



**FIRST**  
BAPTIST CHURCH



# 2020 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

**CLAUDIA WAKEMAN**

*At all times, pray by the power of the Spirit. Pray all kinds of prayers. Be watchful, so that you can pray. Always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18, NIRV*

Within hours of our first CLT meeting in March, the province went into lockdown and all the discussions we had the evening before regarding how we would proceed with Church services and events were already out of date! The Pastoral Team and Support Staff rose to the challenge and our very first online service was held within days of that order. Amazing!

And so, it has continued - even to this day! None of us realized then just how long we would continue to hold online services and reorient ourselves to life with COVID - but we did know one thing for sure - our Lord would lead us step by step - and He has, blessing us along the way.

I am so very grateful to the Lord for His loving kindness. He has blessed us with an amazing and talented Pastoral Staff and Support Staff who each love the Lord and continually seek His face. They serve with joy. As well, we are blessed by the Church Leadership Team who represent you so very well. They are: James Goulden, Laine Bosma, Eugene Kaulius, Alan Dyck, Edna Grenz, Steve Milos, Susan Ting, Maureen Jones, Leona Adams and Trung Duong--each has served diligently, carefully, and prayerfully.

Because we all had to switch gears, we learned quickly how to do meetings on Zoom. As you well know, it is not the same as meeting face to face - but still, we tackled the issues, the decisions needing to be made and finding ways to move forward in God's grace.

Besides wanting to be particularly supportive of our staff who were working flat out, we considered many issues before us. By the summer we had had many discussions regarding worship and how we could best lead our congregation in this area. As a result, a Search Committee was tasked with the responsibility of seeking a Minister of Worship. As well, over the summer we recognized God's leading and gifting of Filipe. He has become our Director of International Ministries. At the same time, recognizing Daniel's heart, he became the Director of the Preteens and Youth Ministries. With these changes, the CLT tasked another Search Committee with the responsibility of seeking a Director of Children and Family Ministries. As well, over the next months we welcomed Daniel Surya as the Pastoral Care Intern, Joseph Leong as our Interim Director of Children and Family Ministries, and David Nacho as our Director of Street Ministries in January. These decisions came in the midst of the study, discussions and development of the Ministry and Mission Plan which was led by Anthony and the Pastoral Team and approved by the CLT in August.

In August, we celebrated the 20+ year ministry of Bob Swann, as he retired. What a joyful Zoom celebration that was! We are grateful that Bob and Anne will continue to call FBC their home as they seek God's leading!

In September, we held our very first virtual AGM, which had been postponed since May. It was such a joy to finally have an opportunity to "see" one another. One of the highlights of that meeting was a slide presentation created by Angeline Teay; "FBC in Pandemic Mode". It was a celebration of God's people being the "church"!

As we watched the deep hole of last February being built up to ground level during the Fall, the preparations and discussions concerning our upcoming "Displacement" was stepped up! We were aware that God had already been teaching us about what it means to be God's people in a strange land through and in the midst of a pandemic and realized it has served as a precursor to our being out of the building for two years come May 2021. He has taught us that we can do this by His grace; giving us new skills and abilities, encouraging us to join Connection Groups, getting to know our communities through the Area Pastorates and praying together virtually. How hard can Displacement be when God has already prepared the way!

Prayer has been central to our deliberations this year, individually and as a group. We held a Prayer Day early in April where we sought God's guidance and presence in reading Ephesians together. Though we did this independently since we could not meet together as planned, it still was a rich time. We have spent extended time in prayer at each meeting. We ask that you join us:

- Praying for each of staff by name - it's not easy serving the church by Zoom, internet and phone. And each have had extra responsibilities added to their job descriptions.
- Praying for our Search Committees as they do their work of discernment.
- Praying for the myriad of decisions needed as we leave the church building in May.
- Praying for decisions that will be made regarding future ministries as we anticipate new space and opportunities to serve the community surrounding us at Burrard and Nelson. The whole world literally lives around us.
- Praying for one another and how we can support one another and truly reflect Jesus' love to one another.
- Praying for our seniors, our Internationals, our Shelter friends, our families, our teens, our children, our single and married friends.
- Praying for the lonely, those who have lost jobs, those without homes, those struggling with mental illness, cancer and other physical ailments, those who are grieving many losses, not the least of those who have lost family members and the list goes on. We pray that each one knows Jesus and his love and that they are not alone.
- Praying that we might be a community of disciples following Jesus - in Connection Groups, in Discipleship Classes, Bible Study and Prayer.

As I close this, I want to express my gratitude for all your prayers - they are truly enabling. It is an honour to serve with you.

May we go into this new year with joyful expectation, knowing God is before us and that He does all things well. May we all learn more clearly how to be His church and be used of Him.

Bless you all,

Claudia Wakeman  
Moderator

## ROLL REPORT ON DECEMBER 31, 2020\*

Membership of the church on all rolls on December 31, 2019 was:

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

### MEMBERS RECEIVED IN 2020

Baptism	8
Letter of Transfer	0
Christian Experience	1
TOTAL RECEIVED IN 2020	9

### MEMBERS DISMISSED IN 2020

Letter of Transfer	0
Own Request	8
Death	8
Admin	8
TOTAL DISMISSED IN 2020	24

### MEMBERSHIP BY CLASSIFICATION

Active	465
Not Active	188
Non-Resident	29
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP ON ALL ROLLS ON DECEMBER 31, 2020	682

#### \*ROLL REVISION:

From time to time, roll revision is carried out when the membership rolls are 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. 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 2020:

Rush, Don	Feb 9/20
Wallouch, Ruth	Mar 1/19
Sauer, Gwyneth	Apr 21/20
Mann, Bart	Apr 23/20
Ratzlaff, George	Apr 28/20
Jones, David	May 12/20
Couper, Ian	May 22/20
Quiroga, Walter	June 3/20
Hunt, Graham	June 14/20
Verrier, Trish	July 2/20
Friesen, Jacob	July 3/20
Edwards, Frank	Aug 15/20
Voth, Abe	Sep 1/20
Dueck, Lena	Sep 16/20
Hunt, Shirley	Nov 8/20
Nairne, Thomas	Dec 29/20
Lake, Allan	Dec 30/20



## SENIOR MINISTER

### ANTHONY BROWN

*"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple  
and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?"*  
(1 Cor 3:16)

In my report last year, I identified a number of significant challenges facing our church. Well, it turns out I missed one!

No less than in its influence on each individual life, the COVID-19 pandemic has deeply impacted our church life. Its effects have included the closing of our building for worship services and other ministry, the transformation of our ways of offering fellowship and pastoral care to one another, and, most tragically, the prevention of our gathering together to offer the support of our presence to those who have been bereaved or who have experienced profound suffering in other ways.

And yet, at the same time, we have found ourselves rising to the challenge of our circumstances by making the extra effort required to stay in touch, to care for one another, and to extend the hand of Jesus in loving service to one another and to the wider community. The adverse conditions imposed on us by the pandemic have spurred many to join a Connection Group for the first time and others to step back into small-group life; they have caused us to accelerate the development of Area Pastorates, to encourage mission and ministry in the different communities in which we live; and they have opened our eyes to the experience of people in other parts of the world who live their entire lives under threat from disease, limitation of freedom, and want. This last being particularly evident in the protests over systemic racial injustice, which prompted the Pastoral Team and the Church Leadership Team to engage in serious soul searching, despite the diversity of our congregation and our staff.

Throughout the pandemic we have been guided in our response to the challenges we are facing by Jesus' call to love our neighbours - to put their needs before our own - typified by the fact that in the first week of church building closures, while we did not hold a worship service, we were still able to run Shelter. I found it tremendously encouraging that this was the priority of our staff and volunteers in that very challenging moment.

At times, since then, loving our neighbours has meant taking difficult decisions, such as the determination not to open up for in-person services. In this decision we were guided particularly by Paul's words to the believers in Corinth:

*"I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but not everything is constructive. No one should seek their own good, but the good of others. (1 Cor 10:23-24)*

Despite our longing to gather together in worship, our gracious God does not need a building in which to be glorified. In fact, this year we have proved Paul's claim that,

*"In him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." (Eph 2:22)*

In all of this, we have, of course, been only one of hundreds of thousands of local churches worldwide facing the same questions and challenges. In Canada, where there are approximately 27,000 local churches, recent research has shown that large urban churches<sup>i</sup> have been the least likely to re-open for in-person services and have struggled the most when they have attempted to do so - for example, only being able to draw back on average a maximum of 22% of their congregants. On the brighter side, research also shows that people's stated intention to return to full participation in their church when it is possible to do so is in excess of 85%.

Many are predicting that some of the changes in church practices that have taken place are here to stay, particularly the use of online services. 65% of all urban churches in Canada have begun offering online services during the pandemic. First Baptist Church is among only 5% of large churches for whom online services are completely new and we are grateful for everyone involved in making these possible.

