

VESTRY REPORT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024



CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD

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SUGGESTIONS FOR FRUITFUL VESTRY DISCUSSION

- Begin by stating your name
- Address and speak to the Chair
- Speak in the first person
- Be respectful during discussions
- Limit comments to three minutes
- Offer only new perspectives

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

Dear friends,

Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, serve the world God loves.

Simple and elegant. These few words capture the essence of a Vision that we have been pursuing and discerning throughout the Cast the Net process, a visioning exercise that began while we were still in pandemic mode. Over the course of several consultations, we listened to one another, and for the leading of the Holy Spirit. With time, sifting and testing, 20 Calls were revealed at Synod, which were supported with enthusiasm. A final version of the Calls will be received by Synod Council in February. We continue to be grateful to the Steering Committee and consultants, who have led our work together over the past 18 months. And now the work begins to incorporate these Calls into the life and ministry of the whole Diocese. This is the time for parishes large and small, missions, ministries, committees and Synod Council to animate the Calls in our own contexts. It is almost impossible for one community to embrace all twenty, but by serving together from Mississauga to Brighton, Midland to Minden, and all points in between, we can!

We begin this journey with a Season of Spiritual Renewal. We embrace the Call to deepen our walk together as communities by immersing ourselves in prayer, reading and reflection on scripture, worship and sharing our stories of faith with one another. As we promised in our baptism: we will “continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers”. This Season will be supported by the Rev. Canon Dr Judy Paulsen, members of a steering committee and the College of Bishops. We hope that you will be able to join us for Diocesan worship events, learning opportunities, programs and fellowship that entice us all to walk more closely in the footsteps of Jesus.

We are delighted to reach across our borders to deepen our friendship with the Diocese of Brasilia. Brasilia is a relatively new diocese, birthed in 1985, with a small number of parishes, missions and ministries. We were delighted to welcome their Bishop Mauricio Andrade and his wife Sandra to our Diocesan Synod in November. We will learn from, grow with, and support one another as we strive to serve Christ in our unique circumstances. And we look forward to opportunities for delegations of our clergy and laity to visit back and forth, both in-person and online, as we deepen our affection for one another.

We are proud of and amazed at the ministry taking place across our Diocese, especially in the areas of youth, ecumenism, creation care, diversity, and faith formation. We encourage you to consider this year's Diocesan Social Justice motion on housing, and to prayerfully support our Church's advocacy for every person's right to adequate shelter. We are convinced that the Holy Spirit is leading and guiding us, and challenging us to bravely find new ways to work and worship together, to increase in courage, to share our passion for the Good News of Jesus, and to seek and find new meaning as followers of Christ in the 21st century, where we are confronted with emerging economic and social challenges. We want to express our heartfelt thanks to all who make up our dynamic community of faith – lay people, deacons, priests – all helping to give a glimpse of the Reign of God as it unfolds in our midst.

As your bishops, we know the joy and privilege of serving the Church in this Diocese. We thank all those who have joined us in giving leadership over the past year. We have recently celebrated one year of our new diocesan leadership model, and we are immensely grateful to our new Territorial Archdeacons and Canon Administrator for stepping into their roles so effectively and with such faithfulness. The five of them have helped to ease the bishops' administrative load, allowing us to focus on some of the other work to which we have been called and ordained.

Whether your work is changing this year, whether you are stepping out of your role at this Vestry meeting, or stepping into a new ministry, or continuing on in your good work, please know that we are here to support you in every way we can. We want to encourage you in Gospel ministry, in the initiatives and relationships that you are building, as you cast your nets ever wider in a world that is hungry for Christ - for meaning, connection and belonging. Our mission statement is simple and elegant. And it invites us, like the dismissal at the close of the Eucharist, to action. We invite you to incorporate these words in your liturgies on Sunday morning:

Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, serve the world God loves.

Thanks be to God!

Yours faithfully in Christ Jesus,

The Right Rev. Andrew J. Asbil
Bishop of Toronto

The Right Rev. Riscylla Shaw
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

The Right Rev. Kevin Robertson
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto



Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

Vestry Agenda

1. Incumbent takes the Chair
2. Land Acknowledgement and Opening Prayer
3. Appointment of Vestry Clerk
4. Adopting Minutes of Vestry Meeting 2023
5. Incumbent's Report (Vestry Sermon)
6. Looking Back on 2023 – 2024 at Holy Trinity Guildwood
7. Presenting and Adopting HTG 2023 Financial Statements
8. Overview of 2023 Operating Fund integrated with Missional Outreach & Discipleship
9. Looking Ahead:
Plans, Priorities, Events, Special Vestry April 7 – Missional Outreach & Discipleship (MOD)
10. Adopting HTG Operating Budget for 2024
11. Appointments and Elections for 2024
12. Social Justice Vestry Motion – Protecting and Advancing the Right to Housing
13. Parochial Organizations: Reports and Supplementary Remarks
14. General Business
15. Adjournment
16. Thank Yous & Prayers

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and forever more. Amen.

MINUTES OF VESTRY MEETING (FEBRUARY 27, 2023)

Attendance - 40 parishioners signed into the zoom call.

1. Incumbent takes the Chair

The Rev. Canon Stephen Kirkegaard reviewed guidelines for discussion of items at Vestry as outlined on page 3 of the Vestry Report.

2. Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer

At 1:03 pm Stephen opens vestry with the Land Acknowledgement and Prayer (from the Diocese of Ontario).

3. Appointment of the Vestry Clerk

Nicole Phillips was appointed the Vestry Clerk. Thank you, Denise, for running the slideshow.

4. Adoption of the Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of 2022

Corrections to the minutes were noted.

Motion to adopt the corrected minutes by John Hetherington

Seconded by Denise Byard

Carried.

5. Incumbent's Report

The Rev. Canon Stephen Kirkegaard's report was delivered in his sermon, which is on our YouTube Channel. Click the link to watch:

<https://youtube.com/live/2qX9GYixp8A?si=EnSlkaIECMiOmarE&t=1181>

6. Presentation and Adoption of the Churchwardens' Financial Report for 2022

The presentation began with a "Looking Back" PowerPoint of photos throughout the year. Sydney Baxter-Dennis then presented the Statements of Financial Position from 2022

Motion to accept the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, and with the auditor's report thereon – Sydney Baxter-Dennis.

Seconded – Flo Schwerdnter.

Carried.

1 abstention

7. Presentation and Adoption of Priorities and Plans for 2024 (including Budget) Sydney Baxter-Dennis presented the draft budget for 2023

- Questions regarding the budget for 2023

- Mary Beth Moffatt-Sinclair

- Are we being presumptuous that we expect people who didn't hand in their forms to donate in 2023?

- A number of people consistently donate each year, although they may not fill out any forms. We are seeking to supplement our revenue with additional grant funding.

- Tim Wiebe

- Where does the money in the unrestricted fund go?

- It is to be used as directed by Corporation with the advice of the Ministry Leaders Team to best serve the vision and mission of the parish. It increased in 2022 due to a memorial gift.

- Are you confident in our draft givings budgeted? Or is that an aspirational figure to achieve?
 - It is somewhat aspirational, but we did have a \$10,000 increase in pledging for our Giving Our Thanks & Praise
- Why has `outreach other' gone up so much in this year?
 - Our food cupboard has expanded and we have received more funding to support the community
- Why was the actual tenant income so low in 2022?
 - They came in part of last year. In 2023 they will be in for the full year.
- What is “income deferred from previous years”?
 - Grant money we didn't spend last year and we are moving into 2023.
- How are we ensuring that we can keep our head above water in 2023?
 - We have accounted for the rate of inflation and other external factors in this budget.
- Beverley Byrne MacPhee
 - What is are professional fees?
 - Cost of the auditor and a small legal fee for a contractor we had in 2022. Typically, it is just the cost of an auditor.
- Leslie Hetherington
 - Was an estimation made for people who didn't get their form in time?
 - There are some subjective calculations made, however it is done with great consideration. Over the past 4 years our budget has been very close to actual. Our envelope secretary also gives guidance to help create an amount, by looking at what was given in general offerings each week in 2022.
 - How successful was the Earth's Angels TruEarth campaign?
 - They have raised approximately \$400 in 2022.
 - Is \$17,000 market value for a music director?
 - Myron believes it is still a competitive wage. We pay to RCCO scale. However, we will find out a final answer once we hire.
- Flo Schwerdtner
 - Thank you, Michael J and Ryan S, for doing so much of our contract work for free.

Michael Cooksey's presented a PowerPoint called “Looking Forward Highlights” for 2023

Motion to accept the budget as presented – Sydney Baxter-Dennis

- Seconded by Leslie Hetherington

Carried.

8. Appointments and Elections for 2023

It was confirmed that to nominate someone, the person needs to have consented to stand.

The slate of nominees was confirmed.

Elected by Vestry by acclamation:

People's Warden – Sydney Baxter-Dennis
Lay Member of Synod – Leslie Hetherington
Alternate Member of Synod – Tanya Sanxhaku
Sidesperson – John Hetherington

The Rev. Canon Stephen Kirkegaard confirmed that Vestry approves the appointment of the auditor even though this is a paid position.

Volunteer Ministry Positions, as presented in the Vestry report, were confirmed by the Incumbent. Thank you Eva McLean for taking on the Flower ministry with Karen Price in 2023.

Vacancies in certain ministry areas were noted. Efforts to find people to take on these roles will continue. All are asked to give these opportunities their prayerful consideration.

- On page 33 of the Vestry report there is detailed information available about each ministry roles

Raise the Rates – Ellen Anderson

We, the vestry of Holy Trinity, Guildwood urge the provincial government to support Ontario's most vulnerable citizens by doubling social assistance rates for both Ontario Works and the Ontario Disability Support Program, and thereafter to index these rates to inflation, so as to provide a safety net that enables people to meet their most basic needs.

Motion moved by Ellen Anderson
Seconded by Michael Cooksey
All in favour.

The slate was accepted by acclamation.

9. Parochial Organizations – Reports and Supplementary Remarks

Reports by Ministry leaders as presented in the Vestry Report.

- Ellen Anderson
 - Will there be a junior choir?
 - With Myron leaving we are rebooting that process. It is part of the job posting.
- Shirley Knautz
 - Is there any chance of getting screens or monitors to put up in the church?
 - We are hoping to hang up a screen in the narthex so we can start hybrid meetings. Screens in the sanctuary would cost about \$20,000. We are investigating options to secure relevant funding and expertise.

- Can we put our call and responses on the live stream?
 - Unfortunately, we cannot do that right now because we don't have a live stream host. You can follow along in the bulletin which is linked in the video description. A chat host would be most welcome.
- Mary Beth
 - Brought up COVID regulations from the Diocese of Toronto and a letter from Bishop Andrew. Have we as a community decided to stop wearing a mask or was it a unilateral decision?
 - In consultation with the Diocesan COVID Health Officer, Holy Trinity Guildwood's Parish Nurses, Wardens, Ministry Leaders Team, and listening to people of varying perspectives in our congregation, The Rev. Canon Stephen Kirkegaard has sought to lead Holy Trinity, Guildwood in a process and way of worship in accordance with evolving Diocesan and Provincial Health guidelines while also making special accommodations for those with specific needs.
 - Why was there not a vote?
 - This topic will be brought up at the next ministry team leaders meeting.

10. General Business

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Stephen Kirkegaard
Seconded – Denise Byard
Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m. with the saying of *The Grace*.



STEPHEN'S 2023 VESTRY MESSAGE TALKING POINTS.

THE REVEREND CANON STEPHEN KIRKEGAARD, INCUMBENT

LENT IS A TIME TO JOURNEY

A TIME TO JOURNEY WITH GOD

FROM WHERE WE ARE

TO WHERE GOD IS CALLING US TO BE.

IN OUR 40 DAY JOURNEY TO EASTER
WE ARE INVITED TO LISTEN DEEPLY & ENTER INTO
THREE FOUNDATIONAL JOURNEY STORIES:

ABRAHAM AND SARAH'S CALL BY GOD
TO LEAVE THEIR HOME IN UR
AND JOURNEY TO A FAR OFF PROMISED LAND.
ABRAHAM IS 75.

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL'S JOURNEY
OUT OF SLAVERY IN EGYPT,
THROUGH THE TRIALS AND TESTS OF THE WILDERNESS
TO COME HOME TO THE PROMISED LAND

& JESUS' JOURNEY TO THE CROSS
WHICH INCLUDES TODAY'S STORY
OF HIS TEMPTATION IN THE WILDERNESS
AND HIS INCLUSIVE INVITATION TO ALL HIS DISCIPLES
THEN & NOW
TO JOIN HIM IN A NEW PROMISED LAND
THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

THESE ARE REAL JOURNEYS
- NOT A WALK TO THE CORNER TO PICK UP SOME MILK
- OR A TRIP TO THE COTTAGE FOR A WEEK OF RELAXATION

THESE ARE TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEYS
WHERE ONE IS CALLED TO LEAVE
THE FAMILIARITY AND UNCERTAINTY OF THE KNOWN
AND WALK IN FAITH INTO THE ADVENTURE & PROMISE
OF THE UNKNOWN.

AND LIKE ANY TRUE ADVENTURE OF PROMISE
THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF COMPANIONSHIP,
LOVE & LAUGHTER ALONG THE WAY
AS WELL AS SOME GRUMBLING & FEAR
IN THE FACE OF DANGER & PERIL.

LENT REMINDS US OF THE CYCLICAL QUALITY OF LIFE
HOW TIMES OF COMFORT AND EASE
ARE OFTEN FOLLOWED
BY TIMES OF DIFFICULTY AND CHALLENGE
AND HOW THESE ARE NOT CURSES
BUT IF ONE PERSEVERES,
TRANSFORMATIVE OPPORTUNITIES
THAT LEAD TO GROWTH AND NEW LIFE.

LENT REMINDS US
OF THE WISDOM OF TRAVELLING LIGHTLY
AND BEING READY, PREPARED TO RESPOND,
PREPARED TO GO.

I AM SO PROUD OF YOU,
THE PEOPLE OF HOLY TRINITY GUILDWOOD
YOUR FAITHFULNESS, YOUR PERSEVERANCE

THE RESILIENCE, ADAPATABILITY, RESOURCEFULNESS
YOU HAVE SHOWN
IN MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF THE PANDEMIC

YOUR COMPASSION FOR OTHER TRAVELLERS
WHO WERE FINDING THE JOURNEY TOO HARD TO BEAR

AND YOUR LOVING CARE OF YOUR COMPANIONS IN FAITH,
YOUR BROTHERS & SISTERS AT HOLY TRINITY,
FELLOW PILGRIMS ON THE WAY.

SOME OF YOU MAY REMEMBER ONE OF PHYLLIS TICKLE'S FAVOURITE TAG LINES.

"EVERY 500 YEARS THE CHURCH CLEANS OUT ITS ATTIC
AND HAS A GIANT RUMMAGE SALE."

HOWEVER FOR MANY TODAY
IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A RUMMAGE SALE
BUT A "FIRE SALE"

TOO MUCH IS CHANGING TOO FAST

OF COURSE IT'S NOT ONLY CHURCH LIFE
BUT LIFE AT LARGE

THE PANDEMIC SEEMS TO HAVE ACCELERATED
THE PACE OF CHANGE IN CANADA,
IF NOT AROUND THE GLOBE,

AS WE STRUGGLE WITH INFLATION,

A HEALTH SYSTEM STRAINED TO THE BRINK
A WAR THAT THREATENS GLOBAL SECURITY AND PEACE
THE PREVALENCE OF PREJUDICE AND SYSTEMIC RACISM,
AND AN AILING PLANET.

AS CHARLES SCHULZ WROTE IN A PEANUTS CARTOON
"I HAVE A NEW PHILOSOPHY.
I'M ONLY GOING TO DREAD ONE DAY AT A TIME"

THE INCREASED VIOLENCE IN OUR CITY,
OUR SUBWAY, OUR SCHOOLS
IS JUST ONE SIGN OF THIS OVERARCHING STRESS & ANXIETY

RABBI EDWIN FRIEDMAN
IN HIS SEMINAL BOOK - GENERATION TO GENERATION
A BOOK ON FAMILY SYSTEMS THERAPY
& IT'S APPLICATION TO LARGER FAMILY SYSTEMS LIKE CHURCH
SAYS THE KEY IS:

"THE CAPACITY OF [CHURCH LEADERS]
TO CONTAIN THEIR OWN ANXIETY"

RESULTING NOT ONLY IN CLEAR HEADED SOLUTIONS

"BUT [MOST IMPORTANTLY] THE SYSTEMIC EFFECT
THAT A LEADER'S FUNCTIONING
ALWAYS HAS ON AN ENTIRE ORGANISM.

A NONANXIOUS PRESENCE WILL MODIFY ANXIETY
THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION."

