

Gladwin Heights United Church

2011 Annual Report

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2011 Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

February 19, 2012

1. Opening Prayer and Call to Order
2. Motion to Approve Voting Rights
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes of Feb.20, 2011 Annual General Meeting
5. Business Arising from the 2011 Congregational Meeting
6. Committee Reports as listed in Annual Report
 - one minute presentations by each chair person are encouraged.
 - Questions at completion of all reports
7. Treasurer's Report for 2011
9. New Business:
 - a) Budget 2012
 - b) M & S Goals for 2012
 - c) Nominations report and any nominations from the floor
 - d) Appointment of trustees
 - f) Additional new business
10. Message from the Minister
11. In Memoriam
12. Closing Blessing
13. Motion for Adjournment

**GLADWIN HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: FEBRUARY 20TH, 2011

TIME: 11:00 AM

PLACE: Gladwin Heights United Church, Abbotsford B.C.

1. **Call to Order:** Rita Green chair called the meeting to order at 11:00 am
2. **Opening Prayer:** Dorothy led the meeting with a prayer.
3. **Motion to Approve Voting rights:**
Motion. That voting rights granted to all members and adherents who are in attendance. Moved – Len Stein Seconded – Graham Wainwright – CARRIED
4. **Adoption of Agenda: Moved- Reed MacWilliam Seconded – Graham Wainwright – CARRIED**
5. **Adoption of Minutes of February 7th, 2010 Congregational Meeting**
Moved – Carol Nordstrom – Seconded Graham Wainwright – CARRIED

6. Committee Reports

Worship Committee

Barbara Showers reported that 2010 was a busy year and thanked all those who worked on the committee with her. Barbara mentioned that the WC is working on a second banner for the church. Also Barbara said that Muriel Thomas was resigning from WC and that Muriel will be missed This will be Barbara's last year as chair for the Worship Committee.

Music Committee:

June Dolman thanked the choir members for their efforts in 2010 and and those in attendance at the meeting thanked June for her tireless efforts in her leadership of the music department at GHUC.

Music is selected by herself and Dorothy every Tuesday to enhance Sunday Worship services. Not every church choir like GHUC prepares anthems each week. The choir meets every Thursday evening from 7:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. More volunteers for the choir would be appreciated.

Pastoral Care/Outreach

Arlene Kropp thanked all those who contributed their assistance in the program me. Also referred to brochures concerning Hospice and expressing her concerns for June Wright in Hospice.

In reference to the Outreach, Arlene said that they have 2 regular meetings and the Sandwich Group meets every third Wednesday with members from the Baha'i and prepare 20 loaves of sandwiches.

Healing Pathway:

Barbara Mason reported that they meet the 4th Thursday of each month from 7 p.m.- 8 p.m. asked that anyone wishing to attend to call the church before to assure that someone will be available. It's a friendly evening of sitting and talking, so tell your friends, but Barbara stressed the need to communicate before coming to the church as no one will be available if no phone call is received.

M & S:

Laura Bailey made reference to the Presbytery report as it contains pertinent information to the M & S. The objective goal for M & S 2010 was \$12,000.00 and we were please to be able to reach \$12,500.00.

Christian Education:

Sarah ref; to God Experiences Dorothy ref: Bible Study 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Each Wednesday also other Support Groups also discuss and figure out the Bible's meaning. Sunday School – has a new leader with Sam. Dorothy ref; that other goals will be introduced.

U.C.W.

Carlene Stein ref: that the UCW has grown in numbers and all the ladies bring a dish for a pot luck lunch. We have had success with Bake Sales and The Fall Fair. Organizing and calling members and loves the contribution from many members of the UCW. New members are always welcome and needed.

Team:

Charlie Bailey referred to the TEAM that they meet the 1st Monday of each month. Having done some various landscaping jobs around the church, eg: Laying new cedar mulch in the flower beds A fishing trip is planned for June around 4th or the 11th and a few football games and other events that may come to mind.

Membership Committee

Gladys Banks said that the Membership committee is an important part of the church. Arlene Kropp and herself go out of their way to introduce themselves to guests and encourage people to come to the church functions, stressing the friendliness of the church and Christian fellowship. Gladys said 6 people is a good number for the committee to help with the directory. The committee should have 3 meetings a year and in September they had hot dogs for the children welcoming them back to Sunday school. We are concerned with the number of absentees and we should make every effort to contact them to see how they are doing. Gladys referred to Jean Wilkinson's tireless work, as she has done so much for the committee. Jean has reduced her work load, but still continues helping out as needed. Gladys stressed the importance of the Prayer chain which keeps us aware of the church family needs.

Greetings from the Chair:

Rita referred to page 22 of the Annual Report in which Lois Gordon has conveyed her views

Fall Fair:

Marcia Foreman referred to the Fall Fair as a great success, thanking the GHUC membership for their generosity for their time and efforts as it raises the spirits for all of us. Marcia welcomed any new ideas to be implemented for fund raising. The Fall Fair is a great fund raiser.

Trustees Report:

It is learned that the funds for the roof has reached approximately \$4,500.00. Lyn Warmerdam and Rosemary Best have resigned from the Board of Trustees

Treasurer's Report:

Muriel Thomas presented the Treasurer's report Referring to 2 projects and referred to Pages 29 and 30 of the Financial Statements in the Annual Report. Deficit of \$4,021.00 in 2010 and projected deficit for 2011 \$11,610.00 not included are the funds raised for fund raising such as: Fall Fair and Bake Sale. Total Revenues of \$116,000.00 There is \$4,500.00 in funds for the roof repairs. Graham Wainwright referred to TaG and cost shared and asked about the accounting applied. Muriel stated that she is applying a new method of doing bookkeeping. Dorothy referred that we need more ideas of raising revenue Barbara Mason referred to the STEWARDSHIP Pledges should be honoured to review them and call those involved. Len Stein referred to tax receipts will be ready for next Sunday and suggested

that those who are on PAR should consider increasing their PAR submissions in order to reach our goals for the budget. Carlene Stein referred to the Fall Fair and that we should open on Friday night, as some have other commitments on Saturdays. Arlene referred to a "Guess who's coming to dinner night" it would be good for church and community, but that it would need some working on. Rita Green referred to having a "Robbie Burns Supper" and looking into the Farmers Market. Bonnie referred to budget for the Worship Committee Dorothy referred that extra items are included in the WC such as banners and music which have been combined.

