

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DARTMOUTH, N.S.



**ANNUAL REPORT
2025**

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 2025

www.standrewspcc.ca

216 School Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 2Y4

902-469-4480

Minister: Rev. Krishna Rao Durbha

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Robert A.B. MacLean

MISSION STATEMENT

To nurture faith and fellowship within our congregation, extend our love and service beyond our walls, share God's grace with the Dartmouth community, and grow together in Christ.

Kirk Session

Year of Induction

J. Wade MacDonald	('78)
Gerald Archibald	('79)
Kathy Sloan	('88)
Alex Bruce	('91)
John Bartlett-Visser	('98)
Margaret Bingley	('98)
Ian Murray	('02)
Carol Stevenson	('02)
Andrew Kennedy	('10)
William Langley	('10)
Mary Pyche	('10)
Richard Sloan	('10)
James Leck	('13)
Isabelle Young (died November 18)	('13)
Ross Barkhouse	('21)
Megan Douglas	('21)
Nancy Heighton	('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 (retired September/25)

Nursery Co-Ordinator: Heather Barkhouse

Bulletin Secretary: Erin Sloan

Church Treasurer: Joyce Ross

Offering Receipts Secretary: Lesley Waugh

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 (2025); Ross Barkhouse,(till Apr. 1) Marg Bingley, Darlene Cossaboom Nancy Heighton, Isabelle Young,(till Nov. 18) Cheryl Weeks Erin Sloan (2013-15, 2016-18, 2019-21); 2022-2024; 2025-26; Jean St-Pierre (2014-16,2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025; June Stone (2017-19, 2020-22); 2023-2025; Jocelyn Wiggin 2022-2025

Outreach & Education: Ricky Sloan, Convenor, 2022-2025; Alex Bruce, Luke Campbell, Jamie Leck, Carol Stevenson, Darlene Cossaboom, Megan Douglas, Debbie Pegg, John Bartlett-Visser, Nancy McNeil Dawn Hemsworth (2010-12, 2013-15, 2016-18,2019-21); 2022-2024; 2025 Richard Mabbett: (2016-18) (2019-2021); 2023-2025 Kathy Kennedy: 2025 AJ Macdonald 2021-2023; 2024-26 Lisa Glennie (2018-20);2021-2023; 2024-26 Heather Barkhouse (2010-12,2013-15,2016-19, 2020);2021-2023; 2024-26 Church School Superintendents

Finance & Stewardship: Andrew Kennedy, Convenor 2022-2025; Ian Murray, Kathy Sloan) Lorena MacDonald (2010-13, 2014-16,2017-19, 2020-22); 2022-2025 Lesley Waugh: 2025; Lisa Glennie: 2025 Gordon Ross: 2025-2026 Treasurer

Property: Ross Barkhouse, Convenor 2025 Gerry Archibald, Bill Langley, Wade MacDonald, Lee Walker 2023-25 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 Jocelyn Wiggin: 2025 Mike Barkhouse (2022- 24); 2025-27

Personnel & Planning (comprised of only elders) Ian Murray, Convenor 2020-22; 2023; 2024;2025 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(till Nov. 18) Scott Watson (2020-22); 2022-2024; Donna Lee Laveck (2021-22) 2022-2025; Kathy Kennedy 2024-26

Deaths:

James Russell January 20
Isabelle Young November 18

Roll of Professing Members:

During 2025, the following statistical changes have taken place in our Roll of Professing Members;

Professing Members Removed
By death: 2

Total Roll of Professing Members as of December 31, 2024: 194
Total Roll of Professing Members as of December 31, 2025: 192

Annual Review of the Kirk Session – 2025

The Kirk Session of St. Andrew's hereby submits its review for 2025. 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. On Transfiguration Sunday, March 2, 2025 St. Andrew's celebrated its 72nd year as a community of faith in Dartmouth. During the same service, the Annual Meeting was held. Rev. Calvin Burt, Interim Moderator for St. Andrew's, conducted the service; Mary Pyche offered the Prayer of Thanksgiving and for others. Cheryl Weeks, Clerk of Session, spoke about congregational life during 2024. Andrew Kennedy, Convener of Finance & Stewardship, presented the 2024 financial statements and the proposed 2025 budget. Ricky Sloan, Convener of the Outreach Committee, presented the proposed allocation of \$30,000 to Presbyterians Sharing and the recommendation to withdraw \$ 4,000 from the Mission, Outreach, & Benevolence category of our Legacy for Growth Fund for the Ivan C. Currie Bursary, awarded to a graduate student of Dartmouth High School. Luke Campbell gave a testimony. Jamie Leck, Convener of the Nominating Committee, presented the list of nominations for Session Committees. A potluck luncheon was held in the Hall.

