

ST. STEPHEN'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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Mission Statement

Dedicated to worshipping and serving God;
Growing in faith in Jesus Christ through study and learning;
Rooted in Anglican tradition, yet open to other movements of God's spirit in the world;
Welcoming people of all ages, races, backgrounds and sexual orientation;
Reaching out in a spirit of friendship and service to share God's love, joy and peace.

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Leadership and Administration

Clergy

The Reverend Nicole Janelle

Music Director

Krystian Sekowski

Manager of Operations, Administration and Vergering

Lucia Borovská

Corporation Members

Neil Miller
Rector's Warden

Alice de Koning
People's Warden

Sheena Issac
Deputy Rector's Warden

Bob Beaty
Deputy People's Warden

The Reverend Nicole Janelle
Clergy

Finance Committee

Alice de Koning
Jean Springer
Pam Miller
Cam Bush
Paul Goud
Sergios Karatzos

Parish Council Members

Alice Anugraham
Ronke Babatunde
Sarai Emmanuel
Carley Kastelic
Janet MacArthur
Christopher Martin (resigned)
Meera Nathwani-Crowe
Jesse Traquair

Synod Delegates

Cam Bush
Louise Redmond

Annual General Meeting Agenda

Sunday, February 22, 2026

- 0.0 Opening
 - 0.1 Call to Order
 - 0.2 Appointment of Clerk
 - 0.3 Opening Prayer and Community Building Exercise
 - 0.4 Memorials / Necrology
 - 0.5 Appointment of Scrutineers
 - 0.6 Approval of Agenda
- 1.0 Adoption of Minutes
 - 1.1 Minutes of Annual General Meeting – February 2025
 - 1.2 Business arising from Minutes
- 2.0 Reports to the Annual General Meeting
 - 2.1 Reception of 2025 Reports
 - 2.2 Comments/Questions?
- 3.0 Appointments and Elections
 - 3.1 Election of Deputy People's Warden
 - 3.2 Election of Parish Council Members
 - 3.3 Election of Alternate(s) to Diocesan Synod
 - 3.4 Appointment of Envelope Secretary
- 4.0 Financial Reports
 - 4.1 Presentation of Parish Council Endorsed Budget – 2026
 - 4.2 Motion to Adopt 2026 Budget
 - 4.2 Operating Funds, Statement of Financial Position – 2025
 - 4.3 Designated Funds – Blue Envelope Giving – 2025
 - 4.4 Motion to Accept Statement of Financial Position for 2025
 - 4.5 Report on the Consolidation/ Changes of Designated Obligations and Liability Accounts
 - 4.6 Motions to Adopt Consolidation/ Changes of Designated Obligations and Liability Accounts
- 5.0 Report of Scrutineers (if necessary)
 - 5.1 Motion to Accept Scrutineers' Report
 - 5.2 Motion to Destroy Ballots
 - 5.3 Motion for the Approval of Signing Officers
- 6.0 Other Business
 - 6.1 Members' Comments/Questions
 - 6.2 Thanks and appreciation
- 7.0 Closing
 - 7.1 Announcements
 - 7.2 Motion of Adjournment
 - 7.3 The Grace

Average Sunday Attendance

	2025	2024	2023
8:00am	14	13	12
10:30am	66	67	63
Ash Wednesday	36	28	29
Palm Sunday	114	86	80
Maundy Thursday	57	43	42
Good Friday	87	77	64
Easter Vigil	31	22	55
Easter Sunday	164	156	119
Christmas Eve	195	218	218
Christmas Day	13	13	6

Memorial List

Dariel Sparling Bateman (January 2025)

Leslie "Tutty" Rothery (September 2025)

Mary Ruth Stanwell (January 2026)



2025 Annual General Meeting Minutes

**2025 Annual General Meeting
St. Stephen's Anglican Church
Sunday, February 23, 2025**

1. Opening

- 1.1. The meeting was called to order at 11.50 am by Robert Walker.
- 1.2. Appointment of Clerk: Rev. Nicole Janelle announced the appointment of Suzan Pedersen as recording secretary.
- 1.3. Community Building Exercise
- 1.4. The Rev. Nicole Janelle opened the meeting with a grounding meditation and prayer.
- 1.5. Memorials: Rev. Nicole Janelle remembered those who died in 2024 and read the following names aloud:

*Bruce Redmond
Margery Miller
Jill Coggins
Darial Bateman*

- 1.1. Point of order: Heather Campbell noted that attendance needed to be taken. Lucia Borovská, church administrator, passed around a clip board for signatures. Robert Walker later noted that a quorum of members was present.
- 1.2. Appointment of Scrutineers: If necessary, the following will be scrutineers for the elections: Lynda Greuel, David Roach and Heather Dumka.
- 1.3. Approval of Agenda

Moved: Louise Redmond
Seconded: Mavis Clark
THAT the Agenda be approved as circulated.
Carried

2. Adoption of Minutes of February 25, 2024

Moved: Heather Campbell
Seconded: Jean Springer
THAT the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of February 25, 2024, be approved.
Carried

- 2.1. Business Arising from Minutes: None

3. Reports to the Annual General Meeting

- 3.1. Reception of 2024 Reports: Bob Beaty thanked all for the submission of reports.
- 3.2. Comments/Questions
 - 3.2.1.1. Louise Redmond raised a point of concern regarding the number of reports and asked if there were some missing. She wanted to know if there was programming involving parish engagement and commitment that could be reported on. She also encouraged more programming. The Rev. Nicole Janelle commented that the reports contained in the AGM Report are similar to the previous year.

4. Appointments and Elections – see booklet distributed for profiles of nominees.

- 4.1. Election of Parish Council Members: The following have been nominated for 2-year terms:
Oluronke (Ronke) Babatunde
Carley Kastelic
Christopher Martin
Janet MacArthur
Meera Nathwani-Crowe
Jesse Traquair

Motion to elect:
Moved: Doug McKibbon
Seconded: Jennifer Walker
Carried
- 4.2. Appointment of Rector's Warden
The Rev. Nicole Janelle appointed Neil Miller as Rector's Warden and Sheena Issac as Deputy Rector's Warden. Appointment of Envelope Secretary
- 4.3. The Rev. Nicole Janelle announced the appointment of Suzan Pedersen to continue her work as Envelope Secretary for the 2025 year.

5. Update on Memorial Hall

- 5.1. Cathi Nelson gave a brief overview of the Memorial Hall history. A few years ago the parish could no longer maintain the facility and it was closed. A major arts group is now interested in a long-term lease.

Comments/Questions regarding the possible lease.
Norval Horner asked about a sense of the current market price for the building and if it has been taken into consideration. Bob Beaty replied that the proposed lease is substantial, and they will also cover the renovation and necessary upgrading to code.

There was a discussion regarding the addition of a possible “bulldozer” clause, which would allow the parish to end the lease, paying out the balance of the lease and for any renovations, if we wished to redevelop the space.

Bob Beaty replied that the wardens would investigate it. The current motion was drafted for canonical reasons and developed by the Diocese of Calgary for presentation at the AGM. Rev. Janelle noted that legal counsel is involved in the negotiations and the development of the lease.

Norval asked about whether there is a clause to end the lease with payment if the parish wished to redevelop the space. Linda Hulak supported Norval’s suggestion regarding adding a clause to the motion.

Louise Redmond is concerned about members of the AGM presenting amendments to the motion when they have not been directly involved in the negotiations. The Wardens and Corporation have been working on this for several months.

David Roach asked if the revenue from the lease would affect the apportionment to the Diocese. He would like to see some clarity about this as the lease is negotiated. Rev. Janelle replied that apportionment is set by a formula developed by the Diocese. apportionment – is it being discussed, how revenue will be put down. Transparency over revenue stream. Ramifications to apportionment from revenue stream. Need clarity when lease is being negotiated.

Motion to lease the Memorial Hall

Moved: Bob Beaty

Seconded: Tim Crowe

It is moved that the ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA PARISH OF ST. STEPHEN enter into a Lease Agreement with MAJOR CALGARY ARTS ORGANIZATION for the lease of the Memorial Hall to MAJOR CALGARY ARTS ORGANIZATION. The Parish Corporation is authorized to negotiate on behalf of the Parish the terms and conditions of the Lease which Lease is to provide for the following:

- The renovation of the Memorial Hall by MAJOR CALGARY ARTS ORGANIZATION, the plans, drawings of the renovations, improvements and additions are to be approved by the Parish Corporation;
- The costs and expenses associated with the renovation are to be borne by MAJOR CALGARY ARTS ORGANIZATION, with the exception of those deemed in the lease to be the responsibility of the landlord – The Parish of St. Stephen’s;
- The Term of the Lease shall be a minimum of 10 years with a 5 year option to renew;
- The Lease shall be a Lease containing the standard terms and conditions commensurate with a Commercial Lease governed by the Law of Alberta.

Cathi Nelson reiterated that the motion was provided by the Diocese of Calgary in order to enable St. Stephen’s to facilitate the diocesan requirements for long term building leases. The organization cannot be names as conversations are still in process.

Proposed Amendment:

Moved: Norval Horner

Seconded: Linda Hulak

The Lease shall have a bulldozer clause that allows the parish to terminate the lease to allow redevelopment of the site including reimbursement of any renovation expenses to the tenant as well as the cost of the remaining lease.

Tim Crowe said that the way the original motion was written regarding the lease and renewal leaves some latitude to the negotiating team. Hesitant to vote for a motion that leaves us with a hard and fast element. Bring term to negotiating team.

Jennifer Walker voiced support for the corporation and legal team who will put the best decisions forward.

