

The Parish of St. George Annual Report 2025



The Parish of St. George Anglican Church and its Parish is located on the unceded ancestral lands of the Sto:lo people, the territory of the Katzie and Kwantlen First Nation.

Vicar: The Reverend Laurel Dykstra
Deacons: The Rev. Eileen Nurse & The Rev. Karen Saunders (retired)



Diocese of
New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Notice of Meeting

This is notice that the Annual Vestry Meeting for the Parish of St. George, Fort Langley, BC will take place after worship on

**Sunday, February 22, 2026
in the Church Hall.**

Registration for the meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting will be held in Person.

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Statistics 2025

In Memoriam:

Memorial Services:

Muriel Moore (with Interment)
Patricia Cook (with Interment)
Monica Eveline Hanna (with Interment)
Patricia Mehin

Interments (without Memorial Service):

Diane Harman Lawrence
Paula Griffin
Cody Sawatsky
Thomas William Colin Stuart Taylor

Baptisms:

None

Confirmations:

None

Weddings

Jeddy Jithin James and Elizabeth Kurian Modayil

Parish Services:

Holy Eucharist (in-person)	63
Morning Prayer	5
Baptisms	0
Confirmations	0
Weddings	1
In Memoriam	4

Minutes of the 2025 Annual Vestry Meeting

The Parish of St. George, Fort Langley
Registrants: 34

Sunday, February 09, 2025

Regrets: Virginia Cooke, Fran Hancock, Derrick Klassen, Fred & Irene Madden, John Potts, Mandy Williams

With quorum achieved, the meeting was called to order at 11:08 AM.

1. Welcome

People's Warden, Alison Cameron, extended a warm welcome to all parishioners in attendance

2. Opening Prayer:

Opening Prayer was led by the Rev. Laurel Dykstra

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: to adopt the agenda as distributed with amendment

Moved: Alison Cameron

Seconded: Jim Kelly

Carried

4. Approval of Vestry Minutes 2024

Motion: to adopt the minutes of the Vestry Meeting February 24, 2024, as distributed with correction

Moved: Wendy Robson

Seconded: The Rev. Eileen Nurse

Carried

5. Review of 2024 Annual Report

The 2024 Annual Report is available online and as a printed copy.

Alison Cameron extended thanks to Rev. Eileen Nurse for her assistance in creating the Annual Report

Motion: to receive the 2024 Annual Report as distributed

Moved: Alison Cameron

Seconded: Jim Kelly

Carried

6. Business arising from Annual Report

7. Treasurer's Report

a) Review of 2024 financial statements

Craig Daniell, Treasurer, reported an improvement in the Parish's financial position over the past year. Total revenue for the year was \$229,277 that included designated giving of \$12,435. Total expenditures: \$232,055 with the result that the Parish incurred a net operating deficit of \$2,777 for the calendar

year. Thus, a significant improvement over the previous year when the Parish's loss exceeded \$20,000 included:

- Investment income from Consolidated Trust Fund (CTF) amounted to \$9,953
- Revenue from the film industry generated \$22,784
- Steady income from the Preschool of \$36,000
- Fundraising generated income of \$8,881
- Donations to the building fund of \$5,600
- Parish giving totaled \$112,637 – a decrease of 12% from the budgeted forecast

The parish was advised of a bequest of just over \$67,400 of which \$50,000 was transferred to the Consolidated Trust Fund (CTF) portfolio and the remainder used to offset church expenses. All such bequests to be deposited in the Special Purpose Fund.

Moving forward it's important we continue to manage our finances with a conservative approach.

Motion: That Vestry approve the 2025 financial statements as distributed with the 2024 Annual Report with thanks to Charles Nurse for preparation of the document

Moved: Craig Daniell

Seconded: Charles Nurse

Carried

8. Proposed 2025 Operating Budget and 3-year Financial Plan

The 2025 Operating Budget projects total expenditures of \$198,559 against projected revenue of \$198,778 for a projected operating surplus of \$219, which includes a transfer of \$15,000 from capital reserves. Fixed costs are projected at \$152,6009 and discretionary expenditures amounting to \$45,950 with the only new expenditures proposed of \$5,000 for the occasional hiring of professional cleaners to support the existing volunteer efforts. Envelope giving at \$110,000 is projected to be the largest percentage (55%) of total Parish giving while revenue from the preschool of \$37,000 represents 19%, the second largest revenue for the Parish. Fundraising revenue is projected at \$10,000. Investment income has been conservatively budgeted at \$18,000. Weddings and facility rentals are budgeted at \$18,000 or 9% of total revenue. All projections are reflective of a cautious approach taken to avoid financial difficulties.

Motion: That Vestry approve the 2025 budget and 3-year financial plan

Moved: Craig Daniell

Seconded: Charles Nurse

Carried

9. New Business

a) *Acknowledgments:*

Alison Cameron and Rev. Laurel Dykstra acknowledged the work of:

- The army of volunteers that support the ongoing work of St. George's
 - Atar Guild
 - Weekly Cleaning Teams
 - Office Helpers
 - Open Doors Facilitators
 - Kitchen and Special Event Volunteers
 - Sunday Coffee Teams
- Henry Turner – for his work overseeing the installation of the new church roof, the erection of a new garden shed together with ongoing maintenance of the building
- John Potts – for his many years of service to the parish
- ACW – for their many contributions and years of service to St. George's
 - Claudette Hessberger and Pat Walker received a plaque on behalf of the ACW and read aloud a list of long-standing members who contributed to the work of ACW but are no longer able to attend meetings in person.
- Rev. Laurel Dykstra expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by Rev. Georgina Harris as Interim Priest

b) *Election of 2025 Parish Council*

Church rules require that elections occur each year.

- *Appointed Positions:* **Rev. Laurel Dykstra** to apply Canon 9.22, which allows both Wardens to be elected by Vestry if preferred by the Priest in charge.

Jim Kelly, Trustee, officiated the election of officers. Each nominee was afforded 2-minutes to introduce themselves in support of their nomination

- *Ex Officio Position:*
Parish Administrator: Marion Kruze
- *Appointed Position:*
Bookkeeper: Charles Nurse
Building Coordinator: Henry Turner
- *Elected Positions:*
Rector's Warden: Fran Hancock (as per Canon 9.22)
People's Warden: Ann Turner
Associate Warden: Alison Cameron
Trustee (Year Two): Wendy Robson
Trustee (Year Two): Jim Kelly
Treasurer: Craig Daniell
Synod Delegates: Wendy Robson, Alison Cameron
Alternate Synod Delegate: Mandy Williams
Members at Large: Derrick Klassen, Janelle Kwee, Marion Moats

Nominations Closed: All elected by acclamation.

c) *Eucharistic Ministers 2025*

- Alison Cameron, Brenda Coburn, Virginia Cooke, Bob Dolphin, Leslie Gaudette, Fran Hancock, Jim Kelly, Fred Madden, Charles Nurse, Caroline Profitt, James Profitt, Ann Turner

Motion: that the list of Eucharistic Ministers be submitted to the Most Rev. John Stephens for approval:

Moved: Rev. Laurel Dykstra **Seconded:** Rev. Karen Saunders

Carried

d) *Signing Officers*

Motion: That any 2 of the following people be accepted as Signing Officers for St. George's Anglican, Fort Langley

Alison Cameron, Craig Daniell, Fran Hancock, Jim Kelly, Wendy Robson, Ann Turner, Charles Nurse* (*without signing authority)

Moved: Alison Cameron **Seconded:** Jim Kelly

Carried

e) *Renaming of Primates World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)*

Ruth Genge advised Vestry of the upcoming change of name for PWRDF to "Alongside Hope": The name embraces and embodies the hope for a better world as we walk alongside each of our partners, supporting, listening, and sharing with one another embodying the hope of a better world.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned: 12:00 PM

Vicar's Report

In our first year together, I have tried to stick closely to the goals laid out in the letter of agreement for my employment between the diocese, myself and St. George's. Once every few months I review these, track progress and "course correct" if needed.

