

**Lutheran Church of the Good  
Shepherd**

# **2025 Annual Report**

March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026



# Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer
3. Approval of Agenda with Power to Add
4. Approval of Minutes from the last Congregational Meeting  
March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025
5. Introduction of Council Members
6. Reports
7. 2025-26 Budget
8. New Council Election
9. Closing Devotions

## Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Annual Meeting Minutes: March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

**Present Council Members:** Paul Campbell (Chair), Suzanne McClennan (Recording Secretary), Madeline Becker (Secretary), Donny Becker (Treasurer), Peggy Detlor (Vice Chair), Amer Gill, Sohail Gill, Scott Burrige

**Regrets:** Kathy Piller, Pastor Julio

**Present Voting Congregation Members:** An attendance list was passed around. Around 43 members signed the list.

**Announcement:** Paul announced that a shared ministry service at Heartland Forest will be held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11AM. A vote was taken and the congregation agrees to just have a service at Heartland Forest (no lay service that day). Approximately 20 people expressed interest in attending.

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 10:22 AM, chaired by Paul Campbell. The meeting opened with a land acknowledgement by Paul, and a prayer by Paul. Pat said grace for our Fellowship Hour snacks. Quorum was achieved.

**Agenda:** The agenda was moved by Brooks McClennan with no additions, and seconded by Linda Anderson. All were in favour that the agenda be approved.

**Minutes:** The minutes from last year's meeting was moved by Sandra Redman and seconded by Sharon Manning. It was carried that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held March 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 be approved.

### **2024 Reports:**

*The following reports were submitted for the 2024 Annual Report prior to the meeting for members to review:*

**Pastors Report:** No questions asked. Paul acknowledged that there were many long-time members who passed away this past year.

**Worship Committee:** Laurali thanked all who worked on the lay services this year, they went above and beyond. No questions asked.

**Church Council:** Kathy will be stepping down from Council, but all other members will remain. No questions or other comments.

**Sunday School:** Brooks thanked the kids for helping out with reading. No questions asked.

**Altar Guild:** No questions or comments.

**Knitting Group:** The knitters made items that were donated to Trinity's Mom-To-Mom Box program this year.

**Choir:** Ernie asks that more people join the choir. Practice is 4-5PM on Wednesday.

**Property Maintenance & Digital Report:** Ernie asked if we will be replacing shrubbery in the front. He says there are lots of "over-grown" and out of control bushes. Ernie suggested that everything be torn out and have all new stuff planted. Janet brings up that the ground is very dry and is all clay, therefore hard to grow things. Perhaps we could add stones as they do not require water. Donny mentioned that him and Janet removed all overgrown bushes last year. Garden beautification is planned for the Spring. We can add mulch to keep the moisture in.

**Financial Secretary:** Suzanne has forms available if people want to sign up for PAR. Around half of our congregation gives through PAR. Carol Tubbe asked how do we increase our amount? Suzanne asked that people send her an email or write it down so that there is a paper trail. Suzanne can cancel fairly quickly should there be a need to cancel your PAR.

*All reports are accepted as presented.*

**2023-2024 Budget:** Donny mentioned that one of the figures in the proposed budget for Pastor Julio's pay was incorrect, resulting in the church having a slight surplus. This was counteracted by upping the amount designated for Service Ministries from \$800 to \$1600. These funds are designated to help out in our community, for example, through donations to Project share and Trinity's Mom-To-Mom Box program. We also donate to our Eastern Synod which in turn also donates to supporting social issues in the community at large. It is a priority for our church to give back to the community. Sandra asks that council made a thank you note to the Disbursement Committee at St. Paul for their generous donation. Council agrees. Suzanne said a thank you note was sent with the receipt.

Laurali thanked everyone for the work that everyone does to keep the church running.

### **Council Elections**

Kathy Piller has stepped down from council. The rest of Council will remain on the team. Donny reminds the group that anyone can join Council at any time.

**Closing Devotions:** lead by Paul Campbell

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM

Respectfully submitted by Madeline Becker, Recording Secretary

## Pastor Julio's 2025 Report

### Ecclesiastes 3:1

*There is time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.*

I don't want to hurt your feelings dear brothers and sisters, but I am writing this report at the beginning of February on a sunny day with a 30-degree temperature, a typical summer day in El Salvador. And like the Book of Ecclesiastes says "There is a Season for every activity under the heavens" I give thanks to God that I have reached a new season in my life, the season of retirement, a season that many never got the time to see and enjoy.

