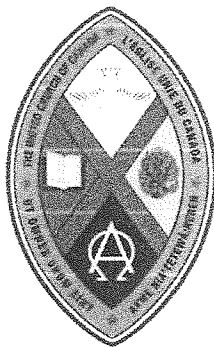
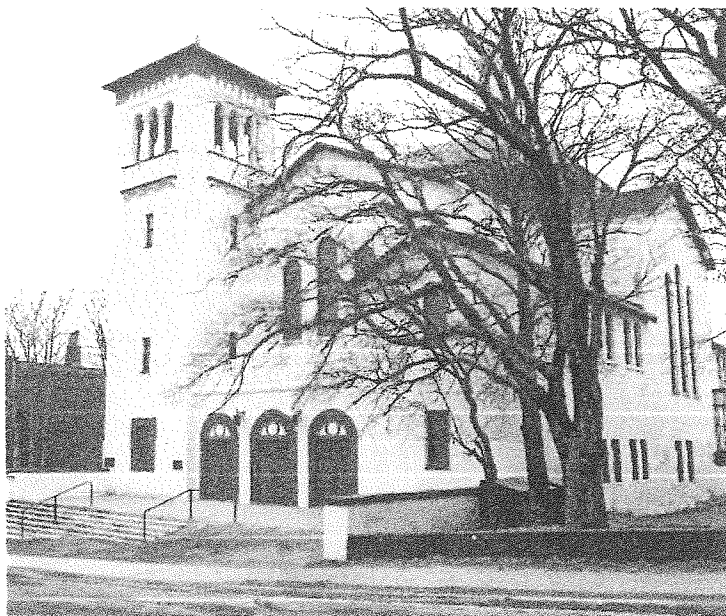


Cochrane Street United Church

Annual Report 2022



Minister: Vacant
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier
Minister of Music: Patricia Young
Director of Music: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson
Email: info@cochranestreetuc.com
Website: cochranestreetuc.com
Telephone: 709-722-3023
81 Cochrane Street, St. John's, NL A1C 3L7
Technical Operations: John Williams, Jackabon Media

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COCHRANE STREET UNITED CHURCH STATISTICS 2022

MARRIAGES

none

BAPTISMS

Sophia Elisabeth St-Amand, daughter of Amanda Lewis & Éric St-Amand
Brianna Paige Tuttle, daughter of Racheal Ryan & Hogan Tuttle

IN MEMORIAM

Heather Darlene Alexander
Christopher Norman Baker
Millicent Corkum
J. Edward King
Mary Emily Neil
Donald W. Newell
John Crosbie Perlin
Sonia Reynolds
Tina Christina Robbins

INTERMENT

Edward George Gorman
Johnny Garfield Gorman
Hilda May (nee Butler) Gorman
Nellie Myrtle King

TRANSFERS IN

none

TRANSFERS OUT

Bill Evans
Olivia Evans
Samantha Evans
Meghan McKibbon
Judy Molyneux
Marilyn Pardy

CONFIRMATION

none

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL:

Chair, Church Council:	Stephen Jewczyk.
Vice-Chair:	VACANT
Co-Secretaries:	Robyn McMaster and Tara
Treasurer:	Karen Critch
Property:	VACANT
Ministries:	VACANT
Worship and Pastoral Care:	Paula Reynolds
Ministry and Personnel:	Judy Kay
Finance:	Tim Reynolds
Director at Large:	Fraser Ellis
Regional Council Rep:	Karen Critch
United Church Women:	Faith Roberts Pike
Chair of the Congregation:	David Molyneux

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jean Brown	Jim Oakley,
Lloyd Brown,	Ted Howell
Geoff Budden,	Susan Winsor

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPRESENTATIVES

General Protestant Cemetery Committee:	Karen Critch
Bridges To Hope Incorporated Ministry:	Cheryl Sullivan Critch
Guide to the Good:	Brian Butt
United Community of Faith:	Stephen B. Jewczyk Tim Reynolds
Cochrane Centre Incorporated Ministry:	Cheryl Sullivan Critch Jim Carscadden Susan Winsor VACANT

2022 Church Council Cochrane Street United Church

The following are the nominations for Church Council which are to be elected by the congregation at the congregational meeting

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair: Stephen Jewczyk.

Vice-Chair: VACANT

Secretary: Robyn McMaster/Tara Bishop

Treasurer: Karen Critch

Property Committee: VACANT

Ministries: VACANT

Worship and Pastoral Care: Paula Reynolds

Ministry and Personnel: Judy Kay

Finance: Tim Reynolds

Director at Large: Fraser Ellis

Regional Council Reps: Karen Critch,
 Second position Vacant

The following positions are separate from the congregational election to Council but form part of the congregation's governance model.

Trustees Rep: Geoff Budden Ted Howell
 Susan Winsor Jean Brown
 Lloyd Brown Rev. Miriam Bowlby

Group Representatives

United Church Women's: Faith Roberts-Pike

Representatives on Outreach Programs:

General Protestant Cemetery Committee: Karen Critch

Bridges to Hope Incorporated Ministry: Cheryl Sullivan Critch

Guide for the Good: Brian Butt

Cochrane Centre Board: Jim Carscadden
 Cheryl Sullivan Critch
 Susan Winsor
 Vacant

Minister Re. Miriam Bowlby (until June 30, 2022)

Cochrane Street United Church Annual Congregational Meeting

Meeting held at Cochrane Centre's sanctuary,
81 Cochrane Street, St. John's, Newfoundland

May 15, 2022

Attendance: A registration sheet was checked off and provided to the ACM Secretary (see copy). There were 32 persons in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:55am by Rev. Miriam Bowlby.

