



whyte ridge

baptist church

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2017 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Lead Pastor Terry Janke	5
Moderator Azhar Laldin	7
Associate Pastor Discipleship Doug Friesen	10
Associate Pastor Worship & Care Kevin Klassen	13
Communications Ministries Chris Schroeder	15
Associate Pastor Student Ministries Kevin Schular	19
Director of Children’s Ministries Grace Elke	21
Building Chris Karam	23
Finance Dave Barton	25
General Fund Income Statement	
Mission Trips Income Statement	
Capital Asset Fund Income Statement	
All Funds Current – Prior Year Comparison	
Cash Balances	
Giving Units	
Attendance Statistics	
Church Clerk’s Report	33
Membership List	34

Lead Pastor
Terry Janke

A Year of Building

What matters in life is not what happens to you but what you remember and how you remember it. (Ann Voskamp, The Broken Way, p. 33)

I often begin the year wondering how I will end it, what I will be regretting or celebrating when it comes to a close. How will this season of our church's history be remembered?

As we step into 2018 our attention is naturally upon the changing landscape of the McGillivray property, a vision that was set in motion over ten years ago. It is exciting to be at this stage of building. But this transition is about so much more than a new house of worship. It is an opportunity to enter into a new season of ministry, to write a new chapter. God wants to use this transition to re-tool and fit us as instruments He will use to touch more people with His love through faith in His Son.

In his book, Building Below the Waterline, Gordon MacDonald writes - *A growing congregation has somehow made a decision that it will project a ministry to its people built on the future, not focused on the present. This means that it builds structures, hires pastoral staff, and sets in motion programs based on anticipated growth, not actual growth. (p. 207).*

In recent years the Lord has renewed our church in several ways.

- Structure (Board of Governance model)
- Staffing (Student Ministries Pastor)
- Space (New Building Project)
- Stewardship (Operating Budget and Capital Campaign)

I rejoice to see that in each of these areas we have responded in unity to the leading of God's Spirit. But I see other areas where our congregation needs renewal.

- Strategies - In the next few years we will need new strategies of ministry to share our faith, to reach our community, to organize our congregation, to serve as volunteers, to welcome visitors, to integrate new people, to create healthy spaces for relationship, and so on.
- Service - Every new strategy requires workers. No church can impact its world without an army of servants available to be the answer to someone's prayer and the solution to someone's need. We need to be renewed and equipped to serve (cf. Phil 2:5).
- Spiritual - I do not place spiritual renewal last because it matters least. I place it here for emphasis, because no other kind of renewal matters if we do not learn to be continually renewed in our fellowship with God (1 John 1:3 - 4).

Pastoral Priorities: How I spend my time

Sometimes I am asked what I do with my time. And sometimes I ask myself - *What should I be doing, that will not get done if I don't do it?* So here is a summary of what I do most.

- Preaching the Word - We spent all of 2017 in the Book of Acts, studying the heart of Jesus in the early church (Acts 1:8). This winter 2018 we will study 1 John and then in the fall return to the Old Testament, to the Book of Nehemiah. Nehemiah is all about the rebuilding (and reforming) of the people of God. It will be a timely sermon series.
- Leading the Staff - I am blessed to have a team of staff that are a joy to work beside: Kathy Kornelsen (Office Administrator), Grace Elke (Director of Children's Ministry), Kevin Klassen (Pastor of Worship and Care), Doug Friesen (Pastor of Discipleship and Outreach), Kevin Schular (Pastor of Student Ministries) and Chris Schroeder (Communications Coordinator). On behalf of us all, thank you for your prayers and encouragement in 2017.

- Reporting to the Board - I work closely with Azhar Laldin (Moderator) and the Board of Governance (Dave, Shelly, Carla, Kelly, Anthony and Chris) in the overall vision-setting of the church. Our job is to *direct and protect* - so that the staff and congregation can go about the business of *being* the church.
- Staying Connected - I also stay connected with other key leaders in our church family for the sake of the ministry: George Giesbrecht (Fellowship Team), Rosalie Olson (English Conversation Circles), Phil Nikkel (Facilities Team), Dave Barton (Finance Team), Chris Karam (Building Team), Tim Hague (Prayer Team). Each of these people lead teams of volunteers that do essential ministry. Please pray for them, thank them, and encourage them.

What will we celebrate?

I end my report as I began; by asking the question - *In one year what will we be celebrating?* I hope we are celebrating a building on its way to completion, and the funds to complete it. But even more, I hope we are celebrating the unity of the Spirit and the Sovereignty of God. I hope we are celebrating the grace of Christ in souls saved, believers baptised, relationships healed, and faith nurtured. I hope we are celebrating more hearts of mercy, more hands of service and more feet of them that bring good news.

**Moderator's Report
Azhar Laldin**

EXPERIENCING GOD'S GOODNESS

*For the LORD is good and His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100:5*

Indeed the LORD is good, and we are the recipients of His steadfast love. As we conclude 2017, we stand witness to God's grace, mercy, love and provision. May our hearts be filled with gratitude to the LORD as we look back on the past year.

It has been a busy year for our church. Many of our ministries have continued to grow. For a report on these I encourage you to read/listen to the annual reports submitted by our staff.

After completing a successful Capital Campaign in 2016, the primary focus in 2017 was to start the actual construction of the new facility. As you can appreciate, a great deal of work is required to get a project of this size off the ground. I am grateful for Chris Karam and the Building Committee as they continue to work with the architect and various parties involved in this phase.

With congregational approval, the project picked up pace. The highlight of this project occurred at our Worship by the Lake service, when Trudy Patzer broke ground to officially start the construction phase. I confess that any time I have a chance to see or be with any of our charter members, I am filled with gratitude. Over fifty years ago, a number of believers, faithfully and obediently, responded to God and formed what is now Whyte Ridge Baptist Church. Over the course of this time we have been blessed beyond what we deserve by our God, and because of His mercy have been able to respond in obedience.

We believe that constructing the new facility is the next step in our journey of obedience. As has been said often, the new building is a tool for ministry. Even though it may seem that the LORD has taken us the long way around to get to this place, we know that His timing is always perfect.

I am also grateful when I see what the Lord is doing in our church family. Even with the building project in full swing, we have carried out our ministries with excellence. As a church we ministered within the church body, and served those outside, including sending mission teams to Bolivia and Garden Hill.

Looking ahead, I see that 2018 is going to be another busy year for us.

