

STOWE COMMUNITY CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT

2025



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PASTOR'S REPORT

Thanks to God's goodness and grace, 2025 was a year of celebrations and accomplishments.

We witnessed the completion of the first phase of our capital campaign improvements, including a brand new Livestream system, commercial grade kitchen, Parsonage renovations, new front porch, HVAC in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall and the crowning achievement of the church steeple.

I want to thank all who have contributed so far and to those who will contribute in the future to ensure the completion of all these vital projects. These upgrades and additions have improved the safety, beauty, accessibility and usability of our beloved church buildings for more people across all ages and stages.

The Haugh family was delighted to move back into our home at the Parsonage during midwinter and love the renovations and updates inside and outside. These have helped us host, welcome and entertain family, friends and multiple church events and social gatherings this past year including an Easter Open

House, women's fellowship, the board, church staff, church choir. Myself, Lauretta, Jack, and Blake are thankful for the support in helping make the church parsonage our home.

As our congregation continued to grow in terms of membership and stewardship, we increased our mission giving to \$29,000 representing 10% (of a tithe) of our 2025 stewardship goal and expanded our outreach and partnerships.

Our average Sunday worship attendance also grew this past year and included special services such as Easter Sunday, Pageant Sunday, Earth Day Sunday, Blessing of the Animals and a Christmas Eve that welcomed over 800 people in four services.

This past year we had six funerals, ten weddings and nine baptisms. We also welcomed twenty new members into the faith, fellowship and family of SCC in 2025. God has blessed our church with over 100 new members since 2022!

Our welcoming ushers, beautiful sanctuary, inspiring music, and moving testimonies all inspire people to connect with God and deepen their faith.

To better support our vision, we hired two new staff members in 2025. Molly Mitchell began serving in September as our Director of Youth Ministry and Dean DeRienzo as our Digital Ministry Coordinator.



PASTOR'S REPORT

It had been almost a decade since SCC had a Confirmation class. This year, a group of students committed themselves to learn the truths and opportunities of the Christian faith. Theological ideas and topics such as Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, Worship, Ministry, Spiritual Life, and Life in Church were taught. Each student read the Gospel of Luke, volunteered community service hours with our mission partners, and met monthly with mentors, who walked alongside them in support, prayer, and friendship. With the commitment of our mentors, this new Confirmation program could not have happened. I offer my deepest gratitude to Lauretta Haugh, Matt Anderson, Amy Cobaugh, Lynne von Trapp, Maggy Dunphy, Amy Marshall, Janet Godin and Christian Cobaugh.

I am so proud of these students. The future of the Church is hopeful because of this generation. The 2025 Confirmation Class: Evie Song, Adella Perrotti, Ruby Giuliani, Jule Anne Glowac, Oliver Giuliani, Maggie King, Camille Cobaugh, and Liam Stowe (who also chose to be baptized that Sunday and commit his life to following Christ)

Throughout the year, we had a variety of sermons series including "I AM Saying of Jesus", "The Fruit of the Spirit" and "The Psalms". The choir helped lead two special "Music Sundays" focusing on the Methodist tradition and the Reformation/Lutheran tradition.

Our congregation was blessed to learn from guest ministers whose unique insights inspired us and deepened our knowledge of the Bible. I want to thank Michael Caldwell, David Vanderlinde Abernathy, and Barbara Purinton for their ministry with us.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome Rev. Laura Cadmus to serve as our interim minister during my sabbatical, and we are excited to have Dr. Sarah Drummond, Rabbi David Fainsilbur, David Vanderline Abernathy, Paul Sangree, Skip Masback and our very own new member Nikki Muston preach the summer of 2026. I encourage you to read our Church President's report about the upcoming sabbatical.

Our Green Team was formed to help our congregation learn about environmental stewardship and live more eco-friendly as we partner with God to care for creation. Each month, thoughtful "Green tips" were shared with the congregation in the bulletins and Quest. The Green Team participated in "Green Up Vermont" and hosted a book club on The Serviceberry by Robin Wall Kimmerer.



PASTOR'S REPORT

Our Care Team reached out to members and friends with support and resources including home and hospital visits, meals, cards, prayer, phone calls and provided support during times of difficulties, illness and loss. Meals, flowers and cards were delivered. Rev. Barbara Purinton has provided a report.

Our ecumenical partnerships with JCOGs and St. John's Episcopal Church strengthened as we shared Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, "Silent Night", Advent Lesson and Carols, Hanukkah, and multiple Shabbat services together. Additionally, Rabbi David and Fr. Rick and I hosted four "Pastor, Priest and Rabbi" gatherings.

Myself, along with a group from SCC participated in "Road to the Civil Rights" interfaith trip in November visited places such as Birmingham, Montgomery, Atlanta and Selma. We returned inspired by the people we met, stories we heard, worship we experienced and sense of collective calling to right the wrongs and injustices we see around us.

We had a unique opportunity to sit in the historic sanctuary of Holt Street Baptist Church while listening to the recorded message the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered that evening to a crowd of over 5,000. This was an event sponsored by the Montgomery Improvement Association. He would later say, "How could I make a speech that would be militant enough to keep my people aroused to positive action and yet moderate enough to keep his fervor within controllable and Christian bounds?"

King succeeded, and you could hear the energy in that room and feel the power of his speech. "Unity is the great need of the hour."

That one line has inspired me and will continue to inspire my preaching and leading. In part due to MLK's motivation, the mass community meeting voted to continue the Montgomery bus boycott, which ended up lasting 381 days and became a catalyst on the road to civil rights.



PASTOR'S REPORT

I am praying to lead in such a way that there is power from the pulpit that leads towards radical love and transformation of hearts, minds, lives, and communities. I am asking for the Spirit's help to be more courageous than cautious.

In King's words, "It is not enough for us to talk about love; love is one of the pivotal points of the Christian faith. There is another side called justice. And justice is really love in calculation. Justice is love correcting that which revolts against love."

It is our vision at Stowe Community Church to remain committed to living out God's purposes for our congregation and life together as loving followers of Christ.

Everything that we shared, experienced and accomplished this past year has been made possible by the support of so many volunteers and our dedicated staff. Thank you to MaryLou Durrett, Karen Miller, Taryn Noelle, Rev. Dr. Barbara Purinton, Dean DeRienzo, Molly Mitchell and Brenda Convery.

I am grateful for the ministry of our Church President, Nancy Jeffries Dwyer and our Vice President, Nancy Small. We owe a debt of gratitude for the amount of time and energy they have dedicated to leading our church and helping our organization and financial strengthening.

Our committees, ministry teams and entire church board and staff are deeply devoted to God's work and this church. Each individual inspires me to serve in faith, hope and love.

I am honored to serve as your Pastor and look forward to my family sabbatical as an intentional time of rest, reflection and renewal. My prayer is that this time will also be a season of renewal for our church leaders, staff and congregation.

