

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Cobourg
Congregational Profile Form and Supplemental Information
2025



Date: March 18, 2025

Name of Church: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Address: 200 King Street West

City: Cobourg

Province: Ontario

Presbytery: Lindsay-Peterborough

Postal Code: K9A 2N1

Email: standrews.church@cogeco.net

Telephone: (905) 372-7411

Website: standrewscobourg.ca

Year congregation was organized: 1833

Church Information Average Weekly Attendance at:

Regular Worship: 45

Remembrance Day Service: 52

Christmas Cantata: 112

Christmas Eve: 115

Average Number of Children in Attendance: 4

Financial Statement: 2024

Income		Expenses	
Offerings/Gifts	\$137 184.66	Operating Expenses	\$159 363.58
Investments	\$33 000.00	Debt Payment	\$-
Rentals	\$4 920.00	Benevolences (Presbyterians Sharing, PWS&D, Soup Kitchen)	\$10 830.00
Other	\$740.00	Other	\$3 537.56
Total Income	\$175 844.66	Total Expenses	\$173 731.14*

*Excluded from the total expenses is a \$7500 expense for installing security cameras and upgrading lighting to the building. This \$7500 expenditure was covered by the Ontario Anti-Hate Security and Prevention Grant, received in 2023.

Approved Budget for the Current Year: TBD

Presbyterian Sharing Allocation for the Current Year: Requested: \$5000

Accepted: \$5000

Interim Moderator Contact Information:

Rev. Ann Blane

revannblane@gmail.com

Cell Phone: (705) 731-9265

Home Phone: (705) 651-2748

Congregation and Community

Type of Congregation: Self-Supporting

Type of Community: Town

St. Andrew's Church

	Now	5 Years Ago
Active Members	82	142
Active Adherents	34	38
Active Children and Youth	21	33
Total Population	137	213

Town of Cobourg

	Now	5 Years Ago
Town of Cobourg Population	20 519	19 440
Size of area	22.41km ²	22.36km ²
Presbyterian Churches in area	1	1
Total number of churches in area	12	12

Ages

	Now	5 Years Ago	Town Now
0 – 4 Years	2%	3%	4%
6 – 14 Years	10%	7%	9%
15 – 24 Years	3%	5%	9%
25 – 44 Years	16%	10%	19%
45 – 64 Years	22%	23%	25%
65 + Years	47%	52%	34%

Living Patterns

Adult(s) with at least one child	16%	30%
Single Persons	28%	32%
Two or more adults	56%	38%

Housing Patterns

Apartments	17%	19%
Private homes	69%	75%
Retirement home	9%	5%
Long-term care	5%	1%
Total number of households	60	9 135

Occupations Within the Congregation

	Now	5 years ago
Clerical/Secretarial	2%	2%
College/University Students	1%	4%
Elementary/Secondary Students	12%	11%
Farmers	2%	2%
Homemakers	2%	2%
Professional/Business	13%	14%
Retired	62%	60%
Technicians	3%	2%
Unemployed	1%	1%
Other	2%	2%

Pastoral Skills and Interest Inventory

Ranked in order of importance as per a 2024 congregational survey

Top 10:

1. **Leading Worship and Preaching** (Planning and conducting worship services)
2. **Crisis Visiting** (Serving people at times of illness, death, trauma, family crisis, job loss)
3. **Pastoral Care** (On a regular basis)
4. **Work with Seniors**
5. **Program Development** (Establishing goals, and organizing programs in church and community)
6. **Home Visiting** (On a regular basis)
7. **Work with Youth**
8. **Christian Education** (Writing or selecting appropriate curricula for the educational ministry, and planning activities for groups of all ages)
9. **Administration** (Managing the affairs of the congregation and other organizations)
10. **Leadership Development** (Planning for and sharing in the training of leaders for the church's program)



St. Andrew's Christmas Cantata, 2024

Position Description

Title: Minister (full-time)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Cobourg is seeking a full-time Presbyterian Minister of Word and Sacrament who will serve as a spiritual leader, guiding and inspiring our congregation through vibrant and meaningful worship experiences. Our new minister will have a sincere passion for nurturing our faith journey, fostering deeper connections within our church community, and encouraging growth in both spirit and numbers.

As the staff team leader, the minister will work collaboratively with other staff members in a collegial and supportive environment, respecting the framework outlined in the Book of Forms. With excellent communication skills, the minister will ensure all members, adherents, and our broader community feel informed, engaged, and welcomed into the life and work of St. Andrew's.

The role includes providing pastoral care by maintaining open office hours, making home visits, supporting seniors, and offering crisis care when needed. Our minister will take an active and genuine interest in the lives of our members, cultivating an atmosphere of trust, warmth, and open dialogue.

Key Qualities and Values:

- A welcoming, approachable, and communicative leader who fosters meaningful relationships with individuals and families of all ages.
- A person of integrity and faith, who invites others to explore their spirituality and inspires us to live out Christ's teachings in our daily lives.
- A compassionate and attentive listener, supporting the diverse needs of our congregation with care and understanding.

Engaging the Next Generation:

We are looking for a minister who is committed to nurturing and mentoring our youth and children. This includes developing engaging programs that inspire their spiritual growth and providing leadership opportunities that empower them to take active roles within the church.

Our Vision:

At St. Andrew's, we envision a dynamic and inclusive church that continues to grow as a vibrant community of faith. We seek a minister who will guide us in deepening our connection to God, strengthening our relationships with one another, and extending Christ's love into the wider world.

Other Full and Part-Time Staff

- Carolyn Hyma, Director of Music (Organist), Part-time
- Mary McPhee, Office Administrator, Part-time
- Charlie Willett, Custodian, Part-time

Previous Ministers

Position Open Since: March 1, 2024

Contact information of most recent minister:

Rev. Neil Ellis

Served in congregation: 2014-2024

Email: neilellis75@gmail.com

Telephone: 289-251-5110

Three previous ministers and dates served:

Rev. Dr. Doug Brown, 1997-2013

Rev. Dr. Stuart Macdonald, 1989-1996

Rev. Stephen Hayes, 1973-1989

Compensation

Annual stipend – To be negotiated

Housing allowance (based on fair rental value) – To be negotiated

Continuing Education allowance – \$1,000 (accumulated up to 5 years)

Other Considerations

Length of vacation: 5 weeks

Length of study leave: 2 weeks – accumulated up to 5 years



St. Andrew's current staff members.



Clockwise from top left: The choir performs before the Chili Cookoff, one of our teen congregants sets up the livestream, the Chili Cookoff crew, Soup Kitchen helpers.

Cobourg Profile

About The Town of Cobourg

Cobourg is celebrated for its ideal location along the lakeshore between Toronto and Kingston. Just a short drive from urban hubs, this charming small town offers a spacious setting where visitors can explore distinctive architectural landmarks, enjoy excellent shopping and dining, visit galleries and theaters, and relax on a stunning white sand beach with a picturesque waterfront.

While maintaining its quaint small-town atmosphere, Cobourg is experiencing steady growth, with a rising population and new businesses contributing to its array of resources and attractions.

Population

Cobourg has a population of 20,519 people (2021 census). The population has grown by 5.6% from 2016 to 2021. The Median Household Income is \$77,000 based on the 2021 census. 65.9% of the population are under the age of 64.

Transportation

Cobourg Transit, Via Rail, Vehicle-for-Hire (i.e. taxis, YDrive).

Location

Cobourg is a small town, with larger city centres nearby. It is located 110 KM east of Toronto, 145 KM west of Kingston, and has two exits from Hwy 401.

- Within a 40–50-minute drive of larger cities such as Belleville, Peterborough and Oshawa.
- The Town of Cobourg is the upper tier municipality within Northumberland County, which includes Alnwick/Haldimand, Brighton, Cramahe, Hamilton Township, Port Hope and Trent Hills.



(Left) Canada Day parade along King Street in front of the church. (Centre) The Town's historic Victoria Hall. (Right) There are many walking trails in the nearby Northumberland Forest.

Recreation and Culture

The Town of Cobourg Parks Department maintains 72 community parks and connecting trails,

28 sports fields, 14 playgrounds, and one dog park. Within a short walking distance from St. Andrew's are the Rotary Harbourfront Park and Victoria Park.

The Rotary Harbourfront Park, located just south of Victoria Hall, features a working fountain during the summer months that transforms into an outdoor skating rink in the winter. It also hosts the Cobourg Farmers' Market on Saturday mornings from spring to fall and is beautifully adorned each December as part of the Town's Christmas Magic display.

Victoria Park, adjacent to Victoria Beach, is a popular venue for events such as the annual Cobourg Waterfront Festival and the Northumberland Ribfest and Music Festival.

The Cobourg Community Centre (CCC), constructed in 2011, offers two arenas, a large walking track, and a gymnasium. It hosts a variety of programs and activities and serves as the home of the Ontario Provincial Junior A Hockey League team, the Cobourg Cougars.

The Cobourg YMCA features an indoor pool, a Personal Conditioning Centre, a gym, a squash court, a hot tub, and steam rooms. It also includes a multi-level indoor play structure, child-minding services at the Play Centre, and an on-site licensed childcare centre.

Cobourg is also rich in cultural activities. The historic Victoria Hall houses municipal offices and features a historic courtroom, a concert hall, and the Art Gallery of Northumberland.

Just a short drive from Cobourg is the Northumberland Forest, covering about 40 KM of trails and more than 6,000 acres. The Ganaraska Forest is also just a short distance and is southern Ontario's largest, contiguous forest. With hundreds of kilometres of trails, popular activities include hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and nature appreciation.

