St. Paul's Anglican Church Lindsay, Ontario

ANNUAL VESTRY REPORT February 23rd, 2020

45 Russell St. W. Lindsay, Ontario K9V 2W8

Phone: 705-324-4666

Email: office@st-pauls-lindsay.ca

Website: www.st-pauls-lindsay.ca

Facebook: St. Paul's Anglican Church, Lindsay, Ontario

REVISED

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, LINDSAY

ANNUAL VESTRY REPORTS

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Please see Financial Report Package

Dear Friends,

I could not have known at this time last year that I would be chairing my last Vestry at St. Paul's in 2020. I am filled with mixed emotions as I prepare to leave the parish and people I have come to love.

It has been nearly twelve years since I arrived in Lindsay with my family. My youngest son Cameron was just beginning grade one. This fall he will be heading to Western University in London, ON to begin his engineering degree. It is hard to believe how fast the time has flown.

I do not want to turn this letter into a review of the last twelve years, but I can't help but think of the many changes and challenges we have experienced. New ministries established, the sale of the post office, a declining attendance due to the aging of the congregation, but also the many new faces and participation of new members to our parish.

The past year was busy with many social events and fundraisers. The newest program at St. Paul's is the youth program outreach to the Fleming College international students. Please see the report by Dan and Pam Farmer on the Youth and India Nights.

During 2019 I led studies in Lent and Advent. Both were based on the theme, *The Way of Love*, based on the teaching of Archbishop Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. Both studies were well attended and included bountiful and delicious potluck lunches.

In 2019, I had hoped to move forward with discussions about accessibility and the adding of an elevator, but the year seemed to be always busy with various activities and the ongoing discussions about stewardship, that attention and energy was drawn away from accessibility. There did not seem to be a burning desire to add one more project in the parish.

Unfortunately, the need won't diminish. Not only do parishioners need better access to the different levels of the building, but in recent discussions with Queen St. United Church who considered using our building, the lack of accessibility to the second level as one possible space for worship meant the loss of potential income for St. Paul's. Other user groups face the same accessibility issue. I hope that the discussion about an elevator and adapting spaces will find new life with the next Incumbent.

My impending departure from St. Paul's leaves some planning for the future in a temporary limbo. Soon you will be choosing your new Incumbent who I hope will take the parish to the next level. He or she will need your full support and the freedom to be creative, especially at a time when churches face many challenges around viability and growth. There is still so much to be done.

The search for a new Incumbent follows a clearly defined Diocesan process guided by the Bishop and any consultant she choses to have work with the search committee. In the meantime, you can begin thinking of the future and start putting to paper your hopes and dreams.

I want to caution those who want to focus on the recent article in the Anglican that talked about the Anglican Church's demise by 2040. Mark Twain once said, "The rumours of my death have been greatly exaggerated." In the same vain, I do not believe the Anglican Church will cease to exist. The decline is not new. It began back in the early 1960's and is based on many factors, aging demographics being only one part of the problem.

To those who like to dwell on negative facts, I suggest your energy go into working diligently at making St. Paul's one of the 30% of parishes in the Diocese that are growing and exceeding expectations. As I have mentioned many times over the last twelve years, Lindsay is a central hub and in a position to grow. This is not a new fact. There is already numerical and cultural growth happening in Lindsay, and more to come.

The future of St. Paul's is in your hands. It is time to make the future happen in a positive and spiritually enriching way. I also challenge the newer members of the congregation to come forward and bring your ideas to the table. It is time for the hardworking and long time members to be supported in their efforts by newer members. The Advisory Board also needs new faces and energy as the parish moves forward. That can only happen with new member participation.

As I look at the years of my Incumbency, I give thanks for the many parishioners who have been my wardens, committee and group leaders. Many have gone to be with the Lord and are greatly missed. They have left a legacy of devotion to this parish that needs to be remembered and honoured. They helped make St. Paul's the great parish that it is, and will continue to be with your efforts and prayers.

I want to thank my current wardens, Ray Marshall, Don Chase, JoAnne Burridge and Diane Stecher for your hard work on behalf of the parish and for your friendship, and to Valerie who keeps the office going. I also want to thank Don Brohm for working closely with me as coordinator and trainer of the Lay Readers. Thank you to Barb Truax whose tireless efforts have been at the forefront of motivating the parish to move forward.

A special thank you to Canon Greg Physick for all his help and support of my pastoral ministry and liturgical support through the years.

There are so many wonderful people to thank, and I am afraid I will miss some names. You know who you are, and I thank you for your prayers and support. Please know that you have all made my work and time at St. Paul's very special and memorable.

Thank you for the privilege of being your Incumbent. I have shared many joys and tears with many of you over the years. You will always have a special place in my heart and the hearts of Annette and my boys.

May God continue to bless you and guide you as you prepare to welcome your new Incumbent and plan for the future generations who will make St. Paul's their home.

Blessings and God's Shalom,

Marrer t

Warren+

Bishop's Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2020

Diocese of Toronto

Anglican Church of Canada

To our Clergy, Churchwardens and Parishioners

Beloved in Christ, peace and grace be with you.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit..." These words from the Gospel of John, chapter 15, were spoken by Jesus to his disciples at the Last Supper. They are tender - words spoken in the shadow of the cross to disciples who would become the Church. John 15 was also the centerpiece text for my charge to Synod in November 2019. If you have not had a chance to watch it, I invite you to consider doing so. The imagery of the vine, the grower, and pruning for growth form the roots of the Priorities and Plans of the Diocese for the next two years, as they have done for our strategic plan *Growing in Christ* beginning in 2016.

Recently at a meeting I was asked by a lay member of Diocesan Council, "Bishop, what is your vision for the Diocese? In a word or two what do you want us to do?"

And I said, "Simple...Grow!"

At its root the strategic plan calls us to "grow" in Christ. What does this mean, to grow in Christ?

It means, that in all that we do, whether in our parishes, outreach ministries, diocesan ministries, chaplaincies and communities, we are summoned to flourish; in number, in maturity of faith, in our life of prayer and worship, in our leadership, in our embrace of a mission that calls us to move beyond the walls of the Church. To grow in Christ means to trust the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. To grow in Christ means that we sometimes have to let go of old structures and ways of doing things that keep us from taking the risks necessary to pursue the One we pledge to follow - Jesus.

Vestry provides one moment for every congregation to consider the challenge to grow in Christ. No matter the size of the community, no matter how large or small the budget, no matter the number of lay leaders or clergy, no matter the obstacles to balancing a budget...Are we doing all that we can to grow in our faith in Jesus Christ? What is one thing that we can do to deepen our discipleship? What is one thing that we can do to serve the needs of our neighbours? What is one thing that we can do to strengthen the bonds of affection that we have for each other?

Each year at vestry we ask you to consider supporting a social justice initiative through a particular motion. In the past we have asked vestries to consider addressing issues of poverty, raising the minimum wage and affordable housing. In 2020, we are asking you consider being good stewards of creation as we grapple with the growing climate emergency. We invite you to consider setting a goal to reduce our collective carbon footprint.

