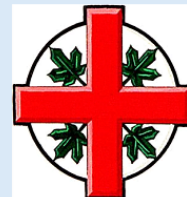




CHRIST CHURCH GABRIOLA



Annual Report 2024

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Contents

2024 COUNCIL.....	2
REPORTS:.....	3
Minister Report	3
Council Report.....	4
Trustee Report	5
Financial Report.....	6
<i>Financial Statements</i>	7
Diocese and Pacific Mountain Region Delegates	15
<i>Pacific Mountain Region</i>	15
<i>Synod</i>	15
Committees.....	15
<i>Building and Grounds</i>	16
<i>Outreach</i>	17
<i>Good Morning Program</i>	17
<i>Pastoral Care</i>	18
<i>Personnel Relations</i>	18
<i>Worship and Education</i>	19
<i>Communication</i>	20
Other Ministries	21
<i>Foster Children</i>	21
<i>Christmas Tea & Silent Auction</i>	22
<i>Hand Bell Choir</i>	22
<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry</i>	23
<i>Prayer Wheel</i>	23
MINUTES	24

2024 COUNCIL

As per the Shared Ministry Agreement (January 2020) the Council is comprised of the following voting positions:

- Minister (ex officio) or Denominational Designate
- Treasurer
- Anglican Synod Delegate
- United Church Regional Delegate
- One (1) Trustee
- One (1) Warden
- One to Five Members at Large

Term of office is one year, renewable up to a maximum of five consecutive years.

At the end of 2024, there were ten voting members of Council:

Position	Name
Minister	Rev. Suzanna Bates
Trustee	Nancy Hetherington-Peirce
Treasurer	Lisa Griffith
Synod Rep	Paddy Waymark
Pacific Mountain Rep	Betty Schultze *
Warden	Tim Leadem*
Members at Large	Rob Brockley*
Members at Large	Don Moser
Members at Large	Jacqui Parker-Snedker
Member at Large	Angela Nutter
*Co-Chair (appointed by Council)	

Christ Church Gabriola – 2024 Trustees, Wardens, Committee

Trustees

- Nancy Hetherington Peirce
- Don Butt
- Betty Schultze
- Rev. Suzanna Bates

Wardens

- Tim Leadem
- Brian Field

Worship & Education

- Pat Armstrong
- Corinne Carlson
- Betty Schultze
- Mona Smart

Finance

- Lisa Griffith
- Nancy Hetherington Peirce

Pastoral Care

- Paddy Waymark
- Susan Brockley
- Hilary Plowright
- Gail Reed
- Betty Schultze
- David Soy

Outreach

- Betty Schultze
- Susan Brockley
- Gail Reed

Personnel Relations

- Tim Leadem
- Brian Field
- Rob Brockley
- Mona Smart

Building & Grounds

- Jacqui Parker-Snedker
- Charlie Blackburn
- Gar Lee
- Don Moser
- John Peirce

Communications & Technology

- Hilary Plowright
- Don Moser
- Don Butt
- Rob Brockley

Safe Church Coordinator

- Mona Smart

REPORTS:

Minister Report

Dear Friends,

It was a real joy to be called to Christ Church Gabriola to share in your ministry on this beautiful island! My first few months here were a joyous mix of getting to know the people of CCG and gaining an understanding of the rhythm and organization of the congregation. I quickly settled into a pattern in my weekly work and the days I have for CCG work are Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. It's been quite an adjustment for me to move from full-time ministry to a 20-hour week and sometimes I had to make hard decisions about what I could not do. One of the continuing challenges is the weekly commute from Cobble Hill where I live. It takes up a chunk of time, but more than that, I am deeply aware that I do not live in the local community and cannot share in its usual life and events. My partner and I were looking so forward to moving to Gabriola, but timing prevented us from finding our dream home there.

I deeply respect the traditions and stories of the folk at CCG and am immensely impressed with the level of clear thinking and open-mindedness in this congregation. I find a cultural and political awareness and keen sense for working for justice and peace. The leadership of the church is made up of sharp, capable, profoundly committed people who regularly juggle the polity and governance of our two parent denominations side by side – they do more work than any single denominational council and they do it with ease and attention. Worship here is a treat where the openness of folk and the anticipation of the holy make it a joy to blend traditions and liturgies into a symphony of devotion. I am so glad that CCG is well-versed in Zoom – it really does offer a lot of flexibility for meetings and gatherings. Our Lent Study and Spiritual Practice Group met each week of Lent on a Thursday afternoon by Zoom for a book study - “A Different Kind of Fast” by Christine Valters Paintner. The group bonded in some deep conversation and learning from each other. On the Sundays of Lent, we entered the forest following the theme: “Gifts of the Dark Wood” (based on the book, “Gifts of the Dark Wood” by Eric Elmes).

I was greatly encouraged by the very positive response and attendance at our Maundy Thursday supper. Easter day was very special as we drew in a large congregation on a beautiful day. The first of the “Wild & Sacred Gabriola” events took place on Easter Sunday afternoon at Drumbeg Park and was attended by 14 people – a great response for such early days!

During the Summer, I offered a worship series called “The Healing Earth”, where we explored various ways the earth itself offers us healing. We invited folk from our congregation to participate in the services by offering a talk on the relevant subject for the day. We have such interesting, capable, deeply spiritual folk in our congregation! We celebrated the end of Summertime with joyful worship and an indoor picnic (the skies were being generous with their rain!). After Summer we observed Creation Time – a truly ecumenical liturgical time in which we focused on earth justice. This season culminated in a Blessing of Animals service on the grassy area outside the church.

We were very glad to welcome Bishop Anna (Anglican Diocese of Islands and Inlets) for a visit in November. After worship she led us in a time of sharing where we explored our congregation's good health. Advent quickly approached and we explored a beautiful theme over that time called “Those who Dream”. On the Longest Night we walked an Advent Spiral outside and a few days later celebrated in a wonderful candle-lit, music-filled service on Christmas Eve!

I have so appreciated the depth of commitment and excellence of our worship leaders and those who contribute to our Sunday gatherings. It has been a delight to work with Dorothy (music director) and she has brought deep sensitivity in her music. Our choir and various other musicians regularly take part and bring their joy in music for us to share in.

Over the year I've been working with Hilary (communications) on a new-look email newsletter to the congregation. I contribute to it weekly so that folk hear from me regularly. It's been great to receive emails and feedback from members of the congregation.

The Friday Lunches are a weekly outreach into the local community and serve not only nourishing food but friendship and companionship to many local people who are not part of this worshipping church community. I volunteer there once a month, and I find it a really great way to get to know the folk who attend – especially those who work in the kitchen.

The people of CCG are deeply attached to their little church in the forest and consider this sacred ground on which to offer their sacred worship and work. It is a real privilege for me to be the minister at Christ Church Gabriola and I look forward to the coming year with you.