Neil Miller appreciated the engagement and passion from the members in room, but we cannot all participate in the details. This is an important movement for the parish and is critical to its long-term success. Corporation can determine the best way forward in negotiations. It is important that to share feelings, but we are not negotiating the lease at this meeting. The original Motion is to move forward and empowers the corporation to move forward with negotiations. The corporation will find the best long-term solution.

Heather Campbell is against the proposed additional clause. She supports Neil, and noted that the fundamental piece we are wrestling with is the element of trust. There are exceptionally talented people in the parish and there are people who have been working on this deal for the last two years in confidence. They have worked through the risks involved. We need to trust the people working on the agreement.

Yrjo Koskinen asked for clarification on clause “c”. Rev. Janelle replied that 10 years is the minimum length of the lease with the possibility of renewing for another 5 years.

Paul Goud said he was against adding the “bulldozer” clause.

Norval Horner wanted to note that he is not aware there are any experts in commercial real estate involved. He recognized that St. Stephen’s is a valuable site and is concerned about the arts organization having control of the site.

Vote on amendment:

Scrutineers counted hands

Amendment did not pass

Main Motion

Carried

6. Financial Reports

- 6.1. Parish Council Endorsed Budget – 2025 and review of 2024: Alice de Koning
The Budget was developed by Alice de Koning with the Finance Committee and Rev. Janelle. She went through the budget, noting that some of the categories have been changed and that each line item now has a description. This resulted in a difference in line items from previous years, and a parallel spread sheet was done for the 2025 budget using the old method to show a comparison with previous years.

Alice noted some of the significant changes resulting from the change in categories.

- Staff Changes: There was an adjustment to the Deacon's salary to allow for hiring some part time assistance to fill in for the Deacon. Lucia is now a full-time employee and has taken over many of the administrative and facility roles previously performed by Rev. Evans. Contract employees are shown separately.
- Security is an issue in the downtown and beltline areas. There is now \$14,000 in the budget for security, which includes patrols to deal with encampments. Bob Beaty is also working on improving the lighting.
- Repairs and maintenance have been split out to properly identify areas of property expense. There is a need for ongoing maintenance and is often difficult to budget for.
- Insurance remains the same and is arranged through the Diocese.
- Apportionment is set at 15% of parish income. In the past, St. Stephen's has received support, and the Corporation is looking at this for 2025.
- Office management has reduced some costs. Professional fees were high last year and again this year as this includes the lease negotiations. There have been no changes in the music program or Chancel Guild, but there is a need to develop in other program areas.
- The clergy conference & retreat are a diocesan expense for clergy formation.
- The operating Budget has a deficit, which is covered by the Phase 1 of the Future Fundraiser which raised over \$300,000. The funds from the fundraiser will also cover a deficit in 2026. Some designated funds are also going to be closed.

Heather Campbell thanked Alice de Koning and the Finance Committee for their work and for clarifying the information. She did note that Line 55 on the budget should be listed as Worker's Compensation (not Workman's Compensation).

Alice de Koning reviewed the trends of 2022 to 2025. Income is trending slowly upward. The fundraiser in 2024 was significant in stabilizing finances. The parish is adapting to the change in the Deacon's role. Despite improvements, there is still an operating deficit. Revenue needs to increase, and the Memorial Hall needs to be leased.

Blue Envelope givings are collected to be redistributed, much of it to outside projects. It was also suggested that people who give anonymously on the Sunday offering plate may want to consider asking for envelopes in order to receive a tax receipt for their donations.

Alice noted that Leede Jones is holding \$124,647 in investments that can be drawn on for major expenses if needed. There is \$149,361 at the Calgary Foundation Endowment Fund.

Motion to adopt 2025 Budget
Moved: Pam Miller
Seconded: Jean Springer
Carried

- 6.2. Motion to Accept Statement of Financial Position for 2024

Moved: Lynda Greuel
Seconded Pam Miller
Carried

- 6.3. Motions to Adopt Consolidation/Changes of Designated Obligations and Liability Accounts
Pam Miller from Finance Committee presented the two motions.

Moved: Pam Miller
Seconded: Ann Brown
In consideration of the lack of demand for seminary education support, the Finance Group recommends that the Shannon Trust scope be expanded to include other formation experiences and courses of spiritual-religious-theological education. The Corporation will review applicants to ensure the funds are being used in alignment with the original intent.
Carried

The Clergy Assistance and Clergy Housing funds were required by the Diocese but are no longer necessary. These are currently \$50,904 and can be moved into operating funds.

In consideration of the change in requirement to maintain designated funds for Clergy Assistance and Clergy Housing, the Finance Group recommends that these two designated funds be cancelled, and any funds be transferred to Operating (non-designated) funds to be put towards clergy salaries and related costs.

Moved: Pam Miller
Seconded: Jean Springer
Carried (1 Nay)

Doug McKibbon wanted to know if the funds made a difference during the last hiring process for a new clergy person. Rev. Janelle replied that some of the recruitment costs could have come from this, but instead

were drawn from the Professional Expenses line item. Doug inquired whether it might be needed in the future to cover moving and other expenses attached to hiring new clergy.

Heather Campbell noted that the recruitment and hiring of the current rector was complicated as she was not in Canada, it was the middle of COVID, and there complexities in the relocation and transition.

Alice de Koning clarified that the funds were required to serve as loans to clergy for moving and were not part of the recruitment process. Any recruitment in the future would need to be budgeted for when it occurs.

7. Report of Scrutineers: None

8. Other Business:

8.1. Members' Comments/Questions

There was a question as to when Rev. Charmaine Evans will be returning to the Parish. Rev. Janelle had a brief conversation with Charmaine in the past week and it was noted in the Corporation Update published in the e-News. Her paid sabbatical comes to an end in February, and she is taking unpaid sabbatical through Easter. She will continue to work as registrar for the Diocese and will also be assisting with the move to new headquarters at St. Edmund's in Bowness. The Bishop has asked her to expand her hours this spring with the Diocese and as a Deacon, she reports to the Bishop. She may return in the fall in a part time capacity working with the members of the parish, engaging in "direct ministry." She is continuing to do Step 5s out of the church.

Bob Beaty remarked on the need to focus on the future. Wardens have had to come out to disperse encampments, sometimes early in the morning before services, after the security contract ran out. The parish does not have the finances to do what we want to do in the future, e.g. renovations to the Chancel area and the Narthex. Some ideas will be packaged up for the future.

8.2. Thanks and appreciation

Cathi Nelson thanked her fellow wardens and was grateful for the opportunity to work with the Corporation. Thank you to Nicole for leading us through challenges. Thank you to Charmaine and a welcome and thank you to Lucia. Thank you to Alice and finance committee for their work. She thanked Chad for helping her and contributing to her knowledge. Thank you to Liz and choir for music to services. Thank you to congregation for passion as we move to future.

Rev. Janelle thanked the outgoing wardens, to Cathi Nelson and to Jennifer Garrison who had to step away, and for her work on visioning process. Thank you to outgoing parish council members, Warwick Gray and Rachel Punwassie. Thank you to Sheena moving from Parish Council to Corporation.

Presentation to Cathi, Jennifer, Rachel and Warwick in recognition of their work over the last several years.

9. Closing

Robert Walker noted that as the agenda is completed there is no need for a motion of adjournment.

The Meeting closed at 2:00 with "The Grace" led by Rev. Nicole.

Rector's Report

An Ignatian Examen for Our Life Together in 2025

This report and reflection is structured around the Ignatian Examen—a centuries-old spiritual practice from the Christian contemplative tradition. The Examen is not an examination in the sense of judgment or performance. Rather, it is a daily prayer of awareness, used to reflect on where God has been present in the ordinary moments of life. This year's AGM Report is structured as a communal Examen, inviting us to prayerfully reflect on our shared life at St. Stephen's over the past year and to discern how we are being called forward.

If you'd like to learn more about the Examen, I recommend the podcast [The Examen with Fr. James Martin, S.J.](#) which has been a meaningful part of my own spiritual toolkit this past year.

At its heart, the Examen asks five simple but profound questions:

- For what am I grateful?
- Where did I notice life, energy, or love?
- What was difficult or life-draining?
- Where is healing, mercy, or forgiveness needed?
- What might God be inviting me—or us—into next?

As I enter my fifth year as your rector, this practice feels especially fitting. The Examen gives us a way to



tell the story of what we have just lived, while also opening ourselves to the hope and possibility of the future.

What follows is not just a report about our parish. It is an invitation to reflect with me on our shared life, and to notice together where God has been quietly and faithfully at work.

1. Gratitude: Where have we noticed God's gifts among us this year?

We begin, as the Examen invites us, with gratitude.

I give thanks for you, the People of St. Stephen's, and for the many ways you have chosen presence and engagement. You have shown up for worship, for conversations that mattered, for one another in times of grief and celebration, and for the neighbourhood we are called to nurture. Again and again, I have witnessed quiet acts of faithfulness that will never appear in a report, but which are at the very heart of what it means to be church.



I am grateful for our staff and lay leadership, especially during times of transition. In 2025, we said goodbye to Deacon Charmaine Evans, who took sabbatical ending in February before transitioning to work for the Diocese, where she was recently appointed Executive Officer & Registrar. We also said farewell to our Music Director, Liz Tremblay, who moved to Ontario, and welcomed Krystian Sekowski to our staff. More recently, we welcomed Kim Joiner to the office team in a temporary capacity while Lucia Borovská is on leave. During this time, Suzan Pedersen, Chad Dudley, and I have all stepped up to cover additional responsibilities associated with the Manager of Operations & Administration role. Many thanks as well to parishioner Heidi Goud, who has generously volunteered to serve as a longer-term Sunday Verger.

