

# ***SCC Annual Report 2024***



**SHUSWAP  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH**

***We exist to  
declare and demonstrate  
the transforming power of  
the gospel.***



# Children's Ministry

2024 in Children's Ministry has been a year of reflection, reset and renewal. Reflecting on what was working and what needed improvement was the first step to determine what the priorities were for 2024. It became clear, we needed to focus directly on our Sunday Kids Programs in a variety of areas.

With better focus, things got exciting! From March - December we onboarded 43 new volunteers across our Sunday Children's Programs. With a current total of 64 people, spanning the generations (13 yrs to 70 yrs old), who are now serving in Children's Ministry. It takes a large number of volunteers because we are bound by teachers to kids ratios to be in compliance with our Plan to Protect safety protocols. I am so incredibly grateful for all of the women



and men who are loving kids and teaching them about Jesus. I work with such incredible teams of people who are passionate about seeing children engage the gospel in age appropriate and fun ways - people who I am getting to know better as I teach alongside them and as our Preschool and Kids Time teams meet for support, training and prayer. I've also been spending time one on one with some key teachers in our programs.

After nine years of using the same curriculum, it was time to re-evaluate this area. After spending much time pouring over curriculum options (it's a big decision!), we decided on Wonder Ink for its digital accessibility, teacher friendly lesson planning, engaging and age appropriate content - and most importantly, it is gospel centered. Wonder Ink also has a Family Portal which parents can use to review the lesson content with their children at home, thereby encouraging families to participate in the discipleship of their children.

Over the Summer and Fall, I did an assessment of our Children's ministry spaces. This led to a huge purge and re-organizing of our supplies and storage spaces in July. Brayden and Celeste Harder renovated our Nursing Mom's Room, while Norm Bieber and Rick Fletcher spent time on "fix it" projects in the Nursery. I'm so grateful for the people who work behind the scenes!



Our Kids Time and Preschool program also had classroom needs that became apparent. With no actual designated classroom space for Kids Time, it was time to consider how to make that happen. The old Youth Room in the basement was not being used so the idea was birthed and a team came together to renovate this space for use in our Gr 1-4 Sunday School program.



Thanks to Don Roy, Cody Roy, Josiah/Micah Schut, Dawson/Jackson Mayes, Zach Bakker, Robbie Wolfe, John Jelier for making that happen. And to Carol Roy for helping me put the classroom together when the time came to create a usable kid friendly space for our program.



Changes to the Preschool were completed over the Christmas Break. With growing numbers in our Preschool age group, I worked with the team to create their new spaces - now using two classrooms and a structure that is more manageable for the numbers they are seeing.



With re-sets underway, I began to consider what God might want to renew or make new with fresh ideas. We implemented two new ideas at the end of the year. Family Advent Packages were offered as a tool for family discipleship during Advent. I had a wonderful group of ladies work with me to put the packages together. Also, the Preschool Team worked together to teach the children a song to present during the Christmas season. And how cute and purposeful was that?! I have had a lot of positive feedback from these new additions.

One of the highlights for me was the opportunity to audit the one week intensive Children's Ministry Module at Millar College of the Bible in October, which was a fantastic re-fresher, great time of learning and confirmation that we were on track with the changes we had been making - especially in regard to curriculum, lesson planning and strategies for teaching children and building teams. I was super encouraged to have Carol Roy take this course with me - that was the icing on the cake! I hope to find other equipping opportunities for our teams to participate in.



2024 has been a year of much change for me personally, for Children's Ministry and SCC. There have been some hard times, but also much to celebrate and be thankful for! I can look back and see God's faithful hand of provision, guidance, sustaining care and consistent help. I am immensely grateful for the amazing team He has provided - Teachers, Support Leaders, Nursery Volunteers, Jr Helpers - and many who work behind the scenes on projects. I feel incredibly supported in my role and grateful for the opportunity.

We are welcoming a growing number of families weekly across our Children's Ministry programs. Our Early Childhood rooms are bursting at the seams and our School Age program continues to see growth. And with that, I look forward to 2025; excited to see how God prepares and uses the generations of SCC to support families in raising up a new generation of believers.

