



Annual Report

2023-2024

*Connecting with God, Growing with Others,
Serving with Purpose*

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Annual Meeting Agenda

7pm Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85847892283>

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

2. Approval of Minutes of Feb. 28, 2023

3. Incumbent's Report & Discussion

The Incumbent welcomes the insights, questions, and observations of those present on each of the issues raised in his report.

4. Executive Report from the Wardens and Treasurer

5. Reception of all Distributed Reports

6. Presentation and Approval of Proposed Budget for 2024

7. Election of Parish Officers

Warden: Lorraine Brown and Laura Myers have agreed to continue to serve as our parish wardens.

Vestry: The following members of Vestry have agreed to serve again this year:
Paula Bawn, Donna Leonard, Justin Stanley, Karen Stanley, Glenna Geer, Debbie O'Bryant, Dawn Lent, Tricia Phillips, Buzz Payne, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, and Joanna DiProse.

Alice Kennedy will complete her term as a member of Vestry as of this meeting.

Beth McBride has agreed to let her name stand as a candidate for Vestry.

Delegates to Synod: Debbie O'Bryant and Laura Myers have agreed to let their names stand as Delegates to Synod

Alternates to Synod: Joanna DiProse has agreed to let her name stand as an Alternate to Synod.

10. Adjournment *Following the annual meeting, the members of Vestry are asked to remain to appoint a Treasurer, Vestry Clerk, and Parish Advisory Committee, and to arrange an offering counting schedule for the year ahead.*

Incumbent's Report 2023

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

- Jesus (John 15:8)

This is my 10th Incumbent's Report as the rector of St. Paul's, Hampton, which is something of a milestone. What makes this report feel particularly significant to me, however, is the sense of renewed vitality that has emerged in the life of our parish over this past year. In this past year, we have finally begun to regain some of the momentum that was lost due to the pandemic.

The impacts of the pandemic are still with us and continue to present us with significant challenges, and yet, over the past year we have seen new people come to faith in Jesus through our ministries. We have celebrated more baptisms in our parish in the past year than we did in the previous 3 years. We have welcomed more new families into the life and mission of our parish in the past year than in the previous 3 years. We've seen engagement in worship, participation in small group gatherings, and financial support for the mission of St. Paul's all grow in this past year.

There's no going back to the way things were before the pandemic, and there are a lot of big questions with which we still need to wrestle. Nevertheless, we are beginning to see the fruit of God's faithfulness to us through the trials of the past several years, and this renewed vitality and growth confirms that the best way for us to face the challenges that remain is to stay focused on the things that have made this renewed vitality possible.

Jesus says, **"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit."** (John 15:5). The renewed vitality that we've seen in the past year is the fruit of God's faithfulness to us as we have strived to "remain in" Jesus. In practice, this has meant staying focused on three things in particular:

- 1) Connecting with God**
- 2) Growing with Others**
- 3) Serving with Purpose**

These are the ways that we have strived to remain in Jesus and through which God has blessed us, and these are the things on which we must remain focused as we move into a new season of mission and ministry together.

1. CONNECTING WITH GOD

Worship Attendance in 2023

One of the very first things that the pandemic took from us and which we have struggled to regain ever since is our ability to gather with others as we connect with God in worship.

In 2020, average worship attendance in our parish plummeted by nearly 40% as a direct result of the pandemic. As public health restrictions eased, we had hoped to see people come back to worship. By the end of 2022, however, our average worship attendance remained well below our pre-pandemic numbers at less than 70% of our average attendance in 2019, and our largest worship gathering in 2022 was less than 50% of our largest gathering in 2019.

Attendance Across ALL Worship Services in 2019:

Average Attendance = **84**

Maximum Attendance for a Worship Service in 2019 = **144**

Attendance Across ALL Worship Services in 2022:

Average In-person Attendance = **44**

Average Online Attendance = **13**

Maximum In-person Attendance for a Worship Service in 2022 = **70**

Thankfully, in 2023 worship attendance finally began to creep back a little closer to what we enjoyed before the pandemic.

Attendance Across ALL Worship Services in 2023:

Average In-person Attendance = **62**

Average Online Attendance = **6**

Maximum In-person Attendance for a Worship Service in 2023 = **137**

It may seem to go without saying that prayer and worship are important to the life of a church. Yet the ongoing decline of church attendance in the wider culture and the well documented benefits that regular church attendance provides (see the public health studies cited below) mean that we must never take gathering to pray and worship together for granted.

We cannot remain in Jesus and bear fruit as a community of his disciples without regularly connecting with God in prayer and worship together. That's why I am so grateful that so many of our members have remained so diligent about regularly gathering for prayer and worship each week. Without their commitment to gathering for worship, St. Paul's would be in a far more vulnerable state than it is today.

I am particularly grateful to the many leaders and volunteers who not only make our regular worship gatherings possible but also make them such a blessing to be a part of.

I am extremely grateful to our layreaders and readers, to our greeters and those who provide refreshments each week. I am grateful to our tech. crew, ushers, Sunday School volunteers, to the Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran for the leadership she provides in our worship, and to Sharon Kelly who so lovely and diligently coordinates all these volunteers each week.

We're also blessed at St. Paul's to have several musicians and singers who eagerly share their musical gifts with us as we praise God together in song. One of the highlights over the past year has been the growing number of parishioners that have joined our choir and have so enriched our worship life together.

Going Forward in Prayer & Worship

The practice of regularly connecting with God in prayer and worship together is kind of like the engine of our church. It energizes the life of our church, and it keeps us moving forward as a church. But there is something else that happens as we regularly gather for worship that is vitally important as well. As we regularly connect with God in prayer and worship together, we see and experience the truth that our shared relationship with God is far greater, more important, and more powerful than any of the things that may divide us.

It seems that nearly every single day there is something new that divides people. People are more and more divided over social issues and political issues and moral issues, and people are finding it harder and harder to live with the those with whom they disagree. Regularly connecting with God in prayer and worship together doesn't just energize our spiritual lives and the life of our church. It is a grace filled act of resistance against the forces that seek to divide us. Regularly connecting with God in prayer and worship together is one of the very best things we can do, not just for the sake of our own spiritual lives and the life of our church, but for the health and wellbeing of our wider community as well.

Connecting with God in prayer and worship, while actively inviting and welcoming others to pray and worship with us, must remain a key priority if we are to continue to move forward as a church and bless our wider community.

Public Health Studies on the Benefits of Regular Church Attendance:

"Opiates of the Masses? Deaths of Despair and the Decline of American Religion". National Bureau of Economic Research. Jan. 2023. https://www.nber.org/system/files/working_papers/w30840/w30840.pdf

"Regularly Attending Religious Services Associated with Lower Risk of Deaths of Despair". Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. May 2020. <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/press-releases/regularly-attending-religious-services-associated-with-lower-risk-of-deaths-of-despair/>

2. GROWING WITH OTHERS

More Baptisms and New Members 2023

There were no baptisms at St. Paul's, Hampton in 2020 or in 2021 and only one baptism in 2022. In 2023, however, we celebrated 4 baptisms and a 5th baptism at the very beginning of 2024.

In 2023, we also saw 10 new households join St. Paul's as regular financial contributors to our life and mission together and during that same period 46 households who were already contributing to St. Paul's chose to increase their regular financial contributions.

