



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

**SAMBRO-JOLLIMORE PASTORAL CHARGE**

**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**



**St James United Church**

**Mission Statement:**

*Our Mission as a pastoral charge is to provide a caring and supportive environment for spiritual growth: to encourage a loving and growing relationship with God in our daily lives, and to inspire each of us to serve one another in the community and the world.*



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **1 Contents**

1	Contents .....	2
2	Directory Information .....	3
2.1	Sambro-Jollimore Pastoral Charge Information .....	3
2.2	St James United Board of Management and Session.....	3
2.3	Other Chairs and Representatives .....	3
3	Minister’s Message .....	4
4	Passage of Life .....	6
5	Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge Annual General Meeting (2022 Review).....	7
6	Congregational Report .....	10
6.1	Parkhill United Church Board of Management Report 2023 .....	10
6.2	Parkhill United Church Treasurer’s Annual Report 2023 .....	11
6.2.1	Interim Report on the Sale of the Parkhill United Church Property .....	13
6.3	Parkhill and Beyond UCW Annual Report (PBUCW) 2023-2024 .....	14
6.4	St James United Cemetery Fund Report as of May 31, 2023 .....	16
6.5	St James United Session Report .....	18
6.6	St James United Sunday School Report 2023.....	19
6.7	St James United Choir/ Music Ministry Report 2023.....	19
6.8	St James United Thinking of You Meals Report 2023 .....	20
6.9	St James United Pastoral Care Team Report 2023 .....	20
6.10	St James United Dinner Theatre Financial Report 2023 .....	22
6.11	St. James Financial Narrative & Statement 2023 .....	23
6.12	St. James United Budget for 2024 .....	25



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **2 Directory Information**

### **2.1 Sambro-Jollimore Pastoral Charge Information**

St. James United Church 3811 Old Sambro Road, Sambro B3V1G1 Telephone: 902-868-2791	
<b>Pastoral Charge Office:</b>	Located at St. James Church
Clergy: Rev. Sean Handcock	Email: <a href="mailto:minister.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com">minister.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com</a>
Secretary: Liz Cann	Email: <a href="mailto:office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com">office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com</a>
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/159677130726391/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/159677130726391/</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.sambrojollimorepc.com">www.sambrojollimorepc.com</a>

### **2.2 St James United Board of Management and Session**

Chairperson	Doug Garrison
Secretary	Carolyn Langlands
Co-Treasurer	Greg Reinhardt, Barb Reyno
Clerk of Session	Sara Scarfe

### **2.3 Other Chairs and Representatives**

Representative to Regional Council 15:	Cheryl Schnare
Chairperson of Ministry & Personnel:	John Hennigar-Shuh
Parkhill & Beyond UCW Representative	Regine Maass
Pastoral Care Chair:	Pat Thomas
Communications Chair:	Megan Stewart
Minister & Sunday School Contact:	Rev. Sean Handcock
Musicians:	Susan Feltmate, Jennifer Moss



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **3 Minister's Message**

Dear Members and Friends in Christ,

I bring you greetings on behalf of St. James United Church! Let me start by saying my family and I have been touched by your welcome. Transitioning to a new community – even an amazing one like ours – is always an anxious time, but I've been elated to discover the warmth, energy, and positivity that this community brings and the support you've offered me as I learn the ropes here in Sambro has been nothing short of spectacular. So, from the bottom of my heart, thank-you. Your kindness and eagerness to introduce me to the community has made this process a joyful one and I can honestly say I've never been happier. So, hopefully the feeling is mutual as you may have trouble getting rid of me! □

So, onto the year, or at least the half-year that I was with you. As my first week with you was also the same week as our annual Dinner Theatre my introduction to the community was a bit of whirlwind of activity, but it truly was a joy. The show was incredible. The food was amazing. And the hall veritably crackled with an energy and excitement I've seldom seen. In short, it was wonderful, and I'm already looking forward to this year's production.

But, while our Dinner Theatre may be our premier event, there's been no shortage of other activities going on in the community. We've had several suppers, teas, and special services throughout the latter half of the year and attendance has been strong – especially considering we, like everyone else, are just starting to come out from under the cloud of COVID. Special mention has to go to our packed Christmas Eve service and our overflowing Down Home Christmas that was so well attended, that we had to open the balcony, bring up dozens of chairs, and there were still folks standing! An incredible showing for a community that was in lockdown a year ago and a positive sign for our future ministry.

Another positive sign was the mixed blessing of having our sister community, Park Hill United, amalgamate with us here at St. James. It's always a sad day when we have to say good-bye to a much beloved church community and partner in ministry, but the generosity of its former members has brought with them not only their wonderful selves – which would be blessing enough – but substantial financial assets due to the sale of their church building. But while this in no way compensates us for our loss, I can't help but be thankful. For from this death the seeds of new life have been sown and so I find myself looking forward to whatever resurrection God has in store for us.

Or maybe it will simply be growth and renewal. There are so many amazing things already happening in our community and – if I had the word count – I could rave for pages about our incredible volunteers that make magic happen on an almost weekly basis. But for all that we're doing well, and the Spirit is so obviously with us our community, though mighty,



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

has gotten a little sparse of late and we've got a lot of elders in need of ongoing support and care. Which, as I'm sure you're aware, is a reality that many of our churches are facing. So, as much as we might like to hold the tiller steady for a while (and after COVID who could blame us?) we will need to chart new waters.

And soon. But that shouldn't daunt us. In fact, it should excite us, as – Spirit led – we get to reinvent ourselves in bold new ways. Maybe our music – which is already excellent – could explore other genres and include more music like the kind we enjoy listening to on the radio? Maybe our Sunday School needs to be reimagined in ways that work for today's families while still providing the same solid education in core Christian values? Maybe we need to find new ways to evangelize our community? Ways that aren't intrusive but get the word out that St. James has so much more to offer than a great swordfish supper but is weekly exploring contemporary issues through the lens of our faith – which has changed a lot in the last 40 years – and to live it out daily in service to our community.

