

Narrative Budget 2011

The **Session** and **Board of Managers** of St. Andrew's has agreed that as an experiment for the year 2011, we would present our financial budget in the form of a narrative budget. Narrative budgeting allows us to share specific examples of mission and ministry in our congregation's life. Some of these examples may be daily occurrences, others may be ones that you are unaware of or never thought of in terms of mission and ministry. We hope that this narrative budget will help our membership relate their giving of time, energy and money to the congregation's – and denomination's – ongoing mission and ministry.

A line item budget is a necessary part of the financial management of the congregation. A narrative budget effectively interprets the financial needs and disbursements of the congregation, while at the same time, demonstrating the outcome of their giving. Narrative budgeting is not intended to replace line item budgeting.

Narrative budgeting is the means of presenting our congregation's yearly budget in descriptive terms. It powerfully represents the witness of our congregation by providing a clearer picture of the mission realized through its ministries.

It is our hope that this narrative budget will provide you with a better understanding of our congregation's work and witness as a community of God's people in Guelph and within The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Here's how it works:

As you know, every year the Board of Managers and the Session prepare a budget made up of line items like salaries, programs, heat, property expenses, office supplies, telephone, etc.

A Narrative Budget expands that budgeting process by telling the stories of our ministries and showing where parishioners' donations are used.

Here's how we created this year's narrative budget:

1. With our Shared Values (next page) in hand, we reviewed our line budget to determine our major areas of ministry. For this first attempt, we have tried to keep it simple and focus on four specific and very broad areas. These are:
 - a. Worship and Music
 - b. Mission and Outreach
 - c. Christian Nurture and Education, and
 - d. Pastoral Care
2. As you will see in this document, we compose a paragraph for each ministry area and list examples of what we're doing, how we serve the community, and what we want to accomplish.
3. We allocate all of the line items from our 2011 Budget to each of these areas of ministry. When this is finished we have a much clearer picture of who we are and how we serve our community and world. We may also have a better understanding of our minister's role, the vital role of our membership, and the multitude of things that happen during the week from Sunday to Sunday.

The best thing about a Narrative Budget is that it shows how we give through the church, not just to the church.

Respectfully submitted,
The Board of Managers and the Session

Shared Values

AT ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

These shared values are the soul of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church reflecting our Christian faith. These values are the cornerstone of our journey as a church community. They express that which we wish to become and how we go about becoming them. All our decisions and collective actions are measured by how such activities embody and bring life to our shared values by God's grace.

Living Faith

We believe that faith is a journey not a destination. We embrace change and meet its challenges with creativity and playfulness. We expect that the Holy Spirit will change us in the process.

"And Abram journeyed on by stages..."
Genesis 12:9

Welcoming

We work hard to make our community feel like a place to call home. We see the image of God in all people, everywhere. Differences are valued and safe and open dialogue is honoured.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."
Hebrews 13:2

Joy

Following Jesus is something to celebrate. We believe it is the best way to live. We rejoice that we can express with gratitude and worship our acceptance of God's invitation to this way of life. We happily affirm that God is making everything new and we are a valued part of it.

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."
Psalm 118:24

Love

We believe that we were created to live deeply with one another, to carry each other's burdens, to share our possessions, to pray for and confess our sins to each other, to suffer and to celebrate together. It's in these honest, loving relationships that God transforms us into the people we were meant to be.

"No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us."
1 John 4:12

Hope

We believe that to be a part of God's work in restoring the world we are to offer hope in whatever way we can. Hope is created when our passion and compassion meets the needs and hurts of those we encounter. We are an oasis of hope in a world that desperately needs to drink deeply of its waters.

"Where then is my hope? Who will see my hope?"
Job 17:15

Partnership

Jesus modelled that we are not on this journey alone. We believe that we do our best when we work together. We seek to build lasting relationships of mutual respect and trust throughout God's creation.

"He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two..."
Mark 6:7

Worship and Music

St. Andrew's values the giftedness of its people as they gather for worship. In worship, we attempt to embody our values of joy, love, hope and welcoming. It is our hope that anyone who comes to St. Andrew's to participate in worship will feel that they have found a place to call home. Our music program enhances our experience of God and has the ability to set the tone for our praise and prayers.