CHURCH LEADERS:
CLERGY, WARDENS,
MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS, KEY INFLUENCERS,
MATRIARCHS, PATRIARCHS
ARE LIKE TRANSFORMERS IN AN ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT

TO THE EXTENT THAT WE ARE ANXIOUS OURSELVES,
THE ANXIETY IN THE CHURCH FAMILY
WHEN IT PERMEATES OUR BEING
BECOMES SUPERCHARGED
& FEEDS BACK INTO THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

"BUT TO THE EXTENT THAT WE CAN RECOGNIZE
& CONTAIN OUR OWN ANXIETY
WE FUNCTION AS STEP-DOWN TRANSFORMERS
OR PERHAPS CIRCUIT BREAKERS
FAR FROM ESCALATING EMOTIONAL POTENTIAL
WE ACTUALLY SERVE TO DIMINISH ITS "ZAPPING EFFECT."

WE ARE ESPECIALLY BLESSED
AT HOLY TRINITY TO HAVE
WISE MATURE LEADERSHIP

THANK YOU MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS
AND MOST ESPECIALLY THANK YOU TO OUR WARDENS
MICHAEL, SYDNEY & MICHAEL
FOR CALMLY STEERING THE GOOD SHIP
HOLY TRINITY GUILDWOOD
SO SUCCESSFULLY
THROUGH THESE STORMY SEAS & TIMES

AT THE START OF OUR 1:00 PM VESTRY MEETING
THIS AFTERNOON
THERE IS A SHORT SLIDE SHOW
(A PICTURE IS WORTH A 1,000 WORDS)
OF THE MANY FABULOUS THINGS WE DID & ACCOMPLISHED
IN OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR.

YOU ARE AN AMAZING COMMUNITY!
HELD IN HIGH ESTEEM BY THE DIOCESE.
IT IS INDEED A PRIVILEGE TO BE YOUR PRIEST.

THE LITMUS TEST OF OUR AUTHENTICITY
AS A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
IS THE DEPTH OF LOVE
NOT JUST FOR:
OUR NEIGHBOUR IN THE PEW BESIDE US
OR THE VISITOR ON SUNDAY
OR ATTENDING A SPECIAL EVENTS SUCH AS FAMILY DAY

THE LITMUS TEST OF OUR AUTHENTICITY
IS THE DEPTH OF LOVE
FOR THE WIDER COMMUNITY
FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL & NURSING HOMES RIGHT BESIDE US

FOR SOME TIME
HOLY TRINITY GUILDWOOD HAS BEEN AHEAD OF THE CURVE
INVESTING THE TIME AND ENERGY
TO TRULY GET TO KNOW OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

& HOW WE CAN MEET & SERVE THEIR DEEPEST NEEDS

WE CONTINUE TO DO SO
THROUGH OUR MISSIONAL ACTION PLANNING

AT HOLY TRINITY GUILDWOOD
THERE IS A SHARED UNDERSTANDING
THAT REAL LOVE IS NOT A CLOSED CIRCLE
BUT EVER EXPANDING.

I BELIEVE WE ARE TRULY READY
TO FAITHFULLY RESPOND TO BISHOP ANDREW'S CALL
"TO CAST THE NET ON THE OTHER SIDE"

AS WE CONTINUE TO WORK THROUGH THE CHALLENGES
& OPPORTUNITIES ACCELEARTED BY THE PANDEMIC

- 1) HOW ARE WE GOING TO PASS THE TORCH OF LEADERSHIP FROM ONE GENERATION TO ANOTHER? AS SOME OF OUR MORE SENIOR SAINTS MOVE INTO NURSING HOMES, AND OTHERS IN THEIR RETIREMENT RELOCATE, HOW WILL WE RAISE UP A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS?

WE GIVE THANKS FOR PATRICIA EASTMAN, PAT EVERY,
CHRIS & DAPHNE HAMMIL
WHO HAVE MADE SUCH SEMINAL CONTRIBUTIONS
TO OUR COMMUNITY
& HAVE MOVED AWAY TO BE CLOSER TO FAMILY,
& YET THROUGH OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL
CONTINUE TO WORSHIP WITH US & KEEP US CLOSE AT HEART.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALBERTA MATHEWS
& HER MANY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP OF OUR ALTAR GUILD.
AND THANK THE MATHEWS FAMILY FOR THEIR GENEROUS MEMORIAL GIFT
HONOURING THEIR MOTHER'S WORK
AT HOLY TRINITY.

AND WE GREET WITH DELIGHT THESE MANY NEW MEMBERS OF ALL AGES WHO HAVE
FOUND AT HOLY TRINITY LOVING COMMUNITY, HOPE AND FAITH.

AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE HAS ALMOST DOUBLED
FROM THE MID 70'S TO ALMOST 140
WITH SOMEWHAT LESS THAN HALF IN PERSON
& SOMEWHAT MORE THAN HALF ON LINE.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE WORK OF
OUR VIDEO DIRECTOR BRIAN PROVO & HIS TEAM

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY
WE FINISHED THE YEAR IN GOOD FINANCIAL HEALTH

IT'S IMPORTANT TO TAKE A MOMENT
TO PAUSE & BE GRATEFUL

THAT DESPITE THE FEAR & UNCERTAINTY OF THESE TIMES
HOLY TRINITY CONTINUES BY THE GRACE OF GOD
TO THRIVE
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

IN THE LIVES OF NOT JUST ITS MEMBERS
BUT THE WIDER COMMUNITY
WITH OUR FOOD CUPBOARD
TECH SKILLS WORKSHOPS
PASTORAL & SPIRITUAL CARE OF SENIORS & STUDENTS
SPECIAL FAMILY EVENTS

- 2) IN WHAT NEW WAYS IS GOD CALLING HOLY TRINITY
CALLING YOU TO SERVE POST PANDEMIC?
WHAT DO WE NEED TO LET GO OF,
AND WHAT DO WE NEED TO EMBRACE
AS WE CONTINUE TO REBOOT IN 2023.

& HOW ARE WE GOING TO ADDRESS
THE VOLUNTEER SHORTFALL
AFFECTING NON PROFITS ALL ACROSS CANADA?

- 3) AND FINALLY, HOW ARE WE GOING TO TELL THE GOOD NEWS IN WAYS THAT
PEOPLE WILL THINK
IT'S A STORY WORTH ATTENDING TO,
AND NOT JUST SWITCH THE CHANNEL
LITERALLY OR METAPHORICALLY?

WE BELIEVE OUR GEOGRAPHY,
LOCATED WITH SIR WILFRID LAURIER COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE ON OUR RIGHT
AND CHARTWELL ON OUR LEFT,
IS A SIGN OF WHOM GOD IS CALLING US TO BE.

OUR VISION IS FOR HOLY TRINITY GUILDWOOD
TO BE A RESOURCE FOR YOUTH AND SENIORS,
AND TO BE THE CONNECTION
THAT BRINGS THE TWO GENERATIONS CLOSER TOGETHER.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO YOU.
IT IS YOUR PRAYERS, YOUR TIME AND ENERGY,
YOUR FINANCIAL GENEROSITY,
THAT BY THE GRACE OF GOD
HAS ALLOWED HOLY TRINITY GUILDWOOD TO THRIVE
EVEN DURING HARD TIMES.

THANK YOU TO OUR MINISTRY LEADERS,
WHO GIVE SO GENEROUSLY OF THEMSELVES.
I WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK EACH ONE OF THEM BY NAME AT VESTRY.

WE ARE SO BLESSED TO HAVE AS OUR WARDENS:
MICHAEL COOKSEY, SYDNEY BAXTER DENNIS,
AS WELL AS OUR FAITHFUL COLLEAGUES IN MINISTRY,
THE REV. DR. HAROLD SHEPHERD AND THE REV. RAVI KALISON.

RAVI IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS INTERIM PRIEST
AT CHRIST CHURCH

MICHAEL JOHNSON IS RETIRING
AS DEPUTY WARDEN THIS YEAR, BUT CONTINUING TO OFFER HIS SKILLS IN THE
UPKEEP OF OUR PROPERTY.

MICHAEL THANK YOU FOR LEADING US THROUGH THE MANY CHANGES NECESSARY
TO CREATE SAFE & HEALTHY WORSHIP SPACE DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE
PANDEMIC.

WE HAVE BEEN GREATLY BLESSED BY MYRON'S MUSICAL LEADERSHIP & GIFTS AND
WISH HIM WELL AS HE LEAVES US TO ATTEND TO HIS GROWING BUSINESS
RESPONSIBILITIES.

NICOLE PHILLIPS HAS BECOME A VALUED & CHERISHED MEMBER OF OUR STAFF
MINISTRY TEAM.

AND THEN THERE'S THE AMAZING DENISE
WHOSE PASSION AND DEDICATION INSPIRE US ALL.

WE ALL WANT WHAT'S SAFE AND COMFORTABLE
OR AT LEAST TO MINIMIZE THE RISK.

WHEN I WAS FIFTEEN, MY FAMILY MOVED
FROM MONTREAL TO TORONTO. I DIDN'T WANT TO GO.

I THOUGHT MY FATHER HAD TAKEN LEAVE OF HIS SENSES.

AT THE AGE OF TWENTY-SIX I WAS ASKED TO GO AND WORK FOR A FEW YEARS IN
AFRICA, IN ZAMBIA AND KENYA,
I TOSSED AND TURNED THAT NIGHT,
FULL OF FEAR AND DOUBTS,
BUT IN THE MORNING I DARED TO GO.

AT THIRTY NINE I LEFT A SUCCESSFUL CORPORATE CAREER AND ENTERED
SEMINARY.
HOW MUCH MORE POORER MY LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN WITHOUT TAKING THOSE
JOURNEYS.

WERE THERE DIFFICULTIES & CHALLENGES ALONG THE WAY?
OF COURSE.

& YET HOW MANY BLESSINGS WOULD HAVE BEEN MISSED
THAT COME ONLY FROM SETTING OUT ON THE JOURNEY.

THE CHURCH LIKE US IS OFTEN SCARED OF CHANGE.
IN JANUARY 1604 THE BISHOPS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND MET WITH KING JAMES
THE 1ST AT THE PALACE AT HAMPTON COURT TO TALK HIM OUT OF HIS IDEA OF A
NEW TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE.

THE KNEELING BISHOPS INSISTED
THAT THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
AS IT HAD STOOD THESE LAST FORTY YEARS
WAS AS NEAR THE PERFECT STATE
OF THE PRIMITIVE CHURCH AS ANY IN THE WORLD.

AND IF THE CHURCH HAD PERSISTED
WELL ENOUGH FOR FORTY YEARS,
THEN WHY THE NEED TO CHANGE ANYTHING. SUDDENLY THIS WAS TOO MUCH,
AND JAMES COULD BE PATIENT
AND POLITIC NO LONGER:

“IT WAS NO REASON THAT
BECAUSE A MAN HAD BEEN SICKE OF THE POXE
40 YEARS,
THEREFORE HE SHOOLD NOT BE CURED AT LENGTH.”

GOD IS LOOKING FOR JOURNEYERS
WHOSE ONLY GUARANTEE IS THE PROMISE.
THE CHURCH STILL NEEDS DISCIPLES
WHO ARE WILLING TO RISK, TO TRUST, TO JOURNEY.

LISTEN FOR THE LEADING OF THE SPIRIT.



WARDEN'S REPORT

To the Holy Trinity, Guildwood Saints a huge Thank you for your Time, Talent and Treasure. We believe our Vision guides us each and every day. We, at Holy Trinity Guildwood are a caring open - hearted community who dream, pray and work with Jesus for a loving, equitable and peaceful world.

As we continue to grow out of pandemic constraints, we have experienced successes and challenges/opportunities.

- Our parish family continues to grow with many new faces in our church school. We are one of the few parishes experiencing this type of growth. Bravo Denise and Melanie.
- Our Youth Committee continues to be involved in Synod led by Tanya.
- Thank you to Stephen and Denise for their spiritual leadership. They continue to deliver a strong program.
- Our Lay Assistant Team, Live Streaming Team Welcome and Sides Team and the Altar Guild all make our services much more meaningful. Bravo!
- Nicole has done a great job on the administrative side of our parish life.
- To our Ministerial Leaders - Thank you, thank you, thank you!
- Thank you, Janet, for the many hours you give to ensure the financial health of our parish and care of our financial documentation.
- Thank you to Flo for her leadership in keeping our Church and Rectory properties in good order, and to our Parish nurses Karen and Flo who are a critical part of our parish life.
- Thank you to Eva for her ministry as our envelope secretary and Readers co-ordinator, and for Eva and Karen organizing the church altar flowers.
- Robbie is our untiring Stewardship champion.
- We are the Champions, We are the Champions of the church Softball League for another year. Bravo John and team!

The opportunities/challenges remain in the following areas:

- Financially we fell \$11,400 short of budget in revenue in the three areas of General Givings, fundraising and memorial givings.
- Fundraising was less than budgeted (even though the bazaar resulted in record revenue with a new and expanded team) as we did not have a spring fundraiser. A new spring 2024 fund raiser is now planned under the leadership of Leslie Hetherington which will be a success.
- We have received several Grants and will certainly continue to focus on this source of additional revenue. Thank you Denise.
- We continue to educate parishioners about Legacy Giving and the financial advantages they provide.
- We are continuing to recruit and train present and future leaders. Many hands make light work.
- Our search for a new Music Director is in progress. We are fortunate to have Peggy Wong back with us again, to serve as interim Music Director.

We continue in our ministry and growing our missional relationships with our community partners. 10/20 Guildwood Pkwy, Rotary Club of Scarborough, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Chartwell Guildwood.

We have entered the 4th year of our 5-year Ministry Allocation Fund (MAF) Grant from the Diocese. While the MAF Grant has provided us with the means to significantly improve our community relationships, it also means our parish is called to funding an increased share which grows each year.

Casting The Net (Missional Action Plan) will be relaunched in 2024 in partnership with the Diocese.

Thank you and God Bless! 🙏

Your Wardens Sydney and Michael

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Vestry of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Guildwood:

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Guildwood (the "Church"), which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2023, and the statements of revenue and expenditures, changes in net asset balances and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of my report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Church as at December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Accounting Standards for Not-for-profit Organizations (ASNPO).

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Church derives revenue from fundraising activities, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Church. Therefore, I was unable to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to fundraising revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the years ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, current assets and net assets as at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022. My audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Church in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going-concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Church or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

(continued on next page)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT *(continued)*

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

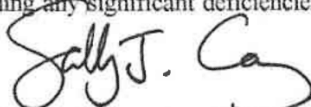
My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Church's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Church's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Church to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Toronto, Ontario
February 13, 2024



Chartered Professional Accountant
Licensed Public Accountant

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2023


	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 83,563	\$ 107,883
Accounts receivable	-	1,730
Harmonized sales taxes recoverable	12,172	11,150
Prepaid expenses	<u>898</u>	<u>354</u>
	96,633	121,117
Long term investment (Note 2)	<u>12,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>
	<u>\$ 108,633</u>	<u>\$ 133,117</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

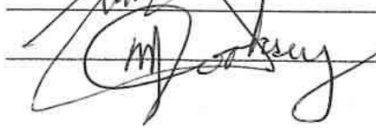
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 28,412	\$ 29,527
Government remittances, not in arrears	4,175	3,997
Unearned revenue (Note 3)	2,500	5,425
Deferred grant income (Note 5)	<u>12,870</u>	<u>9,500</u>
	<u>47,957</u>	<u>48,449</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted operating fund	39,063	52,270
Externally restricted funds	<u>21,613</u>	<u>32,398</u>
	<u>60,676</u>	<u>84,668</u>
	<u>\$ 108,633</u>	<u>\$ 133,117</u>

Commitments (Note 8)

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE CORPORATION



People's Warden



Rector's Warden

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

1.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	Externally restricted funds					2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unrestricted operating fund	"3R" fund	Our Faith Our Hope fund	Missional Outreach & Discipleship fund	Other externally restricted funds		
Revenue							
Donations	\$ 181,845	\$ 2,895	\$ -	\$ 7,980	\$ -	\$ 192,720	\$ 197,643
Diocesan funding (Note 5)	-	-	-	40,000	-	40,000	49,057
Tributes and memorials	70	-	-	-	-	70	23,710
Grants (Note 5)	-	-	-	6,630	-	6,630	3,750
Fundraising (Note 6)	15,273	-	-	-	-	15,273	17,892
Facilities use	31,200	-	-	-	-	31,200	18,657
Investment income	-	232	-	-	486	718	544
Other income	136	-	-	1,260	-	1,396	3,524
	<u>\$ 228,524</u>	<u>\$ 3,127</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 55,870</u>	<u>\$ 486</u>	<u>\$ 288,007</u>	<u>\$ 314,777</u>
Expenditures (Schedule - pages 10-11)							
Parish Ministry	121,823	-	-	62,405	-	184,228	177,993
Administration	43,536	-	6,272	84	-	49,892	39,184
Church building operations	37,340	-	-	-	-	37,340	32,224
Beyond the Parish - Outreach	21,021	-	-	7,422	-	28,443	27,444
Rectory expenses	12,096	-	-	-	-	12,096	18,922
	<u>\$ 235,816</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,272</u>	<u>\$ 69,911</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 311,999</u>	<u>\$ 295,767</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	<u>\$ (7,292)</u>	<u>\$ 3,127</u>	<u>\$ (6,272)</u>	<u>\$ (14,041)</u>	<u>\$ 486</u>	<u>\$ (23,992)</u>	<u>\$ 19,010</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSET BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	<u>Externally restricted funds</u>				Total 2023	Total 2022	
	Unrestricted operating fund	"3R" fund	Our Faith - Our Hope fund	Missional Outreach & Discipleship fund			Other externally restricted funds (Note 4)
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 52,270	\$ 2,094	\$ 5,570	\$ 8,828	\$ 15,906	\$ 84,668	\$ 65,658
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(7,292)	3,127	(6,272)	(14,041)	486	(23,992)	19,010
Interfund transfers	<u>(5,915)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>5,213</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 39,063</u>	<u>\$ 5,221</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 16,392</u>	<u>\$ 60,676</u>	<u>\$ 84,668</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities		
Cash from donations, diocesan funding, grants and fundraising activities	\$ 259,793	\$ 296,022
Cash from facilities use and sundry income	29,671	27,606
Investment income earned	718	544
Government assistance received	-	584
Stipends, and payments to, or on behalf of, clergy, music director and administrative staff	(177,713)	(176,626)
Payments to the Diocese and suppliers	<u>(136,789)</u>	<u>(109,865)</u>
	<u>(24,320)</u>	<u>38,265</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(24,320)	38,265
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>107,883</u>	<u>69,618</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 83,563</u>	<u>\$ 107,883</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Description of activities

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Guildwood (the "Church") is a parish church within the Diocese of Toronto ("the Diocese"). Each parish church of the Anglican Church in the Province of Ontario is a separate corporation pursuant to "The Church Temporalities Act," given Royal Assent on December 3, 1841, and as later enacted pursuant to "An Act respecting Churchwardens in the Diocese of Toronto".