The first of these goals is set by the diocese for all clergy newly in charge of a congregation. To establish healthy and productive working relationships built on trust and clear communication, among the Vicar, the leadership, and members of the broader Parish. I feel very confident in the good communication and solid working relationships that we are building together. Council meetings are productive and growing more efficient and we are moving towards a portfolio model, where each member has a clear area of responsibility. Minutes of council meetings are posted on the bulletin board and available by email to all parishioners who want to receive them. As our relationships deepen, we are

growing the trust that allows us to be more fully ourselves, making mistakes, apologizing, learning one another's strengths and weaknesses, asking for help when we need it. Our new process for coordinating program events and "doing a few things well" has helped us to be realistic about our capacity and to take pleasure in the things that we do. I have been able to at least visit all of the parish task groups to show appreciation for and get a sense of their work.

The next three goals we identified together through a community process, and they are what I have used to guide my role in our work together throughout the year.

To deepen relationships with groups at the edges of our community life, especially isolated seniors, LGBTQ2SIA+ young adults, families raising children. This year we have made significant improvements in what we are able to offer families raising children: each week there is a children's wonder moment during the service and young people are invited to ring the bell, light candles and carry the cross. Jasmine Burnet is offering Sunday School once a month, materials in the children's area are refreshed with each liturgical season and we have a quarterly print newsletter for families. We also had three big family-friendly evening events: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Welcome Back Meal with Games and Blessing of the Backpacks and Christmas Carols in the Church. It was especially gratifying to have 20 children under 12 and at least 10 teens at our 4PM Christmas Eve Family Service. We are also fortunate to have a number of young adults who have joined the congregation most of whom have chosen us because of our inclusive practices. We continue to host the One Trinity Western University group for LGBTQ2SIA+ students. The clergy team checks in with ill or hospitalized community members making visits and bringing home communion. At Easter and Christmas, we reach out to a larger list and visit, send cards, and call those who are housebound or living in care facilities. Both the people we see and those who hear about the visits have expressed appreciation.

Our engagement with the broader community has been a bit slower given my part-time role but I have attended Langley Pride, three Reconciliation events and one Fort Langley Association event. We are planning to take part in the ecumenical Good Friday walk this year and I have ambitions for a St. George's canoe team in this year's Cranberry Races. And of course, Open Doors is a lovely low-barrier way for the community to come, see what we are about and feel welcome. Our communications team is working behind the scenes to have our website refurbished this spring so that our online presence more accurately reflects who we are.

To grow financial literacy and stewardship skills of the congregation and to improve the fiscal security of the parish.

I am cautiously pleased about our finances this year. Our budget surplus was due in part to several contracts with the film industry but also to concrete changes we have made in our practices. While film opportunities shouldn't be relied on, the skills and practices we have are building together will continue to benefit our bottom line in the coming years. Clergy preach on Christian economic values throughout the year. We have begun a practice of publishing summary financial statements once a month in the print bulletin and e-blast.

Members of the congregation spent two months exploring alternative economic models through our St. George's Reads project and the book group read Robin Wall Kimmerer's *Serviceberry* on gift economies. In the fall, the finance team ran a multi-week stewardship campaign that included a mailing, written and spoken testimonials from parishioners, preaching and object lessons, and the collection of pledge forms for the coming year. This campaign was very successful with a high rate of response and it has helped us to prepare a realistic budget for 2026. This year's campaign took quite a lot of my time but we now have a model that team members can follow in coming years. One area for future work is to reduce the number of fundraising events but maximize the revenue from each.

To work together to offer meaningful prayer, music and preaching that attends to the diverse needs of our community and equips us for ministry in the world.

This is the area where I feel most confident about my skills and where I receive lots of immediate feedback from the members of the community. This year I have focused on bringing an eco-spiritual focus to our worship that is rooted in our own bioregion. In planning worship I have tried to balance tradition and innovation to provide inclusive welcoming worship with thoughtful biblical preaching that responds to both the parish and the world around us. This year we clarified Diana's role and are now benefitting from her skills as our Music Director who thinks about the big musical picture and the cohesion of the service rather than using her as an accompanist. I am grateful to our deacons for their leadership in worship, especially given my part-time schedule. I am grateful as well to all the lay people who offer their skills and time to make Sunday mornings both beautiful and meaningful. In the coming year I look forward to more community members singing, playing an instrument, reading, offering prayers, greeting new arrivals or other roles. In the coming year I hope to focus a little more on how our worship together nurtures the work that the church is called to do out in the world.

A short practical note: when people make a gift directly to the priest for services that are part of our role and job description, (often at weddings and funerals) that money goes into a fund that can be used at my discretion confidentially to respond to practical needs like food insecurity or rent support of individuals inside and outside the parish. Parishes often designate an annual amount to this fund as well. Each year the priest in charge accounts to vestry for how those funds have been spent in a way that protects confidentiality. This year there were no additions to the fund because we clarified the fees for weddings and funerals. There were no withdrawals from the fund because occasional discretionary expenses were covered under other categories. In 2026 I will spend down the discretionary fund and, if needed, the finance team and council will make adjustments for 2027.

To conclude, overall I am really pleased with how this year has unfolded, the community feels healthy and we are ready for the coming year. Thank you so much to everyone who has given so much time and care and thoughtfulness to make this so. Some highlights of 2025 for me include: the wonderful spring Eco Pilgrimage at Sparrow Creek Farm, the Outreach Team's creative and wildly successful Lent almsgiving to buy donkeys for Kenyan farmers through Alongside Hope, the wonderful feeling this fall with programs from Langley Senior Resources Society that our building is full and place that serves young and

old, and the variety of beautiful music this Christmas, especially with Diana's young students. Two concerns that I hope we begin to address, the first is that at St. George's many, many tasks are done by a small (and dare I say not especially youthful) group and the second is that our organ is in increasingly poor shape. Looking ahead I looking forward to attracting more couples to get married in our beautiful church, looking at ways to make our physical plant as accessible as it can be to people with mobility limits and other disabilities, and to preparing members for baptism, confirmation and other sacraments.

It is my prayer for St. George's that in the coming year we will share leadership more, that we grow into increasing alignment between our worship life and our actions in the world, especially in times of increasing uncertainty.

Respectfully submitted,
Your vicar,
Rev. Laurel Dykstra (they/them)

Deacons' Report

The Parish of St. George is one of the few parishes in the diocese that has had active deacons since the order was revived over 30 years ago. The Rev. Sister Chris Cross, the Rev. Marjorie Sager, the Rev. Eileen Nurse and the Rev. Karen Saunders have all served this parish. The ministry of each deacon is unique, and the parish has had the opportunity of experiencing many different forms of Diaconal ministry.

While Karen is "retired", she continues to live out her diaconal ministry and is an active member of the parish team. Eileen continues to hold the Archbishop's license and to be active in the parish and the diocese. The two of us have different, complimentary gifts that we enjoy sharing with this community.

During a Sunday service of Holy Eucharist, Deacons serve in various ways including setting the table for communion, proclaiming the Gospel, leading the Affirmation of Faith and the Confession. Some of these roles are always done by a Deacon (if one is present) and some of these ministries are shared with others. In addition to your deacons have led Morning Prayer and preached regularly.

The clergy team have all been involved in the preparation and preaching at the special services for the year, especially during Holy Week, Advent, Lent and Christmas. We have continued to offer pastoral care, with cards, phone calls, and the occasional face-to-face meeting.

Karen's Ministry Report

As always, 2025 was very busy. I have decided that one of the primary differences between a retired deacon and a not-retired deacon is that now I get to choose which projects and duties I will pursue. My choice has been to opt for those which are short term - nothing that requires my on-going participation with no particular end-date. The reasoning behind that

is so that I am not obliged to find someone else to cover my responsibilities when Patrick and I set off on another travel adventure. I do have some smaller jobs that are weekly, but mostly they have a partner with whom I take turns, and thus have more flexibility.

