



**Westworth United Church
Annual Report
2025**

We are the hands, feet & heart of Christ within Westworth and beyond

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
AGENDA	3
REPORTS	10
Council Chair's Report	10
Minister's Report	13
75 TH Anniversary Group	15
Affirming Ministry Team Report	16
Archives Team Report	18
Christian Education Team Report	19
Communications Team Report	21
Community Care Team Report	22
Ministry and Personnel Committee Report	24
Prairie to Pine Regional Representatives Report	25
Prayer Shawl Ministry Report	27
Property Team Report	28
Senior Choir Executive Team Report	31
Social and Environmental Justice Team Report	32
Trustees Report	34
United Church Women (UCW) Report	35
Visioning Committee Report	37
W3TA	41
Women's Spirituality Group Report	42
Worship Team Report	43
New or Revised Policies & Manual Changes	46
Passages of Congregants	49
Roll Clerk's Report 2025	50
Registry Records	51
Special Appeals	53
Westworth Leadership Team and Volunteers	54
Finance and Stewardship Committee Report	58
Financial Review	60
Statement of Operations and Change in Fund Balances	61
.....	62
Statement of Other Funds	63
Statement of Financial Position	64
Budget by Fund	65
Grant Funding	67
2026 Projected Salaries & Benefits	68

WESTWORTH UNITED CHURCH
75th ANNUAL MEETING, SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

AGENDA

1. INTRODUCTION
2. OPENING PRAYER
3. MOTION REGARDING VOTING PRIVILEGES
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 74th ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 2, 2025
6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
7. APPROVAL OF WRITTEN REPORTS

<u>Report:</u>	<u>Page:</u>	<u>Prepared by:</u>
a) Chair	10	Rhea Yates
Minister	13	Tricia Gerhard
Affirming Ministry	15	Heather Robbins
Archives	17	Diane Riordan
Christian Education & CE Staff List	18	Rachael Doerr
Communications	21	Peter Sim
Community Care	22	Sharon Stanley
Ministry and Personnel	24	Margaret Newbury Jones & Janice Neumann
Prairie to Pine Regional Council	25	Dorcas Windsor
Prayer Shawl Ministry	27	Barb Magarrell
Property	28	Paul Chard
Senior Choir Executive Team	31	Deborah McPhail
Social and Environmental Justice	32	Christine Strike
Trustees	34	Kent Magarrell
UCW	35	Nancy Doern-White
Visioning	37	Bruce Tefft
W3TA	41	
Women's Spirituality Group	42	Kathy Wilson
Worship	43	Teresa Sztaba
New or Revised Policies & Manual Changes	46	Kathy McPhail
Passages & Memorial Donations	49	Christine Strike
Roll Clerk	50	Christine Strike
Registry Records	51	Christine Strike
b) Leadership Team & Volunteers	54	Christine Strike
Special Appeals	53	Nancy Doern-White
Finance & Stewardship Report	58	Denise Jones
Financial Review	60	Lynne McCarthy
Statement of Operations and...	61	Jenny Jeffers
Statement of Other Funds	63	Jenny Jeffers
Statement of Financial Position	64	Jenny Jeffers
Grant Funding	67	Jenny Jeffers
2026 Projected Salaries and Benefits	68	Jenny Jeffers
8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORTS		
9. BUDGET FOR 2026	65	Jenny Jeffers
10. OTHER BUSINESS		
11. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS		
12. MOTION TO ADJOURN		

WESTWORTH UNITED CHURCH

WESTWORTH UNITED CHURCH

MINUTES of the 74th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SUNDAY, March 2, 2025

ATTENDANCE: Rhea Yates, Jan McIlroy, Barb Magarrell, Sharon Stanley, Eunice Pratt, Jenny Jeffers, Barbara Wynes, Janet Sealy, Frank Wynes, Gary Reid, Allan McKay, Denise Jones, Shirley Watts, Linda Paquin, Tannis Hewitt, Bruce Tefft, Petra Thanisch, Dan Wiwchar, Walter Watts, Kim O'Grady, Paul Chard, Dorothy Reid, John Erskine, Arlene Hints, Dorcas Windsor, Kirk Windsor, Valdine Anderson, Ruth Wiwchar, Judy Brown, Peter Sim, Dianne Sjoberg, Jacob Gerhard, David Gerhard, Sophia Gerhard, Tricia Gerhard, Heather Crockett, Ray McClelland, Nancy Doern-White, Margaret Newberry Jones, Cynthia Worsley, Heather Robbins, Neil Arnason, Marion McKay, Bettina Nyman, Nancy Williamson, Jewell Casselman, Anne Love, Al Mapes, Alan Wilson, Kathy Wilson, Keith Love, Janice Neumann, Teresa Sztaba, George Nyman, David Sjoberg, Sandy Marles.

- 1. INTRODUCTION:** Rhea Yates opened the meeting at 11:55 a.m., welcomed those in attendance and spoke about the joy that is present when the Westworth Community of Faith comes together with common purpose, whether that is to celebrate, to sing, to dance, to worship or to welcome the broader community.
- 2. OPENING PRAYER:** Rev. Tricia Gerhard offered a prayer for the 74th Annual General Meeting.

3. MOTION REGARDING VOTING PRIVILEGES:

MOTION:

Moved by: Bruce Tefft

Seconded by: Keith Love

That all members and adherents in attendance have voting privileges at this AGM for all motions, with the exception of those dealing with Trustees, where only members of Westworth United Church may vote.

CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

MOTION:

Moved by: Dorcas Windsor

Seconded by: Dorothy Reid

That the agenda be approved as printed, with items at #7B to be dealt with individually, with Leadership Team and Volunteers dealt with at #11.

CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 73rd ANNUAL MEETING, March 3, 2024

MOTION:

Moved by: Heather Robbins

Seconded by: Walter Watts

That the minutes of the 73rd Annual General Meeting of Westworth United Church be accepted as printed, with an amendment to the title at #9 to state "Budget 2024" rather than "Budget 2023".

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None noted.

7. APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS:

Group A

<u>Report:</u>	<u>Page:</u>	<u>Prepared by:</u>
a) Chair	10	Rhea Yates
Minister	13	Tricia Gerhard
Affirming Ministry	15	Heather Robbins
Archives	16	Diane Riordan
Christian Education & CE Staff List	17	Katie Anderson
Communications	18	Brett Loughheed
Community Care	19	Sharon Stanley
Ministry and Personnel	21	Sharon Stanley
Outreach	22	Ruth Wiwchar
Prairie to Pine Regional Council	25	Dorcas Windsor
Prayer Shawl Ministry	26	Barbara Magarrell
Property	27	Paul Chard
Senior Choir Report	29	Marion McKay
Trustees	32	Kent Magarrell
UCW Report	33	Nancy Doern-White
Vacation Bible School	35	Tricia Gerhard
Visioning	36	Bruce Tefft
W3TA	40	Dianne Sjoberg
Women's Spirituality Group	41	Kathy Wilson
Worship	42	Teresa Sztaba
New or Revised Policies	46	Rhea Yates
Passages & Memorial Donations	47	Christine Strike
Roll Clerk	48	Christine Strike
Registry Records	49	Christine Strike
b) Special Appeals & Children's Fund	51	Christine Strike
Leadership Team & Volunteers	52	
Finance & Stewardship Report	56	Denise Jones
Financial Review		Lynne McCarthy
Statement of Operations and...		Jenny Jeffers
Statement of Other Funds		Jenny Jeffers

**Statement of Financial Position
2025 Projected Salaries and Benefits**

**Jenny Jeffers
Jenny Jeffers**

MOTION:

Moved by: Sharon Stanley

Seconded by: Bruce Tefft

That the leadership team written reports, Group A, be accepted as printed, with one addition to the UCW report. Add Alma Acheson to the list of names of people knitting for the layettes.

CARRIED

Group B

• **Special Appeals [& Children's Fund]**

MOTION:

Moved by: Nancy Doern-White

Seconded by: Nancy Williamson

That the Special Appeals Fund report be accepted as written, amending the title of the report to "Special Appeals Fund", not "Special Appeals & Children's Fund".

CARRIED

• **Finance & Stewardship**

MOTION:

Moved by: Denise Jones

Seconded by: Barb Magarrell

That the Finance and Stewardship report be accepted with the following amendment:

On the second page of the Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances, under "General Fund" the second column heading should read "2024 Actual" not "2023 Actual".

Denise Jones said that although we show a deficit budget, our costs are fairly stable, and we will likely finish 2025 on a positive note thanks to the many fundraising efforts of the Community of Faith.

CARRIED

• **Financial Review**

MOTION:

Moved by: Denise Jones

Seconded by: Walter Watts

That the Financial Review be accepted as verbally presented/circulated. Denis Jones read the Financial Review written by Lynne McCarthy, CFA, MBA.

"I have reviewed and evaluated the financial report, records and internal controls of Westworth for the year 2024. This review included examination of the records of deposits, recording, filing and payment of invoices, all matters related to the payroll and bank reconciliations.

The review also included an assessment of the separation of duties for all individuals who deal with monies. The handling of financial records was also evaluated with respect to privacy and security.

Based on this review it is my opinion that the financial records of Westworth United Church are handled in an appropriate manner and in accordance with the guidelines of the United Church of Canada (Section G.4.4, The Manual). In addition, it is my opinion that the financial statements adequately reflect the financial activity of Westworth for the past year."

CARRIED

- **Projected Salaries and Benefits**

MOTION:

Moved by: Denise Jones

Seconded by: Shirley Watts

That the report containing the projected Salaries and Benefits for 2025 be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORTS

APPROVAL OF SENIOR CHOIR EXECUTIVE AS LEADERSHIP TEAM

MOTION:

Moved by: Marion McKay

Seconded by: Jewell Casselman

That the Senior Choir Executive be recognized as part of the Westworth United Leadership Team and its mandate be ratified as presented.

CARRIED

REVISION OF AD HOC VISIONING COMMITTEE MANDATE

MOTION:

Moved by: Bruce Tefft

Seconded by: Keith Love

That the revised mandate of the Ad Hoc Visioning Team Committee be ratified as presented.

Bruce Tefft spoke to the need for a new mandate, because the former mandate had already been accomplished. The committee has completed its visioning and is now exploring residential housing, daycare and Westworth community space as a redevelopment in the current gym area. It was stressed that before any "brick is touched" or money is spent, recommendations will be brought to Council and eventually to the Community of Faith for approval. The need for audited financial statements was discussed and Council Chair agreed that it has been some time since a formal audit. It was noted by Tannis Hewitt, and Council Chair Rhea Yates agreed, that granting agencies like to see that the non-profit has been

audited. If need be, Council will call a Special Congregational Meeting to obtain permission from the Community of Faith to appoint an auditor.

CARRIED

9. BUDGET 2025:

MOTION:

Moved by: Denise Jones

Seconded by: Walter Watts

That the budget for Westworth United Church for 2025 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

a) **REVISION OF WESTWORTH UNITED CHURCH MISSION**

MOTION:

Moved by: Barb Magarrell

Seconded by: Shirley Watts

That the Westworth United Church Mission "We are the hands and feet of Christ within Westworth and beyond" approved at a congregational meeting on June 15, 2019, be revised to "We are the hands, feet and heart of Christ within Westworth and beyond".

CARRIED

b) **POLICY UPDATES**

Policy updates are listed on page 46 in the AGM Report package, for information only.

11. LEADERSHIP TEAM, AND VOLUNTEERS 2025

Presented by Rev. Tricia Gerhard.

List of volunteers are noted at pages 52 to 55 in your report.

Please note the following changes:

Ministry & Personnel Committee will be co-chaired in 2025-26 by Janice Neumann and Margaret Newbury Jones.

We now have an opportunity to fill some blank spots on the leadership team. Council Chair Rhea Yates called for nominations or volunteers from the floor, noting the pressing need for a Vice-Chair, and a Communications Team Lead in 2025.

The call for nominations was repeated 3 times, and Peter Sim stepped forward to serve in the position as Communication Chair.

MOTION:

Moved by: Paul Chard

Seconded by: Dorcas Windsor

That the leadership team for 2025 be accepted, with the addition of Janice Neumann and Margaret Newbury Jones as co-chairs of Ministry & Personnel, and Peter Sim as Team Lead for Communications.
CARRIED

12. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Sharon Stanley, outgoing Ministry & Personnel Committee Chair spoke on behalf of the entire Community of Faith to thank the staff (Melanie Adams, Katie Anderson, Valdine Anderson, Megan Dufrat, Nicholas Firth, Tricia Gerhard, Jenny Jeffers, Ray McClelland and Christine Strike) for being the strong, engaged, creative, enthusiastic, full of heart and always welcoming staff they are.

