

St. George's Memorial Church

Diocese of Toronto

Episcopal Area of Trent Durham

Corner of Centre and Bagot Streets,
Oshawa Ontario
[Established 1847]



Vestry 2022

Sunday, 20th February 2022

The Rev'd Canon Judy Herron-Graham, Incumbent

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING AGENDA

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

1. Incumbent takes the Chair
2. Opening prayers
3. Appointment of Vestry Clerk
4. Reading, correcting, and confirming minutes of last annual meeting, and minutes of Special Vestry Meeting
5. Incumbent's report
6. Churchwardens' Report
7. Presentation and Approval of Audited Financial Statements for 2021
8. Approval of Budget for 2022
9. Envelope Secretary's report
10. Appointments:
 - a. Rector's Churchwarden
 - b. Rector's Deputy Churchwarden
 - c. Treasurer
11. Elections:
 - a. People's Churchwarden and Deputy People's Churchwarden
 - b. Lay Members of Synod
 - c. Envelope Secretary
 - d. Screening Coordinator
 - e. Parochial Tribunal
 - f. Auditors
 - g. Other officers or committees
12. Presenting reports of all parochial organizations
13. Other motions: i) We, the vestry of St. George's Memorial Church, Oshawa urge the provincial government to support Ontario's most vulnerable workers by passing legislation to implement the following measures:
 - 1) 10 days of employer-paid sick leave per year for all workers, without requiring workers to submit doctor's notes, with an additional 14 days' sick leave during public health emergencies.
 - 2) Require employers to give workers a minimum number of hours per week (based on the job) and to give reasonable advance notice of work schedules.
 - 3) Require employers to provide equal pay and benefits to all workers doing the same work, whether they are part-time, temporary, or contract workers, and regardless of immigration status."
- ii) It is moved by Churchwarden Barb Wotton and seconded by Churchwarden _____ that both deputy wardens and Ron Kitchen be added as signers on the parish accounts, provided that one signature on every cheque is that of a Churchwarden.
15. General business
16. Adjournment

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Incumbent's Report

"Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain." 1 Cor.15:58 NRSV

Confession of St. Peter, A.D. 2022

Dear Friends of St. George's,

Once again, we find ourselves beginning a new year in a lockdown as a result of Covid 19. In 2021 we were closed for in-person worship until July 18, with the exception of Easter Day, after which we closed again as case numbers climbed. We continued in-person worship, and even began to sing again in Advent, but closed once more after celebrating a wonderful Christmas. During this time, we have provided online worship each Sunday and Major Holy Day as well. Through it all, we have continued to support and uphold one another.

The past 21 months have been a time of adversity and we have persevered. We have learned how to stay connected without meeting physically. We have developed new technical skills to stay engaged. There have been three book studies over Zoom this year: of Bart Ehrmann's "Heaven and Hell", Ibram Kendi's "How to be an Anti-Racist", and Kelley Nikondeha's "Defiant: what the women of Exodus teach us about freedom." We have had Zoom coffee hour for many weeks, and the Summer Salon in the Shade when we could comfortably meet outside under the trees in the nice weather. In the fall, an exchange table for jigsaws was set up at the back of the church. A number of people are avid puzzlers and this is a way to share the wealth. You do not need to bring a puzzle to take a puzzle. Despite the pandemic, Prayer Shawls have continued to be carefully crafted, blessed, and distributed. On December 12 we held a Blue Christmas-type service, and offered a hand-made, blessed and wrapped prayer shawl to anyone who wanted one. Thirty shawls were given away that day, a testament to the pain and grief in our community.

Our staff have remained steadfast. They have been gracious beyond words as their work hours were cut, then restarted and cut again. Please thank them when you see them, for their generosity of spirit in this ongoing struggle. Cathy Reynolds, our administrator, has worked tirelessly to prepare service bulletins when we are open for worship and to get the Standard out each week. Cathy undertakes a myriad of jobs, including the endless paperwork that is required for our rentals. Carmine Lappano, our Music Director, is a source of inspiration. He is always eager to innovate and explore new ways to present our music ministry. William Erwin, our Sexton is available whenever he is needed for tasks that need his energy, skills, and strength.

While Covid has restricted our face-to-face work with our street-involved neighbours, much good work has continued. Last winter we provided all the plastic bins and blankets that the Backdoor Mission needed for their 'safe sleep' program. In this program, Simcoe Street United Church allows homeless people to sleep on their church pews during the daytime, with their belongings in a plastic bin. In the spring we were distressed to learn about the St. Vincent volcano eruption which devastated much of

the small island nation. Led by Cassandra Duncan, members rallied and collected, sorted, packed and sent 12 barrels of clothes and food to help them recover. In the summer we collected water and snacks to go to the Backdoor Mission to give out. Throughout the year, as donations of food have been received, we have given them to local foodbanks. We continue to collect good used clothing to distribute to outreach ministry partners such as DUO and the Back Door Mission. Our Christmas programs continued unabated: we prepared Samaritan's Purse shoe boxes for children in need at Christmas, as well as our usual Christmas hampers, and a mitten tree full of hats and mitts for local school children. Meals on Wheels has continued to deliver food to shut-in and vulnerable people.

In August of 2021 we welcomed the Rev. Randy Murray as our Community Minister. Fr. Randy's job was to extend our outreach with our street-involved neighbours. Early in 2022 Fr. Randy resigned from this position and we wish him well in future endeavours. Now it remain to us to revive our outreach.

This past year has seen a great team of wardens. Barb Wotton and Margaret Lapierre were both new as Wardens last February, and both fit into their new roles like hands into a glove. It has been a pleasure to work with them over the past year. Their diverse skills have meant that the many and varied tasks of wardens have been well managed. Last June, Bill Reitsma resigned as Deputy Warden. Thank you, Bill, for your faithful service and care of our buildings and lands. After 4 years as a Churchwarden, and this past year as a Deputy Warden, Don Anderson is retiring. As a Churchwarden, Don has been responsible for the accelerated pace at which our building renovations have progressed. His leadership and energy have spurred many of us to do more for St. George's. Thank you, Don. "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Master." Both Barb and Margaret have indicated they will continue in their roles as Rector's and People's Wardens, respectively.

At Vestry we will elect and welcome some new leaders with fresh energy as well as welcome back those who have decided to remain in their positions to give us the benefit of their experience and continuity. Please offer them your support and pray for them as they undertake leadership for the benefit of us all, for the efficient and effective organization of our common life and the enabling of our many and varied ministries.

Yours faithfully,

The Rev'd Canon J. Herron-Graham,
Incumbent,
St. George's Memorial, Oshawa

The College of Bishops Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2022

to be read or circulated on the Sunday of the parish's annual vestry meeting



Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

To the clergy, churchwardens, and parishioners of the Diocese of Toronto,

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

As you gather today for the annual vestry meeting, we as your bishops wanted to write to you united as a College, to assure you of our prayers, gratitude and love for you in the face of the challenges facing our Church at this time. We want to encourage you and to assure you of our support, as we look back on the past year and anticipate the one that lies before us.

Our life together continues to be shaped by a little virus called COVID-19. Most of us had hoped that we would be back to our pre-pandemic ways by now. Yet we seem to be entering into the third year of this pandemic, and we are in the midst of an incredible fifth wave. We have learned to adapt, shift, change, open, close, move online, Zoom, sing through a mask, and much more. None of us could have imagined that we were capable of doing all of this, for as long as we have, when we closed our church buildings for the first time in March 2020.

To say that we are tired – worn out, fed up – would be an understatement. We wonder: how much longer? Unfortunately, while we may be finished with this pandemic, this pandemic is not quite finished with us.

“Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

Just as the Lord commissioned Joshua to take on leadership from Moses and to lead the people forward into the land that had been promised, so God commissions us to be faithful even in the midst of this anxiety. As with Joshua, God promises to be with us wherever we go. And God’s faithfulness to Israel on the cusp of new life in a new land, renews our hope for our own deliverance.

In the crucible of this pandemic, there are signs of God’s light and life all around us, and we have been so moved by the ways that strength and courage have been shown by the people of our Diocese this year. The movement to virtual worship, the leaving behind of our buildings for a time, the reliance on community that has been formed and nurtured online – these are all signs of the resilience born of our faith in Jesus Christ. They are reminders that the Lord our God is with us wherever we go – even through this season of deep challenge – and that God has not abandoned us.

God’s accompaniment has been made known in other ways too. In the midst of this pandemic, we as a Church have been coming to terms with issues of systemic racism and bias. The rollout of anti-bias and anti-racism training in 2021 – and the participation of almost all our active clergy – is a sign of God’s transformative work in us as a Church. We still have much to do to combat racism and bias, but these steps bring us closer to the Church we are called to be. The ABAR workshops will be rolled out at the parish level

in the coming year, and we strongly encourage your support and participation. The apology to the LGBTQ+ community in June was a further step in the Gospel work of justice, dignity and inclusion. May Christ continue to be with us as we seek to be transformed in His likeness.

The Gospel of Christ has good news and hard news. The good news is that we have hope in Jesus, who is our unchanging rock and our constant salvation in the midst of the storms and tribulations of this life. The hard news is that we are called to serve others in Christ's name. Service is sacrificial. Service is rewarding. Service is at the heart of our faith. Thank you so very much for your service to the Church and to the glory of God this past year. We are speaking here to all the baptised: our hardworking churchwardens, treasurers, musicians, administrators, Sunday School teachers, ACWs, outreach workers, altar guilds, sextons, our now-indispensable tech volunteers, and so many more. To our beloved clergy, both priests and deacons: you pour your heart and soul into your God-given vocation, and we see you. We are grateful beyond words for the super-human effort you have tirelessly made to build up the People of God during this pandemic.

At such a time as this, when we are deeply unsettled, when we would prefer the comfortable to the challenging, Christ is calling us to look for the opportunities that are being presented anew: how can we partner with a neighbouring church to do more effective and robust ministry? Do we need to have all the answers before we set out on the journey of missional exploring and engagement? What are we afraid of, and how can the good news of Christ allay our fears and embolden our hearts to venture into the unknown? How can we put "the movement of the Spirit" into words, phrases and invitations to which new disciples can respond?

Without a doubt, we are all tired; yet recently, we your bishops are also hearing something new. You are beginning to dream again. And we know that when the Church dreams...things change.

*"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your children will prophesy, your young will see visions, your elderly will dream dreams." (Joel 2:28)*

May you have a creative, hopeful and inspiring vestry meeting today, as we enter this new year with the strength and courage of the One who accompanies us on our journey. We are praying for you all.

Yours faithfully in Christ Jesus,

+Andrew Toronto

The Right Rev. Andrew J. Asbil
Bishop of Toronto

+Riscylla Shaw

The Right Rev. Riscylla Shaw
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

+Kevin Robertson

The Right Rev. Kevin Robertson
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

Warden's Report

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

As we began our work after our last vestry meeting, we were so very thankful to our past wardens and deputy wardens for their work over the past several years. We had very big shoes to fill. 2021 has definitely been a busy and challenging yet rewarding year. With the Covid 19 pandemic, the sale of Cowan House and the various building and maintenance projects, our work as wardens was never lacking. In 2021, Bill Reitsma resigned from corporation and Ron Kitchen joined our team as an alternate signing officer. We are so grateful for Bill's work as warden and his continued work on the Building and Property Committee. We are also blessed to have Ron part of our team.

Below is a report of the work that has been continuing since our vestry meeting in February:

A) Sale of Cowan House Property

As a reminder, on August 20, 2020, at a special vestry meeting vestry approved to sever and sell the surplus land north of the parish hall (including Cowan House) for not less than \$2.5 million with the Parish to be permitted to retain 85% of the net sale proceeds.

The following is an update on the sale of Cowan House over the past year:

Our realtor continues to be Gerry Keenan, our lawyer continues to be George Smith and we continue to work with DG Biddles and Associates to ensure all requirements are met regarding the sale. In February there were several offers on the property, none of which resulted in a firm sale. From March 2021 through July 2021, we received no offers and after consulting with our realtor, corporation decided to lower the list price from \$3,200,000 to \$2,999,900 at the beginning of August. We received and accepted our latest offer of \$2,750,000 on November 11th. This offer is conditional on the buyer conducting and being satisfied with their due diligence which expires on 28th of April 2022. The closing date for the sale is on the 25th of May 2022. The lengthy due diligence and closing date are as a result of Covid. With staffing shortages at the city, the Region and other organizations the due diligence process is taking longer than usual.

Regarding the offer of \$2,750,000, we, as a corporation, definitely agonized over the decision to accept this offer (\$450,000 lower than our asking price of 3.2 M.) We based our decision on the following factors.

- We looked at the price of other commercial properties in the area and the offer is in line with these listings.
- The property had been on the market for over a year.
- This offer is relatively straightforward, with a higher chance of successfully being sold.
- The buyer is a reputable company that has done business in Oshawa for many years and is very familiar with our city and municipal regulations regarding commercial development.
- Other various costs we incur while we still own the property will be reduced / eliminated.

Once the sale is completed the following bills will be paid from the proceeds

- Lawyer fees
- Realtor fees

- Biddle and Associate fees
- Surveyor fees

Sale of items from Cowan House:

Pam Fleming and other parishioners began the process of sorting and selling items from Cowan House. Parishioners were invited to take part in a sale where they could purchase any items they wanted. Some items were purchased by a local antique dealer. Most recently Don Clement and his daughter, Rose, have been working to sell some of the remaining items. We are most grateful to all those who helped with and are continuing to help with this. The funds generated will be very useful with our upcoming projects at the church.

B) Staffing

During 2021 we saw multiple church closings and openings which greatly impacted our staff. We are very grateful to everyone who adjusted their work schedules and duties during this time. The Diocese has recommended, and we have provided a 3% cost of living for our staff beginning January 2022. This increase is in consideration of no increase being given last year.

On September 30, 2021, the Diocese implemented their Covid vaccination policy stating that any Employee, member of the Clergy or Volunteer who attends at a Workplace must show proof of being vaccinated with two doses of a vaccine or combination of vaccines approved by Health Canada, with the second dose having been administered at least two weeks prior to the in-person attendance. Volunteers and staff have been very helpful in providing their information, thank you to all. The information gathered is not shared and is stored in a secure location.

C) Parking

We have been trying to maximize the income we are getting from our parking lots while they are still available to us. We installed new signs and repainted the lines in both our Athol and Bagot Street lots. We have rented out most spaces in both lots from 7:00 am – 6:00 pm Monday to Friday. Income generated will help off-set costs. In our Bagot Street lot parking spots 14, 15, 16 and 17 are available for staff and volunteers. Our Athol Street lot is available for parking only after 6:00 pm weekdays and at any time on weekends.

D) First Aid

We are responsible to ensure there are adequate first aid kits readily accessible throughout the church building.

First aid kits have been updated and are now located in the following areas: kitchen (lower parish hall,) kitchen (upper parish hall,) Peasgood Gallery, workshop and the sacristy

A first aid cross is posted to indicate the location of these kits.

E) Building and Maintenance

Our dedicated building and property team continues to work diligently to ensure that St. George's is a safe environment and is as efficient as possible. In order to provide the team with some guidance, Corporation has approved a process for spending limits and approvals. This will assist the team as well as satisfy our auditors. So much work has been done at St. George's over the past year to repair, improve and provide comfortable working and worship space for our staff, parishioners and our community. Our wardens meet with the building and property team on a regular basis to discuss projects, priorities and plans for the upcoming year.

There is a list of completed projects posted at the back of the church. The list is extensive and a testament to the work done by our many volunteers.

With the anticipated sale of Cowan House, we have been gathering information and pricing on:

- Roofing – including slate removal, roof repairs, roof installation, insulation, etc.
- Removal of the old chimney
- Elevators
- Paving – improving the Bagot Street lot

A final Note:

We are very grateful for our staff and the support of our parishioners and many volunteers who work tirelessly to make St George's a wonderful place to worship.

Gracious God, as we face the future as a community of your people in this place, may we know afresh your faithful love, and see afresh your loving faithfulness.

Respectfully submitted by your wardens

Margaret Lapierre

Don Anderson

Barb Wotton



REGULAR SESSION OF SYNOD 2021

160th REGULAR SESSION OF SYNOD, NOVEMBER, 2021

The 160th Session of Synod for the Diocese of Toronto took place during a pandemic and was conducted online from November 25th to the 27th, 2021. As Synod members from St George's, we would like to share selected highlights with the parish. The Diocese has prepared a summary in the Diocesan newspaper [*The Anglican-January 2022*](#) and on its website here: <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/news/synod-highlights-day-1/>

Synod is essentially the Annual Meeting of the Diocese for both lay and clergy members who constitute the governing body of the Church. It is a time of worship, education, addressing the mission of the church, networking and socializing.

The theme of this Synod was *"Love Your Neighbour,"* from Paul to the Galatians and Corinthians. In a world beset by pandemic, loving your neighbour has meant keeping our physical distance, but not our spiritual distance. Loving your neighbour has meant bearing witness to injustice, and to caring for God's creation. This Synod celebrated our great diversity and reflect on how we are equipped to make our love known to every neighbour throughout the Diocese.

Synod began Thursday evening, November 25th, with a live-streamed Eucharist from St James' Cathedral. Parts of the opening worship were pre-recorded and included musical pieces by various choirs, musicians from across the Diocese and the Bishop's Charge. Following the worship, Synod watched a series of videos celebrating FaithWorks and its ministry partners over the past 25 years.

THE BISHOP'S CHARGE TO SYNOD

In August of 2019, Bishop Andrew, his wife and 14 Bishops and Archbishops and spouses from across the Communion had the opportunity to travel to Israel on a pilgrimage. At one point on the way to Jericho, they disembarked from the bus and were invited to walk, meditate and pray in the arid landscape. The pathway below was used by pilgrims and travellers to walk from Jericho to Jerusalem and he noted that they were vulnerable to heat, isolation and attacks. The Bishop remarked that a traveller was indeed *"in the wilderness, betwixt and between Jerusalem and Jericho"* just as *"we live out our ministry betwixt and between, in a time of pandemic"*. At that point, the Bishop spoke about agape love (to give of self to the other) and who is our neighbour. He then used the story of *"The Good Samaritan"* to speak about our neighbour.

Bishop Andrew spoke of liminal space (limen, Latin meaning *threshold stone at the base of a doorway*). He spoke of us in the Diocese of Toronto, within the pandemic, being in liminal space, meaning to be on the precipice of something new, but not quite there yet; to decipher what we have known and where we are going, as going

back is not a choice. The Bishop showed appreciation as to how our churches have tried to move forward with purpose and brotherly love, to keep connections with each other and serve the wider community displaying both

initiative and enthusiasm. He thanked the diocesan staff, bishops, clergy and parishes for their hard work, serving unselfishly for the glory of God, while in the midst of a pandemic. Bishop Andrew's Charge to Synod may be read or viewed here: <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/from-our-bishops/bishop-delivers-charge-to-synod/>

WORSHIP - MORNING & EVENING PRAYERS

On both days of Synod, a variety of prayers and music were offered by different choirs, churches and religious orders who answered the call from the diocese to partake.

MOTION TO RECOGNIZE THE WORK OF RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGINOUS PEOPLES/COMMUNITIES

The Diocese wishes to better understand, support and engage in the work of reconciliation. This motion passed. It committed up to 10% from the Ministry Allocation Fund to the end of 2026. The MAF is sourced by selling properties within the Diocese.

MISSIONAL AND OUTREACH MOMENTS

These short videos showed us how churches are moving beyond their doors to find new ways of meeting people who are not being reached by traditional forms of church.

- Church of the Holy Family, Heart Lake, Brampton – They founded a technical support team to grapple with new technology for their senior members. This support enabled seniors to access all seniors' programs online.
- St. Olave, Swansea – With no set plan, it set up a camera and began recording. Video offerings included a history of the parish, children's ministry, art shows, an education series, a wedding, and how to live stream their services.
- All Saints, Collingwood – The church and community work hand-in-hand to produce both take-out meals and frozen entrees.
- St. Margaret's, New Toronto – To be better neighbours, they joined the South Etobicoke Cluster of Churches, and connected with various social agencies to become volunteers.
- St. Margaret's, Barrie – They connect with local churches and the community around them to host ongoing events, games, soup/bbq lunches, a sidewalk library and food pantry.

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE ON HEALING

As Christians we are called to be whole in body, mind and spirit. The Healing Ministry, begun in 2019, recognizes the role we all have to help bring about that wholeness including lay pastoral ministry, seniors' ministry, the ministry of anointing, chaplaincy, and general parish community life. It also promotes a network of resources and educational services.

EPISCOPAL LEADERSHIP WORKING GROUP (ELWG)

The existing model of leadership that worked in the 80's and 90's is not meeting the needs of the emerging church. Ministry must align with reality. The ELWG brought recommendations forward last spring. A new model was proposed, with no financial strain on the Diocese, and will add diversity to leadership at the same time. There will be no Episcopal election and the Diocese will proceed with three bishops: one Diocesan bishop and two suffragan bishops. The whole College of Bishops, Andrew, Riscylla, and Kevin, will offer episcopal leadership to the entire Diocese, none having a specific geographical area. There is a difference between management and leadership. The appointment of more archdeacons and lay leaders could shoulder much of the management. There will be an implementation team, under Bishop Andrew's guidance, to develop a selection program to engage and train the archdeacons and lay leaders. A timeline will be set for the initiation of the new model for clarity and a smooth transition into a new era.

GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP

In 2019, Bishop Andrew introduced a pilot project whereby the Diocese would be governed more effectively. The motion to amalgamate Diocesan Council and the Executive Board passed, but the motion for constitutional changes did not. The amended proposed governance structure will better represent diversity, age and gender and will not be restricted to a geographical area. That said, elections at Pre-Synod meetings will be redundant. Synod Council members will be elected at Synod itself. The amended motion and the motion for the accompanying constitutional changes both passed. Implementation will begin January 1, 2022 and continue for 2 years, with ongoing reports back to Synod.

ELECTION FOR GENERAL SYNOD MEMBERS

General Synod is the chief governing and legislative body of the Anglican Church of Canada. All 3 orders, bishops, clergy and laity, are represented from every Diocese. Synod will meet in Calgary in July, 2022. Synod will meet separately and together with the Lutheran Church of Canada. 7 clerical, 7 lay and 1 youth were elected.

ELECTION FOR SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

Five clerical and 5 lay were elected.