2. QUORUM

Heather McMaster circulated an attendance sheet to the congregation.
Rev. Miriam noted that there were sufficient members in attendance for quorum.

3. OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Rev. Miriam led the congregation with a prayer, followed by a moment of silence.

4. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Land Acknowledgement was verbally presented by Rev. Miriam.

5. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF CONGREGATION AND ACM SECRETARY

Rev. Miriam then opened the meeting with the election of the Chair of the Congregation (Chair) and Secretary of the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Motion: to elect Jim Oakley as Chair of the Congregation for the ACM moved by Charlie Pope/ Stephen Jewczyk. Motion Carried.

Motion: to elect Robyn McMaster as Secretary for the ACM moved by Charlie Pope/ Stephen Jewczyk. Motion Carried.

6. NOTICE OF MEETING

The Chair stated that Notice of the ACM has been in the church bulletin and in the email to congregation every week since March 20, 2022. It has also been announced during Worship Service every Sunday since April 24, 2022.

The annual report was made available electronically May 6, 2022, and hard copies were provided at the May 8 Worship Service. The missing financial reports were received and reviewed on May 11 then made available to the congregation electronically on May 12. Hard copies of the complete annual report were provided at the May 15 ACM.

7. LENGTH OF MEETING

The Chair advised that if the meeting is not completed within 2 hours of its start, a congregational meeting to complete outstanding items will be held at the earliest next date – unless a motion to continue is made.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: to approve Agenda as presented, Moved by Stephen Jewczyk /Patricia Young. Motion Carried.

9. APPROVAL OF ACM MINUTES

Motion: to approve Minutes from the first ACM of April 25, 2021, moved by Tim Reynolds/Ian McMaster. Motion Carried.

10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No other business to report.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF 2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CSUC Council's Treasurer, Karen Critch, presented the report to the congregation.

Karen thanked the congregation for their generous donations this past year without which CSUC could not continue its ministry. She also thanked the people who served on the council, the ushers, and those who take the time to help build our ministry.

Karen asked if there any questions before she continued on with the revenue and expenses.

Expenses/Revenue

There is a new expense for 2021 – the archives storage fee. Last Spring, the church had to start paying for its own storage since First Light would no longer continue to pay for this.

Employee expenses were more in 2021 due to our minister returning full-time.

CSUC received additional income from a Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) grant of \$8,500 from The Government of Canada to help the church's payroll during COVID as well as a grant of \$10,000 from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. None have to be paid back.

Balance Sheet

At the end of 2021, there was \$41,057 in the bank compared to \$36,668 in 2020. A receivable was in there because of a Christmas donation that happened right at the end of the year, so it was recognized in 2022.

Next there are the liabilities where money is sent off to external parties. Some money was still in the cemetery fund which is carried over to 2022.

About \$1,500 was left in the Cochrane Centre Contribution that helped pay the January payment.

For Mission & Service, there was about \$1,996. A cheque was sent off in January.

In 2021, there were two invoices for the organ fund – Casavant and First Light. First Light helped with renovations outside. Casavant came down to help prepare the organ. Those two amounts of \$4,816 will be applied to CSUC's investment instead of giving it back to the church.

CSUC paid extra on the loan to the United Church of Canada. \$400 a month was paid instead of \$200, so more was put towards CSUC's long term debt. A total of \$4,600 was paid last year – a little bit more than in 2020.

Motion: to approve 2021 Financial Statements, Moved by Karen Critch/Tim Reynolds. Motion Carried.

12. APPROVAL OF 2022 BUDGET

Projected Budget

CSUC Council's Treasurer, Karen Critch, presented the 2022 Budget to the congregation. This is an external sheet in CSUC's 2021 agenda.

With regard to employee expenses, CSUC is losing Rev. Miriam in July, so expenses will drop a little bit more. It's hard to budget for 2022 because there hasn't been a consistent number of years from which to gauge, so the Treasurer budgeted a little less.

CSUC received some grants. The Seniors New Horizons grant of \$9,800 will be used for choral scholars and some for the director of music. The City of St. John's presented CSUC with a \$2,000 grant in support of the Christmas at Cochrane event. A third grant of about \$3,700 was just recently approved from The United Church of Canada for Training and Learning on the history of residential schools and indigenous history in Canada that will take place in the Fall. Other than that, the numbers are the same as last year.

The Treasurer asked if there were any questions or comments on the budget for 2022. No questions were raised.

Motion: to Approve 2022 Budget, Moved by Karen Critch/Ian McMaster. Motion Carried.

13. APPROVAL OF AUDITORS FOR 2022

Motion: to Approve appointing MNP as accountant for 2022, Moved by Karen Critch/Stephen Jewczyk. Motion Carried.

Stephen Jewczyk, Chair of CSUC Council, thanked Karen Critch on behalf of the congregation for the amount of work it is being Treasurer and thanked Tim Reynolds for his time as Treasurer before he stepped down. Karen thanked Tim as well for his role as Treasurer and staying on as part of the Finance Committee. She said it's been great and she takes a lot of his advice.

14. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS IN 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

As per last year, the plan was not to have formal presentation for the reports, but for members of church groups to be available for questions.

