

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
For 2025



**Annual General Meeting – “Awesome Grace Moments”  
March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:30pm (Potluck)**

The following reports will give you an overview of 2025. We encourage you to review these reports, speak with any of the Elders involved in the different ministries if you have any questions or comments and plan to attend the **Annual General Meeting (Awesome Grace Moments) on Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm for the potluck dinner** after which we will have a quick look at 2025 and seek God's plans for 2026.

## **Our Vision...**

***The vision of Grace Church is to be an authentic Christian Community, transformed by Jesus Christ to be transforming in the world.***

### Perseverance, Encouragement, & Glory

*“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”—Romans 15:5-6 (NIV)*

A young mom is training for a 30-km race. She's been running outdoors on even the coldest days, but when it snows hard, or it's super icy, she resorts to her basement treadmill. She texted last week: “Currently on the treadmill for 12 kms of no motivation!”

Do you ever feel like you're running on a treadmill, with no motivation? Going through the motions, but not getting anywhere?

Paul, the apostle, knows that feeling. He travels long distances through bad weather and dangerous countryside. He plants tiny churches, works like crazy to develop leaders, then moves to the next place. And gets letters about troubles in the church he left behind.

But Paul perseveres. Here's the secret: Paul's superpower doesn't come from within. It comes from the God who *loves* him, *called* him, *rescued* him, *equips* him, and *assigns* him: “The God who gives endurance and encouragement.” The same endurance and encouragement that fuelled Jesus on the road to the cross... to rescue you!

God gives you endurance and encouragement, because God is doing something glorious. He is speaking love to people who don't know Him. He's planning rescue and purpose for folks who are about to give up. And He wants *you* as partners in this work.

God gives us love for neighbours and strangers around us. He shows us ways to bless the neighbourhood. He gives us joy as we gather to worship Him together.

God has a purpose for Grace Church that is bigger than we can imagine. We'll need endurance, perseverance, and encouragement to get there. And as we make ourselves available, as we train with Him, He will accomplish it!

In 2025, God encouraged us with believer-baptisms and confirmations, as two sisters and their parents professed faith in Jesus. Others joined Grace Church alongside them.

God called two new Elders (Margaret Fatona and Jim Richmond) to our Session—and what an encouragement they are! You now have seven dedicated Elders, who lead with generous grace and faith. Our summer student, Majelle Guillemette, collaborated to lead a week-long kids' camp, filled to capacity. Then Majelle returned to lead Sunday School for kids all year.

Two families from a different culture and faith tradition came seeking to meet Jesus. What a joy to walk with them as they explore the goodness of the Lord who loves them! What encouragement to persevere with the Holy Spirit!

The Lord continues to speak His word through excellent preachers, including Esther Ekong, Paul McKechnie, Edwin Nkengla, Ken Saah Fon, Dan Seekings, Brian Wilson, and others.

The Grace Church facility received a major upgrade: new landscaping and interlock brick across the front of the building. Could this be a symbol of renovations God is doing in us?

A small team surveyed the congregation and began preliminary work on a profile, toward the day when we will begin to search for a new pastor. When we surveyed you as part of the process, you identified resilience, and the amazing, faithful people as two of Grace's strengths. It is a gift to see God nurture those strengths and help you grow.

Thank you for your faithful partnership! For giving generously, for praying faithfully, for worshipping joyfully, for serving compassionately. Thank you to Elders, to staff (Arlene, Kim, and Dawn) and to every one of you Grace folks, who serve the Lord Jesus.

Sometimes it may feel like we're running on a treadmill. But look around! The God of glory is at work, week by week by week. Shaping us as His people, equipping us for His project, strengthening and encouraging us to partner with Him.

May all the glory go to Him!

Denise Allen-Macartney and Meg Patterson  
Co-Interim Moderators

Reports for 2025 have been submitted by the Elder responsible for the ministries described in the ***Grace Presbyterian Church – Strategic Plan 2012-2022 – Growing a 4 G Community.***

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NOTE: Financial Statements provided separately

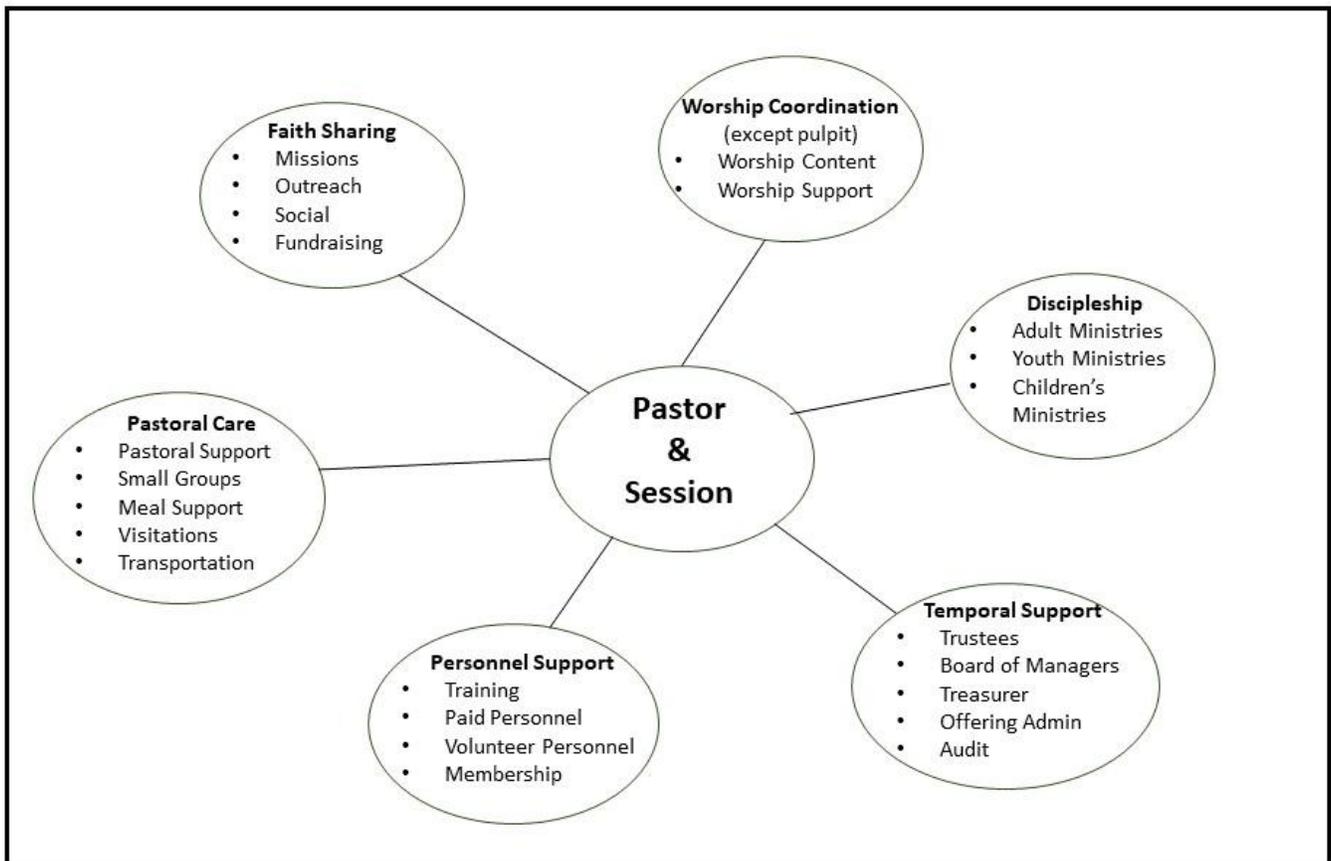
## 2025 Ministry Reports

The following reports are submitted by the Elder responsible for the ministries described in the ***Strategic Plan – Growing a 4 G Community.***

For more details or information on how to get involved, we would encourage you to speak directly to the responsible Elder.