Sometimes we can focus only on what we don't have at our annual vestry meetings, not enough money, not enough time, not enough people, not enough... Sometimes we can spend too much time only thinking about how on earth we are going to balance the budget. That's not to say that balancing the budget isn't important...it is. Rather, consider the words of Jesus in John 15. In the

face of a future that doesn't always seem very clear, lift up your hearts. Reach out and grow in Christ.

Yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Andrew J. Asbil

+ Adw Toronto

Bishop of Toronto

The Right Reverend Riscylla Shaw

Area Bishop of Trent-Durham Bishop Suffragan of Toronto



The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto 965 Dundas Street West Whitby, ON L1P 1G8 phone 905-668-1558 email rshaw@toronto.anglican.ca www.toronto.anglican.ca

Bishop Riscylla's Letter to Vestry 2020

January 23, 2020 ~ Saint Marianne Cope (1838-1918)

Dear Friends in Christ ~ grace to you and peace this important day as you gather in the name of Jesus.

As I write this, please be assured of my prayers and best wishes as you gather for your annual Vestry meetings. I am deeply grateful for your vision and work in fulfilling the mission of Christ in your life together, in your communities and in your neighbourhoods. In the year ahead, I appeal to you and I challenge you to bravely find ways to work and worship more and more together, to increase our courage, to share our passion for the Good News of Jesus, and to seek and find new meaning as followers of Jesus Christ in the 21st century, where we are confronted with the emerging economic and social realities of our two-thousand year old organization.

It was a joy to hear of the efforts and interest across the area in the variety of your ongoing ministries, new initiatives and innovative interests in seed-planting Reconciliation, Recovery & Mental Health, and Radical Inclusion that was our emphasis together in 2019. I strongly encourage you to keep up the good work in these areas, as it deepens our faith to serve our family and neighbours, builds infrastructure for lasting relationships and has great potential for both your own discipleship and especially your mission to disciple others in organic and creative ways.

"Our relationship with the natural world has always been, and must again become part of our identity." ~ wisdom from world-class wildlife photographer Steffan Widstrand. It must be our spiritual discipline from this day forward, to live in our God-created natural world with integrity and sensitivity, to reduce our consumption and increase our collective consciousness in our planetary environmental crisis. We have been tasked as stewards of this one wild and beautiful earth ~ how can we learn to see – and therefore act - differently? Looking through the lens of his camera, Mr Widstrand establishes a particular perspective. How does Jesus teach us to see beauty? worth? value? sustainability? responsibility? prosperity? service?

Using our Jesus-shaped lens, let us look intentionally to our future:

- inspired to be co-creators of rich and vibrant congregations
- fearlessly merging and adapting to address current financial, social and cultural conditions and constraints
- to faithfully anticipate and actively facilitate opportunities for development and re-development in our buildings, congregations and communities.

May God bless you and equip you richly with grace in 2020. Yours faithfully,

+ Riscylla Than

St. Paul's Anglican Church, Lindsay Annual Vestry Meeting Minutes March 3, 2019

The Annual Vestry Meeting was called to order at 11:35am, with 43 members present. Rev. Warren Leibovitch opened the meeting with prayer. Diane Stecher was appointed Vestry Clerk, and Ann Armstrong and Arlene McLean were appointed as scrutineers.

Welcome to the Vestry Meeting by Rev. Warren:

Rev. Warren said that 2018 was an exciting and busy year for the parish, with the addition of an Advent study, and a variety of fundraising events which helped connect us to the community and newcomers. Rev. Warren spoke about the loss of Sue Dalton, and the lasting impact to all. He thanked Don Chase for stepping up to Rector's Warden, and for Diane Stecher for coming back into a warden role. Lastly, Rev. Warren thanked Betty Tyndall for over twenty years of service producing the Grapevine newsletter.

Then, Rev. Warren talked about changes coming to Lindsay and the expectation of 18,000 people moving into the northern quadrant. The demand for resources and programs would increase, and what should we do in order to plan and prepare for new families seeking an Anglican church? To plan for success, we should consider services for younger families, the accessibility and use of the building, the impact on staffing and perhaps the need for an assistant curate. Rev. Warren wanted vestry to consider a new building committee to continue looking at the church space and usage. He had viewed 3-D scans of the entire church building with a local builder, which showed the building to the millimetre.

Minutes of the 2018 Vestry Report:

Motion: Moved by Dave Golding and seconded by Donna Williams that the minutes of the 2018 Vestry Meeting be accepted as written. **Carried.** No one opposed.

Incumbent, Wardens and Committee Reports:

Members were given some time to read through the reports. Canon Greg clarified the spelling of his wife's last name Bonnie Vanderleeuw (Physick) on page 4, and expressed thanks to Betty Tyndall for her work on the Grapevine.

Motion: Moved by Bob Coleman and seconded by Betty Tyndall that the Committee Reports be accepted as read. **Carried.** No one opposed.

Financial Report 2018: Tom Ross

Tom Ross, the interim treasurer, presented the Financial Report. Tom thanked April Russell, Marg Brohm, Marlene Wood, Linda Todd, and Chris Buitenwerf. Chris Buitenwerf has been doing the audits for free for the past ten years.

Motion: Moved by Tom Ross and seconded by Paul Davies that the audited 2018 Financial Report be accepted as written. **Carried.**

Tom Ross presented the Financial Report. He referred to the auditor's report and a summary page, and that overall for 2018 we had a deficit of \$10,000. Tom stated that in 2017, we actually finished in the black instead of the red after state-dated cheques and a system turnover corrected the final figure to a surplus of \$515, instead of a deficit of \$92. Highlights from 2018 are:

- Total offerings were down including envelopes and Christmas (an anomaly)
- Memorial givings were up. Thanks to those who donated in memory of loved ones.
- Investments were down
- Property income was higher than budgeted

- Total fundraising was short \$6000 (poor Fair weather, and late invoices)
- Expenses in certain areas were higher: bookkeeping, youth costs, maintenance.
- We were on budget most of the year, according to the monthly reports
- Unfortunately, emergency repairs to some windows and the tower in December, along with a late invoice, meant that we ended the year with a deficit.

A discussion about the financial report mentioned several items. The dishwasher was checked and is at 34,000 loads, so no need to replace it. Concerns that our finances are going the wrong way with expenses exceeding revenue by \$10,000. Gerald commended the financial committee for keeping the deficit within \$10,000, but said that we can't live beyond our means. We can't count on bequests to make the difference up. Rev. Warren said that we have more of a revenue issue, than an expense issue. People haven't increased givings, and those who travel don't always make up those weeks. Pre-authorized givings would be helpful. In addition, our capital did depreciate and our investments went down due to the stock market.

Motion: Moved by Rev. Warren that we vote to accept the 2018 Financial Report as presented. **Carried.** No one opposed.

Presentation of 2019 Budget:

Tom Ross thanked the members of the finance committee, wardens, Rev. Warren, and advisory committee. Originally, a deficit budget of \$17,000 was approved, but when the wardens met, they decided to pare expenses down to keep the deficit to \$9500. So, everything in the budget would be balanced, except for organ repairs of \$9,500. Highlights of the budget discussion:

- Minimal increase for offerings, hoping Christmas attendance is back to normal
- Investment income, and Diocesan grant money should be about the same
- Net property income down a bit due to foundation repairs
- Fundraising Trying to reduce fair fees, and have new ideas eg. Sock Hop
- Staff and contractor costs Trying to reduce to 2018 levels. eg Reduce bookkeeping costs, and reduce the hours of the youth leader. Avoid late invoices.
- Monitor photocopying. Lots of music in choir library, reduce copying of music.