Stephen Jewczyk stated that the church council continues to meet on a regular basis – at times more than once a month, depending on the nature of the business. It's been a very busy year for the council. There have been some changes which many of the congregation are well aware. The Men's Club has suspended their operation for the time being. Hopefully there will be a resurgence sometime in the future. Also the UCW has not been as active due to COVID, but is still a very valuable organization. Having said that, a lot of work has still been done. There is a lot of interest by a number of volunteers who have continued to really show leadership in this congregation. They also have put in a lot of time and effort. As evidenced by who is attending this meeting, we are still a viable congregation. The reports give an indication of our involvements – not just within the congregation, but also in the community (Bridges to Hope, Cochrane Centre, Cemetery Committee, United Community of Faith {UCOF}). These show that we are quite involved with them in our community.

Motion: to Approve Reports in 2021 Annual Report, Moved by Stephen Jewczyk/Brian Johnston. Motion Carried.

15. ELECTOIN OF 2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

A nominations report was presented to the congregation with names of nominees for the various individual positions. The Chair read it out loud and asked three times if there were any further nominees from the congregation for any of the positions on the 2022 Council.

Motion: to Approve Nominations for 2022-2023 Church Council, Moved by Evan Smith/David Peters. Motion Carried.

Since a number of nominations have been on Council beyond the time limit as outlined in the 2012 Cochrane Street United Church Manual, a motion is being requested to acknowledge the situation and to endorse the names that have been elected that exceed the time limits in the Manual. The Chair added that persons on the list for nominees cannot vote. He then gave congratulations to the new board and wished them luck in the coming year.

Motion: to acknowledge that certain members elected to Council exceed the time limit to be on Council as outlined in the CSUC Manual and that as a congregation the persons so elected are endorsed to be the Council for 2022, moved by Brian Johnston/Charlie Pope. Motion Carried.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

Date 2021 Annual Report was sent out

A congregant asked when the 2021 Annual Reports were sent out. Stephen Jewczyk responded that it was sent out a week ago with what information there was. There was a delay in receiving the financial statements from CUSC's auditors. It's not clear why the auditors were delayed, but Council dealt with it and had the financial statements out May 12. Stephen said he takes that quite seriously because when the congregation does not receive the material enough in advance, it's hard to really have a discussion around the meeting.

Mission Articulation Plan (MAP) Process

Stephen Jewczyk stated that this year CSUC is going through the MAP Process. It's a future plan on how to move forward in the next 5-10 years which is required to be done before searching for a minister. We have a very capable team and he thanked the members who volunteered for that. It's going to be a very intensive process for the team, and they will need the congregation's support and input as to where CSUC is going in the next period of time. Comments and ideas will be appreciated, so please pass this on to them. When completed, the report will come back to the congregation in draft form for a bigger discussion on where we're going to go in the future.

Last year, Council started a path forward. That has been folded into that MAP process. There is a lot of information put together in that document. And so the journey continues for us. Stephen is really looking forward to seeing the outcome of that report. A discussion should follow somewhere along the way, whether through MAP process or separate discussion about the actual governance – the model currently being used.

Governance

There are a number of vacancies on the church council. It has been difficult to get volunteers because everyone has other commitments or there is not a large resource as there are in some other congregations. Stephen would like to take a look at other governing models. One new and interesting option is to have the congregation as a governing body that our church may wish to explore. Under that model, rather than have an election like we just had, we may have more regular congregational meetings to be able to move things forward that are important to the congregation who act as the governing body. That is something that is hoped the MAP group or council need to look at this in the coming year.

One issue we've had on the church council is for the past 4-5 years, the majority of members have been on the church council longer than recommended, which is not in accordance with CSUC's handbook. However there is no one to take over, so the current members, through the gift of their volunteerism, have continued forward in the same positions. They will not be there forever, so it is vital to be aware of future leadership for this congregation in the coming year. It will be an exciting and interesting year, full of challenges and opportunities.

Stephen recognized the gifts and contributions of Evan Smith and Rev. Miriam for their guidance and leadership over five and ten years, respectively, as they will not be here in our next congregational meeting. He believes we have continued to excel as a congregation. CSUC Council is in the process of planning a special event for Rev. Miriam, in which the congregation is invited, and something likewise for Evan in September. Within the next couple of weeks, the congregation will receive further details.

Motion: to Acknowledge the Contributions of Evan Smith and Rev. Miriam as well as show the Congregation's Thankfulness by Approving a Special Event in their honour, Moved by Brian Johnston/Charlie Pope. Motion Carried.

Fraser Ellis stated he and his wife, Henrietta, have been members of CSUC for 50-60 years, and he's observed that the congregation has done a tremendous job. He brought up how Corpus Christi parish he grew up in is currently struggling. The building is up for sale under the current bankruptcy proceedings at the Archdiocese and they have incorporated the parish in order to submit a competitive tender bid for the property. Compared to their situation, we are sailing. We've done a lot of good over the years; he wishes us and all the Roman Catholic churches God Speed.

David Molyneux gave his personal thanks to Rev. Miriam and Evan for their contributions to the life of the congregation and to thank the church council for their efforts in these troubling times. He added that the last couple of years have been very unusual and to maintain the level of activity within the congregation has been wonderful. The Chair requested a round of appreciation for our Council.

