

2025

Annual Report

St. James United Church



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A Message from the Minister

It was a privilege and an honour to share faith, life and ministry with you this past year. As a vibrant, affirming, inclusive, and compassionate congregation, we have much to be thankful for.

In the pages of this Annual Report, you will read about the hard work, love, faith and dedication of our St. James congregation. I would like to thank all committee, group and team members for your time, effort, talent and faithfulness, as well as those who do so many things “behind the scenes” to grow our faith and help us feel connected to one another. Thank you to our staff – Lindsay, Niks, Danny, Faith, Sue and Stacie for your hard work, devotion, and creativity! Lindsay, Faith and Sue, we are truly grateful for your years of dedication to St. James and wish you all the best in your future endeavours. Niks and Stacie, it’s wonderful to have you on board, and we are happy to be working with you! We continue to be blessed with an amazing staff.

2025 was a big year of change for St. James! We sold the building (April 1st) to our long-time tenants and much-loved community partners, the New Canadians Centre. For the next 10 years we will receive mortgage payments from the NCC, and we will have free space to use in the building (Wesley Hall, Large Auditorium, Small Auditorium, Kitchen, and offices for our Music Director, Office Administrator, and Minister). We are delighted to remain at 221 Romaine and happy that the NCC has more usable space to meet their growing needs. Heartfelt thanks to the Lease Subcommittee, who worked tirelessly to negotiate on our behalf - enabling us to continue all our current ministry endeavours and to dream about new possibilities.

We offered words of gratitude to our Board of Stewards, who worked with great dedication over the years maintaining the building and keeping it looking beautiful inside and out. With mixed emotions, I announced my retirement date for the summer of 2026. Being part of the St. James family has deepened my faith in so many ways! A Ministerial Search Team has been working hard to help St. James to move forward in the search for a new minister. Together, we remain open to the Spirit’s guidance and wisdom!

It warms my heart to see the way we come together to support one another in times of sadness, challenge, transition, and happiness. Together we mourned the death of beloved St. James members, and we rejoiced during celebrations such as milestone birthdays, anniversaries, and welcoming new people to the St. James family. In keeping with our Affirming Ministry commitment, we also continued to learn and grow in compassion and love, in and through various guest speakers, United Church gatherings, and working with our various community partners.

As we continue to journey together through the many events and experiences of shared faith, ministry, and fellowship, I offer words of gratitude, support, and encouragement. Your dedication to sharing Jesus’ love and welcome with all remains an inspiration to me.

Rev. Julie van Haafoten

St. James United Church

Mission, Vision & Goals

MISSION

- Living fully, intentionally, and compassionately as we journey with, and fully welcome into the life and ministry of St. James, people of every age, gender, race, sexual orientation, and gender identity, differing abilities, economic or cultural backgrounds to be a hope-filled faith community.

VISION

- Open hearts, open minds.

OUR LONG-TERM GOALS: VISION 20/25

- In 2019, the Official Board, along with the help and guidance of the staff and congregation, completed a new vision for 2020-2025. We developed many long-term goals for our four flourishing ministries.

WORSHIP & GIVING

- We will continue reaching out to members and growing our membership; we will also work to improve our worship space so that it is multifunctional and accessible. We aim to fully realize the potential of our music program, to offer alternative and innovative worship services, and to continue worshipping in a variety of locations with other churches and worship communities.

LEARNING

- We promise to keep our children's programs vital; and to partner with others to meet the needs of local youth. We will also continue to offer adult study programs and explore new ways of learning; we will invite others to participate in our learning opportunities and share in theirs as well. We will become actively involved in initiatives that promote inclusivity as well as a better understanding of other faiths and lifestyles. And we will support learning opportunities for all of our members and staff.

CARING & CONNECTING

- We will improve our building so that we can continue to celebrate our faith together in a fully accessible and accommodating space. We will create active teams, positions, and committees to help us welcome, nurture, support, and care for one another. In addition, we will continue to organize and host events, activities, and programs in which we can socialize and strengthen our relationships. As such, we will also take good care of our property and finances so that we can realize a surplus at the end of each year.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT

- We will actively seek out ways to grow, prosper, worship, and share with others. We will reach out to the local community to learn more about their needs, continue to make connections with other United Churches and faith groups, and nurture our current community partnerships as well as create new ones to show that we care and are living active lives of faith.

The Official Church Roll

EXECUTIVE OF THE BOARD

Chair	Joanne Rorke
Past Chair	Jane Huggins
Secretary	Marney Horton
Treasurer	Marilyn Perrin
Minister	Rev. Julie van Haaften*

NCC COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Member	Fred Batley
Member	Kate Ellis*
Member	Ron Horton

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Member	Fred Batley
Member	Kim Dennis*
Member	Kate Ellis*
Member	Lynda Parker
Member	Marilyn Perrin
Member	Rev. Julie van Haaften*

AFFIRM COMMITTEE

Chair	Carolee Awde
Member	Kate Ellis*
Member	Karen Kooy
Member	Barb Mills*
Member	Lynda Parker
Member	Richard Patterson*
Member	Karin McCrae
Advisor	Rev. Julie van Haaften*

STEWARDSHIP

Member	Natalie Dorsett*
Member	Leslie Gutsole-Floyd
Minister	Rev. Julie van Haaften*

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

Chair	Yvonne Lai
Member	Ruth Bowers
Member	Bruce Clark
Member	Richard Patterson*
Member	Melissa O'Neill

TRUSTEES

Chair	Fred Batley
Vice Chair	Bill Bott
Trustee	Peter Floyd
Trustee	Ron Horton
Trustee	Lynda Parker
Trustee	Dale White
Minister	Rev. Julie van Haaften*

Marilyn Perrin, Chair & Treasurer
Joanne Rorke, Chair of Board
Fred Batley, Chair of Trustees
Yvonne Lai, Chair of Ministry & Personnel
Bob Field, Member

FUNDRAISING

Official Board

**Please note that individuals marked with an asterisk will not continue their post in/past 2026.*

The Official Church Roll

WORSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MISSION & SERVICE AND PASTORAL CARE

Co-Chair
Co-Chair
Music Dir.
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Minister

Joyce Hodson
Lynda Parker
Danny Bronson
Peggy Fillier
Leslie Gutsole-Floyd
Jane Huggins
Jim Lowes
Shirley Lowes
Rev. Julie van Haaften*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chair
Member
Member
Member
Youth Leader
Youth Leader

Eileen Stanbury
Melissa O'Neill
Yvonne Lai
Faith Morales
Iris Muir
Maeve O'Neill

NOMINATIONS FOR 2026

The individuals below will be nominated to the following committees for the year 2026.

AFFIRM

Ann Sinclair

NOMINATIONS

Eileen Stanbury
Yvonne Lai
Carolee Awde

NCC COMMUNICATIONS

Lynda Parker

**Please note that individuals marked with an asterisk will not continue their post in/past 2026.*

Congregational Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2025

The Congregational meeting was held as part of the Sunday morning worship service.

