



*Exploring Faith and Building
Relationships with God, People
and the Earth*

BEACH UNITED CHURCH 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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Minister's Report



Coming Together

2022 has been an enriching time of growing together and though there has been only a short time to reflect on relationship, I can confidently say that it has already been a journey of discovery, challenge, and reward. As we grow together we are beginning to see the exciting possibilities that this mutual path affords.

I am discovering a community of people committed to justice in many ways. In the first days of my time here, Joseph and I were grateful to participate in an online Breaking Bread event and that reinforced my thought that this community is all about relationship: often relationship

that involves food. This is exciting because I see immense potential in linking food and faith; Jesus was regularly found to be eating, sharing, and/or talking about food, it is central to a Christian understanding of faith and there are many possibilities that this presents. It helps me to understand how you care for each other and for community and I am happy to be part of this.

It is also clear to me that, central to Jesus message, you seek to speak truth to power. And that is lived out in tangible action. On the food front, commitments to community care through food hampers and community lunches transform people's lives. Commitment to environmental initiatives that raise awareness here in our space and in our community reminds us that we are co-creators in this world, and our faith can be lived out in ways that celebrate creation and care for it. I am honoured to be part of this.

These ways of being in the world establish Beach United Church as a place that recognizes church as more than a building, and faith as more than a Sunday worship experience. For our Annual Report this year, I asked many folks leading important work to share their experiences as well as their hopes for the coming year. I look forward to discovering ways to build on these hopes and live into the values they represent. I invite you to discover them with me in meaningful ways as we work together in the Beach.

I have already been challenged to step out in new directions to risk looking at opportunities that present in this place and in this community. Over this past year I have seen the strong presence that Beach United has in the immediate community as a hub of activity and been approached with new ideas worthy of discernment and discussion.

I hope to challenge you to see the potential that your individual and collective gifts offer. As we put our resources together, I am confident that God will be with us as we discern the vital role Beach United has in this community and beyond.

My hope is that we continue to discover God and each other in new ways through the challenge of taking risks founded on seeking justice, loving kindness and walking humbly together. The reward is that we grow faith in each other, in our community, and in God.

Rev. Greg Daly

Report from the Chair of the Church Board

2022 was a period of much transition for the Board. With the recruitment of three new members it provided the opportunity for fresh ideas and perspectives. At the same time it involved additional orientation and support as members became comfortable in their role. Correspondingly the arrival of Greg in February, the installation of the EV chargers and the significant overhaul of the human resources meant additional vigilance and oversight for the Board in all aspects of governance. This during a continued period of COVID which did see us transition to in person worship and resuming conversation about how and when we could re-focus on our Strategic Plan and continue to focus on long term financial sustainability.

Heartfelt thanks to each of the Board and to the staff for their extraordinary commitment to the work during a time of challenge and a special acknowledgment to Greg for his total enthusiastic immersion into all things Beach. This year has required exceptional capacity for adaptation and problem solving and working with many stakeholders and is so appreciated.

I took on the Chair role for this year in an interim capacity as I have now moved to London (ON) and will finish out my governance term following the Annual Meeting in April. It has been an honour to serve on the Board and to contribute to many of incredible programs and events this marvellous church has developed. I look forward to visiting when I am in town. Many thanks for the opportunity to have been part of such an extraordinary congregation and community.

Nanci Harris

Report from the Chair of the Board of Trustees

The responsibilities of the trustees are management of assets, mostly the investment portfolio and insuring these assets. While no new decisions were made with respect the investment portfolio during this period of great uncertainty, experience advises that little can be gained by making changes amongst conservative portfolios.

Kathy Clemens our trustee met with our insurance carrier to complete a professional appraisal of the church building. To significantly reduce the cost of this we gathered all the required data and completed the photography ourselves thanks to Dave Lewis, Ron Fitton, Cate Duff and Steven Webb for their contributions to this task.

A special thanks to Kathy Clemens, Henny De Lange and Martin McFarland for their time and dedication to the Board of Trustees.

Peter Tabbitt

Roll Report

Members Added by Baptism/Affirmation

1. Austin Terry Whittam, baptized Oct.2, 2022
2. Everleigh Rose Pasher, baptized Oct.2, 2022
3. Cody Nicholas Baker, baptized Oct.2, 2022
4. Emma Sophia Baker, baptized Oct.2, 2022

Members Removed by Death

1. Margaret Philpot, April 8, 2022
2. Joan Square, January 20, 2022
3. Ingeborg Maria Siber, October 17, 2022

Non-Resident Members

1. Shari Baker
2. Alan Baker
3. Jim McKibbin
4. John deValance
5. Joan Kilpatrick
6. Julie Edwards
7. Debbie Ferguson

Members Transferred Out

1. Steven Cooke – transferred to Richmond Hill United
2. Beverley Shugg Barbeito – transferred to Eastminster United Church, Belleville
3. Peter Barbeito – transferred to Eastminster United Church, Belleville

New Adherents

1. Cody Baker
2. Elaidis Figueredo-Ruiz
3. Rachel Bandy
4. Walter VonBoetticher
5. Miko Schacter
6. Poppy VonBoetticher
7. Cheryl Whittam
8. Fraser Whittam
9. Miriam Whittam

Draft Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Congregation of Beach United Church

March 6, 2022

Hybrid meeting held on Zoom (37 attendees*) and in the worship space at Beach United Church, 140 Wineva Avenue (11 attendees**).

