



**The United Church  
in Meadowood**

# Annual Report 2025

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## ABOUT THE UNITED CHURCH IN MEADOWOOD

### VISION AND VALUES

#### **OUR MISSION IS:**

to share the abundant life of Jesus

#### **OUR VISION IS:**

as an inclusive, intercultural faith community, to engage South Winnipeg, growing in spiritual understanding and compassionate service

#### **THE VALUES THAT SHAPE US ARE:**

gratitude  
caring  
curiosity  
courage

#### **OUR STRATEGY IS TO INVITE ALL:**

to bear witness to God's love in vibrant worship  
to serve within and beyond our doors  
to give as generously as we are able  
to belong to and grow in small groups  
to develop our capacity to lead, and  
to care particularly (*not exclusively*) for the people of SE Winnipeg  
(*east of the Red River and South of Abinojii Mikanah*)



## STAFF

Caryn Douglas – Minister (until August 31)

Jeri Bjornson – Pastoral Care Coverage from October

Sandy Katrynuik- Office Administrator

Jeremy Vallance - Music Director

Tirian Plett – Accompanist

Bonnie Gauthier - Christian Education Coordinator (until August)

Leah Share - Christian Education Coordinator (since August)

Chelsea Sosiak - Youth Leader

Dane Dwarka - Streaming Facilitator

Linda Watson - Communications Coordinator (until November)

## BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Board

Erin Crawford, Chairperson to April  
Angie Makumi, Chairperson from April  
Ron Eros, Secretary  
Carol Opperman, Treasurer  
Jim Smith  
Sandy Bodnaruk  
Margaret-Anne Michalsky, to June  
Rudy Ramchandrar, to June  
Myles Hildebrand, to June  
Cassandra Lanyon, from June  
Linda Thorlakson, from July  
Patrisha Bell, from September  
Caryn Douglas, Minister to September  
Tricia Gerhardt, Pastoral Relations Minister from September

### Christian Education

Cheryl Swanson, Chair  
Ronda Eros, Cradle  
Alyssa  
Leah Share, CE Coordinator from  
Chelsea Sosiak, Youth Coordinator

### Communications

Cassandra Lanyon, Chair from April  
Rachel Dolynchuk  
Pat Goss  
Colleen Saydak  
Linda Watson, Communications Coordinator  
Dane Dwarka, AV and Tech

### Congregational Life

Bev Dupasquier, Chair until April  
Heather Kielniak, Chair from April  
Barb Hayward  
Andrea Hurst  
Karen Lenaghan  
Milli Paterson, until September  
Rosemary Pugsley, from February  
Shannon Beaton, until April

### Finance

Scott Osinski, Chair  
Carol Opperman, Treasurer  
Sheila Down, Secretary/Counter  
Tannis Young, Book Keeper from January and Stewardship Liaise from February  
Archie Campbell, Envelope Secretary  
Margot MacInnes, Cookbook Secretary/Treasurer  
Karen Irvine, Fundraising  
Algernon Karim  
Joan Bjornson  
Gary Hyde  
Eveline Wall, from May

### Greening in Action Team

Nancy Schneider, Chair to July  
Sue Jacobsen, Chair from November  
Rosemary Pugsley from June  
Joan Bjornsson from June  
Gil Forest from September

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Joe Makumi from June

Marion Hodge from November

### **Greening Project**

Erin Crawford, Steering Chair

Mike McIlrath, Finance

Liz Bachmann, Fundraising to June

Mike Balshaw, Steering and Engagement  
Convenor to June

Bev Beck, Communication to June

Joy Bissoon, Fundraising to June

Jeri Bjornson, Communication to June

Jane Bullied, Steering and Communication to June

Susan Campbell, Steering and Communication to  
June

Dane Dwarka, Communication to June

Diane Dwarka, Steering and Trustees to June

Ron Eros, Steering, Steering and Fundraising to  
June

Pat Goss, Fundraising to June

Gary Hyde, Finance to June

Ali Karim, Fundraising to June

Peter Kidd, Steering and Construction Convenor  
to August

Margaret-Anne Michalsky, Steering and  
Communication to June

Julie Nash, Steering and Fundraising to June

Doug Purdey, Fundraising to June

Rudy Ramchandrar, Steering and Fundraising to  
June

### **Memorial Fund Trustees**

Donna Bulow, Chair

Bev Beck, Secretary

Helen Kirby, Treasurer

Karen Berube

Marvie Gordon

Lorraine Purdey

### **Ministry and Personnel**

Donna Kormilo, Chair

Doug Durnin

Kathy MacDonald

Gail Graham from January

Kris Ramchandrar from January

### **Nominating**

Erin Crawford, Past Chair

Jim Smith, Board Rep

Ron Eros, Secretary (ex officio)

Doug Purdey

### **Outreach**

Jean McIlrath, Chair

Erin Crawford

Carin Crowe

Rita Taylor

Bev Hindle

Leah Share

Erika Rodeck from June

### **Pastoral Care**

Ann Ingalls, Chair

Jane Bullied, Secretary

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Edith Alexiuk

Mike Blashaw

Susan Campbell

Diane Dwarka

Lynda Suderman to August

Joan English from May to August

Patrisha Bell from May

Larry Gompf from January

Bev Gompf from January

### **Prairie to Pine Regional Reps**

Diane Dwarka

Hope Mattus

### **Property**

Doug Purdey, Chair

Bob Bjornsson

Bob Bulow

Larry Gompf

Jim Smith

John Hes

Dennis Titchkosky

Derrick Brouillette from April

Myles Hildebrand to April

Joe Makumi from May

Sandy Katyrnuik, Office Administrator

### **Reconciliation Team**

Carin Crowe

Diane Dwarka

Jeff Grose, leader from June

Joan Hutlet to March

Lara Hunter from March

Marion Hodge from April

### **Stewardship**

Jeri Bjornson, Chair

Tannis Young, Finance Liaison

Joy Bissoon

### **Trustees**

Diane Dwarka, Chair

Sean Gatin

Bill McLean

Larissa Kanhai

Mike Ciecko

Sean Crawford

### **Worship**

Richard Ball, Chair

Gail Graham, Secretary

Margot MacInnes

Hope Mattus

Marcia Passmore

Caryn Douglas, Minister to September

Jeremy Vallance, Music Director, Corresponding

Tirian Plett, Accompanist, Corresponding

## MINISTER'S REFLECTION

As I write this, I am very aware that we are at the mid-point of the Gap between called ministers at The United Church in Meadowood. We said good-bye to Caryn Douglas at the end of August 2005, and we say hello to Tammy Bleue on July 1, 2026. For four months, the people of this congregation took responsibility for nearly all aspects of ministry, with a little pastoral care support. This is a strong, vibrant congregation there are so many things we do well. These attributes and values are a base upon which we desire to grow and, where necessary to be faithful, to change. As a congregation, in our search for new ministry leadership, we expressed a willingness to accept new ministry leadership and concomitant new ministries.