This makes me reflect on my last year as your pastor. It was a year of many blessings. We saw new and old friends of Good Shepherd become members, 13 of them on one Sunday. We regularly saw the presence of visitors, brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus who were moved by the Holy Spirit to worship with us. We welcomed two confirmands into our membership. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to some of our members who passed away too.

My last year with you was a year I will treasure in my heart. I am thankful for your support, for the way you showed me how much you appreciate my service to you. That couldn't have been more visible the day of my retirement celebration. I felt very humble and blessed to receive your love for me and my wife Marta.

As much as I enjoy my retirement life now, I miss the Bible Studies with you, worshipping God with you, bringing Holy Communion to members at their homes, and much more.

I am planning to come to visit you on Sundays once I am back home. As you can see this is not actually a report, it is more like a letter from a former pastor who was blessed to spend six years with you. Six years of building relationships, building friendship and memories. I believe that this is what the church of Christ is about, we are a community of friends united by the love of God that grows in our hearts as we get to know each other sharing our faith.

I am looking forward to seeing you all again. Stay warm and safe and God's peace be with you always.

Your brother in Christ,

Pr. Julio Romero

## Pastor Kevin's 2025 Report

Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ.

Since November 17, it has been my privilege to serve as your pastor at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Though these months have been relatively few, they have been rich with welcome, kindness, and a spirit of genuine faith. Thank you for the warmth with which you have received me; not only into the pulpit, but into your stories, your homes, and your shared life in Christ.

My first season among you has been primarily a season of listening. Listening to the history of this congregation, to the hopes you carry for the future, and to the griefs and transitions that have shaped you. I have come to see clearly that Good Shepherd is a community marked by resilience, loyalty, and quiet devotion. You care deeply about worship, about one another, and about serving your neighbours in Niagara Falls.

In these early months, worship has been our anchor. Sunday by Sunday, we have gathered around Word and Sacrament, confession and forgiveness, proclamation and prayer, table and sending. In a time when so much feels uncertain in the wider church and world, the steadiness of our liturgical life has been a gift. Together we have entered Advent's longing, celebrated Christmas joy, stepped into Epiphany's light, and have joined with Jesus on our Lenten journey.

Pastoral care has also been central in these first months. I have had the honour of visiting members at home and in care settings, praying in hospital rooms, and walking alongside families in times of anxiety and loss. These moments, often quiet and unseen, where the church is most truly itself. Thank you for trusting me with your stories and for allowing me to serve you in these sacred spaces.

As part of the Niagara Shared Ministry, we are learning what it means to collaborate across congregations while honouring the unique identity of Good Shepherd. There is strength in partnership, and I believe the coming year will offer opportunities to deepen that shared witness while continuing to nurture the particular gifts of this congregation.

Looking ahead, my hope for Good Shepherd is simple and steady: that we continue to grow in faith, in hospitality, and in courage. That we become ever more a community where newcomers are welcomed without pressure, where long-time members feel valued, and where Christ's compassion is visible in both word and action.

Thank you for these first months. I am grateful to walk this path with you. May the Good Shepherd continue to guide us, restore us, and lead us beside still waters in the year to come.

With gratitude and hope,

Rev. Dr. Kevin G. Powell

## From the Good Shepherd Register 2025

### Baptisms:

James Julian Milani Parents: Grant Mark Gregory Milani(NM) & Beth Ashley Milani(NM)

July 19<sup>th</sup> 2025 Service at Home, Pastor Julio Romero

### Confirmations:

Name: Owen Erik Michael Murdock Parents: Geoff & Sarah Murdock Date: March 9<sup>th</sup> 2025

Name: Jacob Blair Erik Saarinen Parents: Blair & Tracy Lemon Date: March 9<sup>th</sup> 2025

### Transfers:

Olayinka Adamson(F)	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Adefolake Adamson(M)	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Ayomide Adamson(s)	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Adeshayo Adamson(d)	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Annette Hounslow	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Bob Hounslow	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Karen Kimber	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Parcilla Nazneen	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Barbara Scott	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Betty Snider	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Helena Sumary	Transferred from St Paul's Lutheran Church	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Chris Sumary	Transferred from St Paul's Lutheran Church	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025
Andria Winslow	Joined Good Shepherd	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2025