Graham asked if there are Grants available from UCC such as for property expenses regarding the roof. Laura referred to Publications on page 29 Muriel referred to items – Observer and Flow Through amounts Youth Operations page 29 are TMUC & GHUC Grants come from Fraser Presbytery Laura referred to Fraser Presbytery and the amount go down to \$2,000.00 Dorothy referred to Fraser Presbytery – Youth money and the different ways the money is used. Fraser Presbytery divides the money and GHUC was assigned \$780.00 but we received \$680.00. Fraser Presbytery will need to see new ideas for incentives to raise more money. We have till June 15th, 2011. to submit our ideas in order for Fraser Presbytery to turn funds over to the congregation.

We had Jam Sessions with Bruce Harding and we have applied for pool of money of \$2,000.00 left for 5 churches that supported it. Bonnie referred to the Sunday School donations Muriel said the money is to go to Special Projects and the money has to come to the church. Rita referred to the 2011 Budget

Muriel moved: That the Treasurer's report be accepted 2nd by Elmer Lint.- carried

Len referred that he was concerned and introduced an amendment to the motion as a "Point of Information Memo" that we run a \$10,000.u to \$16,000.00 deficit – Muriel referred to as a "Projected deficit of \$16,000.00" Gladys Banks moved that this amendment be accepted 2nd by Graham

New Business:

Laura referred to the M & S pledge and that the last 3 years the pledge was \$12,000.u and reported that the M & S had reached \$12,500.u in 2010 Laura moved that The Pledge for M & S be \$12,500.00 for 2011. 2nd by Arlene Carried

Nominations:

Arlene Kropp referred to page 35 of the Annual Report Nomination for Sarah Wiens for Chair of the GHUC council Sarah accepted. Report any further nominations 2 times - no further nominations

Barbara Showers moved "That the nominations be accepted as amended" 2nd by Bonnie Stewart. – carried

Special thanks to all those who serve.

Message from the Minister:

Dorothy referred to alternate services in the summer at TMUC and GHUC and regarding the Farmers Market finding ways to work with TMUC. July summer service will be a joint venture service with TMUC at GHUC we will have to do some car pooling and we will have coffee or juice after the service for Christian fellowship. August the joint service will be held at TMUC and we should have a commitment and will start 15 minutes later than the usual start time. Offerings that are in envelopes will go to the home church and any loose change will go to the host church. Dorothy conveyed a special thanks to June Dolman for her tireless effort with her musical direction and guidance. .

Goals for 2011:

See page 37 of the Annual Report

In Memoriam:

Closing Blessing:

Dorothy Jeffery

Motion for Adjournment:

Graham Wainwright moved the meeting be adjourned
meeting adjourned 12:35 p.m.

(35 members in attendance – sign in sheet attached to original)

Rita Green, Chairperson

Robert Grills, Congregational Secretary

Message from the Minister

Minister's Message 2011 Gladwin Heights United Church Annual reports

Two thousand and eleven was my tenth year serving at Gladwin Heights United Church. The United Church of Canada counts the years of service from the beginning of the calendar year not years of completed service.



Events surrounding a health related incident in April of 2011 caused me to choose to end our Pastoral Relationship effective November 30, 2011, rather than allow you to be part of determining the future length of my service here.

I thank you for the love and support expressed by you since that decision was announced June 26, 2011. This expression of support is both a blessing and a reinforcement that my time with you at Gladwin Heights United Church has been well worthwhile for this community of faithful people. This message will cover more than the current past year, and will highlight some significant aspects of my time with you.

I came here July 1, 2002 as a newly ordained 'settled' minister as you requested. Settlement is through the actions of B.C. Conference of the United Church of Canada. The vision of ministry that I brought was team ministry as well as ministry of adult Christian Education empowering people to Christian service. I have been able to keep to that ministry plan thanks to the gifts of Gladwin Heights UC people. At Gladwin, the ministry team has been both paid and volunteer. As the apostle Paul wrote in Romans 12:4-8, all gifts are valuable to the One Body in Christ.

Receiving, accepting, encouraging, developing but not displacing the gifts present is important to on-going effective ministry. One key member of the ministry team is Arlene Kropp who has given leadership and support in the area of pastoral care and many aspects of outreach. She continues to do this. I thank Arlene for offering her spiritual gifts and presence to me, to you and to the wider community.

A second key leader at Gladwin Heights was June Dolman, our pianist, choir director and minister of music. Coordination of music with worship has been very significant to me. June and I spent many hours together planning music for worship, times that were filled with laughter and mutual appreciation. We were all saddened by June's death on July 22, 2011. The choir anthem "Walk in the Light" at her memorial and the choirs continued musical support for congregational worship are fitting tributes to June's legacy.

As well as team work, other building blocks of a church include Vision, learning, action and worship. Early in my time here we worked together to write a mission statement for Gladwin Heights, to refine your core values (*See p. 32 of these reports*) and to articulate a vision for the five year period 2004 - 2009. I have often summarized that Vision as spiritual growth and deepening through participation in Christian Education and Christian service. I have been a leader and participant in many adult Christian Education (Faith Formation) programs of which I want to specifically mention four: "Strengthening the Branches", "God Experiences",

a book study “Darwin, Divinity and the Dance of the Cosmos”, and lectionary based Bible Study. The Bible Study group has been faithful in study and participation over these ten years with addition of new members and loss of members who moved, died or have been unable to attend due to health issues. I thank you all for the joy of study we have shared.

“Strengthening the Branches” was a unique two year program (2004-2005) of reading and discussion of the whole Bible plus other books on leadership development. This was a faithful group of participants who covenanted, among other things, to attend and to make a commitment to some form of ministry (in the broadest sense of the term) from their experience in the group and gifts revealed or developed during the course. This group’s impact shaped the participants (including me) in their contributions to Gladwin Heights UC and to the wider community. Some changes in roles that came about or emerged from “Branches” include: creative leadership in Faith Formation; a person stepping forward as chair of council; starting a men’s group (TEAM) which continues today under the coordinating leadership of Charlie Bailey; starting a Healing Pathway group with the help a trained leader (which continues today and also includes people from outside Gladwin); one person joining the Ministry and Personnel committee as my representative; and spiritual befriending. Others in the group focused their contributions outside the church in areas of specialized teaching and therapy.

The impact of “Branches” leadership course was immense and far reaching within and beyond this church. Plans for a revised version of “Strengthening the Branches” focused on the new 2010 Vision were underway in 2011 but were set aside.

Another adult course (2009), the study of Bruce Sanguin’s book “Darwin, Divinity and the Dance of the Cosmos” helped set ground work for our latest Vision which was two years in the making and included even greater participation by you in its formation and statement.

