

ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
2023 OFFICERS
THE CORPORATION OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF MONCTON

Priest & Rector

The Rev. Canon Chris VanBuskirk

Honorary Assistant

The Rev. Dr. Dan Goodwin

Deacon

The Rev. Norm Dupuis

Secretary/Treasurer

Esther Mah

Wardens

Kelly VanBuskirk Tyler McKenna

Vestry

Marilyn Crossman-Riel
Cliff Reid
Susan Plewes

Dianne Dallaire
Sheila Searle

Marilyn Rice
Cherie Perry

Sheila Colbourne
Allen Urquhart

Synod Delegates & Alternates

Nick Stam
Kelly VanBuskirk

Maria Stam
Carolyn VanBuskirk

Isaac Brown
Fran Devost-Cormier

Layreaders

Parochial:

Cliff Reid

Kelly VanBuskirk
Isaac Brown

Cliff Kendall

Tyler McKenna
Tim Rains

Envelope Treasurer

Cliff Reid

Memorial Fund Secretary

Cliff Reid

Primates World Relief and Development Fund

Esther Mah

The Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Moncton

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One Hundred and seventy-six years of worship and witness for Christ

ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

February 11, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

Opening Prayers

Approval of Agenda

Record of attendance and regrets

Approval of Minutes from last Annual meeting

Financial Report

- a. Financial Review
- b. Proposed Congregational Budget for 2024

Acceptance of 2023 Reports (Rector, Wardens, Groups and Organizations)

Business pertaining to the proposed amalgamation

Review Planning Committee recommendations - to be read at Parish Annual Meetings

Review proposed budget of new parish for 2024

Appoint 3 scrutineers and hold secret ballot on joining new parish.

Count the ballots while the meeting waits. Head scrutineer makes announcement of results. (declaring that “50% +1 of the ballots counted are in favor of [Yes or No])

- If ‘YES’:**
- a. Vote to dissolve the parish (As of the date that the Archbishop signs the Memorial).
 - b. Vote on two members of Congregation for new parish's Vestry
 - c. Nominate a warden for the new parish meeting (must be baptized and confirmed)
 - d. Elect a Chapel Warden (or Wardens) (explain the role, noting that Chapel Wardens do NOT necessarily vote at Vestry Meetings)
 - e. Vote on Congregational Executive Committee (set number of people)
 - f. Nominate Synod delegates & alternates, and PWRDF representative for “new parish” meeting.

- If ‘NO’:**
- a. Motion to set the number of Vestry members
 - b. Election of Wardens, Vestry Members and Synod delegates/Alternates
 - c. Appoint a representative for the PWRDF

New Business of the New Parish (including date and time of next meeting)

Adjourn

Closing Prayer

**Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Moncton
Annual Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2023**

Father Chris called the meeting to order at 12:30pm and expressed his thanks for the soup lunch provided today. Father Chris thanked everyone for coming, welcomed Cheryl Reid who joined through Zoom and Rev. Wendy Amos-Binks who is in attendance from St. James'. The Rev. Rob Salloum from St. Philip's/St. Andrew's will join shortly. The Rector then asked Nick Stam to lead in a devotion before the business meeting started.

Nick Stam asked Tyler McKenna to play the opening verses of "The Church is One Foundation" and then spoke to the closing of Churches in the Moncton area and in the Province. He feels that St. George's and other Parishes in Moncton are not immune to such possibility. Sometimes Churches limp along and despair about what the future holds and try to weather the storm alone. Moncton Anglicans have a chance to stand strong and move forward together – to work together to build a stronger Church together. There have been events and programs that have combined that have been very successful – combined Bible Studies, Cookie Making events, Outbound excursions and the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Nick prayed for St. George's and asked for God's guidance through the opportunity before us as Anglicans Together. The devotion ended with the singing of the final verses of "The Church is One Foundation". Father Chris thanked Nick for his devotion.

Attendance: 38 people in person and 1 by Zoom

Regrets Marilyn Rice, Dianne Dallaire, Cherie Perry

**It was moved by the Rev. Norm Dupuis and seconded by Allen Urquhart that the agenda be adopted
MOTION CARRIED.**

There were no errors or omissions in the minutes on pages 3-8 and **it was moved by Sheila Searle and seconded by Susan Plewes that the minutes of the 2022 Annual meeting minutes be adopted as circulated. MOTION CARRIED.**

Father Chris welcomed the Rev. Rob Salloum and the Rev. Wendy Amos-Binks to our meeting to discuss the Letter to the Vestries of St. Andrew's, St. George's, St. James', St. Mary's and St. Philip's as found on page 9 in the Annual Report. Father Chris attended the Annual Meetings of St. James' and St. Philip's to hear how those Parishes felt about the letter. This letter is a draft from the local clergy and though it is approved by Archbishop David Edwards, it is not from him. This is not a proposal to close the Churches and make one Church – it is a proposal to see if a combined Parish would be a reasonable goal and to find ways to use the Church buildings more efficiently with a business partner or community partner to keep the buildings viable and keep presence in the City. It is necessary to know the fixed costs to operate each Church – St. George's fixed operating cost is at \$60,000 which does not include unplanned repairs. The purpose of this discussion is not to have a debate, but to decide whether further congregational meetings are desired or whether this should be referred back to Vestry. There will need to be a motion by the end of the meeting.

The floor was opened to comments:

- It was reported that in the United States Christianity is making a comeback – people need something to have hope and the Christian Church provides hope in a very hopeless world and this trend will spread to Canada

- Initial feeling was us throwing in the towel. After conversation with Father Chris and other parishioners, realized that this is an opportunity to become a bigger presence together as Anglicans and by working together have a bigger impact in the community and hopefully create a larger and stronger Church.
- St. George's needs to consider the original deed – that if St. George's ceases to function as a Church, the property reverts back to the descendants of Bliss Botsford and is not an asset that the congregation can rely on for financial compensation by selling to relocate.
- Congregations in many churches are shrinking and St. George's is not immune. Need to find ways to attract new members, especially younger people – too many grey-haired people in the pews. Feels St. George's should take a year to see if they can find ways to attract more people before moving forward to join with the other Parishes.
- The decline of church attendance is not something that can be solved overnight, but would be best to work together – need to start the conversations and see what would be the best path forward and if all the Parishes are all on the same path – even if it means renovations or disposal of property.
- Felt that new construction should not be part of the plan. St. George's can be the beacon to the other Churches. Our ministry is strong and due to Outreach, community financial support pays for our outreach expenses. St. George was a warrior – we need to continue to be warriors and fight for our Lord!
- St. George's is known to many of the homeless as a safe place and a beacon of hope. Do not want to lose what we do for the many marginalized people in our community by providing regular meals, laundry and bathroom facilities. For many we are just a safe space.
- In the words of Winston Churchill “Never let a good crisis go to waste.” When we were faced with housing the homeless, it was the community who came forward to support us both financially and with volunteers. Let's continue to be the church who takes the crisis head-on and hopefully others will join us to be part of what we do.
- Our location is a great asset. Even though parking is an issue, we are in the heart of a growing city and we need to reach out to the many new people moving into the downtown. Need to look into promoting our exceptional kitchen and accessible facilities.
- Need to expand our vision – this is just not about the congregation of St. George's but of all Anglicans. How to grow together – need to support each other. What is the best long-term plan? Need to look outward, not inward. Need a long range plan. One that may even include one space for all the Churches to be together.
- The plan needs to be clear – so many questions that need answered. Would Vestry make the decision? If they are tasked with the decision, they would need to have a deep understanding of what the plan is and the general feeling of the Parish.
- The decision should not be a Vestry decision, but a Parish wide one. There needs to be more meetings and a planning committee should be struck to meet with the other Parishes to ‘shake it out’. It will be necessary to have a clear understanding of what this union would mean financially, how would it affect the governing body of the church, the worship style and the physical properties.
- The 1st step is to become a single Parish by amalgamating the name and the governing body and then work toward a positive future together. A way to share financial resources, clergy and create sustainable use of the buildings.
- Is this just the 1st step of closing churches? Can the ‘new’ combined Vestry close one of the churches? This was clarified that the closing of churches is not the plan and the Bishop does not want to close churches. The Vestry would not be able to make the decision to close a church. There is no hidden agenda. It is very clear that each Parish is attached to their building and want to preserve their identity. Just don't want to go into palliative care with huge debts and be forced to close.