Change is not always easy to accept. Uncertainty often engenders anxiety. We wonder, will we lose our identity, will we go backwards, will I like what happens? Jesus, after his resurrection was not a restoration of "what was" but was recognizable through cherished things that identified him to his followers, the breaking of bread, calling people by name, reinforcing their faith and commissioning them for the future. The same is true for UCiM as we move forward, we will not be exactly who we have been, we will be recognizable through the core values that have identified us. That is good news!

As I look toward the future of The United Church in Meadowood, I sense a community of faith on the cusp - ready to move forward and to consider new ways of being and doing ministry while holding onto what is necessary and faithful. I am reminded of the prophet Isaiah and his revelation of God's promise to the people:

I am about to do a new thing:

now it springs forth,

do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:19a

It is now our mission, along with Tammy, to continue to discern what "that new thing" is in this place and this time and to support one another as we work together as the body of Christ. Amen.

Respectfully submitted, Jeri Bjornson Appointed Gap Minister

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Well, a lot of things happened in UCiM in 2025! We learned in January 2025 that our minister of the last 5 years, Caryn Douglas, would be retiring in August 2025. While we lamented our loss, we celebrated her time with us and wished her all the best in her well-deserved retirement. We thank the Community of Faith profile team and the Search Committee for all their diligent work. We amazed ourselves by being our own minister-having committees and guest speakers take over weekly worship planning and giving the Message from August to December 2025. We learned a lot about how to put together a service and how to make a meaningful and interesting message to the congregation.

We became a scent free facility – and continue to work on being scent free in our cleaning products, new purchases and personal scents.

The UCC turned 100 years old in 2025 so we had a celebration in June to commemorate that wonderful milestone.

Many committees re-examined and/or created their Terms of References. We also did Visioning work at our last Annual meeting and that info was used in the Search Committee's work to find a new minister. All this info will help inform our new Constitution we are working on.

The Greening Steering Committee (for GeoThermal project) was disbanded (joyfully), with great thanks for all the work on that committee and the task groups that came from it. Erin Crawford, Mike McIlrath and Peter Kidd continue in a small group, monitoring the funds and ensuring the promised grants all come in. We had Lori Stewart create an amazing report of our GeoThermal journey and she presented it to the congregation.

The Greening in Action Team was formed to continue the work of the Greening of UCiM campaign, looking for new ways to green our church and our ways of operating.

Considerable work was done on digital accessibility on our website.

We welcomed Leah Share to the position of Christian Education Coordinator.

We continue to celebrate our amazing staff of Jeremy Vallance (musical director), Tirian Plett (accompanist), Dane Dwarka (AV and Tech), Chelsea Sosiak (Youth Coordinator, quick notes editor), and the ever amazing, knower of all things UCiM – Sandy Katyrnuik (office administrator).

The lifeblood of our church community continues to be our volunteers, all our committees/teams/groups that do all the do-ing that is so necessary to keep this place humming but it's also so fun and community building.

We encourage all our members and adherents to join a group (or two), it's a great way to socialize, contribute and show our love of Christ in community.

## CHURCH PROFILE FOR 2025

<b>Member Statistics</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Average attendance in fall, inclusive of children (October, November)	103	157
Average attendance in fall in Sunday School		36
Number of identifiable household contributors (giving over \$50.00)	280	288
Present number of families on mailing list	388	430

### **In Memoriam**

*Eggert, Dorothy	January 6, 2025
*Dupasquier, Bert	January 7, 2025
*Slater, Ken	January 17, 2025
Hutlet, Joan	March 10, 2025
*Fortat, Jackson	March 25, 2025
Owen, Sadie	May 16, 2025
Ramchandar, Rudy	June 27, 2025
Tole, Ron	July 20, 2025
*Clayton, Velma	July 24, 2025
Propp, Glennys	August 6, 2025
Budgell-Short, Dee Dee	August 14, 2025
Garbutt, Louise	September 7, 2025
Mann, Dorothy	September 18, 2025
Mundt, Violet	September 22, 2025
*Lenaghan, John	October 18, 2025
Taylor, Bernice	November 23, 2025
Jeffrey, Alastair	December 2, 2025
*Marvin Goodman	December 13, 2025

### **(\*FYI Non Members of UCiM)**

#### **Baptisms**

Bo-Bradley Nicolas Parson (Parents) Kaitlyn Hercina & Matthew Parsons June 15, 2025

*Annual Report 2025*

**New Members Through Transfer**

Mary Anderson February 16, 2025

Richard Ball February 16, 2025

**New Members Through Profession of Faith**

Gaylene Abrams February 16, 2025

Joan Hutlet February 16, 2025

Sue Jacobsen February 16, 2025

Brent Kroeker February 16, 2025

Cassandra Lanyon February 16, 2025

Leah Share February 16, 2025

Linda Thorlakson February 16, 2025

Eveline Wall February 16, 2025

Patrisha Bell August 17, 2025

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## UCiM Christian Education Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** Jan 30, 2026

**Chair:** Cheryl Swanson

**Secretary:** (if applicable)

**Committee/Group Members:** (please list all who participated during the year.)

- Ronda Eros-volunteer
- Alyssa Fehr- volunteer
- Chelsea Sosiak- Youth Coordinator- staff
- Leah Share- NEW CE Coordinator-staff
- Bonnie Gauthier-prior CE Coordinator, was still assisting while role vacant
- Angie Makumi-volunteer
- Cheryl Swanson-Chair/volunteer
- Donna Kormilo- M& P- attended some meetings as requested
- Caryn Douglas -Minister

**Number of meetings this year:** 9 meetings were held in 2025

**Purpose Statement:** (one or two sentences that describes the purpose of your Committee/Group. This might be in your Committee Terms of Reference, if not, please create one)


The mission of the Christian Education Committee is to equip the UCiM community for faith filled living and service by providing learning opportunities that nurture spirituality, deepen faith and enhance knowledge.

**Goals/Priorities for the year:** (can be listed in point form)


Continue with existing children's programming in 2026

- Children's Church and CONNECT
- Camp Meadowood (with newly integrated CONNECT sessions added)
- Messy Church (with youth volunteers and the Youth Coordinator in addition to the core Messy Church planning team)

Continue to build and engage congregation in new Christian education opportunities

- Fun and Faith Programming 

- Book Club 

- Family events 

### **Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?**

With a new CE Coordinator now in the role, the CE Committee has been able to shift some of the focus towards other Christian Education opportunities that already started in 2025.

### **Major Accomplishments this year:**

- **Children’s programming continued in 2025 despite the CE Coordinator role being vacant for much of the year.**

This is thanks to the team who met frequently to set up schedules, volunteer to lead and help with each Sunday’s lesson, while building opportunities for more leaders/helpers within the congregation. Added more leadership opportunities for youth running two successful Children’s Church Carnivals that the youth planned and built games for and that they supervised and assisted children and families with during the Carnivals in June and September.

