



Hope Lutheran Church

Nanaimo, BC



2021 Annual Report

February 20, 2022 Annual General Meeting

Conducted Via Zoom and Telephone

Pastor: Terry Richardson

Parish Secretary: Janice Valecourt

AGENDA

Annual General Meeting February 20, 2022

1. Call to order
2. Certification of quorum
3. Opening prayer

Reports

1. Minutes of the 2021 AGM
2. Report of the Congregational Council
3. Report of the Pastor
4. Review of Program Committee Activities
 - a. Continuous Learning
 - b. Fellowship/Membership
 - c. Property/Gardening
 - d. Stewardship
 - e. Witness and Mission
 - f. Worship
 - g. Omnibus Motion of Thanks
5. Financial reports for the year ending December 31, 2021
6. Auditors' report for 2021

Business matters

1. Elections
 - a. Auditors for 2022
 - b. Congregational Council
 - c. Synod delegates
2. Budget for 2022
3. Omnibus Motion of Thanks 2021
4. Closing prayer
5. Adjournment

Reports will not be read out. Time will be allotted for general questions before a motion is made to receive them.

- Anyone wishing to add new items to the agenda is requested to do so before the meeting is called to order. Such items will be placed under "New Business".

FEBRUARY 20, 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Definitions

Governing authority

The Annual General Meeting is a *governance* meeting. It is the highest authority in the congregation and its purpose is to review the past year and ensure that all legal requirements and policy procedures have been observed.

Management authority

Management authority is assigned to the elected Congregational Council. It is the responsibility of the management authority to carry out such operations and programs as are outlined in the budget for the upcoming year.

Reporting

Finances

Audited financial statements will be presented and the congregation will be asked to *adopt* them. Financial statements are a matter of governance accountability.

Other Reports

Reports will be presented and the congregation will be asked to *receive* them. Reports are for information, not for governance accountability.

The Congregational Council will present a summary of its meetings and the deliberative decisions it has taken during the past year. Policy additions or changes will be presented separately for adoption depending on whether they are a matter of governance accountability.

Rules of procedure

The role of the chair

The chair of the meeting is responsible for insuring that respectful order prevails and that the Constitution and Bylaws of the congregation are legally observed in the proceedings.

Questions from the floor

The chair will entertain questions from the floor for the following purposes:

1. To request assistance in participating, eg. hearing issues, etc.
2. To request further information
3. To clarify understanding of a comment or report
4. To raise a point of parliamentary order

All questions or comments must be directed to the chair.

Debate about past actions or between members in attendance will not be permitted. Such matters are the purview of the Congregational Council and not pertinent to a general governance meeting.

Motions from the floor

Any member may make a motion from the floor. Such motions must be pertinent to the matter under discussion. Before a motion can be considered, another member must second it. Once such a motion is seconded, the mover may explain the reason for the motion. Further speaking will be acknowledged until it appears that it is time to vote on the motion. The original mover will be permitted to have the last word. ***The chair recommends that all motions be written out to assist the Secretary in preparing accurate minutes.***

A motion may be amended. The mover must state the intended change to the motion and such a motion must be seconded. Discussion will then move to the amendment *only* until the assembly votes on it. The same rules apply to an amendment as to an original motion. Amendments may not change the intended direction of the original motion. A *friendly amendment* can by-pass such rules if the mover of the original motion is receptive to the change. If the amendment carries, the new wording of the motion will be under consideration. If the amendment fails, the original motion stands.

Rules regarding motions

When the chair declares an end to discussion on a motion, the following options may be exercised:

1. A vote by which the motion is adopted or declined
2. A motion to defer action until a specified time
3. A motion to table the motion until the next AGM.

Motions to defer or to table may include directions to the Congregational Council for certain investigations, reviews, studies, etc., prior to the next time those motions are placed back on the table.

End of the meeting

The meeting will end when the Congregational Council presents an omnibus resolution thanking the past years' participants in all areas of the congregation's governance and management. (The appropriate response to the resolution is usually a standing ovation.)

Gerry Owen & Jan Nilsson
Co-Chairs of the Congregational Council

Annual General Meeting Minutes February 21, 2021 Hope Lutheran Church, Nanaimo, BC

1. Call to order @ 10:57 am.
2. Certification of quorum. There were 43 members in attendance (on-line via Zoom) which exceeds the requirement of 30 members for a quorum.
3. Opening prayer led by Pastor Terry Richardson.

Reports

1. Minutes of the 2020 AGM.

Motion to accept the minutes/moved/seconded/accepted.

2. Report of the Congregational Council
3. Report of the Pastor
4. Review of the Program Committee Activities
 - a. Continual Learning
 - b. Fellowship/Membership
 - c. Mutual Ministry - Visitors of Hope
 - d. Property/Gardening
 - e. Finance/Stewardship
 - f. Witness and Mission
 - g. Worship

Motion to receive the reports as submitted/moved/seconded/received.

