

UNITED CHURCHES OF LANGLEY



ANNUAL REPORT  
2025

# UNITED CHURCHES OF LANGLEY

## *Weaving a Faith that Matters*

### OUR VISION

We are a Congregation that **Affirms** and **Accepts** All People **Thrives** and is **Vital** to the Community; Is **Alive** as Followers of Jesus Christ and **Sustainable** into the Future.

### OUR PRINCIPLES

- † We Listen and Respond to the loving Spirit and Engage with and Support the wider Community.
- † We Value and Embrace people of every nation, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender and gender identity, family situation, ability, age, appearance, social and financial circumstance, and spiritual perspective to participate in all aspects of our ministry, work and fellowship.
- † We gratefully acknowledge the Kwantlen, Matsqui, Katzie and Semiahmoo people on whose unceded lands we live and gather. We seek to walk in the spirit of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and uphold our shared traditions and visions. We encourage, and work to achieve, deepening relationships built on those shared traditions of sustainable stewardship, love, generosity, kindness, and respect.
- † We Celebrate, Respect and are Thankful for All Creation.

### STATEMENTS OF THE UCOL BOARD

**Reconciliation:** We believe and honour indigenous truth, survivors of residential schools, and support the autonomous Indigenous Church. We support bringing children's remains home, returning regalia, and recognize independent, sovereign First Nations, and hereditary chiefs. We lift up Indigenous people and act as their allies in protecting land and water from industry, extractionism, further pollution and destruction. Through this we honour creation and all life on Earth.

**Affirm:** All people suffer when rigid gender roles and sexual shaming occur – we all have a gender and sexuality to express. All expressions of sexuality (involving consenting adults) are valid, beautiful expressions of God's creation. While questions are welcome, and curiosity is healthy, privacy is paramount. It is our job to continue learning. Let's learn together, intentionally, from purposefully provided resources. This is an ongoing learning process of how to better welcome all people. When we make space for people who are unwelcoming, we limit space for people we want to welcome into our community. We welcome all God's children, but we don't make space for hate.

### 2025 UCOL STAFF



Rev. Sophia  
Ducey  
Minister

Sharon  
Lauzé  
Choir  
Director

Jamie  
Eguia  
Musician

Rhiana  
Antoniuk-Davies  
Children's  
Facilitator

Gillian  
McLeod  
Social Justice  
& Outreach

Jovana  
Ivanovic  
Office  
Coordinator

Sherry  
Klassen  
Finance  
Administrator

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## *Messages of the Sea -* A Minister's Reflection on UCoL's 2025 Ministry

Few sounds embody renewal like the ocean. The rhythm of waves against the shore is both timeless and humbling. For the church, immersing in the messages of the sea is a powerful metaphor and a practical practice. The ocean teaches scale. No

matter the size of one's congregation, the sea reminds us we are part of something vast and enduring. Problems that felt overwhelming can shrink when measured against the horizon. The sound of water has been shown to reduce cortisol levels, slow heart rates, and promote relaxation. For congregations, this physiological reset translates into clearer thinking and emotional and spiritual stability.

Taking time to sit by the sea, to simply listen, is recalibration. It creates the mental quiet in which new ideas can emerge. In a world of constant notifications and demands, the ocean's steady rhythm offers a reminder: clarity comes when we allow ourselves to slow down, to pause, to let the tide go out.

This was the rhythm of United Churches of Langley leadership and congregation in 2025. After four years of massive change, our leaders and congregants took time to pause.... to sit with the discernment and decisions of 2022-2024, and wait upon the guidance and direction to arise and lead us into this next chapter of our ministry together.



For some, this pause left questions of "Why is it taking so long?" "When will we know who our minister(s) are?" and "What's next?" Some enjoyed the time of partaking of the wisdom and spiritual guidance of two beloved retired ministers. Some loved the reprieve of rest from the decision-fatigue of a congregation navigating years of change.

In all of this – there was a plethora of activity going on below the surface – the under-water teaming with new life, new directions, the in-tide and out-tide brushing along the shore, leaving signs of possibilities from underneath.

We ended 2025 as the tide is coming in - movement toward decisions and actions about our ministry staffing; leaning into a time of looking at and making decisions about all of our ministries at both sites and in the community: Social Justice & Outreach, Worship, Music, Spiritual Development & Practices, First Third (Children, Youth, Young Adults, Families), and Community Connection – within the congregation and beyond our walls.

This is the *Message of the Sea* that guides our way... we must have the out-tide and the under-water activity to ultimately feel the spray of the sea and feel the coming of the tide upon our feet, to step into the tide and ride its wave.



We are not expected to "walk on water" – we are called to enjoy the surf and ride the waves of our ministry together in 2026!

*Surf's Up – Let's Go!*



## BOARD & BOARD COMMITTEES

### UCOL BOARD REPORT

William Ness, Chair

Reflecting on the past year, I am struck by a deep sense of gratitude for how this community has navigated the complexities of 2025. While the world around us often feels uncertain and unpredictable, our congregation has remained a steady presence of faith and fellowship. We haven't just endured these times; we have prospered within them by leaning into one another and providing support to those who need it most. The progress we've made on our Community of Faith Profile is a testament to that strength. It is more than just a formal document; it represents our collective vision being renewed. We are standing on a firm foundation, looking forward with clear eyes and a genuine pride in the identity we continue to build together. As we look at our progress, we also remember the personal journeys that defined this past year. We've shared in the pure joy of new births and the hope they bring to our hearts, just as we have felt the deep absence of those dear friends who have left us. While they are no longer with us in person, the impact they had on this congregation remains a part of everything we do.

Our worship life this year has been enriched by a wide range of voices and styles. We owe sincere thanks to Rev. Sophia, whose gracious leadership in the worship role provided us with a thoughtful and steady guide. We were also fortunate to welcome the wisdom of our retired ministers, Louise and Gabrielle, and several guest speakers, each bringing a unique perspective to our ministry. This diversity has been a gift, reminding us that while our traditions are deep, our capacity for new expressions of faith is limitless. It is this willingness to embrace different journeys that makes our ministry together so meaningful.



Many have heard me say previously that the true impact of our church happens in the quiet moments between Sundays. It is incredibly moving to see the number of people who pass through our doors daily, treating this building not just as a structure, but as a living center for the community. This sense of community is made possible by the time and care our volunteers give so freely. Whether you are packing Starfish packs, helping out at the Cèilidh, providing support with Pastoral Care, or simply offering a kind word and a smile to a stranger, you are helping us build something much larger than a weekly service. There is a place here for every talent. Getting involved is not a chore; it is an invitation to be the warmth that makes this space a home for everyone. We are a living community of faith, sustained by the hands and hearts of those who simply show up for one another.

#### ***An Ode to the Willing Heart***

*It isn't just the cross  
or the light through coloured glass,  
But the hands that hold the spirit  
as the busy weekdays pass.  
From the kitchen's quiet service  
to the greeting at the door,  
You are the pulse and presence  
this house was intended for.  
To every soul who offers time,  
or talent, or a prayer,  
You build a porch for weary hearts  
and a home for all to share.  
For the church is not a silent hall  
where we merely come to sit,  
But a fire fueled by every spark  
your willing hearts have lit.*

As we head into 2026, I am truly excited to see these new perspectives continue to bloom. I look forward to the moments when we will challenge one another, grow together, and find creative ways to live out our mission in this changing world. Thank you for being the heart of this place and for walking this path with us. It is a privilege to serve alongside you.

In grateful service,  
William Ness, Board Chair



## FINANCE

**Raquel Castaneda Gregson,  
Chair**

Greetings in the name of the Lord! And blessings to all. How time flies so fast that it has been a year already. As Finance Chair, I

am grateful for the opportunity to make mention of the blessings God has given me to serve our church. I appreciate the incomparable dedication of Kellie Warnock, our past chair and the indefatigable presence of Dougal Shewan, Andrea Hammond, Dale Hewitt, Barrie Mills, Howard Searle, and the diligence of Sherrie Klassen providing us the financial information and Pastor Sophia's innumerable updates and guidance.

