

# Church of Saint John the Evangelist, Hamilton

## ANNUAL VESTRY REPORT-- ADDENDUM

### Report of Nominations and Appointments (Updated)

The Parish Council appointed Nominations Committee in order to solicit nominations and volunteers for the various offices that need to be filled at the Annual Vestry Meeting. Members of the Committee were Gillian Doucet Campbell, Leigh Macklin, Sarah Wayland, and David Anderson.

Further nominations will be received even from the floor of Vestry; however, it is always better to be prepared. Please feel free to speak with a member of the Nominations Committee, a churchwarden, or the rector if you would like to make further nominations. Unless the nomination is received through these channels in advance, the nominator and nominee must be present at the Vestry meeting for the nomination to stand.

<b>Elected Offices to Be Filled</b>	<b>Nominations</b>
Deputy (People's) Warden <i>One to be elected for a one-year term.</i>	Deborah Bowen
Lay Delegate to Synod <i>One to be elected for a two-year term.</i>	Mary Donkin Margaret Wilding
Alternate Lay Delegate(s) to Synod <i>A minimum of one to be elected for a one-year term.</i>	
Youth Lay Delegate to Synod <i>One to be elected for a two-year term (age 16 to 24).</i>	

<b>Elected Offices (terms ongoing)</b>	<b>Officers</b>
People's Warden <i>One to be elected for a two-year term.</i>	Steve Doucet Campbell
Lay Delegate to Synod <i>One year remaining in a two-year term.</i>	Matthew Lee

<b>Appointed Offices (terms ongoing)</b>	<b>Officers</b>
None in 2020	

<b>Corporation Appointments</b>	<b>Appointment</b>
Vestry Clerk <i>Appointed for a one-year term.</i>	Sue Newbery
Treasurer <i>Serves at the corporation's pleasure.</i>	Brian Samson
Donations Secretary <i>Serves at the corporation's pleasure.</i>	Ruth Sutherland

<b>Rector's Appointments</b>	<b>Appointment</b>
Churchwarden <i>Appointed by the rector for a two-year term.</i>	Bonnie Munn
Deputy Churchwarden <i>The Rector is entitled to appoint a deputy churchwarden if one is elected by the people. Appointment for a one-year term.</i>	Margaret Wilding

<b>Parish Council</b>	
<b>Ex-officio Members</b> The Rector Churchwarden (People's) Churchwarden (Rector's) Deputy Churchwarden (People's) Deputy Churchwarden (Rector's) Lay Delegate to Synod Lay Delegate to Synod Alternate Lay Delegate to Synod Alternate Lay Delegate to Synod  (* indicates that the office is due to be elected or appointed at this Annual Vestry meeting).	David Anderson Steve Doucet Campbell Bonnie Munn * Margaret Wilding Matthew Lee * * *
<b>Elected Members</b> <i>The Vestry may elect any number of members for a one-year term.</i>  († indicates a nomination to an ex-officio office for Parish Council).	<b>Nominations</b> Deborah Bowen <sup>†</sup> Michael Bowering Mary Donkin <sup>†</sup> Susan Little Leigh Macklin Emma McKay Ed Miedema Sue Samson Patricia Troughton Sarah Wayland
<b>Appointed Members</b> <i>The Rector has the right to appoint up to as many members as those elected for a one-year term.</i>	<b>Rector's Appointments</b>

## Prayer Team

*Susanne Adams and Susan Little*

Over the course of fifty-two Sundays throughout 2019, thirteen members of the Prayer Team gathered together regularly to offer private prayer support and join in thanksgiving with St. John's parishioners. Commissioned in September, this faithful team of people possessing the gift of intercessory prayer lift up prayers on behalf of individuals who have specific needs or thanksgivings while also lifting up the unspoken needs of the rest of our parish family.

In addition to this, we sponsored an open workshop to our parish and diocesan community to hone their skills on Contemplative Prayer in Lent, 2019. Our own rector, Fr. David, led the Saturday morning workshop, showing us easily adapted methods and sharing his insights and wisdom with many from far and wide.

We are pleased that Fall of 2019 saw two people join the Prayer Team, It is our prayer that St. John's will continue to grow in this ministry. If you find prayer an essential part of your day, we are interested in speaking with you to discern if you should join us in enhancing the spiritual tone of our parish. Please prayerfully consider this ministry and then speak with one or both of Prayer Team's co-ordinators.

*"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6).*

## Be Hive

*Susan Little*

Throughout 2019, six members of the Be Hive small group bible study met bi-weekly to pray, study, learn and grow. Building on the foundation of servant leadership, this group completed three texts together and one set of videos created by the Society of St. John the Evangelist (Boston).

