

*On the traditional land of the Semiahmoo*

the Parish of St. Mark

O C E A N  P A R K

## PARISH REPORT 2025

THE YEAR OF  
invitation



LET EVERYONE  
WHO IS THIRSTY  
COME.

THE REVELATION TO JOHN 22:17



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# Minutes of Annual General Vestry Meeting of St. Mark – Ocean Park, Sunday, February 23

## Agenda

- ☞ Call to order
- ☞ Charge to vestry
- ☞ Adoption of agenda
- ☞ Vestry 2024 minutes (motion #1 to adopt)
- ☞ Annual ministry reports (motion #2 to receive)
- ☞ 5-Year Ministry Path (motion #3 to approve)
- ☞ 2024 financial report (motion #4 to receive)
- ☞ 2025 parish operating budget (motion #5 to adopt)
- ☞ Nominating committee report (motion #6 to adopt)
- ☞ Ratification of appointments:
  - Treasurer (motion #7)
  - Signing officers (motion #8)
  - Screening in faith coordinator (motion #9)
  - Donations secretary (motion #10)
  - Lay administrators of the sacrament of holy communion (motion #11)
  - MacCormac & Company for a Review Engagement (motion #12)
- ☞ Other business
  - Forest Meditation Path (motion #13)
- ☞ Adjournment (motion #14)

### **Motion #1 – Adoption of Minutes**

Be it resolved that the minutes of the February 25th, 2024 Annual General Vestry Meeting of the Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park be adopted as presented.

Moved by Massimo Savino and seconded by Leslie Ann Hebb. **CARRIED**

### **Motion #2 – Reception of Annual Ministry Reports**

Be it resolved that the Annual Ministry Reports of St. Mark's ministries and programs be received as presented in the Annual Parish Report of 2024.

Moved by Linda O'Donovan and seconded by Sue Indridson. **CARRIED**

### **Motion #3 – 5-Year Ministry Path**

Be it resolved that the Parish of St. Mark affirms the 5-Year Ministry Path.  
Reverend Taylor read aloud the proposed 5-Year Ministry Path plan.

Moved by Reverend David Taylor and seconded by Jody Simmons. **CARRIED**

### **Motion #4 – to receive the 2024 financial report**

Treasurer Barbara Carington Smith referred to the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Net Assets, Statement of Parish Operations and her own notes found on pages 33 to 36 of the 2024 Parish Report.

Motion moved by Barbara Carington Smith and seconded by Heather Higginson.

### Discussion:

A correction was made of the assessed value of the building and land determined by the provincial 2025 Property Assessment Notice from \$101,573, 900 to \$10,157,390. **CARRIED**

### **Motion #5 – to adopt the 2025 parish operating budget**

Be it resolved that the 2025 Operating Budget be adopted as presented.  
Moved by Barbara Carington Smith and seconded by Brenda Horner

**Notes:**

Treasurer Barbara Carington Smith referred to Comparative Cash Flow found on pages 26 & 27 of the 2024 Parish Report. She corrected the Total Ministry/Open Revenue of the 2025 Budget column from \$13,000 to \$43,000 and the Donations Received column of the 2025 Budget from \$285,000 to \$255,000. She corrected the Total Ministry/Open Revenue of the 2024 Budget column from \$8,000 to \$33,000.

**A motion to table:**

Be it resolved that the 2025 Operating Budget be be tabled for further discussion at an extraordinary meeting of Vestry.  
Moved by Brenda Horner and seconded by Sybil Davies. **CARRIED**

**Motion #6 – to adopt the Nominating Committee report**

Be it resolved that the slate of nominations for Parish Council and the Trustees be adopted as presented.

People's Warden - Barbara Grantham  
Associate Warden - Mari Anne Hussen  
Lay Synod Delegates - Leslie Ann Hebb, Raylene Brooks, Rick Hoos  
Alternate Lay Synod Delegates - Judith Hardman, Mark Davies, Cory Paige  
Youth Synod Delegate - Sophie Hardman  
Alternate Youth Synod Delegate - Lily Hardman  
Members at Large - Jody Simmons, Sophie Wu, Brian Steel

Trustees appointed are Michael Klaver, Ken Miles, Alan Marsh, and Massimo Savino.

Moved by Reverend David Taylor and seconded by Janet Scott. **CARRIED**

**Motion #7 – to appoint our Treasurer**

Be it resolved that the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park appoint Barbara Carington Smith as treasurer of the Corporation.  
Moved by Susannah Precious and seconded by Leslie Ann Hebb. **CARRIED**

**Motion #8 – to appoint Signing Officers**

Be it resolved that any two of the Wardens of the Parish, the appointed treasurer, and the elected Trustees be authorized to sign cheques on behalf of the Parish Corporation.  
Moved by Lauren MacPherson and seconded by Sybil Davies. **CARRIED**

**Motion #9 – to appoint the Screening in Faith Coordinator**

Be it resolved that the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park appoint Betty-Ann Bainbridge as the Screening in Faith Coordinator.  
Moved by Brenda Horner and seconded by Barbara Carington Smith. **CARRIED**

**Motion #10 – to appoint the Donations Secretary**

Be it resolved that the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park appoint Brenda Horner as Donations Secretary.  
Moved by Karen Bengé and seconded by Penny Hartsen. **CARRIED**

**Motion #11 – to request Bishop to appoint Eucharistic Ministers**

Be it resolved that Bishop Stephens be requested to authorize the Rector to use the following persons as Lay Administrators of the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the year 2024.

Betty Ann Bainbridge, Raylene Brooks, Barbara Carington Smith, Isabel Chernoff, Mark Davies, Victoria Finley, Barbara Grantham, Judith Hardman, Lily Hardman, Sophie Hardman, Leslie Ann Hebb, Rick Hoos, Mari Ann Hussen, Roger Hussen, Michael Klaver, Cory Paige, Shannon Poulsen, Anne Schreck, Janet Scott, Jody Simmons, Brian Steel, Sophie Wu.

Moved by Reverend David Taylor and seconded by Lauren MacPherson. **CARRIED**

**Motion #12 – MacCormac & Company for annual Review Engagement**

Be it resolved that Vestry hire MacCormac & Company for our annual Review Engagement.

Moved by Barbara Carington Smith and seconded by Isabel Chernoff. **CARRIED**

**Motion #13 – Forest Mediation Walk**

Be it resolved that the Parish plan an interactive prayer walk through the forest to be presented to Vestry 2026.

Moved by Geoff Higginson and seconded by Massimo Savino. **CARRIED**

**Motion #14 – Adjournment**

Move to adjourn the 2025 Annual General Vestry Meeting of the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park.

Moved by Sybil Davies. **CARRIED**

## **Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Vestry of St. Mark – Ocean Park, Sunday, March 16**

Agenda

☞ Call to order

☞ Memorial List

☞ 2025 parish operating budget (motion #1 to adopt)

☞ Adjournment (motion #2 to adjourn)

**Motion #1 – to adopt the 2025 parish operating budget**

Be it resolved that the 2025 Operating Budget be adopted as presented.

Moved by Barbara Carington Smith and seconded by Massimo Savino

Michael Klaver moved to amend the Proposed Alternate Budget for 2025 to restore the Youth Children's Coordinator salary to its original amount of \$17,474.

Heather Higginson seconded this amendment.

A second Amendment was made by Brenda Horner, and seconded by Heather Higginson to Michael Klaver's amendment to also keep the funding for the Youth and

Family Ministries at the original amount of \$7000.00. This was considered by Michael and Heather to be a friendly amendment.

**CARRIED**

**Motion #2 – Adjournment**

Move to adjourn the 2025 Extraordinary Meeting of Vestry of the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park.

Moved by Raylene Brooks **CARRIED**

### *In Memoriam*

In memory of members of Vestry who have died in 2025.

Donna Margaret Gervais

Carol Lynne Higginson

Lawrence Stephenson

Hazel Parker

Anne Schreck

Roberta Braddock

Adela Rennie

# Reports

## *Leadership*

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### Rector

*the Reverend David Taylor*

The Year of Joy was a wonderful time to reflect on how God has called each of us to participate in his kingdom of justice, peace and joy. I enjoyed working with the Board of Trustees and the Parish Council to continue our work to fulfilling the intention of the 5-year vision path adopted by Vestry in 2024 and reaffirmed in 2025. As a reminder I include the 5-year path here.

