

Hope Lutheran Church

Nanaimo, BC

2022 Annual Report

February 19, 2023 Annual General Meeting

Hybrid Meeting Conducted In-Person & Via Zoom

Pastor: Terry Richardson

Parish Secretary: Janice Valecourt

AGENDA

Annual General Meeting February 19, 2023

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

Reports

1. Minutes of the 2022 AGM
2. Report of the Congregational Council
3. Report of the Pastor
4. Review of Program Committee Activities
 - Continuous Learning
 - Fellowship/Membership
 - Property/Landscaping
 - Financial Stewardship
 - Witness and Mission
 - Worship
5. Financial reports for the year ending December 31, 2022
6. Auditors' report for 2022
7. Questions

Business matters

1. Elections
 - a. Auditors for 2023
 - b. Congregational Council
2. Budget for 2023
3. New Business
4. Omnibus Motion of Thanks 2022
5. Closing Prayer
6. Adjournment

Committee 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 19, 2023 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



Photo: David Nenzel

**Annual General Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2022
Hope Lutheran Church, Nanaimo, BC**

1. Call to order @ 10:55 am.
2. Certification of quorum. Three scrutinizers (Erika Blakeman, Linda Harvey and Fred Wilke) counted members in attendance (via zoom) and determined that there were more than 30 members, which exceeds the requirement for a quorum.
3. Opening prayer led by Pastor Terry Richardson.

Reports

1. Minutes of the February 2021 AGM

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

2. Report of the Congregational Council
To the list of council members add Cynthia Cantelon accepted as a new member at last year's AGM.
3. Report of the Pastor
To the report, under Pastoral Acts, add the category New Members and include Pat and Judy Hyslop as new members by affirmation of faith on January 10, 2021.
4. Review of Program Committee Activities
 - a. Continuous Learning
 - b. Fellowship/Membership
 - c. Property/Gardening
 - d. Stewardship. To the chart of donations, update the figures for the year 2021, to read: under CLWR - 7205; Total Charities Supported - 15,230; and Total Non-Revenue - 15,841, of which 10,000 was received from the BC Synod.
 - e. Witness and Mission
 - f. Worship. In the paragraph *Zoom hosts and tech support*, add Glenn Harvey among the list of hosts and support.

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

5. Financial reports for the year ending December 31, 2021
Gerry Owen acknowledged the important work done by Joan Nolting and Erika Blakeman. In addition, he also thanked the congregation for their generous participation in the church.

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

6. Auditors' report for 2021
This year's audit was performed by Glenn Harvey and Gerry Jacobs. Glenn explained the audit procedure and acknowledged the work of the financial team which includes Gerry Owen, Joan Nolting and Erika Blakeman.

Motion to accept the auditors report for 2021/moved/seconded/accepted.

Business Matters

1. Elections
 - a. Auditors for 2022. Nominations included Rosina Nilsson and Fred Wilke. Glenn Harvey was nominated as alternate.

Moved to accept Rosina Nilsson and Fred Wilke as financial auditors and

Glenn Harvey as alternate for the year ending December 31, 2022/moved/seconded/accepted.

- b. Congregational Council. Volunteers included Doug Roszmann, Ray Schultz and Randi Turner.

Moved to accept Doug Roszmann, Ray Schultz and Randi Turner as congregational council members/moved/seconded/accepted.

Moved to accept Peter Clark, Jan Nilsson and Gerry Owen for a second term on council/moved/seconded/accepted.

2. Budget for 2022

Gerry Owen asked the congregation to vote on three items:

- a. Continue to pledge approximately 10% of general donations to BC Synod
- b. Approve to add \$5,000 for local benevolence
- c. Approve 3 capital projects including hybrid service equipment, carpet replacement, and installing HEPA ventilation.

Motion to accept the proposed 2022 budget/moved/seconded/accepted.

3. Omnibus Motion of Thanks 2021

Moved to accept the Omnibus Motion of Thanks as read/moved/seconded/accepted.