Thank you to my wife Lauretta and our boys, Jack and Blake, for being a constant source of encouragement, affirmation, and love.

With grace, peace, equity and justice for all,

Pastor Dan

Pastor Dan



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I reflect on this past year at Stowe Community Church, my heart is filled with deep gratitude—for our congregation, our leadership, our volunteers, and our wider community. It has been an honor to serve as President during a year marked by growth, generosity, creativity, and faithful commitment to one another.

Together, we have continued to strengthen the foundation of our church—both spiritually and structurally. Through thoughtful stewardship, careful planning, and the extraordinary generosity of our donors, we have made significant progress on our long-term vision for restoring and sustaining our historic building. The success of our capital campaign to date is a testament to the trust our community places in this church, and in the vision we share.

Equally important has been the life and vibrancy within our walls. Our worship, music, youth programming, and community events have flourished, reminding us that Stowe Community Church is not simply a building, but a living, breathing community of faith. Our youth theatre and music programs continue to inspire and engage young people, families, and audiences from near and far—strengthening inter-generational connections and affirming the arts as a vital expression of our faith.

This year has also been one of preparation and visioning. As we look ahead to Pastor Dan's upcoming sabbatical, we have approached this time with intention, collaboration, and optimism—seeing it not only as a season of rest and renewal for our pastor, but as an opportunity for shared leadership and congregational growth.

I am deeply thankful for Pastor Dan, the Board of Directors, our dedicated committee chairs and members, our staff, and the many volunteers whose tireless work makes everything we do possible. Your leadership, wisdom, and willingness to serve have been extraordinary.

As we enter the year ahead, we do so with confidence and hope—grounded in faith, strengthened by community, and inspired by what is still possible. I am grateful beyond words for the privilege of serving this remarkable church and for the trust you have placed in me.

With heartfelt thanks . . . BE THE CHURCH!



Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer
President, Stowe Community Church

PASTOR SABBATICAL

Purpose and Benefits of Pastor Dan's Sabbatical

A shared investment in renewal, leadership, and the long-term health of Stowe Community Church.

Pastor Dan's upcoming sabbatical is a carefully planned, three-month season of renewal rooted in biblical tradition, pastoral best practices, and long-term ministry sustainability. It reflects a shared commitment—by Pastor Dan and the Board—to caring responsibly for our pastor, his family, and the future of Stowe Community Church.

This is not an unstructured break or time away from ministry. Rather, it is a purposeful season of reflection, spiritual renewal, and preparation for the next chapter of leadership among us. It is not something that happens to our congregation—it is something we walk through together, grounded in trust, faith, and hope in what God continues to do in and through our church.

As one congregant insightfully shared, “A sabbatical isn’t about stepping away from responsibility—it’s about returning with deeper clarity, strength, and purpose.” That sentiment captures the heart of this season.

What Pastor Dan Will Be Doing

During his sabbatical, Pastor Dan will engage in intentional practices that support his calling and align with our congregation's values:

- Spending extended time in nature and national parks, reflecting on God's creation and deepening his commitment to creation care, discipleship, and outdoor ministry
- Visiting historic churches, sacred spaces, and religious art—particularly in Europe—to explore how faith has been expressed through beauty, architecture, and place across centuries
- Practicing structured spiritual disciplines, including prayer, journaling, reading, solitude, and regular meetings with a spiritual director
- Investing deeply in family renewal—strengthening his marriage and sharing formative, faith-shaping experiences with his children
- Concluding the sabbatical with extended silence and reflection at a retreat center to integrate learning and prepare thoughtfully for his return

PASTOR SABBATICAL

This sabbatical is part of Pastor Dan's contractual agreement following five years of service and was unanimously approved by the Board after prayerful discernment and careful planning. During his absence, Stowe Community Church will remain vibrant and well supported through interim pastoral leadership, guest preachers, and intentional congregational programming.

For Pastor Dan, the sabbatical provides space to:

- Rest and renew after years of sustained leadership
- Guard against burnout so he may continue to serve with joy and energy
- Return spiritually refreshed, creatively inspired, and more fully present—for his family and for our congregation

Healthy pastors lead healthy churches, and caring for our pastor is a faithful act of stewardship.

For Stowe Community Church, this season:

- Models healthy boundaries, faithful leadership, and long-term vision
- Creates space for new voices and perspectives
- Encourages shared leadership, resilience, and trust
- Deepens our connection to creation care, spiritual reflection, and community life

Pastor Dan will return not only rested, but renewed—bringing fresh insight, energy, and imagination for worship, education, outdoor ministry, pilgrimages, and community engagement. These gifts will directly enrich the life and mission of Stowe Community Church for years to come.

- Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, President

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The year 2025 will be remembered as a historic and transformative time in the life of Stowe Community Church. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity and commitment of our congregation and supporters through the Steeple Society Capital Campaign, the vision celebrated in last year's annual report has now been fully realized in spaces and systems that will serve our church and wider community for decades to come.

In 2024, we rejoiced in the remarkable success of the campaign. In 2025, we celebrate something equally meaningful: the faithful and effective use of those gifts to complete ambitious projects that strengthen our ministry, preserve our historic building, and expand our welcome to all.

Major Accomplishments in 2025

A New Steeple

Raised during the summer of 2025, the new steeple stands as a visible symbol of renewal, restoring a defining architectural feature of our church, and beacon of light in the village.

A New Front Porch

The new front porch has transformed the church entrance into a place of welcome, gathering, and hospitality, reflecting our commitment to being an open and inviting community.



Modern Heating and Air Conditioning System

A new heating and air conditioning system now provides improved comfort, reliability, and energy efficiency, ensuring year-round use of our church building.

A State-of-the-Art Kitchen

The new kitchen supports meals, fellowship, and outreach, equipping the church to live out its mission through hospitality and shared community life.

Live Stream System Upgrade

Our upgraded live stream system extends worship and connection beyond the sanctuary, allowing us to reach homebound members and others near and far—truly making us a worldwide church.

ADA-Compliant Bathroom

The completion of a fully ADA-compliant bathroom reflects our commitment to accessibility, inclusion, and dignity for all who enter our church.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Renovation of the Parsonage

The renovated parsonage now provides a safe and welcoming home for Pastor Dan and his family, supporting pastoral leadership and ministry.

Gratitude and Looking Forward

These accomplishments represent extraordinary stewardship, careful planning, and countless hours of faithful work. The success of the Steeple Society Capital Campaign is now visible not only in improved facilities, but in the renewed energy, accessibility, and hospitality of Stowe Community Church.

We extend our deepest thanks to all who gave, volunteered, planned, prayed, and supported this campaign. Because of you, our church is well prepared to serve God, one another, and the wider community—now and into the future.

- Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, President



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to report notable growth and progress in 2025. After a thorough two-year search, we successfully hired a Youth Director who has empowered us to organize engaging, community-oriented events for our youth. In addition, we launched a monthly children's activity program, supported by CE committee members, featuring activities such as sledding, biking, pizza parties, crafts, and movies. This year's initiatives have laid a strong foundation for deeper family engagement, and we are committed to expanding participation and impact in the coming year.

Forward-looking goals for 2026:

- Complete the recruitment and onboarding of a Nursery Attendant to support parents during Sunday services and foster a welcoming environment for families with young children.
- Grow youth programming with regular community service projects, educational workshops, and social events.
- Establish a sustainable volunteer rotation to ensure consistent delivery of CE activities and prevent burnout.
- Build partnerships with families and local organizations to broaden opportunities for youth and family engagement.
- Implement a feedback system (surveys or focus groups) to continually improve programs and measure impact.

- Oana Louviere, Christian Education Chair

Pastor Dan Haugh, Taryn Noelle, Molly Mitchel, Emily Dabrowski, Karen Machia, Dr. Bob Arnot

Children's Worship and Community Engagement

As we reflect on this past year at Stowe Community Church, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the incredible growth, joy, and faith we have witnessed through our Children's Worship and Christian Education programs. Each week, we welcomed children, from infants and toddlers through fifth grade, into a loving and faith-centered environment where curiosity, creativity, and spiritual wonder were nurtured. While our weekly attendance varied, we learned that we serve upwards of 30 families in our infant/ toddler-5th graders age group.

Weekly Worship & Faith Formation

Sunday mornings continued to be the heartbeat of our program, as children gathered to learn Bible stories, pray together, sing, create, and experience God's love in ways that are meaningful and age-appropriate. Through storytelling, music, art, and play, our young people explored what it means to follow Jesus and care for one another.

Family Life & Community Building

Our ministry was enriched by a wide variety of family events that brought our church community together

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

in joyful and memorable ways. From sledding adventures and pancake breakfasts to movie days and apple picking, these gatherings created space for relationships to grow and for families to connect through laughter, shared experiences, and fellowship.

A Summer to Remember

Late August brought another wonderful week of Bible Camp, with nearly 25 children and youth participating. Our theme, “True North, Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!” Through stories, games, music, and hands-on activities, campers deepened their understanding of faith while strengthening friendships that will continue well beyond the summer.

Music Ministry Comes Alive

In September, we were thrilled to launch both a Cherub Choir and a Youth Choir, giving our young people new opportunities to express their faith through music.

A special milestone was reached in December when our Youth Choir fulfilled a bucket-list dream by performing not only at Stowe Community Church, but also at the Unitarian Church in Montpelier—a beautiful example of collaboration, outreach, and the power of young voices lifting praise together.



A Joyful Christmas Season

We closed out the year with an especially rich and festive season. Our children and youth poured their hearts into a joyful run of “Elf Jr.” the Musical, a beloved and lively Christmas Pageant, and two beautiful Family Christmas Eve services at 3 and 5pm. These services welcomed families into worship that was full of warmth, wonder, and the true spirit of Christmas.

Looking Ahead

As we look toward the year ahead, we do so with deep gratitude for the volunteers, families, and children who make this ministry so special. We eagerly anticipate all the love, joy, faith, and hope that 2026 holds for our church family.

Together, we continue to grow in God’s grace—one story, one song, and one child at a time.

- Taryn Noelle, SCC Director of Christian Education

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Youth Ministry Program Development, Engagement, and Community Impact

Over the past few months, the SCC Youth Ministry has experienced meaningful growth in both participation and purpose. Youth are not only attending events but actively shaping the direction of the program, offering ideas, taking ownership, and leading service efforts that respond directly to the needs of our church and broader community. This momentum reflects a shift toward an advisory-based ministry model, where youth voices are valued as partners in planning, execution, and reflection.

Program Structure: An Advisory Model in Practice

The youth ministry is intentionally moving toward an advisory model, empowering young people to help guide programming rather than simply receive it. Youth have been invited to:

- Share ideas for service projects and gatherings
- Collaborate on planning and logistics
- Reflect on what is meaningful, challenging, or impactful
- Take leadership roles during activities

This approach has increased engagement, accountability, and creativity, resulting in a program that is youth-driven while remaining grounded in SCC's mission of service, faith, and fellowship.

Service & Community Engagement Highlights

SCC youth have consistently demonstrated a strong desire to serve, often **originating ideas themselves** and following through with hands-on action. Recent activities include:

- Lasagna preparation for Clarina Howard Nichols Center, where youth rolled up their sleeves to cook and assemble two large lasagnas for community members in need
- Making 12 apple pies from scratch, baking them, and distributing pies** for Thanksgiving baskets and for elders in our care, offering both nourishment and connection during the holiday season. The stories I heard moved me as these young, vibrant SCC youth shared the folks in our church community they got to know and love through this effort.
- Organizing the SMHS and SES Thanksgiving and food pantry donations and basket drives, helping to load in, sort food donations for distribution

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Learning and becoming proficient with new kitchen appliances, building confidence, responsibility, and practical life skills while serving others
- Seasonal fellowship activities, such as carving pumpkins together, which strengthened relationships and created a sense of belonging
- Most recently, we “Elfed” (dropped treats off anonymously) a few folks who live close to SCC, including our very own Pastor Dan and Lauretta Haugh. We enjoyed French toast casserole, popcorn, and watched Home Alone to close out the evening.

In each instance, youth were not passive participants; they helped initiate, plan, and carry out these efforts with enthusiasm and care.

Impact Statement

The SCC youth have shown a remarkable drive to serve their community with compassion, initiative, and joy. They consistently demonstrate a willingness to roll up their sleeves, learn new skills, and step into responsibility, whether preparing meals, baking pies, organizing donations, or mastering unfamiliar kitchen equipment.

Perhaps most notably, many of these service opportunities were **originated by the youth themselves**, reflecting a growing sense of ownership and leadership within the ministry. Their actions reveal a deepening understanding of what it means to live out faith through service, generosity, and community care.

Through this advisory-based approach, youth are not only contributing to SCC’s outreach efforts, but they are also becoming confident leaders, collaborators, and caregivers within the life of the church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Looking Ahead

Building on this momentum, the youth ministry will continue to:

- Strengthen the advisory model by inviting youth input early in planning
- Create a Youth Leadership Committee
- Continue to generate ideas for and carry out service opportunities that align with youth interests and community needs
- Encourage leadership development through hands-on responsibility
- Foster intergenerational connection within SCC
- Work closely with Amy Cobaugh to connect our service projects to missions, where appropriate
- Work with our youth to create a youth-based outreach program to invite new faces and re-engage old ones.

The foundation being laid is one of shared leadership, meaningful service, and lasting engagement, positioning the SCC Youth Ministry for continued growth and impact.

- Molly Mitchell, SCC Director of Youth Ministries



COMMUNICATIONS

2025 has been a monumental year for our Church and I had the privilege, along with some very important teammates, of telling our stories. Whether through social media, the weekly Quest, Stowe Reporter Articles or Front Porch Forum we have a strong presence in our community and, more importantly, our surrounding communities.

This year we promoted:

Bible Studies
Interfaith Gatherings
Ski and Ride Days
Cross Country Skiing
Black History Month
Shrove Tuesday
Ash Wednesday
5th Sunday Thanksgiving
Mission Moments
Pastor, Priest and Rabbi events
Holy Week
Green Tips

Our incredible ASPIRE
Confirmation Sunday
New Member Sundays
Fruits of the Spirit Sermon Series
Summer special music Bible Camp
Cherub and Youth Choirs
Blessing of the Backpacks
Men's Breakfast
Blessing of the Animals
Sunday Evening Services
Psalms Sermon Series

Interfaith Women's Potluck
Blessing of the Costumes
Interfaith Trip to the South
Pie Sale
The Forgotten Carols
Elf the Musical
Silent Night
Christmas Craft and Bake Fair
Annual Christmas Pageant
The Messiah
Christmas Eve



One particular project we are most proud of is STOWECOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG. If you haven't visited our new site, please do. My brain does not necessarily work "interactively" so this was out of my wheelhouse and I learned a lot.

Thanks be to God for Carrie Alario, Jena Anthony, Mort Butler, Dean DeRienzo, Greg Morrill, Courtney Percy, Mollie Lannen of [CW Creative](#) and [Andrew Cate Photography](#)

Respectfully Submitted, Heather Alverson Stowe, Communications Chair

DEACONS

This year we tried to better document the Deacons' responsibilities through shared Google Docs and then this information was also organized in a notebook which will be available to the new deacons.

- Previous Deacon, Brad Osborne, created detailed Communion Preparation Instruction.
- A Deacon checklist for Funerals was created
- A Deacon Responsibility for Easter Week was created
- A google form was created and shared for the year so each Deacon could sign up to be responsible for three months as the lead for set-up for communion with also a back up individual for each month. If we were going to be absent for communion for a month with a sub needed, this was noted. (Often we all joined in at 8:30 am the day of communion to set up.)
- This year we started to provide and offer fresh bread as well as the gluten free wafers for communion.
- The Deacons never had a budget. Mary Lou often ordered items needed but usually each Deacon usually bought items needed for communion on their own. Now a budget has been created.

We all enjoyed the opportunity and privilege to be a Deacon for our Stowe Community Church!

Amy Marshall

Ashley Finlen Copeland

David Roy

Nancy Money



MISSIONS AND SERVICE

“Serving God by helping others in need”

The overall goal of the Mission and Service Committee for 2025 was to increase our support to those in need in our community and beyond as well as attract new committee members and get the youth more involved. The committee met each month, typically on the second Thursday, with a focus on expanding our support, increasing awareness and deepening partnerships with organizations that serve others. We focused on local missions who might not be getting much funding except through state or local funds and donations. We try to assess how government funding cuts impacted local organizations and increased our support of those organizations as appropriate.

The only non-local organization supported was Kenyan Orphans. After a successful 2024 trip to Africa was organized, we now hope to bring Pastor Ouma to Stowe this summer or fall.

To support those in need locally, we sent funds to: Lamoille Community House, Lamoille Family Center, Lamoille Community Food Share, Meals on Wheels, Clarina Howard Nichols Center, Lamoille Home Health & Hospice, Central Vermont Refugee Action Network, Salvation Farms, DCF, and two new groups: Vermont Youth Conservation Corps and Lamoille Valley Foster & Adoptive Parent Association.

- VYCC is typically federally funded but had budget cuts over the summer. VYCC provides opportunities for Vermont teens to work together and learn skills related to Conservation and Farming. This organization provides farm fresh food to local families in need.
- The Lamoille Valley Foster & Adoptive Parent Association is the non-profit arm of DCF and needed additional funds to replenish their Foster child summer camp program.

The Community Emergency Action (CEA) committee, part of the Mission and Service Committee, handed out mostly food cards and a few gas cards. The Lamoille Family Center seems to have plenty of gas cards to hand out due to a grant. We provided food cards to Stowe Elementary and Stowe Middle schools at Christmas to help local families. Total donations for Missions and Service as \$20,500.

The committee has grown to 6-8 active members with an additional 5 that have expressed interest. The focus for 2026 will be to get the youth more involved in missions, working closely with the new Youth Director, Molly Mitchell.

MISSIONS AND SERVICE

2025 Mission Moments and Service Projects

January No Speaker
February Greg Stefanski: Lamoille County health & human services expert
March Summer Daniels: Meals on Wheels
April Aimee Green: Jenna's Promise, plus Mission Coffee Hour
May Stowe Land Trust
June Kelly Dolan, Salvation Farms
July Kim Anetsberger, Lamoille Community House
August No speaker, Backpack drive
September Ali Zenie: Central Vermont Refugee Action Network
October Ann Farley: Homeshare
November Andrea Burton: DCF, plus Thanksgiving Baskets
December Becky Gonyea: Clarina Howard Nichols plus Angel Tree gifts, Food cards

Additional Mission Projects:

In April, the committee hosted a "Mission Sunday" with a coffee hour, slide show and information about the organizations that the church partners with. We served Jenna's Promise coffee, who was the mission speaker that day. Aimee Green, Director of Jenna's Promise attended.

In August, we did a backpack drive for DCF and made a special \$1500 donation to help fund the summer camp fund for foster children in our county.

In October, we donated 10 laptops to Central Vermont Refugee Action Network and made a special donation of \$3000 as federal funding had been significantly cut for local families.

In November, the Mission & Service committee worked with Blessed Sacrament and the schools to provide Thanksgiving meals to 157 adults and children, representing 30 local families. This effort also involved significant donations to the Food Pantry after the families had "shopped" for any other pantry supplies they needed.

This Christmas, we set up an Angel Tree to collect donations for 4 different organizations. Our incredible congregation provided gifts for DCF children, teen gift cards for Lamoille Family Center and numerous gifts for Clarina Howard Nichols center including kitchen and bath items. In addition, we gave out \$1200 in food gift cards to local families.

Our congregation continues to support the Food Shelf with members bringing non-perishable food to the collection box each week.

MISSIONS AND SERVICE

Thank you to Dan, Nancy JD, Molly Mitchell and many others at SCC for inspiring the committee to deepen our reach into the community and beyond. We also have gratitude for and are humbled by the generosity of the congregation who donated time, food, toys, funds. A special thank you to Marylou, Mort, and Skip for help with finances and payments. Together, our church can be a beacon of hope and healing to those in need in our local and international community. We look forward to serving God, our church and our community in 2026.

