



**Charleswood
United
Church
Annual Report
2025**

MISSION STATEMENT FOR CHARLESWOOD UNITED CHURCH

In response to God's call,
we the congregation of Charleswood United Church,
understand our mission is to proclaim the gospel of
Jesus Christ by word and deed.

This mission challenges us to accept God's grace,
to celebrate God's love,
to learn God's will and
to reach out in humble service
to the world God gives –
in short, to live our faith.

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AGENDA

Annual General Meeting
Charleswood United Church
Sunday, March 15th, 2026

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Election of Chair | Congregation |
| 2. Election of Secretary | Congregation |
| 3. Invocation | Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson |
| 4. Instruction in Voting | Chair |
| 5. Approval of the Agenda | Congregation |
| 6. Approval of the AGM Minutes | |
| 7. Approval of the Annual Reports | |
| a. Committee/Auxiliary Reports | Chair |
| b. 2025 Financial Statements | |
| c. Heritage Fund Trustee Reports | |
| 8. Presentation of 2026 Budget | Jane Murray |
| 9. Nominations from the Floor | Anne Burns |
| a. Approval of the Nominating Committee Report | Anne Burns |
| b. Motion for term of Committee Membership | Anne Burns |
| 10. New Business | |
| a. Land Sale Update | |
| b. AFFIRM United | Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson |
| c. Constitution Update | Janet Goddard |
| 11. Question Period | Chair |
| 12. Benediction | Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson |
| 13. Adjournment | |

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Sunday, March 9, 2025 11:30 AM

Minister: Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson

Chair: Sandra Sinclair

Secretary: Anne Burns

Treasurer: Janet Goddard on behalf of Doug Prophet

Congregation Members:

1. Kathryn Anderson
2. Marilyn Strukoff
3. Donna Wiebe
4. George Wiebe
5. Joanne Moore
6. Ian Moore
7. Byron Goerz
8. Nadine Yacheson
9. Sharon Gordon
10. Harrison Nord
11. Susan Rogers
12. Jocelyn Nord
13. Connor Nord
14. Shirley Waterman
15. Jane Murray
16. Rosalie Finch
17. Kathy Stardom
18. Margaret Gibson
19. Gordon Gibson
20. Allan Richardson
21. Kelly Thompson
22. Warren Thompson
23. Maureen Spier
24. Les Rankin
25. Diane Rankin
26. Loreen Morden
27. Pat Arbuckle
28. Janice McBean
29. Gordon McBean
30. Pat Shaw
31. Phil Shaw
32. Margot Colquhoun
33. Robert Godkin
34. Shirley Godkin
35. Grant Buchanan
36. Olga Morrow
37. Bill Trimble
38. Joan Rew
39. David Rew
40. Pat MacDonald
41. Bruce MacDonald
42. Myrna Dring
43. Sandra Rettie
44. Alex Gardiner
45. Colleen Askew
46. Nik Gockel
47. Nick Yacheson
48. Gloria Wohlers
49. Bo Wohlers
50. Janice Hamilton
51. Larry Hamilton
52. Sharon Bedder (left before voting)
53. Brian Bedder (left before voting)
54. Russ Thompson
55. Aileen Garrett
56. Marilyn Paget
57. Bruce Paget
58. Laurie Messer
59. Greg Messer
60. Tom Nesmith
61. Sharon Nesmith
62. Judy Bell
63. Doreen Barton
64. Jackie Drever
65. Rick Best
66. Ross Bingham
67. Margaret Wilson
68. Patty Murata
69. Valerie Beckingham
70. Wally Ort
71. Cheryl Cels
72. Joe Cels
73. Marlene Oldham
74. John Oldham
75. Gail Reid
76. S. Patricia Olson

- 77. Lori Sproule
- 78. Robert Campbell
- 79. Linda Campbell
- 80. Mark Little
- 81. Linda Little
- 82. Jennifer Mutter
- 83. Marilyn Mutter
- 84. Nancy Jeffrey
- 85. Darcia Albrechtsen
- 86. Lorrie Martindale
- 87. Caroline Rosentreter
- 88. Carolyn Johnson

- 89. Jacquie Craigen
- 90. Janet Goddard
- 91. Vivian Melvin
- 92. Jim Melvin
- 93. Coralie Bornais
- 94. Zoria Syme
- 95. Ted Green
- 96. Allan Richardson
- 97. Carol Bunston
- 98. Brian Bunston
- 99. Shauna Sperry

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson welcomed all those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Moved by: Sandra Rettie

Seconded by: Gordon Gibson

Motion: That Sandra Sinclair be elected Chair for the Annual General Meeting. **Carried.**

ELECTION OF SECRETARY

Moved by: Lorrie Martindale

Seconded by: Olga Morrow

Motion: That Anne Burns be elected as Secretary. **Carried.**

INVOCATION Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson

INSTRUCTION IN VOTING

Chair Sandra Sinclair advised those in attendance that all can vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: Doreen Barton

Seconded by: Judy Bell

Motion: To approve the agenda as on page 2 of the Annual report. **Carried.**

APPROVAL OF THE 2024 AGM MINUTES

Moved by: Greg Messer

Seconded by: Kathryn Anderson

Motion: To adopt the minutes of the March 10, 2024, Annual General Meeting on Page 3 of the Annual report.

Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2024, CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Moved by: Olga Morrow

Seconded by: Shauna Sperry

Motion: To adopt the minutes of the April 28, 2024, Congregational Meeting on Page 7 of the Annual report.

Carried.

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORTS

a. COMMITTEE/GROUP REPORTS

Moved by: Pat Shaw

Seconded by: Shauna Sperry

Motion: To receive the Committee/Group Reports as submitted found on Pages 12 to 28 of the Annual report.

Carried.

b. 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Doug Smith Accountant, from Scarrow and Donald presented the 2024 Financial Statements. Based on their review nothing came to their attention that would cause them to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Charleswood United Church at December 31, 2024 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit-organizations.

Moved by: Gordon Gibson

Seconded by: Kathryn Anderson

Motion: To accept the 2024 Financial statements as presented.

Carried.

c. HERITAGE FUND

On behalf of Kenneth Grower Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson presented the Heritage Fund report found on page 21.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2025 BUDGET

On behalf of Doug Prophet Janet Goddard presented the 2025 budget found on pages 29 and 30. Janet advised this is a balanced budget. Revenues are increased in local giving by 7.7% which is based on the known pledge data. Staff expenses which are prepared by the Ministry and Personnel Committee increased by 3% with no provision for a second minister position in 2025. Most expenditures have been increased by 3%, Committee expenses are consistent with 2024 levels, National Assessment is provided by United Church of Canada, roof loan interest is based on loan levels and a 2% interest rate. Janet asked for questions.

Q. Judy Bell - Since there is no provision for a second minister how will relief be provided to Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson if needed?

A. Janet explained provisions are in place in the budget for that purpose.

Moved by: Susan Roger

Seconded by: Zoria Syme

Motion: To approve the 2025 budget as presented.

Carried.

APPROVAL OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson was Nominating Committee Chair. Michael advised two people will be stepping down - Doug Prophet and Warren Thompson. Michael expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Doug for his wisdom and guidance for the many projects over the years. Michael also expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Warren for his guidance during the pandemic.

The nominations one at a time are as follows:

Vice Chair: Anne Burns

Moved by: Warren Thompson

Seconded by: Gordon Gibson

Motion: That Anne Burns be elected as Vice Chair.

Carried.

Secretary: Sandra Fraser

Moved by: Anne Burns

Seconded by: Shauna Sperry

Motion: That Sandra Fraser be elected as Secretary.

Carried.

Ministry and Personnel Chair: Pat Shaw

Moved by: Allan Richardson

Seconded by: Kelly Thompson

Motion: That Pat Shaw be elected as Chair of Ministry and Personnel Committee.

Carried.

Treasurer: Jane Murray

Moved by: Lorrie Martindale

Seconded by: Linda Campbell

Motion: That Jane Murray be elected as Treasurer.

Carried.

Committees:

Worship and Education: Janice McBean, Gordon McBean

Gifts and Resources: Bill Jury

Moved by: Bill Trimble

Seconded by: Maureen Spier

Motion: That Janice McBean and Gordon McBean be elected as members of the Worship and Education Committee and That Bill Jury be elected as a member of Gift and Resources Committee.

Carried.

Ministry and Personnel: David Roper

Moved by: Pat Shaw

Seconded by: Pat Arbuckle

Motion: That David Roper be elected as a member of the Ministry and Personnel Committee. **Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

a. Land Sale Update

Warren Thompson presented an update on the land sale. Warren reported after the second open house the developer met with Charleswood United and Fred Douglas Society representatives. The City of Winnipeg has requested the developer to upgrade land drainage, and the developer has requested a simple amendment to extend requirements for the sale agreement to April 15. There has been significant work with City of Winnipeg Planning, Council and Water and Waste management.

