

St. Paul's Weekly Update – January 16, 2025

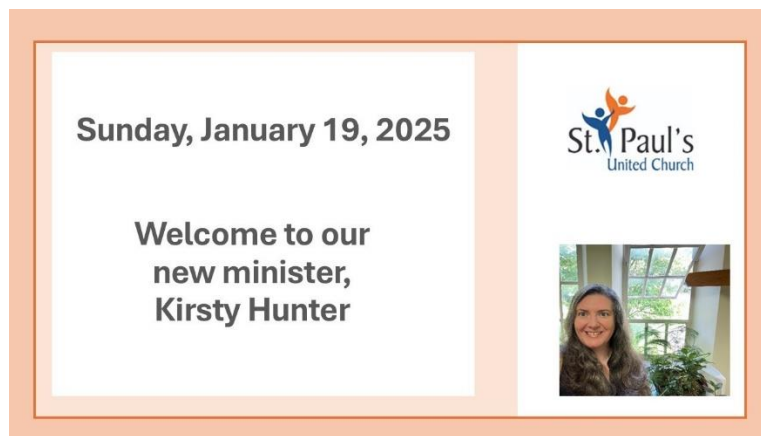
Minister's Message, Sunday, January 19, 2025

Greetings Friends,

I am so glad to be starting the New Year and a new relationship in ministry at St. Paul's. Over the next few weeks, I am sure we will get to know one another. I am looking forward to laughing with you, sitting quietly with you, worshipping with you, sharing meals with you, and more. The next few weeks will be very busy, but if you happen to be at the church, and my door is open please feel welcome to pop in and say "hi!"

May all blessings fall upon you and may the wisdom of God light your way.

Rev Kirsty



<https://youtube.com/live/YdRBxFyySWo?feature=share>

Coffee Hour: This Sunday, January 19th is Kirsty's first Sunday Service at St. Paul's. Help welcome her with your presence! Join her downstairs following the Service in the Great Hall for coffee, tea and fellowship. See you there! "

Office Hours

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon, with Judy in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and Louise is in the office on Wednesday mornings. The balance of the time, Louise works from home so you can reach her by phone any time between 8:30 and 4:00 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Connections Group meets every Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the Atrium. Anyone wishing coffee and informal conversation is welcome to drop in!

A Message from the Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is pleased to report to you the closing financial results for St. Paul's at the end of 2024. Despite fears of a deficit prior to year end, you, our congregation, contributed generously to ensure that we ended the year with a surplus. This congregation has stepped up many, many times in the past to support the work of St. Paul's. We are forever

grateful for this generosity and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Members of the Stewardship Committee are Murray Lockhart (chair), Terry MacPherson, Zena Pendlebury, Pat File, Donna MacFarlane, Louise Therrien, Doug Drinkill (treasurer) and Sue Dorion (attends as Official Board Chair)

2024 Revenues - \$283,343

2024 Expenses - \$259,066

2024 Surplus - \$ 24,277

Official Board Meeting –

All Board members please mark Tuesday, January 28th 7:00 p.m. on your calendar for in-person/zoom meeting and submit reports to Louise Therrien asap.

Men's Breakfast

The First Men's Breakfast for 2025 will be on Saturday January 25th at 9:00 a.m. at Mom's Restaurant. Gather with the guys for some food, fellowship and interesting conversations. All men are welcome.



Congregational Life

Our **greeter/ushering teams** are looking for help with this important job.

Currently we have three teams and we'd love to have four. The commitment is for one month at a time. Greet folks at the door with a friendly smile and collect the offering. Please consider this as a way to support St. Paul's. Interested or have more questions? Speak to Sheila Thompson.

Would any of our members or friends appreciate a **friendly visit or phone call** or be interested in making those friendly visits or phone calls? Contact Sheila at 705-526-2186 for further info.

Fundraising

United Church Calendars: We still have some United Church of Canada Centennial calendars available for sale at \$20 each. See Sharon Foster or Sue Dorion at church or contact them by mail sharonfoster000@gmail.com or sues0703@gmail.com

Fundraising dinner on February 8, 2025: Tickets for the dinner are now available on Sundays after church or from the church office between Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 a.m. to noon. Our stay-at-home faithfuls are welcome to purchase tickets as well and we will deliver meals to them between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. on February 8th.



We are looking for volunteers who would like to help with this event as well as entertainers for the event (guitarists, singers, pianists, poets). If you help, please contact Juli Robitaille at julifong8022@gmail.com or call **705-279-3334**. **If you can help with ticket sales after Sunday service, please reach out to Julie.**

Outreach

The Outreach Committee is looking for volunteers to help greet and register participants for the Coldest Night of the Year Fundraiser for the Guesthouse on Saturday February 22, 2025. If you are available to help, please contact stpaulsunitedchurchoutreach@gmail.com



Please also consider joining our fundraising walk or donate to the St. Paul's Team at <https://cnoy.w-ith.me/StpaulsunitedMidland>

UCW notes and news

The UCW will not hold their regular monthly meeting in January, but will resume on Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

Helping those in need: Thank you to everyone who has already contributed much needed items for the Guesthouse Shelter. The boxes will remain in the Utility Room off the Atrium so we can continue to collect for our neighbours.

St. Paul's website

Want to know what's going on at St. Paul's? Visit our **website** at <https://www.stpaulsmidland.org/>. There is lots of information and worth the look. You can also follow us on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=st.%20paul%27s%20united%20church>

This Week's Minute for Mission

Keeping hope in impossible situations



Project Ploughshares is a Canadian peace research institute with a focus on disarmament efforts and international security. It is also one of our dedicated Mission and Service partners. Project Ploughshares' important efforts come with many barriers, including discouragement, pushback, and regular exposure to mentally draining work.

Duncan Etches started his journey with Project Ploughshares as a supporter. When he saw an opportunity to be The United Church of

Canada representative on the management committee, he felt it was time to step into the key role. He comments on how wise and inspirational the whole team is, sharing that "they keep hope in impossible situations."

Project Ploughshares includes people from diverse backgrounds who are all deeply committed to making the world a better place. Rooted in the ethics of Christianity—peace, reconciliation, and justice—their work connects with people inside and outside faith communities. Members are respected and invited to be part of important conversations.

Your support through [Mission and Service](#) provides encouragement and hope to leaders of Project Ploughshares, a vital connection point for those passionate about global peace and security. Thank you.

Blessings everyone

Minister: Rev. Kirsty Hunter, **705-717-1918** revkirsty@gmail.com

Pastoral Care: Shaun McIntosh **705-427-2466** spuc.studentminister@gmail.com

Church Administrator – Louise Therrien, (Wednesday mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the church), stpaulsunited@rogers.com **705-526-1640 (home office)**

Administrative Assistant – Judy McConnell (**Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00**) officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com 705-526-6077