- **Planned and promoted a second summer camp option, “Camp CONNECT”, for pre-teens.**

Although Camp CONNECT ultimately did not run due to low enrolment, we need to congratulate the efforts and all the planning that went into trialing this new option. It allowed us to look at ways to alter the Camp Meadowood model, and in 2026 we will be maintaining leadership roles for pre-teens at Camp Meadowood while incorporating camper opportunities for them too.

- **Successful muffin/pie fundraiser for Camp Meadowood/Camp CONNECT**  
\$1120.00 raised for Camp Meadowood bursaries

- **Fun & Faith monthly events started in Fall of 2025**

Positive feedback from first two events

- **Organized and lead Cookies & Carols, Paper Bag Pageant, Christmas Eve Family Service, and a new event – a New Years Eve party.**

All were well attended and we received positive feedback from attendees.

- **Work was done to review and update the duty of care training sessions for our adult volunteers.**

The CE Committee reviewed and piloted online modules for Duty of Care training.

This training is now available online for our volunteers which not only provides flexibility for those needing to take the training, but also aligns with adult learning principles, allowing participants to learn at their own pace and with their schedules.

There is a cost to purchase the modules, but due to the number of volunteers that take this training it is felt to be a reasonable cost at this time. The online modules are more current and cover the content that was previously taught in person at UCiM.

The CE Committee is still reviewing how to deliver this training for youth. Next steps will be to review the online modules and assess whether they meet the needs for our youth volunteers (ie camp leaders).

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?**

- CAMP Connect was planned and advertised to allow for a camp opportunity for older children (Grades 5/6) in an effort to keep them engaged and interested in attending camp. Unfortunately, enrolment was too low to proceed. This year we will continue to explore a Camp Meadowood integration option.
- We would like to complete reviewing all of our duty of care training, but were unable to get to the youth portion due to conflicting priorities in 2025. This will remain on our goals to complete for 2026.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

- UCiM continued to have uninterrupted children's programming throughout 2025, including two successful carnivals and a fall hot dog lunch hosted by the CE Committee in September
- New and exciting community-building faith opportunities are being offered
- Due to increased involvement of the Youth Coordinator and Youth at traditionally Children's/Family activities, more connections are being built between these age groups and between Youth and older volunteers (eg. Messy Church is becoming a multi-aged activity rather than a primarily families with young children activity)
- Due to connections between Fun & Faith events and Messy Church, more connections are being built across age groups (ages 17 – 60+ have attended Fun &

Faith nights) and people attending Fun & Faith have started volunteering at Messy Church events

- New people have begun attending evening events – some coming from across the city to attend

**What do you most look forward to in the coming year?**

- A continued increase in multi-aged attendees and volunteers at Messy Church
- Continued addition of new events such as a Valentine's Day Date Night, Young Adult events, a special summer Fun & Faith activity, and our Second Annual New Years Eve Party!
- Connecting the Aloud book club to other UCiM committees and events
- Camp Meadowood!
- Continued increases in Christian leadership skill-building opportunities for Youth

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

Please refer to the attached.

## UCiM Congregational Life Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** April 6, 2026

**Chair:** Heather Kielniak

**Secretary:** (if applicable): Barb Hayward

### **Committee/Group Members:**

Bev Dupasquier, Shannon Beaton, Barb Hayward, Andrea Hurst, Heather Kielniak, Karen Lenaghan (retiring March 2026), Rosemary Pugsley (March 2025), Caryn Douglas for the first quarter.

**Number of meetings this year: 9 (Jan-Dec 2025)**

**Purpose Statement:** The mission of the Congregational Life Committee is to shape UCiM as an exceptional community where all people associated with the congregation are known by name and experience sincere welcome, relevant connection, and diverse fellowship opportunities.

### **Goals/Priorities for the year:**

- to create a welcoming space for people to worship in person.
- to ensure Greeters and Hosts are available for each Sunday service.
- to assist Caryn with New Member classes.
- to organize and host a new members/newcomers luncheon and activity (Mix 'n Mingle) Sunday.
- to create and implement strategies to ensure all members are connected to others in the congregation.
- to create and implement a plan to shepherd newcomers into the life of the congregation, possibly committee work.
- to ensure membership records are maintained.
- to ensure the Historical Roll is maintained.
- to offer and fulfil a nametag order(s) so all may be acquainted with one another.

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments? Yes**

### **Major Accomplishments this year:**

- Invited people to Greet or Host on Sunday mornings.
- Reviewed the duties list for Greeters and Hosts.
- Contacted newcomers weekly by phone to insure they are welcomed and feel integrated into our congregation.
- Held a very successful Newcomers/New Members Lunch with mix & mingle activities after worship in February 2025, our last one with Caryn Douglas.

- Offered and completed Nametag orders.
- Began an ongoing pictorial e-directory so new photos of current members can be added to Church Watch.
- Continued Caryn Douglas' initiative with Lawson e-cards for congregants.
- Arranged for other committees and church groups to host "Drinks for Fellowship" following worship each week through the year.
- Held a "Cookies for Caryn" the last Sunday in August for her last Sunday with us.
- Held a "Welcome Back" Sunday for children's church on Sept. 7, 2025, with a hot dog lunch.
- Began planning a congregational fellowship potluck for fall but ran out of Sundays – this was moved to February 2026.
- Purchased juice and Fair-Trade coffee for general use in the church kitchen.
- Read the announcements during our Sunday worship services.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?** No

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

- By providing well-supported opportunities for people to contribute to a ministry of Welcome, we developed the skills and sense of connection for the greeting/hosting volunteers.
- By helping to provide a place where ALL belong and ALL are felt welcomed.
- By creating a warm and positive place to meet and connect with others in a meaningful way.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?**

- Our committee always enjoys Hosting a newcomer event in conjunction with the Sunday service to receive new members, with mixer games to engage with one another, and hopefully they feel warm & welcomed, we hope this can continue into 2027 with our new Minister Tammy.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

- The average Sunday in-person attendance is 100 – 125+

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Kielniak

Chair

## UCiM Finance Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** January 27, 2026

**Chair:** Scott Osinski

**Secretary:** Sheila Down

**Committee/Group Members:**

Carol Opperman – Treasurer

Joan Bjornsson

Ali Karim

Garry Hyde

Eveline Wall

Karen Irvine – Fundraising Coordinator

Tannis Young – Bookkeeper

Margo MacInnes – Cookbook Coordinator

Archie Campbell – Envelope Secretary

**Number of meetings this year:** ten (10) in person meetings

**Purpose Statement:** to compile, report and manage financial information.

**Goals/Priorities for the year:** to continue to maintain accurate financial information; to report financial status to congregation; to draft and complete restricted funds policy; to amend all rental contract documents; to assist office administrator to approve/reject all rental agreements; to approve reject all fundraising activities; to report to the Board as requested.

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?** Yes

**Major Accomplishments this year:** Successfully recruited new Sunday offering counters; recommended that current employees remain the same status quo but new employees

will have to be in compliance with CRA regulations; completed restricted funds policy; reviewed, amended and completed revised rental contract; approved outdoor lighting upgrade proposal; recruited new event supervisor; prepare and review draft budget.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?** None

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?** UCiM benefitted from the funds generated by the various fundraising activities during 2025. Provided effective budgeting and ongoing oversight of finances.