Motion: Moved by Tom Ross, and seconded by Paul Davies to accept the 2019 Budget as presented.

Carried. No one opposed.

Nominating Committee Report:

The Nominating Committee Report was presented by Rev. Warren. No change to the wardens. For Synod, Marlene Wood is an alternate. On page 3, the final bank signing authorities should be four wardens, treasurer, and Barb Truax. Betty Tyndall will do one more Grapevine and then step down.

Motion: Moved by Rev. Warren, seconded by Eileen Davies that the Nominating Committee Report be accepted. **Carried.**

Other Business:

Standing in Solidarity 2019 Social Justice Vestry Motion:

Reverend Warren presented the Diocese's Standing in Solidarity 2019 Social Justice Vestry Motion: that we, the vestry of the parish of St. Paul's Lindsay, commit to standing in solidarity with those living in poverty by taking the following actions: 1) Increasing our direct outreach activity by: researching and pursuing options to expand our outreach to our neighbourhood, with a report on results to 2020 vestry. 2) Increasing our advocacy by: being supportive to the local groups who are calling for more affordable housing. The parish will inform the mayor and council of our decision.

Motion: Bob Coleman moved, Gerald Armstrong seconded Carried.

A discussion of ideas on ways our church is, or can act on the Social Justice motion:

- Donate 10% of the kickback we receive from using the blue Faithworks envelopes for local programs
- Donate more to the foodbank, A Place Called Home, basket at the back of church
- We already do a lot for school programs, food banks, etc. and considering our current budget status - tell them we've already been doing lots of things
- Women's Resources, Crafty Ladies. Outreach.
- Consider using some of the Rector's discretionary funds. Rev. Warren already helps individuals.
- Ask volunteers to help with projects (put information into the bulletin)
- Lay Pastoral visitors need help we've lost some members.
- Let people know what's going on (Grapevine, etc.)
- Make sure a letter goes to the city. Mike Perry affordable housing.

Discussion on Building Accessibility + Motion to create a Building Committee

Reverend Warren led a discussion on the church building, and whether or not there was support to create a building committee. We still need an elevator to allow everyone full access to all levels of the church building. Otherwise, we limit our ability to host groups, and have more initiatives. Where would an elevator go, or would we want to move offices downstairs? Paul Carpentier suggested doing a cost assessment of building a new church, instead of trying to add more to the existing one. Gerald Armstrong said a proper study with costs and a timeline, brought back to Vestry would be ideal. Rev. Warren reminded everyone that we don't own the building, and anything proposed would have to go through the diocese, including the idea of a new building. Rev. Warren presented a motion: We will constitute a building committee that will review all options regarding accessibility, use of space, how we do ministry, and future growth, in consultation with diocesan authority. The committee would report back to Vestry in 2020, along with providing updates, and holding a town hall meeting.

Motion: Moved by Reverend Warren, seconded by John Gundy that a building committee be constituted... **Carried. 2 abstentions:** Paul Carpentier, and Larry Todd.

Paul Carpentier expressed concerns that the Community Care vans were taking up more parking spaces lately, impeding the Tai Chi people who were paying for the spaces. However, Community Care will be relocating to a new building in a few years, so it won't be a problem. Dave Golding said not to detract from helping other groups locally.

Motion: Moved by Bob Coleman, seconded by Paul Carpentier that the Vestry meeting be adjourned. **Carried.**

Diane Stecher Vestry Clerk

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT TO VESTRY

ELECTED POSITIONS

<u>POSITION</u> <u>NOMINEE</u>

PEOPLE'S WARDEN

DEPUTY PEOPLE'S WARDEN

SYNOD DELEGATE # 1

SYNOD DELEGATE # 2

MEMBER AT LARGE

JOANNE BURRIDGE

LORNA GREEN

ROBERT COLEMAN

MARLENE WOOD

GERALD ARMSTRONG

AUDITOR PETER SHENNETT, Professional Corporation

APPOINTED POSITIONS

<u>POSITION</u> <u>APPOINTEE</u>

RECTOR'S WARDEN

DEPUTY RECTOR'S WARDEN

BOOK KEEPER

FINANCE COMMITTEE Chair

DON CHASE

DIANE STECHER

APRIL RUSSELL

LARRY TODD

TREASURER TOM ROSS
ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR GERALD ARMSTRONG

ADVISORY BOARD SECRETARY
SHOPPING CARD CO-ORDINATOR
PROPERTY MANAGER
LINDA TODD
DON BROHM

SIGNING AUTHORITIES 4 WARDENS, TREASURER AND Barb Truax

OUTREACH COMMITTEE GAIL PAYNE, Advisory Board Rep.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE BARB TRUAX

GRAPEVINE EDITOR DIANE STECHER/COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

PUBLICITY/ADVERTISING SHIRLEY WILLIAMS ST. PAUL'S WEB SITE CO-ORDINATOR MARY SULLIVAN

EVENTS COORDINATION

Music Concert Ray Marshall Sock Hop Pam Todhunt

Sock Hop Pam Todhunter. Donna Williams, Carol Hughes Fair Booth Ray Marshall

Market Day
Mystery Dinner Theatre
Barb Truax

Pancake Supper & Christmas Day Dinner Rev. Warren/John Gundy

Spring Thaw Barb Truax/Linda Todd Gina Coleman Strawberry Supper

Fashion Show Donna Williams/ Pam Todhunter, Carol Hughes

CHOIR DAVE GOLDING CHANCEL GUILD

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
SIDESPERSONS CHAIRPERSON
PASTORAL CARE
SHIRLEY WILLIAMS
HAROLD BROWN
CORA RICHARDS

MEMBER AT LARGE BARBARA BROWN, BARB TRUAX TREVOR HUTCHINSON

SYNOD DELEGATE ALTERNATE

ENVELOPE SECRETARY

NURSERY CO-ORDINATOR

LONG TERM CARE SERVICES/LUNCHEONS

VERGER

ARCHIVES

BARBARA TRUAX

MARLENE WOOD

MARG BROHM

SHIRLEY WILLIAMS

GERALD ARMSTRONG

IAN MCKECHNIE

LIBRARY COMMITTEE GINA COLEMAN / PHYLLIS CARPENTIER

FUNERAL RECEPTION CO-ORDINATOR
VESTRY CLERK
KITCHEN OPERATIONS CONVENER
SHIRLEY WILLIAMS
MARLENE WOOD
JOHN GUNDY

COFFEE COORDINATOR

PREPARED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: RAY MARSHALL, BARB TRUAX

Last Updated: February, 5th, 2020

St. Paul's Parish Register 2019

Baptisms

Earl Gordon Todd Harper Eden Todd Brynlee Mariebelle Holder William Patrick Stagg Mark Adrian James





Weddings

Shealaine Marie Patricia Richardson and Brent Earl Tamlin
Carol Louise Jolly and Frederick Dale Welling
Tracey Karen Minaker and Christopher Carl Sweetman

Burials

Florence Mary Gladys McLean William Walter Gosling Malcolm Cameron Hickson Ronald Harold Sopher Florence Alberta Mae Burtt Richard Kenneth Powell Ivan John Stastny Douglas Freeman Copp Harold Robert James
Mildred Claire Bate
Lois Joan Brennan
Paul Edwin Cox
William Crerar Henderson
John Jordon Sinclair
Florence Ilene James
Douglas Lawrence Rice

WARDENS REPORT

People's Warden - Ray Marshall

Hello and Happy February. I wanted to take a moment to tip my hat to my 3 fellow Wardens. Jo-Anne, Diane, and Don for assisting and leading in many roles this year.

