</b>	<b>\$24534.00</b>	<b>\$26354.00</b>	<b>\$2702.95</b>

<b>W - Worship (Worship &amp; Choir)</b>							
	<b>LOCAL</b>			<b>FUNDS</b>			
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Balance	Income	Expenses	Current
	2013-2014		2014-2015	May 1, 2013			Balance
<b>W</b>	\$700.00	\$783.37					
Choir		\$37.65		\$1,431.45	\$25.00	\$23.10	\$1,433.35
Sacraments							
Seasonal Planning		\$382.72					
W. Leadership Co-ordination		\$363.00					
W. Space (Projector)				\$132.78	\$1,000.00		\$1,132.78
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>	<b>\$783.37</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>\$1564.23</b>	<b>\$1025.00</b>	<b>\$23.10</b>	<b>\$2,566.13</b>

# **All Funds and Accounts Summary Post Annual Meeting Motions**

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	Post AGM Motions	
1. Building & Improvement	\$21,285.49	
2. Choir	\$1,433.35	
3. Congregational Events		
4. Donnelly Lecture Series	\$816.97	
5. Leadership Development	\$227.85	
6. Library/Calendar	\$69.05	
7. <i>Memorial Funds</i>	<i>\$6,452.09</i>	
8. Memorial: Life & Work		
9. Minister's Benevolent	\$534.41	
10. Mission & Service		
11. NECM		
12. Observer		
13. Office Equipment		
14. Projector	\$1,132.78	
15. Refugee Family	\$2,392.51	
16. Shortfall		
17. <i>Special Purposes</i>	<i>\$2,372.10</i>	
18. Special Relief		
19. Staffing Fund	\$7,750.00	
20. White Gift		
21. Youth Groups	\$440.15	
24. Sub-Total ALL Funds	<b>\$44,906.75</b>	
25. Interest/Adjustments		
26. Operations		
28. Current Account	\$4,823.29	
29. TOTAL	<b>\$49,730.04</b>	
Chequing Account	\$13,388.58	
Savings Account	\$22,067.14	
#2 GIC Account	\$7,110.22	Maturs Mar 5, 2016
#3 GIC Account	\$3,575.40	Maturs Mar 5, 2017
#4 GIC Account	\$3,588.70	Maturs Jan 23, 2015
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$49,730.04</b>	
Jubilee Certificates	\$1,194.27	

**Immanuel United Church Operations Budget 2014 – 2015**

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	2013-2014 Budget	2013-2014 Actual	2014-2015 Budget
<b><u>OPERATIONS REVENUES</u></b>			
Envelopes	\$104,500.00	\$107,343.00	\$110,525.00
Miscellaneous	\$350.00	\$314.97	\$300.00
Open Plate	\$1,200.00	\$1,196.44	\$1,200.00
Rebates	\$1,100.00	\$1,083.37	\$1,050.00
Rent	\$6,170.00	\$6,933.00	\$5,000.00
Sunday School	\$10.00		
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$113,330.00</b>	<b>\$116,870.78</b>	<b>\$118,075.00</b>
<b><u>OPERATIONS EXPENSES</u></b>			
Administration	\$7,210.00	\$6,290.10	\$7,380.00
Building & Property	\$23,202.00	\$27,764.78	\$24,552.00
Clusters	\$2,350.00	\$1,322.30	\$1,450.00
Pastoral Ministry	\$71,011.00	\$71,879.24	\$72,293.00
Presbytery Assessment	\$7,600.00	\$7,690.68	\$7,740.00
Support Staff	\$25,768.00	\$24,974.05	\$25,760.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$137,141.00</b>	<b>\$139,921.15</b>	<b>\$139,175.00</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b><u>-\$23,811.00</u></b>	<b><u>-\$23,050.37</u></b>	<b><u>-\$21,100.00</u></b>
<b><u>FUND REVENUES</u></b>			
Congregational Events	\$12,430.00	\$16,795.11	\$11,500.00
Staffing Fund	\$7,500.00		\$7,500.00
Current Account	\$3,431.00	\$3,303.81	
Shortfall Fund	\$450.00	\$1,452.00	\$2,100.00
Memorial Life & Work		\$745.00	
Strawberry Tea		\$754.45	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>+\$23,811.00</b>	<b>+\$23,050.37</b>	<b>+\$21,100.00</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>



#### Financial Audit of Immanuel United Church 2014

We have reviewed the accounts of Immanuel United Church, they having been made available to us for the periods May 1st, 2011 to April 30, 2013. the statements of revenue and expenditure and the requisitions, cheques and deposit slips. Also made available were payroll records, including remittances to Canada Revenue Agency. We made a detailed examination of the accounts for October 2011, March 2012, December 2012 and February 2013, these representing parts of two fiscal years. In this detailed examination, we confirmed all revenues and deposits, confirmed withdrawals or payments for all budgeted items and for all employees' salaries and benefits. These were checked against the statements of the financial institution, the Assiniboine Credit Union. As well we examined the statements of the Savings accounts and Term deposits. We found the records to be complete and in good order.

In our opinion, the financial records have been well kept. In our examination we found no evidence of error or incompetence. We commend Connie Kryschuk and Pat Schulz, Co-Treasurers and Sharen Jost, for their most efficient work and on behalf of the congregation express appreciation for their work. Sharen Jost has left her responsibilities as Envelope Secretary since April 2013 and we thank her for her valuable service. A Finance Team of four persons is now handling all our finances.

We provide the following information to inform the congregation.

The procedure for recording individual gifts is: (1) envelope givings, open offerings and Sunday School givings are recorded and balanced each week. (2) Contributions by Pre-authorized Remittance (PAR) and service charges for same are recorded once each month (3) Envelope numbers and PAR accounts are entered into computer files which designate breakdown to local, Mission and Service Fund and Other. (4) This breakdown of categories is printed and forwarded to the Treasurer. (5) Givings records are accumulated in the computer file for Income Tax statements. (6) The Finance Team checks with the Credit Union to verify their total deposit figure with the deposit sheet. (7) Envelopes are retained for two years. We find no fault with this procedure.

Post-dated cheques: cheque dates are noted as the envelopes are opened. Post-dated cheques are filed by the Finance Team and submitted on the effective date.

We make the following recommendations/

1. Frequently, offering envelopes do not show the amount of the gift or the intended distribution of the gift. Though the cash counting team are instructed to enter a figure for the amount enclosed, they cannot mark the distribution of the gift. The Finance Team, acting on the pledge of the donor, makes the distribution; this involves an unnecessary action on their part. If there is no recorded pledge there is no guide for the Finance Team. The total contribution is then marked "local". We urge all contributors to mark the amount of their gift and the desired distribution of it. We suggest that a note to this effect be inserted in the boxes prior to their being delivered to envelope users.

