

**Pinawa Christian Fellowship**  
**September 20, 2018**  
**Annual Reports**

## **Minister's Report**

*Rob Murray*

I am constantly surprised when people ask how long I have been serving here in Pinawa and I realize that it has been over 22 years - more than a third of my life! When I hear about the situations of my colleagues in ministry, particularly in rural and small town ministry, I am very grateful for this vibrant and supportive community of faith. We have challenges, but they are easy to face when I know I can count on this congregations' generosity of spirit. Thank you for your faithfulness, and for your care for me and my family, through these many years!

In local ministry, we continue to provide worship monthly at the Ironwood Senior's Residences and the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home, and five or six times a year at the Whitemouth Personal Care Home. Many Thanks to the members who attend and encourage those services. Our joint services, and common ministry, with Pinawa Lutheran Congregation continue to be fruitful. The Good Friday "way of the cross", the only event that all four Christian congregations in Pinawa participate in together, is now a regular event. Our office and meeting space at the Mall is getting busier and I have quite a number of people drop by during the week to chat or for open-house coffee, time or Bible study.

I keep our website, [pinawa.church](http://pinawa.church), updated and maintain our announcements on Google Maps and the video sign on the office door. I continue to have a good response to the "What's Up?" email newsletter which goes out to 130 addresses every Thursday morning. Many thanks to Chuck Vandergraaf who updates our ad in the Clipper Weekly and the "Blue Channel" and takes over the newsletter when I'm away on holiday or study leave.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Presbyterian Church in Canada at a national level again this past year. You have allowed time for me to attend Assembly Council meetings in Toronto twice a year, in March and November. I also serve on the Executive of Assembly Council meeting by

conference call. My three-year term on the Assembly Council ends in November 2018. I have been invited to serve as a "Keeper of the Vision" at the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, the United Church's National training centre for Indigenous Ministry in Beausejour, MB. Most of that work is accomplished by Conference Call. I try to participate in as many of the regional meetings and events for our parent denominations as I can, but I tend to be choosy these days about what I take on. The agencies of four denominations are always looking for willing workers, and the work is important, but I have tried to be careful about keeping a balance between regional and national church work and the work of local ministry.

I have attended two continuing education events since our last AGM, the "ReNew 2018" Ministry and Worship Conference, and the Canadian Ecclesiology and Ethnography Conference, both at Canadian Mennonite University. I will be attending a one-day preaching workshop on October 3rd at Charleswood United Church.

One of my responsibilities is to keep the records of Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, and Burials. We have not had any baptisms or confirmations or marriages to record since our last AGM. Since last September I have presided at funerals or memorial services or committal services for Felix Gryseels, Lori Dunford-Robb, Kay Dereski, Gladys (Happy) Noble, John (Jock) Guthrie, Rosalia Baumgartner, Rosina May Dunford, Dianne Wiewel, and Betty Atikenhead.

Although there hasn't been a memorial or funeral service here, I would like to honour the memory of Irene Sedge, a member and Presbyterian elder within the congregation, who died recently in the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home. It was also my privilege to participate in the funeral service for Mel Gascoyne at Ralph Connor Memorial United Church in Canmore, Alberta this Summer and to carry your love to Sim and her family. Mel was a long-time member who served the congregation as General Committee Chair and in many other capacities over the years.

Thank you to the members of the General Committee, and our various sub-committees, who lead by example, modeling inclusive grace. I cherish the laughter

and good-will in our meetings, and the respectful way you lead. Thank you to the Pastoral relations Committee, Bob McCamis, Leny Ohta and Will Reddig, for being a sounding board and representing the congregations' care for me. This has been a very encouraging twenty-second year in ministry with you!

## **Convenor's Remarks**

*Chuck Vandergraaf*

It has now been several 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 that sequence of roles. The Convenor Subcommittee allows for increased flexibility and allows convenors to spell each other off. A year ago, at the 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting, Deb Smith and Myrna Tiede volunteered to serve on the Convenor Subcommittee. They, together with Bob McCamis give us a much-appreciated flexibility and provides a succession plan that is so important in the health of any organization.

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, with coffee, tea, and some baked goods that draws both members of the congregation and members from the community and beyond. Rob Murray continues with Bible study on Friday mornings. 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" for a second year in a row at our space in the Mall. Rob Murray has some interesting ideas for the PCF office that he will present at the Annual Congregational Meeting. There is also an opportunity to work with the Parent Advisory Committee towards an outdoor facility that could be used by our congregation for worship on days where we could worship God among His Creation instead of being surrounded by man-made cinder block walls.

