

# **LOWVILLE UNITED CHURCH**



# **ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

# **LOWVILLE UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

**As followers of Jesus Christ,  
the people of Lowville United Church affirm:**

**Worship is central to our life as a community embracing people of  
diverse ages, experiences and needs.**

**Our worship and faith evolve as we enrich our  
understanding and experience through study, prayer and  
action.**

**We seek to become ever more welcoming,  
inviting others to share in the celebration of our journey  
together as God's people.**

**Worship strengthens us to carry good news into the wider  
community.**

**We express our ministry:**

**in working for justice and in responding to human needs  
locally and globally.**

**in caring for those within and without our family of faith.**

**in offering our personal resources, presence and energy  
in the service of God's work in the world.**

# **LOWVILLE UNITED CHURCH**

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**Burlington, ON L7P 0A7**

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## **ANNUAL REPORT for 2025**

**Lowville United is a one point pastoral charge within the United Church of Canada. In January 2019 Halton Presbytery became part of the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council in a decision-making body responsible to serve and support Communities of Faith within its bounds as well as to provide necessary oversight.**

**The purpose statement of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council is 'Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith'. Active verbs were chosen as a sign of the regional council's commitment to be in partnership with communities of faith.**

**The HFRC is composed of all ministry personnel within its geographic bounds; ministers of denominations within mutual recognition agreements while under appointment or call; and lay members elected by the Communities of Faith, respecting the balance of lay and ministry personnel where possible.**

**The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council includes communities of faith in the counties of Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk and the Regional Municipalities of Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth and Niagara and is pleased to serve alongside the Indigenous ministries of Chapel of the Delaware United Church, Grand River United Church, Nations Uniting and New Credit United Church.**

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# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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## **MINISTERS REPORT**

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Dear Friends at Lowville United Church,

It is a joy to be your minister, as of December 1st, 2025! Advent and Christmas Eve planning provided an opportunity to work closely with key leadership and the congregation.

However, we go further back! I remember the first sermon I preached among you on Sunday, July 6th, 2025, “Gathering the Fragments”. We reflected on the twelve baskets of fragments that the disciples collected after the feeding of the 5,000. We considered that nothing is ever wasted with Jesus. If Jesus ordered the fragments to be collected, then he had an intention; he was being purposeful.

Similarly, the leftovers, the fragments of our lives, our long history, are of value to Jesus and to God’s world. They may seem trivial to us, but not to Jesus. God can create something wonderful out of our leftovers. God, through the Holy Spirit, could add some sweetness and flavouring and bake a delicious proverbial batch of crowd-pleasing bread pudding or stuffing with our leftovers. Nothing is ever wasted with God. Citing Featherstone Colling, “More than ever, today people need to get with God.”

I have been savouring the value you place on worship, your caring for each other expressed through Sunday lunches and at funerals, your generosity toward the ministry and mission of Lowville United Church, and the deep appreciation of the wider community for your community presence over 200 years! The Village of Lowville needs more of that. Burlington needs more of that! God’s world needs more of that! I look forward to learning more about your legacy of faith.

God and Lowville United Church make a great team! Your legacy of Christ-centered faith is rich and is woven in the pages of this Annual Report. More importantly, your legacy of faith lives on as God guides us.

Thank you for your faithful leadership.

In Christ’s Service,  
Rev. Roni Beharry

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

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**Blessings Lowville!**

**Another great 2025 in the books for Lowville.**

**I want to thank all of our tireless Volunteers who worked so hard to keep our Church going throughout 2025. It's so great to see all the support and love from all of our church members, those who are on Committees, and those who pitch in when needed. I cannot thank our volunteers enough! You all work so tirelessly to ensure that things run smoothly throughout every year!**

**We had some great Fundraisers in 2025 and I would like to thank all of the Volunteers and groups for organizing these.**

**Rev Louise Hart retired in 2025 and I would like to thank her for providing us her Ministry at Lowville. I would like to thank Rev. Maryann Skinner, Rev. Roni Beharry and Mary Parsons for providing their supply as we manage this transition.**