MEMBERS' TIME

Two periods of time were set aside for members to air comments about any topic related to the Diocese of Toronto or the Anglican Church of Canada.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

- There was no registration fee for parishes as Synod was online;
- A motion passed for changes to Canon 15 (Church Wardens), allowing more freedom for wardens to pay bills (e-transfers, additional signatures);
- The assessment rate for 2022 remains the same, 24.70%;
- With the onset of the pandemic, parishes received a three month stay of payments in 2021 for both clerical stipends and allotment. The CEWS program (Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy) allowed the Diocese to pass on further relief. To support these undertakings, Diocesan Council approved the sale of two pieces of real estate.

PRIORITIES AND PLANS

As the Diocese considers what a post-COVID church will look like and understands the full effect on the life and ministry of the parishes, no major decisions will be made until a long-term strategic plan is in place. There was a budget deficit in 2021 and the Diocese has budgeted a deficit for 2022. The Diocese is offering a 1 month relief from allotment for all parishes in 2022.

OTHER ELECTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & APPOINTMENTS

- Election of Honorary Secretaries: The Rev. Andrew MacDonald was elected Honorary Clerical Secretary (former choir member of St. George's and now Priest-in-Charge of St. Nicholas, Scarborough). In addition, two others were appointed: one Assistant Honorary Clerical Secretary and one Honorary Lay Secretary;
- New Vice Chancellors: the appointment of 4 additional Vice Chancellors;
- Honorary Canons of St. James' Cathedral: the naming of 1 Lay and 12 Clerical Honorary Canons of St James Cathedral.

CLOSING

The Bishop noted that God intended us to be in this liminal space. We leave Synod embracing new forms of leadership and governance. We enter the future with confidence, knowing God is with us. The Spirit calls us into the future – there is nothing to be afraid of. We must remember we are called to love one another and our neighbour as ourselves.

Should you have questions about Synod 2021, please reach out to one of us.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Herron-Graham, Pam Fleming and Julie Ring
January, 2022

Statement of Donations

Year	2021	2020
Amount	\$248,901.	\$285,187.
Identified Donors	157	168

Number of Donors

Average Weekly Givings	2021	2020
Up to \$5.	24	29
\$05.01 to \$10.	19	16
\$10.01 to \$15.	15	17
\$15.01 to \$20.	20	21
\$20.01 to \$25.	22	25
\$25.01 to \$30.	14	10
\$30.01 to \$40.	4	10
\$40.01 to \$50.	9	5
\$50.01 to \$75.	11	15
Over \$75.	19	20

Marriages

Anita Anntonette Ramsingh and Christopher Andrew Heath

Burials

"May the souls of the faithful rest in peace"

Jane Rose Knowlton
 Marion Louise Bigwood
 Frances Mary Lewis (Tutin)
 Gary Francis Park
 Pauline May Russell-Marshall
 Martin Foshay

John Geoffrey Desmond
 Arthur G. Bent
 Kevin John Dove
 Maurice Elic Fullerton
 William John McGuire
 Antonia Muriel Frances Mitchell

Briefing note: St. George's Annual Audited Statements 2021

The audited financial statements included were completed by Debbie Marsh from Smith Chappell Marsh Vilander LLP on February 15, 2022.

The auditor met with the Wardens at a Corporation meeting on February 16, 2022. The auditor has given a clean audit opinion. The Wardens had the opportunity to ask questions about the financials and the audit process to ensure it was transparent and efficient.

This year has been a difficult year due to the ongoing pandemic causing the closure of the church for months as well as the construction of the new offices and the move from Cowan House to the Church Hall offices.

Our parishioners have continued to support the work of the church through their continued contributions which are evident in the final financial results for 2021.

The Statement of Financial Position is strong with assets of \$1,406,109 which includes current assets of \$144,612. This includes \$25,913 in pre-paid expenses for the sale of Cowan House. These expenses will be offset against the proceeds of the sale. Liabilities includes accounts payable of \$40,968 and deferred revenues of \$24,164. The deferred revenue line item is where some committee monies are kept, to ensure they are available to following year for use. Long standing investments continue to pay interest that the parish uses for various activities.

The audited statements include a Consolidated Statement of Operations with an excess of expenses of 15,288. The budget for the year was (\$20,800) and shows that we ended the year over budget. A few line items in this statement are worth noting. The special donations were lower than 2020 because last year we received a one-off donation of \$40,000. Revenue from Parish Groups includes proceeds from the sales from of Cowan House items. The Ministry allocation Grant and expense is lower than previous year as the Community Minister position was vacant for a several months in 2021. Expenses to note include Stipends that did not receive the same amount of CEWS this year. Payroll expenses were lower as staff reduced hours and the music director moved from an employee to a contractor. The allotment was higher in 2021 as the church did not receive 3 months jubilee credit in 2021. The building and grounds line was higher as we shifted snow removal and grass cutting into this line. Capital improvements shows 23,771 in expenses which includes \$15,000 for the installation of fans in the church.

The Statement of Operations by Fund shows the revenue and expenses in each fund. The Cemetery Fund includes \$603 in revenue and \$4450 in expenses for grass cutting. The Internally Restricted Fund includes a donation of \$100 and an expense of 15,000. Flower donations were \$720 and expenses of \$965. Thompson Trust funded \$7,500 in bursaries in 2021.

Please find notes that have been included in the audited statements:

Fund Accounting

The Cemetery Fund is administered by the Cemetery Board to maintain the cemetery. A Perpetual Care and Maintenance Trust has been established through the Diocese. The money is derived from the sale of cemetery plots and niches and donations from parishioners and friends. Each year, an amount is transferred from the Operating Fund to the Cemetery Fund to cover the excess of expenses over revenue earned in that fund.

The Rectory Fund exists to provide capital in the event that a rectory must be purchased. The income from the Rectory Fund investments is allocated to the Operating Fund. The book value as presented reflects the value of the investment as reported on December 31, 2006.

The Memorial Fund is an endowment fund that is used to support the operations of the Operating Fund. It comprises the St. George's Memorial Fund, the Cowan Trust Fund, the Muckler Lady Chapel Trust and the Flower Funds (which include the Altar Flower Fund, Jackson Flower Trust and LeRoy Bequest Fund). Each year, the income from the Memorial Fund investments is allocated to the Operating Fund.

The Thompson Trust Fund provides annual bursaries to members of St. George's Memorial Church in order to enable such members to attend or continue to attend the university of their choice subject to certain criteria. The selection and award of the bursaries is in the sole discretion of the Incumbent and the Churchwardens of St. George's Memorial Church.

The Internally Restricted Fund was created by the Corporation to set aside certain bequests and large memorial donations for the purpose of specific projects. These funds are spent at the discretion of the Corporation.

The Operating Fund accounts for the majority of the Church's program delivery and administrative activities.

Impact of COVID-19 on Operations

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of a novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) as a global pandemic, which continues to spread in Canada and around the world.

As at February 26, 2022 the organization is aware of changes in the operations as a result of COVID-19 crisis, including the postponement or modification of on-site church programs and services, application for all available subsidies that the organization is eligible for and reducing operation costs where possible.

IN 2020, to assist the organization during the COVID-19 crisis, the Diocese has provided a Jubilee credit that reduced the stipend and allotment payments to zero for three months.

Management is uncertain of the effects of these changes on its financial statements and believes that any disturbance may be temporary, however, there is uncertainty about the length and potential impact of the disturbance.

As a result, we are unable to estimate the potential impact on the organization's operations as at the date of these financial statements.

Subsequent Event

In the prior year, the organization received approval from the Diocese to sever and sell the surplus lands north of the parish hall (including Cowan House) and put the property up for sale. As at the date of the financial statements there is a conditional offer for the severed property for \$2,750,000.