5. Financial reports for the year ending December 31, 2020.

Gerry Owen acknowledged Joan Nolting and Erika Blakeman as part of the financial team and pointed out the extra challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic. He marvelled at the gradual growth in the number of screens at our Sunday service and thanked the congregation for their continued financial support.

Joan N asked that we recognize and thank Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Comox, BC, for their contributions.

Motion to accept the financial statements as presented/moved/seconded/accepted.

Business Matters

1. Budget for 2021.

Gerry Owen went over the budget briefly explaining some of the figures. Erika Blakeman encouraged the congregation to get and use a Thrifty Smile card which would donate a percentage of purchases to the church. Doug Roszmann pointed out that part of the property expenses were due to a water leak.

Motion to accept the proposed 2021 budget/moved/seconded/accepted.

2. Elections
 - a. Auditors for 2021. Nominations included Glenn Harvey and Gerry Jacobs.
Moved to accept Glenn Harvey and Gerry Jacobs as financial auditors for the year ending December 31, 2021/moved/seconded/accepted.
 - b. Congregational Council. Volunteers included Cynthia Cantelon, Shirley Forwell, Pat Hyslop, Gerry Jacobs, Curt Satre, Audrey Strauss and were accepted by acclamation.
Moved to accept Cynthia Cantelon, Shirley Forwell, Pat Hyslop, Gerry Jacobs, Curt Satre, Audrey Strauss as congregational council members.
 - c. Synod delegates. Glenn Harvey volunteered to attend the BC Synod Convention to be held on-line next October.
Moved to accept Glenn Harvey as a delegate to the BC Synod Convention/moved/seconded/accepted.
3. Resolution of thanks read by Linda Harvey and Ray Schultz.
4. Closing prayer led by Pastor Terry Richardson.
5. Adjournment @ 12:01 pm.

Church Council Report 2021

Council Members.	Term Expires	Office/Ministry	Notes
Curt Satre	2024	Secretary	Serving 1 st term
Linda Harvey	2022	Fellowship and Membership	Serving 2 nd term
Pat Hyslop	2024	Vice-Chair	Serving 1 st term
Shirley Forwell	2024	Continual Learning	Serving 1 st term
Audrey Strauss	2024	Witness and Mission	Serving 1 st term
Jan Nilsson	2022	Co-Chair	Serving 1 st term
Peter Clark	2022	Worship	Serving 1 st term
Gerry Owen	2022	Co-chair/Treasurer/Property	Serving 1 st term
Gerry Jacob	2021	Finance and Stewardship	Serving 1 st term
Officers			
Gerry Owen		Part of Finance Team	
Joan Nolting		Financial Secretary	
Erika Blakeman		Part of Finance Team	

Last year we experienced heat domes, forest fires, atmospheric rivers, with floods and slides destroying farmland and highways. It was a year like no other year in my lifetime. And Covid-19 is still with us. When will it end? Will it end? Some say it will end this year, others say no, it will be with us and we can live with it - thanks to a fully vaccinated population.

Council and others put in a huge effort last year to get to the possibility of opening our church to in-person worship. **Thanks** to our **Covid team**, led by **Pat Hyslop**, for developing our Covid protocols; not only for safe in-person worship but also to open our space to outside groups; to our **Hybrid Service team** led by **Glenn Harvey** and **Garth Wedemire** for installing equipment in our worship space to enable simultaneous worship services in-person and via Zoom; and to **Gerry Owen** for his work in improving the ventilation systems in our worship space.

Twice we planned for and twice we had to pull back from in-person services as the Covid-19 data did not give us the confidence we needed to safely open our church. We welcomed four new council members in 2021 **Curt, Pat, Shirley and Audrey.**

2021 we had our church exterior re-painted under the supervision of **Mona Richardson**. Not only that, she also made sure the painting crew were amply fed.

We held all our council and executive meetings via Zoom last year. Hopefully 2022 will be the year we can meet face-to-face in person again.

Many thanks to our Pastor **Terry**, our Finance team **Gerry Owen, Joan Nolting and Erika Blakeman** and our council members for their dedicated work in 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Co-chair Jan Nilsson

Hope Lutheran Church
Pastor's Report
2021 Annual General Meeting - February 20, 2022

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

In 2021 we had to keep learning how to do new things. It will soon be two years that new ways of worship, having meetings, and being together have sprung forth. In this desert wilderness of a lengthy pandemic, we have found our way. The world has changed and so has our experience of what it means to be “church.” Here at Hope Lutheran we have made it through 2021 with faith, creativity, and good humour.