QUESTION PERIOD

Q: Jackie Drever - Who is for paying for the upgrades on drainage?

A: Warren Thompson reported the upgrades will contribute to any adjustments on the final purchase sale price agreement.

Q: Allan Richardson - Are Michael's sermons shared publicly since they are so good?

A: Michael thanked Allan for his comments and stated a letter does go out on Friday to a mailing list of 500, it is posted on Facebook and on YouTube with a shorter version that is recorded on Thursday prior to Sunday's service.

BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson

Moved by: Shauna Sperry

Seconded by: Greg Messer

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 12:05 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Burns

Secretary

Minister's Report

One year after an exceptional year that was planned for, the 2024 roofing project, we have had an exceptional year that was not planned for. That being the consequences of an unexpected crater in the parking lot, followed shortly by the end of life of our 60-year-old boiler. For some churches those may have been crises beyond a capacity to respond. But not Charleswood.

I want to begin my report this year by expressing my gratitude to our volunteers, and those of Church Council in particular. Make no mistake, we didn't welcome the problems that befell us last year, but neither did we panic or run away from these challenges. They were handled in turn with calm, wisdom, and conviction. Beyond our leadership, the congregation responded likewise. You received news of problems and solutions with patience, understanding, and appreciation for those who dealt with them.

As a result, there was nothing in our life together last year that was altered, halted, or delayed because we had to fix and pay for unexpected repairs. That may not seem like much but as I look back on 2025 I think it is remarkable. And a sign of a healthy and vital community of faith.

Our life together revolves around Sundays. I want to thank everyone who works together to make Sunday worship vibrant, welcoming, and meaningful. That includes the abundant number of people who volunteer in various ways be it singing, greeting, reading, serving, collecting, coffee-ing (our vibrancy extends into the HeBrews/SheBrews Café every week). Thank you to the staff who are here Sundays including Rosalie and Kathy with children and youth, and Shauna and Faisal in our music ministry, and Wally who has been our Nursery convenor for nine years but retired at the end of the year. I am grateful for the guests we have in worship especially noting the musicians who drop by to add deeper dimensions to our worship experience.

There is life at Charleswood from ***Monday to Friday*** all year round and I want to thank Janet and Jacquie whose work in the office keeps us open and welcoming at all times. Thank you to Hal our inestimable custodian who works behind the scenes but whose efforts are ever evident. And thank you to our friends at Community Ventures whose weekday programming makes CUC a place that never sleeps.

We can be found doing very important work on ***any given day*** and I want to thank Susan Rogers and the Care and Community Committee for all their efforts but especially for the ways they extend hospitality to grieving families by hosting funeral receptions (which can arise quickly and on any day of the week). Thank you also to our Planning Team for Senior's Fellowship events. This ministry is but a few years old but is having a tremendous impact on our community. Thank you also for the dedicated volunteers of the Rummage Sale and Hamper Program, events which enable us to help those beyond our front doors.

Our life together often finds us here in many different configurations during ***the evening hours***. Thank you those who plan and attend recreation events like badminton nights, youth and family gatherings, or Quiz Night. Thank you for everyone who comes to special educational events of which there were several. And thank you once more to our Council and committees who meet and plan and choose the ways we can be a faithful and welcoming community.

2026 is but a few weeks old and we are already experiencing the blessings of our life together. Our Dixieland/Pancake Sunday was a tremendous success. At this Annual Meeting we will consider the question of becoming an Affirming Congregation (please look to the Affirming Report in this volume), something a team of volunteers having been working at for a year and a half. And in March we welcome a new addition to our music ministry in the person of flautist Charmaine Bacon.

It's an exciting time at CUC. Now let's hope the roof, boiler, and parking lot hold up!!!

Grace and peace,
Michael

Pastoral Acts

Transfers

To

Beth Bigelow	Elliot Lake United Church	Elliot Lake, Ontario
Valerie Chatain-White	St. Charles Headingley United Church	Headingley, MB
John Dudek	John Black Memorial United Church	Winnipeg, MB
Marilyn Dudek	John Black Memorial United Church	Winnipeg, MB
Candice Lawson	St. Charles Headingley United Church	Headingley, MB
Larry Legrange	St. Charles Headingley United Church	Headingley, MB

Away

Harrison Nord	North Kildonan United Church	Winnipeg, MB
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Baptisms

Lily Juliet Baird	daughter, Tiffany & Lucas Baird	May 11, 2025
Soleil Marie Gauthier Wiebe	daughter, Savannah & Gavin Gauthier Wiebe	
Frederick Gordon Mutter Pell	son, Jennifer Mutter & Gavin Pell	
Wesley Reid Heide	son, Lindsay Robertson & Joseph Heide	May 25, 2025
Theodore Gordon Wilson	son, Hilary Taylor & Neil Wilson	June 15, 2025
Ronda Fern Prieston		Sept. 3, 2025
Lilliane Catherine Mauws	daughter, Lauren & Jerry Mauws	Oct. 12, 2025
Emily Ava Heilgendorff	daughter, Jessica Michalski & Erich Heilgendorff	Dec. 28, 2025
David Edward Macpherson		

Wedding Ceremonies

Laura Sachvie & Jordy Oliveira	May 30, 2025	The White Poplar, East Selkirk
Marina Di Curzio & Alexander Fayerman	July 26, 2025	Leo Mol Sculpture Garden, Winnipeg
Whitney Munroe & Aaron Kulchyski	Oct. 11, 2025	Charleswood United Church

Deaths

Jim Kirkness

Deceased

Dec. 8, 2024

Service/Burial

Jan. 4, 2025

CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson

Martin Dodd	Feb. 24, 2025	March 7, 2025	Balmoral Community Hall Rev. M. Malavsky
Chris Gray	April 10, 2025	May 10, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Ken Davis	April 18, 2025	April 29, 2025	Chapel Lawn Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Marion Jenkyns	April 18, 2025		
Maureen Hilditch	May 4, 2025	May 15, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Peg White	May 12, 2025	Sept. 13, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Cheri Staple	May 12, 2025	May 24, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Pansy "Pat" Colborne	May 25, 2025	June 6, 2025	Harrow United Church Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Shane Cucheron	Dec. 25, 2024	June 6, 2025	Chapel Lawn Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Irene Montford	May 29, 2025	August 23, 2025	Doyle's Funeral Home Carman, MB
Douglas Page	Jan. 2, 2023	June 27, 2025	Chapel Lawn Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Beverly Page	April 14, 2025	June 27, 2025	Chapel Lawn Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Mary Wolfe	May 30, 2025		
Glenn Kowalchuk	June 21, 2024	July 22, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Heather Sharpe	June 26, 2025	July 17, 2025	First Unitarian Universalist Church Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Eric Johnson	July 12, 2025	July 23, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Stanley Vivian	July 4, 2025		
Phil Gies	July 10, 2025		
Gordon Campbell	July 25, 2024	August 2, 2025	Arrow River Cemetery, Prairie View, MB Rev. Robert Campbell
Vivian Campbell	March 7, 2025	August 2, 2025	Arrow River Cemetery, Prairie View, MB Rev. Robert Campbell
Joan Ostermann	July 31, 2025	August 16, 2025	CUC Rev. Robert Campbell
Gary W. Kent	August 9, 2025	Sept. 4, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Michael (Mitch) J. Blake	Sept. 11, 2025	Sept. 16, 2025	Chapel Lawn Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Edward Burnett	July 14, 2024	Nov. 15, 2025	Anavets 283 Rev. Robert Campbell
Carol-Ann Poettker	Oct. 15, 2025	Nov. 15, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson
Clayton Gordon	Nov. 26, 2025	Dec. 19, 2025	CUC Rev. Robert Campbell
Donna Hay	Dec. 17, 2025	Dec. 30, 2025	CUC Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson

Council Chair

These past four years as Chair of Council have been very rewarding. I have learned a lot, I have been challenged, I got to know more people. Much has been accomplished, and more work is ahead. I encourage everyone to consider a role on Council, as a committee member or as a “Corresponding” member of a committee.

I asked AI for a little help with this report – okay, a lot of help (confession is good for the soul, right?). Specifically, I asked Microsoft Co-pilot to summarize four years of Council meeting minutes. Here is what it came up with:

- Strong engagement with mission and worship renewal
- Sustained commitment to ministry, pastoral care, and outreach,
- Council was focused on major capital projects, accessibility, and infrastructure,
- Careful financial management and capital stewardship
- Focused on strengthening governance and oversight practices
- A clear commitment to balancing assets, community presence, and future viability

Wow...that is what it is like to have 4 years of work summarized by a machine. Co-pilot is not wrong; Council did all the things listed above. It is just that we did it with love, passion, care, and concern. We conducted ourselves as representatives of the congregation – and as Charleswood United Church’s mission states “...*in humble service to the world God loves, in short – To Live Our Faith.*”

I am excited by the things I see happening around us and around communities of faith. On December 2, 2025, CBC radio show “The Current” ran a story about a surge in interest in religion by Generation Z – those people currently 13 – 28 years old. The themes – the reasons why young people are connecting with religion are fascinating and yet, not so different from what draws me to Charleswood United. Here is a high-level summary of what the interview revealed (also generated by AI):

Top Reasons Young People Are Turning to Religion

1. Strong sense of community and belonging. Desire for meaning, and stability.
2. Search for peace amid chaos, stress, and uncertainty.
3. Emotional fulfillment and joy. A place to overcome loneliness and isolation.
4. Need for structure, discipline, and order.
5. Influence of social media and peers.
6. The ability to question and critically engage with faith.

Now, I realize that the CBC interview was a small sample and not statistically sound. Still, I am encouraged. I hope very much that Charleswood United can be the place they turn to, the place anyone and everyone (not just youth) can turn to and find peace, community, acceptance, home.

With gratitude,
Janet Goddard
Chair of Council

Overview of Proposed Changes to the Constitution

In May 2025 a review and update the Constitution of Charleswood United Church commenced. The purpose was to make amendments that reflect the current Council and Ministry Committees, clarified roles, responsibilities and accountabilities while maintaining flexibility and openness to opportunity in the future. In other words, write something that clarifies who does what and how decisions are made without being so rigid in the language that constant reviews and updates to the Constitution become necessary.

SOURCES

The following sources were used in the review of the Constitution:

1. The United Church of Canada website section on handbooks and guidelines was referenced frequently. Specifically:
 - a) “The Manual, 2026” a source of policy for governance of United Churches;
 - b) “Financial Handbook for Congregations 2025 – 2028” a resource for the financial administration of the church;
 - c) “Ministry and Personnel Committees: Policy, Procedures, and Practices (March 2025)” an expansion of the committee responsibilities found in “The Manual”;
2. Ministry Committees – the chair of each committee (Gifts and Resources, Ministry and Personnel, Care and Community, Worship and Education, Mission and Social Action) has reviewed their respective committee responsibilities and made recommendations for the updated Constitution.
3. Council – Council has reviewed the proposed updated Constitution and agree with the changes.
4. Michael Wilson – Michael frequently consulted on changes to the Constitution. He provided invaluable background on the existing Constitution and pointed to policy and guidelines when required.

FORMATTING

There are several formatting changes – headings, structure, Table of Contents among them. These are minor changes and do not affect governance nor roles and responsibilities.

Among formatting changes is a distinction between the Ministry and Personnel Committee and all other Ministry Committees. This is because the United Church of Canada is quite specific about the Ministry and Personnel Committee as it pertains to election of committee members, terms of committee membership, and meeting frequency, etc. Guidelines for all other Ministry Committees can be different.

MAJOR CHANGES

Ministry of Gifts and Resources Committee is now Ministry of Property and Resources

The review of the existing Constitution revealed that Gifts and Resources had a number of responsibilities related to the financial operation of the church. These financial tasks are no longer performed by Gifts and Resources. They are the responsibility of the Financial Administrator of Charleswood United Church with support and oversight from the Treasurer of Council. Therefore, the financial responsibilities were removed from this committee, and the name was changed to Ministry of Property and Resources reflect the current responsibilities.

Treasurer of Council Responsibilities Defined

With the tasks related to financial management of the church being removed from the Gifts and Resources Committee it was necessary to list them elsewhere. Therefore, a Treasurer's responsibilities section was added to the Constitution.

Other Council Executive Responsibilities Defined

With the Treasurer's role definition expanded it was deemed helpful to expand role definitions for Council Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.

Other Notable Changes to the Constitution

Committee structure has been broadened while preserving accountability and valuing participation. The revised Constitution recognizes those members voted into a committee by the Congregation at an AGM. It also recognizes "corresponding members" of a committee – those who support the work of the committee but are not eligible to vote. The proposed Constitution also defines "Corresponding Subcommittees". Corresponding Subcommittees perform work important to the life of the Church and are aligned with and accountable to a Ministry Committee.

The proposed updates to the Constitution of Charleswood United Church are intended to reflect how the church currently lives out its ministry, and governance. The revisions clarify roles, responsibilities, and lines of accountability while preserving flexibility, and responsiveness. With input from multiple sources, it provides a dependable framework for decision making and participation. It is offered in faith and hope for the church's ongoing ministry.

Worship & Education

Music continued to play the important roles of comfort and celebration in our worship services this past year. In addition to the Senior Choir, we enjoyed special music which included a Good Friday cantata, an Easter trumpet soloist, smooth jazz, Keith McPherson's musical leadership, the brass quartet for Advent, and Dixieland for Mardi Gras. As a congregation that enjoys music, it was fitting that we celebrated the United Church of Canada's centennial with a presentation by Dr. Mac Watts titled "The Hymns We Sang, The Hymns We Still Sing". We were blessed with beautiful music all year round!

We enjoyed meeting and getting to know newcomers to our congregation at Newcomers Night, hosted in May by Care and Community. Through baptisms, dedications, and transfers we welcomed members into the Charleswood United Church congregation and greater church family several times through the year. A dedicated crew of greeters welcomed visitors and regulars alike to church each week.

Worship and Education supports educational events that are open to all. Most recently, Dr. Andre Oboler spoke on the topic of combating online hate and Dr. Mark Koltek spoke at our third annual Mental Health Awareness Evening on the topic of facing challenges to good mental health with the aim to improve mental health outcomes. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend future CUC educational evenings.

The Worship and Education committee has had a few changes over the past year. Janice McBean, Gordon McBean, Laurie Messer, and Olga Morrow all joined the committee and made immediate contributions. Meetings have certainly become livelier this year with the new additions. In December, Wally Ort retired from his long-held position operating the nursery but has thankfully agreed to stay on the committee. Under the leadership of CUC's new Youth Director Kathy Stardom and Rosalie Finch, the church youth contribute regularly to services. As always, the committee is grateful for the many volunteers who help before, during, and after the service each week. We appreciate you!

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Hsu
Chair
Worship & Education Committee

Nursery

The room has had a few additions added; a toilet paper holder, lowering of the paper dispenser for our growing children. Shelves were added to the play kitchen. A child size couch and chair came down from upstairs. Thanks to Mark L. for helping.

As of January 1st, this year I have decided to take a break for new adventures. It has been ten years and time to take it easy. I also no longer work at 17 Wing Daycare as a substitute ECE.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with the young ones, parents and grandparents at Charleswood United.

Respectfully,
Wally Ort

Children's Ministry

It's been a wonderful year with the Cool School gang.

In June, we participated in the Pride Parade. We had 20 participants. Len Van Roon Jr. fixed up his rickshaw and it was decorated beautifully and it gave an original look to our parade area. A new sign was made for the Pride Parade to represent Charleswood United Church. We were well received.

We are so blessed that Kathy Stardom has been hired as the youth director. Kathy has been helpful in so many ways. She has been a dedicated youth leader who will step into any role to help with the kids and youth activities.

This summer, we joined together in the afternoon with snacks, balls, and equipment to play in the Assiniboine Park. We watched a movie called Inside Out 2 at the park later in the evening. It was nice to have the Crest family join us. Some of us even stayed for the double feature.

Over the summer, we spent an entire day at a play centre respectfully called Hide and Seek. It was a unique experience that allowed parents to visit with each other. The children played until they were exhausted. We shared some snacks at the venue. I thought it was an awesome experience. Parents who haven't met had a chance to get to know each other.

Super Saturday Sundae was a fabulous success again this year! Thank you to the 36 volunteers. 11 of the volunteers were from the international student program. The international student program has helped out in the past. This group of students were especially keen. They loved working with the children. Thank you for help with kitchen work, Craft stations, craft preparation, set up, welcome desk and registration. This year we had 55 children and parents participating. There were 11 crafts stations to keep the children busy. Rev. Michael Wilson presented the Christmas story in a lovely way. It was nice to finish off the day sharing a meal together.

Christmas Eve was wonderful with Nancy Finlayson leading worship. The church was about $\frac{3}{4}$ full. A few of the youth and children helped with candle, lighting and other activities during the service. Throughout the year, we tell Bible stories, sing songs to actions, play games and include object lessons.