In the first part of 2019 we completed the study of the Gospel of Mark. Following that we examined what it meant to incorporate Sabbath into our lives, imitating the earliest faithful people of God. During Lent we found that the video series offered by the SSJE was invigorating and encouraged daily self-discipline. Our bi-weekly meetings in Lent involved live videos and good discussion. It was a good change of pace.

Finally, we concluded 2019 and began 2020 by examining The Distorted Images of God, restoring our vision of who God is and then patterning our lives on the God of faith, justice and mercy found in scripture. This study used a variety of Old and New Testament sources so its lively materials have been engaging us well.

Our study sessions always conclude with prayer, remembering what needs are present among the members of St. John's community as well as the needs of our members. Since we meet on Monday

evenings, we feel blessed to often have music practise in progress upstairs, adding yet another dimension to our study time together. We are blessed indeed.

## **Pastoral Visiting**

*Susan Little*

Under the direction of the Rector, Patti Troughton and Susan Little visit members of our parish who are unable to join us for Sunday or mid week worship. We visit some in hospital, a retirement or nursing home, while others we visit in their homes. We take them communion and usually take along a recent order of service and a copy of *Parish News* so they can connect with what is happening and stay in touch. Although each person is different, they often like to recall some part of their experience at St. John's and share it with our willing ears. It is always heart warming to hear their stories and reminiscences. It is always time well spent.

Even more heart warming are the reports from parishioners who routinely visit members of our parish family who are unable to come to church. There is a good number of others who do this regularly. Although they are not taking communion with them, they continue to share in the lives of people who once occupied the pews or choir stalls we are now sitting in. They keep strong the relationships of earlier years and provide evidence of a parish family that is what gathers on any Sunday. Thanks be to God for those who take the light of Christ into lives that can no longer join us. They are always with us.

## **Tuesday Morning Prayer Group**

*Susan Little*

A group of four or more people regularly meet at 10AM every Tuesday morning to pray. Bound together by a rule of life which holds faith, study and action as the backbone of their lives, these people share the points of the past week and anticipate the demands of the coming week. They reflect upon where God was closest to them and they report what study activities they have been involved in. The last part of the hour spent together is planning how they can bring Christ more into the centre of their lives through prayer. We pray for one another, for the needs of others known to us, and for the parish of St. John's. We reflect upon what parish activities are happening that week and put them onto our individual pray list. We love it when we can give thanks for answers to prayer but we have also become experienced in supporting and encouraging prayers unanswered or denied.

Each of us keeps coming back, week after week. We believe each of us is stronger when we pray together: *"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them"* (Matthew 18:20).

This group is open to others to join them for prayer. Although the members of this group belong to Cursillo which encourages people to regularly meet like this, you do not have to belong to Cursillo

to join. Please speak to Susan Little if you want more information about joining the Tuesday morning prayer group.

## **Synod Delegate Report**

*Mary Donkin*

It has been enjoyable and an education being St. John's lay delegate to synod for the past two years.

In addition to being lay delegate, I sit on the Candidates Committee, was elected as an alternate to Synod Council for Hamilton-Haldimand Region, and am beginning work with others to consult on the Bishop's Company.

There have been times when parishioners have questioned the value of our DM&M assessment and have what appears to be an "us and them" attitude about the Diocese. I have seen and heard how our DM&M supports diocesan staff and volunteers who carry out a wide variety of activities and provide resources to all the parishes in the diocese. Much of this work by necessity takes place on evenings and weekends. If you have not already done so, check out the Diocese of Niagara website. You will see what the DM&M supports.

Several parishes sponsor refugee families with the support of Bill Mous and others. Sarah Bird is available for consultation and planning for ministry to children, youth and families in the diocese. Jody Beck can deal with financial matters and the Diocesan Solicitor is available for consultation and legal advice. Gillian Doucet Campbell works with stewardship and development matters, Deidre Pike consults on social justice and outreach, and the list goes on. Diocesan representatives sit on the boards of St. Matthew's House, Mission to Seafarers, St. Peter's Children's Day Care, Jamesville Day Care Centre, and Canterbury Hills to name a few. Innovative ideas such as serving the needs of the itinerant workers of Niagara or alternative use of St. Luke's in north Hamilton are supported by the diocesan staff, volunteers and funding.

We need to be mindful of the resources available at the Diocesan offices and access them rather than "working it out ourselves". In that spirit, following is a synopsis of the November 2019 synod which was posted in the Diocesan News. If you don't receive the email newsletter you may wish to subscribe. Go to the Quick Links on the Anglican Diocese of Niagara website. You will see in print how "God's power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine".