



**FIRST**  
BAPTIST CHURCH



# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;

He descended into hell;

on the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;

from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

## MODERATOR

### CHRIS BYSTROM

Dear Church Family,

It has been another eventful year at First Baptist Church Vancouver. After years of searching, our Senior Minister Search Committee led by Edna Grenz was able to conclude its good work. With much prayer and consideration, the Church Leadership Team brought forward the recommendation to the members to call Anthony Brown as our Senior Minister. With a vote in favour from the members and Anthony's confirmation that he heard the call, we happily welcomed Anthony Brown as our new Senior Minister. We have greatly appreciated Anthony's teaching and are looking forward to fruitful years ahead. At the same time, we had to say farewell to our dear Andrea Tisher who led us in worship for so many years. Andrea was loved and appreciated, and we know she will be a blessing to her new community in Kamloops, B.C.

The Heart for the City Project has continued to move forward. We owe deep thanks to our Operating Committee<sup>1</sup> for continuing to manage our relationship with Westbank and diligently represent our interests. The Operating Committee continues to deal with many technical issues and also provide key advice on many aspects of our planning and preparation related to the project. Deep thanks also go to the members of the Project Oversight Committee<sup>2</sup> which has moved forward with the other needed tasks related to the project. We have appreciated Broek Bosma's announcements on Sundays, keeping us all informed of the progress on the project and the impacts it has on the Church. After analysis of our financial needs, the Project Oversight Committee brought forward a recommendation to start a fundraising campaign to pay for our furniture, fixtures and equipment for the new building. The Church Leadership Team and the members approved the recommendation, and the fundraising began in fall of this year. We thank Ben and Almira Chow for leading the campaign cabinet. We look forward to experiencing God's grace and provision once again.

Other project-related activities have moved forward as well. The Church Leadership Team approved a motion to transfer the new rental building to the First Baptist Foundation after the project is complete. This will require a special resolution of the members in due course. The Church Leadership Team is also considering the scope of other new ministries, such as a day care and counselling centre, and how we will operate them when the project is complete. We are also pursuing a line of credit to pay for GST over the life of the project, and are planning for our move out when our building is being seismically upgraded and renovated.

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<sup>1</sup> Steve Milos, Fred Liebeck, and Marten Van Huizan.

<sup>2</sup> Broek Bosma, Katie Findlay, James Goulden, Timothy Ng, Kara Douglas, Andrew MacRitchie, Todd Hutzulak, Justin Kim, Teck-Ngee Ch'ng, Angeline Teay, Soniya Matthews, and Marten Van Huizan,

The Church Leadership has continued to work in other areas, such as overseeing the roll out of the new Ministry Area Team structure, updating the mandate of the Membership Committee, and creating a Human Resources manual. As always, our Nominating Committee has been busy, discerning and praying as it decides on recommendations for new lay leaders. I am thankful for all the members of the Church Leadership Team and our committee members for their dedication to their tasks and the joyful way in which we are able to work together for His glory.

I wish to express gratitude to our pastoral team and church staff for their love and devotion to serving our Lord at First Baptist Church. Their work is essential to the daily operation and ministries of the Church. Each of our pastoral team and staff are a blessing to this community and we are continually grateful for your good work.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge all the members and congregants who devote their time and resources to First Baptist Church. There are a great many who volunteer in many different ways, each of which is needed, important and a gift to us all. This community is blessed with so many who are selfless with their time and money and truly enjoy giving it freely, just as our Lord has given freely to us. It has been a pleasure and gift of being Moderator to understand the depth of this giving more closely. The selfless spirit of giving confirms once again that we are part of God's in-breaking Kingdom and salvation story. It has been my humble pleasure to serve you all as Moderator these past two years.

Peace and Grace to you all,

Chris Bystrom

## ROLL REPORT ON DECEMBER 31, 2019\*

Membership of the church on all rolls on December 31, 2018 was:

Active	583
Not Active	388
Non-Resident	207
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP ON DECEMBER 31, 2018	1178

### MEMBERS RECEIVED IN 2019

Baptism	10
Letter of Transfer	0
Christian Experience	15
TOTAL RECEIVED IN 2019	25

### MEMBERS DISMISSED IN 2019

Letter of Transfer	4
Own Request	41
Death	11
TOTAL DISMISSED IN 2019	56

### MEMBERSHIP BY CLASSIFICATION

Active	545
Not Active	394
Non-Resident	201
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP ON ALL ROLLS ON DECEMBER 31, 2019	1140

#### \*ROLL REVISION:

From time to time, roll revision is carried out when the Active Membership list is no longer accurate because members have moved away, ceased to attend regularly, or still require updating to new membership status. With input from church leadership and office follow-up, the records are updated accordingly. We have had a few children baptized who have not been accounted for in the roll records as they do not become members until they are 16 years of age. Records for a few members who passed away prior to 2019 were only updated in 2019. This accounts for some of the discrepancies you may discover between the membership numbers from 2018 and the numbers from 2019. Please factor in these changes when looking at the above numbers.

## IN MEMORIAM

A tribute to those members and friends of our church family who were called to their heavenly home in 2019:

Hayfield, Sylvia	Jan 22/19
Findlay, Lorne	Feb 25/19
Tegenfeldt, John	Feb 25/19
Masala, Charles	Jun 29/19
Couper, Christine	Jul 8/19
Patey, Maureen	Sep 18/19
Sheppard, Amethyst	Nov 4/19
Pudney, Don	Nov 15/19
Simeon, Roy	Nov 30/19
Standerwick, Warren	Dec 5/19
Horan J., Desmond (Des)	Dec 9/19
Feltham, Jerry	Dec 21/19
Graves, Larry	Dec 25/19



## **SENIOR MINISTER**

### **ANTHONY BROWN**

It is conventional for a minister in their first annual report to focus on how warmly they have been welcomed into the life of the church. That has certainly been Helen and my experience and we are very grateful to the many members of the congregation who have gone out of their way to extend friendship to both of us. However, more helpful to the congregation (who already know how friendly they are!) is to use this report to offer some prayerful and considered reflections on the state of the church, now that I have a growing familiarity with it whilst still retain some of the objectivity of an outside perspective.

I hope that these observations will be fuel for your prayers and I welcome questions and conversation about any of the remarks below.

#### **FBC's congregation has many significant strengths**

The great majority of FBC's congregation are sincerely committed disciples of Jesus, willing to say 'yes' to the Lord whenever He calls upon them to step out in faith, epitomized in the boldness of the Heart for the City project. The congregation, if not expectant, are certainly open to the work of the Holy Spirit among them and His invitation to join Him in His mission in the world.

FBC has a distinct and distinctive identity, not only in the city, but also among the churches throughout British Columbia. One aspect of this identity is its long history of commitment to expository biblical preaching. Another is the church's devotion to a wide range of worship music. A third, despite the size of the church, is the quality of people's care for one another and the many decades-long friendships within the congregation. And a fourth distinctive feature is FBC's long track record of commitment to ministry among the ever-increasing numbers of homeless and urban poor in Vancouver.

In recent decades, as the city has begun to overflow with new immigrants, refugees, international visitors, and overseas students, FBC has responded with enthusiasm, openness and warmth, so that today the congregation is dramatically ethnically diverse, with all of the positive witness to the gospel which this implies. FBC also has friendly and increasingly cooperative relationships with the other evangelical churches in downtown Vancouver and is presently working towards greater collaboration with them, particularly in mission.

### **FBC's congregation has dramatically declined numerically**

However, an honest appraisal of the current condition of First Baptist Church must include the recognition that the church has lost 40-50% of its congregation in the past 5 years. There are certain exceptional mitigating factors behind this and congregation numbers appear to have levelled off in the second half of 2019. Nevertheless, if the next 5 years were to follow the same pattern, by the end of 2024 the church would have a congregation of less than 300 people and at that point would most likely be unable to cover its basic running expenses, let alone double its ministry capacity to expand into the new building.

### **FBC's congregation is aging**

Declining congregational attendance has impacted younger age groups disproportionately. The core members who have remained are predominantly seniors, middle-aged singles, and families with children in their teens or above. Young families and younger adults with the energy, time and connections to reach out to their contemporaries are relatively few in number.

In addition, the continued aging of the congregation is steadily reducing the pool of those fit and able to give leadership to the ministries of the church, while simultaneously increasing the pastoral needs within the church. If the size of the need within the church remains above the congregation's capacity for service, the church will find itself entirely absorbed in caring for its own members as it inexorably dies out.

Unless the church takes steps now to renew its mission and ministry, in around 10 years, there will be little hope of reversing what will have become FBC's decline, as the costs of renewal will be too high for the congregation to contemplate, though the church will likely continue on because of the money which can be generated by retreating into the heritage building and renting out all of the space in the new building. Nevertheless, if this pattern were to continue, in 20 years it will be unlikely that a viable witness will remain.

### **FBC's congregation is engaging in coordinated mission only in limited ways**

The majority of the church's activities are focused on the existing members. While this is true of most churches, growing churches balance this with extensive coordinated evangelistic activity, and active support and resourcing for members as they share their faith in their workplaces, schools, families, and neighbourhoods. FBC's shared mission activities presently rest on the shoulders of relatively small number of people, including Bob Swann and Barbara Forster, for whom we are immensely grateful to God. However, the church has so far failed to develop substantial plans for the future of our outreach ministries.

## **FBC's congregation is under spiritual threat**

It is a potentially fatal error to underestimate the demonic powers at work in the city and the particular spiritual battle currently taking place over FBC itself. The challenges facing FBC at the present time, as outlined above, along with the significant risks the church is taking on account of the building project, even though these were entered into in faith, make the church especially vulnerable at this time. The enemy is aware of this and has influence over powers of different sorts which presently have much greater sway over the church than would normally be the case. Consequently, the next four years in particular are ones in which the forces of evil will take the opportunity to do all that they can to try to remove FBC and its witness from the city. It is urgent that the congregation engage in prayer over this spiritual battle and remain watchful for the ways in which the enemy is seeking to undermine the church.

## **Praying for God's Heart for the City**

Having honestly acknowledged these challenges, we must not forget that "the One who is in us is greater than the one who is in the world." This coming year, which we are designating as a year of prayer for the church's future, will be a fresh opportunity for us to look to Jesus and see all that He is calling us into as a church over the coming decade. Please accept my warm invitation to the prayer gatherings we will be scheduling throughout the coming year under the title *2020 Vision: Praying for God's Heart for the City*.

Grace and peace,  
Anthony Brown

## EXECUTIVE MINISTER

### JUSTIN KIM

This past year, many of you stepped up to fill the gaps. You prayed. You fasted. You served. We tasted God's goodness and witnessed God's faithfulness together.

Many years down the road, we will mark 2019 as a significant **turning point** for us as a church.

After a season of fruitful ministry, we blessed and commissioned Andrea Tisher, our beloved Minister of Worship, to serve as the Lead Pastor of Southwest Community Church in Kamloops.

After a season of prayerful waiting (4 years and 8 months), we discerned and affirmed that God called John Tsang to serve as our Minister of Congregational Care.

After a season of prayerful waiting (2 years and 8 months), we discerned and affirmed that God called Anthony Brown to serve as our Senior Minister.

Praise be to God!

Looking ahead, I am deeply aware of the numerous challenges on the horizon. I am deeply aware of **what** is ahead of us. However, one of the gifts of our annual reports is the opportunity to pause, reflect, and give thanks. We are reminded of **who** is leading us.

I thank the Lord for the **Pastoral Team**. It was a gift to grow together and lead together. Our growth together involved praying, reading, feasting, local retreats (at Creekside, A Rocha, Promise Vancouver, etc.), weekly sermon reviews, and so forth. Our collaborative leadership involved team preaching, team planning (integrating our ministries), and team care during John's bypass recovery. We worked together to expand entry points (Alpha, Starting Point, Membership/Baptism Pathway), develop a discipleship pathway, finetune our approach to Connection Groups, launch new care training opportunities, increase the ministry participation of the laity, and plan for what is ahead, especially in the light of the HFTC Project.

I thank the Lord for the **Support Team**. They were instrumental in supporting the Pastoral Team. In the background, they worked diligently to complete mission-critical tasks. From the improvement of our communication channels (website, First News, weekly Sunday prints, etc.) to the maintenance of our aging facility, they attended to the details that are often taken for granted. As you are well aware, we experienced two major waves of displacement so far—the first one was the loss of the Hobbit House and Youth House, and the second one was the loss of the parking lot. The Support Team worked tirelessly to address the logistical challenges posed by these waves of displacement.

I thank the Lord for the **Church Leadership Team, Ministry Area Teams**, and the various **committees**. As I facilitated and participated in different leadership and committee meetings, I was reminded over and over again that ministry is not reserved for the clergy. It is what we, both clergy and laity, are called to do. As you read the reports of our Church Officers and various chairs, you will note what drove them to prayer, what kept them up at night, and what burned in their hearts as they served. I want to thank all of you who faithfully served in the Membership Committee, Nominating Committee, Operating Committee, Project Oversight Committee, Finance Committee, Budget Committee, Human Resources Committee, Senior Minister Search Committee, Minister of Congregational Care Search Committee, VCCCS Committee, and Ministry Area Teams (New Generations, Care & Prayer, Discipleship & Community, and Mission & Justice). Whether it be updating the membership register to encourage a greater sense of community or brainstorming ways to foster a more biblical based understanding of giving and stewardship, I am grateful for the ways that each of you sought to surrender more of yourselves to Jesus and to serve this church family.

It is also worth noting that we are continuing to develop and deepen our partnership with several **local churches** and **organizations** (e.g., Keats Camp, Kinbrace, Promise Vancouver, CBWC churches, Coastal, etc.). I thank the Lord for them as they have encouraged us to follow Jesus in new and fresh ways. As we have been, let us continue to pray for them and to support them. We are all part of the in-breaking of God's Kingdom.

2019 was full. It was daunting at times. It was disorientating at times. However, one thing was clear. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, led us. He loved us. He carried us.

And so, to Him who is able to keep us from stumbling and to present us before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (Jude 24-25).

In Christ,  
Justin Kim

## TREASURER

### LAINE BOSMA

#### Malachi 3:10

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

My first year as treasurer is being very interesting and I have learned a lot. I want to thank Steve Milos, Justin Kim, Teck-Ngee Ch'ng, Mary Cramond, and Soniya Mathew for all of the support and guidance along the way.

Our budgeted goal for giving to the Operating Fund in 2019 was \$1,714,000. The actual giving total is \$1,712,922, missing our goal by a fraction (\$1,078) of a percent. PRAISE the LORD! Total giving in 2019 including all designated giving except for special offerings, bequests, and the HFTC Campaign was \$1,779,828 up \$89,608, or 5.3% compared to 2018. These amounts include transfers from First Baptist Foundation (FBF) in both 2018 and 2019. Our Easter (\$7,630 to Kinbrace and Keats Camp), Thanksgiving (\$8,050 to repair the boiler) and Christmas (\$30,965 to Liberia mission) special offerings, totaled \$46,645; up \$18,162, or 64% compared to 2018. Finally, our bequest fund received \$109,273 in 2019.

