



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

A Year of Staying Apart... Together!

The First Eleven Weeks of 2020

It's almost impossible to remember back before the pandemic, but in the start of 2020, things functioned as normal at Joy Fellowship. Both Pastor John and Pastor Diana were away for much of January, and Pastor David filled in quite capably.

February saw the return of Bible Studies. Diana had served her time in quarantine, having returned from visiting family in China, then the epicentre of the Coronavirus outbreak.



February 16, 2020 - A month later, this room will be emptied out for a year and counting....

Things were just kicking up onto high gear, with initial plans for all the big events starting to come together. Camps were booked, fairs were scheduled, and day trips were investigated... Meanwhile, the virus numbers kept growing. And growing. And growing! Then, suddenly, it was the season of **LOCKDOWN!** This is the key text from the email that was sent out on Friday, March 20th, 2020: ***To avoid transmission of the COVID-19 virus, we will be shutting down all our current regular meetings: Bible studies, prayer meetings, group home visits and Sunday services.*** It was a whole year ago, but it definitely has had a major effect on every aspect of our church life since then.

Our Corona Virus Pandemic Response

We recognized two things about Joy Fellowship right at the start of the pandemic.

- We have a lot of immuno-compromised people who could get very sick, very easily.
- We aren't so good at 'social distancing' – hugs are a part of our core values!

That meant that cleaning protocols, reduced numbers or any of the things other groups might be able to use to mitigate the risk just wouldn't cut it for us. So it has meant that, apart from a very few carefully controlled exceptions, our response has been to contact one another through electronic means and not in person. Once when we tried some in-person contact (summer picnics) they caused more harm than good, so we shut them down and went back to meeting virtually.

The Last Forty-one Weeks of 2020

We started our 'socially distanced' church by calling people each Sunday. This took a few different forms. Some of our people were really only comfortable with a regular phone call. Others liked a video call. And a few got together in group video calls. All of these individuals and little clusters started out with the idea of a scripture reading, a short message (usually written by one of the pastors) and prayer time. Some even added a song or two.

But Joy Fellowship is nothing if not flexible. Some of the people receiving the calls were more comfortable just chatting, followed by prayer. Others needed a little more focus on music. As it is, each caller has developed their own style and reacts to the needs of the moment and the people they are calling.

After a bit, we added two more components to our new form of church.

First, we began recording a video service in the main sanctuary each week. It includes all the elements of a church service, from its location to the music and even opening and closing prayers. It usually runs about 15 minutes long. As in our regular services before the pandemic, song lyrics are projected, the scripture is printed out, and there are elements to add graphic interest, for our people who are less auditory learners.

The final element of our Sundays is an online meet-up held each Sunday afternoon, running for 30 minutes at 3:00. Due to the number of people in the two 'chat rooms,' there is not a lot of deep conversation happening—but people get to see one another's faces, greet everyone, and just spend time together, virtually. Some people like it so much that they log in to both rooms at once. The audio feedback from that just adds to the controlled chaos we recognize as a part of Joy Fellowship!

SUNDAY SCHOOL Telephone Church



Each week about 20 staff and volunteers call about 50 members of the congregation. Just like any service, some weeks people are sick, and other weeks they just feel like skipping, but if all the regulars answer their phones or tablets, the numbers are as above.

WORSHIP SERVICE Recorded Online



See page 4 for online service 'numbers'.