The Church is a registered charitable organization and is exempt from income tax.

Holy Trinity, Guildwood offers a warm, caring, and inclusive community that celebrates the love of God and the good news of Jesus Christ. We emphasize traditional and innovative worship, an inquiring exploration of faith, rewarding fellowship, and an imperative to make a difference through service to our community and beyond.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Presentation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Outlined below are those policies considered significant for the Church.

b) Fund accounting

The Church follows the principles of fund accounting, under which resources for particular purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds, corresponding to those purposes. Any transfers between funds are authorized by the Churchwardens in accordance with the requirements and restrictions of the funds from which the funds are transferred. These financial statements present the following funds.

Unrestricted operating fund

The Operating Fund includes revenue and expenses for the operation and ministry of the Church and the rectory.

Externally restricted funds

"3R" - Repair, Replacement and Renewal Fund - includes designated offerings, and the related expenditures for the maintenance of the Church or the rectory.

Our Faith - Our Hope Fund - relates to donations to the Diocesan Our Faith - Our Hope campaign. These donations were made by the donor directly to the Diocese, which then returned a portion to the Church to use in its own Our Faith - Our Hope parish program. A total of \$109,554 was received under this program.

Missional Outreach and Discipleship Fund - includes revenue and expenditures for an intergenerational program to provide support, leadership, religious and social education to parishioners and the broader Guildwood community. The Diocese has awarded a grant of \$200,000 to the Church for this ministry growth program. The grant will be disbursed to the Church in stages from 2022 through 2025, following Diocesan review of the program's progress against the benchmarks laid out in the Church's approved grant proposal.

(continued next page)

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

b) Fund accounting *(continued)*

Other restricted funds:

Jim and Rachael Boles Choir Fund - includes designated donations intended for the Church's music program.

Vivien Harris Parish Nursing and Outreach Fund - includes donations intended to expand the work of parish nursing within the parish and ecumenically with wider community partnerships. Although the Fund was primarily founded to honour parish nursing activities, donations may be used for general outreach activities.

c) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, balances with banks, and other highly liquid investments with maturity dates of less than one year.

d) Revenue Recognition

The Church follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. Contributions which are externally restricted by the donors are recorded in the appropriate restricted fund in the year received. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the operating fund in the year received.

Revenue from fundraising activities is recognized in the period that the related event takes place.

e) Capital Assets

The Church is exempt from recording tangible capital assets as its revenues in the current and prior year meet the threshold for exemption. Capital assets are expensed as incurred, and an amount of \$6,272 (2022 - \$3,202) has been expensed in the current year. Refer to the Schedule of Expenses on pages 9 and 10 for details as to the nature of these expenditures. Note that the Diocese holds the title to the church and rectory land and buildings.

This accounting policy represents a change from prior years where purchased property and equipment, with a cost in excess of \$1,000, was recorded at cost if it did not replace an existing item or represent a major improvement. All items capitalized under this policy were fully depreciated by December 31, 2014.

f) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the recognition, measurement and disclosure of amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. The reported amounts and note disclosures are determined using management's best estimates based on assumptions that reflect the most probable set of economic conditions and planned courses of action. Actual results may differ from such estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

(continued next page)

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies *(continued)*

g) Non-monetary transactions

Management of the Church estimates that voluntary members provide approximately 4,600 hours of time without compensation.

2. Long term investment

The Church has invested \$12,000 in the Consolidated Trust Fund of the Diocese of Toronto, in the name of the Vivien Harris Parish Nursing & Outreach Fund. This investment is being accounted for at cost. The market value at December 31, 2023 was \$13,072 (2022 -\$11,883).

3. Unearned revenue

The Church has entered into a one year licence agreement, ending on March 31, 2024 with Wellspring Community Centres Inc. for the use of certain areas of the Church. This licence was renewed on the same terms and conditions after the expiry date for an additional term of one year. The Church holds "in trust" an amount of \$2,500 as a deposit towards the last month's licence fee.

4. Changes in other externally restricted funds

	Boles Choir fund	Vivien Harris fund	Total 2023	Total 2022
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 2,991	\$ 12,915	\$ 15,906	\$ 15,425
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>481</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 2,991</u>	<u>\$ 13,401</u>	<u>\$ 16,392</u>	<u>\$ 15,906</u>

5. Diocesan funding and other grants

Missional Outreach and Discipleship grant

The Church has been awarded a grant from the Diocese in the total amount of \$200,000, to be paid out over 5 years (refer to Note 1(b)). An amount of \$40,000 (2022 -\$47,500) was received in the current year.

Food Cupboard grant

The Church received two grants totalling \$2,000 from the Scharnagl Family Fund, designated for its food cupboard.

Media Lab grant

In a prior year, the Church was awarded a \$5,750 grant from the Diocese to assist in the purchase of audiovisual equipment for a media lab. The media lab will be used for the Church Missional Outreach and Discipleship Ministry. An amount of \$380 has been recognized in the current year, with the balance remaining as deferred revenue.

(continued next page)

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

5. Diocesan funding and other grants (continued)

Jubilee program

In response to the continuing Covid-19 crisis, the Diocese provided funding to the Parish to cover the Diocesan allotment for January 2022.

Grant to Support Anti-Hate Security Measures for Faith-Based & Cultural Organizations:

In the prior year, the Church received a grant of \$7,500 under this Government of Ontario grant program, of which one half was spent during the prior year on community building initiatives. The balance was spent during the current year. During the current year, the Church received an additional \$7,500 under this program, which is fully disclosed as deferred revenue.

6. Fundraising activities

The Church undertakes various fundraising activities, such as a spring yard sale, Guildwood Day lunch sales, and a fall bazaar, to support its activities. These events generated gross receipts in the operating fund of \$17,902 (2022- \$28,017) which were offset by disbursements of \$2,629 (2022 - \$10,125) for net receipts of \$15,273 (2022 - \$17,892) as reported on the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures.

7. Financial instrument risk

The Church has exposure to various risks through its financial instruments. The nature of the risks to which the Church may be subject are as follows:

Credit risk

The Church is exposed to credit risk resulting from the possibility that parties may default on their financial obligations, or if there is a concentration of transactions carried out with the same party or if there is a concentration of financial obligations which have similar economic characteristics such that they could be similarly affected by changes in economic conditions.

Credit risk associated with amounts receivable is minimized by the Church's policy of requiring monthly payments of facilities rental revenue.

Credit risk associated with cash and short-term investments is minimized substantially by ensuring that these assets are invested in financial obligations of financial institutions or governments that have been accorded investment grade ratings by a primary rating agency.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Church mitigates this risk by investing in securities with maturity dates of less than one year.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Church will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Church mitigates liquidity risk by closely monitoring its working capital position, ensuring sufficient cash and cash equivalents, are available to meet all liabilities when due.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

8. Commitments

The Church has entered into a lease for its photocopier, which ends January 1, 2025. Minimum lease payments expected under the terms of this lease are approximately \$2,100 in each of the next four years.

9. Corresponding figures

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

UNRESTRICTED OPERATING FUND		
	2023	2022
Parish ministry		
Clergy stipend, benefits and professional development	\$ 86,144	\$ 86,728
Music director	15,113	16,500
Worship and altar flowers	11,338	11,150
Honoraria, including supply clergy	1,820	690
Child and adult Christian education	-	492
Communication	1,302	1,255
Travel expense	1,355	1,793
Music ministry	2,445	3,122
Other	2,306	755
	121,823	122,485
Administration		
Salary and benefits	19,613	18,992
Office expenses	19,419	13,933
Professional fees	4,504	3,958
	43,536	36,883
Church building operations		
Caretaking and regular maintenance	18,965	17,312
Utilities and telephone	10,006	8,859
Insurance	8,369	6,053
	37,340	32,224
Beyond the Parish - Outreach		
Diocesan allotment	15,021	18,688
Outreach - FaithWorks	5,500	6,220
Outreach - other	500	2,536
	21,021	\$ 27,444
Rectory expenses		
Utilities, telephone and internet	6,302	6,651
Property taxes	4,517	4,285
Maintenance (Note (a))	779	1,104
Insurance	498	498
	12,096	\$ 12,538
	\$ 235,816	\$ 231,574

Note (a) - Maintenance expenses do not include any items of a capital nature.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

"3R" FUND

	2023	2022
Rectory expenses		
Appliance replacement	-	3,202
Tree removal	-	3,182
	<u>-\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,384</u>

OUR FAITH - OUR HOPE FUND

Administration		
Computer equipment (see Note 1(e))	6,272	-
Office expenses	-	2,148
	<u>6,272</u>	<u>2,148</u>

MISSIONAL OUTREACH & DISCIPLESHIP FUND

Parish Ministry		
Lay pastor salary and benefits	\$ 53,846	\$ 52,141
Worship	630	-
Adult ministry	1,109	550
Child and youth ministry	6,180	2,817
Ministry equipment	640	-
	<u>62,405</u>	<u>55,508</u>
Beyond the Parish - Outreach	7,422	-
Office administration	84	153
	<u>\$ 69,911</u>	<u>\$ 55,661</u>

OVERVIEW OF 2023 OPERATING FUND INTEGRATED WITH MISSIONAL OUTREACH & DISCIPLESHIP

Issued Feb 20/24

Operating Fund with <i>Missional Outreach & Discipleship (MOD)</i>	2023 Actual	2023 Approved Budget	2023 MOD only	2023 MOD only	2023 MOD Budget
REVENUE			REVENUE		
General Offerings	\$167,043	\$172,000			
Non-receipted donations	4,270	3,900			
Outreach - Faithworks	3,855	5,500			
<i>Outreach - Other</i>	<i>9,165</i>	<i>2,500</i>		8,230	2,500
Other & altar flowers	5,178	6,000	<i>Other Donations</i>	1,750	-
Total	189,511	189,900	Total	9,980	2,500
Tributes and Memorials	70	3,000			
Fundraising Net Proceeds	15,273	18,000			
Facility usage licences	30,045	30,000			
Facility usage - other	1,155	1,500			
Total Facilities Use	31,200	31,500			
<i>Missional Outreach & Discipleship</i>					
<i>Diocesan Grant for Ministry</i>	<i>40,000</i>	<i>40,000</i>	<i>Diocesan Grant</i>	40,000	40,000
<i>Income deferred from prior years</i>	<i>12,578</i>	<i>6,850</i>	<i>Income deferred from prior yrs</i>	8,828	6,850
<i>Sponsorships, user fees, other grants and income</i>	<i>4,210</i>	<i>14,650</i>	<i>Sponsorships, user fees, other grants and income</i>	5,890	14,650
TOTAL REVENUE	\$292,842	\$303,900	TOTAL REVENUE	\$64,698	\$64,000
EXPENDITURES			EXPENDITURES		
Parish ministry			Parish ministry		
Clergy stipend	\$68,200	\$68,200			
Clergy benefits & professional dev.	17,944	21,400			
Supply clergy	1,820	900			
<i>Lay Pastor salary & benefits</i>	<i>53,845</i>	<i>53,845</i>	<i>Lay Pastor salary & benefits</i>	53,845	53,845
Music director	15,113	17,000			
Music ministry	2,445	3,500			
Worship & altar flowers	11,337	11,500	Worship	630	
Adult Christian nurture	-	500	Adult programs	1,109	
Child & youth Christian nurture	-	1,000	Child & youth programs	6,181	
<i>Missional outreach & discipleship</i>	<i>8,155</i>	<i>7,400</i>	<i>Missional outreach & discipleship</i>		7,400
Communications	1,302	1,500			
Earth's Angels & Parish Nursing	176	500			
Travel	1,355	1,800	Equipment	640	-
Other	2,131	1,000	Total Parish ministry	62,405	61,245
Total Parish ministry	183,823	190,045			
Administration					
Salary & benefits	19,614	19,650			
Office	14,179	12,100	Office	84	-
Bookkeeping	5,240	5,000			
Professional fees	4,504	4,200			
Total Administration	43,537	40,950	Total Administration	84	-
Church building operations					
Utilities, telephone & internet	10,006	9,850			
Caretaking	5,911	6,000			
Maintenance	13,053	12,300			
Insurance	8,369	7,670			
Total Church building operations	37,339	35,820			
Beyond the Parish - Outreach					
Diocesan allotment	15,021	15,021			
Outreach - FaithWorks	5,500	5,500			
<i>Outreach - Other</i>	<i>8,031</i>	<i>2,500</i>	<i>Outreach - Other</i>	7,422	2,500
Total Beyond the Parish - Outreach	28,552	23,021	Total Beyond the Parish - Outreach	7,422	2,500
Rectory					
Utilities, telephone & internet	6,302	7,100			
Property taxes	4,517	4,500			
Maintenance	779	1,500			
Insurance	498	500			
Total Rectory	12,096	13,600			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$305,347	\$303,436	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$69,911	\$63,745
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	(\$12,505)	\$464	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	(\$5,213)	\$255

OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2024

Operating Fund without Missional Outreach & Discipleship	2024	2023		2023
	Draft Budget	Actual	Variance	Approved Budget
	Jan - Dec	Jan-Dec		Jan - Dec
REVENUE				
General Offerings	\$167,500	\$167,043	(4,957)	\$172,000
Non-receipted donations	4,500	4,270		3,900
Outreach - FaithWorks	5,500	3,855		5,500
Outreach - Other	-	1,635		-
Other & altar flowers	5,000	5,178		6,000
Total	182,500	181,981		187,400
Tributes and Memorials	2,000	70	(2,930)	3,000
Fundraising Net Proceeds	15,500	15,273	(2,727)	18,000
Facility usage licences	30,000	30,045		30,000
Facility usage - other	1,500	1,155		1,500
Total Facilities Use	31,500	31,200		31,500
TOTAL REVENUE	\$231,500	\$228,524	(\$11,376)	\$239,900
EXPENDITURES				
Parish ministry				
Clergy stipend	\$70,600	\$68,200		\$68,200
Clergy benefits & professional dev.	6,700	17,944	3,456	21,400
Supply clergy	2,000	1,820		900
Music director	17,500	15,113	1,887	17,000
Music ministry	2,500	2,445		3,500
Worship & altar flowers	12,000	11,338		11,500
Adult Christian nurture	-	-		500
Child & youth Christian nurture	-	-		1,000
Communications	1,500	1,302		1,500
Earth's Angels & Parish Nursing	500	176		500
Travel	1,500	1,355		1,800
Other (Social & other ministry exp)	1,500	2,130		1,000
Total Parish ministry	116,300	121,823		128,800
Administration				
Admin. Salary & benefits	20,320	19,613		19,650
Office & internet	13,070	14,179	(2,079)	12,100
Bookkeeping	5,300	5,240		5,000
Professional fees	4,700	4,504		4,200
Total Administration	43,390	43,536		40,950
Church building operations				
Utilities & telephone	11,350	10,006		9,750
Caretaking	6,200	5,911		6,000
Maintenance	13,400	13,054		12,300
Insurance	8,800	8,369		7,670
Total Church building operations	39,750	37,340		35,720

Operating Fund without Missional Outreach & Discipleship	2024	2023		2023
	Draft Budget	Actual	Variance	Approved Budget
	Jan - Dec	Jan-Dec		Jan - Dec
Beyond the Parish - Outreach				
Diocesan allotment	12,817	15,021		15,021
Outreach - FaithWorks	5,500	5,500		5,500
Outreach - Other	-	500		-
Total Beyond the Parish - Outreach	18,317	21,021		20,521
Rectory				
Utilities, telephone & internet	6,850	6,302		7,200
Property taxes	4,945	4,517		4,500
Maintenance	1,200	779		1,500
Insurance	498	498		500
Total Rectory	13,493	12,096		13,700
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$231,250	\$235,816	\$3,875	\$239,691
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	\$250	(\$7,292)	(\$7,501)	\$209

In Paul's letters to the Corinthians, we are reminded that we are all members of the body of Christ, given unique gifts, intended not only to bless us individually but also to build up and contribute to the well-being of the whole Body. There are many jobs or roles that one can take on to help with the church. Below you will find a list of all the positions for this year. Many already have someone who has agreed to fill them, but that doesn't mean that if you are interested in a position or role, that you can't also ask to be considered or nominated, and/or join a team.