Some of the discussions with you as part of this Visioning process have led me to give more time in the last two years to reaching outside Gladwin Heights to the multifaith aspects of Abbotsford combining this in part with our Vision of concern for Care of the Earth.

Gladwin Heights system of governance is the council system which depends on strong committee leadership. The council system has been weakened by fewer people committing time to the physical and administrative work of the church though there are several notable exceptions, but these few cannot sustain the church. As minister I am ex-officio member of all committees (except Ministry and Personnel and Nominating committee). I chose to focus mostly on the spiritually related committees of the church.

The end of a Pastoral Relationship carries many positive and affirming memories, but losses can cloud our view of the church. Still these losses need to be recognized. Losses by death were very few in the first eight years I was here, but have been many in the last few. We grieved their passing from us. But growth also has happened. I have always measured growth in terms of deepening spirituality. Numbers may follow but are incidental. Membership and attendance at Gladwin has been stable with some growth during most of my time here. About 50% of the people are new during my time here, giving a mix of the ‘old’ and the ‘new’ in terms of experience of Gladwin. Deepening spiritually at Gladwin is seen in Mediation group, Healing Pathway and God Experiences, as well as Sunday worship and community service where helping needy in non-judgmental and non-coercive ways show real love.

Losses by fear or wavering on the Vision may be of more significance to the future of Gladwin. A people must know where they are going, and among the many concerns of the world, a small church needs to focus on some specific areas. That is what the current Vision is about, broad though it may seem. I am currently exploring other communities of faith and notice that thriving communities of faith know and embrace their Vision. In common with these communities, Gladwin has articulated its vision.

There are many people and shared events and experiences too numerous to mention in detail. Closing a pastoral relationship is difficult. Many times of worship have been shared, innumerable meetings have transpired, fellowship has brought us joy. Each one of you have been and continue to be a vital part of this church. Gladwin has been a wonderful place to serve, because of the people and your willingness to engage in the ministry that Christ calls us to. We have been collectively blessed by friendship, service, study and worship. As a community, may you continue in strength always knowing the Christ within, around, behind and before you.

As servant to the loving, leading and healing Christ, I offer you thanks for the past almost ten years at Gladwin and blessings for the coming year as we continue to be faithful people,

The Reverend Dr. Dorothy A. Jeffery

Celebration of God's Presence.

Worship

Worship Committee Report for 2011

The year started out with the Week of Prayer, Floyd Wagner led the January 30th service at Gladwin Heights. The first communion for 2011 was held of February 6th. The 2011 Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday February 20th, which, as it turns out was an excellent choice of dates because February 27th worship services were cancelled due to snow.



March 7th, we celebrated Ash Wednesday at Trinity Memorial United church at 10:00 a.m. The theme for Lent was Creation [earth (land use) water, air quality, food (fair trade) energy with associated activities. Barbara Mason led worship on Sunday March 27th.

Palm Sunday was celebrated April 17th along with a communion service. Maundy Thursday services were held at Trinity Memorial on April 21st. Gladwin hosted the Good Friday services on April 22nd. Easter Sunday services included the unveiling of the Creation Banner created by Lyn, Sarah and Sheridan. (Many, many thanks for the beautiful banner).

On May 8th Lyn Warmerdam led worship, while Ray Hill led worship on May 29th. The Worship committee discussed changing the wording of the Marriage policy and adopted similar wording to that used by Trinity Memorial (who graciously allowed us to use their wording). The amended wording was brought to Council at the August, 2011 meeting.

June 5th's service was led by Michelle Creedy, she did an excellent job, and brought a unique approach to our worship. June 12th was Pentecost Sunday and also recognition of the Sunday School teachers and students.

Summer services were shared with Trinity Memorial. Gladwin hosted the July services. July 3rd we held communion with the assistance of Reverend Chu. Michelle Creedy returned to Gladwin on July 10th. Margaret Fellmann (July 17th) based her message on a theme from the Observer. Sarah Wiens (July 24th) and July 31st rounded out July with a picnic and soccer game with Trinity and Mt. Lehman joining us. During the month of August we went to Trinity Memorial for worship.

September found us back at Gladwin, and our service on September 18th was led by Barbara Mason (Dorothy was officiating her daughter Barbara's wedding to Brad in Victoria).

We celebrated World Wide Communion on October 2nd. The children joined us for the Thanksgiving service on October 9th. Sheridan Tochkin (October 16th) joint service with the Baha'i community (October 23rd) and on October 30th Dorothy led the service with the children participating with a costume parade.

November 6th (Remembrance Sunday) and reception of new members. Rev. Jeffery led us in her last communion at Gladwin on November 13th. November 20th Rev. Jeffery's last Sunday in the Pulpit followed by a farewell party downstairs after the service.

Lyn and Katie Warmerdam led Gladwin through the Advent services starting November 27th and continuing December 4th, 11th and 12th. We are all so grateful for all their hard work. Jan & Robyn Green and Lyn & Katie Warmerdam led Christmas Eve services. Barbara Mason led the Christmas Day worship.

We have had a very difficult year at Gladwin with June Dolman passing away and our Minister leaving us in November. But with the help of lay worship in our congregation we are being spiritually led into the future with hope.

This is my last report as Chair of Worship. It has been my pleasure to serve in that capacity over the last few years.

Yours in Christ
Barbara Shower

Music

As you all know June Dolman passed away on July 22, 2011. I have been going through her music collection to enter it into a GHUC database. While going through the many boxes and filing cabinets I found some notes that June had written for the choir. I thought I would reproduce some of her words here as a Music Report.

“Variety is the spice of choir life. A choir’s main purpose is to lead the worship service and music tells the story that people want to hear. Singing praises to God in the best way we know and is the most valuable gift you can give. People rarely succeed at anything unless they have fun doing it, so let’s enjoy our time together working towards providing musical praises for our church family.”

Respectfully submitted by Gayle LaPointe for June Dolman Pianist and Music Director



Service

Demonstration of God's love: ministry, work for justice and peace, acts of compassion and stewardship.

Pastoral Care & Outreach

Pastoral Care and Outreach are two aspects of the church's ministry that are closely related. Although we have no formal committees overseeing these important elements of the congregation's life and work; many projects are being carried out, and many people are actively involved, either in groups or individually.



1. Peardonville Project. This is an annual project where Valentine gift bags are filled and given to the women at Peardonville House, a recovery and treatment centre. Last year, 32 bags were filled. The congregation participates through donations at coffee time. This project is sponsored by Gathering of Women.