Father Rob Salloum thanked the Rector and St. George's for the invite to today's meeting. He has attended five Annual Meetings this month and this has certainly been a hot topic. There are as many ideas as people in the room. Father Salloum reminded people that Jesus calls us to pray and even his disciples did not know the answers, and He called them to be one. We need to love each other and work together. St. James' and St. George's have already begun to work together with combined Bible Studies; and St James' uses St. George's to serve a meal to the less fortunate. Fear has no place in the Church of the Lord. – don't bolt ahead – need to ask God to lead us. Need to make informed decisions led by the Lord. This is an opportunity to work together and we need to follow the guidance of the Lord.

Rev. Wendy Amos-Binks expressed her thanks for the invite to today's meeting. She felt that Father Salloum summed up how the clergy feel about the proposal. She stated that no one should be afraid of losing their identity and there is no threat to St. George's mission. Daily work and life in the Church would not change, it would just be a multi-point Parish.

Father Chris thanked both the Rev'ds RobWendy for coming today and expressed his thanks for all the support provided by their churches for the outreach work carried out at St. George's – could not have done it without them.

Before leaving, the Rev. Rob Salloum, as Chaplain for the 8th Hussars, announced that Her Royal Highness Princess Anne will be coming May 19th to St. George's in celebration of the 175 years of the Hussars. More information will be announced soon.

Cliff Reid made a motion that a planning committee be organized to meet with the other Parishes to explore and investigate the proposal of becoming a single Parish. Sheila Colbourne seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Nick Stam made a motion that there shall be congregational meetings to have further discussions on the proposal of becoming one Parish. Sheila Searle seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

Father Chris thanked everyone for their willingness to discuss openly and honestly and will organize future meetings and facilitate the creation of a planning committee.

Financial Review - The financial review this year was prepared by Marilyn Hayre and reviewed by Allen Urquhart, Bill Lane and Noel Eustace. This procedure was done by following the rules and regulations from the Diocese and did not involve an Accounting firm again this year. The Rector thanked Marilyn Hayre in absentia for her work on the Financial Review, as well as Allen Urquhart, Noel Eustace and Bill Lane as well as Esther Mah for their work.

With no one to present the budget for 2023, the Rector presented the revenue and expenditures proposed in the budget on page 37. Revenue is hard to predict and most of the expenses are set costs and are bare boned. The proposed budget is a deficit budget of \$20,000. Hopefully based on the past couple of years, we will end the year with a balanced budget. Support from the community covers the costs of our Outreach programs and some of the donations have been used to offset utility costs.

In November when St. George's opened their doors as an overnight shelter, the community rallied behind us both with volunteers and financial donations. The money received from individuals and Churches was overwhelming. Thank you notes are yet to be sent. At the end of the year, the Church had an excess of \$40,000 which, with advice from the Diocese, it was placed in a restricted fund that can only be used for Outreach

purposes. The money can be used to offset utility costs, equipment and upgrades needed for Outreach, the funds will cover the extra 10 hours for Esther Mah. There are also Provincial Government grants available for upgrades that benefit the community. These grants covered the fan installation in the bathroom and repairs to the Hall door. To preserve the Restricted fund, any grants that will cover work or equipment will be applied for. **The motion to accept the Financial Report and the budget for 2023 was made by Cliff Reid and seconded by Norm Dupuis MOTION CARRIED.**

Acceptance of Reports for the year 2022

Father Chris reviewed each of the reports submitted on pages 15 to 36. He thanked everyone for their reports and asked if there were any comments. The Rector thanked Sheila Searle who reached her maximum time as Warden. The last couple years had been rather difficult with managing the pandemic and the increase of homelessness in the city. He also expressed his thanks to Bob Searle who was a great help and support to Sheila.

The Rector thanked Allen and Nancy for both their work with Scouting and Community Meals, Nick Stam for his coordination of Outbounds and cookie making events. Thanks was expressed to all the volunteers who help with the Community Meals – both the daily and the monthly ones. Thank you to Justin Melanson, our Outreach Coordinator and to all the volunteers who help sort clothes and do laundry each day. A special thank you to Rita Beers who faithfully ‘mans’ the showers 4 days a week. A welcome to Deacon Rick and thank you to he and Deacon Norm for their support as well as the Layreaders and the Altar Guild. Thank you to the Sunday School teachers, especially with the low and unpredictable numbers. Thanks to Vestry for all their work, the counters each week and to Esther Mah and Cliff Reid for their work with the finances. Allen Urquhart made a motion to accept the 2022 reports submitted

A motion was made to adopt the reports as circulated by Allen Urquhart and seconded by Justin Melanson. MOTION CARRIED.

Nominating Committee

The Rector advised that currently the Vestry includes 10 members of Vestry and 2 Wardens. David Black and David Jessop are not re-offering. Cherie Perry has agreed to come on board. The Treasurer/Vestry Clerk, Esther Mah will attend as a non-voting member. **The motion to set the Vestry members of 2023 at nine members with two wardens was made by Cliff Reid and seconded by Kelly VanBuskirk. MOTION CARRIED.**

WARDENS

The following names were put forward for offices of Warden:

Senior Warden – Kelly VanBuskirk
Junior Warden – Tyler McKenna

There were no new nominations from the floor, so the Wardens were elected by acclamation.

VESTRY

The following names were put forward for Vestry:

Dianne Dallaire
Marilyn Crossman-Riel
Sheila Searle
Cliff Reid
Marilyn Rice
Allen Urquhart
Sheila Colbourne
Susan Plewes
Cherie Perry

There were no new nominations from the floor, so the Vestry was elected by acclamation.

SYNOD DELEGATES & ALTERNATES

Nick Stam Maria Stam Isaac Brown
Fran Cormier

Carolyn VanBuskirk and Kelly VanBuskirk agreed to be Alternates and with no other nominations, the Synod delegates and alternates were elected by acclamation. **MOTION CARRIED**

Primates World Relief and Development Fund

There were no new nominations from the floor, so Esther Mah was elected by acclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

The Rector thanked the Parish for their prayers and support, especially with the Outreach programs. A special thank you to his wife Carolyn for all the love and support. He thanked everyone once again for the discussion regarding Moncton Anglicans Together and looks forward to more meetings to discuss further. He will speak to the other Parishes about forming a planning committee to explore all the aspects of being a joint Parish.

A request was made to ask for permission to use the parking lot across the street from the elevator door on Queen Street. Father Chris will reach out to inquire.

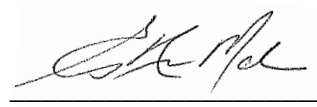
Prayers are requested for the families of the Ven. Thomas Crowther and Michael Bembridge. The Rector will travel to Bathurst next Saturday for Thomas Crowther's funeral if anyone would like to go with him.

With no new business the Rector declared the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm. The Vestry will now gather for a brief meeting.

The Rector led us in the closing prayers.