Also to send a special thank you to Reverend Warren, Annette, and their 3 boys. I will miss you all, and wish you the very best down the road.

The Wardens welcome our new list of Volunteers and support our new Warden and wish her the very best.

For me, being a Warden is rewarding and very special. I wish to thank everyone who helped me along the way. *St Paul's is a wonderful Parish.*

Deputy People's Warden - JoAnne Burridge

As a church warden this position has allowed me opportunity to know more parishioners. Working together, I have enjoyed wonderful moments of fun, fellowship and encouraging talks. I encourage anyone who wishes to get to know the parish better to come out to the activities/programs offered.

The list of jobs or the many responsibilities of Church Wardens can be daunting. When you look at the overall operation of this church from the property, financial returns, health and safety, grants and funding, policies and guidelines and meetings.

Thankfully, the faithful and committed members of St. Paul's make it possible for the Wardens to share many of these responsibilities. Advisory board members, staff, committee chair persons, and volunteers work diligently to carry out our shared ministries. Much of this work is done quietly, without fanfare, and is essential to the strength and growth of our Parish community. I am most appreciative of your participation at church.

Rector's Warden - Don Chase

The past year has flown by so quickly for me it hard to know where to start "counting my blessings" I would like to start by saying thank you to Rev. Warren and wishing him well as he starts the next phase of his ministry in Arizona.

As I look back on 2019 I realize what an amazing collection of talents my fellow wardens have and say many thanks to Ray, JoAnne and Diane.

I look forward to 2020 and working with the entire congregation in sharing our faith and our talents to carry on what our ancestors started so many years ago when they built this community known as St. Paul's Lindsay.

Deputy Rector's Warden - Diane Stecher

First of all, I want to thank the many church volunteers who assist with special events, Sunday services, and behind-the-scenes tasks that make St. Paul's a wonderful parish to belong to. Secondly, I want to wish Rev. Dr. Warren and his family well as they venture to Arizona, and a new life there. In fact, I joked the other day that perhaps Warren could just videotape his sermons and send them our way, so we could just continue on with his words of wisdom, and biblical insights despite the distance. Thirdly, I am grateful to my fellow wardens for assuming my duties while I was recovering from a badly fractured ankle, and for the extra mid-week tasks that they do. We certainly seem to work well as a team, and Ray's presence will be missed as he steps down from his warden's role. Lastly, I am about to begin work on the next issue of the Grapevine, so would be appreciative of timely submissions from individuals and groups. Deadline is Monday March 9th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

It is held every Sunday from September to June during the 10 am service. Nursery is available all year. Marg Brohm and I read and discuss Bible stories, pray, sing songs and do crafts with the children. All children are welcome for this special time at Church. We look forward to seeing you.

Submitted by Shirley Williams.

YOUTH GROUP and TASTE of INDIA NIGHT REPORT

Early in Sept. 2019, Warren, myself and my mother, Pam Farmer, sat down and asked the question, "how can we reach out to a larger group of young people in our community?". There, the idea for Taste of India was birthed. We recognized a growing student population from Sir Sandford Fleming College were in a foreign land, far away from home for the first time, and needed to feel the love of Christ in our community.

Through some student connections and local people from India, we were able to plan, promote and deliver a credible taste of home for the students. We also tried to encourage Canadians of all ages to come help the students feel welcomed and to exchange cultural experiences. (We also hoped to learn a few of their secrets in cooking Indian food).

The first evening we were not sure how many people to plan for. We were hoping for 20 but decided to be well prepared in case upwards of 40 showed up. That night, we saw the miracle of the Loaves and Fishes unfold before our eyes as we ended up feeding around 120 people. There was just enough.

Monthly, Taste of India has consistently run from 100-140 participants ever since. We have seen many different faces as well as a number of familiar ones. The students could not thank us enough for doing this for them. It helped them to feel like somebody cared.

The impact on our local community has also been felt. Sir Sandford College has been in communication a few times to discuss the events and the needs of the students. People from other churches, as well as those from St. Paul's, have pulled together to volunteer their time and make the evenings successful. The community has also dug deep into their winter clothes closets to help students who were facing their first Canadian winter.

A number of the students dealing with homesickness have teared up while trying to thank us for the love and welcome they have felt at St. Paul's. The common question that has been asked is, "Why would you do such a big thing for us?". Our response has been, "God sees you. He knows where you are. He loves you and cares about you." Their response back has been "Thank you God."

I would say our original mandate of "showing the love of Christ" to a larger group of young people is well on its way to being met.

Our weekly youth group meetings have also experienced growth of a different kind. While regular attendance numbers have declined some, the youth have approached our times of devotion, study and prayer with a desire to dig deeper. Greater participation in discussions and worship has brought about a real maturity in our now largely senior high youth. We have been engaging in a variety of study series produced by The Meeting House in Oakville, ON that have presented interesting and challenging topics to the youth and also to our leadership.

Pam Farmer has been a welcome addition to our team and quickly adopted by our youth as one of their own. Meal preparation has again become a semi-regular part of our group activities, and the youth are loving it! Besides a wide variety of weekly fun activities, the group has participated in Sunday services, the murder mystery night, strawberry supper, the fair foodbooth, carolling at some of our local senior care facilities, and baking delicious treats to add to our collective waist lines around the holidays. We have, and are continuing to make efforts to reach out to new and younger youth in our community but without much success so far. Please continue to pray for our youth and contact us if you are interested in helping this continued good work.

Our youth so appreciate everything this parish has done for them over the last several years.

Submitted by Dan Farmer

KING ALBERT PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM REPORT

This program has been running at Christmas and Easter for the past 21 years. Children from King Albert School come to St. Paul's on their lunch break for stories, songs and crafts about the true meaning of Christmas and Easter. We provide apple juice, carrot and celery sticks, and homemade cookies generously donated by members of St. Paul's.

The Junior program (Grades 4-6) is led by Pastor Mike Kleinhuis of the Centre Community Church. Our volunteers for the program are a mix of parishioners from St. Paul's and the Centre Community Church.

In 2019 a total of 65 children attended the program at Easter, an increase over last year. At Christmas 2019, 23 children attended the Junior Program. The Primary program attendance, however, was very low, only 8 children. There were several reasons for this, including one day of the program being a snow day for students. We are hoping for good attendance numbers for Easter and Christmas 2020!

Submitted by Janice Ross

ST. FRANCIS BIBLE STUDY REPORT

A small group of faithful ladies met regularly in the church library for Bible study and prayer. Last spring Betty Hooper shared some of her excellent teaching videos but this fall, due to ageing and lack of leadership, we were forced to discontinue meeting.

