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AGENDA

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1) CALL TO ORDER

Membership Report (updated FEBRUARY 2024)

■ MEMBERS NEEDED TO FORM A QUORUM: MINIMUM OF 26 MEMBERS PRESENT (40%)

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Alford, Charlie | 27. Harbottle, Peter | 53. Ross, Dee |
| 2. Alford, Linda | 28. Haward, Collince | 54. Seronik, Alison |
| 3. Anderson, Colleen | 29. Hoover, Donna | 55. Stothard, Patricia |
| 4. Bottcher, Henry | 30. Hoover, Gerry | 56. Tara, Tech |
| 5. Bottcher, Tita | 31. Kellsey, Bonnie | 57. Thomas, Bart |
| 6. Brock, Holden | 32. Kruger, Kendra | 58. *Thomas, Cassandra |
| 7. Brock, Stacey | 33. Leuenberger, Mari-Anne | 59. Thomas, Christina |
| 8. Bull, Rick | 34. Marcelet, Jane | 60. Thomas, Harold |
| 9. Bull, Wilma | 35. Marcelet, Lucien | 61. Thomas, Mildred |
| 10. Cooke, Pat | 36. McGee, Michael | 62. Traub, Ingrid |
| 11. Cooke, Wayne | 37. McGee, Alicia | 63. Zimmer, Lynda |
| 12. Daoust, Louise | 38. Mckenzie, Sandra | 64. Zimmer, Michael |
| 13. Davies, Lillian | 39. *McRae, Danielle | |
| 14. Davies, Rose | 40. McGuire, Debbie | INACTIVE LIST |
| 15. Duffy, Matt | 41. Metcalfe, John | 1. Brock, Shelden |
| 16. Duffy, Sandra | 42. Metcalfe, Carrie | 2. Casimer, Russ |
| 17. Dyck, Robert | 43. *Munro, Katie | 3. Casimer, Margaret |
| 18. Dyck, Susan | 44. *Munro, Paul | 4. Gale, Jim |
| 19. Elke, David | 45. Ogden, Alan | 5. Marsh, Kim |
| 20. Elke, Sandra | 46. Ogden, Beverly | 6. Primeau, Yves |
| 21. Ellis, Bob | 47. Pilakottil, Manjusha | 7. Marques, Aliane |
| 22. Ellis, Trish | 48. Praithash, Haward | |
| 23. *Finley, John | 49. Price, Anthony | MOVED |
| 24. *Finley, Sherry | 50. Price, Barbara | 1) Chartier, Gail |
| 25. Graham, Melissa | 51. Pugsley, Pat | |
| 26. Graham, Robert | 52. Roadhouse, Mary | NEW MEMBERS |
| | | - indicated by * |

2) DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER

“The True North Strong and Free!” These proud lyrics still muster a loyal tune from Canadians from coast to coast; ever zealous to be renown for showing *consideration, tolerance, and kindness* to outsiders. We pride ourselves in seeing the best in others and delving deep to investigate our own setbacks. Lately we’ve *made some important strides ahead* (eg. treating Mental Health) *and we’ve identified some darker realities* that need to change (crippling inflation

& unaffordable housing). Yet we're not as *closely knit* as a nation as we'd like to admit. Decades beyond the new millennium, our team colours are not as **obvious** and **visible**; it's as if our classic playbook for national solidarity *has been shelved*. There are subtle changes in our midst. At one time we carried groceries in cheap plastic bags. Now we juggle a tumbling assortment of groceries to the car (having left our reusable bags behind). Nodding from our couches, our good intentions to "save the planet" pitifully shift if we're *provoked by overpriced reusable bags*. In lieu of landfill reduction, we'll take our stand against corporate highway robbery any day. So it turns out we may be **accidentally tolerating societal progress instead of shaping it**. Stumbling forward, it seems we're overturning old habits



without really embracing "**why**" we need to *change*, or "**how**" our new approaches *will play out in the long run* (ie. paper straws). The truth is, **we don't act as if we want the changes promoted** in our ads, blogs, and podcasts. With growing indifference towards "*public opinion*" and passive resistance of the national agenda, our national luster *has begun to fade*. There's an attitudinal shift from "*O Ca-na-da!*" to "*Oh! Canada*" because **our progress is tolerated and superficial**.

There's a dispassionate parallel to western Christianity as well. We are a Pentecostal church family and here's our bottom line: **Together, we are the spirit filled representation of Jesus Christ in 21st century Canada** for a people of many nations, languages, opinions, and lifestyles. Canadian evangelicals believe *real spiritual progress* is not compatible with patronizing conformity (*just playing along*). The path of Jesus leads us to **love the ones** who make us uncomfortable as the Gospel stretches our capacities and realigns our purpose. It **transforms us** into a *people of light* who mercifully follow God's leading. On the other hand, our "westernized consumer mentality" is terrified by the prospects of giving out without the certainty of getting ahead. So it's becoming clear that a sober touch of realism is needed. After all, **we don't always speak and act like we agree with the message we're sending**. And with all the forces pressing us to move on, it is possible that we're accidentally arriving ahead of decision to leave conflicting beliefs behind!

