

Canada West  
Mission Conference  
September 9 - 11, 2022



Community of Christ

# “Growing Together”



*“For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.”*

Colossians 1:9-10

[communityofchrist.ca](http://communityofchrist.ca)

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[@cofchristcwm](https://www.instagram.com/cofchristcwm)



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# PEACE

# Conference Schedule

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

British Columbia (PDT)

Alberta/Saskatchewan (MDT)

Manitoba (CDT)

1:00-2:15 pm BC  
2:00-3:15 pm AB/SK  
3:00-4:15 pm MB

### Pre-Legislative Session & Poll Everywhere Setup Option 1

Online Only – We will discuss the business meeting agenda and have time for questions and discussion.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

British Columbia (PDT)

Alberta/Saskatchewan (MDT)

Manitoba (CDT)

6:00-7:15 pm BC  
7:00-8:15 pm AB/SK  
8:00-9:15 pm MB

### Pre-Legislative Session & Poll Everywhere Setup Option 2

Online Only – We will discuss the business meeting agenda and have time for questions and discussion. This will be a repeat of the September 4th session.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

British Columbia (PDT)

Alberta/Saskatchewan (MDT)

Manitoba (CDT)

6:30-7:30 pm BC  
7:30-8:30 pm AB/SK  
8:30-9:30 pm MB

### Coffee and Meaningful Conversation

Our topic will be around the conference theme of ‘Growing Together’ and how we are changing and growing in our various areas of the mission centre. I look forward to sharing with you in this safe and sacred space. Hosted by Creating Connection Director Debra Donohue.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

British Columbia (PDT)

Alberta/Saskatchewan (MDT)

Manitoba (CDT)

Check with your  
local site for timing

### Local in-person activities

Gather with your local congregation for social activities. There will be no online activities this evening.

# Conference Schedule

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

British Columbia (PDT)

Alberta/Saskatchewan (MDT)

Manitoba (CDT)

8:45 am BC 9:45 am AB/SK 10:45 am MB	<b>Gathering in Quiet</b> Quiet time for contemplation as we gather.
9:00 am BC 10:00 am AB/SK 11:00 am MB	<b>Morning Session</b> Opening Worship with We Remember and We Celebrate Slideshows Pre-Legislative Panel Discussion Business Meeting Part I
Noon BC 1:00 pm AB/SK 2:00 pm MB	<b>Lunch Break</b>
1:30 pm BC 2:30 pm AB/SK 3:30 pm MB	<b>Afternoon Session</b> Business Meeting Part II
4:30 pm BC 5:30 pm AB/SK 6:30 pm MB	<b>Dinner Break</b>
6:30 pm BC 7:30 pm AB/SK 8:30 pm MB	<b>Talent Show</b> Sharing pre-recorded and live gifts from across the Mission Centre! Grab your popcorn and enjoy!

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

British Columbia (PDT)

Alberta/Saskatchewan (MDT)

Manitoba (CDT)

9:00 am BC 10:00 am AB/SK 11:00 am MB	<b>Worship — Communion Service</b> Join us in worship to close our conference. Guest speaker will be Art Smith.
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# Welcome to the Conference

The world may be changing quickly, but our Canada West Mission Centre continues Growing Together. We are overjoyed for the chance to gather again as a mission centre in a new way through three main sites and many online connections. Together we will look at our budget, decide if we will change who can vote at conference, and sustain our officers. We will also celebrate and worship together.

Our focus scripture comes from Colossians, and talks about “bearing fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.” This is what we are called to do together – not alone. We look forward to connecting with you.

*“However, community is first of all a quality of the heart. It grows from the spiritual knowledge that we are alive not for ourselves but for one another. Community is the fruit of our capacity to make the interests of others more important than our own. The question, therefore, is not ‘How can we make community?’ but, ‘How can we develop and nurture giving hearts?’”*

**Henri Nouwen**

**Yours in Christ,  
Gwyn, Kat and Shannon**  
gwyn@communityofchrist.ca  
kat@communityofchrist.ca  
smcadam@communityofchrist.ca



# Meet our Guest Speaker

## Art Smith



**Arthur Smith** is an apostle in Community of Christ, serving as a member of the Council of Twelve and the World Church Leadership Council.

Art is responsible for supporting the mission and identity of Community of Christ in the apostolic fields that include the Caribbean, Mexico/Texas and Canadian mission centres, as well as the First People Congregation.

Art is a native of Gatineau, Quebec, speaks English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, and enjoys intercultural relationships almost as much as he enjoys spending time with his family, especially his wife Laura and two children Eliza and Tiona.

Art now resides with his family in Independence, Missouri, the location of the international headquarters of Community of Christ.



# Business Meeting Agenda

Canada West Mission Centre  
Annual Business Meeting Agenda  
Held via Zoom and In-person  
Saturday, September 10, 2022  
10:00 a.m. BC - 11:00 a.m. AB/SK - Noon MB

## AGENDA

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Opening Prayer

### 2. Greetings to the Conference

### 3. Voting System Test

### 4. Conference Organization

- a. Motion to approve Credentials Committee Report (with amendments if necessary), see [page 12](#).  
*Resolved:* That the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted as circulated (or – as amended).
- b. Motion to approve Conference Officers  
*Resolved,*
  - i. That **Shannon McAdam**, Mission Centre co-president, preside over this conference and be authorized to complete the Conference organization.
  - ii. That **Lisa Neudorf** be Secretary of the Conference.
  - iii. That **Michael Mitchell** be Parliamentarian for the Conference.

### 5. Approval of Agenda

*Resolved,* That the Agenda for the Canada West Mission Business Meeting for September 10, 2022, be approved as circulated (or – as amended).

### 6. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting on September 11, 2021. See [pages 16-19](#).

*Resolved,* That the Minutes of the Canada West Mission Business Meeting of September 11, 2021, be approved as circulated (or – as amended/corrected).

### 7. Mission Centre Organization

- a. Mission Centre President Team, see [page 9](#).  
*Resolved,* That **Gwyneth J.A. Beer**, **Katherine Goheen**, and **Shannon McAdam** be sustained as Co-Presidents of the Canada West Mission Centre, and collectively form the Canada West Mission Centre President Team.

Submitted by First Presidency

- b. Mission Financial Officer, [see page 10.](#)

*Resolved*, That **Darwood Shepherdson** be sustained as Canada West Mission Centre Financial Officer.

Submitted by First Presidency

- c. Mission Appointments,

*Resolved*,

I. That **Linda Klughart** be sustained as Mission Recorder.

II. That **Sandra Rodriguez** be sustained as Privacy Officer.

Submitted by Mission Centre President Team

## **8. Consideration of Priesthood Calls (tentative)**

### **9. Financials and Budget**

- a. Consideration of Unaudited Financial Report for 2021, [see pages 25-26.](#)

*Resolved*, That the Unaudited Financial Report for the year ending December 31, 2021, be received for information.

- b. Consideration of 2023 Proposed Budget and 2022 Budget Management, [see pages 27-29.](#)

*Resolved*, That the Canada West Mission Centre Budget for 2023 and Budget Management for 2022 be approved as presented (or, as amended).

## **10. Motion to change bylaws for mission conference voting (two thirds vote required).**

*Resolved*: That the bylaws of the Canada West Mission Centre meeting procedures be amended to:

- a. Remove current guideline section “Delegates” and

- b. Replace it with the following (*wording taken from Church Administrator’s Handbook*):  
Voting:

All members in good standing within the mission center are voting members of the mission center conference.

A member who has changed his or her place of residency but whose transfer has not yet been processed may be given the right of voice and vote by action of the assembly.

## **11. Acknowledgement of Reports to the Conference.**

A. Mission Centre President Team – [see pages 30-31](#)

B. Administrative Assistant – [see pages 32-33](#)

C. Creating Connection Director – [see pages 34-35](#)

D. Canadian Peace and Justice Committee – [see page 36](#)

E. Samish Island Campground – [see page 37](#)

F. Hills of Peace Campground – [see page 38](#)



# Letter to sustain Mission Centre President Team



Community of Christ

CHRIST'S MISSION, OUR MISSION

September 10, 2022

To the Canada West Mission Center

Dear Saints:

As you gather for your mission center conference and engage in the business and mission you are called to, the Presidency is pleased to recommend for your consideration Katherine Goheen, Gwyneth J A Beer and Shannon McAdam to serve as your Mission Center President Team. To serve in this leadership position is both a blessing and challenge as these leaders seek to support your congregations to fully live into the mission of the church. Through your support, you join with this team of leaders to be a living expression of the church wherever you are found.

Today, the Presidency wants to express our profound appreciation for this group of disciples who offer their service and ministry to serve as the Mission Center President Team. As they extend their support for you and the mission center, we now ask for your prayerful consideration to sustain Katherine, Gwyneth, and Shannon to serve as the appointed Mission Center President Team. May you hold each of these individuals in your prayers.

In the spirit of peace,  
THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

K. Scott Murphy

cc: Art Smith, Apostle

KSM/les

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
1001 W. Walnut St., Independence, MO 64050 USA

# Letter to sustain Mission Financial Officer



Community of Christ

CHRIST'S MISSION, OUR MISSION

September 10, 2022

To the Canada West Mission Center

Dear Saints:

It is with joy that the First Presidency and Presiding Bishopric offer our support and recommendation for Darwood Shepherdson to serve as your Mission Center Financial Officer. The financial officer upholds the principles of generosity and whole-life stewardship that help each of us respond to the mission of the church in meaningful and authentic ways. We are deeply grateful for those who offer their skills and ministry in this essential position as a partner with the Mission Center President.

Today, we ask for your support for Dar to serve as the appointed Mission Center Financial Officer. May you hold Dar in your prayers.

In the spirit of peace,  
THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

K. Scott Murphy

PRESIDING BISHOPRIC

Stassi D. Cramm

cc: Art Smith, Apostle

KSM/kat

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
1001 W. Walnut St., Independence, MO 64050 USA

# Parliamentary Guide

## Meeting Procedures At A Glance

- A main motion must be moved, seconded, and stated by the Chair before it can be discussed.
- If you approve the motion as it is, vote for it. If you disapprove the motion, in total, vote against it.
- If you approve the idea of the motion but want to change it, move to amend it by adding, deleting, or substituting.
- If you want competent advice to help you to make your decision, move to refer the motion to an appropriate person or committee with instructions to report back.
- If you feel that a person or committee can handle it better than the assembly, move to refer the motion with power to act.
- If the pending matter should be set aside temporarily because something more urgent has come up, move that it be laid on the table.
- If you want time to think the motion over, move that consideration be postponed to a certain time.
- If you think that further discussion is unnecessary, move to close debate.
- If you do not agree with a decision by the Chair, appeal the decision to the assembly.
- If you think that a matter introduced is not germane to the matter at hand, a question of order may be raised.
- If you think that too much time is being consumed by speakers, you can move a time limit on such speeches.
- If a motion has several parts and you wish to vote differently on these parts, move to divide the motion.