The meeting was held both in person and via Zoom. The link and instructions for using Zoom were sent to congregation members in advance. Yvonne Lai was the Zoom monitor watching the online attendees both for questions and voting.

In attendance in-person: Norma Keough, Goldie Lock, Lyndele Gauci, Fred Batley, Faith Morales, Karen Kooy, Jane Huggins, Marilyn Perrin, Peggy Fillier, Roxanne Murduff, Beverley Lane, Jayne White, Dale White, Joanne Rorke, Doug Corbett, Joyce Corbett, Susan Bott, Dorothy Rowan Floyd, Jim Lowes, Shirley Lowes, Yvonne Lai, Linda Dorsett, Ruth Bowers, Trish Feeney, Eileen Stanbury, Lorie Fitzgerald, Angus Fitzgerald, Barb Herring, Joyce Hodson, Carolee Awde, Shirley Rolufs, Kim Dennis, W. Bruce Clark, Bob Field, Jim Mills, John Hogan, Leslie Gutsole-Floyd, Peter Floyd, Sandy Hill, Lynda Parker, Ross Campbell, Pam Hart, Ron Horton, Kate Ellis, Danny Bronson, Tim Jeffries, Julie van Haaften, Marney Horton.

In Attendance via Zoom: Susan Weaver, Richard Patterson, Bill Bott, Shirley Jackson

Call to Order

Chair of board Joanne Rorke called the meeting to order.

Rev. Julie led us in prayer.

Joanne Rorke made a motion seconded by Joyce Hodson that Rev. Julie van Haaften act as chair of the meeting and Marney Horton act as recording secretary. There being no other nominations the motion was voted on and passed.

Joanne Rorke made a motion that Yvonne Lai act as equity monitor. Seconded by Lynda Parker. Passed.

Permanent Motions

Marney Horton read the permanent motions (as passed at the Congregational meeting of Feb. 21 2010)

“For the Official Board to have the authority to carry out the duties that would normally fall within the responsibility of the congregation between congregational meetings”

“To allow additional people to join the various committees anytime throughout the year without having to come to the congregation.”

“That adherents have the right to vote on issues at the meeting on temporal matters; this covers the work, life and finances of the church.”

Nomination and Election of Auditors/Reviewers

Jayne White offered to be an auditor and Ron Horton was nominated. Fred Batley made a motion that Jayne White and Ron Horton be the auditors for 2025. Marilyn Perrin seconded the motion. Passed.

Congregational Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2025

Minutes

Minutes of the congregational meeting of Feb. 25 2024 were available in the Annual report on pages 9-13. Ron Horton made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Marilyn Perrin seconded the motion. Passed.

Nominations Committee

Rev. Julie van Haaften thanked everyone for their service on the various committees and groups. She mentioned their generosity of time and talent that help to make St. James the loving and caring place it is. She made special mention of Susan Weaver and Susan Bott , both of whom are stepping down from their committees and both of whom have been stalwart chairs of their respective committees. Rev. Julie then welcomed new members to committees – Yvonne Lai and Melissa O'Neill.

Financial Report

Treasurer, Marilyn Perrin presented the financial reports that are found on pages 31- 40. She went over some of the numbers in each section and explained the various income and expenses. Envelope givings were down but stewardship campaigns were up over the previous year.

Budgets

Marilyn then explained the two budgets in the report (pages 40-41). Both show a deficit but the expectation is that after our first year as tenets the budget will be in the black. The first one was if we do not sell our building . Peter Floyd seconded the motion. Then Marilyn presented the budget if we do sell. Fred Batley seconded the motion. Passed.

Committee Reports

The Annual report contains the reports from the various groups and committees in the church. These are on pages 14-29. There was one correction on page 24. We had four baptisms in 2024. A motion to accept the committee reports was made by Faith Morales and seconded by Carolee Awde. Passed.

Staff Appreciation

Bruce Clark thanked the staff for their commitment to St. James and for all the little extra things they do. He mentioned that 2024 had been an extraordinary year with much extra work for staff especially Julie and Lindsay.

New Business

Rev. Julie thanked Fred Batley, Kate Ellis, Ron Horton and Lynda Parker for being part of the sub- committee that spent countless hours in negotiations with the New Canadian Centre, our lawyer and East Central Ontario Regional Council. Fred Batley then gave an overview of the meetings, discussions and final agreement on the sale of the building. There were a few questions and Fred answered them...

(Continued on next page)

Congregational Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2025

... Fred Batley made the motion: "St. James United Church agrees to sell its property to the New Canadian Centre and receive free rent for 10 years and will hold a 10-year mortgage (which will generate monthly revenue) beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2035." Seconded by Dale White. Passed.

In Memoriam

Rev. Julie read the names of those who had passed away in 2024. She asked that we keep their families and friends in our prayers.

Adjournment

Rev. Julie offered words of thanks to the congregation for their ongoing faithfulness, love and care of one another and of the broader community – which shines forth in so many ways.

Faith Morales made the motion to adjourn.

A Message from the Board Chair

As we see 2025 out, we all understand how it was a year of many changes for our church family. With our physical building now in the competent hands of the NCC we have had to shift how we move forward. There are many people who have worked very hard during this time and continue to step up to the challenges and work needed to keep us an important part of each others lives as well as those of our community partners. Overall, the transition has been a positive one although a few minor hiccups do need some tweaking.

I know many feel that with the sale and us not being responsible for the upkeep now, our financial success is guaranteed. This sadly is not the case. Although the maintenance is now not up to us, our share of expenses still needs to be paid. We still have payroll and benefit expenses, as well as insurance, regional costs, office supplies including phone, copy machine, and postage, paper, etc.- this along with our outreach commitments, as well. We must not forget that we now receive no money from room rentals either.

Please as able continue to support your Church, whether through weekly givings as well as supporting all fundraising endeavours. Also, these opportunities are a chance to tell our families, friends, and neighbours what a great place St. James is and invite them to these events to see for themselves.

I know we have big shoes to fill with Rev. Julie set to retire, but I know with positive thoughts and much prayer we will rise to the challenges that may come our way. Please look at what each of us can do to see that our future remains secure for many years to come.

I would like to thank each one of you for your friendship, and for making St. James the great place it is. I look forward to moving into 2026 with whatever it brings. We've got this.

Happy New Year to All,
Joanne Rorke, Chair

Affirm Committee

Membership: Carolee Awde - Chair, Richard Patterson, Kate Ellis, Lynda Parker, Barb Mills, Karen Kooy, Karin McCrae, Rev. Julie van Haaften, advisor

2025 Activities

We celebrated the day of PIE (public, intentional, and explicit support of the LGBTQ+ community) with "pie" (actually butter tarts) for the congregation after the service.

