



# MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT 2025

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – Sunday, March 22, 2026

#### AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
2. Appointment of Secretary
3. Record Attendance
4. Approve Agenda
5. Receive and Consider Reports
6. Approve Presbyterian Sharing Allocation For 2026
7. Set and Approve Budget for 2026
8. Appointment Of Trustees
9. Appointment Of Reviewers
10. Appointment Of Managers
11. New Business
12. Appreciations
13. Adjournment And Benediction

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## **MINISTER'S MESSAGE: NOT JUST A REPORT**

It is that time of year when we begin to read through the annual report. Some of the reports we read may appear to be similar to the previous year with just a few dates changed. Other reports might have quite a bit of narrative included in them. Still other reports have to do with the finances. It may seem at first glance that the yearly reports for a church are similar to other groups and organizations that have annual meetings. What makes our report different from others is that we begin to see God's presence involved when we read these reports. As I considered this uniqueness, I found myself making an acronym with the word "reports."

**R - Remembered by God**

**E – Encouraged by Him**

**P – Providing for us**

**O – Overseeing us throughout the year**

**R – Reaching out to us**

**T – Trustworthiness of God**

**S – Special to be part of God's family**

As we read through this year's report, may all of the qualities expressed in the acronym be evident to us and remind us of how blessed we are to have this church as our spiritual home.

God Bless,  
Pastor Dean

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING – Sunday, March 15, 2025**

The Annual Meeting of the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church was held Sunday, March 15, 2025. The meeting was held after the morning service; the meeting was opened with prayer. Don Brown moved Debbie Opersko act as secretary, seconded by Lisa Devine. Carried. Debbie accepted the position.

Attendance of the meeting was Members - 20 Adherents - 8

Nadine Adlam moved that we adopt the agenda, seconded by Janet Franklin. Carried

The congregation had received the minutes prior to the meeting to review. No items were brought forward from the 2024 minutes. Murray Macpherson moved to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2024 Annual Meeting, seconded by Neil Macpherson. Carried

### **Business Arising**

There was one amendment required for the Kirk of Session report. Don Brown should be shown on the list of elders but was shown as retired. He did serve on the Session. Don retired in March 2024.

Joan Franklin made a motion to receive and consider the reports as corrected, seconded by Neil Macpherson. Carried.

The Session voted on the allocation of \$4,200 for Presbyterian Sharing for the year 2025. Kevin Weir moved we accept the allocation of \$4,200.00 for Presbyterian Sharing, seconded by Neil Macpherson. Carried.

There was a brief discussion regarding the proposed budget. It was explained there was money put in the budget to upgrade and fix the driveway. There was also money put in the budget for replacement and repairs to the furnace in St Andrew's Hall.

Murray Macpherson motioned to approve the Board of Managers Proposed Budget for 2025, seconded by Jeff Allen. Carried

### **New Business**

Appointment of Trustees: Dayna Opersko moved that Alex Fairlie, Velma Hughes and Harvey Walsh be reinstated as trustees for 2025, seconded by Neil Macpherson. Carried

Reviewers of the Books: It was moved by Don Brown to let the Session and the Board of Managers each appoint one person to review the books for 2025, seconded by Janet Franklin. Carried

Board of Managers: Don Brown has retired from the Board. Dayna Opersko and Joan Franklin will be reinstated for 3 years. Both Nadine Adlam and Michel Boulanger have accepted joining the Board of Managers. Nadine Adlam nominated Debbie Opersko to join the Board. She accepted the position. Dayna Opersko moved Michel Boulanger, Nadine Adlam and Debbie Opersko to be elected to the Board of Managers, seconded by Mark VanDyck. Carried

There was a discussion regarding a donation of \$500.00 to be given from the missions to a charity. Janet Franklin moved that a \$500.00 donation be given to the Salvation Army Food Bank, seconded by Nadine Adlam. Carried

There was a lengthy discussion on the accessibility of the sanctuary. It was moved by Jeff Allen to start up the Accessibility Committee to investigate and see what is out there and what we have to do for the church to provide accessibility to the sanctuary, seconded by Janet Franklin. Carried

The Accessibility Team consists of Nadine Adlam, Dean Opersko, Maryann, Joan Franklin, Dent McIntyre, and Donald Young.

A vote of thanks was extended to the following people:

- Amy Groleau for her work as Music Director and for the arrangement of special music,
- The Music Committee of Janet Franklin, Nadine Adlam and Karen Young for leading the singing during the Church Service and for the special music,
- Nancy Brown for teaching Sunday School,
- June Adlam as the Church Historian,
- Kevin Weir as Envelope Secretary,
- Kevin Weir, Jeff Allen and other volunteers for counting of the money Sunday morning,
- The Chancel Committee for the decorating of the Sanctuary for special occasions,
- Janet Neal, Neil and Murray Macpherson for looking after and watering the flower beds,

- Helen for watering and weeding the long flower bed along the church,
- Neil Macpherson, Murray Macpherson and Janet Neal for all the work they do within the Church,
- Janet Franklin for organizing, printing and sending out the annual reports,
- Donald Young for arranging and holding Bible Study,
- The Board of Managers and the Session,
- All the people who have arranged and worked on the fundraisers.
- Nadine Adlam for all the work she puts into the PowerPoints for every Sunday service and for the cleaning of the Church every week.

