

# Fire From The Bush



St. Andrew's

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 865 2nd Avenue West, Owen Sound • 519.376.7886 • www.standrewsowensound.org

BECOMING WHOLE IN JESUS CHRIST

December 2018

## Interim Moderator Message

By: Chuck Moon, Interim Moderator

Dear friends of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Owen Sound,

I want to thank each and every one of you for your prayer and support. A period of vacancy is a very important opportunity for the congregation to deepen their understanding of their ministry and the love of God. It is an opportunity for the church to strengthen its leadership in laity and to review the organization as a whole. It is also an opportunity for the congregation to experience God's grace and healing.

During the first year of vacancy, we were able to restructure our leadership team and deepen our knowledge and understanding of tasks, challenges and hopes that are associated with our ministry of yesterday, today and tomorrow. We will continue to listen and look at issues, blessings, challenges and dreams we are facing.

Moving forward, the focus of my interim work with the congregation is to help create realistic dreams\* for St. Andrew's ministry. My prayer for the congregation is that we become the best church we can be.

*\*Realistic Dreams refer to: 1) Honest Plans and prayers for tomorrow that consider realities and challenges the congregation is facing. 2) Thoughtful Plans that can help us overcome/address such realities and challenges. 3) Humble Plans where we acknowledge our true hope is found only in God.*

The session of St Andrew's is going to structure a search committee which should help us to initiate our future tasks.

**Presently, many names are being brought forward to the session as possible candidates who will sit in the search committee, but there are very limited spots in the committee. We apologize in advance for not being able to accommodate everyone. We will do our best job to select voices that would represent the whole congregation. We ask for your prayers.**

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## **Board of Managers**

*By: Dave Edwards, Chair*

### **Statistics**

Baptisms: none

New Members: none

Deaths: Kathryn Thomson

The Board of Managers met several times over the past few months to solve some problems in staffing. The Board felt quite strongly that St Andrew's should have a permanent Office Manager instead of volunteers covering in the office. This position will be particularly important when we prepare to hire a new minister. Ads were placed, and we received ten applications. The staffing subcommittee set up interviews for three of the candidates. The Board is very pleased to announce the hiring of Diana van der Meer for this position. Diana grew up in St Andrew's, so she knows this church very well. She started her new job on Monday, November 5. We welcome Diana and thank her for her service to St Andrew's.

The Board also gave approval for an investigation into two Save On Energy grants from Hydro One. The Sanctuary lights have been upgraded under one of these grants. New energy efficient LED bulbs, valued at \$250.00, have been installed in the upper portions of the large hanging fixtures. The grant on these bulbs is \$240.00, with a net cost to St Andrew's of \$10.00. Special thanks go to the Wednesday Morning Work Crew for the installation of these new bulbs. This hard-working group also made and installed new louvers in the bell tower, saving us thousands of dollars. The Board of Managers appreciates their work in keeping St Andrew's "in good working order". A second Hydro One grant is presently being investigated and it will provide an opportunity to improve the lighting in the chapel area with new LED tube lights.



The Board of Managers was responsible for the Garage sale on November 3. The Board would like to thank all those who donated goods, helped to set up, worked at the sale, made sandwiches, and cleaned up after the sale. We made \$1147.45. Well Done!

As we prepare for the Christmas season, the Board of Managers has ordered a large Christmas tree for the outside front memorial garden area. You will be able to make a donation for a bulb on this tree in memory of a loved one.



The members of the new Board are: Don Armstrong, Kathleen Barker, Nancy Bettridge, Cam Breen, Craig Breen, Dave Edwards, Dave Howell, Ann Kelly, Lyle Love, Jan Middleton, Bruce Price, Nancy Robinson, and Peter Struthers.

## **Choir**

*By: Laurie James*

The choir of St. Andrew's no longer practices on Thursday evenings. Each Sunday we gather at 9:30 to rehearse that day's hymns and anthem. Following the service, we rehearse for one hour, practicing music for future services. If you would like to be part of our enthusiastic group, we would be thrilled to have you join us. Just speak to Matthew or Laurie and we will get you started. If you would just like to sit in on a practice and see what we are all about just come before or after any service and listen.

