

Pinawa Christian Fellowship
Annual Reports October 1, 2017

Convenor's Remarks

Chuck Vandergraaf

It has now been three years since a decision was made to move from the traditional "triad" of a Convenor, Vice Convenor and Past Convenor to a Convenor Subcommittee consisting of up to five individuals. The impetus for this change was mainly the dearth of volunteers who would be willing to make a multi-year commitment to serve in the role of convenor. The Convenor Committee also allows for increased flexibility and allow convenors to spell each other off. The new arrangement is working out well: as Senior Convenor for most of the last 12 months, I was able to take vacations in the knowledge that Bob McCamis would "spell me off". Much appreciated, Bob!

Although we have not been able to recruit any additional members to the Convenor Subcommittee, we have some leads and hope (and pray) that one or more volunteers will step forward and share the load. Ideally, I would like to see gender parity.

Eagle-eyed members will have noticed a subtle change in the title of the previous Convenor Committee to the Convenor Subcommittee. Our "By-law Warden, Gary Simmons, noted that our By-laws and Appendices are not entirely consistent, so we have decided to designate most committees as subcommittees. Along that vein, Gary also suggested a few places in the By-laws where some changes needed to be made. These changes have been approved by your Executive Committee and will be presented to the congregation for their approval at the 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting.

The move of the PCF office from the W. B. Lewis Centre to the Sunova Mall has been a blessing in that the office is rapidly becoming a hub of activity and has given PCF a higher profile in the community. We have an "Open House" on Tuesday mornings, Rob Murray has started Bible study on Wednesday afternoons and Friday afternoons are set aside for the Knitting Circle (actually, more of a rectangle). Before Christmas, PCF hosted a Ten Thousand Villages "pop-up shop" at our space in the Mall.

The monthly “Dinner and Conversation” meetings continued during the last 12 months covering a wide range of topics, including Truth and Reconciliation, Creationism, and Denominational Diversity. These meetings will resume this fall, with the intent to broaden them to include members outside the congregation. Earlier this calendar year, I was approached by a local business owner who was interested in purchasing the congregation's property on Burrows Road. However, although there was insufficient time to follow up on this potential sale, your Executive Committee has started to look into the formal appraisal of the property as it is highly unlikely that PCF will ever embark on a building campaign. As it is, costs are associated with owning property, including property taxes and maintenance (mowing). More seriously, it may not be good stewardship to hang onto a piece of property that could see better use to assist our community.

On behalf of the Convenor Committee and the congregation, I express my thanks to all the people who serve on committees and who help in many ways for Sunday services. Every task, small and large, that is accomplished is appreciated. Thank you for your tenacity and your commitment. Our Mission Subcommittee and Congregational Care Subcommittee do an excellent job looking after the wider world and those at home. We need to be faithful Christians and work with them. A special thank you to Rob Murray for his invaluable teaching, preaching, guiding, and leadership. And, finally, a word of thanks to the members of PCF who support the congregation by prayer, giving, and serving.

Minister's Report

Rob Murray

My Twenty-First year in Pinawa has been an exciting year in ministry with you! Our move to the Sunova Mall last summer has transformed the way we relate to our community. When the doors are open, people are dropping by. When we meet in the office space, people are watching. I'm not able to confirm this, but I sense that people are more willing to just step in the door and, if there's an opportunity, they talk, and talk, and talk. It's great! I'm not complaining. If I need quiet time to write and read and answer emails I come early or stay late.

In local ministry, I continue to support the Pinawa Hospital Spiritual Care Team by chairing meetings. One of our founding members, Jane Petkau, retired this year

and we will miss her gentle, encouraging, wisdom. Judy Platford has also volunteered for over twenty years with the Spiritual Care Team and I'm deeply thankful for her faithfulness visiting the Hospital week by week. Dealing with shifting configurations of staffing in the Health Region has been a huge challenge - but the local relationship with Pinawa Hospital staff has been rebuilt over the past year and is quite encouraging at the moment. We provide monthly worship at the Ironwood Senior's Residences and the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home, and four or five times a year at the Whitemouth Personal Care Home. Many thanks to the members who attend and encourage those services. There is a wider congregation we serve, not all of whom can physically attend Sunday worship with us. Our joint services, and common ministry, with Pinawa Lutheran Congregation continue to be fruitful and the Good Friday "way of the cross", the only event that all four Christian congregations in Pinawa participate in together, has become an institution.

