

The Anglican Parish of Saint Barnabas

2025 Reports

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Sunday, February 8, 2026

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Agenda for Annual Meeting of Parishioners
February 8, 2026

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to Order
3. Remembrance of the Faithful Departed
4. Appointment of the Recording Secretary for 2026 Annual Meeting of Parishioners
5. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners on February 9, 2025
6. The Incumbent's Report
7. The Reports
8. 2025 St. Barnabas Anglican Church Financial Statements
9. Adoption of the 2026 Parish Budget
10. Election to Parish Council
11. Election of Synod Delegates
12. Consideration of Motions
13. Appointment of Parish Accounts Examiner
14. Adjournment

The Faithful Departed in 2025

Christopher Alan Bell

Michael Frederick Laws

Jutta Hinrichs

Jon Michael (Mike) Pannett

Outmie (Meena) Myles

Robert Wright

Elizabeth Mathew

George Alvin (Al) Furneaux

Holy Sacraments

Baptism

Easton John Marasco

Aaralyn Lainey Devine

Rylan Dennis Miller

Zyana Hameed

Jack William Rudzitis

Mackennon James Chiang

Dresden George Slate

Ozymandias Benedict Zabel

Tyson Harley Zabel

Confirmation

Penelope Angela Patrica Holloway

Yuan Li

Abra Kathrina Morrell

Aaralyn Lainey Devine

Rylan Dennis Miller

Maria Batti

Ralph McKelvie

Re-Affirmation

Joy Halvorson

Marnie Glenda Brayshaw-Bayer

Edward David

Marriage

Heather Patricia McCracken and Luc John Evan Carels

The Anglican Parish of Saint Barnabas
Annual Meeting of Parishioners Minutes
Sunday, February 9, 2025 at 12:00 AM

The Annual General Meeting of Parishioners of St. Barnabas Anglican Church was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by the Reverend Kersi Bird. There were 68 parishioners in attendance.

Opening Prayer

The Rev. Kersi Bird opened the meeting with a prayer.

Faithfully Departed

Rev. Kersi read into the record the parishioners of St. Barnabas Anglican Parish that had passed in 2024.

Appointment of a Recording Secretary for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Angie Martinac was appointed as Recording Secretary of the 2025 Annual Meeting.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of February 11, 2024

Moved by Jill Stroud, seconded by Sheila Jervis that the minutes of the February 11, 2024 meeting be approved. There were no omissions or edits.

Carried

Incumbent's Report

Rev Kersi thanked all for the ministry shared.

The Reports

All other reports outlining the activities of the Parish were presented and no questions were asked. Moved by Janet Sims, seconded by Bert Standing that the reports be received.

Carried

2024 Financial Statements

Balance Sheet

We had \$69,000 in our chequing account at the end of the year. We will be getting a \$3,812 GST credit, we get 50% of all GST paid back. Summer camp was paid for out of I.E. Roberts trust. We automatically get 5% of the rectory reserve but have applied for 10% due to the amount the account. Investments are through RBC Wealth Management.

Income Statement

We received a \$5,000 bequest and have two years' investment income listed due to timing of when they were received. Investment income goes into general operations. Salaries are up due to health care costs going up last year, but we were only notified in February so they were not budgeted for. Urdu service has had some small expenses, but they bring in more money to the church to offset this. Some items budgeted under the Capital Expenses have been paid out of maintenance/repairs because they were small expenses such as paint. Several small funds have been combined into Mission & Outreach which is why that has more money.

Moved by Mark Francis, seconded by Jutta Hinrichs, that the financial documents be received.

Carried

2024 Budget

We budgeted a 3% cost of living increase. Parish Events is when we hold something like a supper and collect donations. We should see a 5% Investment Income according to Diocese. Churchill Park is now paying for their own utilities, which is why their rent is lower than last year. Salaries increased to bring them in line with Diocese. Professional fees are paid out of Christian Education fund. Insurance costs are expected to go up by 10%.

Moved by Archie Adams, seconded by Katie Barg that the 2025 Budget be adopted as presented.

