

# Starbuck United Church

## Annual Report for 2025



## **Starbuck United Church Annual Meeting**

**January 25, 2025**

### **Agenda**

- 1) Nomination of meeting Chair, nomination of meeting secretary**
- 2) Call to Order**
- 3) Opening prayer**
- 4) Minutes of annual meeting of 2025 (Pg. 3-5)**
- 5) Matters arising from minutes**
- 6) Annual reports**
  - \*Minister (Pg. 6-8)**
  - \*Chairperson (Pg. 8)**
  - \*Worship (Pg. 8-9)**
  - \*Projects (Pg. 9)**
  - \*Pastoral Care (Pg. 9-10)**
  - \*Ministry and Personnel (Pg. 10 )**
  - \*Trustee (Pg. 10)**
- 8) Treasurers Report (Pg. 11-12)**
- 9) Proposed Budget for 2026 (Pg. 13)**
- 10) Proposed council or nominations for council for 2026**
- 11) Old Business**
- 12) New Business**
- 13) Benediction**
- 14) Adjournment**

Starbuck United Church Annual Meeting Minutes  
Sunday January 19,2025

In attendance were Margaret Porter, Len Pedersen, Ann Pedersen, Janis McMorran, Sharon Masse, Rev. James DeBeer, Michele Ammeter, Helen Kendall, Ellen Saltiss, Kathleen Manness, Diane Trudeau and Melanie Stanley.

**Nominations for chairperson** for this meeting.

Michele Ammeter nominates Margaret Porter seconded Ann Pedersen.

**Carried**

**Nominations for Secretary**

Michele Ammeter nominated Melanie Stanley for secretary seconded by Ann Pedersen.

**Carried**

The meeting was called to order at 12:40

Rev. James began the meeting with a prayer.

**Minutes from 2024 Annual Meeting**

**Matters arising from minutes**

There are no matters arising.

**A motion** to accept the minutes as circulated was made by Melanie Stanley seconded by Diane Trudeau

**Carried**

**Annual Reports**

The annual reports were made available prior to this meeting for everyone to review them. The reports were not read at this AGM meeting but everyone was given an opportunity to ask questions and remark on them.

**A motion** to accept the reports for 2024, excluding the treasurers report, as circulated was made by Ann Pedersen, seconded Michele Ammeter.

**Carried**

**Treasurers Report**

**Motion 1:**

That the financial statement for 2024 including an income of \$30,139.25, expenses of \$44,859.70 and a year end bank balance of \$219,862.75 (with OS check) be accepted as presented.

Moved by Michele Ammeter, Seconded by Ann Pedersen.

**Carried**

**Motion 2:**

To accept the SUC donations for 2025 as discussed & listed for a total of \$8,900 (7,900 in 2024) plus \$1000 as a discretionary fund for use with board approval be accepted.

Moved by Michele Ammeter seconded by Sharon Masse.

**Carried**

Donation can be made in 2025 to Starbuck Community Christmas Cheer from Congregation member donations indicating this designation on the check or envelope, moved by Michele Ammeter seconded Ann Pedersen.

**Carried**

**Motion 3:**

That the budget with expenses of \$44, 900.00 be accepted as presented.

Moved by Michele Ammeter, Seconded by Ellen Saltiss

**Carried**

**Proposed Donation Budget 2025**

**Donations**

Sanford Collegiate Scholarship Fund	\$200
Thrive Community Support	\$200
St. Andrews College	\$500
Canadian Food Grains Bank	\$1,000
One Just City	\$1,500
Starbuck community Christmas cheer	\$1,000
Knox United Church	\$2,000
Bear Clan Patrol	\$500
Resource Assistance for Youth RAY	\$1,000
Manitoba Harvest	\$1000
Discretionary fund	\$1,000

## **Proposed Council 2025**

### **Executive**

Chair -Margaret Porter  
Secretary -Melanie Stanley  
Treasurer -Michele Ammeter and Margaret Porter

### **Committees**

Projects -Janis McMorran  
M&P -Michele Ammeter  
Worship -Diane Trudeau  
Trustee -Michele Ammeter  
Pastoral Care -Sharon Masse

### **Trustees**

Inga Livingston  
Michele Ammeter  
Ellen Saltiss

**A motion to accept the council** as proposed was made by Ann Pedersen , seconded by Janis McMorran.

**Carried**

### **Old Business**

### **New Business**

- 1) 3-4 dozen dainties to go to LaSalle March 21. Diane and Sharon will contribute.
- 2) Melanie Stanley will be secretary for the Meridian Pastoral charge for 2025.

