



Annual Report

2024-2025

*Connecting with God, Growing with Others,
Serving with Purpose*

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Annual Meeting Agenda

7pm Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85847892283>

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

2. Approval of Minutes of Feb. 27, 2024

3. Incumbent's Report & Discussion

The Incumbent welcomes the insights, questions, and observations of those present on each of the issues raised in his report.

4. Reception of all Distributed Reports

5. Presentation and Approval of Proposed Budget for 2025

6. Election of Parish Officers

Warden: Lorraine Brown and Laura Myers have agreed to continue to serve as our parish wardens.

Vestry: Our current Vestry members are Donna Leonard, Justin Stanley, Karen Stanley, Glenna Geer, Debbie O'Bryant, Dawn Lent, Buzz Payne, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, Joanna DiProse, and Janice Kelly

Beth McBride, Debbie O'Bryant, and Tricia Phillips will complete their terms as members of Vestry as of this meeting.

Delegates to Synod:

Alternates to Synod:

7. Adjournment *Following the annual meeting, the members of Vestry are asked to remain to appoint a Treasurer, Vestry Clerk, and Parish Advisory Committee, and to arrange an offering counting schedule for the year ahead.*

Incumbent's Report 2024

In my last report, I observed that 2023 was the first year since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic that our parish experienced any growth in the areas of attendance, engagement, and/or giving. I am happy to report that in 2024 we continued experience meaningful growth in all three of these areas.

I also shared in my last report my conviction that the growth we experienced in 2023 was thanks, first and foremost, to God's faithfulness to us as we remained focused on him. Once again, in preparing this report, I remain convinced that the growth we experienced in 2024 is ultimately thanks to God and the work of God's Spirit as we continued the work of helping our neighbours connect with God, grow with one another, and serve with purpose.

As we look to the year ahead, amid all the uncertainty, our purpose as a parish remains clear. Our purpose is to stay focused on helping people connect with God, grow with one another, and serve with purpose.

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Worship Attendance in 2024

I am thrilled by the fact that overall worship attendance continued to grow in 2024, because worshipping together is the main thing we do as a parish to help people connect with God.

Average Sunday Attendance in 2023:

9am Service = **12.6**

10:30am = **65.4**

(10am Summer Services = **54.4**)

Average Sunday Attendance in 2024:

9am Service = **11.2**

10:30am = **81.6**

(10am Summer Services = **61.6**)

I'm also excited to report that the number of children and youth that regularly join us for worship also increased in 2024. Unfortunately, in 2023 we neglected to record the precise number of children and youth in attendance each Sunday, but we know anecdotally that that number grew by roughly 30% in 2024.

Of course, none of our worship gatherings would be possible without the faithful service and dedication of our many volunteers. I am extremely grateful to our layreaders and readers, to our greeters and those who provide refreshments each week. I am also grateful to our tech. crew,

ushers, Sunday School volunteers, to the Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran for the leadership she provides in our worship, and to Sharon Kelly who so diligently coordinates all these volunteers each week.

We're also blessed at St. Paul's to have several musicians and singers who eagerly share their musical gifts with us as we praise God together in song. Your willingness to share your gifts in these ways makes worshipping together not only possible but deeply meaningful and enjoyable.

My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you!

Special Services and Small Group Gatherings

Of course, Sunday morning isn't the only time we gather to connect with God in prayer, worship, and reflection. Special worship services around the holidays and small group gatherings through out the year are also important times for connecting with God, and we've seen engagement grow in these gatherings as well.

Special Service Attendance in 2023 and 2024

Service	2023	2024
Ash Wednesday	17	30
Maundy Thursday	35	41
Good Friday	49	83
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil	8	25
Cemetery Memorial Service	69	75
Memorial Xmas Tree Lighting	28	34
Xmas Eve (total attendance)	194	211

Small Group Gatherings

While we have not made a habit of carefully tracking attendance numbers for the various small group gatherings that are part of the life of St. Paul's, there is strong anecdotal evidence that engagement in small groups did grow in our parish in 2024.

In the winter of 2024, we consistently welcomed 12 to 15 participants to a discussion series entitled "Love in Chaos" in which writer and speaker Bob Goff challenges and guides Christians how to respond to hostility and division with the grace and love of Jesus.

In the spring and fall 2024 we welcomed several new participants to our discussion group dedicated to watching and discussing "The Chosen" (an online series about the life of Jesus). We also welcomed several new participants to our Tuesday morning Coffee & Conversation Bible study group in 2024 as well.

In the fall of 2024, Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran started a brand-new series of workshops dedicated to a range of Christian prayer practices and spiritual disciplines. These workshops have also helped several of our members connect with God in new and deeper ways.

Thanks so much to each and every one of our small group participants and leaders because these small group gatherings are not only vital to helping people connect with God, but are also vital to helping people grow together.

GROWING WITH OTHERS

Jesus said that the two most important things in life are loving God and loving our neighbours as ourselves. Part of Jesus' point here is that our relationship with God is inseparable from our relationship with other people, and in order to grow in our relationship with God we need to grow in our relationships with other people as well. This is why our regular small group gatherings are so important and why I am so grateful for groups like the Mothers' Union and the Holy Joes.

Mothers' Union and The Holy Joes (a.k.a. The Guild of St. Joseph)

The importance of the Mothers' Union and Holy Joes in helping the friends and members of St. Paul's grow with one another cannot be overstated. They have been integral to the life of our parish for decades. They are both headed entirely by parishioners, and they consistently provide the people of St. Paul's with valuable opportunities to not only get to know one another, but to learn and serve together as well.

I am so grateful for these groups and for all the ways they continued to bless us and help us grow together in 2024.

New Resources to Help Us Grow Together in 2025

In March of this year, several of our members will be participating in the Practicing the Way Course. This is a free series comprised of 8 sessions of teaching, guided conversation and spiritual exercises that have been designed to help people practice the way of Jesus together.

The goal of the Practicing the Way Course is to help people live as apprentices of Jesus: to be with Jesus, become like him, and do as he did. As one parishioner has already pointed out, it's kind of like the Alpha Course. However, where the Alpha Course is focused on introducing people to the basics of the Christian faith, Practicing the Way is meant to help people continue the lifelong journey of following Jesus.