This year the choir will once again sing at the Grey Roots Museum for their *Moreston By Candlelight* celebration. We will be singing in the schoolhouse on Saturday, December 15 at 5:30 and on Sunday, December 16 at 5:30. Come out to visit the village and join us in singing a few Christmas carols. We will also be singing at Hanna Walker Place following one of our weekly rehearsals. Feel free to join us for these two outreach programs, singing carols of the season.



# Join the Choir

## Friendship Kitchen

By: Nancy Robinson and Marilyn Sargeant

The Friendship Kitchen met in September with 17 ladies participating. As an outreach to the community our extra food went to one senior, who is battling health issues, and 5 meals for the Pantry. At our get-together in October the Friendship Kitchen Ladies went on a road trip! We haven't done that before. The day was beautiful and hot. The scarecrows were in abundance. The walk past the scarecrows, through a store and on to the lunch diner was enjoyable. Much chitchat around the table with the 9 ladies. Afterwards, more scarecrows, purchasing apples and of course seeing the lovely fall colours on our way home. What a great day. What a great group of single ladies. You can see some of the photos of our day away on the church's website under Congregational Life.

## Praise Team

By: Paul Curley, Praise Team Leader

**WANTED:** musicians and singers to join the Praise Team. We play contemporary music at the 9:00 service and are a little short of members right now but we're still going as strong as we can. If anyone knows anyone else that plays a musical instrument or sings, please send them to the 9:00 and talk to Paul or anyone else on the team. We're looking for guitars, mandolins, violins, bangos, drums, or keyboards. If you just love to sing, come on out too, we'd be glad to have you. The ability to read music isn't a requirement either. Come on out and have some fun, play or sing some praise and worship songs and enjoy the fellowship inside the group.



## Library

By: Dee Renaud, Librarian



FYI  
Christmas books and DVDs are  
in the supply room on the  
shelves beside the computer.

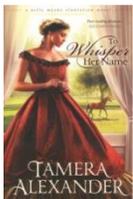
### **Christams DVD added to your church library**



A single mom, Maggie tries to balance devotion to her son, Jordan, with her career. Then she meets Casey, a tutor who's becoming more of a father figure to Jordan. With the help of faith and fate, will Maggie discover that anything is possible at Christmas---even finding happiness and love again?  
Based on the novel by Karen Kingsbury.

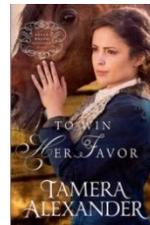
### **New author added to your Church library – Tamera Alexander**

*Bell Meade Plantation Series:*



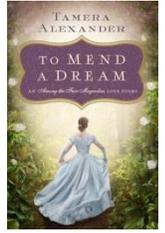
Set against the real history of Nashville's historic Belle Meade Plantation, the most influential thoroughbred stud farm in America's history, *To Whisper Her Name* weaves the struggles of real people of the post-war South with the journeys of a man and a woman scarred by betrayal.

A gifted rider in a world where ladies never race, Maggie Linden is determined that her horse will become a champion. But the one man who could help her has vowed to stay away from thoroughbred racing forever.





With fates bound by a shared tragedy, a reformed gambler from the Colorado Territory and a Southern Belle bent on breaking free from society's expectations must work together to achieve their dreams—provided the truth doesn't tear them apart first.



Savannah Darby would do almost anything to revisit her family home. So, when new owner, Aidan Bedford, a Boston attorney and former Union soldier, seeks to redecorate the house for his fiancée, Savannah jumps at the opportunity. But the clock is ticking. . .

Also available:

Belmont Mansion Series; Fountain Creek Chronicles; Timber Creek Reflections Series

*May your Christmas be blessed!*

### **Sunday School**

*By: Pat Bell, Co-Ordinator*

St Andrew's offers Ministry with Children each Sunday when we gather for Worship. Dedicated volunteers are ready to meet any child who attends. Please pray for and express appreciation to Heather Reid, Nancy Robinson, and Penny Fenwick for their part in providing this vital part of the work of the church.