2., We recommend that all committees keep account of their budgeted allocations and the expenditures from their accounts.

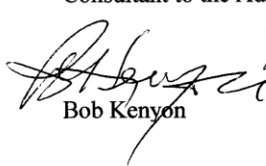
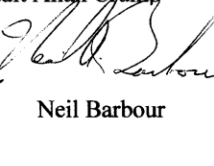

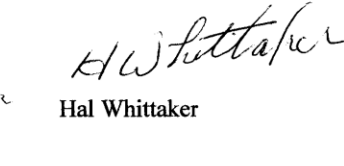
3.. We strongly recommend continued use of the "requisition for payment" form when committees and/or individuals are submitting claims for payment.

4. Special events: We recommend that when committees are given an advance or "float" it would be wise to keep a separate record of all expenditures. At the conclusion of the special event the planning and organising committee should submit a report of all transactions through the Treasurer or Finance Team to the Council.

5. We recommend that this report be received by the Church Council and action taken thereon. We recommend that this Audit report be included in the Annual Report May 2014.

Immanuel Trustees

Neil Barbour      Bill Hickerson      Bob Kenyon      Margaret Newton      Hal Whittaker  
Consultant to the Audit Allan Crump

     
Bob Kenyon      Neil Barbour      Bill Hickerson      Hal Whittaker

April 13, 2014

### **Trustees Report**

The trustees met and reviewed our Insurance policy for the coming year March 1, 2014 to March 1, 2015.

The coverage is the same as last year, but the premium increased by 4% as claim costs slightly exceeded the targeted level.

#### **Insurance Coverage**

	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>
<b>Church</b>	2,105,907	2,105,907
<b>Contents</b>	309,926	309,926
<b>Organ</b>	38,278	38,278
<b>Other</b>	19,758	19,758
	2,473,869	2,473,869

#### **Renewal Cost**

	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>
<b>Renewal</b>	3802.00	3696.00
<b>UCC Group fund</b>	391.00	669.00
<b>Manitoba Sales Tax</b>	266.14	295.68
	4459.14	4660.68

**(+201.54-4%)**

We applied for coverage for Full Circle Recovery, Paths to Recovery and Bettors Anonymous groups who use our building weekly and bi-weekly.

The trustees audited the financial records for the period May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2013. The results are reported in the Annual Report.

#### **Trustees:**

Neil Barbour

Bill Hickerson

Bob Kenyon

Margaret Newton

Hal Whittaker

## Mission and Service Report 2013-2014

Lynne Strome

Cheryl Curtis, the Mission and Service Funding Officer of the United Church of Canada, sent Immanuel a thank you letter. Because the UCC fiscal year runs from January to January, their numbers don't match with ours except they are both lessening. Here is a summary of that letter:

In 2013 the people of Immanuel Pastoral Charge contributed \$24,267 for the Mission and Service of the United Church of Canada, included in the national total \$28,028,500.

Together we support ongoing ministries and sustain trusted partnerships for the healing of the world, specifically

- 98 global partners in 28 countries acting for peace and justice
- community and justice work across Canada within 76 community ministries and 44 chaplaincies
- theological education and ministry support at 6 theological schools and 4 education centres
- faith formation and leadership support, including over 100 outreach programs for youth
- leadership in all 13 conferences
- grants for 102 congregations in transition

Cheryl thanks us heartily and a copy of the “certificate of thanks” was in the April newsletter.

Immanuel, through the M & S Emergency Relief Fund, also responded generously by sending \$2693 for Phillippines following Typhoon Haiyan.

Contributing to the M & S Fund is an active and loving way of living our faith as we declare it in our own mission statement. Let's keep the faith.

## **White Gift 2013 Disbursements**

*Heartfelt thanks for your generous gifts*

**Total donations: \$1876.00**

Distribution of Funds:

Agape Table	\$300.00
Winnipeg Harvest	\$500.00 and 12 boxes of food
Raymond Flett Memorial United Church	\$100.00 and food for the feast
LITE	\$300.00
North End Stella Community Ministry	\$476.00 and personal essentials & gifts
Interfaith Immigration	\$100.00 and personal essentials
Canadian Food Grains Bank	<u>\$100.00</u>

Sub total            \$1,746.00

**Total Disbursements    \$1876.00**

*This year White Gift funds were down somewhat as Immanuel responded magnanimously to the Mission and Service emergency call to help the Philippines in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan. The Canadian Government will double \$2,693.00.*

Respectfully submitted by Lynne Strome, White Gift organizer volunteer  
Jan. 8, 2014

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### **Memorial Fund**

This year, the Memorial Fund Committee members, Jean Smith, Elsie Hughes and Eileen Metcalfe, approved one request for funding from the donation supported fund. The request was from the property committee for replacement backs and seats for our stacking chairs, an improvement we can support and enjoy from our bottoms up.

*Respectfully submitted by Eileen Metcalfe*

## **Discerning a Faithful Use of the Immanuel “Back Forty” (Reprinted from the Spring Newsletter)**

In May, 2013, the Annual Meeting mandated the new Immanuel Council to begin to lead the congregation in considering the potential use of the land behind the church, affectionately known as “The Back 40”. The Immanuel Council has taken this mandate seriously, and has moved ahead with research and conversation, with a view to ensuring that whatever use might be made of the land, it would be consistent with and in service to the mission of the congregation. In all its conversation to this point, the Council has taken care to ensure that it is not driven by a profit motive, or the motive of “keeping our doors open” simply for the sake of keeping them open, as surely this would undermine our faithfulness to the mission to which we are called.

The following is a summary of steps that the Council has taken to begin the process of discerning what we might be called to do with the Back Forty. A more detailed report is available through the church office.

1. Confirmed with Shannon McCarthy, the Executive Secretary of the United Church Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario, the congregation’s right to proceed with considering the future use of the land, as long as this is done in consultation with Winnipeg Presbytery. Ultimately, should a decision be made to develop the property (and we are not taking this as a given), Winnipeg Presbytery would need to approve the decision and the corresponding detailed plans.
2. Sent a letter to the Presbytery Executive, informing the Presbytery of our intention to consider the use of the land, and to consult fully along the way.
3. Began conversation in the congregation; recruited volunteers from the congregation to prepare a blackboard sign to put out on the land (when the snow finally is all melted!) for the purposes of directly consulting the neighbourhood about the land’s potential use.
4. Initiated conversation with Lesley Harrison and the national United Church’s EDGE network, which is focused on the development of new ministries and the renewal of existing ministries. Learned of a new Real Estate Planning Team that is part of EDGE, and were invited to participate in a web conference with the Real Estate Planning Consultant and the team’s architect. (Participation would be at no cost to us, and there would be no expectation on EDGE’s part of a commitment to developing our land.)
5. On Wednesday, March 12, 2014, Lynda Endicott from the Council, Neil Barbour and Bill Hickerson as Trustees, Karen Matheson as an interested participant from the congregation, and I as the minister participated in the web conference. We learned that ...
  - should current trends continue, 1,000 United Churches will be closing across Canada within the next 60 months.

