Hope Lutheran Church Nanaimo, BC

2024 Annual Report

February 23, 2025 Annual General Meeting

Hybrid Meeting Conducted In-Person & Via Zoom

Pastor: Terry Richardson Parish Secretary: Janice Valecourt

**AGENDA**

**2024 Annual General Meeting, February 23, 2025**

1. Call to Order

*Welcome participants*

*Because this is a hybrid meeting using Zoom, we will conduct any poll or vote of the membership as if people are in two separate “rooms.”*

*Linda Harvey will be the scrutineer for the on-line participants, Carolyn Iles for those in the church building. For those on Zoom, when you hold up your hand, please hold it in front of your face and keep it there until you are asked to lower it. We will follow this procedure to determine the quorum and for all required votes.*

1. Appointment of scrutineers: Linda Harvey and Carolyn Iles.

*(They will each report on the numbers of members present.)*

1. Certification of Quorum *(Required number: 30)*
2. Opening Prayer

**Reports**

*Reports will not be read out at the meeting as they have already been circulated in the AGM booklet. There will be opportunity for questions and comments as each set of reports is placed on the table.*

1. Minutes of 2023 AGM *(Motion to adopt required)*
2. Report of Congregational Council
3. Report of the Pastor
4. Review of Program Committee Activities

* Continual Learning
* Fellowship/Membership
* Property/Landscaping
* Financial Stewardship
* Witness and Mission
* Worship
* Reconciliation
* Call committee

1. Financial Reports for year ending December 31, 2024
2. Auditors’ Report for 2024
3. Questions

*(Motion to* ***receive*** *reports required)*

**Business Matters**

1. Elections

* Auditors for 2025
* Two members to Congregational Council
* Lay delegate to Synod Convention

*(A motion is required for each nomination and voted on. An additional vote to elect slate of Council nominees.)*

1. Budget for 2025

*(Requires a motion to* ***adopt****.)*

1. New Business
2. Omnibus Motion of Thanks
3. Closing Prayer
4. Adjournment

* Anyone wishing to add items to the agenda is requested to do so before the meeting is called to order. Such items will be placed under “New Business.”



Photo by David Nenzel

**2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**Definitions**

**Governing authority**

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

**Management authority**

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

**Reporting**

**Finances**

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

**Other Reports**

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

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

**Rules of procedure**

**The role of the chair**

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

**Questions from the floor**

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

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

***All questions or comments must be directed to the chair.***

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

**Motions from the floor**

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

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

**Rules regarding motions**

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

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

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

**End of the meeting**

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

Doug Roszmann & Jan Nilsson

Co-Chairs of the Congregational Council



Photo by David Nenzel

**2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**February 18, 2024**

**Hope Lutheran Church, Nanaimo, BC**

1. Call to order @ 11:23 am
2. Appointment of scrutineers: Carolyn Iles will count members in attendance in the church building (31). Linda Harvey will count the on-line members (16).
3. Certification of Quorum. Scrutineers reported the number of members in attendance (total of 46) and determined that there were more than 30 which exceeds the requirement for a quorum.
4. Opening Prayer led by Pastor Terry Richardson.

**Reports**

1. Minutes of 2022 AGM held February 19, 2023

**Motion to adopt the minutes/moved/seconded/carried.**

1. Report of Congregational Council
2. Report of the Pastor
3. Review of Program Committee Activities
4. Continual Learning
5. Fellowship/membership
6. Property/Landscape
7. Financial Stewardship
8. Witness and Mission
9. Worship

**Motion to receive the reports as submitted/moved/seconded/carried.**

1. Financial Reports for the year ending December 31, 2023.

**Motion to receive the financial report/moved/seconded/carried.**

1. Auditor’s Report for 2023

**Motion to adopt the auditor’s report/moved/seconded/carried.**

1. Questions. There were no questions.

**Business Matters**

1. Elections
2. Auditors for 2024

**Motion to accept Glenn Harvey and Fred Wilke as financial auditors for the year ending December 31, 2024/moved/seconded/carried.**

1. Members for the Congregational Council. The terms for Cynthia Cantelon, Shirley Forwell and Audrey Strauss end at this meeting. Shirley and Audrey agreed to continue for another term. Ray Schultz has one more year in his term but will take a leave of that year. John Musgreave has volunteered to fill the remaining year. The AGM was not able to fill the council vacancy left by Cynthia.