This is a Bible study class that has met continuously for over fifty years, with a few who are "charter members" so we are sad to have to close this very special chapter in our lives and in the life of St. Paul's.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Baxter

CHANCEL GUILD REPORT

Chancel Guild members go about their duties in a quiet and efficient manner each week. Total time involved is about one hour on Saturday mornings and twenty minutes or so following the service on Sunday. We have teams who prepare the vessels for the various services and clean them after each service. We also change and launder the linens, change the hangings when required, dust the sanctuary, clean brass and silver vessels when needed. We decorate for the seasons of Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Arrange for memorial flowers when they are requested and set up for weddings, funerals and any other special services as required.

We would like to have more people join our group so we have more teams (team consists of 2 people) so each team is on duty only once a month or less. If you are interested in our work join us in the Sacristy any Sunday to see what it is all about. New members are welcome at any time. Thank you to our current members for their constant dedication to their duties.

Special thanks to Marilyn and Al Eade for their dedication to this ministry.

Submitted by Marg Brohm

SIDE TEAMS, COUNTERS AND GREETERS REPORT

Many thanks to everyone who assisted us last year with this important work for the church. We require six people every morning service and are fortunate to have approximately 70 people who regularly are scheduled or fill-in as needed. We also work at special services like Christmas, Christmas Eve, and the three long-term Care/wheelchair services. This year we also helped with a couple of funerals.

The schedule for the year is posted at the back of the church over the desk with the sound system. Another sign-up schedule is on the bulletin board. There is a captain for each month who liaises with the warden on duty.

We have both men and women as sides persons, greeters and counters. We welcome any new people to be part of our team for either a month, a week, or as a spare. If you have questions speak to Harold Brown, the Convenor for 2020, or speak to a warden.

This is a valuable gift you can bring to St. Paul's because you may be the first person to welcome a visitor. Remember also that, as part of a team, you get to know parishioners you might not otherwise meet, and you are the face of St. Paul's when a visitor arrives.

Submitted by: Jim Buchanan

CHOIR REPORT

In Memoriam: The Choir lovingly remembers our former organists, Doug Copp and Bob Tompkins, who passed away in the early months of 2019. May our memories of them always be a blessing!

The Choir prepared special music for the visits of two of our Bishops. On February 24th, the Bishop of the Diocese of Toronto, Andrew Asbil, was present with us at St Paul's, and an original Beatles' song was adapted and sung in his honour. Dave Golding penned the text of "God Wants to Hold Your Hand", and permission for this artistic license was granted by Sony Music. Then on October 27, for the visit of Bishop Shaw, the Choir and Youth Group sang together, "Great Are You Lord".

The lovely "Recordare" from the Requiem of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was sung as an Epilogue to the Good Friday Service. In our double-quartet rendition, the soprano was sung by Jo-Ellen Abercrombie and Genevieve Proulx: the alto by Betty Drummond and Roz McArthur; the tenor by Vlad Tomilin and Scott; the baritone by Dave Golding and Henry Paterson. Genevieve, Vlad and Henry travelled from Toronto.

Joanna Dindisii Kwe Simmons (Burt) joined us on Easter Sunday to perform with the Choir the anthem, "Blessed Be the God and Father" of Samuel Sebastian Wesley. This ambitious work was among the pieces sung at the wedding of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

A group of eighteen from St Paul's journeyed to Toronto on Saturday, May 11th to attend the Canadian Opera Company's production of "La Boheme". This was a lovely outing, the singing was wonderful, and many of us enjoyed a dinner at the Volos Restaurant, where the food and service were superlative!

For our Strawberry Supper entertainment, Genevieve and Josh Boutilier again came up from Toronto, and were joined by Ursula Rubach, Shirley Hanes and by me. We sang a great variety of songs and duets.

We were grateful for the help of supply pianist, Myrna Sloboda, for a number of Sundays over the summer.

For Welcome Back Sunday, the three singing sisters of the Koty family of Lindsay joined our choir. Carolyn, along with her younger siblings, Ariana and Persephone, favoured us with a rendition of "We Are Part of the Family". The same trio led the singing of carols at the Christmas Day Dinner, and Carolyn presented as a solo the Spanish carol, "A La Nanita Nana" on December 29th.

For the Advent Evensong and for Christmas Eve, two new works entered into our repertoire, when we presented the "Ave Maria" of Giulio Caccini, and the "Shepherd's Pipe Carol" of John Rutter. Paola di Santo joined us for the Evensong.

On Christmas Eve, Roz McArthur sang "O Holy Night" to much ovation. Sophia, Natasha and Joey Mackey were also present, and Sophia and Tasha sang the "Gesu Bambino" with much beauty.

We most sincerely thank our choir members for their dedication and for their generosity of time and talent. Full time members during 2019 included Carol Hughes, Beatrice Boutilier, Shirley Hanes, Barbara Appleton, Ursula Rubach, Betty Drummond, Don Chase, David Golding, Paul Carpentier, and Fred Welling. Others who occasionally helped were Flora Gray, Arlene McLean, Suzanne McAllister and John Appleton.

Submitted by Gordon Brown

LECTORS REPORT

Our very capable Lectors, under the direction of Rev. Warren, read the scripture lessons at the 10 a.m. church service each Sunday.

Our current members are:

Gina Coleman, Dawn Evans, Lorna Green, Liz. Gundy, Suzanne McAllister, Michael Perry, Tom Ross, Ursula Ruhbach, Judy Sedgley, Barbara Truax, Jane Whitfield and Beverly Baxter

On behalf of myself and the people of our Parish, I wish to thank these men and women for their faithful dedication throughout this past year.

Please speak to Warren or to me if you feel called to be part of this important ministry.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Baxter

LAYREADERS and ANOINTERS REPORT

Layreaders work under the direction of the Incumbent providing assistance at the 8:30 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. worship services or any other service where assistance is required. Layreaders read lessons and/or the Holy Gospel, lead prayers and assist with the administration of the Chalice or Bread as indicated by the Priest.

Current Layreaders include Don Brohm, Ethel Morris, Gail Payne, Kathy LeGresley, Paul Carpentier, David Golding and we welcome Mike Perry.

Anointers provide prayer and anointing assistance during worship services on the third Sunday of each month. They also provide these ministries, with the Incumbent's direction/guidance, during hospital/home visits.

Current licensed Anointers include Cora Richards and Gail Payne.

Respectfully submitted by Don Brohm

ADVISORY BOARD REPORT

The Board usually met on the third Wednesday of each month in 2019, except for July and August.

The focus of the Board's time is spent discussing information and concerns that arise each month in the parish. Reports are received from our Incumbent, the Wardens, the Property manager – Don Brohm and, as appropriate, from various group representatives. Issues that arise are discussed regarding potential actions to be taken. Financial updates are presented by the Treasurer and/or Chair of the Financial Committee usually on a quarterly basis.

