

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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AGENDA - March 12, 2023 – 116th Annual Congregational Meeting

All 2022 Reports can be found on our website: <https://www.standrewscalgary.ca/> ON-LINE RESOURCES/ Annual Reports & Financials

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer

2. Appointment of **Secretary**

MOTION: that _____ be named secretary for the meeting.

3. Adoption of **Agenda** (found on the first page of the Annual Report)

MOTION: that the agenda be adopted as printed.

4. Adoption of the **Minutes of the 115th Annual Meeting** (pages 5, 6 & 7) of the 2022 Annual Report)

MOTION: that the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting, held on March 6th, 2022, be adopted.

5. **In Memoriam** (page 26 of the 2022 Annual Report)

6. Adoption of **2022 Annual Report**

MOTION: that the 2022 Annual Report be adopted.

7. Interim Moderator Update, opportunity for questions

Peter Coutts

8. Presentation & Adoptions of the **2022 Financials**

David Townsend

MOTION: that the report on the financial review of the 2022 statements be adopted.

MOTION: that the financial statements for the 2022 fiscal year be adopted.

9. Presentation & Approval of the Proposed **2023 Budget**

John Cuthbertson

MOTION: that the 2023 budget be approved.

10. Thanks, Adjournment and Benediction

Minutes of the 115th Annual Congregational Meeting

March 6, 2022 - – *Kevin MacFarlane, Recording Secretary*

Attendance and Constitution:

Members and adherents of St. Andrew's gathered over a Zoom web conference at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 6, 2022, for the 115th Annual Congregational Meeting with almost 100 in attendance at one point.

Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts served as Moderator and welcomed everyone to the meeting at 2:05 pm. An agenda was emailed to members on March 2, 2022, which included the following 3 major pieces of business:

1. Peter bringing us up to speed about where we are with respect to vacancies, interim moderator and interim minister. This will include Peter speaking of what he understands to be his role.
2. We will look at the financial reports from the year gone by, and
3. We will look at a budget to provide for the year ahead.

This meeting was not held in person, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, so Rev. Peter explained the unique procedures that people would need to follow for raising questions and voting on various motions presented at the meeting.

Rev. Peter led us in prayer before the meeting proceeded further.

Appointment of Secretary, Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes and Adoption of 2020 Annual Report:

- A. MOVED by Dolly Forcade, seconded by Cathy Millar that Kevin MacFarlane be appointed Recording Secretary for the meeting. **CARRIED**
- B. MOVED by Judie Coleman, seconded by Rhonda Wishart, that the agenda, as corrected on our website Events Page, be adopted as presented. **CARRIED**
- C. MOVED by Hugh McFadzean, seconded by Cathy Millar, that the minutes of the 114th Annual Congregational Meeting be approved. **CARRIED**

A prayer of thanksgiving and remembrance was offered for the members and adherents of St. Andrew's who passed in 2021:

Bob Barclay (Elder)	Doug McMillan
Graham Blakie	Vida McMillan-McKay
Shirley Breidon	Bruce McVean
Mary Cracknell	Roberta Stephen
Shirley Davidson (Elder)	Malcolm Wilcox
Mavis Drake	Marie Wilcox
Esme Israel	Joyce Young

- D. MOVED by Sheila Kirkland, seconded by Craig Murray, to adopt the “non-financial” aspects of the 2021 Annual Report. **CARRIED**

Comments received from the congregation:

- Mark Rowe suggested that on page 21 of the Annual Report, the totals for December 31st Communicant Membership are missing. They should be 375 for 2021 and 415 for 2020.
- Pat Tritter pointed out that her dad would have wanted the spelling of his name in the 2020 and 2021 Annual Reports to be corrected in the Memorial Fund Reports. It should be corrected to Bill McAuley on page 11 of the 2021 Annual Report.
- Sheila Kirkland is so impressed with our Congregation as reflected in this 2021 Annual Report, especially given the challenges of the pandemic. It is so wonderful how God has guided us to do these great things over the past year. Presbyterian nods followed from everyone.
- Cathy Millar wanted to provide extra thanks to our staff for what was done in the year, as well as appreciation to the support from our congregation (both by action and by finances).

The motion, with corrections set forth in the comments approved by the mover and seconder, was **CARRIED** unanimously.

Interim Moderator/Interim Minister Update: Rev. Peter (also known by some as “Re-Pete”) introduced himself with an update on what he has been doing over the past 9 years since leaving St. Andrew’s in 2013 as minister for the previous 13 years. 3 weeks prior to this meeting, Rev. Tim Archibald advised the Session that he had accepted a call to Oakridge Presbyterian Church in London, Ontario and 5 days prior to this meeting, Rev. Peter assumed the one year, 40 hour per week position of Interim Moderator and Interim Minister of St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Calgary. He went on to explain the two different roles and the 8 individual goals which are oriented to guide St. Andrew’s to run as a “tight ship”. Presbytery has approved this in the form of a 2½ page “to-do” list.

The Search Committee has recommended to Session that it cease its search for an Associate Minister, Growth and Care and this recommendation was approved by Session. In the face of the “perfect storm” of losing all three ministers as the Covid 19 Pandemic took hold, Rev. Peter himself believes that we must find a lead minister as soon as we can re-visit our assessment of the needs of the congregation. Following this re-assessment, we must get our plan approved by Presbytery.

This complex undertaking will require the patience and understanding of the congregation. “Nothing is impossible with God” and the support of the congregation, Session and staff for each other will help us recover from the hurt, disappointment, anger, hurt and loss. With prayer, we will turn the corner from the past and move in the direction that God will make possible. Peter then quoted from Paul’s writing in the bible to inspire us.

Presentation of 2021 Financials – John Cuthbertson

John recognized the other members of the Finance Team who have worked so hard in the preparation of these financials and the proposed 2022 Budget: Dolly Forcade, Cathy Millar, David Townsend and Shona Vandrascio.

10 pages of finances were not covered in detail at this meeting. A “deeper dive” presentation had taken place earlier in the week. Our revenues increased by \$30,000 from 2021 but the sources were much different than in prior years. Our fundraisers, envelopes and electronic givings were down by about \$25,000 from the prior year and transfers from other funds (like Legacy Fund, Memorial Fund or other restricted Funds) were down by about \$38,000 from the prior year. We had about \$64,000 in subsidies, none of which needs to be repaid. In addition, we received approximately \$52,000 in pledges which many people have provided as part of a 5-year commitment.

On the expense side we had \$16,000 lower costs from the prior year.

Details are all included on our website under Online Resources /Annual Reports and Financials

MOVED by John Cuthbertson, seconded by Cathy Millar, to approve the 2021 Financial Report. **CARRIED**

John Cuthbertson proceeded to introduce the 2022 Budget ultimately approved by Session. John spoke of the importance of us moving forward in unified direction, just as our successful Women’s rowing team did in the Summer Olympics. Shona Vandrascio then went over the details of the 2022 Budget which Session encourages the Congregation Members to approve at this meeting.

Questions followed concerning staffing costs allocated to South of Fish Creek for 2022. Shona explained that the Financial Plan being approved today relate only to the St. Andrew’s 2022 Budget and not the South of Fish Creek Budget.

MOVED by Mark Rowe, seconded by Judie Coleman, that the 2022 budget be amended to remove the “new minister moving expenses” (\$12,500) from the budget as being received from the Memorial Fund and that such expense be covered by the 2021 surplus. Later clarification added to the amendment that a total of \$25,000 be allocated from the 2021 surplus to supplement the \$12,500 already added to the “Moving Fund Reserve”.

The amendment was **CARRIED** by a majority vote at the meeting.

MOVED by Andrew Wiswell, seconded by Jim Hope-Ross, to approve the 2022 Budget Plan, as amended at the meeting. The amended motion was **CARRIED**.

Rev. Peter thanked the members of the Finance Team.

Sheri Coutts MOVED the adjournment of the meeting and Sylvia Shaw seconded the motion. **CARRIED**

Rev. Peter closed the meeting in prayer at approximately 4:30 pm

Kevin

Interim Minister – *Rev. Peter Coutts*



Wow! What a year! On March 1st, 2022, the Presbytery approved me to be your Interim Minister, and my work began that day. Five days later I chaired our annual congregational meeting. And the pace didn't let up. By the time you read this report my interim ministry will have been concluded. Much happened for St. Andrew's in 2022. In this report I want to remind you of all that took place this past year and how that positions St. Andrew's for its future.