- open-mindedness, and a thorough consideration of all the options before us, are crucial at this time.
- churches often fail to take positive action before a real crisis hits.
- fear is one of the biggest challenges confronting churches at this time, and, in particular, it is fear of making mistakes that stymies congregations. Churches that take a pro-active stance, and consider their options before they have moved into crisis mode, have a much better chance of making good decisions.
- we can ask The Real Estate Planning Team to do a feasibility study for us at Immanuel. This would involve the researching, designing and presenting of all available real estate options to the congregation.
- the Real Estate Planning Team very clearly understands the importance of ensuring that any real estate plans must serve the mission and vision of the church. EDGE's goal is to hold mission and property development (should this be the choice) together.
- the bias of the Real Estate Planning Team is to ensure some income from the land on an ongoing basis.
- churches like Immanuel have the option of simply severing their available land and selling it on the real estate market. However, the quick or "as is" sale of land incurs losses to the church's mission. Often, as is the case for Immanuel, the land has been held by the church for many years, with the intention of using it for mission in the surrounding area. A simple, panicked unloading of the land in a real estate sale forfeits the land's potential for mission in one fell swoop. In such cases, a developer can come in with a ready-made plan, execute that plan and turn the land over in short order at a substantial profit. *The goal of the EDGE real estate team is to increase the value of the property for the congregation and its mission.*
- *to congregations that choose to work with the EDGE team, EDGE brings resources to create a real estate plan, producing a feasibility study that includes a review of the property, its size and the zoning issues related to it. They also assist the congregation in discerning and reflecting on its mission and "legacy plan." They evaluate the property and provide a complete list of all options (with drawings), pros and cons of those options, and possible next steps. They list all projected costs and profits for the congregation. Eventually, after appropriate consultation within the congregation, a recommendation is brought to the congregation for a decision.*
- some congregations want to build something on their own, either developing the land themselves or partnering with a developer. However, the upfront costs of such a venture (hiring planners and architects, getting rezoning done, etc.) can be significant, especially if there are surprises such as restrictions on the property. A situation in which this legwork has been done in advance by the EDGE team is very appealing to developers who eventually may be asked in to develop the land.
- *the EDGE team can do this feasibility study and deal with the zoning issues, etc., and save the congregation this cost by accessing seed funding totalling \$20,000 per congregation*

available from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), in the form of a \$10,000 forgivable loan and a \$10,000 grant. *This funding is available only if the development of some kind of housing is under consideration.* The new fiscal year for the pool of money available for these grants and loans is April 1, 2014, which means that, soon, there will be a renewed pool of CMHC funding available to successful applicants. If a congregation decides to work with the EDGE network, the EDGE team will make application to CMHC on the congregation's behalf (with appropriate consultation, signatures, etc.). Once assured of grant and loan funding, *EDGE is able to produce a feasibility study for a congregation in 45-60 days.*

- *the part of the \$20,000 from CMHC that is a forgivable loan is only forgivable if an organization chooses to go ahead and develop the land for housing.* This would mean that congregations would either develop the land or lose \$10,000, thereby discouraging them from doing the study *or* making the decision to develop inevitable. However, *EDGE has negotiated with the United Church Foundation to have access to funds that would entirely offset this loss for congregations that choose not to develop,* thus removing the associated mud from the motivational waters. The memorandum of agreement currently is in process.
  - once a feasibility study has been done, and the options for potential development have been identified, a congregation is free (a) to choose not to develop the land for housing, (b) to develop the land on its own, finding ways of funding the project, or (c) finding a partner with which to share in the project. The partner could be a not-for-profit agency.
  - the real estate consultant and architect who are working with the EDGE team are not eligible for contracts to *develop* the land of the congregations with which they consult. They are in a position to recommend companies, but not to benefit financially from the development, or from the choice of any particular developer.
  - realizing that Immanuel has begun the process of considering the use of the land, the local CMHC representative took drive-by look at the Immanuel property, and was impressed with the potential the land bears for development for housing purposes.
6. The Immanuel Council further discussed the Immanuel land at a recent meeting, and decided that it would bring to the May 15, 2014 congregational Annual Meeting the question of whether or not the EDGE Real Estate Planning Team should be asked to conduct a feasibility study with regard to the potential use of the available land.



**As members of the Immanuel Congregation, what are you being asked to do?**

- You are being asked to reacquaint yourself with Immanuel's Mission Statement, which is to be found on the back of our Sunday worship bulletins, and on the congregation's website.
- You are being asked to pray about the land's potential use for furthering the church's mission in this part of the city.
- You are being asked to talk about this with one another, and listen respectfully to one another, carefully considering all points of view.
- You are being asked to engage folks from outside the congregation, and especially those who live in this area, in conversation about the potential use of the land.
- You are being asked to attend the May 15, 2014 Annual Meeting of the congregation, and to come having read the above report, and ready to consider the question of whether or not EDGE should be asked to do a real estate feasibility study of the Immanuel land.
- You are being asked to bring your questions with you to the Annual Meeting, and to ask them once you're there.
- You are being asked to surrender, at least for now, any preconceived ideas you might have about how the land "ought to be used."
- You are being asked to remain as open as possible to the workings of the Spirit.

Should the decision be made at the Annual Meeting to proceed with inviting the EDGE Real Estate Team to conduct a feasibility study, two members of the congregation will be authorized and asked to serve on the congregation's behalf as official signatories to any associated grant requests or other official forms or letters that are necessary for the study. A follow-up congregational meeting would be called by the Council in a timely manner, for the purposes of considering the feasibility report.

Thank you for working your way through this lengthy report. It is respectfully submitted by Nancy Sanders.

## **Guiding Elders for Discernment of Gifts**

Discernment of Gifts is a function in the new governance model that doesn't have a formal precedent at Immanuel. As Guiding Elders for Discernment of Gifts, we have spent significant time this year building an understanding of what discernment means and looks like here. Our cluster includes the role of "nominations" as well as the Ministry and Personnel Committee.