With prayer and much thanksgiving,

Heather deVries  
Children's Ministry Director



# Youth Ministry

2024 was another great year of youth ministry here at SCC. Along with our youth retreats at Sunnybrae Bible Camp and a few other events throughout the year, we walked through some important teaching at both Jr. and Sr. Youth.

At Sr. Youth in particular we delved into systematic theology seeking to help our students recognize how doctrine applies to real life and give categories for them to wrestle through the big questions and issues they are or will face as they follow Christ. We wrapped up the year talking through the importance of getting into their Bibles for themselves and the importance of prayer. On Tuesday nights this past fall, students walked through a series on the importance of the church.



At Jr. Youth on Thursday nights, we looked at the Gospel of Luke and what it means to be a servant of Jesus. This past fall, Jr. Youth began focusing on biblical community as told through the book of Acts.

It's been great to see many students involved on both Tuesday and Thursday nights and great teams of leaders carrying the load,

especially as we awaited the arrival of Jesse and Jamie. I'm thankful for Carson de Vries finishing up his Immerse internship this past year and for his continued service as he awaits where the Lord is leading him in the future. Zach Hall stepped out of the internship this summer to focus on other things but has also played a vital role in youth and young adult ministry here. I'm thankful that our youth ministry continues to be a vibrant part of the life of our church.



Pastor Kevin

A note from our new Youth Director, Jesse Seiler:

What a blessing it has been to step into such an excellent youth ministry! SCC is so fortunate to have such a fantastic team of volunteers who dedicate themselves to the discipling of the individuals that join us for youth group. I can see that SCC is a place that is dedicated to, and effective at, discipling and equipping students! I am honoured to be invited into this team and given the opportunity and responsibility to lead these volunteers and these youth into the future.

Jesse Seiler



## Adult Ministry

Hello my Friends! So, we are up and running into 2025. I am so thankful that we can leave our future safe and secure in the hands of our dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

'Be still, and know, that I am God.' Psalm 46:10

My report is somewhat different each year due to the physical challenges and changes of our congregation. For instance, as of late it seems some of our seniors are struggling with serious chronic physical difficulties which means they are missing a lot of church fellowship. To try and fill this void I have been taking the time to minister communion with them during visitation. It has been a rich blessing, I am informed.

The visiting I do includes delivery of a printed copy of the SCC Weekly Newsletter and printed prayer requests. My regular route includes approximately 24 visits weekly. This ongoing ministry of visitation includes:

- Shut ins
- Private homes
- All nursing homes and care homes; including Piccadilly Terrace and Bastion
- Hospital visits
- Sharing communion when needed

The long list of visits may appear overwhelming but a lot of this can be accomplished on the same day!

We continue to be involved in the Piccadilly Chapel services as we are scheduled.

Once per week I teach and lead prayer for Revival and oversee a weekly care group.

Occasionally I still have the privilege of doing pulpit supply locally.

Once a month I'm involved with Dave Follack in organizing a senior meeting in our chapel.

Once a month I meet with the Legion here in Salmon Arm to present my Legion Chaplain's report and to share a short devotional and pray with them.

I am blessed with good health and driving ability and love my ministry meeting with our people.  
Pastor Laurie







# Worship Ministry

When I think of our worship ministry at this church, I think of many teams of people who work together to make it happen. It is my privilege to be responsible to make sure that each of these individuals have the structures and support they need to serve our church with excellence.

Our Worship Ministry is built of 63 people on 7 different teams.

- Worship Leadership - (5)
- Musicians (27)
- Sound (5)
- Media - Lighting & Slides (6)
- Video (4)
- Muffin Team (12)
- Sunday Leadership Team (4)



I think of Phillipians 1:4 - In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now! We have been through a lot of leadership transitions this year in our church, and these things have affected me deeply. Also, shepherding people always has ups and downs and this year in particular I have walked through some deep waters. However, we have had a shockingly consistent core group within our worship ministry that has remained throughout so many other transitions and I am deeply grateful!



## Some Highlights:

- Easter was such a celebration! All us leaders lead together that Sunday and we enjoyed serving together and seeing the church celebrate Christ!
- I attended a Worship Leader Intensive in Vancouver in October which was a very rich time of training for me. Both the Men's choir and Mixed Choir led by Dan Gienger give a way for another 25 or so people to serve and bless us with their gifts.
- We have 2 new sound guys trained up and joining our teams - welcome Jacob & Connor!