Rector



Vestry Clerk

THE RECTOR'S REPORT 2023



In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Dear friends in Christ,

Once again, it is my privilege to offer this Rector's Report as we prepare to begin our twenty-first year together in the Lord's ministry from St. George's. How time flies when we are having fun! Before sharing some thoughts on the events of the past year, let's reflect on some words written by St. Paul in his Epistle to the Romans. (On the Monday after Septuagesima, we began to read this Epistle at Morning and Evening Prayer.) In the first chapter, St. Paul says:

"The righteous shall live by faith." (verse 17)

The New Living Translation puts it this way: *"It is through faith that a righteous person has life."* The English Standard Version says: *"The one who by faith is righteous shall live."*

In this verse, St. Paul was quoting Habakkuk, the Old Testament Prophet who spoke of the hardships endured by God's people during their captivity in Babylon. The Babylonians came upon the land of Israel to destroy it, and to take God's people away. But this was not to be forever, and in the meantime, those who had confidence in God would live; that is, they would be blessed and made happy. Their confidence in God would sustain them, and preserve them. The righteous would live by faith (adapted from notes of Albert Barnes in Bible Portal).

The same is true for us: the righteous shall live by faith. Our peace and happiness -- as individuals, as families and as the Church -- will be found in Christ, not in anyone or anything else. Thanks be to God.

Here are some thoughts on the past year:

1. On the proposed amalgamation.

The final vote on whether to join the proposed amalgamation is set to be held at St. George's Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 11th. As you are well aware, there are many details, and just as many opinions on how to attend to them. Without a doubt, this is a venture of faith that has been 21 months in the making. It reminds me of St. Peter who got out of the boat and began to walk towards the Lord on the water. As long as he kept his eyes on Jesus, he made out fine. It was when Peter saw the wind that he began to panic and to sink. In the end, the principle we will aim to follow is from the life of the early Church, as recorded in the Book of Acts:

"And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."

A list of Recommendations, along with the proposed 2024 Budget for the new parish is included in the report. May I ask you, please, to read these and to make every effort to attend the meeting.

2. St. George's Vision Plan

Whether St. George's votes to join the amalgamation or not, it will be important to continue with our Vision Plan. Here are the six objectives:

- a. to focus on worship and spirituality;
- b. to create more Christian fellowship and interaction;
- c. to encourage young families, youth and apartment dwellers of the downtown community to become more involved in the life of the Church;
- d. to promote St. George's Church as a heritage site for use by future generations;
- e. to create opportunities for parishioners to have input in church affairs; and
- f. to implement the Diocese Safe Church Policy.

In re-reading these, I remember some of the conversations on the strategies to help us meet these objectives. For example, in relation to worship and spirituality, there was a strong desire to maintain the Book of Common Prayer as the primary source of liturgy at St. George's. More than that, the Prayer Book is meant to be a way of life. As we seek to walk with the Lord, it can help us read and meditate on God's Holy Word.

3. Heavenly Greens

One way to tackle objectives 'b' and 'c' (above) is by developing the Heavenly Greens project. Due to the rainy weather, not much was accomplished in the garden last summer; however, six more raised 'beds' were constructed. (Many thanks to our builders!) This year, however, we have received a grant from the Anglican Foundation to further enhance this 'green' area. As we try to create more opportunities for Christian fellowship in our Congregation, including nurturing meaningful relationships with the children and youth, Heavenly Greens has potential. More to follow!

4. Outreach

We have talked often at Vestry Meetings about the changing demographic of Moncton's downtown area – not only about the growing homeless population, but also about the growing number of apartment buildings. Interestingly, we have the challenge of reaching out to both; and, by God's grace, that is possible through the weekday morning breakfast, shower and laundry program and the weekend community meals. Whether as a volunteer or a client, people may become friends at St. George's and discover true friendship in Christ. We must always be seeking Him.

Although our outreach efforts have been primarily focused on the needs of those who are homeless or vulnerably housed, there are other issues and areas which require the Church's attention. For example, one that came to the forefront in the past year is the New Brunswick Education Department's Policy 713. One aspect of that Policy that has been given a very wide-range of interpretation is Goal/Principle 5.4. It states that, "School personnel will create a culture whereby LGBTQI2S+ students see themselves and their lives positively reflected in the school environment". Accordingly, some schools have used this to promote a gender-identity agenda and influence young children. The changes made to the Policy have helped to correct this, but we must continue to pray and to advocate for the little ones as they face Satan's deceptive attacks.

In closing, I realize that looking forward there are many unanswered questions regarding the amalgamation. There are also many challenges for the Church in general, as we learn to live as a Christian minority in this day and age. However, in all of these we have the word from Habakkuk – that inspired, holy Word: "*The righteous shall live by faith*". If we have confidence in God, we will experience that Peace which passes all

understanding; not peace which the world cannot give. If we have faith in God Who became one of us, in Christ, suffering and dying as our Sin-bearer, and rising victorious over the powers of death and hell, we will live. *“The righteous shall live by faith.”* Many uncertainties, but sure and certain Hope in the living God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit – that’s our situation.

Finally, I want to thank our Parish Wardens, Kelly and Tyler; our organist Toto Phi; our flutists, Angela Phi and Judith Snowdon; those others who have contributed to the music by instrument or voice; the Vestry; the Offering Counters; the Layreaders; the Budget and Financial Review Committees; the Sunday Greeters at 8 AM and 10 AM; the Altar Guild; the Willing Workers – especially their support for funeral receptions, their Christmas outreach deliveries to shut-ins and help to individuals and families in need; the Sunday School Teachers; our Community Meal’s cooks: Allen and Nancy Urquhart and the Women’s Progress Club, and our Community Meals’ volunteers; the leaders of First Moncton St. George’s Scouting programs; our faithful live-stream camera operators; the ‘giants’ who serve enthusiastically and faithfully at the weekday morning breakfast, in the laundry department, and ‘on the stage’; our ‘Dynamic Duo’ who assist in Church maintenance projects; our flower arranger and waterers; our Church decorator and her helpers; my assistant at the Spencer Home monthly Communion; and Angie our amazing custodian who keeps us going.

At this point, I would like to thank the Rev. Deacon Rick Cunningham for his service in the parish in 2023. We wish Fr. Rick and his family well as he continues to discern his calling to ministry. Many thanks to our retiring Vestry members who have served St. George’s faithfully and provided me with wise counsel. A very special thanks to Cliff Reid who is retiring as our Envelope Secretary after doing yeoman service in that department. My sincere appreciation to our two members of the amalgamation Planning Committee, and our alternate. They have contributed a lot of time over the past year.

I wish to express my appreciation to Fr. Dan Goodwin for his help in processing various issues and current events over the past year. I am very thankful to Fr. Rob Salloum and the Rev. Wendy Amos-Binks for their partnership in the Gospel. Many, many thanks to Archbishop David and the Diocesan staff for their support; and, I want to express my sincere gratitude to Esther Mah, Fr. Norm Dupuis, Nancy Urquhart, Larry Jones, Rita Beers, Candy Lutes, Fr. Kevin Stockall and Justin Melanson. They are incredible to work with and always find the silver lining amidst the pressures and unpredictabilities of each day. They went above and beyond duty when I deployed with the Navy in August-September. Last but not least, thanks to my beloved Carolyn for her support at home and at the church -- it is always needed.

Thank you all for your kindnesses to us this past year, and most of all for your prayers.

Chris VanBuskirk +

Priest and Rector

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS.....