4. Closing prayer led by Pastor Terry Richardson.

5. Adjournment @ 11:54 am.

Motion to adjourn/moved/seconded/accepted.



Photo by David Nenzel

Congregational Council Annual Report 2022

Responsibilities of Council

- Governance of the congregation as its “Board of Directors” with legal responsibilities under the Constitution and Bylaws, convening AGMs and other meetings, financial management and management of assets.
- Wise stewardship of human resources and money.
- Ensure a Committee and portfolio structure to maintain all aspects of congregational functioning.
- Support of pastor and staff.

The council also maintains a policy handbook that details individual responsibilities, tasks and procedures for the above.

While the Council is responsible for governance and oversight, the week-to-week hands-on management of congregational activities is carried out by the Treasurer, Financial Stewardship Secretary and the various standing committees.

The Mutual Ministry Committee is appointed by Council, but does not report its proceedings. The main task of the committee is to consult with the Pastor to determine that there is appropriate support for the ministry of the congregation. That consultation is confidential. In addition, the committee is responsible for circulating an annual survey of members’ willingness to participate in committee work and other related tasks. Those results are reported to all parties concerned.

Membership for 2022

Raymond Schultz, Chair	Linda Harvey (term expiring)
Jan Nilsson, Vice Chair	*Pat Hyslop
Randi Turner, Secretary	Doug Roszmann
Cynthia Cantelon	*Curt Satre
Peter Clark	Audrey Strauss
Shirley Forwell	*Resigned mid-term

The Pastor is an *ex officio* member.

The Chair, Vice-chair and Secretary make up the Executive Committee which meets prior to Council meetings along with the Treasurer and Pastor to review the agenda, attend to the governance calendar, and recommend actions.

Meetings

Council meets eleven times a year, combining July and August into a single meeting.

Each meeting follows a set agenda that hears and receives or adopts minutes, reports from the Pastor, the Executive Committee, each of the standing Committees and the Treasurer. Old business is followed up on and an item on the agenda allows for new business.

Challenges

- Attending to conditions created by the Covid 19 pandemic has been a challenge. In addition to necessitating hybrid worship services, it has also required upgraded air filtering in the sanctuary. There have been considerable financial demands made. Coffee time and other social activities have been constrained.
- As the median age of our members goes up, the physical capabilities go down. A succession assessment carried out by Council indicates that it will be harder to recruit members to fulfill required activities.
- The highly-secularized society of Vancouver Island and the rest of the province has resulted in peoples' indifference to the church as a religious institution. The passing on of our faith to succeeding generations has not been generally effective.

Praise and Thanksgiving

Hope Lutheran Church is a remarkable community of hospitality, openness and collegiality. Members caring about and attending to each other's needs stands out among the many spiritual commitments of our membership. The gospel story of Jesus is lived out in the daily lives they live within the community. The creation and operation of hybrid worship at Hope was an early model within the church; a template for what others could do.

Participation in worship remains high and financial support holds steady.

Serving on Council has been a joy this past year. I extend my thanks to those who share in this office and commend them for their diligence.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond Schultz, Council Chair



Photo by Rebecca Garber

Hope Lutheran Church
Pastor's Report
2022 Annual General Meeting – Feb. 19, 2023

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' John 20:21

2022 was a year of adaptation for Hope Lutheran Church. We couldn't do everything the way we used to. We couldn't fix the problems caused by the pandemic, especially the concerns about health and uncertainties about new variants. We had multiple vaccinations in order to feel some sense of security. Trying to keep up on the news was difficult because war and other violence were always before us; weather patterns were unpredictable; and addictions and homelessness remained close. Being a positive person was a challenge, but we were learning about the support of faith and a faith community in 'hard times.' 2022 was hard for us and the world. The verse above from John 20 is the theme for my report because Jesus needed to say, "Peace" to his people again and again and again. We are no exception. Although life was hard, the Lord was with us offering peace.

