

**St. Andrew's Council Meeting**  
Lois E. Carey Parlour  
Wednesday January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

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<b>Welcome and Opening (6:30 p.m.)</b>	Doug McCausland welcomed everyone to the meeting.
<b>Attendance</b>	Elizabeth Brownlee, Lorie Fairburn, Marg Fleming, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Bill Holmes, Bill Ingwersen, Doug McCausland (Chair), Ed Mounce, Caitlin Smithers (Minister), Derek Stott (10)
	Guests Regrets from Diane Matheson-Jimenez, CSRC Minister, Community of Faith Support
	Regrets Kim Delrosbel, Stephen Park, Kathie Smith (Pastoral Charge Supervisor)
<b>Land Acknowledgement</b>	Doug McCausland acknowledged that we meet on Indigenous land and offered thanks for the gifts of the people from the Nipissing First Nation as we work together towards reconciliation.
<b>Touchstones/ Opening</b>	Doug McCausland read our Council Touchstones aloud. Bill Ingwersen offered a prayer to open the meeting.
<b>Visioning</b>	Since Diane Matheson-Jimenez was unavailable for our meeting, Caitlin Smithers shared a sampling of the stories about St. Andrew's that were received from members of the congregation as part of our Sunday worship last week. Some Council members expressed a desire to discuss to possibility of holding a retreat day with Diane in order to bring together all of the ideas that we have been sharing during our Council sessions with her.
<b>Agenda</b>	<p><b>Motion 001/25</b> Elizabeth Brownlee/ Derek Stott moved that the agenda be accepted with the addition of two items - an update on the UC 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary local plans and nominations ahead of the AGM. <span style="float: right;"><b>Carried</b></span></p>
<b>Minutes of Previous Meetings</b>	<p><b>Motion 002/25</b> Karen Gooch/ Bill Holmes moved that the minutes from November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be accepted as circulated. <span style="float: right;"><b>Carried</b></span></p>
<b>Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A card was received from members of St. Andrew's Community of Faith in Sturgeon Falls to thank our congregation for our old data projector which was gifted to them when we upgraded the display technology in our sanctuary last year.</li> <li>• A thank you was received from Anne Smith for the donations that were collected on White Gift Sunday at St. Andrew's for the Infant Food Shelf program at Trinity United.</li> <li>• Elizabeth Brownlee offered to send a card on behalf of St. Andrew's Council to Kathie Smith, our Pastoral Charge Supervisor as her family grieves the death of her mother-in-law.</li> </ul>
<b>Business Arising</b>	

- Loaves & Fishes Committee Lorie Fairburn announced that Tim Kuntz will chair the new Loaves & Fishes Committee which will oversee the operation of our food bank. Tim recently moved to North Bay and he previously managed a food bank in British Columbia.
- Council Vacancies Stephen Park has agreed to be the Facility Liaison on Council. This will leave one of our member-at-large positions vacant.  
**Motion 003/25**  
Lorie Fairburn/ Elizabeth Brownlee moved that St. Andrew's Council appoint Stephen Park to the Facility Liaison position on Council. **Carried**
- Howard Wurster Concerns At the October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Council meeting, Howard Wurster shared with Council some concerns he has about some things at St. Andrew's. A discussion was held to determine how we should address those concerns.
- Howard stated that he believed Loaves & Fishes should be paying for all expenses related to its operation from donations designated for the food bank - including rent, utilities and the Manager's salary. There seems to be a misunderstanding that the food bank is the same as other outside groups that use the church. However, Loaves & Fishes is not a separate entity. It is an outreach program of St. Andrew's and is an important part of the work of the church.
  - Council decided last year to pay the Manager's salary from general funds. The position is considered another staff position of the congregation since the food bank is considered a program of St. Andrew's. As well, there is a feeling that many donors to Loaves & Fishes want their money spent on food – not other operating costs. Our current Manager, Lorie Fairburn puts in as many as 4 hours of volunteer time above what she is paid for.
  - Howard seemed concerned that there was a rumour circulating before he came to Council that he was going to ask for a motion to pay the Manager's salary from the Loaves & Fishes account when he had no intention of making such a request. This is a reminder that members of Council should set an example and refrain from engaging in gossip and speculation.
  - Howard expressed concern about the name of our food bank. He has discovered a food bank in British Columbia also called *Loaves & Fishes Community Bank*. He is worried that there may be some confusion or that this other food bank may try to stop us from using the name. Doug McCausland stepped out of his Chair position to speak about this. Doug is also concerned about this issue and feels strongly we should consider changing the name in order to avoid any conflicts that may arise. Several other Council members spoke about the fact that we have been using this name for about 40 years without any problems (with and without the name St. Andrew's attached). A search was done and the BC food bank is a stand alone charity registered with the CRA while ours operates as a program of St. Andrew's and is not registered. There are also a number of CRA registered food banks with very similar names. There was a consensus from a majority of the Council members that there is no need to pursue a name change at this time.
  - Perhaps we need to provide a clearer picture about how Loaves & Fishes and more generally how our finances operate? The fact that we had a good discussion about finances at our fall congregational meeting is a good sign. Hopefully, we can build on this.