**I also want to thank our Council Members and Lou-Ann, our Church Secretary, for all of the work and dedication that they put into our Church.**

**Peace,**

**Dave Jolly  
LUC Council Chair  
jolly.dave@gmail.com**

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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## **MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL**

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**Members:** Perry McLean (Chair) Allan Salmi

**Purpose and Responsibilities:**

*The existence of this committee is a mandatory requirement of the United Church of Canada. It provides a confidential setting for consultation with Church staff and support and assessment of all staff persons in the Church's employ. Specific responsibilities are given in the United Church Manual or in the booklet "A Pastoral Charge's Ministry and Personnel Committee". (Copies of each are available for reference in the church office.)*

**Year's Activities and Decisions:**

I would like to thank Rev Louise Hart, our Supply Ministers Rev. Mary Anne Skinner, Rev. Roni Beharry and Mary Parsons, in addition to, Lou-Ann, Rosemary, Linda G., Muriel, Gerry, Dave & Linda Jolly, along with all our dedicated volunteers who contribute on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis to keep Lowville United Church (LUC) going each and every day!! You're the heartbeat of the LUC!!

Overall, the staff/volunteers of LUC demonstrated great passion during 2025, as we managed the challenges of navigating a small but mighty church in the delivery of our mission.

Rev Louise Hart retired from LUC in 2025 and we all thank her for her passion and spiritual leadership over her time at LUC.

Rev. Mary Ann Skinner demonstrated great flexibility and agility throughout the year, as she delivered Worship multiple times, online from Nova Scotia, and supported LUC with innovative ideas to fill the gap as we started to search for a minister. Mary Parsons and Rev. Roni Beharry provided high quality supply ministry, helping LUC ministry throughout the year

The quality of Worship was consistent throughout the year and reflects the quality of Supply Ministry that LUC was able to secure.

Starting in December 2025 we entered a 6 month contract with Rev. Roni Beharry to help LUC bridge to a permanent part-time minister. Rev. Roni brought inspiration, passion, innovation and strong spiritual leadership to LUC. We look forward to her leadership in the first half of 2026.

The search committee of Perry, Muriel, Doug and Rosemary will continue with the search for a permanent part time minister with the goal of congregation approval of a great candidate in Q2 2026.

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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**Our unique partnership with Port Nelson United Church (PNUC) through the employment of Rev. Louise Hart ended with Rev. Louise's retirement. We thank Port Nelson United Church for partnering with LUC and wish them the very best!**

**An area of significant growth for LUC was the development of Linda Ross Gallagher as our Music Accompanist. Linda's commitment to learn, with the help Rosemary has provided LUC with consistent music leadership. We all look forward to Linda's growing talents each Sunday at LUC along with Lorretta and Linda's wonderful voices!!**

**Lou-Ann Trabucco, LUC secretary, has demonstrated great flexibility throughout 2025 and adjusted to supporting the needs of the church through a flexible work schedule to accommodate her other personal commitments. Lou-Ann keeps the workings of the church moving forward and connected to the congregation and community. A special shout-out for Lou-Ann's work with the Sheriff County Film Crew's rental of LUC. Thank you, Lou-Ann, for your flexibility and commitment to see new opportunities thrive at LUC!**

**Our bookkeeper, Baker/Karklins associates continue to work out well, and big Thank you to Muriel for managing this relationship.**

**On behalf of the M&P committee, I thank all our staff and volunteers for your incredible resilience and commitment to the Lowville community over 2025.**

*Faithfully submitted: Chair*

*Perry McLean*

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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## **HORSESHOE FALLS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

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**Representatives:** Volunteer needed

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

- *to report back to the Church Councils any relevant information regarding the work and plans which affect the Congregations.*
- *to inform congregations of activities and happenings.*

**Summary of Years Activities and Decisions:**

**NOTHING TO REPORT**

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

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## WORSHIP

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**Members:** (Acting Chair) Perry McLean, Rev. Louise Hart, Rev. Roni Beharry,  
Linda Ross Gallagher (Piano/organist) Rosemary Jackson(organist)

