

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DARTMOUTH, N.S.



**ANNUAL REPORT
2024**

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 2024

www.standrewspcc.ca

216 School Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 2Y4

902-469-4480

Minister: Rev. Dr. P.A. (Sandy) McDonald (retired April 1)

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Robert A.B. MacLean

Interim Moderator (April 1, 2024): Rev. Calvin Burt

<u>Kirk Session</u>	<u>Year of Induction</u>
J. Wade MacDonald	('78)
Gerald Archibald	('79)
Kathy Sloan	('88)
Alex Bruce	('91)
John Bartlett-Visser	('98)
Margaret Bingley	('98)
Barbara Cruickshank (retired Sept. 16/24)	('02)
Ian Murray	('02)
Carol Stevenson	('02)
Susan Burris (leave of absence began Mar. 1/18)	('06)
Andrew Kennedy	('10)
William Langley	('10)
Mary Pyche	('10)
Richard Sloan	('10)
James Leck	('13)
Isabelle Young	('13)
Ross Barkhouse	('21)
Megan Douglas	('21)
Nancy Heighton	('21)
Murdo MacKay (moved to Scotland in March)	('21)
Nancy McNeil	('21)
Deborah Pegg	('24)
Luke Campbell	('24)
Darlene Cossaboom	('24)
Cheryl Weeks Clerk (Jan. 07) & Representative Elder	('91)

Organist: Dr. Kenneth Cameron

Church School Superintendents: Nancy McNeil and Meghan Pyche Melanson

Nursery Co-Ordinator: Heather Barkhouse; **Offering Receipts Secretary:** Lesley Waugh

Bulletin Secretary: Kathy Sloan; **These Days Secretary:** Jean Bartholomew

Church Treasurer: Joyce Ross

Auditors: Internal: Russell Trimper, **External:** Susan Osborne

Trustees: Wade MacDonald, Gerry Archibald, Ian Murray

Kirk Session Committees

Worship & Fellowship: Mary Pyche, Convenor, 2020-22, 2022-23,2024; Ross Barkhouse, Marg Bingley, Darlene Cossaboom Nancy Heighton, Isabelle Young, Cheryl Weeks
Erin Sloan (2013-15, 2016-18, 2019-21); 2022-2024
Lee Walker (2015-17, 2018-20, 2021); 2022-2024, (retired June 2024)
Jean St-Pierre (2014-16,2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025; June Stone (2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025;
Jocelyn Wiggins 2022-2025

Outreach: Ricky Sloan, Convenor, 2022-2025; Alex Bruce, Luke Campbell, Barbara Cruickshank, (retired Sept. 16/24) Jamie Leck, Carol Stevenson
Dawn Hemsforth (2010-12, 2013-15, 2016-18,2019-21); 2022-2024
Gregg Lambert (2012-14, 2015-17, 2018, 2019-21); 2022-2024
Richard Mabbett (2016-18, 2019-21); 2022-2025
AJ Macdonald 2021-2023; 2024-26

Education: Nancy McNeil, Convenor 2022-2024 John Bartlett-Visser, Megan Douglas, Debbie Pegg
Church School Superintendents
Naomi Walker 2022-2024
Lisa Glennie (2018-20);2021-2023; 2024-26
Heather Barkhouse (2010-12,2013-15,2016-19, 2020);2021-2023; 2024-26

Finance & Stewardship: Andrew Kennedy, Convenor 2022-2025; Ian Murray, Kathy Sloan
William Hattie (2013-15,2016-18, 2019-21);2022-2024
Lorena MacDonald (2010-13, 2014-16,2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025
Treasurer

Property: Lee Walker, Convenor (2023-25)
Gerry Archibald, Bill Langley, Wade MacDonald, Gordon Ross (2010-12,2013-15,2016-20), 2021-23)2024
Gary Allen 2022-2024
Judy Morrison (2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025
Neil Pegg (2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025
David Campbell (2014-16,2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025

Personnel & Planning (comprised of only elders)
Ian Murray, Convenor 2020-22; 2023; 2024; Gerry Archibald, Marg Bingley, Alex Bruce, Wade MacDonald, Mary Pyche, Ricky Sloan, Clerk of Session

Nominating; Jamie Leck, Convenor (2024-2026}
Carol Stevenson, Isabelle Young
Scott Watson (2020-22); 2022-2024;
Donna Lee Laveck (2021-22) 2022-2025;
Kathy Kennedy 2024-26

Deaths:

Isabel Sarson January 6
Joyce Simard April 13

Roll of Professing Members:

During 2024, the following statistical changes have taken place in our Roll of Professing Members;

<u>Professing Members Received</u>	<u>Professing Members Removed</u>
By Profession of Faith: 3	By death: 2

Total Roll of Professing Members as of December 31, 2023: 193
Total Roll of Professing Members as of December 31, 2024: 194

Annual Review of the Kirk Session – 2024

The Kirk Session of St. Andrew's herewith submits a review for the year 2024. On the Third Sunday of Lent, March 3, St. Andrew's celebrated its 71st year as a community of faith in Dartmouth. The congregation was established on March 3, 1953, by The Presbytery of Halifax & Lunenburg. The church building was dedicated on January 22, 1956, and the addition was dedicated in September 1991. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated at this anniversary service. John Bartlett-Visser sang 2 solos, and after the service, a fellowship time and a pizza luncheon were enjoyed by many.