Rev. Tricia Gerhard thanked members and adherents of the Community of Faith who offer their time, wisdom and resources to Westworth United Church. She said we are all disciples in our Community of Faith.

- Rhea Yates thanked the Leadership Team and Council for their engagement and commitment to Westworth's mission. She gave special thanks to outgoing members of the leadership team, including Past Chair Dianne Sjoberg, Member-at-Large Keith Love, Communications Team Lead Brett Lougheed, Outreach Team Lead Ruth Wiwchar and M&P Chair Sharon Stanley, who moves to Team Lead for Community Care.

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Moved by: Keith Love at 12:39 p.m.

Covenanting of the New Leadership Team by Rev. Tricia Gerhard.

Rev. Tricia Gerhard gave a Prayer of Blessing for the new Leadership Team.

CLOSING WORSHIP:

Led by Tricia Gerhard

The Community of Faith sang a choral Amen.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved by:

Jan McIlroy
Secretary

Rhea Yates
Council Chair

REPORTS

Council Chair's Report

"Wow. You sure have a lot going on here."

I'm sure that everyone has heard some variation of this remark when people stop to look at the whiteboard of activities that our Office Administrator Christine Strike updates each week. We do have a lot going on. At the same time, led by Rev. Tricia Gerhard's repeated assurances that God loves us just as we are, we strive to make sure that everyone feels they belong in this space. Whether you are renting the sanctuary, dropping in for Timeless Treasures Sale and Tea Room, participating in chair yoga or tai chi, or arriving for Sunday worship, you belong here.

In 2025 — the 75th anniversary of Westworth United Church — the Community of Faith continued to breathe life into our values. Through a rich variety of activities and events, we celebrated Christian faith, honoured human diversity, built community and reached out to help others. In the pages of this annual report, you will find countless examples of how our committees and teams bring their energy and commitment to living these values. Thank you to everyone who gives their time to the Westworth Community of Faith, and especially to all those who act as leaders with ongoing responsibilities.

This truly was a year of "Looking Back, Moving Forward", as our 75th anniversary slogan proclaims. Together, we celebrated tradition and heritage *and* acted upon new ideas. Rev. Tricia encouraged us to bring a mindset of abundance and gratitude to all of our planning and events, and we joyfully gathered many times as a Community of Faith.

2025 also marked the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada. We remembered the milestones in the church's history in fun and creative ways. Marilyn Anderson Corkum, who led the ad hoc 100th anniversary committee, especially appreciated the opportunity to work jointly with people from St. Andrew's United Church, culminating in a 100th anniversary celebration service and lunch party. Reflecting back on that success and the new relationships formed, Marilyn asks: "Could we find ways to do even more things together?"

In 2025, we spent several months conducting a self-assessment to submit to the United Church of Canada. Our Community of Faith identified many things to celebrate during each round of discussion, which started with a small ad hoc committee, expanded to all teams and committees, and concluded with a chance for everyone to offer their perspectives in writing or at a congregational meeting.

In the self-assessment, our Community of Faith shared with the Prairie to Pine Region that:

- we enjoy offering young people opportunities to share their gifts in ways that are meaningful,

- we enjoy celebrating Christian faith through inspirational musical performances,
- we enjoy spending time with each other, both during the worship service and after,
- we find value in supporting people beyond the River Heights community,
- we enjoy pulling together to tackle large projects that involve all members and adherents of the Community of Faith,
- we embrace learning and growth, and often stay after worship or return during the week for gatherings and discussion.

In 2025, a new group made up of Westworth members and broader community members came together to administer the Seniors Supporting Seniors through Fun and Learning workshops, supported by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors program. Three workshops brought hundreds of older adults through Westworth's doors for learning and socializing opportunities.

Throughout the year, whenever a need was identified, people in the Community of Faith stepped up, often without fanfare or credit. You lent a hand, made a donation, or cared for others. When a team or committee needed support, other teams gave assistance freely, and sometimes support came before the request could even be made. After the completion of the 100th anniversary celebrations focused on the wider church, an ad hoc 75th anniversary committee was quickly formed to celebrate Westworth!

The UCW Thankoffering Service in June celebrated 100 years of the United Church of Canada and reflected powerfully on 75 years of women providing leadership at Westworth. As summer drew to a close, the Community of Faith came together to host a Block Party to celebrate with neighbours. A small group joined forces to interview volunteers and create a short film called *Volunteer Voices* commemorating Westworth at 75. On top of that, staff, committees, teams and volunteers continued the day-to-day responsibilities and fundraising activities that are the glue that hold Westworth together.

In 2026, the Visioning Committee and Council will seek proposals for a business plan to potentially redevelop Westworth's gym area. A key question a business plan must address is a strategic rationale for what should be included in the project — a daycare, residential housing and/or mixed use. A \$100,000 "From the Ground Up" grant from the Manitoba government is facilitating this work, along with a \$23,000 contribution from Westworth United Church from the Westworth Fund. The business plan will be shared with the Community of Faith.

Please welcome incoming Council Chair Kathy McPhail, who as Vice-Chair has leapt into the role with equanimity, grace and wisdom. Thank you to the Leadership Team who provide invaluable knowledge and support to Council. And thank you to Rev. Tricia Gerhard and fellow Council members Denise Jones, Margaret Newbury Jones, Jan McIlroy, Kathy McPhail, Janice Neumann and Nancy Williamson. It has been a pleasure getting to know you and work with you and I look forward to serving as Past Char in 2026. All Council members wish Denise Jones well as she completes her three-year term as Treasurer and we thank her for her service. Finally, thank you to our

wonderful staff, whose professionalism, enthusiasm, innovation and patience is truly remarkable.

Sincerely,

Rhea Yates
Council Chair

Minister's Report

Seventy-five years ago, the new Westworth United Church congregation was growing its roots in the community of River Heights. It's hard to know what those first members of the congregation thought about what the next seventy-five years might hold, but they had the dedication and faith to ensure that there was a solid base from which to grow. It is incredible to see what this Community of Faith has achieved over the last seventy-five years, and it gives us the courage we need to take the risks that will shape the next seventy-five years: who we will be and what will be our lasting impact.

This past year, we've spent time looking at our history as a denomination (as we celebrated 100 years of the United Church of Canada) and our own history as a congregation. We've also spent time thinking and talking about the future of our church, locally and nationally. We've started some new things, maintained some traditions, and dreamed about the future. And all of this is good.

As minister of this amazing Community of Faith, I have had the opportunity to journey with many of you pastorally, through birth, life and death. The strength, resilience and vulnerability that I have witnessed has been humbling. I am deeply grateful for the ways you have welcomed me into your lives, both in joy and in sorrow.

Sunday morning worship continues to be a source of connection with each other and with God. Though the sanctuary may not be as jam-packed as it was in the 1950s, those who gather for worship are here for a reason. The mix of familiar and not-yet-familiar faces means that our congregation is welcoming new people in, while continuing to be a place where folks find comfort and the Spirit. Worship is enriched by the participation of lay folk of every age, and I have been particularly pleased to have the children and youth participating in worship on a more regular basis through serving communion with their families, lighting candles, reading scripture, and performing skits. I am deeply thankful for the leadership of the CE team, along with Katie Anderson (who ended their time with us in June 2025) and the parents and families of the kids and teens. Deep gratitude is also extended to the music leadership of Valdine Anderson and Megan Dufurat, the senior choir members, the choral scholars and the featured musicians who have joined us. We are deeply blessed by the gifts and time offered by these talented folks.

For me, some highlights from this past year include being part of the Faith Council called together by Mike Moroz, MLA for River Heights. Through the connection with Mr. Moroz, I had the opportunity to attend the Throne Speech at the Opening of Legislature, to be present for the installation of MLA Carla Compton, and to represent the United Church at the Premier's Prayer Summit at Government House. I continue to meet with the Visioning Committee as we work together to bring about the dreams for the westside of the building. We've shared services with St. Andrew's River Heights United Church, and we continue to build connections there, like the joint concert and shared worship to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada. Westworth has held many successful fundraisers and events, like Timeless Treasures, The Music Fund fundraiser concert, Centennial celebrations, Lessons and

Carols, and outreach learning opportunities. We've explored a variety of topics through worship and study.

I was invited to speak to the UCW twice this year – once about gender identity and related topics, and once to talk about my experiences at General Council 45 in Calgary. I was pleased to be a commissioner to the first General Council in five years, and to participate in the election of the new moderator. At General Council, I participated in the worship service where the Apology to the LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit community was offered. This was the culmination of the work I participated in with this task group on behalf of the National Church. I also finished my time as a participant in Moderator Carmen Lansdowne's (Re)Generate Leadership program where I was the only representative from Manitoba.

The past year has been rich with joy and challenge. There have been times of deep sorrow – the death of my father, the death of a dear friend and colleague, having COVID, breaking my arm – where I was reminded of the importance of community in the love and support shown not just me, but my family during those times. There have been times of deep joy as we celebrated our successes and hold onto the hope that keeps us striving for God and God's presence in River Heights and Winnipeg broadly. I am deeply thankful for the staff team that I get to be part of. Christine, Mel, Valdine, Megan, Jenny, Ray, Nicholas, Katie... these fine people ensure that the life and ministry of this place continues in a good way. I am also very grateful for the leadership, support and wisdom of our Council Chair, Rhea Yates, and the whole Council team. You'll see in the pages of this annual report the passion and dedication of our various Leadership Teams, all of whom with their team leads, ensure the mission and vision of Westworth is realized in the work that we do together. The staff, Council, Leadership Team and the dedicated volunteers of this Community of Faith ensure that we thrive and flourish. Together we, as the people of Westworth – no matter how long you've been here, how often you come, or how you are involved – we embody God's compassion and love for the world and each other. Together we are the hands, feet, and heart of Jesus, boldly speaking and living our faith, and inviting others to come and see what is happening here at Westworth.

Well done, faithful ones. This Annual Report is the witness and testimony to the ministry of the whole people of God as found at Westworth United. It is my pleasure and my joy to be the minister who gets to walk this journey with you. May God's blessings and love envelope you and remind you that you are beloved, always and forever.

Amen.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tricia Gerhard

75TH Anniversary Group

Westworth United Church reached a significant milestone in its faith journey on December 10th, 2025, celebrating 75 years of worship, fellowship and outreach. A small working group was formed to mark this milestone and assist the Community of Faith in celebrating our rich history. Members include Rev. Tricia Gerhard, Diane Riordan, Kim O'Grady, Barbara Wynes, Ruth Wiwchar, Barb Magarrell, and Marilyn Anderson Corkum and Kathy McPhail as co-leads.

A number of events were planned beginning with an anniversary cake following Worship on December 7th. Two special guests were invited to cut the cake, Nancy Doern White who is one of the first people baptised as an infant at Westworth United and who remains active in the congregation, and as well, Talia Gilmore, the most recent child baptised from our active children. As well a community of faith group photo was taken to mark the occasion.

We are so grateful to our archive team, led by Diane Riordan, who have organized and maintained our history over the past 75 years. Because of materials in the Westworth Archives the anniversary group was able to organize a variety of additional events.

Celebrations included viewing of historical pictures and documents on various times following worship. As well, three archival videos made on previous anniversary years were viewed by the congregation on three consecutive Sundays in late January and early February 2026. The earlier videos viewed were entitled: "Our Roots," "We were Young" and "The Spirit is Alive."

To mark this 75th year, a new video "Volunteer Voices", produced by Kim O'Grady, Ed White and Diane Riordan, was debuted during worship January 18th, highlighting our Vision and Values.

Westworth's 75th year was highlighted during Samedi Swing in March, and the milestone will again be mentioned as part of the Senior Choir's Spring Concert. The first weekend in May will highlight the 75th celebrations! With the assistance of Community Care, a congregational dinner and entertainment will be held on May 2, 2026. The following day on May 3rd, a special worship service is planned. Former Ministers, Assistants, staff, and congregational members have been invited to join these celebrations.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Anderson Corkum & Kathy McPhail
Co-leads of Westworth's 75th Anniversary Group

Affirming Ministry Team Report

It was a busy year. Our team met 7 times in 2025 - January 30, February 27, April 24, May 15, August 27, October 30, November 13.