Blessings, Amy Cobaugh Missions Committee Chair

Members: Lana Burkhardt, Dian Williams, Sandi Kuhl, Nancy Money, William Harrison, Nancy Biscone, Chris DiRienzo. New members invited: Nancy Small, Nikki Mutson, Amanda Song, Jessy Brault, Dianne Robidoux, Brenda Fryland



MUSIC

The Music Committee consists of: Greg Morrill(Chair), Karen Miller, Susanna Burnham, Karen Monsen, Bob Arnot, Ruth Roy, Lisa Macalaster, and Taryn Noelle

Karen Miller is our Music Director who plans the weekly Celebration Service music which includes our adult choir. Our dedicated choir is featured in our services from September into June each year.

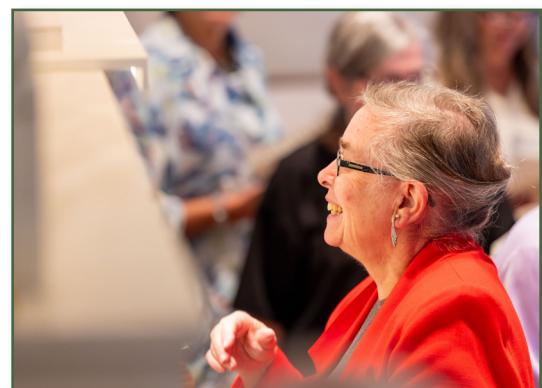
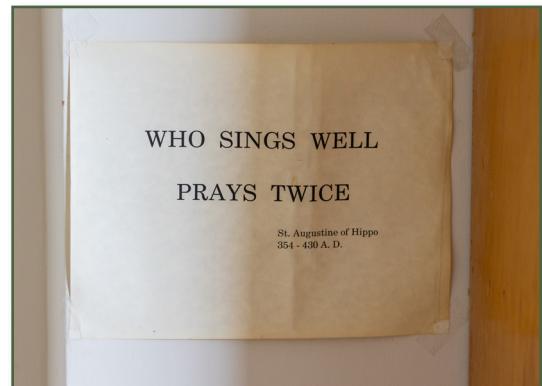
We had two Music Sundays during 2025 where the service is built around hymns and their stories. In May we celebrated hymns from the Methodist tradition and in October hymns from the Lutheran tradition were featured.

During the summers we plan special music for the 9:30 Celebration service. This past summer 20 of our Church members plus several special guests provided that music. Lisa Macalaster also planned a Jazz Sunday to coordinate with the Stowe Jazz Festival. We hope to make this an annual tradition!

Also in summer 2025 we held three Outdoor Cookout Evening Services in Parsonage Park. Many thanks to Taryn Noelle and Lisa Macalaster for coordinating the music for those services. We also had an Old Fashioned Hymn Sing to wrap up the summer.

In September we started both a Cherub Choir and a Youth Choir who meet weekly and have already added music to some of our services.

The busy season for the SCC Music team is of course Christmas. This year we again held a Christmas Carol Sing Along and the Messiah Sing. This year we saw the formation of a separate committee to plan and coordinate the Messiah Sing. Then on Christmas Eve there were four services! Thanks again to Lisa Macalaster and Taryn Noelle for coordinating the music at the 3:00pm and 5:00pm services. And thanks to Karen Miller, the choir, and special music for the 8:00 and 11:00pm services.



NOMINATING

Position	Name	Joins (through year)
President	Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer	
Vice President	Nancy Small	
Clerk	Susanna Burnham	
Treasurer	Skip Wentz Amy Cobaugh	
Head Usher	Dian Williams Annie-Vera Frye	
Trustee (2 year term)	Jim Peterman, term expires '28 Roger Keller, Term expires '28	Maggy Dunphy expires '27 Charlie Burnham expires '27
Deacon (2 year term)	Ashley Finlen Copeland/David Roy, term expires '27 Jena Anthony, term expires '28 Nikki Mustin, term expires in '28	Nancy Money expires '27
Nominating Committee	Ashley Finlen-Copeland Nan Myers Greg Morrill Dian Williams	

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

It's been a privilege to serve as your Pastoral Associate. Living in North Hero, much of my work with you is remote, as I join Staff Meetings and plan and join meetings of the Care Team and Prayer Team. (more on that later). In 2025 I had the opportunity to join you in worship on a few Sunday mornings as well as the Ecumenical Good Friday Service. The annual Blessing of the Animals service has always been a highlight as we pause to honor and bless our furry or feathered companions at the lovely Trapp Family Lodge Concert Meadow.

In addition, I was honored to officiate at the celebrate of life for Sally Schumann in November and for a few weddings this summer when Pastor Dan was away.

In March I offered a session at Copley Woodlands on "Finding Support in Challenging Times" and appreciated the chance to visit the residence as well as the conversation that ensued.

Each of these events offers a chance to engage more deeply with the lives of those who are connected to SCC, and I am blessed with these moments of connection and celebration.

I want to thank Marylou for keeping me up to date with things and of course Dan, whose enthusiasm and faithful spirit carries over to the great staff and volunteers.

Care Team

The Care Team had a busy year, from regular check in meetings as we seek to stay attentive to the needs of our congregation's members and friends. I organized a couple zoom presentations that were open to the whole congregation. In January 2025, we were honored to have Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno, (longtime pastor In Vermont, former hospice chaplain, and current director of Ministry 21 for the Vermont Conference UCC) join us for a conversation about grief as part of life and learning how to deepen our spirituality as an important resource in living creatively with life's love and loss.

In December we hosted a conversation with Kyle Robidoux, the Executive Director of Friendship Works of Greater Boston, a nonprofit network for older adults.

Kyle led us in a fruitful conversation around "Creating opportunities for connections and support for older people in Stowe: addressing issues of isolation and loneliness."

We've been inspired to look at Stowe, and our surrounding communes to identify what is missing in terms of connecting our older population.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

The meeting also inspired some of our members to think of ways to use the newly renovated kitchen to offer a simple meal and space for people to gather at the church. Look for future opportunities join in these new initiatives.

Dan has encouraged the team to make sure that everyone connected to the church has support, is not alone on a holiday, and knows how to contact the church if they have a need or request.

Prayer Team

The prayer team has regular check ins as we spend time in prayer for the members and friends of the congregation. We've also shared conversation about how we pray for others, and the possibility of offering short prayer resources for the congregation. Dan, inspired by the practice of the prayer team at Grace Church in Rutland, has initiated a practice for the prayer team to pray for everyone on the church list over the next year. It has already turned out to be a rewarding experience for everyone.

- Barbara

Rev. Dr. Barbara Purinton, Pastoral Associate

PASTORAL RELATIONS

The Pastoral Relations Committee services as an advisory group to the pastor and offers support for his leadership. The current committee members have formed this committee for the past three years. Committee members were all appointed by the Pastor. As a group we get together on a quarterly basis, with additional meetings scheduled as needed.

Primary discussion points this past year have been focused on Pastor Dan's upcoming sabbatical. As a committee, we worked together to apply for the Lily Endowment Grant. This grant would have awarded both Pastor Dan, and Stowe Community Support funds to support Pastor Dan's sabbatical. Unfortunately, SCC did not end up receiving a grant. As a committee, we have met to discuss other ways to support Pastor Dan's Sabbatical.