**AD HOC:**

**Communion:** Linda Jolly

**Head Ushers:** Volunteers

**Sunday Refreshments:** Volunteers

**Christ Candle Lighting:** Volunteers

**Scripture Readers:** Carol Haley

**Flowers & Decorating:** Connie Salmi, Muriel Howe

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*to provide oversight and leadership in the co-ordination and preparation of worship services and use of the worship space. Music assists in making worship meaningful by co-ordinating it with the service themes and provides leadership for the Congregation in the singing of hymns and responses. Responsibilities include: providing support and history of worship service traditions etc. to the minister; arranging pulpit supply and guest speakers; arranging for decorations, special services and worship events*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

The Worship Committee met Ad hoc throughout the year, with Rev. Louise leading during Jan-June and Rosemary/Linda G/Perry M. along with supply ministers for July -Dec.

In 2025, services were led by several personnel given the retirement of Rev. Louise Hart in June 2025. These included Rev. Louise Hart, Rev Maryann Skinner, Mary Parsons and Rev. Roni Beharry. A few Sundays focused just on the celebration of music led by Rosemary Jackson. For all long weekends during the summer the church was closed. This dedicated group of people ensured the congregation of Lowville United Church experienced high quality Sunday Service, aligned to the mission and values of Lowville. Special shout out to special services that included but not limited to, Easter, Rev. Louise's retirement, The United church 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Lowville United Anniversary & Christmas Eve.

As a custom at Lowville, communion services were held during the year approximately every other month.

I would like to thank Gordon Vanderwoude who supported Lowville United Church's Christmas Eve Service and cousin on the violin.

A huge thank you to our volunteer Scripture Readers: Gil Amardeil, Bev Balch, Linda and Patrick Gallagher, Carol Haley, Gerry Howe, Dave Jolly, Linda Jolly, Shirley Mayeski, Karen McLean and daughters, Allan Salmi, Don Thomas.

Our sanctuary is decorated to celebrate each liturgical season by Connie Salmi and Muriel Howe. A grateful thank you to these faithful women and to Dave Jolly and his 'Elves' who set up and decorate our huge Christmas Tree each Advent Season and assists with hanging large banners.

*Faithfully Submitted,*

*Perry McLean, Acting Worship Committee Chair*

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

## **APPENDIX TO LOWVILLE WORSHIP STATISTICS**

**2025 WEDDINGS at Lowville United Church**  
William Anderchek & Michaela Fraser      d. Oct 26      Officiating Minister  
Rev. Philip Gardner

**2025 FUNERALS, MEMORIALS at Lowville United Church**  
Leslie Owen Calhoun      d. July 26      Officiating Minister  
Rev. Barbara Morrison  
Nancy Louise Ramshaw      d. Dec 29      Rev. Roni Beharry

**2025 BAPTISMS of INFANTS and CHILDREN at Lowville United Church**  
NONE

**2025 BAPTISMS of TEENAGERS and ADULTS**  
NONE

**2025 RECEIVED into FULL MEMBERSHIP ROLL by PROFESSION OF FAITH**  
NONE

**2025 RECEIVED into FULL MEMBERSHIP ROLL by RE-AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**  
NONE

**2025 RECEIVED into FULL MEMBERSHIP ROLL by TRANSFER**  
NONE

**2025 REMOVED from FULL MEMBERSHIP ROLL by TRANSFER**  
NONE

**2025 REMOVED from FULL MEMBERSHIP ROLL by DEATH**  
Nancy Louise Ramshaw  
Francis Frank Edgeworth Coulson  
Leslie Owen Calhoun

**2025 REMOVED from BAPTIZED ROLL by DEATH**  
NONE

### **2025 LOWVILLE UNITED MEMBERSHIP COUNTS**

<b>Total Members Active</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Total Members Adherents</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Youths and Children</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Households Served</b>	<b>45</b>