It is also interesting to note the research into the changing priorities of churches over the last ten months. One report states<sup>ii</sup>:

*Changes by churches fell into three themes.*

- *After shifting services online, churches are engaging their people in small groups and looking for creative ways to serve their children and youth.*
- *They are investing significant energy to implement new safety protocols for in-person activities.*
- *They are exploring how to better meet local needs and express the love of God to their neighbours.*

While we have also had long-term mission & ministry planning, pastoral searches, and the Heart for the City project as priorities, our other priorities over these months have been the same as the top five priorities identified by other large churches across Canada:

1. *Online services & giving*
2. *Small groups*
3. *Implementing COVID-19 regulations*
4. *Local engagement*
5. *Tech upgrades*

Looking forward into 2021 we have the encouragement of anticipating new staff in our pastoral team, our imminent displacement from the church building (though that may hardly be noticed by most of us for a while!), and a growing focus on mission in various forms. We will also begin to see one another receiving vaccinations.

I encourage you to be in prayer for all of these things, as well as for one another. *Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds* (Heb 10:24). We are God's temple and, whatever the circumstances, the Holy Spirit is continuing to build us together.

Grace and peace,

Anthony

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<sup>i</sup> 500+ in attendance at weekly worship prior to the pandemic

<sup>ii</sup> *Impact of COVID-19 on Canadian Christian Charities*, Fall Report: WayBase, November 17, 2020

## EXECUTIVE MINISTER

### JUSTIN KIM

“Unprecedented” is probably one of the most used adjectives for 2020. As much as some of you are Zoomed out, I am “unprecedented” out! However, here we are. I miss you all. I look forward to that day when we will be able to gather together in-person.

As I reflected on 2020, three things came to mind. In the midst of a global pandemic, we witnessed and experienced the unwavering love of God, the unselfish dedication of our staff team, and the unswerving faith of our congregation. I am simply left with prayers and words of thanksgiving.

Living God, we thank you for waking us up this morning. Your mercies are indeed new every morning! Great is your faithfulness! Your unwavering love is what carried us to this point. While we were, at times, paralyzed by our fears, worries, and frustrations, your love never failed us. You were present with us. You provided us with more than we could have imagined. We thank you, Lord!

To our Pastoral and Support team, we certainly had our ups and downs! Amid unrelenting change, you demonstrated resilience, flexibility, teamwork, and, more importantly, care for one another. The phrase “grace under fire” comes to mind when I think of you. As much as it was interesting to experiment with Zoom, I look forward to going back to our meals together, unplanned chats at our common places, and getting scolded (by some of you) for wearing the same outfit to the office. I might shed some tears when we, in-person, can finally sound synchronized when we sing “Happy Birthday.” Thank you for your dedication. Thank you for valuing others above yourselves. Love you all!

To all who served in our Church Leadership Team, Ministry Area Teams, committees, task groups, and ministry teams, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all. Your mindset of “How can I serve the Lord? How can I reflect the self-giving love of Jesus?” has challenged me. In countless unseen ways, you have contributed to the unity and maturity of our congregation. Above all, it has been a joy to see you grow in Christlikeness. What we were able to get done is secondary. How we were drawn towards Christ. Now, that’s primary! You are constantly in my prayers.

To the committed group of congregants who have prayed for me and with me, I want to thank you for putting up with me! I can identify with Paul’s self-description as being the “chief of sinners.” There is a mistaken notion that being a pastor translates to some magical immunity to sin, discouragement, and a range of other challenges. I need Jesus just as much as you, if not more. I needed prayer-ers. You were there to remind me to keep my eyes on Jesus. Thank you.

To our congregation, we are at a critical crossroads in 2021. There will be no shortage of challenges that we will face. For one, we are inching closer to our displacement in the middle of a global pandemic. However, we have the right person at the helm. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, is leading us. We simply need to trust and obey.

Looking forward to all that is ahead, my prayer for you has not changed. Here is a prayer that I have been praying for and with you all for the last seven years:

"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:14-19).

With love,  
Justin Kim

## TREASURER

### LAINE BOSMA

#### 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

While my first year as treasurer was interesting, I couldn't imagine how interesting 2020 was going to be. I want to thank, 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 2020 was \$1,700,000. While we missed our giving goal by 14% (\$234,637, total giving \$1,465,363), given that we have not had in person services since March, I am very encouraged by the total giving. This is truly the work of the Lord. PRAISE be to the LORD! Total giving in 2020 including all designated giving except for special offerings, and the HFTC Campaign was \$1,516,963 down \$262,865, or 15% compared to 2019, recognizing that the 2019 amount included a transfer from First Baptist Foundation. Our Easter (\$3,725 to Keats Camp), Thanksgiving (\$14,485 for equipment to improve our virtual services) and Christmas (\$25,610 to the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in Beirut) special offerings, totalled \$43,820; down \$2,825, or 6% compared to 2019.

Total operating revenue of \$1,786,447 is down \$30,164, or 1.7% compared to 2019. This total includes the Canadian Emergency Wage subsidy (CEWS) of \$241,313. Operating Expenses totalled \$1,528,027 in 2020, down \$216,379 or 12.4% compared to 2019. These reduced operating expenses are the result of significant, diligent, and fiscally responsible decisions by the pastoral team and the administrative staff in the face of substantial uncertainty. 2020 ended with a surplus of \$258,420. PRAISE the LORD! This surplus roughly equals the benefit we have received as part of the CEWS.

Our 2020 year-end cash balance of \$985,104 is up \$270,625 from the year-end 2019 balance. Ideally, we should maintain a cash balance equal to 3 months of our budgeted expenses. Given annual fluctuation in the cash balance, our average month-end cash balance is a better estimate of our resources. For 2020, our average month-end cash balance was \$717,179, which equated to 5 months of budgeted expenses. This is increased from a 3.5 month average in 2019.

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

- Benevolence Fund: \$31,086
- Bequest Fund: \$295,762 - increased from \$293,244 at the end of 2019 (\$2,518)
- Liberia Fund: \$18,337 - decreased from \$22,775 at the end of 2019 (\$4,438)
- Mission & Justice fund: \$35,000 - unchanged from the end of 2019
- Minister's Housing Fund: \$208,105 - decreased from \$245,735 at the end of 2019 (\$37,630)
- Building Project Fund: \$1,173,245 - decreased from 1,208,064 at the end of 2019 (\$34,819)
- Pastoral Staff Wellness Fund: \$6,376 - decreased from \$8,666 at the end of 2019 (\$2,290)
- Others: ~\$46,341

To see how the Lord has provided through all of the uncertainty, fear, and heartache of 2020 is truly a blessing; He continually washes us in his love and grace. It is up to us, the people of His Church, to respond to this love with generosity of spirit, time, and wealth. 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, JOHN TSANG

The Prayer and Care Ministry Area Team's objectives are to ensure that spiritual and pastoral care is adequately given to individuals with needs and that a framework/system of training caregivers is offered. This MAT also seeks to deepen and sustain the prayer life of the congregation by overseeing existing ministries like prayer companions, prayer meetings, weekly prayer guides, and hosting occasional prayer retreats.

During 2020, the Prayer and Care MAT members were Wendy Bredo, Gord Taylor, Carolyn Watts (chair), John Tsang (Minister of Congregational Care), and, in the early months of the year, Claudia Wakeman, followed by Susan Ting as CLT representative. It has been a joy to serve together.

#### **Caring Ministry**

It will come as no surprise to anyone that, in this year of pandemic, the Prayer and Care areas of ministry did not unfold in precisely the ways we had outlined in our 2020 Ministry Plan. (Did anything this year?)

A number of planned Care Ministry trainings had to be cancelled though others went ahead before the pandemic began. During the pandemic, we then switched to online. Then in the fall, with careful public health-approved safety protocols in place, we hosted a number of in-person seminars. Some of the needs of our congregation changed too, so the topics of training sessions shifted accordingly to include, for example, courses such as Sanctuary Mental Health Ministry's course, *Faith, Grief, and Covid-19: A Conversation*.

In 2020, the following Caring Ministry trainings were offered, and many attended and benefited greatly:

- *Care Friends and Care Minister I* in Jan 2020
- *The Sanctuary Course (Understanding Mental Health)* in Feb and Nov 2020.
- *Faith, Grief, and Covid-19* in May and June, 2020
- *Options in Senior Living* twice in June and July, 2020
- *End of Life Care* twice in Oct and Nov 2020

The Alzheimer's Café and First Seniors' luncheons began the year with their regular times of meeting but had to be suspended during the pandemic. Steps were taken to keep in touch with individuals who were regulars at both of these events.

As well, even during the pandemic, we found creative ways to conduct marriages, baby dedications, and memorials. Without a doubt, it was challenging to offer care with the many restrictions, but by God's grace we adapted and found ways to carry on. One shift that came



about as a result of the pandemic was the development of Area Pastorates in which we divided the city into 7 areas or neighbourhoods, overseen by one or two Pastoral Team members to keep in touch with individuals and foster an area identity for caring through safe in-person gatherings at parks, formation of Connection Groups, and other missional endeavors. Moving forward, we see that Area Pastorates will be an integral part of our FBC post-pandemic and displacement phase and beyond.

### **Prayer Ministry**

It is lovely to look back over the year and our changed plans and recognize that God knows far better than we do how to help us grow as a congregation in the crucial areas of prayer and caring well for one another. The pandemic has drawn us into becoming more prayerful people as well as learning both to give and receive care in ways that we wouldn't have had we not felt our need for God and each other as acutely as many of us have during these many months when we have been physically separate.

On Feb 15, 2020 Carolyn Hindmarsh led and facilitated a pre-Lenten prayer retreat in which we were invited to consider what distracts us from feeding on Jesus, our Bread of Life, as deeply as we need, and to choose to set aside one or more of those distractions for the period of Lent. We were also encouraged to consider taking up a practice that helps us feed more deeply on Jesus. Little did we know that Lent would be the "lentiest Lent" that most of us have ever experienced! Our planned autumn prayer retreat had to be let go for this year, however we continue to receive the invitation to eat and drink deeply of Jesus who is our Life.

As in-person services were replaced with online services, the role of our prayer companions shifted from praying in person with people after each service to being available to pray over Zoom or by phone with those who email to request prayer after a service.

Early in the pandemic, we were invited to pause and pray at noon. As our Sunday services moved online and First News shifted to Wednesday, many of the mid-week pastoral reflections offered in First News provided us with new ways to pray our grief and loneliness and refocus on the faithfulness of the God who remains lovingly with us throughout all that life holds. Weekly, we continue to circulate a prayer guide for individuals to pray for the World, our country, our city, and one another. Since September 2020, monthly prayer meetings have been offered on Zoom and have been well-attended.

In 2021, we hope to continue with many of the things that we have found effective this year. In addition to some of the classes that we have offered, we have developed a number of new Zoom seminars such as *Journey through Infertility and Miscarriage*, *Primer on Memory Loss and Dementia*, and *Single Again - When my Spouse Passes Away*. We hope to minister to people through all of life's stages and challenges.

In closing, we give thanks to God, the many volunteers, and participants for the things that we were able to do together in a difficult and unprecedented year. This year has challenged us to adapt, be creative, and be even more intentional in caring for one another without the use of a building. May the Lord continue to lead us in 2021.

With thankful hearts,  
Carolyn Watts, MAT Chair  
John Tsang, Minister of Congregational Care

## NEW GENERATIONS MAT

SARAH KAWAMURA, DANIEL FOSTER FABIANO, JOSEPH LEONG

There are many things to grieve but also many things to be thankful for in 2020. All our plans changed in March, but the Living God was faithful in working in and through us to move our NewGen ministry towards the goals of **discipleship**, **community**, **care**, and **partnership with parents**.

**Discipleship** is never limited to Sunday, rather it's an everyday journey to become more like Jesus. For NewGen staff and volunteers, working towards discipleship in 2020 has meant filming our weekly Hi-Five videos using the book *I Am: 40 Reasons to Trust God* (an online Sunday school children curriculum). Our hope is that these videos would serve as a creative and fun way to continue to learn about Jesus even while stuck at home during the pandemic. We have also done zoom calls to share life and faith, baby dedications, baptisms, and encouraged families to have meaningful faith conversations at home.

Since we were asked to stay apart physically, creating online spaces and online content for *connection* was paramount for us to build **community**. Through our weekly zoom calls for preteens, youth, and young adults we have endeavoured and been blessed to create a space to connect. We were also blessed by so many families who participated in worship services by sending in pictures and video clips and who responded to our Hi-Five videos with texts, emails, and phone calls. We continue to lean into *connecting* as a focus for the NewGen Ministry and are so thankful for the different ways we connected and built community this year.

This year we also found some creative ways to **care** for one another and our city. We were thrilled to safely host a VBS camp led by Joseph Leong and a Kickers soccer camp led by Jose Figueroa in the Summer. We were also able to provide care for our families through prayer, cards, phone-calls, emails, as well as with physically-distanced gift drop-off visits. Through these simple and yet powerful ways, the Living God has used everyone in our community and NewGen ministry to care for and minister to each other and build a stronger sense of community.

The importance of **partnering** with parents (or other primary caregivers) cannot be understated, perhaps especially during this global pandemic! We were pleased to host a parent seminar in February on Spiritual Formation, and provided resources to support parents in their faith conversations at home. We appreciate the ways our parents have leaned into their calling to be the primary disciples of their children.

We have experienced some *change* not only in our plans but in leadership too. In September, Filipe Balieiro transitioned into a new role at FBC as Director of International Ministries. Daniel Fabiano is now serving as Director of Preteens and Youth Ministries, and Joseph Leong began

serving as Interim Director of Children and Family Ministries. We are grateful for the ways God has worked through these changes and continues to strengthen our team.

Our Ministry Area Team (MAT) also saw some change with the addition of Jonathan Lim to the pre-existing team of Edna Grenz, David Brown, and Sarah Kawamura. Christina Bosma transitioned out from the MAT Chair position in January. We're thankful to have Sarah as our new MAT Chair. Again, we see the Lord's goodness to us in these changes, and we appreciate the opportunity to encourage, pray, serve, and grow together.

It's impossible to get through this report without mentioning grief. We grieve the lost opportunities to be together, serve together, worship and celebrate together. We also grieve for those who are suffering, many who are alone and feeling isolated. Christ, have mercy.

Lastly, we are thankful! There is so much to be thankful for on a personal and community level. In March, we celebrated the (physically distanced) baptisms of Ally Reddekopp and Mia Kyriacou. In the Fall, we celebrated the outdoor child dedications of Ada Elliott, Jubilee Campbell, and Andreas Kubadinov. This was a blessing and reminder of the work of the Holy Spirit and faith in Jesus. We are thankful that our in-person activities went well and were safe. We are grateful for our families and their active participation in our church. We are also grateful for Suzannah Espíndola who has stepped up as a leader for the Young Adults Connection group. We have much to be thankful for. The Living God has been good to us. Amen!

**Personal Reflections from Daniel Fabiano:** I am so grateful for our amazing team of leaders who have made leading in the NewGen ministry a joy. Thank you for your time, care, and investment in this ministry. I don't have the space to name each of you but you know who you are- THANK YOU! I especially appreciate our FBC parents and caregivers, who partner with us more than ever we realized, in discipling your children. I am thankful for your trust. I am also thankful to the Pastoral team for their friendship, encouragement and support in this challenging season. Upon reflection, this passage from Philippians 1 comes to mind, *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."* Blessings Friends,  
Danny

**Personal Reflections from Joseph Leong:** I am truly blessed to have the opportunity to serve alongside the Pastoral Team, leaders, volunteers, and parents during this unprecedented time. Although we missed meeting each other, I treasured every conversation and (social-distanced) meeting that we had. Thank you for your prayer, encouragement and guidance.

**Personal Reflections from Sarah Kawamura:**

A *huge* thank you to our amazing volunteer team and MAT, and also to Danny and Joseph for stepping into new roles and serving tirelessly with such dedication, authenticity, and zest!

A special thanks to Filipe (and Jozi too!) for all their time, energy, and care while serving the youth at FBC. Lastly, I want to thank our FBC family for finding creative ways to connect and

show love to the young people in our congregation (and in our own neighbourhoods too). These efforts (large and small) truly make a difference.

**Highlights:**

Preteens and Youth Graduation Celebrations on Zoom, Gift drop-offs visits, Baptisms of Ally and Mia, child dedications of Ada, Jubilee, and Andreas, Summer Hangouts, Filming Hi-Five Videos, New leadership roles, Christmas Cards for Seniors, "Heads, Hands & Feet" Project, Parent Seminar Spiritual Formation, Spark Trip, VBS, Kickers, 5 News Births,

**Prayer Requests:**

Search Committee for new Director of Children and Family Ministries, Creativity and wisdom in caring for Families, Mental health of NewGen friends in particular, Planning for upcoming displacement, perseverance and strengthening relationships.

In Christ,

Sarah Kawamura, MAT Chair

Daniel Foster Fabiano, Director of Preteens & Youth Ministries

Joseph Leong, Interim Director of Children & Family Ministries

## MISSION AND JUSTICE MAT

### MARJORIE COX, FILIPE BALIEIRO, BOB SWANN

#### **Liberia: Feb 17-March 18, 2020:**

The Liberia Team: Rev. Bob Swann, Dr. Abramm Vermeulen and his wife, Elma, Dr. John Potts and Spencer Willis.

This FBC mission trip to Kwendin was the 8<sup>th</sup> mission trip to Liberia in 10 years. This journey was focused on medical issues and helping to support community education.

The medical clinic in Kwendin is in walking distance for 12,000 Liberians. This medical team, on average, saw 100 patients per day at the Kwendin Clinic and also performed 22 + surgeries in the Tappita Hospital, one hour away.

Bob focused on helping the community educators and schools that were in the town of Kwendin. He also focused on the vocational classes (agriculture, sewing and woodwork) of the Kwendin Vocational Training Center (the Liberia Baptist School).

The COVID-19 crisis began while we were in Liberia. People prayed and we got on the second last flight of Brussels Airway out of Liberia on March 17.

#### **Refugee Sponsorship:**

FBC has officially sponsored a Syrian family that is “waiting” in Lebanon. This is a family of 4 made up of mom, dad, and two children. Their interview at the Canadian Embassy has been seriously delayed because of COVID-19 and the blast in Beirut. Please pray that they are able to be interviewed soon and then arrive in Canada promptly.

#### **Shelter Ministry:**

The Shelter Ministry has continued throughout 2020 although in a revamped form due to covid. The Emergency Weather Nights continued up to the end of February 2020. The Shelter meals are still being served at the front door of FBC on Burrard Street. The volunteers have continued cooking and serving the meals faithfully every Tuesday night. Those needing meals continue to express deep gratitude for these meals during these difficult days.

Bob Swann retired on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. He thanks everyone for all the gifts and beautiful letters.

The Shelter Ministry kept its activity on Tuesday nights under Filipe’s supervision until Jan 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 when David Nacho started as Director of Street Ministries.