A vote of thanks went out to Rev. Dean for all the work he does preparing the online and in-person morning services and for the children's stories.

Rev. Dean thanked the congregation for all their patience and understanding when he has to go to the other churches in Brantford as their Interim Moderator.

Jeff Allen motioned for adjournment. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Opersko

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES: Sunday, May 4, 2025**

A congregational meeting was held after the service on May 4, 2025 for the congregation to consider and vote upon the Board of Manager's recommendation to have the driveway graveled.

Rev. Dean Adlam called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

The official count for the meeting was 26 members and 5 adherents.

It was moved by Neil Macpherson and seconded by Jeff Allen that Nadine Adlam serve as secretary for the meeting. Carried

### **Presentation of Information**

Dean Adlam shared with the congregation the reason for holding the meeting was that the quote for gravelling the driveway had come in thirty per cent higher than the \$5,000.00 that was approved at our annual meeting. It was shared that the Board of Managers had narrowed the contractor for this work down to Compact Tractor Services. While the initial quote was for Grade A gravel, the Board of Managers in subsequent discussion with the contractor decided the better option would be to have limestone instead. It was shared that three individuals had offered to contribute toward the difference between the \$5,000.00 approved and the new price of \$6,615.95.

A question and discussion arose about the process followed by the Board of Managers back in the fall with regards to discussing these quotes. Clarity was offered by Rev. Dean Adlam why there was not enough time to hold a congregational meeting and approve this back in December of 2024. Discussion also moved to what it might cost as well for the removal of the bats from the attic and whether both

projects could be afforded this year. Various opinions were offered on whether the driveway should be put on hold and concentrate on the bats first. After discussing all of these matters the following motion was made:

Motion: Kevin Weir/Dent McIntyre moved to approve the gravelling of the driveway using limestone at \$6,615.95 with the understanding donations will come in to cover the amount above \$5,000.00. The motion carried.

It was shared that another congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, May 18, 2025, to consider the quotes on the removal of the bats.

Kevin Weir moved adjournment. Rev. Dean Adlam closed the meeting with prayer.

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES: Sunday, May 25, 2025**

A congregational meeting was held after the service on May 25, 2025, for the congregation to consider and vote upon the Board of Manager's recommendation to have Ontario Wildlife Removal contracted for the removal of the bats from the attic.

Rev. Dean Adlam called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

The official count for the meeting was 22 members and 5 adherents.

It was moved by Jeff Allen and seconded by Don Brown that Nadine Adlam serve as secretary for the meeting. Carried

#### **Presentation of Information**

Dean Adlam shared with the congregation the three quotes obtained in regard to having the bats removed. Costs were shared as provided by each company and an explanation of why the Board of Managers felt Ontario Wildlife Removal was the preferred choice for removing the bats. Several questions were asked by those present. It was shared that if approved the money would be transferred over from some of our investments. It was also shared that a quote would be received at a later time for the removal of the bat guano from the attic.

Motion: Dent McIntyre/ Mark VanDyck that approval be given for Ontario Wildlife Removal to do the work of removing the bats from the attic and securing all entry points at a cost of \$13, 560.00. The vote was carried.

Dayna Opersko moved to adjourn. Rev. Dean Adlam closed the meeting in prayer.

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES: Sunday, October 26, 2025**

The congregational meeting was held after the service on Sunday, October 26, 2025 for the congregation to consider and vote on the Board of Managers recommendation to continue with the removal of the bat guano and replace the insulation.

The meeting was called to order at 11:12 a.m.

Total number present were 23 members and 5 adherents

Moved by Debbie Opersko and seconded by Joan Franklin that Nadine Adlam serve as secretary for the meeting. Carried.

Rev. Dean explained that we agreed at the congregational meeting in May for the company Ontario Wildlife Removal to safely remove the bat infestation at a cost of \$13,560.00 which has been completed. He explained that they installed one-way holes so that bats would go out but not be able to return. They also covered areas where mice could enter the building. They returned after 6 weeks to remove one-way holes and inspect.

It was also discovered there was a gap in the flashing where water came into the attic. That gap was repaired and was covered under this year's budget of repairs and maintenance at a cost of \$1,130.00. No meeting was required due to it being covered under the budget.

Photos were shown on PowerPoint of the bat guano on the insulation in the attic.

It was explained how the purpose of this meeting was to inform about the next stage in the process. There were 4 companies contacted for quotes about removal of insulation and spraying to disinfect. The board is recommending the company Insta-Insulation be hired to do the work as they felt they had the best price and gave a good breakdown of their work.