Below are some ministry opportunities for people to step forward and after their gifts in God's service. If you are interested or know of someone who would be interested, please talk to Stephen or any of the Wardens.

We invite you to imagine yourself taking on a role within the church. It can be rewarding, meaningful, and fun to be part of a team.

Deputy Warden

The church wardens work closely with our parish priest to ensure the effective administration of the church, its money and property so as to best realize Holy Trinity, Guildwood's (HTG) vision of being a caring, open-hearted community, who dream, pray and work with Jesus for a loving, equitable and peaceful world.

Discipleship, Education and Nurture Team Leader

Works alongside Stephen (and Denise) to facilitate learning and growing opportunities for both new and long-time Christians. Time commitment is flexible and open ended. This ministry best suits a lifelong learner, someone interested in both spiritual growth and mentoring others.

FaithWorks

The coordinator organizes Holy Trinity's appeal to our Diocesan shared mission to feed, shelter, nurture and befriend people in need. The coordinator keeps parishioners informed by providing short updates.

Ministry Team Leaders Member at Large

Interested in being part of the leadership team and helping Holy Trinity Guildwood flourish. The time commitment is modest – one evening meeting a month.

Social Convener

Helps plan and empower the community of Holy Trinity's times of celebration and Loving relationships by coordinating a few events each year for the folk of Holy Trinity, Guildwood to come together and enjoy fun & fellowship (St. Patrick's Day Trivia & Auction; Potluck Meals/Teas [Christmas, Valentine's]).

Stewardship

The Chair coordinates and directs Holy Trinity's Stewardship development and education for the parish and the annual Joyful Giving Campaign (of Time, Talent and Treasure).

The Major Parish Fundraiser Christmas Bazaar Coordinator

Prior to the bazaar, the coordinator organizes drop off locations for items. They set up basket making parties, price items and baskets. On the day of the bazaar, they work with volunteers to ensure the tables are set up, monitor activities at the sale, and cleanup. After the sale, they arrange pick up of items and organize storage.

A Guildwood Community Yard Sale - Garage Sale Coordinator

Prior to the sale, the coordinator organizes drop off locations or pick up of items. They set up pricing parties, price items, and connect with vendors. On the day of the sale, they work with volunteers to ensure the tables are set up, they monitor activities at the sale, and clean up. After the sale, they arrange pick up of items and organize storage.

Financial Resource Finder & Maker (Rainmaker)

Identify, develop, and secure fundraising, sponsorship and write grant opportunities.

Ministry/Volunteer Co-ordinator

Identify, connect with and resource a variety of individuals, parishioners, groups and organizations wishing to support HTG efforts. Three main areas: event planning, volunteer coordinating and recruiting.

Volunteer Ministry Leader Positions TO BE ELECTED BY VESTRY

Further nominations welcome

Position	Nominee(s) to date	New nominee(s) (This could be YOU!)
People's Warden	Michael Cooksey	
Deputy Warden	VACANT	
Lay Member of Synod	Leslie Hetherington	
Alternate Lay Member of Synod	VACANT	
Sidespersons	John Hetherington	

Volunteer Ministry Leader Positions to be confirmed by the Incumbent

Position	Candidate(s) for appointment	New nominee(s) (This could be YOU!)
Interim Rector's Warden	Sydney Baxter-Dennis	
Deputy Warden	VACANT	
Altar Guild	Linda Epping Karen Price (Flowers)	
Book Club Coordinator	Karen Price & Beverley MacPhee	
Earth's Angels	Mary Beth Moffatt-Sinclair & Karen Price	
Guildwood Day BBQ Coordinators	Peter Price & John Hetherington	
Guildwood Day Rep @ GVCA	John Hetherington	
Hospitality (Sunday refreshments)	Melanie McLeod	
Lay Assistants Leader	Linda Epping	
Ministry Team Leaders (Member at Large)	Robbie Rhodes	
Movie Club	Linda Epping	
Pastoral Care & Parish Nursing	Karen Price	
Readers	Eva McLean	
Screening Coordinator	Pat Murray	
Social Convener		
Mission Action Planning	Michael Cooksey	
Welcome Ministry	Flo Schwerdtner	
Child, Youth, and Family Outreach Assistant and Youth Synod Rep.	Tanya Sanxhaku	

Volunteer Ministry Leader Positions confirmed jointly by the Incumbent and Wardens

Position	Candidate(s) for appointment	New nominee(s) (This could be YOU!)
FaithWorks	VACANT	
Christmas Bazaar Coordinator	VACANT	
Fundraising Coordinator	VACANT	
Property	Flo Schwerdtner	
Resource Development	VACANT	
Guildwood Garage Sale Coordinator	VACANT	
Stewardship Chair	VACANT	

Volunteer Ministry Leader Positions confirmed by the Wardens

Position	Candidate(s) for appointment	New nominee(s) (This could be YOU!)
Envelope Secretary	Eva McLean	
Treasurer	David Tangness	
Bookkeeper	Janet Tangness	

Volunteer Ministry Leader Positions to be elected by Management Team (at first meeting post-Vestry)

Position	Nominee(s) to date	New nominee(s) (This could be YOU!)
Ministry Leaders Team Meeting Chair	Michael Cooksey	
Ministry Leaders Team Meeting Secretary (attends meetings & takes minutes)	Nicole Phillips	

Staff

Incumbent	The Reverend Canon Stephen Kirkegaard
Interim Music Director	Peggy Wong
Lay Pastoral Associate /Missional Outreach & Discipleship (includes: Bible Study; Child, Youth & Family Ministries)	Denise Byard
Parish Administrator	Nicole Phillips
Youth and Family Ministry Apprentice/Coordinator in Training	Melanie McLeod
Live Streaming Director	Brian Provo
Auditor	Sally J. Casey
Bookkeeper	Joycelyn Williams

Holy Trinity, Guildwood's ministries flourish under a combination of good leadership and strong team participation. At Holy Trinity, Guildwood we believe Christ invites each and every one of us to minister in his name. If you are not feeling called to lead, perhaps you would like to be a team member and participate in the success of one or more of these ministries, for when the Body of Christ prays and works together, miracles happen. For example, you may wish to consider being a Missional, Outreach and Social Justice Team member helping make a positive difference in the lives of the marginalized, the poor, and homeless, advocating for the inclusion and dignity of all.

Kindly speak with the Ministry Leader or Staff Member entrusted with the ministry/ministries that appeal to you and find out more.

And it (almost) goes without saying, the more the merrier, whenever our folk gather for Movie Club, Book Club, and/or Bible Study.

Team Rosters

- Altar Guild: Linda Epping (head), Comfort Abe-Omopariola, Linda Akuwa, Penny Case, Leslie Hetherington, Shirley Knautz, Cathy Mathews, Karen Price, Beth Raymer, Bev Rhodes, Janet Tangness, Esther Tilley, Maureen Vasey, Isobel Wilton.
- Earth's Angels: Mary Beth Moffatt-Sinclair & Karen Price (joint coordinators), Jack Howard, Nancy Mills, Marilyn Lind, and Eva McLean
- Hospitality: Melaine McLeod (head), Joack Howard, Jim Wilson, Tanya Sanxhaku, Petrina Fubler, Joy Joel, Winnie John
- Lay Assistants: Linda Epping (head), Cathy Mathews, Pat Murray, Nancy Mills, (Jack Howard and Denise Byard).
- Live Streaming: Brian Provo (staff head), Joe Semucyo, NeNe Kalu, Peter Price, Kevin Mukarakate
- Missional Outreach and Discipleship: Denise Byard (head), Marion Byard, Tanya Sanxhaku, Cassandra Mcfee, Melanie McLeod, Modupe Matiuko, Nicole Phillips, and the students at Sir Wilfrid Laurier.
- Stewardship: [chair TBD] Sydney Baxter-Dennis, Denise Byard, Michael Cooksey, Stephen Kirkegaard, Robbie Rhodes, Janet Tangness
- Strategic Planning Team: Michael Cooksey (chair), Sydney Baxter Dennis, Leslie Hetherington, Stephen Kirkegaard, Janet Tangness, Denise Byard
- Readers: Eva McLean (head), Ellen Anderson, Michael Cooksey, Lisa Marie Daniel, Barrie Morgan, Beth Raymer, Mary Beth Moffatt-Sinclair, Flo Schwerdtner, Winnie John, Leslie Hetherington, Myriam Hill, Maricel Heald, Karen Price, Peter Price, Pat Murray, Shirley Knautz, Cathy Mathews, Nancy Mills
- Property Team: Flo Schwerdtner (head), John Hetherington (lighting), and Peter and Karen Price.
- Worship (Music) Planning Team: Stephen (chair), Denise Byard, Karen Price, Flo Schwerdtner, and the Music Director.



We, the parish of Holy Trinity, Guildwood, call on all levels of government to take the following measures to protect and advance the human right to housing:

- **We call on the Government of Canada to ensure that federal subsidies and incentives are targeted to those developers and projects that demonstrably address housing need and uphold the human right to housing by meeting clear conditions on affordable rents, non-displacement policies and eviction prevention measures.**
- **We call on the Government of Canada to end the favourable tax treatment of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and tax them at the regular corporate rate, with resulting revenues being directed toward the creation and preservation of affordable housing.**
- **We call on the Province of Ontario to enact rent controls and vacancy controls on all rental housing and put restrictions on Above Guideline Rent Increases.**
- **We call on the Province of Ontario to work with municipal governments to enact and enforce restrictions on short-term rentals to protect rental housing stock.**

Canada has ratified the human right to housing in multiple international treaties, including the Sustainable Development Goals. The National Housing Strategy Act (2019) commits the federal government to the progressive realization of the right to housing. This does not mean that the government guarantees everyone a home. What it does mean is that the government must do everything in its power to realize the right to housing for Canadians, including removing obstacles and barriers to the realization of that right.

Three key aspects of the right to housing are **affordability**, **security of tenure** and **habitability**. Affordability is threatened when housing costs exceed 30% of a household's pre-tax income. Security of tenure is threatened when people are subject to eviction for no fault of their own, such as expropriation or arbitrary eviction. Habitability is threatened when units are not kept in an adequate state of repair.

Most recent government policy around affordable housing, at both the federal and provincial levels, has focussed on supply. Considering that both levels of government stopped creating non-market housing in the 1990's, we have a 30-year deficit in that supply. Worse, we are losing existing affordable housing faster than it is being built. For every new affordable rental unit created between 2011 and 2016, 15 units were lost in the private rental sector.¹ We cannot merely build our way out of the affordable housing crisis: we must also take measures to prevent the loss of existing affordable housing stock.

¹ <https://www.focus-consult.com/why-canada-needs-a-non-market-rental-acquisition-strategy/>

In the 1990's, as governments in Canada withdrew from investing in social housing, they also made several regulatory and legislative changes. These changes permitted the securitization of mortgages, removed restrictions on the type and location of assets pension plans could hold, and enabled the creation of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS), which provide investors with access to real estate income at a preferential tax rate. These changes have accelerated the acquisition of existing rental housing by corporate investors whose primary purpose is to minimize costs and maximize profits for shareholders, rather than to provide housing at a reasonable rate of return. This trend is known as the *financialization of housing*, and “is associated with rising rent levels, displacement pressure, impacts on tenant quality of life, higher rates of eviction, and gentrification.”²

The pressure to minimize costs while maximizing profits for shareholders has adverse impacts on affordability, habitability, and security of tenure for tenants of corporate landlords. Routine maintenance and upkeep of buildings is often neglected or deferred while money is invested in cosmetic improvements that allow landlords to apply successfully for above-guideline rent increases. Tenants suffer from neglect of needed repairs and upkeep, disruptive construction, repeated above-guideline increases, and both legal and extra-legal tactics, including harassment, that pressure them to leave their units. Indeed, financial firms strategically pursue “turnover” of tenants to benefit from vacancy decontrol (the opportunity to raise rents between tenancies.) This puts a strain on the mental and physical health of tenants while putting their security of tenure in jeopardy. These harmful effects are disproportionately experienced by people who are Indigenous, racialized, disabled, and newcomers to Canada, as well as those on low or fixed incomes – the same “vulnerable groups” that the National Housing Strategy is designed to assist.³

Some corporations buy up multiple rental units and divert them to the short-term rental market (e.g. AirBnB). This keeps these units from being accessible to local residents, and drives up rents in the area. It is happening in communities large and small, urban and rural alike.

Carol, a renter in Toronto, lives in a building recently acquired by a REIT. She describes “a real struggle getting any work done”, with pest control, break-ins, and a non-functioning elevator being ongoing problems, while the owner was granted back-to-back above guideline increases. “We are always on edge because they have all the power and money to win things. It's exhausting for us,” she says.⁴

Whitney is a mother of three who has been renting a house for five years in a small town with a very low rental vacancy rate. While her rent has been increasing each year as her landlord makes upgrades and applies above guideline rent increases, her own income has not been getting upgraded. Whitney is worried: “If the rent goes up anymore, I don't think we'll be able to stay—where will we go?”

² August, Martine. 2022. *The financialization of housing in Canada: A summary report for the Office of the Federal Housing Advocate*. The Office of the Federal Housing Advocate.

³ August, 2022

⁴ ACORN Canada. 2022. *The impact of financialization on tenants: Findings from a national survey of ACORN members*. The Office of the Federal Housing Advocate

Nicole leads an outreach team in a small community, supporting people experiencing homelessness. She recently realized how precarious her own housing is. After over 10 years of renting a house, she and her husband were given sixty days to vacate as the landlord elected to put the property up for sale. Nicole and her husband could not afford to purchase it and so, with limited options, short notice, and high prices, they had to leave the community to find housing. While Nicole continues to lead outreach work in the community she loves, she now commutes to work. It turns out the landlord didn't sell the house after all - it is being rented again to new tenants at a new (higher) price. Nicole says, "Thankfully we were able to live with my parents for a few months until we could find a place. If it can happen to us, it can happen to anyone."⁵

Protecting and advancing the right to housing for people like Carol, Whitney, Nicole and their families means removing the barriers to housing that is affordable, habitable, and does not expose renters to arbitrary eviction. To make this happen, governments should ensure that public funds are targeted to the creation and preservation of housing that commits to those principles. Real Estate Investment Trusts, which have been shown to erode the right to housing, should be taxed at the regular corporate rate, which would make hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue available for creating and preserving truly affordable housing⁶ The province must end the vacancy decontrol loophole, which gives landlords an incentive to evict tenants, and work with municipalities to create and enforce restrictions on short-term rental operators so valuable units are not removed from the rental market.

Scripture recognizes the human need for shelter, security and dignity. Isaiah 32:18 reads, "My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." If Canada is a country truly committed to realizing the right to housing, our laws and policies must reflect this commitment.

⁵ These are the stories of real people living in our Diocese. "Whitney" and "Nicole"'s names have been changed.

⁶ <https://www.pbo-dpb.ca/en/publications/RP-2324-001-M--cost-removing-tax-exemptions-real-estate-investment-trusts--estimation-couts-elimination-exemptions-fiscales-accordees-fiducies-placement-immobilier>

ALTAR GUILD

The members of the Altar Guild have continued their dedicated efforts to provide serenity in the sanctuary for weekly Church services and seasonal changes within the Church calendar. Particular attention is provided for special events such as weddings, baptisms, Remembrance Day and Indigenous Sunday.

We have thirteen members divided into four teams who meet four times a year when we discuss and plan upcoming events. Each team is on duty once a month. This ministry is a wonderful way to develop new friendships.

Each Sunday parishioners make a donation for flowers in memory of, or to honour a person or occasion. After the service, the donor receives a bouquet and the second bouquet, if not in memory or honour, is given to a parishioner who is ill or to honour someone.

If you would like to arrange a date to make a donation please call the parish office or Karen Price.

We would love to welcome new members to this ministry.

Linda Epping 416-267-3635



AUDIO VISUAL MINISTRY REPORT

Livestreaming of Sunday services and events has now become the standard for many religious denominations since the outbreak of Covid – 19 in 2020.

Many denominations engaged in the opportunity to record and upload their weekly services and events to various social media platforms.

Most denominations gained great experience with the pre – recording of services and eventually transitioned into livestreaming.

At the Church of the Holy Trinity Guildwood, we have been blessed to be at the forefront of this technology.

We have been consistently, livestreaming Sunday services and special events for over three years now.

The tech team produces the in – house audio, tech, and online experience.