Education

Cobourg offers a range of high-quality educational opportunities through its public, private, and separate (Catholic) school systems. There are two high schools: Cobourg Collegiate Institute (CCI) and St. Mary's (Catholic). Private elementary schools include Northumberland Christian School and Northumberland Montessori School. Additionally, the area provides continuing education programs and French immersion options. The high schools are well regarded for their extra-curriculars, programming and high-quality sports opportunities.

Williams Academy, a private international school located in downtown Cobourg, offers classes for Grades 7 to 12, and is located just down the road from St. Andrew's.

Just a 10-minute drive west of Cobourg is Trinity College School (TCS), a co-educational independent boarding and day school situated on 100 acres of rolling countryside in picturesque Port Hope. One of Canada's oldest and most respected educational institutions, TCS serves students from Grades 5 to 12.

Healthcare

Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH), located in Cobourg just off the Burnham St. 401 exit, opened in 2003. NHH delivers a broad range of acute, post-acute, outpatient and diagnostic services. Mental health care, cancer and supportive care, dialysis and other ambulatory care clinics are offered on an outpatient basis through partnerships with regional centres and nearby specialists. NHH offers a full range of diagnostic services, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT) and mammography.

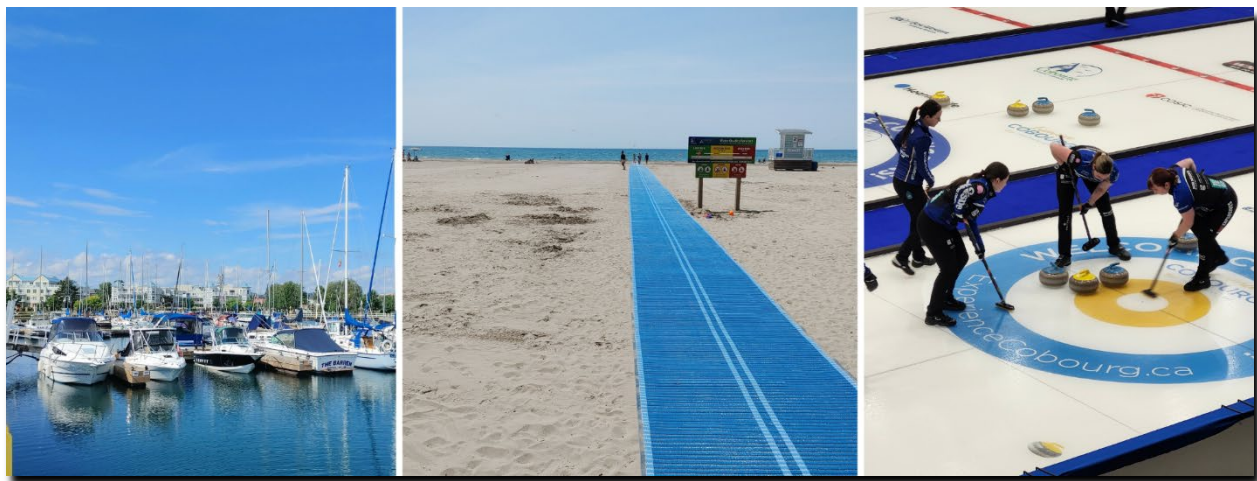
Economic Development

The top three industries by labour force in Cobourg are healthcare, retail trade, and manufacturing. The Town has two industrial parks, and more than 250 businesses in downtown Cobourg.

Waterfront and Tourism

Close to downtown, Victoria Park Beach in Cobourg is very popular among residents and attracts tourists. The beach hosts volleyball tournaments and other events, and features a splash park, playground set, park area for eating, local restaurants and a pier. There is an accessible beach mat from the boardwalk to the water's edge.

The Town of Cobourg Marina offers seasonal docking, marina reservations, fishing, and beautiful scenic views to Town residents and visitors. The Victoria Park Campground welcomes visitors from spring to fall.



Images of Cobourg, including the Marina, beach and Cobourg Community Centre hosting a provincial curling championship.

News and Media

- Radio Stations include: FM89.7 – Truly Local Radio; myFM 93.3 adult contemporary; FM 90.7 - CHJJ, Christian music; FM 103.1 - CFMZ, classical; FM 107.9 - CHUC, classic rock
- Digital News: NorthumberlandNews.com, Today's Northumberland
- TV: COGECO Cable 10 broadcasts local events and weather

Learn More

- Find local information and news at Cobourg.ca
- Visit the Town's tourism site: ExperienceCobourg.ca
- View the fall/winter [2024/2025 Town of Cobourg Leisure Guide](#) for more information on recreational and cultural programs and groups
- Visit [Northumberland County's tourism site](#) for more information on the surrounding areas

Congregational Profile

History and About St. Andrew's

The Presbyterian Church in Cobourg has roots dating back to the earliest days of the settlement and was built on its present site in the 1830's. In 1937, a fire destroyed the church however the church was rebuilt within a year. St. Andrew's is located on the edge of the downtown core and that location reflects the central place that the church has maintained for so many years in the life and work of the community.