*"Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name."  
1 Chronicles 29:13*

### Leadership and Governance – Grace Ministries and Responsible Elders



## SESSION – Linda Clarke, Clerk of Session

### Responsibilities:

1. Session deals with the business of administration and spiritual oversight of Grace Church. Session meetings were held monthly except for July and August. In 2025, regular meetings were held on the first or second Wednesday evenings of the month at the home of Linda Clarke
2. Rev. Denise Allen-Macartney and Rev. Meg Patterson continued to serve as Interim Moderators.
3. Linda Clarke became clerk of Session in September when Tomm Kuiperij resigned as elder. With the welcome addition of 2 new elders in November, current elders are Linda Clarke, Brian Wilson, Jacques Dalton, Shirley Blank, Yohana Kimoun-Ntienjem, Margaret Bekor-Fatona and Jim Richmond.
4. The leadership for the Functional Groups and other leadership roles within these groups in 2025 are detailed in the following table.

Functional Group	
Clerk of Session & Roll Clerk	Linda Clarke Linda Clarke
Discipleship	Vacant
Faith Sharing	Linda Clarke
Pastoral Care	Yohana Kimoun-Ntienjem
Personnel Support	Linda Clarke
Temporal Support	Shirley Blank
Worship Coordination	Brian Wilson
<b>Other Designated Responsibilities</b>	
Personnel Committee	Linda Clarke (Chair) Brian Wilson
Trustee	Shirley Blank (Chair)
Presbytery Representative Elder	Linda Clarke

### Attendance

Average Sunday Attendance -	2024	2025
Average in-person	35	44
Average on-line	12	8
Average children	2	2
Average views post service	12	6

<b>Statistics:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
➤ Grace family as of 31 Dec:		
○ Total adults and children	80	100
○ Households:	51	57
○ Total Communicant Membership:	83	77
● New members 2025	0	6
● Total removed 2025	12 (2 by death, 2 by request, 8 relocation)	
○ Adherents (adults and children):	46	53
➤ Baptisms:	0	2

## 2025 in Review:

- Yohana Kimoun-Ntienjem and Ken Carruthers were the friendly faces at the welcome centre to welcome and collect information from newcomers. Arlene then sent out a note to newcomers to welcome them and let them know more about Grace Church.
- Pastoral care was delivered mainly through the elder contact lists. Phone calls, emails or personal contact on Sunday were the main means of connection. The contact lists were rearranged in November 2024 and will be reviewed again in January 2026.
- Communion was celebrated monthly except for July and August, October and December on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday led by Brian Wilson. Communion will be celebrated 5 times per year going forward.
- Brian Wilson, Shirley Blank and Linda Clarke completed the online Missional Leadership course of 5 sessions in April. With motivation to connect with our neighbours, we hosted a neighbourhood BBQ in June.
- AGM was held following a potluck dinner on Saturday March 29, 2025 with 18 in attendance. Pastor Meg was moderator.
- The Good Friday service and Christmas Eve service were held with Living Faith Bible Church in attendance.
- Linda Clarke is the Presbytery rep and is impressed with the attempt to focus on what we have in common rather than our differences. A time of small group prayer has been implemented at the Presbytery meetings. Regular retreats are planned to foster deeper friendships and ministry support. Linda Clarke attended a day long Presbytery retreat in Morrisburg on June 11 and an overnight retreat in Arnprior Nov.2-4.
- Linda attended General Assembly of PCC in Hamilton in June as a voting delegate.
- The congregational budget meeting was held November 26, 2025 with 20 in attendance. A budget of \$165,158 was approved for 2026. Pastor Meg was moderator.
- Allan Smith, Brian Wilson and Linda Clarke are on a roster to lead weekly worship.
- Esther Ekong, Ken Saah Fan and Edwin Nkengla remained on the regular preaching roster, interspersed with representatives of our Mission partners of IVCF, U Ottawa Chaplaincy, Camp Cherith and AIM. Dan Seekings was welcomed back to the roster in October. Our own Brian Wilson is a regular on the preaching roster now. We are blessed by all of them as they faithfully bring God's Word to us.
- 6 members of our choir participated in the massed choir at the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of PCC at St. Paul's Church on May 4, 2025.
- A profile committee under the direction of Pastor Meg Patterson completed the narrative portion of the Grace Church profile. Thank you Belinda Barnes, Allan Smith, Judy Richmond, Linda Clarke and Pastor Meg for your efforts.
- Praise God for 2 baptisms and 4 additional professions of faith/reception into membership on April 6, 2025. Pastor Denise presided.
- Praise God for the ordination/acceptance of 2 new elders, Margaret Bekor-Fatona and Jim Richmond celebrated Nov. 23, 2025. Pastor Denise presided.

## Worship Coordination Ministry

As in past years our Sunday morning worship is a focal point of each week in the life of Grace church. It takes a large group of volunteers and staff to make the many facets of a Sunday morning service come together each week. A huge thank you to everyone involved. Your efforts have been vital to the ministry at Grace and are much appreciated!!

If you would like to get involved in the worship ministry at Grace, please don't hesitate to talk to one of the following worship coordination leaders:

**Music Director:** Kimberley Allen-McGill

**Elder responsible for worship coordination:** Brian Wilson

**Sound Booth leader:** Judy Richmond

**Greeters' Ministry:** Shirley Blank

**Sanctuary Décor:** Maureen Martin

### 2025 – Year in Review

Once again with a full year under her belt as Music Director at Grace, Kim has been the worship leader musically and liturgically from Sunday to Sunday. She has kept an eye on the liturgical calendar as set out in the Revised Common Lectionary and geared the music and often the call to worship reading to the appropriate theme of that calendar. Kim has also masterfully led the worship team, in practice from 7 to 9pm every Thursday, during quick rehearsals before the start of service and of course during the worship service.

There has been amazing collaboration between Kim, Arlene, and Judy all year to ensure that the words to music are on the screen through pro-presenter at the service; the sound is coming through clearly both in the sanctuary and on-line; and live streaming of the service is working properly. A not-so-small miracle occurred early in 2025 when Wayne Tomms responded to a plea for volunteers in our sound booth that Arlene had posted on the Grace Church website. Wayne has a background in sound mixing and has been instrumental in stabilizing the quality of sound from week to week under the watchful eye of our sound booth coordinator, Judy Richmond. A smart TV was installed in the nursery to allow for the livestream to be watched from there.

Kim and Arlene continue to do a terrific job of organizing the various elements of the order of service. Kim will reach out to the designated preachers and worship leaders to ensure that the sermon title, bible readings and call to worship are in place for each week. Arlene will edit the order of service to a one-page format (usually) and ensure it is out by Saturday morning using Tithely software. They also collaborate in putting the music on "Pro-Presenter" so that there are lyrics to all hymns and worship songs as well as any liturgy used during the service such as communion liturgy.

The Session and congregation of Grace church continue to be supported and led by our co-interim moderators, Denise Allen-Macartney of Gloucester Presbyterian Church and Meg Patterson of St. Stephens Presbyterian Church. They have a profound impact on our worship style and content by providing spiritual guidance during Session meetings and in the overseeing of the preaching team. Denise has kept a roster of at least 6 preachers rotating throughout the year. The preachers for the first half of 2025 have been as follows: Edwin Nkengla, Kenneth Saah Fon, Brian Wilson, Alaina Johnston, Mary Howard, and Esther Ekong with spot duty provided by Cristy Dagenais, Ryan Farrell, and Joey Malloy. The summer services were covered by Jacques Dalton, Jocelyn Simon, Esther Ekong, Brian Wilson, Dan MacKiinnon, and Stephen Dalton. The regular preachers for the remainder of 2025 were Dan Seekings, Esther Ekong, Ken Saah Fon, Brian Wilson, Edwin

Nkengla, Paul McKechnie with Dan MacKinnon providing the Christmas Eve message. Their Jesus centered messages have been a blessing to Grace church. Denise has done a terrific job keeping the roster of preachers complete as the preaching roster went through changes within the year.

The worship coordination committee continued to meet on a quarterly basis to review worship, evaluate what is going well, and what has been challenging and to plan upcoming services that require more input than a regular Sunday service.

One very welcome addition to the worship service that began in the summer and continued to the end of the year, has been the inclusion of a responsive children's prayer led by summer student and Sunday school teacher Majelle Guillemette. Kim added a children's hymn to be sung as the children left the service with the Sunday school teachers. Also new this year was a new worship leader in Allan Smith to do the welcome and announcements, call to worship and pastoral prayer. He joins Linda Clarke and Brian Wilson who also do it regularly. We have been helped occasionally in this way by Jacques Dalton and Linda Paquette. We have a great roster of scripture readers that currently consist of John Adams, Jane Pilkington, Leslie Bryson, Carole Miron, Ken Carruthers, Allan Smith and Maureen Martin. A big thank you to the worship team and to Jacques for his music ministry (voice, guitar and piano) when available.

In all I think that 2025 was a year of stabilization in terms of worship. With our Lord God at the helm, we recovered well from the split in our church at the end of 2023. Things that got started in 2024 to help stabilize us like the hiring of Kim to direct the music worship, and Judy to coordinate the sound booth remained a steady force for Grace in 2025. Leadership from Session and stewardship of Grace assets by the Board of Managers has certainly added to this steady improvement in the worship and day to day life of Grace church.

With Jesus as our rock, we look forward to another terrific year of worship at Grace church.

Brian Wilson, Elder Responsible for Worship Coordination

## **FAITH SHARING ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – Linda Clarke**

The mandate of the Faith Sharing ministry is to support the Grace Church **Vision** to be “transformed by Jesus Christ to be transforming in the world” and Grace’s **Mission** to “fulfill the Great Commission”. This ministry has been established to coordinate and focus the efforts of Missions - including missionary support, Outreach and Evangelism, Community Service and Social activities that facilitate sharing of our faith. It has a focus outward from the congregation both globally and locally.

**MISSIONS COMMITTEE:** This committee strives to establish a personal connection with each of our missions/missionary partners. You may have noticed the monthly Mission Moment in Good Gracious and the monthly prayer focus in the bulletin. After the passing of Min Mihalik, we have only Allan Smith and Linda Clarke left on the Missions Committee. We need another member so if you have a heart for Missions, please consider this committee. We are very happy to report that the Mission budget was met and 10% of the church’s annual income was paid out to Missions in 2025.

Members of IVCF, Alaina Johnston x3, Cristy Dagenais x1 and Mary Howard x2 came to preach for us in the first part of the year. Their busy schedules precluded them from participating further. Ryan Farrell from U. Ottawa Chaplaincy preached once. Dan MacKinnon from AIM, Joey Malloy from Camp Cherith and Stephan Dalton from YWAM came to give us a mission update and to preach for us. Arlene posts updates from our Mission partners on our website and on the bulletin boards. We get regular prayer requests and thank you cards from many of our mission partners as well.

The chart below summarizes the final Missions payment schedule for 2025.

<b><u>Missions</u></b>	<b><u>Q1</u></b>	<b><u>Q2</u></b>	<b><u>Q3</u></b>	<b><u>Q4</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
Youth with a Mission (YWAM) Sarah and Dan Hall	700	700		800	2200
Youth with a Mission (YWAM) Stephan Dalton	700	700		800	2200
AIM (Dan MacKinnon)	700	700		200	1600
Camp Cherith	700	700		500	1900
OPC (Orthodox Presbyterian) Leah Hopp	700	700		500	1900
CANHAVE Children’s Centre				700	700
Ethnos (Dave and Judy Wright)			700		700
Ottawa Innerscity Ministries			700		700
Interserve			700		700
Bible League Canada				250	250
Inter-Varsity (IVCF)			650+500		1150
	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,250</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>14,000</b>

**Miriam Center** – 285 stamps were collected for the Miriam Center throughout 2025. Stamps from the following countries were collected: Canada-247, Great Britain-7, Netherlands-1, Germany-1, Sweden-7, Thailand-2 and the USA-20. The stamps are prepared for a fundraising sale in October. The proceeds help to cover basic needs and to provide services for families. The Miriam Center does not receive government support so our contributions are well appreciated.

### **OUTREACH AND WITNESS:**

The mandate of the Outreach and Witness committee is to facilitate and encourage Grace Church to become involved in activities that demonstrate the love of God to the lost of our community and to communicate the good news of salvation.

