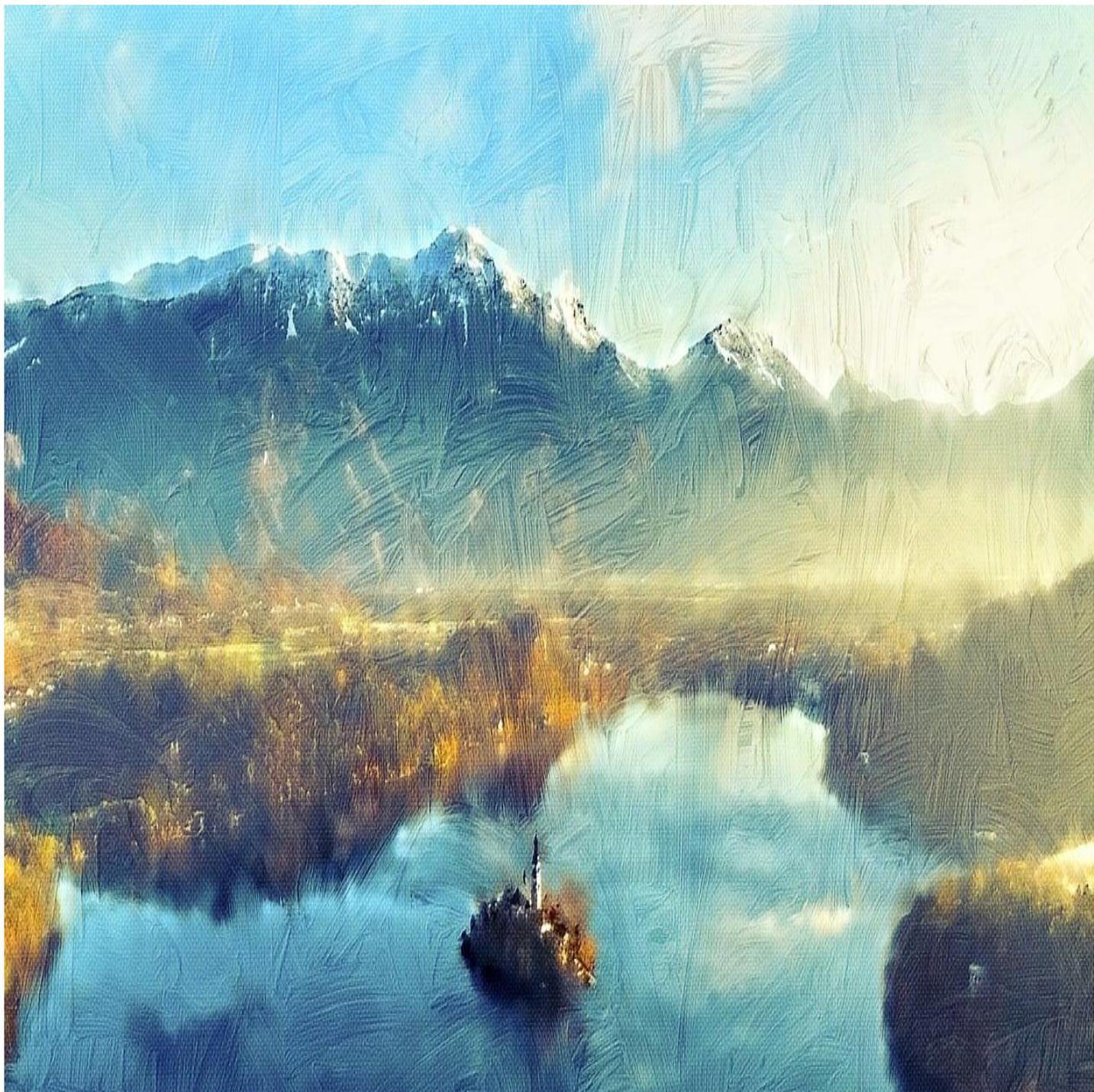


# *Almonte United Church*



*Annual Report 2025*

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# Minister's Report

As you read through the reports on the following pages, you will soon realize that ministry is a “team effort” here at AUC and, for me, it’s a real privilege to be a part of the team.

Although the reports give you a glimpse of the faithful work we have accomplished in 2025, we must never forget the support and encouragement of all those who work quietly and unnamed behind the scenes. I am exceedingly grateful for everyone.... regardless of their gifts!

Truly we aspire to be faithful examples of the hymn:

“The church is wherever God’s people are praising, Singing God’s goodness for joy on this day.

The church is wherever disciples of Jesus, Remember his story and walk in his way.

The church is wherever God’s people are helping, Caring for neighbours in sickness and need.

The church is wherever God’s people are sharing, The words of the Bible in gift and in deed.”

(Voices United, 579)

So may we continue to work together as “God’s people” here at Almonte United Church and may God’s bountiful blessings be upon us all.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Heather Kinkaid

Interim Minister (Not Intentional)

## Church Visitors

Almonte United Church is always happy to welcome visitors; however, in 2025 we had visitors of the ‘animal’ kind.

During an August worship service, a few people in the pews noticed some movement inside a front light fixture.

On further examination, (like Chair Peter on a long ladder), it was discovered that a bat had set up a nursery with three little ones. A large wooden coat was placed over the light to keep them safe until their removal could happen. The results: With many helpers and tools, Mother Bat and her little family were set free! Many thanks to those who rescued them!



## *Chair of Council*

Now in my third year as Chair of your AUC council, I continue to learn, to grow in my faith and be inspired by my fellow council members and parishioners.

After a great deal of hard work by the Search Committee (over 40 meetings!), we will be welcoming Reverend Heather Davies in July as our new full-time minister. On behalf of council, I want to express our immense gratitude to our own Reverend Heather Kincaid. I know her leadership, warmth and unwavering sense of humour has continued to carry us all through this transitional period.

Almonte United Church remains busy and is well attended. It is both an important spiritual centre as well as a community centre and there is seldom an empty parking lot or unlit spaces within our church building. Soon many of our activities will be expanding into our green space as our Timber Pavilion and Pollinator Garden get completed this spring. This cost-neutral and volunteer driven project is the result of many hands, hammers, chisels and shovels - thank you to all for the hard work and especially the many laughs.

Our building has received a lot of upgrades this past year around energy efficiency that is described in the Property Committee portion of this report. We are endeavouring to lower operating costs and also demonstrate our environmental stewardship through our own practices.

There is still a larger challenge ahead with the replacement of our sanctuary roof. This will require a significant fund-raising effort. Because of what I see time and again in our congregation, I feel that this is an achievable goal. Some money has already been pledged, and a working group is exploring several options to make this metal 'forever roof' a reality (maybe even without spaghetti dinners). As a final plan comes into focus, the congregation will be kept apprised.

In closing, be assured that your council is as approachable as it is hard working, so please give us your thoughts. Your involvement is always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Mansfield (Chair)

## *Eastern Ontario & Outaouais Regional Report*

The Region joined with all of Canada in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the United Church's inauguration. Over 1200 people attended in person at the EY Centre in Ottawa with over 1200 people in attendance. At AUC, we watched the service in the Upper Hall with goodies and coffee. Many thanks to Bob Lesser and his helpers for making this all possible.