The steady, thoughtful work of the Corporation, Parish Council, Finance and Stewardship Committees, Ministry Working Groups, and other parish committees and groups has helped this church remain grounded, transparent, and collaborative this past year. I wish to lift up here outgoing members of the Corporation and Parish Council - Alice de Koning (People's Warden), Alice Anugraham (PC), Sarai Emmanuel (PC) and Christopher Martin (PC) - who have each in their own way enriched the life of this parish. As a Corporation member for the past three years Alice de Koning has devoted much of her time to strengthening our budgeting and bookkeeping processes, and she has played a leading role in the Memorial Hall negotiations. We all owe her a debt of gratitude for the many, many hours she has spent on these vital areas of parish life.



One major focus of our year has been the Community Building and Visioning Process, which was led by the Rev. Ryan Andersen of the Calgary Alliance of the Common Good. This process built on work initiated by parishioner Jennifer Garrison in fall of 2024 and invited us to slow down and listen—to one another and to the Spirit. In a time when many institutions rush toward solutions, this parish chose discernment. I am grateful for the generosity and honesty present in those small group conversations that revealed a community committed to one another and to this place. The themes that emerged continue to shape our priorities, and this being an iterative process, you can look forward to engaging in it again in the not-so-distant future!

I also give thanks for the countless ways ministry unfolds at St. Stephen's through volunteer leadership and shared care: greeters who welcome newcomers and notice absences; readers, litanists and guest preachers who help us pray; musicians who lead us in making a joyful noise; chancel guild members, bread bakers and tech volunteers who support our worship behind the scenes; parish interviewers and researchers who tell the stories of the church and its people; gardeners and building caretakers who tend this place with love; and those who quietly check in, offer a helping hand, or provide pastoral care as needs arise.

I am grateful, too, for the spirit of generosity that sustains our common life. People give as they are able, adjust as circumstances change, and do so with a shared understanding that what we are creating together matters.

Finally, I give thanks for our buildings that carry their own ministry—shared spaces that give life and direction to many in this congregation, city and neighbourhood. The Canterbury Room, Creation Space, Rectory, sanctuary/chape/labyrinth and the grounds have been places of prayer, recovery, healing, learning, music-making, creativity, and welcome. They have held stories of healing and hope, reminding us that God's work happens wherever people gather with openness and care for one another. I am grateful that this year we welcomed into our space new 12-Step Groups, a weekly sewing

circle for immigrant women facilitated by Neighbourhood Social Worker Silvia Ross, and a lay-led and grassroots Jewish community committed to upholding human rights. As I write there are more inquiries, including a proposal for a regular "Peace Café" and Warming Center pilot. Our neighbours continue to view St. Stephen's as a welcoming and inclusive place and are drawn to be a part of the hub of community life that grows on this campus.

2. Attention: What has given us life? Where have we felt drawn closer to God and one another?

Looking back over the year, I see a community intentionally cultivating depth.

In worship, we gathered Sunday by Sunday not only around the Eucharistic table, but also:

- In the streets during the Calgary Pride Parade
- In warmer months, on the front lawn and in the chapel for Evening Prayer
- On All Saints/All Souls Day, and Trans Day of Remembrance, naming our beloved dead and surrounding their memories with prayer

Several of you have told me how meaningful it is for you to walk the labyrinth in community—especially during the end of Advent and Eastertide on World Labyrinth Day—or in the stillness of Centering Prayer with the Presence Collective this summer.

Formation has unfolded through:

- The 2025 Lenten Study exploring the text: To Love & Serve: Anglican Beliefs & Practices
- The Gathered Voices initiative, welcoming guest preachers and forum leaders on designated Sundays, including parishioners Blake Kanewischer, Charlotte Sheasby, and Sarai Emmanuel
- The Staying Grounded in Chaotic Times conversation led by Doug McKibbin and Lynda Greuel, that offered shared language and practices for anxiety and uncertainty
- Funeral planning workshops
- Cross-Border Compline, prayed across churches, borders, and time zones
- Lively Bible Study discussions, led this year by the

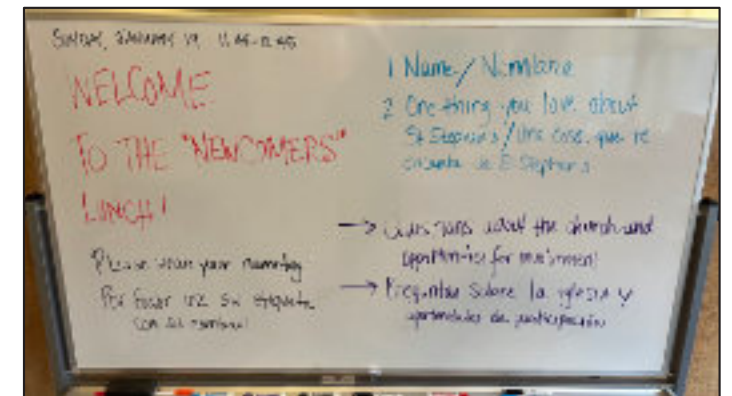
Revs. Mark Tremblay and Eyad Aji

- Circle Time for children/youth and intergenerational participation in worship

In community life, relationships have deepened through:

- Newcomer lunches and seniors' teas
- Quarterly Community Game Nights with neighbourhood families
- Dinners for 8 and shared meals
- Nursery care for our youngest members
- Young Adult Anglicans Calgary network
- The sharing of parishioner stories through the "Draw the Circle Wide" interview project

These moments have been sacramental in the broadest sense—outward signs of an inward spiritual grace at work among us.



3. Truth-Telling: What has been hard? What have we carried this year?

The Examen also asks us to name what has been difficult.

This has been a year of transition. Staffing changes—or anticipated changes in the coming year—in music, administration and communications/technical support have required flexibility and patience, while also inviting us to rethink sustainability and shared leadership.

Capacity building remains a challenge. Currently, we employ one full-time clergy person, one full-time administration and operations staff member (at this time, on leave and covered by part-time support), and

three part-time contract staff members: a music director, a communications/technical director, and an envelope secretary. This means that our full-time clergy and staff capacity is approximately *half* of what it was pre-pandemic, when we employed two full-time clergy and two full-time staff members, in addition to contract staff.

Our physical plant, which continues to age, requires near-constant attention. This can make it difficult at times for clergy and staff to prioritize pastoral ministry and congregational development over building management and maintenance.



Attention to children and youth formation remains an area requiring further focus. A church that does not support its children and youth in meaningful ways and through intentional programming may find growth difficult over time. In addition, we have a sacred responsibility to guide and equip our young people to be rising leaders in our church communities and faithful, thoughtful Christians. This year, parents, children, and youth have gathered for conversation about needs and next steps. We currently have an opportunity to partner with Scarboro United Church in a joint youth group initiative that includes confirmation preparation, and we are also exploring a Sunday-based formation model for children in Grades K–6 supported by a paid staff person.

Thanks to your ongoing generosity through our annual Stewardship Campaigns and the first phase of the St. Stephen's Future Fund, our short-term financial outlook is stable. We anticipate that the long-term renovation and lease of Memorial Hall will contribute to greater stability over time. At the same time, we will need to remain attentive to deferred maintenance across our buildings, including the rectory, sanctuary, and office link. As giving patterns continue to shift and evolve, thoughtful financial planning including endowment growth will be essential to ensure that St. Stephen's remains a vibrant hub of community life in the Beltline.

We also carry the weight of wider social realities and the pressures of life in this time, which should not and cannot be minimized: homelessness in our neighbourhood, mental health crises, immigration precarity, transphobia, racism, rising economic strain and rates of food insecurity, and the stresses of global conflict that show up locally. These realities have all touched our parish directly—through ongoing



warming centre conversations, assistance to refugees in our community, increased demand for pastoral and mental health support, and regular appeals for food, gift cards, and funds for the Clergy Discretionary account.

Many in our community have named fatigue and fear in their lives—spiritual, emotional, and relational. Naming this is not a failure of faith, but an act of courage which can lead to discernment of priorities, solidarity, activism and/or helpful next steps.

4. Healing and Mercy: Where have we seen care, repair, and compassion take shape?

Even amidst challenges, I have witnessed tenderness and faithfulness.

Healing and nurture has taken shape through:

- Pastoral care visits, phone calls, and accompaniment by clergy and the Pastoral Care Team
- Step 5 listening ministry in the recovery community, led by the Rev. Deacon Charmaine Evans, who remains connected to St. Stephen's through this ministry
- Parishioner-led and parish-supported English language (early 2025) and legal assistance (ongoing)
- Shared rituals of grief and remembrance, including funerals, funeral planning workshops and individual sessions, and themed Sunday liturgies

Our ongoing work of truth and reconciliation—through learning, research, and forums examining St. Stephen's relationship with Indigenous communities—continues to call us into humility and responsibility. Many thanks to Chris Bain, assisted by Michael Rothery, for ongoing work about the parish and diocese's relationship to the Indigenous Community over time. This Advent, we welcomed the Ven. Jacqui Durand, Archdeacon for Indigenous Ministries in the Diocese of Calgary, to the pulpit. I look forward to exploring new ways for our community to learn about and support Indigenous ministry within our Diocese and our City.



We are also learning to extend mercy to ourselves as a church: allowing space for silence, grief, rest, and discernment, and trusting that God is not anxious about the future—even perhaps when we are.

5. Hopeful Looking Ahead: To what is God inviting us now?

As we turn toward the future, the Examen invites us not into certainty, but into curiosity and a spirit of adventure.

I sense God inviting St. Stephen's:

- To deepen community and shared leadership, guided by Ministry Working Groups and various circles of leadership within the parish
- To focus our energy on the ministry priorities identified in our community building and visioning process: homelessness & mental health, community outreach/inreach, sacred spaces—not doing everything, but doing some things well
- To steward our buildings wisely, including the long-term lease of Memorial Hall and eventually shifting our attention to the eastern side of our campus so we continue to serve both our mission and neighbourhood over the long term
- And perhaps most importantly: To remain a church that is led by the Spirit, welcoming complexity, questions, and all people, especially those who have been told there is no place for them



Thank you for walking this year with me. It is a privilege to serve as your rector.