We all have an *outer life* and an *inner life*. The outer life is public, and visible. Our accomplishments, our work and our reputation *lie there*. The inner life is where our *secret thoughts and hopes and wishes live*. It is **invisible**, and easy to neglect. No one has access to it, so when *the inner life wins* there's no applause (John Ortberg). Confronting our inner ambitions is well illustrated in the Gospels. In Matthew 20:24 Jesus provided his disciples with his own Philosophy of Leadership. Jesus explained, "the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you... whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Leadership, governance, and goal setting

in the church naturally reflect the heart and the message of the Gospel. These **visible** traces of **God's love** in our world cannot be wielded by those who "*lord it over others*" or *bolster confidence in their own abilities*. God's not looking for men and women who trust their own methods of representing Him (Proverbs 3:5-6). Rather He's scanning the masses to find the few: who carry a servant's heart; who humbly extend His unconditional love to all people; and listen and obey the Spirit's wisdom (2 Chron. 16:9).

In the foreground (Matt. 20:20-28) there's a Believer who's allowed anxiety and desire to shape her approach to the throne. At her own expense, the mother of James and John expressed her families' baser ambitions when she pleaded Jesus *on bended knee* to promote her sons to the most prominent positions in the kingdom (Matt. 20:20-28). Jesus was quick to admonish her with the costly price of martyrdom (v.22b) and he pointed out her presumptuous ignorance towards kingdom values (v.23a). She didn't understand (v.22a) that in the Lord's playbook: those who try to *save their lives* lose them; and those rule are merciful and meek. Whoever would deem themselves as "leadership material" would have to come to terms with Christ's gracious example of **servanthood**. Servant Leaders who've been inspired by Jesus ask tough questions:

- Will I lead forcefully to advance ourselves personally and positionally? or
- Will I serve humbly for the better interests of the disadvantaged and vulnerable?
- Which motivation (master) would I bring to the task of church leadership right now?

You see, the tension is real. No one who leads with the Spirit's anointing carries two opposing motivations: "*for no one can serve two masters: you will love the one and hate the other*" (Matt 6:24). And no one can sift those ambitions when the opportunity for service arises. We're all followers of a predetermined master. Without profound and redemptive transformation, every leader carries the undercurrents of natural selection into the arena of leadership. So when the occasion for leadership arises, each one will be contending with their positional ambitions.

When church leadership is **positional**, it is self-promoting, ever straining for personal influence. The congregation will be lured by popular trends, busyness, power plays, and the colliding banter of politics. Whereas **Missional** church leadership is characterized by **Faith**; it is compelled by God's preferred **vision** for our future. Missional Leadership provokes the congregation to be focused and intentional as a major shift requires new maturity and an abundance of patience to make the change *together*. The response of other ten disciples is worth noting; **they were indignant** with the two brothers (Matthew 20:24). The grasp for power was treacherous as it was evident that James and John knew better. No favors, no seniority, no political, cultural, or gender based-bias; with Jesus, discipleship thrusts a sword of contention into our positional interests. And the only people Jesus leaves behind are the ones who estrange themselves from His most infamous and visible prerequisite: "**take up your cross and follow me**" (Matt. 16:24).

Submitted by Pastor Bart Thomas

3) PREVIOUS MINUTES: 2022 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

- Previous Minutes (MARCH 12th, 2023) recorded by Beverly Ogden

CALL TO ORDER: Pastor Bart; Time: 12:37pm

- Membership Report (updated MARCH, 2023); 40% quorum: MINIMUM 25 MEMBERS
- Membership called: 34 members present at meeting, quorum established
- Motion for appointing recording secretary, Beverly Ogden M/S/C
- No ballot voting, no scrutineers required

DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER: presented by Pastor Bart

- Prayer and Devotional by Pastor Bart – Pursue Love: 1 Cor:13 Faith, Hope, and Love
- The cover image on docket relates to how God sees man
- We are centered in loving people first. It's a higher Love –so pursue love

PREVIOUS MINUTES: 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: recorded by Debbie McGuire

- Previous Minutes (APRIL 10th, 2022)

FINANCIAL REPORT: presented by Jane Marcelet

- Balanced budget, achieved in part with lay-off of one full time pastoral position
- Church finances are not about the money in the bank; it's about a resource / tool to be used for God's kingdom. He will provide all that is needed.
- Appreciation was expressed for all of Jane's work
- Motion to accept financial report as presented M/S/C

