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# GOVERNANCE & MINISTRIES ANNUAL REPORT

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2025

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*May grace meet us in the quiet  
and the busy moments alike.  
May our listening be deep,  
our welcome wide,  
and our care sincere.  
As we move forward together,  
may love guide our choices  
and hope steady our steps.  
Go gently, held in community  
and purpose.*

# MINISTER'S MESSAGE

2025 was a year of both change and stabilization. Change is inherent with a new minister; even if nothing changes, things are different. The first half of the year was our first Epiphany/Lent/Easter together. As the spring turned to summer and we passed our first anniversary, there was still a sense (for me



anyway) of us figuring this out together. At the same time, after a year and a half together, some of the changes – particularly in our worship life and Christian formation – feel to me like they are beginning to establish some roots.

In thinking about how to sum up who Como Lake United is and what we're up to, I settled on a line from Como Lake's purpose statement: "connecting people with God and one another."

When we ground our worship in silence and sit in a way that we can more easily see one another, we connect people with God and one another. When our Christian formation classes focus on studying the Bible in a deeper way than is possible on Sunday mornings and introducing people to psychological skills that help them work with the reality of difference and building resilience (thank you, Theresa!), we're connecting people with God and one another.

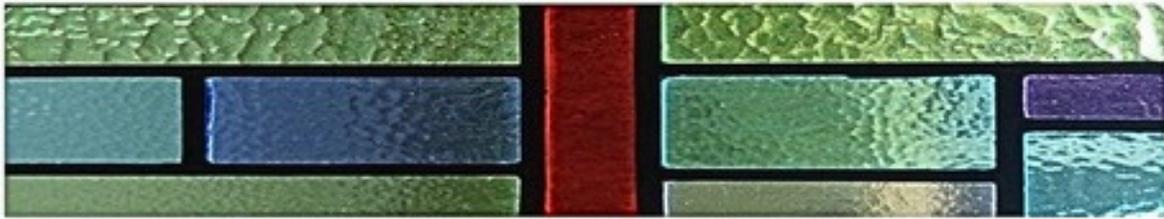
Looking ahead in 2026, we'll be offering Blanket Exercise educational experiences this winter, and welcoming back Marcus Mosely and friends for another gospel workshop in May. We will welcome new people into some key leadership roles and our new Stewardship team is developing a plan for the year. My hope is that this will also be a year of deepening in faith and trust, as well as a time of discernment for the future of Como Lake United.

I continue to feel a lot of gratitude for the welcome I have received and for the trust, support and care you have shown me. I'm grateful for and inspired by the dedication and commitment of so many to the life and work of Como Lake through your gifts of time, energy and money.



Como Lake would not be here offering the ministry we offer without you.

Grace and peace to you.



## COMO LAKE UNITED CHURCH PURPOSE, VISION, VALUES, AND APPROACH TO MINISTRY

Background for Annual Vision for Ministry

### **Our Purpose**

We are Christ's caring community,  
connecting people with God and with one another,  
answering God's call and making a difference.

### **Our Vision**

We are joy-filled people  
connected to our purpose  
committed to one another  
growing in faith and discipleship.

### **2023 Mission Statement**

Como Lake United Church  
Tending the Sacred  
Restless for Justice  
and Guided by Love

### **Our Core Values, rooted in Love**

**Faith** – We live, grow and share faith in God as revealed in Jesus Christ:  
faith that feeds the heart and soul.

**Connecting** – We joyfully connect with God, one another and community in ways that nurture  
belonging, communion and a sense of purpose.

**Caring** – We lovingly care for one another and the community spiritually, physically, and relationally.

**Generosity** – We generously give energy, time, talent and treasure for the good of others out of  
gratitude for God's gifts.