# Report of the Credentials Committee (List of Delegates to the 2022 Conference)

<b>Calgary Congregation</b> <b>(137 members)</b> <b>4 of 9</b>	<b>Prince Albert Congregation</b> <b>(17 members)</b> <b>2 of 2</b>	<b>Senlac Congregation</b> <b>(17 members)</b> <b>1 of 2</b>
Doug Hayden Shirley Smith Isabelle Williams Parker Johnson Marilyn Smith	Linda Klughart Marlene Mitchell	David Levitt
<b>Chilliwack Congregation (50 members)</b> <b>3 of 3</b>	<b>Regina Congregation</b> <b>(100 members)</b> <b>4 of 7</b>	<b>Vancouver Congregation</b> <b>(143 members)</b> <b>5 of 10</b>
Shonnet Allen Rick James Lorelei Dean <b>Alternates</b> Betty Williams Janine McCully	Dan Esch Denise Esch Gregg Lester Colleen Sawyer	Chris Phelps Katherine Goheen Rod Downing Rosilyn Coulson-Teng Heather Vawter Debra Donohue
<b>Edmonton Congregation</b> <b>(275 members)</b> <b>9 of 18</b>	<b>Ribstone Congregation</b> <b>(92 members)</b> <b>4 of 6</b>	<b>Victoria Congregation</b> <b>(105 members)</b> <b>4 of 7</b>
Marian Thompson Linda Allen Deborah Greibrok Michael Bock Bonnie Bock Cheryl Donnachie Heather Barrington Margaret Levitt Steve Thompson	Darleene Skinner Wayne Skinner Leila Goheen Emelia Goheen	Carl Bolger Shirley Bolger John Canty Kelly Duff
<b>Lethbridge Congregation</b> <b>(31 members)</b> <b>2 of 2</b>	<b>Saskatoon Congregation</b> <b>(80 members)</b> <b>3 of 5</b>	
Doug MacArthur Nancy Panting	Brenda Senga Gloria Stanton Jeanny Jakobsen <b>Alternates</b> Lloyd Chase Elaine Chase	

**Total: 43 of 71 = 61%**

# Delegate Selection Process

Using the Ministerial Information System (Shelby), the number of CWM delegates was calculated according to congregation book membership as of June 1, 2021. The formula is one delegate per fifteen members with a minimum of two delegates in any congregation.

Congregations select delegates by nomination and election at a congregation business meeting. Pastors may also be authorized to select or appoint delegates in a manner appropriate to circumstances. Pastors provide a list of their congregation's delegates to the Mission Centre President.

Pastors may submit additional names of persons to serve as delegates in the fourteen days before the business meeting. These names will be presented to the business meeting and will be accepted by a vote of the business meeting as amendments to the "Report of the Credentials Committee."

Similarly, persons whose names need to be withdrawn as delegates for any reason may be dealt with by a letter from the Pastor and substitutes may be named. These changes will also be dealt with as amendments to the "Report of the Credentials Committee."

Non-resident members may be represented in a business meeting in a similar ratio from each province. Delegates may be appointed by the Mission Centre President at least 2 weeks prior to the business meeting. Non-resident members can "volunteer" to serve as delegates with notice to the Mission Centre President no later than two weeks prior to the business meeting.

CWM Staff who are available to serve as delegates must be elected by their congregation or appointed by their pastor. Staff are not ex-officio delegates.

The report naming delegates is presented to the conference by the "Credentials Committee," which consists of the Mission Centre President and the Administrative Assistant for the Mission Centre.

# Tech Tips

## Online Conference Planning – Technical Guidance

### Zoom (Video Conferencing Software)

- **Technical Requirements**

Please visit the [Zoom System Requirements page](#) to view full specs on recommended Internet speeds, hardware, sound, etc.

- **Training Resources**

Zoom has produced high-quality training resources to help you familiarize yourself with the platform if you are new to it. Please [click here](#) to view a full playlist of topics on YouTube that will be of interest to you as you get started.

- **Conference Etiquette**

1. Be mindful of disruptive sounds nearby as you address the conference. Find a quiet, well-lit space for you to join the conference. This will ensure delegates can clearly see and understand you.
2. Each user should only join on one device (unless using phone audio with video) to avoid a loud echo sound.
3. All users should be muted except the Chair and the individual addressing the conference. This is to ensure delegates can clearly see and understand the individual addressing the conference.
4. If a delegate wishes to address the conference, they should be instructed to indicate so by making it known in the chat box or by using the “raise hand” feature which will alert a moderator of their intention to address the conference.
5. If Internet speed is an issue, it is recommended that a user do one of two things to preserve the quality of the call:
  - a) Turn off their camera (this will ensure their audio can continue without disruption)
  - b) Join the video conference via Zoom and opting to dial-in for audio.

The delegate will then dial in using their telephone, enter the meeting ID number as well as their participant ID. This will marry their video feed with the audio from their phone. With the audio signal now being carried through their telephone, the user’s Internet will only need to transmit video, thus preserving the quality of their video feed.

# Tech Tips

- **Accessibility**

While Zoom does support dial-in options for those who wish to just join by audio only, this reduces overall interactivity for those doing so. As such, we recommend all delegates join via computer/smartphone/device to ensure a similar and equitable experience for all.

As opposed to an in-person conference where someone could simply raise their hand to address the conference, an e-Conference will require more time and patience to ensure people who would like to speak or share in the chat box have enough time to do so.

## **Polling**

Proven success has been found using the [PollEverywhere](#) platform. This is a paid service that allows meeting chairs to securely poll delegates in real time, easily make changes/amendments to motions. Also, results can be displayed immediately.

Delegates can participate in the following ways:

- ⇒Download the PollEv app (Android/iOS)
- ⇒Using any browser on any device connected to the Internet
- ⇒Via SMS (text message)

- **Training**

**PollEverywhere** has produced high quality training resources that will help you familiarize yourself with the platform.

[Click here](#) for a full list of video resources.

# Minutes of 2021 Business Meeting



Community of Christ

Canada West Mission Conference  
Annual Business Meeting  
held via Zoom  
Saturday, September 11, 2021

**Meeting Chair: Mission Centre President Steve Thompson**  
**Attendees: 47 delegates**

**1. Call the Conference to Order**

Opening Prayer: Kat Goheen (Vancouver)

**2. Greetings to the Conference**

- a. Apostle Art Smith
- b. Bishop of Canada Dar Shepherdson
- c. President of Seventy John Glaser

**3. Introduction to Voting System**

- a. Introduction/Training on Voting System and Processes
- b. Practice Vote(s)

**4. Conference Organization**

- a. Parliamentary Guide, **page 15** (*information only; no motion required*)
- b. Motion to approve Credentials Committee Report (with amendments if necessary), **page 16.**

*Resolved:* That the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted as circulated

**Moved: Kathy McAdam (Chilliwack), Carl Bolger (Victoria). Carried.**

- c. Motion to approve Conference Officers

*Resolved,*

- i. That the **Mission President** preside over this Conference and be authorized to complete the Conference organization.
- ii. That **Lisa Neudorf** be Secretary of the Conference.
- iii. That **Michael Mitchell** be Parliamentarian for the Conference.

Submitted by Mission President.

**Moved: Nancy Panting (Lethbridge); Rosilyn Coulson-Teng (Vancouver). Carried.**

**5. Agenda of Canada West Mission Business Meeting, September 11, 2021**

*Resolved,* That the Agenda for the Canada West Mission Business Meeting for September 11, 2021, be approved as circulated.

**Moved: Kathy McAdam (Chilliwack), Lorelei Dean (Chilliwack). Carried.**



**6. Minutes of Canada West Mission Business Meeting, September 12, 2020, see pages 20-23.**

*Resolved, That the Minutes of the Canada West Mission Business Meeting of September 12, 2020, be approved as circulated*

**Moved: Rosilyn Coulson-Teng (Vancouver), Sandra Hunter (Non-Resident). Carried.**

**Chair turned over to Apostle Art Smith.**

**7. Mission Centre Organization**

- a. Mission Centre President Team, **see page 13.**

*Resolved, That **Gwyneth J.A. Beer, Katherine Goheen, and Shannon McAdam** be sustained as Co-Presidents of the Canada West Mission Centre, and collectively form the Canada West Mission Centre President Team, effective 1 November 2021.*

Submitted by First Presidency.

**Moved: Nancy Panting (Lethbridge) Sandra Hunter (Non-Resident). Carried.**

**Chair returned to Steve Thompson.** Prayer of setting apart by Art Smith for the new Mission Centre President Team.

**Chair turned over to Apostle Art Smith.**

- b. Mission Financial Officer, **see page 14.**

*Resolved, That **Darwood Shepherdson** be sustained as Canada West Mission Centre Financial Officer.*

Submitted by First Presidency.

**Moved: Becky Middleton (Senlac). Kathy McAdam (Chilliwack). Carried.**

**Chair returned to Steve Thompson.**

- c. Mission Appointments,

*Resolved,*

i. That **Linda Klughart** be sustained as Mission Recorder.

ii. That **Sandra Rodriguez** be sustained as Privacy Officer.

Submitted by Mission President.

**Moved: Kelly Duff (Victoria). Dorothy Ungstadt (Non-Resident). Carried.**

- d. Mission Advisory Council

NOTE: Given the change in the mission centre leadership that is underway, the new Mission Centre President Team will have the opportunity to nominate new members to a new Council. The membership of a new Advisory Council can be approved by a future mission centre conference.

**8. Consideration of Priesthood Calls**

Each call will be presented to the conference by Apostle Art Smith, followed by a response from each candidate, followed by an opportunity for statements of support from members of the conference.

- a. That the call of **Katherine Goheen** (Vancouver Congregation) to the office of High Priest be supported by the Canada West Mission Conference.