There is so much to choose from! But I know, without a shadow of doubt, that we can achieve whatever we set our minds to. Because St. James has the drive and passion to go wherever the Spirit leads them and to be whoever God needs them to be in these challenging times, we live in. This is a bright and vital church community with so much to offer. And I'm excited to see just where our journey takes us.

Take care and God bless,

Rev. Sean Handcock



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **4 Passage of Life**

### St James United Church

#### **Baptism**

Hudson William-Austin Garrison  
Born January 4, 2023  
Baptism October 15, 2023  
Father: Kameron M Garrison  
Mother: Baillie L Hammond

#### **Baptism**

Scarlet May Rose Henneberry  
Born July 17, 2023  
Baptism October 15, 2023  
Father: Colin Mitchel Henneberry  
Mother: Madison Sierra Gray

#### **In Memoriam**

*“May we remember them in love, trusting them to God's gentle embrace and keeping.” \**

### St. James United Church

Maurice Vincent Gray- May 1, 2023

Alexander Sangster Cowie– July 14, 2023

Shirley Marlita Schnare – October 19, 2023

Glen Mervin Gray – October 7, 2023

Dorothy Helen Hart – Nov 25, 2023



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **5 Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge Annual General Meeting (2022 Review)**

Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge Annual General Meeting  
March 12, 2023  
St. James United Church

Chairs: Sara Scarfe, Greg Reinhardt  
Secretary: Carolyn Langlands

Attended:

Rev. Kathleen Anderson  
Crystal Gilkie  
Clyde Gray  
Theresa Gray  
Aronda Garrison  
Barb Reyno  
Diana Walker-Ross  
Pat Thomas  
Susan Feltmate  
Richard Kroeber  
Arna Sisson  
Hugh Kindred  
Sheila Kindred  
Regina Maass  
Douglas Garrison  
Jackie Garrison  
Bill Stewart  
Fran Stewart  
Megan Stewart  
Kirk Moss  
Jennifer Moss  
Greg Reinhardt  
Sara Scarfe  
Carolyn Langlands  
Regrets: Byron and Dale Veinot  
Chairs: Sara Scarfe, Greg Reinhardt

Meeting opened with a prayer by Rev. Kathleen Anderson.  
This is a significant meeting as it is the last one for Parkhill United and the first amalgamated meeting for St. James United.

Greg Reinhardt asked the group to review the 2022 Annual Reports.  
Sheila Kindred asked for the addition of Joyce Marks, who passed on August 31, 2022, to the Passage of Life for Parkhill United Church on page four of the report.



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

Douglas Garrison made a motion to approve all the 2022 reports except the financials. Crystal Gilkie seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all and carried. Pat Thomas pointed out there is no Sunday School report from 2022. Our secretary, Liz Cann, asked that we acknowledge and thank Pat Thomas for her help in compiling the Annual Reporting. Thank you, Pat.,

Sheila Kindred discussed the Amalgamation report and explained that Parkhill United church property has not been sold yet. There has been work on closing up the church and all the possessions. There have been many charitable donations especially for Ukrainian families who have come to Canada. Sheila Kindred said she would keep us updated as things unfold with the selling of the property.

Sheila Kindred discussed the financial budget for Parkhill and explained that they had to draw from their investments last year to cover expenses and keep from going into debt.

Sheila Kindred made a motion to approve the financial report for Parkhill United Church. Aronda Garrison seconded the motion. Everyone approved the motion, and it was carried.

Douglas Garrison discussed the financial report for St. James on page five of the report. He explained that the accounts and the M & S remittances would be changed over to St. James United. He said it was taking time for the changeover to be completed.

Douglas Garrison made a motion to accept the 2022 financial report for St. James United Church. The motion was seconded by Aronda Garrison, approved by all, and carried.

An enthusiastic thank you was given by all to Douglas Garrison and Dylan Gray for their work on the budget and financial reports.

Greg Reinhardt passed a handout of the amended page twenty of the Financial Statement of St. James United. He reviewed the details of the statements and explained that there was a one time only, big donation to St. James United church last year. He also highlighted how much lower the power expenses for the year because we invested in heat pumps.

Greg Reinhardt said that current perspective for St. James United is in the positive with donations and expenses.

Greg Reinhardt made a motion to accept the 2022 financial report. The motion was seconded by Barb Reyno, approved by all and carried.

Greg Reinhardt spoke about the projected budget for 2023 and how the finances are reviewed every month. He spoke about the transition to the new consolidated St. James. Greg Reinhardt highlighted that we are very fortunate not to owe anything and that the investments are doing well.

Greg Reinhardt made a motion to accept the 2023 projected budget. The motion was seconded by Clyde Gray, approved by all, and carried.

Greg Reinhardt asked us to recognize all our volunteers, especially Barb Reyno and Aronda Garrison, for the successful suppers and the dinner theatre that brought in many donations.

Everyone thanked Greg Reinhardt for the important work keeping the finances organized.





# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

Greg Reinhardt spoke about the procedure on the amalgamation process of Parkhill and St. James United churches. He explained the change that there are now only two existing bodies of management. Session and Board of Management overseeing the work of our amalgamated churches.

Greg Reinhardt asked we give a big thank you to the Search and Selection committee for their hard work, sometimes without much guidance. Thank you very much committee.

Pat Thomas said we usually speak about our visions and wishes for the next year but because we are receiving a new minister in May that we should wait on that.

Pat Thomas made a motion to have a congregational meeting by September 2023, with the new minister. The motion was seconded by Crystal Gilkie, agreed by all, and carried.