The Session was deeply saddened by the death of two of our retired elders, Isabel Sarson, on January 6 and Joyce Simard on April 13. Isabel became a professing member of St. Andrew's on March 27, 1991, and was inducted as an elder on April 30, 1995. The funeral was held in the church on January 13. Joyce was inducted as an elder on January 22, 1978, and served until 2000. She was a long-time member of the church choir. A reception was held in the Church Hall on July 7; a family graveside service was held. We give thanks to God for the witness given by Isabel Sarson and Joyce Simard.

The Session also bid farewell to Murdo MacKay in March; he moved to his homeland of Scotland. We are grateful for his service as an elder since October 2021. Barbara Cruickshank retired as an elder on September 16 and is now living in Ocean View Continuing Care. Thank you, Barb, for your faithful witness to the work of St. Andrew's Session.

The Session sought nominations for elders from the congregation in mid-January. Luke Campbell, Debbie Pegg and Darlene Cossaboom were elected. On March 24 the Ordination of Luke Campbell and Debbie Pegg as elders and the induction of them and Darlene Cossaboom as members of the Session took place. We give thanks for their willingness and commitment to serve the church as an elder.

The Session is grateful to our organist, Dr. Ken Cameron, who was faithfully at the organ every Sunday during 2024! Thanks Ken!

The Annual Meeting was held on February 25. Cheryl Weeks spoke about ministry in 2023. She expressed thanks to leaders of the various groups in the congregation and thanked those who served on the Committees of Session. Andrew Kennedy, Convenor of the Finance & Stewardship Committee, presented the 2023 financial reports and the proposed 2024 Operating Budget; both were accepted. Jamie Leck, Convenor of the Outreach Committee, presented the proposed Presbyterians Sharing Allocation of \$30,000 for 2024; it was adopted. Nancy Archibald and Erin Sloan gave testimonies. The minutes of the Annual Meeting are found on page 12.

An Ash Wednesday service was held in the Chancel and on YouTube on February 14 at 6:30 p.m. and also on Thursday, February 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the Chancel. A Maundy Thursday supper and service was held in the Hall. All brought their own supper and drinks were provided. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated. A Good Friday service was held with the people of Iona Church joining us for the service. The theme for the service was "The Seven Words from the Cross." Readers were Linda MacKinnon & Irene Rose, elders of Iona Church, Darlene Cossaboom, elder of St. Andrew's.

The Easter Day Sunrise Service was held at the entrance to the Brightwood Golf Course at 7 a.m. Breakfast was then held in the Hall. Each family group brought its picnic breakfast and drinks were provided. Porridge was available! The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated at the Sunrise Service as well as the 10:30 a.m. service.

2024 was indeed a year of transition for the congregation of St. Andrew's. On March 31, our minister, the Rev. Dr. P.A. (Sandy) McDonald conducted his last service after 56 years of ministry and on April 1, he officially retired. In August 1968, Sandy was appointed by the Board of Missions of The Presbyterian Church in Canada to serve St. Andrew's, as well as Iona Church, and Musquodoboit Harbour. When Iona called its own minister in 1975, he was called as the Minister of St. Andrew's and Musquodoboit Harbour in June 1976. He served Musquodoboit Harbour faithfully until 2011, when the congregation was amalgamated with St. Andrew's and the Musquodoboit Harbour church was sold. During the service on March 31, The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated, and he presided at the reception of 3 new members by Profession of Faith, Jessica Murray, Livia Barkhouse, his granddaughter, and his son-in-law, Mike Barkhouse. Jake Barkhouse & Luke Rogers, his grandsons, offered piano solos. John Bartlett-Visser sang 2 solos. The Clerk of Session, Cheryl Weeks, gave an address on behalf of the congregation in which she gave heartfelt thanks for Sandy's many gifts of ministry over the past 56 years.

After the service, a well-attended reception was held in the Church Hall. a testament to the impact of Sandy's ministry. During the reception, there were seven video messages received from former ministry students, four of whom were from Knox College that Sandy mentored and one presentation by a student attending. The congregation's retirement gift to Sandy, a painting of one of the stained glass windows in St. Andrew's Church, was a symbol of our deep respect and appreciation for his service; the artist was Guillermo Ortiz from Calvin Presbyterian Church, Toronto. The gift was presented to him by our Senior Elder, Wade MacDonald. Isabelle Young, one of our elders, presented a bouquet of roses and a gift of jewelry to Christine from the congregation. We are indebted to Sandy for his faithful leadership in all aspects of congregational life over the past 56 years. THANK YOU SANDY!

On Sunday, May 5, the Presbytery of Halifax & Lunenburg conducted a special service at St. Andrew's, Dartmouth, to give thanks for and recognize Sandy's ministry of 56 years at St. Andrew's. Many invited guests and the people of St. Andrew's congregation attended the service. The service was conducted by the Moderator of Presbytery, the Rev. Tom Summers, which included a Recognition of Service; the sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Iona MacLean and the Rev. Ian Ross-McDonald celebrated the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The Moderator of the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces, the Rev. Brad Blaikie, brought greetings and words of gratitude and the Rev. Don Muir, Deputy Clerk of the General Assembly, brought greetings from the General Assembly Office and gave thanks for Sandy's many years of dedicated service to The Presbyterian Church in Canada. A reception followed next door to the church at the Brightwood Golf & Country Club.

The Presbytery of Halifax & Lunenburg named the Rev. Calvin Burt as Interim Moderator of St. Andrew's. On April 7, he conducted the 10:30 a.m. service and declared the pulpit to be vacant. He also conducted the service on April 14. Mr. Burt notified the Session that Sunday Supply would be provided on a consistent basis by the Rev. Bert Vanderbeek. Rev. Vanderbeek is a retired minister of the Christian Reformed Church. The Session and the congregation welcomed the Rev. Bert Vanderbeek on April 21. The Session is grateful for his ministry to the people of our congregation during 2024.