These are very positive signs that we are beginning to regain the vitality that was lost as a result of the pandemic, and many of these signs of renewed vitality have a direct connection to the small group discussion series that we offer at St. Paul's and to groups like Mothers' Union and the Guild of St. Joseph (a.k.a. The Holy Joes).

Small Group Discussions, Mothers' Union and The Holy Joes

Of the 5 baptisms we celebrated in the past year, 3 of those baptized completed the Alpha course at St. Paul's in 2023 and took part in one or more of the subsequent small group discussion series that were offered after Alpha. Meanwhile, our Tuesday morning Bible study (a.k.a. "Coffee & Conversation") and our regular Thursday evening small group gatherings have been vital in providing opportunities for both newcomers and longtime members of the parish to connect and grow in their relationships with one another.

Two other major contributors to our growth together have been the Mothers' Union and The Holy Joes. The importance of these groups in helping the friends and members of St. Paul's grow with one another cannot be overstated. They have been integral to the life of our parish for decades. They are both headed entirely by parishioners, and consistently provide the people of St. Paul's with valuable opportunities to not only get to know one another other, but to learn together and serve together as well. I am so grateful for these groups and for all the ways they bless us and help us grow together.

The Future of Christian Formation

In the past, most of the baptisms in our parish were of infants and children and most of our new members were born into the parish. As our culture continues to change, however, and fewer parents choose to bring their children to church, more and more of the Christian education and spiritual formation that we offer will need to be tailored to adults, many of whom will have had little or no previous connection with a church. Bible studies, small group discussions and groups like Mothers'

Union and the Holy Joes will have a more important role in providing opportunities for people to grow in their understanding and experience of Christian faith.

Those who join St. Paul's in the future will need these gatherings and these groups to provide much more than just a chance to socialize. They will need these gatherings and these groups to nurture them spiritually and to provide them with the kinds of relationships in which they can grow as followers of Jesus.

A recent survey of Canadians who had become Christians as adults asked them to list the ways that their lives had improved since coming to faith in Jesus. Many respondents answered that they had become more forgiving, more patient and kinder. Many of them also said that they had gained a new sense of purpose and were now more generous with their money (the title of the study and a link to its results can be found below). But these and the many of the other benefits of faith in Jesus do not emerge all at once. They come as the result of continued spiritual growth with others.

For us to really enjoy the benefits that faith in Jesus provides and to help others enjoy them as well, we need to remain committed to and focused on growing in Jesus together through Bible study and spiritually relevant discussions, and by supporting groups like Mothers' Union and the Holy Joes.

“FINDING FAITH IN CANADA TODAY: A Study on How Canadians Become Christians”

by Jeremy McClung and John Bowen. Wycliffe College Institute of Evangelism. January 2024

<https://institute.wycliffecollege.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2024-GI-Jan-Finding-Faith-in-Canada-Today-1.pdf>

3. SERVING WITH PURPOSE

Worship Services, Small Group Gatherings, Community Suppers, and Sacred Spaces

Jesus says that he came “not to be served, but to serve” (Matthew 20:28, Mark 10:45). “Remaining in” Jesus the way he describes in John 15:5, therefore, means serving others in the way of Jesus.

Individually, each of the people of St. Paul's serves their neighbours in countless ways, and their service blesses our community and helps them grow spiritually. But we also serve the needs of the community together as a church in ways that none of us can serve on our own, and it's as we serve our community in these ways that both we and our neighbours are given the opportunity to grow in our shared experience of the goodness and love of God.

Here are the three most prominent ways in which we serve our community together as a church:

- 1) We provide opportunities for people to connect with God,** particularly in prayer and worship.
- 2) We provide opportunities for people to grow together.** This includes growing together in their understanding and experience of the Christian faith (through Bible studies, discussion

series etc.), and growing together in community (through Mothers' Union and the Holy Joes, our free community meals, and special community events).

- 3) We maintain sacred spaces;** namely our sanctuary and cemetery in which community members have continued to draw near to God and to their departed loved ones for generations. Some would argue that the land provided by St. Paul's to the Hampton Community Garden is also a kind of sacred space in which our community members are able to nurture their connection with creation and the land.

None of us can do these things on our own. Each of these areas of service depends on the selfless contributions of time, expertise, enthusiasm, leadership, talent, and financial support from a multiple people.

In the ministry reports that follow, you will see in detail the kinds of contributions that our members have made over the past year as we have served together to bless our community. These contributions deserve to be celebrated and need to be acknowledged because without them we simply could not do what we do as a church.

It is only because of the service and dedication of our members that we as a church are able to help people **Connect with God** in prayer and worship, **Grow with Others** in faith and community, and do these things in a space that has been sacred to the people of Hampton for more than 200 years.

Moving Forward in Service

As we continue to serve our community into the future it will be important for us to recognize and respond to the need for change in the service we provide while remaining firmly rooted in the purpose that drives our service. Put another way, we need to be ready to change the ways in which we serve while maintaining a clear understanding of why we serve together as a church.

For example, the ways in which we help people connect with God has had to change in recent years and will have to keep changing again and again as both the culture around us and as our circumstances continue to change. The same is true for the ways in which we help people grow together in faith and community. Also, our ability to maintain sacred spaces in which we gather will change. Our ability to maintain our aging building may come to end, and/or the space we provide may have to radically change. As we continue to serve our neighbours together as a church, we will need to continually discern what and how our service needs to change.

But the purpose of our service will remain the same. We serve others because that is what Jesus came to do. We serve others because that is what Jesus has called us to do. And we serve others so that we and those we serve may grow in our shared experience of the goodness and love of God.

CONNECTING, GROWING, SERVING

We have been blessed in so many ways this past year at St. Paul's. God has blessed us in and through the wonderful new people that he has brought to us and through the ongoing commitment and devotion of our very faithful longtime members and leaders. After struggling for several years, we are beginning to see the fruit of God's faithfulness to us in the midst of those struggles, and this fruit confirms that whatever struggles still remain, the best thing we can do is stay focused on Connecting with God, Growing with Others and Serving with Purpose. These are the ways we have remained in Jesus throughout our recent struggles, and these are the ways in and through which God will continue to bless us so that we can be a blessing to those around us.

THANK-YOUS

Each and every person who comes to St. Paul's, prays for St. Paul's, serves and contributes financially to the mission of St. Paul's deserves to be celebrated, thanked and acknowledged. If that includes you, please know that I am deeply grateful for everything you have contributed to our life and mission together over this past year.

I am particularly grateful to Sharon Kelly our Office Administrator and Sunday Morning Ministries Coordinator, and who is always a huge help with our Children's Ministry. Special thanks to Sharon as well for her hard work in compiling this year's Annual Report.

Thank you to each of you who made submissions to the parish report on behalf of your respected ministries and groups. Each of the Ministry Reports in this larger Parish Report points, not only to the dedication and faithfulness of our ministry leaders, but to God's continued eagerness to bless people through the life and mission of St. Paul's.

My profound thanks to Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran for her support to the Vestry, her leadership in our worship gatherings and her faithful dedication to visiting, bringing Communion to, and praying with the many people who are not able to gather with us in person on Sunday mornings.

Thanks to Clarence Miller and Stephen MacMackin for their attention to our buildings' maintenance and improvement needs. Thanks to Mike Fillmore who works to keep our worship space and parish hall clean and ready to welcome people every single week.