The Session was deeply saddened by the death of two of our elders, James Russell, on January 20 and Isabelle Young on November 18. Jim became a professing member on April 20, 2003 and was inducted into the Kirk Session in June 2010. Jim was an active member of the Finance & Stewardship Committee for several years. The funeral was held in the church on February 1. Isabelle had a long association with our congregation and was inducted into the Kirk Session in November 2013. She was active in the AMS and was Treasurer of the Ladies' Guild for 21 years. The funeral was held in the church on November 29. We give thanks to God for the witness given by James Russell and Isabelle Young.

The Session is grateful to our organist, Dr. Ken Cameron, who was faithfully at the organ every Sunday in 2025. Thank you, Ken!

We were grateful to the Rev. Bert Vanderbeek, who continued to provide Sunday Supply consistently during our vacancy until August 31, when the congregation recognized and gave thanks to Bert Vanderbeek for his ministry among us for 17 months! A fellowship event, with cake and ice cream, was held in the Church Hall. We were pleased to have other guest preachers during the year: Rev. Dr. Cynthia J. Chenard on January 26; the Rev. Dr. Iona MacLean on February 23 and March 30; the Rev. Whitney Canning conducted the Maundy Thursday service as well as the service on June 29; the Rev. Kenn Stright on May 25 and August 24; Brett Meyer, a member of the PWS&D national committee on October 26; the Rev. Calvin Burt conducted services on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday and on July 20. Members of the Atlantic Mission Society conducted the service on Mission Awareness Sunday, April 27.

The Session appointed a Search Committee in early 2025. Those named to the Committee were Wade MacDonald, Alex Bruce, Jamie Leck, Ian Murray, Ross Barkhouse, Megan Douglas (elders), Naomi Walker, Erin Sloan and Cheryl Weeks, in capacity as Clerk of Session. The first meeting of the Committee was held on March 5 at which time Erin Sloan was named the Convener. Calvin Burt, Interim Moderator, led the Committee through a discussion of the document "Calling a Minister" which is a resource of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. It was determined that applications be received confidentially and that interviews would be held on ZOOM, if required. The May 16 deadline for applications was set. The Congregational Profile was forwarded to the national church and lodged on its website in mid-March. After May 16, the Committee held meetings to review applications and to interview potential candidates. At the Session meeting held on July 9, the Search Committee presented to the Session the name of Krishna Durbha to be invited to preach for the Call to St. Andrew's. The motion was passed unanimously. The Session decided to invite Mr. Durbha to preach

for the Call on July 25. He and his family spent the weekend in Dartmouth, met with the Session and had an opportunity to meet the congregation at an informal gathering. After the service on July 25, a congregational meeting was held. The professing members voted by ballot to determine if they were ready to proceed. The ballot results indicated that the members were ready to proceed. It was moved by Wade MacDonald and seconded by Gerry Archibald that the congregation proceed with the Call. The motion was adopted. C. Burt read the terms of the Call to the congregation and inserted the name of Krishna Durbha into the Call. The professing members voted by ballot on whether to extend the Call to Krishna Durbha. The vote determined a positive outcome. On that day, 52 professing members signed the Call, and 10 adherents supported the Call. After that Sunday, the elders reached out to their districts and contacted many of their people to seek their support of the Call. In the end, 130 professing members supported the Call, either by signing their names or asking the elder to sign on their behalf. We also had 30 adherents support the Call. The Call was presented to the Presbytery of Halifax & Lunenburg at a Zoom meeting on August 9, 2025. Two of our elders, Alex Bruce & Ian Murray, attended the Presbytery meeting and spoke in favour of the Call. The Presbytery was pleased with the Call and adopted the motion to receive the Call and send it to Krishna, in care of the Presbytery of Westminster, British Columbia. Obviously, Krishna accepted the Call! His first service at St. Andrew's was on September 7. A service of Word and Sacrament was held on September 28 at which time he was inducted by the Presbytery of Halifax & Lunenburg as the Minister of St. Andrew's. We warmly welcome Krishna, Neena and Kairos to our congregation and may God continue to bless them

Church Hall Use: The Church Hall is a hub of activity most weeks. There is a group of Bridge card players who gather every Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon. There is an AI-Anon group, *New Beginnings*, that meets every Monday morning and has been meeting in our Hall for 23 years. Another AI-Anon group meets every Thursday morning. Once a month, on the last Thursday, a group known as ACORN meets. It is a group of low and moderate income people that campaigns on issues important to its membership, such as affordable rents. A craft group usually meets twice a month on Saturdays. Clan Donald Ceilidh was held on March 13. On October 24 & 25, the Presbyterian World Service & Development Fall Committee Meeting was held in our Hall. This is the first time that the Committee met in our area, and we were delighted to host them. Thanks to Joyce Ross & Darlene Cossaboom for helping with the kitchen duties!