Zoom worked for us during the year and we were able to be creative in our use of it. Our *Zoom* techs worked hard so that we could begin to offer *Hybrid* worship when it was safe enough for people to gather in the sanctuary again. On March 20 the *Hybrid* experiment began. We were still using *Youtube* videos but group

singing presented many audio challenges. Every week the *Zoom* techs were problem solving and adding new technology to make worship a smoother experience.

Some of our folks still used the *Sunday Home Worship* resources privately without taking part in *Zoom*, or maintained personal practices to stay strong in faith. The *Tuesday Afternoon Bible study*, *Thursday Morning Hymn Sing*, *Friday Men's group* and *Church Council meetings* also used *Zoom* regularly.

During 2022, we gathered for worship 54 times. Our average Sunday attendance was at 84. This year again, we averaged more people at worship than any time before the pandemic. We gathered at the table of the Lord every Sunday. With great joy we moved from *Youtube* hymns to the sanctuary piano. We gave thanks for our *Zoom* techs Gail, Garth, Gerry, Glenn, Jamie, John, Marlis, Sue, and Steven; and for our pianists John and Pippa; who helped us finally sing together in the church and at home, and we praised God for guiding our lives.

We are a growing community of people who care for each other. Our friendliness, welcome, and energy is 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!

There were times of grieving when loved ones died and we were unable to gather for Memorial or Funeral services. At those times we came together in other ways, which I called *A Time to Remember*. During the year when we were even unsure about whether it was safe to be together, 10 new members joined Hope Lutheran Church. I am grateful that people feel welcome and want to be part of our congregation.

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

Our church secretary and church cleaner, as well as our many volunteers, keep the congregation running with gentle grace and good humour. Teams of volunteers have worked all year to ensure the continuance of worship, education, mission and witness, fellowship and stewardship; and those on the property committee kept the building in good condition (including new carpet) and our grounds beautiful.

We look forward to better days ahead. The church has changed. We think about priorities differently and adapt in new ways. However, our joy in God's grace and each other remains firm. We are open to the Spirit's leading in 2023. I look forward to this time together with you on our journey of faith, as Jesus offers us peace and sends us confidently into the world.

The Lord is with us!
Pastor Terry Richardson

PASTORAL ACTS – 2022

BAPTISMS

ROSZMANN, Sophie Ruth	September 18
SPARROW, Emery Lynn	September 25

MARRIAGES

RICHARDSON, Coco & MASON, David

September 3 (In Edmonton)

NEW MEMBERS

FEHR, Bill	January 23 (Affirmation of Faith)
FEHR, Caroline	January 23 (Affirmation of Faith)
GRANT, Sue	February 20 (Affirmation of Faith)
WEDEMIRE, Garth	February 20 (Affirmation of Faith)
GRANKE, Naomi	April 24 (Transfer from Grace, Winnipeg, MB)
GRANKE, Gary	April 24 (Transfer from Grace, Winnipeg, MB)
LUND, Cathy	June 12 (Transfer from St. Mark's, Chelsea, ON)
LUND, Gary	June 12 (Transfer from St. Mark's, Chelsea, ON)
ENDERS, Marlis	June 12 (Transfer from Shepherd of the Valley, Langley)
ENDERS, Jamie	June 12 (Transfer from Shepherd of the Valley, Langley)

REQUESTED REMOVAL FROM MEMBERSHIP

SATRE, Curtis July 17 (Personal request)

TIME TO REMEMBER GATHERINGS

GROSS, Rudy	July 24 at Memorial Garden
MATHER, Derick	July 24 at Memorial Garden
ZIEBART, Jack	July 24 at Memorial Garden
RICHARDSON, Bertha	Oct 2 at Memorial Garden
RICHARDSON, Keith	Oct 2 at Memorial Garden
McMANUS, Dick	Nov 19 Celebration of Life at home
BAKER, Gladys	Dec 8 at Hope Lutheran Church sanctuary

Ministry Through Continuous Learning Annual Report 2022

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. 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.