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 by Nanci Harris, Chair of the Board of Beach United Church. Nanci welcomed participants on behalf of the Board and thanked them for their attendance, whether in person or virtual.

2. Opening Prayer

The Reverend Greg Daly opened the meeting with a prayer.

3. Team Introductions

Nanci introduced members of the Board: Brian Gautier, David Kiel and Barry Watson and Lynne Fulcher, M&P Chair & Greg Daly as non-voting members.

Nanci reviewed the meeting agenda.

4. Motion to approve Voting Privileges

Leigh Bower made the following motion:

“For the purpose of this meeting, everyone present, both members and adherents, have voting privileges.”

Seconded by: Pat Davies

The motion carried.

5. Motion to approve 2021 Meeting Minutes

Shirley Underwood made the following motion:

“We accept the Minutes of the February 28, 2021, Congregational Meeting.”

Seconded by: Richard Underwood

The motion carried.

6. Year in Review

Barry Watson provided a summary of the 2021 year. He noted that BUC has been in a difficult position for the last couple of years, but we are now in a position to be optimistic and move

forward. We have been able to continue many activities, and there has been growth in unexpected ways. For example, we have been surprised and delighted with our ability to generate online fundraising activities. Our finances are fairly strong. We have begun the year with Greg joining us and bringing his energy for moving forward. While we are mindful of the difficulties we face, we nonetheless have reasons to be optimistic.

7. Our Goals

Barry Watson noted that the Board is satisfied that there is no need to revise our current Strategic Plan and Goals (articulated in the 2017 Strategic Plan). Activities may change in the coming year, but our goals and mission remain the same.

8. Activities of the Year

Barry Watson noted that during the past year, the Beach congregation has continued to be creative and busy. We have come up with ways of moving forward with worship services, both online and in person. He offered thanks to everyone for their patience while bringing services online. Barry also highlighted the contributions of the following individuals and programs:

- Continuation of Beach's community food programs which provided inside lunches when possible and outside when not. Thanks to Jim McKibbin and his work, now being taken over by Hastings Withers with the support of Jim Winn. Also the Community Cupboard, a new initiative in food outreach, with thanks to those who initiated and those who continue to contribute.
- Music program – Steven has provided music programming and engaged the choir as much as possible. Jazz and Reflections has been able to continue.
- Fundraising – Online fundraising continued through the leadership; thanks to JoAnne LaForty for her leadership role. The online Christmas market was another success and sold out this year and the documentary series looking at social justice issues coordinated by Mary Anne Lemm. Also, the work of the Environmental Action Group led by Paul Dowling, Ron Fitton, Allan Baker and others continued.
- On an ongoing basis, all activities within the church are now considered for their sustainability and impact on the environment. The parking lot has been a way of engaging environmental thinking and our solar panels are manifestations of our environmental sensitivity and our ability to translate belief into concrete action. Most recently, some work is underway to instal an electric vehicle charging station for the parking lot.
- Parking lot – there was some decrease in revenue last year, but it has increased over the last few months.
- Solar panels – while the co-op is technically at arms-length from the church, we acknowledge its financial contribution to the church, and in particular the work of Martin McFarland. The solar installation has been one of the best financial investments the church has been involved with.

9. Connecting Activities to Goals

Nanci presented a chart which demonstrated the alignment of our activities (see 8., above) with BUC's strategic goals. She noted that over the past 2+ years of ups and downs, it is reassuring that these 4 pillars continue to sustain us. And they continue to serve us very well during this transitional year (2022).

10. Acknowledgement of Volunteer Leadership

Nanci acknowledged the contributions and BUC's gratitude for the work of ALL volunteers and underlined the desire to continue to celebrate the work of all volunteers, especially during these last few years.

Specific acknowledgment was given to individual volunteers in the following groups:

- Trustees
- Board of Directors
- Ministry and Personnel (M&P)
- Operations Advisory Group (OAG)
- Leadership in Fundraising and Special Projects
- Animators
- Givings, Counters
- Pastoral Care

Nanci acknowledged the key roles which staff at Beach play and the significance of their contributions to the life and wellbeing of the church.

Nanci also clarified the role of the Operations Advisory Group, which provides direct guidance to staffing support and decisions about the building. She concluded with an open invitation for people to express their interest in volunteering in one of the many ways Beach interacts with the community.

11. Challenges and Opportunities

Nanci highlighted two specific challenges and opportunities for 2022:

- Increasing volunteer capacity, and
- Resolving staffing needs as activities evolve over the next six months, as Greg gets comfortable in the work.

Greg continued the presentation by highlighting the following challenges and opportunities for 2022:

- Strengthening worship and pastoral care – creating opportunities to explore making meaning in our lives together, and ways of deepening faith and our connection with each other. He is working to manage the transition in ways that offer this, looking at innovative

and creative ways to worship, and offering spiritual care supports as he gets to know the congregation. Greg invited participants to please reach out to him when it makes sense for them.

- Re-establishing in-person activities – Greg noted that as we re-establish in-person activities, we are seeking to do this with safety as our paramount goal and we are trying to meet the needs of people to engage in ways they are comfortable. That we will continue to balance the needs of our community in the context of provincial changes to in person activities. He invited feedback as different platforms are experimented with as to what is working and what doesn't.
- Engaging in external partnerships for social justice – BUC has been here for a long time but there are still people in particular, locally who may not know who we are. BUC is integral to the community and we will continue to ask what we can offer to the Beach community so that people see the congruence between our words and actions. Greg welcomed ideas from the congregation about how we can be present to the needs of this community.

