

SEDGEWICK – LOUGHEED PASTORAL CHARGE
ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, LOUGHEED
SEDGEWICK UNITED CHURCH



Our Mission

*To worship God and care for one another.
To spiritually and morally enrich the lives of the members
and families of our congregation.
To provide a means whereby we might share and grow
in our devotion to Jesus Christ through;
Prayer, Christian Education, Fellowship,
Christian witness in the home, in the workplace and community;
and through service to all people –
To the end that we might have life and have it abundantly.*

**ANNUAL REPORT
2025**

PASTORAL CHARGE STAFF

Pastoral Charge Supervisor	Reverend Deanna Cox
Supply Ministers	Reverend Steve Haughland Reverend MaryAnn Pastuck
Treasurer	Esther Whitehead
Office Administrator	Mell Hampshire

PASTORAL CHARGE VOLUNTEERS

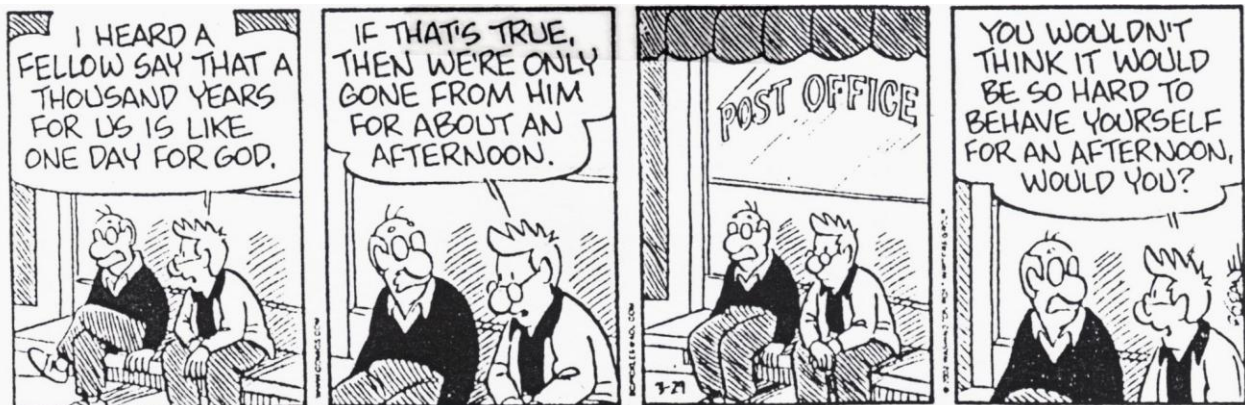
Lay Leaders	Jayne Odegard Dempsey Dale Jones Gwennie Simpson	Janice Bishop Susan MacKinnon
Liturgists	Helen Tanton Kari Sanders Gwenda Poyser	Leola Forster Sherri Leslie Pat MacKinnon
Musicians	Gail Eckstrand Jerry-Lynn Burden <i>choir director</i>	Gwenda Poyser
Maintenance & Landscaping	Janice Bishop Michael & Marilyn Patten James Hampshire Stacey Sanders	Kim Martin Megan Hampshire Connie Polege Vern Bergum
Good As New Shop	Betty Smith	

PASTORAL CHARGE STATISTICS

By the end of 2025 we have 41 confirmed memberships in St. Andrew's United, Loughed and 95 in Sedgewick for a total of 136 confirmed members. Twelve of those members have moved away and are listed as non-resident, however they still return occasionally and have not transferred to new parishes so are still counted on our Roll.

Besides these 'official' members we have many 'adherents', including children and youth, who regularly participate in the life of the Pastoral Charge but are not confirmed members. We currently have 36 Loughed households and 82 Sedgewick households under pastoral care for our charge.

Average attendance at in-person worship was twenty, with the Christmas Eve Community service hosting about sixty.