A breakdown of the work was displayed on PowerPoint to show the congregation.

Remove all attic insulation	\$3,500.00
Spray disinfectant	\$ 450.00
Blow in R40 insulation	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
	\$5,950.00
<b>HST</b>	<u>\$773.50</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$6,723.50

Rev. Dean explained we would get half of the HST back which would be about \$350.00.

It was explained about the health and safety concern with the bat guano. The company would take 2 -3 full days to complete the work. Everyone must stay out of the building for a minimum of 24 hours once it is sprayed although 2-3 days is preferred for safety reasons. The question of Bible Study came up and it was agreed to cancel for that week or move to someone's home for everyone's safety.

It was asked about the other quotes. Mark explained that the quote from Ontario Wildlife Removal to do the work this time would be \$18,000 because they would contract the work to others. The other quotes were also higher in cost. The board felt that the company Insta-Insulation Brantford was the best of the quotes both for cost and their description of what they would do.

Rev. Dean explained that he applied for a grant called the McBain-Barker Small Community Capital Fund through the Presbyterian Church in Canada to try to recoup some of our expenses. We will not know if we will get the grant or how much until April of 2026.

Motion: Moved by Mark VanDyck and seconded by Dayna Opersko to hire Insta-Insulation Brant to spray and remove the insulation and replace it with R40 insulation. Carried.

Jeff Allen moved to adjourn.

## **REPORTS**

### **KIRK SESSION**

Rev. Dean Adlam has led us through another year with his Ministry of the Word to this congregation. We thank him for his pastoral care and leadership. We pray for him and his family as we look forward to another year.

The Kirk Session had four meetings during the year, and we celebrated four Communion services. The number of members attending ranged between 35 and 40.

Sadly, four members died during 2025:

- May Clarke
- Kurt Degraaf
- Doug Hughes
- Bunty Lowe

One adherent, Eileen Boulanger, also died. They will be greatly missed.

We need to thank the many people who work in the background to keep our church a loving, caring community of faith. We thank Amy Groleau for enhancing our worship services with music and singing.

Respectfully submitted,  
Velma Hughes, Clerk of Session

### **MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Why is music in the church important? It enhances worship and fosters a deeper connection with faith. It also helps us connect emotionally and spiritually with our beliefs. It can unite congregants. It serves as an expression of devotion and reiterates scripture. Music provides a reverent atmosphere for encouraging spiritual reflection. So, music is very important to organized service gatherings in the life of the Christian church. We at Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church have continued this tradition. We sing hymns, Psalms and spiritual songs each Sunday and these can be recalled throughout the next days to encourage and uplift us.

We were saddened with the loss of several members or adherents during 2025 (Douglas Hughes, Kurt Degraaf, May Clarke, Bunty Lowe), and the Celebration of Life service for Eileen Boulanger was held in the sanctuary on May 3, 2025.

What a blessing it is to have Nadine Adlam produce our PowerPoint presentation each service. There are hours involved in gathering information and producing these videos. Nadine, Janet Franklin, and Karen Young have faithfully led us in our worship singing. We have also been blessed to have Miss Sadie and Rev. Donald Young assist with special music.

Palm Sunday was recognized through the tradition of hearing *The Palms* and *Open the Gates of the Temple*. The rich voices of men of the church sang *In the Garden* to the ladies on Mother's Day. We were blessed to welcome Cecil Sault to minister at our Father's Day service. Our Anniversary Service began with a traditional recording of the late Donald Pritchard singing *The Tartans* and this year Joan Elliott ministered in music. For our Remembrance Day service flutist Sue-Anne Schroeder led us with *Abide With Me*. Jack Wehner participated in a piano / organ duet, using the digital piano and we look forward to having all of these individuals (and perhaps even you) minister in worship through music in the future.

Our Christmas season was a busy one. We held an afternoon of music on December 13 performed by a men's quartet - Sing-Capella - members of Gentlemen of Harmony from Simcoe. Board of Managers hosted a carol sing-along following the Christmas Sunday service, sharing refreshments, fellowship and music around the piano in St. Andrew's Hall. And, this Christmas introduced a new instrument played by Miss Chloe - the clarinet. She ministered to us with *Silent Night* as a solo and accompanied the congregation at the Christmas Eve service.

Although we are a smaller country venue, we have much talent to share musically and continue the importance of music in the life of this church family.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Groleau, Music Director

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Each Sunday there is a prepared Sunday School lesson. However, we only average about two Sundays per month when we have children. We have 1 to 5 children.

Again, this year, the children participated in the Christmas Eve Service. Sadie sang, and Gregory did a reading.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Brown

## **BOARD OF MANAGERS**

Like any year, 2025 was full of fun twists, turns and surprises for the care of the church, as is common in older buildings like ours. The Board of Managers had 10 regular meetings and 3 congregational

meetings. Our year began with the completion of the budget that we had set in December. Kevin made the adjustments suggested by the Session and the Board of Managers. When the changes were completed, we all received a copy at the meeting and it was moved, seconded and passed. It was then included in the 2025 Annual Report for passing by the congregation.