Our liaison with Council is Kathy McPhail Thanks to Christine Strike for her support and assistance.

In no particular order:

AFFIRMING MINISTRIES are Communities of Faith within the United Church of Canada that publicly declare their commitment to inclusion and justice for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

- many have broadened that definition to cover everyone, no matter their interests, their sexual orientation, their ability, their race, their politics...
- yearly "dues" to Affirm United / S'affirme Ensemble
- AGM of this national association of the UCC was held in Prince Edward Island July 18 - 20, 2025. We did not send a representative. Heather attended the meeting on zoom.
- Large progressive flag - rainbow colours plus the chevron at one end in colours representing other aspects of affirming everyone - black, people of colour, trans folk, asexual, pansexual, etc.
- Affirm United offers a one hour coffee time on zoom to meet other folks from churches that are affirming or working on becoming affirming. It is usually on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. and is a good time to hear how other Community of Faiths are doing.

PIE DAY - Held each year on March 14 (pi) or the Sunday closest.

- The theme for PIE Day 2025 was song and music. Communities of Faith and individuals were invited to write a song and submit it for all to hear. Many were submitted and the winners can be heard on the website
- **PIE** - stands for **PUBLIC INTENTIONAL EXPLICIT** - how we are together as a church and also in public spaces and daily life
- -2025 was our 4th year of being an Affirming Ministry

EDUCATION - time for sharing learning

- Love in a Dangerous Time - the PURGE of LGBTQ+ folk who worked for the Federal Government, the RCMP and the Armed Forces of Canada - the display of this occurrence is at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. (CMHR). A small group of people toured the exhibit on a Sunday afternoon and had conversation at the 5th floor coffee shop. The exhibit in Gallery 1 will be available until Fall 2026. Sunday afternoons are free at the museum and many other members of WUC have seen it. If you can get there some day before Fall 2026, it is highly recommended.
- Movie Watch Parties - the team decided to show what it means to be PIE in the public sphere by offering movie times either in an evening or after church time.

Before Christmas we held a movie night and showed the movie Will and Harper - a 2024 Netflix

documentary following actor [Will Ferrell](#) and his close friend of 30 years, [Harper Steele](#), a former SNL writer, as they embark on a 16-day cross-country road trip after Steele comes out as a trans woman. We plan to continue hosting movies about different stories that honour human diversity.

PFLAG - parents and friends of Lesbians and Gays

- there was an Interest in setting up a group discussion for anyone that would be interested in this support - an introductory meeting was held with good conversation, but the setting up of an ongoing group was not feasible at this time.

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY - REGIONAL GROUP

Have offered zoom discussion in preparation of **PIE** Day and also before **PRIDE** Parade to share ideas on how to celebrate. E+D also offered an online webinar Unconscious Bias that was well attended. Heather is a member of this regional team. A calendar of special days in the year has been developed and is available on the Prairie to Pine website.

PRIDE PARADE - in Winnipeg is always on a Sunday which means that it is not possible for clergy to join their people in the parade and celebration. This year, 2025, Westworth United Church and St Andrews River Heights United Church (SARH) decided to worship together at SARH. Thanks to Rev Ray Cuthbert agreeing to lead worship at SARH. Both Rev Tricia and Rev Karen were able to participate in the Pride Parade. Rev. Tricia and Rev. Phil (St Mary's Road United Church) served communion to a few folk standing near the CMHR.

100th ANNIVERSARY - this team felt it was important that we be public intentional and explicit and so the decorations at the anniversary lunch included rainbow flags and numerous liturgical stoles decorating the auditorium. The Sunday school children and youth helped to make it joyful with paper chains of colours around the room. Thank you!

TICKET PRICING - we have had ongoing conversation about ticket prices for church events. It has been suggested that the ticket say \$X dollars or what you can pay. Another option would be for some folk who can afford to pay for an extra ticket that would be available for anyone who cannot afford the cost. Part of being an Affirming Community of Faith is being aware of the needs of our people and not be exclusionary because of cost.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Robbins

Archives Team Report

The mandate of the Archives team is to maintain the safe storage of materials of historical significance to Westworth. We met several times throughout the year to organize, record and file the documents submitted to us.

This year we continued to work on getting the Council minutes organized and filed. It is important that all team leaders send their team minutes to the office administrator. This ensures that minutes are deposited in the Archives. This includes Ad Hoc committees.

We also continued with our work updating our photo albums. Please pass along any photographs that you take at church functions to archives@westworth.ca . Please label all photographs submitted with date, event, and identification of people as well as who is submitting the photos.

This year, being the 75th anniversary of Westworth, we were involved in a variety of projects taking place in the church. We used the Memorial Cabinet throughout the year to showcase some of the history of the church over the past 75 years.

Respectfully submitted by: Diane Riordan on behalf of the Archive Team.

Archives Fund Financial Statement Jan1, 2025-Dec31, 2025

Balance Dec 31, 2024 (as per Annual Report)	749.90
Income -donation 2024 (correction)	100.00
Expenses- supplies 2024 (correction)	112.95
Expenses- supplies (2025)	273.73
Balance Dec 31, 2025	463.22

Christian Education Team Report

The Christian Education Team (C.E.) supports the work of the Coordinator for Children, Youth and Family Ministry (C.C.F.M.) in providing Sunday morning programming for our children and youth. C.E. works primarily with Youth Group, Sunday School, and family-based events.

This past year the C.E. team had regular monthly meetings and events. Katie Anderson left the Coordinator position after running Vacation Bible School (V.B.S.) in July of 2025. The Coordinator position remained vacant until January of 2026, when I transitioned from the role of C.E. team lead (volunteer) into the Coordinator (staff) position. A big thank you to Rev. Tricia Gerhard and Marilyn Anderson-Corkum for their continued support throughout the transitions C.E. has experienced. Thank you also to Leslie Rodgers for her leadership support as previous C.E. team lead. The C.E. team now consists of Rachael Doerr (staff), Danielle Cadieux, Brooklyn Linnick, Leslie Rodgers, and Marilyn Anderson-Corkum. Meetings are generally held monthly at the Church before services.

Sunday School has regular attendance with a weekly average of a dozen children and youth. Sunday School is led by Danielle Cadieux. Unfortunately, in the fall of 2025 both Julia Shayna and Cheryl Ennis had to step down as Sunday School teachers. Big thank you to parents for assisting in helping support Sunday School by volunteering to be downstairs with the children and Danielle. Since Christmas time, Signey Anderson has been helping in Sunday School with Danielle. Children and youth continue to begin service upstairs where Rev. Tricia provides a sharing time with them and then I bring them downstairs and assist with the Sunday School.

Easter 2025 service was enriched with Katie Anderson organizing a hand bell song as performed by Sunday School children and youth. C.E. Team organized with the help of Katie Anderson a successful Spring Family Picnic held at the Church after service with games following at Sir John Franklin Park site. C.E. also organized a Welcome Back fall Potluck with a great turn out from Westworth Families. C.E. hosted what has become an annual Christmas Crafts Afternoon at Church where all were welcome. Families and church congregants filled the Parlour after service for hot chocolate provided by C.E., potluck style lunch, and many unique craft stations. Huge thanks to all the parents and congregants who helped and volunteered for the event. C.E. also held the annual holiday poinsettia sale with many thanks to Christine Strike for help and organization in this fundraiser. For Christmas, in absence of a Coordinator, Marilyn Anderson-Corkum, Jewel Casselman and Signey Anderson (with the support of the C.E. team and Rev. Tricia) stepped in and organized a wonderfully successful Christmas pageant. Many children practiced and performed the last Sunday of Advent before Christmas Eve "A Sheepish Event: The Birth of Jesus" and the Song "Go Tell it on the Mountain". Huge thanks to staff, families, teachers, congregants, and sound techs for all their help in making it such a hit!

V.B.S. programming was held the last week of July with the theme "Jumping into Gods Love". Thanks to the youth who came to help and assist.

Westworth Youth Group was held monthly with a brief hiatus in summer and fall months. Led in winter and spring 2025 by Katie Anderson, and late 2025 by Rev. Tricia, this grade 6-12 group met monthly. There are plans to have the youth more involved in outreach going forward. This year due to not having a Coordinator until 2026, C.E. had to decline the opportunity to host Zeebu with plans to possibly host in fall of 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachael Doerr

Communications Team Report

The main activity of the communications team has been livestreaming the Sunday services. We now have three teams who have been fully trained to operate the audio and video system.

Thank you to Sara Epp and family, Jacob Gerhard, Evan Mitchell and Walter Watts for their assistance.

The weekly newsletter is produced by Christine Strike in the office and Christine and Ed White have been updating the church Facebook and Instagram pages.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Sim

Community Care Team Report

Team Members:

Sharon Stanley, Lead
Heather Crockett
Arlene Hintsa
Anne Love
Judy Steen
Jan McIlroy

Community Care Support Team:

Funeral Coordinator: Wendy Moroz
Greeters: Arlene Hintsa, Al Mapes, Glenda Oldham, Leigh Jaques, Barb Magarrell, Dorothy Reid
Cards to Congregants: Nancy Williamson
One on one visitors: Nancy Doern-White, Earl Gould, Barb Gwyer, Arlene Hintsa, Carol Hunter, Allan McKay, Marion McKay, Wendy Moroz, Dorothy Reid, Heather Robbins, Shirley Ann Simkulak, Shirley Watts, Carol Wilkie, Nancy Williamson, Kathy Wilson, Dorcas Windsor

Once again, we had a very busy year, and there were times when our team was cleaning up from one event and setting up for another event on the same day. We could never do this on our own, and therefore, a huge thank you to everyone in the congregation who willingly assists with anything and everything. Many don't even wait to be asked – they just stay and dig in. Your valuable support is the reason that each event is a successful one.

We modified our event to welcome newcomers to Westworth this year, and it was very popular. This will be our go-forward model for what we now call the Gathering of Newcomers. Community Care and some additional great bakers put together a delightful table of treats along with coffee/tea after church and the entire congregation was invited to spend some time with our newcomers. It was hugely successful and there were so many positive comments – of course we will do the next one in the same format.

Fellowship Sundays are very popular as well. Many individuals have either signed to provide baking or just tell us that they are bringing contributions to specific ones. Thank you to all who provide baking and thank you to everyone who supports these fellowship Sundays and makes the narthex a very noisy and popular place to hang out.

Lessons and Carols is a special Westworth event, and we are always delighted to add some magic with baking and decorating the gym. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to spend time with the choir members and visiting choir(s) too, celebrating their beautiful music and enjoying some tasty treats. Again, our bakers are the best!!!

A tea is held for our one-on-one visitors who visit several congregants who are unable to attend church services, either permanently or temporarily. We love hosting this event in the spring as well and say a huge thank you to those who are faithfully in regular contact with those congregants.

This past spring was so busy; we were dizzy at times with the planning for several events over a short period of time. The 100th anniversary for the United Church of Canada was in 2025, and we partnered with St. Andrews to host a reception at Westworth following a shared service at Westworth. We joined forces with their Community Care individuals as well, created a menu, prepared the food, setup, decorating, cleanup. The gym was so full and noisy, and everyone was loving the food along with the celebration.

The following week, Community Care and UCW members hosted the Retired Ministers' luncheon as part of their 100th celebration and prepared a lovely lunch for them.

Not long after those events were finalized, we were heavily involved in the community event and barbeque that Council initiated. It was great to plan and shop, but the weatherman decided to provide us "special weather." In fact, it was rather cold, but the barbeque food helped warm everyone up. The event was made even more special from the "Haskins Street band."

We started this fall with some planning for Westworth's 75th anniversary in December. Community Care has a small part to play and are assisting wherever needed. We handled the kickoff reception and are included in some of the 75th anniversary team's planning for upcoming events in 2026. More information will come from that team as the year proceeds.

Nancy Williamson sends cards to our congregants who are ill or celebrating special events, as well as to family members who experienced a family loss. This year, Nancy sent out 108 cards on behalf of Westworth.

Funerals: There were 9 funerals that were held at Westworth this year. Wendy Moroz is our funeral coordinator, and she arranges a volunteer host to be responsible for organizing each funeral reception. Wendy also performs the host role as well. Each host arranges for volunteers to handle the receptions. The list of volunteers was expanded last year, following a call out for additional helpers. Thank you everyone who responded and are now added to the list.