An enthusiastic thank you to Rev. Kathleen Anderson for everything and best wishes for the future.

An invitation to any Parkhill members to join the Board of Management committee by Douglas Garrison.

Douglas Garrison moved to adjourn the meeting.

Rev. Kathleen Anderson closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Langlands



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **6 Congregational Report**

### **6.1 Parkhill United Church Board of Management Report 2023**

Although the Parkhill congregation closed its doors on 31 December 2022, our Board continued to meet throughout 2023 to conduct the financial business of the church. Winter did not prove to be the best time to market our property. However, in preparation for finding a purchaser, we cleared the church and were happy to send to St James important and well-loved liturgical items, which included our cross, communion table, font, and creche tableau. It is very meaningful for those of us who have joined the St James community of faith that these items have found a new home at St James's.

During the year, we have worked closely with the Property Committee of the Bermuda and Nova Scotia Region and are grateful for their advice about what issues we needed to address. In July the Property Committee approved the Parkhill Board's recommendation to accept an offer to purchase the property for \$550,000. The new owners are a young family, who plan to use the property for their personal residential purposes.

The sale closed on 1 September 2023. Please see the PUC Treasurer's Report and the Interim Report on Selling the Church for further details about the sale. There will be a final Board of Management report in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Kindred, Chair PUC Board of Management



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **6.2 Parkhill United Church Treasurer's Annual Report 2023**

Parkhill United Church ended activities as a faith community on 31 December 2022 and its property was sold on 1 September 2023. In addition, the Parkhill congregation joined with its sister church, St James, Sambro on 1 January 2023. However, the Parkhill United Church still exists as a "preaching point" of the Sambro-Jollimore Pastoral Charge until it is formally "closed." That will occur in 2024 when all the Church's assets are accounted for and disposed of to the satisfaction of the Bermuda-Nova Scotia Region of the United Church and the Charities Directorate of the Canada Revenue Agency. Meanwhile, this document records the finances of the Parkhill Church for 2023 in the same form as its past Annual Treasurer's reports. In addition, a second report below draws on the data in the Treasurer's Report to provide a convenient snapshot of the progress in selling and dispersing the Parkhill Church's assets through 2023 to 31 January 2024.

### Revenues

General Offerings (PAR)	\$ 3,471.00
M&S Fund (PAR) for 2023	180.00
Donations received	1,870.84
Sale of Church Items	530.00
Transfers from Investment Account:	414,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 420,051.84</b>

### Expenditures

Oil and Furnace	\$ 3,977.68
Electricity	901.48
Water	267.39
HRM Property Taxes	1,755.71
Insurance	644.40
Bank Charges	59.80
Yard/Snow clearing for 2022	660.00
Music services for 2022	1,860.00
M&S Payment for 2022	1,060.00
Charitable donations	6,995.66
Clearance of Church building	616.95
HST payment on Sale of Church property	40,837.50
Tax lawyer's fee	1,150.00
Interim Donation to St James, Sambro	25,000.00
Miscellaneous	510.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 86,296.57</u></b>

**Revenue – Expenses at year end** **\$ 333,755.27**



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **Operating Account** (Scotia Bank chequing a/c)

Balance on 31 December 2022	\$ 10,747.62
Balance on 31 December 2023	\$ 344,502.89

## **Investment Account** (Scotia Bank current a/c)

### **Deposits**

Balance on 1 January 2023	\$ 15,270.54
Proceeds of Sale of Church Property*	514,797.60
Interest earned through 2023	6,116.83

Total \$ 536,184.97

### **Withdrawals**

Transfers to Operating Account	
30 October	\$ 25,000.00
01 November	39,000.00
15 December	350,000.00
Bank services charges through 2023	26.75

Total \$ 414,026.75

**Deposits – Withdrawals:** Balance on 31 December 2023      \$ 122,158.22

\*After Realtor's and Lawyer's costs and fees were paid.

Respectfully submitted by Byron Veinot, Treasurer, and Sheila Kindred, Chair, Board of Management  
February 2024



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **6.2.1 Interim Report on the Sale of the Parkhill United Church Property**

For the period 1 January 2023 - 31 January 2024

Parkhill United Church ended activities as a faith community on 31 December 2022 and its property was sold on 1 September 2023.

### **Revenue:**

Proceeds of the Sale of Church Items	\$ 530.00
Proceeds of Sale of Church Property*	514,797.60
Interest earned through 2023	6,116.83
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 521,444.43</u></b>

### **Expenditures**

Maintenance of Property pending Sale	\$ 8,163.61
HST paid on Sale of Church Property, with legal advice	41,987.50
Bermuda – Nova Scotia Region’s share of Sale Proceeds	78,944.00
Donation to St James	350,000.00
Donation to M&S Fund	15,433.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 514,528.11</u></b>

**Revenue – Expenditures** **\$ 6,916.32**

\*After Realtor’s and Lawyer’s costs and fees were paid.

### **Outstanding Claims**

- Rebate of HST paid on goods and services purchased by PUC
- Reimbursement of overpayment of HRM property tax in 2023

Respectfully submitted by Byron Veinot, Treasurer and Sheila Kindred, Chair, Board of Management  
February 2024



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **6.3 Parkhill and Beyond UCW Annual Report (PBUCW) 2023-2024**

We all looked forward to coming to Church each week where the shared worship bonded us together. The UCW group played a vital role in the running of many Church activities which strengthened our spiritual fellowship and built strong bonds of friendship. Our group met once per month at the home of one of our members to conduct our meeting which began with the roll call. Each person responded by repeating a verse of Scripture. The Business Meeting was then called to order by Regine Maas, our Worship leader. Several topics on the agenda were discussed. Some special projects included participation in World Day of Prayer, Fundraising and contributions to various charities such as St Paul United Church Family Resource Centre, Phoenix House, M&S Fund, Lease at Parkhill United Church we had a vibrant UCW group of ladies whose faith, productivity and persistence helped to make the Church into a very welcoming place to meet and worship. Coin, Revd. Trevor Phillips Scholarship Fund and other worthy causes. Throughout the year volunteers decorated the Church to reflect the seasons of the Church Calendar such as, the Greening of the Church, Advent and Christmas Eve Services. The Annual Fund-Raising sales held in the summer on the Parkhill Church grounds were community events and people from the community supported us by purchasing items old and new and contributed funds towards Parkhill's budget.