Thanks to the members of our Cemetery Committee: Stephen MacMackin, Alice Kennedy, Janice Kelly, Sharon Kelly, Estelle Fowler, and David Fillmore who manage and maintain the resting place of so many of our community's departed loved ones.

Thanks to all the singers in our choir, and to our musicians Kate Turner, Laura Myers, Paul McAfee, and Arlene & Alan DesRoches for their support of our music ministry.

Thanks to Declan Bayer, Silas Turner, Katie Hoyt, Stan Brown, John Cochran and Chris Rendell for their help running the video, sound and streaming technology each Sunday.

Thanks to our layreaders: Heather Miller, Myra Stites, Lorraine Brown, and Debbie O'Bryant, and to our many readers and greeters who bless us with their time and service in worship.

Thanks to Heather Miller and the Fellowship Team for all they did to make eating together part of the life of our parish again this year.

Thanks also to our Vestry members: Paula Bawn, Donna Leonard, Justin Stanley, Karen Stanley, Glenna Geer, Debbie O'Bryant, Dawn Lent, Tricia Phillips, Buzz Payne, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, Joanna DiProse and in particular Alice Kennedy whose term on Vestry concludes as of our annual meeting on February 27, 2024.

I cannot express enough thanks to our Wardens Lorraine Brown and Laura Myers for their diligent leadership and service to our parish, and to our Treasurer Stephen MacMackin for so ably overseeing our finances.

We also give thanks and praise to God in loving memory of all the members and friends of St. Paul's who passed away this past year, in particular Ralph Richards, Myrna Richards, Christene Sooley, and Harry Beyea. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore.

Humbly Submitted,

The Rev. David Turner +
Incumbent of the Anglican Parish of Hampton

Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 2024

IN MEMORIAM

We give thanks and praise to God in memory of the members and friends of St. Paul's who passed away in 2023.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
and my light perpetual shine upon them.

Ralph Richards

Myrna Richards

Christene Sooley

Harry Beyea

Warden's Report 2023

Another year has come and gone for St. Paul's Anglican Church in beautiful Hampton, New Brunswick. A lot has happened in the last year, and we have so much to be thankful for. As Covid restrictions lifted, we were able to return to many of the activities that had been put on hold last year.

One of the most obvious changes was the increase in the number of parishioners who returned to in person services. We were very fortunate to have the personnel and the technology to continue to offer Zoom services to those who wish to attend 10:30 services online.

The number of families that attended Sunday services increased, and family tables continued to be very popular. Sunday School for children aged 4 – 10 is a wonderful time of learning and we also started offering a "Sunday School" for teens in the office. We hope that this will continue. Thank-you to our Sunday School volunteers.

We were also able to increase our fellowship events, including coffee and treats before the 10:30 service, church lunches and free community dinners. Thank-you to Heather Miller and the fellowship committee who helped organize, prepare, and serve food, and a special thanks to the clean-up crew that always stayed until the last dish is washed and dried.

In an effort to reduce our church's emissions, a St. Paul's Climate Action Team has been created. This team came up with a list of possible actions that will help us reduce our energy consumption and we will start working through the list in the coming year.

In March, St. Paul's offered Alpha and it was very well attended. In fact, people enjoyed getting together so much that when Alpha ended, people continued to gather on Thursday evenings to watch "The Chosen".

In the fall, we said good-bye to Luka Malatestinic, who has been with us helping with tech since the spring of 2020. Luka is off to Ottawa and we wish him well. Thankfully, we have new students who were trained to take his place. Thank-you to Katie, Declan and Silas!

Weekly high school grilled cheese lunches continue to be very popular. Thank-you to the volunteers and the members of other churches who help with this wonderful program.

St. Paul's choir has made a come back and numbers are increasing. This has been a great addition to our 10:30 services. Thank-you to David and Kate for leading this music ministry.

It's hard to believe, but this year marked David's 10th anniversary at St. Paul's! In October, we celebrated this milestone and clergy appreciation month by organizing a church lunch and surprising David with a basket of gifts, cards and gift cards that were donated by the parishioners. We are so thankful for everything he has brought to our church family.

Other notable events were the Cemetery Service, open houses at David and Kate's house, and an Advent wreath making activity. We also held three Christmas services this year; an evening service that

included a pop-up pageant, including piano students, a late evening service and a Christmas morning service. There was truly something for everyone.

Mother's Union and the Holy Joe's continue to meet and we are so thankful for the ministry that these two groups contribute to our church.

The Coffee and Conversation group continues meeting in person at the DeMille Place common room. It is a time of connection, checking in, and some meaningful discussions that arise from the scriptures studied.

Thank you to Sharon Kelly for all you do for us. Your work does not go unnoticed, and we hope you know how much we appreciate all you do for us.

Last, but definitely not least, on behalf of the vestry, thank-you to David. Your leadership is a blessing to us, and we give thanks for you.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Myers and Lorraine Brown

Deacon's Report 2023

As we enter 2024, I thank God for His direction, guidance and presence over this past year at St. Paul's. Ministry always seems to have more for us to learn and new ideas to challenge us on the horizon. I am excited to see which direction God will take our church over the next year and where He wants to send us, as we continue being servants for Him.

Last January, I completed Module III and IV of my Spiritual Direction Program which has been both fulfilling physically and spiritually, growing in a more intimate relationship with Christ. I continue to meet on a monthly basis with my Spiritual Mentor to discuss how I have been encouraged and how I have received the Holy Spirit's guidance through this program. In January 2024, it is my hope to offer a 'taste' of Spiritual Direction exercises to parish members who may find this of interest. In the meantime, I have joined a CLC (Christian Life Community) group to continue to focus on St. Ignatius Spirituality with others who have also completed the Spiritual Conversation Exercises. We meet bi-weekly on Sunday afternoons over Zoom.

I continue to participate as the Vestry Clerk (typing minutes) for our Vestry meetings, attend Deanery meetings, head up our Prayer Chain and attend occasional meetings with Rev. David as they arise, along with involvement in our weekly worship services.

I visit the nursing/senior care homes offering home communion on a monthly basis at Daeka Care Facility, Living Hope Senior Care Home, Birch Grove Apartments, Dr. V.A Snow Center, Ossekeag Manor and the DeMille Apartments. I presently have 32 residents that I visit. They enjoy a visit, participating in home communion and spending time in prayer for a loved one, friend or whomever, as the need arises. Unfortunately, I have not always been able to visit the residents in the nursing/senior homes because of restrictions due to Covid or other illness.

Our 12-12-12 group got together on April 19th, 2023 and again on October 25th, 2023 at Trinity Church in Sussex, with me and one other cleric co-moderating this program.

On August 6th through August 27th, I led services while Rev. David and his family took a well-deserved vacation. I also lead services at other times when the need arises.

In October, I sent a message to parish members who may be interested in doing pastoral care. Three members who have shown an interest, I had attend the "How I Can Help" workshop on October 21, 2023, put on by Holy Trinity, Hammond River. It was a full day of great information shared by speaker Rick Benson. Since attending the workshop, I have had one member at a time, come with me on visits and to shadow me.

Although this year has been both challenging and rewarding – working casually, preaching, home communions, vestry, meetings with David, 12-12-12, Spiritual Direction, etc., it has also been a sad time with the passing of residents I have visited, parishioners, and others known to me. Regardless of the many "ups and downs" this past year, the time has gone by quickly, bringing us closer together as a Church family.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Rev. David Turner and his family, along with members of St. Paul's, Hampton, for their insight, direction, guidance and support, while sharing the gospel, participating in many church events and in helping those less fortunate. I look forward to the new direction in which God may be sending each one of us, and to where it will lead us in the future in the Parish of St. Paul's, Hampton.