If you are interested in helping at any of our events, watch the bulletin board in the narthex where we generally have sign up sheets for various events. Your time and talents are always welcome and appreciated, and especially your humour.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Stanley, Lead

Ministry and Personnel Committee Report

In 2025, the M&P committee chair position was shared by Margaret Newbury Jones and Janice Neumann (1 year term). The Ministry and Personnel committee members this past year were Daryl Brooks, Tannis Hewitt, Judy Steen and 1 new committee member, Carol Galbraith.

Janice Neumann is stepping away from her role and the M&P committee after many years of service on this committee. We thank her for her hard work and dedication to the work of the M&P committee for her extended tenure. We will miss her contributions and historical perspective.

Staffing at Westworth remained stable with the exception of Katie Anderson who resigned as Coordinator of Children, Youth, and Families ministries effective the end of June 2025. M&P were able to replace Katie with Rachael Doer who started in January of 2026.

Many thanks to all staff who maintain the day to day running of Westworth United.

Our current staff consists of:

Melanie Adams – custodian

Valdine Anderson – music director

Megan Dufurat – collaborative pianist and organist

Tricia Gerhard – minister

Jenny Jeffers – accountant

Nicholas Firth – summer building security

Ray McClelland – building security

Christine Strike – administrator

The M&P committee is responsible for the business side of Westworth United as an employer. Our committee undergoes tasks such as reviewing job descriptions, creating new human resources policies, conducting performance reviews and supporting staff. The committee meets monthly September through June.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the M&P Committee,
Janice Neumann (Co-Chair) and Margaret Newbury Jones (Co-Chair)

Prairie to Pine Regional Representatives Report

Throughout 2025, the Prairie to Pine Council sent weekly newsletters to the representatives by email containing information about regional events, wider church events, educational opportunities, committee/team training, prayer concerns, and items relating to ministry personnel.

Westworth hosted a luncheon for Ministry Personnel Pensioners from the Region on June 10th. There were close to 60 people in attendance, served by Westworth volunteers.

Many communities of faith and Clusters of Communities of Faith throughout the Region gathered in June for special services and events in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada.

The Regional Retiree's Celebration was held at the United Church in Meadowood on June 14th and celebrated the following Ministry Personnel and Regional Council staff who were retiring: Jeanne Bryan, Heather Dootoff, Caryn Douglas, Laurie Howard, Meg Illman-White, Margaret McCallum, Sherri McConnell, and Beth Rutherford. The Annual Celebration of Ministry Service was held June 15th at MacGregor United Church. The Rev. Elijah Mwandila was admitted to the Order of Ministry of the United Church.

The 45th General Council took place in Calgary from August 7-11 with 14 Commissioners attending from the Prairie to Pine Region including Rev. Tricia Gerhard. The various sessions and services were available for viewing online. A significant event was the United Church of Canada's Apology to Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+/queer/gender-diverse people on Friday, August 8th at Knox United Church in Calgary. A group gathered to watch the livestream service in Westworth's Parlour. The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath was elected the 45th Moderator of the United Church of Canada on August 9th.

The community of Crestview United Church held the final worship service in their building at 316 Hamilton Avenue on September 28th. The church property was sold and the Community of Faith will worship in their new home, Messiah Lutheran Church on Rouge Road.

A Covenanting Service was held on October 19th celebrating the pastoral relationship between Kindred Spirits Collaborative Ministry (John Black Memorial United and Immanuel United), the Rev. Oluwajimi Dairo (Ordained Minister in the Admissions Program), and Prairie to Pine Regional Council.

On November 9th, a Covenanting Service was held at McClure United that celebrated the Uniting Rural and Urban Collaborative Ministry between Rosser-Grosse Isle, McClure United and Rev. Heather Sandilands.

The Prairie to Pine Regional Meeting was held online on November 13th. There were 141 "sign-ins" for the meeting. Business included the Nominations Report, resources for stewardship, a presentation on *Toward 2035*, a report from General Council 45, the

Apology to the Two Spirit LGBTQIA+ Community, and the status of the Indigenous Church within the United Church of Canada.

Rev. Tricia Gerhard will be serving as Co-Chair with Dawn Rolke of the Regional Council for 2026-2027 after the Regional Council Meeting in May.

We are pleased to serve in the role of representing Westworth at this level of governance of the United Church of Canada.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorcas and Kirk Windsor

Prayer Shawl Ministry Report

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group continues to offer comfort to our congregants and others in need. The group's efforts, combined with those of our Minister, have allowed the congregation to reach out to 16 people in 2025. Our shawls were shared with congregants and friends and family. We welcome folks letting Tricia Gerhard know of people who may benefit from receiving a shawl. Donations in support of this ministry are appreciated.

The Prayer Squares continue to be available for everyone to pick up and share in the Narthex and have allowed us to reach many more people.

Respectfully submitted by,
Barb Magarrell

Property Team Report

The Property Team continued in 2025 to implement its work plan for the building that it developed following the Building Condition Assessment that was conducted in 2023.

Three significant projects were undertaken this year. A ceiling repair was completed in the Narthex, extensive parts of the building exterior were re-painted, and brick repairs and brick re-pointing was done on the majority of the building. In addition, a number of concrete repairs were completed near the front entrance and the choir room entrance. The Property Team continues to defer work, where possible, on the west portion of the building, pending a decision on potential redevelopment.

In addition to these major projects, the Team continues to focus on its core mandate, ensuring that the building and grounds so that all who come to Westworth find a welcoming, clean, and safe place to visit, work and worship.

As this is my final year on the Property Team, I would like to take a little extra space in thanking a variety of people who make the work of the Property team easier, and even enjoyable. This is especially true of the team itself: Al Mapes, Ray McClelland, Allan McKay, Kyle Mitchell and Frank Wynes. This group is dedicated and always willing to help with their own hands to get projects done, or with their ideas and wisdom when guiding others and making decisions with the team.

There are many Westworth volunteers beyond the Property Team who are often willing to step up and help make the load of the Property Team lighter. This is especially true of the volunteers who have assisted this year with the gardens. There is a special report on that work this year from Teresa Sztaba who has lead much of that effort.

Finally, I would most like to thank our staff, Melanie Adams and Christine Strike who each perform their work with efficiency and grace and who work so well to support each other. Having Christine and Melanie working together has made the last few years on the Property Team a pleasure. With this team in place, I know Westworth is in good hands.

Submitted by Paul Chard,
Property Team Leader

Gardening Team Report

Gardening season in 2025 brought several changes to the Westworth Gardens and their care. There were challenges – as there always are with gardening – as well as some wonderful developments. Among the most wonderful was the formation of a small gardening team to assist in the work of weeding, watering and clean-up – and there was a LOT of watering needed during the couple of months of drought that we encountered early in the season.

We were able to purchase at low cost a couple of used hose reels, and gained hoses, nozzles and a plain oscillating sprinkler.

The pollinator garden on the east side, intended to be a tangible representation to the community of our care and concern for the environment, is a work in progress but coming along well. Many of the pollinator plants were in their second year (the “creep” year of the “sleep, creep, leap” progression) and, thus, had a lush look. The native plants, in particular, thrived despite challenging weather. Many new plants we added, donated or purchased (at sales!) from funds provided by the Property Team. These were primarily perennials with the addition of a few donated annual plants, as well as annuals that had been seeded late last year or in spring. Several established plants were transplanted to more optimal spots. Free compost from the City of Winnipeg was added to part of the area. Labels were added for all plants on the east side, in keeping with the educational and community engagement aspect of the goals for the garden. We had several positive comments from community residents who were walking or stopping by. Bees and other pollinators were abundant.

Many new plantings were added to the north side shade gardens as well. We also were blessed with beautiful potted plants at the entrance, donated by Heather Crockett and Ray McClelland.

Although there had been a plan to add a bench to the east side, as an invitation to the community, Council took advantage of a United Church picnic table initiative. The lovely picnic table purchased by Council seemed inviting to many, and at times when we arrived to do gardening, we were pleased to notice visitors enjoying it. One major challenge this past year was the significant damage to shrubs and perennials that occurred during repair work done to the church roof. Many plants were levelled and there was a fair bit of clean-up necessary. Fortunately, by the end of the season it appeared that many of these plants were recovering.

There has been some discussion about installing a “Westworth Community Pollinator Garden” sign on the east side and perhaps the Property Team may consider that proposal for next year. As well, it would be a great help to have a couple of good sprinklers with timers to assist with watering in the coming season, given that watering with a hose or regular sprinkler can be ineffective and/or time-consuming. A hose extension and reel on the east side also would be of assistance, as there is no good place to leave the hose and the faucet, which sits behind large shrubs, is difficult and sometimes messy to access.

We had hoped to have the Sunday School youth plant annuals (likely Impatiens) on the north side this past year but, unfortunately, that plan didn't come to fruition. The youth would be very welcome to participate in planting annuals this year.

Many thanks to the enthusiastic and supportive gardening team: Kathy and Alan Wilson, Heather Crockett, Glenda Oldham, Jan McIlroy, Christine Strike, Frank and Barb Wynes, Paul Chard, David Gerhard and Bruce Tefft. I want to express my particular thanks and appreciation to Kathy, Alan, Heather, Glenda, Jan, and Christine for their help with watering, weeding and clean-up; to Alan for his wisdom

with trees and assistance with pruning shrubs; to Frank, Kathy, and Paul for their hard work at spring clean-up; to Glenda for her cheery help with fall trimming, and to Bruce and Alan McKay for bringing us bins of compost from the City. Thanks especially to Bruce, who, despite having a painful and not very functional knee, still donated countless hours to watering, weeding, digging, clean-up and spreading compost.

Along with the rest of the team, we look forward to another year of working, and delighting, in our Westworth Gardens (and the coming “leap” growing phase).

With gratitude,
Teresa Sztaba, Lead Gardener

Senior Choir Executive Team Report

The Senior Choir has continued to thrive under the leadership of Valdine Anderson, Director of Music, and Megan Dufurat, Collaborative Pianist. Including Valdine and Megan, we currently have 38 members. Our choral scholars for the 2024-2025 year (September 2024 to June 2025) were: Sloan Smith (soprano), Isabelle Buisson (alto), Evan Glazier (tenor), and Dariyan Dubik (bass). Sloan, Evan, and Darian all graduated in spring 2025 and so did not return as choral scholars in fall of 2025. As of September 2025, our choral scholars are Isabelle Buisson (alto), who has continued from last year, with new scholars Charlton Turcotte (bass); Riley Walker (tenor) and Juliana West (soprano) joining us. The choral scholars are leaders in their sections, provide beautiful solos and inspirational pieces during worship. As a choir, we appreciate their contribution to the musical experience!

Lessons and Carols, which occurred on December 14, 2025, was again well attended and successful. Our guest choir this year for Lessons and Carols was Ragazzi Boys' Choir, who were a welcome and energetic addition to the programme! Additionally, the Westworth Winds played a selection of Christmas music prior to the service. We closed the Christmas season with a beautiful candlelight Christmas Eve service that, despite a stomach flu taking out many of the sopranos went without a hitch! Proceeds from the offerings at Lessons and Carols were split between the Music Enhancement Fund and the Westworth General Fund.

The Senior Choir Executive Team has found that two or three fundraisers are necessary each year to ensure that the Music Enhancement Fund contains sufficient funds to support the Choral Scholars Program. In spring of 2025 the choir and choral scholars with the addition of guest soloist Tracey Dahl presented P'Opera, an afternoon of opera and musical theatre treats. Then in the fall we held a successful Sobey's card fundraiser. We will also be holding a fundraising concert in spring, 2026, which will focus around musical theatre and feature works from the choral scholars, members of the choir, and the choir as a whole.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah McPhail
Choir Executive President

Social and Environmental Justice Team Report

Social & Environmental Justice Team Mandate:

Westworth Social & Environmental Justice Team, together with the congregation at Westworth, strives to serve the community beyond our walls locally, nationally, and abroad, by identifying and providing opportunities to act out our church's mandate to be "the hands, feet and heart of Christ". The Social & Environmental Justice Team receives support from the Westworth congregation as the Team challenges and engages the Community of Faith in social and environmental justice issues.

1 Just City

With the changing of the purpose of the 3 sites that 1 Just city facilitates we no longer were providing meatball sub lunches but were providing items for the Housing Hub at the West Broadway program site. Thank you to all the contributors and Dan for delivering the items.

