



## MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Held in the Fellowship Hall & on Zoom at 9:00 a.m.

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**Council Members** Deb Gill (Chair), Roger Hyatt (Vice-Chair), Mary McFadden (Council Secretary), Brenda Heath (Christian Development), Lois Gill (Fellowship & Outreach), Lori Hyatt – (Finance/Treasurer), Janice Sinker (Grand Bend Place), Rev. Nancy Knowles (Minister), Bill Weber (Ministry & Personnel & Stewardship), Christine Wilde (Office Administration) Debbie Procter (Property Management), Glen Miller (Trustees), Karen Etherington (Worship & Music), Peter Challen (WOW Representative),

**Present:** Deb Gill, Roger Hyatt & Lori Hyatt (attended on ZOOM), Mary McFadden, Brenda Heath, Lois Gill, Janice Sinker, Bill Weber, Debbie Procter, Glen Miller, Peter Challen, Karen Etherington, Nancy Knowles, Christine Wilde

### Quorum Present

### AGENDA

#### 1. DEVOTIONAL - Nancy Knowles

#### 2. CALL TO ORDER – Deb Gill: 9:03 a.m.

- **Note:** Deb commenced with a comment that this would be a celebratory meeting, recognizing all the work that has been accomplished by Council members. She started with Nancy praising her spiritual leadership with wisdom and humour! As the Team Reports were addressed, Deb complimented each person's personality and dedication to their leadership roles. In conclusion, Deb was recognized by all on her incredible leadership as Council chair.

#### 3. APPOINT AN EQUITY MONITOR – Peter Challen

#### 4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY (read aloud by council)

#### 5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **MOTION** that the agenda be approved as distributed. Moved, seconded and carried.

#### 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE – N/A

#### 7. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION** that the October 23, 2025 Council minutes be approved as distributed. Moved, seconded and carried.

### 8. BUSINESS ARISING

- **Harvest Dinner reflection and survey results (Deb and Roger- Attachments #1 & 1a)**
  - Really good response to the survey with over 80% completing the survey. Overall, it is felt that this was a very successful fundraiser.
  - **MOTION that we plan on two fundraising dinners per year to support Huron Shores United Church operations. In coordination with Grand Bend Place, the dinners would be placed on the church calendar for the last Saturday of September and first Saturday of June.**  
**Moved and seconded.** Discussion on the overall positive comments made both by the survey and from community folks who attended. More constructive comments were made about improving the takeout. **Carried.**
- **Festival of Trees reflection (Deb – Attachment #1)**
  - Deb congratulated all that were involved. Explained that \$10,000 was budgeted for fundraising events. The actual is \$17,600! To help be better organized, a spreadsheet will be created as to who is doing what. Hard copies will be passed out to all volunteers that head a particular task. Will promote much earlier next year. Received so many positive comments!
  - **MOTION that we plan on a Festival of Trees event in 2026 to support Huron Shores United Church operations in coordination with the Grand Bend Place fall concert and Jingle Bell Light up Grand Bend.** **Moved and seconded.** Brief discussion on which weekend of Light up Grand Bend the Festival of Trees should be held and if it should be held the same night as a concert. This will be further discussed. **Carried.**
- **Glen Miller – Legion contract:**
  - Glen will work with the Legion's 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president, Doug Turkheim to work on writing a contract covering our use of the Legion for our fundraising dinners.
  - The Legion would like to see HSUC volunteer with some of the Legion's events. Gave bingo or help with popcorn and Friday night as examples.
  - We will continue our support of the Legion through liquor sales from the fundraising dinners.
  - Comment was made about becoming Legion members. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Grand Bend Legion will be in 2026. The membership fee will be waived in 2026.
- **Fellowship &Outreach update on light catering funeral planning (Lois)**
  - Met early November with Trish Challen as leader. Trish will be organizing teams to cater for funeral-celebration of live functions for HSUC members. This service will not be offered to the general public. There will be two options - light refreshments or more substantial (sandwiches, etc.) Trish was thanked for her willingness to lead this service.

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- **Stewardship and Fundraising (Peter, Lori, Roger, Deb, Nancy and Trish Challen - Guest) – Attachment #2**
  - Peter spoke on the attached report – mentioned that the Anniversary appeal figure increased to \$13,270, and that the shortfall is still \$2,630 for this year, and does not address the debenture due in 2027.
  - Complimented the COF on funds paid toward the mortgage.
    - **MOTION that the Council's "Fundraising Working Group" and the Finance Team's "Stewardship Working Group" amalgamate immediately (in-principle) into one at Council: "Fundraising and Stewardship Team", to be ratified at the Annual General Meeting. Moved and seconded.** Deb asked each Council member if they agreed with this proposal. It was unanimous. **Carried.**
  - This Team includes all fundraising initiatives such as Grocery Cards and Grant applications.
  - Nomination team will be looking to fill this Team immediately and then formalize at ACM."
- **Living Faith Story (Roger – Attachment #3)**
  - This proposal was offered at the October 2025 Council meeting for discussion and feedback. After reviewing the feedback and making adjustments as needed, the below motion was made for implementation beginning in January 2026.
    - **MOTION that that Huron Shores United Church Council review and update our Mission and Vision statements, and our Living Our Faith Story as described in the document, "Huron Shores United Church Vision, Mission and Faith Story" (attachment #3). Moved, and seconded.** Discussion:
      - Commencing in January, time will be allocated for Council discussion. Roger will provide his thoughts ahead of time for members to prepare.
      - Vision and Mission Statements and our Faith Story:
        - Comment was made that it will be important that the COF understand this process and understand the rational.
        - Time is not an issue, need to ensure this represents who we are.
        - Goal is to establish this year.
        - Needs to be revisited continuously
  - **AI update (Mary)** – Some issues with our email accounts need to be addressed before continuing to proceed with this software. Hopefully in the new year.
  - **General comment – Bill Weber:** Wanted to make Council aware that there is a proposal generated from South Huron to build a casino on the property of the old Boat Store. Council indicated that they are not favour. This is just a proposal. If it does go forward, it was suggested that we contact area churches to compose a letter stating that we are not in agreement. Asked Bill to be "The Watchdog."