We facilitated participation in the PRIDE parade and the Pride in the Park event. We again encouraged other affirming United Church congregations to join together. Kidventure and Faith Morales presided over a very popular booth with children's activities at Pride in the Park.

We maintained the bulletin board with community resources for inclusion and welfare but also placed a basket of resources at the sanctuary door for people to browse and take.

Richard prepared multimedia minutes for Affirm for selected services.

We continued donations for One City, snacks in the spring and in the fall, with Kidventure, a 117th anniversary challenge to provide 117 warm items, which was exceeded and very gratefully received! We also collected coats.

We hosted coffee hour in November and strongly encourage the congregation to join in this fellowship. Lug a mug and support your mental health by socializing!

We sold rainbow socks for stocking stuffers during Advent, with proceeds to the Benevolent Fund.

We created a basket for the raffle fundraiser, and none of us had our ticket drawn. We are very proud of the speakers we arranged, with their educational, entertaining, and moving messages, and are planning for speakers for 2026 who will educate and inform.

Thank you to our speakers:

- Lois Tuffin for The Mount redevelopment
- Achint from PARN on Hepatitis B harm prevention
- City councillors Alex Bierk and Keith Riel on housing
- Richard Patterson in July (at the last minute, when the scheduled speakers had an emergency)
- Shelley Knott-Fife for Orange Shirt Day
- Rev. Don Uhryniw for Transgender Day of Remembrance

Respectfully submitted,
Carolee Awde, Chair

Christian Education Committee

Committee Members: Melissa O'Neil, Yvonne Lai, Faith Morales

Faith Morales, Youth Coordinator submitted her resignation early in the year, giving us lots of notice as her last day was at the end of June.

The CE committee met with M&P once in June to determine how we will move forward with the resignation of Faith Morales. Iris Muir and Maeve O'Neil agreed to look after Kidventure with the help of one adult supervisor. Faith came back as a volunteer, but we decided that she should have one Sunday a month off. We have about 10 volunteers that have been helping out. Iris and Maeve have put together a manual which outlines their responsibilities.

Maeve and Iris have planned outreach activities such as creating posters for events, making greeting cards for members of the congregation. They made a wreath out of poppies for Remembrance Day and activities for the St. James booth after the Pride Parade. They also organized activities for Messy Church.

Other activities have been a costume contest at Halloween and Ugly Sweater day at Christmas, and a Family Movie night gift basket for the Church basket raffle.

In November, Maeve, Iris and Faith organized a kid's movie night to give parents a break. Six children were registered, but the two that showed up had a fantastic time.

Submitted by:
Eileen Stanbury, Chair

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee was busy in 2025. Many functions were put on to try to generate funds to offset costs for the Church. Many of these consisted of yoga, pancake supper, Tim's Dinosaur show, The Bridgenorth Boys, Danny's concert, gift baskets, as well as our trunk and plant sale. Also, we did an ongoing metal drop-off.

We were also able to make some money selling excess items from rooms we had to clear out. Fundraising exceeded our goal by around \$1200.00. Our donation to the Church was \$8256.00.

In 2026, it will be even more important than ever to support as many events as possible, as well as encouraging our families, friends, and neighbours to also come.

If anyone has any ideas for fundraisers, please let us know, as we are in need of some new ideas. Some we have thought about are movie nights, games nights, and euchre tournaments. I'm sure there are many more, so please give this some serious thought.

Finally I would like to thank all for coming out to support these events, as well to those who help to make them possible. Let's make 2026 the year for some really great Fundraising initiatives.

P.S: Many thanks to the NCC for their part in making them a success too!

Joanne Rorke, Marilyn Perrin, & Marney Horton

Gift Cards

I would like to extend a big hearty thank you to everyone who purchased Gift Cards during 2025. A total of 2,236 cards were ordered resulting in a profit of \$4,076 for St. James. Way to go!

During 2025, we were blessed to have two additional participants purchasing gift cards through St. James. The New Canadians Center (NCC) and the Peterborough Youth Services (PYS). Of the \$4,076 profit realized in 2025, \$1,701 was due to orders submitted by the NCC. The PYS earned us \$468 this year. A big shout-out to both of them for their participation. Thank you NCC & PYS.

The beauty of this program is that you put your regular household shopping dollars to work. You earn money for our church without spending anything additional. Just spend your family's regular shopping dollars at the stores that participate in the program. Gift cards can be used for just about any purchase including food, clothing, entertainment, furniture, building supplies, auto repair, gasoline, dining out and much more. Look at it as paying for products and services in advance. There is absolutely no extra out-of-pocket expense to you. You only spend what you normally do for these items.

Gift cards are available from a large number of major retailers. Popular retailers that participate in the program include: Loblaws, Sobeys, Freshco, Foodland, No Frills, Canadian Superstore, Independent, Metro, Canadian Tire, Home Depot, Home Hardware, Swiss Chalet, Harvey's, Wendy's, Cineplex, Best Buy, The Keg, La Senza, Pizza Pizza, GAP, Old Navy, Kelsey's, Lowe's, Pioneer Petroleum, Petro Canada, Esso, Ultramar, Shoppers Drug Mart, Walmart, Winners and many others.

If you have never participated, why not give it a try. Simply order a \$50 grocery card or a \$25 Tim's card and take it from there. You'll be hooked.

Thanks again for supporting this worthwhile fundraising opportunity in 2025. Your participation helps support our many ministries and programs and is greatly appreciated by all.

Submitted by:
Jim Lowes

Ministry & Personnel Committee

The Ministry and Personnel Committee is the only mandatory committee of the governing body of a congregation or pastoral charge.

The committee has three distinct roles within St. James: providing consultation and support to staff; overseeing the relationships amongst staff and between staff and the congregation, and the supervisory role of reviewing working conditions and job descriptions and conducting annual performance reviews.

With long term Chair Susan Weaver leaving the Ministry and Personnel Committee in February 2025, we were delighted to recruit Yvonne Lai and Melissa O'Neill to join Richard Patterson, Ruth Bowers and Bruce Clark on the committee.

The staff of St. James provide invaluable support and services to our congregation and to the community that we are here to serve. The sale of St. James to the New Canadians Centre brought a number of changes to long term processes and positions within the Church.

One of the immediate changes initiated by the sale was a change in staff responsibilities: the building custodial responsibilities were taken on by NCC. While the overall building caretaker role was transitioned, M&P recognized a continuing need for cleaning of the three St. James office spaces and **Stacy Cumming** was hired on a part time basis to provide this service.

In February, **Faith Morales** informed M&P of her decision to resign from her Position as Sunday School Youth Coordinator at the end of June. The committee agreed with her decision to step back to concentrate on full-time teaching while she completed her studies in teacher's college. The congregation was able to thank her in person for her enthusiasm leading the Kidventure program and providing a safe, educational and fun space for all the children on Sunday mornings for the past six years. We'd like to thank Maeve O'Neill and Iris Muir for stepping forward as volunteer Kidventure Leaders, working in close collaboration with the Christian Education committee.