With love and blessings,



Rev. Suzanna Bates

Council Report

Council met ten times during 2024 (no meetings in July and December), using a mixture of in-person, Zoom, and hybrid formats. Three Council members shared Chair duties on a rotating basis. Susan Brockley was appointed by Council as a non-elected, non-voting recording secretary.

In addition to the Annual General Meeting on April 14th, Council developed the agenda and motions for two important special congregational meetings during 2024. The March 24th congregational meeting approved the Terms of Call for Suzanna Bates as our 0.5 FTE minister. Another meeting on October 27th amended the original Terms of Call regarding the commuter allowance and approved the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) with a portion of the funds (\$3750) received by CCG following the dissolution of the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery on December 31, 2018.

Long-serving members Mona Smart and Hilary Plowright stepped down from Council at the AGM in April and two new Council members (Angela Nutter and Betty Schultze) were elected. The new Council was comprised of 10 members (including Rev. Suzanna Bates).

Here are some of the issues that the Council dealt with in 2024:

- New agreements for our four contractors were developed and approved.
- A \$1000 pledge was made to support a local refugee sponsorship initiative by SAGA 24
- A compromise agreement was negotiated with the Anglican Diocese of BC to satisfy Safe Church training requirements for CCG volunteers and contractors.
- A professional appraisal of CCG building and contents was obtained, and insurance coverage was subsequently increased to reflect the new appraisal.
- CCG was offered as a potential daytime extreme weather shelter in response to a request from the Gabriola Health and Wellness Collaborative's Extreme Weather Action Table.
- The Living into the Earth Emergency course developed by Shelagh Huston was approved as a church-sponsored event and up to \$1500 from the Special Project fund was approved to support the initiative.

- Following preliminary discussion of several potential projects, the CCG congregation was invited to submit proposals for use of the funds previously received by CCG following the dissolution of the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery.
- One existing policy was revised, and several new CCG policies were developed and approved.
- Extensive plumbing expenses were approved to repair water leaks caused by mouse damage and to avoid re-occurrence.
- The urgent need for a new Treasurer was discussed at length. A full description of duties was prepared, and a few potential candidates were approached. Some duties were shifted to the bookkeeper contract to reduce the Treasurer workload, and a proposal was approved to split the job into two separate positions.

Betty Schultze, Tim Leadem, and Rob Brockley
Council Co-Chairs

Trustee Report

The Shared Ministry Agreement of Christ Church Gabriola describes the role of the Trustees at Christ Church Gabriola (bold print added for emphasis):

“The United Church of Canada requires that the Board of Trustees of Gabriola United Church remain as a distinct entity within the Shared Ministry.

- *The responsibility of the trustees is to hold the United Church of Canada’s one-half interest in the congregational property (“land, buildings, any other land rights, money, investments, furniture and equipment”) in trust for the United Church, for the use and benefit of the congregation. **Management of this one-half interest in the assets is delegated to the Council.***
- *The Anglican Diocese of BC holds the other one-half interest in the congregational property. Management of this one-half interest is delegated to the Council.”*

(Section 9, Shared Ministry Agreement 2020)

Given that the Shared Ministry Agreement delegates the management of the United Church’s half-interest in the congregational property to the Council, the Trustees did not meet in 2024. Further, there were no issues during the year that required the specific legal participation of the Trustees.

Submitted by:

Nancy Hetherington Peirce, Trustee member of the Church Council
(Trustees: Don Butt, Nancy Hetherington Peirce, Betty Schultze, Rev. Suzanna Bates)

Financial Report

Financial Report for April 6, 2025, AGM

Financial Year ending Dec.31, 2024

This year's Financial Report is in advance of the finalized 2024 Financial Statements, so the numbers herein will be rounded off and may change slightly.

Christ Church Gabriola ended 2024 with about \$8,000 in excess Revenue over Expenditures (before Depreciation), continuing the trend of a positive balance.

On the Revenue side, 2024 receipted Offerings increased by 6% relative to the those of 2023 due in part to new donors, and in part to an increase in the frequency of donations from donors not enrolled in the United Church Pre-authorized Remittance program. The unreceipted cash donations also more than doubled. Interest from term deposits continued to be in the 3-5% range, but there were no Restricted Donations, and other revenue decreased slightly. The result was that total Revenue for 2024 is very similar to that for 2023 at around \$128,500.

Expenses in 2024 increased almost 25% compared to 2023 due to increased Church activity, the hiring of a new (non-retired) Minister, inflation-related costs for contractors and utilities, and increased cost for insurance. In addition, the Church dealt with unexpected issues caused by problems with the plumbing, and water supplies. In total, 2024 Expenses of \$120,400 were about \$23,000 more than those in 2023.

Looking ahead to 2025, the Church is looking forward to joining in the fresh, energetic ministry of Reverend Suzanna Bates. Although the Church did not need to pay \$10,000 for re-location costs budgeted in 2024 for Reverend Suzanna to move to Gabriola, we are committed to supporting her commuting costs of approximately \$5,000/ year for the duration of her tenure. In 2025, insurance costs are expected to continue rising, and the Church has contracted an Accounting firm to prepare the 2024 Financial Statements in view of the end of my 5-year term as Treasurer. The Church will probably be faced with a deficit in the Operating Accounts in 2025, but there are adequate investments to cover the costs.

Many thanks to Nancy Hetherington-Peirce (Finance Committee), and to the Christ Church Gabriola Bookkeeper, Cheryl McNeil. I appreciate your counsel and experience. It has been a learning experience and an honour to work on the congregation's behalf, and to watch over the Finances for the past 5 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Griffith, Treasurer

Financial Statements

Page 1 of 8

**CHRIST CHURCH GABRIOLA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2024**

(Unaudited - Prepared under the direction of the Treasurer)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash & Cash Equivalents:		
Cash to be deposited	\$ 300	\$ 250
Chequing Account	34,719	54,139
High Interest Savings Account	38,612	18,193
	<u>73,630</u>	<u>72,582</u>
Accounts Receivable:		
GST Rebate	406	503
GIC Term Deposit Accrued Interest	1,284	1,147
	<u>1,690</u>	<u>1,650</u>
	<u>75,320</u>	<u>74,232</u>
Investments:		
Special Projects Savings Account (Note 3)	10,876	7,949
GIC Term Deposits (Note 4)	190,054	182,657
	<u>200,930</u>	<u>190,606</u>
Capital Assets: (Note 5)	<u>161,480</u>	<u>169,901</u>
	<u>\$ 437,730</u>	<u>\$ 434,739</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities:		
Deferred Revenue		
2025 Donation received in Advance	\$ 12,118	\$ 10,625
Advance Payments for 2025 course	2,830	
Accounts Payable	1,577	434
	<u>16,525</u>	<u>\$ 11,059</u>
NET ASSETS		
Opening Balance	423,680	\$ 403,519
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures for the year	(2,475)	20,161
Closing Balance (Note 6)	<u>\$ 421,205</u>	<u>423,680</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 437,730</u>	<u>\$ 434,739</u>