- **VALENTINE'S COOKIES FOR A.A.:** cookies were left for the folks attending Search for Serenity on Feb.12 as a gesture of love and encouragement for the attendees.
- **SATURDAY NIGHT HOCKEY:** This ministry is no longer under the umbrella of Grace Church. Some of the former participants not associated with our church have taken on leadership.
- **OUT of the COLD DINNERS:** Since November 2007, Grace Church has been assisting Knox Presbyterian Church downtown with their Out of the Cold program. 3 volunteers from Grace continued to volunteer for the program providing a hot sit down meal on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the months of January, February, March, April, November and December of 2025. Over the Christmas season, many items of mittens, hats, long underwear and socks were collected and made available to the guests.
- **SAMARITAN'S PURSE:** 136 shoeboxes were filled and dedicated in November. Thanks to Margaret Fatona and her ESL classes for their generous contributions. Some of Margaret's students had been recipients of shoeboxes in the past.
- **CAIRINE WILSON CRAFT SALE:** Although mostly a fundraising effort, this event on Nov.15 served as an outreach by us being a presence in the community and by engaging with people shopping at the craft sale. We had a few very meaningful conversations with shoppers. We made \$1225 from the sale of items at the sale and on the next day at church.
- **PAUSE TABLE:** 4 or 5 volunteers attended the Pause Table at Carleton U. April.7 and Dec.8 to give out food to appreciative and hungry students. We were partnered with a bigger church and it went very well. The congregation helped by making sandwiches after the service on April 6 and Dec.7, which was much appreciated. Presbytery reimbursed us for some of the cost out of their outreach budget – \$176.01 in April and \$284.62 in December.
- **COMMUNITY BBQ:** We invited our neighbours and local police officers to our end of year BBQ/church picnic on June 22. There wasn't a lot of response but we'll keep trying.
- **MATTHEW HOUSE:** The loose offering of \$480 was donated to help new refugees.
- **CHOSEN CHRISTMAS MOVIE:** "Christmas with the Chosen" movie was streamed in our sanctuary on Dec.29. 10 people attended the movie and enjoyed hot chocolate, cookies and discussion afterwards. Advertising and promotion of the event was lacking.

#### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE:**

The social committee was kept very busy with social activities as well as assisting with the fundraising efforts, especially the IBEW lunches. They are a busy and dedicated group despite their small number. Thank you Maureen, Wally and John and Leslie B. The committee mourned the loss of one of their members, Min Mihalik in June. They are responsible for the coffee time after every church service providing refreshments and a welcoming space for fellowship. We are so appreciative of this time.

They provided a cake to celebrate the baptism/membership Sunday in April. They helped with the Community BBQ/church picnic in June. With the assistance of friends from Living Faith and Eglise Liberte, a beautiful funeral reception for Min Mihalik was hosted in July. The annual soup veterans' lunch was provided on Nov.9. 75 people from Grace, Living Faith and Eglise Liberte enjoyed the annual Christmas banquet on Dec.6, followed by a carol sing in the hall led by Kim. The hall was so beautifully decorated. Even though the tickets for the dinner were only \$20, money was left over after expenses and \$1,000 was designated to Miracle Sunday. Social Committee, you are much appreciated!

#### **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:**

Our biggest fundraiser of 2025 was catering lunches for the IBEW Retirees while their hall was being renovated. A big thank you to Shirley Blank for spearheading these lunches. The other big fundraiser was the Cairine Wilson Craft fair in

November. We received many generous donations of crafts, sewing, baking, preserves and a quilt that we auctioned off. A big thank you to everyone who participated and made/donated food for lunches and crafts/food for the craft sale!

	<b>IBEW Catering</b>	<b>Craft Fair</b>
Income	\$3,510.00	\$1,267.00
Expenses	<u>\$1,025.33</u>	<u>\$65.00</u>
<b>Raised</b>	<b>\$2,484.67</b>	<b>\$1,202.00</b>

## Discipleship Ministries

The Discipleship Ministry Group is responsible to Session for providing a program of Christian education for persons of all ages within the congregation. Sub-groups include Adult Ministries, Youth Ministries, and Children's Ministries. The leadership position was vacant in 2025.

### ADULT MINISTRIES

Belinda Barnes led a Monday evening bible study on the 'I AM' statements in the gospel of John. 8-10 people participated. Alaina Johnston from IVCF attended one evening to support the inductive bible study approach. The Wednesday morning ladies' bible study continued at 10:00 am during the school year averaging 8-10 ladies each week, including 6 ladies who do not attend Grace. When their beloved leader, Min Mihalik became ill and later passed, leadership was shared. They stepped in to help support Min's children, Amanda and Donald with food, rides and visits. The group used 2 study guides by W.T. Wright in 2025 to study Acts and Hebrews which took them through the entire year. 2 social times of brunch were enjoyed to launch each new season.

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

The youth group, GYG, was led by Tomm Kuiperij on Tuesday evenings 6:30-9:00 from January until June. There were no youth from Grace Church but each of the youth were part of Camp Cherith ministry and held leadership positions at camp. They bonded and grew in God's grace serving at Camp Cherith. Most of the youth were graduating high school so were not returning to GYG in September. Tomm Kuiperij, who had volunteered for 10 years, felt it was time to end the youth group at Grace. Tomm resigned as elder and youth leader of Grace Church effective Sept.1. We extend our deep appreciation to Tomm for his dedication to discipling the youth under his care.

The time spent together at GYG included games, chatting, worship, Bible study, discussion and snacks.

A highlight of the year was attending No Other Name on Good Friday, a city-wide event organized by the youth pastors in the youth pastor network.

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

#### Sunday School

From January – June there was no structured Sunday School program although lessons were prepared and available. When children did attend church, Yohana Ntienjem accompanied the children to a classroom and taught them an age appropriate bible story while their parents attended the worship service. In September, we hired our summer student, Majelle Guillemette to continue to lead Sunday School and to lead a children's prayer during the worship service as she had done during the summer. She is hired for 3 hours per week. Attendance averages around 3 each week.

#### Kids Club

Leslie Bryson, Belinda Barnes and Anne Walker led the Kids Club ministry in 2025 along with lots of help from Joan Wilson, Kate Pilkington plus numerous young people who had also volunteered for VBS this year. They met monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday with a wide variety of themes and had about 12 to 16 kids coming out regularly for games, crafts, activities, Bible lessons and snacks. With 21 kids on the group list, this is the highest participation to date! This is a joint ministry with Living Faith Bible Church and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for paying for supplies purchased as well as providing volunteers.

#### VBS (July 28 – Aug.1, 2025)

Last summer we received funding for one student. Living Faith also applied and received funding for one student. Living Faith rehired Stacey Achu and Grace Church hired Majelle Guillemette. Stacy and Majelle did a wonderful job preparing and spearheading a week of VBS last summer from August 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. There were 31 children signed up for VBS this past summer with a cruise ship theme "Set Sail!". We had a waiting list over over a dozen kids! Many people helped prepare for and helped during the week of VBS including Allan Smith, Alain and Donna Dawson, Arlene and Zoe Lamadeleine, Shirley Blank, Leslie Bryson, Cyndi Denton, Linda Clarke, Anne Walker, Jan Rueger, Rachel Veira, Ketsia Nsoga, teens that came to camp previously but were now too old, teens from our sister church (Elodn) and more.

