

Manning Deadwood Shared Ministry & St John's Parish

Annual Report for 2008

1. Preamble

Manning Deadwood Shared Ministry Pastoral Charge, Saint John's Parish, is a partnership between the Anglican and United churches in the Manning and Deadwood area. Our official board is comprised of four Anglican and three United members, who oversee the operations of our parish.

We have very few formal committees. The board directly oversees Worship and Christian Development--any new ideas or changes usually come after discussion at the board. Fundraising programs are facilitated by volunteer leadership, which changes according to who is available and who has the enthusiasm and energy at the time to take on the leadership role.

Thus, our report in 2009 for the year 2008 is a reporting of events, happenings and a kind of story of how God is working through this church in this community.

Our pastoral charge (or parish) is comprised of two churches: Saint John's United Anglican in Manning and Deadwood United in Deadwood. Our mission statement for the pastoral charge is:

To worship God and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in our community through word and action.

This past year we have endeavoured to do just that. Our collective work and participation in ministerial and community events and our own church events and programs has enriched us and we hope has enriched our neighbour.

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3. United Anglican Church Board Chairperson's Report

General Purpose: Overseeing the operations of our parish.

Board Members: Nora Paulovich, Jo Kelemen, John Lyseng (Chair), Susan Teige (Secretary), Marilyn Beebe, Kelly Schram, Sheila Reinders, Wilma Gurtler, Sunni Walker (Treasurer)

Our congregation continues our spiritual growth through our Sunday Services, Bible Studies, On-line Sunday School, Christian Book Club, Fellowship and through our looking out for one another throughout the year.

Through the efforts of our church committees and all of the hard working volunteers that have helped where they can, our church remains a vibrant and active member of our community. The appreciation we feel for these hard working people is deeply felt. Because of this, 2009 looks to be full of promise to be a great year indeed.

Thank you,

John Lyseng, Chairperson

January 2009

4. Ministry and Personnel Committee

Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee

The Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee is a confidential group that provides support and communication between the minister, staff, church board and congregation. M&P is expected to meet four times in a year.

Our members are: Jean Bradshaw, John Lyseng, Bonnie Paulovich, Nancy Rycroft and Dorothy Soroka. This is the only committee of the church that our minister, Allan Gairns, is not a member. Although, he has been present at most meetings, generally, it's expected that the minister only attends when they bring an issue, or an issue is brought forwarded needing the ministers presence, or the committee just wants to do a check-in.

5. Finance Committee

Members: Sheila Reinders, Eileen Gerrits (Collection Manning), Lynn Hardy, Dan Paulovich, Eva Chambers (Collection Deadwood), Shirley Nordstrom, Sunni Walker

Financially our church is doing okay. There are still some repairs to do around church and on manse. The windows of the church should be going in this year. But, that is a capital expense. Also, there is grant money available through the United Church of Canada, which we are searching out.

6. Property & Maintenance

Committee Name: Maintenance and Repairs

General Purpose of Committee:

To do repairs and minor maintenance to Church and Manse and organize others to do major repairs.

Committee Members: Dan and Bonnie Paulovich, Marilyn Beebe

Last Spring we had a clean-up day and washed the outside of the church (the north side), did some gardening and generally cleaning-up inside. Thanks to all who help. Some new insulation was installed in some areas that seemed to be missing insulation. While up in the ceiling Dan noticed some weather and age worn spots on roof.

Suggestions for 2009 and beyond

(i.e. committee member's ideas for changes and / or improvements)

New members to committee needed

Manse needs repairs around doors and in bathroom-insulation assessment

Church needs downstairs ceiling painted

Garbage stands or bin for back of manse to be used by both church and manse

Rock or bark around side flowerbed

7. UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW)

We have 7 active members--Connie Ungarian, Delores Lawrence, Evelyn Thomson, Joyce Yarham, Teresa Gairns, Eileen Gerrits, Marilyn Beebe, and one life-time member--Jennie Asmussen.

