



*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
acknowledges and thanks the
Lekwungen People – WS-ÁNEĆ,
Songhees and Esquimalt First
Nations – on whose traditional land
we meet and worship.*

Table of Contents

ROLL CLERK IN MEMORIUM	4
TRANSITIONAL MINISTER.....	5
INTERIM MODERATOR.....	7
SESSION	8
ROLL CLERK	9
REPRESENTATIVE ELDER TO PRESBYTERY.....	10
JOINT SESSION MEETINGS	11
CONGREGATIONAL TABLE GROUP EXERCISE.....	12
CONGREGATIONAL CORE VALUES EXERCISE.....	12
PERSONNEL AND LEADING WITH CARE	13
Personnel	13
Leading with Care	14
WORSHIP COMMITTEE	14
Worship highlights.....	14
Worship participation.....	15
Worship music	15
MISSION AND OUTREACH	16
Cedar Tree Ministries.....	16
Journey for Hope (Together in Motion and Song)	16
Mustard Seed Street Church Thanksgiving food drive	17
Muffins for AA and vegetarian meals for Inclusive Christians: Around the Table.....	17
Warm Toes Sock Drive	17
Pride Parade.....	17
Share the Joy of Christmas	18
Gift of Christmas Music and Carol Sing	18
Camp VIP	18
Open Church	19
Music Outreach.....	19
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	20
Coffee hour.....	20
The Prayer Chain.....	21
Prayer Shawl Ministry	21
Activity Group	21
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	22

COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION	23
The LINK newsletter.....	24
Facebook.....	24
TWASA (This Week at St. Andrew's) and Thursday Email.....	25
Photographer	25
Website.....	26
PROPERTY COMMITTEE.....	28
Property Repair and Renos	28
Property Rentals	28
The Gathering Room Renovation	29
Kitchen Report	29
Property report - Insurance.....	29
FINANCE	30
Letter from the Treasurer	30
Envelope Secretary	31
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	32
Balance Sheet December 31, 2024	38
Funds Summary.....	40
BUDGET MEETING 2024 MINUTES	41
DRAFT MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023	43
DRAFT MINUTES CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OCTOBER 27, 2024	45

ROLL CLERK IN MEMORIUM

Elsbeth Charsley

Rosemunde Robertson

Sheila Dunlop

Peter Lewis

Ian Baird

John Wigel

In our end is our beginning.
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection.
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

TRANSITIONAL MINISTER

It is with joy that I look back over these past years with gratitude for your partnership in the ministry of St. Andrew's during the 6+ years that I have led as your transitional minister.

My first sermon of 2024 was delivered on January 7, 2024, Baptism of the Lord Sunday, which concluded with a reference to my own baptism:

What is significant is the image of God coming and entering my life in a pivotal moment and saying I want to partner with you. I'm not an adjunct, I'm not a dangling participle, I am a partner. I know that has changed my perspective this week. as I sat by Dave Stewart, hearing his stories told by him, hearing the stories of his family, and the stories told by people of St. Andrew's of the things he did and said and the lives that he influenced. He is a living example for me of God moving along beside him and saying these are risky ventures, these are things that count and that really matter.

The reference was to Rev. David Stewart, long-time friend and former Interim Minister at St. Andrew's and his death only a few days prior to this sermon. David was for me a mentor and an ever-present reminder of the significance of risky ventures that matter.

Our work in 2024 has constituted a "risky venture" as we continued the work of the "collaborative conversations" with Knox and Trinity Presbyterian as we asked the question, "What can we do together that we could never do alone?"

*Share an Office Administrator, something the other two congregations were without? The answer was YES.

*Share a Christian Education event during Lent to provide a Biblical resource to our own spiritual formation in learning to read and listen to the Bible differently. YES.

*Share an opportunity to provide soup for the Inclusive Christian group at U. Vic; participate in the PWS & D Ride for Hope; bake and provide muffins for the St. Andrew's AA groups, and Worship in the Park for the 3rd year in a row? YES.

*Share joint worship with communion celebrated on World Communion and Remembrance Day services at St. Andrew's and at Knox? The answer was YES.

Move from "Collaborative Conversations" to consider a merger of the Knox and St. Andrew's congregations? The answer was NO. Not at this time.

I am grateful for the friendship and partnership of Rev. Wayne Stretch as our Interim Moderator during these past three years. His energy, intelligence, imagination and love have been formative and spiritually enriching for me as together we have asked you the difficult questions and faced the hard choices. His wisdom and spiritual insight have been life-giving to me!

2024 was a year, like every other year, of doing ministry that matters. The funeral of Rev. David Stewart on January 28 welcomed his family, friends, work and personal colleagues from throughout Canada and Vancouver Island who had learned from and were blessed by the life he lived.

2024 was busy for the Session who met on the average twice a month between May and September to better define the ministry to which St. Andrew's is and will be about. What is the future St. Andrew's will create? The St. Andrew's Session worked diligently on the core values that will define the steps essential to being able to form a church profile that will lead to your future ministry/minister. The congregation joined the work in earnest during September and November table conversations that were formative. This is an ongoing work will be continued in 2025.

I know that my time with you has not yielded the results we both had hoped when I was blessed to join you in July 2018. We made it through COVID when our building and worship were closed for 18 months. Together we have continued to provide meaningful worship both in person and by livestream. You have worked diligently to better understand that who you were as a congregation continues to change. The challenges ahead are formative. I pray for you as you work together to face those challenges.

In the final sermon I preached on the 4th Sunday of Advent in December 2024, I offered,

“At the beginning of December, many of you met after church for table conversations. You were asked: What do we do that is important? What values are indicated by what we do?”

Our challenge now is to discern how what we do, and our actions answer Jesus' question, “St. Andrews, do you love me with godly love?” However we answer, Jesus will reply, “Feed my sheep.” In other words: How are we the shepherds? How do we protect the vulnerable? How do we go and find the lost and bring them home? How do we restore the injured, strengthen the weak and feed them with justice?

Love isn't easy. No one ever said that it was...or is. Can we love like Jesus? Probably not or, honestly, certainly not, but when we do the things Jesus taught and asked, we come close.

As my and your friend, Rev. David Stewart said, “These are risky ventures ahead, but when you do the things Jesus taught, “Love your neighbour as yourself” God will bless whatever comes next.

Thank you, St. Andrew's.

With love and heartfelt thanks.

Mitch Coggin

INTERIM MODERATOR

The spring and summer months of 2024 involved a series of meetings of session to bring clarity to the key issues involved in collaboration possibilities with Knox Presbyterian, leading to 1) worshipping together with Knox on two Sundays, once at each church; 2) visiting churches/interviewing leaders in Victoria's city core where membership and influence were growing; and 3) identifying our own core values both within the session and the congregation.

While St. Andrew's was considering matters involved in joining together with Knox, that opportunity ended with the withdrawal of Knox from the discussions. Those discussions were impactful, and the work done in exploring new avenues for mission within our neighbourhood may inspire us as we seek God's plan for our future.

With new challenges ahead, I realized it was time for me to resign as Interim Moderator - effective Feb 28, 2025. Mitch Coggin and I met with the Presbytery Clerk and the Ministry Committee of Presbytery to explore ways the presbytery could give helpful, necessary direction to the church's important next steps.

Next steps: will be an assessment of ministry vitalities: The amalgamation discussions were significant and, for some, held hopeful possibilities. In one sense, the congregation is about to disembark from one ship and being asked to board another ship with a different destination. Ministry assessment includes asking what is working, what the dreams are, which dreams are right for this congregation in this time and this place, and what is required from us to work toward fulfilling those dreams. Ministry assessment is not about finding all the problems and fixing the congregation. It is about a realistic assessment combined with creative possibilities.

This work requires congregational conversations... to work toward unity and a focus for the congregations next steps. It will involve reviewing previous work, building on that work as much as is suitable. The first task is to meet with the Session and congregation to find common ground to move forward.

I am grateful to God for this special congregation! I will watch, listen and pray for your well-being as you venture with God into the future, He has planned for you! My prayer is that God will continue to open your hearts to one another... and to the beloved of God who are our neighbours!

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. Wayne Stretch

SESSION

Session last year consisted of 11 Elders, Transitional Pastor and Interim Moderator. The latter appointed by the Presbytery.

Our members are as follows; Patti Jackson, Jean Marcellus, David McLean, Saul Preston, Laura Richards, Dirk Ryneveld, David Smith, Sabine Teetzel, Brian Titus, Colina Titus and Jerry Verwey.

All Elders have a varied number of members/adherents in their districts as well as responsibility for a committee.

Patti Jackson chairs the Mission and Outreach Committee and works on the Congregational Life Committee. Jean Marcellus looks after the congregational roll as Roll Clerk as well as being responsible for the Communications and Administration Committee. David McLean co-chairs with Dave Garson the Property Committee. Brian Titus chairs Worship Committee and together with Laura Richards looks after all aspects of worship. Sabine Teetzel looks after our Christian Education Committee and together with Colina Titus co-chairs Congregational Life. Jerry Verwey is Session Clerk and took over as Presbytery representative from Brian Titus in October. Colina Titus chairs the Personnel and Leading with Care Committee.

Over the past year, session has held 11 constituted session meetings either in person, via zoom or hybrid.

Session continued collaborative talks with our sister congregations with a view of sharing some work and resources. We have had a facilitator lead session in possibilities, as we have not been able to discern a vision and mission for the congregation. Over 4-month summer season, May to August, session held eight meetings to help us discern what our mission and vision should be. Session came up with 3 core values being *Spiritual Formation and Growth, Worship and Music, and Mission and Outreach*. We have had congregational think-sessions to discern what we are to be and able to do in the community with view of discerning a vision for the congregation, something we need to be able to elaborate on in a call procedure. These in turn produced three core values of the congregation being, *Community, Worship, and Outreach*. We now must incorporate these values into a vision and mission statement which will reflect our ministry vitalities. Our collaborative talks came to an end with Knox, when their congregation voted to end them in December. This provides us with a new avenue to discern a vision and mission for St. Andrew's with the assistance of the Presbytery in the coming year.