The ministry continues to evolve and grow.

Our committed team of associates and volunteers continue to learn about technology regarding audio and video.

These skills are being put to practice to provide a better experience of the message and presentation within the church.

In 2023, with assistance from Denise Byard, we partnered with several students from Sir Wilfred Laurier High School. The goal was to enhance our relationship with the school, and to advance the student's technical skills in audio/video technology as well as life experiences. Special thanks to Denise Byard for her hard work in building a relationship with the school.

Notables

Top Watched Service/Events

1. 2022 Christmas Concert – 751 Views (663 views in 2023)
2. 2021 Christmas Concert – 676 Views (657 views in 2023)
3. June 7, 2020, Sunday Service – 629 Views (626 Views in 2023)
4. 2023 Christmas Concert – 553 Views
- 5.

YouTube Channel Subscribers

1. Current YouTube Subscribers Total - 219

Weekly Average Regular Service Views

1. 60 – 70 event views per week

Of note, the main source of online traffic is coming from our YouTube subscribers, the church website, those searching for services and events via YouTube, Google search, other social media sites such as Facebook, links from WhatsApp and email link forwards.

Livestreaming has become the imminent online form for delivering our message to a broader audience.

It has been a pleasure to be the director of the tech team these last three plus years.

For 2024, we look forward to delivering an impactful experience both in – house and online to our visitors.

Blessings,

Brian Provo Sr.

Director - Audio/Video/Livestream Media Ministry

Church of the Holy Trinity Guildwood

BOOK CLUB REPORT

The book club continues to be a vital interest group in our parish, one that brings pleasure to all its members. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at the homes of the members who have enough room. Currently the books are chosen from the book club sets at the public library. Members take turns leading the discussions, which can sometimes get quite lively as everyone gives her opinion of the book. Tea, coffee, and treats are enjoyed at the end of the session.

Lately, due to the cyber attack on the Toronto Public Library, we have not been able to access the books for a few meetings. We solved that by each member talking about a book she had read recently and would recommend. It is to be hoped that by the time you read this the problem will have been resolved.

Due to changes in the lives of some of our members, they have had to leave the club. They are indeed missed.

We would be delighted to have some new members. If you are interested, please speak to one of us.

*Respectfully submitted,
Beverley Byrne MacPhee and Karen Price*



EARTH'S ANGELS (GREEN TEAM)

For a variety of reasons, Earth's Angels have been on a bit of a hiatus over the summer and fall of 2023, but we hope you'll be hearing more from us in 2024 about 'greening' the parish.

Our Tru Earth fundraiser is still active (although not as active as we would like) and we encourage you to keep it in mind when ordering eco-friendly products. They have now included their sister company, Net Zero, to offer a wider variety of choices, so please check them out through the weekly link in Together@Trinity. To date we have raised something in the neighbourhood of \$570 and our latest purchase with the proceeds was another triple bin for garbage, compost and recycling, which is located in the Sacristy. We thought it would be used well there, as the Altar Guild does a weekly setup. The bins can be moved easily as needed.

Thank you to everyone who has been contributing their reusable items to our baskets in the narthex. The ongoing collection of egg cartons, outer milk bags, eyeglasses, hearing aids and stamps results in those items being reused or repurposed, rather than discarded. For example, the milk bags are given to the Chartwell residence next door and turned into sleeping mats for underdeveloped countries. Thank you to Marilyn Lind for her work in collecting these items and delivering them to the appropriate organizations.

Through our suggestion/comment box in the narthex we have received one suggestion for more planting on the property, which we will discuss at our next meeting. Your feedback energizes us, so please use the box to let us know what eco-thoughts are on your mind.

As always, we continue to encourage everyone to reduce the amount of plastic they use every day in the way of plastic drink bottles and containers and we thank the parish for their ongoing efforts to make Holy Trinity as 'green' as possible.

Respectfully submitted by Jack Howard, Marilyn Lind, Eva McLean, Mary Beth Moffatt-Sinclair, Nancy Mills, Karen Price





FaithWorks is an initiative of the Diocese of Toronto in which parishioners fund a host of especially good works helping the homeless, the poor, refugees, and many other disadvantaged people in the Diocese. FaithWorks also partners with the Primates' World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) to provide international humanitarian assistance.

This year, Denise Byard coordinated a special Christmas Concert in partnership with Alexandra Weiss, raising donations for both FaithWorks and The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine (SSJD). Concert proceeds went to FaithWorks for PWRDF's Emergency Response Fund for victims of war in Gaza. Concert proceeds also went to SSJD's Home for the Heart Campaign to repair and renew its spiritual retreat Guest House in Toronto. At the concert, Archbishop Fred Hiltz presented an inspiring message about these ministries, and \$1,885 was raised.

The concert entertainment featured Denise Williams, Jan Morgan, Ben MacDonald, Ensemble, Twylite Caribbean Band, as well as Holy Trinity Choir Members and Master of Ceremonies Randy Vancourt.

Holy Trinity, Guildwood also receives ongoing monthly donations for FaithWorks from parishioners so the total donation to FaithWorks in 2023 was \$5,500. Of this total, \$600 was designated for FaithWorks' partnership with Toronto Urban Native Ministry and \$200 for FaithWorks' partnership with the Anglican United Refugee Alliance.



PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund

The Anglican Church of Canada

HOSPITALITY REPORT

The duties of a Hospitality Hour Facilitator/Convener are to make sure that there is a hot/cold beverage and light refreshment each Sunday. The Sunday hospitality encourages people to come in person to connect with those whom they have not seen face to face in a long time as well as to meet and get to know the new people in the parish. This ministry brings everyone together - young, old, and in between.

I was nominated to be coordinator of the team in Winter 2023 after joining the team in the fall of 2022 to learn the ropes about being environmentally friendly, as well as kitchen and garbage protocols. When Denise asked me to assist with hospitality, I had no idea what I was saying 'yes' to...but I said 'yes'. Once provincial restrictions were lifted in the middle of the year, we began hosting in true Holy Trinity, Guildwood style. Tim Horton's was my 'saviour' at the start and then I decided to get veggie happy. Currently, we are in a great groove of 'just right' with awesome volunteers and hopefully more on the horizon.

This year has been celebrated by hosting our Welcome Back Sunday Luncheon in September, the Church Family Meeting Luncheon in October, and the Feast of St. Nicholas in December.

I am getting more accustomed to the rhythm, and we have invited several families to assist in various ways at the beginning of this year. Thank you to the families who have provided refreshments throughout the year. Thank you to Jack Howard and Jim Wilson who set up coffee after 8 am worship. Thank you to the families who helped to clean up - Comfort and Abigail; John and Leslie; Dupe; Stephen; and Denise. Thank you to the student helpers who have assisted with set up, hosting, and clean up. Thank you to Flo for providing guidance. Our current group includes Tanya S, Petrina H-F, Joy J, and Winnie J. If you would like to bring food, help set up, or help clean up, please let me know.

It has been a true blessing to be able to grow and learn the ropes in the role of hospitality facilitator. It has been a great way to get to know everyone and I look forward to future opportunities to continue my growth journey within the Anglican community at Holy Trinity, Guildwood.

Melanie McLeod



LAY ASSISTANTS AND CHALICE ADMINISTRATORS

The Lay Assistants continue working to assist Stephen in establishing a reverent, smooth flowing service for our parishioners. Second chalice administrators duties have been suspended since the beginning of Covid.

We are thrilled to welcome Sharon Onebunne to our team. She is a high school student shadowing the team members to better understand all the steps involved in serving at the altar. She will be taking a more active part in the services starting in February.

At present we have three members, one trainee, and one special assistant. When on duty, a member will serve at the 8:00 service and then the 10:30 service. Lay Assistants open the church for the first service and set out the items needed for the services. Then they say the Land Acknowledgement, read scriptures, lead prayers of the people and assist the Priest in preparing the elements for Eucharist. Hopefully, as we grow in numbers each member will be on duty once a month.

Approximately four schedules are presented throughout the year and most of our discussions and planning happen through emails.

We endeavour to follow health guidelines in order that everyone participating in the Eucharist feels safe and comfortable.



MISSIONAL OUTREACH AND DISCIPLESHIP

We have completed 3/5 of the Ministry Allocation Fund for the Lay Pastoral Associate which ends December 2025. I was honoured to be appointed a Lay Member of Synod by Bishop Andrew Asbil again this year. In preparing to transition ministry leadership, we welcome Melanie McLeod as our Youth Ministry Apprentice. Within this context, the youth leader will develop, nurture, and supervise a ministry that supports and stimulates youth to develop their faith and to become active members of a vibrant faith community. The Youth Ministry Apprentice, in conjunction with Church of the Holy Trinity Guildwood Anglican Church, serve to build relationships with both youth and the surrounding community. This function not only includes teaching of the scriptures and how they apply, but also creating opportunities for community service, outreach, and evangelism in Guildwood and beyond. Key functions: mentorships, fellowship, social justice, teamwork, teaching, discipleship, and evangelism.,

This expanded ministry of Missional Outreach and Discipleship allows Holy Trinity Guildwood to deepen our relationships within the community; create experiences to augment our worship; and strengthen our digital communications, as well as further our vision of building a fully vibrant, diverse, multicultural, and multi-generational self-sustaining parish with the young people and seniors of southeast Scarborough. Thanks to the grant, we will have an opportunity for the church to extend into the community and provide services that are not currently available to young people or seniors through shared in person and/or virtual activities and ministries. Outreach to the community additionally seeks to engage children, youth, families, and service providers to collaborate and connect to extend the ministry of the parish.

Some of the highlights from 2023 were as follows:

- Social Justice Vestry Motion 2023 – Disability without Poverty
- Tech Skills Workshop (Media Club). Grow – Learn – Have Fun
- Laurier Students have been great assistants for the weekly livestream, especially Joe Semucyo who has helped with various projects all year. He was honoured with the Tech Scholar Award in June.
- We connect with a variety of seniors who participate in a monthly workshop at the senior's residence and at the parish community workshop. All are welcome to join.

Summer Camp (Vacation Bible School) 2023

- This VBS invited children to pray as Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread." These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God — and that it's by turning to God in prayer that all our daily needs are met.
- It was a great success with 13 participants from our parish and the community. We held the camp outside on the church property and enjoyed beautiful weather for most of the week from July 10 to 14.
- Highlights were the food – candy; music; dance parties; stories; friends; making lemonade, pizza dough, and flatbread; ending with slime, a magic show, and outdoor games (baseball and parachute), for the final day. The students were great helpers. Thank you to: Elaine Vanderwerf – Co-Director (from St. Timothy, Agincourt), Modupe Matiluko and Caleb Thompson – Co-Coordinator; Joseph Fu – Logistics Angel, DJ, and Photographer; Jillian Reeves – Snack Coordinator (from the Church of the Holy Wisdom)
- Stephen Kirkegaard – Magician; Aviyah Fubler and Sharon Onebunne – Craft Leaders; Roselaide Decker – Science Leader; Ian Physick – Leader (from the Church of the Holy

Wisdom); and Nicole Phillips – Communications Support; Marion Byard and the Prayer Team. Donations were received from St. Margaret in-the-Pines Church. Thank you to all the saints and angels behind the scenes helping to make things happen.

- Denise and Modupe supported camp at St. Timothy's, Agincourt by preparing snacks and assisting with imagination station coordinating, music, crafts, as well as opening and closing sessions at St. Timothy, Agincourt with 5 campers.



Missional Events

- We became part of the Community Food Centres Canada Good Food Organization program for 2023! We are committed to a healthy and fair food system! This program gives us access to resources and tools, virtual training, peer to peer knowledge-swap activities and an incredible network of like-minded organizations. We provide fresh bread once a week with occasional other fresh food deliveries. Holy Trinity, Guildwood's food pantry currently supports 30 community families with food, toiletry and cleaning items, and grocery gift cards. Community partners' generosity has kept our food pantry well stocked despite unprecedented use: Cob's Bread Bakery at Morningside Crossing, Rotary Club of Scarborough, residents of the Condos at 20 Guildwood Parkway, Chartwell Retirement Residence, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate Institute, Club 1 Studios, Goodlife Fitness Pickering, and concerned village residents. Thank you to many angels, especially Belinda Chin, Penny Case, Diane Hickman, Nancy Mills, as well as Bruce and Carol Gooding who regularly shop and contribute. Thank you to the bread organization helpers - Marion and Butch Byard, Wally and Ruth Kosciejew, Ruth Mattinson, Linda (Deanne) Hosin, Dupe Matiluko, Modupe, Tolu, and students (Rose, Meredith, Caleb, Daniel, and Nazia). To obtain ongoing stability and long-term impact, we endeavour to develop a support team which includes one coordinator to assist those in need. Shoppers are also welcomed to provide weekly high demand items. We had an average of 78.5 visits per month of the year from 30 different families.

URGENT NEED!!
HOLY TRINITY, GUILDWOOD'S
FOOD CUPBOARD
IS BARE

Needed:
 feminine hygiene products (pads and panty liners), toilet paper, cleaning supplies, dish soap, canned milk, soup, cereal, basmati rice, tea, coffee, feminine hand soap, face soap, canned vegetables, spices, juice, oil, and laundry supplies.

Need Support?
 (416) 261-9503
 denise@trinityguildwood.org
 85 Livingston Road,
 Scarborough

Fresh Bread Every Sunday from COBS BREAD

Please remember those in need this Winter with donations of food and/or money

- Saturday, June 10, 2023. It was a beautiful, sunny day for clergy, parishioners, and community to get to know people from other parishes and the buildings where they worship. Twenty-eight registrants formed eight teams and raced across the Scarborough Deanery in the Scarborough Steeplechase scavenger hunt, visiting 12 churches - all in support of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF). Over \$700 was raised for the Fund. The participating churches included: Church of the Holy Trinity, Guildwood; St. Timothy, Agincourt; the Church of St. Jude, Wexford; St. Margaret in-the-Pines; Christ Church, Scarborough; Grace Church, Scarborough; Church of the Nativity, Malvern; Church of the Holy Wisdom; St. Paul, L'Amoreaux; St. Dunstan of Canterbury; the Church of St. Andrew; and St. Michael the Archangel. Each host church provided a different challenge/activity for teams. The scriptural theme for the day was I Corinthians 9:24-25, "You've all been to the stadium and seen the athlete's race. Everyone runs; one wins. Run to win. All good athletes train hard. They do it for a gold medal that tarnishes and fades. You're after one that's gold eternally". The race ended with a celebration and prizes at St. Timothy, Agincourt. One of the teams from St. Jude, Wexford won first prize; Church of the Holy Wisdom won second and third place went to St. Timothy, Agincourt. Thank you to Manita Swati from PWRDF for opening the Scarborough Steeplechase and to Bishop Andrew and Mary Asbil for handing out prizes at the closing ceremony. Thank you to Randy Vancourt as well as the St. Timothy, Agincourt Contemporary group for providing music during the opening and closing celebrations.
- Thank you to all who prayed, donated, came to support, and helped with the annual Family Day Winter Fair. We had 45 children and 35 adults. We had more than enough food, painting, winter themed crafts, games, a special magic show, and special treasures. All of this was made possible by the donation of time and items from so many people. Thank you to Cassandra Mcfee (coordinator), Robbie Rhodes (photographer), Randy Vancourt (musician), Stephen and Sheldon (magicians), Modupe Matiluko (balloon decor), Joycelyn and Lance Williams (paint workshop), Jordan McCaffrey (host), Nicole Phillips (communications), Ruth Mattison, Tanya Sanxhaku, Marion Byard, Melanie McLeod, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate students. Thank you to McDougall & Brown Funeral Home - Scarborough Chapel, who continues to be a great sponsor and partner for this event.



- We had 14 young people for Palm Sunday Parade and Service. Good Friday was a great celebration with 55 young people remembering and celebrating in age-appropriate ways. I am super grateful to the two special event assistants – Tanya S and Cassandra M. Dupe M prepared balloons and assisted with egg colouring. Lance and Joycelyn W hosted cross painting and butterfly making. Melanie M on snacks and garbage. For Easter Sunday, 41 young people, 19 parents, 4 youth and 3 adults came for messy church and the community egg hunt... I am super grateful to the two special event assistants – Tanya S and Cassandra M. Dupe did a great job of filling the tent with balloons. Melanie M on snacks and garbage. It was a big success.



- We connected with over 70 families at the Guildwood Community Halloween Haunt through slime, pumpkin volcanoes, crafts and more. Thank you to Cassandra Mcfee, Tanya and Rohelio Sanxhaku for their help.



- We had a great celebration with 65 packages prepared for the Feast of St. Nicholas. Thirty young people were in person at the service with a total of 50 packages being distributed to our parish young people. Thank you to St. Nick and elves Melanie McLeod, Dupe Matiluko and Cassandra Mcfee as well as Comfort Omobola, the Fubler, and Hetherington families, who were busy with the set up and cleaned up after the potluck to make the day a great success.



Social Justice Vestry Motion 2023 - Disability Without Poverty

- A big, big thanks to everyone who joined us at our Disability Without Poverty Town Hall on Thursday, June 1. We signed a dozen postcards that are being dropped off at a media event at Chrystia Freeland's constituency office on Friday, June 2 with the rest collected at other events.

