

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHESTERFIELD



First Congregational Church

Chesterfield, Massachusetts

2025 Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 15, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Russ Peotter, Moderator

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Doug Small

COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR 2025

Discussion of reports as presented in the Annual Report

Acceptance of annual reports

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

Budget for 2025

Other Business

ADJOURNMENT

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PASTOR 2025-CHESTERFIELD

Dear Friends,

My difficulty in writing a report is that my audience already knows its content. My hope is that my observations of this year might be helpful at some unknowable future date.

1. I present to you the affairs of the church from last week. An epic snow storm was scheduled to begin late Sunday morning. I decided to chance in person worship; however, I asked our organist to stay home. She has the longest drive and it seemed a prudent thing to do. So, worship began. I thought, no organ, no singing. Wrong. Out of nowhere the congregation sang the first and last verse of a hymn. Then, spontaneously, during the offering, they broke into song again. There was smiling and laughter. The spirit was alive and well. Lesson learned: do not ever tell this group what they can and cannot do.

2. Our Zoom service originates in Chesterfield, is hosted from South Carolina, and is attended by folks from Las Vegas to London to Texas. Lesson learned: we never know what is possible until we try.

3. The things that need to be done get done. Last week's blue berry muffins were made by a 5 year old. The coffee got made, song and prayer and scripture were explored, spiritual concerns were shared. Fellowship was enjoyed. No schedule, no charts and graphs, no elaborate plan. Just look around, see what needs to be done, and do it.

4. It is with fear and trembling that I acknowledge that I said last year that our by laws need to be updated. They still do. Some of the provisions are clearly outdated. I am concerned however, that in updating the rule book, we might blunder into some unforeseen consequences which deprive this church of its vital, can-do attitude. The rule book has to be an enabling document and not a restrictive one. The re-write project is on the back burner, but I confess it is not yet boiling. I consider myself blessed to be the pastor of such fun loving, spiritually motivated, dedicated group.

May God's blessings be yours,
Doug

REPORT OF THE CLERK

The various activities of the church and its membership are covered in the reports from the various boards, officers, and committees. The major activities, as well as the minutes of membership meetings have been recorded in the permanent records of the Church. Therefore, this report will only address the statistics as they are recorded.

THE FOLLOWING STATISTICS ARE REPORTED FOR THE YEAR 2024:

BAPTISMS:

Holly Kate Clark, Baptized Nov. 30, 2025. Child of Julia Rose Clark, born July 8, 2025 in Northampton.

NEW MEMBERS:

William Hubbard	Joined February 2, 2025
Sandy Hubbard	Joined February 2, 2025
Jim McSweeny	Joined March 2, 2025

DEATHS:

Mary Jane Miller	March 11, 2025
Amanda Emerson	May 31, 2025
Danny Krug Jr.	June 16, 2025
Virginia Kirk	June 17, 2025
David Laprade	August 26, 2025

The present Church Membership is approx. 180 members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathie Brisbois, Shannon K. Brisbois, clerks

OFFICE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Moderator	Rus Peotter	2026
Clerks	Shannon Brisbois	2026
	Kathie Brisbois	2026
Treasurer	Christina Guinasso	2026
Asst. Treasurer	Zoe Greenwood	2026
Auditor	Sherri Henshaw	2026
Ushers	Sherry Whitmore	2026
	Jim Krebs	2026
	Bill Hubbard	2026
Diaconate	A.J. Lapinski	2026
	Paul Catanzaro	2026
	Sylvia Lapinski	2027
	Sherry Whitmore	2027
	Nancy Boyle	2028
	Jim Martin	2028
	Kirke Henshaw	2029
	John Stein	2029
Christian Education	Amy Catanzaro	2026
	Nancy Boyle	2027
	Becky Brisbois	2028
	Carol Recore	2029
Trustees	Darryl Weyant	2026
	Rick Hinton	2027
	Jeff Greenwood	2028
	Jim Krebs	2029
	A.J. Lapinski	2030
Ways & Means	Nancy Boyle	2026
	Suzanne Krebs	2026
	Zoe Greenwood	2027
	Jeff Greenwood	2027
	Barbara Weyant	2028
	Jim Krebs	2028
	Darryl Weyant	2029