At the end of July, office administrator **Lindsay Leslie** relocated to Nova Scotia and our committee began the unenviable task of finding a replacement to keep the office running. We were happy to acknowledge and thank Lindsay for all of her contributions.

(Continued on next page)

Ministry & Personnel Committee

The requirements of the administrator position are many: to maintain schedules; answering telephone calls and emails, as well as in-person contacts; writing reports and maintaining church records maintained; and acting as first point of contact for the church in many instances. Through an in-person interview process in September we were delighted to hire **Niks Westbrook** and welcome them to the St. James family.

Music has always been a large part of St. James worship services and the congregation has watched with delight as that role has further evolved under the leadership of Music Director **Danny Bronson** since joining our team in September 2024. His expertise and enthusiasm have put a unique stamp on our music program with the inclusion of his very talented band of musicians. As well as the Sunday services with the choir and band, Danny has also promoted and showcased a number of other community musical talents, bringing them into St. James with his annual Christmas Concert.

St. James United Church has been blessed with the ministry and leadership of **Rev. Julie van Haaften** for the past 16 years. Throughout the years, Rev. Julie has led us in meaningful, and thought-provoking worship services while also hosting the Abraham Festival and other community-related events. She has also worked tirelessly to provide spiritual support and guidance to members of the congregation, and the extended community. As Past Chair Susan mentioned last year, change is never easy, and Rev. Julie spent an immense amount of her time this past year working through the myriad details of the St James building changeover.

We thank her for another year of providing leadership and spiritual guidance in so many diverse ways. But 2026 will be our last opportunity to thank her: in June Rev. Julie announced her intention to retire in summer 2026.

After processing the news, M&P initiated contact with the United Church to establish a separate Ministerial Search Committee. While this committee sits at arms length to M&P, Richard Patterson ably supported those conversations, providing guidance to the committee and transition team.

When the news was received of Richard's sudden passing on January 20th we were shocked and deeply saddened. As well as his vast contributions to the Ministerial Search Team and Ministry and Personnel Committee, Richard was a strong advocate and member of the Affirm Committee. His tireless efforts had been instrumental in the search and hiring of the music director in 2024 and the office administrator in 2025. His smiling good humour, thoughtful contributions and careful attention to detail will be greatly missed by all.

M&P Committee

St. James United Church

Stewardship Committee

Your Stewardship Team is tasked with supporting the Treasurer and Finance Committee (consisting of Committee Chairs) to meet the budgetary needs of St. James. Our role is to identify ways that we can increase giving through special projects for large expenses such as our annual commitment to the Indigenous Ministries Fund, our annual ECORC fees, and funding shortfalls like the one we have every year during the summer when givings are reduced, as well as annual commitments to the financial support of the life, work and ministry of our church. The work of this team helps the Treasurer to be able to present to the congregation as close to a balanced budget as possible every year.

Asking people for money is not easy, and it is particularly difficult during challenging financial times that individuals encounter. The members of the Stewardship Team are sensitive to the limits that many have. We also know that we have a responsibility to the church to identify significant financial needs and make requests for additional funds with the hope that members of the congregation who are able will support the request and give what they can.

Giving Sunday	\$4,166
Anniversary Sunday	\$5,132
Donor March	\$22,063

We are grateful to Lynda Parker and Eileen Stanbury for successfully challenging the congregation to match their \$15,000 donation for our annual donor match. Not only did St. James meet the challenge, but the goal was surpassed!

Our Stewardship Team continues to be overwhelmed by, and grateful for, the generosity of our members when we launch an initiative to meet our special financial needs.

Thank you for your ongoing financial support of St. James United Church.

Stewardship Committee

Board of Trustees

The Trustees continue to oversee the monies, investments, and insurance of the church.

As Chair of the Trustees, I am a member of the NCC Lease sub-committee and sit on the Joint Church/NCC Building Committee.

Thank you so much to all the committee members of the Trustees.

Respectfully submitted by:
Fred Batley, Chair

NCC Communications/Property Committee

As part of the agreement after the sale of the building to the NCC in April, 2025, the NCC and St. James formed a subcommittee. It is called the property committee and is comprised of 6 members, three from each party. The St. James committee members are Kate Ellis, Fred Batley, and Ron Horton; these people were also part of the negotiating committee for the sale of the building.

The committee will meet every 4 months and more if necessary. To date, we have met in May and September, 2025.

The purpose of the meetings is to maintain constant communication between the church and the NCC. Communications will include, but are not limited to building issues (e.g. – needed repairs), shared room bookings updates, lease/sale issues, etc.

The two meetings we have had so far have both been very productive and positive. Any issues have been dealt with satisfactorily. We look forward to maintaining excellent communication and relations with the NCC in the future.

Submitted by:
Ron Horton

Worship, Membership and Mission & Service Committee

Co-Chairs: Joyce Hodson, Lynda Parker

Members: Rev. Julie van Haaften, Jane Huggins, Peggy Fillier, Jim Lowes, Shirley Lowes, Danny Bronson

Under the leadership of Rev. Julie, the worship committee meets monthly to plan services, keep in contact with our shut-ins, keep membership up to date, and oversee Mission and Service donations.

Lay speakers from the congregation this year were Jane Huggins, Lynda Parker, Jim Lowes, Joanne Rorke, and Richard Patterson who all lead very meaningful services.

We are blessed to welcome Albert Moher as guest musician once a month, and are inspired weekly by Danny's band, John Hogan, Tim Jeffries, Justin Hiscox, and Lyndele Gauci. Their music adds so much to our services.

In April, Susan Weaver generously donated a new grand piano for Wesley Hall in loving memory of Cliff Weaver. On Good Friday, members of Greenwood and Northminster joined us for worship.

On June 8th, a full capacity 100th Anniversary of the United Church service was held at Northminster United Church with ministers from all the churches taking part, and a 100 voice choir provided music.

The committee hosted a corn and hot dog lunch to welcome back the fall, and hosted the Abraham Festival. Our 117th Anniversary was celebrated with a reflection on the history of the United Church.

A special Hope Abides service took place on the first Sunday of advent with representatives of eight religious groups telling us what hope means in their denomination.

Gifts were dropped off to shut-ins at Christmas, and cards were sent on special occasions. Angel Tree gift cards were distributed to CAS and Crossroads (12 each). We have worked alongside the C.E. Committee to offer Messy Church three times during the year.

The worship committee appreciate the volunteers that contribute to Sunday morning services - the power point operators, sound techs, ushers, greeters, elevator operators, choir and band members, readers, custodians, coffee hosts. We appreciate Rev. Julie for her thought-provoking messages and friendship.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Parker

Delegate to ECORC

The Spring meeting was held on May 23 and 24 at St. Paul's United Church and St. Andrew's Presbyterian ESM Bowmanville. The Fall meeting was held on October 25 at Alderville United Church.