Total Operating revenue of \$1,816,611 is up \$63,853, or 3.6% compared to 2018. Operating Expenses totaled \$1,744,406 in 2019, down \$65,680 or 3.6%, compared to 2018. This resulted in a surplus of \$72,205 for 2019. This surplus includes a budgeted \$75,000 transfer from the FBF. Without this transfer our 2019 finances would be roughly balanced.

Our 2019 year-end cash balance of \$714,479 is up \$107,504 from the year-end 2018 balance. Ideally, we should maintain a cash balance equal to 3 months of our budgeted expenses. Given that the cash balance is expected to decline throughout the year before rebounding in December, our average month-end cash balance is a better estimate of our resources. For 2019, our average month-end cash balance was \$538,976, which equated to 3.5 months of budgeted expenses. This is increased from a 2.4 month average in 2018. This increase is mostly related to various HFTC project fund transfers that occurred at the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019.

The balance of our designated funds at the end of 2019 is collated below:

- Benevolence Fund: \$7,501
- Bequest Fund: \$293,244 - unchanged from end of 2018
- Liberia Fund: \$53,740 - increased from \$37,979 at end of 2018 (\$15,761) including the 2019 Christmas offering
- Mission & Justice Fund: \$35,000 - unchanged from end of 2018
- Minister's Housing Fund: \$245,735 - decreased from \$271,440 at the end of 2018 (\$25,705)
- Building Project Fund: \$1,208,064 - decreased from \$1,254,235 at the end of 2018 (\$46,171)
- Pastoral Staff Wellness Fund: \$8,666 - decreased from an initial balance of \$10,000 (\$1,334)
- Others: ~\$9,342

I am overcome by amazement and love to see how the Lord provides. This is His Church; this is the fruit of His labour. I would like to challenge all of us for 2020, as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, to give generously on a sustained basis throughout this year to support His church. All glory be to God as we take these gifts that we have been given to forward the Kingdom of Christ, in the Heart of the City.

Laine Bosma

## PRAYER AND CARE MAT

### CAROLYN WATTS

2019 has been a year of new beginnings for the Prayer and Care Ministry Area Team: new name and revised mandate, new Congregational Care pastor, all new MAT members, and the foundations of new ministries directed towards helping us as a church deepen in our prayer and in our caring for each other. In all of this newness, we have seen the sovereign kindness and creativity of our God.

At the start of the year, the former Congregational Care and Spiritual Formation MAT became the Prayer and Care MAT as a number of ministries were moved to the newly formed Discipleship and Community MAT. This narrowing of our mandate has allowed us to focus more intentionally on developing and supporting initiatives in the areas of prayer and care.

For the first two months of 2019, Pastor Justin Kim oversaw the Prayer and Care ministry. During those initial months of 2019, Pastor John Tsang, who had been hired at the end of 2018 for the role of Minister of Congregational Care, completed his year of Clinical Pastoral Education. As planned, Pastor John began his work with us on March 1, and even in his first weeks with us the congregation began to appreciate his warm presence and caring. Unexpectedly, he then needed to undergo cardiac surgery, and had a quadruple bypass on April 26. We join with John and Karmie in thankfulness for timely surgery and good recovery. Following several months off work, John returned to work among us with gradually increasing hours over the summer so that by September, he was again working full time, and in October, he led the team of FBC cyclists in the Ride for Refuge.

It has been a delight to watch John settle into his role. After searching for someone to coordinate a program to train and equip us to better care for each other, John has quickly and skillfully worked to put that into place. Tapping into his years of ministry experience as well as his recent clinical pastoral education, he has designed and begun to implement, a three-level program to train congregants to walk with others through difficult times of increasing complexity. Three groups have completed the first level of training, Care Friends, and we have received feedback that the training has been rich and helpful in enabling them to better communicate with and care for others in their daily lives as well as in a specific ministry setting. John has met with each of the twenty-five graduates, nineteen of whom have expressed interest in participating in the Caring Ministries of our church in various degrees and capabilities.

Dates have been set for four more groups of Care Friends training in 2020, as well as two groups of Care Minister I training, one group of Care Minister II, and three Care Ministry Intensives on topics ranging from mental health to palliative care to caring for seniors. Ongoing support and training will also be provided on a regular basis for those involved in the caring ministry.



A big thank you to each of you who has already participated in this training and is beginning to serve in a more formal caring role, as well as to each of you who cares quietly for the person next to you in the pew or in your neighbourhood. As a MAT, we are profoundly aware that both prayer and caring are ministries of the entire church, often done in unseen corners, but central to the mandate Jesus gave us to love one another as he has loved us. We are grateful for you and for your quiet persistence in caring and in prayer!

We as a MAT are also deeply grateful for the capable volunteers who continue to head up the Maturing Adult Ministries (First Seniors Lunch and Alzheimer Café). These ministries provide very important fellowship and support for those in this growing demographic.

Because the “prayer” portion of our mandate has been more developed than the “care” portion in recent years, we have focused this year mainly on developing the caring ministries. This is not in any way to neglect the central importance of prayer. Rather, we have been freed to focus on developing the care ministry as a result of all the capable volunteers who faithfully serve as prayer companions after Sunday morning services and who lead and participate in Sunday morning and Wednesday evening prayer groups.

We are grateful for each person who prays regularly for FBC, whether in groups or individually, including those who faithfully pray through the weekly prayer sheet. Thank you! We need each other’s prayers! We also thank Margaret Cunningham who serves as coordinator for the very important Prayer Companions ministry. After every Sunday service, 4-5 of our 31 prayer companions are available to anyone who would like to be accompanied in prayer. In October, we held a lunch for our group of prayer companions with an appreciation and encouragement from Pastor Anthony and a time of skills development with Pastor John.

One of our desires as a MAT is to provide space for us as a church to be still in God’s presence and settle a little more deeply into God’s love. To this end, plans are underway for two half-day prayer retreats in 2020, with the hope of being able to offer full-day retreats in the future. In our busy world, we are aware of the need for silence and stillness to help us better hear God’s voice, and we look forward to hosting these mini-retreats.

It has been a joy and an honour to work with the other fine members of the Prayer and Care MAT: Wendy Bredo, Gord Taylor, John Tsang (PT), and Claudia Wakeman (CLT liason). I have learned from each of them a little more of what it looks like to love well.

In closing, I pray for each of us at FBC, that we may each grasp how deeply we are loved, and that that love would shape every aspect of our lives with God and with each other.

With gratitude and hope,  
Carolyn Watts

## MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE

### JOHN TSANG

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love (*and care for*) one another.  
(John 13:35)

2019 brought with it many memorable firsts for me and my family. After sensing that the Lord was guiding me toward a pastoral ministry in a team setting for a congregation that is multi-cultural and multi-generational, I was delighted to join the Pastoral Team at First Baptist on March 1, 2019.

When I began my role, my objectives during this initial stage were threefold. First, I wanted to get to know the individuals and families who were in need of pastoral care. Secondly, I tried to meet with key people who have been involved with FBC's Caring ministry in the past and I wanted to listen to their stories. I quickly realized that I stand on the shoulders of many who have gone before me (Pastors and lay people) who provided excellent pastoral care in various ways. Third, when I was going through the search process, it was impressed upon me that FBC was not looking for a Congregational Care Minister who singlehandedly could tend to the pastoral needs of the congregation (if that was even possible), but the vision was to equip the lay people for the work of the ministry. To that end, I wanted to think and pray about an effective strategy to equip people to spiritually care for others. Those were the three things I focused on, all the while trying to remember names, faces, AND the intricate web of familial relationships here at FBC.

As I was getting settled into my role here, it would appear that God had one more lesson of pastoral care in store for me, namely, what it feels like to be a patient requiring significant medical attention. I needed heart bypass surgery and an opening became available at the end of April. The Lord was gracious in many ways and after surgery, rest, and recovery, I returned to work part-time in July and full-time by September.

Among the many joys this first year, one has definitely been getting to know the Pastoral (and support) Team. Another was my son, Noah's involvement in the Mexico Youth Mission which became a pivotal experience for him to get baptized in October. Still another was leading the Ride for Refuge Team, not only did it help me with my recovery from surgery, we had fun and raised a substantial amount towards the ministry and work of Kinbrace.

By the fall of 2019, I began to introduce the Caring Ministry Training program which consists of three courses that develop understanding, self-awareness, and skills for caring for others. The response was overwhelmingly positive and personally, very rewarding. In 2020, there is a full schedule of Care Ministry Training courses as well as three Intensives - one on understanding Mental Health, another on Caring for Seniors, and a third one on End of Life Care.

In the area of our prayer ministry, presently, we have two groups that meet to pray (one on Wednesday night and the other on Sunday morning), prayer companions after each worship service for those who would like to pray with someone, and a weekly prayer sheet that is circulated to those who would like to pray for members' needs. In 2020, we hope to host two half-day contemplative prayer retreats and find creative ways for us to pray together as a church.

Looking ahead, one area of ministry that we will need to grow is the Maturing Adult Ministry. Presently, we offer First Seniors Lunch and Alzheimer Café. We want to move towards a more comprehensive ministry that addresses the spiritual, vocational/calling, social, and wellness of maturing adults. We are blessed to have Paul Pearce, who has done a tremendous amount of thinking and work in this area, as a resource person here at FBC.

I feel really blessed and encouraged to have a great MAT team of Gord Taylor, Wendy Bredo, and Carolyn Watts. Finally, a huge thank you to those who made me and my family feel at home here at First. In the upcoming year, I invite you to take part in one of our Caring Ministry offerings in 2020 and see where the Lord may lead you in this regard. For as we learn to love and care for one another better, this is how the world will know that we are disciples of Jesus Christ.

John Tsang

## NEW GENERATIONS MAT

### CHRISTINA BOSMA

**Current MAT members:** David Brown, Sarah Kawamura, Christina Bosma (Chair), Edna Grenz (CLT liaison), Daniel Foster Fabiano (Director of Children and Preteens Ministries), Filipe Balieiro (Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries), Joseph Leong (Intern & Summer Coordinator)

**YOUTH**—Filipe Balieiro, Director; Joseph Leong, Intern.

#### Highlights:

- Mexico mission trip was the big highlight for the year, with 16 kids and 5 leaders participating. Other service projects include: Gleaners, A Rocha, Shelter, and visiting seniors.
- Youth continue to meet most Friday nights for fun and community building (average 10 kids), and on Sundays (average 13 kids) for discipleship. Sunday School was maintained throughout the summer. First Sunday of the month, youth attend the worship service or serve in various ways within the church.
- Youth Baptisms: 2, with 2 more scheduled for February. What joy!
- Youth and preteens will lead the 4 pm Christmas Eve service

#### Challenges:

- Friday nights are still challenging
- could use one more female leader
- Heart for the City (HFTC) displacement

#### Prayer:

- For youth to find their true identity as a beloved child of Christ, to feel at home within our church family, and to move from this place into the world showing the love of Christ
- Develop a strong sense of relationships and community within the youth and within our larger church family
- For sincere engagement and visioning for HFTC project

## **PRETEENS–Daniel Foster Fabiano, Director of Children and Preteens Ministries**

### **Highlights:**

- Steadfast volunteers who work with this group
- Moving to a small group model on Sunday mornings has helped with management
- 20+ kids on Sunday mornings and twice-monthly well-attended Friday night events with an average of 14 kids at Friday night events
- Preteens included in the Intergenerational musical events at Advent and Easter

### **Challenges:**

- need another female leader
- HFTC displacement

### **Prayer:**

- praying that these preteens know their true identity as beloved children of God, that they feel safe and loved within our church family, and that they are able to show the love of Christ.
- stressing relationship building between leaders and preteens & amongst the preteens themselves, and within our larger church family
- For sincere engagement and visioning for HFTC project

## **SCHOOL AGED & EARLY CHILDHOOD–Daniel Foster Fabiano, Director of Children and Preteens Ministries; Joseph Leong, Summer Coordinator.**

### **Highlights:**

- Maintaining a robust weekly Sunday school program for both groups. Average attendance/week for EC, SA, & Preteens is 65- 70 children.
- Other events: participating in singing, playing & reading in both Advent, Christmas, and Easter services, cards for Seniors, puppet show
- Joseph Leong was hired as the Summer Coordinator
- Celebrated our 10th year of KICKERS Soccer Camp with 120 participants. Thankful to God for this ministry!
- VBS had 25 campers and 20 volunteers. An excellent experience for everyone involved. Also increased connections with St. Peter's Fireside
- Preteens & Youth camping trip to Golden Ears with 14 participants and 5 volunteers
- Baby Dedications: 4
- Operation Christmas Child: 82 boxes collected and distributed
- First Playgroup started September 2019 and averages 30-35 participants per week
- Introduced a Parent Seminar Series, starting with Anxiety in Youth and Children

**Challenges:**

- Recruiting more Sunday morning volunteers
- Open Table is on hiatus due to lack of interest from families
- Musical leadership
- HFTC displacement

**Prayers:**

- That we could involve the SA/EC kids in planning, dreaming, and praying for our new building
- That families will develop connections with each other and the church that will be sustained during the HFTC move, and that these connections will form a solid foundation for the new phase of FBC life when we move into the new building.
- For strong relationship-building between leaders and children & within our larger church family

**NEW GEN MINISTRY & HFTC:**

- HFTC project is always on our minds. We want to make ways for the children and youth of our church family to engage in what the Lord is doing by dreaming, designing, and participating in the planning for this new space in our city, to see them continue this work in their lifetimes.
- Planning for a transition to a temporary space will require a great effort in all areas of this ministry.
- We also want to look to this project with joy and excitement for what the Lord is doing for Vancouver, and embrace it.
- For developing and deepening a loving cohesion amongst our church family and our church's families. Deepening our love for each other and our community will help us to thrive during our transitioning years, become a solid foundation for our return to the building, and allow us to share God's love with the entire city.

Christina Bosma

## **DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND PRETEENS MINISTRIES**

### **DANIEL FOSTER FABIANO**

This year we focused on the goals of discipleship and community in our preteens' and children's ministry. I am encouraged by the ways we have seen our community grow and discipleship strengthened. I am also challenged by the ways that we need to continue to grow and foster a stronger preteens and children's ministry. In this annual report, I hope to highlight a few programs, express my gratitude and note some areas for prayer as we look forward.

In regards to our Early Childhood (EC) ministry, God has gifted our church family with four new children, and we are looking forward to several new children who will be born in this coming year. We also celebrated four dedications. Please continue to keep these young families and expecting families in your prayers.

This Fall, we started our First Playgroup on Thursday mornings. The purpose of this group was to provide a safe and fun space for parents, caregivers, and nursery age children to connect. The response to this program has been tremendous. We have a regular attendance of 30-35 persons using our EC space. It is great to see so many attendees from our neighbourhood join as well. This space is truly a gift, and I hope that our First Playgroup may continue to bless and witness to our city of Christ's gospel.