We meet about six times a year in members homes. Our meetings begin with a devotion. This is a time for fellowship and connecting with each other.

We look after collecting toiletries for the Women's Shelter in Peace River at Christmas time. We started the mitten tree in the church and send mittens, gloves, scarves and winter hats to the Bissell Centre in Edmonton. We assist with all fund raising projects in the church.

The UCW can be found in churches across the country working to support the Church's ministry and provides a place for women to socialize.

8. Events, Happenings & Ministry

January--Is usually a time of transition when the church gets ready for its Annual Meeting the first Sunday in February. Allan went to Epiphany Explorations in Victoria. One of the highlights was listening to guest speaker **Stephen Lewis**: also, a professor of preaching , **Dr. Tom Long**.

February – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is, usually, our first event. It is mainly a time for fellowship which is open to the community. It is also, a fund-raiser for the church to support our Outreach—half of the offering goes to PWRDF and the other half to the local church..

March--begins with the **World Day of Prayer** the first Friday. In 2008 World Day of Prayer was March 6 in our church. It is a joint prayer service in the community hosted next year by St James Catholic Church. The liturgy is designed by women from the focus country. Last year that country was Guyana. We heard a lot about how the women of Guyana worked for social justice in their own country. In 2009, World Day of Prayer is March 6. March 23rd was Easter this year and we shared the Eucharist with Archbishop John Clarke. **Easter Farmers Market**, is an annual event in the community. This was our second year making and selling buns, squares, baked goods at the farmer's market. We will continue to do that in 2009.

April –Synod for Diocese of Athabasca was held in High Prairie at St Mark's Anglican Church. There we heard that **Archbishop John Clarke**, according to Anglican polity, must step down as Archbishop on his 70th birthday this summer. He remains Bishop of the diocese until his retirement in 2009. The **Silent Auction**, April 18, was a success again. Our program of providing deserts, coffee, tea, and juices, has been very popular for all ages. Our fashion show was a big hit. Last year the auction saw less expensive items for bidding, but lots of them. Most people could bid on something if they chose to. **May**-- We do catering for a number of different kinds of events or celebrations (e.g. weddings) through-out the year. The way this happens is we receive a request then we find someone to take the leadership and organize people and resources. Catering is a valuable service and has an important role in the community and in our church.

June—We had a joint service in Deadwood on **Deadwood Daze Sunday**. This is our “tent service”, but due to circumstances out of our control we had to meet in the community building in a room down

from the store. There was **no garage sale** this year as we decided to take a break—there were quite a few around town the year before.

July –The **Rodeo** is a good fundraiser for us and it puts our church out in the community at a very important, cultural, event of our Town of Manning. Water! We went through tonnes of water. Thanks to IDA Pharmacy for supply all the bottles we needed and taking back what we didn't sell. We had some good hot days for the Rodeo and our snack booth. Thanks to Del Harbourne for getting all the volunteers to sign up for shifts. Some of us had to double shift because a lot of people were away that weekend. But we hung in there and things worked out.

September –we didn't seem as ready for September and this time of start-up. The **corn roast** didn't happen this year. But, next year looks good.

October –In the community of Deadwood our **Fall supper** is on the last Sunday of the month. The **Deadwood Supper** hosts a hall-full of people—enough chairs this year. We had lots of food: salads, turkey, mashed spuds, veggies and pies. Pies galore: apple, raisin, lemon, blueberry. Thanks to all the volunteers that put the supper together. October 30 was when we said “Farewell” to **Marge Pasichnuk** who moved away, but we will see her when she visits Manning from time to time.