On May 26, the Rev. Calvin Burt conducted the service and presided over a congregational meeting after the service. The purpose of the meeting was to seek permission from the congregation to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Portfolio in the amount of \$24,000 to fund the installation of heat pumps in the Sanctuary, front lobby and choir room and electric baseboard heaters in some other smaller areas; this will eliminate oil heating. The recommendation was adopted. The minutes of the congregational meeting are found on page 13.

Furthermore, the heat pumps were installed in the Sanctuary, front lobby, and choir room by mid-December. Before the installation, a new power pole in front of the church was erected and a 400-amp electrical panel was installed. Electric baseboards were installed in smaller areas and in the

Church Hall. Our gratitude goes to the Property Committee for arranging this work, and an extra thank you to its Convenor, Lee Walker, for his diligent oversight of our property.

On June 9, the Worship & Fellowship Committee arranged a lay service, and elders Ricky Sloan, Mary Pyche, and Cheryl Weeks participated. The Church School Closing was held during the service. Certificates were presented to the students by Livia Barkhouse and gratitude was expressed to the Church School Staff by Cassie Sloan. After the service, the congregational picnic, which included a potluck luncheon and hot dogs, was held in the hall.

On July 7, Calvin Burt led the service at which time he asked the congregation to reflect on what our faith community of St. Andrew's is seeking in a new minister. He advised that an email would go out from the Profile Committee in which there would be a link to an online survey and the Session hoped this would help inform the Profile Committee in its work. The Profile Committee is served by Darlene Cossaboom, the Convenor, Ricky Sloan, Andrew Kennedy, Nancy McNeil, and Luke Campbell. They have worked diligently to present a profile which tells our story and that of the community around us, our mission and ministry and many other facts about living together as a faith community. The people of the congregation were invited to engage with the Session in a visioning time for our congregation on Thursday, October 24, with the theme of "God calls us to be the church, what is God calling us to be as we move into the future?" The Session was pleased with the participation from the congregation. Prior to the visioning time, we gathered for pizza and drinks.

The completed profile will be approved by the Session in early 2025 and then it will be sent to The Presbyterian Church in Canada and available to any interested applicants.

On October 27, Helena Human, Camping & Youth Consultant for The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces, conducted the service.

Worship & Fellowship

The Worship & Fellowship Committee, beginning in May, did the preparation for Holy Communion. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated on the Day of Pentecost, May 19; on August 11, (lemonade was served in the front lobby after the service); on October 6, World Communion Sunday; on November 24, Reign of Christ Sunday, Rev. Dr. Cynthia Chenard conducted the service. On Presbyterians Sharing Sunday, September 29, a time of fellowship was held in the Hall; birthday cake was served to celebrate all those who had recent birthdays. The Chancel was decorated for Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday with many kinds of harvest; the produce was taken to Margaret's House. We were pleased to have the Rev. Whitney Canning conduct the service on September 15 and also on Christmas Eve with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Carols by Candlelight. The service was held at 6 p.m. on a snowy evening!

The Worship & Fellowship Committee planned for an Act of Remembrance on November 10. An invitation was sent to two legions in the community, inviting the veterans to join us for the 10:30 a.m. service. We were very pleased that some veterans were present; one of them read "In Flanders Field." Bill Langley, an elder, read the poem "They Shall Grow Not Old" and a wreath was laid by Cassie & Kaitlin Sloan. After the service, the veterans joined us for a time of fellowship and a potluck luncheon. The Committee planned for a service of "Lessons and Carols" on December 15 at which time the congregation sang many carols. An invitation was extended to the North Grove Community Resource Center to join us for that service and there was some uptake from the invitation. Folks were invited to expand our choir for this service. The Christmas Story was read by Lee Walker, Lesley Waugh, Ian Murray, and E. Margaret MacDonald. Our guest cellist, Catherine Little, provided 2 cello solos, "O come oh come, Emmanuel" and the Offertory, "Prelude: from Suite No. 1 by J.S. Bach. A piano and cello duet "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming" by C. Weeks & C. Little was offered. Food and fellowship were enjoyed in the Hall after the service; music was provided by Al & Bob Macdonald for a Christmas sing along.

The Worship & Fellowship Committee planned for a lay service on December 29; Ricky Sloan conducted the service, Mary Pyche gave the sermon, and Cheryl Weeks offered the Prayer of Thanksgiving and for others. E. Margaret MacDonald read the lessons. The Committee made plans to change the way in which the Offering was received. A table was placed on the back wall of the Sanctuary where folks can place their offering as they enter the Sanctuary. The gifts are brought forward after the Offertory. Cheryl Weeks conducted the service on December 22 because Bert Vanderbeek was ill.

On Easter Day, the second service, which was held at 8 a.m. and more recently at 9 a.m., was discontinued after several years.

We continued to livestream the 10:30 a.m. service on our YouTube Channel. There is an average of 12 households who join on Sunday and an additional several views during the week. Thank you to those faithful people who worship every Sunday with us online.

Outreach

The Outreach Committee arranged for a \$4,000 Ivan C. Currie Memorial Bursary from our bequest funds for a Dartmouth High School graduating student entering a post-secondary education program. The Bursary was awarded to a student who demonstrated involvement in the community and was viewed as financially deserving by the School. In 2024, the Bursary was awarded to Darryl Grund, who is now studying Environmental Science at The University of PEI.

The congregation continued to support Christ Church Food & Clothing Ministry in downtown Dartmouth. Every Sunday morning, donations were collected in a container in the front lobby as well as other individual donations were received totalling \$1,099.00. The food gifts for Christ Church were brought to the Table each week, and Jim & Kathy Kennedy delivered them to Christ Church. The Annual Christmas Project to Feed Nova Scotia was extremely successful in 2024 with a total of \$3,910.00 received. Sobeys doubled the amount of \$3,415.00. In a letter received by the congregation, the Executive Director reported that the highest total amount of food ever distributed by Feed Nova Scotia in a single month was in October 2024, with 300,000 kgs distributed. Our contribution made a difference!

Generous donations were made for Margaret's House, Camp Geddie, the Refugee Family Fund, Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D. Please check out the Specified Offerings in the financial section of the Annual Report to read about the generosity of our congregation to many ministries locally and within The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Further on in the Report, you will find stories about our Food Ministries and the Can Tab Project. The Committee appreciated the work of Darlene Cossaboom as Outreach Co-Ordinator. She will continue to be involved as a volunteer in this work.

Education

Church School classes were provided except in the summer. The Superintendents of the Church School are Meghan Pyche Melanson and Nancy McNeil. Several households subscribe to *These Days*, a daily devotional booklet. The publisher in Canada no longer prints *These Days*; however, we were fortunate to be able to receive the booklets from the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation of the Presbyterian Church USA in 2024; thanks to Jean Bartholomew for serving as the secretary. *Presbyterian Connection*: Our national office prepares and mails the newspaper 4 times a year to each household.

Property

The Property Committee continued to take great care of the church property. We are blessed to have a wonderful neighbour, Erik Grenier, who took care of many things related to the property during 2024, especially after our minister retired. He was given gift cards at Christmas to express our gratitude for his generosity. A new arrangement was made for the snow plowing and salting of the parking lot for the 2024-25 winter season with a company named Level Set Roofing. Ryland Landscaping did sidewalk snow removal and salting. *Nutrilawn* provided lawn care and mowing was done by Ryland Landscaping. Jerry Harding continued to be the church janitor. During the year, the Church Hall was rented to people in our community. A Duplicate Bridge group met three times a week, *New Beginnings*, an Al-anon group, met weekly on Mondays. A new group associated with

Al-anon met on Thursday mornings. A stitching group met bi-monthly, and Clan Donald held a Ceilidh in February. Elections Nova Scotia rented the Hall in November in order to have four polls for the provincial election.

Finance & Stewardship

The Session is indebted to the congregation for the financial support received for the congregational life, mission, and ministries of St. Andrew's. The Committee prepared a budget for 2024, having received input from the other committees of Session, which was approved at the Annual Meeting. The Session is grateful to Joyce Ross, Treasurer, for her commitment to her work and for carrying it out in an efficient manner. The Session appreciated the work done by the Receipts Secretary, Lesley Waugh, in recording her work efficiently and preparing the tax receipts. All financial statements are found at the end of the Annual Report.

Personnel & Planning

The Committee provided pastoral support and feedback to the minister. The Committee planned for the retirement celebration of our minister; the Session was grateful to the people of St. Andrew's for their generosity in supporting the ideas of the Committee for the retirement celebration.

The Committee prepared recommendations for the Session regarding nominations for elders on Session Committees and committee conveners. Thank you notes were written to many volunteers and our Organist. The Committee reviewed the nominations for elders and recommended the names to the Session. The Committee planned for people to take on responsibilities of some tasks after the minister retired, such as readers for Sunday, placing the Bible, elevator duty, and welcoming worshippers. The Committee sought individuals to give a testimony at the Annual Meeting.

Nominating

The Nominating Committee is responsible for bringing to the annual meeting a slate of persons other than elders to serve on the Session Committees, as well as nominations for a Treasurer and 2 auditors.

The Session appreciated those persons who read the lessons at the services, and a thank you to Cassie & Kaitlin Sloan for lighting the Christ Candle almost every Sunday! Thank you to those who participated in the reading of the Lenten and Advent liturgies from PWS&D and in lighting the Advent Candle.

The Session appreciated those persons who placed flowers or plants in memory of loved ones.

The Session acknowledges the commitment of many volunteers who served our congregation with faithfulness and integrity during the past year. Your support was appreciated during our transition. Thank you!

The Session sincerely wishes to offer its gratitude to the people of St. Andrew's for their support and commitment during 2024. We trust God's abundant grace and love will continue to bless our congregation in 2025.

Cheryl E. Weeks, Clerk of Session

Ladies' Guild

The St. Andrew's Church Ladies' Guild met monthly during 2024 with a summer break. We have 17 members in the Guild. Get Well, Sympathy and Congratulation cards were sent during the year to people in the congregation who were experiencing illness, bereavement, or some special milestone in their lives.

The Guild had a craft table in the front lobby and also in the Hall; many lovely items were available and purchased by folks associated with our congregation as well as those who visit our Hall. A Valentine's Coffee and Muffin Party was held on February 15. A very successful picnic lunch sale was held on June 8. The No Bake-Bake Sale was held again this year during November & December with much success. In November, clothing and toiletries were sorted, bagged and donated to Margaret's House. Treat bags were assembled and provided to the children of the Church School in December. We give thanks for the generosity of the people of St Andrew's and the community for the support shown to the Guild in 2024.

We welcome and encourage women in the Congregation to join us as it is an enjoyable time of fellowship while seeking to support St. Andrew's Church.