- We did it! After months of emails, petitions, postcards, rallies and meetings with MPs and senators, Bill C-22 has finally passed in both the House of Commons and the Senate!
- The bill is expected to become law by the end of this week and will provide the government with a guiding framework as they work out all the details of what a new Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) will look like. The minister has said it could take up to a year to develop all the regulations and roll out the CDB to people with disabilities. People with disabilities can't afford to wait!
- 3,500+ postcards signed, 9 Members of Parliament met, and 29 events organized in communities across the country, sharing information about the Canada Disability Benefit and the Disability Without Poverty campaign with almost 4,000 community members! And that was just those of you who applied for the grant! CFCC distributed 40,000 postcards across our network.

Christian Education and Discipleship

- Church School continues to have a vital program, with 93 young people on our roster with whom we connect online and in person monthly. It was very special to have families participate in the Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany liturgy. Our average attendance has been very good with an average of 12.5 per week. I am truly grateful to Tanya Sanxhaku, Aviyah Fubler, Melanie McLeod who assist and lead classes. We had a wonderful Christmas Eve intergenerational service. The skit and musical presentation at the Christmas Eve Service were fantastic. Thank you, Aviyah and Winnie, for coordinating. Stay tuned for the Palm Sunday spring presentation by the youth class.
- We had two baptisms this year welcoming the youngest from the John and Schanzenbacher families. I am so proud to announce that one of our young leaders has joined the Lay Assistant Team and began learning in December.
- Set Apart' En Route Children's Ministry Event was very good. I had the opportunity to connect with other ministry leaders in the area. It was good to have time to worship and be refreshed. The session I appreciated most was about intentionally forming the spiritual life of children and creating environments to assist in nurturing their personal, intimate relationship with God and his son Jesus.
- Adult catechesis included our bi-weekly Bible study, monthly discipleship class. Our seniors have expressed a deep appreciation of our in-person as well as online worship, bi-weekly bible study and monthly book club. These initiatives help them stay connected with others and combat the depression caused by prolonged social isolation.



Blessings,
Denise Byard

The Youth's Take On 2023
What they did & learned in 2023

The youth years are the time where one grows their relationship with God. It is the time where we lay a strong foundation that lasts us through life by serving God. The main goal for many of the youth members in church is to “make a difference” and “learn something that leaves an impact.” The best way to succeed in reaching that goal is to dedicate our time and innumerable skills to learning about the word of God, serving those in need, and volunteering to help during church events. For Holy Trinity Guildwood, 2023 was filled with numerous amusing and educational moments, especially for the youth.

BIBLE CAMP

In July of 2023, our church led a weeklong bible camp for the younger kids. The youth members of the church were given the opportunity to be a counselor and become a leader. Though the camp was for the young ones, the youth also learnt a lot from it. Many stories were told, including the one of Jesus feeding 5000 people. Within these lessons we learnt how God will always provide for us.

“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” John 6:35. “This verse shows us that as long as we trust in Jesus we will have what we need. This is one of the verses we learnt that stuck with me and many other youth leaders at the camp that week,” Youth leader, Aviyah, mentions.

Though the camp taught us many things in relation to the bible and Jesus Christ, there was also time for fun. There were experimental, hands-on activities which include slime, making lemonade, pizza dough, etc. Besides that, there were fun games, crafts, lots of snacks, and even better, lots of candies. Overall, it was a fun experience filled with lots of laughter and learning.

Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering (CLAY)

In August of 2023, the youth went to Laurier University to participate in an event called CLAY- where we are called to be light in our communities. At CLAY, we heavily talked about the importance of inclusiveness and creativity. At the event, there was a wide range of workshops but our youth group learned and acquired new understanding from specifically two: the ‘Welcome a Stranger’ and ‘BIPOC’ workshop.

‘Welcome a Stranger’ was a workshop that recognized refugees. In that workshop, through shared experiences, everyone realized that despite anyone’s opinion or beliefs, God will always love us. “God wants us to welcome strangers, to not judge and to acknowledge them by including them in ways that make them feel welcomed,” Ashley, a youth member on the trip, emphasizes. In the ‘BIPOC’ workshop, we learnt that there is still room for growth in the church when it pertains to expanding our knowledge and expressing creativity. In my opinion, the workshop taught us that individual growth is the base for creating change for the community.

The verse of the day was **Psalm 139:13-14; “For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**

Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.” That verse reminds us of the beautiful truth that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God. Aviyah, another youth member on the trip, explains that “it is a powerful reminder of our inherent worth and value, no matter how unworthy we feel.” The reason we gather in church every Sunday was clarified at CLAY; It’s to build each other’s relationships in faith and so no one feels alone in their struggles with nurturing a relationship with Christ.

CAMP MUSKOKA

In September of 2023, the youth girls at Holy Trinity spent time in Camp Muskoka. It was a place filled with lots of activities from basketball to rock climbing. Most importantly, during the time spent at the camp, the youth discussed the word of God. Saint Francis, the Saint of Animals, was talked about. “We [the youth girls] learnt that he preaches the word of the Lord to the birds because his love for them was great,” the girls expressed. During the retreat, there was a given time to discuss what the youth wanted for Holy Trinity and ways the future generation can continue to lead and improve. “It was an overall great experience and a great way to represent Holy Trinity,” Ashley made note of.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SKIT

Mary giving birth to Jesus is one the most important stories told in the bible. Due to that, the youth group of the church decided to perform a skit in relation to that. Throughout the year, not all members of the youth group had been able to participate in the events, but everyone was included for the skit. It was a fun experience for everyone to get to know each other better and spread the word of God to His creation. Personally, I can mention that we - all youth members in the church - had a wonderful time rehearsing and presenting our performance. All practices were filled with times for laughter and moments to reflect on the story being told. For the young people of the church, AKA the youth, it truly was a fun way to end the year off together.

WHAT DID WE LEARN?

In closing, the year 2023 was filled with a great amount of activities, new lessons, and moments for reflection. This year the young people learnt about looking at God’s word from a more modern and relatable perspective. We learnt that there are fun ways to learn more about God and his teachings. We gained an understanding about others’ perspectives and why we shouldn’t judge people, as everyone’s situations are different. In 2024, for all the young people at Holy Trinity, I’m sure there will be chances to grow our faith, attend more events, and volunteer at church. We all look forward to it.

Submitted by Sharon Onebunne

YOUTH SYNOD REPORT

I went to Synod along with Rohelio as the youth delegates of Holy Trinity Guildwood. My title this year for Synod had changed. I wasn't just the youth member but I was the youth lay member for Holy Trinity Guildwood. We went for two days on November 17-18, 2023. We learned a lot of things at this synod but in my report, I will be giving the highlights of some of the things that we did at synod and what was talked about. We started with Eucharist and the Bishop's Charge to Synod and how the Bishop based his charge on John 21, the scriptural passage that undergirds Cast the Net, the Diocese's visioning and strategy process. He spoke about the initiatives coming out of Cast the Net, including the Season of Spiritual Renewal, of which the Rev. Canon Judy Paulsen will be the coordinator. He spoke about his hopes for a companionship program between the Diocese of Toronto and the Diocese of Brasilia, and his hope for the Diocese to engage in a capital campaign, with a feasibility study beginning in late 2024. He expressed his gratitude to all the clergy and lay leaders of the Diocese, staff and his wife Mary. Then the sponsors were thanked, Synod approved the council's report and we had lots of missional and outreach moments; we even had one from our very own church. Our main focus at Synod was "Cast the Net" and how it was going to be utilized over the next two years and what the plan is for that. I really enjoyed my time at Synod as I made a lot of new friends. I'm hoping to continue going to Synod in the next couple of years and learning a lot more. We had a breakout session and I chose to go to the breakout room called Children and Family Ministry, where we talked about things we can do to make our ministry better and start getting more children and families to join our ministry. After we gave our suggestions on what we can do to make our ministries better. The coordinator, Laura, took our suggestions and shared that she wants to do a Synod Children and Young Families conversation on some ministry topics such as: Beyond Sunday, Curriculum, Space Use and Intergenerational Ministry. The first topic will be about programs and ideas that reach children and young families beyond Sunday morning church programs. It will be a great chance to reach out to many of the people who are doing this ministry around the diocese and get their suggestions and feedback on what we can do to improve this ministry.

I had a lot of fun at Synod and I am very excited to see what topics we are going to cover next year.

Thank you to all of you for allowing me to be your Youth Rep of Synod.

Blessings,
Tanya Sanxhaku



IGNITE FAMILY MINISTRY REPORT

Ignite Family Ministry launched on March 15/16 after 3 months of intense planning and pitching the idea to Synod Council. Ignite is an outside-of-the-box model for ministry to children, youth and their parents. We run on 2 evenings each week at different parishes around the Scarborough Deanery and we rotate every 6 -8 weeks or so. Each block has its own theme which is carried through our Bible lesson, games, crafts, activities, songs and sometimes even snacks. The children have their program in one space while their caregivers are welcome to stay and have their own conversations in the Parents' Café. Both spaces have yielded growing friendships and connections. Here is a summary of where we have met, and how many children and parishes have been involved:

Spring Block 1: March 15/16 – May 3/4			
Theme: Light			
Wednesdays: St. Margaret-in-the-Pines		Thursdays: Church of the Holy Wisdom	
2 children	1 parish	12 children	4 parishes
Spring Block 2: May 10/11 – June 14/15			
Theme: Pictures of Church			
Wednesdays: St. Andrew's		Thursdays: Christ Church Scarborough Village	
0 children	0 parishes	10 children	3 parishes
Fall Block 1: September 13/14 – November 1/2			
Theme: Lectionary Gospel from the Sunday Before			
Wednesdays: St. Jude's, Wexford		Thursdays: St. Dunstan of Canterbury	
11 children	4 parishes	5 children	3 parishes
Fall Block 2: November 8/9 – December 13/14			
Theme: God is our King			
Wednesdays: St. Jude's, Wexford		Thursdays: St. Timothy's, Agincourt	
9 children	4 parishes	4 children	3 parishes

A few highlight moments from our evenings: squeals of delight as children looked for a flashlight in the dark to defeat the "Grog", creating an acrostic of the word BIBLE, our Day of the Dead celebrations, lying on a blanket outside trying to count stars, marching around a gingerbread Jericho and then eating the fallen down walls, hearing about amazing theological conversations in the car on the way home, hearing a 9 year old boy say, "I am so glad I joined this club!" This mid-week program is making a difference in these children's lives.

We received a Canada Summer Jobs grant. There were 2 weeks of VBS/Summer Camps in July. July 10 – 14 was run at Holy Trinity, Guildwood under the leadership of Denise Byard. There were 13 campers and 10 youth volunteers, the rest all from the Guildwood community. July 17 – 21 was at St. Timothy's, Agincourt, under Church of the Holy Wisdom and the directions

of myself. We had 7 campers and 7 youth volunteers, mostly from the St. Timothy's community. A third week, July 24 – 28, was attempted at St. Jude's, Wexford, but it was ultimately cancelled due to lack of registrations.

We created a website for Ignite (IgniteFamilyMinistry.com) and an Instagram account (@ignitefamilyministry), which are kept up to date providing information as well as printable promotional materials like posters and flyers.

In addition to the generous grant from Synod Council, Ignite has also received funds from the Anglican Foundation's "Say Yes to Kids" campaign (~\$2500) as well as a donation of the proceeds (~\$500) of the sale of a book written by one of our participants who tragically died this fall. This exceeds the amount of additional funding we had projected for our inaugural year!

There have been many adult volunteers who have provided snacks and fellowship for the Parents' Café and others who have assisted with the children's and youth programs.

This fall we welcomed Nikitha Stanley, from St. Bede's, as an intern. We are in the process of making her an official YMAP (Youth Ministry Apprenticeship Program) apprentice. Her presence with the program has been tremendously helpful. We have had other adult volunteers from St. Timothy's, St. Dunstan's, Holy Wisdom, St. Paul's, and Holy Trinity, Guildwood help out occasionally and not just when their home parish was hosting.

A debt of thanks to our Regional Dean, the Rev. Canon Greg Carpenter; his incredible "cheerleading" ability has helped move Ignite from a dream to reality. Denise Byard (Holy Trinity, Guildwood) for all her help in writing the grant proposal and for her experience and support in those first few blocks. To our hosting parishes and clergy: Rev. Canon Greg Carpenter (St. Jude's), Rev. Canon Andrea Christensen (St. Timothy's, Agincourt), Rev. Graham McCaffrey (St. Dunstan's), Rev. Gerlyn Henry (Holy Wisdom), Rev. Andrew Kaye (St. Margaret-in-the-Pines), Rev. Ravi Kalison (Christ Church Scarborough). Thank you for opening your Church buildings to us and for making us feel so welcome. Special thanks to Jillian Reeves (Holy Wisdom) for being such a wonderful host, snack maker, craft leader, driver, honorary Grandma, etc. She has travelled with Ignite, parish to parish, providing whatever is needed. She is a treasure!

Heading into 2024, Ignite endeavours to engage more of our Scarborough parishes and to grow our weekly numbers. Plans are already beginning for our Summer Camps, and we are looking forward to creating some larger Deanery-wide events.

*Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Vanderwerf
Ignite Family Ministry Co-ordinator*

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Nicole Phillips celebrated 2 years as our Parish Administrator on September 28, 2023.

Social Media

YouTube - We began 2023 with 166 subscribers and had 219 subscribers by the end of the year, a gain of 53 subscribers.

Top Videos

1. Charity Christmas Concert 2023 – 519 views
2. Celebration of Life Urma Leverock – 123 views
3. Charity Christmas Concert 2022 – 111 views
4. Christmas Day Service – 111 views (Rev. Ravi Preached)
5. September 18, 2023 Sunday Service – 106 (A conversation with Canon Stephen and Denise)

We had 101,100 impressions* and 1,100 hours of watch time for a total of 5,100 views. 33.9% of viewers are linked from YouTube Subscription page, 22.9% watch from our YouTube channel page, 16.3% connect through YouTube search engine, 9.2% are from external sources (social media, website, WhatsApp), and 4.3% from suggested videos. The portion of our viewing audience who watches *while logged in to their YouTube accounts* is 100% female and over the age of 65.

*An impression is how many times a thumbnail (video icon) was shown to viewer

Facebook – 246 follows compared to 183 last year. Hopefully we can get 300 follows in 2024.

Top posts

1. 2023 Christmas FaithWorks Christmas Concert on December 15, 2024 with 2000 reach, 2 reactions, 8 shares.
2. Annual Christmas Bazaar Invitation on October 12 with 1900 reach, 8 reactions, and 14 shares
3. Annual Yard Sale on May 10 with 1600 reach, 2 reactions, 1 comment, 10 shares.
4. Register for Food Truck party Summer Camp on June 29 with 1500 reach, 1 reactions, 8 shares.
5. Emancipation Day celebration Invitation on August 5 with 1300 reach, 4 reactions, 9 shares.

* Facebook post reach - this metric counts reach from the organic or paid distribution of your post, including if it was boosted.

Mailchimp

Every Friday the Together@Trinity is sent out using MailChimp. At the end of 2023 there were 193 people subscribed to receive the weekly letter.

Services

Special guests continued to enrich our worship services in 2023:

- Guest Speaker Chris Spence spoke for Black History Month Service
- Kate Uchendu, owner of COBS Bread at Morningside and Kingston, spoke on May 21.
- Archbishop Fred Hiltz spoke on Indigenous Sunday on June 18, 2023
- Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard and The Honorable Andrea Hazell our MPP and Shelley Hamilton, award winning artist for Inaugural National Emancipation Day Celebration in August
- Kelly Hashemi shared her story on Truth and Reconciliation Sunday on September 24.
- Archbishop Fred Hiltz spoke for our FaithWorks Christmas Concert Mission focus

We celebrated the baptisms of Karianna John and Sloane Muriel Schanzenbacher; the marriage of Carina Yiting Zheng & Jared Troy Randall; and the life of Urma Leverock. Stephen led services offsite to remember the life of Bruce Gooding's father, Kenneth Warburton Gooding, and Marilyn Lind's husband, Robert Jeffrey Lind.

Weekly Bulletins, Newsletter and Other Ways to Prepare for Sunday

My appreciation to the many saints and angels who continue to assist in various ways. I am especially thankful for our weekly bulletin preparation helpers. Thank you to Isobel Wilton, Lynn Johnson, Belinda Schuler-Chin, and Ellen Anderson, who proofread each week. Thank you to Brian Provo and the live stream team for putting in the video description and adding the assets to the live stream.

The weekly Newsletter known as the Together@Trinity is sent out through MailChimp while also printing some physical copies for parishioners who prefer physical copies.

Printing and delivering cards to those who are prayed for on Sunday, helps people who may not always watch service, know that we are praying for them as a congregation.

Event Support

I support events by creating promotional materials online and in print.

Best Regards,

Nicole Phillips

Parish Administrator

PARISH NURSE SUPPORT GROUP (PNSG)

The Parish Nurse Support Group remained active with our ministry as we continued connecting with the elderly and vulnerable of our parish both through phone calls, home and hospital visits.