Our Objectives

- In partnership with our minister and student ministers, we share in worship together at various services throughout the year
- Engaging in God's Word through its illumination in sermons, dramas and prayers
- Arranging for all those who make our services welcoming to our community
- Preparing and sharing the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism
- Coordinating scripture readers
- Celebrating with the whole people of God as our church school and youth group share in leading worship through dramas and pageants
- Inviting those with a gift of music to share it with the congregation
- Nurturing the Choir and Bell Choir to offer their gifts in worship
- Hosting special musical concerts occasionally in partnership with others
- Keeping the sanctuary well maintained and tidy
- Maintaining the organ and piano on a regular basis
- Operating the sound system
- Preparing service bulletins
- Sharing in weddings and funerals
- Participating in worship services at Retirement and Long Term Care facilities in the city
- Partnering with local churches in the Annual John Galt Day Service
- Joining St. James Anglican in experiencing Lent and Holy Week
- Hosting and participating in the University of Guelph Navigators Sunday evening gatherings
- To highlight a few...

Commitment

In order to continue our vital ministry in this area, we need **\$115,614 (36% of our total budget)** and your continued willingness to participate and assist in these opportunities.

Mission and Outreach

St. Andrew's values bringing hope to our broken world and sharing the abundant love that God has already shared with us. We also believe strongly in mutual partnership and will consistently seek out such opportunities when possible. Our hope is to respond to the cries of God's people by engaging our congregation in coming alongside those who are actively addressing God's call to compassion and service.