Covering of worship services as of July 2022

Brian Johnston enquired on the current options for leadership in worship services. Stephen responded that the church council is figuring out a way forward in terms of lay people, available ministers, and joining other congregations. Currently, there is a potential opportunity that the church council is looking into depending on other people's schedules. It's difficult to get a minister at this time of year. Stephen added that he'd met with Rev. Marion Davis recently, and shared the news that she is retiring. A lot of ministers are helping out during their retirement – many of which are elderly and are experiencing burn out.

Phone Tree Volunteers

Carolyn Bradbury thanked all volunteers who called the congregation during the last two years, and those who continue to do so.

Jim Oakley asked three times if there were any other business, questions, or comments.

17. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: to adjourn meeting, Moved by Ian McMaster/Heather McMaster. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:32 PM.

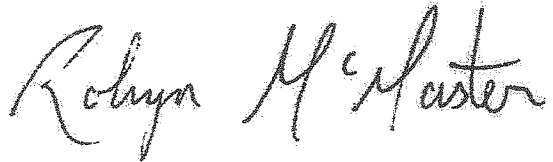
18. CLOSING PRAYER

Rev. Bowlby thanked David for chairing the meeting before closing the meeting in prayer.

Minutes submitted by Robyn McMaster, Church Council Secretary



David Molyneux
Congregation Chair



Robyn McMaster
Secretary

**Attendance at Annual Congregational Meeting
May 15, 2022**

Jim Austin
Laura Baker
Betty Barnes
Linda Bowden
Rev. Miriam Bowlby
Carolyn Bradbury
Cheryl Briggs
Karen Critch
Fraser Ellis
Henrietta Ellis
Linda Facey
Joyce Grimes
Stephen Jewczyk
Brian Johnston
Mary Johnston
June Knight
Ian McMaster
Heather McMaster
Robyn McMaster
Frances McNiven (adherent)
Gerard McNiven (adherent)
David Molyneux
David Peters
Faith Roberts Pike
Charlie Pope
Paula Reynolds
Tim Reynolds
Sandra Rowe
Sandy Stavlo
Evan Smith (adherent)
David Tucker
Patricia Young
John Williams (*non-member; recorded meeting*)

Cochrane Street United Church Congregational Meeting Re: MAP

Meeting held at Cochrane Centre's sanctuary,
81 Cochrane Street, St. John's, Newfoundland
October 16, 2022

Attendance: The Congregational Meeting Secretary had a registration sheet checked off (see copy). There were 25 persons in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:40pm by, David Molyneux, Congregational Chair of Cochrane Street United Church (CSUC) Council.

2. QUORUM

Robyn McMaster circulated an attendance sheet to the congregation.
David Molyneux noted that there were sufficient members in attendance for quorum.

3. OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Ian March-MacCuish led the congregation with a prayer.

4. NOTICE OF MEETING

The Chair stated that Notice of the Congregational Meeting was sent out via congregational email and posted on CSUC's website (October 6, 2022) as well as placed in the church bulletin (since October 9, 2022). It has also been announced during Worship Service every Sunday since October 2, 2022. Hard copies of the MAP document and letters from the Chair of CSUC Council to the congregation on the MAP update were provided last Sunday and today.

5. LENGTH OF MEETING

The Chair advised that if the meeting is not completed within 2 hours of its start, a congregational meeting to complete outstanding items will be held at the earliest next date – unless a motion to continue is made.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: to approve Agenda as presented, Moved by Stephen Jewczyk / Heather McMaster. Motion Carried.

7. MISSION ARTICULATION PLAN (MAP) BACKGROUND

Stephen Jewczyk provided a brief background of the creation of the MAP document.

The MAP process should have been done much earlier, but due to other priorities the CSUC Council had deferred preparing the document until a later date. But once the congregation was without a minister in July 2022, this process had to be completed before the search for a new one could begin. Heather McMaster, Charlie Pope, David Peters, Blair Bradbury and Tim Reynolds along with Rev. Ian March-MacCuish were a great team working on the MAP. The document changed very slightly from earlier drafts. It was brought forward to CSUC Council, to the congregation as an information session, then to a joint meeting with CSUC

Council and the MAP Team for recommendation. CSUC Council agreed to support the direction of the new MAP which then had to go to the congregation for consideration. If approved, the document will be sent to Regional Council for support and approval.

8. PRESENTATION OF MAP

Tim Reynolds presented the latest MAP document and the process of its development.

The MAP Team met five to six times from late spring and into the summer. They developed a document which the congregation has in front of them. This is the eighth draft. Each member of the team has a family history with the church. Some have several generations involved with our church. All regularly attend CSUC worship services, so they have a good understanding of what is going on in the church. Every member is loyal, knowledgeable, and committed to this church. Rev. Ian March-MacCuish was instrumental in ensuring MAP Team members stayed on course. He brought enthusiasm, encouragement and support. The MAP Team was overwhelmed at first, thinking that there is not much future for the church. But they found as they pressed through that there were possible alternatives.

Materials Referenced

- i. First Dawn Eastern Edge's MAP Handbook
- ii. CSUC Council's Path Forward Document that was prepared last year.
- iii. Stewardship Analysis Report which CSUC Council had prepared last year.
- iv. Various CSUC Annual Reports
- v. Broadview Article in June 2022 Issue
 - Tim promoted the Broadview Magazine, stating that it is not just about United Church of Canada, but ministry and human relations. It contains a lot of interesting topics for only \$25 a year.
 - This article about the changing ministry model brought encouragement to the MAP Team at just the right time, enabling them to think outside the box and do things differently. It was used as stimulation for the next meetings, helping them through the MAP process.

