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2017

Canada West Mission Conference

Vancouver

2017 CWM Conference

**'Draw the
Circle Wide'**

**"Lovingly invite others to experience the good news of new
life in community with Christ."
(Doctrine and Covenants 165:1c)**

**"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone
who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and
for everyone who knocks, the door will be
opened." (Matthew 7:7-8)**



Community of Christ

Meet our Guests



Stassi D. Cramm serves a dual role in church leadership as a member of the First Presidency of Community of Christ and as the Presiding Bishop of the church. Her past assignments include serving as a member of the Council of Twelve Apostles, as a counselor to the Presiding Bishop, and as the Southwest Pacific Region administrator and stewardship commissioner.

Stassi has an extensive education background. She received a Bachelor of Science in general engineering from the University of Illinois, a Master of Arts in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix, and a Ph.D. in Organization and Management from Capella University. She has also earned a Master of Arts in Religion (MAR) from the Community of Christ Seminary at Graceland University. Previous to full-time ministry for Community of Christ, Stassi was employed as a flight test engineer for the United States Air Force.

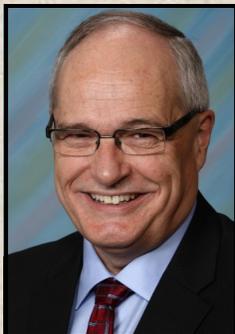


JAN KRAYBILL is a musical leader and dynamic speaker; a concert organist, pianist, and harpsichordist; an educator and organ consultant; and an enthusiastic cheerleader for the power of music to change lives for the better.

Dr. Kraybill is Executive Director of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage, promote, and enliven congregational singing. In addition, she serves as Organ Conservator at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City, Missouri, and Organist-in-Residence at the international headquarters of Community of Christ in Independence, Missouri. In these roles she plays and oversees the care of the Kansas City metro area's three largest pipe organs: Community of Christ Auditorium's 113-rank Aeolian-Skinner (installed in 1959) and Temple's 102-rank Casavant (1993), and the

102-rank Julia Irene Kauffman Casavant (2012) at the Kauffman Center's Helzberg Hall. Throughout her career Jan has performed solo and collaborative roles in musical events, lead international hymn festivals, taught workshops, inspired audiences and congregations, and been a resource for worship musicians.

And those you already know



Stephen Thompson

Mission Centre President and CFO

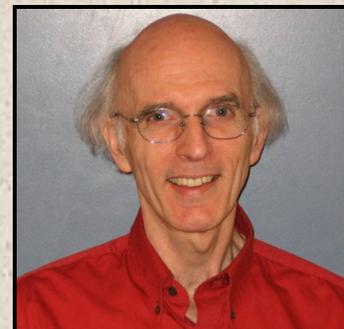
Steve will be leading an info session for Pastors and Treasurers during Saturday lunch. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.



David Barth

World Accord

Fear, Love, and Terrorism
They are all connected.



Rod Downing

Canadian Peace and Justice

Be part of the reconciliation process with our Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

Welcome to Canada West Mission Conference 2017! “Draw the Circle Wide”

Message from the Mission Centre President Stephen Thompson

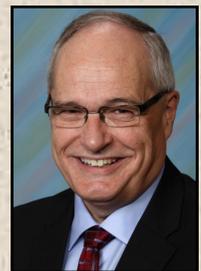
Our theme for our conference weekend comes from hymn #273. I am sure we will sing it – or at least its chorus – several times in the next couple of days. I hope we can take it to heart. Canada West Mission Centre is a very wide circle.

I am very fortunate in my position to be able to travel so much of Western Canada to visit all of you in your congregations. As I am sure you can appreciate, this exposes me all the diversity of the people in the mission centre as well as the beautiful landscapes between Winnipeg and Victoria that this half of our amazing country provides. It is a highlight of my job to be able to do this. It is an element of my job that I truly missed for so much of the last year due to dealing with some unexpected medical issues and then recovering from surgery. I was simply not able to travel between mid-December and the first of May, and then I restricted my travel considerably in the next couple of months to ease back into the job without the stresses that come with driving, flying - and potlucks. I thank all of you for the thoughts and prayers that made so much of a positive impact on me. I also want to extend my thanks to Darrell Belrose for filling in as Interim Mission Centre President and to the CWM staff, Debra, Lisa, and Parker, who quite ably kept the program going in my absence. I don't think the mission centre really missed a beat in terms of plans and activities. All of that will be reported elsewhere in this program and during our business meeting.

We are looking forward this weekend to the ministry of both Jan Kraybill and Stassi Cramm. This will be the first time at CWM Conference for both of them. I trust we will welcome them warmly and enjoy the blessings, the testimonies, and the lessons that they have to share with us.

My prayer for the weekend is that we may take our theme to heart. I look forward to exploring in various ways how we might “Draw the circle wide.” The words come from a hymn and yet can be related to various scriptures and wisdom about invitation, welcoming, and hospitality. May we seek ways to better “let our light shine,” to “be the salt of the earth,” discover the things that “unite (us) in Jesus Christ,” and enable us to “speak and sing ... (and) live, love, and share as Zion.”

Amen.



“No one stands alone, standing side by side”

Canada West Mission Conference Schedule 2017

Friday Sept 1

- 4:00 Games and fun at the church
- 5:30 Light Supper
- 6:30 Registration with Rosilyn Teng and Susan Vawter
- 7:00 Welcome, Introductions
- 7:30 Sing along with Jan Kraybill
Youth field trip Celina Beer
Children movie "A Bug's Life " large classroom upstairs Leah Christensen
- 8:00 World Accord Presentation David Barth
- 9:00 Snacks and visiting
Young Adult trip to the Richmond Night Market with Joy and Parker
- 10:00 Goodnight

Saturday September 2 - *no parking in parking lot today for tai chi and party*

- 8:45 Chanting and Tai Chi with the Tai Chi Society - parking lot
- 9:30 Muffins and Coffee - Activity Hall
- 9:30 Gospel Music Sing a long - Brian and Dan, bring your instruments!
- 10:00 Pre-legislative meeting Steve Thompson
Youth with David Barth "Exploring the Concept of Privilege"
Children "Writing Prayers for the Prayer Wall" Karen Brett
- 10:45 Break 15
- 11:00 Business Meeting Steve Thompson
Youth "Youth Spirit Kitchen" Lana Cullis and Robert Peters
Children Karen Brett
- 12:30 Lunch
- 12:45 Pastors and Treasurers Meeting in large classroom with Steve Thompson
- 2:00 Jan Kraybill "Creativity Connection"
Youth Rod Downing "Making A Positive Difference With Our Indigenous Neighbours"
Children "Little Spirit Kitchen" Lana Cullis and Robert Peters
- 3:00 Break 15, light snack
- 3:15 Stassi Cramm "Building a Bridge of Hope: Supporting Mission"
Youth "Fun With Sign Language" Angie and Carly Fraser
Children "Walk, Look and Really See" Lisa Neudorf

Saturday September 3 continued

- 4:15 Choir Practice**
Children and Youth "Decorate for Party in the Parking Lot"
- 5:30 "Party in the Parking Lot" featuring "The Seabillys"**
- 7:30 Jan Kraybill concert and sing a long in the Sanctuary**
- 9:00 Visiting and snack**
- 10:00 Goodnight**

Sunday September 3

- 9:00 Spiritual Practice Lisa Neudorf**
- 9:30 Muffins and Coffee**
- 9:30 Gospel Music Sing a long - Brian and Dan**
- 10:00 Ordination service**
- 10:45 Communion Service Lanette and Kat presiding, Stassi Cramm speaker**
- 12:00 Group Photo and Thanks to the Cooks**
- 12:15 Lunch**
- 1:30 Stassi Cramm "Mission Around the Globe"**
Youth and Children "Upcycling" Debra Donohue
- 2:30 Break 15**
- 2:45 Jan Kraybill "Songs and Stories"**
Youth "SPECTACULAR" Rocio Cabrera
Children Leah Christensen
- 3:45 Break 15**
- 4:00 Peace and Justice Rod Downing**
Youth Jan Kraybill
Children Lanette Vawter
- 5:00 Collect Evaluation Forms - available all weekend at registration**
- 5:30 Dinner - Blessing on the Food**
Auction of "Upcycling" creations
- 6:30 Closing Service - Chris Phelps and Shannon McAdam**

Monday September 5th

Presiders and musicians, workshop with Jan Kraybill 10:30- 2:00pm, with lunch.