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

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## AD HOC –MUSIC

**Members:** Linda Gallagher (Pianist/Organist)

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*to assist in making worship meaningful by coordinating music with themes;  
to supply music for special occasions and services during the year;  
to lead the congregation in the singing of hymns and responses.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

PLEASE SEE WORSHIP REPORT

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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## **PASTORAL CARE**

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**Pastoral Care Members:** Connie Salmi, Muriel Howe

**AD HOC:**

**Prayer Chain Contact:** Volunteer Needed

**Card Ministry:** Carol Haley

**Purpose:**

*to exemplify and spread the love of God through the organizing of effective pastoral contact and support for the members and adherents of the Congregation.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

**NOTHING TO REPORT**

*Faithfully; submitted:*

### **AD HOC PRAYER CHAIN**

The Prayer chain is alive and well at Lowville United Church. We each pray in our own way for the requests received. If you have a prayer request please contact Ruth Coverdale (905-335-2124). All prayer requests are held in strictest confidence. If you would like to join our chain as a “Prayer” contact Ruth.

*Faithfully submitted*

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

## CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

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**Members:** Karen McLean , Linda Jolly

**AD HOC:**

Church School: Karen Mclean

**Purpose:**

*to produce and administer a program of learning, study and development that will enable and encourage all members of the Congregation to develop and grow in their knowledge, faith and commitment to Christian life and service.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions**

Please see note below.

### **AD HOC - DISCOVERY ZONE (CHURCH SCHOOL)**

**Teachers/Helpers:** Karen McLean (Coordinator)

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

Our youngest member and her family moved away in the fall. She was given a Children's Bible to remember her friends at Lowville United. At this time, we do not have any children regularly attending church.

Pencil cases with colouring pages, paper and pencil crayons are prepped and located in the Zimmerman room for children who are in attendance. When children come, I take them downstairs and we enjoy time reading a story from a Children's Bible and talking about it, followed by some time playing with the toys and/or a small craft depending on their age.

“A time for the young at heart” continues to be in the service allowing for a special time for any youngsters who join us on Sundays.

The needs for Sunday School will be re-evaluated each year to reflect the congregation.

*Faithfully submitted, Karen McLean*

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

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## STEWARDSHIP

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**Members:**     Volunteers Needed

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To inform our church membership about our financial picture and to encourage them to give prayerfully to our overall ministry. To develop & participate in new stewardship approaches that will engage our people in ministry to the larger community through the use of their skills and resources.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

NOTHING TO REPORT

## AD HOC –WAYS AND MEANS

**Members:**     Dave Jolly

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To support, initiate, and implement fundraising projects to raise funds for the care and maintenance of our church.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

NOTHING TO REPORT

## LOWVILLE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES NETWORK

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### UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (U.C.W.)

**Members:** All the women of Lowville-Nelson United Ministries are members of the U.C.W and are invited to attend monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (excepting January, July, August)

**President:** Bev Balch

**Vice President:**

**Secretary:** Margriet Sinclair

**Set-up:** Lorene Bridgman

**Communications:** Lorene Bridgman

**Finances:** Lorene Bridgman, Shirley Mayeski

**Card Covener:** Carol Haley

**Prayer Partner Registrar:** Joan Fox

**Programme Coordinator:** Bev Balch

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide a medium through which they may express their loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship, and service.*

**Years Activities & Decisions:**

About 12 ladies met monthly (except July, August and January) for lunches, socializing, business meetings, devotionals and programs.

In March, we participated in the World Day of Prayer worship service which was written by the women of Cook Islands. Bev Balch organized and led the service. The theme of the service was "I made you Wonderful" (Psalm 139: 1-18). The organizers of the World Day of Prayer had prepared a beautiful video edition of the service which allowed us to experience the beauty of the Islands and to hear the voices of the women who prepared the service.

For our April program, we were pleased to have Linda Smith talk about her role with Dodsworth and Brown Funeral home. Members were presented with a folder that would help in knowing what to do in planning a funeral as well as the many tasks that need to be done at the passing of a loved one. We found this a very useful and well presented presentation.