Our Objectives

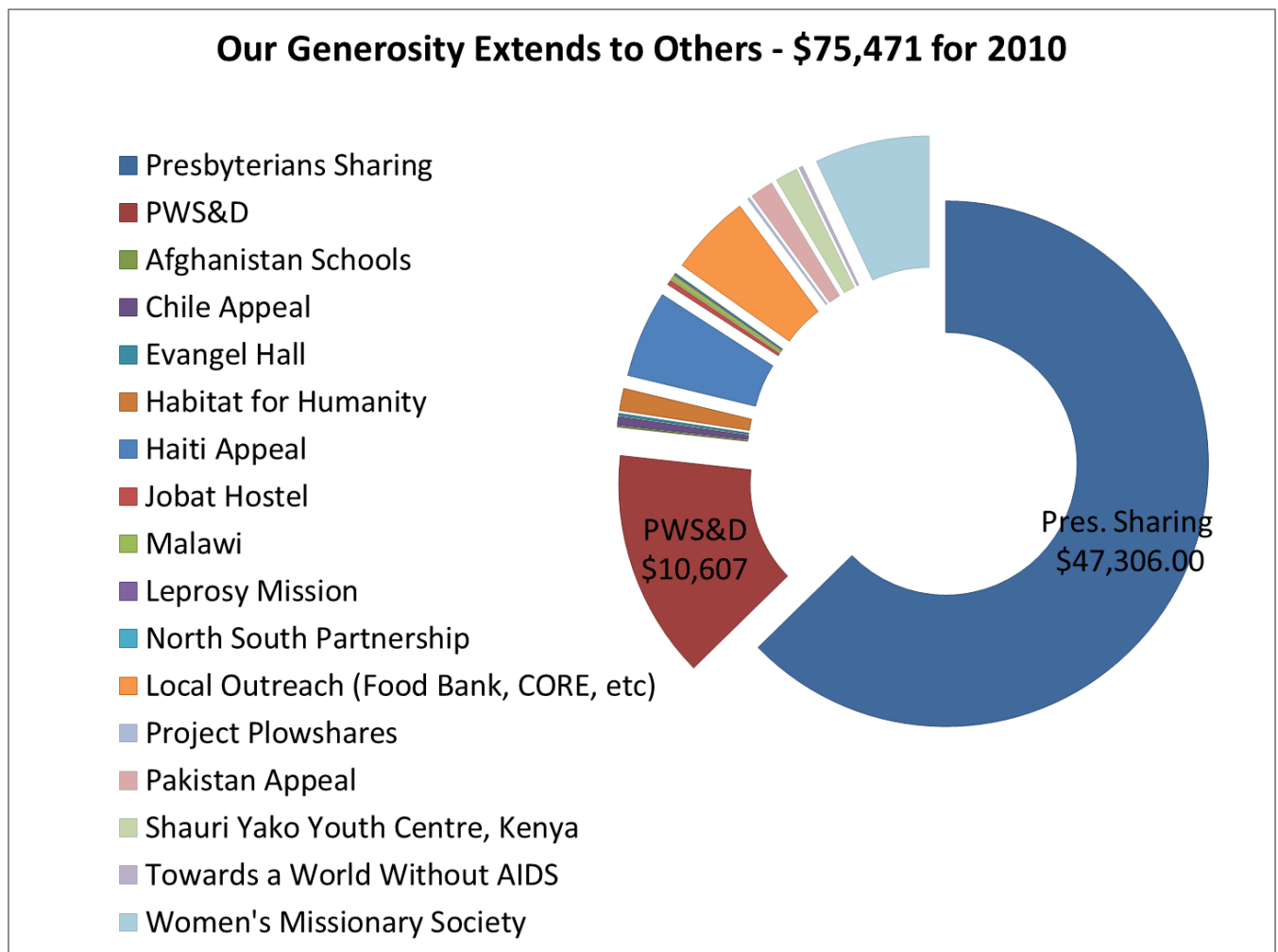
- encouraging support of **Presbyterians Sharing** and **Presbyterian World Service and Development**
 - through special appeals in the case of Haiti and Afghanistan and by identifying a special project as in the case of Margaret Evans and her work at Shauri Yako Community Youth Support Centre, Kenya
- Assessments from **The Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington** and **the Synod of Central and Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda** which support ministries within our community and other activities of our denomination throughout Canada and the world.
- Participating in the work of the courts of the Church through Presbytery, Synod and **General Assembly**
- Directing inquiries for local assistance (food, housing, immigration, counseling, etc.)
- Partnering with **CORE (Churches' OutREach)** and providing diapers to individuals on an emergency basis as requested as a part of our commitment to the program
- Participating in the Saturday Night Suppers hosted by Royal City Church
- Hosting a mission and outreach fair to increase awareness about opportunities to make a difference in our world
- Encouraging support of food drives for Chalmers Community Services Centre, the Guelph Food Bank and local food pantries
- Supportive relationships with chaplains in the local hospital and long term care facilities
- Supporting the dedicated work of our Women's Missionary Society
- Continued partnership with the AIDS Committee of Guelph Wellington and hosting their Annual World AIDS Day Vigil
- Highlighting our partnership with Canadian Blood Services
- Active support of our partners at Habitat for Humanity Wellington County by providing leadership with their Annual Celebration Dinner and Auction and participating in their builds and house blessings
- Working in partnership with ministries at the University of Guelph to provide spiritual support to students and staff
- Maintaining an interesting and informative website
- Creating our Welcome Packages for Newcomers
- Hosting Breakfast @ St. Andrew's
- Making space available for our local community (Condo corporations, Brownies, Tai Chi, Breast Cancer Support Group, Scottish Country Dancing, University Women, Historical Society, etc.)
- To highlight a few...

Commitment

In order to continue our vital ministry in this area, we need **\$65,644 (21% of our total budget)** and your continued willingness to participate and assist in these opportunities.

We have also committed ourselves to an allocation of **\$50,000 to Presbyterians Sharing** (the 2nd line of your offering envelope).

We also continue to support various appeals and special projects throughout the year through our 3rd line of our offering envelopes. See graph entitled "Our Generosity Extends to Others" later in this document.



Christian Nurture and Education

St. Andrew's values a living faith that is nurtured by fun, conversation, reflection and study. It is hoped that we create a welcoming space for all people to become open to experiencing God at whatever step they are at in their journey. We are committed to being life-long learners and celebrate with joy the new insights that come from deeply listening to each other.

Our Objectives

- Regularly plan for Christian education for all ages
- Become a welcoming space for open conversation by hosting seminars and workshops of interest to those curious about and those committed to the Christian faith
- Host conferences and workshops that will help equip leaders in our church and beyond to minister to youth (SHIFT: Youth Ministry Leadership Conference)
- Create a fun and engaging program for our children and youth that will help them learn more about God and foster a desire to follow Christ in their life
- Coordinating leaders for children and youth ministries including our nursery
- Encouraging the development of small groups for mutual support and learning
- Creating opportunities for retreats for our youth as well as men and women in our congregation
- Studying the Bible together and fostering space to ask questions
- Making resources available to the congregation and the community through our library and archives
- Talking about popular culture and books in a way that sheds light on our Christian faith (Book Clubs)
- Encouraging our leaders to grow in their understanding and knowledge by providing continuing education allowances
- Participate in opportunities for nurture and education offered by our denomination and others
- To highlight a few...

