

Annual Report 2025

First Baptist Church Regina, SK Annual General Meeting March 22, 2026, 12:00

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First Baptist Church Annual General Meeting Agenda March 22, 2026

1. Call to order and opening comments
 1. Reminder that only FBC members vote on Motions presented. All may participate in discussion
 2. Quorum is determined by a visual count of those participating (including video).
2. The Church Covenant and Prayer
3. Consent Agenda: Today's agenda, the Minutes of the Fall Congregational Meeting of November 23, 2025, and Ron Phillips as parliamentarian.
 1. MOTION: That we approve the Consent Agenda
4. Reports
 1. Report of Board Chair.
 1. MOTION: That we approve the Board consisting of Derrick Bellows, Carol Radford-Grant, Laureen Snook, Kevin Rich, Heather Russell-MacLean, Carol Hepting, Bryan Orthner, and Timothy Long for 2026.
 2. MOTION: That we approve the Officers of the Board: Derrick Bellows Chair; Carol Radford-Grant Vice Chair, Laureen Snook Secretary; Kevin Rich Treasurer.
 2. Clerk's report:
 1. MOTION: That we approve the active membership role and new members, as presented by the Church Clerk in the Annual Report.
 3. Treasurer's report:
 1. MOTION: That we receive the audited financial statements as presented by the Treasurer in the Annual Report.
 4. Other Reports.
 1. Organ Update
 2. MOTION: That we receive the other reports printed in the docket.
5. Staff Reports
 1. Lead Pastor Joel Russell-MacLean
 2. Other
6. MOTION to adjourn

A Covenant of Fellowship First Baptist Regina

We, the members of First Baptist Church, Regina, covenant together to walk with Christ and each other in the fellowship of holy love, to gather together regularly for united worship, to search the Scriptures for understanding of the Christian way of life, to serve God and each other in love and humility.

We will recognize the worth of each individual within our community, regardless of age or circumstances, recognizing that we are all precious in God's sight.

We will uphold each other in prayer and will offer kindness, forgiveness, and mercy to each other as Christ has offered to us.

We will give cheerfully of our time, talents, and finances so that God's work would prosper in this place.

We will recognize Christ's presence in every aspect of our lives and will seek to honour Him in all that we say and do – at church, in our homes, and at our places of employment. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will seek to follow Christ throughout our lives.

First Baptist Church
Congregational Meeting
Via Zoom & in-person in the FBC Lower Hall
November 23, 2025 12:40 - 2:15

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order – 12:40Derrick Bellows
Opening comments on quorum and membership
 - Reminder that only FBC members vote on motions presented. All may participate in discussion
 - Quorum is determined by a visual count of those participating (including video).
 Derrick confirmed that quorum was met.

- 2. Church Covenant and PrayerJoel Russell-MacLean

- 3. **MOTION** Consent Agenda:Derrick Bellows
 - a) to approve today’s meeting agenda
 - b) to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of March 30, 2025
 - c) to approve Ron Phillips as parliamentarian.

Discussion: Marilyn asked a follow-up question re: comment on Rosemary’s question regarding the increase in support of KLC. Rosemary clarified that FBC’s support of KLC has not increased over a number of years. Derrick confirmed that our budget will be discussed later in the meeting.

Moved: Karlee Mock; Seconded: Rob Stafford-Lai. Carried.

- 4. Reports

4.1. Board Chair

Derrick presented a verbal report with the following highlights:

Derrick recognized and thanked FBC staff for their love and care for our congregation and specifically noted Cheryl’s journey to ordination. Derrick

recognized the valued participation of ongoing board members, and thanked Roger Bellows for his work as he leaves the board now. Derrick thanked and welcomed Tim Long for his willingness to join the Board in 2026. Derrick noted the success of a multitude of programs and activities in the church, and the generous financial support of the congregation, including to the Saturday lunch program, Katepwa Lake Camp, Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in Lebanon, and others.

- a) **MOTION:** to approve the Board of Directors for 2025: Derrick Bellows (Chair); Carol Radford-Grant (Vice-Chair); Laureen Snook (Secretary), Heather Russell-McLean, Bryan Orthner, Carol Hepting, Timothy Long, and Kevin Rich (Treasurer).

Moved: Annabel Robinson; Seconded: Carmen Orthner; Carried.

4.2. Lead Pastor

Joel noted the beginning development of our (formerly called) Commissions.