Worship & Fellowship – Mary Pyche, Convener

The Worship and Fellowship Committee met twice formally since our last AGM and has been busy and active in the life of St Andrew's.

The Worship and Fellowship Committee ensures there are readers and door greeters each Sunday, has sub-committees that prepare the elements and clean up after each Communion service, and prepares and supports the fellowship events. The Lord's Supper was celebrated on February 16, Maundy Thursday, Easter Day, June 8, October 5 and November 23 as well as Christmas Eve. Lemonade was served in the lobby after church in July, and there were potlucks and coffee times over the course of the year. On Pentecost Sunday, we held a Congregational Picnic; hot dogs & drinks were served and folks brought an item for a potluck luncheon. Regular coffee and fellowship times after service will be organized going forward, and we are preparing for this by orienting additional volunteers to help with preparation and clean up. The plan is to return to once a month "Birthday Sundays" as well. The Committee is pleased to be assisting in this fellowship aspect of our worship at St Andrew's. Our 2025 Lenten and Easter season was an active time in the life of our congregational worship with an Ash Wednesday Service, a Maundy Thursday supper in the Church Hall, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday services.

One worship initiative that we are particularly delighted with is the ongoing collaboration with the Outreach Committee this year, as we did last year. For our Service of Remembrance on Sunday, November 9, we sent a joint invitation from the Worship and Outreach Committees to the two local legions to join us in recognizing and thanking the veterans, and we held a fellowship time after the service. At Christmas, we invited North Grove Community Centre in Dartmouth North to join us for

the Lessons and Carol Service on December 21, followed by a fellowship and sing-along with musicians, Al & Bob Macdonald, in the church hall after the service. We were grateful for the special choir that came together to enhance our Sunday worship during the Carols and Lessons Service. We were also delighted to have guest cellist Catherine Little. We were also delighted to have Kaitlin Sloan play "Ode to Joy" on the violin. On Christmas Eve, Scott Hughes was the soloist. We value the gifts of music that add to our worship. We also welcomed North Grove to our Christmas Eve service. This worship outreach to our local community is an initiative with the grace of God that expresses our care for our geographic neighbours. We continued to livestream the 10:30 a.m. service on our YouTube Channel. On average, 12 households join on Sunday, and several additional views occur during the week. Thank you to the faithful people who worship with us every Sunday on YouTube. Thanks to Ross Barkhouse, Luke Campbell and Erin Sloan for operating the audio and the livestreaming. As a committee, we look forward to the year of worship and fellowship ahead.

Outreach & Education – Ricky Sloan, Convener

The Outreach & Christian Education Committees were amalgamated to form a new committee, Outreach & Education.

The Outreach & Education 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 community involvement and was deemed financially deserving by the school. In 2025, the Bursary was awarded to Madisyn Seward.

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 \$901.30. Various kinds of items, e.g. canned goods, soap, and Kleenex, were donated by parishioners for Christ Church each Sunday. They were brought to the Table during the Offering, and Jim & Kathy Kennedy delivered them. White Gifts Sunday was on December 21; gifts were taken to Christ Church Food Ministry.

The Annual Christmas Project to Feed Nova Scotia was extremely successful in 2025 with a total of \$3,365.00 received. Feed Nova Scotia continues to provide food support to 140 member agencies. 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 Stewart Mission Fund was established in 2013 in loving memory of John & Vivia Stewart, by their daughter Margaret Craig. The intention of the Fund was to augment the mission and outreach of St. Andrew's, as well as the education of youth and Indigenous Ministries of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Fund was not to continue indefinitely but to be disbursed over a period of 10 years. The Fund was lodged with the Consolidated Fund of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

In 2025, the Fund was fully disbursed. The Committee, with the help of Darlene Cossaboom, prepared a chart which showed the many ministries that received help from the Fund. The initial investment in the Fund was \$25,000, and in 2017, an additional \$70,000 donation from the Stewart family was received. By the end of 2025, with interest earned, the chart showed that \$143,350 was given to many ministries. We are indeed grateful for the Stewart family's generosity.