The East Central Ontario Regional Council recommend to General Council 45, with concurrence, the following proposal: Making Sabbaticals Easier as amended.

That the sabbatical policy be amended to allow ministry personnel who have worked for five years to be entitled to sabbatical regardless of any changes in their pastoral relationships during that five year period.

When ministry personnel move from one pastoral charge to another, the clock restarts on the five years of service they must work before qualifying for the 3-month sabbatical. This means that a minister who does four years in one pastoral charge and moves to a new one is required to wait for another five years before taking a sabbatical. There were good reasons for the five-year delay, primarily to ensure that communities of faith have the chance to put money aside to pay for the three months of coverage by another minister or to cover costs for lay worship leadership. Five years allow to squirrel a little money away over an extended period of time. While some congregations have offered their ministry personnel sabbatical leave despite not having met the five years of service to that community, not all have put aside resources that can be used in this way.

The East Central Ontario Regional Council recommended to General Council 45 that ministry personal and lay leaders get Training in Conflict and Change.

The East Central Ontario Regional Council recommend to General Council 45, with concurrence, the following proposal: Change to ChurchHub Access for Ministry Personnel.

Prior to the inauguration of ChurchHub, vacant ministry positions were posted in a variety of entirely public places, such as newspapers, magazines, regional websites etc. You could also request a list from the General Council office. Communities of Faith benefited from a wide and open distribution network. Examination recent editions of Broadview, one would note few congregations continue to engage in paid advertising, but instead rely on the ChurchHub posting. Members of the Order of Ministry can only see a small portion of the listing for each community of faith (see image in background), unless they have gone through the process of declaring themselves in search of a new ministry. Once a clergy person has made that declaration, any church that is searching can see their profile. However, some clergy feel this action makes them vulnerable in their current pastoral relationship, because their search is so broadly known.

At any given time there are about 200 active search teams across the denomination with access to the ChurchHub list of clergy who may be looking for a new call or appointment.

(Continued on next page)

Delegate to ECORC

The result is likely over 1,000 people at any given time may know who is searching. Through all members of search teams are to be bound by confidentiality, the church is a small place and mistakes get made. Because some clergy fear being “outed” to their current community of faith, and fear negative consequences if they are, they ask other clergy to list themselves as seeking a new call so they can see the entire ChurchHub listing. From this, informal conversations with prospective communities of faith can begin, prior to making themselves vulnerable through ChurchHub.

From the perspective of communities of faith, fewer ministry personnel examining their full ChurchHub description means fewer potential matches and fewer potential good fits. Our full communion partner, the United Church of Christ provides the equivalent full information for communities of faith in search on a publicly accessible website. The site provides the basic information and a link to download the profile document.

1. Modify ChurchHub to allow all ministry personnel to search the full “Find a New Ministry” section of “ChurchHub” prior to being formally requesting to be made available for call by the Office of Vocation.
2. Continue to require ministry personnel to be made available for appointment or call, prior to formally applying for a vacancy through ChurchHub.

Introduction of New Staff Member (Reverend Susan Garrod-Schuster, Acting Pastoral Relations Minister) Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly, Executive Minister extended thanks and appreciation to Rev. Darren Liepold, who for the past couple of years has been occupying two staff positions, that of Congregational Support Minister and Pastoral Relations Minister. Eric announced that Rev. Susan Garrod-Schuster is the new Acting Pastoral Relations Minister (replaces Rev. Deborah Roi on restorative leave). Rev. Garrod-Schuster was then invited to the front of the meeting space to be covenanted with the regional council in her new role.

Growth Animator Presentation - Rev. Tori Mullin, Growth Animator, Eastern Ontario and Quebec, directed attendees to the Growth Animator’s report in the report book, highlighted specific projects that have taken place within this regional council at congregational level, provided some background information on how the growth department is using data to create models (neighborhood profiles), and invited all to share potential ministry plans for growth.

Towards 2035 Presentation Rev. Jennifer Henry, Organizational Development and Strategy, explained that Toward 2035 is conversation about the current state of the church, with the hope of stirring imaginations and animate the collective will around a vision and strategy for a better future for the church. This conversation looks at the trajectory of the church between 1993 and 2023, and projects its likely trajectory in 2035. It considers trends in membership, giving, Sunday worship attendance, Sunday school attendance, number of pastoral charges, Ministry Personnel, Pastoral Charges served by Ministry Personnel, and sustainability of both denominational and congregational finances.

(Continued on next page)
St. James United Church

Delegate to ECORC

2035 projections suggest a greater degree of vulnerability. Despite projections, it is the hope that The United Church of Canada in 2035 will be: “inspired, resilient communities of disciples, rural, and urban, coast to coast, francophone, indigenous, and intercultural, more closely reflecting the diversity of Canada”. Components like, connection, flexibility, innovation and urgency, can support communities of faith; enable local & geographic discernment; engage in cooperative and collaborative experiments; support intercultural; and support first third.

Submitted by:
Peggy Fillier

St. James United Church Women

UCW Purpose: To unite the women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a medium through which they may express their loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship, and service.

The members of UCW were very busy in 2025. We held two general meetings – one in June and one in December. Our speaker in June was Maria Fitzgerald who spoke about the Catholic Women's League. She told us about various changes that affect women and children because of the CWL. We once again collected clothing and other items for children at Crossroads and the Children's Aid at this meeting. Our December meeting was delayed a day due to a fierce storm. We enjoyed a delicious roast beef meal from the Cheese Shop and sang some Christmas carols followed by a skit.

Our three muffin parties in March, May and October were very successful. In November we held our annual Christmas tea and bazaar. On a lovely, sunny day we welcomed one of the biggest crowds we could remember! Our dining room was very busy as we moved the baking and deli tables in there. We also displayed the gift baskets and sold many tickets. We made hundreds of turkey and beef meat pies and a few fruit pies for the bazaar.

In February we had a cookie and pie sale. In June, we held a trunk and plant sale. As the saying goes, one person's junk is another's treasure. All of these events brought in money for us to share with the church and seven agencies in Peterborough. I am proud to say that we contributed \$13,000 to the church this year.

We had a cleaning out day in March as the New Canadian Centre took over Room 2. We moved the freezer from that room to the "freezer" room as well as the tablecloths, some decorations, boxes, bags, and many other things. It was a good opportunity to purge some things too.

In May, we hosted a High Tea in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the United Church in Canada. Those who attended were served fancy sandwiches, petite fours and lovely desserts. A special thank you to Bev Lane for making the beautiful Petite fours. They were almost too pretty to eat!

