



STONY PLAIN
ALLIANCE CHURCH

2025 SPRING *CONVERGE*

June 17 @ 7PM

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IMPORTANT INFO

In preparing for our 2025 Spring Converge, here are some important pieces of information that we would like you to be aware of:

DATE | Tuesday, June 17, 2025

7:00pm - Dessert Potluck

7:30pm - Converge Meeting

LOCATION | SPAC Foyer

DESSERT DETAILS

Please bring a dessert or fruit to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.

ENGAGEMENT

During the Converge Meeting there is always opportunity for questions from the floor.

VOTING

- Please note that only formal members of SPAC are eligible to vote during the meeting.
- Voting ballots will be distributed upon arrival with the elder nominations listed and those will be collected and tallied in-person during the meeting.



AGENDA

7:00pm - Dessert Potluck

7:30pm - AGM Opening

1. Call to Order
2. AGM Session Rules Explained
3. Adopt Agenda
4. Adopt Minutes
5. Devotional & Ministry Report
6. New Business:
 - a. 2025-2026 Budget
7. Nominating Committee Report: Elder Votes & Election Results
8. Adjourn Meeting / Close in Prayer

FALL CONVERGE MINUTES

*Stony Plain Alliance Church
Fall Converge Minutes - November 19, 2024*

1 Call to Order

Linnaea Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:46pm.
48 people (37 members + 11 adherents) in attendance.

2 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Elizabeth Grier Carey and seconded by Harm Mulder that the agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried.

3 Adopt Minutes of Spring Converge 2024

Moved by Steve Paddon and seconded by Al Voth that the Spring Converge 2024 meeting minutes be accepted as presented.

Carried.

4 Financial Statements Presentation

Rob shared that our accountant Jason Kennedy met with the board of elders at the Oct 7th board meeting and had nothing but good things to say about the accuracy of our financial records. Lorraine Robinson deserves so much more credit than we can give her for how she keeps our books. Her professionalism really shines through, so thank you Lorraine for all that you do for us.

Rob thanked all those that so generously give to the ongoing needs of SPAC. Thank you all so much for supporting this church and our vision of Fullness of Life for Everyone.

At our June Converge, Rob presented the membership with a very scaled-down budget. One that had pretty much any non-essential costs reduced, just like many of the SPAC families are having to deal with personally.

The Statement of Financial Position (page 11 of your Converge package) demonstrates the largest change is in our cash position. This has been something we have been monitoring very closely and it was the one major area of concern that Jason brought up to us at our October meeting.

Unfortunately, we just aren't bringing in enough each month to cover our costs. Wade has been sharing about this for the last few weeks during our Month of Prayer, and unfortunately in this new ministry year, we haven't yet had a month where giving has surpassed the needed budget expenses. It has been like this for a while now.

Our Cash & Cash Equivalent status since Jan 2022, has steadily gone down each month. Please keep in mind that some of this was expected when we looked to transition over into this building. What wasn't budgeted for was a global pandemic and much higher than expected interest rates.

On page 12 you will see the Year End Statements as of June 2024. Revenues have gone up over \$205,000 over the same time period of 2023.

Under Expenses, Building Expenses have gone down, so have Office expenses, Staff support, district expenses and accounting fees. Except for Interest that went up \$60,000, which has been a major issue, you can see how responsible the church has been with the monies donated.

In Other Income (Expenses), we have only a \$5,000 change overall, with some minor changes in each line.

Page 14 has our Cash Flow statement, which is the first line of page 11 in greater detail.

Questions:

Q: Is our interest rate fixed?

A: Our interest rate with the WCD is not fixed and this is based on the current agreement we have with them.

Q: How is SPAC's relationship with the WCD?

A: The WCD have significantly reduced our mortgage payments for the time being although this is not absolved and only kicked further down the road. We've linked arms very well in the last few years and they are doing what they can do as we are doing what we can do. Open dialogue remains with the WCD.

Q: What is the value of the west lands we own?

A: The last time the west lands were evaluated, they had significantly depreciated in value. The WCD are willing to wait on the sale of this land until it's value increases. Our only expenses with this land are in farming property tax.

Q: Have we considered raising funds to pay down principle on the mortgage?

A: The next Capital Campaign for mortgage reduction is in the works for 2027.

Moved by Steve Paddon and seconded by Mike Hurd, to adopt the 2024 Financial Statements as presented here and in the Converge package.

Carried.

5

Prayer around tables and Adjournment at 8:01pm

Motion to adjourn by Sue Fulmore, seconded by Shauna Davidson.

Carried.

MINISTRY REPORTS

WADE PATON | LEAD PASTOR

How can a church like SPAC know if we're moving in the right direction? Are there particular measurables that are indicative of a community becoming more like Jesus in every season? Many churches have sought to create a dashboard of metrics that they will point to as bell weathers of the in-breaking kingdom of God and signposts of positive movement on the journey. These things are usually given numerical values that can be easily graphed so the leadership can assess whether we're growing, stagnating, or declining. While this approach does tell us something, it does not tell us everything, nor necessarily the most helpful things.