Education

Church School classes were provided except in the summer. The Superintendents of the Church School were Meghan Pyche Melanson and Nancy McNeil. Meghan retired in September; the Session is grateful for her leadership and commitment to the role of Church School Superintendent for several years. The Education Committee is grateful to Livia Barkhouse for her role as a Church School teacher. During 4 weeks in November, Neena Durbha, as part of her journey towards her Master of Divinity degree, conducted a 4-week Bible Study on the Book of Psalms; several persons attended.

Several households subscribe to *These Days*, a daily devotional booklet from Presbyterian Publishing Corporation of the Presbyterian Church USA. *Presbyterian Connection*: Our national office prepares and mails the newspaper 4 times a year to each household.

Property – Ross Barkhouse, Convener

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 2025, especially before September 1. He was given an honorarium at Christmas to express our gratitude for his generosity. Level Set Roofing provided the snow plowing and salting of the parking lot. 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. The Committee undertook renovations to the Minister's Study, which included office furniture. This project was funded from the Capital Expenditures of our Legacy for Growth Fund.

The committee, along with help from members of the congregation, cleaned the two small rooms at the bottom of the stairs.

Finance & Stewardship – Andrew Kennedy, Convener

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 2025, 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 efficiently. 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 – Ian Murray, Convener

The Committee supported the Session Clerk, Interim Moderator, and congregation through the remaining months of the pulpit vacancy in the first seven months of 2025 and assisted with the operational orientation and onboarding of Rev. Durbha upon his arrival. Following his induction, the Committee continued to provide advice, constructive feedback, and pastoral support to ensure his successful entry into congregational life at St. Andrew's. Rev. Durbha, in turn, kept the Committee informed of his activities and ideas as he settled into the role.

During the vacancy, the Committee coordinated interim coverage for several responsibilities previously undertaken by the former Minister. These tasks included arranging readers for Sunday services, preparing the Bible placement, coordinating elevator guides, welcoming worshippers, and identifying individuals to offer testimony at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee also fulfilled its responsibility to recommend elders to the Session for Committee appointments and for service as Convenors where required.

Finally, the Committee carried out regular due-diligence reviews of the activities and initiatives of church committees, staff, and officers to ensure that the congregation's operational and organizational needs were met in a safe, accountable, and timely manner.

Nominating – Jamie Leck, Convener

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 and for the Trustees every 3 years.

The Session appreciated those persons who read the lessons at the services, welcomed persons at the door, placed the Bible each Sunday, and a big thanks 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 during our transition was greatly appreciated. Thank you!

The Session sincerely wishes to offer its gratitude to the people of St. Andrew's for their support and commitment during 2025. We trust God's abundant grace and love will continue to bless our congregation in 2026.

Cheryl E. Weeks, Clerk of Session

Ladies' Guild

The St Andrew's Church Ladies' Guild met monthly during 2025 with a summer break. We have 17 members in the Guild.

Get Well, sympathy and congratulation cards were sent during the year to congregation members who were experiencing illness, bereavement, or special milestones in their lives.

We lost our beloved Isabelle Young, our treasurer for 21 years. Donations totalling \$1605.00 were made in her memory.

The picnic lunch was held on June 7th with proceeds of \$885.00. We are thankful for the support of the congregation and community.

Given the success of last year, it was decided to hold the No Bake Bake Sale again this year. Receipts of \$875.00.

In November, clothing and toiletries were sorted, bagged and donated to Margaret's House.

Treat bags were assembled and provided to the children at the annual Christmas Carol Service.

Disbursements from funds raised were as follows. Camp Geddie \$1,000, St Andrew's Presbyterian Church \$1,000, Phoenix House, Adsum House, Coverdale House and The North Grove each received \$100.00. We also welcomed our new Minister, Rev Krishna Durbha and his family with a gift.

We welcome and encourage members of the Congregation to join us; it is an enjoyable time of fellowship while supporting St. Andrew's Church.