Our longtime delegate, Eleanor Rintoul, has tendered her resignation. We thank Eleanor for her leadership and commitment to the wider church dating back to the days of Renfrew Presbytery. Your retirement is well earned!

Dawn Misner has offered to be our new delegate to the EOORC; we wish her well as she takes on this responsibility on our behalf.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Heather

## *Auld Kirk Cemetery*

**Chairperson:** Mary Fulton

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Elaine Fulton

**Directors:** Dawn Blackburn, Clarence Bowes, Toby Ford, Elaine Fulton, Julie Julian, Keith Lowry, Brian Morrison and Jill Moxley

**Caretaker:** Trent Weir

**Accountant:** Bob Watson

As Auld Kirk Cemetery Board Directors, we are responsible for the maintenance and upgrades required to keep the cemetery serviceable to the people of community.

2025 was an extremely busy year. There were 44 burials comprising of 8 casket burials and 36 cremations between May and November. A total of 29 plots/niches were sold as follow: 19 in-ground, 6 cremation gardens and 4 niches.

Our Annual Decoration Day was held in August, and we are grateful to our own Rev. Heather Kinkaid of Almonte United Church for officiating. Friends and family were welcomed to visit during Decoration weekend, and Board members were on-site to greet visitors. The cemetery was beautifully decorated. We had good foot traffic and received generous donations to the cemetery fund.

During 2025, we were able to have some problematic trees removed and stone work done around the new columbarium.

Our cemetery mapping project continues.

We were saddened by the passing of Wendy Ford during the past year. Wendy was a very active, highly respected and long-standing Board Member. We keep her family and loved ones in our thoughts and prayers.

I would like to thank all the Board members who work so well together for the betterment of the cemetery. We are very appreciative to Elaine Fulton and Trent Weir for their outstanding efforts and support to keep the cemetery in its usual high standard.

The Board is also appreciative of John Fulton who frequents the cemetery to lend a helping hand.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Fulton

**AULD KIRK CEMETERY 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET**

Auld Kirk Cemetery Proposed Budget 2026	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026
<b>Revenue</b>					
Care & Maintenance Markers	\$3,500.00	\$2,900.00	\$3,500.00	\$5,600.00	\$5,000.00
Care & Maintenance Plots	\$15,000.00	\$13,205.00	\$15,000.00	\$11,700.00	\$15,000.00
Donation Income	\$7,500.00	\$6,423.19	\$7,500.00	\$9,866.02	\$8,500.00
Special Donations		\$5,531.50	\$1,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$28,059.69</b>	<b>\$27,000.00</b>	<b>\$27,316.02</b>	<b>\$29,500.00</b>
<b>Foundations</b>					
Foundation Income	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Foundation Expense	\$-	\$6.00	\$-	\$6.00	\$-
<b>Total Foundations</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$-</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>					
GIC - Illingworth	\$3,700.00	\$1,304.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,450.00	\$3,500.00
CIBC Mellon Trust Income	\$24,000.00	\$26,883.16	\$27,000.00	\$26,763.13	\$27,000.00
<b>Total Investment Income</b>	<b>\$27,700.00</b>	<b>\$28,187.16</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>	<b>\$30,213.13</b>	<b>\$30,500.00</b>
<b>Engraving Sales</b>					
Engraving Income	\$-	\$376.67	\$400.00	\$195.20	\$400.00
Engraving Expenses	-\$2,500.00	-\$5,887.00	-\$6,000.00	-\$580.00	-\$6,000.00
<b>Total Engraving Balance</b>	<b>-\$2,500.00</b>	<b>-\$5,510.33</b>	<b>-\$5,600.00</b>	<b>-\$384.80</b>	<b>-\$5,600.00</b>
<b>Other Revenues</b>					
Open & Close	\$30,000.00	\$20,300.00	\$25,000.00	\$28,800.00	\$26,000.00
Overtime Fees & Vault Charges	\$4,500.00	\$3,425.00	\$3,500.00	\$5,250.00	\$4,000.00
Rental Income	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
Sale of Internment Rights	\$35,000.00	\$35,450.00	\$37,000.00	\$19,800.00	\$25,000.00
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$70,900.00</b>	<b>\$60,575.00</b>	<b>\$66,900.00</b>	<b>\$55,250.00</b>	<b>\$56,400.00</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>					
Other Revenue					
Transfer of Plots	-\$300.00	\$-	-\$300.00	-\$900.00	-\$300.00
Vault Storage Income		\$-		\$-	
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>-\$300.00</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>-\$300.00</b>	<b>-\$900.00</b>	<b>-\$300.00</b>
<b>Monies to C&amp;M Trust</b>					
Care & Maintenance Sent to Trust	-\$15,000.00	-\$18,365.00	-\$18,000.00	\$12,360.00	-\$18,000.00
<b>Total Monies to C&amp;M Trust</b>	<b>-\$15,000.00</b>	<b>-\$18,365.00</b>	<b>-\$18,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,360.00</b>	<b>-\$18,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$106,800.00</b>	<b>\$92,946.52</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>	<b>\$99,134.35</b>	<b>\$92,500.00</b>

<b>Auld Kirk Cemetery Proposed Budget 2026</b>	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Budget 2026
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
Administration Expense					
Bank Charges & Interest	\$400.00	\$329.95	\$400.00	\$369.18	\$400.00
Decoration Day Expense	\$500.00	\$489.50	\$500.00	\$525.20	\$500.00
Office Expense	\$750.00	\$763.92	\$800.00	\$553.20	\$800.00
Licenses	\$1,500.00	\$1,375.12	\$1,500.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,400.00
Misc. Expense	\$5,500.00	\$6,374.22	\$6,500.00	\$6,253.67	\$6,500.00
<b>Total Administration Expense</b>	<b>\$8,650.00</b>	<b>\$9,332.71</b>	<b>\$9,700.00</b>	<b>\$8,961.25</b>	<b>\$9,600.00</b>
<b>Operating Expense</b>					
Equipment Repair & Mtce	\$1,000.00	\$1,662.18	\$1,000.00	\$623.81	\$1,000.00
Equipment Replacement		\$-		\$-	
Gas	\$1,500.00	\$1,552.21	\$1,600.00	\$607.20	\$1,600.00
Grass Cutting/Snow Plowing	\$5,000.00	\$6,587.50	\$5,000.00	\$5,437.50	\$5,000.00
Grave Open/Close	\$5,000.00	\$3,700.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,975.00	\$4,000.00
Hydro	\$400.00	\$371.22	\$400.00	\$387.28	\$400.00
Almonte United -Rent Expense	\$1,600.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,000.00
Almonte United -Insurance Exp	\$1,500.00	\$3,695.10	\$3,195.00	\$3,195.05	
Co-Op Insurance AKC	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,522.76	\$-
Misc. Supplies	\$300.00	\$386.39	\$400.00	\$146.01	\$400.00
Phone	\$900.00	\$653.52	\$700.00	\$962.55	\$700.00
Property Tax	\$1,200.00	\$1,183.89	\$1,200.00	\$1,231.29	\$1,200.00
Soil & Gravel	\$1,200.00	\$600.00	\$1,000.00	\$667.80	\$1,000.00
Property Maintenance Expense	\$5,000.00	\$400.00	\$600.00	\$8,309.99	\$600.00
Columbarium Expenses	\$30,000.00	\$24,500.00	\$11,000.00	\$9,500.00	\$-
Map Info Project	\$7,000.00	\$5,961.56	\$7,000.00	\$5,275.64	\$7,000.00
Boundary Fence Project		\$-		\$-	
Auld Kirk Church Window Renos	\$-		\$-		\$7,500.00
AUC Stone Repair					\$4,000.00
Transfer to Investments					
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>\$61,600.00</b>	<b>\$53,053.57</b>	<b>\$39,095.00</b>	<b>\$42,641.88</b>	<b>\$36,400.00</b>
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>					
Salary - Caretaker	\$22,500.00	\$24,724.80	\$25,000.00	\$25,426.41	\$26,000.00
Salary - Secretary/Bookkeeper	\$9,500.00	\$10,900.00	\$11,000.00	\$12,989.50	\$13,000.00
Salary - Bookkeeper	\$3,000.00	\$3,482.60	\$4,000.00	\$4,095.00	\$4,100.00
Staff Honorarium		\$-		\$-	
Honorariums		\$-		\$150.00	
El Expense	\$550.00	\$574.78	\$600.00	\$584.07	\$600.00
CPP Expense		\$1,363.07	\$1,400.00	\$1,404.85	\$1,400.00
WSIB Expense	\$350.00	\$210.33	\$350.00	\$66.85	\$350.00
<b>Total Payroll Expense</b>	<b>\$35,900.00</b>	<b>\$41,255.58</b>	<b>\$42,350.00</b>	<b>\$44,716.68</b>	<b>\$45,450.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$106,150.00</b>	<b>\$103,641.86</b>	<b>\$91,145.00</b>	<b>\$96,319.81</b>	<b>\$91,450.00</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss for the period</b>	<b>\$650.00</b>	<b>-\$10,695.34</b>	<b>\$8,855.00</b>	<b>\$2,814.54</b>	<b>\$1,050.00</b>

# Congregational Life and Care

## *Cards*

Joyce Nicholson of our Pastoral Care team reached out to our congregation members via email or a card on behalf of our congregation when we were aware of birthdays, illnesses, or grief. Joyce stepped down at the end of the year after her much-appreciated efforts. Her replacement, Bonnie Huskins, began taking on this important role at the beginning of 2026. Going forward, please let Bonnie know of any cards you wish to be sent or of people who could benefit from a card. At Almonte United Church, we trust this ongoing outreach to our church family has been helpful and comforting.

## *Coffee Time*

On most Sundays, coffee time is held in the social hall to encourage everyone to stay after the service to mingle and chat. In the summertime, with weather permitting, we enjoy lemonade on the front lawn. We look forward to using the new gazebo outside. Thank you to Nick and Dini Frans for all their hard work.

## *Pastoral Care Task Group Report*

This small group provides a little extra support to congregation members who are lonely, can't get to services, are grieving the death of an immediate family member, facing a serious illness or coping with other significant challenges.

Before Easter, we bought and delivered cards and mini carnations to about 25 members. Before Christmas, we delivered close to 30 cards and small poinsettias with extra help from other church goers.

We heartily welcome our new member who will join us in January 2026: Bonnie Huskins! Special appreciation goes to two Pastoral Care Task Group members who stepped down at the end of 2025 after many years of excellent service: Norma Glandon and Joyce Nicholson.

We welcome new members so if you are interested, please contact anyone in this task group. If you know of someone who would like a phone call or visit, please let us know.

Submitted by Laurie Blackstock on behalf of the Pastoral Care Task Group: Nancy Peters, Eleanor Rintoul, Bonnie Huskins and Laurie Blackstock

# *Catering and Hospitality Sub-Committee Report*

## 2025 Almonte Community Friendship Luncheon

The Almonte Community Friendship Luncheon group had another successful year. No one knows for sure the exact year when these once-a-month luncheons began. We do know it was many decades ago when a few ladies from 3 churches came together to provide a simple lunch and a social get together opportunity for seniors living alone in our community. It's estimated at 50+years. From its inception these luncheons have been held in the social hall of Almonte United Church.

Over the years more Almonte churches and volunteers became involved and the name "Seniors Luncheon" changed to Almonte Community Friendship Luncheon. Everyone was welcome at the luncheons which ran continuously from October to May until the spring of 2020 when Covid-19 shut them down.

In 2024 the luncheons started up again, this time with a date change from the 1st Tuesday to the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

In 2025 we made another slight change.

The monthly schedule is now set to run September, October and November, NO luncheon in DECEMBER and we pick up again in January and run to and including May for a total of 8 months. Five of Almonte's churches, along with many volunteers from the community, have a lot of fun working together to provide a light lunch of soup, sandwiches and homemade desserts. A fee is charged to cover any expenses.

On a rotating schedule, each of the 5 churches takes a turn supplying the desserts. All other supplies are purchased. A reduced kitchen/hall rental fee is paid to Almonte United Church. Any funds left after expenses are always donated back to the community.

In 2025 we donated money to the healthy snack programs at four Almonte's schools and also made a donation to the Lions Club/Carebridge Christmas hampers

The Churches and volunteers who come together to provide The Community Friendship Luncheons, gratefully acknowledge the reduced rental fee generously given from the Almonte United Church.

## *Marriages, Baptisms and Burials Report*

There were 3 baptisms, 4 marriages and 6 burials performed in 2025, at AUC .

# Finance & Stewardship

## *Finance Committee and Stewardship Report*

**Finance Committee: Robert Lesser (Chair), Nick Frans**

### Finance Report

Frank Sinatra's famous song, "It Was a Very Good Year", nicely describes our financial situation for 2025: For the first time in many years, we did not need to withdraw any funds from our trust accounts. A huge factor was having Rev. Heather as our interim minister. Finances aside, we are so blessed to have her leading our services and caring for us all. The support from the congregation was also key to our year-end balance sheet, as were the many folks who rented our facilities.

As you will note in the financial spreadsheet that follows, compared to 2024, total offerings increased by over \$7,000.00 and rental revenues increased by \$8,000.00. In addition to providing tasty and nutritious meals, Marvellous Monday meals contributed almost \$2,000.00 more than the year previous. The team made more than 450, resulting in a donation of \$2632 to our church, as well as a variety of pots and pans and utensils. Thanks to the 12 team members who made this happen.

Of course, support for our church is done through more than financial donations. Members of the congregation volunteered countless hours, singing, building, counting, greeting, decorating, cleaning inside and outside, gardening, reading the lessons, helping with the Sunday School and Youth Group, maintaining the library, and countless other activities. Don't miss reading about all these endeavours in other sections of the annual report.

Looking ahead to 2026, the draft budget projects only minimal increases in all areas. The one possible exception concerns our roof. That expense will depend upon what is done to the roof and how it will be funded. For budgeting purposes, an expense of \$130,000 has been included. It is hoped that the actual cost will be much less, however, planning was based on what is viewed as a worst-case scenario. There are various funding options, including grant applications, that will hopefully reduce the cost significantly – only time will tell.