Assiniboia Residential School Legacy Group

We are very fortunate for the dedication of Ruth Wiwchar as a board member of the ASRLG. In 2025 on September 30 the Historic Sites and Monuments Plaque unveiling took place. We recommend taking a tour of the website.



<https://assiniboiaresidentialschool.com/>

Orange Shirt Day

Our congregation was blessed with Jennifer Wood's story on our Orange Shirt Sunday. It was amazing to see so many orange shirts in the sanctuary and we thank you all for your participation. We were entertained by Jedidiah Swampy's drum group and a dancer.



Rooster Town

Marion and Allan McKay championed the Rooster Town walks, creating displays taken in by many in the narthex and leading full groups of folks on walks to see sites of significance throughout the original Rooster Town area.

Rossbrook House

45 years of donating turkeys! Allan McKay continued to lead the group of dedicated turkey cookers bringing over 20 turkeys with gravy and oranges. We are looking for a new lead for this well-established initiative. Our mitten tree yielded 5 bags of hats, mitts and neck warmers for Rossbrook house.

Israel/Gaza War

Continued discussions amongst our group allowed for a safe space to discuss our feelings and anguish over the ongoing fighting in the Middle East. We were able to provide a safe space for the Women Wage Peace group to meet and will be financially supporting the Women Wage Peace gathering at the Human Rights Museum in April 2026.

Eyeglasses, Aluminum Pull-Tabs are collected and delivered. Jan McIlroy delivers the glasses to her optometrist who sends them on to Lenscrafters, where the technicians refurbish the glasses and give them to those in need. The tabs go to Carpathia School, where children and staff add them to their own collection of tabs that eventually buy wheelchairs! These items can be dropped off in the library.

Earth day was celebrated on April 27 with treats from the SAEJ team and a Sunday worship service themed around "Our Power, Our Planet". We also hosted the blessing of the wheels in conjunction with the service.

Lunch and Learn

We were excited to have representatives from the Jubilee Fund and LITE come and explain the benefits in supporting those programs.

Serviceberry Book Discussion

Many members of the team had read the book and wanted to share its value with others. 16 folks gathered in the parlour and enjoyed a discussion. Thank you Frank for facilitating.

As a new leader of a team here at Westworth, I want to thank my team members and our Community of Faith for being stewards of the earth and seeking justice when and where necessary. The knowledge and dedication of Westworthians is something to be celebrated.

Allan McKay

Marion McKay

Kathy McPhail

Christine Strike

Barbara Wynes

Frank Wynes

Tricia Gerhard (ex-officio)

Christine Strike (chair)

Respectfully Submitted, Christine Strike

Trustees Report

Congregational property is held by the Trustees. They hold the title and are responsible for the physical property of the church on behalf of the United Church of Canada. Included in this responsibility is ensuring adequate property and liability insurance is in place and this is usually done in consultation with the Property Committee. Trustees must give the same care and attention to congregational property as a reasonable person would give to their own property.

The Trustees met once in 2025. The Trustees reviewed the financial statements of Westworth and are comfortable there is reasonable financial stability.

Westworth continues to participate in the UCC Protect Master Policy that covers almost 1,000 participants in a national contract. To control escalating costs, the United Church created a self-insurance subsidiary in 2022 (Kindred Insurance). To date, this change has been beneficial with our 2025 premium lower than it was in 2021-2022. Even better, on November 27th we received notice that there would not be any premium increase for this upcoming year. (The premiums run from December 1st to the following December 1st)

The National Church's decisive move to create its own insurance company should allow more flexibility. User friendly enhancements are currently being developed including, notably, the ability to opt for a cash settlement value instead of building replacement; this option should be evaluated following completion of the Westworth's facility use review.

The Trustees shared with the Visioning Committee several potential concerns about the need to have protocols for financial records and contracting processes in place as that group moves into the next stage of its work.

Respectfully submitted,

The Trustees

Kent Magarrell (Chair), Anne Love, Dan Wiwchar, Tricia Gerhard

United Church Women (UCW) Report

At Westworth, approximately 50 women are affiliated with 2 active groups.

Unit 77 (contact person – Dorcas Windsor) meets in person and via Zoom on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month. This year they read and discussed “How to Age Disgracefully” by Clare Pooley, “The Bluest Eye” by Toni Morrison, “How to Read a Book” by Monica Wood, “Before We Were Yours” by Lisa Wingate, “The Garden of Evening Mists” by Tan Twan Eng, “Come, Thou Tortoise” by Jessica Grant, “The Bonesetter’s Daughter” by Amy Tan and “Theory of Water” by Leanne Betasamosake Simpson.

Unit 94 (contacts – Heather Crockett and Dorcas Windsor) meets on the third Tuesday evening of each month in the Parlour. They learned from a variety of speakers: Tom Yung about basic Tai Chi, Rev. Tricia Gerhard regarding 2SLGBTQIA++ politics and the breadth of gender/sexuality expression, Dorcas Windsor led a discussion of the Broadview article “Glory Days” and Tricia Gerhard presented highlights from the 2025 United Church General Council meeting in Calgary. In April they met at the Bruce Oake Recovery Centre for a personal and very informative presentation and tour by Scott Robson, the Operations Manager. The group socialized over a January pot-luck breakfast and a May pot-luck evening. Unit 94 assembled 16 layette gift bags for the West Broadway Well Baby Program, which included blankets and hats knit by Morag Bergthorson and Alma Acheson and items sewn by Dorothy Reid and Nancy Doern-White.

Our **UCW Thankoffering Service and Dessert Party** was held on June 2 with 50 women in attendance. The worship was led by Gladys Cadieux and Shirley Watts, with Dorcas Windsor on piano to accompany the hymns. The worship service theme of “Here I Am” was adapted from one prepared by the National UCW Council, and highlighted women’s accomplishments over 100 years of the United Church of Canada.

In celebration of Westworth’s 75 years, Nancy Doern-White shared a PowerPoint presentation with stories of Westworth’s amazing women, recognizing contributions in leadership, innovation, advocacy, fun(d)raising, behind the scenes care and compassion and so much more. People then enjoyed dessert and fellowship in the gym, and everyone went home with a small floral arrangement. Many in attendance made personal donations to the **United Church Mission and Service Fund**, and \$935.00 was raised.

The Timeless Treasures Sale, with Preserves and Bake Table, and Tea Room with Scones took place on October 25. This community building event was co-chaired by Wendy Moroz and Janet Sealey. We attracted over 500 visitors and raised a record \$17,700. (By comparison, this event raised \$9,300. In 2015). Ken Martin’s artwork was also available for sale. Many thanks to the volunteers who spent countless hours preparing items to be sold, setting up, pricing items, advertising, organizing shifts for volunteers, serving, washing dishes, packing items, counting money and cleaning up. Thanks also the Westworth Walkers for delivering advertising flyers for this event to

homes in the neighbourhood. Having the use of the “Dungeon” for year-round storage of donated items has been very helpful. After many years, Wendy Moroz is stepping down as co-chair, and Gladys Cadieux will join Janet Sealey as the 2026 co-chairs.

Members of **UCW** and the **Community Care Team** met in January to discuss **kitchen responsibilities**; specifically cleaning, inventory and most importantly, refurbishing (stocking and replacing of items, such as coffee urns and plates). Dorothy Reid then met with the Property Team. Going forward, UCW, in consultation with the Community Care Team, will be responsible for stocking items in the kitchen and will include funds for this in their annual budget. They will dispose of broken or unneeded items. Thanks to Heather Crockett (representing UCW) and Sharon Stanley (representing Community Care) for taking the lead on this.

Heather Crockett (lead), and others hosted 75 people at the **Regional Pensioners Luncheon** at Westworth on June 10.

In December, **shortbread** was prepared by several UCW members and trays were again assembled by Jennifer Snyder. These trays were delivered by volunteers who do one-on-one visiting on behalf of the Westworth **Community Care Team**.

Donations were made in 2024 to the **Memorial Fund** in memory of June Masters and Connie Goertzen.

The UCW supported the **Special Appeals Fund** with a donation of \$900.

Nancy Doern-White, UCW Coordinator

Visioning Committee Report

In 2025, Council formally agreed that Westworth United Church should join a research project (*Shared Ground*) implemented by 546 Architecture, led by principal architects Jordy Craddock and Shannon Wiebe. The project, funded by Infrastructure Canada, is focused on finding ways to enable non-profits such as WUC to develop affordable housing (usually defined as having rents no more than 80% of market rates).

By joining the research project, Westworth received very considerable expert technical assistance, at no cost to us, from 546 Architecture regarding the detailed planning necessary to determine if building affordable housing to partially replace the gymnasium is feasible from several perspectives (architectural, engineering, mechanical, etc.). 546 Architecture also provided invaluable technical assistance regarding understanding the church development and rezoning processes, and interfacing with City planners. Finally, 546 Architecture compiled preliminary building and revenue estimates showing that our project could be financially sustainable in the long term.

People have frequently asked the question “why is the Visioning Committee exploring the feasibility of building affordable housing (usually defined as having rents no more than 80% of market rates) to partially replace the gymnasium?” The Committee’s mandate includes advancing the mission of Westworth United Church (affordable housing and day care were identified years ago as priorities by the Community of Faith). It also includes creating income stream that will help sustain WUC long-term. A day care alone would accomplish the first goal but not the second to a significant degree. However, if it proves feasible, having three floors of housing above a day care may not only make us eligible for large pools of capital currently available from government for housing construction, but also generate an ongoing revenue stream (from rents) that could go a long way toward sustaining the Church.

Early in 2025, we sketched out tentatively what a rebuilt west end and narthex would look like functionally, as well as the allocation of space on the basement and ground floors to best support those functions. Floor plans were developed for three levels of housing, a day care on the first floor, and rebuilt space for church usage, including a commercial kitchen, on the first floor and basement.

We met with City of Winnipeg planners regarding rezoning our land (currently zoned R1, single family dwelling) to allow for the above elements, as well as community outreach activities and possibly a community nurse (together comprising a community hub, tentatively named Westworth Centre). We received a positive response initially. However, our city planner changed in late spring and the new planner was much more restrictive. We reached out to our City Councilor and MLA. Subsequently, a new planner was assigned to our file, and we are back to our original plan. Both elected officials are enthusiastic about – and very supportive of – our plans.

We held an open house on February 22, 2025, for the Community of Faith to (a) update them on our progress to date and (b) provide an opportunity for the Community of Faith to ask questions and provide feedback. Bruce Tefft explained briefly the Visioning Committee process to date and Jordy Craddock guided those in attendance (roughly 75 members) through an informative PowerPoint presentation. A lively Q & A session followed.

Funding

In spring, 2025, we submitted a successful grant application to the province's From The Ground Up program for funds to allow detailed professional work, including creation of a business plan, to be accomplished in the next 15 months. \$100,000 was received. Council voted to supplement this amount, if necessary, with \$16,000 of church funds. The above work will be in addition to the services we have already received and will continue to receive by virtue of being a Shared Ground research site.

We also submitted a grant in the spring to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Energy Fund Sustainable Affordable Housing (FCM-GEF-SAH) program. This program focuses specifically on building energy-efficient affordable housing. The application form is long, very detailed, and largely professional/technical in nature. Jordy Craddock and Shannon did the heavy lifting in this regard. Any funds received (up to \$250,000) will be used to demonstrate the feasibility of building the housing we have envisioned to FCM's very high standards and to develop more precise building plans. We expect to be informed of a decision in early 2026.

With Council's agreement, in the fall we submitted a grant application for \$50,000 to the Winnipeg Foundation's Community Grants program. Any funds received will be directed toward hiring a legal firm to (a) advise us on the best governance structure for Westworth Centre and (b) pay the rezoning application fee when and if we reach that point.

United Church Support

We held a video conference with Rev. Miriam Bowlby (Chair of the United Church Property Commission in February) to discuss what the United Church of Canada would support and/or allow regarding ownership of a redeveloped Westworth, should it become a community hub.

Subsequently, we have had several meetings with Ken Thomas, Chair of the Prairie to Pine Region Property Commission. Mr. Thomas has expressed strong support for Shared Ground as an applied research project and for our vision of building housing, a day care, and new church space.

Mr. Thomas recommended that Westworth go through the legal steps to update the names of our Trustees on the property registry. Although there may be some cost for this, he said that updating will be necessary whatever we end up doing with the property, including applying for rezoning.