In 5 years, by the grace of God and by faithful action,

we will be a church that **INSPIRES SPIRITUAL VITALITY**

- ✚ We will have Jesus at the centre of our spiritual practice and understand our community as part of God's kingdom of justice, peace, and joy.
- ✚ We will offer worshipping experiences that lift the heart with strong messages of the good news of Jesus, inspiring music and accessible liturgy.
- ✚ We will be able to articulate to others what we love best about our church.

we will be a church that **EXPRESSES SPIRITUAL INVITATION**

- ✚ We will develop a culture that has the skills to invite, welcome and integrate individuals and families into the life of the church and be known as a welcoming community in our neighbourhood.
- ✚ We will create a space that is hospitable to young families, teens, young adults, middle-aged, and seniors and be active in meeting the spiritual needs unique to their life circumstances.
- ✚ We will have an updated and updatable parish directory.

we will be a church that **BUILDS SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY**

- ✚ We will know how to spot and respond to the spiritual needs of those in our church and neighbourhood and build vibrant social groups for people of many ages and demographics.
- ✚ We will be skilled and confident in prayer.
- ✚ We will have relationships with a variety of outreach institutions in our neighbourhood.
- ✚ We will have a team of pastoral visitors equipped to respond to the spiritual needs of those unable to attend church or in a spiritual crisis.

we will be a church that **PROVIDES SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

- ✚ We will be able to articulate how our faith impacts our lives.
- ✚ We will be able to articulate our spiritual needs and know how to meet them.
- ✚ We will know how to integrate the teachings of Jesus into our day-to-day life.
- ✚ We will have regular spiritual retreats and will provide access to and training in spiritual practices.

We will accomplish this by,

- ✚ A WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY committed to spiritual growth and funding the ministry through tithes and offerings.
- ✚ An ACTIVE VOLUNTEER base dedicated to service.
- ✚ A STEWARDSHIP TEAM engaged in sharing the vision and inspiring giving.
- ✚ A LEADERSHIP TEAM (staff, trustees, parish council, leaders of groups) dedicated to inspiring and equipping the congregation and managing the resources responsibly and transparently.
- ✚ A WORKING GROUP dedicated to this ministry path to make clear goals for moving forward.

I am also grateful to God for the response by members of this congregation to the financial appeals this year. This is a place filled with generous people who work hard to ensure God's mission from this place continues in new and lively ways.

I look forward to the coming year, the Year of Invitation. My hope is that the joy we have all experienced in the past year will be a motivation to us to invite our friends, family, neighbours and the people of this community to be part of this holy community where all our prayers can be lifted up to God, all our fears assuaged, and we can get a glimpse of God purposes and plans for us and for this world, with Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **Assistant Curate's Report**

*the Reverend Father Dara Crandall*

#### **Worship**

- 46 Sunday Services
- 12 Wednesday Services
- 1 Christmas Eve Service
- 2 Memorials
- 1 Longest Night Service
- 9 Sermons Preaches
- Presided at 9 Eucharists

#### **Community Care**

- 21 Pastoral Visits
- Staff/Warden Christmas Party
- Savvy Seniors Christmas Party
- Visit to ACW
- Visit to Men's Club
- Visit to Youth Group
- Visit to Ladies' Guild

#### **Christian Formation**

- Led 1 Spiritual Practices Night
- Taught 1 Sunday School

#### **Administration**

- 6 Staff Meetings
- 1 Trustees Meeting
- 1 Parish Council Meeting

#### **Other**

- 1 Ordination Service
- Preached at St. John's Shaughnessy
- Presided at St. Phillip's Cedar
- 1 Diocesan Clergy Day
- Holiday from October 19 - 26 and December 24 - January 7
- Education Week November 23 - 29

### **Wardens Report**

*Betty-Ann Bainbridge, Mari Ann Hussen, Barb Grantham*

As we look back over the past year, we give thanks for the faithfulness, resilience, and generosity of this parish community. It has been a year of steady rebuilding, careful stewardship, and renewed energy in parish life. Through changing circumstances, evolving needs, and a shared commitment to our 5-Year Vision, the Wardens have worked closely with clergy, staff, volunteers, and Parish Council to support the life and ministry of St. Mark's.

#### **Governance, Leadership & Vision**

- The year began with a **re-energized Parish Council** and a well-attended **Parish Council retreat** in March, which fostered strong fellowship, open conversation, and meaningful engagement with our emerging **5-Year Vision**.
- Table-group discussions at the retreat provided a strong recorded foundation for next steps across key vision themes.
- The Wardens encourage an open, invitational leadership culture and continue to remind Council members and parish leaders that every voice matters.

#### **Financial Stewardship & Vestry**

- Considerable attention was given to parish finances and stewardship.
- An **Extraordinary Vestry Meeting** was held to consider and approve a revised **deficit budget**, following presentation and discussion at the Trustees level.



- Thoughtful questions and constructive dialogue at Vestry helped increase parish awareness of our financial realities and the importance of a vibrant stewardship program.
- Rental income, daycare transitions, and cost control remain key financial considerations.

### **Staff, Clergy & Ministry Support**

- **Paid staff ministry reviews** were completed for clergy and staff, with parish input gathered and interviews conducted.
- Ministry questionnaires collected by Rev. David highlighted both strengths and ongoing challenges.
- Leadership continues to emphasize a proactive, invitational approach to ministry participation.

### **Pastoral Care & Community Life**

- Pastoral care remains an area of both strength and need.
- The pastoral care team is small and would benefit from additional volunteers.
- Clergy continue to focus on strengthening community connections and care within the parish. Father Dara takes this on as a focus in her ministry with us.

### **Safety, Risk Management & Compliance**

Significant progress was made this year in strengthening parish safety practices:

- A **new Incident Report Form** was developed and implemented.
- The **Fire & Emergency Plan** has been discussed and is ongoing in development.
- All **First Aid kits** were located, reviewed, and upgraded with latex-free supplies.
- AED readiness was reviewed:
  - Units are operational with new batteries.
  - Replacement pads are being sourced.
  - Plans are underway for **AED and First Aid training**.
- Ongoing discussion continues around appointing a formal **Parish Safety Officer**.
- Fire lanes and fire zones were clearly marked, signed, and monitored to improve compliance.

### **Facilities, Maintenance & Property Care**

Thanks to dedicated volunteers and staff, major attention was given to parish buildings and grounds including but not limited to the following:

- Roof drains were cleared and inspected.
- Windows above roof beams were resealed using a manlift to address leaks and algae issues.
- Furnaces were serviced; follow-up on boiler performance is underway.
- Fire alarms, extinguishers, and sprinkler systems are scheduled or completed for inspection.
- Sound-dampening materials and storage improvements in the hall are being explored.
- Sanctuary sound improvements were made, significantly enhancing worship audio.
- Sacristy cupboards were quieted with silicone bumpers.
- A glass door lock issue was identified, with plans to simplify access and improve security.
- Lawn maintenance was stabilized through a regular paid arrangement.

### **Gardens, Trees & Creation Care**

- The parish grounds remain a gift and a responsibility.
- Dedicated volunteers continue to maintain garden beds and forest areas.
- Damaged plum trees were professionally trimmed and treated following winter damage.
- Surrey Parks removed dead trees on adjacent City property at no cost to the parish.
- Donations of rose bushes and plants helped rejuvenate garden spaces.
- Additional volunteers are still urgently needed to sustain this ministry.

### **Inventory & Assets**

- A parish-wide **inventory initiative** was launched and largely completed.
- Submissions were received from most ministries and compiled into a master reference list for future planning and insurance purposes.
- Storage solutions continue to be reviewed to improve organization and accessibility.

### **Technology & Communications**

- Work is underway on a **Diocesan Technology Grant** application to:
  - Replace aging computers.
  - Improve livestream automation.
  - Support clergy and music ministry technology needs.
- Parish communication practices were reviewed, with encouragement to make announcements more invitational, engaging, and spiritually grounded.
- Parish branding has been strengthened through consistent logo use and updated materials.

### **Daycare & Rentals**

- The Wardens worked closely with daycare operator throughout the year amid changing enrollment pressures.
- A discounted rental rate was temporarily extended to support viability.
- A new permanent sign was approved and installed with clear parameters.
- In January 2026, the daycare requested early termination of their lease.
- Exploration of replacement providers is underway; contractual obligations remain in effect if space cannot be filled.
- Rental coordination continues to be managed effectively, with emphasis on clarity, communication, and shared responsibility.

### **Pest Management**

- Seasonal mouse activity was addressed through professional monitoring, improved food storage practices, and proactive trapping.
- Fruit fly issues were resolved through waste-management reminders.
- Overall pest activity has declined significantly.

### **Gratitude & Closing**

This year has required patience, collaboration, and faith. We are deeply grateful for:

- Our clergy and staff
- Dedicated volunteers
- Parish leaders and Council members
- Those who quietly care for buildings, gardens, worship, and one another

As we move forward, we do so grounded in **God's constant love and grace**, committed to working together in unity, hope, and joy.