In Luke 7, there is an interaction between Jesus and John the Baptist about whether Jesus truly was the Messiah because Jesus wasn't doing all the things that John and his disciples expected. They were looking for reliable indicators that the person and the mission were headed in the right direction. The response of Jesus is, as usual, an invitation to wisdom. He told the disciples of John to look at what was happening as people were, healed, delivered, restored and given access to hear the good news proclaimed. Nothing about how many. No campaign speech about how his influence would double or triple in the next fiscal year. He simply pointed out the things happening on the margins that were signs of a movement of the Spirit. If you want to know that you're moving in partnership with God, look for the things that are in line with the Spirit empowered character of Jesus, and follow faithfully in that counter-intuitive, often perplexingly, upside-down way.

This is what we need to do as a church as we think about what we will pay attention to when it comes to our own evaluations of movement and it is what we've seen evidence of over this past ministry year.

Outlined below is a summary of the themes and some descriptions that run through every ministry (Children, Youth, Life Groups etc.) at SPAC and are the basis for evaluating our participation with Jesus in the in-breaking kingdom of God in this time and place that we have been invited to serve in.

HOSPITALITY

This word and its meaning have become central to our life as a community. When we think of hospitality, we remember that it is more than having an open door to others into our homes or being able to host a good party. These can be part of how hospitality is practiced but a more dynamic definition of Hospitality is: *People and environments that help others feel at home with God, the community, themselves and creation.*

The story of Jesus, Simon the Pharisee, and the woman in Luke 7 have been central to what we believe hospitality looks like.

With the surge of loneliness, isolation, and an ever-increasing sense of polarization in our world, the need for genuine hospitality has perhaps never been greater.

We believe that helping people feel a genuine sense of belonging is the primary avenue through which evangelism and discipleship will happen at SPAC in the months and years ahead. This means that removing barriers to belonging will be front of mind for us as leadership this year.

JUSTICE & COMPASSION

Romans 12:2, Isaiah 42:1-9, and Luke 4:14-30 have become central passages of scripture for us as we reflect on what it means to practice the way of Jesus together. In each of the texts there is a call to be renewed by the Spirit in such a way that people everywhere experience the Good News of Jesus as a lived reality. Another text I go back to often is Isaiah 58:6-12:

*Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice
and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free
and break every yoke?
Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and
blood?
Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness will go before you,
and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.
Then you will call, and the Lord will answer;
you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.

If you do away with the yoke of oppression,
with the pointing finger and malicious talk,
and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,
then your light will rise in the darkness,
and your night will become like the noonday.
The Lord will guide you always;
he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land
and will strengthen your frame.
You will be like a well-watered garden,
like a spring whose waters never fail.
Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins
and will raise up the age-old foundations;
you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls,
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.*

We want to grow in working for justice and serving with compassion in a way that is a visible manifestation of the in-breaking kingdom of God in all our ministries and partnerships.

RESPONSIVENESS TO JESUS

I was asked a while ago to help another church by sharing with them our discipleship method/manual/guidelines including role descriptions of who does what and how we ensure people are on-track with their spiritual development. I was happy to respond saying that we have nothing of this nature to offer. This doesn't mean that we are disregarding Christ-like growth in people's lives or assuming that following Jesus requires no intentionality.

Not at all. So, what is our way? If we are committed to fullness of life for everyone, what do we aspire for everyone to do? Simply, to live responsively to Jesus.



STORYTELLING

With the Spirit at work in our lives and community, the most telling results and affirmations will be found in the stories and testimonies of those growing into fullness of life. We want to be a story-telling church that generously shares with one another the things that Jesus is doing in our lives. This means valuing authenticity and saying what is true about our experiences even if the story has no 'happily ever after' to be seen. Sharing honest stories that are rooted in faith, hope and love is how we will collectively awaken to eternity and the Presence of God with us.

In Revelation 12:11 it speaks of the day when the accuser is forever defeated. This ultimate defeat of evil happens 'by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony.' Testimonies are powerful and every time we share our Jesus stories, the darkness gets pushed back a little bit more.

Hospitality, justice and compassion, responsiveness, and storytelling are not the usual things that organizations measure or set goals around, but we believe they are four critical pieces in us becoming the community that Jesus is calling us to be.

As we move into the new ministry year, we know that there are significant challenges and changes ahead. There are the ongoing realities of our financial shortfall that call us back to pray, trust and open-handedness. There is Pastor Ben's resignation that, while a loss to be grieved for our students, youth leaders and church, is an opportunity for us to think about how we care for the next generation and call them into apprenticeship with Jesus.

These and many other things are before us as a church, and we are counting on the faithfulness of Jesus to lead us through every wonderful and difficult thing. We are, more than ever, committed to Fullness of Life for Everyone, by Practicing the Way of Jesus together and this should inspire tremendous hope in us for the future.



It is a privilege to serve with you here at Stony Plain Alliance Church and, in the following pages of this report, you'll see how God has been at work in this community over the past year. There is so much to be grateful for. Thank-you for your heartfelt participation in this church. It counts in the kingdom of God.