The group which produces the Practicing the Way Course has also produced video and discussion material dedicated to several key spiritual practices like prayer, scripture reading, sabbath keeping, fasting, generosity, solitude and community. My hope is that our experience of the Practicing the

Way Course will prove fruitful and that we'll be able to leverage these additional resources to help more and more of our members and neighbours grow together as followers of Jesus.

SERVING WITH PURPOSE

In Ephesians chapter 2 verse 10, the Apostle Paul writes, “[W]e are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works.” Paul is reminding us that God has created and called us to bless and serve others and that it’s in serving the people around us that we continue to grow in our relationship with God and one another.

Worship Services, Community Meals, and Sacred Spaces

In my report last year, I suggested that there are 3 main ways in which we as a church serve our members and wider community:

- 1) We provide people the opportunity to connect with God in worship, prayer and spiritual reflection.
- 2) We provide people the opportunity to gather in community for fellowship and to eat together (i.e. small group gatherings, community meals, high school lunches).
- 3) We maintain and provide access to sacred spaces (namely our church building and cemetery) in which community members continue to draw near to God and to their departed loved ones.

Some would also argue that the land provided by St. Paul’s for the Hampton Community Garden is a kind of sacred space in which our community members are able to nurture their connection with creation and the land through gardening.

Together, we serve our community by providing these worship services, community gatherings, and sacred spaces, but we need to recognize that the work that goes into serving in these ways also provides our members with the opportunity to serve with purpose in a way that nurtures their own spiritual growth.

One of my biggest hopes going forward is to find new and more effective ways of inviting, welcoming, equipping and coordinating new volunteers to be a part of the work we do together at St. Paul’s. We have many very devoted volunteers who are extremely generous with their time, and yet so much more can be done to invite others into this work and share the spiritual benefits of serving with purpose together.

The Growing Challenge of Maintaining our Building

Maintaining and providing access to our building and cemetery are important services that we as a parish provide to both our members and the wider community. I am deeply grateful for the hard work

and dedication of the several volunteers who contribute their time, expertise and often their own finances to maintaining and improving St. Paul's property for the benefit of our community.

As we look ahead to the ongoing task of stewarding St. Paul's building and property, we need to face the fact that the financial costs and physical challenges of maintaining our property will continue to increase with every passing year. This means, of course, that our ability to meet these costs and challenges must grow as well. If our ability to manage and maintain St. Paul's property fails to develop and grow, maintaining our property and making it available to our community will become impossible for us.

The question of how to face the ever-increasing costs and difficulty of maintaining St. Paul's property will have a major impact on the long-term viability of our parish and it needs to be answered with both prayerful discernment and practical expertise.

One of my aims for 2025 is to bring this prayerful discernment and practical expertise together in a way that will strengthen our ability to meet the growing costs and challenges of stewarding our property effectively. However, property management is not something in which I have any practical expertise whatsoever. If you do, and if you feel called to help us in this endeavor, please let me know. We are going to need all the help we can get.

THANK YOU'S

I am eternally grateful for every single person who worships with us at St. Paul's, prays for us at St. Paul's, serves with us at St. Paul's and contributes financially to the life and mission of St. Paul's. It cannot be overstated that St. Paul's simply would not be here without all of you doing all of this together.

Thanks, in particular, to our Office Administrator and Sunday Morning Ministries Coordinator, Sharon Kelly. In addition to compiling this year's annual reports, Sharon continues to tirelessly coordinate all of our Sunday morning volunteers, is a huge help with our Children's Ministry, runs the parish office and is ready to talk with, listen to and pray for anyone who might call or pop into St. Paul's during the week.

Thanks, as well to our honorary deacon, Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran. Debbie spent most of 2024 visiting, bringing Communion to and praying with many of those who are unable to gather with us in person at St. Paul's. She also served as the Vestry clerk. Since retiring from the vocational deaconate in October 2024, Debbie has continued to serve in an honorary capacity in the parish, which includes helping in worship, and facilitating workshops on prayer and spirituality.

My thanks to Shawn Coughlan, Stephen MacMackin, Bruce Kennedy, Clarence Miller and Wayne Dollar for the work they've put in over the past year helping to maintain and improve St. Paul's building and cemetery. Thanks also to Mike Fillmore who works to keep our worship space and parish hall clean and ready to welcome people.

Thanks to the members of our Cemetery Committee: Stephen MacMackin, Alice Kennedy, Janice Kelly, Sharon Kelly, Estelle Fowler, and David Fillmore who manage and maintain the resting place of so many of our community's departed loved ones.

Thanks to all the singers in our choir, and to our musicians Kate Turner, Silas Turner, Laura Myers, Paul McAfee, and Arlene & Alan DesRoches for their support of our music ministry.

Thanks to Declan Bayer, Silas Turner, Katie Hoyt, Stan Brown, John Cochran and Chris Rendell for their help running the video, sound and streaming technology on Sundays.

Thanks to our layreaders: Heather Miller, Myra Stites, Lorraine Brown, Debbie O'Bryant, and Andrew Robertson, and to our many readers and greeters who bless us with their time and service in worship.

Thanks to Heather Miller, Alice Kennedy and the Fellowship Team for all they do to feed us at so many of our parish gatherings.

Thanks also to our Vestry members: Beth McBride, Janice Kelly, Justin Stanley, Karen Stanley, Donna Leonard, Buzz Payne, Dawn Lent, Tricia Phillips, Joanna DiProse, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, and Debbie O'Bryant.

As of our annual meeting on February 25, the Vestry terms of Beth McBride, Tricia Phillips, and Debbie O'Bryant will conclude. Our thanks to each of them for their faithful service during their time on Vestry.

I cannot express enough thanks to our Wardens Lorraine Brown and Laura Myers for their diligent leadership and service to our parish, and to our Treasurer Stephen MacMackin for so ably overseeing our finances.

We also lovingly remember those from St. Paul's who passed away this year, in particular Harry Beyea, Bartlett Day, Dorothy Mashall, Nancy Oliver, Charlene Patterson, and David Legassick. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Humbly Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Turner', with a cross symbol at the end of the signature.

The Rev. David Turner +
Incumbent of the Anglican Parish of Hampton
Tuesday, February 13, 2025

IN MEMORIAM

We give thanks and praise to God in memory of the members and friends of St. Paul's who passed away in 2024.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
and my light perpetual shine upon them.