THE PASTORAL CHARGE UNIFIED BOARD

One representative from each section unless otherwise stated

Chair and Vice-Chair (*rep from each congregation*)

Treasurer and Mission & Service Treasurer

Secretary

Minister or Charge Supervisor

Church Office Administrator

Northern Spirit Rep

Ministry & Personnel Reps (2)

Worship Committee Reps (2-3)

Trustees Reps (2)

Property & Finance—Sedgewick Rep(s) (1-2)

Property & Finance—St. Andrews Rep

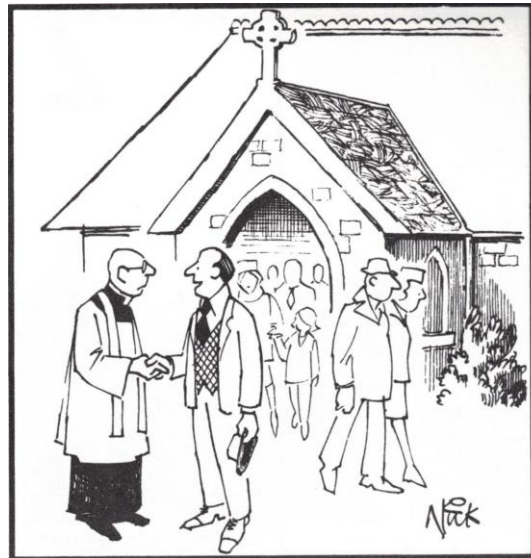
Sunday School Rep

Hardisty Lake United Church Camp Rep

2025 BOARD

Meetings require one representative from each section unless otherwise stated

Chairperson	Jayne Odegard Dempsey	Property & Finance (2)	James Hampshire
Co-Chair	Kari Sanders		Jeff Eckstrand
Charge Treasurer	Esther Whitehead		St. Andrew's: Committee of the Whole
Mission & Service Treasurer	Sherry Mayne	Trustees (1-2)	Gert Lewis
Unified Board Secretary	Gwenda Poyser		Roger Ferrier
Pastoral Charge Supervisor	Reverend Deanna Cox		Jeff Eckstrand
Ministry & Personnel (2)	Leola Forster		Ron Roggensack
	Lisa Burgess		Michael Patten
	Marilyn Patten		Teresa Odegard
Worship Committee (2-3)	Deb Leslie	Northern Spirit Region	Gwenda Poyser
	Susan MacKinnon	Sunday School	Megan Hampshire Strachan
	Gwennie Simpson	Hardisty Lake Camp	Melvin Luntly
	Jayne Odegard Dempsey		
	Gwenda Poyser		
	Kari Sanders		
	Janice Bishop		



“Well, that was fun. We must do it again sometime.”

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

This committee currently consists of four members, two from each congregation. The M&P Committee acts under the guidelines of The Manual of the United Church of Canada which states the responsibilities to be: review of salaries and making recommendations to the Board prior to the budget process, considering continuing education and vacation plans, encouraging annual review of any ministry personnel and staff as they relate to the goals of the congregations.

The Memorandum of Understanding with the Hardisty Hughenden Pastoral Charge ended in June 2024. Since then we have been without a minister but Reverend Deanna Cox has agreed to be our Pastoral Charge Supervisor despite her already busy schedule.

The Pastoral Charge Unified board requires two representatives from our committee to any Pastoral Charge Unified Board meeting.

If members of our congregations have praise or concerns about staff, both ministry personnel and lay employees, please share in signed correspondence with the committee. Any issues will be dealt with confidentially by the M&P Committee who will work toward resolution of any concerns.

Respectfully submitted by the M & P Committee; Leola Forster, Lisa Burgess and Marilyn Patten.