With that amount included in the budget, it will require a withdrawal of \$160,000 from the trust funds. Should roof financing be managed in another way, the projected deficit will be \$30,000. By comparison, withdrawals from the trust funds totalled \$65,000 in 2024 and \$50,000 in 2023 and the funds remained relatively healthy. By supporting a healthy level of donations, continuing to find ways to create revenues through craft and other sales, catering, special events and volunteering in all aspects of the life of our church, we will be well positioned for the many future years of Almonte United Church.

Your Finance Team

Nick Frans, Robert Watson and Bob Lesser, Chair.

# Almonte United Church

## 2023 - 2025 Income/Expense and 2026 proposed Budget

	2023	2024	Budget	2025	2025	2026
				Actual	Proposed	
<b>REVENUE</b>						
Envelope Income	\$25,347	\$32,290	\$27,300	\$36,066	\$38,000	
E-Transfer General	\$18,055	\$20,945	\$22,000	\$25,435	\$26,000	
PAR Income	\$53,451	\$49,876	\$50,000	\$50,336	\$51,000	
Plate & Cash Offering	\$2,391	\$3,422	\$3,600	\$2,042	\$2,200	
Other offerings	\$170	\$1,675	\$1,950	\$1,375	\$2,370	
Fund Raising	\$2,726	\$10,428	\$9,000	\$6,750	\$7,400	
Rentals	\$23,890	\$32,139	\$31,150	\$40,044	\$38,300	
Young & Rains Bequest	\$652	\$229	\$230	\$608	\$230	
Other Revenue	\$358	\$232	\$0	\$236	\$125	
Government Covid funds	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Trust Funds	\$50,000	\$65,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$160,000	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$177,039</b>	<b>\$226,236</b>	<b>\$195,230</b>	<b>\$162,891</b>	<b>\$325,625</b>	

	2023	2024	Budget	2025	2025	2026
				Actual	Proposed	
<b>EXPENSE</b>						
Interim Pastor	\$0	\$21,251	\$21,000	\$44,902	\$24,000	
Payroll Minister and Administrator	\$99,117	\$59,437	\$60,259	\$14,510	\$67,665	
Pastoral Travel and Education	\$1,075	\$1,500	\$1,700	\$0	\$2,850	
New Minister Moving Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,500	
Learning & Outreach	\$331	\$153	\$310	\$441	\$280	
Worship Expense	\$19,199	\$19,276	\$20,680	\$19,369	\$20,237	
Congregation Life & Care	\$1,386	\$1,128	\$2,430	\$3,501	\$1,430	
Administration Expense	\$12,963	\$12,677	\$13,945	\$13,631	\$14,455	
Presbytery Assessment	\$6,365	\$6,278	\$6,500	\$5,663	\$7,856	
Insurance	\$17,638	\$13,495	\$15,500	\$17,183	\$14,675	
Utilities - Gas, Hydro, Water	\$15,365	\$14,471	\$15,450	\$13,511	\$14,500	
Property Maintenance	\$27,347	\$21,035	\$22,765	\$22,573	\$23,500	
Major Repairs	\$3,308	\$1,767	\$12,000	\$0	\$130,000	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$204,094</b>	<b>\$172,467</b>	<b>\$192,539</b>	<b>\$155,284</b>	<b>\$328,948</b>	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$177,039</b>	<b>\$226,236</b>	<b>\$195,230</b>	<b>\$162,891</b>	<b>\$325,625</b>	
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>-\$27,055</b>	<b>\$53,769</b>	<b>\$2,691</b>	<b>\$7,607</b>	<b>-\$3,323</b>	

## Outreach Giving

	2025	2024
Mission and Service	\$17,258	\$17,289
Food Bank	\$3,675	\$3,440
Food Grains Bank	\$6,839	\$7,581
SchoolBox North	\$956	--
Likulezi	\$4,766	\$1,596
Camp Lauren	\$835	\$1,615
<b>Total Outreach Givings</b>	<b>\$34,329</b>	<b>\$31,521</b>

### Balance Sheet - December 31, 2025

<b>Assets</b>	2025	2024
Petty Cash	\$200	\$200
Bank operating funds - Bank of Montreal	\$22,635	\$11,337
Prepaid Expenses	\$761	\$480
HST recoverable	\$1,098	\$2,346
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$24,695</b>	<b>\$14,364</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<i>Current Liabilities</i>		
Accounts Payable Operations	\$1,256	\$1,224
Roof repairs project	\$4,101	\$2,983
Likulezi project	\$2,956	\$1,381
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$8,312</b>	<b>\$5,589</b>
<i>Designated Funds</i>		
Youth Group	\$768	\$768
B. Bridges fund (library)	\$27	\$27
Senior Choir music fund	\$468	\$468
Memorial Fund	\$8,318	\$8,318
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>\$9,581</b>	<b>\$9,581</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$17,894</b>	<b>\$15,170</b>
Accumulated carryover (surplus/-deficit)	-\$806	-\$54,615
Current year (surplus/-deficit)	\$7,608	\$53,809
<b>Net Equity</b>	<b>\$6,801</b>	<b>-\$806</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Equity</b>	<b>\$24,695</b>	<b>\$14,364</b>

## Learning & Outreach

### *Bert Brydges Memorial Library*

Thank you to Donna Smith who has maintained and updated our library through the years. In 2025 Donna stepped down and Mary MacMeekin has taken on the role to keep our library current, helpful and informative for all ages. We wish Mary success as she takes on this important role.

### *Canadian Food Grains Bank Report*

## Canadian Foodgrains 2025 Project

For the 2025 Mississippi Mills growing project, we grew soybeans. The crop was planted on May 20<sup>th</sup> into cold and damp ground conditions. A warm June, hot temperatures in July/August, with little to no rainfall accumulation all summer made growing conditions extremely poor this year. We harvested a well below average crop of 0.6T/acre in early October.

Soybean prices were also weak this past year. No future contract was signed, so the selling price at harvest was \$500/t. After the non-donated expenses were tallied, a very small profit of \$569.36 was recorded. An insurance claim was registered with Agricorp and the total donation for this year's crop is \$2509.36.

2026's project will be corn to ensure a proper crop rotation is maintained.

Respectfully submitted, Brad Lowry and Lindsay Cavanagh



**2025 Mississippi Mills Canadian Foodgrains Growing Project  
Financial Report**

**8 Acres of Soybeans planted May 20, 2025**

EXPENSES	(per acre)	<u>Donated</u>	<u>Not Donated</u>	<u>Donated by</u>
Tillage	30.00	240.00		Penlow Farms
Seed	98.63	789.10		BTLF(Andy Ross)
Planting	35.00	280.00		Penlow Farms
Fertilizer				
-Spring broadcast	91.00		728.00	
-Broadcast application	12.00	96.00		Penlow Farms
Herbicide	32.15		257.20	
-application x2	26.00		208.00	
Crop Insurance	8.58		69.64	
Harvesting	63.00		504.00	
Land rent	60.00	480.00		Penlow Farms
Trucking to elevator			64.80	
- per tonne	13.50			
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<u>1885.10</u>	<u>1830.64</u>	

**REVENUE**

Crop Yielded 0.6T per acre x 8 = 4.8T Total crop yield Market

price \$500/T x 4.8T = \$2400 Gross Revenue

Gross Revenue \$2400.00 minus \$1830.64(not donated expenses) = **\$569.36** Net Crop Revenue

Crop insurance claim:

0.6T/acre = 22 bu/acre

Guarantee 85% of 45.72 bu/acre = 38.89 - 22 = 16.89bu/acre shortfall

Crop Insurance formula 16.89 x 8 acres = 135.1 bu @\$14.36/bu = **\$1940.00 Payout**

Net Crop Revenue \$569.36 + Crop Insurance Payout \$1940. = Growing Project Revenue **\$2509.36**

Congregational donations towards Canadian Foodgrains Bank \$4330.00

+ Mississippi Mills Cdn Foodgrains Growing 2509.36

Project

**Total submitted to Canadian Foodgrains Bank \$6839.36**

# The Lanark Food Bank Report

Once again, this past Christmas season our congregation rose to the challenge and delivered 65 stockings to the Lanark Food Bank Stocking Drive. Our contribution made Christmas a little more enjoyable for those who are less fortunate. Thanks to all who filled a stocking!