The first meeting was held at church then the rest were held at members' homes. The document grew like an onion – layer by layer. After the fourth meeting, the MAP Team felt that the document was ready to be shared with the congregation in July for input. Feedback was received via email, calls, or in-person. Every comment received was recorded. In total, 16 congregants provided comments. Then an information session was held on July 31, 2022, of which 22 attended – very similar to the number who have attended today. No minutes were taken, but the comments were recorded. All were reviewed and incorporated into the document wherever they felt necessary to give clarification into the document congregants now have. There was not one negative comment. No one said they thought the decision was way off base. One of the ways the quality and scope of the document was improved was not using the word amalgamate. Great conversation was had about the negative connotations of what to replace that word with, and it was decided to use cooperative management or partnership.

Draft 7 of CSUC's MAP document was sent to CSUC Council who reviewed it on September 29, in a council meeting set aside solely to look at this document. More comments were received requiring further editorials, resulting in the document that you are looking at today. It reflects the passion and commitment of the church

for its various ministries which have been maintained for the last many decades. The Path Forward document confirms that this is manageable given the restraints of a small congregation. The Broadview article confirms that CSUC is not alone – many other churches are going through this – together.

9. CONGREGATION DISCUSSION

Fraser Ellis

Fraser stated that this church has existed for over 100 years; he and his wife, Henrietta, have been here for about half that time. The funeral service for John Perlin was the first time there were over 200 people in the sanctuary for a service since the congregation first returned to the building after renovations were completed for the 10 apartments. We're in a Christian revolution worldwide at the moment. Not just the Roman Catholics. We're making a struggle here to continue. There is nothing else to do but crawl along. A lot are anchored to a church. The Ellis's moved to CSUC 63 years ago. Fraser commended Tim Reynolds and the MAP Team, adding that we'll have to grow along and hope for the best.

Tim agreed. He added that once CSUC's plan gets to various St. John's churches, a lot of discussions will be initiated. In fact, Stephen Jewczyk and Tim have discussed sending it to the Community of Faith (COF) personally as a way to change in order to survive. They will try to facilitate this process and put together something that will be sustainable. Our children are not attending church, so must work smarter together to break down all boundaries. That requires change from all of us. CSUC could even join up with St. Thomas' Anglican Church. Bill Riggs did a fabulous job talking about huge hunger problems. But together we are big. We must work at the boundaries that don't allow us to see outside the box to reach out to the community.

Stephen Jewczyk

As a member and chair of CSUC Council, Stephen is encouraged about this bold and innovative plan for CSUC. The Council's approval of the new MAP document was unanimous. The numbers in this church have been dwindling to the point that we wonder if it can continue to exist. Yet the MAP Team has come up with something proactive that can change our destiny.

Charlie Pope

It seems we are a group of about 150 members who claim to be a part of CUSC. Yet here we are trying to make a decision with only 22 or so attending this meeting. Are we going against what the others want? However, we've received a great new Music Director by the grace of God. We must make some movement to stop the downward progression.

Brian Johnston

Brian agreed that the status quo is not an option – it's death by a thousand cuts. It is critical we have a new direction to hold a congregation large enough to have a minister full time. That said, he totally supports the MAP Team's direction.

10. COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION / CONGREGATION DIRECTION

MOTION: That CSUC Council And Congregation Support the Direction of the Proposed MAP Document which the MAP Team Created, moved by Stephen Jewczyk / Ian McMaster.
No abstentions.

MOTION: That CSUC Council Forward its MAP Document to Regional Council For Consideration and, should Regional Council support the outlined recommendations, then the CSUC Community of Faith will move Forward on Those Recommendations, moved by Stephen Jewczyk / Jalna McMaster.
No abstentions.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

N/A

12. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: to adjourn meeting, Moved by Brian Johnston / Tara Bishop. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.

13. CLOSING PRAYER

Stephen Jewczyk thanked David for chairing the meeting and thanked Rev. Ian for his time and skills as oversight minister during the MAP process.
Rev. Ian closed the meeting in prayer.

Minutes submitted by Robyn McMaster, Church Council Secretary



David Molyneux
Congregation Chair



Robyn McMaster
Co-Secretary

PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

*The church is wherever God's people are praising,
singing God's goodness for joy on this day.
The church is wherever disciples of Jesus
remember his story and walk in his way.*

~ Carol Rose Ikeler

It has been a pleasure and privilege to reconnect with my dear friends at Cochrane Street United Church as your Pastoral Charge Supervisor since July 1, 2022.

As your supervisor, my role is to have oversight and ensure the overall structure and ministry of your congregation functions and continues in the period you are without ministry personnel. Much of my time is spent attending meetings of your Church Council, collaborating with the Worship & Pastoral Care committee to help ensure Sunday services are offered and sacraments are celebrated frequently and appropriately. I am a resource person to your council and committees, pointing the way to resources from the wider church, and offer good advice (hopefully).

In addition, I have also covered your emergency pastoral care and funerals in the time you have been without ministry personnel.

In all my interactions with your community of faith, I am again and again greeted by the warmth, love, and creativity that is synonymous with Cochrane Street United Church. I am continually impressed and inspired by the seriousness with which you take discernment, your ability to vision and dream, and your deep trust in God to lead you into the future on paths yet unknown.

Together you continue to offer prayer and praise, living out the truth, love, and hope of the Gospel. Your ability to adapt to change and circumstance and see the promise of resurrection is a testament to your faith. Over the past year, as the pages of this Annual Report indicate, you have seen success and vision, moments of celebration, and ample reasons for hope!