Carried

Incumbent's Warden

Rev. Kersi advised that Stacy Withrow was stepping down as Incumbent's Warden. Phil Field will be the new Incumbent's Warden and Les Parsons would be the new Assistant Incumbent's Warden.

People's Warden

Rev. Kersi advised that Jill Stroud was allowing her name to stand again for People's Warden. Moved by Sue Carr, seconded by Rick Tapp that Jill Stroud be nominated as the People's Warden and Denver Barg as Assistant Peoples Wardens

Carried

Parish Council

Rev. Kersi advised that Angie Martinac was stepping down from the Parish Council and thanked her for her service. Rick Wards, John Procter and Janet Sims have all allowed their names to

stand for council along with new members Michael Morrell and Ryan Li. Moved by Wes Bluhm and seconded by Susan Marasco that they all be elected to Council.

Carried

Lay Delegates to Synod

Archie Adams nominated Katie Barg and Jill Stroud for Lay Delegates to Synod, Liz Othen seconded.

Carried

Consideration of Motions

It was noted there were no motions to consider.

Accounts Examiner

As Les Parsons is now on Corporation, he cannot be Accounts Examiner, a new person will be chosen by Parish Council and announced by summer. Mark Francis moved and Yvonne Fuechter-Field seconded.

Carried

Envelope Secretary

Sue Carr and Jutta Hinrichs remain as envelope secretaries.

Comments

Jill Stroud thanked Kersi for a smooth meeting.

Ann Tapp made a motion of thanks to Sue Carr and Jutta Hinrichs as envelope secretaries.

Denver Barg moved and Arlene Parsons seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:31 pm.

Report from the Incumbent

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."
(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

As I reflect on the year past, I cannot help but meditate on this quote from Paul's letter to the Thessalonians. It is remarkable to think about all of the prayer, effort and spiritual offerings that this parish family has brought to bear in our shared ministry at St. Barnabas. Voices raised in song, prayers extended at all hours of the day, repairs undertaken, beauty revealed, children nurtured, gatherings planned, people fed, hands held, conversations sparked, invitations extended - all to the glory of God by members of this community who care for one another and are eager to serve the world as disciples of Jesus.

With Christ as our foundation, it has been beautiful to see the building up of His church in our midst. There were challenging and insightful conversations with our adult confirmation class and thoughtful meetings with individuals and families seeking baptism. In the fall we all had the opportunity to explore our spiritual gifts and 'find where we fit'. I would like to thank each of you most sincerely for sharing your gifts with the parish and exploring your ministry as a part of the whole. The Church is renewed in every generation by disciples who are engaged in an active faith and who bring their inspiration to the work of the Lord.

I am truly grateful to this community for your generosity and faithfulness in every area. We are blessed with lay leaders who embody many spiritual gifts and who are encouragers to us all. Many thanks to Jill Stroud and Phil Field, wardens who are finishing their terms, and to retiring Parish Council members Janet Sims and John Proctor. Our appreciation is extended to each of them, whose ministry is vested by commitment, enthusiasm and loving-kindness. It is always a pleasure and a privilege to minister alongside Marcus, Margaret, Gloria, Abra and Sandra.

As we look ahead to this new year, let us be guided by the example of our namesake Barnabas the Encourager and the words of St. Paul. In her book "A Better Encouragement", author Lindsey Carlson writes,

Just like other parts of discipleship, encouragement should be taught, practiced, and replicated as an important aspect of the Christian faith. Encouragement is Spirit dependent. Ask God to show you who you might encourage. Pray for the Spirit's wisdom and that he would provide the good counsel of a well-timed word. Depend on the Spirit to do the work of empowerment. You are the messenger not the Spirit. When God's people bring their desires, abilities, strengths, gifts, and resources to the church and work for his glory, God produces beautiful fruit!

May we be instruments of grace and encouragement in this world. Thanks be to God!

With great thanks,
Kersi

Deacon Report

Greetings brothers and sisters.