### Marriages:

Name n/a married to n/a Name n/a on date n/a

### Funerals:

William A. Recchia(M) Date of Death April 19<sup>th</sup>,2025 Date of Service April 25<sup>th</sup> 2025  
(at Good Shepherd, Pastor Julio Romero)

Herbert Poulsen(M) Date of Death Oct 29<sup>th</sup>,2024 Date of Internment Service June 6<sup>th</sup> 2025  
(at Fairview Cemetery, Pastor Julio Romero)

Mary Pauco(M) Date of Death Sept 9<sup>th</sup>,2025 Date of Service Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> 2025  
(at Good Shepherd, Pastor Julio Romero)

Andria Winslow(M) Date of Death, Sept 21<sup>st</sup>,2025 Date of Service N/A  
(small Knitting Group Memorial at Good Shepherd, Pastor Julio Romero)

Rev Carl Onofrio(NM) Date of Death, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> ,2025 Date of Service Dec 27<sup>th</sup> ,2025  
(at Good Shepherd, Pastor Kevin Powell and Bishop Lee Miller)

(M) Member (NM) Non-Member (F) Father, (M) Mother, (s) son, (d) daughter

## 2025 Worship Committee Report

In 2025, Good Shepherd held 54 services at Good Shepherd. The Ecumenical Good Friday service was held at Stamford Lane United Church. June 22<sup>nd</sup> the Niagara Area Ministry held a joint service at Heartland Forest; there was no service at Good Shepherd that day.

We had 48 communion services (Pastor Julio Romero 18, Rev. Dr. Doreen McFarlane 14, Rev. Dr. Kevin Powell 16) and 6 non-communion lay services (Brooks McClennan 4, and Scott Burrige 2).

We said farewell to Pr. Julio at the end of October and wished him a happy retirement. Pr. Kevin accepted the call to the Niagara Shared Ministry mid November.

Every week a missal was prepared and printed for the Pastor/lay leader, reader and pianist. Donny Becker continued to provide the full missal and available sermons to everyone on the weekly email list. Printed copies were also made available to anyone who requested one for use during our weekly service. One member of our congregation continues to receive a printed sermon delivered to their house weekly. A printed bulletin was also prepared for every service, and copyright reporting was completed using OneLicense for all hymns that are reprinted and/or streamed for our services. Preparation of the missal, bulletin, and copyright reporting takes around 4 hours/week. This does not include any prep time spent on Sundays.

A PowerPoint presentation was created for all our services last year. This is the presentation you see on the TV screens at the front of the church. Each presentation takes a minimum of 1.5 hours to produce.

We have continued to live-stream every service on our Facebook page, and the videos are also available on our website.

The Worship co-ordinator is also responsible for: ordering palms for Palm Sunday, preparing ashes for Ash Wednesday, preparing the Advent Wreath, preparing the sanctuary for special services (moving font for baptisms, collecting pictures of pets, sandbox for All Saints Sunday, hand washing station for Maundy Thursday, get Christmas Eve handheld candles ready...),

ordering church supplies as needed (candles, communion wafers...), renewing our subscriptions to SundaysAndSeasons (worship material) and OneLicense (copyright reporting), arranging for and communicating with supply pastor and/or pianist when Pr. Julio/Pr. Kevin and/or Nicole are not scheduled/not able to be with us for services, ensuring the phone used for filming is charged weekly, and ensuring there are readers for every service.

We take pride in ensuring that the different liturgical seasons are celebrated throughout the year. Epiphany begins with chalking the door to the nave and concludes with “putting away the Alleluia” on Transfiguration. In Lent, we decorate the church in simple dried grasses and branches to reflect Jesus’ 40 days in the wilderness. During Easter we use Thanksgiving for Baptism instead of Confession and Forgiveness every Sunday. On Pentecost Sunday we try to wear red and decorate with paper flames. We bless our tools of daily use at the beginning of September, recognize the Day for Truth and Reconciliation at the end of September we virtually bless our pets in October, and remember those who are no longer with us the first Sunday in November. We get together to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas by preparing the Advent wreath, the creche sets and trees. Our year rounds out with the Christmas Eve candlelight service. As we move through the seasons, the paraments are changed (sometimes several weeks in a row), seasonal banners are hung, and we switch the musical “setting” used to indicate we are in a different season.