## *Prayer & Worship*

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### **8am Coffee and Refreshment Makers**

*Pat Miles*

We continue with the coffee, tea and cookies after the 8am service and it continues to be a lively group even though there are fewer than we used to have and would welcome both help in serving and supplying refreshments but most of all we need people to join in the lively discussions we have with people that drop in as they come early to the 10am service or just feel like talking to someone different. I am very thankful for the people that helped this year and am sorry to say that we again lost three helpers. Joy Prior has decided that the long distance from Langley is too far to join us regularly but is usually there at least once a month to join us. Anne Schreck and Hazel Parker were enthusiastic helpers but had a higher calling this year which left us with a big space and only Pat Miles to help regularly. Luckily Maryellen, Massimo and Tiffany saw that I needed help and have joined the group and continue to share the job. Maryellen has also taken over the job of making the roster and keeping it up to date. We continue to welcome people who arrive early for the 10pm service and visitors to the church but would like to have more help as well as others, Like Gord Munro to come on Sundays to add to the group chats.

### **8am Readers**

*Ken Miles*

During the past year we have lost one reader in Anne Shreck and have not gained any new readers. Accordingly, we now stand at three readers, Peggy Spriggs, Cory Paige, and Ken Miles. Hopefully over the next three months, we can gain one or two more readers and not lose any of the present.

### **10am Coffee Hour Ministry**

*Lynne Brownridge*

After we have been nourished spiritually listening to Reverend David and Father Dara, we gather in the hall to partake in fellowship and conversation whilst enjoying refreshments, coffee and tea. Six teams of loyal workers set up and clean up each Sunday. Thank you to the Men's club for their continued funding of the cookies.

### **10am Greeters and Ushers**

*Isabel Chernoff*

The job of Greeting and Ushering at the 10 am service is done by teams of volunteers on a rotational basis. We have 6 teams of about 5 so each team is on duty only once every 6 weeks. Thank you to all of our members who help with this very important task of making visitors and parishioners feel welcome every Sunday, and for handling the other tasks in a professional manner. We have a very loyal and dedicated group of teams but always have room for more and would welcome you joining us if you would like to serve St. Mark's in this way.

### **Hospitality Ministry**

*Isabel Chernoff, Linda O'Donovan, Lynne Brownridge*

This group of volunteers provide hospitality and catering at St. Mark's. We most frequently serve families at Celebrations of Life and have also done so for birthdays, anniversaries and for parish events. Yes, it is hard work but we also have a lot of fun doing it, and receive much appreciation from the recipients. We have a wonderful group of dedicated workers providing this service. Thank you everyone for your service. We would however love to have a few more men and women that we could call on occasionally to form a team as we have found ourselves in the position of having to turn down a request due to lack of helpers. Please let us know if we could add you to our list of potential occasional helpers.

### **10am Readers Ministry**

*Lauren MacPherson*

I would like to express my continued appreciation for the dedicated members of our ministry who have presented the reading of the Word of the Lord each week with such love. Our 10 am Sunday services are firmly based in Biblical references from the Old and New Testaments and the Epistles. A schedule of the year's lectionary readings is emailed to our team in November, before Advent and the New Church Year.

This past year our 10am Sunday morning services were blessed with a wonderful group of readers. Approximately 25 members were active in this ministry throughout the year. A few readers have moved out of our parish or have decided to step back from the ministry. We thank them for sharing their gifts in this ministry. We have also welcomed some new members to our team over the past few months. We are very blessed to have you join us. For those interested in joining this ministry, please contact Lauren MacPherson at 604-531-6828.

## **Altar Guild**

*Kathryn Smith*

As another year concludes, we would like to invite new members to join the Altar Guild. Currently, we have sufficient participants for three teams, allowing each group to serve every three weeks. Expanding to four or five teams would be optimal. We typically hold two to three meetings per year to discuss upcoming events and any necessary procedural updates. If you are interested in learning more about joining the Altar Guild, please contact the Rev. David Taylor or me for further information.

Flowers:

- We handle pick-up and arrangement for all services.
- Special requests are accommodated when possible.
- Flower arranging is rotated among 3 or 4 team members.

## **Music Leadership**

*Kerry O'Donovan*

I would still like to start a concert series at the church that brings new people through the doors of the church, but I cannot do that without dedicated help bringing the acoustics and sound system to a state where having an amplified concert would be a pleasant experience.

Our very reverberant space needs to be treated with some sound dampening, and I believe it can be done DIY for thousands of dollars less than it would cost to buy remade panels or hire consultants. I am preparing a proposal with material costs listed, but the implantation will require many hands. It will involve building 20-30+ 2x4' panels covered with breathable cloth and filled with rockwool insulation. These would then be hung around the church, primarily on the angled sections of ceiling to reduce and absorb high frequencies and diminish the possibility of feedback.

Though I haven't done a formal survey, I believe that the recent installation of 10 "fill" speakers along the back walls and beams of the sanctuary has greatly improved speech intelligibility and mitigated the delay that can happen from sound source to ears in the sanctuary (i.e, from the front main speakers to people sitting at the rear of the sanctuary). The speakers I used are the ones that were originally installed when the sanctuary was built and were sitting gathering dust. Why were they ever removed in the first place, I'm not sure. The entire project was done for less than \$300. John Finley was a massive help in the execution of this project, and it would not have happened as easily without him.

Another project completed with the help of John Finley was to mount the projector in the hall instead of having to put it on a cart in the middle of the room and tape down the cables (which are a tripping hazard) anytime someone wanted to use it for a Scouts meeting or memorial. I plan on figuring out a more permanent solution to the sound system in the hall. At one point some wiring was put in, but it was poorly done. Also, some of the speakers in the roof have suffered from water damage during a roof leak.

I think we have finally found a solution to the problem of the pulpit microphone. I have installed a "boundary" microphone that is Non-adjustable by readers. As I have repeated ad nauseam, a microphone's output is only as good as its input, meaning: if readers do not project as if there were no microphone, there is little amplification that can be achieved without causing feedback.

Another thing on my list is to get the audio on live streams to be consistent. Currently it is not well-mixed, and I would like to implement a setup whereby it's "set it and forget it". This is especially important for live-streaming memorials, where people may be watching from other parts of the world, and we only have one opportunity to get it right. This would also mean that the operator sitting at the mixing board on Sundays could focus on the sound happening in the room as opposed to the sound on the livestream.

## **Prayer Chain Ministry**

Lynne Hurd

St. Mark's is blessed with a dedicated group of 18 men and women who pray daily for the concerns you bring to them for prayer. The answers to these prayers reach far and wide, and bless not only our congregation, but our local community, and those further afield. Currently, Lynne Hurd coordinates this ministry. You may contact her with your requests by phone, email or in person and your requests are sent out by email to each person on the chain. There is a strict code of confidentiality. We also appreciate it very much when you call back to let us know when the prayer has been answered, or if there is a change in the circumstances. It is important that you ask permission of the person for whom we will pray before putting the request on the prayer chain.

This is a faith-based ministry that blesses those for whom we pray but also equally or more so those who are privileged to do the praying. Should you be interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact one of the clergy or the coordinator for more information.

## *Christian Formation*

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### **Centering Prayer**

The Reverend David Taylor

It has been a joy to practice Centering Prayer on Thursday evenings. Our time together includes 20 minutes of silence prayer where we brush all of our distracted thoughts away in order to connect with God. We follow this with a time of *Lectio Divina* or *Holy Reading*. We read either a short portion of Scripture, a writing from the tradition or view an icon and wonder what God is saying to us through them. I invite anyone who wants a new prayer practice to join every Thursday evening at 7pm.

### **Children, Youth, and Family Ministry**

Sarah Autio

*"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."* 1 Timothy 4:12

The past year has been a year of growth and change for the Children, Youth and Family Ministry. In 2025, we have welcomed a program change for Sunday mornings that shares a collection of lessons provided by Rev David. We have seen growth in weekly attendance and engagement from youth. The program has grown to 10 consistent members, with occasional increase for special events and invitations. Sunday Jr Church program has a fluctuating population; we can go between 4 to 16 participants depending on personal commitments of families.

This past year we reduced Family Nights to once a season to increase interest and focus our Family Nights on seasons of the church, this change has brought more interest and commitment from families to attend. Outreach for our program this past year focused on Patricia Hope House in partnership with the Outreach committee, at Christmas. We also undertook a new outreach project this past Fall with "Backpacks for Kids" which was successful in raising funds and items for children and youth. All donations were made to Sources Food Bank.

