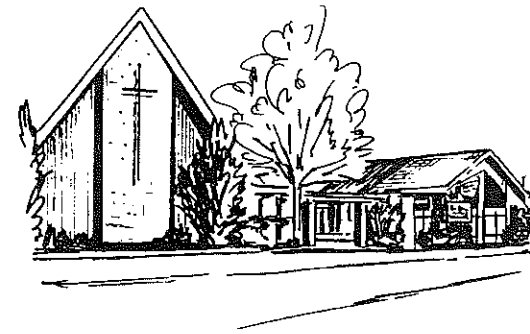


# Annual Report

## ST DAVID'S UNION CHURCH

Allenton – Ashburton  
July 2021– June 2022



*“Called, Equipped and Sent”*

### ANNUAL MEETING

will be held on  
Sunday 25th September 2022  
after the worship service

## IN MEMORIAM

We would like to acknowledge the work of all those who have gone to be with the Lord during the year and pray that God will comfort their loved ones. Funerals for the following were held during the year under review.

Owen Everist \*

Sylvia Totty \*

Murray Gill

Noel Lowe \*

Robert Jones \*

Lester Tarbotton \*

Robin Everist \*

Jack Ross \*

Bryan Moody \*

### **\* *Member of St David's***

Dear Lord, God of compassion and God of all comfort and peace, we are grateful for all your servants who served you in the life of your church and now they rest from their labor. We humbly pray for their families left behind in this world. Grant them your peace and strengthen them. As you encourage and strengthen us in our times of trouble, so help us to do the same for others out of the help we receive from you.

In Christ's name.

Amen.

## CALL FOR A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND AGENDA

The annual meeting of the congregation of St David's Church will be held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 immediately following the church Service. The annual meeting may consider such business as hearing reports of the parish council along with plans for the coming year, hearing reports from the finance committee and transacting other business as appropriate.

### AGENDA

Opening Prayer – Rev Henry Mbambo

Call to Order – Peter Yates (Parish Council chairperson)

Apologies

Approve Minutes for Congregational Meeting: - 2020– 2021

Approve Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting June 2022

Matters Arising

New Business -

Receive Annual Reports -

- Minister's report
- Bible Study
- Parish Council report
- Parish Visitor report
- Christian Education Committee
- Walking Group
- Midweek Service
- Foot Clinic
- Worship Committee
- Property Committee
- Mission Committee
- Greenstreet

Receive Budget and Treasurer's Report - David Fisher

Hymn and Benediction

Morning Tea

## From your Minister

Greetings in the name of Christ and *Kia ora koutou*

2021-2022 has been another year which made us find ways of doing things differently due to a lot of uncertain days as the pandemic continued to affect the world, and our local community. I hope that we can still say that the Lord has continued to be with us and we have seen God's faithfulness.

During the year, a number of our members had Covid 19 and many were affected with some people choosing to stay away from church. This is understandable given that we all need to be careful and more so if you have underlying health issue. With some people staying away from church, we saw a decline in Sunday worship attendance, but we hope that things will change for the better as the year warms up and the Covid situation settles down.

As your minister, I am grateful that you continued to be in touch with the church family during the year and we hope that we can continue to serve God together in the community. As we continue to reflect on our church life together, let us celebrate God's mercies in the past year and with God's vision look to the future with hope.

Due to Covid restrictions, we were unable to hold a special event to celebrate the golden jubilee of the consecration of the St David's Church. It was good, however, to communicate with former ministers and members who were part of the ministry of our church as we planned for the celebrations. As we continue to serve God in our community, may we rejoice as we partner with God and one another.

I would like to thank Nikki Read our Parish Visitor who is a joy to serve with. Jan Squires, our Administrative Secretary is a great person to work with and we are blessed to have her in the role she has and it is always a joy to work with. I am thankful to both of them.

I am grateful for the supportive parish council led by David Henson and Peter Yates. Both, David and Peter have worked closely with me and may I continue to ask you to pray for them as they continues with this important responsibility. Thanks to all the conveners of committees who have been very supportive during the year.

I am thankful for a supportive team of musicians and song leaders. Thanks to all who help in worship preparation and leading every week. Thanks to Frank and Jim who have preached when I have been away on leave or when attending to presbytery duties.

May I take this opportunity also to thank Chileya my wife and our children, Taonga, Lusungu and Kondwani who has been very supportive of my ministry through the St David's Church during the year under review.