**A motion to adjourn the meeting** was made by Diane Trudeau at 1:18

## Minister's Report

A highlight for me in 2025, as well as a highlight of my whole ministry, was our celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Church of Canada. That Sunday June 8 2025 in Sanford, we celebrated the birth of the United Church of Canada, but also the Birth of the Church itself: Pentecost—the activation of the living embodiment of Jesus in the world, charged with continuing his mission of proclaiming and building God's kingdom, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

From the Greek *pentekostos*, meaning "fiftieth," Pentecost was a Jewish festival celebrating the spring harvest 50 days after Passover, and the revelation of the law to Moses at Mount Sinai. In Luke's account of Pentecost in the book of Acts, the Holy Spirit descended on 120 believers in Jerusalem. The Spirit empowered them to testify to God's great deeds, emboldened the apostle Peter to preach to a bewildered crowd of skeptics, and three thousand people pledged to share in the mission of the infant church.

It was a birthday story like no other, full of wild details that challenge the imagination. Tongues of fire. Rushing winds. Accusations of drunkenness. To put it bluntly: God showed up fifty days after Jesus's resurrection and threw the world an unforgettable party.

On June 10 1925 more than 7,600 people gathered at the Mutual Street Arena in Toronto to give birth to the United Church of Canada. Were there tongues of fire? Rushing winds? Good Presbyterians and methodists behaving as if they had a few too many? Well, according to the church's first moderator, The Very Rev. George Pidgeon, "It was a solemn moment, the realization of our dreams and culmination of our efforts, and subdued applause swept through the entire assembly." I'm going to be honest with you, as amazing as the first Pentecost sounds, as an introvert, the subdued applause sounds perfect to me.

Both of these births—the boisterous one in Jerusalem and the placid one in Toronto—were not just a celebration, they were the beginning of something new. Both give us a glimpse of what Christ's body on earth looks like. "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit," Luke writes, "and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." "At this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each."

Christians sometimes speak of Pentecost as the reversal of Babel, the Old Testament story in which God divided and scattered human communities by multiplying their languages. But in fact, Pentecost didn't reverse Babel; it perfected and blessed it. When the Holy Spirit came, humanity wasn't restored to a common language; the Holy Spirit unequivocally declared all languages holy and equally worthy of communicating God's Word. Pentecost wove diversity and inclusiveness into the very fabric of the Church right from the beginning. The Holy Spirit calls the people of God to be at once the One and the Many, to be united without the need for uniformity.

All of us know the richness of human communication whether through spoken languages, body language, art, and music. Communication isn't just an exchange of data, but it is an exchange of persons. Remember heritage minutes, Canadian communication theorist Marshal McLuhan famously said '*the medium is the message.*' We understand intuitively that a language holds far more than the sum of its grammar, vocabulary, and syntax. Languages carry the full weight of

their respective cultures, histories, psychologies, and spiritualities and the personhood of the one communicating.

If this is true, then what does it mean that the Holy Spirit empowered the first Christians to speak in an unmatched diversity of languages? God was saying, in effect, that his Church, from its very inception, needed to honor the boundless variety and creativity of human voices, human lives. God was calling the Church to proclaim the gospel of Jesus in every tongue — not because multiculturalism is progressive and fashionable or ‘woke’, or because the Church is a “politically correct” institution — but because God’s deeds themselves demand such diverse tellings! There is no single human language on earth that can capture the deeds of God!

Here’s a detail I cherish about the Pentecost story: when the disciples and their friends began to speak in foreign languages, the crowds gathered outside their meeting place understood them. And this — the *fact* of their comprehension — was what confused them. They were not confused by the message itself; the message came through with perfect clarity in their respective languages. What the crowds found baffling was that God would speak to them in their own mother-tongues. That he would welcome them so intimately, with words and expressions hearkening back to their birthplaces, their childhoods, their beloved cities, countries, and cultures of origin. As if to say, “This Spirit-drenched place, this fledgling church, this new Body of Christ, is *yours*. You don’t have to feel like outsiders here; we speak your language, too. Come in. Come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.”