We have continued to support Pastor Dan at our meetings through discussion as a committee. We have supported Pastor's Dan's ongoing education through conferences.

Respectfully Submitted by Christina Young, Chair, Pastoral Relations Committee

Members: Jerrine Gangras, Greg Morrill, Pastor Dan Haugh and Lynne Von Trapp

STEWARDSHIP

Stowe Community Church is richly blessed. Every week we experience the gift of community, worship, music, pastoral care, youth and family programs, outreach, hospitality, and the quiet moments of grace that happen when people gather in faith and love. None of this happens by accident. It happens because of the faithfulness, generosity, and shared commitment of the people who call SCC their spiritual home.

Stewardship is the foundation that makes all of this possible. It makes possible everything we cherish: the leadership of Pastor Dan, the devotion of our staff, the beauty of our worship, the growth of our children and youth, the power of our music and arts, the care we offer one another, the missions we support, the buildings that house us, and the generous spirit we share with Stowe.

Through stewardship, we are able to live out our values—offering compassion, hospitality, and hope in tangible ways, every single day.

We are deeply grateful to the many households who gave so generously this past year. Because of you, we reached our 2025 stewardship goal of \$300,000, ensuring that our church could continue to operate with strength and stability. Your generosity has allowed SCC not only to keep its doors open and its lights on, but to thrive as a vibrant and caring community.

As we look ahead, the needs of our church continue to grow. Our 2026 budget reflects the expanding life and mission of SCC, and meeting it will require the participation of our whole church family. With more than 300 households who call SCC home, stewardship is not just about dollars—it is about belonging, shared responsibility, and showing up for one another.

If you have already pledged, thank you for your faithful commitment. If you have not yet had the opportunity to participate, we warmly invite you to join us now. Every gift matters. Every household counts. Whether large or small, your contribution makes a real difference in the lives of those who worship, serve, and find community here.

This is the time to take action—to renew your pledge, or to make one for the first time—and to be part of something meaningful and lasting. When we give together, we ensure that Stowe Community Church remains a place of welcome, healing, creativity, faith, and service for generations to come.

With gratitude and blessings,
The “THREE” Nancy’s!

- *Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, Chair*
- *Nancy Money & Nancy Small*

Stewardship Leaders Together!



TRUSTEES

Throughout the year, the Trustees responsibly oversaw the maintenance, repair, and improvement of both the church and parsonage facilities. All projects were prioritized based on safety, functionality, and long-term sustainability, and were completed as needed and within approved budget parameters. The Trustees worked collaboratively with church leadership, volunteers, and the Finance Committee to ensure our facilities continue to support the mission and ministry of the church.

Parsonage

The Trustees managed several significant projects at the parsonage, with a focus on improving livability, safety, and long-term maintenance:

- Oversaw the renovation and successful completion of the parsonage interior, coordinating contractors and timelines to ensure quality workmanship.
- Managed the resurfacing of the parsonage driveway to improve safety, accessibility, and durability.
- Coordinated grading and landscaping adjustments to ensure the lawn was level with the new driveway height, preventing drainage and erosion issues.
- Arranged for the removal of several large, failing trees that posed potential safety risks to the property.
- Added new landscaping and implemented regular lawn care to enhance curb appeal and ongoing property maintenance.
- Managed the repair and thorough cleaning of rain gutters and oversaw the installation of gutter guards to prevent future damage and reduce maintenance needs.
- Collaborated with church members to provide seasonal lawn cleanup and general property care throughout the year.
- Coordinated and managed pest control services to protect the property and ensure a healthy living environment.
- Worked closely with the Finance Committee to develop and finalize the 2026 Trustees Budget for the parsonage, ensuring responsible planning for future needs.

Church

The Trustees also addressed several key needs related to the church building and grounds, emphasizing safety, security, and community involvement:

- Managed the rekeying of church entry door locks and replaced the rear entry door lock to enhance overall building security.
- Added new landscaping and lawn care services to maintain the church grounds in a welcoming and well-kept condition.
- Established a volunteer “Shovel Brigade” to ensure timely snow removal from the front walkway and rear ramp, improving winter accessibility and safety.
- Partnered with Scott Nobel to coordinate the installation and removal of Christmas decorations, supporting the church’s seasonal celebrations.
- Collaborated with the Finance Committee to develop and approve the 2026 Trustees Budget for the church, aligning facility needs with long-term financial stewardship.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship at the Stowe Community Church has been active for the last year. We welcomed new women and rekindled old friendships while having fun and working together. Our biggest project was preparing the new kitchen for use. In April, before the renovations, we packed all the kitchen items for storage. In September we unpacked those items, added a few, and started using the wonderful new kitchen.

We had several enjoyable outings in the community and activities at the Fellowship Hall. We had a very fun trivia night in February. We had a bake sale on St. Patrick's Day. During lent we helped St. John's Episcopal Church with one of their Soup Suppers. On the 4th of July we gave out cookies and lemonade on the church lawn during the annual festivities. A happy group of us went to the Mooring Hill Farm in Morrisville in August for a flower tour and left with a lot of information and gorgeous bouquets.

Our most heartwarming activity was an Interfaith Potluck Dinner in October. We hosted women from JCOGS, Blessed Sacrament Church, and St. John's Episcopal Church. It was a wonderful gathering of women of faith in our community. We enjoyed delicious food while talking to old friends and meeting new ones.

In November we had the annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale. We also met on a couple of afternoons to make Christmas decorations for the first Saturday in December when we had a very successful Christmas Fair. This year we added a new room full of Almost New Items for sale and a table of Stowe High School students' art projects.

For this new year we plan to add some service projects to our list of activities. We hope that we have expanded the scope of members by including all women and offering varied activities for all to feel welcome.

- Denise Wentz, Chair, Women's Fellowship



FINANCE

2025/2026 Budget

	2025 Budget	2025 Actuals	2026 Budget
REVENUE			
Contributions	\$361,111	\$413,337	\$405,200
Building Use	\$18,649	\$12,545	\$16,500
Missions	\$1,575	\$3,805	\$1,575
Programs (WF, CE)	\$28,382	\$29,058	\$25,500
Investments	\$8,608	\$9,473	\$9,032
TOTAL REVENUE	\$418,325	\$468,218	\$457,807

EXPENSES	2025 Budget	2025 Actuals	2026 Budget
Worship and Programs	\$81,200	\$85,533	\$80,800
Office	\$27,000	\$25,187	\$29,600
Building and Grounds	\$80,052	\$110,430	\$90,230
Personnel	\$287,894	\$265,216	\$317,177
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$476,146	\$486,365	\$517,807

NET OPERATING INCOME	(\$57,821)	(\$18,147)	(\$60,000)
Income from Other Investments	\$59,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
NET INCOME (Before Capital Campaign)	\$1,179	\$41,853	\$0

**Financials subject to adjustment after review.*

The ongoing Capital Campaign had \$520,260 in Contributions in 2025 with \$888,568 in Expenses.