Having said that, when I reviewed my calendar for the last year, there have been many pies into which I have put my fingers. Here's a list of some of the things I've been busy with:

- I preached five times, and participated in half a dozen Morning Prayer services, either preaching or presiding in partnership with Eileen.
- I participated in the Spring Fair and the Christmas Bazaar.
- I took part in the spring and fall pilgrimages at Sparrowcreek Farm.
- I continued as co-ordinator of the Book Club, and began co-ordinating St George's Reads with David Ames and Laurel.
- I assisted David with the weeding and reorganizing of the parish library in the lounge.
- I updated the death and baptismal anniversary records for Marion for use in the intercessions.
- I share weekly set up for the service with Nancy Paulin.
- I share upkeep for the children's area and updating the materials for each season with Ann Turner.
- I continue on the readers', intercessors' and Eucharistic Ministers' rosters.
- I offered Ashes to Go with Laurel on Ash Wednesday.
- I led 2 interments of ashes, and assisted with 2 memorial services.
- I was a member of the Examining Chaplains team for 5 ordinands.
- I attended Deacons' Day, and the initial Deacons' H'appy hour, a newly established occasional opportunity for the diaconal community to meet as a group, less formally than at Deacons' Day, as the title suggests.
- Patrick and I hosted the Newcomers' dinner at our home, offering newcomers to the parish the opportunity to get to know one another, and to ask questions of parish leadership.
- Patrick renewed the Memorial Garden sign, and I was responsible for updating the plaques and sourcing some new ones, so the sign will last for the foreseeable future.
- I attended the retired clergy Christmas lunch.
- I did whatever I could in support of the work of Parish Council.

My biggest job was continuing pastoral care efforts, including home visits, hospital visits, home Communion and the like. I also undertook a couple of non-parish pastoral care ministries, including driving to Kelowna with our bonus daughter and staying with her for a week as she underwent surgery and the early days of recovery before she was able to come home. I also continue to care for a childhood friend who has health issues and no family of her own, looking after her on an ongoing basis.

On a more personal level, Patrick and I really enjoyed spending the month of June in France, including a week long river cruise up the Rhône, and bumping into the Boulés as we walked to dinner in Strasbourg one evening. As well, once again I met my personal reading goals of 75 titles, finishing my 79th between Christmas and New Year's Eve.

Sharing my faith and ministry with my beloved parish families continues to nourish me and fill me in more ways than I could ever describe. It is my honour and my joy.

Eileen's Ministry Report

Throughout the year I participated (sometimes officiated) in most of the services in our parish. This includes regular Sunday services (Holy Eucharist, Liturgy of the Word, and Morning Prayer), Memorials, Interment of Ashes and additional seasonal services.

I have continued to attend the various meetings that are on the normal schedule, participating in Parish Council, deanery and archdeanery meetings. As clergy of this diocese I also attend various diocesan events, such as Diocesan Synod, Clergy Days, Clergy Conference and the Deacons' day in the fall.

In the beginning of 2025 I completed my term on the national church's task force to review and rewrite the Ordination Rites of the Anglican Church of Canada. The final drafts were submitted to the Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee of the National Church in January. This, basically, brought the work of this task force to a close.

As a result of this experience, I have connected with different people across the country. This has included the Rev. Lisa Chisholm-Smith who is the most recent past President of the Anglican Deacons of Canada, the national association for deacons in our church.

This connection has resulted in my becoming more involved with the work of this association. In particular, I am helping them with their membership management needs.

In 2025 I, along with Laurel, have participated in Xwelíttem Siyáya: Allyship and Reconciliation Building program at the University of the Fraser Valley. This year long program has been an amazing learning experience about the history, culture, language and life of the Stó:lō First Nations. The goal of the program is to prepare participants to begin their journey of becoming active allies of the First Nation of our area.

It is hard to articulate the power of this experience. I learned so much – from the history of colonization, to cedar weaving & drum makings, to some basic Halq'eméylem language, to environmental stewardship.

The impact of this learning has changed the way I approach many aspects of my life. It has given me a glimpse into the lives of the people who have been on this land for time immemorial. I look forward to continuing to learn and experience more as I work towards becoming a true ally of the Indigenous, Metis and Inuit people.

I have loved the opportunity to be a part of our parish Eco-Pilgrimages. In particular, I having enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with the Salal & Cedar community (Laurel's other ministry). Hopefully, these connections will continue to grow in 2026.

We continue to face the Climate Emergency and the work we all need to do is daunting and necessary. Each of us can have a significant impact by making some changes to our lives.

For over 10 years, I have been a member of the Fort Langley Remembrance Day Planning Committee and serve as a director of the Fort Langley Remembrance Day Society. We continue to work on making this important community event meaningful for all.

I continued to participate in the local Repair Café events. I focus on finding ways to repair and reuse clothing and fabric. There is so much you can do to keep things from the land fill! Maybe there will be an opportunity for me to share some of this information with our parish community if people are interested.

2025 saw some significant changes for our family. For over 10 years our eldest daughter has lived in the Seattle, Washington area. Over that time, she has built a life with her partner and their two children. They have always talked about providing their two girls with the experience of living in Canada. Given the political reality in the USA, they decided this was the year to make a move.

In late August they arrived and moved into a house here in Chilliwack. It has been wonderful having our four children (kids and kids-in-law) and all of our grandchildren close to us. We love being able to be more active in their lives. It means we are busier and sometimes balancing all the requests for our time can be a challenge. However, it is an opportunity we are thoroughly enjoying!

Closing

Both of us are very grateful to be sharing our parish ministry with Laurel. This first full year together has been a lot of fun. While we may occasionally have some challenges, we have the gift of very good relationships while all of us work towards the same goals for this community.

Thank you for the privilege of serving God alongside all of you.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Eileen Nurse & the Rev. Karen Saunders (retired), Deacons

Vicar's Warden Report

2025 was a year for self-examination, prioritizing and restructuring for our parish. Rev. Laurel challenged us to look with fresh eyes at all we do, keeping our focus on the priorities established with the congregation. We now view them as goals, recognizing that **nourishing worship, deepening relationships** and **financial sustainability** are not instantly achieved, but are developed through on-going engagement, commitment to the process and the leading of the Spirit. We have been blessed with growing awareness of environmental, social and political needs in the world and encouraged to keep our heads out of the sand. Change is possible!

On a more personal note, I have been a Warden since 2018 and annually submitted reports outlining what the Executive had been working on in the previous year. I'm going to leave that to the other Warden's this time. Instead, I'd like to extend sincerest thanks to everyone for your patience and support over the years as we've shared laughter and tears struggling with difficult situations and relationships. I trust you will continue to support the in-coming leadership team in the same way.

Being a Warden or Trustee is a lot of responsibility, but it is an awesome and enriching experience! Even though the individuals don't always stay the same from year to year, very strong bonds develop as we share our skills, opinions, knowledge and hearts to providing leadership where it's needed. I've found that those relationships remain a blessing even when some have moved on to other callings. We are also members of the Parish Council, who bring valuable input from the congregation or community and help us to put our goals into action. Many thanks to all who served in 2025!

I would encourage you to seriously consider getting involved in whatever role in the church structure appeals to you for the year ahead. Let us work together to ensure we are a strong, welcoming community where God's grace freely flows.

Respectfully submitted,
Fran Hancock

People's Warden Report

This report covers my work as Peoples Warden for 2025. While I give thanks for the opportunity to serve the parish and for the cooperation and support of Rev. Laurel, Parish Council and the many volunteers who have contributed so generously to parish life, I'd be remiss if I failed to admit that 2025 was a busy year for me at so many levels. Accepting the nomination of Peoples Warden, February 2025, and taking on a greater role in the well-being of the parish brought with it the complexities of such a multifaceted position during a time of transition – both for the parish as well as our own family. Nevertheless, I endeavoured to stay true to my core principles: treating one another with honesty, love and respect and acknowledging each member of St. George's for who they are, their gifts as well as their limitations.

Continuity of leadership is critical to the health of any organization, and St. George's is no exception. I would therefore like to make special mention of the support I received from Alison Cameron and Fran Hancock, who, together with all members of Executive and Parish Council, have walked beside me and supported me on this journey. My heartfelt and sincere thanks to you all. May we, as a result of expanding our circles of awareness, continue to strengthen God's creation wisely.

Throughout the year St. George's has continued to grow as a place of worship, thanks to Rev. Laurel's spiritual leadership. With gentle yet purposeful guidance, they helped us

identify our goals that have become central to the work of the parish: offering meaningful worship that encourages increased participation by new and returning parishioners; ensuring all who enter are warmly welcomed; and fostering greater transparency in all matters related to fiscal sustainability. The publication of these goals on agendas, minutes and other material has enabled us to prayerfully and collaboratively plan for the needs of the parish.