-Respectfully Submitted by Ron MacMeekin

Our AUC Youth made us all proud as they not only delivered all of our donations to, but also worked at, The Hunger Stop. We are happy to report that 275 pounds of needed items plus \$415.15 were donated through the youth campaign. Other cash donations from the church were also added for a total of \$2470.10 being delivered on the last night.

-Respectfully submitted by Margie Graff

# Likulezi Project Report

## Likulezi Project

**Website:** <http://www.africaaware.net/>

**Facebook Public Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/likulezipublicgroup>

**Global Giving (international donation site):** <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/plant-the-seeds-of-tomorrow-for-an-orphan-child/>

**Mission Statement:** *That the community be empowered to develop their potential in the face of poverty and disease.*

This community care project was launched in 1990 in a hospital in Phalombe, Malawi (East Africa) to address the HIV-AIDS crisis. It is named after the Likulezi River that runs through the catchment area. Village volunteers created entertaining skits, songs, dances, and puppet shows to educate people of all ages on HIV prevention and care. The programs expanded as more needs were identified, including HIV-AIDS home care, support for orphans and their guardian families, vocational training, a small library, grain storage, and a tree nursery.

## Support from Almonte United Church

The congregation has been supporting this project in Malawi since the 1990s. New team members are welcome to join the AUC Likulezi Group, and individual donations are always appreciated. You can do so through the church by indicating "For Likulezi Project" in the memo line of e-transfers, cheques or envelopes.

At the 2025 AUC plant sale on May 17, we raised a total of \$775.30 (\$120 for 12 bags mushroom compost + \$560 in baked goods, sandwiches, and beverages on the day of the plant sale + \$45 in donations for greeting cards + \$170 in sale of leftover refreshments after church the next day...minus expenses.)

## Financial Report

E-Transfers from members:	\$ 700.00
Loose donations:	\$ 00.00
Plant sale	\$ 775.30
Member donations:	\$ 99.00
<b>Total raised 2025</b>	<b>\$1,574.30</b>

## Zikomo! Thank you!

Submitted by Laurie Blackstock on behalf of AUC Likulezi Group: Doug Younger-Lewis, Bob Lesser, Evelyn Ironside, and Liz Barron.

# Sunday School and Youth Group Report

## Shining Our Light Brightly! Sunday School Annual Report 2025

2025 was another year to remember with joy when it came to the Sunday School here at Almonte United. Sixteen children and youth, ranging from less than one year to sixteen, shone brightly, learning to spread God's love, each in their own unique way. Whether it was through art, storytelling, games, Bible study, or acts of service, the young leaders of our church learned to follow in Jesus's footsteps. Here's how the year unfolded...

music,  
church



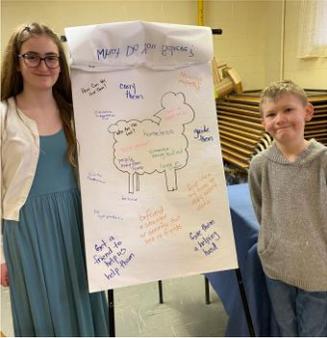
created

### Shining Our Light for Peace

Sparking peace was our first focus of the year and our kids and youth created beautiful pieces of art that helped define what peace meant to them and to highlight the need for spreading peace throughout the world.

### Parable Study During Lent and Our Path to Easter

We discovered what a parable was and how Jesus loved to teach us through these wonderful stories. Mustard seeds, lost coins and sheep... we had so much to discover. We also took some time to put these teachings into action and shared the love with our church family by passing out some hope through tulips after church. AND we had our first Sunday School snow days to contend with, a first for us! Thanks to our AUC Sunday School Facebook page, we stayed connected and weathered the storms. The parade on Palm Sunday was great fun, only topped by the joy of Easter morning and our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The sads turned into glads and we were ready to focus on the new life of the new church season.



### Focusing on Creation

Our annual Earth Day community cleanup took place on a cold but sunny Sunday morning. Our Sunday School crew were up for the task and did a great job picking up around the church, library and community gardens. Led by the youth of our congregation, the Camping Sunday service reminded us of the joy of heading into nature and discovering God's wondrous world.

## Two Special Services

Our Sunday School Celebration Service landed on Pentecost AND the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada so we rose to the occasion! We reimagined the Holy Spirit in the form of northern lights and listened to the words from the first ever service, finding meaning that still rings true today. The confirmation of four of our youth was very special as Jack, Dot, Ellie, and Olivia shared their own expressions of faith with us all. What a joy to welcome these young people into full membership who have grown up with us over the years.



## Unique and United

After a well-earned summer break, the Sunday School jumped into action again in September, celebrating God as the master designer of each of us, created so beautifully. It was also the month for us to focus on Truth and Reconciliation as the Sunday School once again invited the congregation to join them at their riverbed art installation, reminding us all that we are on this journey together.



### Under the Pavilion

The Sunday School kids and teachers were so grateful to be able to meet under the new pavilion to learn, share in an Agape Meal, (where we enjoyed our home-made grape juice, thanks to Mary Smiley), and come together in this beautiful outdoor gathering space. Thank you to the dreamers, designers, and builders who brought this spark of an idea to life... we love it!



### Gratitude Walk for Remembrance Day

As is our tradition, we walked to the Cenotaph on our Remembrance Sunday. There, we heard from Rachel and Declan about how they work for peace through their military service. And we saw so many beautiful poppies, reminding us of the gift of peace we enjoy each and every day thanks to the sacrifice of so many.



### Advent Journey

Our path to Christmas

let us prepare for our Advent Children's Service, "The Lesson of the Lambs". Special thanks goes to Brian Morrison for the building of our beautiful backdrop that will be used for years to come.