During the course of the year, all the normal things were looked after: the chair lift was inspected, fire extinguishers were tested and approved in January and December, the accessible parking signs were replaced in April, and the pianos were tuned in June.

A few larger projects were completed as we navigated 2025. We started by repairing the furnace for the Sanctuary in February and investigating the water spots on the ceiling of the Sanctuary as suggested at the annual meeting in March, which led to the discovery that bats were living in the belfry. April was a busy month: we had the driveway scraped and fresh gravel placed, and the church was made critter-proof to prevent mice and bats from entering. We had a quiet summer, which was followed by the removal of the bat guano and replacement of the attic insulation in October. When all else fails, so does the furnace. Through an investigation into the furnace in St. Andrew's Hall at the end of November, high carbon monoxide was detected, and the gas was temporarily shut off. By the beginning of December, it was determined that the chimney was blocked and the chimney lining was replaced. The gas was turned back on after fixing the chimney.

Through it all, we tried out some new fundraising. Time and Talents was revived and many butter tarts and preserves have been passed around the congregation. Sing-Capella and Amy Groleau hosted a concert in December that brought Christmas cheer to all that attended. The Family Picnic was brought back in August and everyone had a good time chatting, eating and playing yard games. We welcomed new members to the Board: Nadine Adlam, Debbie Opersko and Michel Boulanger. We also wish a happy retirement to Don Brown, Michel Boulanger and Joan Franklin who have resigned from the Board of Managers. We would like to thank them for their service on the Board.

We would like to thank everyone who tends the gardens at the side and front of the church, the rose garden, the gardens at the back of the church and the community garden as well as the people who water the gardens every night and tend the memorial forest. We appreciate the people who put up the Nativity scene, replace the flags, keep the outdoor lights functioning and clean the church. They say it takes a village to raise a child, and it would seem it takes a small village to keep a church moving forward. If you are interested in joining the Board of Managers, please contact one of the Board members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dayna Opersko, BOM Secretary

## **BIBLE STUDY**

The Bible Study group continued its study of Mark's gospel during the 2025 year on Wednesday evenings in the homes of those participating in the Bible study. We first read a section of a chapter and then answer questions I have prepared about the section. There is often quite a lively discussion. Currently, we are working through chapter thirteen.

Some questions relate to how we might apply the teachings of Jesus to our lives, and/or if we observe any contemporary parallels. Sometimes, the Mark material stimulates questions about other topics, but that is okay. They get answered and we get back to the gospel again.

You are welcome to join us. Please call me at 519-756-8580 (voice) to learn where we are meeting. We start at 7:00 p.m. and finish at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald Young

## **CHANCEL COMMITTEE**

Members of the Chancel Committee are Mark VanDyck, Lisa Devine, Janet Neal, Murray and Neil Macpherson and June Adlam. We are also grateful for the added support of Jeff Allen who hangs the tartans for our Anniversary Service and Ted and Louise Sanders who, for all four seasons, design and decorate the flowers/decorations in our outdoor planters. Our mandate is to decorate the church for all religious celebrations including Thanksgiving, our Church Anniversary, Remembrance Day and Decoration Day. In addition, we recognize other special days on the calendar or in members' lives.

For Valentine's Day, cards were mailed to senior members of our church no longer able to attend services. Both Communion tables, as well as the large wooden cross, were draped in purple at Lent. One Communion table held the crown of thorns on the brass cross and the other held artifacts (nails, chain, cross, red petals for blood), relating to the crucifixion. The drapings were replaced with black for Good Friday and white for Easter Sunday. Palm branches were added on Palm Sunday and Easter lilies for Easter Sunday. The outdoor planters were decorated in the Easter theme, later replaced with pansies, pussy willows and daffodils for spring. Both Mother's and Father's Day Sundays were recognized with gifts of a religious booklet for both, the women receiving a messaged key chain and the men a special cookie.

The village of Mount Pleasant recognizes Decoration Day in September. Our committee this year placed 35 containers of zinnias and hosta leaves on the graves of former members/adherents buried in our village Pioneer Cemetery. We also remember two important citizens of our village, Brant Atkins who had been given the title of Honorary Mayor and Chester Wetmore who founded the Mount Pleasant War Service Club as well as Dan McPherson who in 1946 willed his home and property to the church. Our first minister, Rev. John Bryning (1830-1843), is also buried there, and a special bouquet is placed on his grave. Thanks to Joan Franklin who plants and donates the flowers for this occasion.

Thanksgiving Sunday was recognized with both Communion tables filled with vegetables and fruits of the season and jars of preserves. Bouquets of corn cobs hung at the windows in the sanctuary as well on the outer doors and windows. Our thanks to those members who donated the produce for our decorations. Again, our outdoor planters were decorated with pots of mums, pumpkins, gourds and spiritual messages.