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS: presented by Stacey Brock

- nominating committee: Stacey Brock (staff), Debbie McGuire (leadteam), Bob Ellis (elder), Dee Ross, Wayne Cooke, and Bonnie Kellsey (3 members of congregation)
- Members nominated for Leadteam: Mari-Anne Leuenberer, Rick Bull, Alan Ogden
- Elder appointed, alongside with Bob Ellis: Bonnie Kellsey. Current leadteam: Kendra Kruger, Carrie Metcalfe, Jane Marcelet, Debbie McGuire, Dave Elke
- Motion to approve: slate of names presented to serve with the 2023 Leadteam. M/S/C

MINISTRY REPORTS: reports by Debbie MCGuire, Kendra Kruger, Carrie Metcalfe

- OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD, PRAYER CHAIN: anyone interested in the prayer chain to connect with Debbie M. Debbie was grateful for kindness of all who called on her
- KID'S MINISTRY: has 12-20 children a week and is growing. Some children becoming teenagers and they will need their own program. More volunteers are needed
- WORSHIP TEAM: Desire to grow the worship team and include more children. Anyone with a heart for music is welcome, some training provided

FACILITY REPORTS: reports by Dave Elke, Colleen Anderson

- HOSPITALITY: All the meals that were served began with the chief's ideas and plan, but all the volunteers put the plans and meals into action; they have a great team!
 - MAINTENANCE: Front rock beds cleared out, two work bees (with more volunteers than expected), rooftop HVAC and drains fixed, maintained by Eugene (Avalon Heating)
-

- RENTALS: Colleen reported rentals have increased. People are coming to us for rentals. One renter acclaimed PDC is for the community, and open to communication.
- Motion to accept ministry and facility reports as presented. M/S/C

STAFF REPORTS: Colleen Anderson, Tony Price, Matt Duffy, Bart Thomas, Stacey Brock

- TEAM COORDINATOR (Volunteer Ministry): Colleen noted that positive comments for PDC highlights our thankfulness for everyone who volunteers. Great feedback flows from a great team. Appreciation was expressed for Colleen and all she does to organize PDC.
- OUTREACH: The Church is being motivated by the Holy Spirit; Pastor Tony appreciates the support, encouragement and fellowship of both leadership and the congregation. Appreciation expressed for Barb Price for her contributions to the outreach ministry.
- CHURCH REVITALIZATION: The church is following God's truth, together. Expressions of appreciation to Sandra for her work in keeping everything clean!
- Pastor Matt and Sandra recognized for work with F.I.T.T. here and in the Kootenays
- LEAD PASTOR: Pastor Bart expressed appreciation for Christina's support & the church.
- Appreciation expressed for pastor Stacy Brock for years of service as Associate Pastor, and her ongoing ministry in the church. She was presented with flowers and a gift.
- ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Pastor Stacey responded graciously, she feels so blessed by the patience, kindness, and support of the church. She is "blessed to still be serving here"!
- Motion to accept all staff reports as presented. M/S/C

OLD BUSINESS: Facilitated by Pastor Bart

- The sale of the back lot is still pending at City Hall. Not having sold the land, we were still able to do some of the much-needed building maintenance.
- Query about upkeep of back lawn. Factors: high irrigation costs & volunteers labour.
- Lights for parking not functioning through winter. **Note: Look into light timer, & adjust**

NEW BUSINESS

- Summer student: currently working on a grant for summer student. Basic costs between \$1500-2000 with grant to cover remainder. Application submitted, a student is available
- Search for more grants for new initiatives: The direction for grant money is community engagement: looking at needs within community to grow our profile in the community

PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT: Bonnie Kelsey closed in prayer; Motion to adjourn M/S/C

4) FINANCIAL REPORTS

What do you see when you look at these Income / Expense and Budget statements? A boring page of numbers? Gibberish you'll never understand? Or an exciting drama, a mystery, a love story, a comedy, a tragedy, or science fiction? Perhaps a more accurate description is a foreign film, with sub-titles that tells of the collective hopes, dreams and desires of our congregation. It's a story that began when the leadership and congregation prayerfully sought God's leading for: the mission of this church; the practical plans for ministry, worship and salvation; and how the

resources (that God provided) would be used to become a light in our community. There are two chapters in this story: **Income** and **Expenses**. They're of equal value and importance. Income is one resource; our time and talents to essential its use. The headings are on the left side of the page, such as offering and expenses, with the sub-headings of worship, community outreach, etc. These are brief descriptions of how we're fulfilling God's plan and using resources to do it.