2. Gathering of Women. This group meets informally and includes all women who wish to attend. Its particular outreach is to Peardonville House. From time to time the group is called upon for special projects e.g. providing refreshments for memorial services.

Gathering of Women is also a place where women have developed supportive relationships. An important ministry is the Women's Retreat held each June at Naramata Centre. The 2012 Retreat will be held June 22-24. Space is limited, so register early. For further information or to pre-register, contact Arlene Kropp.

3. First United Church Mission. Our congregation has always been supportive of any appeals made for the work of the First United Church inner city mission on the Vancouver downtown eastside.

4. Food Bank/Christmas Bureau. Each month, Gladwin collects items for our local community's Food Bank. At Thanksgiving and Christmas, there are special appeals. The congregation is very generous in its response.

5. Sandwich Group. One Wednesday a month, Gladwin people meet in our kitchen with a group from the Baha'i Community to make sandwiches for those in need. These are distributed through local outreach agencies. The project is supported financially by the congregation and by individuals.

6. The U.C.W. This vital group in the congregation has a separate report. It has always been a great source of Pastoral Care for its members and outreach for others. A particular outreach focus is the "Warm Zone", a drop-in centre for women in downtown Abbotsford. The U.C.W. donates a cheque each month, and fills gift bags at Christmas. This year 24 bags were filled. The group also support the dinner program (below).

7. Dinner Group. Several Gladwin people participate every other month in providing dinner for Abbotsford's hungry and homeless people. The meals are served at Calvin Presbyterian Church and are supported by the congregation, the U.C.W. and by individuals. Between 50 and 70 people are served each time.

8. Buddy System. This is a pastoral care system to support each other. Would you be interested in participating? Watch the bulletin for further information, or speak to Barbara Mason or Arlene Kropp.

9. Naramata Centre. Gladwin supports the wider work of the United Church through fund-raising events for Naramata Centre. Many Gladwin members attend the Centre regularly. For further information contact Rosemary Best, our Naramata Rep.

10. Everyone! Many individual acts of Pastoral Care and Outreach take place within our church family and in the wider community. Thanks to everyone for all you do to make this such a supportive and caring congregation.

At the present time, Gladwin congregation does not have a minister. Barbara Mason and Arlene Kropp are sharing in the “formal” Pastoral Care of the church family including hospital visiting, weddings, memorials and funerals. If you have any concerns or wish to participate in any of the ministries listed above, please contact either Barbara or Arlene.

Submitted by Arlene Kropp
Coordinator of Pastoral Care & Outreach

“We pass through this world but once.
Any good therefore that we can do,
or any kindness that we can show...
Let us do it now.
Let us not defer or neglect it,
For we shall not pass this way again.”
Anonymous.

Healing Pathway Annual Report 2011

We have had a great year.

We gathered on Thursday nights for practice.

The new people have infused the group with energy and enthusiasm and we are prepared to offer a healing service to the congregation and we were asked to participate in a service in Mission. We hosted a Day of Renewal/relaxation, on the second Saturday in May 2011.



The portable labyrinth from Naramata was here. We had over a dozen people come out, and we laid the labyrinth on the lawn behind the church and Lyn Warmerdam had us drawing collages as a form of meditation.

We set aside an evening to offer healing to anyone wanting a treatment and should you be interested, contact the office and we will set one up for you.

If you are interested in knowing more about this ministry contact the church office and we will gladly get back to you.

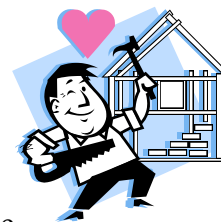
Barbara Mason coordinator

Mission & Service

GHUC ANNUAL REPORTS 2011

This year was again a fairly successful one for M & S. Minute For Mission was read on most Sundays during the year, with the exception of the summer months and some special services. Despite the economic climate Gladwin Heights was only \$250.00 short of meeting their goal of \$12,000.00 for the year.

In 2011 we lost some significant contributors to the Mission and Service fund due to moving away or death. Thanks to all of you who contribute to M & S and to those who don't, please think about including M & S in your weekly donation.



Submitted by:
Laura Bailey
Mission & Service Enthusiast

Education of God's people, faith and spiritual formation.

Annual Report for Christian Education /Faith Formation- 2011

Christian Education and Faith Formation continue to play an important part in the faith life of Gladwin Heights United Church. Programs offered are designed to appeal to different types of learners – those who appreciate biblical scholarship and background information on the upcoming Sunday scripture readings have an opportunity to meet for **Bible Study on Wednesday mornings**. This program has been co-led by Rev. Dorothy Jeffery and Barbara Mason. Barb will be continuing to lead this lectionary based bible study in the coming year.



Our **God Experiences** program offers a more experiential approach to faith formation. We meet to explore an idea or theme around aspects of how we live our faith, to encounter different styles of spiritual practise, and to share the stories of our faith. Journaling or other creative endeavors are often encouraged to deepen our awareness of God and our relationship with the Divine. Each session is developed as a 'stand-alone'; this allows for participants to attend individual sessions as they are able. While the theme may continue through several sessions – people may participate in any one session without feeling that they have missed something, nor is there 'homework' involved in preparing for the next.

This past spring we undertook a six session study of **Karen Armstrong's** book "**12 Steps to a Compassionate Life.**" We encountered numerous versions of the "Golden Rule" from a variety of different religious scriptures. In this we saw the commonality of how all people, regardless of religious or ethnic background, strive to live in God's way. We also discovered the link between compassion and justice, and how both are needed for either one to work effectively.

God Experiences is co-led by Sarah Wiens and Lyn Warmerdam.

Sunday School is offered for all children aged 4 and up (younger children are welcome with a parent) during the worship service on Sunday mornings. Arlene Kropp and Carlene Stein carried the teaching responsibilities last year, and Sheridan Tochkin has taken these over since September. We are very appreciative of their efforts in passing on the stories of our faith to the next generation. Please note that it is both a blessing and a burden to bear the responsibility of teaching Sunday School. However, blessings are multiplied and burdens decreased as more people are involved– please consider how you can contribute your time and talents to this important ministry.



One of the ways that we have tried to increase our welcome of the children within the worship service has been the creation of our ‘**Rainbow Prayer blanket.**’ The children are encouraged during the service to come forward to this special and sacred space, to feel at home within our worship rituals. On those Sundays when Sunday School is not available, activities are available for the children to do, and they are encouraged to take part in the life and worship of the congregation by taking the offering, distributing handouts as needed, and participating as they are able.