Three highlights for our School Age (SA) ministry have been our Summer Camp at First, Kickers Program, and Christmas puppet show. This summer we had 25 campers and 20 volunteers join us for our Miraculous Mission (VBS) camp. Joseph Leong and his amazing team of volunteers, including many of our youth and preteens, did an amazing job of making camp happen! Our partnership with St. Peter's Fireside for VBS was also a wonderful blessing. Second, we celebrated our 10th year of running Kickers camps. We were able to serve approximately 120 children including many who are not regular attendees on Sunday mornings. A special thanks to José Figueroa for directing Kickers and for his encouragement and support. Thirdly, our SA group put on a Christmas puppet show for our EC children. It was great to see our SA children share the good news of Jesus to our EC children. Lastly, I am so thankful for the incredible team of volunteers who faithfully minister and bless our children!

For our preteens, I have been deeply encouraged this year. First, our preteens group shifted to a small group format. This paradigm shift has provided a better structure for us to grow in relationship with one another and to learn together. This new format has also helped us navigate challenging behaviour issues, and I believe that this emphasis on small groups will only continue to strengthen our community. Second, we welcomed two new leaders, Ally Reddekopp and Claire Bosma, to our Preteens group. They are a blessing and have been awesome additions to the team. Third, our preteens and SA made cards for the senior attendees in our church on Valentine's Day. This program was a tremendous encouragement for our card makers and recipients. This summer we went on a preteens & youth camping trip.

Our time away together was an encouraging time of relationship building and fun. A special thanks to Chris Hawkey for helping to make this camping trip possible and fun. I am also immensely grateful to Noelle Wang and Jonathan Lim for all of the time and energy they have invested in our preteens group.

Our preteens and children's ministry continues to anticipate a season of displacement while also continuing to develop our ministry and strengthen our community. Prayer will be critical as we take steps. Please be in prayer for our team of volunteers. Building and strengthening this team is constant work. Second, please be in prayer as to how we may continue to evaluate, strategize and consider our Sunday morning programs and envision how we might improve our children's and preteens ministry particularly as we anticipate displacement and then our new space. Third, partnering with parents is a goal that we have been discussing and will look to pursue this coming year. Please join us in praying for wisdom and opportunities to host seminars and other mediums to help equip parents. Lastly, pray for wisdom for our leadership as we continue to grow and work together.

On a personal note 2019 has been a year of settling in and growth. I am into my third year at First, and I feel like I have a better understanding of our church family and programs. I am so grateful for the support and encouragement that I have received from so many in the congregation. It has been a blessing to serve on the Pastoral team, and I am particularly thankful for Justin Kim. This past summer was quite taxing, so I am continuing to reflect on how to navigate that busy season. As I look forward, I am continuing to pray and reflect on how to better lead this ministry and to explore areas for improvement both personally and as a ministry. Building our team of volunteers will continue to be an important part of leading this ministry. Maintaining a healthy work rhythm particularly in the summer is an area of growth for me.

There are many individuals and families who I would like to thank but the list is too long. I do want to name a few individuals who have helped me tremendously this year: Shufen Ong, Christina Bosma, Julie Thompson, Tracy Powell, Jonathan Lim, Noelle Wang, Steve Milos, Wendy Bredo, Soniya Mathew, Sharon Johnson, Chris Hawkey, James Goulden, Sarah Kawamura, Edna Grenz, Frost Jiwa, Dorothy Yoon, Corina Kuban, and Filipe Balieiro. I am grateful for their leadership roles and the support that they have provided this year. Without them, our preteens and children's ministry would not be the same. Thank you all for your encouragement, dedication, support and for being a blessing to all of us. You are amazing, and I am so grateful!

And last but certainly not least, a special thanks to my wife Jenna who continues to support, listen, encourage and challenge me to serve well every day. Though we continue to pastor at separate churches, her support and partnership have been a gift and blessing.



## 2019 Highlights:

- For EC, SA, and Preteens we are averaging between 65-70 on Sundays this year.
- Intergenerational Participation: Palm Sunday Processional, SA and Preteens cards for Seniors for Valentine's Day, EC+SA singing a music piece in Advent, 3 Interger Choir Sundays,
- Preteens and Youth Camping Trip to Golden Ears was an excellent time of bonding and growing together as a group.
- Dedications: 4 (Antonio Vicente Balieiro, Leonardo Alba Martinez, Daniel Hsueh Bennick, Lucas Doroshkevych)
- SA Christmas Puppet show for our EC group this Advent. Pancake Breakfast.
- Operation Christmas Child: 82 boxes distributed and collected.
- Preteens serving at Gleaners & Heads, Hands, Feet
- First Playgroup has started well and is averaging 30-35 attendees a week.
- Hosted a Parent Seminar this Fall on anxiety in youth and children.
- We welcomed back Shufen Ong to our team this Summer. It is great to have her back! I am thankful for Effie Gomulia's commitment and service to our church family this past year. She was a blessing to our New Generations team and ministry.

Blessings,  
Daniel Foster Fabiano

## **DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES**

### **FILIFE BALIEIRO**

We started 2019 studying the book of Genesis. We went through Genesis during the first six months of the year. Our goal as we studied Genesis was to gain awareness of where our faith comes from and consequently grow in faith. In the second term, we started a new series called wholeness, where we addressed struggles that our youth face in their daily lives. We also started our small group project. Small group is one of the best opportunities to disciple and build relationships with our youth. The goal of a small group is to promote a space where youth can care for one another, pray for one another, wrestle with their identity as they form their identity in Christ.

Besides our regular activities, in March 2019 our youth group had the opportunity to serve God in Ensenada, Mexico. The participation in this mission trip in Mexico allowed the youths and leaders to participate in the mission of God who was first sent into the world through the incarnation of Christ. It allowed them to understand that mission is an attribute of the triune God because of his character – love. It was a great experience for the youth ministry to learn to be faithful to shalom sharing and faith-filled engagement by building a house for the Hernandez Granados family. I believe this mission trip gave the youth a meaningful experience participating in God's mission.

These past few months we seen some fruits from the Mexico mission trip. Anika and Jonas, were baptized during Easter in Seattle. In October we baptized Nadia Schiller and Noah Tsang. And in February 2020 we'll baptize Mia Kyriacou and Ally Reddekopp. We praise the Holy Spirit for the amazing ways that He is moving in the hearts of our youth group.

On Fridays, we have been doing a mix of meeting at their homes and fun activities. This rhythm has been an excellent opportunity to grow together as a group and to love one another at this family/home setting. Besides meeting at houses, we have done several outside events such as archery tag, serve projects, laser tag, etc. So, I believe that our group is already adapted to this new rhythm of sometimes meeting at FBC and sometimes meeting outside, and also this is a good way to prepare ourselves for the displacement that will happen soon.

Finally, in the Summer, our group slows down so that our youth can rest and spend more time with their families. However, we had a few events to help us to keep in touch and have some fun (camping trip, Cultus Lake Waterpark, Playland). Also, it was delightful to see many of our youth volunteering at VBS and Kickers. Lastly, we offered them a space to hang out and connect with among themselves, so we kept meeting on Sundays in the youth room.

## Young Adults

I started pastoring our Young Adults this September, and the idea for this semester was to keep what Daniel was already doing with them last year. That is, keep meeting after the service for lunch and find a someone that could host a regular Bible study with them (preferably downtown). We are still looking for someone who could host and lead a Bible study with our Young Adults.

In Christ,  
Filipe Balieiro

## MISSION AND JUSTICE MAT

### JACK LARSON

It has been a very busy year for the Mission and Justice Ministry. Along with regular activities, missionaries have retired and new missionaries have been appointed. There have been visits from missionaries working abroad. There have been mission trips, special presentations and Soup and Share luncheons. Our team has also had some membership changes. For those interested details are as follows.

The mission trips were to the Cree Nation on the Onion Lake Reservation in Saskatchewan and a return to Kwendin, Liberia.

After not missing a Tuesday night in over 20 years, Shelter continues to be a blessing for the homeless in Vancouver. Shelter provides an evening meal, a safe, clean place to stay overnight and breakfast in the morning. Shelter also participated in the City's Out of the Cold program on extreme weather nights. Our Community Kitchen helped some learn how to plan a meal, cook and through this receive a sense of community.

For the 7th year in a row, FBC again hosted the Homelessness Action Day. Approximately 70 people in need received assistance from several agencies.

FBC was very fortunate to host a number of visiting missionaries, Greg and Julie Slade, Matt and Caitlin Windsor, David and Suzannah Nacho, Bill and Janice Dyk, Elie and Mireille Haddad.

Cathy Peters gave a presentation on the fastest growing crime in Canada, sex-trafficking. She is a former inner-city secondary school teacher, who has been raising awareness about sex-trafficking to all levels of government, police departments and boards, in schools, universities and churches for the past 6 years.

Elie Haddad and his wife Mireille, CBM's team leaders for the Middle East and North Africa, gave a presentation on the growth of Christianity and the plight of refugees in Lebanon.

We are in the process of sponsoring a family of four from Syria, who are currently waiting in a refugee camp in Lebanon. The family has been granted an interview in December by the Canadian High Commission. A positive interview will be their final step on their journey to Canada.

Through Canadian Baptist Ministries eight missionaries were supported.

- Andre Sibomana serving in Rwanda, who replaced the retiring Guthrie family.
- David and Suzannah Nacho and family who are serving in Latin America.
- Bill and Janice Dyck who are serving in Bolivia.

- Joyce Lok who will be replacing retiring Tom and Grace Mei who have been helping train Christian workers for China.

Ten members on faith missions were supported.

- Barbara Forster working with Serving in Mission Canada at FBC.
- Greg and Julie Slade serving in Eastern Canada with Pioneers Canada.
- Kaori Chua serving with Overseas Missionary Fellowship, OMF, in Japan.
- Christina Winrich serving with OMF in Japan.
- John Cuddiford serving with International Student Ministries Canada at UBC.
- Matt and Caitlin Windsor serving Wycliffe Bible Translators with the Cree Initiative.
- José and Luz Figueroa were added this year. They will be telling their story at a Soup and Share in early 2020.

We also provided financial support to the following people and agencies.

- Martin Naistus & his sister Linda from the Cree Nation for mission travel, a women's retreat and a children's camp.
- First Steps who are committed to preventing child malnutrition in North Korea.
- Canadian Baptist Ministries including several items from their Hopeful Gifts for Change catalogue.
- Deborah's Gate, a high security rehabilitative safe house for survivors of sex or labour trafficking.

For all this to be possible we need to thank many dedicated volunteers and staff.

- The Mission and Justice Ministry Area Team, Pastor Bob Swann, Jan Porcino, Spencer Willis, Marjorie Cox, Maureen Jones (CLT Liaison) and Jack Larson (Chair).
- Doug Peat, Shelter Ministry Coordinator
- Mary Cramond, Administration and Financial Services
- The volunteers who worked with the MAT,
- Thomas Nairne, Shelter representative
- Katie Loewen, missionary communications and missionary map updates
- Patsy Pearce, Community Kitchen.
- Richard and Linda de Boer and Nicha Kumkeaw, Shelter Breakfast volunteer coordinators
- Shelter and Shelter Breakfast volunteers

I often think of a Catholic worker's, Soup Kitchen Prayer. "Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our brothers and sisters who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give to them through our hands this day their daily bread and by our understanding love, give peace and joy."

Make us worthy? Please pray that God continues to make First Baptist Church worthy to support Mission and seek Justice in our City and Beyond.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Larson

## MINISTER OF MISSION

### BOB SWANN

The Apostle Paul stated that we are Ambassador's for Christ. This is at the heart of MISSION.

2 Corinthians 5:20 "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

This seems like too big of a responsibility to bear; to be Christ's representative. Therefore, I want to ask, how do we lessen the pressure?

First, we need to remember Christ's own words in Matthew 11:28-29 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Secondly, we need to ask God to do for us that which we cannot do for ourselves. This thought is expressed in Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." We need God's peace to protect our hearts and minds.

Thirdly, we need the love of God to dwell in us. In Romans, Paul states that this is precisely what allows him to rejoice in his sufferings.

Romans 5:3-5 "Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." The love of God has been poured out into Paul's heart through the Holy Spirit.

Fourthly, almost 10 years ago, I heard Professor Dallas Willard, at Regent College, state that the key passage to memorize is 1 Corinthians 13, if we want the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts so that our lives speak of Christ's amazing love and grace to a broken and lost world.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8 "If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."

Mission is God's idea, not ours. I mess up often but I continue to rely on God to work in me and through me. I need Him to transform me. I am so thankful that He hears our prayers. He will use us, even though we are broken people.

I am thankful for the many and varied ways that the Family of FBC takes on mission. I have seen younger volunteers helping at Shelter; FBC has sponsored a younger Rwandan CBM mission leader in East Africa; and FBC has helped a young couple through Wycliffe who has made an amazing transition into Oji-Cree language and culture in N. Ontario. There are many stories that need to be told but there is not room here.

FBC volunteers and lay leaders have done and are doing amazing work. The church construction has not made things easier but we continue to gather and help one another to help people in this city and around the world. I truly want to thank the family of FBC for all of their support in so many endeavours.

Here is our task: Matthew 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

With a thankful heart,  
Bob Swann

## DISCIPLESHIP AND COMMUNITY MAT

### HOLLY RAIL

At the beginning of our year, the Church Leadership Team (CLT) with the recommendation of the Governance Committee realigned many of the Ministry Area Team (MAT) roles and responsibilities. As a result, the area of Discipleship and Community is now comprised of ministries relating to the following places of engagement with our worshipping community at First Baptist Church:

- Worship
- Entry points (Alpha, Internationals/ESL, Starting Point)
- Spiritual formation (Baptism & Membership, Adult Education, Fellowship Breakfast)
- Community building (Regional meet ups, annual picnic)
- Connection Groups

The members of our MAT have included congregational members Mark Anderson, Katie Findlay and Holly Rail. Timothy Ng has been our liaison from the CLT. As a team, we have had the joy of serving in support of the ministries of Rebecca Thornber, Minister of Discipleship and Community; Stuart Campbell, Connection Group Coordinator; and Andrea Tisher, Minister of Worship until her departure in July.

During the past season of ministry, our team has purposed to foster a deeper welcoming, outward-looking, and intergenerational community at First Baptist Church through support and revisioning of existing ministry activities, as well as the introduction of new ministry initiatives. A big part of this purpose has been realized in recent months through the launch of the new Discipleship Pathway. Through the Pathway, it is our hope that we will be able to provide resources to both equip and encourage the church community, wherever they are on their spiritual journey, to progress in a lifelong movement towards Jesus.

#### Highlights from 2019

As I look back on the past year these are some of the places that I have experienced firsthand the welcoming, outward looking and intergenerational community of First Baptist:

- Alpha off-site in spring 2019 - Hosting the weekly gatherings at St James Community Centre in Kitsilano with many volunteers who set up the room, prepared food, hosted table discussions and generally welcomed those who walked through the doors.
- Starting Point - a new initiative to meet and introduce recent attendees to life at FBC. All new people received a tour and a gift bag filled with ways to get connected; and I even got a tour of the baptistry!



- Baptism & Membership classes - many of the faces I saw there had been involved in Alpha, at Starting Point, in the youth outreach to Mexico, or in the Internationals community. And now I see them engaged in all sorts of places, like the choir, the ushering team, and in the kitchen for coffee hour.
- Summer Connection Group - meeting a group of ladies that I would otherwise not have encountered on a Sunday morning and being blessed by our time in study of God's Word and prayer.