- Our pastoral staff continue to seek new opportunities to disciple and equip the church body. They are continuing to create opportunities for us to connect at a deeper level with the LORD and with each other.
- The building project will pick up speed, and fairly soon we will see the structure coming up out of the ground. With a target completion date of Dec 2018, we will have a busy Summer and Fall

planning our transition. We will definitely be looking to the church family to be an active part of the move.

- We are also working on the sale of our current facility. We believe that the Lord will bring the right buyer to us at the right time with the right price. Our intention is still to sell this building to another church.

I ask you to pray unceasingly for:

- **Pastors and Staff:** as they continue to lead us as a body of believers. Pray that the LORD would lead them, protect them and bless them.
- **Board of Church Governance:** as they continue to **direct** and **protect** the ministry of the church, and the proclamation of the Word of God. Pray that the Board will remain humble, united, and fully submitted to God's leading.
- **Leaders and Volunteers:** as they come alongside the pastors and staff, and carry out the ministry of the church. Pray that the LORD will uncover the gifts and talents that He has given to each member of the body and ignite a passion in their hearts to use these for serving God and His people.

And lastly, I am tremendously thankful for the other Board members who continue to show grace to me as the moderator. They serve selflessly with a great deal of humility and utter reliance on God. I consider myself blessed to serve alongside them.

I am thankful for our pastors and staff who demonstrate their obedience and submission to God by serving His people.

I am thankful to our church family who are being transformed continually by the Holy Spirit.

And I am most thankful to our God who continues to show His love, mercy and grace to us all for the sake of His Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Outreach
Doug Friesen**

Lives on Mission Together

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 (NIV)

What does God require of us? In his devotional, *My Utmost for His Highest*, Oswald Chambers states: “The most important aspect of Christianity is not the work we do, but the relationship we maintain, and the surrounding influence and qualities produced by that relationship. That is all God asks us to give our attention to, and it is the one thing that is continually under attack” (Aug 4th). These are valuable words to consider as we look over a year filled with many wonderful activities and events (if you’d like to refresh your memory, our Winter and Fall 2017 Connecting Points Brochures are available online).

So why do we do the things we do and how do we accomplish those goals? Following are three goals that I pursue and some of the ways that we have intentionally sought God to mature us in those areas as a church family in 2017.

Goal #1: To Instill in Us the Value of a Deepening Walk with God

One of my core passions in life is to help people understand and experience what it means for us to both live and keep in step with the Spirit of Christ (Ga. 5:25). How have we been doing that through this past year?

By Encouraging a Growing Understanding of Christ through His Word and Spirit

This means that we are to mature in our ability to listen to God so that we may come to know Him better. I am so thankful for Carol Bergmann, Barb Brewer, Kelly Karam and Steve Morris who have invested themselves in leading our various *Adult Bible Studies* where we become more grounded in God’s Word. As I think about the days ahead, I’m thankful that God has placed upon the hearts of Erika Cooper and

Marilyn Parker the desire to develop a *Prayer Ministry* within our church.

By Deepening our Appreciation and Understanding for Who We Are in Christ

This is crucial for victorious Christian living and many of ministries have fostered conversations that have helped to mature us in this way. As we think of the years ahead, I hope that our *Who I Am in Christ* seminar will serve to root our church family more deeply in our identity in Christ.

A personal long-term goal, one constantly with me, is to write a devotional called *Becoming Christlike: A Journey from Infancy to Maturity in Christ*.

Goal #2: To Instill in Us the Value of a Deepening Walk with Each Other

Nothing is more important than growing in our relationship with God. And God tells us that we can only grow deeper with Him as we grow deeper with those who share life in Him. Here are some ways we pursue this goal together:

By Creating Healthy Relational Environments that Foster Christ-Honoring Friendships

LifeGroups (both Ongoing and Seasonal) are one of the main ways we pursue growth in this area. I am thankful that in 2017 God has develop our team of LifeGroup coaches: Barb Brewer, Cam Buchanan, Shirley Gagnon and Ivan Garcia and anticipate adding new members to this team in 2018!

Our various adult ministries also serve to create such environments. I'm thankful for the people who continually invest themselves in leading them: Kelly Karam leads our *Women's Ministry*, Bonnie Tholl leads *Growing in Grace*, and I lead our Men's Ministry.

Of note, this fall a *Women's Task Force* (led by Kelly Karam) has formed to determine ministry effectiveness and untapped potential. I believe this is a great step forward for our church and one that will be wise to follow in other areas of ministry as well.

By Sharing Naturally/Passionately about Our Relationship with Christ

We become passionate about sharing Christ as we grow in our ability to recognize His gracious work in our lives. It has been encouraging to see so many in our church family embrace and talk about the truths found within the writings of Henry and Richard Blackaby in their devotional *Experiencing God Day by Day*. Personally, growing in this area with you provides me with much joy, and I hope that you are encouraged in our interactions every time we spend time together.

Goal #3: To Instill in Us the Value of a Communal Kingdom Mindset

Our stated purpose is: *Making and nurturing followers of Jesus Christ through healthy relationships*. Often, we truncate our purpose leaving out the word *Making*. In 2017, God stirred us to focus on the *Making* aspect of our purpose statement again. Consequently, in May we hosted *The Emmaus Road Message (TERM)* Seminar that equipped us to share the gospel from Creation to the Cross. We've also grown in this area:

By Growing as a Sending Church

Praise God for the missionaries sent from within our church family this past year: Andrew Friesen (with Africa Inland Mission), Katy Hollander (with Youth for Christ), Courtney Kliever (serving in the Middle East) and Brianne Guenther (was with YFC but moved this fall).

We also had two teams sent on Mission Trips this summer (one to Garden Hill (Pathway Camp Ministries) and Bolivia (Canadian Baptist Ministries). In 2018, we plan to have three teams sent: Garden Hill, India and Mexico.

By Developing Partnerships with Mission-minded Ministries

Beyond the organizations mentioned above, we have also grown in our partnerships with Camp Nutimik, our NAB missionaries and Meadowood Manor. This winter, I joined the board for the Ryerson School Age Centre whose before and after school program makes use of our basement.

In 2018, let's pray that God leads us to some new partnerships that will help us move forward in our vision *to be a family of believers who act*

justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God in order to make disciples in families, friendships, neighbourhoods and among people of all nations.

Praise God for how He has led us in 2017! I look forward to serving with you in 2018.