The third Sunday in October is the official anniversary of our church. In 2025, we celebrated 147 years in our present building and 195 years of Presbyterianism in our village. We pay honour to our Scottish heritage by decorating the sanctuary in Scottish clan tartans. The Royal Stuart tartan drapes the

gallery railing and tartans representing the clans of former and present church families hang in the windows, and on the walls of the sanctuary. The Mount Pleasant Communion table is covered with the Hanna tartan honouring our first minister, Rev. Bryning, and is flanked by the St. Andrew flag and the flag of Scotland. On this table is the pewter Communion service used by the Burford Presbyterian Church when they were twinned with us from 1877 to 1884, flanked by our heritage candle holders. The Knox Communion table was draped in the Cleric tartan honouring all ministers and student ministers that followed through the years. Displayed on this table are replicas of the collection boxes used in the early Scottish churches. Large white enamel pitchers used in our church in the 1930's are filled with plants and flowers replicating those used for decoration in early Scottish times. A special arrangement designed only for anniversary was placed on our memorial stand. It depicts the custom in early Scottish times that when men went into battle, they pinned a piece of their clan's symbol on their tam. It could be cotton, ivy, thistle, rowanberries, or Scotch pine. This is depicted in the arrangement as well as a horseshoe for strength and feathers for courage. Our congregation always enjoys Joan Elliott as guest soloist to share her unique voice with us. A reception follows our Anniversary service with scones, Irish bread, cheese, home-made jams and shortbread cookies.

In November, Remembrance Day is recognized with both Communion tables decorated with poppies and wreaths. The Union Jack and Canadian flags flank our Honour Roll depicting the names of servicemen and women who served in World War I and II from both Knox and Mount Pleasant congregations. The official Canadian Remembrance Day flag, LEST WE FORGET was purchased and flew beneath the Canadian flag in our Memorial Garden. A large wooden poppy was placed next to the flagpole. Small Canadian flags with a poppy attached were placed on the graves of those named on the Honour Roll and buried in our village Pioneer Cemetery. A wreath was placed on the Mount Pleasant War Service Club Memorial.

Our Christmas decorating commenced with Advent. A crown with Advent candles was lit each Sunday and at the Christmas Eve Service. Garlands were on the railings of the gallery and sanctuary. Swags were hung at the windows, and both Communion tables were decorated. One held the carolers and the other a Nativity scene. Our Christmas tree was decorated, and poinsettias were donated by families. Our Memorial Garden was lit up each night with the large wooden Nativity scene, and our outdoor planters were changed into a Christmas theme. Mark VanDyck and Lisa Devine hosted a hot chocolate and Christmas cookies social hour after church the third Sunday in December with sing-along music by Amy Groleau. Christmas music from the carillon was played throughout the Christmas season, and was enjoyed by our members and the village. Thank you Janet Franklin.

Respectfully submitted,  
June Adlam

## **CHURCH HISTORIAN**

Following the publication of our church's history book, "THE HERITAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1830-2003", the authors Ruth Lefler and Angela Files recommended to the Session that a Church Historian be appointed. The purpose was for that person to carry on the recording of data and preservation of historic artifacts as they pertain to our church. It has been an honour and labour of love to serve in that position since 2003.

My duties are as follows:

- Identify, record and maintain an inventory of all historic artifacts in our building. There were no additions in 2025.
- Collect and file in binders written or published material regarding our church.
- Prepare an inventory listing all our historic artifacts, books, binders and other objects or materials stored in our archives and update it each year. Updated copies of my inventory report are given to Velma Hughes, Clerk of Session.
- Record the names of church members who passed away in the current year. In 2025 we lost Douglas Hughes, Kurt Degraaf, Annie (Bunty) Lowe, Mary (May) Clarke and adherent Eileen Boulanger.

I continue to keep the large 11 x 17 inch binders filled with news of historic nature from The Brantford Expositor, and other periodicals. These concern the Village of Mount Pleasant, City of Brantford and County of Brant. Our archives contain books written on the history of the City of Brantford, World Wars I and II, organizations and other churches. As most of these are out of print and hard to find, I am pleased that our archives can give them a new home.

Janet Franklin photographs and maintains albums of our events at the church. I no longer have any senior members of our church to give me their scrapbooks, newspaper clippings or photos they have saved to add to our collection. I now need my church family to contact me if they have family or friends disposing of books, periodicals or clippings of historic importance. I would be happy to document and preserve them in our archives.

Respectfully submitted,  
June Adlam, Church Historian

## **CHURCH OUTREACH**

A variety of activities happen throughout the year that keep our church connected to our community and the world. Coffee Hour is held on the second Sunday of every month. Everyone works together to make this time of fellowship possible. In 2025, donations made to the Breadbox were split between the Alzheimer's Walk (\$355) and our sponsored child (\$306). In 2025, Vivian's community in Uganda moved beyond needing emergency assistance so, as usual, our sponsorship was moved to the area of greatest needed. Our new foster child, Ayla, lives in the West Bank in Palestine.