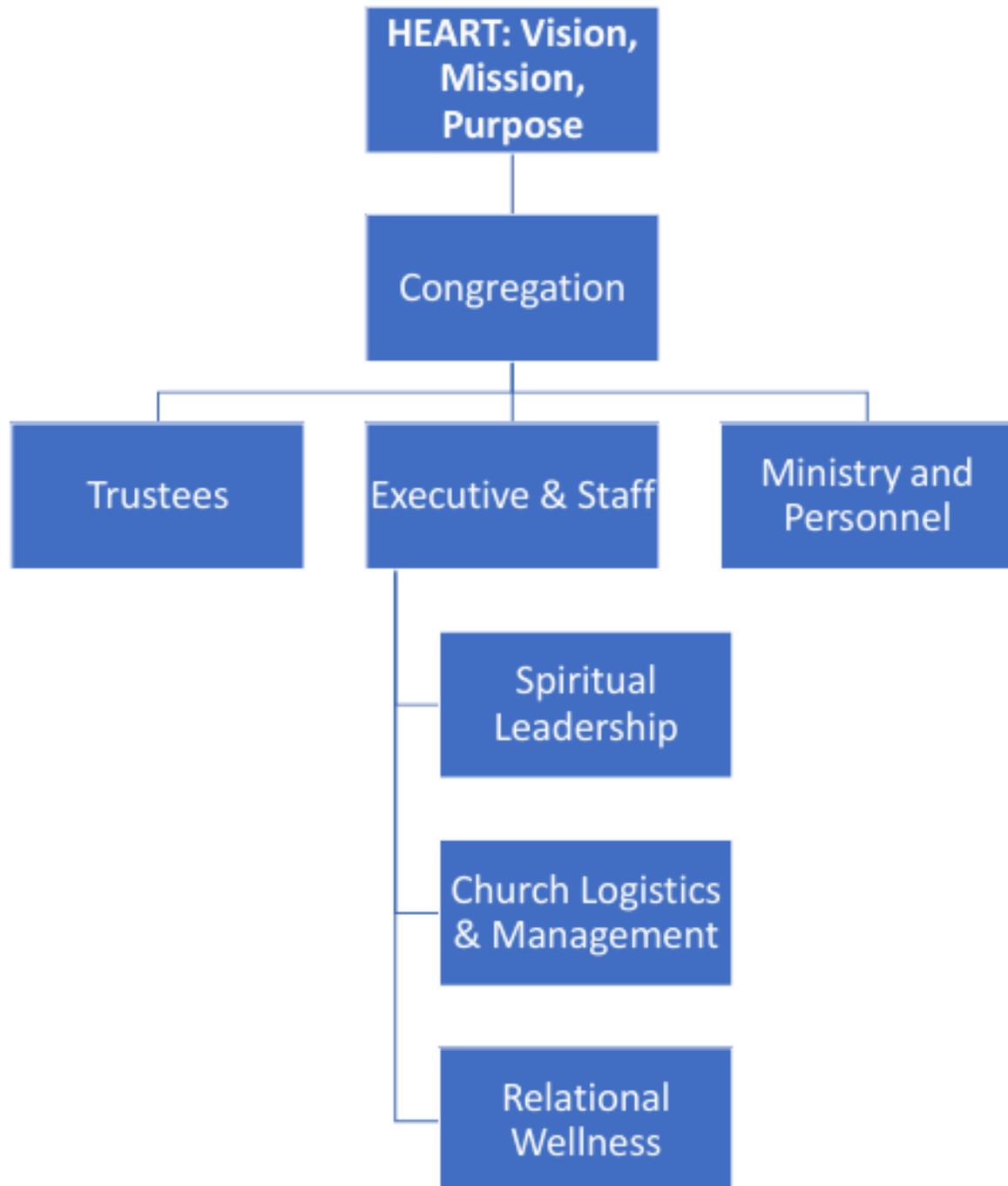
**Respect** – We respect God, humanity and all creation in ways that embrace unity in diversity.

### **Approach to Ministry**

We invite people to enter into and deepen their relationship with God as disciples of Jesus Christ in the context of a vibrant, healthy community of faith. We nurture individuals as they grow in their relationship with God and one another within a small group ministry and through the discipleship practices of regular prayer, worship, scripture reading/study, service, spiritual friendships, and giving. In this we embody the spectrum of the 5 marks of the church: worship, teaching and learning, sharing our faith, building loving relationships, and service.

# GOVERNANCE MODEL

## Mission Team Governance Model 2025



# EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

## Highlights of the Year 2025

- We held 11 Executive meetings & one Annual Congregational Meeting.
- Completed and submitted the 2025-2027 Community of Faith Self-Assessment to PMRC
- We organized six fundraising activities.
- Supported our Ecumenical partners (St. Laurence Anglican, Good Shepherd Lutheran and All Saints R.C. parish) in conversation with the City's Proposed Land Use Changes for Austin Ave and Como Lake Ave Sub-Area Corridors.
- Supported Wondrous Tree Fellowship, Burke Mountain Naturalists, our Ecumenical partners and many others in the November 30th Conference on Building a Green & Climate Ready City.
- Hosted a week-long Camp Spirit for approximately thirty young people
- Installed a new HVAC system in the Labyrinth and Sanctuary allowing for our own comfort in extreme weather temperatures and opening to more rental opportunities.
- A new Stewardship Committee was formed.

Continued....

The Executive Council is entrusted with the oversight of the church's mission, governance and strategic direction. This report highlights the key achievements, initiatives and challenges of this past year along with our goals for the future as we continue to grow in faith and service our church as well as the broader community.

The current members of the Executive; Anne Carson (Secretary), Sharie Ford and Angie Neville (Co-Chairs) will have their term of office completed by January 28th, 2026. Wendy Pavilonis (Co-Treasurer) and Paul Thompson (Co-Treasurer) and Rev. Scott Swanson make up the remainder of the Council.

We are grateful for the many members of the Congregation who volunteer their skill, time and energy to the work of Como Lake United Church. We couldn't function without your support.

Similarly, we are grateful for Michelle's tireless energy and skills in administration, her constant management of the rentals, and her general caring for this community. Thank you so much.

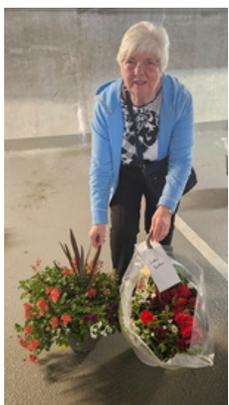
We look forward to 2026 and all the opportunities we will have to connect with one another, serve our church and continue to grow in Spirit.

Respectfully submitted  
Sharie Ford and Angie Neville,  
Co-Chairs

# EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

## Highlights of the Year 2025 cont...

- Shared hosting with Inlet United Church, “Lift Your Voice” gospel workshop with Marcus Mosely, Darlene Cooper & Bill Sample.
- A new Congregational phone directory was completed.
- Celebrated the 100th UCC Anniversary “Homecoming” with CLUC postcards, potluck lunch and video.
- A team worked diligently on grant applications. We were successful in receiving a grant for the Homecoming event.
- Presented a Planned Legacy and Advanced Planning workshop facilitated by Scott Swanson and Fraser Health respectively.
- The Executive amended the Mission Team Governance model by reducing the number of representatives required to report each month.
- We collaborated with Simon Fraser University and supported the students with food bank donations specifically for them.