November-The Royal Canadian Legion hosted the **Remembrance Day** service for the community. I was speaker this year. Our regular Sunday service is shortened so that we can attend and be on time: arriving at 10:45. And there is no Deadwood service as members in Deadwood also attend Remembrance Day in town. The **Cookie Walk** fund-raiser was on Friday, Nov 21. Lots of variety! We sold most of the cookies. At the end of November everyone usually supports the **Christmas Craft Sale** at the AG Hall and Frosty Friday and the lighting of the Town of Manning Christmas Tree. But this year there was confusion and the tree lighting ceremony didn't happen. Many church members are also volunteers in the community making sure that these things happen. It's a small community!

December – has got to be the busiest month of our whole year. A **Community Choir** started to practice for the **Community Christmas Celebration**, which is sponsored by the Manning Ministerial. This is when all the churches through offerings of talent like singing and instrumental and dramatic arts, worship together and welcome the birth of the Christ child. So, this year our choir met a little later to practice some tunes we knew and one or two new ones for our Christmas Eve service. Our **Blue Christmas Service** was on Thursday, December 18 this year. In December our **Bible Study** only met a couple of times then broke early for Christmas. Our **Secret Church Family(s)** were revealed on **White Gift Sunday** on December 14. On this Sunday we were also reminded of our deadlines for contribution to: **the Christmas Food Hampers Program through FCSS; the Mitten Tree; and the donations to the Women's Shelter in Peace River.** Our **Christmas Eve Services in 2008** were at 6pm in Deadwood United and 8pm and 11:00 (communion) at St John's United Anglican in Manning. December 28th was our **Lessons and Carols Service** where with Lay Leadership the congregation goes through a liturgy of prayers, scripture and responsive hymns.

8. Board and Church Structure

Church Organization

Anglican Church of Canada (ACC)

- General Synod & Primate
- Province of Rupert's Land & Archbishop
- Diocese of Athabasca & Bishop
- St. John's Parish (Manning Deadwood)
- St John's United Anglican and Deadwood United Churches.

St. John's Parish:

Manning Deadwood SM Pastoral Charge

- Official Board & Chairperson
- Trustees
- Ministry and Personnel Committee
- Property & Maintenance Committee
- Finance and Treasurer
- Minister member of all committees, except M&P

United Church of Canada (UCC)

- General Council & Moderator
- Alberta Northwest Conference & President
- Northern lights Presbytery & Chairperson
- Manning Deadwood SM Pastoral Charge:
St. John's Parish.
- St John's United Anglican Church Manning and Deadwood United Church.

9. Trustees

Trustees: Sheila Reinders, Arlene Henitiuk, Nancy Rycroft.

10. Wardens and Appointments

Anglican Appointments

Rector's Warden.....	Nora Paulovich
PWRDF Representative.....	Georgia Kelemen
Messenger/ Anglican Journal Rep.....	Shirley Nordstrom
Lay Readers.....	Nora Paulovich, Georgia Kelemen, Shirley Nordstrom, Jolene Noble, Cara Noble, Dorothy Soroka, Diane Smith, Brenda Asmussen, Lyn Hardy.
Synod Delegate.....	Nora Paulovich
Synod Alternate.....	Georgia Kelemen.

United Appointments

Presbytery Representatives: Sheila Reinders, Eileen Gerrits
Alternate.....Bonnie Paulovich.

11. Minister

Minister's Report

I have been reading a book by Carter Heyward—a celebrated feminist theologian of the Episcopal Church of the USA. In this book she explores the notion of God in mutual relationship with creation. That it is hard to separate one from the other. And to recognize this relationship, then, implies the reality in life where ones' actions (thoughts and movement) in the world really do have an impact on God. That God not only is in sympathy with us and creation but, struggles with us.

We just celebrated God's incarnation at Christmas time into the world. And God reminds us, calls to us, every Sunday (and other days) to follow Jesus and walk in his way. The following is our testimony and witness to how our church is doing that walk. (You may be able to add more to this witness.)

I believe that our church has been working in this community and affecting communities beyond us, with the healing power of God's love. Through our devotions, our Christian Development, and our actions of charity and love through gifts of talents, treasures and time, we have made a difference to many that we know and that we do not know.