**Motion to accept Shirley Forwell, Audrey Strauss and John Musgreave as congregational council members/moved/seconded/carried.**

1. Lay Delegate to BC Synod Convention to be held June 22 and 23, 2024.

**Motion to accept Jamie Enders as delegate, subject to availability, with Rosalind Schramm and Carolyn Iles as alternates/moved/seconded/carried.**

1. Budget for 2024. The congregation discussed purchasing a mini spilt heat pump that would heat the Narthex and Sanctuary and provide air conditioning in the summer. There are funds in the budget to pay for it or a fund raiser could be organized.

**Moved to investigate and, if feasible, purchase and install a heat pump/seconded/carried.**

1. New Business. There was no new business.
2. Omnibus Motion of Thanks read by Carolyn Iles and Steven Musgreave.
3. Closing Prayer led by Pastor Terry Richardson
4. Adjournment @ 12:25 pm



Photo by Rebecca Garber

**Annual Report of the Congregational Council**

**Hope Lutheran Church, Nanaimo, BC**

**From Jan Nilsson Co-Chair of Council**

**Responsibilities of Council**

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

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

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

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

**Membership for 2024**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Jan Nilsson, Co-Chair  Doug Roszmann, Co-Chair  John Musgreave Vice-Chair  Randi Turner, Secretary  Gerry Owen, Treasurer  Peter Clark  Shirley Forwell | Bill Fehr  Audrey Strauss |

The Pastor is an *ex officio* member.

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

**Meetings**

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

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

**Annual council retreat**

Council and pastor participated in a retreat at our church at the end of October. We looked at who we are (our heart) and our future.

**Challenges**

* As the median age of our members goes up, the physical capabilities go down. A succession assessment carried out by Council indicates that it will be harder to recruit members to fulfill required activities.
* The highly secularized society of Vancouver Island and the rest of the province has resulted in peoples’ indifference to the church as a religious institution. The passing on of our faith to succeeding generations has not been generally effective.

**Praise and Thanksgiving**

Hope Lutheran Church is a remarkable community of hospitality, openness and collegiality. Members caring about and attending to each others’ needs stands out among the many spiritual commitments of our membership. The gospel story of Jesus is lived out in the daily lives they live within the community.

The creation and operation of hybrid worship at Hope was an early model within the church; a template for what others could do.

Participation in worship remains high and financial support holds steady.

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

Jan Nilsson, Council Co-Chair

*I apologize that this report is an updated version of the 2022 report*

*Jan*

*????? SHOULD THIS COMMENT BE INCLUDED*

**Hope Lutheran Church Annual General Meeting**

**Pastor’s Report — Feb 23, 2025**

***The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with all of you. 2 Corinthians 13:13***

During 2024 Hope Lutheran Church worked with compassion, commitment, technology, confidence, peace, and humour. Faith and love kept us strong. We have a wonderful community. Our *Zoom* techs labored to ensure we had *Hybrid* worship always providing the option for attendance. Zoom continued to help us with *Tuesday Afternoon Bible study, Thursday Morning Hymn Sing, Friday Men’s group,* *Church Council meetings, Funerals & Memorial Services*. I give thanks for *Zoom* techs Gail, Gerry, Glenn, Jamie, John, Marlis, and Steven. The Spirit of God draws us together in amazing ways.

During the year we met for worship 55 times*.* Our average Sunday attendance was 79 (an average of 47 in the sanctuary and 32 on Zoom). We gathered at the table of the Lord every Sunday. We rejoiced regularly as musicians John, Cheryl or Pippa played the piano; brass instruments were often added by John, Jamie, Marlis & Curtis; and sometimes other instruments by Doug Roszmann and Deborah Van der Goes. We love to sing.