## 9. NEW BUSINESS – N/A

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### 10. TEAM REPORTS: Attachment #4

- **WOW – Peter Challen:** No further report.
- **FINANCE – Lori Hyatt:** Refer to Income & Expenses – (attachment #4)
  - Planning in progress to address the repayment of \$55,000 in debentures due in 2027.
  - Asked for team budgets.
- **PROPERTY – Debbie Procter:**
  - Elevator issue is being looked after.
  - Mentioned how great it was to have the Main St. entrance tile repaired.
  - Food Pantry – was successful in receiving their grand request of \$12,000 from the Sunset Community Foundation. They also received a \$3,000 donation from the Legion. These funds will be used for fresh vegetables, fruit and cooking classes.
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Brenda Heath:** No further report.
- **GRAND BEND PLACE – Janice Sinker:**
  - Jazz Vespers will continue in 2026.
  - GBP will be represented in Santa Claus parade on foot. Janice invited council members to join.
  - Comment was made that the Food Pantry will be involved at the parade.
  - There will be one performance of the Canada on Sunday, December 14, 2025.
- **FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH – Lois Gill:**
  - Further explained Pop-up Kids event and that it will be planned for next year.
  - Summer student was briefly discussed.
  - **MOTION that we apply for the Canada Student job program this year for one student.** **Moved, seconded and carried.**
    - This year there was an issue with receiving the funds. If successful in getting this grant, will ensure that receiving the funds is more timely this year.
- **WORSHIP & MUSIC – Karen Etherington:** No further report.
- **MINISTRY & PERSONNEL – Bill Weber:**
  - Team met recently to go over the 2026 budget. Complimented Lori on her financial knowledge and advice.
- **TRUSTEES – Glen Miller:** No further report.

### 11. EQUITY MONITOR – Peter expressed that Deb set the tone of congratulating everyone on their work!

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**12. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 and on Thursday January 29, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

**13. REFRESHMENTS:** January 8 - Janice and Debbie. January 29 – Lois and Nancy.

**13. MOTION to adjourn at 10:19 a.m.**

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Deb Gill,  
Council Chair

Mary McFadden  
Council Secretary

## 2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results

**How would you rate your overall impression of the fundraiser dinner?**

Answered: 30      Skipped: 1

Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Excellent	80.0%	24
Good	20.0%	6
Average	0%	0
Poor	0%	0
Very Poor	0%	0
Total		30

**How well do you think the event was organized?**

Answered: 31      Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Very well organized	74.2%	23
Well organized	25.8%	8
Somewhat organized	0%	0
Not well organized	0%	0
Poorly organized	0%	0
Total		31

## **2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results**

**How satisfied were you with the amount of your personal involvement in the event?**

Answered: 30      Skipped: 1

Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Very satisfied	60.0%	18
Satisfied	36.7%	11
Neutral	3.3%	1
Dissatisfied	0%	0
Very dissatisfied	0%	0
Total		30

**Which areas did you help with during the event? (Select all that apply)**

Answered: 31      Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Setup	32.2%	10
Food Preparation	35.5%	11
Serving	38.7%	12
Cleanup	38.7%	12
Other	41.9%	13

## **2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results**

Total

31

### **What comments do you have about the setup?**

Answered: 24      Skipped: 7

Layout of the tables worked very well

Well organized

The tables were more organized in rows which made it easier for guests to get around and for bussers to clean up. Perhaps we could increase the seating capacity.

Setup went smoothly and quickly

probably don't need as many men

The room looked beautiful

Having the extra day made things less hectic, and not having to put away tables and chairs was a real bonus!

Twelve at the ach setting works well. Lots of room between tables for walking.

Liked the 12 persons per table.

Lots of great help with setup. The placement of tables worked well.

I just did the finishing touches but I thought that the table arrangement was excellent!

Debbie had it all organized. It was very efficient.

Very welcoming, great seating arrangement!

Good setup

Went smoothly. Debbie had a floor plan.

## 2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results

I was not involved in the set up, but the Legion looked great.

Set up went well. Liked the 12-13 to a table arrangement.

Everything looked great.