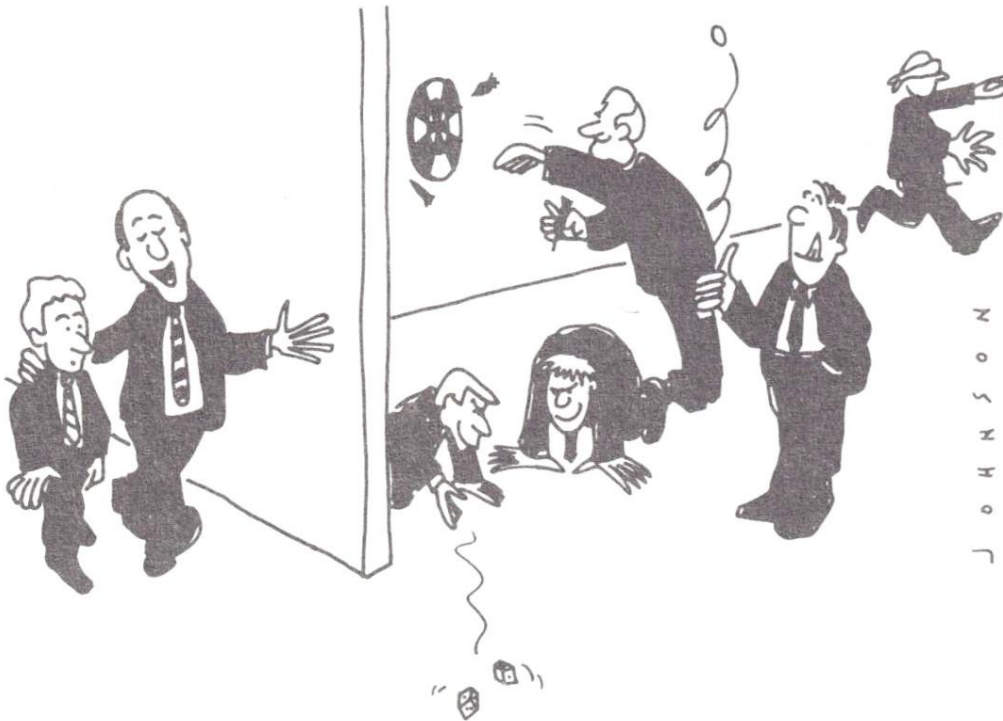
PASTORAL CHARGE UNIFIED JOINT BOARD REPORT

Our new Unified Board met twice in 2025; March and November.

Reverend Deanna Cox is our Pastoral Charge Supervisor and attended both meetings via Zoom.

The Board nominated Jayne Odegard Dempsey to be licensed as a Sacramental Elder. We extend a huge thank you to Jayne for engaging in this training.

We are deeply grateful to all our lay-leaders and visiting clergy for providing weekly services. We thank all who are working to keep the church active and vibrant and we pray for God's guidance as we move forwards into the new year.



"You'll be impressed with our board. They're tops when it comes to decision making."

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGION

“The Northern Spirit Regional Council is a collection of Communities of Faith serving in northeastern British Columbia, the Northwest Territories and northern Alberta, united in bringing God's hope, peace, joy and love to our part of God's creation.”

An updated version of the Regional Council directory is now available.

To assist communities of faith with a minister, Northern Spirit will train people, lay or ordered, to be Pastoral Charge Supervisors. More are needed. Training is also offered for new Sacramental Elders.

Throughout the 2025 Centennial year of The United Church of Canada, Northern Spirit featured short stories about United Church history in honour of the 100th anniversary. Historian Gayle Simonson also offered 100-word history vignettes for use in your own community of faith.

Resources for Orange Shirt / Truth and Reconciliation Sunday were summarized by Northern Spirit Region.

A youth wellness retreat, “Art for the Heart” was put on at Kasota East Camp at Sylvan Lake.

All Northern Spirit church administrators were invited to a Fall Retreat in November.

Growth Animator, Jordan Cantwell, facilitated an online Bible study; Deep conversation - Spiritual friendships - Faith exploration. New participants were most welcome.

Kevin Guenther Trautwein was hired as the “First Third Ministry Animator”, or youth minister to create opportunities within the churches for children, youth & families. Youth Social Justice Day was in November in Edmonton.

Northern Spirit purchased an Advent Small Group Study with Four Worship Services, as a gift for all of our congregations to access for free.

United Church archivist, Leanne Templeton, will accept church records for transfer to the Provincial Archives.

All Northern Spirit retired ministers were invited to a luncheon gathering in Millwoods in November. It was an opportunity to catch up with friends and stay connected.

Regional Alberta United Church leaders formulated a letter expressing concern about the provincial government's invocation of the notwithstanding clause in their labour dispute with the Alberta Teachers Association. The notwithstanding clause should be used only in circumstances of dire emergency.

Northern Spirit is working on assembling a contact list for communicating key climate-related actions and events for communities of faith who are passionate about climate justice.

Leaders from both Chinook Winds and Northern Spirit Regional Councils have written to the Alberta government urging immediate reconsideration of legislation that restricts transgender people's rights and uses the notwithstanding clause. The Region has an Affirming Committee to support the LGBTQ+ community.

The Northern Spirit Prayer Circle ensures that every congregation in our Region is held in prayer over the course of the year.

~ Information courtesy of the Northern Spirit emails

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The worship committee consists of five to six people (representing both congregations) who work in co-operation with the Office Administrator, Minister and/or Lay Leaders. They are responsible for the following:

- scheduling of Sunday services including pulpit supply, lay leaders and liturgists (readers).
- asking volunteers to open/close church for services, find greeters and someone to provide coffee and lunch for our fellowship time.
- arranging for servers and elements for communion services.
- arranging for volunteers to set up and record sermons/services and post them on our YouTube channel with corresponding links on our website.