There is not room here to provide thanks to all the individuals who give of their time and gifts to make all these ministries happen but their ministry of service does not go unnoticed. As the Apostle Paul wrote: "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." Praise be to God for the fruit of the Gospel that we are witnessing in our community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Holly Rail

## MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP AND COMMUNITY

### REBECCA THORNER

This past year, my first full one at FBC, has been a good one and one filled with new initiatives, teaching opportunities, new friendships, and growth in the area of discipleship.

In Spring 2019 we re-launched Alpha and hosted it at St. James Community Square in Kitsilano. In terms of the team and logistics, it ran very well! Thank you very much to all the people who committed to coming each week to set up, cook food and lead discussions for those in attendance. I really enjoyed getting to know each of the team members. We had eight at the most in attendance on any given week, and a couple of people dropped off mid-way through. Going forward I would like to re-think how we run Alpha to see if there is a way to make it easier for people to invite their friends.

Teaching opportunities this year included the Adult Education classes, which have been re-named to 'Growth Classes.' These included a January series on Prayer which I co-led with Andrea Tisher and Mark Anderson, a Summer series on Manuscript Bible study on the book of James and a fall session on Witness. The most successful class, in terms of numbers, was a panel discussion on Sharing your Faith which drew 45 people. It was both encouraging and inspiring to hear peoples' stories of how they share their faith with friends and colleagues. As this setup worked well, I would like to try to run more panel discussions on different topics in the future.

A new initiative to welcome newcomers called Starting Point was launched this year. It began as a gathering over coffee and eventually became a tour of the church with information on how to get connected, ending with coffee and donuts in Pinder Hall. This tour format has worked well. We had nine people come for the first tour in September and another three in October. The tour set-up creates a venue where it's easy for people to connect with each other. My hope for the new year is to get more volunteers involved in the program.

Baptism and Membership classes came under the Discipleship and Community MAT this year. Soniya Mathew, the Membership Committee and I helped to revise this process. This involved training new interviewers, adapting forms and creating a document to describe the membership process. Thank you especially to the Membership Committee members: Claudia Wakeman, Carol Blyth, Walt Polzen and Bonnie Nipp for your help in revising the forms. It was deeply moving for me to see so many people seeking baptism and others wanting to come into membership at our church. God is doing good things in our midst!

Discipleship has been a significant focus this year, particularly in the development of the Discipleship Pathway. In creating this I worked with an advisory committee made up of Mark Anderson, Haein Choi, Melody Chen and Shingo Kawamura. Thank you very much to this team for all your help and input! Thank you as well to Angeline Teay for developing the graphics for this!



The pathway was launched at the fall business meeting in November, and will continue to be rolled out over the coming year.

Overall this year it has been a joy to get to know church members and to start to feel a sense of 'family' here at FBC. In particular, I have appreciated working with my MAT: Mark Anderson, Holly Rail, Katie Findlay and Stuart Campbell. Thank you for all your work, encouragement, advice and support! Looking forward to this coming year.

Warmly,  
Rebecca Thornber

## CONNECTION GROUPS & INTERNATIONALS COORDINATOR STUART CAMPBELL

This year, as with the previous year, the life of our Connection Groups and Internationals Ministries has focused on an essential question of FBC identity: around our church's priorities of discipleship and community, what does it take for us to live fully into our identity as a community "following Jesus, loving God and others deeply, with a heart for the city and beyond"?

In picturing, planning towards, and praying upon this focus, we have continued to stress a *particular kind* of discipleship and community—*missional* discipleship and *missional* community. This notion of the missional identity of the church is premised upon the fundamental truth that the church does not exist for herself, for her own ministries and life; rather, the church exists for the sake of the world, for the heralding and enacting of God's peace and reconciliation into every corner of society. This truth is grounded in our God's triune reality of missional being: as the Father sends the Son; and as the Father and Son send the Spirit; so, the Father, Son, and Spirit send the church into the world; and this to participate in and extend God's mission of reconciling all things to Himself through Christ.

The Internationals Ministry provides an excellent starting point in this pursuit of missional discipleship and community as the ministry seeks to extend the welcome, hospitality, and love of Christ to those in Vancouver who may be coming to us from far beyond Canada's borders. In our Friday evening gatherings—a place of genuine fellowship based on food, friendship, and fun—we desire to be a space expressing God's warmth for the world, for non-Christian and Christian participants alike. In opening wide the doors of our church to all in the city, we have sought to make these gatherings a space where a variety of content is discussed—including not only Scripture study and testimonies, but also films, books, music, current events, personal stories, etc. Inviting into our church life international friends from across the city, we seek to be a missional community manifesting the sentness of our God.

Highlights of these missional efforts in the past year of Internationals Ministry include:

- Making it easier for Vancouver internationals to find our community by maintaining our Facebook Internationals Page.
- Welcoming guest speakers to keep our ongoing conversation holistic.
- Looking to be out and about in Vancouver, encouraging our community to go beyond our church building as "sent ones", visiting, for instance, the Eastside Culture Crawl.
- Hosting a Thanksgiving turkey dinner attended by more than 50 internationals.

Still, there is room for growth and need for prayer, particularly as we attempt to be more active beyond our church walls—in spaces where internationals already gather in the city—by:

- Discerning missional opportunities to serve the community of Vancouver and demonstrate that our international family is one that seeks to look outwards.
- Partnering with language schools in the downtown area who might benefit from our English expertise and our desire to serve.
- Integrating better the Internationals Ministry with the rest of our FBC congregational life, considering how our congregation might fulfill its identity as “sent ones” to our internationals.
- Looking to build a larger and, ideally, younger group of core volunteers, recognizing that assuming leadership is the fruit of discipleship.

As much as this movement towards missional discipleship and community has influenced the Internationals Ministry this past year, it has even more marked the Connection Groups Ministry. The Connection Groups Ministry seeks to encourage our congregation to fully live into this missional identity by cultivating the deep spiritual roots, the genuine Christian intimacy, and the honest self-examination that permit such missional life to flourish.

In 2019, our Connection-Group slogan remained “Connecting to transform the individual, the church, and the city.” The emphasis with the slogan is the missional *telos* of Connection Groups: ongoing and holistic transformation, and this at all levels of our church life—individual, collective, and beyond! In the past year, this pursuit of transformation has taken shape as Connection Group life has, over time, defined itself more clearly. In discernment and prayer, we have seen the ministries and activities of Connection Group life fall naturally into several significant interconnected hubs: transformational study, rhythmic discipleship, congregational care, and missional participation. In other words, what many of our Connection Groups already do so well, and what we hope all of our Connection Groups will eventually consider, is to understand themselves as hubs anchoring essential aspects of our Christian life: studying the text with the heart and soul, practicing rhythms of spiritual growth, exercising care for the needs within our church, and befriending the neighbourhood outside our church. As these elements of Christian life occur within the hubs of God’s presence that are Connection Groups, *transformation* into the image of Christ, by the power of the Spirit, to the glory of the Father, is the inevitable result.

Along this path towards cultivating transformation by fostering missional discipleship and community, highlights of our Connection Group life include:

- Providing quarterly CG leaders training sessions of fellowship, equipping, vision, and prayer.
- Writing weekly sermon Study Guide resources that have continually directed our CGs towards holistic heart-mind-soul engagement of the text, and neighbourhood missional presence.

- Providing study resources in also a lighter form appropriate for different levels of engagement.
- Using *First News* and Our Stories highlights to inspire wider participation in CG life.
- Regularly gathering as approximately 20 Connection Groups led by more than 30 leaders.
- Welcoming the birth of several new area-based Connection Groups, such as those in West Point Grey, Downtown, and the Sunset areas.
- Encouraging Connection Group leaders to come together to discern over and dream about our shared participation in God's work in our neighbourhoods.

Yet again, there is still room for growth, particularly as we pursue the following aims:

- Developing our FBC pathway of discipleship to facilitate raising up new Connection Group leaders to meet our congregation's need to start new groups in several areas of the city.
- Gathering CG leaders for more regular fellowship, ensuring that our leaders are themselves being adequately discipled as they disciple others.
- Providing additional resources for our CG leaders as they care for their groups.
- Challenging groups to share more equitably the responsibilities of group life.
- Assisting and then challenging our congregation to fully understand the link between Sunday sermon and Connection Group gathering.

What does it take for our church to live fully into our identity as a community following Jesus, loving God and others deeply, with a heart for the city and beyond? Looking back on 2019 and forwards to 2020, the Connection Groups and Internationals Ministries have felt God's direction leading us to answer this vital question in terms of missional discipleship and community—of lifelong movement towards, and genuine fellowship with, the God who sends us out to participate in his mission of reconciliation to a city in desperate need...transforming us all the while.

Stuart Campbell

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

### CLAUDIA WAKEMAN

The FBC/CLT Membership Committee, approved at the AGM in May, 2019, began to address the issues as set out in CLT approved Terms of Reference during the summer.

We determined that there were two key issues to be addressed first: Working with Rebecca, Minister of Discipleship and Community, to review and approve protocols for Baptism and Church Membership and to update the Membership Rolls to more accurately reflect our current congregation.

We had several discussions, reviewed previously used documents, and with Rebecca's help and direction, modified documents to better serve us and established protocols for the baptism and church membership classes, interviews and receiving those who requested either baptism and/or church membership. It is still a work in process, but overall we were pleased to see it used this past Fall when there were several individuals who were baptized and joined the church.

With that process underway, we then began to plan and work towards updating the Membership Rolls. It was decided that a church-wide approach was needed to help us determine who we, as the congregation of First Baptist church, are. A Membership Affirmation Letter was written and sent out to each member. We have had a tremendous response - and in one form or another, have over 500 responses. This has given us a starting point and we are well underway in updating our records.

It is important to note that throughout our deliberations we have continually reminded one another that each of the names on the membership roll represent an important person who has, in one way or another, contributed to our life here at First Baptist Church. We are richer for their presence, today and in the past. We are all part of the God's work for the coming Kingdom and not just a name on a list.

And so, we are grateful to the congregation for supporting our endeavours in regards to the Membership of First Baptist Church. Please continue to pray for us as do our work, that it would be pleasing to the Lord.

In Christ,

Claudia Wakeman (Chair), Carol Blyth, Bonnie Nipp, Walt Polzen, Rebecca Thornber,  
Justin Kim, Anthony Brown, Chris Bystrom

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### SUSAN TING

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following candidates to our congregation as new incoming members or incumbent members serving a consecutive term on the Church Leadership Team or Ministry Area Team (all other CLT/MAT members are continuing in their previously elected terms):

- Claudia Wakeman Moderator, CLT
- James Goulden Vice-Moderator, CLT
- Laine Bosma Treasurer, CLT (Term two, Year four)
- Trung Duong Director at Large, CLT (Term one, Year one)
- Leona Adams Director at Large, CLT (Term one, Year one)
- Susan Ting Director at large, CLT (Term one, Year three)
- Jonathan Lim (New Generation MAT) (Term one, Year one)
- Marjorie Cox (Mission & Justice MAT) (Term one, Year one)

We wish to thank many who took time to have conversations with us to discern God's movement and calling in their journey as Christ's disciples, and which gifts of the Spirit they are to appropriate in service to His Body this season.

There remains one vacancy in the Mission and Justice MAT that the Committee is looking for a member to step forward and serve in. We ask for your prayers and support by bringing forward members to our attention as we continue our discernment process.



### A grateful "Thank you"

The Nominating Committee would also like to acknowledge and express our heart-felt thanks to all the members who have stepped forward to serve faithfully and tirelessly with the gifts they have been richly given in the past season:

- Chris Bystrom (Moderator)
- Timothy Ng (CLT Director at Large)
- Jack Larson (MAT: Mission and Justice)
- Spencer Willis (MAT: Mission and Justice)
- Christina Bosma (MAT: New Generation)

First Baptist has been blessed by your service. Thank you! We pray you have also been blessed and grown as Christ's disciples through practicing your gifts in the Body.

The committee gives thanks to God always for His provision. Our hearts truly leap with joy whenever we see new candidates take a step of faith and obedience, count their costs as Christ's disciples, and are willing to step forward and be considered as a servant willing to be a shepherd for His flock, as together we seek to imitate and learn to be guided by our Great Shepherd.

Respectfully submitted in Christ's service,

Susan Ting (Chair), Edna Grenz, Cathie McGuire, Gloria Salazar, Chris Hawkey, Ben Chow

The following table is an overview of the current CLT and MAT members, and nominated candidates pending approval by the congregation at the Winter Church Meeting.

Slate of candidates serving on CLT and MAT year 2020						
Church Leadership Team (CLT)		2017	2018	2019	2020	Year end total
Claudia Wakeman	Director-at-large Moderator		1	2		
					1	
James Goulden	Director-at-large Vice Moderator			1		
					1	2
Laine Bosma	Director-at-large Treasurer	1	2			
				1	2	4
Eugene Kaulius	Director-at-large	1	2	3	4	4
Alan Dyck	Director-at-large	1	2	3	4	4
Steve Milos	Treasurer	7	8	1	2	10
	Director-at-large					
Maureen Jones	Director-at-large			1	2	2
Leona Adams	Director-at-large				1	1
Susan Ting	Vice Moderator	Interim	1	2		
	Director-at-large				1	3
Trung Duong	Director-at-large				1	1
New Generation Ministry Area Team (MAT)						
David Brown	Deacon			1	2	2
Sarah Kawamura	Deacon			Interim	1	1
Jonathan Lim	Deacon					
Prayer and Care Ministry Area Team (MAT)						
Wendy Bredo	Deacon			1	2	2
Gordon Taylor	Deacon			1	2	2
Carolyn Watts	Deacon			1	2	2

Discipleship and Community Ministry Area Team (MAT)						
Holly Rail	Deacon			1	2	2
Katie Findlay	Deacon		1	2	3	3
Mark Anderson	Deacon			1	2	2
Mission and Justice Ministry Area Team (MAT)						
Jan Porcino	Deacon			1	2	2
Marjorie Cox	Deacon			Adjunct	1	1
Vacant						

## Introduction of new candidates presented by the Nominating Committee

### Church Leadership Team (CLT)

#### **Claudia Wakeman - Moderator**

I have been worshipping at FBC since 1976, when I started work as the only secretary in the office. I worked alongside Roy Bell, Padre Duncan and John McLaverty. I became a member a couple years later. I have since served on a variety of committees, Church Council (as it was known at the time). I have served on several search committees and chaired a couple of them, and been variously involved with church activities over the years.

My husband and I were married at FBC. Our daughters have grown up and served in various ministries in FBC over the years. We appreciate very much the gift FBC has been in our lives and have been incredibly blessed by all the many staff, church members and ministries.

#### **James Goulden - Vice Moderator**

I have been worshipping with the FBC community since 1999. I became a member in 2017. I am married to Anna. We celebrated the birth of our first child, Jacob Goulden, on October 30, 2017.

I have been serving our children at FBC as a Sunday school teacher for approximately 15 years, working mostly with children in grades 3 and 4. Previously I was involved in the FBC family camp, when it ran for 8 or 9 years. I am also involved with FBC's finance and project oversight committees. For the past year, I served on the Children and Family Ministry MAT.