# TRUSTEES

All property in The United Church of Canada is owned by Regional Councils and held in trust by local Communities of Faith such as Como Lake. The role of the Board of Trustees is to ensure that property is properly looked after.

The members of the Board in 2025 were John Alandi, Lionel Durante, Ralph Johnson, Dave McCutcheon, Jim Robinson, Valerie Simpson and Scott Swanson.

The Board of Trustees approved the use of money from the Capital Reserve and Memorial Funds to cover the balance of the cost of the heat pumps not raised through special gifts.

With a new building and maintenance contracts covering much of the physical property, the Board only needed to meet twice in 2025.

*May we be shaped by  
kindness and led by courage.  
May the work of our hands  
reflect the love we hold  
for one another.  
In moments of change  
and moments of rest,  
may we remain connected  
to God, to neighbours,  
and to ourselves.  
Go with peace,  
and return often to grace.*

# MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

The Ministry and Personnel Committee's responsibility is to be a caring, consultative and supportive body for the Minister and paid staff, while supporting the relationships between the Minister, Staff and Congregation. The Committee consisted of Ron Warneboldt (chair), Joanne Spence (secretary) and Elsie Manley-Casimir.

We worked to support ministry personnel through regular check-ins, annual reviews, and ongoing communications, with attention to workloads, boundaries, and well-being. We provided confidential support, and encouraged professional development.

Throughout the year we had ten formal meetings, and had numerous informal meetings and individual discussions. We dealt with multiple staff concerns in a caring and confidential manner. We reviewed and revised job descriptions and workplace goals, worked to coordinate vacation plans and vacation coverage, and worked collegially with the executive council to encourage healthy work practices.

We look forward to 2026 and affirm the importance of mutual respect, clear communications and shared accountability between committee members and all staff.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Warneboldt

# SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

## Worship Enhancement (Previously Sacred Service)

### Purpose of the Ministry

- To support an enhanced experience of worship,
- To connect and deepen relationships with the congregation,
- To promote a higher rate of active participation in the Worship Enhancement ministry,
- To contribute to the life and ministry of the congregation,
- To provide occasions where newcomers can become more involved in the life of the church,
- To allow members of the teams an opportunity to do a variety of jobs and to work together.

Worship Enhancement teams work to make the sanctuary space as comfortable and peaceful for our Worship services as possible. There are four teams of three or four people, the Team Leaders are Valerie Simpson, Wendy Pavilonis, Barb Mendt and Angie Neville. The teams work two consecutive weeks on an 8-week rotation.

The teams greet and usher congregants & visitors as they arrive. We prepare ahead and serve refreshments for the coffee time after the service, we light the Christ candle, collect the offering and maintain the candle racks. We tidy the sanctuary before and after the service. Approximately once a month we prepare the communion table, communion elements and, if required, assist the minister in serving communion.

Respectfully submitted, Angie Neville

## Liturgical Arts

Liturgical Arts is a team of congregants who are responsible for the art, environment and artistic look to the sanctuary that follow the liturgical seasons. The team consists of Valerie Simpson, Carol Parker, Cynthia Carre, Hazel Smythe and Betty Inglis. They meet regularly to plan the next season of the Liturgical calendar and prepare the banners as required. Many thanks to Blair Simpson and Phil Hall for their ladder climbing and banner hanging skills.

Recognizing this simple pattern of the liturgical seasons, unchanged for 1500 years, serves its purpose and we are invited into the rhythm and the ebb and flow experience.



Respectfully submitted, **Angie Neville**

## Pulpit Supply

Through the year we have enjoyed having guest ministers lead our worship services. Many of the guests are retired Ordained ministers, Candidates for ministry and Licensed Worship Leaders. All offering distinctive styles of worship, this year we welcomed approximately eight worship leaders.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Angie Neville**

# SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

## Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee was formed in the summer of 2025 under the leadership of Rev. Scott and consists of Mindy Lane, Nita Williamson and Jacquie Johnston.

We started our Stewardship journey by enrolling in a 2 session zoom course offered by the United Church aptly named "Getting started in Stewardship". We learned that Stewardship is not fundraising. Stewardship is encouraging people to commit time, talents and dollars to God's mission through the work of the church at home and abroad. The course reminded us that stewardship/generosity is on par with the other spiritual practices of prayer, worship, bible study, loving service and sharing faith.

In the fall we were enrolled in another zoom course - "Stewardship Best Practices". This was a much more in-depth course and will continue with follow up meetings for the next year. The course talked about the need for an annual stewardship plan, the importance of hospitality, the need to inspire, invite and encourage people to be involved, and most importantly to remember to give thanks.

The video clips that we have been sharing of interviews with various members of the congregation on why Como Lake is important to them and why they support Como Lake financially is all part of our Stewardship learning. We will be meeting early in the new year to lay out annual plan for 2026.

The members of the Stewardship committee want to thank the congregation for allowing us to serve you in this capacity.

Faithfully submitted by Jacquie Johnston on behalf of Mindy Lane and Nita Williamson



# SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

## Joyful Voices (Pop-Up Choir)

Joyful Voices is a group of committed Como Lake United Church members who love to sing and contribute their talents to our church service once a month. We are a Pop-Up Choir managed by a team of members who sing ten months a year with a summer break in July and August.



Dates are chosen by our brilliant Volunteer Pianist Shelley Vattoy, according to her availability. Suitable Music is chosen by Kathy Danbert who sang with Queens Avenue United Church choir for 40 years. Music Librarian and Membership Leader is Elsie Wrightman. Merle Rector is a Communications member who sends out emails to members with the dates, Hymn number and YouTube links to practice the music. We meet at 9:30 am on the Sunday we are singing to prepare for the service and read through the following month's Hymn. Any member who wishes to join our group is welcome to join Joyful Voices.