Special thanks to the Executive for all the work they do in organizing these events and helping to promote UCW. These ladies are: Secretary – Sue Harvey, Treasurer – Eileen Stanbury, Evening Unit leader - Shirley Rolufs and Lorie Fitzgerald, Afternoon Unit Leader - Jayne White, Sunshine and Presbyterial Rep.– Peggy Fillier, Meat pies and special lunches - Lynda Parker.

A special thank you to the UCW men who help with setting up tables and chairs at our events and do a myriad of other tasks.

Marney Horton, UCW President

St. James United Church Women - Financial Report

Income

Envelopes & Offerings	\$393.90
Donations	\$550.00
Funeral lunches	\$1,005.00
Maturing GIC	\$2,500.00
Projects, Interest & Dividends	\$15,273.68

Annual Income

Previous Balance Dec 31, 2024	\$412.75
	\$20,135.33

Expenses

Administration/Gifts	\$3,247.57
GIC Invested	\$0.00
Kitchen/Coffee	\$40.23
Donations to St. James incl. M & S	\$13,200.00
Outreach	\$1,500.00
Annual Expenses	\$17,987.80

Balance Dec 31, 2025

\$2,147.53

Submitted by:

Eileen Stanbury

The St. James Players

Chairperson: Fred Batley
Vice-chairperson: Faith Morales
Treasurer: Natalie Dorsett
Secretary: Leslie Gutsole-Floyd

High School Musical - Spring 2025:

The show took place in Wesley hall from April 8-13, 2025 and we put on 6 shows. The show was directed by Waverly Farquhar Porter and produced by Faith Morales. We had an excellent cast and crew which put on a fantastic show. Which was well attended and we were able to donate \$5000 to the Church.

Into the Woods - Fall 2025:

Took place on Nov. 7-15, 2025 at Showplace. The show was directed by Jacquie Butler and we had an amazing cast and crew of approximately 50 people. It was a great show with a fantastic set (a magical forest and village) with an amazing orchestra who brought the music of Sondheim to life for the audience. The show was incredible and ticket sales with the increased prices went very well.

Cinderella - Fall 2026:

Will be directed by Natalie Dorsett and produced by Fred Batley and auditions will take place in May 2026. The show will take place at Showplace from Nov 13-21, 2026. We will again only be offering ticket sales at the Showplace box office with advance sales for the congregation, cast and crew. Watch for upcoming events and ticket sales.

The Addams Family - Spring 2026:

We just completed the auditioning and casting process for the show and we had 100 youth come to audition. We are looking forward to performing this show on the stage in Wesley hall from April 23-26, 2026 where we will put on 4 shows. The show will be directed by Gracie-Lynn Hughes and produced by Faith Morales. We have an excellent cast who are currently in rehearsals and cannot wait to perform on stage in Wesley hall for the Community. Watch for upcoming events and ticket sales.

Financials for Annual Report are as follows:

- Balance at December 31, 2025: \$30,883.32
- Investments: \$0

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The St. James Players

Comments:

We donated approximately \$17,000 financially to St James Church and purchased \$180 in gift cards.

We presented bursaries in the amount of \$2500 to 3 students entering post-secondary education.

As a fundraiser event for the Church we will be hosting a May Concert with 2 shows on May 30, 2026. Tickets will be on sale soon.

We were honoured to receive a financial award from the 100 Men of Peterborough which will help us present our Spring show and Bursary program for youth.

A big thank you to the St. James Players Board of Directors, volunteers, and St. James church congregation for all you do and your continued support for our productions.

As a community theatre group we have provided a safe and nurturing environment for many youths from our church and local community for the past 53 years.

Submitted by:

Fred Batley

Tuesday Morning Craft Group

Leader: Lynda Parker

Treasurer: Linda Chambo

Our crafters have been very busy each Tuesday morning, generously making the following donations:

- 20 hats, 28 scarves to Janet McCue for Far North
- 25 blankets and \$480 to Operation Smile
- 28 cat blankets to Humane Society
- 20 toques, 14 scarves to Bridgenorth Food Bank
- 9 afghans to NCC
- 30 lap blankets, 10 shawls to Riverview Manor
- Participated in outdoor sale in June
- Donated gift basket worth \$250 to raffle
- Donated to special appeals throughout the year and Operation Smile (2)

Join us from 9 - 11 for a morning of fellowship and crafting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance - Jan 2025: \$312

Donations, Sale of Wool, Crafts: \$2046

Total: \$2358

Expenses Jan - Dec 2025:

Feb - Snowplowing - \$300

May - Matching Funds - \$500

Jun and Nov - Operation Smile - \$480

Oct - 117th Anniversary - \$500

Dec - General Fund - \$500

Coffee, Supplies, & Birthday Cake - \$174

Total: \$2354

Balance - Dec 2025 - \$4

Submitted by:

Lynda Parker

Ministerial Search Team

Dear St. James Church Family,

The **Ministerial Search Team** was appointed by the St. James Official Board to undertake the important task of developing the **Church Profile**, which is the key document used in calling a new minister. This profile was prepared for the approval of our District Support Liaison, **Brian James**, and the **East Central Ontario Region Council (ECORC) Liaison Forum**, and was officially approved by the church Board on January 13, 2026.

The **Church Profile** serves as a confidential guide for ministry personnel considering a new calling. It is posted on the **United Church HUB**, a secure platform used by both churches seeking a new minister and ministers exploring new pastoral opportunities. Access to the Minister profiles is strictly limited to the Ministerial Search Committee.

The Profile has now received final approval and is active on the UC HUB. It consists of three parts:

1. **Church Story** – sharing the life, history, and vision of St. James United Church.
2. **Minister Job Description** – outlining the role, responsibilities, and expectations for our new minister.
3. **Five-Year Financial Overview** – providing a clear picture of the church's financial health and sustainability.

The Ministerial Search Team will provide **regular updates to the congregation** as the search process progresses. We encourage you to reach out with any questions, comments, or feedback at any time.

Ministerial Search Team Contacts:

Search Team Member	E-mail	Phone #
Fred Batley (Chair)	fbatley6@gmail.com	705-930-3792
Yvonne Lai	yliaylai@gmail.com	705-743-1777
Leslie Gutsole-Floyd	pnkfloyd@nexicom.net	705-944-8921
Marney Horton	marney_horton@hotmail.com	705-743-8904

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St. James United Church

Ministerial Search Team

Looking Ahead

As we move forward in 2026, the Ministerial Search Team will focus on:

- **Engaging with potential ministry personnel** who review our Church Profile on the UC HUB.
- **Providing ongoing updates** to the congregation on the progress of the search and any new developments.
- **Facilitating congregational participation** in the process, including special meetings and feedback opportunities as required.
- **Supporting the Board and congregation** in preparing for the welcoming of our new minister when a successful match is made.

We are grateful for your continued prayers, support, and participation as we take these next steps together in shaping the future of St. James United Church.