Associate Pastor of Worship and Care

Kevin Klassen

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Colossians 3:12-17)

At the end of October, the WRBC Board and Staff held a retreat together where we discussed what we as a church family are passionate about and how that relates to how God has called us to serve Him. This conversation took us to a number of very interesting places, but I found several areas of our discussion to have special bearing on my role as Associate Pastor of Worship and Care:

- 1.** We agreed that we as a church have always been passionate about worshipping the Lord corporately, particularly in our Sunday morning gatherings, but that we are also ***growing in our passion to live every day in a way that is worshipful of God.***
- 2.** We also agreed that we as a church family have a ***growing passion to love one another more deeply and care for one another well.*** As we can see in the Colossians passage quoted above, *seeking to honour Christ in all things AND seeking to love each other well* are both at the heart of how we are called to live. These two things are

inseparable, and they both shape the way that I view my role in ministry.

My Ministry Role

The time that I spend in ministry can be divided into the following main areas – Worship Ministry, Congregational Care, and Counselling Ministry. I also serve as a pastoral liaison to Chris Schroeder as he oversees Communication ministry. He will be reporting elsewhere within this document.

- Worship Ministry – It continues to be my joy to oversee the planning and implementation of worship gatherings. These include Sunday mornings, Saturday Kids' Practices, and Special Services (Good Friday, Christmas Eve, Worship by the Lake, Hymn Sing). With both kids and adults, my intent in 2018 is to increasingly use corporate worship gatherings as an opportunity to help us to reflect upon how we worship our Lord outside of those gatherings in our day-to-day lives.
- Congregational Care – I spend a fair amount of time doing visitation and also lead our passionate team of deacons, who serve in the following areas of church family life: Acute Care, Benevolent Care, Visitation Ministry, Newcomers' Ministry, Integration Ministry, Baptism, Membership, Community Care (staying aware of how our people are doing and helping where we can) and Exit Care. A main focus for us as a team is the equipping of all people in our church family in caring for one another. One example of this is a Visitation Seminar that we recently held in order to both connect people into visitation ministry as well as equip those people to serve. We will be following up with further equipping seminars and opportunities in 2018.
- Counselling Ministry – This past year, a growing amount of my time has been spent providing counselling to individuals and couples within (or connected to) our church family. To me, helping people work through issues of faith and relationship is very much connected to both worship and care, as it is both an opportunity to

provide comfort and direction during times of personal challenge as well as a chance to assist people in honouring Christ more deeply in their choices and relationships.

Key Ministry Relationships

I want to be intentional in maintaining healthy and helpful relationships with the leaders I serve closely with in ministry. This includes people in the areas of *Worship Leadership* (Melanie Friesen, Sammy Cooper, Dustin Martin), *Deacons Ministry* (Anthony Dyck, Irene Toews, Michelle Schmidt, Dale Fast, Sheryl Hague, Lorraine Barton, Pratima Manuel and Raj Manuel), and *Communications* (Chris Schroeder). Terrance Wynne and Wayne Edel are also in particularly vital roles as we continue to work out what corporate worship will look like (and sound like) in the new building. In addition to leaders, I strive to maintain God-honouring connections with all individuals in the worship teams (and kids' teams), so that together we might grow in Christ and in the use of the gifts that He has given us.

By the grace of God, may we as the family of WRBC grow in our passion to worship Christ in both our inner lives of thought and prayer as well as our outer lives of love and deeds!

Communications Ministries Chris Schroeder

When systems change, behaviours change. When behaviour changes, the church's culture follows suit. – Stephen Blandino, stephenblandino.com

As I sit down at my computer to prepare this report and reflect on the communications, marketing and technological activities at Whyte Ridge Baptist Church, it feels like this report should encompass two years or more, as our congregation has experienced – and embraced – the following new programs, systems and processes over the past year:

- **Breeze Church Management Software** – The name of this system may not be recognizable to most, but this system was launched in early 2017 and has resulted in a primary shift in how we

communicate and significantly impacted the ministry at WRBC. The impact includes – but is not limited – to the following processes:

- **The WRBC Online Directory** – Our WRBC Directory is now online, including almost 200 photos of members and attendees at our church. If you have not yet signed up or utilized this directory (link at www.whyteridgebaptist.ca) or use our Breeze App, you are missing out on photos, basic information and the opportunity to engage with our staff and leadership at a deeper level. Email communications@whyteridgebaptist.ca or contact Kathy Kornelsen at our office for more information!
- **Online Registration** – If you have clicked on a link in our WRBC Weekly Email Update or visited our Information Centre over the past 6 months to sign up for events, you have been using the Breeze Church Management system. We have seen record numbers of individuals registering for our events and retreats, and our staff and leadership have been effectively utilizing the system to further promote and to assist with administrative tasks with ease.
- **WRBC Check In System** – In January 2017, SONSeekers ministry, under the leadership of Grace Elke and Kelly Karam, launched the WRBC Check In System (powered by Breeze) before the system was introduced to the congregation. Although this was a significant change, and there was a learning curve after utilizing a more ‘manual’ process since the inception of our church, the Greeters and Security volunteers effectively implemented a check in system that include child name tags, volunteer coordination, and attendance tracking over the past 12 months.
- **WRBC Profiles** – Anticipate hearing more about this in 2018, but the staff and leadership were heavily involved in launching WRBC Profiles – more effective ways of understanding our congregation, filling needs expressed within the congregation and community, and connecting our church at a deeper level. If you have yet to complete your profile – or do not understand the importance of

doing so – Pastor Doug Friesen will be further expressing this in the upcoming months.

- **Deacons / Membership Lists** – Our membership and status lists are now fully hosted in Breeze, and is regularly update by our Deacons Ministry Team
- **WRBC Directory** – 2017 marked the first year our physical paper directory was fully created using information from our WRBC Online Directory (powered by Breeze). Our thanks to Kathy Kornelsen for her effort to integrate the previously utilized process and this new database to create our current directory!
- **Online and Mobile Giving** – As we analyzed the current demographics of our church – along with trends experienced in the church of North America – Finance ministry and Communications Ministry came together to do a ‘soft launch’ of Tithe.ly Online and Mobile Donations as an *additional way* for our congregation to give to the ministry of WRBC. We have seen giving directed through this system – which provides an easy way to give one time and recurring donations via a convenient app (available on both the Apple and Android store), as well as online at ww.whyteridgebaptist.ca over the past 6 months. *Our thanks to Dave Barton, Gerald Kornelsen, and the Finance team for their partnership as this new system was launched!*
- **Website Updates** – In constant revision, our online presence at www.whyteridgebaptist.ca has experienced a refresh, a data update, a streamlining of content, and the addition of innovative communications options (including texting, Facebook Messenger and ‘click to call). All of our weekly updates, stories, registration links, and information regarding our leadership and church can be found on this site. 2018 will see some major updates to the site – including a strong focus on the mobile platform and additional innovations – so watch for announcements in the months to come!