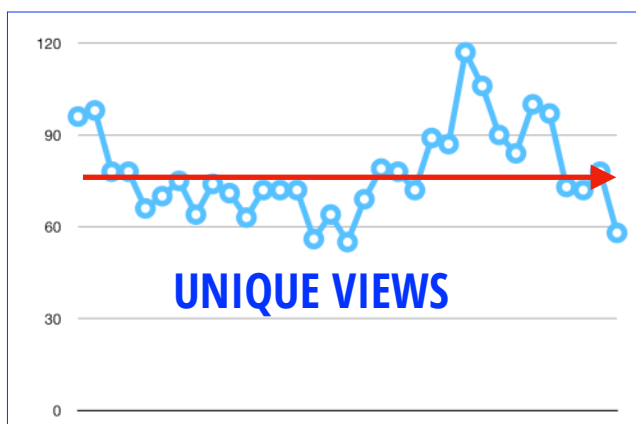
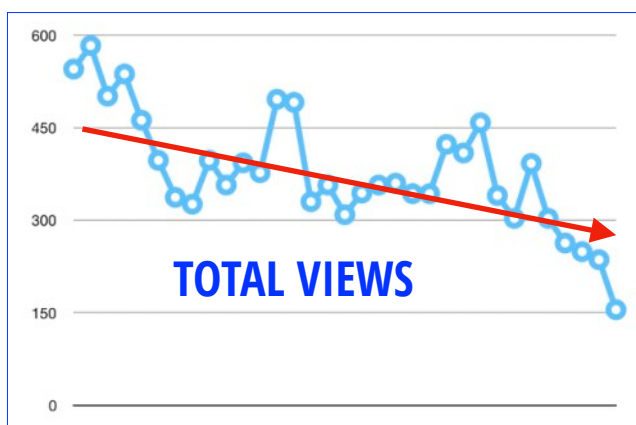
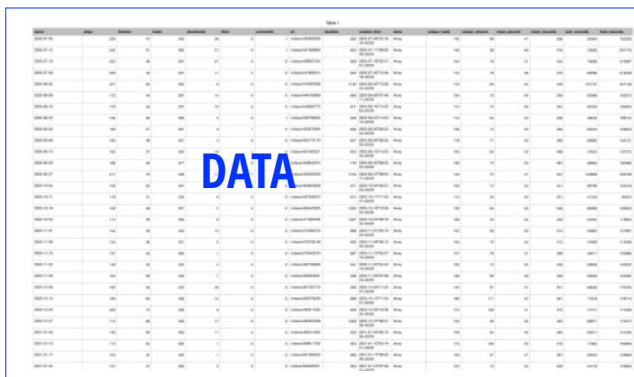
FELLOWSHIP Zoom Meetings



Most Sundays, there are about 50 sign-ins to our two Zoom chat rooms. Some people sign in to both rooms, but some places have more than one person on the same screen. So it's pretty close to 50 people who hang out each week.

Online Video Services: Production and Results

DATA



Each week since July, we have produced an online video service. These are hosted on the Vimeo website, rather than Youtube. The main reason for that is so that we are in control of the experience. With Vimeo (because it has a yearly cost) we can avoid all advertising and our attention being treated as a commodity.

The process for producing the songs is a bit complex.

1. The lead person for the song is recorded singing and playing their instrument - what we call a reference track.
2. Then they listen to themselves on the reference track and only sing, followed by listening and only playing.
3. Anyone else who will be contributing to the song then comes in (one at a time), listens to the reference track, and plays or sings. This includes our Sign Language Choir, and sometimes even some people to dance along.
4. The audio gets mixed down to a final version, hopefully so that everyone can be heard. We don't autotune. Joy Fellowship isn't about perfection, it's about worshipping our perfect God!
5. Then a video track showing our team members leading us in worship is pieced together. Lyrics are added and the song is put into a package with a sermon and other parts to make a complete service.

To the left, you can see the 'analytics' - how many people are watching our videos. The data is downloadable from our host and the graphs are there to show the trends.

The **total views** has been trending down since we began. But views are just a count of each time anyone visits the website. **Unique views** keeps track of how many different people see each video, and that has remained around 75 people since we began. The good news is that **finishes** (how many people watch the entire video) has slowly been rising since we began posting these online video services - and that's nice to know!

Birthdays



Birthdays are always a big part of Joy Fellowship (and we *always* sing our second verse: “God bless you and keep you...”) For much of the year, our pastors visited everyone they could on their birthdays, sang and dropped off a little gift. If people wanted it, we would also arrange an online birthday party using the Zoom app. After the guidelines became more strict, we had to rely only on the online parties, or sometimes just ‘Happy Birthday’ over the phone. Through it all, David and Merrill S have been faithfully signing birthday cards on our behalf and sending them out to delighted recipients all around.

Christmas Gifts



We couldn’t be with each other at Christmas, but an army of helpers made and purchased gifts, then stuffed and delivered the shiny red, green and gold gift bags. Just about 100 bags with about a dozen to 15 items in each went out to all our people. We weren’t together, but we were definitely thinking about each other!

In Memoriam 2020



Kay Kehoe

Karen and Maureen lost their mother near the beginning of the year, and we began the loss of eight of our

much-loved, long-time members over the course of 2020.



Janice Bavis

After a life of facing up to and staring down challenges, Janice entered into her rest in April. She left behind her

mother Roberta and James and all of us at Joy Fellowship to miss her beautiful smile.



Beverly Semenick

Bev was never one to keep her questions to herself. How good to know that all her questions are

answered now, and she joined so many of her friends in the 'Joy Fellowship of Heaven.'