### **Internationals Ministry:**

The International Ministry has continued throughout 2020 although in a different format due to Covid-19. We mostly met over Zoom and kept in contact with the students who decided to stay in Vancouver despite the pandemic. We kept our ESL sermon discussion on Sundays after the service through Zoom as well. The ESL Sermon Discussion has been a blessing for those who are learning English as second language. The Lord is moving his Spirit to bless and to reach out those people who are seeking to know more about Jesus. Please pray that we will be able to teach and care for our Internationals community during this pandemic season.

With a thankful heart,  
Marjorie Cox, MAT Chair  
Filipe Balieiro, Director of International Ministries  
Bob Swann, Minister of Mission (retired August 2020)

## DISCIPLESHIP AND COMMUNITY MAT

HOLLY RAIL, REBECCA THORNER, STUART CAMPBELL

This past year has been unprecedented in the living memory of our congregation. In mid-March when in-person gatherings were no longer an option, we had to figure out new ways to be living as a community while being apart in body--how to remain connected when we couldn't be together. We wrestled with how best to offer Connection Groups (CG), and how to provide learning opportunities online. Covid restrictions permitting, we met in smaller groups in parks and sidewalk cafes, over walks and bike rides. Overall, we've been so thankful for the continued sense of community that has been fostered in our new situation. And we are thankful for MAT and Connection Group Leaders who have stepped up to make community work in our new context!



As we rolled out the new Discipleship Pathway we have had various activities to help us to join God's people, know God's story, walk in God's ways, and participate in God's mission. Early in the year we held two Growth Classes. In January, Anthony ran a class on how to do one to one discipleship, and in the Spring, we ran class via Zoom on the *Art of Neighbouring* with Barry Jung, which included a follow-up CG curriculum written by Stuart. There was a good turnout for this class and the feedback was positive. A few CGs chose to use the Neighbouring curriculum over the summer and found it helpful as well. Neighbouring is an important topic that we plan to revisit again.

This year has also seen the formation of Area Pastorates. These have sought to provide a consistent point of contact--a hub or centre for connection with and communication to our



neighborhoods. Perhaps no element of FBC life is so naturally positioned to collaborate with the Area Pastorates as Connection Groups, which have become a key part of community building in our various neighbourhoods. As we organize Connection Groups around neighbourhoods, they become one of the most vital ways that we walk the Discipleship Pathway in each FBC geographical area. In other words, we hope and pray that Connection Groups would cultivate genuine community not only among the group participants, but also among other FBC family in the area, as well as with neighborhood friends. We currently have 19 Connection Groups that are actively meeting and hope to develop more over the coming year.

This past year, we were most thankful to cultivate three new Connection Groups: one downtown, one in the Cambie area, and one in the Olympic Village-East Vancouver area. The groups currently range in size from 5 to 10 people, and all three are mixed-gender groups. All three new groups are currently working with the sermon-series material, following Rebecca and Stuart's suggestion that the sermon curriculum serve as a home base, from which departures can be made. It should be said that the fruit of these new groups came largely from the work of pastoral team members, primarily Stuart and John, cultivating a sense of area affinity, and having ongoing one-on-one conversations to plant CG seeds, even before the birth of the new groups.

However, in looking towards the formation of additional new groups, our church faces at least two substantial challenges. First, there continues to be a need for well-formed leadership in order to birth new groups. This is a challenge of the first order as the reality is that many of our most experienced FBC leaders are already investing their time in Committee or MAT life. Second, there continues to be a need for our congregation to grow in its understanding of the importance of small group life. Further teaching and modeling of this by leaders may help congregants to see this as an essential part of FBC life.

Connection Group curriculum has been focused around the 1 Samuel series with a change in that the study is done prior to the sermon being preached. Many groups have shared their excitement with this model, as group participants experience how deeply they are able to enter into the Sunday preaching having already wrestled with the text in a group setting. We held two Connection Group Leaders gatherings over Zoom the past year. The purpose of these was to build community between Connection Group Leaders, to provide a place to learn from each other, and to offer training and resources. The Zoom platform seemed to allow more people to attend than would normally have been able to, and there was helpful discussion among leaders. We also ran a book study on Scott Boren's *Leading Small Groups in the Way of Jesus* as a training for new Connection Group Leaders, but open to all. While attendance for this was quite low, with only five leaders joining, the discussion was fruitful.

Baptism and Membership classes were held in January and February, and five people came into membership. Three baptisms took place during the first half of the year as well—two of our young adults, Ally Reddekopp and Mia Kyriacou were baptized in March, and Beatriz Hanashiro

was baptized in May. We offered a Membership Class twice more during the year but had no further sign ups for these during the pandemic.

Many thanks to our MAT members, Katie, Mark and Alan. They bring their wisdom, insight and good humour to every gathering, and uphold all these efforts through prayer. Thank you as well to Connection Group leaders and to each of you who have contributed to the growth of community and discipleship by your participation in any or all of these opportunities.

Holly Rail, MAT Chair

Stuart Campbell, Connection Group Coordinator

Rebecca Thornber, Minister of Discipleship & Community

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### SUSAN TING

The Nominating Committee is delighted to present the following candidates to our congregation as new incoming members and incumbent member 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):

- Laine Bosma                      Treasurer, CLT (Term 3, Year 3; CLT year 5)
- Suzana Espíndola              Director at Large, CLT (Term 1)
- Albert Paul                      Director at Large, CLT (Term 1)
- Jacinth Connop                Director at Large, CLT (Term 1)
- Brad Thiessen                 (Prayer & Care MAT) (Term 1)
- Angeline (Misuk) Lee         (Mission & Justice MAT) (Term 1)
- Holly Rail                        (Discipleship & Community MAT) (Term 2)
- Mark Anderson                (Discipleship & Community MAT) (Term 2)
- Carolyn Watts                 (Prayer & Care MAT) (Term 2)
- Wendy Bredo                 (Prayer & Care MAT) (Term 2)
- David Brown                    (New Generation MAT) (Term 2)

#### **An immensely grateful “Thank you”**

The Nominating Committee, and myself personally, would 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:

- Alan Dyck (CLT Director-at-large)
- Edna Grenz (CLT Director-at-large)
- Eugene Kaulias (CLT Director-at-large)
- Maureen Jones (CLT Director-at-large)
- Steve Milos (CLT Director-at-large)
- Jan Porcino (Mission & Justice MAT)
- Gordon Taylor (Prayer & Care MAT)

First Baptist has been blessed by your service. Thank you! I am mindful of the hearts and hours you have poured into your service, your longsuffering patience and charity towards your fellow brothers and sisters at FBC; more importantly, out of your deep love for Jesus, our Master and Great Shepherd. We pray you have also been blessed and matured as Christ’s disciples through the exercising of your gifts in the Body.

The committee gives thanks to God always for His provision. Our hearts truly leap with joy when new candidates take a step of faith and obedience by stepping forward, to be considered as servants willing to shepherd Christ's flock. Together we seek to imitate our Great Shepherd and follow in His footsteps.

Our work is not done. We continue to search and discern for additional member to serve on CLT, and new members to come on board the Membership Committee and Nominating Committee for ratification at May AGM. We ask for your prayers and support by bringing forward members to our attention as we continue our discernment process.

Respectfully submitted in Christ's service,  
on behalf of the committee (Chris Hawkey, Lynda Palmer, Nancy Scambler, Bert Paul)  
Susan Ting, Chair

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	2021	Year total winter 2022
Claudia Wakeman	Director-at-large		1	2			4
	Moderator				1	2	
James Goulden	Director-at-large			1			3
	Vice Moderator				1	2	
Laine Bosma	Director-at-large	1	2				5
	Treasurer			1	2	3	
Jay Connop	Director-at-large					1	1
Bert Paul	Director-at-large					1	1
Suzana Espíndola	Director-at-large					1	1
Leona Adams	Director-at-large				1	2	2
Susan Ting	Vice Moderator	Interim	1	2			5
	Director-at-large				1	2	
Trung Duong	Director-at-large				1	2	2
<b>New Generation Ministry Area Team (MAT)</b>							
Sarah Kawamura (Chair)	Deacon			Interim	1	2	2
David Brown	Deacon			1	2	3	3
Jonathan Lim	Deacon				1	2	2
<b>Prayer and Care Ministry Area Team (MAT)</b>							
Carolyn Watts (Chair)	Deacon			1	2	3	3
Brad Thiessen	Deacon					1	1
Wendy Bredo	Deacon			1	2	3	3
<b>Discipleship and Community Ministry Area Team (MAT)</b>							
Holly Rail (Chair)				1	2	3	3
Katie Findlay			1	2	3	4	4
Mark Anderson				1	2	3	3
<b>Mission and Justice Ministry Area Team (MAT)</b>							
Marjorie Cox	Deacon			Adjunct	1	2	2
David Kwan	Deacon				1	2	2
Angeline (Misuk) Lee	Deacon					1	1

## INTRODUCTORY BIO OF NEW CANDIDATES

### CLT

#### Suzana Espíndola

I am from Brazil and I have been worshipping at FBC since 2014.

I did not grow up in a Christian family, but we/I always believed in God. When I was a kid, I was very intrigued with the person of Jesus, and in my prayers always asked God to be like Him because He was a very good man. I accepted Jesus in my early 20s, but it took me five years to surrender to Him and become His follower.