“Draw the Circle Wide, Draw it Wider Still”

What's Happening and Where

Registration	Please register upon arrival and provide your donation as early in the weekend as possible to alleviate last minute work for our registrars Colleen and Susan.
Washrooms	We have four washrooms. Women's with handicapped accessible stall off the main foyer. Men's with handicapped accessible stall off the back foyer. Cooks washroom off the kitchen - please only use if really needed. Upstairs unisex washroom with spa facilities. Well, it has a shower.
Quiet Room	The Pastors Study, behind the Atrium or through the foyer and to the left, will be our quiet room for those needing to rest throughout the weekend. We have an assortment of couches, chairs and prayer shawls donated by the Chilliwack congregation to keep you cozy. Please enter and leave quietly and be respectful of those using the room.
Children's class	Turn right at the top of the stairs.
Youth Classroom	Turn left at the top of the stairs.
Upper Loft	Extra seating for 40 people. Straight ahead at the top of the stairs. If you don't have mobility issues please consider sitting in the loft for our busier times, but remember that sound really carries in the loft so you'll need to be quiet.
Music Room	You are welcome to spend time in the music room if no one is there, but please step out for those who need to prepare for services and classes.
Atrium	The Atrium is a lovely place to sit and pray, enjoy coffee with friends, or just be.
Prayer Wall	We have a prayer wall in the Atrium. There are pens, paper and raffia inside the door near the south east door of the chapel. Please take a quiet moment to write a prayer and tie it to the prayer wall. You can also pray over the prayers already on the wall.
Parents	Please provide your cell phone number at the registration desk in case teachers need to reach you and are unable to leave their classrooms.
Helping Hands	Many hands make light work. If you are able to assist with setting up in the morning or helping to put away in the evening, please speak with Randy Gibson.
Parking Lot	We will be using the parking lot on Saturday for a few activities so please park on the street. Please reserve the street parking in front of the church for those with mobility issues. There should be lots of street parking 1/2 block south of the church on 18th.

***Please be aware that some people are very sensitive to scented personal care products.
Be "scent-free"**

Class descriptions

- Friday 8pm World Accord David Barth
Fear, Love, and Terrorism - They are all connected.
- Saturday 12:45 Steve Thompson "Meeting with Pastors and Financial Officers" An opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest including (but not limited to): annual contributions to the mission centre by congregations; review news/announcements from World Church to ensure awareness; supports needed by Pastors/CFOs/Congregations from CWM in next year.
- Saturday 2:00 Jan Kraybill "Creativity Connection" Since we are created in God's image, and God is the master Creator, we are called to be creative. This class is for musicians and non-musicians alike, exploring ways to become more creative in every aspect of our lives.
- Saturday 3:15 Stassi Cramm "Building a Bridge of Hope: Supporting Mission" How your tithing makes a difference locally and globally today and into the future. Plus info on the Canadian campaign.
- Sunday 1:30 Stassi Cramm "Mission Around the Globe" What does mission look like around the world?
- Sunday 2:45 Jan Kraybill "Songs and Stories" Learning the stories of the people who created some of the powerful musical testimonies in Community of Christ Sings.
- Sunday 4:00 Peace and Justice Rod Downing - Cued by recent a recent World Conference resolution, and through a few differing voices, the class will highlight some of the ways we can help support and be part of the reconciliation process with our Indigenous Peoples in Canada.
-

Conference Creative Activity For everyone!

Come and bring our tree to life with your finger or thumb print.

Create the colourful leaves on the tree of life and

"spread the circle wide"

Look for our table on Friday and Saturday

Business Meeting Agenda

Saturday September 2, 2017

Vancouver Community of Christ

10:00 a.m. – Pre-Legislative Discussion of Major Agenda Items

- Dissolution of Paddockwood Congregation
- Possible motion for World Conference
- 2018 Budget

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Formal Business Meeting

1. Call the Conference to Order

Opening Hymn of Praise: CCS 288, Let Justice Roll Like a River

Opening Prayer

2. Conference organization

A. Parliamentary Guide, **page 11.**

B. Motion to approve Credentials Committee Report (with amendments if necessary), **page 12.**

C. Motion to approve Conference Officers

Resolved,

1. That the **Mission President** preside over this Conference and be authorized to complete the Conference organization.

2. That **Lisa Neudorf** be Secretary of the Conference.

3. That **Gary McDonald** be Parliamentarian for the Conference.

Submitted by Mission President

3. Motion to approve agenda of Canada West Mission Business Meeting, September 2, 2017

4. Motion to approve Minutes of **September 3, 2016, pages 13,14,15.**

5. Mission Centre Organization

A. Mission President and Mission Financial Officer, **page 15.**

Resolved, That Stephen Thompson be sustained as Mission President and Mission Financial Officer.

Submitted by First Presidency

B. Mission Appointments,

1. That **Sandy Woynarski** be sustained as Mission Recorder.

2. That **Anita Bates** be sustained as Mission Historian.

3. That **Debra Donohue** be sustained as Privacy Officer.

4. That **Wayne Stanton** be sustained as Pastor Support Coordinator.

Submitted by Mission President

C. Mission Advisory Council

Resolved: That the following persons be appointed to the Canada West Mission Advisory Council for the next year:

- Carl Bolger (Victoria)
- Shannon MacAdam (Vancouver)
- Caitlin d'Esterre (Calgary)
- Corleen McLean (Saskatoon)
- Denise Esch (Regina)
- Stan Freer (Winnipeg)

D. **Resolutions for Consideration by the Mission Conference:**

Resolved: That the Canada West Mission Centre acknowledge the disorganization of the Paddockwood Congregation (formerly known as a "mission") of Community of Christ, and give support to the following decisions made and approved by the remaining congregation members in business meetings earlier in 2017:

- A. That the church building and property on which it is located be sold; and
- B. That, following the sale, \$10,000 be donated to the Hills of Peace Camp ground to use as the Board may see fit, and,
- C. That the balance of the congregation's financial assets be transferred to the Canada West Mission Centre to be used where needed most, and,
- D. That the organ in the church be gifted to Lois Aspvik "in appreciation for her dedication to the Paddockwood mission."

And, Be it Further Resolved: that the Canada West Mission Centre recognize the efforts of those who established and maintained the Paddockwood Congregation/Mission over the past 60 years or more, and also extend appreciation to the members who maintained the congregation for the past few years and presented the ministry of the church to the community as effectively as their limited numbers possibly could.

See Related Report for details Page 29

6. Video Presentation honoring members who have passed away in the last year.

7. Sharing and Celebration of personal and congregational events of the past year.

8. Consideration of Priesthood Calls

- A. *Resolved:* That the conference express its support for the call of Samuel G. Smalldon (Calgary Congregation) to the office of High Priest/Bishop.
- B. *Resolved:* That the conference express its support for the call of Denise Esch (Regina Congregation) to the office of High Priest/Evangelist.

9. Consideration of Proposed Motion for 2019 World Conference

- A. See insert

10. Consideration of Financial Information

A. Consideration of Financial Information for 2016, see insert

Resolved: That the Income and Expense Statements and Balance Sheet (unaudited) for the year ending December 31, 2016, be received for information.

B. Consideration of 2017 Budget – see insert

Resolved: That the Canada West Mission Centre Budget for 2018 be approved as presented.

10. Acknowledgement of Reports to the Conference:

- I. Mission President – p. 19
- II. Outreach Specialist, BC – p.20
- III. Camping and Retreat Specialist – p.21
- IV. Church Mission & Young Adult Ministries - p.22
- V. Recorder Report - p. 23
- VI. Communications – p.24
- VII. Pastor Support – p. 25
- VIII. Peace and Justice Report - p. 26
- IX. Historian – p. 27
- X. Samish Island - p. 28
- XI. Hills of Peace - p. 29
- XII. Paddockwood Report p. 29
- XIII. Missional Ministries Grant Program p. 33

11. Other Business

12. Announcement of Location of 2018 Canada West Mission Conference

13. Adjournment

Closing Hymn: CCS 287, Come and Bring Light
Closing Prayer and Prayer of Blessing on the Meal to Follow

Parliamentary Guide

- 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.