As our shrinking parish membership profile and financial situation continues to be major challenges, major focus discussions included Stewardship and PAR, parish membership growth and our dependency on volunteer based fundraising. For example, on the topic of Stewardship, Peter Misiaszek, Diocesan Director of Stewardship Development presented his perspective and recommendations to the Incumbent, Wardens and Advisory Board. Results to-date have frankly been insufficient.

Major items requiring repairs and financial support also receive attention – examples in 2019 include the parking lot resurfacing and organ repairs.

All of these issues will continue to be discussion points in 2020. Obviously, the replacement of our current Incumbent, Rev. Warren, will also be a major focus area for this year.

The role of the Board, as the name indicates, is to advise the Incumbent and Wardens. To do this successfully we need an active Board. One of the Advisory Board's problems is 'breadth' of membership. The board would benefit from newer members of the parish who would bring fresh perspectives and ideas. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please contact me directly.

As in the past, minutes of Board meetings have been made available to anyone in the parish wishing to read them once they have been approved by the Board.

As Chair, I would like to thank our Secretary, Joanne Burridge, for her support during this past year. Her personal contribution to the board, in addition to all the other duties she performs as Warden and fundraising organizer has been critical and very much appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted, Gerry Armstrong, Chair

LAY PASTORAL VISITOR'S REPORT

Our very dedicated and faithful lay pastoral visitors have been providing worship services at six residences, and visiting patients at the hospital on a regular basis.

We miss the services of Marguerite and David Lawson, but hope they will be able to help occasionally. We are in great need of more people to helpthis might just be to find the page or read a lesson.

If anyone would like to help please contact the church office or the Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch.

Submitted by Betty Drummond

RECEPTION REPORT

During the past year we prepared food for Funerals, Long Terms Care Services and other events. The Long Term Care Holy Communion service and luncheon is held 3 times a year Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Unfortunately this year the Christmas one had to be cancelled due to an ice storm.

I wish to thank very much all the willing workers who help with all these events. If you are interested in helping please contact the church office.

Submitted by Shirley Williams

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

This report summarizes committee activities and programs in 2019.

Outreach and Designated Givings were allocated as below.

Quarterly Allotments

Local: Women's Resources, Community Care, Bobcaygeon Food Bank, CKL Disaster Relief Fund

National: Moorelands Camp, Kairos, Yukon Diocese, Mission to Seafarers

International: Christian Blind Mission, FINCA, War Child, Justice Mission Canada

Each of these organizations received \$150.

Designated Givings: local Alzheimer's Society, Giving with Grace for Indigenous Healing Fund (twice), Living Waters, John Howard Society, Council of the North, A Place Called Home, Foster Children (twice) Doctors Without Borders, PWRDF (Bahamas Relief), Jamaican Self Help

Special Services

In October Rev. Leigh Kern (diocesan Co-ordinator of Indigenous Ministries and Reconciliation Animator) spoke at our 10:00 service. In the afternoon she introduced and showed the film Doctrine of Discovery. We had invited the whole community and were pleased with a good turn out of our own congregation and several people from our larger community. Rev. Kern answered questions following the viewing and led a good discussion around the issues of reconciliation with our Indigenous peoples.

Foster Children

We support 3 children in Central America through SOS Children's Villages in Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador respectively. We also support 3 children (1 in Guatemala and 2 in Haiti) through The Arms of Jesus. We contribute financially to their care and by letter writing.

Other Programs

In September Queen Victoria School cancelled the weekly Grilled Cheese Sandwich Program. In its place they stated a daily breakfast program with which we were unable to assist.

In the spring we intensified our donation of funds and personal items to A Place Called Home.

In July we donated \$500 to the Summer School Lunch Program for children of CKL in low income areas. One of our members also helped prepare the lunches intermittently.

In November we delivered a large tote of knit and crocheted warm weather items from Mary Storry and The Crafty Ladies to The Mission to Seafarers.

In December one of our members and his family delivered Christmas gifts to 4 area children. These children's fathers were in detention at our local Correction Centre. The gifts were given on the father's behalf through The Angel Tree Program.

In December we also sent financial support to an Anglican Church and Refugee Ministry through a request made to Rev. Warren.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Payne, Chair of Outreach Committee

ST. PAUL'S SISTERHOOD REPORT ... Formerly known as Crafty Ladies

This group continues to meet every Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. in the library.

Historically this group was formed as a fund raising branch of Anglican Church Women, primarily to work on projects for sale for Harvest Happenings. As the group evolved we added a semi-annual donation of personal care bags for women and children for Women's Resources. We felt it was no longer worthwhile for us to have a table at the Strawberry Supper this past year. We again had a table at Market Day. Although we reported that we made over \$800.00 in sales. We actually contributed in excess of that number by \$200.00. Thanks to our dear member Joan Miniter we again contributed one of her special dolls at the Spring Thaw dinner. One Sunday following the church service, Mary sat at a small table and sold some additional items again contributed by Joan Miniter.

The following was previously placed in the Sunday bulletin when we voted to change our name to St. Paul's Sisterhood.

We are a group of women that meet for refreshments and conversation along with the work that we do for our Market Day Craft table. We will continue to support Women's Resources with personal care bags. We very much value the friendship and support of this group of sisters of Christ. We have evolved from busy younger women working hard on. Fund raising projects to a group that still works in the same way as we age. The social aspect of our group is now equally important as we support one another with life's challenges. No special skills needed. New members welcome.

This year our focus changed slightly when we changed our name to reflect more accurately what our group is about.

Submitted by Shirley Hanes

E.T.A. REPORT

E.T.A (encouraging traveling alone) started seven years ago to provide fellowship and support, initially to parishioners recently bereaved, but it soon evolved. Any event is open to all. However, couples or friends who attend, are encouraged to mix with others so that nobody will feel alone.

This fellowship group has had numerous, varied activities over the last seven years. The purpose is simply to provide those who live alone, or those who are alone for activities, an opportunity to connect with others. As you can see on the following 2019 list, attendance varies and that is okay—everyone has different time commitments and interests. We have 40 parishioners on our list and most have attended one activity-- and some all. But if only two attend it is still a success.

Month	Activity	#
Aug. 7	Backyard BBQ in Shirley Hanes backyard	25
Oct 30	Lunch at Pickle & Olive Pt. Perry and shop at Trading Post	8
	Dinner at The Cat & Fiddle then attended community Care Memorial	
Nov. 4	Service held at St.Andrew's church	3
Dec. 18	Dinner at Olympia followed by St. Paul's Blue Christmas	8
Please tell	Donna your ideas and we will try to arrange activities	

Thank-you to everyone who supports this group with ideas, compliments, and planning. A group is the sum of its members and even some who have been too busy or ill to attend contribute to its success. We feel your prayers and feel connected to you when we see you and converse at church or contact one another.

Submitted by Donna Gushue, facilitator

BOOK CLUB REPORT

St. Paul's Book Club meets the first Tuesday of the month for nine months of the year from September to November and then from January to June. Meetings are held at members' homes where we enjoy a pot luck dinner followed by book discussion. We all enjoy the conviviality of these evenings and it is always stimulating to share our likes, dislikes, and insights into the books we have read.

Presently our membership stands at sixteen and we have been meeting for nine years as of February 2020. We have enjoyed many books during that time. In the past year we have read books covering a wide range of topics: biographies, mysteries, skulduggery in the Vatican, espionage in World Wars I and II, Russian counts who survived the Revolution, and brothers who re-unite.