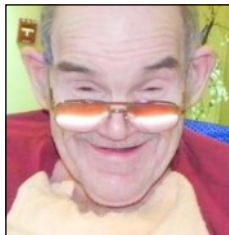


Donald Commerford

So many times, when he saw me looking tired, Donald would say, "Poor, ol' pastor." But now I can say,

"Blessed ol' Donald, safe in the arms of Jesus."

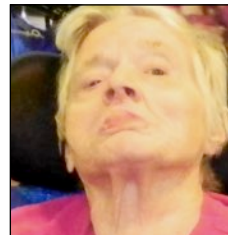
These four beloved brothers and sisters in George Pearson Centre also passed away in 2020.



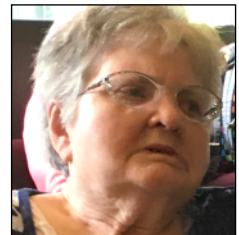
Allan Synge



Daniel Levaire



Hallie-Anne Riby



Marilyn Bradbury

Financial Highlights 2020

Despite the pandemic and lockdown, God provided very generously for Joy Fellowship in 2020. From large increases in online giving to various government subsidies to lower expenses, we were financially 'well taken care of' last year. Praise God for his provision for us.

Because there were no camps, there were no camp fees. This also shows up in much lower program expenses.

Online donations show up in our 'Non-tax receipted donations' since the organization that forwards the money to us issues the receipt to the donor.

JOY FELLOWSHIP

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS

Year ended December 31

2020	2019
\$	\$

Revenue

Camp fees	1,500	27,040
Fundraising activities	3,570	10,650
Interest	5,790	2,462
Non-tax receipted donations	94,801	42,576
Tax receipted donations	85,617	126,241
Subsidy income	27,067	-
	218,345	208,969

Expenditures

Administration	8,494	50,929
Automobile	6,672	20,250
Program expenses	1,508	36,785
Wages & benefits	136,259	147,825
	152,933	255,789

Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures

Net Assets, beginning of year	295,768	342,588
Net Assets, end of year	361,180	295,768

This shows the 'bottom line' - a significant improvement over 2019.

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

WEBSITE www.joyfellowship.bc.ca **PHONE NUMBER (LEAVE MESSAGE)** 604-230-7931

PASTOR JOHN pastor@joyfellowship.bc.ca 778-792-8551

PASTOR DIANA associate@joyfellowship.bc.ca 778-237-6176

Looking Ahead to 2021

As 2020 fades into the past, we are still facing many challenges in 2021. We trust that as the year progresses and COVID immunity increases, there will be easing of the Pandemic restrictions. But until that occurs, here are some of our plans.

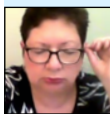
We've already boosted our **weekly email-out**. If you are not currently receiving it, you are missing out on a scripture passage and devotional thought, activity page, announcements, prayer items, and, of course, our online links. Contact pastor John or visit our website to sign up for our weekly *Joyful News*.

We've also begun our online parents and caregivers **Bible study**, Fridays at 7 PM. We are also looking into some sort of online study that we could do with our people.

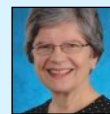
We are also trying to figure out how to do some of our **Sunday services live-streamed**, at least some of the time. We'll see...

As for **in-person meetings**? The only response is 'wait and see.' We will not meet together until it is safe to do so. As *Our Pandemic Response* noted on page 2, Joy Fellowship has many vulnerable people for whom social distancing is a big challenge. To protect all of us, we will not be rushing back to meeting in person anytime soon.

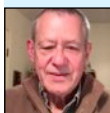
Joy Council for 2021



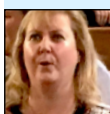
Chairperson
Carol Hansen



Secretary
Alison Fraser



Treasurer
Oscar Banziger



Member
Carol Travers



Member
Cindy Liao



Member
Dave Hayward, Sr



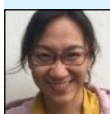
Member
David Hayward, Jr



Member
Joan Lew



Member
Lila Sze



Church Staff
Diana Zhao



Church Staff
John Gurnett

Joy Council is the governing body of Joy Fellowship. Members of the Council are nominated by the Council, with those members voted on and approved each year at the Annual General Meeting of Joy Fellowship.

We just lost our chairperson of many years, as Ann Baransky passed away in February 2021. Carol Hansen has agreed to take on that role.



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