

Bethel St. Andrew's United Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
held April 19, 2026

Present: David Hayley, Carole Williams, Jan Lougheed, Peter Lougheed, Mary Cohan-Pekarchuk, Nancy Hayley. Cathy Jensen, Jorgen Jensen, Cathy Guertin, Carol Veenstra, Walter Veenstra, Anita D'Arcy, Rick Leben, Elly Leben, Rob Roesler, Judi Roesler, Rob Preece, Brian Laughlin, Donna Laughlin, Donna Wickie, Ken Stewart, Gary Weir, Phil Aldis, Tonja Aldis, Nelda Wilson, Diane Anderson, Mike Steeves, Sue Montgomery, Pat Campbell, Mackenzie Aldis, Janet Wright McLeod and Sandra Preece

Dave opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He then nominated Carole Williams to act as Chair of the meeting, seconded by Ken Stewart, CARRIED. Elly Leben nominated Sandra Preece as Recording Secretary, seconded by Nancy Hayley. CARRIED

Jan Lougheed gave the opening prayer.

Rick Leben moved that adherents be granted the right to vote on motions made during the meeting. Seconded by Mary Cohan-Pekarchuk.

Jorgen Jensen moved the approval of the Agenda with the name of Judi Roesler changed to Sandra Preece as recording secretary, seconded by Anita D'Arcy.

Brian Laughlin moved the approval of the Minutes of 2025 Congregational Meeting, seconded by Elly Leben. CARRIED

Business Arising: The following reports were distributed to the congregation for review prior to the meeting, therefore it was not necessary for them to be read. Each chair was available for questions or comments as set out below:

Annual Meeting Minutes from Previous Year

Minister's Message – Jan Lougheed

Official Board – Dave Hayley

Session – Carole Williams - Judi Roesler wished to point out that she was Administrator, while Tonja was part of the Worship Committee.

St. Columba Fund – Nancy Hayley

Bethel Fund – Sandra Preece

U.C.W. – Nancy Hayley

Mens Ministry – Walter Veenstra

Outreach – Anita D'Arcy

Communications – Walter Veenstra

Whytes/Epworth Cemeteries – Ken Stewart – Ken added that Rob Roesler will be taking over as Secretary-Treasurer.

Trustees – Ken Stewart

Stewards – Walter Veenstra

Ministry & Personnel – Jan Lougheed

Search Team – Tonja Aldis

Treasurer's Report – Rob Roesler – After being asked as to the church's solvency, Rob pointed out that as we have not had to pay a half-time minister as yet, we were in a very good position and the plan was to move more money from the bank account into Fiera Investments.

2026 Budget – Rob Roesler

Moved by Tonja Aldis that all reports and the 2026 Budget be accepted as presented, seconded by Cathy Guertin, CARRIED.

New Business:

Search Team – Tonja Aldis reported that it was the wish of the team to update the position description on the United Church HUB as follows:

Position Title: 1/2 time Ministry Personnel – Ordained, Diaconal, Designated Lay Minister, within Salary Category A, B, or C. Openness to being a Supervised Ministry Education Site. Bethel St. Andrews would offer the support and supervision if a student were to discern that their learning goals could be met within this community of faith. BSA would ensure that a compensation package would include the necessary time required to fulfill the goals and requirements of the study program they are enrolled in.

Cathy Jensen moved that the profile on the church Hub be amended to include the Openness to being a Supervised Ministry Education Site, seconded by Cathy Guertin CARRIED

Pulpit Removal – Jorgen Jensen addressed the issue of the pulpit which hasn't been used in many years and the need for more "stage" space for the upcoming musical. He proposed to remove the pulpit and make a temporary space with stairs and a ramp in preparation for the musical, then later in the summer he would finish the area in a manner "up to code" with plans to be put before the Official Board, then the congregation. He would then replace the present pulpit with the one which came from St. Columba and is on wheels.

Moved by Cathy Jensen, seconded by Rick Leben that Jorgen remove the pulpit from its location and when necessary use the pulpit from St. Columba, as well as repair the floor, steps and ramp(s) in a manner which is up to code as well as passed by the Official Board and the Congregation. CARRIED

Organ – Rick Leben suggested that as no one was playing the organ, that it should maybe be removed. After some discussion it was decided to not do anything at this time.

Elections - - Jan pointed out that with the passing of Phyllis Douglas, there was a vacancy in the Ministry & Personnel Committee. Cathy Jensen volunteered to fill the position. Anita D'Arcy moved, seconded by Pat Campbell that Cathy be appointed to this committee. CARRIED

Stewards – Barry Pretty was removed from the Stewards.

Jan closed the meeting with prayer.

Elly made a motion to adjourn.

Carole 1 Williams, Chair

Sandra Preece, Recording Secretary