In gratitude and hope,
Nicole Janelle+

Wardens' Report



This year the Corporation has focused its resources intensively on the financial sustainability of St. Stephen's. The success of the special sustainability fundraising drive of 2024 has put us on the right path, but carefully watching our expenses is as important as ever.

A critical element of our longer-term sustainability is an arrangement with a suitable partner who can help us revitalize and then occupy our Memorial Hall. The Corporation, Alice de Koning in particular carrying an outsized share of the burden, has been working carefully with a potential partner and making steady—at times painstaking—progress towards an agreement. The results are very promising, however the work will continue into 2026.

Cost-effective maintenance, monitoring and security of our building complex is another important area of focus. We have been blessed with many skilled and eager volunteers this year who have helped us save money on groundskeeping and minor maintenance—everything from grass cutting and hedge trimming to carpentry in the sacristy, from light bulb replacement to locating mysterious electrical breakers, and from fixing running toilets to clearing blocked roof drains.

We have also made better use of volunteers to help monitor our buildings, allowing us to redeploy some of our security budget. Bob Beaty deserves special recognition for his leadership in this area. We are particularly thankful for the work of the talented Patrick Redecopp, who worked with Bob to install special lights illuminating the windows of the chapel from the inside, which are especially beautiful on long, cold winter nights.

We continue to find community groups and event rental opportunities for our other beautiful spaces. We provide a welcoming space for Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Girl Guides, a women's sewing circle led by a Beltline community social worker, and a Jewish study group, among others.

The Corporation, along with Parish Council, has been strengthening our relationship with the Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, during our first year of official membership. In addition to connecting some of our talented parishioners with paid and unpaid roles with the Alliance, we took advantage of the Mayoral Forum at Knox United church to learn more about our municipal representation.

We made valuable use of Lead Organizer of the Calgary Alliance, Ryan Andersen, as a trained facilitator and guide in our visioning process this year. The visioning process led us to two primary themes addressing the call to action felt by our parishioners:

- Community Connection – Focusing on strengthening relationships both within the parish and with our neighbours/surrounding community. This might entail convening community conversations, small groups, programming, service, etc.
- Homelessness and Mental Health – Exploring and addressing homelessness, exploring the overlap between homelessness and mental health, as well as the broader impact of mental health challenges on daily life.
- Sacred Space – Creating an open, participatory place to recharge; blending tradition with innovation through expanded spiritual formation and active engagement.



Teams of parishioners have enthusiastically responded and begun to move ideas into action. Although the return of Midtown Mosaic has been delayed to 2026, we

recognize it as an important initiative that links us to the arts, to our community, and to our past. In support of our neighbours experiencing homelessness, Corporation has lent its support to development of a new neighbourhood warming centre in our space. The volunteer roster and other important pieces are being assembled. Corporation is grateful for the leadership of our Parish Council and parishioners in this area.

In 2025 we said thank you and farewell to our long-time Music Director, Liz Tremblay, who relocated with Mark to Ontario in the summer. We completed a successful search process and welcomed Krystian Sekowski to this role in the fall. We also celebrated the retirement of Janis Fenwick from our Chancel Guild, after many years of faithful leadership. At the end of 2025 Lucia Borovská had to step away from her role as our full-time Administrator, and we are working with interim supports for the time being. Later in 2026, our Communications Director Chad Dudley will be moving on as well, and the Corporation will be addressing these gaps in the coming weeks and months.

The Corporation is pleased to congratulate The Rev. Charmaine Evans on her appointment as Executive Officer of the Diocese of Calgary. Deacon Charmaine previously served as Interim Executive Officer and Registrar. She continues her diaconal ministry at St. Stephen's of hearing Step 5s from those in recovery—a ministry of deep listening, compassion, and hope. Charmaine has been a cherished member of our St. Stephen's family for many years, and her contributions have been many, and lasting.

We are grateful for all the support and encouragement from our parishioners for the long-term improvement of St. Stephen's impact on our community and the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Miller on behalf of Alice de Koning, Sheena Issac, Bob Beaty & the Rev. Nicole Janelle

Report on Administration, Vergering and Building Operations

The year 2025 continued to refine the combined role of Administration, Vergering, and Building Operations. Building on the experience gained in the previous year, the focus shifted from learning the role to strengthening systems, meeting compliance requirements, and responding to challenges as they arose throughout the year.

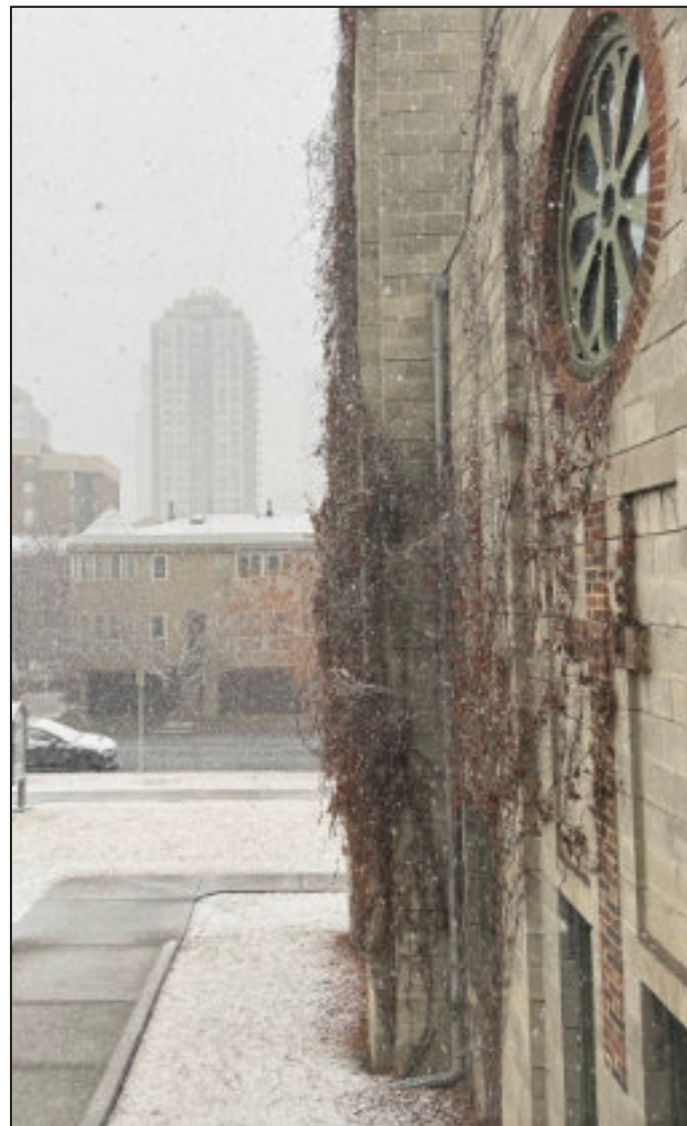
The year began in winter with the complex task of completing the church's Fire Safety Plan. This was one of the most demanding projects of the year and required careful coordination and detailed work, including changes to the entrance door system, completing required inspections, and drafting the Fire Plan with the help of our amazing parishioners. With their invaluable support and expertise, the Fire Plan was finalized and submitted later in the year. We are now awaiting feedback and remain deeply grateful for the assistance that made this possible.

The summer months brought several additional challenges. Security once again became a growing concern due to increased encampments around the church, along with ongoing issues related to litter and general safety. Meetings with the Community Resource Officer helped guide our response and resulted in a volunteer-based plan focused on observing, reporting, and documenting concerns through a designated app, as well as participation in the "Agent" Police Programme. In addition, an unusually rainy summer led to leaks within the building, which required prompt attention and ongoing monitoring, adding to the operational demands during this period.

Throughout the year, I was also part of the Narthex "Beautification" Team, where we focused on developing ideas for the corporation to support a redesign of the Narthex. This work was carried out in collaboration with a designer and remains an ongoing process.

What stood out most to me in 2025 was the extraordinary role of our volunteers. From security monitoring and reporting to lawn care, greeting, maintenance, drafting the Fire Plan, and behind-the-scenes support, much of the church's daily operations relied on their generosity, professionalism, and commitment. It has been truly inspiring to witness this level of involvement, which greatly supports my role as Administrator, Verger, and Building Operations Manager in providing a safe, welcoming, and well-maintained environment for everyone.

Lucia Borovská



Report on Communication and Events

The year 2025 marked continued growth and increased visibility for St. Stephen's Anglican Church in the areas of events, venue use, and communications. We saw an increase in the number of events hosted and a broader range of groups using the space, reflecting St. Stephen's growing reputation as a professional and welcoming venue.

This year included expanded use of the church for recitals by music schools and childcare facilities, bringing new families and younger audiences into the building. St. Stephen's also hosted several touring shows in 2025, demonstrating growing recognition as a performance venue beyond Calgary.

Most renters in 2025 were instrumental groups drawn to the church's excellent acoustics. While choirs continue to use the space, St. Stephen's stands out as a venue for classical and chamber music. Many members of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra performed here, and we were fortunate to host high-quality pianos from Michael Lipnicki's Fine Pianos on several occasions.

The Calgary Instrumental Society returned for concerts during the 2025-2026 season and has confirmed their return for the 2026 - 2027 season.

In addition to live performances, several instrumental recording sessions took place in the church in 2025.

St. Stephen's also serves the surrounding community, with nearby condominium buildings regularly using the space for Annual General Meetings.

Concert and AGM rentals in 2025 generated \$22,950.00, with \$12,350.00 supporting church operations after staffing fees, representing 53.81% of total rental revenue.

Sincere thanks to Lucia for coordinating logistics, including key cards, walkthroughs, and deliveries. In communications, Lucia has also taken on expanded responsibilities and has done excellent work with social media, the newsletter, and other church communications. Her efforts resulted in increased newsletter subscriptions and a 38% increase in social media engagement, helping to showcase the many positive developments at St. Stephen's.

St. Stephen's is well positioned to continue growing as a destination for world-class music in Calgary.

Respectfully submitted,
Chad Dudley



Report on Building and Grounds



Light, luster and saving money were the mandates that saw dozens of parishioners in the last year doing volunteer work in and around the church – work that conservatively saved well over \$8,000 in operating costs.

There was a parishioner from the early morning service, a retired chef and his entrepreneurial wife, a retired lawyer, a professor, a union executive and her son, a teacher and her son, another retired teacher and her husband a computer engineer, a petroleum engineer and his son, a psychologist, a high school teacher and on, and on.

The Rectory windows were sanded and painted along with the main doors to the church and chapel, the long overgrown vines were trimmed, the large lawns around the church and rectory were cut every week, dozens of burned out light bulbs from light fixtures - some as high as 14 feet in the air – were removed and replaced.

As a result, it's a lot brighter in the chapel and sanctuary thanks to the vine cutters and bulb replacers.

The chapel is especially bright at night with powerful lights tucked into little church-shaped housings so those passing by on the outside can also enjoy our now brightly-lit stained glass windows. Those lit windows act like a dry lander's light house - a beacon for everyone in the community - and a night-long, silent invitation to come and join us. I can't tell you how awed I was at those who gave so generously of their time to complete all of these projects.

We owe them a great deal.

Regards,
Bob Beaty

Memorial Garden

What does a nurse, professor and family doctor have in common?

Flowers.

Big, beautiful flowers and shrubs that were planted and nurtured throughout the growing season mainly in the circular brick Memorial Garden that sits on the northeast side of the church property.

Through wind and hail, droughts - and the odd whole plant plucked out by some flower-loving thief - the nurse, the professor and the doctor lovingly cared for a garden that honoured our dead and brought joy to our parishioners and neighbours.

Thank you.

Regards,
Bob Beaty



Narthex Design Committee

Cathi Nelson, Lucia Borovská, and Todd Hirsch were asked by the Corporation to form a small working group to recommend options to refresh the narthex. As a part of this process, they consulted with Keith Moe, a parishioner who was instrumental in the Open Doors II design and renovation process.

Moving forward, we would like to be better able to tell the story of St. Stephen's and communicate our values while acknowledging our history in this space. Currently, the heavy green walls and poor lighting make the space feel unwelcoming—an issue as the church looks to generate rental revenue from outside groups. The original green colour was intentionally chosen during the Open Doors renovation over a decade ago. The narthex was designed to be dark, symbolizing preparation for worship, with a deliberate contrast as worshippers move into the brighter sanctuary.

After consulting with two interior designers, the group identified two options. A full redesign—improving lighting, seating, storage and perhaps incorporating art such as a mural and reworking the coat area—would create a more functional and inviting space, at an estimated cost of \$20,000–\$30,000. A simpler alternative would be to repaint the narthex in a lighter colour, at a cost of approximately \$5,000. The recommendation ultimately depends on the church's current financial capacity.

Todd Hirsch, with Cathi Nelson

Report from the Envelope Secretary Report

Thank you for your continued support for our ministry at St. Stephen's.

As of January 15, 2026, these are the pledges recorded that we have received for 2026 compared to 2025 and 2024. Pledged amounts shown are only for the operating funds. The following numbers include those who have continued with their pre-authorized donations through the Diocese and through our account with ATB but may have not made a pledge.

Year	Number of Pledges	Amount Pledged
2026	69	\$339,079
2025	71	\$342,232
2024	75	\$304,019

Donations are made in a variety of ways. Currently, 28 people use envelope sets. Some families donate with a gift of securities, or through third parties such as United Way, GiveWise and Benevity.

Tax receipts for donations in 2025 will be sent out in early February.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzan Pedersen
Envelope Secretary



Stewardship Committee Report

Our Stewardship campaign this year started on September 21st, and ran until the second Sunday in November. Four members of our congregation shared their Stewardship moments with us and certainly made a valuable contribution to our campaign. A sincere thanks to our Speakers who were Brigid Stewart, Ronke Babatunde, Bill Locke, and Carley Kastelic, their talks were inspirational and of great value to our Campaign. Pledge Form Day was celebrated with Todd Hirsch leading the way once again. Somehow Todd manages to reach our congregation and we send a sincere thanks to Todd for sharing his time wisdom and energy.

This year we received 46 Pledge Forms and together with those 19 members who are on pre-authorized debit, we hope to raise an annual total of \$339,000. As we grow our Planned giving Program under the leadership of Jennifer Walker we hope to develop a fund which will help to sustain us at St. Stephen's.

We continue to encourage participation in 'Skip the depot' so do bring recyclable bottles and cans to our church.

As we 'draw the circle wide', we look forward to 2026 as we work together to move St. Stephen's forward.

Respectively submitted

Jean Springer, Tim Crowe, Heather Dumka, Lynda Greuel & Yrjo Koskinen

Music Director and Choir Report



I have only recently been given the privilege of serving the St. Stephen's community as your Music Director. Yet despite the limited time before Advent and Christmas, I am deeply grateful to report that we were able to come together to offer a joyful and meaningful season of music. The success of the past few months, particularly the Lessons and Carols, was entirely due to the extraordinary dedication of our choristers. It was a true pleasure to witness their generosity of time and effort, and their shared passion for singing.

From the outset, I was struck by how welcoming and musically engaged the choir is. Rehearsals have been marked by good humour and a genuine desire to serve and edify both the liturgy and the wider community.

On a personal note, my family and I have been profoundly moved by the warmth and generosity shown to us since our arrival. One of many meaningful examples is the Christmas gift from the choir, which continues to touch us deeply. The reindeer and basket have even become part of our nightly routine, as our son now "puts the reindeer to sleep" in the basket each evening.

It is truly a privilege and an honour to lead this choir. The kindness, welcome, and sense of belonging offered by the choristers make this a very special community to serve. As always, we would be delighted to welcome new members, with a particular hope of attracting more basses and tenors. Looking ahead, I hope to further enrich our worship by inviting parishioners to audition instrumental pieces to be shared during Sunday services. There is certainly much talent within our community, and I would love to see that reflected more fully in our musical life.

With gratitude and enthusiasm for what lies ahead, I look forward to continuing this work together.

Respectfully submitted,

Krystian Sekowski, Music Director

Chancel Guild Report 2025

The Chancel Guild continued to prepare for the variety of worship services offered at St. Stephen's in 2025. The Chancel Guild was able to meet formally, with the clergy on Sunday, September 7th, 2025 and was therefore able to do their planning and deliberations with input from the clergy. It will be a priority for the Chancel Guild to continue formal meetings with the clergy in 2026. Chancel Guild is scheduled to meet on Saturday, January 10th, 2026 at 10 a.m.

In 2025, Chancel Guild retired one of their longest standing members, Janis Fenwick. Her tribute follows this report.

Full Eucharist, by priestly intinction (where the priest dips the consecrated bread into the consecrated wine prior to being received by a communicant) is still the order of the day and as a result the parish uses less wine at both 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services than before when we sipped the wine from a common chalice. We again thank David Roach and Kathy Deyell for their contribution to worship – they bake the host (bread) that is used at 10:30 a.m. service. A particular thanks is extended to David Roach who baked the plaited bread used to decorate the altars at Harvest Thanksgiving. Michael Powers is acknowledged and appreciated as an honorary member of Chancel Guild for his help behind-the-scenes on Sundays and with set up for Christmas and Easter. Chancel Guild continues to ensure there is a full supply of hand sanitizer (70% v/v isopropyl alcohol) distributed across the church complex.

Chancel Guild continues to work with a local Beltline florist, Peaseblossom, for the fresh floral arrangements that we place on the altars in a brass vase each week (these are the flowers that are provided through donations from parishioners and arranged for on the flower calendar). Chancel Guild members also creatively source other plants, flowers, and decorations (e.g.: the dried flowers in the large urns, the poinsettias at Christmas, the lilies at Easter, the



white or red roses on December 6, the pumpkins at Harvest Thanksgiving, etc.) for other services and festivals using their abundant resourcefulness. Chancel Guild members, on their own time, take the flowers from the altar to those in need, the sick or infirmed, and those unable to attend church when they have been identified by the pastoral care team.

In 2025, the Chancel Guild used some of their financial balance to: purchase new cruets (the existing ones are chipped) and purchase a new white burse and veil to match the white superfrontal in the chapel. Additionally, the Chancel Guild, as a one-time only donation, has purchased the new Paschal Candle to be debuted at Easter in 2026.

The Chancel Guild continues to be in desperate need of new members and are happy to train anyone seeking to be a member. The Chancel Guild recognized that there is a general lack of knowledge about the work of Chancel Guild, so in response the Chancel Guild has: exposed the parish children to various aspects of the service, updated our manual, and set the bar a bit lower for time commitment for Chancel Guild work. Please provide your name and email to a chancel member to indicate your interest to be a member of this worthy ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Campbell on behalf of The Chancel Guild of St. Stephen's Anglican Church

A Tribute for Miss Janis Fenwick on Her Retirement from the St. Stephen's Anglican Chancel Guild

Sunday, September 7th, 2025

By: Heather A. Campbell, P.Eng.