Our **Gladwin Heights Library** is an excellent resource for all sorts of faith related reading. Interested in the latest biblical scholarship? ... look for books by **Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Diarmuid O’Murchu** and **Bruce Sanguin**. Interested in guided reflections and spiritual practices? ... books by **Joyce Rupp, Marianne Williams**, and the “**Spirituality of...**” series fill this need. There are novels that take familiar bible stories and expand on them – these often give insights into the life and times of the characters that are only hinted at in the actual scripture telling of the tale – check out **The Red Tent**. As well, we are striving to build our children’s section with books that use inclusive language and reflect the United Church ethos of including all in the circle of God’s love.



Last year, our **TaG (Trinity and Gladwin) Youth Group** was headed by Samuel Glasgow. They met from September to April. Due to unforeseen changes in leadership at both congregations, the hiring process was stalled until fall when an ad hoc committee was formed with the task of hiring new TaG Youth Group leaders. Two representatives from Gladwin and one from Trinity Memorial advertised, interviewed and hired two co-leaders for our joint youth program. **Robyn Green** from Gladwin and **Heather Marsh** from Trinity have been working together since the end of November. We wish them much success in the new year as they re-establish this important ministry. TaG has the mandate to provide Christian development, Christian service, pastoral care, and fun! It is important to recognize that for most youth, TaG is their church experience; while we may only occasionally see their smiling faces on Sunday morning, our youth are an significant and vital component of our congregational life.



The past few years, the Christian Education/Faith Formation committee has consisted of Rev. Dorothy Jeffery and myself. With our change in pastoral leadership ahead of us, it is time to reinvent this committee. I would love to see representatives (either leaders or participants) from all CE/FF groups as part of this committee, to meet 3 – 4 times yearly to discuss how we can continue, develop and improve on the programs we offer to the congregation and beyond. Please let me know if you are interested in being part of this committee. And if you have an inspiration for something new to offer - I would love to hear from you!

Respectfully submitted,
Lyn Warmerdam, CE chair and lone committee member

Communication of God's Word.

Proclamation of the Good News.

See Minister's Report

Formation of Community Among Believers.

United Church Women – U.C.W.

The Year According to U.C.W.

2011 was a very rewarding year where we contributed our time and talent to help the church and the community. Our famous bake sales and catering for the Fall Rally helped us raise funds to contribute to church needs, to dinners for the homeless (Calvin Presbyterian), to the Warm Zone, to Cultus Lake Camp funds and other worthwhile projects.

We support each other in daily concerns and the friendships enjoyed over a cup of tea are invaluable! The Fall Fair found our tables adorned with delicious treats which quickly disappeared into the bags of the shoppers! Our gals are great bakers! Our December meeting was a Christmas potluck held at my home once again good food and good company! We put together bags filled with personal and seasonal items, to be given to the women at Christmas time. The gift giving was well received!

There's lots more coming in 2012!

Carlene Stein (President)



U.C.W. Treasurer's Report 2011

Gladwin Heights U.C.W. Financial Report 2010-2011

RECEIPTS

Bank Balance December 31, 2010	\$817.43
Interest	.48
Offering	485.04
Donation	110.00
Environics Luncheon	166.33
C.L.U.C.C. Donation	100.00
Memorial luncheons	350.00
Bank Sales – May & December	837.36
Calendars	12.00
Cards and Candy	154.85
Rally at Trinity United	422.25
Oct. 30 th coffee	34.00
Total Receipts	\$3489.74

EXPENDITURES

INSERT PAGE FROM MURIEL HERE

Bank Fees	\$ 10.50
Gladwin Heights Council	600.00
VST Auxiliary	
Women's Shelter	
Presbytery Dinner	
Supplies – Carlene Stein	
Calvary dinners	
Cultus Lake Camp	
Total Expenditures	\$
Bank Balance December 31 2010	\$

T.E.A.M. (Totally effective active men)

The TEAM continues to roll along nicely, doing a combination of sporting/recreational events, as well as helping out GHUC when asked to.

During 2011, we enjoyed our annual fishing trip to the Coquihalla Lakes, and did some salmon fishing in the Fraser, in mid September. We attended a couple of Abbotsford Heat games, and a Lions Football game.



We had two work parties, at which we cleaned up the parking lot and grounds of the church, and we assisted the Fall Fair once again by selling our usual breakfast to the early birds, followed by burgers and hotdogs.

Membership in the TEAM has remained steady at five GHUC members, with several others who are not from Gladwin Heights.

Submitted by Charles Bailey

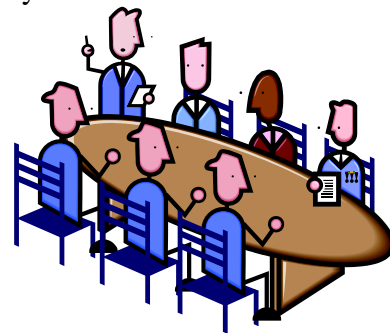
Membership Committee

The Membership Committee meets 3 times a year and it consists of Linda, Grills, Anne Watson, Arlene Kropp, Gladys Banks.

Our concerns have certainly been the decrease of our church family over the past few years. We trust this situation will improve. The Christmas and Easter luncheons are always well attended and enjoyed by all.

The prayer chain still is very important and please call us if you need support or prayers. We'd love to have a few more aboard – are you interested? Please call any one of us.

Respectfully submitted by Gladys Banks
Chair Membership Committee



Church Statistics

During the year 2011 there were:

Weddings	0- at Gladwin Heights 5- at other locations
Memorial Services	4- at Gladwin Heights 2- at other locations
Infant Baptism	0
Adult Baptism	0
Dedication	0

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

*Membership Total – Historic Roll as of December 31, 2010 138

Received by Profession of Faith	4
Received by Transfer	0
Removed by Death	5
Removed by Transfer or Withdrawal	0
Removed by Action of the Board	0

*Membership Total – Historic Roll as of December 31, 2011137

In Loving Memory

Theo Roberts
June Wright
June Dolman

Conrad Wagner
Florence Rycroft
Robert McCandles



* *The Historic Roll* includes the names of all who joined the congregation by Baptism, Re-affirmation, or Transfer, and have not withdrawn, transferred, been removed by action of the board or deceased since that time. It includes people who are presently non-resident and/or inactive.