Hope’s welcome, friendliness and singing was acknowledged by visitors. We bear witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ in such ways. Graciousness drew people into the sanctuary and on-line. Visitors frequently found their way to us during the year and we are thankful for our friends from *Shepherd of the Valley congregation,* Comox who have been regular attenders. We added new members during the year as well. People felt at home here and wanted to be part of our congregation.

The seasons of life bring times of grieving when loved ones die. I led the ten listed *Funeral and Memorial Services* to remember that death is not the end and nothing separates us from the love of God in Christ. Others also died who were part of the congregation but did not have a memorial service with us in 2024: *Rudy Deighton, Iris Johnsen, Hans Nielsen, Linda Ohlhoff, Kaelen Pedersen, & Jack Webb.* We remembered them in our prayers.

Faithful offerings and practical support were foundational during the year. We managed our budget and offered ministry without anxiety. Thank you. Gifted people volunteered to be part of Church Council and Hope committees. Our retired pastors happily provided coverage when I was absent. These were blessings for all of us.

Our church secretary, cleaner, and large volunteer team kept the congregation running with grace and good humour. Volunteers helped when needs were expressed. Consequently, the committees on worship; continual learning; mission and witness; fellowship; stewardship; and ministry through reconciliation have kept us energized. Those on the property committee kept the building in good condition and our grounds beautiful.

My time as your pastor will conclude with my retirement at the end of May 2025. You have enriched my life more than you will ever know. For fifteen years I have been so proud to call myself the Pastor of Hope Lutheran Church. I am, and will continue to be, your biggest fan.

The Lord is with you!

Pastor Terry Richardson

**PASTORAL ACTS – 2024**

**BAPTISMS**

WILSON, Jaxon Kendall July 14

ROUVROYE, Gregory Edward Jonathan July 14

ROUVROYE, Marcus William July 14

**MARRIAGES**

STEVENSON, Sean & BOUWSEMA, Miranda Sept 21 *(on Gabriola Island)*

HANSEN, Arne & FRISKEN Kathleen Sept 28

**NEW MEMBERS**

SANDERS, Joe August 7 *(Affirmation of Faith)*

SANDERS, Sally August 7 *(Affirmation of Faith)*

KETELSEN, Jim August 14 *(Affirmation of Faith)*

KETELSEN, MJ August 14 *(Affirmation of Faith)*

HANSEN, Eric October 13 *(Transfer from Lutheran Ch. of the Cross, Calgary)*

HANSEN, Laurie October 13 *(Transfer from Lutheran Ch. of the Cross, Calgary)*

HUETTMEYER, Kurt November 10 *(Affirmation of Faith)*

STREETER, Karen November 10 *(Affirmation of Faith)*

WILSON, Jaxon November 10 *(Affirmation of Faith)*

**FUNERALS & MEMORIAL SERVICES**

ORTNER, Clyde February 15 (Yates Funeral Chapel, Parksville)

SORENSEN, Jens (Jim) February 26 (Holy Trinity Lutheran, Port Alberni)

GILL, Arnold March 2

VOSPER, Greg April 13

DENNISON, Robert July 27

FREDERICKS, Douglas August 17

HELLER, Raili August 21

DIRKS, Norma November 9

BENDER, Doug November 28

GALER, Ralph November 30



Photo by Rebecca Garber

**Ministry Through Continuous Learning Annual Report 2024**

*Mission: Support and encourage educational opportunities for all members of the church family.*

Members: Carolyn Iles. Shirley Forwell Council Liaison. More members are required to keep this committee viable.

Educational opportunities are provided by different people. Among the learning opportunities at Hope this past year are:

**Learning in Worship:** Pastor Terry’s Sunday Sermons and Wednesday Updates provide us with information and inspiration. Thanks Pastor Terry.

**Sunday School:** When children are present on the first Sunday of the month a Sunday School activity is provided. This concept may need to be reconsidered.

**Personal devotionals:** Hope provided paper copies of three popular devotionals this past year. Costs continue to rise, though, and we may need to discontinue one. Our National Church, the ELCIC now prints *Eternity for Today,* our most popular paper devotional, approximate cost - $20 per yearly subscription. While Hope will continue to provide a few copies that individuals can pick up, those wishing to have their own copies are encouraged to donate $20 towards the cost of a subscription. (You can donate through your church envelope, or put a regular envelope into the offering plate marked “For ‘Eternity for Today’.” Please let our volunteer, Marilyn Gross, know and she will place your subscription into your church mail box – or arrange for delivery when it arrives quarterly.