- Doug McCausland and Caitlin Smithers offered to speak with Howard and his wife Joan about this discussion.

## New Business

### Financial Report **Appendix I**

The following financial information was offered.

- Month-end Statement – The December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 was not available for this meeting.
- Treasurer – To date, no one has expressed an interest in being our Treasurer. Lorie Fairburn has spoken with Melody Duncanson-Hales, CSRC Minister, Community of Faith Support and was informed that a Treasurer must be a member of St. Andrew's. We can hire a bookkeeper, but the Treasurer cannot be a paid staff position.
- Lorie circulated a preliminary draft of the 2025 budget (Appendix I) for council members to review. The numbers will be finalized once the year-end statement for 2024 is available.

### Liaisons **Appendix II, III, IV**

All written committee reports were emailed to Council members ahead of this meeting for review.

Administration – Karen Gooch offered the following related to Building Use:

- There has been a request from an independent bible study group that has been meeting at St. Andrew's. They are in the midst of forming a new church and they would like to hold a weekly worship service at St. Andrew's on Sundays – preferably in the morning. The consensus of the Council is that we could accommodate them but they would have meet after 2:00 p.m. in the afternoon so that there would be no conflict with our own Sunday activities.

Facility – Council was informed that work has begun to refurbish the chapel and the parlour with the funds from the Walsh bequest as previously discussed.

Spiritual Life – Elizabeth Brownlee provided a written report (Appendix II) with details about the activities of the Worship, Congregational Life/Fundraising and Pastoral Care Teams.

Living Our Mission – The following was offered:

- Derek Stott provided a written report (Appendix III) providing information about the work of the Outreach and Inclusivity Committees. He highlighted the fact that the planned Rainbow Potluck will be postponed.
- Lorie Fairburn provided a written Loaves & Fishes report for November and December 2024 (Appendix IV) for Council members to review. Lorie added the following comments:
  - The food bank was closed Boxing Day and January 2<sup>nd</sup>. However, closing for two days over the holidays proved difficult for some of our clients. The original thought was that perhaps the food bank should only close for one day next year. The fact that Christmas and New Year's fall on Thursday in 2025 is something to be considered. Perhaps a scaled-down opening where only canned goods are offered should be considered?
  - Volunteers have been picking up the food rescue items rather than having them delivered and this seems to be working better.

- A lot of mitts and socks have been given away to our food bank clients so far this winter.

UC 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plans for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary are moving ahead. St. Andrew's will host a trivia event in February or early March. Barb Van Herk and Joan Wurster have put together a history of St. Andrew's for the Centennial Moments project that will be shared with the other local United Churches. Items related the anniversary will be placed in our newsheet each week to keep up awareness leading to the celebration weekend June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

M&P Committee Bill Holmes, Chair of the M&P Committee offered the following report:

- Bill informed Council that Caitlin Smithers will receive a 3% cost of living increase as prescribed by 2025 salary guidelines from the United Church of Canada. The M&P Committee is recommending that our Music Director Ralph Johnston receive a similar pay increase. Staff who are paid hourly received an increase in October 2024 and will receive another increase in October 2025 in order to keep them in line with the Ontario minimum wage. A motion to approve Ralph's pay increase will be presented to the full Council in an email poll, since our Pastoral Charge Supervisor is not in attendance at this meeting.
- Bill is currently checking with the United Church about the fact that the Loaves & Fishes Manager and Office Administrator should be eligible for benefits since they are both being paid for 15 hours or more and they are not currently receiving benefits.

Minister's Report **Appendix V**

Caitlin Smithers provided a written report outlining her activities for December 2024 (Appendix V) for members to review.