Joel noted the difficulty of the past number of months with the passing of several long-term members.

Joel thanked the FBC staff, including Chris, recognizing his excellent efforts in leading music, noting that Chris will step back from Youth. Louise for making everything enjoyable, lunch, Cheryl – naturally easy to trust her with anything, and her work with kids. Rob – making everything easy, loved, taking care of everything.

Joel recognized the pastoral care team who takes care of people who are at home or ill or otherwise just need a visit.

Joel expressed his appreciation for the new usher teams that have been built, to Esther Gurnsey who completes the bulletin every week, to Julie Rich who is doing the monthly newsletter, volunteers who work with children, the Saturday lunch program, AV/Zoom, and A Time for Friends.

Joel expressed his desire for everyone to find a place to contribute and bring their gifts.

4.3. Treasurer

Kevin Rich reviewed our operating and investment accounts, and our debts. Kevin reviewed our giving to date relative to expenses.

Kevin reviewed our giving to date, noting it was less than 2024.

Kevin reviewed the different ways that people can donate to the church, including Square, that is primarily used to make donations to cover costs of meals that we periodically have.

b) **MOTION:** to approve the 2026 budget as presented by the Treasurer.

Moved: Kevin Rich; Seconded: Karlee Mock; Carried.

c) **MOTION:** to approve WSO Accounting as financial auditor for 2025.

Moved: Kevin Rich; Seconded: Carol Hepting; Carried.

4.4. Other Reports

Printed report and provided hard copies at meeting. Appended to these notes

Organ update

- Gord Kerfoot provided an update on the organ work. The most recent visit was beginning of November. Barnsley has new measurements and will be creating a new design based on these, that also incorporates the advice of the structural engineer. Completion of the project is hoped for Christmas 2026.

Property update

- Eleanor Russell asked about the “signage” item. Rob noted that signage included, among other things, large banners at the front of the church, but also wayfinding signs and our changeable sign at the NW corner.

5. Other Business - TABLED

6. Adjournment

d) **MOTION:** to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Moved: Hilary Ryan; Carried.

2025 Board Chair Report

2025 was a good year at First Baptist.

Our church leadership has been strong. The pastoral staff has done a great job of leading and supporting us through the year. I thank Joel, Cheryl, Chris, and Louise for the hard work and love they have shown. We also added Rob Stafford-Lai to staff as Operations Manager, and he has been a wonderful addition for property and administrative functions.

I thank the Board for their diligent oversight and tireless volunteering in many areas of our church life. I am so pleased that we can maintain continuity and commitment with these fine people: Carol Radford-Grant, Kevin Rich, Laureen Snook, Heather Russell-MacLean, Carol Hepting, and Bryan Orthner. Special thanks to Roger Bellows, who has left the Board after serving for four years.

We continue to experience growth with new folks from near and far choosing to join us in worship and participate in the life of our church family. We had a number of baptisms and new memberships during the year. Newcomers make our community richer, and I encourage us to get to know them.

Financial support for the church has remained strong to ensure that we keep our multitude of programs, activities, and outreach going. As the Treasurer's Report and Audit show, we are financially blessed and continue to be good stewards of the finances entrusted to us by you.

Our regular Sunday worship and Learning for Life challenges us spiritually, guides us, and provides support through difficult times. One of the more unique features of our church is the music program we have been able to sustain when many churches can't. Thanks to Louise and our musicians and choir, we continue to enjoy a fine blend of traditional and contemporary music that adds to our worship and stirs our souls.

And even though we offer much to our church family, I am especially gratified by our continued outreach beyond our walls. Your involvement and commitment help many both physically and spiritually. We are involved in many outreach activities. I particularly think of the support for our Saturday lunch program here in Regina, for Katepwa Lake Camp providing outreach to children and families in southern Saskatchewan, and for ABTS in Lebanon. Your actions expand the love of God to many.

Finally, I recognize and thank all the volunteers in our church who work hard and selflessly in worship, children and youth ministries, Christian education, hospitality, property maintenance, and other activities to keep us a vibrant church family.

When many churches are facing challenges with attendance, finance, and internal strife, I am proud that we continue to model Christ in our love, patience, forgiveness, and commitment to each other. A strong family bond is critical to the ongoing success of any church.

I am blessed to be part of this family of God and to enjoy the love and fellowship of you all. First Baptist Church is truly, A Place to Belong.