CONFIRMATIONS

Alaya Yvonne LeBlanc
Leanna Joyce LeBlanc
Alice Ivy May Morton
James Charles Jones

DEATHS & FUNERALS

Douglas Keirstead
Thomas Doran
Allan Hyslop
Roland Young
Joan Dennison
Patricia Richard
Michael Bembridge
Rae Matchett
Jessie Wilson
Carol Richard
Mary Shute
Kenneth Arbeau
Walt Sutton
Nick Stam
Harold Boyce
Shirley Eustace
Matthew Arsenault
Jessie Biddle
Shirley Hines
Faron Hutchings



BAPTISMS

James Charles Jones
Gregory Plamondon
Oliver William Guitard
Alice Cecile Guitard
Jovie Jane Saulnier
Yagazieregi Théo Mbanugo-Ifionu

WEDDINGS

Allison Larsen & Marcus Hahn
Sandra Gereau & Gary Fraser
Bailey Meredith & Caleb Knowles
Azam (Diba) Mirzaei & Emad Al-Dhufairi

DEACON NORM DUPUIS' REPORT 2023

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a brief overview of my work in the Parish for 2023. As always, I am grateful that our Parish is firmly built upon the foundation of Word and Sacrament, that ensures that we see every aspect of our parish life as a manifestation of our shared life in Christ our Lord!

It is a wonderful grace to be able to assist the Rector in the Liturgical life of St. Georges! The Sacred places of Altar and Prayer Desk ensure that we hold the spiritual formation of our parishioners to be of first importance.

The outward witness of the parish in providing for the temporal needs of our community friends remains an area of our life together that has given me the chance to work with some wonderful volunteers from a variety of Christian backgrounds! It is a privilege to be able in some small way to this sacred and lifegiving work among the souls of those who most stand in need of our respect and understanding. Thank you to all for letting me help!

I count it a great joy to be able to lead one of the Bible Study groups here at St. Georges. There are a group of loving and committed folk that meet every Wed. at 10:30 to explore the Divine Word, and who are so supporting of each other and full of a desire to immerse themselves in God's Word Written- Thank you all for your faithfulness to this Sacred Work of study and Prayer.

I would like to give a great Thank You to everyone of you who have been so kind and helpful to me this past year! A special thank you to our beloved Rector and family, and to our Secretary Esther-Thank You!

None of us can tell what 2024 will bring, but we can be certain that in all that happens, the Mercy of God will be near us to comfort and guide us in all that He might call us to do.

Blessings to All

Rev. Norm Dupuis
Deacon

WARDEN'S REPORT 2023

Greetings, all. I hope the New Years finds you well.

As we leave 2023 behind I feel we may stand upon the brink of a new era. Some old and beloved faces have left us, but some new young ones have also arrived.

We've seen some of our most dependable volunteers begin to take a step towards retirement, and new ones step up with earnest enthusiasm to do their part.

And- as I'm sure has been on all our minds- we are even now working closes with our Anglican brethren of the Greater Moncton area, to discuss and plan the possible amalgamation of all of our parishes into one united whole. Times like these certainly can cause anxiety, but they are also a cause for excitement, and can present great opportunities.

Having the privilege to serve now as senior warden, I've been aided by a good many of you in one form or another (indeed several ways in some cases). I must of course name Shelia particularly, who-despite being officially retired- has continued to help and support in a dozen different ways that we would all sorely miss if they disappeared, and Bob is always very quick to offer help at slightest need.

I must also credit Tyler for being my co-warden, taking on this further responsibility despite the large number of things he already volunteers for. The time he gives, is valuable, and certainly appreciated.

My sincere gratitude to Allen our 8 AM Greeter and Kim, Bernice and Linus our 10 AM Greeters. As well, I would like to thank the Vestry members and the Counters who faithfully do their duty.

There are also now perhaps four or five different pairs of volunteers who regularly help in taking up the gifts every week, and have on more than one occasion helped keep an eye out on the back of the Church while I make my rounds. To all of you, I give my most sincere thanks. Without you all, my performance as warden would look less like that of a security guard, and more like that of a chicken with it's head cut off.

With friends and community like this, how can the coming year be anything other than an adventure to look forward to?

May we be blessed this new year with the fruits of last years success, and the opportunity to continue God's work in whatever fashion is most needed.

Warmest regards,

Kelly VanBuskirk
Senior Warden

VISIONING COMMITTEE REPORT 2023

St. George's Anglican Church - Second Vision Plan- 2023-2028

MISSION STATEMENT (approved by Vestry in May 2018) *Saint George's Church is a downtown Anglican spiritual center where traditional liturgy, parishioners and the needs of our community are valued.*

CHURCH MOTTO (approved at 2018 AGM) *“Jesus Christ the same, Yesterday, Today and Forever”*

Objective #1: To Promote a Christian Lifestyle

#1A: To focus on Worship and Spirituality

Strategies

- Maintain the BCP as the dominant source of liturgy
- Consider soft, welcoming and relatable service options especially for newcomers

#1B: To create more Christian fellowship and Interaction

Strategies

- Promote and expand the pastoral visitation team
- Promote and maintain Sunday School in its current format
- Promote and create events and programs for young parents and children to meet
- Establish a new fellowship for all parishioners
- Increase the use of music all religious services

Objective #2: To encourage young families, youth and apartment dwellers of the downtown community to become more involved in the life of the church

Strategies

- Appoint a PR/Marketing committee
- Hire a professional marketing specialist
- Initiate efforts to draw individuals into the Church

Objective #3: To promote St. George's Church as a heritage site for future generations

Strategies

- Appoint a property committee
- Maintain and expand the Heavenly Greens Community Garden
- Encourage environmentally conscious behaviour on church property

Objective #4: To create opportunities for parishioners to have input in church affairs

Strategies

- Create a Focus Group or hold a “Town Hall” meeting to obtain input on an important topic

Objective #5: to implement the Diocese Safe Church Policy

Strategy • Comply with the Diocese Safe Church Policy

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT 2023

In 2022, St. George's opened their doors in January and in November as an overnight shelter which caused more damage to the hall floor. The Province of New Brunswick agreed to pay for new the floor and in July the Church hall and the back stairs hallway were replaced and the area painted.

The Rectory roof has been replaced and new pigeon deterrents have been installed. Thank you to Bob Searle for making them for us. With Rick Cunningham and family moved back to Saint John, it was decided by Vestry to sell the Rectory and when the time is right, a new Rectory will be purchased.

John Lipton continues to provide snow removal and lawn maintenance. His crew installed drainage tile around the elevator door, the large rocks arranged in front of the garden beds and the garden replaced from beside the Chapel door with gravel to add another parking space. This work is developing but we are grateful for the progress. Thank you to John and his crew!

There is still a need for a Property Committee to help coordinate the maintenance projects needed at both the Church and Rectory. If you would be willing to help, please contact Esther in the Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Esther Mah



ST. GEORGE'S ALTAR GUILD REPORT 2023

To the Rector, Wardens, Vestry and Congregation of St. George's I submit this report.

The Altar Guild continues to serve the church in the preparation for Holy Communion Services and changing the Altar hangings to coincide with the colours of the Church year. From this we learn how the early Church Fathers taught the story of Jesus' Life by colour.

We are a small group from the congregation who look after everything to do with the cleaning and preparation of the altar for worship purposes.

Our mission is to keep the Chancel area and the Altar Guild room clean and shining in the best way we can, giving all Glory to God for allowing us the privilege to do this most rewarding work. In addition, over the past years we conducted an inventory of the linens.

This past year we were grateful to welcome four new members! As always we are grateful to Norm, Rick and Tyler for filling in when we could not be there, and as always we thank our Rector, Chris for his help.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Lou Wilbur



LAY READERS 2023

The Role of a Reader

Readers are lay men and women, from a wide diversity of occupations and backgrounds, who recognize a call to serve God and his world through the Church. They work in a variety of roles and situations across the Church, being authorized by the Archbishop to preach and teach, to conduct or assist in conducting worship, and to assist in the pastoral, evangelistic and liturgical work of the Church in the parish or area where they are licensed.