I look forward to seeing what you discern together to be the future of Cochrane Street United Church, and to where the Holy Spirit will move among you and inspire you.

In Christ's love and ministry,



The Rev. Oliver Dingwell, B.Mus., M.Div.
Pastoral Charge Supervisor

**COCHRANE STREET UNITED CHURCH
2022 REPORT
CHAIR OF CHURCH COUNCIL**

Blessings to you all!

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding.
Acknowledge him in all your ways, and he will make your paths straight”.*
Proverbs 3:5-6

The Cochrane Street United Church family has shown its resilience and perseverance. With the completion of the Mission Articulation Plan (MAP) process in the fall of 2022, we now have a sense of the path ahead of us as we move forward into the year as a congregation.

Throughout the year, Council has met fourteen times, not including meetings held by Council members with the national church, regional council and outreach ministries. My heartfelt thanks go to all our Council members with whom I have shared this journey over the past year. To Tara Bishop, Karen Critch Chaytor, Fraser Ellis, Bill Evans, Linda Facey, Brian Johnston, Judy Kay, Robyn McMaster, Faith Roberts Pike, Paula and Tim Reynolds, it was a pleasure and a privilege to be part of this dedicated team.

While public health guidelines have been relaxed and gathering together has been permitted, many members of our congregation are still cautious about returning to the sanctuary and to partake in church events. This is understandable and the church council has been maneuvering slowly towards a new normalcy in our worship services and our gatherings. Technology has allowed us to reach out to those who are hesitant to attend in person through live streaming and emails.

The Cochrane Street United Church family continues to show its support both financially and through their personal gifts. Our members' financial support augmented by fundraising events and government grants has allowed us to worship on a regular basis and carry out our ministries within the church and the community. The Fund Raising Committee has helped to provide much needed revenues to our congregation through spring and fall plant sales and special services such as the Celebration of Light. Thank you to Tim and Paula Reynolds and Bill Evans for coordinating these events and to the participants and volunteers who made these events successful.

A major financial milestone has been achieved in 2022 in which we all should take great pride. We have weathered our financial storms of past years. This year we paid off our last remaining loan that being to the First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council. We are debt free!

A number of factors have assisted in achieving this milestone this year including your continued financial support but one of the more recent factors is the reduction in our payroll account as a result of not having a full time minister. While this has resulted in our ability to pay off this last loan this may be a transitory situation depending how we proceed with the MAP process.

Prior to Rev. Bowlby change in pastoral relations with Cochrane Street, an updating of our Historic Roll was begun. This year Brian Johnston volunteered to take a leadership role in this and with the assistance of our Archivist Linda Bowden and Office Administrator, Robyn McMaster have begun to review the roll in detail and will bring forward updates to Council in the near future. Thank you for this initiative.

Given the demands placed on families with respect to food security during these difficult times, Council has focused on providing further support to Bridges to Hope in 2022 through fundraising and bringing in non-perishable food items. A thank you to Cheryl Sullivan-Critch as our representative and liaison on the Bridges to Hope Board and to Faith Roberts Pike and Carolyn Bradbury for their voluntary efforts at the food centre.

This past year has not seen a reactivation of Church Clubs and Groups. As was mentioned last year factors such as the declining pool of volunteers, aging congregation and volunteer burnout have continued to contribute to this situation. This is not unlike many other communities of faith across the region and country. During the year we have sought after new and creative ways in providing programming to our congregation members. As an example, the Gower Street Men's Service Club has invited members of our congregation to the supper meetings to share food and fellowship. While our clubs have suspended their operations, the Church Council is seeking events and initiatives that nurture our congregational life and support our many outreach ministries.

Our Music Ministry continues to be strong. With the departure of our former music director Evan Smith at the end of August, the Ministry and Personnel Committee under Judy Kay's guidance was successful in reaching out quickly to discover a new organist and music director, Tristan Cleveland-Thompson, who now leads the fine musical tradition at Cochrane Street. Tristan along with our dedicated choir, our choral scholars and the Casavant organ bring much joy, happiness and reflection through the hymns, songs and music performed during worship service. We are blessed by this uplifting ministry. Thank you to the Ministry and Personnel Committee, Tristan, our choir and the choral scholars.

The departure of Rev. Miriam Bowlby required the congregation to prepare a MAP which laid out our strategic vision over the next number of years before we could reach out for a new minister. A MAP team was established under the leadership of Tim Reynolds with team members Blair Bradbury, Heather McMaster, David Peters, Charlie Pope and Rev. Ian March-MacCuish as United Church of Canada Representative on the team. The MAP team worked diligently and efficiently to create the plan in a very short time. The Plan is progressive and unique in its format and approach to the congregation's future.

A big thank you to the team for their thoughtful and progressive work towards our community of faith's future.

The primary recommendation from the Team is:

We should proactively engage the other Pastoral Charges in the downtown (and possibly other St. John's United Churches and churches in suburban communities) with a view to potential cooperative partnership between and joining of Pastoral Charges, or other forms of ministry that do not involve formal fusion of pastoral charges.

This recommendation was endorsed by the congregation and a MAP engagement team was appointed by Council comprised of Tim Reynolds, David Peters and Stephen Jewczyk to reach out to the other communities of faith in the metro region to determine their interest in such collaboration. This engagement process is ongoing.