Educational opportunities are provided by various people in our congregation. Below is a list of those who currently assist with Continuous Learning in 2023.

Pastor Terry and others Worship

Pastor Terry leads us in worship on Sunday mornings. His sermons include historical background and messages of inclusivity and compassion. These provide weekly support and guidance for all who attend, in person or on Zoom. Pastor Terry also writes the Prayers of Intercession, using material provided by Rebecca Garber and others, and with the assistance of the Worship Committee includes various liturgical pieces. Even when he is away, Pastor Terry prepares the service for us.

Hope is indeed fortunate to have retired pastors willing to ably fill in when Pastor Terry is away. Thank you, Pastor Terry, Pastor Carol Dennison, and Bishop Ray Schultz.

Janice Vosper, Janet O'Dubhghaill, Carolyn Iles and Jasmine Sunday School

At the beginning of this year, Hope Sunday School teachers have provided 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. Since September, we have been providing Sunday School on the first Sunday of each month for those children present. A Christmas Home Sunday School packet was a surprise bonus for our families.

Personal Devotions Lutherans Connect Paper booklets

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. www.hopelutherannanaimo.com/ Individual Devotion booklets are ordered, and available for pick up at the church.

Pastor Terry Bible Study

Pastor Terry continues to lead the Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study group using the Dwelling in the Word format. They focus on the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. This process encourages exchanges of ideas, and leads to good group discussions.

Nanaimo Family Life

In-worship on Elder and Child Abuse was held, as per church insurance company recommendations. The next scheduled workshop of Council members and employees and other interested people will be held in 2024.

Doug Roszmann Men's Breakfast Group

Over the last year anywhere from 12-20 men of good will from as far as Ontario, Manitoba, Mexico, and Comox/Courtenay have met on Zoom to talk about anything from world events to spiritual issues. We have changed to meeting the first Friday of the month in-person at the church in hybrid format so that others who live out of town can join our conversations. There have been many different areas of reflection and deep conversation. The goal of our group is to have open-ended discussion that gives space for exploring ideas in a safe community. It is based on the principle that we are there more to understand than to be understood and that while ideas can be questioned the person presenting the idea is respected.

The books we have read and discussed were: **Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others** by Barbara Brown Taylor, **Bullies and Saints: An Honest Look at Good and Evil of Christian History** by John Dickson, and **Our Home and Treaty Land** by Raymond Aldred and Matthew Anderson. The books have been springboards for conversation.

Much of our conversation has focused on the homeless issue in Nanaimo and its systemic problems, environmental degradation and the misdirected path that needs reforming; international political turmoil, and relationships with the aboriginal segment of our society; and the nature and implications of reconciliation. We have had two open meetings that invited women to join us. Elders James Quatrel and Nora Yellowknee came and spoke to us on their perspective on Aboriginal spirituality and how the gospel speaks to it. Raymond Aldred also spoke to us at the church regarding his theological perspective of the synthesis of native spirituality and western European spiritual thought at the end of January. We also have e-mail conversations and media-sharing of ideas that is ongoing. (Thanks to Doug Roszmann for submitting this report!)

Synod leaders, Synod Learning Opportunities

Synodical Learning Opportunities have been provided for pastors, and a separate opportunity is provided for “lay leaders.” These include people from congregations around the Synod, who gather via zoom once a month. During this time, information is shared, small group break-outs provide time to ask questions and provide support. If interested in attending these sessions, please talk to Pastor Terry, Bishop Ray, or Carolyn Iles.