**Moved: Carl Bolger (Victoria). Sandra Hunter (Non-Resident). Carried.**

- b. That the call of **Kathy McAdam** (Chilliwack Congregation) to the office of High Priest-Evangelist be supported by the Canada West Mission Conference.

**Moved: Becky Middleton (Senlac). Vern Dean (Chilliwack). Carried.**

**9. Presentation of Canadian Church Corporation 2021 Budget, see pages 25-26**

Presented for information only to show the usage of "World Wide Mission Tithes" offerings from Canadians. No motion required.

**10. Consideration of Mission Centre Financial Information**

- a. Consideration of Internal Audit Report for 2020, **see pages 27-29**

*Resolved:* That the Internal Audit Report for the year ending December 31, 2020, be received for information.

**Moved: Kathy McAdam (Chilliwack). Dorothy Ungstadt (Non-Resident). Carried.**

- b. Consideration of 2022 Proposed Budget and 2021 Budget Management, **see pages 30-33**

*Resolved:* That the Canada West Mission Centre Budget for 2022 and Budget Management for 2021 be approved as presented.

**Moved: Marian Thompson (Edmonton). Kat Goheen (Vancouver). Carried.**

**11. Consolidation of Reserve Funds into General Operating Funds**

**Whereas**, the Canada West Mission Centre currently has approximately \$179,000 in reserves for specific purposes, and,

**Whereas**, these reserves are seldom tapped for expenditures, and,

**Whereas**, the original purposes for establishing these reserves are no longer relevant or operationally beneficial to the mission centre budgeting processes and spending decisions, therefore,

**Be it Resolved**, that the current restricted reserves identified as the Wainwright Youth Fund, the Saskatchewan Fund, the Evangelism Fund, and the Mission Fund, be re-assigned as of December 31, 2021, and

**Be it Further Resolved**, that the total balances of the funds as of the end date be consolidated with the rest of the unrestricted operating funds of the Canada West Mission Centre to be invested as appropriate by the Mission Centre Financial Officer, and to be budgeted for mission centre operating purposes as approved by the annual mission centre conference.

**Moved: Rod Downing (Vancouver). Dorothy Ungstadt (Non-Resident). Carried.**

**12. Acknowledgement of Reports to the Conference:**

- a. Mission Centre President – **see pages 34-35**
- b. Administrative Assistant to the Mission Centre President – **see page 36**
- c. Mission Centre Financial Officer – **see page 37**
- d. Creating Connection Director – **see pages 38-39**
- e. Camping and Retreat Specialist – **see pages 41-42**
- f. Canadian Peace and Justice Committee – **see page 43**
- g. Mission Centre Historian – **see pages 44-46**
- h. Samish Island Campground – **see page 47**
- i. Hills of Peace Campground – **see page 48**

13. Motion for appreciation of thanks to Steve Thompson for his service as Mission Centre President.

**Moved: Carl Bolger. Seconded by many. Carried.**

**14. Adjournment**

Closing Prayer: Kathy McAdam

*“The first service one owes to others in a community involves listening to them. Just as our love for God begins with listening to God’s Word, the beginning of love for others is learning to listen to them. God’s love for us is shown by the fact that God not only gives God’s Word, but also lends us God’s ear. . . . We do God’s work for our brothers and sisters when we learn to listen to them.”*

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

# Canadian Church Corporation 2022 Budget

## Community of Christ

Worldwide Mission Budget, funded by Canada  
Operating Budget to Actual for June 30, 2022

	CANADIAN DOLLARS		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	% BUDGET
<b>Income/Expense Summary</b>			
Total Income	1,349,333	(63,702)	-5%
WMT - Use Where Needed Most	780,000	273,674	35%
WMT - Abolish Poverty/End suffering	66,667	30,263	45%
Designated Gifts			
Other Income	502,667	(367,639)	-73%
Total Expense	1,349,333	651,994	48%
Net Income/(Loss)	-	(715,696)	
<b>Income/Expense Details by Functional Area</b>			
<b>FIELD MINISTRIES</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Worldwide Mission Tithes (WMT)			
WMT not including Canada			
WMT Canada Only	185,243	64,995	35%
Field Designated Gifts			
Field Other Income			
Morden Missionary Fund			
Korea Support			
Total Field Ministries Income	185,243	64,995	35%
<b>Expense</b>			
Multination Mission Fields (including C12)	185,243	88,395	48%
West, South & East Africa Mission Field			
Caribbean & Mexico-Texas Field (See Canada below)	159,556	76,138	
Central-South America Mission Field			
Eurasia Mission Field			
Pacifikasia Mission Field			
Central & West Africa & South Central Asia Mission Fields	25,687	12,257	
Multination Field Support			
USA Mission Fields (including C12)			
Central USA Mission Field			
North Central USA Mission Field			
Northeast USA Mission Field			
South Central USA Mission Field			
Southeast USA Mission Field			
Western USA Mission Field			
USA Field support			
Innovative Expressions			
Rounding			
Field Support			
Armed Forces Ministry			
Director of Field Ministries Support (contingency)			
Exchange Rate			
High Priest Quorum			
International Leadership Development			
International Travel			
Multination Envelopes			
Presidents of Seventy Support			
World Service Corps			
World Church Leadership (without C12)			
Total Field Ministries Expense	185,243	88,395	48%
Field Ministries Net Income/(Loss)	-	(23,400)	

NOTES

Canada, Caribbean, and Mexico

Philippines

**Community of Christ**

Worldwide Mission Budget, funded by Canada  
Operating Budget to Actual for June 30, 2022

	CANADIAN DOLLARS		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	% BUDGET
<b>ABOLISH POVERTY-END SUFFERING (AP / ES)</b>			
Income			
Worldwide Mission Tithes (WMT)			
Abolish Poverty-End Suffering not incl Canada			
Abolish Poverty-End Suffering Canada only	66,667	30,263	45%
WMT not including Canada			
AP / ES Designated Gifts			
AP / ES Other Income			
<b>Total Abolish Poverty-End Suffering Income</b>	<b>66,667</b>	<b>30,263</b>	<b>45%</b>
Expense			
Systemic Change	33,333	15,906	48%
Chattanooga	-		
International Leadership Development	-		
Multination MCFOs	33,333	15,906	
World Hunger Grants	-		
Direct Aid - Oblation	33,333	3,900	12%
<b>Total Abolish Poverty-End Suffering Expense</b>	<b>66,667</b>	<b>19,806</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Abolish Poverty-End Suffering Net Income/(Loss)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,457</b>	
<b>CANADIAN MISSION</b>			
Income			
WMT Canada Only	84,465	29,636	35%
Canadian Other Income			
Canadian Mission Endowment	124,000	62,000	50%
Accounting & Investing Fees	186,667	(524,900)	-281%
<b>Total Canadian Mission Income</b>	<b>395,132</b>	<b>(433,264)</b>	<b>-110%</b>
Expense			
Canada Mission Field	134,603	48,585	36%
Office Support in Canada	241,862	97,756	40%
Vehicles for Canada	18,667	12,343	66%
Rounding			
<b>Total Canadian Mission Expense</b>	<b>395,132</b>	<b>158,684</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Canadian Mission Net Income/(Loss)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(591,948)</b>	
<b>DISCIPLESHIP FORMATION</b>			
Income			
Worldwide Mission Tithes (WMT)			
WMT not including Canada			
WMT Canada Only	100,000	35,086	35%
Discipleship Formation Other Income			
<b>Total Discipleship Formation Income</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>35,086</b>	<b>35%</b>
Expense			
Discipleship and Priesthood			
Spiritual Formation and Blessing Ministries			
Dome and Spire			
Music and Fine Arts			
Presiding Evangelist Office			
Spiritual Formation			
Temple Ministries			
Worship			
Rounding			

NOTES

Canadian support

earning -23.5% versus 3% budgeted  
(large unrealized loss in Q1 & Q2)

**Community of Christ**

Worldwide Mission Budget, funded by Canada  
Operating Budget to Actual for June 30, 2022

	CANADIAN DOLLARS		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	% BUDGET
	Leadership Development and Seminary	100,000	-
Total Discipleship Formation Expense	100,000	-	0%
Discipleship Formation Net Income/(Loss)	-	35,086	
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
Income			
Worldwide Mission Tithes (WMT)			
WMT not including Canada			
WMT Canada Only	410,292	143,957	35%
Communications Other Income			
Canadian Communication Endowment	99,000	48,761	49%
Total Communications Income	509,292	192,718	38%
Expense			
Communications	99,000	48,761	49%
Translations	410,292	195,786	48%
Total Communications Expense	509,292	244,547	48%
Communications Net Income/(Loss)	-	(51,829)	
<b>HERALD HOUSE</b>			
Income			
Herald Other Income			
Herald House Sales			
Herald Magazine Subscriptions			
Total Herald House Income			
Expense			
Herald House Customer Service			
Herald Magazine Production			
Hospitality and Services			
Total Herald House Expense			
Herald House Net Income/(Loss)			-
<b>TEMPLE COMPLEX</b>			
Income			
Worldwide Mission Tithes (WMT)			
WMT not including Canada			
Temple Complex Other Income			
Canadian Temple Endowment	93,000	46,500	50%
Rental Income			
Total Temple Complex Income	93,000	46,500	50%
Expense			
Facilities	93,000	46,500	50%
Improvement and Modernization			
Meeting and Event Support			
Peace Award			
Property Insurance			
Security			
Rounding			
Total Temple Complex Expense	93,000	46,500	50%
Temple Complex Net Income/(Loss)	-	-	

**NOTES**

payments in Jul/Oct/Dec

**Community of Christ**

Worldwide Mission Budget, funded by Canada  
 Operating Budget to Actual for June 30, 2022

	CANADIAN DOLLARS		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	% BUDGET
<b>HISTORIC SITES</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Historic Sites Other Income			
CCHSF Support			
Preservation Fees			
Kirtland			
Nauvoo			
Gift Shops			
Kirtland			
Nauvoo			
Rental Income			
Kirtland			
Nauvoo			
Historic Sites Contributions			
<b>Total Historic Sites Income</b>			
<b>Expense</b>			
Heritage Plaza			
Kirtland			
Liberty Hall			
Nauvoo			
Plano			
Property Insurance			
<b>Total Historic Sites Expense</b>			
<b>Historic Sites Net Income/(Loss)</b>			-
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Worldwide Mission Tithes (WMT)			
WMT not including Canada			
Support Services Other Income			
<b>Total Support Services Income</b>			
<b>Expense</b>			
Archives and Records			
Archives			
Library			
Membership Records			
Oral History			
Records Management			
Human Resources			
Human Resources Team			
Moving and Relocation			
Staff Appreciation			
Mission Funding			
Office Support			
Centralized Office Support			
Contributions and Memberships			
First Presidency Office and World Church Teams			
Presiding Bishopric Office			
Quorum Support			
Information Technology			
Vehicles			