Using MIS (Ministerial Information System) June 16, 2017 the number of CWM delegates was calculated according to former Congregation membership numbers and distributed among respective congregations according to their book membership. The formula is one delegate per fifteen members with a minimum of two in any congregation.

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.

2017 Canada West Mission Conference Delegates

Vancouver 10 of 10

Lanette Vawter
Shannon McAdam
Brian Gibson
Victor Suddaby
Rosilyn Teng
Chris Phelps
Rod Downing
Madeline Goheen
Marilyn Suddaby
Clifford Denike

Alternate

Debra Donohue

Chilliwack 3 of 3

Barry Williams
Betty Williams
Shonnet Allen
Alternates
Bonnie Levitt
Janine McCully

Victoria 7 of 7

Donna Martin
Carl Bolger
Shirley Bolger
John Canty
Kelly Duff
Norm Olson
Dana Donohue

Meadow Ridge 2 of 2

Audrey Salahub
Bill Morrison

Saskatoon 5 of 6

Lloyd Chase
Elaine Chase
Brenda Senga
Charles Lester
Sylvia Lester

Calgary 5 of 11

Parker Johnson
Sam Smalldon
Jack Cargill
Bev Cargill
Caitlyn d'Esterre

Winnipeg 1 of 4

Stan Freer

Regina 2 of 7

Dan Esch
Denise Esch

Non Resident 2 of 60

Christina Robbins
Randy Gibson

Absent

Paddockwood 0 of 2
Porcupine Plain 0 of 2
Prince Albert 0 of 2
Senlac 0 of 2
Ribstone 0 of 6
Lethbridge 0 of 3

Edmonton 1 of 20

Deborah Greibrok

Canada West Mission Conference
Business Meeting Minutes
 Ribstone AB - September 3, 2016

1. Call the Conference to Order
 Meeting called to order at 11:15 am by Mission President Stephen Thompson.
 The opening hymn was CCS 631 followed by a prayer provided by Evangelist Charles Lester.
2. Conference Organization
 - A. Parliamentary Guide on page 8 was pointed out to the members.
 - B. Motion to approve 2016 Conference delegates, as amended, as set out on page 9 of Conference program. Moved: Gloria Stanton (Saskatoon). Seconded.**
 Changes to 2016 Conference delegates:
 Lethbridge: remove Nancy Panting
 Edmonton: add Carl Lindemann, Kay Lindemann
 Senlac: remove Doug Middleton
 No other changes. List as amended approved. Carried.
3. Mission Centre Organization
 Mission Centre President and Financial Officer
 The chair was given to Bishop of Canada Dar Shepherdson who presented a letter from First Presidency (K. Scott Murphy, page 12) recommending Stephen Thompson be sustained as CWM President and MCFO.
Motion to approve Stephen Thompson as Mission Centre President and Financial Officer. Moved: Charles Lester (Saskatoon). Seconded. Carried. Public support given for Steve.
 Chair returned to Stephen Thompson to preside for remainder of business meeting.
4. Motion to approve Conference Officers
 - A. Mission President – Stephen Thompson
 - B. Conference Secretary - Lisa Neudorf
 - C. Conference Parliamentarian – Al Mogg**Motion to approve Mission Centre President Stephen Thompson will preside over the conference and be authorized to complete the Conference organization; that Lisa Neudorf will be Conference Secretary and Al Mogg will be Conference Parliamentarian. Moved: Lynda Mills (Edmonton). Seconded.** Carried.
5. **Motion to approve the agenda of the Canada West Mission business meeting of September 3, 2016 be approved with the addition of the following items:**
 - A. Addition of 5.C. Mission Advisory council
 - B. Addition of 8.A CWM Mission Procedures
 - C. Addition of 8.B A Canadian Reserve Fund for the Future**Moved: Jahnelle Geddes (Calgary). Seconded.** Carried.
6. **Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 5, 2015 business meeting as presented. Moved: Marie Anderson (Ribstone). Seconded.** Carried.
 Steve presented an update for the outcomes of the 2016 World Conference motions which were approved at the September 5, 2015 business meeting.

7. Welcome to guests:
- A. John Glaser, President of Seventy assigned to Canada
 - B. Dar Shepherdson, Bishop of Canada and Financial Officer for Canada East Mission Centre
 - C. Carman Thompson (Evangelist, Guest Minister, Retired World Church Minister) and Joan Thompson

8. Mission appointments

- A. Sandy Woynarski – Mission Recorder
- B. Anita Bates – Mission Historian
- C. Debra Donohue - Privacy Officer
- D. Wayne Stanton – Pastor Support Coordinator

Motion to approve the Mission Centre Appointments as presented by Stephen Thompson. Moved: Al Mogg (Ribstone). Seconded. Carried.

9. Advisory Committee

Motion: that the following persons be sustained as members of the Canada West Mission Centre Advisory Committee. Stan Freer (Manitoba), Denise Esch and Corleen McLean (Saskatchewan), Caitlin d’Esterre (Alberta) Carl Bolger and Shannon McAdam (British Columbia). Moved: Pam Mogg (Ribstone). Seconded. Carried.

10. Video presentation remembering members who passed in the last year.

We celebrate! Brief sharing of personal and congregational events or milestones in the past year.

11. Consideration of Proposed Electronic Meeting Procedures

Motion: The “Meeting Procedures for CWMC Business Meetings” and the “Procedures for Conducting Electronic or On-Line CWMC Business Meetings” be approved. Moved: Carl Bolger (Victoria). Seconded.

Motion to amend/replace the last paragraph of the document: “If the electronic link is lost between the chair (central location) and one or more locations but quorum remains at the central location of the meeting then the meeting may continue”. Moved: Carl Lindemann (Edmonton). Seconded.

The Chair committed to provide further clarification and amend the motion either at the mock meeting or at the next Mission Conference. Discussion. Amendment Carried.

Motion to approve the motion as amended. Carried.

12. Consideration of A Canadian Reserve Fund for the Future.

Presentation made by Dar Shepherdson about the Canadian Endowment Fund which has been established in the Canadian Church. Purpose is to create reserves (\$27 million) to sustain the operations and missions in the Canadian Church. Already received almost \$3 million in commitments and has \$1.3 million in cash invested as of August 1, 2016. This will not supercede tithing.

Members: Stassi Cram (chair), Carol Shaw (co-chair), Bob Hodgson (co-chair), Art Smith, Steve Thompson, Kerry Richards, Becky Middleton, Janine McCully, Dale Ward, Sam Smalldon, Lew Shepherdson, Jim Poirier, Linda Hewitt and Dave Snell.

13. Consideration of Financial Information

- A. Consideration of financial information for 2015.

Be it resolved that the income and expense statements and balance sheet (unaudited) for the year ending December 31, 2015 be received for information. Moved: Gloria Stanton (Saskatoon). Seconded.

When the 2014 and 2015 financial statements are audited, they will be presented at the next Mission Conference. No discussion. Carried.

- B. Consideration of financial information for 2017.

Be it resolved that the Canada West Mission Centre proposed budget for 2017 be approved as presented. Moved: Carl Bolger (Victoria); Seconded.

No discussion. Carried.

14. Acknowledgement of the Reports
15. 2017 Mission Conference in Vancouver BC

Meeting adjourned: 12:45

Closing Hymn CCS 67. Prayer given by Evangelist Carl Bolger.

Community of Christ

June 19, 2017

To the Canada West Mission Center

Dear Saints:

We are pleased to offer our support and recommendation for Stephen Thompson to serve as your Mission Center President and Financial Officer. Both of these functions are essential roles in the church that supports congregations in their endeavors to live the mission of Christ. As the Presidency and Bishopric, we are deeply grateful for the sacrifice made to offer one's service as in this dual assignment as mission center president and financial officer.