Spiritual Practices had a very successful year of inviting both our community and parishioners to explore different ways to engage in prayer and meditation with Jesus. This program had an average of 8-12 participants.

This coming year will bring some growing changes on Sundays as we respond to volunteer availability, and growing young disciples, as our youth are encouraged to participate and attend regular services on Sunday. In consultation with Rev David and our Safe Church person Betty-Ann, we are navigating what volunteering as a teen will be like for Jr Church.

Goals for the year to come, we anticipate several DYM events and future collaborations with Holy Trinity for events and growing our youth ministry here in the lower mainland and into the valley. Including our combined VBS this Summer and other offerings as the year unfolds. It is with hope that the Children, Youth and Family Ministry will continue to hold regular gatherings for Volunteers to participate in education and training and exploring their role in connecting with our youth and families here in our community. Thank you for your ongoing support and investment in this important ministry.

## Family, Youth, and Children Time YouTube Videos

*Mari Anne Hussen*

Family Youth and Children Time Our programme has continued to grow and evolve. During the first part of this year we focused on the **Gospel readings**, helping children and families connect with the weekly story of Jesus. As the year progressed, we transitioned into **David's Sunday School lessons including**

- **The Five Foundational Stories** — God creates the world, the brokenness that enters creation, God's healing through Jesus, the forming of a family of healers, and God's promise to restore all things.
- **Other Bible Stories** — from Abraham and Sarah to Samuel, Ruth, David, and Solomon.
- **Spiritual Stories of the Church** — Baptism, Communion, Confession, Prayer, the saints, and the seasons of faith.

With each lesson we continue to offer short, engaging online talks for both children and adults — helping us grow as a family in faith wherever we are. Check it out! Follow the link from our webpage or find the playlist here: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLV9ZoTQqn-s\\_w-8xzTCwWDMN0QWcu8A4X](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLV9ZoTQqn-s_w-8xzTCwWDMN0QWcu8A4X)

## Library

*Maryellen Gallo*

We continue to offer many interesting reads in our library, ranging from prayerful reflections to mysteries, as well as books for children and teens. Stop by sometime and browse through all the choices. Please remember to fill out the card, date-stamp it, and leave it on the desk if you are borrowing a book when no Librarian is available. If you have forgotten to return a book, kindly return it at your earliest convenience. Feel free to stop by anytime you're looking for a little quiet or a good book to curl up with.

## Outreach

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### Refugee Sponsorship Ministry

*Janet Scott, Patrick Aiken*

During 2025, St. Mark's Refugee Sponsorship Ministry has focused on providing ongoing support to the Syrian and Afghan families who arrived in Canada in 2024. A second priority has been to intermittently check in with members of the Syrian families whom we welcomed in 2016, 2019 and 2023, offering resources and prayer support as needed.

### Afghan Refugee Family

Our Afghan refugee family have embraced life in Canada. Bibi and Mohammad have immersed themselves in English Language classes through S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Settlement Services. Their daughter, Fatima, has been a full-time student at Invergarry Adult Education Centre. She has completed foundational courses in English and Mathematics. She is excited about taking some Grade 11 courses at Queen Elizabeth Secondary School as well as at Invergarry in 2026. All three family members upgraded their resumes and began to look for work in March. Like many of their extended family members and friends, they have found that most employers are requiring some previous work experience in Canada. Thanks to leads from parishioners, both Fatima and Mohammad have found employment. Fatima began part-time work at a local pizzeria in March 2025. In April, Mohammad began full-time employment in Coquitlam as a Traffic Control Person with a construction company. Bibi has increased her English studies to full-time to better equip her for future employment. Janet and Patrick would welcome any leads from

parishioners of viable connections with employment opportunities for Bibi. On May 14th, 2025, the family celebrated their one-year anniversary post-arrival in Canada! On May 31st, they moved to a new apartment in Fleetwood, with more affordable rent payments and an easier commute to work and school. They have settled into their new community nicely. The three family members have passed the BC Driver's License Knowledge Test and Mohammad has successfully passed the Road Test. It has been a privilege for Refugee Sponsorship Ministry Team members to share many meals with the family over the past year. On June 15th, it was wonderful to have the family join us for our Sunday service and fellowship time over coffee. Mohammad shared his heartfelt gratitude for the many ways the Parish has supported the family over the past three years.

In May, Janet met with David, Barbara Carrington-Smith and Brenda Horner to do a review of the one-year sponsorship year budget for this family. It was gratifying to see that, thanks to the generosity of parishioners, we have been able to raise the \$62,000 needed to support this family for one year. In June, Janet applied, on behalf of St. Mark's and Bibi's family, to the Bishop's Fund for support with 'Month 13' costs and some ongoing counselling support for the family. In August, we received news from the Archbishop's Office that we would receive \$1,529.66 to cover the accrued costs of moving supplies, truck rental, obligatory professional cleaning of the old apartment and the security deposit for the new apartment. We were also awarded \$3,000 towards the requested \$6,000 for ongoing counselling. Since June, Parishioners have generously responded to our request for some financial support for the family in the short term until Bibi is better equipped to work. A total of \$2,710.25 has been donated to help with expenses such as bus passes, dental costs and trauma counselling, in addition to the \$3,000 from the Bishop's Fund. Please continue to hold this family in your prayers.

### ***Syrian Refugee Family***

On March 15th, May Karime and her adult daughter, Leeda, moved from Reem and Samir's home in Coquitlam into their own rental apartment in New Westminster. As their Family Co-Sponsor, Reem has helped them to orient to their new neighbourhood. On March 20th, Janet met with Reem, Leeda and May for a Month 9 Sponsorship Review which focused on how to prepare for increasing independence and self-advocacy by Month 13. Unfortunately, from mid-April until early June, May was in and out of hospital for treatment of sepsis that had spread to her heart valve. This illness left her weak and fatigued. During this period, she relied on Leeda for care and on her son, Samir, for transportation to the hospital for appointments. On June 20th, 2025, May marked her one-year anniversary as a Permanent Resident in Canada. By mid-July, she had regained her mobility and more energy. She has been very appreciative of the ongoing prayers of St. Mark's parishioners.

On July 10th, 2025, Leeda celebrated her one-year anniversary of arriving in Canada. After passing her Road Test in June 2025, she was able to buy a car. This has allowed her more independence in orienting to her new community, meeting her needs and providing care for her mother during her recent illness. Leeda's English skills have improved markedly through her immersion experiences while supporting her mother in hospital and in the community. She hopes to take further English language courses as a foundation for post-secondary training as a Veterinary Technician. Reem and Samir remain committed to providing any ongoing settlement or financial support needed by May or Leeda.

### ***Ongoing Connections with Our Syrian Friends***

2025 has been a year with highs and lows for the Parish's longer-term friends whom we sponsored, within the past ten years, from Syria. Maya, who arrived in Canada in July 2023, completed her chemotherapy sessions at the end of April 2025. She is continuing to receive more screenings, hormone therapy and physiotherapy to strengthen her body after two years of cancer treatments. She is living with her sister Teresa, brother-in-law Rami, and their two daughters, while she looks for part-time work as a pharmacist or pharmacy assistant. She has asked that the St. Mark's Community continue to hold her in prayer.

Khalidoun and Sama, who arrived in Canada with their three children in 2019, report that they are all doing well. Their daughter, Natalie, is a student in the Master's of Architecture program at UBC. Their son, Jamal, is studying piano. Their daughter, Katherine, is studying to be an Optician through Douglas College.

Reem's parents, Fouad and Lewa, whom we welcomed in 2016, have faced some health challenges over the past year. They are happy to be living with Reem, Samir and their two grandsons in their Coquitlam home.

Many members of Reem's extended family and Khaldoun's family were saddened by the news of the passing of Laurie Stephenson in August 2025. At Laurie's Memorial Service, they shared memories of how Laurie, in his role on the Refugee Sponsorship Ministry Team, had supported them upon their arrival in Canada. Three months later, many of these friends along with our Afghan friends' extended family, joined the Parish to remember our departed Team member, Anne Schreck. Stories were shared about how Anne had made an impact on each one of them.

### **Team Members**

We are grateful to all Parishioners who have donated money to support this Ministry, prayed faithfully for the refugees, baked cookies for a family, provided English instruction, helped with a move, invited a family for tea, assisted with preparation of a resume, reached out to prospective employers and gave driving instruction. A big thank you to Team members Patrick Aiken, Brenda Horner, Jody Simmons, Isabel Chernoff and Barbara Carrington-Smith, Treasurer.

