




**CENTRAL**  
UNITED CHURCH





# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

**Central United Church**

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Central United Church Calgary

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## OUR VISION / MISSION / VALUES

**OUR VISION**

Central United Church, an historic downtown hub, is committed to living out the mission of knowing the unconditionally loving God we follow.

We are a community in which God is encountered, the message of Jesus Christ is received and the Holy Spirit transforms lives. Our music ministry is integral, some remarking they come for the music and stay for the message.

Central is a crossroads where connections and interactions are made, attracting individuals and groups of varied interests, concerns and expressions.

**OUR MISSION**

To create a vibrant community in which God's unconditional love is demonstrated by people who choose to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit.

**OUR VALUES****Connecting**

- Accepting others
- Praying

**Caring**

- Refusing to look away from other's pain
- Practicing kindness and generosity
- Forgiving

**Committed**

- to sharing the message of the unconditional love of God
- to creating an environment where people can grow in their faith
- to making connections within the church and the wider community

**Courageous**

- Having the courage to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit
- Having courage that is risk-taking, creative and kind

STAFF IN 2024

REV. LUKE HAISA ..... MINISTER  
 OKSANA KRASNOZHEN ..... MUSIC DIRECTOR  
 MARY LANSDELL ..... CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR  
 MAEGAN LANSDELL-COLE ..... EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT FOR KIDS IN ACTION  
 ROBERTO MONTAGNI ..... TREASURER  
 ALENA NAUMCHYK ..... PRINCIPAL ORGANIST / ACCOMPANIST  
 COLLEEN ROBARTS ..... OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR  
 PETER SHERIDAN ..... RECOVERY TEAM LEAD  
 THOMAS BEACH ..... RECOVERY TEAM LEAD  
 DARCY FISCHER ..... SUNDAY CUSTODIAN

2024 BOARD MEMBERS

MORGAN O’FLANAGAN ..... GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR  
 DIANE SCHEIBNER ..... PAST CHAIR & STEWARDSHIP CHAIR  
 REV. LUKE HAISA ..... MINISTER  
 LORI BAZIN ..... WORSHIP TEAM CHAIR  
 BOB HINDLEY ..... FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR  
 EDIE LEE ..... MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL CHAIR  
 MARIVIC DELA CERNA ..... CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT TEAM  
 CRISTL PORTER ..... CONGREGATIONAL CARE CHAIR  
 NEWTON HISLOP ..... PROPERTY CHAIR  
 RYAN TRETHEWEY ..... OUTREACH AND JUSTICE CHAIR  
 BILL MOORE ..... ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM CHAIR / REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
 SANDRA CHILD ..... REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
 THOMAS BEACH ..... RECORDING SECRETARY

2024 TRUSTEES

NEWTON HISLOP ..... CHAIR  
 BOB HINDLEY ..... TRUSTEE  
 DIANE SCHEIBNER ..... TRUSTEE  
 RON WESTCOTT ..... TRUSTEE

ADULT BAPTISMS IN 2024

*James Lennie*  
*Donna Marie Patrick*  
*Morgan Michael Skopik*  
*Terry Stevens*  
*Robert Thibeault*  
*Ryan Trethewey*

INFANT BAPTISMS IN 2024

**Child**

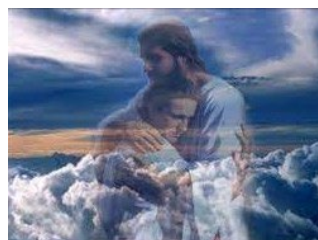
*Kia Skylar Sumile*  
*Dahlia Aeva Knickle*  
*Noah James Lilley*  
*Alelia Joyce-Kate Michelin*

**Parents**

*Mark & Resha Ann Sumile*  
*Angelie Nicodemus & Jonathan Knickle*  
*Tyler Lilley & Mercedes Davidson*  
*Emma Michelin*

MEMORIAM 2024

<i>Christine Ramsey</i>	<i>January 7</i>
<i>Irma Naf</i>	<i>January 21</i>
<i>Agnes (Bunny) Hall</i>	<i>May 17</i>
<i>Frances (Sheila) Street</i>	<i>June 13</i>
<i>Ron Westcott</i>	<i>September 30</i>
<i>William Jason David Woodard</i>	<i>November 28</i>



## 2024 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

February 25, 2024

**General**

Rev. Luke Haisa led in prayer and then called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. He outlined the purpose of the meeting:

- to approve annual reports
- to approve 2023 financial statements
- to deal with the 2024 operating budget
- to elect Board members

Pastor Luke asked for a motion regarding the conduct of voting.

**Moved by Edie Lee, seconded by Ron Westcott, that voting be conducted by show of hands unless a secret ballot is requested for a particular item. Carried.**

Pastor Luke then requested a motion to have Morgan O'Flanagan elected to chair the meeting.

**Moved by Diane Scheibner, seconded by Pat Gault, that Morgan O'Flanagan be elected to chair this Annual Congregational Meeting. Carried.**

Pastor Luke turned the meeting over to Morgan.

Morgan requested a motion to have Lori Bazin elected as recording secretary.

**Moved by Peter Sheridan, seconded by Sandra Child, that Lori Bazin be elected as recording secretary for this Annual Congregational Meeting. Carried.**

Morgan then asked for a motion regarding voting privileges.

**Moved by Roberto Montagni, seconded by Michael Adamowicz, that voting privileges be extended to adherents. Carried.**

Morgan requested that everyone present please sign the Roll Call as sheets were being circulated, and acknowledged that a quorum was present.

Morgan shared a word of acknowledgement for two long-time church leaders who passed away in 2023: Earle Allen, who joined the church in the early '50s, faithfully served in various leadership roles, and was the last Lifetime Board member; and Norm Barnecut, long serving Board member, Choir member and overseer of the organ project. She spoke of their dedication and the love and guidance she had received from both of them.

**Minutes of Last Annual Congregational Meeting**

Morgan asked if anyone noted any errors or omissions in the minutes of the last Annual Congregational Meeting. Hearing none, she called for the motion.

**Moved by Roberto Montagni, seconded by Rob Cormack, that the minutes of the February 26, 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting be adopted as distributed with the Annual Report. Carried.**

## **Adoption of the Revised Vision, Mission, and Values Statement**

Lori reviewed the significant changes to the Constitution which included the updated Vision, Mission and Values.

**Moved by Pat Gault, seconded by Diane Scheibner, that the revised Vision, Mission, and Values Statement which is included in the updated Constitution be adopted by the congregation of Central United Church. Carried.**

## **Adoption of Annual Report**

Morgan asked if there were any questions with respect to the 2023 Annual Report.

**Moved by Peter Sheridan, seconded by Hazel Nisbett, that the Central United Church 2023 Annual Report, excluding the Financial Report and Budget, be adopted as printed. Carried.**

## **Nominations**

Morgan explained that a decision was made to eliminate the Nominations Team because going forward, each Team would be responsible for finding their own Chair who, as such, would serve on the Board.

Edie Lee presented the names of individuals for election to the Board, and offered the following motion:

**Moved by Edie Lee, seconded by Ron Westcott, that Morgan O’Flanagan be re-elected for a second term as Board Chair and that Diane Scheibner be elected as Chair of the Stewardship Team.**

Morgan then invited further nominations from the floor. Calling three times for further nominations and hearing none, she declared that nominations cease.

**Motion Carried.**

## **Updates on Significant Events**

### **Library Development – Bill Moore**

Bill talked about Central’s Library being quite well used prior to Covid. Throughout the pandemic, the Library space was used for storage items and basically fell into disarray. Bill has been working diligently over the past many months to organize the church’s archives as well as clean up the Library, purge unwanted items, add a number of new books and editions, hold fund-raising initiatives, re-catalogue all contents and revitalize the Library space. Bill thanked Pat Gault for his assistance. We are blessed to have a Library which was officially re-opened today! There are 40 sections with something for everyone – approximately 1500 books.

New books are being donated all the time as it is important to keep building up the inventory. Bill is starting a ‘Book of the Month’ club and indicated that the Library could also be used as a gathering space for sharing or small meetings.

**Organ Update** – Bob Hindley

Bob began by saying that it is nearly impossible to discuss Central's pipe organ without remembering Norm Barnecut and his passion for our magnificent instrument. Sadly, Norm passed away on December 9, 2023, the day before the Christmas Musical performance by Central's choir, of which he had been a member for over 50 years. Bob then shared comprehensive details about the organ's aging components, many over 100 years old, and the untold volunteer hours Norm donated to repairs and maintenance. In 2021, Central was blessed to receive a very generous anonymous donation made through the United Church Foundation that was specified to be used for pipe organ restoration projects and a concert. In 2022, Norm negotiated contracts with Barnsley Pipe Organs and the organ restoration project began. After a number of unanticipated challenges, we were able to enjoy the sound of the organ once again in the fall of 2023. Jason Barnsley still has work to do before the project is fully completed. Bob was able to reveal that the anonymous donor was actually Norm – and when the project is completed and the dedication concert is held, it will be done in memory of Norm Barnecut.

**Outreach Presentation** – Peter Sheridan

Pete shared what was going on downstairs in the church's kitchen and basement rooms as we speak. He indicated that it was a dream come true which came together last fall with our outreach folks partnering with Angels in Action. About 200 people were fed that first Sunday and approximately 6000 meals have been served thus far. Clothing is also being distributed and donations keep coming. Pete said they have partnered with graduates of Drug Court, Water Works, and many other agencies whose focus is helping the addicted, homeless, and hungry. There are between 20 and 30 volunteers downstairs each Sunday. In addition, Central was used as a "warming space" by about 384 people on a Friday night deemed to be the coldest night of the year. This was approved by the Board the day before; more than 1000 meals were served; medical personnel were on-site and handled 26 potential overdoses and 7 individuals were sent to hospital with serious frostbite issues; many volunteers gave of their time to help people make it through that night. This outreach initiative is always expanding; people are moved to give back; God is in it; and the number of volunteers and varied donations are phenomenal. Pete said that Central would be a Hub in the downtown.

Morgan thanked Pete, Thomas, Darcy and all the volunteers. She encouraged everyone to check out the evening recovery service as well as what is happening downstairs.

**Financial Statements for 2023**

Bob Hindley, Chair of the Finance Team, referred to his report on page 25 of the Annual Report as well as Financial Statement on page 60. Highlights of his report include:

**Operating Revenues:**

2023 revenues were \$261k – below budget of \$287k – above 2022 actual of \$240k.