Session asked for additional members to join the session but have been unable to add to our numbers, which continue to decline due personal situations. Session meets regularly on the third Monday of the month, and most can attend, either in person or by Zoom, the majority are faithful attendees.

Over the past year we have been ably led by our transitional Pastor, Mitch Coggin, whose leadership and experience has been a blessing to us all. Along with our Interim Moderator, Wayne Stretch, session has been well served to lead the congregation in these days of continual change. With regret we heard of the coming resignation of both Rev. Coggin and Rev. Stretch in November to take effect at the end February 2025. As of this writing Rev. Kavanagh has been appointed Interim Moderator for 5 months prior to her retirement and Rev. Cunningham will succeed her in that role in August 2025.

We wish wholeheartedly a blessed retirement for both and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Respectfully Submitted, Jerry Verwey Session Clerk

ROLL CLERK

The Roll Clerk is responsible to maintain a roll of the professing members, a register of baptisms, and a record containing the names and addresses of all members and adherents connected with the congregation.

Births: No Births this year

Celebration of Baptism: One – August 11, 2024

Reception of New Members: No Reception of New Members this year

Addition of Adherents: Zero

Removal from The Roll:

As Per Roll Review and Session's Approval: Zero

Moved Away from Victoria: One - Member

Asked to be Removed Due to Transfer of Certificate

Six - Four Members; Two Adherents (Children)

Deaths: Six - Four Members; Two Adherents

Elsbeth Charsley
Rosemund Robertson
Sheila Dunlop
Peter Lewis
Ian Baird
John Wigel

Respectfully Submitted, Jean Marcellus, Roll Clerk

REPRESENTATIVE ELDER TO PRESBYTERY

Presbytery is the umbrella body responsible for the 10 congregations and one mission (Cedar Tree Ministries) on Vancouver Island. All PCC members are welcome to attend Presbytery meetings as observers, and Presbytery members can share reports and minutes (except for confidential matters). If you have any questions regarding Presbytery business, your Representative Elder will be pleased to share what they know. Items of most relevance to St. Andrew's are highlighted below.

The Rev. Reid Chudley resigned as a PCC minister to become a minister with Church of the Nazarene (Quadra Street). He served as minister for Trinity (Victoria), chaplain at William Head and, latterly, was concurrently Interim Moderator for Knox Sooke. Reid Chudley also served as past Moderator for the Presbytery of Vancouver Island and for the Synod of British Columbia.

UpperLVL Worship: This exciting initiative in Nanaimo is based in a disco, where the lay pastoral leader (Austin Penner) has been a DJ since 2017. The lead minister is the Rev. Jeremy Bellsmith, and the new plant is supported by St. Andrew's Nanaimo and Presbytery. Austin is now working towards an M.Div.

Knox Sooke: The Rev. Jeremy Bellsmith was appointed Interim Moderator of Knox (Sooke) on the resignation of Reid Chudley, and the congregation issued a call in Aug. 2024. This is an innovative call, consisting of 50% with the current congregation (which is in an encouraging spiritual state, although small), and 50% to establish a new church plant in Sooke ("The Vine") – with the objective of meeting the needs of a very different demographic within the community.

Trinity: There have been challenges at Trinity (Tillicum Rd.), with the resignation of both the interim moderator and supply minister in the spring. Presbytery set goals for progress towards a healthier future by March 2025, and the future of the congregation will be discussed again at the following Presbytery meeting.

Funds from Presbytery: Synod closed a missional fund (PIM/PIF) and allocated this to presbyteries in BC for local disbursement. Presbytery received ca. \$400 K and decided to allocate 30% of this proportionally amongst congregations annually over three years (10%/yr), based on their contributions to Presbyterians Sharing. St. Andrew's has/will receive ca. \$4 K in each of 2024, '25 and '26. (In 2026, the remaining 35% will go Presbytery's Extension Fund, and 35% to its Mission Fund.)

Called ministers in Greater Victoria: There are currently two called ministers locally: the Revs. Vincent Tan (Chinese Presbyterian Church) and Laura Kavanaugh (who retires from Knox (Richmond Rd. on Aug. 31, 2025). Knox (Sooke) has prepared a congregational profile and is currently in a search process; Trinity is vacant and is training elders to serve communion; and in December our congregation identified 5 core values as a first step towards developing our own congregational profile.

St. Andrew's Representative Elder: Brian Titus resigned from Presbytery in October for health reasons, and Jerry Verwey was appointed by session to replace him.

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Titus, past Representative Elder to Presbytery
Jerry Verwey, current Representative to Presbytery

JOINT SESSION MEETINGS

The two sessions began meeting in May and continued through to the end of August. Meetings were led by elders: Anne Krauss and Fiona Gow (Knox), Sabine Teetzel and Colina Titus (St. Andrew's). The two sessions agreed to:

- collect concrete data from both congregations.
- plan joint congregational activities.
- Gather for prayer via weekly Zoom prayer meetings.

Data collected showed similarities:

- Online worship is an important ministry.
- Ageing: A few volunteers carry the load
- Missions: some shared, some individual commitments
- Rental Income: rent space to provide income.

And some differences:

- music style
- St. Andrew's is downtown and receives more visitors.
- St. Andrew's has paid choral students.

Potential benefits of a merger: Shared resources, a larger volunteer team, new ideas, new energy, diversity of music.

Subsequently St. Andrew's elders met 4 times, prioritizing 3 core values:

- Spiritual formation and growth
- Worship and Music
- Mission and outreach, witness

At the final joint session meeting, elders agreed to schedule monthly joint worship services beginning in October. The essence of worship is music, message and prayer. Can we compromise/collaborate on the 'how?'

Elders listed what we do together with Knox:

- Prayer groups.
- Journey for Hope and Hymn Sing (for PWS&D)
- Study (Advent, Lent, Chocolat....)
- Soup team for UVic inclusive Christians.
- Lenten study; spiritual practice of Lectio Divina
- Worship and Picnic in the Park
- Shared Weekly Communication and Church Administrator
- Shared pastoral care visitor (pending)

Respectfully Submitted, Sabine Teetzel and Colina Titus

CONGREGATIONAL TABLE GROUP EXERCISE

3 November 2024

The intent was for the congregation to gain a clearer understanding of the implications of a potential merger of Knox, Victoria and St. Andrew's.

Members of the congregation to circulated through 4 table groups to ask questions related to four key topics:

- **Vision Mission Timeline** - Mitch Coggin. A summary on what we have done over the last 6 years that bring us to today.
- **Congregation's demographics** – Brian Titus, Patti Jackson. Review of estimates of declining membership over recent years, current number of regular attendees at worship, ages of the congregants, numbers of current leaders and volunteers needed for current activities, and projections into the future.
- **Finances** –Jack Reimer. A review of the balance sheet, current financial health/concerns, how church expenses are covered.
- **Session progress over the past 6 months** -Colina Titus, Jean Marcellus. Knox and St. Andrew's shared data from each congregation and listed what we have in common. Planned shared worship for "Worship in the Park" in August, October 6 (shared worship at St. Andrew's), November 10 (shared worship at Knox).

For more details see "Next Steps" article in December 2024 [LINK](#)

This led to some unanswered questions including:

- a) what are the core values for our congregation; required for our Mission Statement and to complete the Church Profile in preparation for calling a minister.
- b) merger; what does it mean? what are the implications for the future; specifically, whether we merge or don't merge with our sister congregation of Knox, Victoria?

Respectfully Submitted, Colina Titus

CONGREGATIONAL CORE VALUES EXERCISE

On Sunday 8 December, members of the congregation gathered for a discussion about the values considered to be important in our church family.

Core values answer the questions "Who are we?" "What defines us?" "What is really important to us?" Core values guide our identity, theology and our activity.

We need to understand our mission and vision prior to calling a minister. We need to ask: "Does our current mission statement (written more than 20 years ago) reflect the St. Andrew's of today?". This core values exercise is the first step.

Participants were invited to brainstorm a list of ‘what does St. Andrew’s do?’ creating a list of the activities and actions that we think are important.

From that list of important activities participants identified a list of values behind the things that we do.

Participant voted for their top 3 values. The values were consolidated, to create this ranked list of core values:

1. Our community
2. Outreach
3. Worship
4. Stewardship
5. Communication

See January 2025 Link for more details.

Respectfully Submitted, Patti Jackson and Colina Titus

PERSONNEL AND LEADING WITH CARE

Who are we? Colina Titus and Dirk Ryneveld

What do we do? The Personnel Committee and Leading with Care Committee has two primary area of responsibility.

Personnel

‘Personnel’ is responsible to provide a safe and collegial work environment for the employees and clergy of St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church and to ensure that the church follows current employment regulations in BC. The Personnel Committee ensures that all required employment policies are in place and are reviewed with the employees and clergy.

Although Presbytery has final oversight of the minister, it is the congregation, employees and elders who have the greatest understanding of how the minister is meeting the goals stated in the call document. Pastor Coggin, (and as will all subsequent ministers) are included in the annual performance evaluation process and the review of the policies.

The Personnel Committee is responsible to write and update all Personnel Policies:

- Terms of Employment (Employee and Clergy)
- Workplace Code and Ethics (Employee and Clergy)
- Bullying and Harassment ((Employee and Clergy)
- Health and Safety (Employee and Clergy)
- Working Alone (Employee and Clergy)
- Communicable Disease Prevention (Employee and Clergy)

St. Andrew's employees each bring unique gifts and skills to our congregation.