Table layout worked very well and did not seem crowded.

perfect

## BETTER THAN THE BEEF DINNER

Very Good

Easy to do, great table configuration, maybe coincide with future legion breakfasts'

Looked terrific

What comments do you have regarding food preparation?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 11

Baking potatoes at the church worked well and they were done in plenty of time for the takeouts and meal.

Well done

For those who don't wish to volunteer, perhaps sponsoring part of the meal would enable them to be involved.

excellent

Pie pieces need to be more consistent in size - some were huge and others really small and squished even though containers were large; less or no pies needing refrigeration

A few hitches with timing which created a problem, but in the end worked out fine.

Everything was done well, hot food hot and table food delivered promptly.

## 2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results

Excellent timing and organization.

No comment was not involved.

I was involved with pie cutting and packaging and it went very smoothly. We all like the clam shells used from HO Jerry

Making the coleslaw went well because we received the cabbage shredded

Excellent choices, large portions, and all very tasty!

I wasn't involved in food preparation

Pie making and cutting and packaging worked very well. Liked the clam shells.

Was not involved in prep. I made pies.

Frozen vegetables need to be blanched in hot water and then moved to crockpots

perfect

very organized

I preferred making potatoes and veggies at the church and bringing Also like the idea of meat being bought already cooked to legion

We need to start filling clamshells early enough so all the bags for 4:15 pick up are down at the lower table for pickup at 4:15. Also, we need to discuss having only 2 at the cars and only the runners deliver bags to them.

What comments do you have regarding serving for this event?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 8

Serving was very efficiently done. Having beans, coleslaw and buns on the table helped this significantly.

Well organized

very quick

Takeout: Possibly buy brown bags from Sobey's which are sturdier - the clamshells didn't fit properly and the bags would tear when trying to fold the tops

## **2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results**

Did not serve

Easy with two tables in that area

Definitely put the salad, buns etc on the tables. It speeded up the food lineup plus if anyone was still hungry after that huge portion, there were bowls of food on the table.

Maybe the buns and coleslaw could have been on the table ahead of time

Fast and well organized. No problems reported.

Having takeout orders ready on time for 75 customers was challenging, however I didn't hear any negative comments

I thought that the serving went smoothly. The customers were very appreciative & went through the line quickly

We could've improved on the pick up component for takeout. Busing went well perhaps I could've been more efficient.

Went very quickly, food was hot, loved the pie choices!

The serving was very efficient and quick. It was nice to have the beans and coleslaw on the table.

putting coleslaw and beans on table seemed a good idea

Serving went smoothly, like it set up in the bar area and with servers in the center.

Serving was perfect

Serving fewer items on the buffet line was very efficient. Having the remainder of the items on the tables also worked well

liked the family style salad and beans

great

we try but difficult to accomodate last minute requests. Some were made

Liked the family style beans, coleslaw, buns. Reduced serving time for chicken, potatoes, peas.

Smooth and efficient

## **2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results**

**What comments do you have regarding cleanup after this event?**

Answered: 17      Skipped: 14

Cleanup was completed very quickly with lots of people helping.

Not in my job list

Will started cleanup as soon as the first course was served, and many people pitched in to help clean. It seemed to go fairly smoothly.

Quick clean-up & lots of help

Lots of help. Very efficient.

As we did not have to take down the tables and chairs, clean up was a snap!

It was well organized, and we all got out of the Legion in good time.

Very organized clean up crew, with lots of facilities for doing so.

The cleanup team did a great job of getting everything tidied and put away in record time.

Happened quickly and efficiently (thank you Blue Jays for added inventive)

Not involved.

Need to bring containers/bowls from the church for packaging leftovers

n/a

Please get different people to help clean up than those already there for hours

Able to manage dishwasher cleaning on my own if there are no other volunteers.

Wonderful to leave tables and chairs in place.

Excellent division of labour

**Would you be willing to volunteer at a future event?**

Answered: 31      Skipped: 0

## **2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results**

Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Definitely	74.2%	23
Probably	25.8%	8
Not sure	0%	0
Probably not	0%	0
Definitely not	0%	0
Total		31

### **What improvements could be made at future fundraising events?**

Answered: 20      Skipped: 11

Consider having a list of volunteers and their job duties posted on a chart for easy reference might help. There seemed to be some confusion on who was supposed to fill the clamshells for the takeout dinners.

Have people sign there ticket with there email address to win a door prize. That way you will have a email base to send out notifications for other dinners and other events. People that are helping should have their name tags on so that others that come to the dinner know who is involved with our church. People like to donate so smaller priced auction items are appreciated. No more than 2 dinners a year....that's enough.

This is a prime time for our Minister to meet the community. Nancy is encouraged to introduce herself to each of the tables.

Can't think of any

Food to be cooked at the Legion. Sooner start on packing takeouts ready to go at the right time.

Only comment I heard was that corn is preferable

Another very well done event. I'd really like to help more. I'm impressed with the number of volunteers and would also love to be involved.

## **2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results**

Instead of the line-up for the bar being a straight line into the middle of the serving area, maybe we could get that line to curve around to the entrance of the Legion. This way, there could be less confusion.