Our use of Zoom continued throughout the year but we took time to look ahead and learn about Hybrid worship (Zoom and in-person simultaneously) for the future. The Zoom host team grew and worked hard to prepare us for a new beginning which has yet to take place. Some of our folks use the *Sunday Home Worship* resources privately without taking part in Zoom, and we all maintain our own personal practices to stay strong in faith. The *Tuesday afternoon Bible study* and *Friday Men's group* on Zoom have also been resources for us; as well as the recent *Thursday morning Hymn Sing*.

During 2021 we gathered for worship 55 times. At the end of the year our average Sunday worship attendance was at a record high of 88. We have not had an 8:30am service. Once again this year, we averaged more people at worship than prior to the pandemic. We gathered at the table of the Lord every Sunday. Listening to *YouTube* hymns and other recordings (including *Men of Hope*) helped us sing at home, and we asked the Spirit of God to guide our lives.

Every aspect of our life and ministry has been affected by the pandemic. Home visits and visits to seniors' residences and the hospital were difficult to schedule because provincial health rules frequently changed. Our intern Nic Alexandre was with us until the end of April as worship services were broadcasted from the sanctuary before and after his departure. Regular office hours at the church were established and we were careful with the use of masks, distancing, and sanitizing. In the fall, Church Council made the decision to support 12 step groups by offering access to our building as long as required protocols were followed closely. This allowed those struggling with addictions to have a community of support.

We are a growing community of people who care for each other. Our friendliness, welcome, and energy are noticed by visitors. We bear witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ in that way. This gracious spirit draws people among us even on the computer screen!

Hope is a strong congregation. You have been so faithful with your offerings and support that we have also managed our budget that supports all expressions of ministry without anxiety. Thank you for that. Our people volunteer the energy of leadership which blesses us all. We see new faces at the Church Council level as they rise to the occasion and help where there is need. I am grateful for the support and participation of our retired pastors who have been so willing to provide coverage when I am absent.

Our church secretary and cleaner, as well as our many volunteers keep the congregation running with gentle grace and good humour. Teams of volunteers have kept working all year long in support of worship, education, mission and witness, fellowship and stewardship with many meetings; and those on the property kept the building in good condition and our grounds beautiful.

We dare to hope for better and healthier days ahead. We have changed. We think about priorities differently and function in new ways. However, our need for God's grace and each other has not changed. Our experience of church has been challenged but we remain open to the Spirit's leading in 2022. I look forward to the journey of faith with the "*new things of God*" as we walk together.

The Lord is with us!
Pastor Terry Richardson

PASTORAL ACTS – 2021

BAPTISMS

BAKKER, Braam August 8

MARRIAGES

MAH, Donald & ALEXANDRE, Nicolas April 17
ROSZMANN, Joel & KRONSTAL Karin September 18

FUNERALS & MEMORIAL SERVICES

GRAHAM, David March 27 (Service at Telford's)
SCOTT, Irene June 12
RICHES, Robert June 27
EUBANK, William December 4 (Legion Hall - RCMP)

Ministry Through Continuous Learning Annual Report 2021

Mission: support and encourage educational opportunities for all members of the church family.
Members: Janice Vosper, Janet O'Dubhghaill, Carolyn Iles, Shirley Forwell Council Liaison.

Educational opportunities are provided in different ways by different people at Hope Lutheran.

During Worship we all learn:

The Sunday sermons reach all who attend our services, or receive the home worship material. Pastor Terry's message of inclusivity and compassion provide weekly support and guidance. We have been fortunate over the past year, to have had Pastor Carol Dennison, and Bishop Ray Schultz preside at Sunday Services, and provide sermon messages that have enriched us all. Thanks to all three pastors.

For our children:

For a second year, we have continued to provide a Home Sunday School opportunity for five families. Bible Stories, crafts, projects, and books are selected to ensure our children learn about the Bible, how Christians are called to act in this world, and how we can all care for one another, and the environment. Feed-back from families indicate the children enjoy the materials, and look forward to the arrival of their Sunday School bags! Janet O, Janice V. and Carolyn I. prepare the materials. Thanks to Terry Owen who has helped with distributing the materials.

For adult members and friends:

Year round devotional booklets are ordered, and have been distributed by friends and members. These can be found in the downstairs library, on the big table, and anyone can take a booklet home.

We also encouraged members to try an e-mail devotional, 'Lutherans Connect'. This program of daily scripture, music, paintings/photos and reflections comes during Lent, Advent and Christmas. Individuals can subscribe to this free program or check out the program on our church's website.

During the first part of 2021, our intern, Nic Alexandre, hosted a Zoom Bible Study, using a process called Dwelling in the Word. The focus was on the upcoming Sunday lessons. This was a popular learning activity, much enjoyed by those who took part.

The Tuesday afternoon Bible study began the year continuing a study of the book of Revelations. Later in the year, and until the end of the year, Pastor Terry led the group using the Dwelling in the Word format. This process encourages exchanges of ideas, and leads to good group discussions.