With the ongoing global economic effects of tariffs and executive orders from our neighbour country and the effects of the conflicting interests of other countries, the socio-political climate on our lives, it is undeniable that we are even more called to become responsible to our brothers and sisters from those escaping from the threats on their lives, their homes, and the destruction of their land.

Our outreach programs certainly matter, our congregational needs as well. As far as our investments are concerned, we monitor them; bequests and donations that we receive, we acknowledge them, and ensure that they are applied according to the specific intents of our givers.

As we have budgets and monthly reports, we review the specific needs of our church covenanting with the SJO Team, the M&P and the Board. The Property Committee and the Board of Trustees are in constant communication with us so that we can give guidance on how to fund the repairs and improvements.

Undoubtedly, there is an insurmountable need for our church congregants to participate in this expansive call. This past year, 2025, our church has responded to these challenges in many perspectives.

Thank you all for your faithful givings.

This New Year, 2026, we are to discern on a new

ministry structure and a review of our Social Justice r& Outreach ministries.

As we are the Body of Christ, we pray that together we persevere in giving our time, gifts and talents to the Lord. Let us become vessels of God's love, advocating justice, mercy and kindness, becoming good stewards of the world we live in, and respecting and praying for our leaders as well. To God be the glory, for the year 2025 that has just ended and moving forward to this new year 2026 with his eternal presence.

## STEWARSHIP & VITALITY

**Kelsey Hanna, Chair**



In 2025, the Stewardship and Vitality Committee continued to focus on building a welcoming experience for all who walk through our doors. While always working to connect with newcomers as well as our fellow congregants at worship and other events, we introduced some changes to help the buildings feel more welcoming!

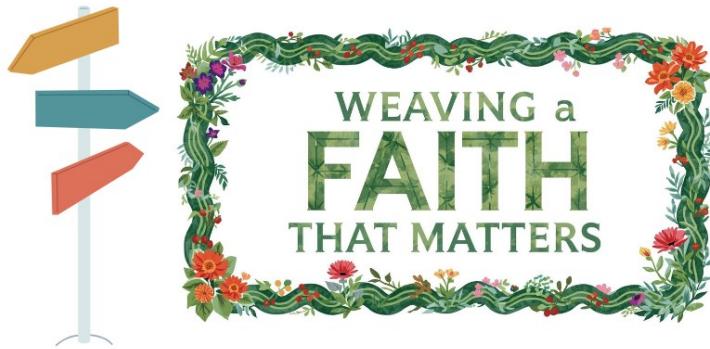
Some of our projects included a new singing bowl and a larger TV for our Fort Langley site. In Murrayville, a new welcome sign was designed and installed in the narthex, and new cabinetry was installed in the Upper Hall for our UCW, Starfish, and other groups to use. We felt that by making changes such as these, our spaces became more welcoming and user-friendly for all.





As far as traditional Stewardship goes, we recognized that 2025 continued to be a year of transition, so we focused on information and inspiration sharing.

For example, new materials were created and shared with explanations during worship (i.e. *What Does My Offering Support at UCoL, Ways to Give, and Tax Benefits of Giving* bulletin/enews inserts).



A highlight of 2025 for our team was our November *Pathways of Engagement* luncheon, which brought newcomers and not-so-newcomers together to break bread and explore ways to share in the life of the church. It was so powerful to hear people share their faith journeys and their hopes and dreams for UCoL. Discussing opportunities to become more involved in our community of faith to both enrich their own faith life and the life of the community was empowering, as some folks are now exploring new ways to be involved.

There is always more to do in this physical "welcome" aspect of Stewardship & Vitality, and we encourage others to join our committee in 2026. We look forward to an exciting 2026 as our time of transition takes shape, and we can take on new stewardship & vitality projects and campaigns. If you'd like to join us on the Stewardship and Vitality Committee, please reach out.

## TRUSTEES and PROPERTY

### Alan Gregson, Chair of Trustees

We took care of routine aspects such as paying the taxes on the rental house, ensuring we qualify for the Permissive Tax Exemption on our other properties, and updating our insurance. We also have oversight of the investments and finances of the Church trying to ensure we are on a sustainable path.



Much of our work this year has been in conjunction with **Property and Maintenance Committee**, led by Wayne Markel. We have been dealing with a new contract for the Church of the Sent rental group at Fort Langley, issues and repairs for the rental house at Murrayville, and bringing the basement/childcare rental space at Murrayville up to code. We have provided support in getting a large list of repairs and upgrades completed at both our sites: tree removal, painting, shed repairs, flooring, lighting upgrades, and grading of the parking lot at the Fort Langley site.



Three major accomplishments were the new rental agreement with the Township of Langley for our parking lot at Murrayville, the paving/upgrading of our property as part of the improvements to Old Yale Road, and decommissioning the septic tank at Fort Langley after connecting to the township sewer line.

We received two bequests during 2025. One from the estate of Thomas Rogers and one from Joyce McHugh's estate. The Christine and Blaine Lewis Fund with The United Church of Canada Foundation continues to provide support to our church.



## MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

### Sharon Chrismas

The Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee serves the church by offering care, guidance, and oversight for church staff and ministry leaders, in support of the

church's mission. Throughout the year, the Committee sought to handle all personnel matters with fairness, respect, and confidentiality, while remaining grounded in the values and policies of the church.

In February 2025, the Committee welcomed two new members, Eilleen Anderson and Ainslie Mills, who joined Sharon Chrismas, Trudy McMurdo, Judy Chang, and Betty Hewitt. The Committee is grateful for the commitment, insight, and care each member brought to this work.

This year was one of growth and faithful service. The Committee met regularly to listen and respond to the needs of staff and ministry leaders, conducted performance reviews to provide encouragement and constructive feedback, and assisted with staff transitions, role clarity, and position updates as needed. Members also served as a confidential and supportive presence for staff and church leadership.

In addition, the Committee reviewed its policies and procedures to ensure they remain current and responsive to the needs of the congregation.

Several M&P Committee members also served on the Transition Team, which was formed to help prepare the congregation for the Community of Faith vote regarding the future direction of ministry at UCoL. Following the congregation's decision to move forward with one full-time minister and one half-time minister, M&P members contributed to the development of job descriptions for these two ministry positions.

During a particularly demanding season, including an increased need for guest worship leaders, the committee worked to balance the many demands of ministry with the well-being of staff. This experience highlighted the importance of clear communication, healthy boundaries, and intentional care for those serving in leadership.

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is thankful for the trust placed in us by the congregation and deeply appreciative of the dedication and faithfulness of our church staff and ministry leaders. We give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve and remain committed to supporting a healthy and compassionate ministry in the year ahead.



## MINISTRIES OF WORSHIP & MUSIC

### WORSHIP FOR ALL AGES

In 2025 we were blessed to have a worship rhythm coordinated by Rev. Sophia, which included worship leadership by Rev. Sophia and our two beloved "retired" ministers – Rev. Louise Cummings and Rev. Gabrielle Suedfeld, along with other lay leaders including William Ness and Kellie Warnock. We worked to coordinate our scriptures and themes to weave together worship experiences that offered spiritual nurturance and faith-full explorations for all ages.



Two highlights this year was the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada Celebration Service and the Anniversary of our UCoL-St. Andrews, Fort Langley site—celebrating 140 years of continuous ministry in the Birthplace of BC! Rev. Sophia and Chris Bisset worked together to co-create a service that included beloved memories of service and care. Chris' passing at the end of the year makes this anniversary service even that more special... a time we will cherish for years to come. This year we were not able to put together an AWE or Blue Christmas service in addition to all the wonderful happenings at UCoL for 2025 Advent & Christmas season. Instead, both the December 14 *Christmas in the Barn* service and the December 21 *Choral Cantata* were alternative style worship experiences bringing story, children's engagement, and a choir extravaganza to our worship life.



Rev. Louise Cummings led the Christmas Eve service in Fort Langley and Rev. Sophia led the Christmas Eve service in Murrayville with Sharon Lauze offering two solos to intertwine with our *Experiencing Christmas through the Eyes and Heart of Mary*. Kellie Warnock and the UCoL Book Club offered a beautiful end-of-year reflective worship on the Sunday after Christmas – leading us into the new year with spiritual depth and intention.



