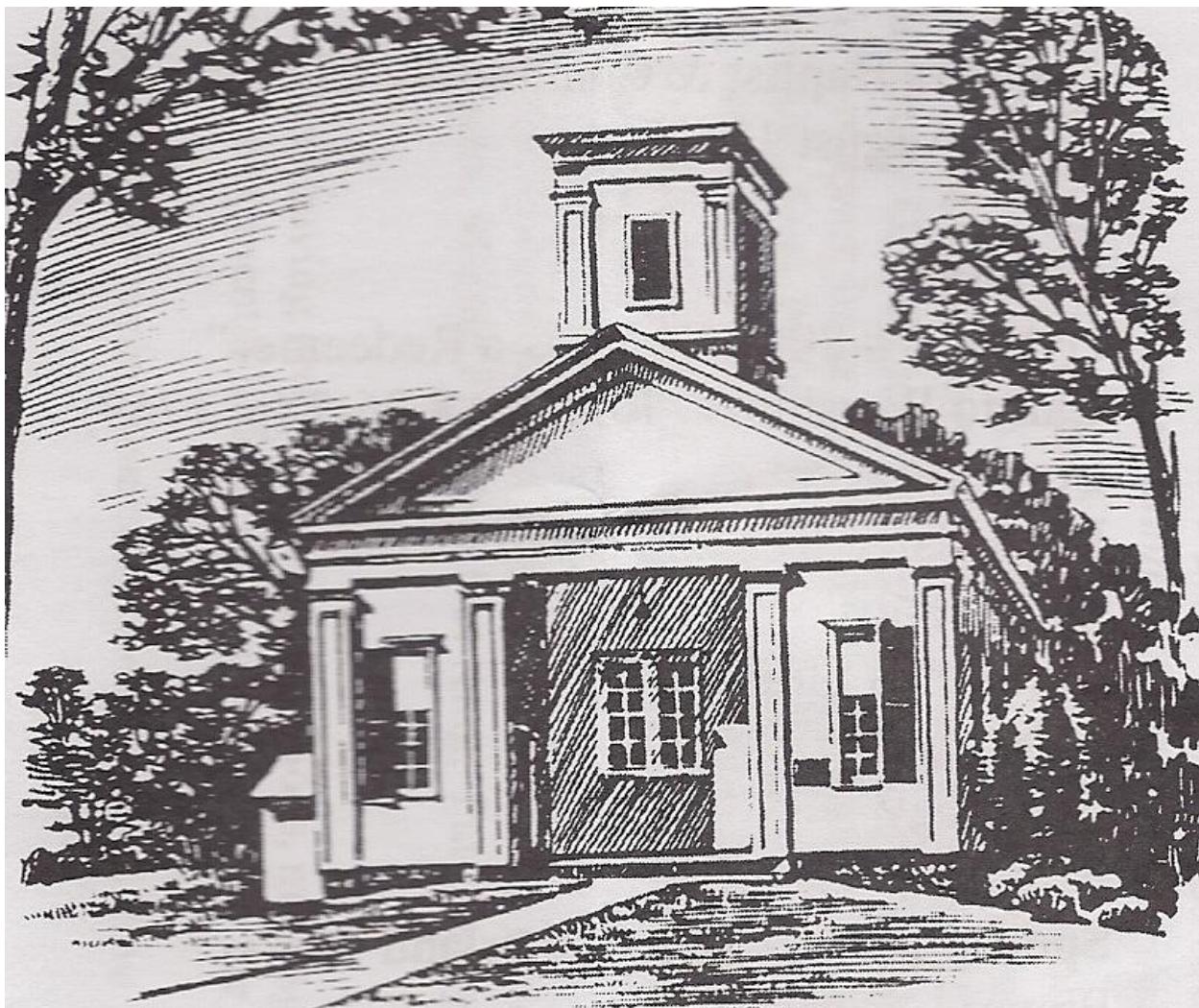


Flanders Baptist  
and  
Community Church

Annual Report  
† 2025 †





**Location**

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East Lyme, CT 06333  
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East Lyme, CT 06333

**Telephone**

860.739.7987

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# Financial Reports

## Flanders Baptist and Community Church

Quarterly Report: 4th Qtr 2025

October 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>October</u></b>	<b><u>November</u></b>	<b><u>December</u></b>	<b><u>4TH QTR</u></b>
Envelope Offering	8,800.00	19,454.75	9,693.00	37,947.75
Loose Offering	535.00	784.00	847.00	2,166.00
Interest/Bank Charges	0.84	0.82	0.73	2.39
Mission Offering	448.21	564.00	416.00	1,428.21
Bank Adjustment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer from Vanguard (from Parsonage sale)	0.00	0.00	29,761.08	29,761.08
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>9,784.05</b>	<b>20,803.57</b>	<b>40,717.81</b>	<b>71,305.43</b>
<b><u>DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>				
Auto Allowance - Mileage	0.00	42.00	21.00	63.00
FICA Offset - Pastor's	1,663.76	1,663.76	0.00	3,327.52
Health Insurance	0.00	4,230.76	1,988.93	6,219.69
Rev. Jean-Fritz Guerrier - Pastor's salary	2,999.49	2,999.49	2,999.49	8,998.47
Housing Allowance	4,250.00	4,250.00	4,250.00	12,750.00
Retirement	1,248.65	1,248.65	1,248.65	3,745.95
Social Director/Administrative Asst.	1,838.90	1,838.90	1,838.90	5,516.70
Choir Director	663.10	663.10	663.10	1,989.30
FICA Taxes and Payroll Taxes	314.01	314.01	314.01	942.03
Guest Pastor (includes mileage)	0.00	0.00	265.00	265.00
Organist	919.46	919.46	919.46	2,758.38
Pianist (Accompanist)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Substitute Organist/ Choir Director	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Treasurer	683.20	683.20	683.20	2,049.60
Wage Processing - Payroll/Tax Filing Service	169.09	169.09	169.09	507.27
Workers Comp. Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b><u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u></b>				
Cleaning	350.00	350.00	350.00	1,050.00
Alarm Service/Lawncare/Fire Extin's/Plowing	120.00	60.00	185.00	365.00
Piano Tuning / Organ Service	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
Office Supplies	331.97	327.96	0.00	659.93
Operating Supplies	114.34	659.32	50.96	824.62
Switcher Studio subscription / One License	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Phone & Internet (Church)	73.84	128.65	76.35	278.84
Electric (Church)	324.24	253.33	285.92	863.49
Heating Oil (Church)	0.00	0.00	633.66	633.66
Water (Church)	0.00	16.60	153.61	170.21
Music	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance (Business Owners Policy)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance (General Liability)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Air Conditioning/Furnace Maintenance/Termites	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>	<b>4TH QTR</b>
Newsletter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youth Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Church Lane Property Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>MISSIONS</b>				
American Baptist Churches	0.00	414.00	416.00	830.00
ABCCONN: Youth Ministry/Camp Wightman	448.21	0.00	0.00	448.21
SUNL	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00
Jane Scott Mission - Safe Futures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jane Scott Mission - Care and Share	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	16,512.26	21,382.28	17,812.33	55,706.87
Balance October 1, 2025		<b>-15,598.56</b>		
Total Receipts		71,305.43		
		55,706.87		
Total Disbursements		55,706.87		
Balance December 31, 2025		<b>0.00</b>		
<u>Designated Fund Balances as of 12/31/25</u>				
Pastor Discretionary Fund (Members in need)		1,478.12		
Hinkle Funds for Education		6,329.00		
Jane Scott Fund / Pastor Discretion for Missions		2,756.10		
Building Fund in Memory		19,095.82		
Memorial Donation Funds		25,691.36		
Music Donation Fund		3,622.74		
Care and Share		1,586.09		
Camp Scholarship (J Scott & Marian Hurlin)		463.72		
Event Funds		1,833.00		
Jane Scott Fund (Community Missions)		15,016.68		
<u>Invested Funds as of 12/31/25</u>				
Vanguard (Capital Improvement)		632,233.32		
Parsonage Sale Proceeds for Operating Expenses		195,238.92		
Memorial Donation Funds in Vanguard		121,879.30		
Total Funds		949,351.54		

Submitted by Elizabeth Richmond, Treasurer

**FLANDERS BAPTIST and COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**2025 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025**

<b><u>INCOME:</u></b>	Envelope offering	137,338.96	
	Loose offering	8,816.95	
			146,155.91
	Transfer from Vanguard account	59,761.08	
	Bank adjustment	0.00	
	Donation for Church Lane taxes	225.48	
	Mission offering	5,145.10	
	Interest/bank charges	13.12	
			65,144.78
		<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>211,300.69</b>
<b><u>DISBURSEMENTS:</u></b>			
<b>Salary:</b>	Rev. Jean-Fritz Guerrier	35,993.88	
	Housing - Pastor	51,000.00	
		<b>Salary Total:</b>	<b>86,993.88</b>
<b>Benefits:</b>	FICA Offset - Pastor	6,655.04	
	Mileage - Pastor	385.00	
	Retirement - Pastor	14,983.80	
	Health Insurance - Pastor	13,480.78	
		<b>Salary + Benefits:</b>	<b>122,498.50</b>
<b>Staff:</b>	Choir Director	7,957.20	
	Organist	11,033.52	
	Choir Pianist	0.00	
	Treasurer	8,198.40	
	Social Director/Administrative Asst.	22,066.80	
	FICA Taxes (7.65%)	3,768.12	
	Workmen's Comp.	799.00	
			<b>53,823.04</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	Lawncare	780.00	
	Custodial	4,550.00	
	Youth Program	0.00	
	Guest Pastor	795.00	
	Business Insurance	6,858.00	
	Music	381.20	
	Newsletter	73.00	
	Payroll Processing/ Tax Service	2,084.30	
	Bank Account Adjustment	0.00	
			<b>15,521.50</b>