We held our annual fund-raising auction in October with Carol Haley as our auctioneer. This is always a highlight of the year. This year the proceeds will go into Petty Cash to assist with any costs of the group and to help with additional expenses from refreshments served after church.

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

In other months, our own members provided varied and interesting programs. Socialization, fellowship and friendships are integral parts of our ministry.

Again, U.C.W provided refreshments for the Major 7th Band concerts this year.

Throughout the year, the absent, ill and shut-ins are remembered by greeting cards which we send.

Also, used stamps were collected and sent to the Leprosy Fund Foundation.

With thanks to all the attendees who so willingly help to make our ministry a success.

*Faithfully submitted: U.C.W. Leader Bev Balch*

## UNITED CHURCH WOMEN - Financial Statement

### RECEIPTS:

Balance December 31, 2024	\$2,209.98
Auctions	\$309.00
Concert Donations(2)	\$210.00
World Day of Prayer Offering	<u>\$50.00</u>
	\$2,778.98

### EXPENDITURES:

World Day of Prayer WICC	\$50.00
Salvation Army Burlington	\$100.00
Salvation Army Milton	\$100.00
Carpenter House	\$100.00
Amnesty International	\$100.00
Wesley Urban Ministries	\$150.00
Halton Women's Place	\$100.00
Darling Home For Kids	\$100.00
Mission and Service	\$100.00
Good Shepherd	\$100.00
Food Bank	\$100.00
Bank Charges 5x \$3.75	\$18.75
Lowville United Church	\$1,141.25
Catering Supplies	<u>\$200.00</u>
	\$2,460.00

Balance: Dec 31, 2025 \$318.98

*Faithfully submitted: Shirley Mayeski*

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

**Members:** Bev Balch, Jenny Antrobus, Donna Millar, Scott Howe,  
Rosemary Jackson

**AD HOC:**

Wesley Contact/Food Bank Bev Blach

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To educate and involve the members of the Congregation in social action and social service beyond the bounds of the local Church.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

**Case for Kids 2025**



Thank you so much Lowville! Together we raised \$975.00 in support of children's programs provided by Wesley Urban Ministry. On Sunday June 1st, Reverend Louise, Bev, Shirley M, Shirley W, Cheryl Lynn, Jen and Desmond and dogs met at Bayfront Park in Hamilton to enjoy the conversation and walk the trail in support of Case for Kids. It was a great day for a great cause. Thank you again for your support.

**Wesley Christmas Store**

On White Gift Sunday the congregation placed their many donations under the Christmas tree to be delivered to Wesley. This year we were again asked to consider donating household goods, sheets, towels, appliances and electronics as well as hats, mitts, clothing, toys etc.

Over the last years, Wesley has been expanding their ministry to get newcomers and those on the street housed. Your generous gifts add to the success of this focus. Thank you again for your generosity.

*Bev Balch Church Liaison to Wesley.*

*Wesley with our help transforms people's lives*

### **HARVEY MILLAR FUND**

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024 \$15,704.71

NO TRANSACTIONS OCCURRED DURING 2025

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025 \$15,704.71

*Faithfully submitted*

*Muriel Howe*

### **AD HOC -FOSTER CHILD**

NOTHING TO REPORT

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

## FINANCE

**Members:** Scott Howe (chair) Lorene Bridgman, Muriel Howe

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To manage the collection and disbursement of the Congregation's finances under the guidance of the short-range planning program as established by the Church Council, and in accordance with the purpose of the Church.*

*to maintain bank accounts and keep books for the receipts and disbursement of funds to report on the financial status of the church to the congregation*

*to advise the Church Council of areas of financial concern*

*to prepare and submit the full budget to the Congregation for approval*

*to advise other ministries on the purchasing and maintenance procedures*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

2025 has continued to be relatively uneventful from a financial perspective. A few windfall events have helped boost the bottom line, as well as continued income from our GIC investments. The overall net result for the year was more positive than projected which is wonderful given the slow state of the economy.

Bank accounts remain in a healthy state.