Nothing.

I wonder if the timing of the food preparation for takeout could be streamlined

My only thought is to not have these major fundraising events on top of other church activities

We should've had two tables at the bottom of the ramp for the takeout bags and the bags should've started to be filled at 4 o'clock for the 415 pick up.

I would like to see names on all the take out tickets in this case. It would have avoided a lot of confusion during distribution.

No suggestions. All seemed to go well.

I don't know of anything.

Small hand wipe packages for the chicken dinner and maybe paper wraps for the serviettes around the cutlery

I did not see enough to comment.

take out containers provided; more silent auction items or a 50/

Let's co-ordinate our dinners so there is a function the next day ie: breakfast at legion so we don't have to put chairs and tables away

Small tweaks generally. Assign same dates every year and look at a less expensive meat for the June meals. This community seems to value quantity.

Other comments made by email reply.

Fall dinner went very well. Food was good and plentiful. Many I've talked to enjoyed the large serving and therefore good leftovers for another meal.

I was a runner with John. I wonder why we have names on bags.

When drivers come and pass ticket(s) in. All we really need to know is that they need a bag(s) which we retrieve while they drive around the bldg.

There is a master list of ticket numbers, pickup time and who bought them. These could be checked off for the record.

## **2025 Harvest Dinner - Survey Results**

The dinners are such a fabulous fundraiser! I think they're perfect for the community to stay involved.

November 1, 2025 Harvest Dinner**Spectacular:**

Ticket Sales

Layout

Decorations

Timing of doors open and dinner

Plentiful portions....bang for the buck

Clean up

Pies and pie clam shells

**Next Steps:**

Better clamshells for main takeout

Start 4:15 takeout at 4:00 and bring all bags down to tables

How are we receiving tickets?

Add moist wipes to chicken dinner

20 pounds white beans instead of 30

10 heads of cabbage instead of 12

How do we manage complaints

**Motion:**

That we plan on 2 fundraising dinners per year to support HSUC operations. In coordination with GBP the dinners would be placed on the church calendar for the last Saturday of September and first Saturday of June.

November 14&15 2025 Festival of Trees**Spectacular:**

Holiday cookies 100 boxes sold out

45 beautiful fresh swags

22 lovely trees

Great dollars for sweat equity

**Next Steps:**

Auction bid sheets beside trees

Trees around perimeter

More cookies

25 swags

August/ September business communication

Sandwich board at Main street with more info of what FOT includes

Offer to bid on tree decorating service

**Motion:**

That we plan on a Festival of Trees event in 2026 to support HSUC operations in coordination with the Grand Bend Place fall concert and Jingle Bell Light up Grand Bend.

**Report to Council, Nov 20, 2025****Addressing Debt Repayment by members of Council and members of Finance Team, Revised.**

The following notes represent the meeting of Deb Gill (Chair), Lori Hyatt, Steve Northey, Roger Hyatt, Peter Challen, Trish Challen (guest).

To complete the building renovation Huron Shores United Church took out a mortgage, and several debentures, in 2015, for two and a half million dollars. Before this year's Anniversary Appeal, two and a quarter million dollars have been repaid; five hundred thousand dollars came from individual and corporate community donors, and from the amalgamating churches: Grand Bend, Greenway, Zurich, Dashwood. One million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars came from members of the Community of Faith.

The current rate of giving to building and debt retirement does not meet the payments being made each year. Those payments are \$20,160 United Church of Canada Renovation Loan (principal and interest) \$10,000 (debenture principal payment), approximately \$3,500 (debenture interest) totalling **\$33,700**. Our regular giving's toward this expense is \$1500 per month or \$18,000 per year. Even with the Anniversary Appeal of \$11,520 we will have a shortfall of **\$4,180** in 2025. In addition to our regular annual payments there are 2 debentures totalling **\$55,000** which need to be paid in full by 2027.

We cannot meet these obligations based on the current level of donations. The COF needs more information to deal with these concerns. Therefore, we need to make changes. We suggest the following plan, beginning formally in January 2026.

**Step one is to celebrate what we have accomplished.**

Between Christmas & New Year's, a MailChimp and/or letter will be sent out inviting all past donors and COF - all who have contributed to the success of the renovation project - to come for a Celebration Sunday ("The Happiest of New Years!"), which will be on Sunday, January 4th. We can celebrate with cake after worship and recognize what has been accomplished and what has been paid off.

**Step two**

Sunday, January 11th will highlight a sermon about Stewardship and what that means.

That week, a letter will be sent to the COF and past donors outlining the current situation: the amount of the debentures and the dates they are due.

The Donor Recognition Display will be revamped. A visual reminder of progress will be placed, including a brief explanation beside the display, or in the Gathering Place.

## **ADDITIONAL**

Because waiting for the Annual Congregational Meeting wastes several months, and because our first debenture obligation, in 2027, is not far away in budgetary terms, it is recommended that Council change its structure (in principle) immediately, and then formally at the ACM; see the motion below. An amalgamation of our Fundraising Working Group and our Stewardship Working Group, into a Fundraising and Stewardship Team, will bring together the two groups that bring money into the church. This will improve co-operation between the two for timing of initiatives, announcements, crossover issues, Council involvement in decisions, reporting to the Community of Faith, and more closely follows the recommendations of the UC of Canada.