Ordination Process Caitlin Smithers is currently part of the United Church's Supervised Ministry Education program. During her time with us, she has been working with her Supervisor Rev. Catherine Somerville.

- The next step in her journey towards ordination involves an interview with the Candidacy Board who will discern her readiness for ordination and they will issue a recommendation by March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- As discussed when Caitlin first arrived at St. Andrew's, we will consider calling her to St. Andrew's once she has been ordained. We will need set up a discernment committee to review and negotiate terms of an appointment. The committee should have 4 or 5 people including someone from the M&P Committee and someone from the Community of Faith Connection Committee, the support committee for Caitlin. Council members have been asked to approach people who may be interested in being part of the discernment committee.
- This committee will report to the April Council meeting with a recommendation for congregational approval of an appointment at a meeting on Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Motion 004/25**

Lorie Fairburn/ Elizabeth Brownlee moved that a Congregational meeting be held on Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to approve a recommendation to appoint Caitlin Smithers to ministry at St. Andrew's once she is ordained

**Carried**

- Her appointment must then be approved by the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission at their May meeting. The current plan is for an ordination service to take place at the *Festival of Faith* event of the Regional Council to be held in Sudbury on June 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

AGM Date It was agreed that we should hold our AGM on one of the first two Sundays in March. Karen Gooch will contact Kathie Smith to confirm a date and will initiate an email poll to confirm a date if needed to ensure we have the required time to provide notice to the congregation. Karen requested that members provide their submissions for the Annual Report as soon as they are able.

### Other Business

LLWL Lorie Fairburn provided Council with an update about her LLWL studies. She hopes to be licensed as a Lay Worship Leader this summer.

### Round Table

Members of Council were invited to speak about anything they would like. One member said it was weird to not be in church on Sunday and that here is where we belong. Marg Fleming shared her personnel struggles and thanked people for their support. Caitlin Smithers commented that the last week's Sunday service where people were invited forward for laying on of hands was more the she had hoped. There is a feeling of family and community at St. Andrew's and this extends to our support of our food bank clients who are nourished and treated with respect. The clients are very appreciative.

### Adjournment

Council joined together in a circle and sang the Ralph Johnston benediction before the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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Next Council Meeting Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. Lois E. Carey Parlour

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Chairperson, Doug McCausland

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Secretary, Karen Gooch

**St. Andrew's United Church**  
**Financial Comparative Statement January - October**

*DRAFT BUDGET*

	Actual 2023/01/01 to 2023/10/31	Actual 2024/01/01 to 2024/10/31	Budget 2024	Proposed Budget 2025
<b>REVENUE</b>				
<b>General Fund Revenue</b>				
Offerings - General Fund	\$107,970.85	\$137,119.23	\$185,366.00	\$190,810.00
Offerings - Envelopes	\$85.00	\$59.05	\$0.00	
Offerings - Broadview	\$345.00	\$485.00	\$0.00	
Offerings - Church School	\$220.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	
Offerings - Renovations	\$7,585.00	\$815.00	\$0.00	
Fund Raising Comm Revenue	\$1,337.00	\$610.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Rent for Use of Church	\$24,271.10	\$16,985.50	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
Congregational Life Income	\$241.00	\$2,960.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Manse Interest	\$2,029.33	\$2,391.83	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
Other Revenue	\$1.50	\$1,872.00	\$56,300.00	\$30,000.00
<b>Total General Fund Revenue</b>	<b>\$144,085.78</b>	<b>\$163,497.61</b>	<b>\$241,666.00</b>	<b>\$246,410.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>PERSONNEL</b>				
Salaries	\$40,875.66	\$87,208.43	\$117,355.00	\$143,100.00
Vehicle Allowance	\$1,703.40	\$2,000.00	\$3,600.00	
Telephone Allowance	\$150.00	\$750.00	\$900.00	
Book/Educ Allowance	\$1,863.84	\$2,119.20	\$0.00	
Employers EI Exp	\$1,108.42	\$2,232.19	\$0.00	
Employers CPP Exp	\$1,403.01	\$4,146.28	\$0.00	
WSIB Expense	\$631.69	\$525.24	\$0.00	
Honoraria Expense	\$0.00	\$1,325.00	\$0.00	
Pension - United Church	\$777.98	\$4,135.00	\$0.00	
Benefits - United Church	\$862.20	\$4,582.60	\$6,351.00	
Other Personnel Expenses	\$2,826.73	-\$2,826.73	\$2,500.00	
<b>Total Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>\$52,202.93</b>	<b>\$106,197.21</b>	<b>\$130,706.00</b>	<b>\$143,100.00</b>
<b>PROPERTY</b>				
Heating Fuel	\$19,613.20	\$13,669.11	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00
Utilities	\$5,462.23	\$5,673.91	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
Mtce Contracts	\$2,824.93	\$2,360.65	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Security Contract	\$454.62	\$1,792.41	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Repairs & Mtce	\$4,395.31	\$9,141.38	\$13,500.00	\$12,000.00
IT Support	\$0.00	\$72.76		\$0.00
Property Supplies	\$856.80	\$1,954.37	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Insurance	\$24,827.05	\$14,625.60	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
Special property purchases	\$13,803.19	\$613.25	\$4,500.00	\$0.00
Union Cemetary	-\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Property Expenses</b>	<b>\$72,037.33</b>	<b>\$49,903.44</b>	<b>\$68,500.00</b>	<b>\$67,000.00</b>