- Being above the 2022 actual was helped by it being the first full calendar year of in-person worship; a \$13k increase in donations; and an \$8k increase in room rentals.



## Operating Expenses:

2023 expenses were \$544k – on budget of \$547k – above 2022 actual of \$455k.

- Wages and benefits were \$310k - on budget of \$314k - above 2022 actual of \$242k. During the last six months of 2022 we were without a minister, and in 2023 there was a one-time cost of \$21k for relocation expenses and supplemental education allowance.
- Church maintenance was \$16k - \$9k under budget
- Utilities were \$38k - \$10k over budget (very high natural gas prices at the start of the year)
- Insurance was \$34k - \$10k over budget (budget was based on switching last June to more attractive UCC Protect policy, but misinformation forced us to re-apply in June of 2024)

## Operating Deficit:

2023 operating deficit was \$283k – more than the anticipated \$260k deficit in the budget, which was largely attributable to the shortfall in anticipated revenues

2023 operating revenues covered less than 50% operating expenses.

## Legacy Account:

Cash revenue of \$77k (\$23k in bequests, \$44k in mortgage interest and \$10k in investment interest)

Non-cash deferred revenue recognition of \$85k (\$78k organ project & \$7k other capital items)

Cash expense of \$78k for the organ project

Non-cash expense of \$29k for building amortization.

## Year-End Cash Position:

At year-end, we had \$371k cash on deposit - \$46k of this is restricted to specified purposes (\$28k in the organ fund & \$19k in the Community Hub kitchen fund)

Fully repaid our federal COVID-related CEBA loan in November - \$40k payment

- CEBA \$60k interest-free loan was received in 2020 - \$20k forgiven if repaid before Jan 2024
- We are currently debt-free.

## Investments:

Bob then provided a quick recap of Nov 2021 property transaction involving sale of the former Canadian Bible Society property and option on our annex.

- \$750k downpayment used to repay all UCC indebtedness and to provide a modest cash reserve
- the balance, at Central's request, was structured as a VTB mortgage registered on the CBS land title
  - serves as a secure investment that generates interest income
  - spreads receipt of remaining proceeds over 5 more years with payments of \$25k per month
  - currently, a large portion of these payments are being used to cover our operating deficit (this is not the intended use of proceeds from an asset sale)

- as we continue our ministry, an important goal will be to achieve a self-sustaining operating position over the longer term.

Bob asked if anyone had any questions about the 2023 Financial Statement. John Patterson asked if we still have insurance considering our first application for better insurance was declined. Bob assured John that we are still covered under our long-time provider and reiterated that we will be reapplying for UCC Protect in June 2024.

Bob concluded this portion of his report by expressing his gratitude to the Finance Team members, Ron Westcott and Roberto Montagni (Treasurer) for their guidance and wisdom. Bob thanked Colleen Robarts, our Office Administrator, for all the support she provides and also our Offering Counters, Dorothy Miller, Bill Moore and Colleen. Finally, Bob expressed appreciation to the many folks who faithfully support the ministry here at Central, both financially and otherwise.

**Moved by Bob Hindley, seconded by Newton Hislop, that the 2023 Financial Statements of Central United Church be adopted by the Congregation of Central United Church. Carried**

### **Proposed Budget for 2024**

Bob then referred to the far right column of the Financial Statement on pages 60-61 entitled 'Proposed 2024 Budget' and highlighted the following:

#### Revenue Budget:

Proposed revenue budget for 2024 of \$301k, which is a \$40k increase over 2023 actual of \$261k (reflecting a \$34k increase in donations and a \$6k increase in room rentals).

#### Expense Budget:

Proposed expense budget for 2024 of \$579k, which is a \$35k increase over 2023 actual of \$544k.

High-level breakdown:

- 62% is personnel costs
- 22% is building operating costs
- 16% is everything else

Expense items that are increasing:

- wages – employee Cost of Living Adjustments
- UCC Assessments – additional assessment on investments (mortgage)
- janitorial contract – new vendor – enhanced service level with increased cost
- church maintenance – anticipated increase over 2023 actual
- kitchen supplies – additional supplies for Sunday Outreach Lunches

Expense items that are decreasing:

- relocation expenses – one-time 2023 expense
- utilities – reduced natural gas tariffs

Operating Deficit:

The proposed budget results in a projected \$278k operating deficit in 2024.

- In the short-term, we will need to continue funding deficits with proceeds from the property deal (not the normal intended use for these proceeds).
- Going forward, we need to focus on initiatives that eventually lead us back to a self-sustaining operating model.

Bob indicated that he felt some very positive initiatives were emerging – and hopefully, some increased financial participation will follow.

He concluded by reporting that the Board had reviewed and endorsed the proposed 2024 operating budget.

**Moved by Bob Hindley, seconded by Thomas Beach, that the 2024 Operating Budget be approved by the Congregation of Central United Church. Carried.**

Morgan thanked Bob and the rest of the Finance Team for their dedication throughout the year.

Ratification Motion

**Moved by Lori Bazin, seconded by Heather Anderson, that all accounts, contracts, bylaws, proceedings, elections, appointments and payments of monies by the Board or by the Officers of the Board for the period from our last Annual Congregational Meeting to date, as the same are set forth or referred to in the Minutes of the Board be, and the same are hereby approved ratified and confirmed. Carried.**

Morgan reported to the congregation that the Board had voted affirmatively on the Remit 1 question regarding Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization. She then asked if there were any further questions or comments from the floor.

- Roberto Montagni asked where we are in the Affirming process.

Morgan shared that the Board had met online with Pam Rucker of "Affirming United". There was good discussion, information sharing, and some ideas on how to increase congregational engagement. We need to take as long as we need so 'everyone' feels well informed/knowledgeable.

Bill, former Chair of the Affirming Team, then said that we could vote this afternoon, but we need to make sure everyone knows what is required for a Mission Statement for an Affirmative congregation; an Action Plan for the next year (i.e. what are we going to do to promote affirming); and the Wedding policy still needs to be approved by the congregation; then continued work with Pam Rucker.

- Roberto asked why we couldn't approve the Wedding policy separately.

Morgan replied that for us, we need to keep the Policy with the Affirming Process. Of course it is legal from a Provincial standpoint, but we are choosing to work together at Central so no one feels railroaded into a decision. She concluded her remarks by saying that she is committed to the process.

- John Patterson thanked Bob and acknowledged how difficult it must be to deal with church finances.
- Lee Patterson thanked the Board for voting 'yes' to Remit 1.
- John asked that the Property Team look into a tripping hazard at the rear of the Sanctuary and said that the elevator needs to be updated or at least fixed.

As there were no further comments or questions, Morgan thanked Colleen Robarts for preparing the Annual Report and for all her work behind the scenes. She also thanked Ivan for his assistance with the technical work. She extended appreciation to those volunteers who had prepared lunch and invited folks to help with the clean-up following this meeting. She concluded by acknowledging all you had participated in today's meeting.

With no other items of business, Morgan declared this year's Annual Congregational Meeting to be closed and thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was concluded at 1:26 p.m.

Rev. Luke Haisa closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Bazin  
Acting Secretary

### Board and Staff Planning Retreat

May 31, 2024



Back Row: Ryan Trethewey, Thomas Beach, Diane Scheibner, Roberto Montagni, Rev. Luke Haisa, Bill Moore, Edie Lee, Bob Hindley, Newton Hislop

Front Row: Morgan O'Flanagan (pre Logan), Sandra Child, Cristl Porter, Marivic Dela Cerna, Lori Bazin, Oksana Krasnozhen, Colleen Robarts

Missing Staff: Peter Sheridan, Mary Lansdell, Maegan Lansdell-Cole, Alena Naumchyk, Darcy Fischer

## BOARD CHAIR

Like everything else at Central United Church, the Board was busy during the 2024 year. Our aim was to support the various projects and initiatives that are making Central a vibrant place to be, while praying for the guidance that God provides and listening to what He had planned. Continuing on from the last couple of years, this year proved why Central is still an active congregation in the midst of Calgary's downtown.

### Emergency Warming Centre

The year started with a one-time emergency warming centre for those living on the street during the severe winter weather. This initiative was brought forward by the Recovery Team in collaboration with various community groups. While the need for an additional space in the community was evident, it was not something that Central had hosted in this capacity. Recognizing that this was a unique situation, the Board was tasked with determining if we could support the initiative, understanding that there are various by-laws and requirements that needed to be met. It required faith that everything would come together in a way that truly was a support to the community members in need. I am incredibly proud of the people who made this happen in such a short period of time and the Board for trusting God when we could see the need was there.

### Remit 1: Vote for Autonomous Indigenous Church

The Board, on behalf of Central, voted to support Remit 1, Establishing an Autonomous Indigenous Church. This was through the United Church of Canada and approval of this remit enabled the creation of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada. This acknowledged Indigenous peoples' rights to their own spiritual identities and to self-determination, and is consistent with the Caretakers of our Indigenous Circle's Calls to the Church and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (The United Church of Canada, 2023). Information about this vote was circulated to the congregation in December 2023 prior to the Board voting in early 2024. The vote officially passed. Across the United Church of Canada, 80% of congregations voted. In our Chinook Winds Region, 91% of the congregations voted.

Source: The United Church of Canada (2023, March 16). *Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization*. The United Church of Canada. <https://united-church.ca/news/establishing-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization>

### Organ Development

Work still continues on the beautiful pipe organ in the sanctuary. Jason Barnsley of Barnsley Pipe Organs is dedicated to completing this work and we are incredibly grateful to him. Once the work is complete it is still the intention to have a concert to celebrate the instrument and in honour of Norm Barnecut.

Book Study Continuation

The Board continued with the Book Study that has been incorporated into the Board meetings. Each meeting we reflected on a chapter of the book *Reading the Bible from the Margins* by Miguel A. De La Torre. While there were only seven chapters in the book, each chapter had complex topics that meant that we would cover pieces of the chapter each meeting. This book was anything but easy reading, but challenged us to consider perspectives of those reading the Bible from the margins of society. The Board was open to the idea of challenging our biases, whether we were aware of them or not, and was open to the conversation. Through this we recognized that while we may not always agree, we are more aware and better understand other folks’ perspectives and the challenges that they have experienced that make us think differently. We cannot possibly know all the journeys others have been on, but we can continue to open our minds and hearts to seek to understand and show love like Jesus does. Thank you to the Board for being open to this conversation, challenging each other, and diving deeper into the Bible from perspectives that may be different from our own.