Financial Statements Approved by the Parish Council March 20, 2025:

_____ Lisa Griffith, Treasurer	_____ Date
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CHRIST CHURCH GABRIOLA
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

(Unaudited - Prepared under the direction of the Treasurer)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
REVENUE		
OFFERING:		
Envelopes and Electronic	\$ 113,980	\$ 106,966
Cash in Collection Plate	3,052	1,198
	<u>117,032</u>	<u>108,164</u>
OTHER:		
Term Deposit Interest	7,534	6,507
Net Fund Raising (Note 7)	2,204	4,782
Memorial Donation	-	150
Fees for Minister from Weddings, Memorials	200	-
Fees from Rentals, Memorial Services, Weddings	950	995
Miscellaneous	-	148
Restricted Donations	-	6,766
Bank Interest	522	382
	<u>Total Revenue</u>	<u>127,894</u>
	<u>128,442</u>	
EXPENDITURES		
DIOCESE & REGION ASSESSMENTS		
Diocese and Region Assessments	<u>Total Assessments</u>	<u>5,150</u>
	<u>6,286</u>	
MINISTER (Note 8)		
Salary, Benefits, Pension, Allowances, etc	57,087	42,630
Substitute Ministers	3,705	3,317
	<u>Total Minister</u>	<u>45,947</u>
	<u>60,792</u>	
COUNCIL		
Pastoral Care Committee	0	44
Worship and Education Committee	894	1,204
Social and Fun Events	200	285
Tech and Communication Committee	427	
Search Committee	120	37
	<u>Total Council</u>	<u>1,570</u>
	<u>1,641</u>	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ADMINISTRATION

Advertising and Communication	399	276
Canada Helps Fees	0	14
United Church PAR Fees	269	226
Bank Charges	194	156
Administrator Contract	6,146	6,152
Bookkeeper Contract	3,168	3,088
Janitorial Contract	3,311	3,115
Musician Contract	8,780	8,276
Travel for Contractors	359	531
Internet and Telephone	2,160	2,010
Office and Facility Supplies	1,261	976
WorkSafe BC	94	85
Total Administration	26,141	24,904

FACILITY

Electricity	2,018	1,772
Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	8,136	1,954
Insurance	7,218	5,464
Miscellaneous	25	271
Purchased Water	2,728	900
Total Facility	20,124	10,362

OUTREACH

Friday Lunch Program	852	1,082
People for a Healthy Community - Various Programs	1,204	1,180
Other Charitable Organizations (SAGA, The Haven Society, The HOPE Center, Gabriola Health and Wellness Foundation)	1,000	3,540
	3,056	5,802
Anglican Church - Primate's World Relief & Development Fund	1,100	1,050
United Church - Mission & Service Fund	1,100	1,050
Plan International Canada	1,080	1,080
	3,280	3,180
Total Outreach	6,336	8,982

Total Expenditures	121,320	96,914
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EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES BEFORE DEPRECIATION OF CAPITAL ASSETS

	7,122	30,983
Depreciation of Capital Assets	9,597	10,822
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR	(2,475)	\$ 20,161

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CHRIST CHURCH GABRIOLA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Page 4 of 8

1. CHRIST CHURCH GABRIOLA

On July 1, 2017, a Shared Ministry, Christ Church Gabriola, was created by Gabriola United Church, the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery of the United Church of Canada, St. Martin of Tours Anglican Church, and the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia (the "Founding Parties"). Gabriola United Church and St. Martin of Tours Anglican Church combined their congregations to form Christ Church Gabriola. The Founding Parties agreed that all the assets in the care and control of both congregations would be transferred to Christ Church Gabriola for the exclusive use of the Shared Ministry.

Gabriola United Church/United Church of Canada and St. Martin of Tours Anglican Church/Anglican Diocese of British Columbia each committed to contribute assets valued at \$148,272 to Christ Church Gabriola. The combined contributions of \$296,554 were recorded as Contributed Surplus in the Net Asset section of the 2017 Statement of Financial Position. The value of the individual Capital Assets transferred to Christ Church Gabriola were agreed between the Founding Parties.

At the end of April, 2018, Gabriola United Church and St. Martin of Tours Anglican Church, having paid all of their outstanding liabilities, jointly contributed additional cash of \$26,234 to Christ Church Gabriola thereby increasing the Contributed Surplus to \$322,788.

On March 1, 2018, Canada Revenue Agency approved the amalgamation of Gabriola United Church and St. Martin of Tours Anglican Church to form Christ Church Gabriola as a registered charity.

2. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**A. Assets under the care and control of Christ Church Gabriola**

Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNPO) do not allow an entity to record assets on its Statement of Financial Position that are not owned by, or under long-term contract to, that entity.

All assets under the care and control of Christ Church Gabriola are jointly owned, directly or indirectly, by the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia and the United Church of Canada.

Sec. 6.10.04 of the Anglican Canons of the Diocese of British Columbia (2017) and Sec.B.7.4.8. of the United Church Manual (2016, revised 2019) require the governing body of a congregation to provide "easily understood" financial statements to the parishioners on a regular basis.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

The Council of Christ Church Gabriola is of the opinion that "easily understood" financial statements should reflect the assets and liabilities that are under the exclusive care and control of Christ Church Gabriola, and have reflected those assets and liabilities on these Financial Statements.

"Easily understood" also requires Financial Statement Notes that adequately explain the significant accounting policies used in preparing the financial statements.

B. Accrual Method of Accounting

Christ Church Gabriola utilizes the accrual method of accounting under which revenues are recorded in the period in which they are earned and expenses are recorded in the period in which they are incurred.

C. Depreciation of Capital Assets

Furniture & Equipment:

Furniture & Equipment includes furniture, fixtures, hymnals, the sound system, the Church piano, and the stained glass windows. Furniture & Equipment are depreciated on a declining balance basis at an annual rate of 20%.

Church Organ:

The Church organ is depreciated on a declining balance basis at an annual rate of 10% (5% in 2020).

Building:

The building is depreciated on a declining balance basis at an annual rate of 5%.

Building Upgrade:

The 2021 Building Upgrade consisted of a new roof over the Church Hall, upgraded insulation in the Church Hall ceiling, a new heat-pump for the Sanctuary, a new hot-water tank, and exterior trim painting which was completed in 2022. The useful life of the Building Upgrade is expected to be 20 to 30 years and, accordingly, is being depreciated on a declining balance basis at an annual rate of 10%.