Your sister in Christ,

Rev. Deacon Deborah Cochran

**“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”
Ephesians 4:32**

2023 AGM Minutes

February 28, 2023 – 7pm

Incumbent: *Rev. David Turner*
Wardens: *Elaine Robichaud, Lorraine Brown*
Treasurer: *Stephen MacMackin*
Vestry Clerk: *Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran*

Attendees: Dawn Lent, Rev. David Turner, Rev. Deacon Debbie Cochran, Tricia Phillips, Paula Bawn, Lois Moore, Hilary Perry, Stephen MacMackin, Dennis Stevenson, Gordon “Buzz” Payne, Sharon Kelly, Elaine Robichaud, Paul Robichaud, Lorraine Brown, Alice Kennedy, Laura Myers, Glenna Geer, Jean Bates, Debbie O’Bryant, Beth McBride, Joanna Diprose,, Tracy Price, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, Donna Leonard, Janice Kelly, Karen Stanley, Bruce Kennedy.

Regrets: Nil

Sang “Be Thou My Vision”

Territorial Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional, unceded and unsundered territory of the Wolastoqey and Mi’kmaq Peoples. We give thanks for the Indigenous people of this land who, from time immemorial, have continued to live and work on and steward the land. And we pray that the Lord will give us all gracious and willing hearts to pursue truth and right relationship on this land.

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified, be present with us as we take counsel together for the mission and renewal of your Church.

Teach us in all things to seek first your kingdom. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Approval of Minutes of Feb. 22, 2022

Motion: That the minutes of February 22, 2022, be approved.

Moved by: Dawn Lent

Seconded by: Jean Bates

Carried

3. Incumbent's Report & Discussion

- *Reasons for Hope*
- *Rebuilding the Rhythms that move us Up, Out, and In*
- *Reviewing our Relationship with Our building.*

After reviewing the above points, the incumbent welcomes the insights, questions, and observations of those present on each of the issues raised in the Incumbent's Report.

Notes:

It was asked if an amalgamation of Bloomfield/Upham parishes with St. Paul's a possibility. David mentioned that it is his hope that we can work with those parishes in a way that helps each parish flourish because we all need to be there for each other.

Tricia Phillips mentioned that events like the dance party, is what brought her to our parish.

David shared his feeling that we must not become complacent about church decline. If the Church is important to us, we need to make it an priority and demonstrate how much the Church means to us.

4. Executive Report from the Wardens and Treasurer

5. Reception of all Distributed Reports

Motion: That the reports be received as distributed.

Moved: Elaine Robichaud

Seconded by: Gordon "Buzz" Payne

Carried

6. Presentation and Approval of Proposed Budget for 2023

Motion: That the proposed budget for 2023 be approved as presented.

Moved by: Stephen MacMackin

Seconded by: Lois Moore

Carried

7. Election of Parish Officers

Warden: Lorraine Brown has agreed to continue to serve as parish warden. Laura Myers has allowed her name to stand and to succeed Elaine Robichaud as parish warden.

Vestry: Tricia Phillips, Joanna DiProse, Dawn Lent, Rowena Hawkey-Noble and Gordon (Buzz) Payne have put their names forward to serve on Vestry.

The following members of Vestry have agreed to serve again this year: Debbie O'Bryant, Paula Bawn, Donna Leonard, Justin Stanley, Karen Stanley, Alice Kennedy and Glenna Geer.

Delegates to Synod: Debbie O'Bryant, Laura Myers

Alternates to Synod: Joanna DiProse

Youth Delegate (1 between 16 to 35):

10. Adjournment: 8:05 p.m.

POST ANNUAL MEETING VESTRY

Attendees: Laura Myers, Dawn Lent, Joanna DiProse, Paula Bawn, Gordon “Buzz” Payne, Donna Leonard, Karen Stanley, Debbie O’Bryant, Tricia Phillips, Lorraine Brown, Glenna Geer and Rowena Hawkey-Noble.

Motion: I, Lorraine Brown, move that Laura Myers be given signing authority and that Elaine Robichaud be removed from signing authority.

Signing authority names will be Rev. David Turner, Lorraine Brown, Stephen MacMackin, and Laura Myers.

Moved by: Lorraine Brown

Seconded by: Rowena Hawkey-Noble

Carried

Names of those Appointed to the Parish Advisory Committee (*Wardens plus 2*):

Lorraine Brown, Laura Myers, Karen Stanley and Alice Kennedy

Name of Person Appointed to serve as Treasurer:

Stephen MacMackin

Name of Person Appointed to serve as Vestry Clerk:

Rev. Deacon Deborah Cochran

Schedule of Vestry Counters (*to count with Sharon*)

April - Alice Kennedy

October - Lorraine Brown

May - Glenna Geer

November - Laura Myers

June - Rowena Hawkey-Noble

December - Tricia Phillips

July - Debbie O’Bryant

January - Paula Bawn

August - Joanna DiProse

February Karen Stanley

September - Dawn Lent

March - Donna Leonard

Date, Time and Location of Next Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, March 28th, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:17 p.m.

Financial Reports 2023

St. Paul's Church
Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Hampton
2023 Annual Meeting

Treasurers Report 2023

Financial Statements 2023

-Profit & Loss 2023

-Other Income & Expenses 2023

-Balance Sheet 2023

Financial Audit Canon SIX 2(1)(d)

Financial Budget 2023

Treasurers Report 2023

January 3, 2023

To the Rector, Wardens, Vestry Members and the Parishioners of the Parish of Hampton:

The Financial Audit as required by Canon SIX 2(1)(d) was completed by Paul Robichaud and Stan Brown.

Our church finances remained stable due to strong financial support in 2023, thank you for your ongoing support.

Income (giving) of \$162,103 was \$11,338 behind 2022 (normalizing for Mission – Outreach Flow - Through (\$3,322) & summer students (\$17,740).

Expenses of \$160,916 were \$5,515 less than 2022 (normalizing for Mission – Outreach Flow -Through (\$3,322) & summer students (\$17,217).

The operating bank account ended the year at \$12,805.

As we begin our budget preparations for 2024, I raise the concern of the unknowns we face and that we need to be ready to structure our church and our finances to meet them. Weather events and energy costs continue to increase. Our infrastructure is aging and will need continued attention.

In 2024 we are budgeting to spend \$165,594 to operate our church (normalizing for Mission – Outreach Flow -through (\$3,322) & summer students (\$17,217).

Last year our giving was only \$161,103 so this projects a 2024 shortfall of \$3,456.