The model we are using is meant to be flexible to the particular need and time, but these are the key components:

- 1) Working with the team or group seeking new members to identify the work that they do and the fits they see as useful in new members (sometimes called a terms of reference)
- 2) Asking congregation to think about and nominate people with these gifts
- 3) Talking to the people nominated about the nominating and the role they are being asked to discern upon (individually and/or as a group)
- 4) Time for consideration and decision to accept or decline nomination
- 5) Committee to discern nominees list to discern and confirm the "fit" of people to the role, and to confirm the nominees selected
- 6) Contact and make an expression of gratitude to all who allowed themselves to be nominated

We have tried this process once through with the formation of the stewardship team in the finance cluster. It will be used again with the Ministry and Personnel committee over the next few months.

In the fall we are planning to engage the congregation in a broader discernment of gifts process in relation to positions and roles throughout the community.

Theologically speaking, we have found energy and abundance in the work of naming people's gifts and inviting them out, rather than treating them like "a warm body" to fill a gaping void. Together we are learning more about being a community, called to serve God and each other.

Nanette McKay  
Linda Murray

## Ministry and Personnel Committee (M&P) Annual Report 2014

M&P meets monthly from September to June, and every second month with staff that have offices. Our goal is to be supportive and consultative with confidentiality. M&P acts as a liaison between staff and the congregation to discuss such things as goals, working conditions, salaries, benefits and sabbatical leave. Along with that, we also carry out the important annual reviews of the work of staff to aid with their professional growth.

Jim Goldrup continues his ongoing work at Immanuel as caretaker. Peter Fyne with his musical gifts, is our accomplished organist and accompanist. Sharon Vandenberg is the hub of Immanuel as she keeps the daily running of the Church in order as Office Administrator. Eileen Metcalfe is our Music Director and does this with grace and ease. Nancy Sanders, Minister, continues her ministry with dedication, wisdom, compassion and relevance. WE are truly blessed to have such caring and dedicated people in our Church Family.

Nancy's workload continues to be heavy with pastoral care and M&P support. Nancy as she continues to take every 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday off from preparing Worship. At that time we benefit from hearing others share their stories and experiences.

Another year has come and gone and much has happened since our last Annual Meeting in May 2013.

Church Jehovah Nissi has moved on to their new home, Immanuel United Church has a new governance structure and Nancy prepares for a 3 month sabbatical (April 22 to August 5). Along with these changes, come changes in the M&P Committee. Scott Douglas left us in September, Robert Smith, Neil Barbour and Verna McKay will continue their roles on the committee, and have welcomed Joan Borton into this important role as a new member. Cindy Smyth will retire from the committee.

On behalf of the Immanuel congregation and the M&P Committee, thank you to all of our staff members for the work that they do in the service of Immanuel congregation.

## **Report of the Living our Faith in the World Cluster**

This has been for the most part a good year, lots of learning for me and for the whole Cluster. One of my personal goals has been to try and empower those in the Cluster in their work. I have had many conversations with everyone in the Cluster and made many phone calls and sent e-mails trying to keep folks connected.

I think that the 'being connected' is one of the main things that people are missing in the new model of our working together. We as a Cluster gathered in the early fall for lunch and a time of discussion to begin the year. We are planning another gathering in June, a Pot Luck Supper, to look at the year, what has worked, what has been life giving and what needs to be changed or altered in some way.

Being the only Guiding Elder In this Cluster was a challenge at first, but I have been extremely fortunate to have Karen Turk, Doug McMurtry, Glenn Nicholls and Nancy Sanders who have been my mentors. I have had many opportunities to share difficult decisions with these folk and their wisdom has been most helpful to me.

There are some changes in our Cluster responsibilities. We have had a Covenant relationship with Stella North End Ministry for many years. That Ministry is in flux at the moment. They have had an interim Director, who will leave the job at the end of April, and so far no one has been named to this Ministry. They also have been without an Office, or an actual 'place to be', as they have moved from the building on Stella Avenue. I had several meetings with their Interim Minister, Caryn Douglas looking at other ways we can become involved. So, we will see what develops when there is a new Director.

I think this new Model of Clusters can work well. I do think we need to keep the connection between those in the Cluster and in the Congregation. So, next year we will take a few more new steps, and hopefully this and other wonderful things will happen.

*Ruth Campbell*

### **Winnipeg Harvest Immanuel Food Bank**

2013-2014 was a busy time for our volunteers, Judy Bartlett, Alison Bowie, Marlene McNabb, Eileen Metcalfe, Dianne Tucker, Meg Yahiro, Dick Korman, Ron Metcalfe, Jim Ross, George Stevens, Glen Smyth. We were very happy when John and Sean Turk and Lloyd Little joined us.

On October 6, 2013 our group conducted the Worship Service on "World Communion Sunday" to celebrate Immanuel's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of providing a food bank at our church. Our members took part in a presentation of what takes place every second Monday and once a month during July and August. We were gifted with over 100 pieces of new womens clothing which we distributed to our clients. We were saddened by the death of Lee Newton who founded Winnipeg Harvest in 1985. I have written about her before via Immanuel newsletter. She was a tireless volunteer and a great organizer. She retired in 2010 and enjoyed life with her husband Jim. She passed away February 8, 2014 from a brain tumour.

Each food bank day the clients list arrives with the food. The clients list what they need besides food. We are always short or don't receive their special requests. The main depot can only send what they have to the many food banks and agencies across Manitoba. We can always use diapers any size, baby food, Boost or Ensure, feminine hygiene products. Thank you to everyone who saves egg cartons and plastic grocery bags. We need larger plastic shopping bags. We don't refuse any donations.

My sincere thanks to the volunteers and others who help out when we need them.

*Respectfully submitted by Joyce Smyth*

## **River Elm School Breakfast Program**

We of Immanuel United Church will be starting our fourth year supporting the Breakfast program at River Elm Elementary School. Our initial commitment was to provide volunteers and financial resources for one day a week, we now have two volunteers working one other day a week.

The Breakfast Program feeds about forty plus children a day. Because of this program children have better attendance, come to school on time and achieve higher learning.

Thank you to the congregation for supporting this worthwhile program. Something as simple as a nutritious breakfast makes such a difference to children in this community.

To our volunteers Connie Kryschuk, Marlene McNabb, Martha and Richard Sawchuk, Muriel Kenyon and Teri Gartner. Thank you for getting up early and making and serving breakfast.

If anyone wishes to join us, please contact Linda Gibson @ 204-661-3757 or Joan Borton @ 204-663-4973.

Sincerely,

Linda Gibson and Joan Borton

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## **‘Just’ Christmas 2013 Annual Report**

‘Just’ Christmas, 2013 was held on December 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:30 – 3:30 pm at North Kildonan United Church. This was the 6<sup>th</sup> year for the ‘Just’ Christmas event sponsored by the United Church congregations of Northeast Winnipeg.

‘Just’, an abbreviation for Justice, invites people to consider Christmas Shopping in a different way. The event is an annual Fair Trade and Global Market. Each

participating vendor or display represents a local or global project. Some raise money through sales, others contribute their proceeds from this day to such a project, and others provide information and accept donations.