“Most congregations rely on rational decision making to guide their leadership choices. Liminal seasons invite us to shift out of rational decision-making mode and into a more discerning mindset. Discernment is an attentiveness to God that, over time, develops into a shared sense of God’s intention for us and our community now.” Rev. Susan Beaumont

This coming year, there is an opportunity for some congregations to explore what leadership and decision making post-covid could look like. Spread over 18 months, there would be webinars presented by Pastor Susan Beaumont, author of “How to Lead When You Don’t Know Where You Are Going”. Each session would be followed by discussion, projects and reflections within the congregation. (Somewhat similar to the Mission Renewal project, some members may remember.) In order to participate, Hope would need a dedicated team of 3-4 people.

Zoom Techs Hybrid Service Support

Also to be acknowledged are those individuals who serve as zoom ‘hosts’. These individuals provide an invaluable service for our congregation. Two work in the church, and one on zoom each week. Through Zoom we are able to continue learning who and what we are called to be. (Names are listed in the Worship report.)

An attempt was made to create a women’s study group. However, there was very little response. Should individuals wish to explore this option, please let Shirley Forwell, or the Continuous Learning Committee know. **Heartfelt thanks to all those who shared their time and talents, providing learning opportunities for Hope this year.**

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Iles

Ministry Through Fellowship/Membership Annual Report 2022

Fellowship Committee: Linda Harvey, Randi Turner, Terry Owen, Diana Musgreave

Covid and its restrictions have kept us activity-free during this year. We have been in a hiatus for quite a while, hopefully we will be able to gather in fellowship soon.

As you know, a Phoning Group was formed. The phoning tree was instigated after the shutdown of the church because of Covid. We felt there was a need to keep people close to the church and to expel loneliness through friendly outreach. There were 16 phoners who had about 4 people each to phone. Some on the list were shut-ins, widows, those living on their own and the elderly. For some, it was a lifeline from someone who cared. Many friendships were developed between the caller and the one called. The church cares.

On standby are our four Host Teams. Each team consists of about 10 people.

The role of the Host teams is: On a rotating basis, they are called on to serve and clean at potlucks, funerals, or other parties. We are always looking for extra people for the teams. If you are interested in joining a Host Team please contact Linda Harvey at 250-751-1435.

Some of the Quilters of Hope have decided to get back to quilting at Hope. They meet every Friday morning. Contact me at 250-751-1435 if you are interested in a fun-filled morning of stitching, tying, cutting, and chatting. All quilts are donated to local places of need.

Hymn Sing has been a success at Hope. This weekly event on Zoom has about 26 participants from not only Hope but from other provinces and states. Hymns are played while everyone is on mute. This gives you a chance to sing along! A leader gives the historical background of the hymn and composer as well. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Glenn Harvey at 250-751-1435.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Harvey, Council Liaison

Ministry Through Property/Landscaping Annual Report 2022

Over the past year we have initiated and completed a number of on-going maintenance and major improvements to the Church property including:

- Replacement of the carpets. The carpeting is glued to the floor in sectional tiles that allow for replacement of sections. A portable spot cleaner has been purchased for stain removal.
- Replacement of lights bulbs as needed.
- The purchase of a riding lawnmower for the effective cutting of our lawn.
- The replacement of the rear door on the lower level of the church.
- Building of a retaining wall beside the shed housing the lawnmower.
- Replacement of clocks.
- Garden design, watering, pruning, planting, and maintenance.
- Building of a ramp, repairing the entrance, and organization of the storage area under the Sanctuary.
- Snow removal was arranged and de-icer provided.

Considerations for 2023

- Replacement of the shed holding the lawn mower.
- Planning for Parking Lot improvement.
- Replacement of aging light fixtures with LED lighting.
- Replacement plan for chairs.
- Interior painting.

Many thanks to all who provided time, energy, and expertise to provide a usable and attractive site for the ministries of Hope Lutheran Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Roszmann, Property Chair

Ministry Through Finance/Stewardship Annual Report 2022

Each person should give as they have made up their mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver 2 Cor 9:7.

This Ministry includes the Treasurer, the Financial Secretary and any other person(s) Church Council may designate as a liaison. Currently this other person is called Financial Secretary Accounts Payable and takes care of the day to day bill payments on behalf of the Treasurer.

In discussion, at one of our more recent council meetings, council clarified the mandate of our ministry as being: to assure the Financial Stewardship of our church and financial assets.

Our Mission statement illustrates Stewardship very well:

To live Christ's teachings and share them with others; to nurture and strengthen spiritual growth to embody Christ in the world.

Part of good Financial Stewardship is having a solid budgeting process, which also includes regular budget reviews. We might find during the year that our spending and income diverge from our approved budget forecast. With regular budget reviews we can now take measured suitable actions when needed.

Financial Stewardship is one part of stewardship, but stewardship is also our own time and talents. We, as a thriving, caring church would not function well without the countless unpaid hours volunteered by members of our congregation every year. Many volunteer tasks though, seem to be done by the same people year after year. Our hope is that the Mutual Ministry's survey document will find new volunteers who will step forward this year with their time and talents.

Most people who volunteer find enjoyment and satisfaction by being a volunteer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Nilsson, Finance/Stewardship Council Liaison

Ministry Through Witness and Mission Annual Report 2022

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. In-person meetings began in April and the congregation was informed in the newsletters.

World Day of Prayer – World Day of Prayer 2022, a 55 minute service, was available online at wicc.org. The service was planned by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland under the theme “I Know the Plans I Have for You” from the book of Jeremiah. The video presenters were from across Canada. Before the pandemic, Hope Lutheran hosted this service for the Nanaimo churches. It was well attended by about 100

people from several local congregations and raised about \$1000 for the good work of Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada. Donations in 2022 were \$190.

Global Mission Sunday Service – June 12 with resources from elcic.org and an insert and special envelopes created by Joan Nolting. ELCIC has relationships in Argentina, Peru, Jordan and the Holy Land and Cameroon. Donations through offering envelopes: \$3700.

Men's Clothing and Card Drive – Rev. Burdge, chaplain of the Nanaimo Correctional Centre, gratefully received donations of men's winter clothing as well as cards for all occasions

Ukrainian Crisis – \$500 from the local benevolence fund was donated in the form of grocery cards to Virginia Brucker for 11 Ukrainians who had recently arrived from the conflict; donations to this family through offering envelopes is \$1575.

- The CLWR appeal to help Ukraine was advertised to the congregation through the newsletter and the narthex bulletin board. Donations to CLWR Ukraine \$3835.

Used Stamps – a container was placed in the narthex for the collection of used stamps to go to St Paul's Lutheran for providing bibles to prisoners. Country Grocer receipts may also be placed in the container for Claytree Society.

Island Crisis Care Society – Hope supported the blue bank campaign and raised \$258.50 through spare change for this organization that supports the homeless in our congregation. An additional \$110 was donated through church offerings.

CLWR (Canadian Lutheran World Relief) Sunday – was celebrated on September 25 with appropriate hymns chosen by John Collett. In addition to an unknown amount of online donations \$5,520 was donated through the church.

Also the following CLWR specific donations were received:

CLWR Hunger Crisis	\$275
CLWR Pakistan Crisis	\$565
CLWR East Coast Hurricane Relief	\$100

CLWR Gifts from the Heart -the catalogues were made available to the congregation and advertised in the newsletter.

Loaves and Fishes – focus on this organization at Thanksgiving through the worship committee. Donations for the year came to \$2,985.

Canada Lutheran – Cathy Lund is our new representative and she facilitated the 16 renewals (same as last year, which was down from 19) with no extra copies ordered.

Not Afraid Youth Recovery Group - \$500 donation from the local benevolence fund to support this new initiative directed to at-risk youth. An additional \$100 donation was received from the congregation.

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 2022

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, and Pastor Richardson. Council liaison is Peter Clark. Meetings have been held via zoom.

The Worship Committee is responsible for worship at Hope Lutheran Church. This includes regular Sunday services, special services, weddings, funerals and memorial services. In 2022, 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 for specific times and dates.