In May we will hold our annual planning meeting(as well as discussing a book). We gather as usual and after our dinner, suggestions are put forward of books for next year. A vote follows and the eight books with the highest number of votes are our selections for the 2020 - 2021 season. Only books that a member has read can be suggested. We also set the meeting places for the following year at that time. And then, we discuss the month's book selection.

This year we plan to have a play reading in June again. However, we have decided to try for a one act play as a full length play makes for a very late night. We hope to find a comedy that will suit our tastes.

Participation in our book club opens our parish world in a unique way. Presently our numbers are full and it is not practical to welcome new members. But if anyone would like to start a new book club, I am sure there would be a good number of interested parties. And I can highly recommend it as a wonderful way to share in fellowship, knowledge, excellent cuisine, and fun – and even some good wines!

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Green

ORDINARY JOE'S and JANE'S REPORT

This Group is made up of people who volunteer their time and talent to work on the fabric of our Church. We can be engaged in a number of tasks around our buildings from removing or installing storm windows on our Church to installing door closer's to repairing kneeler's and pew's and bringing out Christmas decorations for others to decorate our Church and or Church hall to repairing doors and installing air conditioning or window covers on air conditioners; over the year we add up to well over 40 small jobs that get done.

My sincere thanks to Mr. Bob Whitfield for bringing the equipment to complete these projects and his talent as well.

JUST SO YOU KNOW

Respectfully submitted by Don Brohm

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Our new brochures are completed and available both in the foyer at the front entrance of the church and in the Parish Hall outlining all church activities with dates and time as well as the brochure of the Self- Walking Tour of the church proper. In addition, continually updating the website (www.st-pauls-lindsay.ca) is done through our webmaster. Watch this site for upcoming events and news that Mary Sullivan posts as well as special services, sermons and past and upcoming events in conjunction with some wonderful photos of our events by Beverly Baxter, and Rev. Warren.

<u>Our search continues for a willing volunteer to act as liaison between the church and webmaster, Mary Sullivan.</u> This would only involve sending upcoming events and activities when available to Mary via email. For further information please speak with Rev Warren or any of the wardens or members of the Communication Committee (listed below)

New members, both male and female joined us this past year. <u>This committee has a very diversified mandate and thus offers a place for anyone.</u> If you would like to know more about this committee, speak to any of the wardens, Rev. Warren or Barb Truax

THE GRAPEVINE (our quarterly newsletter to you)

This quarterly newsletter, The GrapeVine" is possibly the major source of church information. Due to the procurement of sponsorships, this newsletter is completely self-sustaining. **We encourage you to patronize these sponsoring businesses and thank them for their support of St. Paul's**. As well, each edition of The Grapevine is sent to you via Canada Post. By presorting these newsletters at the Church we are allowed postage at a much-reduced rate.

You receive this newsletter quarterly. It is produced by Diane Stecher now following the retirement of Betty Tyndall last year. She has produced two wonderful editions for our enjoyment and continues to "iron out" the few growing pains anyone experiences undertaking a new position. Thank you Diane for your diligent work!

Sincere thanks is expressed to these committee members who undertake their responsibilities with thoughtfulness and good humour on your behalf:

They are Barbara Brown, Betty Tyndall, Beverly Baxter, Shirley Williams, Gina Coleman, Jane Whitfield, Pat and Ross Smyth, Linda Todd, Ray Marshall and Barb Truax.

Submitted by Barb Truax

HAPPY COOKS REPORT

Our Happy Cooks group consists of a great group of people, some from the church membership and some from outside, who gather on Friday mornings in the church kitchen to enjoy fellowship and service to the church through cooking.

The Happy Cooks are an evolving group of volunteers who enjoy gathering, chopping and cooking! We have a goal of contribution to the Church through a little fund raising from the sale of soups and various other food products. However, there are other ways our group contributes as well! The Happy Cooks jump in when asked to support other programs the Church is running as needed. We also assist with a number of fund raising events that the Church organizes.

During the first part of 2019 we continued our work with outreach, providing fresh food to the Queen Victoria School lunch program; however, that program was cancelled by school officials for the 2019-2020 school year.

The Happy Cooks also pulled together again this year to prepare for the Church's Pancake Supper and Christmas Day Dinner. These events are a few of our favourite events of the year and we are always happy to help these events happen!

Find us in the kitchen on Friday's or help support our program by purchasing our soups on Sunday's after service. **New members always welcome!**

Submitted by Edna Smith with John Gundy

FAIR BOOTH REPORT

This report is dedicated to everyone who volunteered for Fair duty last September.

Your continued support and hard work was amazing!
Thank you, thank you, for making 2019 Fair Booth a great success.
What a TEAM!
2020 FAIR DATES ARE SEPT.23-27th

Submitted by Ray Marshall

SHOPPING CARDS REPORT

In preparing to write this report for Vestry, I looked up past reports and found 2 things.

First the profit continues to drop by \$1,000 or \$2,000 each year and

Second fewer and fewer people are participating in the programme.

Why??

First of all, I would like to thank all those who participated in the Shopping Card Programme at St Paul's. Last year, the church earned just over just **over \$8,500.** Shopping cards are a very easy way to generate money for the church. Where else do you receive 5% on your investment??

They are simple to buy and use. You pay the Shopping Card face value and the church receives a discount from the store. Credit cards are also accepted for Shopping Card purchases. (Thus, you can still get your points!) If you do not use all the money on your card in one purchase, the remainder is still left on the card to be used on your next visit to the store. The benefit for the Parish is that for every \$1,000.00 in Shopping Card purchases, the church makes \$50.00 and that adds up quickly!

The Shopping Card project is a very worthwhile fundraiser but it requires the participation of the whole parish to be successful. If each Parish member bought only \$100 per month in Shopping Cards, the church would earn just under \$2,000.00 each month. That would be over \$23,000.00 of revenue per year!! **WOW potential**

We need your help! Please buy your cards from Valerie in the church office or Sundays in the lower hall.

Submitted by Linda Todd Shopping Card Convener

PROPERTIES REPORT

Once again we have finished another year (2019) with all of our properties rented out. In 2019 we said good-bye to our longest Tenant; 32 years these people rented from St. Paul's and they never asked for very much. We did not have to wait for a new Tenant; as one was moving out another was moving in and as it turned out, the Tenant moving in, was able to purchase some items from the Tenant who was moving out.

The past year (2019) however; brought with it, its own problems such as new hot water tanks to our Glenelg St properties, 3 to be exact; 34 Glenelg required 1 and 38 Glenelg required 2 as well 38 Glenelg required a new furnace. We had brick work at the front of the Church repaired and roof repairs and repairs to the dishwasher drain and a new a/c unit for our Rector's office. I expect 2020 to bring with it more repairs to our properties, especially the east side parking lot.

Once again I would like to express my thanks to the Warden's and our Incumbent and to all of St. Paul's for their never ending support.

Respectfully submitted by Don Brohm

MARKET DAY REPORT

Market Day was two days this year to make it a great success.

It seemed to me that collecting treasures all year and having the trailer open Saturdays during October and working hard for a week sorting pricing and making all the treasure look great warranted more time to sell.