The work of St. George's Executive and Parish Council reflects a team of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to bring the hopes and dreams of the parish to reality. Minutes of Parish Council meetings are posted on the bulletin board and are also available by email upon request from the office. Ensuring the accuracy and approval of minutes prior to publication remains key to the credibility, effectiveness, and ongoing work of Parish Council.

The year 2025 was filled with a wide range of events, celebrations and challenges, all of which we navigated and celebrated together as a parish. Several parishioners experienced loss or personal health challenges. While these circumstances cannot be understated, hope and healing have remained steadfast through the prayerful support of our parish family. We are truly in God's hands.

The visit of the Most Reverend John Stephens, Archbishop of Diocese of New Westminster to St. George's on Palm Sunday was a joyous occasion. As we departed from the hall singing and proudly waving our cedar branches, the air was almost palpable with celebration. All we needed was a real live donkey to lead us on the walk! In its place, many parishioners carried one of Pete Saunders beautiful sketches of a donkey – and so, we were transformed. Thank you, Pete.

One of the primary responsibilities of the Wardens is to ensure that the building remains in a good state of repair. During the past year, routine maintenance carried out under the leadership of Henry Turner and members of the Building Committee cannot be overstated. While the mystery of the "drip-drip" in the music room has not yet been fully resolved, a stretch of dry weather will allow Henry and his team of volunteers to complete the project. Regular inspection of the elevator, along with ongoing HVAC, fire, and safety inspections by Legacy continue as required. As Spring approaches, work in the gardens will once again move into high gear, bringing joy and contentment to our keen and avid horticulturalists. While extending a warm and welcoming message of *"Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds"* remains a priority, there is also a recognized need to upgrade the St. George's Anglican Church sign currently displayed in the churchyard.

While it is important for me to maintain a well-charged battery for my role as Warden, it is equally vital to nurture my own spiritual growth and well-being. Every battery needs recharging from time to time. Attending the 123rd meeting of Synod in late May provided one such opportunity. Discussions on reviewing the ongoing needs of the Church and wider community led to rich interactive table-group discussion. The keynote address by the Archbishop of Wales, the Most Rev. Andrew John, offered global perspectives on ministry

that challenged us to reflect on how best to live as people of faith in a rapidly changing world. A particular highlight for me was the music - when two or three or many, many more are gathered together, in one place the beauty of 200+ voices singing in four-part harmony feels like breathing in the love of God.

The response from parishioners to participate in the 2025 Walk for Reconciliation from Langley United Church to the Kwantlen Long House on Friday, May 30, was testament to the deepening awareness in responding to the 94 Calls to Action. In addition, hosting the Blanket Exercise on Sunday, May 28th helped prepare our hearts and minds for thoughtful engagement with Calls to Action 59 and 60. Led by Bridget Findlay, MCC Indigenous Neighbours Coordinator, the exercise invited all participants to listen respectfully and embrace new learning on our shared road of discovery.

Toward the end of the summer, I attended six Lay Leadership Sessions hosted by Archdeacon Andrew Halladay at St. Andrew's Church in Langley. And while all six training modules are available on the DNW website, the opportunity to listen, ask questions, and learn together with people of varied ages and backgrounds was deeply rewarding. This experience reminded me of the importance of being intentional, respecting silence in my work as warden and leaving room for the mystery of God at work.

In closing, I cannot do so without making special mention of the support I have received from Rev. Eileen and Rev. Karen. No question goes unanswered, neither is it considered irrelevant or a waste of time. The wisdom you have both shared has enriched my learning and shaped my actions in the role of People's Warden. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Turner, Peoples Warden

Trustee's Report

As Trustees, we continue to support the leadership team—Laurel, Ann, Alison, and Fran—in the conduct of parish business and in our ongoing relationship with the Diocese of New Westminster. A key part of our role is to work alongside and support Parish Council to ensure the effective functioning of the parish.

Throughout the past year, the Trustees and Parish Council have closely monitored the financial health of the parish. Together, we remain focused on maintaining fiscal responsibility and working toward a financially stable and sustainable future as the parish continues to grow.

We are pleased to welcome all new parishioners who have joined St. George's this past year and look forward to deepening fellowship within our parish community.

In addition to our governance responsibilities, Trustees also support various parish activities and initiatives that contribute both fiscally and socially, while strengthening our presence within the wider community.

We thank the parish for its continued support and commitment as we work together for the well-being and future of St. George's.

Respectfully submitted
Jim Kelly and Wendy Robson, Trustees

Treasurer's Annual Report

Report on the 2025 Parish Financial Results

At its 2025 Vestry meeting, the Parish approved its annual operating budget for fiscal year 2025, which projected total revenue of \$198,780 against total expenditures of \$198,036 for a budgeted operating surplus of \$744.

Of this total budgeted revenue, \$113,208 was projected to come from parishioner giving (monthly giving/offerings) and \$85,572 from other revenue (fundraising, rental income, investment income as well as a transfer of \$15,000 from Parish reserves). On the expenditure side, almost half our budget is directed to compensation, with fixed expenditures such as the Diocesan commitment, utilities, insurance, building maintenance, music etc. making up the remainder of our expenditures. The 2025 budget, like previous years, allowed for very little in the way of discretionary spending on items like outreach and programming, largely because the Parish has not been able to generate operating surpluses over the past few years.

I am very pleased to report that we have once again seen continued improvement in the Parish's financial position this past year. For the first time in a few years, the Parish has incurred a net surplus of \$10,650 before amortization for the fiscal year.

Total revenue for the year amounted to \$227,557 comprised of parishioner giving of \$123,173 and all other revenue of \$104,384. As such, total revenues exceeded budget by \$28,777. Total expenditures were \$195,055 compared to a budget of \$198,036. The combination of better than anticipated revenue and lower overall expenditures relative to budget resulted in the operating surplus. Even if one backs out the budgeted transfer of \$15,000 from the reserves, the Parish was still able to improve its financial position.

A few notes about the 2025 income statement:

- As noted above, parishioner giving at \$123,173 was significantly better than budget of \$113,208 and reversed a trend of declining parishioner giving over the past years. An increase in the number of overall parishioners and heightened awareness among parishioners of the Parish's challenging financial situation, particularly after

the launch of the 2026 pledge campaign may be part of the reason we have seen stronger levels of giving.

- Investment income from the Consolidated Trust Fund amounted to \$5,497, which outperformed our budget of \$3,478. Financial markets were once again strong in 2025, but that is no guarantee of future returns in this area.
- Revenue from the film industry for the use of our facilities was very strong at \$26,078 in comparison to a budget of \$8,000. This is one of the primary reasons for the better than anticipated financial situation, but this revenue is also unpredictable from year to year.
- The Preschool generated steady income of \$36,900 over the course of the year.
- Fundraising from various sources generated income of \$7,7481 with Christmas Bazaar being the most successful fundraiser at \$4,563, followed by the Spring Fair which generated \$1,390.
- Designated giving to various programs amounted to \$9,807.
- As noted above, expenditures totaled \$195,056, which was slightly lower than budget by 2,980. While this is commendable, savings in expenditures are coming at the expense of burning out volunteers. A good example of this is the low amount of expenditures incurred in cleaning the church on a regular basis as a result of volunteers taking on this task. Given the overall demographic of our parishioners, this is not a long term solution and needs to be addressed in the 2026 operating budget.
- Total onward giving amounted to \$9,807 which supports amongst others Parish outreach, the Food Bank; Precious Jewels; and the sponsored children.
- As at December 31, 2025, the Building Fund had a negative balance of \$21,852 all of which relate to the cost of the roof replacement that took place recently. As a result of generating the operating surplus, Parish Council has recently passed the necessary resolution to transfer this sum into the Building Fund, so as to bring it back to \$0. This is a very positive development for the Parish. Building Maintenance for the year amounted to \$34,952 in the income statement.

In conclusion then, a significantly improved financial picture, but still work to be done in the coming year to ensure that the Parish can continue on this upward financial trajectory. Thank you to all parishioners for the ownership that you have taken to help restore the financial health of the church.

As Treasurer, I will be moving adoption of the 2025 financial results with thanks to Charles Nurse for their preparation.