Submitted by Merle Rector

## Labyrinth and Prayer Circle

### **Labyrinth & Prayer Circle: Como Lake Contemplative Practice**

"In Christianity, the labyrinth's symbolic meaning is that the journey is challenging, filled with highs and lows, ups and downs and when one feels lost along their path, God's salvation is at the center of life." [unspokenelements.com](http://unspokenelements.com)

Tuesday mornings at 9:30am, a dedicated group meets in the Reflection Room. Our session begins with a themed devotional; then to the Labyrinth room for a meditative walk. There is also the option of using a wooden finger labyrinth. We return to the Reflection Room for community prayers and a blessing.

Prior to, and after, Sunday worship there is now another opportunity to walk the Labyrinth or use the finger labyrinths in the Reflection Room.



Respectfully submitted by **Linda Hof**

# SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

## Pastoral Care

Our team consists of Elsie Wrightman, Carol Parker, Cynthia Carre, Julie Hamilton, Nita Williamson, Vicki Stacey, Leigh Krischuk.

We liaise with our Minister, and our focus is on emotional support(caring) and spiritual care. We make weekly calls, home and hospital visits as needed and send cards. We also put folks on the Special Prayers list as requested.

We meet up as a group about once a month to check in on each other and offer support.

Respectfully submitted, Leigh Krischuk



## Wednesday Night Walking Group

In late May or early June the Wednesday Study Group changes their focus and location.

We begin a Summer evening walk at LaFarge Lake. About 8 of us gathered this year each week.

We met at the Rocky Point Ice Cream stand. This year we started our walks with a Devotion from a daily source and a question from that Devotional to discuss as we stroll around the lake.

When we get back to the Ice Cream stand we make our selections and spend an hour or so in more conversation as the sun sets! Look for the announcements this year and join us!

Respectfully submitted by **Anne Carson**



## Leadership and Enrichment Committee

The Purpose of our Committee is to support congregational learning. We have an established fund that can be used to support individuals, small groups or congregation-wide events.

We have four members on the Committee: Marilyn McCutcheon, Julie Hamilton, Judy Smith and Betty Inglis. We had two requests for Financial Assistance in April which were reviewed and granted. We have had no further requests.

Respectfully submitted Betty Inglis

# CHURCH LOGISTICS

## Property

Report from the unofficial property committee, led by Phil Hall and Linda Hof.

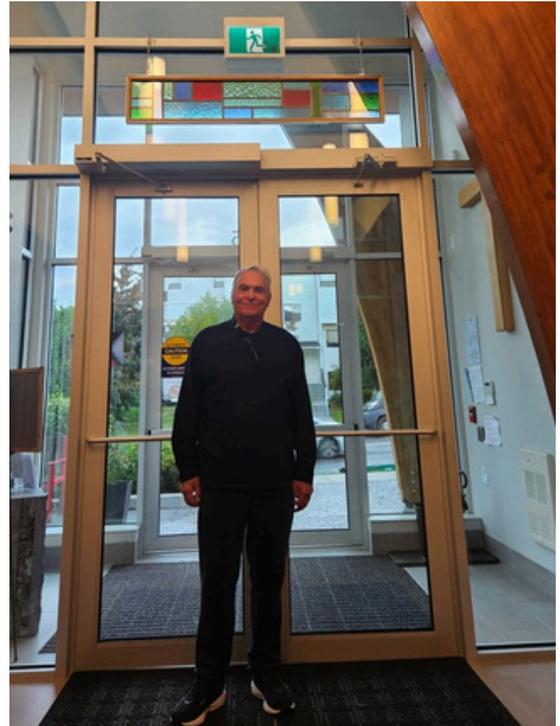
This group's efforts touched upon:

- Labyrinth Painting
- Acoustic Tile work
- Various Bookcase building
- Discussions and oversight of the HVAC project
- Lionel created a beautiful stained glass panel for the Atrium, with Phil helping to hang it up.

...and MANY other smaller projects!

Team: Dave McCutcheon, Phil Hall, Linda Hof, Paul Thompson, Kim Andersen and Michelle Andersen. Special thank you to Ted, Roman, Stephan, Lyall, Lionel, and Ibrahim, who gave valuable assistance, and to Jack for all his help with setup and assistance around the church.

Respectfully submitted by Dave McCutcheon



## Custodial

We thank Kim Andersen and our Allegiance Team, Mo, Tyrone and Afrooz, for their dedication to keeping our space a clean and beautiful environment for us to Worship, work and engage in. Thank you to our volunteers who have helped with clean up, setup, take down and all that goes in to the success of our own Como Lake United Church events.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Andersen

## Reception

Our 2025 volunteer Reception Team includes Anne C., Linda H., Cynthia C., and Leigh, along with guest help from Karen.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the reception volunteers at Como Lake United Church. Your warm welcome, kind assistance, and dedication create a space of hospitality and support for our congregation and community. Whether greeting visitors, answering inquiries, or offering a reassuring presence, your efforts help strengthen our church family. Your generosity of time and spirit does not go unnoticed, and we deeply appreciate the impact you make in fostering connection and care.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Andersen

# CHURCH LOGISTICS

## Hospitality and Kitchen

### HOSPITALITY EVENTS

#### January

Kitchen Clean-Up & Organization  
Eric Ranger Memorial  
Marketplace Planning Meeting

#### February

Potluck Luncheon with Corridor Neighbours  
Valentines Tea  
Congregational Meeting  
Piano Recitals (Feb 23 – Mar 2)