### **With Great Appreciation...**

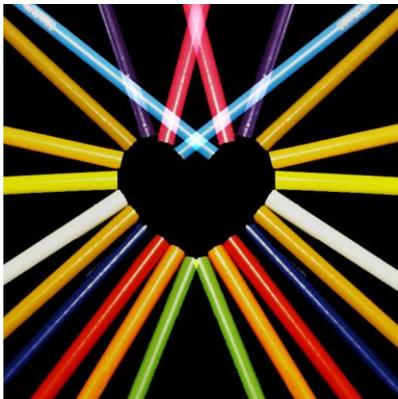
Sunday School wouldn't happen without the care of our families and adults in the congregation. Our dedicated team of teachers, Jessica Badger, Rachel Capp, and Margie Graff, feel so blessed to have the opportunity to work with our young people, learning alongside them each and every week. We are so thankful for our Sunday School families who have helped in so many ways this year, joining in and helping out whenever we needed them. As well, special thanks goes to the Worship Committee and Rev. Heather for their continuous support of our programming. Finally, we couldn't do any of this without the love and encouragement of our church family as we grow and learn together. So, we say, "Thanks for the blessings!" with a big AMEN!

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Graff and The AUC Sunday School Kids

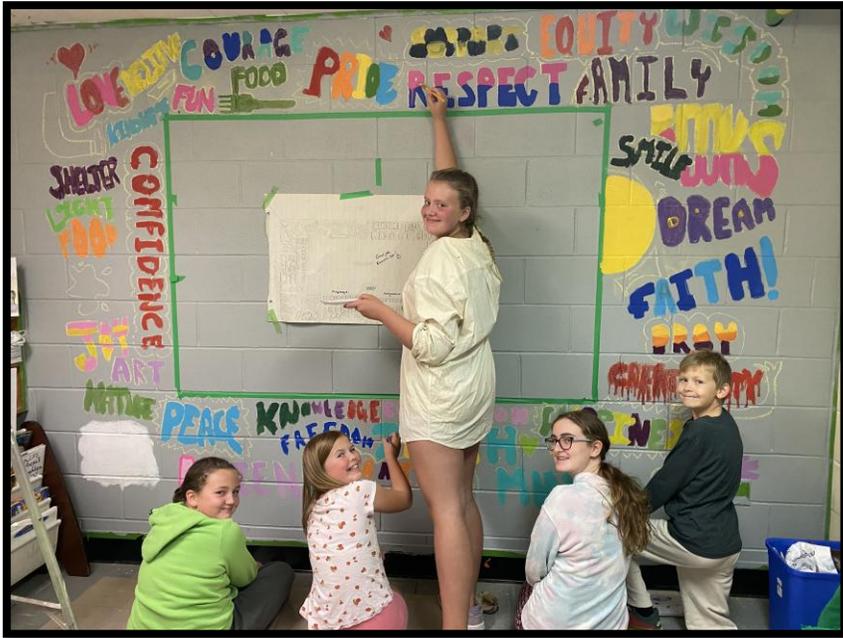
## **Youth Group Annual Report 2025**

Youth Group had another exciting and successful year putting fun, friendship and faith into action. 15 youth, from Grades 5 through 12 took part in bi-weekly meetings plus special events that made a difference in our community and beyond. This year, we even inspired St. Paul's Anglican Church to begin their own youth group, and it was a joy to collaborate with them on our Truth and Reconciliation efforts in September. As always, this hard-working group made an impact wherever they went as you can see from the highlights of our year:



### **A Focus on Peace Through Photography**

Through photographic images, our year began with a focus on peace. After discussing what core beliefs the youth held, opportunities to play with photography and manipulation of digital images to create specific effects brought out some truly powerful pieces.



### Graffiti Wall

With approval from Church Council, our youth designed a graffiti wall in the youth group gathering space that used words that reflected the core beliefs we had explored in January. After learning how to do graffiti lettering, designers Dot and Emmett produced a wonderful plan that would surround a new whiteboard planned for the space. The whole group got busy painting the end wall with a base colour before the design got transferred and the colour blocking began. As of the end of 2025, the wall is now ready for final shading and the goal is to have the white board in place by June 2026, surrounded by powerful words that mean so much to our youth.



### Coldest Night of the Year

This was the first year that AUC youth participated in The Coldest Night of the Year walk to raise money for Cornerstone Landing, working to assist homeless youth in Lanark County. We were joined by Rev. Heather and Sheila on this inaugural 5km walk and raised about \$1,000.00 for this important cause.



### Preparing for the Church Garden Sale

This year the group decided to plant seeds and offer potted seedlings as our contribution to the annual church garden sale. Herbs, calendulas and sunflowers (seeds donated by Bernie and Richard were most appreciated!) were all lovingly planted. We learned all about the joys and disappointments of working with seedlings but were able to offer some lovely young plants to the sale to support the work of our church.



### Camping Sunday

Our youth once again took the leadership of this fun Sunday service, highlighting the fun and spirituality of church camping, while inviting us all into some of the different aspects of church camp. From music to skits to our ever popular "Crafty Cabin", this years' service focused on building bridges and peace. The congregation was invited to participate in painting blocks for our peace banners and the results were outstanding.

## Transitions

This was the first year that we had graduating youth group members as they would be leaving us to attend college and university in the fall. The congregation recognized their service and dedication at the Camping Service, gifting Jack, Erika and Land with blankets and small plants to take with them as a reminder that we are always there for them.

## Truth and Reconciliation

Working with youth from St. Paul's Anglican Church and the community, our group took the lead for the very first time on the community Truth and Reconciliation Vigil event for September 30th. What an honour it was to host the community at The Seven Gifts installation and to highlight the Calls to Action that are still to be acted upon. It was also with gratitude and respect that we recognized Chief Justice Murray Sinclair's work and committed ourselves to continuing his work after his passing.

One of our youth, Dot, also continued the tradition of designing chalk art at the front of the church to highlight that every child matters... her dedication to this annual project and design work is truly an example of reconciliation in action.

We also had another successful 'Gifts From the Land' fund raiser for SchoolBOX, raising over \$1,000.00 from both our sales at the Almonte Night Market and after church booth. These funds were matched by an anonymous donor this year, so we were able to have a strong impact on providing educational resources for Indigenous schools and communities in Treaty 3.

Thank you to everyone who supported this very important work.





## Food Drive

Our AUC Youth made us all proud as they not only delivered all of our donations to, but also worked at, The Hunger Stop. We are happy to report that 275 pounds of needed items plus \$415.15 were donated through the youth campaign. Other cash donations from the church were also added for a total of \$2470.10 being delivered on the last night.



### **Fun!**

Our annual trip to the farm and campfire, trivia night, silent auction, G.O.A.T. Awards, Turkey Trot and Reindeer Games all contributed to the fun and fellowship of 2025. Special thanks goes out to our volunteer drivers, Tony and Terri-Lynn Funnekotter, for leading our Christmas centrepiece maker's night, and to our congregation for their support of all of our initiatives. We feel so fortunate to be developing our faith and sense of social justice in a community of caring.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Graff and the AUC Youth Group Members (Ellie Badger, Emmett Badger, Maria Duczek, Mikayla Foster, Elias Gerges, Lana Gerges, Olivia Holmes, Jessica Jarrous, Dot Lockhart, Jack Lockhart, Declan Moore, Cole Stevenson, Dev Stevenson, Rowen Stevenson, Erika Toop,)

# Ministry and Personnel Report

**M & P Committee Members: Jason Cain (Chair)**

*"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." - **Galatians 6:10***

The mandate of the Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee is to care for our ministry personnel and lay employees. We do this by listening with intention and compassion to those in paid accountable ministry, our staff team, and the members of our Community of Faith.