The Duties of a Reader

Readers may:

- Participate in worship, except those Services and parts of Services specifically excluded by the Canons
- Read the Old or New Testament readings, Epistle or Gospel at any Service
- Lead intercessions
- Receive and present the offerings of the congregation
- Distribute the consecrated bread and wine to the congregation as directed by the Minister
- Undertake pastoral and educational work under the guidance of the Minister
- Preach upon request

Current Roster of Readers (in alphabetical order)

Isaac Brown

Tyler McKenna

Tim Rains

Clifford Reid

Kelly VanBuskirk (leave of absence while Warden)

Thank you to all lay readers for their dedicated service.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clifford Reid

Lay Reader

ST GEORGE'S MUSIC REPORT 2023

In 2023 the choral ranks at St. George's were modest but loyal. Our singing was complemented by repeated flute contributions from Angela Phi and Judith Snowdon, as well as from Angie's formidable students Jada Nguyen and Gracie Lewis. Noted local harpist Dorothy Brzezicki came to add her talents on Good Friday. Trumpeter Matthew Ross graced us with his artistic presence at the Remembrance Day service. Carolyn Keirstead again led our deanery choir during Advent Lessons and Carols. Once more, Stephanie Mah joined us to solo for Christmas Eve and even her mother Esther brought her voice to a family duet. We were greatly saddened by the passing of Nick Stam, whose past participation in the choir and occasional subbing at the organ had been much appreciated.

The church music direction has taken on a new subscription to the St. James Music Press; hopefully, this new access to fresh and flexible material for choir and instruments will result in more interest and depth in our musical offerings. As usual, we always look forward to new voices of all ages joining the choir as we continue to express our faith in the ways we know best.

Respectfully submitted,

Nhat-Viet "Toto" Phi
Organist and Music Director



WILLING WORKERS REPORT 2023

To the Rector, wardens, and congregation of St. George's Anglican Church, I submit the following report for 2023.

The Willing Workers met for eight meetings and in June went out to lunch as a group. We presently have 21 members. President: Marilyn Rice Secretary: Debbie MacDonald Treasurer: Sheila Searle.

As a group, we attended the Lenten Service for Corporate Communion. At Easter and Christmas, we had flowers placed on the Altar in memory of former members. In November we placed a wreath at the Font in memory of those killed in action from this church.

We cater funeral receptions throughout the year. We also provided refreshments after the Advent Service of Carols and Lessons. We had a Spring Tea in May. We would like to "Thank" the members of the congregation for their gifts of money, food, and assistance at all of these occasions.

We welcomed two guest speakers: the Executive Director of Hospice South East New Brunswick in February and a member of the Greater Moncton Model Railroaders in October.

A donation was made to ReConnect. We made donations to Camp Brookwood, Camp Medley, Community Meals and the Karing Kitchen. We also made a donation to Hospice. We donate to Radio Bible Club from which we receive the daily devotional "Our Daily Bread" which are placed in the church vestibule for the congregation. For our Christmas Outreach, members of the Willing Workers delivered gift bags, chocolates or cookies to 34 shut-ins. As well, we filled 10 backpacks that were distributed to Community Friends by Reverend Chris.

We purchased six Walmart gift cards for needy families and donated two turkeys to the church dinner for the Community Friends.

We meet the second Tuesday of the month from September to May at 2 p.m. in the Ladies Parlour. We socialize, exchange ideas, plan various activities, have special speakers and enjoy a cup of tea. We welcome new ladies to join our group and we continue to work towards the good of the church and community.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie MacDonald
Secretary

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ST. GEORGE'S WILLING WORKERS 2023

To the Rector, Wardens and congregation of St. George's Church, I submit the following report.

Opening balance as of January 1, 2023		\$4,272.46
Receipts		
Reconnect	\$ 600.00	
Donations	\$ 476.43	
Refund from Christmas outreach	\$ 11.45	
Receptions	\$ 2,550.00	
Tea	\$ 34.00	
Spring Tea	\$ 670.95	
Dues	\$ 60.00	
Interest from bank	\$.51	
Float on hand	\$ 18.00	
Total receipts		<u>\$ 4,403.34</u>
		\$ 8,675.80
Disbursements:		
Memorial	\$ 100.00	
Bank charges	\$ 42.00	
Hospice	\$ 100.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 481.94	
Flowers	\$ 49.40	
Camp Medley	\$ 500.00	
Camp Brookwood	\$ 500.00	
Karing Kitchen	\$ 500.00	
Community meal	\$ 500.00	
Daily Bread	\$ 50.00	
Reconnect	\$ 500.00	
Two turkeys	\$ 48.00	
Gift cards from Wal Mart	\$ 450.00	
		<u>\$ 4,421.34</u>
		\$ 4,254.46

Respectively Submitted

Sheila Searle Treasurer
Willing Workers

MORNING BIBLE STUDY REPORT 2023

Led by Father Norm Dupuis, our Bible Study met every Wednesday morning at the church. Our group is very small, averaging only seven. Regardless of size, these faithful few are very open to discussion and consideration is taken to all questions.

When our year started in mid January we continued our study of Mark and finished this message of good news in late February. For Lent Norm led us in study and discussion of Spiritual Discipline and explored the work and life of some early saints. This was a new experience for most of us and very interesting and enlightening.

By early spring we decided as a group to take on the Book of Acts. The main point of this book is that the followers of Jesus are to spread the good news about Him and His teachings. We closed for the summer in June and enjoyed a delicious pot lunch luncheon.

In the fall we resumed our study of Acts. By the end of the year we hadn't quite finished so will complete in the new year. Our grateful appreciation to Father Norm for sharing his knowledge and insight by leading our very small group.

We meet on Wednesday morning at 10:30 in the church and would love to have you join us.

Respectfully submitted by the
Wednesday Morning Bible Study



WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY REPORT 2023

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study has continued as a joint venture with St. James' Church. After spending considerable time on St. Luke's Gospel through the year, we focused on Gospel passages regarding our Lord's promised return in Advent. Many thanks to the Rev. Wendy Amos-Binks and to Fr. Norm Dupuis for their help in leading the group.

In our studies, we appreciate the Gospel-Based Discipleship method which uses three questions for reflection and discussion:

What stands out for you in this passage?

What do you sense the Lord is saying to you in this passage?

What do you sense the Lord is calling you to do?

Please note that we have moved our meeting time to Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 PM at St. James and will warmly welcome anyone who would like to join us.

In Christ Jesus,

Chris VanBuskirk +



SAINT GEORGE'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP REPORT 2023

Young Adults Supper and Bible Study

Approximately 11 young adults have met often in 2023 for lunch or supper and Bible Study at the VanBuskirk's. We usually enjoy some conversation time before our meal and then continue on around the table. Then, we move to the living room area for Bible Study using the Gospel-Based Discipleship method.

We look forward to getting together and other young adults are welcome to join us. Many thanks to Carolyn VanBuskirk for hosting us!

St. George's Outbound

In April, we made a trip to Irishtown Park on a Sunday afternoon, meeting afterwards for Evening Prayer and supper at the Tankville School. However, our beloved leader, Nick Stam, died suddenly in June and we did not meet again until a trip to the Moncton Zoo for 'Wild Lights' in December.

Nick's departure greatly affected our desire to gather for the Outbound trips; but we know he would want us to continue with them, enjoying Christian fellowship, good food and making new friends – not to mention spending time away from all the busyness, in the beauty of God's creation. So, God willing, we look forward to a slate of Outbounds in 2024.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT 2023

As the Outreach coordinator, 2023 has taught me a lot about patience, tolerance and understanding as we ventured through another year working on the front lines with a vulnerable population. With many new volunteers stepping up to the plate which included Anne Nickerson, Susan Bourgeois, Darlene MacDonald, Emily Melanson, Katie Prince, Kate Gillies, Rita Beers and Steve Hickey, we rose to the challenge and provided a safe place for those in need. We kept our energy levels high, loving and thanks to this wonderful group of people, my job became as fun as it was rewarding.