Capital Assets are depreciated at 100% of the stated annual rate in the year of acquisition and are not depreciated in the year of sale or disposal except for the Church Organ, which was depreciated at half of the stated annual rate in the year of acquisition.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

3. SPECIAL PROJECTS SAVINGS ACCOUNT

These funds have restrictions and cannot be used for general Operating purposes.

	2024	2023
Presbytery Closure Funds	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750
Memorial Donations	3,948	3,948
Advance Payments for 2025 course	2,830	
Interest earned	97	251
	\$ 10,625	\$ 7,949

4. INVESTMENTS

	2025 Interest Rate	2024 Face Value	Maturity Date	# Days 2024	2024 Accrued Interest
90 Day GIC	2.75%	\$ 27,589	Jan 6/2025	84/90	\$ 204
3 year "Rate Climber" GIC	5.00%	107,968	Nov 3/2025	58/365	858
2 year GIC (Non Redeemable)	3.40%	27,119	Nov 5/2026	56/365	141
3 Year GIC (Non Redeemable)	3.10%	27,378	Nov 27/2027	35/365	81
		\$ 190,054			\$ 1,284

5. CAPITAL ASSETS

The Capital Assets acquired by Christ Church Gabriola on July 1, 2017 were recorded at values agreed by the Founding Parties. Subsequent acquisitions of Capital Assets are recorded at cost.

		2024	2023
Furniture & Equipment	Estimated Net Realizable Value - July 1, 2017	\$ 26,000	\$ 26,000
	At Cost - July 2, 2017 onward	14,654	13,479
		40,654	39,479
	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	27,316	23,982
	Net	\$ 13,338	\$ 15,497
Church Organ	At Cost	\$ 57,055	\$ 57,055
	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	21,492	17,542
	Net	\$ 35,563	\$ 39,513
Building	Nominal Value - July 1, 2017	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	1,508	1,325
	Net	\$ 3,492	\$ 3,675
Building Upgrade	At Cost	\$ 28,907	\$ 28,907
	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	9,757	7,629
	Net	\$ 19,150	\$ 21,278
Land	Agreed by Founding Parties - July 1, 2017	\$ 89,937	\$ 89,937
Net Capital Assets		161,480	\$ 169,901

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

6. NET ASSETS

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Contributed Surplus		
Assets donated in 2017 and 2018 to Shared Ministry by the Founding Parties (Note 1)	\$ 322,778	\$ 322,778
Church Organ donated in 2020 to Shared Ministry by a parishioner	57,005	57,005
	<u>379,783</u>	<u>379,783</u>
Accumulated Excess of Revenue over Expenditures from July 1, 2017	41,422	43,897
Net Assets at end of year	<u><u>\$ 421,205</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 423,680</u></u>

7. FUNDRAISING

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Bazaar and Tea Sales*	\$ 2,204	\$ 3,568
Donations to Bazaar and Tea	-	1,450
	<u>2,204</u>	<u>5,018</u>
Less: Advertising and other expenses	-	236
	<u><u>\$ 2,204</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,782</u></u>

*In 2024, a Tea and Silent Auction were held without a Bazaar.

8. MINISTER SALARY, BENEFITS AND EXPENSES

	<u>2024*</u>	<u>2023**</u>
Salary	\$ 40,853	\$ 39,004
Officiating Fees - Weddings & Memorial Services	200	-
	<u>41,053</u>	<u>39,004</u>
Employee Benefits		
Health, Dental, Life Insurance, Restorative Care, etc.	4,370	-
United Church Pension	2,417	-
	<u>6,787</u>	
Employer Costs		
Employer portion:Canada Pension Plan & Employment Insurance	3,484	3,030
Other (Payroll processing fees)	378	296
	<u>3,862</u>	<u>3,326</u>
Minister Expenses		
Telephone	600	300
Commuter Travel	4,785	
	<u>5,385</u>	<u>300</u>
Substitute Ministers***	3,705	3,317
Total Minister Costs	<u><u>\$ 60,792</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 45,947</u></u>

*2024 Minister is Level F, 0.5 Full Time Equivalent (FTE).

** 2023 Minister was retired Level F, 0.5 FTE.

***Sub Ministers leads ~one service/month; 0.5FTE Minister leads 3 services per month.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

9. SOURCES AND USES OF CASH

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Opening Cash	\$ 72,582	\$ 54,673
Add: Cash generated from Church Operations		
Offerings	117,032	108,164
Restricted Donations	-	6,916
Fundraising	2,204	4,782
Term Deposit Interest	7,534	6,507
Other	1,672	1,525
	<u>128,442</u>	<u>127,894</u>
Deduct: Cash used in Church Operations		
Operating Expenditures	114,984	87,929
Outreach Giving	6,336	8,982
	<u>7,122</u>	<u>30,983</u>
Increase in Deferred Revenue	4,323	760
Increase in Accounts Payable	1,142	-
	<u>5,465</u>	<u>760</u>
Increase Accounts Receivable	40	349
Increase Special Projects Savings Account	2,927	490
Increase GIC Term Deposits	7,397	6,357
Purchase Capital Assets	1,176	6,607
Decrease Accounts Payable	-	31
	<u>11,539</u>	<u>13,834</u>
Closing Cash	<u>\$ 73,630</u>	<u>\$ 72,582</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Diocese and Pacific Mountain Region Delegates

Pacific Mountain Region

Your representative gets emails on a regular basis that outline the many activities and events that are happening around the Pacific Mountain Region and some of these have been printed off and put on the bulletin board in the hall for your perusal. In the latest communication brief from the Pacific Mountain Region the newsletter discussed the successful workshop on Gambier Island for *The Visions and Dreams of Young Leaders*, and a listing of summer camps at Naramata, Camp Pringle, Sasamat Outdoor Centre, and Kasota East Camp that are now open for registration. There are ongoing LeaderShift events, workshops for PMR Affirming Ministries, and regular Zoom sessions for Ministry personnel available, often offered electronically via Zoom.

Your representative did not attend the Annual General Meeting so am unable to report on activities there but I can tell you that key issues at the October 2024 General Council included the following items:

- NEWOR Indigenous Sovereignty proposal affirming the recall of the National Spiritual Gathering to determine the future of the indigenous church;
- Principle-Based Approach of Palestine-Israel relations; and
- Anti- Racism Plan

Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, the United Church moderator, issued this thought-provoking question to attendees of General Council, that I believe is one we all need to ask, “Who is the Jesus you need to show up for you right now?” In this disturbing time in history with crisis in politics and the environment, this is an intriguing question to ask ourselves, and I look forward to an opportunity to discuss this with our Gabriola faith community.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Schultze, Pacific Mountain Region Representative.