I would like to thank *everyone* who volunteered to make worship this past year possible.

Thank you to all the worship leaders, Julio, Kevin, Doreen and Scott.

Thank you, Jan for decorating and arranging flowers in the sanctuary, and for Susanne for providing flowers from her garden in the summer.

Thank you, Suzanne for preparing the weekly Prayers of Intercession used by all 3 churches throughout the year to make them more Canadian and more relevant to current events.

Thank you to all the readers: Pat, Suzanne, Carys, Kasey, Ayomide, Paul, Ernie, Janice, Scott, Becky, Reena, Alice, Emmanuel, Dorothy, Amer, Linda, and Tim

Thank you, Donny, for making sure the missal and all other information got out to our members via email every week.

Thank you, Paul, Donny, Carys and Kasey for technical support and being our camera crew.

Thank you, Tim for preparing and running the PowerPoint presentations.

Thank you, Nicole, for your many musical talents, and special thanks to Terry Brown for filling in when Nicole was not able to attend.

Thank you to the Altar Guild for preparing communion, and for changing the paraments as needed.

Thank you Pat, Suzanne, Caryl and JoAnn for being ministers of communion.

Thank you Janice, Karen, Dorothy and Emmanuel for bringing the offering plate forward during the service.

Thank you Kathy for making sure we always have toner for the printer.

To anyone I have forgotten above: THANK YOU

Respectfully submitted,

**Brooks McClennan**

Worship Coordinator

## **2025 Church Council Report and Outlook for 2026**

When looking back at 2025 it was bittersweet, winding down and saying goodbye to one pastor, leaving in well-deserved retirement, and welcoming a new energetic leader to guide us into our future. Also seeing one of our sister churches not just close doors but finalize the ending of their institution has certainly sustained those conflicted feelings around the past year.

We appreciate and thank the St. Paul's disbursement committee for their kind and generous donation to our church and commend them on their hard work and dedication to helping our shared community. We have already welcomed several former members into our church home and want to reiterate that all are welcome here that wish to join.

Looking back certainly highlights the challenge of last year, as it has been one of navigating changes. I think overall we have navigated those changes successfully. Over the course of the year, we maintained attendance for our services in person at around 50 as our norm. We also had continued strong interest in our streamed online services with growth to over 200 views each week on average with some services getting many more viewers.

Our Council, Worship Committee and of course Service Leaders have again worked diligently to ensure we have been able to have a continuity of service throughout the year, and I want to share a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has made this possible. It is through their hard work that Missals are shared with those who cannot attend, services are streamed online and shared for everyone to partake even if they are not comfortable attending in person or are unable, and our church is prepared each week for us all to attend.

Thank you to Brooks who does an amazing job preparing everything for the service each week, Tim for preparing the Power Point presentation, and Maddie/Carys for running our Sunday school activities. Suzanne, Caryl and Joann, for preparing the altar and cleaning up each week. Nicole for the amazing music. Everything you all do each week ensures that we are able to enjoy our church experience.

Thank you to my peers on Council for another successful year, Maddie Becker (Recording Secretary), Suzanne McClennan (Financial Secretary), Donny Becker (Treasurer), Peggy Detlor (Vice Chair), Scott Burridge, Amer Gill, Sohail Gill, you have all done an amazing job over the past twelve months. We look forward to and encourage new voices to join our team moving through 2026 and beyond.

Special thanks to Pastor Julio Romero who led us through most of 2025. We wish you all the best in your retirement. As well a warm welcome and thanks to Rev. Dr. Kevin Powell who had an opportunity to support us during the year as a fill in Pastor and has now taken over as the shared leader for our shared Ministry with Faith Lutheran in St. Catharines and Trinity Lutheran in Fort Erie. I would be remiss in not including Rev. Dr. Doreen McFarlane whose regular contributions filling in for services is very much greatly appreciated.

Over the course of 2025 we met in council 11 times, we met with our shared ministry partners from St. Catharines and Fort Erie several times and created a call committee to work through the process of selecting our next shared leader with them. We have partnered with our First

Baptist colleagues on performing shared services, mostly at the beginning of the year as they also navigated some major changes including finding a new leader in 2025. Finally, we were able to organize and host a warm send off into retirement for Pastor Julio Romero.