During our peak months, we were running as many as 12 showers a day & provided basic self-care necessities to over 100 people which included:

- Clothing and footwear for all seasons
- Blankets, sleeping bags, ground sheets & sleeping gear
- Laundry services which were often next day return thanks to the hard working volunteers
- First Aid supplies along with wound care from Salvus Clinic

Some highlights from our year included:

-Multiple visits to Saint Alban's Church in Riverside Albert. Justin and Rita's desire to explore outside of the Moncton city limits led to establishing friendships that led to a significant amount of donations support from outside of our community.

-An October visit to Camp Medley with a select few of our community friends for 2 nights. We participated in activities such as canoeing, biking, fishing, had some great food and every night ended with some bonding over a campfire. This allowed us to better understand some of the challenges encountered on a daily basis from our people, but, it also gave us the opportunity

to discuss solutions and recovery options like Teen Challenge in Memramcook, NB.

-Multiple visits to the Teen Challenge addiction recovery center in Memramcook, NB. Rita, myself and Rick met with Danny Gallant who is a program director at the facility. Danny now visits every Tuesday to talk about their 12-month recovery program with anyone interested. He also does a fantastic job as our resident Barber each Tuesday if anyone needs a haircut.

Some of our other visits included a trip to Saint John where Justin, Rita and Rick visited the Stone Church in Saint John, along with the Catapult Coffee Shop created by Outflow Ministries. These visits gave us the opportunity to branch out and discuss homeless intervention strategies with other organizations, learn from each other and apply each others new found knowledge to our own programs. An example of this would be the "Circle of Support" program we started at Saint George's Church. Our goal was to be able to have a team of 3-4 volunteers who were able to assist an individual looking to better themselves or their situation. We were able to tap into their experience and enhance our own version of this in order to better support those needs.

Throughout the year, we conducted training which included de-escalation training with Darren Duguay, someone who has also been assisting with identifying and fulfilling our needs to assist others. We conducted Sentinel Training with Father Chris and Justin attended an Outreach seminar where he took then information and later briefed the volunteers on the role's of an Outreach Worker. One of the best things about this training is that we became comfortable dealing with the uncomfortable situations we often face while working with people suffering from mental health issues. Justin along with Charlene Routledge continued to play Gospel Music every Tuesday from 10-11am and even played a Christmas music gig at St. Andrews Church. Our music program will be moving to Thursdays at 930-1030am and Charlene and I would like to take this opportunity to invite any Musicians to come join us for some singing, laughs and scripture discussion.

In closing, Justin, Rita and all of the fantastic volunteers on the stage would like to take this time to thank every one from the bottom of our hearts. None of this would be possible without everyone's generous donations of clothing, time and love. We appreciate you!

Respectively Submitted

Justin Melanson
Community Outreach Coordinator

COMMUNITY MEALS 2023

This was the 18th year of the Community Dinner program and 12 years for the Community Breakfast. Our week-day breakfast continued into its second year with the help of many volunteers. Our weekend dinner is served on the 2nd Sunday of each month and the Breakfast on the 4th Saturday. There is also a breakfast served on the 3rd Saturday which is provided by St. James' Church.

The Community Dinner and weekday breakfast are sit-down meals, but the Saturday breakfasts continue to be take-outs.,

Bruce Lawson from the Karing Kitchen continues to bring us food weekly from the Food Bank on our behalf. Donations of food and money continue to cover most of the costs of our meals.

For a few months Nancy Urquhart was able to assist with our daily breakfast creating delicious and nutritious meals daily. During the Rector's deployment Larry Jones was able to come for a few weeks to help us and then in September Candy Lutes joined us with taking on the coordination of the breakfast prepping and serving. She continues to be a great addition to our program!

A huge thank you to everyone who help daily and monthly either cooking, serving or performing clean-up duties. The Moncton Womens' Progress Club and Allen and Nancy Urquhart continue to take their turns cooking the monthly dinners and we thank them for their Service. Thank you to those who come and serve, especially on the cold winter days and for those who contribute financially to keep the costs low for the Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Esther Mah



ST. GEORGE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2023

St. George's Sunday School has few children attending since the Pandemic. We average four children per week. We have three adult teachers who rotate on a four week schedule. We also have had an adult from Vestry with us every week, and parents who are very helpful.

The curriculum we were using from January to September was based on the 'People in the Bible' (Year 3 of St. Georges Sunday School curriculum). In September we started 'The Seasons of the Church Year' of the same curriculum which focuses on the readings from the Eucharistic Lectionary. The lessons are reinforced by music, crafts and activities that vary depending on how much time we have.

Summer Sunday School this past summer used a curriculum Angelique found on the internet with a Video and games based on stories from the Bible. Thanks to the teachers for being available during the summer.

We were unable to have a combined Parish Picnic at St. Martin's in the Wood, Shediac Cape, due to weather.

During Advent we lit the candles on an Advent Wreath (battery operated) and decorated an Advent Jesse Tree..

We were very pleased to be able to have an Epiphany pageant this year which involved three young people who were recently confirmed and nine children.

Currently, we are trying to co-ordinate with the other Anglican Congregations in order to have Sunday School on the combined Service Sundays.

We have a lovely children's library in the basement, in the Sunday school "room". Parents or grandparents can borrow any of these books or DVD's.

Once again, I would like to thank the Sunday School teachers who give their time and energy, with a smile and lots of energy, to this important part of ministry. Angelique Ross who is fantastic finding curriculum and pageants on the internet and Angie Phi who makes sure we keep the music going.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn VanBuskirk



ST. GEORGE'S MEMORIAL FUND 2023

Donations to the Memorial Fund are made in remembrance of family or friends, at funerals or any other time of year, as a continuing memorial. All donations are recorded in the Memorial Book located at the back of the church. This book is updated at the end of each month.

All donations are forwarded to the Diocese to be added to our Memorial Fund Trust Account. St. George's can make withdrawals from the Trust Account, at any time, by resolution of the Vestry. Interest earned on this account is paid to St. George's in June and December and is disbursed, at the Rector's discretion, to meet social assistance needs within the parish.

Memorial cards are available in the front entrance of the Church, in the entry to the Chapel, or by contacting the church office. Please pick up a few for ready access at the time of need.



1ST MONCTON ST. GEORGE'S SCOUTING ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Membership Report

The breakdown of currently registered youth members and leaders in all sections is:

- Leaders – 4
- Beavers – 8
- Cubs - 5
- Scouts - 3

All registrations have been paid in full.

Section Reports

Beavers

Leaders – Nancy Urquhart
– Allen Urquhart

Current Colony Enrolment - 8 Beavers



Regular weekly meetings this year were held that included crafts, games, and story time, revolving around various themes. These themes were geared to Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day, Christmas and other seasonal celebrations such as Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Additional activities saw the Colony go on hikes,, constructing and racing Beaver Buggies, going to the DIY cafe and making Christmas ornaments and having a pizza party. They also participated in an all section Remembrance Day event where we attended the Ceremony at Victoria Park in Moncton for the first time. The beavers laid a Wreath Accompanied by Father Chris.

This year the kids used the Salisbury Scout camp for fall and summer camps with the Scouts helping out.

The Beavers also planted the flowers around the St. George's Church sign using red and white flowers in the shape of a St. George's shield.

At Christmas the Beaver and Cub sections were together for a Christmas party

What a great year!

Cubs

Leaders - Jennifer Fontaine
- Jason Goodwin

Pack Enrolment – 5



This fall the Cub Pack combined with the Scouts and had another active and enjoyable year with a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities.