Synod

The responsibility of the Synod delegate is to represent our church at meetings of the Diocesan Synod. Diocesan clergy and lay delegates gather at synod approximately every two years. Christ Church Gabriola, having less than 100 electors, is entitled to send one lay delegate to synod. Our synod delegate also sits on the CCG Council, as does a representative to the Pacific Mountain Region of the United Church of Canada.

On November 1-2, 2024, the Anglican Diocese of Islands and Inlets met for its 102nd Synod in Victoria. Unfortunately, I wasn't properly connected to the Diocesan email list so did not receive information about the scheduled synod meeting. We will work to ensure improved communication in the future. A summary of the meeting was published in the November 2024 edition of Faith Tides (<https://faithtides.ca/synod-2024-together-on-a-path>). A major outcome was the approval of a new set of canons and regulations, along with a few minor amendments to the constitution. Canons are the body of laws, rules, principles or standards that govern the church. The next synod will be held in the fall of 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Paddy Waymark, Synod Delegate

Committees

Building and Grounds

All costs listed below are approximate and exact amounts can be confirmed by Lisa Griffith, Treasurer.

March and April 2024 ushered in a series of water and plumbing related problems that lasted for several months. The plumbing under the building in the crawl space had been chewed through by rats (probably looking for water, having ingested poison) resulting in water draining into the crawl space. This consequently meant loss of water in the building's supply system. John Peirce and Gar Lee initiated a reworking of the plumbing system, bring all pipes directly into the building from the cistern into a filter and ultraviolet treatment system installed in a small storage space beside the kitchen. Approximate cost \$3500

In April I was asked to chair the Building and Grounds Committee and took on the position as the new water system was being flushed and disinfected. At this time new exit signs were installed at a cost of approximately \$900. In April and into May we continued to have poor water sample readings and again drained the cistern to flush the system. Each draining and replacing water and filters cost a further \$500 for an approximate cost of \$1000. The problem was resolved when a plaque coated crystal ultraviolet light shield was discovered, which I replaced.

In August Jill Lucko of Island Health conducted a kitchen inspection and suggested the following: the counter top disinfectant is dangerously strong and needs to be diluted (she left testing strips for the kitchen team. Make sure the glasses are stored upside down on green bar matting. She noted that the fridge and dishwasher are being operated at optimal temperatures, and that the kitchen is clean and in good order.

Also, in August the smoke detector kept up a persistent beeping despite resetting many times, cleaning the terminals, and changing the batteries. Gar Lee determined that the whole unit needing replacing as it was at least eight years out of date. Don and Gar installed the new unit

We continue to have a clean bill of health on the water front. In October I replaced the ultraviolet light and cleaned filters in the filtration system with the help of Robin McNair (volunteer). In the months leading up to Christmas we ran out of water several times due to high usage. Each tank refill lasted anywhere from 3 weeks to a month costing \$300 with each fill. Usage has levelled off in the new year

In November Gar Lee asked Chris Martin (a volunteer) if she would clean the flat roof and drains over the office. This was done by Chris and her son. Chris has also helped me replace spotlight bulbs attached to the ceiling over the altar. She has also taken on the responsibility for mowing the grass and weed-whacking pathways.

In November several congregants got together to rake and dispose of leaves around the outside of the building, and Rob Brockley had a dead tree removed from the side of the driveway.

In the early New Year Gar Lee replaced old light switches with sliders in the sanctuary.

Currently the committee is working on a joint plan with Paddy Waymark to revitalize the church hall, in a series of workshops to discern what needs to be done and how.

The committee expenses are about \$3000 over our allowable budget but given the unusual expenses of the past year we don't see a need to ask for an increase in our budget.

Jacqui Parker- Snedker
Chair, Building and Grounds Committee

Outreach

The members of the Outreach committee continue to be Gail Reed, Susan Brockley, Betty Schultze, and our minister Suzanna Bates. This year Outreach has been focused on providing a hearty soup lunch for the 20 to 25 people who generally attend Friday Lunch. What has been quite wonderful are the number of volunteers who are coming from outside the membership of the Church. Most of our most recent volunteers are non-religious people who, nonetheless, have a desire to be involved in a caring community. I believe that encouraging this trend helps to spread the message of peace, unity, and love that God has for the world. We have also been very encouraged by the number of excellent musicians who come and play for a half hour during dessert and keep us very entertained.

The members of Outreach are also the former members of the Committee that looked at initiatives that might help us fulfill the mandates of our strategic plan, now at least a couple of years old, but not forgotten. We hope that the “Sprucing Up the Church” initiative will come to fruition in 2025 as we continue to find ways to make our church look more inviting. In the absence of a Social and Fun Committee our committee was involved with our successful, “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner?”

Although spearheaded by Rob Brockley, the “Good Morning” program that helps seniors feel safe and connected through morning phone calls is another service that provides outreach to church members and members of the public. We hope to continue to search for doable projects that help us live out our covenant to God.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Schultze, Chair Outreach Committee

Good Morning Program

The CCG Good Morning program had another successful year in 2024. The program’s primary purpose is to provide a brief daily telephone chat for Gabriola senior’s who live alone and who may not have regular social connections. The daily phone call also serves as a valuable safety check for those who don’t have a reliable safety plan in place.

Each client receives a phone call each morning (or select mornings of choice) from a friendly volunteer. For those clients wanting a safety check, written protocols are in place if contact is unsuccessful.

The Good Morning program currently has five “clients” (those who receive phone calls each day), seven regular phoners, and six “backup” phoners. Each volunteer phoner is responsible for making a maximum of five phone calls one morning per week.

Most of the current clients are members of the CCG congregation. By partnering with People for a Healthy Community, our hope is to gradually expand the program so that this valuable service is available to people throughout the Gabriola community. There are many potential “clients” who would greatly benefit from this service. However, we will need many more volunteer phoners before we can expand the program.

CCG’s Good Morning program fills an important gap in the social fabric of our island. Our clients have voiced great appreciation for the morning calls and the phoners have also said how much they enjoy the brief morning chats.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Brockley, Coordinator, Good Morning Program

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care committee consists of David Soy, Gail Reed, Hilary Plowright, Susan Brockley, Betty Schultze, and Paddy Waymark as Chair.

It has been a relatively quiet year, with no major calls except for a member of our administrative staff, who had a serious fall.

The Shawl Ministry, headed by Joyce Ashley, disbanded in the fall. They have several beautiful shawls left for future use. These are now rehoused to the Chair's home, so please contact her if needed, at 247-7883. Grateful thanks to the whole group, whose talented fingers brought warm comfort to many in need.

The Prayer Ministry, organized by Joyce Ashley and Gail Reed, have a significant list of people in ongoing need of prayers. Many thanks to them for carrying on this important and valued task from Susan Brockley, who retired in the fall of '24, after several years of service. Please contact Gail or Joyce if you would like to join the list who pray for others. It is amazing how many in our community on Gabriola and elsewhere who are in need.

Respectfully submitted,

Paddy Waymark, Chair, Pastoral Committee

Personnel Relations

The Personnel Relations Committee met with Rev. Suzanna Bates a total of five times during the 2024 calendar year. The committee chair also informally checked in with Suzanna several times during the year. In addition, the committee assisted in preparing Suzanna's original Terms of Call in advance of a Special Congregational meeting in March and in preparing the amended Terms of Call prior to the October Special Congregational meeting.

Our four contractors – Dorothy Dittrich (music director), Margie Grimble (cleaner), Lisa Millard (office administrator), and Cheryl McNeil (bookkeeper) – continued to provide great service to CCG throughout 2024. The committee had one in-person meeting with Dorothy during the year and informally checked in with the other contractors from time to time.

In December, the Personnel Relations Committee began the process of preparing 2025 agreements with our four contractors. This involved separate discussions with each of the contractors, revisions to services to be provided, and a review of remuneration. The draft contracts were subsequently submitted to Council for approval.

Tim Leadem joined the Personnel Relations Committee following his election as a Warden at the 2024 AGM. The CCG Shared Ministry Agreement specifies that both wardens serve on the committee. At that time, Angela Nutter decided to step down from the committee after several years of faithful service. Also, Mona Smart resigned from the committee immediately prior to her ordination as Deacon in September. Due to potential conflict of interest, United Church policy does not allow ordained people to serve on a personnel committee. We regret losing Angela's and Mona's experience and wisdom and thank them for their faithful work on the committee. Ideally, we would like to recruit at least one female member to restore some gender balance on the committee.

The Personnel Relations Committee acts under the guidelines of The Manual of The United Church of Canada and the Canons of the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia. The committee functions around three roles: 1) consultative and supportive, 2) healthy relationships, and 3) supervisory. We provide resources and support for the minister, fee-for-service contractors (musician, office administrator, cleaner, bookkeeper) and the congregation with respect to any issue affecting staff of our church, including ministry personnel and contractors. The Committee works to build positive and trusting relationships between staff and members of the congregation. Confidentiality is vital to the work of the Personnel Relations Committee. The Personnel Relations Committee does not have decision-making authority. It recommends specific actions to the Council concerning ministry personnel and contracted staff.

If members of the congregation have praise or concerns about ministry personnel and/or fee-for-service contractors, these can be shared in signed correspondence or email with the Personnel Relations Committee. The issues will be considered confidentially by members of the Committee, who will recommend action.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Field, Tim Leadem, Rob Brockley

Worship and Education

This past year was uplifting and very successful, with the Rev. Suzanna Bates and the Rev. Deborah van der Goes at the helm. Suzanna has officiated three Sundays of the month while Rev. Deborah has officiated one Sunday of the month. There has been a smooth transition between services held by both Rev. Suzanna and Rev. Deborah. Dorothy Dittrich continues to be an excellent music director, with innovative programming in services. Highlights included the following:

- Holy Week: Easter: Maundy Thursday potluck was enjoyed by quite a few people;
- Good Friday: Rev. Deborah did a lovely contemplative service with Stations of the Cross on Good Friday;
- Easter Sunday: We saw a record number of 58 people, and the Sacred Wild Church, also held on Easter Sunday, at Drumbeg Park, was very well received;
- Summer '24: comprised an Earth theme for the summer months incorporating Indigenous healing plants, forest bathing, beach- combing: acknowledging the healing act of walking outdoors;
- Season of Creation: September to November brought Blessing of Animals and healing our own spiritual and mental well-being'
- Mona Smart's ordination as a Deacon took place Sept. 15, 2024 and this was a highlight of our year! To witness Mona's ordination at the Cathedral in Victoria was such an immense blessing;
- Advent: Decoration of the sanctuary went well, thanks to Betty Schultze, Gail Reed, and Hilary Plowright;
- Advent Music: Thanks very much to the Bell- Ringers, and to Dorothy Dittrich, Don Butt, and to the Choir, for providing lovely music throughout the Advent Season. Other musicians also participated including Lisa Griffiths on piano and Patricia Armstrong on violin notably on Christmas Eve with Rev. Suzanna presiding at 4:00 p.m.
- Eucharist: Mid-week Eucharist is no longer scheduled, due to lack of attendance and most congregants agree with this.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Armstrong, Chair, Worship Committee

Communication

“It is impossible to over-communicate! If there is a message that needs to be broadcast from one person or group to another person or group, the more ways that message can get in front of the intended receiver(s), the better! In the Church, we often make the perilous assumption that either everyone knows what’s going on, automatically, or that the people who need to know will take the appropriate amount of initiative to find out for themselves. Both are derelictions of duty for the simple reason that it is the communicator’s job to communicate!”

“Church Communication Strategy” Church Juice.

Over this past year, our ministry has continued to be vibrant as we offer a Hybrid Sunday Service. CCG not only offers a worship service for those participating in the church building but also enables those at home to join us too. Many appreciate the Zoom service when weather or illness prevents them from attending in person.

- Communication is no longer just a paper bulletin that you are handed as you enter church on Sunday morning, but it arrives in your home in a weekly email each Friday via MailChimp. We so appreciate Rev Suzanna for introducing this to CCG. You can check your Weekly CCG News for the time and Zoom link for our Sunday Church Service. Thank you, Susanna, for broadening our outlook in so many ways in your weekly news articles.
- CCG’s website offers a wealth of information about our church. <https://www.christchurchgabriola.ca/> There you will find the ‘Words for Worship/ Order of Service for the upcoming hybrid Sunday service. Check out ‘Events’ on the website for upcoming CCG activities and news. We welcome input to improve our website.
- If you are a CCG Facebook friend you will see events, reminders and ideas in your social media feeds too. We need your support to get the word out on social media. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/443844412742289>

Our Tech Team supports a small roster of three who take turns working to bring you the online services.

“The “tech team” of Don Moser, Rob Brockley and Don Butt take turns operating the computer and sound for all the regular services. Hilary Plowright manages the screen for the in-church congregation. Apart from the odd glitch, which becomes quickly resolved in most all cases, things run smoothly with about 2 to 6 or so on Zoom most Sundays. Continuing with Zoom as part of Sunday mornings seems to have merit, particularly should adverse weather dictate everyone stay home!”

Don B

We always welcome anyone who would like to see how things work or who are thinking of trying their hand at learning a new skill or applying their expertise with PowerPoint, sound and video production work.