It also took me a little while to be involved in the church's activities back in Brazil. I was... Let's say, a little judgemental. I was not too fond of comments I used to hear of people complaining of how someone else was doing some activity/ministry. In my mind, I thought, "then, do yourself or help those who are trying to do something, instead of just talking about it." Until the day I felt God asking me if I would be working for them or Him. And, if it were for Him, I would not need to worry or care about what people would think or say. Since then, I have served in the Children Ministry, Missions and Justice Ministry committee. Our mission was to help those in need with immediate help and long-term projects in partnership with the church's charity institutions.

At FBC, I have been involved in the Shelter Program, Children Ministry, International Ministry and the Sunday Connection group. Since January 2020, I have been involved with the Young Adult Group. I have helped with the hospitality ministry - ushering and serving coffee on Sundays after service.

My background is Business, with an MBA focusing on people management and a master's in Production Engineering, focusing on process management. I am graduating in my Ph.D. program at UBC in Civil Engineering - Project and Construction Management, focusing on sustainable development. I am continually asking why and how for everything. That is a powerful skill and tool as a project/process management specialist. However, in "God's business," this question is not relevant that much. I would say that we could replace the question of *why?* for perhaps *what?* –what do you want me to do, God? what do I need to learn in this circumstance, God? etc.–.

And that is my constant conflict between my flesh - of trying to figure everything out, understand and have an answer for everything, ask why for everything, in contrast to trust in God and put everything in His hands. I need to trust and wait unconditionally. It becomes a little easier as I become closer to Him. But I see myself anxious, confused and sometimes even scared once in a while. Especially in times of waiting. But, when I finally can hear His voice

telling me, “do not worry, my daughter, I am in control, and I love who you are and how you always try to figure things out, but right now, just trust in me.” Then I can finally rest. That is the best thing I can probably want in my life.

It is my goal, to love God above anything, to love myself as He loves me (selflessly), and to love my neighbours as He loves them (1 John 4:16 “And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.”).

## **Elbert (Bert) Paul**

My wife Lynn and I have attended FBC for the last sixteen years. I was the former chair of the Vancouver Christian Counselling Centre, and served on CLT. I, along with others, made presentations to the City of Vancouver on the Heart for the City project in support of the significant and worthwhile opportunities of service it affords to our community. Lynn and I also led an FBC connection group for four years.

I have a significant historic link to FBC as my grandfather, Dr. Willard Litch, was the Senior Minister at the Church in the early 1900's. My father, Dr. Elbert Paul was also the Church's Senior Minister for over 17 years through the Depression, the Second World War and the early 1950's.

I have national political experience including public policy matters, serving on the board of directors of the Federal Liberal Agency of Canada as the Chief Agent of the Party. I have served seven leaders and four prime ministers over my 30 years of involvement.

I have ongoing business responsibilities as the CFO for Cold Water Ranch (2011) Ltd. and as a director for Sema:th Xo: Tsa Developments Ltd. and Kilgard Business Park Ltd.

I am a collector of antiques and music and love to spend time with my mischievous five grandchildren!

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## **Prayer and Care MAT**

### **Brad Thiessen**

I first started attending FBC in 2000 and became a member in May 2017. I'm not sure what took me so long but, I'm glad I took that step. My direct ministry involvement at the church has included co-leading the DivorceCare course (2009 - 2011) and the Alpha course (2019). I'll never forget the first evening of the first DivorceCare course I led at FBC in 2009. We were meeting in the Ross room and although I was a bit nervous about what to expect, I felt a real

affirming 'glow' about being a part of this special church and in a ministry I was called to be in. I have also been blessed to be a part of two different connection groups in the past.

I have been co-leading DivorceCare at St. John's Vancouver since 2014 and have also led the course at Tenth Ave Alliance. This winter 2021 will be my first experience in leading an online DivorceCare group.

I enjoy going for a good paddle in the wooden kayak that I built. A good socially distanced activity that still can be social when done in a group.

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## **Mission and Justice MAT**

### **Misuk Lee**

I have been attending First Baptist Church for six years. I participated in the International Bible Study and International Interpretation Sermon Class after Sunday service, Choir, and Prayer.

I studied Christian Studies MA at ACTS seminaries. Since completion, I have been serving seniors at Baptist Housing as a chaplain. I used to be a nurse in Korea, and had the freedom to share the gospel and pray for my patients. However, I had a hunger for the Word of God and wanted to be equipped to make disciples. I thought Canada is multicultural and could be an excellent place to share the good news with many nations.

Since I came to Canada, I have met the homeless, First Nations, and people suffering from addictions. They want to change but cannot help themselves. I could also see loneliness among international students, immigrants, even in the local people. Their hearts are very thirsty and hungry for the truth and love. I believe that there is God's space. My passion for those people could be His invitation to His mission, and I would like to join the team.

I love to meet people and listen to their stories. Also, I love to share what I love, especially about Jesus and the Bible. I love old Hymn and country gospel songs. I am very outgoing but also love to be alone as well.

Last, I want to share one of many testimonies; since I came to the Lord, Our Father God provides me with lots of delicious food. Yes, I love to eat. I hope and pray that God continues to give me a chance to share the Good news to the poor and share their physical needs as well. Please pray this for me.

God bless you.



## **CURRENT AND RETURNING LEADERSHIP SERVICING SECOND TERM**

### **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 also 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, chairing 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 my two daughters Elia (9) and Avery (6) more than anything, and that the 4 of us love spending time together travelling....and eating!

## **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 sometimes peeking through the crack in her bedroom door to see her on her knees beside her bed praying in the early 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. I took a sabbatical from my vocation and join 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 for patients and colleagues.

I started attending FBC in Fall, 2009; became a member in 2014. I started getting involved serving as usher. In May 2017, I joined the CLT community. My responsibility, amongst other things, included chairing the Nominating Committee. When time permits, I lead/host study & connection groups.

I love to travel, 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, though I have lost count of the number. The latter keep me up to date and semi-still-cool for a "great aunt". Like Trung, I also love eating! I think it's an Asian thing?

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## **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 grade K-7. Currently I teach Kindergarten in Richmond and regularly participate in professional developments 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.

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## **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 ELL two mornings a week in Richmond. I look forward to serving on 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.

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## **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.

### **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.

## **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 will join the youth Mission Trip to Mexico later this year. 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)

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## **Mission and Justice MAT**

### **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.

### **David Kwan**

I began attending First Baptist in the early 1990's after moving to Vancouver. I was living in the Westend at time. I came into membership in 1995 by letter of transfer from Braemar Baptist Church in Edmonton, where I grew up.

Previously I had served two terms on the Resources and Planning MAT and two terms on First Baptist Foundation. I have been with the tithe travelers group since 2008.

I am married to Holly (Mitchell). We first met on a First Baptist bike trip to the San Juan Islands. Holly was an administrative assistant at First at the time.

I currently work as a lawyer in the federal government.



## 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 2020. 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 2020.

Throughout the fall of 2020 FBC and FBF spoke more about the potential financing of the project based on the transfer of the New Rivendell back to FBF once construction is complete.

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

The Project Oversight Committee experienced a unique year, as did our entire church family as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic. As a reminder the committee is considering four different areas; fundraising, operations, communications and ministry.

The COVID 19 pandemic has changed life for all of us and as a result the Heart for the City Capital Campaign has not been active over the past year. Much of the campaign was directed at face-to-face conversations and as such the group is considering a re-launch in the fall of 2021. Despite this campaign being inactive donors have continued to give to the new Church building and over \$150,000 has been pledged and given to date.

One thing that hasn't stopped because of COVID is the construction. The lower stories are being built quickly and we have reached street level grade at this point in the project. This is a huge praise item - thanks be to GOD for this remarkable progress during a global pandemic. By late Spring Westbank will begin working on the interior of the Church building therefore we are now preparing for our re-location.

Work includes:

- creating an inventory of everything in the church building
- determining what will be stored, recycled, and discarded
- we are moving towards securing our displacement sites for worship, ministry, and administrative activities

This is an exciting time and I encourage you to give thanks to GOD for bringing us to this place.

I would like to give a special thank you to Justin and to Sonja and to the entire FBC staff team that is truly taking us through this Project and this pandemic. We are so grateful for you Justin - thank you for your leadership

We request that the congregation continue to pray for this project and for the will of God to be done through this work.

- Pray for church staff
- Pray for the construction team
- Pray for the church volunteers and family
- Pray that God use FBC to bring about his kingdom here in Vancouver

God Bless you,  
Broek Bosma

# HEART FOR THE CITY OPERATING COMMITTEE

## FRED LIEBICH

The Heart for the City Building Project continues to be managed on behalf of the church 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 Jannie Kwan. The church’s representatives are Steve Milos and Fred Liebich.

### Background and Overview

2020 was a year of significant progress in major construction of new below-grade facilities beside our heritage church building. In its simplest terms, if 2019 was the year of excavation - “digging the big hole” - then 2020 was the year of “filling in the hole” with below grade structure.