Respectfully submitted,

Derrick Bellows, Board Chair

Treasurer's Report – 2025 Year

First Baptist Church is active in a great many ministries and follows the CRA standards for charities in reporting and tracking our finances. In addition to financing the normal day-to-day activities necessary for our church life (operating expenses), we have a number of restricted reserves that are dedicated to specific purposes.

The FBC community was diligent in maintaining a healthy giving effort in 2025. Thanks again to extraordinary December giving, our overall revenue was enough to provide a small surplus at the end of the year. However, the overall giving during 2025 dropped significantly from the previous year.

The board decided to repay the remaining loan from our Organ Fund in November 2025. As a result, there are no further loan payments required.

Detailed financial information follows in the audited statements, but highlights are presented below.

Operations

Church staff and leadership manage the operating expenses of the various operations and ministries. Personnel accounted for 52% of the operating expenses in 2025. Property, Administration, and Missions also had significant budgets, combining to make up another 43% of the expense budget. The church staff and leadership continue to carefully monitor all expenses.

Restricted Reserves

Separate Restricted Reserve fund accounts were established in 2017 for special long-term financial items. Expenses and revenue related to these funds are managed separately from the operating budget.

The Building Fund is for larger capital expenses related to building repair. During 2025, we had a couple of projects that were funded, the most significant being the repair of the dome. This fund had \$14,433 at year-end.

The Organ Fund is for expenses related to the maintenance and use of the pipe organ. This fund has had significant donations through estate bequests over the years. In 2020, the Organ Fund provided the church with a loan of \$215,000, which we used to pay off a loan from CBWC. This loan was repaid in full in 2025. We made an initial payment of \$20K toward the organ refurbishment project in

2024, and in 2025, we made another payment of \$40K. The funds currently available for the organ project now total \$187.8K at year-end, which includes several GIC investments.

The Benevolent Fund is for special financial aid to individuals and families. It is administered by the pastoral staff with accountability to the Board. This is part of our approved budget, and donations are requested when the fund is low. During 2025, this fund provided over \$4,600 in support and had \$2,928 at year-end.

The Legacy Fund was created a number of years ago to hold funds to support special outreach projects from our church that were not part of the annual budget. The main source of money to this fund is intended to be from estates and special gifts. The fund had \$17,169 at year-end.

We had initiated a Refugee Fund in 2022 to assist in the financial support of refugees in their first full year in Canada. We have a current balance of \$1,271 in the fund; however, no financial assistance to refugee families has yet been provided from this fund.

General

About 14% of our revenue came from property use, not donations. The largest is the facility agreement with Regina Youth for Christ, who pay market value rent of the Youth Centre. We do return about 38% of that rent as part of our missions support to their ministry. We also received payments from the Christ's Commission Fellowship for the use of the sanctuary for services and rent for the use of the lower hall and meeting rooms from various organizations.

Through 2025, Shelly Pippin CPA Prof. Corp. continued to provide bookkeeping services. We are very appreciative of the work and assistance that Shelly and Ina are providing. The Finance Committee continued with the same membership of Tom Chen, Marv Fuller, Tracy Sailor, and Gloria Toews, who assisted me in ensuring that our financials were properly managed through the year. I thank them for their commitment over the past year. I also thank the Board and staff for their diligence in managing the financial resources entrusted to them.

This was my eighth year as Treasurer, and I thank you, the family of First Baptist, who continue to provide the finances for the work of our church.

Respectfully submitted, Kevin Rich

Church Clerk Report

We maintain a list of people who are regularly part of our fellowship. We publish a directory so that our people can keep in touch with each other (though some have chosen to have their contact information unlisted).

We welcome anyone who wants to be a part of our fellowship. Some have joined First Baptist by being baptized here, some were baptized in other churches and transferred their membership. Some have been deeply committed to this community for years but have not yet explored the possibility of full membership, and are listed as adherents. Everyone (members, guests, and adherents) is welcome at every service, event, and meeting, but only members are allowed to vote at the meetings.

If you would like to become a member by baptism, transfer, or profession of faith, please contact the pastoral staff. For questions about the directory or how to access the online information, Rosemary Ward or Kevin Rich would be happy to help!

