

Wardens' Report 2021



In another pandemic year, the Parish has continued striving to foster spiritual growth, youth programs, and the creative arts.

Most of our services this year have been on-line. In the summer we had an outdoor service as a farewell for Christine. There were indoor services with limited numbers in the fall. Parishioners had to sign up ahead of time for a ticket to one of the three Christmas Eve in person services.

There have been many personnel changes: this year we saw Rev. Christine Muise move on to a full-time position in another parish. In addition to the outdoor service, we collected e-mailed messages from parishioners for Christine, and incorporated them into a card that was full of memories of her time with us. The reduction in clergy hours that resulted from her departure led to the wardens being more involved in day-to-day activities in the church. There were changes in the church office as Kathy Miller retired, Mandy Truman moved on to what she described as her “dream job”, and Holly Davies was hired as office administrator.

One of the bright spots of the year was the youth programs. With the help of the Canada Summer Jobs program, we were able to hire 3 young people. Similar to last year, they maintained the church yard here, and the cemetery at St. Mary's in Errington, and participated in on-line services. A new mentorship element was added this year. Both wardens met with the group once a week, and we had wide ranging discussions. Apart from the intangible results (a greater sense of community, greater job satisfaction, practice in advocating, and a few practical skills), there

were tangible results from this. Two projects were visualized, planned, and eventually completed. The first was cleaning, organizing, repairing, and repainting the hall and the kitchen. The results feel bright and spacious. The second project was painting the walls in the bathrooms, and then applying decorative finishes using stencils. This was great fun.

Over the summer it became obvious that we needed a little extra security for the breezeway, and the recessed doorway facing the parking lot. The wardens did the preliminary research on security gates, which were finally installed in the fall.

In the fall a display of orange “Every child matters” T-shirts and a new sign were installed for reconciliation day. When it was time for this to come down, the sign was replaced with one representing the church logo.

For the near future we are back to on-line services. We are still looking forward to the time when we can worship and sing together.

Colleen Day, Rector’s Warden

Mariellen Martin, People’s Warden