And is this not what the United Church of Canada and Starbuck United Church have constantly done since that day on in June 1925? A church continually empowered by Pentecost, to make it real and actualized for everyone. To be a church where everyone, everyone is really and truly welcome.

I’ve been serving Starbuck United now since 2018. It seems both like it was just the other day but also a long time ago. We’ve been through a lot since that day: Christmases, Easters, so many celebrations, mourning together the deaths of members of our community who were deeply cherished and loved; we’ve been through a (hopefully) once in a life time pandemic; and now we face a world—a future—filled with uncertainty, the likes of which many of us have never experienced before.

As I look around the world, as I look at statistics and projections for the future of the Church, it is hard not to be disheartened now and then. However, if we look at our track record of how we got to this moment—as individuals, as a congregation, as a pastoral charge, and as a United Church, we see it was the love and support of our community and our faith in Jesus and his teachings that has carried us through. Faith and reason call us to hope that coming together as a community to worship, have fellowship and serve our community will continue to give our lives meaning and joy as we continue our journey. I give thanks to God and to all of you that I have you as companions on my journey. Thank you for all. Your love and support and encouragement over the years. I’d like to share a verse of a hymn I love called ‘Companions on the Journey’:

*We have been gifted each other,  
And we are called by the Word of the Lord:  
To act with justice, to love tenderly  
And to walk humbly with our God,  
To walk humbly with our God.*

*We are companions on the journey,  
Breaking bread and sharing life;  
And in the love we bear is the hope we share  
for we believe in the love of our God,  
We believe in the love of our God.*

Respectfully submitted by Rev. James deBeer

## **Chair Report**

2025 has been another successful year for us. We have particularly enjoyed having James every week since September. Our attendance has remained fairly constant and though small has been appreciative. Again, thanks to all the dedicated volunteers who are responsible for keeping us going

We had a successful horticulture night which featured a talk from our local Jam manufacturer with samples which were greatly enjoyed. Thanks to the organizers.

Our pancake supper was also very successful with a great attendance. Always a good evening and thanks are due to all those who make it happen.

Our Christmas Cantata with the Lutherans was very well received this year. Thanks to all who took part and special thanks to the clergy for a unique take on the Christmas story.

The 100 year anniversary get together with our fellow churches was a particular highlight of this year. It was a very enjoyable reminder of our connection with each other.

We look forward to the coming year and hope for a great year for everyone.

Margaret Porter  
Chair

## **2025 Annual Worship Report**

The Meridian Pastoral Charge Worship Committee met on August 26th at Sanford church chaired by Jane Manness and Angie Cormier. Rev. James attended. Diane Trudeau and Margaret Porter represented Starbuck United Church.

### **5 Communion dates in 2025:**

Epiphany -January 5th, Lent 1 – March 16, Easter – April 20th, June 8<sup>th</sup> Pentecost, Advent 1 - December 7th.

Re-covenanting Service – in a Sept service.

Lectionary Year: Sept - Year C / Advent 1 - Year A

**Service info:** Time change: fallback – Nov. 2nd, Hanging of Greens – November 30th, Inter-church Advent Service at Springstein Mennonite Church also on November 30th, Cantata – December 21<sup>st</sup>, Blue Christmas service – December 20<sup>th</sup> created by Pastor Debra from Trinity Lutheran Church and Rev. James, Christmas Eve : Joint Christmas Eve service with Trinity Lutheran Church at 5:00 p.m., December 28 th: no church service.

Starbuck United Church (Diane Trudeau) will be chair of the Worship Committee for 2026-27.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Diane Trudeau

## **ANNUAL PROJECTS REPORT**

Starbuck United Church supported and actively participated in the following 2025 events – each event welcoming to all in the community area.