Other outreach activities throughout 2025 included:

- contributions to the food bank on the first Sunday of every month
- designated donations at every Communion service
- preparation of shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child
- provision of a space used for the community garden which is run by local volunteers in association with Equal Ground Community Gardens.

The church's electric carillon plays two songs every day at noon and one song every evening at 7:00 p.m. It plays two songs in the evening during December. The evening performance began as a tribute to

first responders during the Covid lockdown and was continued at the request of community members. The carillon also plays for special occasions such as the Optimists' Christmas event. On Remembrance Day, the flag in the Memorial Garden is a meeting place for people who want to participate in a quiet act of remembrance which includes the carillon tolling at 11:00 a.m. and playing O Canada and several hymns. It also plays O Canada on Canada Day.

The church's digital sign and website provide information to the community about church and community events such as the World Day of Prayer. The website and Facebook page also allow people to contact the church electronically with requests, questions and donations and to access information and services.

The Memorial Garden beside the church, the flower bed at the side of the church and the area around the composters are maintained by Helen Szabad. The bed around the church sign is maintained by members of the Chancel Committee who also water the flower gardens. The church planters are maintained by Louise and Ted Sanders. The Mount Pleasant Memorial Forest is located behind the church and is maintained by the Board of Managers. The lawns are maintained by Neil Macpherson. All of the gardens and displays get frequent compliments from community members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Franklin

## **FUNDRAISERS**

### **Roast Beef Supper**

We had another successful Roast Beef Dinner in September! It's always a great event that gets the church community working together and provides time for fellowship amongst our friends, family and community members. We had a change to how the supper was run this year. The hot food was served buffet style and cold items and sauces were provided on the tables. Ticket sales went very well and the number of eat-in and take-out meals was 161 in total. Many people who attended the event commented on how much they enjoyed the food. Such a fundraiser would not be possible if it was not for all the gracious donations and hard work done by so many in the church. The gross sale and net profit from this fundraiser can be found in the financial reports (page 16). Thank you to everyone who volunteered and donated to this fundraiser.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Opersko

### **Time and Talents**

This programme is a different way to raise funds. It allows people to help each other for the benefit of the church. The Time and Talents table is set up in Heritage Hall. There are forms on the table upon which someone can write their request.

For example, you could write: Is there someone who would make a cherry pie for me? Someone whose talent is baking will see the request and contact you. The pie will be baked, delivered and enjoyed. The baker and the eater will have decided on a price for the pie. The baker will decide if they want to take expenses out of the amount paid and will either put the money in the money box on the table or include it in their weekly givings. If you choose to include the amount in your weekly givings to get tax credit, remember to write on your envelope that the money is for "Time & Talents".

Some folks will have surplus from their gardens or canning or crafts they have created. These can be placed on the table with a sign identifying the donor. Some people will require personal contact regarding a purchase and others will suggest just putting what you can in the money box. The same forms can be used for this approach.

This programme is off to a good start. How can you help it succeed further?

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Franklin

### **Garage Sale**

I had big shoes to fill organizing the garage sale after all the years my mother did it, followed by Don and Nancy Brown. We held the garage sale in July this year and, leading up to it, we were experiencing some extremely hot days. Instead of putting all of the tables outside, it was decided to display items both inside and out. This arrangement allowed for both customers and workers to seek relief from the heat. This arrangement also made it easier at the end of the sale not to have to bring all of the items back into the church.

I always find it enjoyable visiting with customers at our garage sale, and this year was no different. What I found even more enjoyable this year with organizing it was seeing items that I had priced before the sale be purchased by someone who was very excited with their find. I shared how this was the case with a book that one man found that he had been wanting for nearly 30 years. The garage sale made a total of \$2,831.00. Thank you to everyone who donated items for the sale and worked to make it a success. Thank you as well to Ryan and Sylvia Kicksee for having their workers come early that Saturday morning to help take items outside for display.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dean Adlam

### **Plant Sale**

This year the Board of Managers had their third annual Plant Sale in May. We were quite successful. Thanks to the congregation for the donations of plants, garden tools and lawn ornaments. We would like to thank everyone who donated plants from their gardens and who worked to make the plant sale a success.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dayna Opersko

## **Meat Pies**

In May 2025 and again in October 2025, we made 100 meat pies. The cost for each pie was \$5.00. The amount made was \$500.00, \$300.00 of which was donated to the church and \$200.00 was put aside to make the next lot of meat pies. A total of \$600.00 was donated to the church in 2025.