I have worked as a lawyer in Vancouver for the firm of Norton Rose Fulbright (previously known as Bull, Housser & Tupper) for over 25 years. I was on the board of Urban Promise for over 6 years, a charity organization that provided after school care and services for children in under resourced neighbourhoods. I am on the board of directors of Big Brothers; a charity that provides, among other things, mentoring for boys in the Metro Vancouver area. I have also previously coached soccer for both boys and girls.

#### **Laine Bosma - Treasurer**

I am an Anesthesiologist, practicing at St. Paul's Hospital, and am the Director of the University of British Columbia Anesthesiology Training Program. My wife Christina and I, along with our three daughters, Claire, Lucy, and Charlotte, have attended First Baptist Church for the past 14 years. I have served on the CLT since 2016 and chaired multiple search committees as well as most recently, the Governance Committee. As President of a medical corporation, I have extensive experience working with legal and accounting professions to manage and maintain all aspects of an independent medical corporation including compliance with both the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) as well as the College of Physicians and Surgeons (CPSBC). In addition, I am a finance director for the ~35 member St. Paul's Hospital anesthesiology

business group, managing the financial requirements of independent medical corporations, Providence Health Care, as well as the CRA and the CPSBC.

I am amazed at what the Lord has done through FBC, and excited to be a part of what the Lord is going to do through FBC in the future.

#### **Leona Adams - Director at Large**

To be honest, I'm anxious/excited about serving on CLT. It's not that I haven't served on committees since coming to FBC in 2007: I served on the most recent Senior Pastor Search Committee, the Urban and Community Life Ministry Area Team (4 years), and Nominating Committee (2 years). However, I tend to serve in areas where I feel comfortable (as a fill-in member of the prayer team or trying to find a harmony on worship team). Yet I know that my richest experiences at FBC have been when I have given God the opportunity to work through me, by stretching beyond an area of comfort. I would never have had 8 years of wonderful community had I said no to the invitation to co-lead a connection group for 8 years, even though I did not feel equipped/skilled in that area.

When I'm not here, I'm often down the street or across a bridge working as an emergency psychiatrist. Otherwise, you can potentially spot me biking around town, playing on the FBC softball team, taking photographs, or singing in a local gospel choir.

#### **Trung Duong - Director at Large**

I have been a member at FBC since 2003 and have served in the Children's and Families Ministry (now called New Generations) since the early 2000's, helping in both the downstairs Early Childhood area and the upstairs School Aged area. I have also been in a few small groups over the years with fellow FBC members and attendees, and currently assist my wife Fay with occasional catering functions with the FBC community. Professionally, I am currently a Director, General Manager for my company's BC Region working in Distribution.

Something I would love the FBC community to know is that I love my wife, Fay, and two daughters Elia (9) and Avery (6) more than anything, and that the 4 of us love spending time together travelling....and eating!

#### **Alan Dyck - Director at Large**

My wife Mary-Ann and I moved to Vancouver in 2006 and attended Pacific Church until it closed in 2012. Since then we have attended FBC enjoying the worship, preaching and the Connection Groups. We have been part of a CG since 2015. My ministry involvement at FBC has focused on several prayer ministries: Soaking Prayer, occasional healing prayer events and regular Sunday morning prayer teams.

I am currently serving on the CLT and this has fit in with my previous church experience: in all three previous churches that I have been part of in my adult life I have been part of the leadership team. I also have experience on the pastoral side of ministry, having received my Master's in Religious Education and served as a full-time lead pastor for 5 years. I also was fortunate to be a lay preacher and interim pastor for many years. Before and after my pastoral years I have worked in construction and renovation services.

On the personal side, Mary-Ann and I enjoy planning and taking vacations, even while we are still both employed full time. We feel that vacations are an essential ingredient for a balanced healthy lifestyle. If you don't see us at FBC on a Sunday morning, we are likely enjoying one of our vacations away from home. And we always enjoy coming back to beautiful Vancouver on our return.

#### **Edna Grenz - Director at Large**

I was born and raised in a wonderful Christian and musical home in Vancouver. After high school I attended Bible college in Edmonton before spending a year on an evangelistic touring team where I met Stan Grenz, to whom I was married until his sudden death in 2005. After living away from Vancouver (Denver, CO; Munich, Germany; Winnipeg, MB and Sioux Falls, SD), I was happy to return to my home city with Stan and our two children, Joel and Corina. I became part time Minister of Music at FBC in 1990. That role changed and evolved over the years and I ended my ministry as full time Minister of Worship when I retired in 2010. I loved planning the worship services, directing the FBC Choir and 'pastoring' my people.

After sitting in the background for several years after retirement, I now have served in some other roles, such as the Senior Minister Search committee, CLT and singing on the Sunday morning team occasionally. I am grateful for the FBC family and look forward to seeing God's continued faithful work among us and through us.

I have been married to Harry Hiller for 13 years and we are privileged to travel as well as to enjoy our families that include our almost 11 grandchildren.

#### **Maureen Jones - Director at Large**

I have been attending First Baptist Church for over 11 years and have been involved with the choir since the beginning of that first year. I have served on the previous MAT for Worship and Public Celebration for 4 years, have been a connection group member for 3, and have helped with Sanctuary Decoration for 4 years.

I have been actively involved in Keats Camps as a summer director and board member, as well as been the Director of Development for Barnabas for another 4 years. I have participated in board work for other churches and my children's schools when we lived in Toronto and am an avid Toronto Maple Leaf's fan. I am graduate of the Baptist Leadership Training School and

have a Recreation Diploma from Langara Community College. We moved here 12 years ago this coming June. However, I grew up in Richmond and attended Broadmoor Baptist as a young person.

#### **Steve Milos - Director at Large**

I have attended FBC my entire life. I became a member in 2008 and have been serving in the Children and Family ministry for approximately 13 years, working mostly with children in the early childhood area. Previously I was involved in the FBC family camp. I served on the Children and Family MAT for four years, including chairing the MAT, and prior to that served on the Children & Family commission. I have also chaired the FBC finance, governance, and human resources committees, and currently chair the HR committee. I have also served as the CLT liaison to the Resource & Planning MAT, and the First Baptist Foundation. I have also shamelessly borrowed liberally from James Goulden's template to compose this bio. I have served on the Church Leadership Team since 2012, seven years of which I had the distinct honour and pleasure of serving as your Treasurer. Lastly, I am now also serving in a paid role on the Operating Committee for the Heart For the City project, as one of FBC's representatives. In addition, I have volunteered as a baseball coach and can usually be found wandering around FBC with a list of people to speak to about various items.

"Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." - Mark 10:15

#### **Eugene Kaulius - Director at Large**

I have been worshipping at FBC for over six years. I have enjoyed participating by serving coffee, ushering, and hosting a Connection Group with my wife, Mary-Lynn. I also serve on the First Baptist Foundation Board.

Vocationally, I have worked as president of a merchant capital group that partnered in residential, condo and master planned communities, and that owned hotels across the United States.

I was brought up in a Christian home and baptized at Willingdon Church as an adult. I enjoy and appreciate any opportunities to serve, in any capacity. My wife and I particularly enjoy sharing our home, with a Christian purpose, through the year, and especially for occasions like Thanksgiving.

### **Susan Ting - Director at Large**

I come from a large, Malaysian Chinese family. My mother was raised in a Christian family, born out of the fruit of missionary James Hudson Taylor's ministry in China. My earliest memories were of me trotting off behind her to church services every week, and peeking through the crack in her bedroom door to see her on her knees beside her bed praying before the sun came up in the mornings.

My own response to God's call came at church youth camp early in high school. Jesus has been leading me on an adventurous journey around the world since; from Malaysia to Singapore, Australia, Europe, Hong Kong, before I docked in Vancouver in 2000, when I took a sabbatical from my vocation and joined Regent College community for a season. I now work as a physiotherapist, part-time with Vancouver Coastal Health, and part-time operating my own private practice. Aside from clinical work, I have enjoyed the challenges of developing and teaching courses to physiotherapists.

I started attending FBC in Fall, 2009; became a member in 2014. I served as an usher in the hospitality ministry since the beginning. In May 2017, I joined the CLT community and have been serving as Vice Moderator since. My responsibility, amongst other things, included chairing the Nominating Committee in the last 2 years. When time permits, I lead/host study & connection groups.

The Church's richest blessing to me, is giving me the opportunity to become part of her witness and ministries through a wide spectrum of denominations in urban cities around the world. Those experiences have richly taught and formed me in my perspectives on the Body of Christ; I am daily grateful for the insights and particular strengths they continue to give me. I love to travel and to see how people in different cities and cultures live. The older or more urban the cities, the better! It is great being lost in them as a wanderer, but not lost. I love reunions with my siblings, their children and their children's children, of which I've lost count. The latter keep me up to date and semi-still-cool for a great aunt.

### **New Generations MAT**

#### **David Brown**

I first came to FBC in 1979 for a couple of years, but then my family moved away. I returned in 1998, and was baptized and became a member in 2003. I have been serving along with my wife Helen in the Early Childhood Area with 3 to 5 year-olds for 15 years now - in fact, that is where we first met! We don't have children of our own, but we have loved watching so many children learn about Jesus and grow up in the church. Many of them are now serving as well. I served on the previous Children's Commission and the Children & Families MAT for several years, and look forward to bringing my experience to this new MAT. I have been on two search committees and I also occasionally help serve communion and collect the offering during the services.



I have a wide variety of interests. I earned my BA in Geography from UBC, completed the CGA accounting program, and now work as a Systems Administrator and a Chartered Professional Accountant for an appliance distributor. I am also on the board of Today's Family Network, a charitable society that includes Kickers Soccer Camp, and Entre Ninos, a Spanish language magazine and ministry for developing children's ministries throughout the Americas.

#### **Sarah Kawamura**

I have been blessed to have grown up in FBC (over 45 years) and thank God for many lovely relationships and for all I have learned over the years. I attended Sunday School at FBC. Many years ago I taught Sunday school (grade 4-5) and have done various things over the years (organizing and choreographing children's dancing and movement for Easter and Advent services, setting up a multi-sensory worship stations for the children, and a presentation around Indigenous reconciliation). I have participated in several learning/support groups such as Mom's Group, Parenting Adolescents etc. When my children were young I directed the First Friends Preschool, and a few years ago I was on the Mission and Justice MAT. I recently finished serving on the Senior Pastor Search Committee. For a few years I was in a small Richmond connection group which has now ended. Short term mission trips I have participated in include: Urban Promise Camden, NJ (with a small group from FBC), Nairobi, Kenya (led by Jeff McCarrell with College and Career group); Kwendin, Liberia (with Bob Swann).

I studied social sciences (mostly around ethnic relations) and then went into education at UBC. I am a parent of three children ages 15, 18, 21. When they were younger I worked as a learning consultant with home-learners. In Richmond School District I worked in the Aboriginal Success team for five years supporting Indigenous students grades K-7. Currently I teach Kindergarten in Richmond and regularly participate in professional development and study groups. I am an experienced birth doula (supporting emotional and physical support to women through their birth experiences) though I don't have time to practice these days. Pretty much all of my working life has involved supporting children and families in some capacity. I have been blessed by a family of origin that loves me and supports my development wonderfully, and I really care about helping families be healthy and strong as well. I tend to gravitate to people and places that are hurting (I suppose that would mean everyone and everywhere, really!), and consider it a privilege to walk with people and love them.

#### **Jonathan Lim**

I've been attending FBC since July 2007 and I would consider FBC the church in which I grew up. I was an enthusiastic member of the preteen and youth ministry while I was younger, and my family joined a connection group soon after we started attending FBC. The preteen and youth leaders in my childhood were amazing models of following Jesus, and I truly believe God used them as a means to show me His love. I wanted to serve God and be used by him in this way as well, and this ultimately led me to start volunteering with the preteen ministry after I graduated high school. In the same vein, I have also worked as a coach with the Kickers Soccer Camp hosted by FBC for five years over the summer. That experience has taught me a lot about

what it means to lead by example and has certainly helped mature my leadership qualities. Overall, I would consider my early life at FBC to be extremely formative in shaping me into the person I am today. I have no doubt that this community will continue to shape me into a more Jesus-like character in the years to come.

A fun fact about me: I was recently in the TV show Batwoman as an extra! It was a really cool experience where I got to meet actress Ruby Rose in her full Batwoman costume. I was playing the part of a high school student at a winter formal dance, so it was a fun throwback to my high school dances.

## **Prayer and Care MAT**

### **Wendy Bredo**

I was born in Calgary, Alberta into a Christian family and have attended church my whole life. When I was in my teens, my father's job took us across the country; at each place my parents became involved in the Baptist church, and so did I. Being a member of a church community has always been a big part of my life.

I started attending First Baptist Church in the summer of 1962 and became a member on Palm Sunday, 1963. I have been involved in innumerable ways here, including 3 decades of volunteering in the Children's Ministry, as well as working with the Stephen Ministry, the Christian Education Commission, and as an Alpha table leader; I was even the leader of the Canadian Girls in Training (CGIT) in the 1960's! I also coordinated the Thursday Mom's Group for 4 years, and then the child care for that group for another 3 years. For 34 years, I was an administrative assistant for Canfor Corporation, and before that worked on staff at FBC office. I am now retired, and currently volunteer teach ESL two mornings a week in Richmond. I look forward to serving on the Prayer and Care MAT.

### **Gord Taylor**

I started attending FBC in 1980 and have been involved as a volunteer in a variety of ways in that time. At Hobbit House, I served dinners on Friday nights, and also served on the Deacons board in the mid 1980's. I was a member of Stephen's Ministry during the 1990's, as well as a Board member at Vancouver Christian Counselling Centre for two terms. I am involved in Open Sanctuary on Thursdays once every month or two, and my wife and I do occasional ushering duties

I am a retired Airline Pilot and still travel a lot. While we are away for some parts of the year, I look forward to serving in the Prayer and Care MAT.

### **Carolyn Watts**

I have been part of the FBC community since I came to Vancouver to study at Regent College in September 2009. For several years, I volunteered in the Early Childhood area, and have served on the last two Pastoral Search Committees for the Minister of Congregational Care.

I worked for four years as an obstetrician in Afghanistan before leaving the practice of medicine for health reasons. I have since completed a Master of Arts in Theological Studies at Regent College as well as spiritual director training, and now offer spiritual direction and write, including on my blog at [hearingtheheartbeat.com](http://hearingtheheartbeat.com). I am excited to be part of what God is doing at FBC and count it an honour to serve on the Prayer and Care MAT.

### Discipleship and Community MAT

#### **Mark Anderson**

I have been attending First Baptist with my wife Cathy since January 2016. We became members in the summer of 2017. We started participating in a newly formed connection group recently. I attended and spoke at city hall's rezoning application hearing for the building project.

I completed a Master of Arts at McGill, a Master of Arts in Religion from Westminster Theological Seminary (Philadelphia), and a four-year diploma in biblical studies from Prairie Bible Institute.

My wife and I served as missionaries with WEC International and Operation Mobilization for a total of 17 years, ten of them in the Middle East. I've lectured at churches, colleges and university groups on Islam and the Qur'an. I've taught Sunday school, led Bible studies, preached, worked a summer pastoral internship. I was involved in Alpha program, worked with the homeless, served on church board and chaired the board of Jacob's Well for 2 years. I am a writer, with two published books; one on the spirituality of the Psalms and the other, a college textbook on the Qur'an. Besides writing and lecturing, I currently work at L'Arche.