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

In the spirit of peace,
THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

PRESIDING BISHOPRIC



K. Scott Murphy



Stassi D. Cramm

cc: Art Smith, Apostle

KSM/kat

Community of Christ - Canada West Mission
Statement of Income and Expenses
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2016
UNAUDITED

	2016		2015
	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>INCOME</u>
Operating Income			
Congregational Support	\$ 137,827	\$	82,206
Contributions - General, By Individuals	\$ 55,107	\$	69,654
Contribution - Mission Specific (Anonymous Donor)	\$ 200,000	\$	200,000
Contributions - Event Specific	\$ 61,311	\$	71,874
Contributions - Unreceipted	\$ 40,406	\$	24,106
Bequests	\$ -	\$	12,845
Earnings on Investments	\$ 32,413	\$	17,979
Other	\$ -	\$	-
Total Operating Income	\$ 527,065	\$	478,663
	2016		2015
	<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>		<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>
Operating Expenses			
CWM Shared Minister's Expenses	\$ 32,400	\$	-
CWM Ministers' Expenses	\$ 126,776	\$	2,381
Mileage Expenses	\$ 6,027	\$	10,710
Personnel Development	\$ 848	\$	-
Telephone	\$ 2,146	\$	2,124
Internet	\$ 1,940	\$	1,193
Insurance	\$ 1,790	\$	991
Pastoral	\$ 5,482	\$	3,900
Postage	\$ 1,616	\$	789
Office Supplies	\$ 2,035	\$	2,014
Photocopying/Printing/Newsletters	\$ 2,205	\$	4,862
Software	\$ 16,260	\$	300
Bank Charges	\$ 227	\$	233
Contract Services	\$ 17,148	\$	21,000
Audit	\$ -	\$	-
Equipment/Maintenance	\$ -	\$	-
Office and Storage Rent	\$ 12,550	\$	10,259
Other	\$ 30,937	\$	1,164
GST on Operating Expenses	\$ 3,559	\$	1,741
Mission Events and Programs (see details below)	\$ 418,249	\$	291,311
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 682,192.21	\$	354,969
NET INCOME:	-\$ 155,127	\$	123,694

Community of Christ - Canada West Mission
Statement of Income and Expenses
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2016
UNAUDITED

DETAILS: 2016 CWM Mission Events and Programs Expenses and Related Contributions
(Totals for these details are included in Income and Disbursements above)

	2016		2015	
	Expenses	Contributions/Fees	Expenses	Contributions/Fees
CWM Conference	\$ 9,356	\$ 4,075	\$ 6,763	\$ 5,974
Staff/Volunteer Education & Training	\$ -		\$ 1,180	
Evangelism	\$ -		\$ 1,850	
Miscellaneous Activities	\$ 995			
Mission Initiatives	\$ 253,269	\$ 200,000	\$ 119,190	\$ 200,000
Young Adult Ministry (HOP Retreat and others)	\$ 6,471	\$ -	\$ 4,160	\$ 480
Women's Ministries	\$ 1,111	\$ 688		
HOP - Men's Retreat	\$ 3,349	\$ 3,654	\$ 6,070	\$ 3,550
HOP Youth Camp and Other Youth Activities	\$ 15,765	\$ 5,766	\$ 16,937	\$ 7,409
Graceland SPEC/IYF	\$ 18,878	\$ 7,075	\$ 10,441	\$ 5,590
HOP - Junior Camp	\$ 8,593	\$ 3,651	\$ 11,378	\$ 3,593
HOP - Family Reunion*	\$ 28,817	\$ 21,221	\$ 47,863	\$ 23,048
HOP - Spiritual Retreat	\$ 2,704	\$ 2,393	\$ 6,046	\$ 2,318
HOP - Other (Charges for cooks and golf cart)	\$ 7,630	\$ -	\$ 7,953	
Samish - Junior Camp - "Mungai"	\$ 423	**	\$ -	**
Samish - Junior High Camp - "Kluane"/"Chimacum"	\$ 4,780	**	\$ 1,633	**
Samish - Senior High Camp - "Kimtah"	\$ 3,207	**	\$ 851	**
Samish - Family Reunion	\$ 35,385	\$ 28,923	\$ 29,927	\$ 25,316
Samish - Nurturing Spirit	\$ 6,604	\$ 5,796	\$ 3,187	\$ 2,388
Samish - Fine Arts	\$ 1,303	\$ 1,454	\$ 1,987	\$ 1,455
Samish - Other Camps	-\$ 619		\$ 894	
Samish - Youth Camps Total Donations		\$ 3,260		
Congregational Assessments (Overage Return)			\$ 7,835	
World Church Donations/Transfers	\$ 8,800	\$ 17,494	\$ 2,600	\$ 16,999
GST on Program Expenses	\$ 1,427	\$ -	\$ 2,566	\$ -
TOTALS:	\$ 418,249	\$ 305,450	\$ 291,311	\$ 298,118

**Individual donations for these camps have not been extracted

Notes

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Community of Christ Canada West Mission Centre
as at December 31, 2016

CASH ASSETS:

	Balance at December 31, 2015	Balance at December 31, 2016	12 Month Change
CIBC Bank Account	\$ 511,613	\$ 300,394	-\$ 211,219

INVESTMENTS:

	Investment Value at December 31, 2015	Investment Value at December 31, 2016	12-Month Change in Value of Investments
CIBC Wood Gundy Acct. 462-03190	\$ 191,900	\$ 192,758	\$ 858

CIBC Wood Gundy Acct. 462-03253 ("Wainwright Youth Account")	\$ 77,736	\$ 78,051	\$ 315
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	Investment Value at December 31, 2015	Investment Value at December 31, 2016	12-Month Change in Value of Investments
CI Investments (formerly with Assante) Acct. 98796394	\$ 666,529	\$ 697,770	\$ 31,241

TOTAL VALUE OF INVESTMENTS:	\$ 936,165	\$ 968,578	
TOTAL INCREASE IN VALUE OF INVESTMENTS:			\$ 32,413

TOTAL VALUE OF CASH & INVESTMENTS:	\$ 1,447,778	\$ 1,268,972	
TOTAL INCREASE IN VALUE OF CASH AND INVESTMENTS:			-\$ 178,806

Notes

Report from Mission Centre President for 2016/2017 Mission Conference 2017

There is much to report and limited time and space to do so. Here is a point-form list of highlight activities in the Canada West Mission Centre in the past twelve months.

Annual, regularly scheduled events that operated successfully:

Family Camps/Reunions: both Samish and Hills of Peace (note “full capacity” at HOP)
Nurturing Spirit Retreats: both Samish and Hills of Peace
Spiritual Retreat: HOP
Youth Camps: HOP and Samish (Samish camps organized by GPNW, supported by CWM)
SPEC: two delegations: Prairies with CEM; BC with GPNW
Women’s Retreats: BC, in Chilliwack, fall 2016; first-time-in-a-long-time on the Prairies (hosted in Medicine Hat!), spring 2017
Men’s Retreat: HOP
Encounter World Religion Events: Vancouver (2nd year) and Calgary (1st year); both well-received and attended; will be continued in 2018 in both locations

Upcoming events:

HP/Evangelist/Seventy Retreat: Edmonton, November 3 to 5
Pastors Retreat: date in 2018 to be confirmed
Consultation re: follow up to 2016 World Conference Resolutions
Electronic Mission Conference: date TBA in Jan/Feb 2018. Will test meeting procedures approved last year, and possibly consider potential 2019 World Conference motion(s).

Anonymous Donation: Gratitude is expressed to an “anonymous donor” for donations totalling \$1m over last five years (2012 to 2016); programs supported have included Pastors Retreats, Congregational Missional Grants, Get God Program, Young Adult Dialogue Project, and congregational LCM participation (Regina, Victoria); also mission-focused positions of Debra, Lisa, and Parker. Debra and Lisa’s 5-year positions will be extended to summer/fall of 2018. Parker’s 5-year position in Calgary will continue to 2020.

Sale of church buildings:

Calgary sold their building in August 2016. Now meeting in a facility rented on a weekly basis.

Average weekly attendance is up! Now actively defining facility needs to determine nature of next building.

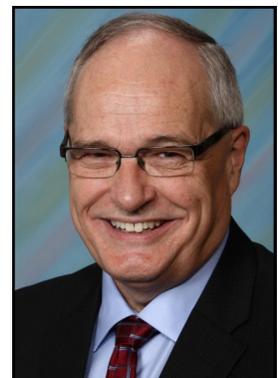
Paddockwood: at time of writing, the sale is still in process; see related motion in agenda. Congregation is also folding; members will move to “non-resident” membership lists; resources to be distributed as per motion.

Winnipeg: building of 60+ years has been sold as of mid-August; negotiations close to complete at time of writing for purchase of a small building more suited to the smaller active congregation numbers (building is small and all on one level, therefore accessible to those with mobility restrictions).

Canadian Church Corporation: working on bylaws; moving to Canadian federal corporate registration from Ontario registration (since 1952); see information elsewhere in agenda.

Canadian Church initiatives with funding of anonymous donor: Temple School via Internet (David Lloyd); “Grow Program” Coordinator (Tim Stanlick) (in CEM only so far); Communications Coordinator (person to be confirmed). Watch for more details as available.

--Stephen Thompson
CWM President and Financial Officer



Debra Donohue Outreach Specialist BC

Since our last mission conference I've had the pleasure of participating or being on the planning team for the following events:

October	Attended the Women's Retreat in Chilliwack Congregational Blessing team for the Vancouver congregation
November	Attended Craft Making in Chilliwack
December	Dickens Christmas Brunch Vancouver Vancouver Christmas Luncheon
February	Attended party for the Hassim family (Vancouver's refugee family) F.L.O.W. in Meadow Ridge Weekend of World Religions in Vancouver
March	Nurturing Spirit Retreat at Samish Island Attended G.R.O.W. workshop in Ontario
April	Took a week of holidays!
May	Helped at the Chilliwack Garage Sale Started a Youth Group in Vancouver
June	Started physical work on 'Little Free Libraries' for Vancouver, Victoria, Meadow Ridge and Chilliwack Attended Meadow Ridge Baptisms Strawberry Social in Chilliwack Vancouver Neighbourhood Party
July	Installed Little Free Library in Victoria Junior Church and Bible Scripture Scavenger Hunt at Samish Reunion
August	Counselor at Camp Mungai Samish Island Installed Little Free Library in Vancouver
September	Canada West Mission Conference

One of my major projects this year was the Little Free Libraries for all four BC congregations. The libraries are a wonderful way to reach out to our communities, offer a free book to read, or a place to donate their own books. The libraries are part of the Little Free Library network, and are searchable on their website. Although the basic design of the libraries are the same, each library is decorated with artwork by the host congregation. We have custom designed book marks that we place in all of the books with information about church services and QR codes to facebook pages, websites and our world church 'What we Offer' page and video. Here are photos of the library builds in Victoria and Vancouver and the book markers we created to go in every book in our libraries.



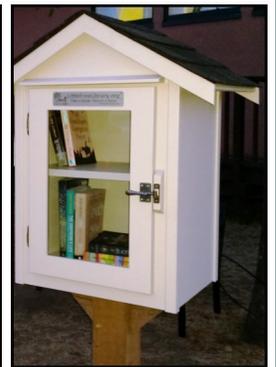
While we were setting up in both Victoria and Vancouver, people approached us excited to have a Little Free Library in the neighbourhood and promised to contribute books! We're already enjoying new relationships with our communities.



Coming this fall

Meadow Ridge Neighbourhood Party September 17
 Victoria Book Sale and Library Party

The events and activities we have worked on the past five years have not only been invitational to our neighbours, but we have learned how to be better at inviting, better at promoting what we do, and we've become better at revitalizing relationships with members who have drifted away. It's easier to invite people back to church when you have something other than a church service to invite them to. And it's working. Members are coming back to church. Some have come back to church and become vital to our congregations in ways we could never have imagined. Young adults have said to me "I'm almost ready, please don't stop inviting me". Or "Even though I haven't replied yet, I always read your emails, so don't forget about me". Don't worry, we will never forget about you. Keep watching your inbox!



Lisa Neudorf Camping and Retreat Specialist

Hills of Peace Camps and Retreats

Spiritual Retreat (June 2 – 4, 2017). Directors were Brenda Senga and Denise Esch. Guest minister was Mary Jacks Whipple. Theme: Unopened Letters from God: Dreams and you. We had 26 attendees who explored the meaning and understanding of dreams.

CWM Youth Camp (July 2-7, 2017). Camp directors were Caitlin d’Esterre and Parker Johnson. We had 22 campers and thirteen staff including two Americans (three if you count Parker Johnson), and one British Columbian! The theme was **Ohana** which means family in Hawaiian. Campers explored what family means to different people, how to build your own Ohana, and experience the spirit in community and by yourself. This year we were able to bring bubble soccer and archery tag through the generous sponsorship from the Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, Regina, Saskatoon and Senlac congregations. On July 4 Orbis Sports organized a fun filled day which had campers bouncing through the air in giant bubbles and practicing their archery skills on staff. Thank you to these congregations for their support as we would have been unable otherwise bring these activities to camp.

Hills of Peace Family Camp (July 8 – 13, 2017). Guest ministers were Emily Penrose-McLaughlin, Dale Ward and Jeannine Ward. We had 147 attendees including 59 kids under the age of 16. Highlights of camp were the annual Hearts Tournament, movie night “Trolls”, a baptismal service and confirmation service.

Junior Camp (July 15 – 19, 2017) Theme: God loves ME Inside Out. Camp directors were Nadine Middleton and Jahnelle Geddes. We had 33 campers and 12 staff. We were thrilled to have Heather and Bryce Huffman as our guest ministers who helped the campers embrace their emotions and feelings and find different ways to manage them.

Nurturing Spirit Retreat (August 4 – 7, 2017) Theme: Finding Peace in Everyday Life. Our minister was Leandro Palacios from the Toronto downtown congregation. We had 19 attendees who enjoyed 3 days of simply nurturing themselves.



Lisa Neudorf
 Camping and Retreat Specialist

Parker Johnson Church Mission and Young Adult Ministries Specialist

2017 was a year of firsts for me:

I completed my first year of Seminary through Graceland University...something I've always dreamt of doing, but hadn't yet found the right time and space in which to start. Since beginning my studies last August, I can't count the ways this was reaffirmed to throughout the program...reminding me that this is *exactly* where I am to be right now, and the ripple effect of what I'm learning has just begun.

I've made the decision to place my spiritual health back into focus after having left it on the back burner for a number of years. It is amazing how much work there is to be done even with ourselves. I am grateful to have such a wonderful spiritual counsellor to assist me through this time.

I've presided over a church service. This service took place in Calgary, but I've since also presided over a service at Hills of Peace Family Camp as well. Though seemingly a simple task, I assure you, it was never in my purview as a gay church member until recently.

I gave my first sermon at the Calgary congregation. It was quite obviously rough around the edges, but I was well supported and given a lot of support for future sermons.

I gave my first charge for a new member's confirmation service. It was an honour to be asked to do so, but even more to participate in that role.

I've co-directed a youth camp. What an experience of growth! Working alongside talented young people who are fiercely passionate about providing the youth of the church with the same, high-quality experience they once had was awe-inspiring.

I celebrated my one-year anniversary in Calgary in May 2017. This community holds a special place in my heart, as it has fully embraced Preston and me as if we'd always belonged.

Such growth doesn't take place without mentorship, and I owe a great deal of gratitude to so many across the mission centre. You are not only helping me personally, but also helping me to better serve the church in my role with Canada West Mission Centre. Thank you for taking a special interest in me.

Throughout my time in Seminary, I have been repeatedly reminded of the applicability of the written word...how it can remain relevant no matter the situation I find myself in if I just take the time to properly re-approach it.

Knowing this, I've adopted the following scripture as a contemplative passage to help guide me through my role in Canada West Mission and in my own personal life:

³ *"Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ Let anyone with ears listen!"*

Matthew 13:3-9 (NRSV)

Reading this passage each day, I continue to learn the value of tending my soil for long-term benefits rather than short-term gains, and the impact it has made on my life already – both personally and professionally – cannot be overstated.

I used this scripture as an overarching theme for the Young Adult Class at Hills of Peace Family Camp, and, as a group, we discussed this passage throughout the week. We realized that we all often focus on ourselves, the seeds, as if we exist in a vacuum. We don't often consider the environment, the climate, the nutrients of the soil, overcrowding, or even too much or too little sun as impacting our ability to sprout. Rather, we seek to define our "type" of seed and focus on what we should theoretically become barring constraints. In other words, we put a lot of pressure on ourselves to simply succeed as a seed without giving much thought to tending the soil in which we find ourselves, and subsequently, we lose our ability to help others when we're so focused on ourselves.