Reflecting on this year, the Board has continued to focus on how Central can keep building to become a vibrant church within the community, all while recognizing the limited resources that we still have. First and foremost, we work to trust God’s process and continue His mission for downtown Calgary. We may only be reading this chapter one page at a time but we know that we can withstand anything with God by our side. On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the congregation for their support and trust as this chapter for Central continues to unfold. I would also like to thank all of the Board members, those still serving in this capacity as well as those who needed to step away, for the work that they have done. While I have stepped away from the Chair role, I still have the opportunity to be connected to the Board as Past Chair and see the dedication that this group has to this church.

The wisdom and heart on the Board is inspiring and I am grateful to learn from them and with them every day. We are committed to ministering to the needs of Central’s community and show God’s love through the role that we play.

Respectfully submitted,  
Morgan O’Flanagan, Past Chair



TRUSTEES REPORT

This last year we have updated our insurance and made some adjustments to coverage in order to serve the finances of the church more responsibly.

I wanted to take a moment and acknowledge Ron Westcott. He passed away in September 2024 and was a valued member of the Trustees. His input will be missed. We will remember Ron’s guidance and his contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

Newton Hislop  
Chair of Trustees



## FINANCE REPORT

OPERATING STATEMENT

The Operating Statement for 2024 [see pages 48 & 49] shows an operating deficit of \$328,190. This is 18% more than the budgeted operating deficit of \$278,340 and 16% more than the 2023 operating deficit of \$283,228. Total 2024 operating receipts were \$286,757 and total 2024 operating disbursements were \$614,947. Operating receipts only covered 47% of operating disbursements.

- RECEIPTS

Total 2024 operating receipts of \$286,757 were 5% less than budget (\$301,000) but 10% more than 2023 total operating receipts (\$261,137).

Regular donations of \$232,507 were 17% less than budget (\$279,000) and 4% less than 2023 (\$241,443). Specified Outreach Hub donations were \$27,551 (nothing budgeted and no Hub donations in 2023). Rental and Miscellaneous Income of \$26,699 was 21% more than budget (\$22,000) and 36% more than 2023 (\$19,694) with the increase largely attributable to some non-recurring miscellaneous income.

Many thanks to all for their donations to Central's ministries.

- DISBURSEMENTS

Total 2024 disbursements of \$614,497 were 6% more than budget (\$579,340) and 13% more than 2023 (\$544,365).

The success and growth of the Outreach Hub initiative resulted in more 2024 expenses than were anticipated in the 2024 budget. The budget included an incremental \$7,000 in Specified Disbursements for anticipated Hub expenses. Actual 2024 Hub expenses were \$8,702 for projects and \$18,849 for operations (mostly kitchen related). Fortunately, these expenses were totally covered by the specified Outreach Hub donations mentioned above. To improve visibility of Central's Hub-related revenues and expenses, we have added 3 detail lines to the Operating Statement – Hub Donations, Hub Projects, and Hub Operations. All Central Hub-related transactions are recorded using these lines.

2024 salaries and allowances expense of \$315,433 was 2.2% more than budget (\$308,540) and 1.6% more than 2023 (\$310,407).

2024 building maintenance expense of \$39,608 was 58% more than budget (\$25,000) and 153% more than 2023 (\$15,600). Much of this was due to an unanticipated \$10,000 deductible payment related to a large insurance claim to repair physical and water damage caused by an intruder breaking into the building via a roof door above the parapet stairwell.

2024 utilities expense of \$33,500 was 12% more than budget (\$30,000) and 13% less than 2023 (\$38,313) attributable to lower rates offset by a significant increase in the use of the building and kitchen.



### LEGACY FUND STATEMENT

Total Legacy Fund income for 2024 was \$271,613 comprised of \$264,496 of cash income (\$216,783 from Bequests, \$35,232 of mortgage interest and \$12,481 of other investment interest) and \$7,117 of non-cash deferred revenue recognition related to capital items.

The only Legacy Fund expense was non-cash building amortization of \$29,459.

### INVESTMENT

Central's 2021 property transaction (sale of the former CBS-Canadian Bible Society property plus a 10-year option on Central's annex) was structured with a downpayment used to repay all indebtedness and provide a modest reserve for the Legacy Fund. At Central's request, the balance was structured as a vendor take back mortgage registered against the land title of the CBS property. The mortgage serves as a secure form of investment that generates interest income for the Legacy Fund. It also serves to ensure some discipline in the use of funds by spreading receipt of the sale proceeds over a period of 6 years (2022 to 2027).

The payment schedule for the mortgage is \$25,000 per month (\$300,000 per year) until December 2027. The \$300,000 in mortgage payments received during 2024 consisted of \$264,768 repayment of principal and \$35,232 in mortgage interest credited to the Legacy Fund.

### AVAILABLE FUNDS

At the end of 2024, Central had \$572,720 cash on deposit. \$48,312 of this is restricted to specific purposes, leaving available funds of \$524,208. The restricted funds consist of \$28,571 in the Organ Fund and \$19,741 specified for Community Hub initiatives.

### PROPOSED 2025 OPERATING BUDGET

Central's Proposed 2025 Operating Budget [see pages 48 & 49] shows a projected operating deficit of \$281,900. Large operating deficits have been an ongoing issue as we continue to seek ways to make progress towards achieving self-sustaining operations. It continues to be necessary to subsidize operations using a large portion of the mortgage payments we receive from the 2021 property transaction. This is not the intended use of proceeds from the sale of an asset.

The proposed revenue budget is \$361,000. It includes a modest increase in regular donations in anticipation of some growth in attendance and membership. It also includes the new budget category "Hub Revenue" in response to incremental specified donations we have been receiving in support of Outreach Hub activities.

The proposed expense budget is \$642,900. 56% of this is for personnel compensation, 24% for building operating costs and 20% for everything else. The Security category includes funding for an upgrade of the building access/security/alarm system. The Insurance category amount has not increased due to a Board decision to reduce coverage in the event of total loss. The new "Hub Operations" and "Hub Projects" category amounts reflect anticipated expenses related to Hub activities and Hub-related facility upgrades.

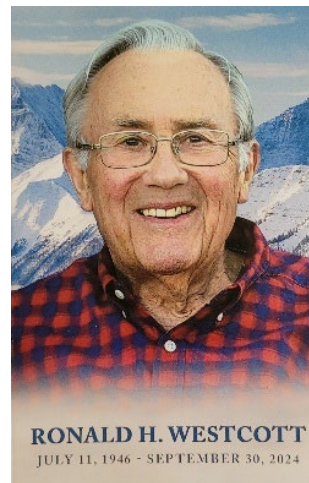
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Finance wishes to express our gratitude to everyone whose activities supported finance activities during 2024. Special mention goes to our Treasurer, Roberto Montagni, for his ongoing diligence in handling accounting, reporting and regulatory matters; to our Office Administrator, Colleen Robarts, for her ongoing support; and to our collection counters Lori Bazin, Denise Longland, Bill Moore, and Colleen Robarts.

On a final note, we were saddened and shocked to learn of the death in September of our colleague and committee member Ron Westcott. Ron served faithfully on the Finance Team for many years. His friendship, wisdom and expertise are sorely missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hindley  
Finance Chair



## MINISTER'S REPORT

I am filled with gratitude and joy for the journey we have shared as Central United Church over the past year. We are witnesses of the power of God's love in our midst. From the vibrant energy of our Sunday School and youth programs to the deep spiritual growth nurtured in our Bible studies and prayer sessions, from the compassionate care and presence extended through our pastoral visits to the meaningful connections made in our morning and evening services, our church has been a place to be in 2024.

We celebrate our accomplishments and give thanks for the support and dedication of each one of you. Together, we have created a community where faith is nurtured, love is shared, and lives are transformed.

Working together with the Worship Team, we prepared and conducted morning services throughout the year. I also managed to preach in our Evening Recovery Service once every month, and we had communion in our evening services with the help of the Recovery Team. I also attended the Men's Retreat at Kasota East Camp.

Pastoral care has been a cornerstone of our ministry, and I have dedicated significant time and effort to ensure that our congregation feels supported and cared for. With the help of the Congregational Care Team, I have made about 32 home and hospital visits and provided counselling to those in need. Whether it was offering a listening ear, praying for and with families, or providing guidance during difficult times, my goal has been and will always be to be a source of comfort and strength.

Bible study sessions have been a vital part of our spiritual growth. These sessions have provided a space for deep reflection, lively discussion, and a stronger understanding of God's word. We have started our study on the Book of Acts, and we are doing it both online and face-to-face. We are continuing with the remaining chapters this year. I am also grateful to Marivic and Bill for leading the Let's Talk C! and Advent studies, respectively.

Our youth and the Sunday School are the present and the future of our church, and their involvement in church activities has always been a priority. We have given space to both groups to participate in the morning service during Earth Day, Children's Sunday, and the Christmas Pageant services.

I have represented our congregation at Chinook Region, participating in discussions and initiatives that impact the broader church. We have strengthened our partnerships with neighboring congregations as exhibited in the creation of the Reckless Love Cluster, collaborating on a joint Good Friday Service with Scarboro United, and numerous interfaith programs. These partnerships have enriched our community and allowed us to share our experiences and learn from others.

Baptisms are a joyous occasion, and this year I have had the privilege of baptizing five adults and four children. Each baptism has been a celebration of new life and a reminder of our commitment to our faith.

We have also walked with many families through the valley of grief, providing support and comfort during these difficult times. I took part in Irma Naf, Agnes Hall, and Ronald Westcott's funerals. May their families continue to find comfort in the Lord.

In conclusion, I would like to express my profound gratitude to each of you for your dedication, support, and faith. As we look to the future, let us continue to support one another, deepen our faith, and reach out to those in need. May God bless our congregation and guide us in the years ahead.

*~ When the devil sees a man or woman who really believes in prayer, who knows how to pray, and who really does pray, and, above all, when he sees a whole church on its face before God in prayer, he trembles as much as he ever did, for he knows that his day in that church or community is at an end. R. A. Torrey*

#PrayerWorks

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Luke



## MINISTRY &amp; PERSONNEL REPORT

This has been a year of transition for Central. The volunteer spirit that has long characterized Recovery outreach has further evolved as we have entered collaborative partnerships with additional outreach groups who share common values and whose work could be supported by the use of Central's space.