- **Creative Communications** – In order to simplify – and unify – our creative communications elements (Weekly Sunday Service Updates, online promotions, etc.), a move towards a unified graphics system (Canva) occurred in 2017. In 2018 we will be exploring developing a Creative Communications Collective team that will serve further in this way, and help innovate how we currently communicate through creative means. *If this is something that you have interest in, please contact Pastor Kevin Klassen or Chris Schroeder*

Conclusion

Communications and creative solutions cannot be developed and maintained in a bubble, so this past year a move towards participating in key and regular staff meetings has been key to ensuring that we are making effective decisions. Under the leadership of Pastor Terry Janke, attending these meetings has been key to ensuring that our communications efforts have purpose, support our existing ministries, and are implemented in cost effective and impactful ways. This will continue to remain a priority in the year to come.

As we move into the new year – and get closer to hosting our services at 2405 McGillivray – a key focus will be on ensuring that all of our systems and internal / external communications efforts support not only our existing ministries, but our future ministries. Under the capable leadership of Pastor Kevin Klassen – along with our staff, leadership and volunteers – we anticipate an exciting year ahead of further implementation of our current systems, as well as new innovations and exciting announcements that further the ministry that we have been called to at Whyte Ridge Baptist Church!

Associate Pastor of Student Ministries
Kevin Schular

Building Healthy Relationships leads us into a healthy faith community. This was and is a goal that Student Ministries is working towards. The gospel is the power that changes lives and we need to know more about how that should look in our everyday lives. The Bible is full of human interactions that lead us to know more about who God is. Here are some ways that we are discussing how the gospel lives through us:

- Prayer dependency
- Remembrance (of what God has done)
- Development (trust, etc)
- Gospel Declaration
- Diversity
- Unity
- Reconciliation
- Humble Boldness

4HG (Monday nights)

We are in the midst of discovering how to develop a culture of gospel influence in our own lives. There are many ways we can see and feel the gospel changing and transforming us, so together we are taking steps to remind ourselves of how great God is! We use In-House nights where we explore and discuss scripture and events, retreats, and service times to help develop a faith community.

INTERACT (Wednesday nights)

We are in the midst of discussing how Christians should respond to the ever-changing culture of Manitoba/Winnipeg. What does a passionate growing Christian look like in this world? How do young adults become a part of the mission that reaches their “Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and the ends of the Earth”? I have enjoyed so much being a part of these ministries and ministry teams. We are using all our activities and events to help support and build faith-based homes in our church. We want all ages to see their place in first taking an active role in building up one’s family, and then our schools and workplaces. There are so many relationships we are a part of in our lives. How do others see us and how are they drawn to Jesus because of our role in their lives?

Other ongoing serving opportunities:

- Volunteering at Henry G. Izatt (HGI) middle school in reading and literacy initiatives
- Coach football at Grant Park High School
- Small group Bible Studies
- Sunday School for grades 5-6
- Garden Hill mission trip
- Young Adult/Sr High mission trip 2018
- Food Bank initiative at Whyte Ridge Baptist Church
- Youth Alpha (city wide initiative with evangelical churches)

A BIG THANK YOU TO:

4HG ministry team: Jr High: 2016-2017, and 2017-2018: Tom and Victoria Griffioen, Alyssa Anhalt, Raffa Listiri, Krista Wynne, Lynelle Klassen, Tim Hague Jr.

Sr High – 2016-2017, and 2017-2018: Steven and Brianne Guenther, Zarifa S., Christina Cooper, Alex Warburton, Sammy Cooper, Stephanie Wiltshire, Diane Bergman and to all the parents who helped make snacks!

INTERACT ministry team 2016-2017, and 2017-2018: Brian and Kaitlyn Janzen, Josh Friesen, Ben Wiltshire, Joel Janke, Jenn Mantler

Sunday School team: Wes Krahn, John Bergman

Last but not least... Thank you to my co workers! They have been very encouraging and supportive as my second year was completed. They really have made me feel welcome and at home at WRBC!

Thank you to Jill, Kai and Ava for your love and support. Thank you, God, for these three as they are the best things that have ever happened in my life!

I am really excited about where our church is headed with the Student Ministries. God is challenging the Student Ministries to go deeper in the gospel, in love for others, and to serve more. As He is already developing a core in these ministries, we are actively inviting others to be a part of our church family. The big challenge for our leadership team

is how we worship God seven days a week. It's not about just one or two days, but to realize that church and church groups help prepare for life each day of the week. We are not just a club with members, we are a community that surrenders to God every day and it is up to Him to decide how He will use our lives in all situations.

Please be praying for these groups and our leadership teams throughout this exciting year ahead! We look forward to developing community, but anticipate the many opportunities for people to come to know their Saviour in a deep relationship! God bless you all.

Children's Ministries Grace Elke

Children's Ministry provides programming for children from infancy through to grade 4 through the *Little Lambs Nursery* and *SONSeekers*.

Our *Plan to Protect* program which ensures a safe and secure environment for our children/youth and volunteers is also under the direction of the Children's Ministry Director.

Our mission/purpose statement for Children's Ministry is "***To come alongside families in creating a Christ centered environment for their children so that in God's timing, each child will enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ***". I am so grateful to be helped and encouraged in this task by our Children's Ministry Leadership Team and the many who faithfully volunteer each Sunday.

Our Children's Ministry Leadership Team meets regularly to set vision and program for our ministry and consists of **Janine Carmichael, Katy Hollander, Josh Hollins, Kaylee Hollins, Girish Manuel, Sheilla Taylor,** and **Dolores Tully**. They are the best!

Our theme for the past ministry year for grades 1 to 4 was *The Year of Covenant*.

Through learning about God's promise to Noah, Abraham, the promise of a Saviour, etc., we began to understand the wonder of the special promise between man and God called covenant. Each week ways to connect to God in relationship were discovered.