Technology moves on and provides us with many opportunities. Rob has been using a microphone for years and, occasionally, uses a projector to show slides to

illustrate his sermons. We could use one or two “technology experts” to advise us on how to best make use of technology and, when called upon, ensure that the audio (and audiovisual) equipment is connected properly. If you are willing to donate your skills, contact a member of the General Committee.

The smooth operation of a congregation requires many willing hands. In a few weeks, you will be invited to indicate which skills and talents you are willing to donate through the upcoming year.

At the request of one member of the congregation, the General Committee has approved the purchase of arm chairs for members who are often challenged “to rise to their feet”. This is just one example where members look out for each other and point out needs that the members of the General Committee may not have noticed. We are an aging congregation and, with it, requirements change over time.

The monthly “Dinner and Conversation” meetings have fallen on hard times with only two events held in the fall of 2017, one on the history of the Presbyterian and Reformed tradition by Rob Murray, and one on the Mennonite history by Ken Reddig. We would like to complete the set by having presentations on the histories of the other two denominations that recognize PCF, the Anglican Church of Canada, and the United Church of Canada. We have the use of the F. W. Gilbert kitchen for these events, so we may as well make take that opportunity.

The General Committee has retained one of Pinawa’s real estate agents, Patty Drew, to market our property across the street from the Sunova Mall. There is no urgency to sell the lot, but we have to consider if owning a vacant lot is good stewardship or if it can be used for a greater good. And, every year PCF owns the lot, it is liable for its maintenance and property taxes.

I have now served as Senior Convenor for the last number of years and have decided to take a break. One of the other co-convenors will take the reins at the conclusion of the 2018 Annual Congregational Meeting.

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 word of thanks 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 praying, giving, and serving.

## **Missions Committee**

*Dennis Cann, Convenor*

The PCF 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 2017 the Missions Fund received \$6948 in donations. Together with a carryover of \$815 from 2016 this allowed the Subcommittee to make the following disbursements: \$111 for the hands-on preparation of 100 frozen cups of chicken barley soup concentrate for Winnipeg Inner City Missions, \$600 to sponsor 2 acres for the joint MCC/Canadian Foodgrains Bank Grow Hope Project, \$500 to the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund for famine relief in East Africa, \$500 to the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund for disaster relief in the Caribbean and Mexico, \$500 for the Mennonite Disaster Services, \$500 to the United Church Emergency Response to the Rohingya Crisis, \$500 to the Canadian Food Grains Bank, \$500 to Doctors Without Borders, \$500 each to the Lac Du Bonnet and Beausejour Food Banks, \$500 to Winnipeg Inner City Missions (Presbyterian), \$300 to Survivor's Hope Crisis Centre, \$500 to Hospitality House Refugee Ministry in Winnipeg, \$500 to the Kenora Fellowship Centre

(Presbyterian), and \$500 to the Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre (United). These disbursements totaled \$7011 leaving a carryover of \$752 to 2018.

In 2017 the PCF General Committee decided to transfer \$1400 from its dormant Youth Fund to the Mission Fund to be used for youth oriented Mission Projects. The Missions Committee split the amount evenly between the Education Program of Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D) to provide vulnerable children with classroom facilities and supplies and Plan International Canada for its *Because I Am a Girl Fund*.

Other Mission activities in 2017 included: 1) the knitting of mittens by the Friday knitting group at the PCF Mall office for various mission and outreach projects, 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 \$500 in proceeds going to MCC for Relief Kits, 4) the collection of food donations at the Thanksgiving Service for the Lac Du Bonnet Food Bank, and 5) the sale of homemade, locally sourced, Christmas wreaths and trees by the Williams and Ghedban's to support the work of the Cheryl Williams Foundation in Tanzania and Farah Ghedban's extended family who are refugees in Lebanon.

## **Social**

*Shirley Pellow*

Coffee fellowship following the services continue to be a popular time. Thank you to our congregational volunteers for hosting on Sundays with coffee, tea, cookies/dainties. Occasional donation of cookies for the coming year would be appreciated.

November was our first social event, celebrating our church anniversary with a delicious pot luck/agape feast and cake. The meal was set up as part of our service.

In December the Lutheran congregation joined the PCF for a service of lessons and carols followed by a luncheon and fellowship.

Easter is always a Blessed time of the year and we celebrate early Easter morning service at the swinging bridge, with music, fish, bannock and hot chocolate. I think people appreciate this time next to nature and God. Following the later Easter service an assortment of buns, cheese and fruit was served.

The final service before summer was celebrated with a pot luck lunch. Thank you to all our volunteers that help with all these events.

## **Congregational Care**

*Brenda Morash*

Members of the Congregational Care Committee this year continued to coordinate compassionate care for members and friends of the congregation.

Cards were sent to members during times of illness, bereavement or just to keep in touch. Additional cards were sent for milestone birthdays and anniversaries.