In 2024 we witnessed how partnerships with external groups and/or agencies can meet significant community needs that require this broader base of support for their success. With the endorsement of the Board, Central became a pilot site for a warming centre on January 12, 2024. The success of the pilot event was intertwined with the availability of skilled personnel equipped to address health and safety concerns for the vulnerable population being served. The volunteers provided within this collaborative partnership addressed this significant consideration.

The pilot experience was important for Central as we lived into what was evolving from the Board's decision to support the further development of outreach as a hub. New opportunities lead us into new territory. We found that our evolution had growing pains and raised new questions and challenges, at times even a longing for what was more familiar. For Ministry & Personnel (M&P) there have been opportunities to strengthen our new partnerships by supporting Central's staff members and volunteers in embracing positive changes and assisting them with problem solving in support of new collaborations.

To offer such support, it has been useful to connect with other churches, discover what they are experiencing and learn how they are navigating in these shifting times. Learning about the outreach work at Knox, Hillhurst, and Robert McClure churches and participating in the evolution of the Relentless Love Cluster suggests that we are on a useful path.

I am struck by the importance of discernment as churches move forward. Optimally it leads into developing and implementing ways to share their unique attributes within their community and/or realigning with other like-minded groups in a shared endeavor. As with individuals, the gifts of churches are unique. All are valuable. The spirit of sharing our passion and many of our challenges we have in common.

Within the important focus on our path forward, financial sustainability is an underlying consideration. Colleen Robarts was on a three month medically supported Leave of Absence commencing August 16, 2024. For coverage in her absence, M&P piloted task-based coverage. Volunteers and other employees agreed to take on selected tasks of the Office Administrator role. This was supplemented with a contracted component to open and resecure the church for rental groups as necessary. What we have learned from this approach will inform future planning.

Building successful relationships and partnerships, that are based on shared values, mutual trust and shared respect for the uniqueness of the other, requires intention, commitment, and effort. Thank you to Central's valued staff members, dedicated volunteers, passionate congregants and our partnered groups who continually offer examples of living into a vibrant future.

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Lee  
Chair, Ministry & Personnel Committee



## CHINOOK WINDS REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

It gives me great joy to serve as one of your Regional Reps - Bill Moore being the second. The regional rep(s) serve as a liaison between Central United Church and the Chinook Winds Region of the United Church of Canada and are approved at the Central United Church Annual Congregational Meeting. Information flows from Central to the Region and from the Region to Central United. I attend the Central Board meetings monthly from September through to May or June as scheduled with no scheduled meeting in December. Before each Board Meeting, I submit a written report and at the Board meeting an opportunity to add to my report verbally is given and the chair of the other teams can do the same. Periodically a particular Team Chair may receive pertinent information prior to a Board Meeting and can take that information to their team for discussion. This is especially true for Lori Bazin, the Chair of the Worship Team.

The monthly Chinook Winds Regional Town Hall meetings via Zoom started in October of 2024 due to the untimely and tragic death of Rev. Brenda Fawkes the Office of Vocation Minister in a motor vehicle accident in September. Brenda is a person I made the effort to get to know and always made a point to speak with her at Regional Events. Brenda was well-loved by many and was a significant part of their life and the wider church. I appreciate building relationships, exchanging ideas and the conversation in the breakout sessions we have at some meetings. Rev. Luke Haisa also attends the Town Hall Meetings and is a member of the Chinook Winds Regional Council. During the year I attended some online learning opportunities offered by LeaderShift from the Pacific Mountain Region.

The Chinook Winds Regional Annual Meeting was held here in Calgary at McDougall United Church the first weekend in May 2024. Rev. Luke attended with me and Board Chair, Morgan O Flanagan, attended as able and Bill Moore attended in person and online. It was very encouraging to see so many young people from First Third in attendance and I made a point to speak with several young people to tell them how glad I was to have them there. One of my young friends was ordained on Celebration of Ministry Sunday and that was very exciting and our Rev. Luke was commissioned - also very exciting! A number of people from Central were in attendance for the Celebration of Ministry Service on May 5, 2024.

Each session of the Annual meeting began with music as a call to gather and a time to worship followed. A variety of guest speakers spoke on a variety of topics. There were also business sessions. Music is a significant part of our sessions. Many participants were members of the choir that sang on Sunday morning. I took my tambourine with me and during the course of the weekend played it when appropriate and also danced with friends (sometimes you just can't sit still). Several people I know were also at the annual meeting including UCW friends and friends I have made at other Annual Meetings, especially those at our tables at previous Regional Meetings and in Town Hall sessions. At some Annual Regional meetings, our seating is assigned and at others, we have a choice of where we would like to sit. A few weeks after the Annual Regional meeting I had the opportunity to share my experience at the Regional Annual meeting with the congregation in a Sunday morning service.

At November's Town Hall, the guest speaker was Shari Hanson, a Regional Rep from Gaetz Memorial in Red Deer and I appreciated her presentation as this is the first time we have heard from a Regional Rep.

Diane Scheibner, Edie Lee, Rev. Luke and I attend the monthly meetings of the "Reckless Love" cluster. In years past Presbytery meetings were a place to receive information and build relationships and to know what was going on in other churches. The loss was felt by many and Shelley Den Haan, from the Chinook Winds Regional office, encouraged the formation of clusters. Various churches may cooperate with others in a particular area of ministry or support initiatives taken by another church. Parkdale, Robert McClure, Forest Lawn, Wild Rose, Hillhurst, and Northminster/ St. David's are other churches participating in this cluster.

At the National Level, I am a member of both the 100th Anniversary Local Arrangements and the Local Arrangements Committee for General Council 45. Both events to be held in 2025. Information will be shared throughout 2025 as appropriate.

In December there wasn't a Town Hall meeting but rather an Advent Service was held on Zoom to give everyone in attendance, especially ministers, a chance to come away from the busyness of the season for a more contemplative time. The guest speaker this year was Dr. Hye RanKim Cragg, principal of Emmanuel College, Toronto. She spoke on the significance of lullabies and how they have been passed down throughout history and the lullabies Mary would have sung to Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Child  
Regional Representative





## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

The two main areas of responsibility of the Administrative Team are the library and Central's archives.

### Archives

Work continued throughout the year in documenting items in archives. The memorabilia is incredible, some of which include bulletins from our earliest service on this location in 1904; extensive drawings of the various iterations of our footprint; considerable collection of minutes from United Church Women meetings and annual reports back through the 1960s.

### Library

Each shelf was dusted, books were reorganized and labelled, resulting in the opening of the library in January. Since then, 216 books have been gratefully donated. Our prime objective was to rejuvenate the library, making our collection of books more relevant. We were truly successful in this objective and now feature 1,980 books in our catalogue of books!

To spark interest and show the variety of books available, we featured a selection of topical books each month.

By mid-year, the east end of the room was dedicated to an archives display, featuring several early pictures of the church and choir. There are also multiple copies of sermons delivered by former ministers and memorable bulletins on display.

In the fall, Pat Gault organized two very successful fundraisers: a garage sale and a poetry reading.

In December, we established a Memorial Bibles display in the archives section. Commencing with 2023, members and adherents who have passed away are honoured by the dedication of a Bible in their name. There is currently 18 such memorials.

The final touch to the resurrection of the library was the installation by Denis Bazin of a colourful sign displaying "Archives & Library" over our entranceway.

Sincere thanks to all who have supported us through book and cash donations. Thanks to all who donated to or volunteered in, the library over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Moore

Administrative Team Chair



## CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

**Charting a Faithful Future by Strengthening Spirit and Purpose: A Report from the Christian Development Team**

The Christian Development Team continued with another year of addressing challenges and acknowledging achievements, both big and small. This year, the team diligently nurtured the seeds of faith sown within the community, fostering a deeper sense of spiritual connection and unity.

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." (Hebrews 10:23)

The Team consists of Luz Tugade, Mary Lansdell, with the support of Rina Tugade and Hannah Jane Abugan, who lead the Youth in Action, under the guidance of Rev. Luke Haisa.

**Kids In Action (Children's Sunday School)**

"Teach them his decrees and instructions and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave." (Exodus 18:20)

The foundation of our church's future lies in a strong children's program. Central Church is proud to sustain its Children's Sunday School, which builds lasting connections among our youth through creative and educational initiatives led by Mary, Coordinator for Children and Youth Ministries. The curriculum offers a blend of biblical lessons and essential life values. A detailed report is found in a separate section.

**Youth In Action (YIA)**

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

Central remains committed to the spiritual development of its youth, equipping them for service in Christ's name. Through regular meetings and bible study sessions, they grow in faith and learn the importance of active service.

Additionally, the youth are engaged in various fundraising initiatives that not only support their programs but also foster fellowship and teamwork. These initiatives include Christmas cookie sale, which provide opportunities for the youth to apply their talents, connect with the congregation, and contribute to the church's mission. More details are also found in a separate section.

**Serenity Saturday Prayer**

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." (Colossians 4:2)

The Team continued with the monthly Saturday prayer group to strengthen personal spirituality and community bonds. Meeting the second Saturday of every month at 3 PM in the Chapel, this space has become a cornerstone for spiritual growth, intercession, and support.

### Let's Talk C!

"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." (Psalm 119:105)

Now in its fourth year, the monthly Bible study resumed by focusing on the Book of Matthew. The study provides an avenue for participants to deepen their understanding of Scripture and explore its relevance in daily life. Through meaningful discussions and fellowship, members are empowered to face life with faith and resilience.

### Filipino Fellowship

The Filipino community at Central has long been a vibrant and integral part of our church family, embodying the spirit of unity and inclusivity that our faith upholds. Their enduring presence is a testament to the church's commitment to welcoming all, regardless of background or circumstance. Central has not only served as a place of worship for Filipino families but has also provided a nurturing environment where they can embrace their cultural heritage while deepening their spiritual journey.

Through the Filipino ministry, individuals and families have found a true sense of belonging, where they can come together to celebrate their shared faith and cultural identity. It has become a place where they can freely express their joys, triumphs, and challenges, fostering a deep sense of camaraderie and support. Such camaraderie was displayed when Central's community of faith gathered together during the Annual Christmas Party.