Grant Shepard (Church Officer)

Shannon Cummings (Church Administrator - St Andrew's and Knox)

Christine Purvis (Director of Music Ministry)

Martin Perez (Webmaster)

Pastor Coggin (Transitional Minister)

Rev. Wayne Stretch (Interim Moderator)

We commend and thank each of them for their efforts and commitment to the church. Much of what they do each week is 'done behind the scenes'.

Leading with Care

'Leading with Care' responsibilities are to inform and educate members of the congregation about the requirements of the Presbyterian Church in Canada Leading with Care Policy; this policy outlines the procedures required to ensure the safety of all vulnerable individuals, and the training that should be provided to leaders, Sunday school teachers, elders and those who visit people in their homes.

We now have on-line access to:

- Application for Criminal Record Checks; required for anyone working with vulnerable youth and adults.
- Required training, including 'Leading with Care'. Harassment Training'.

Respectfully Submitted, Colina Titus

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Worship Committee is responsible for all aspects of worship and consists of the transitional pastor (M. Coggin), music director (C. Purvis), and two members (B. Titus, L. Richards). The committee works with staff and over 20 members who volunteer as choristers, ushers, greeters, AV operators, readers, and assist with décor, communion preparation & distribution (including to home-bound), hymn boards, tidying pews, collection and accounting for donations, Facebook and YouTube site maintenance and up-dating... Our thanks to all who make worship (in all its formats) possible!

Worship highlights

Cooperative worship with other congregations continued in 2024: Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14 at St. Andrew's), Maundy Thursday (Mar. 28 at Knox, led by M. Coggin, with communion), Good Friday Service (March 29 at St. Andrews, led by L. Kavanagh), Gorge Park with picnic (Aug. 25), and Blue Christmas (at Trinity, Dec. 15).

In addition, St. Andrew's and Knox sessions planned four monthly services for the fall and winter of 2024/25 as part of merger discussions. The first was held on World

Communion Sunday (Oct. 6 at St. Andrew’s, L. Kavanaugh preaching) and the next on Remembrance Sunday (Nov. 10 at Knox, M. Coggin preaching) but the services for Dec. 2024 and Jan. 2025 were cancelled.

Communion was served on March 3, June 2, Oct. 6 (World Communion Sunday, joint with Knox) and Dec. 1; attendance was 64, 65, 84 and 59, respectively. PWS&D Sunday was celebrated on Feb. 4.

Worship participation

Weekly in-person worship participation on a normal Sunday (i.e., excluding communion, joint services, Easter, Christmas Eve) changed very little between 2023 and 2024, and between quarters; on-line participation is slightly lower in 2024. A printed order of service, with full text of readings, prayers and sermon, is also delivered to 17 people in 14 households (not shown but added to the total).

A total of about 125 people worship per week. In-person worship includes up to 6 paid staff plus soloists, “snowbirds” and visitors, and thus <50 members and adherents on the roll are physically present on a typical Sunday. On-line values (“views”) are undoubtedly overestimates. (Search web for how YouTube counts authentic views.)

Period	In-Person			On-Line			Total		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Q1 <i>Jan.-Mar.</i>	41	56	58	67	52	51	125	126	127
Q2 <i>Apr.-June</i>	48	61	58	57	70	51	122	147	126
Q3 <i>July-Sept.</i>	42	54	54	54	61	55	113	132	125
Q4 <i>Oct. Dec.</i>	51	52	57	69	56	49	137	125	123
Year	45	56	57	62	60	52	124	132	125

Worship music

The choir has 10 members (but transitioned from 7 congregants + 3 paid choral scholars to 6 + 4, respectively) and was also joined by a long-term winter visitor for several months. Music was sometimes supplemented by instrumental and vocal soloists. Knox’s musicians played some of the music in a joint service at St. Andrews in October, and two paid scholars joined Knox’s musicians at a joint service in their sanctuary in November. Regrettably, there were not enough choir members to lead singing on Christmas Eve this year – and a choral scholar sang as a precentor and soloist.

Our thanks to all the many people – volunteers and paid staff –who have contributed to making weekly corporate worship possible over the past year.

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Titus

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Who are we? Mitch Coggin (Minister), Patti Jackson (Convenor), Patricia Shuckburgh and Debra Verwey.

What do we do? The Mission and Outreach Committee helps St. Andrew's to serve those around us locally, nationally and internationally by seeking funds and drawing attention to various projects and coordinating mission and outreach related activities with other committees and individuals. The Mission and Outreach Committee members regularly contributed articles to TWASA and The Link throughout the year. Past articles can be found on the St. Andrew's website.

International: The congregation voted through the 2024 budget process to donate \$1,800.00 to Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D) as our minimum contribution to the global work of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Mission and Outreach shared with the congregation the ongoing work of Presbyterian World Service & Development with mission moments during the month of February. The 2024 fundraising campaign focused on the areas of greatest need with particular attention on Gaza and Afghanistan. Thank you to St. Andrew's for supporting the work of PWS&D throughout the entire year.

International and National: \$21,500 was sent to Presbyterian Sharing in response to our annual assessment by the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Presbyterian Sharing is the national church fund that supports mission and ministry in Canada and around the world.

Local: A number of Mission & Outreach events, fundraisers and programs happened throughout 2024. The team leads who gave a lot of their time to help to organize activities are as follows: Camp VIP Representative (Jerry Verwey), Music Outreach (Dawn McLean), Open Church & Meditation Hour (Jerry Verwey), Pride Parade (Jim Ferguson) and Share the Joy of Christmas (Debra Verwey). In addition, thank you to all in the St. Andrew's community who have supported all the various initiatives and activities in 2024.

Cedar Tree Ministries

\$900.00 was donated to Cedar Tree Ministries. Cedar Tree Ministries is an outreach ministry to the Cowichan Tribe Community. The Cowichan Grace Church reaches out in many ways including Sunday worship services, Sunday school, a youth program, a program for moms and babies, and a mini food bank that is open every Sunday at the church providing food to those in need in the Cowichan Tribe community.

Journey for Hope (Together in Motion and Song)

Journey of Hope in 2024 was a collaborative event between 4 of the local Presbyterian Churches throughout Greater Victoria. While the official date for Journey for Hope was September 28th, this event, Together in Motion and Song, took place over two

Saturdays. On September 21st a Hymn Sing was held at St. Andrew's and on September 28th a team of folks cycled, and several folks walked to fundraise for Presbyterian World Service and Development. Our team, Together in Motion and Song collectively raised close to \$6,000 for Journey for Hope in support of PWS&D's food security projects.

Mustard Seed Street Church Thanksgiving food drive

St. Andrew's members and adherents contributed \$1065.00 to the Thanksgiving food drive for Mustard Seed during the months of September and October. The Mustard Seed Street Church can stretch each, and every dollar contributed for maximum buying power to provide food to those in need in the Greater Victoria area.

Muffins for AA and vegetarian meals for Inclusive Christians: Around the Table

Approximately every 3 weeks a small group of bakers prepared muffins at home and then dropped them off for the AA meetings at noon. Sometimes, other nutritious foods are also included.

In addition, a small group of soup makers prepared and dropped off vegetarian soups and other food items for meals in the spring and fall terms. The meals are for Around the Table, UVic's Inclusive Christians program that meets at the Multifaith Centre at the University of Victoria on Wednesday evenings. Both groups are very appreciative of the homemade cooking that is prepared.

Warm Toes Sock Drive

This advent season we collected warm socks to donate to the Mustard Seed. Warm and dry socks are one of the items needed daily at the Mustard Seed. Thank you to the community of St. Andrew's for filling a plastic tote right to the brim with socks. The socks were delivered to the Mustard Seed just before Christmas.

Pride Parade

St. Andrew's was able to support the Pride Community on Sunday July 7th by providing a water-refill station at the front steps of the Church during Pride Parade.

This endeavour was kept simple with tanks of iced water to refill water bottles and to provide cups for those without their own water bottles. The spray bottles came in handy for refreshing the puppies and on occasion their humans! It was an opportunity for us to show our support for members and families within the Pride Community. People expressed their appreciation for the refill station while at the same time asking questions about the Presbyterian Church and St. Andrew's.

Respectfully Submitted, Patti Jackson

Share the Joy of Christmas

The congregation and adherents of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church donated money to the Share the Joy of Christmas campaign with the goal of making the holiday season brighter and more hopeful for persons who are struggling financially in the Greater Victoria area. We pass along the donations that we receive to the Mustard Seed Street Church who run a food bank and have the connections to really stretch the money to fill Christmas baskets with nutritious food and small gifts for needy families who live near us. Our Share the Joy campaign runs through the Advent season.

Our donations amounted to \$3015 this year which was enough money to feed many needy families and individuals. Thank you very much everyone at St. Andrew's for your generosity.

Respectfully Submitted, Debra Verwey

Gift of Christmas Music and Carol Sing

As part of the musical outreach at St. Andrew's is the Gift of Christmas Music and Carol Sing. Close to 300 people sang carols and listened to wonderful musicians perform on December 12, 2024, for a noon hour concert and enjoyed hot chocolate and muffins. Christine Purvis, St. Andrew's Music Director, accompanied on the organ. Eva Smith and Dylan Syrnyk led the audience in choosing and singing carols.

Musicians were David Barss (trumpet), Eva Smith (vocalist), Mahtab Saadatmand (cello) and Jany Lu (piano accompanist).

Respectfully Submitted, Patti Jackson

Camp VIP

Three Camp VIPs were held in 2024. The first Camp VIP was at Little Qualicum Falls. Our theme speaker was Melanie Halpin-Kuehnel, from St. Andrew's Nanaimo, and she initiated each Circle Time with a series of questions about aging creatively or becoming stagnant. The cool evenings had us huddling close together for Circle Time.