At Christmas the committee prepared and delivered Christmas baskets to seven members of the congregation who now live in Personal Care homes. Christmas cards were signed by members of the congregation and mailed to absentee members who now live out of province or some distance from PCF. Christmas baking was delivered to shut-in members and was gratefully received.

Several handmade prayer shawls were given to members in need of an extra "hug".

We review the membership list at every meeting and try to identify members who may be in need of a visit, a phone call, or meals after a family bereavement or health issue.

We welcome new members to the committee with fresh ideas to help this busy group. Thank you to all who helped us in any way this year.

## Stewardship

*Lori Evenden*

Each year, we attempt to collect information from the congregation in order to match interests and strengths with the volunteer positions within our Church. This year we are planning to simplify the process by setting up the forms that were filled out last year in Church on Sept. 30 and Oct. 14. Congregation members can then make any amendments they want or initial to leave their information the same. We will also have blank forms for those who didn't fill in a form last year. After Oct. 14, we will mail the forms as usual to those who missed the amendment sessions.

Last year I also organized a committee with members from the Lutheran and Catholic Churches to enter a Nativity float in the Pinawa Christmas Parade in December. Thanks to Mrs. Jane Petkau for lending us her beautiful Nativity Scene that highlighted the float. A big thanks to Lynne and Gilles Peloquin for the use of their snowmobile trailer and generator, and to Bill Evenden for driving our truck. Thanks to Bonnie Minnick and Clarence Newman for all their work on our committee. We now have a banner for any future parades.

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](mailto:lorieunden@gmail.com) or 1-204-459-1000.

## Special Gifts Fund Team

*Gary Simmons*

The Special Gifts Fund Team comprises Holly Parcey, Cindy Litke and Gary Simmons.

Holly Parcey, Cindy Litke and Gary Simmons are willing to serve again on the Special Gifts Fund Team.

The Special Gifts Fund Team is notified by the Treasurer of donations made to the Memorial and Honour Fund in the name of a deceased individual. The Team sends a card / letter to acknowledge those who contribute to the Memorial and Honour Fund in the name of a deceased individual and also to the survivors of each individual so honoured.

### **Account Activity**

This report covers the period from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018.

The Memorial and Honour fund from September 2017 to August 2018 received interest in the amount of \$169.31. There were memorial donations of \$225.00 received during this period. The balance in the Memorial and Honour Fund at the end of August 2018 is \$10,410.27.

The Directed-use or Named Endowment funds received no donations from September 2017 to August 2018. 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 2017 to August 2018 received interest in the amount of \$10.60. 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 August 2018 is \$640.70.

## **Worship Committee**

*Judith Platford* (Presbyterian Rep and Chair)

*Lorna Hiebert* (Mennonite Rep)

*Brenda Morash* (United Church Rep)

*Roger Dutton* (Anglican Rep Choir Director)

*Heather Westdal* (Choir Director)

*Rob Murray* (Minister)

Worship at the PCF has developed rhythms and traditions over the years, but we are always prepared to try something new! We generally follow the seasons of the Church Year and the Common Lectionary, which gives structure to our planning and themes for preaching and selecting hymns and prayers. This past year we adopted a new tradition, observing a "Season of Creation" for the five weeks leading up to and including Thanksgiving Sunday. This has been fruitful and we are likely to continue the experiment.

Our tradition of sharing worship with Pinawa Lutheran Church continues to be encouraging for both congregations. We share responsibility for Ten Summer Sundays and for Lessons and Carols during Advent and the "low" Sunday after Christmas. We also share the good Friday Way of the Cross with the Lutherans and the other congregations of Pinawa. The PCF provides worship at the Ironwood and the Lac du Bonnet and Whitemouth Personal Care Homes on a regular basis. We would love to increase the number of services we can offer but need more volunteers, particularly musicians.

Our tradition of taking worship outdoors at Easter and Pentecost has continued. Early Easter worship at the suspension bridge with a "Manitoba Communion" of Pickerel and Bannock and fruit wine attracts a small but enthusiastic congregation. Pentecost at the Sailing and Rowing Club beach had perfect weather (again!) this year and over thirty people! Many Thanks to Giuliano and his portable accordion for helping with those services. There is a growing "Wild Church" movement around the world that encourages the church to reconnect worship with Creation. We have gathered some resources and are hoping to offer more of those experiences in the year to come. We realize that "Wild" church isn't for everybody and doesn't replace traditional worship; but it also connects with

people in fresh ways, and often serves people who wouldn't come to a traditional service.

Our Sunday worship is blessed at the moment by the participation and energy of three musicians: Barb Remington, Giuliano Sanipelli, and Marg Koroll. We are very thankful for their gifts! Thank you, also, to Choir Directors, Roger Dutton and Heather Westdal, and the Choir members. Your contributions to worship enrich the experience for everyone!