Hybrid services have been offered since March 20th, when we began meeting in-person and on zoom. This is possible thanks to the “zoom hosts” who have the technical know-how to operate the cameras, mics, and internet connections which allow us to meet in person and on Zoom. This method of coming together for worship is the result of many people sharing their gifts of talents and time. Hybrid services continue to attract people from beyond our geographic area of the mid-Island. Our friends from Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran, Comox, join us three times a month. The presence of past members and friends from Sidney and St. Johns BC; Winnipeg, Manitoba; and Mexico; and new friends in Vancouver, Edmonton, and other locations has been a joy.

This year, our overall average has been 84 people, for 54 services. This is a tribute to our pastor’s worship assistants and all those who work behind the scenes to provide an ‘interactive’ worship experience that meets the needs of so many.

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, and expresses thanks and praise for all.

Pastors: Pastor Terry leads us in worship on Sunday mornings and at other times and provides messages that affirm and build our faith, while switching mics and remembering screen placements. He integrates pieces of liturgy, and writes the prayers, often using material from Rebecca Garber. The Home Service resource is prepared weekly, and is the basis for the bulletin, prepared by our church secretary.

Bishop Ray Schultz, Comox Pastor Carol Dennison, as well as Pastor Svingen and Rev. Deborah van der Goes have graciously covered for Pastor Terry over holidays, illness, and unexpected events throughout the year. Their willingness to serve in this way is a gift to Pastor Terry, and all of Hope Lutheran. Thank you!

Zoom hosts and tech support: Without these individuals, Hybrid services would not be possible. Two people in church and one on zoom keep the cameras, mics and internet connections going. We cannot thank them enough for their ongoing efforts to learn new ways to keep us connected. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to these heroes in our midst: Sue Grant, John Musgreave, Steven Musgreave, Gerry Owen, Curtis Satre, Gail Smith, Garth Wedemire, Jamie and Marlis Enders. Special thanks to Garth and Sue for their leadership with this group. Thank you!

Musicians: This year, John Collett has been our primary musician. We have also engaged the services of a new musician, Pippa Williams. She has been a welcome addition, and we are glad to have both these musicians leading us in song and praise. Jamie and Marlis Enders have provided special accompaniment on several Sundays, and we welcome their contribution. There may be others in the congregation who play instruments, and we would encourage their participation as well. Thanks to you all.

Hymnologists: John Collett selects the hymns for our services. Since March, most of our services have included in-person piano playing, but occasionally hymns on video have been selected and used. (Finding appropriate video/hymns is not an easy task!) Thanks to John and others for selecting the music videos when we were only on zoom, and occasionally since then.

Worship Assistant Schedulers: John Musgreave has been scheduling the zoom techs, two in church one on zoom for the past year. Shirley Forwell has been scheduling the scripture and prayer readers, having taken over from Wendy van Oldenborgh. Thank you! (In the near future, we hope to add other worship assistants. At that time, we will be seeking another scheduler.)

Worship Assistants: On screen or in church, those who read the scriptures and prayers add much to our service. In church, the ushers, and communion preparers/servers help ensure a comfortable and welcoming service. Later in 2023, we hope to add a few more worship assistants and ask all those who are able, to consider serving once in a while. Many thanks to those who share their talents and time with us.

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

Hymn Sing: The Thursday Hymn Sing provides a wonderful worship experience for those who attend this zoom event. Hope Lutheran is known as a singing congregation, and many of our members enjoy singing hymns. Our thanks to Garth Wedemire who provides zoom support, Sue Grant who has been providing interesting background on hymns, musicians and lyricists, and Glenn Harvey for additional support! Thanks, too, to the hymn singers, who suggest hymns, and share in the joy of singing...even while 'muted'!

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, Member



Thank You

OMNIBUS MOTION OF THANKS AGM 2022

Thank you to Pastor Terry Richardson for his guidance, devotion, encouragement and shepherding during this time of Covid.