<b>Operating Expenses:</b>			
	Electric - Church	3,303.11	
	Phone & Internet - Church	895.52	
	Heating Oil	3,155.48	
	Furnace Service	0.00	
	East Lyme Water	307.22	
	Office supplies	2,231.82	
	Organ/Piano Maintenance	775.00	
	Operating supplies	2,654.92	
	Pest Control	0.00	
	Guest Organist / Pianist	0.00	
	Substitute Choir Director	0.00	
	Air Conditioning Service	0.00	
	Fire Extinguisher Service/Fire Alarm	384.00	
	Snow Plowing	380.00	
	Property Taxes (Church Lane)	225.48	
			14,312.55
<b>Missions:</b>	American Baptist Churches	2,852.89	
	SUNL	600.00	
	Camp Wightman	1,692.21	
			5,145.10
	<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:</b>		<b>211,300.69</b>
	Balance JAN.1, 2025	0.00	
	Total Income	211,300.69	
		211,300.69	
	Total Disbursements	-211,300.69	
	Balance DEC. 31, 2025	<b>0.00</b>	

Submitted by Elizabeth Richmond, Treasurer

**FLANDERS BAPTIST and COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**2026 Operating Budget**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>INCOME</b>						
Envelope Offering & Checks	135,682.87	171,000.00	124,763.44	140,000.00	137,338.96	140,000.00
Loose Offerings (Cash)	14,433.12	25,000.00	11,586.10	15,000.00	8,816.95	10,000.00
Interest	26.33	30.00	18.28	25.00	13.12	15.00
TAS Adjustment	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Balance Adjustment	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	225.48	0.00
Payroll Taxes adjustment	0.00	0.00	4,402.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
Missions	4,846.22	5,500.00	4,849.15	5,000.00	5,145.10	5,000.00
Rummage Sale	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous (Vanguard)**	0.00	35,000.00	80,017.43	0.00	59,761.08	77,845.00
Balance Brought Forward	0.00	-10,527.51	-10,527.41	0.00	0.00	0.00
	159,988.60	228,002.49	215,109.69	160,025.00	<b>211,300.69</b>	<b>232,860.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Pastor's Salary	47,633.30	62,940.00	33,459.96	35,993.80	35,993.88	38,603.62
Housing Allowance	20,700.00	20,700.00	51,000.00	51,000.00	51,000.00	51,000.00
FICA Offset	4,433.33	5,854.80	6,461.20	6,655.03	6,655.04	6,855.00
Auto Allowance (Mileage)	4,630.85	4,000.00	257.80	500.00	385.00	500.00
Pastor's Retirement	0.00	21,319.17	31,189.36	14,985.00	14,983.80	15,433.00
Pastor's Health Insurance	9,095.80	9,095.80	7,801.72	10,000.00	13,480.78	27,000.00
Moving Expenses	802.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pastoral Enrichment/Books	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
Organist/Choir Director	17,900.52	18,437.49	19,337.52	19,740.00	18,990.72	20,310.33
Choir Accompanist	200.00	8,240.00	0.00	8,240.00	0.00	0.00
Treasurer	7,727.76	7,959.59	7,296.30	8,198.00	8,198.40	8,444.33
Social Director/Admin Asst	12,420.00	21,424.00	21,423.96	22,066.00	22,066.80	22,728.72
Lawncare	1,060.00	3,000.00	1,185.00	1,800.00	780.00	1,000.00
Custodial	0.00	4,000.00	3,675.00	4,550.00	4,550.00	4,550.00
Youth Programs	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
Workmen's Compensation	632.00	700.00	738.00	800.00	799.00	800.00
FICA Taxes	6,554.73	5,911.94	3,899.13	4,400.00	3,768.12	3,900.00
Guest Pastors (plus mileage)	3,324.56	1,040.00	795.00	1,000.00	795.00	1,060.00
Business Insurance Policy	5,349.00	6,000.00	5,459.00	5,800.00	6,858.00	7,500.00
Operating Expenses	20,410.06	17,000.00	13,545.92	15,500.00	14,312.55	15,000.00
Music	622.53	500.00	533.47	500.00	381.20	500.00
*Amer. Baptist Churches	3,493.22	4,500.00	2,985.90	3,500.00	2,852.89	3,000.00
*SUNL/Camp Wightman	1,346.00	1,000.00	1,863.25	1,500.00	2,292.21	2,000.00
Jane Scott Mission Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Newsletter	286.92	400.00	209.00	350.00	73.00	225.00
Payroll Processing/Tax Srvc	1,893.36	2,000.00	1,993.07	2,200.00	2,084.30	2,200.00
Account Adjustment	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
	170,516.11	226,272.79	215,109.69	220,027.83	<b>211,300.69</b>	<b>232,860.00</b>

\*Paid from Missions income.

\*\*Transferred from Memorial Account and/or Vanguard, as needed

Submitted by Elizabeth Richmond, Treasurer

## Nominating Committee Report

Pastor	Jean-Fritz Guerrier	
Moderator	*Elizabeth Korineck	
Church Clerk	Lois Hobby	
Treasurer	Treasurer Beth Richmond, Asst. Treasurer Kristine Smith	
Board of Trustees	John Hallissey 1/31/2027 (Head) Lew Bull 1/31/2027 Lois Hobby 1/31/2027 Bert Hobby 1/31/2026 Brian Burridge 1/31/2029 Melissa Neill 1/31/2029	
Deacons	Pam Gore 1/31/2028 (head) Jan Johnson 1/31/2028 Jim Craddock 1/31/2028 Walter Signora 1/31/2027 Steve Currier 1/31/2029 Jim Campbell 1/31/2029 Ann Viens 1/31/2027 Elizabeth Korineck 1/31/2026 Maggie Watson 1/31/2028 Kirby Hallissey 1/31/2027 Brian Burridge 1/31/2027 Carol Ann Cray-Grund 1/31/2027 Marilyn Beckwith 1/31/2027 Guy Jean-Pierre 1/31/2027 Kedna Jean-Pierre 1/31/2027 Dave Watson 1/31/2026	
Board of Finance	Penny Smyth 1/2024-1/31/2027 Jeannie Bull 1/2023-1/31/2026 Dave Watson 1/31/2027 Penny Reneson 1/2026-1/31/2029	
Board of Christian Education	Dan Wheeler 1/2023-1/31/2026 Kerry McDonald-1/2026-11/31/2029	
Pastoral Relations	Elizabeth Korineck, Lois Hobby, Dave Watson, Anne Viens, Beth Richmond, Sandy Peterson	2026 Vacancy
Music Committee	Melissa Neil, Joanne Gerber	
Music Director/Organist	Linda Sutherland	
Sunshine Treasurer	Kirby Hallissey	
Sunday School Superintendent	Jeanne Bull Linda Sutherland	
Social Director/Administrative Asst	Davilee Deal	
Nominating Committee	Elizabeth Korineck, Pam Gore	

\*Indicates either a new member, or a candidate serving a new term.

Submitted by Elizabeth Korineck, Moderator

## Pastor's Annual Report

The psalmist once asked, “*What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me?*” When I look back over 2025, my heart echoes that question. God has been faithful to our congregation and, in ways both seen and unseen, has poured out blessings. In response we lift up the cup of salvation, call on the name of the Lord and keep the vows we have made in the presence of God’s people. This report is offered in that spirit of thanksgiving.

## A Year of Grace and Growth

Looking back over the last twelve months I am overwhelmed by the love, unity and joy that marked our life together. Our church family showed up in so many ways: at Sunday worship, at special events, behind the scenes and in the quiet spaces of prayer. New friends began worshipping with us, some moved toward membership and two candidates followed Christ in the waters of baptism. We celebrated *new life* and *new commitments* even as we mourned the passing of beloved saints.