**What do you most look forward to in the coming year?**

Continuing to effectively manage the financial aspects of the congregation; initiating search for new book keeper.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?** No

## UCiM Garden Group Annual Report 2025

**Date:** January 26, 2026

**Chair:** Joan Marshall

**Secretary:** n/a

**Committee/Group Members:** Carin Crowe, Ronda Eros, Bev Hindle, Marion Hodge, Linda Huska, Tannis Manikel, Joan Marshall, Diane Nichol, Lynda Unfried

**Number of meetings this year: Two: (Wed. Apr. 16 and Wed. Oct. 15)**

**Purpose Statement:** Address food insecurity in St. Vital, Winnipeg by growing vegetables and herbs in 4 raised garden beds and 1 standing garden planter; donate same to Teenstop Jeunesse and Marlene Street Resource Centre. Create a friendship group for congregants.

### **Goals/Priorities for the year:**

1. Bring members into a garden fellowship and friendship.
2. Welcome senior neighbours and connect with local seniors in garden discussions.
3. Grow healthy vegetables and herbs without pesticides in soil amended by compost collected throughout the year.
4. Be attentive to food recipients' particular needs and reflect them in the vegetables/herbs planted.
5. Collect statistics on weight of food delivered to assemble a record over the years.

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?** We made 23 deliveries to Marlene St. and 8 deliveries to Teenstop Jeunesse.

**Major Accomplishments this year:** Cascading rain barrel stands and concrete pavers constructed by Bob Marshall were an excellent addition to the water station. Long interesting discussions were held between local seniors and the garden group members. The congregation has been more committed to composting; members met many individuals adding their compost to our composters throughout the year. Donations from the Seniors Group allowed us to erect better fencing lattice to deter deer and rabbits.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?** Lattice erected needed to be more easily removed in order to weed, harvest and trim more easily. The budget for this has been included in the 2026 budget.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?** Our work brought together nine congregants in friendship and community. We supported the communities in St. Vital that are in need, adding donated fresh vegetables to the mitten tree and canning drives held during the year.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?** We hope to strengthen the connection to local seniors by working with the Seniors Group to erect a sturdy bench near the gardens where seniors could rest while contemplating the gardens.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?** Total amount of food delivered was 230.16 lb (104.21 kg). This total includes 62.28 lb (28.25kg) of donations from group members, their friends and neighbours, and congregants.

## UCiM Greening in Action Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** March 2026

**Chair:** Susan Jacobsen

**Secretary:** Marion Hodge

**Committee/Group Members:** Susan Jacobsen, Joan Bjornsson, Janet Glazebrook, Marion Hodge, Rosemary Pugsley

**Number of meetings this year:** 2 including attendance at the Forbo Flooring Presentation

**Purpose Statement:** The Greening in Action team leads UCiM in fulfilling UCiM's commitment to work towards being a green leader. As we are called to "live with respect in creation", this team will work to bring ideas and processes to the Church and congregants to assist them in becoming stewards of the environment. These core values will be integrated into the life of UCiM throughout worship, events, cooperative work with other committees.

### **Goals/Priorities for the year:**

1. Assist with flooring project by exploring greener alternatives to LVP - this involved hours of research and in addition to formal meetings, many meetings by phone and exchanges of information by email
2. Terms of Reference completed
3. Begin audit of church - this was discussed but all the time and energy required for the flooring project made that the priority. Conducting the audit of the church is on this year's agenda for further discussion.
4. 2026 - 2027 Members of GIA will continue to gel as a team as we continue to learn and devise ways that UCiM community of faith can evolve as environmental stewards.

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments? Yes**

**Major Accomplishments this year:**

Researching greener flooring alternatives and preparing a comparison between options.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?**

The Energy Audit Guide: The flooring research was very intense and we needed to focus all our energy on that. We have studied the framework paper from Faith and the Common Good titled “Do-It-Yourself” Faith Building Energy Audit Guide”. This is a comprehensive review of every aspect of the characteristics of a building - from the building envelope itself to lighting and HVAC systems. Although UCiM has already achieved the goal of installing a geothermal system, any other energy saving improvements will best be achieved by recruiting outside expertise to complete the audit, as well as input from other UCiM committees and/or members of the congregation.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM?**

As this committee has only been in operating for a few months we cannot state what impact our work will have on UCiM. It remains to be seen what decision is made concerning the replacement of the flooring.

**How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

Out-going minister Rev. Carolyn Dougl’s passionate commitment to respect for all creation led to the establishment of the Greening in Action team.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?**

Collaborating with the Christian Education team and the Reconciliation team in joint

projects.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

A presentation will be made to the Board and to the congregation at the Annual General Meeting which will contain some statistical data regarding different kinds of flooring materials.

## UCiM Memorial Fund Annual Report 2025

**Committee/ Group Name:** UCiM Memorial Fund

**Date:** February 3, 2026

**Chair:** Donna Bulow

**Secretary:** Bev Beck

**Treasurer:** Helen Kirby

**Memorial Fund Trustees:** Karen Berube, Marvie Gordon, Loraine Purdy

**Number of meetings in 2025:** Four and several motions via email.

**Purpose Statement:** To accept contributions made by individuals or groups in memory of deceased members or non-members of The United Church in Meadowood and to provide or help provide for the beautification and improvement of our church.”

### **Goals/Priorities for 2026:**

- Easter Flowers and Memorial Gardens campaign during the Lenten season
- Provide funds for the Pastoral Care Committee to purchase potted plants for shut-ins
- Provide funds for the purchase of plants for church gardens from the UCiM plant sale
- Source Planters for the Serenity Memorial Garden with funds donated in memory of DeeDee Budgell Short
- Clean the gardens in the spring and plant flowers purchased from the UCiM plant sale
- Clean and refill liquid candles on the Communion table as required
- Check with the Board regarding the updated policy for the Memorial Fund submitted in 2025
- Designated donation towards flooring replacement
- Clean the church flower gardens in the fall
- Work with the minister and Sandy Katrynuik to plan and participate in the Unveiling Day /All Saints' Day Service
- Keep the Book of Lives up to date
- Decorate the planters at the front entrance of the church with seasonal themes
- Lights for Lives campaign during the Advent season in 2026
- Create a list of plants to purchase from the spring UCiM plant sale, based on how well plants survived this summer
- Serve refreshments following the church service in June 2026

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?**

The tasks accomplished by the trustees of the Memorial fund address the purpose statement of the Memorial Fund.