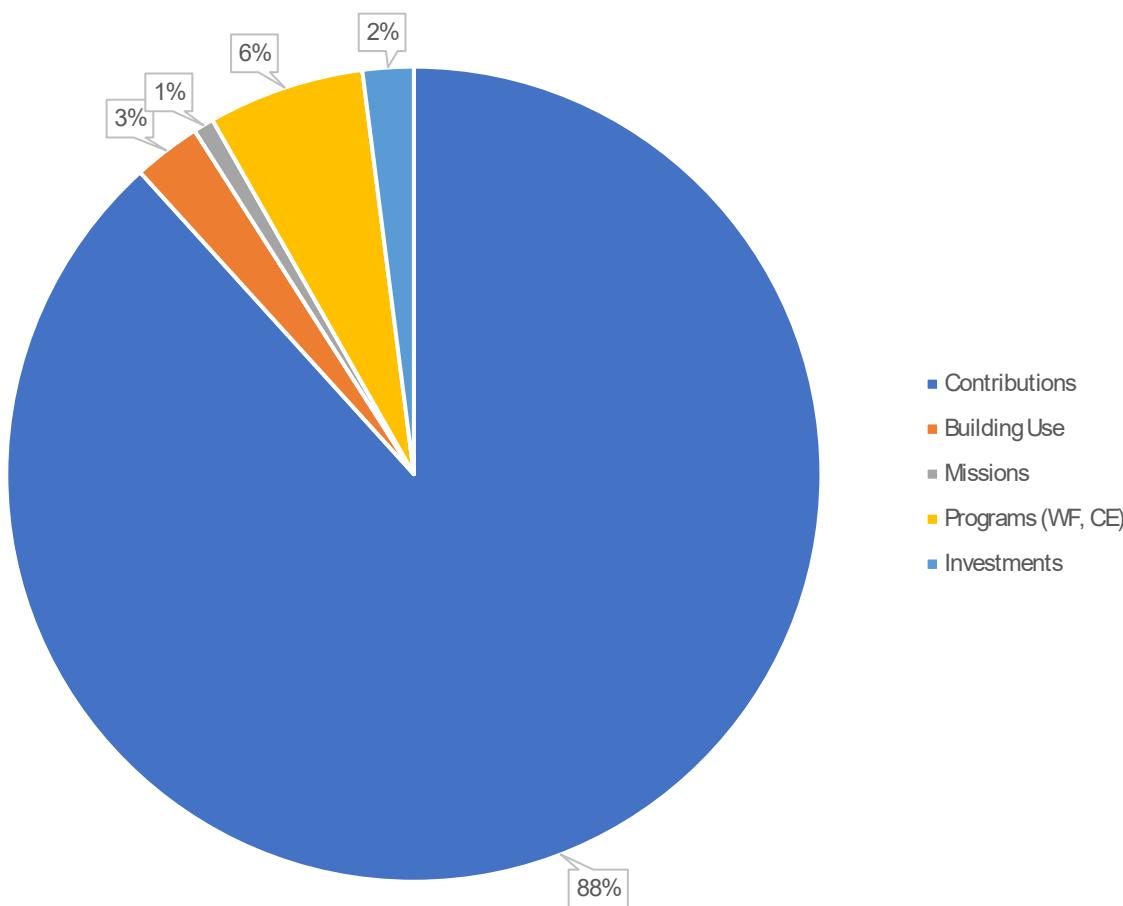
FINANCE

Cash Table

ACCOUNT BALANCES	Dec. 31, 2025
Morgan Stanley two accounts 2555 & 6026	\$235,163
TD Bank - Building Preservation 0499	\$12,795
TD Bank - Steeple Fund 9486	\$2,632
TD Bank -Steeple Fund Checking 5174	\$54,007
TD Bank - General Ck 3487	\$52,265
TD Bank. - Money Market 4289	\$6,628
UnionBank Checking 4095	\$52,070
Total	\$415,561
Means Bequest	\$1,997,468

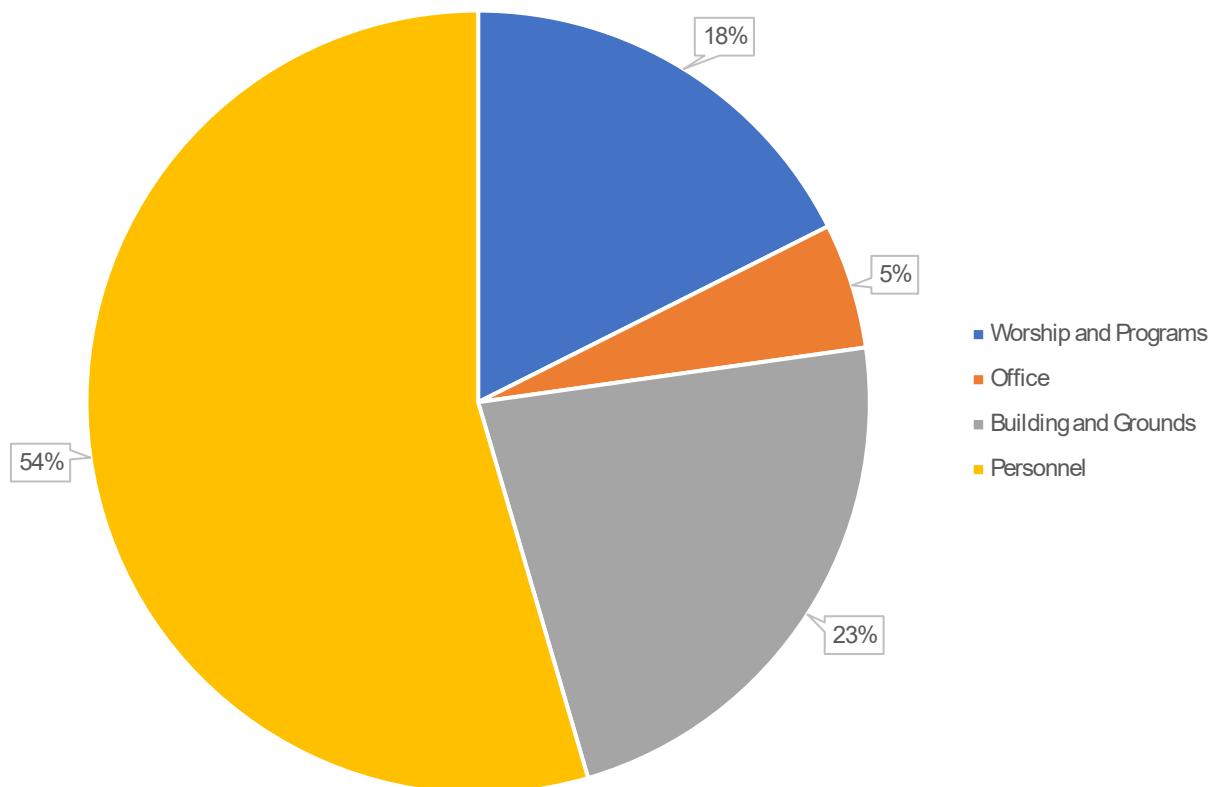
FINANCE

2025 Revenue



FINANCE

2025 Expenses



WITH GRATITUDE

As you reach the close of this Annual Report, we pause to acknowledge the extraordinary people whose dedication, generosity, and faith have made all that you have just read possible in 2025. Every accomplishment, every ministry, every moment of care and connection reflected in these pages is the result of countless hours of service—much of it offered quietly, faithfully, and without fanfare.