**Formally, in January, we begin with the following initiatives.**

1. The COF is to receive a letter outlining our current situation: the amount of the debentures and the dates they are due.
2. The Donor Recognition Display is revamped. The Donor Recognition Display will be revamped. A visual reminder of progress will be placed, including a brief explanation beside the display.
3. During worship on the third Sunday of each month, testimonials will be given by volunteers indicating their personal value of this COF: "Why we appreciate HSUC". This will tie in very well with our 100th year anniversary celebrations. A brief summary of these will be included in the following Shorelines.
4. Visits to committed donors (PAR & envelope users) may occur.
5. Legacy Donation information is to occur, (perhaps tied in to a CE venture)
6. Each quarter, in Shorelines, the COF receives a written explanation of our progress and the issues at hand from the Finance Team (with input from Fundraising & Stewardship Team); a balance sheet may be included.

**Recommended Motion:** Amalgamate (in-principle) the Council's "Fundraising Working Group" and the Finance Team's "Stewardship Working Group" into one at Council: "Fundraising and Stewardship Team", to be ratified at the AGM.

## Huron Shores United Church Vision, Mission and Faith Story

### Proposal to HSUC Council for Approval - November 20, 2025

#### **Motion**

Moved by Roger Hyatt, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that HSUC Council review and update our Living Our Faith Story, our Vision and Mission statements as described below.

#### **Background**

The current HSUC Vision and Mission Statement were prepared a number of years ago and has served the church well over the years. As with most organizations, there needs to be a process to ensure that the Vision and Mission continues to represent the needs and the direction of our church. This is reinforced as membership and leadership with the church changes.

Developing/renewing our Vision and Mission should not be rushed, rather it should be worked over a period of time allowing for discussion and thoughtful consideration allowing the spirit to work among us in understanding each other's perspective.

The following proposal is submitted as a method to carry out this review.

#### **Proposal**

##### Step 1 - Review/Update of Our Living Our Faith Story

Beginning in January 2026, dedicate 10 minutes of each council meeting to review one or two sections of HSUC's Living Our Faith Story (attached) which was created in 2022 and last updated in May of 2025. This allows us to evaluate sections of our faith, piece by piece and we can establish a relative priority to our needs through this form.

##### Step 2 - Review/Update Our Vision and Mission Statements

Following substantial completion of step 1, we will meet as a council to reflect on our current Vision/Mission and consider an updated Vision/Mission that has been drafted, resulting in a renewed basis for the next 5 years of our church operations.

##### Step 3 - Validate Our Vision, Mission and Faith Story with the Community of Faith

Upon substantial completion of step 2, we will engage the Community of Faith through a process (Survey Monkey or Congregational Meeting) that allows them to review our work and provide feedback.

##### Step 4 - Finalize Our Vision, Mission and Faith Story

Council will meet to consider the feedback provided by the Community of Faith and update our documents accordingly. The new Vision, Mission and Living our Faith Story should be then approved at a Congregational Meeting and subsequently updated within the church documents, signage, web pages and with the Regional Council and UCC.



## COUNCIL MEETING TEAM REPORTS

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#### WOW – Peter Challen:

- **Completed:** Attended WOW Fall Zoom Meeting, Nov 7, 8.
  - Highlights:
    1. If sharing information about anyone who is vulnerable, as an announcement in worship about someone in hospital, ask the person's permission to share
    2. "In camera" and "committee of the whole" are synonyms; nothing is to be shared from these meetings
    3. Region has a new anti-harassment policy that has been legally tested, *Creating Safe and Respectful Environment Policy*
    4. Community Building wants to hear of exciting new programs, like the Food Pantry HSUC started
    5. General Council in Calgary formally apologized to the 2sLGBTQI+ for gender-based injustices
    6. An assessment increase of .5 percent is to be announced in February 2026 so our assessment would move from 4.5 percent to 5 percent
    7. Growth and Development presented *Toward 2035* – the UC has a vision: *Embodying Christ's presence in the world*; Isaiah said: I am about to do a new thing. Indications are that the number of UC members will decrease significantly by 2035, but the number of United Churches will remain more stable indicating UC churches are becoming more resilient. United Churches in the Region that are thriving are heavily involved in their community
    8. Growth is to be named as a congregational vision. 49% of Canadians express a belief in God; 60% express a concern for their well-being; the Region sees this as an opportunity for growth
    9. Stewardship is to be a year-long initiative; legacy donation information is encouraged because aging church going Baby Boomers have considerable wealth to leave to children who are not church goers
    10. There are grants for which we might apply; go to [WOWRUCC.ca](http://WOWRUCC.ca) – financial support, or contact Kate Ballagh-Steeper
    11. There are 127 congregations in WOW
    12. Whenever possible engage youth in worship
    13. As we engage the community, they should see us as having "spiritual depth"
    14. Did we know that Indigenous Veterans' Day is Nov 8? In the twenty century, more than twelve thousand Indigenous men and women served.