Finally I would like to thank the many volunteers who have been good in working with Fit Kids children's programme and young people. Thanks to all who organize the mid-week service led by Anna Reith and thanks to those serving the community in the foot clinic led by Joy Nicholas. Many thanks also to all the church groups organizing lunches, walks and distribution of newsletters.

Looking to the future, one asks what our hopes are for 2022-2023. Remember that Christ has called us, and is equipping us so that we may be sent and be His Church in the community. Let us continue to participate in the work of our parish, using our talents, time and treasure as we serve God together.

In conclusion, may I thank you all for your prayers and words of encouragement and wisdom that you have given me during the year. Many people have worked with me in pastoral care and preparation for worship services and I am deeply grateful for that. I hope that the reports you read from all the committee will be uplifting for you. May God continue to use us to build His Kingdom here on earth.



Henry Mbambo  
Minister

### **Parish Bible study group**

It has meet regularly on a Thursday evening at different people's homes from 7.30-8.45pm. We have had studies from throughout the scriptures. It is a very enjoyable time of learning and sharing. We welcome new members.

Jim Young

## 2022 Chairman's Report

The year has been the 'year of Covid' with many restrictions imposed on us at St David's that have restricted our regular activities and also worship attendance. In spite of these restrictions, Henry and the team of helpers have been able to maintain a full worship programme. Worship services have been recorded and published on the St David's website [stdavidsashburton.org](http://stdavidsashburton.org) for those who have not been able to attend the services. Special thanks to Henry for this as it is he who does the (considerable) extra work after the service to edit these and publish them each week.

Attendance at services has dropped off considerably over this time with the restrictions, people being sick and people being wary of becoming sick. We hope that attendance will improve again. Over the year, the ability to be able to move the new chairs around allowed for extra space to be made to ensure all attending were given adequate space to prevent infections being passed on.

It was a shame that all the preparations made for the celebration of 50 years worshiping in the Allens Road church building were not able to proceed due to the Covid restrictions.

Henry is also involved in working with our young people and there is a now a group of our young meeting regularly.

We once again thank Henry for his unwavering commitment to the care and wellbeing of all in the parish. His preaching and the services he leads are the obvious parts we see but we all know that there is so much preparation and other work done behind the scenes. The support that Chileya gives is also obvious and we thank her for this. It is a continuing joy to have Henry and Chileya leading us in this parish.

Nikki's pastoral care over the year has been greatly appreciated and this has maintained an essential link with many who have felt or been unable to be out and about as freely as they may have wished.

Many of our other programmes were restricted and paused on occasion, but all of these are now back in full swing and it is wonderful that we have so many willing helpers to be able to continue these. With the risk of leaving out some, these include Fit Kidz, twice monthly craft and chat, foot clinic, walnut collecting, drying, shelling and selling. Additional services including the Mid Week Services and Aged Care Services are also now largely back in action having been paused for some time.

The property has been maintained over the year with some bits being replaced before the painters were to come in.

Finance is always an issue in a church, but we are very thankful to David Fisher for the work he does to manage these and provide the guidance to ensure that we are prudent when making decisions that affect our finances.

Thanks to all Parish Councillors who meet each month and, in the background, plan, prepare and perform all their duties and contribute in so many ways to the smooth operation of our parish.

Peter Yates  
(Interim) Parish Council Chairman

### **Parish Visitors Report**

I am thankful for the opportunity I have been given, in the role as Parish Visitor. It is a blessing and privilege to be part of St David's team sharing God's love and fellowship to our church family and in our community. This year has continued to be challenging with Covid restrictions especially in our Rest homes.

Thank you for allowing me to visit and all who have welcomed me into their homes. I am grateful for the opportunities of getting to know our people in a greater depth and fostering God's faithfulness in our daily lives.

My role involves supporting Henry with funerals, Rest home services, fortnightly Mid-week services, home communion, supporting Fit Kids and visiting people in our community in their homes and the times when they are in hospital. We have a growing number of people in our parish who have been unwell and some who have gone into care. Pastoral care needs are growing, and I thank you for the volunteers that help me and support this ministry with me; you are vital in the ongoing care of all. Thank you to Joy Nicholas who has been co-ordinating drivers and our elderly people who want to attend Mid-Week Service on a fortnightly basis, this has allowed me more time to visit people in their homes.