In some respects, it is hard to believe the decade-long road already behind us on this building project. It is worth reviewing some of the key historic milestones that have brought us to this point, as summarized below:

- Initial background work within the church began in about 2010/11
- Architectural conceptual planning commenced about 2013 leading to a formal rezoning application in late 2015 along with associated public processes that continued for about 2 years
- Formal rezoning approval by Vancouver City Council came in December 2017
- With rezoning and requisite legal agreements in place, Westbank (Wb) pre-sold more than 90% of the available condo units in early 2018.
- Demolition of the ancillary buildings and Rivendell Apartment block beside our church building commenced in late 2018, together with hazardous materials abatement and materials recycling,
- Excavation, shoring and pile driving began in early 2019, reaching completion in early 2020
- Below grade construction advanced quickly with substantial completion almost back to grade by yearend 2020

Given the significant disruption to many aspects of life in 2020 due to the COVID public health concerns, it is worth noting that we have been exceptionally fortunate to see our building project progress well during this unusual time. In contrast to other parts of Canada where many large construction sites were shut down for extended periods of time, B.C. provincial public health authorities allowed outside construction activities to continue provided public health guidelines and practices were implemented. A variety of public health measures were

in fact put in place at our construction site and hence we are very fortunate to have made good progress in an otherwise unusual year.

Over the past year, 2020, project activities can be reviewed in the following broad categories, described in more detail below:

- Excavation, foundation and below-grade structures
- Detailing of approved plans,
- Legal and financial aspects
- Project management and schedule

### **Excavation, Foundation and Below-Grade Structures**

Excavation of the main hole beside the church was completed to a maximum depth of about 90 feet in early 2020. Simply stated, excavating a big hole does not sound complicated. However, a large, deep excavation like “ours” requires very specialized expertise to ensure safety and success of this important construction phase, right next to our large stone church building that continued in operation. Careful planning, engineering and coordinating of progressive digging, materials handling, underpinning, reinforcing steel, managing ground and surface water flows and monitoring site stability are all required. Essentially, fully reinforced foundation walls were built progressively around the hole and under the western church wall. The contractor brought in specialized equipment for deep excavation that was applied for the very first time in Western Canada.

The site excavation included frequent, geotechnical monitoring, sometimes several times per week of the progressing excavation, surrounding ground geology and adjacent structures, using laser surveying and movement detectors to millimeter accuracy. The site contractors and supporting technical experts were very accommodating and respectful of church questions on their work - in fact, they seem to welcome our interest. By the end of February 2020 general excavation was completed to an overall depth of almost 90 feet at which point the first construction crane was installed. The second crane was installed about 2 months later. At about the end of the first quarter 2020 Westbank transferred overall construction management responsibility from ICON West (the construction arm of Westbank) to the Peak Construction Group, with extensive experience in large concrete construction.

The final phase of excavation included digging a further, large block shaped hole for the main tower core foundation and a smaller core for the rental building. The concrete pour for the main tower core consisting of about 1100 cubic meters of concrete and about 60 tonnes of steel was completed in early May 2020 and the rental building core shortly thereafter.

From this point on construction of the below grade structure proceeded systematically, level by level, with very good progress being made over the next several months. The main below grade structure consists of the 8-level underground parking structure, numerous structural columns, site drainage structures and various below-grade services and building operations

rooms. The upper levels of this below grade structure are much more complex than the lower levels with the result that construction progress seemed to slow significantly near the end of the year, not to mention the ample wet weather that tends to slow things down in late Fall. By yearend construction was nearly back to grade.

It is worth noting that throughout these 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. For example, church members will remember the Sunday morning in February 2020 when the first construction crane was installed, essentially during the Sunday morning church service time, without significant disruption to the service. Such cooperation is not taken lightly and is much appreciated.

**Detailing of Approved Plans**

Over the past 7 years Revery Architecture (known as Bing Thom Architects in the initial years of the project) have been refining the building plans to an ever-increasing level of detail in preparation for construction contracting. The overall form of those plans has been very stable and is by now reasonably well known to interested church members. While the overall high-level substance of these plans has not changed, there has been much on-going work in the background by a large team of consultants and advisors to refine and detail the plans to a level required for construction contracting, with an acceptable level of cost certainty, as determined by Westbank. 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 several thousand drawings.

The church retained Genesis Integration Inc. to design, supply and install the audio-visual (AV) system in the new church spaces. After conceptual planning in previous years, significant progress was made during the past year to move forward in detailing and engineering those plans. Numerous discussions and several site meetings including the Genesis engineering team from Edmonton were held to clarify church uses, consider design options, refine details and facilitate integration of the AV system with other project team contributors, building services and features.

Similarly, the OC had further discussions with Howe Sound Solutions Inc. and other project team parties to agree the approach to contractual arrangements and cost allocation for the detailed design, engineering and installation of the computer network for our new church building complex. Howe Sound Solutions has extensive experience in this field, in particular, working well together with Genesis on other Westbank projects. As of yearend, the cost allocation principles were agreed, and the network design and budgeting were well underway to ensure timely integration with other project team contributors.

As part of the overall detailing and finalization of project plans the OC has followed up with Westbank and the architects on a list of outstanding items that need further discussion, resolution or finalization. On a project of this magnitude, it is easy for smaller details to be sidelined by bigger issues or agenda items. However, many of those smaller details are important to the church and the OC is continuing to pursue these items to reach satisfactory resolution. Additionally, the OC is following up with Westbank on any considerations for design changes in air handling that may be advisable due to lessons being learned from COVID.

**Legal and Financial Aspects**

In the Fall of 2019 Westbank initiated drafting of principles for a Neighborhood Energy Agreement (NEU). 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 BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) 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. Church members will remember the FBC boiler failure in Spring 2019.

A non-binding Term Sheet for the NEU agreements was agreed in August 2020 leading to an initial draft of the definitive agreements in Fall 2020. These agreements will have to be finalized and agreed in early 2021. As one might imagine these complex agreements among three parties (FBC, Westbank and Creative Energy) each with their own legal advisors, makes for slow but important progress. An additional consideration in these complex agreements is the expectation that the FBC energy facilities will be used as a distribution hub for thermal energy service to other new large buildings being planned for our city block, which in turn should be beneficial to the church. This is a significant and important step as it has long term ramifications for the operation and costs of the entire building complex.

As part of planning future church operations, the OC continues to provide input to CLT on possible business structure considerations. 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 providing some revenue, careful planning is required to minimize tax risk exposure and while also supporting church operations of the much larger facilities. In due course CLT will decide the steps to be taken and/or planned.

**Project Management and Schedule**

As part of prudent project management, the OC continues to monitor expenditures by the architects and various consultants, contractors and legal advisors. The OC continues to process construction funding draws on the church’s construction account, which does not

sound that complicated until one considers that these invoices typically run into the hundreds of pages. A key part of reviewing the monthly invoices is ensuring appropriate cost allocation among the ownership parties. After some discussion to resolve cost allocation issues in the earliest invoices, the processing of subsequent invoices more recently has for the most part become more settled and straight forward. While there are bound to be periodic 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 to the church's position on "discussion items." 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, and continued commitment and attention to detail.

Given the church's income tax status, determining the applicable GST charges is more complex than may be obvious for other projects. Consistent with advice from specialty advisers and FBC's auditors, agreed GST processing procedures have been put in place to ensure GST exposure is limited to the minimum obligations under the applicable Act. Total GST payable is subject to several factors (such as actual versus estimated costs of the various building components) and is estimated 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 sf 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 \$2.5 million, subject to much further detailing by other church committees during the building construction period.

At the beginning of the year (2020) project schedules called for relocation of all church worship services and office functions by August / September 2021. The favourable construction progress noted above resulted in advancement by about 4 months of the period when the main seismic upgrading and heritage restoration of the main church building is to take place. In September 2020 it became evident that the church would have to vacate the heritage church building earlier than previously indicated. It was soon confirmed that our vacant church building will have to be "handed over" to the heritage construction effort on 1 May 2021. This is a firm date as significant contractual commitments are being made to begin heritage work at that time. While every effort will be made to ensure that church operations are able to return to site by May 2023, it should be noted that it is difficult to be absolutely certain, as unexpected issues may arise once work formally gets underway on the heritage redevelopment and seismic upgrading. Renovating a 100+ year old stone building is complex...

## **Closing Comments**

While focusing on all of these building project details, it is useful 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 sf (heritage church + NW annex) will increase to about 79,000 sf. (heritage church, program building space, offices and childcare). While this much larger 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. A significant contribution toward operating cost is expected to be available to the church from the rental housing.

In many respects it is satisfying to finally see significant physical work underway on our building project - Thanks Be To Our Lord Jesus! The next year(s) will see further significant, sometimes disruptive changes in our church life, particularly as we vacate our old building. It is unfortunate that we will not be able to conduct a fitting exit celebration for the old building due to COVID restrictions, but perhaps we can put that much more energy into the new facilities when available. We continue to rely on the patience, flexibility and prayerful support of the entire FBC church body as construction activities continue.

In the context of all this building project discussion it is important to be reminded that ultimately, the church - our church - is not about buildings but about disciples of Jesus trying to live out, express, and put into practice, our mission. Unity in vision and purpose will help us be an effective church body, particularly while we are out of our building in these "strange times". It is good to imagine and plan for 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, 2020**

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DICKSON  
STOJAK  
HUANG

## INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

partners

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### To the Members

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of First Baptist Church of Vancouver that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020 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 us obtaining evidence we considered necessary for the purpose of the review. Accordingly, the evidence obtained of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the First Baptist Church of Vancouver. Therefore, we were unable 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, 2020 and 2019, current assets as at December 31, 2020 and 2019, and net assets as at January 1 and December 31 for both 2020 and 2019. 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.