Our second Camp VIP was at Goldstream Provincial Park. Our theme speaker was Rev. Daniel Martinez, from our Duncan Presbyterian Church and he and his family, Pamela and children camped with us for the weekend. Daniel spoke on the Gospel of John – A New Beginning; A New Temple; A New Birth.

The third CAMP VIP was at Rath Trevor Provincial Park, with our theme speakers Kailen and Sue Olsen, from our Nanaimo Church. They spoke powerfully on the subject of life's hardships, the value of Church community, and being there for each other. As we had this group campsite for an entire week, it gave us ample time to explore the long,

beautiful beach and many walking/hiking trails, as well as catching up with our camping friends from Vancouver Island, read our summer novels, and play lots of board games. As is a tradition at this camp, we also created our own tie-dye t-shirts – quite the fashion statement!

Respectfully Submitted, Jean Marcellus

Open Church

During the past year the church has been opened weekly on Wednesday afternoon from about 12 noon to 1:30 and again from 4:00 to 5:30, to allow for people to come in to view our 135-year-old sanctuary and hear about its history and connection to many momentous occasions in the city. Though the sanctuary was not open as much as I'd liked when cruise ships were in and especially when I was unable to open it in the Fall, we did welcome many visitors from all over the globe. I was especially intrigued when one of our past organists came to visit and we conversed about his playing in the Okanagan for a variety of different congregations.

In addition to Wednesdays, we had the church open on Victoria Day as well as Remembrance Day. Both times many Victorians came in and commented on the fact that it was their first time seeing the inside, having walked past our closed doors many a time.

Respectfully Submitted, Jerry Verwey

Music Outreach

The Music Outreach program at St. Andrew's had a successful 2024 year. The program is funded by the Victoria Foundation with support from St. Andrew's and offers an opportunity for young, emerging musicians to practice and perform in the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary has some of the best acoustics in Victoria and is an inviting and safe place for performers and audiences in downtown Victoria.

In 2024 there were 12 concerts held, primarily on Sunday afternoons. Concerts included strings and brass instruments, from the UVIC School of Music, a visiting Trio from Poland, and an organ recital by a musician from France. The quality of the music is excellent.

UVIC has held Quartet Fest West's downtown performances in July for 3 years at St. Andrew's. It is a 2 week in-service program drawing local, international and young musicians from across Canada to Victoria.

St. Andrew's hosted 3 concerts: a celebration of the young chorale singers in the St. Andrew's choir, a visiting organist from France and the annual Gift of Christmas Music and Carol sing, in its 15+ year.

In 2024 an application to continue the music outreach program was submitted and accepted by the Victoria Foundation. The search for a grand piano in the Sanctuary

continued. The Gathering Room was well used by the students as they prepared for a concert and for an occasional reception appreciated by the audience.

10-12 St. Andrew's volunteers support the concerts. A special thank you to each for their service and time to this community outreach from St. Andrew's.

Respectfully Submitted, Dawn McLean

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Who are we? Moira Bernard, Patti Jackson, Cathy Mackenzie, Dorothy Reimer, Fiona Ryneveld Sabine Teetzel and Colina Titus.

What we do? The mandate of the Congregational Life Committee is to promote a sense of community, by building relationships and creating opportunities for fellowship. We want to make St. Andrew's a place to belong; where everyone can feel that they are welcomed into a family.

How do we do it? A successful event needs planning, advertising and a team of volunteers. In true Presbyterian fashion the two important ingredients are food (lots of it) and people. We are no longer able to host our trademark range of events; sadly, volunteers are fewer and older and access to our Kirk Hall space is limited.

Extenuating circumstances required a different and modified approach, one that reminds us that we are a family. We continue to look for opportunities to celebrate. It was a joyful day when we served cake following a baptism. Later in the year we served cake at the official 'opening' of the newly renovated Lecture Room, now renamed 'The Gathering Room'.

Respectfully Submitted, Sabine Teetzel and Colina Titus

Coffee hour

St. Andrew's after-service coffee time is a weekly highlight for all of us.

Our coffee break provides a wonderful time to connect with each other and visitors after the service and may include the celebration of a special occasion such as a baptism, anniversary or congregational marker.

This year, the completion of The Gathering Room has provided another space to host coffee hour and conversation.

The responsibility of this post-service time for connection is shared between 2 committed teams. 'It Takes a Village' to host coffee time, ensuring that kitchen supplies of coffee, tea and sugar are always on hand and that tables are set up and everything is ready at the conclusion of the service. Each coffee team sets up and cleans up afterward and provides milk, cream and a little something to have with our warm drinks.

Thank you to everyone who has a regular role in this endeavour as well as the people who pitch in with treats, willing hands and encouragement.

Respectfully Submitted, Catherine Mackenzie

The Prayer Chain

We, the members of the Prayer Chain, believe in the power of prayer. We faithfully pray for the concerns shared with us. Sometimes we pray for healing or God's comfort and sometimes we rejoice for answered prayers. In all cases we ask that God's will be done, and we give thanks to God in all circumstances.

Being part of the Prayer Chain is an important ministry for lay people in the congregation. We can carry each other's burdens and express our love for one another as God commanded us to do. Prayer is something that all of us can do regardless of age or circumstances. We do not need to take a course or have special training. All we need to do is to speak with God from our hearts.

If you would like the prayer chain to pray for you or your loved ones, do not hesitate to contact us. Your request will be kept in strict confidence.

If you want to be part of our prayer chain, please let me know. I can be reached at ryneveld@telus.net or by phone at 250-386-4142.

Respectfully Submitted, Fiona Ryneveld

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The goal of this Ministry is to knit shawls and offer them to people in need of encouragement and comfort in difficult times. The shawls are given to remind the recipients of God's love and faithful presence in their everyday lives and to assure them that we at St. Andrew's do care and pray for all who are ill, grieving or in need of prayer.

I want to thank the knitters and deliverers of these shawls; the number of shawls given out this year was less, but we continue to knit.

If you know of anyone needing a prayer shawl, please contact an Elder, the Church Office or myself.

Respectfully Submitted, Moira Bernard

Activity Group

2024 brought many changes to an informal drop-in group that had been created during Covid. When opportunities were limited, we filled a need for folks to get together, to work with others, to plan and then to help execute events that at the time we called Building Community Together.

In 2024 things were changing at St. Andrew's and our group decided to take on some practical projects. To reflect this change in activity we gave ourselves a new name - the Activity Group. Meetings began again in March, on Thursday mornings, in the Lecture Room, now the newly renovated The Gathering Room.

We decided on two projects - creation of a song book and repurposing of donated materials to be given to Compassionate Resource Warehouse (CRW) for shipment to people overseas.

Both projects were made possible by working with many of St. Andrew's congregants, families and friends, visitors to St. Andrew's and the folks at CRW. Our gatherings each week became a time for coffee and a visit but also helping to complete projects.

Our songbook was created and shared with families and friends of St. Andrew's. We knew that music in all its forms brings much joy. The songbooks were not intended to be used in large groups but to be used by families, or caregivers, to bring comfort and memories. The songbooks were shared, not only with our own folks but with several visiting families who took a songbook home to Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario.

Over the year, our repurposing project grew, and we could never have imagined the scope when first started. As of the end of December we have delivered to CRW more than 400 diaper pads, 100+ Dignity Bags, 25 + baby receiving blankets and multiple cloth tote bags. All of these were created out of donations.

Our donations have gone to Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Ukraine and Sierra Leone.

In the Fall we asked the folks at St. Andrew's to donate sewing supplies for shipment to a new sewing learning centre. Once again, we were overwhelmed with the donations and the result was 15 + bags and boxes of sewing/knitting supplies, delivered to CRW, and shipped to Ghana.

Thank you to all who donated, created and supported our projects. None of this would have been possible without your help and encouragement.

As 2025 begins it is the hope of the Activity Group that there will be even more opportunities for St. Andrew's folks to work together to share God's many blessings both far and near.

Respectively Submitted, Sheelagh Garson

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Members: Sabine Teetzel, Linda Coggin

Our mandate is to provide opportunities for Christian Education to all the congregation.

The first Christian Education Event for 2024 was Jan Richardson's Women's Christmas Retreat entitled "Curious About Joy." Approximately five women from St. Andrew's, Knox and Trinity met over zoom to discuss the retreat.

The Reverends Coggin and Kavanagh held a 6-week Lenten Study at Knox Presbyterian Church. The ancient spiritual practice of Lectio Divina was used to listen to the Lenten passages for the Sundays in Lent. Approximately five people from St. Andrew's participated.

Christian Education provided an opportunity for persons to share personal stories, scripture, poetry, songs and artwork that has shaped their life of faith during the Lenten Season. Fifteen people (13 from St. Andrews) submitted 19 reflections to share ways God has been present in their everyday lives. Our Lenten Reader was shared with congregations at St. Andrew's, Knox, and Trinity Presbyterian Churches in Victoria. The reflections along with suggestions for devotional reading provided another way to engage with one another to hear God's word and encouragement during this season.

At present we do not have children that attend St. Andrew's regularly. At several congregational meetings and in TWASA publications appeals were made congregational members to teach, oversee Sunday School and Christian Education delivery. Unfortunately, these appeals were unsuccessful.

It is time for us to think about Christian Education delivery in a new way. The rhythm of life has changed, and we need to change how we meet people's spiritual needs. We need to work together to make Christian Education part of our ongoing life at St. Andrew's. How can we all be part of a renewal of spiritual growth at Andrew's?

Respectfully Submitted, Sabine Teetzel, Linda Coggin

COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

Who are we? Jean Marcellus and St. Andrew's employees Shannon Cummings (Church Administrator), Martin Perez (Web Administrator) and Pastor Coggin (Transitional Minister)

What do we do?