#### FINANCE – Lori Hyatt: Refer to Income & Expenses – (attachment #4)

- **Actions Completed:** Anniversary Appeal Thank You shared in Shorelines
- **Actions Pending and In Progress:**
  - Anniversary Appeal contributions to date \$13270
  - Recording secretary required for the team
  - Canada Summer Jobs Grant Funding received Nov 13/25 (\$5386)
  - Preparation of 2026 Budget
  - Planning in progress to address the repayment of \$55,000 in debentures due in 2027

• **Discussion Topics:**

- Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers involved with recent and ongoing fundraising events and projects. HSUC is financially in a better place because of your efforts.
- UCC Denominational Assessment will increase from 4.0% to 4.5% in 2026 and to 5.0% in 2027  
This is calculated on "Net" Revenue (Income)

• **Continued follow up:**

• **2024 Financial Review**

- February 4/25 – Information sent to Seebach to for Review of 2024 Financials
- June 2025 - Awaiting review report from Seebach and Co. follow-up request sent to firm
- August 21/25 – Request received for additional supporting documentation. Completed August 25/25
- September 8/25 – request for clarification on 2024 Year End HST claim and to resend the files from Power Church in PDF format. Completed September 9/25

**PROPERTY – Debbie Procter:**

• **Actions Completed:**

- A new snow plowing contract with B & E Steeper for the 2025-26 season has been signed. It will run from Nov. 1/25 – Mar. 31/26. The cost will be \$197.75/per month. If we need to have snow removed, there will be an extra charge of \$170/per hour for the loader and an extra charge of \$170/per hour for the truck to haul it away.
- Georgian Bay Fire and Safety Protection Inc. did our annual Fire Inspection at a cost of \$1200.64.
- Inglewood Mechanical Inc. completed our semi-annual inspection and maintenance of our HVAC, air conditioning, boiler, & water heater.
- Reminders about our parking guidelines have been shared with the various groups that use our facility.
- The Property Management has submitted & completed their 2026 Annual Budget for the Chair of Finance.

• **Actions Pending:**

- There is a proposal from the Property WG that the sidewalk slabs on the west side of the church be lifted and leveled. They will use hydraulic jacks to lift the slabs and put sand under the slab to level it. This hopefully, will rectify the unevenness of the sidewalk and correct the drainage. The approximate cost of this would be \$1,000.00. The WG hopes this method will work. This will be investigated again in the spring.

• **Maintenance and Repairs**

- **Actions Pending:** A new 7 'step ladder needs to be purchased. The working group has deemed the one we have now is not safe for use.
- **Actions Completed:** Jeff Bruder, one of the volunteers with the GB Community Food Pantry has regROUTED the tiles on the stair steps at the Main St. entrance.

• **Green Team WG – Lois Gill and Debbie Procter**

• **Actions Complete:**

- The outside water taps have been shut off for the winter.
- The rain barrels have been drained and stored for the winter.

• **Actions Pending:**

- The two maple trees in the Community Living Room are getting large and need to be pruned. The branches are growing into the hydro lines on the Main St. I have contacted All Around the

Bend to trim them for us. They can only do it up to a certain height. They recommended we contact Ontario Hydro. This idea will be investigated.

- Fall leaf cleanup continues with the help of Glen Miller, Lois & Dan Gill, Doug Kyle & Doug Procter.
- **Food Pantry Update:**
  - **Actions Completed:**
  - **Actions Pending:**
    - A new electronic keypad with Wi-Fi capabilities will be installed on the Food Pantry Door. This will allow the Operations Manager to open and close the door remotely. This was approved by the Food Pantry executive at their meeting at a cost of \$900. This expense will come out of the Food Pantry budget.
    - The cement walkway pad to the northeast leading to the Food Pantry needs to be completed. This will be done this fall.
    - A new buzzer and light device will be installed outside of the Food Pantry, allowing volunteers to have a warning signal that they can push, if they get into a situation where they need help.
    - The Food Pantry executives are planning two fundraising events, one in the fall and one in February 2026. More details to follow.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Brenda Heath:

- **Actions Completed:** Ann Russell will have the Angel Tree set up ready for donations on November 23, 2025.
- **Actions Pending:** No new plans underway yet for a Spring speaker/education event.

### GRAND BEND PLACE – Janice Sinker:

- **Actions Pending:**
  - GBP 2026 Season will be announced after our December 7th concert
  - quest for 2026 Sponsorship to begin in January, 2026 (we have already received notice of one sponsor continuing in 2026!)
  - we are requesting 2 Jazz Vespers events for Spring of 2026 as long as we see an increase in attendance
  - need to encourage friends & neighbours to attend & promote more on social media
  - we have sold approximately 100 tickets for Big Band Christmas show on December 7
  - Sunset Cinema will present “The Santa Clause” at GBP on Thursday, December 4
- **Actions Completed**
  - our 2 fall concerts were very successful with excellent attendance at both
  - final Jazz Vespers for 2025 was held on November 18
  - the new fabric musical mural was installed & used at the Gordon Lightfoot Show & will be used for future concerts
  - the new fabric Jazz mural will be displayed at all future Jazz Vespers events in the same location
  - GBP purchased fabric for new black back-drop curtains under each of our large screen TV's in order to enhance our performances. Thanks to Kitty Illman for sewing these for us!

### FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH – Lois Gill:

- **Prayer Shawls**
  - **Actions completed:**
    - Meetings continue every other Monday at the church. The group made lovely crocheted poppies for a runner and this was displayed at Remembrance Day service.
    - This group was thanked for their gifts and shawls, bears, hearts, etc. displayed at a recent service and many items were taken after the service. Some prayer shawls, bears, hearts being sent to Jamaica (victims of hurricane)
- **Caring Casseroles**
  - **Actions completed:**
    - Last session held Oct 31st. We made tuna noodle casserole, butternut squash soup, date square
    - Volunteers helped with Harvest Chicken Dinner Nov. 1st.
  - **Actions pending:** Next session Nov. 28th making beans, turkey casserole, and apple cake.
- **Hospitality:**
  - Volunteers met to discuss catering policy for funerals and celebrations of life for church members 1st week of Nov. with leader, Trish Challen.
  - Volunteers helped with refreshments and cookies served at "Festival of Trees" event.
- **Other Happenings:**
  - **Pop Up KIDs Christmas Shop** " cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. Items gathered for this event were taken out to Lipman Farms near Exeter who are sending a container to Jamaica (hurricane relief)
  - **Application for Canada Summer Student Jobs** due early December and will need to be filed

### WORSHIP & MUSIC – Karen Etherington:

- **Actions completed:**
  - October 26 - Anniversary Sunday with guest worship leader Mavis Currie and 3 anthems performed by the HSUC Singers
  - November 9 - Remembrance Day Sunday with "Sing you Home" video accompanied by the HSUC Singers
- **Actions pending:**
  - November 23 - "Christ the King" Sunday
  - November 30 - first Sunday of Advent
    - Advent Sundays to have "The magic of..." theme's
  - December 14 - HSUC Singers Cantata "Love" performance at 3:30
  - December 21 - Christmas Sunday with communion
  - December 24 - Christmas Eve service at 4 p.m.
  - December 28 - Carol sing Sunday - COF given opportunity throughout Advent to request their favourite carols
  - Embellishment group are preparing to have the church decorated and ready for the Christmas season

Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 13 at 3:30 on Zoom

### MINISTRY & PERSONNEL – Bill Weber:

### TRUSTEES – Glen Miller:

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**Huron Shores United Church**  
**Income and Expense Statement**  
Consolidated - January 2025 - October 2025

INCOME		Current Period	Current Budget	Annual Budget
<b>FUNDS DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Operating	4030	\$90,935.55	\$100,000.00	\$120,000.00
Cemetery	4030-001	32.30	0.00	0.00
Special Envelopes	4045	11,520.00	12,500.00	15,000.00
Grocery Card Prgm	4055	4,504.00	4,166.70	5,000.00
Fundraising Event Income	4065	14,908.60	8,333.30	10,000.00
Subtotal Funds Development		121,900.45	125,000.00	150,000.00
<b>GRAND BEND PLACE</b>				
GBP Ticket Sales	4110	18,415.80	26,020.00	31,224.00
GBP Donations & Sponsors	4110-001	7,100.00	5,166.70	6,200.00
GBP Other Income	4110-002	2,238.90	0.00	0.00
GBP Jazz Vespers	4110-003	1,302.50	625.00	750.00
GBP Sunset Cinema	4110-004	1,437.68	833.30	1,000.00
Subtotal Grand Bend Place		30,494.88	32,645.00	39,174.00
<b>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED</b>				
Community Outreach	4205	763.00	625.00	750.00
Food Bank Receipts	4210-102	995.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
Mission & Service	4220-103	10,051.50	10,000.00	12,000.00
Subtotal Temporarily Restricted		11,809.50	11,625.00	13,950.00
<b>INTEREST INCOME</b>				
Banking Interest	4510	1,018.09	0.00	0.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS INCOME</b>				
Bldg & Debt Retirement	4615	18,926.86	27,916.70	33,500.00
Weddings/Funerals	4620	500.00	0.00	0.00
Usage Fees & Misc.	4621	4,296.25	3,750.00	4,500.00
Subtotal Miscellaneous Income		23,723.11	31,666.70	38,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		188,946.03	200,936.70	241,124.00

Huron Shores United Church  
Income and Expense Statement  
Consolidated - January 2025 - October 2025

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EXPENSES		Current Period	Current Budget	Annual Budget
<b>FIXED EXPENSES</b>				
<b>SALARIES &amp; HONORARIUMS</b>	5050	\$95,681.29	\$101,386.30	\$121,663.63
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE</b>				
Technology/Social Media	5414	2,325.75	2,083.30	2,500.00
Bank Charges	5420	1,408.71	1,666.70	2,000.00
Legal & Audit	5421	0.00	1,041.70	1,250.00
Office Supplies	5430	907.05	1,250.00	1,500.00
Postage	5440	0.00	541.70	650.00
Church Phones	5517	1,589.02	1,666.70	2,000.00
Copier Lease	5583	1,576.92	1,833.30	2,200.00
Community Wellness Exp	5585	337.64	166.70	200.00
<b>Subtotal Administrative Expense</b>		<b>8,145.09</b>	<b>10,250.10</b>	<b>12,300.00</b>
<b>BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS</b>				
Electricity and Water	5635	7,095.76	8,333.30	10,000.00
Gas	5655	1,869.24	2,500.00	3,000.00
Building Maint & Repair	5701	691.20	1,666.70	2,000.00
Equipment Maint & Repair	5702	1,587.39	1,250.00	1,500.00
Lift Maint & Repair	5703	3,039.46	2,500.00	3,000.00
Kitchen Working Group	5705	91.22	666.70	800.00
Supplies & Services	5710	100.66	250.00	300.00
Municipal Fees/Taxes	5715	113.00	125.00	150.00
Service Contracts	5720	1,000.41	666.70	800.00
Support Contracts	5726	0.00	250.00	300.00
Insurance	5760	5,375.70	7,083.30	8,500.00
Landscaping	5810	187.09	83.30	100.00
Lawn Service	5820	0.00	83.30	100.00
Outside Working Group		0.00	208.30	250.00
<b>Subtotal Building &amp; Grounds</b>		<b>21,151.13</b>	<b>25,666.60</b>	<b>30,800.00</b>
<b>Subtotal Fixed Expenses</b>		<b>124,977.51</b>	<b>137,303.00</b>	<b>164,763.63</b>

Huron Shores United Church  
Income and Expense Statement  
Consolidated - January 2025 - October 2025

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DEPARTMENTS/COMMITTEES		Current Period	Current Budget	Annual Budget
<b>COF SUPPORT</b>				
Congregational Care	6040	0.00	125.00	150.00
Weddings/Funerals	6041	298.07	0.00	0.00
Card Ministry (postage)	6050	0.00	83.30	100.00
<b>Subtotal Cof Support</b>		<b>298.07</b>	<b>208.30</b>	<b>250.00</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>				
Other	6211	0.00	166.70	200.00
Adult Opportunities	6212	630.00	0.00	0.00
Camps	6225	-25.63	333.30	400.00
Church Picnic	6226	43.89	166.70	200.00
<b>Subtotal Christian Education</b>		<b>648.26</b>	<b>666.70</b>	<b>800.00</b>
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Sanctuary Supplies	6278	0.00	166.70	200.00
Music Supplies	6285	599.03	833.30	1,000.00
Worship Special Projects	6298	703.52	250.00	300.00
Embellishment Group	6299	100.52	166.70	200.00
<b>Subtotal Worship</b>		<b>1,403.07</b>	<b>1,416.70</b>	<b>1,700.00</b>
<b>MISSION &amp; OUTREACH</b>				
Community Outreach	6320	743.88	625.00	750.00
Prayer Shawl	6340	123.00	125.00	150.00
Food Bank	6360	200.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
<b>Subtotal Mission &amp; Outreach</b>		<b>1,066.88</b>	<b>1,750.00</b>	<b>2,100.00</b>
<b>GRAND BEND PLACE</b>				
GBP Performers	6401	16,339.40	15,208.30	18,250.00
GBP Advertising	6402	1,683.49	0.00	0.00
GBP Food & Lodging	6403	1,145.51	1,666.70	2,000.00
GBP Fees & Licenses	6405	2,896.68	8,320.80	9,985.00
GBP Tech/Social Media	6406	1,672.01	833.30	1,000.00
GBP Other	6407	703.00	1,666.70	2,000.00
GBP Jazz Vespers	6408	1,293.00	0.00	0.00
GBP Sunset Cinema	6409	23.87	0.00	0.00
<b>Subtotal Grand Bend Place</b>		<b>25,756.96</b>	<b>27,695.80</b>	<b>33,235.00</b>
<b>FUNDS DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Stewardship	6430	0.00	416.70	500.00
Mission and Service	6460	9,102.15	10,000.00	12,000.00
<b>OTHER EXP-COUNCIL</b>				
Right Relations	6609	50.89	0.00	0.00
Council Discretionary	6610	0.00	416.70	500.00
Minister Discretionary	6611	0.00	416.70	500.00
Affirming	6612	100.00	208.30	250.00
Accessibility	6613	0.00	208.30	250.00
Anniversary Projects	6614	269.99	0.00	0.00
Debenture Payments	6615	10,000.00	8,333.30	10,000.00
Debenture Interest Cost	6615-001	0.00	3,000.00	3,600.00
Denomination Assessment	6620	6,191.25	6,916.70	8,300.00
Mortgage Payments	6630	16,800.00	16,800.00	20,160.00
Fundraising Event Expense	6665	5,092.30	0.00	0.00
<b>Subtotal Other Exp-council</b>		<b>38,504.43</b>	<b>36,300.00</b>	<b>43,560.00</b>
<b>Subtotal Departments/committees</b>		<b>76,779.82</b>	<b>78,454.20</b>	<b>94,145.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>201,757.33</b>	<b>215,757.20</b>	<b>258,908.63</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES</b>		<b>-\$12,811.30</b>	<b>-\$14,820.50</b>	<b>-\$17,784.63</b>