Officers:

President – Nancy Heighton

Corresponding Secretary – Nancy Archibald

Vice President – Nancy Archibald

Recording Secretary – Darlene Cossaboom

Treasurer – Isabelle Young

Darlene Cossaboom, Recording Secretary

Ladies' Guild Financial Statement

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Disbursements</u>	
Book sales & Coffee parties	375.15	Donations	825.00
Collections & Dues	60.50	Gifts	100.00
No-Bake Sale	1,093.00	Bank Charges	69.35
Donation Table	633.50	St. Andrew's Operating Fund	1,550.00
Picnic Lunch Sale	<u>1,020.00</u>	Picnic Lunch	270.87
Total	\$3,182.15	Postage & Cards	190.81
		Christmas candy & flowers	<u>61.81</u>
		Total	\$3,067.84
		Total receipts over disbursements	114.31
		Balance forward Dec. 31/23	<u>104.83</u>
		Balance, Dec. 31/24	\$219.14

Isabelle Young, Treasurer

St. Andrew's Auxiliary of the Atlantic Mission Society

In early February, a meeting was held at which Helena Human, the Camping & Youth Consultant of The Synod of the Atlantic Provinces, addressed the meeting.

The Auxiliary met in the Church Hall in March, at which time it participated in a World Day of Prayer Service online, using the TV in the Church Hall; the service was provided by the National Women's Inter-Church Council. At that meeting, a special committee was named to consider various

ways of carrying out the goals of the Atlantic Mission Society and of the Auxiliary. In late September, a meeting was held in the Church Sanctuary followed by a time of fellowship in the church lobby. The Iona Auxiliary and others in the congregation who wished to attend were present. The speaker, an Associate member of the Auxiliary, the Rev. Ian Ross-McDonald, General Secretary of the Life and Mission Agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada spoke on his recent trip to Malawi.

Chris McDonald, President

Atlantic Mission Society Treasurer's Report

<u>Mission Fund</u>		<u>Working Fund Income</u>	
Offerings for Mission	2,958.50	Balance Jan. 1, 2024	214.99
Dues	<u>160.00</u>	Offerings	<u>434.00</u>
Submitted to the Atlantic Mission Society	3,118.50	Total	648.99
		<u>Expenditures</u>	
		The Presbyterian	30.00
		Message	
		Women's Interchurch	100.00
		Council	
		Presbyterians Sharing	10.00
		Total	<u>140.00</u>
		Balance, Dec. 31/24	508.99

Bonnie McLellan, Treasurer

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry members meet on the 3rd Tuesday of most months at 1 pm in the church hall. During 2024 we have presented 15 shawls, with a Prayer of Blessing, to those in need of comfort and a warm hug. Since our beginning in 2005, we have presented 781 shawls. Members also knit toques, mittens and sox for the many Outreach missions in our community. We welcome new members, whether experienced or beginner knitters. Join us for a short meeting, coffee/tea, knitting and fellowship. Please keep this wonderful ministry in your prayers.

Marg Bingley, Secretary
Jean Bartholomew, President

Prayer Shawl Ministry Financial Statement

Donations	280.00
Purchase of yarn	<u>(241.04)</u>
	38.96
Balance December 31/23	<u>663.81</u>
Balance December 31/24	702.77

Church School

Provision was made to have a Junior class using some of the older "Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum which was discontinued a couple of years ago. The teacher for this class was Livia Barkhouse with the Church School Superintendents filling in when necessary. The Superintendents are Nancy McNeil and Meghan Pyche Melanson.

Youth Group

Leadership in 2024: Megan Douglas, Livia Barkhouse, Luke Campbell, P.A. McDonald(until March). There were 5 members. The Group held a Pancake Breakfast in March for the ministry supported by The Presbyterian Church in Canada called Transform Lives, which serves refugees, sex workers, victims of human trafficking, people living with disabilities and those struggling with mental health and addiction issues. The Breakfast raised \$520. Thank you! The Group decorated the sanctuary in December for Christmas. and enjoyed pizza and fellowship. The Group sold many copies of the 2025 Presbyterian Church Calendar.

Youth Group Financial Report

<u>Revenue</u>		41.00	
Calendar Sales	-	<u>520.00</u>	
Mission Breakfast		561.00	561.00
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Calendar purchase		102.00	
Mission Breakfast		<u>520.00</u>	
		652.00	652.00
Expenditures over Revenues			(61.00)
Balance December 31, 2023			777.32
Balance December 31, 2024			716.32

Kilted Choir

The Kilted Choir sang at the Clan Donald Ceilidh in February in the Hall.

Kilted Choir Financial Statement

Balance December 31, 2024 475.46

Senior Choir

The choir was present at each service to help the congregation offer its praise. David Campbell sang 3 solos.

St. Andrew's Senior Choir Financial Statement

Balance December 31, 2024 389.22

Can Tab Project

The Can Tab project began in 2002 as part of St. Andrews's 50th anniversary celebration. The tabs are collected in support of wheelchairs for those in need. Initially, the program was conducted through Summer Street Industries in New Glasgow and, more recently, by the local Kinsman Club. To date, we have collected approximately 3.8 million tabs, which have contributed to the purchase of more than 24 wheelchairs. If the tabs were laid end to end they would stretch from the front door of the church to the Hwy. 104 on the ramp outside Truro. Many thanks to all who contribute to this project.

Wade MacDonald, Project Co-Ordinator

Margaret's House, Dartmouth

For approximately 40 years, St. Andrew's has supplied food to Margaret's House (F.O.O.D. – Feeding Others of Dartmouth).