It's been a wonderful year. I look forward to this next year!

With respect,
Rosalie Finch
Children's Ministry Director

Youth

It has been a fun first year in my position as Youth Coordinator. The first half of our 2025 year began with a theme of Acts of Kindness. We had discussions around this theme, and each youth worked on incorporating this in their everyday lives.

In January, Rosalie and I attended a workshop at CMU by Meredith Anne Miller on Passing on Faith in a Post-Modern Age. It was an evening workshop and conversation devoted to nurturing faith for youth and kids.

In February, the youth gathered at Westwood Bowling Lanes as we challenged ourselves and each other in a glow bowling afternoon.

Later that month, with the generosity of a member of our congregation, the youth learned about the therapeutic benefits of transplanting and caring for plants as they transplanted spider plants to share amongst members of our church community.

In June, we participated in the Pride Parade alongside the Affirmation Committee. Throughout the early spring, we gathered to tie-dye t-shirts and create decorations for our rickshaw 'float' for the parade.

In the fall, we explored the theme 'Season of Creation'. Alongside discussions around how to deepen their relationship with all living things, the Youth crafted and painted clay leaf bowls. We enjoyed a wonderful outdoor fall evening visiting the Van Roon family's Natural Labyrinth and learned about the Indigenous Circle Symbol, or Medicine Wheel, and the Ojibwe names for 13 different animals. The beautiful evening was capped off with a bonfire roasting hot dogs, s'mores, and bannock. As the weather was turning, we had a dinner and movie night at the church and enjoyed connecting and reconnecting with each other after summer and a busy early autumn.

In November, the Youth were fantastic helpers in getting for and running craft tables at our Super Saturday Sundae event. In December, we went carolling at Charleswood Care Home and participated in CUC's family Christmas Eve service.

Throughout the year, our Youth have been serving communion during service on the first Sunday of every month. They've also enjoyed helping the younger kids in the Cool School with crafts and activities from time to time.

Thank you for your encouragement and kind words with our Youth - they are a fantastic and inspiring group of individuals!

Respectfully yours,
Kathy Stardom
Youth Coordinator

Care & Community

The year 2025 was another busy one for the Care & Community Committee. We currently have 16 active members. We also have a number of ladies and sometimes men who attend Charleswood United and volunteer to help when needed for larger events. We are certainly grateful for their support and hope that they continue to do so.

The C&C as I call it have been active with funerals, bake sales of which we had 2 this year. We served at 9 funeral receptions over the course of the year. The committee also provided the lunch for the 2025 AGM.

We helped with the Ladies Bridge luncheon which was a fund raiser for the church. We also helped out at the June barbeque for the congregation. We took part in the Christmas Craft sale which was the first I believe in a long time if not forever and we made \$670 which went directly to the boiler fund. We also had a bake sale in December which brought in \$847.25. The congregation also made donations to our bake sales, which was very much appreciated. We presented a cheque from our committee for \$3500 to the church at the end December 2025.

Cards of sympathy, get well, thinking of you, happy birthday, and happy anniversary were sent. In total 74 cards were sent out to the church community in 2025. Cards that are handmade, for every occasion and beautiful are very graciously provided by Shauna Sperry and Phyllis Marsch. A huge thank you goes out to these two ladies for providing them.

As chairperson of this committee of amazing, supportive members, I want to say once again what a privilege it is to be a part of Care & Community. I am always telling these volunteers that there is no I in the word team. We are a team of caring individuals, who freely give up our time to provide a service to members, of the church community, the Charleswood community, and beyond.

We welcome anyone from the congregation who may be interested in helping out on this committee. We generally meet the first Monday of the months from September to June. Please note circumstances may occur where meetings may have to be cancelled.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rogers
Chair

HeBrew's Café

The Hebrew's Cafe, since its' inception in 2008, has evolved.

It went from Coffee Time to the 'Hebrew's Cafe'.

It went from 2 services every Sunday to 1 service every Sunday after we re-opened in the Pandemic.

We went from a need of 2-3 servers per service to 4-5 servers.

But it's the Buzz.

The Buzz you hear when it seems everyone is talking...

The Buzz you taste when you get your coffee, or your shortbread cookie or your iced tea...

The Buzz you feel when you can't get to your table because there is someone else to connect with, meet or smile at.

That's the connection that happens and that's what we've come to expect.

To our work teams each week, the gratitude is felt in the Buzz you are setting up to create. To be part of the fellowship ministry, is to be in the Beehive that is our kitchen. Whether you are the feet on a Sunday or the hands that purchase or make the treats, I hope each of you pause to realize that YOU create a community of 'Buzz'!

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Jeffrey

Senior's/Retired Events!

2025 was a great year for the Senior's Events...

January - We enjoyed board games, card games and the company of each other in friendly competition. And who doesn't like eating treats like chips and chocolate on a cold Winnipeg afternoon in January?

February – We welcomed Aaron Scarff from Agape Table to speak with us on that ministry and the \$8 million project that they have undertaken. Run totally on private donations, a small staff and many volunteers, Agape Table is building a new facility to enhance programming, hoping to open in Spring of 2026. 173,000 meals served in 2024; it is a mission set-up to meet the needs of our Broadway area.

March – With the change of the US government, 51st State Campaign and Elbow's Up response, our Senior's group took a stab at writing the Canadian Citizenship Test. 20 questions and multiple-choice answers made answering possible with us delving back into our grade and high school History classes. We hope everyone enjoyed that bit of Canadiana.

April – We finished up the year with ordering in from Taverna Rodos and split into mixed-up groups of 2-3 to play the Values Game provided by Linda Little. There were many great discoveries and connections made, and we have since used it again at games afternoon.

October – There is lots to discover in Winnipeg and we had the opportunity to hear from Darrell Sais and his father Frank on the topic of Rooster Town, located in the Grant Park Area around the 1950's. Lots of good information and a reality that we need to know what occurs and creates the community we live in.

November – Our Christmas Party was very enjoyable ... a great meal followed by a presentation by Rabbi Matthew Leibl, on the Jewish influence on some of our Christmas and Winter Carols over the century. Really well received!

It is with dedication, focus and a bit of creativity that we are able to bring these events to CUC. The team of Jane Murray, Linda Little, Monika Franz Lien, David & Carolyn Roper, Shirley Waterman, Michael and I are grateful for the appreciation of our attendees and their generosity to the costs of the meal and the speakers. Mark Little, Russell Jeffrey, and Jeff Franz Lien, our game day 'squad', assists in all the set-up, clean-up and odd jobs of the day.

Keep the ideas coming everyone, we will see what lands!

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Jeffrey

Gifts & Resources

Our committee has had quite a busy year with some larger issues to deal with.

We had just finished dealing with the need of replacing our roof and all that entailed when we had the unfortunate news that our heating boiler was no longer able to be repaired and would need to be replaced. It was not just replacing the boiler, but the old one had to be removed, and asbestos remediation had to be dealt with. We were able to get quotes on all this work and the decision to go ahead was made to proceed to have a heating system functioning before winter set in again. Everything went well and our new efficient heating system is now functioning beautifully. This new system hopefully will result in much lower heating bills and a worry-free system for many years to come

Another issue was the collapse of a drainage grate in the parking lot. It had become sunken below grade and was a safety hazard. We had to have a contractor in to dig it out and rebuilt the manhole underneath. This unforeseen problem cut into our maintenance budget in a big way.

Going forward, we are looking to have security cameras installed around the building to give us an up to date 24 hour look at coming and goings around the building. We have applied for a 70% grant for this project, and the installation is contingent on the grant being approved.

The lighting in the sanctuary is being upgraded with new LED bulbs in the hanging fixtures, and the stage lighting is being changed to LED, and being repositioned. This project will also include cleaning the circulation fans at the roof which have not been cleaned since the church was built.

We are also hoping to be able to have a sound system upgrade installed that would allow hearing impaired people to have sound pick up through compatible hearing aids or supplied headphones. This type of system should be a huge benefit for many in the congregation. We have also applied for a grant to cover a major share of this cost

We have been very fortunate to have 3 new members join our committee. Jim Anderson, Jim Schreyer, and Bill Jury have been nominated and will be confirmed at the AGM. And of course, we are always calling on Robert Godkin for his wisdom, and who graciously never says no.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Trimble
Chair

Heritage Fund

The Heritage Fund was established in 1997. It is a means for members of the Church to support our Ministry long into the future. All Gifts to the Heritage Fund are retained as Capital – only the income earned by the Fund is available to support the work of the Church.

The Fund is invested with TD Wealth Management and the Assiniboine Credit Union. The balance in the Heritage Fund is \$258,351. There is also a \$ 28,166 loan owing to the Fund by our Church.

This loan helped to pay for our New Roof in 2024. There is also a loan owing to the Fund for \$92,557 for the new Boiler. This is a great example of the benefits of having the Heritage Fund!

Congregation Members are encouraged to consider donating to the Heritage Fund as part of their annual giving. This year we were very fortunate to receive a gift \$36,000 from the Marg Crawford Estate as well as \$2,000 from our Congregation.

The Trustees of the Fund are Shauna Sperry, Gordon Gibson and Kenneth Grower.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Grower

Trustees

The congregation of Charleswood United Church has a requirement to have five (5) Trustees to be on record for the land title of property and oversee any real estate or insurance transactions related to the property that the congregation may wish to pursue. This includes liaising with the Prairie to Pine Region Property Commission on direction and approvals. Our five Trustees are Kathryn Anderson, Doreen Barton, Gordon Gibson, Janis Pregnall and Warren Thompson.

The Trustees have been involved in the update of our church property insurance policy and a detailed review that a) identified items to address including the boiler inspection. This inspection resulted in the requirement for the new boiler system that has been installed this past year; and b) resulted in the replacement cost of the church facility going up significantly that resulted in an increase in the insurance premiums.

The overwhelming activity and focus for the Trustees this past year has been the sale of the surplus land for the church. The development plans proposed by the purchaser and its development team received approval from the City of Winnipeg's Assiniboine Planning Committee on November 20th. This was an important milestone but there was expected opposition to this approval and the plan was put on the agenda for the City's Appeal Committee on January 14th, 2026. The appeal was then deferred to the January 28th Appeal Committee's agenda. The appeal was denied and the development plan was approved complete with the technical details related to variances and conditional uses. The city also closed off any future appeals to the city. The development team is working with the City to finalize the servicing agreement. The timeline for the purchaser to waive all conditions is now set for March 15th at which time a second deposit is to be received on the sale as well as the release of the first deposit that has been held in Trust. The close date on the sale will be scheduled for 60 days after this date to allow time for the newly severed parcel of land to be registered as a new parcel and transferred to the purchaser/developer through land titles. This 60-day window may require a 2-week extension due to the time taken for the City's legal review, the second and third readings by Council and registration with the Winnipeg Land Titles Office.

The Trustees will be submitting to the Region's Property Commission for consent to close the final sale in accordance with the Purchase Sale Agreement (as amended) for the church surplus property.

The property sale has benefitted from the efforts of several parties. First and foremost, is the very supportive relationship that has been developed with the Fred Douglas Society and their Steering Committee members associated with their two residential properties to the east of the church property. This collaboration has enabled the sale of the church land. The efforts of the church steering committee members should also be noted as there have been numerous meetings and calls with the development team and legal counsel throughout this process. The skill and supportive advice of Ken Thomas and the Region's Property Commission has been appreciated throughout the process. The support of Colliers and their advice in selecting an experienced, patient and skilled developer to work with has been invaluable. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, the development team partnership of Exemplar Development and Edgecorp Development who have been a pleasure to work with. The process has also benefited from the expertise of McGowan Russell throughout the very lengthy process.

As we enter 2026, the Trustees look forward to supporting the continued growth of our community ministry through this significant legacy event and opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren Thompson
Chair

Ministry & Personnel

The Ministry and Personnel Committee's primary responsibility is to be a consultative and supportive committee for the employees of Charleswood United Church and for members and adherents of the congregation. The committee also provides the annual inputs into matters of compensation, and all recommendations were accepted by Council and incorporated into the 2026 CUC budget.

Charleswood United Church (CUC) has 9 staff members (4 employees and 5 contractors) who keep our community of faith active and engaged. In February, we added Charmaine Bacon as our Musician in Residence.

The M & P Committee membership has had changes in 2025 with the retirement of members Stan Hilderman, Grant Buchanan, and Warren Thompson and were pleased to add David Roper and Virginia Cail to the committee mid-year. Our current members are Pat Shaw, Lindsay Melvin, David Roper and Virginia Cail. Virginia Cail will be departing our committee in April.

Thanks to all the staff for your contributions this past year and continued success in the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Shaw
Chair

Mission & Social Action

The Mission and Social Action Committee looks for ways our committee and the congregation can be of service to our local community, as well as responding to the world's needs. The United Church of Canada does just that with Mission and Service donations, supporting projects in Winnipeg, Canada and throughout the world. Each month, a Mission and Service Story that highlights how these funds are used is read during a Sunday service. Thank you for your generous support of \$57,081.61.

Our church Council designates outreach funds each year. It is our responsibility to distribute these funds. We continue the long-term support for our local groups shown in the Financial Report. The Easter offering was split between 1JustCity and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Once or twice a year, we collect funds for the Benevolent Fund. These funds are used to support local school students and are also used by the Minister for special requests. This year, we supported 40 students from Pacific Junction, Westgrove, Beaverlodge and Dieppe schools.

Pimicikamak Wellness Centre, under the umbrella of 1Just City, is an important focus for our church. They are now a well-established community at 621 Balmoral St. Creating a caring and respectful environment, they provide hot meals, social and recreational programs, as well as facilities such as showers, laundry, and harm reduction support. We were pleased to have Josh Ward, Site Lead, at a worship service in January. He shared many stories of the work the Centre is doing. In June, members attended a Truth and Reconciliation event with Niigaan Sinclair as guest speaker. On behalf of our church, we donated \$500 for sponsorship of the Urban Retreats Gardens Tour, a major fundraiser for 1Just City, whose work directly supports Pimicikamak. We also donated funds to be used for giving gift cards for guests of the Centre at Christmas. We continue to send sandwiches once a month and collect various items as requested during the year. Hygiene items are always needed and can be left at the bench at the main door.

In the fall, we organized congregation collections of school supplies for Westgrove School, and undies for 1JustCity as well as warm clothing for 1JustCity and Westgrove Family Resource Centre. At the back of the Sanctuary is a spot for dropping off used glasses, pop can tabs and used stamps (leave on the envelope). The Sox Box is for used socks, singles or pairs.

Our Rummage Sale in April was a great success! We appreciate all the donations of gently used items, as well as the shoppers who came out to purchase. Our thanks to Lorrie Martindale for coordinating, and to all the volunteers who helped out during the week. We donated \$2,500 from the proceeds to the church operations budget.

Each meeting we spend a few minutes discussing climate awareness and how we can respond. Talking is the first step for making change. We hosted Scott Gerbrandt MB Director of A Rocha at a meeting to discuss creation care and why churches should engage in environmental action. Each month, we add a thoughtful suggestion for action in the Life and Works. Three of our members attended a tree planting in a Winnipeg park, hosted by the City of Winnipeg and A Rocha.

Members also attended a presentation by Peter Harris, the founder of A Rocha. For the month of July, we gave suggestions in the Life and Works for limiting the amount of plastic we use.

Thank you to our members who come to the meetings and share their passions. There are many in our congregation who are not on our committee, but they quietly volunteer, whether in our church or in the community. We appreciate all the work you do on our behalf!

Financial Report 2025

Funds received from the Church Council for outreach: \$5,000.00

Distributed to:

1Just City

Agape Table

Days for Girls

Willow Place Women's Shelter

Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre

Benevolent Fund:

Received from the Congregation:

Regular donors	\$405.00
Special offering	\$2,785.00
Support for Wildfire evacuees	\$3,655.00

Projects fund:

Received:

Rummage Sale	\$5,051.42
Stamp sales	\$433.00

Distributed to:

Charleswood United	\$2,500.00
1Just City-proceeds from stamp sales	
Pimicikamak: summer program	
Pimicikamak: coffee supplies	
A Rocha honorarium	
Urban Retreats Garden Tour sponsorship	
Pimicikamak: support for wildfire evacuees	
1JustCity: Christmas gift cards	
Special Easter offering:	\$4,955.00

Distributed to:

1JustCity

Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Hamilton
Chair

Christmas Hampers

Hamper preparation started on November 30th, the week before White Gift Sunday with the display and dedication of the knitted items that would be included as gifts. Our knitters are a keen group who work all year long to make hats, mitts, neck warmers, slippers, sweaters, blankets and even a dress for a little girl! The Cheer Board no longer supplies yarn, so they not only knit, but also purchase their own materials.

White Gift Sunday gathered together the food and gift items that congregation members have donated. After the service, the work began. Our food committee members count each food item so they can determine how much to order.