#### March

Pancake Lunch  
John Cashore 90th Birthday Celebration  
Red Dirt Skinners Concert  
Information Meeting

#### April

Lift Every Voice – Marcus Mosely Concert  
Music Festival (Week of April 28)

#### May

Evening with Harmony  
Fundraising Meeting  
Kitchen Inventory & Spring Cleaning  
UCW Tea & Strawberry Shortcake

#### June

Pub Night at John B

#### July

Food Safe 1 Course

#### August

Camp Spirit (Aug 11–15)

#### September

Church & Mountain View Suites BBQ  
Marketplace Tea Room Meeting  
Mary Jane Lucas Memorial  
AED Training

#### October

Church Homecoming – 100th Anniversary  
Funeral for a Child  
Marketplace Planning Meeting

#### November

Marie Gauer Memorial  
Marketplace Set-Up  
Marketplace Day (Nov 22)

#### December

Marketplace Planning Meeting

We have 17 members in the Hospitality circle. Anne Carson, Linda Hof, Betty Inglis, Lyall Inglis, Gina Monahan, Karen Luckhart, Janet Blair, Debbie Hall, Mindy Lane, Cynthia Carre, Barb Mendt, Nita Williamson, Julie Hamilton, Sharon Easton, Carol Parker, Hazel Smythe, Mary Anne Bruce, with support from Michelle Andersen.



# CHURCH LOGISTICS

## Audio Visual Team

The Audio-Visual (AV) team at Como Lake United Church has played a vital role in ensuring seamless worship services and events throughout the year. From managing sound quality to coordinating live streams, our dedicated team has worked behind the scenes to enhance worship, events, rental and celebrations of life experiences for both in-person and online attendees.



We extend our gratitude to our AV staff for their commitment and expertise. Your service enriches our church community in countless ways. We want to give a special thank you to Edward Lee, who has moved on to travel across the country for university. Also, special thank you to Kees for his volunteer service in AV! This year, we welcomed Nolan, Justin and Sharie (Volunteer) to the team.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Andersen  
with the AV Team: Tamryn, Iván, Maria, Anthony, Nolan, Justin, Kees and Sharie

## Como Lake United Church / Mountain View Suites

For much of this year, we continued our Cob's bread program in the lobby of Mountain View, which unfortunately ended after summer. We thank Cobs for their long commitment to us, and appreciate their offerings over the last year.

In September, we held our annual BBQ, and appreciation to those who attended (over 80 people), and those who volunteered. Thank you also to PMRC, BC Housing and First Service Residential for their support of this event. This year we also were given a Coquitlam block party grant, and appreciate that assistance! Games were sponsored by Kim Andersen.

We wrapped up the year with our Christmas Dinner, and thank to Tatiana Vozovik and her students for their beautiful musical performances and Christmas sing along.



Respectfully submitted by **Michelle Andersen**

## Rentals

In 2025, rentals continued to be steady, growing in the requests for recitals. We have enjoyed working with the music and arts side, and appreciate the word-of-mouth growth our rentals have seen over the last year.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Andersen

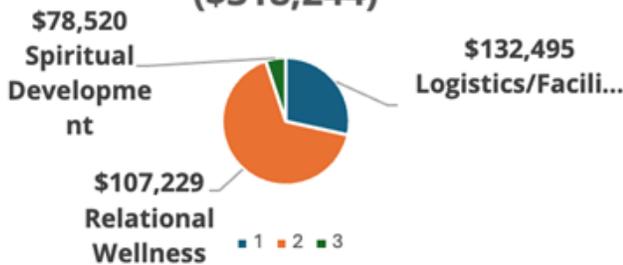
# CHURCH LOGISTICS

## Narrative Budget 2026

Connecting people with God and one another.

### BUDGETED EXPENSES 2026

#### Where Our Gifts Go and What They Do in 2026 (\$318,244)



#### Spiritual Development \$78,520

- **Minister and Pastoral Charge Costs:** Sunday morning and other worship service planning, setup, A/V, leading worship, musicians, music, worship and copyright licensing resources, instrument maintenance, online ministry, book and Bible studies, faith formation and other program planning and resources, Stewardship
- **Administrator:** creating announcements, videos, program promotion, social media, set up
- **Church groups:** Tuesday morning prayer and labyrinth, labyrinth teams, worship enhancement teams, sanctuary décor, Camp Spirit

#### Relational Wellness \$107,229

- **Minister and Pastoral Charge costs:** pastoral care, connecting with congregation and community, ecumenical work,
- **Administrator:** Community Connection newsletter, social media and other marketing and promotions, connections with congregants and visitors, engagement with community groups, promotions and special events, pastoral care and outreach, and the associated staff time
- **Church groups:** Pastoral Care, Tea Tuesdays, Hospitality

#### Logistics/Facilities Management \$132,495

- **Minister and Pastoral Charge costs:** PMRC and General Council commitments, Trustees, Repairs, maintenance, cleaning, office supplies, insurance, communication, regional and national assessments, Mission & Service Fund
- **Administrator:** Rentals management and communication
- **Church groups:** Finance, Executive, property

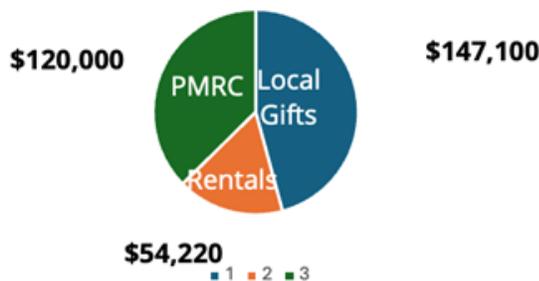
# Narrative Budget continued....