Peace,
Wade

AMANDA KRAUSE | CHILDREN'S PASTOR

The beauty of what it is to live into the fullness of life that Christ offers is seen in abundance throughout AdventureKids! By practicing the way of Jesus together, we have seen such incredible growth, engagement, joy, and wonder in our midst!

This year we have focused on learning about the Kingdom of Heaven through the lens of Jesus' life and ministry. Together we have learned that Christ is the King, and we are his Kingdom People. Our ministry hallway and classrooms have been spaces where the Kingdom of God has bubbled up, shone through, and revealed the ways that God is at work in our midst.

We can celebrate that we regularly have over 60 kids in the AdventureKids classrooms who are learning about Jesus on a Sunday morning. At the same time, each Sunday it takes a little over 20 volunteers to lead our children. After a recent opportunity for ministry leaders and myself to share about the heart, passion, and need within our ministry, there have been nearly 10 new individuals who have stepped up and begun the process of becoming volunteers. This is a huge answer to prayer!

This year we have seen 1 AdventureKid baptism, and 2 child dedications. These are moments when the Kingdom of Heaven celebrates with us as lives are changed, and declarations for living into the fullness of life with Christ are made!

We are now gearing up for our Sabbath month, in which we will lean into a SPAC value of storytelling – I am so excited to see how kids will be equipped, engaged, and encouraged to share their God Stories with others!

Our summer will be full of wonder as we celebrate the things we have learned this year and challenge one another to grow ever more.

July 22-24 we are going to wander into the wild Magnified Meadow—this year's VBS! Over the course of three days, the children in our community will explore “the bigness of God in the smallest of places” and come to learn that God made them, God loves them, and God saves them!

Our SPAC Moms group made a change this year, and became the “Toddler Time” group! This was in an effort to be more inclusive, so that any parent or caregiver could feel able to attend and make connections. It's been a beautiful time of fellowship both for caregivers and for the children who attend!

Pray for AdventureKids as our rhythms change for the summer. We find that many families and leaders in the ministry may take time away, so these coming months always look a little different. Would you pray that we have the leaders we need to run well all summer, that people would register to serve and to attend our VBS program, and that through it all we would see Jesus, experience his love, and glorify his name.

BEN MUELLER | *YOUTH PASTOR*

SPACYOUTH

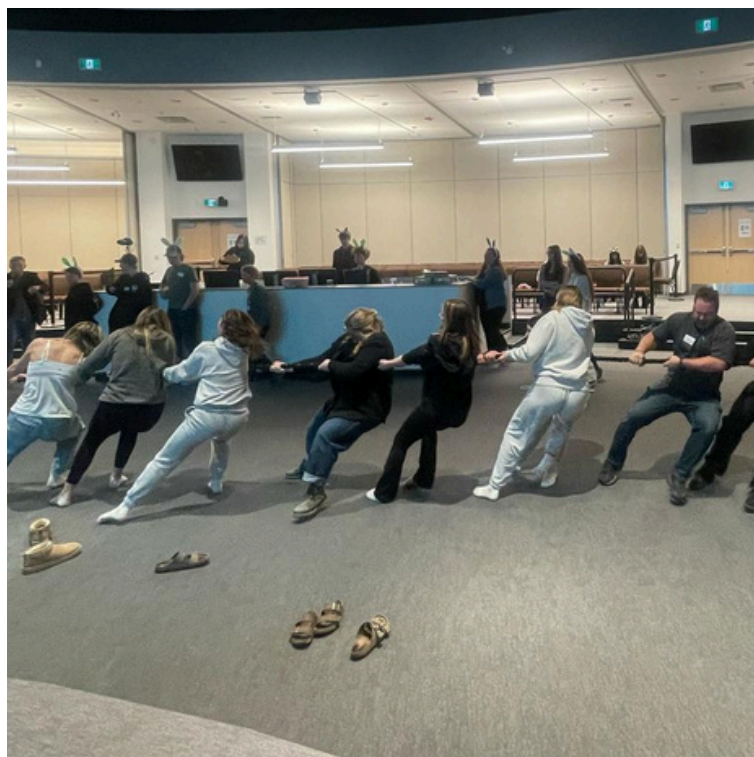
It's been an exciting year at SPACYOUTH! We embrace SPAC's vision which is fullness of life for everyone by practicing the way of Jesus together. Everything we do at SPACYOUTH, we do to lead students into this fullness of life that Jesus wants for them, and our desire is that this is a safe and inclusive space for all. We've continued to run both our Jr. High and Sr. High ministries separately, and it's been going well! We've seen a curiosity in our Sr. High group as they have more discussion time allotted to explore broader topics and engage in deeper discussions. In addition, we believe that relationships have grown and developed between both leaders and students, and much of this is to do with the amount of time they get to spend with each other in this context. Our Jr. High's have brought energy and great questions to our community on Wednesday nights, and we've seen an increase in confidence as they get to be themselves around each other.

Regarding teaching, we have focused on some practical things this year, and some particular highlights of the year were both our 'Gifted' series (helping students discover their spiritual gifts and finding ways to use those in multiple contexts) and our 'Ears to Hear' series, as we taught them both Listening Prayer and Lectio Divina. There was high engagement and enthusiasm in both series, evident through small group breakout and discussion.