With gratitude,

St. James Ministerial Search Team

*** In January 2026, we mourned the loss of **Richard Patterson**, Chair of our committee. Richard took on the Chair position with incredible energy and commitment.*

His skills as a writer and his attention to detail were clearly evident as we worked together. He spent countless hours working and revising our Profile, he was open to suggestions, and he listened attentively to the ideas of others. He led our team with gentleness of spirit, kindness of heart, and enormous dedication to the St. James family.

We acknowledge, and are thankful, for all that he contributed to this committee and process, and as we continue to move forward towards our goal, we will hold his memory close. His impact on us as individuals, and his contributions to St. James, will be long be felt.

Financial Report

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

IN GENERAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 2025

RECEIPTS

	2024	2025
CE summer camp (net)*	\$2002	\$0
CE General	\$0	\$39
In Memoriam Donations	\$1882	\$1305
Envelope givings (includes online)	\$29,819	\$24,982
Stewardship Campaigns	\$31,219	\$30,997
Other Special Givings	\$3686	\$1504
PAR givings	\$67923	\$64496
Fundraising (net)*	\$6383	\$8256
Gift Cards (net)*	\$4654	\$4904
Interest (savings account & GICs)	\$1273	\$2085
Loose offering	\$1115	\$607
Miscellaneous	\$24549	\$14228
NCC Mortgage Payments	0	\$69,330
Organizations (general funds only)	\$34991	\$29625
Rentals	\$102297	\$26552
Memorial Fund	\$0	\$0
Total Receipts	\$311818	\$278909

*See breakdown of these accounts in "Special Accounts" below.

DISBURSEMENTS

	2024	2025
ADP	\$-449	\$-509
Affirm Committee	\$-335	-\$468
Bank Fees/Line of Credit Interest	\$-354	\$-626
Christian Education General	\$-1001	\$-357
Church building cleaning	\$-17507	\$-5712
Elevator	\$-1526	\$0
Employee Benefits/Allowances/E.I./CPP	\$-34327	\$-34099
Fuel and utilities	\$-34382	\$-19760
Insurance	\$-14945	\$-8180
GIC/savings account repurchase	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$-12162	\$-7836
Ministry & Personnel Committee	\$-796	\$-1414
Office supplies/phone/postage/copier/internet	\$-10251	\$-11752
PAR	\$-229	\$-202
Regional UCC assessment (ECORC)	\$-11800	\$-13383
Repairs/maintenance/janitorial	\$-37443	\$-34448

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Financial Report

Salaries	\$-142236	\$-146095
Technology Replacement Fund	\$-480	\$-480
Worship Committee – General	\$-1049	\$-788
Worship – Choir Supplies	\$0	\$0
Worship – Honoraria – Music	\$-795	\$-6425
Worship - Honoraria – Speakers	\$-1870	\$-350
Worship – Instrument Maintenance	\$-554	\$-271
WSIB	\$-727	\$-704
Total Expenses	\$325217	\$-299218
Surplus (Deficit)	-\$13398	-\$20309

Special Accounts

	2024	2025
1 - Mission and Service:		
received/disbursed	\$9340	\$8406
2 - Capital costs:		
received/disbursed	\$0	\$0
3-Kawartha Food Share:		
received/disbursed	\$645	\$604
4-Gift cards:		
received	\$121,789	\$112940
disbursed	\$-117,135	\$-105235
5-Fundraising:		
received	\$6685	\$9347
disbursed	\$-302	\$-640

Financial Report

Statement of Assets and Congregational Equity

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025

Assets/(Liabilities)

GENERAL FUNDS	2024	2025
Bank account (chequing)	\$14,826	\$7810
Accounts Receivable (rents)	\$1580	\$0
Accounts payable (outstanding cheques)	-\$3379	-\$3950
Due to restricted funds (money owing to line of credit)	*\$0	\$0
Total	\$13,027	\$3860

*GIC's valued at \$25000 were cashed during the first quarter of 2025 (from the Memorial Church Fund) due to our poor cash flow and heavy fuel and snowplowing costs

RESTRICTED FUNDS (ALLOCATED AND UNALLOCATED)

	2024	2025
Bank account (savings) Term	\$450	\$1720
Deposits (all in GICs)	\$57260	\$56810
Total restricted funds	\$57710	\$58530
*		
Less manse GIC	-\$38,000	-\$38,000
Less allocated restricted funds (details below)	-\$16,306	-\$1103
Total allocated restricted funds	\$21,318	\$19,427

--DESIGNATED FUNDS (INCLUDED IN "LESS ALLOCATED DESIGNATED FUNDS" LINE ABOVE)

	2024	2025
UCC sale Percentage (Indigenous Ministries)*	\$0	\$0
Building fund	\$11644	\$0
Deposits (weddings and keys)	\$1115	\$0
Rental Damage Deposits	\$150	\$0
Technology Replacement Fund	\$623	\$1103
Total	\$16306	\$1103

*At the October 2025 meeting of the St. James Official Board, it was decided to close the building fund and move that money into a fund for the payment to the United Church of Canada for Indigenous Ministries which is a condition of our building sale.

St. James Memorial Church Fund

Bequests have been invested in 12 GICs, 9 of which have been cashed in the last few years (for \$68,500) to assist our cash flow. The four remaining GICs total \$7,500.

Interest earned from the GICs, and the savings account is transferred to the general funds in the month that it is earned.

Financial Report

Comments to Financial Statements

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES 604

a) These financial statements are comprised of the accounts under the control of the Church Official Board. They do not include the assets, equity, receipts, disbursements, etc. of any of the Church organizations (e.g. - UCW, St. James Players, etc.). b) Expenditures of a capital nature are written off in the year of acquisition.

2. MISSION AND SERVICE

All Mission and Service receipts are forwarded to the United Church of Canada at the end of the month in which they are received (\$8,406 in 2025). Money received for the Food Bank is forwarded to Kawartha Food Share twice a year (\$604 in 2025).

3. MANSE PROCEEDS

The proceeds from the sale of the Princess St. manse (\$38,000) are invested in a GIC. The interest earned on this GIC is included in the current general fund receipts (interest line).

4. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Group	General Fund		M&S		Total	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
United Church Women	\$10000	\$10750	\$3,000	\$225	\$13000	\$13,000
St. James Players	\$22,700	\$17,000		\$0	\$22,700	\$17,000
	\$575	\$600				\$600
	\$1716	\$2046				\$2046
Fyd-L-Styx					\$575	
Tuesday Morn. Craft Group					\$1716	
Totals	\$34,991	\$30,396	\$3,000	\$2250	\$37,991	\$32,646

In 2025, the UCW also donated \$200 to the benevolent fund.

Grand total from organizations in 2025: \$30,396 (2024 - \$34,991)

We sincerely thank these groups again for their financial assistance!