Expenses totalling \$25,831 have been incurred to date which are associated with the sale of the property. These amounts have been recoded as prepaid expenses until the sale is complete. As per the agreement with the Diocese, the organization is expecting to receive at a minimum, 85% of the sale proceeds. As per the agreement, these proceeds are to be used towards the revitalization of the Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Bott & Shannon Bott

ST. GEORGE'S MEMORIAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

			<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Current				
Cash	\$ 53,823	\$ 56,495	\$ 110,318	\$ 151,961
Accounts receivable	8,381	-	8,381	4,983
Prepaid expenses (Note 8)	25,913	-	25,913	5,598
	<u>88,117</u>	<u>56,495</u>	<u>144,612</u>	<u>162,542</u>
Investments (Note 3)				
Cemetery Fund	-	17,115	17,115	17,115
Rectory Fund	-	211,207	211,207	211,207
The Memorial Fund	-	829,409	829,409	829,409
Thomson Trust Fund	-	203,766	203,766	201,540
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,261,497</u>	<u>1,261,497</u>	<u>1,259,271</u>
	<u>\$ 88,117</u>	<u>\$ 1,317,992</u>	<u>\$ 1,406,109</u>	<u>\$ 1,421,813</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Current				
Accounts payable	\$ 40,968	\$ -	\$ 40,968	\$ 17,247
Government remittances	-	-	-	1,671
Deferred revenue	24,164	-	24,164	46,630
	<u>65,132</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,132</u>	<u>65,548</u>
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>				
Cemetery Fund	-	17,115	17,115	17,115
Internally Restricted Fund	-	56,495	56,495	71,395
Rectory Fund	-	211,207	211,207	211,207
The Memorial Fund	-	829,409	829,409	829,409
Thomson Trust Fund	-	203,766	203,766	201,540
Operating Fund	22,985	-	22,985	25,599
	<u>22,985</u>	<u>1,317,992</u>	<u>1,340,977</u>	<u>1,356,265</u>
	<u>\$ 88,117</u>	<u>\$ 1,317,992</u>	<u>\$ 1,406,109</u>	<u>\$ 1,421,813</u>

Approved by the Churchwardens:

ST. GEORGE'S MEMORIAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Revenue		
White envelopes/PAR	\$ 211,728	\$ 226,156
Special donations	29,094	84,991
Open collection	1,123	1,152
Investment income	61,038	61,740
Community groups	6,796	10,914
Parish groups	5,797	1,383
Cemetery	100	600
Restoration and maintenance	7,209	4,410
Memorial donations	4,210	4,010
Donations for flowers	720	995
Outreach donations/fundraising	613	1,290
Ministry Allocation Fund Grant - Diocese of Toronto	22,561	31,416
Faithworks	1,055	859
Donations to specified projects	1,650	3,550
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	353,694	433,466
Expenses		
Stipends - regular	111,213	89,172
- community minister	22,561	31,416
Payroll expenses	26,303	49,868
Office and administration	11,685	9,779
Telephone	5,589	4,640
Insurance	21,262	19,899
Professional fees	5,873	8,248
Utilities	5,987	6,613
Fuel	9,624	14,619
Contracted services	25,234	23,439
Building and grounds restoration and maintenance	30,043	18,984
Sanctuary supplies	261	735
Flowers	965	944
Music and Musicians	825	1,570
Archives	366	-
Worship and mission	3,024	644
Allotment	55,999	45,219
Outreach designated	-	1,066
Bursaries	7,500	8,000
Faithworks submitted	897	859
Capital improvements	23,771	24,804
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	368,982	360,518
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES		
(EXPENSES OVER REVENUE)	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	\$ (15,288)	\$ 72,948

ST. GEORGE'S MEMORIAL CHURCH**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS BY FUND****FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	<u>Cemetery Fund</u>	<u>Internally Restricted Fund</u>	<u>Rectory Fund</u>	<u>The Memorial Fund</u>	<u>Thomson Trust Fund</u>	<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenue							
White envelopes/PAR	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 211,728	\$ 211,728
Special donations	-	-	-	-	-	29,094	29,094
Open collection	-	-	-	-	-	1,123	1,123
Investment income	503	-	10,845	39,964	9,726	-	61,038
Community groups	-	-	-	-	-	6,796	6,796
Parish groups	-	-	-	-	-	5,797	5,797
Cemetery	100	-	-	-	-	-	100
Restoration and maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	7,209	7,209
Memorial donations	-	-	-	-	-	4,210	4,210
Donations for flowers	-	-	-	720	-	-	720
Outreach donations/fundraising	-	-	-	-	-	613	613
Ministry Allocation Fund Grant	-	-	-	-	-	22,561	22,561
Faithworks	-	-	-	-	-	1,055	1,055
Donations for specified projects	-	100	-	-	-	1,550	1,650
	<u>603</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>10,845</u>	<u>40,684</u>	<u>9,726</u>	<u>291,736</u>	<u>353,694</u>
Expenses							
Stipends - regular	-	-	-	-	-	111,213	111,213
- community minister	-	-	-	-	-	22,561	22,561
Payroll expenses	-	-	-	-	-	26,303	26,303
Office and administration	-	-	-	-	-	11,685	11,685
Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	5,589	5,589
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	21,262	21,262
Professional fees	-	-	-	-	-	5,873	5,873
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	5,987	5,987
Fuel	-	-	-	-	-	9,624	9,624
Contracted services	-	-	-	-	-	25,234	25,234
Building and Grounds							
Restoration & Maintenance	4,450	-	-	-	-	25,593	30,043
Sanctuary supplies	-	-	-	-	-	261	261
Flowers	-	-	-	965	-	-	965
Music and Musicians	-	-	-	-	-	825	825
Archives	-	-	-	-	-	366	366
Worship and mission	-	-	-	-	-	3,024	3,024
Allotment	-	-	-	-	-	55,999	55,999
Outreach Designated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bursaries	-	-	-	-	7,500	-	7,500
Capital improvements	-	15,000	-	-	-	8,771	23,771
Faithworks Submitted	-	-	-	-	-	897	897
	<u>4,450</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>965</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>341,067</u>	<u>368,982</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	<u>\$ (3,847)</u>	<u>\$ (14,900)</u>	<u>\$ 10,845</u>	<u>\$ 39,719</u>	<u>\$ 2,226</u>	<u>\$ (49,331)</u>	<u>\$ (15,288)</u>



St. George's Memorial Church

39 Athol St. West, L1H 1J5

Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

Phone (905) 723-7875

Fax (905) 723-7038

Briefing note: St. George's Budget 2022

The budget for 2022 has been approved by the Advisory Board to move to Vestry for final approval.

The budget shows an excess loss of \$25,230 for the year. It includes revenues of \$290,550 plus investment income of \$60,778 and expenses of \$376,558. The 2019, 2020 and 2021 final numbers were used to create the proposed budget.

Although we remain hopeful, it is difficult to know how long the church will remain open and when or how many lock downs will be in place in 2022. The budget presented assumes a minimum of one more lock down (short) and a little more activity compared to 2021. It remains unclear when people will be ready to resume in-person activities regardless of lockdowns. The expenses have remained somewhat consistent with improvement activities continuing and staff working full-time.