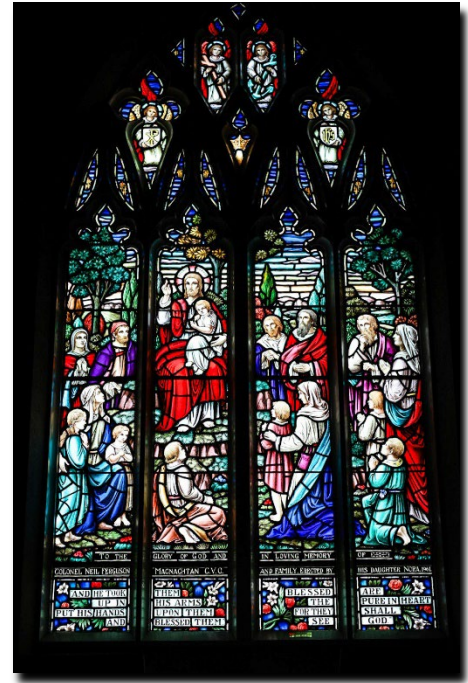
St. Andrew's added a Christian Education wing in the 1960's which allowed for more space for church groups as well as meeting and event space for the wider community. The church has been fortunate to be able to serve the community through providing space for youth, music and community meeting space for many years. A full kitchen allows the church to service the community needs.

Our congregation has been led by a dedicated team of elders. St. Andrew's has been blessed to have strong leadership throughout its history. Prominent citizens have called St. Andrew's their spiritual home (Rev. John Foote-Victoria Cross recipient, Joy Randall- mission work in Taiwan) and have contributed to the life and work of the congregation, the community and beyond.

A walk through the church reveals this rich history of commitment through magnificent stained glass, plaques and rooms dedicated in memory of those who have built and maintained our faith community. Presently our church life is driven by a committed congregation that continues to be inspired by God's word as manifest through the work and deeds of our members. It is the church's sincere desire to continue this rich history as we work towards the future.

Music Ministry

St. Andrew's has a Senior Choir and chimes group, led by our Music Director. The senior choir rehearses weekly and performs an anthem during the Sunday services. The chimes group performs during select Sundays during the year. The choir also performs a special Christmas cantata each year, which welcomes members who want to participate in that performance but not be involved year-round. During special occasions, the children and youth are invited to participate in services (such as Christmas Eve).



The church sanctuary has beautiful stained-glass windows.





(Left) The Chimes music group performs. (Right) Children participate in the Christmas Eve service rehearsal.

Kirk Session

The Session of St. Andrew's is made up of eight elders. It is Term Eldership, and two elders act as co-clerks.

Finance and Operation Branch

The Finance and Operation Branch ensures the church building is maintained, and sees to special maintenance projects.

Pastoral Care Committee

St. Andrew's has a Pastoral Care Committee composed of a dedicated group of church members who devote many hours to addressing the pastoral needs of the congregation and the broader community when needed. The committee meets once a month and strives to be the proactive eyes and ears of the church, identifying those in need of visitation, prayers, or other support. The committee utilizes visits, phone calls, cards, and various other innovative approaches to serve the community, and are in regular contact with members who are unable to attend church.



Pastoral Care Committee

Trustees

The Trustees work to invest the assets of the trust funds in a prudent manner.

Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D)

PWS&D responds to almost any emergency situation around the world through ecumenical alliances and partnerships. St. Andrew's congregation donates to PWS&D and shares regular communication about its efforts.

Presbyterians Sharing

Through offerings St. Andrew's supports Presbyterians Sharing, the national church fund that supports the mission and ministries in Canada and around the world.



(Left) A congregant service reader. (Centre) The Fare Share table at the Soup Kitchen. (Right) The annual Chili Competition luncheon is enjoyed by many.

Neighbour Link

St. Andrew's has a Neighbour Link representative and shares what donations members can provide.

Soup Kitchen and Fare Share at St. Andrew's

St. Andrew's hosts a weekly Soup Kitchen on Thursdays, which serves the broader community. The church also collects food donations every month for the Northumberland Fare Share Food Bank, and some are given out during the Soup Kitchen.

Bible Studies and Social Groups

Previous Bible Studies have been well-attended, and congregants enjoy opportunities to connect with one another outside of regular Sunday services. Following the service is a "Coffee and Conversation" time in the downstairs hall.

Those interested, please send your application to Rev. Ann Blane by email:
revannblane@gmail.com



St. Andrew's Pancake Supper volunteers (2025).