12. **Financial Health** (See Appendix 1 for details.)

David Kiel reviewed BUC's financial results from 2021, with comparisons to the past 3 years.

- **Summary Financial Results**

David explained that in 2021, BUC's net income Over the past 2 years, these government subsidies ended in October 2021. The 2022 budget will not include these and, coupled with re-opening and opportunities for revenue generation will be closely monitored as a result.

- **Summary Balance Sheet**

2022 Budget – David reported that the transitional nature of this year has made it very difficult to forecast. As such, this is considered a transitional budget and is very conservative. It was completed at the end of January and may need to be revisited. Things may change based on some of the direction that the Board and Greg undertake.

For example:

- Rental income is already up from January, and parking lot revenues have also increased. There were a number of PAR cancellations at the end of 2021., due to moves, etc. PAR is down as a result. - Additional repairs and maintenance are needed for the church; expenditures in the past few years have been flat.

- **Motion to accept the Budget as presented**

Dave Buchanan made the following motion:

"We move to accept this budget as presented."

Seconded by: Megumi Nishikawa

The motion carried.

13. Additional recognition for BUC Volunteers

Nanci acknowledged the work of Marian Hilton, Pat Plue, Frank Plue in collaboration and under the leadership of outgoing minister Karen Dale and others who have supported the congregation with Pastoral Care during the year. Shirley Underwood will be joining the pastoral care team for 2022.

14. Board of Directors 2022-23

Nanci thanked Barry Watson, Brian Gauthier and David Kiel for their incredible leadership and for their work on the Board over the last few years. Thanks were given also to outgoing chair of M&P, Frank Plue.

For 2022, David Kiel will continue as Treasurer, *ex officio*. Lynne Fulcher, Chair of M&P, *ex officio* and Greg Daly, *ex officio*, will also attend meetings and work with the Board.

Nanci noted that the Nomination Committee of the Board (herself, Barry Watson & Ron Fitton) is working to fill the remaining 3 Board member vacancies. The Nomination team is engaging with those volunteers who have come forward with interest to join the Board. It is not too late for volunteers to come forward. Those who are interested can still email the Board at board@beachuc.com. The Board will continue this process and call a short congregational meeting by the end of March to vote on the slate of nominations for the new Board soon.

There being no further business, Nanci Harris called the meeting to a close at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Watson, Recorder
6 March 2022

* In attendance on Zoom: David Kiel, Nanci Harris, Anne Colquhoun, Dave Buchanan, Pat Buchanan, Deb Flippance, Elaine Graham, Frank Plue, Pat Plue, Irene Withers, Hastings Withers, Jim Pearce, Kathy Clements, Kim Echlin, Leigh Bowser, Lesley Hanson, Lynne Fulcher, Martin McFarland, Pat McFarland, Megumi Nishikawa, Pat Davies, Ron Fitton, Dana Fitton, Sherrill, Susan Dowling, Paul Dowling, Barry Watson, Karen Watson, Mary Anne Lemm, Henny de Lange, Jerry Reitsma, Ila Vaculik, Fran Vickery, Kathy McIlroy, Peter and Gail Tabbitt (also in person), Jo-Anne LaForty (also in person).

** In person: Richard Underwood, Shirley Underwood, Jim Winn, Marney Winn, Rosalie Bradley, Ted Atkinson, Marian Hilton, Darlene McKee.

Minutes of the Congregational Meeting April 3, 2022

Meeting held to vote on nominations of 2022-2023 Board.

Meeting Chair: Nanci Harris

Be it moved that the following be approved as members of Beach United Church 2022-2023

Nanci Harris (Chair)

Cynthia Stretton

Gwen Hughes

Paul Dowling

Moved by: Dave Buchanan

Seconded by: Mary Anne Lemm

Those in favour: Unanimous

Those opposed: N/A

Ministry & Personnel Committee Report

The Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee provides human resources support to the congregation which includes:

- regularly reviewing the working conditions, responsibilities, and compensation of all Beach United Church staff.
- revising position descriptions of pastoral charge staff as needed;
- conducting annual performance reviews of BUC staff;
- being available for consultation and support for matters involving BUC staff; and
- overseeing the relationship of BUC staff to each other and to people in the congregation.

Presently the M&P committee consists of three members, specifically Lynne Fulcher and Karen Watson (co-chairs) and Henny DeLange.

This year we welcomed Rev. Greg Daly in February, supporting him through his six-month transition period and developing his final job description.

In April we worked with Greg to organize his covenanting service. We want to thank those members of the congregation who were involved in that service.

In June we began the process of reviewing our current organizational structure and what our future needs would be. We offer our thanks to OAG members Ron Fitton, Brian Gauthier, Barry Watson and Jim Winn for their participation in the development of the new staffing model. This was approved by the Board in August. With the support of OAG, the M&P committee led the recruitment and onboarding of our new lay staff: writing job descriptions, advertising, participating in interviews, developing contracts, arranging for police checks, drafting offer letters, and ensuring staff were on the payroll and receiving benefits. Many thanks to Martin McFarland for his payroll support.