**Qualified Conclusion**

Based on our review, except for the possible 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, 2020, 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.  
May 3, 2021

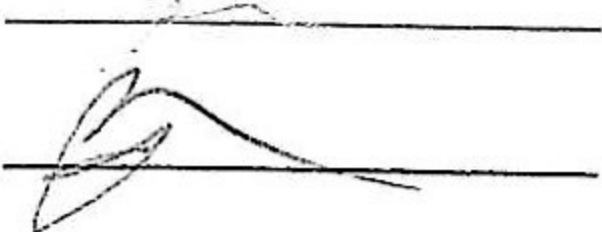
**CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS**

UNAUDITED

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Operating Fund	Tangible Capital Assets Fund	Ministers' Housing Fund	Benevolence Fund	Designated Funds (Note 5)	Total 2020	Total 2019
<b>Current Assets</b>							
Cash	\$ 985,104	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 985,104	\$ 710,762
Accounts receivable	10,757	-	-	-	3,279	14,036	17,589
GST receivable	931	-	-	-	67,993	68,924	22,528
Prepaid expenses	91,752	-	-	-	-	91,752	96,609
	<u>1,088,544</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,272</u>	<u>1,159,816</u>	<u>847,488</u>
<b>Restricted Current Investments (Note 3)</b>	-	-	208,105	31,086	78,596,970	78,836,161	84,206,899
<b>Tangible Capital Assets (Notes 2, 4)</b>	-	27,068,000	-	-	-	27,068,000	28,011,000
	<u>\$ 1,088,544</u>	<u>\$ 27,068,000</u>	<u>\$ 208,105</u>	<u>\$ 31,086</u>	<u>\$ 78,668,242</u>	<u>\$ 107,063,977</u>	<u>\$ 113,065,387</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>							
Accounts payable	\$ 27,912	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 841,721	\$ 869,633	\$ 222,246
<b>Net Assets</b>							
Unrestricted	1,060,632	-	-	-	-	1,060,632	802,212
Internally restricted	-	-	208,105	31,086	77,826,521	78,065,712	84,029,929
Invested in tangible capital assets	-	27,068,000	-	-	-	27,068,000	28,011,000
	<u>1,060,632</u>	<u>27,068,000</u>	<u>208,105</u>	<u>31,086</u>	<u>77,826,521</u>	<u>106,194,344</u>	<u>112,843,141</u>
	<u>\$ 1,088,544</u>	<u>\$ 27,068,000</u>	<u>\$ 208,105</u>	<u>\$ 31,086</u>	<u>\$ 78,668,242</u>	<u>\$ 107,063,977</u>	<u>\$ 113,065,387</u>

Approved by the Church Council





UNAUDITED

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
SPECIAL FUNDS  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Tangible Capital Assets Fund	Ministers' Housing Fund	Benevolence Fund	Designated Funds (Note 5)	Capital Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
<b>Revenue</b>							
Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,425	\$ 143,709	\$ 3,655	\$ 180,789	\$ 295,094
Contributions from External Sources	-	-	-	183,005	-	183,005	161,214
Interest Income	-	1,970	139	633,265	-	635,374	1,535,884
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,970</u>	<u>33,564</u>	<u>959,979</u>	<u>3,655</u>	<u>999,168</u>	<u>1,992,192</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>							
Building Construction Costs	-	-	-	6,854,091	-	6,854,091	4,854,193
Operating and Distributions	-	39,600	9,979	59,715	-	109,294	129,447
	<u>-</u>	<u>39,600</u>	<u>9,979</u>	<u>6,913,806</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,963,385</u>	<u>4,983,640</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures</b>	-	(37,630)	23,585	(5,953,827)	3,655	(5,964,217)	(2,991,448)
Interfund transfers	-	-	-	3,655	(3,655)	-	-
Transfer to Operating Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	(27,477)
<b>Net Change for the Year</b>	-	(37,630)	23,585	(5,950,172)	-	(5,964,217)	(3,018,925)
Capital reduction	(943,000)	-	-	-	-	(943,000)	(5,465,600)
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>28,011,000</u>	<u>245,735</u>	<u>7,501</u>	<u>83,776,693</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,040,929</u>	<u>120,525,454</u>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 27,068,000</u>	<u>\$ 208,105</u>	<u>\$ 31,086</u>	<u>\$ 77,826,521</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 105,133,712</u>	<u>\$ 112,040,929</u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Offerings			
Tithes (Envelopes)	\$ 523,085	\$ 940,000	\$ 906,123
Pre Authorized Payments	919,593	720,000	746,799
Share Donations and Other Gifts-In-Kind	14,664	10,000	25,552
Offerings (Loose)	8,021	30,000	34,448
Total Offerings	<u>1,465,363</u>	<u>1,700,000</u>	<u>1,712,922</u>
Facilities Operations	13,525	10,800	14,701
Mission and Justice	11,506	5,000	18,678
New Generations	-	7,000	4,345
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	241,313	-	-
	<u>1,731,707</u>	<u>1,722,800</u>	<u>1,750,646</u>
<b>MINISTRY DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Church Leadership Team	61,024	71,500	57,839
Salaries and Benefits	954,412	1,072,764	986,984
Facilities Operations	317,852	360,482	409,692
Mission and Justice	103,286	139,700	131,765
Discipleship and Community	7,442	30,900	21,000
New Generations	29,093	45,100	69,228
Prayer and Care	178	12,325	1,933
	<u>1,473,287</u>	<u>1,732,771</u>	<u>1,678,441</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Disbursements	258,420	<u>\$ (9,971)</u>	72,205
Transfer from Special Funds	-		27,477
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	802,212		702,530
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 1,060,632</u>		<u>\$ 802,212</u>

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<u>CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM</u>			
DISBURSEMENTS			
Congregational: CBWC	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Church Leadership Team Expenses	3,490	6,000	7,448
Consulting	7,534	14,000	-
Senior Minister/Executive Director New Initiatives	-	1,500	391
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 61,024</b>	<b>\$ 71,500</b>	<b>\$ 57,839</b>

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>SALARIES AND BENEFITS</u></b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>Salaries</b>			
Ministers	\$ 373,368	\$ 385,852	\$ 294,425
Ministry Staff	153,949	193,215	186,835
Administrative Staff	258,811	277,723	267,524
Operations Staff	3,005	16,944	15,495
Other Department Related Staff	19,674	27,895	54,429
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>808,807</b>	<b>901,629</b>	<b>818,708</b>
<b>Benefits</b>			
CPP	29,920	30,696	31,704
EI	15,089	12,594	17,775
Worksafe B.C.	1,230	2,233	1,308
	<b>46,239</b>	<b>45,523</b>	<b>50,787</b>
CBWC Pension	37,435	41,204	33,861
MSP	900	-	6,675
Extended Health, Life and Disability Insurance	53,778	70,908	53,001
	<b>92,113</b>	<b>112,112</b>	<b>93,537</b>
Mileage	2,221	2,500	4,342
<b>Total Benefits</b>	<b>140,573</b>	<b>160,135</b>	<b>148,666</b>
<b>Conferences/Conventions</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,106</b>
<b>Other Allowances &amp; Professional Development</b>	<b>4,365</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>15,279</b>
<b>Other</b>			
Moving Expenses	211	-	535
Convention/Delegates	-	1,300	-
Staff Retreat	-	500	690
	<b>211</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>1,225</b>
<b>TOTAL SALARIES AND BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$ 954,412</b>	<b>\$ 1,072,764</b>	<b>\$ 986,984</b>



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>FACILITIES OPERATIONS</u></b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
<b>FACILITIES</b>			
Rental	\$ 375	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,887
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Vancouver Foundation	12,142	9,000	11,805
Other Income	1,008	-	1,009
	<u>13,150</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>12,814</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u>13,525</u>	<u>10,800</u>	<u>14,701</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			
Accounting	11,428	14,000	12,795
Advertising	303	500	-
Bank and Credit Card Charges	21,705	9,300	13,839
Computers, Email & Website	22,504	10,000	19,694
Equipment Lease	24,720	24,720	24,720
Equipment Rental	480	600	480
Office Furnishings and Equipment	569	300	1,297
Paper and Office Supplies	6,540	18,000	16,547
Postage	1,544	2,000	2,790
Recovery - Postage, Printing, Phone	(10)	(500)	(230)
Subscriptions and Memberships	2,099	1,000	396
Telephone	8,478	8,000	8,072
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<u>100,360</u>	<u>87,920</u>	<u>100,400</u>