Officers:

President – Darlene Cossaboom

Corresponding Secretary – Nancy Archibald

Recording Secretary – Nancy Heighton

Treasurer – Kathy Kennedy

Nancy Heighton, Recording Secretary

Ladies' Guild Financial Statement

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Disbursements</u>	
Book sales	16.10	Donations	1,605.00
Collections & Dues	24.50	Gifts	300.00
No-Bake Sale	875.00	Bank Charges	135.96
Craft Tables	455.60	St. Andrew's Operating Fund	1,000.00
Picnic Lunch	885.00	Picnic Lunch	<u>286.25</u>
Coffee Party	263.50	Total disbursements	\$3,327.21
Donations	<u>1,775.00</u>		
Total Receipts	\$4,234.70	Total revenue over disbursements	\$967.49
		Balance forward Dec. 31/24	<u>\$219.14</u>
		Balance Dec. 31/25	\$1,186.63

Daphne Lind for Isabelle Young, Treasurer

St. Andrew’s Auxiliary of the Atlantic Mission Society

St. Andrew’s Auxiliary met a few times during 2025. The Auxiliary consists of 16 members, 3 Associate Members and 1 Inactive member. The group meets in the church hall, usually the first Thursday of the month with a time of tea and fellowship at the close of the meeting.

Some highlights were:

On March 6, we joined with members from the Iona Presbyterial Auxiliary to celebrate the World Day of Prayer. The theme was “ I Made You Wonderful” based on Psalm 139:14.

On Sept. 20 four members of the group attended the Atlantic Mission Society Annual Meeting held at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Pictou Landing, N.S. Priya Andrade and Rev. Dr. Hyung Jim(Pablo) Kim Sun gave a presentation on the Intercultural Program. This program presented an opportunity for members to join an upcoming 11-week online course on “Becoming Intercultural.” Darlene Cossaboom will be attending that course. A Meet and Greet and Banquet was held at First Presbyterian Church, Stellarton, N.S. in the evening.

In early December, the group held an Advent-Christmas meeting.

Darlene Cossaboom, President

Atlantic Mission Society Treasurer’s Report

Mission Fund

Offerings for Mission	3,100.00
Dues	<u>120.00</u>
Submitted to the Atlantic Mission Society	3,220.00

Working Fund Income

Balance Dec. 31/24	508.99
Offerings	<u>525.00</u>
Total	1,033.99

Expenditures

Margaret’s House	50.00
WICC	20.00
In Memoriams (2)	50.00
Stamps	12.00
Cheques	160.59
Charities	<u>780.00</u>
Total	1,079.59
Balance Dec. 31/25	(45.60)

Bonnie McLellan, Treasurer

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The St. Andrew's Prayer Shawl Ministry group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of most months at 1 pm in the church hall. This past year, 7 shawls, along with a Prayer of Blessing, were presented to those in need of comfort and a warm hug. Since our beginning in 2005, we have given 788 shawls, as well as mittens and toques to Hope Cottage, F.O.O.D. and schools with children in need. New members are always welcome, whether experienced or beginner knitters. Join us for a short meeting, coffee/tea, knitting and fellowship. Please keep this worthwhile ministry in your prayers.

Marg Bingley, Secretary; Jean Bartholomew, President

Prayer Shawl Ministry Financial Statement

Balance Dec. 31/24	702.77
Donations - 2025	<u>60.00</u>
	762.77
Purchase of yarn	<u>168.71</u>
Balance December 31/25	594.06

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.

Youth Group

Many thanks to the Youth Group for decorating the church at Christmas; the Sanctuary looked lovely! The Group sold copies of the 2025 Presbyterian Church Calendar.

Youth Group Financial Report

Revenue

Balance Forward Dec. 31/24	716.32
Calendar Sales	<u>32.00</u>
Balance Dec. 31/25	\$748.32

Kilted Choir

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

Kilted Choir Financial Statement

Balance December 31, 2025	475.46
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Senior Choir

The choir was present at each service to help the congregation offer its praise. David Campbell sang 2 solos.

St. Andrew's Senior Choir Financial Statement

Balance December 31, 2025	389.22
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Hope Cottage Ministry

For over forty years, with continued outstanding support from this congregation, we have provided a hot, nutritious meal of stew once a month to the patrons of Hope Cottage in Halifax. Our meal contribution serves approximately 60 people. A selection of fruit and margarine is also provided. (The contributors provide the stew once every 2 months with fruit or margarine in between.)

We currently have approximately 20 contributors on our list. We do a very simple recipe for stew and it is very well received! We sincerely thank our group for their dedication to this worthy cause. Should anyone wish to contribute to this worthy endeavour, please contact any of the coordinators below.

Jim & Kathy Kennedy and Lee & Naomi Walker, Co-ordinators

Can Tab Project

The Can Tab Project began in 2003 as part of St. Andrew's 50th anniversary celebrations. The tabs are collected in support of wheelchairs and other needs of the less fortunate in our community. The project is co-ordinated through the local Kinsmen organization. To date, the program has brought in close to 4 million tabs. The Session thanks all who continue to contribute to this project.