Harry Beyea

Bartlett Day

Dorothy Mashall

Nancy Oliver

Charlene Patterson

David Legassick

Warden's Report 2024

It has been another exciting year at St. Paul's Anglican Church in beautiful, Hampton, N.B.

This year marked the 11th year anniversary of Rev. David Turner's time with us, and we are so incredibly thankful for David and his family.

There is something for everyone at St. Paul's - from a 9:00 quiet communion service, to a 10:30 service with more and more families attending to Tuesday morning coffee and conversation that continues to grow in numbers and the ever-popular Thursday evenings watching "The Chosen".

We continue to offer online services for people who would like to worship from home and that wouldn't be possible without our amazing group of techies. Thanks so much for everything you do to make our services run smoothly, for both in person and online worship services.

We aren't afraid to try new things either! We had our first ever brunch Sunday service in September and we also had some very interesting Sunday services with audience participation!

Music ministry continues to be a very important part of our Sunday services as well and the choir is growing. The vestry recognized the wonderful contributions of Kate Turner this year and surprised her with a gift to show our gratitude.

Thanks to Arlene DesRoches, who also has played an important role in music ministry at St. Paul's, a children's choir was created and stole our hearts when they sang at our Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve services.

Speaking of children, the number of families with young children is such a blessing and our wonderful Sunday School classes, family tables and many family activities make St. Paul's inviting for families. It was wonderful to see so many young people participate in the Christmas Even pageant! Thank-you to all our volunteers who make the children's activities possible.

We are proud of our outreach to the community. We held our annual cemetery service in October, and it was very well attended by people from every church in the area. We also continue to host the weekly grilled cheese high school lunches, and it is so great to provide a place for students to come every week to get lunch.

Reverend Deacon Debbie Cochrane has taken on a new role as an honorary Deacon, and she has started a spirituality and prayer series. Congratulations on this appointment and thank-you for this initiative.

Holy Joe's and Mother's Union groups are still going strong, and we are so thankful for the work of these important groups.

As a final note, the vestry would like to thank Steve MacMackin for the exceptional job he does as treasurer. A huge thank-you as well to Sharon Kelly for her tireless work.

We have so much to be thankful for.

Respectfully submitted - Laura Myers and Elaine Brown

Deacon's Report 2024

As we begin 2025, I thank God for His direction, guidance and presence over this past year at St. Paul's. Ministry always seems to have more for us to learn and new ideas to challenge us. I am excited to see which direction God will take our church over the next year and where He wants to send us, as we continued being servants for Him.

Last January 11, 2024, I celebrated my 10 year anniversary as Vocational Deacon at St. Paul's, Hampton, N.B. I continued to meet with my Spiritual Mentor to discuss how I have been encouraged and how I have received the Holy Spirit's guidance through the Spiritual Exercise Program which now is completed. I now attend a CLC (Christian Life Community) group to continue to focus on St. Ignatius Spirituality with others who have also completed the Spiritual Exercises. This group meets bi-weekly on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. virtually on Zoom.

I participated as the clerk (typing minutes) in our Vestry meetings, attended Deanery meetings, head up our Prayer Chain, and attend occasional meetings with Rev. David as they arise, along with involvement in the choir and our weekly worship services.

I visited the nursing/senior care homes offering home communion on a monthly basis at Daeka Care Facility, Living Hope Senior Care Home, Birch Grove Apartments, Dr. V.A Snow Center, Ossekeag Manor and the DeMille Apartments. At this time I visited 32 residents. They enjoyed a visit, participating in home communion and spending time in prayer for a loved one, friend or whomever, as the need arises. Unfortunately, I resigned from my position as Vocational Deacon at St. Paul's effective October 1, 2024, to pursue new areas of interest.

I attended a Women's Retreat at the Villa Madonna on March 9, 2024 and a Silent Retreat at the Villa Madonna from November 22-24, 2024.

On June 23, 2024 and June 30, 2024, I led and preached services while Rev. David was away in France. On August 11, 2024 and August 18, 2024, I led and preached at both services while Rev. David and his family took a well-deserved vacation. I also led services on October 20, 2024 and again on December 29, 2024.

This Fall, I began a six week Spirituality and Prayer group on Wednesday afternoons from October 23, 2024 - November 27, 2024. There were three members who took part in this group. My hope is to offer this group once again after Christmas.

Although I have resigned my position as Vocational Deacon, I still will be involved working casually, participating in worship services, meetings with David, 12-12-12, Spiritual Direction, and the CLC (Christian Life Community) group. Adding to this, I recently have joined a "Come and See Exploratory" with AASEA (Atlantic Association of Spiritual Exercises of Apostolate).

I wish to take this opportunity to personally thank Rev. David Turner and his family along with members of St. Paul's, Hampton, for your insight, direction, guidance and support, while sharing the gospel, participating in many church events and in helping those less fortunate. I look forward to the new

direction to which God may be sending each one of us and to where it will lead us in the future, in the Parish of St. Paul's, Hampton.

Your sister in Christ,

Rev. Deacon Deborah Cochran

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."
Ephesians 4:32

2023 AGM Minutes

St. Paul's, Hampton Annual Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024, 7pm

Incumbent: *Rev. David Turner*
Wardens: *Lorraine Brown, Laura Myers*
Treasurer: *Stephen MacMackin*
Vestry Clerk: *Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran*

Attendees

In-Person: Rev. David Turner, Laura Myers, Chris Rendell, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, Beth McBride, Dawn Lent, Lois Moore, Bruce Kennedy, Dennis Stevenson, Heather Miller, Paul McAfee, Alan DesRoches, Sharon Kelly, Kate Turner, Janice Kelly, Alice Kennedy

Online: Lorraine Brown, Debbie O'Bryant, Tricia Phillips, Stephen MacMackin, Joanna DiProse, Myra Stites, Paula Bawn, Justin Stanley, Donna Leonard, Ruby Masson, Glenna Geer

Regrets: Debbie Cochran

1. Welcome, Territorial Acknowledgement and Opening Prayer

We humbly acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional, unceded and unsundered territory of the Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq peoples.

We give thanks for the Indigenous people of this land who, from time immemorial, have continued to live and work on and steward the land.

And we pray that the Lord will give us all gracious and willing hearts to pursue truth and right relationship on this land.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified, be present with us as we take counsel together for the mission and renewal of your Church.

Teach us in all things to seek first your kingdom. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Before we make any motions as an annual meeting it is important that we clarify who exactly is a voting member of the parish?