Once again this year, we were the blessed recipients of Sherrie Radatzke's gifts of worshipful artistic beauty. Each service was filled with worship décor that delighted the eye and filled the soul. A big thank you to those who support Sherrie's vision, and all who tended to candles, communion, and all activities that make worship meaningful.

Contemplative Worship has been a regular part of the spiritual nurturance of a dedicated group of our congregants. We hope others will discover this morning practice and partake of this ministry.

## MUSIC

We partnered with the Fort Langley Jazz and Arts Festival producers to offer two Jazz AWEs (Alternative Worship Experiences) in 2025, - on May Day after the parade and community activities and as the ending event of the Jazz and Arts Festival. This continues to be a vital community ministry to grow the worship and music life of UCoL.



Featuring Dave Quinn,  
Tim Stacey and Doug Louie  
Hosted by Rev. Sophia Ducey

### Jazz AWE Alternative Worship Experience

Monday,  
May 19

Doors Open - 4pm  
4:30-5:30pm



United Churches  
of Langley  
9025 Glover Road  
Fort Langley



Our Fort Langley site continues to be a place for great music. Every Friday, Bluegrass musicians gather for a musical jam session. Two Thursdays a month, the Ceilidh musicians gather to share their musical gifts. (see Ceilidh report under Community Development / Belonging)

Sophia continued conversations in 2025 with some musicians to initiate regular AWE-style worship on Sunday mornings. Our hope is we can engage families and younger people in a way that resonates and inspires them into more regular connection with UCoL.



### CHOIR

Sharon Lauze, Music Director

The UCoL Choir enjoyed another successful year together. Our highlight was certainly the Christmas Cantata we presented with the choir from Cloverdale United. Both choirs and Jamie put in an enormous effort including extra practices and going back and forth between the two churches. The end result was beautiful and so well received.

Our numbers have fluctuated from time to time as people travel or have health issues, but we lift each other up and do our best. We have welcomed a couple of new members and of course we miss those no longer with us.

This choir is a blessing not only to our worship service but to each other. We are becoming such good friends, celebrating milestones and supporting one another through challenging times.

I am so grateful for Jamie's musicianship, he adds such flair and beauty to our music.

We look forward to expanding our abilities and continuing to be a vibrant and meaningful part of our community.



# MINISTRIES OF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT & PRACTICES

## ADULT SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

As people who follow the Christ, we know that personal growth and spiritual nurture is essential. In 2025 we were blessed again to have Gabrielle Suedfeld host a weekly Bible Study, and Kellie Warnock offer a monthly Book Study. Plans for other small group spiritual development programs were paused as we continued in this time of transition.

Reconciliation activities continue to be a faith-full spiritual expression for many of our UCoL-connected younger adults, as does service in the congregation and community are ways that congregants can share the gifts of the Spirit through them, and their sacred service.

We welcomed three new members into our congregation through baptism into the Christian Faith, as well as one through affirmation of faith. It is wonderful for the whole congregation to experience this commitment to faith, and to offer their renewed commitment to their own faith and supporting the faith of these new members.

### BIBLE STUDY

#### Rev. Gabrielle Suedfeld

Bible Study sessions were held on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 from January to May, and then from September to early December. This year, a number of new people attended. There were eighteen people on the email list, with an average of 10-12 at each session.



Instead of following the Lectionary, topics were selected by the group. Most sessions lasted for four to six weeks and were timed to fit in with the seasons of the church.

We began the year with a study of the development of the **King James Bible**, looking at the many scholars who worked on the translation, and the political and social conditions in Europe that surrounded their efforts.

Lent began with a simple Ash Wednesday service, followed by a five-week study of **Luke 6:27-38**, focusing

on *judging others, debtors, love your neighbour, love your enemy* and *mercy and grace*.

During the Easter season, we looked at biblical passages about travellers, **sojourners and refugees**, connecting contemporary issues.

Our Fall sessions began with a study of **Creation**, using stories from Genesis, followed by passages about thanksgiving and harvest, creation in the Christian scriptures, stories from other faiths and contemporary challenges. A second set of Fall gatherings dealt with the **Letters to Timothy**, church structure and family life. We ended the Advent season with a session on **Joseph** in the Gospel writings.

People on the email list received a notice of the coming session, with questions to consider as the bible passages were discussed. All sessions were self-contained, and everyone is welcome to join at any time.

## BOOK CLUB

### Kellie Warnock



The United Churches of Langley's long-standing Book Club has been meeting monthly from September through June for 15 years. We meet on the last Monday of the month

via Zoom. This allows those in the group who have moved away to continue being part of the club. There are about nine regular attending members, and approximately twenty who have stayed on the email list to check which books we are reading.

We all share a passion for books, and it has been a pleasure to lead this group throughout the years. We are a small group that regularly has check-ins to see how we are doing and offer support to each other.

This last December, a few members of the book club took part in offering a Sunday service to the congregation. We also took a tally of the books we have listed as those to read over the years, and they numbered 400+! It was quite fun to look back and recall discussions and books.

The Book Club strives to be an informal and inclusive group. If this interests you, please contact Kellie Warnock (contact info can be found in the Church Directory, or from the church office) to be added to the email list or receive a Zoom link to attend a meeting. All are welcome.

## FIRST THIRD: CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES

Our Spirit Academy Sunday morning programs continued to be blessed with the presence of Rhiana Antoniuk-Davies, who brings her gifts with younger children in creating and offering programming for Sunday morning and at ministry events in the community.



Attendance of families with children in Sunday morning worship grew a bit this year, as we welcomed new families with tots and school-aged children into our church family. Children's engagement through All-Ages AWE Moments became a delight for all.

With the increase of younger children, we added a Tot-Time drop off before service so families can settle in their young ones and then enjoy the worship service. After the AWE moment in worship, we offered all-ages programming, inviting children to explore their understanding of God, Jesus, and Spirit through story, music and activities.



A highlight again this year was hosting Camp Spirit at our Murrayville location. We had over 30 children and youth participants aged 5 to 13, ten staff aged 15 to 25, along with our youth and young adult staff and volunteers, and congregational members offering their gifts of care and creativity in the community programming and the kitchen.

Some UCoL families, teens and young adults remain in our pastoral reach, connecting with Rev. Sophia and each other on a regular basis. Although due to other support and ministry activities we did not have the chance to re-ignite our Youth and Young Adults groups, some of our younger people continue to step up into service, helping deepen their connection with UCoL.

Although many of the plans that were initiated in previous years continue to be paused in 2025, we look forward to the hiring of a minister with focused time on First Third to renew the possibilities of ministries with younger people as an avenue of sustainability and thriving for years to come!



## MINISTRIES OF COMMUNITY & BELONGING

The Stewardship and Vitality Committee worked with the greeters, ushers, and kitchen hospitality teams to bring a deeper sense of welcome and belonging to newcomers and long-timers alike. We hosted a *Pathways of Engagement* for newcomers and longer-time congregants wanting to explore other ways they can be involved in UCoL ministries and activities.

We hope to launch more in-depth stewardship and engagement learning opportunities including Spiritual Given Gifts, Regular and Legacy Giving, and other learning and reflecting circles and gatherings that build community vitality and belonging, provide spiritual nurturance and enhance generosity.

### ART BREAK

Sharon McMath

Since 2008, Art Break has happened on Friday mornings at 9:00am in the hall of the Fort Langley site. Our mission, over the years, has been to maintain a welcoming, caring group, bound together by an interest in visual



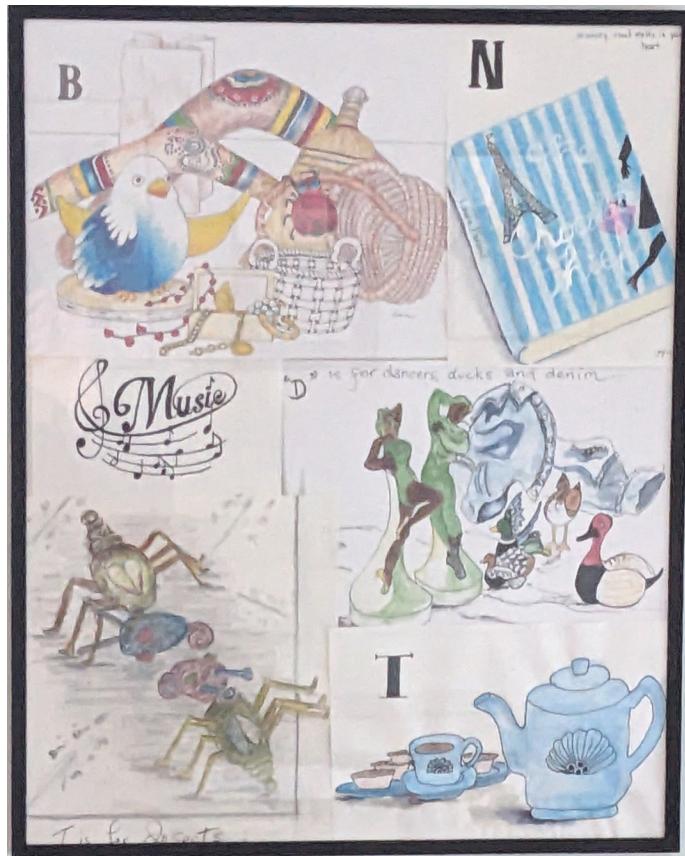
art. We collaborate on techniques and positive encouragement, resulting in an interesting morning of fun. Some of our members have been attending regularly for many years, and others return occasionally to enjoy the ambiance of our group.

In the past, we have always worked on our own individual projects. A few years ago, we started to do optional group projects, which encouraged us to work together on the same idea. This year, we have focused on the fun idea of illustrating items based on the letters of the alphabet. Each week, we bring items to share which are relevant to the next letter. The items we choose, the medium we use and our own creative approaches result in very individualistic drawings.

Some of our regular members prefer to work on their own artistic interests, which provides variety in our group.

Thanks to all who participate by being creatively there. We welcome new members! Come, visit and see if this is a group you would like to be involved with.

The photos are some of our alphabet letters.



## SOCIAL GROUPS

Our two social groups continue their tradition of regular gatherings in town for a good meal and pleasant time together.

**Faithful Friends** group is open to all UCoL women who enjoy getting together socially to share conversation and fellowship. The group meets monthly, from September to June, on a Saturday morning for breakfast at a favourite local restaurant. They traditionally have a dinner out together for their meeting in May. Watch for the announcements in the church e-news about the Faithful Friends gatherings or contact the group facilitator, Sherry Robles.

**Men's Breakfast** group gathers once a month at Ricky's restaurant in Murrayville for breakfast and casual conversation in a relaxed atmosphere. This is a very informal gathering; the topics are varied and conversation is spirited. Usual attendance is from 8 – 10 men, and ALL UCoL men are invited to join. If interested, please watch the e-news announcements or contact Bill Pike or Lyle Phillips.

## SKEPTICS

**Lynda Markel**

The Skeptics Group continues to meet on Fridays from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm at Fort Langley. We have an average of 10 to 12 people gathering weekly.

We have read and discussed several books this year. Our latest book is *On the Ground - My Life as a Foreign Correspondent* by Brian Stewart.



We share our thoughts on the latest book with constructive debate as we look at each other's points of view. There is joy, laughter and learning.

The Skeptics Group is open to anyone who would like to attend.

The loss of Chris Bisset in December has left a big hole in the Group. Chris always kept us on track. She is dearly missed.

## CÉILIDH

Céilidh is a amazing community ministry held UCoL St. Andrew's Fort Langley Hall on the 3rd Thursday of the month for over 17 years! UCoL welcomes people to themed evenings of amazing live music and community connection for ten months of the year. The hall is usually filled to near capacity each month, and this UCoL ministry brings in around \$5,000 each year in fun(d)raising! Participants are continually reminding us of how much they appreciate our event. Both audience and performers come from far and wide, volunteering their gifts and service.

After the retirement of our long-time dedicated leaders Jack and Margaret Williamson in 2024, Rev. Sophia has been supporting the volunteer team to keep this important community ministry thriving. The new team has been going strong in their second season: Ron Star (Event & Musician Coordinator and MC) and Karen Fabris (Communication, Volunteer & Kitchen Coordinator), along with Tim Jones, Ernie and Suzanne Kendall, Olie and John Hunter, Xander (Tim's grandson), Ian Neufeld and Kayla Vickers, Lisa Halliday, and Sherry Robles.



## MINISTRIES OF CARE



### Pastoral Care Team Amanda Vanags

Pastoral Care occurs during meetings of the Pastoral Care Committee, which are held once a month from September through June, on Sunday mornings with hospitality, and during all times of

the year as we make contact with people, show our concern, offer support and kindness, and share the love of Christ as part of our call to the congregation.

The Pastoral Care Team consists of Jackie Peebles and Deb Koroll (co-chairs), Rev. Sophia Ducey, Amanda Vanags (Secretary), Elaine Pokorny, Sherry Robles, and Rev. Gabrielle Suedfeld. Each meeting begins with a prayer or reading, followed by a brief check-in of members and a discussion of concerns and reports.

Pastoral Concerns include phone calls or visits made, reports of illness, congregant family members' deaths and needs for hospital or home visits. This year, the Pastoral Care team has been involved in the preparation of meals for congregants requiring short-term support in this area.

### Cards

Jackie Peebles sends birthday cards to those who are 90 years of age or older, and organizes the lists of cards, cookies and plants to be sent to people at Christmas. The Pastoral Care team shares the work of preparing and mailing or hand-delivering the cards the week before Christmas and baking and delivering cookies to



older adults living at home. Plants are given to families who have had a loss in the past year.

Deb Koroll sends sympathy cards to those recently bereaved, get-well cards to those who have had an illness or surgery, and "thinking of you" cards on the first anniversary of a death in the family.

### Administrative Care

The church office, under the guidance of Jovana Ivanovic, is indispensable in our continuing care to those associated with the church. Often, the first contact people have is through the church office, and information is available for all church activities, shared with compassion and concern.

This year, the Pastoral Care team, with valuable input from Maureen Burgess, updated the church's **emergency contact list**. In addition, Pastoral Care keeps records of those congregants who receive care at home or reside in residential care facilities. On occasion, Pastoral Care team members have driven congregants needing rides to appointments and visited individuals at home following discharge from hospital.

The office administrator keeps records of membership, baptism, and memorial services.

### 2025 MEMBERSHIP ROLL

<b>Removed:</b>	6
by transfer	0
by death	6
by request	0
<b>Received</b>	4
by transfer	0
by profession of faith	1
By adult baptism	3

Total on United Churches of Langley Membership Roll on December 31, 2025: **193**

Active Member and Adherent households (indicated by inclusion into the Congregational Directory): 188

Households on the mailing list (estimated): 270

Households on email list: 247

2025 Child Baptisms 0

2025 Weddings 7

2025 Funerals/Memorials 7

We remember the following people who died in 2025 and early in 2026:

*Barbara Stuart*

*Bud Reed*

*David Ormrod*

*Norman Scott*

*Muriel Schroyen*

*Gladys Johnston*

*Ron Moore*

*Chris Bisset*

*Alice Johnson*

*Marion Ryan*

*Norma Carruthers*

## UCW

### Shirley McGonigal, President

The UCW meetings are held alternately at the Murrayville and Fort Langley sites. We gathered for eight meetings in 2025.



We lost four of our older members during the year, as well as Chris Bisset suddenly in December. Chris was an active member. They will all be missed.

Our total Membership is 40. We usually have between 16 and 18 women attending the meetings. The average age is over 80.

Fundraising efforts included the **Strawberry Social and Bake Sale** and **Christmas Luncheon and Bake Sale**—both in Murrayville. The bake sales are supported by all the people of the church—either as bakers, or shoppers. We also catered for memorial receptions for members of the church.