Mailing list includes: Members	-Active	101
	-Inactive	33
	-Non-Resident	0
Adherents	-Active	41
	-Inactive	52
	-Non-Resident	1

The following Committees also contribute to the ministry of Gladwin Heights United Church

2011 Council and Committees

Council Executive

Co -Chair	Sarah Wiens**
Co-Chair	Rita Green**
Past Chair	Lois Gordon**
Council- Secretary	Robert Grills**
Treasurer	Muriel Thomas**
Presbytery Rep.	Barb Mason**
Presbytery Alternate	Sarah Wiens**
UCW Coordinator	Carlene Stein**
Members at Large	Reed MacWilliam** Sarah Wiens** Jan Green **

Committees & Groups

Christian Development and Education Coordinator	Lyn Warmerdam**		
Church School	Carlene Stein, Sheridan Tochkin, Arlene Kropp		
God Experiences	Lyn Warmerdam, Sarah Wiens		
Library	Jenny Matthews		
Naramata Rep.	Rosemary Best		
Fellowship	Marcia Foreman		
Fall Fair	Marcia Foreman,	Lyn Warmerdam,	
Maintenance Coordinator			
Membership Coordinator	Gladys Banks**		
Members	Arlene Kropp,	Helen Macnab	Linda Grills
	Anne Watson	Myla Mehain	
	Laura Bailey (Albums)		
Pastoral Care/Outreach Coordinator	Arlene Kropp		
Hospital Visitation	Gina Hartley,		
	Barbara Mason,	Loretta Riggins	
Prayer Chain	Gladys Banks		
Women's Resource Centre	Marguerite Mitchell		
Healing Touch	Barbara Mason		
Gathering of Women	Arlene Kropp (contact) open to all women		
Sandwich Group	June Wright,	Lois Szostak,	Lois Gordon
	Barbara Showers,	Heather McLean	
Dinner Group	Many participants (open ended)		
Stewardship & Envelope Steward	Len Stein**		
M&S Enthusiast	Laura Bailey **		
Counters	Reed MacWilliam,	Jan Green,	Muriel Thomas, Laura Bailey
	Elmer Lint,	Florine Lint,	Gladys Banks, Lois Gordon

Worship Coordinator	Barbara Showers**		
Members	Nancy Ritchie	Reed MacWilliam	June Dolman (music director)
	Bill Thomas,	Floyd Wagner,	Margaret Fellmann
	Reed MacWilliam		
Ministry and Personnel	Sheila Flavelle,	Sheridan Tochkin,	
	Rosemary Best,	Barbara Mason	
Trustees	Ron Roberts	Graham Wainwright	
	Elmer Lint	Carol Nordstrom	

Thank you All!

** indicates members of council

Greetings from the Chair of Council

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

2011 has been an event filled year. Many things have been accomplished from fixing policies to fixing the roof. None of these things would have been accomplished without a very hard working council. No church can manage without dedicated and generous people who are prepared to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

The table officers deserve special thanks from the congregation. Muriel Thomas (treasurer) and Bob Grills (secretary) spend many extra hours working on behalf of the church and the council to make everyone else's job easier. Their humour in meetings and their attention to detail between council meetings is very much appreciated. All members of the board have been tremendously supportive as we worked through out the spring and summer to discern what was best for the congregation and staff. Everyone on the council put in many additional hours to address everyone's concerns.

There are also a number of people without who's organization abilities many tasks would not happen. Bill goes well beyond his job description and even enlists Muriel's help to make our worship space and building users happy and events relaxed. Today I even found him vacuuming the sanctuary after communion before the second service! I think many people find Bill doing building maintenance and not just cleaning. I think the Elmer and Bill team are responsible for any number of repairs to the building. Did you notice the new low-flow toilets in the basement. Gladys asked her family for help, so we have 2-3 new more environmentally friendly toilets. Many thanks to so many people who quiet go about making our church "home" safe and clean.

The roof was another major project, although I am not sure whether it was done during this budget year or last budget year. Regardless, it is done and we are grateful.

The council is currently reviewing the privacy policy. On the recommendation of the Worship committee a new marriage policy was passed. Perhaps we will finally develop an Alcohol usage policy as well. Some work on developing a general consensus was done in the spring as a result of a request. Now we need to draft a policy.

In closing, I would like to thank Rita Green for taking over the chair of the council in November. She has agreed to continue perhaps as a co-chair. Please keep Rita in your prayers as she supports our work and witness in 2012.

Blessings! Sarah Wiens – Council Chair

GHUC Annual Reports

Gladwin Heights – Office Report

During 2011 archiving efforts continued. GHUC also received two massive donations of music. The first donation was received from Mary Crook who supplied boxes of music booklets. Secondly, an extremely generous donation by Gord Dolman of all the music collected by June over many, many years. This donation consisted of two four drawer filing cabinets and several boxes and a large plastic storage container. All this music is being entered into a database, which, when completed will allow GHUC to share with other United Churches in the area.



The church building is used almost to capacity – items in **Bold** are Gladwin church activities, and the balance are rental groups. (Please see chart below)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship 10:00 ICF 12-4 TaG 6:30	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 AA 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-5:30 ICF 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Bible Study 10:30 UCW 2:15 (1st Wed) Worship Cmte (1st Wed) 7:00	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Choir 7:30 Healing Pathway 4-6	Wind & Tide 9-3:30	Sant Nirankari Mission 6-9
Worship 10:00 ICF 12-4	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 AA 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-5:30 ICF 7-9 God Experiences 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Bible Study 10:30 Council (2nd Wed) 7:00	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Choir 7:30 Healing Pathway 4-6	Wind & Tide 9-3:30	Sant Nirankari Mission 6-9
Worship 10:00 ICF 12-4 TaG 6:30	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 AA 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-5:30 ICF 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Bible Study 10:30 Sandwich Group 3:30	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Choir 7:30 Healing Pathway 4-6	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 TaG 7:00	Sant Nirankari Mission 6-9
Worship 10:00 ICF 12-4	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 AA 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-5:30 ICF 7-9 God Experiences 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Bible Study 10:30	Wind & Tide 9-3:30 Choir 7:30 Healing Pathway 7-9	Wind & Tide 9-3:30	Sant Nirankari Mission 6-9

I want to thank everyone for their kindness, generosity and support during this past year.
 Respectfully submitted Gayle LaPointe Church Secretary

Ministry and Personal (M&P) Committee

The M and P committee consists of Sheridan Tochkin representing Gayle LaPointe(church secretary), Ann Watson representing Bill Thomas (custodian) and our newest member Sarah Wiens representing Robyn Green (youth leader). Sheila Flavelle represented Dorothy Jeffery until her retirement in November. Blossom DeBruin has recently been hired as our new pianist and we are looking for someone to be her representative.