In years past, Margaret's House would feed 2,000 clients a month. In August 2024, they served a staggering 4,995 meals. Margaret's House cannot possibly serve this number of sit-down meals; serving boxed lunches is their only alternative.

St. Andrew's has three teams of ten volunteers each, supplying lunch the last Wednesday of each month from January to November. The food is dropped off at the church and then delivered. In 2024, sandwiches, fruit juice and water, and individually wrapped items such as fruit cups, fruit, pudding cups, granola bars, etc., were delivered each month. Enough food to fill 100 boxed lunches!

In December, the volunteers make monetary donations instead of supplying food. In 2024, some of our volunteers cooked and sliced turkeys supplied by Margaret's House for their client's Christmas dinner. The money raised through volunteer donations and those donations received through the offering were spent on the coordinator's "Wish List". This year we were able to supply 5,700 microwaveable and reusable containers for soups and hot meals. 800 bottles of water were supplied during the summer.

As the numbers of those requiring the support of Margaret's House keep rising, new volunteers able to help in this ministry are always appreciated.

Joyce Ross, Co-Ordinator

Hope Cottage Ministry

As time goes by, so does the ministry of our congregation with Hope Cottage. We have been providing a meal once a month for the past 37 years (1988) to those who need and appreciate a little assistance. Hope Cottage is a self-sufficient organization which appreciates assistance from other sources.

We are very grateful to the eighteen households who participate in this very worthy cause and would be delighted to have new volunteers join us. The group is divided into three groups which rotate by making stew one month, next bringing fruit and lastly margarine.

The food is dropped off at the church on the second Wednesday of each month. Then organized, heated and delivered and served by us to the Hope Cottage clients in Halifax. This part is done by our co-ordinators, Lee & Naomi Walker (1988) and Jim & Kathy Kennedy (2016), who share the task for six months each. June Yetman of our congregation also coordinated this program for a number of years.

Over the years, we have served up to 120 - 150 clients, but since COVID and other locations offering the same service, we are now in the eighty range. This is a very satisfying cause with many grateful participants. A large thank you to all the families who participated in this worthy cause.

Jim & Kathy Kennedy and Lee & Naomi Walker

Minutes of Annual Meeting, February 25, 2024

The Annual Meeting of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Dartmouth, N.S was held on Sunday, February 25, 2024 during the 10:30 a.m. service.

Cheryl Weeks, Clerk of Session, gave a summary of the congregational life during 2023. In March St. Andrew's celebrated its 70th anniversary as a congregation. During this celebration, we recognized, and our minister gave a tribute to our longest-standing elder, Ivan Currie, who passed away in June 2020. In that service, Ian Murray, the convener of the Personal and Planning Committee, made the announcement that the Session renamed the Dartmouth High School Bursary to the Ivan C Currie Memorial Bursary in Mr. Currie's honour.

The Clerk noted that the session was deeply saddened last year by the passing of one of our elders, Sadie Hurst, on January 26. Sadie was a charter member of St. Andrew's and an elder for many years. She served as the church school superintendent for 30 years and a member of the Ladies' Guild for 5 decades. In June the session was delighted that one of our elders, Whitney Canning, was ordained by the Presbytery of Halifax and Lunenburg as a minister in the word and sacrament in the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and the service of ordination was held in this building.

The Clerk noted that we seemed to find a balance between worship, work and witness during 2023 after having experienced many challenges that arose because of COVID-19. We resumed many things we were doing in our services and our fellowship prior to the pandemic, and it seemed most of the challenges were behind us. On behalf of the session, she expressed thanks to all of those who donated time and skill to the life of this congregation. The Clerk noted that Sandy is moderating his 56th annual meeting of this congregation, and it will be his final one. On behalf of the Session and the congregation, she extended deep gratitude for his commitment and devotion to all aspects of congregational life in 2023. We are indebted to him for his leadership and inspiration. She also expressed thanks to Chris McDonald for her devotion to the people of St. Andrews, indicating that no task is too big for her.

The Clerk brought forward two recommendations found on page 7 of the Report. (1) Ivan C Currie Bursary—this is the 12th year that we will be giving this bursary. Cheryl Weeks moved that a grant amount of \$4000 from the Mission, Outreach and Benevolence Fund be withdrawn for the purpose of the Ivan C. Currie Bursary. David Campbell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (2) Cheryl Weeks moved that the action of the Session in making the disbursements from the Legacy for Growth Fund in 2022 be sustained, seconded by Ricky Sloan. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Cheryl Weeks, seconded by Ross Barkhouse, that pages 1-14 of the Annual Report 2023 be accepted as printed. Motion adopted.

A motion by Andrew Kennedy and seconded by Ian Murray that the Auditor's Report of 2023 and the financial reports on pages 18-19 be accepted as printed. Motion adopted. Andrew also extended thanks to Joyce Ross, Treasurer.

Presbyterian Sharing Allocation

On motion, Jamie Leck/Wade MacDonald, the Presbyterian Sharing allocation of \$30,000 for 2024 was adopted.

Andrew Kennedy presented the proposed 2025 Operating Budget. On motion Andrew Kennedy/Donna-Lee Laveck, the 2024 Operating Budget was adopted.

Nominating Committee On a motion Isabelle Young/Jim Kennedy, the following persons were named to the committees of Session for the period named: Property: 1 year: Gordon Ross; Education: 3 years: Heather Barkhouse, Lisa Glennie; Outreach: 3 years: A.J. Macdonald; Nominating: 3 years: Kathy Kennedy, Treasurer: Joyce Ross; Auditors: Susan Osborne, Russell Trimper. Motion adopted.