Our vendors and displays were: Reaching Across Borders; Focus Africa; New Hope Centre; Marg's Honey Inc; Little Travellers; Grands'n'More Winnipeg; L'Arche Winnipeg; Eighty Strings; Ten Thousand Villages; Friendship Sewing Circle; 1Hope Winnipeg; Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and Support for 15 Eritrean Volunteers in Egypt.

Following this year's event one vendor wrote: "Thank you so much for the opportunity you gave us to help our community." The goal of 'Just' Christmas is to provide an opportunity for people to connect with others in how they prepare for Christmas. Through shopping, visiting over refreshments, and learning about the people and their stories, we are making a difference in our world.

'Just' Christmas 2014 is planned for November 30<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you there!

*Respectfully submitted,  
The 'Just' Christmas Planning Team*

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### **S.N.O.W. Night**

**In February each year for the past five years, agencies such as the Salvation Army, Mount Carmel Clinic, Sage House and others have organized a Sleepover Night for women who work the streets in Winnipeg. It is an evening and night free from violence and harm; where they can relax, enjoy food, fun, hair styling, massages, manicures, crafts, games and more.**

**Immanuel participates by donating toiletries, new clothing and money. Each year four or five women volunteer at the event. The organizers are most appreciative of our involvement.**

## Faith Formation and Lifelong Learning Cluster

In reviewing the reports written by the various groups within this cluster, two things are immediately apparent...

- folks at Immanuel love to learn; and
- community matters.

People of all ages gather in circles to share celebrations, turmoil, dilemmas, questions, insights, faith, fear, joy, prayer... People gather in circles to explore how to live faithfully, as individuals and as communities, in a complex and confusing world. Circles that gather for study share resources to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable - in our congregation, city, country, world. Circles that gather to learn also gather to play. Pursuing each purpose helps us to know one another more deeply, to count on one another more fully, to offer and receive challenge and support. Toddlers and adults share wisdom. Elders and youngsters travel together in faith for a while. A question about God, asked by wide eyed four-year-old on Sunday morning, is echoed in the words of a seasoned senior on any given weeknight.

The children know themselves to be an essential part of this faith community and they are a faith community of their own, learning to listen to one another, to work and play together, to make space for different paces of learning. They learn to be leaders. They choose their own elders and they open their minds to wonder. "If God can be invisible and God can be everywhere, even right here in this church, how do I know I won't run into God when I'm running around in the church?" "How do you draw God, anyway?" In response to... "What does Caesar say to Jesus when Jesus talks about the kingdom of God?"..." I don't care what you say. I am the boss of you and the whole world!"

Immanuel children learn as infants that they belong to this community, and grow into realization that this community is connected with many other communities struggling to be faithful. Adult Immanuelites know themselves to be at home here, to be in the company of other seekers, learners, workers for justice and peace, bearers of compassion.

Please take time to read through these reports, see yourselves and your friends in them, and be compelled by the compassion and commitment reflected in them.

- *Respectfully submitted by Ann Naylor on behalf of the Guiding Elders for the Faith Formation and Lifelong Learning Cluster, Jane Nicholls and Ann Naylor*

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### Tuesday Morning Study Group

We continue to meet year round in the upstairs lounge every Tuesday mornings at 9:30. We spend the first part of our time together in "therapeutic discussion and venting," as a support to each other and then we are ready to begin our study. There have been between 8 and 12 members at our meetings. In addition to our book studies, we collect one dollar per week per member which has been donated to Agape Table and Winnipeg Harvest. In the summer we met for informal fellowship and support without taking on a particular study. Topics for discussion varied week by week, as suggested by those who attended.



Our study opens every Tuesday with a hug and a reflection provided by Joy Weizel. We began this year by completing our study of Karen Armstrong's "Twelve Steps to Compassion" based on our ongoing study of forgiveness. We next studied "The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness" by Simon Wiesenthal. The author recounts his experience while imprisoned in a concentration camp and challenges us to define our beliefs on justice, compassion and human responsibility. Prior to selecting our next book, we spent several weeks in reading and discussion using articles from "The Observer", reading and discussing text from the "Gospel of Thomas" from the Nag Hammadi library and "The New New Testament" by Hal Taussig. We have just begun a new study on the book "Buffalo Shout Salmon Cry" by Steve Heinrichs which contains essays on land use, creation, history, and faith along with poems and reflections by people across ethnic and religious divides.

This year began with a new fundraising event "The Mother's Day Strawberry Tea" which was a great success. In conjunction with this event we also hosted "The Teacup Shower". These events were successful in raising funds and teacups.

Our outings included a Christmas luncheon held at Shelmerdine's Garden Centre. Lunch there was very eventful as we dodged drips and drafts, however, the shopping proved to be a great success. We also travelled to Selkirk, Manitoba for a visit to view our talented Luba Olesky's beautiful artwork displayed at the Gwen Fox gallery. A lovely lunch at Barney Gargles preceded the gallery viewing followed by great bargain shopping at Packer's on Main Street.

Anyone interested in joining the Tuesday Morning Study Group should contact the Church office.

- *Respectfully submitted by Joy Weizel on behalf of the Tuesday Morning Study Group*

### **Women's Wednesday Evening Study Group**

Our study group has been meeting for approximately thirty years. We couldn't remember the exact year we began except that our first study was "Gift, Dilemma, and Promise", the United Church's introduction to its study of sexuality, sometime in the 70s.

We meet on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month, with a vacation during the summer.

This year we have been reading and discussing "Buffalo Shout, Salmon Cry", edited by Steve Heinrichs. It examines, through poetry and essays, the clash between Indigenous and settler cultures, spiritualities and attitudes toward creation. It has not been an easy read, but has led to many deep and thoughtful discussions. We are almost halfway through.

Our group allows us to discuss our ideas, faith, doubts and life situations in a safe place, with supportive women. We don't always agree and that is a bonus.

We have, on occasion, opened our group studies/activities to others in the congregation when we feel there might be wider interest in what we are doing.

To quote one of our members--"We are a great group of interesting intelligent (??) women who care about our Church community, our city, our province and the world. We are particularly caring about our aboriginal sisters and brothers and have welcomed opportunities to understand, to listen and to be companions in our common quest for ways to be more diligent and caring about our environment. I think we have raised some important concerns from our reading of ""Buffalo Shout, Salmon Cry"". Some of the poems and stories have been very emotional and we have acknowledged our forbears' involvement and our lack of knowledge or understanding for so many years. We ache together, we laugh together."

*-Respectfully submitted by Marian Mathews*

### **Men's Study Group**

We began our year studying some chapters of "Buffalo Shout, Salmon Cry". Conversations on creation, land justice and life together/edited by Steve Heinrichs who is Indigenous Relations Director for Mennonite Church Canada.

We read the Introduction, Part I – Creation, Original Peoples and the Colonization of a Hemisphere.

Part II – From Garden to Tower~Genesis 1-11 as a Critique of Civilization and an invitation to Indigenous Re-Visioning

Part III – Chief Seattle Syndrome~What to do about Indigenous Bulldozer Operators.

Part IV – Reflections of a Christian Settler in the Haldimand Tract~How can North Americans come to terms with the clash between Indigenous and settler cultures, spiritualities and attitudes toward creation? The book showcases a variety of voices – both traditional and Christian, Native and Non-Native.

In November we had a retreat at the Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre focussing on Treaties. We had a guest speaker from the Speakers Bureau of the Treaties Commission. He talked about creation, clans, self-governance, the Treaty Making Process beginning in 1871 between the Aboriginal People and the Queen.

Stan McKay also lead us in discussions on assimilation, problems facing reserves, Bipole III, Idle No More, resource development on Indigenous lands to combat poverty and questions that arose from our Speaker.

We are now in the process of the studying the book, "Sabbath as Resistance"~ Saying NO to the Culture of Now. In the context of the rat race of anxiety, the celebration of Sabbath is an act of resistance and alternative.

Resistance – insistence that our lives are not defined by production and consumption on commodity goods.

Alternative – to the demanding pervasive presence of advertising and professional sports that devour our "rest time"

The author offers weary Christians a glimpse of a more fulfilling and simpler life through Sabbath observance.

We meet every second Monday (now in the afternoon), have dessert, discussion of the day's events and study for 1 ½ hours or so. *-Respectfully submitted by Bob Kenyon*

**A New New Testament**  
**A Bible for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Combining Traditional and New Texts**

Our group started meeting in October of 2013, in the Meeting Room. We meet weekly on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM.

We tried reading a chapter a week in preparation for discussion on Tuesday evening. We often found the reading slow going and sometimes had to spend two or three weeks per chapter.

The First Book of the Odes to Solomon was so beautiful when we heard it set to song.

The gospel of Mary was a favorite of many of us.

Some evenings we saw videos that were relevant to our discussion.

The study of this book has brought many questions to our mind – such as why were some of these gospels suppressed or why were they lost? Who decided what went into the Bible and what didn't?

Under Nancy's leadership we were helped to explore these questions. This study group has made us reflect on some of our beliefs and to realize we are all at different places in our faith journey. We have also gained a lot more knowledge of the Bible. We are all seekers.

We have wound up our study and will continue in September.

*-Respectfully Submitted by Linda Gibson and Kerry LaRocque*

**Movie Group I**

Our group held our windup June 29, 2013. Joyce Smyth hosted. After supper we discussed two movies, "MUD" and "THE GREAT GATSBY". Joan McGregor was this years "Imma" winner, Joan aced nearly all the Oscar categories correctly. Unfortunately we never resumed in the fall due to several members illnesses and operations, etc. As Fall merged into winter, the road conditions made driving difficult. We hope to get together in April. We are looking for new members, so if you like movies, good discussions and fellowship then our group is for you. If interested call Barry and Rosalie MacKay @ 661-1290 or myself @ 669-2085. With the help of Movie Group II we were able to provide on July 10<sup>th</sup> a PM coffee break for 150 volunteers at the Habitat build at St. Nicholas Tavelich Church, 2688 Main Street. 2012 build was also held there so between 2012-2013 a whole row of homes have been built. Many thanks to everyone for their time, muffins, cookies, monies for fresh fruit. A cheque for \$95 was sent to Habitat for Humanity. Many hands make work light.

*-Respectfully submitted by Joyce Smyth*

## **Movie Group II 2013-14**

This past year our group has seen six movies, including "42" which is about Jackie Robinson, the first black big league baseball player. Illness afflicted our group, and this is why we saw only six movies, and were down to six in number. But we enjoyed all the movies we saw; Blue Jasmine, Captain Phillips, Twelve Years a Slave, Philomena, Son of God and "42". Twelve Years a Slave, an authentic portrayal of slavery in the southern USA, won the Academy Award for Best film. We had hoped to see "The Great Beauty" which got the best foreign film award, but our plans didn't work out. Some of us go to the movies because it is about our only connection with popular culture. Also, it's fun! We'd be glad to have you join us.

*Respectfully submitted by Doug McMurtry*

## **Bowling**

Taron and I try to organize a bowling event once or twice a year. The latest one was held on April 5th. The purpose of the event is to gather together young, old and older for a fun night of Bingo /glow bowling so that everyone has an equal opportunity to call BINGO and have fun! We had 36 people attend, some of our regulars but lots of new faces as well. Nancy is so popular that we have trouble keeping her team to only six players (all the kids want to be on her team!). We usually have a light snack during or after the 2 hours of bowling. We hope to plan another one when Nancy returns from her sabbatical.

*-Respectfully submitted by Sharon and Taron Barbour*

## **Sunday School Report (2013 – 2014)**

This year Sunday School began with registration the week after the September long weekend and finished with our Windup and Recognition Day on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

A few children attended on a regular basis and several more came occasionally. The numbers in attendance ranged from 4 to 12 children each week.

New leadership for Sunday School programs is always welcome. Blocks of time involved range from one to five weeks in length.

Thank you to the following people who gave willingly of their time to lead our children in Sunday School this year: Crystal Hanson, Jane Nicholls, Marian Mathews, Nancy Barbour, Ann Naylor, Sharon Barbour, Leslie Donnelly and Marlene Hanson. We are grateful for the work of Nanette McKay and Scott Douglas who planned and led two separate blocks, each of which culminated in the children doing a fine job of helping to plan, participate in, and lead intergenerational worship services. We appreciate the efforts of all these leaders who enrich the children's lives and help them to gain an understanding of what it means to be part of our church community.

*-Respectfully submitted by Marlene Hanson*

## **CARING FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY CLUSTER**

Under the new Governance Model, we as Guiding Elders have the responsibility to support, encourage and challenge the participants in our cluster. The participants are those groups or individuals who offer care and hospitality to all who come to Immanuel as well as to those who offer care to the property and the building. To be more specific, the groups included in this cluster are:

Pastoral Care: Visitors, Initiatives, Hospitality, Events.

Property/Building Team.

Fowl Supper.

Immanuel Players.

Affirming Ministry.

Ad Hoc Workshops Training Events.

Many, many people are involved in this Ministry. They perform their areas of responsibility in such a caring way to the benefit of the whole community. We thank them for their faithful service.

We thank them also for their patience as we learn our roles as Guiding Elders. This has been a year of transition and learning. For the most part from our perspective, it has worked well. We look forward to next year to continue to learn from one another and to fulfill the mission of the church. It is our hope that we have been able to fulfill some of our responsibilities of encouragement, support in decision making and of challenge.

Following will be individual or group reports from the specific ministries as outlined above.

*Respectively submitted by, Eileen Metcalfe, Jim Ross, Muriel Kenyon*

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT**

During the past year significant repairs were carried out to our heating system. Now annual maintenance is ongoing.

Miscellaneous repairs were done to plumbing and electrical units. Volunteers carried out snow clearing and scheduled grass mowing. This coming year's schedule for these tasks is now complete.

Skylight leaks were repaired and some additional sealing is planned.

Some time in the future we can anticipate the replacement of:

- a) the kitchen flooring (cost estimates were provided earlier)
- b) the south side roof which is showing significant deterioration, at a possible cost of \$10-15,00.00
- c) the north side roof ice dams caused leakage through the roof. More frequent roof snow clearing may be necessary.

On behalf of all members of Immanuel United we sincerely thank Jim Jost, Glen Smyth, George Stevens, Mac Wilson, Jim Ross , and all the volunteer snow shovellers and grass mowers for their ongoing dedication to keeping our building and grounds both functional and attractive.

Respectfully submitted  
Al Mackling

## **PASTORAL CARE COORDINATORS to the ANNUAL REPORT**

Pastoral Care happens in a variety of ways at Immanuel. At coffee time, by lending a hand, giving a ride, cooking a meal, working together in the kitchen, a visit, helping one another at the Play or Fowl Supper, a smile are some of the ways we all participate. We feel fortunate to coordinate some of the care. We also know much care is given quietly behind the scenes. We thank each of you for your participation in the care we provide one another.

We are most grateful to the people who contact us of a need that you think we should know about. You are an important part of the team.

We work closely with Nancy when it is appropriate. We are indeed blessed with her respectful, compassionate care.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Macdonald, Sharon Barbour, Muriel Kenyon.

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## **Affirming Ministry**

Immanuel United Church voted to become an Affirming Congregation about ten years ago. This means we declared ourselves to be fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Each year in June a group from here march in the Pride Parade carrying our Immanuel Banner. We continue to look for ways to be welcoming, to support and learn from the L.G.B.T. community.

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## **Funeral / Memorial Report**

The Funeral/ Memorial Committee falls under the umbrella of Pastoral Care. Once again it is my privilege to thank all those who respond so graciously when the call goes out for assistance on the occasion of a death in our church community.

We are grateful the families entrust us with this important ministry, a time when we are able to show our love and support to each other. The warm hospitality of Immanuel is never more evident than at this difficult time.

I would encourage everyone to pick up a brochure on Funeral Memorial planning.

Once again we thank Nancy for her leadership, care and pastoral care.

*Respectfully submitted by Joan Macdonald*

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## **Flowers Annual Report**

We are most appreciative of having Memorial Flowers to enhance our Worship. Anyone wishing to place flowers in memory or for a special occasion is invited to sign the flower chart in the entry. You may then bring your flowers on the specified Sunday. If you wish to have them taken to a member of the congregation following the service, we would be pleased to assist. Should you wish to borrow a vase from the Church, I would be pleased to assist. Due to allergies, we respectfully request no lilies in the arrangements.

*Respectfully submitted, Joan Macdonald*



### **Report of the 2013 Fowl Supper**

Do you know when the first Fowl Supper was held in this building? Stan Patton had an idea and he coordinated the first dinner in 1970. So this past dinner was the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual. Well done!

Our goal is to work together and to provide hospitality to our guests. There is also significant financial outcome. This year we served 390 dinners in house and 85 take out dinners. We realized approximately \$4100.

There were many positive outcomes:

- . many compliments about a tasty dinner.
- . an opportunity to work and have fun together.
- . a local Girl Guide group helped us immensely as servers.
- . the youth at Rossbrook House and the guests at Union Gospel Mission enjoyed the leftovers.
- . a community spirit was apparent.

Thanks to all who helped in so many ways.

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Fowl Supper will be held, **October 25<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 p.m.**

*Alison Fryza*

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### **The Golspie Social Club, 2013-2014**

The Club is now more than 50 years old, founded by Jean Woodward, Ed's first wife. Of our eleven members, most are from Immanuel Church, but several are from the wider community. We welcome everybody, and would be glad to have new members. Two Thursday afternoons a month, October to May, we meet and carpet bowl and drink tea. We are grateful to Nancy and Sharon of the Church staff for setting up the carpet and tables for us, and to the Church choir members who put them away. Also to Muriel Kenyon who is always available to whatever we need. This year we are looking forward to a wind-up luncheon hosted by one of our members in his apartment.

*Doug McMurtry, recorder*

## Immanuel Players Theatre Company

The Immanuel Players delivered a humorous and highly entertaining rendition of W.O. Mitchell's "The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon". This dessert theatre production was held on April 24, 25 and 26, 2014. The talented cast of 10 consisted of Clark Kenyon, Tom Smithson, Ron Metcalfe, Debbie Crump, Glen Smith, Kyle Donnelly, Scott Donnelly, Jim Hatherly, Bob Kenyon and Andrew Crump. Directed by Eileen Metcalfe and Produced by Connie Kryschuk, the play was performed to audiences numbering over 450 in total. The play was about Wullie MacCrimmon, a shoe repair man in the 1930's in the town of Plum Coulee. Wullie muses aloud that he would give "Anything" to skip his curling rink in the Macdonald Brier. His wish is granted by the Devil who appears suddenly with a proposition. Wullie makes a counter offer and one of the greatest matches in curling history ensues: the Black Bonspiel!

It takes a multitude of people who volunteer time, talents and skill to make a production successful. The follow provides an opportunity to highlight all those many who provide skill and support: *Set Design*: George Stevens; *Set construction*: George Stevens, Glen Smyth, Garnet Barnes, Jack Turk, Ron Metcalfe, Sean Turk, Lloyd Little, Roger Hamilton, Zachary Hamilton, Leslie Smyth and Lorne Smyth; *Painting*: Lynne Strome, Leslie Donnelly and Glen Smyth; *Art Work*: Jennifer Antymis; *Advertising, Program and Tickets*: Teri Gartner and Trish Goldrup; *Prompter*: Connie Kryschuk; *Lighting*: Ian Donnelly; *Sound Effects and Video Design*: Clark Kenyon; *Sound*: Brent Metcalfe; *Video and Makeup*: Joy Weizel; *Video Technical Assistance*: Grant Cooper (Granite Curling Club); *Props*: Leslie Donnelly; *Clerical Assistance*: Sharon Vandenberg.

This year's production required the use of many props and we are grateful for the loan of the following: Curling Rocks - Angus McKay School; Pot-bellied stove and coffee pot - Bonnie Parks; Curling sweater and Tams - Bud Newton, Joyce Boyechko, Grant Cooper; and Curling "Ice" - Image Flooring. Also a big thank-you to the kitchen co-ordinators Cathy Haining, Muriel Kenyon and Diane Tucker along with the numerous people who provided desserts and helped in the kitchen before and after the play and to all the folks who transform the *theatre* into a *dessert café*. And finally a thank-you goes to the Immanuel United Church congregation for their support in inviting friends and family, selling and purchasing tickets and for assisting with all the small jobs that make this production a true team effort. It is truly amazing how many hands assist in the play.

Respectively submitted by Joy Weizel.

## **Worship Report 2013 -2014**

This transition year from committee and board to guiding elders, cluster groups, and council has been rewarding and challenging. Leslie Donnelly and I, Lynne Strome, have benefitted greatly from Nancy's leadership and participation in the process.

Many volunteers are essential to complete the needs of preparing meaningful worship. Teri Gartner offered to continue as sign up sheet coordinator/advisor for greeters, coffee makers and communion servers.

Another area for volunteers arose with the Advent season. An eager group of creative folk provided, we are told, a most meaningful and inclusive advent worship experience. It was a wonderful experience for all involved.

The greatest challenge, so far, is making the necessary preparation for our minister's upcoming sabbatical leave from April 21 to August 5. We are fortunate to have gifted and familiar ordained ministers for communion: Bob Haverluck, May 1; Stan McKay June 1. Working within the confines of a limited budget, we are seeking out volunteer leaders, prayer/service writers, faith story tellers etc. to fulfill Immanuel's worship service needs during the rest of this period. Nancy is supplying us with many resources to help the various volunteers.

Nancy planned and led us through meaningful lenten services, again, with the help of volunteers. Easter was especially joyful as we celebrated baptism.

Fall of 2014, Nancy will take the remaining two weeks vacation left by her early return from sabbatical/holiday leave. Possibilities for those worship services are already being considered.

We acknowledge with special thanks:

- a) the Worship space Committee, who worked long and hard to bring suggestions and changes regarding our worship space. (see their report)
- b) the choir, organist and various soloists who so enrich our worship times with their gifts of music. (see their report)

It is a faith broadening experience, replete with blessings, to work with and for such fine people. Thanks be to God.

## Worship Space Committee Report

A few years ago, the Worship Space Committee was formed with the mandate to explore possibilities of changing our worship space to reflect who we are as a congregation now. With the help of Alison Norberg, we brainstormed and dreamed about our space. As a result we tried different ways of worship set up, we tried adding colour, we tried the screen in different locations, we tried other visuals( i.e. stars, paper in upstairs windows), and we consulted with artists in our congregation. After dreaming big, Nanette led us through a process to help narrow our focus to what was possible in terms of money and energy.

Before we could make our recommendations, we needed to come up with a set of principles for making decisions regarding the worship space. The following are the principles we used to guide our recommendations.

- **Inclusive** – Meaningful, functional and accessible for all
- **Flexibility** – Intergenerational
- **Economical/Creative** – living within our means, stewardship
- **Representative and Expressive of our community** - Our style, our personality, our theology and our mission.
- **Community Building** - In the interest of gathering people, welcoming
- **Respectful** - in process and outcome, feeling of comfort

As part of the process, we organized our ideas to enhance our worship space according to the level of impact from high to low and from easy-to-do to hard-to-do. These are some recommendations for some changes to our worship space.

### 1. **Build a low platform**

This platform will be portable and will extend the worship centre into the sanctuary, hold pulpit and/or communion table, or other worship centre. This has been done and will be painted shortly.

### 2. **Change up seating and worship centre**

Move worship center farther forward on a regular basis and periodically change the layout/format for a different perspective. An example being the last Advent season set up.

### 3. **Install retractable screen**

Install screen centred at front of sanctuary on the bulkhead. If necessary, move the choir and organ for sight lines or research monitor for the choir. In process; money is set aside in the current budget.

### 4. **Projector**

Attach the projector permanently to the roof. Money needs to be raised before installation will happen.

**5. Take down the back red curtains**

Remove the stationary back curtains and keep the front curtains. Patch and paint walls behind as needed. Create neutral toned “sheaths” for the front curtains that mask them when they are open, but can be easily removed when they need to be closed. The space could be used to display banners, stain glass, or other pieces of art.

**6. Upstairs classroom curtains**

Replace blinds with curtains on rods which can be interchangeable with fabric and banners to add colour to the sanctuary.

**7. Banners and Art**

Measure dimensions of potential banner locations. Encourage and support banner development within the congregation.

**8. Worship Furniture**

Reduce items at the front so that we only use what is needed. Research refitting the communion table with a new bigger top to add space. Research replacing furniture as part of the longer term plans for the worship space.

**9. Cross**

Make the cross in the worship centre moveable. Identify mechanism for wall/floor anchors in several places for cross to move too. This allows flexibility with the screen, other symbols and art work. This also allows the stage to be flexible for events like the play.

**10. Worship centre/stage conversion**

Propose a worship centre structure that moves farther into the worship space, with consideration for drama stage, retract-ability, accessibility and multi-functionality.

Our hope is for you to read our recommendations, think about them, and talk to the committee or others in the congregation over the next month. Some of these recommendations are short-term plans and others are long-term plans. At the Annual General Meeting, we will discuss the recommendations that are permanent changes to the worship space and make decisions about them.

The Worship Space Committee is:

Leslie Donnelly, Nancy Sanders, Nanette McKay, Scott Douglas, Jane Nicholls, Marlene Hanson

Jim Ross, Eileen Metcalfe

## Immanuel 2013-2014 Annual Report

The Choir continues to bring ministry with music to Sunday services and special services at Christmas and Easter. The choir also sang at the funeral of Fran Burrows, whose lyric soprano had blended so well in the many years in which she was a member.

Two long standing members, Bill Hutchison and Alice Paupanekis, are no longer in the choir, having given their support for so many years. The choir welcomed back altos Katherine Smithson and a new member Jennifer Antymis .

We look forward to Jean Smith's return to the choir following successful eye surgery.

Though our numbers fluctuated over winter with members taking 'warm' winter vacations, we still sounded strong and sang with a joyful noise.

Eileen continues to conduct the choir with enthusiasm as we sing old favorites and the occasional new anthems. The choir also continues to challenge her with boisterous behavior during practice. God bless her (almost infinite) patience.

Peter is ever faithful in helping with choir practise and playing for church services. He is much appreciated and loved.

Respectfully submitted

Luba Olesky