It's not about money, although there's dollar signs all over it. Money only serves as a unit of measure for expressing our goals (Budget) and our progress (Actuals) towards our plan. It is a way of gauging our priorities and commitment to the goals we've set. The proposed budget for 2024 has the same general focus as 2023, towards family and community. New in this year's budget is support activities for the "unhoused" in Oliver and Okanagan Falls, for which we've received a government grant. There are increases for utilities, Property Insurance, and 4% for Staff Salaries (it's been several years since the last salary increase). As you review these documents, prayerfully consider God's leading for Park Drive Church and what plans He has for us, as a body and individuals. Prayerfully yours,

Jane Marcelet

Financial Report (A) 2023 BALANCE SHEET

Current Year

		Current Year
ASSETS		
CASH ACCOUNTS		
CHECKING		
Checking RBC		\$40.61
Checking - VF		16,248.12
		<hr/>
Subtotal Checking		16,288.73
SAVINGS		
Savings VF-Contingency		21,615.74
GIC Account-RBC		4,063.32
		<hr/>
Subtotal Savings		25,679.06
		<hr/>
Subtotal Cash Accounts		41,967.79
OTHER ASSETS		
		176.92
RECEIVABLES		
		4,804.13
		<hr/>
Subtotal Other Assets		4,981.05
FIXED ASSETS		
		974,400.00
		<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>\$1,021,348.84</u></u>

LIABILITIES	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	-\$7.17
DESIG.CHURCH USE	<u>28,846.38</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	28,839.21
NET ASSETS	<u>\$1,002,873.18</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	1,002,873.18
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u><u>\$1,031,712.39</u></u>

Financial Report (B) 2023 Income & Expenses

	Current Period	Annual Budget
INCOME		
OFFERING		
UNDESIGNATED	\$140,361.55	\$140,418.00
OTHER INCOME	<u>11,046.51</u>	<u>11,000.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	151,408.06	151,418.00
EXPENSES		
MISSION	\$1,768.43	\$1,000.00
SUNDAY WORSHIP	1,227.81	8,100.00
PROGRAMS	1,387.48	300.00
CONGREGATIONAL CARE	26,133.21	24,000.00
LEAD TEAM	73,796.33	79,197.97
MINISTERIAL	1,673.95	1,650.00
OVERHEAD		
ADMINISTRATION	24,215.53	23,450.00
FACILITIES	<u>20,227.36</u>	<u>13,720.00</u>
Subtotal Overhead	44,442.89	37,170.00
PROPERTY SUBDIVISION	<u>224.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>150,654.10</u>	<u>151,417.97</u>
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	<u><u>\$753.96</u></u>	<u><u>\$0.03</u></u>

Financial Report (C) 2024 Proposed Budget

	% of Budget	2024 Budget	2023 Actuals	Description
INCOME				
OFFERING		150,000	143,500	Undesignated offering income
OTHER INCOME		34,400	20,050	Rental, grants, interest & misc income
TOTAL INCOME		\$184,400	\$163,550	

EXPENSES				
MISSION	9%	15,800	4,997	PAOC,BCYD,locl missions & benevolence
SUNDAY WORSHIP	5%	9,750	7,187	Children & Youth Ministry, worship supplies, hospitality & AV
PROGRAM/ CONGREGATION CARE	5%	8,750	4,124	Community & mid-week programs, volunteer training, Leadteam, member care, gifts
PASTORS & STAFF	55%	100,520	91,433	Staff salaries, training, travel, credentials & employments taxes
OVERHEAD (Total of Facilities & Admin)		49,580	46,549	Total of Administration & Facilies Expenses
Admininstration	9%	17,380	16,517	Office supplies,insurance, phone & internet, property tax, bank fees
Facilities	17%	32,200	30,032	Utilities, groundskeeping, building repair & maintenance,furnace & janitor
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$184,400	\$154,290	

**Financial Reports do not include FITT Ministries*
 All Financial Reports submitted by Jane Marcelet

5) ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

- **Nominating Committee:** Stacey & Holden Brock, Debbie McGuire, Linda Alford, Wilma Bull
- **Meetings:** Orientation February 11th; Eligibility Process February 19th (held at the church)

PURPOSE – The Nominating Committee is a Leadership committee that determines from the church membership, mature candidates suitable for service on the Leadership Team. By-Law 3.1.3. of the Local Church Constitution: *“It shall be the duty of the nominating committee to receive submissions for each office to be filled and, after determining if such individuals are qualified and willing to serve, shall present a slate of nominees for consideration at the congregational business meeting.”*

TERM – Each electable term of office is valid for two years. No board member may serve more than three consecutive terms (six years) without taking reprieve of one year prior to re-election