The pivotal moment for us was Rev. Tim Archibald's decision to accept a call to Oakridge Church in London ON after 3.5 years of ministry in our midst. That understandably came as a shock and fostered significant feelings of uncertainty about our future. It also meant that for the first time since 1978, St. Andrew's did not have a called minister! From what I hear through "the Presbyterian grapevine" Rev. Tim is doing well at Oakridge and it is our prayer that God would richly bless his ministry there.

The Session had a few aspirations for our church as well as a few challenges. The biggest challenge was financial. Like all congregations, the post-COVID church-world shrank our in-person worship attendance and our income. This year we saw the departure of two of our lay staff persons, which reduced our expenses. Then, after long and careful conversation, the Session agreed unanimously that we were no longer in a position to afford a second minister. While this has moved our expenses much closer to our post-COVID income, the gap is not completely gone. We are grateful for ten families that have committed to above-and-beyond givings for a five-year period (just finishing year two now). Additionally, we are grateful to the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod for giving us \$200,000 of what was the "South of Fish Creek" Fund. Our Finance Team plans to utilize some of those monies in a reducing way over three years as well. While we made a significant change to our budget in 2022, there is more to do in bringing expenses into alignment with income. That said, these two extraordinary sources of income will allow us to continue our financial pivot in an incremental, managed way so that it reduces the felt impact on our congregational life. Our thanks to the Finance Team for managing well our challenging fiscal situation.

In recent years the congregation has done some excellent work in forming our mission and vision statements. This year we worked at the next step: naming a strategic direction (that is, what we are actually going to do) forming the practical goals that will focus how we live out our mission: "Woven into the neighbourhood, growing disciples who love like Jesus." I conducted a well-attended on-line educational series that combined with a congregational event with Dr. Tim Dickau (from St. Andrew's Hall—our school at UBC) in April and our Open Space discussion day on May 29th (that saw 100 congregants participating). The Session gathered all that we learned from these activities and determined:

- There is a desire to develop further in a missional church direction
- The congregation wants to focus our missional activity within our two nearest neighbourhoods: Kingsland and Haysboro
- That it was time to conclude our ministry south of Fish Creek.

We are now in the process of "learning our way forward" into this new strategic direction. This fall we started meeting with congregations, city social agencies, non-profit organizations, a city social worker, a Roman Catholic school principal and two other churches to think about how we can collaborate to support the Kingsland neighbourhood and strengthen community there. A few ideas for what we can do are emerging and you will learn of them in 2023. Along with this, the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod has released us from our responsibility to form a new ministry in south Calgary.

This year we also spent time in prayerful reflection on full inclusivity for LGBTIQ2S+ persons. In 2021 the General Assembly opened the way for congregations to hold same-sex marriages and to welcome LGBTIQ2S+ persons to be elders and ordained clergy. St. Andrew's discussed these matters regularly in recent years but the General Assembly decision prompted us to discuss them more earnestly this year. Our S.A.F.E. (Spirituality and Faith Explored) Team led an excellent series of workshops on this topic in the spring and opportunities for discussion were provided. Consequently, the Session agreed to align us with the new direction of our denomination, passing the following motions:

- The Session of St. Andrew's affirms its understanding of the covenant of marriage as a covenant between two persons.
- The Session of St. Andrew's affirms that sexual orientation or gender identity shall not be a barrier to being called as a minister or ruling elder.
- The Session of St. Andrew's is an affirming congregation who publicly, intentionally, and explicitly welcomes LGBTIQ2S+ persons to full participation in the life of our community.
- The Session of St. Andrew's commits to carrying the work of diversity and inclusion forward in an intentional way. Examples would be continuing education with the congregation (conversation groups); partner with churches that are on this path (Varsity, Knox); create a team or partner with Leading with Care to develop goals and monitor progress.

Our work for growing into *our* new orientation continues. For 2023 this begins with a book study on the topic.

In 2021 the Session agreed to move from the "life service" model to the "term service" model for elders. Last year we worked through the implementation of that decision. We are grateful for the nine elders who agreed to resign from Session to make way for this change, and for the willingness of six members to respond to the congregation's call to be ordained as new elders.

Once we knew how many ministers we are looking for, the Search Team got back to business looking for that person. I am active in recruiting potential candidates, and the Search Team is reviewing their profiles. This is an excellent group and I have every confidence they will make a wise recommendation for us.

While I am concluding my interim minister work, you are not done with me yet! The Presbytery appointed me in January 2023 to continue on past March 1st as your Interim Moderator. That means I will be scheduling ministers to lead worship every Sunday, including Rev. Geoffrey and myself monthly. I will be staffing the Search Team, moderating the Session, helping with pastoral care and supporting the organizational life of our congregation.

Over my 35 years of congregational ministry I have worked with many, many Sessions. I still assert that our Session is the best one I have ever had the privilege to serve with. We are blessed to have an excellent staff, with Debby and Dolly doing the administration ably, Evan as our remarkably talented Music Director, Rev. Geoffrey sharing his giftedness in pastoral care, David Kurtz as our steady hand running audio-visual each Sunday, Alice Post overseeing our Side-by-Side program with skill and compassion. We also have what I consider "volunteer staff": Judie Coleman (overseeing and Ministries of Care as well as supporting Side by Side), Kevin & Barbara MacFarlane (communications), Matt & Lauren Nolette (leading the youth group), Flemming Nielsen (helping us out twice a week with practical matters around the building) as well as Craig Murray, Tom Spoering, Paul Draper, Doug & Marcus Thornborough, and Braeden Werle [apprentice] (our audio-visual wizards). We are indeed blessed.

As you can see, a lot happened last year. But it must be said, we relied on two for it all. First, we relied on you: who came to worship, supported us financially, volunteered in our organization and activities, and participated in what we did. You make us 'us', and for that we are all thankful. And we also relied on God. It was a challenging year, but for us God has been "our refuge and strength" and because of that "our cup overflows." If you would, please take a moment now for a prayer of gratitude, for indeed we are grateful. *Peter*



Interim Pastoral Care Minister ~

Rev. Geoffrey Simmins

Last year, my report included these words: “My thoughts as I write this annual report are coloured by gratitude—gratitude for this loving community and staff; gratitude for the gift of life; and gratitude for new light dawning ahead.”

I continue to feel exactly the same way—grateful for the opportunity to serve this community, to work with great people, and grateful for the love of God and the world that the people of St. Andrew’s exhibit towards one another and towards the wider world.

Rev. Peter, as many of you know, formerly piloted ships in the Canadian navy. He has piloted this ship of St. Andrew’s very well during the past year. With the guidance and approval of Session, he has facilitated a process of term-service for elders. He has looked carefully at what kind of reserves (financial and human) there are for future voyages. And he is doing his level best to put another person at the helm so that this ship can continue to sail on a good course and he can relax into being a good mission-oriented St. Andrew’s member.

HMCS Haida National Historic Site, Catharine Street North, Hamilton, ON (Photo by Denley Photography on Unsplash)

Ships are meant to sail to a destination, aren’t they? They aren’t intended to sail in circles. We are sailing towards a port called Salvation. While we await that eventual destination, we worship God, we serve others, and we learn how to love one another and forgive each other, and ourselves, when we fall short. God is good. God will bring us safely to that port.



Me, I am an able-bodied sailor, happy to continue on this well-piloted ship until it reaches a port where I will disembark. Our plan for that is the end of June. I feel as though I have sailed around the world with you. And I have enjoyed every moment of the journey.

As many of you know, I have been pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree, with a focus on Pastoral Care and Counseling. If all goes well, I expect to complete the dissertation this year. Thank you for all your support as I did this. It’s been a rich and full and interesting experience.

Meanwhile, Pastoral Care Coordinator Judie Coleman and I are continuing to dream up programs that we hope you will find interesting and relevant. We are considering organizing a Presbytery-wide orientation for potential hospital visitors. We are looking at workshops about how to look with courage and creativity at our eventual deaths—and to plan clearly, so that family members will know what is important to us. Stay tuned for details. Let us know if you would like to suggest any other programs for this coming next few months.

Please feel free to connect with me if you or family members are experiencing stress, grief, or challenges. I can be reached at gsimmins@standrewscalgary.ca. I am also ready and willing to visit people in hospitals and care centres. I remind you that this is not just my job, it’s my joy.