**Major Accomplishments in 2025:**

- Easter Flowers and Memorial Gardens Campaign was held in the Lenten season
- Four hundred and fifty dollars (\$450) was provided to the Pastoral Care Committee to purchase and deliver Easter flowers to shut-ins.
- Approved up to \$700 for the purchase of plants from the UCiM plant sale
- Served refreshments after church for the month of June
- Held the Lights for Lives campaign during the Advent season in 2025
- Cleaned and refilled the liquid candles on the Communion table several times
- Planted the flowers purchased from the UCiM plant sale in the flower gardens
- Weeded and watered the gardens in June, July, August and September
- Planned and led the Unveiling, All Saints' Day Service on October 26, 2025, with the assistance of Sandy Katyrnuik (All six trustees participated in the service)
- The Book of Lives was updated
- The front planters were adorned with winter arrangements with thanks to Patti Banks

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?** We are waiting for the response to the updated Memorial Fund Policy submitted to the Board in January 2025.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

The walkway greatly improved the aesthetics of the grounds and allows wheelchair access to the Serenity Memorial Gardens. There has been an increased use of the benches in the garden since the walkway was installed.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?**

Working together as part of the community to fulfill our mandate.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

The Memorial Fund was established and approved by Council January 13, 1993.

Over the past 33 years the trustees have been supportive of many church improvement projects, supported by funds donated through the two major campaigns, Easter Flowers and Lights for Lives and memorial donations.

**Report Prepared by:** Memorial Fund Trustees and submitted by Donna Bulow

## UCiM Ministry and Personnel Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** February 9, 2026

**Chair:** Donna Kormilo

**Secretary:** Kathy MacDonald

**Committee/Group Members:** Doug Durnin, Donna Kormilo, Kathy Macdonald. Added in December - Gail Graham and Kris Ramcharan.

**Number of meetings in 2025:** 15 – includes interviews, but not individual Liaison meetings with staff.

**Purpose Statement:** The Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee acts under the guidelines of The Manual of the United Church of Canada. Each congregation or pastoral charge must have an M&P Committee. The committee functions around three roles, which are the consultative and supportive role, the healthy relationship role, and the supervisory role. We provide resources & support for the staff & community of faith with respect to any issue affecting staff of our church, including ministry personnel and lay employees. The committee works to build positive and trusting relationships between staff, members, and adherents of the community of faith.

### **Goals/Priorities for 2025:**

- Fill the Christian Education Coordinator's position
- Review and renew Annual Professional Service Agreements with fee-for-service workers, and employee contracts.
- Manage M&P committee Chair and members work overload
- Throughout the year, keep in touch with staff through informal and formal liaison contacts to provide encouragement, performance feedback, a listening ear, and exit interviews.
- Continue to implement process for staff performance reviews and goal setting.
- Determine what is/should be in place for Working Alone guidelines and safety in the church regarding appropriate interventions with/for event intruders/disruptive individuals.

**Priorities that emerged mid-year** resulting from the resignation of Minister Caryn Douglas:

- Transitioning-out process, including exit interview and a celebration of 5 years of accomplishments at UCiM.
- Determining operational and administrative needs and supports for the period without the leadership of a Minister. This entailed surveying staff and some committee chairs, analyzing the responses, and presenting them to the Board.

- Arranging for provision of interim pastoral care coverage.

### **Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?**

The three roles of the M&P Committee are:

- The consultative and supportive role
- The healthy relationship role
- The supervisory role

It is through our liaison contacts that we do much of the work regarding each of these roles. As problems arise, we seek to understand and help with addressing the situation as needed. The supervisory role includes understanding our role, developing and implementing effective processes, and the human resources functions associated with selection, hiring, training, and monitoring of employees and fee-for-service contractors, and maintaining the necessary documentation and record keeping practices associated with them.

### **Major Accomplishments in 2025:**

- Organized a successful Sunday May 4 celebration of what we accomplished during the last 5 years with Caryn Douglas.
- Assisted with selection and hiring of summer camp leadership positions.
- Hired Leah Share for the Christian Education Coordinator's position that began in August 2025. She has brought spirited coordination and some new events to CE programming.
- Updated onboarding/offboarding procedures for new/departing staff.
- Upon the recommendation of UCiM's Treasurer, converted five 'Professional Service Contractor' agreements to 'Employee' status agreements. Kathy MacDonald led the revision to the format of our hiring agreements. We now use a "Letter of Offer" style that details conditions of employment, benefits, etc. as per Employment Standards and new 2025 UCC requirements. We truly benefit from her professional HR accreditation and experience.
- Changed the role of Streaming Facilitator to IT Technology Support Coordinator, with increased hours/week. Enlarged role to include technology coordination, system administration, troubleshooting and communication responsibilities, made necessary to fill skill gaps left by the departure of two staff members.
- As per Board directive, reassigned Communications Coordinator duties to some existing employees; led to position description revisions.
- Our committee continues to work well together, with good discussion and thoughtful decision making, whether it's in-person or via Teams.
- Started sharing and storing our documents in Google Drive (docs) for easier and safer use, storage and transmission.

- December - recruited two additional committee members

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve**, and if so, what prevented you?

- Safe atmosphere/Working alone guidelines. Not enough time due to increased workload created by transitioning out/in three staff members, small committee size, and M&P Chair being heavily involved with Minister Search Committee.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM?**

We liaised with staff on a continuous basis to enable staff relations to remain positive so that they could perform their duties with competence in a healthy workplace.

Finally having a long-term Christian Education Coordinator in place has added increased purpose, direction and energy to CE programming.

M&P rep Donna Kormilo's human resources and leadership experience is contributing significantly to fulfilling the tasks of the Minister Search Committee.

**What do you most look forward to in 2026?**

- Finalizing the search for a new Minister = less work load for M&P Chair
- Welcoming a new Minister and facilitating a successful and supportive transition process into the position.
- Having a larger M&P committee = lessening each person's liaison role and adding more voices to our discussions and decision making.
- Reviewing the new UCC 2025 M&P guidelines/handbooks to inform our revision of the performance review process we have been using – purpose, components, content, frequency.
- Continuing to liaise closely with staff to provide encouragement and appreciative feedback.
- Working with the Board to develop and introduce safe atmosphere/working alone guidelines and strategies.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report?** - no

Submitted by Donna Kormilo, M&P Committee Chair

## UCiM Outreach Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** February 2026

**Chair:** Jean McIlrath

**Committee/Group Members:** Rita Taylor, Carin Crowe, Bev Hindle, Erin Crawford, Leah Share (September 2025) Erica Rodeck (September 2025)

**Number of meetings this year:** 10 meetings over the year: January 14<sup>th</sup>, February 20<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup>, August 18<sup>th</sup> (planning meeting for October Outreach Service), September 22<sup>nd</sup>, October 20<sup>th</sup>, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Purpose Statement:** The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to promote active participation by the committee and congregation in Social Justice issues. We strove to alleviate injustice, support the vulnerable, support the building of a community, and movement to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

### **Goals/Priorities for the year:**

- To engage the congregation of UCiM in advocacy work for social justice through education, presentations, activities, volunteer opportunities and conversations.
- To provide a Benevolent Fund at UCiM to assist members of the community in need.
- To support the work of 1JustCity and its organizations.
- To conduct Small Change Sundays in support of local organizations including 1Just City
- To continue the work of advocating for Housing and the Homeless in Winnipeg, Human Rights through support of the Peace Train initiative and Climate action.
- To support the planning of Earthsong.
- To support projects at Victor Mager and Victor Wyatt Schools

### **Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?**

- Yes, the Outreach Committee was able to achieve many of its goals over 2025, helped in part by more members joining the committee. This included increasing the congregation's understanding of the Peace Train initiative as Bev Hindle spoke to our congregation and other groups. She attended a Massey Lecture in Ottawa on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, by Alex Neve, the author of Universal: Renewing Human Rights in a Fractured World. We are looking forward to having the Aloud Book Club read this book in the future.