In the Anglican tradition, great emphasis is placed on the work of preparing the sanctuary for worship. St. Stephen's as a parish was consecrated in 1952. Janis Fenwick, based on my math and some historical estimates, and a conversation I had with her during the peak of the pandemic has been worshipping at St. Stephen's for 65 years, since January 1960. That means Miss Janis Fenwick has been at St. Stephen's before the very room in which we sit, the Canterbury Room, had even completed its construction. Frankly, for almost as long as there has been a Chancel Guild at St. Stephen's, the dedicated and talented women who prepare the church for worship, Janis Fenwick has been on it.



When I arrived at St. Stephen's in 2005, freed from living in Red Deer, Alberta, I met good women like Janis and the late Dorothy 'Dot' Smyth – Janis' chancel guild partner (and fellow Senior Girl Guider). Janis and Dot always served in February and March – during Lent - so neither ever had to do flowers. Yes, back in the day, the flowers were delivered by Allan's Flowers in a large box, that needed two of us to be carried into the church. The flowers, loose stems and greenery, had to be arranged by chancel guild members on Saturday (because that's when the box of flowers were delivered) into four brass vases: two for the chapel, two for the main altar. Janis was never so thrilled to have the flowers done locally by Peaseblossom, what most of us just saw as an efficiency, not freedom from the peril of dealing with flowers. Janis made up for her lack of flower arrangement skills and her dislike of flowers by taking on the major chancel guild labour (not like Mary's labour, but similar) at Christmas. The large white and red silk frontal and superfrontal for the chapel and main altars came out and had to be steamed and pressed by hand. Janis, miraculously, did it every year with deft skill and precision.

Linen veils and corporals get a bit of spray starch around here. Why, because Janis did it that way and it was good. Toilet paper rolls are used to secure appliance cords. Ecclesiastical vessels are dried with a small travel hair dryer. Yes, those are all Janis Fenwick innovations. Frankly, it is Janis who has the book on Chancel Guild. One meeting, many moons ago, we considered whether we should invite men to join us in what in the Anglican tradition has been the work of women. Janis literally opened her Chancel Guild booklet and read a passage from said booklet that confirmed the history and our expectations going forward.

Janis is a history maker – in her long career in geoscience and computing with Chevron and in her service and worship at St. Stephen's too – it is why she is already St. Stephen's Warden Emeritus. But the Chancel Guild is something else. Janis your voluntary work with Chancel Guild has been, much like Psalm 96, a ministry of care and love leaving behind you each time a beautiful chapel and sanctuary – beautiful because you have set your loving hand to their care and preparation, the words being "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness". Your dedication has been true, your expertise unmatched, your tenure – if it were a marriage, it would be in the legitimate diamond anniversary category. You are a legend and an original. A Chancel lady, through and through. We honour you and the holiness of your work forever.

Thank you for your seven decades of service.

Pastoral Care Committee Report

Before her departure, Rev. Charmaine Evans established a Pastoral Care Committee consisting of Jean Springer, Hugh Baker, Sheena Isaac, and Brigid Stewart. It was explained to us that there are many people who wish to have on-going connections to St. Stephen's but are not necessarily able to attend services in person.

In assisting us to prepare for this role, Rev. Evans arranged an excellent workshop led by the highly qualified Tracey Stagg, a Deacon and leader of Pastoral education for the Diocese of Calgary who is also a spiritual health practitioner for Alberta Health Services at the Red Deer Regional Center. During our session we gathered valuable information about being a good visitor and, most importantly, a good listener.

At the end of the session we visited the full list of parish members and identified those who would appreciate an ongoing connection to St. Stephen's whether through phone calls or a personal visits. Each committee member was assigned specific names, and have enjoyed following up with their assigned parishioners and will continue to stay in contact with them.

If you know of a parishioner who would benefit from an ongoing relationship with a member of the Pastoral Care Committee, please approach our clergy or a member of this team.

Respectfully submitted,
Brigid Stewart



Children and Youth

In 2025, the kids and youth in the parish got the opportunity to participate in a number of activities.

- Circle Time was run by Rev. Nicole and volunteers like Jake Donaldson and Jean Springer.
 - The youth were able to give input on involvement at church in a visioning session with Brigid Stewart where we planned things that the youth could do.
 - Some families participated in Feed the Hungry doing preparation and meal service.
 - We did the first youth led coffee hours where we baked treats and brought in snacks to share with the parish after the service. This is usually done by families or adults but we got a chance to do two sessions together as kids.
 - On Christmas Eve, we participated in the annual Nativity Pageant of the Christmas Story where we got to act as different roles in the story.
 - Some older kids took on other volunteer roles like a Christmas toy drive for the Children's Hospital run by Sarika and helping doing outdoor maintenance of the Church property done by Felix. Ivy represented the parish at Citywide Interfaith Pride Service.
 - The littlest kids were able to go to the nursery in the Canterbury Room during services and older kids could spend time at the art table.
- Overall this year, we had many chances to be included and help out at church. We look forward to other activities in 2026!

Submitted by
Amelia and Emma

Community Outreach

In 2025, St. Stephen's generously contributed to families of Connaught school and our community through our Calgary Board of Education contact, City of Calgary Social Services, and Alpha House.

Through Lent, Spring, Thanksgiving and Advent, rice, cooking oil, diapers and gift cards were collected. About 30 families are assisted by the CBE contact. There are increasing needs particularly by single parent households, refugees and indigenous families. These families are highly impacted by rising living costs and employment uncertainty.

Throughout the year, St. Stephen's has partnered with City of Calgary Social Services. to provide space for family pizza and bingo nights. These evenings are enjoyed by twenty to thirty children and their parents, singles, and Seniors.

Our annual campaign for Alpha House brought warm weather gear for clients who are on the streets. Thank you to our generous members, Community partners, Rector Nicole for their support.

Cathi Nelson



Ministry Working Group on Community

Community Connection is a visioning group created to work on both parish connections and community outreach. The group has had a few excellent discussions, and is working to set priorities based on interests and timing. As a group we wanted to avoid spreading ourselves too thin in terms of commitments. We also want to give people opportunities to get to know fellow parishioners through shared activities. Some emerging priorities include getting to know our neighbours (building on the work with Connaught School) and becoming more inclusive of the range of people and cultures represented, organize parish service teams to work with Brown Bags for YYC Kids, create an amazing Midtown Mosaic next fall. Different types of events are suggested as ways to bring our neighbours into the church. We realized that also need a good team of marketing savvy people, so that we can successful communicate within the parish and within the Beltline to bring interested people to our events. What we need now is to choose what to do first, who will be the core organizers to coordinate a team or an event, and then we can launch. The next meeting will be in March, shortly after the AGM.

Alice de Koning and Rosh Issac

Subgroup on Sacred Space

A number of parishioners responded to the invitation to create a Sacred Space group, with a mission of support to the rector and the Community Outreach-Connection group. Specific projects in mind include renewal of chapel meditation evenings and opening the labyrinth to members of the public four times a year. Since two of the group members are 11 ½ hours ahead of us until March of this year, to date, meetings have been held by Zoom, and work on our mission is in its infancy. Look forward to more information coming soon.

Alice Anugraham, along with Jeyakumar Anugraham, Ronke Babatunde, Hugh Baker, Anne Brown, Heather Dumka & Doug McKibbon

Presence Collective: Centering Prayer Circle

Presence Collective ran as a 10-week pilot program at St. Stephen's from July 16 to September 24, offering a weekly Centering Prayer Circle on Wednesday evenings. Each gathering included a brief teaching, 20 minutes of silent Centering Prayer, and time for reflection.

Over the series, participants explored ecotheological themes, mindful movement, and lectio divina with poetry, learning to listen for the presence of God through stillness, creation, and the wisdom of the body. Rooted in the Christian contemplative tradition yet open to all, Presence Collective provided a gentle, therapeutic space for grounding, healing, and spiritual curiosity, and indicated strong interest in ongoing contemplative offerings at St. Stephen's.

Blessings,
Nicholas Fournie

Bible Study

Bible Study was led by Rev. Mark Tremblay after Easter 2025, until mid-June when he returned to Ontario with his wife, Liz Tremblay who was our Music Director. In October, Rev. Eyad Ajji became our leader.

There are six to eight regular attendees in our Bible Study where we explore and get insight into the readings for the coming Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Springer and David Roach



Ministry Working Group on Homelessness and Mental Health

In September 2025 the congregation were asked to sign up for ministries that the church felt were important for the future.

Following some negotiation, the Homelessness & Mental Health ministries were put together as complimenting each other.

At the first meeting many ideas were discussed including a warming centre, laundry & snack drop in, sleeping pods and toilet facility. After a lot of work and hard thinking, mainly by Hugh and Rosh and taking into account logistics, we came to the conclusion that a Laundry would not be the best way forward at this time. The sleeping pods are still under consideration.

Further meetings narrowed potential projects down to a warming centre*. This suggestion was supported wholeheartedly by Corporation at their meeting in December 2025. (*We now suggest it is called the Warming & Welcome Centre.)

Visits to other churches (Journey Church & Central United) and discussions with Adam Melnyk at Calgary Homeless Foundation, have led us to where we are currently in February 2026.

Led by Jean Springer, the team are now looking to finalise a budget, applying to the Diocese for funding, and encouraging volunteers to attend our first training later this month. We are delighted that the training costs will be covered by Calgary Homeless Foundation who have been advising us on the project.

We are now working on a rota for a weekly drop-in Warming & Welcome Centre on a Wednesday probably from 10:30 – 1:30 or thereabouts. We anticipate that we will need between 7 – 10 volunteers at each session to include set up and clean up teams before and after the event. The centre anticipates including: a foot clinic; hot soup and beverages; bought in snacks (we cannot make food without a kitchen and or hygiene certificates); hygiene "giveaways" such as soap, toothpaste etc; and donated clothing, e.g. toques, blankets, and other warming items.