Approval by Council and the Community of Faith

The mandate of the Visioning Committee is to explore the feasibility and cost of redeveloping Westworth United Church to advance its mission and help sustain its financial viability long-term. This has proven to be an extremely complicated, evolving process. Nonetheless, the decision to move forward (or not) with any redevelopment proposal rests with Council and the Community of Faith. We reiterate that the goal of the Committee is to enable Council and the Community of Faith to make an informed decision based on detailed, accurate, and professionally sound information.

Committee Membership

After many years of dedicated service, Dianne Sjoberg had to leave the Committee when she moved out of town. Similarly, Marilyn Anderson Corkum left the Committee to focus her great energy as a volunteer on other aspects of Westworth life. Kent

Magarrell, already a church Trustee, agreed to join the Committee, as did Al Mapes. The other members are Keith Love (Vice-Chair), Tricia Gerhard, Sharon Stanley, and Arlene Hintsa,

Respectfully,
Bruce Tefft, Chair

Westworth Centre Report

The concept of Westworth Centre came out of the Visioning Committee as a way of reaching beyond our walls to a wider community of seniors and the more senior population with programs and hospitality. A grant was accessed in 2024/25 to hire a part-time term program co-ordinator to work with the Visioning Committee members to launch this program. The weekly programs and their leadership were well accomplished before this grant money ran out. We bid farewell to Erika Olson in June 2025 and this has meant significant work for us to divide up the tasks of the co-ordinator. We are grateful to all who picked up these extra tasks. At the end of June, we said goodbye to Dianne Sjoberg who has been a strong and diligent visionary from the beginning. Thank you, Dianne!! Rachael Doerr volunteered as Program Coordinator in late summer, and we are so appreciative of her enthusiasm and willingness to explore new ideas for events and activities. We are grateful to Christine Strike for her ways of being creative, helpful and always so hospitable and to Melanie Adams who ensures that every space shines and ensures that spaces are perfect for the various events and activities.

During this year, Westworth United Church was fortunate to receive a New Horizons Grant to be used to engage seniors from the wider community in leadership of a Seniors Supporting Seniors for Fun and Learning speaker series. The funds were given for us to purchase more accessible chairs as well as funding for up to six sessions (speakers, food and advertising). This is proving to be another successful and well-received event on our calendars with attendance ranging from 45 - 100+. The co-ordination of this project is being done by a team of people from beyond and within Westworth United.

There are presently seven weekly programs being offered by Westworth Centre, bringing a wide variety of people together in our building. For all the leaders who are gifting their time and skill, we are grateful for their dedication and wonderful spirits.

Generally, the seniors and their activities don't meet during the summer months, except for Tai chi. There is a nice blend of Westworth congregants and outside individuals who are looking for this type of programming with dedicated students and instructors.

All events are regularly posted on the Westworth United Church website, the Westworth Centre website, the Westworth Weekly, and the South Winnipeg Seniors Resource Council (SWSRC) who have an email distribution list of 500+ that reaches organizations and individuals in the south and west portions of Winnipeg. In addition, regular information is sent out via email to all current and previous participants in any Westworth Centre activities. The modest number of participants in our early days has

blossomed into a regular number of individuals who attend, and we continue to see new faces in the various events and activities.

Initially meeting with community and Westworth congregants, a conversation and survey were created for everyone to put forward their suggestions for programming that would interest them. There have been many successful activities that are still well attended, and some newer ones have been added. It's important to keep the programming fresh and welcoming to all. Current activities include Tai chi, line dancing, board games/coffee/chat, chair yoga, campfire guitar at beginner and intermediate levels, and the newest activity is Argentine tango.

Submitted Sharon Stanley,
Visioning Committee Member

W3TA

With an email list of thirty people and a weekly group of between 6 and 16, W3TA continues to serve a need for an hour's worth of free-wheeling conversation mixed with a bit of exercise. This group meets each Tuesday at 1:00 PM year-round to walk together in a variety of locations.

For those of you who missed the explanation of our name, this group was originally planned for Wednesdays, so was known as **Westworth Wednesday Walkers (W cubed)**, but we had to shift days of the week, and became a **Tuesday Afternoon** version - hence and thus the **W3TA** moniker, and we welcome anyone who would like to stroll with some pretty friendly people.

Women's Spirituality Group Report

The Women's Spirituality Group met January to June, August to December 2025 usually on the second Saturday of each month. Our meetings were held in the Church Parlour except January-March when we met on Zoom. Also, in June and August, we gathered in Teresa Sztaba's peaceful backyard for a social time. We are an inclusive group and welcome any person who identifies as a woman. As well, non Westworth members are welcome to participate. The Group provides a supportive and non judgmental atmosphere for women to explore their spiritual journeys.

Our format continues to be the same: opening prayer, personal sharing and discussion about a topic chosen the group. Women take turns facilitating the discussions. As always, our topics were varied and included: "Strength of Spirit through Your Ancestors"; "Exploring 2SLGBTQIA+ and Issues as Grandparents"; Finding Joy in a Personal Care Home"; "What Gives You Joy?"; the Spirituality of Gardening and Creating Miniature Indoor Gardens"; "How Our Lives Were Shaped in Our Childhood by People or Events"; and "Let Your Heart Sing (our favourite Christmas music or hymns).

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Wilson

Worship Team Report

The mandate of the Worship Team is to “provide leadership in the assessment of the needs of the congregation for worship and in the development and delivery of worship that sustains and enriches our faith journey. This is to include offering a variety of music” and “to develop meaningful in-person and online worship for the Community of Faith...in partnership with our Minister.”

In reports to the past two annual general meetings, I provided detailed information about worship events, including the many special services that celebrated the contributions of departing long-time staff and welcomed three new worship leaders. The past few years have been a whirlwind.

We now well know and deeply appreciate the contributions of our worship leaders, in everyday services as well as in those special ones this past year during Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas. We have lovely memories of the fantastic United Church 100th anniversary celebration held at, and in collaboration with, St. Andrew's UC. In this year's report, rather than chronicle specific services and list issues that have been discussed at our Team meetings, I would like to pan out with a wider focus on broader and over-arching issues that have been on the Worship Team's radar.

Our recent special services and presentations for Westworth's 75th anniversary have highlighted the beauty and depth of long-cherished music and traditions, as well as how much has changed over time – both for the worst (with much smaller attendance - imagine once having had over 200 children in Sunday School!) and for the best (great progress with inclusivity and affirming).

The intention of the Worship Team has been to work with the ministry staff to support the continuation of traditions that remain treasured and meaningful while appealing to, and meeting the needs of, new and younger visitors and congregants. It can be a bit of a balancing act to address the needs and wishes of new congregants without losing the depth and beauty of beloved, meaningful traditions that continue to nourish us and profound reflections that challenge us. We are extraordinarily appreciative of Reverend Gerhard for her willingness to straddle this line; to be innovative and creative in services; to incorporate tradition; to bring depth, as well as lightness and humour, to our services; and to respond with dedication and flexibility to feedback from our team and congregants.

Although change is necessary, we should not assume that new and younger visitors and congregants won't respond positively to the eloquent words and music that have moved and challenged generations of attendees at Westworth. A depth of worship that feeds the heart, soul and mind can still be rooted in tradition, while novel words and music can offer breadth and timeliness, and appeal to all generations. It may be a false assumption that we older folks are unable or unwilling to adapt and perhaps misguided to assume that some traditions would not appeal to younger and/or newer attendees. Our beloved and still meaningful traditions nurture, teach and ground us in who we have been and are, while we necessarily grow, adapt and move forward in new and changing times.

The reality of the struggles and decommissioning of many United churches can be disheartening. Yet Westworth is thriving in many ways. Attendance remains steady or has increased at many times. We see more youth on Sundays. We have many volunteers who participate in Worship. The life and work of our church is extensive

and goes far beyond the sanctuary doors, with Worship at its still-beating heart. We are blessed and grateful.

In addition to the many and much-appreciated contributions of our minister, we are gifted with an extraordinarily talented and pleasant team of music leaders in Valdine Anderson and Megan Dufurat. They have continued, and expanded, the reputation of Westworth for offering stellar and soulful music that thrills and inspires.

The Worship Team also is profoundly appreciative of the efforts of the 75th Anniversary celebration team. Thank you to Marilyn Anderson Corkum, Kathy McPhail and Ruth Wiwchar for providing or facilitating wonderful music and memories!

Thanks as well to the following:

- Petra Thanisch and Eunice Pratt for preparing the communion elements
- Marion McKay for her gorgeous runners and antependia
- Members of the Senior Choir, the choral scholars, and guest instrumentalists for offering inspiring and soulful singing and music
- Our ushers, organized by Eunice Pratt, and communion servers, organized by Bettina Nyman
- The enthusiastic scripture readers
- The Westworth Winds and their dedicated leader, Ray McLelland, for stirring contributions to special services
- Peter Sim and the Tech Team, who facilitate the provision of livestreamed services, which continue to have good attendance
- Petra Thanisch for decorating the church according to the church year and leading a small group in decorating for Christmas
- Alan Wilson for baking delicious bread for communion and Nancy Williamson for providing gluten-free bread
- The Sunday School youth and leaders, who performed a wonderful Christmas pageant this year.
- The greeters who provide a warm and helpful welcome to Westworth
- Christine Strike for providing online and in-person attendance numbers, booking rooms and being readily available for helpful information
- Melanie Adams, for her dedicated work in keeping the sanctuary and choir loft so clean and tidy
- Retired ministers in our congregation who offer pulpit supply and pastoral care when Tricia is away: Rev. Marilyn Anderson Corkum, Rev. Ray Cuthbert, Rev. Earl Gould, Rev. Larry McPhail, Rev. Barbara Roberts, and Rev. Heather Robbins

Finally, I wish to extend a warm and personal thank you to the entire Worship Team for their dedication and wisdom, and for making our meetings both fun and productive: Eunice Pratt, Petra Thanisch, Cathy Beynon, Bettina Nyman, George Nyman, Megan Dufurat, Valdine Anderson and Tricia Gerhard. You rock.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Sztaba,
Worship Team Lead

Worship Year in Review:

Milestones:

- Larry McPhail's 50th anniversary of ordination on May 4
- United Church of Canada 100th anniversary on June 8
- Westworth United Church 75th anniversary on December 10

Special services and membership:

- 9 Funerals
- 4 Baptisms
- 0 Confirmations
- 1 Transfers of membership in
- 1 Transfers of membership out
- 0 Removals of membership

New or Revised Policies & Manual Changes

Policies

Deletion of Titles from Westworth Music Library January 28, 2025

Gift Acceptance May 27, 2025

Grant Funding Policy January 28, 2026*

Donation Acceptance Policy January 28, 2026*

Fund Accounting Policy January 28, 2026*

Fundraising Policy January 28, 2026*

* indicates policy was passed in 2026-2027 year.

Manual Changes

The following changes to the Westworth Manual have been approved by Westworth Council for presentation to the Community of Faith at its AGM March 22, 2026.

Page 8:

- Mission Statement was adopted in 2014, with a revision at the AGM March 2025
- Revised Mission Statement to include "and heart"

Page 9: Covenant of Respect Section

- The change to the Mission Statement also reflected under the "Covenant of Respect" section.

Page 15: Organization and Governance: Chair Section

- Presbytery is changed to "Prairie to Pine Region"

Page 21: Member at Large Section:

- the term has been defined as follows:
"is elected by the Community of Faith and holds office for the term set by the Community of Faith, 2 years but renewable to 6 years, unless otherwise specified."

Page 23: Ministry Team Leads Section

- under Responsibilities: submission of reports timeline addition of "unless otherwise directed by Council"
- Pages 23-47: where appropriate the word 'Ministry' was removed from the team names. For example, "Property Ministry Team" to "Property Team" both in the title and throughout the role description.

Page 24: Ad Hoc Committee Section:

- The Ad Hoc Committee section has been developed with all the following being added:
-

Responsibilities:

- encourage faith building within the Committee.
- develop an understanding, with committee members, of the purpose of the Committee's ministry and how each person may contribute, based on their committee mandates and responsibilities.
- set their Committee goals with input from Council or their base team.
- delegate record-keeping: minutes (including participants) and financial (if necessary)
- ensure minutes are shared with Committee members and Council or Team and also Archives (via Council Secretary)
- using online template, submit Committee reports to Council as necessary, September through June, unless otherwise indicated by Council
- communicate items of interest with Council or Team in a timely manner.
- attend Council meetings to report progress upon request.
- attend Leadership Team retreats upon request.
- submit proposed expenditures to Council or Team if appropriate.
- maintain confidentiality of information as appropriate in accordance with Westworth Church privacy policies.
- upon request, provide a written report of the Committee's work, to include a financial information, for inclusion in the Annual Report

Accountability/Reporting timeline: to Westworth Council or the Team from where the Committee has been created.