Our Love in Actions are nights where we serve others in our community, and we've had several unique opportunities this year. We've collected food for the Parkland Food Bank, made care packages for our seniors, families, and unsheltered population, started a donation fund for our Impact Ministries Classroom Sponsorship in Guatemala, and participated in the annual Stony Plain Town Pitch-In.

We did a ton of fun events this year too! We had a great retreat out at Camp Nakamun, hosted a variety of 'Party Nights' which includes (but is not limited to) Lip Sync Battles, Nerf Wars, Ben Games (think Beast Games on Amazon Prime) and a competitive game involving challenges and sandwich making! It's been a fun year and lots of memories were made.

In addition to this, we've had several students get baptized this year, and a few more who are currently in the queue! Jesus has been up to amazing things in the SPACYOUTH community, and I'm convinced that he has a ton of amazing plans for this ministry. I'm honoured to have been a part of it these last few years. I'm so grateful for our amazing team of Youth Leaders who have given up countless evenings, weekends, time, and energy. They are the bedrock of this ministry, and it would be impossible to do without them. And of course, our students are amazing and we love them all!



SPAC YOUNG ADULTS

This group of young adults (ages 18-30) have been meeting weekly on Tuesday nights here at SPAC! It's a fairly small group, which allows for meaningful connection and great conversation. This group feels welcoming, relaxed, and everyone in it has a desire for intentional community with others to practice the way of Jesus together. We place an emphasis on small group nights, which can involve teaching, scripture studies, or video series. We also make sure to throw in some fun events there too... bowling has been a particular favourite. It's been great to walk alongside people as they grow more into who Jesus made them to be and discover more of who he is.



EMALEE LANE | *DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS*

An important and often unseen part of ministry is the behind the scenes work that goes on to facilitate the smooth running of this building and the events that happen in it. We have a set-up team, coordinated by Elizabeth, who faithfully show up twice a week (and sometimes more!) to move furniture so the various events happening in the building throughout the week and over the weekend have just what they need to be a success. With the warmer weather we have volunteers who give their time to share in the lawn and garden maintenance. Similarly, there are several skilled volunteers who give of their time and resources to help with all the little and big improvements to the facility that come up, such as the new door to the tech booth or shelves in the Great Room Storage.

JoEllen and a myriad of volunteers organize coffee, tea, and each one of the lunches enjoyed by our community regularly at events and on Sundays. The cultivation of this place as a place of beauty, transforming the building to reflect the seasons or event, whether that be Christmas or Easter or kickoff, is facilitated by a talented group of volunteers who realize the importance of a welcoming space.

Dianne works tirelessly to ensure this building is clean and ready to receive all those who find themselves at SPAC in the office or at an event during the week or on a Sunday morning. Alongside her there are dedicated volunteers who help with some of the bigger cleaning projects like window washing or weekly stain removal tasks.

As we lean into our value of hospitality, we have begun a conversation around accessibility and what it means for everyone to feel welcomed in our building and community. We have put together an Accessibility Audit team, who are currently having conversations around how our building and ministries can better accommodate and support disability. Currently, this team is in the process of gathering feedback and stories from you, our church family, to help guide the direction of the conversation.

Week after week, evidence of the kingdom bubbles up on these teams as relationships form and grow, and new faces show up to pitch in and model the servant way of Jesus. It takes a community to ensure this place continues running and we are so grateful for each person who is a part of that. All these very practical things are part of the ministry here at SPAC.

LINDA STOVER | *COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PASTOR*

In areas of justice and compassion, sometimes the needs can feel overwhelming. I love the focus that our church has on listening to Jesus and being responsive to the next step that Jesus leads us to take. One step at a time, we practice the way of Jesus together, so that fullness of life can be experienced in our community and our world.

LOCAL RESPONSE

We continue to deepen and grow our partnerships with various ministries and organizations throughout our Tri-Region.

On the cold days of winter, we offer our building as a Warming Centre, so that the unsheltered are provided with food, shelter, and relational connections. This means that even beyond the regular scheduled times of the Centre, we are becoming a trusted location for those in need.

Our partnership with NeighbourLink is multi-faceted. We participate in providing donations for their Back to School campaign in the fall, that supports families in need with the necessary supplies for their children. Our generous Christmas Eve offering went fully to supporting the ministries of NeighbourLink. Throughout the year, a dedicated team of volunteers offered multiple sessions of “Community Cooking Classes” for those wanting to improve their cooking skills and learn budgeting tips, so that they can feed their family more frugally. Beyond the cooking and budgeting, the relational aspect of cooking and eating a meal together each evening provided first step connections for people to feel safe in a church, and for some to even begin to attend on Sunday!

As a church, we participate wholeheartedly and with great celebration in donating to the Kinsmen Christmas Hampers through our Advent Giving Tree. Each year our generosity expands! Our idea of taking a “decoration” off the “Giving Tree” and shopping for that item, has been so successful for us, that the Kinsmen are recommending this as a strategy for other organizations in our region! Well done SPAC in leading the way!