	2024 numbers	2025
Total membership	121	130
Active adherents	118	122

Members added by transfer: Jeffery Radford-Grant, Tobi and Clement Ayegbusi, Robin Tromblay, Lynette Wollbaum, Rob Stafford-Lai, Christie Senger,

Members added by Baptism: Maizy Russell-Maclean, Lilen Wollbaum, Edward Tsemi

Members lost through death: Fran Haug, Gordon Magel, Donna Lynn Price, Glenn Larson, Pearl Bretz

Adherents lost through death - Reid Robinson, Jackie Phillips, Lois Shauf, Brian Chase, Phil Bretz

Members transferred out: Enoch Ernest

Respectfully submitted, Rosemary Ward, church clerk

Lead Pastor's Report

2025 was another year of growth and challenges.

This year was once again heavy at times as we held funerals for 10 members and adherents. All of them were longtime friends who had been very active in our congregation. We cared for their immediate family and friends and for one another and received comfort and courage from our Lord.

Other good friends had to move away from Regina. Each loss was felt keenly.

There was also growth. Despite all our losses, we had a few more people attending than the year before. More importantly, people were praying, serving, giving, sharing meals together, and learning. Some of this is facilitated by events and ministries organized by the church, but much of our ministry happens at people's own initiative, using their own spiritual gifts. There is a desire to care for one another and to grow in faith. Let us carry on this work together.

There were baptisms, a street party, support for camp and missions, and work projects. Together, we sustained weekly children and youth ministry, our choir and concerts, and Bible studies and North of 60. We were treated with the Kurios students coming from Jasper and spending a day with Pastors on visits. There was always lots going on.

We have many volunteers helping to lead. To name just two, Julie Rich continues to prepare the newsletter and Esther Gurnsey, the weekly bulletin. Thank you to everyone who leads and serves.

On staff, Rob Stafford-Lai moved from a volunteer role onto staff as Operations Manager and immediately had an impact on projects big and small. He is always ready to help, whether in the church office or when someone in the congregation needs something. Cheryl Johnston, Louise Krueger, Chris Senger, and Ron Phillips are each such gifts to us all. They are skilled leaders, gifted pastors, people of prayer, intelligence, and integrity. I thank God for each of them.

All that we do of lasting value flows from Jesus' love for us and our love for him. We aim to know and obey him because we wish to draw nearer to him. He has the words of life which sustain us. God alone sees the whole of our lives and human history, so in the here and now, we endeavour to trust him and serve faithfully where we are. To God alone be the glory.

Respectfully, Pastor Joel Russell-MacLean

Learning for Life Report

Dell Bornowsky, Ron Phillips, Annabel Robinson, Esther Wiens, and your pastors met to choose topics and leaders. We prioritize the study of scripture. We encourage everyone to have a group where they can study, listen to scripture, and grow in faith. Sunday morning at 9:30 , 20 to 40 people were in attendance in person and online.

Once again, we were blessed with challenging and life-giving studies:

Paul's Letter to the Romans - Annabel Robinson

Women in Leadership - Annabel Robinson

Forgiveness - Dell Bornowsky

Genesis chapters 1 to 11 - Joel Russell-MacLean

Thank you to all who taught and all who took part.

North of 60 Report

"North of 60" is a group for retirees. 2025 was our second full year of offering something like this once a month. It has been a time of enjoying . Thanks to Louise Krueger, Rob Staffard-Lai, and Cheryl Johnston for helping to set up, prepare food, and serve.

Some of the highlights of 2025 were:

- A luncheon at the Regina Floral Conversatory
- John Hillmer perfectly capturing Ebenezer Scrooge in the Christmas reading
- Timothy Long's and Julie Krueger's presentations
- Hymn sings and sharing stories about our baptisms

Missions Commission Report

Commission Members:

Heather Russell-MacLean (Chair), Bryan Orthner, Carmen Pauls Orthner

Pastoral Liaison: Joel Russell-MacLean

Mandate

The Missions Commission exists to help shape and care for our church's involvement in mission—locally and globally. That includes how we give financially, how we build relationships, and how we show up in practical ways alongside our partners and in our community.

Current Partnerships & Giving

Some of our main mission partnerships will look familiar. KLC, YFC, and the Saturday Lunch Program continue to be central to how we support mission locally. While our connection with IVCF remains important to us, we are currently exploring ways to stay engaged that don't rely as heavily on financial support.

Our partnership with Canadian Baptists of Ministries (CBM) also continues to be a key part of our mission life. We budget **\$10,500 annually**, and through this commitment a total of **\$40,991.36** was sent through our church in direct support of CBM's work.