Income Statement for 2025

	Total
INCOME	
Designated Giving	
Building	600.00
Total Designated Giving	\$600.00
Onward Giving	
Food Bank	300.00
Parish Outreach	4,295.65
Precious Jewels	1020.00
Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF)	3,630.00
Sponsored Children	562.10
Total Onward Giving	\$9,807.75
Parish Operating Income	
Fund Raising	585.00
Book Sale	170.75
Cheese Fundraiser	522.00
Christmas Bazaar	4,563.02
Cranberry Tea	175.25
Fall Supper	80.00
Purdy's Chocolates	262.64
Spring Fair	1,390.10
Total Fund Raising	\$7,748.76
Other Operating Income	
Investment Income	5,497.49
Transfer from Capital Funds	15,000.00
Total Other Operating Income	\$20,497.49
Parish Donations	
Envelope Offering	119,999.32
Open Offering	3,174.05
Special Offering	5,159.73

Total Parish Donations	\$128,333.10
Service Fees etc.	
Film Revenue	26,078.20
Hall Rental	1,890.00
Preschool	36,900.00
Weddings/Memorials	6,110.00
Total Service Fees etc.	\$70,978.20
Total Parish Operating Income	\$227,557.55
Total Income	\$237,965.30
EXPENSES	
Church Expense	
Building Maintenance	34,952.36
Caretaker	2,086.56
Choir/Music	13,890.50
Grounds Maintenance	1,460.00
Insurance	10,478.00
Sacramental Supplies	1,984.75
Utilities and Telephone	12,600.66
Total Church Expense	\$77,452.83
Clergy Expenses	
Clergy Education	935.38
Clergy Honoraria	870.00
Mileage	2,984.80
Rector's Car Allowance	5,632.20
Rector's Stipend	60,205.89
Total Clergy Expenses	\$70,628.27
Diocesan Commitment	24,385.20
Funds Forwarded	
Designated Funds Forwarded	600.00
Onward Giving Forwarded	9,807.75
Total Funds Forwarded	\$10,407.75

General and Administrative Expenses

Administrator Stipend	31,560.37
Bank charges	44.05
GST Paid	1,051.67
Office expenses	1,291.95
Other General and Administrative Exp.	1,870.50
PAD Charges	1,497.62
Photocopier	3,021.87
Total for General and Administrative Exp.	\$40,338.03
Parish Outreach Expense	3,000.00
Program Expenses	1,103.20
Total Expenses	\$227,315.28
Net Income	10,650.02
Depreciation	12,029.33
Income/Loss after Depreciation	-1,379.31

Balance Sheet 2025

	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Coast Capital	59,193.65
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$7,816.45
Diocesan Consolidated Trust Fund	54,893.36
Total for Current Assets	\$121,903.46
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	

Buildings	
Depreciation	-508,351.95
Original cost	1,089,045.63
Total Buildings	\$580,693.68
Computer Equipment	
Depreciation	-6,396.77
Original cost	6,641.31
Total Computer Equipment	\$244.54
Furniture and Equipment	
Depreciation	-99,391.59
Original cost	99,860.85
Total Furniture and Equipment	\$469.26
Total Property, plant and equipment	\$581,407.48
Total Non Current Assets	\$581,407.48
Total Assets	\$703,310.94

Liabilities and Equity

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable (A/P)	2,000.00
Damage Deposits	3,370.00
Key Deposits	190.00
Prepaid Rental	3,100.00
Rental Deposit	200.00
Staff Deposits	300.00
User Group Liability Insurance	95.00

Total Current Liabilities **\$9,255.00**

Outreach Funds

Encompass	450.00
Food Bank	75.00

Parish Outreach Fund	1,438.39
Sponsored Children Fund	550.01
Total Parish Outreach Fund	\$1,988.40
Precious Jewels Fund	480.00
Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF)	1,130.00
Alongside Hope – Indigenous Response fund	300.00
Total Outreach Funds	4,423.40
Non-current Liabilities	
Capital Funds	
Building Fund	0.00
Garden Shed	0.00
Total Building Fund	0.00
Dishwasher Fund	10,000.00
Memorial Garden Fund	1,557.27
Rector's Discretionary Fund	5,360.09
Special Purpose Fund	75,848.14
Total Capital Funds	\$92,765.50
Other Long Term Liabilities	
Camp Spirit	850.00
Total Other Long Term Liabilities	\$850.00
Parish Organizations	
Altar Guild	2,013.97
Ladies Club	352.92
Men's Club	398.45
Total Parish Organizations	\$2,765.34
Total Non-current Liabilities	\$96,380.84
Total Liabilities	\$110,059.24
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	666,509.75
Retained Earnings	-71,878.74

Profit for the year	-1,379.31
Total Equity	\$593,251.70
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$703,310.94

Report on Proposed 2026 Operating Budget and 3-year Financial Plan

The 2026 Operating Budget projects total expenditures of \$217,920 against projected revenue of \$217,935 for a projected operating surplus of \$15, which includes a transfer of \$15,000 from capital reserves.

Revenues: Total budgeted revenue: \$217,935

Envelope giving and Open Offering is budgeted at \$116,910 and comprises the total of all pledges made by parishioners for 2026, along with projections of past giving from parishioners who did not participate in the pledge campaign, as well as pledges made to support the outreach program in 2026. This line item is budgeted slightly lower than actual parishioner giving in 2025 because some larger gifts received late in 2025 may have been one-time gifts as opposed to continuing gifts. Envelope giving and Open Offering will represent 54% of our entire budget.

The budget projects revenue from hall rentals and the film industry to reach \$20,000 in 2026. This is below actual revenue of \$27,968 for 2025, but given the unpredictability of whether the film industry will continue to use our facilities going forward, Parish Council has determined it would be appropriate to budget more conservatively in this area going forward. We are also anticipating revenues from the pre-school of \$38,007 in 2026. Collectively this will represent 27% of our revenue for the year.

Fundraising is budgeted at \$10,000 for the year supported by two anchor events, namely the Spring Fair and the Christmas Bazaar. Parish Council has approved an approach whereby we have fewer fundraising activities throughout the year, so that we can focus volunteer time on the two main fundraisers. Fundraising will account for approximately 5% of our budget in 2026.

Investment income has been budgeted at \$3,500 for the year. While the Parish was fortunate to see strong returns in the financial markets in 2025, it is prudent to budget more cautiously. A 5% return on our \$70,000 investment is being anticipated.

The largest other revenue item will be a \$15,000 transfer from our Capital Fund, which will represent approximately 7% of the Parish budget. While transfers from the Capital Fund have been a regular occurrence at the Parish in recent years, it is important to note that such funds do not represent new money, but rather use of our reserves to balance our budget. Thanks to our operating surplus in 2025, we were able to replenish some of our reserves this past year. Ideally though, the Parish should not rely on an annual transfer from the Capital Fund.

Revenue from weddings and memorials and special donations will make up the remainder of the Parish's revenue targets for the year.

Expenditures: Total budgeted expenditures: \$217,920

Similar to most other not-for-profits, Parish salaries and benefits are the largest draw on our budget at \$105,259 for our Rector and Administrator. This represents approximately 48% of total expenditures.

Most of our other expenditures are fixed in nature and include items such as the Diocesan Commitment at \$26,906; insurance at \$10,692 and utilities, which are projected at \$12,979. Excluding salaries and benefits, fixed costs are budgeted at \$58,340 and will represent approximately 27% of total expenditures.

For fiscal 2026, Parish Council is recommending small increases in a number of key areas of discretionary expenses, including:

- An increase in the Outreach budget from \$3,000 to \$5,910. This increase will come from specific pledges made by parishioners during the pledge giving campaign and from a contribution from the ACW, which will no longer be operating in 2026.
- Expenditures for music have been increased from \$13,891 to \$15,500 in fiscal 2026.
- A total of \$8,000 has been included in the budget for cleaning in 2026. This will allow for paid cleaning of the facility going forward.
- Building maintenance has been set at \$14,000 for the year, a slight increase from actual expenditures in 2025.
- We are also providing \$1,000 in the budget for advertising of services and programs through 2026.

Discretionary expenditures will amount to \$54,321 and will represent approximately 25% of our total budget.

After offsetting budgeted expenditures against budgeted revenues, the Parish will be left with a small operating surplus of \$15 for the year.

Budget & Three year financial Plan:

Revenue and expenditure projections have also been prepared for 2027 and 2028, both of which project small operating losses for the two years. However, if we can collectively improve our overall revenues in 2026, we should be able to turn those small losses into small surpluses in the years ahead.