May God bless you and keep you, and this loving community of faith, this day and always. *Geoffrey*

Clerk of Session ~ Debby Dorcas

2022 was a year of transition for St. Andrew's as we continued being 'woven into the neighborhood, growing disciples who love like Jesus'.

A few of our 2022 Session Highlights:

- In February, Rev. Dr. Tim Archibald shared with Session that he had discerned that he was being called to serve the congregation of Oakridge, Ontario, and would be leaving St. Andrew's to accept that call. Dr. Tim completed his formal ministry at St. Andrew's on March 1, 2022.
- On March 1 St. Andrew's welcomed Rev. Peter Coutts as our Interim Minister for a one-year period. We are grateful to Rev. Peter for 'coming out of retirement' to lead us through this transition time.
- Following four weeks of (further) study and discussion through evening workshops organized by our SAFE team (Human Sexuality Task Force), the Session of St. Andrew's committed to carrying the work of diversity and inclusion forward in an intentional way. *Please read the report from the SAFE Team in this 2022 Annual Report to get details.*
- The Mission Team continue to help us think about weaving ourselves into the neighborhood in several ways; through our continued work with Claire House, growing the relationship we have with the Indigenous community, and thinking of ways to become even more connected with the neighbourhood around us.
- With Rev. Peter's leadership, we worked on the items Presbytery assigned to us.
- After many months of discussion and prayer, Session unanimously voted to request the Presbytery of Calgary Macleod release St. Andrew's from its obligation to conduct "ministry south of Fish Creek".
- The Facilities Team oversaw the purchase and installation of a new fire alarm panel.
- The Finance Team and Gratitude & Generosity Teams worked hard on ensuring that we meet our financial obligations, knowing that our contributions are a way of giving back to God.
- The Ministries of Care Teams, the Worship Team, and the Faith Formation Team worked hard to get our church family safely back together in-person following the pandemic restrictions.
- After discussion and prayer, Session discerned that St. Andrew's will be calling a solo minister. The Search Team are now working hard to find a minister for our congregation.
- Session agreed to a Session size of 18, and that Session will add 6 new elders to its number in 2023. This meant that nine current elders would retire Jan 2023. In December Session determined the following persons have been elected to the office of elder, and will be ordained in January 2023: Judy Bridgemohan, Sheri Coutts, Desiree Henrichson, Lauren Nolette, Stephanie Werle, and Derek Wilkinson.

As of December 31, 2022 the following elders were serving at St. Andrew's, with Rev. Peter Coutts serving as Moderator of Session:

Ed Braun	Debby Dorcas	Sheila Kirkland	Craig Murray	Annette Shaw
Elaine Cantlon	Dolly Forcade	Hugh McFadzean	Inge Murray	Rhonda Wishart
Audrey Cole	Bill Judd	Loran McVittie	Christine Pepper	
Judie Coleman	Lynn Judd	Cathy Millar	Mark Rowe	

On a Leave of Absence: Kevin MacFarlane, David Platt, and Janet Ridsdale

During the year, Joan Rowe retired from Session. We are thankful for her dedication and service within our faith community, and that she continues to serve in other ways.

Rev. Peter confirmed his intention to finish his Interim Minister duties at the end of February 2023, and to continue as our Interim Moderator until a new minister is in place. We are grateful for his continued support!

Session is looking forward to an exciting year ahead, as we live out our Vision and Mission Statements. *Deb*

Director of Music Ministries ~ *Evan Mounce*

The Music Ministry exists to enrich the spiritual lives of St. Andrew's through music and song.



TEAM MEMBERS:

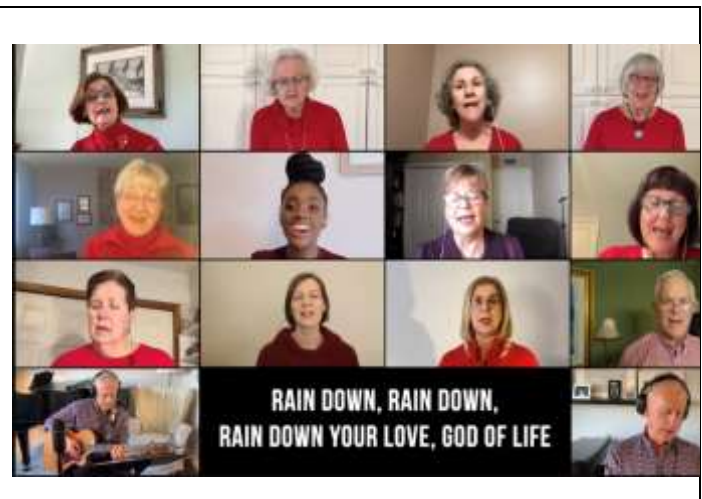
St. Andrew's Choir, Praise Team, Kaleidoscope Ringers (Lori Teneycke, director), and Musical Guests

HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

The Music Ministry at St. Andrew's led music in a number of extra special services during this past year. These included our Light and Love Jazz Vespers with guest Dallas Hayes, our Good Friday *Weeping Tree* Service with guests Malcolm Lim and Sara Far, our Thanksgiving Sunday with Sara Far and Kathryn Fakeley, Remembrance Sunday with Andrew Leitch, the *All is Calm* shared Advent concert hosted by Grace Presbyterian, and most recently a moving service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas Eve with guests Sara Far, Jasmine Long, Andrew Leitch, Laura Brandt and Aaron Bartholomew.

I am so thankful for all the members of our Music Ministry at St. Andrew's. Of particular note is the St. Andrew's Choir - they are the heart of music-making at St. Andrew's. They are a dedicated and faithful (not to mention talented!) group of volunteers, and they challenge themselves musically, week after week, and always rise to the occasion. I work with many professional singers at Calgary Opera and with the Calgary Phil, but our beloved St. Andrew's Choir has something special and the members bring such intention, warmth, and generosity to everything they do. I am grateful to be the Director of Music Ministries at St. Andrew's and thankful for this ministry.

Yours in music,
Evan



Christian Meditation Group - *Ken & Sharon Burrill*

The St. Andrew's Christian Meditation community continued to meet throughout 2022, gathering faithfully each Monday morning at 10:00 on ZOOM. This year we were also able to gather for several walking mediations in Fish Creek Park, for silent retreat days with other members of the Calgary Christian meditation community and occasionally in member homes.

As the Holy Spirit moves through the silence and stillness of our meditation practice, we have come closer to God and to each other. This small group of meditators is a blessing to each of us as we Grow LIFE Together With God.

In our meditation we follow the simple guidance of Psalm 46:10, which encourages us to "Be still and know that I am God," thus opening our hearts to the silent presence of the Spirit of His Son.

If you are interested in learning more about Christian Meditation, we encourage you to explore the excellent resources provided by the World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM.org), and the associated Canadian Community for Christian Meditation, (wccm-canada.ca).

For further information on the St. Andrew's Christian Meditation Community please contact "skmeditates@gmail.com".

All are welcome.

Ken & Sharon



Communications Team - *Kevin MacFarlane, Convenor*

LinX Weekly Email Team – Debby Dorcas / Kevin and Barbara MacFarlane

Mandate: Our team ensures that all who wish to can “Stay Connected” and fully engage with the mission and ministry of St. Andrew’s Calgary in the way that the Spirit moves them.



Highlights of 2022:

- The number of subscribers increased from 241 to 263 due to promotion in worship slides, the website and Facebook/Instagram.
- Inclusion of the “Stay Connected” section for repeating items, and the use of “CLICK HERE for more information” reduced the length of the weekly emails.

Facebook/Instagram Team – Kevin MacFarlane/ Lorna Andronikou

Mandate: Our team ensures that all who wish to can “Stay Connected” and fully engage with the mission and ministry of St. Andrew’s Calgary in the way that the Spirit moves them.



Highlights of 2022:

- St. Andrew’s postings about worship or events appeared on Facebook/Instagram more than 85% of the days in 2022.
- Spiritual postings were sometimes added by our good friend Alice Post.
- Lorna Andronikou created numerous animated “Stories” for our Facebook and Instagram subscribers, which were eye-catching, but only available for a limited time period.

Website Team – Kevin MacFarlane/ Rev. Peter Coutts

Mandate: Our team ensures that information on our website is accurate and current for all who access it directly, by links from social media or by “LinX” from the weekly email.



