

Pinawa Christian Fellowship
Annual General Meeting
September 29, 2024 in the Pinawa Lutheran Church

Minister's Report

Liz Brasier

It is astounding how fast time flies by. This past year has been very busy.

In October 2023 I attended the Faith Horizons Anglican Clergy gathering, a two-day workshop focused on outreach. This was held at St. John College, University of Manitoba.

During Advent we enjoyed a Lessons and Carols service, and at Christmas we had a somewhat different Christmas Eve service with readers sitting at the front of the church, the usual warm carols and hopeful messages and, of course, candlelight.

In March I attended the Mennonite Church Manitoba spring gathering, along with Ken and Willa Reddig.

Also in March, I attended a one day Zoom workshop hosted by the Leaf Network entitled "Co-creating Plausible Futures." This workshop featured different views on the direction the church must take as we step into the future.

We had a bible study during Lent called "Discover Easter", which focused on the history and theology surrounding Holy Week. During Holy week we celebrated communion at a special Tenebrae service, took part in a Good Friday Stations of the Cross walk – a joint service with the Catholic and Lutheran churches. We held an Easter Sunrise service at the pergola, and then had Easter communion at the church.

In April and May we had a book study "Social Justice for the Sensitive Soul" by Dorcas Cheng-Tozun. This was a great follow up to a previous bible study we had done which focused on finding our voice in the public square.

In regard to the congregation's hope to reach out to newcomers to Pinawa, we have:

-  Taken part in a newcomers meet and greet at the club
-  Met via zoom with Jordan Cantwell, growth animator at the UCC
-  I met with Melanie Neufeld, Director of Mission Engagement at MCM
-  In June I shared a preaching series on church growth and outreach
-  We are taking steps to form a core committee to discuss and adopt some of the ideas Jordan and Melanie shared with us

In July and August we worshiped together with the PLC. I led in July, the Lutherans led in August.

Throughout 2024 worship services at the local Care Homes have been ongoing. I am very grateful to the musicians and singers who have supported this important ministry: Giuliano S, Peter L, Glenys NK, Wally K, Betty M and Rob S. We can always use more voices and instruments, as music and singing are very much enjoyed by the residents. If you feel like joining us just let me know.

I also want to let you know that as of March 2024, I am on the Ministerial Leadership Committee with MCM, working with the committee on licencing and ordaining Mennonite clergy here in Manitoba.

I had a great vacation with friends and family and want to say a big thankyou to everyone who made my grandson Liam feel welcome while he was here in Pinawa.

Now I am refreshed and ready for fall, Advent and Christmas. Next month I will be attending Rupert's Land Anglican Synod with George M. I will also take my last week of vacation from October 21 to 27. I look forward to new experiences and an exciting effort to make our mark in Pinawa, and get new friends here for services. And I am also planning on an increase in pastoral visitation in the coming months.

Grace and peace to you all,
Pastor Liz

Worship Report

Liz Brasier

We have enjoyed gathering the choir together regularly once more and have been able to share new music with the congregation as well as special songs. If you are interested in adding your voice to the choir, talk to Glenys or Pastor Liz. You are more than welcome.

During Advent we enjoyed a Lessons and Carols service, and at Christmas we had a special joint Christmas Eve service with readers sitting at the front of the church, carols and candlelight.

During Holy week we celebrated communion at a special Tenebrae service, took part in a Good Friday Stations of the Cross walk – a joint service with the Catholic and Lutheran churches. We held an Easter Sunrise service at the pergola, and then had Easter communion at the church.

In June the pastor shared a preaching series on church growth and outreach.

We are down to only two musicians for our regular Sunday services. We welcome more musicians and more voices for song leading.

Convenor Committee Report

Deb Smith

Convenors: Wally Kukurudz, Betty McCamis (on leave of absence), Deb Smith (acting Senior Convenor)

As we begin another fall season, we find ourselves comfortably situated in our office at the mall and in the PLC for our worship space. PLC has accommodated our need for storage space and conversations are beginning regarding banners. Our office lease has been renewed for a three-year term. With that in place, purging and reorganization has begun. As we reimagine what that space will look like we strive to make it a welcoming and safe place for all persons.

We have removed all items from our storage locker at FWG school. Important items have moved to the office, and those items that have reached the end of their usefulness have been repurposed, reused, or recycled.

Our summer services were well attended by both faith groups. Our final joint service was an outdoor service at the pergola, and while it was well attended, we welcome input into making it more accessible to all.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Liz. We truly appreciate your spiritual guidance. We are blessed to have you hold us in your hands and your heart. Thank you. I also wish to thank all congregational members and friends for their continued support of PCF. Support comes in many ways, whether financial, serving on committees, caring for the congregation, or just dropping by the office to visit with Pastor Liz. Please know that these acts are truly appreciated.