With the departure of Rev. Bowlby and the ongoing MAP process, the task of finding ministers and lay people to lead our worship services was left to the Worship and Pastoral Care Committee. Paula Reynolds and her committee met the challenge and organized a schedule of presiders for the remainder of 2022 that made our worship services interesting and insightful from their varied perspectives. On certain Sundays, we were also invited to join other communities of faith worship services and be part of the larger united Church family. Thank you to Paula and her committee for their hard work in putting together an impressive group of presiders that enriched our worship services. Our gratitude is also extended to Rev. Oliver Dingwell who was assigned by Regional Council to be Pastoral Relations Supervisor in the absence of a Minister. He has been a great support and a source of knowledge both as Minister and a member of the Cochrane Street family. And a special thank you to John Williams, our video technical director, who has faithfully connected our worship services virtually to those of us who stay at home and to those who check in from across Canada.

Gratitude and appreciation go out to Robyn McMaster, our office administrator, for her ongoing work in supporting the activities of the congregation and church.

As was referenced in the last annual report, discussions have been held regarding possible initiatives that may strengthen the partnership between First Light and Cochrane Street United Church. This resulted in three major initiatives this past year.

One of the collaborations was an art project in which our upright church pianos were painted by indigenous artists. These pianos are now more than musical instruments but pieces of art by well-known indigenous artists from Newfoundland and Labrador.

A second initiative was an afternoon event which brought indigenous and non-indigenous communities together in the spirit of learning and healing on the history and legacy of residential schools in Newfoundland and Labrador. This was an action by Cochrane Street United Church in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action, number 59 which stated: *59. We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church's role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary.*

Thank you to Charlotte Jewczyk for being the church's representative on this project and being the guiding force in producing a video for nation-wide use by the United Church of Canada. Funding for this event was made possible by two grants; one nationally from the United Church of Canada and one regionally from the First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council. Thank you.

A third collaboration was combining our "Christmas at Cochrane" with First Light's "Songs and Stories of Labrador" Christmas Concert. Over two hundred people were in attendance to this indoor concert which showcased Inuit culture and Christmas traditions and then ended with neighbourhood gathering on the steps of Cochrane Street to experience an outdoor lighting of a Christmas tree, listen to Christmas greetings from community leaders and the singing of Christmas Carols while enjoying hot chocolate and eating cookies. Thank you to the Cochrane Street team of Tim and Paula Reynolds, and Charlotte Jewczyk in assisting Natasha Blackwood and her First Light team in the organization of this event and to the City of St. John's for their financial support.

First Light continues to manage the building on behalf of the Cochrane Centre Community Board. As was stated last year, First Light has been responsive to the needs and requests of the Council and the congregation as we continue to share the space. A major building initiative by First Light commencing in late summer was the reimagining and renovation of the community space to make it more user friendly and better organize the space to meet the needs of First Light, Cochrane Street United Church and the community at large. This project was completed in December and in 2023 the congregation has returned to this space for meetings, worship services and after church tea and coffee.

While small in number, our volunteer spirit is still strong and alive as evident in those members of our congregation who support our church as choir members, ushers, registration takers, committee members, our Archivist, annual report editor, and our representatives on the United Community of Faith, Guide for the Good, Bridges To Hope and the General Protestant Cemetery Committee. We also have church members who sit as board members on the Cochrane Centre Community Board, a major outreach project. Thank you to you all for your compassion, commitment and support of Cochrane Street United Church. Thank you to Harold Grandy who has continued over the years to assist with our tax receipts and coordinating the annual report

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”
Ecclesiastes 3:1

As I come to the conclusion of this year’s report, this will be my last report as Chair. I have been proud to serve as Council Chair for the past six years and half years. This is my second term to have the privilege of leading the governing team at Cochrane Street United Church as I was Chair of the then Board of Management in 1989 and 1990. I have had the privilege and honour to have been a part of a team of men and women who have dedicated so much time, resources and energy to the wellbeing of the congregation, the community and the United Church of Canada. The past six and a half years have been at times challenging but there was also much to celebrate.

As I look back over the years, a number of situations or events come to mind.

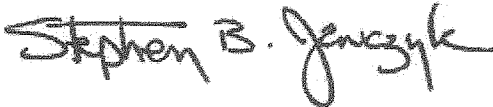
In 2016 and early 2017 worshipping at the Seventh Day Adventist Church and celebrating our return to our sanctuary on Easter morning April 16 of that year; overcoming our financial uncertainties; the evolving relationships with Cochrane Centre and First Light; the incorporation of 15 affordable and supportive housing units into the building; Snowmagedden; COVID, the pandemic, lockdowns and hesitancy towards gathering together; pivoting towards livestreaming and virtual meetings and preparing re-entry plans; recommissioning the Casavant pipe organ in 2021; the periods of Minister’s leave followed by the change in pastoral relations with us; and, our diminishing numbers, volunteer base and aging of the congregation are but a few of the matters we have encountered on our journey during these years.

Yet, through the dedication and creativity of the Council members and the ongoing support of our congregation we have risen to these challenges and continue to have a presence in the lives of people we serve and the community in which we live. These challenges have made us stronger and resilient as the Spirit moves us in our journey. I am pleased to have been a part of this journey over the years and I am very excited of the future prospects for our congregation. As we have experienced throughout these years, faith can move mountains.