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Presbyterian Church in Canada at a national level this past year. You have allowed time for me to attend Assembly Council meetings in Toronto twice a year, in March and November. My three-year term on the Assembly Council will end in November 2018. I was also privileged to participate as a Presbyterian delegate to the World Communion of Reformed Churches General Council in Leipzig Germany for two weeks in July. It was an extraordinarily enriching experience and I came back with a new appreciation of the church as a worldwide gathering.

I haven't taken on further responsibilities with the denominations this year, but I continue to participate in the Presbyterian and United Church Presbyteries and the Deanery and clergy gatherings of the Anglican Church. Mennonite connections have been less formal; but I do keep in touch with regional staff. I love to tell the story of the PCF and, in February, I was invited to tell our story again at the Renew2017 Conference at Canadian Mennonite University. It is always a privilege to represent our history and the promise of this unique congregation.

One of my responsibilities is to keep the records of Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, and Burials. We have not had any baptisms or confirmations since our last AGM. I presided at only one marriage, between Miguel Young and Ana La Rosa Leon.

Since last October, I have presided at funerals or memorial services for Ken Gray, Grant Bailey, David Westdal, and Oral Gavaga.

I have kept the website pinawa.church updated and maintain our announcements on Google Maps and the sign on the office door. Chuck Vandergraaf updates our ad in the Clipper Weekly and the "Blue Channel". I continue to have a good response to the "What's Up?" email newsletter. Our switch from land-line to cell phone was a good move. We kept the old number and the service is cheaper and, mostly, reliable. The majority of our communication is by email and face to face.

Thank you for your encouragement this past year. Our General Committee and other volunteers are a delight to work with and I'm always thankful for the good humour that prevails in our meetings.

Stewardship

Lori Evenden

Please watch for the Fall Connect package that will be delivered to you this fall. Thank you to those of you who attempted using our email method last year. Unfortunately, there were too many downfalls to that with organizing the results so we are going back to the traditional way of handing out and collecting paper versions of your information.

Your efforts and cooperation at filling out the forms are appreciated as organizers of various jobs continue the tasks of creating schedules for volunteers and work towards meeting the needs of the congregation.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Lori Evenden at lorieunden@gmail.com or 1-204-459-1000.

Missions Committee

Dennis Cann, Convenor

The Missions Subcommittee consists of Diana Evans, Lorna Hiebert, Rob Murray, Holly Parcey, Shirley Pellow, Judy Platford, Ken Reddig, Rob Smith, Chuck Vandergraaf, Bruce Williams and Convenor Dennis Cann.

The Pinawa Christian Fellowship financially supports Mission/Outreach in three ways: 1) direct support of the programs of its parent churches from general revenue, 2) forwarding funds to specific Mission projects as directed on collection envelopes and 3) by the Missions Subcommittee allocating funds received through the "Missions" amounts listed on collection envelopes and PAR forms to local, denominational, national, and international mission projects

In 2016 the Missions Fund received \$6483 in donations. This combined with a carryover of \$1032 from 2015 was used to fund \$6700 in disbursements as follows: United Church for Fort McMurray Fire Disaster \$500, Canadian Food Grains Bank \$500, Mennonite Central Committee Grow Hope Project \$600, Doctors Without Borders \$500, Lac Du Bonnet and Beausejour Food Banks \$500 each, Winnipeg Inner City Missions (Presbyterian) \$500, Presbyterian World Service and Development (Nepal Earthquake relief) \$500, Survivor's Hope Crisis Centre \$300, Primates World Relief and Development Fund for Haiti Hurricane Relief \$500, Hospitality House Refugee Ministry in Winnipeg \$500, House Blend Ministries \$400, Kenora Fellowship Centre (Presbyterian) \$500, and Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre (United) \$400. \$815 was carried over to 2017.