The gifts committee people then started to unpack and organize all of the gifts to be distributed to our families. We committed to 55 families through the Christmas Cheer Board and also filled three through our church. Within these families, there were 158 children, aged newborn to 17. Toys, games, stuffies, balls, books, socks, shirts and soaps and lotion gifts sets are assigned to the appropriate age. We shop all year to look for items that are on sale to maximize the value. We aim for 5 gifts, spending about \$25 per child. (Shopping from after Christmas is included in this year's statement). Wednesday night saw our church hall full of activity with people wrapping all the gifts.

On Thursday, the food started to be organized. Four trucks and a van made the trip to Superstore to pick up the groceries. Thanks to Bill Jury for getting the donation of carrots, parsnips and potatoes. The Hall was set up for the next day's packing. Grocery boxes were donated from Cascade Packaging. We are most grateful for these boxes that made for easier handling. Friday morning saw the hall full of people eager to pack the food items using an efficient assembly line system.

Saturday morning was delivery day. Families had been phoned beforehand to ensure they would be home to receive their hamper. Drivers lined up at the front of the church at their designated time, and a crew helped load it up for them to be on their way.

How many people does it take to successfully complete our hampers? About 145 volunteers! Our small committee could not do without the tremendous support of our Congregation and the community.

Financial Report 2025

Balance Forward		\$7,176.33
Donations		
Charleswood Masons	\$1,000.00	
City of Winnipeg (Evan Duncan)	\$1,000.00	
Congregation	\$12,698.65	
Total donations	\$14,698.65	
Expenses		
Christmas Cheer Board from 2024)	\$1,000.00	
Gifts	\$7,452.75	
Groceries	\$8,682.82	

Total expenses \$17,135.57

Current Balance \$4,739.41

Respectfully submitted,
Jenna Poborsa, Chair/Food Ordering
Marg Young, Knitting
Larry & Janice Hamilton, Gifts
Susan Wehrle, Packing
Kathryn Anderson, Deliveries

CREST

2025 marked the 26th anniversary of the Charleswood Refugee Ecumenical Sponsorship Team. CREST is comprised of volunteers from three Charleswood churches, namely Charleswood United, Gloria Dei and Charleswood Mennonite who sponsor refugee families to Winnipeg.

Our most recent family, a young mother and two children ages six and eight arrived in Winnipeg from Nairobi, Kenya on June 27, 2025. They were selected from the federal government preapproved list of refugees who are at significant risk where they are living.

The children are adjusting well to school and are making new friends. The mother is currently taking English classes at Red River College Polytechnic and is hoping to pursue training as a health care aide.

CREST committee members are involved with supporting the settlement of refugee families upon their arrival to Winnipeg: finding suitable housing, providing furnishings, clothing, and if the family has children, assist with school registration. Applying for government programs such as SIN numbers, Manitoba Health, Canada Child Benefit if eligible, ESL assessment, permanent resident cards are essential.

Assisting with setting up a bank account, dealing with rent, utilities, home maintenance, finding a family physician, and dentist are shared amongst team members. Often members from our congregations are recruited to befriend the refugees. Ongoing support may be needed for several years.

The sources of sponsorship funding include the Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada plus donations from the CREST churches.

Support funding for this family includes:

MCC Manitoba	\$18,601.48
IRCC	\$12,156.36
Total:	\$30,757.84

Each participating church donates between \$2,000 and \$4,000 annually to the CREST treasury along with individual donations. These funds are used to augment the reserves to sponsor a family for one year.

CUC donated \$2,500 from the church budget plus an additional \$200 from the congregation. The current CREST account balance is \$23,366.

Support funding is used for covering costs of rental, utilities, home maintenance, furnishings, food, clothing, school supplies and bus transportation to name a few.

We are grateful for the generous donations of furnishings, clothing, toys and books from members of our congregation and are thankful for your continued support.

Special thanks to Janice and Larry Hamilton for providing a variety of new clothes from the Christmas hamper supply for the children at the start of school. The children enjoyed attending Super Saturday Sundae and do appreciate home visits by Rosalie Finch, Children's Ministry Director.

The CUC Christmas hamper, especially the abundance of presents for the family, were greatly appreciated.

The benefits that CREST offers to refugees coming to Canada are extensive. Committee and church members involved with helping the family adjust to a new life in Canada find it a rewarding experience and a very meaningful way to share God's love.

We are always looking for new members to join CREST. If you are interested, please contact one of the committee members.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Rew on behalf of CREST

Lights for Lives

Lights for Lives is a well-loved and cherished remembrance program allowing people to name, remember and honour their departed loved ones. These people are then celebrated at the service on the evening of the first Sunday of the New Year.

We were delighted to gather in person on Sunday, January 4th. Special thanks are extended to Rev. Michael Wilson for his worship leadership that night. Many thanks are extended to Shauna Sperry and Rev. Robert Campbell for their music leadership. We are grateful for your ministry.

Close to two hundred names were remembered this year. Donations were very generously given in memory of these loved ones. Again, we repeat that a donation is not required to remember someone. In total, \$1,910.00 was donated for the support of local grief organizations.

Discussion will be given this year as to this service. We wish to include more volunteers in the execution of this program as well as the service. If you have any suggestions or thoughts, please share them with Rev. Michael Wilson, your Worship & Education committee members or office staff. We welcome your ideas.

Thank you for your support of this annual event. It continues to fill a need.

Women's Advent

This year's annual Women's Advent Service was held on Monday, December 8, 2025. Approximately 150 women attended from our own congregation and the community at large.

For approximately 30 years, the CUC Women's Advent Service has become a tradition for women to gather during the Advent Season. It is an evening of fellowship and companionship providing a peaceful centering, reflection and prayer before the rush of the Christmas Season.

Janet Goddard began our evening welcoming everyone. Music was led by our own Shauna Sperry, a women's choir and flautist Charmaine Bacon. Thank you to the women's choir of Nancy Jeffrey, Anne Burns, Rosalie Finch, Colleen Jury, Karen Riddell, Sandra Sinclair, Laurel Rose and Lindsay Melvin.

Thank you to Rev. Michael Wilson for taking the helm and planning the theme and arranging for the reflections. Reflections on Hope, Peace, Joy and Love were given by Virginia Cail, Joan Rew, Shauna Sperry, and Jenna Poborsa. Thank you to Rev. Noelle Bowles who presided over Communion and provided thoughtful reflection during the Service.

So many women came together to take part in the Service. Thank you to all who volunteered with Scripture, Communion, candle lighting, offering, greeting, and all behind the scenes volunteers for hall set up and clean up. And of course, everyone who contributed to the Christmas baking of dainties for the holiday reception.

Thank you to Bill Jury who once again looked after the parking lot and assisted our guests into the church.

Our offering for the evening was approximately \$1,400 which was divided (after expenses) between Willow Place and One Just City.

Respectfully submitted,

On behalf of the Women's Advent Committee

Laurie Messer

Joanne Moore

Carol Queen

Treasurer's

I assumed the duties of Treasurer following the AGM held in 2025. I have had great help from our bookkeeper Jacquie Craigen who has helped familiarize me with the church's accounting system. I meet with Jacquie on a monthly basis to go over the monthly statements and reports.

The year 2024 was busy with the roof project and this was completed and paid for by the end of 2024 outside of our debt to the United Church of Canada and the Heritage Fund.

The year 2025 was challenged by a new project for replacing the existing boiler in the church at a significant cost, close to \$100,000.00. Fortunately, we were able to obtain a loan again by the Heritage Fund to complete this project. Many donations have been gratefully given by our congregation plus fundraising and a substantial grant from the United Church of Canada.

The church ended the year in a profit thanks to generous donations at Christmas and throughout the year in many forms. I also understand that pledged for 2026 have been generous to accommodate the boiler and roof projects.