We have a few long-term resolute individuals who work tirelessly to ensure our church runs smoothly. With that being said we are in need of more volunteers. As you read through the documents for this fall AGM you will note that some key positions are open. Please consider using your time and talents to help keep us having a meaningful and enduring presence in our community. There are opportunities for all skill sets. If your skills lean toward administration, we have need of at least one more convenor, a stewardship coordinator, and recording secretary for the worship committee. If you prefer to think about outreach the missions committee could use more members, or you could be part of our focus for this next year as we look for ways to engage with the community. If your skills lean more in the caring and compassion direction, congregational care and funeral committee could use help. Are you creative? The office space needs a refresh, and we would like to create some size appropriate banners for display at PLC.

Again, I would like to thank all those who participate in some way with the life and work of Pinawa Christian Fellowship. In these trying times for all churches, we are blessed to be able to come together each week for faith, fellowship, and friendship. With God's guidance let us continue.

Christian Education

Chuck Vandergraaf

Much of the load of the chair of the Christian Education member of the General Committee has now been taken over by Pastor Liz. She ran a book discussion group on *Social Justice for the Sensitive Soul*. I have also

drawn her attention to the book *The Wall Between: what Jews and Palestinians don't want to know about each other* by Raja Khouri and Jeffrey Wilkinson. I was made aware of this book through watching an on-line discussion of this book after Liz had sent me some information on this event. This event was sponsored or organized by three Christian publications, *Anabaptist Word*, *Canadian Mennonite*, and *Christian Courier*.

I advertised an online seminar on *For the Love of Creation*, co-sponsored by the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Other than one former member of PCF, I was the only one who attended. There seems to be little interest in these topics.

As in 2023, Calvin University offered a series of 15 on-line lectures in the *January Series* of lectures this year. I understand that there was no interest from the congregation in watching these presentations and I question the need to advertise the 2025 series in "What's up @ PCF".

We still have an outstanding offer from Rafael Duerksen, Executive Director, *Generation Rising*, an organization devoted to Christian education in a Paraguay, Nicaragua, and Honduras. He is willing to come to Pinawa and present the work of this organization. He is an excellent speaker and could probably be enticed to preach a sermon as well. For this to happen, we need a "buy-in" from the Worship Subcommittee. I had expected the Worship Subcommittee to take the initiative, but this has not happened. Similarly, there has not been any apparent interest in resuming the *Dinner & Conversation* program.

Missions

Chuck Vandergraaf

The PCF Missions Subcommittee currently consists of Shirley Pellow, Ken Reddig, Rob Smith, and Subcommittee chair, Chuck Vandergraaf. We can always use more members. The only stipulation is that a member recuses themselves when making decisions in case there is a conflict of interest.

The Pinawa Christian Fellowship supports Mission/Outreach in three ways financially:

- direct support of the programs of its parent churches from general revenue,
- forwarding funds to specific Mission projects as directed on collection envelopes, and
- 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.

Donations earmarked for Missions are placed in a Mission Fund and cannot be used for the operation of PCF. The Mission Fund started the calendar with a carryover of \$378.91 and currently stands at \$2,530.01. The Mission Sub-Committee has not met in person this year but has communicated by email. It was agreed to "invest" \$700 in one of the Mennonite Central Committee's GrowHope projects. This year, there are three GrowHope projects, a canola field near Ste. Agathe, a wheat field near Sperling, and a soybean field near Greenwald. PCF was invited to visit the soybean field near Greenwald on September 22. I had suggested that we embark on a campaign to raise funds for the United Church's *Northern Ministries*, but sufficient donations were already collected.

In 2023, the Mission Sub-committee distributed funds to the following organizations, and I expect we will do something similar this year. However, if you feel that there are other organizations that should be considered, please let me know,

- 1 Just City
- Agape Table
- MCC Manitoba
- Mennonite Central Committee (Grow Hope Project)
- Open Doorways Orphanage
- Presbyterian Church World Development & Relief
- Sandy Saulteaux
- Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Center (General Programs)
- United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund
- Winnipeg Inner City Missions (for Aboriginal Individuals)

Congregational Care

Shirley Pellow

Congregational Care has kept in contact with PCF members, especially during church celebration events, and in times of illness and bereavement.

The committee needs to address that some people may require rides for appointments plus occasional visits.

Luncheons at the Pinawa Club organized by Betty McCamis have proven to be a great social event for the ladies. We hope we can continue to have these get-togethers once a month.