Other Mission activities in 2016 included: 1) the knitting of mittens by the Friday knitting group at the PCF Mall office for the Winnipeg United Way and House Blend Ministries (Cathy McCamis who pastors there), 2) the "pop-up shop" offering goods from MCC's Ten Thousand Villages shop was operated by many volunteers for a week in Advent, 3) PCF members providing and serving refreshments during the break at the EMCA Christmas concert with the proceeds going to the Canadian Foodgrain Bank, 4) Bruce Williams organizing the collection of primary picture books, older (working) laptops, digital cameras, wheel chairs, walkers and small suitcases to send to the orphanage in Tanzania as part of the Mama Kwanza project, 5) the collection of food donations at the Thanksgiving Service for the Lac Du Bonnet Food Bank, 6) A "PCF Team" in Pinawa's Relay for Life event in June 4 that raised \$2000 to contribute to the fight against cancer, "in Jesus' name", and 7) PCF members' generously donating funds to support a refugee family sponsorship through the Winnipeg River Refugee Initiative. Missions Subcommittee activities in 2017 include the preparation of 100+ frozen cups of chicken barley soup concentrate for Winnipeg Inner City Missions and

disbursements of \$600 to sponsor the planting and harvesting of two acres of canola for MCC's Grow Hope Project, \$500 to the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund for famine relief in East Africa, \$700 to the Education Program of Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D) to provide vulnerable children in Afghanistan, Guatemala, India, and Malawi with classroom facilities, tutoring, textbooks, supplies, uniforms and scholarships to attend school and \$700 to Plan International Canada for its Because I Am a Girl Fund to educate girls, and give them nourishment, health care, and protection so they can flourish and go on to improve the lives of those around them. These latter two disbursements were made from the \$1400 that the General Committee moved from the dormant PCF Youth Account to the PCF Missions Fund with the condition that the money be used for youth-oriented Mission projects.

Other PCF related Mission efforts include support with time, talents and money of the Ghedban refugee family in Lac du Bonnet and the Friday Knitting Circle who created numerous toques, scarves, mittens and other knitted and crocheted items while socializing in the PCF meeting room. Many of these items were donated to Koats for Kids, House Blend Ministries Winnipeg Inter-city Missions and Pinawa Health Auxiliary.

Winnipeg River Refugee Initiative

Dennis Cann, Lorna Hiebert, Shirley Pellow and Bruce Williams

The WRRRI committee, is comprised of members from seven churches from Powerview, Lac du Bonnet and Pinawa as well other individuals from these communities. In earlier 2017 the group was allocated a refugee family under the federal government's Blended Visa-Office Referred (BVOR) program. This family, Mostafa Ghedban, his wife Mazkin (Farah) Masto and their three elementary school-aged boys Kawa, Kiwan and Mohammad arrived to their new home, a three bedroom rented house in Lac du Bonnet on May 9, 2017. The family are Kurdish and fled the fighting in north eastern Syria five years ago and had been living in a small one room apartment in Beirut since then.

The house was fully furnished including clothing and toys for the boys by many generous donations from community members while WRRRI committee members purchased and stocked the cupboards and refrigerator with appropriate and familiar foods before the family's arrival. Once here the Committee started

working with the family to help them adjust to Canadian living. Subgroups of the Committee began and are continuing to help them with learning English, schooling for the boys, addressing health needs, shopping, transportation, documentation, finances, translation, and gardening. The boys were enrolled in swimming lessons over the summer and the family sold Syrian baked goods and small clay animal and bird models made by one of the boys at the Lac du Bonnet farmers market over the summer.