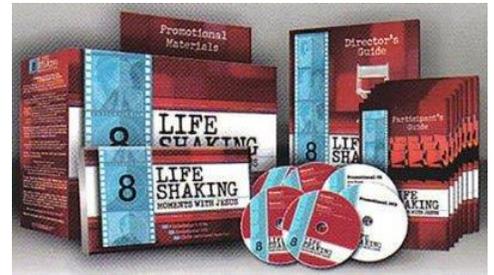
This fall three different families send children to attend Sunday School regularly. The five children range in age from 3 to 7 years old. Grandchildren who visit Owen Sound occasionally also come upstairs to join us. It is a Blessing to share the Love of Christ with these children. Thank you for your prayers and support.

### **Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study**

*By: Ed & Dee Renaud*

#### **8 Life Shaking Moments with Jesus**

The Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study group began this study in mid-October and the last session will be on the first Wednesday of December.



**8 Life Shaking Moments with Jesus** is a film-driven study series incorporating scenes from the epic Biblical film **Matthew** as a catalyst for conversation. Discussion explored powerful, pivotal points in Christ's life with freshness and clarity. It places spiritual responsibility in the viewer's hands and asks, "What are you going to do with Jesus Christ?"

#### **Moments with Jesus included:**

- The Baptism of Jesus: Are You Answering a Calling?
- Healing a Leper: What Do Miracles Mean in Life Today?
- Calming the Sea: How Do You Survive the Storms of Life?
- Feeding the 5,000: Can God Be Trusted to Provide?
- Betrayal at the Last Supper: Have You Gazed into the Face of Unfailing Love?
- Crucifixion: How Do You Respond to Christ's Passion?
- Resurrection: Are You Living a New Life in Christ?
- The Great Commission: Are You a Messenger of Hope?

**COMMUNION:**  
**Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**

## Congregational Visiting Nurse

By: *Bev Wilkins, R.N., W.I.P*

Wow what a busy fall! Winter snuck up on us! Congrats to so many of you who have made great meat pies, sorted garage sale items, joined in Bible study and the men who have accomplished artistic repairs with such great humour and team work. Just to mention a few of the many activities around our church family. Bless you all. Remember you are invited to come and be a part of this great team. Do you hear God calling you to serve??

“Take a deep breath, know that I am God!!” YES .... HE HAS INVITED US TO PAUSE AND HEAR HIM.

Thanks to all of you who have dropped by on Wednesdays to chat and find solutions. It has been such a treat to really talk heart to heart with many of you. Also, to be witness to the great amount of joy and laughter that I have heard while at the desk until a manager has been found. Welcome to our lovely new Diana and thanks to the many volunteers that filled in to keep the desk open for God's business!! I plan to continue to be there every Wednesday morning to chat over what may be troubling on your heart. Welcome.

As my dear Papa was dying, I took the day before to sit by his bed and read him the complete book of Isaiah. He had lived his life trusting and rising above many difficult times with great faith that it would all turn out okay. One of his favourite verses was Isaiah 40:31 **“But those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”**

This is such a great lesson verse. I would like to present it as a story of the “Chicken vs. Eagle.” Once upon a time there was a chicken who wandered around all day regurgitating stones and gravel that she had gathered on her days of keeping her head down to the ground and gathering them in her crop. She continued to regurgitate these stones and gravel and believe that it meant she was full. She never looked up beyond at what might supply more sustenance. Consequently, the chicken became discouraged and weakened. Flying magnificently above with uplifted spirit was a powerful eagle. So often you would see these beautiful birds soaring and searching and taking in all the landscape. They are patient, they observe, they analyze, and they strategize. Then with courage they take the planned route and focus in on the goal with great resolve and strength. They never look backwards to what they did not get but rather they fly forward to thrive and survive. Not only are they a lesson of courage but also of planned patience and perseverance. They fly high and survive. They wait and succeed with their plan and the inherent wisdom of God-given guidance. **May we be like eagles at St. Andrews!!**



Many of the healing conversations that I have shared are how to move on from losses and disappointments. This usually involves a hard question. How do I get past this? How do I forgive? I have one more wonderful quote to share...I forgive people but that does not mean that I accept their behaviour or trust them. I forgive them for me, so I can let go and move on in my Life. May the Spirit of Love enfold your hearts and minds and soothe the pain of lessons learned. Remember you learn so much more from the hard times than from the smooth ones. You are getting more beautiful in Spirit.

Light and Love to all.

## **STAQOS Report**

*By: Janet Price*

Quilt number 13 for 2018 is in the frame and ready to be quilted! We are not superstitious, are you? Come on out and see what is going on! Bring a friend! Or make new friends when you get here. We currently have 3 quilts on the go...they are all small, so we need that many to accommodate everyone.

The **St. Andrew's Quilters, Owen Sound** can be found most Wednesday having fun in the Chapel from 9:00am to about 2:00pm. Coffee and treats happen punctually at 10:00 a.m., and some of us bring our lunch, others leave when they need to. We are a very caring group and look out for each other.

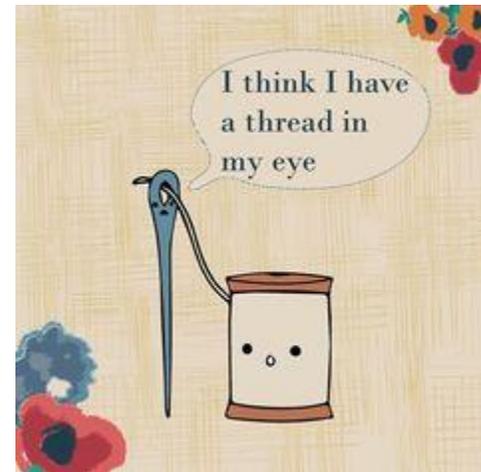
So far, in 2018, over \$2000 in proceeds from our quilting efforts have been divided between the Pantry Fund, the Busch/Leflar Scholarship Fund, the Vacation Bible School needs and the general fund. We feel fortunate to be able to make a substantial contribution to such causes while having so much fun, producing beautiful work, and sharing and learning together.

Additional helpers are always welcome. If you are a novice quilter, we will teach you the needle-rocking technique on a small project of your own choice, and when you feel confident with your skills, you will be welcome to join us at the big quilt. Come for some fellowship as you practice your skills.

If you like to sew but not necessarily quilt, perhaps you would like to join us for a work day (more realistically it's a play day) when we get together and sew on projects for Harvest Happening. If you give me a call, I can put your name on the list of volunteer stitchers and then I can let you know when we are planning a project day...we don't always plan far enough ahead to get the details in the weekly bulletin.

If you have a quilt top that you would like to have quilted, please feel free to call me for details.

Respectfully submitted, Janet E. Price 376-6581



## **Fourth Friday**

*By: Maureen McLaren*

Season's Greetings!

September Fourth Friday got off to a great start. Donna Steinacher entertained us with her beautiful violin music, along with some wonderful stories. In October, two representatives from St. John Ambulance came to explain their Therapy Dog Program. We also had two four-legged visitors! For November Fourth Friday, we are delighted to have Peter Middleton coming to speak about National Parks.

Upcoming Program:	Robbie Burns Celebration	January 25, 2019
	Chinese New Year with May Ip	February 22, 2019
	Cruising Through the Lochs with Donaldene Waugh	March 22, 2019
	Travelogue - Israel with Dan & Sylvia Statham	April 26, 2019
	The Fate of the Monarch Butterfly with Audrey Armstrong	May 24, 2019
	Sweet Adelines	June 28, 2019

If you would like more information or to be added to the Fourth Friday list, please call Maureen McLaren, (519) 372-0622

## **Sandwich Makers**

*By: Joan Burlington*

Our fluctuating sized group continue to meet on Tuesday mornings. We make 8 loaves of sandwiches for the Canadian Mental Health drop-in brunch program. Replenished most are bread and the fillings. We thank you for your ongoing donations.

## **Pantry**

With rising food and fuel prices, our pantry continues to be utilized frequently throughout the week by many individuals and families in our community. Those utilizing our service can come in during church office hours and select the food they want, like shopping at a grocery store. We are getting on average 8-12 people per week coming in to use this service. By mid-November we were seeing at least 3 people per day!

A big thank you to Brenda Nelson. She has been our Pantry Buyer, providing a large variety of items to offer to the public. Our pantry is provided in a safe and friendly environment. Many of those who use our service feel comfortable and at ease coming, reducing the stress and humiliation of asking for food. The most popular items continue to be bread, coffee, soda crackers, and frozen dinners. Food or monetary donations are gladly accepted.