Watching customers going up and down the stairs as well as volunteers lugging boxes up and down all three floors I feel this laborious fundraiser has run its course.

We are hopeful that someone will step up with new fundraising ideas.

Thank you for all your help for all your help.

Submitted by JoAnne Burridge

SYNOD REPORT

The Diocese of Toronto's 159th Regular Session of Synod was held on Nov 8 & 9, 2019.

St. Paul's was well represented by our two lay members, Barb Truax, and Bob Coleman and our incumbent, Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch.

The Synod began with a Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. followed by business sessions on Friday afternoon and evening, with business concluding Saturday morning. It was a large gathering with well over 600 in attendance.

Synod votes on proposed changes to governance structure

Mark Hemingway of the diocese's Governance and Decision-Making Working Group spoke about proposed changes to the diocese's governance structure, so that it is more effective in helping the diocese accomplish its mission. After extensive consultations with Diocesan Council, the College of Bishops and others, the group made the following recommendations:

- Diocesan Council and the Executive Board be amalgamated into one body called Synod Council.
- The size of Synod Council be reduced so that there be a maximum of 25 members.
- Six committees be established: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, Property Committee, Human Resources Committee, Programs Committee and Risk and Governance Committee.
- Existing committees be amalgamated.
- Members of the committees would not necessarily be members of Synod.
- The committees would have decision-making authority delegated to them with parameters established by Synod and Synod Council.

The Governance and Decision-Making Working Group recommended that the changes be implemented during a two-year pilot project, with a report about the outcome going to the next regular session of Synod. Chancellor Clare Burns explained that some changes would have to be made to the diocese's Constitution and canons for the recommendations to be implemented on a pilot basis.

The motion required 75% approval in each of the houses of clergy and laity to succeed. It was approved in the house of laity but received 74.3% in the house of clergy. Since the motion failed, the matter will be referred to the next regular session of Synod.

Synod hears from guest speaker

Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat, an adjunct professor at Trinity College and Wycliffe College and the Biblical Scholar in Residence at St. James, Fenelon Falls, spoke to Synod about The Biblical Story and human beings' place in it, as both "earth creatures" and the living spirit of God. She spoke about the current environmental crisis and asked, "How did we get here and how do we have hope in the midst of it?"

Day 2

Synod begins with worship

Synod reconvened at 8:30 a.m. on Nov. 9, and the meeting began with worship, including prayers and a moment of silence for those who have lost their lives in the wars.

Bishop hears thoughts on same-sex marriage

"A Word to the Bishop" was an hour-long, "open mic" session, much like Members Hour, specifically on the topic of same-sex marriage in the Church. It was intended to allow people to speak directly and openly to

Bishop Andrew Asbil on the subject as he seeks to have new guidelines in place for the diocese by Pentecost 2020. Members were also invited to send written comments to him if they wished. Many people spoke. Until Pentecost 2020 the Bishop will deal with requests for same sex marriage on a case by case basis.

The main motion on Saturday was on the budget. Although the highlights were posted on line, the budget came to a vote with very little discussion. The Diocese appears to be in reasonable financial shape, although like the rest of us, times are difficult.

There will be no change in the assessment rate (like the mill rate) used to calculate what the parishes contribute to the Diocese for 2019. It remains at 24.7 %.

Synod ended at 12:30 pm with Bishop Andrew Asbil's wrap-up and closing prayers.

Respectfully submitted by Robert Coleman, Synod Delegate

Note much of this is taken from the Diocesan web site where a more detailed account is available.

	PARISH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM				
	DESIGNATED FUNDS ACCOUNT				
	AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019				
GOAL N	0.	START	OUTREACH	INCOME	END
1	LIVING WATERS	0	190	190	0
5	OUTREACH CONTINGENCY	758	650	0	108
8	ADOPTION OF FOSTER CHILDREN	734	2928	2663	469
40	KAWARTHA LAKES FOOD SOURCE	0	555	555	0
44	SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH MINISTRIES	0	4745	4745	0
60	PWRDF	0	1575	1575	0
67	RENOVATIONS	0	1060	1060	0
95	ROOF RENOVATION	0	1985	1985	0
100	A PLACE CALLED HOME	0	170	170	0
101	MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0
102	SCHOLARSHIPS - THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS	0	0	0	0
138A	CHANCEL GUILD FLOWERS	0	2151	2151	0
146	CHOIR GOWNS, MUSIC	13853	9500	0	4353
150	FAITHWORKS	0	1282	1282	0
200	LOCAL OUTREACH ****	1639	350	292	1581
215	SPECIAL OUTREACH PROJECTS	0	12370	12370	0
250	SPECIAL (RECTOR)	0	100	100	0
	TOTAL	16984	39611	29138	6511
	****Lunch Program (Cheese) - \$570.79				

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S VESTRY REPORT

St. Paul's Stewardship Stairway

Weekly giving breakdown by number of families. Locate where you are on the stairway, and try to move up 1 step (i.e. 1 loonie a week) next year.

There are approximately **326 families** that make up our community.

If you are not one of the 190 families on the stairway, please join our team. \$<u>100</u> – 5 families \$80 - 1 family \$**60** – 3 families \$55 - 2 families\$45 - 2 families**\$40** – 1 family **\$35** – 7 families **\$30** – 8 families \$25 - 5 families **\$20** - 9 families **\$15** – 14 families \$10 - 28 families\$5 - 39\$ families $\mathbf{3} - \mathbf{9}$ families \$2 - 5 families under \$2 - 28 families

RESULT:

If all 172 families moved up \$1.00 the impact would be: 172 x 52 weeks x \$1.00 = \$8,944.00 Additional resources for ministry and education.

Vestry Motion 2020 – Taking Action on Climate Change

We, the vestry of __(parish)__ in the Diocese of Toronto, recognize that there is a global climate emergency. We acknowledge that all sectors of society, including government, business, churches and other non-profit organizations, and private individuals, have an obligation to do what they can to minimize their contribution to climate change.

We call on the government of Canada to commit to the following:

- End public financing of the fossil fuel industry (oil, gas, coal)
- Bring Canada's climate and energy policy into alignment with the Paris Accord emissions targets to do our part to limit the rise in global average temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- Support a just transition to a low-carbon economy through investment in renewable energy sources and infrastructure, energy-efficient technologies, and skills development and retraining for high-quality, sustainable jobs in the renewable energy sector.
- Assist Indigenous, northern, and coastal communities, and other vulnerable populations, to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change on their local environments.

As Christians, we have a particular obligation to care for the earth as God's beloved creation (Genesis 126-28, 2:15), as well as for the most vulnerable among the human family (Matthew 25). Accordingly, we also commit our parish to the following goal(s):

Some examples of possible parish goals: (pick one or more)

- Reducing our parish energy use by ___ %
- Encouraging use of active and public transportation by parishioners, and/or carpooling where these options are not practicable.
- Eliminating (or reducing by ___%) our use of single-use plastic products
- Divesting from investments in oil, gas, and coal and/or investing in renewable energy projects
- Planting a community garden
- Planting [x number of trees] this year [on church or private property, or participating in community tree-planting projects]
- Other: _____