NOTES

**Community of Christ**

Worldwide Mission Budget, funded by Canada  
 Operating Budget to Actual for June 30, 2022

	CANADIAN DOLLARS		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	% BUDGET
	<b>Rounding</b>		
<b>Total Support Services Expense</b>			
<b>Support Services Net Income/(Loss)</b>			-
<b>BUSINESS SERVICES</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Worldwide Mission Tithes (WMT)			
WMT not including Canada			
Business Services Other Income			
Accounting and Investing Fees			
Mission Centers/Campgrounds Audits			
Risk Program Administration (Legal/Risk Services)			
Rounding			
<b>Total Business Services Income</b>	-	-	
<b>Expense</b>			
Audit and World Church Finance Board			
Finance Boards & Committees (WCFB/IC/IREAT)			
Independent Audit Fee			
Internal Audit			
Fiscal Services			
Insurance	-	94,062	
Bank Fees			
Office of General Counsel and Risk Management			
Office of General Counsel			
Risk Management			
Rounding			
<b>Total Business Services Expense</b>	-	94,062	
<b>Business Services Net Income/(Loss)</b>	-	(94,062)	
<b>Total Income</b>	1,349,333	(63,702)	-5%
<b>Total Expense</b>	1,349,333	651,994	48%
<b>Net Income/(Loss)</b>	-	(715,696)	

NOTES

insurance premiums/claims



# 2021 Unaudited Financial Report

**CANADA WEST MISSION CENTRE**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at December 31, 2021 and 2020**

	<u>2021 Unaudited</u>		<u>2020 Audited</u>	
<b><u>Assets</u></b>				
Cash and Investments				
CIBC	\$ 164,518.82		\$ 81,296.93	
Wood Gundy	393,136.03		184,700.36	
CI Investments	57,938.40	\$ 615,593.25	55,482.66	\$ 321,479.95
Accounts Receivable				
Community of Christ Canada (2021)/HOP(2020)	7,150.00		1,478.00	
GST Refund	-	7,150.00	-	1,478.00
Fixed Assets				
Vehicles	-		22,925.02	
Accumulated Depreciation	-	-	(22,925.02)	-
		<u>\$ 622,743.25</u>		<u>\$ 322,957.95</u>
<b><u>Liabilities and Net Worth</u></b>				
Accounts Payable				
Samish Island	\$ 62,147.29		\$ 8,390.39	
Hills of Peace	8,064.41	\$ 70,211.70	5,508.29	\$ 13,898.68
Net Assets				
Operating Fund	552,531.55		130,414.39	
Youth Ministries	-		33,649.17	
Evangelism Ministry	-		71,188.86	
Missional Ministries	-		19,749.46	
Saskatchewan Area Fund	-	552,531.55	54,057.39	309,059.27
		<u>\$ 622,743.25</u>		<u>\$ 322,957.95</u>

**CANADA WEST MISSION CENTRE**  
**Statement of Activities (Unaudited)**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2021**

**Income**

Congregational Support		\$ 119,905.83	
Contributions		45,238.53	
Mission Program Registrations		1,141.21	
Meadow Ridge Contribution from Sale		200,000.00	
Transfer from Investments		10,891.41	
Proceeds from Sale of Mission Vehicle		11,500.00	\$ 388,676.98

**Expense**

Programs			
Mission Administration	\$ 11,223.76		
Shared Mission Program	56,721.00		
Shared Canada Revitalization	79,774.39		
Pastoral	-		
Mission Programs	-	147,719.15	
Administration			
Rentals	825.00		
Insurance	2,686.67		
Computer Software	-		
Bank Charges	158.12		
Depreciation Expense	-		
Contract Services	13,042.28	16,712.07	164,431.22

Net Income		224,245.76
Operating Fund Balance January 1		352,301.37
Prior Years Adjustment		(24,015.58)
Operating Fund Balance December 31		\$ 552,531.55

# Proposed 2023 Budget and 2022 Budget Management

## We share a Mission and a Purpose

Consistent with the Mission 2022 budget we continue to work collaboratively and collectively to provide opportunities to gather, share and grow.

Since 2020 we have had the prolonged impact of the COVID19 Pandemic on our activities and operations. Early on much of the activities switched to online and we did not hold in-person meetings or activities. In the first part of 2022 and continuing over the summer we have started to hold regular activities again with precautions but this has meant much of our budget activity was still affected.

Some notable activities which restarted as in-person so far this year are youth camps and reunions at both Hills of Peace and Samish Campgrounds. Reggie records indicate total registrations for the 2022 Hills of Peace Reunion were 31 (\$10,160 in registration revenue) and for Samish Island were 94 (\$25,221 in registration revenue). CWM 2022 Youth Camp at Hills of Peace had 35 campers and staff. CWM 2022 Junior Camp was cancelled due to low registrations and no information is currently available for Samish Island Youth Camps.

To provide a full year of support we propose a 2023 budget of \$366,000 as follows (with comparatives to 2022 approved budgets).

- Mission operations \$80,000 (\$60,000 in 2022) – Increase in mission administration and contract services.
- Mission initiatives \$30,000 (\$74,000 in 2022) – Reduction in program administration.
- Canadian strategies project \$0 (\$24,000 in 2022) – Project ended.
- Revitalization \$56,000 (\$16,000 in 2022) – Project cost sharing for Creating Connections.
- Programs/activities/events \$169,000 (\$210,000 in 2022) – Reduced only for one time advance to Hills of Peace and Samish Island Campgrounds.
- Subsidies for youth camping \$31,000 (\$31,000 in 2022) – Same as 2022.
- Total 2022 draft budget of \$366,000 (\$415,000\* in 2022) – Reduction of \$49,000.

*\*Corrected amount for 2022 budget to include \$31,000 youth subsidy.*

Further, we propose underwriting this sustainable budget with the following funding for a total of \$366,000 in 2023.

- Support for operations \$180,000 (\$190,000 in 2022) – Investment income not included as earnings fluctuate.  
\$115,000 from congregational support (\$115,000 in 2022)  
\$65,000 from general contributions from Individuals (\$65,000 in 2022)  
\$0 from investment returns (\$10,000 in 2022)
- Registration fees for programs/activities/events \$110,000 (\$139,000 in 2022) – 65% cost recovery for reunions and youth camps, 100% cost recovery for other activities.
- Reserve transfer of \$76,000 (\$86,000 in 2022) – Reduction in annual reserve transfer dependence. Includes \$31,000 subsidies for youth camping.
- Total 2022 budget funding \$366,000 (\$415,000\* in 2022) – Reduction of \$49,000.

*\*Corrected amount to include \$31,000 youth subsidy.*

As we continue to manage our assets and resources of investments, camps, and people we estimate we will have approximately \$472,056 in savings or investments at the start of 2023. With the proposed 2023 budget we should have approximately \$396,056 available at the end of 2023. There will be a draw on funds of \$76,000 to balance the proposed 2023 budget. All funds are now unrestricted reserves as we consolidated all reserves with a motion at the 2021 annual business meeting.

We have 2 camp boards (Samish and Hills of Peace), 11 congregations and 4 mission staff (1 paid, 1 contract and 3 volunteer), and currently we still have a restricted minimum balance of \$228,000 under the World Church minimum balance policy. In 2022 we approved an advance of \$50,000 for each Campground Board (Hills of Peace and Samish Island) as CWM 2022 program support to ensure each Campground had cashflow support. Of the \$100,000 advanced, unused funds estimated at \$40,000 will carry over to 2023.

Our current financial management philosophy and principles are as follows.

- we contribute corporately through congregations and we make donations individually,
- we support and subsidize only youth who cannot pay,
- we continue to create innovative and flexible arrangements to meet changing needs as in COVID19 and virtual gatherings, but are moving to restart in person activities and gatherings,
- we work with limited resources, and we manage our funds to keep our program and administrative costs minimal, and
- we leverage technology to bridge distances and minimize costs

Our shared goal remains to be sustainable as a Mission. In 2023 and going forward we propose the following.

- we need to annually balance our budget,
- we need to reduce reliance on reserves to minimal support,
- we need to increase congregation support in 2023 and potentially more in the future,
- we need to increase individual contributions to be able to continue programs which both meet needs and cover cost
- we need to continue to price registration fees for programs, activities, and events to cover the costs (2023 is proposed to be 65% cost recovery), and
- we need to seek alternative funding – likely in the form of grants or alternate revenues.

Therefore, we recommend approval for a 2023 Mission budget of \$366,000.

A copy of the detailed proposed 2023 draft budget is attached.

Attached Schedule is part of this draft budget presentation.

	<b>Approved Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Description</b>		
<b>STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Congregational Support	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 115,000.00
Contributions	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
Earnings on Investments	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Mission Program Registrations	\$ 139,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
Transfer from Investments	\$ 86,000.00	\$ 76,000.00
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 415,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 366,000.00</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
<b>Programs</b>		
Mission Administration	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Contract Services	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Pastoral	\$ -	\$ -
Personnel Development	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Postage and Shipping	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Photo Copying/Printing	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Telephone	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Office Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Internet	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Computer Software	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Bank Charges	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Newsletter	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Other	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Rentals	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Insurance	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
GST	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Shared Mission Program	\$ 74,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Canadian Strategies Project	\$ 24,000.00	\$ -
Shared Canada Revitalization Program	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 56,000.00
Subsidies for Youth Camping	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00
Mission Programs	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 169,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 415,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 366,000.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Subsidy for Youth Camping included in Reserve Transfers		

# Mission Centre President Team Report

From your Mission Centre President Team

Our theme for conference this year of “Growing Together” is one we three have been living for the past year as we’ve been on this journey of being your volunteer Mission Centre Co-Presidents. Our relationships with each other have deepened and grown as we’ve learned how to work collaboratively and cooperatively. Our relationships with you have also deepened and grown as we’ve learned what matters most to you and what beautiful gifts each of you have to offer.

Much has changed over the past year, and yet our mission has remained clear – to serve Christ’s mission in Canada West. As your mission centre co-presidents we have entered into a relationship with an advisory circle taken from a cross-section of ages and locations across all provinces. And each month, what was traditionally a staff meeting has grown to include a larger invitation to this advisory circle. Listening to their thoughts and concerns as well as what our staff have shared has helped us make decisions with both collaboration and confidence.