## Pastoral Care report for 2025 - Yohana Kimoun Ntjenjem

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. John 13: 34*

One of the many duties of pastoral care is about greeting and welcoming everyone who comes to church on Sundays. Our overall goal is to help our church members feel cared for, by offering them emotional, social, spiritual and practical support.

Following are our areas of duties:

**Newcomers:** As the coordinators to welcome Newcomers, Yohana and Ken make sure they feel comfortable from the first encounter. Newcomers are met for the first time at the welcome desk where they are given an opportunity to fill out a form with their information which is then passed on to the church administrator to be registered. (69 newcomers/visitor families or individuals were added in 2025). Once Arlene receives their information, she sends a welcome letter to every newcomer along with information about activities they may be interested in.

**Attendance:** Ken Carruthers and Yohana Kimoun have been documenting attendance every Sunday. A report with the information about the number of in person, including the children and online attendance is sent every Sunday to Linda Clarke and Judy Richmond.

The attendance average was 44 for 2025, which is an increase from 35 in 2024! We praise the Lord for His Grace and Mercies and continue to trust Him to achieve a greater number in 2026.

**Small groups:** We have a prayer group meeting at the church on Tuesdays at 7pm, led by Ken Carruthers. Everyone is welcome. For now, Grace and Living Faith members attend. An online (Zoom) prayer group meets Thursday mornings at 9am. The Ladies Bible Study group meet at the church on Wednesday mornings at 10am. There's always room for more!

The Craft and Chat group, created by Cobie De Jong, started meeting Tuesday mornings for fellowship and crafting in 2025 with plans to continue again in the spring. Thank you, Cobie for this wonderful opportunity for people to get together and share their hobbies and talents!

A cancer support group is also available, led by Shirley Blank. The group usually meets when someone in the church is going through a related condition. We have been blessed in 2025.

**Transportation:** We only have one person who needs a ride and we would be pleased to help more people. If you are able to help drive people to church, please let me know!

**Visitations:** We encourage one another to stay connected. Each elder is responsible for a list of people from Grace to keep in touch with. It can be done in person, via email or phone as needed. This is meant to show love, care, and compassion to them. The list is regularly updated by Shirley Blank. If you don't know who your elder contact is, please ask Shirley.

**Meals support:** Since last summer, a group of volunteers have been spontaneously offering meals to the families in need. Many people sprung into action to help the Mihalik family in many capacities after the passing of Min.

**The New Commandment Men's Ministry (NCMM)** is a joint men's ministry between Living Faith and Grace, which takes place on the second Saturday of each month. The group is beginning to redefine itself as the demographic of the group and the two churches is evolving. However, their goal remains to minister the love of Christ to the widow, widower, single parent or special needs person with long term needs through visitation, household tasks, yard work, friendship and prayer. There are two or three teams of two or three men each. The group remains very open to new men to fill the ranks and share in the ministry as they evolve. If you are interested in joining or just checking it out, contact Brian Wilson.

**Card Ministry:** Wendy and Ken Carruthers have sent cards to people to celebrate a milestone birthday or anniversary, a get well wish or sympathy card. They have resigned from this important ministry so we are looking for someone to take on this special opportunity. Thank you, Wendy for many years of making people feel loved and cared for in the Grace family. If this task is something you would like to take on, please let Arlene know. If you know of someone celebrating a milestone or going through a rough patch, please let us know.

## **PERSONNEL SUPPORT GROUP – Linda Clarke**

**MANDATE:** The Personnel Support Ministry is responsible for managing the human resources of Grace Church including the areas of administration and record keeping, staffing, volunteerism, skills and training, and the Sanctuary Policy.

**SUB-MINISTRIES:** Personnel Committee, Volunteer Ministries Committee, Roll Clerk

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The personnel committee is a committee of Session with the mandate to provide pastoral care, performance evaluation, support and encouragement to the staff of the church and to act as mediator if necessary. The committee is made up of 2 elders Linda Clarke (chair) and Brian Wilson, a Board of Managers representative Leslie Bryson, and a congregational representative Jim Richmond. Annual check-in meetings were conducted for all staff in the fall of 2025.

We continued with no full-time pastor throughout 2025. A team of guest preachers including some of our Missions partners filled the pulpit with sound biblical teaching each Sunday. We thank our Interim Moderator, Denise Allen-Macartney for this scheduling. Co-interim moderators, Pastor Denise and Pastor Meg Patterson moderated our Session meetings and congregational meetings.

Kimberley Allen-McGill, in her position as director of music brings energy, enthusiasm, experience and skill to the music ministry. She has grown the worship team to 6 or 7 people. We commend Kim for her flexibility and patience in working with the roster of guest preachers. She is a valued member of the worship committee.

Our office administrator, Arlene Lamadeleine, manages the office and remains the primary point of communication amongst groups within and outside the church. She coordinates rental agreements, maintains the Grace website, Facebook postings, publishes the newsletter, manages ProPresenter, keeps financial records and writes cheques to name a very few of her tasks. We commend Arlene, as well, for the extras she does because we don't have a full-time pastor.

Dawn MacKinnon continued as caretaker maintaining a high standard of cleanliness in the building. She has assumed more hours to support the increase in groups renting the building each week. We appreciate her flexibility to work around the rental groups.

Our 3 staff members and clerk of Session attended CPR/AED training on May 12, 2025.

The volunteer Youth Director position became vacant in September with the departure of Tomm Kuiperij. The youth group was discontinued. In January 2026, Grace Church and Living Faith will co-sponsor a new youth group called R.O.K.C. for kids aged 12-17. They will meet monthly to start.

### **VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES COMMITTEE:**

There is no committee at present. Session has taken over implementing the essential requirements.

We reviewed sections of "Leading with Care" for compliance, at our AGM in March e.g. fire and lockdown procedures. Our office administrator keeps the "Police Records Check" up to date.

### **ROLL CLERK:**

2025 began with 84 on the Communicant Roll. 2 were removed due to death and 8 additional were removed per their request or relocation. 6 people were added due to baptism and/or profession of faith. 2 of those were youth baptism.

## Temporal Support Ministry – Shirley Blank

The Temporal Support Ministry is responsible for looking after the physical and financial resources of our church in the most efficient way through the Board of Managers, the Trustees, the Treasurer, and the Offering Administrator.