The Friday Men's Breakfast Group continues meeting via Zoom. Members and friends are all welcomed. Among the books discussed were: Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall; On the Brink of Everything by Parker Palmer; How to Avoid a Climate Disaster by Bill Gates; Out of the Storm: The Life of Martin Luther by Derek Wilson. Topics of discussion included: Aboriginal Reconciliation; Climate Change/ Environmental Degradation; Meditation; Current Affairs, and Theology. Discussions are educational, and often entertaining! As the gathering continues on Zoom, men who haven't yet had an opportunity to participate are encouraged to connect with Pastor Terry or Doug Roszmann.

Synodical Learning Opportunities:

As the pandemic continued this past year, the BC Synod reached out through Zoom to include congregational members in learning opportunities. For example, during the Synod Convention, the learning event was made available to people in each congregation. Guest speaker, Susan Beaumont, led a presentation on Decision Making and Discernment, and much was based on her book, How to Lead When you Don't Know Where You Are Going. A follow up session was also provided.

The Synod also hosted three sessions for churches dealing with Zoom and looking to develop a hybrid type of in-person/Zoom worship. Pastor Terry has been able to share new learnings with the Zoom Hosts and the committee working towards developing hybrid services at Hope.

Much of the work of the Continuous Learning Committee is carried out by different people: Pastor Terry, and those who 'sub' for him; Carol Dennison and Bishop Ray; and the Sunday School prep people to name a few. Also to be acknowledged are those individuals who serve as Zoom 'hosts'. These individuals provide an invaluable service for our congregation. Through Zoom we are able to continue learning who and what we are called to be. We thank them for their service.

The Continuous Learning Committee has met via e-mail and phone this past year. If you would like to know more about the work of the committee, or might consider joining the committee, please contact Carolyn Iles or Pastor Terry.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Iles, Member; Shirley Forwell, Council Liaison, Continuous Learning Committee

Ministry Through Fellowship/Membership Annual Report 2021

Due to Covid 19, 2020 and 2021 have been somewhat different for the Fellowship Committee. In lieu of getting together, I formed a **Phoning Group**. This group consists of 16 phoners who phone members to just keep in touch and to see how they are doing in this time of Covid. Each phoner has about 4 or 5 people to phone. This has been very successful. If you would like an occasional phone call during the year, please phone me and I will add your name to the list. If you would like to be a phoner, contact me at 250-751-1435.

The Host Teams: Our Host Teams have had a rest since Covid started. We have 4 Host teams with about 10 people per team. We are always looking for more team members. Host teams are called upon in rotation to help with serving at pot lucks or other occasions. Please call me if you would like to be put on a fun team to help with some exciting and meaningful activities. Stacking the teams with more members seems like a good project during Covid. Please phone me if you are interested or have any questions at 250-751-1435.

The **Quilters of Hope** stopped meeting when Covid began. Several of the quilters continued to quilt at home. Many quilts were delivered to agencies in Nanaimo as the Canadian Lutheran World Relief stopped shipping quilts overseas. We hope to meet once again when Covid is not a threat. The Quilters of Hope extend an invitation to anyone who would like to quilt. If you have never quilted, please come anyway as we can always use cutters and those who can tie a knot!! Phone me if you are interested: 250-751-1435.

Membership provides new members with a "**Membership Package**" consisting of useful information regarding the church. These packages are made throughout the year.

Members of the congregation have enjoyed something new this year. "**Hymn Sing**", which is a Zoom featured "get together", has delighted many. This is a weekly event which has about 25 participants from as far away as Texas, Saskatchewan and Alberta! The remainder are from Hope! Hymns are picked by the participants and are played while everyone is on mute. This allows people at home to sing along without anybody listening to them! If you are interested in joining, please call Glenn Harvey @ 250-751-1435 and he will add you to the invitation list.

The **Visiting Program** is entering its 6th year. The mission is to help people maintain their connection with our congregation. Trained visitors make regular contact with about 15 members who have expressed a desire to have more contact with Hope, especially during Covid when they have not been able to attend worship. If you would like to be a visitor or like to be visited, please contact Glenn Harvey at 250-751-1435 or gharvey50@outlook.com.

Four retired pastors also assist Pastor Terry as "**Pastoral Visitors**" at peak times when an increased number of members are experiencing hospital stays, illness, death of a loved one, etc. If you think someone might need a **Pastoral visit** please contact Pastor Terry and he will be the one to provide a visit or engage one of the other pastors when necessary.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Harvey, Council liaison for Fellowship/Membership

Ministry Through Property Annual Report 2021

While our congregation has not met in person this year due to Covid, the property committee has used this opportunity to do major and minor work on our building to maintain its integrity and appearance.