*Blessings to all.*

*Scott Howe*

*Chair, Finance Committee*

[scottwarencehowe@gmail.com](mailto:scottwarencehowe@gmail.com)

**Lowville United Church  
MISSION AND SERVICE FINANCIAL REPORT  
January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025**

Mission & Service Givings \$3,252.00

**TOTAL MISSION & SERVICE** \$3,252.00

Amount remitted to United Church of Canada Mission &  
Service as of December 31, 2025 \$3,252.00

(NOTE: Our Commitment to M & S for 2025 was \$3,000.00)

*Faithfully submitted:*

*Muriel Howe*

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

## LOWVILLE UNITED CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

	<b>REVENUE</b>	
	<b>2025 Revenue Budget</b>	<b>2025 Actual Revenue</b>
<b>Offerings</b>	\$60,000.00	\$60,333.23
<b>Cap. Res. Income</b>		\$10,700.93
<b>Tax rebate</b>	\$2,000.00	
<b>GIC interest income</b>	\$5,000.00	\$8,342.83
<b>Fundraisers</b>		\$1,642.00
<b>Rent - Church</b>	\$2,000.00	\$19,669.40
<b>Rent - Manse</b>	\$16,658.00	\$17,074.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$85,658.00</b>	<b>\$117,762.61</b>
	<b>EXPENSES</b>	
	<b>2025 Expenditures Budget</b>	<b>2025 Actual Expenditures</b>
<b>Ministry &amp; Personnel</b>	\$65,000.00	\$56,391.99
<b>Worship and Music</b>	\$930.00	\$516.70
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	\$300.00	
<b>Mission and Outreach</b>	\$540.00	\$88.00
<b>Emergency Fund</b>	\$500.00	
<b>Christian Development</b>	\$1,000.00	
<b>Property</b>	\$30,145.00	\$24,450.04
<b>Administration</b>	\$8,648.00	\$8,835.27
<b>Cap. Res. Expense</b>		\$15,898.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$107,063.00</b>	<b>\$106,180.22</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-\$21,405.00</b>	<b>\$11,582.39</b>
<b>GIC Investments</b>	\$143,958.50	
<b>Sabbatical</b>	\$1,182.00	
<b>Capital</b>	\$5,730.84	
<b>Operating</b>	\$49,672.42	
<b>Oaken Saving Account</b>	\$43.12	
<b>Total in general account</b>	<b>\$56,585.26</b>	

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

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## ADMINISTRATION

**Members:** Allan Salmi (Chair), Lou-Ann Trabucco

**AD HOC:**

**Archives:** Volunteer Needed

**Rental Bookings Co- Coordinator:** Lou-Ann Trabucco

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To oversee the administration of the Church, including access to and security of equipment. The committee shall oversee and co-ordinate with staff the purchase, maintenance and upgrading of office equipment and supplies.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

NOTHING TO REPORT

*Faithfully submitted by: Allan V. Salmi,  
Chair of Administration*

## AD HOC – ARCHIVES

**Members:** Volunteers Needed

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To oversee archival materials and set up a display for our Anniversary Sunday.*

**Year's Activities and Decisions:**

Most photos from the Archives have been placed on the overhead projector for easier display and viewing. More recent photos will continue to be added to the overhead as they become available.

*Faithfully submitted*

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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## **PROPERTY Church & Manse**

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**Members:** Gerry Howe, Gil Amardeil, Dave Jolly, Perry McLean, Doug Christilaw, Dale Smith, Scott Howe

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To oversee the maintenance and upkeep of the properties of the Congregation, including Church Building and the Manse, so that they are in good repair, comply with all legal requirements, and effectively in use as an instrument fulfilling the purpose of the church.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

Volunteers played a very large role in maintaining the church properties and significantly reducing the maintenance expenditures. Grass cutting, snow plowing and shovelling, building cleaning, and many minor repairs of all kinds were all done by this group. Their contributions are greatly appreciated. Support was also provided to the film crew of "Sheriff's Country" in utilizing the church facilities for filming and support.