- Coordinate Church communication within the Church and widely through the community through a wide range of platforms.
- Coordinate Annual meetings and preparation of the Annual Report
- Oversee the functions of the Church Office

Our two weekly communiqués from the Church have continued; This Week at St. Andrew's (TWASA) released on Tuesdays, and the Service Bulletin released on Thursdays. Thank you goes to the faithful deliverers of weekly Church communiqués to those that don't have email.

Thank you, Martin Perez, for faithfully maintaining our website and keeping our data safe in 2024. Thank you also for building our Church a new website in 2024. It's truly amazing and I know how much work it was; I, for one, am thrilled with the results.

Please see a separate report on This Week at St. Andrews (TWASA) and Thursday email.

The Branding Task Group launched our new Church Logo on January 1, 2024. Thank you to everyone involved. It took a 'village'. The best part about our new logo is that it was designed by our own Finlay Henderson, the elder son of Susie and Finlay Henderson. The Task Group has received many favourable comments on the design. One of the many new components of the new logo is our Pew Donation Envelopes and Contact Cards. Jean and Arthur Marcellus refill the pew boxes on a regular basis. The Donation Envelopes are being well used, as they are being replenished frequently. There is always work to be done in Communications and we welcome new members from the congregation to join our team. Please contact me if you would like more information.

Respectfully Submitted, Jean Marcellus

The LINK newsletter

The Link is the means by which the church membership is informed about church events and is also a means by which we can communicate with each other. There is always an article from the Pastor, a Session report, reports of committees, a calendar of events as well as articles and photos from members that would be of interest to the congregation.

Our church newsletter is produced every month and is circulated by email as well as being available as a print copy. The Link is also published in colour on our church's website and can also be accessed electronically at www.standrewsvictoria.ca

Many people carry around a cell phone so when you are out and about and see something interesting, take a photo and submit it to the Link. If you have had a recent birthday or anniversary, take a photo and send it to the Link. If your grandson graduated from high school or university, send a photo to the Link. If you have been away on a holiday, take a photo and share with the Link. These can be sent to thelink@shaw.ca If we love one another, as we are instructed by our Lord, we are interested in the lives of one another. Share that interest with one another.

Respectfully Submitted, Fiona Ryneveld

Facebook

Our Church's Facebook page has continued to be well used this past year. We are blessed to have social media to help keep us all together.

Twice weekly, I continued to post content provided to me by the Church Office – "This Week at St. Andrew's" (TWASA) and the information about our Sunday Services.

Many special events were included in the Posts, i.e., Lent and Advent events, Classical Music Concerts, events about our Presbyterian sister churches, PWS&D, and other events that take place in our Church.

Respectfully Submitted, Jean Marcellus

TWASA (This Week at St. Andrew's) and Thursday Email

A weekly newsletter, published Tuesday afternoons, created to keep the St. Andrew's community in touch. Submissions can be made by contacting the Church Office. You can subscribe and unsubscribe from the email list, or by contacting the office. It is also available to view on St. Andrew's website.

TWASA Distribution: Email: Mailing List Audience: 132

Print: 15 church copies, 5 copies delivered to the homebound

Articles in TWASA include:

- Parable of the Pastor
- Music Notes and Lectionary Readings
- Church Announcements: reminders and calls for volunteers or donations.
- National Church Articles
- Calendar: Church Events and Victoria Community Events
- Announcements (birthdays, weddings, deaths etc.)
- Other Submissions

The Thursday email is a weekly email that prepares the St. Andrew's community for Sunday Service. You can subscribe and unsubscribe from the email list, or by contacting the office. It is also available to view on St. Andrew's website. Includes:

- The Service E-Bulletin; a digital version of the service bulletin.
- Special Announcements: Special services, time sensitive information

Respectfully Submitted, Shannon Cummings, Church Administrator

Photographer

It is hoped the Congregation enjoyed the photos in The Link during 2024. Many special components of the services were captured and placed in The Link. Thank you for the many other folk who have contributed photos to The Link throughout the year, during my absences (attributed as anonymous).

January 2024: Communion Sunday December 3, 2023; Strings Classical Music Concert (Violas) December 3, 2023; Gift of Christmas Music December 13, 2023; Christmas Eve Service December 2023; Recovery Christmas Dinner December 25, 2023.

February 2023: The Beginnings of the Lecture Room Reno (anonymous); Rabbinic Burns Tea (anonymous).

March 2024: The Cuoro Piano Trio February 27, 2024; Lecture Room Renovations (anonymous).

April 2024: St. Patrick's Day; Classical Music Concert (Cellos) March 10, 2024; Easter Sunday Worship Service March 31, 2024; Lecture Room Renovations (anonymous).

May 2024: Vancouver Island Presbyterian Women's Retreat April 26 to 28, 2024; Classical Music Concerts (Violins) April 7 and (Brass) 28, 2024; Thursday Activity Group (anonymous); Lecture Room Renovations (anonymous).

June 2024: St. Andrew's on Victoria Day May 20, 2024 (anonymous); Sunday Celebrations May 26, 2024 – The Verwey's 50th Wedding Anniversary and The Kim family celebrating Juhye's UBC Graduation (anonymous); Activity Group Report (anonymous); Kaylee McLean-McKinnon's Graduation from Oak Bay (anonymous).

September 2024: Fest West Concert June 28, 2024; St. Andrew's Choral Scholars in Concert June 30, 2024; Pride Parade July 7, 2024 (anonymous); Baptism of Isaac Opoku August 11, 2024; Joyce Nordwall's 95th Birthday Party August 17, 2024; Worshiping Together with our Sister Churches at Esquimalt George August 25, 2024; Camp VIP June to August 2024; The Activity Group (anonymous); Journey for Hope: Together in Motion & Song September 28, 2024 (anonymous)

October 2024: Opening of The Gathering Room September 8, 2024 (anonymous); National Day of Truth and Reconciliation September 30, 2024 (anonymous); Journey for Hope Hymn Sing September 21, 2024 (anonymous)

November 2024: Shared Service with Knox at St. Andrew's September 22, 2024; The Activity Group (anonymous); St. Andrew's World War II Memorial Windows (Debra Verwey)

December 2024: Ian Baird's pew in the Sanctuary with a white rose honouring his passing on October 28, 2024; The Activity Group (anonymous); Classical Music Concert (Cello) November 10, 2024; Nicolas Kilhoffer Organ Performance November 17, 2024; Classical Music Concert (Violin) November 24, 2024; Joint Knox and St. Andrew's Worship Service at Knox November 10, 2024; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Gichimu, with their daughter Elizabeth Gichimu November 24, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted, Jean Marcellus

Website

We are pleased to report that our website is healthy and continuing to grow. Its ideation and launching were a committed effort of all the parts involved, with an important role assumed by the community, as can be seen in the flow diagram:

Design → Community Feedback → Development → Community Feedback →
Deployment → Community Feedback → Launching.

After several months of work, the launching of our website took place on October 14, 2024. We implemented several features:

- an interactive home page featuring a slider that shows recent events.
- a Welcome page
- a Signup form, currently under maintenance,
- an Archive page with customized presentation of newsletters and other docs
- a Sermons page displaying all sermons,
- an individual sermon page with text and video
- a custom page for each SA committee
- a custom page for the Music Ministry
- an Events page
- an About page
- a Staff page
- a Contact page
- a Donation page
- an Our Terms of Service page
- copy for all the pages.
- curated and optimized images

We have implemented and continue monitoring our site to protect their privacy and security, among other things:

- we do not use cookies to track users as we used to do by default previously.
- we perform weekly maintenance and updating of the servers (locally and remotely).
- we block spam and phishing emails (SA accounts).

We are preparing to launch new web pages soon and invite all committees to promote their activities online. In today's digital age, word-of-mouth has evolved into word-of-website, making an online presence essential for outreach and engagement.

See you at standrewsvictoria.ca !

Respectfully Submitted, Martin Perez, Webmaster

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Who Are We? Dave Garson, David McLean, Arthur Marcellus and Jerry Verwey

Property Repair and Renos

Property had to deal with several significant issues. In April a person deliberately smashed the Courtney glass entrance door which cost over \$1000 to repair. The heavy rains in October resulted in another major water leak into the back of the former Thrift shop. A roofer was brought in and found the source of the leak. In February a major repair was done on the drain from the Kirk Hall dishwasher. This work seems to have stopped the leak which had been problematic for some time. The internet wiring and switch in the office was upgraded and the internet was extended to The Gathering room. Floor tiles were purchased and Grant installed them in the basement of the rear stairwell of the Kirk Hall to cover over the old tiles which were breaking up. Property also disposed of the piano in the Kirk Hall as it was deemed to be unreliable. We also donated most of the old stacking chairs to the Compassionate Resource Warehouse which they shipped overseas. We also donated another set of chairs to the Restore.

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Garson.

Property Rentals

During the year, 2024 we have several community groups using our facilities - both the Sanctuary building and the Kirk Hall.

Without a doubt our two major users are Ballet Victoria and AA. Ballet Victoria has a lease for their space in the Sanctuary building and a rental agreement for space in the Kirk Hall., providing an annual income of over \$80,000. Their assistance with technical issues and the TEA for TUTU performances are very welcome and having them about our space is a joy. The agreement allows for St. Andrew's to use the gym space for 75 days in a calendar year.

AA has six meetings a week in the Kirk Hall, it is an outreach of St. Andrew's. The attendees manage the security and manage the glass doors entrance to the Kirk Hall.

There is a growing use of the Sanctuary space: community-based choirs - Tuesday night the Village choir and Wednesday night the Pandora chorus, and the student musicians' program with UVIC. The Early Music Society is a regular user as well. The Arts community is aware of the good acoustics in the sanctuary and there is an increased demand for concert rentals. The user fee is adjusted to include a \$2 dollar levy per ticket on tickets sold above 100 to 400. We will reduce the rate for non-profit community groups. All concert users of this space are required to purchase event insurance as part of their agreement to use our space.