As always, we are looking for ways to support better communication and welcome ideas from all. As we move forward, we look for ideas and means to extend our ability to communicate with others through our social media, email, and online ministry opportunities. We are thankful for the CCG Covenant and the direction given by the Strategic Planning to further this quest.

Special thanks are extended to the work of Rev Suzanna, the Tech Team, Zoom hosts, and the various Ministries and Committees at CCG who support our endeavours. We also wish to thank those who have embraced communicating and being involved in new ways. This is the support you all give others by sharing your technical expertise to help a friend, neighbor or family member connect with church by sending along and sharing a link to our services and events, joining our service and being present with welcomes and comments, liking and sharing our social media on Facebook within your other friend’s networks and community – – by participating this way you are all an active member of our communication and other congregational teams.

Thank you all for your involvement, participation and support.

Communications Committee
Hilary Plowright (Coordinator), Don Moser

Tech Team
Don Moser, Rob Brockley, Don Butt, Hilary Plowright

Other Ministries

Foster Children

The two foster children sponsored by Christ Church Gabriola are under the PLAN International program. PLAN aims to improve children's rights and, particularly, equality for girls.

The two sponsored children, Nemo Globio, Philippines, 13 years, and Jacob Katoresa, Zimbabwe, 15 years, are both reported to be healthy as is evident in their most recent photographs (see CCG notice board). We have had no personal correspondence from them during the last year but hopefully will soon. All mail is sent via the PLAN organisation through translators.

Nemo has to take his water from a standpipe that is about 5 minutes from his home while Jacob has water and sanitation at his home. Both boys have access to flushing toilets.

During this last year I have endeavoured to gain access to the PLAN International website to keep abreast of what is happening within the organisation. This was difficult because it is set up for individuals to access, not organisations. I am pleased to report that, working with the terrific staff at PLAN, I have been successful. I can now write to 'the boys' online in addition to sending them the post cards provided by the organisation several time a year.

Our church has the sponsorship expense contained within their annual budget so that dependable payments are made directly from the church treasurer in a timely manner. The email account that PLAN has on file is that of church treasurer, Lisa Griffiths. The church's 'Donor ID' is D-67287.

PLAN International Donor Care team wrote recently to express 'heartfelt thanks' for your 'ongoing commitment' to their sponsorship program and want you to know that:

Over the last year, our organization has been going through a significant system migration to enhance our operations and improve the overall donor experience ... Please be assured that while there may have been a brief gap in your sponsorship update communications, our team's active work for the well-being of children and the progress of our rights-based sponsorship programs have not wavered across global communities...

Jason Matta, Vice President, Donor Experience
PLAN International Canada Inc.
245 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 300,
Toronto, Ontario M4P 0B3

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Blackburn

Christmas Tea & Silent Auction

On December 7, a Saturday with several other events taking place, we had our Christmas Tea, and during the preceding week people had an opportunity to bid on several items on our online auction. Hilary Plowright found a platform for our online auction and did a superb job of putting together the descriptions of items with photographs. She also kept track of who had paid and delivered items to people who had placed bids, going well beyond what we envisioned the task to be. The amount earned by the silent auction was \$1,726.00. So, thank you Hilary!

I did the tea and organized people to provide baking and serve. Although the attendance wasn't as good as other years, there were some significant donations and people who attended really enjoyed the delicious scones and goodies. The tea earned \$477.85.

There was one bill not represented in this total and that was the advertising in the Sounder. I delivered a cheque for \$1,203.85 to PHC, and \$1000.00 has been put forward as our pledge money to SAGA for the refugee we are helping to sponsor.

None of this would be possible if it wasn't for the excellent response from the members of Christ Church Gabriola. Not only did members donate generously to the auction and the tea, but they also happened to be many of the purchasers. Although I haven't listed all those who donated goodies, time, and money to this event I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful church community who supported this effort. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Schultze

Hand Bell Choir

We began the year by playing at the Seniors Luncheon at the Rollo Centre. As always, the repertoire is a mix of music that the audience will be familiar with. In April five members of the choir attended a bell ringing techniques workshop in Nanaimo at the First Baptist Church which was an all-day event. Then in May we played at our own Church, and I attended a Spring Ring in Nanaimo. There were workshops on the techniques of ringing bells and at the end of the event a public concert was held once again at the First Baptist Church.

After the summer break we were very fortunate to welcome two new ringers who have a background of music. What a difference this has made to the choir, and we are able to play 3 octaves music instead of 2 octaves. We do have difficulties sometimes with availability of ringers, so the extra members help so much.

We did play some popular music pieces in December before the Church Service began then switched to Christmas Carols as part of the Service. We look forward to 2025 with enthusiasm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Harling, Director

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry met from January to May 2024 and weekly meetings did not resume following the summer. Most of the remaining shawls were given to the Hospice Society in Nanaimo, and a few to Paddy Waymark (Pastoral Care). All the leftover wool and needles were donated to GIRO.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Ashley

Prayer Wheel

There are currently 20 people on the prayer wheel who pray each week. The Prayer Wheel is sent out on Saturday mornings. At the end of 2024, there were 39 people (including families in many cases) who were being prayed for on a weekly basis, for many different reasons. As with last year, requests are made by friends and families for those who are dying, those with cancer, many who are undergoing operations and often for support spiritually when going through a difficult specific personal life situation.

It has been my privilege to continue with the Prayer Wheel. Finding a different prayer to include each week at the beginning of the Prayer Wheel has become a meditation time and helped to deepen my faith.

Many thanks to Gail Reed for her support to me as we continue on this prayerful road together.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Ashley, Gail Reed

MINUTES

Christ Church Gabriola Annual General Meeting Sunday, April 14, 2024

Present: Betty Schultze, Hilary Plowright, Rob Brockley, MJ Patterson, Patricia Armstrong, Corinne Carlson, Lisa Griffith, Peggy Twyman, Eric Boulton, Sue Boulton, Paddy Waymark, Gail Reed, Susan Brockley, Marie Moore, Catherine Woodward, Rev. Suzanna Bates, John Peirce, Alie Rietkerk, Gar Lee, Anne Harrison, Brad Nixon, David Soy, Shelagh Huston, Jacqui Parker-Snedker, Brian Field, Charlie Blackburn, Christine Blackburn, Nancy Hetherington- Peirce.