Widow to Widow, a ministry of Connecting Streams, and led in our region by SPAC’s Wanda Huzel, provides social connection and support to widows. This is an amazing outreach ministry that offers such great potential for Christian widows to be supporting those who do not yet know the hope, light, and love that is available in Christ, as they face the difficulties of loneliness and grief.

Twice a year, our Clothing Swap is highly anticipated by our community! The generosity of donated clothing items holds profound significance, as I hear the stories of the people who are being helped – families in dire straits, neighbours supporting struggling single moms, people from different ethnic and religious backgrounds being intrigued by this provision for their families and wanting to learn more about this church that is so different than what they have experienced or heard about! And then even as the event ends, our remaining items bless the Paul Band Health and Wellness Centre. (A huge shout out to JoEllen Hurd who holds vision for this event, and leads a fantastic crew of volunteers.)

I am so thrilled at our church’s response when Parkland Foodbank put out the call that their shelves were empty. You all filled 38 crates and donated hundreds of dollars to provide for the hungry in our region. All those filled crates brought tears to my eyes. Each person gives what they can, and TOGETHER it amounts to a lot!

Through relationship with Alberta Parenting for the Future, our church was able to support parents in our church by offering the Circle of Security program. Also, I have benefited greatly from their series through winter/spring on “Newcomers to Canada”. My eyes have been opened to the needs of immigrants in our area, and the ways in which our church may be able to respond in the future. Our region will be welcoming many more immigrants in the coming years, and we have such opportunity to love others for Christ.

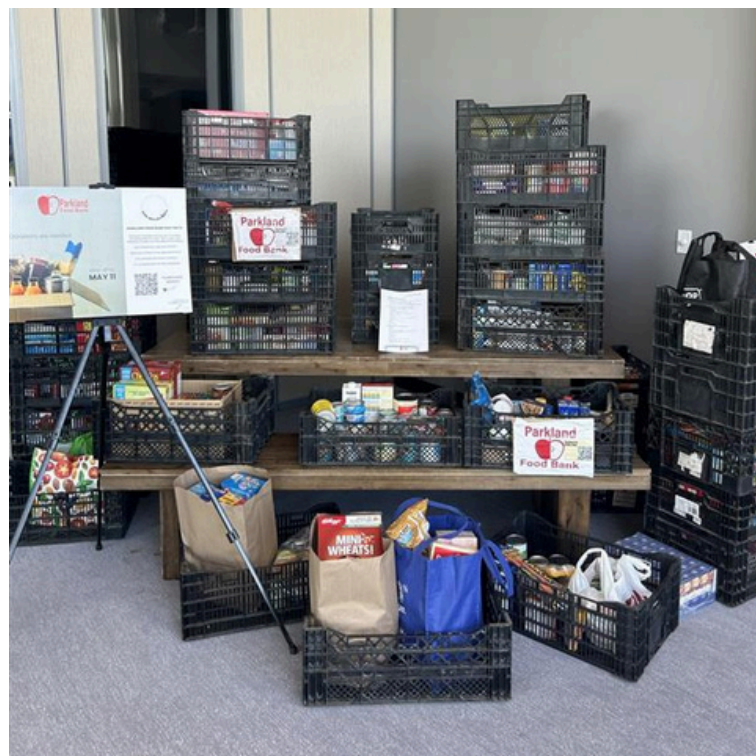
GLOBAL RESPONSE

Our partnership with Impact Ministries in Guatemala has been strengthened as we began to sponsor a classroom. This provides educational resources for the children, a meal each day for the students, caring support, and the sharing of good news with the families. A generous family in our church donated school kits for our students, and some of our SPAC people, who travelled to Guatemala with the Living Waters school trip, had the opportunity to visit our classroom and deliver these kits. We look forward to deepening our relationship with Impact Ministries in the future.

We continue to support Christian Missionary Alliance International Workers, especially those with whom our church has relationship.

One of the key areas of growth has been in the increased level of communication and prayer support with Ray and Cindy serving in Mexico City. We also loved hearing from them in service via video recently. We continue in faithful support of ‘M’, whose ministry in a closed country requiring creative access means that we have to be very careful about the communications that are shared.

In summarizing our church’s involvement in Justice and Compassion, all the “next steps” that we are taking together, accumulate into a crescendo of celebration of how God is at work within our community and our world, and how His light is shining into dark places.



MATT KINNIBURGH | SPIRITUAL FORMATION PASTOR

This has been a strange ministry year, for sure. It began with a gift. A three-month sabbatical that I thank you for, church family. It was great for me and my family to try out new rhythms, to rest, to get away, and come back refreshed. As the sabbatical ended, a different journey began as my mom received her terminal cancer diagnosis, which culminated in her passing to be with Jesus five months later. Thank you, church family, for walking it with me. You are a gift.

My role around here is spiritual formation, or the answer to the question - how do we practice the way of Jesus together? This happens in a variety of ways - including one-on-one conversations, working with our team to think through practicing the way of Jesus, Sunday mornings, and many more. If fullness of life for everyone happens as we practice the Jesus way together, then what is this way and how do we practice it? This looks like providing avenues and language for us to apprentice with Jesus - being with him, becoming like him, and doing what does.