Work done this year included:

- Painting the exterior of the church building.
- Replacing soffits.
- Replacing gutters.
- Replacing and cladding fascia boards.
- Repairing and moving exterior lighting.
- Repairing Shed #1.
- Maintaining the gardens and watering.
- WIFI improvement in the sanctuary for Zooming capacity.
- Portable microphone receiver moved.
- Rear steps were repaired.
- Rodent control.
- Parking issues with a neighbour were resolved.
- Pavement was resurfaced after our waterline issue was addressed.
- Fire inspection was completed and deficiencies were addressed.
- MIFL tested all emergency lighting and charging of extinguishers.
- Smoke alarms were updated.
- Address numbers were placed at the front of the church.
- Doors were repaired so that they closed without pulling.
- Desks were removed from the intern's office.
- Estimates were received for replacing the rear basement door and carpeting.
- Doorbell was replaced.
- Basement piano was tuned.
- Suggested capital budget for next year was submitted.
- Snow removal was arranged and salt and shovel was provided for user group and congregational use.

Capital project work recommended for 2022:

- Update Shed 1.
- Replace the carpeting.
- Replace the downstairs exit door to the park.

Thanks to Mona Richardson, Fred Wilke, Gerry Jacob and Gerry Owen for their time and diligence at meeting on Zoom and to everyone for the work they contributed to our property upkeep.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Roszmann

Ministry Through Gardening Annual Report 2021

The gardening group meets almost every Tuesday morning at Hope.

Our responsibilities are to keep the area clean, take care of the plants and add new ones. The maintenance requires the picking up of hundreds of fir cones and the sweeping up of fir needles - especially on the front driveway.

This year was quite a challenge as some of our motley crew had injuries, so others stepped in to help. The heat wave was a tough one, trying to get things watered before it got too hot to be outside. Because of the heat wave the new plants at the front of the church were added late in the fall. Most of the old plants that grew there were removed because they were overgrown and we needed space to paint the walls of the church. We kept the shrub under the cross, pruning behind it so painters could access the area. In most other areas around the church we could tie back the existing plants so painters could gain access to the walls. Added plants are peonies, salvia and a ground cover.

Next year we will take out the big shrub at the pastor's office window, so he can have more light in the office area. We plan to remove the tree stump in the center of the memorial garden. We will continue to add a top dressing of soil we now have stock-piled. Work for the shed repair will resume. We removed all of the Fall Webworm nests around the end of July, however, because of the intense heat, there were only about 1/3 as many.

A Special thank you to our faithful lawn mowing team: Pat Hyslop and John Collett, under the direction of Gerry Jacob. Thank-you to Glenn Harvey who often helps with weed whacking.

Special thank you to Glenn Harvey who sets up our irrigation at the memorial garden each year and then stores and maintains the irrigation control box.

Thank you to the Garden Team:

Linda Harvey, Randi Turner, Gerry Jacob, Dale Perkins, Audrey Strauss, Mona Richardson.

Respectfully submitted,
Mona Richardson

Ministry Through Stewardship Annual Report 2021

It has been observed that Good Stewardship encompasses a way of life rather than a singular event. Hope Lutheran supports that perspective in the fact that most of our donations are received throughout the year. However, by tradition the month of November is used to emphasize various aspects of our Stewardship program. This year the Stewardship Committee[^] highlighted four areas for attention:

- To remind us of the importance of Kindness in our lives and in the lives of those around us.
- To provide opportunity for sharing the warmth of blankets to homeless persons in our community.
- The need for cash contributions to supply food to the hungry in our communities.
- To inform and remind us of the activities and of the people who carry out so many functions in our congregation through the work of Committees and to invite new participation.

On Kindness:

A number of people took time to send their observations of Kindness which were printed in the December and January Monthly Newsletters. Thank you, to all who recognized kindness around them and shared their experiences.

Blankets:

To date there have been 25 items brought to the church and delivered to the Hope Center, Salvation Army. They include 15 blankets, 6 sheets, 2 pillowcases and 2 towels. Thanks to all donors. Containers will be left inside the church entrance for anyone still wishing to contribute.

Food Bank Cash Donations:

Thank you to all donors for the strong showing in a difficult year. We managed to raise \$3,375 which is only slightly lower than the sum of \$3,680 donated in 2020. It's interesting that in the two years of Covid 2020 and 2021, our donations to Loaves and Fishes have increased substantially while donations to other charities appear to have fallen.

Year of Donation	Loaves and Fishes	Canadian Lutheran World Relief **	Total Charities Supported	Total Non-Revenue
2021*	3,375	7,195	13,418	14,919
2020	3,680	7,870	15,915	18,998
2019	2,255	10,695	27,368	30,166
2018	1,815	9,285	23,831	24,336
2017	2,095	12,398	37,585 +	39,139+

*2021 Figures subject to verification. **Designated plus Specific + Includes \$17,525 for piano fund

Committee Descriptions and Invitation to Participate

Brief descriptions containing purpose, activities, current members and a contact number were included for each of Seven Committees: Continuous Learning, Fellowship, Finance and Stewardship, Membership, Property, Witness and Mission, and Worship. Several persons have commented on the usefulness of the Committee descriptions and contact information. No new recruits have been reported to date.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gerry Jacob

^Committee Members: Peter Clark, Shirley Forwell, Linda Harvey, Joan Nolting, Joan Roszmann, Audrey Strauss, Gerry Jacob.