We were delighted to welcome Allison Woo, BUC's new Communications Coordinator, and Karen Cornece, BUC's new General Manager. We established and recruited members for the Communications Advisory Committee, which is leading BUC communications with the support of Allison Woo, our Communications Coordinator. We attended regular Board meetings. To live out BUC's commitment to supporting a living wage for all staff, we reviewed and adjusted staff salaries to ensure that all staff were receiving a Living Wage (In Toronto a Living Wage is \$22.08 per hour).

2023 activities will include:

- A search for a children's programming leader
- Staff performance reviews (February)
- Working with the General Manager and OAG to hire and onboard the new Property Manager and Events Coordinator.
- Revision of BUC's Harassment, Violence, Discrimination policy to current standards; mandatory staff training and optional volunteer training.

Thanks to all volunteers who participated in the recruitment of our new staff, developing interview questions, sitting on interview panels and checking references: Leigh Bowser, Mary Anne Lemm, Henny DeLange, Jerry Reitsma, Ron Fitton, Brian Gauthier, Kathy Clemens, JoAnne LaForty.

Thanks also to Leigh Bowser, MaryAnne Lemm, JoAnne LaForty and Greg Daly for agreeing to be members of the Communications Advisory Committee. We also want to thank Cate Duff and Ron Fitton for all the extra time and energy they have put in since David left.

Henny DeLange

Operations Advisory Group Report

1. Rental Income for 2022 reached just over \$130,000. Much of these events were booked well in advance, with many added since September.
2. Parking revenue has returned to pre-pandemic levels. The addition of EV chargers has not impacted this so far.
3. EV chargers are fully functional, following resolution of a couple of early glitches:
 - Charging connections being interrupted
 - Idle charges (remaining plugged in after charging has ended) being applied inappropriately.
 - Site not well known. Signage is in progress and expected by end January
 - Several neighbours have used the chargers, and an on-line network seems to be developing.
 - Councillor Layton posted congratulations from his social media.
 - Video filming by Signature Electric schedule for spring, to be posted on their network.
 - One of two funding supports has been received, the other is expected early in 2023.

4. Staffing

Hiring progress very slow:

- 3 new positions posted late Sept: General Manager, Rentals Coordinator, Property Manager
- The hiring process moved slowly through the fall, with results as:
 - Karen Cornece started as General Manager in November
 - Virginia Gallop started as Events Coordinator in February
 - Property Manager posting released Jan 10, with interviews proceeding early in February.

Huge appreciation to the volunteers who assisted with interviewing applicants for these positions: Kathy Clemens, Henny Delange, Jerry Reitsma, Brian Gauthier, Ron Fitton.

Coverage challenges:

- No full-time staff following David Lewis departure mid-September
- One occasional property staff on 1-month vacation in October
- Two new hires for property staff trained and scheduled in, one resigned after two weeks
- One property staff requested reduced hours, another has health-based restrictions
- From mid-September to present, General Manager and one volunteer have provided limited property and rental management, with many issues set aside until full staffing is reached. This will impact building care and rental revenue until resolved.

4. The number one priority for OAG in 2023 will be facilitating the successful team-building among the operations staff group, all but one of whom have been with us for less than four months! Providing all the supports available will be job 1 for the OAG in 2023.

Communications Advisory Committee

Concerts, worship services, discussion groups, fundraising events, social justice work, environmental initiatives, volunteer opportunities.... Many things are happening at Beach United. Our communications challenge is making sure people know about them.

Until last fall, promoting Beach United's activities was coordinated by volunteers, with significant assistance from Cate Duff. Cate provided graphic design and promotional support in addition to her other duties as Office Administrator.

Recognizing that a well-supported communications strategy is an investment in Beach United's success, our Board posted the part-time position of Communications Coordinator. In October, we were delighted to welcome Allison Woo to this role on Beach United's staff. Allison's work is supported by a Communications Advisory Committee. Its members are Jo-Anne LaForty, Mary Anne Lemm, Leigh Bowser and Rev. Greg Daly.

Allison is bringing fresh eyes, creative design, smart innovations and a collaborative approach to Beach United's marketing activities. We're already seeing the impact of her skills and experience on our website, social media, posters and local advertising, and we're looking forward to more development in these areas.

General Manager's Report

By the time you read this I will no longer be able to claim 'newbie' status but at the time of this writing, experiencing a newbies reaction to the Minister's considerate request to share some thoughts in the annual report: Yikes! In typical Greg fashion, he listened, gave helpful feedback; and support for suggestion I keep it short and sweet. Herewith, dear Friends. In my time as General Manager, I have been warmly welcomed by every single person who has crossed my path - from volunteers to staff to executive to guests, the BUC community stepped up with a smile to share their deep knowledge, provide context, put up with my endless questions and offer all manner of support. I'm very grateful to be among such a sharing, caring and frankly brilliant bunch in a truly inspiring setting. Thank you. I look forward to learning more, expanding the BUC presence in the community and bringing new and returning communities into the BUC. I'm hopeful for the future, eager to engage and again, grateful to be on Team BUC.

Karen Cornece

Music Director's Report

2022 was a year of growth and rebuilding for the music program at Beach United, after the pandemic severely restricted most music making activities in the church building. Here are some of the highlights from the past year:

- The choir returned to in-person rehearsals in late 2021, and rejoined Sunday worship services in March, 2022. The choir also performed its first Christmas Cantata since 2019 this year (to much success), entitled 'The Seven Noels'.
- The return of in-person congregational singing began in August, 2022 to considerable excitement after 2 and half years of its absence.
- We were lucky to have Mike Daley continue his fabulous music lecture series in 2022, with well-attended lectures on both the history of jazz music and the Beatles.
- The **Music for the Soul** series continued this year, returning to in-person concerts. The series, which features up-and-coming singer/songwriters was pleased to welcome such fabulous artists as Rebekah Hawker, Kathryn Merriam, and Sarah Beatty.
- Under the direction of Jo-Anne LaForty, the long running **Jazz and Reflection** had another fabulous year, as it returned to fully in-person concerts in 2022. Highlights of the season included performances by Alison Young & Jeff McLeod, Jane Bunnett and Danae Olano.
- 2022 saw some major repairs being undertaken on the church organ, and the continued success of our Organ concert series. In 2022 we were lucky to have a diverse set of performers, with returning favourites like Christopher Dawes, and newcomers Rashaan Allwood wowing audiences.



*Sarah Beatty
Music for the Soul
Concert Series
November 2022*

With a new year, I'm looking forward so many musical activities at Beach United Church, including:

- A return of monthly community 'Jam-Nite' on Tuesday evenings in the Fall.
- An exciting Jazz and Gospel service for Palm Sunday, along with other themed musical services later in the year.
- The incorporation of hymns from 'Songs of the Holy Other' into a regular part of worship at Beach United Church.
- The continued growth of the choir and the potential development of a children's choir.

Steven Webb

Pastoral Care Report

Our pastoral care team (Greg Daly, Susan Dowling, Marian Hilton, Pat Plue, Shirley Underwood and Marney Winn) is committed to providing support and encouragement to members of our church family, with special emphasis on those who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to participate in regular church services. The church bulletin and weekly sermon are sent to several of these members.

Covid restrictions and concerns have proven to be challenging but, over the past year, we have managed over 35 visits, 250 phone calls and sent 80 cards as well as organizing delivery of flowers at Easter and Christmas. As a consistent pillar of our team, Greg has offered pastoral care support in a variety of ways including in-person and telephone conversations. They take place in church, in homes and in various creative locations such as Glen Manor Ravine and Juice and Java.

In 2022, several long-standing members of our community died, and we were grateful for the opportunity to celebrate the lives of Joan Square, Margaret Philpot and Inge Siber through services and gatherings. Baptisms and weddings offer us additional celebrating moments and Greg has committed himself to being available to support these important events in our community. If you or someone you know needs a listening ear, please contact a member of our team. We are ready to support you and offer support in accessing the services and/or connections you require.

We are thankful for all the members of our congregation who quietly offer random acts of kindness, supporting one another.

Pat Plue

Beach Interfaith Lunch Program



This past year can truly say there was never a dull moment. Our operations were severely impacted by COVID once again this year. We managed to serve inside only, outside only and combination of inside and outside. We only had 2 weeks where we were not operating. Volunteers needed to have up to date vaccination status and be masked while volunteering. Happy to say we had no known cases of transmitting the virus in our community. We have had quite a lot of volunteer turnover and are happy to be holding steady at 22 volunteers. We frequently have a volunteer waiting list.

We managed to provide just over 900 meals for our guests. These circumstances have revealed a whole new set of people needing support. Many guests drop by now to pick up takeout orders for family members who cannot get out.

Let us close by thanking the many folks that regularly provide donations of food and fund. We are blessed!

Paul Dowling, Jim Winn, Hastings Withers



Justice Seeking at Beach United Church

FOOD, POLITICS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Caring for one another was central to Jesus' teachings: Feed the hungry, satisfy the thirsty, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, care for the sick, visit those in prison. Moreover, he announced that God's kin-dom of peace and justice is at hand and challenged structures of discrimination and oppression. (A Song of Faith)

At Beach United we work with other churches, faith traditions, and people of goodwill to eliminate poverty and injustice, identify its root causes, and protect those who are most vulnerable.

We continue, as we have for many years, to feed people in our community. In conjunction with neighbouring churches in the Beaches Interfaith Lunch program, we serve a hearty lunch each Thursday to people in our community who are in need of food and social connections. After several years of leadership by Jim McKibbin, the program is now directed by Jim Winn, whose creative meal ideas are well received by our guests.



After more than a year, the community food pantry was closed at the end of the year. The original idea was that some of our neighbours would put food in the pantry to be taken by other neighbours who needed it. The program was moderately successful, with food contributed by members of Beach United and the occasional neighbour. After a time, we decided to refocus our energies on the lunch program, where we are able to provide social support along with the food.

In addition to these organized support programs, Beach United staff provide informal support to many people that come to our doors, including sharing a coffee, a listening ear and direction to a place where further support can be found.

Through our direct support to people in need we become acutely aware of the social policies and structures that underlie human suffering. Working with other local faith communities, we have raised up our concerns through all-candidates meetings for elections at all levels of government.

A small but loyal group continued to meet in early 2022 to explore ways to respond to the climate crisis and other environmental concerns. We wrote letters on current issues and shared environmental tips. And we offered our support to the successful effort lead by Ron Fitton to install chargers for electrical vehicles in our adjacent parking lot as a graphic demonstration of our church's commitment to environmental stewardship. The Environmental Action Group took a break mid year to explore other issues; but is exploring new ideas for the new year, including hosting an Environmental Fair in the spring. If you are interested to explore this idea, please connect with Mary Anne Lemm at maryanne.alton@sympatico.ca.