## BUDGETED EXPENSES continued

Our current governance model divides the life and work of Como Lake United into three areas: *Spiritual Development*, *Relational Wellness*, and *Logistics and Facilities Management*. The Budget and the table at the end of this document reflect Como Lake’s working budget used for accounting purposes, where all staff costs are included under *Relational Wellness*. That is why the budget for *Relational Wellness* is such a large proportion of the total budget. In this narrative budget, we have distributed the staff costs according to where staff time is allocated. This is the reason for the discrepancy between the Expenses pie chart and the table on the one hand, and the narrative portion on the other.

## BUDGETED INCOME 2026

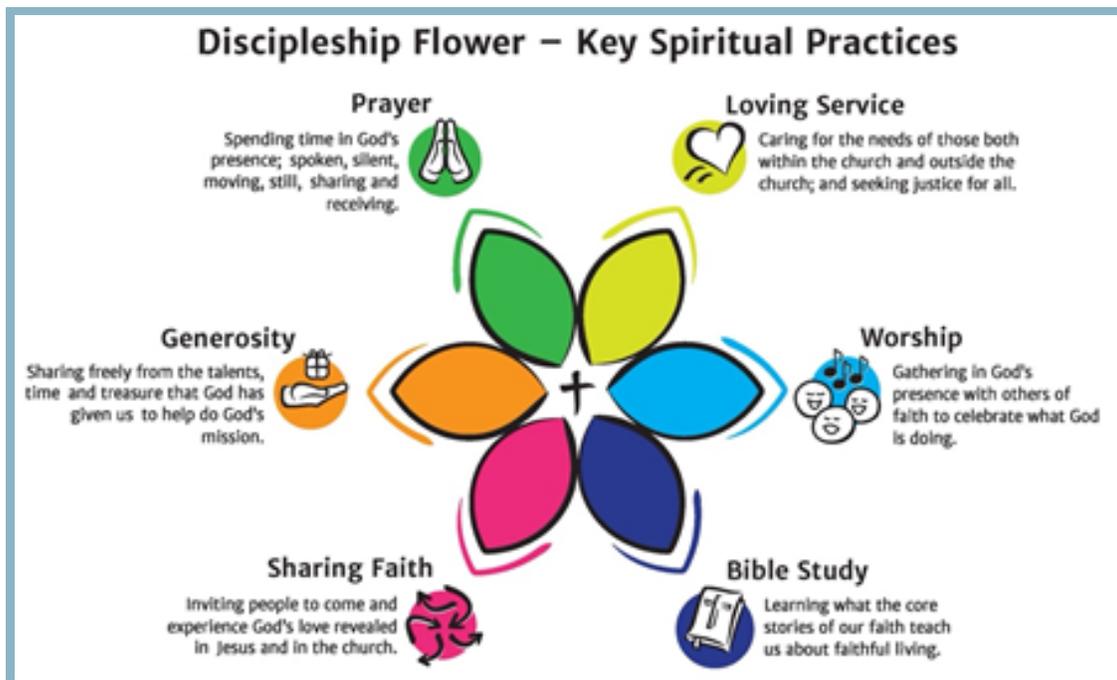
**Budgeted Income in 2026**  
**(\$321,320)**



2026 is year 2/3 of the 5-year agreement with Pacific Mountain Regional Council where they are providing full-time funding for a minister. We are very grateful to PMRC for this ongoing funding. We are also very aware that it is not something we can rely on. To continue to provide the ministry we do now, Como Lake has a short window of time to become self-sustaining.

Local Giving	\$147,100
Pacific Mountain Regional Council	\$120,000
Rental and Miscellaneous Income	\$54,220

**Total Budgeted Income 2026                    \$321,320**



# CHURCH LOGISTICS

## Finance

Our Finance team members are Debbie Hall, Barb Mendt, Susan Kennedy, Wendy Pavilionis and Paul Thompson.

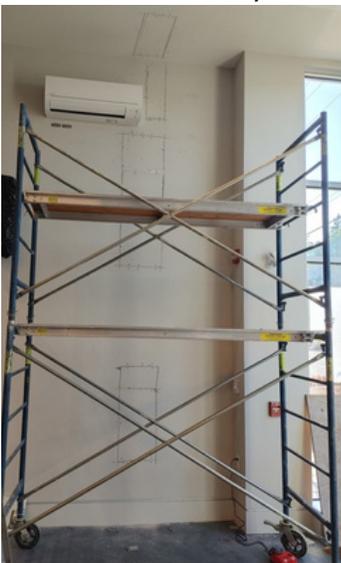
It was a busy year for our team. Not only did we carry on the normal everyday functions of paying bills, keeping track of contributions, and handling payroll, but the acquisition of the new \$80,000 heat pump system brought new challenges. Paying for the system involved special appeals, a PMRC grant, draining the Capital Reserve Fund and then rebuilding that same fund with at least seven fundraising events.

After using the Zoho software system for two years, it has been determined that it is not a workable system for us. It is expensive and does not print charitable tax receipts. So, as the year came to a close, the team was preparing itself for a new software package- QuickBooks. Barb Mendt and Debbie Hall worked long hours during the year taking care of accounts payable and member contributions respectively. Susan Kennedy continued to process payroll, solve problems and provide training to Paul Thompson, who handled month-end reconciliations. Wendy Pavilionis attended council meetings and handled congregational meetings. The team met formally twice during the year in addition to weekly work sessions.