Financial Report

Summary of Envelope/Online/PAR Givings

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

Annual Offerings	Number of Donors*	
	2024	2025
\$0 – \$50	16	15
\$50.01 – \$100	9	5
\$100.01 – \$500	35	24
\$500.01 – \$1,000	19	17
\$1,000.01 – \$5,000	43	37
\$5,000.01 and up	3	3
Total donors*	125	102

*Total donors excludes money received from church organizations and from bequests. It does include one-time visitors/donors such as those who attended funerals, Christmas Eve and/or Easter services, etc.; This would include almost all the people in the \$0 to \$100 range above.

Average annual donation per donor (not per envelope holder) in 2025 was \$1210 (includes envelopes, PAR, in memoriam donations, stewardship campaigns, one-time visitors, etc.): (2024: \$1,224).

Number of members on **Pre-Authorized Remittance** (PAR) as of Dec. 31/25: 33 (2024: 37). We urge you to consider switching over to PAR in 2026. Not only does it make bookkeeping easier, but it also helps with budgeting for our monthly expenses.

Mission and Service (M&S) Funds – Receipts and Disbursements

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

RECEIPTS

	2024	2025
M & S (Envelopes/loose change)	\$6340	\$6156
M & S (UCW)	\$3000	\$2250
M & S (World Development/Relief)	\$0	\$0
Angel Tree (gift cards were collected, not cash)	\$0	\$0
Food Bank (for Kawartha Food Share)	\$645	\$604
Benevolent	\$1471	\$763
Total	\$11386	\$12,864

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Financial Report

DISBURSEMENTS

	2024	2025
Mission and Service	\$9340	\$8406
World Development/Relief	\$0	\$0
Angel Tree (gift cards were donated)	\$0	\$0
Food bank	\$645	\$604
Benevolent	\$1471	\$1130
Total	\$11386	\$10652

Benevolent Fund

Opening Balance Jan 1, 2025:	\$704
Received during 2025:	\$763 (includes \$200 from UCW)
Disbursed during 2025:	\$1130
Closing Balance Dec 31, 2025	\$336

The benevolent fund is used at the discretion of the minister to help individuals/families in need. The fund receives donations from church members, bequests, UCW, and the loose change on the collection plate on Communion Sundays. In 2023, several individuals/families were assisted with gift cards or food.

St. James United Church Memorial Trust Fund

This fund consists of donations from legacy bequests that are directed to St. James United Church. A GIC is purchased with each bequest. Interest from these GICs is transferred to our general account and is then shown on the "interest" line under receipts in the monthly and annual reports. As of December 31, 2023, the capital amount was \$32,500.

Legacy Gifts Received:

2012: Mrs. Gwyneth Thomson	2014: Mr. Wayne Dominick
2012: Mrs. Violet Bell	2014: Mr. Bert Geary
2012: Mr. Walter Murphy	2019: Mr. Denis Garrod
2013: Mr. Norman Sullivan	2020: Mr. Al Millett
2013: Mrs. Madeline Watson	2021: Mr. Lloyd Sucee
2014: Mrs. Blanche Campbell	2023: Mr. Ed McLellan

Financial Report

2026 Budget

<u>General Account - Receipts</u>	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
Christian Education - General	\$39	\$0
Envelope givings (incl. online)	\$24,982	\$25,000
Stewardship Campaigns	\$30,957	\$30,900
Other Special Givings	\$1504	\$3,000
PAR givings	\$64,496	\$54,000
Fundraising (net)	\$7906	\$7,000
Gift Cards (net)	\$4904	\$5,000
In Memoriam Donations	\$1305	\$500
Interest	\$2085	\$1,000
Loose offering	\$607	\$800
Memorial Fund	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$14,288	\$6000
NCC Mortgage Payment	\$69,330	\$57,000
Organizations	\$30,396	\$30,000
Rentals (net)	\$26,552	\$0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$278909	\$220,200

<u>General account expenses</u>	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
Salaries	\$-146,095	\$-150,000
Employee benefits/allowances	\$-34,099	\$-37,200
ADP	\$-509	\$-450
Advertising	\$0	\$0
Affirm committee	\$-468	\$-475
Bank Fee/Line of Credit Charges	\$-626	\$-500
Christian Education – General	\$-357	\$-600
Church Building Cleaning	\$-5712	\$-2200
ECORC (region) Assessment	\$-13,383	\$-14,324
Elevator	\$0	\$0
Fuel/utilities	\$-19760	\$0
GIC Purchase	\$0	\$0
Insurance	\$-8180	\$-3100
Ministry & Personnel Committee	\$-1414	\$-600
Miscellaneous	\$-7836	\$-1600
Office/phone/postage/supplies	\$-11,752	\$- 5,300
PAR	\$-202	\$ 220
Repairs/maintenance/janitorial supplies	\$-34,448	\$0
Technology Replacement Fund	\$-480	\$-480
Worship Committee (general)	\$-788	\$-1400
Worship - choir supplies	\$0	\$0
Worship – honoraria music	\$-6425	\$-7000
Worship – honoraria speakers	\$-350	\$-4000
Worship – instrument maintenance	\$-271	\$-550
WSIB	\$-704	\$-200
United Church Sales Percentage	\$-5400	\$-7200

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St. James United Church

Financial Report

	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$-299,218	\$-237,399
Total Expenses	\$-299,218	\$-237,399
Total Receipts	\$278,909	\$220,200
Surplus/deficit	-\$20,309	-\$17,199
 Special Accounts		
Mission & Service	\$8406	\$6500
 Capital Expenses	\$0	\$0
 Kawartha Food Share	\$604	\$575
 Gift cards		
Received	\$112,940	\$129,500
Disbursed	\$105,235	\$124,500
Profit	\$4,968	\$5,000
 Summer camp		
Received	\$27,929	\$0
Disbursed	\$-25,927	\$0
Surplus/Loss	\$2,002	\$0
 Fundraising		
Received	\$9347	\$8,000
Disbursed	\$-640	\$1,000
Surplus/Loss	\$8707	\$7,000

Auditors' Report 2025

In accordance with our responsibilities as appointed auditors for the St. James United Church, Peterborough, Ontario general funds, special funds, and restricted funds, we confirm that we have reviewed the records of cash (including cheques) received, funds disbursed, and balances from the close of, and accounting activities for the period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. We have also reviewed the accounting procedures and controls in place. As well, we understand that there is an offsite church computer backup system in place, as well as a backup of the treasurer's home computer (both done on a weekly basis).

Ronald Horton

Ron Horton

Jayne White

Jayne White

Date:

Feb 10/26

2025 Statistics & In Memoriam

Statistics

We welcomed 11 new members/regular adherents to the congregation through confirmation or transfer of membership this year.

This year we celebrated 1 wedding and 0 baptisms.

Reverend Julie officiated at 2 burials.

In Memoriam

Jean Smith

Ellen Stewart