We look forward to discovering where our journey will take us as a faith community under our new Pastor, Rev. Dr. Kevin Powell. He jumped right in when he started in November and led us through Advent and the Holiday season admirably. 2026 looks to be an exciting time for us, we will be finding opportunities to have more shared services region wide, as well, continue to engage with and look for more ways to positively impact our wider community.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Campbell Church Council Chair

## **2025 Sunday School Report**

To whom it may concern, in 2025, Sunday school teaching duties were split between Maddie and Carys. Maddie taught the first half of the year until July. After the summer break, Carys taught for the remainder of the year when Maddie was on maternity leave. Lessons were developed according to the church calendar using online resources. Lessons usually included a printout worksheet and a colouring page. Sunday School runs from January – July, and September – December.

On average, we had about 4-6 regular students attending Sunday School, with 2-4 extra students that attended occasionally. Ages ranged from 8 to 15 for the regular students, with a few 3–6-year-olds joining occasionally. Sunday School typically included a snack and drink for the kids, followed by a lesson, an activity page and bible reading. Older students in their teenage years would often help the younger kids with their work.

Typically, one week per month during the first half of the year, there was no Sunday School lesson, and the kids often would volunteer to read at the front of the church. This allows kids to get more familiar with the church sermon and gets them participating in the service. For Father's Day, the kids sang This Little Light of Mine in front of the church, and on the Sunday after Christmas, the Sunday school performed Silent Night. A special thanks goes out to some of our adult helpers that sang and played instruments for these performances. During the season of Advent, the children made Advent wreaths and candles together. Moving into 2026, we are hoping to have the kids participate in the services more often, through reading, volunteering and hopefully running coffee hour once or twice. We would also like to have the children up front singing a few times this year, as it is greatly enjoyed by the congregation and the church's online viewers.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeline Becker & Carys Campbell, Sunday School Teachers

## **Altar Guild Report 2025**

This year it's been great having Joann working with me. She's made my life a lot easier. There's not much new to report. When either Joann or I am unable to pour communion, Suzanne has kindly filled in. We work well together. When it's time to change the paraments, Tim often helps us. Brooks keeps us in supplies. I will continue to do this as long as I can do it properly.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryl Upper

## **2025 Knitting Group Report**

The knitting group once again had another successful year of providing support through our knitting for various organizations which includes Project Share, Birchway, The Bridge, Trinity's Mom to Mom Box Program and Youth Unlimited. Two hundred and forty-five squares were knitted to make seven blankets for Barb's baskets at Wellwood for cancer patients of all ages.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the passing of Andria who was a dear member and friend of our group and will be greatly missed.

We continue to meet every Wednesday morning from 9:30am to 11:30am to serve or church and community and new people are always all welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Manning.

## **2025 Choir Report**

As a choir during this time, we found ourselves getting smaller as a group each week with only three (3) members attending. We decided together that we would no longer have choir practices any longer because the group was just too small to continue.

We truly enjoyed singing together and fellowship together over the years. We learned so much from one another and our time was such a blessing to our church.

The congregation has always been a great support and encouragement for the choir when they would perform and is truly appreciated. We will all have great memories of our time as a choir.

Thank you choir for all your dedication, time and gifts as we sang the Lord's praises!

Respectfully submitted, Nicole Foster Music Director

## 2025 Building Maintenance & Digital Report

The following are some of the building and property maintenance that was done in 2025:

Jan and I cleaned up the gardens and spread cedar mulch on top. And we installed 2 disabled parking signs and posts on the parking lot.

I worked with the electrician from Save On Energy and we replaced most of the basement fluorescent lights with energy efficient LED strip lights and repaired many of the other lights.

The following are some of the ongoing jobs that happened throughout this past year:

- Replacing bulbs/lenses for the church lighting and Exit/Emergency lighting
- Attend and monitor annual fire safety checks and quarterly elevator inspections
- Replacing furnace filters
- Salting and clearing snow from the front entrance
- Keeping the Dorchester Rd. sign up to date
- Purchasing maintenance and cleaning supplies for the church
- Maintaining stock in the kitchen for coffee-hour
- Buying wine for communion
- Assisting in church cleaning and emptying recycle as needed.
- Seasonal & informational updates to the website and Facebook page
- Weekly emails with updates for the congregation

I am thankful to Ernie and Wayne for all their help with maintenance at our church and to Suzanne, Brooks and Scott & Becky for their help keeping the kitchen supplies stocked when I fell behind.