We would like to thank Rosemary Best for representing June Dolman for many years. We continue in our advisory role and make recommendations to council on matters related to staff members. We also provide support for staff and act as a liaison between staff members and the council.

The committee is co- chaired by Sheridan Tochkin and Sheila Flavelle.

Thank you to all our members for their ongoing contributions to our committee and church.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Flavelle and Sheridan Tochkin

Fall Fair

GLADWIN FALL FAIR COMMITTEE

The 16th annual Gladwin Fall Fair was held on Saturday, September 24th, 2011.
The table coordinators for the Fall Fair consisted of:

Florine Lint – Craft Table
UCW – UCW Bake Table
Barbara Showers– Cookie Table

Gladys Banks– Jewelry
Anni and Kris Christensen- Timeless Treasures
Gina Hartley– Country Kitchen
Reed McWilliam– Garage Sale
Sarah Wiens– Garden Centre
Sheridan Tochkin– Pie and Coffee Table
Paula LeSage and TEAM – Pancake Breakfast,
Hotdogs and Hamburgers
Jennie Matthews - Book Nook
Arlene Kropp– Children’s Boutique
Carlene Stein – Card and Candy Table



This year’s Fall Fair benefited from the number of volunteers that helped in so many ways and from the amount of quality goods donated – all ingredients for success!
We started setting up on the Thursday night and by Saturday, everything was ready “to sell”! A steady stream of customers were greeted by a sea of yellow shirts and smiles worn by the wonderful members of Gladwin Heights.

The total sales for the fall fair were \$7,252.00 and the Christmas Bazaar added in \$290.00. The total at the end of the year was \$7542.00 - absolutely fantastic! The folks at Gladwin are to be saluted for their generosity, hard work and talent!

Respectively Submitted by,

Marcia Foreman, Co-Chair
Lyn Warmerdam, Co-Chair
Gladwin Fall Fair

Fraser Presbytery Representative Report for 2011

Fraser Presbytery is in a healthy state and has been over the last few years.

The leadership has made a major difference in performance and output.

For most meetings we have had over the last year, a member of Gladwin Heights United Church has been invited to attend as a guest to get a feeling of what it means to attend. Over the next year, we will be continuing this process.

We are, at present, determining our ministerial needs and Presbytery is being very active in our deliberations.

Submitted by:
Barbara Mason
Fraser Presbytery Lay Representative Gladwin Heights United Church

Financial Statements

See file: *my documents\GHUC\AGM\2010\Financial Statement year end Statement of Revenue.ods*

[read only]

See file: *my documents\GHUC\AGM\2010\Financial Statement year end Program expenditures.ods*

[read only]

See file: *my documents\GHUC\AGM\2010\Financial Statement year end Operating expenses.ods*

[read only]

See file: `my documents\GHUC\AGM\2010\Gladwinflowthrough.ods`

[read only]

Gladwin Heights United Church
 3474 Gladwin Road
 Abbotsford, BC V2S 7B4

BALANCE SHEET
 as of December 31, 2010

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Current Assets		Current Liabilities	
Cash	\$ 10,512.54	None	\$0
Memorial	\$ 121.28	Total Liabilities	\$0
Prospera – Shares	\$ 405.00		
Designated Funds		EQUITY	
Kitchen Renovations	\$ 1,341.27	Equity	\$1,324,819.91
Total Current Assets	\$ 12,380.09	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$1,324,819.91
Fixed Assets			
Land -Assessed Value	\$ 418,700.00		
Building – Appraised Value	\$ 778,500.00		
Piano	\$ 25,000.00		
Furniture and Fixtures	\$ 115,000.00		
Total Fixed Assets	\$1,337,200.00		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,324,819.91		

Lois Gordon, Chair _____

Muriel. Thomas Treasurer _____

Dated: _____

I certify that I have examined, without audit, the Financial Books of Gladwin Heights United Church as at December 31, 2010, and found them to represent an accurate position financially.

 Elmer Lint

GLADWIN HEIGHTS HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

April 1979 - Fraser Presbytery Report indicated a possible need for a new church in the Abbotsford-Matsqui area so Trinity Memorial United Church established a Church Expansion Committee.

November 1980 - Trinity Memorial congregation approved a motion requesting BC Conference Development Committee to purchase property on Gladwin Road. The congregation pledged \$20,000 per annum for five years to support the project.

A New Church Development Committee was formed to develop plans for a building site and bringing into being a new congregation in the western part of Abbotsford-Matsqui.

The **first service** of the new congregation was held **September 13, 1981** at W. J. Mouat Senior Secondary School with approximately 30 people in attendance.

The Reverends Bob Gorrie and Bob Stobie of Trinity Memorial, assisted by Rev. Barry Moore and student interns Donna Jacques, Maureen Ashfield, and Wendy Bily provided the ministry at this time.

In **1983**, the Steering Committee adopted a Church Council Format with sub-committees for Worship, Christian Education, Finance, Building and Maintenance, New Church Development, plus UCW and Presbytery Reps. Dave McLaren was named Chairperson.

Feb 27, 1983 - the building project began with Sarah Griffiths & Jim Degeer turning the sod.

The first service of worship in the new building was held **September 12, 1983**. The sanctuary was full. At this time the ministry was still provided by Trinity Memorial. Others that assisted us during the formative years were: Barry Moore, Wes Bray, Jim Ford, Frank Golightly, George Fuller, Del Johnstone, Theo Roberts, and Hartwell Illsey.

In the **spring of 1985**, Gladwin decided to ask Fraser Presbytery if it might become a **separate congregation (pastoral charge)** from Trinity Memorial. At this time, **Reverend Scott Agur** was appointed Interim Minister. A year later, Reverend Agur was called to be our permanent minister. During the fall of 1986, **Henri Locke** was appointed part-time interim minister for a 4 month period. Scott was with us until June 1989, when he was called to a church in Sarnia, Ontario.

In **June 1989**, the Pastoral Relations Committee recommended that we call **Reverend Art Lucy**. Art accepted the call and thus became part of the next chapter of Gladwin's history.

Reverend Sarah Wallace was part-time Interim Minister from November 1990 to January 1991 while Art was recovering from heart surgery.

In the **spring of 1992** Art retired, and the congregation called **Reverend Norm Thomas**. In **June 1996** after 4 years of active ministry, **Norm Thomas** retired.

September 1995 brought a new phase to the Gladwin community. Due to overcrowding in our present building, the congregation decided to rent the facilities of the **7th Day Adventist Church** for Sunday Worship. Another faith community rented our facilities.