Some of the blessings of the past year included:

- Special times of worship and prayer with our kids – so special to hear them pray!
- Faithful volunteers who cared for our nursery kids, taught and shepherded our age 2 to grade 4 kids week after week, greeted and provided security, listened to verses memorized - 50+ in number!
- 12 youth helpers assisting and being mentored in our nursery and preschool classrooms.
- Seeing 12 kids complete an entire year of Bible memorization
- Bringing our offerings to God as part of our worship so that we can help kids in Winnipeg receive healthy meals through *Agape Table for Kids*.
- Having a good number of our kids together with their families serve at Meadowood Manor for LOVE WINNIPEG.
- Corresponding with and praying for our church supported missionaries – Lyndell and Paulo in Brazil, Elsie in Cameroon, Katy in Winnipeg, the Bergs at Nutimik Lake Camp.
- Discipling our kids to develop meaningful relationships with people from other cultures as we made pictures for the Bolivia team to take for the children there and sending Scriptural bracelets for kids in *Pathways Ministry*.
- Experiencing a week of VBS with a total of 11 kids registered; 1 coming from the community.
- Having Maddie Brewer as our summer student worker who worked at planning, preparing for and implementing the program for VBS as well as providing the Sunday morning program for preschoolers in July and August.
- Celebrating Christmas together with our church family through our program *The Story of Christmas* under the direction of Janine Carmichael and Sharon Mohr.

Looking forward:

- Prayer has always been an integral part of our SONSeeker program, but it is an area that we want to continue to commit to further develop and strengthen within our kids and volunteers. Prayer is

part of our large group worship times and each Shepherd group has prayer journals to guide their prayer time.

- In coming alongside parents in creating a Christ-centered environment for their children, we would like to offer faith @ home 'take-it home' events. However, in order to do this, we need a committed team to develop and present the events.

Our specific goals for 2017 – 2018 are available simply by making a request to Grace or anyone on our leadership team.

Ephesians 3:20 The Message - "God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us. Glory to God in the church! Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus! Glory down all the generations! Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!"

**Building Committee
Chris Karam**

This year started with some unanswered questions about our building project. We were in the midst of speaking with our neighbors (Fort Whyte and Lafarge) about ongoing drainage concerns. We were also diligently working with Thomas Design Builders to re-design the building to be more cost effective without compromising the day to day function.

We had our work cut out for us and needed many prayers and God's guidance as we worked to find solutions that fit our budget and God's plan for His church. As you now know, we've had a busy year and the Lord has allowed us to accomplish many things.

By April we realized that our neighbors were not able to help solve our drainage concerns. We started to look at the secondary option which is the one we decided on. In June this option developed into a plan to design a series of lakes that would collect all of our surface water, while allowing an overflow to the west into the McGillivray ditch. This was enough to satisfy the city drainage requirements and would also allow

us to take care of our own drainage without involving our neighbors. We were also working on the building design at the same time and made the appropriate changes that enabled the entire project to come in on budget.

It was very clear to all concerned that the Lord was guiding us through this entire process and He would provide the answers needed at the right time. In August we were thrilled to inform the board and pastoral staff that we would be able to do a sod turning ceremony at the annual service on the McGillivray property in September. This was a huge answer to prayer as only months before we were still searching for answers.

We started site work the first week of October and work has been progressing well. Thomas design has completed the following to date:

- Tree clearing and new pathways through the trees. (an added feature using existing mulch)
- The design of a future toboggan hill (another added feature – this also saved mud hauling fees).
- Digging out of the east lake.
- Graveled West approach through the trees and up to the building site.
- North and west parking areas are also graveled and being used for construction staging.
- Concrete piles are in and perimeter grade beams are now being completed.

This spring 2018 we will see the building start to take shape as the steel structure and exterior walls go up. By summer through to the end of the year they will be working on the inside and finishing touches. With the Lord's help we will be moved into our new building by January of 2019.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. It has been greatly appreciated.

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. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

When I look back at this past year, I get a sense that we have gained a renewed appreciation for the joy of giving. God is always generous with us, even when we don't appear to be rich in the eyes of this world. When we recognize that God is the provider of all that we have, and willingly return a portion to Him in a humble act of worship, he blesses us abundantly. In a year where we have exceeded expectations on pledges to the Capital Campaign, and then saw our giving exceed the pledged amount, we also experienced an increase in giving to our other three funds (general, missions trips and benevolent). God is Good!

Our Finance Team in 2017 included Shirley Wynne (Financial Secretary, responsible for tracking all income, making deposits and providing charitable receipts), Gerald Kornelsen (Financial Administrator, responsible for tracking all expenditures, writing cheques, paying bills and balancing the books), Bruce Brown (liaison with Lakeview Insurance), Rene Gagnon, Norm Piel and Steve Guenther. Our activities over the past year have included:

- Online Giving – Shirley, Gerald and Steve all worked on this, with tremendous technical support from Chris Schroeder, to enable us to offer giving options through our web site and using an app on mobile devices. We continue to work towards making further improvements to this option in 2018.
- Capital Campaign – Gary Schellenberg continues to track giving against pledges. Bob Fast led a team that included Gary, Chris Karam and me in negotiating the financing agreement with Steinbach Credit Union.
- Sale of 201 Scurfield – I am leading a team that includes Pastor Terry, Norm Piel and Kelly Karam in negotiating with an interested

buyer, with the expectation that this will result in a formal purchase agreement sometime early in 2018.

- Financial Seminar – Perry Giesbrecht provided an informative presentation at the Family Meal in May.
- Budget Preparation – This process becomes more streamlined with each passing year. Many thanks to the staff, Finance Team, the Board and the congregation in the role that each group played in preparing, refining and approving the 2018 budget.

A special thank you to the members of our dedicated team of tellers (Ada Hart Tkachuk, Brianne Guenther, Cynthia Suffield, Debbie Giesbrecht, Heather Glor and Jenny Roemer) for their faithful service in counting offering on a weekly basis over the past year.

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. (Malachi 3:10)

Looking forward to 2018, I pray that God will pour out his blessing on us as we increasingly experience the joy of worshipping Him through our giving. May we be constant in prayer as we learn to rely on God's provision, and seek to be faithful stewards of His resources.