**St. Andrew's United Church  
 Financial Comparative Statement January - October**

	Actual 2023/01/01 to 2023/10/31	Actual 2024/01/01 to 2024/10/31	Budget 2024	Proposed Budget 2025
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Office Supplies	\$3,681.87	\$3,887.61	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00
Telephone/Internet	\$2,296.40	\$2,377.78	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Postage/Courier	\$74.32	\$483.28	\$1,900.00	\$1,200.00
Office Equip Lease	\$2,150.00	\$2,397.12	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Office Equipment Mtce	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$0.00
Software Upgrades	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$500.00
Regional Dues	\$9,413.00	\$6,773.00	\$10,000.00	\$8,750.00
CSRC Supervisor Fee	\$0.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00
<b>Total Administration Expenses</b>	<b>\$17,615.59</b>	<b>\$16,278.79</b>	<b>\$25,260.00</b>	<b>\$21,810.00</b>
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Pulpit Supply	\$2,088.00	\$741.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00
Worship Supplies	\$566.41	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Other Worship Expenses	\$1,086.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Worship Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,740.84</b>	<b>\$741.00</b>	<b>\$2,500.00</b>	<b>\$2,700.00</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Church School Expenses	\$0.00	\$126.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
Nursery Care	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Church School Assistant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Adult C.D. Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Christian Dev. Expenses</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$126.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,100.00</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>				
Professional Fees (Audit)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
Service Charges	\$1,000.51	\$1,151.22	\$1,100.00	\$1,500.00
Interest/ Finance Expense	\$56.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Finance Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,057.34</b>	<b>\$1,151.22</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>
<b>OTHER GENERAL FUND</b>				
Outreach Comm. Exp.	\$0.00	\$67.17	\$400.00	\$400.00
Pastoral Care Exp.	\$0.00	\$228.67	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

**St. Andrew's United Church  
 Financial Comparative Statement January - October**

	Actual 2023/01/01 to 2023/10/31	Actual 2024/01/01 to 2024/10/31	Budget 2024	Proposed Budget 2025
Congregational Life Exp.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Inclusivity Comm Exp	\$102.00	\$100.00	\$600.00	\$1,000.00
Broadview	\$1,175.00	\$1,410.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,500.00
Allocation for Capital Exp.	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00
Contingency Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Covid loan exp	\$167.61			
<b>Total Other General Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,444.61</b>	<b>\$4,805.84</b>	<b>\$9,900.00</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>
<b>Total General Fund Expenses</b>	<b>\$151,098.64</b>	<b>\$179,203.50</b>	<b>\$241,666.00</b>	<b>\$327,910.00</b>
<b>General Fund Net Income</b>	<b>-\$98,895.71</b>	<b>-\$73,006.29</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$81,500.00</b>

**OTHER FUNDS**

**Other Revenue**

Total M & S Fund Revenue	\$13,934.70	\$13,717.96	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
Total L & F Fund Revenue	\$8,833.88	\$51,112.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00
Misc. Other Revenue	\$0.00	\$24,261.61	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Total Memorial Comm Revenue	\$310.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Choir Fund - Memorial		\$670.00		\$0.00
Total Inclusivity	\$0.00	\$710.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$2,739.80		\$0.00
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$23,078.58</b>	<b>\$93,241.37</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$65,000.00</b>