### **Looking Forward**

As we look towards 2026, the Year of Invitation, our goals include offering short-term financial support to the Afghan family; continuing to support the newcomers with Year 2 settlement; enriching connections between Parishioners and members of the extended Syrian and Afghan families through planned events; adding new volunteers to this Ministry; continuing to network with other churches engaged in refugee sponsorship; and laying the foundation for the Parish to consider sponsoring a refugee in 2027.

## **St. Mark's Community Outreach**

*Barbara Grantham, Chair*

St. Marks Community Outreach Ministry is beginning its 27th year in 2026.

The direction of your Community Outreach Ministry is guided by the Mission Statement taken from St. Matthew, Chapter 25, verses 35 to 40 as follows: *I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me water, I was a stranger and you took me in; Naked and you clothed me; ill and you comforted me; In prison and you visited me. And the King said, "what you do to the least of these my people, you do unto me".*

The projects and organizations we support are located here in the South Surrey area. During this past year, there have been changes in those that we support, and some organizations we no longer support. All changes made in this Ministry, are led by prayer and guided by a dedicated group of people.

WE DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE GOING IF WE DON'T KNOW WHERE WE CAME FROM  
YOUR OUTREACH MINISTRY HAS COME FROM A VISION FROM PAT LOUIS.

The late Pat Louis, was a strong and vibrant parishioner of St. Mark's and started this Ministry in early 1999. This Ministry was originally called "The Front Room" in recognition of "The Front Room" --which is a homeless shelter in Whalley. This organization supports and assists those who are homeless, mentally ill or struggling with addiction. This Ministry began with teams making sandwiches in the church kitchen and serving them at the Front Room in Whalley. The Community Outreach Ministry has grown and is now supporting the various organizations and programs outlined in this report. At the end of that first year in 1999 the 'Front Room Ministry' had \$2000.00 in operating funds. As of 2026, the Community Outreach Ministry is supporting projects here in the South Surrey area and had an opening budget this past year of \$10,613.95.

### **LEADERSHIP**

The planning and administering of the programs are the responsibility of the Steering Committee which is comprised of members of the congregation: Barbara Grantham (Chair), Pat Aiken, Betty-Ann Bainbridge, Lynne Brownridge, Karen Buchanan, Sue Foley Currie, Brenda Horner, Lynne Hurd and Lawrence Hurd. The Committee meets regularly to review programs within this Ministry.



## INCOME & EXPENDITURE

The following financial statement documents funds received and the distribution of these funds. It should be noted that the Community Outreach Ministry operates on a receipts-based reimbursement for any and all expenditures.

2025 Opening Balance		\$10,613.95
2025 Donations	\$22,984.50	
2025 Disbursements	\$20,654.42	
2025 Surplus	\$1,550.36	
Closing Balance		\$12,994.03

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Your Community Outreach Ministry is in contact with all of the organizations supported through this Ministry. All donations given are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that what is being provided to each organization is best suited for their current needs.

### **Lunch Basket for Hungry Children**

The Lunch Basket for Hungry Children is the premier program for the Community Outreach Ministry. Last year, the Lunch Basket provided support to seven (7) Mothers, and fourteen (14) children in 2025. As with all of the programs under the auspices of this Ministry, we change as the needs of those we support. Last year, these families were supplied with Walmart gift cards. All of these families know that these gift cards are for food only. With the cost of food increasing, it has now been suggested that a donation \$75.00 is suggested, however, any amount is always appreciated. These families who participate in the Lunch Basket for Hungry Children are identified to St. Marks from Women's Place. These children and youth would otherwise go to school hungry without the added support from St. Marks. The participants are all reviewed on a regular basis with Women's Place.

Walmart Gift Cards to the value of \$75.00/child per month and \$50/ for each mother are distributed monthly to young Mothers to purchase food for their children. Extra Gift cards valued at \$50.00 per family are given out for special holidays such as Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas and provided to the families who participate in the Lunch Basket Program for Hungry Children. These families can enjoy some extras at these holiday times as do others in the community. Christmas Hampers are also provided to these families from various Groups within St. Marks. We have decided due to the cost of groceries these amounts are being increased to \$85.00/child and \$55.00/Mother effective immediately.

Thank you to Karen Buchanan for the delivery of the gift cards to Women's Place each month. Financial support for the Lunch Basket is received through contributions made by St. Mark's parishioners. The Donor Pledge Calendar posted in the Parish Hall and the Pulse where these pledges can be made. It is now suggested a donation of \$75.00 be pledged. A Thanksgiving or Memorial donation is recognized weekly in the Parish Pulse. Contact Lynne Hurd or the office will support this program. Thank you to Lynne Hurd for the organizing of these Dedications.

### **Christmas Hampers**

Each year, those families who are participants of the Lunch Basket Program receive Christmas Hampers. These Christmas Hampers are organized by the Outreach Ministry. This year the Hampers were supported by ACW, The Ladies Guild, A Bible Study Group, Men's Club, Savvy Seniors and individuals in the parish. Gift Cards are given early in December, so that the parents have the opportunity to purchase gifts for their children, and food for their Christmas dinners. Thank you to Lynne Brownridge for organizing and delivering these gift cards to Women's Place for these families.

### **Patricia Hope House**

This is a residential treatment centre for Women located here in South Surrey. This past year, we donated coffee on a regular basis. Thank you to Brenda Horner for organizing the purchase and delivery of the coffee. Thank you for Kingsley Griffin and Kanga Coffee for supplying and delivering the coffee. For this Christmas, the Youth Group joined in the giving of an additional gift to each of the residents of Patricia Hope with gift bags full of personal items for each of the ladies. Sarah Autio and Barbara Grantham delivered these items.

### **South Surrey White Rock Food Bank**

As in the previous years, funds were sent each quarter to both Women's Place and the South Surrey Food Bank. The funds are designated for fresh vegetables. This program was originated to replace the fresh vegetables delivered from Rocha. The funding enables both the Food Bank and Women's Place to purchase vegetables on a regular basis at a reasonable price.

### **INTERFAITH OUTREACH MINISTRIES GROUP**

St. Marks Community Outreach Ministry collaborates with the local Interfaith Outreach Ministries. This group of local churches and other faith-based organizations on the Peninsula has united to share information on the various outreach projects they provide to our community. In 2025, for the second consecutive year, St. Marks participated in the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, a provincial initiative of the Church of the Latter Day Saints. Brown grocery bags were provided to parishioners to fill with food, which was all donated to the local Food Bank. In the South Surrey area, 25,000 pounds of groceries were collected and donated to the South Surrey Food Bank. In June 2025, St. Marks hosted a meeting of the Outreach Ministries of the local Interfaith Members.

### **SOUPER SUNDAY**

One of the Community Outreach ministry's major fundraising projects is the soup-making event held during the cooler months. Members gather in the kitchen to prepare delicious homemade soup, which is then sold to raise funds for the Lunch Basket for Hungry Children and the Outreach Ministry. Brenda Horner generously tested the soup recipes and purchased the groceries. We extend our gratitude to Brenda and all of the soup makers.

The containers in the church hall are for the following:

#### **WHITE ROCK/SOUTH SURREY FOOD BANK**

The Food Bank basket located in the Church Hall is for non perishable foods. A list of preferred food is attached to the basket.

#### **SMALL ITEMS FOR HOMELESS**

This basket, also located in the Church Hall and labeled Front Room is for small toiletries, brushes, combs, socks, gloves and small items for those who are living on the street. These items are delivered to the local Food Bank. Thank you to Pat Aiken for delivering the items as needed to the Food Bank.

### **IN CLOSING**

The Community Outreach Ministry is grateful for your continued prayers and the ongoing support of this vital ministry. Without this support the ministry would not be able to continue its outreach efforts and provide assistance to those in need. We extend our sincere thanks to the Ladies Guild, ACW, The Men's Club, Bible Study Groups, Savvy Seniors and Individual parishioners for their support of the projects under this ministry.

## *Community Care*

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### **Adopt-A-Street**

*Mari Anne Hussen*

Volunteers from St. Mark's pledge to keep our street free of trash and debris by performing litter pickup at least once a month with the Adopt-A-Street Program. Benefits of volunteering are to contribute to the beautification of our community. We clean 2.5 Km of road from 140th St. to 128th St. on 20th Ave. We have 5 teams that clean twice a year with some going out more often if needed. Our wonderful volunteers have worked hard over the years and we hope to add some new recruits this coming year to keep our clean streak going.

## **Anglican Church Women (ACW)**

*Kathryn Smith*

The A.C.W. convenes on the second Tuesday of each month from September through June at 2pm, with additional meetings held on the first Monday of the month at A.C.W. Place. At this location, we organize and sort donated clothing, bedding, and other items, preparing packages for distribution to northern communities where demand remains high. All contributions are appreciated.

In addition to supporting the north, we also assist individuals in need across the lower mainland. Select quality garments are donated to Dress for Success, a Vancouver-based mission that provides workforce-appropriate attire and résumé guidance for individuals re-entering employment.

We accept good, gently used clothing ranging from size 2 upwards, as well as bedding, blankets, duvets, Afghans, and lap blankets. Items may be placed in the hall bin for delivery to A.C.W. Place. We collect stamps to benefit theological students at the Arthur Turner Training School and pull tabs in support of the children's Dialysis camp. Our efforts also include setting up for the Mission to Seafarers in the Narthex. We extend our gratitude for your ongoing support of this important initiative.

The spring sale is scheduled for June 20th, with all proceeds directed towards fulfilling our commitments to the Diocese and partner organizations such as the Ullstroms (with OMF — Overseas Mission Fellowship), and the child we sponsor through Compassion Canada.

If you are interested in joining this ministry or require further information, please attend our next meeting or reach out with any questions. As a Diocesan organization accountable to the Bishop, our work extends beyond the local community to serve a broader area.

## **Flower Ministry**

*Linda O'Donovan*

This ministry collects the altar flowers after the 10 am Sunday service and divides them into small bouquets. These are then delivered to parishioners who may be experiencing illness, bereavement or other life challenges. We also use the ministry to help celebrate milestone occasions like birthdays and anniversaries. We have seven dedicated volunteers who deliver that flowers that day. If you know of someone in the congregation who may need flowers please put the name in the book in the Ladies Guild/Flower room on Sunday mornings.

## **FoodSafe**

*Mari Anne Hussen*

The church kitchen provides a welcoming environment for fellowship and ministry. With continued attention to FoodSafe training, clear procedures, and shared responsibility among volunteers, food service can remain safe, inclusive, and aligned with provincial health guidelines. We currently have 17 members who are certified until 2028/9 but will be happy to offer training opportunities to those who wish to serve.

## **Ladies Guild Annual Report**

*Linda O'Donovan*

The Ladies Guild had 10 monthly meetings during 2025. We meet on the third Tuesday at 2 pm in the family room. New members are always welcome. 2025 was another enjoyable and fulfilling year for the Ladies Guild members. Here is a synopsis of events and changes made by the Guild during 2025.

January	the Guild was happy to make donations to St. Marks Outreach ministry, Sources, PADS, Operation Eyesight, Covenant House, Salvation Army and Union Gospel Mission.
February	Planning for future events. Members volunteered with the Hospitality ministry for a funeral.

March	We hosted the Pancake Supper with the Men's club. We were sad to say good bye to one of our founding members Lynne Higginson.
April	We hosted the Lenten Lunch, part of a series of ecumenical lunches at various churches in the area.
May	Members assisted the Hospitality Ministry for Donna Gervais's celebration of life reception. Ladies Guild held a Mother's Day High Tea which was well received. Members discussed the need to refocus our energies not on fundraising, but on service. We will be limiting our donations to outside organizations and the Isabel Hutchison Scholarship award was discontinued. We will continue to support the Outreach Ministry and other church needs as funds allow. We will also continue to convene the Holly Berry Fair and will do other fundraising at times.
June	We began forward planning for the Holly Berry Fair with a craft after noon. We also hosted a reception for Lynne Higginson's Celebration of Life. Members enjoyed an afternoon tea wind up meeting
September	Holly Berry Fair planning continued. Kitchen clean-ups are being scheduled on a regular basis. All are welcome to help.
October	We continued plans for Holly Berry Fair. We made our annual donation to support a family through the Outreach Ministry at Christmas.
November	Holly Berry Fair preparations. Members assisted the Hospitality Ministry for Charlie and Isabel's 70th Anniversary lunch after church. We began a fundraiser for Purdy's chocolates for Christmas giving.
December	Holly Berry Fair on December 6th was a success and only possible with the help of members and many other members of the congregation who helped. It truly was a St. Mark's family event Thank you to you all.

### **Lock-Up Team**

*Isabel Chernoff*

This is a small team of 5 who each take a turn once a month to lock up the building after the Sunday services. Team members contribute to the security of our facility by diligently checking the property and being the last to leave. Thank you to Massimo, Isabel, Jonathan, Alan and Rick for your loyal support of this ministry.

### **Men's Club**

*Brian Walks*

The Men's Club operated this year with 6 regular dinner meetings and guest speakers. The first meeting was a discussion by Rev. David for our membership to discuss the future activities to plan what we can move ahead with a smaller and aging volunteer base. We agreed to host one neighbourhood BBQ in September with salmon as our signature item. 92 people attended and many comments are "our best barbecue." Many thanks to those who helped us continued in September. Guest speakers at our monthly meetings were Brian Jones, Cory Paige, Denny O'Donovan, Father Dara as well as Remembrance presentation by Percy Smith. The Men's Club contribute our Sunday cookies after the 10:00 service each week. The Men's Club have donated to the Sources Food Bank, Camp Artaban, the outreach Christmas hamper and a donation to the church.

Opening account on Jan. 1, 2025: at BMO:	\$6375.44
End of year. Dec. 31, 2025:	\$4862.66

## Savvy Seniors

Sue Indridson

St. Marks Savvy Seniors have had another successful year of fun and fellowship with 40 or more members of the seniors of St. Marks and the south Surrey community. We meet alternate Wednesdays throughout the year in the church hall for games, conversation and refreshments with from 15-35 folks attending. In addition, those wishing to, attend the theatre season at White Rock Playhouse as a group. Twenty are attending the 2025-26 season. We try to acknowledge birthdays and all special days in the lives of our seniors. We were able to have a wonderful bus trip to District 1881, Chilliwack to see the murals, shops and have a delicious lunch at The Bow and Stern Restaurant—thanks to Denny O'Donovan and his bus. Again in December, thanks to Isabel Chernoff and her group of helpers who provided appetizers and sweets for our Christmas party which was open to all the church as well as our regular members. Thanks to the choir for leading us in a carol sing. We appreciate David Higginson helping to set up and take down the hall for our Wednesday gatherings and all our willing members who help in so many ways from supplying goodies to cleaning up the kitchen, to driving those who no longer drive. Please join us if you are interested in any or all of our activities.

## Building & Grounds

### Building & Grounds

John Finley

As part of our building stewardship this form will be filled out and submitted to the Wardens before the Annual General Vestry Meeting. From these observations the parish will determine its capital strategies.

#### Structure

	Good	Fair	Poor
Roof	x		
Foundation	x		
Ceilings	x		
Floors	x*		
Walls	x*		

Notes:

- Hall floor and outer cedar wall are slowly wearing out

#### Exterior and Grounds

	Good	Fair	Poor
Siding	x*		
Landscaping	x*		
Drainage	x		
Parking Lot	x*		
Fences	x		
Doors	x		
Windows	x*		
Lighting	x*		
Garbage	x		
Paint	x*		
Gutters	x		

Storage	x*		
Forest	x		
Memorial Garden	x*		
Gardens	x*		

Notes:

- Cedar wall someday needs work. The rest is ok
- Cedars out back need to be pruned. They are growing into power line
- Parking lot can use a new coat of paint
- Repaired high windows
- Lighting upgrading ongoing
- Painting of green shed and stairs to memorial garden soon
- Container cleaned out in 2021. It is storing some Christmas items
- Some cedar pruning needed beside Memorial Garden
- Work don in the rose garden

**Systems and components**

	Good	Fair	Poor
Heating		x*	
Sprinkler	x		
Electrical Panel	x		
Circuit Breakers	x		
Switches/Outlets	x*		
Exhaust Fans	x		
Receptacles	x		
Light Fixtures	x		
Fire Extinguishers	x		
Smoke Detectors	x		

Notes:

- Boiler coming to the end of its lifetime. We have sourced 3 spare ignitors which are no longer being produced. New boiler has an estimated cost of \$14,000
- Container electrical upgraded

**Narthex**

	Good	Fair	Poor
Paint	x		
Plants	x		
Furniture	x		
Doors/Windows	x		
Flooring	x		
Ceiling	x		

## Sanctuary/Sacristy

	Good	Fair	Poor
Paint	x		
Plants	x		
Furniture	x		
Doors/Windows	x		
Ceiling	x		
Flooring	x		
Sound/Projection Systems	x*		
Sink/Faucet	x		
Storage	x		

Notes:

- Sound improvements have been made over the year with more being done in the new year