March 4, 2025 - “Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper” Held 5-7pm. in lower level of Trinity Lutheran Church. Approximately 75-80 attended. Volunteers numbered 10-11. Silver Collection \$686.00. Total evening proceeds of \$500.00 were donated to “Harvest Manitoba”. Thanks was extended to all who attended and volunteers. Written appreciation was delivered to Trinity Lutheran Church, Sobeys at Kenaston, and Archie’s Meat Market. Another successful and popular community event!

May 26, 2025 - Starbuck United Church organized and presented its “ANNUAL COMMUNITY HORTICULTURAL EVENING”. Held at 7pm. in Trinity Lutheran Church. 26 attended. Silver Collection. Thanks to Joyce Livingston for speaking about the production process of the “Livingston Jellies and Jams”. A fun, friendly get-together of plant exchanges, prizes, and refreshments continued throughout the evening. Yearly attendance and proceeds were a bit lower in 2025 but all agreed it was an enjoyable evening!

Starbuck Community Christmas Cheer Board 2025

October 31,2025 – December 31,2025. Meetings at Trinity Lutheran Church  
Committee: Anita Dyck (convenor), Kathy Lavoie, Pastor Debra, Christine Richardson, Doug Livingston, Sheryl Klassen and Janis McMorran.

The campaign for 2025 was supported by many and a thank you was extended to the community area and visitors. Community donations supported the delivery prior to Christmas to 15 area families of much-appreciated gift cards.

Committee donations enabled the sending of cards or special greetings.

## **Pastoral Care Report**

For 2025, on behalf of the Starbuck United Church 4 sympathy cards were sent, 0 birthday cards, 1 get well flowers/gift baskets, 1 get well e-card, 1 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary card and 1 Memorial tree purchased.

My apologies to those I may have missed.

Thank You to the members of council and the congregation who call to let me know when there is a need. I can be reached at 204 735 2809 or [sgmasse@gmail.com](mailto:sgmasse@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Masse

### **Ministry & Personnel**

The Meridian Pastoral Charge (MPC) Ministry & Personnel (M&P) committee members in 2025 were Judy Cormier, Stuart Manness, Julie Ringash and Michele Ammeter. Michele is chair until the Annual meeting in February 2026. Chair position will then rotate to Sanford.

The Meridian M & P committee held a Zoom meeting, hosted by Rev James, on May 8. The leadership schedule was the primary agenda item. Rev James is in Starbuck every week starting September 2025 until June 2026, apart from the second Sunday each month when Starbuck United joins Trinity Lutheran. On those Sundays Rev James is in Avonlea at 11:00 am from September through to January. From February to June, he will be in Sanford at 11:00 am. Pulpit supply will be used by Sanford on Christmas Eve. Starting September 2026, Rev James will be in Sanford every Sunday.

Should you know of anyone requiring pastoral care please pass the information to Rev James. He can be reached by email, text or phone.

*Respectfully Submitted*  
*Michele Ammeter*

### **Starbuck United Church Trustees Board**

Starbuck United Church Trustee Board members are:  
Reverend James de Beer, Michèle Ammeter, Ellen Saltiss, Inga Livingston

The congregation is responsible for deciding on the number of its trustees. There must be a minimum of three and a maximum of 15. Starbuck United Church has appointed 3 Trustee's plus the required member (Rev James), for a total of 4 members.

The Trustees board did not meet in 2025 because there was no outstanding business, but all trustees are expected to continue in their positions.

*Respectfully submitted:*  
*Michèle Ammeter*

<b>Starbuck United Church</b> <b>2025 Income Statement (January 1 - December 31, 2025)</b>
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Revenue	
Offering	\$ 9,965.00
Offering M&S	\$ 20.00
Gifts	\$ 8,370.72
Donations	\$ 100.00
Interest Term deposit	\$ 7,310.00
Interest Savings & Dividend	\$ 501.89
Projects (pancake Supper & Hort Night)	\$ 809.00
Misc Other	\$ 1,015.00
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 28,091.61</b>

Expenses	
Allocation	\$ 30,900.00
TLC Rent	\$ 3,000.00
Donations	\$ 10,915.00
Mission & Service	\$ 1,775.00
Pancake supper	\$ 162.00
Horticulture Night	\$ 76.36
Pastoral care	\$ 70.70
Miscellaneous	\$ 941.65
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 47,840.71</b>