### Highlights from 2025

- **Vibrant Worship and Creative Outreach** – Our church’s social ministry reminded us that fellowship around the table is holy work. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter services were well attended, and our congregation once again partnered with five other local churches for a Sunrise Service at McCook’s Point. We had a wonderful summer celebration with a Christian “Magician”. Our “Back-to-Church” celebration took place in September, and the youth group organized a pancake breakfast that day to launch our fall schedule.
- **Vacation Bible School and RadiantTide** – For the first time in many years we hosted a three-day Vacation Bible School. Children learned that they are “Growing with Jesus” and even worked alongside volunteers in the Giving Garden. In September, our children’s Sunday school program was officially rebranded and named RadiantTide. This ministry aims at grounding young hearts in the gospel and sending them out as beacons of Christ’s love. One of the main objectives of this program is to expand our Christian education efforts and bring new families into our building.
- **Youth-Led Events** – Our young people shone this year. They raised funds through grinder sales, hosted a *Talent Show* and a *Magic Show*, and helped prepare lunch at our spring and fall sales. Their creativity and enthusiasm were infectious. Proceeds from those events helped support youth ministry and our new contemporary service. We are thankful for Cailyn Anger and Keren Alexandra’s contribution to this ministry.
- **Congregational Events** – We continued to hold events that members of our community have enjoyed for years. For example, we had the annual St. Patrick’s potluck, a church picnic at McCook’s Point Park, a Halloween party and potluck, a spring and year-end sale, the annual wreath-making, etc.
- **Musical Events** – As usual, our sanctuary rang with beautiful music during our services, and special music during the summer. A wonderful classical Christmas concert in December featured Teresa Eickel, David Marotollo, Jane Murray and Susan Skogerboe, and drew a full house. We are proud to say that we had another Christmas concert on our Saturday afternoon service headlined by Donna Currier, Naelle, Jena and Nayla Guerrier. We also had a Christmas musical, “*Signs of Christmas*,” which featured our choir and the RadiantTide children under the leadership of Linda Sutherland. Services and concerts were live-streamed thanks to our dedicated audio-visual team, extending our ministry to those at home.
- **The EverPlace** – In October we launched *The EverPlace*, a contemporary worship experience on Saturday afternoons. This new ministry features modern worship music and relaxed liturgy. Members of our team purchased audio and video equipment and prepared the space so that the inaugural service on 25 October could be streamed effectively. Attendance has been steady, with visitors who might not come to a traditional Sunday service finding a spiritual home here. I am deeply grateful to those who provide hospitality, music and technical support each week. The EverPlace is already touching lives and I urge everyone to continue supporting this ministry with your presence and through the invitation of friends and families.
- **Mission and Service** – Once again, the Giving Garden grew foods to serve local food banks. Care & Share’s spring, Thanksgiving and Christmas drives filled boxes with pantry items, and delivered Easter baskets to

several families. Our congregation also supported the needy in the larger community of East Lyme through the Community Circle's outreach. These acts of generosity are evidence of Christ's love flowing through us.

- **Facility Stewardship** – Our Trustees oversaw major projects such as a new roof on the sanctuary and Sunday School building as well as other important repair projects. Many members participated in spring and fall clean-up days. I personally thank everyone who has worked hard to keep our building safe.
- **Digital Outreach** – Our online footprint has grown in 2025. Many thanks to Mike Meinz who worked hard to improve our Internet connectivity after our church decided to have its own Internet. We also thank volunteers such as Penny Smyth, David Watson, Brian Burridge, Debbie, Andy and Sean Blankenship for working to improve our video ministry under Mike's leadership.

## Pastoral Objectives and Progress

Last year, I outlined my pastoral objectives, drawing inspiration from Psalm 116 and our church's mission. In 2025 those objectives remained my compass, and I would like to reflect briefly on them:

1. **Love our congregation with the love of Christ and offer wise, steady leadership** – I continued to prioritize pastoral care, visiting the sick, reaching out to shut-ins and walking with families through grief. Let us continue to pray for the families of our members who went back home to the Lord in 2025. We also had new births at our church. Everything we did together last year has deepened my love for our congregation and my strong desire to serve Christ.
2. **Work for the edification of members and regular attendees** – RadiantTide, Vacation Bible School and youth events provided new opportunities for spiritual growth. The launch of The EverPlace has expanded our spiritual offer to our community. Every Saturday, our worship team, with Lead Singer Ange Marie Guerrier, introduced new music to broaden our worship vocabulary. Simultaneously, we have retained the beautiful tenets of our Sunday morning service that our congregants have valued for years.
3. **Engage our town and wider community** – I have participated in various community events. I have sought the advice of Council members on the best ways to be more involved in the community. The EverPlace specifically targets unchurched and de-churched individuals who might feel hesitant about Sunday worship. We also strengthened ties with other congregations by co-hosting the sunrise service, hosting a clergy luncheon and collaborating with Boy Scouts and local businesses. I also lead a church service at two different nursing homes every month. I thank Linda Lemanski for being my faithful companion and friend in this critical ministry.
4. **Engage our denomination and region** – Last year, I became the Moderator of SUNL, which is an Association of nearly 20 American Baptist Churches in this part of the state. I plan to continue to hold that position for the foreseeable future. In fact, with the help of a grant from SUNL our youth ministry received significant funding for The EverPlace. My dream is to encourage our churches to collaborate more effectively to win more souls for Christ. Our relationship with American Baptist Churches of Connecticut deepened through joint events and communication.
5. **Lead the strategic planning process** – In last year's report I challenged us to resurrect the church Council and begin long-range planning. I am pleased to report that in 2025 we formed a Church Council composed of representatives of various church ministries. We also formed a Strategic Planning Committee as well as several Sub-Committees. Together we are discerning God's direction for the next five to ten years. Our early meetings have focused on listening – to Scripture, to demographic data about the decline of churches across America, and most importantly to each other. The team plans to bring concrete proposals to the congregation in 2026, but for now I ask you to pray for wisdom and to share your hopes and concerns. It takes all of us to envision the future God has for Flanders Baptist & Community Church.

## Gratitude for Faithful Service

Every ministry at FBCC relies on faithful volunteers. I cannot possibly name everyone, but I want to offer heartfelt thanks:

- **Boards, Committees, Communication and Finance** – Our deacons continued to provide worship leadership, prepare the communion table, visit members and assist at funerals. We are especially grateful to Ted and

Jan Richmond, who concluded their term in 2026. We also thank Matt and Kim who have decided not to renew their term as Trustees. We have a vibrant church because of the work of all volunteers and all members of our community. Special thanks to the Community Circle, Stitches of Faith, Kitchen Committee, Sunday school, the music ministry, ushers, greeters, worship assistants, etc. You all played indispensable roles. I am also grateful to Linda, Mike and Maggie Watson for making our newsletter available to our community every month. I am grateful to Beth Richmond for doing an amazing job as our Church Treasurer.

- **Congregation & Friends** – Thank you to every member, attender and friend of FBCC. Whether you have been here for decades or joined us recently, your presence matters. Thank you for making casseroles, donating goods, singing in the choir, teaching children, shoveling snow, sending cards, praying, giving financially and inviting friends. Thank you to our sick and shut-ins who pray for us from home and remind us of the broader communion of saints. Thank you to the new members who joined in 2025 and to the many visitors who have begun to call this place home.

## **Looking Forward**

The challenges facing the wider church are real. Fewer people belong to congregations and many buildings sit empty. Yet I believe, with the apostle Paul, that “*God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us*” (Ephesians 3:20). The growth in cumulative attendance (Sunday and Saturday), giving and ministry this year convinces me that the Holy Spirit is at work among us. New initiatives like RadianTide and The EverPlace, along with deeper strategic planning, demonstrate our willingness to adapt while remaining rooted in the gospel and respectful of our traditions.

As we move into 2026, let us recommit to our calling: to love God with all our hearts and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Let us continue to welcome newcomers, care for the vulnerable, invest in our children and youth, and dream big dreams. Together we can say, “*with God, the best is yet to come.*”

Thank you for another blessed year. May the Lord bless you and keep you, make his face to shine upon you and give you peace.

Submitted by Rev. Jean-Fritz Guerrier, Pastor

## Pastor Emeritus Annual Report

The Giving Garden harvested 11,380 lbs. of vegetables, which were distributed to the poor through Gemma Moran. Many thanks to the volunteers who have made this possible.

As I sat down to write about Kim Maynard, it occurred to me that many in church would not remember her. I have forgotten how long now her health problems prevented her from attending, but it must have been at least 25 years. There was a time in the 1990's when she was one of those who came to every service, Bible Study, and supper here. In later years I used to bring her communion at Twin Haven. In the face of real trials with her health, she was a woman of great faith.

At the time I write these words there has not yet been a public service for Bill Kerr, but he did a lot for this town. After many years in the police department, he switched over to fire services and was chief at Flanders for about 20 years, the longest serving chief in that department's history. It was Bill who made my father the firehouse chaplain, a job that I later inherited. Bill attended services every week almost without exception.

Nancy Waido was the volunteer firefighter of the year for many years, meaning she answered more calls than any other volunteer. She attended only once in a while but was exceptionally good to many in church who used the ambulance. Over the years there has often been a bad pothole at the corner of Willett's and Ocean Avenue in New London. Kim Maynard (who lived with severe bone pain) told me how carefully Nancy would take that turn on the way to L&M, and how much she appreciated it.

Using a walker, Louise Wallace regularly attended services and Community Circle meetings. She appreciated the warmth and friendship of this congregation; Joanne Jackson was particularly good to her, and I remember deacons like Ted Richmond and John Eberle helping Louise in and out of the church. Susan Bindloss was also a regular here at church services, coming for years with her friend Judy Pope. Despite years of poor health, Nancy Wood was always full of good cheer. She attended both Flanders and Grassy Hill; I began preaching in Grassy Hill in the summer of 1992 after a conversation with Nancy & Ed Wood and Lily Mae Rood. Myrna Lindstrom helped at sales and at gatherings after funerals for many years and was a regular at our old Wednesday night service. I always felt a special debt to people who taught Sunday School, and Liz French was one of them.