In my role, I have the privilege of working directly with people of all ages across the mission centre through camps, events, and retreats; congregational life; meetings; work-related church projects; and casual community building. Whether I'm focusing my energy on community building through camps, young adult activities, or Calgary's building transition project, I reflect on the scripture above, and I've found that it has made all the difference in my ability to connect and perform.

This passage also applies to our church as an institution. While we'd probably like to think we are consistently the "good soil" in Jesus' parable, that is simply not always the case for everyone walking through our congregations' doors. Are we considering our own ability to support, provide for, and foster growth in seeds of all variations? Perhaps the church at times becomes the worn path, the rocky ground, or the thorns rather than good soil for specific types of seeds. The Church must strive to tend its soil in an attempt to better address the needs of its members and future members as well as those it serves. **The good news?** I see this happening everywhere I turn across the mission centre! In all my travels this year, I have seen much awareness surrounding congregational and member capacity. With this approach in mind, our focus on self-care can prove helpful in so many ways. In Calgary, in place of unclear, undocumented congregational initiatives that were in danger of failing, we have implemented a structured proposal format for future initiatives that not only ensures all members fully grasp the project itself, but also that there is something to hold us accountable to if approved. We've already seen a great deal of success with Caitlin d'Esterre's *MOM Project* in the Calgary area, and I can't wait to see where this new approach takes us. With this level of attentiveness and intentionality, we are poised to tend the soil in our own gardens and the church's. With readied soil, what might we choose to plant?



Parker Johnson
Church Mission & Young Adult Ministries Specialist

Recorder Report Sandy Woynarski

The following numbers reflect the state of the Mission Centre with regards to membership since our last Mission conference. I have shown a comparison from the same time in 2016.

	2016	2017
Total Membership	2397	2380
Non Resident	656	896
General	542	541
Baby Blessings	10	8
Baptisms/Confirmations	6	6
Marriages	7	7
Deaths	34*	15
Ordinations	0	0

The general category reflects people living in a congregation who do not want to be part of the congregation but want to retain church membership. This category also includes unknown members that do not have a deliverable address.

*The number of deaths in 2016 is higher because there were a number of members with unknown addresses at an advanced age that I recorded as assumed deceased.

Sandy Woynarski
Mission Centre Recorder



Communications and Assistant to the CWM President Report

This past year I had the pleasure of working with my first CWM President, Darrell Belrose, while Steve Thompson was recuperating from his triple bypass surgery. Although I would have chosen different circumstances, it was wonderful to reconnect with Darrell.

In early 2016 Steve and I decided to move from a twelve page 'What's Up...In the CWM' to sixteen pages and add another two hundred people to the mailing list. Hopefully you're aware that we put out two of these each year, one in the spring and one in the fall. If you or someone you know should receive this printed version mailed to their home, please let me know. We send copies to each of our congregations for those who attend church, and What's UP is also available online for our computer friendly members. You can also see previous issues on the website. I feel very fortunate to receive so many wonderful articles from our members. If you would like to submit an article, please advise me in advance and keep in mind our deadlines, April 15th for Spring, September 15th for the fall issue. In January we produce an online only 'What's Up...Christmas in Review' edition with basically unlimited space, so we can all see what our friends in the CWM did for their Christmas services and celebrations. It's always easier if you ask someone from your congregation in advance to document your Christmas activities. The deadline to get your Christmas articles and photos to me is January 15th.

Our Canadian Community of Christ website is getting a makeover! We'll have lots of videos, resources and great information for you to access. Keep watching www.communityofchrist.ca

We hope that you are mailing, emailing or handing out our camping postcards/information to attending members, non regular members and friends. Often times it is the relationships built at our camps and retreats as youth and young adults, that create solid, long term relationships with Community of Christ. We do our camps, retreats and reunions very well, (thanks to all our wonderful directors) so we *should* tell our friends outside of church about them.

For those of you performing marriages and needing a clergy license, please try to get all of the information to me five to six weeks in advance, especially for weddings taking place during wedding season, May to September.

We continue to build our communications network so that we can send you information in a timely manner. If you change your home address, phone number, or email address, please send it to me and your congregational recorder. If you don't think I have this information in the first place, please send it to me.

As Steve's assistant and the person who does lots of little things for the Mission Centre, I want to encourage you to contact me first if you have a question that I may be able to answer. If I can't, then we'll pass it on to Steve. It's my job, so please don't worry about inquiring. Besides that, I love getting to know all of you even if it's just through email.

In 2011 we started moving mission conference around the Mission Centre so that everyone would get a chance to attend, and have the opportunity to be a delegate for their home congregation or as a non-resident member. We offer billeting for every mission conference so I hope you take advantage of the opportunity to attend when a congregation near you is hosting mission conference. Many people have expressed to me that they feel more in touch and a part of the mission centre since we have switched to this model of moving throughout the mission centre.

The Weekly Wire, our weekly announcements email, is a great way to share your event information with the mission centre both before and after your event. Don't forget to send a follow up blurb and photos so that everyone can see what they've missed.

We will be piloting a new 'Nurturing Silence Retreat' June 1-3 at Samish Island next year with Laurie Gordon as our guest minister. Please think about friends of yours who may be looking for a retreat like this. It's a great way to introduce people to Community of Christ, as are all of our camps and retreats!

Debra Donohue
debra@communityofchrist.ca
1-877-411-2632 ext 4



Pastor Support Coordinator Wayne Stanton

Hello and greetings. Seems like time, as you get older goes by like, a month is only two weeks. It is as you know, so easy too get busy trying to wear your different hats or responsibilities, almost at the same time. Picking priorities is about like 20 flavors of ice cream, which do I choose. In doing other things, which is the most important to get done right now! There are times when I remember the saying, if you were going to eat an elephant you can only do it one bite at a time.

In my evangelist blessing I was told to remember that nothing is insignificant and that we need to take time to smell the roses, provide a smile, share a kind word, send a cheery note, intently listen to someone in need, or like the saying, "pay it forward," works too. You don't have to be a Pastor to do those things often to help make a better world around us.

For Pastors and the rest of you, we need to take time out to refresh and recharge, in order to be able to have the energy to look after needed tasks and duties. A young lady that we claim as our Granddaughter from Thailand, nicknamed Pan gave me a card for fathers Day that read partly, " thanks for teaching me to be kind and to take a nap sitting up." That made us laugh since she is only in her twenties. I do the nap thing fairly often in the recliner and it certainly helps me get going again.

Gloria and I went to Regina to do Pastor/Evangelist support a few weeks ago and really appreciated the chance to share ministry with several people. It is usually a two way street, we received ministry back in the sharing.

Sharing in our communities is becoming part of our Pastors duties, more and more as our membership dwindles some. All of us not just our Pastors are called to be the voice, hands and feet of the Christ to help make a better world.

Thank you each and every one for all that you do and May the Supreme Creator, God bless and keep you strong in the faith.

Hope, Courage and Peace be with you. Pastor Support Coordinator, Wayne Stanton



CANADIAN PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE June 2017 Report



The Committee was formed in April, 2007, primarily to support local congregations in our attempts to be “. . . dedicated to the pursuit of peace” and to “Share Christ’s Peace.” Briefly, the committee was not very active most of this year because: (a) the Chair was not able to give the committee much time; and (b) the current subcommittees have not gelled well enough to operate robustly. By the time of this report both deficiencies were being resolved and we anticipate a more actual period next year.

I. ACTIONS THIS YEAR.

Maintaining Resources to Develop Healthy Relations with our Muslim Community.

After the tragic October 2014 shootings at Parliament Hill the committee created a set of resources 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. The resource is available from the Mission Centre and also is on the web.

In the Process of Developing Resources Related to First Nations Communities.

This is another area that has seen some fine individual efforts but has lacked any Canada-wide effort or voice. Thus we are creating resources to: (a) allow congregations to explore the history and status of relations with First Nations, including the legacy of residential schools and the Truth and Reconciliation Report; (b) explore potential formal statements from the Canadian Field.