Our Thank You to:

- Members and non-members who attend Hope Lutheran Church.
- Everyone who served on Hope Council this year.
- Joan Nolting, our Financial Secretary, for her many years of committed service. Joan is retiring from that position but has kindly consented to help Jan Nilsson who is stepping into the Financial Secretary role. Thank you, Jan.
- Joan Nolting for her work in CLWR promotions.
- Those who provide financial support for our church.
- Those who donate to CLWR, the men's Clothing Drive, Samaritan House, Hope Quilters, the Blue Box, the Food Bank, Ukrainian refugee support and any other charitable cause.
- The musicians of Hope: John Collett, Jamie and Marlis Enders, Pippa Williams, and Doug Roszmann.
- The Men's Quartet: John Collett, Glenn Harvey, Peter Clark, Doug Roszmann.
- Our retired clergy who step in as needed.
- Julie Koenig for her years of ordering subscriptions for the Canada Lutheran. After her retirement from that job, Cathy Lund has taken over. Thank you, Cathy.
- The members of Hope, who do all things that need doing, often without recognition.
- Rebecca Garber for her prayers and readings, used often on Sundays.
- Janice Valecourt, our secretary, and the volunteer secretaries who keep our office running efficiently.
- Howard Collier, our janitor, who works at cleaning the church.
- Wendy van Oldenborgh, our scheduler for readers, ushers and communion helpers has retired this year. Thank you for your service. Shirley Forwell has taken over as scheduler. Thank you.
- Carolyn Iles who helps when needed.
- The Altar Guild: Since Covid, Linda Harvey and at times, Glenn Harvey, have been the Altar Guild, changing banners, altar clothes, candles and flowers.
- Mona Richardson and her gardeners (Randi Turner, Linda Harvey, Gerry Jacob, Audrey Strauss, Dale Perkins and Gary and Naomi Granke) for their weekly care of the grounds and Memorial Garden.
- All those who signed up to cut grass.
- Hope Quilters, who sew quilts and other items for the needy. A few quilters have returned to work at the church and others continue to work at home.
- The 16 phoners who phoned at least 4 members each to ask how they were. Thank you for doing this during the height of Covid. Some continue to phone.
- Gerry Jacob for co-ordinating offering counters. Also, a big thank you to the counters.

- Erika Blakeman who does the financial payables monthly.
- Gerry Owen who continues to be our Treasurer at Hope.
- Hope's Men's Group meet in person or on Zoom and continues to reach out to members and non-members to provide 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.
- The Hybrid Committee who arranges the Zoom service each Sunday: Gerry Owen, Glenn Harvey, John Musgreave, Steven Musgreave, Gail Smith, Garth Wedemire, Sue Grant, Jamie and Marlis Enders.
- The Property Committee, the Council liaison Gerry Owen and the 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.
- All the readers, ushers, and communion prep workers every Sunday.
- Our Webmaster, Doug Roszmann.
- The Sunday School teachers who make up Sunday School packages for the kids at home.
- 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, Finance & Stewardship, Mutual Ministry).
- Glenn Harvey and Sue Grant for their commitment to continue the successful program, Hymn Sing. This happens every Thursday morning on Zoom.
- Pastor Terry for leading Bible Study on Zoom every Tuesday.
- Fred Wilke, Doug Roszmann and Gary & Naomi Granke for replacing the lower-level back door.
- Gerry Owen for organizing the Hepa air filters for our church.
- The Covid Team for preparing us for in-service worship. Erika Blakeman and Sue Grant deliberated on this task.
- Shepherd of the Valley, Comox, for their continued support of Hope Lutheran Church.
- Fred and Carol Wilke and Doug Roszmann for their work on choosing and arrangements for installing of our new carpet.
- Gary and Naomi Granke for installing a new ramp into the lower-level storage area to make it safer for the property workers.
- ALL of you. Hopefully we did not miss anyone.