Membership: as selected at time of Committee formation

Term: for the duration of the Committee's work and mandate unless otherwise indicated

Page 28: Communications Team

- Dissolve Communications Team and continue assigning volunteer tasks, including but not limited to livestreaming Sunday services, producing the Westworth Weekly (newsletter) and updating the church's social media pages and website, taking care to adhere to the *Photography and Video Policy*. This requires removing references to the Communications Team throughout the Manual and in the organizational chart.

Page 31: a sentence structure is corrected

Page 32: Finance and Stewardship Committee Section

- The Minister is added to membership as ex-officio.

Page 33: Ministry and Personnel Team Section

- "worth of" is removed from the sentence Monitor staff.

Page 34: Ministry and Personnel Team Section

- the Membership and the Term statements are re-organized.

Page 35: Outreach Team Section

- the name of the Outreach Team changed to Social & Environmental Justice in the title as well as first line of the section.

Page 36: Property Team Section

- a missing bracket was inserted in one of the bullet points under responsibilities.
- under membership the Minister is added as an ex-officio member

Page 37: Regional Representatives Section

- the word "annual" was removed from the frequency of the Leadership Team gatherings and the spelling of Community of Faith corrected.

Page 44: Trustees Section

- formatting correction

Passages of Congregants

In Memoriam and In Honour Donations

Memorial Donations in memory of:

Roger Paturel
Elwin Ballantine
Diether Peschken
Glenn Aitchison
Connie Goertzen

Bequests:

Roll Clerk's Report 2025

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, DECEMBER 31, 2024 276

ADDED TO ROLL:

By Transfer	1
By Profession of Faith	0
By Confirmation	<u>0</u>

REMOVED FROM ROLL:

By Death	8
By Transfer	1
Removed by Worship Team	0
Asked to be Removed	0

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, DECEMBER 31, 2025 268

TOTAL ADHERENTS, DECEMBER 31, 2025 (including children) 270

TOTAL CLERGY in Covenant with Westworth (excluding minister) 9

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS (including members, adherents & clergy) 241

Registry Records

Baptisms

Malcolm August Newton
Henry Spencer Newton
Mekias Noel Barnsdale
Addison Lee Smith

Confirmations

Funerals/Graveside Services

*indicates Member

Glenn Aitchison*
Elwin Ballantine*
Eldon Brown
Barbara Clarke
Hellan Currie
Beryl Fallis*
Don Graham*
Tom & June Masters*
Charlie Mayer
Jim McIlroy
Diether Peschken*
Lourdes Reimer
Catherine Strike

Lawrence Haberman*

Marriages

Michael Watts & Danielle Jenner

Transfer out

Pat Fallis

Transfer In

Joanne Hunt

Special Appeals

Theological Education

All four organizations listed below remain active. Will continue to support them.

Local Social Justice

All six programs will to continue to receive our donation.

1 JustCity – will designate that the money is to go to the West Broadway site

SAEJ has arranged for speakers from the Jubilee Fund and L.I.T.E.

Youth Support

All three organizations to continue to receive a donation.

Days for Girls – decrease amount for one year as they are financially secure this year.

2025 Special Appeals Fund disbursement:

Theological education	Prairie to Pine Regional Council Bursary Fund	\$250
	St. Andrews College	\$250
	Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre	\$350
	Centre for Christian Studies	\$350
Local Social Justice	Willow Place	\$250
	1 JustCity – for West Broadway site	\$250
	L.I.T.E. (local investment towards employment)	\$250
	Rossbrook House	\$250
	Jubilee Fund	\$250
	St. Boniface Street Links	\$250
Youth Support	Days for Girls, Winnipeg Chapter	\$150
	Rock Lake Camp	\$250
	Rainbow Resource Centre	\$250
	Total	\$3350

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Doern-White

Westworth Leadership Team and Volunteers

March 2026 – February 2027

Names in bold are on the Leadership Team
* indicates new to position since previous AGM

Council Members

Responsible for the overall vision and day to day ministries of the congregation

Chair: **Kathy McPhail***
Past Chair: **Rhea Yates***
Secretary: **Jan McIlroy** (renewing for 4th year)
Member at Large: **Barb Magarrell***
Member at Large: **Nancy Williamson**
Treasurer: **Allan Baker/Tannis Hewitt***
M & P Chair: **Margaret Newbury Jones**
Minister: **Tricia Gerhard**

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Responsible for financial activities within the church, stewardship, and on-going financial reporting

Chair and Treasurer: **Allan Baker/Tannis Hewitt***
Sam Andrew
Wendy Moroz
Allan Baker
Ron Bailey
Jenny Jeffers (ex officio, Church Accountant)
Tricia Gerhard (ex officio, minister)

Ministry and Personnel Committee

Provides leadership in the area of Human Resources allowing staff to successfully carry out their responsibilities

Chair: **Margaret Newbury Jones**
Daryl Brooks
Judy Steen
Tannis Hewitt
Carol Galbraith

Ad Hoc Visioning Committee

Explores redevelopment options for the church and potential community partners

Chair: **Bruce Tefft** (renewing for 4th year)
Arlene Hints
Keith Love
Kent Magarrell*
Al Mapes
Sharon Stanley
Tricia Gerhard

Affirming Ministry Team

Helps the teams, committees and congregation become more attentive to diverse identities

Chair: **Heather Robbins** (renewing for 4th year)

Andrea Firth

Kim O'Grady

Glenda Oldham

Petra Thanisch

Dorcas Windsor

Archives Team

Organizes and maintains the safe storage of materials of historical significance to Westworth

Team Leader:

Diane Riordan

Mary Fultz

Sandy Marles

Allan McKay

Marion McKay

Kathy Wilson

Brett Lougheed, Assistant

Christian Education Team

Initiates and coordinates faith development opportunities for children, youth and young families

Team Leader: **Brooklyn Linnick***

Danielle Cadieux

Cheryl Ennis

Ed White

Leslie Rodgers

Ashleigh Mitchell

Kyle Mitchell

Allison Warran

Marilyn Anderson Corkum

Tricia Gerhard (ex officio, minister)

Rachael Doerr (ex officio, Coordinator for Children, Youth and Family Ministries)

Teachers:

Danielle Cadieux

Signy Baragar

Library: Kathy Wilson

Lorraine Moore

Community Care Team

Facilitates connecting with and caring for each other and welcoming newcomers

Team Leader: **Sharon Stanley** (renewing for 3rd year)

Heather Crockett

Arlene Hints

Judy Steen

Shirley Watts

Jan McIlroy*

Community Care Support Team:

Funeral Coordinator: Wendy Moroz

Greeters: Arlene Hints, Al Mapes, Dorothy Reid

Cards to Congregants: Nancy Williamson

One on One Visitors: Nancy Doern-White, Earl Gould, Barb Gwyer, Arlene Hints, Carol Hunter, Allan McKay, Marion McKay, Wendy Moroz, Dorothy Reid, Heather Robbins, Shirley Ann Simkulak, Shirley Watts, Carol Wilkie, Nancy Williamson, Kathy Wilson, Dorcas Windsor.

Property Team

Oversees the maintenance of the building and grounds; arranges for custodial assistance and manages rentals

Team Leader: **Frank Wynes***

Ray McClelland

Allan McKay

Al Mapes

Kyle Mitchell

Arch Csupak*

Senior Choir Executive

Under the leadership of the Director of Music, the Senior Choir supports the music ministry of the Community of Faith. The Senior Choir Executive ensures that choir members are provided with the administrative, logistical, and social supports necessary to achieve and sustain their full potential as choral musicians, and to grow in the Christian faith.

Team Leader: **Deborah McPhail*** (renewable to 6 years in two year terms)

Judy Brown (secretary)

Neil Arnason (treasurer)

Carol Wilkie (music librarian)

Nancy Williamson (gowns)

Colleen Armstrong (social convenor)

Megan Dufurat - Collaborative pianist (ex-officio)

Valdine Anderson - Director of Music (ex-officio)

Rev. Tricia Gerhard - Minister (ex-officio)

Social & Environmental Justice Team

Raises awareness and understanding of issues related to social justice and environmental stewardship from a faith perspective

Team Leader: **Christine Strike** (2nd year)

Jan McIlroy

Allan McKay

Marion McKay

Kathy McPhail

Ruth Wiwchar

Barbara Wynes

Frank Wynes

Rev. Tricia Gerhard – minister (ex-officio)

and the Community of Faith of WUC

Worship Team

Assists in the development and delivery of sustaining and enriching worship including music in collaboration with the Minister, Director of Music, and Collaborative Pianist

Team Leader: **Teresa Sztaba** (renewing for 4th year); organizes scripture readers
Bettina Nyman: finds communion servers; Co-Secretary
Eunice Pratt: communion prep; Co-Secretary
Petra Thanisch: decorations & banners; communion prep
Cathy Beynon
George Nyman
Rev. Tricia Gerhard – Minister (ex-officio)
Valdine Anderson – Director of Music (ex-officio)
Megan Dufurat - Collaborative Pianist/Organist (ex-officio)

Support People: Alan Wilson – bakes the communion bread
Position not filled – Sacristan

Trustees

Provides leadership and direction in reference to Westworth's property, funds and risk management

Chair: **Kent Magarrell** (renewing for 16th year)
Anne Love
Dan Wiwchar
Tricia Gerhard

UCW

Through various units, builds spirit-filled relationships among women, our congregation, and beyond Westworth

Coordinator: **Nancy Doern-White** (renewing for 13th year)
Unit Convenors: Dorcas Windsor (Unit 77)
Heather Crockett and Dorcas Windsor (Unit 94)

Prairie to Pine Region Representatives

Liaises between Westworth and the wider United Church

Kirk Windsor (renewing 4th year)
Dorcas Windsor (renewing 4th year)

Building our church community-

Volunteers are needed in all areas of the church community. We are so happy and thankful for all of our volunteers. If you are able to volunteer please speak to one of the Team Leaders or Committee Chairs, or call the church office for contact information. Let us help find the right place for you.

If you are interested in learning about the roles and responsibilities of each team or committee please see the Manual on the Westworth website under Home/Documents.

Finance and Stewardship Committee Report

What Kept Us Busy

In 2025, the Finance and Stewardship Committee carried out its mandated tasks faithfully: reviewing the monthly financial reports and managing Westworth's funds and GIC investments.

In addition, we developed a Fund Accounting Policy, and we updated the Fundraising Policy, the Grants Policy, and the Donation Acceptance Policy. Our aim with each of these policies is to ensure consistency with how Westworth Council, Committees, and Teams understand and act on financial matters, regardless of who is chairing what. We did our best to keep the policies concise and used plain language as much as possible for ease of comprehension. Please read them and follow them if you are involved in fundraisers or grant writing. And I encourage anyone with an interest in how Westworth manages the work associated with these areas to review them as well.

2025 Financial Highlights

For 2025, we projected a General Fund deficit of just over \$27,000. Happily, due to great revenue from rentals, a better-than-ever Timeless Treasurers event, and some unanticipated donations at the end of the year, we ended the year with a small surplus of just over 15,000 in the General Fund. We did not need to dip into savings and investments, so those remain strong. This helps safeguard our operations for the short term if a year ends in deficit.

2026 General Fund Budget Overview

The budget trend from our last few years is holding again for 2026: pledged donations and other estimated income do not cover our anticipated expenses. This means we are projecting a deficit \$63,467. Our biggest expenses are building-related and salaries which are not discretionary.

- 2026 Salaries are up 2.6% as required by the United Church of Canada for ministerial staff and as recommended by the Ministry and Personnel Committee and Council for non-ministerial staff.

Thank You!

A special thank you to Walter Watts who is stepping away from the Committee. Walter served in one way or another on the Finance and Stewardship Committee for decades. His insights and good humour are already missed around our meeting table and I'm sure he won't be surprised if he still gets an occasional question or two from the group.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank Jenny Jeffers, the Church Accountant, and Christine Strike, the Church Administrator, for the work they do each month to support Westworth's finance work. They are engaged in it which makes it much easier to work through changes in processes and reporting.