We are looking forward to having meat pies for sale in the spring of 2026. Thank you to the congregation for your support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don and Nancy Brown

# **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## **FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**

<b>Fundraiser</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Profit</b>
Meat Pies	\$300.00		\$ 300.00
Beef Dinner	\$3,942.00	\$1,923.22	\$2,018.78
Yard Sale	\$2,831.00		\$2,831.00
Alzheimer's Walk	\$355.00		\$355.00
Time and Talents	\$35.00		\$35.00
Plant Sale	\$685.50		\$685.50
Sing-Capella Concert	\$100.00		\$100.00
Bottle Drive	\$33.30		\$33.30
Bazaar	\$23.00		\$23.00
Sponsored Child	\$306.00		\$306.00
	<u>\$ 8,610.80</u>	<u>\$1,923.22</u>	<u>\$6,687.58</u>

Respectfully submitted,  
Dean Adlam

## **MISSION ACCOUNT**

### **Presbyterian Sharing**

Total givings to Presbyterian Sharing in 2025	\$3,406.05
Accepted allocation for 2025	<u>\$4,200.00</u>
Amount under allocation	\$ (739.95)

### **Designated Donations**

Alzheimer's Society (Coffee hour & Palm Sunday)	\$ 452.35
World Vision (Sponsored Child)*	\$ 480.00
Men's Street Ministry (June Communion)	\$ 98.00
Gigi's Bread (October Communion)	\$ 113.50
Salvation Army Food Bank	\$ 500.00
Men's Street Ministry (December Communion)	<u>\$ 78.00</u>
	\$1,721.85

**\* The \$306.00 from coffee hours included in fundraising is donated towards offsetting the costs of our sponsored child under World Vision.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dean Adlam



**EXPENSES**

Minister's Stipend/Supply	\$53,745.41	\$53,244.36	(\$501.05)
Revenue Canada	\$12,000.48	\$12,000.35	(\$0.13)
Pres. Church – Dean's Ded.	\$8,216.16	\$8,216.16	\$0.00
Health Insurance	\$6,134.40	\$6,134.40	\$0.00
Pension Fund	\$4,334.40	\$4,334.40	\$0.00
Music Director	\$6,490.00	\$6,380.00	(\$110.00)
Caretaker	\$500.00	\$1,250.00	\$750.00
Heat, Hydro, Water, Phone	\$4,964.75	\$5,000.00	\$35.25
Repairs, Maintenance	\$4,101.33	\$10,000.00	\$5,898.67
Parking Lot Grading	\$6,660.22	\$5,000.00	(\$1,660.22)
Bat Removal	\$20,283.50		
Presbytery Dues	\$1,380.58	\$1,380.58	\$0.00
Insurance	\$4,802.49	\$4,300.00	(\$502.49)
Snow Plowing/Landscaping	\$599.75	\$4,000.00	\$3,400.25
Office Expense	\$390.19	\$500.00	\$109.81
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Designated Donations	\$1,721.85		
Chair Lift	\$811.21	\$1,500.00	\$688.79
Sundries Expense	\$310.47	\$500.00	\$189.53
Presbyterians Sharing	\$3,406.05	\$4,200.00	\$793.95
Website	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Fundraiser Costs	\$1,923.22	\$2,800.00	\$876.78
Chancel Committee	\$261.46	\$250.00	(\$11.46)
Accessibility & Green Comm.		\$0.00	\$0.00
Christmas Gifts	\$108.85	\$200.00	\$91.15
Specified Donations		\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$143,146.77</b>	<b>\$131,690.25</b>	<b>(\$11,456.52)</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>-\$24,312.28</b>		

**SUMMARY OF BANK BALANCES****Dec. 31/25**

TD Trust Account	\$25,471.69
Manulife Account	\$0.00
T.D. Investment	\$36,175.71
Trustee Board Pres. Church	\$168,297.60
<b>E. &amp; O.E.</b>	<b><u>\$229,945.00</u></b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Dean Adlam