Over the years, this ministry has played a vital role in creating meaningful connections among Filipino immigrants, enabling them to navigate the challenges of settling in a new country while staying connected to their roots. Together, they have laughed, prayed, and cried, building a community that feels like family.



As we continue to walk together in faith, we celebrate the Filipino ministry as a shining example of God's love in action – a ministry that embraces, uplifts, and inspires, reminding us all that in Christ, we are truly one.

### **Conclusion**

The Team aspires to continue fostering spiritual growth in nurturing a supportive environment for individuals to deepen their faith. By focusing on both personal and communal spiritual development, they play an essential role in guiding people toward a more meaningful connection with God. This dedication to spiritual growth through Bible studies and prayer group build a deeper understanding of Scripture and applying it to daily lives.

The Christian Development Team plays a role in creating a safe space for people to ask questions, seek guidance, and express doubts without judgment, ensuring that the journey toward God is one of both individual and collective transformation.

Yours in Christ,

Marivic Solis Dela Cerna  
Chair, Christian Development



## CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH MINISTRIES

2024 was another fabulous year for Central United Church's Child and Youth Ministry! Kids In Action (KIA) and Youth In Action (YIA) have had a very enjoyable year. Their time in group activities was both fun and productive. Together they presented a wonderful morning worship service. Their efforts continued with making 150 inspiring wooden tokens for the "Grab N' Go Street Lunch" bags. They happily gave love gifts to their church family and made a grand entrance for the Palm Sunday Processional. They also made music together, and as always, they played and prayed together!

"Children of God" was the theme for the Children's Sunday Service where the children and youth led a brilliant service. The Spiritual Reflection included the congregation writing their answers to the question, "What does being a child of God mean to you?" followed by their answers being read aloud by Central's youth. This was a very special sharing time for everyone! The children and youth also led their church family in energetic worship songs, accompanying their voices with tambourines, maracas, drums, and triangles!

Participating in the Palm Sunday service is a lovely tradition for Central's children and youth. Waving palm branches that they made and playing tambourines. A time for them to share in the journey of Jesus!

This year's Christmas Pageant was called "When Jesus Was Born", and it was delightful! Central's Choir did a wonderful job in leading the music for the pageant. Children, youth, and adults honoured the Nativity by using humble props to tell the story. The script was written in poetic form, which added to the movement and the spirit of the story!

In April, YIA led a compelling morning service. There was great music, a creative dance and an engaging video! Having a baby baptism in the service made the experience even more special!

Reverend Luke and the youth also continued with their visits this year – sharing some time on Sundays with their Pastor in fellowship and prayer.

In June, YIA hosted another "Grab N' Go Street Lunch". They prepared and distributed 150 lunches for Central's hungry downtown neighbours. As always, the youth's parents were there to support the effort, and it was so great having Reverend Luke handing out lunches with Central's young people!

YIA special events are perfect for intergenerational fellowship – bringing all the congregation together for some good times! The YIA Family Carnival was extra fun! There were games, prizes and snacks for all to enjoy! The YIA Christmas Cookies Sale was also a big success. Lots of baked goods and their sweet smells added to the festive experience which was heightened by the gratitude for Central's congregation for their generous support of the youth.

Making their Bible Studies interesting and fun is the focus for YIA. Looking for a fuller understanding and a deeper spiritual experience in God's word. While the KIA continue to read from an illustrated children's bible by candlelight. Enjoying the adventures of the ancients by candlelight certainly adds to the bible stories!

Teaching about God through Creation also continues to be a wonderful learning experience for children. KIA enjoy making art and crafts of God's precious creatures. Children's natural curiosity about nature and animals enhances their interest in understanding that God made each animal unique and loves each one, just as God made each of us unique and loveable too!

Busy Bags were provided for the Children who attended morning services during the summer months. KIA families also received a summer mail-out that included fun and supportive activities for scripture, prayer and enjoying family faith!

Providing our families with Family Faith Formation resources outside of church is important. The Pacific Mountain Regional Council's First Third Ministries' Faith@Home Kits are a great resource. Four kits were mailed out in 2024: Lent-Holy Week-Easter; Pentecost-Season After Pentecost; Fall; and Advent-Christmas.

Hannah Jane Abugan and Rina Tugade continue to be YIA's fabulous Leaders. Their time and energy with YIA's special projects is essential to the success of these events. The Bible Studies they share are always youth-focused and interactive. Their dedication and desire to inspire the youth in their journey with God is beautiful and very much appreciated!

The Education Assistant, Maegan Lansdell-Cole, continues to provide impressive guidance for KIA. She makes an inclusive effort with each child in helping them to feel special in being a Christian. Maegan has also been expanding her role by participating more in the morning service Children's Time presentations.

The Recovery Service has fluctuating numbers of children attending - ranging from no children and up to ten children participating. When children come for their first time, I give them a new stuffed animal and take a few minutes to introduce myself and point out the Activity Table at the back of the Sanctuary.

The biggest change for the Children and Youth Ministry in 2024 was moving the Sunday School rooms upstairs. This was a huge undertaking. The move itself was made possible by the Recovery Team volunteers. Over the course of four months, they carried eleven years' worth of accumulated kids' stuff up three flights of stairs. Furniture, toys, books, boxes, and more boxes. So much gratitude goes out to the Recovery moving team!

The new Sunday School rooms are wonderful! The rooms' doors are separated by a small hallway, making it easy to move between rooms. The children have a lively, colourful room that they really enjoy. The youth have a more mature space that they organized and decorated themselves. And, with the help of a donation from a generous member of Central, the youth are sitting on some sweet new furniture - so cool!

Teaching Christian education, exploring spirituality, sharing faith development and church life with Central's children and youth is so very rewarding. Witnessing the children and youth be interested and engaged, and even excited about their experiences, is a true blessing!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lansdell  
Child and Youth Ministry Coordinator

## YOUTH IN ACTION

The Youth in Action ministry for the year 2024 was filled with encouraging and uplifting events that helped the young people in our community to be enriched and equipped more with God's love and compassion. This was the year that the youth finally had their creative space in Central United Church where they'd meet every Sunday and find that there is a place for them to be accepted and to belong in our faith community. In 2024, the Youth in Action also had their first "Earth Day" Sunday service where they collaboratively joined together to lead the congregation for the morning service; this showed leadership and commitment from our young people, that they too are part of Central's community that is willing to thrive and grow in their faith even more. Scriptural studies have always been part of the ministry and this provides opportunities for the youth to expand their knowledge and know more about Biblical truths, especially learning about Jesus' love for each and everyone of them. The youth also enjoyed the Carnival that was held earlier in the year where the youth got to know more about their congregation and played LOTSA games! Christmas cookies and Jollibee fundraisers were fundraising opportunities for the youth to ensure funding for the YIA ministry. Lastly, the youth participated in the Street Lunch program where the youth were able to serve the downtown community, handing out free lunches and bringing out their best smiles to share the love of Jesus with others.

Respectfully submitted,

Rina Tugade







COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Throughout 2024, Central's Communications Team, Claire Loberg and Colleen Robarts, have diligently worked to keep our congregation informed and engaged. Our main goal has been to ensure that all members and the broader community feel connected and up-to-date with the latest news and events.

**Website Updates**

Our team has prioritized updating the website regularly to provide easy access to information about services, events, and other important announcements. We've streamlined the navigation and added new sections to make it more user-friendly, ensuring that visitors can quickly find what they need.

**Social Media Outreach**

In addition to the website, we've focused on enhancing our presence across various social media platforms:

- Facebook: We've been actively posting event updates, inspirational messages, and community highlights. Engagement has increased as more members interact through comments and shares.
- YouTube: Our YouTube channel has been a hub for video sermons. During the summer of 2024, it was decided to no longer livestream our Sunday service due to content quality and a lack of volunteers at the soundboard. We didn't want to share an inferior product.
- Instagram: By displaying photos and stories, we aim to capture and share the vibrant life of our congregation. This platform has been particularly effective in reaching younger members and encouraging their involvement.

**Future Goals**

We are committed to improving our communication strategies and welcome feedback from the congregation to serve your needs better. Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claire Loberg and Colleen Robarts



## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,  
just as in fact you are doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Our team of caregivers in 2024 met regularly on the second Sunday of each month, after the morning worship service, often with a light lunch served.

We were saddened by the sudden passing of one of our members, Lynn Tizzard, in December 2023. Lynn was a person who preferred to work behind the scenes, sending out birthday cards to the children. Lee Patterson subsequently took over this ministry.

Our regular Congregational Care Team members include: Cristl Porter, Colleen Whelan, Sandra Child, Rev. Luke Haisa as Pastoral Lead, Edie Lee, Lee & John Patterson, Sally Corsino-Lagaspi, Michael Adamowicz, Lorelei Lange, Fay Milk, Heather Cortis-Anderson, Roberto Montagni, and Lorraine Anderson. In addition to regular team members who make phone calls, we have also appreciated Bev Lynch who helped to phone pastoral care congregants whenever possible this past fall and up to the Christmas season.

Our Email Prayer Team members are Gayle Barnecut, Carla Bowen, Kerry Birkett, Lorraine Anderson, Luz Tugade, Bonnie Scheibner-Hart, Pastor Luke, Fay Milk, Lee Patterson, Dorothy Miller, Cristl Porter, and Colleen Whelan. In addition, Marivic Dela Cerna, Chair of Christian Development, started in-person prayer meetings in the chapel on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month. This has added others, including a member of Knox United Church, to participate in prayers for our Community of Faith, the people around us in our community, our city, our country, and our world. Prayer is the most important action we can do as Christians. We must talk with God at all times. As it says in Philippians 4:6, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” For a prayer mantra, as one of our congregants shared, *Why wish upon a star, when you can pray to the one who created them.*

Birthday and Anniversary cards were sent out to the congregation by our faithful group of servants, who have been doing this for several years. Birthday greetings by phone were done by Lorraine Anderson for adult birthdays. Tania Bondoc sent out adult birthday cards to members of the congregation as well. We are so thankful for this ministry with a personal touch.

We hosted a special meeting in December which included the Prayer and Worship Teams. This was a good time of fellowship with many contributing to the potluck lunch.