### Board of Managers – Arlene Lamadeleine

The Board of Managers is responsible for the temporal and financial affairs of the congregation. It works closely with Session, which is responsible for all aspects of stewardship, encouraging givings for the ministries of the congregation, and in the appropriate disbursement of funds received. (Book of Forms Art 162)

Board members are elected for a three year term by the congregation at the Annual Budget Meeting each November. At the end of December 2025, membership included the following persons in descending order:

#### No Fixed term

- Shirley Blank                      Session Representative/Trustee

#### One Years (ending Dec. 31, 2026)

- Vacant (Dan Rueger)                      Technology Coordinator
- Suzanne MacDonald                      Treasurer
- Vacant    Internal Maintenance

#### Two Years (ending Dec. 31, 2027)

- Ken Carruthers                              Access Coordinator
- Leslie Bryson                                Personnel Representative
- Arlene Lamadeleine                        Convenor

#### Three Years (ending Dec. 31, 2025)

- Vacant    Secretary
- Vacant    Steward Coordinator
- Vacant    External Maintenance

A big thank you to Cyndi Denton who has been the board secretary for many years. Her term expired at the end of 2025 and she has decided not to renew. She did stay to take the notes for our January meeting and we thank Leslie Bryson for being willing to take notes until a new Secretary is found.

Internal Maintenance Manager position is still vacant. A big thank you to Alain Dawson, Dawn MacKinnon and Wayne Thoms for continuing to look after the maintenance of the church.

Our long-time treasurer is looking to retire from the position. A big thank you to Suzanne for continuing to stay on longer and keeping our finances in tip top shape! A big thank you to Adam Pilkington for coming on as Assistant Treasurer for 2025. The Treasurer position involves doing monthly bank reconciliations including authorizing transactions and monthly payroll through Quickbooks Online. At year end, the treasurer works with the office to make sure our financial statements are accurate, helps the clerk of session file the statistical return and files a charity return with CRA by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

We had budgeted a projected deficit of just over \$22,000 for 2025 but ended the year with a small surplus of just under \$1000. Our large Miracle Sunday project completed in 2025 was the installation of new interlock. These repairs to our walkways and stairs were critical to maintain safe access to the building. The total cost was \$71,071.36. (Net cost after HST rebate \$65,371.43) Harmerstone completed the work including a new flower bed. It looks fantastic! We did a big Miracle Sunday campaign and raised just over \$19,000! This is a huge step to paying this off over the next few years. Praise God!

The Access Coordinator continues to manage our church security so we remain accessible, protected and safe. It is important that all of us help in this process by ensuring the doors are locked and the alarm is set on exiting the premises. Thanks to our current alarm system, individual codes are being provided and deleted for all the various user making the building secure. We had some alarm connection issues late in 2025 with our Bell line but after several technician visits, it looks to be fixed.

Our Steward Coordinator position is currently vacant, but the physical offering is still being counted regularly. A big thank you to Shirley Blank and Leslie Bryson for coming in faithfully every couple of weeks to count and make the deposits.

Our Technology Coordinator looks after all the church's hardware and software to enable our various functions to proceed smoothly. A big thank you to Dan for all the hours he has put in not only to make things work but also continue to improve and adapt to meet our challenges.

Our External Maintenance Manager position is vacant. A big thank you to Lauren Miles-Kuiperij for working with Harmerstone for the interlock project and all our volunteers for replanting the new garden, watering the grass as well as other maintenance tasks around the building. A big thank you to Wayne for taking responsibility for the lawn tractor maintenance and upkeep. A shout out to Belinda & the ladies for keeping the gardens looking great as well as Charlie O'Brien, Linda Paquette & Wayne Thoms for keeping the grass mowed! We would love to have some additional help. If you would be willing to help by taking on the supervisory role of External Maintenance Manager, please speak to Arlene in the office. If you are willing to pull weeds, ride a lawn mower or any other maintenance task, please let us know!

We appreciate the time and effort contributed by all our Board volunteers. You are essential to the ministry of Grace Church!

**Memory Book Fund:**

Closing Balance December 2024	\$3,137.04
Minus: Maintenance Fee	\$30.00
Plus: Monies received	\$653.30
Closing Balance December 2025	\$3,760.34

We received \$653.30 in memory of Hermina Mihalik. We are going to purchase in 2026 a stone plaque to be put into our new garden in front of the church.

The Trustee Board is elected by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting and are legally responsible for the oversight of all church property. It is subject to all rules and regulations of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, as outlined in the Book of Forms (See Section 149 and Appendix C). The congregation approved the "Declaration of Trust" for the Trustees, this document will be signed and forwarded to Presbytery.

The Trustees manage the "Memory Book Fund" which records gifts given by members and adherents to commemorate special and significant events in their lives within the context of our church family.

**The Trustees are:**

<b>Name and Position</b>	<b>Term Ending</b>
Shirley Blank (Chairman & Board and Session Representative)	2028
Leslie Bryson	2027
Ken Carruthers	2026
Minister ex officio	

## Offering Administrator – Arlene Lamadeleine

The offering administrator is responsible for issuing receipts for donations received by Grace Presbyterian Church.

The methods by which receiptable donations were received in 2025 compared to previous years are as follows:

Year	Envelopes		Autodebit (PAR)		E-transfer		Tithe.ly		Total
	# Donors	Amount	# Donors	Amount	# Donors	Amount	#Donors	Amount	Total
2025	37	\$34,166	13	\$32,040	19	\$25,331	4	\$2,231	\$93,768
2024	36	\$26,290	17	\$32,220	15	\$20,190	4	\$2,573	\$81,273
2023	49	\$53,882	20	\$69,600	18	\$38,961	6	\$6,706	\$171,323
2022	58	\$67,046	24	\$79,751	32	\$48,589	8	\$12,952	\$209,083
2021	47	\$101,367	24	\$80,315	27	\$59,502	6	\$14,891	\$256,075
2020	87	\$103,538	25	\$85,190	26	\$42,933	9	\$14,134	\$245,795
2019	96	\$141,055	25	\$88,368	4	\$290	5	\$8,744	\$238,457

Included in the total non-receiptable donations is \$22,246 from other platforms (Canada Helps, PayPal, United Way). \$1,742.59 was received as gifts in kind. We had a total of 101 donors (including 25 renters). During 2025, only 12 boxes of envelopes were issued. Many of the envelopes issued were not picked up. Envelope usage continues to decline. Only 25 boxes were ordered for 2026 as that is the minimum order.

The breakdown of receiptable donations in comparison with previous years is as follows:

	General Operation		Miracle Sunday		Other		Total	
	# Donors	Amount	# Donors	Amount	# Donors	Amount	# Donors	Amount
2025	59	\$74,528	20	\$12,570	9	\$4,451	81	\$91,549
2024	76	\$79,548	9	\$1,205	3	\$520	76	\$81,273
2023	84	\$162,679	19	\$4,276	28	\$2,790	93	\$171,323
2022	91	\$198,753	16	\$5,692	20	\$3,893	94	\$209,083
2021	97	\$278,828	21	\$13,206	29	\$6526	115	\$298,560
2020	104	\$235,905	21	\$4,370	21	\$5,520	105	\$245,795
2019	116	\$224,403	23	\$4,850	35	\$9,204	120	\$238,457
2018	120	\$255,566	38	\$9,876	48	\$7,508	126	\$272,950
2017	130	\$296,032	39	\$11,625	38	\$17,935	134	\$325,592
2016	135	\$299,382	40	\$17,735	58	\$12,693	155	\$329,809

Above you can see the number of donors per donation range over the last 7 years.