Last year, we were very active in the community outreach in Fort Langley. We opened the church for **May Day**, served free coffee and gave tours of the church while an organist was playing. On September 28th, the celebration of the **140th Anniversary of St. Andrew's** church, we hosted the festive reception. Approximately 100 people attended the celebration, with past ministers participating and church members telling stories from the history of the church. On **Remembrance Day**, after the Cenotaph service, we served coffee, hot chocolate and cookies to approximately 300 people. Cookies were supplied by



UCW members, and Lee's store provided the hot chocolate.

At the end of the year, we donated funds to UCoL's General fund, Ishtar Women's Resource Society, First United Church in Vancouver, VST, VST Scholarship Fund and the National UCW Project (Healing Fund).

Our strength is that we are bonded by long-term and newly made friendships, and the care we have for each other.



## SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES

**Staff: Gillian McLeod, Facilitator**

**Minister: Rev. Sophia Ducey**

**Team: Lisa Halliday, Erica Hanna (EDI focus),  
Jay Hanna (youth representative)**

2025 was a year of adapting to the various emergent needs of our congregation and community – yet remaining focused on our two primary purposes for the year: Refugee Sponsorship & our Feeding Ministries. We took time to discern the local needs, while staying attuned to the national and international, to assess how we might stay current and engaged in doing our small part of making the world a better place.

### We Feed People!

We as a congregation have always prioritized ensuring that people, and in particular children, have access to healthy food. We feed people! Our main avenues for expressing this priority include financial support and/or volunteering for our **Starfish Pack** ministry, the Nicomekl Elementary School Breakfast program and **Sources Langley Food Bank**.

To offer support to more organizations and families during the holidays, we chose to support six local food resources including: **Sources Langley Food Bank, Langley Meals on Wheels, Langley Food Bank, Aldergrove Food Bank, Raphael House, Vineyard Church and Langley Christmas Bureau's Christmas Hampers program**.

We hosted six organizations for a *World Food Day Lunch & Learn*. The children that day engaged with the story of Stone Soup and we served soup for all participants of the Lunch & Learn. Langley Senior Resources Society, Encompass Support Services Society, Sources Langley Food Bank, Langley Food Bank, and Starfish Pack Program provided insights into the extreme needs in our community and ways that we can work together to ensure food security for all. The focus was on being good neighbours – being aware of and offering care for those more vulnerable in our housing complexes, in our neighbourhoods, and in the greater Langley community.



### STARFISH PACK PROGRAM

**Bev Rodrigo, Program Coordinator**

At present, we are packing and delivering 115 packs of weekend food to three elementary schools. The food is purchased from **Save On Food**, which gives a 15% discount and free delivery. We are purchasing our fruit and vegetables from the **Refood** program, that provides a larger selection and more variety of fresh food for the students.

We are monitoring the program to be sure it remains in our yearly budget. We have volunteers from the church and also from the community. The volunteers are amazing and are a vital part of the program.

We receive several donations from groups in the community and also outside our community that support the program.

We pack every Thursday at 12 noon in the church hall in Murrayville. You are all welcome to join us or to just drop by to see the program in action.

Thank you to the church for your dedicated support of the program.

Below is a photo from a Langley School District Foundation's fundraiser event for Starfish Pack Program.





## NICOMEKL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Diane Frew

United Churches of Langley continues to support the **Nicomekl Breakfast program**. We prepare breakfast for anywhere between 70 to 90

students. With the school extension

(that was completed in August) the school is now building a new kitchen, which should be completed in May. We are looking forward to this, as we will once again be able to feed the children indoors. At the moment we still hand out food at the entrance to the school.

We acquired 4 new volunteers this year to replace those that stepped down, but we are always looking for volunteers. If you are interested, please leave your name with the church office. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that make my job so easy.

## Refugee Sponsorship

Late in 2024, we welcomed the Ghanoum Family into North Surrey, close to family and accessible to the community, with whom they could grow in learning English and still have deep connections to their cultural roots. Gillian and other UCoL volunteers worked diligently to set them up in their new home and keep them connected to the local resources for new immigrants. We financially supported them over our 14 months of sponsorship with \$100,000 in rent and monthly support.



Abdul continues to grow in his English skills, and is still searching for work to support his ever-growing family with twins on the way! We continue to hold them in our hearts and prayers, and when able, Gillian continues to be a source of connection to resources available in our local community.

## Welcoming & Supporting Other New Immigrants

We continue to be a welcoming place for new immigrants to create faith-full community at UCoL. We welcomed three new immigrants into the Christian faith through baptism, and supported families with support letters who are seeking application to the next phase of becoming permanent residents and ultimately citizens. We also welcomed a new family and then a new baby at Christmas time, learning that challenges of safety are not on the other side of the world, but sometimes just next door. It has felt good to see our congregation growing in diversity, while learning more about the challenges around the world for people seeking to find welcome in our beautiful, safe country we call home.

## You've Gotta Have Friends

In 2025, we continued our pilot program of re-launching *You've Gotta Have Friends*, a community-based ministry for connection for those in the greater Langley City and Township. We shared coffee times and art and other engagement activities such as laughter yoga, karaoke, vision boards, book club, and movie nights over the course of winter and spring. *You've Gotta Have Friends* volunteers and participants also joined us for a *Lunch & Learn* at UCoL to talk about the growing need for connection and community in Langley.

Although we ended up bringing the pilot program to a close in September 2025, determining that we did not have the capacity to host community space well with the diverse needs of volunteers, participants and staff, we feel we were able to serve a little bit of the need for community, and have created connections with other churches and organizations that will continue to meet this need in other ways.

## Langley Community Day

As we kicked off the summer in 2025, we joined with other community partners at the Langley Community Day event. Staff and volunteers from UCoL and You've Gotta Have Friends connected with the greater Langley community in this fun day, promoting our ministries of inclusion, welcome, and creating deep connection and friends.



### UCoL Involvement in Community Forums & Committees

Gillian McLeod, our Social Justice & Outreach Facilitator, served on many community forums addressing poverty, food, and immigration concerns in our community. Her growing knowledge of the needs of the community has helped inform our activities of UCoL Social Justice & Outreach. Our SJO Facilitator engaged with congregants at both sites in supporting community connection and engagement with SJO. She hosted many congregational and community connections, including Coffee & Chat in the community and Sit & Stitch at the Murrayville site.

### Affirm & Pride

On August 9, 2025, the Langley Senior Resources Society, the Senior Pride Social Group, and the Langley Pride Society teamed up and presented Langley Pride Day 2025. Some UCoL members participated in celebrating this day of inclusiveness, diversity, acceptance, and community spirit for 2SLGBTQ+ members and allies of our community in a fun and entertaining way. How wonderful it is for queer Christians to feel welcome and included in our community through the celebration of Love & Pride.

Also in August 2025, we hosted an *All-Ages Sock Hop* and welcomed a Drag King to show us some new moves

and enliven the evening. Music provided by *Off Kilter Entertainment* with DJ Kiki. This congregational event was a fun gathering of all ages, all dance styles! *Young and the Old, Meek and the Bold!*

### Support for the People of Palestine

In September 2025, we welcomed Kathryn Harris, who travelled to the West Bank in October 2024, to lead **Sunday worship and a Lunch & Learn**, to share her experiences from her journey and talk about the current situation in Palestine.

Some questions many of us deal with may include: what is the reality on the ground beyond what we see in the media? How can we deal with what is happening without being paralyzed by grief or anger - or turning away? How can we, here, make a difference?

During the church service, as well as the Lunch & Learn, we explored some of these questions together, along with hearing personal stories from Palestine, the 'holy land' - individual Palestinians' stories about their struggles, oppression and where they find hope, along with what it is like to travel in the West Bank in these times.

**Artisan goods were available for purchase**, which came directly from artists and artisans in the occupied West Bank. This was one concrete way of providing support to people in Palestine who have amazing skills but no longer any way to sell their products (due both to the occupation and to the complete collapse of any tourism).



We continue to contemplate what we are called to do – mostly, engage our hearts and minds on the injustice. Prayerfully consider what our part is in creating and supporting peace in our world. Buy artisan products, olive oil, carved crafts & nativity scenes that are a multi-faith, multi-cultural expression of this region.