Our Visitation Team with Pastor Luke has included a number of people as drivers and visitors to homes of congregants who can't get to church anymore, or very often. These visitors and drivers are Fay Milk, Bob Hindley, Lori Bazin, John Patterson, Colleen Whelan, and Cristl Porter. Many times some flowers or a card are brought as well. Lee Patterson has been crocheting prayer shawls for many of the women we have been visiting. She prays for the future recipient as she crochets each one. Along with these beautiful and thoughtful gifts, the visits mean so much to those who are visited. As well, Pastor Luke and the drivers always remark how much they enjoyed the fellowship.

Our Team has worked with the Worship Team for floral fundraisers – ‘Mums for Moms’ on Mother’s Day and Poinsettias at Christmastime – where potted plants are purchased in memory or honour of loved ones to beautify the sanctuary and then delivered, along with a card, to shut-ins and others unable to attend church in person.

Cristl Porter was coordinating greeters for Sunday morning services. The greeters are the first smiling faces people see when they come through the doors. Our gratitude goes to those people who included Clare Burk, Rob Cormack, Bill Moore, Cristl Porter, Denis Bazin, Johnny McIsaac, Diane Scheibner, Edie Lee, Fay Milk, Michael Adamowicz, Heather Anderson-Cortis, Lorelei Lange, Roberto Montagni, Marivic Dela Cerna, Luz Tugade, Stephanie Burgin, and Lee & John Patterson. We can always use more people for this special greeting ministry. If you would like to join the team, please speak to Lee or John.

Special thanks to Michael Adamowicz for serving coffee after each Sunday morning worship service. Many times throughout the year, we were also able to serve snacks at coffee time, such as fruit and cheese or crackers and cheese provided by donation. We hosted the Strawberry Social in May in appreciation of our Choir members. In the fall our team hosted a congregational picnic potluck at Calgary’s Bowness Park. Marivic and her team, including Hannah-Jane Abugan and Rena Tugade, helped with organizing games as well. Carpools were arranged with drivers for people needing rides. Such a beautiful day and a wonderful celebration of the love and joy of community.

The Team aims to create connection and community for all people, and a joyful place to serve God and one another.

Respectfully submitted,

Cristl Porter  
Chair, Congregational Care



## OUTREACH &amp; JUSTICE TEAM

Amazing work continues to be done under the guidance of this team.

We continue to have a vacancy for the Chair of this very important team. After Tushar Lal moved back to India, Ryan Trethewey assumed this role and was a strong influence in the growth of the Central Outreach Hub. Ryan started his own business during this time and felt the need to step away from chairing this team to focus his attention on the growth of his business.

Even with the absence of a Chair for this team, work carried on in a powerful way.

Some of us joined with other local churches to provide support to the Sober Crew, a group marching from Morley to Calgary, and return, to draw attention to the opioid crisis that is taking the lives of people both on the Reserve and in the city.

Our group provided one evening meal to the marchers, who were staying overnight at Knox United Church. We again provided a meal of Bison Chili and Bannock, as well as an assortment of delicious desserts.

Over the past year, the Central Outreach Hub has grown in ways we could never have imagined. During this time, many people were involved in facilitating this critical ministry of serving the needs of our community. Two, Brad Pert and Tamara Llewellyn, have become Coordinators of this expanding outreach.

Brad has summarized the activities of 2024 as follows:

“In 2024, Central Outreach Hub became a trusted anchor in Calgary’s core, expanding from a weekly meal to a full-scale outreach program serving over 1,000 guests each week. Each week, the Hub receives and distributes over one tonne of food and one tonne of clothing, thanks to the generosity of individuals, faith groups, businesses, and community partners. Through culturally significant events like FEEDING THE PEOPLE and the ROUND DANCE, we deepened our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation and strengthened our role as a gathering place for diverse communities.

Central has reclaimed its role as a place of refuge, care, and connection. Especially for those often excluded from traditional spaces. The Hub has become a trusted gathering place for diverse communities, reflecting a commitment to the principles of service, inclusion, and reconciliation. This impact has been made possible by the support of this Community of Faith whose space, values, and presence have created the foundation for this work to grow.

As host of the Outreach Collective, we convene over 20 grassroots and frontline service providers who come together regularly to share knowledge, plan initiatives, and strengthen responses to urgent needs in our community. This spirit of collaboration has deepened relationships, improved service delivery, and positioned the Hub as a place where ideas, partnerships, and solutions are actively cultivated.

Throughout the year, we continued to invest in making our space more welcoming and dignified, with local artists and volunteers contributing to a renewed sense of warmth and hospitality.

We continue to meet people where they're at, supporting individuals through moments of crisis, recovery, and renewal, and creating space for collaboration, dignity, and hope. As recognition of our work continues to grow, so do the opportunities – new partnerships and initiatives emerge each week, reflecting the vital role the Hub plays in the life of our city."

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that we reflect on this year of growth and development and are confident that even greater things will emerge in the future.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Outreach and Justice Team,

Diane Scheibner, Team member

Brad Pert, Central Outreach Hub Coordinator



## PROPERTY TEAM

This year again we are hosting Sled Island and Folk Fest, and I am happy to welcome them back. Our activities in the church have multiplied with the Hub project and it is refreshing to see the activity level increase.

Last year (2023) I was able to keep property under budget to maintain the church. This year (2024) keeping within the budget was not possible. We have a new cleaning contract to address the increased usage in the building. Our snow clearing contract has doubled in cost this year. We had a break-in through one of our parapets that insurance covered, with the exception of \$10,000, but proved to be over \$100,000 in work. We have also replaced two toilets this year. Our toilets are now 30 years old and in need of replacement. We have 3 more toilets that will be replaced this year.

Roof leaks are again coming to light. We had to redo the sawtooth roof on the First Street West side this year as well as the roof above the Upper Room. The parapet, thanks to the break-in, also needed roof repairs. We had to do many interior repairs as a result of this.

With the help of the Hub project, we completed some much-needed upgrades to get our kitchen up to modern minimum codes. The lights have been replaced in the Dining Room and this will reduce our electricity usage by 1/3 in this room. The kitchen has a new grease trap, and had several old counters and a non-functional sanitizer removed. You may have noticed Good Neighbour has done a great job sprucing up several areas with artistic painting.

There have been many issues with our door and window repairs. As soon as we get one window repaired (First Street doors) then another window is kicked in. We are now looking into replacing the windows within that door with half-height windows to reduce this issue. This year we have had to replaced 6 windows in the church that have been damaged.

Graffiti has also seen large growth rates this year and we are looking to address this issue. As soon as we paint, the artists come back and now the sand stone is being directly targeted. I am looking for volunteers to help with this.

Sadly, I had to postpone several projects due to budget constraints. This year I will make a push to replace our aging security system and get more doors fixed. We will also have to arrange for a new key system to maintain security in the building.

We hope this year finds everyone with joy and we will continue to do our best to clean and heat the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Newton Hislop,  
Property Team Chair

## STEWARDSHIP TEAM

This past year the Stewardship Team continued to explore ways to increase awareness within the congregation of the various ways in which stewardship happens.

We encouraged people to participate in a *40 Days of Giving* opportunity during the period of Lent.

We also sold sodas, water, chips, and candy at three of the music events held at Central.

We took over creating the Invitation and Dedication prayers before and after the morning offering being taken. By doing this we could inform the congregation of the many meaningful things being done out of our church.

Stewardship is about more than giving money, although that is critical as well. Stewardship is about giving of time and talent. This latter is demonstrated by the number of volunteers that come each Sunday to prepare lunch for those folks living in our downtown community. They bring the food, do the cooking and serving, and clean up, as well as providing companionship to those who are there.

It takes the generous support of your time, talent and treasure to allow the ministry at Central to thrive and bless the lives of those in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Scheibner

Chair, Stewardship Team



## WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Team is responsible for overseeing the provision of worship experiences that are deeply spiritual, Bible-based, vibrant, relevant, and include all people. We focus on the sacraments of Communion and Baptism, as well as weddings, funerals, and special services (i.e. Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Christmas Eve). We also look after decorating the Sanctuary and changing the vestments for the various liturgical seasons and events.

January 2024 marked the completion of Pastor Luke's first year as Central's minister and this was celebrated during the morning service on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The children made a special presentation to Pastor Luke and on behalf of the congregation, we presented him with a custom-made stole. We are so grateful for Luke's faithful commitment to the church, its mission, and its people. He not only preaches in the morning worship services but also participates in the evening Recovery gatherings each month – attending, preaching and leading in Communion.

The Easter season was early in 2024. Ash Wednesday fell on Valentine's Day and we conducted an intimate service in the Chapel at noon, complete with the disposition of ashes. As Lent drew to a close, we shared in a very poignant Maundy Thursday worship service on March 28<sup>th</sup>. The Good Friday service was hosted by Scarboro United on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Luke worked with Rev. Erin Klassen and together with the combined choirs, made it a very meaningful service of worship.

Easter Sunday morning was a glorious celebration of our Saviour's resurrection and the evening Recovery service celebrated adult baptism in the hot tub, with support of many friends and family.

As is our practice, Pastor Luke was given the Sunday off after Easter and Diane Scheibner kindly delivered the message in the morning worship service on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

As part of the Chinook Winds Annual Regional Gathering, a special service was held at McDougall United on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. With Pastor Luke being commissioned during that gathering, we decided to cancel the morning service at Central and invited our congregation to attend at McDougall. In support of our minister and his family, there were many of us in attendance and it proved to be a very meaningful worship service. The commissioning service was live streamed in our sanctuary that morning for those who came to worship at Central.



On May 12<sup>th</sup>, Mother's Day, the front of the sanctuary was decorated with "Mums for Moms" and Pastor Luke baptized three children into God's family.

May 19<sup>th</sup> was Pentecost Sunday and we celebrated with Holy Communion.



Rather than the choir preparing a separate end-of-season concert, the May 26<sup>th</sup> morning service was dedicated to music. All were entertained as the children also participated with songs and instruments.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup> we commemorated the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the placing of Central's cornerstone. Lorraine Anderson was our special guest and presented the invocation, candle lighting and opening prayer. Pastor Luke delivered the community prayer, sermon and blessing.

