

▲ Rise in body or in spirit/  
Responses in bold

Gathering Music/Welcome/Introductions

Acknowledging the Territory

### CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Lighting the Lenten Candles

We have lit candles that teach us to see,  
to love, to serve,  
and to protect the vulnerable.

**We carry these lights into deeper truth.**

Today, as we gather for our Annual Meeting,  
we pause and ask, tell me something good.

**We carry these lights  
into the stories we share,  
the reports we hear,  
the ministry we remember.**

Not just numbers and budgets,  
but moments of grace.

Not just plans and decisions,  
but lives touched and hearts changed.

**As we listen and speak today,  
teach us justice shaped by compassion.**

**Teach us to notice the good among us.**

**Teach us to name it, celebrate it,  
and build on it.**

We light this fifth candle  
as a sign of mercy and humility,

**And to keep asking,  
tell me something good.**

**May this light soften our judgments,  
deepen our grace, and open our eyes  
to all the ways your Spirit  
is still moving here.**

We Sing – Tree of Life # 121

**Tree of Life and awesome mystery,  
in your death we are reborn,  
though you die in all of history,  
still you rise with every morn,  
still you rise with every morn.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

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.**

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.**

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!**

▲ We Sing – Worship the Lord # 401

*Motion # 1 – Election of Chair & Secretary  
for the Meeting*

*Constitution of the Meeting*

*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.*

Behavioural Covenant (Together)

**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:**

- 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.**

**During meetings, it is our goal to  
demonstrate clear communication by:**

- 1. Offering opinions with clarity.**
- 2. Listening respectfully with an  
open mind to the opinions, ideas  
and concerns of others.**
- 3. Responding respectfully and  
thoughtfully.**
- 4. Focusing on issues, not on  
personalities.**
- 5. Voting in accordance with our  
own conscience.**
- 6. Respecting the decisions of the  
body, despite personal views.**
- 7. Supporting the leaders and  
committees in their efforts to  
follow through with plans.**

*Motion # 2 Approval of Agenda as  
Outlined in the Bulletin*

*Motion # 3 Extension of Vote to  
Adherents (An adherent is  
someone who is not a  
member of St. James United)*

*Motion # 4 Approval of Minutes from  
Congregational Meeting on  
March 30, 2025*

*Motion # 5 Approval of Minutes from  
Congregational Meeting on  
May 4, 2025*

In Memoriam

### CELEBRATING MINISTRY

God calls people into ministry;  
to serve, to guide, to listen, to love.

**We are all part of that call.**

Some are called for a season;  
to walk us through change,  
to help endings be honoured  
and new beginnings take root.

**We give thanks for the ministry of  
transition and trust.**

Some are called to lead from within;  
offering wisdom, time, and care  
for the life of this community.

**We give thanks for leaders  
who serve with faithfulness.**

Together, we carry the work of the church;  
in joy and in challenge,  
in clarity and in uncertainty.

**May we honour one another's gifts,  
support one another in times of need,  
and walk forward with  
courage and compassion.**

*Motion # 6 Acceptance of Minister's,  
Leadership Team Chair,  
Ministry & Personnel, &  
Transition Team Reports*

### CELEBRATING WORSHIP & FAITH FORMATION

We gather to worship  
to listen, to learn, to be renewed.

**God meets us here.**

In story and song, in question and wonder,  
faith is formed among us.

**We are always learning.**

Across every generation,  
the Spirit is at work among us.

**We grow together in faith.**

Shaped by love,  
we are called to seek justice in the world.

**What we receive, we will live.**

In gratitude and hope,  
**we worship and follow.**

*Motion # 7 Acceptance of Worship & Faith Formation, Carillon Choir & Senior Choir Reports*

Scripture – Philippians 1:3–6 & Reflection

▲ We Sing – God is Here # 389

**CELEBRATING MISSION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

We are called beyond these walls.

**To love, to serve, to seek justice.**

Our mission is not only what we believe.

**It is how we live in the world.**

In acts of compassion and courage,  
in partnership with our neighbours,  
in care for those on the margins.

**We see your love at work among us.**

We celebrate the ways  
this community reaches out.

**In generosity, in connection, in presence.**

For every hand extended,  
for every voice raised,  
for every step taken  
toward healing and hope.

**We give thanks.**

*Motion # 8 Acceptance of Affirming, Facebook, Scouts, FOOD, Food Bank, Website Reports*

**CELEBRATING PASTORAL CARE & INREACH**

We are called to care for one another  
in times of joy and in times of need.

**We belong to each other.**

Through visits and calls, through prayers  
and presence,

love is shared within this community.

**No one is alone.**

In moments of illness, grief, and uncertainty,  
we offer compassion and support.

**We hold one another in care.**

In quiet acts of kindness  
and faithful attention,

God's love is made known among us.

**We are a community of love.**

With open hearts, we will continue this work.

**In gratitude and hope, we care.**

*Motion # 9 Acceptance of Pastoral Care & Inreach Report*

Scripture – Romans 12:9–13 & Reflection

**CELEBRATING FINANCE & PROPERTY**

We gather in this place with gratitude,  
O God.

**For walls that shelter,  
and spaces that welcome.**

This building holds our stories.

**Prayers whispered,  
songs lifted, lives shared.**

We give thanks for those who built and  
cared for this place before us.

**For their vision, their labour,  
and their faithful stewardship.**

In this season of change,  
we remember the time and energy  
given to decisions, to conversations,  
to letting go and beginning again.

**We honour the work that has brought us  
to this moment.**

For the upcoming letting go of the hall,  
for the plans and the renovations,  
for every meeting, every question,  
every hope held.

**We give thanks for all  
who have carried this work.**

When the path has felt long or uncertain,  
you have been with us.

**Steadying us, guiding us,  
and calling us forward.**

Bless this building and all who enter here.

**May it be a place of welcome,  
justice, and love.**

And remind us that the church  
is more than walls and rooms.

**We are the living body,  
called to serve with open hearts.**

*Motion # 10 Acceptance of Facilities, Property, & Fundraising Reports*

*Motion # 11 Acceptance of Financial & Trustees Reports*

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

Scripture – Isaiah 43:18–19 & Reflection

Prayers of the People  
& The Lord's Prayer

Questions

▲ We Sing – The Church is Wherever # 579

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

Tell Me Something Good!



March 22, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

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