Wade MacDonald, Project Co-Ordinator

Margaret's House, Dartmouth

Margaret's House, located on Ochterloney Street in Dartmouth, has helped Dartmouth's homeless and less fortunate for many years. Over the years, the needs have changed dramatically. Pre Covid most of the guests had housing, now they do not. As Margaret's House cannot possibly seat everyone inside for a meal, take-out is now the method used to serve meals. At noon, each guest is given at least 2 take-out meals. If supplies allow, they are also given something for breakfast, and extra fruit, snacks and drinks. In 2025, an astonishing 54,074 meals were served from the doors at Margaret's House. Inside, the former dining rooms have taken on a different purpose. Here they store tents, blankets, pillows, hygiene items, and seasonal clothing.

For 40-plus years, St. Andrew's has provided a meal on the last Wednesday of every month. We have three teams that supply sandwiches, individually wrapped items (pudding or fruit cups, granola bars, fruit) and bottles of juice or water. Our goal has been to have enough food for 100 meals. Our volunteers have dropped in numbers; a team of 30 is now a team of 24. It is often a challenge to supply 100 meals each month. Any monetary funds coming in are used to help supplement the meal donations. If we are fortunate to have any extra funds, we purchase take-out boxes and usually help with extra water in the hot summer.

St. Andrew's parishioners have also donated items, such as hats, mitts, hygiene items, blankets and even special treats.

St. Andrew's F.O.O.D. (Feeding Others of Dartmouth) ministry would appreciate having more volunteers

Joyce Ross, Co-Ordinator

Christ Church Food Ministry

Christ Church Ministry has been an ongoing ministry at St. Andrews for many years, providing food and toiletry items to the less fortunate in the Dartmouth area. Members are asked to bring items to church each week, which are collected and dropped off at Christ Church. Christ Church is most appreciative for the dedication of the congregation for this most worthy cause. In the fall, we held a drive for specific items to support the Christ Church Ministry. On Oct. 26, these items were collected: 94 toothpastes, 76 toothbrushes, 90 cans of cat food, 12 pkg. razor blades, 92 cakes of soap, 27 shampoo, 53 rolls of toilet paper, 30 deodorants, 4 Kleenex and some miscellaneous items. What a remarkable response from our congregation! Thank you!

Jim & Kathy Kennedy, Co-ordinators

Minutes of Annual Meeting, March 2, 2025

The Annual Meeting of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Dartmouth, N.S was held on Sunday, March 2, 2025 during the 10:30 a.m. service.

Cheryl Weeks, Clerk of Session, gave a summary of the congregational life during 2024 and offered gratitude from the congregation to the Rev. Dr. P.A. McDonald for his 56 years of faithful and fruitful service. He retired on March 31, 2024. The Clerk, on behalf of the Session, expressed thanks to everyone who has worked together to support all aspects of congregational life since April 1. She also expressed thanks to the Rev. Bert Vanderbeek for his consistent Sunday Supply.

On motion Cheryl Weeks/Wade MacDonald, the 2024 Session Report and minutes of the Annual Meeting (pgs. 1-13) were accepted as printed.

Presbyterians Sharing Allocation

Ricky Sloan, Convener of the Outreach Committee presented the Presbyterians Sharing Allocation for 2025. On motion Ricky Sloan/Wade MacDonald, the Presbyterians Sharing allocation of \$30,000 was adopted.

Withdrawal from Mission, Outreach & Benevolence Fund: On motion Ricky Sloan/Dave Campbell, it was moved that \$4,000 be withdrawn from the Mission, Outreach & Benevolence Fund for the Ivan C. Currie Bursary to be given to a 2025 graduating student of Dartmouth High School. Motion was adopted.

Year-end financial statements: Andrew Kennedy, Convener of Finance & Stewardship, presented the year-end financial statements. On motion Andrew Kennedy/Ian Murray, the year-end statements on p. 14-18, including the Auditor's report, were accepted as printed. The Convener expressed thanks to the Treasurer, Joyce Ross.

2025 Proposed Budget

Andrew Kennedy, Convener of Finance & Stewardship, presented the proposed 2025 Operating Budget. On motion Andrew Kennedy/Ian Murray, the 2025 Operating Budget was adopted.

Nominating Committee: Jamie Leck, the Convener, gave the Nominating Report.

On motion Jamie Leck/Dave Campbell, the following were named to serve on Session Committees: Worship & Fellowship: Erin Sloan, 2 years; Outreach: Dawn Hemsworth & Kathy Kennedy, 1 year; Property: Mike Barkhouse, 3 years, Jocelyn Wiggin, 1 year. Finance & Stewardship: Gordon Ross, 2 years; Lisa Glennie, 1 year; Lesley Waugh, 1 year. Treasurer: 1 year; Auditors: Russell Trimper, Susan Osborne(elder at Iona Church). Motion was adopted.

On motion Jamie Leck/Gordon Ross, it was moved that the Nominating Committee be given power to issue in naming additional or replacement non-elder members during the year. Adopted.

During the meeting, Luke Campbell gave a testimony. A potluck luncheon was held in the Hall.

Cheryl Weeks, Secretary

Income & Expense Report Ending December 31, 2025 and Proposed 2026 Operating Budget							
				2024	2025	2025	2026
				Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
INCOME							
	Offering						
	Operating Fund - Envelopes & PAR			115,757.00	130,000.00	111,510.04	120,000.00
	Operating Fund -Loose			1,322.52	750.00	819.25	750.00
	Operating Fund - Memorials			1,585.00		300.00	-
	Subtotal Offering			118,664.52	130,750.00	112,629.29	120,750.00
	Interest Income			2,059.21	2,500.00	2,125.03	1,700.00
	Church Hall Use			13,420.30	14,000.00	12,964.75	14,000.00
	Other Income			2,550.00	3,000.00	1,958.47	2,000.00
	TOTAL INCOME			136,694.03	150,250.00	129,677.54	138,450.00
EXPENSES							
	PERSONNEL & PLANNING						
	Stipend			19,199.47	35,000.00	17,340.64	52,580.00
	Housing Allowance			6,249.99	18,000.00	10,400.00	31,200.00
	Discretionary Allowance			200.00	400.00	-	400.00
	Utilities			2,230.91	4,000.00	1,309.11	6,600.00
	Health Plan			5,164.00	2,840.00	1,893.33	6,250.00
	EI			546.81	845.00	641.52	3,150.00
	CPP				2,083.00	1,050.80	1,570.00
	Interim Moderator			3,030.60	5,000.00	3,694.82	-
	Vacancy Expenses			151.36	7,500.00	10,429.21	-
	Study Leave			-	600.00	-	1,100.00
	Book Allowance			-	200.00	-	200.00
	Pulpit Supply			9,856.00	6,000.00	9,320.00	2,000.00
	Organist			8,580.00	8,580.00	8,800.00	10,000.00
	Organ Music			-	200.00	-	200.00
	Church Website			19.54	20.00	13.79	20.00
	Leading With Care				-	-	750.00
	Subtotal Personnel & Planning			55,228.68	91,268.00	64,893.22	116,020.00
	Outreach & Education Committee						
	Emergency Aid			200.00	400.00	-	400.00
	Publicity					-	
	Church School Program			-	200.00	-	200.00
	Conferences			250.00	-	-	
	Elder Supplies & Education			157.90	100.00	-	100.00
	Subscriptions			52.41	100.00	-	100.00
	Subtotal Outreach & Education			660.31	800.00	-	800.00

					2024	2025	2025	2026
					Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE								
	Offering Envelopes					50.00	-	50.00
	Miscellaneous Finance				-	50.00	-	50.00
	Subtotal Finance & Stewardship				-	100.00	-	100.00
WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE								
	Church Services				1,328.98	1,510.00	1,148.24	1,575.00
	Fellowship				351.33	355.00	62.67	700.00
	Musicians				150.00	500.00	200.00	200.00
	Music Program					2,500.00		2,000.00
	Subtotal Worship & Fellowship				1,830.31	4,865.00	1,410.91	4,475.00
PROPERTY COMMITTEE								
	Church Utilities				13,417.33	17,500.00	10,647.77	17,600.00
	Janitorial Services				2,172.85	3,500.00	1,440.00	3,500.00
	Taxes				275.56	300.00	316.10	350.00
	Maintenance - Recurring				8,118.00	20,250.00	14,504.95	18,250.00
	Miscellaneous Property				3,678.54	5,000.00	901.48	5,000.00
	Subtotal Property Committee				27,662.28	46,550.00	27,810.30	44,700.00
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION								
	Photocopier				918.31	-	-	-
	Administration Supplies				857.33	750.00	737.92	680.00
	Bank Charges				836.19	710.00	812.70	600.00
	Presbytery Dues				2,227.25	1,850.00	1,840.60	850.00
	Synod Dues				3,512.20	3,000.00	2,990.97	2,000.00
	National Church Pension Assessment				6,853.08	8,300.00	6,135.36	4,250.00
	Insurance				7,004.00	8,000.00	8,024.00	8,700.00
	Miscellaneous Administration				790.82	500.00	359.43	600.00
	Subtotal Administration				22,999.18	23,110.00	20,900.98	17,680.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES				108,380.76	166,693.00	115,015.41	183,775.00
	Excess Expenses over Income				28,313.27	(16,443.00)	14,662.13	(45,325.00)