Respectfully Submitted, David McLean

The Gathering Room Renovation

In the Fall of 2023, an open invitation was extended to all to participate in planning renovation of the Lecture room. A committee was formed, and several meetings were held to share ideas, take on various tasks and come up with a plan. An estimate of costs was put together and approved at a Congregational meeting. With the funding approved, the project got underway in January with the removal of the old kitchen and storage cupboards. On Feb 1st, a mover was hired to move the three spare pews to the Social Suite in the Kirk Hall. With floor space cleared, a flooring contractor installed the new floor. On Feb 16th, installation of the new cupboards began. The wiring was upgraded to provide outlets and lighting for the new kitchen, dishwasher and fridge. Wainscotting was added on the wall and the new countertop was installed. A contractor was brought in to upgrade the plumbing, connect the new sink and taps and provide a connection for the new dishwasher. The next step was to install the new fridge and dishwasher. The room was also fully repainted, and the plaster repaired as needed. The work was essentially completed by mid June. In early September, new curtains and rods were added to the windows. It should be noted that the "sweat equity" of our volunteers saved us more than \$20,000 in completing "The Gathering Room " renovation. Our thanks go to the many volunteers for this project.

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Garson.

Kitchen Report

St. Andrew's kitchen grew this year to include a "satellite" serving area in our newly created Gathering Room.

Thanks to all those who funded and worked to develop this new space. Being able to have equipment and supplies ready for use in this room is truly a blessing for St. Andrew's and for the many others who make use of our spaces.

Our main kitchen continues to be our primary kitchen and has been used throughout the year by various groups including our coffee teams. Thank you to all for your care of the equipment and for ensuring that all was left in good order after use. We were pleased, once again, to have received an excellent inspection report.

The equipment in both areas is very easy to use, and I would encourage folks to offer help when you can. If you have questions, please ask and we'll find the answers.

Thank you to Grant and Dave G. for their ongoing support to the kitchen.

Respectfully Submitted, Sheelagh Garson

Property report - Insurance

Insurance is a difficult issue to report on, as our term is the calendar year, 2024. But we need to bind our policy for 2025 in December 2024. Our policy year that just finished

was a success as we had no claims, and the treasurer was able to pay our premium without earthquake coverage for the first time. This was a saving of app. \$12,500.

In December Jack and David met with our broker from Aon. Our carrier is Ecclesiastical Insurance which has a Faith Protection policy. Over the years we have been pleased with their coverage and help, not necessarily the premium.

We agreed on the following amounts - buildings and contents: \$14,361,000

Stained glass: \$ 645,000

Pipe organ: \$1,175,000

Premium \$33,535

Also included in our overall coverage are two additional policies to meet the Leading with Care guidelines of the National church. Premiums:

Director's coverage: \$1000

Sexual abuse coverage \$1000

Insurance premiums are due in January each year

Respectfully Submitted, David McLean.

FINANCE

Letter from the Treasurer

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Victoria BC

Annual Report 2024 – Treasurer

I am pleased to be able to present the financial details for the past year 2024. And in preparation of this summary, I am pleased to report that this congregation's financial support has remained constant despite the challenges facing us as a congregation. And for that... I must **thank each of you** for this financial support.

However, the cost of all our supplies and services continues to be stressed and of course, it thus becomes clear that the congregation must find ways to meet those increased expenses, and small increases through PAR of other means of giving need to be carefully considered.

From my perspective, we, the congregation of St. Andrew's should focus on the potential for meeting some capital cost exposures this year as well as funding necessary new programs to address growth opportunities.

We have met our broad objectives as I outlined last year. In summary, those were as follows:

- 1) The congregation is responsible through donations to cover the salary expenses of those we employ.
- 2) That we use income from rentals and property utilization to cover the day-to-day expense of running our facilities (heat, light, etc.).
- 3) That we use some of our investment returns to meet our mission and outreach obligations.
- 4) That the congregation meet the misc. expenses of operating the office and associated expenses of administration. This is the area we consistently fail to fully financially support.

Meeting these benchmarks essentially gives us use of our sanctuary for nothing more than the cost of the programs we choose to manage. That's a luxury not available to most congregations, and we should try to take maximum advantage of that gift.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as Treasurer, and I look forward to a rewarding year ahead.

Sincerely

J. E. Reimer

Envelope Secretary

The Envelope Secretary works with the Finance Committee and is responsible for ensuring that donations are attributed to the correct donor as well as the designated fund. The envelope secretary completes the computer input weekly, manages the PAR system, prepares and mails out the yearly tax receipts and manages the offering envelope set-up and distribution.

The job could not be completed without the support of volunteer counters who met weekly throughout the year to count the offerings and take the deposit to the bank.

Thank you to those who have taken the time to mail in their donations. We are also grateful to all those who send us a change of address, or any other updates needed to help keep the financial database current.

Please contact the church office or me if you wish offering envelopes.

Respectfully Submitted, Shannon Cummings, Church Administrator/Envelope Secretary

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Victoria, BC

Incomes	YTD	Budget	
Donations	2024	2024	Variance
Congregation Giving's	\$203,848	\$215,000	-\$11,152
Mission Directed Givings (2024)	\$2,796	\$0	\$2,796
Canada Helps & EFT's	\$3,821	\$4,000	-\$179
One Time Gifts/Estate Gifts	\$0	\$10,000	-\$10,000
Transfer to Reserves (Estates & Grants)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Open Plate	\$5,269	\$3,500	\$1,769
Sub Total - Congregation Giving's	\$215,734	\$232,500	-\$16,766
Other Deposits	2024	Budget	Variance
Ballet Victoria - Rent	\$77,183	\$85,000	-\$7,817
Misc: Bank Interest & Presbytery Grant	\$7,642	\$10	\$7,632
Bazaar	\$300	\$0	\$300
Misc Incomes	\$0	\$500	-\$500
Sanctuary & Church Hall Rentals	\$14,764	\$4,000	\$10,764
Coffee Hour	\$1,044	\$0	\$1,044
Concerts – St. Andrew's	\$5,391	\$1,200	\$4,191
Concerts - Victoria Foundation	\$0	\$600	-\$600
Contracted Admin - Knox & Trinity	\$0	\$6,250	-\$6,250
Contracted Income Recovered	\$3,688	-\$6,250	\$9,938
Other Ministries	\$600	\$500	\$100
GST Rebate	\$494	\$0	\$494
Directed Givings / Share the Joy	\$4,046	\$500	\$3,546
Income from CIBC Reserves	\$0	\$25,000	-\$25,000
Victoria Foundation Dividend	\$0	\$650	-\$650
Victoria Foundation Grant	\$18,650	\$850	\$17,800
Sub Total - Other Deposits	\$133,802	\$118,810	\$14,992
Total Incomes	\$349,536	\$351,310	-\$1,774

Expenditures	YTD	Budget	
By Committee	2024	2024	Variance
Administration	\$50,275	\$40,350	-\$9,925
Communication Committee	\$9,409	\$8,100	-\$1,309
Christian Education	\$0	\$400	\$400
Congregational Life	\$2,127	\$300	-\$1,827
Finance	\$119,863	\$118,952	-\$911
Kitchen Expenses	\$911	\$850	-\$61
Mission and Outreach	\$27,050	\$24,550	-\$2,500
Property	\$133,080	\$126,550	-\$6,530
Session	\$7,326	\$7,450	\$124
Worship	\$49,560	\$49,154	-\$406
Total Expenses	\$399,602	\$376,656	-\$22,946
Variance	-\$50,066	-\$25,346	\$24,720

	YTD	Budget	
Administration Committee	2024	2024	Variance
Church Secretary - Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0
Church Secretary - CPP Expense	\$1,476	\$800	-\$676
Church Secretary - EI Expense	\$614	\$500	-\$114
Church Secretary - Salary - St. Andrew's	\$28,313	\$22,500	-\$5,813
<i>Recovery - Contracted Admin - Knox & Trinity</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Computer	\$122	\$500	\$378
inno8 Copy Fees	\$3,378	\$900	-\$2,478
Legal Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$467	\$400	-\$67
Office & Admin Supplies Incl Postage	\$4,562	\$3,000	-\$1,562
Office Relief	\$1,462	\$1,000	-\$462
Parking	\$0	\$200	\$200
Payroll and Accounting Services	\$5,097	\$4,000	-\$1,097
Photocopying (lease & maintenance)	\$1,028	\$1,500	\$472
Sickness & Holiday Relief	\$200	\$500	\$300
Telephone - Cellular	\$0	\$800	\$800
Telephone & Internet	\$2,803	\$3,100	\$297
WCB Expense	\$296	\$300	\$4
Weekly Envelopes	\$455	\$350	-\$105
Total Administration	\$50,275	\$40,350	-\$9,925

Expenditures (continued)	YTD	Budget	
Communication Committee	2024	2024	Variance
Design Software (Canava Pro)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Posters and Advertising	\$0	\$0	\$0
Internet Support	\$850	\$0	-\$850
Link Magazine	\$109	\$300	\$191
Web Development, Support & Hosting Service	\$8,450	\$7,800	-\$650
Total Communication Committee	\$9,409	\$8,100	-\$1,309
Total - Admin & Communications	\$59,684	\$48,450	-\$11,234

Kitchen Expenses	YTD	Budget	
	2024	2024	Variance
Funeral and Other Tea's	\$0	\$250	\$250
Catering	\$0	\$250	\$250
Kitchen Expenses	\$852	\$250	-\$602
Other (incl. Bazaar)	\$59	\$100	\$41
Total Kitchen Expenses	\$911	\$850	-\$61

Christian Education Committee	YTD	Budget	
	2024	2024	Variance
Adult Christian Education	\$0	\$100	\$100
Camp	\$0	\$0	\$0
Hullabaloo	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$100	\$100
Sunday School Teaching Aids	\$0	\$200	\$200
Youth Group	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Christian Education	\$0	\$400	\$400