Things like our guidance for in-person gatherings in light of Covid-19, and the format for this year’s conference, were results of the collaboration with that advisory circle. As you can imagine, it’s not always easy to make decisions and see paths forward for what is a geographically and culturally diverse section of Canada. We have sought through spiritual practice and deep listening to find and seek these paths for all of us.

One of our first adventures as a team was Kat and Shannon traveling to Winnipeg with Dar and Steve. We were there to be support as the Winnipeg congregation voted to both sell their building and dissolve the congregation. This change has freed the Winnipeg saints to meet less formally and to celebrate retirements of faithful priesthood members. With joy and generosity through their building sale they’ve been able to contribute to the wider church financial goals as well. And their hymn books are in the hands of Gwyn who is making them available to non-resident members who may not have had the opportunity to have a new hymn book.

Gwyn made an epic journey from one end of our mission centre to the other by car in late spring! She retrieved some treasures from Winnipeg had visits with the members there, and also visited various congregations and members along the way.

Kat traveled to Saskatoon to assist with their business meeting where they voted to sell their building and discern what’s next as their congregation changes and grows together. Kat also took a leadership role in the Spiritual Retreat at Hills of Peace, bringing ministry to those who gathered.

Kat also led a virtual mini retreat for Pastors in January to help fill their cups and prepare for the new year as essential leaders. We are so grateful for the service and dedication of pastors and pastor teams across the mission centre whose love for their congregations is evident in the caring and compassionate leadership they provide.

As a response to the growing awareness amongst many congregations that their aging buildings may no longer serve their mission, Kat, Chris Phelps (Vancouver co-pastor), and Doug Hayden (Calgary Pastor) created the “Love it or List it” online event. This told the story of Calgary’s journey to their new building, and allowed for many to see what is possible when we take the time to discern together in congregations “what’s next”. This will likely be a topic we continue to revisit as many congregations are finding new ways to live their mission.

Looking to the future, we see that our mission centre will keep growing and changing together. Opportunities we see include the chance for young leaders to receive mentoring and encouragement as they are the future of leadership in Community of Christ, as well as chances for congregations to network and connect on common passions and complimentary gifts.

It’s only from the perspective of being in this role that we can see just how much more than just the sum of our parts we are when we come together as a Mission Centre. The more we can unite all of you to grow together as one mission centre – and with virtual conferencing technology we have more opportunities to do so – the more we can all grow together in following Christ’s mission.

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”*

**Margaret Mead**

**Yours in Christ,  
Gwyn, Kat and Shannon**  
gwyn@communityofchrist.ca  
kat@communityofchrist.ca  
smcadam@communityofchrist.ca



# Administrative Assistant Report

This year has offered many changes! First, the news about sustaining a new Mission Centre President Team conformed by three women who decided to volunteer their time and skills to continue this journey of *Growing Together* with the Canada West Mission Centre. Secondly, when Lisa Neudorf stepped away from her role as Gathering Ministries coordinator and I temporarily took over some of her activities, such as opening registration for Camps and Retreats in Reggie, processing payments and refunds through Shopify, sending and monitoring promotional emails regarding to these events. Finally, when after a long discussion, Co-presidents, CWM staff, pastors and other members took the decision of having a hybrid (in-person with online options) conference for this year. I look forward to a brilliant future for the Canada West Mission Centre!

Among the updates regarding our CWM communication channels are the following:  
(as of August 2022)

## 1. Mailchimp

Audience: 380 Subscribers to our newsletter "The Weekly Wire"

Audience Performance:

- Average Open Rate: 36.2% email campaigns opened
- Average Click Rate: 5.5% clicks on the email campaigns

### Email Marketing Engagement:

59%	<b>Often</b> Percentage of subscribers who are highly engaged and often open and click on emails.
12%	<b>Sometimes</b> Percentage of subscribers who are moderately engaged and sometimes open and click on emails.
27%	<b>Rarely</b> Percentage of subscribers who are not very engaged and rarely open and click on emails.

### Top Email Clients:

Desktop	61%	Mobile	39%
Gmail	32.5%	iPhone	28.5%
Apple Mail	12.9%	Android WebView	9.8%
Yahoo Mail	4.3%	Chrome Mobile	0.6%
Outlook	4%		
Windows Live Mail	2.8%		

### Top Locations:

	Canada	72.6%
	USA	9.2%
	Other	0.8%

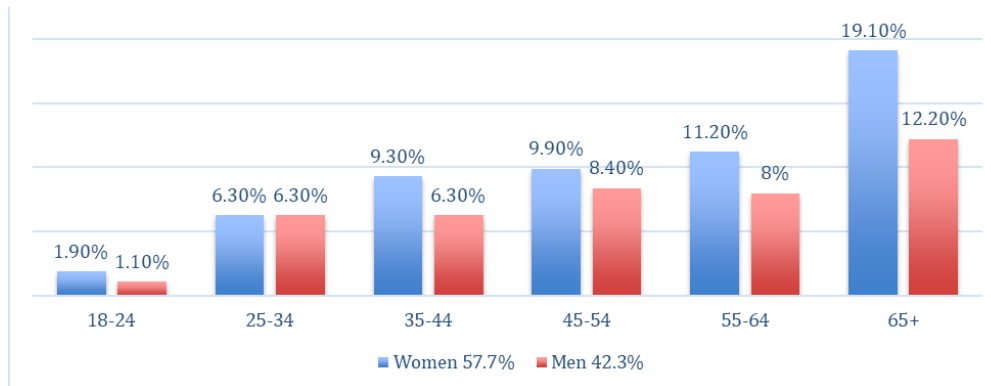


## 2. Facebook CofChristCWM

Page Reach: 200 people

Page Likes: 552

Percentage of followers by age and gender:



Top 10 cities who follow CWM Facebook page:

Edmonton, AB, Canada	Chilliwack, BC, Canada
Calgary, AB, Canada	Blue Springs, MO
Independence, MO, USA	Kansas City, MO
Saskatoon, SK, Canada	Sydney, NSW, Australia
Chauvin, AB, Canada	Vancouver, BC, Canada

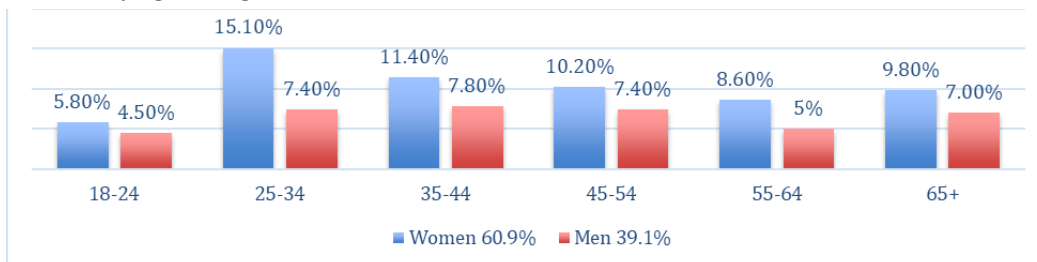
## 3. Instagram @cofchristcwm

Profile Reach: 137 accounts

Total Followers: 371

Percentage of followers by gender: Women 60.7% and Men 39.2%

Percentage of followers by age and gender:



Top 5 cities who follow us: Calgary, Independence, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Chilliwack.

## 4. Twitter

Total Followers: 141

Total Tweets: 108 since January 2022

Tweet Impressions: 482

Profile Visits: 213

Lastly, I will conclude with an invitation to sign up for our newsletter (if you haven't already done so) and stay in the loop about what's happening in your Mission Centre! [Click here to visit the CWM Website.](#)

**Sandra Rodriguez** [sandra@communityofchrist.ca](mailto:sandra@communityofchrist.ca)

Administrative Assistant

# Creating Connection Director Report

## **Creating Connection Report by Debra Donohue, Creating Connection Director CWM**

For the first 9 months of this reporting period Creating Connection meetups and events continued to be online only due to Covid-19.

### **Coffee and Conversation**

In May we held our first in-person Coffee and Conversation group since March of 2020. Although the online group has been very successful, I will only be hosting the in-person Coffee and Conversation as of September. If anyone is interested in hosting the online group, (It could be weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly) please reach out to Debra.

### **An Afternoon of Nurturing Spirit**

An Afternoon of Nurturing Spirit is a weekly online program which features guests who teach various spiritual, health and healing, and wellness practices. I have three co-hosts who are all able to host the program if I am not available. None of these co-hosts are Community of Christ members. This fall we are starting an hour later at 4pm pacific and 5pm mountain, to make it easier for western Canadians who work in the daytime to attend.

### **Connection Book Club**

Our Book Club takes place every other month and has been hosted by Kelly Duff from the Victoria congregation. Kelly is stepping down, so we're looking for a new host. The host selects the books, and the questions for discussion are easy to access. I will work with the new person to train as a host and get you up to speed with the technology we use, ZOOM. If you love to read and would like more information about hosting the book club, please connect with me.

### **Satsang: Singing into Silence**

This singing, chanting and meditative music experience is led by Vickie and Doug MacArthur from Lethbridge. In September of 2021 Vickie was in a serious car accident and has only recently resumed leading some sessions with us. Satsang will return on Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm pacific, 7pm mountain. I hope you'll join us for a wonderful evening of singing, chanting, and stories, and in welcoming Vickie back after her injury.

### **'Release Your Inner Writer' Weekly Writing Group**

This weekly online group began April 4<sup>th</sup> and was hosted by Alyona Brivkina. In this 60-minute session, writers are given a writing prompt, time to write, and discuss or share what they wrote. Alyona has started a new group so we're looking for someone to take her place as host of Release Your Inner Writer. Could it be you?

### **The Coaching Room: Life Coaching**

Life Coaching is Alyona's passion, so she now leads this group who meet weekly on Thursdays at 5pm pacific, 6pm mountain online. Attendance has been great and it is clear that pursuing her passion was the right move to make.

### **Nature and Nurture in-person retreat at Samish Island June 3-5, 2022**

This was our first in-person retreat in over 2 years. Nature and Nurture included activities like a Forrest Bath, Yoga, Qui Gong, Dancing the Labyrinth, Blue Mind Water, Meaningful Conversation, and more. 30% of our attendees were from the Creating Connection program and had no prior connection to Community of Christ or Samish Island Campground.