Maintained Our Current Projects and Our Peace / Justice Website.

While not an emphasis this year we have continued support for such endeavours as buying Fair Trade coffee where possible, since it supports the “Abolish Poverty” initiative. We have also spent a little time maintaining the church’s Canadian Peace / Justice website. While still fairly skeletal, to view it go to the Canadian church’s website and click on the “Peace/Justice” badge. 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 2nd 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. Sample topics include:

First Nations Relations

Justice System: Restorative not Punitive;

Foreign Aid with no strings attached, etc;

Inter-religious Relations;

Mental Health & Eliminating Stigma

Human Trafficking close to your Church;

Eco. Concerns: GMOs, Climate Change, etc.

Child Poverty; . . .Others?

II. NEXT YEAR And LONGER TERM.

We remain focused on implementing robust **subcommittees**, as listed above, **but we need help.** If you are interested in being part of this exciting endeavour, please contact one of the committee members.

In appreciation and support,

The Canadian Peace and Justice Committee

Anna Jean Bradley	Canada East	dynamicbalancing@mac.com	
Betty Williams	Canada West	williamsbetty@shaw.ca	
Bryce Taylor	Canada East	brycet@rogers.com	
Caitlin Ball	Canada West	caitlinball@hotmail.com	
Don McLeod	Canada West	dw.mcleod@shaw.ca	
Rod Downing	Chair	rdowning94@shaw.ca	604-535-6550
Steve Northey	Canada East	sjnorthey@gmail.com	

Historian's Report Anita Bates

The 2016 World Conference (June 4 – 11/ Independence, Mo.) was a special time of spiritual renewal, community-building, important decision-making, and discernment of God's will. Steve Veazey (Prophet/President) reflected the joy of experiencing the gentle, yet persistent, guidance of the Holy Spirit in the presentation of section 165 of the Doctrine and Covenants as inspired guidance to the church. The CWM was represented by 19 delegates. Three motions from the two Canadian Mission Centres related to "priesthood morality" were considered by the conference. Those who gathered in the spirit of preparation, expectation, love, and hope experienced life-changing blessings. Loving tribute was given for the future of the Church.

As reported elsewhere, the World Church in 2015 experienced a financial challenge that resulted in layoff and/or early retirement of many staff. The year 2016 proved to be an even more difficult year financially with many more faithful staff laid off in order to reduce the Worldwide Missions Budget. The financial report for 2016 and the revised budgets for 2017, 2018, and 2019 reduced the original expenditure plans, but still required generosity on the part of members. The 2016 generosity led to over \$16 million shared in Worldwide Mission Tithes, exceeding the goal by almost \$1 million. This reflection of generosity showed an outpouring of love and commitment to the mission of the church. World Church Leaders are encouraged by generosity expressed in 2016, and are trusting in the continued generous support by members for Local and World Mission Tithes in 2017.

Art Smith, Apostle for Canada, Mexico, Texas and Haiti Field, expressed his concern and support for his brothers and sisters in Christ over the course of 2016. The ministry that was extended to Canada was most beautiful, all benefiting from his generosity of spirit, humbly sharing the servant hood of Jesus Christ. The CWM congregations in southern Alberta and in BC were blessed by visits from Art Smith, Dar Shepherdson (Bishop of Canada), and Steve Thompson in the first week of April. Apostle Smith was also the guest minister for the annual Men's Retreat at Hills of Peace in September. The Canada West Mission has great faith and hope for the continued ministry of Apostle Art Smith in the year of 2017.

Steve Thompson (President/C.F.O. of CWM) acknowledged, with much appreciation, receipt in 2016 of the last of five (5) financial gifts of \$200,000 per year from an anonymous donor. These funds over the years have prayerfully assisted various functions of the Canada West Mission. The funding will continue to benefit the Mission for at least another three (3) years. God's blessings have surely followed this generosity by a faithful servant of Christ for Christ's Mission.

The Mission Campgrounds (Hills of Peace and Samish Island) both shared community and at the same time a highly personal testimony of the presence of God's loving spirit, and the calling to be peace-makers. The guest ministry for the camps for Family, Youth, Nurturing Spirit Retreats, and other functions were exceptional blessings of ministry for those attending.

May the light of Christ be our constant companion as we humbly serve Jesus Christ. May we all adhere faithfully to the scriptures (same yesterday, today, forever), and abide with hope into the future as God leads the way.

In Christ's Love and Peace,
Anita Bates (C. W. M. Historian)



Do you know every child's name at Mission Conference? Get to know the kids and Draw your Circle Wider!

Samish Island Campground Report

We come to Samish with our families and friends *seeking peace, joy, faith and enlightenment*. We depart as community having shared sacred space inspired by natural beauty. We encounter God's spirit and are compelled to serve.

By the end of this year we will have hosted 40 events sponsored by a community of organizations who bring people to Samish for the reasons we all share. This year in addition to youth camps and family reunions, the Community of Christ also offered Nurturing Spirit Weekends, Women's Retreat, a proposed Peace retreat and first nations gathering. Our work parties were well supported by the Community of Christ and by meditation group affiliated volunteers. The Samish Indian Nation held their "Camp Samish" family event at Samish as well as a burial site work party. Our relationship with the Samish people has never been stronger.

We have new retreats sponsored by local churches, community leadership development, as well as growth in the number of meditation retreats. Our artist groups are regulars each spring and fall. We essentially are booked from mid February through the first weekend in November.

Of course, it takes a lot of work to manage and maintain the facility. Our camp staff are engaged year round. We rely on volunteers. We have a 307,000 annual budget. A list of projects completed this year are in the 2017 Caucus Report.

We have a strategic plan with 5 Bold Steps:

- **Bold Step # 1.** Develop an integrated capital maintenance & development plan
We have new 15yr plan. An overall design for upgrading the Dining Hall interior and exterior is first up. There is a priority to create meeting space so we can host multiple groups. Major maintenance this year includes new CFC Roof, new west residence septic, new kitchen walk in cooler, West restroom upgrade, model rustic cabin, and new roof, windows and siding on two classrooms.
- **Bold Step #2.** Develop recommendations for increasing income from events
We have new fee structure. Non church groups bring in the majority of income. Changes in our food service approach is saving food and labor costs.
- **Bold Step #3.** Explore other sources of income (Endowment Campaign, partnerships etc.)
A shoreline access agreement with Taylor Shellfish Co brings \$30,000/year. We are about to launch new campaign to fund the 15 year Capital Improvement Plan and build a \$1 million Endowment. A branding and website redesign is in process to tell our story and make it easier to book events and make donations.
- **Bold Step #4.** Hold discussions with mission centers about vision role in sustaining program
Creating new Community of Christ sponsored programming is a priority. We are exploring the role of Samish in supporting Peace and Justice objectives. We are also in discussions about how to increase outreach for youth camp ministry.
- **Bold Step #5.** Assess our environmental footprint & make recommendations
A campus wide energy use assessment report gave us a plan. First up, replacing all lights with LED fixtures, install water saving devices, start recycling compostable material. Next up solar energy.

There is much more to the Samish story but at the core we are grateful for all of you who come, share, serve and give.

Mark Chapman
Samish Island Campground CEO



Hills of Peace Campground Report

Another year at the Hills of Peace and another year of great friends, fun and food! We debuted 2 brand new cabins equipped with opening windows and a ceiling fan. They were a major improvement to the cabins they replaced. Thanks to the Znak family for organizing and building the cabins. CWM held the following camps this year: Youth Camp, Family Camp, Junior Camp, Nurturing Spirit Weekend and Men's Retreat at the end of September. Both our Youth and Junior Camps were very successful again. The kids and counselors had a fantastic time despite the hot weather. At Family Camp, the Ward family provided our guest ministry and during our Wednesday evening service we had a baptism and confirmation. It would be amiss if we didn't take a opportunity to thank our previous Treasurer for the Hills of Peace board Kirk Boote. He dedicated many hours to supporting the Hills of Peace and due to health problems was unable to continue on the board. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family. Many thanks to all the camp directors, cooks, volunteers and participants. See you again next year!