The committee attempts to find ways to ‘share the load’ so that one person is not solely responsible.

Worship Services continue every Sunday (except in August) and at St. Andrew's United every 2 months.

We are grateful for the many voices leading us in worship; Jayne Odegard Dempsey, Dale Jones, Reverend Steve Haughland, Reverend MaryAnn Pastuck and other lay leaders who have provided inspiring messages. The variety of worship styles is very refreshing. We also thank our musicians and choir who greatly enhance our services.

The committee thanks all who support the church and its family through these ‘ministries’.

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION AND TENEBRAE SERVICE

Through the sacrament of communion, candlelight and readings we remember the night when Jesus shared that last supper with his disciples, was betrayed and arrested. This solemn and poignant service brings into focus the profound sacrifice that Jesus accepted. Narrator, Jayne Odegard Dempsey and Evie Hampshire performed this quiet evening service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children are always welcome to attend Sunday services and, if necessary, play at the back of the sanctuary or downstairs. There is usually a "Story for Children of All Ages" in the service and given sufficient notice, a corresponding craft can be available for the kids.

Sunday School Coordinator, Megan Hampshire, says that despite contacting families individually to invite them, there was little interest in attending. The facebook site; "**Sedgewick United Church Sunday School**" which is kept up to date, has information on special events which do seem to garner some interest;

- egg painting at Easter,
- bird box making on Father's Day and
- joining the choir for the Christmas and Easter services.

In this way we hope to give the children and youth the feeling of being welcomed and of truly belonging to our church family.



COMMUNITY CHOIR

The choir performed some delightful musical numbers for Easter, Advent and Christmas, including Christmas Eve. Our young people helped by playing the chimes and hand-bells. The choir also took their music to the Killam Long Term Care Facility before Christmas and had a wonderful evening singing for, and with the residents.

Thank you to Jerry-Lynn, Gwenda and Gail for organizing this musical ministry, it truly enhances our church experience.



HARDISTY LAKE UNITED CHURCH CAMP

The 2025 Hardisty Lake United Church Camp season was a success!

We welcomed approximately 74 campers, with a few returning in the 2nd and 3rd weeks.

The weather was excellent — warm, not too hot or cold — which allowed us to run all planned activities. The only storm came on the final night, while the entire camp was having a sleepover in Joy Hall. Hailey stayed up to monitor it, and by morning, most people hadn't even noticed. Thankfully, there were no heat-related illnesses throughout the season.

Overall, it was an amazing summer. Staff and campers worked well together, and any small issues were handled quickly and effectively. We would gladly welcome all staff back next year.

Most of our staff had camp experience either as past campers or staff, which helped the season run smoothly. Some last-minute replacements were needed for male staff, but thanks to teamwork, everything came together.

Hardisty Lake Camp 2025 Dates

Scamper Camp (Grades 1 & 2) ran from July 9–11

Grades 3–8 Camps ran Week 1: July 14–18 & Week 2: July 21–25

Scamper Camp 2: July 28–30 did not run, insufficient enrollment.

While we were able to have over half full for all the camps, we ran a deficit of -\$7,900. We appreciate everyone that keeps donating to us to ensure can keep going.

We were able to award six camperships this season thanks to the generosity of community members and organizations. These six campers enjoyed camp immensely.

Rentals were busy for this season but not without problems. We are working on solutions to ensure the site is left clean. We thank everyone that contributes to the success of camp by donating firewood, flowers, tree cutting services, their time on the board or other maintenance.

We have issues with our water well and looking at a solution. Nothing will be done until spring 2026.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Erickson, HLUCC representative



University Blue Quills

The former Blue Quills Residential school is now a singular university, owned and operated by First Nations and incorporated by Federal statute in 2015. The name, University nuhelot'jine thaiyots'j nistameyimâkanak Blue Quills, includes both Dene and Cree language words for the school.

A field trip to University Blue Quills was part of our commitment to the Calls to Action of the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission**. The tour was completely free to participants thanks to a grant from the **Justice and Reconciliation Fund** which supports projects by United Church groups that foster education, dialogue, reconciliation and relationship-building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

In September, three ladies from Sedgewick-Lougheed joined fourteen others on this very special excursion, seeking to learn and bear witness to the history of residential schools and the impact the system had, and continues to have. It was very ably organized by Sharon MacFadyen of Daysland United Church and had representatives from Lougheed, Sedgewick, Killam, Forestburg, Daysland and Rosalind.