We were able to provide rides to doctor, vaccine, blood lab appointments as well as grocery shopping and grocery delivery. Together @ Trinity's printed newsletters were delivered weekly to several parishioners who are not online.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to Stephen, Denise and Nicole, who continue with their invaluable support of this ministry, working alongside us.

Over the course of the year; birthdays, Easter, Christmas, get well and sympathy cards were sent to parishioners.

At Christmas, we gave 11 boxes of homemade cookies and two poinsettias to eleven individuals or families. We sent 26 cards wishing each a blessed Christmas and healthy New Year.

We will continue to maintain contact with our parish family through phone calls and visits and assist in whatever ways we are asked to.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Moffatt-Sinclair, Karen Price, Flo Schwerdtner



PROPERTY

THE CHURCH:

- PACE ELEVATOR did the semi-annual service of the stair chair. The manual handle was provided (as mentioned, was missing last year) & batteries were changed. All is working well.
- MERSEY HEATING did the annual servicing of both furnaces & A/C's. Furnace filters were replaced every 8-9 months (purchased at MERSEY to receive 20% discount).
- HERBERT WILLIAMS did the annual fire extinguisher check. All ok with no replacements needed.
- JOHN JOHNSON continues to cut grass & plow snow. At no charge to us, he is filling in sink holes all around the grounds, where former tree stumps are rotting. Some soil has also been placed at the edges of the parking lot to help support it from cracking.
- HUNTER ELECTRIC (John) replaced two blown flood lights on the roof, still under the 5-year warranty. The ones we had are no longer available so compatible ones have been found to replace them.
- ENERCARE did maintenance service on the water heater – the shut off valve on the tank was replaced.
- John was also called in to check on 4 blown sockets in the basement. The wiring has broken between the two south wall sockets. The right socket has been taken out of commission. Re-wiring between the sockets is not an option as the wiring would have to be on the outside of the wall. Another possibility would be that a new socket could be installed on the southwest wall, to be connected to the men's room's electrical wiring. It was decided to leave things as they are for the time being (to see if it is really needed).
- ROGERS Alarm system still periodically sends false messages, especially re the 'water leak' monitor. There has not been water, the battery has been replaced (reading low), but ROGERS informs me it is a signal interruption due to the distance the monitor is from the front door & the fact that the signal needs to go through many cement block walls.
- ANODYNE AUDIO SYSTEMS (Derek Lawrence) who has taken over from retired Bryant Holinaty (NIAGARA ORGAN CO.) was called to service the organ. Derek is also a Roland piano specialist, should we need him for the piano. The organ is in good shape. In the meantime, where we'd been told the light fixture on the organ was defunct, it turned out only the bulb was burnt out. This has been replaced, with an extra one stored in the Sacristy (came 2 in a box). Thanks to Michael Johnson for cutting down to size, the broken plexi-glass hymn book support, drilling in new holes & reattaching it.
- WELLSRING has experienced a couple of calamities; the cost being covered through them. One bathroom stall door in the Ladies had the hinges broken. Craig Sitwell installed two new 'gate hinges' to the door (The original type, being no longer available). I had ordered a replacement door stop for the same door, through Amazon, which he also installed. While here, he also tightened the door closer to the washroom door. (The original screws had worked loose, so it is now reinforced through the door.) A second issue for them was the smashing of the glass on the front of the oven door of the stove. A new stove was priced at approx. \$800 but thanks to Ryan Schwerdtner for finding a brand-new stove on Kijiji for \$350. He went to the west end of the city to pick it up; then, with John Hetherington's help, they carried it downstairs & installed it. He removed the old one & took it away for disposal – all done in a day & in time for the Thanksgiving luncheon the next day.
- CRAIG SITWELL replaced the weather stripping on the back door, reinforced the door sill & installed two door sweeps, one on each side of the door.

- Thanks to David Zdunich for his continuing assistance in looking after the young trees on the property, pruning when necessary & trimming around the trees, looking after the flower bed under the sign, pulling weeds in the front flower beds & labyrinth.
- Mathew MacAskill replaced the office closet doors. The broken hardware under the original doors was no longer available for replacement. (Total cost of \$300 +\$150 labour +HST)
- Again, thanks to Michael Johnson for purchasing & replacing the burnt-out ceiling light (ballast gone) in the Ladies washroom. Also, after the heavy snowstorm last winter, Michael cut off the broken cedar trees on both sides at the front of the church & helped haul the brush away.

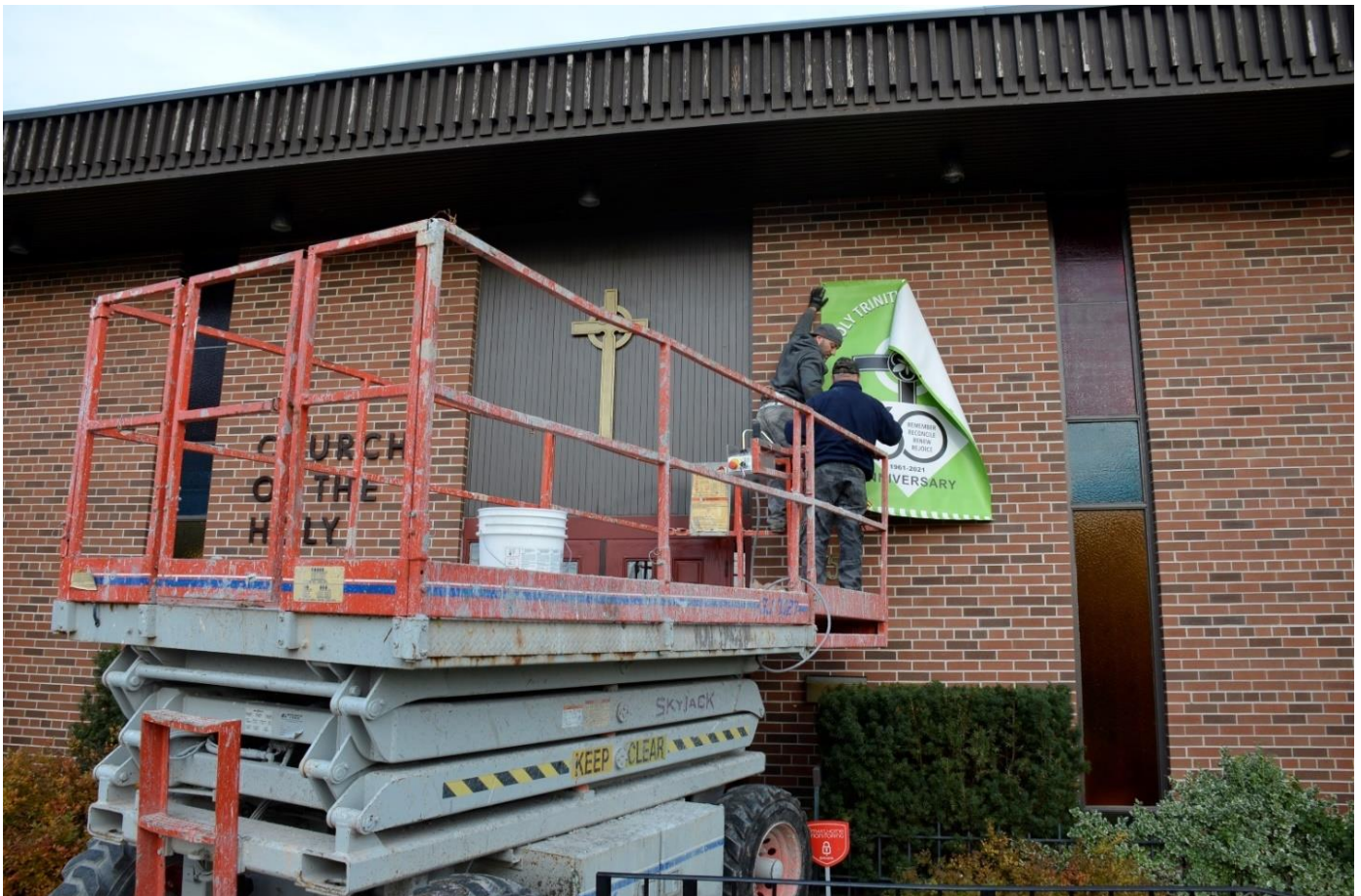
OTHER ITEMS:

- John Hetherington continues to monitor the security light system & replace burned out bulbs when necessary.
- One toilet was unplugged from 'food pieces' dumped down the toilet.
- rightmost kitchen sink drain unplugged – elbow clogged with stir sticks, a pencil & sludge – sink strainers purchased & put in each sink.
- CO & smoke detectors checked seasonally or as necessary
- clocks, timers, thermostats & lighting timers adjusted seasonally or as light conditions change.
- mouse traps & insect traps set or replaced as necessary
- both fridges have been pulled out & cleaned underneath
- one organ speaker in loft not working (cable cut) – cable spliced & re-connected (working now)
- tarps over the knotweed seem to be working. Tarps straightened & spraying done on the shoots that have broken through
- window latch on the NE corner not catching – latch adjusted & sprayed
- garbage on the lawn picked up when necessary. Thanks to GUILDWOOD DAY CLEAN-UP, most of the periphery of the yard was cleaned at that time. THANK YOU!
- there has been an off & on odour coming from the drain in the Ladies washroom – on suggestion, I checked with BRADSHAW PLUMBING re: snaking the drains. The cost depends on “in house or to the street; storm & sanitary drains, or one or both; they’d need to be camera added (to check for damage)” @ \$119.50/hour.
- outside water connected/ disconnected & turned on & off seasonally
- the broken downstairs thermostat cover was fixed (unable to replace with the same size)
- hedges outside front door trimmed
- furnace room door handles tightened
- all toilet seats tightened
- the fruit fly infestation in the basement has meant a lot of frustration. Spraying seemed to have brought most of it under control. Thanks also for help from Denise & WELLSRING.
- Thank you to Karen & Peter Price for helping put up & take down the Creche set & the outside coloured tree lights.
- The back door lock quit working – frozen. Loose screws tightened & lock mechanism sprayed.

THE RECTORY:

- ABLE TREES did a follow-up to treat the Norway Maple on the front lawn, following the damage done to it by weather the year before.
- The dishwasher is not functioning properly & will be dealt with when Stephen is able to have someone come in to look at it.
- The kitchen ceiling light is not working – changing bulbs was not useful. A new one will be purchased.
- A walkthrough was done & some issues found that will need to be addressed, the main costly one being that the outside of the back wall in the laundry room will need to be dug up & sealed. Water is seeping in through the foundation wall.
- Other “major” issues to be considered &/or dealt with – replacing/repairing the kitchen cupboards & countertop around the sink, over to the dishwasher; countertop in main bathroom lifting loose; reattaching bifold doors in the basement; replacing curtain rods in the dining room. Michael MacAskill came in & will give a written estimate re what can be done in the kitchen to update it. He will be fixing the doors, replacing the dining room curtain rod & dealing with the lifting countertop.

Respectfully submitted,
John Hetherington, Karen Price, Flo Schwerdtner



SCREENING IN FAITH MINISTRY

The Toronto Anglican Diocese has developed an online program for Sexual Misconduct Training. All employees and volunteers are expected to take this training at the beginning of their duties and again every three years.

I sent emails on September 1, 2023 with instructions for the course. Fourteen successfully completed the training. Only one person needed my assistance to navigate the course.

Three police checks were also received this year. After vestry, I will initiate training again for any people in new positions and to follow up with the police checks.

Sincerely,

Patricia Murray

Screening Coordinator.



Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

SIDESPERSONS

2023 continued with the merger of activities between the Welcome team and the Sides teams.

Currently the remaining sides people (John, Mike & Barrie) have joined the rotation with the Welcome team in performing both duties. Warren also assists when available.

While this can normally be handled by one person, we do call upon parishioners to assist with elements. We have started to add a second person for duty when one of the team is also in the choir to assist with the in-service tasks.

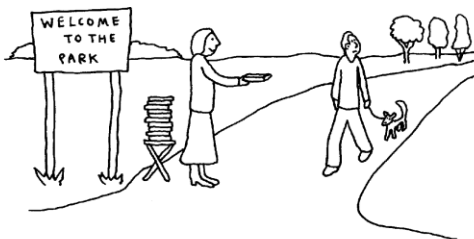
Mike and John have been helping the Wardens with the weekly count on the times when one or both are not available.

Respectfully:

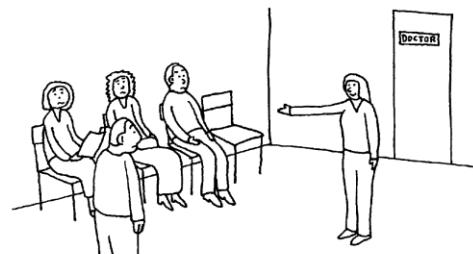
John Hetherington – Chair, Sidesperson's Ministry

SIDESPERSONS

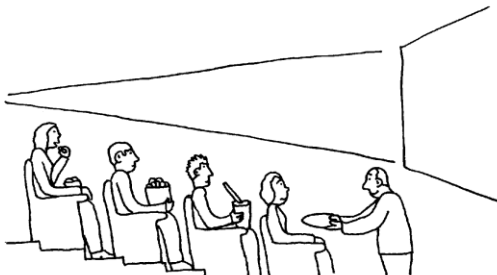
TYPICAL OFF-DUTY ACTIVITIES



GIVING OUT HYMN BOOKS



DIRECTING PEOPLE TO SEATS



PASSING AROUND A COLLECTION PLATE



CHANGING NUMBERS

CartoonChurch.com

SOCIAL CONVENER'S REPORT

The year 2022 and 2023 opened up for in person meetings. We were very glad to include our wonderful 60th Anniversary Gala in November 2022.

A Birthday Club was introduced inviting people with birthdays from January to April to meet for lunch and socialize. The first session was at the end of April. We met after Church at the Stone Cottage Pub on Kingston Road. We had our own room and we all ordered our own lunch and were treated to a birthday cake. It was a fun time.

The next session for people with birthdays from May to August was to meet the second Sunday in September. Unfortunately, I had a death in my family September the 9th and had to cancel it. The last session just got bogged down with a very busy church list of activities and commitments.

We are starting again this year in 2024 with the hope that it will work out. Several people have asked me about it.

The Deanery Ministers met at our Church in May. Arlene Tyson and Lynn Johnson helped me with the lunch for this group. Stephen greatly appreciated this.

Respectfully submitted by Shirley Knautz



STEWARDSHIP

The Stewardship Committee is in its seventh year of "Growing Healthy Stewards", helping us to take care of ourselves, others, and all God's creation. Each of us receives unique gifts in life and is called to share them generously.

Healthy stewardship includes building our relationships with other Holy Trinity, Guildwood parishioners. One way to do this is by hearing from parishioners about the faith journey that brought them to Holy Trinity and about their experiences in the parish. This year, Cathy Mathews, Pat Murray, Ruth Perry, and Winnie John shared their personal stories as short talks, called "Faces of Grace", during worship services.

Giving Our Thanks and Praise Campaign

The goal of the annual Giving Our Thanks and Praise Campaign is to remind us that each of us receives unique gifts in life and is called to share them generously. The Campaign invites us to give thanks and praise to God by volunteering our time and talents, as well as financially supporting the various parish ministries of Holy Trinity, Guildwood to ensure the vibrancy, vitality, and loving service of our parish community.

During the Fall 2023 Campaign, each parishioner was asked to consider their gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure to Holy Trinity, Guildwood in 2024. Intention forms were distributed for each person to record their 2024 gifts then return them to the church for ministry and budget planning.

TIME & TALENT: The intention details received have been organized so that ministry team leaders can contact those parishioners who recorded their interest in the relevant tasks.

TREASURE: \$110,000 was pledged for 2024, compared with \$78,000 for 2023, \$69,000 for 2022, and \$120,000 for 2021.

RETURNS: 50% of the intention forms were completed and returned.

Parishioners are welcome to return their intention forms if they have not had a chance to do so previously. Our heartfelt thanks to all who have dedicated time, talent, and treasure to create a church where God's love is both lived and shared to build up the kingdom of God right here in Guildwood village and beyond. Many thanks to Robbie Rhodes and Denise Byard for all their work to make this Campaign a success.

Fundraising

We thank all who contributed to the fundraising initiatives in 2023 by coordinating, leading, staffing, shopping, donating, and inviting others to events. We had a good year despite the ongoing pandemic and were able to raise \$15,000 through our various initiatives.

Our 3rd Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Soup to Go Sale was very successful and raised \$1,525. Thank you to Sydney Baxter-Dennis, Michael Cooksey, and Matthew Cooksey.

The May Yard Sale raised \$2,000 despite a shortage of parish volunteers to work at the event. Many thanks to Denise Byard and her family for doing most of the work.

The Guildwood Day BBQ Lunch in June raised \$2,000. Thank you to John Hetherington for coordinating the BBQ at this annual community celebration.