WRBC General Fund
Income Statement
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	2017 Actual	2017 Budget	Over / - Under Budget	2018 Budget
Income **				
Gifts and Offerings	675,154	706,488	-31,334	709,300
Other Income	22,746	40,650	-17,904	37,800
Rental Income	23,575	23,800	-225	23,600
Total Income	721,475	770,938	-49,463	770,700
Expense **				
Childrens Ministry	5,300	12,550	-7,250	8,100
Christmas Card Campaign	6,558	4,000	2,558	3,500
Community Ministry	14,508	19,050	-4,542	17,000
Cross Cultural Ministries	18,900	20,400	-1,500	30,600
Deacons Ministry	1,927	1,700	227	1,700
Discipleship Ministry	5,089	6,600	-1,511	11,500
Equipping Ministry	3,497	5,000	-1,503	0
Facility Ministry	71,560	85,975	-14,415	84,980
Fellowship Ministry	11,750	11,600	150	11,400
Growing in Grace	2,961	3,000	-39	3,000
MB Baptist Assoc	30,000	30,000	0	30,000
Mens Ministry	418	2,000	-1,582	1,500
Management and Administration	45,188	58,800	-13,612	60,100
NA Baptist Conference	68,005	68,505	-500	70,490
Salaries and Benefits	368,144	382,288	-14,144	380,710
Staff Expenses	19,185	22,420	-3,235	22,420
Womens Ministries	3,962	16,800	-12,838	16,800
Worship Ministry	4,847	6,600	-1,753	6,700
Youth - Young Adult Ministry	11,043	13,650	-2,607	10,200
Total Expense	692,843	770,938	-78,095	770,700
Net Income	28,632			

** External statements will adjust final amounts

Internally Prepared
Statement

WRBC Missions Trips Fund
Income Statement
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	2017 Actual	2017 Budget	Over / - Under Budget	2018 Budget
Gifts and Offerings **	38,120	33,500	4,620	49,350
Expense	41,446	33,500	7,946	49,350
Net Income	-3,326			

** External statements will adjust final amounts

WRBC Capital Asset Fund
Income Statement
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	2017 Actual	2017 Budget	Over / - Under Budget	2018 Budget
Income **				
Capital Asset Fund Receipts **	1,364,767	43,000	1,321,767	850,000
Capital Asset Fund Interest	28,012		28,012	
SCU Bonus	483		483	
Total Income	1,393,262	43,000	1,350,262	850,000
Expense **				
McGillivray Maintenance	1,384		1,384	
McGillivray Church Building	1,063,146		1,063,146	7,000,000
McGillivray Property	42,881	43,000	-119	45,000
Total Expense	1,107,411	43,000	1,064,411	7,045,000
Net Income	285,851			

** External statements will adjust final amounts
Amortization will be on the external statements

Internally Prepared
Statement

WRBC All Funds
Income Statement: Current - Prior Year Comparison
January through December

	Jan - Dec 17	Jan - Dec 16	\$ Change	% Change
Income **				
Gifts and Offerings - General Fund	675,154	645,680	29,474	5%
Gifts and Offerings - Capital Asset Fund	1,364,767	629,120	735,647	117%
Gifts and Offerings - Missions Trips Fund	38,105	34,788	3,317	10%
Gifts and Offerings - Benevolent Fund	11,536	9,001	2,535	28%
Interest	28,054	15,930	12,124	76%
Other Income	23,202	28,943	-5,741	-20%
Rental Income	23,575	23,655	-80	-0%
Total Income	2,164,394	1,387,117	777,277	56%
Expense **				
Benevolent Fund	8,249	10,488	-2,239	-21%
Childrens Ministry	5,300	10,924	-5,624	-51%
Christmas Card Campaign	6,558	4,200	2,358	56%
Community Ministry	14,508	17,442	-2,934	-17%
Cross Cultural Ministry	18,900	13,050	5,850	45%
Deacons Ministry	1,927	2,218	-291	-13%
Discipleship Ministry	5,089	3,907	1,182	30%
Equipping Ministry	3,497	643	2,854	444%
Facility Ministry	71,560	101,282	-29,721	-29%
Fellowship Ministry	11,750	10,298	1,452	14%
Growing in Grace	2,961	2,782	179	6%
MB Baptist Assoc	30,000	29,500	500	2%
McGillivray Church Building	1,063,146	251,804	811,342	322%
McGillivray Land	44,265	44,469	-204	-0%
Mens Ministry	418	309	109	35%
Mgmt and Admin	45,188	45,902	-714	-2%
Missions Trips	41,446	29,321	12,125	41%
NAB Conference	68,005	66,401	1,604	2%
Salaries and Benefits	368,144	367,388	756	0%
Staff Expenses	19,185	16,099	3,086	19%
Womens Ministry	3,962	11,576	-7,614	-66%
Worship Ministry	4,847	6,992	-2,145	-31%
Youth Young Adult	11,043	7,078	3,965	56%
Total Expense	1,849,949	1,054,072	795,877	76%
Net Income	314,445	333,045	-18,600	

** External statements will adjust final amounts

Internally Prepared
Statements

Whyte Ridge Baptist Church, Inc
Cash Balances
As at December 31

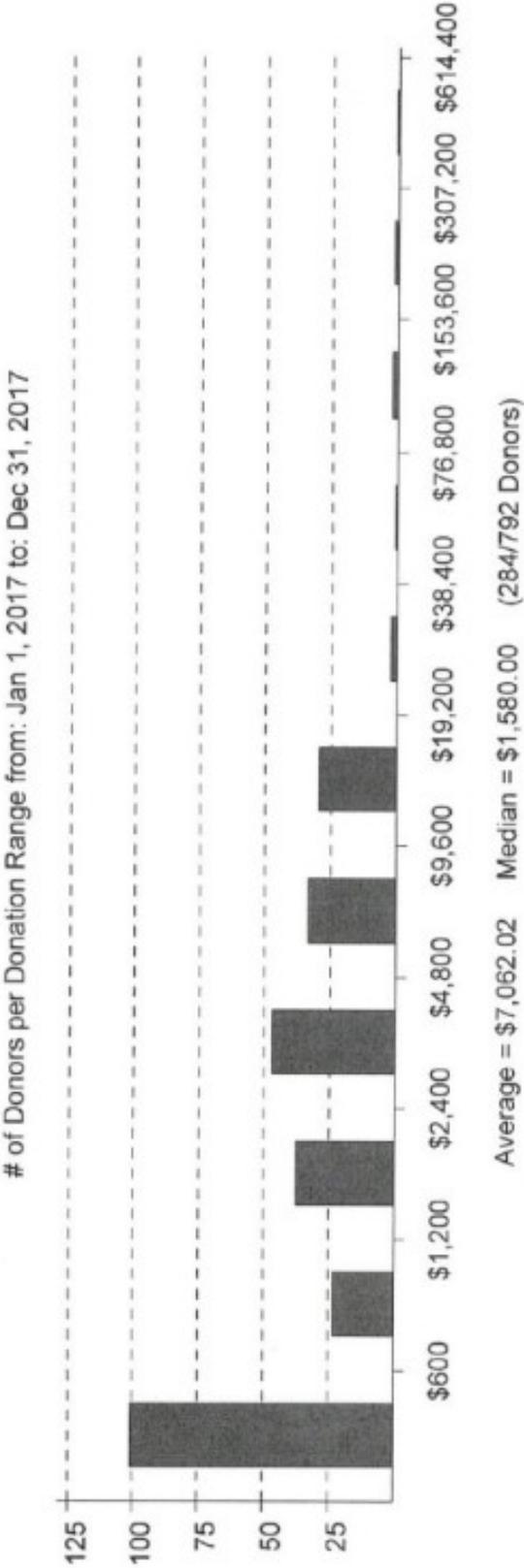
	2017	2016
Cash		
Current Account (1)	37,781	44,713
Capital Asset Savings (1)	1,697,590	1,366,254
	1,735,371	1,410,967

(1) Includes undeposited funds

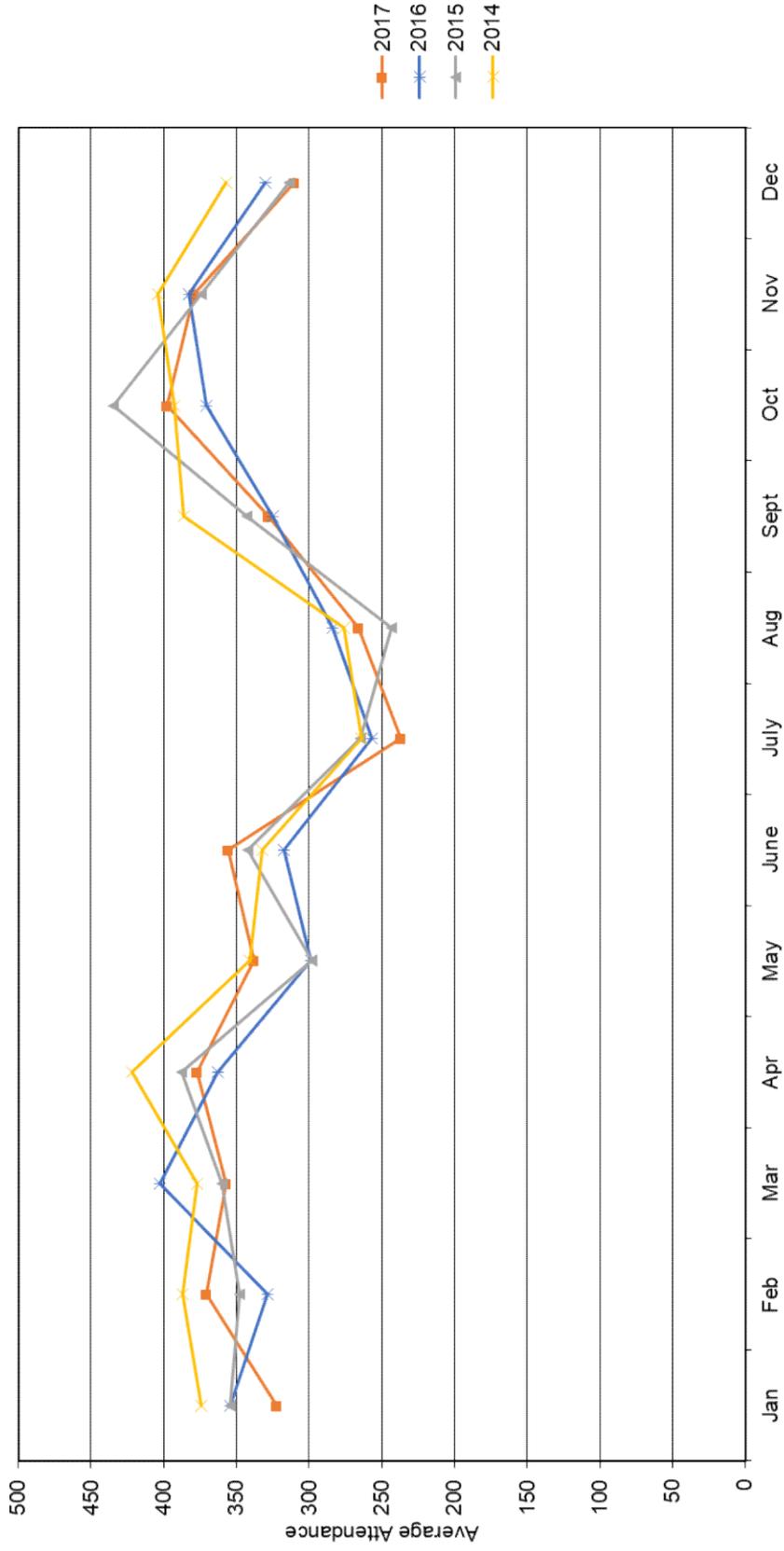
Internally Prepared Statements

Complete balance sheet will be available with the external financial statements

2017 Giving Units



WRBC Attendance Statistics



Church Clerk's Report 2017

Total Active Membership on December 31, 2016 181

Gains to Active Membership in 2017 7

IBK, Jeff Kirton, Susan Kirton, April Krahn, Wes Krahn, Jennifer Mantler, Promila Rose