Jae Senga
Hills of Peace Campground Committee



Paddockwood Report

The Paddockwood Congregation, located in north central Saskatchewan, was once a thriving, rural congregation of the church. In recent years, however, as young people moved away, others ceased active involvement, and as older members passed away, the active membership dwindled. In the last three to five years or more, there have effectively been three consistently active members: Pastor Ray Barlette, his wife and Financial Officer, Barlette, and Lois Aspvik. There was occasional participation by Lois' son Cliff Aspvik and one or two others from the surrounding area. It is to these people that the Canada West Mission Centre extends its appreciation for maintaining the church's presence in the area for as long as they have.

Despite being few in numbers, the group maintained regular services – at the church during the summer and in homes during the winter. Occasional community events were hosted at the building, even though it is located five miles out of the small community of Paddockwood (population: 154). Lois Aspvik, in addition to her local participation, regularly filled her van with local children and brought them to camp at Hills of Peace.

In early January 2017, Ray contacted the mission centre to advise of the decision by the congregation to close. Darrell Belrose, Interim Mission Centre President, worked with the group to guide them through the closure processes. The congregation met in 2 business meetings in January and February and approved the directions outlined in the resolutions presented above. Steve Thompson, Mission President, and Dar Shepherdson, Bishop of Canada, have been working with Ray and Barlette and their Realtor and lawyer to sell the building and property. As of the date of the writing of this report, the sale has not closed, but is expected to very shortly.

The Mission Centre President, Bishop of Canada, and the supervising Apostle (Art Smith) have all expressed support for the decision of the Paddockwood Congregation to close.

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Cooks message

The Ministry of The Menu

Robert and I are looking forward to being your food hosts this weekend. We are mindful that we serve within the context of a kitchen, the environment, a church and a city. With that said, here is little of what to expect.

A Kitchen

Nutrition comes first, and we will be serving balanced meals from all the food groups. We will provide both vegetarian and meat based proteins throughout the week end. Gluten free, lactose free, options will be available at every meal. If you have complex allergies we trust you to bring what you need to take care of yourself.

The Environment

We will be using paper plates and/or napkins to serve some of the snacks. Please limit your quantity. We will not use Styrofoam. There will be water/coffee/tea stations out at all times. Please consider bringing your own water bottle and thermal mug (with lid). We ask that you be mindful of our need to balance one small dishwasher with 150 persons and we will be making our choices as prudently as we can where disposables are used. Pens will be provided so people can reuse products.

A Church

We are thankful for the many generations of cooks, table setters, dishwashers and grace prayers who have come before us. This year we are intentionally inviting youth to step up and learn how to take on these roles. If you normally jump and clear a plate, consider showing a young one to do it with you. Sometimes we wonder why youth aren't doing jobs...this week end, lets joyfully invite participation of all ages. There are no small tasks, like instigating singing/saying grace before meals or putting the last rack of dishes into the dishwasher...whether you live in Vancouver or not, you are welcome to join us, to make light the tasks and teach a new skill. We are especially excited to have the Youth Spirit Kitchen class and the Little Spirit Kitchen Class helping with the cooking on Saturday!

A City

In Vancouver we have neighbors from all over the world. This week end will have three themed meals: 1) on Saturday Night, we taste local Greek flavours and keep our friend "Costa" in our ongoing prayers 2) on Sunday we will have an Indian Lunch and experience a connection with the far East, and, 3) for supper, we will have an Old Fashioned Roast Beef Dinner to honor our prairie cousins who made the big trek out west, for both this conference, and generations before to settle in this city.

We look forward to sharing a table with you. Many blessings on your journey.

The Cooks

Lana and Robert



“You are the salt of the earth; ... You are the light of the world. ... Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” Mat 5:13-16

Canada West Mission

Missional Ministries Grant Program

Vision and Purpose:

The purpose and responsibility of each congregation is to be a living witness of the gospel message of Jesus Christ to the community in which the church resides. As such, a missional church demonstrates a desire and willingness to respond to God's plan to infuse sacred community in the world. To support and empower congregations in their efforts to be this living witness, this Missional Ministries Grant Program has been established to support congregational emphases directed toward missional ministries that will lead to growth (spiritual, increased discipleship, numerical) in the congregation. It is the vision of the CWM leadership that these funds will assist congregations to respond to how God is calling each congregation to live out mission and share the peace of Jesus Christ.

Missional ministries should support:

- Ministries that reach out to the community
- Joint projects between the congregation or clusters and community services that address the wounded and disadvantaged
- Peace and justice focused ministries in the community
- Resources (can include special equipment, stipends) for ministries designed for children, youth, young adults, or seniors
- Alternative worship/music styles designed for the unchurched
- Small groups/Covenant Group ministries
- Training and education directed toward inviting, gathering, and sending/serving ministries

Grant Guidelines:

1. Proposals can be submitted by any congregation or cluster of congregations in the mission centre.
 2. Grant applications will be accepted twice each year in the spring and fall (contingent on available resources). *The deadline for the fall period will be October 15th and for the spring, March 15th.* Congregations or clusters are eligible to apply for grants once per year.
 3. Grant proposals must demonstrate a clear connection to missionary/outreach ministries.
 4. Proposals should demonstrate a clear connection to a congregational vision and the *5 Mission Initiatives* focus.
 5. Grants will be provided on a matching basis when possible. This means that a congregation or cluster will contribute up to 50% of the total costs of the grant. Provisions will be made for congregations that do not have the available funds to share in the matching relationship. It is expected that "in-kind" (non-monetary) support will be provided by the congregation.
 6. This grant program is not designed for capital improvement (building projects or to improve existing structures), utilities, or funding of special trips.
 7. Those who receive grants will be required to submit a progress report to be shared at mission centre conference or through mission centre newsletters.
 8. A Grant Review Team (members appointed by the mission center leadership) will be responsible for reviewing grants and making selections.
- At the end of the grant, a report summarizing the accomplishments and learned insights will be submitted to the Mission Centre Leadership Team

Application form:

The application form can be submitted electronically to Stephen Thompson steve@communityofchrist.ca
Or mailed to Box 345, 224-6655 178 Street NW Edmonton, AB T5T 4J5

Camping and Retreat Calendar 2017/2018

Fall 2017

- Sept 22-24 Men's Retreat Hills of Peace
 Oct 6-8 Singles Retreat Samish Island
 Nov 3-5 High Priest/Evangelist Retreat Edmonton

2018

- Feb 16-19 CWM Winter Youth Retreat, (location to be confirmed)
 Feb 23-25 Weekend of World Religions Vancouver

- March 2-4 Nurturing Spirit Retreat Samish Island
 Mar 16-18 Women's Retreat Medicine Hat

- April 21-22 Ribstone 110th Anniversary
 April 26-29 Arts Retreat Samish Island
 Apr 30-May 5 Samish Island Work Week
 April 27-29 Weekend of World Religions Calgary

- June 1-3 Nurturing Silence Retreat Samish Island
 June 8-10 Spiritual Retreat Hills of Peace
 June 9-14 Adult Reunion Samish Island

- July 1-6 CWM Youth Camp Hills of Peace
 July 7-12 Family Reunion Hills of Peace
 July 14-21 Family Reunion Samish Island
 July 14-18 Junior Camp Hills of Peace
 July 17-20 International Youth Forum *tentative dates*
 July 21-28 Spectacular Graceland University *tentative dates*
 July 22-28 Camp Kluane (girls 12-14 yrs) Samish Island
 July 27-30 Nurturing Spirit Retreat Hills of Peace
 July 29-Aug 4 Camp Chimacum (boys 12-14 yrs) Samish Island

- August 5-11 Camp Kimtah (15-18 yrs) Samish Island
 August 12-16 Camp Mungai (10-11 yrs) Samish Island
 Aug 31-Sept 2 Canada West Mission Conference – Regina Saskatchewan

- Sept 28-30 Men's Retreat Hills of Peace
 Sep 28-30 Women's Retreat Chilliwack

All dates are subject to change, please confirm by going to the website, www.CommunityOfChrist.ca or The Weekly Wire. Please register early !



Samish Island Family Reunion



Hills of Peace Family Reunion



**Thank you to the Vancouver Congregation for hosting the 2017
Canada West Mission Conference!**



**Join us for Canada West Mission Conference 2018
In Regina Saskatchewan August 31 - September 2**