Christmas Market



The planning committee included: Mary Anne Alton, Lynne Barger, Britta Barnes, Barb Brown, Pat Buchanan, Anne Colquhoun, Pat Davies, Danna Fitton, Nanci Harris, Brenda Rundle, and Marney Winn.

The Planning Committee met alternate weeks beginning in October via Zoom to plan for the December 3rd Christmas Market. The market hosted 18 outside vendor tables and our own tables which included Knitted Toys, Baked Goods, Jams and Preserves, Fair Trade Goods, Jewellery, one Gift Box for raffle and a money jar on Stephen's piano to reward his lovely Christmas carol playing. There were no turkey sandwiches or coffee/tea/beverages offered at the Market this year due to concerns around COVID and mask wearing. There were insufficient volunteers to do the meat/vegan pies. Perhaps these could be considerations for next years' market.

The Market net earnings were nearly \$ 7,000.00. Paul Dowling, treasurer, has a full spreadsheet with detailed accounting of the Market. A total of 18 volunteers helped to set up and about 30 volunteers participated on the day!! Everyone seemed happy to be back in the real space.

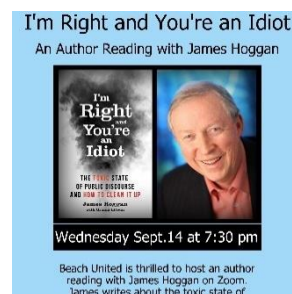
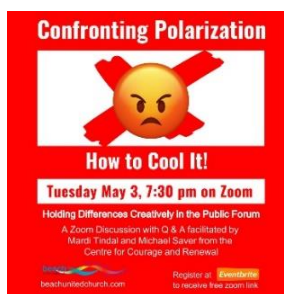
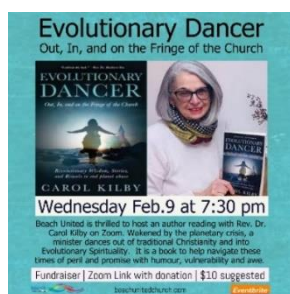
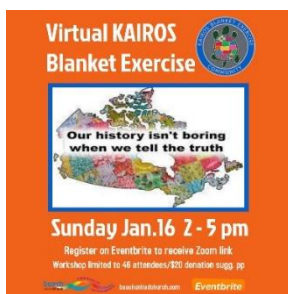
Brenda Rundle



Online Speakers & Events

In 2022 in an attempt to stay engaged and connected with each other **Beach United Church** had a rich variety of **online speakers and events**:

1. The Virtual Kairos Exercise Blanket event
2. Rev. Dr. Carol Kilby author of "Evolutionary Dancer, out, in and on the fringes of the Church" discussing the relationship between the planetary crisis we're facing and our faith
3. Guest speakers and experienced facilitators Mardi Tindal and Michael Saver discussing "Confronting Polarization - How to Cool It, Holding Differences Creatively in the Public Forum"
4. James Hoggan, environmentalist, PR consultant and author of "I'm Right and You're an Idiot: The Toxic State of Public Discourse and How to Clean It Up" sharing his thoughts on engaging with people when you don't necessarily agree with their point of view.



Donations received contributed to the BUC food ministry. Thank you to everyone who participated from the speakers who donated their time to the people who participated in the events.

In 2023 we hope to have an online author/speaker event exploring 2SLGBTQ+ issues in our continuing journey towards becoming an affirming congregation. We're also planning an in-person Environmental Fair hopefully in the spring. The plan is to bring people together who are engaged in initiatives to help shift our habits and lifestyle into ways more sustainable for the planet. Stay tuned. If you're interested in helping organize let me know.

Mary Anne Lemm

Knitting Group

Just before Christmas our Knitting for Shivering Children group received a courier package from Saltspring Island, British Columbia. It contained four thick knitted sweater vests made by a friend of a member of Beach United. The vests are part of the 11 huge bags of blankets, sweaters, hats and toys we have made so far since September 2022. We will deliver them, and what we make this winter and spring, to Canadian Food for Children (CFFC), a charity that ships a container a day of food, clothing and medicine to 16 countries around the world.



These handcrafts are made by our local core group of about 40 knitters and crocheters, and from uncountable places across Canada, such as Saltspring Island, who hear about our work.



We resumed in-person meetings in March after a two-year pandemic hiatus and once again decorated the church in May with an incredible selection of colours and patterns (668 items in total) that Rev. Greg Daly blessed on Mother's Day. In June, CFFC shipped those blankets, sweaters, hats and toys to Angola, El Salvador and Dominica. In addition, we raised \$460 for BUC's food programs by selling our handmade cats, whales, bears and octopi at the Christmas Marketplace in December. Our goal for 2023 is to once again reach our pre-pandemic total of 1,500 items a year. And to keep laughing while we share knitting stories. Every stitch counts!

Pat Davies

Garden Group

The church's "Garden Group" is a small number of members of the congregation and interested members of the local community, who got together once a week on Saturday mornings to tend the church garden, which expanded 3 years ago from around the building to include landscaping around the parking lot. The garden continued to be a wonderful mix of bright colours and imaginative new ideas – the latter evidenced by Matt and Andy planting tobacco in the veggie containers, producing giant bright pink flowers and a shed full of drying leaves which were shared with an indigenous group for ceremonial purposes.

Acknowledgements

That once again this lovely display reappears in our church garden is a tribute to the many members of the congregation who have generously donated plants, and to the past gardeners at Beach United. Special acknowledgement is due to Sally Evans and Matt Canaran, who have now indicated they can't continue with the garden due to other priorities. They are featured in the pictures below with other regular volunteers.

