

<p>▲ Rise in body or in spirit/ Responses in bold</p> <p>Gathering Music/Welcome/Introductions</p> <p>Acknowledging the Territory</p> <p>CROSSING THE THRESHOLD</p> <p>Lighting the Candles</p> <p>Opening Sung Meditation</p> <p>Come and Find the Quiet Centre # 374</p> <p>Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.</p> <p>Call to Worship (Responsive)</p> <p>United in faith, Strengthened by friendship, Building a community of love and justice. These are words that speak of our identity as followers of Jesus.</p> <p>United in faith, Strengthened by friendship, Building a community of love and justice. These are words that speak of our hope as followers of Jesus.</p> <p>United in faith, Strengthened by friendship, Building a community of love and justice. These are words that speak of our mission as followers of Jesus. Come, let us worship!</p> <p>▲ We Sing – Worship the Lord # 401</p>	<p><i>Motion # 1 Election of Chair & Secretary for the Meeting</i></p> <p><i>Constitution of the Meeting</i></p> <p><i>I constitute this annual meeting of St. James United Church in the name of Jesus Christ. As one body, Jesus is the head of our thinking, the heart of our feeling and the spirit of our life together. We are constituted for all business that may be brought before us this day.</i></p> <p>Behavioural Covenant (Together)</p> <p>As members of St James United Church, an Affirming Congregation, we promise to pray for one another, be kind and act in a Christian manner by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seeking to discover what is best for St James as a whole, not just individuals. 2. Being mindful that differences of opinion are normal and natural. 3. Promising to have respectful relationships with one another, our staff and our leaders. 4. Calling to account discriminatory speech and behaviour, including the use of real or perceived power to harass, bully or intimidate. 5. Maintaining confidentiality in personal and professional issues, while being transparent regarding decisions and plans for the church. 6. Praying for each other. <p>During meetings, it is our goal to demonstrate clear communication by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offering opinions with clarity. 2. Listening respectfully with an open mind to the opinions, ideas and concerns of others. 	<p>3. Responding respectfully and thoughtfully.</p> <p>4. Focusing on issues, not on personalities.</p> <p>5. Voting in accordance with your own conscience.</p> <p>6. Respecting the decisions of the body, despite personal views.</p> <p>7. Supporting the leaders and committees in their efforts to follow through with plans.</p> <p><i>Motion # 2 Approval of Agenda as Outlined in the Bulletin</i></p> <p><i>Motion # 3 Extension of Vote to Adherents</i></p> <p><i>Motion # 4 Approval of Minutes from Congregational Meeting on March 3, 2024</i></p> <p><i>Motion # 5 Approval of Minutes from Congregational Meeting on October 27, 2024</i></p> <p>In Memoriam</p> <p>CELEBRATING WORSHIP & FAITH FORMATION</p> <p>Even as we gather to worship, O God, we recognize our many different needs: For music, for silence, for scripture, for reflective words, for community, for reasons that only you know. Some come joyfully, some quietly, Some come seeking permission to express doubts.</p> <p>We celebrate the new faces among us and trust that they find an expression of your love and acceptance here. Remind us who we are, called to be the church.</p> <p>We give thanks for God's faithfulness, and try to act out God's love in our everyday lives.</p> <p>For all the volunteers who participate in worship, for the choir and bell choir, the greeters, the coffee time hosts, the tech people, the creative ones. We give our heartfelt thanks!</p> <p>Thus we worship together in joy and expectation and hope.</p> <p><i>Motion # 6 Acceptance of Worship & Faith Formation, Carillon Choir & Choir Reports</i></p> <p>Opening Prayer of Confession</p> <p>If God is a painter, let us be the brush. If God is a musician, let us be the song. If God is an architect, let us be the tools. Let us be the hands. Let us be the builders. But if God is a shepherd, who never stops seeking, let us be willing to be found, no matter how lost we feel. Our God is never far away. Forgive us for forgetting this good news. Amen.</p> <p>Scripture – Luke 13: 1-7</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>▲ We Sing – God is Here # 389</p> <p>CELEBRATING INTERIM MINISTRY</p> <p>Rev. Catherine has been our Intentional Interim Minister for 2 years; last fall we asked the congregation and then the region for her time with us to be extended, as we live into our new governance and continue to work on the goals of the congregation. We are grateful for her leadership and that of the Transition Team.</p>
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As members of St. James United Church,
we promise to respect
and care for each other through times
of growth and joy and through
times of sorrow and challenge,
trusting that God is always with us.

Motion # 7 *Acceptance of Official Board,
Minister's & Transition Team
Reports*

Motion # 8 *Election of Audrey Cox &
Wilf Laybolt as members
of the Ministry & Personnel
Committee.*

CELEBRATING PASTORAL CARE & MISSION & OUTREACH

To love and serve others is our mission and our privilege. The Food Bank, FOOD are two ways we live out this aspect of life together. We host Wellness Wednesdays, we commit resources to ministry in the wider world through Mission & Service.

We send cards, make phone calls, knit prayer shawls and livestream services so that others may know the comfort of your touch.

May we be known for our generosity in the wider community.

May our neighbours know us by our love.

May those we serve
know they are not alone,
for we walk with them
in the name of Christ.

Motion # 9 *Acceptance of Affirming,
Facebook, Scouts, FOOD,
Food Bank, Pastoral
Care/Prayer Shawl Ministry,
Website Reports*

Scripture – Luke 15: 8-10

Reflection

CELEBRATING BUILDING & PROPERTY

Our buildings are important to us,
**for they remind us of
special moments in our lives.**

We gather for occasions
of celebration and of sorrow.

**This is our place of community,
a place from which
we can reach out to others,
and a place of sanctuary.**

Many people are involved
in the care of our buildings;
those who clean and move pews,
those who set up tables and chairs,
those who ensure we are safe and secure.

We cannot begin to name the tasks
nor thank the individuals enough.

**O God, may this building stand as a
cornerstone in our community.**

May it stand firm in Jesus' name.
And even as we celebrate this place,
let us be reminded
that the church is not the building.

The church is God's people.

Motion # 10 *Acceptance of Property &
Facilities Reports*

▲ We Sing

The Church is Wherever VU # 579

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY

We are thankful
for each person who shares their time,
talent and treasure to support the mission
and ministry of our church!

**As we allocate resources and budget
to fulfill our mission,
we are invited to share what we have,
our time, our talent, our spiritual gifts,
and our financial resources,
to create a community
that focuses on being:**

**United in Faith
Strengthened by Friendship
Building a Community
of Love & Justice.**

We want to nurture our faith community
**and reach out beyond
our faith community.**

May our offerings include the hopes of our
hearts, the excitement of our dreams and
the depth of our caring.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

Motion # 11 *Acceptance of Fundraising,
Financial & Trustees Reports*

Motion # 12 *Acceptance of Shupe as
Reviewers of Financial
Reports*

Scripture Reading – Luke 15: 11-32

Reflection

Prayers of the People
& The Lord's Prayer

Commissioning & Blessing

▲ Song of Dismissal
God Be With You

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
may the Shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet.

Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

Music Takes Us into the World

St. James
United Church

Annual Meeting

Everything In Between



March 30, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street
Dartmouth
B2Y 1J5
902-464-8852