Who was like Marge Ferencz? At the time of her passing she was our second oldest member (after Mary Lou Johnson), and the only one who had been attending at Flanders since before WWII. She worked hard at sales, suppers, and gatherings after funerals, and was active in various knitting groups and dancing clubs. A lot must get done in heaven if Marge is there.

Love, Alan

N.B. The following are funerals, weddings and baptisms officiated by Pastor Emeritus Alan Scott. Those funerals listed here but not in the Church Records section of this report were at other venues.

### **First Quarter**

#### **Deaths**

January 12	*Nancy Wood
January 16	Steven Finn
January 21	*Marge Ferencz
February 28	*Louise Wallace
February 28	*Kimberly Maynard
March 14	Sandra Wayne (date of service)
March 23	Michael Aldridge
March 30	Joyce Garrett (date of service)

## **Second Quarter**

### **Deaths**

April 15	Butch Foster
April 17	*Carol Larson
April 24	Joan Carlson (date of service)
May 19	Michline Lindsey
May 16	Eric Maddocks
May 31	Betty Anhalt
June 21	Nancy Waido
June 30	Ralph Polly

## **Third Quarter**

### **Deaths**

July 5	Albert Corey III
July 10	Roger Smith (not Bonnie's husband)
July 12	Marian Frink
July 12	*Myrna Lindstrom (date of service)
July 19	*Arolyn Scott (date of service)
July 20	Karl Olsson
July 21	Tracy Rummel
July 22	Lois Fawcett
August 2	Donald Sisson
August 3	Carlene Clark
August 11	Paul Bodenhofer
August 24	*Susan Bindloss
Sept. 19	Carolyn Fisher

## **Fourth Quarter**

### **Deaths**

Oct. 6	Robert Hillyer
Oct. 6	Rose Daniels
Oct. 10	Paula Gonzalez
Oct. 11	*Dawn Bond
Oct. 27	John Rydecki
Nov. 16	Robert Swan Jr.
Nov. 29	*Liz French
Dec. 9	Ruth Young

Total: 37, ten of whom were members

## **Wedding**

November 25      David Hudyma & Peggy Ann York

## **Baptism**

December 28      Maya Kay Palmer (Brandon Palmer and Karla Polo-Palmer;  
godparents: J. Emilio Polo, Carmen Castaneda

Submitted by Rev. Alan Scott

## **Trustees**

If it takes a whole village to raise a child, it takes the whole congregation to run a Church.

I want to thank you all for your help keeping our Church running safe and seamlessly.

Our many thanks and gratitude go out to all the volunteers; without them we would not be able to run our Church. All the upkeep and maintenance of the Church could not have happened without many hands, most of which is done behind the scenes by these volunteers.

Thank you all who helped with the Spring and Fall clean-up, we had a great turnout both of the days and additionally there were many taskings done before or after. We can't Thank You All enough for your time and effort.

Here are couple of mentionable tasks done during this past year.

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### **April 2025**

#### **New Roof on Sanctuary and Sunday School**

The ageing roof on both the Sanctuary and Sunday School as well as the Belfry were stripped down to the base plywood. All damaged or rotten Plywood was replaced with new  $\frac{1}{2}$ " CDX plywood. The whole roof was replaced with both Certain Teed Winter Guard and 40-year LandMark Series shingles.

### **June 2025**

#### **Sunday School Building Repair**

The North-West corner of the Sunday School building was noticed to have a lot of rot behind the siding. The siding was removed and the building sheathing around the corner was replaced as well as the siding in that corner.

### **August 2025**

#### **Tree Removal on Eastside of Parking Lot**

The many trees on the Eastside of the parking lot on the boarder of Dr. Kozlowski property were decaying or dead. This was becoming an issue with the dropping of large branches and the fear of falling trees on both parked cars as well as the business next door. The Trustees worked with Dr. Kozlowski to remove 16 trees of various sizes along the shared border.

### **October 2025**

#### **Electrical wiring replacement**

Wiring feeding the lighting in the furnace room and the outside sign was rewired to be feed from the closer electrical panel. "This was necessary due to the water leaking past the vestibule flooring when it was pressured washed."

### **December 2025**

#### **Dishwasher repair**

The controller board needed repair due to a "church mouse" living within the controller area of the dishwasher.

This is a reminder to all to be vigilant when dealing with food and clean-up of the cooking space.

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### **Upcoming needed work/repairs.**

- Deck/Floor of outside Vestibule needs replacing.
- Ceiling in the Sanctuary starting to flake and peel.

- Wood trim around Sunday School windows and doors getting soft and dry rotten.

We rely on the help of the members lending a hand in many recurring tasks. Many thanks to all those who help keeping our Church running smoothly. Without you we would not have a Church, I can't thank you enough.

The Trustees are looking forward to serving the church in 2026. Please feel free to contact us with any of your concerns.

Submitted by Matt Thompson, FBCC Head Trustee

## **Kitchen Committee and Social Activities**

2025 started with the passing of our dear friends, Nancy Wood and Marge Ferencz. Nancy was such a delight and always joyful. Marge was a longstanding member of the Kitchen Committee and helped with many sales and gatherings over the years. We still use her kitchen table and pie racks that Amos Potter made. Our Annual Meeting was helped by the Youth Group and grinders, as well as soup, which is always a great treat! In February, our Sunshine celebration took place with the delivery of flowers and crafts made by the Sunday School children. The delivery always brings big smiles to our folks who can't make it to Church anymore. Scout Sunday took place, and we welcomed members of our sponsored Troop 247. Sadly, we also lost Louise Wallace, followed by Kim Maynard and William Kerr in March. March was our St. Patrick's potluck supper, with traditional corned beef and cabbage!

In April, Care & Share had their Spring Drive, and it's such a blessing to see the delivery boxes lined up and stocked full of pantry items that many members donate. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter services were well attended and our Church participated with five other local Churches for a beautiful sunrise service at McCook's Point. At the April Quarterly Meeting, coffee and lite refreshments were served, as well as a surprise stepping down party for our Moderator Lind Bayreuther. The flower beds got a Spring spruce up with daffodils to brighten the grounds. Sadly, we also lost Church member Carol Larson. May brought us our Spring Sale and Luncheon, which always brings many folks from the community in for the treasures that we sell. The Boy Scouts helped immensely with stirring chowder and waiting on tables! The Sunday School also had their graduation ceremony.

In June, we had our "birthday" celebration where we celebrated with a delicious cake and coffee hour. There were also three- (3) Baptisms done at Camp Wightman for Stuart Gilman, and James and Angela Campbell. We lost Nancy Waido, who was a longtime ambulance driver for the Fire Department. July came with Penny Reneson becoming a member! We lost more dear ones- Myrna Lindstrom, Arolyn Scott, and Tracy Rummel. Myrna used to attend our mid-week services and helped for many years in the kitchen and at sales. The flower beds and landing were planted with geraniums to be enjoyed for the summer by the Kitchen Committee, and there was another Quarterly business meeting with lite refreshments provided.

August brought us a brief calendar meeting, and we are thankful to Mike Meinz for all the work he does on this! Gone are the days of many paper calendars being passed around! It is an immense responsibility and is tweaked quite often throughout the year. We sadly lost Carlene Clark and Susan Bindloss. Susan used to make many handmade items for sales and was always at Church with her childhood best friend, Judy Pope, who passed a few years ago.

In September the RadiantTide Children's Ministry kicked off. Designed to ground young hearts in the Gospel and send them out as beacons of Christ's love. The Youth Group also put on a delicious pancake breakfast! We had our annual Church picnic down at McCook's Point Park. Many attended and we must thank Jim Craddock for being our games/activity director! October brought us the passing of Robert Hillyer and Dawn Bond. Dawn was instrumental in Sunday School for many years, always baked goods, and sold hand painted eggs for Church sales. The EverPlace ministry started with contemporary services on Saturdays! They've had a wonderful lineup of musical guests and

offer an uplifting and modern worship. Our Halloween Party, potluck supper, and hymn sing was a ghoulish time and great fun! There was also a Quarterly Business meeting where lite refreshments were again provided. Mike also updated our Internet after a long process of switching providers, and what a blessing that has been!

In November we had our Holiday Sale & Luncheon where we welcomed some of our local Boy Scouts from Troop 247 to wait on tables again! They are a big help, and we get many smiles from diners who enjoy their service. What a joyous addition they are! We sadly also lost Robert Swan and Liz French. These gatherings are always somber, and even though we may not see these folks in Church, their previous dedication to Church committees and sales can, and should, never be forgotten.

Tom and Nancy Kalal hosted us again for our annual wreath making. Many thanks to Matt Hobby and the rest of the Hobby family for leading everyone! The Boy Scouts again helped gather laurel and make our gorgeous wreath for out in front of the Church! They enjoyed roasting hot dogs over the open fire, enjoyed soup to keep warm, and we truly hope they will be back again next year to assist us in this wonderful event of fun and fellowship!! A new Christmas tree was purchased for the sanctuary this year and was donated by the Hobby family. The Kitchen Committee helped with the purchase of lights, ornaments, tree skirt, and star- as well as other sanctuary decorations. The flower bed was decorated with pines, laurel, bows and nativity scene from a joyous donation the Stitches with Faith gave in memory of Susan Bindloss.