Ministry Through Witness and Mission Annual Report 2021

Mission: To promote the total ministry of Christ and this church to the world around us and in Nanaimo and surrounding communities.

Committee members: Audrey Strauss (council rep), Julie Koenig (Canada Lutheran), Joan Nolting (CLWR), Joan Roszmann (chair), Erika Blakeman, Randi Turner, Janice Vosper. There were no in-person meetings, but the work of this committee continued via email and informing the congregation in the newsletters.

World Day of Prayer – St Peter’s church in Nanaimo contacted us via letter regarding this year’s World Day of Prayer service which usually takes place the first Friday of March. There was no in-person gathering this year but the Women’s Inter-Church Council of Canada had provided a video of a service by the women of Vanuatu on their website: WICC.org.

Our committee organized this event for our congregation via email. Glenn Harvey hosted the Zoom service and arranged for Garth Wedemire to be a backup in case of technical difficulties. 23 people attended the service which was themed on “Build on a Strong Foundation”. The video was created for the Canadian audience, the speakers were largely current and past executive members of the WICC with a variety of ages and ethnicities represented. We also learned about the country of Vanuatu in the south Pacific. The WICC is a social justice organization which sponsors many projects helping women in need. Donations were welcomed at their website and there was \$360 donated through our church offering envelopes.

Praise Appeal Service – June 27 on Zoom church, Pastor Terry emphasized the work of the national church and donations of \$565 were received.

Island Crisis Care Society – although we could not distribute blue house banks this year, the congregation was encouraged to donate online to this worthy charity caring for homeless women. \$150 was received through the offering envelopes.

CLWR (Canadian Lutheran World Relief) Sunday – was celebrated on September 26 on Zoom church with appropriate hymns chosen by Cheryl Satre and a mention by Pastor Terry. In addition to an unknown amount of online donations, \$565 was raised in offering envelopes.

Through their offering envelopes, congregation members donated \$5945 to CLWR to be used where needed most and for specific appeals as follows:

El Salvador	\$275.00
Scholarships for Schools in Jordan	\$350.00
Haiti	\$250.00
BC Floods Relief	\$610.00

An unknown amount was donated by members directly to the website. Some members are monthly donors.

CLWR Gifts from the Heart - the catalogues were made available to the congregation and advertised in the newsletter. \$75 was given through envelopes for the Whole Garden

Loaves and Fishes – Pastor Terry included a video for the Thanksgiving food bank drive after a Sunday Zoom service. Hope made cash donations of \$3,375.

ELCIC (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada) Missions

Donations amounted to \$2675. ELCIC has relationships in Argentina, Peru, Jordan and the Holy Land and Cameroon.

Donations from the congregation through the envelopes to the Red Cross were \$100 for BC Fires and \$400 for BC Floods. An article about the flooding was submitted to the newsletter.

Rev. Michael Burdge, chaplain of the Nanaimo Correctional Centre, gratefully accepted donations of men’s winter clothing.

Canada Lutheran – there were 16 renewals in our congregation (down from 19) with no extra copies ordered as few people enter the building.

Blanket Drive – this committee supported the stewardship committee and the following was delivered to the Salvation Army Hope Centre: 15 blankets, 5 sheets, 2 pillow cases, 2 towels.

Thank you for your support through time, talents, and money. New members to this committee are always welcome. We request your prayers as we witness and serve in our community, conference, synod, national church, and throughout the world.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Roszmann, Chairperson

Ministry Through Worship Annual Report 2021

Mission: *“Heeding the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to supervise the worship structure at Hope Lutheran Church in order to offer a full range of services drawn from the many opportunities offered by Lutheran liturgies.”*

Ministry through Worship Committee members: Flo Bender, Peter Clark, Carolyn Iles, Doug Roszmann, Cheryl Satre and Pastor Richardson. Council liaison is Peter Clark.

The Worship Committee is responsible for overseeing everything connected with worship at Hope Lutheran Church. This includes regular Sunday services, weddings, funerals, and other special services. In 2021, Worship Committee meetings were held on Zoom throughout the year. Congregational members are welcome to attend the meetings, communicating via e-mail, or by phoning any Committee member.

Zoom Sunday services continue to attract people from beyond our geographic area of the mid-Island. Our friends from Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran, Comox, have been a joyous addition. The presence of past members from Sidney and Victoria BC, Winnipeg, and Mexico are a delight, as are our new friends in Vancouver, Edmonton, and other locations. This year our overall average has been 88 people in Zoom attendance.