This year we bought a colour laser printer for the office so we can now produce the worship bulletins in colour. Many Thanks to Barb Sanipelli, who receives the worship information and designs the worship bulletins. We would like to expand the audio-visual component of worship with more extensive use of the projection screen and, perhaps, recording the services for posting online or distribution to those who can't attend. We would dearly love to add someone with a willingness to take on the "tech" to our worship team!

Thank you to all the volunteers who help with worship week after week after week. We aren't getting younger and we truly appreciate the dedication of those who build a church from a bare room every Sunday. We appreciate the contributions of all the folks who set-up and tear down, those who greet at the door and read Scripture, folks who bring flowers, and count the offering, and prepare hospitality after the service. Thank You!

Your Worship Committee has representatives from our four "official" denominational connections, but we welcome members at large who simply love worship and want to contribute. We also welcome your ideas. If you experience something in worship while travelling or visiting, take notes and tells us about it. We love our traditions, but we're willing to learn new things.

Finally, thank you for your regular (or irregular) participation in Sunday morning worship. The church has many important roles and tasks but they all grounded in, and sustained by, the regular worship of God's people.

# Treasurers Report

*Karen Ross*

Although we are a little behind on year to date planned revenue by \$1472, our expenses were in line with the budget, and we are in the red \$1335 as can happen this time of year. Thank you for your continued generosity!

## PCF Financial Report to August 31, 2018

	2018 Actuals	2018 Budget	% of Budget
<b>GENERAL FUND INCOME</b>			
Donations	\$1,473.19	\$0.00	NA
Local Offering	\$67,663.80	\$101,800.00	66.5%
Open Collection	\$335.00	\$700.00	47.9%
Interest and Dividends	\$1,099.52	\$2,500.00	44.0%
Fundraising	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.0%
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND INCOME</b>	<b>\$70,571.51</b>	<b>\$105,500.00</b>	<b>66.9%</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Administration Account</b>			
Advertising	\$289.81	\$400.00	72.5%
Bank & PAR Charges	\$195.57	\$290.00	67.4%
GST Paid (50%)	\$30.59	\$0.00	
Insurance & Property Taxes	\$1,748.80	\$1,650.00	106.0%
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.0%
Offering Envelopes	\$156.38	\$160.00	97.7%
Office Expenses	\$517.24	\$650.00	79.6%
Office Rent	\$3,690.00	\$5,670.00	65.1%
Property Maintenance	\$1,500.00	\$900.00	166.7%
Telephone & Internet	\$638.10	\$900.00	70.9%
Worship Rent	\$1,428.00	\$2,520.00	56.7%
<b>Total Administration Account</b>	<b>\$10,194.49</b>	<b>\$13,240.00</b>	<b>77.0%</b>

	<b>2018 Actuals</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>General Account</b>			
Christian Education	\$30.00	\$200.00	15.0%
Congregational Caring	\$0.00	\$200.00	0.0%
Denominational Meetings	\$50.00	\$150.00	33.3%
Miscellaneous	\$25.00	\$287.47	8.7%
Social	\$161.37	\$400.00	40.3%
Worship (Worship and Choir Supplies)	\$68.17	\$600.00	11.4%
<b>Total General Account</b>	<b>\$334.54</b>	<b>\$1,837.47</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
<b>Parent Churches Account</b>			
Anglican	\$1,111.50	\$1,482.00	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	\$833.25	\$1,111.00	75.0%
<b>Total Parent Churches Account</b>	<b>\$5,874.75</b>	<b>\$7,833.00</b>	<b>75.0%</b>
<b>Pastorate Account</b>			
Congregational Pension Assessment	\$3,341.28	\$5,011.90	66.7%
Continuing Education Allowance	\$567.32	\$600.00	94.6%
Employer CPP	\$1,706.08	\$2,559.12	66.7%
Employer EI	\$1,015.76	\$1,201.51	84.5%
Extended Health and Dental	\$3,245.25	\$4,327.00	75.0%
Housing Allowance	\$6,000.00	\$9,000.00	66.7%
Pulpit Supply - Education Leave	\$150.00	\$0.00	
Pulpit Supply - Other	\$150.00	\$450.00	
Pulpit Supply - Vacation Leave	\$0.00	\$450.00	0.0%
Salary	\$36,800.00	\$55,200.00	66.7%
Utilities	\$2,526.64	\$3,790.00	66.7%
<b>Total Pastorate Account</b>	<b>\$55,502.33</b>	<b>\$82,589.53</b>	<b>67.2%</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$71,906.11</b>	<b>\$105,500.00</b>	<b>68.2%</b>
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>-\$1,334.60</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	