### Reconciliation

Rev. Sophia Ducey worked with other local churches and community partners to host the 10th Annual ***Walk in the Spirit of Reconciliation***. It was wonderful to reflect on our 10-year journey since the Truth & Reconciliation Commission events and report. The Walk has had many changes over the past 10 years, adjusting to the ever-changing world in which we live (pandemic, findings of buried remains at residential schools since 2021, deeper commitment and also more intense denialism in our community). We continue to walk in the spirit of reconciliation in whatever way we are called to – individually and collectively.

This year we walked from our UCoL-Fort Langley site to the Kwantlen Longhouse, where we heard reflections on the experience of Cecelia Reekie's dad, Cecil "Wahed" Paul, at two residential schools, and a heartfelt sharing by Cecelia of her journey of being an Indigenous educator in the school system. Friday evening ended with a very moving candlelighting tribute for *Whom We Walk or Why We Walk*. Saturday included an indigenous plant walk, and Sunday included the last stretch of the Walk, from Mission Heritage Park to the St. Mary's Residential School property, where we participated in a reading of and recommitment to the 94 Calls to Action.

Rev. Sophia Ducey also served on the committee that hosted the annual **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation** event on September 30 at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum. Community members spoke about what they are still seeing as the need for all-community involvement in the activities of reconciliation. We heard stories about residential school survivors, and the collective need to stand strong with and for our Indigenous friends as they experience re-traumatization from the onslaught of denialism of their experience and the ongoing effects on the families of survivors. We ended the evening with a candlelight vigil through the park led by Indigenous drummers, ending on the knoll where the 215 crosses stood from 2021 to 2023.

### FAIR TRADE SUPPORT Peggy Lenti

The coffee we drink at church is Fair Trade, purchased from Level Ground Coffee. This Victoria-based company buys coffee from several coffee cooperatives throughout



South America and Africa and pays Fair Trade premiums, which are directed to different projects based on the needs of the farmers: healthcare benefits, school scholarships, agricultural technical training, co-op projects etc.

As users of Fair Trade coffee, UCoL congregants and user groups indirectly support coffee growers and their families and communities, contributing to their wellbeing and improvements of their lives.



Peggy Lenti has a wholesale account with Level Ground Coffee, which offers a 35% discount on 300g bags and 20% on 5lb boxes. If you like Fair Trade coffee you drink at church and want to support small growers around the world, you can view the selection at [www.levelground.com](http://www.levelground.com) and order at discounted prices through Peggy.

### The SJO Legacy Fund financially supported the following organizations and individuals:

Our sponsored family – the Ghanous, other new immigrant families, young new immigrants who needed counseling to address issues of trauma, Coldest Night of the Year (Gateway of Hope Langley), Langley School District Foundation (Starfish Pack program), Sources Langley Food Bank, Langley Meals on Wheels, Langley Food Bank, Aldergrove Food Bank, Raphael House, and Vineyard Church, Langley Community Health and Hospital Foundation *Whatever it Takes* Fund, First United, Langley Community Services, Langley Senior Resource Centre & Langley Seniors in Action, Ron Cares, Langley Christmas Bureau Hampers, Community Peacemakers Team Palestine support, Palestinian Artists, OneTWU (Queer club on Trinity Western University campus), a TWU student from Ghana, Encompass Support Services Society children, youth and family programs, Salal & Cedar, Walk in the Spirit of Reconciliation, National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, Indspire (Indigenous educational charity), Brenda Fawkes VST Student Bursary, and the Guatemala school expansion built by World Pilgrim Global Education.

## APPENDIX 1—2025 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

**Minutes for the  
Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM)  
February 9, 2025  
United Churches of Langley (UCoL)  
In person at 21562 Old Yale Road, Langley B.C. V3A 4M8  
and via Zoom**

**Welcome & Land Acknowledgement** (Board Chair William Ness)

- We acknowledge with gratitude that we live and gather on the unceded and ancestral lands of the Kwantlen, Matsqui, Katzie and the Semiahmoo people. We honour their faithful stewardship of the land and seek to walk in the Spirit of Reconciliation.
- As per the tradition of United Churches of Langley, this meeting will be Chaired by the current Chair of the Board, William Ness and the Recording Secretary, Sandi Takasaki. (United Church of Canada Manual Section B.5.2)

**Call to Order** – William Ness called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

**Establish Meeting Quorum** - According to the UCC Manual, for a congregation of 100 or more members, at least 20 full members must be present to convene a congregational meeting. There were 51 full members and 10 adherents present at the meeting and one member of the clergy.

**Motion that adherents be included as eligible voters**

Moved by Lyle Phillips, and seconded by Bill Pike, that adherents be included as eligible voters.

Motion passed with all in favour.

**Confirm Agenda**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

**Opening Prayer**- Rev. Sophia Ducey led us in prayer.

**In Memoriam** -Remembering and Giving Thanks -Pastoral Care Team

Rev. Gabrielle Suedfeld led a brief ceremony to remember the congregational members who have died over the last year. We give thanks for their friendship, their loving service, their support and their wisdom. As each name was read aloud a red rose was placed at the front of the sanctuary. We remembered the following:

Verna Hickey, Alieta Nataros, Marilyn Bouthot, Diana Cudlipp, Les Clay, Minea Squire, Blaine Lewis, Jayne Slawson, Andrew Rathgeber, Joyce McHugh, Arnold Aylen, Bill Stacey, Ivan Leeper, Evelyn Swenson and Tina Soames.

**Motion to approve the minutes of 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting**

Moved by Kelsey Hanna, and seconded by Judy Chang, to approve the minutes of the 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting.

Motion passed with all in favour

## **Motion to receive the 2024 Annual Report**

Moved by Andrea Hammond, seconded by Raquel Gregson, to receive the 2024 Annual Report.

Motion passed with all in favour

## **Nominations Committee Report and Election of the new Board of Governance and Board of Trustees – Paul Hughes**

We extend our thanks to Tegan Ness and Tim Jones, who have completed their terms.

The following Board members will continue in their positions:

William Ness- moving into his second year of a 2-year term

Co- Vice Chairs- Deanna Feuer and Paul Hughes- moving into their second year of a 2-year term

Ministry & Personnel Chair- Sharon Chrismas- moving into her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as M&P chair

Stewardship Chair- Kelsey Hanna- moving into his 2<sup>nd</sup> year as Stewardship & Vitality Chair

Member-at-Large: Erica Hanna and Trudy McMurdo will be moving into their 2<sup>nd</sup> years as Members-at-Large

UCW Representative- Lynda Christensen will continue representing the UCW on the Board

The following people are nominated by the Nomination Committee:

Secretary- Sandi Takasaki – 2 -year term

Co-Treasurers- Andrea Hammond and Dale Hewitt- 2-year term

Interim Property Chair- Wayne Markel- 1year term

Finance Chair- call for nominations from the floor: Raquel Gregson volunteered for this position- 2-year term

Pacific Mountain Regional Council Rep- Joanne Rathgeber, Kayla Vickers and Betty Hewitt- 2-year term

Member-at-Large- Carol Sawyer- 2-year term

Moved by Jim Jordan-Knox and seconded by Eileen Anderson, to affirm the slate of nominees as presented by the Nomination Committee.

Motion passed with all in favour.

Trustees:

The following people will continue as Trustees:

Howard Searle- serving the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a 3-year term

Sharon McMath- serving the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a 3-year term

The following people are nominated by the Nomination Committee:

Alan Gregson (Chair)- for a three-year term

Jim Jordon-Knox- for a three-year term

Dougal Shewan- for a three-year term

Jackie Peebles- for a one-year term

Moved by Jamie Nelson, and seconded by Barrie Mills, to approve the Trustees for the coming year.

Motion passed with all in favour.

We thank the following people for their continued work on Board committees:

M&P- Sharon Chrismas (Chair), Judy Chang, Betty Hewitt, Trudy McMurdo

Stewardship- Kelsey Hanna (Chair), Masako Ryan, Raquel Gregson, Sharon Chrismas, Bill Pike

Finance- Raquel Gregson (Chair), Kellie Warnock, Andrea Hammond, Dale Hewitt, Dougal Shewan, Barrie Mills

Property- Wayne Markel (Chair), Jim Jordan-Knox, Tom Radatzke, Dan Read

With gratitude, we thank all those who continue serving on Ministry Teams:

Social Justice & Outreach Team, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Team, Worship & Sunday Morning Experience Teams, Pastoral Care Team and the many women who serve the UCW.

**2024 Operating Financials and Investments and the 2025 Operating Budget** – Andrea Hammond (Co-Treasurer)

Andrea reviewed the financial information as presented in the 2025 Annual Report. The 2025 budget is a deficit budget and includes funding for two full time ministers. Over the next few months there will be opportunities for the congregation to meet to share their visions that will help move UCoL forward. When decisions are made regarding staffing, there may be adjustments to the budget.

**Motion to receive the 2024 Operating Financials (unaudited)**

Moved by Howard Searle, and seconded by Eileen Anderson, to receive the 2024 Operating Financials (unaudited)

Motion passed with all in favour

**Motion to approve the 2025 Operating Budget**

Moved by Jim Jordan-Knox, and seconded by Paul Hughes, to approve the 2025 Operating Budget.

Motion passed with all in favour

**Motion for the external review of the 2024 Financial Records**

Moved by Alan Gregson, and seconded by Maureen Burgess, to have an external review of the 2024 Financial Records.

Motion passed with all in favour.

- Stewardship presentation on the 2024 building projects and revenue streams- Kelsey Hanna

Kelsey gave an overview of the Stewardship program. He thanked the many volunteers for their support. He included information on financial streams, including rentals, donations and fundraising.

**Social Justice & Outreach Ministries and approved budget update**- Gillian McLeod

Gillian reviewed her work as Social Justice & Outreach Facilitator. The Board approved the budget for this program at the January 2025 Board meeting.

**An expression of thanks:**

Sharon Chrismas, chair of M&P, offered an expression of thanks to the staff of United Churches of Langley, including Rev. Sophia Ducey, Rev. Ryan T. Chapman, Gillian McLeod, Jovana Ivanovic and Sherry Klassen.

**Closing prayer**

Rev. Sophia led us in a closing prayer.

**Closing Hymn**

# 214- May God's Sheltering Wings

Joanne Rathgeber led the singing, with Gillian McLeod accompanying on the piano.

**Adjournment:**

Moved by Kayla Vickers, and seconded by Howard Searle to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed with all in favour.

The meeting concluded at 1:45 p.m.

**Minutes of the  
Special Congregational Meeting  
United Churches of Langley (UCoL)  
21562 Old Yale Road, Langley BC V3A 4M8  
June 1, 2025 at 12:30 a.m.**

**Welcome & Land Acknowledgement-** William Ness

We acknowledge with gratitude that we live and gather on the unceded and ancestral lands of the Kwantlen, Matsqui, Katzie and the Semiahmoo people. We honour their faithful stewardship of the land and seek to walk in the Spirit of Reconciliation.

William welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

As per the tradition of United Churches of Langley, this meeting will be Chaired by the current Chair of the Board, William Ness and the Recording Secretary, Sandi Takasaki. (United Church Manual Section B.5.2)

**Call to Order** – William Ness called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

**Establish Meeting Quorum** - According to the UCC Manual, for a congregation of 100 or more members, at least 20 full members must be present to convene a congregational meeting.

There were 69 members and 7 adherents in attendance, therefore we have a quorum.

**Motion that adherents be included as eligible voters**

Moved by Kelsey Hanna and seconded by Alan Gregson to include adherents as eligible voters.

Motion was approved with all in favour.

**Confirm Agenda**

There were no other items added to the agenda.

**Minutes of the Congregational Meeting of February 9, 2025 will be deferred to the next Congregational Meeting.**

**Motion to adopt the agenda**

Moved by Raquel Gregson and seconded by Lyle Phillips to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion was approved with all in favour.

**Introduction of Pacific Mountain Region Representative Rev. Victoria Andrews**

Rev. Andrews joined the meeting via cell phone.

**Opening Prayer**- Rev. Gabrielle Suedfeld opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Overview of Process-** William Ness

William reviewed the strengths and challenges of Option 1 and 2. He also reviewed the terminology used by the United Church of Canada of First Third ministry.

**Vote on the two options presented**

Moved by Bill Pike and seconded by Robyn Garland that the threshold for the percentage of the vote to approve either Option 1 or Option 2 be 70%.

Motion was approved with a majority.

Moved by Carol Sawyer and seconded by Judy Chang that United Churches of Langley take a secret ballot vote to select either Option 1 or Option 2 as outlined in the May 2025 Community of Faith Report.

Motion was approved with all in favour.

The congregation moved to the voting area and cast their ballots.

The results of the vote will be announced on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Closing prayer** – Rev. Gabrielle Suedfeld led the congregation in prayer.

**Congregational Singing**- We are One #402- vs: 1, 2 and 4

Moved by Paul Hughes and seconded by Barry Mills to destroy the ballots after they are counted.

Motion was approved with all in favour.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Lyle Phillips and seconded by Sharon McMath to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was approved with all in favour.

The meeting concluded at 1:03 p.m.