2024 Board Status – One Leadteam member continues with one year left in his term: Alan Ogden

Rick Bull	elected 03/12/23 (served first year; resigning his position March 2024)
Dave Elke	elected 03/15/22 (served two of six years; eligible for re-election for 2 nd term)
Kendra Kruger	elected 03/15/22 (served two of six years; eligible for re-election for 2 nd term)
Mary-Anne Leuenberger	elected 03/12/23 (served first year; resigning her position March 2024)
Carrie Metcalfe	elected 03/15/20 (served four of six years; eligible for re-election for 3 rd term)
Jane Marcelet	elected 03/15/22 (served two of six years; eligible for re-election for 2 nd term)
Debbie McGuire	elected 03/15/20 (served four of six years; eligible for re-election for 3 rd term)
Alan Ogden	elected 03/12/23 (served one of six years; eligible for re-election in 2025)

NOMINEES – Twenty-six nominations were submitted. Four names were disallowed: unsigned ballot (1), duplicate ballot (1), non-member submissions (2). Twenty-two names were submitted to the committee for consideration. Thirteen nominees received a majority vote by the committee. Seven persons have allowed their names to stand for election: **Dave Elke, Kendra Kruger, Jane Marcelet, Debbie McGuire, Sandra McKenzie, Carrie Metcalfe, Lynda Zimmer.**

ELDERS – Bonnie Kellsey and Bob Ellis will be completing their eldership in March 2024. Elders do not hold voting status, they endeavor to help through mentorship of the staff and Leadteam.

- **Nominating Committee:** minimum of three leadteam positions, currently there are eight
- **Motion to Approve:** the slate of names presented to serve with the 2024 Leadteam

Submitted by Pastor Stacey Brock

6) MINISTRY REPORTS

Community Programs

■ Facility Rentals

Rentals continue to operate in our Church during the weekdays. Our church has been utilized to help out many different organizations in Oliver. We coordinate with the Oliver Recreation Center regarding the use of the space upstairs in the church for the dance studio. Our church was also able to venue for Tuc El Nuit elementary school to host their Christmas concert. It was fabulous seeing all the children and their families utilizing the church. YWAM hosted their graduation and service in our church building. In 2023, Access Center, Sage Valley Voices and the Mindful Group continued to rent our space. Throughout 2023, we continue to work with Nunes-Pottinger's Funeral Home to provide an accessible space for funerals within the community of Oliver.

■ Seminars and Workshops

I was able to host two workshops this year. Both were well received by those in our Church and a number from our community. The first one was presented by the local RCMP who shared how we can avoid being scammed by the internet, phone calls, people who show up at your door and other avenues. The information and knowledge shared was valuable tools for all those who attended. The second workshop was presented by DVHS: Desert Valley Hospice Society who have an office in Osoyoos. The service is available to any resident in Osoyoos, Oliver and Ok Falls. Kathy and Lois presented how the Society serves those in need through their many services. They discussed how they rely on trained volunteers and grants to run the program. They spoke of their palliative care program and how they provide individuals with the ability to spend time with loved ones who are in palliative care. They also provide home or group classes for those grieving after losing a loved one. They left each of us with food for thought.

"No Barriers to receive Palliative Care"

■ Half-Iron Triathlon

Our church was also involved with the Dynamic Triathlon in June of 2023. Brian Stothard was our fearless Leader for this event. He was very flexible dealing with many last-minute changes and keeping our amazing volunteers well prepared for hosting the event. A big Thank you to Brian and all our volunteers for enabling the church to host this event.

■ Prison Ministry

After completing new training and security clearances, Pastor Bart and I started attending the prison twice a month in February 2023. We worked with a small group of men singing, watching Biblical segments of videos. This was my first opportunity to be involved in prison ministry, and as a result of this experience, I've shifted my view and heart for those in the justice system.

■ Mid-Week Study / Social

September was the start of hosting social coffee every Wednesday of the month. The response has been worth the efforts and presented new opportunities for people to meet up with old friends and meet new friends each week. Keeping conversations around the table small, so that everyone can comfortably participate and move around to visit with each other. When there is a mid-week study there is always time for coffee and visit. I would be remiss if I did not take this moment to thank Mari-Anne and Wilma who have taken on the coffee and homemade treats each week. If you have not taken the time to join in, you may want to come by for the coffee and delicious treats from gluten free to delectable chocolate brownies and more. It is the gathering place on Wednesday from 10:00 – 11:30am.

■ Church in the Park

This was our only Community Service for the year. Unfortunately, the heat and smoke prevented us from hosting 'Church on the Beach' in Ok Falls. This was a SOMA event where each Church involved takes on a particular element of the outdoor Service. Park Drive Church was the Worship Lead this year and what an outstanding job all the volunteers put forth to see it come all together on Sunday morning. Pastor Bart's technology skills shine beyond expectation as he gathers, re wires, deals with sound issues. As a result of such a great team, all those who gathered were able to praise and worship the Lord in God's creation.

All **Community Program Reports** submitted by Colleen Anderson

Compassion Team

This team truly is compassionate, & when called upon to help out with any specific project that Park Drive Church wanted to involve itself with, these lovely ladies jumped right in, on every occasion! Some of the things we accomplished, were very personal in nature... providing visitations to a few church members who really needed encouragement, or others who required a blessing of a meal, or a ride to a hospital appointment etc. We also helped sort through many articles of donated clothing, and bagged them up to be distributed to the Prison Ministry outreach; plus collections destined for the Ukraine, & various childrens' ministries in Africa.

Besides that, we actively got the Sunday School kids involved with us, to create over 100 hand designed, drawn, painted, glittered Christmas cards, which were then distributed to residents of the Sunnybank home, Heritage House & several to elderly or widowed/single folks in our own church. We ladies enjoyed gathering together a couple of different times, armed with pinking shears & colourful markers, to make up the basic cards, from craft paper...which were then brought to the Sunday School teachers, who oversaw the kids delightfully decorating the front covers of all 118 cards! This took place over the course of several Sundays & we did hear that the cards were well received. Perhaps next year we can try something a little different, to bring smiles to the faces of the elderly folks.

And last but not least, were the “Christmas hampers”, given to needy folks not only in our community of Oliver, but also to a few families within our own church. The “hampers” actually turned out to be more about gift cards for grocery stores, but clearly, those were needed & much appreciated! It was a blessing for me to have worked with these wonderful ladies throughout the year, & also to have had the privilege of heading up this “team.” I pray that not only the people whom we served but more importantly, God Himself, was pleased with our efforts.

Submitted by Mari-Anne Leuenberger

Events / Arts & Drama Team

We have had a busy year. One of the highlights of the past year was Church in the Park. It was hosted by Park Drive Church and attended by many of the other churches in Oliver. It was very well attended. Unfortunately we were unable to have our picnic service at the beach this year due to all the local fires and smoke. Hopefully we will be able to have one again this year.

One of our main events was our very own art show, displaying the artistic abilities of many of our church members young and old. Over twelve people participated. It was very well received and we would like to make it an annual event. Our drama team was busy participating in many special services including Remembrance Day, Easter and Christmas eve service. We enjoyed joining up with the Sunday School at the Christmas Service. A big thank you to all who helped with set up for all these different events.

Submitted by Rick Bull

Prayer Chain

2023 saw much change; upheavals in some lives, valleys and mountains, sometimes hard to climb and journey on. But we came through, with God leading us, guiding us and sometimes even carrying us. Thank you to all the prayer warriors who so unreservedly give of themselves when matters are pressing. We saw the hand of God moving in many lives and it is inspiring to know He watches over us. But we need to take time to refresh our souls. REST IS VITAL. God our Father, Creator, knew that rest, and the preparation for rest is vital for our souls.

Rest has been a holy part of life from the beginning. “On the seventh day, with the cosmos of canvas completed, God paused from His labor and rested. Thus, God blessed day seven and made it special, an open time for pause and restoration, a sacred zone of Sabbath-keeping, because God rested from all the work He had done in creation that day. The pace and pressure of life can tell us there aren’t enough hours in the day for rest, deep soul refreshing rest. It can tell us every hour must be filled with work, commitments, with family, friends, clubs, professional commitments, then racing from one event to the next (insert your pressures here). Yet God knew, as He knit us together, we would need rest from our labors to thrive. On a biological level, after three days without proper sleep, we start to hallucinate. Which leads to the question, how long

has it been since we gave our souls a rest? Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made to serve us, we weren't made to serve the Sabbath." More than just church on Sunday, Sabbath rest is made to serve you, reminding you to refresh your soul and reconnect with God. Consider what restores your soul? When do you spend time connecting with God and building this relationship? What's one simple thing you can implement today to intentionally create space for the rest you need to re-build your soul?

Submitted by Debbie McGuire

Worship Team

It has been another great year for God's glory in the Worship Department at Park Drive Church! We have enjoyed learning and developing our musicianship as a group and individually. Our church had a new team lead us in old hymns for the first time in 2023. It was a big hit and we look forward to more from them in the new year. We saw more from our youth musicians in 2023 as well and it is such a privilege to walk alongside them as they grow in skill and devotion to our Lord through music. Park Drive Church hosted concerts for Sage Valley Voices and Tuc El Nuit Elementary. Our community outreach was affected by fires this summer as smoke kept us from Church on The Beach but we enjoyed Church in The Park (an event co-produced with other churches in our area). Some of our leaders faithfully took worship to Heritage House and Sunny Bank monthly and Colleen and Bart brought worship to the Prison as well. Bart is working to upgrade our production tech and we will hear more on that in next year's report!

I am so thankful to work with people who love the Lord and lend their talents week after week. I get to see musical gifts being used but also the fruits of kindness, gentleness, patience, and longsuffering. It is not always easy for us as individuals with thoughts and opinions of our own to create together in partnership with the Holy Spirit but we are so blessed to do it and I couldn't imagine a more wonderful group of people to work with! From the musicians to the congregational choir! I love you all!