The team welcomes new members and the continued attendance of existing members, ideally in person, but also on zoom to avoid absences.

Respectfully submitted by
Tora Shand



Truth and Reconciliation: If these Walls Could Talk



An ongoing study of St. Stephen's relationship with Indigenous People.

Reverend Nicole and others of the parish thoughtfully believe we owe our congregation, current and past, a clear understanding of our Indigenous relationships, either supportive or harmful. With an understanding of that relationship, we can then celebrate inclusive outreach and/or assess harmful interaction, if that occurred and then make sincere, appropriate amends.

Nicole asked me to initiate the study, which I began in late 2024 and which continues.

The study to understand our relationship with Indigenous people is and will be based on research into our historic archives from our beginnings in 1906 to today. The goal for 2026 is to access the church records which are held for the Diocese in the UCalgary archives.

To give context to our study I have authored five essays highlighting colonial thinking which led to Canada's residential school system. The schools were created for the purpose of separating Indigenous Children from their families to weaken and minimize family ties and cultural linkages and to indoctrinate children into the culture of Euro Christian Canadian society.

- Essay One: Residential Schools of Canada
- Essay Two: Colonial Thinking: Assimilation
- Essay Three: The First Bishop of Calgary: Indigenous Relations
- Essay Four: Residential School Legacy: St. Dunstan's Calgary Industrial School 1896-1907
Dunbow Industrial School/St. Joseph's Industrial School 1883-1924
- Essay Five: St. Stephen's Land Acknowledgement Treaty 7 Region of Southern Alberta, Metis Nation Battle River Territory, Districts 1-6
An Essay to be published in 2026 is underway.
- Essay Six: (i) Culture of Dominant Euro-Canadian Society
Led by Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald
(ii) Doctrine of Discovery
(iii) Orange Shirt Day

The five essays referenced are included on our St. Stephen's website under the tab Truth and Reconciliation. Read consecutively they illustrate the progression of thinking with respect to Indigenous relations that resulted in Cultural Genocide.

In September 2025 I held a Forum in The Canterbury Room where I spoke of the process of uncovering and understanding of the parish's past and what it means to us today.



Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters

*Imagery above by St. Stephen's Children: Predominately Teepees and Feathers
Stereotype of Indigenous people?
Recognition of Indigenous heritage?
or
Should a greater knowledge of Indigenous people and culture be fostered?*

**The Syilx People of the Okanagan Nation are a trans-boundary tribe separated at the 49th parallel by the border between Canada and the United States. The Nation is comprised of seven member communities in the Southern Interior of British Columbia: Okanagan Indian Band, Osoyoos Indian Band, Penticton Indian Band, Upper Nicola Band, Upper and Lower Similkameen Indian Bands, and Westbank First Nation; and in Northern Washington State, the Colville Confederated Tribes. Members share the same land, nsyilxcən language, culture, and customs.*

In October, Janet MacArthur contributed to our "If These Walls Could Talk" study with a forum, "Standing Between: Early Settler/Sylix* Relations in the Okanagan." She talked about the relations among Indigenous, mixed heritage, and white settlers in the early settlement (1885-1890) in the Okanagan and Similkameen valleys. She focused on how the settlers grappled with their position as a racist majority and their Indigenous relations.

Also in October, Anne Brown contributed a forum, "Justice and Reconciliation within Canada's Legal System." She gave a talk about the reconciliation work being done in the world of justice. She observed that Indigenous victims and offenders both are over-represented in the system and that progress in addressing their over-representation is slow. Anne provided a reading list of works helpful in developing a deeper understanding of the issues.

Access to our St. Stephen's files has been limited, however we expect full access this year and the research will continue to evolve. The project is open to all, and we welcome any contribution to an understanding of Truth and Reconciliation.

I thank Michael Rothery, a friend of St. Stephen's, for his encouragement and support of my efforts to guide our project.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Bain

Company of Men Report

The Company of Men is a group of men that meets on Zoom on the second Saturday of every month from 8:30 - 10 am. The group shares what they are working on through telling their stories.

Our model for the group is the Jubilee Circle, a form of appreciative inquiry and discussion. We always start our share with this question, "what are you working on?" We share without judgment and once a story has been told, men offer what has been stirred within themselves.

The only rule that we follow is that there will be no giving of advice. This allows us to take away our own work so that we may find our own resolve.

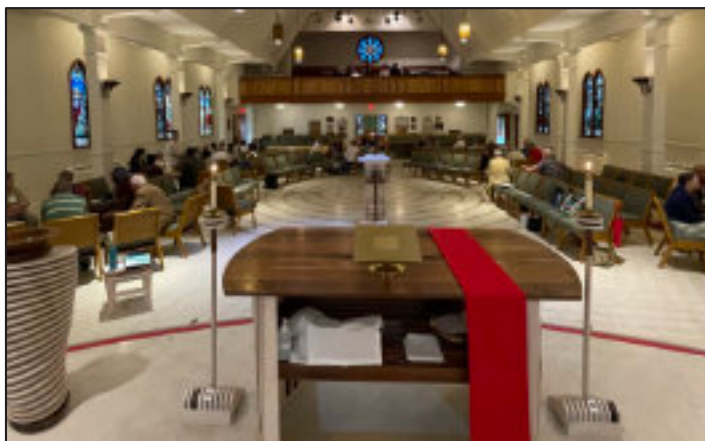
Most Saturday mornings, we are privileged to hear two or three stories along with the many rumblings from the men in the circle.

The group has several men who can guide the group through the story-telling model we use since we have no defined leadership.

If this sounds like something that would be of interest to you, we would be most happy to have you join us in The Company of Men. Feel free to contact me if you would like the zoom link, have any questions or would like further information.

Respectfully submitted,

David Roach



Dinners for 8

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Hebrews 13:2

Over the past many years, usually from October to June, parishioners have gathered in Dinner for Eight groups for fellowship over a rotating potluck meal 4 times per year. All who have participated have reported that this has been a wonderful opportunity to get to better know their fellow parishioners in a fun and relaxed social setting.

The format for Dinners for Eight was changed up a bit this year, as we recognized that not everyone has the time, interest or capacity to host a potluck dinner, or is able to commit to attending 4 dinners during the year. We wanted to build community at St. Stephen's through welcoming more people to the Dinners for Eight experience.

Therefore, three groups were formed this year, each organized into 6 core people who then are responsible for inviting 2 guests from the parish to each dinner. While not entirely strangers to us, these invitees are the honoured guests at the dinner with no obligation other than to bless us with their presence so they may enjoy the hospitality of the group through this fellowship experience.

We can report that this has proved a successful change in format and want to thank everyone involved: the core groups, our "spares" and our honoured guests. Everyone is enjoying the chance to get to better know more people in the parish over a nice meal, great conversation, and lots of laughter – all things that seem very welcome and appreciated in these times.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Redmond & Lynda Greuel

Young Adult Anglicans Calgary



Young Adult Anglicans Calgary (YAAC) is a new initiative of four progressive Anglican churches in Calgary: St. Stephen's, St. Laurence, Church of the Good Shepherd, and the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer. Its mission is to foster vibrant, inclusive communities of young adults aged 18-40 in Calgary and the surrounding areas through faith, learning, and welcome.

In its first three months of operation, YAAC built and launched a website to showcase the ministry's ongoing and upcoming work; established partnerships between the aforementioned churches and their clergy; and put on three events.

In October and again in November, YAAC hosted a "Theology Happy Hour" at Kawa Espresso Bar in the Beltline. Faith, life, and God were all on tap: this was an opportunity for attendees to grab a drink and pull up a seat for deep conversations with fellow young adults and a local clergyperson. Rev Nicole Janelle of St. Stephen's led the first meeting, with a focus on Christian community and belonging; and Rev Derwyn Costinak of Good Shepherd led the second meeting, with a focus on baptism and Christian initiation. In December, YAAC staged a social board-gaming hour at St. Stephen's so participants could meet informally and build community over fun and snacks. Attendance at these events ranged from 2–9 persons, not including leaders.

YAAC has an exciting roster of events planned for 2026. Newcomers are always welcome. To keep up-to-date on upcoming events and plans, visit our website at www.YoungAnglicansYYC.ca, e-mail Hello@YoungAnglicansYYC.ca, or flag down Rev Janelle or myself after church one Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Sheasby



St Stephen's is a member organization of the Calgary Alliance for the Common Good (CACG). It's not a traditional service-delivery nonprofit. Instead, it's a democratic, member-driven governance—power rests with member institutions, not professional staff, and their volunteers – including people of faith – to speak to issues and bring solutions for the whole community.

CACG doesn't have massive budgets or large staff because their strategy is to organize existing institutional capacity—congregations, unions, universities—into collective action. Proven track record of major policy victories; Campaign Impact Value calculated as approximately \$5.1 billion in policy victories achieved as of 2022.

Current Campaign Areas:

1. Mental Health - School-based services, crisis response, community education
2. Truth & Reconciliation - Indigenous liaison officers, decolonization work
3. Environment & Climate - Green Line transit, net-zero commitments, ENMAX accountability
4. Municipal Budget - Affordable housing strategy, transit funding, climate implementation
5. Affordable Housing - Recently passed strategy for 3,000+ new units

6. AISH – standing up for the 77,000 people with disabilities whose provincial funding is at risk. We have four volunteers from St. Stephen's involved currently, as well as parishioner Reza Dehaki, who works part-time at CACG as the Communications person. It costs on average \$3,750/year for each member organization, a small cost compared to all of the benefits we gain, not only personally but as part of the community in Calgary and in Alberta.