In **June 1996** the congregation called **Gabrielle Suedfeld** to be our minister. In the **fall of 2001**, Gabrielle Suedfeld accepted a call to the United Church's Inland Marine Mission, in Terrace, B.C.

In **June 1998**, we moved back to the Gladwin site. The **1999** renovations provided an enclosed office space. The glass-in nursery area with sound system was added in **2000** at the back of the sanctuary.

Reverend Joanne Black served the congregation in a part-time capacity from **January to June 2002**. We were grateful for Joanne's help during this period.

In the **spring of 2002** we decided to ask the United Church to "settle" a newly ordained minister with our congregation. We are delighted to share our ministry with the **Reverend Dr. Dorothy Jeffery**, who joined us in **July, 2002**. We appreciated the many gifts and skills she brought to the position. Reverend Jeffery is taking a year's sabbatical beginning **December 2, 2011** to explore the intersection of faith and the environment in a wider geographical and interfaith context, as well as taking time for spiritual renewal. Gladwin Heights will be exploring its' future ministry needs.

In **2006** Gladwin Heights celebrated its 25th anniversary as a congregation, and look forward to many years ahead.

In **December 2007** Betty Anne Dempsey joined the staff as a part-time team member to share in the life and work of our church community. We were pleased to have Betty Anne with us through the **spring of 2009**. Betty Anne was commissioned as a diaconal minister in 2009, and began serving the United Church in a team ministry in Victoria.

In **July 2011** Gladwin Heights Music Director **June Dolman** passed away. Her love of music and her ability to give this gift to others was much appreciated as she played the piano and directed the choir for years of worship services and special events.

2012 Nominating Report

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the AGM.

***members of council*

Chair	Rita Green**
Vice Chair	
Past Chair	
Council- Secretary	Robert Grills**
Treasurer	Muriel Thomas**
Presbytery Rep. Co-ordinator	Barbara Mason**
Presbytery Alternate	Laura Bailey**
UCW Co-ordinator	Carlene Stein**
Members at Large	Jan Green**
Christian Development or Education Co-ordinator	Lyn Warmerdam**
Church School	
God Experiences	Lyn Warmerdam, Sarah Wiens
Library	Jenny Matthews
Naramata Rep	Rosemary Best
Fellowship	
Fall Fair	Marcia Foreman, Lyn Warmerdam
Maintenance Co-ordinator	
Membership Co-ordinator	Gladys Banks
Members	Arlene Kropp Helen Macnab Linda Grills Anne Watson Laura Bailey (Albums)
Pastoral Care/Outreach Coordinator	Arlene Kropp**
Hospital Visitation	Barbara Mason Gina Hartley Loretta Riggins
Prayer Chain	Gladys Banks
Healing Touch	Barbara Mason
Gathering of Women	Arlene Kropp (contact) open to all women
Women's Resource Centre	Marguerite Mitchell
Sandwich Group:	Lois Szostak Barb Showers Heather McLean Lois Gordon Arlene Kropp
Dinner Group	Many participants (open ended)
Stewardship	
Envelopes Steward	Len Stein**

M+S Enthusiast

Laura Bailey

Counters:

Reed MacWilliam

Jan Green

Elmer Lint

Florine Lint

Lois Gordon

Gladys Banks

Muriel Thomas

Laura Bailey

Worship Co-ordinator

Sarah Wiens

Members

Barbara Showers

Margaret Fellmann

Nancy Ritchie

Ministry and Personnel

Members (appointed by Council)

Sheila Flavelle

Sheridan Tochkin

Ann Watson

Trustees (appointed by council)

Ron Roberts

Graham Wainwright

Elmer Lint

Charles Bailey

Carol Nordstrom

Thank you all!

Special thanks to the following people who have served Gladwin in an official capacity and are retiring from their positions at this time.

Mission Statement

The Mission of Gladwin Heights United Church, an inclusive and dynamic community of the United Church of Canada, is to grow spiritually and proclaim Christian faith through worship and service.

Approved by unanimous vote of Gladwin Heights United Church Congregational Meeting October 5, 2003.

Core Values of Gladwin Heights United Church

Proclamation

Knowing that we live in the presence of God, grounding our faith in the Bible, we take the risk to proclaim justice and respect for all, speaking authentically in today's world, inviting all people to come and see the gospel lived.

Worship

We experience God's presence through prayerful, relevant worship in our creative and dynamic gathered community. In Sunday morning worship, we celebrate with scripture, music, preaching, prayer and sacraments.

Faith and Spiritual Formation

We develop our faith by listening, learning and living; celebrating honesty, diversity and inclusiveness; striving to live in the way Christ taught us. We acknowledge the process of questioning, probing and searching.

Ministry and Service

As followers of Jesus, we celebrate each other, accepting, supporting, respecting diversity, and seeking justice within the wider community. As good stewards, we support our church, care for the environment and honour people's gifts.

Community of Believers

We provide joyful, family-like community that is welcoming to all, supporting meaningful fellowship and congregational viability.

Leadership

We value healthy, effective pastoral relationships. In order to promote energizing and visionary leadership, we help in the development of faith and skill of both lay and professional leaders.

Approved by unanimous vote of Gladwin Heights United Church Congregational Meeting October 5, 2003.

Vision Statement

2010-2015

Knowing God cares for all creation,
following in the footsteps of Jesus,
and in the constant presence of
the Spirit: we focus our ministry,
worship, service and programs
on caring for the Earth and
all its inhabitants.

We understand there to be three avenues of
caring within this point of focus – care
for the environment, care for people,
and care for justice. Therefore

Striving **to live with respect in creation**,
we will focus on limiting our
environmental footprint as a
congregation and as individuals.
Knowing the impact of
environmental issues on
the well-being of all God's
creatures, we will advocate for the
environment in the public forum.

Seeking **to love and serve others**,
we will continue to address
the practical needs of people,
including those who are marginalized.
We choose to address these issues
in circles expanding and moving from
our community to the region and
outward to the world. This work of
our congregation will continue and
extend throughout the 5 year time
period of our vision.

Endeavouring **to seek justice and resist evil**,
we will educate ourselves as to the
causes of marginalization as
experienced in poverty, racism,
sexism, and other forms of oppression.
In years 4 and 5 of our vision period, we
will increase our focus through
education and action to incorporate
addressing systemic injustices.

Approved by unanimous vote of Gladwin Heights United Church
Congregational Meeting June 20, 2010

End of 2011 Gladwin Heights United Church Annual Report