We would like to thank Mary Smiley (past chair), Dorothy Day, John Day and Ron MacMeekin for their work on the M&P committee. Each member of the Almonte United Church M&P Committee strives to fulfill this responsibility with diligence, care, and confidentiality. We understand the trust placed in us and work to honour that trust in every interaction and decision. As they stepped back in 2025, Jason Cain was asked to chair the committee. We would like to encourage anyone interested in serving on the M&P Committee to connect with Jason to join him.

We remain grateful for the faithful leadership of the Rev. Mary Royal Duczek, who concluded her 13 years of ministry with us in 2024 when she accepted a new call within the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region. Following her departure, we invited **Rev. Heather Kincaid** to serve as our minister throughout the search period. Heather has guided and supported our congregation with wisdom, steadiness, and grace as we prepared for our next chapter. She has been a guiding light and has gone far beyond what was asked of her, at times to her own detriment, because of her commitment to serve. In her own words (after a recent mishap), "The show must go on!". We hope that we will be able to keep her among us, in the pews (and maybe the choir), as part of our AUC family.

We are pleased to share that our new minister **Heather Davies** will begin their ministry with us in **July 2026**, and we look forward with hope and anticipation to this new beginning and all of the many exciting opportunities that lie ahead for our Community of Faith. We, along with Rev. Heather Kincaid, will help 'pass the torch' as we welcome her into her role here.

Our lay staff continue to be dedicated and hardworking, offering steady support during this time of transition.

- **Virginia Atkinson** keeps the office organized and running smoothly.
- **Kim Julian** ensures our sanctuary and building are clean, welcoming, and event-ready.
- **Neil Milnes** leads us in a vibrant and inspiring ministry of music, supported by our growing choir.
- **Bob Watson** manages our bookkeeping with care and professionalism, navigating the requirements of both the General Council Office and government.

We are grateful for each of them. When you see these individuals, please take a moment to thank them for all they do.

**Respectfully submitted**

Jason Cain

# Property and Maintenance Committee

## Property and Maintenance Committee Report:

2025 was a great step forward for the property group. We focused on environmental stewardship and the functional sustainability of the church and grounds.

Stuart Morrison and many volunteers worked hard to bring the new pavilion to life. The structure was erected just in time to be an inspiring backdrop to a traditional hoop dance in honour of residential school survivors, and the journey we all share on the path to reconciliation. The structural elements are fully installed, and the finishing touches are tasked for 2026. It's a shining example of what we can all do when we come together. This building holds so much potential for the future, both in its use and its aesthetic.

The new pollinator garden was cut, dug, and the beginnings of the earth bed have been put in place. Thank you to the volunteers for their hard work on this (and also to Margie's animals for providing the fertilizer). This is also tasked for completion in 2026 and will be a beautiful addition linking the natural and built environment of the church next to the pavilion.

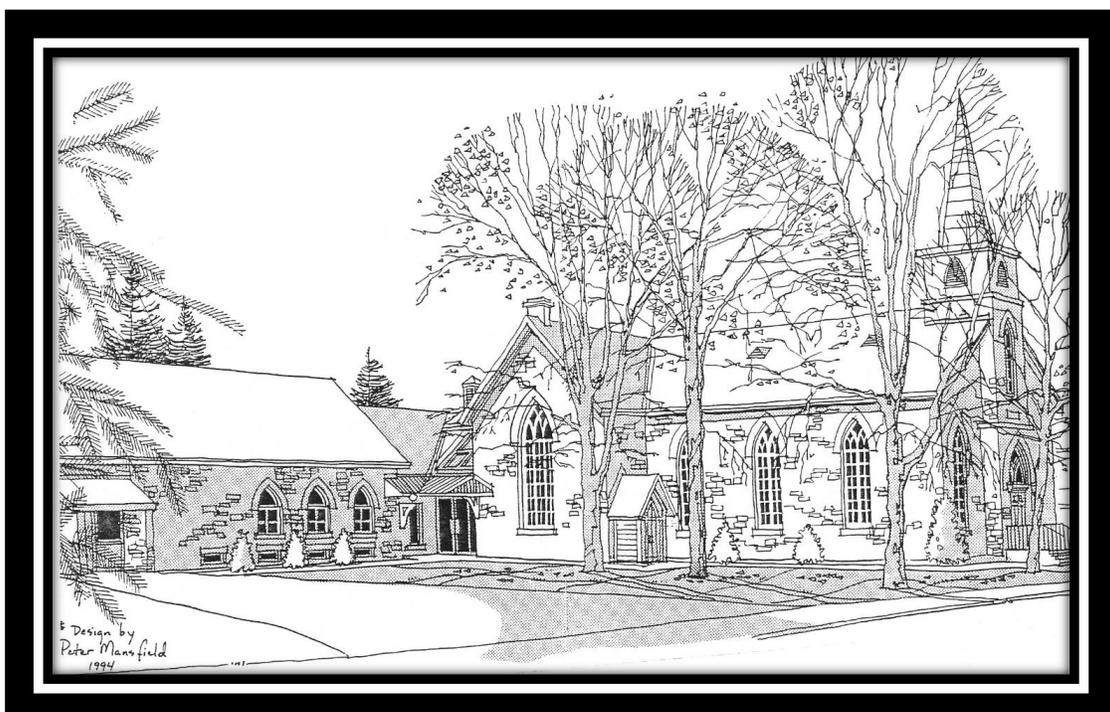
The social hall, kitchen, and rear entrance have been given a more sustainable uplift. The ceiling was re-secured to the structure and then insulation was blown in the attic (roughly 250% compared to what it had) which will help cut the heating cost and keep our great gathering space warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer. The lighting fixtures of all 3 spaces were upgraded to LED which will cut the electrical usage dramatically compared to the previous lights, increasing the glow of the rooms, bringing in more light and more life on those days that may seem dark and dreary. A new dishwasher and faucet were installed and are working well.

This year we will continue to focus on the big picture of improving the function and sustainability of our beloved building. With increased functionality comes efficiency and comfort.

Thank you to everyone who donates their gifts of time and money and to all those before us that strived to keep this safe and wonderful space alive.