Finance Committee	YTD	Budget	
	2024	2024	Variance
Interim Minister - Rev. M. Coggin			
Interim Minister - Stipend	\$57,379	\$57,380	\$1
Interim Minister - Housing Allow.	\$32,400	\$32,400	\$0
Interim Minister - Utilities	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Interim Minister - Car Allowance	\$3,645	\$3,640	-\$5
Interim Minister - Cell Phone	\$680	\$700	\$20
Interim Minister - CPP Deduction	\$3,384	\$3,100	-\$284
Interim Minister - E.I. Deduction	\$1,403	\$1,300	-\$103

Expenditures (continued)	YTD	Budget	
Finance Committee (continued)	2024	2024	Variance
Interim Minister - Health & Dental	\$5,164	\$5,164	\$0
Interim Minister - Continuing Ed.	\$0	\$600	\$600
Interim Minister - Misc Expenses	\$0	\$300	\$300
Interim Minister - MSP	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Pension / Insurance / Employer Submission</i>	\$17,810	\$17,874	\$64
<i>Minister - Grp Insurance (Recovered)</i>	<i>-\$1,056</i>	<i>-\$1,056</i>	\$0
<i>Minister - Pension (Recovered)</i>	<i>-\$6,336</i>	<i>-\$6,400</i>	-\$64
Net - Congregational Assessment	\$10,418	\$10,418	\$0
CIBC Management Fees	\$0	\$0	\$0
Misc. (Bank Charges, Parking etc.)	\$686	\$0	-\$686
Presbytery of V. I. Assessment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pulpit Supply	\$1,155	\$750	-\$405
St. Andrew's Memberships	\$548	\$200	-\$348
Total Finance	\$119,863	\$118,952	-\$911

Congregational Life	YTD	Budget	
	2024	2024	Variance
Communications, Sound system, Advertising	\$2,044	\$0	-\$2,044
Open for use	\$0	\$0	\$0
Congregational Picnic & Lunches	\$82	\$300	\$218
Total Congregational Life	\$2,127	\$300	-\$1,827

Mission and Outreach Committee	YTD	Budget	
	2024	2024	Variance
Cedar Tree Ministries/Breakfasts	\$900	\$900	\$0
Mustard St Church (Share the Joy) (2024)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Misc. (Downtown Churches, etc.)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Presbyterian Sharing	\$22,150	\$22,150	\$0
Presbyterian WS&D (2023)	\$4,000	\$1,500	-\$2,500
Mustard St Church (Share the Joy) (2023)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Mission & Outreach	\$27,050	\$24,550	-\$2,500

Expenditures (continued)	YTD	Budget	
Property Committee	2024	2024	Variance
Casual Church Officer	\$300	\$200	-\$100
Cell Phone	\$924	\$600	-\$324
Church Officer - Benefits	\$3,806	\$3,100	-\$706
Church Officer - CPP Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0
Church Officer - EI Expense	\$860	\$825	-\$35
Church Officer - Salary	\$37,025	\$37,025	\$0
Fire and Security Systems	\$2,909	\$8,000	\$5,091
Gas	\$18,975	\$19,000	\$25
Heating Maintenance	\$2,780	\$1,000	-\$1,780
Hydro	\$7,645	\$6,500	-\$1,145
Castle Building Supplies	\$41	\$1,100	\$1,059
Property - One Time Expenses	\$2,053	\$500	-\$1,553
Property - Cleaning Supplies	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,500
Property Insurance	\$35,777	\$32,500	-\$3,277
Sundry Repairs & Supplies	\$9,806	\$1,500	-\$8,306
Taxes Incl Dr and Cr from Ballet Victoria	\$6,352	\$2,000	-\$4,352
City of Victoria Utilities & CRD Backflow Test	\$2,720	\$8,000	\$5,280
Garbage Service	\$1,107	\$1,200	\$93
Total Property	\$133,080	\$126,550	-\$6,530

Session	YTD	Budget	
	2024	2024	Variance
Benevolence	\$350	\$750	\$400
Congregational Lunch	\$0	\$400	\$400
Misc. (i.e. Food Safe Training)	\$676	\$0	-\$676
Moderator Fee	\$6,300	\$5,400	-\$900
Christmas Gifts and Recognition	\$0	\$900	\$900
Total Session	\$7,326	\$7,450	\$124

Expenditures (continued)	YTD	Budget	
Worship Committee	2024	2024	Variance
Copyright	\$590	\$450	-\$140
Choral Scholars	\$9,405	\$9,000	-\$405
Flowers for Sanctuary	\$0	\$0	\$0
Guest Artists	\$2,470	\$1,000	-\$1,470
Miscellaneous	\$1,092	\$500	-\$592
Music Director - CPP Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0
Music Director - EI Expense	\$783	\$700	-\$83
Music Director - Salary (RCCO L9 12 Hrs)	\$32,604	\$32,204	-\$400
Organ & Piano Maintenance	\$1,777	\$4,000	\$2,223
Substitute Organist Supply	\$410	\$800	\$390
Supplies & Worship Resources	\$430	\$500	\$70
Total Worship	\$49,560	\$49,154	-\$406
Total Expenses	\$399,602	\$376,656	-\$22,946
Budget Excess or Shortfall	-\$50,066	-\$25,346	
	YTD	Budget	
	2024	2024	

Balance Sheet December 31, 2024

2023	Income & Expenses to Dec 31, 2024	2024
Operating Acc	Incomes	Operating Acc
	Congregational Offerings and Other Incomes:	
\$216,097	Congregation Giving's	\$203,848
\$8,514	Canada Helps & EFT's	\$3,821
\$49,869	One Time Gifts/Estate Gifts	\$0
-\$45,200	Transfer to Reserves (Estates & Grants)	\$0
\$0	Federal Govt Loan (One Time)	\$0
\$0	Mission Directed Givings (2024)	\$2,796
\$4,367	Open plate	\$5,269
\$233,646	Total Congregation Givings	\$215,734
	Operating Incomes	
\$74,040	Ballet Victoria - Rent	\$77,183
\$0	Misc: Bank Interest & Presbytery Grant	\$7,642
\$6,144	Bazaar	\$300
\$2,225	Misc Incomes	\$0
\$4,413	Sanctuary & Church Hall Rentals	\$14,764
\$798	Coffee Hour	\$1,044
\$4,610	Concerts – St. Andrew's	\$5,391
\$1,315	Concerts - Victoria Foundation	\$0
\$1,368	Contracted Admin - Knox & Trinity	\$0
-\$1,368	Contracted Income Recovered	\$3,688
\$0	Other Incomes	\$0
\$400	Other Ministries	\$600
\$20,802	CEBA Loan Forgiven/GST Rebate	\$494
\$1,170	Directed Givings / Share the Joy	\$4,046
\$0	CIBC Transfers in & Property Sales	\$0
	Transfers to CIBC Reserves	\$0
\$0	Victoria Foundation Dividend	\$0
\$827	Victoria Foundation Grant	\$18,650
\$116,743	Total Operating Incomes	\$133,802
\$350,389	Total Incomes	\$349,536

Income & Expenses to Dec 31, 2024 (continued)

2023	Expenses	2024
	Expenditures by Committee	
\$50,467	Administration	\$50,275
\$0	Christian Education	\$0
\$7,700	Communications Committee	\$9,409
\$268	Congregational Life	\$2,127
\$115,939	Finance	\$119,863
\$517	Kitchen Expenses	\$911
\$30,080	Mission and Outreach	\$27,050
\$145,917	Property	\$133,080
\$4,600	Session	\$7,326
\$55,663	Worship	\$49,560
\$411,151	Total Expenses	\$399,602
-\$60,762	Net Income & Expenses	-\$50,066
2023	Assets	2024
\$494	Accounts receivable (HST & GST Rebate)	\$1,916
\$0	Accounts Receivable - Trinity/Knox	\$48
\$270	Payroll Advance	\$270
\$1	Capital Assets	\$1
\$89,047	Credit Union Bank Account	\$44,198
\$15,450	Victoria Foundation Nonredeemable	\$15,450
\$622,824	Investment Accounts - CIBC	\$663,552
\$728,086	Total Assets	\$725,436
	Liabilities (incl. allocated Church Funds)	
-\$557.74	Payroll, EI, CPP & Fed Taxes clearing	(\$553.02)
\$2,548	Payments Pending	\$0
\$432,028	Special Funds (earmarked reserves)	\$425,930
\$4,966	Project Funds (earmarked reserves)	\$11,451
\$438,984	Total Liabilities	\$436,827
	Equity	
-\$250	Opening Balance Equity	-\$250
-\$272,710	Unrestricted net assets	-\$324,628
\$622,824	Reserve Funds - CIBC W.G.	\$663,552
-\$60,762	Current Earnings	-\$50,066
\$289,101	Total Equity	\$288,609
\$728,085	Total Liabilities, Church Funds & Equity	\$725,436
\$1	Rounding	\$0

Funds Summary

Balance 2024	Project Funds
\$67.00	Bazaar
\$421.16	Choir
\$1,140.00	Camps
\$163.78	Friendship Club
\$298.55	Kirk Hall Access Fund
\$120.00	Library
\$0.00	Our Place
\$1,463.80	Music Program
\$915.00	Mustard Seed Ministries
\$4,370.00	PWSD - Special Appeals
\$0.00	Refugee Fund
\$0.00	Saturday Breakfast Club
\$829.70	Sunday School
\$1,661.78	Sunday School Mission
\$0.00	Thrift Shop
\$0.00	Other
\$11,450.77	Total Project funds

\$663,552.38 **CIBC Wood Gundy**

Balance 2024	Special Funds
	St. Andrews Funds:
\$16,759.72	Centennial Scholarship
\$13,463.76	Higher Education
\$42,647.78	Student for Ministry
\$14,059.76	Cordiner Fund
(\$27,128.16)	Memorial Window Fund
\$22,732.59	Memorials (Sanctuary)
\$12,457.38	Organ Enhancement
\$120,383.42	Restoration & Capital Spending
\$15,526.33	Session Funds:
\$45,200.00	Robert Britton Estate
\$358.75	Kirk Hall
\$79,748.79	Marion Patterson Fund
	Weatherdon Funds:
\$13,331.01	Education for Ministries
\$24,413.15	Memorial
\$16,525.00	Music Students Assistant Fund
\$15,450.27	Victoria Foundation (Non-Redeemable)
\$425,929.55	Total - Special Funds
\$437,380.32	Total - Restricted Funds
\$226,172.06	Total Unrestricted Funds

BUDGET MEETING 2024 MINUTES

January 21, 2024. In the sanctuary and via Zoom

Constitution

Pastor Coggin opened the meeting with prayer.