To put this in perspective it requires:

\$3,456 or \$66 more per Sunday to operate our church in 2024

Thank you for your past support and you can continue it by:

- Dropping your giving off at the church or,
- Using the Diocesan weekly or monthly e-offering or,
- E-transfer to Bayview Credit Union or,
- Canada Helps

Thank you to Rev. David Turner, Sharon Kelly, and all the counters for your support during the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen MacMackin

Treasurer, Parish of Hampton

The Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Hampton (St. Paul's Church)				
Profit and Loss				
January - December 2023				
	Total			
	Jan - Dec. 2023	Jan - Dec. 2022 (PY)	Change	% Change
INCOME				
4000 Regular - Envelope Offering	64,233.17	59,777.60	4,455.57	7%
4010 Regular - E-Offering	84,065.00	81,435.00	2,630.00	3%
4015 Open Offering	3,076.85	1,366.90	1,709.95	125%
4020 Easter	2,150.00	2,075.00	75.00	4%
4030 Thanksgiving	1,950.00	1,605.00	345.00	21%
4040 Christmas	3,275.00	3,840.00	(565.00)	-15%
4050 Sunday School	392.75	64.75	328.00	507%
4075 Mission - Parish Giving	2,460.45	0.00	2,460.45	
4080 Mission - Outreach Flow-through	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4120 Government Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4290 Other Income	500.00	600.00	(100.00)	-17%
Total Income	\$ 162,103.22	\$ 150,764.25	\$ 11,338.97	8%
GROSS PROFIT	\$ 162,103.22	\$ 150,764.25	\$ 11,338.97	8%
EXPENSES				
5000 Rector Stipend	47,640.00	44,910.00	2,730.00	6%
5010 Secretary	11,934.00	11,700.00	234.00	2%
5020 Audio Visual	1,560.00	2,160.00	(600.00)	-28%
5030 Janitor	1,593.88	1,622.13	(28.25)	-2%
5040 Summer Student	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5052 Travel Pool Assesment	240.00	240.00	0.00	0%
5060 Rectors Car Replacement	4,200.00	4,200.00	0.00	0%
5070 EI/PPP	6,332.58	5,613.91	718.67	13%
5080 Rectors Benefit Assessment	6,210.72	5,880.40	330.32	6%
5090 Rectors Pension Premium	10,028.00	9,208.08	819.92	9%
5100 Rectors Continuing Education	900.00	900.00	0.00	0%
5105 Deacons Cont Ed	0.00	496.09	(496.09)	-100%
5110 Workers Compensation	529.67	685.99	(156.32)	-23%
5200 Diocesan Shared Ministry	20,672.28	21,801.84	(1,129.56)	-5%
5220 Diocesan Pension Bonus	0.00	651.00	(651.00)	-100%
5300 Church - Propane	5,911.03	6,918.88	(1,007.85)	-15%
5310 Church - Power	5,448.74	4,609.44	839.30	18%
5320 Church - Phone	2,764.81	2,601.86	162.95	6%
5330 Church - Repairs & Maintenance	7,100.71	7,796.09	(695.38)	-9%
5340 Rectory - Power	2,613.50	2,805.26	(191.76)	-7%
5350 Rectory - Phone	2,145.16	2,116.78	28.38	1%
5360 Rectory - Repairs & Maintenance	3,539.24	236.50	3,302.74	1397%
5370 Rectory - Sewerage	200.00	190.00	10.00	5%
5380 Insurance	11,346.04	10,275.00	1,071.04	10%
5410 Mission - Outreach Expense	1,561.25	0.00	1,561.25	
5420 Mission Outreach Flowthr Expens	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5430 Rectors Discretionary	0.00	256.84	(256.84)	-100%
5500 Office Expenses	3,166.45	5,158.80	(1,992.35)	-39%
5510 Music Expenses	417.85	0.00	417.85	
5520 Liturgical Expense	1,246.21	1,181.37	64.84	5%
5530 Sunday School Expense	215.34	134.63	80.71	60%
5540 Youth Group Expenses	26.49	389.42	(362.93)	-93%
5550 Adult Education Expense	426.82	0.00	426.82	
5560 Fellowship Events Expense	587.98	306.45	281.53	92%
5570 Bank Charges	356.84	353.47	3.37	1%
Total Expenses	\$ 160,915.59	\$ 155,400.23	\$ 5,515.36	4%
Surplus	\$ 1,187.63	\$ (4,635.98)		

OTHER INCOME & EXPENSES	Jan - Dec. 2023	Jan - Dec. 2022 (PY)	Change	% Change
Cemetery Fund				
Income				
4220 Cemetery Fund - Donations	6,316.15	9,434.25	(3,118.10)	-33%
4230 Cemetery Fund - Interest Earned	876.18	874.30	1.88	0%
Expenses				
5610 Cemetery Fund - Expense	4,130.27	6,517.32	(2,387.05)	-37%
Surplus	3,062.06	3,791.23	(729.17)	
Memorial Fund				
Income				
4240 Memorial Fund - Donations	2,416.27	1,290.00	1,126.27	87%
4250 Memorial Fund - Interest Earned	2.50	2.05	0.45	22%
Expense				
5620 Memorial Fund - Expense	2,416.27	343.66	2,072.61	603%
Surplus	2.50	948.39	(945.89)	(4.94)
Building Fund				
Income				
6000 Building Fund - Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4210 Building Fund - Interest Earned	22.02	1.45	20.57	1419%
Expenses				
Building Fund - Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Surplus	22.02	1.45	20.57	

The Corporation of the Anglican Parish of Hampton (St. Paul's Church)	
Balance Sheet	
As of December 31, 2023	
	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
1000 Bank - Building Fund 24-3	43,989.43
1005 Bank - Cemetery Fund 25-3	10,496.19
1010 Bank - Operating	12,804.93
1015 Bank - Memorial Fund 23-3	5,053.25
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$ 72,343.80
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
1210 Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$ 0.00
1220 AR- Housing Development Investment	0.00
1400 HST Rebate	0.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 72,343.80
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	
1510 Land- Church Property	47,812.00
1512 Land - Demille Property	220,550.00
1520 Building	724,263.00
1530 Paving	10,216.00
1540 Furniture & Equipment	99,213.76
Total Property, plant and equipment	\$ 1,102,054.76
1610 Building Fund Investment	0.00
1620 Cemetery Fund Investment	26,843.66
1640 Property Fund Investment	0.00
1650 Baview Credit Union Share	5.00
Total Non Current Assets	\$ 1,128,903.42
Total Assets	\$ 1,201,247.22
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
2020 New HST Recoverable	-1,316.12
2025 Old HST Recoverable	0.00
2030 Payroll Liabilities	0.00
2510 Bank Loan	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	-\$ 1,316.12
Total Liabilities	-\$ 1,316.12
Equity	
3010 Equity	1,020,692.27
Retained Earnings	177,073.73
Profit for the year	4,797.34
Total Equity	\$ 1,202,563.34
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 1,201,247.22

REVIEWER CERTIFICATION

To: The Parish of Hampton

Re: Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2023

I/We, the undersigned, having been duly appointed, have reviewed the financial accounts and the statements submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Parish of

Hampton.

In addition, we have reviewed any applicable certificates of investment.

In our opinion the records maintained by the Treasurer are properly represented in the Year End Financial Statements presented to the Annual Meeting and accurately reflect the financial transactions of the Parish. The cash and investment balances properly state the financial position of the Parish.