Care & Share had their Thanksgiving and Christmas food/gift drives, which with the help of your generous contributions, brought joy and support to those in need. We also had a Christmas Concert featuring performers Teresa Eickel, David Marotollo, Jane Murray, and Susan Skogerboe. We ended the year with joyous Christmas Caroling in the community!

We've accomplished many things this past year technologically and spiritually. We've lost dear, dear friends, and brought joy and hope to many. What a wonderful congregation we have! Here's to 2026, and the continued blessings this Church has for one another, and for the community as well!

Submitted by: Davilee Deal, Social Director, Administrative Assistant

#### ***Kitchen Committee and Social Activities Treasury Report***

	Income	Expenses	Balance
Opening Balance			4,026.57
Donations/Proceeds	3,147.38		
Expenses		3,128.85	
Totals	3,147.38	3,128.85	
Closing Balance			4,045.10

Submitted by Davilee Deal, Social Director and Administrative Assistant

## Music

Our choir is a dedicated group who give their time and talent each week for church and rehearsals to enrich the worship experience for our church family. Our numbers are down, but our commitment and devotion are strong. At the present time, we have sopranos Dottie Brown, Melissa Neill, and Kerry McDonald. Our alto section includes Joanne Gerber, Dorothy Hulme, Kate Wells, and Penny Smyth. Dan Wheeler is currently holding down the bass section. We have also had Marilyn Beckwith and Cailyn Anger step in to help for a few weeks. The choir sings from September to mid-June, with special music during the summer months.

During the summer of 2025, we welcomed the following musicians: Dan Wheeler, the Littlefield Strummers, Lew Bull, Stephen Duennebier and Joe Rice, Melissa Neill, Ange Cadet-Guerrier, Naelle, Jena, and Nayla Guerrier, Penny Smyth, Cailyn Anger, Kerry McDonald, Jean-Fritz Guerriar, and Angela Campbell, Etta Sutherland and Donna Currier. Donna also accompanied the choir on violin in September.

As an organist, I play preludes, postludes, and offertories, and support the congregation's music. I also supply music for weddings, funerals, and other special occasions upon request.

Children's music is a part of the Sunday School program, often supporting lessons from the curriculum. Occasionally, the children will sing with the adult choir, which everyone enjoys. They present a special program each year at the end of Sunday School in May. In December, the students presented the musical "The Signs of Christmas." The adult choir also sang a few songs in the program.



If you are interested in singing in the choir, please talk to Linda Sutherland.

We are still in need of an accompanist. A job description is available upon request

Submitted by Linda Sutherland, Music Director & Organist

## Sunday School

Religious education is a vital part of any church. We are pleased to have Students in pre-school through Middle School taking part in our program this year.

### Superintendent

- Jeannie Bull

### Teachers

- Pre-K – Grade 2
  - Dan Wheeler
  - Keren Alexandre
- Grade 3-4
  - Melissa Neill
- Middle School
  - Kerry McDonald



### Treasurer & Music Director

- Linda Sutherland

Our year began with an ambitious advertising campaign to try to grow the program. Flyers were printed and distributed to local businesses and places where families gather. Yard signs were placed around the community and on the church grounds. We continue to be hopeful and look forward to expanding our Christian education program, under the new title “Radiant Tide.”



Our Sunday School program ended the 2024-25 school year with a special program during the church service on Mother’s Day. Students received promotion certificates and Quinn Arcarese, Wesley Jezierski, and Naelle Guerrier received their bibles.



This summer, we offered a vacation bible school week. Students enjoyed “Growing with Jesus” and got to work with volunteers from the Giving Garden.



As the 2025-26 school year began, we said good-bye and thank you to Ashley Perkins, who had served as teacher and co-superintendent since 2019. Keren Alexandre joined the staff to assist Dan Wheeler with the youngest students and Melissa Neill joined to teach 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Kerry McDonald teaches the middle school class. Jeannie Bull is superintendent and Linda Sutherland is treasurer for Sunday School.

Students in PreK-grade 4 use curriculum materials from the David C. Cook “Bible-in-Life” series. Middle School students are also using a supplemental text called “One God, One Plan, One Life,” which is a daily devotional resource, as well as The Adventure Bible and Middle School Talk Sheets on the life of Christ. Students often work together on group projects such as making cards for Veterans’ Day and making crafts for Sunshine baskets.

Part of the weekly routine includes opening time with scripture, offering, and a mini lesson, followed by class time, and music time. Students sing in church frequently throughout the school year. In November, the adult choir joined the students to sing “Thank You, Soldiers” for Veterans’ Day, along with a slide show. In December, the adult choir joined the youngsters for their Christmas musical “Signs of Christmas,” directed by Linda Sutherland and assisted by Marilyn Beckwith and Ange Cadet Guerrier.

We are grateful to the families who support our program and to the teachers and staff who make it possible to provide this valuable ministry.

Submitted by Linda Sutherland

**Sunday School Treasury Report**

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Starting balance Jan. 2025 (Youth=\$2996.40, SS=\$4397.64)			7,394.04
January offering	70.00		
Grinder sale profits(Youth)	199.00		
Offering Feb-Mar	51.00		
Offering Apr-May	42.00		
Sale proceeds	154.00		
Talent Show proceeds (Youth)	135.00		
Magic Show Proceeds (Youth)	149.00		
SUNL Grant for EverPlace (Youth)	2,350.00		
Donation for EverPlace	500.00		
Donation for Sunday School	500.00		
Offering	6.00		
Donation from Community Circle for Youth	250.00		
Pancake breakfast proceeds	325.00		
Offering 9-21	17.00		
Offering 9-28 to 10-26	40.00		
Offering 11-2 to 11-9	13.00		
Offering 11-16, 23	18.00		
Offering 11-30, 12-7	57.00		
Curriculum D.C. Cook Spring curriculum		269.75	
Supplies, crafts etc. Oriental Trade-Valentine, Easter		56.29	
EL Pizza-talent show food( Youth)		89.10	
Rev. Guerrier-talent show prizes(Youth)		86.12	
Christian books-bibles, bookmarks (SS)		90.28	
ACE home center-Mother's Day gifts		8.23	
Walmart teacher gifts, bags		60.49	
Walmart-plants		22.22	
Christian books-music, resources Kid's Church		66.78	
Amazon-Rolling cart for SS class		126.55	
Amazon-goodie bags, posters, crafts-SS		42.49	
JWPepper-Music		97.30	
Oriental Trade-welcome goodie items		81.46	
Amazon-SS crafts		67.91	
Signcraft-signs for RadiantTide SS		275.00	
DCCook-fall Curriculum		319.73	
Walmart-trash can for SS class		55.29	
Storage bins, pencil boxes-SS		86.42	
Pancake breakfast food expenses(Youth)		170.63	
Transferred Youth money to new account		6,558.55	
Michael's Halloween crafts		38.15	
EL Pizza-Halloween party		45.09	

Totals	4,876.00	8,713.83	
Ending Balance			3,556.21

Many thanks to the families who support the Sunday School each week with their offerings and those who support the Youth Group and Sunday School's events during the year.

Submitted by Linda Sutherland, Treasurer

## Youth Ministry

In September 2025, the youth group's treasury was separated from the Sunday School account in order to make record-keeping more efficient. \$6,558.55 was removed and a new account was opened. This included the SUNL grant to start the new EverPlace contemporary service, as well as donations that were made to support this new service.

Below is the treasury report from opening the new account. The January-September account is included in the Sunday School Treasury report

### ***Youth Ministry Treasury***

	Income	Expense	Balance
09/23 Opening Balance - Transfer from Sunday School			6558.55
09/30 Amazon.com (NJ6)-Supplies		381.92	
10/01 Amazon.com (NJ2)-Equipment / Supplies		319.99	
10/01 Walmart.com-Bulk supplies		849.74	
10/06 Amazon.com (NV5)-Supplies		22.94	
10/08 Amazon.com (NF6)-Equipment		158.22	
10/09 Amazon.com (NV1)-Supplies		24.98	
10/14 iSingWorship-Worship music		16.99	
10/14 Amazon.com (NM6)-Supplies		46.98	
10/14 Exchange Fee-Bank fee		0.47	
10/15 CCLI-Church license		150.00	
10/20 Amazon.com (NU7)-Supplies		60.29	
10/31 DDA Deposit-Contributions	1167.00		
11/03 DDA Deposit-Contributions	773.00		
11/03 East Lyme Pizza-Fellowship		79.07	
11/03 Facebook Ads-Communications		19.00	
11/04 Deluxe Checks-Banking supplies		13.25	
11/05 Facebook Ads-Communications		7.21	
11/10 DDA Deposit-Contributions	80.00		
11/10 Facebook Ads-Communications		21.00	
11/17 Facebook Ads-Communications		23.00	
11/17 East Lyme Pizza-Fellowship		79.07	
11/24 DDA Deposit-Contributions	274.00		
11/24 East Lyme Pizza-Fellowship		74.07	
11/24 Facebook Ads-Communications		23.00	

11/24 Check #101-Ministry expense		60.44	
11/28 Facebook Ads-Communications		23.00	
12/01 East Lyme Pizza-Fellowship		74.07	
12/01 Facebook Ads-Communications		23.00	
12/04 Facebook Ads-Communications		12.17	
12/08 DDA Deposit-Contributions	106.00		
12/19 Check #1001-Operational expense		356.60	
12/22 East Lyme Pizza-Fellowship		74.07	
12/23 Facebook Ads-Communications		23.00	
12/24 Facebook Ads-Communications		23.00	
12/31 Ending Balance	2400.00	3040.54	5918.01

Submitted by Jean-Fritz Guerrier

## **Adult Bible Study**

The Adult Bible Study is a small group of dedicated and loving people. While our main goal is reading and in-depth study of His Word, we strive to listen to the Holy Spirit and let Him lead our discussion, beginning and ending with prayer with the goal of applying what we learn to our everyday lives as we grow in the grace and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We also spend time in fellowship, sharing our struggles and events that may have application to the current study.

In the fall of 2024, we started on a series of four of Paul's epistles: Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians which carried over into January of 2025. Next, we thought to familiarize ourselves with some of the minor prophets: Habakkuk, Joel, Amos, and Obadiah which brought us to the summer recess. In September, we started on 1 Thessalonians which carried us to the Christmas season and a brief look at the Christmas carol "Mary Did You Know" written by Mark Lowry and set to music by Buddy Greene.

We always have a wonderful time together and invite anyone to join us at any time.

Submitted by Lind Bayreuther

## **Deacons**

For 2025, the year went very well. Our Deacons are very willing to fill in when called upon.

Ted and Jan Richmond will be taking a pause for 2026. We are thankful for all their years of service. We will miss them. They are such huge part of our church family.

As of February 2026, we will not have new replacements for Ted and Jan. But we will be fine.

All of our Deacons, including past Deacons are willing to fill in not only weekly but for funerals and special events.

Thank you all, I appreciate all of your devotion.

Submitted by Pam Gore, Head Deacon

# Community Circle

## Introduction

The Community Circle has a rich history of service. On April 25, 1924, the Social Union voted to change the group's name to Community Circle. Although briefly referred to as the Ladies Aid, the name Community Circle was reinstated in April 1926 and has remained ever since. This year marks our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a milestone reflecting a century of dedication and fellowship.



## Our Mission and Service

Throughout the past 100 years, the Community Circle has been committed to providing Christian fellowship and community outreach. We have organized fundraisers to support both our church and the wider community. Proceeds from these efforts have made it possible to contribute to our Food Pantry, Care and Share, special church programs, and various charities such as the Homeless Hospitality Center, Safe Futures, and Hartsprings Foundation. Recently, we provided a donation to the Saturday Youth Service fund and continue to cover childcare expenses during Sunday services.

## Events and Outreach

On Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, the Community Circle hosted a luncheon following church services to welcome women from the congregation, offering information about our ministry and encouraging new memberships. In the upcoming spring, we will celebrate the Circle's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a special coffee hour, honoring all the women who have contributed to our church community over the years.

## Meetings and Membership

The Community Circle meets monthly, either at the church or, during pleasant weather, at Harkness State Park in Waterford. Each meeting gathers 10-15 members and guests to share lunch and conduct a business meeting. We appreciate the support of Rev. Guerrier, who attends most meetings. Our core purpose is to foster fellowship and raise funds through sales to support ongoing community needs and special church projects.



## 2025 Activities

This past year, we held two successful sales in partnership with Stitches of Faith, the Sunday School and the Kitchen Committee on November 8 and May 3, 2025.

Additionally, we attended a joint luncheon at Niantic Baptist Church on July 30, 2025, which provided an opportunity for fellowship and learning about their church's history through a tour of the sanctuary.

## Memorial Donations

In memory of members who passed away this year—Louise Wallace, Marge Ferencz, and Nancy Wood—the Community Circle made memorial donations to honor their contributions and legacy.

## Membership 2025

Esther Ayrton, Marilyn Beckwith, Jeannie Bull, Angela Campbell, Carol Ann Cray-Grund, Donna Currier, Carol Farrior, Pam Gore, Lois Hobby, Joann Jackson, Julie Kavarnos, Elizabeth Korineck, Mary Lowe, Sandy Peterson, Doris Rand, Susan Smith, Penny Smyth, Anne Viens, and Maggie Watson.

Submitted by Maggie Watson, Secretary

## Community Circle Treasury Report

	Income	Expenses	Balance
Opening Balance			1,619.01
Sunshine Donations	270.00		
Membership Dues	320.00		

Holiday Sale	1404.10		
Donations	90.50		
Spring Sale	865.40		
Care & Share Food Pantry		600.00	
Supplies & Staples		283.92	
Children's Church Staff		290.00	
Memorial to Church: Nancy Wood		25.00	
Memorial to Church: Marge Ferencz		25.00	
Memorial to Church: Louise Wallace		25.00	
Church Special Fund		250.00	
Church Saturday Service		250.00	
Loving Hand of Southeastern CT		200.00	
Safe Futures		200.00	
Homeless Hospitality		200.00	
Be-A-Friend of Southeastern CT		200.00	
Closing Balance	2,950.00	2,548.92	2,020.09

## Sunshine

The spirit of the holiday seasons was exhibited throughout the sanctuary thanks to your participation during the Easter and Christmas flower projects. Even though numbers were down for 2025, Easter (44) and Christmas (40), the church looked beautiful.

### ***Sunshine Treasury Report***

	Income	Expenses	Balance
Opening Balance			489.14
Collected Easter 2025	400.00		
Smith Acres Easter 2025		423.75	
Collected Christmas 2025	530.00		
Smith Acres Christmas 2025		523.22	
Closing Balance	930.00	946.97	472.17

Submitted by Kirby Hallissey, Sunshine Chairman

## Care and Share

On behalf of Care and Share, East Lyme, in 2025 Flanders Baptist and Community Church was VERY generous for the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays by sponsoring 29 Care and Share families with food and gift donations. All these families are from the East Lyme, Niantic and Salem areas.

Thanks to all the generous donations of food, cash, gifts, devoting their time and delivering.

Besides the members of the Congregation, we would like to give special thanks to the Community Circle for their generous donations.

- For Easter we delivered food and Easter baskets to 10 families. (24 Children and 18 Adults)
- For Thanksgiving, we delivered food baskets to 9 families. (29 Children and 12 Adults)
- For Christmas, we delivered food baskets and gifts to 10 families (24 Children and 14 Adults).

Many, if not MOST of our deliverers received words of gratitude and grateful thanks when showing up at the client's doors with a plethora of food for their families!

A great Thank you to all those who helped to pack the food and load the cars!!!

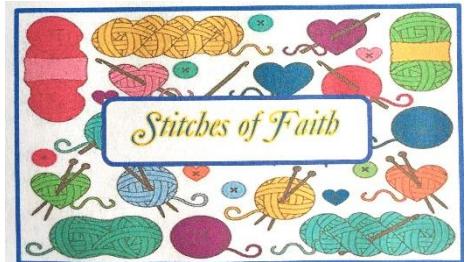
Many, Many thanks to our **Church family** for all their generosity.

Submitted on behalf of the Care and Share Committee

- Kim and Matt Thompson
- Jan and Ted Richmond and family (Ted, Beth, Eric, Chrissy, Cameron)
- Carol Martin and Greg Burton, Kirby and John Hallisey,
- Brian Burridge and Liz Beals, John Eberle, Robin Soule
- Charlie and Barbara Johnson, who go above and beyond for this effort!!

## **Stitches of Faith**

The “Stitches of Faith” ministry had a productive year. We met monthly (except for July-August) to share ideas for projects, , make plans for sales, and enjoy a time of fellowship and knitting/crocheting. Our group took part in the May 2025 church sale as well as the November 2025 holiday sale.



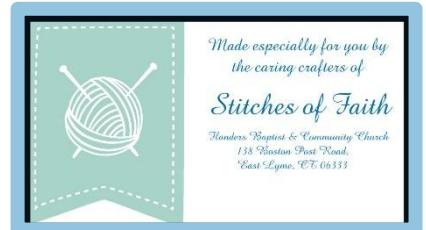
In October, Liz Beals provided a presentation during church to explain the history behind the prayer shawl ministry. We had several of our hand-crafted items on display for the congregation. On the first Sunday of Advent (November 30th), our group was pleased to present a new advent candle wreath and candles as a gift to the church. Linda Lemanski, Janice Johnson, and Liz Beals led the advent readings, litany, and candle lighting on that day.

We donated many hats and scarves to Care and Share for their holiday distribution in December. We have made and donated over 200 items since our group formed in 2019. Shawls, lap blankets, baby blankets, hats, scarves, and a variety of items for our sales are all lovingly created and donated to the group by our members. Rev. Guerrier and Linda Lemanski have brought blankets and shawls to Bridebrook Rehab. Center and Crescent Point during their monthly services there, as well.