Thank you to our Pastoral Care team for the distribution of newsletters. We try to meet every 3-4 months to share, support and encourage each other on how we can best connect with our community and church family. Thank you to our team who are involved in this outreach ministry.

I enjoy working with Henry and thank you to his encouragement and wisdom in the sharing of pastoral care, and thank you to Jan, who works in the office, and the support she gives me throughout the year.

A big thank you to you all who have kept me informed of the needs of family, friends and loved ones in and around our community. I love my work and sharing the love of Jesus.

Nikki Read

### **Christian Education Committee**

This year has been challenging for the Christian Education Committee due to Covid and the Omicron variant disrupting Christian Education programmes in 2022. We meet monthly giving oversight and supporting the Youth Ministry, Family and Children's ministries and Bible Study group and Fellowship gatherings.

Bible Study discussion on a Thursday evening, is a weekly gathering, with studies on 'I am' of Jesus and we are now working through the book of Revelation. Thank you to Jim Young who has led and put in an extra effort in organizing the study material and keeping us on track.

The Baptist Church lead a Easter Trail Journey; we organized times for St Davids people to attend. The Easter Trail Journey was an opportunity to step back in time through their interactive, walk-through presentation, that brings to life the true story and meaning to Easter.

The Children's Holiday Programme was cancelled in October 2021 due to Covid and thankfully we are organizing a programme to run in October 2022. Our programmes are run by a small group of volunteers with a co-ordinator appointed for each day. We are thankful to the support of our Youth team who have been an integral part in running all the games with the children and helping with craft activities.

The After Schools Children's Church Programme run all of 2021 on a Wednesday afternoon. We provided afternoon tea to the children, games, a small bible message and craft finishing at 4.30. The highlight was a Christmas Play at the end of the year inviting all the families to attend the Family Service. Sadly, due to Covid and not enough volunteers, this programme is on hold.



We had 2 terms in 2022 that Fit Kidz was on hold due to Covid, thankfully we are now continuing to meet on a Thursday morning with Rachel, Anna, Nikki and Isobel leading the music sessions and a wonderful group of volunteers working to help and support this ministry. A huge thank you to the group of ladies who serve morning tea, help and meet our young mothers, and encourage them. Rachel is now officially leading our team, creating programmes for the music sessions and following up on visits to our young Mothers and caregivers.

Henry has continued to lead the Youth on a Wednesday evening throughout the year. This has been a supportive group of Youth, encouraging each other and it was a privilege for Rob and I to host our young people for an overnight 40-hour famine.

I would like to thank all the members of the Christian Education Team, leaders and volunteers who help keep all the programmes up and running especially the challenges that this year have presented to us. May God continue to open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to spiritual growth and fellowship in St Davids family.

Nikki Read

### **Walking Group**

Tuesday morning 9.30 am, an enthusiastic group of walkers leave from the church for a time of exercise, socialising and a welcome café! We average 15 walkers and everyone is welcome.

Pam Love

### **Midweek Service**

This year has had the interruption of Covid so everyone was very careful and services were delayed until all felt more relaxed. When all came back together again, it was even more special to meet up again and become part of the St David's family group. When we greet people who have not attended for a year or more they are not in a hurry to leave.

Thanks must go to Henry for the much appreciated services held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Joy must be given a big thank you as she contacts everyone and organises the transport, which is not easy when you have to deal with walking frames etc. The smiles and chatter make those who prepare the food and work in the background feel it is a privilege to help as a witness to our LORD God.

Anna Reith

## **Foot Clinic**

It's hard to believe that it is report time again and this month (September) will be our 12<sup>th</sup> year of operation. The Foot Clinic has been ticking along nicely in spite of Covid, but then toenails are oblivious to pandemics and they just continue to grow. Surprisingly there hasn't been a reduction in our client numbers, but then we are very health & safety conscious with volunteers wearing masks and distancing foot baths, chairs etc. We were fortunate that only one clinic had to be cancelled in August 2021 due to lockdown.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the volunteers; they're AMAZING! From Trish who handles the bookings to Carol, who oversees the operation .... And everyone inbetween. THANK YOU.

Joy Nicholas

## **Worship Committee**

The committee comprises Rev Henry Mbambo, Jeanette Crutch, and convenor Frank Tasker.

The committee meets on the third Thursday each alternate month.