We are looking forward to a prosperous year for 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Murray
Treasurer
Charleswood United Church

Operating Budget

CHARLESWOOD UNITED CHURCH 2026 BUDGET

	Budget 2025	Forecast 2025	BUDGET 2026
INCOME			
M & S	53000	58741	54000
Local	381925	386581	390000
Property	47050	43071	48000
Roof/Boiler			10300
Boiler 2025		26650	
Roof 2025	5800	9473	
TOTAL DONATIONS	487775	524516	502300
Fundraising	1500	9191	12500
Christmas Play	1700	0	0
C & C Donations	0	3500	0
Rentals	44700	47947	46000
Music Funds	0	0	4650
Interest Income	0	281	0
HF Investment Income	9100	9027	8900
TOTAL INCOME	544775	594462	574600
EXPENSES			
Staff	283964	283964	285275
Honorarium (Minister Coverage)	0	3050	3000
Janitorial	30047	28051	30775
Hydro	20000	18927	19500
Water	2130	3298	2175
Cleaning & Supplies	12660	12035	12915
Building Maintenance	26900	29237	26900
Insurance	15309	18272	21100
Property tax	19492	27120	28940
TOTAL – STAFF & BUILDING EXP	410502	423954	430580
OFFICE EXPENSE			
Office Admin.	5000	4926	5000
Technology	5385	5167	5385
Audit	7387	7555	7700
Interest & Bank Charges	330	283	330
Continuing Education	1500	1374	1500
Leadership Development	0	0	0
Telephone	3200	3161	3264
Postage	900	725	800
Heritage Fund Expense	0	1	0
Office Equipment Lease	3612	3612	3612
National Assessment	21559	21559	25475

Faith Message	2000	2000	2000
M & S Expense	53000	58741	54000
TOTAL OFFICE EXP	103873	109104	109066

	Budget 2025	Forecast 2025	BUDGET 2026
COMMITTEE EXPENSE			
Minister's Discretionary	2500	2246	2500
Affirm Ministries	0	1058	500
CREST	2500	2500	2500
Council	200	340	200
Christmas Play	1000	0	0
Communication	0	0	0
M & P	350	212	350
M & SA Outreach	5000	5000	5500
Guest Musicians	5000	4250	5000
Youth Programming	800	800	1000
Christian Development	250	311	250
Church School	3000	2669	3000
Choir	2000	1947	2000
Music Expense	0	0	4650
Worship & Education	3000	2505	3000
TOTAL COMMITTEE EXP	25600	23838	30700
ROOF/LAND EXPENSE			
Land Expense	0	6792	0
Loan Interest	4800	4529	4254
TOTAL ROOF/LAND EXP	4800	11321	4254
TOTAL EXPENSES	544775	568217	574600
NET INCOME/LOSS	0	26245	0

Nominating Report

NAME	COMMITTEE
Jim Schreyer	Gifts & Resources
Jim Anderson	Gifts & Resources
Karen Pomarenski	Care & Community
Dorothy Schreyer	Care & Community
Joyce Burns	Care & Community
Lynn Kent	Care & Community
Kathryn Anderson	Care & Community
Pat Arbuckle	Care & Community
Brenda Kennedy	Care & Community
Phyllis Marsch	Care & Community
Carolyn McPhee	Care & Community
Joanne Moore	Care & Community
Susan Rogers (Chair)	Care & Community
Bonnie Prophet	Mission & Social Action
Carol Bunston	Mission & Social Action
Carolyn Lucas	Mission & Social Action
Deb Clement (Secretary)	Mission & Social Action
Diane Rankin (Treasurer)	Mission & Social Action
Glenda Gray	Mission & Social Action
Janet Forbes	Mission & Social Action
Kelly Thompson	Mission & Social Action
Larry Hamilton	Mission & Social Action
Marg Young	Mission & Social Action
Marilyn Mutter	Mission & Social Action

Marjorie Grower	Mission & Social Action
Sharon Gordon	Mission & Social Action
Shirley Godkin	Mission & Social Action
Olga Morrow	Worship & Education
Laurie Messer (Chair)	Worship & Education
Wally Ort	Worship & Education
Grant Buchanan	Worship & Education
Virginia Cail	Ministry & Personnel

Affirming Ministry Task Group

Commencing in the Fall of 2024, the Affirming Ministry Task Group are those who accepted the invitation of Michael Wilson to explore the possibility of Charleswood United Church joining Affirm United and carrying the designation of being an “Affirming Church”.

An “Affirming Church” is one who that has undergone the requisite education and discernment and desires to commit itself to being a place of exceptional hospitality and radical acceptance for all people without regard to the categories which are too often used to separate and discriminate. Affirming Churches have a particular mind and heart for welcoming people of all sexual orientations, identities, and genders. This is articulated in the Vision Statement the group has prepared for the congregation’s consideration:

Charleswood United Church Affirming Ministry Vision Statement

As sure as we celebrate the gifts of grace given to us at table and font, Charleswood United Church seeks to be gracious in welcoming, affirming, and supportive of all who come into our community.

This may include, but is not limited to, people of differing ethnicity, culture, language, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical ability, intellectual capacity, mental health, or economic circumstance.

As a church called by God, witnessing to the love of Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to demonstrate publicly and in our communal life that this is a place where all are welcome and no one is turned away. At Charleswood everyone has a place at the table.

The Affirming Ministry Task Group consists of Bruce and Pat Macdonald, Jacquie Craigen, Jennifer Mutter, Kelly Thompson, Joanne Moore, Eliana Handford, Loreen Morden, Valerie Beckingham, and Rosalie Finch, along with Council Chair Janet Goddard (ex-officio) and facilitated by Michael Wilson.

We have had a busy year with several highlights:

- A congregational forum held March 14 to celebrate PIE Day (Public. Intentional. Explicit.) Close to 50 people attended and shared an abundance of stories from personal experience which only served to confirm our assumption of Charleswood as an open and accepting community.
- A CUC 'float' in the Winnipeg PRIDE Parade. A hot day to be sure but a grand time for those who participated and represented us and our intentions.
- A visit to the Canadian Museum of Human Rights exhibit called "Love in a Dangerous Time" about the Government of Canada's LBGT purge of the 1950s-90s, stories of injustice, resistance, and resilience from our own country's history.
- An education night in November at which Michael Wilson and transgender advocate Kai Solomon engaged in a far-ranging conversation about affirming goals in church and society.

While the motion set before the congregation at the Annual Meeting will simply be "That Charleswood United Church adopt the Affirming Ministry Vision Statement and join Affirm United to begin its life as an Affirming Ministry." The practicalities of passing that motion have been laid out in the Action Plan below.

Charleswood United Church Affirming Ministry Action Plan

Under the direction of Church Council, Charleswood United Church will live out it's commitment to being an Affirming Ministry with the establishment of an ongoing Affirming Ministry Steering Group. Council will provide a place of accountability for the Steering Group, ensure the cooperative participation of church staff, and demonstrate its support with provision of an annual budget. Council will guarantee the promotion of our Affirming Status by providing space for our Affirming Statement on our Home Page and a full page within our website.

In turn the Affirming Ministry Steering Group shall:

- ◀ Provide leadership within Charleswood United Church on being an open, affirming, welcoming, supportive, and inclusive community with particular attention to the acceptance and full participation of the LBGTQ2S+ community.*
- ◀ Be stewards of the promises made by the adoption of our Affirming Ministry Vision Statement.*
- ◀ Have responsibility for the congregation's membership in Affirm United.*
- ◀ Provide leadership for the congregation's observance of and participation in PIE DAY and Pride events.*
- ◀ Network with other Affirming Ministries in our city and Region as well as with allies in the wider community.*

We welcome the questions, comments, concerns, and conversations that will ensue as we make this important and profound decision at this year's Annual Meeting.