In August, we were saddened by the death of Susan Bindloss. Susan was an artistic crafter, as well as a cheerful, uplifting presence in our group. She crocheted hats, scarves, and shawls despite battling a serious illness. At every meeting we held, Susan would bring bags filled with items she had crocheted! After her passing, her daughter Tiffany presented us with a large bag of hats that Susan had made, which we donated in her name to Care and Share. Our group also donated \$100 to be used for plantings outside on the church grounds in memory of Susan’s love for flowers and plants.

In addition to the advent candle wreath gift, \$500 was donated to the church and \$100 to the Food Pantry.

Our main mission is to provide prayer shawls and blankets to those who need support for a variety of reasons. On the cards included with each gift is the following sentiment: “We pray that this gift may be warming, comforting, and embracing. We hope that it will help sustain you in good times, as well as difficult ones, and that you will be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace and wrapped in love.”



Members of the group include Liz Beals, Susan Bindloss(deceased), Lenore Brochu, Carol Ann Cray-Grund, Pat Fraser, Janice Johnson, Linda Lemanski, Sandy McCoy, Sharon Meinz, Florence Rollins, Penny Smyth, Linda Sutherland, and Margaret Watson.

Submitted by Linda Sutherland, Liz Beal

### ***Stitches of Faith Treasury Report***

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Opening Balance			522.81
May Sale	232.00		
Sale of baby quilts	160.00		
November Sale	558.00		
Post-sale proceeds	20.00		
Supplies for sale		73.00	
Business cards, patterns		60.00	
Advent Candle Wreath		306.17	
Donation-Susan Bindloss memorial		100.00	
Church donation		500.00	
Food Pantry Donation		100.00	
Totals	970.00	1,139.17	
Closing Balance			353.64

Submitted by Linda Sutherland, Liz Beals

### **Church Newsletter**



The “Good News” monthly church newsletter serves to keep our congregation and extended church family connected to church events. Upcoming events, meetings, and photos are included to report on fellowship groups (Community Circle, Stitches of Faith), Sunday School, deacons/trustees, Food Pantry, EverPlace news, and church events. We appreciate all who contribute information and photos, as well as the prayer list compiled by Davilee Deal. The monthly birthday and anniversary list is shared from our church calendar. In September, we added a new feature called “Hymn History” and we have also added a special history hymn on the last Sunday of each month, with a brief paragraph about the hymn included in the weekly bulletin.

The newsletter is emailed to 214 people, with thanks to Mike Meinz for handling all the technical tasks involved in sending them out. 18 people receive the newsletter via “snail mail”. Extra copies are available at the back of the church, as well.

Thank you to Rev. Guerrier, Maggie Watson, and Davilee Deal for serving as proofreaders each month..

Submitted by Linda Sutherland, Editor



If you would like to receive the newsletter, please email us at: [FlandersBaptist@yahoo.com](mailto:FlandersBaptist@yahoo.com)

## Web, Social Media & Video

During 2025, there were 2,391 website visitors with 6,093 sessions and a total of 23,345 page views. A total of 26 emails were received via the website Contact form. The church calendar, published as a PDF on the website, was revised several times. The church directory, published as a PDF on the website, was re-published to reflect requested changes.

The [facebook.com/FlandersBaptist](https://facebook.com/FlandersBaptist) Facebook page had 288 Followers at the beginning of 2025 and 321 Followers at the end of 2025, an 11.4% increase. There was an increase in postings and followers on the Facebook page thanks to Rev. Guerrier posting many photographs with comments and purchasing ads to increase potential viewers.

Services and concerts were live streamed and recorded thanks to Penny Smyth, David Watson, and Andy, Deb and Sean Blankenship. At the end of 2025, Brian Burridge volunteered to participate as a Video Volunteer and the Blankenship's suspended their participation.

Prior to the October 25<sup>th</sup> *The Everplace* inaugural Saturday service, additional audio/video equipment was purchased. The new equipment included a PC, a monitor, a projector, microphone stand and adapter, HDMI cables, an HDMI splitter, a BlueTooth sound device and a small table.

In October, we ended our use of the Giving Garden's Internet connection and began using Frontier Fiber 500Mbps service. Immediately we saw an improvement, Then, in early November we started having intermittent outages. Frontier diagnosed the problem as a faulty Optical Network Terminal (ONT) and replaced the month-old ONT with a newer model. Since then, our Internet has been working well. We have had occasional issues where our live stream has been interrupted. Follow-up research on those issues convinced us that the problem was not with our Internet connection but was somewhere between our connection and YouTube which is out of our control.

During 2025, we live streamed and published 85 church services/events.

Video Statistics as of 12/31/2025:

Date	Duration (Seconds)	Views	Average view duration	Average percentage viewed (%)
Sunday, January 5, 2025	3558	75	0:04:35	7.73
Sunday, January 12, 2025	3829	43	0:06:24	10.03
Sunday, January 19, 2025	3783	56	0:06:20	10.04
Sunday, January 26, 2025	3455	60	0:03:28	6.02
Sunday, February 9, 2025	1941	59	0:02:39	8.19
Sunday, February 16, 2025	3179	55	0:10:59	20.73
Sunday, February 23, 2025	3866	78	0:07:28	11.59
Sunday, March 2, 2025	3891	46	0:05:14	8.07
Sunday, March 9, 2025	3892	54	0:04:18	6.63
Sunday, March 16, 2025	3798	53	0:05:08	8.11
Sunday, March 23, 2025	3510	64	0:04:44	8.09
Sunday, March 30, 2025	3729	39	0:09:21	15.04
Sunday, April 6, 2025	3823	63	0:05:51	9.18
Sunday, April 13, 2025	3587	81	0:04:42	7.86
Thursday, April 17, 2025	2938	60	0:02:57	6.02
Friday, April 18, 2025	2337	46	0:05:26	13.95
Sunday, April 20, 2025	3599	76	0:07:05	11.81

Sunday, April 27, 2025	3601	45	0:04:00	6.66
Sunday, May 4, 2025	3797	39	0:08:52	14.01
Sunday, May 11, 2025	3389	93	0:05:42	10.09
Sunday, May 18, 2025	3559	34	0:03:52	6.52
Sunday, May 25, 2025	3376	35	0:03:28	6.16
Sunday, June 1, 2025	3724	43	0:04:19	6.95
Sunday, June 8, 2025	3491	30	0:02:50	4.87
Sunday, June 15, 2025	3463	23	0:06:02	10.45
Sunday, June 22, 2025	3192	27	0:02:00	3.76
June 28, 2025 - Welcome Summer Celebration	5353	41	0:08:35	9.62
June 28 2025 - Welcome Summer Celebration (Edited)	2419	22	0:01:26	3.56
Sunday, June 29, 2025	3457	82	0:04:58	8.62
Sunday, July 6, 2025	3536	52	0:04:16	7.24
Sunday, July 13, 2025	3654	41	0:02:59	4.90
Sunday, July 20, 2025	3541	34	0:02:59	5.06
Sunday, July 27, 2025	2800	43	0:04:05	8.75
Sunday, August 3, 2025	919	39	0:01:28	9.58
Sunday, August 10, 2025	3617	77	0:06:26	10.67
Sunday, August 17, 2025	3508	24	0:09:30	16.25
Sunday, August 24, 2025	3715	42	0:07:13	11.66
Sunday, August 31, 2025	3622	37	0:07:48	12.92
Sunday, September 7, 2025	3223	53	0:06:44	12.53
Sunday, September 14, 2025	3365	35	0:05:20	9.51
Sunday, September 21, 2025	3544	35	0:04:15	7.20
September 28, 2025 - Sunday Service	3198	34	0:03:51	7.22
Sunday, October 5, 2025	3897	34	0:04:43	7.26
Sunday, October 12, 2025	3633	39	0:06:58	11.51
Sunday, October 19, 2025	3210	46	0:07:42	14.39
October 25, 2025 - The EverPlace	3812	47	0:05:20	8.39
October 26, 2025 - Sunday Service	3580	16	0:05:27	9.13
November 1, 2025 - The EverPlace	2987	35	0:06:58	13.99
November 2, 2025 - Sunday Service	3581	34	0:05:24	9.05
November 8, 2025 - The EverPlace	2943	37	0:04:44	9.65
Sunday, November 9, 2025	3740	43	0:06:27	10.35
November 15, 2025 - The EverPlace	2637	36	0:05:21	12.17
Sunday, November 16, 2025	3481	34	0:05:57	10.26
November 22, 2025 - The EverPlace	2991	42	0:05:33	11.13
Sunday, November 23, 2025	3297	29	0:06:57	12.65
November 29, 2025 - The EverPlace	3069	29	0:07:50	15.31
Sunday, November 30, 2025	3707	45	0:03:45	6.07
December 6, 2025 Christmas Concert	5175	98	0:06:51	7.94
Sunday, December 7, 2025	3502	41	0:10:45	18.42
December 13, 2025 - The EverPlace	4397	15	0:12:27	16.99
December 13, 2025 - The EverPlace (Edited)	3665	2	0:05:37	9.20
Sunday, December 14, 2025	3274	76	0:13:04	23.95

December 20, 2025 - The EverPlace	2868	43	0:07:23	15.45
Sunday, December 21, 2025	4002	54	0:08:23	12.57
Wednesday, December 24, 2025	3515	53	0:06:16	10.70
Sunday, December 28, 2025	2829	22	0:11:04	23.47

Submitted by Michael Meinz

# **Church Records**

\* indicates a Church Member

## **First Quarter**

### **Deaths**

January 12	*Nancy Wood
January 21	*Marge Ferencz
February 28	*Louise Wallace
February 28	*Kimberly Maynard
March 17	*William Kerr

## **Second Quarter**

### **Deaths**

April 17	*Carol Larson
June 21	Nancy Waido

## **Third Quarter**

### **Deaths**

July 12	*Myrna Lindstrom (date of service)
July 19	*Arolyn Scott (date of service)
July 21	Tracy Rummel
August 3	Carlene Clark
August 24	*Susan Bindloss

## **Fourth Quarter**

### **Deaths**

Oct. 6	Robert Hillyer
Oct. 11	*Dawn Bond
Nov. 16	Robert Swan Jr.
Nov. 29	*Liz French

Total: 16, eleven of whom were members

## **Funerals**

For additional funerals, please refer to Rev. Scott's Pastor Emeritus report (Page 12 and 13).