Weekly worship continues at St David's, beginning with two songs of praise and worship selected by a roster of song leaders. The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday each month and also on Easter Day. Prayer ministry is offered each week following worship, and fellowship is shared over morning tea in the fellowship room, although during recent months, due to the risk of spreading COVID 19, this time of fellowship has needed to be curtailed, though we certainly hope and pray that this rather special time of fellowship will soon be able to return.

As a parish we are privileged to have Rev Henry Mbambo as our minister. Henry relates well with the people of the parish and his worship leadership and sermons are a blessing to all.

The use of technology to place worship services on the church website is continuing to be improved, and many make use of this facility if they are unable to attend worship in person on a Sunday.

Worship services are held at Greenstreet, our small country church approximately five times per year.

Special services throughout the year have included Spring Flower Sunday held in September and Harvest Festival in March with produce being delivered to either Presbyterian Support or the Salvation Army foodbanks.

Sadly, due to the influence of not only COVID 19, but also our inability to acquire a suitable accompanist, the choir has needed to take a rest. For this reason a pre-Christmas carol event was undertaken involving the whole congregation which seemed to work well.

Again, due to the influence of COVID 19, mid-week services needed to be curtailed for a period, but thankfully, more recently these services have again returned. The fellowship at worship, and over lunch is very much appreciated by all who attend. I thank all those involved in making this happen, and in preparing and serving the lunch. This is an important part of the parish mission.

Services organised by the Ashburton Christian Ministers Association continue on a rostered basis, although a number of rest homes do not at this time permit entry due to the risk of infection. St David's are solely responsible for the monthly services at Radius Millstream.

Rev Jim Young and myself have led worship on those occasions when Henry has been on leave or on holiday.

**Music:** Music continues to be an important part of worship at St David's. A dedicated team of musicians provide music leadership on a rostered basis at weekly services, at Greenstreet and the rest home services, although for some of these services musicians have withdrawn, again due to the risk of contracting COVID, and Henry has made use of electronic music on these occasions.

Although the number of funerals this year has been fewer, music accompaniment for most has been provided by Lesley Blain, substituted by Sylvia Watson when Lesley has been unavailable.

Finally I offer thanks to all who have taken their part so that our combined worship experience is a pleasant, sometimes challenging, and meaningful one. Those who arrange flowers, those preparing communion, those serving the morning teas, those on sound, data, and technology, our wonderful team of musicians and all the many activities required to make our worship a real celebration of the love of Christ. Thank you all.

*Frank Tasker*

Convenor

## Property Report

Once again it is my pleasure to present this Property Report for the last 12 months of things that have involved the property at St David's. Firstly I must say a big thank you to all the willing helpers when they are called on to give a hand when the need arises, like putting up the Christmas Star and Christmas scene, Easter Crosses on the mountain of soil kindly delivered by Tarbottons. There are numerous times when help is needed and always have that assistance when needed. The lawn mowing team did the usual good job. Nola Sim has given up the job of looking after the garden at the front of the church and by the south end of fellowship room. Many thanks Nola for your dedication for doing that for us. Lucille and George Brown have kindly offered to take care of these areas. All the work that is done by volunteers, if that had to be attended to on paid basis would cost the church a lot out of the budget. Special thanks to Lindsay Jones and Peter Yates being of great help to me with building repair jobs and also assembling the new sound/video/computer control station.

I will follow on with a summary of notes from my Property Reports to Parish Council over the last 12 months as things have happened on a month by month basis.

August 2021: Getting quotes for exterior painting of the Church facility. Cleaned spoutings, washed down concrete paths and did a moss spray. Had the heat pumps at church and church house serviced. Built a platform for lecturn. Working on the design for control station. To get Reads to redo the shower room in Church House.

October 2021: Had quotes for exterior painting: Summit Painting & Decorating \$16,235 ex GST, Scammells \$14,293 ex GST. We gave the job to Scammells.

Security changed from Masterguard to FFP Canterbury. Ongoing saga with NBS rating of the McCaskill Hall at 45%. We deemed too costly to do work on it to bring rating up to the 67% that Property Trustees request. Did the laying of cables along east wall of church round to Allens Road end for connection to proposed control station.

November 2021: Control Station getting assembled from a flat pack from Reads.

The shower room redo has been started with Reads and was completed before Christmas at a cost of about \$23,000. That type of work is costly but something needed to be done as it has been an ongoing issue for years.

December 2021: The control station was put in place and Jaco from Electraserve did the wiring that was needed to get the cables connected. That was a bit more involved than first thought. The Electraserve cost was covered by a generous donation from a church member.

February 2022: Church facility and church house revalued for insurance purposes. \$3,573,000 for church & \$746,000 for the house.

March 2022: Did some building repairs ready for the repaint. This repaint was to be done in March/April but with covid/weather, has not been attended to as I write this report and decided to wait till after the winter. Had to replace a toilet in church house because of a crack that water was leaking from.

April 2022: The decision was made to repaint the lounge, foyer and store room.

Also replace the old carpet with carpet tiles the same as in the fellowship room, along with roller shade blinds in lounge, store room and kitchen.

Carpet tiles from Skip-2-It \$7150.00, Scammells painting \$6546.00 & the blinds from Colour Plus \$1570.00. All these prices are GST incl. The painting cost has been covered by a very generous donation from a Church member.

June 2022: The above painting was done and the carpet tiles installed along with the roller blinds. I fitted long life smoke detectors in the house.

July 2022: The Mbambo family moved to their new home in Tinwald and the church house is being rented. An appropriate allowance will be paid for living in a home of their own.

I think this covers the main happenings with the property but there are many small ongoing routine jobs that need to be attended to, but too numerous to mention.

Greenstreet Church: Many thanks once again to Roger & Margaret Snowden for taking care of the Church.

Walnut Project: We have picked, dried and bagged 118 bags of walnuts, 1660kg.

Now on the opening and so far very disappointed with the quality of them. Lots of small not well filled nuts and a lot very coloured. Makes the job slower. We have our band of helpers that come on a Wednesday morning and some that do them at home for us.

If anyone else would like to join us on a Wednesday morning, they would be very welcome, or if you want to do some at home let us know. A good thing to be doing when it is cold outside. On behalf of John Pringle and myself, many thanks to our loyal "nutters". I say thanks to John for all he does behind the scenes for the walnut project. We did lose a good outlet for the nuts through a management change, so we all need to be on the look out for new places to sell them.

I have probably overlooked to report on something, but think I have covered most of what needs mentioning.

Thank you for having me look after the property for St Davids.

Carl Ruddenklau  
Property Convenor

### **Missions committee**

The parish has made a commitment to give \$3,000 a year to missions. Also during the year Coins for mission raised \$695. Thanks to everyone have contributed to Coins for Mission, by either their coins, preserved jam and chutney, vegetables, plants etc.

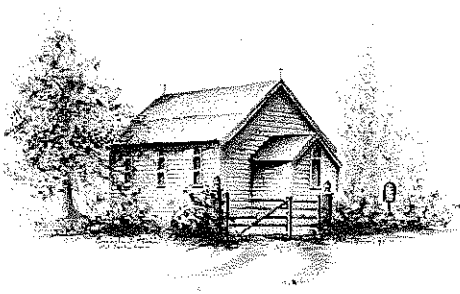
For the second year we have supported 3 mission partners in South Sudan, Zambia and Malawi. Thank you for your prayers for them. It is challenging being on the mission field and they very much appreciate the support of St David's parish.

#### Overseas Missionary giving:

	2022	2021
Malawi- STUM	\$1059	\$1000
Erica Aarsen	\$1000	\$1000
Muir's	\$1500	\$ 500
Total	\$3759	Total \$2500

Local Mission Payments:	2022	2021
Kai for Kids	\$400	\$740
Presbyterian Support Food Vouchers	\$500	\$0
Salvation Army Foodbank	\$500	\$0
40 Hour Famine	\$200	
Ministers Discretionary Fund	\$261	\$261
Totals	\$1861	\$1001

Jim Young



### **Greenstreet Ashburton Forks Community Church**

We have had five services this year. Four of these were morning services, August, November, March and June, and an evening service on Christmas Eve. Our warmest thanks to Henry for leading our services, and to Rona Hayward and Fairlie Matsinger our organists/pianists.

Morning services continue to be followed by a lunch, and we enjoy this time of fellowship.

Our Christmas Eve service was well supported and we enjoyed supper on the lawn afterwards.

At our March service we celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving; the donated produce going to Presbyterian Support.

Our November Service included the Baptism of Denzel Reveley, baby son of Hamish and Emily. Baptisms are a joyous event, with family and friends gathering together for the occasion. As is his custom, Henry invited the children to come close; to dip a finger in the font while he talked to them, and then to observe the actual baptism.

At our most recent service the theme was "perseverance and hope in the holy spirit." For a rural church with a small congregation, such a theme seemed very applicable.