Stowe Community Church is sustained not by buildings or budgets alone, but by people who show up, step forward, and say yes—to leadership, to teamwork, to compassion, and to the shared calling of “being the church” together. From those who guide our vision and governance, to those who serve on committees and teams, to the many volunteers who give their time and talents in seen and unseen ways, we are deeply grateful.

What follows is a heartfelt acknowledgment of the Board of Directors and the many committees and teams whose commitment and collaboration continue to shape, strengthen, and sustain our beloved church community. Together, you are the hands, hearts, and spirit behind the work of Stowe Community Church—and we thank you!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Team

Dan Haugh, Pastor

Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, President

Nancy Small, Vice President

Treasurer, Skip Wentz

Clerk, Chris DeRienzo

Members

Amy Cobaugh, Missions

Ashley Finlen-Copeland, Deacon

Maggy Dunphy, Trustee

Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, Stewardship Committee

Wes Karger, President & Chair of Endowment & Investment Committee

Oana Louviere, Children's Education

Amy Marshall, Deacon

Nancy Money, Deacon

Greg Morrill, Music

Dave Myers, Trustee

Nan Myers, Head Usher

Petie Peterman, Trustee

David Roy, Deacon

Sawyer Smith, Development

Heather Stowe, Communications

Denise Wentz, Women's Fellowship

Skip Wentz, Chair of Finance Committee

Christina Young, Pastoral Relations **34**

WITH GRATITUDE

Committees and Teams

Care Team: Jena Anthony, Brenda Convery, Maggy Dunphy, Ashley Finlen-Copeland, Dan Haugh, Karen Machia, Amy Marshall, Nancy Money, Nikki Mustin, Barbara Purinton, Dianne Robidoux, Tracy Wall

Children's Choir: Taryn Noelle

Children's Ministry: Taryn Noelle, Director: Bob Arnot, Emily Dabrowski, Dan Haugh, Molly Mitchell

Communications & Publicity: Heather Stowe, Chair: Dean DeRienzo, Greg Morrill, Courtney Percy, Jena Anthony, Carrie Alario

Development: Walter Frame, Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, Nancy Small

Finance: Skip Wentz & Amy Cobaugh, Carrie Alario, Charlie Burnham, Mort Butler, Amy Cobaugh, Petie Peterman, Nancy Small, Neil Van Dyke

Green Team: Laura Drenen, Chair: Alisa Bernat, Peyton Bowman, Ashley Finlen-Copeland, Dan Haugh, Roger Keller, Nancy Money, Lisa Nelson, Sarah Nelson, Dian Williams

Live Stream: Mort Butler, Dean DeRienzo, John DeRienzo

Men's Fellowship: Matt Anderson, chair: (New Team)

Messiah Concert Committee: Leslie Anderson, Chair: Mort Butler, Janet Godin, Sandi Kuhl, Amy Marshall, Karen Miller, Karen Monsen, Greg Morrill, Carol Peterman, Frank Springer, Carol VanDyke

Missions: Amy Cobaugh, Chair: Nancy Biscione, Jessy Brault, Lana Burkhardt, Chris DeRienzo, Brenda Fryland, William Harrison, Sandi Kuhl, Nancy Money, Nikki Muston, Dianne Robidoux, Nancy Small, Amanda Song, Dian Williams

Music Committee: Greg Morrill, Chair: Bob Arnot, Susanna Burnham, Lisa Macalaster

Nominating Committee: Greg Morrill, Chair: Ashley Finlen-Copeland, Nan Myers, Dian Williams

Pastoral Relations Team: Christina Young, Chair: Jerrine Gangas, Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, Greg Morrill, Kathe Rhinesmith, Lynne von Trapp

Prayer Team: Jena Anthony, Brenda Convery, Maggy Dunphy, Marylou Durett, Ashley Finlen-Copeland, Steven Ford, Dan Haugh, Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, Amy Marshall, Nancy Money, Nikki Mustin, Barbara Purinton, Dianne Robidoux, David Roy, Nancy Small, Betsy Waine, Tracy Wall

WITH GRATITUDE

Senior Choir: Karen Miller, Director, Michael Alexander, Mort Butler, Roe Circelli, Marylou Durrett, Terry Dwyer, Janet Godin, Amy Marshall, Bob Marshall, David McGaughy, John Miller, Kent Mitchell, Karen Monsen, Greg Morrill, Marion Peer, Barbara Percy, Carol Peterman, Ruth Roy, Penny Shonio, Frank Springer, Kay Stephenson, Barbara Stotsenburg, Carol VanDyke, Lynne vonTrapp, Val Wise

Special Events/Hospitality: Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer, Chair: (New Team)

Women's Fellowship: Denise Wentz, Chair: Leslie Anderson, Jena Anthony, Nancy Biscone, Anne Bongiorno, Lana Burkhardt, Susanna Burnham, Mary Kay Bushnell, Mort Butler, Roe Circelli, Amy Cobaugh, Chris DeRienzo, Emily Dabrowski, Christine Donovan, Maggy Dunphy, Marylou Durett, Ashley Finlen-Copeland, Brenda Fryland, Jerrine Gangras, Janet Godin, Lauretta Haugh, Kathy Jones, Carol Lynne Kirch, Sandi Kuhl, Jonathan Louviere, Amy Marshall, Penny McGaughy, Penny McGaughy, Molly Mitchell, Renee Mitchell, Marilyn Moks, Nancy Money, Karen Monsen, Nikki Mustin, Lisa Nelson, Taryn Noelle, Sandy Noble, Barbara Percy, Courtney Percy, Carol Peterman, Sara Reed, Dianne Robidoux, Roth Roy, Meg Scotti, Nancy Small, Amanda Song, Rebecca Spaulding, Heather Stowe, Nancy Tooley, Whitney Vigneau, Lynne vonTrapp, Tracy Wall, Debbie Wehe, Dian Williams, Val Wise, Bernadette Wyman, Carrie Yakola

Youth Choir: Taryn Noelle, Dan Bruce, Susanna Burnham

Youth Ministry: Molly Mitchell, Director

Youth Theatre: Taryn Noelle, Molly Mitchell, Nancy Jeffries-Dwyer