We met with a survivor of the school who talked about her experience and candidly answered questions from the group before leading us on a tour. It provided a powerful learning experience for all participants.

"I appreciated a trip with others who believe that such effort to become educated is important. We have such a long road to truly understand our collective past. The life experiences of residential school survivors is truly beyond our understanding, but stories we need to hear."



ANNUAL MERNA SERVICE

The old country church rang with music in June as Sherri Leslie and Dale Jones led the congregations of Sedgewick and Lougheed in a wonderful service. The Stenson musical group led us in old fashioned hymns and following the service a fantastic potluck picnic was held.



CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

Both churches and the staff at the Vision Credit Union in Sedgewick collected a total of eleven (11) boxes and delivered them to the Camrose collection centre to send to needy children overseas. We believe our boxes ended up in Costa Rica.

SPARKLE IN THE PARK

Sedgewick and Lougheed churches once again rented a site for the annual "Sparkle in the Park" and set up our 'vintage' nativity. This event raises cash donations and many items of food for the Flagstaff Food Bank. Thank you to those who supported this fantastic fundraiser.

YOU HAVE APPEARED, O CHRIST, THE
LIGHT OF LIGHT! TO YOU THE MAGI
BRING GIFTS! ALLELUJA · ALLELUJA!



PASTORAL CHARGE FINANCIALS

January 1 to December 31, 2025

REVENUE	<i>2025 Actual</i>	<i>2026 Proposed</i>
Lougheed Share	\$5,008.13	\$5,276.00
Sedgewick Share	\$20,032.49	\$21,104.00
Interest	\$458.01	\$400.00
Common Share	<u>\$114.50</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	25,613.13	\$26,880.00
EXPENSES		
Pulpit Supply	\$7,903.90	\$8,500.00
Mileage	\$315.45	\$800.00
Advertising	\$516.38	\$500.00
Postage	\$25.30	\$100.00
Office Supplies	\$94.30	\$200.00
Regional Assessment	\$3,760.00	\$4,580.00
Treasurer Honorarium	\$900.00	\$900.00
Church Supplies	\$307.50	\$200.00
Internet	\$1,327.40	\$1,500.00
Office Telephone	\$1,200.70	<i>disconnected</i>
Meeting expenses	\$67.50	\$150.00
Office Administrator	\$6,875.00	\$6,875.00
Benefits	\$218.13	\$225.00
Confirmation Class		\$150.00
Compassionate Care		\$500.00
Equipment Purchases	\$1,340.00	\$1,000.00
Youth Group		
Sunday School		
Miscellaneous (s/c, GST)	<u>\$129.06</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	25,040.62	\$26,380.00
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
Chequing	63,134.68	
Term Deposits	16,394.32	
Common Share	<u>\$1,042.00</u>	
TOTAL	\$80,571.00	

Submitted by Budget Committee.

MISSION AND SERVICE FUND

	2024	2025	
Congregational Giving	736.75	1,065.00	
World Development & Relief Fund	1160.00	1,350.00	
Total	1896.75	2,415.00	

Respectfully submitted by Sherry Mayne, M&S Fund Treasurer

LOUGHEED UNITED CHURCH



St. Andrew's filled with people and music!

PROPERTY & FINANCE

St. Andrew's United Church in Lougheed had few issues needing repair including a new toilet. Plus there was the usual maintenance; cutting grass, shovelling snow and checking the water so it doesn't freeze.

Services were held at Lougheed every second month; January, March, May, July, September and November. The Christmas Eve candle lighting service was held, as usual, in the Lougheed Community Hall, hosted by St. Andrew's and Sedgewick United churches.

In March a successful stew supper and online auction was held. Thank you to all the contributors and bidders for the auction. The supper was well attended and made for a good 'get-together'.

The PAR program is a good option to donate to the church and provides a steady income year round. An appeal letter was sent out. We are very thankful for all donations that the church receives.

Thank you to all the faithful volunteers who take care of the church all year.