With Luke attending the Men's Retreat on Father's Day weekend, Bill Moore delivered the message in our morning worship service on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

In the spirit of truth and reconciliation, we were blessed to have Rev. Tony Snow share his message with us in the morning service on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Following another successful Stampede Breakfast on Stephen Avenue Mall, the Cracked Pots provided the music for our morning worship on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

With Pastor Luke taking August off for vacation, we were once again blessed by volunteers from our congregation who willingly agreed to provide messages for morning worship services:

August 4<sup>th</sup> - Marivic Dela Cerna

August 25<sup>th</sup> - Diane Scheibner

August 11<sup>th</sup> - John Patterson

September 1<sup>st</sup> - Bill Moore

August 18<sup>th</sup> - Thomas Beach

Our beloved Office Administrator, Colleen Robarts, underwent knee replacement surgery in mid-August which meant a lot of scrambling to keep the church wheels turning during her 3-month absence. The Worship Team agreed that a monthly bulletin would suffice as orders of service were followed on the screen during weekly services. We managed to hold the fort until her welcomed return mid-November.

On October 6<sup>th</sup>, we joined with people around the world as we celebrated Holy Communion on Worldwide Communion Sunday. Other October worship services were enhanced by musical solos from Angel Mangay-at and Sally Timmangen.

The Remembrance Day worship service featured Mike Routledge on trumpet for *The Last Post* and *The Rouse* as well as solos from Fregie Padilla and Dasha Krasnozhen. A special bulletin was prepared by Bill Moore and Colleen featuring the story of the Broad Brothers, several poignant Remembrance poetries, and the Order of Service.

November 17<sup>th</sup> was designated as Children's Sunday in the United Church. Mary Lansdell and our 'Youth In Action' young adults prepared and conducted the morning worship service which was entitled "What Being a Child of God means to me". It was well received by all in attendance.

On Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, the Sanctuary was all abuzz with many volunteers putting up the tree and decorating for Advent/Christmas – while Bill and his team were preparing for Communion the following day.

December 1<sup>st</sup> was the first Sunday in Advent with HOPE as our theme, and we celebrated Holy Communion. The focus for December 8<sup>th</sup> was PEACE.

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, with JOY, the Christmas Choir presented a series of International Carols, sung in their original languages. There was also a piece composed by Oksana Krasnozhen, in cooperation with Pat Gault, using one of his poems for the lyrics. That evening, the Recovery service enjoyed a Christmas Carols Sing-Along led by Mary Lansdell.

The theme of LOVE was felt by all on December 22<sup>nd</sup> as Mary, Maegan, children, and choir combined efforts to present the Christmas Pageant. The story was brought to life with volunteers from the congregation taking on different character roles. That same evening, a special 'When the Holidays Hurt' service was shared, featuring music from the Crack Pots, as we remembered friends and relatives who passed during the year.

The last Holy Communion of the year was shared during our traditional Christmas Eve service. We also gathered for an intimate worship service in the Chapel on Christmas morning, followed by a good time of fellowship over coffee and goodies.

For the last Sunday of 2024, Pastor Luke, Oksana and Alena had the day off, so the morning worship was led by Colleen, Bill providing the message, and a small but mighty choir singing to tracks. The evening Recovery Service celebrated its last Birthday Sunday for 2024.

The Worship Team continues to work with the Congregational Care Team to organize fundraisers such as Lilies for Easter, Mums for Moms in May, and Poinsettias at Christmastime. These not only help to beautify the Sanctuary but are subsequently delivered to, and gratefully received by, members and adherents who are no longer able to attend church in person.

Looking back over the year, the Team agreed that most worship services went very well. There are still challenges with our audio/visual equipment at times, but we are so grateful to Ivan Bacon for volunteering his time and talents as Tech Team Lead, and to Trevor Loberg and Ilia Levykin for their faithful assistance. Ivan also operates the sound system for the evening Recovery services. We no longer livestream our morning worship services, but record only the sermons and make them available online.

As the year drew to a close, Bill Moore announced his intention to step down as Sacraments representative to the Worship Team. He also indicated that he will not be continuing as a member-at-large. Clare Burk also advised that after 8 years on the Communion team, she would be stepping down. We are exceedingly grateful to both these individuals for their commitment and dedication to our Team and to the church as a whole.

For most of 2024, the Worship Team was comprised of:

Lori Bazin (Chair)	Oksana Krasnozhen (Music Director)
Rev. Luke Haisa (Minister)	Mary Lansdell (Children and Youth)
Bill Moore (Sacraments Representative and Recording Secretary)	Colleen Robarts (Office Administrator)
Clare Burk (Communion assistant)	Peter Sheridan and Thomas Beach (Celebrate Life Recovery team)

The majority of our Team is Staff, and I am so thankful for each and every one of them. As we bid farewell to Bill and Clare, we are looking forward to welcoming Melven Dela Cerna and Shirley Defuz, who have agreed to take over responsibilities for Holy Communion. We are also seeking two or three additional members-at-large to assist us in our work.

Our Team is also exceedingly grateful to every person who has worked behind the scenes or shared in our worship services throughout the year by reading scripture, offering prayers and other readings, or providing messages in Pastor Luke's absence. We are not only a Community of Faith, but also a family. Facing ever more challenging times ahead, we seek reassurance and turn our worship focus to Psalm 100:

*"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."*

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Bazin  
Worship Team Chair



## MUSIC DIRECTOR

The year 2024 was well organized and quite balanced. Music Ministry worked in a friendly and calm environment. All members were extremely responsible and helpful which made musical work very productive and amazingly interesting. For sure, the key to successful work was good planning and collaboration of all staff. Always in time prepared Themes and planned Scriptures allowed to prepare more interesting and appropriate music for each Service. My personal recognition to Rev. Luke Haisa for his reasonable work.

It is always a pleasure to work with permanent choir members as they know the music repertoire quite well and they can be strong leaders in their voices. As well as to learn new music where strong singers successfully support new members and help them to develop their musical skills faster.

And it is such a pleasure to see new faces and to hear new voices in our Central Choir. This year we have several new participants, and we are very thankful for their commitment to our great musical work. We are also very blessed to see our old members return to our ranks. Their voices nourish the choir sound indeed.

Having more singers in a choir, we get the possibility to sing more interesting and powerful music which helps to increase the variety of choir repertoire.

This year Choir prepared an interesting and variable musical repertoire for all the services, but I would like to mention the most significant and challenging work that the choir had done. The next services were worked out with brilliance. The work included extra rehearsals, the study of unknown and unfamiliar repertoire, the study of new languages, styles, genres, pronunciations, new folk cultural characteristics, learning new musical skills, developing communication abilities and extra patience. The Holy Week services, Easter service, Mother's Day, Victoria Day, Anniversary Service, and the Trinity Day Service, where the Choir had the leading role (this Service was counted as the final Choir Year Concert), Truth and Reconciliation service, Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day, Advent Season, Pageant Service, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Separately, I would like to highlight the Service of "Joy" (Advent), when the Choir had a great challenging work to be done and completed the very difficult task successfully.

We are very thankful for the volunteers' participation in the Musical Ministry. It is a wonderful opportunity to hear great people, enjoy their voices and their master play. We are also thankful for those share their talents with us: Mike Routledge, Josephine Haisa, Daria Krasnozhen, Sally Timmangen, Angel Mangay-at, Fregie Gay Padilla, Niko and Gavrillio Setiaputra and others. We are grateful for the new singers in our Christmas Choir. This year the music for Christmas was very challenging, but with patience and willingness to make it work, all singers worked very hard, which brought us to a great result. A special gratitude to Pat Gault for his willingness to share with us his talent in writing. The 2024 year was the second year when Pat Gault worked in close creative cooperation with the Music Director to create new original Christmas Music for the Choir which was performed during the Advent Season.

For me, as Music Director, the year was a challenge as always. To make musical repertoire to fit the Themes and Scriptures, to create the special spirit, to interact with music in all the service liturgy, to make it flow, and to bring the spiritual light into the service. To give the congregation the opportunity to enjoy their favourite hymns and to involve the new hymns to increase the knowledge of the United Church musical repertoire. To bring new anthems and special musical pieces to expand the musical repertoire for the choir. To teach the choir to sing the new styles and genres to make their participation in a choir interesting and developing.

However, this year I met some challenges in finding music specifically requested by preachers. Some issues appeared with printing originally composed music. As the Music Ministry is always trying to help the Church in the financial economy, I did a lot of work by myself. Here are composing new musical pieces, printing the musical scores which required new special skills and new knowledge in different printing computer programs. But as a result, all the work has been done professionally and in time. Yearly we encounter the challenge to keep Music Ministry going during the summer months. Some choir members leave for their summer vacations. This year we consistently had 5-8 singers for each service, which was absolutely great. We added extra practice time each Sunday morning. So, all the summer services enjoyed almost a full choir and with no decrease in the quality. I am very grateful that my piano students were very kind to volunteer in five services to replace our accompanist during her vacation. They beautifully played all Preludes, Offertory music and Postludes. The rest of the music that usually supports the choir singing I covered by myself. That meant we did not have to hire a substitute accompanist during the summer. This year we had only one substitute (for accompanist-musical director) which we organized with no additional financial expenses for the Church. We are very thankful to Antonina Fox for her help in this role.

I am very grateful for the great support of Alena Naumchyk, Lori Bazin, Bob Hindley, and Morgan O'Flanagan. These people selflessly help to make Music Ministry work with no issues. And a special thanks to Sandra Child for her supportive commitment to providing some comfort for choir members during the rehearsals. This Year we had a challenge to work smoothly as Colleen Robarts was on medical leave and her absence impacted all the Church Ministries. Here we understand how important it is to have a strong, knowledgeable and dedicated person as staff support. I am very grateful for colleagues such as Colleen. And here is my personal gratitude to Lori Bazin who substituted for Colleen in some tasks directly connected with Music Ministry work. I am very thankful to our Technical Sound Team for their dedicated work and for being there no matter what to make all the systems work properly during the services.

The Year 2024 was great for the Music Ministry, with challenges, with new experiences, new people, but interesting, fascinating and merry!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Oksana Krasnozhen  
Music Director

## RECOVERY TEAM

The 2024 year has been steady as ever. Our numbers have been holding, but some nights seem a little light, then the next week we get surprised with really good numbers of people showing up.

It seems that most every night there is someone that really needs to be there. We do counselling prior to the service and some after the service. We are always available to pray with those that need it. I believe the services that the team offer before and after the gathering are as important as the gathering itself.

We of course held our Men's Retreat at Camp Kasota at Sylvan Lake and it was a hit. It was great to have Pastor Luke with us once again.