Highlights of 2022:

- Webmaster duties were assumed by Kevin MacFarlane upon the departure of Mikael MacEachen, our Communications staff member.
- Improved focus on keeping the calendar more up to date and linking it to “Our Work Continues” in LinX .
- Focus on advantages of “On-line Resources” like ConnXions Issues, LinX weekly emails, and annual reports.
- Services and Sermons webpage now directs congregants to YouTube livestreams, so that maintenance of webpages can be reduced.
- Clearer access to “Give Now” on website homepage.
- Considerable work with teams to ensure that “Who We Are” section reflects us accurately to prospective congregants and prospective ministers. Rev. Peter Coutts has worked with the Search Team and others to help with this, and has done significant work on the website itself to meet this goal. Check out the section “Searching for Our Next Minister” under “Who We Are” to see an example of this, which includes our 2022 Congregational Profile.



Worship Slides Team – Kevin and Barbara MacFarlane

Mandate: Our team ensures that congregants can follow the flow of worship services and sing the hymns without touching a printed order of service or hymn book. This became essential as pandemic health precautions required this and many wished to continue to worship via Livestream on YouTube.

Highlights of 2022:

- Complete graphics duties were assumed by Kevin and Barbara MacFarlane upon the departure of Mikael MacEachen, our Communications staff member. Prior to that, only hymn slides were prepared by Kevin MacFarlane.
- Barbara MacFarlane focused on including photography rather than graphic art with the use of public domain sources like “WallpaperSafari.com” and its wide selection of Christian images. Our church subscription to “Canva.com” has been particularly useful for the application of logos.

This is a posting from our **Facebook page**,
highlighting some of the people of our church

#GLTWG



👍❤️🤗 17

4 comments 1 share

❤️ Love

💬 Comment

➦ Share

ConnXions Team – *Lorna Andronikou, Convenor*

The ConnXions Team highlights how each ministry team is living out St. Andrew's Vision & Mission via a bi-monthly newsletter available in print and online format.

Team Members:

Lorna Andronikou, Judie Coleman, Barb English, Lauren Nolette, Lorie Nielsen (retired in 2022)

HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- There were 6 ConnXions Newsletters published in 2022.
- The ConnXions Team lost our Communications Coordinator in June of 2022. Since then, it has been run solely via church volunteers.
- Updates are included in both print and digital format, allowing those who do not have access to a computer to be informed of all church news.
- Many changes occurred in the life of St. Andrew's in 2022. ConnXions highlighted these changes, which included ministerial and staffing changes, retiring elders, St. Andrew's new direction, and LGBTIQ2S+ inclusion.
- ConnXions also highlighted all of the important work being done within the life of the church via our numerous ministry teams in 2022.
- ConnXions attempts to provide updates via articles as well as photographs, ensuring the life of the church comes alive on each page.



Facilities Team, *Don Koch – Convenor*

The Facilities Team ensures that our building is safe and well maintained inside and outside.

The Facilities team manages the contracting of janitorial, waste removal, lawn cutting, snow shovelling and plowing services. Facilities volunteers perform minor repairs throughout the year as required, and also plan and coordinate upgrades and renovations to the building.

TEAM MEMBERS:

Brad Chalmers, Otto de Nooij, Don Koch, Alfred MacRae, Tom McIntyre, Flemming Nielsen, Sean Pepper, Mark Rowe, Brent Werle, Danny Duncan

HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- Facilities developed and implemented a new Fire Safety Plan in the spring, and installed a new Fire Alarm Panel in November.
- During the year, new contracts were negotiated with Red Dot Cleaning (Janitorial), and with Devalley Roofing (Snow Shovelling and Plowing).
- In 2022 we were busy as liaison with contractors - Scandia (building heating and air conditioning), Little Big Recycling (Waste), Signature Landscaping (lawn maintenance), 22 South Fire (Alarm), and Orion Safety (emergency equipment and lighting).
- Facilities volunteers installed four new heat de-icing cables on the roof of the Sanctuary and Karl English Lounge in November.
- Our Team prepared a comprehensive draft of the Facility needs (maintenance and capital items) for the 2023 budget process and presented it to the Finance Team in October.

Thank you to our entire Team in 2022 for their skills and their willingness to help keep St. Andrew's building and grounds safe, presentable, and an attractive place to worship God. Special thanks to Flemming Nielsen in his role as acting interim Facilities Team Convenor to the end of August.

Don

Faith Formation Team - *Rhonda Wishart, Convenor*

The Faith Formation Team is engaged in providing guidance and active support to life-long faith formation within the congregation, with a particular focus on children and youth.

Team Members:

Rhonda Wishart (Convenor), Inge Murray, Debby Dorcas and Lorna Andronikou

Faith Formation Team Highlights of 2022:

- We were so excited to have our children return to in-person church school in September 2022 – seeing little ones' faces and hearing their voices again was a true blessing to the whole congregation.
- Youth group was also able to meet consistently in-person once again, enabling a safe and welcoming gathering spot for our youth on Friday nights under the warm and able leadership of Lauren and Matt Nolette.
- An additional FF highlight included Take 150 in October where the children joined the FF Team and friends for a lively meal and livelier games, where even the children frequented the rest zone to temporarily escape the running and screeching!
- Lastly, the family Christmas Eve service proved to be one of the best in recent times with families joining in a joyous and relaxed evening of making crafts, dressing for parts in the Christmas story and playing their own musical instruments.

We are indeed blessed by our faithful nursery, church school, youth group and adult bible/book study leaders and a congregation of families willing to engage with us in our faith journey!

Rhonda



Family Ministry Team - *Stephanie Werle, Lucy Arburto, Craig & Inge Murray*

The Family Ministry Team was disbanded awhile ago; however, a few dedicated people continue to gather people of all ages together to foster community, worship God and enjoy the great outdoors. This past year our group organized the following events:

- Cross-Country Ski Day in Kananaskis
- Annual Family Camping at Bragg Creek
- Fall Hike at Brown-Lowry Old Mill Loop.

Rev. Geoffrey Simmons has been an integral part of each gathering, providing meaningful worship with communion as part of our time together.



Finance Team - *John Cuthbertson, Convenor*

We are here to help St. Andrew's manage its finances.

TEAM MEMBERS: David Townsend, CPA; Shona Vandrasco, CPA; Cathy Millar (Session rep), Dolly Forcade, Treasurer; John Cuthbertson, Convenor

Attached to this report are the 2022 financials and the 2023 proposed budget which has been approved by Session for submission to the congregation. As in other years, we will be hosting a one-hour "deep dive" session on March 5, 2023 at the Church to answer any detailed questions you have about the 2022 Financials. Although we are happy to receive 2023 budget questions beforehand either in writing or verbally, any questions about the 2023 budget should be saved for the Congregational Meeting on March 12. The goal is to answer them on March 12 when all congregants are present for the annual meeting.

1. 2022 was another "interesting" year. As at mid-November, we were facing a deficit of approximately \$90,000 but were hopeful that our congregation would respond in December, as they have in the past 3 years, to reduce that burden. Historically, we've received nearly 1/6th of our annual givings in December. Our congregation surpassed that number this past December with contributions of nearly 20% of our budgeted givings. The December challenge to match gifts up to \$25,000 was very successful, and raised \$30,240 for a total challenge number of \$55,240. It was an amazing and much welcomed response! The result was that we significantly reduced our year end deficit to approximately \$20,000 -- a revenue improvement of nearly \$14,000 above the budget which the Congregation approved last March. Thanks so much to everyone who helped achieve that.
2. Expenses overall in 2022 were reduced, and a huge shout-out to all the team convenors who managed their budgets so prudently! This was very helpful as we worked to manage our challenging cash position during the year.
3. On the revenue side, we continue to benefit from the stewardship of those making 5 year pledges which run annually until 2025.
4. With more people returning to in person worship, our open plate offerings(\$7947) were up significantly from budget (\$1000).
5. We received an unexpected rebate of our 2019 and 2020 Presbytery dues totalling \$10, 957. This was due to some Synod expenses being lower than expected in those years because of Covid impacts (e.g. Camp Kannawin was closed).
6. As a result of a decision of Presbytery last fall, we have transferred all of our South of Fish Creek funds to Presbytery, apart from \$200,000 which we were allowed to keep. These changes are reflected in our balance sheet. Part of the arrangement with Presbytery respecting the retained funds was that we needed to outline an expenditure plan, which we did and which was accepted by Presbytery. That plan calls for us to spend a portion of the funds over the next three years on a declining balance basis -- \$40,000 in 2023, \$30,000 in 2024 and \$20,000 in 2025. After 2025, the

remaining funds (and any investment income respecting the retained funds) are not subject to any required spending obligations. Further expenditures after 2025 would be reevaluated recognizing the circumstances of the time and with a view to sustaining those funds into the future.