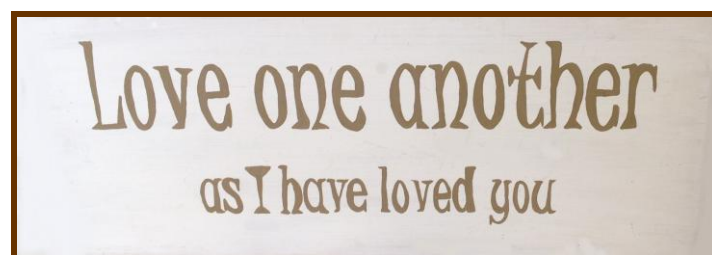


LOUGHEED UNITED CHURCH FINANCIALS

January 1 to December 31, 2025

INCOME	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
PAR Account	\$3,720.00	\$3,720.00
Appeal Letter previous year	\$400.00	
Appeal Letter	\$9,500.00	\$3,000.00
General Donations	\$5,339.00	\$4,500.00
Pastoral Charge Refund	\$76.39	
Fund Raisers	\$3,490.00	\$2,000.00
Funeral Lunches	\$2,200.00	\$1,000.00
Spring Supper	\$2,482.45	\$1,500.00
Mission & Service	\$100.00	
Refund Payment	\$282.04	
Interest	\$10.31	\$10.00
GST	\$90.81	\$90.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$27,691.00	\$15,820.00
EXPENSES		
Pastoral Charge Share	\$5,008.13	\$5,276.00
Insurance	\$1,906.00	\$2,000.00
Utilities - Epcor	\$1,271.70	\$1,400.00
Utilities - Direct Energy	\$2,115.95	\$2,400.00
Maintenance & Repairs	\$618.25	\$500.00
Landscaping Expense	\$80.00	\$100.00
Fundraiser Expenses	\$824.82	\$1,000.00
Postage & Office Supplies	\$90.57	\$100.00
Transfer to Investment	\$5,000.00	
Charitable Donations	\$500.00	\$500.00
Overpayment	\$362.97	
GST Expense	\$198.65	\$200.00
PAR Charges	\$30.00	\$30.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,007.04	\$13,506.00
Net Income/Expense	\$9,683.96	\$2,314.00
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
Chequing Account	\$35,269.67	
GIC	\$27,036.33	
Total	\$62,306.00	

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Patten, Treasurer, St. Andrew's United, Lougheed





SEDGEWICK UNITED CHURCH

PROPERTY & FINANCE

No appeal letter was sent out, perhaps the timing, just before Christmas was not the best. We are therefore very grateful to all the donations received and particularly to those who participate in the PAR program which gives the church a regular income year-round.

Thank you to all the faithful volunteers who take care of the church and keep it looking good.

THE GOOD AS NEW SHOP

The congregation of the Sedgewick United Church would like to thank the Good As New Shop volunteers for the astonishing donation of \$7,500 from the store. It truly is an incredible amount.

The hard work and dedication to this much needed service is inspiring and greatly appreciated by the whole community and beyond.

The presence of a thrift store in town is a boon to low income families who can easily pick up a bargain locally without travelling far..

Because of this donation we are grateful to be able to donate to several local charities and the Camrose Women's Shelter. There is certainly a need for help in many areas.



SEDGEWICK UNITED CHURCH FINANCIALS

January 1 to December 31, 2025

INCOME	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
Collection Envelopes	\$18,369.00	\$76,000.00
PAR	\$15,519.96	\$15,000.00
Cash Collections	\$716.30	\$500.00
General Donations	\$3,180.00	\$3,500.00
Memorial Donations	\$485.65	
Good as New Shop Donation	\$7,500.00	
Miscellaneous		
Profit Share	\$1,177.37	\$1,000.00
Fundraising Revenue		\$4,500.00
Interest Revenue	<u>\$4,955.57</u>	<u>\$2,500.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$51,418.20	\$44,000.00
EXPENSES		
Custodian	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Donations	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
Insurance	\$5,580.00	\$5,700.00
Pastoral Charge Share	\$20,032.49	\$21,104.20
Maintenance & Repairs	\$1,165.93	\$5,000.00
Church Supplies	\$191.54	\$300.00
Utilities - Epcor	\$2,651.55	\$2,800.00
Utilities - Town of Sedgewick	\$3,340.87	\$3,400.00
Postage	\$99.00	\$150.00
Advertising		
Equipment Purchased	\$549.00	
GST Expense	\$131.84	\$200.00
Fundraiser Expense		\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous, SC, Interest	<u>\$86.50</u>	<u>\$150.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$37,028.72	\$44,004.00
Net Profit/Deficit	\$14,389.48	\$4.00
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
Chequing Account	\$37,081.77	
Memorial Fund	\$49,873.70	
GIC	\$104,690.89	
Term Deposit	\$94,975.42	
Common Shares	\$4,238.36	
GST Receivable	<u>\$71.41</u>	
	\$290,931.55	

Respectfully submitted by Esther Whitehead, Sedgewick United Treasurer