OFFICE	NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Trustees for Continuing Ed	Debbie Page	2026
	Leslie Kellogg	2027
	Carol Recore	2028
Flower Committee	Suzanne Krebs	2026
	Carol Recore	2027
	Kim Montague	2028
	Lynne Scott	2029
Missions	Caleb Harris	2026
	Kim Montague	2027
	Sylvia Lapinski	2028
Delegates to Hampshire Assn.	Vacant	2026
	Vacant	2026
Nominating Committee	Darryl Weyant	2026
	Jenn Peotter	2026
	Nancy Hewes	2026

Changes:

OFFICES	OUTGOING	IN COMING
Trustee	Mary Jane Miller	Jeff Greenwood
Ways & Means	Angela Thompson	Sabrina McGill
Tr. Cont. Ed	Barbara Bak	Debbie Page
Nominating Committee	Mary Jane Miller	Darryl Weyant
	Jim Brisbois	Jenn Peotter

REPORT OF THE DIACONATE

The role of the Deacons is to support the Pastor and serve the church. We do this by serving as worship leaders when the Pastor is absent, and by providing additional church services for certain occasions. During 2025 the Deacons led a Good Friday Service of Nails, the Easter Sunrise Service, and an early Christmas Eve service which filled the church this year. Many thanks to the Zoom team for making that service available to our on-line congregation.

Deacons prepare and serve communion on the first Sunday of each month and are present to welcome new members and celebrate with families at baptisms. We are available to provide any other support needed by the Pastor and give a helping hand whenever needed in the church. We thank all who help throughout the year to make our services special for those who attend.

This year we acknowledge the many years Lillian Bisbee served the Diaconate and hope to see her at church whenever she is able to attend. Thank you Lillian!

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Boyle	AJ Lapinski	John Steins
Paul Catanzaro	Sylvia Lapinski	Sharon Whitmore
Kirk Henshaw	Jim Martin	

REPORT OF THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

A year ago, in our report to the Congregation, the committee expressed an objective of expanding and increasing the activities of our wider mission. We asked for input and ideas from the members of the Church and had an excellent response.

Our outreach last year included the following:

\$1,410 raised for the Uplift Project which provides financial support to small businesses in rural Guyana.

Funds raised and meeting space provided for the Ashmere project which provides residential summer retreats for a community of adults with and without disabilities. This organization has completed the purchase of the former Chesterfield Boy Scout Camp which is a huge natural space and has the additional benefit of preserving a very large environmentally sensitive area in the Hilltowns.

Promoting and collecting donations of supplies for members of the United States Armed Forces through the Hilltown Misfits 4H Club and their Valentines for the Troops initiative. The Church also donates meeting space to the Club.

\$100 raised for the Hilltown Food Pantry from a pop-up Christmas Shop.

\$365 raised for the Cancer Connection through our annual Bows of Hope.

Special thanks go out to Jim and Forrest McSweeney, Jakob Palches, and Sherry Whitmore.

Please reach out to us again in the new year as we hope to continue our success. Thanks to all of you who generously supported several global and local causes during last year and helped us fulfill some important goals.

Respectfully submitted:

Caleb Harris
Sylvia Lapinski
Kim Montague

ZOOM REPORT

We, (Cyndy and Peter) have had the privilege of hosting Zoom for many months from South Carolina. It is our primary way to keep in touch with the fine people of Chesterfield. As often mentioned in the past, it also keeps in touch with Texas, Nevada, England and many places I haven't mentioned. It allows those who can't drive to the church to attend, not only the church, but each other. We get news, sometimes before even the pastor knows. We are able to record the proceedings and share them with other members of the Worthington church and the Chesterfield church.

Zoom helps us to stay connected. It becomes more important in the winter when people cannot get to the church. We need to thank Barb and Daryl for their help in getting this to work. And, all the people who participate. And, of course to Pastor Doug, the man who makes it all work.

Peter Oligny

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2025 was another busy year for the Trustees:

- LED replacement bulbs are being installed throughout the building
- A redo of the men's (lower level) bathroom has begun
- New thermostat was installed in the dining hall: the old one had stopped working during a very cold January...the board thanks Pastor Doug Small for noticing and reporting it.
- Installed a new electric hot water tank with an on/off timer
- New well pump put in. The church water supply is tested regularly by an outside firm, as our well is a public water supply.
- A new snow blower was purchased and is stored in the shed behind the church. The old one was removed to the transfer station at no cost, once the fluids were emptied.