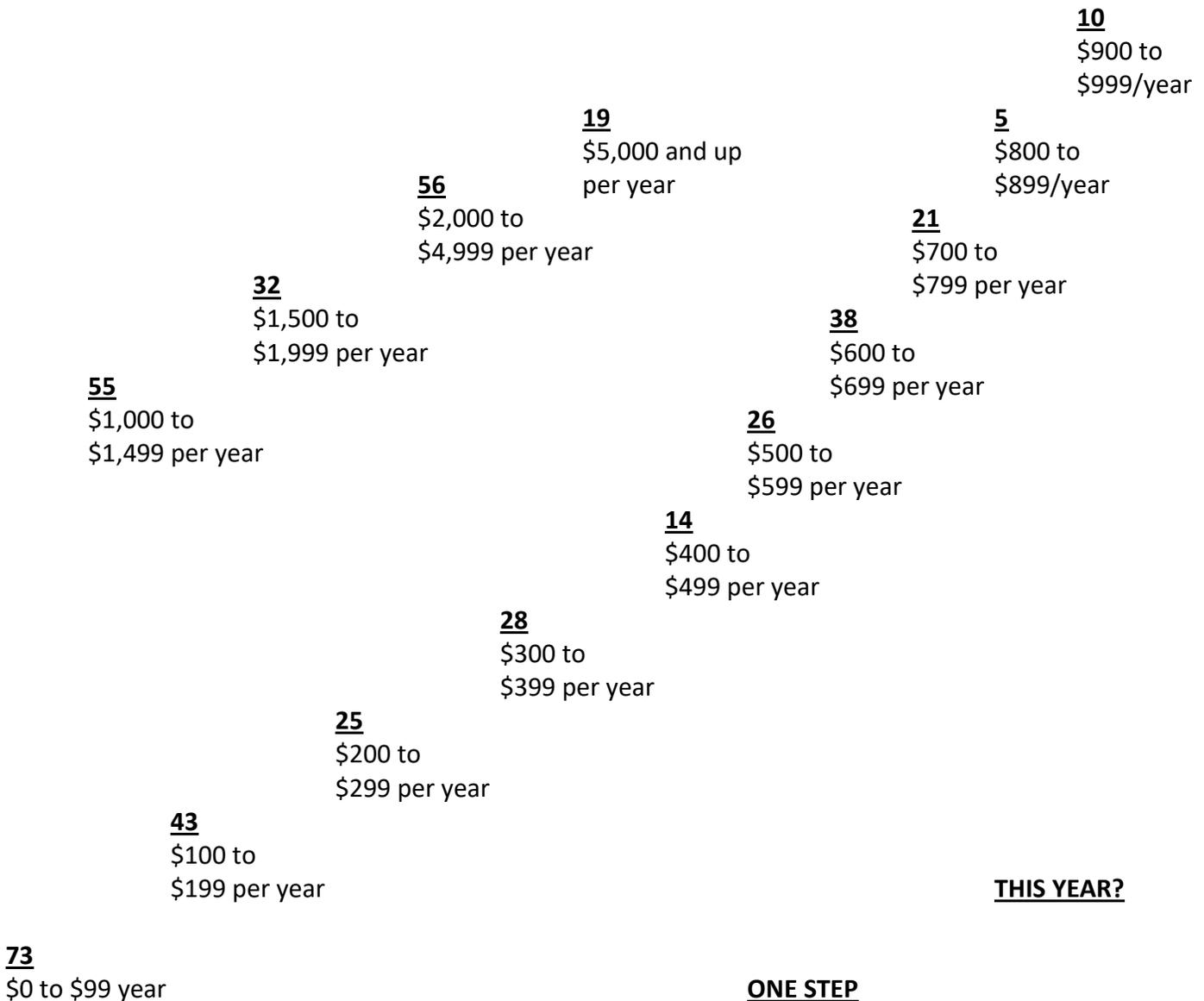
Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson

Just a Note

A REVEALING BREAKDOWN OF OUR CONGREGATION'S GIVING PATTERNS

Number of families who call CUC their home	438
Number of income tax receipts sent	445
Number of families who use envelopes to give week by week	70
Number of families who use e-transfer to give	45
Number of families who use PAR	179

FIND WHERE YOU ARE ON THIS CHART (your yearly giving)



WILL YOU GROW

Prairie to Pine Regional Council

Greetings to and Thanksgiving for You!

As I look back on the past year, I realize how quickly a one-year term as co-chair flew by. It was a one-year term and not two, what we might call in the church a “Gap” appointment. This was to help the terms work for Co-Chair Elect’s and Co-Chair positions that had previously been vacant.

As with anything new, there is a learning curve, and I certainly found this to be true. And I know I leave the position with more learning to go. Being Co-Chair is being the representative for Prairie to Pine Regional Council in ways I had not expected, like being in conversation with the provincial government and the Board of Regents for the University of Winnipeg, or like wrestling with the implications and impact of a nuclear waste dump proposal and who best needs to be in the conversation. The year has caused me to think of the leadership that has gone before and all the ways in which they served this church that we may not have been aware of.

An overview of some of the activities that have happened over the past year includes

- hosting two Zoom-based town halls
- planning and implementation of a two-evening Zoom-based Annual Meeting in October 2024 Planning for in-person Executive meeting in November 2024.
- being a representative at the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity worship service Attended covenant services when able.
- representation at 100 Year Anniversary of the United Church of Canada in St. John’s NL Coordinated Retirement Dinner Celebration
- provided representation at the Service of Celebration of Ministry for Elijah Mwandilla

These, along with regular monthly meetings, made for a full year, of which I am grateful for the experience. And there were many other events that took place over the year that we reached out to past chairs for their valuable assistance in filling in the gaps.

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve this United Church of ours, a church that I love and hope to see continue for many years in the future. I was reminded of this while attending the 100- year anniversary. At the dinner on the evening before the worship service, there were several guests who spoke to us of the importance of the ways in which the United Church of Canada has been at the forefront of many important social justice initiatives. We heard from the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, the General Secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches, our own current and past Moderators, our General Secretary and an Indigenous Youth Scholar, Samantha Miller. I was moved by the various faith traditions represented of others who spoke, the Dean of Eastern NL/Labrador Anglican Church, and representatives from the Muslim and Hindu communities. And I believe these last two I mention gave me the “Yes!” to why we need to make sure there will always be a United Church loving and embracing and including all of God’s richly diverse and incredibly beautiful Creation.

Now I am stepping into membership of the Committee on Nominations, and it is my hope that I will find other “yeses” when I call to ask, “would you consider serving your church on...?”

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Sanderson
Co-Chair
Prairie to Pine Regional Council

“Anyone with ears to ear, listen to the Spirit. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.” Revelation 2:7

Over the past 12 months, the executive of Prairie-to-Pine, together with our skilled and committed staff, has attempted to hear what the Spirit is saying to the regional church. With a structure that is still finding its feet and deep change in the religious and spiritual landscape in Canada, hearing Spirit is not always easy.

I am grateful for the past year, during which I served as Co-Chair along with the very-able Lynne Sanderson. Before accepting the nomination, I attended Executive meetings as a guest and spoke to current and past chairs about the expectations of the role. I noticed that I was feeling disconnected from the regional church and decided that the way to learn was to jump in, so I did. And the following year was a challenge.

I am new to Manitoba, and I had been working outside of the United Church when the current structure was developed, so many things are still fuzzy to me. Too, the role of the Chair/Chairs is still evolving in real time, with many tasks emerging unexpectedly; many other tasks being diplomatic (and thus hard for me to prioritize) and yet other issues being unfamiliar and complex (and thus hard to navigate in my relative ignorance). Lynne named a couple such issues in her report: we were asked to consider a Nuclear Waste Disposal site in another province and asked to weigh in on United Church positions on the Board of Regents at the University of Winnipeg.

Because diverse and unexpected issues arise with surprising regularity, co-chairs rely heavily on staff for background information and advice. Needing to speak with one voice, as co-chairs and seek advice from one or more staff, creates a certain inefficiency in our current system and a sense for me of doing the job poorly. I’m not sure wherein the problems lie: maybe this will be revealed in the years ahead.

Also, heading into the role of co-chair, it was apparent that the P2P Region is driven largely by tasks, rather than by a guiding vision. This is not by desire or design. Rather, because the work facing staff and volunteers is so urgent and time-sensitive, it is hard to create time and space to create and articulate our vision.

I wonder: do you, as an engaged member of P2P have a sense of the “why” of the P2P Region? What is your 30-second elevator speech? We will be focusing on our Call and Vision in the coming months. I look forward to this!

Like my co-chair, I have outlined some of my work over the past year below.

- co-chaired P2P Executive meetings in 2024-2025.
- participated in a meeting between the Moderator, the General Secretary and regional chairs (Oct. 2024) Chairs shared something we celebrate in our region and something that needs attention.
- communicated with Communication and Justice Minister, Executive Minister or other staff, and co-chair, to prepare statements regarding local, regional or national issues in a timely way.
- planned for & co-chaired, Oct 2024 AGM.
- hosted an in-person Executive day-long gathering in Winnipeg (Nov 2024)
- attended and spoke at a leaders' meeting with the Rev. Prof. Dr Jerry Pillay, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches and ecumenical leaders from Winnipeg and Manitoba. Attended a public event with Dr Pillay at the Museum for Human Rights (Dec 2024).
- engaged in an ongoing conversation with six downtown & downtown adjacent UCC congregations in Winnipeg about the future.
- hosted an in-person ½ day Executive meeting in Winnipeg about Toward 2035
- secured a letter from the Lt. Governor for all congregations in P2P having 100th Anniversary services and events. Sent the letter to all congregations that were holding services (Spring 2025).
- attended the Retirees Banquet, organized by Lynne Sanderson (June 2025).
- attended GC45 in Calgary, and all preliminary and training meetings, on behalf of the Region (Spring-Fall 2025).
- attended an education and training day on Toward 2035 after GC45, August 2025
- planning for and chairing the October 2025 AGM.
- part of the Planning Team for the June 2026 AGM
- contacted people to attend a Structural Task Group Evaluation, October 2025

In June 2025, as Lynne ended her term as co-chair, the Executive welcomed Doug Neufeld as co-chair. I have appreciated working with Doug and am sorry that his term will be cut short by a move to Ontario. We wish Doug and his family all the best.

I look forward to more growth in my role as chair and I thank the staff and the executive for their patience, knowledge and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Rolke
Co-Chair
Prairie to Pine Regional Council