The Stampede Breakfast was a hit; this year we set up on Stephen Avenue mall as we have done for many years. Then at 10:00 a.m. we moved to the north side of the Church and continued to serve meals until approximately 2:00 p.m. Well over a 1000 people were served that day. Quite an accomplishment – great team of volunteers that made it work. Thanks to everyone.

Each month we have had a guest speaker on birthday nights, complete with cake and coffee afterwards.

We lost two of our key people this year, Denis Grady and Billy Vincent.

We had the honour of hosting Billy Vincent's wake at Central and for the first time we held an overnight vigil in our church with members of the Crazy Indian Brotherhood from all over the province attending. It was a very moving and meaningful ceremony that I felt very honoured that we were allowed to be part of.

Our mission in the basement has grown over the past year under the guidance of Brad Pert who has brought on many more partners, one of which is Good Neighbours – who are now looking after the clothing. They distribute clothing everyday from the Church and provide lunch to the people getting clothing. We are now feeding people most every day of the week. Large numbers on Sunday and Tuesday and smaller numbers on other days of the week.

In keeping with the United Church of Canada's wish to continue working with our Indigenous brothers and sisters, we have completed a reconciliation project in the dining room. We had an indigenous artist paint a series of murals. They are beautiful and very well received.

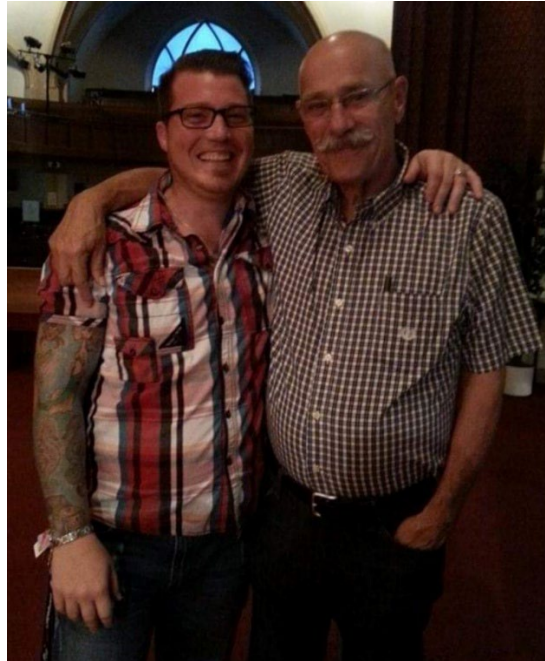
Just in closing I want to express my sincere appreciation to all the volunteers who have worked so hard this past year to make our dream come true. We have truly created a Community Hub, and we're proud of all of you for working together for a common cause, saving lives, making people feel loved and cared for.

Last but not least, I want to thank Thomas, Darcy, and Curtis for standing by and working so hard for this mission and our evening service. Their dedication goes well above and beyond. Thank you, guys.

Thanks to all for your continued support and kind words – also for donations of clothing and nonperishable food items. All are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Sheridan,  
Recovery Team Lead



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 2024 OPERATING STATEMENT AND PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET

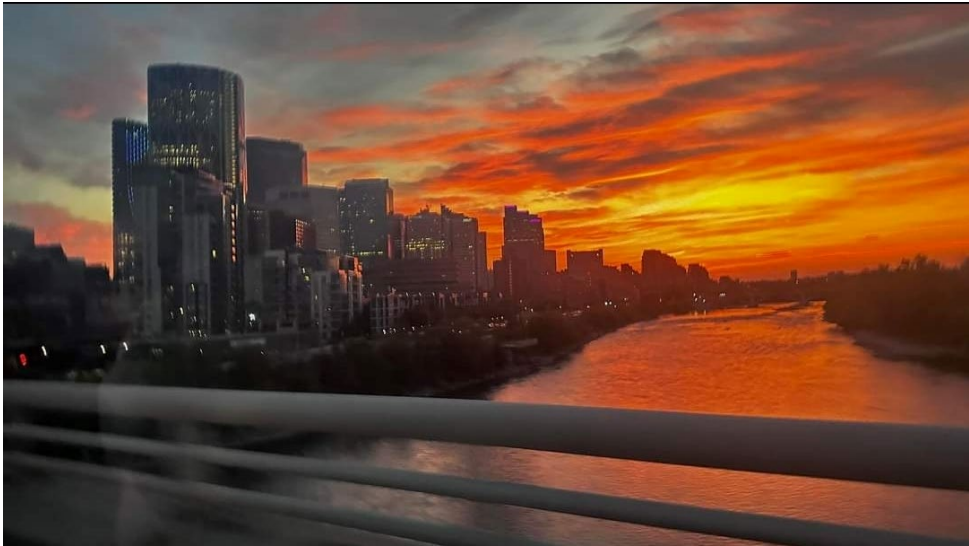
		2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
1	ENVELOPES	195,000	154,182	170,000
2	LOOSE & VISITORS	2,000	1,351	3,000
3	CONTRIBUTIONS NON-RECEIPTED	55,000	56,905	80,000
4	RENTAL REVENUE & MISC INCOME	22,000	26,699	35,000
5	SPECIFIED RECEIPTS	10,000	9,176	10,000
11	RECOVERY OFFERING	17,000	10,893	13,000
12	HUB REVENUE		27,551	50,000
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>301,000</b>	<b>286,757</b>	<b>361,000</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
<b>OUTREACH</b>				
102	ASSESSMENTS	20,000	20,053	17,000
104	SPECIFIED DISBURSEMENTS	15,000	6,753	7,000
108	RECOVERY LEADERSHIP	28,200	28,200	28,500
109	HUB PROJECTS		8,702	12,000
110	HUB OPERATIONS		18,849	38,000
<b>TOTAL 100'S OUTREACH</b>		<b>63,200</b>	<b>82,557</b>	<b>102,500</b>
<b>SALARIES &amp; ALLOWANCES</b>				
201	MINISTERS, MUSIC & PROG	168,400	167,044	172,000
202	SUPPORT STAFF	87,800	96,693	92,000
203	CONTINUING EDUCATION	2,640	2,627	2,700
206	REWARDS & RECOGNITION	1,000	414	500
209	CANADA PENSION	11,000	10,795	10,500
210	EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	4,700	4,453	4,500
211	UNITED CHURCH PENSIONS	15,800	15,756	15,300
212	WORKERS COMPENSATION	1,000	1,515	1,500
214	UNITED CHURCH BENEFITS	16,200	16,136	16,500
<b>TOTAL SALARIES &amp; ALLOWANCES</b>		<b>308,540</b>	<b>315,433</b>	<b>315,500</b>



<b>TEACHING</b>		<b>2024 BUDGET</b>	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET</b>
300	GUEST MUSICIANS – AM SERVICE	1,000	150	500
205	MUSIC –PM SERVICE	18,600	18,525	17,700
301	MUSIC & SUPPLIES	1,000	748	1,000
305	SERVANT APPRECIATION	500		500
306	SPIRITUAL FORMATION REG	1,000		500
308	CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT	6,500	8,051	7,500
312	TECHNICAL MINISTRIES	2,000	2,015	2,000
313	CONGREGATIONAL CARE	4,500	2,539	3,000
315	RETREATS & SEMINARS	2,500	4,666	4,500
<b>TOTAL TEACHING</b>		<b>37,600</b>	<b>36,694</b>	<b>37,200</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>				
401	OFFICE SUPPLIES & SOFTWARE	12,000	9,627	10,000
402	POSTAGE	2,500	528	1,000
403	TELEPHONE	5,000	6,368	5,000
405	BANK & CREDIT CARD CHARGES	3,000	2,544	2,500
406	STEWARDSHIP	3,000	538	1,500
408	WORSHIP SUPPLIES	4,000	4,461	5,000
409	UTILITIES	30,000	33,500	38,000
410	FLOWERS & DECORATIONS	500	509	500
411	INSURANCE	34,000	32,409	32,200
413	CHURCH MAINTENANCE	25,000	39,608	25,000
414	JANITORIAL	36,000	37,021	37,000
415	MAINTENANCE OF ORGANS	1,000		1,000
416	MAINTENANCE OF PIANOS	500	195	500
417	KITCHEN SUPPLIES	2,500	3,564	3,000
418	PROFESSIONAL FEES	1,000		500
420	I T	4,000	4,301	4,000
421	COMMUNICATIONS	1,000	473	1,000
422	SECURITY	5,000	4,617	20,000
<b>TOTAL ADMIN &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>		<b>170,000</b>	<b>180,263</b>	<b>187,700</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>301,000</b>	<b>286,757</b>	<b>361,000</b>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>579,340</b>	<b>614,947</b>	<b>642,900</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS EXCEED RECEIPTS</b>		<b>(278,340)</b>	<b>(328,190)</b>	<b>(281,900)</b>

### 2024 LEGACY FUND STATEMENT

<b>INCOME</b>	
Bequests	216,783
Mortgage Interest	35,232
Investment Interest	12,481
Deferred Revenue Recognition - Capital Items	7,117
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>271,613</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Amortization - Buildings	29,459
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>29,459</b>
<b>INCOME EXCEEDS EXPENSES</b>	<b>242,154</b>



## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
Cash	572,720
GST Receivable	3,579
Mortgage Receivable	274,184
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$850,483</b>
Mortgage Receivable	588,296
Property, Building & Equipment	825,364
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,264,143</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	748
Deferred Contribution (Organ Projects)	28,571
Deferred Contribution (Hub Project)	19,741
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$49,060</b>
Deferred Contributions (Building)	62,237
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$111,297</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,152,846</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,264,143</b>

## CASH POSITION STATEMENT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

		Opening	Closing	Net Change
		1-Jan-24	31-Dec-24	
<b>FUNDS</b>				
ATB	<b>CASH ON DEPOSIT</b>	12,158	135,005	122,847
OAKEN	<b>OAKEN</b>	358,137	437,715	79,578
DEPOSIT	<b>CASH TO BE DEPOSITED</b>	1,149		-1,149
		<b>\$371,444</b>	<b>\$572,720</b>	<b>\$201,276</b>

## BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS

### Bequest Acknowledgements for 2024

Estate of Earle Allen	\$100,000
Estate of Tony Cole	\$ 15,698
Estate of Kenneth Street	\$100,000

Memorial donations have been received in memory of the following individuals:

**Michael Heron  
Christine Ramsey  
Ronald Wescott**


**Total Memorial Donations \$1,885**







**Central United Church**

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