**Total Misc. Expenses**

Mission & Service Exp.	\$2,289.56	\$8,764.96	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
Loaves & Fishes Expense	\$42,596.63	\$35,549.55	\$0.00	\$45,000.00
Capital Fund Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Choir Fund Exp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Building Renovation Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,500.00
CRA	\$0.00	\$3,665.70	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
<b>Total Misc. Expenses</b>	<b>\$44,886.19</b>	<b>\$47,980.21</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$81,500.00</b>

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$167,164.36</b>	<b>\$256,738.98</b>	<b>\$241,666.00</b>	<b>\$311,410.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$195,984.83</b>	<b>\$227,183.71</b>	<b>\$241,666.00</b>	<b>\$327,910.00</b>
<b>Total Net</b>	<b>-\$28,820.47</b>	<b>\$29,555.27</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$16,500.00</b>

## Appendix II

### Spiritual Life Liaison Report – January 15,2025

#### Worship & Christian Education: Ralph Johnston/Kim Delarosbel (co-chairs)

Advent: Journey to Christmas theme

The sanctuary was decorated for Advent by Ray and Ruth Gauthier, assisted by Liz and Beth Brownlee. A separate tree for the display of the memorial stars was located on the lower level of the narthex, with much positive feedback resulting. About 10 new stars were added this season. The Christmas tree is down, garlands will remain through January.

The Advent season proceeded as planned, with All Ages pieces provided by Sam and Lizzie each week. Thanks to Lorie Fairburn for the wonderful scripting of those segments, and to Ralph for composing the Sam and Lizzie theme song! The Community Stable was well-received, with many donations and contributions coming each week.

The White Gift Sunday donations were given to Rev. Ted Harrison for the Trinity Infant Shelf. Response was very generous.

Ralph and the choir produced two wonderful performances of "Hope for a Weary World", the evening service taking place in candlelight. Special thanks to readers Dana Murphy, Bethany Brownlee and Donna Sinclair.

This year's pageant, "What's Up With That?", was a resounding success! Thanks to Caitlin for directing, Lorie and Jennifer for costumes, Ralph for music, and to all our wonderful actors, including the congregation!

Christmas Eve saw a full church of about 150 people singing, worshipping and sharing Communion. Bradley Delarosbel's "O Holy Night" was magnificent, and violin music provided by the MacVicar children was lovely! "Silent Night" sung by candlelight was a powerful way to welcome Christ into the world again!

Our Fifth Sunday Dec. 29 service, "What Tangled Songs We Sing", was attended by some 80 people with all five United Church Congregations represented. Apple cider and sweet and savoury refreshments were enjoyed by all, and folks responded well to the relaxed informal vibe of the service which focussed on the myths and mutations of some of our best-known Christmas carols. The last Sunday in 2025 is not a Fifth Sunday, so this service will return to its traditional intimate gathering in God's living room.

The Worship Team has met and drafted worship plans for the first few months of 2025, including an All Ages piece for each Sunday service, the return of Sam and Lizzie for Lent, and a Reader's Theater drama for Palm Passion Sunday.

Ralph will be away the first two Sundays in February with Melissa Pajunen subbing in. Caitlin is looking at a two-week study leave in Lent, with Lorie Fairburn leading worship for one of those Sundays.

Divine Poetry: Finding God in the Word, a four-week noon hour gathering beginning Wed., Nov.27, was led by Caitlin and Tim Robertson, with poetry as a spiritual focus. The feedback regarding this gathering was very positive, leading to a likely return later this year.

The Monday study program, Reading the Bible in One Year, led by Tim Robertson and Marg Reid kicked off on January 8 with a shift to a 2 - 4 afternoon time slot.

Congregational Life/Fundraising: LizB/LizW (co-chairs)

Sunday refreshments in the chapel continue, thanks to the dedication of Willa Gallant and Liz Westbrook. This is a huge commitment, so the plan is to establish a roster where a different team of folks looks after the refreshments once a month.

The Kids Only Bazaar event, co-ordinated by Pat Kirton-Bailey, took place on Dec. 7. It was well attended by many happy youngsters! The \$545 proceeds were directed to the Sunday School fund.

On Dec. 8, Baking Spirits Bright had 25 pre-ordered tins of Christmas cookies and some extras available for pick up. All cookies were sold with proceeds of just over \$1200.