## Hall

	Good	Fair	Poor
Paint	x*		
Furniture	x		
Doors/Windows	x		
Ceiling	x		
Flooring	x		
Storage		x*	
Sound System	x*		
Other:			

Notes:

- Work to be done on “fuzzy” wall
- Storage needs improvement
- improvements made over the year including setting up AV

## Kitchen

	Good	Fair	Poor
Paint	x		
Storage	x		
Doors/Windows	x		
Ceiling	x		
Flooring	x		
Baseboards	x		
Dishwasher	x		
Refrigerator/Freezers	x		
Stove	x		
Sinks/Plumbing/Faucets/Traps	x		
Microwave	x		

Coffee Maker	x		
Dishes/Cutlery/Cooking Utensils	x		

## Bathrooms

	Good	Fair	Poor
Paint	x		
Toilets/Urinals	x		
Change Tables	x		
Sinks/Plumbing/Faucets/Traps	x		
Doors/Windows	x		
Ceiling	x		
Flooring	x		

Notes:

- Fixed motion switch in women's washroom

## Offices and other rooms

	Good	Fair	Poor
Paint	x		
Furniture	x		
Doors/Windows	x		
Ceiling	x		
Flooring	x		
Storage	x*		
Computer System	x*		

Notes:

- Old records need cleaning out
- System needs upgrading

## 2025 Five Year Capital Budget Plan.

These items are as follows:

- ☞ Two of the three furnaces in the hall are in the range of 22 years old and should be replaced within the next 5 to 8 years due to changes in efficiency and possible failure. \$25,000 should be allotted for this eventuality.
- ☞ The boiler in the basement has been failing, and we have replaced 2 ignitors in 2025. This boiler is now obsolete and will need to be replaced in the next 1 – 2 years. Estimated replacement is currently \$14,000. This boiler heats the Sanctuary, Family Room, and office areas and Daycare.
- ☞ There is one small hot water tank in the building that is at least 14 years old and \$1500 should be allotted for replacement. Note this tank might not be covered by insurance because of its age however as it is in the boiler room, not much damage would occur. There is a sump in the boiler room with a pump
- ☞ The steel roof over the Sanctuary should have its bolts tightened sometime in next 5 years. This could cost approximately \$50,000. These bolts should be tested for tightening in the next 1 or 2 years. Bolts inspected by Surlang roofing. If the bolts will not tighten, then the wood beneath the steel will have to be replaced at a very high cost, probably exceeding \$100,000.



All remaining critical pieces of equipment have been replaced in the last ten years. It is recommended that \$50,000 be reserved for these emergencies.

#### **YEAR 2025**

1. Allow in each year's plan the repairing of the Rectory if it is vacated. Total guess but allow \$10,000 for this project until it occurs in each year of plan.
2. Clean moss off steel roof church exterior paint work where necessary. Allow \$5000.
3. Fix lights in sanctuary. Allow \$5000

#### **YEAR 2026**

1. Check bolts on roof for ability to tighten. Allow \$5000
2. Re shingle south wall of Hall. Allow \$35000.

#### **YEAR 2027**

1. Repair the washrooms in the wall by replacing the sinks and counter tops. Allow \$4000
2. Paint the outside of the building. Allow \$40,000
3. Replace boiler in basement Allow \$14,000

#### **YEAR 2028**

1. Consider replacing the two remaining furnaces in the hall for efficiency purposes. Allow \$25,000

#### **YEAR 2029**

1. Consider asphaltting the graveled parking lot at the back of the church. Allow \$150,000.

## *Stewardship & Financials*

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### **Donations Secretary**

Brenda Horner

Thank you to the many generous donors to the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park. Our church is thriving and our finances improving, and we are grateful for all our faithful parishioners, whether worshipping in-person or virtually. God continues to bless our parish in many ways – so let's embrace Year of Invitation.

Many thanks also to those who completed a 2026 Commitment Card as part of the Stewardship program last fall. Your donation information allows the church to plan activities and expenditures more accurately. If you haven't completed a card, it's not too late. Please reach out to me if you need one. All donations are received in the strictest confidence and are receipted for income tax purposes in February of the following year. I am grateful for our team of **counters**, who continue to do an excellent job processing and depositing offerings of cash and cheques. **We are looking for more volunteers for this ministry**, which involves counting the envelope offering at the end of the 10:00am Sunday service. If you would like to become a counter, please contact me.

The tables below compare donations over the past three years. The number of donors is almost the same as last year but remains lower than in the past. Fortunately, the average donation per donor has increased since 2024. Notably, the use of Pre-Authorized Donations (PAD) has declined significantly. Also, these statistics do not include gifts made to Canada Helps or Securities donations, to which some donors have switched (donating Securities or providing Bequests offers significant tax savings). Please talk to me if you would like more information.

### **Donations can be made using one of five different methods:**

1) Cheque or cash, using envelopes submitted weekly or monthly. (Cheques **must** be made out to the 'Parish of St. Mark Ocean Park' – please remember, or the bank will not accept the cheque).

- 2) Pre-Authorized Donation (PAD) – monthly direct debit from your bank account or credit card. **(PAD\* is our preferred method of giving).**
- 3) Debit or credit card using our Electronic Donation Station (EDS) - located in the narthex
- 4) eTransfer via online banking.
- 5) Donating Securities through the Diocese (bonus - you do not pay tax on any realized gains on the securities), or by leaving a Bequest in your Will.

*\* PAD is a direct debit from your bank account or credit card and is preferred because it provides a consistent revenue stream throughout the year, which allows the church to budget more accurately. It also provides savings for the church due to reduced borrowing costs and staff time. In addition, PAD provides benefits for the donor. It is convenient (no need to write cheques, access cash or send eTransfers) and offers perks via credit card points or cash back. The program is administered by the Diocese and withdrawals are made on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.*

For information and instructions about these methods of payment, please visit the St. Mark's website: <https://stmarkbc.org/give> or contact me by email: [bhenze@shaw.ca](mailto:bhenze@shaw.ca) or phone: 604-312-0891. If you wish your donation to go to a specific ministry (e.g. Altar Flowers, Lunch Basket for Hungry Children, Community Outreach, etc.) please note this on your envelope, transaction slip or contact me. Also, feel free to reach out if you wish to sign up for PAD, make changes to your donation amount, or have other questions about giving to St. Mark's.

**PARISH OF ST. MARK - OCEAN PARK**  
**Contribution Range Report**  
For Period: 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025

Contribution Range	# of Contributors	Total Given	Average per Contributor
0.01 -	100	32	1,540.00
100.01 -	200	22	3,634.00
200.01 -	300	7	1,769.00
300.01 -	400	7	2,495.00
400.01 -	500	5	2,335.00
500.01 -	750	6	3,760.00
750.01 -	1,000	10	9,043.83
1,000.01 -	1,500	14	17,371.00
1,500.01 -	2,500	27	53,139.55
2,500.01 -	5,000	21	72,306.54
5,000.01 - 999,999,999		13	97,106.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>\$264,500.18</b>	<b>\$1,612.81</b>

Donations Received	2025	2024	2023
Operations/Maintenance	\$225,484	\$207,224	\$249,490
Open	607	2,156	3,945
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>226,091</b>	<b>209,380</b>	<b>253,435</b>
<b>Designated Ministry Funds</b>			
ACW	110	85	
Alongside Hope (PWRDF)**	3,377	1,710	2,520
Altar Guild & Flowers	2,465	2,300	4,170

Arocha**	240	240	245
Bequests		10,000	2551.06
Capital Building Projects	468	1,120	3,440
Church School			
Community Outreach	7,050	6,115	6,525
Lunch Basket	10,363	10,730	5,790
Creation Care	2531.5		30
Designated - Other	4370.25	1133	0
Discretionary	500		310
First Fruits			35
Food Bank**	360	1,115	571
Hospitality			300
Ladies Guild			152
Library	335		
Memorials			
Memorial Garden			620
Men's Club			113
Missions			70
Mission to Seafarers			50
Disaster Relief		100	200
Prayer Shawl			70
Refugee Support			
Afghan Family	3180	7460	25261
Tickets & Sales		110	267
VBS	980	450	
Youth & Families	2080	645	850
Sub Total	<u>38,410</u>	<u>43,313</u>	<u>54,140</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>264,500</b>	<b>252,693</b>	<b>307,575</b>
** Does not include donations sent directly to charity			

Number of Donors		2025	2024	2023
Envelopes	Weekly	26	27	36
	Monthly	19	22	31
Pre-Authorized (PAD)		49	63	71
Other Donations		48	48	37
Visitors		15	7	15
Deceased		7		
<b>Total Donors</b>		<b>164</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>190</b>

## **Treasurer**

*Barbara Carington-Smith*

The year 2025 was a very busy and exciting year with new staff, new programs and leadership. The Operating Fund Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2025, reflects the challenges.