## Samish Reunion

At Samish reunion I had a Creating Connection table with lots of information about my programs and our upcoming week in Calgary, (more on this below). I'm happy to share that Chilliwack will also be holding a Creating Connection week, and we have two more cities interested!

## Upcoming Events

### Creating Connection week in Calgary September 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>

My week in Calgary includes three Coffee and Conversation sessions, a Community Labyrinth Walk, a Creating Connection information night called 'Meet and Greet' and a weekend retreat, all open to the public. Go to [www.NurturingSpirit.CreatingConnection.ca](http://www.NurturingSpirit.CreatingConnection.ca) to see all the details of the retreat and to <https://www.meetup.com/creating-connection-calgary/events/> to see the entire week of activities.

### 'Listening with Love' retreat at Samish Island October 21-23

Special guests Vickie MacArthur and Jonathan Prescott lead this Buddhist style retreat. In this weekend retreat of deep reflective listening, we'll explore how to listen in a way that integrates body, mind, and heart, into a loving and compassionate whole. This retreat calls upon diverse wisdom traditions and is open to all levels of experience.

*If you're interested in hosting any of these groups, or something new, either online or in-person, or would like to bring our Creating Connection week to your community, please contact me, [debra@creatingconnection.ca](mailto:debra@creatingconnection.ca)*

## Upcoming Eventsz

September 14 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am Coffee and Conversation @ Kawa Espresso Bar, Calgary
	6:00pm Community Labyrinth Walk @ Silver Springs, Calgary
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am Coffee and Conversation @ Kawa Espresso Bar, Calgary
	7:00pm Meet and Greet w/Creating Connection Hosts at the Calgary church
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm Taste of Nurturing Spirit Retreat at the Calgary church
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am Taste of Nurturing Spirit Retreat at the Calgary church
September 19 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm Coffee and Conversation @ Kawa Espresso Bar, Calgary
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	4pm pdt, 5pm mdt An Afternoon of Nurturing Spirit online "The Seasonal Wheel: The Rhythm of Giving and Receiving"
September 29 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am in-person Coffee and Conversation Tim Hortons 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave at Renfrew Vancouver
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	4pm pdt, 5pm mdt An Afternoon of Nurturing Spirit online with Vickie MacArthur "The Silent Joy of a Butterfly"
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am in-person Coffee and Conversation Tim Hortons 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave at Renfrew Vancouver
October 21-23	'Listening with Love' retreat at Samish Island w/Vickie MacArthur & Jonathan Prescott
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am in-person Coffee and Conversation Tim Hortons 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave at Renfrew Vancouver
November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	4pm pdt, 5pm mdt An Afternoon of Nurturing Spirit online with Vickie MacArthur "How to Breathe in a Pandemic"
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	6pm pdt, 7pm mdt online Satsang Singing into Silence w/Doug & Vickie MacArthur

**Debra Donohue**

Creating Connection Director Canada West

[debra@creatingconnection.ca](mailto:debra@creatingconnection.ca)

1-877-411-2632 ext 4

# Canadian Peace / Justice Committee - June 2022 Report

The Committee was formed in April, 2007, primarily to support local congregations in our attempts to be “. . . dedicated to the pursuit of peace.” Activities were again hampered because: (a) the Chair’s time was spent on the Climate Change subcommittee; and (b) we feel we have hit the limit of available volunteer time for subcommittees.

## **I. ACTIONS THIS YEAR.**

### **Continued our Climate Change Crisis Subcommittee.**

Our primary efforts have been to feed into The North American Climate Justice Team. Originally intended to create an Oct. 2020 Colloquy, the team had to pivot and now has an ongoing webinar series that includes world-class scientists and others with a deep and wide background on key topics.

### **Create Social Media Resources.**

We have created a Facebook Page and will continue to experiment with its possibilities. Thanks, Sariah and Betty! We also want to create podcasts and webcasts, to expand our reach.

### **Maintained Our Current Projects and Our Peace / Justice Website.**

While not an emphasis this year we have continued support for such endeavours as:

**Indigenous Relations:** We have some key resources, thanks to Barb Oldale’s address at the CWM 2017 Mission Conference, and also Tracy Smith. This is only a start – contact us if interested in helping. It has been updated for the recent discovery of child & unmarked graves.

**Resources to Develop Healthy Relations with our Muslim Community:** This is centered on a hopeful, nonviolent strategy of trying to strengthen the reasonable voices within our own community, within the Muslim community and among society in general. It includes the opportunity for congregations to engage with their local Muslim community, & has been updated due to recent events.

**Buying Fair Trade** coffee where possible, which supports the “Abolish Poverty” initiative;

**Expanding the church’s Canadian Peace / Justice website.** We added a statement on the war in Ukraine. Overall, while our website is still fairly skeletal, if you see an unfilled area where you would like to help - [we would love to hear from you!](#)

### **Phase II - Subcommittees.**

In 2014 we transitioned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase – creating **subcommittees** - to raise up and provide resources for those Canadian-specific issues that call us via recent inspired counsel to courageously challenge and help transform societal trends that diminish God’s creation. Further topics include the following. If interested in any topic, please contact a committee member:

- **Mental Health & Eliminating Stigma**
- **Justice: Restorative not Punitive;**
- **Foreign Aid, no strings attached; etc;**
- **Inter-religious Relations;**
- **Human Trafficking close to your Church;**
- **Eco. Concerns: Water, GMOs, etc.**
- **Child Poverty; . . .Others?**

In appreciation and support,

**The Canadian Peace / Justice Committee**

**Anna Jean Bradley** - Canada East / **Bryce Taylor** - Canada East

**Sariah Middleton** - Canada East / **Steve Northey** - Canada East

**Betty Williams** - Canada West / **Don McLeod** - Canada West

**Rod Downing** - Canada West, Chair [rdowning94@shaw.ca](mailto:rdowning94@shaw.ca) 604-535-6550

# Samish Island Campground Report

Greetings, friends!

I would like to update you on the latest happenings on our beloved campgrounds over the last couple of weeks:

The week before last we had Camp Mungai and Camp Atsaken together as a combined camp for ages 8-14, with 34 campers and 14 staff. There were crafts and evening games and a cookout at the lower campfire site (with some nice solar powered lighting on the path, by the way....☺) They got to meet with a Taylor Shellfish representative for a field trip out onto the oyster beds one day, and the older kids enjoyed sleeping out under the stars on the last night. It was a great group of kids, and despite an unfortunate outbreak of covid the day before camp was over, fun was had by all!

During the kids' camp, we were alerted to an electrical issue in cabin B11, one of our new upgrades, with power output fading to 50% when more than one outlet was being used to power fans. After multiple attempts to diagnose the issue in consultation with Dwayne Campbell, Larry Dobson, Bill Wragge, and Barry Lewis, Barry decided to make a trip to Samish over last weekend in an effort to properly diagnose the issue. I am forwarding his summary to you in a separate email. Suffice it to say, we are lucky we didn't have a fire...

This last week was GPNW Adult Reunion, with about 30 participants. Because of the smaller numbers, they opted to use the dining hall east end for their gatherings and worships. Another issue resurfaced from earlier in the camping season, which involves our lack of working microphones. Rick Naten of the Woodland Park congregation in GPNW will be submitting recommendations for augmenting/upgrading our AV equipment, and considering we are a retreat center, we may want to consider making this purchase in time for the 2023 camping season.

This weekend, we hosted a Cocaine Anonymous group that is brand new to Samish. It was a family camping event with over 80 participants. They opted out of food service and cooked for themselves outside, and used the upper fire pit for a gathering space. They loved our horseshoe pits as they are serious horseshoe players, with tournaments held every year at these events. This group blew everyone else out of the water with their stellar cleanup of the E cabins, rustics, and 2 bathhouses. Our own CofC people could learn a thing or two from these guys. They are interested in returning next year!

Shu (Josh) Cravy volunteered their time last Wednesday through Friday to help sand, primer, and paint the south facing walls of cabins B2 and B10. The siding has seen better days, but we have laid down enough protective layers of paint to limp it along until we can reside...next year? The year after?

Today I am meeting with Greg Williams, newly appointed rustic upgrade "foreman", to begin planning and coordinating the next wave of upgrades. I will keep you apprised of our progress.

May you each be blessed this week with moments of joy and meaningful connection with those around you.

**Christine Campbell**  
Camp Manager  
Samish Island Campground and Retreat Center

# Hills of Peace Campground Committee Report

We had a busy year with completion of significant maintenance and repairs, an external rental and resuming the camps.

Highlights include:

## Maintenance & Repairs

- Craft Shack: major repairs with new windows, doors, interior renovations and new ramp,
- Cabins: 3 new cabins with siding and tin roofs, new decks and steps; 3 cabins renovated with repaired decks and steps, other cabin decks and steps replaced or repaired as needed,
- Main Chapel: tin roof,
- Dining Hall: tin roof, repair of entrance, and back ramp replaced,
- Pump House: siding and tin roof, and
- House: siding and shingle repair.

## External Rentals

- Lord of the Nations church group with about 100 campers, some overnight, July 31 - Aug 1st, and
- Hunting Party - ongoing fall rental, donation based.

## Camps

- Offered full range of camps and retreats with spiritual retreat, Junior, senior and family camps and men's spiritual retreat,
- Work Camp in June was well attended, to prepare camp for camping season, and for an in-person (some dial ins) board meeting,
- Junior camp was cancelled due to low registration, and overall low registration, which was expected and probably a good thing with ongoing Covid concerns.

## Meetings & Leadership

Four regular board meetings were held, plus recruitment sub committee meetings, the AGM and 1st board meeting in August, and 2 board members reached end of term so stepped down and one new board member was elected at the AGM, and new leadership occurred at the Mission President level with CWM President Reps and a new board president.

## Challenges/Accomplishments

- Camps - Getting camps up and running after a long Covid hiatus such as obtaining experienced cooks. Family camp was used as a training opportunity for new cooking staff,
- Lifeguards - To the credit of board members and camp directors life guards were eventually obtained for all camps in the midst of scarcity of lifeguards,
- Camp Caretaker - Our long time caretaker moved out of province and after a search, we have a temporary contract caretaker in place. We are in search of a more permanent arrangement.

This is submitted as my report.