The Cubs meet regularly on Wednesday evenings with the Scouts and which include learning skills like tying knots, winter camping, working on badges, playing games, movie nights .

This year the kids have used the Salisbury Scout camp with the Beavers for a summer and fall camp with the Scouts helping out

An annual event is assembling Kub Kars and then participating in the Southeast area Kub Kar rally to qualify for the Provincial rally.

The Cubs are often outdoors (along with the scouts), when the weather permits and go on evening adventures. Again, this year they planted the garden at the church in the garden boxes and tended it all summer. This year for the first time, they will be going Winter Camping at the Salisbury Scout camp with the Scouts.

The Cubs and their leaders are busy planning more exciting indoor and outdoor events for the months to come!

Scouts

Leaders – Jason Goodwin
- Jennifer Fontaine

Scout Enrolment – 3

This year the Scouts have used the Salisbury scout camp to have their "survivor camp weekend" which was the first camping experience some of them had since starting Scouts.

This year, the Scouts took a course in firearms safety and marksmanship so that they could pay a visit to the Petitcodiac Sportsmans Club Rifle Range to participate in a day of target shooting with Rifle and Pistol. The scouts had an opportunity to try a selection of firearms ranging from 100+ year old black powder Rifles to modern sporting rifles.

They also attend a provincial fun shooting competition in Fredericton and had a great time spending the day there with scouts from all around the province. It was hard to get them to leave at the end of the day!

One of our Scouting Mothers came along and participated in our Range Day and Shooting competition in Fredericton with the Scouts. She enjoyed it so much, she's now taking her firearms course so she can take up the sport herself!

The youth did the serving at the Christmas community meal, and they will be doing a community Breakfast in February

This year the annual Dessert party fundraiser will be held in March with a St Patrick's day theme, to try and change things up a bit.

A special thank you to the congregation of St. George's for their continued support of our Group and their activities.

Yours in Scouting
Jason Goodwin
1st Moncton St. George's Scouting
Group Commissioner



It starts with Scouts.

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023

The Envelope Secretary is part of the Financial Team responsible for the fiscal operation of the Church. The prime responsibility of this position is to properly record all the revenue that is donated to the church and issue charitable donation receipts at year end.

The envelope Secretary works closely with the Church Administrator in ensuring that all monies are accounted for and charged to the right category. Parishioners, outside contributors, businesses and organizations contribute funds to St. Georges for various endeavours and these donations must be tracked accordingly.

Donation categories include the following but not limited to:

- 1) General (no designation) 2) Seasonal Offerings (Christmas, Easter etc.) 3) Capital Projects 4) Community Meals 5) Discretionary 6) Flowers 7) Memorial Fund 8) Sanctuary Candle and Supplies 9) PWRDF and 10) Scouting. There are several others, but these are some of the main ones.
- 2) There is also an Outreach Restricted Fund which is used solely to cover the costs associated with our community outreach program.

E-transfers are becoming more popular for sending in donations, but Envelope giving as well as PAR remain the most popular. In the database for 2023, there were 246 individual donors with a total 3,497 donations for a revenue total of \$428,797. The Diocese also offered financial support to the church to help fund the Outreach Program and the salary of the Outreach Coordinator as well as other initiatives.

The Envelope Secretary cannot function without all the invisible volunteers who are Counters every Sunday. My thanks to Sheila Searle for her work in finding and scheduling the volunteers. Also, my thanks to Esther Mah for her patience and providing assistance when I needed it.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clifford Reid,
Envelope Secretary 2023

St. George's Anglican Church – 2023 Annual Report

Revenue/Expenses St. George's 2023							
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual
Revenue	2023	2023	2022	2022	2021	2021	2020
General Offerings	160,000	168,007	160,000	165,435	154,000	171,980	170,797
PAR	55,000	54,281	55,000	56,088	50,000	54,328	50,443
Special Lent & Easter	6,000	7,028	6,000	6,080	6,000	6,020	7,107
Special Thanksgiving	5,000	3,310	6,000	4,875	5,000	6,422	8,777
Special Christmas	10,000	16,235	7,500	18,605	11,000	7,662	7,250
Plate	4,000	3,299	3,000	3,993	3,000	4,101	3,303
Fundraising	2,000		2,000		2,000		
Use of hall	500	1,360	500	530	1,000	340	730
Interest- Memorial Fund	7,000	7,418	7,000	7,138	6,000	5,981	5,914
Endowment Interest	17,000	16,721	17,000	16,897	13,000	14,068	14,418
DELCON Interest	700	684	700	684	600	579	579
Offering Total	267,200	278,343	264,700	280,326	251,600	271,481	269,319
Expenditure							
Audio Visual/Advertising	2,000	1,517	2,000	14,565	1,000	7,268	2,025
Bank Charges	1,000	1,010	900	1,000	1,000	966	969
Clergy Education	900	750	900	900	900	900	750
Choir		395			400		
Community Meals	2,000	2,765	2,000	-	2,000	1,974	276
Flowers	200	975	200	-12	500	-240	172
Parish Event Food Costs	2,000	1,197	1,000	1,734	500	906	1,162
Organ Repair	600	564	600	538	600	564	699
Gifts	500	550	500	387	500	298	1,179
Insurance	20,155	19,811	17,775	17,775	16,235	16,818	15,275
Utilities -Church	24,500	21,715	21,500	22,672	20,000	20,983	17,820
Utilities -Rectory	5,500	5,104	4,300	4,753	4,500	4,252	4,338
Maintenance-Church	15,000	7,971	15,000	13,023	15,000	19,456	55,548
Maintenance-Rectory	5,000	35,971	1,000	8,484	1,000	1,032	154
Maintenance - Grounds	5,800	8,511	5,800	5,609	6,000	5,609	5,609
Office	6,000	8,237	6,000	5,001	6,000	5,288	6,148
Salaries & Benefits	130,000	120,433	126,000	124,321	123,000	116,745	105,196
Discretionary Fund	3,000	4,083	3,000	-	3,000	-3,754	-79
Books	500	417	500	1,044	500	142	385
Cleaning Contract	850	836	700	820	600	820	569
Sanctuary Supplies	1,500	2,250	1,500	1,435	1,500	1,678	894
Supply Clergy & Organist	1,500	3,825	1,000	2,475	1,500	725	1,041
Telephone & Internet Church	3,500	3,369	3,300	3,291	3,300	3,197	3,525
Telephone & Internet & TV Rectory	3,800	1,723	3,000	2,664	3,000	2,828	2,711
Travel	9,000	6,185	9,000	7,186	9,000	7,739	7,796
Water & Sewer -Church	2,500	3,059	1,800	2,465	1,800	1,665	1,904
Water & Sewer Rectory	1,000	664	1,000	904	900	895	906
Youth Support	200	343	200	254	500	55	
Diocesan Shared Ministry Support	38,696	38,696	36,453	36,453	35,827	35,827	35,578
Total Expense	287,201	302,927	266,928	279,741	260,562	254,636	272,550
Bequest to reduce deficit		25,000					
Net Parish Income (Loss)	-20,001	417	-2,228	585	-8,962	16,845	-3,232
Memorial Fund	\$ 240,622.86		Memorial Fund Donations	\$12,364.25			
Investment Fund	\$ 516,580.07		Donations for new Fridge	\$6,043			
DELCON Fund	\$ 21,061.25						
Total	\$ 778,264.18						

BUDGETS 2024

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH BUDGET

St. George's Building Costs – Proposed 2024

Elevator	5,000
Grounds/snow removal	6,000
Insurance	20,000
Utilities	20,000
Cleaning	15,000
Pest control	1,000
Regular maintenance	9,000
Major maintenance*	Re-pointing 25,000
	Chapel steps 5,000
	Telephone system 3,000
	109,000

*Other major maintenance projects
Include the basement doors,
Hall lighting, and the roof.