One of the ways in which we are practicing the way of Jesus together is through programs like The Alpha Course and The Alpha Marriage Course. Alpha is such a great space for conversation around life, faith, and Jesus - and it was special to see conversation where others were listening to one another with curiosity. At the Marriage Course, couples put intention into their marriages and dug into how they could come into more congruency with the way of Jesus. Both programs were made possible by the hard work of leaders: Steve and Sue Paddon, and Bob and Trudie Schimpf with The Marriage Course, and Judy Grasley, Nicole Getzinger, Glen Nelson, Michelle Van Dam, and Mike and Sue Hudgins with Alpha.

Two of our ministries that have represented our values of hospitality and storytelling well are Men's Ministry and Hymn Sing. Men's Ministry has hosted monthly breakfasts where we spend time in conversation, eat great food, and then someone from our community shares their story of faith. It has been great to see how the simple sharing of our stories has grown our community and allowed connection to happen. This team is led by Kevin Nickurak, Wade Hagman, and Brandon Dombroski. Every other Thursday afternoon, the church foyer rings with the joyful sounds of our Hymn Sing. These afternoons are filled with song and story, as they sing of the goodness of God and reflect on the ways God has been speaking to them. Afterwards, there is a great and boisterous time of fellowship in the café. I am grateful for the Mulder's and Barnes' leadership over this time.

Our Life Recovery group has faithfully met in person and online every Tuesday night. This group, who is led by Sherry Sadleir and Lillian Helton, cares so deeply for one another and desires to find the Fullness of Life that Jesus offers us.



Lastly, I have been given the privilege of helping out our Prayer Ministry. Typically, what is seen of prayer ministries is the Sunday morning prayer corner, and it has been amazing to see more and more people going for prayer— this is literally an answer to prayer! What is unseen is so much more. Our Prayer Ministries are led by the Prayer Lead Team, Melody Clements, Anne Graham, Judy Bennett, Brenda Hankinson, Hank Voth, Vange Wiens, and Samantha Kinniburgh. They do an amazing job of overseeing prayer for the church, praying for community-wide initiatives, prayer with individuals, leading Sunday morning teams, and for interceding on our behalf. Also, we have an online group called PrayerLink that has around 75 intercessors who pray for submitted prayer requests, upcoming events, baptisms, and a variety of other things.

I am grateful to Jesus that he has entrusted me to be a part of the staff team here and get to serve in our church community as we continue to apprentice with Jesus in his now-available kingdom of light.

Grace and peace.

SHELEENA BOULIANNE | *WORSHIP PASTOR*

WORSHIP

It has been a privilege to gather as a pastoral team week after week and listen to what Jesus has to say regarding our Sunday gatherings and to follow his leading. Our liturgies, yearly rhythms, songs, prayers, preaching, and even the look and feel of our services flow out of a deep attentiveness to how Spirit is moving in our midst and what Jesus is wanting to reveal each and every Sunday.

Our special services (Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Blue Christmas, etc.) have allowed us to minister to the wider community as people enter our building and find that all are welcome at The Table of Jesus. Many people comment on their experience of finding peace and a sense of home in our space. God is entrusting us with many who are



curious about Jesus and are joyfully discovering that their brokenness is not a barrier to his love.

Our Encounter Nights are a special time for us to gather in worship and prayer in an unhurried environment on Sunday evenings several times a year. This past year, we explored themes of abundance, grace, life, and looking at the conditions of our hearts. Every evening has been unique in the way that Spirit leads and guides, and our responsiveness has led to much healing, freedom, and breakthrough for individuals and our congregation. Our posture is expectation. Our response is surrender. Our privilege is asking. Our joy is receiving.

Our Worship Lead Team continuing to grow and dream together which has been a wonderful source of encouragement and collective discernment.

Our music and tech teams continue to lead with grace, humility, joy, skill, mutual encouragement, and ever-increasing **responsiveness** to our one true worship leader – Jesus. It is a joy watching people grow in gifts and discover new ones. We have also been blessed this year to have younger generations join our teams and bring new energy, insights, and perspectives to the creative process.

LIFE GROUPS

We have about 140 people who are seeking to practice the way of Jesus together in Life Groups. This year, many people took the courageous and vulnerable step of joining an intentional community and some said yes to facilitating a group for the very first time.

These groups all look very different and meet different needs. Some meet weekly; others have a rotating schedule. Some meet in homes; others at the church. Some read books or watch videos; others use our sermon discussion guides and other church-wide resources. Some are demographic-specific; others are intergenerational. Big. Small. What holds all these groups together is a commitment to keeping the unity of the Spirit as they share in practices of hospitality, honour and value one another's unique stories and perspectives, grow in responsiveness to God's voice, and support each other's engagements in justice and compassion.

Life Groups are a beautiful expression of kingdom community in our church and, while most are winding down for the summer, perhaps it's time to start praying and having conversations with Jesus and others around what the fall might hold for you.