Recently the family shared some thoughts on their life so far in Canada while sharing their wonderful Ceylon tea. They like the electricity, good water and the food. They were very pleasantly surprised when they arrived in Lac du Bonnet, to find a home with everything they could need. Learning English has been very challenging for the parents but they are making progress and the boys can now all speak passable English. They buy almost all their groceries locally (Dancys who have brought in special items for them). They found getting groceries difficult in the beginning but now feel comfortable getting groceries on their own. They have enjoyed exploring their new neighbourhood and often take family walks in the park and along the lake shore after their evening meal. They say they feel at home and are happy here and look on WRRRI members as part of their new family although they are in almost daily contact with their relatives in the Middle East. They also have some contacts with other Syrians in Manitoba.

Under the BVOR program WRRRI is responsible to support the family for one year although, as with other sponsoring groups, it is expected that WRRRI will continue to work with them beyond that date.

Worship Committee

Judy Platford

The Worship Committee is composed of denominational reps, the minister, and, occasionally, members at large. We usually meet about once a month to plan services and to organize anything needed for worship. This year we did not always worship in the school, or Lutheran Church, but also ventured out into the surrounding community. We were at the rowing and sailing “beach” on one gorgeous Sunday morning in the spring and in the fall we went to the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre to worship with our Indigenous friends. On Good Friday we took part in the Way of the Cross with people from all the churches in town. This was our year to organize the World Day of Prayer Service, which was held in the Lutheran Church with participation from each congregation. Once a month we led worship at the Ironwood Senior's Residence and the Lac du Bonnet Care

Home. Five times a year we lead worship at the Whitemouth Care Home. As usual we were with the Lutheran Congregation for 10 weeks in the summer and together again for Lessons and Carols in Advent and the First Sunday after Christmas.

It takes many people to prepare for services, and the Worship Committee would like to thank everyone who helps to make our worship rich and meaningful. Thank you to our musicians and choir, those who greet, the sidespeople who set up every week, those who bring flowers, and our scripture readers. Thank you to those who prepare the elements for Holy Communion and those who serve. Thank you for your support as we meet Sunday by Sunday.

Social

Shirley Pellow

Coffee and goodies following worship service, continues to be enjoyed by the congregation. Thank you to all of our coffee makers and for the goodies they provide. I would like to highlight a few social events from this past year.

In October 2016 the Anniversary Service (agape feast) with a pot-luck and a special cake. At this event two long time members were recognized with Birthday wishes, Bob Briercliffe & Inge Andersen who celebrated their 90th Birthdays.

On December 11, 2016 we were joined by the Lutheran congregation, for the Lessons and Carol Service, a luncheon was held. This year we added to the lunch with open face buns, cheese tray along with dainties.

Easter early morning service was celebrated at the Swinging Bridge with Fish, Bannock and Hot Chocolate.

Hot Cross Buns and coffee were served following the later Easter Service.

The final service before summer was celebrated with a Pot-Luck lunch.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the social events throughout the year. It was truly appreciated.

Congregational Care

Carol Walton

Our group is dedicated to supporting members who are ill and require a visit, or an occasional meal after surgery etc. Brenda Morash continues to send lovely cards of sympathy, special Birthday congratulations and Get Well wishes. Prayer shawls have been created for distribution as required. Let us know if you know of someone in need.

In December, we met to create 6 Christmas Baskets for delivery to members living in Personal Care Homes.

We continue to require assistance with occasional meal preparation, and driving people to local appointments. Offers of assistance are welcome in these areas.

Special Gifts Fund Team

Gary Simmons

The Special Gifts Fund Team comprises Holly Parcey, Cindy Litke and Gary Simmons. All three members are willing to serve again this year.

This report covers the period from September 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017 as the August 2017 financial information was not available at the time of writing.

The Memorial and Honour fund from September 2016 to July 2017 received interest in the amount of \$117.65. There was a memorial donation of \$50.00 received during this period. The balance in the Memorial and Honour Fund at the end of July 2017 is \$10,004.97.