Total Contributions and Revenues	\$371,973.00	Prior Year	\$335,495.22
Total Expenses	\$375,564.00		\$363,396.86
Net Deficit	- \$3,591		\$ -27,901.64

Our Envelope Donors, PAD Donors, e-Transfer Donors, the Electronic Donation Station and “Other Registered Charities” which are funds received from parishioners’ donations of Registered Securities, Canada Helps, etc. continued their faithfulness.

In addition to the operating contributions and revenue, we also received \$12,870.in Bequests.

Capital Income was received of \$11,668 and expenses paid of \$14,712 were disbursed for upgrading and replacing equipment. Capital Funds available for future projects at year end is \$1,903.10.

Diocesan Parish Development Grant year end balance is \$3,270.25.

I appreciate and thank every ministry and their leaders for their good financial stewardship.

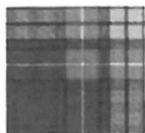
This does not include contributions to Community Outreach, PWRDF and other ministries. Or funds raised by ACW, Ladies Guild and Men’s Club. Nor does it include the donations for the Afghan Refugee Fund – as always, well done good and faithful servants! The generosity of this Parish never ceases to amaze me. More proof of “all things are possible in the Lord”. The Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park is richly blessed by your love and faithfulness of the countless hours of “Time and Talent” to which many, many volunteers so willingly and faithfully contribute. For this, we give God all the praise and glory!

Thank you to those that have their contributions processed by P.A.D. (pre-authorized donations). This is especially helpful with cash flow management. Alternatively, donations by e-Transfers are greatly appreciated.

MacCormac & Company, Chartered Accountants has performed a “Review Engagement” for the year ended December 31, 2025, as required by the Charities Act. Their Review Engagement Report is included in the Annual Report with the Financial Reports. We thank them for their efficiency of service which allowed us to present our statements in time for Vestry.

A very heartfelt thank you to the Wardens and Trustees for your encouragement and input. Special thanks to Maryellen Gallo for her support and help with administration and data entry. Also, to Reverend David Taylor and Father Dara Crandall for their administrative talents. You are all very much appreciated.

A special thank you to the Prayer Shield Team who covers us in prayer as we meet and seek God’s will for the Parish. The Lord’s guidance and presence is very much felt in these meetings. Blessings to all, for your faith, your commitment and support – I have said this many times before and I stand by it now - God blesses us, when we Honour Him!



## INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

**To the Trustees of Parish of St. Mark, Ocean Park**

We have reviewed the statement of financial position of Parish of St. Mark, Ocean Park that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the statements of income, retained earnings and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagement is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

### Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Parish of St. Mark, Ocean Park as at December 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

**West Vancouver, BC**

*MacCormac & Company*

**February 10, 2026**

**Chartered Professional Accountants**

**PARISH OF ST. MARK - OCEAN PARK**  
**Comparative Cash Flow**  
Proposed Draft

	2025 Actual <i>(Including AJEs)</i>	2025 Budget	2026 Budget
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>TOTAL DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>51,151</b>	<b>51,151</b>	<b>55,942</b>
<b>MINISTRY</b>			
Advertising	31	100	500
Altar Guild	225	500	500
Youth & Families Ministries	3,225	2,500	2,500
Library	617	500	500
Music Ministry	1,741	1,000	1,500
Parish Life/Ministry	2,812	1,500	3,000
Worship Supplies	2,917	1,500	2,500
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY</b>	<b>11,507</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>11,000</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			
Accounting Expense	5,375	5,000	5,000
Computer Maintenance	1,103	1,500	1,000
Interest & Bank Charges	1,228	2,500	1,500
Office Supplies	1,258	3,000	2,500
Photocopier	8,512	7,000	8,000
Postage	791	550	800
Telephone/Internet	2,325	2,000	2,000
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>20,591</b>	<b>21,550</b>	<b>20,800</b>
<b>PROPERTY</b>			
Insurance (including Rectory)	18,728	18,728	19,096
Janitorial & Cleaning Supplies	865	2,000	1,500
Light & Heat	11,792	15,000	15,000
Miscellaneous	383	350	350
Creation Care & Gardens	2,183	2,500	2,500
Repairs & Maintenance	11,231	10,000	10,000
Snow Removal	3,254	1,500	5,000
Rectory Maintenance	751	1,000	1,200
Security Expenses	349	700	500
Property Tax/Water	20,082	25,000	17,520
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>69,618</b>	<b>76,778</b>	<b>72,666</b>
<b>STAFF</b>			
Worship Leader	18,637	19,637	27,955
Relief Musician	-	1,200	-
Custodian Services	21,796	21,796	22,232
Administrative Assistant	27,341	27,341	27,888
Youth & Children Coordinator	17,474	17,474	17,824
Staff Benefits	11,784	12,700	12,976
<b>TOTAL STAFF</b>	<b>97,032</b>	<b>100,148</b>	<b>108,875</b>
<b>CLERGY</b>			
Clergy Supply	324	2,500	500
Clergy Car Allowance	9,615	9,387	9,556

Clergy Benefits	26,117	26,378	26,873
Rector's Salary	89,608	89,608	91,400
<b>TOTAL CLERGY</b>	<b>125,664</b>	<b>127,873</b>	<b>128,329</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$375,564</b>	<b>\$385,100</b>	<b>\$397,612</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Hall Use Income	19,490	10,000	20,000
Interest Income	4,042	3,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	16,963	1,000	1,000
Other Resisted Charities	24,260	30,000	30,000
DayCare Rental	36,000	39,000	36,000
Rectory Rental	39,000	39,000	39,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>139,755</b>	<b>122,000</b>	<b>129,000</b>
<i>Contributions required to meet the projected expenses</i>	<i>\$235,808</i>	<i>\$263,100</i>	<i>\$268,612</i>
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
Open Collection	607	5,000	5,000
Ministry Contributions	5,792	3,800	6,000
Securities, Canada Helps, etc. <i>(these include donations via 3<sup>rd</sup> parties)</i>	335	4,200	4,200
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>6,734</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>15,200</b>
<b>DONATIONS RECEIVED IN 2025</b>	<b>225,484</b>		
<b>DONATIONS REQUIRED IN 2025/2026</b>		<i>250,100</i>	<b>253,412</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$371,973</b>	<b>\$385,100</b>	<b>\$397,612</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$375,564</b>	<b>\$385,100</b>	<b>\$397,612</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>(3,591)</b>		

### Notes to the Financial Statement and Cash Flow Forecast

**Cash:** Our ending cash balance is \$25,410.55, is bearably adequate for the monthly cash flow and payables to pay our monthly operating costs.

**Investments:** The yearend balance of \$171,997.21 for Investments represent “Trust Funds” for Ministry Programs, Children and Youth Ministries, Bequests and Capital Funds and Operating Surplus. We received a Bequest for \$12,870.22 during the year.

At the 2025 yearend, our operating funds are in a deficit of **\$68,808.57**. That is, over the past number of years we have borrowed designated money from ourselves to cover the cost of operation.

**Receivables:** GST Receivable of \$1,681.22 is the expected refund for 2025. Accrued Interest of \$6,586.65 – is interest earned to December 31, 2025 on the GICs.

**Fixed Assets:** Changes in Church Buildings and Improvements are net of depreciation for the year. As a note of interest, on the 2026 Property Assessment Notice, the Assessed Value is \$10,282,700, a decrease of 3% over prior year.

**Liabilities:** Accounts Payables of \$1,417.33 Accrued Accounts Payables are the Year End Accounting fees of \$5,250.00, Damage Deposit of \$1,625.00 for the Rectory and \$500.00 deposits for Funeral Service,\$7,000.00 Daycare Deposit. Due from Parish Operations \$-42,490.00.

**Fund Balances:** By reviewing the Statement of Changes in Net Assets, one can clearly see the Fund Activity for the year. Total Income and Total Expenses for the year giving the Closing Balance of each Fund and Ministry at year end.

**Income:** Total Income for the year was **\$374,102.86**. A net increase of **\$38,607.64**, for Contributions and Revenues over prior year.

**Expenses:** Operating and Ministry Expenses were **\$375,563.54** resulting in a Deficit of **\$1,460.68**

**Cash Flow Forecast for 2026:** The proposed 2026 Forecast for Income Required for the Expenses reflect the realistic cost of operations and ministry development as expressed by the Parish.

This Cash Flow Forecast was reviewed and endorsed by Finance Committee and Parish Council for presentation for approval at Vestry.