SPAC WOMEN

We added a few 'Hangouts' this year to our SPAC Women ministry. These nights have been a wonderful opportunity to develop connections through conversation and creativity in an unhurried, beautiful space. These have been in addition to our fall Table Night - an evening for all ages and all stages of women to find healing community through story, food, and honest, hopeful conversation. We heard a couple of stories of women who find themselves held in God's love and protection, even though they feel like their stories are wildly unfinished and full of loose ends. The lead team has grown in listening to Jesus and shaping our events in responsiveness to his wisdom and revelation. It has been a privilege to discover and share Jesus' heart for the women in our midst.

TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

It has been an incredible year relationship-building and learning having formally launched our Truth & Reconciliation efforts as a tangible expression of our values of **hospitality, storytelling, responsiveness, and justice & compassion.**

In September, we prepared for our participation in the community's National Day for Truth & Reconciliation events by learning more about the TRC's 94 Calls to Action and the history of Indigenous people in Canada.

We had our MINDS renewed in November with more specific learning around the Indian Act and the impact of residential schools. In February, our HEARTS were transformed as we welcomed Dene and Isaac Eeles who shared their personal stories and missionary work with youth in Maskwacis First Nation.

And last month, we were responsive in ACTION as we learned about the complex issues surrounding missing and murdered Indigenous people and honoured those who have been impacted by this kind of targeted violence by participating in the community's MMIP walk.

We are very excited to have developed a partnership with Ambrose University under the guidance of NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning Community to explore ways that churches and theological institutions can be active learners and participants in ongoing reconciliation efforts. We were honoured to have NAIITS Program Coordinator Nichole Forbes join us for MMIP weekend, and personally invite our congregation to engage in the important kingdom work of being ministers of reconciliation. We are learning as we go, and Jesus is teaching us so much about the humility, curiosity, loving restraint and healing work that informs all of our justice and compassion pursuits. We are continuing to be shaped as a listening and learning community and as a result, more and more doors of relationship are opening.

We are reminded often of how much we have to learn and how complicated our dividing walls of hostility have become, but we have also been so encouraged by our Indigenous neighbors who are quick to say that “every act of showing up is an act of reconciliation.” So we will keep showing up.



BUDGET

Stony Plain Alliance Church
GENERAL FUND
 July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

	Full year July-June 2025/2026 DRAFT budget	Full year July-June 2024/2025 BUDGET	Full year July-June 2023/2024 BUDGET
General Fund Income	\$1,130,808	\$1,107,367	\$1,239,939
Direct Ministry Costs (net of cost recovery):			
Adventure Ministries	\$5,757	\$5,757	\$5,757
Youth Ministry	\$7,294	\$7,216	\$6,865
Young Adults	\$765	\$765	\$765
Adults	\$11,417	\$10,966	\$10,744
Community Engagement	\$19,590	\$6,200	\$11,600
Worship and Creative Arts	\$12,821	\$11,192	\$11,420
Missions (does not include congregant missions giving)	\$2,950	\$5,750	\$650
Events & Promotion	\$9,322	\$9,822	\$10,722
	\$69,915	\$57,668	\$58,523
Staffing & Training Expenses:			
Payroll (Wages & Employer Costs + Group Benefits)	\$694,743	\$683,000	\$640,000
Staff Support	\$280	\$280	\$280
Gifts - pastoral and support	\$0	\$0	\$0
Books and Subscriptions	\$1,400	\$1,400	\$1,200
Continuing Education	\$3,000	\$2,712	\$3,000
Denominational Conferences	\$3,900	\$4,050	\$2,700
Meals	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$4,000
Mileage	\$5,040	\$5,040	\$4,320
Cell Phone	\$0	\$0	\$0
Candidating & Moving Costs	\$4,750	\$2,645	\$5,595
Staff and Elder training & events			
	\$718,113	\$704,127	\$661,095
Office & Administration Expenses			
Office			
Computer software & tech support	\$18,351	\$14,145	\$19,127
Copier lease and service	\$5,912	\$6,412	\$6,412
Postage & Courier	\$600	\$600	\$1,800
Office Supplies	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Service Charges, Licenses & Subscriptions	\$12,180	\$12,180	\$11,380
	\$39,043	\$35,337	\$40,719
Building Expenses:			
Mortgage - Principal & Int. payments	\$123,000	\$123,000	\$342,525
Utilities	\$42,300	\$52,200	\$48,120
Garbage Removal	\$1,836	\$1,836	\$1,836
Repairs & Maintenance	\$42,569	\$42,498	\$39,411
Cleaning Supplies	\$2,800	\$2,800	\$2,320
	\$212,505	\$222,334	\$434,212
Capital Expenses	\$8,500	\$5,800	\$7,000
Amortization	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Expenses:			
District Operating Budget (3% of general fund)	\$33,924	\$33,221	n/a
Insurance	\$19,700	\$18,506	\$20,406
Cemetery - Maintenance	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$10,500
Cemetery - Expansion	\$0	\$0	\$0 n/a
Reserve Fund (1% of general fund)	\$11,308	\$11,074	
Professional Fees	\$7,300	\$8,800	\$7,485
	\$82,732	\$82,101	\$38,391
Income Net of Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0

GIVING REPORT

Giving From July 1, 2024 to May 27, 2025

Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30.