All the best to you and yours in 2026,

Andrew Badger, Chair of the Property Committee



# Board of Trustees Report

**Almonte United Church  
Board of Trustees  
2025 Annual Report**

**Members: Richard Alexander  
Terry Church  
Ihor Korbabicz**

**Our Board members have reduced since 2024. Willie Haliburton has moved and Marina Johnston has resigned after serving as a valued member for many years. Thank you to Marina for her service.**

**We are currently looking for 2-3 new members. If you happen to be interested, please contact Richard Alexander.**

**The interest rate on the 3 Trust accounts covered here was 8% for 2025 which was much less than the 16% rate from 2024. We did say last year that one year's returns cannot be guaranteed in the future.**

**However, we are not overly concerned as our Trust Funds are well invested.**

**There were no drawings on our Trust Funds during 2025.**

**The year end Almonte United Church and Auld Kirk Cemetery Trust balances for the past 3 years are as follows:**

	<u>Dec 31/23</u>	<u>Dec 31/24</u>	<u>Dec 31/25</u>
<b>AUC Manse Trust</b>	<b>\$292,157.</b>	<b>\$339,141.</b>	<b>\$369,363.</b>
<b>AUC General Trust</b>	<b>\$167,085.</b>	<b>\$119,739.</b>	<b>\$129,123.</b>
<b>Trustees Bank a/c</b>			<b>\$2,506.</b>
<b>AKC Trust</b>	<b>\$158,820.</b>	<b>\$182,161.</b>	<b>\$194,741.</b>

**When the Trustee bank account is included, AUC Trust funds as of 31/12/25 totaled \$500,992.**

**Your Trustees wish to thank Bob Watson, our church bookkeeper who provides assistance by preparing a monthly report outlining the activity in our Trust Funds and Thank you to our Office Manager, Virginia Atkinson for her assistance.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Richard Alexander,  
Chair of Trustees.**

# Worship Committee Report

## **Worship Committee Members:**

**Terri-Lynn Funnekotter – Chair, Rev. Heather Kinkaid, Margie Graff, Neil Milnes, and David Fewtrell**

Looking back on this past year, the Worship Committee is deeply moved by the diverse and sacred experiences we have shared. These moments of worship have not only deepened our connection with God but have truly woven us closer together as a family of faith. We are so grateful for your ongoing presence, energy, and dedication to the life of Almonte United Church.

Our services were greatly enriched by the leadership of our interim Minister, Rev. Heather Kinkaid, and the contributions of various pulpit supply speakers.

## **2025 Highlights:**

We were pleased to welcome Dawn Misner as our new Communion Coordinator, and we extend our sincere thanks to Stephanie Rudyk for her dedicated commitment to this volunteer position.

We are delighted to announce that our dedicated Search Committee has successfully appointed Reverend Heather Davies as our new minister, commencing her service on July 1, 2026. We extend our sincere thanks to the nine members of this committee for their tireless work and unwavering commitment throughout this vital process.

January brought new beginnings through the Baptism of Jesus & a New Year's Potluck that kept many guests lingering for fellowship. Goal-sheet sharing was personal and reflective, setting a hopeful tone for the year.

Rev. Cathy Hird and Rev. Heather hosted a comforting "When You've Lost Your Valentine" lunch with soup and dessert for those navigating a day of loss. The intimate gathering offered warmth and connection.

Spring brought the spirit of lent with a Pancake Lunch, with many kitchen volunteers Ron & Mary MacMeekin, Evelyn Ironside, Tony Funnekotter, Andrew Badger, among many others who helped set up, serve and clean up.

The World Day of Prayer Service was held at the Anglican Church. The women of Cook Islands beautifully prepared the service, enriching our prayerful community.

In April, a vibrant Palm Parade welcomed participants of all ages, symbolizing unity in worship.

Good Friday included the "Thomas" perspective resonating deeply, with the Senior Choir's anthem "Amazing Love".

On Earth Sunday, Rev. Heather's shared her 1997 "Letter to Mother Earth", and Emmett Badger was kind enough to host a bake-sale for International Animal Rescue, which was a great success with donations totalling \$619.50.

In June, we had many exciting services, including our Anniversary Service, with our guest speaker Rev. Arlys, joined by Glenn Morrison on trumpet, making our day most special. The 100th Anniversary Event, held at the EY Centre, was live streamed in the hall, with the help of Bob Lesser, and coffee, tea, and cookies fostering fellowship. A special service with the Sunday School was held with a Pentecost theme, and Northern Lights was enjoyed by all.

The month of June also brought a Confirmation Sunday for four of our youth (Jack Lockhart, Dot Lockhart, Ellie Badger, Olivia Holmes), who shared personal expressions of faith, before serving communion to the congregation. This was an unforgettable service.

Our Indigenous Peoples' Sunday service included personal experiences shared by Glenn Morrison as an Indigenous person working for Northern and Indian Affairs.

Our Summer Services featured a "My Faith Story" theme, where numerous individuals shared their personal faith journeys, which were greatly appreciated by the entire congregation. We were also

blessed with the voices of our summer choir.

We were joined by a guest speaker, Meri Kim Oliver, who shared her personal story, engaging all those who joined the service.

In September, we welcomed new Beginnings & Reconciliation. On Welcome Sunday, we shared a potluck lunch and celebrated the beginning of Sunday School. We had a beautiful Baptism service, with the Sunday School children being invited to join in the ceremony. Truth & Reconciliation Sunday was youth led, with a “Gifts From the Land” sale, orange-shirt lapel pins given out, and a beautiful chalk art walkway, which led to a powerful river-bed art installation, where the congregation placed their own prayer rocks.

October brought a culinary tour of global breads which graced the communion table for Worldwide Communion. The introduction of singing bowls by Beth Anne Robertson enriched the Prayers of the People.

A moving service for Remembrance Day highlighted Peter Blenkarn’s décor, Jack Lockhart’s piping recording, Glenn Morrison’s trumpet, choir music, and Brian Morrison’s reading of the Roll of Honour. Rev Heather hosted a “Coping with Christmas” Service, which David played the piano for as the group met for a time to reflect and share, with refreshments being provided by the Pastoral Care Committee.

The Children’s Advent service was a delight with a beautiful backdrop contributed by Brian Morrison. The music service provided four beautiful anthems. We also welcomed Lindsay, Terri-Lynn, Ken, and Karen as new AUC members.

Our Christmas Eve Service had approximately 170 people in attendance, with lots of music and candlelight to make a memorable evening for all.

From kitchen crews to choir members, every hand has contributed to a year of vibrant worship.

Food-bank drives, bake-sales, singing bowls, art installations, and diverse musical offerings enriched our spiritual experience.

We would like to thank the following people who have contributed so much to our worship throughout the year: Laurie Blackstock and Diana Cavers for the beautiful sanctuary decor; Amanda Pulker-Mok for organizing our scripture readers; Julie Julian for keeping the usher roster running so smoothly; Eleanor Rintoul for reading the Minutes for Mission; Bob Lesser, Laurie Blackstock and John Day for looking after our sound system and updating our website; Virginia Atkinson for her invaluable dedication in ensuring everything runs seamlessly from the office; and to all of our church family who have helped out. The Senior Choir, expertly guided by Music Director Neil Milnes, profoundly enhances our worship experience through their invaluable musical contributions. Throughout the year, their thoughtfully presented anthems beautifully complement sermon messages, fostering moments of prayer, expressing collective joy, and deepening our communal connection to God’s spirit. Guest instrumentalists have offered their talents and include Glenn Morrison, David Fewtrell, Jamie Pulker-Mok, Emmett Badger, Ellie Badger, and Graham Badger.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Funnekotter, for the Worship Committee:

Rev. Heather Kinkaid, Margie Graff, Neil Milnes, and David Fewtrell

# Senior Choir Report

The Almonte United Church Choir is a dedicated group of 12 who faithfully guide hymn singing and perform anthems at weekly services. Over the past year the choir with the help of additional singers has lead singing at funerals. They have sung special Christmas music and formed a summer choir under the leadership of Beth Robertson.

We welcomed several new members but have seen one long time member move away recently. We thank organist and choir director Neil Milnes for his leadership.

Respectfully submitted by David Fewtrell  
~ *on behalf of Neil Milnes.*