During the service, Erin Sloan and Nancy Archibald gave a testimony.

Recognition of Elders leaving – The minister made an expression of appreciation to Michael Laveck, Jim Russell and Linda Russell for their work and witness during their time as members of the Session.

The minister acknowledged the work of the Session Clerk, Cheryl Weeks.

The Rev. P.A. (Sandy) McDonald closed the meeting with prayer.

Erin Sloan, Secretary

Minutes of Congregational Meeting held on May 26, 2024

The Interim Moderator, Calvin Burt, opened the meeting with prayer.

The Property Committee investigated the idea of changing our heating system from oil to heat pumps and electric baseboard heating. Five heat pumps will be installed in the sanctuary, as well as the front lobby and choir room. Smaller rooms will be heated with electric baseboards. The new 400 amp electrical service and panel will be created in the existing furnace room.

Efficiency Nova Scotia will provide rebates for this work, covering 80% of the project. St. Andrew's will fund 20%, and the cost will be approximately \$24,000.

On behalf of the Property Committee, Wade MacDonald presented the information to the congregation. Some good discussions took place.

Recommendation #1 That \$24,000 be withdrawn from our Consolidated Portfolio of The Presbyterian Church in Canada to fund the project to change our heating system from oil to heat pumps and electric baseboard heating. On motion by Wade MacDonald and seconded by David Campbell, it was agreed to withdraw \$24,000 from our Consolidated Portfolio to fund the project. Adopted.

With the business being completed, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Gerry Archibald.

Calvin Burt closed with prayer.

Cheryl Weeks, Secretary

Specified Offerings - 2024

		2024	2023
Presbyterians Sharing (National Church) Envelopes & PAR		29,642.00	34,343.00
	30% of Loose Offering	474.18	1,045.70
		30,116.18	35,388.70
Presbyterian World Service & Development (Envelopes, PAR & Planned Giving)		13,800.00	16,960.50
Presbyterian World Service & Development - Special Projects:			
	Misango Primary School Project - Malawi	250.00	0.00
	Leprosy Mission - Jumla Clinic Nepal	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Gifts of Change		1,200.00
	Covid Relief - Malawi		60.00
Camp Geddie		6,475.00	7,680.50
Refugee Family Fund		104.00	106.00
Christ Church Food & Clothing Ministry (Sunday a.m. donations)		1,049.00	920.00
Christ Church Food & Clothing Ministry (other donations)		50.00	675.00
F.O.O.D. (Feeding Others Of Dartmouth - food supplies)		540.00	560.00
Feed Nova Scotia			1,000.00
Christmas Project 2024 - FEED Nova Scotia		3,910.00	3,195.00
Margaret`s House		2,270.00	2,250.00
The Presbyterian College, Montreal		1,500.00	1,500.00
For Mission Through Internal Groups			
Atlantic Mission Society		120.00	1,200.00
Prayer Shawl Ministry		280.00	165.00
		61,964.18	74,360.70

Summary of Investment Funds				
<u>John and Vivia Stewart Mission Fund</u>				
Beginning Balance January 1, 2024				23,574.15
Income Earned				5,610.97
Disbursements				
Camp Geddie			2,500.00	
Presbyterian Church in Canada - Indigenous Ministries			8,500.00	
D. Cossaboom - Salary			777.15	
	Total Disbursements		11,777.15	-11,777.15
Total John & Vivia Stewart Mission Fund as of December 31, 2024				17,407.97
<u>St. Andrew's Legacy For Growth Fund</u>				
<u>Capital Expenditure for Facilities & Improvements</u>				
Beginning Balance January 1, 2024				375,736.41
Income Earned				103,000.19
Total Capital Expenditure for Facilities & Improvements as of December 31, 2024				478,736.60
<u>Mission Outreach & Benevolence</u>				
Beginning Balance January 1, 2024				234,326.17
Income Earned				64,132.30
Disbursements				
Ivan C. Currie Bursary			4,000.00	
	Total Disbursements			-4,000.00
Total Mission, Outreach & Benevolence as of December 31, 2024				294,458.47
Total St. Andrew's Legacy for Growth Fund as of December 31, 2024				773,195.07
<u>Musquodoboit Harbour</u>				
Beginning Balance January 1, 2024				1,660.79
Income Earned				469.89
Total Musquodoboit Harbour as of December 31, 2024				2,130.68
<u>Estate of Jean Cameron</u>				
Beginning Balance January 1, 2024				3,044.09
Income Loss				738.69
Total Estate of Jean Cameron as of December 31, 2024				3,782.78
<u>Invested Trust Funds</u> (interest only may be used)				
M.I. Reeves			3,000.00	
Calvin Hunter			1,000.00	
				4,000.00