I will now conclude with my parting paragraph from last year. *“Finally, abundant appreciation to the congregation for their support as we continue to follow God’s plan whatever it may be. It is you that provides the volunteers with the impetus to continue to serve with “the conviction of things not seen”. The Spirit moves us in many different ways during these uncharted times. As in the early days of the Christian church, our faith will overcome the challenges before us”.*

God Bless to you all.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen B. Jewczyk". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Stephen B. Jewczyk
Chair, Church Council
2023 02 22

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL

What a unique year we have experienced; it involved a number of transitions. In June 2022, we said goodbye to Rev, Miriam Bowlby, who had been with us for over 10 years. She had guided the congregation through the meetings, sessions and work that was involved with moving our church through the many stages of change that has occurred. The creative and tireless energy she had for the work and innovations with our congregation, will be missed. While we await the results of the MAP process now underway, we are without a dedicated full-time minister. This committee has not had responsibility of arranging for the supply ministers or lay persons filling in for each Sunday since July. We extend a sincere thank-you to Paula Reynolds and the Worship committee who have worked so extensively to ensure that we have had an uninterrupted plan for worship each week. Thank-you as well to Rev. Oliver Dingwell, of Cowan Heights First United Church for being our consistent ministerial resource to the Council and our congregation; for the official representation needed for meetings and sacraments. It is wonderful having you working with us again. Robyn MacMaster, our office administrator, provided continuity for us over this past year. Thank-you Robyn for the in-office presence you have provided for the congregation. The work of the office affords important links to the Cochrane Street Church community and with First Light, with whom we share the space of this wonderful building. Thank-you to Faith, Tim and Stephen from our Council who have provided weekly check-ins with the office. Without a minister present in the building, it has been a wonderful volunteer service these 3 Council members have provided, to touch base with Robyn.

We know there had been some apprehension when the Director of Music for Cochrane St, was vacated. Music and the choir are such a large part of our enjoyment and impact with service each week. Evan Smith finished with us in August 2022, we had the pleasure of 5 years of his music and energy with the choir and our church community.

It has been such a delight to have found a new Music Director who has brought a very high level of music and personal interest to the position. Tristan Cleveland-Thompson has readily fit into the work and life of our church community. Having formal training with the organ, as the focus of his music degree, he has brought our beautiful organ's sound back into each service. We look forward to the continued work of the choir and music under his direction. Thank-you to our choir members who enhance our services each week. We certainly appreciate all this volunteer work you contribute to the church.

John Williams has continued to provide a consistent online presence for our church services, congregation members remind me that this has been a beautiful gift of outreach. Through his company, Jackabon Media, John has been an integral part of our worship service and we look forward to another year of working together. Thank-you so much for what you personally bring to our church community.

Thank-you also to Patricia Young, our Minister of Music, for your ongoing presence and influence with our congregation. We appreciate your continued presence.

My thank-you Cheryl Sullivan-Critch who has continued to bring such a calm and thoughtful presence to the work of this committee. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you.

I invite all members of the congregation to seek volunteer opportunities with our church, as we reach out to accomplish the important work of Cochrane Street.

Sincerely,



Judy L Kay,
Chair
Ministry and Personnel Committee

WORSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE – 2022

Purpose: The Worship and Pastoral Care Committee usually meets quarterly to plan and co-ordinate worship services and to support and enhance Pastoral Care

In 2022 our committee met five times: March, May, July, September, and November.

Members: Rev. Bowlby (six months) Evan Smith (eight months), Patricia Young, June Knight, Karen Critch, Sandra Rowe, Paula Reynolds (Chair)

Pastoral Care: Congregational mailouts were sent out three - four times per year to keep all members and adherents up to date on all church business and information.

-This year, with continued absence in church attendance and concerns with the Covid 19 Pandemic, many of our members were still shut in. Our committee once again decided to continue our phone tree and contacted the congregation in February. Thanks go out to: Heather McMaster, Robyn McMaster, and Judy Kaye along with the members of our committee who helped us in this endeavor.

Worship: Many individuals and groups have willingly contributed to our worship services. We are especially grateful to the following:

- Rev. Bowlby for leading us in worship for six months.
- Evan Smith, Music Director for eight months, the Senior Choir, including our Choral Scholars, and musician Maggie Power, and all extra singers that enhanced our services throughout the year.
- Rev. Karen Bursey, Bert Riggs, Betty Barnes, Karen Critch, David Peters, Tim and Paula Reynolds, Rev. Marion Davis, and Rev. Oliver Dingwell who helped with church services from July - December
- John Williams for live streaming our services.
- The different individuals that helped decorate the church for Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- Our ushers
- A special thank you to Rev. Oliver Dingwell who stepped in for worship related emergencies in Rev. Miriam's absence.

This year marked a very trying one for our committee. Rev. Miriam resigned as minister of Cochrane Street on June 30, leaving us without a minister for the rest of 2022. We are presently going through a Mission Articulation Plan. Our committee has been organizing pulpit supply since June and continues to do so until this present situation can be resolved. Our music director Evan Smith also resigned as of August 31. We were very lucky in acquiring Tristan Cleveland – Thompson in September to replace Evan. In this regard our music continues strong with our choral scholars and senior choir.

Our sanctuary has permanently reopened for services. John Williams of Jackabon Media continues to live stream our services every Sunday.

It is also important to note that for Cochrane Street United Church for 2022 there were:

2 Baptisms
0 Marriages
0 Candidates for Confirmation
6 Transfer of Membership out
9 In Memoriams

I

Paula Reynolds

Submitted by:
Paula Reynolds (Chair)