The budget does not include proceeds from the sale of Cowan House which will require a separate budget for accounting once the sale goes through.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Bott & Wendy Bott

St. George's Memorial Church - Budget 2022

	2022 Budget	DRAFT YE DEC 2021	2020 FINAL	2019 FINAL
REVENUE				
White Envelopes & PAR	221,000	209,742	226,156	227,813
Special Donations	35,000	29,094	84,991	33,177
Open Offerings	1,500	1,123	1,152	4,231
Community Groups	10,000	6,796	10,914	20,578
Parish Groups	1,500	5,797	1,383	2,500
Cemetery	300	100	600	1,450
Restoration & Maintenance	7,500	7,209	4,410	10,320
Memorial Donations	5,000	4,210	4,010	7,925
Donations for Flowers	500	720	995	2,065
Donations for Church Outreach	2,500	613	1,290	2,275
Ministry Allocation Grant	0	22,561	31,415	16,877
FaithWorks Donations	750	1,055	859	1,190
Donations to Specified Project	5,000	1,650	3,550	22,589
Total Revenue	290,550	290,669	371,725	352,990
EXPENSES				
Stipends + Visiting Clergy	126,175	111,213	89,172	120,087
Community Minister Stipend	0	22,561	31,416	16,877
Community Minister Outreach	2,400	0	0	0
Staff Salaries and Benefits	30,000	30,271	49,868	64,296
Office and Admin	11,000	11,995	9,779	14,001
Telephone	4,700	5,589	4,640	4,733
Insurance Premium	24,000	21,262	19,899	17,300
Professional Fees	6,500	5,873	8,248	11,394
Utilities	6,000	5,706	6,613	8,198
Fuel	7,500	9,624	14,619	15,896
Contracted Services	43,000	25,234	23,439	37,201
Building & Grounds Maintenance	25,000	30,232	18,984	13,280
Sanctuary Supplies	500	261	735	1,119
Flowers	750	965	944	2,071
Music, Musicians, Organ, Piano, Bells	3,000	825	1,570	3,181
Archives	750	366		
Worship and Mission	3,000	2,824	644	2,747
Allotment	55,533	55,999	45,219	59,135
Church Outreach	2,500		1,066	4,726
Bursaries	8,000	7,500	8,000	9,000
Faith Works Submitted	750	897	859	1,190
Cowan House Sales Exp	2,500	0		
Capital Improvements	13,000	8,771	24,804	89,124
Total Expenses	376,558	357,968	360,518	495,557
Interest from Investments	60,778	61,038	61,740	60,256
Net Income/Loss	(25,230)	(6,261)	72,947	(82,310)

Outreach Overview

2021 Outreach activities continued despite pandemic restrictions. Thank you to all of the great volunteers who continue to support this important work. St. George's provided Outreach to many areas including the Mitten Tree, Food Hampers, Christmas Food Hampers, collecting, sorting and delivering clothing donations throughout the year, to name only a few. Please see individual committee reports below.

Monica Dragomatz, Outreach Coordinator.

Chimers:

St. George's 15 bells continue to ring out often. The bells call us to worship and remind anyone listening that St. George's consistently proclaims the Good News to downtown Oshawa.

2021 was an unusual year, in that church services were suspended several times because of Covid restrictions. When church services could happen, I chimed from 9:30 to 10 a.m. each Sunday, prior to the main service. In addition, I chimed for several of Pastor Judy's outdoor mid-week gatherings in July and August, the annual Christmas carol service in December, and for two Christmas Eve services. Thanks to Rachel Bowman for chiming prior to the 10 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

On April 17 at noon I played a memorial chime concert in honour of the late Prince Philip, joining many other Anglican churches in Canada and around the world in celebration of his life.

A highlight of our year was my participation in the worldwide Ellacombe chime celebration on June 26. Bells rang out from Asia to Vancouver from almost 200 bell towers at noon local time. We recalled the invention of a convenient one-person system for playing all the tower bells by the Reverend Ellacombe in England in 1821. Visitors came to listen to our concert from outside. Thanks to Sandra Gaskell and her great niece for taping some of our music. A souvenir book was published in England, including both photos and texts from each participating church; a copy will be donated to St. George's Archives to mark our participation.

When services were suspended, I played Sunday hymns from 10 to 10:30 a.m. weekly.

Annual maintenance of the bells revealed a few minor issues up in the tower, mainly because of pigeons roosting outside the louvres. The wardens have taken this concern under advisement and will do their best to ensure that no further damage occurs—thank-you!

Thanks again to all who encourage St. George's chiming ministry. We are truly blessed to have our bells.

Deborah Zimmerman

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Pastor Judy blessed prayer shawls and blankets on several occasions during the year. Most months saw several parishioners sharing blessed and wrapped shawls with appreciative friends and relatives. On December 12 Pastor Judy invited parishioners to take a shawl for someone, no questions asked; over 30 shawls and blankets were gifted that day. Since our purpose is to share shawls and thereby comfort others, we were very pleased to note so much joyful giving. Many kind notes of thanks have been received.

Crafting shawls is a labour of love with prayer. I want to thank everyone who shares their time and talent to support this valuable ministry. We greatly appreciate the conscientious and skilful work that our crafters quietly complete at home. We thank those who continue to share their unused yarn. We thank Judy Leek for her lovely gift wrapping, which makes giving blessed prayer shawls even more meaningful.

Many thanks to a small group of ladies in Newcastle who provide us with prayer blankets and baby blankets for the Anglican Chaplaincy at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. Your skill and generosity are much appreciated by unknown hospital patients and their loved ones. Thanks also to Pauline Bowers for delivering these gifts.

As an unknown writer once said, "Prayer shawls are tangible symbols of love. They are warm hugs of empathy and support, a private place of escape in which to rest, relax, and renew, something to hold onto when all else seems to be slipping away. Wrapping others in shawls made with prayer and loving thoughts is the gift. Prayer begins in the heart, and the creation of a prayer shawl is a spiritual journey of prayer for the shawl maker."

We pray that St. George's Prayer Shawl Ministry will continue to flourish, so that we can reach out to many more people with special reminders of God's love for them.

Deborah Zimmerman

Durham Region in Faith:

After almost 2 years of producing Durham Region in Faith, we are glad that we continued in when the churches were allowed to open, even though we did not think it would last this long. It has been the constant while in person worship keeps changing.

The viewership has ebbed and flowed depending on the church season as well as depending on if the churches have been open or not. As you know there are many in both parishes who have not returned to in-person worship and enjoy the ability to watch their familiar churches every Sunday. The respective ministers have both been contacted by people who were not in-person worshipers prior to covid whom watch Durham Region in Faith, some have become in-person worshipers since.

Jill Hamilton has continued to work with Rev. Martin and Rev. Canon Herron-Graham to film and produce these services every week. She also posts them to YouTube and promotes on social media. Between the 3 of them, their system for these services has been fine tuned. There is a hope that as

headspace clears from the effects of the pandemic, that more creativity will be brought to these services as well as allowed by the Dioceses.

Durham Region in Faith has strengthened the bond between St Matthews and St. Georges, as they work as a team to support both parishes.

As we look to the future, online worship seems to be a mainstay. There is a need for this ministry to reach those unable to attend church in person either due to Covid, mobility issues or just the fast-paced life of those who are unable to get to church on Sunday but could watch online at a time that was best for them.

Choir

2021 was another challenging year for the choir, as the pandemic unfortunately did not allow any in person choral activity for many months.

In spite of these difficulties, members of the choir were still able to rehearse and meet via zoom conferencing, and also produced music virtually as was done many times in 2020. By the fall, the choir was permitted to return to in person rehearsals, and finally to services, where they were able to share their love of choral music and contribute greatly to the Eucharist service.

Moreover, the choir was able to have both the Advent Lessons and Carols service, as well as the Christmas Lessons and Carols. There were many moments in those services where things started to feel normal again, as congregants were once again allowed to join in the singing of the wonderful carols and hymns of Christmas. Although there have been a few members who have moved on, we still have a strong core of members who look forward to being able to enjoy the wonderful choral activity that they used to at St. George's, in the past.