The numbers below represent 48 of 52 weeks.

General Fund

Budget as of May 27, 2025 (includes all mortgage and interest costs)	\$ 1,022,185
Actual received as of May 27, 2025	\$ 897,829
Budget vs. Actual shortfall (this does not represent a cash shortfall)	(\$ 124,356)

Missions

(Global Advance, Home Missions, etc.)	\$ 55,663
Short term missions reserved funds	\$ 15,473

New Building - 2 Keystone Drive

Loans payable to Western Canadian District of Alliance Canada	\$ 3,533,042
	\$512,453
Accrued interest on District loans	\$177,613
	\$4,223,108

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

ELDERS UP FOR ELECTION OR RE-ELECTION

The Nominating Committee nominates the following members as Elders for a two-year term:

Rob Davidson, 2-year term election
Anita Ripmeester, 2-year term election
Kendyl Cooper, 2-year term election

ELDERS CURRENTLY SERVING

Linnaea Anderson, Sue Fulmore, Clark Mills, and Jason Ridderikhoff are currently serving a two-year term.

In keeping with our local church constitution: *Other nominations, if any, shall be made in writing, signed by two members in good standing and filed with the chairman of the nominating committee for posting on the Sunday prior to the annual meeting (Spring Converge).*

ELDERS WHO HAVE COMPLETED OR RESIGNED THEIR SERVE

Jack Adkins has completed three two-year terms. Jeff Nixon has completed one two-year term and is not putting his name forward for re-election

APPRENTICE APPOINTMENT

Apprentices are not elected but rather appointed by the Board of Elders. Apprentices go through a process of mentorship and growth and could potentially be available to serve as elders following this process.

Rebecca Mackey, 1-year term apprentice

2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

February 9, 2015, the Board of Elders passed a motion to entrust the task of nominating from the general membership a minimum of two individuals for election at the annual general meeting. As such, the present Nominating Committee has nominated the following members to represent the general membership on the 2026 Nominating Committee:

Judy Bennett
Anne Graham

Members can also nominate others from the floor at the annual finance meeting (Fall Converge).

Respectfully submitted,



Wade Paton, *Lead Pastor*
Nominating Committee Chair

2025 Nominating Committee Members
Brenda Hankinson, *Elected Member*
Al Voth, *Elected Member*
Linnaea Anderson, *Board Representative*
Clark Mills, *Board Representative*
Wade Paton, *Lead Pastor/Committee Chair*

NOMINATED ELDERS



ROB DAVIDSON

Rob and Shauna have been married for 29 years this August and have been attending SPAC since 2006.

Rob is the General Manager at a warehouse in St. Albert, where he has been for the last 15 years. He is one of the organizers of the Edmonton Board Gaming League and enjoys playing disc golf with friends.

Rob's ministry experience at SPAC includes: elder (treasurer), youth leader, men's ministry leader, tech, Life Group leader and most recently he has joined the Sunday morning prayer team.



ANITA RIPMEESTER

Anita and her husband, Matt, have been married for 10 years. They have 2 children, Leo (almost 5) and Mason (2.5).

Anita has worked as a Speech-Language Pathologist for 8 years and currently works for Evergreen Catholic Schools.

Anita and her family have been attending SPAC since about 2019. Anita's ministry experience at SPAC over the years includes: AdventureKids, SPAC Moms, and Life Group Leadership.

KENDYL COOPER

Kendyl and his wife Shoshanna have been married for 10 years as of September. Together they have 3 boys: Owen is going into Grade 1, Declan is going into Kindergarten, and Ryland will turn 3 in December.

They began attending SPAC shortly after getting married and moving to the area from Calgary in 2015. Kendyl's ministry experience at SPAC includes both leading and participating in the music teams, men's events, and Life Groups.

Kendyl has been working for AHS Emergency Medical Services since moving to the area and currently supports the Provincial Community Paramedic program in a Quality and Patient Safety role. Relational leadership, specifically in caring environments (e.g. healthcare, the church, and the home), is a major crossroad of Kendyl's interests and talents. It has been, and will continue to be, a lifelong learning opportunity in humility.



NOMINATED

APPRENTICES

REBECCA MACKEY

Rebecca and her husband Michael and children Wiley (7) and Maxwell (4) have been attending SPAC since 2022.

Rebecca's previous ministry experience includes leading small groups and participating in youth ministry, worship ministry, media, hospitality, and camp ministry. She is a registered psychologist specializing in crisis intervention and assessment, and is in the process of transitioning into a new career conducting investigations for the psychologist's regulatory association. She is a previous member of the Community Refugee Committee of St Albert.

Some of her favorite activities are rock climbing, biking, and kayaking with her family. She is excited to become more involved at SPAC and build relationships through the elder apprentice position.





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S P A C

FULLNESS OF LIFE FOR EVERYONE,
BY PRACTICING THE WAY OF JESUS TOGETHER