The *Lutherans Connect Devotional* arrives in one’s e-mail. These devotions include music, pictures/videos, scripture and commentary and cover both Advent and Lent. For those able to use the technology this is a good format for daily devotionals, although it is not a yearly devotional. Sign-up information is available on Hope’s website.

**Bible Study:** A dedicated group continues to meet…

**Men’s Breakfast Group:** The Men's Group has been meeting Friday mornings for breakfast and to discuss a number of books and issues. Deep and respectful conversation has been had regarding a faithful response to societal matters.

Thanks to all those individuals who strive to provide learning opportunities for all of us at Hope Lutheran.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Iles

**Ministry Through Fellowship/Membership Annual Report 2024**

The Fellowship Committee consists of Linda Harvey (chair), Randi Turner, Terry Owen and Diane Musgreave.

We established 4 Host Teams several years ago. Because of various circumstances, we had to amalgamate the 4 teams into 2 teams. This gives each team more members to help with the tasks. We are always looking for more team members. The teams are called upon in rotation to help with setting up, serving and cleaning up for memorial services, pot lucks, congregational gatherings, etc. Please call me if you have any questions or if you want to be put on a team. From questionnaires filled in by the host team members, being a member of a host team is a great bonding time and a satisfying experience. Helping others gives us an inner satisfaction. Please join in on the fun!

Listed below are the times we have served:

Jan/24 Ecumenical Meeting at Hope. Dinner and coffee breaks. 17 in attendance.

Mar/24 Arnold Gill’s memorial service

Apr/24 Greg Vosper’s memorial service

July/24 Robert Dennison’s memorial service

Aug/24 Raili Heller’s memorial service

Aug/24 Congregational Appreciation Picnic

Nov/24 Norma Dirk’s memorial service

Nov/24 Ralph Galer’s memorial service

Dec/24 Christmas Coffee Party

Hymn Sing continues to be a success after 4 years. Each Thursday morning, 15 to 20 people join in on Zoom to enjoy music and occasionally, history of the song or composer. Glenn Harvey is the host. The participants are from Hope as well as from far away places in Canada and the USA. Each week, the group can choose songs they want to hear. Please join if you are interested by calling Glenn at 250-751-1435. Many say it is the high-light of their week!

The Quilters of Hope (Hands of Hope), are still sewing after 14 years! Each Friday morning from around 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. we gather to sew, construct, tie, iron, cut and chat. Our numbers range from 15 to 20. I’m sure we have sewn at least 2000 quilts in the 14 years of meeting. Our goal is to find agencies or individuals who need quilts in and around Nanaimo. There are so many in need. We make quilts of all sizes; for babies, children and adults. Please join our group. Our group has been blessed with donations of material and money. We have found that the cost of batting has skyrocketed so we depend on the generous people of Hope. You don’t have to be highly skilled… Can you cut material, iron, tie a knot, make tea, or sew a straight line? If you can do any of the above, you qualify!! We have a great camaraderie and have become a “quilters family”. At noon, we sit down with our bag lunch and enjoy a relaxing conversation. If you would like to join us, please phone me at 250-751-1435.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Harvey

**Ministry Through Property/Landscaping Annual Report 2024**

It was a very busy year for the property committee which included the following actions:

**Entrance hall**: There was a significant crack in the ceiling of the entrance. It was repaired and replastered.

The fluorescent lights were replaced with energy efficient LED lights and the exit light repaired and

replaced.

**Riding Lawn Mower**: The lawn mower had running issues and a bent mower blade deck that was repaired

by members of the congregation for the cost of parts. It is awaiting a new carburetor for installation.

**Electrical Room**: Due to a change in City bylaw our electrical room required a space that was dedicated to

only the electrical panels. A wall was built and gyp-rocked and an LED light put in to come into compliance.

**Outside doors:** The outside doors were adjusted to close and lock without having to pull or push.

**Utility Sink**: All materials in the Electrical room were moved to the utility room. The Utility sink had been

broken for a number of years and was replaced with a sink found on FBook Marketplace. A wall was

removed that housed the sink and hot water tank and a 2nd spigot put in for filling the mop bucket without

having to lift it to the sink level. An LED light was placed in the room.

**Heat Pumps:** Three heat pumps were installed for the sanctuary and narthex. The heat pumps were

placed on the wall off the park. The cost was only for the cost of the heat pumps and the electrical hook

ups by a contractor. The labour was provided by members of the congregation. During the process the

storage area under the sanctuary was organized.

**Gardens:** Our gardens have been maintained by a very faithful gardening group on Tuesdays. Water

consumption is important for good gardens and with the challenge of climate change the warmth of the

summers is causing higher demand.

**Driveway:** Clean up and restoration of area near construction of Cilaire property should happen soon as

they are completing the landscaping.

There are still very large issues such as the condition of our driveway, and completion of the space below

the sanctuary that is currently used as a storage area.

Many thanks to the gardening team and the help for clean up after the November storm: Randi Turner,

Naomi Granke, Gerry Jacob, and Mona Richardson.

Thanks also to our Property Committee members: Gerry Owen, Fred Wilke, Gerry Jacob, and Mona

Richardson.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Roszmann, Property Committee Chair.

**Ministry Through Financial Stewardship Annual Report 2024**

We decided last year to separate Stewardship into two parts: Financial and human resources. That seemed right at the time, as often Stewardship focuses more on the *financial* of the congregation than the *volunteers* of the congregation. Currently we have recognized our volunteers by hosting a volunteer Sunday. Great event! Our volunteers are so important for our church and community.

I’m suggesting that we again combine the Financial and human resources (Volunteers) in our Stewardship program. But how do we do that - as Stewardship can appear in so many ways? What model would best work for our “Little Church” as stewardship touches all aspects of our activities in our church lives and community lives?

Council is currently working on a viable Stewardship model and program.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Nilsson

**Ministry Through Witness and Mission Annual Report 2024**

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

Committee members: Joan Nolting (CLWR), Joan Roszmann (chair), Terry Owen, Audrey Strauss (council rep), and Pastor Terry. Canada Lutheran rep is Cathy Lund.

This committee met the second Wednesday most months in 2024 and encouraged new members to join.

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

**Sock Drive** – 2 “black garbage size” bags of socks collected and donated to Island Crisis Care Society, the local organization that supports the unhoused.

**Used Stamps and Country Grocer receipts** – continued to be collected and passed to St Paul’s Lutheran for providing bibles to prisoners. Country Grocer receipts are donated to Claytree Society.

**World Day of Prayer** – March 1st at St Andrew’s Presbyterian, Joan Nolting helped with the planning; the committee advertised to the congregation; several of our members attended.

**Global Missions Sunday** – June 2 with an insert and special envelopes created by Joan Nolting.

Donations received for ELCIC Missions: $1,020 received for that Sunday with a total amount for the year of $3,960.

**ELCIC** - for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land $400.

**Island Crisis Care Society** – Hope donated $1000 toward their Supportive Recovery Project from the local benevolence fund in the budget. Island Crisis Care Society Christmas Drive – Hope collected donations for approximately 250 stockings prepared by ICCS for their vulnerable and largely unhoused clients. Cash donations through offering envelopes: $270

**Afghan refugee** – an awareness/fundraiser was held in September to support a local Afghan refugee and her family. Donations: $3,725.

**CLWR (Canadian Lutheran World Relief) Sunday** – was celebrated on September 29. Joan Nolting prepared a display board, bulletin insert and offering envelopes, Cheryl Satre chose appropriate hymns and Pastor Terry highlighted the work in his message.

In addition to an unknown amount of online donations, $ 6,250 was donated through the church.

Also, the following CLWR specific donations were received:

Ukraine $30

Lebanon 1,290

Potable Water 100

Emergency Food 200

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

**Loaves and Fishes** – Their work was highlighted during Advent with an inspiring presentation by executive director, Peter Sinclair. Donations for the year came to $4,100.