The choir hopes and prays that these days will return soon, in order to serve the congregation of St. George's with the beauty and power of music, to enhance and elevate our community of faith into the future.

C. Lappano

Sides persons Association Report

The Sidespeople have continued with their duties all the while the church was opened for worship. All three Christmas Eve services were attended with those on duty.

The dedication and support of all the members is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted
Kaye Michaux, Chairperson

Servers' Guild

The Parish of St. George's would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Judy Boddy for her leadership in the Server's Guild.

After over 30 years in this and other ministries, Judy Boddy retired as leader of the Server's Guild in the summer of 2021

Over those years she has trained countless parishioners as servers.

Thank you, Judy, for your tireless dedication and leadership to the Servers Guild.

Judy has trained and continues to assist Cassandra Duncan who has been installed as leader of the Guild. The ministry currently is comprised of 9 servers, including Judy Boddy, and we wish Judy every blessing.

In Christ,

Submitted by,
Cassandra Duncan

Intercessory Prayer Group

When Covid restrictions allowed this past year, our group met in the Peasgood Gallery at 9:30 am the first and third Saturday of each month. When the church was closed, we met at the home of one of our members and when that wasn't possible, we each prayed in our own homes individually.

Our meetings begin with a devotional from the Today booklet and some discussion after which we review our list of prayer needs in our parish and beyond. Requests for prayer may be made by calling anyone of our members or by filling out a prayer request form that can be found at the door of the church chapel. We welcome new members at any time to join us to experience the power of prayer.

Submitted by Marilyn Glover

St. Bede's Group

As we were still in a Pandemic situation, the St. Bede's Group did not meet during the year 2021. We did, however, donate \$750.00 in January to the church for costs due to moving the offices over to the lower parish hall.

Members were kept in touch by either a phone call or by e-mail.

Respectfully submitted
Kaye Michaux, Chairperson

Christian Companions

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto *you*, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. (Mathew 25:40)

The Christian Companion ministry provides visits to our parishioners who are unable to attend church due to illness or infirmity. The sacrament of Holy Communion is taken out to those who desire it at the major festivals of the church and at other times as requested by the parishioner. In 2021 the restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic made it impossible to visit as often as we would have wished but brief relaxation of the restrictions in December allowed Christmas visits to be made. A team of lay visitors and the incumbent were able to visit 24 members of our congregation who are confined to hospital, nursing homes, other long term care facilities or their own homes. Regular visits mean so much to them and frequently are the only visits they ever receive. Visitors often receive as much of a blessing as those they visit.

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To *visit the fatherless and widows* in their affliction. (James 1:27)

For more information on this ministry, please speak to Pastor Judy.

For the Christian Companions, Earl Wotton

Chancel Guild

The first half of 2021 was a continuation of year 2020 as Christmas Eve services were the last, with another lockdown. The Church was able to open on April 4th for Easter, but a short time after on April 8th we shut down again. However, on July 18th 2021, we resumed indoor, in-person worship, and this continued until Christmas Eve services, after which decision was made to shut down....to be considered again sometime in January. Some of the congregation have still not returned to in-person worship and we are so grateful for Pastors Judy and Ian for continuing with on-line worship.

As of January 1, 2021, St. George's Chancel Guild consisted of five women working on a three-week rotation: Norma Chapman-Holder and Barb Wotton, Margaret Lapierre, Pat Heffering. Because of COVID, my partner, Madge Phillips, had taken a leave of absence. She may return at a future date. Luckily for our group Marilyn Glover has joined and is a contributing member. Bill Fitches is not a regular member of the Guild but continues as the Flower Convenor, and for that we are thankful. I was saddened to hear of the passing of Marguerite Thornton on April 26th. She was a long-time member of the Chancel Guild, and along with Dorothy Kay, they trained me for this ministry.

During 'normal' times, Chancel Guild duties include preparations for the Holy Eucharist for Sunday and Thursday services, as well as weddings, funerals and baptism. We are responsible for changing frontals as required and keeping the linen clean and fresh. Making sure there is enough clean linen for the Easter and Christmas services can be a daunting task.

Normally, our group holds two meetings during the year, these being prior to the major celebrations, where we discuss preparations for the Easter and Christmas services. At the meeting before Easter, we drape the Crosses.....Altar, Lady Chapel, Verger's and Crucifix.....in appropriate veils, as well as strip and prepare palms to decorate the Sanctuary, the Processional Cross, and the Children's Cross. We ensure

the 300+ palms prepared by the Craft Group are in the proper place for distribution on Palm Sunday, and we thank the Craft Group for making them. We traditionally celebrate our Corporate Communion at the Palm Sunday service.....but none of these things happened this year. We were able to have a Christmas get together, well distanced, at my home.

SACRISTY REFURBISHING About June 2021, we started to work with the Building Maintenance Committee to proceed with replacing the counter top, sink and tap in the Sacristy and adding some extra lighting. At this time, Margaret Lapierre took on the task of painting the cupboard doors and repairing some masonry work. After this was completed, she lifted the carpet to expose hardwood floors. The carpet was lifted in the Vestry office as well. Both areas were sanded and varathaned. We now have an updated, beautiful area to carry out our Chancel duties. I can't thank Margaret enough for her efforts, and for those of the building committee....Don Clement, Don Anderson and Terry Dragomatz.

In August of this year, I had some health issues of my own. The group absolutely rose to the occasion....what a team, what a gift they are, so a special thanks to **all** the members of our group, who do this work tirelessly, with love and care. hopefully in the coming year we will be able to bring more new members into the fold. I would be happy to spend time with anyone interested in this ministry.

Chancel Guild is a "behind the scenes ministry", and has been described as "light housekeeping for our Lord". One of our long-time members wrote *"I consider it an honour to serve as a member of the Chancel Guild. This is just one of the ways in which to serve our Lord with reverence and commitment. There is much joy in handling and caring for the holy things used at the Eucharist."* On a personal note, my quiet time in the Church gives me a great feeling of peace.

They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings as eagles

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Heffering

Archives Report

After noticing in last year's Vestry Report that there was no longer a church archivist, I volunteered to take on this responsibility. The first couple of months were spent on locating the documents that were created during the past few months when there was not an archivist and familiarizing myself with the archival collection.

The previous archivist, Gary Mather, began to organize some of the files into acid-free document cases. I have continued this process and now most of the minutes and the activities of committees that are no longer in existence have been stored in these cases. Although the document cases are somewhat costly they provide excellent protection for the preservation of archival materials. I am also in the process of replacing the current file folders with acid-free folders.

The past archivists have compiled a wonderful collection of documents that reflect the work and ministry of St. George's Memorial Church. One very precious document is the Minute Book for the Vestry Meetings from 1881 to 1925. This book has deteriorated over time. The pages have become very brittle, some of the entries are difficult to read because the ink has faded and a section has become completely separated from the book. I met with two members of the Oshawa Museum staff and the Museum has agreed to photograph this book before it deteriorates any further. We would then have a digital copy of the contents of the book which would make them more accessible for viewing. The Museum staff members were very impressed with the materials that have been preserved over the past years and have provided me with suggestions that will further protect the collection.