I long for, and am passionate about a spiritual church, where everyone, from its top leaders down to its newest members, sees that we can do nothing apart from the life of the Vine coursing through us (John 15). I believe this is ultimately what will determine our level of success or failure as a church.

#### **Holly Rail**

I joined the community at FBC in the autumn 2011 after visiting periodically for Sunday worship for several months. Shortly after choosing FBC as my worshipping community, I joined the choir. I firmly believe the best way to make a large church feel smaller is to be involved in a particular serving community. I became a member in Feb 2017. Over the 7 years that I have been active in the community of FBC in a variety of ways beyond singing with the choir, doing things such as Scripture Reading, AV worship support, and Connection Group facilitating. I participated in the Onion Lake Trip in 2015 and the youth Mission Trip to Mexico. I was also a member of the Senior Minister Search Committee.

Before coming to Vancouver in 2007 to study at Regent College (MAT Spiritual Theology, 2010) I spent 4 years on staff in the Student Ministries department of a large non-denominational congregation in California where I worshipped for 10 years. During this time, I learned intimately about team dynamics and effective equipping and releasing of leaders, building on my own experiences as a leader in student ministry and discipleship in a previous congregation.

I deeply value hospitality and community, and desire to cultivate and support the growth of belonging within the body at First Baptist. I believe that a significant part of growth in community and belonging is discovering our own shape/calling and living that out in the local Body, both within and beyond the congregation. And I believe (and hope) that part of my responsibility as a leader in the Discipleship and Community Ministry Area Team will be to work alongside our pastoral leadership to identify and/or create opportunities for people of various shapes/callings to discover, serve out of, and grow in their unique shape, ultimately achieving "unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Eph 4:13)

#### **Katie Findlay**

I moved to Vancouver in 2005 to attend film school and started attending FBC early in 2006. I've been very involved in worship at FBC for the last 12 years, and a member of the previous Public Worship and Celebration MAT for the last year. I currently work as the director of operations for a video game studio in East Vancouver. I am a mother of three in my family.

I'm passionate about solid processes, smooth transitions, and good communication wherever I get involved; as such, I am also part of the Project Oversight Committee here at FBC, tasked with the logistics of transitioning into our new building.

#### **Mission and Justice MAT**

##### **Jan Porcino**

Through friendship and an effective ministry to children at local church, I was the first in my family to follow Christ. Over the years my whole family came to faith and was baptized. This small church in New Jersey had excellent Bible teaching, a prayer and missionary emphasis, and meaningful community. As a student of Wheaton College, my first summer mission experience lead me to seek further biblical studies after graduation at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Illinois. For the next 11 years, I disciplined university students, first in New Jersey – the mother of Daniel Foster Fabiano was one of the first outstanding students I met when I joined the staff of Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship! – and later at the ivy league colleges in Boston. I taught inductive Bible and experienced further short-term overseas ministry in Guatemala, Costa Rica and Europe.

I became the first Minister of Discipleship at First Baptist Church and served in this challenging ministry for 21 years. With retirement, I first attended a local church near my home, and after some months, happily returned to my church family at FBC, signed up to help in the Sunday School, teach Bible in a ministry to First Nations children and be a book Buddy to Kindergarten children at the Lord Roberts Annex.

Currently, I am thankful for my dear friends that gather weekly in our connection group which I lead in my home. Tutoring a grade 2 child in the Costco reading program at Lord Roberts School, attending weekly prayer with a group of intercessors from various churches and leading prayer before the Sunday worship at FBC provide opportunities to keep learning and growing. I am involved with international ministry and congregational care as requested by the current pastoral team. I look forward to learning and serving with the Mission and Justice MAT this year as God leads.

### **Marjorie Cox**

I have attended FBC all my life and became a member in June 1960. I attended with my family as a child and later my own children grew up at FBC. I have many good memories of attending FBC as part of a three-generation family.

Over my years at FBC I have served on the Deacons Board, the First Baptist Foundation Board, various committees and in the Sunday School and participated in the Women's Society. I have been a member of the Merle Mackenzie Circle for many years and belong to the North Shore Bible Study group and the FBC Book Group. I have in the past been on the board of the BC and Yukon Area Baptist Women in Focus.

I wish to serve on the Mission and Justice MAT because I feel that we as Christians are called to serve those less fortunate and in need both physically, emotionally and spiritually. In my role as Community Support Chair on the First Baptist Foundation Board I was privileged to meet many people in the Greater Vancouver area who worked at agencies serving and supporting people with a wide variety of needs. I have also travelled to North Korea and to a CBM supported project in Brazil to observe the work of the Lord being carried out in both these places. I believe there is a great need to serve, both at home and abroad, and feel that the Mission and Justice MAT best serves these needs.

## **FIRST BAPTIST FOUNDATION**

### **BROEK BOSMA**

"We are a community following Jesus with a heart for the city and beyond."

The First Baptist Foundation had a quiet year in 2019. In 2017, FBF made the board decision to go on a hiatus from disbursing community grants in light of the upcoming Heart for the City building project. Over the past years the HFTC project had many unknowns and continues to develop as the project moves forward. As a result of this hiatus FBF did not disburse any funds into the community during 2019. In fall of 2018, the Church requested a multi-year grant of \$130,000 over two year, and so FBF dispersed \$65,000 in 2019 to FBC. This grant was made in light of the fact that FBC currently faces some financial pressure, and therefore it is evident that FBF should not hold funds while the ministry of FBC requires funds. This grant was made also based on the fact that the New Rivendell will be transferred back to FBF once the HFTC project is completed, again creating a steady and resilient stream of revenue for FBF. The Directors of FBF remain fully committed to supporting FBC through the HFTC project and will continue to be a partner in any and every way possible to see the project through to completion. It is expected that FBF will not return to regular community granting until sometime in 2023-24 once the HFTC project has been completed and revenue from the New Rivendell has been received.

Sincerely,

Broek Bosma, Chris Bystrom, Eugene Kaulius, Tara Schmidt

## HEART FOR THE CITY PROJECT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

### BROEK BOSMA

"...More than you can ask or imagine"

The Project Oversight Committee had a productive year in 2019. The Project Oversight Committee oversees four aspects of the Heart for the City Project including Communications, Finance, Operations and Ministry.

#### **Communications**

Throughout the spring of 2019 the committee met regularly and communicated monthly with the congregation through a number of printed materials and regular in-person updates in Sunday morning services, events and business meetings. With the project started, much of the communication focused on operational changes to regular church life, parking and meeting spaces.

#### **Finance**

The majority of the committee's effort in 2019 was focused on the financial aspects of the project. It was understood in the late spring of 2019 that the project would be in deficit as a result of GST and Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) spending. There were two strategies pursued in order to mitigate this deficit: a capital fundraising campaign and a line of credit.

Throughout the summer the Project Oversight Committee met with a number of volunteers and were overjoyed when Ben and Almira Chow stepped forward to chair the campaign and the campaign cabinet. The goal of the Heart for the City Capital Campaign is \$2.5 million and people are being encouraged to give multi-year pledges over five years. Ben and Almira announced the Heart for the City Capital Campaign to the congregation in October. Since then there have been many communication materials created including a gift chart, a case for support brochure and a pledge form. Ben and Almira, with the support of the Project Oversight Committee, will continue to lead a group of dedicated volunteers in soliciting and thanking individuals for their support of this important project.

Additionally, the Project Oversight Committee worked with Laine Bosma as Treasurer to explore opportunities to access a line of credit to ensure that cash flow on the project was always secure. These options continue to be explored and will have an outcome in 2020.

### **Operations & Ministry**

The operations of the project were active in the beginning of 2019 seeing the removal and replacement of the 'Red Door' entrance to the church and changes to the youth and choir rooms. There was minimal impact on ministry operations and the committee is now focused on reviewing the final Furnishing, Fittings & Equipment (FF&E) budget and exploring opportunities for locating all the First Baptist ministry services in 2022 when we leave the church building for renovation.

In conclusion, the Project Oversight Committee had a busy and productive year and it is expected that this activity will only grow in 2020. We ask for support of prayers as we continue this journey into the future.

Sincerely,

Broek Bosma, Chris Bystrom, James Goulden, Kara Douglas, Katie Findlay, Andrew MacRitchie, Teck-Ngee Ch'ng, Justin Kim, Soniya Mathew, Angeline Teay



## HEART FOR THE CITY OPERATING COMMITTEE

### FRED LIEBICH

The Heart for the City Building Project continues to be managed on behalf of the CLT by a three-member Operating Committee (OC) comprised of Field & Marten Associates (FMA) serving as Owner's Representative, and two representatives from the church. The principal representatives from FMA are Art Reitmayer and Marten Van Huizen with additional project management support from Verne Westover. The church's representatives are Steve Milos and Fred Liebich.

#### Background and Overview

After several years of background work beginning in about 2010/11 and architectural planning work since about 2013, the past year, 2019, marked the transition to the start of early construction activities.

Over the past year project activities were focused on the following primary areas, described in more detail below:

- Finalizing and detailing of approved plans in preparation for construction contracting,
- Completion of demolition and start of excavation and related work
- Completion of legal and financial framework for commencement of construction, and
- Ongoing project management and scheduling considerations

Some key milestones are already behind us. With formal enactment in December 2017 by Vancouver City Council of the FBC rezoning and requisite legal agreements in place, Westbank (Wb) pre-sold more than 90% of the available condo units very quickly. These condo sales are the "economic engine" to pay for redevelopment and seismic upgrading of the existing heritage church building, construction of new church program and admin spaces including new childcare facilities, and construction of the new 7-storey rental housing building. In late 2018 the Development Permit, the Stage 1 Building Permit and the Demolition Permit were issued. At about the same time the air parcels defining the condo tower and rental building were registered and ownership of the condo air parcel was transferred to Westbank to facilitate their financial arrangements for project construction. Construction funding for all of the church spaces was put in place. Demolition and hazardous materials abatement activities commenced in late 2018 and were completed about January 2019, with the start of excavation immediately following in February 2019 and continuing for about one year.

#### Finalizing and Detailing of Approved Plans

Over the past 6 years Revery Architecture (formerly known as Bing Thom Architects) have been refining the building plans for our project to an ever-increasing level of detail in preparation for construction contracting. In recent years the overall form of those plans has been very

stable and is by now reasonably well known to interested church members - most congregants have had a look at the plans posted in the hallway at FBC or presented at various church meetings. While the overall high level substance of these plans does not appear to have changed, there has been much work in the background by a large team of consultants and advisors to refine and detail the plans to a level of detail ultimately required for construction contracting, with an acceptable level of cost certainty. To give a sense of the level of detail, it may be interesting to know that a full set of drawings for the heritage church, new church program and admin space and rental building now comprises approximately two thousand drawings.

One of the project areas that has required a surprising amount of time-consuming attention to detail is the childcare area. As part of our building complex a "state-of-the art" licensed childcare facility will be built for 37 week-day childcare spaces for infants, toddlers and pre-school age children, intended to be operated for the church by Wind & Tide. The City of Vancouver has very detailed and demanding requirements to meet their conditions for licensing. Over the past year many details have been designed, reviewed, and revised several times to meet City requirements. For example, the exact location and features of outdoor play equipment, varied flooring specifications, lighting and landscaping all had to be spelled out in detail. Similarly, the interior design choices, millwork, lighting (location, specifications and controls), and security features had to be detailed, for example, exactly what type of hinges (brand and model) will be used for child-area gates, so as not to endanger probing little finger. This work required many meetings and discussions among the architects, specialist consultants, Wind & Tide and City staff, to get approval in principle of what is to be constructed. Final approval for the License to Operate will have to wait until the City inspects and approves the "as built" space.

Another aspect of the new church space that has seen considerable planning progress over the last year is the audio-visual system. The church has retained Genesis Integration Inc. to design the audio-visual system in the new church space. The OC has had several site meetings with Genesis to outline and specify our needs and expectations. This is clearly an area of direct relevance and interest to our church body as we try to anticipate our use of the various church spaces and achieve good results at a prudent cost level. Genesis have completed a preliminary design and have initiated the detailed design with a full engineering team based in Edmonton.

Similarly, the church members of the OC have had several preliminary discussions and site visits with Howe Sound Solutions Inc. to consider the contractual arrangements leading to the design and engineering of the computer network for our new church building complex. Howe Sound Solutions has extensive experience working in this field, in particular, working well together with Genesis on other Westbank projects. As of yearend, contractual arrangements with Howe Sound Solutions are still under discussion and we are hoping to come to acceptable contractual arrangements soon.

## Completion of Demolition and Start of Excavation

Church members will recall the old exit stairway at the northwest corner of the church that had to be moved to allow excavation along the entire western edge of the existing church building. Construction of the new exterior steel exit stairway and relocation of the "Red Door" were completed in January 2019. All of that work is only needed for about 2 years until the full seismic upgrading of the main church building gets underway, at which time that entire add-on section of the church will be demolished and rebuilt as part of the new building structure.

The move of the stairwell described above, and demolition described below, necessitated the relocation of some FBC ministry program spaces. We have been very fortunate to benefit from the flexibility and cooperation of everyone affected, particularly church staff, to accommodate these unavoidable changes on site, and thereby not incur the expense of renting other off-site space - if it could be found. Thank you to all those affected!

Demolition of the 3 old houses and Rivendell Apartments was completed in January 2019 with the sorting of materials, appropriate abatement and handling of hazardous materials and removal of debris, all of which are very tightly regulated and monitored by the City. Excavation got underway in early February 2019. Early excavation encountered more underground storage tanks (4 heating oil tanks) and large boulders than was anticipated. Given that all of the tanks were leaking, special testing and handling of the contaminated soil was required, and special equipment and handling of the boulders was required, all of which made for slow initial progress.

A large, deep excavation like this requires very careful, specialized planning and techniques to ensure the safety and success of this important construction phase, right next to our large stone building that continues in full operation. The simple work of "digging the hole" does not do justice to the careful planning and coordinating of progressive digging, material handling, underpinning, reinforcing steel, drainage and monitoring that is taking place. Essentially, fully reinforced foundation walls are being built progressively around the hole and under the western church wall as it gets deeper. All of this work is carefully monitored, including weekly (initially even more frequent) laser surveying of the excavation walls and adjacent buildings - including the church. The site contractors and supporting technical experts have been very accommodating and respectful of church questions on their work - in fact, they seem to welcome our interest. By 2019 yearend excavation had reached a depth of about 65 feet or about three quarters to completion, which is expected in about February 2020 to an ultimate depth of almost 90 feet. As one might expect, as the hole gets deeper and winter rains have intensified, progress is slower.

It is worth noting that throughout these initial construction activities, the contractors have kept the church well informed and have been respectful of and responsive to church needs on those few occasions when planned site work has had to accommodate church activities. Such cooperation is not taken lightly and is much appreciated.