The building remains in good order, thanks to all those who continue to care for it. This year the board sadly recognizes the passing of Mary Jane Miller who served tirelessly for many years. The institutional knowledge she provided can never be replaced. The trustees past and present are very grateful for Mary Jane's faithful love of this congregation and the building itself.

Respectfully submitted:

AJ Lapinski	Jim Krebs	Vacant
Rick Hinton	Darryl Weyant	

REPORT OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

To the Esteemed Members of Our Church Community,
The Ways and Means Committee has reviewed the financial activities for 2025-2026, we present this report for your consideration.

Just as the Apostle Paul reminds us that we are “one body with many parts,” this year has shown the beauty of our unity in action. From the heartfelt fellowship at gatherings to the creativity behind seasonal decor, and from the tireless efforts of committees to the generosity of those who donated time, talent, and resources, our church family has worked together to make ministry flourish. Every event, every shared meal, every volunteer hour reflects the love of Christ at work among us—and it is because of this shared commitment that we can celebrate such a strong and vibrant year.

We wish to thank the many volunteers, community members and local area stores for their continued support and generosity. Special thanks to Caleb Harris and the Rolling Scones for their generous donations from performances throughout the year. In 2025 we held the following:

Monthly Breakfast	\$5009.00
Monthly Coffee House	\$1251.00
Pie Contest	\$904.00
4th of July BBQ	\$3600.00
Block Party	\$767.00
Harvest Supper	\$3559.00
Bake Sale	\$4552.00
Caleb and the Rolling Scones	\$500.00
Quilt	\$105.00
MISC.	\$146.00

Total Fundraising efforts for 2025: \$20,393.00

Committee Members:

Angela Thompson

Nancy Boyle

Jim & Suzanne Krebs

Jeff & Zoe Greenwood

Barb & Darryl Weyant

TRUST FUNDS-UCC OF CHESTERFIELD

December 31, 2024 – December 31, 2025

2024		Additions	Used	Interest	2025
ALICE PITTSINGER MUSIC FUND	\$ 783.69			\$ 0.37	\$ 784.06
CATHERINE HEWES CONTINUING EDUCATION DISCRETIONARY FUND FLOWER FUND	\$ 7,902.28 \$ 4,757.95 \$ 777.66	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (2,500.00)	\$ 241.87 \$ 2.00 \$ 0.37	\$ 8,144.15 \$ 3,259.95 \$ 778.03
HANDICAP ACCESS HEALY/BISBEE ORGAN FUND KRUG ORGAN FUND LAWLER	\$ 19,782.91 \$			\$ 559.96 \$	\$ 20,342.87 \$
FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND LINDA STONE MEMORIAL FUND	56,041.99 \$ 4,312.98 \$ 5,213.68 \$ 12,870.92			2,172.14 \$ 145.10 \$ 145.55 \$ 359.96	58,214.13 \$ 4,458.08 \$ 5,359.23 \$ 13,230.88
TOTAL	\$ 112,444.06	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (2,500.00)	\$ 3,627.32	\$ 114,571.38

UC FUNDS BALANCES

	12/31/2025	12/31/2024	% change
FCC Of Chesterfield FCC Fund	442,263.37	380,174.74	
FCC Of Chesterfield Maintenance Fund	42,191.14	36,042.74	
Chesterfield First Congregational Church MACUCC-TR (1)	16,852.00	16,852.00	
Total Funds	501,306.51	433,069.48	15.76%

NOTES:

1) MACUCC-TR is a trust and the principal is not available for us to use

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHESTERFIELD
AS OF 12/31/25

BEG CASH BAL:

GENERAL	\$ 29,800.15
SAVINGS	\$ 74,888.94
TO BE DEPOSITED	

BEG CASH TOTAL	\$ 104,689.09
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REVENUE:

Community Outreach	\$ 1,410.00
Fund Additions (Not Revenue)	\$ -
In Memory	\$ -
Interest Income	\$ 1,036.33
Other Income	\$ 925.45
Pledges	\$ 21,757.00
Rent - Band	\$ 90.00
Rent - Zoom Share	\$ -
Water	\$ 620.00
Ways & Means	\$ 9,616.75

Total Revenue	\$ 35,455.53
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EXPENSES:

Advertising	
Community Outreach	\$ 725.00
Electric	\$ 928.14
Fuel - Heating	\$ 654.46
Health Insurance	\$ 825.00
Insurance	\$ -
Maintenance & Repairs	\$ 3,562.97
Minister's Salary	\$ 12,000.00
Office Supplies	\$ 225.86
Organist	\$ 2,655.00
Pastoral Supply Account	\$ 250.00
Propane	\$ 60.33
Telephone/Internet	\$ 298.54
Travel	\$ 975.00
Water	\$ 775.00

Ways & Means	
Total Expenses	\$ 23,935.30

END CASH BAL:

GENERAL	\$ 39,175.50
SAVINGS	\$ 75,433.82
TO BE DEPOSITED	\$ 1,600.00

Transfer from Discretionary

END CASH TOTAL	\$ 116,209.32
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Outstanding Checks	\$ 575.31
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NET CASH POSITION	\$ 115,634.01
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First Congregationl Church Chesterfield

REVENUE	<u>2023</u> ACTUALS	<u>2024</u> ACTUALS	<u>2025</u> ACTUALS	<u>2026</u> BUDGET
Rent	\$ 11,782	\$ 490	\$ 780	\$ 500
Pledges	\$ 73,333	\$ 81,496	\$ 67,380	\$ 73,440
Other Income	\$ 1,823	\$ 2,311	\$ 4,225	\$ 2,500
Interest	\$ 4,117	\$ 5,834	\$ 5,372	\$ 4,500
Ways & Means	\$ 11,296	\$ 20,202	\$ 20,393	\$ 20,000
Parsonage	\$ -	\$ 1,371	\$ -	\$ -
Mry/Honor Donations	\$ 2,945	\$ 935	\$ 610	\$ 500
Community Outreach	\$ -	\$ 2,045	\$ 2,045	\$ -
Town's portion water chgs	\$ 849	\$ 5,868	\$ 900	\$ 1,050
Total Revenue	\$ 106,144	\$ 120,551	\$ 101,705	\$ 102,490
EXPENSES				
Minister's Salary	\$ 42,204	\$ 45,600	\$ 48,000	\$ 50,000
Health Insurance	\$ 3,204	\$ 3,168	\$ 3,517	\$ 3,661
Travel	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,900	\$ 4,200
Pulpit Supply	\$ 650	\$ 1,400	\$ 650	\$ 1,600
Organist	\$ 9,250	\$ 11,025	\$ 11,470	\$ 10,800
Church/Office Supplies	\$ 266	\$ 997	\$ 933	\$ 1,000
Electric	\$ 2,208	\$ 3,442	\$ 3,532	\$ 3,500
Fuel	\$ 4,124	\$ 5,007	\$ 6,651	\$ 6,500
Telephone/internet	\$ 1,198	\$ 1,263	\$ 1,193	\$ 1,300
Missions Committee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400
Maintenance & Repairs	\$ 10,935	\$ 15,877	\$ 6,251	\$ 5,500
Major Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance	\$ 7,652	\$ 8,366	\$ 10,402	\$ 11,529
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 4,650	\$ 2,929	\$ -	\$ -
Parsonage	\$ -	\$ 2,893	\$ -	\$ -
Ways & Means	\$ 384		\$ -	\$ -
Water	\$ 1,357	\$ 2,055	\$ 2,020	\$ 2,000
Advertising	\$ 100		\$ -	
Community Outreach	\$ -	\$ 2,644	\$ 1,410	\$ 500
Total Expenses	\$ 91,182	\$ 110,266	\$ 99,930	\$ 102,490
Profit(Loss)	\$ 14,962	\$ 10,285	\$ 1,775	\$ -