**Covenant House** - Catholic originated charity organization in downtown Vancouver which provides excellent service to homeless youth. Work of this charity highlighted during Advent. Donations received: $50. Reminder members also donate directly through their website.

**Canada Lutheran** – Cathy Lund facilitated the 16 renewals with no extra copies ordered.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Roszmann, Chairperson

**Ministry Through Worship and Music Annual Report 2024**

Members: Flo Bender, Peter Clark, Carolyn Iles, Pastor Terry Richardson, Doug Roszmann, Cheryl Satre

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

**WATER** Many servants carried ‘water’ for Hope this year. They preached, read the scriptures and prayers, ushered and were zoom techs. Our Hybrid approach to service allows people to read over zoom, to be a part of, not just an observer of our services. Here are more details about those who ‘carry water’.

Worship Leadership/Preaching Pastor Terry leads us in worship on Sunday mornings; special services on Good Friday and Christmas and Memorial services. This year Hope held 55 services with an average attendance of 79. There were 10 memorial services as well. Pastor Terry’s messages affirm and build our faith through scriptural interpretations, insights, stories and humour. With our zoom presentation, Pastor is switching mics and camera angles throughout the service. He plans the service, incorporating appropriate liturgy and prayers that result in both the in-church bulletin and the home worship material. The Worship and Music committee is grateful for Pastor Terry’s involvement with the planning and presenting of Worship at Hope Lutheran and applaud his quality leadership in Worship.

Throughout the year, our retired pastors have stepped in whenever asked. Pastor Bill Fehr, Bishop Ray Schultz, Pastor Marvin Svingen and Pastor Deborah van der Goes each bring special strengths to their worship leadership and preaching. We are grateful for their ongoing support of Hope and Pastor Terry.

Music is an important part of our church. It lifts our spirits and soothes our souls. Our talented musicians, John Collett, and Cheryl Satre select the music and lead us in worship. Pippa Williams has served as a relief musician, and we appreciate her service as well. Each musician has their own musical style which the congregation enjoys.

Cheryl also serves as the director of the Men’s Chorus. This group of congregational men provide special music we all enjoy: Terry Richardson, Bill Fehr, Gerry Jacob, Fred Wilke, Neil Schramm, Peter Clark, Curt Satre, Doug Roszmann, John Collett, Jan Nilsson, Glenn Harvey, Gary Lund, Guy Prout. We also are grateful for those who cannot come regularly to join the choir, but come when they can: Ray Schultz, Marvin Svingen, Greg Rouvroye. Musical accompaniment has been provided by Marlis and Jamie Enders, Curt Satre, John Collett, Deborah Van der Goes and Marvin Svingen.

Zoom techs do much of their work quietly in the background, enabling those on zoom and in church to see, and participate together in worship. They are among the first to arrive on Sunday mornings, set up mics and cameras, then complete sound checks. Others serve as zoom ‘hosts,’ greeting people as they come onto the internet. In the fall zoom techs provided a ‘zoom count’ to the ushers. (Previously this was done by Linda Harvey, while on zoom.) The team includes; Bill Fehr, Dorothy Pagan, Gail Smith, Gerry Owen, Glenn Harvey, Jamie Enders, John Musgreave, Linda Harvey, Marlis Enders, Steven Musgreave, and Pastor Terry Richardson.

Altar Guild works behind the scenes, to set the scene for worship. The paraments and banners are changed to highlight the liturgical season and Holy Days including All Saints Day. The beautiful vases of flowers are changed to reflect the seasons. The Advent Stand, Christmas Tree and decorations, Large Cross and Daffodil Cross are favorite symbols of special days, coordinated by the Altar Guild: Linda Harvey, Randi Turner and Terry Owen. (Special thanks to members of the Men’s Breakfast for fetching and carrying larger items).