In the left picture is Matt (centre) with Shah and Andy at the initial planting of vegetable beds in May. In the picture on the right, Sally is tending the fast growing okra in the veggie beds, which have been regularly watered and cared for by Britta (right). The centre pictures includes Lynne (left), the other regular member of the group.





The Vision: local plants, minimal watering

An important feature of this garden is that it concentrates on local plants adapted to our climate, which do not need regular watering. So, NO WATERING is the rule, apart from some special cases: when planting, and raised vegetable beds. **What it all adds up to. . . “A garden of colourful flowers”**. The picture on the right shows the garden at its peak, in early summer. To be followed shortly by late summer’s colourful flowers, sumac, hosta, bee balm, japanese anemone, brown-eyed susans – lorded over by the three gloriously blooming Roses of Sharon!

AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2023... It will be challenging: the departure of Matt and Sally will leave a huge hole, and new avenues may be required to provide the expertise and time required to maintain the garden in its present form, perhaps including reconfiguring for a new future.

Hastings Withers

Fundraising Report

Lecture Series

Over the past few years we have developed a partnership with Dr Mike Daley as he offers different music topics in a lecture series. This is a team approach and volunteer run so thank you to Shirley Underwood, Britta Barnes, Brenda Rundle, and Jeff McIlveen. Cate Duff has been our amazing office support and graphic designer. Special thanks to my friend, Cathie Ellis, who put together the Beatles poster design.

Jazz: From New Orleans to Big Band Swing

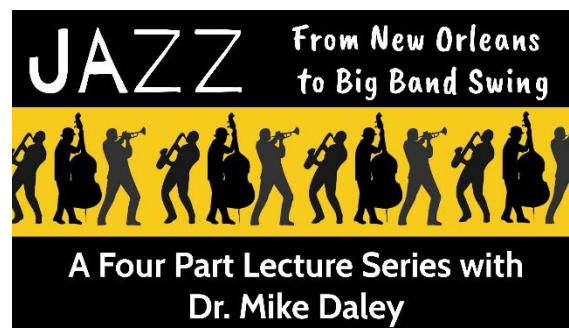
January 2022

Online option available

Length: 4 week series on Monday mornings

Participants - approximately 50 - 60

Profit: around \$2,000



The Beatles and Their World

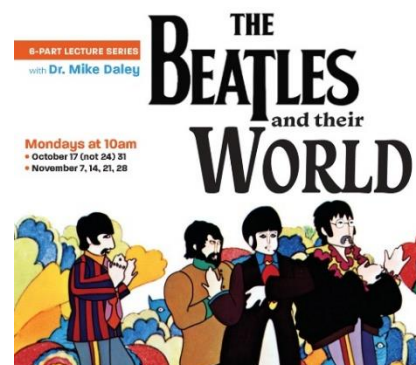
October/November 2022

Online option available

Length: 6 week series on Monday mornings

Participants - approximately 60 - many watched the online option that Mike provided plus we had about 5 single ticket people each week.

Profit: around \$2,000



Jazz and Reflection

This service was interrupted with the pandemic but as soon as the curtain rose after the lockdown, we got busy planning the series. This is a team approach and volunteer run so thank you to Frank Plue, Pat Plue, Richard Underwood, Shirley Underwood, Nella Cramer, Paul Cramer, Brenda Rundle and Jeff McIlveen. Cate Duff did the poster designs and all the office admin around these events which includes cheques, poster printing and fielding phone calls. We thank you Cate. Allison Woo has joined the team and designed the Mike and Jill Daley promotions. Welcome Allison. Our minister, Greg Daly has stepped into the host and reflection role beautifully. Thank YOU, Greg, for taking this on with panache.



April 2: Alison Young and Jeff McLeod

Participants: 85

May 7: Laura Robinson, Paul Novotny, Ewan Farncombe

Participants: 100

October 1: Jane Bunnett and Danae Olano

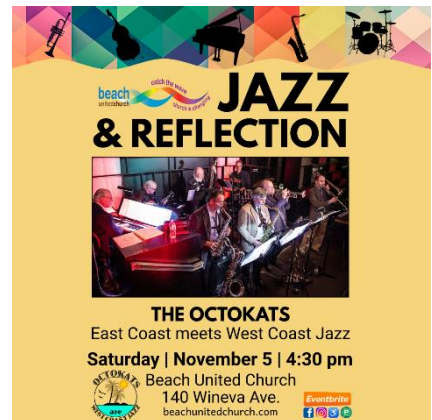
Participants: 100

November 5: Octokats

Participants: 100

December 10: Mike and Jill Daley

Participants: 120



Listening to music for me is connecting with the sublime and what I love about both activities is watching people come together to catch a glimpse of “the divine” in the learning and listening.

Breaking Bread Together - Spain

On February 4 we held the 2nd Breaking Bread Together with a virtual trip to Spain to enjoy Spanish food and wine together. Rob Ste Pierre was our wine host and provide 3 bottles of wine and Corbin Catering provided the dinner for two. Our new minister at that time, Greg Daly, joined into the fun and welcomed everyone on the zoom dinner party. We had a good response with around 50 couples and made \$1800.00.