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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>FACILITIES OPERATIONS - CONTINUED</u></b>			
<b>FACILITIES</b>			
<b>969 BARRARD STREET</b>			
Repairs and Maintenance	26,323	25,500	71,159
Janitorial and Kitchen Supplies	8,761	12,200	6,881
Janitorial Services	24,935	55,662	54,120
Security	1,653	1,500	2,450
Hydro (Electricity)	9,424	14,000	12,822
Gas/Heat	10,806	17,000	13,951
Insurance - Building and Directors	128,375	124,000	119,842
Property Tax/Water/Sewage	1,877	1,200	5,115
Total 969 Burrard Street	<u>212,154</u>	<u>251,062</u>	<u>286,340</u>
<b>HOBBIT HOUSE</b>	-	-	105
<b>RIVENDELL</b>	-	-	166
<b>PARKING</b>			
Nelson Square	5,338	21,500	22,681
<b>TOTAL FACILITIES</b>	<u>217,492</u>	<u>272,562</u>	<u>309,292</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>317,852</u>	<u>360,482</u>	<u>409,692</u>
<b>Deficiency of Revenue over Disbursements for Facilities Operations</b>	<u>\$ (304,327)</u>	<u>\$ (349,682)</u>	<u>\$ (394,991)</u>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>MISSION and JUSTICE MINISTRIES</u></b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Shelter Fundraiser	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Shelter Extreme Weather Recovery	11,506	-	18,678
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>11,506</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>18,678</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>Mission Support:</b>			
Local: Keats Camp	900	-	4,500
Local: Carey Theological College	-	-	3,000
Local: Missionsfest	-	-	500
Congregational: Members on Faith Missions	27,900	28,800	27,900
Congregational: Short-Term Missions Africa/Mission	4,000	-	-
	-	11,400	3,595
	<b>32,800</b>	<b>40,200</b>	<b>39,495</b>
<b>Canadian Baptist Ministries Support</b>			
CBM Guardians of Hope	2,000	2,000	4,000
CBM - Special Projects/General	-	-	8,000
CBM - Team Support - Partners in Mission	10,640	10,640	9,975
	<b>12,640</b>	<b>12,640</b>	<b>21,975</b>
<b>FIRST STEPS - North Korea</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>
<b>Refugee Support and Sponsorship</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Human Trafficking</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>11,600</b>	<b>7,400</b>
<b>Street Ministries: Shelter</b>	<b>38,346</b>	<b>53,260</b>	<b>47,503</b>
<b>New Initiatives</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>142</b>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>103,286</b>	<b>139,700</b>	<b>131,765</b>
<b>Deficiency of Revenue over Disbursements for Mission and Justice</b>	<b>\$ (91,780)</b>	<b>\$ (134,700)</b>	<b>\$ (113,087)</b>

UNAUDITED

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>DISCIPLESHIP and COMMUNITY</u></b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Worship and Celebration	\$ 4,015	\$ 8,100	\$ 3,595
Hospitality Ministries	563	4,500	3,421
ESL	152	-	171
Internationals	641	4,000	2,068
Baptism and Membership	305	1,800	1,912
Adult Education	309	3,500	1,428
Evangelism Initiatives/Alpha	-	3,000	3,802
Connection Groups	479	4,200	1,342
Congregational Ministries	907	300	1,664
Lunches (Connection/Sunday)	71	-	1,420
Discipleship and Mentoring Development	-	-	177
New Initiatives	-	1,500	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 7,442</b>	<b>\$ 30,900</b>	<b>\$ 21,000</b>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>NEW GENERATIONS</u></b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Youth Fundraising	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ 4,345
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Leadership			
<b>Sunday Morning Children's Ministries</b>			
Leadership Training	74	1,000	61
Screening and Team Building	992	2,000	1,514
Supplies and Equipment	2,920	5,000	3,776
	<u>3,986</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>5,351</u>
<b>Midweek Children's Ministries</b>			
Early Childhood	87	500	-
School Age	-	500	-
Route 567 Preteen Group	2,024	4,000	3,955
Summer Programs	8,736	14,000	15,407
	<u>10,847</u>	<u>19,000</u>	<u>19,362</u>
<b>Family Ministries</b>			
Church Picnic/Special Events	-	1,000	1,318
Family Support	15	1,000	50
	<u>15</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>1,368</u>
<b>College and Career</b>			
	-	2,000	130
<b>Twenty-to-Forty Something Ministry</b>			
	<u>1,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,969</u>

UNAUDITED

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>NEW GENERATIONS - CONTINUED</u></b>			
<b>YOUTH</b>			
Leadership Development and Seminars	9	3,000	1,454
Screening and Volunteer Appreciation	-	1,000	373
Supplies and Equipment	-	500	-
Special Events	487	1,000	2,016
Food, Snacks and Other Youth Expenses	3,106	4,500	4,026
Student Missions	9,241	3,000	30,179
Transportation and Rentals	-	100	-
	<u>12,843</u>	<u>13,100</u>	<u>38,048</u>
New Initiatives	-	1,000	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>29,093</u>	<u>45,100</u>	<u>69,228</u>
<b>Deficiency of Revenue over Disbursements for New Generations</b>	<u>\$ (29,093)</u>	<u>\$ (38,100)</u>	<u>\$ (64,883)</u>



UNAUDITED

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020	Actual 2019
<b><u>PRAYER and CARE</u></b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Congregational Care	\$ (57)	\$ 6,000	\$ 648
Prayer (Companions, Retreat, Teams)	-	2,000	-
Maturing Adults	235	3,325	1,285
Marriage and Premarital Counselling	-	1,000	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 178</b>	<b>\$ 12,325</b>	<b>\$ 1,933</b>

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020**

UNAUDITED

	Operating Fund		Special Funds					Total 2020	Total 2019
	Total 2020	Total 2019	Ministers' Housing Fund	Benevolence Fund	Designated Funds	Capital Fund	Total 2020		
<b>CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR)</b>									
<b>OPERATIONS</b>									
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over Expenditures	\$ 258,420	\$ 72,205	\$ (37,630)	\$ 23,585	\$ (5,953,827)	\$ 3,655	\$ (5,964,217)	\$ (2,991,448)	
Changes in other non-cash operating Working capital									
Accounts receivable	5,763	39,829	-	-	(2,210)	-	(2,210)	(1,069)	
GST receivable	1,509	4,618	-	-	(47,905)	-	(47,905)	(20,088)	
Prepaid expenses	4,857	618	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Accounts payable	3,793	(40,960)	-	-	643,594	-	643,594	198,127	
	<u>274,342</u>	<u>76,310</u>	<u>(37,630)</u>	<u>23,585</u>	<u>(5,360,348)</u>	<u>3,655</u>	<u>(5,370,738)</u>	<u>(2,814,478)</u>	
<b>FINANCING</b>									
Interfund transfers	<u>-</u>	<u>27,477</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,655</u>	<u>(3,655)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,477)</u>	
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash</b>	<u>274,342</u>	<u>103,787</u>	<u>(37,630)</u>	<u>23,585</u>	<u>(5,356,693)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,370,738)</u>	<u>(2,841,955)</u>	
<b>Cash and Investments, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>710,762</u>	<u>606,975</u>	<u>245,735</u>	<u>7,501</u>	<u>83,953,663</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,206,899</u>	<u>87,048,854</u>	
<b>Cash and Investments, End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 985,104</u>	<u>\$ 710,762</u>	<u>\$ 208,105</u>	<u>\$ 31,086</u>	<u>\$ 78,596,970</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 78,836,161</u>	<u>\$ 84,206,899</u>	



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

**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 except as disclosed in Note 2(d) relating to tangible capital assets.

(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, 2020**

**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, 2020**

**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**

	2020	2019
Royal Bank, Cash	\$ 1,814,252	\$ 1,865,010
Building Project Escrow Account	77,021,909	82,341,889
	\$ 78,836,161	\$ 84,206,899

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).

**NOTE 4 TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS**

**Tangible Capital Assets Fund**

	2020	2019
Land and Buildings		
Church Property - at assessed value		
969 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C.	\$ 27,068,000	\$ 28,011,000



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 5 DESIGNATED FUNDS**

	2020	2019
Includes the following funds:		
Property Development (Note 6)	\$ 77,424,705	\$ 83,376,700
Bequests	295,762	293,245
Designated Charitable and Other Organizations	106,054	106,748
	\$ 77,826,521	\$ 83,776,693

**NOTE 6 PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

	2020	2019
Sale of Building Air Parcel	\$ 92,004,400	\$ 92,004,400
Costs incurred	(20,899,646)	(14,045,555)
Gifts received	1,920,613	1,831,589
Interest earned	2,353,052	1,722,985
Advances received	2,046,286	1,863,281
	\$ 77,424,705	\$ 83,376,700

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, 2020, advances totaling \$2,046,286 (2019 - \$1,863,281) have been received.

It is the intention of the Church to cover any costs in excess of the balance of the Property Development Fund by arranging for a line of credit to a maximum of \$6,000,000 to be secured by the remaining air parcel held by the Church.

At the completion of the project the Church intends to transfer the rental housing it receives under the Westbank Projects Corp. agreement to First Baptist Foundation, which would also have to assume any financing registered against the assets transferred.

**NOTE 7 DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION**

	2020	2019
Remuneration paid to:		
Director	\$ 21,983	\$ 15,574
	\$ 21,983	\$ 15,574

The Director, who was the Treasurer in 2019, was paid to serve on the Operating Committee related to the Heart For The City building project.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VANCOUVER  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

**UNAUDITED**

**NOTE 8 EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION**

	2020	2019
Remuneration paid to employees or to persons under a contract for services whose remuneration was at least \$75,000:		
- Total number of persons	3	1
- Total remuneration paid	\$ 366,530	\$ 139,454

**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 \$37,435 (2019 - \$33,861) into the program. There is no past service liability in respect of this program.

**NOTE 10 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

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

First Baptist Foundation

	2020	2019
Gifts received:		
- Cash donation included in Offerings	\$ -	\$ 75,000

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 11 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. 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. Therefore, the Church does not anticipate significant loss for non-performance. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2019.