**WHEAT AND WINE** Some of our members prepared, served and cleaned up after communion. In particular Marilyn Gross and Flo Bender continue to serve in this way. More members have stepped forward to serve communion this year: MJ Ketelsen, Trish Hughes, Jan Nilsson, Terry Owen, Laurie Hansen, and Judy Palm have joined Marilyn Gross, Flo Bender and Carolyn Iles in this important service. This is not a ‘scheduled’ task, and we are grateful these people are willing to help when asked on Sunday morning. The communion clean-up continued throughout the year thanks to Marilyn, Flo, Frieda Kalack, Carol Wilke, Judy Palm and other occasional helping hands.

Deborah van der Goes has provided home-made bread and several members provided funding to purchase the bread served during communion. This need is on-going, and even $5 provides bread for two weeks! *(Donations to Marilyn Gross, or in your envelope marked “For Communion Bread”, please!)*

Communion Wine has once again been provided by Ray Schultz and we appreciate this donation. If you make wine and would like to donate some for communion, we would be grateful.

**WALKING** (Providing support for our Worship)

Worship Assistants assist the pastors throughout the service as ushers and readers. Shirley Forwell schedules the worship assistants including; Al Pope, Alan Cross, Audrey Strauss, Bill Fehr, Bonnie Law, Carol Dennison, Carolyn Iles, Cathy Lund, Cynthia Cantelon, Carol Wilke, Dorothy Pagan, Fred Wilke, Gerry Jacob, Janel Cross, Laurie Hansen, Lisbeth Scott, Martin Madelung, Naomi Grant, Freida Kalack, Lewis Bakker, Neil Schramm, Peter Clark, Ray Schultz, Rebecca Garber, Rosalind Schramm, Steve Musgreave, Sue Grant, Susan Collett, Susan Hainsworth, Shirley Forwell, Tim Stime, Vibeke Sandberg, Jan Nilsson.

Bulletins/Home Worship material Our church secretary, Janice Valecourt, faithfully prepares and copies the service bulletins each week. Pastor Terry creates the Home Worship Material for our zoom’ers! Much thanks to them both.

Hymn Sing Held on zoom on Thursday mornings, this worship time has been led by Lisbeth Scott, with technical assistance from Glenn Harvey. Although the participants are muted, most sing along with the videos of suggested and discovered hymns. Everyone enjoys the music and the friendship. All are welcome to join the worship opportunity. (*Give your name + e-mail to Glenn Harvey who will send you a zoom invite.*)

Coffee Time This fellowship time after the service continues with a few designated coordinators on some Sundays, and a few faithful volunteers. Frieda Kalack, Pat and Judy Hyslop, Carol and Fred Wilke, Karen Streeter and Jaxon Wilson, Susan Collett and Diana Musgreave are regular volunteers. More volunteers would help, sign up outside the kitchen door! Members of Hope like our coffee and conversation with friends!

Memorial Corner The Memorial Plaque is graciously maintained by Mona Richardson, the Memorial Book by Carolyn Iles. Their quiet service is appreciated.

Care of the Worship Area Our Janitor, Howard Collier, continues to provide general cleaning services. We are blessed to have conscientious members who quietly work to ensure the cleanliness we see on Sunday mornings. In particular, Marilyn Gross does a Monday cleaning of the Sanctuary, offices etc. and the kitchen. Members of the Altar Guild have provided deep kitchen cleaning at different times.

Hostess Teams provide support for special events and memorial services. Worship and Music thanks those whose work enhance these worship opportunities. A separate report from the Hostess Team leader has more detail.

We thank all those who volunteer, especially any we have neglected to mention.

In conclusion, Worship and Music at Hope Lutheran Church requires the active participation of many people. The Worship and Music committee thanks all those who assist with worship throughout the year. Please consider if you might be called to use your talents and time to make our Worship even better.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Iles, for the Worship and Music Committee

**Ministry Through Reconciliation – Building Relationships Annual Report 2024**

*Our 3 guiding principles are to:*

* *build meaningful & equitable relationships with Snuneymuxw & other local Indigenous peoples;*
* *educate our congregation & local community on past & current injustices, focusing on understanding local issues facing Indigenous peoples; and*
* *support Snuneymuxw governance & the full realisation of Indigenous people’s rights*.

Members: John Musgreave – Chair & Council Liaison, Peter Clark, Tim Stime, Audrey Strauss, Mona Richardson, Doug Roszmann.