Income & Expense statement ending December 31, 2024 & 2025 Proposed Budget

					2023	2024	2024	2025
					<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
INCOME								
	Offering							
	Operating Fund - Envelopes & PAR				147,474.00	135,000.00	115,757.00	130,000.00
	Operating Fund -Loose				1,903.30	1,500.00	1,322.52	750.00
	Operating Fund - Memorials				1,641.00	-	1,585.00	
	Subtotal Offering				151,018.30	136,500.00	118,664.52	130,750.00
	Interest Income				1,226.41	1,000.00	2,059.21	2,500.00
	Church Hall Use				14,290.00	15,500.00	13,420.30	14,000.00
	Other Income				3,721.67	3,000.00	2,550.00	3,000.00
	TOTAL INCOME				170,256.38	156,000.00	136,694.03	150,250.00
EXPENSES								
	PERSONNEL & PLANNING							
	Stipend				68,715.00	19,200.00	19,199.47	35,000.00
	Housing Allowance				25,000.00	6,250.00	6,249.99	18,000.00
	Discretionary Allowance				400.00	400.00	200.00	400.00
	Utilities				5,734.87	1,450.00	2,230.91	4,000.00
	Health Plan				4,918.00	3,870.00	5,164.00	2,840.00
	EI				1,403.47	550.00	546.81	845.00
	CPP							2,083.00
	Interim Moderator					3,960.00	3,030.60	5,000.00
	Vacancy Expenses					7,500.00	151.36	7,500.00
	Study Leave				-	1,000.00	-	600.00
	Book Allowance				-	200.00	-	200.00
	Pulpit Supply				450.00	11,500.00	9,856.00	6,000.00
	Organist				8,480.00	8,500.00	8,580.00	8,580.00
	Organ Music				-	200.00	-	200.00
	Church Website				16.12	20.00	19.54	20.00
	Leading With Care				-	500.00	-	-
	Music Leadership				-	2,500.00	-	2,500.00
	Subtotal Personnel & Planning				115,117.46	67,600.00	55,228.68	93,768.00
	OUTREACH COMMITTEE							
	Emergency Aid				-	400.00	200.00	400.00
	Publicity				-			
	Subtotal Outreach Committee				-	400.00	200.00	400.00
	EDUCATION COMMITTEE							
	Church School Program				-	200.00	-	200.00
	Conferences					-	250.00	-
	Elder Supplies & Education				-	100.00	157.90	100.00
	Subscriptions				117.35	100.00	52.41	100.00
	Subtotal Education Committee				117.35	400.00	460.31	400.00

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE								
	Offering Envelopes			50.00			50.00	
	Miscellaneous Finance	117.33		50.00		-	50.00	
	Subtotal Finance & Stewardship	117.33		100.00		-	100.00	
WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE								
	Church Services	1,310.99		1,510.00		1,328.98	1,510.00	
	Fellowship	151.06		355.00		351.33	355.00	
	Musicians	470.00		500.00		150.00	500.00	
	Subtotal Worship & Fellowship	1,932.05		2,365.00		1,830.31	2,365.00	
PROPERTY COMMITTEE								
	Church Utilities	16,416.88		20,500.00		13,417.33	17,500.00	
	Janitorial Services	210.00		3,000.00		2,172.85	3,500.00	
	Taxes	291.39		300.00		275.56	300.00	
	Maintenance - Recurring	5,772.48		6,612.00		8,118.00	20,250.00	
	Miscellaneous Property	6,597.51		5,000.00		3,678.54	5,000.00	
	Subtotal Property Committee	29,288.26		35,412.00		27,662.28	46,550.00	
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION								
	Photocopier	1,089.61		1,180.00		918.31	-	
	Secretarial Supplies	371.08		500.00		281.17	650.00	
	Postage	86.67		100.00		197.80	100.00	
	Bank Charges	745.05		780.00		836.19	710.00	
	Presbytery Dues	1,582.58		2,200.00		2,227.25	1,850.00	
	Synod Dues	3,165.16		3,500.00		3,512.20	3,000.00	
	National Church Pension Assessment	6,330.36		6,850.00		6,853.08	8,300.00	
	Insurance	6,948.00		7,000.00		7,004.00	8,000.00	
	Miscellaneous Administration	99.59		200.00		790.82	500.00	
	Printer					378.36	-	
	Subtotal Administration	20,418.10		22,310.00		22,999.18	23,110.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES		166,990.55		128,587.00		108,380.76	166,693.00	
Excess Expenses over Income		3,265.83		27,413.00		28,313.27	(16,443.00)	


St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet - December 31, 2024

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash on hand		15,187.28
Investments		
GIC	40,000.00	
Scotiabank Right Size Business Account	42,261.98	
PCC Building Corporation	22,300.00	
PCC Consolidated Fund	<u>769,743.25</u>	
Total Investments		874,305.23
Tax Rebate Receivable		782.08
Interest Receivable		269.42
Accounts Receivable		275.00
Prepaid Maintenance		<u>1,623.70</u>
Total Current Assets		892,442.71
FIXED ASSETS		
Land & Buildings	723,000.00	
Church Furnishings	<u>145,537.50</u>	
Total Fixed Assets		868,537.50
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>1,760,980.21</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	2,239.84	
Youth Group	716.32	
Paraments	67.98	
Prayer Shawl Ministry	702.77	
Kilted Choir	475.46	
St. Andrew's Choir	389.22	
Memorial Fund	<u>787.01</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		5,378.60
CONGREGATIONAL EQUITY		
Retained Earnings		
Balance Forward 2023	14,934.34	
2024 Surplus	<u>28,313.27</u>	
TOTAL RETAINED EARNINGS		43,247.61
Manse Sale Funds		43,300.00
Trust & Bequest Funds		800,516.50
Buildings & Furnishings		868,537.50
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		<u><u>1,760,980.21</u></u>

We have completed a review of the financial records of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for the year ended December 31, 2024. We confirm the prepared Financial statements represent an accurate picture of the financial position of the Church as of December 31, 2024.



Russell Trimper



Susan Osborne

Footnote 1. The PCC Consolidated Fund figure is based on the 3rd quarter financial statements received from PCC. A further adjustment will be made in 2025 after the annual statement is received from PCC