7. The facilities team has prepared a capital budget for 2023 which is outlined in the attachments. Although this is a 2023 “item,” you will recall that for the past few years, capital expenses for facilities have not been funded out of our annual financial plan, but rather through other sources such as help from the Legacy Fund or general fundraising. For 2023, we have been blessed by the exceptional generosity of David and Joanne Platt who have made a gift of \$60,000. \$30,000 has been designated for the Legacy Fund (Worship and Mission, equally for \$15,000), \$5000 is in respect of their generous 5 year pledge, and the remainder of \$25,000 is to be added to the reserve for major repairs and will largely cover most of the 2023 capital items identified by the Facilities Team! We are so thankful for these gifts!!!

We hope this gives the macro picture for 2022 and if you wish more detail, please come to the March 5, 2023 deep dive session.

John



Forged in Faith – Youth Group - *Matt & Lauren Nolette*

“Their purpose is to prove that your faith is genuine. Even gold, which can be destroyed, is tested by fire; and so your faith, which is much more precious than gold, must also be tested, so that it may endure. Then you will receive praise and glory and honor on the Day when Jesus Christ is revealed.” 1 Peter 1:7

Matt and I have the privilege to help grow the faith of our youth, and to offer fellowship and a safe place for them and their friends to come together on a Friday night, talk about our lives and play games. Some of our highlights this year were:

- our Halloween party, where we carved pumpkins, had some spooky snacks, had a “Witch’s kitchen”
- we had many rousing games of Clue, and played some fun video games
- getting to know the kids better, and building relationships with them has been a cherished part of being their leaders.

We have some exciting events and studies coming up and can’t wait to see what 2023 brings to our youth!

Matt & Lauren



Gardening Committee - *Volunteers*



We are grateful for green. Green lawns, green shrubs, green leaves, and green thumbs. We have many green thumbs at St. Andrew’s, and when they match up with willing hearts and the love of the outdoors ~ and hours spent making things beautiful in our yards and flower gardens, we are indeed grateful!!!!

Deb, on behalf of the congregation

Gratitude & Generosity Team - *Cathy Millar, Convenor*

The Gratitude & Generosity Team (G & G) supports the ministry of St. Andrew's by intentionally encouraging and reminding us of what God has done for us and what we in turn are called to do for God in response.

Team Members:

Elaine Cantlon, Kevin MacFarlane, Cathy Millar, Stephanie Werle

The year 2022 saw some significant changes for our congregation with the sudden departure of our Lead Minister in February and the subsequent appointment of The Rev. Peter Coutts as Interim Minister, for whose ministry and leadership we have been most grateful. During the year more of our members began to return to in-person worship, and we continued to experience increased growth as the year went on. This growth gives us much HOPE, and is a sure sign that God continues to call the people of St. Andrew's to ministry and mission in the southwest area of Calgary.

God has blessed us all as individuals and as a faith community in so many ways. And we are called to respond generously in a spirit of gratitude for all that we have received. Our Ministry and Mission together depend upon the generous support that springs from our individual and collective gratitude to God.

The following summary outlines the various initiatives that were undertaken by G & G during the 2022 calendar year:

- G & G helped to promote the Light and Love Jazz Vespers Fundraising event held in February, which was overseen by our Director of Music Ministries, Evan Mounce. The Werle family -- Stephanie, Kaitlyn, Braeden and Brent -- kindly offered to emcee this online event, and we are most grateful to them for their outstanding contribution
- The special focus on offering continued during the year to help highlight the various ministries supported by our offering: Faith Formation in January; Gratitude and Generosity in February; Ministries of Care in March which was particularly well received by the congregation; Worship and Music in April; Church Facilities in May; Youth Group in June; Family Ministry in September; G & G in October; and Faith Formation in December who introduced the congregation to our new sponsored child through Compassion Canada
- We contributed several articles to ConnXions during the year to help encourage generous giving
- Kevin MacFarlane, one of our committee members, worked tirelessly to update the St. Andrew's website in order to increase the profile of our GIVE NOW donations page
- In October we introduced new laminated offering cards intended for use in worship during the offering by those who donate monthly through PAR and cheque, or online. This allows them to more fully participate in the offering, which is a weekly act of worship
- In December we had the pleasure to announce to the congregation that an anonymous donor couple had extended an extremely generous offer by challenging the congregation to honour its financial commitments before year end and that they would match the funds received before December 31 up to \$25,000. The congregation wholly embraced this challenge and we wish to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to the donor couple for honouring God through this very generous offer.

As 2022 came to an end, G & G was fully engaged in discussions for a possible fundraising event in 2023, so we invite you to stay tuned! And finally, we wish to thank all of you for your faithful commitment to Growing LIFE Together with God in 2022. YOUR GENEROUS AND FAITHFUL SUPPORT matters to all those we serve in Christ's name. THANK YOU, ST. ANDREW'S!

February Love and Light Webcast



Laminated Giving Cards



March 2022 Ministries of Care G&G Moment



New "Give Now" Webpage



Give one-time or schedule recurring giving using the [DONATE NOW](#) link above

Heritage Seniors - *Jan Kozbial, President*

Heritage 50+ Seniors' mandate is to improve the quality of life of its members by providing opportunities for physical, spiritual, social and mental activities.

The Heritage Seniors are slowly recovering from Covid shutdown but it has been a struggle. Our membership has made a reasonable gain over last year, but still a long way to go for sustainable membership numbers. We have been very prudent with our spending and as a result have sustained all of our primary activities. Some activities did not show enough interest and as a result, we have not continued with them. However, we remain open to any and all activities that show enough interest to pursue.

Our Strawberry Tea last year was limited to just the Tea Room and as a result, the profit was not what we have had in the past. With the increasing age of members and dwindling membership, we were happy with the 'fruits of our labor,' so to speak. I would like to again thank all the volunteers who came out to help. The response to our last minute call for help was greatly appreciated. Thank you to all those who responded. Please save the date of Saturday, May 6, 2023 for this years' Strawberry Tea.



We are open for new memberships 50+ and encourage anybody interested to come see what we do. The \$25.00 annual fee is very reasonable. A copy of our activity schedule can be found in the foyer, on the Church web site and in the office.

We host catered luncheons on the 1st Monday of the month except the summer months. What a great time to socialize and visit with friends.

Jan

In Memoriam - *Dolly Forcade, Office Administrator & Treasurer*

The following members and adherents of our congregation died during the year

Bob Allan
Betty Burtch
Elsie Cameron
Jean Christie
Madge Clarke
Sylvia English
Grace Fraser
Muriel Higgins
Ben Hutchinson

Bertha Mann
Bob Moody
Jackie Moody
Wes Mummery
Bunty McKenzie
Margaret Ormon
Eric Steiner
Ray Waldock
Lynn Wharton

Ladies Guild - *Pam Livingstone, Guild Member*

The Ladies Guild is a group of faithful and dedicated women who support each other and with their individual God given talents, work together to support both St. Andrew's and our community near and far.

In 2022 we held three major fund raisers to support our mission:

- complemented the Light and Love Vespers evening by offering decadent chocolate caramel desserts for sale
- 2nd annual soup sale
- Annual Yuletide Bazaar which was enjoyed and well supported by St. Andrew's and the neighbourhood

Other ways we reached out to serve:

- Supported families suffering a loss by providing funeral lunches
- Sent special occasion cards to congregants
- St. Andrew's Scholarship fund
- Camp Kannawin
- PWS&D
- Cooked monthly meals at Ronald McDonald House for out-of-town families with critically ill children
- Provided and delivered 2,325 bag lunches to vulnerable children through BB4CK (Brown Bagging for Calgary Kids). Volunteers in Calgary are now feeding 6000 K-12 children daily.
- Supported the Student Emergency Fund at 5 local high schools
- Afghan refugee gift cards
- Claire House Christmas Appeal

We meet the second Tuesday of each month (Sept.-June) in the KEL at 1:30. We welcome anyone of any age interested in sharing this ministry to join us.