Parish Council met on January 11th to review the 2026 budget and three-year financial plan and passed a resolution to recommend its approval at Vestry.

As Treasurer, I will be moving adoption of the 2026 operating budget and three-year financial plan as presented.

In conclusion, I would note that 2026 will be the final year that I will be serving as Parish Treasurer and as such I encourage parishioners who may be interested in succeeding me in the role to connect with myself and/or Charles Nurse in the coming months so that we can ensure an orderly transition of duties.

Respectfully submitted,
 Craig Daniell, Treasurer

2026 Operating Budget & 3 Year Financial Plan

	2025	2025	2026	2027	2028
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget	Budget
Envelope Giving	110000	119999	112910	116297	119786
Open Offering	3200	3174	4000	4000	4000
Fund-raising Events	10000	7749	10000	10500	11025
Hall Rental/Film Revenue	8000	27968	20000	21000	22050
Preschool	37000	36900	38007	39147	40322
Weddings/Memorials	10000	6110	9000	9000	9000
Special Donations	2000	5160	5418	5418	5418
Investment Income	3478	5498	3500	3500	3500
Misc/Interest	100	0	100	100	100
Transfers from Capital Funds	15000	15000	15000	15000	15000
Total	198778	227558	218935	223962	230201

Fixed Expenses

Salary and Benefits	98374	100383	105259	108417	111670
Honoraria	1500	870	2000	2000	2000
Diocesan Commitment	24385	24385	26906	28251	29664
Con Ed	1000	935	1000	1000	1000
Utilities	12000	12601	12979	13368	13769
Insurance	10478	10478	10692	11227	11788

	2025	2025	2026	2027	2028
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget	Budget
PAD Charges	1300	1497	1600	1648	1697
Bank Charges	50	44	50	50	50
Photocopier	3000	3022	3113	3206	3302
Total Fixed Expenses	167087	154215	163599	169167	174940

Discretionary Expenses

Outreach	3000	3000	5910	5910	5910
Organist/Choir/Music	15000	13891	15500	15965	16444
Sacramental Supplies	3000	1985	2600	2600	2600
Caretaker	6500	2087	8000	8000	8000
Building Maintenance	12000	34952	14000	14700	14994
Grounds Maintenance & Repairs	1200	1460	1504	1501	1501
Programming	2500	1103	2000	2000	2000
Advertising	0	0	1000	1020	1040
Building Contingency	0	0	0	0	0
Office Supplies	2000	3162	3257	3322.5	3389
Training	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous / Bank Charges	550	1052	550	550	550
Total Discretionary Expenses	30950	62691	54321	55571.3	56431

Total Expense	198037	216907	217920	224738	231371
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Net Income/(Loss)	741	10651	15	-776	-1171
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	2025	2025	2026	2027	2028	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget	Budget	
Account Balance	1194	1935	11845	11860	11084	9913
Transfer from Special Purpose Fund				15000	15000	15000
Diocesan CTF	54893					
Special Purpose Fund	75848	75848	60848	45848	30848	

ACW Report

22 February 2026

As most of you know, the Anglican Church Women (ACW) group reluctantly made the decision to discontinue the ACW Group as of 31 December 2025.

During the past year, ACW remained very active and committed to supporting the parish through a variety of events and fundraisers. These included hosting the ACW Annual General Meeting, Hot Dog Sales, the May Day Breakfast, Strawberry Tea, a Farewell Tea, and a Memorial Tea. In addition, ACW also organized an Appreciation Tea and a Luncheon Speaker event.

With the funds raised over the year, ACW was able to support the Best Babies Programme and make donations to ACW Social Action, Langley Meals on Wheels, Langley Senior Resources, Langley School District, the Lookout Society, Sources Langley Food Bank, and Stepping Stones Community Service, for a total of **\$3,122**. In addition, over the course of the year, ACW donated **\$1,652** to the parish.

I wish to thank all the members of ACW, as well as the parish members, who worked so hard to make these fundraisers and teas so successful. We consistently received many compliments at our fundraisers, along with heartfelt appreciation from the families who attended the Farewell Tea and the Memorial Teas.

Respectfully submitted,
Mandy Williams, Anglican Church Women (ACW)

Altar Guild Report

This ministry serves “behind the scenes” by preparing the set-up for Eucharistic services, baptisms, weddings and memorials. Baking the bread, caring for the altar linen and arranging altar flowers plus decorating the church for the high holidays of Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas are also a part of the services undertaken by this ministry.

All of this is made possible thanks to the commitment of members, Lisa Boule, Leslie Gaudette, Val Johnstone, Caroline Profitt, Frances Steinfeld and Wendy Robson.

Respectfully, submitted,
Marion Dolphin (co-ordinator)

Book Club Report

Six voracious readers met in spring of 2005, wanting to expand our personal reading beyond the genres and authors we turned to over and over. So we established the Book Club with three basic rules - books needed to be readily available in paperback, electronic or library editions, no one has to attend all meetings, and we were unanimous in not wanting to be required to read Margaret Atwood.

As of the end of 2025 we have read 181 titles - fiction, biography/memoir, drama, history, non-fiction - the list is as varied and wide ranging as we hoped for back in 2005. Our membership has fluctuated over the years, currently sitting at just below 20. Three of the original members still attend regularly. Some are parishioners, others are connections from elsewhere in our lives. We are happy to welcome new members at any time, of any gender. We have wide ranging conversations, sometimes specific to the book we have read, but often covering broader subject matter, often springing from the themes of the book we are discussing.

We continue with our blended format, meeting in person when the weather is reliable and the evenings lighter, in March through June, and September and October, and in November, January and February we continue to meet via Zoom so that no one needs to drive in the dark or in nasty weather. Sometimes we meet in the home of the person who chose the book, sometimes in the lounge at church.

We meet monthly, in the last week of the month, but take a break for July and August, and we skip December because we are not crazy. The day of the week varies (Mon. to Thurs., at 7pm) to accommodate the maximum number of schedules. We are happy to share books. Attendance at meetings varies from three to about 8 or 9 people per month. There is no commitment to attend every meeting; we are happy to have people join us for every book, some books, or a single title that particularly intrigues you. It's even okay to come just for the fellowship if you haven't read the book. All that is required for membership is that you let me know you want to come, and I'll add you to the list and send you the book list so far. No invitation is required!

In 2024 we read these titles:

James by Percival Everett

Last Dance of the Debutantes by Julia Kelly

The Other Bennet Sister by Janice Hadlow

Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind by Yuval Harari

Little Bee by Chris Cleave

The Last Romantics by Tara Collins

Serviceberry by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Wildlife Congregations by Laurel Dykstra (the author came to the meeting, which was great!)

The Rope by Alex Tresniowski

James and Laurel's book were probably the most enjoyed, and reading The Serviceberry alongside offering it as one of the St. George's Reads meant that more folks read the book, even if they couldn't all join us for the discussion about it.

If you are interested in joining in, please let me know - we'd love to have you. Our titles for the first half of 2026 are as follows:

My Friends by Frederik Backman

A Well Behaved Woman by Therese Anne Fowler

Conclave by Robert Harris

The Names by Florence Knapp

107 Days by Kamala Harris

Please, come and join us, and bring your suggestions for more titles. We'll be choosing the Sept. 2026 - June 2027 books in the late spring.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Karen Saunders, Co-ordinator

Building Report

The Building Committee meets monthly to ensure that St. George's continues to be a safe, welcoming, and well-maintained place for worship and community life.

In 2025, key projects included the **10-year sprinkler system inspection** to meet fire safety requirements. Ensuring clear **access to the fire hydrant connection at the south side of the church**, as requested by the fire department, also led to a small but energetic garden clean-up. Other important work included the **upgrade of the Fortis Gas meter** to enable digital readings, **annual glycol testing** of the plumbing system, and **elevator inspection and maintenance**.

Looking ahead to 2026, the committee hopes to **hire a regular cleaning contractor**, which will help reduce the burden on our team of dedicated volunteers. The church is in excellent

condition as a result of their ongoing care, however a successful hire would offer the volunteer team much appreciated support.

Future projects include **updating the church sign** and **repairing the light assembly** used for sign illumination.