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William Ness

Chair of the Board

Sandi Takasaki

Recording Secretary

## APPENDIX 3—2025 Year End Financials and 2026 UCoL Proposed Budget for Approval

		Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026
40000	<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>					
40210	Received Offerings (General Fund)	\$ 224,477.83	\$ 206,650.99	\$ 230,000.00	\$ 222,830.81	\$ 225,000.00
40290	Loose Cash	\$ 1,857.17	\$ 3,121.05	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,532.75	\$ 2,500.00
40900	<b>Sub Total Offerings</b>	<b>\$ 226,335.00</b>	<b>\$ 209,772.04</b>	<b>\$ 232,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 225,363.56</b>	<b>\$ 227,500.00</b>
	Other income - some coded here and some below				\$ 140.00	
42100	UCW Women's Group	\$ 7,475.00	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
42200	Fundraising & Misc Revenue	\$ 5,437.25	\$ 4,296.20	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,337.72	\$ 5,000.00
42700	<b>Sub Total Other General Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 12,912.25</b>	<b>\$ 23,796.20</b>	<b>\$ 8,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,477.72</b>	<b>\$ 8,000.00</b>
42900	<b>TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 239,247.25</b>	<b>\$ 233,568.24</b>	<b>\$ 240,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 237,841.28</b>	<b>\$ 235,500.00</b>
44000	<b>FACILITIES &amp; CEREMONIES REVENUE</b>					
44120	Church & Hall Rentals - Fort Langley	\$ 56,840.62	\$ 67,452.36	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 81,995.53	\$ 75,000.00
44130	Church & Hall Rentals - Murrayville	\$ 166,787.85	\$ 187,062.45	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 138,724.56	\$ 160,000.00
44140	Residence Rental - MV	\$ 21,313.26	\$ 21,725.55	\$ 22,300.00	\$ 22,336.25	\$ 22,864.12
44199	<b>SubTotal Facilities Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 244,941.73</b>	<b>\$ 276,240.36</b>	<b>\$ 257,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 243,056.34</b>	<b>\$ 257,864.12</b>
44500	<b>SubTotal Ceremonies Revenue - Weddings &amp; Memorials</b>	<b>\$ 12,985.00</b>	<b>\$ 44,603.00</b>	<b>\$ 23,425.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,490.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,725.00</b>
45900	<b>TOTAL FACILITIES &amp; CEREMONIES REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 257,926.73</b>	<b>\$ 320,843.36</b>	<b>\$ 280,725.00</b>	<b>\$ 259,546.34</b>	<b>\$ 276,589.12</b>
49900	<b>TOTAL OTHER REVENUE - M&amp;S and Broadview</b>	<b>\$ 20,015.94</b>	<b>\$ 19,440.51</b>	<b>\$ 18,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,329.40</b>	<b>\$ 18,650.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE Excluding Bequests &amp; Offsets</b>	<b>\$ 517,189.92</b>	<b>\$ 573,852.11</b>	<b>\$ 539,975.00</b>	<b>\$ 516,717.02</b>	<b>\$ 530,739.12</b>
	<b>EXPENSE</b>	Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026
50014	<b>SubTotal Wages &amp; Salaries</b>	<b>\$ 269,568.34</b>	<b>\$ 302,368.08</b>	<b>\$ 339,571.37</b>	<b>\$ 264,092.22</b>	<b>\$ 302,169.21</b>
50099	<b>SubTotal Minister Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 9,519.50</b>	<b>\$ 7,819.84</b>	<b>\$ 11,700.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,515.80</b>	<b>\$ 9,925.00</b>
51999	<b>SubTotal Contract Service Fees</b>	<b>\$ 18,753.00</b>	<b>\$ 44,512.50</b>	<b>\$ 31,355.00</b>	<b>\$ 27,822.90</b>	<b>\$ 32,700.00</b>
52099	<b>SubTotal Payroll &amp; M&amp;P Expense</b>	<b>\$ 69,577.35</b>	<b>\$ 73,019.45</b>	<b>\$ 75,296.04</b>	<b>\$ 53,071.07</b>	<b>\$ 59,131.80</b>
52999	<b>TOTAL PAYROLL &amp; CONTRACTOR FEES</b>	<b>\$ 367,418.19</b>	<b>\$ 427,719.87</b>	<b>\$ 457,922.41</b>	<b>\$ 351,501.99</b>	<b>\$ 403,926.01</b>
54900	<b>TOTAL PROPERTY EXPENSE both sites &amp; residence</b>	<b>\$ 138,742.95</b>	<b>\$ 133,100.57</b>	<b>\$ 159,725.05</b>	<b>\$ 144,584.10</b>	<b>\$ 157,325.05</b>
55950	<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 20,107.70</b>	<b>\$ 28,793.26</b>	<b>\$ 32,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 27,234.79</b>	<b>\$ 31,700.00</b>
	<b>PROGRAM EXPENSE</b>					
56190	<b>SubTotal First Third: Children , Youth, YA, Families</b>	<b>\$ 7,666.77</b>	<b>\$ 6,031.31</b>	<b>\$ 9,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,730.10</b>	<b>\$ 9,200.00</b>
56319	<b>SubTotal - Worship and Music</b>	<b>\$ 8,967.93</b>	<b>\$ 9,340.99</b>	<b>\$ 11,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,608.36</b>	<b>\$ 11,800.00</b>
56490	<b>SubTotal Care Ministries</b>	<b>\$ 2,029.60</b>	<b>\$ 2,685.76</b>	<b>\$ 3,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,711.36</b>	<b>\$ 3,400.00</b>
56845	<b>SubTotal Other Program Expense</b>	<b>\$ 194.92</b>	<b>\$ 219.22</b>	<b>\$ 700.00</b>	<b>\$ 290.30</b>	<b>\$ 800.00</b>
56890	<b>SubTotal Adult Spiritual &amp; Leadership</b>	<b>\$ 333.94</b>	<b>\$ 984.39</b>	<b>\$ 3,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,393.96</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
56999	<b>TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 19,193.16</b>	<b>\$ 19,261.67</b>	<b>\$ 29,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,734.08</b>	<b>\$ 30,200.00</b>
58500	<b>TOTAL United Church of Canada EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 56,773.73</b>	<b>\$ 53,923.00</b>	<b>\$ 54,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 56,732.85</b>	<b>\$ 56,800.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL ALL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 602,235.73</b>	<b>\$ 662,798.37</b>	<b>\$ 734,347.46</b>	<b>\$ 597,787.81</b>	<b>\$ 679,951.06</b>
	<b>TOTAL INCOME Excluding Bequests &amp; Offsets</b>	<b>\$ 517,189.92</b>	<b>\$ 573,852.11</b>	<b>\$ 539,975.00</b>	<b>\$ 516,717.02</b>	<b>\$ 530,739.12</b>
	<b>NET INCOME Excluding Bequests and Offsets</b>	<b>-\$ 85,045.81</b>	<b>-\$ 88,946.26</b>	<b>-\$ 194,372.46</b>	<b>-\$ 81,070.79</b>	<b>-\$ 149,211.94</b>
	<b>SJO OFFSETS</b>					
59005	Outreach Minister Salary Offset (20% + 2.6% 2026)	\$ 21,972.48	\$ 25,356.72	\$ 26,117.45	\$ 25,356.72	\$ 26,796.50
59010	Outreach Admin & Prop Offset (25% prop & admin ex-	\$ 63,786.00	\$ 71,036.44	\$ 72,991.26	\$ 71,041.44	\$ 73,438.25
59075	<b>TOTAL SJO OFFSETS</b>	<b>\$ 85,758.48</b>	<b>\$ 96,393.16</b>	<b>\$ 99,108.71</b>	<b>\$ 96,398.16</b>	<b>\$ 100,234.75</b>
	<b>NET INCOME after SJO OFFSETS (excluding bequests)</b>	<b>\$ 712.67</b>	<b>\$ 7,446.90</b>	<b>-\$ 95,263.75</b>	<b>\$ 15,327.37</b>	<b>-\$ 48,977.19</b>
		Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026
	<b>FINAL BEQUEST ADJUSTMENTS</b>					
	<b>SPECIAL DONATIONS - MCHUGH BEQUEST - CASH (33%)</b>	<b>\$ 16,334.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,573.55</b>		<b>\$ 19,240.46</b>	
	<b>NET INCOME after Special Donations/McHugh Genl 33%)</b>	<b>\$ 17,046.67</b>	<b>\$ 14,020.45</b>		<b>\$ 34,567.83</b>	
	<b>ROGERS BEQUEST - ALLOCATED TO FL BLDG EXPENSE</b>				<b>\$ 27,692.60</b>	

## APPENDIX 4—2025 Investment and Social Justice &amp; Outreach Offset Report

<u>Investment Funds Year End Values</u>	2022	2023	2024	2025
Bequest Fund - YE Market Value	\$ 494,805.00	\$ 468,915.00	\$ 523,272.00	\$ 566,147.00
Willoughby Fund - YE Market Value	\$ 1,066,883.00	\$ 1,195,030.00	\$ 1,223,555.00	\$ 1,264,330.00
SJOutreach Fund - YE Market Value	\$ 2,930,294.00	\$ 2,611,000.00	\$ 2,493,619.00	\$ 2,262,875.00
<b>Total Investments Year End Values</b>	<b>\$ 4,491,982.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,274,945.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,240,446.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,093,352.00</b>

<u>Withdrawals from Investment Funds by Year</u>	2022 Withdrawals	2023 Withdrawals	2024 Withdrawals	2025 Withdrawals
Bequest Fund Withdrawals to fund capital projects & ministry	\$ 18,700.00	\$ -	\$ -	
Willoughby Fund Withdrawals to fund capital proj & ministry	\$ 34,850.00	\$ -	\$ 103,000.00	\$ 59,000.00
SJOutreach Fund Withdrawals to Fund SJO Ministry & Offsets	\$ 72,500.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 475,000.00	\$ 420,000.00
<b>Total Withdrawals Fund to UCoL Ministry, SJO &amp; Capital Proj</b>	<b>\$ 126,050.00</b>	<b>\$ 400,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 578,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 479,000.00</b>

**Notes:**

Only Interest Income above **guaranteed principal of \$967,994** from Willoughby Fund can be used  
**(\$296,336 Willoughby Interest Income availbale for use to fund UCoL Ministry and Building Projects)**  
 SJOutreach Fund can only be used to fund Social Justice & Outreach Ministry and designated Offsets

<u>2026 Calculating SJO Property &amp; Admin Offsets</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Offset 25%</u>
Estimated Property Costs/Offsets	\$ 157,325.05	\$ 39,331.25
Estimated Admin Costs	\$ 31,700.00	\$ 7,925.00
Admin & Finance Staff (Salaries only)	\$ 104,728.00	\$ 26,182.00
<b>Total Admin Cost/Offset</b>	<b>\$ 136,428.00</b>	<b>\$ 34,107.00</b>
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY AND ADMIN COSTS / OFFSETS</b>	<b>\$ 293,753.05</b>	<b>\$ 73,438.25</b>

Minister Offset	2025	2026
Minister Offset (2.6% increase from 2025 Budget)	\$ 26,117.45	<b>\$ 26,796.50</b>