Sandra Gaskell

Property Report (Grounds and Garage)

It was the intention of the Property Committee to highlight the Centre Street garden by the Parish Hall doors as these doors are now the entrance to both the Church Office and the Church proper. To that end, Bill Fitches arranged for coleus seedlings to be sold to help defray the cost of new plantings. St George's parishioners generously purchased the immature plants and raised enough money to purchase several perennials and a few annuals. A plan was made for the main Centre St garden and small plots on either side of the Bagot Street steps. In addition, two gothic styled trellises were installed in our main garden. The Cowan House gardens remained untended due to possible sale of the building.

In the fall of 2020, a group of parishioners rigorously pruned the Bagot Street garden. This past spring, two High School students trimmed the border, to gain Community Service hours. Following that venture, the garden was left fallow, due to lack of parishioner assistance.

The gardens were dug and weeded, and hostas were planted adjacent to the new furnace pipes on Centre Street. Gardens and urns were fully planted by Helen Jamieson, Nancy Miller, Bill Fitches and me. Plants were added throughout the season to both gardens and urns due to vandalism and theft.

Several years ago, the city approached St George's Church to plant two Hawthorne trees on the Bagot Street lawn. Last fall, one was uprooted by vandals. The city will not replace it. We may replace it ourselves in future with donations from parishioners.

Additional Projects

- As a result of winter snow plowing, potholes in the Bagot Street driveway were filled with excess gravel and pavement pieces from the property.

- There was a gradual clearing out of the garage using weekly curb pick up and the kindness of Don Anderson and his truck.
- The tractor was sold as an outside service cuts the grass.
- Larger urns were purchased for the Bagot Street steps and the former ones were moved to the Parish Hall doors.
- The four urns were planted for autumn by Nancy Miller and Bill Fitches and partially replanted due to theft yet again.
- Dozens of bulbs were planted in the main garden and either side of the Bagot Street steps.

A tribute is directed to our former Property Chair, Nancy Miller, for her years of service caring for the gardens of St George's.

Parishioners who assisted Property in some way include: Nancy Miller, Helen Jamieson, Shelley Kossatz, John Flegg, Don Clement, Don Anderson and most especially, Bill Fitches.

Special Notes

1. We continue to have concerns with the Back Door Mission adjacent to St George's Church. We welcome visitors onto our property as long as they respect our outdoor spaces and take away their garbage.
2. An outside group combs our property weekly for used needles and Security does a terrific job of monitoring the grounds to prevent over night tenting and watching for those who may overdose.

Faithfully submitted,
Pam Fleming

Building Maintenance Committee

We have been successful in completing a few tasks on the very long list of items needing attention at St. George's.

Adding additional hall kitchen radiator	Saves energy, and thus expenses.	Completed
Replace counter in Sacristy per Pat Heffering request	Facilities upgrade	Completed
Overhead lights in the tunnel not working.	Will remove the existing fixtures and replace with LED	Completed
Lighting in the stairwell behind the lower hall stage is in need of upgrading. This will become a more primary entry/exit from the new lower hall offices.	Lighting will be increased with the addition of LED fixtures and a motion detector to turn them on	Completed
Painting lines and numbers in Bagot Parking Lot and Athol Parking Lot.	Since most of our available parking spaces are rented out it has become necessary to enhance the painted lines to ensure the parking tenants stay in their space.	Completed
New signage for parking lots	New signs were created for the Bagot St lot previously. However, since the Athol lot has now been rented, signs were necessary.	Completed
Mount two steel mesh trellises on church exterior wall on Centre Street	for the garden improvements	Completed
Put a new roof on the vestibule at the east end on the church	Roof in poor repair - Prevent leaking	Completed
Some holes in the boiler room ceiling have been filled.	Identified in the Fire Safety Inspection	Completed
Bagot Street church sign, (sign 'backer' replacement) project is nearing completion.	The old plywood back was rotten and in need of replacement. Rather than replace it with wood, a decision was made to use aluminum sheeting.	Completed
Capping the old Church boiler exhaust pipe (tower roof).	Saves energy, and thus expenses	Completed

Overhead lights in the tunnel not working. Will remove the existing fixtures and replace with LED.	Improve lighting and thus safety	Completed
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There are a number of projects that are currently under way:

Retrofitting new electric motors in the church brown blower cabinets	Saves energy, and thus expenses. For the eventual purchase of 3 more electric motors and speed controllers.	In Progress
Improve access to the bell tower roof.	There is periodic maintenance that needs to be done on the tower roof. A platform needs to be constructed to create a safe and convenient way to get to the roof stairs.	In Progress
Researching Roof Company options, Insulation Company options in advance of Roofing Project	As we know the roof over the church and the hall are in poor condition it is necessary to investigate the options for and cost of replacement.	In Progress
Renovate washroom in the Vestry office	The washroom in the Vestry office has a great amount of damage to the plaster and the window area.	In Progress
Ongoing painting projects - tunnel walls; boiler room	Many walls in the church have not been painted in many years and are showing signs of aging.	In Progress
Metal tread for bottom of vestry and workshop stairs	A non-slip stair nosing needs to be added to the stairs to the basement.	In Progress

And finally, a long list of items waiting to be attended to:

Replace exhaust fan and window in the lower hall washroom.	Saves energy, and thus expenses. This exhaust fan hemorrhages cold through a worn out and leaking exhaust fan. Mentioned in the engineering study 4 years ago.	Not Started
Two more exterior down spouts need replacing on the south east corner of the church. We have most of the	Prevent water pooling around exterior of the building	Not Started

materials, Time is the limiting factor I this project.		
Insulate the kitchen ceiling in the lower hall.	Heat loss through the drop ceiling can be an issue in the coldest part of the winter	Not Started
Insulate the outside wall in the infill outside the kitchen. The infill is always very cold in the winter as it is not heated directly.	Insulation can help retain some heat.	Not Started
Steps outside the east door need repair. The concrete is crumbling and needs some repair.	Improve access to the lower parish hall	Not Started
Replace sliding doors covering the panel boxes in the 3-door lobby. Not Started	A long-term safety issue with children in the church complex, (cub scouts, etc).	Not Started
Some pews need to be shortened to allow an individual chair to be added at the end of the row.	Some of the less mobile parishioners find it easier to stand up if they can push on the arms of a chair. The pews do not have this feature so some rows can be shortened to allow for arm chairs to be added.	Not Started
Seal off the exit next to the archives. Add a	There is an exit from the choir practice room, beside the archives, that is not useable and is open to the outside. A block wall can be added to seal it off from the outside and create a storage closet.	Not Started
The kitchen in the lower hall needs some renovations. As in many other areas of the building, it has not been painted for many years. The ceiling tiles are stained and should be replaced or painted.		Not Started
Remove the garden on the Bagot street side of the church.	This garden has grown out of control and is beyond the ability of our grounds people to maintain. It is a hiding place for the homeless who use it as a toilet and place to use drugs and sleep. It is suggested this garden be removed and returned to grass.	Not Started

Add a fence from the church to the hall to seal off the courtyard.	The courtyard is a gathering place for the homeless. They use it as a toilet and place to use drugs. A fence would prevent this from happening.	Not Started
A storage space is needed to secure the items currently in the garage.	When Cowan House is sold the garage will not be available. A new shed is needed for storage	Not Started
Add a fence to the eastern property line to control access to the Bagot street lot.	Our neighbours using the back door mission migrate to the Bagot street lot where, on occasion, they are menacing the people. A fence could prevent this.	Not Started
Check and repair exterior water taps around the church building.	Some exterior taps are not visible, do not open and may have the water turned off inside.	Not Started
Renovate Peasgood gallery.	The gallery needs paint and the floors should be refinished	Not Started
Bell tower louvers need cleaning and repair.	There is a significant buildup of pigeon mess that should be cleaned for health reasons. Repair needs to be made to ensure they cannot return to dirty it again after cleaning.	Not Started