With the adjournment of the Business Meeting, the Worship Service began. In an attitude of reverence, we joined in a responsive prayer followed by the reading of a Scripture passage relevant to the topic for discussion. Sometimes a story about the life and work of a person or group and their contributions to missionary work was explored during the discussion. The Service was interactive, and we had lively discussions in which each person felt free to express her views, the session ended with prayer. Later in the evening, we shared in a repast of tasty food and drink. These social interludes were joyful and stimulating, they strengthened our faith in the Lord and created strong friendships within our Church community. Parkhill Church has an amazing history extending over seventy years and many families with children were blessed to experience the guidance of wonderful Ministers. Several events took place in which the congregation interacted happily with the local community, and we deeply regret the demise of this wonderful Church Home which held so many special memories for us.

During 2020 the global COVID -19 pandemic had a negative impact on our Church at Parkhill. Mandated Government restrictions and closure lead to isolation and inability to share in regular congregational worship, this took its toll on our Church Community. Some individuals became victims of illness and death, others relocated for various reasons. The combined effect of these factors degraded our once vibrant Parkhill Church population and it fell below it carrying capacity. Financial and physical viability and low attendance became major questions for the Church Board. Could Parkhill Church survive as we once knew it? After many meetings and consultations, the decision was made to close the Church, sell the property, and amalgamate with St James United Church in Sambro.



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

Our end of year Outing took place in the summer to remind ourselves of the joy we once experienced when we went on meaningful outings in past years. A group of our Church members both male and female drove many miles to visit the Interpretive Centre- Marine Museum of the Atlantic at Terence Bay. It was a very educational tour in which we viewed artifacts from the SS Atlantic Steamship, sister ship to the Titanic which sank off the coast of Nova Scotia in 1873. After the tour we enjoyed a wonderful picnic on the boardwalk near the seaside on a beautiful bright and sunny day. Being reunited was a special and joyous occasion.

## **Reflection:**

You may ask what have we done since that dreadful day when we were forced to detach our emotions from our favourite Church in the Jollimore Village?. As a direct consequence of COVID 19 restrictions there was no World Day of Prayer gathering held. We regret missing this very meaningful annual Service which usually included members of several Churches in Halifax. At these gatherings, we were encouraged to support and contribute to missionary work worldwide. After much prayer, it became evident that we needed to form a focus group to recapture what we lost in fellowship at our Parkhill UCW. The First Meeting to explore establishing a new UCW group was held at the home of Sheila Kindred on March 23.2023. We selected this name: Parkhill and Beyond United Church Women (**PBUCW**). It felt good to be together again. Although the initial group is small, we hope to expand and include members from Sambro.

The second meeting of PBUCW was held at the home of Marilyn Pierce on May 23rd. The Business Meeting preceded the Worship Service. We explored the history of the life and works of John Newton and learned of the significance of the dearly loved Hymn "**Amazing Grace**" he wrote. Marilyn led the music at the piano and we enjoyed singing many of his other Hymns. The third PBUCW meeting was held at the home of Olive Phillips. We were blessed with the presence of our new Minister Revd. Sean Hitchcock. The Scripture reading and the Topic chosen focused on exploring the Power of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives in our present world. The discussion was powerful, and everyone joined in and readily shared their spiritual experiences. We welcomed the opportunity to interact with our new Minister over a cup of tea.

We are off to a good start with the arrival of Tanya, a new member who knew all about the history of the Marine Museum at Terence Bay and she regaled us with many more interesting stories. We look forward to seasons of growth in the years ahead as our membership grows.

Written and submitted by Olive Phillips.

Secretary – (PBUCW)



# St James United Church Annual Report

(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)

## 6.4 St James United Cemetery Fund Report as of May 31, 2023

<b>St. James Cemetery Fund</b>				
<b>As of May 3, 2023</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cheque Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Balance</b>
01-Jan-23	Opening Balance			1693.89
3-Jan-23	Interest (Jan-23)		0.01	1693.90
23-Jan-23	Service Fee - Print Statement		-2.25	1691.65
1-Feb-23	Interest (Feb-23)		0.01	1691.66
23-Feb-23	Service Fee - Print Statement		-2.25	1689.41
1-Mar-23	Interest (Mar-23)		0.01	1689.42
08-Mar-23	Sale 1 Plot		500.00	2189.42
23-Mar-23	Service Fee - Print Statement		-2.25	2187.17
03-Apr-23	Interest (Apr-23)		0.01	2187.18
21-Apr-23	Service Fee - Print Statement		-2.25	2184.93
01-May-23	Interest (May-23)		0.01	2184.94
03-May-23	Cash Withdrawal (ACCOUNT CLOSED)		-2184.94	0.00

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Brenda Slaunwhite, Treasurer*





# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **Letter to RBC**

Cemetery Fund Committee  
St. James United Church  
3811 Old Sambro Road  
Sambro, Nova Scotia  
B3V 1G1

May 3, 2023

To whom it may concern,

As per St. James Board of Management Meeting of February 2023 it has been decided to close the current Cemetery Fund Account at the Royal Bank of Canada, Herring Cove Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia Account # 06113-0011266 due to the incorporation of a Print Statement Fee of \$2.25. This fee occurs, for the most part, on a monthly basis should there be a transaction applied to the account. There are very minimal operational transactions occurring, so the fee is primarily being applied when a minuscule amount of interest is deposited to the account.

This account which has been open for over 45 years and was converted by RBC from a passbook account to a Personal Savings Account on November 15, 2018. There were assurances made by RBC at this time there would be no additional fees.

However, in August 2022 the Print Statement Fee began being applied anytime a transaction occurred on the account. There were multiple attempts to have the fee eliminated but without success.

Moving forward, the Cemetery Fund will be managed through the St. James United Church banking.

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Arona Garrison, Chairperson St. James Cemetery Fund

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Brenda Slaunwhite, Treasurer St. James Cemetery Fund



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **6.5 St James United Session Report**

**Members:** Sara Scarfe (chair), Pat Thomas, John Hennigar Shuh, Cyndi Garrison, Jennifer Moss, Megan Stewart and Sheila Kindred; Diana Walker Ross has stepped down temporarily

Our meetings were conducted via Zoom and in person depending on the weather and who could attend. If matters arise between meetings, we meet on Zoom or consult by phone or email. We do not meet during the months of July and August. Rev Sean provided a Revelation Bible Study which was based on Revelations for Progressive Christians by Donald Schmidt which was enjoyed by all who attended.

Together with the minister, we plan worship services, oversee music, Sunday School and Pastoral Care. We also approve Baptisms, weddings and requests for use of the sanctuary. We assist the minister with funerals and special services.

We continue to provide services virtually via Facebook Live and thanks to Kirk Moss, Christopher Lee, Dylan Gray, Mitchell Gray and Bill Stewart for doing this.

Community of Faith Search Committee presented to congregation on Jan 15<sup>th</sup> and was accepted by the congregation for a full-time minister (Rev Sean Handcock) who started May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Due to the closing of Parkhill, we changed the start time for Sunday service from 11:15 to 11:00 AM.

Summer services were provided to us this year by members of the congregation which we were grateful for.

We did do a Blessing of the Fleet Service Aug 13<sup>th</sup> and were pleased to be able to go on the Coast Guard ship this year.

Feedback from the congregation is very important to us and we use that feedback to make adjustments to the service. It is important to us that everyone has input. We welcome new members. Please join us for a meeting to see if it is something you would be interested in participating in.

We would like to thank Rev Sean for his ministry with us and for helping us in session. His leadership is respected and valued immensely. We thank Rev Kathleen Anderson who was with us as a part-time minister until May 1<sup>st</sup>. Rev Sean's dedication to pastoral care and his insightful prayers and sermons are very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sara Scarfe



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **6.6 St James United Sunday School Report 2023**

Sunday School resumed in Fall of 2022 after Covid and continued into 2023. We paused in the summer as we usually do and then restarted again in Fall of 2023. In the Fall, we gained 2 more children coming on a monthly basis, but we are down to 2 Sunday School teachers, Megan Stewart and Jennifer Moss, which has been difficult to maintain a good schedule. With the low number of kids and teachers, we are looking to explore other options of providing faith formation to children. We are having teachers prepare a lesson and then end up having no kids show that Sunday and our two semi-regular kids are quickly growing out of Sunday School age. A Sunday school committee or Youth minister are two suggestions looking to be explored in 2024 so St. James United can provide more meaningful faith programs for kids.

## **6.7 St James United Choir/ Music Ministry Report 2023**

This past year marked another meaningful and eventful year of worship and fellowship for our “small but mighty” worship team here at St. James United. We saw a slow but steady increase in our in-person worship, and we welcomed our fellow congregants from Parkhill as well as new faces and returning members of our congregation and community.

I feel very blessed to be part of this worship team of faithful and talented musicians and singers which include Sara Scarfe, Crystal Gilkie, Jackie Garrison and Jennifer Moss. These ladies provided special music for many services and special events including Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday services, Service of the Sea and Blessing of the Fleet Services, Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day and Christmas Eve services. In May, Reverend Sean Handcock began his ministry here at St. James, and we are all grateful for his weekly services, his voice in our singing, and his introduction to so many new and lively hymns and worship songs. This Fall our worship team was honoured to participate in Rev. Sean’s Covenanting Service, and we also had another wonderful and lively Fisherman’s service, thanks to our Men’s choir and special guest soloists and musicians, including Bill Stewart, Blaine Gray, and Brad Lowes. As always, we invite and encourage others to join us for weekly worship and/or special services. “There is Room for All!”

2023 marked the return of both Sambro Dinner Theatre and The Down-Home Christmas Concert. These events provided an opportunity for our Church family to share music and fellowship with the wider community and provide a venue for others in the community to take part. I would like to see the music ministry continue to be part of outreach programs such as coffeehouses, songwriter circles, and other events/fundraisers that serve to build community and fellowship both within our Church family, and our neighbourhood.

I would like to thank our steadfast and faithful worship team, and also those who record and livestream our services every week: Bill Stewart, Kirk Moss, Chris Lee and Dylan



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

Gray. Thank you for providing this important outreach service to our community. Thank you also to Barb Reyno, Aronda Garrison and their kitchen team who provide wonderful refreshments for so many of our special events and services.

I am very grateful for my Church Family, and I look forward to a New Year of more musical adventures!

Respectfully submitted, Susan Feltmate

## **6.8 St James United Thinking of You Meals Report 2023**

We continued in 2023 with the service of preparing and delivering meals to some folks in our community. Our group of planners, preparers and deliverers look forward to the day of the month that the meals will be provided as much as the folks receiving the meals. In the beginning this was thought to be something that we would do during Covid but now it looks like it is going to continue. Our list of recipients has changed up for various reasons but no matter there will always be someone out there that may need to know that they are being thought of and a great way of showing that is with a hot meal, dessert, and a Hershey hug and kiss attached to the name tag on their meal, personally delivered to their door. We truly hope it brightens their day.

## **6.9 St James United Pastoral Care Team Report 2023**

2023 was a very busy year for the Pastoral Care Team. Diana Walker Ross resigned as Chair which left Eleanor Schnare and myself to try and keep up with Pastoral Care needs.

We had a change of Ministers with Rev Sean Handcock starting in May and Rev Kathleen Anderson moving to Hope United. Rev Kathleen made several visits and phone calls during her short time with us and was just getting to know the Church Community when she moved to another Congregation.

Rev Sean's first day started with a death in the Community and is always an interesting way to get introduced. On his arrival, he was given a list of about 30 people whom the Pastoral Care Team was aware of that needed some type of Pastoral Care, whether it be a phone call or a visit. I believe he has touched base with most of the list based on priority. He has had to do funerals and follow up with those families as well and some of those were unexpected.

The Pastoral Care list is very fluid and changes all the time. One challenge the Team faces is keeping current as information is not always known to us. We hope to find a way to improve on this.



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

Christmas Cards were sent to about 35 people to let them know that the Congregation was thinking of them.

In 2024 we hope to meet and improve our communication, so we don't "miss" situations. Cyndi Garrison is joining the team, and we hope to do some visiting.

Anyone who may be interested in joining the Team should contact me.

Respectfully Submitted - Pat Thomas



# *St James United Church Annual Report*

*(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)*

## **6.10 St James United Dinner Theatre Financial Report 2023**

Carried forward 2022	\$1,051.76
Income	
Ticket Sales	\$22,485.93
Auction / Donation	\$2,895.00
Deposits	\$1,268.00
Bank Interest	\$60.00
sale equipment	
Total Income	<u><u>\$26,708.93</u></u>
Expenses	
Groceries	\$1,422.23
Kitchen Expenses	
Lobster *	\$1,848.00
Cast Expenses	\$1,019.57
Mileage	
Bank Charges	\$41.25
Misc Expenses	\$200.00
Church Donation	\$17,000.00
Lights sound	\$2,269.31
church refunds	<u>\$1,268.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u><u>\$25,068.36</u></u>
Income	<u><u>\$2,692.33</u></u>

\* All but 231lbs of the lobster was donated by fishermen and fish plant.

as of December 31, 2023,

outstanding chqs 0



# St James United Church Annual Report

(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)

## 6.11 St. James Financial Narrative & Statement 2023

Before we review the financials for 2023, we would like to thank each one of you for a successful unique year like no other. It was the first year that Parkhill United amalgamated with St James United; it was a year that rejuvenated St James's and its future in a way that laid the foundation for spiritual growth, community engagement, and stewardship for years to come. If the opening paragraph sounds exciting – it should. Did we win a million dollars – no – did we have a surplus for the year – yes. Have we set a successful path forward – absolutely. Does it mean smooth sailing – not exactly? But with a constant finger on the pulse of the church and community, we can be a partnership like no other. The church's future will still require hard work, community involvement, and financial and spiritual support.

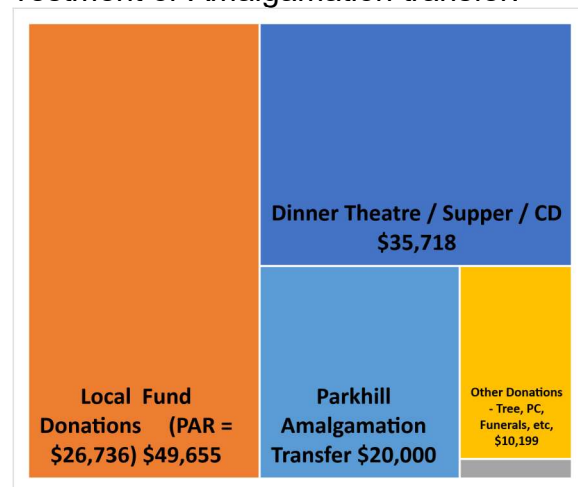
So, what did 2023 look like? Before we get into the details of the financial report it is important to understand that in 2023, we had the largest transfer to our investment and church in the life of the church. As part of the amalgamation of Parkhill with St James the congregation of Parkhill generously transferred \$350,000 of the sale of their church to St. James. This transaction will support the church annually like an annuity distributed annually, very similar to the approach that was used with the sale of the manse almost 15 years ago. As a point of reference, the manse was sold for \$158,000 and we have been taking on average \$15,000 a year and the current balance of that investment is \$281,326.

Back to the financials of 2023, we ended the year with a surplus of **\$2,055.45** and

a Board of Management Balance of **\$26,267.61**.

To start we brought in a total of **\$116,608** in donations of which \$40,755 came in the form of local (Sunday offering plate), \$35,718 came in the form of Suppers and Dinner Theatre and as mentioned previously we used \$20,000 from the sale of the Parkhill church. Other donations of \$10,199 came from funeral receptions, Pastoral charge account transfers, and other misc. donations.

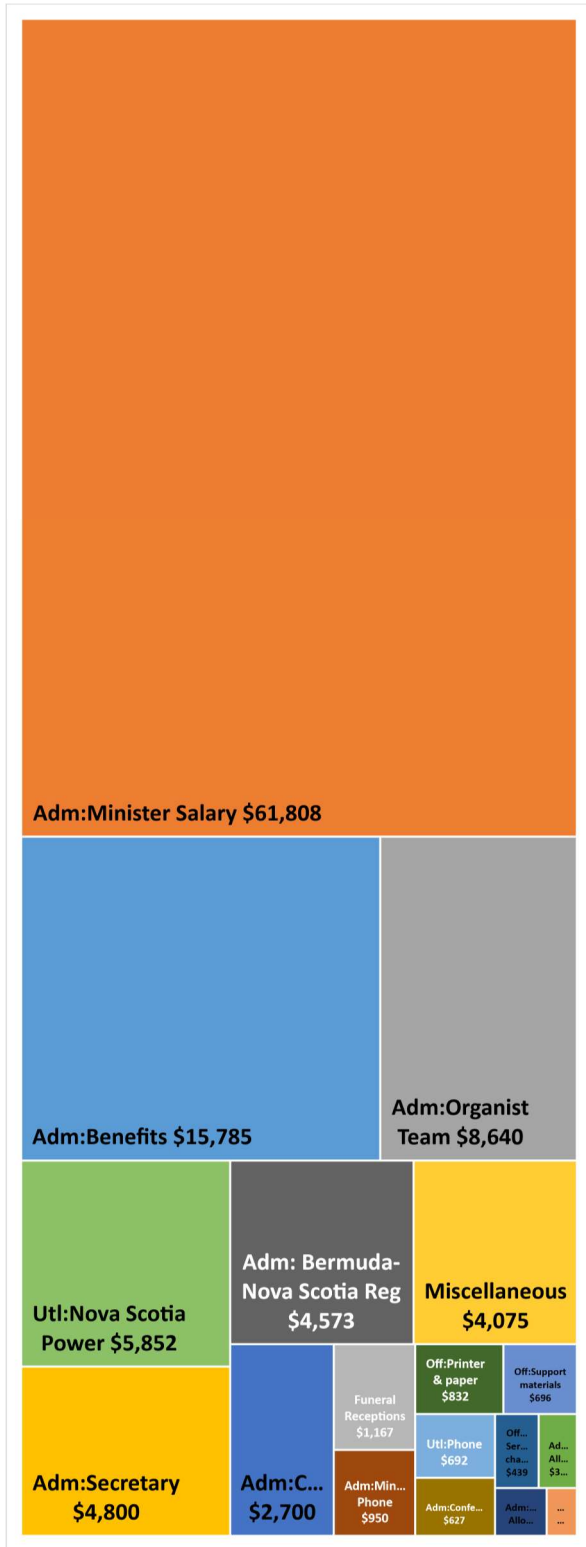
The diagram below gives you a proportional view of the donations with 31% being Dinner theatre/ Supper, 43% being local Funds and 17% being the investment or Amalgamation transfer.





# St James United Church Annual Report

(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)



Our expenses for the year were **\$114,553.22**. The largest proportional

expense was the minister's prorated salary of \$61,808, followed by \$15,785 for employee benefits. Other expenses in order included the organist team at \$8,640; Nova Scotia Power at \$5,852; our contribution to the United Church expense at \$4,573 and finally miscellaneous expenses of \$4,075 (Website registration, church software, virus protection, Christmas gifts, propane, heat pump cleaning and one license just to mention a few)

Other funds in the preview of the board of management include:

	2023
<b>M&amp;S</b>	
M&S fund donations	\$ 4,003.00
<b>Total donations</b>	<b>\$ 4,003.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
M&S expenses	\$ 6,277.50
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,277.50</b>
<b>Net M&amp;S fund donations</b>	<b>\$ (2,274.50)</b>
<b>Previous year balance</b>	<b>\$ 3,372.50</b>
<b>Current M&amp;S Fund Bal.</b>	<b>\$ 1,098.00</b>

Total contributions for M&S 2023 are \$4,003. We now send \$300 monthly automatically which will be adjusted up given our balance.

	2023
<b>Building Fund Donations</b>	
Building fund donations	\$ 7,393.00
HST rebate	\$ 355.24
<b>Total donations</b>	<b>\$ 7,748.24</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Church insurance	\$ 4,188.12
Church repairs / misc	\$ 5,447.02
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 9,635.14</b>
<b>Net building fund donations</b>	<b>\$ (1,886.90)</b>
<b>Previous year balance</b>	<b>\$ 18,691.29</b>
<b>Current Building Fund Bal.</b>	<b>\$ 16,804.39</b>
<b>Adjusted for Fishermans Mem</b>	<b>\$ 19,804.39</b>

The building fund received \$7,393 during the year and ended with a deficit of \$1,886.90. That said, our end balance is \$16,804.39 plus a \$3,000 figure set aside for a monument.





# St James United Church Annual Report

(Sambro Jollimore Pastoral Charge)

	2023
<b>Cemetery Fund</b>	
Donations	\$ 9,210.95
<b>Total donations</b>	<b>\$ 9,210.95</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Cemetery Expenses	\$ 1,282.95
Cemetery Transfers	\$ -
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,282.95</b>
<b>Net Cemetery fund donations</b>	<b>\$ 7,928.00</b>
<b>Previous year balance</b>	<b>\$ 350.00</b>
<b>Current Cemetery Fund Bal.</b>	<b>\$ 8,278.00</b>

The cemetery fund was a new fund added to the board of management accountabilities this year. It had end with a balance of \$8,278.

Finally, our investment ended the year with a balance of \$281,326 with earnings of \$15,113 or a 5.68% return.

Investment			
	Unit Cost	Units	
Opening balance	\$ 12.5055	21,287.71	\$ 266,213.42
Current Balance - 2023-12-31	\$ 12.7306	22,098.48	\$ 281,326.97
Withdrawn during year			\$ -
Annual earnings	Return -->	5.68%	\$ 15,113.54

The proceeds from the sale of the Parkhill church will be added to this investment in 2024.

In closing for 2023, again we would like to thank you for your generosity and general kindness to the church.