## **Christmas Eve Service at 6:30pm**

Come early for a Potluck at 5:30pm. Bring a dish to share and enjoy some fellowship time.



## **Flower Committee**

*By: Gerry Langlois*

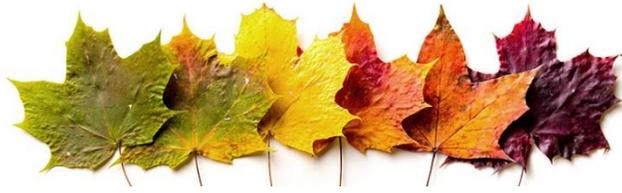
We are blessed to have such a dedicated group of ladies serving on our Flower Committee: Jan Middleton, Rachel Kapteyn, Judy Penner, Ann Millard, Donna Strutt, Sheelah Grenon, and Ellie Breen.

At this time of year, with the help of Heather Wiebe we joyfully decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. May God's love surround you and yours as we celebrate the Birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.



## Harvest Happening

By: *Diane Lewis*



Another great day and event took place on October 20! The work of so many reaps rewards of every type for us - catching up with friends, good food to buy or eat, products of great skill and interest, welcoming the community into our church, establishing a real feel of community within our own congregation. And of course, we raise money to help with special projects around the church.

**I am so pleased to let you know that after all the new batch of turkey pies were sold, we had taken in \$9050.50.**

A breakdown of each area follows below.

Deli	\$ 2357.30
Cafe	\$ 240.00
Produce	\$ 219.00
Jams, pickles	\$ 1027.00
Collectibles	\$ 950.20
Baking	\$ 2020.00
Knitting	\$ 427.00
Luncheon	\$ 1810.00

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO  
HELPED US ACHIEVE THIS!!!

Targets for these funds are currently being discussed and researched. We are also looking at ways to modernize our event while keeping what works so well. Stay tuned!!!

## Fellowship Committee

By: *Dee Renaud*

We had a very successful November Fellowship Event. Our guest speakers, Sara and Leah Denbok inspired us all! Sara spoke of her experience being found wandering on the streets of Calcutta and taken to Mother Teresa's orphanage. She was adopted at the age of 5 by a couple in Staynor, Ontario. Her daughter, Leah, who is 18 shared her pictures and stories of homeless people and shed new light and understanding on homelessness. She had copies of her 2 books – "Nowhere to Call Home" volumes 1 and 2 for sale following their presentation. These books have pictures of homeless people and a story about each one. Leah autographed each copy. All profits from the sale of her books goes to homeless shelters.

All cash donations collected from the catered meal for this event are being donated to Safe 'n' Sound here in Owen Sound. The total collected was \$650 and we thank everyone for their generosity.

## DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP EVENT

Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

Join us for Christmas carols, readings/poems & music by Lesley Hallett and students at 4:30.

Followed by a turkey dinner at 5:30

Cost by Donation. Bring your own dishes.



## **Property + Maintenance/Session Report**

*By: David Kirkpatrick, Head of Property Maintenance + Clerk of Session*

The repairs and ongoing maintenance of the church has continued throughout the year with the help of the volunteers of the Wednesday work crew. This year we were to finish the outside project of painting and pointing brick work, as per the contract we entered last year. The last part of the project was to refinish and repair the louvres on the tower which were in poor repair. The original plan was that the contractor would return this spring, at a cost just short of \$10000, to complete the project. But the work crew approached session and asked to do the project this year. It is always a blessing when volunteers take on projects as there are huge savings to the church.

Now that the project is almost complete, the savings have materialized, the total cost of building new louvres and having them faced with aluminum has come in around \$2500! The result is a finished tower that will last for many decades. I would like to call attention to Bill Davis, who spent the summer forming and shaping each louvre. A tip of the hat as well is due to Peter van der Meer, who assisted in the shaping all the aluminum. The crew were very busy this fall transporting all the louvres up to the tower by hand. This is a very difficult job as they were awkward. For those who have been up inside the tower, you will appreciate the difficulty. The installation started with the removal of the old louvres and then fitting the new ones in. Make sure you look up when you are passing by.