This is a significant number for average attendance at Sunday services throughout the year. Indeed, an amazing feat for this pandemic time, and is a tribute to our pastors and all those who work behind the scenes to provide an ‘inter-active’ worship experience that meets the needs of so many. Special services were held on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and Christmas Eve. Healing services have been held on the 5th Sunday of the month and there were three memorial services.

Although we had hoped to begin in-person worship in 2021, the ongoing presence of Covid-19 has seen HLC continue to provide services via Zoom. Depending on pandemic conditions, we plan to resume either in Zoom, hybrid, or complete in-person services format in 2022.

During summer and into the fall of 2021, many people were involved in conversations and research into the development of a hybrid format for future services. Zoom hosts devoted time to considering the hardware, cameras, screens, and connections required for in-person services, and for those attending via Zoom, to have a good worship experience. The Worship Committee spent time in discussion, determining how to adjust worship assistant roles with a view to providing an in-person component to worship. As a result of this

planning and consultation, and when reduced pandemic restrictions allow, HLC will be able to provide hybrid worship services.

In the last AGM Worship Committee report, the need for a new worship assistants' scheduler was noted. Our thanks go out to Wendy Van Oldenborgh, and Flo Bender who have performed this necessary function in 2021. Once again, we are seeking someone to provide this service. It can be done from home, training is provided, and time commitment is approximately four hours a month. Please give this opportunity your prayerful consideration. Talk to any Worship Committee member, or Wendy Van Oldenborgh to volunteer and/or ask for more information.

There are many groups and individuals who work to prepare and carry out our Sunday Services. The Worship Committee is grateful to everyone who has helped in organizing our worship life this past year.

Pastors: Pastor Terry leads us in worship on Sunday mornings and at other times and provides messages that affirm and build our faith. He also encourages us with the Wednesday Updates available online. His development of Home Service resources takes time, effort, and the ability to draw and use appropriate material from varied sources. Pastor Terry has been writing the prayers of intercession this year, incorporating the work of Rebecca Garber whenever possible. The Worship Committee appreciates his timely collaboration and input. Thank you!

Bishop Ray Schultz and Comox Pastor Carol Dennison have graciously covered for Pastor Terry over holidays, illness, and unexpected events throughout the year. Their constancy has provided Pastor Terry, the Worship Committee and our congregation with quality compassionate leadership and we thank them for sharing their gifts with us. Thank you!

Zoom hosts and tech support: These are the persons who proved invaluable during our strange pandemic time. "Learning on the fly", keeping up with the latest technical improvements in online communication and development combined with making their expertise available has enabled HLC to continue with worship and related church activities without interruption. We cannot thank them enough for their ongoing efforts to learn new ways to keep us connected. They are heroes in our midst. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to Sue Grant, John Musgreave, Steven Musgreave, Gerry Owen, Curtis Satre, Gail Smith, Garth Wedemire. Special thanks to Garth and Sue for their leadership with this group. Thank you!

The Altar Guild: In particular, Linda Harvey has faithfully changed the paraments and banners, set up the Advent Wreath and the Christmas Tree. These actions, behind the scenes, help provide the visual reminder that our church continues to move through the liturgical year, even if most of us are not physically present. Thank you!

Hymnologists: While Cheryl Satre and John Collett are no longer providing keyboard accompaniment to hymns, they have adapted and become "hymnologists", that is, people who select the hymns, find an appropriate YouTube video, and write up the lyrics for our home worship service bulletin. During the last few months of 2021, Doug Roszmann and Carolyn Iles joined in this important work. Music and congregational singing are an important part of our services. Hymn selection using YouTube is difficult for many reasons. Is the hymn appropriate for the service and the season, is it in the right tempo, are the words the same or, similar to those familiar to members? These and other difficult considerations must be worked out before the hymns can be selected for a Zoom service. Thank you, hymnologists!

And thanks to Cheryl Satre for her setting of The Lord's Prayer which we have enjoyed online and the blessing song from the HLC Men's Chorus as well. They are a well-loved addition to our worship services. Thank you!

Worship Assistant Schedulers : Finding and scheduling people to read the prayers of intercession and scripture readings is work that goes on behind the scenes and enables all of us to share our gifts and enhance our worship. To Wendy Van Oldenborgh, Flo Bender, and to our future Worship Assistant Scheduler. Thank you!

Worship Assistants: These individuals share their gifts with us, helping us hear the Word, and the prayers of the people. New readers are always welcome. Thank You!

HLC Parish Sign: Gerry Owen and Pastor Terry have both kept our church sign quotes changed throughout the year. Thank You!