Our review examined only the recording of the various transactions and does not purport to pass any judgement on the merit of the expenditures.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature] Reviewer

[Signature] Reviewer

Date: January 10 2024

St. Paul's Church Proposed Budget 2024		
In 2024 we are budgeting to spend \$166,802 to operate our church (*normalizing for Mission – Outreach Flow -Through & Summer Students). Our giving projection based on last year is \$162,138 so our projected shortfall for 2023 is \$4,664. To put this in perspective it will require: \$4,664 or \$90 more per Sunday to operate our church in 2024		
INCOME	2024	
	Budget	
Envelopes	\$ 68,533	
E Offering	\$ 79,800	
Open Collections	\$ 3,077	
Easter	\$ 2,150	
Thanksgiving	\$ 1,950	
Christmas	\$ 3,275	
Sunday School	\$ 393	
Mission - Parish Giving	\$ 2,460	
Mission - Outreach Flowthru *	\$ -	\$ 3,322
Government Grants - Summer Students *	\$ -	\$ 17,740
Other Income	\$ 500	
Total Revenue	\$ 162,138	
EXPENSES		
Rector Stipend	\$ 49,069	
Secretary	\$ 11,934	
Video Technician	\$ 1,600	
Janitor	\$ 1,600	
Summer Student *	\$ -	\$ 17,740
Travel Pool	\$ 240	
Rectors Car Replacement	\$ 4,200	
EI/CPP	\$ 5,600	
Rectors Benefit Assessment	\$ 6,633	
Rectors Pension Premium	\$ 9,988	
Rectors Continuing Education	\$ 900	
Deacon's Travel & Continuing Education	\$ 250	
Work Safe NB	\$ 550	
Diocesan Shared Ministry	\$ 20,626	
Church Oil/Propane	\$ 7,000	
Church Power	\$ 6,223	
Church Phone	\$ 2,800	
Church Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 7,000	
Rectory Power	\$ 4,020	
Rectory Phone	\$ 2,200	
Rectory Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 4,000	
Rectory Sewerage	\$ 225	
Insurance	\$ 11,419	
Mission Outreach Expense	\$ 1,600	
Mission Outreach Flowthru *	\$ -	\$ 3,322
Rectors Discretionary	\$ 750	
Office Expenses	\$ 3,500	
Music Expense	\$ 400	
Liturgical Expense	\$ 750	
Sunday School Expense	\$ 225	
Youth Group Expense	\$ 400	
Adult Education Expense	\$ 100	
Fellowship Events Expense	\$ 600	
Bank Charges	\$ 400	
Total Expense	\$ 166,802	
Deficit 2023	-\$ 4,664	

Committee & Ministry Reports

Cemetery Committee – P. 28

Chancel Guild – P. 29

Fellowship Committee – P. 30

Hampton Community Garden – P. 31

Hampton Middle School Outreach – P. 32

Mother's Union – P. 33

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Cemetery 2023

The cemetery is managed under the Diocese of Fredericton Regulation 6-3 and administered by the Cemetery Committee which reports to the Vestry of the Anglican Parish of Hampton.

In 2023 the Diocese of Fredericton has put in new guidelines for operation of cemeteries for Parishes to follow. To meet these guidelines the following four documents were put in place:

- Contract for the Purchase and Sale of Right of Burial
- Cemetery Rules
- Cemetery Committee Responsibilities
- Cemetery Fee Schedule

The committee did the following activities to raise the profile of the cemetery and support its ongoing maintenance:

- Memorial Service
- Collection of Recyclable Bottles
- Tree Lighting Service

The finances of the cemetery at Dec 31, 2023 are:

Cemetery Fund Donations	\$6316.15	(2022- \$9,434.25)
Cemetery Fund Interest Earned	\$876.18	(2022-\$874.30
Cemetery Funds Drawn Down	\$0.00	(2022 - \$0.00)
Cemetery Fund Expenses	\$4,130.27	(2022 - \$6,517.32)
Cemetery Bayview Credit Union	\$10,496.19	(2022 - \$ 7,452.86
Cemetery Diocesan Fund	\$26,843.66	(2022 - \$28,843.66)

In total we have \$37,339.85 available for future upkeep of the cemetery. This year we were able to increase this from 2022 by \$3062.06. Our goal is to increase this amount each year.

Costs to maintain grave markers are the responsibility of the grave lot owner. The committee monitors all grave markers for any that pose a safety risk to the public. If repairs are made the grave lot owner is asked to pay the costs incurred.

The committee is very pleased with the results of all the work on the cemetery and how good it looks. We would like to thank John Wheaton for service in 2023.

Donations to the ongoing maintenance of cemetery by the congregation are needed and would be appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted by the Cemetery Committee

David Fillmore, Janice Kelly, Alice Kennedy, Sharon Kelly, and Stephen MacMackin

Chancel Guild 2023

Chancel Guild has been unable to meet during the past 4 years.

Thank you to Rev. David for looking after Communion set up and for changing the hangings.

Hopefully we will be able to get back to Chancel Guild duties this year.

As always new members are always welcomed.

Respectfully submitted

Estelle Fowler

Fellowship 2023

Saint Paul's fellowship committee has continued to create a welcoming and loving atmosphere for our parish. Coffee, tea, juice and snacks are offered each Sunday to encourage conversation and open opportunities to build relationships and greet friends. Our committee has also provided refreshments and snacks for evening programs and for youth activities.

This last year the committee has strived to provide a luncheon after church monthly...this hasn't always occurred but the luncheons we have offered have been well attended and enjoyed. Thanks to all those who helped with these lunches.

As well Saint Paul's has started a monthly free community supper program, supported by different volunteers each month to provide a delicious meal for our community. We started small, serving approximately 60 people but our numbers have grown to about 120 people. Fortunately, donations at the door and from parishioners have covered all expenses and encourages us to continue this outreach. Many of those attending live alone and enjoy a home cooked meal and the chance to socialize with friends or new acquaintances. I applaud and thank all the people who have stepped up to provide these meals.

On a more serious note, we have assisted in several funeral receptions in the past year. This is a service of love and respect for grieving families that we are pleased to provide.

A huge thank you to committee members and all the great folks who surprise us with treats and support each week.

Respectively submitted

Heather Miller

Hampton Community Garden 2023

Our Community Garden members, and the Hampton Food Basket are both very grateful for the support of St. Paul's Anglican Church in this community out-reach project.

We have over 100 garden beds, with more than 25 beds are dedicated for the Hampton Food Basket. We have 49 active members, with 17 members are looking after 2 or more beds. The total number of people affected by this project would include our membership, plus over 200 people who are clients of the Hampton Food Basket who receive fresh produce from our efforts every summer and fall.

We were very pleased this year with the exceptional work done by our two summer students, Madison and Evan. The summer students were 100% funded by the NB SEED program. The students made significant contributions to our Food Basket program, as well as doing repairs and maintenance around the site.

In 2023, the **Hampton Food Basket** again paid for the installation and servicing of a portable toilet at the Garden, which is much appreciated by our members and summer students.

This year, the Community Garden purchased a cordless battery electric mower, which is a wonderful compliment to our electric ride-on mower. The **Hampton Wellness Network** made a generous donation of an electric string trimmer. The trimmer rounds out our battery driven lawn care equipment, which we charge with our solar panels, resulting in zero carbon emissions. We have been proud to support their “Cook and Chat” program with fresh vegetables

Our biggest task for coming year is **replacing our aging fence** – now beyond the point where repairs are possible. We have received a very generous offer from a parishoner for help with this, and this offer will allow HCG to proceed with our replacement project without requiring external funding.

All our members would like to thank the congregation of St. Paul’s for their ongoing support of this project and for allowing us to use the land as a means of building a strong, caring community.