Nomination of Secretary

It was moved and seconded that session clerk be nominated as recording secretary.

Jack Reimer, David McLean. **Carried**

Explanation/Introduction

- This meeting is for approval of the budget for 2024.
- The 2023 Annual Meeting to be held on 25 February 2024.
- People are joining via zoom and are invited to ask any further questions.
- Motion of Session.

Discussion about the proposed budget

Income for 2024 is estimated at \$326,310.00:

29% from rental (primarily Ballet Victoria)

61% from the congregation

Expenditure for 2024 is estimated at \$351,310.00

That leaves a shortfall of \$25,000.00, which will come from investment account or 8% from investment income

- Annually congregation is falling short by 10%. Equivalent to almost \$25,000 annually. This is a challenge for everyone in the congregation to prayerfully consider.
- We cannot continue to run a deficit year after year.

Q. Concern that the income and expense sheet may not have available to the attendees on Zoom and hence cannot view the expense and income distribution laid out in that format. (sheet had been missed in the printing and mail out though part of the package)

A. Treasurer stated that the missed sheet would be mailed out to all the following day by our office administrator. (page that was missed was displayed on Zoom by the AV Team)

MOTION:

Approve the 2024 budget as presented.

Moved by Jack Reimer. 2nd by David McLean. **Carried**

Property motion:

Motion: That \$16,500.00 be taken from the reserve fund to complete the renovation of the Lecture room, as planned.

Moved by David McLean, 2nd by Sheelagh Garson. Carried

David Garson explained more fully as to what and why. The original estimate was best guess as costs were not readily discernible. Cost such as painting, unknown repairs, cost of dishwasher.

Q. Does that include a dishwasher?

A. Yes, it does include a new dishwasher, being a commercial dishwasher will run about \$5,000, being one of the larger costs involved.

Q. (From Treasurer) request for clarification of the total cost of the project and if this amount part is of the original budget or on top the original budget?

A. This is a request over and above the amount approved at 2023 AGM being funded from a number of sources, about \$24,000. Making the total estimated cost about \$40,000.

Q. Does the estimated cost include the floor and the ceiling or just paint and cupboard?

A. The estimate includes the floor, vinyl plank flooring. The ceiling estimate was about \$15,000 not including lighting. So, at this time it does not. It was noted that the total work included demolition, repairs as needed, Painting the walls, new cabinets, sink, fridge, dishwasher. Also noted that to date the amount saved from the estimate included about \$1000, slated for demolition (done in house labour), saving of about \$600 on a fridge and possible further savings due to in house labour of Garson Marcellus and Verwey.

Motion: That \$16,500.00 be taken from the reserve fund to complete the renovation of the Lecture room, as planned.

Moved by David McLean, 2nd by Sheelagh Garson. Carried

Ongoing discussions with Knox, Victoria.

The session presented the following motion: 'That session seeks the authority to proceed with collaborative/amalgamation discussions with Knox, Victoria.

There followed a lengthy discussion, including the understanding that the session already has authority and has no need to ask. The motion was modified to read

Motion

That the session of St Andrew's session will proceed in collaborative discussions with Knox, Victoria'

St Andrew's session. Carried

Motion to Adjourn.

There being no further business, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Moved by Dirk Ryneveld. Carried.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Verwey

DRAFT MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

Sunday 25 February 2024 immediately following Worship in the Sanctuary. The meeting was zoomed. 42 attended in the sanctuary. 2 attended via zoom.

Constitution. Pastor Coggin opened the meeting with prayer.

Memorial Minute. The memorial minute was read by the Roll Clerk, Jean Marcellus.

Nomination of secretary

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that Jerry Verwey, session clerk, be nominated as Secretary for the meeting.

Moved by: Jean Marcellus, 2nd by Rodger Bernard **Carried**

The approval of the agenda

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that the agenda, as presented, be approved. Jean Marcellus. Miles Craig. Carried

Review and approval of the minutes of 2023 Budget Meeting held on 15 January 2023

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 2023 Budget Meeting, held on January 15, 2023, be accepted as presented in the Annual Report for 2023.

David Smith. Jean Marcellus. Carried.

Review and approval of minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting held on 26 February 2023

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting, held on February 26, 2023, be accepted as presented in the Annual Report for 2023.

Colina Titus, Sabina Teetzel Carried

Review and approval of committee reports as presented in the Annual Report.

Comments about the report

- There are reports of the functioning of 8 committees and subgroups. This is an important record of our history, reflecting many hours of commitment; everyone should read and absorb what was accomplished in 2023.
- There are reports of the functioning of session.
- What is not found is functioning of task groups, such as Ministers' gallery, church branding task group, asset mapping task group, their work was reported by way of session reports and session minutes as session is responsible for the work of the task groups.
- Comments on the Christian education report regarding teaching of children again. The need for teachers was expressed and the possibility of a once-a-month Sunday school requiring more than 2 persons.
- It was noted that that same lack of commitment affects our nursery. Where just recently, a visiting family had to leave to attend their children in the nursery. What does that say about our congregation?

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that the reports presented in the Annual Report for 2023 be received and approved as presented.

Rodger Bernard, Sabina Teetzel. Carried.

Approval of Trustees

MOTION

The congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Victoria affirms the appointment of the following persons as Trustees for the congregation:

Arthur Marcellus

David McLean

Dirk Ryneveld

Jack Reimer

It was noted that Moira Bernard's many years of service as a trustee be thanked for working in this onerous task. Book of Forms requires three.

Moved and 2nd by David McLean, Jean Marcellus. Carried

New Business

Note of thanks to Dave Garson, co chair of Property Committee for his many hours of work within the church doing repairs to the dishwasher, door locks, coordinating the lecture room renovations, electrical repairs thereby saving the congregation many thousands of dollars.

Noted that the Lenten reader is now out with soft copies sent out to many in the congregation and hard copies available in the narthex.

Motion to Adjourn.

MOTION

There being no further business, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Moved by Rodger Bernard. Carried.

Closing Comments

Pastor Coggin: Wayne as our Interim Moderator is a gift to the congregation. he is a man of wisdom, courage, integrity. I am blessed to serve beside him.

Rev Wayne Stretch: I have a long history with St. Andrew's. I am here as Interim Moderator with a heartfelt connection. Thank you, Mitch, for the privilege of serving with you.

Closing prayer

Rev Wayne Stretch closed the meeting in prayer.

The meeting concluded at 12.15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Jerry Verwey

DRAFT MINUTES CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OCTOBER 27, 2024

Rev Coggin opened the meeting with prayer at 11:40 am.

David McLean presented the following property proposal.

We have called a special congregational meeting for Oct 27th, for the purpose of requesting approval for an expenditure of congregational funds in support of our ongoing restoration project.

Restoration application to the Victoria Civic Heritage Trust:- As a Civic designated heritage building, St. Andrew's has been eligible for financial support from the Victoria Civic Heritage Trust. We have received their support on two occasions. The award was for up to \$50,000 on each occasion. After an award of funds, an eligible structure/organization must wait ten years to reapply. It has been ten years, so St. Andrew's is now on the eligible list.

The Trust has expanded their programs, and we are eligible for two streams with different objectives.

1. Heritage Incentive Program – prime objective is restoration of heritage buildings within the city. The upper limit of support is \$100,000 based on a 50% support by St. Andrew's.

2. Parapet Improvement Program – prime objective is to prevent falling objects during a seismic event from injuring / killing folks outside of the building. The upper limit of support is \$200,000, based on a 25% support by St. Andrew's.

A new element in the Trust's criteria of support is the need for a consultant's technical reports outlining the needed work.

We would need a Masonry tech report and a structural engineer report. Support from the Trust is available for the consultants' costs- up to \$10,000 for each- on the same ratio 50 and 25 percent.

So, we could be on the hook for \$7,500 for consultants.

It is Property's wish that we carry out the two project at the same time as our priority area of concern is the tower. Scaffolding is an outrageous cost, and any way we can limit the cost of this item makes good sense. The Trust officials agreed.

Therefore- before we can formally begin the application process- we need a congregational motion supporting the expenditure of up to \$107,500 from our Reserve account. If successful, this would have the helpful assistance of \$312,500 from the Trust.

It was reported by the treasurer, that with an expected bequest early in the new year, that the funds to be expended for this project from our capital reserves would not deplete those reserves.

McLean indicated if the cost was higher than authorized, property would need to come back to the congregation.

MOTION:

The Congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Victoria, make application to the Civic Trust for an amount of up to \$107,500., for the purpose of support for engaging consultants to assist in the scope of the work proposed and of support of the work undertaken within the guidelines of the heritage incentive program and the parapet improvement program.

Moved by McLean, 2nd by M. Bernard

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 11:55am

Respectfully Submitted, Jerry Verwey