**Major Accomplishments this year:**

- Hosted an Outreach Sunday on October 19<sup>th</sup> with Guest Speaker Cynthia Drebot from the North End Women’s Center, with information sharing after the service.
- Visited the North End Women’s center on April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Outreach hosted a visit to 1Just City this year and supported their Christmas initiative and donated items from the Mitten Tree.
- Supported the Breakfast program at Victor Wyatt School and supported their clothing drive in November.
- Generous donations from the Congregation to the Mitten Tree went to Victor Wyatt and Victor Magor Schools.
- 5 Small Change Sundays were held in 2025 with proceeds going to 1JustCity, Just a Warm Sleep, Teen Stop Jeunesse and the North End Women’s Center.
- Supported a targeted gift card drive for Lavallee School spearheaded by two congregants.
- Hosted Drinks for Fellowship in January 2025.
- Updated the Benevolent Fund Policy, Year at a Glance for Outreach and our Terms of Reference.
- Assisted with planning the Lenten Reflections with Caryn Douglas.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?**

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

The Outreach Committee has been able to keep the congregation informed of some of the Social Justice issues facing the city of Winnipeg, including the needs of Women in poverty through our Outreach Sunday and the participation of Cynthia Drebot from the North End Women’s Center. We assisted in the Lenten Reflections this year to further educate the congregation on issues of faith and Outreach.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?**

The Outreach Committee is beginning to plan for a Lunch and Learn with the Freedom International School in the coming months. We would also like to explore conversations with other faith groups in our community including our Muslim and Hindu neighbors.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

- 5 Small Change Sundays occurred in 2025 with proceeds going to 1Justcity, Just a Warm Sleep, Teen Stop Jeunesse and the North End Women's Center.
- \$1,523.76 was collected from Small Change Sundays in 2025.
- 31 people attended EarthSong in the summer of 2025

## UCiM Pastoral Care Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** 13 February 2026

**Chair:** Ann Ingalls

**Secretary:** Jane Bullied

### **Committee/Group Members:**

Mike Balshaw

Susan Campbell

Diane Dwarka

Edith Alexiuk

Patrisha Bell joined May 2025

Caryn Douglas - left at the end of August 2025

Jeri Bjornson joined September 2025

Lynda Suderman resigned in September 2025

Joan English and Sandra McCormack joined in December 2025.

**Number of meetings this year:** 11

**Purpose Statement:** The mission of the Pastoral Care Committee is to open the fold of God's love through offering compassionate care so people experience support and know that they are remembered by their church and loved by God.

### **Goals/Priorities for the year:**

- With joy and faithfulness, the committee members make monthly contact by phone, visit or mail with congregants who are on our pastoral care list and who would benefit from pastoral care. During the year, the numbers varied between 30 and 37.
- We prepared and served coffee, tea and juice to congregants before and after church in February.

- With the help of other congregants, we delivered Easter plants to the people who are on our pastoral care list. We also included families who had lost a loved one since Christmas 2024 to let them know that we are thinking of them.
- The committee organized an April 12th seminar, “Going Deep to Rise Up: Coping Skills in an Anxious World with 43 in attendance.
- On September 27th four members of our committee attended a Pastoral Care Workshop in Portage la Prairie, organized by Prairie to Pine Regional Council. much of the session was spent on MAID.
- In October we organized a seminar, Living Your Best Life: Spiritually, Physically, Emotionally, with 46 in attendance. These seminars are open to and attended by community members as well as congregants. They have become very popular and participants look forward to future sessions.
- Before Christmas, with the help of others in the congregation, we delivered containers of cookies to those who are on our care list. Personalized Christmas cards were mailed to the twelve families who had lost loved ones since Easter, letting them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

We appreciate and offer many thanks to the following:

- UCiM Memorial Fund Committee for providing funding for the purchase of the Easter plants;
- Congregants who donated cookies at Christmas and food for our two seminars;
- Congregants who assisted in delivering cookies and Easter plants to congregants;
- Lorraine Purdy for buying and organizing yarn and storing completed prayer shawls and baby blankets for our Prayer Shawl Ministry;
- Sandy Katrynuik, Office Administrator, for her assistance with our projects and for her organizational skills.

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments? Yes**

**Major Accomplishments this year:** See above

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?** We have been unable to arrange consistent transportation to Sunday services for those who require it.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

We feel that we develop a spiritual connection with those congregants who we are in contact with on a monthly basis. We also involve the congregation at large in our projects, particularly delivering cookies and plants and furnishing food when requested. We continue to enable residents at the Seine River assisted living facility to view our Sunday services in their theatre. Through seminars, we connect with the community at large.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?**

To continue supporting congregants who are unable to attend church services. Hopefully we will be able to organize a seminar again in the fall of 2026.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

Everything is in the report.

## UCiM Property Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** January 25, 2026

**Chair:** Doug Purdey

**Secretary:** Doug Purdey

**Committee/Group Members:** Doug Purdey, Loraine Purdey, Sandy Katyrnuik, Robert (Bob) Bulow, Larry Gompf, Bob Bjornsson, Derrick Brouillette, Ben Berube.

Additional (Part time) Valued Volunteers: Mike Hurst, Jerry Semchyshyn, Derek Bowman, Joe Makumi, Donna Bulow and Jean Thorpe.

**Number of meetings this year:** We meet every Sunday (in person) with someone (as required). We meet every week with Sandy Katyrnuik, and we practice an effective and extensive email communication network with everyone, throughout all the weeks of 2025.

**Purpose Statement:** We will address ALL the property maintenance and upgrades issues of UCiM, inside and outside the building, learning from the staff or other volunteers of new issues, and ask volunteers to assist or hire professionals to resolve building needs, upgrades, and maintenance, within our Church Property Budget. If expenses are discovered beyond our annual budget, then a formal proposal is presented to the UCiM Board for review, before proceeding.

**Goals/Priorities for the year:** The outdoor lights and indoor Cross lighting project, for efficiency, safety and energy saving. We also looked at finding a new company for our Fire and Safety requirements. We require completely new flooring throughout the church, based on the current condition of the very old flooring. We require a new contractor for snow removal for 2025 / 2026. We maintained our (new) Geothermal HVAC system. We require additional volunteers.

### **Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?**

Absolutely. We are very proud of ALL the work we have accomplished, and with cost savings to the United Church in Meadowood community. We are working with loyal volunteers, and better contractors than we have in the past, and added folks to our team, that have been very helpful.