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 28,091.61</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 47,840.71</b>
<b>Net income (Loss)</b>	<b>-\$ 19,749.10</b>

**Bank Balance**

<b>Balance January 1, 2025</b>			
			<b>\$ 219,862.73</b>
General Account			\$ 6,443.89
Outstanding cheques			\$ -
Outstanding deposit			\$ -
Term Deposit 116040218889			\$ 170,000.00
Platinum Savings			\$ 43,418.84
<b>Transfers from Accounts</b>			
Transfer from	Transfer to	Date	Amount
Savings (2413)	Cheque (0012)	Feb 26	\$ 1,300.00
Savings (2413)	Cheque (0012)	Feb 26	\$ 15,000.00
GIC	Savings (2413)	Oct 16	\$ 22,310.00
Savings (2413)	Cheque (0012)	Oct 28	\$ 15,000.00
<b>Closing Balance (December 31, 2025)</b>			<b>\$ 200,113.63</b>
General Account			\$ 10,234.65
Outstanding cheques			-\$ 50.00
Outstanding deposit			\$ -
Term deposit 116040218889			\$ 155,000.00
Platinum Savings			\$ 34,928.98
<b>Total Balance Change</b>			<b>-\$ 19,749.10</b>

Current Outstanding Check #: 196

Current outstanding deposit: N/A

**SUC Balance Sheet**

Bank Balance at December 31 (ACU)	<b>2024 Dec 31</b>	<b>Dec 31 2025</b>
Checking (-outstanding)	\$ 6,443.89	\$ 10,184.65
Platinum savings	\$ 43,418.84	\$ 34,928.98
Term Deposit	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 155,000.00
	<u>\$ 219,862.73</u>	
Plus 2025 Net Income	<u>-\$ 19,749.10</u>	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 200,113.63</u>	<u>\$ 200,113.63</u>

GIC term	Principal 2025	15-Oct	\$ 170,000.00
	Interest est	15-Oct	\$ 7,310.00
			<u>\$ 177,310.00</u>

GIC term	Principal 2025	16-Oct	\$ 155,000.00	(1 year term @ 3.5% est)
	Transferred to savings		\$ 22,310.00	(\$15,000 + \$7,310)

## *Starbuck United Church*

### Budget 2026

	Budget 2025	Actual 2025	Difference	Budget 2026
<b>Revenue</b>				
Offering	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,965.00	-\$ 35.00	\$ 9,000.00
Offering M&S		\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	
Gifts	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 8,370.72	\$ 3,870.72	\$ 5,000.00
Donation		\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
Interest Term	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 7,310.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 5,500.00
Interest Savings	\$ -	\$ 501.89	\$ 501.89	\$ 400.00
Projects		\$ 809.00	\$ 809.00	
Misc other		\$ 1,015.00	\$ 1,015.00	\$ 1,000.00
Transfer from Reserves	\$ 23,600.00			
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 44,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 28,091.61</b>		<b>\$ 20,900.00</b>

<b>Expenses</b>				
Allocation	\$ 29,400.00	\$ 30,900.00	-\$ 1,500.00	\$ 31,000.00
TLC Rent	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
Donations (difference is individual donations to ccc)	\$ 8,900.00	\$ 10,915.00	-\$ 2,015.00	\$ 8,900.00
M & S	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,775.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 2,000.00
Pancake Supper		\$ 162.00	-\$ 162.00	\$ -
Hort Night		\$ 76.36	-\$ 76.36	\$ -
Office supplies	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Pastoral Care expenses	\$ 300.00	\$ 70.70	\$ 229.30	\$ 200.00
Miscellaneous (tax, insurance, minister appreciation, Interchurch)	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 941.65	\$ 160.10	\$ 1,100.00
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 44,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 47,840.71</b>		<b>\$ 46,400.00</b>

<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$ 44,900.00	\$ 28,091.61		\$ 20,900.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ 44,900.00	\$ 47,840.71		\$ 46,400.00
<b>Net income (Loss)</b>	\$ -	-\$ 19,749.10		-\$ 25,500.00

December 31, 2025