Chair: Rob Brockley

Secretary: Betty Schultze

1. The chair, Rob Brockley, **called the meeting to order.**
2. Rev. Suzanna Bates opened the meeting with a **prayer.**
3. The chair declared that there was a **quorum** of voting members.
4. **M/S/ Christine Blackburn/Corinne Carlson moved approval of the agenda as circulated. Carried.**
5. **M/S/ Eric Boulton/Paddy Waymark moved the adoption of the minutes of the April 18, 2023, Annual General Meeting of CCG. Carried.**
6. **M/S/ Hilary Plowright/Gar Lee moved the adoption of the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of April 23, 2023. Carried.**
7. **M/S/ Christine Blackburn/Hilary Plowright moved the adoption of the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of Nov. 26, 2023. Carried.**
8. **M/S/Paddy Waymark/David Soy moved the adoption of the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of March 24, 2024. Carried.**
9. **M/S/Hilary Plowright/Brian Field moved the adoption of the Annual Report as circulated and amended. Carried.**

The two amendments are listed below:

- Second paragraph of page 22 should be in quotation marks and italicized as it is a quote
 - Under the Altar Guild on page 22, Corinne Calder should be Corinne Carlson.
10. Lisa Griffith gave a detailed analysis of the 2023 Financial Report and the 2024 budget, with a Power Point presentation. She also thanked the Finance Committee members; Corinne Carlson, Jim Charlesworth, Nancy Hetherington-Peirce and bookkeeper Cheryl McNeil for their help in preparing the financial information.

M/S/ Charlie Blackburn/Anne Harrison moved the adoption of the 2024 budget as circulated Carried.

- Eric Boulton thanked Lisa for her informative graphs and Shelagh Huston thanked the finance committee for their good work.

11. Rob Brockley presented the slate of candidates from the nominating committee for consideration and asked for further nominations from the floor. Hearing none, the slate of candidates as presented was elected by acclamation.

This includes the following positions:

Council

Paddy Waymark, AC Synod Rep
Betty Schultze, UC Pac Mtn. Region Rep
Lisa Griffith, Treasurer
Nancy Hetherington Peirce, UC Trustee
Tim Leaden, AC Warden
Rob Brockley, Member-at-large
Don Moser, Member-at-large
Angela Nutter, Member-at-large
Jacqui Parker-Snedker, Member at large
Suzanna Bates, Minister (or designate)

Trustees

Don Butt
Nancy Hetherington-Peirce
Betty Schultze
Rev. Suzanna Bates

Wardens

Brian Field
Tim Leadem

Safe Church Coordinator

Mona Smart

Building and Grounds Committee

Jacqui Parker-Snedker
Charlie Blackburn
Gar Lee
Don Moser
John Peirce

Finance Committee

Lisa Griffith
Nancy Hetherington Peirce

Communications & Technology Committee

Hilary Plowright
Don Moser
Don Butt

Outreach Committee

Betty Schultze
Gail Reed
Susan Brockley

Pastoral Care Committee

Paddy Waymark
Susan Brockley
Hilary Plowright
Gail Reed
Betty Schultze
David Soy

Personnel Relations Committee

Rob Brockley
Brian Field (warden)
Tim Leadem (warden)
Mona Smart

Worship & Education Committee

Pat Armstrong
Corinne Carlson
Betty Schultze
Mona Smart

12. Rob Brockley acknowledged the people who were stepping down from positions on council or on committees and thanked them for their hard work and commitment. The following people were acknowledged and thanked:

- **Mona Smart-** stepping down as Warden and as co-chair of Council
- **Corinne Carlson-** stepping down from the Finance Committee
- **Jim Charlesworth-** stepping down from the Finance Committee
- **Eric Boulton-** stepping down as Trustee
- **Hilary Plowright-** stepping down as a Member-at-large on Council

- **Marie Moore**- stepping down from the Worship Committee
- **Angela Nutter**- stepping down from the Personnel Relations Committee
- **George Westarp**- stepping down from the Pastoral Care Committee
- **Loretta Smith**- stepping down from the Building & Ground Committee

13. The meeting elected Rob Brockley and Nancy Hetherington Peirce as co-chairs and Betty Schultze as secretary for all congregational meetings up to and including the 2025 AGM.
14. Their work being completed, the chair declared that the Search Committee be formally disbanded. As instructed by UC Pacific Mountain Region, no motion required. The chair thanked the entire Search Committee (Mona Smart, Lisa Griffith, Brad Nixon, Tim Leadem, Gar Lee, Alie Rietkerk, George Westarp) for their great work.
15. Rev. Suzanna Bates led a “Looking Ahead” conversation about our future. The notes from this discussion are in italics below:

What keeps bringing you back to this church?

- *Sense of community*
- *The building itself, the beauty of it*
- *Worshipping together*
- *Fellowship*
- *We miss it when we don't go.*

What are we looking towards?

- *Conversations to be had with the rest of the wider community about important things*
- *We need to change the worship space, keep it changing and fresh*
- *We need a long microphone so we can hear each other*
- *We need to look at HOW we do these things*
- *Doing something about isolation- finding opportunity to reconnect, thinking about what makes good education*
- *The space needs to be developed. E.g. Making the sanctuary more welcoming*
- *We need to check out just how much we can do. We have limits on our time and energy.*
- *An “agape” table... like Friday lunch*
- *Dealing with people living in cars*
- *Excited about “Wild and Sacred” Gabriola. Going to the people, not having them coming to us. Appealing to people who don't regularly come to church*
- *Looking at a committee that looks at the long-term plans*
- *Recognizing that the Implementation Team has a process already in place to create the plans for further projects*
- *With south end/north end challenges maybe we need two churches!*

16. M/S/ Lisa Griffith/Gar Lee moved to adjourn the meeting.

Rob Brockley, Chair

Betty Schultze, Secretary

April 14, 2024

The Christ Church Gabriola Covenant

Gracious and Loving God,

We, Christ Church Gabriola, followers of Jesus Christ in a shared Anglican and United Church ministry, covenant as a community with You:

to WORSHIP You

- with openness to the movement of Your Spirit, by using inclusive language, musical diversity, creativity, and the grounding we have in our traditions

to CONNECT with each other and our neighbours

- by welcoming and integrating into our community all persons as Your children
- by lovingly supporting each other as we grow in Christ, creating opportunities to connect with each other in fellowship
- by finding ways to become more multi-generational
- by sharing the good news of Your love with everyone

to LEARN AND GROW together

- by developing our faith through scripture studies, prayer and other spiritual practices
- by exploring the Christian tradition and a range of theological studies
- by informing ourselves about issues of social and ecological justice
- by using respectful communication
- by examining issues from multiple perspectives
- by offering to the wider community opportunities to safely engage in conversations about matters important to life, faith and the world

and to SERVE our community and the world

- by living in love and justice, and by working for the well-being of the earth and its inhabitants
- by serving the island community through offering our own resources, collaborating with other agencies, and drawing on our connections with the wider community
- by listening and responding to a changing world, recognizing its needs so we know how to serve

We covenant as a community in Christ's name. Amen.

April 2022

*A Collaborative Anglican-United Church Open to All.
We follow Jesus Christ worshipping and serving with love and joy.
We open our minds, hearts, and doors to the world.*