**Major Accomplishments this year:**

-We have kept the outside of the church building looking beautiful, for all visitors first “positive” impressions, throughout the four seasons, from the summer grass cutting, to fall leaves raked, to the parking lot snow removal. We work closely with the Memorial Group for their gardens, patio and flowers maintenance, too.

-We hired a company to replace all the outdoor lighting, required after 40 years, with brighter, safer, and energy-saving lightbulbs. Then we got a substantial Manitoba Efficiency Rebate to assist our major purchase, thanks to the UCiM Board for their approval to proceed. We improved the lighting in the Sanctuary, for the Cross lighting and for the different choirs.

-We ceased doing business with one company and started a contract with ABC Fire and Safety, with a more professional team, that adds value to UCiM, through their annual inspections and recommendations, such as getting all fire extinguishers up to code.

-We hired an annual professional inspection company for our Geothermal HVAC system, that discovered multiple problems, that were eventually handled under warranty.

-We hired a new snow removal company that has been reliable and cost effective, with an unpredictable Manitoba winter.

-We have worked with loyal volunteers to research completely new flooring for the church and have invested many hours in the options of products, companies, installment issues, all kinds of essential considerations, then made a confident proposal to the UCiM Board in October and December, for the best product, for the best price, from the best company.

Discussions continue into 2026.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?**

-We did not get the desired new flooring for the church in the 2025 calendar year, as the research into new product suggestions took time, and the size of the flooring project requires due diligence, based on the huge investment cost, and understanding there are many necessary steps for this Capital Project, respectfully.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM?**

We have had a wonderful substantial impact, from the first visual outdoor look at our building, to the improved lighting and a clean building inside, that we present to the UCiM congregation and visitors. We ensure that all things are working, clean and organized, and

we are good listeners to the staff and other volunteers to get property issue requests done promptly.

**How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

We believe, if regular attendees to UCiM and visitors, come to a clean, organized and comfortable church, than they are likely to come again, bring a family member or a friend, and listen to our Sunday Services, and join or try any of the many social groups that are available, connected to our United Church in Meadowood. Sometimes people return, after attending a funeral at UCiM, and folks see the building, and feel like they could visit again, for special services, etc.

**What do you look forward to most in the coming year?**

-Definitely, the completely new flooring is essential, as the current carpeting is disgusting and a visual reminder of negligence. The old tile flooring is lifting, creating big spaces of irreplaceable tiles, causing trip and fall possibilities, and requiring a new look for 2026. But it must be at a cost effective and install price, with a dependable company, following our past Capital Project investment in 2024 /2025.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

-Yes, following the support of the UCiM Board for the improved Outdoor Lighting Project and Indoor Cross lighting improvement we managed, we applied for an Efficiency Manitoba Rebate. We have received confirmation that we are to expect a rebate cheque for \$2,162.10 in early 2026.

Respectfully Submitted;

Douglas Purdey

Chair of UCiM Property Group

## UCiM Reconciliation Team Annual Report 2025

**Date:** Covering 2025

**Chair:** Caryn Douglas (Jan-June) Jeff Grose ( July – Dec) report covers Jan - Dec

**Secretary:** Caryn (Jan – Aug) Lara Hunter (Aug-Dec)

### **Committee/Group Members:**

Jeff Grose, Diane Dwarka, Carin Crowe, Joan Hutlett (until March), Marion Hodge (joined in March), Lara Hunter (April-December), Caryn Douglas (until August) Note: Caryn officially retired in August.

**Number of meetings this year:** Eight

**Purpose Statement:** The Reconciliation Team leads UCiM in fulfilling UCiM's commitment as a congregation of The United Church of Canada and as Treaty One people to work toward truth and reconciliation between the Church and Indigenous peoples.

**Goals/Priorities for the year:** Continue to offer opportunities for the congregation to about Reconciliation and participate.....

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?**

### **Major Accomplishments this year:**

- Six sessions: The Good Book Club events featuring the following books written by indigenous authors. Valley of the Birdtail, The Break, Braiding Sweetgrass, Ragged Company, North of Nowhere, and Big Chief. (with leadership from Linda Watson)
- Two Rooster Town events. One March 16 when Harrow United Church presented during the service, and then following the service, we had a lunch & learn session with Darrell and Frank Sais. This was followed up with a Rooster Town walking tour and tea and Bannock/educational session at Harrow United on October 4. In preparation for the walking tour, an educational bulletin board was put up in the Fellowship Hall for the month of September.
- Lead the Truth and Reconciliation Service on September 28. This service was spearheaded by Diane Dwarka with support from the other team members. We also incorporated an orange shirt display in the courtyard.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?**

We achieved our goals for the year.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

Continue to educate and encourage people to engage in the reconciliation process.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?** A continuation of work on the way towards reconciliation.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

1. We had 80 people attend the Rooster Town Lunch & Learn session with Darrell and Frank Sais while 33 people attending the Rooster Town walking tour in October.
2. We successfully completed six sessions as a Good Book Club study which created some awareness and interest in reading books on or about Indigenous peoples.

## Prairie to Pine Regional Council Reps 2025 Annual Report

The United Church in Meadowood's representatives to the Prairie to Pine Regional Council of the United Church of Canada are Hope Mattus and Diane Dwarka.

Hope Mattus is a member of the Lay Ministry/Lay Support Committee.

The Committee on Lay Ministry and Lay Leadership Support is responsible for supporting, licensing, re-licensing and tracking information for Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL), training related to Sacraments Elders, and tracking related to Congregational Designated Ministers (CDM). Work in the form of interviews for initial licensing, and re-licensing, in-service education, and monthly meetings continues throughout the year.

The committee provided one on-line training session through Zoom for Sacrament Elders, and one in-person workshop for LLWLs and CDMs in 2025.

Diane serves as a member of the Structure Committee building the handbook for the region with committees' mandates and job descriptions. She is also on the Reconciliation Team which is a work in progress as it is difficult to set up meetings with folks from Norway House.

Diane also represents the region on the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Planning group.

In 2025 Hope and Diane commenced a three-year term as General Council 45 (GC45) Commissioners. We attended the National meeting in Calgary in August 7-11. We attended Zoom meetings when called, throughout the year.

We both complete other work as called upon to do. Any business information pertinent to Communities of Faith, discussed at these meetings is communicated to UCiM, as necessary.

## **Prairie to Pine Annual Meeting, and United Church of Canada Annual General Meeting**

We were active participants at both annual meetings which were held via zoom.

## **Centennial Year**

The United Church of Canada celebrate 100 years in 2025. The theme for this celebration was "Visions and Dreams, as together, we, the church, turn to the future in faith and with hope.

At intervals throughout the year, Prairie to Pine Regional Council, presented some highlights of our church history in the Regional Newsletters. We were reminded that we must not be bound by the past, but we do well to remember our history and to celebrate those who have brought us to this place.

A centennial service of the United Church of Canada, was celebrated via Zoom on June 8, 2025. UCiM also dedicated its service on that same day to the centennial celebration. Hope participated in leading that worship service.