Submitted by Carrie-Leigh Metcalfe

7) FACILITY REPORTS

Hospitality

Our hospitality team was excited to provide several meals to our church family and friends this past year. Special thanks to all the volunteers on the team, who did a fantastic job and are always ready to get the job done with a smile. Some highlights:

AGM Luncheon (Mar) – Chicken tortilla and cream of broccoli soup, with buns on the side.

Sunday School & Grad (Jun) – BBQ pulled pork buns & hot dogs, with coleslaw & fresh veggies.

Christmas Luncheon, (Dec) – Turkey meatloaf, pulled pork mac & cheese, with accompaniments

Due to fire season in August, the planned event & meal for Church on the Beach had to unfortunately be cancelled. However, there were two work bees during the year, for which simple lunches of hot & cold sandwiches were also provided. Giving the church family an opportunity to gather together and fellowship over a meal is a great way to build and strengthen relationships with each other. Go SEAHAWKS Go!

Submitted by Dave Elke

Maintenance

The initial grass mowing and weed whacking was carried out by two non-church volunteers in the springtime. We had two work bees, one in June and again in October. Many thanks to those who were able to attend and lend a hand.

There were many things on the to-do list, and a lot was accomplished. We had a serious water leak from the main line of the irrigation system (resulting in excessive utility charges from the town). The repair required a backhoe, a couple of serious shovelers, and a carpenter / plumber to fix it. A company was hired to come and do "Spider" abatement. The outside of the building was sprayed, and the webs removed from the outside walls, with good results. The access stairs to the stage were modified by the soundproof room, aka "drum box". Stairs were also installed behind the soundproof room and a handrail fitted to the stairs to center stage. These modifications made it much safer for those needing to go on stage, which is much appreciated.

In 2024 we are planning to replace part of the front lawn. Watering restrictions and water cost made it difficult if not impossible to maintain a decent lawn. The intent is to replace the section of lawn currently covered by black plastic with Creeping Thyme. There will be more details as we head into spring.

Submitted by Alan Ogden

8) STAFF REPORTS

Team Coordinator

■ Volunteer Ministry

After researching what would work best for the church's functionality, and the needs of staff and volunteers, the church subscribed to a Planning App that offers a simpler way to connect and create volunteer schedules for the varied areas (without checking each date via each volunteer). The Planning App facilitates a host of options for planning:

- presents opportunity to accept or decline
- invites, knowing it will update the staff
- one can check the App when convenient
- update their unavailability
- sends reminders for upcoming Services, Mid-week events, care homes ect...



One of my personal highlights for 2023 was in the Sunday School classroom. I was teaching on Noah's Ark a classic and the children enjoy sharing their knowledge of animals and sounds as they entered the Ark. As the ultimate surprise for our Noah's Ark lesson, we went outside to be greeted by a baby piglet. The children were so excited to interact with the piglet and have their pictures taken with one of God's creations. It warmed my heart to see the children full of joy and laughter. I want to take this time to thank each and every volunteer here at Park Drive Church. Whether you are a regular volunteer or you have volunteered for one event, you have made a difference. The volunteers are the very soul of what makes Park Drive Church a church that stands out for making a difference to those who attend our church and to our community at large. May God continue to Bless each of you with the health, time, energy and desire to make a difference in our Church and town. Thank you for the hours spent assisting our church. It is appreciated.

"Gratitude is the ability to experience life as a Gift.

It liberates us from the prison of self-preoccupation."

Submitted by Colleen Anderson

Outreach Pastor

■ Fellowship Outreach

It is an encouraging time when we gather together for there is always an opportunity to take relationships to a deeper level. We all have different reasons for attending church mid-week and it is our hope that your personal needs are met by attending one or all of what has been prayerfully added to the weekly schedule. Whether it is the Coffee Mornings, Bible Study, Educational Workshops, or Seniors Services at the care homes. It could be that every week is your habit, or one particular gathering is your interest. We are pleased you join us, and we thank the committed ladies who serve the coffee and home baked snacks every week.

January – May: Coffee Morning was once a month (10am -noonish)

June – Sept: Tuc-el-Nuit Beach (drop in 10 am until hmmm! noon-1pm). Bring a lawn Chair and coffee along, unhealthy snack served weekly.

Focus: Fellowship, we give many thanks to the ladies who brought singing to the beach this year. People joined us who were walking along the beach and some just dropped by to visit with the group, to see what we were up to. This was a very relaxed way of sharing Jesus as opportunity arose while having a great morning out and taking the church to the beach, At the end of August we finished the beach sessions up with a Pot Bless lunch. It was a lovely summer, and the weather was almost perfect for our mornings at the beach.