A special thank you goes to **Henry Turner**, who attended all inspections in his role as Building Coordinator. His time, attention to detail, and steady presence have ensured that projects were completed efficiently and on schedule, helping keep St. George's in such good shape.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Robson

Envelope Secretary Report for 2025

The parish continues to use the online program Sunergo Church Tools and the Preauthorized Donation (PAD) program through the diocese. Both have seen an increase in numbers of people changing from weekly or monthly envelope to either online or PAD. All parish families and associated offertories for the year are entered into the Sunergo system every week. There were approx. 74 Parish families and individuals giving to St. George's in 2025 (this number includes those who left or joined the Parish during the year).

Stats for 2025

Sundays	52
Average Gift	\$1,834.15
Median Gift	\$1,200.00
Number of Families	74
Above Average	19 (25.67%)
Below Average	55 (74.32%)

Gift Summary Percentages:

Operating fund:	91%
PWDF:	2.7%
Outreach:	1.1%
Special Offerings (Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas):	1.6%
All others (envelopes, misc., altar flowers, building, discretionary, food bank, precious jewels):	3 %

We continue to offer parishioners the opportunity to give monthly through the *Pre-Authorized Donation* program. Donations through this program generate approximately 40% of what is given to the parish. There are 22 parishioners who are currently giving by PAD down from 26 in 2024. (The fees are 2.5% for Mastercard, 2.15% for VISA and \$.20 for debit.).

Please contact me (lisaboule@shaw.ca / 604-417-2775) or the Parish office if you would like an account set up in the Sunergo system or to donate by PAD.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Boulé, Envelope Secretary

Fundraising Report

In 2025, the parish budgeted **\$10,000** for fundraising. With the generous support of the parish, **\$7,748.76** was raised through our fundraising activities. In addition, **St. George's Anglican Church Women (ACW)**, contributed **\$1,652.00** from their events, bringing the **total funds raised to \$9,400.76**.

This total truly reflects the enthusiasm, generosity, and teamwork of our parish community. Many people gave their time, talents, and energy throughout the year, and the results show what we can accomplish when we all put our shoulders to the wheel and work together.

Fundraising activities in 2025 included a successful Spring Fair, second-hand book sales, hot dog sales, cheese fundraisers, the Christmas Bazaar, and Purdy's Chocolate sales.

Thank you to everyone who supported these efforts in so many ways. Working together to support St. George's is both rewarding and a wonderful expression of our shared community life.

Respectfully submitted,
Mandy Williams, Wendy Robson, Ann Turner

Garden Report

The weather was much better for gardening in 2025 except, predictably, on the weekend we planned a work bee in October. Even then, several hardy souls turned up and dug in! Others have pitched in, when and as they are able, to keep the weeds at bay and the plants healthy, and lawns cut. There is no shortage of deadheading, pruning, weeding and raking to be done, and volunteers are always welcome. Many thanks to all who have helped with upkeep in any way this year!

I'd like to say a special thank you to Bob and Marion Dolphin who's efforts and attention to the memorial garden made it spectacular right through the summer. They did a great job cleaning up some of the other beds too.

The rhododendron bed has been trimmed to allow space for weed control underneath and the hope is to eradicate the ivy, blackberries, hops and morning glory from climbing and damaging the shrubs. There's a lot of weeding yet to be done there!

If you're a gardener who is unable to actively help, we would welcome any knowledge or advice you might share.

As I've said before, if you want to brush up on a little history, need a quiet spot to relax or a visit with a loved one in the memorial garden, are seeking a spot to get together with friends, or a place for children to play, check out the garden. All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,
Fran Hancock

Lay Ministry Report

Our lay ministry is composed of volunteers who take on various roles to ensure our services run smoothly. We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributes their time to these efforts.

Beginning this year, we have introduced prepared prayers on the second Sunday of each month. A small group of readers has volunteered to read these prayers, providing our Intercessors with a bit of break.

For those who are unsure, our lay ministry options are

- Being a reader (reading the appointed readings)
- Sidespeople (greeting and logistics)
- Intercessors (Prayers of the People)
- Eucharistic Ministers

I feel like I say this every year but we can always use new volunteers for all the roles but the most need is in sidespeople and intercessors. There is training and support provided for all roles.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering for one of our ministries. Having more people on the roster reduces the frequency of each person's responsibility. None of these roles require a significant time commitment, and full training will be provided.

If you feel moved to serve, please speak with me or the clergy.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Coburn

Men's Club Report

After being shut down for awhile, the Men's Club is back up and running. All the men of the parish are more than welcome to join us. We try and meet once a month at various restaurants or coffee shops. We collect \$5.00 from everyone who shows up. This money goes into a pot to support our outreach to be used wherever needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony Cook

Music Director Report

I should begin by reflecting on what a joy it is to have the opportunity to bring music to a congregation whose hearts, minds and ears are so open to different conceptions of what makes a strong congregation and church.

Throughout the year we introduced new hymns and responses, and the congregation responded well and sang them with a great enthusiasm.

In May, I created a hymn sing service where I asked the congregation to give suggestions of their favourite hymns. I chose a few hymns where I provided background on how they were written. With the help of our young worshipers, we presented that background to the congregation.

In the Fall, we presented a variety of songs on the theme of creation. We learned a few new songs as they added a great spirit to our worship service.

Advent and Christmas season was full of beautiful music. I was pleased to bring some of my voice students and include them in the worship services. Our family Christmas service at 4pm on December 14th was very well attended with many young worshipers. In addition, we had the beautiful sound of a flute accompanying the organ.

I am looking forward to a music filled new 2026 year!

Respectfully submitted,
Diana Nyvik, Music Director

Music Licensing Report

In accordance with copyright laws in Canada, all hymns performed at St. George's Church during Sunday worship, funeral and memorial services and weddings must be reported through our One License reporting system. Public domain hymns are free for anyone to use. A hymn enters the public domain in Canada 70 years after the death of the author of the text or the composer. To the best of my ability all reporting for the year 2025 has been completed as of December 31, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Val Johnstone

Open Doors

Officially the "Open Doors" ministry is active from the long weekend in May to Thanksgiving but we also make an effort to be open whenever there is a major event on at the church. This past year we also had some openings during Lent.

By offering visitors an opportunity to have some quiet time, light a candle, leave a prayer request or hear our story who knows what seeds are planted in the hearts and souls of some of the visitors.

The number of visitors welcomed in 2025 numbered 956 - a goodly number considering that we had fewer greeters to draw on this year.

As development continues to increase in the Fort our dream would be to have our doors opened every day so that St. George's could provide a spiritual haven for the community.

Our thanks to the parishioners that offered their time to Open Doors especially Margaret Chilvers and Sue Mortlock who were greeters for all the major holidays and events.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion and Bob Dolphin (co-ordinators)

Outreach Committee Report

Outreach Committee: Virginia Cooke & Ann Turner (Co-Chairs), Lynn Martens (Treasurer), Sue Cline, Roy Cline, Leslie Gaudette, Ruth Genge, Charlotte O'Keefe, John Potts.

The Outreach Committee is an open, unelected committee that welcomes parishioners who feel called to foster St. George's mission beyond the walls of the church.

Throughout 2025, the committee stewarded the parish's **\$3,000 Outreach budget**, along with designated donations from parishioners. Outreach continues to be rooted in relationship, compassion, and responsiveness to both local and global need.

A parish conversation in 2023 identified themes for the future work of Outreach. These themes continued to inform the priorities of the committee throughout 2025.

- Responding to community needs
- Continuity of long-standing partnerships
- Collaboration with the Diocese and ACW
- Environmental and reconciliation-focused initiatives to include Eco-pilgrimage and the Walk for Reconciliation

Ongoing Outreach Ministries and Partnerships

- **Best Babies (Encompass Support Services):** Outreach supported three group cooking classes for new mothers and continued monthly financial support. Outreach welcomed Diane Stephenson as instructor and menu planner for the cooking classes. A group of loyal volunteers tended to the babies and toddlers as their mothers cooked and formed relationships in the kitchen.
- **Precious Jewels:** Monthly support continued for children's programs in Manila and Uganda.
- **Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF):** while this agency changed its name, the work of preventative health, food security, clean water, Indigenous-led initiatives focused on health, water, youth and climate action and emergency humanitarian relief, both in Canada and more than thirty countries around the world, remains the same.
- **Mission to Seafarers:** Financial support, knitted items, and a successful "Christmas at Sea" appeal provided practical care and encouragement to seafarers visiting the Port of Vancouver.
- **Compassion Canada:** Outreach continued sponsorship of a child in Rwanda. The committee welcomes Adelaide Dyckson as correspondent.
- **Read to Feed:** The book trolley continues to offer gently used books to parish and community users of the hall, with hopes of renewed engagement.
- **Local Community Needs:** As funds allowed, Outreach responded to agencies such as SOURCES Food Bank, Stepping Stones and the Starfish Backpack Program.