Emerging Partnerships

Late in 2025, the Director of the Indigenous Christian Fellowship retired, which has opened up a season of reflection and possible change within their leadership and governance. First Baptist Church was invited into early conversations about what future partnership might look like with local churches. We're hopeful and look forward to sharing more as those conversations continue to unfold.

Commission Update

Also in late 2025, Barb resigned from the Missions Commission after many years of faithful involvement. Her steady presence and long-term commitment will be deeply missed. If anything about the work of the commission stirs your interest—or if you feel a nudge to get involved—we would love to talk with you. Please reach out to Bryan, Carmen, or Heather.

Looking Ahead to 2026

As we look ahead, we plan to host another **KLC fundraiser this spring**, with the goal of sending FBC kids to camp. Last year, this made it possible for several children from our congregation to attend, ensuring that finances were not a barrier. We want to send even more kids to camp this summer!

You can expect more opportunities to support the mission through fundraising and active engagement with our partners. We invite you to prayerfully consider joining the work of the Missions Commission.

Respectfully submitted, Heather Russell-MacLean

Hospitality Report 2025

Thank you to everyone in this church who has participated in preparing for, setting up, serving, and clean-up of our gatherings. Almost every person in this church has helped with the hospitality functions at our church. These include A Time for Friends— ATFF (weekly), lunches after services (several times a year), funeral lunches (8-10 this year), and special events (Intergen. celebrations, concerts, Easter breakfast, and fundraisers). Your help with these fellowship opportunities ensures that we are a “place to belong”. Thank you for caring for all those who attend these events, whether they are a regular or a guest who walks in off the street.

I have been grateful for a team of people who are helping to organize our hospitality events. Thank you to Laurie McPherson, who creates the ATFF schedule. Thank you to Esther Gurnsey, who ensures we have the supplies needed for drinks and the kitchen and is organizing the leadership groups for special meals. Thank you to Laura, who has helped to plan and has jumped in and helped wherever we needed it. If you enjoy being involved in hospitality, we would love to add another person to our team. Please let me know if you are interested.

Gratefully, Pastor Cheryl Johnston

Children and Families Report 2025

It has been a rich experience watching the children of First Baptist Church grow in stature and in relationship with God. It is fun to watch them interact with each other and scripture. We have three classes for children on Sunday mornings: nursery (newborn-age 3), Godly Play (age 3-grade 1), and Oasis (grade 2-6). We have had an average attendance of 16 children each Sunday between these three classes. This number is similar to last year.

The children have served in church services in various ways throughout the year. Each week, two children carry the candle and Bible to the front at the beginning of the service. We had an intergenerational service in June and November where the children welcomed the congregation, prayed, and read scripture. They have increased in their confidence and skill when talking in front of the congregation. We performed a joint song with the choir in February where the children acted out the story of the Exodus while the choir sang. The children also performed a nativity skit at the Christmas banquet and pantomimed the story of Jesus' birth while it was read at the Christmas Eve service. We held two intergenerational celebrations: a pancake supper for Shrove Tuesday and a celebration of Ascension in June after our workday retreat.

We have an amazing group of volunteers who help out with our children's programs. Each Sunday, two volunteers help out in our nursery and Godly Play classes. There are four pairs of volunteers for each class, so they generally serve one Sunday per month.

I have taught the Oasis class most weeks but have been grateful for the help of Mary Jensen, Debby Nelson, and Eric Warren, who have taught once every four months to allow me to sit in a service or have a holiday. I am grateful for the faithful helpers in Oasis who show up every week to serve our older children. Cassie Wolfe was a faithful helper until she moved this summer. Bryden Yeo has stepped up and been an invaluable help this fall and winter.

We had a very successful fundraiser in the spring, which ensured that any child from First Baptist Church who wanted to attend camp could. We raised \$12,000 to cover camp fees. We had several families attend the family camp weekend. We had 12 children attend camp and 4 youth take the first year of the Leadership in Training (LIT) program. This would not have been helpful without the generous

giving of our church family. We would love to see this be an annual fundraiser, and there are plans for a fundraiser lunch in the next few months.

I am very grateful to be a Children and Family Pastor at First Baptist Church. I am grateful for the words of encouragement I receive weekly from many of you. It is a privilege to serve the members of this church!

Gratefully submitted, Pastor Cheryl Johnston

First Baptist Place Chaplaincy

First Baptist Place is a seniors' residence affiliated with First Baptist Church. It has its own chaplain, appointed by and responsible to the lead pastor of First Baptist. I have served in this capacity since January 1, 2024.