## Legal and Financial Framework

As already referenced above, before any of these construction activities can be undertaken the appropriate legal and financial arrangements have to be put in place, which in itself is no small effort. Overall, in the order of three dozen agreements have been completed with or among the various parties – the main ones being with the City and surrounding properties – to facilitate this construction undertaking. As a basis for all of these project-specific agreements, several key permitting steps had to be in place with the City, of which the Stage 1 Building Permit formally issued on 4 December 2018 was arguably the most significant step since enactment of the rezoning about a year prior.

Some of the project agreements are fairly mundane, mainly administrative in nature. For example, agreements were completed for underpinning into surrounding properties as part of the deep site excavation, while other agreements dealt with crane swing over adjoining properties during construction. Other agreements specified the arrangements for the shared car parking and the coordination among the parties using the loading spaces.

Other agreements were very substantial and detailed in nature. For example, one agreement deals with the access and easement rights of the 3 main parties (church, condo and rental housing) occupying the site on completion. Some spaces or corridors require shared access rights in both normal and emergency situations. A significant part of this agreement was the detailed identification and appropriate sharing of future operating costs for all shared spaces, including interior, outdoor and parking garage spaces. Yet another key agreement outlines the arrangements that govern the flow of funds for church-related work during the construction period.

In Fall 2019 Westbank initiated drafting of a Neighborhood Energy Agreement (NEU) that has to be concluded before issuance of a Stage 2 Building Permit (above ground construction). Essentially this agreement spells out the terms of service under which the whole new FBC building complex will receive thermal energy supply (steam and/or hot water) from Creative Energy – the BCUC (BC Utilities Commission) regulated Utility – which currently serves more than 200 buildings in downtown Vancouver. This energy supply arrangement should provide services at competitive, regulated costs, in an environmentally responsible manner and allow the overall building project to avoid the necessity, space and costs of complex on-site thermal generation (boiler) facilities – remember the FBC boiler failure in Spring 2019. With Westbank, the OC toured comparable Creative Energy facilities at another building and indeed, this energy supply arrangement appears to be an attractive and beneficial part of the supporting infrastructure for the new building complex. FBC will be a signatory to the final agreement and at yearend the OC was working with Westbank and Creative Energy on the term sheet for the Definitive Agreement. This is a significant and important step as it has long term ramifications for the operation and costs of the entire building complex.

## Project Management and Schedule

As one might expect, for a construction project of this magnitude, GST charges are significant. Much work has been undertaken involving both specialty advisors and FBC's auditors to put in place agreed procedures to ensure GST exposure is limited to the minimum required under the Act. Total GST payable is subject to several factors (such as actual versus estimated costs of the various building components) and is estimated at this time to be in the order of \$2.5 million.

One of the main benefits of this whole HFTC building project is the significant expansion of space to be available for various church programs and supporting/admin services. That space, estimated to be 56,300 sq. ft. excluding circulation, needs to be furnished and equipped appropriately to make the space useful and productive - everything from tables and chairs to computer and audio-visual equipment to pianos, etc. is needed. The initial estimate for these FF&E (furnishings, fittings & equipment) costs is about \$2.25 million, subject to much further detailing by other church committees during the building construction period.

As part of the planning for future church operations the OC was asked to provide input to CLT on possible business structure options. For example, the ownership, operational policies and revenue distribution from the rental building need to be defined and agreed. With the prospect of certain parts of the new building facilities possibly providing some revenue, careful planning is required to minimize tax risk exposure and support church operations in the much larger space. In due course CLT will outline the steps taken and/or planned.

As part of a desire by CLT to secure additional funding for the church from the project, the OC reviewed a list of possible cost savings measures proposed by Westbank. While some modest cost savings to be shared with Westbank initially appeared possible - several of which items required agreement from the City - in the end it has become increasingly clear that no significant cost reductions could be achieved in the approved plans. The OC remains committed to ensuring that Westbank ultimately deliver to the church the "minimum deliverables" identified in the Project Development Agreement to quality standards that are acceptable to the church.

As part of prudent project management, the OC continues to monitor expenditures by the architects and various consultants and legal advisors, and review cost allocations by Westbank to FBC's portion of the overall project costs. As construction activities have started, the effort and attention to detail required to review and process costs submitted by Westbank to the church's account, is significant. As of the yearend the OC has processed nine significant draws on the church's construction account, which does not sound that significant until one considers that these invoices typically run into the hundreds of pages. While there are bound to be (and have been) items of disagreement, particularly with respect to cost allocation, it is worth noting, that to date, Westbank have for the most part, been reasonable and responsive of the church's position on "discussion items." On a project of this size and complexity there are bound to be

points of debate, but “so far – so good.” The OC with FMA’s experienced and skilled guidance, is continuing to monitor and advise as necessary on these matters-indeed the church is fortunate and well-served by their expertise, commitment and attention to detail.

While focusing on all of these building project details it is important to review where we have been and look ahead at the opportunity for future ministry that is slowly taking shape.

The current church space of about 40,000 sq. ft. (heritage church + NW annex) will increase to about 79,000 sf. (heritage church, program building space, offices and childcare). While this much more space will need additional funding for operations, it brings substantially increased opportunities for ministry and service programs, some of which should help support increased church operating costs. Also, a significant contribution toward operating cost is expected to be available from the rental housing.

In many respects it is satisfying to finally see significant physical work underway on our building project after many years of planning and “pushing paper” – Thanks Be To Our Lord Jesus! The next year(s) will see further significant, sometimes disruptive changes on our site and in our church life. We continue to rely on the patience, flexibility and prayerful support of the entire FBC church body as construction activities get into full swing. The plan is to keep the main church building operational until about Early Summer 2021 whereupon it will have to be vacated until about Summer 2023.

In the context of all this building project “stuff” it is important to be reminded that ultimately, the church – our church – is not about buildings but about disciples of Jesus at the corner of Burrard and Nelson trying to live out, express, put into practice, our mission. Unity in vision and purpose will help us be an effective church body. It is not too early to imagine and plan for the opportunities that will be available with the new building facilities – which are simply tools for ministry. There will be much need and opportunity to prayerfully plan and meet the challenges of the church move and eventually to make good use of the new facilities for ministry opportunities in and to our community. The people resources for our church to thrive and fulfill our mission need to be developed and nurtured as the project construction proceeds.

In the first months of operations in the new facilities we want to “hit the ground running.” The challenge for each of us is not: “I wonder what “they” will do...”, but rather, “What part can/should I play?” We rely on the continued prayer support and unity of the FBC church body to bring this building project to completion and eventually become a tangible expression of **His Heart for The City and Beyond.**

Fred Liebich on behalf of the HFTC building project Operating Committee (OC)

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2019**

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**DICKSON  
STOJAK  
HUANG**

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

## **INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

To the Members

**partners**

W. Lyle Dickson Ltd.  
Peter P. Stojak Ltd.  
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We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of First Baptist Church of Vancouver that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2019 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Practitioner's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

### **Basis for Qualified Opinion**

In common with many charitable organizations, First Baptist Church of Vancouver derives revenue from donations and bequests, the completeness of which is not susceptible to review. Accordingly, our review of this revenue was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the First Baptist Church of Vancouver and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary for recorded donations, the excess of revenues over expenses, cash flows from operations for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, current assets as at December 31, 2019 and 2018, and net assets as at January 1 and December 31 for both 2019 and 2018. Our review opinion on the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this scope limitation.



The accounting policies of the Church relating to capital assets as explained in Note 2(d) are not in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations which require that capital assets be recorded at cost and amortized over their useful life. The effects of this departure from Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have not been determined.

#### **Conclusion**

Based on our review, except for the effects of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraphs, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of First Baptist Church of Vancouver as at December 31, 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.



Richmond, B.C.  
June 1, 2020

**CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Operating Fund	Tangible Capital Assets Fund	Ministers' Housing Fund	Benevolence Fund	Designated Funds (Note 5)	Total 2019	Total 2018
<b>Current Assets</b>							
Cash	\$ 710,762	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 710,762	\$ 606,975
Accounts receivable	16,520	-	-	-	1,069	17,589	56,349
GST receivable	2,440	-	-	-	20,088	22,528	7,058
Prepaid expenses	96,609	-	-	-	-	96,609	97,227
	<u>826,331</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,157</u>	<u>847,488</u>	<u>767,609</u>
<b>Restricted Current Investments (Note 3)</b>	-	-	245,735	7,501	83,953,663	84,206,899	87,048,854
<b>Tangible Capital Assets (Notes 2, 4)</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>154,408,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>154,408,000</u>	<u>125,481,000</u>
	<u>\$ 826,331</u>	<u>\$ 154,408,000</u>	<u>\$ 245,735</u>	<u>\$ 7,501</u>	<u>\$ 83,974,820</u>	<u>\$ 239,462,387</u>	<u>\$ 213,297,463</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>							
Accounts payable	\$ 24,119	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 198,127	\$ 222,246	\$ 65,079
<b>Net Assets</b>							
Unrestricted	802,212	-	-	-	-	802,212	702,530
Internally restricted	-	-	245,735	7,501	83,776,693	84,029,929	87,048,854
Invested in tangible capital assets	-	154,408,000	-	-	-	154,408,000	125,481,000
	<u>802,212</u>	<u>154,408,000</u>	<u>245,735</u>	<u>7,501</u>	<u>83,776,693</u>	<u>239,240,141</u>	<u>213,232,384</u>
	<u>\$ 826,331</u>	<u>\$ 154,408,000</u>	<u>\$ 245,735</u>	<u>\$ 7,501</u>	<u>\$ 83,974,820</u>	<u>\$ 239,462,387</u>	<u>\$ 213,297,463</u>

Approved by the Church Council

\_\_\_\_\_

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UNAUDITED

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
SPECIAL FUNDS  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	<b>Tangible Capital Assets Fund</b>	<b>Ministers' Housing Fund</b>	<b>Benevolence Fund</b>	<b>Designated Funds (Note 5)</b>	<b>Capital Fund</b>	<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>Total 2018</b>
<b>Revenue</b>							
Sale of Building Air Parcel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92,004,400
Donations	-	-	33,541	251,058	10,495	295,094	947,116
Rental	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,040
Contributions from External Sources	-	-	-	161,214	-	161,214	464,279
Interest Income	-	3,295	104	1,532,485	-	1,535,884	76,086
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,295</u>	<u>33,645</u>	<u>1,944,757</u>	<u>10,495</u>	<u>1,992,192</u>	<u>93,510,921</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>							
Building Construction Costs	-	-	-	4,854,193	-	4,854,193	6,833,469
Operating and Distributions	-	29,000	33,747	66,700	-	129,447	541,798
	<u>-</u>	<u>29,000</u>	<u>33,747</u>	<u>4,920,893</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,983,640</u>	<u>7,375,267</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures</b>	-	(25,705)	(102)	(2,976,136)	10,495	(2,991,448)	86,135,654
Interfund transfers	-	-	-	10,495	(10,495)	-	-
Transfer to Operating Fund	-	-	-	(27,477)	-	(27,477)	(174,953)
<b>Net Change for the Year</b>	-	(25,705)	(102)	(2,993,118)	-	(3,018,925)	85,960,701
<b>Capital appreciation</b>	28,927,000	-	-	-	-	28,927,000	18,776,900
<b>Fund Balances, Beginning</b>	<u>125,481,000</u>	<u>271,440</u>	<u>7,603</u>	<u>86,769,811</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>212,529,854</u>	<u>107,792,253</u>
<b>Fund Balances, Ending</b>	<u>\$ 154,408,000</u>	<u>\$ 245,735</u>	<u>\$ 7,501</u>	<u>\$ 83,776,693</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 238,437,929</u>	<u>\$ 212,529,854</u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Offerings			
Tithes (Envelopes)	\$ 906,123	\$ 1,004,000	\$ 894,093
Pre Authorized Payments	746,799	660,000	693,776
Share Donations and Other Gifts-In-Kind	25,552	10,000	-
Offerings (Loose)	34,448	40,000	30,547
Total Offerings	1,712,922	1,714,000	1,618,416
Facilities Operations	14,701	10,800	74,547
Mission and Justice	18,678	5,000	14,657
New Generations	4,345	8,000	-
	1,750,646	1,737,800	1,707,620
<b>MINISTRY DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Church Leadership Team	57,839	77,500	113,197
Salaries and Benefits	986,984	1,050,679	948,572
Facilities Operations	409,692	428,709	497,451
Mission and Justice	131,765	152,700	134,089
Discipleship and Community	21,000	52,000	28,323
New Generations	69,228	77,260	42,374
Prayer and Care	1,933	7,850	942
	1,678,441	1,846,698	1,764,948
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Disbursements</b>	72,205	\$ (108,898)	(57,328)
<b>Transfer from Special Funds</b>	27,477		174,953
<b>Fund Balances, beginning</b>	702,530		584,905
<b>Fund Balances, ending</b>	\$ 802,212		\$ 702,530

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**OPERATING FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM</u></b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Congregational: CBWC	50,000	50,000	100,000
Church Leadership Team Expenses	7,448	9,800	7,025
Consulting	-	10,700	4,069
Senior Minister/Executive Director New Initiatives	391	7,000	2,103
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 57,839</b>	<b>\$ 77,500</b>	<b>\$ 113,197</b>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>SALARIES AND BENEFITS</u></b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>Salaries</b>			
Ministers	\$ 294,425	\$ 326,421	\$ 237,332
Ministry Staff	186,835	218,792	245,564
Administrative Staff	267,524	277,841	256,142
Operations Staff	15,495	16,945	13,408
Other Department Related Staff	54,429	30,106	40,354
Total Salaries	<u>818,708</u>	<u>870,105</u>	<u>792,800</u>
<b>Benefits</b>			
CPP	31,704	35,918	28,716
EI	17,775	13,461	17,059
Worksafe B.C.	1,308	2,198	1,613
	<u>50,787</u>	<u>51,577</u>	<u>47,388</u>
CBWC Pension	33,861	40,426	29,652
MSP	6,675	-	5,887
Extended Health, Life and Disability Insurance	53,001	65,471	50,252
	<u>93,537</u>	<u>105,897</u>	<u>85,791</u>
Mileage	<u>4,342</u>	2,800	2,164
Total Benefits	<u>148,666</u>	160,274	135,343
Conferences/Conventions	<u>3,106</u>	7,000	1,814
Other Allowances & Professional Development	<u>15,279</u>	8,000	12,058
<b>Other</b>			
Moving Expenses	535	-	4,259
Convention/Delegates	-	1,300	1,724
Staff Retreat	690	3,500	449
Staff Education	-	500	125
	<u>1,225</u>	<u>5,300</u>	<u>6,557</u>
<b>TOTAL SALARIES AND BENEFITS</b>	<u><u>\$ 986,984</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,050,679</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 948,572</u></u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>FACILITIES OPERATIONS</u></b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
<b>FACILITIES</b>			
Parking Lot Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150
Rental	1,887	1,800	59,707
	<u>1,887</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>59,857</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Investment Income	-	-	811
Vancouver Foundation	11,805	9,000	11,330
Other Income	1,009	-	2,549
	<u>12,814</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>14,690</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u><u>14,701</u></u>	<u><u>10,800</u></u>	<u><u>74,547</u></u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			
Accounting	12,795	14,000	11,161
Archives	-	250	-
Bank and Credit Card Charges	13,839	9,300	11,123
Computers, Email & Website	19,694	15,000	20,760
Equipment Lease	24,720	24,720	24,721
Equipment Rental	480	600	479
Paper and Office Supplies	16,547	19,000	17,683
Postage	2,790	3,000	1,026
Recovery - Postage, Printing, Phone	(230)	(1,000)	(407)
Telephone	8,072	8,000	7,427
Advertising	-	500	488
Office Furnishings and Equipment	1,297	500	239
Subscriptions and Memberships	396	1,000	1,098
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<u><u>100,400</u></u>	<u><u>94,870</u></u>	<u><u>95,798</u></u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>FACILITIES OPERATIONS - CONTINUED</u></b>			
<b>FACILITIES</b>			
<b>969 BURRARD STREET</b>			
Repairs and Maintenance	71,159	60,500	24,102
Janitorial and Kitchen Supplies	6,881	12,200	12,598
Janitorial Services	54,120	55,662	57,802
Building Renewals Allowance	-	10,000	-
Security	2,450	1,500	4,119
Hydro (Electricity)	12,822	17,000	13,047
Gas/Heat	13,951	19,000	15,161
Insurance - Building and Directors	119,842	117,400	109,401
Property Tax/Water/Sewage	5,115	1,200	44,950
Total 969 Burrard Street	<u>286,340</u>	<u>294,462</u>	<u>281,180</u>
 <b>HOBBIT HOUSE</b>	 105	 -	 4,229
 <b>SERVANTS QUARTERS</b>	 -	 -	 1,236
 <b>RIVENDELL</b>	 166	 -	 93,983
 <b>PARKING</b>			
Nelson Square	22,681	39,377	21,025
 <b>TOTAL FACILITIES</b>	 <u>309,292</u>	 <u>333,839</u>	 <u>401,653</u>
 <b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	 <u>409,692</u>	 <u>428,709</u>	 <u>497,451</u>
 <b>Deficiency of Revenue over Disbursements for Facilities Operations</b>	 <u>\$ (394,991)</u>	 <u>\$ (417,909)</u>	 <u>\$ (422,904)</u>