Commitment

In order to continue our vital ministry in this area, we need **\$97,141 (31% of our total budget)** and your continued willingness to participate and assist in these opportunities.

Pastoral Care

St. Andrew's values the compassion demonstrated by Jesus to those in need. As Christ's body in the world, we seek to come alongside others in whatever circumstance they are in with respect and love. Jesus calls us to love one another as Jesus loves us. It is our hope that by extending ourselves in caring relationships that we can join with God in transforming lives and bringing light in the darkness.

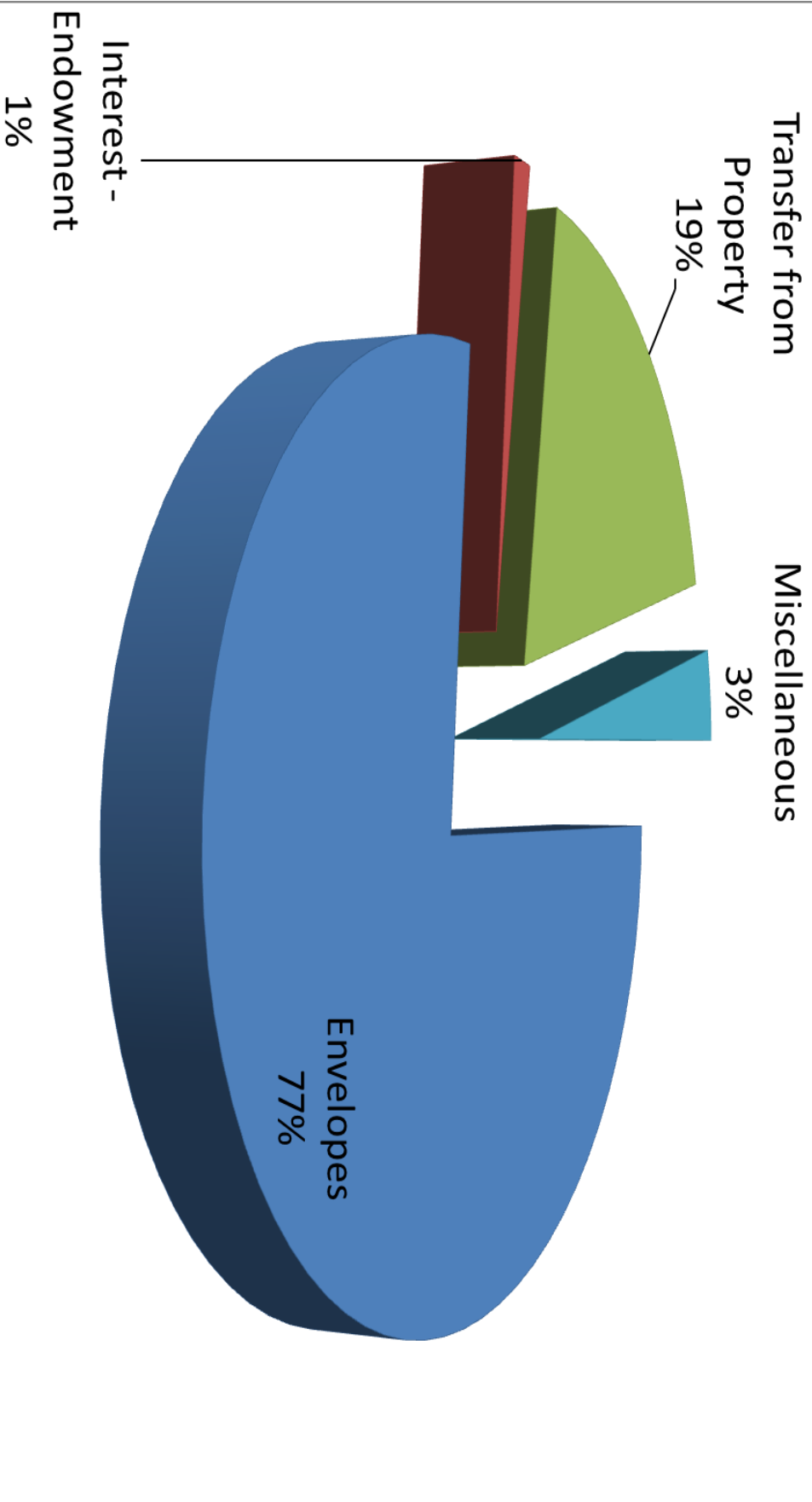
Our Objectives

- Coming alongside individuals as invited to do so in whatever circumstances they are in whether joyful or distressing
- Visiting in hospitals and long term care facilities
- Joining together at Coffee Hour, Friendship lunches and Newcomer luncheons
- Connecting with others in the church and beyond
- Offering spiritual guidance