BUDGET-UCC																
2025																
	2025															
REVENUE	BUDGET	DECEMBER	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER	SEPTEMBER	AUGUST	JULY	JUNE	MAY	APRIL	MARCH	FEBRUARY	JANUARY	ACTUALS	REMAINING	
Community Outreach	\$ -	\$ 685.00		\$ 725.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 510.00	\$ 125.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,045.00	\$ (2,045.00)	
In Mry/Honor Donations	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 295.00	\$ 170.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 610.00	\$ 890.00	
Interest	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 134.53	\$ 224.68	\$ 676.79	\$ 227.24	\$ 205.29	\$ 874.25	\$ 217.97	\$ 935.05	\$ 735.44	\$ 240.18	\$ 216.23	\$ 684.49	\$ 5,372.14	\$ (872.14)	
Other Income	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 491.00	\$ 174.17	\$ 295.00	\$ 555.27	\$ 208.00	\$ 316.00	\$ 203.00	\$ 752.00	\$ 328.00	\$ 704.06	\$ 50.00	\$ 148.00	\$ 4,224.50	\$ (2,224.50)	
Pledges	\$ 79,876.00	\$ 12,764.00	\$ 5,228.00	\$ 3,765.00	\$ 5,580.00	\$ 3,490.00	\$ 4,755.00	\$ 6,580.00	\$ 5,985.00	\$ 4,370.00	\$ 7,702.00	\$ 2,910.00	\$ 4,251.00	\$ 67,380.00	\$ 12,496.00	
Rent	\$ 500.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 780.00	\$ (280.00)	
Town's portion water chgs	\$ 1,050.00	\$ -	\$ 255.00	\$ 365.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45.00	\$ 235.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 150.00	
Ways & Means	\$ 16,450.00	\$ 5,077.50	\$ 3,799.25	\$ 740.00	\$ 835.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 4,750.27	\$ 530.00	\$ 823.00	\$ 1,580.00	\$ 530.00	\$ 1,204.00	\$ 513.00	\$ 20,393.02	\$ (3,943.02)	
	\$105,876.00	\$19,182.03	\$ 9,711.10	\$6,596.79	\$ 7,227.51	\$3,944.29	\$10,725.52	\$7,630.97	\$ 8,570.05	\$7,848.44	\$9,501.24	\$ 4,905.23	\$ 5,861.49	\$101,704.66	\$ 4,171.34	
EXPENSES	BUDGET													ACTUALS		
Community Outreach	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 725.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 685.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,410.00	\$ (910.00)	
Electric	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 344.60	\$ 263.91	\$ 319.63	\$ -	\$ 316.90	\$ 336.09	\$ 372.15	\$ 322.84	\$ 312.57	\$ 283.56	\$ 368.20	\$ 291.40	\$ 3,531.85	\$ (31.85)	
Fuel	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 335.70	\$ 379.09	\$ -	\$ 140.99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 217.08	\$ 1,224.21	\$ 735.07	\$ 1,164.35	\$ 1,898.14	\$ 556.75	\$ 6,651.38	\$ (151.38)	
Health Insurance	\$ 3,299.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 297.00	\$ 481.25	\$ 264.00	\$ 3,517.25	\$ (218.25)	
Insurance	\$ 10,257.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (45.00)	\$ 190.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,257.00	\$ 10,402.00	\$ (145.00)	
Maintenance & Repairs	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 948.15	\$ 2,381.65	\$ 1,008.17	\$ 152.00	\$ 619.04	\$ 373.19	\$ 45.00	\$ 1,410.00	\$ 177.81	\$ 841.36	\$ 205.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 8,271.37	\$ (1,271.37)	
Major Projects	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00	
Minister's Salary	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 48,000.00	\$ -	
Missions Committee	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400.00	
Office Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 31.20	\$ 69.17	\$ 125.49	\$ 106.17	\$ 288.00	\$ 215.60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14.60	\$ -	\$ 28.50	\$ 53.96	\$ 932.69	\$ 67.31	
Organist	\$ 10,620.00	\$ 885.00	\$ 885.00	\$ 885.00	\$ 885.00	\$ 885.00	\$ 1,770.00	\$ -	\$ 1,770.00	\$ -	\$ 955.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 11,470.00	\$ (850.00)	
Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 650.00	\$ 950.00	
Telephone/Internet	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 99.56	\$ 99.56	\$ 99.42	\$ 99.42	\$ 99.42	\$ 99.45	\$ 99.45	\$ 99.45	\$ 99.44	\$ 99.44	\$ 99.44	\$ 99.40	\$ 1,193.45	\$ 106.55	
Travel	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,900.00	\$ -	
	\$105,876.00	\$ 7,244.21	\$ 9,403.38	\$7,287.71	\$ 5,983.58	\$6,808.36	\$ 7,349.33	\$5,523.68	\$10,111.50	\$5,939.49	\$8,615.71	\$ 8,230.53	\$17,432.51	\$ 99,929.99	\$ 5,946.01	
Profit/Loss	-	11,938	308	(691)	1,244	(2,864)	3,376	2,107	(1,541)	1,909	886	(3,325)	(11,571)			
														YTD Net	1,775	
*March made ADJ to Minister's Salary & Organist to reflect approved Budget																