Given the continued online worship and expanded Facebook members, we encourage more of you to join Preauthorize Donations (PAR) or increase your PAR. For more information, please go to our website. [Giving Monthly through PAR | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](https://www.united-church.ca/giving-monthly-through-par)

If you would rather give a one-time donation, please visit our website here [Donations | sambrojollimore \(sambrojollimorepc.com\)](https://www.sambrojollimore.com/donations). We are so blessed to have a community that has supported St James United for many years and will continue to do so for many more.

Finally, a huge thank you to the financial team.

*Greg Reinhardt & Barb Reyno*, on behalf of the St. James United Board of Management

## 6.12 St. James United Budget for 2024

Included in the financial report are the budget for 2024, the budget for 2023, actuals for 2023, and actuals for 2022. As a point of reference, the actuals for 2022 do not reflect the pastoral charge expenses which is one of the key reasons for increases in certain categories. (i.e. minister's salary, etc.).

As we look ahead to the 2024 budget you can see that the figures are based on 2023 actuals or updated information based on projection. Highlights of the 2024 budget include a need to take more from the investment given the projected fundraisers and local donations. A Disney year would be an increase in PAR and local donations as well as increased success in our fundraising. Each would impact or reduce the need to take from the investment.

As a footnote please also take note that 2023 brought with it about \$10,000 in other donations which are situational and not expected for 2024.

# Sambro-Jollimore Pastoral Charge Annual Report 2022



## Financial Statement

St James United Church

Jan 1 2023 - Dec 31 2023

Brd of Mgmt Donations	Budget 2024	Budget 2023	Current 2023	2022 Actuals
Investment / Receptions	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	\$ (4,000.00)
Dinner Theatre / Supper / CD	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 30,500.00	\$ 35,718.10	\$ 13,514.00
Local Fund Donations (PAR =	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 49,654.83	\$ 78,683.46
HST Rebate	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,036.43	\$ -
Other Donations - Tree, PC, Fune	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 10,199.31	\$ 284.45
Parkhill Amalgamation Transfer			\$ 20,000.00	
<b>Sub total Donations</b>	<b>\$ 135,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 111,700.00</b>	<b>\$ 116,608.67</b>	<b>\$ 88,481.91</b>

Expenses	Budget 2024	Budget 2023	Current 2023	2022 Actuals
Adm.Caretaker	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,775.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,700.00
Adm.Minister Salary	\$ 77,292.00	\$ 61,866.67	\$ 61,808.04	\$ 60,148.00
Adm.Organist Team	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 8,640.00	\$ 7,900.00
Adm.Secretary	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,019.00
Adm.Benefits	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 11,646.85	\$ 15,784.70	\$ 15,876.21
Adm.Christian Education	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	
Adm.Education Allowance	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,543.00	\$ 385.75	\$ 339.89
Adm.Travel Allowance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 335.91	\$ 1,112.00
Adm.Minister Phone	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 700.00
Adm. Bermuda-Nova Scotia Reg	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,985.00	\$ 4,573.00	\$ 4,409.00
Adm.Conference	\$ 750.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 626.50	
Off.Bank Service charges	\$ 100.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 439.30	\$ 48.70
Off.Printer & paper	\$ 850.00	\$ 880.00	\$ 831.58	\$ 667.00
Off.Support materials	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 695.59	
Pre-authorized / Stripe fees	\$ 200.00	\$ 192.00	\$ 196.50	\$ 255.96
Funeral Receptions			\$ 1,167.27	
Miscellaneous	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 4,074.79	\$ 3,629.09
Util.Phone	\$ 750.00	\$ 684.00	\$ 692.13	\$ 677.00
Util.Nova Scotia Power	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 5,852.16	\$ 5,372.73
<b>Sub total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 134,842.00</b>	<b>\$ 111,870.52</b>	<b>\$ 114,553.22</b>	<b>\$ 107,854.58</b>

<b>Net income</b>	<b>\$ 158.00</b>	<b>\$ (170.52)</b>	<b>\$ 2,055.45</b>	<b>\$ (19,372.67)</b>
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Board of Management Balance	Current
Opening balance	\$ 24,212.16
2023 Balance	\$ 2,055.45
Current Brd of Mgmt Balance	<b>\$ 26,267.61</b>

Building Fund Donations	Current
Building fund donations	\$ 7,393.00
HST rebate	\$ 355.24
<b>Sub total Donations</b>	<b>\$ 7,748.24</b>

Expenses	Current
Church insurance	\$ 4,188.12
Church repairs / misc	\$ 5,447.02
<b>Sub total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 9,635.14</b>

<b>Net income</b>	<b>\$ (1,886.90)</b>
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Building Fund Balance	Current
Opening balance	\$ 18,691.29
Current Year	\$ (1,886.90)
<b>Current Building Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 16,804.39</b>

Investment	Unit Cost	Units	Current
Opening balance	\$ 12.5055	21,287.71	\$ 266,213.42
Current Balance - 2023-12-31	\$ 12.7306	22,098.48	<b>\$ 281,326.97</b>
Withdrawn during year			\$ -
Annual earnings	Return -->	5.68%	\$ 15,113.54

M&S Bal.	\$ 1,098.00	Rev Fnd Bal.	\$ 3,880.69
Cem Bal.	\$ 8,278.00	Ben. Fnd Bal.	\$ 500.00

Local Fund Donations (PAR = \$26,736)	\$49,655	Dinner Theatre / Supper / CD	\$35,718
Parkhill Amalgamation Transfer	\$20,000	Other Donations Tree, PC, Fune...	\$284.45

Adm: Minister Salary	\$61,808
Adm: Benefits	\$15,785
Adm: Organist Team	\$8,640
Adm: Secretary	\$4,800
Util: Nova Scotia Power	\$5,852
Miscellaneous	\$4,075
Adm: Caretaker	\$2,700
Adm: Bermuda-Nova Scotia Reg	\$4,573