- Referring individuals to professional counseling or other appropriate agencies to address their specific needs
- Participating in Session meetings
- Praying for individuals and our world corporately and privately
- Sharing communion with shut-ins
- Sending notes and cards to those celebrating milestones or experiencing difficulty
- Working with those interested in baptism or marriage
- Being present with families who are grieving
- Hosting 'teas' for our shut-ins
- Offering to help with transportation of individuals to medical appointments, church and other gatherings
- Sharing in our congregation's joys and concerns as detailed in Prayers and Blessings
- Being respectful and compassionate to those looking for assistance
- Listening
- To highlight a few...

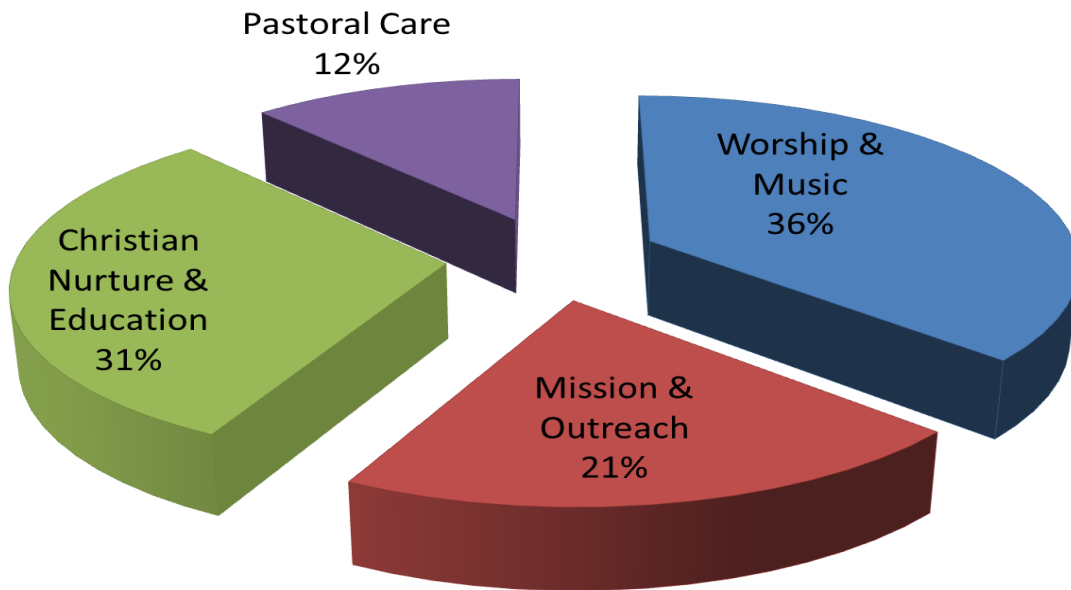
Commitment

In order to continue our vital ministry in this area, we need **\$37,034 (12% of our total budget)** and your continued willingness to participate and assist in these opportunities.