A great amount of generosity through donations, volunteer time and fundraising happened through 2025:

- Contributions and a grant towards our HVAC
- Fundraising: planters sale, coffee, Purdy's, book sales, Marketplace!
- Donation of a defibrillator
- Donation of a new stained glass display
- Grant for our BBQ
- Sponsorship of games for our summer BBQ
- Grant for our 100 Year
- Contributions in funds,
- time and energy!

Thank you for your efforts in 2025!



## Finance continued...

### 2025 Financial Snapshot

Tompkins Wozny has been engaged for the 2025 annual accounting compilation and preparation of the 2025 financial statements, which are expected to be available in June 2026. Until then, here is a brief overview (un-audited) of the 2025 Local Ministry fund at December 31, 2025.

	<b>2025 Actual</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>2024 Actual</b>
Income	198,000	188,920	181,629
Expense	312,700	299,277	231,167
Difference	(114,700)	(110,357)	(49,538)
PMR Income	117,500	118,800	67,000
<b>NET</b>	<b>2800</b>	<b>8443</b>	<b>17,462</b>

Income received in 2025 was greater than in 2024. Local income was up 8.9% (143,700 vs 131,911), rental income was flat (38,981 vs 39,718) and traditional fundraising was up nicely (15,320 vs 10,026).

Expenses were higher in 2025 than in 2024, largely due to salaries and benefits (210,031 vs 136,950) and a minister working 12 months instead of 7.

The deficit for local operations increased in 2025 (114,700 vs 49,538). However, the funding grant from Pacific Mountain Region of 117,500 turned the deficit into a gain of 2800. Our challenge over the next four years is to manage our finances so as to live without that grant.

Thank you to the members of our faith community who continue to contribute as generously as they are able to the life of Como Lake United Church.

Submitted on behalf of the Finance Team  
Paul Thompson and Wendy Pavilonis



# RELATIONAL WELLNESS

## Knitting Ministry

This year, unfortunately, has seen our numbers decrease of those who attended regularly. We did muster ourselves and community knitters to knit premie/newborn caps for a shout out from the Chilliwack Hospital. Thanks to all for stepping up!

2026 will see us moving from Tuesdays to Wednesday from 12:30 pm – 2 pm, in hopes that more people will be able to attend. We also hope to build an evening Knitting Ministry for community members who work in the day. Everyone is welcome to just pop by for support or a chat.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Carson

## Tea and Birthday Tuesdays

We have grown a bit more this year and regularly have about 30 folks join us each week. Some men also gathered to do projects and chat. The women chat and set the world to rights!! We have also included a games element for those who choose to join in!

Tea Tuesday has also evolved into a monthly Celebration of our Birthdays. The last Tuesday of each month is set aside to Celebrate with those who have had a Birthday.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Carson



### **Birthday Fund Report**

Funds raised supported monthly birthday cakes, celebration supplies, movie night snacks, and will help support larger fellowship projects in the coming year. Thank you to all contributors.

Birthday Circle's plans for the Fund (to be called "Celebrating Community" Fund in 2026) will continue to be used for our birthday cake (including some gluten free options), teas and supplies, to support staffing expenses for our monthly movie nights, and support of our end of year Christmas celebration. At the end of the year, some remaining funds will be donated to Kitchen towards a larger expense. From our 2025 collection, the Birthday Fund will be providing the kitchen with a new Hamilton Beach 45 cup tea urn, valued at \$100.79 with tax and coffee catch mats for \$36.82. Remaining balance of funds after tea urn and mats is: \$378.36.



We thank Karen Luckhart for her dedication to ensuring this Celebration fund helps us be able to provide our congregation and community with those little special extras!

# RELATIONAL WELLNESS

## Women of Como Lake United Church

Como Lake United Church continues to have five active UCW units.

We do not have a UCW president at this time, but Janet Blair has been our treasurer for many years. Janice Warneboldt has been the secretary for seven years and has stepped back from this position as of December 31, 2025.

In May, the UCW enjoyed hearing Sharie and Scott discuss their trip to Greece. At that meeting, Alice Fleming moved that we donate \$500 to First United Church. It was seconded by Carol Parker and passed. The rest of the UCW money (\$4,100) was put towards our HVAC system, except for \$29.33 which is being used to hold our bank account open.

In November, UCW members had a wonderful time participating in the Fall Fair.

In conclusion, the women of Como Lake United Church are looking forward to continuing their active participation in the life of the church.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Janice Warneboldt  
CLUC UCW

### Como Lake United Church Women Financial Statement 2025

Opening Balance 4,629.33

#### Income

General Funds	5.00
Total	5.00

#### Expenses

CLUC General Funds	4,100.00
First United Church	500.00
Total	4,600.00

Bank Balance as of Dec. 31, 2024  
34.33

Respectfully submitted by  
**Janet Blair**



# RELATIONAL WELLNESS

## Adopt-A-Street

Our Como Lake United Church Adopt-A-Street team consisting of Anne Carson, Ann Sheriff, Gaynor Hagyard & Allison Pesch, Barb Mendt, Cynthia Carre, Janet Blair, Joanne Spence, Michelle & Kim Andersen, Pam Durante, Sharie Ford & Valerie Simpson, in June completed its first full year of garbage pickup on our route Folsom/Smith/Porter ... both sides of the street.

Clean up takes a couple of hours once a month to keep the street clean. Equipment was originally supplied by the City of Coquitlam who receive a monthly report from the volunteers after each cleanup.

No incidents have been reported and the street residents are happy with the team's efforts.

Our great team has remained the same in number and volunteers over the year. It has been a successful and worthwhile endeavour with no months missed despite mother nature's occasional reluctance to cooperate weather wise.