The November Bazaar was a wonderful example of the power of Giving Our Thanks and Praise. Many of you gave generously of your time and talent to make it a success. Over 300 families come to Holy Trinity, Guildwood's Bazaar thanks to our internal promotions, social media, community signs, and property signs. The Bazaar area coordinators did a fantastic job, in addition to the many saints and angels who assisted at various stages of preparation and staffing sales tables - Cathy M and Lisa B, Arlene and Carolyn, Michael C and Sydney B-D, Nicole, Marion B, and Stephen K. A special thank you to the Tangnesses, and the Hetheringtons who assisted with many behind-the-scenes logistics as well as to Nancy M and Beth R for all their hard work in coordinating the silent auction. Thank you to the many saints and angels who assisted behind the scenes – Cassandra M, Craig and Mollie, Flo, Mary Beth M-S, Royce, Stephanie H. Thank you to those who donated and those who came to buy. Two youths from Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate came to help, and even Santa came for a visit. Thank you to Denise Byard for coordinating this event. It was our best bazaar ever for time, talent and treasure, and raised \$10,100.

Grants

We received several grants this year: two from the Sharnagl Family Fund to support our food cupboard; one from Community Food Centres of Canada to support a Disability Without Poverty Town Hall meeting and one from the Ontario Government's program to support security measures in faith organizations. Thank you to Denise Byard for researching and writing these grant applications.

Wardens – Sydney Baxter-Dennis and Michael Cooksey

Commitment Coordinator - Robbie Rhodes

Information Coordinator - Janet Tangness

Ex-Officio - Stephen Kirkegaard

Administrative Support - Denise Byard

Pre-Synod and Regular Session of Synod

The Diocese of Toronto's 162nd Regular Session of Synod program included a pre-Synod meeting held virtually on October 21st (via an online event platform) to enhance Synod members' understanding of the items on the Regular Session of Synod agenda. It's summarized in a PDF document that you can download from this [2023 Regular Synod summary page](#) on the Diocesan website.

Pre-Synod was followed by the Regular Session of Synod held in-person on November 17 – 18, 2023, in Richmond Hill. It was a large, high energy gathering of more than 500 people – including five of us from Holy Trinity, Guildwood (Rev. Canon Stephen Kirkegaard, Denise Byard, myself, as well as Tanya and Rohelio Sanxhaku representing youth, and Robbie Rhodes managing the Anglican Worship Resources Society booth).

A thorough summary of each day's highlights (including links to motions brought forward, Missional Moments, the bishop's Charge and other Synod documents/videos) can be found on the previously cited summary page on the Diocesan website. To avoid duplication, this report focuses on the meeting's core elements and aspects I found most relevant to our parish.

Theme and Bishop's Charge

Synod 2023's theme was the next stage of "Cast the Net": vision and calls. For reference, Cast the Net is the strategic visioning process that the Diocese's began in mid-2022 to help meet the challenges and opportunities the next five years will bring. It's based on John 21:14, when the resurrected Jesus told the disciples to cast their net to the other side of the boat, because the old ways no longer worked. Similarly, Cast the Net is designed to help us respond to God's call in familiar and different ways than before.

Bishop Andrew's charge dovetailed with Cast the Net and centred around 'stories' – our own and other's. Quoting James Smith in his book *Imagining the Kingdom: How Worship Works*, he said "we live into the stories that absorb us. We become the characters that captivate us. Then our actions become kind of a script" that we're unconsciously drawn into via our imaginations. His charge is also built on John 21:14, which he suggests outlines the script or series of actions that we've been drawn into over the past 15 months. After going through a time of COVID, we, like the disciples, are now invited to stand on a new threshold on the beach, looking to the future.

Beyond our own stories, Bishop Andrew stressed the importance of listening to other people's stories, to the extent that we are "absorbed into the telling" and use what we hear to inform our script. This process includes being absorbed into the telling of stories of pain, such as those of residential school survivors. He explained how some parishes (like ours) have heard, been absorbed and responded to hunger pangs in their communities with a food bank or a community garden. This subtlety is important for our parish to note as we move forward with our work on anti-racism, reconciliation and listening to the needs of vulnerable people in our community.

Appropriately, the First Nations Version of the New Testament was used for the morning service's Gospel reading. I think it forces you to listen with "fresh ears," as neither Jesus or the disciples are directly named but referenced by their dominant attributes, such as "one who hears" for Simon, "stand on the rock" for Peter and "creator sets free" for Jesus. As we've

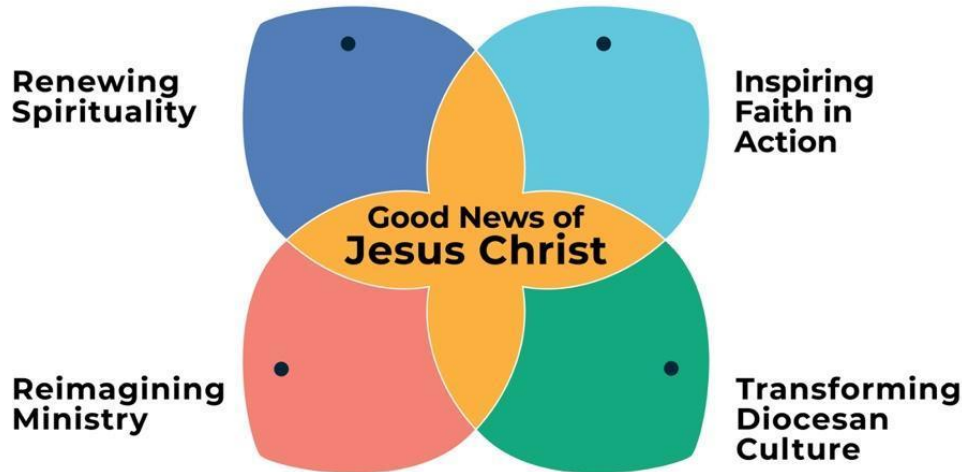
previously done, it's inclusive and beneficial for us to use this version occasionally as we continue to work toward change and reconciliation.

In observing the majestic imagery this version paints, Bishop Andrew reminded us that all we do needs to “bring creation into the foreground of everything we do as servants of Christ.” This focus aligns with our Earth Angels’ work but it’s also a reminder that each of us has a role in it. (A [complete transcript of the Bishop’s Charge is available here](#) on the Diocesan website.)

Cast the Net

Since the last Synod, the Cast the Net team asked clergy and lay leaders across the Diocese to imagine how we can be innovative in finding new ways of being church -- and listened to their answers. Michael Cooksey and Pat Murray shared their thoughts in one session, while Stephen and Denise gave input via several forums throughout the process.

The Cast the Net team distilled this input into a vision statement and 20 calls (endorsed at Synod). These calls are divided into four sections, as depicted in the following diagram:



You can find a summary of each section, as well as each call [listed on this page](#). Some calls directly reflect our ministries at Holy Trinity, Guildwood, while others cite actions we may need to increase or adopt as we move forward. Central to all is this vision statement: “*Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, serve the world God loves!*” It aligns well with our own vision and in November we began using it as our services’ dismissal.

While these calls can be addressed concurrently, initial focus will be on “Renewing Spirituality” calls, which will begin in 2024 with a Season of Spiritual Renewal to deepen personal and collective discipleship and run until fall 2025.

Bishop Andrew also introduced:

- A [Cast and Learn Grant Program](#) – one-time grants to encourage parishes to take up the opportunity Cast the Net presents. These grants may be worth Holy Trinity, Guildwood pursuing.

- A Capital campaign to sustain ministry and help our most vulnerable communities. The intent is to design this campaign so that most of the funding remains in parishes to help at the frontline.
- A companionship program between the Diocese of Toronto and the Diocese of Brasilia and its Bishop – the Rt. Rev. Maurício José Araújo de Andrade, who was Synod’s guest speaker.

Attendees responded positively to Cast the Net, but some expressed cautious optimism as “I hope we get it right this time.” As most of the calls are high level, they’re open to interpretation on exact scope and “how” they’ll be implemented. At pre-Synod and Synod, attendees raised concerns about possible gaps, such as lack of reference to interfaith dialogue, ministry partnerships, mental health and hospitality/healthcare evangelism, as well as tangible actions for each. In Cast the Net’s next phase, the team will produce a final report with detailed recommendations, which should close these gaps.

Governance and Pilot Project for Synod Council

Following a two-year pilot of a new governance structure for Synod Council, an evaluation, interim review and final review report were completed. Synod received this final report and approved its recommendation to make the new structure permanent. While the Synod Council has a defined mandate, its permanency is contingent on more comprehensive communication to the Diocese about its structure and the structure/mandate of each sub-committee. Similarly, the report includes an overall recommendation for more plain language communication (which I wholeheartedly endorse).

A number of Canons to formally establish the Synod Council were also passed at Synod, such as granting the Risk and Governance Committee (previously the Trusts Committee) decision-making authority. And a new Diocesan Minister was appointed to support the focus on planting and fostering new and innovative ministries. However, there are still some challenges to resolve, such as facilitating transition from a parish model (whereby for example, only the initiating parish is credited for collaborative initiatives) to a regionalization model (whereby credit for collaborative initiatives is shared).

Other governance-related Canons were brought forward and passed. The most relevant one for us is changes to Canon 14, which approved increasing the income threshold on parishes that require an audit to align with provincial legislation. Specifically, as a parish with annual revenue of less than \$500,000 in a given year, our vestry may now, with the bishop’s approval, pass an extraordinary resolution with a compilation engagement for the financial year without an audit. However, we may continue to have an audit because omitting one could hinder our eligibility for external/non-Diocesan grants.

Creation Care, Justice and Reconciliation

The Diocese supports and challenges parishes to address climate change through education, prayer, liturgy, and advocacy in partnership with the wider church. Furthermore, it will work collaboratively to provide resources to help parishes reduce their carbon footprint.

There was also a follow-up to the “Net Zero Churches” model endorsed at the last Synod to help diocesan properties reduce Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) dramatically via heating and cooling system upgrades. This model includes a practical process to help parishes review their common policies, identify opportunities, and implement measurable changes. This year,

we all received a Heating Systems Data questionnaire to help ours and other parishes move towards completing a self-guided building and energy audit by our next building survey.

Deepening commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and promoting diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism remain priorities (and are integral to several Cast the Net calls). To that end, the Diocese is hiring a part-time diversity officer to help facilitate work in this area.

Care of the LGBTQ community also falls under this ministry and in the members' time, concerns, such as gender-neutral washrooms and a call for more gender-neutral terms in services, were raised. (At this point I believe Stephen has begun to do the latter, where feasible.) There is no immediate mandate for gender-neutral washrooms but it's helpful for leaders to know that there is a movement pushing for them.

The Diocese also continues to advocate at all government levels for:

- Adequate income supports, wages and working conditions that enable people to meet their basic needs and uphold human dignity and well-being.
- Affordable housing

To support these efforts, the Diocese approved [this Social Justice Vestry Motion for 2023](#) that speaks to protecting and advancing the right to housing. (Note: Related resources will be added between November 2023 and early January 2024.)

Missional and Outreach Moments and Worship Opportunities

Throughout the pre-Synod meeting and two-day Synod, there were Missional Moment videos highlighting parish and Diocese initiatives (which are [archived here on the Diocese website](#)).

One memorable moment introduced the "[Hiking Church](#)," which the Bishop's Committee on Creation Care developed. It connects participants with creation – noticing signs of life where creation is flourishing, as well as where it is stressed. We all thought this initiative might be a great fit for our church. (A [guide and resource document can be downloaded from this page](#) on the Diocesan website.)

Another moment featured the [2023 Scarborough Steeplechase and Holy Trinity, Guildwood's work](#) on this collaborative initiative, a moment of pride for our parish that we hope will help others.

And during the Member's Time, the interim Minister from St. Andrews by the Lake (Toronto Island), announced its move to a day retreat model and invited parishes to visit. Exploring this invitation may give us a dual opportunity to worship in another tranquil setting and gain insights to help inform our reconciliation work, as St. Andrews also supports a large Indigenous community.

Breakout Sessions:

Volunteering

Stephen attended a breakout session focused on volunteering and aptly named “*Where have all the volunteers gone?*” This session’s presentation [can be downloaded from here](#) and offers some practical insights that would be valuable for all our leaders who work with volunteers to peruse.

Youth and Children’s Ministry

Denise, Tanya and Rohelio attended a workshop on Youth and Children’s ministry. (Its presentation is planned for release in 2024.)

Parish Properties and Affordable Housing

The Diocese’s 2024-2025 plans and priorities have a strong focus on helping address the housing crisis through redeveloping and repurposing closed and vacant churches BUT not selling these assets.

I attended the affordable housing breakout and learned about the work in progress to develop a long-term blueprint, parish toolkits and a full pilot development project. So far, Synod Council has approved a Master Agreement that sets out a process, fee structure, and defines the framework for working with [Kindred Works](#) – a real estate company affiliated with the United Church and focused on property development that creates social, economic and sustainability benefits for everyone. It can help parishes navigate and complete processes, such as feasibility assessments, budgeting, tenant screening and facility management agreements.

The Diocese (via its recently established Property Resource Department) also aims to become an invaluable resource partner and trusted advisor to help active churches maximize the potential of Diocesan real estate. It’s also reviewing property-related processes and procedures across the GTA to help make them more user-friendly, streamlined and accessible.

So, while we have no current plans to pursue affordable housing on our property or changing our property management strategy, the Diocese’s heightened focus on these topics and resources they’re producing may offer us some long-term benefits.

Financial Stewardship and Allotments

Post-pandemic, the Diocese has experienced a resurgence in revenue from the Marriott Hotel, which will continue to support its operating budget. However, the Finance Committee projects that investment income will remain lower than pre-pandemic levels for the next couple of years.

With church closures and reduced attendance post pandemic, parish allotments can no longer meet the Diocesan budget’s primary financial needs, a motion was passed at the last Synod for Synod Council to present a detailed report on the possibility of covering past and future budget deficits using investment income rather than increasing parish assessments.

In response, the episcopal leadership changed to reflect this fiscal reality. The finance committee also explored all Diocesan investments for additional revenue sources but concluded that use and endowment restrictions make it impossible to leverage additional investment funds for operations, beyond those already in use. It also noted that it does not see increasing the assessment rate for parishes as an option to support the budget.

Therefore, to fund its operations and cover past and future deficits, the Diocese advised it will need to:

- Give financial priority to initiatives that are key for growth
- Reduce its operating budget, or ideally, increase revenue from alternate sources.
- Continue to explore alternate revenue streams, particularly strategic utilization of vacant and closed churches.

While the potential to repurpose/lease spaces offers sustainable ways to strengthen financial resources, Diocesan leaders stressed that any real estate use will be balanced with the need for affordable housing, particularly for vulnerable communities.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Hetherington



**REGULAR SESSION OF
SYNOD 2023**

WELCOME MINISTRY

Effectively performing the Ministries of Welcome and Sidespeople was once again challenging in 2023 with a reduced number of Greeters and ongoing concerns about viruses, but our small team of volunteers deserves a lot of praise and gratitude for their valiant efforts to ensure that all are greeted at the church door.

With more new people in the congregation, our combined Ministries would love to have new recruits. The greatest requirement is the ability to offer a warm welcome to all and a desire to engage and get to know the whole congregation. It's a once-a-month commitment on average that involves arriving at the church at least 20 minutes before service time and staying long enough after service to say good-bye to visitors in particular, close windows and straighten up the pews and book racks. A binder is available for taking names and contact information from those who wish to provide it. Being a Greeter is not an onerous job and is very socially rewarding. If you are at all interested, please speak with Flo Schwerdtner at 416-284-6269.

Mary Beth needs to step back for the time being from acting as coordinator of this Ministry, regretfully leaving Flo Schwerdtner shouldering the sole responsibility for scheduling and managing the Ministry. Fortunately, our membership is amazing in their independence within their roles, which will hopefully make Flo's job relatively easy. Mary Beth will continue to act as a Greeter (and consultant) whenever she is able, so this is not a complete break, but she does want to say what a privilege it has been for many years to help ensure that people feel genuinely welcomed and comfortable in our church home. May everyone always feel they have a home at Holy Trinity, Guildwood!

Respectfully submitted by Flo Schwerdtner and Mary Beth Moffatt-Sinclair



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) is a World Wide ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT

In 2023, the WDP service was held at Scarborough Bluffs United Church on March 3rd. The country we studied and prayed for was Taiwan. The women of Taiwan were chosen to write the 2023 service.

The Churches in our area all take part in the presentation of the service and it is usually held the first week in March, depending on the availability of the host Church. Our area has Guildwood Presbyterian Church, Holy Trinity, Guildwood, Christ Church Scarborough, St. Boniface, and Scarborough Bluffs congregations involved. We all take turns hosting the once-a-year ecumenical service and enjoy meeting our neighbours from these churches. The service is open to everyone, men included. All the choirs are invited. Prior to last year we held the services online. It is nice to meet in person.

The service this year is at Guildwood Presbyterian Church and the service has been written by the Christian women of Palestine. The service will be at **2 pm Friday March 1st**. Plan on attending, you will enjoy it. The people of Palestine do need our prayers more than ever this year.

Next year, 2025, the service will be hosted by St. Boniface Church.

Respectfully submitted by Shirley Knautz