Pam



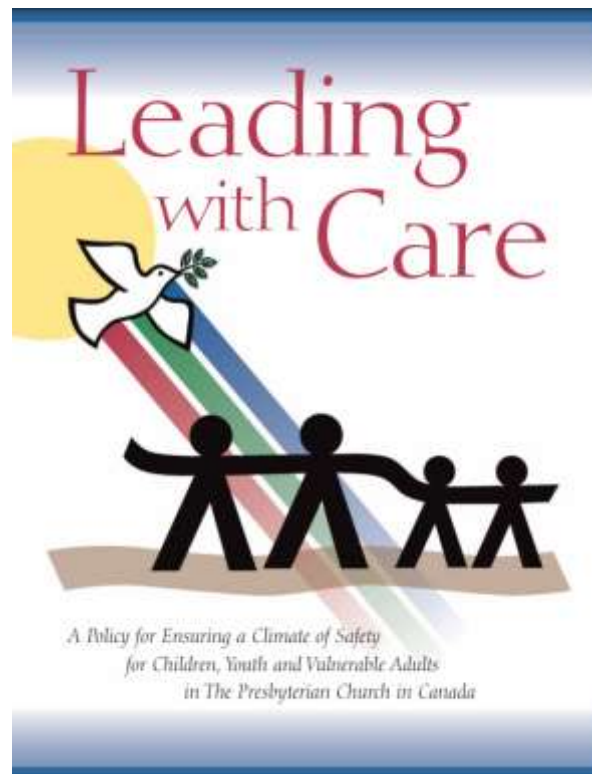
Leading with Care - *Kim McLachlan, Leader*

We are here to help St. Andrew's work towards being a safer space for all, especially considering vulnerabilities due to age, ability and gender, though not limited to these alone. We recognize that we are called by God to protect and care for all in our community.

Starting slowly this year, we look to reinvigorate this work. Documents were revised for Church School and Youth Group leaders, and orientations were held for both those teams toward good understanding of the Leading With Care principles and policy.

More team members are needed this year - let me know if this work might be a good fit for you!

Kim



Legacy Trust Fund - *Craig Murray, Convenor*

The Legacy Team is in place to provide oversight and governance of the Legacy Fund, supporting St. Andrew's in the categories of Mission, Worship and Facilities.

TEAM MEMBERS:

Margaret Bates (Treasurer), Merle Crawford, John Cuthbertson, Craig Murray, MaryAnne Quesnel and Derek Wilkinson

HIGHLIGHTS from the past year include:

- Beds and a new refrigerator for Claire House
- New dishwasher for the Karl English Lounge
- Literature for Stephen Ministries
- Supplies for the Worship Team to enhance memorial services

A special note of thanks to the team members who are extending their services in 2023 until replacements can be found, and to Dolly Forcade for her ongoing support.



Craig

Memorial Fund - *Alex Grant, Memorial Fund Treasurer*

In 2022 Donations were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of the following:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| • Trevor Fonteyne | • May & Jimmy Shaw |
| • Ruth Grant | • Oscar Schwab |
| • Grant Huber | • Randy Schwab |
| • Roberta Mann | • Flora & Harry Taylor |
| • Margaret Pleskie | • Ruth Young |
| • Jack Staseson | • Muriel Young |

Alex



*Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure*

Ministry Resource & Accountability - *Cathy Millar (Convenor)*

This team of 3 – 4 elders provides support to all Ministers of Word and Sacrament serving in a called position at St. Andrew's

TEAM MEMBERS:

Craig Murray, Christine Pepper, Lynn Judd and Cathy Millar

Very early in 2022 our Lead Minister resigned to accept another call, leaving St. Andrew's without a called minister on staff. As a result, the Presbytery appointed The Rev. Peter Coutts as Interim Minister for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2022. During this time MRA has been inactive in terms of its role, since Peter has been accountable directly to Presbytery.

Ministry Resource & Accountability Terms of Reference

Responsibilities:

1. Be a resource to assist St. Andrew's ministers in fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of their position descriptions, and in meeting the goals and objectives of their Session-approved ministry plans
2. Conduct the Lead Minister's annual review
3. Assist the Lead Minister, as requested, in his/her annual review of Associate Ministers
4. Assist the Lead Minister, as requested, in his/her ongoing role of supervising Associate Ministers
5. Meet quarterly or for emergent issues
6. Provide constructive feedback from Session and congregation for ongoing ministry
7. Support the ongoing health and well-being of St. Andrew's ministers
8. Approve vacation leave, in consultation with the Lead Minister, and discuss study leave requests
9. Provide regular reports to Session
10. Prepare a brief review of yearly activities for the annual report

The Ministry Resource and Accountability Team will:

- I. Include three to four elders, with recognized gifts to achieve the responsibilities, appointed by Session in consultation with the General Presbyter
- II. Include all called Ministers of Word and Sacrament at St. Andrew's
- III. Require individual members to serve a 3-year term, with at least one member rotating off each year and no more than 2 leaving in a given year when there are 4 members serving on the team

Cathy

Mission Team - *Judy McKearney, Convenor*

Our team strives to seek projects that bring awareness to the marginalized in society and in turn develop and initiate programs that meet the needs of others, especially in our neighborhood.

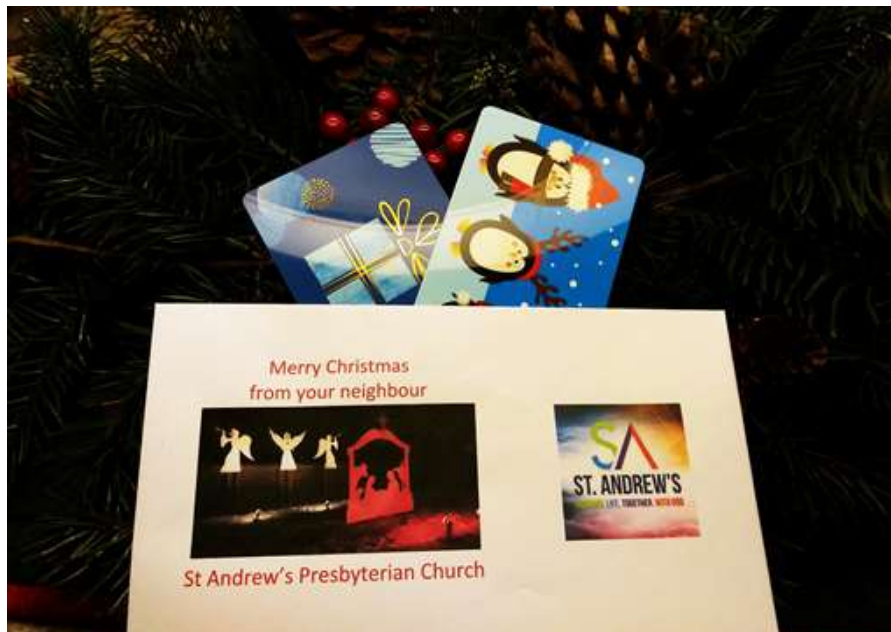
Team Members: Brian Hawco, Brent Harding, Bill Judd, Lauren Nolette and Judy McKearney

Highlights This Last Year:

- **FOOD BANK DEPOT.** Each Saturday through the calendar year teams of dedicated volunteers organize and disperse hampers to those people struggling and in need of food.
- **CLAIRE HOUSE.** This has been an ongoing outreach of St. Andrews for 10 years. We work at building community and forming intentional relationships by engaging with the residents each Thursday morning. These gatherings include all age groups. Last spring we assisted them in planting a vegetable garden and helped with landscaping and maintenance of their property.
- **INDIGENOUS RELATIONS:** Ongoing conversations with our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters that is now leading to a PowWow event to be held in the fall.

Judy

Claire House Gift Cards



Ministries of Care - *Judie Coleman, Pastoral Care Coordinator*

We are here to care for St. Andrew's people by listening, praying, and visiting them.



Side by Side Christmas tree - 2015

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 – All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. (NLT)

We give thanks for each TEAM COORDINATOR:

Alice Post (Side by Side), **Alice** Williams (GriefShare, Wellness), **Annette** Shaw (Prayer Shawl Ministry), **Barb** Kearnes (Life after Loss), **Inge** Murray (Connect with Care), **Joan** Rowe (Care Share), **Judie** Coleman (Hospital Visitation, Stephen Ministry), and **Lorie** Nielsen (Prayer Chain). Special thanks to **Cathie** Huber who retired this year from coordinating Two's Company, a ministry to the homebound after four years of dedicated service. We welcome **Judy** McVittie as our new Two's Company coordinator.

HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- Sunday, March 20: Ministries of Care presented a skit during the offering time to help congregants be aware of the varied teams and what they offer in the way of pastoral care.
- Sunday, October 16: the Ministries of Care volunteers were recognized for their faithful service.
- November 22: Rev. Geoffrey offered a workshop on Active Listening that was well attended.

More information can be found on the church web site under [Ministries of Care](#).

Care Share: using MealTrain online ~ *Joan Rowe, Coordinator*

To respond to individual needs identified by ministerial staff, elders, office staff and the congregation by providing short-term support in crisis situations, which require food preparation, and/or other specific needs that can be met by a volunteer.

TEAM MEMBERS:

Joan Rowe, Coordinator
Stephanie Werle, Resource Coordinator
Judy McVittie, Christmas letters

Individual volunteers receiving email requests: 18

The following volunteers have offered meals in 2022 via MealTrain requests: Pat Tritter, Lynn Judd, Barbara Kearnes, Inge Murray, Marianne Attridge, Gail Prevost, Debbie Draper, Debby Dorcas, and Joan Rowe.

Three HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- Those receiving meals have all expressed their deep gratitude for the ministry of personal sharing and for the meals themselves.
- A total of 23 Meals were delivered to 6 recipient families in 2022.
- 33 Christmas cards were mailed to our elderly and homebound. 19 cards were mailed to church members and adherents who lost a loved one during the past year. A letter from our Ministers was included.



Connect with Care Ministry (formerly known as District Visitors) ~ *Inge Murray, Coordinator*

Gifted pastoral Care Connectors endeavour to build relationships, serve as a contact person, share information about St. Andrew's, and support and celebrate with families throughout the year.

The Connect with Care Ministry Team consists of Care Connectors (formerly known as District Visitors) who connect with members and adherents of St. Andrew's by in-person visits, phone calls, emails or text messages.

A few Care Connectors have retired this year and we are in the process of re-assigning families to new Care Connectors. We are grateful for all the faith-filled care this group provides.

GriefShare ~ *Alice Williams, Facilitator*

To provide pastoral care to those who are grieving.

TEAM FACILITATORS: Alice Williams, Kathleen Tomie and Judie Coleman

This new 13-week non-denominational program offers support in terms of help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. There are three key parts to each session: a video presentation designed to address a specific aspect of grieving, a short group discussion about the weekly video content, and the workbook *From Mourning to Joy* for journaling and for personal study exercises that reinforce the weekly session topic.



Three HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- Tuesday October 4 was the program start. This initial program was divided into an 8-week and a 5-week session with a break in between. We had a total of 12 participants attend the first 8 week session.
- We began each session with a lighthearted ice-breaker question. It was a positive, non-threatening way to encourage warmth, acceptance and sharing amongst participants.
- We ended the first 8-week session with a pot luck lunch. Each participant who attended received a snowflake-themed memento box containing the poem, "The Meaning of The Snowflake," a snowflake tree ornament, a snowflake votive candle and some chocolate mints.

Hospital Visitation Ministry ~ *Judie Coleman, Coordinator*

We are here to help St. Andrew's provide spiritual care for the people of St. Andrew's Church who are being treated in Calgary hospitals



Our Interim Pastoral Care minister, Rev. Geoffrey Simmins, and our Interim Minister, Rev. Peter Coutts regularly visited congregants who were known to be in the hospital. During the pandemic our faithful trained visitors were shut out of the hospitals. Both Arlene Young and Linda Burton Chalmers have retired as visitors. Even if we could not visit in person, we were able to offer prayers for those whom we knew to be in hospital or recovering at home. We remain open to God's leading and spirit as we try in all ways permitted to reach out and be the hands and feet of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

Rev. Geoffrey plans to offer a hospital visitor training course early in 2023. In this way, our prayer is to renew this ministry with lay visitors as we move into 2023. If this is something that God is calling you to consider, please attend to see how you can bring God's love and comfort to those in hospital.

Life after Loss ~ *Barb Kearnes, Coordinator*

To provide support to those grieving a loss.

TEAM MEMBERS: Alice Williams, Marilyn Cantlie, Phyllis Duncan, Barbara Kearnes (coordinator)

Our team met several times throughout the year. Our records indicate 21 members and adherents who have died in the past year, as well as 17 family members. We continue to mail out cards; some are an annual remembrance of an individual's passing, and some are an invitation to attend the Celebration of Life service. Several phone calls were made, as well as numerous informal messages of condolence and support.

The annual Celebration of Life / Life after Loss service was held on November 28th with 46 in attendance and 100 on-line views. Our guest speaker, Rev. Rick Beck, and two students from Ambrose University were well received. The service was followed by a short time of fellowship in the K. E. Lounge.

We are most grateful for the support we have received as we carry out this ministry, and welcome any feedback as to ways we can be of assistance in future.



Prayer Chain Ministry ~ *Lorie Nielsen, Coordinator*

To connect the congregation to God through prayer.

PRAYER PARTNERS: Sibbie Borden, Nancy Brown, Nicola Cameron, Elaine Cantlon, Audrey Cole, Judie Coleman, Peter Coutts, Sheri Coutts, Elly de Nooij, Barb English, Dolly Forcade, Sue Hall, Val Hall, Desiree Henrichsen, Bill Judd, Lynn Judd, Sheila Kirkland, Barbara MacFarlane, Kevin MacFarlane, Elspeth McFadzean, Hugh McFadzean, Judy McVittie, Inge Murray, Lorie Nielsen, Gail Prevost, Janet Ridsdale, Judy Roberts, Joan Rowe, Mark Rowe, Jean Sadler, Annette Shaw, Sylvia Shaw, Geoffrey Simmins, Mary Lou Staseson, Arlene Young.

Prayer requests come to the coordinator mainly by email (prayer@standrewscalgary.ca) or telephone (587-777-2444). We all pray regularly; and during 2022 we had many rewarding answers to our prayers. Details regarding all the prayer requests cannot be shared as they are all held in the strictest confidence. My personal mantra is "Pray, hope, wait....repeat." We can and do share our elation as well as our sorrow with each other, but mainly it is a solitary ministry that we share with God each day. It is amazingly uplifting!

Prayer Shawl Ministry ~ *Annette Shaw, Coordinator*

We are here to help St. Andrew's by creating hand-knit and crocheted shawls, filled with the power of prayer, for those in need.

TEAM MEMBERS: Prayer shawls were first knit by our Women's Missionary Society members (WMS) and continue to be knit and crocheted by women attached to this congregation.

People in this ministry create hand-knit and crocheted shawls, filled with the power of prayer, for those in need. The shawls provide an enduring testimony of God's generous and enduring love. As in all acts of generosity, the giving of these shawls enriches the giver as well as the recipient.



At least ten prayer shawls, in many different colours and sizes, were distributed this year to families and friends of St. Andrew's. They are also made available during our annual fall Celebration of Life Service.

Side by Side ~ *Alice Post, Coordinator*



At Side by Side, we have a heart for families in the community who are living with dementia. We care deeply, and we walk alongside in supportive ways. For the person living with dementia (the participant), we extend warmly welcoming social engagement, both spiritual and physical nourishment, opportunity for creative expression through music and art, light exercise and fun activities. We provide the care partner (the person caring for the person living with dementia) an opportunity for social connection and support and/or to confidently take personal time, or respite, as needed, knowing their loved one is happy and cared for.

Side by Side Online met regularly throughout the year, sharing together in social time, music, and activities in one-hour Zoom calls once or twice a week. Volunteers who took part regularly in 2022 were Ken Burrill, Judie Coleman, Pam Livingstone, Annette Shaw, Bob Shaw, and Kathleen Tomie.

Side by Side In-Person started up again in September 2022 after many hours of preparation throughout the summer. This was enabled by the dedication and gifts of time generously shared by many volunteers regularly taking part: Earl Brown, Edelgard Brown, Ken Burrill, Audrey Cole, Judie Coleman, Sheri Coutts, Donna Harrison, Diana Hrytsak, Pam Livingstone, Kathryn Matrosovs, Marg McCulloch, Melvin Picazo, Annette Shaw, Bob Shaw, and Kathleen Tomie.



Others have played a vital role by being available to fill in occasionally as devotion leaders, song leaders, or companions, by baking, by praying, or by contributing financially.