**Noela Inions**, President, Hills of Peace Campground Board of Directors

# Chilliwack Congregation Report 2022

The Chilliwack Congregation has been active with services being held on most Sundays in our church building since opening up after Covid. We have also been running zoom hybrid services and are working at resolving issues. The congregation has also started to hold social activities. Chilliwack hosted a CWM Christmas Eve service on Zoom and while not without issues, it was our first shared hybrid service and we learned a lot from it.

We have been doing maintenance on our building. Bigger projects include: working on upgrading the fire alarm, the security systems, as well as the buildings furnace. In the spring of 2022 with some of the money gifted to us from the Meadow Ridge Congregation when they closed, we upgraded our stove. It was a new to us, original to our building, 2 burner with a grill and now we have to a newer used stove with 6 burners with a smaller grill. It will make hosting food related events easy.

Chilliwack is participating in Harmony's Welcoming & Affirming Program. Whilst we are taking a summer break, we are wanting to make our church community more inclusive and welcoming to all. Classes and discussions will resume in the fall.

Social activities are happening! We had our first indoor garage sale in 3 years and raised funds for World Accord, Samish Island and Chilliwack Supportive Housing. On November 27, 2021 we hosted a Nativity Display Fundraiser where all the congregation offered their Nativities to be displayed. While the Fraser Valley was in the midst of a major historic flood, those who attended were very generous in their support of Chilliwack Supportive Housing.



We also had movie night, and a Strawberry Social at which we honored Vilda Fetterly who had been our branch historian. Vilda retired after many years and because of Covid this was our first opportunity to say “Thank You” for all her hard work.

Wednesdays, in the fall and winter were coffee morning visits for any who could make it. They have now evolved into Wednesday afternoon, Ice Cream Socials with everyone picking up an ice cream treat to enjoy while visiting at the church. We continue to host Monday Night Craft Nights at the church. In addition to knitting prayer shawls, we are now knitting and crocheting toques to be given away this fall and winter to those in need. We started hoping to knit 88 hats to make a tree, and so far, have well exceeded (127) that number. So, many thanks to those who have been making and contributing these lovely toques. If you have wool to share that you don't need or want we will be glad to accept it for the toque project. We have been maintaining our congregational numbers and invite all who are in the neighborhood to come and join us on Sunday for Worship or at one of our other events.

**Shonnet Allen**

Co-pastor

[slallen@telus.net](mailto:slallen@telus.net)

# Edmonton Congregation Report 2022

As COVID restrictions began to ease, our congregation began holding in-person services beginning in September 2021. Participation in weekly worship services has generally been lower than it was pre-pandemic. Some people continue to be concerned about gathering in groups. We have returned to coffee and snack fellowship before our worship services. These services have included monthly communion services, use of the Toronto Centre Place Beyond the Walls broadcasts, less formal discussions, and community-focused mission activities. We have been working our way through monthly discussions of the church's Enduring Principles. On May 7, 2022, several from our congregation participated as ministry in the Beyond the Walls service. (We are famous on You Tube!)

Our community mission-focused services included a presentation by Edmonton Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS) and in May we held a very successful Fun Walk to raise donations for YESS.



Participants in the 2022 YESS Fun Walk hosted by Edmonton Community of Christ.

We also had presentations on the activities and volunteer opportunities provided by the Hope Mission and the Edmonton Food Bank. Throughout the pandemic, our congregation was one of only a handful of facilities that continued to remain open as a satellite delivery center for the Food Bank. In the winter months we collected coats and other winter items for delivery to the Hope Mission.

During the year we met once a month to visit over Zoom. This allowed us to connect with members and friends who are unable to attend church services. We also had a very fun games night over Zoom.

Over the busy summer months, we decided to reduce our in-person worship services to once a month on communion Sunday. To maintain our connections over that time we held an ice-cream social at the church that was, of course, very well attended. We also held several community walks which ended in coffee and fellowship.

**Michael Bock**

Pastor

[mbbock@telus.net](mailto:mbbock@telus.net)



# Regina Congregation Report 2022

It has been mixed emotion year for the Regina branch. We were excited to return to in person meetings in September 2022 and we have been meeting as an in-person and remote congregation. We have been blessed to have a great technical coordinator, Gregg Lester, which has allowed us to share online. Since we resumed after Covid shut things down our services have been more interactive. The speaker for the morning prepares several questions and the service has a message, but the congregation shares their answers to the questions. It has given the services a dynamic feel.

We replaced the offering plate with a pot, but have strongly embraced e-transfer. As a congregation, singing is not our strong suit, but we make a joyful noise as we pull hymns from YouTube, the Beyond the Walls choir, and our own hymnal DVD's. We're especially thrilled with our Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary renditions. We typically have 15 – 25 attendees, often with more remote congregants than those who arrive in person. The diversity of the attendees has enhanced our worship experience.

Sadly, three of our longest attending members passed away during the year, leaving a void in our church family. Dale Williams, Margaret Looyzen and Norman Roy were stalwarts of our congregation and will be missed.

However, one of the trademarks of the branch is an ability to adapt so whether it's attending remotely via Zoom, masking up, or dealing with unexpected passing of our church family members we continue to move ahead. If you would like to join us, let us know and we'll send you the link!

**Dan Esch**

Pastor

[ddesch@sasktel.net](mailto:ddesch@sasktel.net)

*“Keep in mind that our community is not composed of those who are already saints, but of those who are trying to become saints. Therefore let us be extremely patient with each other's faults and failures.”*

**Mother Teresa**

# Ribstone Congregation Report 2022

We, at Ribstone Community of Christ, persevered through the past year, even with the ongoing presence of COVID. Unfortunately, we had to cancel three services because of bad weather and three Sundays due to COVID. There were multiple services throughout the year for which our “Lodge” folk were locked down and unable to attend. Regardless of those issues, we had a very busy, wonderful year.

Josie Buck and Darleene Skinner attended the CWM virtual visiting. Olena Pawliuk will attend youth camp in August and Kelby Smith will be one of the staff. Emelia Goheen participated in the Beyond the Walls choir (when she had time), and she also contributed a video testimony for the Canadian church’s All Voices project. Three of our kids won the Peace Awards our congregation annually sponsors at our local school (Julia Rosenfeldt – Grade 2, Corb Dallyn – Grade 4, and Nicole Cioanca – Grade 5). As is our yearly tradition, our congregation gave a Bible and card to our (only) 2022 high school graduate—Parker Selte.

When the COVID restrictions loosened, we were grateful to restart some of our giving/collections. We had our Mitten Tree and White Gifts collections, the Mother’s Day Lloydminster Interval Home (safe house for victims of domestic violence) collection, and our Food Bank collection. As well, we had a special offering in place of our Fall Supper (which we were unable to hold during the pandemic). We held our yearly Loonies for Literacy collection and our monthly Change 4 Change collections that were, again, given for school supplies for Honduran children.

In the fall of 2021, our zero-turn mower (worth over \$7,000) and walk-behind weed-eater were stolen from our locked storage shed. We were blessed that the insurance covered all but \$1,000 of the cost of a new mower and a wonderful anonymous donor gave the rest. Plus, the couple who had donated the weed-eater offered to replace the one that was stolen.

Many of our faith family continue to be involved in local politics and on various councils and committees. Our congregation submits a page to the local school’s monthly newsletter, as well as a Pastor’s Pen column to The Provost News every few weeks (written by Pastor Darleene), and we send out a congregational newsletter each month. Our worship center is redecorated weekly (according to the theme), and our church décor is updated monthly, including a display in the outer foyer. Though it brought down our weekly attendance, we were grateful when Kennie Schaffer, Allan Skinner, and Wayne Skinner fixed some soffit on our church facility and evicted a few pigeons.

On my last report, I failed to mention an important service that occurred on February 14, 2021, that of the baptism and confirmation of Isabella Goheen. Very recently we had a beautiful blessing of children service, followed by a lunch hosted and provided by their family members. Four adorable children—Whitley Muntean, Everett Muntean, Walker Watson, and Riggs Rosenfeldt—were blessed by Wayne and Darleene Skinner.



At most of our services, Pastor Darleene both planned the service and preached the message. We also had Doug and Becky Middleton as guest speakers; we always appreciate their willingness to share with us. Pam Mogg and Darleene organized and planned the Advent Openings. Our 2021 Christmas Concert was an unusual “concert” in which we didn’t have a concert per se, but rather a service filled with answers from our faith family to specific Christmas-themed questions read by ladies of the congregation. It was fun and interesting!

We were able to hold our annual Palm Sunday Parade around the sanctuary. After our Good Friday service, we held our first gathering with food (special-order cupcakes) in the fellowship hall since March 2020. In June we held our first full meal following a service; the congregation enjoyed fellowshiping together over the meal organized by Wendy Belik (with help from several individuals). Wayne and Darleene were asked to do three funerals over the past year (Ed Perkins, Dorothy Buck, and Lillian Perkins). For the Mother’s and Father’s Day services, the ladies and gentlemen of the congregation received a special card and small gift (fridge magnet for the women and pen light for the men).

We hope the other CWM congregations had as wonderful of a year as we did!



**Darleene Skinner**

**Leila Goheen**

Pastors

[ribstone@hotmail.com](mailto:ribstone@hotmail.com)

[leila\\_avon@yahoo.ca](mailto:leila_avon@yahoo.ca)

## Saskatoon Congregation Report 2022

The congregation in Saskatoon recently sold its church building. A final service was held on September 4. The congregation has some discerning to do regarding the future, but we still actively enjoy participating in worships, online services, camps and conferences.

Good News: In October Charles and Sylvia Lester will celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary.

**Jae Senga**

Pastor

# Senlac Congregation Report 2022

In 2021 we held 18 services starting in May and ending in Oct. This year we started services again on Mother's Day - May 8 and will continue to October.

We officiated at 3 weddings and 2 funerals in the community and stood in for the United Church ministers in Unity for emergency hospital calls and/or funeral needs for the month of July.



We initiated a project of expansion for the Long Lake Cemetery. The cemetery officially belongs to the Rural Municipality of Senlac but is supported by the congregation with shared maintenance with the RM.

It is located very close to the Senlac church building out in the country west of the village of Senlac.

It is the resting place of JJ Cornish as well as many members of the Community of Christ from many families and generations. Descendents of these people are the volunteers doing these improvements.



The cemetery fence was moved to it's full capacity size and trees and flower bed planted. The cemetery was surveyed and then we placed aluminum lot marker plates in the ground so as to locate plot sites year round. It is a lovely little country cemetery which feels very park like and will continue to be of service to the community for many years to come.