Judith and Bill Ingwersen's wonderful calendar project was very successful! St. Andrew's is very grateful to Judith and Bill for the generous donation to the church of the \$1345 proceeds!

Pastoral Care: Donna Landry (chair)

Pastoral visits with Caitlin and Donna continue. Lorie Fairburn and Mary Marrs have also been active in this regard.

Christmas cards were hand-delivered because of the postal strike. Valentine cards have been designed with production in the offing.

Submitted by Liz Brownlee

**Appendix III**

**LIVING OUR MISSION**

**Outreach:**

Stuart Bailey reports that the Ukrainian group in North Bay has used St. Andrew's for a Potluck Supper in December, and a location to film a music video in January. There is also a plan for a meeting of the Ukrainian diaspora at the Church a weekend.

Stuart is encouraged by the fact that not only the Ukrainians s, but also other diverse groups are renting space in our church building eg: a birthday party held by a Pilipino group, and another group is planning regular worship services.

**Inclusivity:**

The Inclusivity group has yet to choose a chair. They are planning a Rainbow Potluck in the Parlour this coming Saturday, but there may be a change in the date as several members have become ill, or are recovering from respiratory maladies. This potluck is to honour Marianna Couchie who passed away last November.

Submitted by Derek Stott

**Appendix IV**



**Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank  
Report to Council January 15, 2025 Meeting**

**November & December Statistics**

Volunteer Hours – 481

Food Bank Total Number of Guests (Nov) – 321 (Dec) – 242

<u>Total</u>	<u># of guest</u>	<u>#of Students</u>
Nov. 7	57	11
Nov. 14	63	19
Nov. 21	80	14
Nov. 28	64	13
Dec. 5	55	10
Dec. 12	61	13
Dec.19	67	26
	<b>457</b>	<b>106</b>

<b>In-Kind Donations</b>	<b>\$5,321</b>
Food Rescue	\$1,600
Donations	\$3,721

**Overview of Activities**

- Christmas gifts of socks, hats, mitts, treats, and a Christmas Card were well received by clients
- The Food Bank was closed on December 26, 2024, and January 2, 2025. This proved to be too long for our clients. We might have considered being open on January 2, 2025, with minimum staff and offering no fresh items but canned goods.
- Loaves & Fishes Volunteers have started picking up food rescue from The Gathering Place and we have already noticed an increase of groceries.

Respectfully submitted by Lorie Fairburn,  
Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank Manager

## Appendix V

### Minister's report December 2024

Happy New year! As I write this, January is well underway, and I am looking back at a full Advent and Christmas season. One filled with beautiful and community wide worship, with support offered for anyone in need, and with new additions of Sam and Lizzy who were a big hit, as well as our beautiful service of music and reflection once again led by our talented choir and choir director, and another incredible pageant, with even a real baby Jesus! We also had another beautiful Christmas Eve service, filled with candles light, community, and love, and 145 people!

Starting in October we began working with Diane Matheson-Jimenez as a council to learn and grow together, to learn ways to communicate effectively and support one another, to ask questions and get curious first, and above all else to remember we are a community of people who respect and care about one another so much. Let's work to reflect that in how we live in community with one another, as a community of faith focused on nurturing one another and creating brave space where people can feel safe to live a life of faith together.

Pastoral Care - Approximate hours this month – 40 – Emergent needs, home and hospital visits, phone calls, coffees, and presence within the wider community, etc.

Worship - Approximate Hours this month – 35 – Sermon writing – 10, Worship planning – 10, Worship services – 15.

Foodbank - Approximate Hours this month – 12 hours this month.

Family Ministry or Sunday school – Approximate Hours this – 6 – We continue to look at how to make Sunday school more possible over time, and what is still needed.

Engaging other churches - Approximate Hours this month – 12 hours this month meeting and building connections with colleagues, communities of faith, and the region.

Admin & comm. – Approx. Hrs – 30 – Emails, phone calls, meeting with staff, etc.

Committee & Community - Approximate hours this month – 15 – Inclusivity, M&P, Council, Affirming Events, Reconciliation events, and more.

If any of you want to chat any time over the next year about your hopes, your concerns, or whatever is going on for you, please reach out. I am dedicated to working with you on hearing each of you, and seeing what we can do together to reflect who we commit to being as a community of faith. Let's take a chance on each other and see what we can do to build on the deep faith and love already so evident in this community.

All my best, Caitlin Smithers