## **Adult Baptisms**

### **Second Quarter**

June 15	James Campbell
	Angela Campbell
	Stuart Gilman

## **Infant Baptisms**

### **Fourth Quarter**

December 28 Maya Kay Palmer (Brandon Palmer and Karla Polo-Palmer  
Godparents: J. Emilio Polo, Carmen Castaneda

No other baptisms were performed

## Church Members

Note: Please note corrections at the Annual Meeting.

Allen, Cindy	Castillo, Heather	Dufresne, Beverly	Hanover, Ryan
Altvater, Fred	Castillo, Joseph	Dumont, Danielle	Harkins, Judith
Ambulos, Carlene	Caudle, Carla	Dumont, Diane	Hawkins, Betty Lou
Anderson, Lori	Chan-Scott, Violeta	Dumont, Tammy	Hawkins, Jacob
Anderson, Wayne	Chao, Norma	Eberle, John	Hawkins, Ned
Anger, Edith	Chao, Ronald	Eberle, Kate	Hawkins, William
Anger, Robert	Chao, Tyrone	Eberle, Kelly	Henderson, Brenda
Annello, Corrinia	Clarkson, Mason	Evankow, David	Henderson, William
Annello, Justin	Clarkson, Scott	Evankow, Lois	Higgins, Molly
Arcarese, Michael	Cochrane, Kathy	Evankow, Marc	Higgins, Robert
Ashton, Cynthia	Craddock, James	Evankow, Paul	Hildebrand, Joanna
Ashton, Michael	Craddock, Jesse	Evankow, Peter	Hinkle, Muriel
Ault, Janine	Craddock, Kelly	Evankow, Steve	Hobby, Burt
Ayrton, Esther	Craddock, Shannon	Farrior, Carol	Hobby, Lois
Backes, Patricia	Craft, Cindy	Fee, Paula	Hodge, Joanne
Bargnesi, Abby	Craft, Robert	Filosi, Daniel	Hollis, Barbara
Bargnesi, Ben	Cray-Grund, Carol Ann	Fraser, Candace	Holtz, En-Hua
Bargnesi, Taylor	Cummins, Hanson	Fraser, Pat	Holtz, En-Ming
Bartlett, Jeff	Cummins, Tanya	Fraser, Scott	Holtz, Janet
Bayreuther, Lind	Currier, Diane	Fraser, Wayne	Holtz, John
Bayreuther, Nathan	Currier, Donna	French Jr., Andrew	Hulme, Dorothy
Bayreuther, Pat	Currier, Ed	French Sr. Andrew	Jackson, Joanne
Beckwith, Marilyn	Currier, John	Freudenthal, Lynn	Jean-Pierre, Guy
Binaco, Kim	Currier, Marjorie	Gallo, Marissa	Jean-Pierre, Kedne
Bodenhofer, Kristen	Currier, Raymond	Garbati, Lilian	Jean-Pierre, Schneider
Bond, Jacob	Currier, Robert	Garbati, William	Jezierski, Michael
Bouge, Tammy	Currier, Steven	Gayda, Kyle	Jezierski, Paul
Brackett, Bernadette	Currier, Susan	Gayda, Margaret	Johnson, Allan
Brackett, John	Currier, Todd	Gerber, Joanne	Johnson, Barbara
Brown, Darthea	Cushman, Robert	Gilman, Stuart	Johnson, Charles
Bryant, Cort	Cushman, Virginia	Glover, Rita	Johnson, Doreen
Bull, Elizabeth	D'Angelo, Kristine	Gore, Pam	Johnson, Janice
Bull, Jeannie	Daniels, Hank	Goss, Rene	Johnson, Sandra
Bull, Lewis	Deal, Davilee	Gotay, Barbara	Johnson, Timothy
Bull, Matthew	Dennison, Heidi	Gotay, Matthew	Jones, Amy
Bumgardner, Elizabeth	Dennison, Warren	Griffin, Janet	Jones, Ashley
Bumgardner, Lourdes	Donahue, Dana	Gucwa, AnnMarie	Jones, Courtney
Bunnell, MariAlice	Donahue, Ryan	Guerrier, Ange	Jones, Craig
Burridge, Brian	Donohue, Rebecca	Guerrier, Jena	Jones, Deborah
Campbell, Angela	Driscoll, Daniel	Guerrier, Naelle	Kaika, Lindsey
Campbell, James	Driscoll, Kathleen	Guerrier, Nayla	Kaika, Susan
Campbell, Ryan	Driscoll, Matthew	Guerrier, Rev. Jean-Fritz	Kalal, Nancy
Carlson, Glen	Driscoll, Timothy	Hallissey, John	Kalal, Thomas
Carlson, Linda	Duberg, Donna	Hallissey, Keryl	Kavarnos, Julie
Cash, Don	Dubreuil, Marcia	Hallissey, Kirby	Kavarnos, Spiro
Cash, Susan	Duffy, Robert	Hanover, Jessica	Keeney, Beatrice

Kerr, Valerie	McCoy, Sandy (Ferencz)	Richmond, Holly	Smith, Walter
Kopchik, John	McCrabb, Matson	Richmond, Janice	Smyth, Penny
Korineck, Elizabeth	McCrabb, Tucker	Richmond, Kristina	Sobiech, David
Kump, Karen	Migdalski, Thomas	Riley, Morgan	Soule, Robin
Larson, Robin	Migliacci, Joseph	Riozzi, Edgar	Souza, Amber
Larson, Scott	Migliacci, Julie	Ruth, Eileen	Spakowski, Lorraine
Levandoski, Charles	Mortimer, Ann	Salafia, Laura	Spakowski, Paul
Levandoski, Deborah	Muscarella, Mary Jo	Salafia, Michael	Spring, Dan
Levandoski, James	Muscarella, Olivia	Sartori, Judy	Spring, Ellen
Levandoski, Robert	Nazarko, Betty	Savage, James	Strouse, Judith
Levandoski, Roberta	Neilan, Linda	Savage, Robert	Strouse, Robert H.
Lewellen, Pixie	Neill, Melissa	Scott, Peter	Strouse, Robert K.
Leyland, Kevin	Nichols, Curt	Scott, Rev. Alan	Sutherland, Linda
Lindie, Ed	Nolan, Chelsea	Selden, Joseph III	Thompson, Justin
Lindie, Mary Ellen	Nowakowski, Justine	Shasha, Barbara	Thompson, Kim
Lindstrom, Jeffrey	Nygren, Jane	Shea, Jill	Thompson, Matthew
Littlefield, Albert	Nygren, Steven	Sherburne, John	Trowbridge, Robin
Littlefield, Gary	Olson, Rose	Sherburne, Skip	Viens, Anne
Littlefield, Georgia	Perkins, Ashley	Sherburne, Toni	Watson, David
Littlefield, James	Perkins, Cory	Shields, Krista	Watson, Margaret
Littlefield, Kevin	Peterson, Lawrence	Shogren, Don	Welch, Craig
Littlefield, Rosemary	Peterson, Sandy	Sigler, John	Welch, Marlene
Loscoe, Lanie	Pope, Judy	Signora, Kyle	Wheeler, Daniel
Lowe, Mary Ellen	Price, Pamela	Signora, Luca	Wheeler, Irene
MacDonald, Kerrie	Provencher, Richard	Signora, Paula	Whitlock, Fred
Mangino, Charon	Provost, Josie	Signora, Walter	Whitlock, McKenzie
Marelli, Carol	Quiles, Lourdes	Smith, Bonnie	Wood, Edwin
Martin, Carol	Rand, Doris	Smith, Cindy	Wright, Michael
Martins, Linda Lee	Reneson, Penny	Smith, Elisa	Wyatt, Karyn
Mathison, Diane	Richmond Jr, Ted	Smith, Roger	Yuhas, Alan
Mattison, Frances	Richmond Sr, Ted	Smith, Sarah	Yuhas, Joel
Maynard Sr, Lee	Richmond, Elizabeth	Smith, Susan	

Total: 311 members