### **United Church of Canada Moderator**

The Rev. Carmen Lansdowne was afforded copious praise and thanks as she completed her term of office in 2025.

The new Moderator, The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, was elected by the Commissioners of General Council 45 (GC45) at the meeting in Calgary, in August 2025. The Moderator is responsible for giving spiritual leadership to all in The United Church of Canada, presiding at meetings of the General Council and its Executive, visiting throughout the United Church, and serving as the primary spokesperson and representative. We welcome her to this position.

As representatives, we make every effort to keep our community of faith informed of any matters pertaining to our community.

It is our pride and privilege to be the Regional Representatives for the United Church in Meadowood.

Respectfully submitted: Hope Mattus, Diane Dwarka.

## UCiM UCW Annual Report 2025

**Date:** February 2026

**Chair:** Debra Harvey

**Vice Chair:** Empty

**Secretary:** Darlene Karalash

**Treasurer:** Alice Strong-Penner

**Committee/Group Members:** a regular attendance of 15-25 members

**Number of meetings this year: September, November, January, February, March, April, we have a regular meeting on the third Monday of the month at 2pm. For May we arrange a wind-up supper meeting.**

**UCW Purpose :** To unite woman of the community of Faith for the total mission of the church and to provide a means through which we may express our loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service.

UCW's mission is to love God; foster Christian commitment, faithfulness and spirituality; and promote respect and love for all of God's creation.

### **Goals/Priorities for the year:**

- to acknowledge the changing age demographics of regular attending UCW members
- we have reported to the Board that we no longer take responsibility for all kitchen cleaning duties. (See attached letter from Dec. 2025). We are hoping for communication with all committee chairs to discuss this and perhaps other changing church issues in this busy building.
- to find a vice-chair so that the structure of UCW can continue

### **Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments?**

I would say our purpose statement reflects our work as we cater funerals, run fundraisers, the craft show and art show, and help with other church fundraising and events. i.e. Santa's breakfast, Shrove Tuesday, retreats

**Major Accomplishments this year:**

-This year's donations to the camp bursary, magic book program, teen stop Jeunese, 1 just City, UCiM Mission and Service, Centre for Christian Studies, Fred Douglas Foundation, Conference of UCW, St. Andrew's College, Sandy Salteau, Alpha House, Bear Clan Patrol, Christmas Cheer Board, North End Women's Centre

-purchased a new freezer

-send out cards from the church under our Friendship committee

-welcomed guest speakers, Christine Melnick from the magic book program and Dr. Jennifer Hedges and Larissa Kanhai on the topic of "the Ministry of Feminism".

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?**

I would say the goal of keeping UCW viable is a concern that all committees are probably facing. Filling the service structure (for us the vice chair) is harder for all as people's lives change.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

Many of our members serve on other committees and are a working force behind the scenes. We do this because we attend and then are aware of the needs.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?**

The friendship we are so privileged to have in our UCW. We are a support for one another and I look forward to strengthening this within the monthly meetings.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

No

## UCiM Worship Committee Annual Report 2025

**Date:** January 24, 2026

**Chair:** Richard Ball

**Secretary:** Gail Graham

### **Committee/Group Members:**

Richard Ball, Gail Graham, Margot MacInnes, Hope Mattus, Marcia Passmore, Caryn Douglas (ex officio) to August 31, 2025, Jeri Bjornson (October to December)

**Number of meetings this year: 12**

### **Purpose Statement:**

- To provide support and counsel to those responsible for planning and leading worship.
- To provide meaningful and engaging worship maintaining an awareness of in-person and on-line congregations.
- To provide advice to the governing body regarding worship related issues and policies.

### **Goals/Priorities for the year:**

- Approval and implementation of the Choral Scholar program including the selection of a candidate in the fall.
- Achieving improved sound quality on our on-line services and balanced choir microphone coverage for in person services.
- A successful conversion to the Then Let Us Sing digital hymnal resource.
- Continued growth in attendance both in-person and on-line.
- We are planning to invite the four other churches to participate in a combined Good Friday Service again this year. We are expecting the attendance to be at least as many as last year.

**Does the purpose statement reflect your work, goals and accomplishments? Yes**

### **Major Accomplishments in 2025:**

- Perhaps the most significant achievement was the planning and coordination of the worship services for September 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of December. This required a great deal of work by members of the Worship Committee and indeed many people from

the entire congregation. We were humbled and grateful for the positive responses from so many individuals and groups who willingly stepped forward to lead inspiring and moving worship experiences for our congregation.

- Improved the AV Booth operation by upgrading much of the Equipment including the installation of new high quality cameras to replace the tripod mounted iPads, a new soundboard and related computer equipment and installing the choir microphones significantly improving the in sanctuary sound and the audio and visual worship experience for those participation in worship on-line.
- Awarded our Choral Scholarship to Meagan Batacan, who has been welcomed into our choir and is presently assisting and learning from our Choir Director.
- Growth in Choir participation and membership.
- Strong attendance numbers in both in sanctuary and on-line worship participants.
- We have added the service of Communion to our service offerings for the Care Homes we support.

**Were there Goals/Priorities that you were unable to achieve, and if so, what prevented you?**

- We have not been able to proceed with the adoption of the Then Let Us Sing digital hymnal resource due to the delays in its availability from United Church of Canada.

**What impact did the work of your Committee/Group have on UCiM? How was the ministry of UCiM strengthened/enhanced/developed/supported by your work?**

- We continue to have well attended worship services, with enthusiastic participation by congregants each week. Ours is a very warm and welcoming congregation and newcomers can feel that and are comfortable attending and staying.
- Our on-line services appear to be bringing in more people at in-person services as well. We have learned that several of the new people checked us out before making the decision to attend.
- The Care Home worship services provided each month at three local Care Homes by Margot MacInnes and Marcia Passmore continue to be well received and appreciated.
- For many, worship is the essential core of a strong healthy, vibrant congregation. Our work, along with that of staff and many volunteers, has enhanced and strengthened the life of The United Church in Meadowood through the provision of regular Sunday worship both in person and on-line, seasonal special services and on-line reflection opportunities. The criteria we have used, in planning worship, have reflected the congregation's commitment to inclusion and diversity. We have nurtured an attitude of sharing and reaching beyond our walls, in support of outreach projects and in collaboration with other congregations.

**What do you most look forward to the coming year?**

- Welcoming a new Minister
- A successful conversion to the Then Let Us Sing digital hymnal resource.
- Continued growth in attendance both in-person and on-line.

**Do you have statistical data you would like to report, especially those which would be interesting for inclusion in the annual report?**

I do not. As a Worship Committee, we should be looking at attendance numbers, both on line and in person. I believe we collect this data for in person services and the views for on line worship are also available each week. I have always assumed that someone, perhaps Finance collects that data. If so, I would appreciate receiving a copy of that information as well.

Reports from the following committees were not submitted: Communications, Men's Group, Stewardship

**APPENDIX A: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025**

**APPENDIX B: GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2026**