Special Appeals and Parish Engagement

- **Thanksgiving Food Drive:** Generous parish donations were delivered to SOURCES Food Bank.
- **Blanket Exercise:** on Sunday, May 28th, Bridget Findlay, MCC Indigenous Neighbours Coordinator led an interactive workshop to a small yet highly responsive number of parishioners on the history of colonization through blankets.

This highly moving interactive workshop facilitated greater awareness on the impact of colonization for Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people.

- **Walk for Reconciliation:** on Friday, May 30th a record number of parishioners journeyed and learned together on the meanings of reconciliation as they walked from Langley United Church to Kwantlen Long House. This year's response was in celebration for the 10th Annual Walk and marked the 10th anniversary of receiving the TRC 94 Calls to Action.
- **Advent Sock Appeal:** Ninety-five pairs of new socks were donated to the Lookout Housing + Health Society in Langley.
- **Eco-Pilgrimage:** Two reflective walks in nature were offered at the home of Roy and Sue Cline in 2025. On May 17, sixty-six pilgrims walked the trail while thirty-three pilgrims walked the trail on October 25, a very wet typical west coast day. On each occasion pilgrims were fortunate to enjoy and embrace new learning thanks to the attendance of a biologist from the Fraser Valley Conservancy. Both walks called us to slow our feet and spend intentional time rediscovering the gift of creation – the Fifth mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion. Holy Eucharist followed each of the walks.
- **Starfish Backpack Program:** A financial donation supported children facing food insecurity over weekends.
- **Alongside Hope – Lenten Donkey Appeal: “Take A Load Off”** committed to raising funds and awareness of the need of fresh, clean water access for families in rural Kenya. Outreach launched a “Kick-ASS” campaign with a goal of raising funds for six donkeys to carry water and free the mothers and children for other agricultural tasks. The parishioners soon supplied not just 6, but 19 donkeys! The appeal exceeded \$3,000.
- **Langley Seniors Resource Centre:** In response to community surveys and the challenges of space at LSRC 51B Site, Langley, St. George's now offers a variety of programming for seniors Tuesday/ Thursday in the Parish Hall. Programming includes exercise groups, caregiver support groups, together with a variety of primary care presentations.

Outreach at St. George's continues to be an expression of God's love in action shaped by generosity, collaboration, and the faithful witness of this parish. We are deeply grateful for the prayerful and practical support of the congregation as we seek to serve our neighbours near and far. We welcome suggestions and participation from all members St. George's parish.

Respectfully submitted
The Outreach Committee

Prayer Ministry (aka Prayer Circle)

The members of the prayer ministry offer up prayers daily for individuals who are in need of sustained prayer support – for whatever reason and for as long as needed. Increasingly, visitors to Open Doors are leaving more requests.

Prayer requests are held in the strictest confidence and are updated every three months.

Thank you to Audrey Kustaski, Patricia Rummel, Christine Smith and Kay Yeo for their steadfast commitment to this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Dolphin (Co-ordinator)

Screening in Faith

Since 2010 the Diocese of New Westminster has implemented a “Screening in Faith” policy amongst all parishes and ministries. The policy aims to protect vulnerable parishioners and to minimize risk of harm in parish ministries. As coordinator of this policy at St. George’s Church, I can report that we are fulfilling all required steps of the policy and are keeping track of the paperwork under the guidance of the Diocesan Coordinator.

Respectfully, submitted,
Val Johnstone

St. George’s Reads

In the fall of 2025 we began an experiment called “St. George’s Reads” The goal was twofold - to bring attention to the books in the newly weeded and organized library downstairs in the lounge by highlighting some of the collection, and as a way to encourage conversation through the shared reading of curated titles.

The first theme was about gift economies systems, and stewardship, and was met with a satisfying show of interest by members of the congregation. People were asked to post comments about the books they read, and several did. Comments on The Serviceberry included “The currency of a gift economy builds community bonds and caring.” A couple of people indicated that they had chosen to read Sheryl Johnson’s work : Serving Money, Serving God and someone commented that “[j]ustice is at the core” of her concept of church finances.

Our second theme was books by Indigenous authors. A wide variety of books were on display: non-fiction, fiction and poetry. It too proved popular, with multiple sticky note comments left for others to peruse.

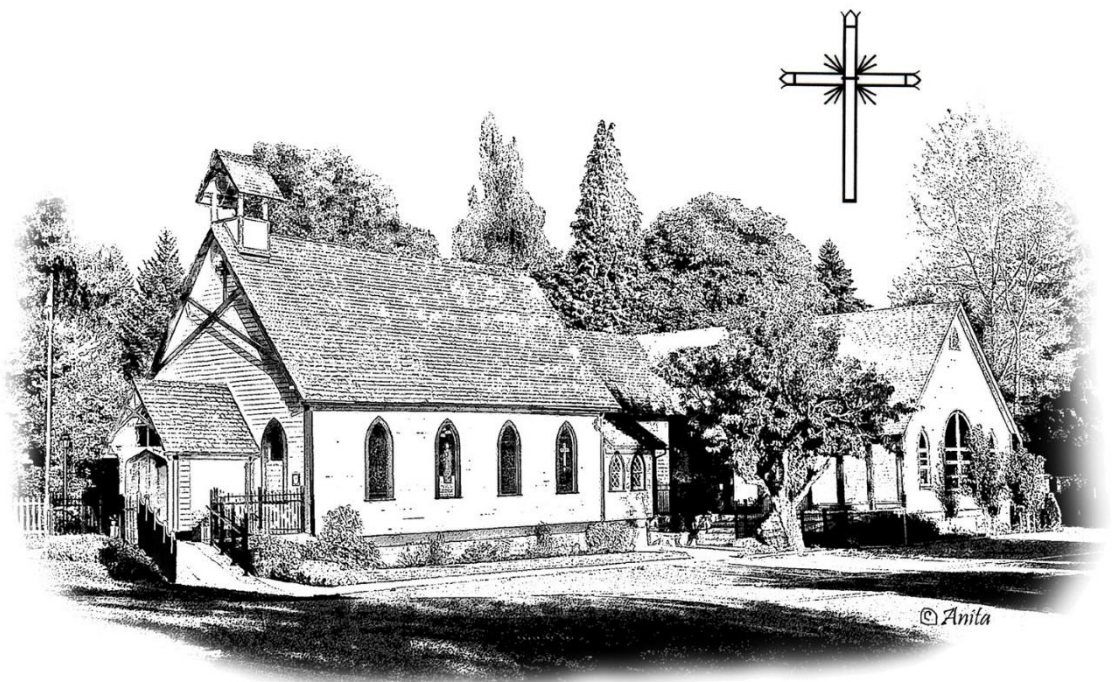
The experiment seems to have been a success, and the plan is to continue with it. New displays will be set up through the year to come - please stop by, borrow a book, leave a comment. Add a book from your own collection for another to read - please remember to put your name in it so it finds its way back to you.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Karen Saunders and David Ames, Co-ordinators

Sunday School Report

Saint George's began to offer Sunday school again in September, 2025. This children's programming is offered once per month, led by Jasmine Burnet and open to children of all ages. Sunday School is offered in the Church hall. The children are invited to sing Christian songs accompanied by Jasmine on the ukulele. A story or lesson is shared related to the current theme/topic/season of the Church calendar. Children are invited to share their thoughts, reflections, or experiences related to what has been shared. This is followed by colouring. Colouring sheets are offered related to the day's topic as well as blank paper. The children return to the service to have the option to take communion. Despite low numbers, the children seem to enjoy having a break from the service to experience something child-centred and developmentally (age) appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,
Jasmine Burnet



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