We hope to continue service to our community in this manner for more years to come.

**Becky Middleton**

Pastor/Historian

[dbmiddleton@sasktel.net](mailto:dbmiddleton@sasktel.net)

# Vancouver Congregation Report 2022

We began in-person hybrid services in September and were fully in-person through Advent. It was wonderful to be together for live music and worship while still sharing with our friends in Prince George and the Okanagan (among other places!). Spikes in Omicron cases caused us to return to online worship only from January to March. We enjoyed having Easter choir in person for our Easter Sunday service. By May, we decided to alternate online-only and hybrid services to preserve the welfare of our presiders and tech support people. We enjoyed sharing services with Chilliwack and Victoria a few times this year.

We had two baptismal services at the church through the year, one in September 2021 and one in May 2022. We held a Nurturing Justice event in April, including a stream clean-up close to the church building and an evening of conversation and singing at the Phelps' home. We have also begun Welcoming and Affirming conversations and a discernment conversation about what our congregation wants to become in the future. We look forward to where the Spirit will lead us.

Love to you both!

**Kat Goheen and Chris Phelps**

Pastors

*"I know there is strength in the differences between us. I know there is comfort, where we overlap."*

**Ani DiFranco**

# Victoria Congregation Report 2021-2022

Though we had begun looking at restarting in-person gatherings during the fall of 2021, the ongoing influence of the pandemic resulted in a delay to that plan. We therefore continued with our twice a month zoom based gatherings. As the situation improved over the first quarter of 2022, we decided to begin the process of preparing for a restart. In March Carl, Shirley and myself did preparatory cleaning for a thorough top to bottom cleaning which we arranged for the church facilities. During this period of getting ready for the restart, we also upgraded our internet connection at the church, and acquired a new lap-top computer. These technical upgrades have made it possible to use the church as a hub for our hybrid service format.

In mid April we held our first in-person gathering. After our initial service, some who attended reported positive covid tests. This resulted in our resumption of gathering only on-line for the May Communion. After that, we resumed the hybrid service model – and have been employing that approach for our twice per month gatherings.

At the end of May someone started a fire at our lower level exit doors. Someone notified the Fire department before it was too developed; the fire-fighters were able to respond and deal with the situation quickly. After the clean up was done, the resulting damage, fortunately, turned out to be very minor (some “cosmetic” damage to the exit doors and a melted drain cover – which was replaced).

In other news, this year marked the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Jim and Elaine Watson (in July), the 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Carl and Shirley Bolger and the 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Pat and Joe Bouley (in August).

My apologies to those whose events have been omitted!

**John Canty**

Pastor

[jacanty@shaw.ca](mailto:jacanty@shaw.ca)

*“The main requirement for spiritual growth: A yearning to know who you really are.”*

**Adyashanti**

# Canada West Mission Staff

<b>Mission Centre New Mailing Address</b>	9845 Carleton Street Chilliwack, BC V2P 6E4
<b>Gwyneth Beer</b> Co-President	877-411-2632 ext. 1 gwyn@communityofchrist.ca
<b>Shannon McAdam</b> Co-President	877-411-2632 ext. 2 smcadam@communityofchrist.ca
<b>Kat Goheen</b> Co-President	877-411-2632 ext. 3 kat@communityofchrist.ca
<b>Dar Shepherdson</b> Mission Centre Financial Officer	888-411-7537 ext. 34 / 519-822-4150 ext. 34 dar@communityofchrist.ca
<b>Linda Klughart</b> Mission Centre Recorder	306-922-8056 lylak@sasktel.net
<b>Debra Donohue</b> Creating Connection Director CWM	1-877-411-2632 ext. 4 debra@communityofchrist.ca
<b>Sandra Rodriguez</b> Administrative Assistant	1-877-411-2632 ext. 6 sandra@communityofchrist.ca

# Canada West Mission Contacts

<b>Art Smith</b> Canadian Field Apostle	1001 West Walnut, Independence, MO 64050 asmith@cofchrist.org 1-800-825-2806 ext 3059, Fax 816-521-3099
<b>Dar Shepherdson</b> Bishop of Canada	129-355 Elmira Road North, Guelph ON N1K-1S5 dar@communityofchrist.ca 1-888-411-7537 ext. 23
<b>John Glaser</b> President of Seventy	1001 West Walnut, Independence, MO 64050 jglaser@cofchrist.org 1-816-786-9462

# Canada West Mission Pastors and Co-Pastors

<b>Calgary Congregation</b> 112 - 422 11 Ave SE, Calgary AB T2G 0Y4	<b>Doug Hayden</b>	403-615-1624 dhayden@shaw.ca
<b>Chilliwack Congregation</b> 9845 Carleton St, Chilliwack BC V2P 6E4	<b>Shonnet Allen</b>  <b>Rick James</b>	604-858-0877 slallen@telus.net 778-951-9787 weeirishbear@gmail.com
<b>Edmonton Congregation</b> 6919 83 St NW, Edmonton AB T6C 2Y1	<b>Michael Bock</b>	780-915-9272 mbbock@telus.net
<b>Lethbridge Congregation</b> 425 11 St S, Lethbridge AB T1J 2N9	<b>Doug MacArthur</b>	403-320-8436 d.macarthur@uleth.ca
<b>Prince Albert Congregation</b> 292 15 Ave E, Prince Albert SK S6V 2N7	<b>Linda Klughart</b>  <b>Mike Mitchell</b>	306-922-8056 lylak@sasktel.net 306-764-4800 mike.mitchell@sasktel.net
<b>Regina Congregation</b> 4710 8th Ave, Regina SK S4T 4V8	<b>Dan Esch</b>	306-949-1470 ddesch@sasktel.net
<b>Ribstone Congregation</b> PO Box 2, Chauvin AB T0B 0V0	<b>Darleene Skinner</b>  <b>Leila Goheen</b>	780-858-2610 ribstone@hotmail.com 780-858-2610 leila_avon@yahoo.ca
<b>Saskatoon Congregation</b> 701 1 St E, Saskatoon SK S7H 1S9	<b>Jae Senga</b>	306-974-4253 jae.senga@gmail.com
<b>Senlac Congregation</b> PO Box 64, Senlac SK S0L 2Y0	<b>Becky Middleton</b>	306-228-2949 dbmiddleton@sasktel.net
<b>Vancouver Congregation</b> 3333 Kaslo St, Vancouver BC V5M 2M1	<b>Kat Goheen</b>  <b>Chris Phelps</b>	604-510-0781 jkgoheen@shaw.ca 604-530-2515 chrisinlangley@gmail.com
<b>Victoria Congregation</b> 495 Burnside Rd E, Victoria BC V8T 2X3	<b>John Canty</b>	250-381-6557 jacanty@shaw.ca



# Upcoming In-person Events

## 'A TASTE OF NURTURING SPIRIT'

September 16 & 17 In Calgary

**Be Inspired  
Be Energized  
Be Connected  
BE**

**Register Today**  
[NurturingSpirit.CreatingConnection.ca](http://NurturingSpirit.CreatingConnection.ca)

### Our Facilitators

**Jan Hornford - Drum Circles: Rhythm of Connection**

**Rhonda Clarke - Movement Meditation**

**Barbara Ptak - Exploring the Soul's Blueprint**

**Alyona Brivkina - Journaling**

**Denise Swick - Crystal Bowl Sound Healing**

**Debra Donohue - Listening Circles**

**Only \$75 per person!**

**Space is limited, register today.**

**For detailed information or to register go to**

**[NurturingSpirit.CreatingConnection.ca](http://NurturingSpirit.CreatingConnection.ca)**

**Email questions to**

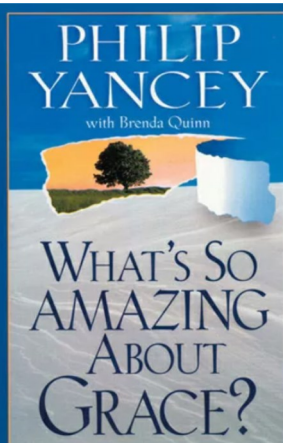
**[CreatingConnectionBC@gmail.com](mailto:CreatingConnectionBC@gmail.com)**

**Our location**

**112 - 422 11 Ave SE  
Victoria Park, Calgary**



## Men's Retreat at Hills of Peace 2022



**September 16-18, 2022**

**In-person event at Hills of Peace**

While this is a men's retreat, it is intended to provide space for all those who identify as such to explore the scriptures, their faith, and their lived experience through that unique lens.

Registration Fee: \$125 CAD

Register at [www.cwm.events](http://www.cwm.events)

It's been several years since the men of Canada West gathered at Hills of Peace campground for a weekend of fellowship, spirituality, laughter and lots of food. By design, this weekend is not a church service (or any kind of service for that matter). It is an opportunity for us to take a road trip and gather as friends.

Our guest minister, Rick James, from Chilliwack is going to share some insights from one of his favorite books, "What's So Amazing about Grace". If you have attended before, you know that the weekend has it's own vibe, somehow sharing traditions along with discussion as unique as the spectrum of interests of our guest ministers.



**October 21 - 23, 2022**

**In-person retreat at Samish Island**

Registration Fee: \$275 per person

Register online: <https://nurturingspirit.corsizio.com/c/62f6a2bb5440bb594bad0e33>

Special Guests: Jonathan Prescott and Vickie MacArthur

In this weekend retreat of deep reflective listening, we'll explore how to listen in a way that integrates body, mind, and heart, into a loving and compassionate

whole. Surrounded by the natural beauty of the ocean and Samish Island, we'll slow our momentum, cultivating a silent space to receive the healing balm of contemplative practices: sitting and walking meditation, gentle yoga, breath, and embodied awareness, mindful eating (nourishing plant-based meals), deep rest and relaxation. This retreat calls upon diverse wisdom traditions and is open to all levels of experience.

# 2023 Events Calendar

Date(s)	Event	Location
February 4	Mission Centre E-Conference	Online
April 22-29	World Conference “Courage”	Missouri, USA

CWM events are planned in anticipation of in-person programming. All events are subject to change. For current information about CWM programming, please refer to the [CWM events calendar](#).

Programming information for youth camps and non-CWM events at Samish Island can be found at the [GPNW camping website](#).

**Join us for Mission e-Conference on February 4, 2023 to elect our World Conference Delegates.  
See you at World Conference on April 22-29, 2023!**

*“The path of spiritual growth is a path of lifelong learning.”*

**M. Scott Peck**