As a representative of session, I have been constantly amazed at the work that the crew carry out each week. We are so blessed to have such devoted members who complete these thankless tasks on a weekly basis. If you have any desire to help the crew, skills are not needed but come prepared to have a great time with a great bunch of guys every Wednesday.

## **Financial Trustees Funds Allocation of Interest**

Busch Memorial Fund – interest to provide bursaries to post-secondary students.

Sloane Estate – interest used for “outreach”

Morris Estate – interest to be used for staff training, professional development, in-service, etc.

Manse Fund – interest to St. Andrew’s Operating Budget

Ruth White Estate – interest to St. Andrew’s Operating Budget

Judy Young Memorial – interest to St. Andrew’s Operating Budget for youth related projects

McKerroll Estate – interest split between Choir and C.E. Committee

Fred Miller Memorial Fund – interest only utilized to send children in need to camp.

Mildred L. Murray Estate – The interest from the \$20,000 cash legacy “is to be used by the said trustees at their sole discretion and as they see fit for youth work in the Counties of Grey and Bruce”.

Sherry Fleming Estate – The stipulations of the will are as follows:

- a) One third of the annual net income shall be used and applied for children and youth programs of the congregation as the Christian Education Committee may from time to time select subject to the approval of the Session.
- b) One third of the annual net income shall be used and applied for the support of the Choir and for the musical undertakings and programs of the Choir
- c) One third of the annual net income shall be used and applied for the Flower Committee to assist in its program of care and decoration of the sanctuary and premises of the Church

Anne Nash Estate – principal and interest to be utilized for time to time as necessary for the maintenance, repair, upgrading and enhancement of the physical building, equipment and grounds of St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church.

11/20/2018 11:03 AM

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
**Income and Expense Statement**  
 GENERAL OPERATING 01, October 2018

	Current Period	Prior Year	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	Annual Budget
<b>INCOME</b>					
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	12,960.60	22,352.30	189,959.30	220,225.00	264,300.00
INTEREST INCOME	15,802.00	16,824.00	21,141.71	22,200.00	22,200.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,244.45	3,546.17	39,463.14	34,650.00	37,500.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>30,007.05</b>	<b>42,722.47</b>	<b>250,564.15</b>	<b>277,075.00</b>	<b>324,000.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
PASTORAL	7,407.32	9,789.97	76,754.45	75,289.30	84,300.00
MUSIC	3,973.38	3,090.00	30,132.12	28,416.70	33,900.00
CHURCH SCHOOL	188.93	51.76	411.40	450.00	700.00
FELLOWSHIP AND INREACH	244.66	82.29	4,562.43	4,450.00	5,500.00
CONGREGATIONAL CARE	2,840.00	1,000.00	23,840.00	16,500.00	20,000.00
MISSION AND OUTREACH	0.00	2,500.00	2,050.00	5,000.00	13,000.00
LOCAL COMMUNITY	416.74	-1,535.40	4,800.76	6,126.70	8,850.00
PRESBYTERIAN SHARING	7,704.54	2,462.12	24,863.62	25,000.00	30,000.00
MAINTENANCE	2,257.91	3,199.32	13,083.57	12,950.00	14,400.00
GENERAL OPERATING	6,861.81	4,554.41	48,577.87	49,213.40	59,300.00
ADMINISTRATION	383.20	343.73	7,209.03	6,916.70	8,800.00
RELATED STAFFING COSTS	990.19	2,198.05	13,059.19	14,440.90	15,900.00
MEMBERSHIPS	2,614.50	1,233.64	12,557.76	16,215.00	20,500.00
UTILITIES	394.72	594.69	8,215.14	9,983.30	12,600.00
TAXES	494.14	792.22	4,486.74	7,250.00	8,700.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>36,772.04</b>	<b>30,356.80</b>	<b>274,604.08</b>	<b>278,202.00</b>	<b>336,450.00</b>
<b>TRANSFERS</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES</b>	<b>-\$6,764.99</b>	<b>\$12,365.67</b>	<b>-\$24,039.93</b>	<b>-\$1,127.00</b>	<b>-\$12,450.00</b>