Good job & thanks to the team. Pam Durante



## Representative to Pacific Mountain Regional Council

### **Pacific Mountain Regional Council AGM 2025**

May 29 - June 1, 2025

Held at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, Nanaimo, BC. This was the 7th Annual General Meeting of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council of the United Church of Canada.

Delegates gathered in person and on line via Whova.

Theme for the event 'Cracked Open' Alabaster jar cracked open taken from Scripture (Mark 14)  
Presenter Stephanie Spellers author of "The Church Cracked Open".

Theme #1 - We Are the Church Cracked Open

Theme #2 - Losing Our Lives to Gain Real Life

Theme #3 - The Future of Faith

Delegate Mindy Lane participated on line via Whova taking in a number of sessions including the business of the church.

# RELATIONAL WELLNESS

## Marketplace

### MARKETPLACE 2025

The Marketplace is our largest fundraising event. In 2025 it took place on Nov 22.

Many volunteers participate and also donate time and goods. This year we operated 11 stations - baking, Christmas, crafts, door prizes, jams, jewellery, wood crafts, new and nearly new, silent auction, surprise packages and the ever popular tea room.

Besides earning funds, it promotes enthusiasm and camaraderie. We earned over \$10,800.00 and look forward to next year's event.

2025 Coordinator, **Wendy Pavilonis**



## Friday Walking Group



We began our Friday morning walks in the early fall 2024 to promote exercise and congregational interaction.

We begin from the church and walk around our local park area for around 45 min. Then we walk to a local coffee shop to chat.

We have grown in walkers through 2025 and enjoy our time together. Others can join us at any time.

Coordinator  
**Roman Pavilonis**

# RELATIONAL WELLNESS

## Community Engagement - Impact In and Beyond Our Walls

In 2025, Como Lake United Church engaged intentionally with the wider community through partnerships, education, care, arts, and shared experience. Guided by our Mission Team Governance Model, these initiatives reflect a commitment to being present beyond our walls—responding to community needs with intention, collaboration, and care.

### **Food Security & Practical Support**

*Supporting access to food, safety, and essential resources for individuals and families in our wider community.*

Food Bank on Wheels

SFU Student Pantry

Food Safe Level 1 Certification



### **Arts, Culture & Creative Connection**

*Opening our space to creativity, music, and the arts as a way of building connection and shared community life.*

PoMoArts Partnership

Coquitlam District Music Festival

North Fraser Music Festival

Local choir concerts

Folk concerts

Vancouver Korean Choir

Sound Bath Experiences

Movie Nights

### **Care, Education & Life Transitions**

*Providing learning opportunities and compassionate support during times of change, care, and decision-making.*

Crossroads Hospice Collaboration

Advanced Planning Workshops

Tri-Cities Seniors Action Society

Seniors' Health and Wellness Institute

Providing a space for local healthcare staff meetings (Local Care Facilities)

### **Youth & Family Engagement**

*Creating safe, inclusive spaces where children and youth can grow through play, creativity, and relationship.*

Camp Spirit



### **Ongoing Neighbourhood & Community Engagement**

*Building sustained, relationship-based connections with neighbours and community groups.*

Burke Mountain Naturalists

Mountain View Suites Gatherings

Tea Tuesdays

Knitting Ministry

Labyrinth Contemplative Practice

# RELATIONAL WELLNESS

## Community Engagement cont...

### **Ecumenical, Interfaith & Civic Engagement**

*Strengthening relationships across faith traditions and civic leadership through dialogue and shared action.*

Conversation with the Corridor  
(Eagle Ridge, Inlet, Pitt Meadows, Golden Ears, Trinity United Churches)  
Ismaili Community Group Senior Luncheons  
MLA Jennifer Blatherwick – Community Food Drive



### **Truth and Reconciliation Learning**

*Engaging in ongoing learning and reflection as part of our commitment to justice, remembrance, and reconciliation.*

Red Dress Day  
Truth and Reconciliation Week – Lunch and Learns



### **Sacred Care**

*Offering dignity, presence, and sacred space for remembrance, grief, and celebrations*

Internal and External Memorials  
Wedding receptions  
Blessings

### **Community Celebrations & Public Gatherings**

*Creating welcoming, large-scale gatherings that foster belonging, celebration, and community connection.*

Homecoming Celebration – 100th Anniversary  
Marketplace 2025



# RELATIONAL WELLNESS

## Communications Highlights

- Sent 51 Caring Connections to 214 email recipients.
- 21 Sponsors of Caring Connections for a total of \$1,250.00 in memory of our loved ones and in celebration of some wonderful life events!
- In 2025 we had 29,916 visits to our website. In order of most viewed pages: Event Calendar, Rentals, and About Us.
- Our Google profile has over 1,685 interactions since September 2025 (searching for directions, calling or clicking through to our website) and over 5,182 views of our Google Business profile - all engagement is up.
- This year our engagement on Facebook was lower, but Instagram is up and has an additional 67 followers for 211 in total and growing each week.
- We plan to start on LinkedIn this year and look at other online opportunities, like expanding our YouTube following, which had 4,480 views in 2025, 868 hours of watch time and an increase of 30 subscribers. It is important to share our YouTube channel, social media pages and website with your friends!
- The reception desk is still a hub for information.
- Guest book should be remembered as a valuable connection tool.

*May the year ahead invite us  
into deeper faith  
and shared trust.*

*May our community continue  
to grow through service,  
learning, and care.*

*As we respond to the needs  
of the world around us,  
may love remain  
at the centre of all we do.*

*Go forward with hope,  
compassion, and courage.*





## Como Lake United Church

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