My term as Treasurer is ending and I am taking a break from the Committee. I joined in 2016 and became the minute-taker until a few years ago when I was asked to serve as Treasurer and Chair. Thank you to all the Committee members that served alongside me over the last 10 years for their support and guidance, particularly for the last 3 years. I could not have taken on the role of Treasurer without it. Gratefully, the committee membership will remain mostly unchanged for 2026: Wendy Moroz, Allan Baker, Ron Bailey, Tannis Hewitt, and Sam Andrew. Finally, thank YOU for financially supporting Westworth in years past and in years to come. As I've said before money is not an easy topic, but it is a necessary one. Westworth is in relatively a stable financial position right now and that is thanks to your donations and discipleship.

Questions?

Contact me before the AGM if you have finance questions and I will share anonymized summaries of responses with everyone leading up to the AGM.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Jones, treasurer@westworth.ca
Treasurer & Finance and Stewardship Committee Chair

Financial Review

I have reviewed and evaluated the financial report, records and internal controls of Westworth for the year 2025. This review included examination of the records of deposits, recording, filing and payment of invoices, all matters related to the payroll and bank reconciliations.

The review also included an assessment of the separation of duties for all individuals who deal with monies. The handling of financial records was also evaluated with respect to privacy and security.

Based on this review it is my opinion that the financial records of Westworth United Church are handled in an appropriate manner and in accordance with the guidelines of the United Church of Canada (Section G.4.2.2, The Manual). In addition, it is my opinion that the financial statements adequately reflect the financial activity of Westworth for the past year.

Lynne McCarthy CFA, MBA

Statement of Operations and Change in Fund Balances

Westworth United Church Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances as of December 31, 2025

						2025	2024
	General Fund		Westworth	Building	Other	Grants	
	Actual	Budget	Fund	Reserve Fund	Funds		Total
Receipts							
Donations	289,027	275,195	3,782	1,000	15,020		308,829
M&S	35,650	34,366					35,650
Open Plate	3,620	2,000					3,620
Fund Raising	1,920	5,000			3,994		5,914
Outreach Projects	675				625		1,300
UCW	18,717	12,000			950		19,667
SBBS-VBS	450	400					450
Christian Education	112	200					112
Building Rental	43,984	40,000					43,984
Worship	885						885
Worship Music	525						525
Weddings and Funerals	12,990	5,000					12,990
Programs					5,297		5,297
Grants						81,158	81,158
Miscellaneous	1,634						1,634
Interest	9,814	10,000	7,918	2,536	249	8	20,525
Total Receipts	420,002	384,161	11,700	3,536	26,135	81,166	542,539
Disbursements							
Operations							
Bank Charges	2,153	2,300	85	2	164		2,404
Caretaking	1,973	2,000					1,973
Heating	12,706	15,000					12,706
Electricity	8,672	10,000					8,672
Water	1,921	2,000					1,921
Insurance	7,469	7,469					7,469
Office Expenses	11,332	10,435					11,332
Publications	36	500					36
Property Taxes	2,205	2,208					2,205
Telephone	2,699	4,000					2,699
Miscellaneous	185						185
Total	51,350	55,912	85	2	164	-	51,601
Leadership Team Expenses							
Council & Trustees	219	150					219
Visioning	2,645	2,000					2,645
75th Anniversary	312						312
Archives	0				274		274
Affirming Ministry	267	2,650					267
Christian Education	1,666	2,635					1,666
SBBS-VBS	671	1,300					671
Library	0	150					0
Outreach	974	1,550					974
Choral Scholarships					7,600		7,600
Communication	1,175	2,050					1,175
Community Care	330	800					330
M & P	240	500					240
Property Note 2	37,935	38,600	2,511	19,014	9,840		69,300
UCW	2,358	2,400					2,358
Program Expense					4,181	7,751	11,931
Conference Registration	0	400					0
Worship	2,075	5,550			1,142		3,217
Worship Music	3,277	2,500					3,277
Finance and Stewardship	561	800					561
Total	54,705	64,035	2,511	19,014	23,036	7,751	107,017

Westworth United Church
Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances
as of December 31, 2025

			2025			2024		
	General Fund		Westworth	Building	Other	Grants	Total	Total
	Actual	Budget	Fund	Reserve Fund	Funds			
Salaries & Allowances								
Salaries	196,693	196,037				7,934	204,627	190,916
Weddings & Funerals	4,650						4,650	5,430
Pulpit Supply	1,016	1,016					1,016	1,235
Music Supply	1,535						1,535	
Phone Allowances	483	483					483	420
Travel Allowances	258	500					258	262
Group Insurance	14,039	14,172					14,039	12,987
Pension & CPP	23,875	23,111					23,875	22,189
EI & Workers Compensation	3,819	3,644					3,819	3,748
Continuing Education	381	2,689					381	1,500
Total	246,749	241,652	-	-	-	7,934	254,683	238,687
Beyond Westworth								
Regional Council	15,265	15,589					15,265	15,589
Mission & Service	35,650	34,366					35,650	32,056
Outreach Projects	675					625	1,300	3,025
Special Appeals						3,350	3,350	3,250
Total	51,590	49,955	-	-	3,975	-	55,565	53,920
Total Disbursements	404,393	411,554	2,597	19,016	27,175	15,685	468,865	412,135
Extra Ordinary Receipts & Disbursements								
Ken Martin Family Donation Note 1					5,701		5,701	23,573
Professional Fees								(20,228)
Roof								(30,979)
Excess of Receipts over disbursements for year	15,609	(27,394)	9,103	(9,778)	(1,040)	65,481	79,375	8,083
Fund Transfers						2,645	2,645	
Fund Balances, beginning of year	213,566		227,267	81,645	38,450	5,662	566,589	558,506
Fund Balances, end of year	229,175		236,370	71,867	37,411	73,787	648,608	566,589

Statement of Other Funds

Westworth United Church Statement of Other Funds as of December 31, 2025

2025 2024

	Memorial Fund	*Small Funds	Special Appeals	Music Enhancement Fund	Ministerial Education Fund	Seniors Programs	Total	Total
Receipts								
Donations	4318		3,505	5429	1768		15,020	14,444
Fundraising				3,994			3,994	3,131
UCW	50		900				950	575
Outreach		625					625	-
Programs						5297	5,297	4,206
Grants							0	2,312
Interest				249			249	267
	<u>4,368</u>	<u>625</u>	<u>4,405</u>	<u>9,672</u>	<u>1,768</u>	<u>5,297</u>	<u>26,135</u>	<u>24,934</u>
Disbursements								
Bank Charges	21			144			164	41
Property	9840						9,840	-
Worship	1142						1,142	-
Archives		274					274	-
Program Expense						4181	4,181	17,059
Special Appeals			3,350				3,350	3,250
Choral Scholarships				7600			7,600	5,400
Outreach		625					625	2,029
Communication							0	2,700
							0	
	<u>11,002</u>	<u>899</u>	<u>3,350</u>	<u>7,744</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,181</u>	<u>27,175</u>	<u>30,479</u>
Excess of Receipts over disbursements for year	(6,634)	(274)	1,055	1,929	1,768	1,117	(1,040)	(5,545)
Fund Transfers Note 3	2,098	(2,098)						(19)
Fund Balances , beginning of year	21,417	3,416	168	13,450	-	-	38,451	50,681
Balance, end of year	16,880	1,044	1,222	15,378	1,768	1,117	37,411	45,117

* Small Funds - consists of the Care Account and Archives

Statement of Financial Position

Westworth United Church
Statement of Financial Position
For the year Ended December 31, 2025

						2025	2024
	General Fund	Westworth Fund	Building Reserve Fund	Other Funds	Grants	Total	Total
Assets							
Current Assets							
Cash & equivalent	239,752	236,370	71,867	37,411	73,787	659,187	580,909
GST Receivable	2,816					2,816	2,880
	242,568	236,370	71,867	37,411	73,787	662,003	583,789
Liabilities and Fund Balances							
Current Liabilities							
Accounts Payable	12,336					12,336	495
Credit Card Payable	1,059					1,059	1,574
Funds Held In Trust						-	11,338
Grant - unused portion						-	3,793
	-					13,395	17,200
Fund Balances	229,175	236,370	71,867	37,411	73,787	648,608	566,589
	229,175	236,370	71,867	37,411	73,787	662,003	583,789

Budget by Fund

Westworth United Church 2026 Budgets by Fund

	General Fund	Building Reserve Fund	Music Enhancement Fund	Westworth Fund	Memorial Fund	Small Funds	Ministerial Education Fund	Total
Receipts								
Donations	243,581		1190					244,771
M&S	34,985							34,985
Open Plate	3,000							3,000
Fund Raising	2,000		4750					6,750
75th Anniversary	2,000							2,000
Outreach Projects								0
UCW	15,000							15,000
SBBS-VBS	500							500
Christian Education	100							100
Building Rental	40,000							40,000
Worship								0
Worship Music								0
Weddings and Funerals	5,000							5,000
Programs								0
Grants								0
Miscellaneous	1,000							1,000
Interest	10,000		75					10,075
								0
Total Receipts	357,166	-	6,015	-	-	-	-	363,181
Disbursements								
Operations								
Bank Charges	2,400							2,400
Caretaking	2,000							2,000
Heating	13,000							13,000
Electricity	10,000							10,000
Water	2,000							2,000
Insurance	7,469							7,469
Office Expenses	13,170							13,170
Publications	300							300
Property Taxes	2,208							2,208
Telephone	3,000							3,000
Miscellaneous								0
Total	55,547	-	-	-	-	-	-	55,547
Leadership Team Expenses								
Council & Trustees	850							850
Visioning								0
75th Anniversary	3,390							3,390
Archives						250		250
Affirming Ministry	2,700							2,700
Christian Education	3,040							3,040
SBBS-VBS	500							500
Library								0
Outreach	1,700							1,700
Choir Operating	600							600
Choral Scholarships			9,600					9,600
Communication	2,050							2,050
Community Care	950							950
M & P	5,500							5,500
Property	35,500	15,000						50,500
UCW	2,400							2,400
Program Expense								0
Conference Registration	400							400
Worship	5,440							5,440
Worship Music	2,500							2,500
Finance and Stewardship	650							650
								0
Total	68,170	15,000	9,600	-	-	250	-	93,020

Westworth United Church
2026 Budget by Fund

	General Actual	Budget	Other Funds	Building Reserve Fund	Other Funds	Other Funds	Grants	Total
Salaries & Allowances								
Salaries	199,191							199,191
Weddings & Funerals								0
Pulpit Supply	1,044							1,044
Music Supply	1,000							1,000
Phone Allowances	496							496
Travel Allowances	500							500
Group Insurance	15,353							15,353
Pension & CPP	23,717							23,717
El & Workers Compensation	3,632							3,632
Continuing Education	1,733							1,733
Total	246,666	-	-	-	-	-	-	246,666
Beyond Westworth								
Regional Council	15,265							15,265
Mission & Service	34,985							34,985
Outreach Projects								0
Special Appeals								0
Total	50,250	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,250
Total Disbursements	420,633	15,000	9,600	-	-	250	-	445,483
Excess of Receipts over disbursements	(63,467)	(15,000)	(3,585)	-	-	(250)	-	(82,302)

Grant Funding

Westworth United Church Statement of Grant Funding as of December 31, 2025

					2025	2024
	Prior year fund balance forward	New Horizons	MB From the Ground Up	WRHA Healthy Together	Total	Total
Receipts						
Grants		9,808	70,000	1350	81,158	
Interest	8				8	-
	8	9,808	70,000	1,350	81,166	0
Disbursements						
Salaries	7934				7,934	
Program Expense	380	6,771		600	7,751	
	8,314	6,771	-	600	15,685	0
Excess of Receipts over disbursements for year	(8,306)	3,037	70,000	750	65,481	-
Fund Transfers Note 4	2,645				2,645	
Fund Balances , beginning of year	5,662	-	-	-	5,662	0
Balance, end of year	0	3,037	70,000	750	73,787	0

*Formerly Vision Fund Note 5

2026 Projected Salaries & Benefits

2026 Projected Salaries & Benefits

	Salary	Benefits	Continuing Ed	Total
Total	\$ 199,191	\$ 43,148	\$ 1,733	\$ 244,072