Total Losses from Active Membership 2017 0

Total Active Membership as of December 31, 2017 188

Inactive Membership on December 31, 2017 32

Removed from Inactive 2017 1

Melvin Bergstresser

Total Active & Inactive Membership on December 31, 2017 219

Whyte Ridge Baptist Church Membership List
as of December 31, 2017

4	ACTIVE:						INACTIVE:
5	1 Andronowich, Ed	51 Funk, Helen	101 Loewen, Lyle	151 Sandu, Aliona	1	Allan, Jen	
6	2 Banman, Janna	52 Funk, Rudy	102 Loewen, Paula	152 Sawatsky, Barry	2	Alfaro, Patty	
7	3 Barton, Dave	53 Giesbrecht, George	103 Mantler, Art	153 Sawatsky, Sonja	3	Alfaro, Ron	
8	4 Barton, Lorraine	54 Giesbrecht, Janet	104 Mantler, Janice	154 Schmidt, Michelle	4	Asham, Glenn	
9	5 Bell, Alf	55 Giesbrecht, John	105 Mantler, Jennifer	155 Schroeder, Chris	5	Bell, Don	
10	6 Bell, Marie	56 Godin, Desiree	106 Manuel, Girish	156 Schroeder, Karen	6	Bell, Terrie	
11	7 Bergmann, Carol	57 Goertzen, Helen	107 Major, Jennifer	157 Schellenberg, Gary	7	Bergstresser, Arden	
12	8 Bergmann, David	58 Goertzen, John	108 Major, Sean	158 Schellenberg, Val	8	Boerchers, Barb	
13	9 Bergmann, Diane	59 Hagman, Natalie	109 Manuel, Pratina	159 Schular, Jill	9	Boerchers, Lyle	
14	10 Bergmann, Eric	60 Hagman, Norm	110 Manuel, Raj	160 Schular, Kevin	10	Carney, Sean	
15	11 Bergmann, John	61 Hague, Jordana	111 Morris, Barb	161 Senoff, Alma	11	Elliott, Sylvia	
16	12 Bergmann, Lorraine	62 Hague, Sheryl	112 Morris, Steve	162 Senoff, Gordon	12	Furutani, Keith	
17	13 Bergmann, Richard	63 Hague, Tim	113 McDaniel, Brenda	163 Shallcross, George	13	Furutani, Sandra	
18	14 Bergmann, Rudy	64 Hart Tkachuk, Ada	114 McDaniel, Tim	164 Shallcross, Susan	14	Houston, Kim	
19	15 Bergmann, Susan	65 Henkelman, Mark	115 McGimpsey, Cathy	165 Streuber, Ashley	15	Johnston, Karlene	
20	16 Bergmann, Wendy	66 Henkelman, Heidi	116 Muth, Loni	166 Streuber, Don	16	Klassen, Ron	
21	17 Betcher, George	67 Herman, Carolyn	117 Muth, Sig	167 Streuber, Jennifer	17	Martin, Lillian	
22	18 Betcher, Lorna	68 Hogue, Mandy	118 Naim, Denise	168 Swartz, Shannon	18	Newkirk, Kathy-Jo	
23	19 Betcher, Mark	69 Hogue, Robert	119 Naim, Tony	169 Thiessen, Harry	19	Newkirk, Rex	
24	20 Bettig, Frieda	70 Hopkins, Debbie	120 Nickel, George	170 Tholl, Bonnie	20	Pohl, Tabea	
25	21 Bettig, Henry	71 Hughes, Audrey	121 Nickel, Lorraine	171 Toews, Irene	21	Pohl, Rose	
26	22 Boyda, Olga	72 Humphries, Hannah	122 Norris, Dianne	172 Towells, Darren	22	Rohrig, Samantha	
27	23 Burak, Josephine	73 IBK	123 Norris, Roy	173 Towells, Krystyna	23	Smith, Jeff	
28	24 Carmichael, Denis	74 Janke, Joel	124 Oeste, Andrew	174 Tully, Dolores	24	Smith, Judy	
29	25 Carmichael, Janine	75 Janke, Jonathan	125 Oleschuk, Darlene	175 Tully, Scott	25	Sonnenberg, Carolyn	
30	26 Chester, Phyllis	76 Janke, Pat	126 Olson, Kim	176 Van Drunen, Bob	26	Sonnenberg, Joanne	
31	27 Cooper, Christina	77 Janke, Terry	127 Olson, Rosalie	177 Van Drunen, Phyllis	27	Uhlmann, Derelda	
32	28 Cooper, Erika	78 Karam, Chris	128 Palsson, Ashton	178 Warkentin, Heather	28	Uhlmann, Gunther	
33	29 Cooper, Greg	79 Karam, Kelly	129 Palsson, Brenda	179 Williamson, Greg	29	Wettstein, Chris	
34	30 Cooper, Sammy	80 Kelm, Irma	130 Palsson, Dan	180 Williamson, Marla	30	Wettstein, Nancy	
35	31 Cumming, Shelly	81 Kessen, Debbie	131 Palsson, Taylor	181 Wong, Cindy	31	Wynne, Stephen	
36	32 Donald, Al	82 Khan, Harry	132 Parker, Marilyn	182 Wong, Dennis	32		
37	33 Dryjski, Emmie	83 Khan, Jan	133 Patzer, Trudy	183 Woolman, Marcia	33		
38	34 Dyck, Anthony	84 Kirton, Jeff	134 Penner, Daniel	184 Woolman, Mike	34		
39	35 Dyck, Karen	85 Kirton, Susan	135 Penner, Darryl	185 Wynne, David	35		
40	36 Edel, Andrea	86 Klassen, Kevin	136 Penner, Emmy	186 Wynne, Krista	36		
41	37 Edel, Wayne	87 Klassen, Lynelle	137 Penner, Lorilee	187 Wynne, Shirley	37		
42	38 Elke, Grace	88 Koop, Fran	138 Petryk, Stella	188 Wynne, Terrance	38		
43	39 Elke, William	89 Koop, Mark	139 Piel, Marlene	189	39		
44	40 Fast, Bob	90 Kornelsen, Gerald	140 Piel, Norman	190	40		
45	41 Fast, Dale	91 Kornelsen, Kathy	141 Pohl, Anne	191	41		
46	42 Fiks, Ervin	92 Krahnke, Rose	142 Pohl, Harry	192	42		
47	43 Fiks, Hilda	93 Krahn, April	143 Raviraj, Renuka	193	43		
48	44 Frers, Audrey	94 Krahn, Wes	144 Redlick, Violet	194	44		
49	45 Frers, Werner	95 Laldin, Azhar	145 Redlick, Walter	195	45		
50	46 Friesen, Doug	96 Laldin, Janet	146 Rist, Agnes	196	46		
51	47 Gagnon, Rene	97 Leggett, Jim	147 Rist, Senno	197	47		
52	48 Gagnon, Shirley	98 Leggett, Wendy	148 Rose, Promila	198	48		
53	49 Garcia, Andrea (Streub	99 Litke, Carla	149 Sackey, Elizabeth	199	49		
54	50 Giesbrecht, Debbie	100 Litke, Wayne	150 Sackey, Issac	200	50		