Financial Summary

	2023	2022	2021
Opening Balance	\$4,233.16	\$2,932.76	\$1,900.16
Donations (direct)	\$ 475.00	\$ 430.00	\$1,275.00
Donations (St.Paul's)	\$ 770.00	\$1,470.00	
Expenses	\$1,548.76	\$ 599.60	\$ 242.40
Closing Balance	\$3,929.40	\$4,233.16	\$2,932.76

Hampton Middle School Outreach 2023

“Martha’s Helpers” continued to cook at the Middle School from January to December of 2023 the Lunch Program gained a new coordinator, Beth Firth. She purchased the groceries so preparing the 2 meals each week was our contribution. She surveyed the students and created a biweekly menu. The menu was updated each month. We currently serve about 20 students each week down a bit from 25 that we served last winter.

We are happy to report that we have funding arriving in 2024. Thanks to the help from Lois Moore and her contact Ann Hogg! Before the pandemic Ann came and cooked with us. The funding will help with food purchase and replacing some kitchen items. Once it arrives, we will have a better understanding of where and how much is designated to each area. They request we submit photos and stories of how this project affects individuals. Perhaps even a video!

Eva and Alice would like to thank the volunteers with their loyalty and dedication to this outreach. The volunteers for 2023 were Lois Moore, Leslie O’Brien, Debbie Galley, Rowena Hawkey-Noble, Elaine Robichaud, Barb Long, Diana Brideau and Paula Cameron. Not everyone was available each week, but they were all there in spirit!

Respectively submitted,

Alice Kennedy

Mothers' Union 2023

2023 has been a year of ups and downs. As we move into 2024 we are hopeful that a resurgence will continue.

Mothers Union at St. Paul's is a local branch with 21 active members within the Diocese of Fredericton Mothers Union, The Canadian Mothers union and ultimately The Worldwide Mothers Union. Founded in England, Mothers Union is now a movement of Christian women and men around the world in 80 countries with over 4 million members working to support individuals and families to transform their lives.

Here at St. Paul's, Mothers' Union members are busy people. We have had some regular meetings and some smaller gatherings, we had a summer gathering at Heather Millers, a special time for sharing and praying together.

Prayer requests are taken at each meeting with answers provided when they occur. We continue to have a closed group on Facebook where members can post their prayer requests. This has been an important way to connect for those that either can't get to church or are isolated.

We continued to work on the Middle School outreach again throughout the year. A number of our members, plus congregation members and friends from the community meet to prepare meals for students that may not have a food security. Meals prepared that evening at the school are served and distributed the next day for children in need.

In the fall we re-energized by having our meetings after a Sunday service. One month we made a soup lunch for all of the tenants at De Mille place, another time making soup and delivering a jar of freshly made soup to those alone, or just for someone needing a pick me up. We also continued a sock ministry and a collection for soap /detergent for the shelters; encouraging parishioners to support these collections when they come to church.

Our monies are spent on supporting a child in the Bishop McAllister College (\$450), sending joy and sorrow cards and donations to the official National Mothers' Union project, NCFE, Northern Clergy Family Fund in memory of dearly departed family members.

We celebrated Mothering Sunday on the 4th Sunday of Lent and participated in the service in a number of ways. We want to let everyone know that they are welcome to come and participate, joining in with the group to provide prayer and support to families and people near and far. We share, pray, laugh, and support each other .

We attended the Diocesan Rally in April. To kick off the programme in the fall we had Dawn Odell come and give a talk about Mental Health services and how mental health affects those around us. Our Group finished the year with a special afternoon a Deb Jarvis's, a turkey supper, and building cookie tins for the shut ins and singles in our parish.

The year came to a close as the leadership changed. After many years Elaine, who kept us together through Covid is finished her term and Alice Kennedy has stepped forward as the new Mothers' Union leader. Many thanks to Elaine!

Respectively Submitted,

Elaine Robichaud and Alice Kennedy

Guild of Saint Joseph (Holy Joes) 2023

The Holy Joes men's group continues to meet for fellowship and discussion at a monthly breakfast meeting. Most recently Holy Joes welcomed Wayne Dollar, Doug Nutter, Jeff Roy and Garry Bolton, and we currently have eighteen members. We would, however, warmly welcome anyone who would like to join us, just reach out to David or any one of us. Just before COVID, we hosted members of Holy Trinity/Hammond River men's group for breakfast, and this year, they invited us back for a very enjoyable breakfast and social time. We would hope to be able to arrange more of these activities.

Unfortunately, we were not able to help many parishioners with needed projects or repairs throughout 2023, but our members did continue to carry out a number of required church repair and maintenance activities and to provide assistance and financial support to other parish ministries. We hope that with our increased membership, we will once again be able to provide the assistance to fellow parishioners that we enjoy doing.

Respectfully,

Dennis Stevenson

Parish Office & Administration 2023

As office administrator I have many roles and responsibilities. I come with an open heart and mind and am ready to give it my all, with God's help leading my way. When something comes up that I'm unsure of, I'll reach out to some great role models in our parish for help.

On Mondays, Rev. David and I have our weekly office meeting to touch base with each other on how things are going in the parish or what needs our immediate attention and to discuss any further details of upcoming things happening in our parish.

Also, on Mondays (or some Sundays), a volunteer from vestry comes in and counts the offerings with me. Then I enter the Sunday's offering (cash/cheques, e-Offering & Interac e-Transfers) so parishioners will receive credit for their giving's at tax time. Then I do up the weekly bank deposit and go to the bank. I enter the deposit into Quick Books. I also look after writing cheques and paying bills and post them into Quick Books.

The registration list is printed out for the greeters to use to highlight names off as people arrive on Sunday morning. Then I can enter and keep track of the attendance. Sometimes I need to reach out to parishioners who had joined the service online to see if any other family members joined in on the service with them.

I keep the Vestry book updated with the required information (services in-person and online, attendance numbers, family church, funerals, baptisms, weddings, cemetery service etc.) This past year there were three funeral services, two interments and four baptisms (and no weddings). We had two funeral receptions in the church hall.

Income tax receipts were printed, scanned, and emailed out to our parishioners and to others that gave to the church. This process is very time consuming but saves on stamps and I only had to mail out approximately ten receipts.

We have masks available in case someone feels the need to wear one upon entering. Hand sanitizer bottles are placed throughout the church and filled regularly, and sanitizing products are on hand. Slowly and gradually our parishioners are feeling safe to return to church, we still don't have the attendance numbers that we had before COVID-19, but it is gradually increasing each Sunday.

Thanks again to Stephen and Rev. David for your patience, encouragement, and support. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Kelly – Office Administrator

Sunday Morning Ministries Coordinator 2023

The major component of my job is reaching out and connecting with people daily. One focus of this position is to support the Sunday morning children's program. Ensuring that teachers are scheduled, prepared and equipped for each Sunday. Making sure that the heat is on, materials (play dough, paper) the Christ Candle and Cross and the Sunday Morning Children's Program outline is out to follow. I also keep track of attendance and keep updated contact information for families for use in supporting them and nurturing a sense of inclusion in the parish. I reach out to our Sunday school families to make sure they are aware and informed when things are happening at the church. Updated information is posted on our St. Paul's Hampton Children's Ministry page by David.