All baptized Christians who: are at least 16 years of age, worship and have been regular communicants in the parish, and who were regular contributors, financial and otherwise, to the mission of the parish during the previous year, and are not already voting members of another parish are eligible to vote at the annual meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes of Feb. 28, 2023

Motion: That the minutes of February 28, 2023, be approved.

Moved by: Janice Kelly

Seconded by: Rowena Hawkey-Noble

(Indicate if Carried): Carried

3. Incumbent's Report & Discussion

The Incumbent welcomes the insights, questions, and observations of those present on each of the issues raised in his report.

(Please note in the space below any Action Items or Motions which emerge from this discussion.)

People are feeling more optimistic (and some are cautiously optimistic). Like the seasons, we know that things can change.

4. Executive Report from the Wardens

This is an opportunity for the Wardens and Treasurer to address any details from the parish report which they feel are of particular importance and to respond to any additional questions and/or observations raised by members of the parish.

(Please note in the space below any Action Items or Motions which emerge from this discussion.)

5. Reception of all Distributed Reports

Motion: That the parish report be received as distributed.

Moved by: Dawn Lent

Seconded by: Lorraine Brown

(Indicate if Carried): Carried

6. Presentation and Approval of Proposed Budget for 2024

Motion: That the proposed budget for 2024 be approved as presented

Moved by: Dennis Stevenson

Seconded by: Beth McBride

(Indicate if Carried): Carried

7. Election of Parish Officers

Wardens: Lorraine Brown and Laura Myers have agreed to continue to serve as our parish wardens.

Vestry: The following members of Vestry have agreed to serve again this year:

Donna Leonard, Justin Stanley, Karen Stanley, Glenna Geer, Debbie O'Bryant, Dawn Lent, Tricia Phillips, Buzz Payne, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, and Joanna DiProse.

Alice Kennedy and Paula Bawn will each complete their terms as members of Vestry as of this meeting.

We are grateful to all of the members of Vestry (both those who are staying and those who are completing their terms) for their faithful service and dedication to the work of the Vestry and to the life and mission of St. Paul's.

New Member(s) of Vestry:

Beth McBride has agreed to let her name stand as a candidate for Vestry.

It is the responsibility of this meeting to inquire if there are any other voting members of the parish who wish to let their name stand to serve as members of Vestry.

We will inquire 3 times if there are any other members of the parish who wish to serve on Vestry, keeping in mind that we have room for a total of 12 members of Vestry.

(Please note if any further names for Vestry are put forward and whether a vote is necessary to decide who will fill the remaining 2 vacancies on Vestry.)

Janice Kelly put her name forward for Vestry.

Janice Kelly and Beth McBride are appointed to Vestry.

Delegates to Synod: Debbie O'Bryant and Laura Myers have agreed to let their names stand as Delegates to Synod

Alternates to Synod: Joanna DiProse has agreed to let her name stand as an Alternate to Synod. This meeting is able to appoint an additional Alternate to Synod if deemed necessary.

(Please note if any further names were put forward to serve as Alternate to Synod.)

8. Bruce Kennedy brought forward something for the vestry to consider. Bruce and the Holy Joe's have been talking about what we can do with the table (artwork) at the back of the church that was made by Buzz and Bruce. They propose that since no money has been given to the building fund in the last year, they suggest that for every \$10 donation to the building fund, people would have the chance to win the table.

9. Adjournment

Adjournment Time – 7:40 pm

Following the annual meeting, the members of Vestry are asked to meet to appoint a Treasurer, Vestry Clerk, and Parish Advisory Committee, and to arrange an offering counting schedule for the year ahead.

POST ANNUAL MEETING VESTRY

Attendees: Lorraine Brown, Debbie O'Bryant, Tricia Phillips, Stephen MacMackin, Joanna DiProse, Justin Stanley, Donna Leonard, Glenna Geer, Dawn Lent,

Rowena Hawkey-Noble, Janice Kelly, Laura Myers, Beth McBride, David Turner

Regrets: Karen Stanley

1. Names of those appointed by signing officers.

Janice Kelly moved that the signing officers by Laura Myers, Stephen MacMackin, Lorraine Brown and David Turner

Seconded by: Rowena Hawkey-Noble

Carried

2. Names of those Appointed to the Parish Advisory Committee

(Wardens plus 2):

Lorraine Brown, Laura Myers, Karen Stanley, Joanna DiProse

3. Name of Person Appointed to serve as Treasurer:

Laura moved that Stephen MacMackin be appointed as treasurer.

Moved by: Laura Myers

Seconder: Janice Kelly

Carried

4. Name of Person Appointed to serve as Vestry Clerk:

Dawn moved that Debbie Cochran be appointed as vestry clerk.

Moved by: Dawn Lent

Seconded by: Beth McBride

Carried

Schedule of Vestry Counters *(to count with Sharon)*

March – Glenna Geer

April - Donna Leonard

October – Rowena Hawkey-Noble

May - Dawn Lent

November – Beth McBride

June - Janice Kelly

December – Tricia

July - Debbie O’Bryant

January, 2025 – Laura Myers

August - Joanna DiProse

February, 2025 – Justin and Karen Stanley

September - Lorraine Brown

Next Vestry Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:59 p.m.

Financial Reports 2024

St. Paul's Church
Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Hampton
2024 Annual Meeting

Treasurers Report 2024

Financial Statements 2024

-Profit & Loss 2024

-Other Income & Expenses 2024

-Balance Sheet 2024

Financial Audit Canon SIX 2(1)(d)

Financial Budget 2025

Treasurers Report 2024

January 14, 2024

To the Rector, Wardens, Vestry Members and the Parishioners of the Parish of Hampton:

The Financial Audit as required by Canon SIX 2(1)(d) was completed by Dennis Stevenson and Tricia Phillips.

Our church finances remained stable due to strong financial support in 2024, thank you for your ongoing support.

In 2024 Income (giving) was \$196,770 and expenses were \$190,065 leaving a surplus of \$6,705.

In our 2024 income we had summer student governments grants for \$14,375 and NB Power grants for the new entrance window of \$2,079.

In our 2024 expenses we had Hampton Community Garden summer students for \$14,375, the new entrance window for \$4,640, energy efficiency study for the window for \$1075, and the completion of the underground electrical entrance for \$2,461.

The operating bank account ended the year at \$18,739.