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>MISSION and JUSTICE MINISTRIES</u></b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Shelter Fundraiser	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Shelter Extreme Weather Recovery	18,678	-	14,657
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>18,678</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>14,657</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>Mission Support:</b>			
Local: Keats Camp	4,500	4,500	4,500
Local: Carey Theological College	3,000	3,000	3,000
Local: Missionsfest	500	500	500
Congregational: Members on Faith Missions	27,900	28,800	25,200
Africa/Mission	3,595	5,000	2,876
	<b>39,495</b>	<b>41,800</b>	<b>36,076</b>
<b>Canadian Baptist Ministries Support</b>			
CBM Guardians of Hope	4,000	2,000	-
CBM - Special Projects/General	8,000	10,000	2,535
CBM - Team Support - Partners in Mission	9,975	10,640	9,975
	<b>21,975</b>	<b>22,640</b>	<b>12,510</b>
<b>FIRST STEPS - North Korea</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>Refugee Support and Sponsorship</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Human Trafficking</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>
<b>Street Ministries: Shelter</b>	<b>47,503</b>	<b>53,260</b>	<b>49,503</b>
<b>New Initiatives</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>131,765</b>	<b>152,700</b>	<b>134,089</b>
<b>Deficiency of Revenue over Disbursements for Mission and Justice</b>	<b>\$ (113,087)</b>	<b>\$ (147,700)</b>	<b>\$ (119,432)</b>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>DISCIPLESHIP and COMMUNITY</u></b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Worship and Celebration	\$ 3,595	\$ 11,100	\$ 9,176
Hospitality Ministries	3,421	6,360	3,169
ESL	171	-	414
Internationals	2,068	4,000	3,240
Baptism and Membership	1,912	1,700	1,692
Adult Education	1,428	2,800	6,386
Evangelism Initiatives/Alpha	3,802	3,000	713
Connection Groups	1,342	6,500	2,131
Congregational Ministries	1,664	3,440	(211)
Lunches (Connection/Sunday)	1,420	2,000	1,013
Intergenerational Ministry/Open Table	-	2,200	-
Discipleship and Mentoring Development	177	5,700	-
New Initiatives	-	3,200	600
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 21,000</b>	<b>\$ 52,000</b>	<b>\$ 28,323</b>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>NEW GENERATIONS</u></b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Youth Fundraising	\$ 4,345	\$ 8,000	\$ -
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>Sunday Morning Children's Ministries</b>			
Leadership Training	61	1,200	385
Screening and Team Building	1,514	3,200	1,693
Supplies and Equipment	3,776	5,500	4,128
	<u>5,351</u>	<u>9,900</u>	<u>6,206</u>
<b>Midweek Children's Ministries</b>			
Early Childhood	-	1,000	-
School Age	-	1,000	-
Route 567 Preteen Group	3,955	4,200	2,496
Summer Programs	15,407	14,000	13,458
	<u>19,362</u>	<u>20,200</u>	<u>15,954</u>
<b>Family Ministries</b>			
Church Picnic/Special Events	1,318	2,400	1,707
Family Support	50	300	497
	<u>1,368</u>	<u>2,700</u>	<u>2,204</u>
<b>College and Career</b>			
	<u>130</u>	<u>7,610</u>	<u>1,705</u>
<b>Twenty-to-Forty Something Ministry</b>			
	<u>4,969</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>3,798</u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b><u>NEW GENERATIONS - CONTINUED</u></b>			
<b>YOUTH</b>			
Leadership Development and Seminars	1,454	4,400	2,651
Screening and Volunteer Appreciation	373	650	819
Supplies and Equipment	-	800	234
Special Events	2,016	1,400	591
Food, Snacks and Other Youth Expenses	4,026	4,000	5,612
Student Missions	30,179	23,000	265
Retreats	-	-	2,340
Transportation and Rentals	-	100	(5)
	<u>38,048</u>	<u>34,350</u>	<u>12,507</u>
New Initiatives	-	1,000	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>69,228</u>	<u>77,260</u>	<u>42,374</u>
<b>Deficiency of Revenue over Disbursements for New Generations</b>	<u><u>\$ (64,883)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (69,260)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (42,374)</u></u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**OPERATING FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<hr/>			
<b><u>PRAYER and CARE</u></b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Congregational Care	\$ 648	\$ 4,900	\$ 101
Prayer (Companions, Retreat, Teams)	-	700	198
Maturing Adults	1,285	2,250	643
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 1,933</b>	<b>\$ 7,850</b>	<b>\$ 942</b>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**

	<b>Operating Fund</b>		<b>Special Funds</b>					
	<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>Total 2018</b>	<b>Ministers' Housing Fund</b>	<b>Benevolence Fund</b>	<b>Designated Funds</b>	<b>Capital Fund</b>	<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>Total 2018</b>
<b>CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR)</b>								
<b>OPERATIONS</b>								
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over Expenditures	\$ 72,205	\$ (57,328)	\$ (25,705)	\$ (102)	\$ (2,976,136)	\$ 10,495	\$ (2,991,448)	\$ 86,135,654
Changes in other non-cash operating								
Working capital								
Accounts receivable	39,829	10,009	-	-	(1,069)	-	(1,069)	4,844
GST receivable	4,618	6,749	-	-	(20,088)	-	(20,088)	150
Prepaid expenses	618	(16,829)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounts payable	(40,960)	10,114	-	-	198,127	-	198,127	-
	<u>76,310</u>	<u>(47,285)</u>	<u>(25,705)</u>	<u>(102)</u>	<u>(2,799,166)</u>	<u>10,495</u>	<u>(2,814,478)</u>	<u>86,140,648</u>
<b>INVESTING</b>								
Ministers' Residences - Repayment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,000
<b>FINANCING</b>								
Interfund transfers	<u>27,477</u>	<u>174,953</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,982)</u>	<u>(10,495)</u>	<u>(27,477)</u>	<u>(174,953)</u>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash</b>	<b>103,787</b>	<b>127,668</b>	<b>(25,705)</b>	<b>(102)</b>	<b>(2,816,148)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,841,955)</b>	<b>86,035,695</b>
<b>Cash and Investments, Beginning of Year</b>	<u><b>606,975</b></u>	<u><b>479,307</b></u>	<u><b>271,440</b></u>	<u><b>7,603</b></u>	<u><b>86,769,811</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>87,048,854</b></u>	<u><b>1,013,159</b></u>
<b>Cash and Investments, End of Year</b>	<u><b>\$ 710,762</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 606,975</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 245,735</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 7,501</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 83,953,663</b></u>	<u><b>\$ -</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 84,206,899</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 87,048,854</b></u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 1     NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

First Baptist Church of Vancouver is incorporated under the Societies Act of British Columbia. The purpose of the Church is to serve the Living God by worship, evangelism, Christian nurture, joyful service and the fostering of Christian community.

**NOTE 2     SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

(a) Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

(b) Fund accounting

Transactions are accounted for by fund accounting procedures to recognize various restrictions imposed on the use of available resources. Under these procedures, revenues and their related expenses are accounted for in separate funds in accordance with objectives, limitations and restrictions imposed by sources outside the Church and determinations made by the Church Council.

Accounts with similar characteristics are classified into major funds as follows:

Operating Fund

The Operating Fund accounts for the Church's programs and administrative activities.

Tangible Capital Assets Fund

The Tangible Capital Assets Fund accounts for the ownership and equity related to the recorded tangible capital assets.

Ministers' Housing Fund

The Ministers' Housing Fund accounts for assets, liabilities, revenue and expenditures related to equity and loan positions in housing.

Benevolence Fund

The Benevolence Fund accounts for revenue and expenditures of a mission nature outside of the Church's budget.

Designated Funds

The Designated Funds account for funds with special designated purposes.

Capital Fund

The Capital Fund accounts for revenue and expenditure allocated to capital accounts.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 2     SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED**

(c) Goods and services tax (GST)

The Church qualifies for a 50% rebate on the GST paid on its expenditures and to input tax credits relating to a portion of the new construction project cost.

(d) Tangible capital assets

Land and buildings are recorded at assessed values. Other tangible capital assets are written off when purchased. No provision for amortization has been made for any of the recorded tangible capital assets.

(e) Income taxes

The Church is exempt from income taxes as a registered charity under the provisions of the Income Tax Act.

(f) Revenue recognition

The Church follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue of the Operating Fund in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. All other contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate fund when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

The Church and members of the congregation benefit greatly from donated services in the form of volunteer time for various activities and committees. Donated services are not recognized in these financial statements.

All interest earned on available cash balances is reflected as revenue of the respective Funds.

(g) Use of estimates

The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include valuation of tangible capital assets and accruals for receivables and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates. All estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made to the statements of operation as appropriate in the year they become known.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 2     SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED**

(h) Financial instruments

*Initial and subsequent measurement*

The Church initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value, except for certain related party transactions that are measured at the carrying amount or exchange amount, as appropriate.

The Church subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at cost or amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value of these financial instruments are recognized in the statement of operations.

The financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash, accounts receivable, and restricted current investments.

The financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable.

*Impairment*

When there is an indication of an impairment in value and the impairment is determined to have occurred, the carrying amount of a financial asset measured at cost or amortized cost is reduced to the greater of the discounted future expected cash flow or the proceeds that could be realized from sale of the financial asset. Such impairments can be subsequently reversed if the value of the financial asset subsequently improves. Impairment adjustments are recognized in the statement of operations.

**NOTE 3     RESTRICTED CURRENT INVESTMENTS**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Royal Bank, Cash	\$ 1,865,010	\$ 1,928,282
Building Project Escrow Account	<u>82,341,889</u>	<u>85,120,572</u>
	<u>\$ 84,206,899</u>	<u>\$ 87,048,854</u>

The agreement with Westbank Projects Corp. provides that the proceeds from the sale of the airspace parcel be placed in an interest-bearing escrow account and the escrow funds used to cover the costs of renovating the existing Church building and the construction of rental housing, offices and other facilities for the Church (See also Note 6).

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 4 TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS**

**Tangible Capital Assets Fund**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Land and Buildings		
Church Property - at assessed value		
969 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C.	<u><b>\$ 154,408,000</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 125,481,000</b></u>

**NOTE 5 DESIGNATED FUNDS**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Includes the following funds:		
Property Development (Note 6)	<b>\$ 83,376,700</b>	\$ 86,374,807
Bequests	<b>293,245</b>	293,951
Designated Charitable and Other Organizations	<b>106,748</b>	101,053
	<u><b>\$ 83,776,693</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 86,769,811</b></u>

**NOTE 6 PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Sale of Building Air Parcel	<b>\$ 92,004,400</b>	\$ 92,004,400
Costs incurred	<b>(14,045,555)</b>	(9,191,363)
Gifts received	<b>1,831,589</b>	1,663,978
Interest earned	<b>1,722,985</b>	195,725
Advances received	<b>1,863,281</b>	1,702,067
	<u><b>\$ 83,376,700</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 86,374,807</b></u>

Westbank Projects Corp. has purchased from the Church an airspace parcel that will be used for the construction of a market residential building. Westbank Projects Corp. will also construct for the Church rental housing, offices and other facilities as well as renovate and upgrade the existing Church building. Proceeds from the sale of the airspace parcel are held in an escrow account and will be used to cover the Church's renovation and construction costs. The capital costs relating to this project will be transferred to the Tangible Capital Assets Fund upon completion of the project.

The agreement requires Westbank Projects Corp. to reimburse the Church for certain costs on a scheduled basis to a contractual maximum amount in relation to the building project and disruptions to normal Church operations. As at December 31, 2019, advances totaling \$1,863,281 (2018 - \$1,702,067) have been received.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 7 DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Remuneration paid to:		
Treasurer	<u>\$ 15,574</u>	<u>\$ 30,896</u>

The Treasurer was paid to serve on the Operating Committee related to the Heart For The City building project.

**NOTE 8 EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Remuneration paid to employees or to persons under a contract for services whose remuneration was at least \$75,000:		
- Total number of persons	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
- Total remuneration paid	<u>\$ 139,454</u>	<u>\$ 185,739</u>

**NOTE 9 RETIREMENT PLANS**

The Church makes a defined contribution to registered retirement plans for all permanent salaried employees. Both the employer and employee portions vest immediately. During the year, the Church contributed \$33,861 (2018 - \$29,651) into the program. There is no past service liability in respect of this program.

**NOTE 10 COMPARATIVE FIGURES**

Certain of the comparative figures for the year ended December 31, 2018 have been reclassified to conform to the account classifications used in the current year. There have been no changes in the accounting principles or the reported operating results for the preceding year.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 11 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Church had transactions with the following organizations whose members are the Directors of First Baptist Church:

First Baptist Foundation

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Gifts received:		
- Cash donation included in Offerings	<u>\$ 75,000</u>	<u>\$ 55,000</u>

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

**NOTE 12 FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES**

Credit risk

The Church is exposed to credit risk in the event of non-performance by counterparties in connection with its accounts receivable and investment in ministers' residences. The Church does not obtain collateral or other security to support its accounts receivable subject to credit risk but mitigates this risk by dealing only with what management believes to be financially sound counterparties. Investment in ministers' residences are secured against the related properties. Therefore, the Church does not anticipate significant loss for non-performance. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2018.