Besides my liturgical duties, my focus continues outside our parish. My thanks to all those that have volunteered in shared outreach ministries. We have a number of existing volunteer outreach opportunities at St Barnabas, with lots of room for new ones springing from our midst. If you have something brewing in your heart or imagination, we would love to hear from you. Perhaps coffee with your Deacon?

Every contribution, small or large to the kingdom of God is a step forward trusting God is with us on our journey together. He does teach us in Romans 8:28 that He is working all things together for our good and His glory, so we can thank Him for His steadfast faithfulness and love.

I'm looking forward to our journey together in 2026.

Here's a summary of some of my 2025 deacon activities:

- Wings night men's group
- Outreach ministry
- Fanning and Hillcrest monthly services and hymn sings sharing the gospel at Weekly services
- Sermons
- Parishioner visits
- Working in spiritual formation with parishioners
- Cursillo weekends clergy team member
- Clericus meetings
- Formation of Alpha team and program at Barnabas.
- Acorn spiritual practice
- Acorn ministry support with Michael Harvey

Your brother in Christ,
Marcus+

Office Administrator Report

Three plots in the memorial garden were sold, leaving 18 available for purchase by parishioners.

Thank you to Dawn Jones for your help in the office and willingness to take on any task. Thanks also to Angela Wards and Pat Bluhm for folding bulletins at busy times.

If you are new to the parish, please provide me with your contact information to ensure that you receive the newsletter and pastoral letters.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Minchin
Office Administrator

Alongside Hope Report

St Barnabas had two Fundraising campaigns for Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF) in 2025.

The first was during Lent. We initially raised funds for Reforestation at home and abroad, to improve food security. However, when USAID to needy areas was abruptly cut before Easter, we re-directed our funds raised to an Emergency Resilience fund set up by Alongside Hope to relieve places who depended on the USAID. We sent \$2,220 to Alongside Hope at this time.

The second campaign was during Advent, in November and December. At this time we directed our fundraising to rural Columbia, where \$120 helps a woman maintain her beehives. She harvests and sells the honey, and the bees pollinate nearby crops of fruit and food. Our goal was to help 10 women (\$1,200). We raised a total of \$2,455, far surpassing our goal.

Thank you, St. Barnabas parishioners!

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Proctor

Altar Guild Report

Altar Guild thankfully had one new member join us in 2025, but we could still use many more. Both men and women are welcomed to this very important service. If you are at all interested or would like more information, please speak to Rev. Kersi or myself, training is provided plus you will be partnered with an experienced person.

Altar Flowers can be sponsored for any reason i.e. birthday, wedding, anniversary, in memory of someone, to give thanks or for any other reason. Please indicate your name on the flower chart located in the Narthex, you can choose any Sunday you want (except during Lent) or let the office know and Gloria will assist you. The Altar Guild and the Parish are very grateful to those who do sponsor flowers so that we can have fresh flower arrangements weekly.

The Altar Guild would like to thank the parish for all its support and help over the past year. We are especially thankful for the continue wisdom, encouragement and help given by Rev. Kersi Bird. Also would like to thank Gloria Minchin for all the help she gives us; the 6th Calgary Scouts who continue to donate and set up the main Christmas tree plus the many other things they do for the church; Margaret Kosa who is always willing to lend a hand, and everyone else who assists in different ways.

I also wish to recognize all members of the Altar Guild for their dedication and support, everyone steps up to help when needed and it is very much appreciated.

Blessings
Angie Martinac
Coordinator

Card Ministry Report

More young children are coming to Sunday services, and it's always fun to make a card for them especially on their birthdays. Approximately 250 cards have been created and sent to parishioners this past year to mark many occasions such as birthdays, ill health, sympathy and thinking of you.

If you are new to the congregation or have been overlooked, please don't hesitate to give me your name and birth date. We're never too old to celebrate, and we're all part of the St. Barnabas Family.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Tapp

Envelope Secretary's Report

In memory of Jutta Hinrichs

First, I would like to posthumously acknowledge the very valuable contribution made by Jutta Hinrichs to this Ministry. Her dedication, computer literacy and attention to detail was much appreciated. We worked together jointly every week since September 2023 right up to the day before her sudden death in July 2025.