Huge thank you to Cate Duff for her promotional materials as well as the complicated Eventbrite sign-up with selection of menus. We appreciated working with Rob and Corbin. Thank you to Pat Plue, Frank Plue and Jeff McIlveen for helping with the distribution of the goods.

Jo-Anne LaForty



Breaking Bread Together
Experience Spain!
A wine tasting and virtual tour of Alegria and Tinedo Wineries with winemaker Ruth de Andrés. Enjoy a delicious 3 course dinner from Corbin Catering with fine wine pairings, while exploring the regions of Ribeiro Del Duero and La Mancha, Spain

Friday February 4, 6:00 pm

A Fundraiser
in aid of food outreach
beachunitedchurch.com

3 course dinner for 2
3 bottles of wine
Zoom Tour
\$160

Eventbrite

Solar Energy for Beach Co-op Inc Report (SEBCI)

The Solar Energy for Beach Cooperative, Inc. (SEBCI) works with Beach United Church to provide green energy for the Toronto Hydro grid. SEBCI, a public non-profit cooperative governed by a board of 6 directors, is responsible for oversight of the solar installation on the roof of BUC, and its operation, maintenance, and financial management.



In 2022, the SEBCI solar installation generated 57,649 kilowatt hours of green energy, down slightly (2.5%) from last year due to weather conditions. As a result of this and decisions to increase roof rental payments to Beach United Church, our net income was lower than 2021. This was partially offset by elimination of audit fees as, by law, an audit is no longer required. Our financial results are below.

Since its start in 2014, the Co-op has generated 504.58 MWh of clean renewable energy. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, this has the following Carbon Dioxide Equivalents:

- the carbon sequestered by 441 acres of forest in one year, or
- greenhouse gas emissions from 80 passenger vehicles driven in one year.

SEBCI membership is open to any member of the public with the payment of a small membership fee. Meetings are held once a year. We welcome new members. If you are interested in joining, please contact Jerry Reitsma (jreitsmn609@rogers.com).

Many thanks to all our members, to the Board and especially to Martin McFarland for his ongoing work as Treasurer and support for the Co-op.

*Karen Watson, Chair
SEBCI Board of Directors*

SEBCI Statement of Operations for year ending December 31, 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Revenue	31586.12	32480.30
Less Expenses:		
Insurance	0.00	0.00
Depreciation & Amortization	12747.99	12390.76
Roof rental	10000.00	7000.00
Interest	5293.14	5633.16
Audit fees	0.00	2299.02
Maintenance & Service	1866.32	1553.47
Other	116.87	180.93
	<u>30024.32</u>	<u>29057.34</u>
Net Income	<u>1561.80</u>	<u>3422.96</u>

Treasurer's Report

After several years of dedicated service as Treasurer, David Kiel stepped down in the spring of 2022. We are all grateful to David for all of his work, especially working with the Board to keep the church finances afloat through the difficult years of the pandemic.

I am happy to step in to be the new Treasurer and to try to fill David's big shoes. In preparation for the Annual Congregational Meeting on April 2, at which the 2023 budget will be approved, I am honoured to work with a Financial Planning Working Group to bring their expertise to the task. The Working Group Members are David Kiel (past Treasurer), Martin McFarland (Trustee), Greg Daly (Minister), Karen Cornece (General Manager) and Paul Dowling (Treasurer).

While not participating in the Working Group, Ron Fitton has committed to focus his energies on working with Karen and the OAG to develop reliable budget estimates for operating revenues and expenses.

The 2022 Year End Financial Statements are pasted on the following page. The bottom line, with expenses deducted from revenue, is very close to the \$72,000 deficit projected in the budget approved last year.

Revenue from Parking and Rent is dramatically higher than budgeted. These additional revenues enabled the Board to agree to a proposal to install 6 Electric Vehicle chargers in the parking lot adjacent to the church. With rebates available to support the installation, the net cost of the chargers is about \$9,000 each. While the financial return on this investment will not be immediate, there will also be benefits to the environment and to Beach United's stature as a champion of environmental sustainability. Our past commitments to solar collectors and the water permeable parking lot continue to contribute to a healthier environment.

As we enter a new budget cycle, we continue to be challenged to invest wisely in our church for longer term sustainability. Your responsibility, at the Congregational meeting will be to consider how to balance short-term and longer-term considerations and to determine how expenditures in the short term will have benefits, both financial and mission focused, in years to come.

The Financial Working Group and the Board will have the responsibility to identify areas where investment in the future will have dividends and to propose the actions that we will take to achieve the proposed budget.

I look forward to working with the members of Beach United to share this responsibility.

Paul Dowling

Beach United Church 2022 Balance Sheet

Beach United Church		
Balance Sheet		
As of December 31, 2022		
	As of Dec. 31, 2021 (PY)	As of Dec. 31, 2022
Assets		
Cash	239.7	171.0
Accounts Receivable	0.0	1.0
HST Recoverable	17.4	11.3
Accrued Income	2.0	31.0
Total Current Assets	259.0	214.3
Church building	5,920.8	5,920.8
Investments	571.3	564.5
Solar Co-op Loan Receivable	180.8	169.2
Total Assets	6,932.0	6,868.9
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	11.2	13.9
Credit Card	0.5	0.1
Due to Solar Co-op	14.6	16.6
Total Liabilities	26.3	30.6
Fund Balances		
Unrestricted Fund	6,192.7	6,210.3
Profit for the year	17.7	-67.4
Restricted Building Fund	695.4	695.4
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	6,932.0	6,868.9