The second part of my responsibilities is with Sunday morning ministries and making sure that (i.e., lay readers, readers, greeters, ushers, (office & online) zoom host, counters) are scheduled and prepared each week. I remind people about when they are on duty each week by email, messenger or by a telephone call, and this information is updated weekly into the worship schedule. When a reader or layreader reads on zoom I have someone lined up on standby in case technology doesn't work. Names are added to the Order of Service for those taking part in the service each week (now I only print the Order of Service out for those taking part in the service each Sunday. For a couple of parishioners, I print it for one to take home to share with a family member and the other to follow along with the service over the phone). I also print readings and the Psalm. I update the prayer list as needed and pass it along to our lay readers so that those names can be mentioned during the Prayers of the People in the service once a month. A take home copy of the Parish prayer list is available at the back of the church for people to take if they wish to.

Some folks I reach out to by phone to let them know what's happening and going on at St. Paul's. One of our parishioners follows the 10:30am worship service weekly by telephone (office), so I make sure I have someone lined up to call her and connect her. During Advent I reached out to parishioners and families to light the advent wreath for both services. During Lent and at Christmas I reached out for several readers to help with those services.

Each Sunday we have welcoming greeters at our door. If someone new came to church we get a contact name, number, or email address to have on file. The greeters welcome you in with a warm and friendly smile. We also have ushers during communion. Each week we also have a zoom host, which sits in the office or at their home online to welcome and talk to the folks joining virtually before the service begins and track online attendance. In September Joanna has volunteered to call Glenna on the phone and to be our weekly zoom host each Sunday and Sheri has volunteered to help when Joanna can't. Thank you, ladies!

Our Sunday morning services in 2023 are at 9am and 10:30am and summer months at 10am. Janice Kelly has volunteered to order our Easter and Christmas flowers and roses for our Cemetery Service for the rose ceremony. In tend and water the plants. When Deborah goes to do her Home Communion, she takes the flowers and finds them a new home. Thank you, Janice, and Deborah!

Notable events:

On Good Friday –we made Easter Gardens, shared communion, and explored the meaning of Jesus' sacrifice together as a family.

The Hanging of the Greens- to celebrate the season of Advent, we hung greenery in the Church, made wreaths and advent centerpieces and ornaments. We had pizza and Caesar salad together. Thanks to Melinda and her sister, Kate, Beth, Tricia, Debbie, Alice, Melinda, Denise, and everyone else that helped. Thanks to ALL!

Our Family Christmas Pageant- parishioner of all ages retold the story of Jesus' birth in all sorts of creative ways with costumes, puppets, drumming circle, music, and homemade movies. The Christmas story was taken from the *Jesus Story Book Bible* and Bible text and was narrated by Rev. David and the children taking lead roles to read the story and by telling the story using puppets (Mary and Joseph and the Magi). Children and others played the parts of Gabriel, shepherds, a cow, angels, camels, and the STAR. We have some very gifted and talented piano students from St. Paul's who take lessons from Arlene, and they shared with us some wonderful Christmas songs. This was very heartwarming and beautifully done! Thank you, David and Kate and Arlene!

Other special events-Remembrance Day Service which members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #28 joined us, our Cemetery Service, and our Memorial Christmas Tree Lighting. The Cemetery Service and Memorial Christmas Tree Lighting people had to contact the church office and let me know if they were planning to attend and give me names of loved ones for the rose ceremony and for the Memorial Christmas Tree lighting for the lighting of the candles in their memory then the lighting of the Christmas tree. Also, I kept track of who was planning on attending our community church suppers and pass the information onto to Heather.

Thanks:

Many thanks go out to David for helping me always by setting up tables weekly and to others who helped me by setting up and moving table and chairs around for the many church events. Thank you to Ruby Masson and Ruth Wagg for cleaning off family tables after each Sunday. I am forever grateful and thankful for all the Sunday morning volunteers and for all your wonderful help each week. Thank you ALL!

Highlights:

- It warms my heart when I see the children participating in the worship service, either by taking part in reading scripture or playing music, lighting candles, ringing the bell, greeting, or taking part in the pageant.
- It's so lovely when families let me know that they are coming to church so I can set up a family table and get the supplies ready for them.
- I LOVE Messy church – I love seeing everyone having so much fun gathering around engaged, talking, sharing, and interacting with each other with so much LOVE!
- I love reaching out and connecting with people.
- I love the warm response that I receive when I am reaching out to volunteers and hearing their kind and encouraging words.
- It feels good to see our church family coming back together in-person and the interactions between the parishioners and the joy and love they have for each other that they missed during COVID.
- I love to see more people coming back to church and the attendance starting to increase.
- I love our fellowship over meals together when I can truly sit down and relax and enjoy.

Challenges:

- When sending out schedules there is often a lack of response, which in turn makes it difficult to confirm dates for scheduling.

Blessings+

Sharon Kelly- Sunday Morning Ministries Coordinator

Each one should use whatever gift he received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)

Children's Ministry 2023

Our ministry to children and their families focused on providing them to worship together around 'Family Tables' for Sunday morning worship services (9am and 10:30am).

Family Tables included coloring and activity sheets pertaining to the readings and Sunday school lesson each week, as well as a few small toys for busy little hands.

Families also volunteered to ring the church bell at 10:15am and light the altar candles at the beginning of the service.

Sunday Story Time was originally offered for the younger children in the parish (Grade 2 and under), and later expanded to children ages 4 to 10. The stories and the curriculum were taken from *the Complete Illustrated Children's Bible*, the Godly Play series, and Holy Moly lessons.

During our Sunday Morning Children's Program (Story Time), the children gather with an informal Welcome, Candle Lighting, Song, and a Gathering Prayer. They HEAR FROM GOD through a Bible story taken from "The Complete Illustrated Children's Bible" or a Godly Play or Holy Moly story. Each week there is an Introduction to the Story, the Story itself, some Reflection questions (What did you notice in the story? What questions do you have about the story? What might God be trying to tell us in this story?) After the wondering questions we conclude the circle time with prayer, often including the Lord's Prayer.

The children are then free to respond to the story through modeling play dough or works of art, or to connect with each other while playing with the toys until it's time to go back upstairs with their families. We go back upstairs right after the PEACE and while the song is being played. Then families receive Communion at the front of the church together.

Since September the older kids have been meeting in the office and discussions on Youth Alpha questions and worked on the video for our Christmas pageant. The leaders are Laura Myers, Kate Turner, Paula Bawn and Erin Roy. Thank you for helping to build, deepen and to enrich their relationship with Jesus!

We thank God for all our faithful Sunday school teachers and helpers: Kate Turner, Raegan Evans-Hoyt, Karen Stanley, Paula Bawn, Colleen DeVarenne, Tricia Phillips, and Erin Roy. Without your love and dedication this would not be possible. Thank you ALL so much!

Highlights:

- During Sunday Story time when I hear the children respond to the questions it is nice to hear them feel so comfortable and open to express themselves so freely with confidence. They really seem to understand each story.
- The Christmas pageant was just so beautiful with the videos and the music and all the children's participation. It was very heart warming, welcoming and meaningful.

- I love seeing the children's participation and involvement in our church. Their enthusiasm and willingness to take part at the task asked such as to read or to run tech each Sunday morning and the many interactions with parishioner's chatting with them and building relationships together.

Challenges:

- Encouraging families who used to worship to return.

The cost for 2022 children's ministry:

Paper which is supplied by the office & some supplies for the Easter gardens and messy church events.

Blessings+

Sharon Kelly- Children's Ministry

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. (Psalm 127:3)