2025 Summary

By year end, the church database of contributing congregants included 194 households. Of these, approximately 1/3 are using electronic donation methods (PAD, Tithely or E-transfer), 1/3 pay by cheque and the remaining 1/3 give cash.

Pledges for 2025 were received from 63 households following the 2025 Stewardship Campaign. The total amount pledged for 2025 increased significantly from 2024.

Notes

- Generic white envelopes are available in the Narthex or in the pews. Please make sure that your name and/or envelope number are on the envelope containing your donation. Special service envelopes are made available at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- It would be appreciated if general congregation collection donations are kept separate from clearly marked specific donations for the Rector's Discretionary

Fund, altar flowers, fundraising events, special services, memorials, bequests etc.

- New in 2025 are Gift-In-Kind forms for use if expenses are being gifted to the church rather than invoiced for reimbursements. Both blank forms are available for use in the Narthex.
- Please note that only one tax receipt is being issued for 2025.
- An ever-growing number of parishioners have already transitioned to monthly or quarterly donations which has helped to simplify the process.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Carr
Envelope Secretary

Hospitality Ministry Report

Connecting as a community following the 10.15 service is a meaningful time for conversation and friendship development. Hosts provide coffee, tea, water, soft drinks and snacks. Attendance has varied from 55 to 120. Special events such as the Harvest Lunch attract the higher numbers.

Rev. Kersi has developed a designated children's play area, where children enjoy each other's company and the multi-generations in the room. This area will need expansion as we welcome new babies: two of our coffee hosts are expectant mothers, so we will be looking for some new hosts!

I want to thank all those who donated snacks and supplies. The cost of a 900g can of Maxwell House coffee has increased from \$8 to about \$20 in the last year. Fortunately, two families have donated all the coffee needed throughout the year.

I will finish my term as coffee-time host coordinator on Feb 8, the day of our Annual Meeting of parishioners. My thanks to the hosts for their contribution to this ministry. Many of you have become close friends and I look forward to our Christian journey together.

I am indebted to Rev. Kersi and Rev. Marcus for their leadership and encouragement. It was a pleasure to serve.

Respectfully submitted,
John Proctor

In Reach Report

Gift bags were prepared for those parishioners unable to attend Sunday service on a regular basis. Approximately twenty parishioners received these gifts at Easter and Christmas.

The items in the bags came from Dollarama, Safeway, and Better Books and Bibles. In addition, Anne Tapp made cards and Pauline Booth donated hand-crafted angels for the gift bags.

Members of Parish Council and other parishioners helped with the assembly of the bags and members of the congregation distributed the gifts to the recipients' homes and care centres.

St. Barnabas has been doing this In-Reach program for several years and I recommend we continue in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Sims

IT Report

Our church Information Technology consists of seven Windows computers connected for the most part by a wired network. The internet connectivity is provided by Rogers Business Networks, and consists of three Wireless access points and a wired network switch for office connectivity. There are three office computers, three computers for the Technical Arts department to stream our Sunday service, and an Administrator laptop computer.

Most of the tasks of the IT Coordinator consist of ensuring the computers are updated safely, and to resolve any problems that may occur. The office computers are Windows 11 but the Streaming computers remain at Windows 10 since they have specific jobs that are not affected by what happens on the internet.

I would welcome anyone who has an interest in Computer network technology and would like to assist to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Tapp, IT Coordinator

Outreach Report

I got a note from the office this week, reminding me about the outreach committee report for our AMP. I thought to myself. "Oh great another report" and I asked myself how many people will actually read it? Then I started thinking about what our outreach looks like now and got excited.

Since I joined St Barnabas in 2012, the meaning of outreach has changed from a focus on our mission and our growth by a few parishioners, (inward focus) to an outward one by the whole parish.

Part of the reason for this change is the change in my role at St Barnabas. The role of the Deacon is fundamentally a link to the community. The contemporary understanding of outreach is that it's the organization's involvement with or activity in the community, especially in the context of social welfare or social justice.