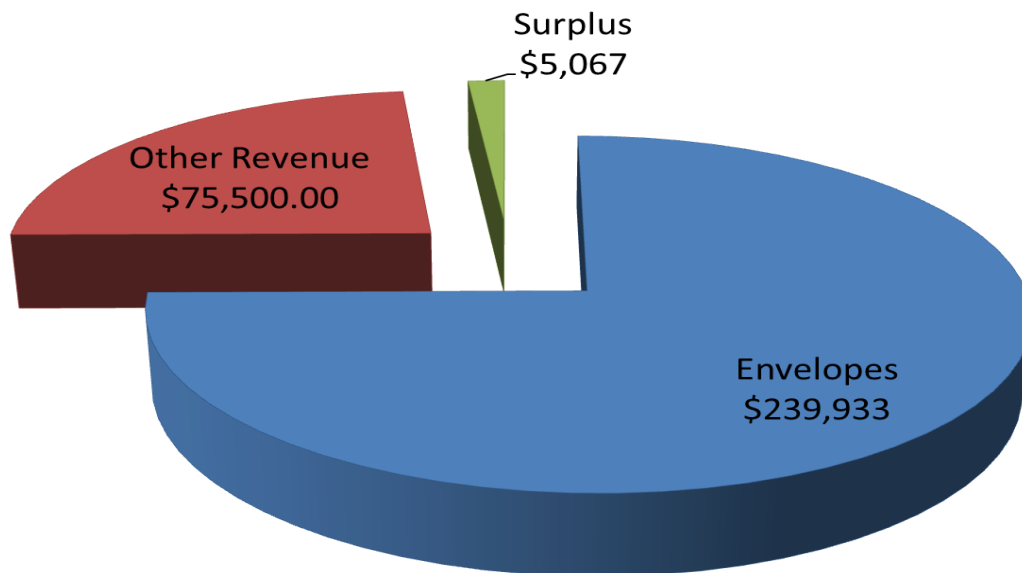
Where Our Money Comes From - \$320,500



How Our Expenses Support What We Value



Budgeted Expenses for 2011 = \$315,433



Glossary of Terms

Presbyterians Sharing, represents the major mission portion of our stewardship. Our gifts to Presbyterians Sharing support various programs and institutions throughout Canada and the World. We receive regular updates about Presbyterians Sharing through bulletin inserts. Most importantly, our gifts to Presbyterians Sharing help people to continue the work and mission of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and spread the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D), is the international relief and development agency of our church. Through its work, Canadian Presbyterians assist programs of community-based organizations in Central America and the Caribbean, Southern and Eastern Africa, and Central Asia. These programs focus on one or more of the following: basic education and skills-training, preventive health care, and income generation. Efforts are made to ensure programs benefit all members of the community regardless of gender and that they promote care of the environment.

Session, is made up of ruling elders and a minister. Ruling elders are men or women who have been elected by the local congregation. The session has overall responsibility for the direction, Christian education, and pastoral care of the congregation. The session is represented by one elder in the presbytery.

Board of Managers is a committee of a congregation elected at the Annual congregational meeting with responsibility for the finance and property of the congregation. Its meetings and membership are open to both members and adherents of the congregation.

Presbytery, in the Presbyterian system of church government, is the most important court, currently composed basically of the minister and one ruling elder from every pastoral charge within the bounds of the Presbytery. It is responsible for (1) overseeing each of the congregations and ministers within their boundaries and (2) congregations supporting the ministers serving those congregations.

Synod, the second highest council and court of the church, is composed of representative ministers and elders similarly to a Presbytery from all Presbyteries in a given region. A Synod has oversight of all Presbyteries within its bounds. Its role may include: operating camps, offering educational and training events, overseeing the work of presbyteries and congregations within its bounds, and responsibility for regional staff.

General Assembly, the highest court of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, meets once a year during the first week in June. An equal number of lay and ministerial commissioners attend. The General Assembly receives and debates petitions, overtures, references, complaints, appeals from the entire church and establishes committees when issues require further study. It also elects a moderator who presides over the Assembly, and continues in an inspirational and ceremonial role for the following year. It is the main decision-making body of our church. Its decisions are final and are made carefully.

The original **CORE (Churches' OutREach)** group was formed by downtown churches in October 2001 to respond to the growing need for emergency assistance within the community. A covenant for participating congregations and a guideline for responding to requests for assistance were also formulated at that time. In the fall of 2009, the present CORE group decided to update the services offered and produce a new Emergency Assistance brochure; and to revisit the Covenant agreement and the Guidelines for Responding to Requests agreement as well. The members of CORE also requested that a detailed description of the participating churches and organizations and their services be produced to accompany the Emergency Assistance brochure.