- Girls Choir led by Jen Honecker was a gift to hear and a blessing for me to see these young women wanting to be involved in worship ministries.
- We had a beautiful advent season with something special each Sunday.
- Christmas Eve was well attended at over 1000 people over the 3 services. We had many community guests and many people heard the gospel!
- We have honestly had 52 weeks of amazing services. Each week people have heard the word preached and sung faithfully.
- It was a joy to be a part of training Carson deVries through worship arts and to celebrate his graduation from the Immerses Program.

There are so many ways to analyze a year. We can look at progress, numbers, giving, or (maybe most tempting) just consider how much criticism or encouragement we have received. But our aim is firstly to glorify God and obey each day with what is before me. I believe we have done that as a church and within our services. I thank God he has chosen to use us in the process.



For His Name's Sake,  
Leah Campbell  
Worship Director



# **Building Committee Report**

Last fall the building committee was formed with the task of assessing and prioritizing the needs of our facility as we want to steward our building well. Immediate repairs, staff needs, aging infrastructure and future growth was all taken into consideration. We looked at both interior and exterior needs of our facility building and property. A recommendation was then made to address the roof repairs and fix/upgrade the exterior lighting as soon as possible.

The committee then recommended budgeting for a full renovation of the churches existing bathrooms upstairs and downstairs including the addition of accessible bathrooms and adding an entrance from the big room to the bathrooms downstairs. The committee is in the quoting process on this and after which some interior electrical upgrades might be prioritized as well.

In addition the committee is looking ahead to a number of possible renovations and additions, including future siding replacement, future foyer renovation, as well as considering our options to increase sanctuary capacity.

**Tim Walton**

Building Committee

# SCC Board Report

*“A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance”. Ecclesiastes 3:4*

## The Board of 2024

Many of us were thankful to see 2024 mark the end of what we as a church often referred to as a “transition period” for Shuswap Community Church. Most notably, this included the dissolution of the multi-campus model and the hiring of a new Lead Pastor. The Board elected new officers in February 2024, voting in Matt Gienger as our Chairman and Tim Walton as Vice Chairman. With the absence of a Lead Pastor, the board and board chair took on many of the role’s responsibilities, with a key focus on providing guidance to the SCC Salmon Arm staff. This responsibility was not taken lightly and thanks to the diligent prayers of the congregation and work of the Search Committee, alongside our conversations at the Board table, we welcomed Kevin Hardy into the role of Lead Pastor in July 2024 with grateful hearts. After an intentionally quieter summer, the board continued to assess the Church’s ministries to best determine what God has in store for SCC .

## Lead Pastor

It was in the Spring of 2024 that the Lead Pastor Search Committee made a recommendation to the Board that our at-the-time Youth Pastor Kevin Hardy candidate for the role of Lead Pastor. The board accepted the recommendation and took it to the congregation which accepted Kevin with a near 90% vote.

## Staff Changes

There were many changes to the staff here at SCC Salmon Arm last year. The Lead Pastor Search Committee continued its long ongoing work into the new year without a candidate for the position. During this time, Dave Yeo, former Children’s Ministry Pastor stepped down from the role. Former Executive Pastor, Andy deHoog, alongside the remaining SCC Salmon Arm staff, did well leading SCC through a difficult season while short-staffed. By God’s grace we continued to see growth in the church through this time of transition. At the end of May 2024 Pastor Andy’s role as Executive Pastor came to an end as was predetermined by the discontinuation of the multi-campus model. Kari Gienger and Heather DeVries took over the administrative duties left by Andy’s departure and have filled in admirably. Heather DeVries officially stepped into the role of Children’s Ministry Director in October 2024, and we saw Kari Gienger officially step into the role of Office Administrator. Last but not least, SCC was blessed by a new Youth Director in Jesse Seiler, starting in December. It has been a great encouragement to see people stepping into these roles. To God be the glory!

## Redemption Counselling

Throughout the ups and downs of last year, Redemption Counselling remained operational, with oversight from a Board Committee. Two counsellors, Rachel Coers and Sylvia Siemens continue to offer services in our communities. A Counselling Committee was assigned by the Board in the fall with

the task of evaluating this ministry and exploring possible opportunities for growth in the future.