Other Income

(Breakdown of "Other Income" figure on Income & Expense Statement)

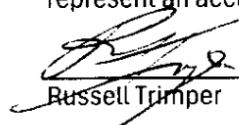
	Induction Service						100.00	
	Gifts in Kind						235.06	
	Rental groups donations						600.00	
	Ladies Guild						1,000.00	
	Miscellaneous Income						23.41	
							<u>1,958.47</u>	

Summary of Investment Funds			
<u>John and Vivia Stewart Mission Fund</u>			
Beginning Balance January 1, 2025			17,407.97
Income Earned			1,228.04
Disbursements			
Camp Geddie		2,000.00	
Presbyterian Church in Canada - Indigenous Ministries		1,000.00	
HomeBridge Youth Society		2,000.00	
Margaret's House		2,000.00	
North Grove Community Centre		2,000.00	
	Total Disbursements	9,000.00	-9,000.00
Total John & Vivia Stewart Mission Fund as of December 31, 2025			9,636.01
<u>St. Andrew's Legacy For Growth Fund</u>			
<u>Capital Expenditure for Facilities & Improvements</u>			
Beginning Balance January 1, 2025			478,736.60
Income Earned			61,770.47
Disbursements			
Heat Pump		20,547.87	
Remodelling Minister's study		3,462.29	
	Total Disbursements	24,010.16	-24,010.16
Total Capital Expenditure for Facilities & Improvements as of December 31, 2025			516,496.91
<u>Mission Outreach & Benevolence</u>			
Beginning Balance January 1, 2025			294,458.47
Income Earned			39,035.01
Disbursements			
Ivan C. Currie Bursary		4,000.00	
Christmas Gift for Ahmad Family		300.00	
	Total Disbursements	4,300.00	-4,300.00
Total Mission, Outreach & Benevolence as of December 31, 2025			329,193.48
Total St. Andrew's Legacy for Growth Fund as of December 31, 2025			845,690.39
<u>Musquodoboit Harbour</u>			
Beginning Balance January 1, 2025			2,130.68
Income Earned			269.27
Total Musquodoboit Harbour as of December 31, 2025			2,399.95
<u>Estate of Jean Cameron</u>			
Beginning Balance January 1, 2025			3,782.78
Income Earned			376.92
Total Estate of Jean Cameron as of December 31, 2025			4,159.70
<u>Invested Trust Funds</u> (interest only may be used)			
M.I. Reeves		3,000.00	
Calvin Hunter		1,000.00	
			4,000.00

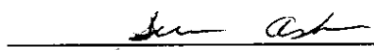
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet - December 31, 2025

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash on hand		4,638.11
Investments		
GIC - Redeemable	40,000.00	
Scotiabank Right Size Business Account	41,985.67	
PCC Building Corporation	22,300.00	
PCC Consolidated Fund	<u>849,622.96</u>	
Total Investments		953,908.63
Tax Rebate Receivable		991.60
Interest Receivable		37.88
Accounts Receivable		9,800.00
Prepaid Maintenance		<u>1,518.46</u>
Total Current Assets		970,894.68
FIXED ASSETS		
Land & Buildings	723,000.00	
Church Furnishings	<u>145,537.50</u>	
Total Fixed Assets		868,537.50
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>1,839,432.18</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	736.84	
Youth Group	748.32	
Paraments	67.98	
Prayer Shawl Ministry	594.06	
Kilted Choir	475.46	
St. Andrew's Choir	389.22	
Memorial Fund	<u>787.01</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,798.89
CONGREGATIONAL EQUITY		
Retained Earnings		
Balance Forward 2024	43,247.61	
2025 Surplus	<u>14,662.13</u>	
TOTAL RETAINED EARNINGS		57,909.74
Manse Sale Funds		43,300.00
Trust & Bequest Funds		865,886.05
Buildings & Furnishings		868,537.50
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		<u><u>1,839,432.18</u></u>

We have completed a review of the financial records of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for the year ended December 31, 2025. We confirm the prepared Financial statements represent an accurate picture of the financial position of the Church as of December 31, 2025.



Russell Trimper



Susan Osborne