Thank you to those who help maintain the church and grounds; Stan and Shirley Hydes for mowing the lawn; Joy and Murray Hydes for their 'housekeeping' and Joy's floral arrangements, and the many people who bring food for lunches. We appreciate all you do.

Roger and Margaret Snowden

## Finance

### Commentary on Financial Accounts for year ended 30 June 2022

There is a deficit for the year of \$28,446 as compared to a surplus of \$23,857 last year. This is due to Annual Appeal last year covering 2 years due to Covid-19 as compared to this year being only one year and the increase in Repairs & Maintenance due to manse bathroom repairs.

#### Income

- Overall giving for the year is down on last year. Envelopes and direct credit giving is down on last year by about 3.1%. Annual Appeal for last year covers 2 years receipts so this year is significantly down in comparison. Cash and other donations are well up and includes some donations for the audio/video upgrade.
- Fair at \$5,235 is down on last year.
- Walnut income at \$9,496 is up on last year.
- Estate distributions of \$5,000 were received.
- Funeral income at \$3,109 is similar to last year.
- Rentals of buildings continue to be similar to previous years. The Samoan Church used our buildings more than last year.
- Interest income is down on last year due to a significant fall in interest rates. These are improving now. We also withdrew some funds to assist in paying for the bathroom repairs.

#### Expenses

- Minister's costs are around what was expected.
- Parish visitor wages are around what was expected for a full year and include reimbursement of mileage.
- Office wages are around what was expected.
- Contributions to Partner Denominations are annual levies based on our income, less adjustments. The income used for the 2022 year assessment is the 2020 year.
- Administration expenses are around what was expected with some a little less. Celebration expenses of \$495 for pens purchased are included here.
- Cleaning is supplied by an outside contractor. The rate was previously discounted but is now at a market rate.
- Depreciation is an accounting entry required in charitable entity financial accounts. Depreciation is higher this year due to further capital purchases – audio/video control station and lounge blinds.
- Repairs are up due to \$5,694 spent on painting the church and bathroom repairs of \$23,302 at the manse.



- Local Mission and Overseas Mission is as listed. Some is funded by donations received totalling \$695.

The Statement of Financial Position shows a healthy position at balance date. Total cash reserves on hand and available for general spending is \$273,886. The transfer of our current account banking from Heartland to ANZ has commenced. This gives us the ability to handle Eftpos payments.

### **Budget for the year ended 30 June 2023**

- Minister expenses are based on new rates for the year from the Presbyterian Church.
- Youth work/supply has been added to cover relief for Henry to do youth work.
- Staff are budgeted at pay rates agreed from 1 July that are slightly more than the living wage.
- A Fit Kids Coordinator has been employed from July 2022.
- Monthly payment to the Methodist Church for assessment and levies is new actual figure for the coming year.
- Bank fees are to cover cost of providing Eftpos service.
- Estimate of \$1,000 for christian education.
- Estimate of \$3,000 for mission donations.
- Estimate of \$5,000 to allow for capital expenditure on smaller items. The upgrading of computers in the office and for the minister will be part of this.
- Other expenses based on known factors for the coming year or last year with an inflation increase.
- Fair income estimated at \$7,000.
- As Henry has moved out into his own house, he is paid a Housing Allowance. This is matched by rental income from the manse rented out.
- Sundry income is from interest, walnuts, foot clinic, rentals and other fundraising. Walnut income expected to be similar to last year. Interest income will improve with higher interest rates.
- 2022 Annual appeal estimated at \$20,000.
- To cover estimated expenses after taking into account estimated sundry and fair income, giving needs to increase 9.7% on last year.

### **Statement of Reserves and Allocation of Reserves**

This is to be used to ensure we have sufficient funds on hand to cover normal spending should income drop, estimated Long Term Capital Maintenance, current projects in progress and to assess whether funds are on hand for any new project.

- The Finance Committee believe that funds equal to 50% of annual expenses should be on hand to cover unexpected events. Covid-19 is an example.
- There are several donations not yet spent - hall roof repairs, estate distributions originally \$70,000 less amount spent to date as listed at the bottom of the statement, general donation of \$90,000.
- Allowance for Long Term Capital Maintenance on the church and the manse.
- Spending on computer replacements has been added.

The statement shows that all reserves are allocated. Funds available to cover the new projects will have to come out of existing estate distributions and donations not yet spent.

David Fisher