Deadwood United Church services are held Sundays at 12 noon with a lunch following. Although the congregation is small services are important to those in the community. Members participate in the activities of the pastoral charge, i.e. Deadwood Fall Supper; Cookie Walk; CATERED activities; and Special Occasions. Communion is celebrated a few times a year as needed. The Christmas Eve service this year (2008) was down in attendance due to members away and community members away. Our concern continues to be for the physical condition of

our church building as it has seen better days and is deteriorating. Just before Christmas we decided to not worship in the church after Christmas. But other arrangements have not been made yet and we are still meeting in the old building.

Saint John's United Anglican Church services are held at 10 am Sunday morning followed by fellowship with coffee, tea and the odd snack. The average attendance is has gone down to about 18 people on average. Communion is celebrated about twice a month, alternating between Anglican and United liturgy. But with the switch to "All Ages" worship every Sunday—an effort to help include young and older—we experience fewer liturgical differences.

This past year our Christian Development has been limited to Bible Study at the lodge and the teaching portions of worship on Sunday. There are no Sunday School children so we have had to think of creative ways to deal with this reality. Our Whole People of God Curriculum therefore, has ben posted on our own webpage. Follow the links and instructions and members' families can have Sunday school at home at their convenience.

We continue to make opportunities to worship with our neighbour through programs sponsored by Manning Ministerial: Community Christmas Celebration and the Rodeo Worship Service. Also, the community choir will be looking at an informal gospel music event—everyone welcome to join in.

We have had opportunities to reach out to others less fortunate through donations and work for the mitten tree, Women's Shelter, Community Christmas Hamper, M&S Fund and Primates World Relief & Development Fund. We have helped out through special donations some individuals in our community who found themselves, and their families, in financial difficulties because of sickness and other misfortunes. We have had opportunities to reach out with Christ's message of healing to those who are sick, suffering loss or dying.

We have celebrated the presence of God through our rituals and prayers and hymns of praise. Celebrations like: our bi-weekly celebration of the "Sacrament of the Lord's Supper;" and the "Marriage" of Andrea and Rick Pedersen. Blue Christmas, World Day of Prayer, and St Bridget's Service are all part of our worship life in this community.

We remember those who have passed on...Michael Smith, Wilfred Winchell, Alex Hudema, Verna Peterson, Mary Henitiuk, Patricia Dawydiuk, Kenneth Lien, and those dear to us whose lives have been celebrated in various parishes in our country.

This church's ministry extends into the community through its support of local / community events and programs. This church's ministry extends further through representation of our Wardens, Lay Readers, Synod Delegates, Presbytery Delegates and the Minister. This past year I have attended several meetings and conferences of both churches and other related ministries...

The Wider Ministry Anglican Church of Canada (ACC)	Community Local / Wider	The Wider Ministry of United Church of Canada (UCC)
-2 Deanery Meetings eral Council	-Manning Town Councillor	-Commissioner of Gen-
-3 Clericus Conference	-Manning Youth Soccer Coord	-Delegate to Alberta NW
	-Associate Chaplain Alberta	-3 meetings Presbytery

Member:

church of Cda

Pastoral Care Association

- Diaconia of United

-Manning Ministerial- Chairperson

-President Toastmasters

-Victim Services –Board

-St John's Parish

This is all part of our witness to the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ; this is The Church in Manning Deadwood acting out its mission statement:

To worship God and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in our community through word and action.

We look forward to 2009. On the horizon are many more opportunities to serve God and spread the Good News about the Kingdom of Heaven at hand. It may be in new ways to worship. or, new ways to do pastoral care. Or, new ways to extent a helping hand to those in need. In Peace River, our next closest and largest town the Anglican Church hall hosts the Peace River Community Soup Kitchen where in the winter 17 clients on average use this valuable service. In the summer this will double as transient folks come through, homeless unemployed, who need food for their journey.

May the Peace of Christ be with you in your mission, ministry and life.

Pastor Allan Gairns