### Chase Church Plant

Although Sicamous and Sorrento churches have now both become autonomous (more on that in a bit), the church in Chase remains under the oversight of SCC Salmon Arm and provides monthly updates to the Board through their three leaders, Nathan and Jenna Jeffries together with Ken Wright, a Chase local. Nathan and Jenna both attended Millar College of the Bible and Jenna has currently returned to Miller this past September. Following the resignation of pastor Spencer, Chase is ably led by this team who are all focused on bringing as many Chase citizens to the Lord as they can, with qualified members of our congregation preaching there intermittently.

### Financial Report

The Church is privileged to have significant financial resources in place thanks to a faithful congregation. Looking forward, something on the Board's radar is Sunnybrae Bible Camp's "Journey of Hope" building campaign - we are still praying on how we can be involved. There is also an allotted amount of our financial resources set aside for the church plant in Chase. In Fall 2024, our Board and the leaders of Sorrento and Sicamous finalised plans for the two smaller churches to be independent from ours. You'll notice there are no reports from Sicamous and Sorrento at this year's AGM and that is because these churches are officially on their own as of January 01, 2025. We praise God for this exciting development. SCC Salmon Arm Board voted to give each of the new churches \$25 000 as a gift to start them off. With all of that said, in the Fall of 2024 the Board's attention was drawn to SCC Salmon Arm buildings and property and its much needed maintenance. The Board decided that an SCC Salmon Arm building fund would be set up and that building repairs and renovations on the Salmon Arm property would be a priority moving forward. These include outside lighting, roofing repairs and possible renovations to the existing washrooms, upstairs and down.

### Conclusion

We end this recap in awe of how God has directed us in 2024. Even through the ups and downs of last year, this remains true, "The plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of His heart through all generations" (Psalm 33:11). Thank you for your unity, your faithfulness and your prayers, Church.

For the Board,

Matt Gienger

Special thanks to:

Don Cundiff and Jan Peters for their service on the Board as their terms have come to an end.





# SCC LEAD PASTOR REPORT

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2024 brought a lot of changes for our church. We began the year in transition thinking through what was next for us as our campus model was shifting and we were still without a Lead Pastor. At the same time, ministry moved forward, the church was full every Sunday, the gospel was preached, and disciples were baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

One of the big shifts we experienced was in staffing. Pastor Dave Yeo moved on from children's ministry after 7 faithful years serving families and children here. We are thankful for the time he put in all those years and are hopeful for him as he has moved on to other things. Pastor Andy deHoog also moved on after leading us well through many components of the transition. We are also very thankful for his leadership and service at SCC for many years and wish him the best as he continues to serve and minister to Christ's church.

As summer came upon us, I began the candidacy process for the Lead Pastor position. It was bittersweet to end the youth ministry year recognizing it might be my last year in youth ministry after being a Youth Pastor for 14 years (9 in Fort St. John, 5 here at SCC). At the same time I was praying and asking the Lord to lead our church and to lead my family and myself through this decision making process. Through much prayer, affirmation, and a few Q&A evenings, I was voted in as Lead Pastor on July 8, 2024. I am thankful for the Lord's leading in that process and for what lies ahead as we hope to have a long and fruitful ministry here in Salmon Arm.

As fall approached and the ministry year was upon us we were able to make a couple more key hires. With Heather de Vries so aptly leading our children's ministry, we saw fit to move her into the role of Children's Director permanently moving forward. It has been so good to see her lead and use her gifts to serve our church in this way. With Heather moving out of some of her administrative duties we also needed someone to take over in that area. Kari Gienger was also doing a great job filling in so it made sense to pursue having her come onto the team on a full time basis as our Office Administrator. We still had some gaps to fill, one of them being the leadership of the youth ministry as I transitioned to Lead Pastor. We were blessed to have Jesse Seiler candidate in October and then offer him the position of Youth Director with him and his family joining us early in December.

There is still much to be done as we seek to declare and demonstrate the transforming power of the gospel. As I have begun my role here I have committed to preach, pray, develop personal discipling relationships, and to be patient as we move forward. I look forward to what is in store for us as we seek to be faithful in stewarding what God has given us here at SCC for His glory.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Pastor Kevin  
Lead Pastor

# OUR SCC FAMILY 2024





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