The Congregation has been active in Reconciliation related initiatives for several years. This Committee was formally organized in 2024 at the request of Council to oversee Reconciliation related activities.

We’ve had a busy year! Highlights include:

* Updating our Land Acknowledgment:

*We are very grateful that we can meet here on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw People. ​May we always look for ways to confront past and current injustices, prevent future injustices, and support Snuneymuxw governance and jurisdiction.*

* In March, we partnered with Brechin United, Holy Trinity Catholic Church & the United Way to host a 2-day workshop, *Reconciliation: Building Relationships*, @ Brechin. $1,000 in designated funds were distributed to Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre to support Hul’q’umin’um’ language programs. This group is now known as the *Circle of Friends* and meets regularly to collectively promote Reconciliation related initiatives within the Nanaimo & Mid-Island.
* In May, the Circle of Friends hosted our 2nd event, Winds of Change, featuring Stz’uminus artist, author & knowledge keeper, Daniel Elliott, @ VIU’s Malaspina Theatre.
* Guest speakers, graciously hosted by the Men’s Group, included Dave Bodaly, Snuneymuxw elder, who shared his own personal story with us in May & his vision on the path to reconciliation through settlers & first peoples. In August, Daniel Elliott, who is also a cultural teacher & collector of herbs & natural medicines, spoke on a variety of topics including natural remedies found in our forests.
* In June, Dave Bodaly conducted a tour of Stl’ilep, or *Base of the Mountain*, now known as Departure Bay, the ancestral site of Snuneymuxw people’s winter village.
* In September, we invited members to wear orange in support of Orange Shirt Day. Thanks to the congregation for your enthusiastic participation!
* A special thank you to Carolyn Iles who has been including a few of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission’s 94 Calls to Action in our monthly newsletter over the past few years. Stay tuned for future newsletter contributions!

Of special note for 2025: In the spirit of Reconciliation, Council is proposing to include in our 2025 Budget a provision that approximately 1% of our total giving be directed to the Snuneymuxw Council, funded from a reduction in the amount paid to BC Synod for Synodical & National Benevolence. This discretionary payment recognises that the Church is on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw People.

Respectfully submitted,

John Musgreave

**Call Committee Report to the Annual General Meeting 2024**

Pastor Terry Richardson will be retiring at the end of May, 2025. The Congregation will be celebrating and thanking Pastor Terry & Mona for their dedicated ministry to Hope Lutheran since answering our Call in 2010. Stay tuned for future announcements as planning is now underway!

Council has formed a special congregational committee, the *Call Committee*, to work with Bishop Kathy Martin & Council to begin the Call process to seek & recommend a new pastor to the Congregation.

The Call Committee members include John Musgreave- Chair, Rosalind Schramm- Vice-chair, Bonnie Law- Secretary, Bill Fehr, Gerry Owen, Randi Turner, and Martin Madelung- Chair, Shepherd of the Valley.

In December, Council met with Bishop Kathy Martin to discuss the Call process, our responsibilities, and possible timelines. The Call Committee has been meeting regularly beginning in December. We met with Bishop Kathy in mid-January, and she will continue to meet with us periodically throughout the process.

We plan to keep the Congregation regularly informed through the monthly Newsletter, emails, and Church announcements. In January, we asked you to provide your input to help us identify pastoral qualities & worship experiences that are most important to you now and ministry opportunities we should be focusing on over the next few years. Your collective responses will provide the foundation for our *Congregational Profile*, a document that will allow us to review the Congregation’s life & mission and identify the gifts that are most important for the next pastor to possess.

However, please understand the importance of confidentiality during the Call process. We will not be sharing specific information, for instance, on potential candidates, until Council has approved a primary candidate. Council will then schedule a special Congregational meeting to discuss & vote on extending a call to the proposed candidate.

Throughout the process, please feel free to ask any questions or provide your comments to any Call Committee member. And please keep Pastor Terry & Mona, the Call Committee, and our Congregation in your prayers!

Yours faithfully,

John Musgreave, on behalf of the Call Committee

**OMNIBUS MOTION OF THANKS AGM 2024**