It is important we encourage members to contact Congregational Care if they know of anyone who is in need. Also, we would like to add a few members to our committee and would welcome your support. Please get in touch with me if you can help us.

Social

Barb Lambert

Deb and I went to Gilbert School in the Spring and I took all the kitchen supplies except for the dishes and took them to the PLC. The PLC has provided us with a cupboard and our weekly coffee supplies are stored there. It's working out very well.

Since Nov 2023, we have had 3 potlucks: Nov 19th 2023, March 19th 2024 and April 23rd 2024
Shirley Pellow gathered a committee to host the funeral for Alex Domytrak.

Our next potluck will be on Nov 12th.

Treasurer's Report

Karen Ross

We are behind our giving goal year to date by \$4306 which is about 7% more than planned¹. Our expenses are slightly less than planned, and we are only \$10,216 in the red with a budgeted deficit of \$14k. We hope our historical pattern continues and we see an increase in donations for remainder of the year.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

PCF Financial Report to 2024 August 31

	2024 Actuals	2024 Budget	% of Budget
GENERAL FUND INCOME			
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
Local Offering	\$57,194.24	\$100,000.00	57.2%
Open Collection	\$25.00	\$250.00	10.0%
Interest and Dividends	\$7,118.78 ²	\$1,200.00	593.2%
Fundraising	\$0.00	\$40.00	-
TOTAL GENERAL FUND INCOME	\$64,338.02	\$101,490.00	63.4%

PCF Financial Report to 2024 August 31

	2024 Actuals	2024 Budget	% of Budget
Administration Account			
Advertising	\$323.90 ³	\$900.00	36.0%
Bank & PAR Charges	\$117.15 ⁴	\$470.00	24.9%
GST Paid (50%)	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Insurance & Property Taxes	\$1,563.00	\$2,150.00	72.7%
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$40.00	0.0%
Offering Envelopes	\$110.47 ⁵	\$50.00	220.9%
Office Expenses	\$887.02	\$1,700.00	52.2%
Office Rent	\$3,959.08	\$5,770.00	68.6%
Telephone & Internet	\$745.69	\$1,152.00	64.7%
Worship Rent	\$3,680.00	\$5,600.00	65.7%
Total Administration Account	\$11,386.31	\$17,832.00	63.9%

PCF Financial Report to 2024 August 31

	2024 Actuals	2024 Budget	% of Budget
General Account			
Christian Education	\$18.76	\$100.00	18.8%
Congregational Caring	\$40.94	\$600.00	6.8%
Denominational Meetings	\$150.00	\$250.00	60.0%
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$25.00	0.0%
Social	\$303.78	\$600.00	50.6%
Worship (Worship and Choir Supplies)	\$82.12	\$750.00	10.9%
Total General Account	\$595.60	\$2,325.00	25.6%

PCF Financial Report to 2024 August 31

	2024 Actuals	2024 Budget	% of Budget
Anglican	\$872.25	\$1,163.00	75.0%
Mennonite	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	100.0%
Presbyterians Sharing	\$250.00	\$250.00	100.0%
Presbyterian - Winnipeg Presbytery	\$500.00	\$500.00	100.0%
United Church M&S	\$2,250.00	\$3,000.00	75.0%
United Church Assessment	\$1,221.00	\$1,628.00	75.0%
Total Parent Churches Account	\$6,193.25	\$7,641.00	81.1%
Pastorate Account			
Congregational Pension Assessment	\$2,448.80	\$3,673.15	66.7%
Continuing Education Allowance	\$125.00	\$1,800.00	6.9%
Employer CPP	\$2,267.92	\$3,401.76	66.7%
Employer EI	\$1,138.16	\$1,468.77	77.5%
Extended Health and Dental	\$939.52	\$1,294.92	72.6%
Housing Allowance	\$6,000.00	\$9,000.00	66.7%
Pulpit Supply - Education Leave	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.0%
Pulpit Supply - Other	\$195.00	\$500.00	39.0%
Pulpit Supply - Vacation Leave	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.0%
Salary	\$40,388.48	\$60,673.03	66.6%
Travel	\$349.52	\$500.00	69.9%
Utilities	\$2,526.64	\$3,789.96	66.7%
Total Pastorate Account	\$56,379.04	\$87,601.59	64.4%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$74,554.20	\$115,399.59	64.6%
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-\$10,216.18	-\$13,909.59	

Notes

- 1) 7% lower than planned for August
- 2) GICs reached maturity interest from M&H and Project goes to operating
- 3) no flyer sent out in the fall
- 4) change in fee structure through Access
- 5) estimate for revised order was too low