**Property Improvements**

- Two repairs were carried out on the sanctuary furnace.
- Preventative roof repairs were done on the church and manse.
- Purchased new refrigerator for kitchen
- The patio area at the south end of the ramp was rebuilt.
- The parking lot curb was rebuilt to prevent water drainage from the parking lot into the building
- The downspouts on the west and south side of the church were modified to be direct surface discharge in order to resolve leakage problems into the building.
- A sewer leak was repaired in the kitchen ceiling.

**Inspections**

All inspections were carried out on the fire, emergency lighting and water systems to ensure that we comply with all of the legislated requirements.

**Cost Savings**

Whenever possible, electricity and natural gas consumption has been minimized while the church has been vacant or sparsely used for many months. Utilities are one of our largest budget items.

**Capital Reserve Fund**

The capital Reserve Fund balance is \$5,730.95.

*Faithfully submitted Chair*

*Gerry Howe*

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

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## THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**Members:** Allan Salmi (chair), Connie Salmi, Roni Beharry  
1 or 2 NEW MEMBERS NEEDED

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To hold in trust all documents pertaining to the purchase, sale, exchange, lease, or mortgage of Congregational property, and to represent the Congregation as a Corporate Entity in transactions involving these documents.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions:**

- **Our existing tenants are now in their twelfth year of living at the manse. The annual lease is due for renewal on May 31/26. Monthly rent will increase from \$1,437.46/month to \$1,467.65//month for the coming year, (June 1/26 to May 31/27), .This is an increase of \$30.19/ month, and is in accordance with the “Ontario 2026 Rent Increase Guideline” of 2.1%. The tenants continue to pay all utility costs.**
- **Application forms were received for the Heritage Property Tax Rebate from the City of Burlington and were submitted in February 2025. The property tax rebate we received is 40% of \the property tax paid on the manse. The ‘rebate’is provided as a tax credit on property taxes..**
- **Completed a Statistics Information Sheet for Property& Insurance Information (part of a larger Statistical Information Study), as requested by UCC Regional Council.**
- **Prepared an analysis of 2 possible investment options instead of GIC’s for presentation and discussion as LUC Council. The Council voted to proceed with the motion,which will be followed-up by the Finance Committee.**
- **Refer to the Property Committee Report for any additional information on maintenance and repairs for the rental property (former manse) or the church building.**

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**Faithfully submitted:  
Allan V. Salmi  
Chair of Trustees  
March 1, 2026**

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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## **CEMETERY BOARD**

Members: Michael Wilson (Co-Treasurer), SueAnn Wilson (Secretary),

**Purpose & Responsibilities:**

*To oversee the maintenance and administration of the Lowville United Church Cemetery.*

**Year's Activities & Decisions**

- **Burials**            6 Full Burials (owned) 4 with vaults  
                             4 Internments
- **Trees**              Beswick Tree service cut down an 11 ft dead tree for safety as branches were falling. The city of Burlington cut down the dead tree at laneway as it was tangled in the wires. There was no charge.
- Mrs Colling made a donation for the family plot of Merv Colling. We sent a thank you card.

*Faithfully submitted,  
Sue and Michael Wilson*

# Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025

## CEMETERY BOARD FINANCIAL

### Summary as at January 1st, 2025

Bank Certificates	37,819.65
Care & Maintenance Fund	<u>46,999.83</u>
Total	\$84,819.48

Balance Forwarded as at January 1st, 2025 \$84,819.48

### Revenue Items

Plot Sales	\$1,600.00
Scotia Trust Interest	2,940.98
Donation (Mrs. Colling)	<u>500.00</u>
Total Revenue	\$5,040.98
	<u>\$5,040.98</u>
Total Revenue & Balance Forwarded	\$89,860.46

### Expense Items

The Garden Elves	\$2,962.40
Beswick Tree Service	<u>\$3,028.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$5,990.40
	<u>- \$5,990.40</u>
Summary as of Dec 31st, 2025	\$83,870.06

*Faithfully Submitted*

*Sue and Michael Wilson*

# **Lowville United Church – Annual Reports 2025**

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