As we begin our budget preparations for 2025, I raise the concern of the unknowns we face and that we need to be ready to structure our church and our finances to meet them. Weather events and energy costs continue to increase. Our infrastructure is aging and will need continued attention.

In 2025 our expense budget will be **\$172,513** with a projected **deficit of -\$3,670.**

The weekly cost to operate St. Paul's in 2025 will be \$3,318

Thank you for your support 2024 and you can continue it by:

- Dropping your giving off at the church or,
- Using the Diocesan weekly or monthly e-offering or,
- E-transfer to Bayview Credit Union or,
- Canada Helps

Thank you to Rev. David Turner, Sharon Kelly, and all the counters for your support during the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen MacMackin

Treasurer, Parish of Hampton

The Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Hampton (St. Paul's Church)				
Income Statement				
January - December 2024				
	Total			
	Jan - Dec. 2024	Jan - Dec. 2023 (PY)	Change	% Change
INCOME				
4000 Regular - Envelope Offering	77,749.08	63,993.17	13,755.91	21.50%
4010 Regular - E-Offering	80,945.00	84,065.00	-3,120.00	-3.71%
4015 Open Offering	3,450.10	3,076.85	373.25	12.13%
4020 Easter	2,270.00	2,150.00	120.00	5.58%
4030 Thanksgiving	2,025.00	1,950.00	75.00	3.85%
4040 Christmas	2,515.00	3,275.00	-760.00	-23.21%
4050 Sunday School	574.05	392.75	181.30	46.16%
4075 Mission - Parish Giving	8,367.36	2,460.45	5,906.91	240.07%
4080 Mission - Outreach Flow-through	1,670.00	3,322.00	-1,652.00	-49.73%
4120 Government Grants	16,454.53	17,740.29	-1,285.76	-7.25%
4290 Other Income	750.00	500.00	250.00	50.00%
Total Income	\$196,770.12	\$182,925.51	\$13,844.61	7.57%
EXPENSES				
5000 Rector Stipend	49,069.02	47,640.00	1,429.02	3.00%
5010 Secretary	14,184.00	11,934.00	2,250.00	18.85%
5020 Audio Visual	1,710.00	1,560.00	150.00	9.62%
5030 Janitor	1,836.45	1,593.88	242.57	15.22%
5040 Summer Student	12,546.77	17,217.16	-4,670.39	-27.13%
5052 Travel Pool Assesment	-603.00	240.00	-843.00	-351.25%
5060 Rectors Car Replacement	4,200.04	4,200.00	0.04	0.00%
5070 EI/PPP	5,003.84	6,332.58	-1,328.74	-20.98%
5080 Rectors Benefit Assessment	6,257.86	6,210.72	47.14	0.76%
5090 Rectors Pension Premium	9,987.90	10,028.00	-40.10	-0.40%
5100 Rectors Continuing Education	900.00	900.00	0.00	0.00%
5110 Workers Compensation	-23.60	529.67	-553.27	-104.46%
5200 Diocesan Shared Ministry	20,626.08	20,672.28	-46.20	-0.22%
5220 Diocesan Pension Bonus	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5300 Church - Propane	4,940.06	5,911.03	-970.97	-16.43%
5310 Church - Power	5,816.06	5,448.74	367.32	6.74%
5320 Church - Phone	2,939.19	2,764.81	174.38	6.31%
5330 Church - Repairs & Maintenance	12,661.91	7,100.71	5,561.20	78.32%
5340 Rectory - Power	3,137.81	2,613.50	524.31	20.06%
5350 Rectory - Phone	2,257.37	2,145.16	112.21	5.23%
5360 Rectory - Repairs & Maintenance	1,245.78	3,539.24	-2,293.46	-64.80%
5370 Rectory - Sewerage	230.00	200.00	30.00	15.00%
5380 Insurance	11,260.96	11,346.04	-85.08	-0.75%
5410 Mission - Outreach Expense	9,976.56	1,561.25	8,415.31	539.01%
5420 Mission Outreach Flowthr Expens	1,670.00	3,322.00	-1,652.00	-49.73%
5500 Office Expenses	5,427.92	3,166.45	2,261.47	71.42%
5510 Music Expenses	439.35	417.85	21.50	5.15%
5520 Liturgical Expense	900.52	1,246.21	-345.69	-27.74%
5530 Sunday School Expense	107.31	215.34	-108.03	-50.17%
5540 Youth Group Expenses	0.00	26.49	-26.49	-100.00%
5550 Adult Education Expense	0.00	426.82	-426.82	-100.00%
5560 Fellowship Events Expense	1,030.47	587.98	442.49	75.26%
5570 Bank Charges	328.47	356.84	-28.37	-7.95%
Total Expenses	\$190,065.10	\$181,454.75	\$ 8,610.35	4.75%
Surplus	\$ 6,705.02	\$ 1,470.76		

OTHER INCOME	Jan - Dec. 2024	Jan - Dec. 2023 (PY)
Cemetery Fund		
Income		
4220 Cemetery Fund - Donations & Grants	15,043.35	6,316.15
4230 Cemetery Fund - Interest Earned	877.24	876.18
Expenses		
5610 Cemetery Fund - Expense	10,386.75	4,130.27
Surplus/Deficit	5,533.84	3,062.06
Memorial Fund		
Income		
4240 Memorial Fund - Donations	960.00	2,416.27
4250 Memorial Fund - Interest Earned	2.30	2.50
Expenses		
5620 Memorial Fund - Expense	1,303.14	2,416.27
Surplus/Deficit	-340.84	2.50
Building Fund		
Income		
6000 Building Fund - Donations	0.00	0.00
4210 Building Fund - Interest Earned *	8.12	22.02
Expenses		
Building Fund Expense	0.00	0.00
Surplus/Deficit	8.12	22.02
* The building fund has a \$25,000 GIC at Bayview Credit Union maturing on January 6, 2025		

The Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Hampton (St. Paul's Church)	
Balance Sheet	
As of December 31, 2024	
	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
1000 Bank - Building Fund 24-3	18,997.55
1005 Bank - Cemetery Fund 25-3	16,034.44
1010 Bank - Operating	18,738.53
1015 Bank - Memorial Fund 23-3	4,712.41
1020 GIC Building Fund Brunswick Credit Union	25,000.00
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$ 83,482.93
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
1210 Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$ 0.00
1220 AR- Housing Development Investment	0.00
1400 HST Rebate	0.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 83,482.93
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	
1510 Land- Church Property	47,812.00
1512 Land - Demille Property	220,550.00
1520 Building	724,263.00
1530 Paving	10,216.00
1540 Furniture & Equipment	99,213.76
Total Property, plant and equipment	\$ 1,102,054.76
1610 Building Fund Investment	0.00
1620 Cemetery Fund Investment	26,843.66
1640 Property Fund Investment	0.00
1650 Baview Credit Union Share	5.00
Total Non Current Assets	\$ 1,128,903.42
Total Assets	\$ 1,212,386.35
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
2020 New HST Recoverable	-1,843.13
2025 Old HST Recoverable	0.00
2030 Payroll Liabilities	0.00
2510 Bank Loan	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	-\$ 1,843.13
Total Liabilities	-\$ 1,843.13
Equity	
3010 Equity	1,020,692.27
Retained Earnings	181,631.07
Profit for the year	11,906.14
Total Equity	\$ 1,214,229.48
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 1,212,386.35

REVIEWER CERTIFICATION

To: The Parish of Hampton

Re: Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2024

I/We, the undersigned, having been duly appointed, have reviewed the financial accounts and the statements submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Parish of

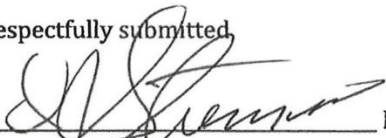
Hampton.

In addition, we have reviewed any applicable certificates of investment.

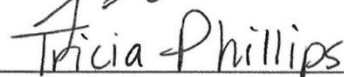
In our opinion the records maintained by the Treasurer are properly represented in the Year End Financial Statements presented to the Annual Meeting and accurately reflect the financial transactions of the Parish. The cash and investment balances properly state the financial position of the Parish.

Our review examined only the recording of the various transactions and does not purport to pass any judgement on the merit of the expenditures.

Respectfully submitted,



Reviewer



Tricia Phillips Reviewer

Date: January 14, 2025

St. Paul's Church Proposed Budget 2025		
In 2025 we are budgeting to spend \$172,513 to operate our church (*normalizing for Mission – Outreach Flow -Through & Summer Students). It will require \$3,318 more this year to operate our church.		
INCOME	2025	
	Budget	
Envelopes	\$ 77,749	
E Offering	\$ 78,770	
Open Collections	\$ 3,450	
Easter	\$ 2,270	
Thanksgiving	\$ 2,025	
Christmas	\$ 2,515	
Sunday School	\$ 574	
Mission - Parish Giving	\$ 1,490	
Mission - Outreach Flowthru *	\$ -	\$ 1,670
Government Grants - Summer Students *	\$ -	\$ 15,000
Other Income	\$ -	
Total Revenue	\$ 168,843	
EXPENSES		
Rector Stipend	\$ 50,590	
Secretary	\$ 14,859	
Video Technician	\$ 1,700	
Janitor	\$ 1,800	
Summer Student *	\$ -	\$ 15,000
Travel Pool	\$ 240	
Rectors Car Replacement	\$ 4,430	
EI/PPP	\$ 4,993	
Rectors Benefit Assessment	\$ 6,398	
Rectors Pension Premium	\$ 10,386	
Rectors Continuing Education	\$ 900	
Deacon's Travel & Continuing Education	\$ 250	
Diocesan Shared Ministry	\$ 21,210	
Church Oil/Propane	\$ 6,000	
Church Power	\$ 6,000	
Church Phone	\$ 3,000	
Church Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 7,000	
Rectory Power	\$ 4,612	
Rectory Phone	\$ 2,300	
Rectory Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 4,000	
Rectory Sewerage	\$ 230	
Insurance	\$ 11,640	
Mission Outreach Expense	\$ 1,600	
Mission Outreach Flowthru *	\$ -	\$ 1,670
Rectors Discretionary	\$ 750	
Office Expenses	\$ 4,500	
Music Expense	\$ 450	
Liturgical Expense	\$ 750	
Sunday School Expense	\$ 225	
Youth Group Expense	\$ 400	
Adult Education Expense	\$ 100	
Fellowship Events Expense	\$ 800	
Bank Charges	\$ 400	
Total Expense	\$ 172,513	
Deficit 2025	-\$ 3,670	

Cemetery Committee 2024

The cemetery is managed under the Diocese of Fredericton Regulation 6-3 and administered by the Cemetery Committee which reports to the Vestry of the Anglican Parish of Hampton.

In 2023 the Diocese of Fredericton has put in new guidelines for operation of cemeteries for Parishes to follow. To meet these guidelines the following four documents were put in place in 2024:

- Contract for the Purchase and Sale of Right of Burial
- Cemetery Rules
- Cemetery Committee Responsibilities
- Cemetery Fee Schedule

The committee did the following activities in 2024 to raise the profile of the cemetery and support its ongoing maintenance:

- Memorial Service
- Collection of Recyclable Bottles
- Tree Lighting Service

The finances of the cemetery at Dec 31, 2024 are:

Cemetery Fund Donations & Grants	\$15,043.35	(2023- \$6316.15)
Cemetery Fund Interest Earned	\$877.24	(2023-\$876.18)
Cemetery Funds Drawn Down	\$0.00	(2023 - \$0.00)
Cemetery Fund Expenses	\$10,386.75	(2023 - \$4,130.27)
Cemetery Bayview Credit Union	\$16,034.44	(2023 - \$ 10,496.19)
Cemetery Diocesan Fund	\$26,843.66	(2023 - \$26,843.66)

In total we have \$42,878.10 available for future upkeep of the cemetery. This year we were able to increase this from 2023 by \$5,538.25. Our goal is to increase this amount each year.

This year we received a grant of \$7028.35 from the Province of New Brunswick's Regional Development Corporation. This allowed us to hire the Monument Man who reset and/or repaired and cleaned 41 monuments. Thank you to Shawn Coughlan for making this happen.

Costs to maintain grave markers are the responsibility of the grave lot owner. The committee monitors all grave markers for any that pose a safety risk to the public. If repairs are made the grave lot owner is asked to pay the costs incurred.

The committee is very pleased with the results of all the work on the cemetery and how good it looks. We would like to thank John Wheaton for service in 2024.

Donations to the ongoing maintenance of cemetery by the congregation are needed and would be appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted by the Cemetery Committee

Janice Kelly, Alice Kennedy, Sharon Kelly, Shawn Coughlan and Stephen MacMackin

Parish Office & Administration 2024

As office administrator I have many roles and responsibilities. I come with an open heart and mind and am ready to give it my all, with God's help leading my way. When something comes up that I'm unsure of, I'll reach out to some great role models in our parish for help.

On Mondays, Rev. David and I have our weekly office meeting to touch base with each other on how things are going in the parish or what needs our immediate attention and to discuss any further details of upcoming things happening in our parish.

Also, on Mondays (or some Sundays), a volunteer from vestry comes in and counts the offerings with me. Then I enter the Sunday's offering (cash/cheques, e-Offering & Interac e-Transfers) so parishioners will receive credit for their giving's at tax time. Then I do up the weekly bank deposit and go to the bank. I enter the deposit into Quick Books. I also look after writing cheques and paying bills and post them into Quick Books.

The registration list is printed out for the greeters to use to highlight names off as people arrive on Sunday morning. Then I can enter and keep track of the attendance. Sometimes I need to reach out to parishioners who had joined the service online to see if any other family members joined in on the service with them.

I keep the Vestry book updated with the required information (services in-person and online, attendance numbers, family church, funerals, baptisms, weddings, cemetery service etc.) This past year there were three funeral services, two interments and four baptisms (and no weddings). We had two funeral receptions in the church hall.

Income tax receipts were printed, signed and given out to all our parishioners and then the others were scanned and emailed out and some where mailed. This process is very time consuming but thankfully it was a little easier this year because I just put our parishioners in an envelope and gave them out, so that saved on stamps, and I only had to mail out approximately ten receipts.

We have masks available in case someone feels the need to wear one upon entering. Hand sanitizer bottles are placed throughout the church and filled regularly, and sanitizing products are on hand. Slowly and gradually our parishioners are feeling safe to return to church, we still don't have the attendance numbers that we had before COVID-19, but it is gradually increasing each Sunday.

Thanks again to Stephen and Rev. David for your patience, encouragement, and support. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Kelly – Office Administrator

Sunday Morning Ministries Coordinator 2024

The major component of my job is reaching out and connecting with people daily. One focus of this position is to support the Sunday morning children's program. Ensuring that teachers are scheduled, prepared and equipped for each Sunday. Making sure that the heat is on, materials (play dough, paper) the Christ Candle and Cross and the Sunday Morning Children's Program outline is out to follow. I also keep track of attendance and keep updated contact information for families for use in supporting them and nurturing a sense of inclusion in the parish. I reach out to our Sunday school families to make sure they are aware and informed when things are happening at the church. Updated information is posted on our St. Paul's Hampton website.

The second part of my responsibilities is with Sunday morning ministries and making sure that (i.e., lay readers, readers, greeters, ushers, (office & online) zoom host, counters) are scheduled and prepared each week. I remind people about when they are on duty each week by email, messenger or by a telephone call, and this information is updated weekly into the worship schedule. When a reader or layreader reads on zoom I have someone lined up on standby in case technology doesn't work. Names are added to the Order of Service for those taking part in the service each week (now I only print the Order of Service out for those taking part in the service each Sunday. For a couple of parishioners, I print it for one to take home to share with a family member and the other to follow along with the service over the phone). I also print readings and the Psalm. I update the parish prayer list as needed and pass it along to our lay readers so that those names can be mentioned during the Prayers of the People in the service once a month. A take home copy of the Parish prayer list is available at the back of the church for people to take if they wish to.

Some folks I reach out to by phone to let them know what's happening and going on at St. Paul's. One of our parishioners follows the 10:30am worship service weekly by telephone (office), so I make sure I have someone lined up to call her and connect her. During Advent I reached out to parishioners and families to light the advent wreath for both services. During Lent and at Christmas I reached out for several readers to help with those services.

Each Sunday we have welcoming greeters at our door. The greeters welcome you in with a warm and friendly smile. We also have ushers during communion. Each week we also have a zoom host who is Joanna DiProse, she is at the comfort of her home online weekly to welcome and talk to the folks joining virtually before the service begins and track online attendance. Joanna has volunteered to call Glenna on the phone, but Glenna was having trouble hearing service so now Alice or I get Glenna on the office phone weekly. Sheri and Lorraine have volunteered to help be our zoom host if Joanna can't. Thank you, ladies!

Our Sunday morning services in 2024 are at 9am and 10:30am and summer months at 10am. Janice Kelly has volunteered to order our Easter and Christmas flowers and roses for our Cemetery Service for the rose ceremony. The flowers usually find a new home. Thank you, Janice!

Notable events:

In September we had a family service, and the kids shared what they learned about the Lord's Prayer (see Children's Ministry Report). They talked about the village pieces that represented different

aspects of the Lord's Prayer (Hospital, Church, Castle, Library, Bakery, Jail, Traffic signs, House, Nature Scene/Park) and what they mean to the congregation. Great Job Kids!

On Good Friday –during the service in the parish hall the Children and youth, explored the mystery of Holy week and Easter. We made Easter Gardens, shared the Last Supper feast, and explored the story of God's self-giving love in Jesus in a way that they can understand.

On Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, puppet plays were done by our middle and high school children. On Palm Sunday, two short puppet plays were about the betrayal, arrest, trial into Christ's passion and leading to the crucifixion. On Easter Sunday, the plays were about the crucifixion and the Prodigal Son. These were done by our middle and high school children and led by Paula Bawn.

To celebrate the season of Advent, during church we had card making, cookie decorating, advent centerpieces and ornaments. Thank you to Kate, Molly, Silas, Tricia, Freyah and everyone else that helped. Thanks to ALL!

This year we had our first Family Service to celebrate the arrival of Christmas – it was a kid-focused gathering of worship with coloring tables, songs with actions, kid-friendly bible stories, and kid-friendly communion. We introduced the Wheel of Worship - the kids spun the wheel it could land on the following: (The Lord's Prayer, Sing a Song with Actions, Sing a Hymn, Welcome Someone Next to You, Share Communion, Learn a Bible Story, Offer a "Thank you" Prayer, Offer a "Sorry" Prayer, Sing in a Round, Offer a "please" prayer, Offer a "silent" Prayer, Hear a Testimony. Whenever it landed on it, we did that part of the service and Rev. David explained and discussed each one. It was so much fun for adults and really included the kid's involvement.