	Actual Income	Budgeted Income	Difference	Actual Exp	Budget Exp	Net Income	YTD Net Income
<b>Jan</b>	\$19,390.33	\$13,333.34	\$6,056.99	\$12,487.47	\$14,846.83	\$6,902.86	\$6,902.86
<b>Feb</b>	\$7,962.55	\$13,333.34	<b>-\$5,370.79</b>	\$15,911.82	\$14,846.83	<b>-\$7,949.27</b>	<b>-\$1,046.41</b>
<b>March</b>	\$16,670.71	\$13,333.34	\$3,337.37	\$18,223.37	\$14,846.83	<b>-\$1,552.66</b>	<b>-\$2,599.07</b>
<b>April</b>	\$11,514.54	\$13,333.34	<b>-\$1,818.80</b>	\$10,481.55	\$14,846.83	\$1,032.99	<b>-\$1,566.08</b>
<b>May</b>	\$14,543.40	\$13,333.34	\$1,210.06	\$11,636.20	\$14,846.83	\$2,907.20	\$1,341.12
<b>June</b>	\$22,796.91	\$13,333.34	\$9,463.57	\$8,693.02	\$14,846.83	\$14,103.89	\$15,445.01
<b>July</b>	\$9,274.46	\$13,333.34	<b>-\$4,058.88</b>	\$19,816.96	\$14,846.83	<b>-\$10,542.50</b>	\$4,902.51
<b>Aug</b>	\$13,985.96	\$13,333.34	\$652.62	\$16,645.73	\$14,846.83	<b>-\$2,659.77</b>	\$2,242.74
<b>Sept</b>	\$25,425.56	\$13,333.34	\$12,092.22	\$15,727.91	\$14,846.83	\$9,697.65	\$11,940.39
<b>Oct</b>	\$22,587.91	\$13,333.34	\$9,254.57	\$24,758.06	\$14,846.83	<b>-\$2,170.15</b>	\$9,770.24
<b>Nov</b>	\$14,720.55	\$13,333.34	\$1,387.21	\$12,999.83	\$14,846.83	\$1,720.72	\$11,490.96
<b>Dec</b>	\$23,705.98	\$13,333.34	\$10,372.64	\$35,196.94	\$14,846.83	<b>-\$11,490.96</b>	\$0.00

As you can see from the chart, our income was above budget for all but 4 months. (February, April, July and August) and we finished the year in the positive. Expenses in December include a transfer of \$926.55 net income to the Pastor Fund bringing the total to \$15,875.10 for the year. Building use income was \$62,872.65 for 2025 which exceeded our goal of \$46,000. We are blessed to have financial support not only from our Grace family but also from the 3 churches who worship here and many other groups who rent our facilities. A big thank you to our sister churches: Living Faith Bible Church, Eglise Liberte Oasis des Nations and Orleans Seventh Day Adventists for their ongoing ministry participation, support and prayers!

**2026 Congregational Budget Meeting**  
**Grace Presbyterian Church**  
**November 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance:**

Shirley Blank  
Arlene Lamadeleine  
Judy Richmond  
Leslie Bryson  
Jim Richmond  
Jacques Dalton  
Dan Rueger  
Adam Pilkington  
Brian Wilson  
Ken Carruthers

John Hutchinson  
Wayne Thoms  
Maureen Martin  
Linda Clarke  
Yohana Kimoun  
Margaret B-Fatona  
Wally Adams  
Allan Smith  
Brian Wilson

**Regrets:**

Wendy Carruthers

**Guest:**

Meg Patterson (Chair)

Before the start of the meeting refreshments were served and attendees had a time of fellowship in the Narthex.

**OPENING DEVOTION**

Pastor Meg Patterson, our CO-Interim Moderator, welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the meeting in prayer. Pastor Meg indicated that anyone who contributes to the life of the church is entitled to vote on a motion. She also explained that the Board of Managers (BOM) puts the budget together. Once it is reviewed and approved by Session it is sent to the congregation for final approval.

**ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

**Motion:** Brian Wilson moved that Leslie Bryson be nominated as secretary of the meeting. Seconded by Margaret Fatona. **Motion carried.** Leslie accepted.

**ATTENDANCE/REGRETS**

The names of those in attendance and those who submitted their regrets was obtained (as shown above).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** Jacques Dalton moved that the agenda be accepted as written. Seconded by Judy Richmond. **Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 29, 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) AND FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2024**

**Motion:** Allan Smith moved that the AGM minutes of March 29, 2025 be accepted as written. Seconded by Linda Clarke. **Motion carried.**

**Motion:** Brian Wilson moved that the financial review for 2024, prepared by Allan Smith and Alain Dawson, be accepted as written. Seconded by Judy Richmond. **Motion carried.**

**ELECTIONS**

## 2025 Financial Reviewers:

**Motion:** Arlene Lamadeleine moved that Allan Smith and Alain Dawson are the financial reviewers for 2025. Seconded by Shirley Blank. **Motion carried.** Allan and Alain accepted.

## Board of Managers (BOM) – Terms expiring at the end of 2025:

Internal Maintenance: Position is vacant.

External Maintenance: Position is vacant.

Secretary: Position may be vacant in 2026.

There were no nominations put forward for the vacant positions. Pastor Meg encouraged the congregation to pray for these vacant roles. We will address this issue at the AGM. In the meantime, it was suggested that Arlene put the description of the positions in the Grace Newsletter.

## Trustee

**Motion:** Leslie Bryson nominated Shirley Blank to stand as a Trustee of Grace for another three-year term. Ken Carruthers seconded. **Motion carried.** Shirley accepted the nomination.

Shirley Blank stated that Ken Carruthers and Leslie Bryson are the other two Trustees of Grace. Some of the duties of a Trustee are to sign legal documents, oversee the Memorial Fund and Insurance on the building.

## 2026 BUDGET PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL - Shirley Blank/Arlene Lamadeleine

The 2026 budget was presented and the attendees were given an opportunity to provide comments or ask questions. The following are some of the comments by the presenters:

### Communications & Coordination:

**NOTE:** We removed the Communications & Coordination tab and included those items under Temporal Support.

### Temporal Support:

Hydro, Gas, Heating, Water: Heating costs have increased significantly due to the increase in the monthly charges but more so because of the increased building use. We did not give ourselves enough cushion for this increase in past years and wanted to make sure the budget would cover these increased costs. The building is not vacant as often as it used to be. Allan Smith asked if we consider the increase in heating costs when we charge for renting out the church. Arlene will “crunch” the numbers for the next review of rental contracts. Dan Rueger recommended that the cost of snow removal also be considered when renegotiating rental contracts.

Arlene indicated that the \$3,000 cost for new mats at the front entrance was the cheapest quote that she obtained. The older carpets were duct taped down at the edges and the underside was disintegrating.