Hymn Sing: While this program is not a “worship committee” program, it does provide an opportunity to worship through song. Hope Lutheran is known as a singing congregation, and many of our members enjoy singing hymns. Late in 2021, Glenn Harvey invited members to join in a Thursday morning hymn sing. Garth Wedemire provided additional Zoom technology support. Sue Grant has been providing interesting background on hymns, musicians and lyricists. We thank them for this unique opportunity to sing hymns, ‘together’ on Zoom that brings participants joy through song.

In conclusion, worship at Hope Lutheran Church requires the active participation of many people. Everyone is encouraged to consider how they might use their talents and time to make our worship times a meaningful experience for everyone.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Iles and Peter Clark, Members, Worship Committee

OMNIBUS MOTION OF THANKS AGM 2021

- Pastor Terry Richardson, for his commitment, dedication and leadership to all.
- Thank you to Pastor Terry for leading the weekly Zoom Bible Study, another successful learning experience.
- Everyone who attends Hope Lutheran Church.
- A warm thank you to Nic Alexandre, our intern, who completed his time with us in April.
- All who served on council this year.
- Joan Nolting, our Financial Secretary for her tireless work in financial recording and CLWR promotions.
- All the congregational members who provide financial support for our church.
- All donors to CLWR, the Men’s Clothing Drive, Samaritan House, Hope Quilters and the Blue Box.
- The musicians of Hope: Cheryl Satre and John Collett.
- The Men’s Choir and their leader, Cheryl Satre.
- All of our retired clergy who step in when needed.
- Julie Koenig for ordering and looking after subscriptions for the Canada Lutheran.
- The members of Hope, who do all things that need doing, often without recognition.

- To our members who have volunteered through the years, who have stepped back for a variety of reasons. They are missed and very much appreciated by all the members at Hope.
- To Mona Richardson and Doug Roszmann for arranging and supervising the painting of the church.
- Rebecca Garber for her prayers, used often on Sundays.
- Our secretary, Janice Valecourt and the volunteer secretaries, who keep our office running efficiently.
- Howard Collier, our janitor, who patiently and efficiently works at cleaning the church during Covid.
- Wendy van Oldenborgh for patiently scheduling and rescheduling worship assistants.
- Carolyn Iles for her frequent help and guidance in all situations.
- The Altar Guild: Shirley Collier, Linda Harvey, Randi Turner and Shirley Forwell, for changing banners and altar cloths, replacing candles, dusting, flower charting and setting up various items for special services.
- Mona Richardson and her gardeners (Randi Turner, Linda Harvey, Gerry Jacob, Audrey Strauss and Dale Perkins) for their weekly care of the grounds and Memorial Garden at Hope.
- All those who signed up to cut grass.
- Hope Quilters who tirelessly sewed quilts and other items for those in need. During Covid, many quilters sewed at home.
- The Women of Hope group who worked together to provide a warm learning environment for all the women who attended.
- Thank you to all the 16 phoners who phoned at least 4 members of the congregation each to say, "How are you doing?" This has been a very successful program and is much appreciated.
- To those who signed up to count the offering and to those who take the offering to the bank.
- Erika Blakeman who does the financial payables monthly.
- To our Treasurer, Gerry Owen. Thank you.
- Hope Men's Group meet every Friday morning (they use Zoom during Covid) to discuss books and important issues. This group has reached out to members and non-members and has provided a safe, nourishing bond between all who attend. Thank you for the monetary support you provide to various causes.
- Mona Richardson who maintains the Memorial Plaque.
- To the Zoom committee who arranges the Zoom service each Sunday: Gerry Owen, Glenn Harvey, John Musgreave, Steven Musgreave, Curtis Satre, Gail Smith, Garth Wedemire and Sue Grant.
- The Property Committee, the Council liaison Gerry Owen and chair of the committee, Doug Roszmann, who work constantly on keeping our property maintained.
- Erika Blakeman for organizing the user group administration and following up on procedures and commitments of the user groups.
- To all the readers every Sunday.
- Doug Roszmann, our Webmaster. Thank you.
- Jan Nilsson who solves our office computer problems.

- Our Sunday School teachers, Carolyn Iles, Janice Vosper, Janet O’Dubhghaill and helper, Jasmine Lushman.
- The ushers and parking lot attendants who helped at Memorial services.
- Thank you to Gerry Jacob and Shirley Forwell for maintaining our church general supplies.
- Marilyn Gross who checks on and orders our needed supplies and for delivering newsletters and church service handouts to those who can’t receive them through the internet.
- All of our committee heads and their members who work on many projects within our church and places far and near. (Witness & Mission, Fellowship & Membership, Continuous Learning, Worship, Property, Mutual Ministry, Finance & Stewardship). Great work!
- Thank you to Glenn Harvey for his role in creating “Hymn Sing” by Zoom every Thursday morning.
- A thank you to all. If someone has been missed, we apologize.