With Kersi's support, I feel that we as a parish have shifted our focus to outside our church building's threshold.

This report celebrates not just the role of the outreach committee (my thanks to you all) but also the participation and activity of all parishioners as we look at our own individual

outreach ministries. I won't try to list all of our accomplishments from this past year, for fear of missing some. You know what you've done for outreach.

I pray that our church family continues to seek opportunities in all our communities and environments we live in.

Your brother in Christ,
Marcus+

Prayer Shawl Report

Another year of many needing comfort and peace of receiving a prayer shawl.

Thanks to so many of you who have faithfully committed to providing these by knitting and crocheting these beautiful, cozy, and appreciated gifts.

I pray we can continue to give these gifts as our church grows and needs your expertise and creations by your loving hands. Also many baby blankets have been given to our new Christians and this year we are excited to be awaiting the arrivals of many little ones into our fold, starting this Spring. We look forward to meeting them all.

Please consider being part of this Ministry from your armchair at home. Does not have to be any pattern a simple shawl of any colour, also wool accepted from left over projects is appreciated. They are then blessed and delivered to our friends to wrap around them with God's Love.

Thank you in advance. Blessings to you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Pauline Booth

St. Barnabas Choir Report

The ministry of St. Barnabas Choir is to lead us in worship while raising voices in song unto the Glory of God. We raise our voices in melody and harmony to bring to life hymns, anthems, canticles, and cantatas that reinforce and expand our appreciation of the Word of God.

The year began with a delightful choir party hosted by Heather and John Proctor. The choir hosted refreshments in honour of St. David's that included delectable Welsh cakes.

Then we were back to work. In 2025 we prepared a new Lenten cantata: "From Silence to Song" by Joseph M. Martin.

An important celebration of Confirmation with the Archbishop was also very memorable.

As the old year 2025 came to an end, the new liturgical year began with Advent 2025. Preparations for Christmas included the welcome addition of new choir members that committed to joining us for the Advent/Christmas season. We thank them for their gift of voice and time.

Many thanks to all the choir members for their dedication and commitment. Thanks also those that administer the music library, send e-mails, and tend to the choir robes. All of your support is needed and appreciated.

We hold weekly rehearsals at 7:00 pm on Thursdays, a brief rehearsal on Sunday, and extra rehearsals as needed. We welcome new members.

Deo gratias.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Kosa
Organist/Music Director

St. Barnabas Community Garden Report

We have a St. Barnabas Community Garden at the south end of the Church that has thrived for both the community at large and individual gardeners. We currently have 18 raised beds utilized by individual parishioners, and community members, and 26 working gardeners. We also have communal portions of the garden that include fruit trees, plum, pear and three varieties of apples, raspberries, and a variety of herbs and flowers.

The gardeners are requested to maintain the communal areas in addition to their own plots. We also help each other by watering other gardens if requested. This was a very successful season for gardeners but a little unusual. We had enough rain in May and June and then a whole month of July with lots of rain, so we only used about a week of the Church's water. Usually June is our 'monsoon month' but this year it was July.

We had a bumper crop of apples, pears and plums this year. Most gardeners had very successful gardens. As we cannot donate any produce to HSCA as directed by the Alberta Health Services, some individual gardeners took the opportunity to donate to some parishioners.

We had 'working days' where gardeners were invited to come to participate in community tasks which required more than one gardener such as distributing mulch and setting up rain barrels. These working days and/or evenings are followed by some social time where gardeners brought their own chairs and refreshments and sat in the garden area and exchanged ideas and stories.

The major improvement this year was renewing the painting of numbers on the plots, new lock for the gardening shed and thoroughly cleaning out the rain barrels.

We are thankful to have a very dedicated Gardening Committee, a group of committed gardeners to utilize the plots. All of our plots were utilized this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Halvorson
St. Barnabas Church Garden Liaison

Sunday School Report

Over the past year, our Sunday school has seen encouraging growth. We now welcome between 6 and 12 children each week, reflecting a strong and engaged group of families within our church community.