Our Family Christmas Pageant was about the mystery of Jesus' Birth, "The Case of the Unexpected Birth". The Christmas story was set in December 1890 in London, with Dr. Watson (Molly Turner) and Sherlock Holmes (Silas Turner) and the children took leading roles to read the story. Children and others played the parts of Mary, Gabriel, Elizabeth, Zechariah, Joseph, shepherds, angels, and the wisemen. Some of our children at St. Paul's take piano lessons from Arlene DesRoches, and they played music during the pageant as well. The children's choir sang the song "Sounding Joy" led by Arlene! This was awesome! Thank you, to all involved and to David, Kate, Arlene and Paula!

Other special events include the Remembrance Day Service in which members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #28 joined us, our Cemetery Service, and our Memorial Christmas Tree Lighting. At the Cemetery Service and Memorial Christmas Tree Lighting, people had to contact the church office and give me names of loved ones. During the Cemetery Service we have a rose ceremony in which a rose is placed in their loved one's memory and for the Memorial Christmas Tree lighting a candle is lit in their loved one's memory. Then we all gather outside for prayers and lighting the Christmas tree. Both the Cemetery Service and Memorial Tree Lighting service are very reverent and heartwarming.

Thanks:

Many thanks go out to David for helping me always by setting up tables weekly and to others who helped me by setting up and moving table and chairs around for the many church events. Thank you to Ruby Masson and Ruth Wagg for cleaning off family tables after each Sunday. I am forever grateful and thankful for all the Sunday morning volunteers and for all your wonderful help each week. I would

like to thank Rev. David, Kate, Alice and Elaine and the many others that helped when I was in hospital and recovering at home. I am so blessed to call you all family and I am so forever grateful for the LOVE that I received by the many meals, visits, prayers, video calls, Facebook messages, and phone calls that I received. Thank you ALL!
Thank you ALL!

Highlights:

- It warms my heart when I see the children participating in the worship service, either by taking part in reading scripture or playing music, lighting candles, ringing the bell, greeting, or taking part in the pageant.
- It's so lovely when families let me know that they are coming to church so I can set up a family table and get the supplies ready for them.
- I LOVE Messy church – I love seeing everyone having so much fun gathering around engaged, talking, sharing, and interacting with each other with so much LOVE!
- I love reaching out and connecting with people.
- I love the warm response that I receive when I am reaching out to volunteers and hearing their kind and encouraging words.
- It feels good to see our church families' interactions between the parishioners between services the joy and love they have for each other.
- I love to see new families coming to church and the attendance consistently growing.
- I love our fellowship over meals together when I can truly sit down and relax and enjoy.

Challenges:

- When sending out schedules there is often a lack of response, which in turn makes it difficult to confirm dates for scheduling.
- It's a challenge to get readers for Holy week, Easter and for Christmas.

Blessings+

Sharon Kelly- Sunday Morning Ministries Coordinator

Each one should use whatever gift he received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)

Children's Ministry 2024

We offer many ways for families to engage in our Sunday morning services.

In 2024 we provided 'Family Tables' for Sunday morning worship services (9am and 10:30am), with coloring and activity sheets pertaining to the readings and Sunday school lesson each week, as well as a few small toys for busy little hands and play dough.

Families also volunteered to ring the church bell at 10:15am and light the altar candles at the beginning of each service.

Sunday School programming is offered to children ages 4 to 10 and under 4 with a caregiver. The stories and the curriculum were taken from *the Jesus Storybook Bible*, *the Complete Illustrated Children's Bible*, the Godly Play series.

During our Sunday Morning Children's Program (Story Time), the children gather with an informal Welcome, Candle Lighting, Song, and a Gathering Prayer. They HEAR FROM GOD through a Bible story taken from "The Complete Illustrated Children's Bible" or "The Jesus Storybook Bible" or a Godly Play story. Each week there is an Introduction to the Story, the Story itself, some Reflection questions (What did you notice in the story? What questions do you have about the story? What might God be trying to tell us in this story?) After the wondering questions we conclude the circle time with prayer, often including the Lord's Prayer.

The children are then free to respond to the story through modeling play dough or works of art, or to connect with each other while playing with the toys until it's time to go back upstairs with their families. We go back upstairs right after the PEACE and while the song is being played. Then families receive Communion at the front of the church together.

Over the summer months, our curriculum went through the Lord's Prayer – line by line. For each line or theme, an element of a village was created to represent that theme (e.g., the bakery for "give us this day our daily bread"). At the beginning of each lesson, the children would have to find the village pieces that were hidden around the room. Each week a new line of the prayer was explored, with a Bible story relevant to that theme. We had videos of the stories and questions and song with actions to the Lord's Prayer. Snack was offered and we decorated the Lord's Prayer board and prayed the Lord's Prayer. Thank you to Molly and Kate for making our village pieces.

For youth over 10, a series was offered during the service in the church office (from April 14- June 28, two weeks on and one week off). The NUA: Origins series is an 8-part film discussion series about Christian faith and understanding faith. They watched videos and had discussion questions. The leaders were Laura Myers, Kate Turner, Paula Bawn and Erin Roy. Thank you for helping to build, deepen and to enrich their relationship with Jesus!

We thank God for all our faithful Sunday school teachers and helpers: Kate Turner, Raegan Evans-Hoyt, Karen Stanley, Karla Lamb, Tricia Phillips, Erin Roy, Freyah Specht, Jennifer Shannon, Molly Turner, Claire Roy, Peter Shannon. Without your love and dedication this would not be possible. Thank you ALL so much!

Highlights:

- During Sunday School when I hear the children respond to the questions it is nice to hear them feel so comfortable and open to express themselves so freely with confidence. They really seem to understand each story.
- The Christmas pageant was fantastic and well done. The children's participation always makes my heart feel good and the children all being so brave and filled with courage by taking on leadership roles, reading and singing and dressing in costumes.
- I love seeing the children's participation and involvement in our church. Their enthusiasm and willingness to take part at the task asked such as to read or to run tech each Sunday morning and the many interactions with parishioners chatting with them and building relationships together.

Challenges:

- Encouraging families who used to worship to return.

The cost for 2024 children's ministry:

Paper which is supplied by the office & some supplies for the Easter gardens and messy church events.

Blessings+

Sharon Kelly- Children's Ministry

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. (Psalm 127:3)