St. George's Operational Costs – Proposed 2024

Audio Visual	2,000
Music licences	600 (could be shared)
Shared meals (Congregational)	1,000
Flowers	500
Gifts	500
Organist	11,000
Sanctuary supplies	2,000
Organ repair	600
Christian Education (Grief Share)	500 (could be shared)
Youth support	500
	19,200
Total of Building and Operational	128,200

St. George's Projected Income for Building and Operational Expenses 2024

General Offering	91,700
Special Offerings (Christmas, Lent/Easter, Thanksgiving)	10,000
Plate	2,500
Investment Interest	24,000
	128,200

St. George's Community Outreach – Proposed 2024

Expenses:

Office Administrator	13,800
Heavenly Greens	5,000
Community Meals/Weekday Breakfast Program	2,000
Discretionary Fund	3,000
Utilities	6,500
Cleaning	3,000
Stipend	<u>23,000</u>
	56,300

Income:

Grants:

(Mazon, Anglican Foundation, Royal Canadian Legion, Foundation for a Better Future)	8,500 (could be 15,000)
Discretionary Fund	3,000
Heavenly Greens (Anglican Foundation Grant)	5,000
Diocesan Grant (for Outreach Stipend)	10,000
St. George's Restricted Outreach Fund	<u>22,000</u>
	48,500 (could be 57,000)

PARISH OF FIVE SAINTS BUDGET 2024

2024 Shared Expenses

Diocesan Assessment	41,321 (St. George's plus...)
Office Administrator	35,200 (25 hours)
Office Supplies	7,000
Clergy	152,000
Clergy Supply	1,000
Rectories	<u>41,845 (29,042 + 12,803)</u>

Total: With two priests	278,866
With one priest	180 866 to 193,105
(difference relates to rectory costs and clergy stipends)	

2024 Proposed Shared Income

St. Andrew's	43,580	21,905
St. James	57,000	23,000
St. Philip's	63,550	33,000
St. Mary's	43,510	30,000
St. George's	200,000	108,300
Total	407,640	215, 905

278,866 – 215, 905 = (62,961.00)

AMALGAMATION INFORMATION

Who can vote at an Annual Meeting?

All parishioners who are “baptized Christians; at least 16 years old; worship in the parish and have been regular communicants; and are regular contributors, financial and otherwise, to the mission of the parish during the previous year” (from Canon Six 2.10) are entitled to vote.

What is the role of the Congregation's Executive Committee?

- Convene meetings of the Congregation quarterly or more often, as required in order to discuss outreach projects, building expenses, community partnerships, etc.
- Welcome newcomers, celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, etc in the Congregation
- Provide Safe Church Training and encourage Safe Church Practices
- Co-ordinate Congregational Coffee Time and Pot-lucks
- Relay information to and from the Parish Vestry
- Facilitate announcements from the Sunday School, the Altar Guild, the Choir, the ACW/Willing Workers, Scouting sections, Youth Groups, Bible Study Groups, Community Meals, etc.
- Co-ordinate greeters
- Relay security protocols
- Co-ordinate information/request support for ‘Parish Services’

What is the role of Chapel Warden?

- Subject to the Incumbent and the Parish Corporation, the Chapel Warden(s) shall have charge of the church (building);
- In consultation with the Parish Incumbent(s), the Chapel Warden(s) shall convene meetings of the Congregation;
- The Chapel Warden(s) have charge of the Safe Church Program;
- The Chapel Warden(s) have charge of the church cemetery;
- The Chapel Warden(s) attend and vote at Parish Corporation/Vestry Meetings, as requested;
- The Chapel Warden(s) act on behalf of the Parish Wardens, in their respective churches, as required; and
- The Chapel Warden(s) shall report on the activities/needs of their respective Congregations, as required.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

(to be read at Parish Annual meetings in February 2024)

Through the Summer and Fall of 2023 the Planning Committee met to discuss some of the details of the amalgamation, including these recommendations:

- a. that the new parish have a Vestry composed of two members from each of the five Congregations;
- b. that the new Parish Corporation consist of the Vestry plus two Parish Wardens, the Vestry Clerk and Parish Treasurer (note: voting privileges could be extended on special occasions to Chapel Wardens);
- c. that each Congregation elect a Chapel Warden(s) to act of behalf of the Parish Wardens in their respective Congregations;
- d. that each Congregation establish an Executive Committee (including their two Vestry members and Chapel Wardens) to convene Congregational meetings quarterly, or as required, to oversee the financial and maintenance management of its building, property, church furnishings, investments, outreach ministries, etc., and to facilitate communications from Parish Vestry Meetings;
- e. that each Congregation (as well as groups and organizations) will continue to manage and control their bank accounts, making arrangements to do so with the new Parish Corporation;
- f. that each Congregation explore opportunities for community partnerships – partnerships that would result in significant income, to assist with church building costs;
- g. that all expenses related to the clergy of the new parish, including supply clergy, will be shared by the Congregations and included in the budget of the new parish;
- h. that all expenses related to the new parish office, including equipment, materials, and the Administrator's stipend will be shared by the Congregations and included in the budget of the new parish;
- i. that rectories and rectory funds will be managed by the Congregations to which they belong. However, rectory expenses (maintenance costs, utilities, snow removal, lawn care, etc.) will be shared by the congregations and included in the budget of the new parish;
- j. that although debts will rest with the new corporation, management of debts will be the responsibility of the Congregation that presently carries them. Congregational debts will NOT be assumed by the new parish Corporation (for more details, see letter 'k' below);
- k. that each Congregation be responsible for all costs and expenses related to their church building. This means that all capital projects for church maintenance (roof replacement, stone repointing, heat system upgrades, etc.), and all utilities (water, sewer, power, heat, telephone, photocopier, internet, snow removal, cleaning, lawn care, insurance) will be the sole responsibility of their congregation. Therefore, the expense budget for each church building will NOT be included in the budget of the new parish;
- l. that the Parish Central Office be located at St. George's Church and the current Administrator be retained, if possible;

- m. that satellite offices may continue in each Congregation to facilitate communications and logistics, as required, with the help of volunteers;
- n. that one set of offering envelopes with the names of the six churches be ordered/used in the new parish, along with the Pre-Authorized Remittance system and E-transfers;
- o. that each Congregation conduct its Annual Meeting as early in the New Year as possible, and no later than Monday, February 19th, so that the first Parish Meeting of the new parish may be held before the end of February. At its Annual Meeting, each Congregation will vote on whether or not to join the amalgamation. Congregations that decide to join will then elect two members to serve on Vestry; one or two Chapel Wardens and an Executive Committee. It is conceivable that a Chapel Warden could be ‘double-hatted’ and serve as a Vestry member. At their Annual Meetings, Congregations may also nominate two people to serve as Parish Wardens, to be elected at the first Parish Meeting. The two Parish Wardens could be from the same Congregation, but only as a last resort. If possible, it is recommended that the Parish Wardens be from different Congregations;
- p. that the proposed budget for the new Parish be circulated before the Congregational Annual Meetings and voted on at the first meeting of the new Parish;
- q. that specific banking and accounting details be arranged between the Parish Central Treasurer and the six Congregations, in accordance with the principles noted in the above recommendations, and generally accepted accounting practices; and
- r. that no equation/formula be requested of the Congregations forming the new Parish; rather Christian charity will be the standard for giving as recorded in Acts 2. 44-47.

Revised January 24, 2024

Parish of the Five Saints

St. Andrew's
St. George's
St. James'
St. Mary's St. Alban's
St. Philip's