The Directed-use or Named Endowment funds received no donations from September 2016 to July 2017. The balance in the Directed-use or Named Endowment funds is zero. Therefore no directed-use commitments have been taken on by the PCF.

The Unspecified-use Endowment fund from September 2016 to July 2017 received interest in the amount of \$7.43. There were no donations to the unspecified-use endowment fund during this period. The balance in the unspecified-use endowment fund at the end of July 2017 is \$629.41.

Treasurers Report

Karen Ross

Although we are a little behind on year to date planned revenue by \$650, our expenses were in line with the budget, and we have received unexpected donations (\$71,400) so we are in the black by \$66,699. Thank you for your continued generosity!

PCF Financial Report to August 31, 2017

	Actual to 2017 Aug 31	2017 Budget	% of Budget
GENERAL FUND INCOME			
Donations	\$71,400.00	\$0.00	NA
Local Offering	\$62,003.85	\$100,612.60	61.6%
Open Collection	\$376.40	\$900.00	41.8%
Interest and Dividends	\$1,865.16	\$1,700.00	109.7%
Fundraising	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND INCOME	\$135,645.41	\$103,712.60	130.8%
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES			
Administration Account			
Advertising	\$458.36	\$400.00	114.6%
Bank & PAR Charges	\$180.71	\$290.00	62.3%
50% GST Paid	-\$221.60	\$0.00	NA
Insurance & Property Taxes	\$1,640.44	\$1,710.00	95.9%
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.0%
Offering Envelopes	\$0.00	\$160.00	0.0%
Office Expenses	\$508.84	\$900.00	56.5%
Office Rent	\$3,690.00	\$5,670.00	65.1%
Property Maintenance	\$0.00	\$600.00	0.0%
Telephone & Internet	\$574.56	\$900.00	63.8%
Worship Rent	\$1,380.00	\$2,500.00	55.2%
Total Administration Account	\$8,211.31	\$13,230.00	62.1%

PCF Financial Report to August 31, 2017

	Actual to 2017 Aug 31	2017 Budget	% of Budget
General Account			
Christian Education	\$0.00	\$200.00	0.0%
Congregational Caring	\$73.83	\$200.00	36.9%
Denominational Meetings	\$0.00	\$150.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous	\$75.00	\$200.00	37.5%
Social	\$168.75	\$400.00	42.2%
Worship (Worship and Choir Supplies)	\$191.14	\$600.00	31.9%
Total General Account	\$508.72	\$1,750.00	29.1%
Parent Churches Account			
Anglican	\$1,064.25	\$1,419.00	75.0%
Mennonite	\$375.00	\$500.00	75.0%
Presbyterians Sharing	\$600.00	\$800.00	75.0%
Presbyterian - Winnipeg Presbytery	\$375.00	\$500.00	75.0%
United Church M&S	\$2,580.00	\$3,440.00	75.0%
United Church Selkirk Presbytery	\$854.25	\$1,139.00	75.0%
Total Parent Churches Account	\$5,848.50	\$7,798.00	75.0%
Pastorate Account			
Congregational Pension Assessment	\$3,237.52	\$4,856.25	66.7%
Continuing Education Allowance	\$0.00	\$600.00	0.0%
Employer CPP	\$1,673.12	\$2,509.68	66.7%
Employer EI	\$1,019.12	\$1,170.67	87.1%
Extended Health and Dental	\$3,238.50	\$4,308.00	75.2%
Housing Allowance	\$6,000.00	\$9,000.00	66.7%
Pulpit Supply - Education Leave	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
Pulpit Supply - Other	\$550.00	\$300.00	183%
Pulpit Supply - Vacation Leave	\$0.00	\$200.00	0.0%
Salary	\$36,133.36	\$54,200.00	66.7%
Utilities	\$2,526.64	\$3,790.00	66.7%
Total Pastorate Account	\$54,378.26	\$80,934.60	67.2%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$68,946.79	\$103,712.60	66.5%
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$66,698.62	\$0.00	