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT COMPARISON 2024-2025

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Year 2025</u>	<u>Year 2024</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Envelopes	\$84,175.72	\$78,167.50	\$75,000.00
Required to Balance Budget			\$28,690.25
Loose Collection	\$1,261.30	\$2,109.90	\$2,000.00
Coffee Hours – Sponsored Child	\$306.00	\$210.00	\$200.00
Hall Rental	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest earned/ Inv. Income	\$11,829.69	\$16,055.74	\$10,600.00
G.S.T. Rebate	\$2,520.93	\$1,320.65	\$1,000.00
Presbyterians Sharing	\$3,406.05	\$3,544.00	\$4,200.00
Fundraising	\$8,304.80	\$14,126.95	\$10,000.00
Central Church Donation	\$7,000.00		
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$118,834.49</b>	<b>\$115,534.74</b>	<b>\$131,690.25</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Minister's Stipend/Supply	\$53,745.41	\$49,083.60	\$53,244.36
Revenue Canada	\$12,000.48	\$11,499.12	\$12,000.35
Pres. Church - Deans Ded.	\$8,216.16	\$7,622.04	\$8,216.16
Health Insurance	\$6,134.40	\$5,577.12	\$6,134.40
Pension Fund	\$4,334.40	\$3,713.52	\$4,334.40
Musical Director	\$6,490.00	\$6,090.00	\$6,380.00
Caretaker	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00
Heat, Hydro, Water, Phone	\$4,964.75	\$4,557.42	\$5,000.00
Repairs, Maintenance	\$4,101.33	\$2,784.44	\$10,000.00
Parking Lot Upgrading	\$6,660.22	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Bat Removal	\$20,283.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
Presbytery Dues	\$1,380.58	\$1,312.61	\$1,380.58
Insurance	\$4,802.49	\$4,452.25	\$4,300.00
Snow Plowing/Landscaping	\$599.75	\$1,359.79	\$4,000.00
Office Expense	\$390.19	\$339.86	\$500.00
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Designated Donations	\$1,721.85	\$1,107.90	
Chair Lift	\$811.21	\$814.66	\$1,500.00
Sundries Expense	\$310.47	\$639.24	\$500.00
Presbyterians Sharing	\$3,406.05	\$3,544.00	\$4,200.00
Website	\$0.00	\$304.56	\$400.00
Fundraiser Costs	\$1,923.22	\$2,716.85	\$2,800.00
Chancel Committee	\$261.46	\$80.50	\$250.00
Accessibility & Green Comm.			\$0.00
Christmas Gifts	\$108.85	\$196.63	\$200.00
Specified Donations			\$0.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$143,146.77</b>	<b>\$108,796.11</b>	<b>\$131,690.25</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>(\$24,312.28)</b>	<b>\$6,738.63</b>	

**Summary of Bank Balances**

TD Canada Trust	<u>Dec. 31/25</u> \$25,471.69
Manulife Account	\$0.00
T.D. GIC Investment	\$36,175.71
Trustee Board Pres. Church	<u>\$168,297.60</u>

**E. & O.E.****\$229,945.00**

Respectfully submitted,  
Dean Adlam

## **PROPOSED BUDGET 2026**

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Envelopes	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
Loose Collection	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Hall Rental	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest Earned	\$600.00	\$600.00
Investment Income	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
GST Rebate	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Presbyterians Sharing	\$4,200.00	\$4,000.00
Fundraising	\$10,000.00	\$12,000.00
Coffee Hours	\$200.00	\$200.00
Head Office Grant	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Required to Balance Budget	\$28,400.25	\$22,332.70
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$131,400.25</b>	<b>\$137,132.70</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Minister's Stipend	\$53,244.36	\$54,360.04
Revenue Canada	\$12,000.35	\$12,109.77
Pres. Church - Dean's Deductions	\$8,216.16	\$8,054.99
Health and Dental	\$6,134.40	\$6,747.84
Pension Fund	\$4,334.40	\$4,057.04
Musical Director	\$6,380.00	\$6,380.00
Caretaker	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
Heat/Hydro/Water/ Phone	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$17,000.00
Parking Lot Grading	\$5,000.00	\$750.00
Presbytery Dues	\$1,380.58	\$1,373.02
Insurance	\$4,300.00	\$4,800.00
Snow Plowing/Landscaping	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Office Expense	\$500.00	\$500.00
Sunday School	\$100.00	\$100.00
Designated Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sundries Expense	\$500.00	\$500.00
Chair Lift	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Green Committee / Accessibility	\$0.00	\$0.00
Presbyterians Sharing	\$4,200.00	\$4,000.00
Chancel Committee	\$250.00	\$250.00
Fundraising Costs	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
Website	\$400.00	\$400.00
Christmas Gifts	\$200.00	\$200.00
Treasurer & Secretary Honorarium	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$131,690.25</b>	<b>\$137,132.70</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Weir, BOM Chair

## CHURCH OFFICERS IN 2025

### THE KIRK SESSION

Church elders are elected by the congregation with no term limit. The current members of Session are:

- Velma Hughes, Clerk of Session
- Jeff Allen
- Debbie Opersko
- Harvey Walsh

### TRUSTEES

Trustees represent the congregation in legal matters. Trustees are appointed yearly by the congregation at the annual meeting. The trustees for 2025 were:

- Alex Fairlie
- Velma Hughes
- Harvey Walsh

### ACCOUNT REVIEWERS

The Account Reviewers review the financial reports at the end of the financial year. Reviewers are appointed yearly by the congregation at the annual meeting or are selected by the Session and Board of Managers. The reviewers for 2025 were Jeff Allen and Debbie Opersko.

### BOARD OF MANAGERS

Managers are appointed by the congregation to a three-year term. The current board members are:

End of Term	2026	2027	2028
	Don Brown (resigned)	Dent McIntyre	Nadine Adlam
	Barb Franklin	Mark VanDyck	Michel Boulanger (resigned)
	Kevin Weir (Chair)		Joan Franklin (resigned)
			Dayna Opersko
			Debbie Opersko