We give thanks for all the ways that God blesses the Side by Side ministries through the gifts and talents of this community and the relationships that bring so much joy and meaning to our lives.

Stephen Ministry ~ Judie Coleman, Stephen Leader

To provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation.



Our Stephen Ministers agreed to a three-year commitment when they were commissioned in May 2018, and they provided faithful service to numerous care receivers during that time. All of our Stephen Ministers have fulfilled their commitment and have retired. We hope to soon seek and train a new cohort of Stephen Ministers, but for now, we are on hiatus.

Even though we do not have active Stephen Ministers, we continue to send out *Journeying through Grief* booklets. These are a set of four short books sent to people at four crucial times during the first year after the loss of a loved one. Over 20 people received the booklets in 2022.

We remain open to God's guidance and spirit as we try in all ways permitted to reach out and be the hands and feet of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

Two's Company – a ministry to the Homebound ~ Cathie Huber, Past Coordinator

This ministry fulfills a special need to members and adherents who are no longer able to attend church, by visiting and supporting them in their homes or institutions. These visits are expected 4 times a year or more. Often deep friendships occur.

With the impact of COVID still remaining it was a quiet year. Sadly five of our homebound recipients died this past year and their visitors asked for a well-deserved rest. The visitors who served faithfully this past year were Maureen Amos, Phyllis Duncan, Pat Lomheim, Pat Pollard, Gail Prevost, Kathy Slimmon, Mary Lou Staseson and Pat Tritter. Thank you for your dedication. Now we greatly welcome Judy McVittie as the new Coordinator of Two's Company. At present we have 4 recipients and 3 active visitors.

With the aging of our congregation more visitors are needed to bring a caring presence to our homebound, and to show that our church cares. We have not forgotten you. Please consider being a visitor!

With God's help may we increase in our service as we show a caring community to those in need.

Wellness ~ Alice Williams, Coordinator

Our team of retired Registered Nurses, on a volunteer basis, promotes health and wellness for members of the congregation. We provide updated health information and activities covering a wide scope of topics. We partner with members of the congregation to present their perspective on a specific health topic, and maintain contact with Alberta Health Services community resources.

TEAM MEMBERS: Anne Greco, Lynn Judd, Barbara Kearnes, Judy McVittie and Alice Williams.

Three HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- The January / February 'Health Matters' article for *ConnXions* was written by Deanne Barrett, a member of our congregation, on a parent's perspective related to COVID-19 immunization for children aged 5-11 years.
- The latest Alberta Health Services Fall Prevention information booklets on "Band Exercises for Older Adults" and "Keeping well for Older Adults" were two of the most popular showcasing the 2022 Fall Prevention campaign. These along with other relevant information were given out following two church services in November.
- A team member participated in a University of Alberta review of a proposed Fall Prevention medication poster delivering crucial information related to medication dosage, delivery, and compliance for older adults.

Personnel Team – *Elizabeth Dolan, Convenor*

Our team has the delightful responsibility of supporting the hard-working (non-ministerial) staff of St. Andrew's Church. "Support" means that: there are current and clear job descriptions; there is an updated manual that is fair to staff and contracted positions; this valued work receives recognition by word, gift and appropriate financial compensation; and that needs or requests from staff are honoured and addressed fairly.

TEAM MEMBERS:

Elizabeth Dolan, Convenor
Murray Coleman
Merle Crawford
Kristi Millar

HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- The work done by Mikael MacEachen in the area of "Communications," including integrating graphic art and internet media, was completed. St. Andrew's benefited immensely from Mikael's expertise to the degree that the church can manage our graphics, communication and social media needs using a strong bank of volunteers. We wish Mikael all the best in his career as an independent graphic artist.
- In September were able to recognize the exceptional contribution to the life, work and growth of St. Andrew's by our office staff, Debby Dorcas and Dolly Forcade. In collaboration with the Finance Team, two original paintings were presented to Debby and Dolly as reminders of our gratitude for all they have done and continue to do for our church.

Elizabeth



SAFE – Sexuality and Faith Explored – *Lynn Judd, Convenor*

The Human Sexuality Task Force (S.A.F.E - Sexuality and Faith Explored) was formed in 2019 to engage the congregation in discussion around the topic of sexuality and the church.

Team Members: Deanne Barrett, Lynn Judd, Kim McLachlan, Christine Pepper

For the past several decades, The Presbyterian Church in Canada has studied and discussed questions related to sexuality, particularly questions related to same-sex marriage and the roles of LGBTIQ2S+ people in ministry. St. Andrew's participated in these discussions, and in May, SAFE sponsored a series of workshops for congregational reflection.

In 2018 our denomination wrote a letter of repentance to the LGBTIQ2S+ community and our congregations, reminding the church of God's call to be a community where we welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us. Then in 2021, our national governing body (the General Assembly) affirmed that "all people whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity are equally beloved by God."

In the fall, the SAFE team presented the following recommendations that were adopted by Session:

- The Session of St. Andrew's affirms its understanding of the covenant of marriage as a covenant between two persons.
- The Session of St. Andrew's affirms that sexual orientation or gender identity shall not be a barrier to being called as a minister or ruling elder.
- The Session of St. Andrew's is an affirming congregation who publicly, intentionally, and explicitly welcomes LGBTIQ2S+ persons to full participation in the life of our community.
- The Session of St. Andrew's commits to carrying the work of diversity and inclusion forward in an intentional way, e.g., continuing education with the congregation (conversation groups); partner with churches that are on this path (Varsity, Knox); create a team or partner with Leading with Care to develop goals and monitor progress.

Lynn



Search Team - *Lorna Andronikou, Convenor*

We are here to help St. Andrew's call a new minister.

TEAM MEMBERS:

- Lorna Andronikou
- Rev. Peter Coutts (Interim Moderator)
- Judie Coleman
- Bill Judd
- Inge Murray
- Bart Stolee
- Thelma Wagner



HIGHLIGHTS from the past year:

- The Search Team was commissioned to begin our search for a new minister in the fall of 2022. Our first meeting was October 5, 2022.
- The team revamped the Congregational Profile, and it has recently been published on the Presbyterian Church in Canada's website.
- The Search Team is looking forward to the next phase of our work, which includes reviewing profiles and conducting interviews.

Statistics - Dolly Forcade, Office Administrator & Treasurer

Congregational Statistics

FAMILIES		2022	2021
Number of families associated(Dec. 31)		284	307
THE MEMBERSHIP			
Communicant Membership January 01		375	415
Added to the Roll	by Profession of Faith	0	0
	by Certificate of Transfer	4	0
	by resolution of Session	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
		6	0
Removed from the Roll	by Death	12	9
	by Certificate of Transfer	1	2
	by Resolution of Session	6	1
	by own request	<u>11</u>	<u>28</u>
		30	40
Communicant Membership December 31		351	375
<u>BAPTISMS</u>	Children	1	0
	Sudanese Children	32	
	Adult	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		33	0
<u>MARRIAGES</u>	Members	1	1
	Adherents	0	1
	Other	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
		4	2
<u>FUNERALS</u>	Members	7	5
	Adherents	2	0
	Other	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
		11	7

Worship Team - *Lynn Judd, Convenor*

The goal of our worship team is to ensure that services are carefully planned and conducted to provide meaningful, creative and thoughtful worship experiences that invite us to experience God and nourish the spiritual growth and transformation of our members.

MEMBERS:

Debby Dorcas, Lynn Judd, Clem McLachlan, Evan Mounce, Derek Wilkinson, Rev. Peter Coutts

HIGHLIGHTS:

- We are blessed to have Evan providing musical direction, leadership and inspiration for special services such as the Weeping Tree on Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Christmas Eve.
- We are grateful to our AV Coordinator David Kurtz, the sound board operators, and those learning these new skills ~ for providing the technical know-how for our live streaming that helps us stay connected as a worshipping community.
- We appreciate the dedication and commitment of those who volunteered and served as greeters and ushers.

Lynn



A few of our special moments together:



St. Andrew's Church Staff - 2022

Interim Minister

Interim Pastoral Care Minister

Director of Music Ministries

Executive Assistant

Office Administrator/ Treasurer

AV Coordinator

Nursery Caregivers

Side-by-Side Coordinator

Rev. Peter Coutts

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins

Evan Mounce

Debby Dorcas

Dolly Forcade

David Kurtz

Emily Izett and Lilwen Henrichsen

Alice Post



GROWING. LIFE. TOGETHER. WITH GOD