We have also had three families regularly bringing toddlers, and work is underway to find ways to thoughtfully include both our youngest children and our older students (up to age 9) in meaningful, age-appropriate learning and participation.

Throughout the year, we have focused on memorizing the Lord's Prayer and developing a habit of praying together as a class. The children have responded positively to this, and it has become a grounding part of our time together. One of the highlights each week is our opening time of sharing, where the children enjoy talking about their week and building relationships with one another before we begin the lesson.

We have such a wonderful group of youngsters, they are so engaged in the readings and ask such thoughtful questions. I feel so lucky to have gotten to lead Sunday school this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Abra Morrell

Wardens Report

This past year has been one of steady faithfulness. We have been reminded that the strength of St Barnabas lies in the shared commitment to one another and to our common worship. We have gathered to pray, to listen, and to support one another, trusting in God's presence among us. We are grateful for the dedication of our clergy, musicians, servers, readers and all who assist in making our services welcoming and reverent. In collaboration with Kersi and the Parish Council we have worked to ensure stewardship, care and maintenance of our building and grounds of St Barnabas. Our parish continues to thrive because of the generosity of volunteers. This past year has also seen the congregation grow as we welcomed several new families to St. Barnabas. We wish to express sincere thanks to all who serve in visible and unseen ways providing their time and expertise.

The Parish of St. Barnabas is multifaceted, with various programs and ministries running at any given time. All of these though, can be characterized by their consistency through 2025. The job of the Wardens has been made simpler and more enjoyable by the faithful service of the rest of the parish!

We are grateful to Gloria for keeping us on track with organization and communication, to Marcus our deacon orchestrating outreach and efforts around the parish, to Margaret for leading us in worship through music and directing the choir, and of course to Kersi for chairing so many meetings, leading the parish liturgically and administratively, and always bringing us together around the Word and the Sacraments.

The Wardens had many opportunities to continue ongoing ministries as well take part in several new initiatives in the parish. We were happy to see the return of the summer children's drama camp, which has always been a great success. Our partnership with the Scouts continues to be mutually beneficial, with all of us enjoying the Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, the Stampede breakfast, as well as observing Remembrance Day together in November. We had many opportunities to spend time together as a family as well. Some of the highlights being a bowling night in the spring, a lawn games night in summer (both organized by Michael Morrel and Kingsley Ibe), many great coffee hours (coordinated by John Proctor and the multitude of coffee hosts), and the annual Harvest Lunch (only made possible through the hard work of Jill Stroud).

We must extend our deepest thanks to everyone who serves our parish. The opportunities are many: Worship (Choir, Alter Guild, Prayer Chain, Servers/Sidespeople, Technical Arts), Christian Education (Bible Study, Sunday School, Confirmation, Library, Cursillo),

Fellowship (Hospitality / Coffee Hour, Events, Community Garden, Card Ministry), Pastoral Care (Special Course, Prayer Shawls), Outreach (In Reach, Alongside Hope), Caretaker (Building Maintenance, Capital Planning) and Finance Committees (Envelope Secretary, Stewardship), but at least in our case, there are many workers!

We must recognize particularly the service of Phil Field, Jill Stroud, Janet Sims, and John Procter. They have completed their service on Corporation and Council and will be stepping down this term.

As you may remember from our October Stewardship Campaign, we are all “living stones” being built up to be a “spiritual house” (1 Peter 2.4-7). None of the ministries of St. Barnabas can happen without the support of those around, above, and below us. Thanks be to God!

As we look forward to the year ahead, we do so with trust in God’s guidance. As wardens we are committed to supporting Kersi and Marcus, caring for the parish and encouraging a spirit of shared responsibility and compassion.

We offer a heartfelt thanks to the congregation of St Barnabas for your kindness, patience and faithfulness throughout the year. It has been a privilege to serve alongside you.

“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Matthew 18:20

Blessings,

Phil Field, Incumbent’s Warden

Jill Stroud, People’s Warden

Les Parsons, Assistant Incumbent’s Warden

Denver Barg, Assistant People’s Warden