Bell Bill: Arlene spent over 3 months negotiating a lower price on our phone and internet services which led to a huge decrease and a substantial credit on one of our two invoices. That credit reduced our costs for all of 2025 but is now used up so we have to pay the new lower fees in 2026. If you look back, this new price is half of what we were paying previously. This is why the amount is \$2,400.

Web Hosting: We didn't increase the budget from last year. This expense is in US dollars so we anticipate foreign exchange costs will increase so we kept the budget the same.

Pro Presenter Subscription: Should come in right at budget this year but this is a US dollar expense and we expect a potential increase in price next year as well as foreign exchange costs.

Jacques Dalton asked what the Church Management Software does. Arlene responded that the software can manage such things as the on-line directory, attendance, personalized emails, plan meetings and track donations. We pay \$72.00 US a month and \$19.00 US a month for the Tithely site.

The \$1,900 figure shown for "Software and office automation" is for QuickBooks. It will be going up in price. Arlene stated that QuickBooks is the best option.

Brian Wilson commended the Board of Managers on the overall management of the building and property. Those involved have done an exemplary job.

#### Pastor & Session:

Interim Moderators are currently paid \$225 a month (\$230 in 2026). We have two interim moderators sharing the responsibility therefore they received a cheque every second month. The budget amount also includes four extra payments for congregational meetings and church profile committee meetings which are paid to moderators.

For information purposes Linda Clarke gave a background of Evangelical Fellowship of Canada as compared to Renewal Fellowship.

#### Personnel Support:

Pension Plan: The PCC pension amount should go down a bit as it is tied to our income from two years ago. The Pension Plan amount has been reduced from \$7,850 to \$3,029 in 2026. We continue to pay this whether we have a pastor or not.

Search for a pastor: Brian Wilson stated that we need to ensure that funds are available in order to pay the salary of a permanent pastor. Therefore, a fund was established that currently has \$13,000. Pastor Meg stated that we cannot be in a deficit position if we call a pastor. By God's grace our finances will continue to get better. This fund will provide a cushion that will provide the future pastor comfort in knowing that their salary will be paid. The fund should be promoted so that people are aware of it.

Salaries: It was suggested that we give a 2% increase this year due to living expense increases.

Salary for the Sunday School Leader is calculated by \$17.60 x 3 Hours per week x 44 weeks. We are only doing 44 weeks because there is 8 weeks that the summer students do the Sunday School. The Youth Director amount was removed since we currently don't have a Youth Director.

Sunday School Leader: Majelle has been paid out of the Sunday School Budget since September. It is important that we have monitors to sit with Majelle because she cannot be alone with the children according to Leading with Care policy.

#### Worship Coordination:

Piano: We budgeted for four piano tunings for 2026. We also included a new line item for piano maintenance for 2026, due to the age of the piano.

Audio/Video: The new sound board has had some donations towards it – over \$1,000 this year. The proposed budget is only \$500 with the rest being funded by donations and IT recapitalization funds. The expected expense is estimated to be \$3,000 so the new purchase will have to wait until sufficient funds are donated. It will make a huge difference in simplifying our sharing of the sanctuary with other churches/users. Judy Richmond stated that the soundboard will be digital and the settings for each church will be locked in.

Faith Sharing:

Presbytery Dues: The amount for 2026 is \$2,429 (down from \$7,500 in 2025). This amount must be paid and is set up by Presbytery based on past income. Presbytery Dues is our contribution to the operational and mission spending of the local Presbytery of Ottawa. This is based on income from two years ago.

Presbyterians Sharing: We have decided not to allocate any money to the Presbyterian Church in Canada due to the fact that Grace currently gives money directly to missions. However, donations received specifically for Presbyterians Sharing will be sent to the correct place

Presbyterians Sharing is support for missions and some operations for the PCC head office. This is based on income from two years ago. Right now, our budget for 2026 is \$0.00. Arlene stated that as a congregation we can make a motion to allocate a percentage or actual amount to Presbyterians Sharing.

**Motion:** Brian Wilson moved that the allocation for 2026 for Presbyterians Sharing continue to be zero dollars. Jim Richmond seconded. A discussion took place to discuss the motion. **Motion carried.**

Missions & Evangelism: This amount is 10% of the congregation's Receiptable. Every quarter the Board of Managers (BOM) decides if Grace Church's finances allow us to pay the missions. The Missions Committee informs the BOM the amount to be paid and to which mission.

Discipleship:

Grace provides the building for VBS and Kids Club and Living Faith reimburses the expenses for supplies for both events.

**BUDGET SUMMARY:**

"Congregation Receiptable" is the amount received from the congregation, either through envelopes, email or direct deposits. "Congregation Non-receiptable" is the amount of loose money received in the collection plate during a Sunday service.

Other Organizations: We currently receive a love offering from two churches who rent our building. This love offering is above their rental fee that we receive. We also receive funds through PayPal, Canada Helps and occasionally United Way.

Fundraising: Shirley Blank advised that the Social Committee raised \$3,500 by providing several lunches for a group of retired electricians at \$500 an event for 7 months. Shirley thanked all those who helped with the provision of meals, serving and cleanup. The money raised went towards the new interlocking project. Allan Smith asked why the budget for fundraising was reduced for 2026. Arlene responded that the retired electrical group have moved back into their own building. We may have to find a new method of raising funds if they don't return to Grace.

Building Use: The Rental of the building to the three churches is \$660 per week which gives us \$34,320 per year. AA rent is \$82.50 per week which amounts to \$3,960 per year. In 2025 STEAM Camp rented Grace church for the summer except when we were hosting the VBS. We received \$8,500 from this rental. We also have people who pay rental for the

use of the building on an ad hoc basis (like Mommy Connections and music recitals). The church is being rented out a great deal and it is now hard to find an empty slot for space to rent. God is good.

Arlene stated that our dollars stretch by those who donate items and doing services around the church Dan Rueger added that members of Living Faith and Eglise Liberté also support Grace.

Arlene said that we should be in the black by the end of the year.

Allan Smith stated that he thought the 2026 proposed budget seems low.

**Motion:** Allan Smith moved that the Congregation Receiptable budget be increased to \$66,800 from \$63,600 and that the Building Use budget be increased to \$63,000 from \$60,000. Seconded by Brian Wilson. **Motion carried.** Note: The new deficit for 2026 has now changed to -\$22,341.

**Motion:** Shirley Blank moved that the 2026 budget be accepted as presented. Maureen Martin seconded. **Motion carried.**

Shirley Blank expressed her thanks to Arlene Lamadeleine and Linda Clarke for all of their help with the budget. In addition, she thanked the Board of Managers and Session for their input.

**NEXT MEETING**

There is no date yet for the AGM (Awesome Grace Moments).

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Shirley Blank moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Allan Smith. **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Pastor Meg closed the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Bryson  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Meg Patterson  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Clarke  
Clerk of Session