Speaking personally, CACG has been a light unto my feet, not only illuminating the path to a preferred future, but a very encouraging experience with newfound friends. We're so glad to be part of it.

Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF) is the Anglican Church of Canada’s agency for sustainable development and relief. Alongside Hope works with local and international partners, funding agencies, donors and volunteers to provide sustainable development and relief projects around the world and in Canada.

In the spring, St. Stephen’s assisted with raising money for the Alongside Hope Resilience Fund appeal. This was an urgent appeal based on the cancellation of support for international aid programs by USAID – a partner for some of the Alongside Hope projects. During the month of May, we highlighted four projects that had been cut in Burundi, Kenya, Mozambique and the Congo. All donations that were collected for Alongside Hope up until the end of June went towards the Resilience Fund and the support of these and other programs that had been impacted. This came to a total of \$1120 and included \$570 in donations from December 2024 and \$550 from 2025. This amount was doubled due to a matching donor for this appeal.

In December, we focussed our Blue Envelope fundraising on providing rocket stoves for homes in Kenya. These locally made stoves are much more fuel efficient and produce fewer emissions than cooking over an open fire, making them easier and safer to use. As part of Alongside Hope’s World of Gifts, the stoves were promoted as an ideal Christmas gift at \$20 a stove. Just over 48 stoves were “purchased” by parishioners at St. Stephen for a total of \$970 raised for this project. In total, \$1520 was donated to Alongside Hope through St. Stephen’s in 2025.

Thank you to all who supported the important work of Alongside Hope in 2025 through your donations and through your prayers. Thank you also to Michael Rothery for his enthusiastic support and promotion of Alongside Hope projects at St. Stephen’s.

For further information about Alongside Hope and its projects you can check out its website at: alongsidehope.org

https://alongsidehope.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Annual-Report_2024-25.pdf

Respectfully submitted by

Heather Dumka,
St. Stephen’s Parish Representative for Alongside Hope

Summary 2026 Proposed Budget

2026 Summary Budget St. Stephen’s Anglican Church		BUDGET 2026	ACTUAL 2025	BUDGET 2025
4	INCOME			
5	Parish Giving			
6	Identifiable (Pledges)	339,000	369,949	328,212
7	Festival Offerings	30,000	37,203	25,000
8	Unidentifiable (plate)	6,000	6,836	4,000
9	Endowment (Calgary Fndtn)	12,000	12,708	11,500
10	Fundraising Campaigns	0	25,000	25,000
11	Subtotal Parish Giving	387,000	451,696	393,712
12	Rental Income	58,000	56,940	52,620
13	Other Income	12,400	13,369	5,600
14	Subtotal Income	457,400	522,005	451,932
15	Transfer from Designated Funds	0	50,917	0
16	Diocesan Benefit Grant		2,000	0
17	Investment income		11,197	0
18	Unrealized Investment gain/loss	0	8,903	
19	TOTAL INCOME	457,400	595,022	451,932
20	EXPENSES			
21	Employment Expenses	204,445	220,347	256,726
22	Contractor Expenses	80,975	71,280	64,000
23	Parish Property Expenses	118,788	122,256	130,000
24	Apportionment expense	88,299	75,936	76,934
25	Office Expenses	25,800	17,399	25,000
26	Programs	4,300	2,885	4,300
27	Education and Formation	5,000	6,630	8,000
28	Pastoral and Community	6,000	4,280	5,700
29	TOTAL EXPENSES	533,607	521,013	570,660
30	EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	-76,207	74,009	-118,728

Balance Sheet (2025/2024)

Summary P&L / Income Statement

St. Stephen's Anglican Church
Balance Sheet
 Consolidated - For The Year Ending December 2025

	2025 31-Dec	2024 31-Dec
ASSETS		
CASH		
ATB Chequing Account	40,389.84	84,939.50
Paypal Account	589.80	1,080.60
Subtotal Cash Assets	40,979.64	86,020.10
ASSETS		
Savings Account	104,792.32	152,211.66
Cash Account - Investment	13,831.42	2,535.27
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		
GST Recoverable	1,505.81	1,937.94
Other Receivables	2,780.44	500.00
Subtotal Accounts Receivable	4,286.25	2,437.94
OTHER ASSETS		
Prepays	2,044.32	800.77
TRUST ASSETS		
Managed Funds @ Leede Jones	200,379.52	119,500.00
Subtotal Assets	325,333.83	277,485.64
TOTAL ASSETS	366,313.47	363,505.74
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	5,932.07	7,339.90
Clergy Discretionary Fund	4,044.56	1,497.07
Feed the Hungry/Food Security	300.00	0.00
Memorial & Church Gardens	2,266.74	2,266.74
Alongside Hope (PWRDF)	970.00	570.00
Outreach Local	24,598.51	2,140.29
Memorial Hall Reno Group	0.00	125.00
Chancel Guild	391.12	2,393.53
Calgary Food Bank	0.00	25.00
ACW	0.00	12.25
Outreach National	400.00	240.00
Accrued Liabilities	6,398.54	4,774.20
ATB MC	4,879.07	6,288.89
Deferred Revenue	1,450.00	1,250.00
Subtotal Current Liabilities	51,630.61	28,922.87
TRUST OBLIGATIONS		
OUTREACH LOCAL	0.00	25,314.80
Shannon Trust	11,575.50	11,925.50
Subtotal Trust Obligations	11,575.50	37,240.30
DESIGNATED OBLIGATIONS		
Major Reno (Open Doors)	241.88	2,906.88
Outreach Beyond Fund	-14.31	1,194.90
Clergy Assistance Fund	0.00	19,754.90
Clergy Housing Fund	0.00	31,149.39
Roof Repair Fund	0.00	930.10
Major Maintenance Fund	0.00	3,000.00
Organ & Piano Repair Fund	7,249.01	7,571.88
Other Designated Oblig ***	208,759.33	217,785.83
Subtotal Designated Obligations	216,235.91	284,293.88
TOTAL LIABILITIES	279,442.02	350,457.05
OPERATING FUND EQUITY		
Open Equity***	86,871.45	13,048.69
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	366,313.47	363,505.74

*** Note: We have been advised to place the balance of the St. Stephen's Future Fund into a capital fund. These statements show the impact of this correction. However, this action cannot be corrected retroactively. In some print-outs, you may see the balance of the Future Fund included in the Open Equity. The sum of the assets and liabilities does not change with this adjustment.

Calgary Foundation, St. Stephen's Anglican Church Endowment Fund - \$154,456 (as of Feb 2026)

St. Stephen's Anglican Church
Income and Expense by Year - 5 Year View
 January - December

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
INCOME						
INCOME						
PARISH GIVING						
Identifiable (Pledges)	369,947.12	351,438.74	346,211.19	337,056.28	282,470.37	290,219.08
Festival Offerings	37,202.97	25,475.00	39,156.85	24,930.00	17,040.00	10,374.64
Unidentifiable (Plate)	6,836.16	5,152.17	2,429.50	8,097.50	155.37	413.00
Endowment (Calgary Frndn)	12,708.00	11,735.00	11,556.00	11,545.00	2,000.00	5,360.00
Fundraising Donations	25,000.00	333,739.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Income	0.00	0.00	20,257.88	0.00	248.62	8,738.17
Subtotal Parish Giving	451,694.25	727,540.54	419,611.42	381,628.78	301,914.36	315,104.89
RENTAL INCOME	56,940.00	59,374.24	68,347.44	85,143.30	67,676.02	59,246.66
OTHER INCOME	64,285.98	4,157.18	1,639.95	688.05	130.00	-648.20
Subtotal Income	572,920.23	791,071.96	489,598.81	467,460.13	369,720.38	373,703.35
Diocesan Benefit Grant	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer to Capital Funds ***	-20,098.70	-216,572.00	-1,159.18	-684.55	-16,927.47	0.00
NET INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS	20,098.70	8,324.83	-1,159.18	-684.55	-16,927.47	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	595,018.93	582,824.79	488,439.63	466,775.58	352,792.91	346,615.35
EXPENSES						
EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES	220,334.28	230,145.74	190,379.44	181,524.57	58,899.11	119,456.85
CONTRACTOR EXPENSES	71,274.77	89,493.96	90,079.29	85,369.42	80,593.06	10,964.47
PARISH PROPERTY EXPENSES	122,257.96	144,454.91	168,696.69	127,039.59	108,587.86	76,446.94
Apportionment expense	75,933.96	66,069.96	61,161.00	66,452.04	54,166.56	27,088.00
OFFICE EXPENSES	17,601.12	31,183.17	24,686.80	25,425.69	38,638.83	43,199.35
PROGRAMS	2,884.89	3,399.37	2,980.95	6,154.35	5,473.98	10,510.80
EDUCATION AND FORMATION	6,628.84	2,608.06	3,523.55	3,076.43	1,006.00	623.04
PASTORAL AND COMMUNITY	4,280.35	7,610.90	5,285.08	4,271.90	5,715.10	5,224.59
TOTAL EXPENSES	521,196.17	574,966.07	546,792.80	499,313.99	353,080.50	266,426.04
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSE	73,822.76	7,858.72	-58,353.17	-32,538.41	-287.59	80,189.31

*** Note: We have been advised to place the balance of the St. Stephen's Future Fund into a capital fund. These statements show the impact of this correction. However, this action cannot be corrected retroactively. In our accounts, so you may see the balance of the Future Fund included in the Total Income. In some the Operating Income and Expenses statements. The correction is presented here so parishioners can see the implications of our fundraiser more clearly.

ST. STEPHEN'S
ANGELICAN CHURCH
Caring. Inclusive. Community.

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MIND AT PEACE**

&

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Welcome for everyone
EVERYONE