September-December: New format for Wednesday Coffee Morning three times a month, Bible Study, (plus Seniors Service) and Educational Workshops.

■ Men's Breakfast

Bob Ellis instigated a Men's Breakfast on several Saturday mornings throughout the year. Breakfast was served from the YWAM Base on Main Street. The season included testimonies, and guest speakers some of which included Hon. Bill Barisoff, (Retired) Bob Graham (Oliver Fire Chief) Former Oliver Mayor Johansen, MLA Linda Larson (retired). Now the 2024 breakfasts have started up again we invite all men to attend and enjoy an affordable breakfast, with a good message, and great fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend along. Another container was also shipped off to Ukraine carrying clothes donated from local thrift shops along with individuals who have been supportive of this ministry through the years. We thank you for your prayer support at all times.

In Christ's Service

Submitted by Pastor Tony and Barb Price

Revitalization Pastor

Sandra and I want to express how much we love and appreciate our Family at Park Drive Church. Above all else we know that we are embraced and encouraged to be a part in helping. Jesus' summary of what we are all about? To love God and to love one another. 1 Peter 4:8 says, "Above all love one another deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." And we all know, at the core of our being, that our right standing with God isn't based on our own perfection. It is because we confess that we believe Jesus makes us right with God. It is a GIFT. Not how we "perform" as perfect.

■ Freedom In The Truth (F.I.T.T.) 2023 Report

We began October 1/22 leading a transition at Valley Christian Church in Invermere. Driving in and out twice monthly, a full day each way in winter conditions. It was a great privilege. We are still meaningfully connected to the folks there. We completed that assignment in April 2023. So, just over six months. When home in the South Okanagan we enjoyed being with our PDC Family. I also contributed by Speaking Sunday mornings, and doing some teaching in the Wednesday gatherings for coffee, fellowship, and some studies. Thank you to all for these privileges.

As 2024 unfolds I am looking forward to presenting some Workshops on **Leadership – Culture**. This area is my core passion. I want to help many understand, not just in the mind, but in the heart, what Leading in Jesus' Kingdom looks like. These are about underlying quality things. How we form our way of seeing what Leaders are to be about. If we are trying to grow in understanding, we will certainly make better decisions. This is what Leading is all about. The Biblical culture of leading is very different than how we tend to think. Love and peace as we try to follow Jesus. IN HIM!

Submitted by Matt and Sandra Duffy

Lead Pastor

"First of all, then, I urge that... thanksgivings be made for all people..." (1 Timothy 2:1)

Reflecting on 2023, the first thought that comes to mind is: **"Thank you kindly, to the Lord and for our Park Drive family."** **Thank you** for supporting my ministry, our family and for walking alongside us through a riveting transitional year. **Thank you** Colleen for coaching and catching every step of a tricky journey. **Thank you** Leadteam for striving forward with me to make our church initiatives and programs and ministries a success. **Thank you** volunteers for serving with me and without me. We poured passion, sweat and tears into everything we felt called and empowered to do. And I love serving with you all, I hope each one of you can sense it as I do. **Thank you** to our pastors: Tony, Stacey and Matt for charismatic leadership and life-giving momentum. Marching through the societal, social, political and cultural chaos of the 21st century would be awfully lonely without you. **Thank you** Marj for a steady call for balance and margin in life. **Thank you** Jesus for an incredible church family, for a dynamic ministry team and for a very special family. **Thank you** to my sons and daughters for fun and amazing conversations, and to my dear wife who rides out this wild journey with me. It was another year overflowing with joy, surprises and rising challenges. Here's a brief overlook of life and ministry:

- bought house with parents
- 3 months of reno: May-July
- Moving my parents & family

Took one decent motorcycle vacation to Aberdeen Wash & Seattle for Independence Day!

Beyond and outside of weekly office prep (Tues - Fri) there were various ministry activities:

- Weddings officiated (10)
- Funerals officiated (3)
- Baby Dedications (2)
- Care Home services (15)
- Teen Challenge (3)
- Prison Ministry (8)
- Leadteam meetings (11)
- Section Pastor activities in Princeton, Rock Creek (4)
- Leadership Seminars (4)
- SOMA worship events (3)
- Oliver Triathlons (2)
- Preaching @ PDC (28)
- Vital Facility Repairs (3)
HVAC decks: drain leak; stucco prep; irrigation water valve excavation.
- Grant funding (5 applied for; 2 grants awarded)

Officially engaging in chaplaincy with the RCMP was a milestone for me. After years of praying, training, and waiting - an effectual door has opened. But the very best thing I'm involved in is serving Jesus one day at a time, watching lives change and resting spellbound at the end of each day. There is so much that God is doing in our midst, "How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!" *Just watch and see Him shine, all glory to Him!*"

Submitted by Pastor Bart Thomas