## **Social Media:**

We continued to use Facebook to live-stream our Sunday church services for those people who are not able to attend in-person worship. Weekly service video viewings are usually around 150 views. We currently have 1.1k Facebook followers. It is amazing that people all over the world are able to view our service videos. For those not on Facebook, the videos can be viewed *live*, on our Website as well. We are thankful that we can keep connected through the internet and have the option to watch our weekly services in the comfort of our own homes when necessary. I am thankful to Paul who continues to record the weekly videos. I am always thankful to Suzanne, Pastor Julio, and Pastor Kevin for supplying the updated seasonal messages for our Facebook page and Website. And thanks Suzanne for keeping the digital calendar up to date on our website Home Page. If you get a chance, please visit our Facebook page, and our website at [www.lcgs.ca](http://www.lcgs.ca). We have a link on our website Home page where anyone can download and view Pastor Kevin's weekly sermons whether he is preaching at our church or at Trinity. For the weekly emails, I thank Brooks who lays the groundwork for each weekly email. Together we attempt to keep the church congregation up to date on all the happenings at our church. Currently we have about 70 households that receive our weekly emails.

Respectfully submitted,

*Donny Becker* Treasurer, Maintenance, Communications & Social Media Administrator

## **2025 Financial Secretary Report**

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our church with your offerings as you are able. In 2025, our total income from offerings was about \$1,600 higher than the base year of 2019 that we have been using to track giving patterns. However, the total income (not including special gifts and interest income) is down about \$2,800. This initially sounds like we have done well to maintain our giving but as we are all aware when we go grocery shopping, inflation has had a big impact. Our expenses since 2019 have increased by about 27% which means giving has not kept pace with inflation. We were again blessed to receive a special \$90,000 donation from St. Paul's, which provides us with a cushion for any future major expenses and generates an interest income that enables us to have a bit of a surplus in terms of income and expenses each year. It's hard to talk about stewardship when we are not in the red, but we should all give serious consideration to the

long term and whether our giving reflects inflation especially if your donation has remained the same the last six years. Our plan to reduce the number of envelope boxes handed out has worked out well and in 2027 we will be able to reduce the number of boxes to 40 with boxes still available for new donors. Those who donate via PAR, Canada Helps, or through monthly or annual cheques do not receive envelopes unless they are making additional regular donations. Everyone still has a unique number, and blank envelopes are available for donations. This change helps reduce the cost of ordering unused envelopes, a cost that rises each year.

If it works for you, especially if you have been trying to make a particular donation every Sunday, please consider enrolling in PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance). Donations are withdrawn from your bank account around the 20th of each month. You can start with a minimum amount and increase it later if your financial situation changes. You can also cancel at any time by notifying me by the beginning of the month. If you're interested, I can provide forms and answer any questions you may have. Currently, approximately 52% of our donations come through PAR and Canada Helps.

We are deeply grateful for your faithful giving, regardless of the amount. Your generosity helps sustain our worship space, support our pastor, provide worship leaders and musicians throughout the year, prepare services and PowerPoint presentations, offer online worship, and fund our other ministries.

Stewardship is about more than meeting a budget and giving is not determined by tax deductions. The budget we approve each year reflects our anticipated income, and when we vote in favor of it, we are committing to support it. Ultimately, our giving is an expression of gratitude for the blessings we have received as we joyfully share our time, talents, and treasures to support the mission of the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne McClennan, Financial Secretary

## **2025-26 Budget and Treasurer's Comments**

The 2026 proposed budget was sent out by email on Friday Nov 14<sup>th</sup> to our voting members and hard copies were available on November 16<sup>th</sup> 2025. Voting occurred between November 16 and December 6<sup>th</sup> 2025. We thank all our voting members that took the time to read over and voted for our 2026 Proposed Budget. We ended up with 57 accept, 9 didn't vote and 1 noted abstained.

Attached to this Annual Report is the updated 2026 Budget complete with actual year end figures.

The 2025 Annual Report was compiled by Donny Becker and proof-read by the Council.