Along with my wife Marilyn as accompanist, I have offered chapel services each Wednesday at 7 p.m. In 2025, we completed a study of Paul's letter to the Colossians, and currently, we are working our way through the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7. Between 8 and 14 residents attend each week. Naturally, there has been change in our group, as some residents have moved away, while some newcomers to the residence have joined us.

CK Lai and Ben Friesen have led the chapel service when I have needed to be away. I am very grateful for their willingness to help.

I also visited a few residents when in hospital or in their apartment.

Marilyn and I have grown very fond of our chapel group, which has become somewhat of a house church and a spiritual family for us. We sing and pray together, we share needs and joys, and, reflecting on God's Word, we encourage each other to grow in faith and deed.

It is a privilege for Marilyn and me to serve in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Phillips

Youth Group Report 2026

This year has been marked by encouraging spiritual growth and a deepening sense that this ministry is truly woven into the life and fabric of First Baptist Church Regina. Since this past fall, Pastor Joel has taken over the planning and leading of the youth group. We are grateful for his guidance and care in this area, and for those who still volunteer their time when it is possible. Below is a brief summary of some highlights and areas of encouragement from this ministry.

We have continued meeting consistently on Friday evenings and have generally continued to alternate between more “fun” community building events and evenings where we focus on studying the Bible. In our Bible study times, students have been encouraged to reflect more deeply on their relationship with God. We have spent time focusing on prayer and the reality of God’s presence in everyday life and God’s desire for us to be transformed personally, while also serving and loving those that God puts in our path. Since the new year, we have also explored Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, considering how His teaching challenges us and shapes the way we live as followers of Christ. Learning the context of the scripture has been helpful in how we ask how it can speak to us today.

It has also been encouraging to see youth participating more actively in the life of our Sunday services. Our students have consistently helped in various capacities, and it has been a joy to see them take visible roles within the broader worshipping community. In addition, some youth and their families have begun attending Sunday services more regularly at FBC. That connection between youth ministry and congregational worship is deeply important, and it is encouraging to witness.

As always, youth ministry does not exist in isolation. It depends upon families who prioritize involvement, volunteers who give their time, and a congregation that prays faithfully. I continue to sense that this ministry is supported by many quiet acts of encouragement and care. Please continue to pray for our youth, their families, for Pastor Joel and the other volunteers, and for wisdom as we discern how best to nurture and equip them. May we continue helping these young people grow into disciples who reflect Christ in a world that deeply needs His light.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Chris Senger

Property Report 2025

In July 2025, I was grateful to be offered the position of Operations Manager at First Baptist Church, making my volunteer position a full-time job. This meant I was able to continue with ongoing projects and see through some new ones.

We would like to thank our wonderful volunteers who give up their time and skills to help with the endless list of projects.

Organ Report 2024-2026

In 2024, we saw volunteers removing the organ so it could be sent to Barnsley Organ in Calgary. The new organ will be a three-manual pipe organ with exposed pipes extending over the choir loft. To date, Barnsley Organ has cleaned and repaired the leathers inside the pipes, refurbished the pipes, and is currently constructing the main keyboard. Their next step will be to build the organ framework to hold the assembly. We have been removing the non-essential joists in the organ area (envelope) and working on installing new flooring, drywall, and lighting in early 2026. We are working with a structural engineer to open the east side of the organ work area to facilitate the organ main structure.

We are hopeful to begin installation mid-June 2026 and completion by late August.

Other Key Projects 2025-2026

- Dome – Completed and painted dome surround
- Purchases of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) - Completed
- First aid & AED training – Completed by 7 people
- Interior lighting upgrade – 90% complete
- Water mitigation - Waiting for second tender
- Repairs to basement flooring - Waiting for tenders
- Signage - Received a few tenders
- Researching heritage grants

I would like to thank the Board and Joel for their support over the past year. As well, the workload is made lighter with the help of Marv, Len, Jeff, and Doug.

Respectfully submitted, Rob Stafford-Lai, Operations Manager

Music Report

Our music ministry had a successful year. The choir presented an anthem for Sunday morning services twice a month from September through June. The choir members are wonderfully faithful, participating in these musical offerings. Thank you, choir members. Our anthems have covered a range of musical genres: classical, gospel, jazz, contemporary, and spirituals — all praising our Lord. We have done musical worship in conjunction with Cheryl and the children telling the Biblical story of Jonah and the whale. I can speak on behalf of the entire choir that these collaborations bring so much joy to the musicians. An integral part of every choir is the accompanist. Calla-Dawn Brooks has filled this role admirably once again. Xavier Russell-MacLean steps in notably (all puns intended) when she is not available. Thank you to both.

