

Trustees - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the Trustees' role in relation to the finance committee and the treasurer?

Some Communities of Faith function slightly differently in how much the Trustees are active and involved. Here is a technical summary:

Trustees hold the congregation's property and financial assets in trust for the United Church of Canada. Their role is legal and fiduciary. They ensure assets are protected, properly authorized, and used in ways that are consistent with The Manual, the Model Trust Deed, and any donor restrictions. Trustees do not manage budgets or make operational financial decisions. (Legal fiduciaries)

The Finance Committee is responsible for financial planning and stewardship. It prepares and monitors the budget, recommends the use of funds and investments, and oversees financial sustainability on behalf of the governing body. Its authority is delegated (by the governing body) and strategic, not legal. (Operational and stewardship)

The Treasurer provides administrative and reporting support. They manage the day-to-day financial transactions, maintain records, and report to the Finance Committee, governing body, and the congregation. The Treasurer implements decisions that have already been approved.

No role replaces another, and none acts independently of Governing Body authorization.