Our long tradition of presenting annual Easter and Christmas concerts continued this year. This outreach ministry succeeds with the help of volunteer seasonal singers, professional soloists, and instrumentalists. A group of 'semi-retired' FBC handbell ringers stepped forward, which enabled both concerts to have this very special addition. Our Christmas concert involved both Xavier Russell-MacLean and Oluseye Popoola sharing accompaniment as Calla-Dawn was away. Thank you so much for stepping up to this huge task.

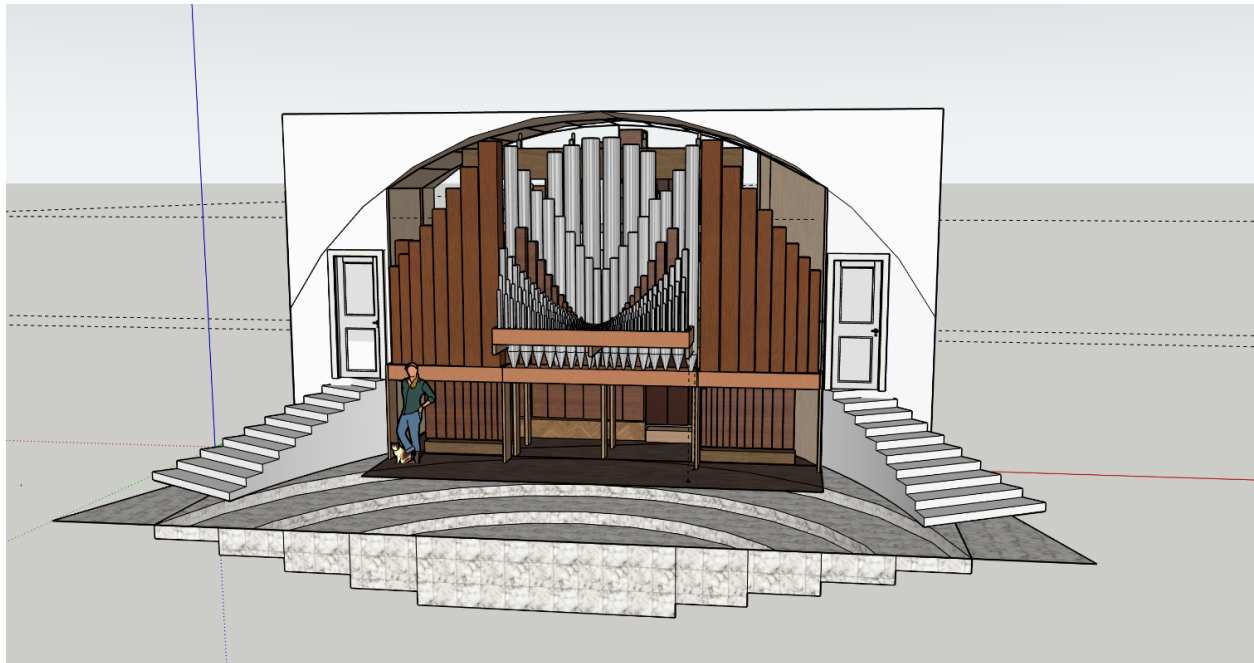
So many others contribute to these major events in various areas: sound, Zoom, camera, ushering, stage preparation, decorations and lighting, post-concert receptions, program preparation and printing, and creation and distribution of posters. This is truly a First Baptist community effort. Thank you one and all.

Our church music has been rounded out with contemporary songs and choruses accompanied by guitar and piano. Many thanks to Chris Senger, Joel Russell-MacLean, and a group of young people for leading us in this aspect of worship. I feel we are so fortunate to be able to worship God with a mixture of traditional and contemporary music. Oluseye Popoola and Xavier Russell-MacLean on piano and organ, and Calla-Dawn Brooks on piano have provided traditional and contemporary contributions. We are blessed to have such talented musicians.

I have found this past year to be filled with challenges, rewards, and so much joy. Music lifts our souls to the Lord, and he hears our offerings.

Respectfully submitted, Louise Krueger

Purposed design of the exposed pipes:



Extensive work on the organ envelope:

